

TOTALLY TANK TOP

BY JESSIE MAE MARTINSON of JESSIE MAED DESIGNS

Introducing the ultimate hot weather racerback tank in a cool-to-the-touch fiber blend we crave on those sweltering summer days!



Share your project on Instagram using the hashtag [#TotallyTankTop](#) and tagging [@jesssiemae](#)

Sizes (XS, S, M)[L, 1X, 2X]{3X, 4X, 5X} to fit chest measurement of:
(28, 32, 36)[40, 44, 48]{52, 56, 60}"
(71, 81.5, 91.5)[101.5, 112, 122]{132, 142, 152.5}cm

Garment Full Chest Measurement:

(24, 28, 32)[36, 40, 44]{48, 52, 56}"
(61, 71, 81.5)[91.5, 101.5, 112]{122, 132, 142}cm

This top is designed with 4-6"/10-15cm of negative ease at the full chest for a close fit. To choose your size, subtract 4-6"/10-15cm from your full chest measurement and choose the closest garment full chest measurement size.

Suggested Yarn

[Ritual Dyes Undine](#), Jewelweed Colorway
(60% Organic Cotton/40% Linen, 383yds/100g)

Suggested Needles

Main: US 3 (3.25mm) circular needles
Ribbing: US 2 (2.75mm) circular needles, plus preferred needles for small circumference knitting

Gauge

24 sts & 28 rows / 4" (10cm), stockinette flat

Yarn Requirements

(350, 400, 450)[500, 550, 600]{675, 750, 825} yds
(320, 366, 411)[457, 503, 548]{617, 686, 754} m

Materials

stitch markers, scrap yarn or stitch holders, darning needle

Techniques

knitting in the round, increasing, decreasing, blocking

Construction

This design is knit seamlessly from the top down with shoulder short row shaping. Stitches are picked up for sleeve and neckline finishes.

Abbreviations
General
BOR: beginning of round
CO: cast on
Cont: continue
Inc: increased
k: knit
k2tog (right leaning decrease): knit the next two sts together as one
M1l(p) (left leaning knit (purl) increase): pick up bar between the stitch you just knit (purl) and the next stitch from front to back, then knit (purl) through the back loop
M1r(p) (right leaning knit (purl) increase): pick up bar between the stitch you just knit (purl) and the next stitch from back to front, then knit (purl) through the front loop
p: purl
Pu&k: pick up and knit
Rd (rds): round (rounds)
Rep: rep
RS: right side
ssk (left leaning decrease): slip one stitch knitwise, slip one stitch purlwise, insert left needle into the two slipped stitches and knit together through the back loop
St (sts): stitch (stitches)
WS: wrong side
German Short Rows
DS – Double stitch
Sl-gsr – Bring yarn to front. Slip 1 st purlwise from the left needle to right needle. 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 stitches but count as one; we will call this a double stitch, abbreviated DS. Work the next stitch tightly while maintaining tension on double stitch.
K-gsr – K through both legs of the DS as if the DS were a regular single stitch. Work following stitches as normal.
P-gsr – P through both legs of the DS as if the DS were a regular single stitch. Work following stitches as normal.

Pattern

Back

Cast On

Using larger needles and longtail cast-on, cast on **(34, 36, 38)[40, 40, 42]** **{44, 46, 46}** sts.

Right Back Short Row Shaping

Setup Row (WS): purl.

Row 1 (RS): k 13 turn.

Row 2 (WS): sl-gsr, p 3, turn.

Row 3 (RS): sl-gsr, k to DS, k-gsr, k1, turn.

Row 4 (WS): sl-gsr, p to DS, p-gsr, p 3, turn.

Cont: rep rows 3-4 one time.

Next Row (RS): rep row 3.

Final Row (WS): sl-gsr, purl to DS, p-gsr, purl to end.

Left Back Short Row Shaping

Setup Row (RS): knit to DS, k-gsr, knit to end.

Row 1 (WS): p 13, turn.

Row 2 (RS): sl-gsr, k 3, turn.

Row 3 (WS): sl-gsr, p to DS, p-gsr, p1, turn.

Row 4 (RS): sl-gsr, k to DS, k-gsr, k 3, turn.

Cont: rep rows 3-4 one time.

Next Row (WS): rep row 3.

Final Row (RS): sl-gsr, knit to DS, k-gsr, knit to end.

