

LYRA BLOUSE



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LYRA BLOUSE

Lyra is a timeless blouse in stockinette stitch and with dramatic sleeves. For the version in the photos, an extremely soft yarn combination of camel wool and silk mohair has been used. The blouse has a classic raglan construction and a cropped, boxy fit. It has a round, feminine neckline as well as interesting rib details along the sides, giving it an elegant and modern look.

CONSTRUCTION

The blouse is worked top-down in the round, beginning at the neckline, followed by raglan increases. Short rows are worked to create a good fit. After separating for body and sleeves, they are worked separately in the round.

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Lyra blouse is categorized as being of medium difficulty.

SIZES

1 (2) 3 (4) 5 (6) 7

Bust circumference of finished and blocked garment approx.: 96 (104) 110 (116) 124 (129) 137 cm / 37.7 (41) 43.3 (45.6) 48.8 (50.7) 53.9"

Length from back of neck to hem (inc. neckband): 40 (42) (44) (48) 50 (52) 54 cm / 15.8 (16.5) 17.3 (18.9) 19.7 (20.4) 21.2 "

Indicative size guide: I am wearing a size 2 in the photos, which gives me 29 cm / 11.4" of positive ease. The blouse is meant to be loose with an intended ease of 20-30 cm / 7.9-11.8" but will work just as well with 10 cm / 4" of positive ease for a more fitted look.

TIP: If the smallest size is too large or you are between sizes, you can try the blouse on as you go and either subtract or add raglan increases.

The white Lyra blouse is made in the color 'White' in both Rakuda and Sensai.

YARN AND GAUGE

Lyra blouse is worked using ITO yarns:

1 strand Rakuda (40 g / 212 m, 70% wool & 30% camel fibers)

held with

1 strand Sensai (20 g / 240 m, 40% silk & 60% mohair)

Colours of the blouse in the photos: Rakuda col. white, Sensai col. white.

Note: If you want a lighter/cooler blouse, the Rakuda can be swapped for 1 strand Kinu (50 g / 425 m, 100% bourette silk) also from ITO.

Estimated yarn amounts:

5 (5) 6 (6) 7 (7) 8 cones Rakuda.

4 (5) 5 (5) 6 (7) 7 balls of Sensai.

Indicative yarn amounts in meters/yards per strand: 950 (1050) 1150 (1250) 1400 (1525) 1600-1650 m / 1038 (1148) 1257 (1367) 1531 (1667) 1749-1804 yards.

Please note: The amounts above are an estimate and will vary from knitter to knitter. Consider beforehand whether you wish to add length or create several swatches, in which case you may wish to buy additional yarn.

Yarn alternatives:

1 strand Wild & Soft *held with* 1 strand Kid Seta, both from Gepard Garn.

Or

1 strand Hør Silke *held with* 1 strand Cashmere Lace, both from Gepard Garn.

Suggested needles:

4 mm / US 6 cable needle (40-80 cm / 16-32")

3 mm / US 2.5 cable needle (16")

Gauge: 21 sts x 32 rows in stockinette stitch on a 4 mm / US 6 needle = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4" *after washing and blocking.*

ABBREVIATIONS

Bind off	BO
Beginning of round	BOR
Cast on	CO
German Short Rows	gsr
Increase(s)	inc('s)
Left-hand	lh
Left-leaning increase	M1L/M1pL
Knit	k
Purl	p
Place marker	pm
Previously	prev
Right-hand	rh
Right side	RS
Right-leaning increase	M1R/M1pR
Round	rnd
Slip	sl
Slip marker	sm
Stitch	st
Stitch marker	m
Through the back loop	tbl
With yarn in front	wyif
Wrong side	WS
Yarn over	yo

TECHNIQUES

German Short Rows: Can be used to e.g. raise or lengthen the back of a garment by knitting back and forth in a particular place. Turn work, sl st from left-hand needle onto right-hand needle wyif, pull yarn tightly around back of st and continue working sts from RS or WS. When you later come back to this 'double st', work it as 1 st. If you are not familiar with the technique, there are many good tutorials on YouTube.

Backwards loop method: A cast-on method to add extra stitches. Create a loop of the yarn with your fingers, place the loop on the right-hand needle, and tighten the yarn.

M1R on RS: pick up the strand between the st you've just knitted and the st you're about to knit, bringing the needle from back to front, k the st.

M1L on RS: pick up the strand between the st you've just knitted and the st you're about to knit, bringing the needle from front to back, k the st tbl.

M1pR on WS: pick up the strand between the st you've just knitted and the st you're about to knit, bringing the needle from front to back, p the st tbl.

M1pL on WS: pick up the strand between the st you've just knitted and the st you're about to knit, bringing the needle from back to front, p the st.

PATTERN BEGINS HERE

Begin by CO for the neckline using the Italian CO method (or, if you prefer, a regular long-tail CO).

With a 3 mm / US 2.5 cable needle (40 cm / 16"), CO 144 sts for the neckline. For the Italian CO, begin with *k1, p1*, repeat *-* , ending with p1.

Work 2 set-up rows flat:

Row 1: k1, *sl 1 wyif, k1*, repeat *-* rest of row, finishing with a regular p1.

Row 2: k1 tbl, *sl 1 wyif, k1 tbl*, *-* rest of row.

Join work, pm for BOR.

Work in the rnd in partially twisted rib: *k1 tbl, p1*, repeat rest of rnd. Continue until ribbing measures approx. 4.5 cm / 1.8", changing to a 4 mm / US 6 needle on the last rnd.

Next, divide for back, sleeves and front and proceed to work short rows and raglan inc's.

Divide as follows:

BOR m, k37 (back), **pm1**, work raglan ribbing: *p1, k1 tbl*, repeat *-* across 4 sts, p1 (= 7 sts in all), **pm2**, k21 (right sleeve), **pm3**, work ribbing as prev (7 sts), **pm4**, k37 (front), **pm5**, work raglan ribbing as prev (7 sts), **pm6**, k21 (left sleeve), **pm7**, work raglan ribbing as prev (7 sts), back at **BOR m**.

There are now 7 m's + BOR m in the work. Please ensure that BOR m is distinct from the other m's

Now, begin to work short rows using gsr to lengthen the back of the neck *while at the same time* working raglan inc's on every other rnd:

Short row 1 (RS): sl BOR m, M1L, k until m1, M1R, sm1, work ribbing: *p1, k1 tbl*, repeat *-* across 4 sts, p1, sm2, M1L, k until m3, M1R, sm3, work raglan rib as before, sm4, M1L, k2, turn work using gsr.

Short row 2 (WS): p2, sm4, work raglan ribbing: *k1, p1 tbl*, repeat *-* across 4 sts, k1, sm3, p until m2, sm2, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm1, p until BOR m, sl BOR m, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm7, M1pL, p until m6, M1pR, sm6, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm5, M1pL, p2, turn work using gsr.

Short row 3 (RS): k2, sm5, work ribbing: *p1, k1 tbl*, repeat *-* across 4 sts, p1, sm6, k until m7, sm7, work ribbing as prev on RS, sl BOR m, M1L, k until m1, M1R, sm1, work ribbing as prev on RS, sm2, M1L, k until m3,

M1R, sm3, work ribbing as prev on RS, sm4, M1L, k7, turn work using gsr.

Short row 4 (WS): p7, sm4, work ribbing: *k1, p1 tbl*, repeat *-* across 4 sts, k1, sm3, p until m2, sm2, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm1, p until BOR m, sl BOR m, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm7, M1pL, p until m6, M1pR, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm5, M1pL, p7, turn work using gsr.

Short row 5 (RS): k7, sm5, work ribbing: *p1, k1 tbl*, repeat *-* across 4 sts, p1, sm6, k until m7, sm7, work ribbing as prev on RS, sl BOR m, M1L, k until m1, M1R, sm1, work ribbing as prev on RS, sm2, M1L, k until m3, M1R, sm3, work ribbing as prev on RS, sm4, M1L, k11, turn work using gsr.

Short row 6 (WS): p11, sm4, work ribbing: : *k1, p1 tbl*, repeat *-* across 4 sts, k1, sm3, p until m2, sm2, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm1, p until BOR m, sl BOR m, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm7, M1pL, p until m6, M1pR, sm6, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm5, M1pL, p11, turn work using gsr.

Short row 7 (RS): k11, sm5, work ribbing: : *p1, k1 tbl*, repeat *-* across 4 sts, p1, sm6, k until m7, sm7, work ribbing as prev on RS, sl BOR m, M1L, k until m1, M1R, sm1, work ribbing as prev on RS, sm2, M1L, k until m3, M1R, sm3, work ribbing as prev on RS, sm4, M1L, k15, turn using gsr.

Short row 8 (WS): p15, sm4, work ribbing: *k1, p1 tbl*, repeat *-* across 4 sts, k1, sm3, p until m2, sm2, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm1, p until BOR m, sl BOR m, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm7, M1pL, p until m6, M1pR, sm6, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm5, M1pL, p15, turn using gsr.

Short row 9 (RS): k15, sm5, work ribbing: *p1, k1 tbl*, repeat *-* across 4 sts, p1, sm6, k until m7, sm7 work ribbing as prev on RS, sl BOR m, M1L, k until m1, M1R, sm1, work ribbing as prev on RS, sm2, M1L, k until m3,

M1R, sm3, work ribbing as prev on RS, sm4, M1L, k19, turn using gsr.

Short row 10 (WS): p19, sm4, work ribbing: *k1, p1 tbl*, repeat *-* across 4 sts, k1, sm3, p until m2, sm2, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm1, p until BOR m, sl BOR m, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm7, M1pL, p until m6, M1pR, sm6, work ribbing as prev on WS, sm5, M1pL, p19, turn using gsr.

Short row 11 (RS): k19, sm5, work ribbing: *p1, k1 tbl*, repeat *-* across 4 sts, p1, sm6, k until m7, work ribbing as prev on RS, **BOR m**.

A total of 5 raglan inc's and 10 short rows.

Sts are now distributed as follows: 47 sts (back), 7 sts (raglan ribbing), 31 sts (right sleeve), 7 sts (raglan ribbing), 47 sts (front), 7 sts (raglan ribbing), 31 sts (left sleeve), 7 sts (raglan ribbing).

Proceed to work in the rnd (i.e. on RS) *without* short rows but still *with* raglan inc's on every other rnd:

Rnd 1 (inc rnd): sl BOR m, M1L, k until m1, M1R, sm1, work ribbing: *p1, k1 tbl*, repeat *-* across 4 sts, p1, sm2, M1L, k until m3, M1R, sm3, work ribbing as prev on RS, sm4, M1L, k until m5, M1R, sm5, work ribbing as prev on RS, sm6, M1L, k until m7, M1R, sm7, work ribbing as prev on RS, BOR m.

Rnd 2: work rnd as sts show.

Repeat rnds 1-2 until you have worked them a total of 23 (25) 27 (29) 31 (33) 36 times.

You have now worked 28 (30) 32 (34) 36 (38) 41 raglan inc's (incl. the ones from the short rows) for a total of 56 (60) 64 (68) 72 (76) 82 rnds = 368 (384) 400 (416) 432 (448) 472 sts.

Sts are now distributed as follows: 93 (97) 101 (105) 109 (113) 119 sts (back), 7 sts (raglan ribbing), 77 (81) 85 (89) 93 (97) 103 sts (right sleeve), 7 sts (raglan ribbing), 93 (97) 101 (105) 109 (113) 119 sts (front), 7 sts (raglan ribbing), 77 (81) 85 (89) 93 (97) 103 sts (left sleeve), 7 sts (raglan ribbing).



BODY

Next, separate the body and sleeves, placing the sleeve sts on hold while continuing to work the body in the rnd. Work as follows:

K across the back, sm, p1, k1 tbl, p1, k1 tbl, CO 7 (9) 11 (13) 17 (19) 21 sts using the backwards loop method, place the next 3 rib sts + 77 (81) 85 (89) 93 (97) 103 sleeve sts + the next 3 rib sts on hold on a separate cable needle or a piece of waste yarn, k1 tbl, p1, k1 tbl, p1, sm, k across the front, sm, k1 tbl, p1, k1 tbl, p1, sm, CO 7 (9) 11 (13) 17 (19) 21 sts using the backwards loop method, place the next 3 rib sts + 77 (81) 85 (89) 93 (97) 103 sleeve sts + the next 3 rib sts on hold on a separate cable needle or a piece of waste yarn, k1 tbl, p1, k1 tbl, p1, BOR m.

