

# RIPPLE BUTTSHORTS

BY JESSIE MAE MARTINSON of JESSIE MAED DESIGNS

*Ribbed for your pleasure! A sweet & fun coordinate for your favorite ripple bra or top, because every butt is a good butt, and a good butt deserves ripples, too.*



**SIZES:** XS (S, M, L, 1X){2X, 3X, 4X, 5X} to fit a waist measurement of:  
23-24 (25-26.5, 28-30, 32-34, 36-38){40-42, 44-45, 46-47, 49-50}"  
58.5-61 (63.5-67.5, 71-76, 81.5-86.5, 91.5-96.5){101.5-106.5, 111.5-114, 116.5-119, 124-127}cm

Actual measurement of finished garment at waist:

21 (24, 27, 33, 36){39, 42, 45, 48}"  
[53.5 (61, 68.5, 84, 91.5){99, 106.5, 114.5, 122}cm]

Actual measurement of the finished garment at hip:

33 (36, 39, 45, 48){51, 54, 57, 60}"  
[84 (91.5, 99, 114.5, 122){129.5, 137, 145, 152.5}cm]

Finished thigh circumference:

19.5 (21, 22.5, 27, 28.5){30, 33, 34.5, 36}"  
[49.5 (53.5, 57, 68.5, 72.5){76, 84, 87.5, 91.5}cm]

*Ease varies from -4" – 0"/-10cm – 0cm at the waist depending on the size. Choose a size close to or smaller than your waist measurement. If you are between sizes, size down. If you prefer a very fitted pair of shorts, size down further.*

*Because the shorts are knit in 3x3 ribbing, they are very stretchy. If some of your measurements differ from the measurements above in either direction, that's okay! These will stretch a lot. Even if your hips are significantly larger than the standards listed above for your waist size, these will stretch enough to fit. Based on tester feedback, I do not recommend modifying stitch counts in any part of the pattern for the shorts, as the give in the rib should accommodate most fit concerns. A detailed spreadsheet with tester sizing and yardage notes is included in the notes on the Ravelry pattern page to assist you in choosing a size and planning for yardage.*

**Materials:** DK or worsted weight yarn, circular needles, stitch markers, scrap yarn or stitch holders, removable stitch markers, additional circular needle for fold over waistband, (optional) crochet hook if using crocheted provisional cast on, darning needle

**Share your project on Instagram using the hashtag #ripplebuttshorts and tagging me, @jesssiemae**

**Suggested Yarn:** Modus Operandi Fibers Silky DK, Single Ply DK, 252yd/100g  
 40% Baby Alpaca, 40% Merino, 20% Silk  
 Modus Operandi Fibers Worsted, 4 Ply Worsted Weight,  
 218yd/100g, 100% SW Merino

*Some testers had trouble achieving gauge with DK weight yarn, even after sizing up with needles. If you are a tight knitter or want a denser fabric, I suggested using a heavier worsted weight than DK.*

*While I used a soft single ply for the sample, any ply will work. As always with my designs, you should use any yarn that is accessible to you with which you can achieve gauge. Budget yarn suggestions are included on the pattern page. You could also use fingering held double or any other yarn with which you can get gauge.*

**Suggested Needles:** US 6 – 4.0 mm circular needles  
*If you're not using magic loop, choose a circumference that is several inches shorter than the final circumference of the \*garment.\**

*If you are not using magic loop, you will also need a 16-24" circular needle for the legs.*

**Gauge:** 16 sts & 29 rows per 4x4" square in 3x3 ribbing  
*Note: Gauge measured blocked and unstretched. If you can get close to gauge while stretching it a bit, that's fine. Measuring gauge in ribbing isn't an exact science, as it is very stretchy. As long as you can stretch the swatch to get gauge, your garment will fit, but note that however much you stretch the swatch to get gauge is at least how much the ribbing will be stretched when you wear the garment.*

**Yardage:** 225-275 (260-315, 290-425, 400-500, 440-550)[460-600, 550-650, 575-675, 600-750]yds  
 206-251 (238-288, 265-388, 366-457, 402-503)[420-548, 503-594, 526-617, 548-686]m

*Buttshorts are designed with a high rise intended to hit at the natural waist, and a short leg. If you plan on adding length to the rise or leg, allow for extra yardage.*

**Techniques:** knitting in the round, provisional cast on, i-cord, German short rows, increasing, decreasing, holding stitches, reading knit and purl stitches

**Construction:** The piece is worked from the top down, beginning with a provisional cast on for a folded waistband. Short rows are worked to increase the area of the seat. Increases are worked at the front and back to the hip. Legs are separated, sts are cast on for the crotch for each leg. Sts are picked up from the crotch of the first leg when knitting the second leg to join.

