# Meja - a long cardigan with lovely pockets

Design: Sanne Bjerregaard

A gorgeous cardigan knit in seed stitch using the softest alpaca yarn. The cardigan has big lovely pockets and many fine details.

 $3^{rd}$  English edition - October 2019 © Filcolana A/S English translation: Signe Strømgaard

# **Materials**

4450 (500) (550) 650 g Indiecita by Filcolana in co-

lour 979 (Pebbles) Needles: 3 and 3,5 mm Crochet hook: 2,5 mm

Notions: 1 large button and 2 smaller plastic buttons

#### Sizes

S (M) L (XL)

# **Measurements**

Cardigan, chest: 97 (108) 120 (131) cm

Body, chest: 82-87 (93-98) 105-110 (116- 121) cm

Length: 72 (75) 77 (79) cm

Note: The model is size XS and is wearing a size M

cardigan

#### Gauge

19 sts and 36 rows in seed stitch on 3,5 mm needles =  $10 \times 10$  cm.

# **Special abbreviations**

SI1 wyif: Slip 1 stitch purlwise with the yarn held in front (to the WS) of the work.

# **Directions for knitting**

Meja is a roomy cardigan with big, integral pockets. The cardigan is worked in seed stitch with raised stitches along side seams and front edges. The places along the neckline and part of the armholes where there raised stitches cannot be worked, the look is





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mimicked by embroidering chain stitches along the edges.

Where only one set of numbers is given, this number applies to all sizes.

#### **Back**

Cast on 94 (104) 114 (124) sts using a 3 mm needle. Row 1 (WS): K1, sl1 wyif, knit to the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1.

Row 2: Knit all sts

Repeat these 2 rows until a total of 4 garter ridges have been worked. End on a RS row.

Change to 3,5 mm needles and work seed stitch with raised sts at either end of the work:

Row 1 (WS): K1, sl1 wyif, \*k1, p1\*. Repeat from \* to \* to the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1.

Row 2: K2, \*p1, k1\*. Repeat from \* to \* to the last 2 sts, k2.

Repeat these 2 rows until the work measures 52 (55) 56 (56) cm. End on a WS row.

### **Armholes**

Bind off 7 (8) 9 (10) sts at the beginning of the next 2 rows, then 4 (4) 4 (5) sts at the beginning of the following 2 rows = 72 (80) 88 (94) sts on the needles.

Continue working the raised stitch along the edges the same way as before the bind off for the armholes. Work decreases for the armhole:

Next row (RS): K1, slip 1 stitch, work the next stitch in pattern, pass slipped stitch over, work seed stitch to the last 3sts, k2tog, k1.

Next row: K1, sl1 wyif, work seed stitch to the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1.

Work 2 rows straight in seed stitch, remembering to work the second and the second to last stitch on each row as a a raised stitch (sl1 wyif on the WS, k on the



RS)

Repeat the last 4 rows another 3 (3) 4 (5) times = 64 (72) 78 (82) sts on the needle.

Continue straight in seed stitch with raised sts until the armhole measures 18 (18) 19 (21) cm. End on a WS row.

Next row (RS): K2, work 19 (21) 23 (25) sts in seed stitch, bind off the next 22 (26) 28 (28) sts for the neck opening, work seed stitch to the last 2 sts, k2. Finish each shoulder separately.

Work 1 row.

Next row (RS): K2tog, continue in seed stitch to the last 2 sts, k2.

Work 1 row.

Repeat the last 2 rows once more = 19 (21) 23 (25) sts on the needle.

Bind off in seed stitch on the next row.

Break the yarn. Work the second shoulder, starting with a WS row.

Work 1 row.

Next row (RS): K2, work seed stitch to the last 2 sts, k2toq.

Work 1 row.

Repeat the last 2 rows once more = 19 (21) 23 (25) sts.

Bind off in seed stitch on the next row.

# Pocket lining (knit 2)

Cast on 38 (40) 40 (42) sts on a 3,5 mm needle. Row 1 (WS): \*k1, p1\*. Repeat from \* to \* end of row.

Row 2: \*p1, k1\*. Repeat from \* to \* end of row. Repeat these 2 rows until the work measures 19 cm. End on a RS row. Break the yarn and let the stitches rest on a double-pointed needle or stitch holder.

# **Right front**

Cast on 54 (60) 64 (70) sts on a 3 mm needle. Row 1 (WS): K1, sl1 wyif, knit to the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1.

Row 2: Knit all sts.

Repeat these 2 rows until a total of 4 garter ridges have been worked. End on a RS row.

Change to a 3,5 mm needle and continue in seed stitch.

Row 1 (WS): K1, sl1 wyif, \*k1, p1\*. Repeat from \* to \* to the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1.

Row 2: K2, \*p1, k1\*. Repeat from \* to \* to the last 2 sts, k2.