Back Shaping

Upper Back

Setup Row (WS): purl to previous DS, p-gsr, purl to end.

Row 1 (RS): k2, k2tog, knit to last 4 sts, ssk, k2. (2 sts dec)

Row 2 (WS): purl.

Row 3 (RS): knit.

Row 4 (WS): purl.

Cont: rep Rows 1-4 3 more times.

You should have (26, 28, 30)[32, 32, 34]{36, 38, 38} sts.

Mid-Back

Row 1 (RS): knit.

Row 2 (WS): purl.

Cont: rep Rows 1-2 **(15, 15, 13)[11, 11, 11]{11, 11, 11}** more times or until length of back panel is **(4.5, 4.5, 4)[3.5, 3.5, 3.5]{3.5, 3.5, 3.5}" / [(11.5, 11.5, 10)[9, 9, 9]{9, 9, 9}cm]** measured from center neck.

Lower Back

Sizes XS, S, M, L, 1X, & 2X Only

Row 1 (RS): k2, m1l, knit to last 2 sts, m1r, k2. *(2 sts inc)*

Row 2 (WS): purl.

Cont: rep Rows 1-2 **(4, 1, 0)[3, 1, 0]{-, -, -}** more times.

You should have (36, 32, 32)[40, 36, 36]{-, -, -} sts.

All Sizes Continue

Row 1 (RS): k2, m1l, knit to last 2 sts, m1r, k2. *(2 sts inc)*

Row 2 (WS): p2, m1rp, p to last 2 sts, m1lp, p2. *(2 sts inc)*

Cont: rep Rows 1-2 **(3, 7, 10)[9, 13, 16]{17, 17, 17}** more times or until length of back panel is **(7, 7.5, 7.5)[7.5, 8, 8.5]{9, 9, 9}" / [(18, 19, 19)**

[19, 20.5, 21.5]{23, 23, 23}cm] measured from center neck.

You should have (52, 64, 76)[80, 92, 104]{108, 110, 110} sts.

Break yarn leaving a 6"/15cm tail and place back stitches on stitch holders.



Front

Left Front

Shoulder Strap

Row 1 (RS): with RS facing count **10** sts in from the left sleeve edge along the left shoulder cast-on. Join yarn here and pick up and knit **10** sts.

Row 2 (WS): purl.

Row 3 (RS): knit.

Row 4 (WS): purl.

Cont: rep Rows 3-4 **(26, 26, 28)[28, 30, 30]{32, 32, 34}** more times or until length is **(7.5, 7.5, 8)[8, 8.5, 8.5]{9, 9, 9.5}" / [(19, 19, 20.5)[20.5, 21.5, 21.5]{23, 23, 24}cm]**. Some testers noted that they would have knit longer straps for a deeper armhole and scoop neck. If you prefer this, you can knit straps for an additional 1-2"/2.5-5cm.

Neck & Armhole Shaping

Row 1 (RS): k2, m1l, knit to last 2 sts, m1r, k2. *(2 st inc)*

Row 2 (WS): purl.

Row 3 (RS): knit.

Row 4 (WS): purl.

Cont: rep Rows 1-4 **(0, 0, 0)[0, 0, 0]{1, 1, 1}** more time(s).

You should have (12, 12, 12)[12, 12, 12]{14, 14, 14} sts.

Row 5 (RS): k2, m1l, knit to last 2 sts, m1r, k2. *(2 st inc)*

Row 6 (WS): purl.

Cont: rep Rows 5-6 **(0, 1, 1)[2, 3, 3]{3, 3, 3}** more time(s).

You should have (14, 16, 16)[18, 20, 20]{22, 22, 22} sts

Row 7 (RS): k2, m1l, knit to last 2 sts, m1r, k2. *(2 sts inc)*

Row 8 (WS): p2, m1rp, p to last 2 sts, m1lp, p2. *(2 sts inc)*

Cont: rep Rows 7-8 **(1, 2, 3)[3, 4, 5]{5, 5, 5}** more time(s).

You should have (22, 28, 32)[34, 40, 44]{46, 46, 46} sts.

Break yarn leaving a 6"/15cm tail and place stitches on stitch holders.

Right Front

Shoulder Strap

Row 1 (RS): with RS facing beginning at right armhole edge, pu&k **10** shoulder sts along the cast-on edge.

