

Blossom Top/Dress

by Elena Nodel



Sizes Available

When choosing a size, please do not rely solely on age categories. Measure your child and choose the appropriate size. **About 5 cm/2" of positive ease is already incorporated into the pattern.**

Age	To fit chest size		Color A Bodice		Color B Skirt		Single Color Total	
	cm	inches	m	yds	m	yds	m	yds
9-12 months	44.5	17.5	112	123	225	246	337	369
1-2T	47	18.5	225	246	337	369	562	615
2-3T	50.5	20	225	246	450	492	675	738
3-4T	54.5	21.5	225	246	562	615	787	861

Gauge: 22 sts x 28 rows = 10 x 10 cm/4 x 4 inches in stockinette stitch

Suggested Yarns

Sweet Merino DK *by* Colour Adventures

(100% merino; 229 m/250 yds in 115 g/4.06 oz)

Dia Merino DK *by* Colour Adventures

(100% merino; 211 m/231 yds in 100 g/3.53 oz)

Cloud DK *by* Colour Adventures (80%

merino, 10% cashmere, 10% nylon; 211 m/231yds in 100 g/3.53 oz)

Notions

4 mm/US #6 circular needles: 40, 60, 80 cm/16, 24, 32 inches, (30 cm/12 inches – optional) or size needed to obtain gauge

4 mm/US #6 dpns (optional)

3.5 mm/US #4 circular needles: 30 cm/12 inches

8 (9, 10, 10) stitch markers

Abbreviations

st(s) = stitch(es);

rnd(s) = round(s);

RS = right side;

WS = wrong side;

rnd/s = round/s;

p = purl;

k = knit;

pm = place marker;

slipm = slip marker from the left to the right needle;

yo = yarn over the needle, on the rnd after this the yo will be knitted so forming an eyelet;

k2tog = knit 2 stitches together, thereby decreasing by one stitch;

p2tog = purl 2 stitches together, thereby decreasing by one stitch;

ssk = slip 1 st, knit 1 st, pass the slipped stitch over the knitted st, thereby decreasing by one stitch;

kfb = knit into the front and back of the stitch, thereby increasing by one stitch.

Pattern Instructions

The dress is worked seamlessly from the top down - follow the instructions for your size.

Bodice

Using color A, 4mm/US #6 needles cast on 40 (42, 47, 50) sts.

Row 1 (WS): purl and place markers as follows: p2, **pm**, p 8 (8, 10, 10), **pm**, p20 (22, 24, 26), **pm**, p8 (8, 10, 10), **pm**, p2.

You will start raglan increases:

Row 2 (RS): kfb, [knit to 1 stitch before marker, kfb, slipm, kfb] x 4, knit to the last stitch, kfb

This is the increase rnd, and you will have increased by 10 stitches.

Row 3 (WS): purl

Repeat Rows 2-3 two (2) more times.

Then work Row 2 only.

You should have the following stitch count between markers:

9-12m: 10/16/28/16/10

1-2T: 10/16/30/16/10

2-3T: 10/18/32/18/10

3-4T: 10/18/34/18/10

Do not turn your work over, with RS facing you, cast on 10 (14, 14, 16) sts, join for knitting in the round and knit to the first marker. You might want to change this marker to a different color as it will be your beginning of the round marker from now on. You will be working in the round.

Rnd 1: knit

Rnd 2: kfb, slipm, kfb, [knit to 1 stitch before marker, kfb, slipm, kfb] x3, knit to the end of the rnd.

Rnd 3: knit

Repeat Rnds 2-3 till you have the following numbers between your markers:

	front	sleeve	back	sleeve
9-12 m	50	36	48	36
1-2T	56	38	54	38
2-3T	58	42	54	42
3-4T	62	44	60	44

You will be separating sleeves next:

Remove marker, put next 36 (38, 42, 44) sts on hold/scrap yarn, remove marker, kfb into the first back stitch, knit 46 (50, 54, 58) sts, kfb, remove marker, put next 36 (38, 42, 44) sts on hold/scrap yarn, remove marker, kfb into the first front stitch, knit 48 (54, 56, 60) sts, kfb, place beginning of the round marker and join for knitting in the round.