Abbreviations
BO – bind off
BOR – beginning of round
CO – cast on
CSD - centered single decrease. Sl1 st knitwise. Sl another st knitwise. Take tip of left needle and insert into the two slipped stitches from back to front in order to knit them together. Identify the two stitches you just slipped (below.) Take tip of left needle and insert it into second slipped stitch in the row below from front to back and then move working yarn to the back in order to knit that stitch together with the next stitch on your needle. Video for this technique is available on my IGTV channel.
DS – double stitch (from German short row)
K– knit
K1tbl – knit one st through the back loop
K2tog – knit 2 stitches together (right leaning decrease)
K3togtbl – knit 3 sts together through the back loop
M1l – make 1 left, a left leaning increase. Pick up the bar between the stitch you just knit and the next stitch from front to back. Knit through the back of the stitch.
M1r – make 1 right, a right leaning increase. Pick up the bar between the stitch you just knit and the next stitch from back to front. Knit into the front this stitch.
P – purl
PM – place marker
RS - right side
Sl-gsr - bring yarn to front, slip 1 st purlwise from the left needle to the right needle, and take the working yarn and pull it very tightly over the top of the right needle from the front to the back until you can see both legs of the stitch. This will look like two sts but count as one, and we will refer to this as a double stitch.
SM – slip marker
Ssk - slip one st knitwise, slip another st knitwise. Knit both slipped stitches together through the back loop.
St - stitch
Sts – stitches
WS - wrong side

## Pattern

### I-cord Drawstring

*Note: in place of a i-cord drawstring, some testers used bias tape or ribbon. You could also encase an elastic band or sew elastic thread through the ribbing in place of the drawstring (see Ravelry pattern page notes for video link.).*

Using a longtail cast on, CO 3st, \*k3, slip the three sts you just knit back onto the left needle.

Repeat from \* until i-cord measures **41 (44, 47, 53, 56){59, 62, 65, 68}" / [104 (112, 119.5, 134.5, 142){150, 157.5, 165, 172.5}cm]** fully stretched. K3togtbl and break yarn, leaving a 6" tail for weaving.

### Provisional Cast On

Using smooth waste yarn in a similar weight and contrasting color to your main color, provisionally cast on **84 (96, 108, 132, 144){156, 168, 180, 192}** sts. Using your main working yarn, knit all sts. Place marker for BOR and join to work in the round being careful not to twist stitches.

### Back side of waistband

Knit in the round until your work is 1.25"/3cm from the cast on edge, approximately 8 rounds. You may knit this section longer if you prefer a thicker waistband.

Next Round: Purl.

### Front side of waistband

Rounds 1-3: \*k1tbl, p1\* to end of round.

Round 4: K1tbl, yarn over, p1, yarn over, \*k1tbl, p1\* to end of round.

Round 5: K1tbl, k1tbl, p1, k1tbl, k1tbl, \*p1, k1tbl\* to last st, p1.

Round 6: Ssk, p1, k2tog, \*p1, k1tbl\* to last st, p1.

Remaining rounds: \*k1tbl, p1\* until front of waistband (the ribbed portion) is the same length as the back.

Place the provisionally CO sts from the first step onto a spare circular needle.

*Note: if you are comfortable with the next step, you may want to tuck your drawstring into the waistband as you close it, so you won't have to thread it through later. If you don't want to do that, you can thread the drawstring through later. It's up to you.*

Next Round: Work the live sts together with the provisionally CO sts by knitting them together (a live stitch from your working needle and a provisionally cast on st from your spare circular needle.) Continue to the end of round. Note that all of these sts are joined by knitting them together; you do not need to worry about maintaining the 1x1 twisted rib pattern.

