



Light Shade of Gray

a knitting pattern by Justyna Lorkowska

Sizes & Fit:

S/M: Bottom approx. 62cm/24.5" long, 47cm/18.5" high when flat; fits up to 140cm/55" around shoulders (bust+arms).

L/XL: Bottom approx. 67cm/26.5" long, 48 cm/19" high when flat; fits up to 150cm/59" around shoulders (bust+arms).

Instructions are given in size S/M (size L/XL is in the brackets).

Materials:

Drops Lima by DROPS (50 g, 90 m/98 y, 65% wool & 35% alpaca) or any other DK weight yarn,

Approx yardage: 540 (630) m / 590 (690) y,

Needles:

US 6 - 4.0 mm, US 5 - 3.75 mm: size S/M 60 cm/24", size L/XL 80 cm/32" circular needle or **appropriate size to get gauge**

Light Shade of Gray is worked from bottom to top. First you knit border in Garter Stitch, join it in the front sewing nice buttons and then you pick up stitches from its top edge and continue upwards in Stockinette Stitch. At the end you make a collar in Garter Stitch again.

Ah, buttons! Don't forget to show them off! They add those final touches to the capelet and make it one of a kind :-)

Gauge:

(before blocking) 22 sts x 28 rows = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 " in St st worked in the round with needle US 6 - 4.0 mm.

(after blocking) 20 sts x 28 rows = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 " in St st worked in the round with needle US 6 - 4.0 mm.

Take time to save time, check your gauge.

Other notions:

7 buttons of your choice, tapestry needle, stitch holder, stitch markers (one in contrasting color).

INSTRUCTIONS**Border**

Using your favorite method CO 25 sts, and start working in Garter stitch. Cont working as established until your work measures 120 (130) cm / 47 (51)". The piece should be slightly stretched when measuring, but not too much. BO all sts.

Now, place the border flat in front of you, fold it making sure that one short edge overlaps the other by 5 cm / 2". At this point you might wish to sew the buttons to hold the border together, but I recommend using a stitch holder, or a safety pin.

Cape

With RS facing and smaller needle pick up and knit sts in the purl bumps of each Garter ridge. You should be able to pick up 210 (220) sts. If you pick up fewer or more st, adjust their number by evenly decreasing (with ssk or k2tog) or increasing (with m1) sts in the next rnd. Join all sts for working in the round placing a marker (marker A) at the beginning.

In the next round change needle to bigger size and start working in Stockinette stitch until your work measures 26.5 (27.5) cm / 10.5 (11)" from the bottom edge.

Next rnd - decreasing sts: *k3, k2tog*, repeat until the end of rnd = 168 (176) sts.

Pattern Stitches:

Garter Stitch (flat) - knit all rows.

Garter Stitch (circular) - round 1: knit, round 2: purl

Stockinette Stitch

(circular) - knit all rounds.

Abbreviations:

k - knit

p - purl

k2tog - knit 2 stitches together

ssk - slip 2 stitches individually as if to knit, then knit them together through the back loop

m1 - make one - with left needle from front to back lift strand between stitches, and then knit into the back loop of the strand

st, sts - stitch, stitches

St st - Stockinette Stitch

pm - place marker

sm - slide marker

yo - yarn over

CO - cast on

BO - bind off

cont - continue

CC - contrasting color

rnd (s) - round(s)

estab - established

WS - wrong side

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In the next rnd cont working in St st until your work measures 30.5 (31.5) cm / 12 (12.5)" from the bottom edge.

Next rnd - decreasing sts: *k1, k2tog*, repeat until 0 (2) sts from the end of rnd, k0 (2) = 112 (118) sts. Knit across 4 more rnds.

Collar

Change needle to smaller size. In this rnd you should also put a second CC marker (B) in the place where you wish to have collar opening - this might be the same place as bottom border opening, or anywhere you wish.

Work this rnd in the following way: knit all sts until you place marker B, pm B, purl until the end of rnd.

In the next rnd: take out marker A, purl until marker B.

Next rnd: sm B, knit across.

At the beginning of next rnd take out marker B, pick up and knit the purl bumps of the 7 following stitches, from the WS (you will have 7 new stitches behind the original ones). Turn work. You will now start working back and forth in Garter stitch, and this will be the beginning of your rows.

Row 1-5: knit across.

Row 6 - buttonhole row (RS): k3, yo, k2tog, k until the end

If you're planning to use big buttons I recommend knitting one-row buttonholes using this method:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EY4vBzLo-Xs>

Cont working as estab in Garter st until your collar measures 16 cm / 6.5", or desired length, making buttonholes in every 16th row (8 ridges between buttonholes). After working the last buttonhole row, work in Garter st for 7 more rows finishing on WS.

BO all sts knitwise.

Finishing

Weave in all loose ends. Sew buttons and block the capelet lightly. Enjoy!

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