You should have the following number of sts on your needles: 102 (112, 118, 126) sts.

Body

Continue knitting in the rnd for about 5 (6¹/₂, 7¹/₂, 9) cm/2 (2¹/₂, 3, 3¹/₂) inches.

Change to color B and knit for 2 rnds.

Skirt

Next you will be making the eyelets for the I-cord belt and working the skirt increases.

Eyelet making rnd:

9-12m only: k1, [yo, k6] x8, yo, k3, [yo, k6] x8, yo, k2 (120 sts)

1-2T only: k2, k2tog, [yo, k6] x8, yo, k6, k2tog, [yo, k6] x8, yo, k4 (128 sts).

2-3T only: k1, k2tog, [yo, k6] x9, yo, k3,

k2tog, [yo, k6] x9, yo, k2 (136 sts)

3-4T only: k3, [yo, k7] x17, yo, k4 (144 sts).

Knit 5 rnds.

Increase Rnd 1: *k15 (16, 17, 18), yo, pm*

repeat to the end of the rnd.

Knit 4 rnds.

Note: The skirt increases are worked every

5th rnd. If you want a twirlier skirt then

work the increases on every 3rd rnd.

Increase Rnd 2: *k 16 (17, 18, 19), yo,

slipm* repeat to the end of rnd.

Knit 4 rnds.

Increase Rnd 3: *k 17 (18, 19, 20), yo,

slipm* repeat to the end of rnd.

Continue increasing in this manner till the skirt is the desired length.

Recommended dress length is 28 (33, 38, 41) cm/11 (13, 15, 16)" as measured from the underarm down.

Hemline

Note: *If you want the hem to be in color A then knit one rnd with it now.*

Choose one of the hem options below:

Picot Hem

Next rnd: *k2tog, yo* repeat to end of rnd.

Knit for 6 rnds.

Bind off.

Fold hem at yarn-overs and sew the edge to the inside of the skirt.

Ruffle Hem

Rnd 1: kfb into every stitch.

Rnd 2: Knit.

Bind off.

Sleeves

Note: *For magic looping see Reference chapter on page 4.*

Transfer the 36 (38, 42, 44) sts from the hold onto your preferred 4 mm/US #6 needles (30 cm or dpns). Attach color A and pick up and knit 2 sts from the underarm, **pm**, pick up and knit 2 sts from the underarm, join in the rnd and knit to the end of the rnd.

You should have 40 (42, 46, 48) sts.

Decrease Rnd:

K1, k2tog, knit to 3 sts before marker, skp, k1.

Knit for 11 rnds.

Change to color B and knit 1 rnd.

Change to 3.5 mm /US #4 needles.

Decrease Rnd for sizes 9m to 3-4T only:

k2tog, k1, *p2, k2* repeat to last 3 sts, p2tog, p1.

All sizes:

You should have 36 (40, 44, 44) sts.

Work in *k2 x p2* rib for 6 rnds.

Bind off.

Neckline

With RS facing you, using 3.5 mm/US #4 needles, and starting at the back of the right sleeve pick up and knit 68 (72, 80, 84) sts, place marker and join for knitting in the round.

Work in 2x2 rib (k2, p2) for 7 rnds.

Bind off loosely. If you are a tight knitter then use Jeny's surprisingly stretchy bind off (see reference chapter on page 4).

Weave in any loose ends. Block.

I-cord (optional)

Cast on 3 stitches.

Knit, do not turn over. [Pass the knitted stitches back to the left needle, knit].

Repeat till the I-cord measures the length you desire.

Thread the I-cord through the eyelets made for the belt in the waist are.

References:

Magic Loop Knitting:

www.knittingdaily.com/blogs/daily/archive/2009/09/16/the-magical-magic-loop.aspx

How to Knit an I-Cord:

www.stitchdiva.com/tutorials/knitting/i-cord

Jeny's surprisingly stretchy bind off:

<http://knitty.com/ISSUEfall09/FEATjssbo.php>

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