### Shorts

*Note: for the remainder of the pattern "knit in pattern" means that you will knit in the pattern established in the previous round in order to maintain the ribbing, unless otherwise specified. If a stitch was knit in the previous round, you will knit it in the following rounds. If it was purled, you will purl it.*

### Short Rows

We will now be placing markers and working short rows to make extra room for your butt at the back of your buttshorts.

Setup Round: K3, place marker. This knit column between the BOR marker and this marker will form the center front "seam" of your buttshorts. Work \*p3, k3\* for **36 (42, 48, 60, 66){72, 78, 84, 90}** sts, p3, place marker, k3, place marker (the knit sts between the two previously placed markers mark the center back seam,) \*p3, k3\* for **36 (42, 48, 60, 66){72, 78, 84, 90}** sts, p3. You should be at the BOR.

We will now be working German Short Rows to create some extra fabric for our butts.

A couple of notes for this section:

- 1) We will be using a special slipped German short row stitch, abbreviated sl-gsr. To work this stitch, bring yarn to front, slip 1 st purlwise from the left needle to the right needle, and take the working yarn and pull it very tightly over the top of the right needle from the front to the back until you can see both legs of the stitch. This will look like two sts but count as one, and we will refer to this as a double stitch, abbreviated DS.

- 2) Whenever the pattern instructs you to work the two legs of the DS from the previous row together, you will either knit the two legs of the sts together as if they are one stitch, or purl the two legs of the sts together as if they are one st, depending on whether the DS falls within a ribbed column or a purled column.

Setup half round: You should be at the BOR. K3, slip marker, work in pattern to next marker, slip marker, k3, slip marker. You should be on the butt side of the shorts. You will know this is the butt side, because the holes for your drawstring are on the other side of the shorts.

Row 1 (RS): Work **5 (8, 11, 14, 17){20, 20, 23, 26}** sts in pattern. Turn.

Row 2 (WS): Sl-gsr. Work in pattern to 1<sup>st</sup> marker, slip marker, p3, slip marker, work **5 (8, 11, 14, 17){20, 20, 23, 26}** sts in pattern. Turn.

Row 3 (RS): Sl-gsr. Work in pattern until you reach the DS from the previous row. Work the two legs of the DS together (remember, if you are in the middle of a knit column, the two legs of the DS will be knit together, and if you are in the middle of a purl column, the two legs of the DS will be purled together.) Work 3 sts in pattern. Turn.

Row 4 (WS): Sl-gsr. Work in pattern to 1<sup>st</sup> marker, slip marker, p3, slip marker, work in pattern until you reach the DS from the previous row. Work the two legs of the DS together. Work 3 sts in pattern. Turn.

Repeat rows 3 & 4 **4 (4, 4, 5, 5){5, 6, 6, 6}** more times.

You should be looking at the right side of your fabric. We will now resume working in the round.

Sl-gsr, work in pattern to BOR marker, working the two legs of the DS from the previous row together in pattern as normal.

### Increases

*For this section, we will be working increases that grow out of the front and back central columns of the buttshorts. The instructions as written will create a pair of buttshorts with a rise of **10.5 (10.75, 11, 11.5, 12.25){13, 13.5, 14.25, 14.5}**"/[**26.5 (27.5, 28, 29, 31){33, 34.5, 36, 37}**]cm and hips that measure **33 (36, 39, 42, 48){51, 54, 57, 60}**"/[**84 (91.5, 99, 106.5, 122){129.5, 137, 145, 152.5}**]cm.*

*You can modify the rise to be lower by working fewer rounds than noted between each increase round. You can modify the rise to be higher by working more rounds than noted between each increase round, or by simply knitting until the shorts reach your desired rise after you complete all of the increases as written.*

*Pay close attention here to the increases and take care to maintain the ribbing pattern as noted in the instructions.*

Work one round in 3x3 ribbing, resolving the final DS from the previous round by working the two legs together in pattern. Continue working 3x3 ribbing in the round for 1".

