

PONCHO LOCO

Given the recent interest in the poncho home-arts diva Martha Stewart wore when released from prison, we decided to make our own free-to-be-me ponchos. Our ponchos are shown on pages 126–127 of the Fall 05 issue of *Interweave Knits*. Here are our instructions.



TWEED PONCHO

Ann Budd, Senior Editor

I made my poncho as simple as possible to show off the beautiful tweed nature of the yarn. I especially like the way that the diagonal nature of the brioche stitch gives textural interest. I also like the way that the ribs appear to follow different directions where

the two ends are sewn together. I used the three-needle method to bind off the live stitches to the selvedge alongside the cast-on end so that no seam was necessary.

Finished Size Rectangle measures 18" (45.5 cm) wide and 48" (122 cm) long, before sewing.

Yarn Schulana Cashmerino (70% merino, 30% cashmere; 125 yd [115 m]/50 g): #24 gold tweed, 5 balls. Yarn distributed by Skacel.

Needles Size 10½ (6.5 mm). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

Notions Single needle about 2 sizes smaller than needle needed to get gauge (for three-needle bind-off); tapestry needle.

Gauge 12 sts and 34 rows = 4" (10 cm) in brioche st. To check your row gauge in brioche st, measure straight up along a single column of knit sts on the RS, and count each st in the column as 2 rows.

Poncho

CO 54 sts. *Set-up row:* *Yo, sl 1, k1; rep from *. *Next row:* *Yo, sl 1, k2tog (slipped st and yo of previous row); rep from *. Rep the last row until piece measures about 48" (122 cm) long, or until there are just a few yards of the fifth ball of yarn left. Do not cut yarn.

Finishing

With extra smaller needle and beginning at CO end, pick up 54 sts along one selvedge; do not pick up and knit these sts; simply slip the smaller needle into each st. Use the three-needle method (see page 4) to BO live sts tog with picked-up sts, working each yo together with its companion slip st in the BO row. Weave in loose ends.



STAR RIB MESH PONCHO

Mary Jane Mucklestone, Photostylist

Chosen with the social knitter in mind, the attractive yet easy-to-memorize stitch pattern is just the thing to knit while in a chat group, or in my case, while dashing about in taxis on a New York City photo shoot!

Finished Size Rectangle measures 15" (38 cm) wide and 42" (107 cm) long, before sewing.

Yarn S. R. Kertzer Truffles (80% wool, 20% cashmere; 66 yd [60 m]/20 g): #2144 maroon, 7 balls.

Needles Size 7 (4.5 mm). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

Notions Tapestry needle.

Gauge 19½ sts and 24 rows = 4" (10 cm) in star rib mesh pattern, after blocking.

Stitch Guide

Sl 2, K1, P2sso: Slip 2 sts as if to k2tog, k1, pass the 2 slipped sts over—2 sts dec'd.

Star Rib Mesh: (multiple of 4 sts + 1)

Row 1: (RS) K1, *yo, sl 2, k1, p2sso (see above), yo, k1; rep from *.

Rows 2 and 4: Purl.

Row 3: Ssk, yo, k1, *yo, sl 2, k1, p2sso, yo, k1; rep from * to last 2 sts, yo, k2tog.

Repeat Rows 1–4 for pattern.

Poncho

CO 73 sts. Knit 7 rows. *Next row:* K4 (edge sts, work in garter st throughout), p65, k4 (edge sts; work in garter st throughout). Change to star rib mesh patt (see Stitch Guide), and keeping 4 sts at each side in garter st (knit every row), work in patt over center 65 sts until piece measures 42" (107 cm) long, or desired length to fit around your shoulders. BO all sts loosely; piece does not have 7 rows of garter st at the end.

Finishing

Block to measurements. With yarn threaded on a tapestry needle, sew BO edge to right selvedge at beg of piece. Weave in loose ends.



STOCKINETTE AND SEED PONCHO

Cyrene Slegona, Editorial Advisor

I once made an embroidered dragon with hundreds of French knots. It took forever but I loved the dimensional effect. In knitting, I turn to seed stitch for the same effect. For this poncho, I used a dark, luscious yarn and set off the textured seed stitch with bands of smooth stockinette.

Finished Size Rectangle measures 13" (33 cm) wide and 46" (117 cm) long, before sewing.

Yarn Rovings Polwarth/Leicester 12-Ply Thin (100% wool; 400 yd [366 m]/200 g): #W-4 wine, 2 skeins.

Needles Size 11 (8 mm). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

Notions Tapestry needle; markers (optional).

