

1/13

Caidree

LEELA TOP
KNITTING PATTERN
Difficulty ◆◆◆◆



Leela Top is a classic sleeveless summer top with a square style neckline. It is constructed from the top down giving it an advantage for adjusting the length of the body. Simple textured stitch is used throughout the pattern. It is worked flat and in the round. Leela Top is meant to be worn with 0 to 5 cm (0" to 2½") of positive ease.

Sizes

1, (2), 3, (4), 5, (6), 7, (8), 9, (10).

Bust circumference of the finished garment: 75, (80), 90, (95), 100, (110), 118, (123), 130, (137), approximately 29½", (31½"), 35½", (37½"), 39½", (43¼"), 46½", (48½"), 51¼", (54"). Featured in size 5 on 93 cm / 36½" bust.

Gauge

Main - 24 stitches by 36 rows = 10 x 10 cm (4" x 4") using size US 4 / 3.50 mm needles in textured stitch after blocking.

Yarn

Leela Top is worked using **fingering** weight yarn, you will need approximately 100, (120), 130, (140), 155, (180), 200, (215), 240, (260) grams of Pasquali "Nepal" (50 grams = 180 meters / 197 yards). Featured in color 09.

That is approximately 360, (432), 468, (504), 558, (648), 720, (774), 864, (936) meters.

Yarn alternative

Pasquali "Suave" (25 grams = 162 meters / 177 yards). Featured in color 50 and in size 4, photo on the last page of the pattern.

Suggested needles

Main - US 4 / 3.50 mm 60 cm / 24" circular knitting needles or needles to obtain gauge.

Notions

2 markers (preferably different colors)

2 clip on markers

Abbreviations

rs - right side

ws - wrong side

sm - slip marker

sbm - slip beginning of round marker

bor m / bor marker - beginning of round marker

m1L - left leaning increase

m1R - right leaning increase

wyif - with yarn in front

purl wise - insert needle into the stitch as if to purl it

1, (2), 3, (4), 5, (6), 7, (8), 9, (10) numbers and numbers in parenthesis represent each size throughout the pattern.

Textured pattern for the swatch

Work 4 rows in garter stitch, then 10 rows in stockinette stitch.

Tips

Best way to keep track of rows and increases is with pen and paper and / or small clip-on markers.

PATTERN

About construction and workflow

Leela Top is constructed from the top down. First, the front of the garment is knit flat to underarm, then the front stitches are placed on hold while the back section is created in a similar manner. Both the front and the back sections are then joined and the remainder of the body is knit in the round. Finally, icord straps are created by picking up stitches at the front corners, knitting the icord then joining the straps to the back corners using Kitchener grafting stitch.

Front

Work using US 4 / 3.50 mm 60 cm / 24" circular knitting needles.

Using long tail cast on method neatly cast on 64, (66), 70, (72), 74, (76), 78, (80), 82, (84) stitches, make sure your stitches are not twisted. 

Set up row (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 1 (rs): knit all stitches.

Row 2 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise (icord edge), purl 5 stitches, knit until there are 9 stitches remaining, purl 5 stitches, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise (icord edge).

Row 3 (rs): knit all stitches.

Row 4 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl 5 stitches, knit until there are 9 stitches remaining, purl 5 stitches, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 5 (rs): knit all stitches.

Row 6 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 7 (rs): knit all stitches.

Row 8 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 9 (rs): knit all stitches.

Row 10 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 11 (rs): knit all stitches.

Row 12 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 13 (rs): knit all stitches.

Row 14 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Repeat rows 1 to 14: all sizes **1 more** time, then work rows 1 to 10 (all sizes).

Now you are ready to make the increases to shape the armhole openings, follow instructions only for the size you are making, you will do so in the following way:

Work rows 1 (all sizes) through 18, (20), 24, (26), 30, (36), 40, (42), 46, (48) below.

Row 1 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 2 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 3 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 4 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 5 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 6 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl 5 stitches, knit until there are 9 stitches remaining, purl 5 stitches, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 7 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 8 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl 5 stitches, knit until there are 9 stitches remaining, purl 5 stitches, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 9 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 10 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 11 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 12 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 13 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 14 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 15 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 16 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 17 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 18 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 19 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 20 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl 5 stitches, knit until there are 9 stitches remaining, purl 5 stitches, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 21 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 22 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl 5 stitches, knit until there are 9 stitches remaining, purl 5 stitches, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 23 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 24 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 25 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 26 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 27 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 28 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 29 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 30 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 31 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 32 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 33 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 34 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl 5 stitches, knit until there are 9 stitches remaining, purl 5 stitches, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 35 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 36 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl 5 stitches, knit until there are 9 stitches remaining, purl 5 stitches, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 37 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 38 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 39 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 40 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 41 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 42 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 43 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 44 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 45 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 46 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl until there are 4 stitches remaining, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Row 47 (rs): knit 6 stitches, m1L, knit until there are 6 stitches remaining, m1R, knit 6 stitches.

Row 48 (ws): wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise, purl 5 stitches, knit until there are 9 stitches remaining, purl 5 stitches, wyif slip 4 stitches purl wise.

Now you have 82, (86), 94, (98), 104, (112), 118, (122), 128, (132) stitches on your needles.

Work now measures approximately 17, (18), 19, (19.5), 20, (22.5), 23.5, (24), 25, (25.5) cm. / approximately 6¾", (7"), 7½", (7¾"), 8", 8¾", (9¼"), (9½"), 9¾", (10")

Next, cut yarn leaving a tail approximately 10 to 15 cm / 4" to 6" long and place stitches on hold on scrap yarn or spare needle while you work the back.