\*Round 1: K3, sm, m1l, work in pattern to next marker, m1r, sm, k3, sm, m1l, work in pattern to BOR marker, m1r, sm. (4 sts increased)

Round 2: K4, work in pattern to 1 st before next marker, k1, sm, k3, sm, k1, work in pattern to 1 st before BOR, k1.  
Repeat round 2 **2 (2, 2, 3, 3){3, 4, 4, 4}** more times.

Round 3: Repeat round 1. (4 sts increased.)

Round 4: K5, work in pattern to 2 sts before next marker, k2, sm, k3, sm, k2, work in pattern to 2 sts before BOR, k2.  
Repeat round 4 **2 (2, 2, 3, 3){3, 4, 4, 4}** more times.

Round 5: Repeat round 1 (4 sts increased.)

Round 6: K6, work in pattern to 3 sts before next marker, k3, sm, k3, sm, k3, work in pattern to 3 sts before BOR, k3.  
Repeat round 6 **2 (2, 2, 3, 3){3, 4, 4, 4}** more times.

Round 7: Repeat round 1 (4 sts increased.)

Round 8: K3, p1, work in pattern to 1 st before next marker, p1, sm, k3, sm, p1, work in pattern to 1 st before BOR, p1.  
Repeat round 8 **2 (2, 2, 3, 3){3, 4, 4, 4}** more times.

Round 9: Repeat round 1 (4 sts increased.)

Round 10: K3, p2, work in pattern to 2 sts before next marker, p2, sm, k3, sm, p2, work in pattern to 2 sts before BOR, p2.

Repeat round 10 **2 (2, 2, 3, 3){3, 4, 4, 4}** more times.

Round 11: Repeat round 1 (4 sts increased.)

Round 12: K3, p3, work in pattern to 3 sts before next marker, p3, sm, k3, sm, p3, work in pattern to 3 sts before BOR, p3.

Repeat round 12 **2 (2, 2, 3, 3){3, 4, 4, 4}** more times.\*

You should have **108 (120, 132, 156, 168){180, 192, 204, 216}** sts.

Work instructions from \* to \* (beginning again at round 1) one more time.

After repeating the steps from rounds 1-12 twice, you should have **132 (144, 156, 180, 192){204, 216, 228, 240}** sts.

The length from the top of the waistband to the bottom of the crotch (in the front) should be **10.5 (10.75, 11, 11.5, 12.25){13, 13.5, 14.25, 14.5}"/[26.5 (27.5, 28, 29, 31){33, 34.5, 36, 37}cm]**.

You can try your buttshorts on at this point to see if you are satisfied with the length of the rise. If you wish to add length before separating for the legs, continue knitting in pattern to your desired length.

#### Separate for the Legs

*Note: if you have thighs that are significantly larger than the pattern schematic, you can modify here by adding 6 additional sts in the cast on portion for the crotch. Note that this will add six sts to the final st count for the leg,*

Setup round: Work CSD over the three knit sts, sm, work in pattern to next marker, sm, work CSD over the three knit sts, sm, work in pattern to BOR. (2 sts decreased)

*Some testers had trouble visualizing the next round, so I will take a moment to explain. We will knit one st, place the left leg sts on a holder for working*

*later, CO crotch sts for the right leg, and then join those sts to the back right butt sts.*

Round 1: K1, place the next **65 (71, 77, 89, 95){101, 107, 113, 119}** left leg sts on a holder. CO **13 (13, 13, 19, 19){19, 25, 25, 25}** sts using the backwards loop cast on, k1. You have reached the marker at the back right butt, which marks the new BOR. You should have **78 (84, 90, 108, 114){120, 132, 138, 144}** sts on your needles for the right leg.

#### Right Leg

Round 1: Work \*p3,k3\* ribbing to 3 sts before next marker (previous BOR marker,) p3, remove marker, \*k3,p3\* to 3 sts before BOR, k3.

Work in established 3x3 ribbing pattern for .75"/2cm, or desired length, taking into account that we will be adding 1.25"/3cm of 1x1 twisted rib in the next step.

Round 2: \*P1,k1tbl\* to end of round.

Repeat round 2 until 1x1 twisted rib portion is 1.25"/3cm. Bind off loosely in pattern or using a preferred stretchy bind off of your choice. I specifically recommend a stretchy bind off if your thigh circumference is larger than the final thigh circumference noted in the schematic, and you did not cast on additional sts for the crotch.