Repeat these 2 rows until the work measures 20 cm. End on a RS row.

Next row (WS): K1, sl1 wyif, \*k1, p1\*. Repeat from \* to \* until there are 8 (10) 12 (14) sts on the right needle, knit the next 38 (40) 40 (42) sts, \*k1, p1\*. Repeat from \* to \* to the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1. Next row: K2, \*p1, k1\*. Repeat from \* to \* until there are 8 (10) 12 (14) sts on the right needle, knit the next 38 (40) 40 (42) sts, \*p1, k1\*. Repeat from \*

to \* to the last 2 sts, k2. Repeat these 2 rows until there are 4 garter ridges at the center of the work. End on a WS row.

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Next row (RS): K2, \*p1, k1\*. Repeat from \* to \* until there are 8 (10) 12 (14) sts left on the right needle, bind off the next 38 (40) 40 (42) sts, work seed stitch to the last 2 sts, k2.

Join the pocket lining to the front.

Next row (WS): K1, sl1 wyif, \*k1, p1\*. Repeat from \* to \* until there are 8 (10) 12 (14) sts on the right needle, hold the pocket lining in your left hand and work \*k1, p1\* from the WS of the lining across all sts, then work the last 8 (10) 12 (14) sts of the front: \*k1, p1\*. Repeat from \* to \* to the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1. Work straight in seed stitch:

Row 1 (RS): K2, \*p1, k1\*. Repeat from \* to \* to the last 2 sts, k2.

Row 2: K1, sl1 wyif, \*k1, p1\*. Repeat from \* to \* to the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1.

Repeat these 2 rows until the work measures 52 (55) 56 (56) cm. End on a RS row.

#### <u>Armhole</u>

Bind off 7 (8) 9 (10) sts at the beginning of the next row. Work 1 row.

Bind off 4 (4) 4 (5) sts at the beginning of the next row, k1, sl1 wyif, work seed stitch to the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1 = 43 (48) 51 (55) sts on the needle. Continue working the raised stitch along the edges the same way as before the bind off for the armhole. Work decreases for the armhole:

Next row (RS): k2, work seed stitch to the last 3 sts, k2tog, k1.

Work 3 rows straight in seed stitch.

Repeat the last 4 rows another 3 (3) 4 (5) times = 39 (44) 46 (49) sts on the needle.

Continue straight in seed stitch with raised sts until the armhole measures  $6\ (6)\ 7\ (8)\ cm.$  End on a WS row.

#### **Neckline**

Next row (RS): Bind off 4 sts at the neck edge on this row and on the next RS row. Then bind off 3 sts every other row a total of 1 (2) 2 (2) time(s). Then 2 sts every other row a total of 2 times = 24 (26) 28 (31) sts on the needle.

Work 1 row straight in seed stitch.

Next row (RS): K2tog, work seed stitch to the last 2 sts, k2.

Work 3 rows straight in pattern

Repeat the last 4 rows another 4 (4) 4 (5) times = 19 (21) 23 (25) sts on the needle.

Continue straight in seed stitch until the armhole measures the same as the armhole of the back. Bind off in seed stitch.

# Left front

Work as for the right front until the work measures 52 (55) 56 (56) cm. End on a WS row.

### <u>Armhole</u>

Bind off 7 (8) 9 (10) sts at the beginning of the next row. Work 1 row.

Bind off 4 (4) 4 (5) sts at the beginning of the next

row = 43 (48) 51 (55) sts on the needle.

Next row (WS): K1, sl1 wyif, work seed stitch until the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1.

Continue working the raised stitch along the edges the same way as before the bind off for the armhole. Work decreases for the armhole:

Next row (RS): K1, slip 1 stitch, work the next stitch in pattern, pass slipped stitch over, work seed stitch to the last 2 sts, k2.

Work 3 rows straight in seed stitch.

Repeat the last 4 rows another 3 (3) 4 (5) times = 39 (44) 46 (49) sts on the needle.

Continue straight in seed stitch with raised sts until the armhole measures 6 (6) 7 (8) cm. End on a RS row.

#### Neckline

Next row (WS): Bind off 4 sts at the neck edge on this row and on the next WS row. Then bind off 3 sts every other row a total of 1 (2) 2 (2) time(s). Then 2 sts every other row a total of 2 times = 24 (26) 28 (31) sts on the needle.

Work 1 row straight in seed stitch.

Next row (WS): K2tog, work seed stitch to the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1.

Work 3 rows straight in seed stitch.

Repeat the last 4 rows another 4 (4) 4 (5) times = 19 (21) 23 (25) sts on the needle.

Continue straight in seed stitch until the armhole measures the same as the armhole of the back. Bind off in seed stitch.

### Sleeves

Cast on 50 (50) 54 (58) sts on a 3 mm needle. Row 1 (WS): K1, sl1 wyif, knit to the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1.

