



DK156

Cotton Rich DK
Go To Topper



Designed By Julie Gaddy

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This summer topper is fun to knit and fun to wear. I originally conceived it as a swim suit cover up because I often need something to pop on over my suit for strolling around or eating lunch at a summer resort. But as I knit, I began to picture this top over a tank and leggings on my daughters... a neat way to dress up show off for “clubbing” or sightseeing. Then I went on to see it over a skirt and sleeveless top at the office....well, you get the idea. You could wear it anywhere.

This topper is knit in an easy zigzag pattern stitch with wide bands of two-by-two ribbing at the hem and forming the cap sleeves. The button band completes the frame of ribbing and is slightly wider than a classic cardigan to emphasize the contrast between the lacy body and the heavier ribbed edges. The length is entirely dependent on individual height and preference; however, the pattern is written for a hip length sweater. Don't forget to buy extra yarn if you plan to make the sweater longer than 28" inches in the pattern!

This is a great “advanced beginner” project. The only shaping is around the neckline. Fit is no issue because the pattern stitch is very forgiving and the drop shoulders and ribbed sleeves don't require an exact fit through the shoulder area. Using size 7 needles for the pattern stitch in the body demystifies lace knitting and makes it easy to read the pattern from the knitting and watch the topper grow.

Materials: 10-12 skeins of Cotton Rich DK #6377

Needles: US 7/4.5 mm straight needles or size to give gauge

US 5/3.75mm straight needles or size to give gauge

US 5/3.74 mm (16" Circulars)

Extras: Stitch holder or waste yarn, 3.5" buttons, matching sewing thread

Gauge: 23 sts=4" over chart pattern after blocking using larger needles. Gauge is not critical to this project since they lacy stitch will “move with” the wearer.

Finished sizes: S/M (M/L)

Finished bust: 42 (46)"

Finished length: 28" for both sizes

Instructions are written for S/M with changes for M/L in parentheses. If only one number is given, it applies to both sizes.

Pattern stitch for body:

Row 1 (RS): K4, *YO, K2, K2tog, K2*, rep between ** 21 times to last 4 sts.

Note: For the last repeat you don't do the K2Tog, you have to knit the last st, that gives you an extra stitch because after you do the you that begins the repeat, you don't decrease it back out with a k2tog so you gain a stitch . Last repeat: Until 3 st rem, end yo, k3.

Row 2: (WS) and all even rows: Purl

Rows 3 and 5: same as Row 1

Rows 7,9, and 11: K1, SSK, K2, *YO, K2, SSK, K2* rep between ** to last 3 sts, YO, End K3.

Back:

Using smaller straight needles, cast on 121 (133) sts. Work in K2, P2 rib for 3.5 “ beginning with P1 and ending with P2.

Row 1 (WS): P1, *K2, P2*, rep between ** to end.

Row 2 (RS): *K2, P2*, rep between ** to last st, end K1.

Change to larger straight needles and work set up row for pattern st as follows:

K4, *YO, K2, K2tog, K2*, rep between ** to last 3 sts, K3. 122 (134) sts. **Do not repeat this row again.**

Begin chart pattern with Row 2 (WS) and continue patt sts following chart until 13 patt repeats are completed. BO all sts knitwise.

Right Front:

Using smaller straight needles, cast on 61(67) sts. Work in K2, P2 rib for 3.5 “ beginning SW row with P1 and ending with P2.

Row 1 (WS): P1, *K2, P2*, rep between ** to end.

Row 2 (RS): *K2, P2*, rep between ** to last st, end K1.

Change to larger straight needles and work set up row for pattern as follows:

K4, *YO, K2, K2tog, K2*, rep between ** to last 3 sts, K3. 62(68) sts. **Do not repeat this row again.**

Begin chart pattern with row 2 (WS) and continue patt st following chart until 10 patt repeats are completed. End with a completed row 11 (RS)

Shape neck

Row 12 (WS): Purl to last 12 sts. Place last 12 sts on holder or waste yarn. Turn Work.