Back

Work the back section the same way as the front except when you are finished do not cut yarn, work will continue from this point on.

Body

Now you are ready to join the back and the front so that both sections can be worked in the round.

Using US 4 / 3.50 mm 60 cm / 24" circular knitting needles, **working from the right side** knit across 82, (86), 94, (98), 104, (112), 118, (122), 128, (132) stitches of the back, when you get to the end, using knit cast on method (in extension) cast on 4, (5), 7, (8), 8, (10), 12, (13), 14, (16) new stitches, **place marker**, cast on another 4, (5), 7, (8), 8, (10), 12, (13), 14, (16) new stitches in the same manner, then continuously knit across 82, (86), 94, (98), 104, (112), 118, (122), 128, (132) stitches of the front, when you get to the end, using knit cast on method (in extension) cast on 4, (5), 7, (8), 8, (10), 12, (13), 14, (16) new stitches, place **bor marker**, then cast on another 4, (5), 7, (8), 8, (10), 12, (13), 14, (16) new stitches in the same manner, join the work to knit in the round. Make sure your sections are not twisted.

Hint: use a different color or shape marker for the bor marker, this will help you distinguish where the new round begins.

Now you have 180, (192), 216, (228), 240, (264), 284, (296), 312, (328) stitches on your needles.

Next, you will continue to work the body section in the round in textured pattern, follow instructions only for the size you are making, you will do so in the following way:

Size 1 and 9 only: work rounds 2 through 14 below, then repeat rounds 1 through 14, see measurements below.

Size 2 and 10 only: work rounds 4 through 14 below, then repeat rounds 1 through 14, see measurements below.

Size 3 only work rounds 8 through 14 below, then repeat rounds 1 through 14, see measurements below.

Size 4 only: work rounds 10 through 14 below, then repeat rounds 1 through 14, see measurements below.

Size 5 only: work round 14 below, then repeat rounds 1 through 14, see measurements below.

Size 6 only: work rounds 6 through 14 below, then repeat rounds 1 through 14, see measurements below.

Size 7 only: work rounds 10 through 14 below, then repeat rounds 1 through 14, see measurements below.

Size 8 only: work rounds 12 through 14 below, then repeat rounds 1 through 14, see measurements below.

Round 1 (rs): knit all stitches.

Round 2 (rs): slip bor marker, knit 4, (5), 7, (8), 8, (10), 12, (13), 14, (16) stitches, purl until there are 4, (5), 7, (8), 8, (10), 12, (13), 14, (16) stitches remaining before side marker, knit to marker, slip marker knit 4, (5), 7, (8), 8, (10), 12, (13), 14, (16) stitches, purl until there are 4, (5), 7, (8), 8, (10), 12, (13), 14, (16) stitches remaining before bor marker, knit to bor marker.

Round 3 (rs): knit all stitches.

Round 4 (rs): slip bor marker, knit 4, (5), 7, (8), 8, (10), 12, (13), 14, (16) stitches, purl until there are 4, (5), 7, (8), 8, (10), 12, (13), 14, (16) stitches remaining before side marker, knit to marker, slip marker knit 4, (5), 7, (8), 8, (10), 12, (13), 14, (16) stitches, purl until there are 4, (5), 7, (8), 8, (10), 12, (13), 14, (16) stitches remaining before bor marker, knit to bor marker.

Round 5 to 14: knit all stitches.

Repeat rounds as instructed above until body measures 24, (24), 24, (26), 26, (26), 26, (26), 27, (27) **cm**, approximately 9½", (9½"), 9½", (10¼"), 10¼", 10¼", (10¼"), (10¼"), 10½", (10½") or your preferred length, measured from under arm to hem.

Switch to US 1.5 / 2.50 mm size needles and work 1 cm / ½" in 1x1 rib (k1, p1) bind off using the Italian bind off technique or your favorite bind off technique.

Straps

Using US 4 / 3.50 mm knitting needles, working from the right side, pick up and knit 4 stitches (icord edge stitches) and work as icord in the following way: place the 4 stitches that you picked up from your right hand needle onto your left hand needle then knit those 4 stitches, *place the 4 stitches back onto your left hand needle and knit them again*, repeat * to * until strap measures 4 - 8 cm / 2"-3" or your preferred length. Attach the strap to the back corner using Kitchener grafting stitch. Do the same for the other strap.

Tips: measure the strap stretched. I recommend blocking the shirt before you attach the straps. Use a clip on marker to hold the icord strap then attach it to the corresponding corner. Leave a longer yarn tail before you finish in case you need to add a few rows. Do the same for the other strap.

Finish

Tuck in all yarn ends and block your **Leela Top** to size.



Measurements

-bust circumference 75, (80), 90, (95), 100, (110), 118, (123), 130, (137), approximately 29½", (31½"), 35½", (37½"), 39½", (43¼"), 46½", (48½"), 51¼", (54").

-shoulder to under arm 20, (21), 22, (22.5), 24, (26.5), 27, (28), 29, (30) **cm**, approximately 8", (8¼"), 8¾", (9"), 9½", (10½"), 10½", (11"), 11½", (11¾"). + 2 to 4 cm / ¾" to 1½" stretched.

-length, shoulder to waist 44, (45), 46, (48.5), 50, (52.5), 53.5, (54), 56, (57) **cm**, approximately 17½", (17¾"), 18", (19"), 19¾", (20¾"), 21", (21¼"), 22", (22½").

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LEELA TOP

Questions?



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“Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try” JFK.

HAPPY KNITTING!

Pattern Notes: