



## ZOE Top

The ZOE top is a short-cut, tight-fitting top with a sporty ‚racerback‘ and comes into its own in combination with high-waisted trousers and skirts. The top is worked top-down and can therefore be individually adjusted in length and worn as a bustier, crop top or very classic - without showing your belly.

The front and back pieces are worked flat, in RS- and WS rows, up to the end of the armholes, first the back piece, then the front piece. The body is worked in the round, then the neckline and armholes are edged with an I-cord. The top sits close to the body, but because of the rib pattern, unworn and unstretched, it appears narrower than the specified bust size.

Techniques used: Left- and right leaning increases for knit- and purl stitches, tubular bind off-method, I-Cord-bind off. All techniques used are explained in the instructions or under chapter ‚Terms & Explanations‘ on pages 9-12.



### SIZES

XS (S) M (L) XL (XXL)

To fit bust circumference:

71-76 (81-86) 91-97 (102-107) 112-117 (122-127) cm  
28-30 (32-34) 36-38 (40-42) 44-46 (48-50) inch

The ribbed pattern makes the top narrower when unworn and not stretched.

Armhole depth / neckline depth: 22 (23) 23 (25) 25 (27) cm / 8.7 (9) 9 (9.8) 9.8 (10.6) inch

Total length / short version: approx. 38 (39) 40 (42) 44 (46) cm / 15 (15.4) 15.8 (16.5) 17.3 (18.1) inch

Total length / long version: approx. 47 (48) 49 (51) 53 (55) cm / 18.5 (18.9) 19.3 (20) 20.9 (21.7) inch

### YARN

Short version: 150 (150) 150 (200) 250 (300) g  
,Duo' by Sandnes Garn (55 % Pure Wool, 45 % Cotton; 115 m/50 g) or ,Perla' by Lamana (60 % Cotton, 25 % Alpaca, 15 % Silk; 115 m/50 g).

Long version: 150 (200) 200 (250) 300 (350) g  
,Duo' by Sandnes Garn or ,Perla' by Lamana

### NEEDLES

80-100 cm/32-40 in. circular needles, size 3.0 mm (US 2 or 3/UK 11),

80-100 cm/32-40 in. circular needles, size 2.5 mm (US 1 or 2/UK 13 or 12)

### NOTIONS

Tapestry needle, stitch holder (spare needle or piece of scrap yarn), if desired elastic thread or thin elastic band for the bottom border.

### MAIN STITCH PATTERNS

2/2 rib in RS- and WS rows: alternately k2, p2 on the RS, work the sts as they appear on the WS.

2/2 rib in the round: alternately k2, p2 in every rnd.

1/1 rib in the round: alternately k1, p1 in every rnd.

Selvedge stitch (= side seam): knit the first and last stitch in every RS row, purl the first and last stitch in every WS row. The selvedge stitch is always specified in the instructions.

### GAUGE/TENSION

2/2 rib worked flat, using ndl size 3.0 mm: 36 sts x 32 rows = 10 x 10 cm/4" square (not washed and not stretched), 32 sts x 32 rows = 10 x 10 cm/4" square (washed, not stretched)

Please adjust needle size if necessary, to obtain correct gauge

### METHOD

#### BACK

First the right strap on the back piece (seen from a worn perspective) is worked.

CO 10 (10) 10 (10) 10 (10) sts using ndl size 3.0 mm <sup>1</sup> and work acc to main pattern, as follows:

<sup>1</sup> If you want, you can also work with the provisional cast on here. This way, there is no seam on the shoulder where the back and front part meet. However, the rib pattern is offset by half a stitch at this point.

**Row 1 (WS row):** \*p2, k2, rep from \* to the last 2 sts, end with p2.

**Row 2 (RS row):** \*k2, p2, rep from \* to the last 2 sts, end with k2.

Rep **rows 1 and 2** until a total of **11 (11) 11 (11) 11 (11)** rows are worked, i.e. end with a WS row. Cut yarn and place the right strap on hold.

Work the **left strap** in the same way as described for the right strap, i.e.: CO **10 (10) 10 (10) 10 (10)** sts and work **11 (11) 11 (11) 11 (11)** rows acc to main pattern, beg and end with a WS row. Do not cut yarn.

In the next row, **row 12 (= RS row)**, the **left and right strap of the back piece** are joined together and **14 (14) 14 (18) 22 (22)** new sts are CO in between the straps, for the back neckline, as follows:

**Row 12 (RS):** \*k2, p2, rep from \* to the last 2 sts, end with k2, CO **14 (14) 14 (18) 22 (22)** new sts<sup>2</sup>, \*k2, p2, rep from \* to the last 2 sts, end with k2 (= **34 (34) 34 (38) 42 (42)** sts)

**Row 13 (WS):** \*p2, k2, rep from \* to the last 2 sts, end with p2.

Work another **24 (20) 20 (20) 20 (18)** rows acc to main pattern, over the now **34 (34) 34 (38) 42 (42)** sts, end with a WS row.

Then start with the increases for armhole shaping. All of the increase techniques, i.e. left- and right leaning increases for both knit and purl sts, are explained in more detail on page 9.

#### Size XS

**Row 38 (RS):** k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= 36 sts).

**Row 39 (WS):** work all sts as they appear

**Row 40:** k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= 38 sts).

**Row 41:** work all sts as they appear

**Row 42:** k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= 40 sts).

**Row 43:** work all sts as they appear

**Row 44:** k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= 42 sts).

**Row 45:** work all sts as they appear

Rep **rows 38 - 45** another 3 more times, until a total of **69** rows are worked and there are **66** sts on the ndl. Cut yarn and put sts on hold. The back piece (including the straps) should now measure approx. 22 cm/8.7 inch. If this measurement is not reached, work a few more rows without increasing if necessary.

#### Size S and M

**Row 34 (RS):** k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= (36) 36 sts).

**Row 35 (WS):** work all sts as they appear

**Row 36:** k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= (38) 38 sts).

**Row 37:** work all sts as they appear

**Row 38:** k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= (40) 40 sts).

**Row 39:** work all sts as they appear

**Row 40:** k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= (42) 42 sts).

**Row 41:** work all sts as they appear

Rep **rows 34 - 41** another **(4) 4** times until a total of **73 (73)** rows have been worked and there are **74 (74)** sts on the ndl. Cut yarn and put sts on hold. The back piece (including the straps) should now measure approx. **23 (23) cm/9 (9)** inch. If this measurement is not reached, work a few more rows without increasing if necessary.

<sup>2</sup> How to cast on new stitches is well explained in this tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmPX8dt8J4g>

Size L and XL

**Row 34 (RS):** k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= (40) 44 sts).

**Row 35 (WS):** work all sts as they appear

**Row 36:** k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= (42) 46 sts).

**Row 37:** work all sts as they appear

**Row 38:** k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= (44) 48 sts).

**Row 39:** work all sts as they appear

**Row 40:** k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= (46) 50 sts).

**Row 41:** work all sts as they appear

Rep rows 34 - 41 another (5) 5 more times, until a total of **81 (81)** rows have been worked and there are **86 (90)** sts on the ndl. Cut yarn and put sts on hold. The back piece (including the straps) should now measure approx. (25) 25 cm/9.8 (9.8) inch. If this measurement is not reached, work a few more rows without increasing if necessary.

Size XXL

**Row 32 (RS):** k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= (44) sts).

**Row 33 (WS):** work all sts as they appear

**Row 34:** k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= (46) sts).

**Row 35:** work all sts as they appear

**Row 36:** k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= (48) sts).

**Row 37:** work all sts as they appear

**Row 38:** k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= (50) sts).

**Row 39:** work all sts as they appear

Rep rows 32 - 39 another (6) times, until a total of **(87)** rows have been worked and there are **(98)** sts on the ndl. Cut yarn and put sts on hold. The back piece (including the straps) should now measure approx. (27) cm/ 10.6 inch. If this measurement is not reached, work a few more rows without increasing if necessary.

**FRONT**

The front piece is knitted directly onto the back piece (see **Pic. 1 - 4**). To do this, hold the back piece with the public side (= RS) facing towards you and first knit the **left side** of the front piece. First, pick up 10 **(10)** 10 (10) 10 (10) sts from the left strap of the back piece and work as follows:

**Row 1 (WS):** \*p2, k2, rep from \* to the last 2 sts, end with p2.

**Row 2 (RS):** \*k2, p2, rep from \* to the last 2 sts, end with k2.

Rep rows 1 and 2, until a total of 35 **(33)** 33 (33) 33 (31) rows have been worked and end with a WS row. Then start working the inc's for neckline- and armhole shaping.

To keep the instructions as short as possible, the sizes XS (M) XL and S (L) XXL are summarized here.

Size XS (M) XL

**Row 36 (34) 34 (RS):** k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= 12 (12) 12 sts).

**Row 37 (35) 35 (WS):** work all sts as they appear

**Row 38 (36) 36:** k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= 14 (14) 14 sts).

**Row 39 (37) 37:** work all sts as they appear

**Row 40 (38) 38:** k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= 16 (16) 16 sts).

**Row 41 (39) 39:** work all sts as they appear

**Row 42 (40) 40:** k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= 18 (18) 18 sts).

**Row 43 (41) 41:** work all sts as they appear

Rep rows 36 (34) 34 - 43 (41) 41 another 3 (4) 5 times, until a total of 69 (73) 81 rows have been worked and there are 42 (50) 58 sts on the ndl. Cut yarn and put sts on hold. The left side of the front (including the straps) should now measure approx. 22 (23) 25 cm/8.7 (9) 9.8 inch. If this measurement is not reached, work a few more rows without increasing if necessary.

#### Size S (L) XXL

Row 34 (34) 32 (RS): k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= 12 (12) 12 sts).

Row 35 (35) 33 (WS): work all sts as they appear

Row 36 (36) 34: k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= 14 (14) 14 sts).

Row 37 (37) 35: work all sts as they appear

Row 38 (38) 36: k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= 16 (16) 16 sts).

Row 39 (39) 37: work all sts as they appear

Row 40 (40) 38: k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= 18 (18) 18 sts).

Row 41 (41) 39: work all sts as they appear

Rep rows 34 (34) 32 - 41 (41) 39 another 3 (4) 5 more times, until a total of 65 (73) 79 rows have been worked and there are 42 (50) 58 sts on the ndl. Then continue working inc's for neckline shaping, as follows:

Row 66 (74) 80 (RS): k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, end with k2 (= 43 (51) 59 sts).

Row 67 (75) 81 (WS): work all sts as they appear

Row 68 (76) 82: k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, end with k2 (= 44 (52) 60 sts).

Row 69 (77) 83: work all sts as they appear

Row 70 (78) 84: k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, end with k2 (= 45 (53) 61 sts).

Row 71 (79) 85: work all sts as they appear

Row 72 (80) 86: k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, end with k2 (= 46 (54) 62 sts).

Row 73 (81) 87: work all sts as they appear

Cut yarn and put sts on hold. The left side of the front (including the straps) should now measure approx. 23 (25) 27 cm/8.7 (9) 9.8 inch. If this measurement is not reached, work a few more rows without increasing if necessary.

Now work the **right side** of the front piece. To do this, pick up 10 (10) 10 (10) 10 (10) sts from the right strap of the back piece and work 35 (33) 33 (33) 33 (31) rows acc to main pattern in the same way as described for the left side of the front piece (see page 4). Then start working the inc's for neckline- and armhole shaping.

#### Size XS (M) XL

Work the inc's in the same way as described for the right side of the front piece. Do not cut yarn.

#### Size S (L) XXL

Row 34 (34) 32 (RS): k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= 12 (12) 12 sts).

Row 35 (35) 33 (WS): work all sts as they appear

Row 36 (36) 34: k2, M1Lk, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= 14 (14) 14 sts).

Row 37 (37) 35: work all sts as they appear

Row 38 (38) 36: k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= 16 (16) 16 sts).

Row 39 (39) 37: work all sts as they appear

Row 40 (40) 38: k2, M1Lp, work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= 18 (18) 18 sts).

Row 41 (41) 39: work all sts as they appear

Rep rows 34 (34) 32 - 41 (41) 39 another 3 (4) 5 more times, until a total of 65 (73) 79 rows have been worked and there are 42 (50) 58 sts on the ndl. Then continue working inc's for neckline shaping, as follows:

Row 66 (74) 80 (RS): work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= 43 (51) 59 sts).

Row 67 (75) 81 (WS): work all sts as they appear

Row 68 (76) 82: work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rk, k2 (= 44 (52) 60 sts).

Row 69 (77) 83: work all sts as they appear

Row 70 (78) 84: work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= 45 (53) 61 sts).

Row 71 (79) 85: work all sts as they appear

Row 72 (80) 86: work in est. patt to 2 sts before end of row, M1Rp, k2 (= 46 (54) 62 sts).

Row 73 (81) 87: work all sts as they appear

Do not cut yarn. The right side of the front (including the straps) should now measure approx. 23 (25) 27 cm/ 8.7 (9) 9.8 inch. If this measurement is not reached, work a few more rows without increasing if necessary.

#### All sizes

In the next RS row, the right- and left side of the front, as well as the entire back piece, are joined together, as follows:

Work the 42 (46) 50 (54) 58 (62) right front sts acc to pattern, CO 2 (2) 2 (2) 2 (2) new sts for the front neckline, work the 42 (46) 50 (54) 58 (62) left front sts acc to pattern, CO 10 (10) 14 (14) 14 (14) new sts for left armhole, work the next 66 (74) 74 (86) 90 (98) back piece sts acc to pattern, CO 10 (10) 14 (14) 14 (14) new sts for right armhole. There are now 172 (188) 204 (224) 236 (252) sts on the ndl.



**Pic. 1:**  
For the left side of the front piece, PUK 10 sts from the left strap of the back piece.



**Pic. 2:**  
When the left side of the front piece is finished, PUK 10 sts from the right strap of the back piece, for the shaping of the right front piece.



**Pic. 3:**  
The left- and right side of the front piece are finished.



**Pic. 4:**  
Both left- and right front, as well as the back, are joined together. The body is then worked in the rnd.

## BODY

Join the 172 (188) 204 (224) 236 (252) sts for working the body in the rnd, using a long circ. ndl. The beg of the rnd is located at the front right armhole.

Work in 2/2 rib until the top, for the **short version**, measures about 34 (35) 36 (38) 40 (42) cm/13.4 (13.8) 14.2 (15) 15.8 (16.5) inch, that corresponds with approx. 41 (42) 45 (45) 50 (50) rnds. For the **long version**, work approx. 64 (68) 72 (79) 86 (93) rnds, until the top measures about 47 (48) 49 (51) 53 (55) cm/18.5 (18.9) 19.3 (20.1) 20.9 (21.7) inch. Or simply work in 2/2 rib until the desired length is reached. It is best to try on the top to find out which length is perfect and whether the top is worn as a bustier, crop top or very classic - without showing the belly. Take into account that approx. 3.5 cm/1.4 inch of bottom border will be added.

Change to ndl size 2.5 mm to work the bottom border and work in 1/1 rib for 10 rnds (k1, p1), until the border measures approx. 3.5 cm/1.4 inch. Then BO using the „Tubular bind off“-Method. To do this, first work 2 set-up rounds, as follows:

**Set-up rnd 1:** \* k1, sl 1 st purlwise (with yarn in front of the work), rep from \* to end of rnd.

**Set-up rnd 2:** \*sl 1 st purlwise (with yarn in back of the work), p1, rep from \* to end of rnd.

Work the „Tubular bind off“-Method“ when these two rnds are finished. A more detailed explanation of this technique can be found on pages 10 - 12.

**Tip:** „ If you like, you can finish the top with a 2/2 ribbed bottom border and leave out the final 1/1 ribbed border. This is a nice alternative, especially for the longer version.“

## BAND - NECKLINE

For the I-Cord edging around the neckline, sts are picked up around the neck opening (according to the principle of 5 sts from 6 rows).

Join yarn at the right „shoulder seam“ and using a circ. ndl size 3.0 mm, PUK sts as follows: 10 (10) 10 (10) 10 (10) sts along the side edge of the right back strap, 14 (14) 14 (18) 22 (22) sts along the middle, newly CO, sts of back neck opening, 10 (10) 10 (10) 10 (10) sts along the side edge of the left back strap, 58 (61) 61 (68) 68 (73) sts along the side edge of the left front, 2 (2) 2 (2) 2 (2) sts along the 2 newly CO, center sts of front neckline, 58 (61) 61 (68) 68 (73) M sts along the side edge of the right front.

There are now a total of 152 (158) 158 (176) 180 (190) sts on the ndl, which are now joined for knitting in the round and bound off as an I-cord. To work the I-Cord BO<sup>3</sup>, first CO 2 new sts. Then work the BO, using ndl size 3.0 mm, as follows:

**I-Cord-Rnd:** \* k2, k2tog tbl, slip 3 sts back onto the left ndl, rep from \* until only 3 sts remain.

Join the rem 3 sts with the start of the I-Cord. You can find a good tutorial about this procedure here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aOMANu7Ucyo>

#### BAND - ARMHOLE

Work the armhole bands in the same way as described for the neck band. Join yarn at the right „shoulder seam“ and using a circ. ndl size 3.0 mm, PUK 126 (132) 136 (148) 150 (160) sts, as follows: 58 (61) 61 (68) 68 (73) sts along the side edge of front- or back piece, 10 (10) 14 (14) 14 (14) sts along the newly CO sts and another 58 (61) 61 (68) 68 (73) sts along the side edge of front- or back piece.

Join for knitting in the round and work the I-Cord BO as described above.

#### FINISHING

Weave in all ends. Steam the top under a damp cloth or wash it completely and let it dry lying on a large towel. This makes the top smoother and the stitch structure nicely even. If necessary, thread a thin rubber band through the bottom border so that it stays in shape and does not "wear out". A more detailed explanation can be found on the following page under the item 'Explanations & terms '.

#### EXPLANATIONS & TERMS

##### Right leaning knitted increase from the bar between 2 sts

Using left ndl tip, pick up the bar from back to front and knit this st.

Here you can find a good tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w2uZGTOQ1g4>

##### Left leaning knitted increase from the bar between 2 sts

Using left ndl tip, pick up the bar from front to back and knit this st through the back loop.

Here you can find a good tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w2uZGTOQ1g4>

##### Right leaning purled bar increase (M1R purlwise)

Using left ndl tip, pick up the bar from back to front and purl this st.

Here you can find a good tutorial: <https://youtu.be/umyWCaCUCZs>

##### Left leaning purled bar increase (M1L purlwise)

Using left ndl tip, pick up the bar from front to back and purl this st through the back loop.

Here you can find a good tutorial: <https://youtu.be/umyWCaCUCZs>

---

<sup>3</sup> The I-Cord BO is well explained in this tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ia2hp1As5s>

### Threading a rubber band



On the back of the bottom border, thread the elastic band through one leg of every knit stitch, using a tapestry ndl. At the end of the round, knot the beginning and end of the elastic strand tight together and then weave in the ends. Thread the elastic band through approx. 3 rows.

### Tubular bind off

This technique offers you a particularly nice, invisible bind off edge.



**Step 1:**  
Take a wool needle and insert it into the first stitch of the needle as if to purl. Pull the yarn through, the stitch remains on the needle.



**Step 2:**  
Take the wool needle and bring it from back to front between the first and the second stitch.



**Step 3:**  
Insert the wool needle into the second stitch of the needle as if to knit. Pull the yarn through, the stitch remains on the needle.



**Step 4:**  
Insert the wool needle into the first stitch of the needle as if to knit. Pull the yarn through, let the stitch slip from the needle.



**Step 5:**  
Insert the wool needle into the second stitch of the needle as if to purl. Pull the yarn through, the stitch remains on the needle



**Step 6:**  
Insert the wool needle into the first stitch of the needle as if to purl. Pull the yarn through, let the stitch slip from the needle.



**Step 7:**  
Take the wool needle and bring it from back to front between the first and the second stitch.



**Step 8:**  
Insert the wool needle into the second stitch of the needle as if to knit, pull the yarn through, the stitch remains on the needle.



**Step 9:**  
Repeat steps 4-8 until there are only two stitches left on the needle.



**Step 10:**  
Insert the needle into the first of the last two stitches on the needle as if to knit. Pull the yarn through, let the stitch slip from the needle. Then insert the wool needle into the front leg of the first sewn off stitch as if to purl and pull the yarn through.



**Step 11:**  
Insert the wool needle into the last stitch as if to purl. Pull the yarn through, let the stitch slip from the needle. Then insert the wool needle into the other leg of the first sewn off stitch as if to purl and pull the yarn through.

And for those of you who prefer a moving picture, here is a good tutorial in English:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23uJSGokBDA&feature=youtu.be>

## ABBREVIATIONS

beg	= begin(ning)
BO	= bind off
circ.	= circular
CO	= cast on
dec('s)	= decrease(s)
est.	= established
inc('s)	= increase(s)
k	= knit
k2tog	= knit 2 sts together
m	= marker
M1Lk	= make 1 left leaning knitted increase
M1Lp	= make 1 left leaning purled increase
M1Rk	= make 1 right leaning knitted inc
M1Rp	= make 1 right leaning purled inc
ndl(s)	= needle(s)
p	= purl
pat	= pattern
PUK	= pick up and knit
rem	= remaining
rep	= repeat
rnd(s)	= round(s)
RS	= right side
st(s)	= stitch(es)
tbl(s)	= through back loop(s)
WS	= wrong side
*	= Repeat the instructions after the asterisk as many times as specified.