A total of 216 (228) 240 (252) 268 (280) 296 sts on the body.

The new underarm sts will be incorporated into the ribbing. **TIP:** On the first rnd, it is a good idea to k the twisted sts as regular k sts, i.e. not tbl.

Work 1 rnd: k until m, sm, work ribbing: p1, *k1 tbl, p1*, repeat *-* across the 15 (17) 19 (21) 25 (27) 29 sts, sm, k until next m, work ribbing as prev across 15 (17) 19 (21) 25 (27) 29 sts, BOR m.

Proceed to work short rows at the underarm ribbing to lengthen the back of the blouse:

Short row 1 (RS): k until m, sm, work ribbing as established, turn on last p st in ribbing using gsr.

Short row 2 (WS): work ribbing: *p1 tbl, k1* across the remaining sts, sm, p until BOR m, sm, work ribbing: k1, *p1 tbl, k1* across ribbing, turn on last k st using gsr.

Continue working short rows as described, **but** for every new short row, turn 2 sts (incl. the gsr-st) before last turn (in a p st on RS) until you have turned 4 times on either side. Last turn is on WS.

Continue on RS as sts show until BOR m. Work 1 rnd, resolving all 'double sts' from gsr, ensuring that you k each st as 1 st.

Continue working in the rnd as established until work measures 30 (32) 34 (36) 40 (42) 44 cm / 11.8 (12.6) 13.4 (14.2) 15.7 (16.5) 17.3" from the CO edge at the front neckline (incl. ribbing) or desired length before ribbing.

While still using the larger needle, work ribbing at the hem: *k1 tbl, p1*, repeat *-* rest of rnd until ribbing measures approx.: 8 cm / 3.2".

BO using the Italian BO method or your preferred BO method.

SLEEVES

Join yarn, and with a 4 mm / US 6 cable needle, pick up and k sts at the underarm, beginning in the middle of the 7 (9) 11 (13) 17 (19) 21 CO sts, pick up a total of 3 (4) 5 (6) 8 (9) 10 sts, pick up and k 1 additional st to avoid a hole, work the remaining 3 sts from the ribbing, sm, k the 77 (81) 85 (89) 93 (97) 103 sleeve sts that were placed on hold, sm, pick up and k 1 additional st to avoid a hole, pick up the last 4 (5) 6 (7) 9 (10) 11 and k in the last CO sts, pm for BOR.

A total of 94 (98) 102 (110) 118 (124) 132 sleeve sts.

The sts between the 2 m's are worked like the ribbing at the side of the body.

Work rnd as follows: k1 tbl, *p1, k1 tbl*, repeat *-* until m, sm, k until next m, sm, work ribbing: *k1 tbl, p1*, repeat *-* until BOR m.

Continue working in the rnd as described until the sleeve measures approx. 12 (12) 14 (14) 15 (16) 16 cm / 4.7 (5.5) 5.5 (6.3) 6.3 (7) 7" from the underarm CO sts or desired length before the 15 cm / 5.9" long ribbing.

Proceed to work ribbing (k1 tbl, p1) across all sleeve sts, still using the 4 mm / US 6 (or the larger) needle.

After this rnd of ribbing, make inc's to begin shaping the large sleeves:

Work ribbing until 1 st before m, make a 2-in-1 inc: k1 tbl but leave st on lh needle, yo, k1 tbl into the same st, pass st onto rh needle, work ribbing until next m, sm, p1, make a 2-in-1 inc as prev, work ribbing until BOR m = 4 new sts.

The new sts are incorporated into the ribbing as: k1 tbl, p1, k1 tbl.

Work another 4 rnds of ribbing, make 2 x 2-in-1 inc's as prev = 4 new sts (8 new sts in total)

Work another 16 rnds of ribbing (or about 6 cm / 2.4") make 2 x 2-in-1 inc's as prev = 4 new sts. (16 new sts in total)

Work another 16 rnds from last inc (or about 6 cm / 2.4") or desired length. BO using the Italian BO method.

Work the other sleeve in the same way.

WASHING AND BLOCKING

Weave in ends and wash the blouse by hand using a wool/silk detergent. You can give it a spin in the washing machine at 1000 rpm, but make sure that the machine does not add water. Lay the blouse flat to dry, making any adjustments to achieve your desired measurements.