Row 2: Knit all sts.

Repeat these 2 rows until a total of 4 garter ridges have been worked. End on a RS row.

Change to a 3,5 mm needle and work in seed stitch with raised sts at the edges:

Row 1 (WS): K1, sl1 wyif, \*k1, p1\*. Repeat from \* to \* to the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1.

Row 2: K2, \*p1, k1\*. Repeat from \* to \* to the last 2 sts, k2.

Increase row (RS): K2, make 1 (M1) by lifting the chain between sts onto the left needle and either knitting or purling it through the back loop to fit with the pattern, work seed stitch to the last 2 sts, M1, k2. Continue in seed stitch while working an increase row every 8th until there are 76 (78) 82 (86) sts on the needle. Work straight in seed stitch until the sleeve measures 43 (45) 45 (46) cm. End on a WS row.

### Sleeve cap

Bind off 7 (8) 9 (10) sts at the beginning of the next 2 rows, then bind off 4 (4) 4 (5) sts at the beginning of the next 2 rows = 54 (54) 56 (56) sts on the needle.

Work the following decreases for the sleeve cap: Row 1 (RS): K1, slip 1 stitch, work the next stitch in

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pattern, pass slipped stitch over, work seed stitch to the last 3sts, k2toq, k1.

Row 2: K1, sl1 wyif, work seed stitch to the last 2 sts, sl1 wyif, k1.

Row 3: p: K2, work seed stitch to the last 2 sts, k2. Row 4: Work as Row 2.

Repeat these 4 rows another 4 (4) 5 (6) times = 44 (44) 44 (42) sts on the needle.

Then repeat only Row 1 and 2 until there are 20 (20) 20 (18) sts left on the needle.

Bind off 3 sts at the beginning of the next 4 rows. Bind off the remaining 8 (8) 8 (6) sts.

# Sew the shoulder seams

Embroider chain stitches along the bound off edges of the armhole and sleeve caps (all the places where there are not already raised sts). These chain sts run along the edges in extension of and the same way as the raised sts. See illustration below.

# **Front edges**

Pick up and knit from the RS using a 3 mm circular needle. Insert the needle in the space between the edge stitch and the raised stitch. Start at the right hem and pick up and knit 109 (115) 119 (121) sts along the right front to the first bind-off for the neckline, place a marker, pick up 1 stitch exactly from the corner, place a marker, pick up and knit 38 (38) 38 (40) sts along the right side of the neckline to the shoulder seam, pick up and knit 32 (34) 38 (38) sts along the neck, 38 (38) 38 (40) sts along the left side of the neckline, place a marker, pick up 1 stitch exactly from the corner, place a marker, then pick up and knit 109 (115) 119 (121) sts along the left front edge = 330 (342) 354 (362) sts on the needle. Row 1 (WS): Slip the first stitch and knit to the first marker, yarn over, slip marker, k1, slip marker, yarn over, knit to next marker, yarn over, slip marker, k1, slip marker, yarn over, knit to the last stitch, p1. Row 2: Slip the first stitch and knit to the first marker, knit the yarn over from the last row through the back loop, slip marker, k1, slip marker, knit the yarn over through the back loop, knit to the next marker, knit the yarn over through the back loop, slip marker, k1, slip marker, knit the yarn over through the back loop, knit to the last stitch, p1.

Repeat these 2 rows another 2 times. Work Row 1 once more (= 4 garter ridges).

Bind off all sts on the next row. The yarn overs are knit through the back loop before being bound off. Be careful not to bind off too loosely.

# **Button loop**

Crochet a button loop using a 2,5 mm crochet hook. Chain 12 sts, preferably quite firmly. Sew the button loop to the edge of the right front at the neck edge. Crochet another button loop, this one with 8 sts. Sew it to the WS of the left front, still at the neck edge. Mark the placement of the buttons, approx. 5 cm from the front edge and 1 cm from the top (neck) edge.

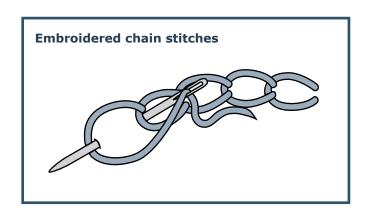
The larger button is sewn to the RS of the left front and one of the small plastic buttons are sewn to the WS in the same place, so the 2 buttons are sewn together, one on the RS and one on the WS.. Sew the second plastic button to the WS of the right front.

# **Finishing**

Embroider chain stitches along the left side of the neckline from the front edge to the shoulder seam. Embroider chain stitches along the right side of the neckline from the front edge and all along the neck to the chain sts at the right shoulder seam.

Sew the sleeves to the armholes using mattress stitch. Insert the needle between the edge stitch and the raised stitch (or the embroidered chain stitch) and pull the two sides together so the raised stitches are joined.

Sew the side and sleeve seams in the same way.



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