#### Left Leg

*Note: in this section rather than casting on sts for the crotch as you did for the right leg, you will pick up sts for the left crotch from the finished right crotch, joining the crotch in the process. If you added sts for a larger thigh for the right leg, make sure to pick up the same number of additional sts for the left crotch, too.*

Place the held sts back on your working needle.

Join yarn at the front crotch by knitting into the first st, remove front marker and work in pattern until you reach the back marker. This is your new BOR. Slip marker, k1, pick up **13 (13, 13, 19, 19){19, 25, 25, 25}** sts from the right crotch, k1, work in pattern to BOR. You should have **78 (84, 90, 108, 114){120, 132, 138, 144}** sts on your needle.

Round 1: Work \*k3,p3\* ribbing to BOR.

Work in established 3x3 ribbing pattern for .75"/2cm, or desired length, taking into account that we will be adding 1.25"/3cm of 1x1 twisted rib in the next step.

Round 2: \*K1tbl, p1\* to end of round.

Repeat round 2 until 1x1 twisted rib portion is 1.25"/3cm. Bind off in the same manner you did for the right leg.

### Finishing

Wet block buttshorts to desired measurements, making sure to block the i-cord drawstring as well.

To thread the drawstring through the waistband holes, I like to temporarily join the darning needle to the i-cord by threading through the needle and the end of the i-cord using a piece of waste yarn and tying. I then carefully thread the needle through the waistband about a quarter of the length of the waistband at a time, allowing the waistband to bunch together, and then pulling the drawstring when I can't get any further. Continue doing this until you reach the other side.

Yay! You've made buttshorts for your butt! Go have fun in them!

### Sharing

My absolute favorite part of designing is seeing what you make, so please don't be shy about sharing on Ravelry and Instagram.

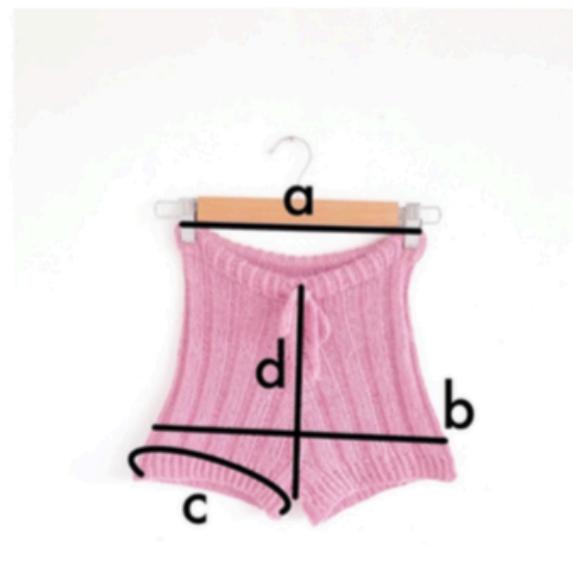
Use the hashtags #ripplebuttshorts and #jessiemaed, and tag me, @jesssiemae, so I can see your progress and all of your beautiful butts.

### Pattern Support

Please direct all pattern support queries to [jessiemaeddesigns@gmail.com](mailto:jessiemaeddesigns@gmail.com).

**DISCLAIMER:** I am happy to allow small scale commission hand knitting of my designs, but you may not sell or reproduce this pattern, or commercially manufacture any garment made from it. Thank you in advance for respecting my labor and intellectual property.

## Schematic



inches	XS	S	M	L	1XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL
A - Waist	21	24	27	33	36	39	42	45	48
B - Hip	33	36	39	45	48	51	54	57	60
C - Thigh	19.5	21	22.5	27	28.5	30	33	34.5	36
D - Rise	10.5	10.75	11	11.5	12.25	13	13.5	14.25	14.5

cm	XS	S	M	L	1XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL
A - Waist	53.5	61	68.5	84	91.5	99	106.5	114.5	122
B - Hip	84	91.5	99	114.5	122	129.5	137	145	152.5
C - Thigh	49.5	53.5	57	68.5	72.5	76	84	87.5	91.5
D - Rise	26.5	27.5	28	29	31	33	34.5	36	37