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			O		\		O		\		
			O		\		O		\		
	/		O		/		O				
	/		O		/		O				
	/		O		/		O				

12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

- front border st
- left front only
- K on RS & P on WS
- YO
- K2tog
- SSK
- 6-st repeat

Dec Row: K2, SSK, K1, resume Row 1 of patt st as established (*YO, K2, K2tog, K2*, rep between ** to last 4 sts. End YO, K2, K2tog.)

Continue with patt st beginning each row with K2, SSK, and then follow patt st as established. Note that not every row will actually dec number of sts since YOs are not omitted. When 44 (50) sts rem, resume patt st as written. This should be patt row 7.

Continue in patt until front is same length as back. BO all sts knitwise.

Left Front:

Using smaller straight needles, cast on 62(68) sts. Work in K2, P2 rib for 3.5 " beginning and end WS row with P2.

Row 1(WS): P2, *K2, P2*, rep between ** to end.

Row 2(RS): *K2, P2, rep between ** to last st, end K2.

Change to larger straight needles and work set up row for pattern st as follows:

K4, *YO, K2, K2tog, K2*, rep between ** to last 4 sts, K4. 63(69) sts. **DO NOT REPEAT THIS ROW AGAIN.**

Begin chart pattern with row 2 (WS) and continue patt st following chart until 10 patt repeats are completed. End with a completed row 12(WS). Be sure to include to edge sts added for the left front in the chart.

Shape Neck:

Row 1 (RS): Work in patt until 16 sts rem. YO, K2tog, K2, place last 12 sts on holder or waste yarn. Turn work.

Row 2 and all even numbered rows (WS): Purl

Row 3: Work patt row 3 to last 6 sts. End K2, K2tog, K2.

Row 5: Work patt row 5 to last 5 sts. End K1, K2tog, K2.

Row 7: Work patt row 7 to last 4 sts. Skip Last YO. End K2tog, K2.

Continue with patt st as established ending with RS row and a K2tog, K2.

Note that not every row will actually dec number of sts since no more YO's are omitted. When 45(51) sts rem. Resume patt st as written. This should be patt row 9. Continue in patt st as established until left front is same length as back. BO all sts knitwise.

Finishing:

Left front button band-With size 5 needles and RS facing, pick up 142 sts along left front. Turn work. Begin K2, P2 rib beginning and ending WS rows with P2. Continue until 8 rows of rib are completed. BO in pattern.

Right front button hole band:

With size 5 needles and RS facing, pick up 142 sts along right front. Turn work. Begin K2 P2 rib for 3 rows beginning and ending WS rows with P2.

Row 4 (RS buttonhole row): Knit in K2 P2 rib as established to 52 sts from end. YO, P2tog, continue to 24 sts from end. YO, P2tog, continue to end. Continue until 8 rows of rib are completed. BO in pattern.

Note the distance from the top buttonhole to the top edge is shorter than the distance between the buttonholes. This allows for a final button hole in the neck band.

Neckband:

With size 5 circular needles and RS facing, pick up 10 sts across top of right front band. Place 12 sts from holder on a spare needle and knit these sts. Pick up 30 sts from right front edge, 34 sts across back, 30 sts down left front edge. Place 12 sts from holder on a spare needle and knit these sts. Pick up 10 sts across top of left front band. 138 sts now on needle. Turn work and work in K2, P2 rib beginning and ending WS rows with P2 for 3 rows.

Row 4 (RS buttonhole row): K2, P2, K2tog, YO, P2 and continue in patt as established to end of row. Continue in K2, P2 rib until a total of 8 rows are completed. BO on WS row in pattern.

Place safety pins or markers 9" from top of each piece. Sew underarm seams leaving open above pins for armholes. Using size 5 circular needle, begin at underarm seam and pick up 108 sts around armhole. Place marker and join work in the round in K2, P2 ribbing for 3". BO in pattern.

Weave in all ends and block as desired stretching out patt st to finished measurements.