Repeat all steps for Left Front beginning at Row 2 of the Shoulder Strap, but do NOT break yarn or place stitches on holders after completing the section.

Join Right & Left Front

Join Row (RS): knit all right front sts (ensure that strap is not twisted first,) backwards loop cast on **(8, 8, 12)[12, 12, 16]{16, 18, 18}** sts, join to left side (again, ensure that strap is not twisted,) and knit to end of row.
You should have (52, 64, 76)[80, 92, 104]{108, 110, 110} sts.

Join to back

Place held back sts on set of spare needles to be worked.

Join Row: Place marker for BOR. Backwards loop cast on **(20, 20, 20)[28, 28, 28]{36, 46, 58}** sts for left underarm. Knit first st of back panel to join and knit to end of panel. Backwards loop cast on **(20, 20, 20)[28, 28, 28]{36, 46, 58}** sts for right underarm. Knit all stitches of front panel until you reach the BOR.
You should have (144, 168, 192)[216, 240, 264]{288, 312, 336} sts.

Body

Proceed knitting body in the round until length measured from underarm is **(6, 6.5, 7)[7.5, 8, 8.5]{9, 9.5, 10}" / [(15, 16.5, 18)[19, 20.5, 21.5]{23, 24, 25.5}cm]** or approximately **1.5"/4cm** shorter than your total desired length.

Note that it may be helpful to complete the armhole and neckline finishing sections before deciding on the final length of the body, as these finishing steps will shorten the upper body. To do this, simply place the body stitches on holders while you complete the armholes and neckline first.

Body Ribbing

Switch to smaller needles.

Rd 1: knit

Rd 2: (k2,p2) to end of rd.

Totally Tank Top v1.1 – © Jessie Maed Designs, May 2023

Cont: Rep rd 2 until you have worked **1.5"/4cm** of ribbing, or until ribbing reaches preferred length.

Bind off all sts in knit, noting that the knit bind off is an intended design element. It provides a neat, inelastic finish.

Armhole Finishing

On smaller needles beginning at the center of the underarm pu&k approximately 4 of every 5 sts around the entire armhole, **(124, 128, 132)[140, 148, 152]{168, 172, 184}** sts total. If you find that this makes your armhole too tight, pick up every stitch instead.

Work (k2, p2) ribbing for 8 rds, approximately **.75"/2cm**.

Bind off all sts in knit. If too tight, you can use a stretchy bind-off instead.

Neckline

Neckline Pickup

On larger needles beginning at top of right shoulder pu&k sts for neckline finishing as follows:

Back Neck: all **(14, 16, 18)[20, 20, 22]{24, 26, 26}** sts.

Left & Right Neckline: every stitch, approximately **(65, 70, 75)[78, 86, 87]{96, 96, 100}** sts for each side of the neckline

Lower Neck Cast-On Sts: all **(8, 8, 12)[12, 12, 12]{16, 18, 18}** cast-on neck sts.

You should have (152, 164, 180)[188, 204, 212]{232, 236, 244} sts.

Knit **11** rds for a rolled neckline. If you prefer, you can work 2x2 rib instead.

Bind off using a stretchy method.

Finishing

Weave in ends, paying special attention to the neckline making sure to tidy up any holes with your sewing. Block to desired measurements.

Sharing

Tag your projects [#TotallyTankTop](#) and [@jesssiemae](#) on Instagram, & [Subscribe to my Newsletter](#) for exclusive discounts, testing calls, & more.

SCHEMATIC

INCHES	XS	S	M	L	1X	2X	3X	4X	5X
A Full Chest	24	28	32	36	40	44	48	52	56
B Back Neck	5.75	6	6.25	6.5	6.75	7	7.25	7.5	7.75
C Total Length	16	16.5	17	17.5	18	18.5	19	19.5	20
D Neck Depth	7.5	7.5	7	7.5	8	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5

CENTIMETERS	XS	S	M	L	1X	2X	3X	4X	5X
A Full Chest	61	71	81.5	91.5	101.5	112	122	132	142
B Back Neck	14.5	15	16	16.5	17	18	18.5	19	19.5
C Total Length	40.5	42	43	44.5	45.5	47	48.5	49.5	51
D Neck Depth	19	19	18	19	20.5	21.5	21.5	21.5	21.5