Gauge 11 sts and 17 rows = 4" (10 cm) in St st and seed patt with yarn doubled.

Stitch Guide

Seed Stitch (odd number of sts)

All rows: *K1, p1; rep from * to last st, k1.

Repeat this row for pattern.

Notes

Yarn is used doubled throughout.

You may find it helpful to place markers between the stockinette and seed stitch patterns until they become established.

Poncho

With 2 strands of yarn held tog, CO 35 sts. Work in seed st (see Stitch Guide) for 6 rows. Work St st and seed patt as foll:

Row 1: (RS) *Work 5 sts seed st, k5; rep from * 2 more times, work 5 sts seed st.

Row 2: *Work 5 sts seed st, p5; rep from * 2 more times, work 5 sts seed st.

Rep Rows 1 and 2 until piece measures 44½" (113 cm) from beg. Work 6 rows seed st. BO all sts.

Finishing

Block to measurements. With yarn threaded on a tapestry needle, sew short end of rectangle to one end of a long side. Weave in loose ends.



MINI PONCHO

Meema Spadola, Editorial Advisor

This poncho's open stitch pattern and color were inspired by a lacy little wrap that the actress Ziyi Zhang wore in the Chinese film *House of Flying Daggers*. The color is reminiscent of the bamboo forests where some of the dazzling action sequences took place.

The accent yarn and closure give a little twist to the familiar poncho. I can't promise that this garment (poncho? wrap?) will turn you into a dancing martial arts heroine, but you can always try!

Finished Size Rectangle measures 13" (33 cm) wide and 44" (112 cm) long, before sewing.

Yarn Knit Picks Andean Silk (55% superfine alpaca, 23% silk, 22% merino wool; 96 yd [88 m]/50 g): #23510 lettuce (MC), 4 skeins.

Knit Picks Elegance (70% baby alpaca, 30% silk; 110 yd [100 m]/50 g): #23530 wild rose (CC), 1 skein. Yarn distributed by Crafts Americana.

Needles Size 7 (4.5 mm). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

Notions Sizes E/4 (3.5 mm) and G/6 (4.5 mm) crochet hooks; tapestry needle.

Gauge 10 sts and 10 rows = 4" (10 cm) in purse stitch.

Stitch Guide

Purse Stitch with Selvedge Sts: (even number of sts)

All rows: Sl 1 as if to purl with yarn in front, k1, *yo, p2tog; rep from * to last 2 sts, k2.

Note

See page 4 for crochet chain (ch), slip stitch (sl st), single crochet (sc), and treble crochet (tr) instructions.

Poncho

With MC, CO 32 sts. Work purse st until piece measures 44" (112 cm) from beg. BO all sts, working each yarnover as its own separate st in the BO row.

5-Petal Flower

With CC and smaller crochet hook, ch 7, work 1 slip st in first ch to join into a ring.

Rnd 1: Ch 1, work 14 sc into ring, sl st in first ch of rnd.

Rnd 2: Ch 4, *[work 2 tr in next sc] 2 times, ch 3, sc in next sc, ch 3; rep from * 3 more times, [work 2 tr in next sc] 2 times, ch 3, sl st in first ch of rnd. Fasten off.

Finishing

Block to measurements. Lay poncho flat with BO edge at top, bring BO edge around to beg of left-hand long side. With WS facing, using MC and larger crochet hook, join seam by working sc across, inserting hook through both layers. Fasten off. **Edging:** With RS facing, using CC and larger hook, work 1 row of sc around both the neck opening and bottom edge, working 1 sc in each slipped selvedge st. Attach crochet flower to lower edge of seam on RS. Weave in ends.



LACE PONCHO

Susan Sternlieb, Editorial Assistant

This luxurious yarn lends itself to my favorite type of knitting—openwork. This garment, part poncho and part wrap, is a good choice for an uninterrupted stretch of lace knitting. Dress it up with a slinky silk blouse, or down with a pair of jeans and turtleneck.

Finished Size Rectangle measures about 16" (40.5 cm) wide (average) and 50" (127 cm) long, before sewing; edges of piece will be wavy.

Yarn Joseph Galler Sahara (50% camel hair, 50% merino; 250 yd [228 m]/4 oz [114 g]): sharav (reddish brown), 2 balls.

Needles Size 8 (5 mm). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

Notions Tapestry needle; pins.

Gauge 16 sts = 4" (10 cm) wide, and 32 rows (1 patt rep) = 5½" (14 cm) high worked in Ostrich Plumes chart, after blocking.

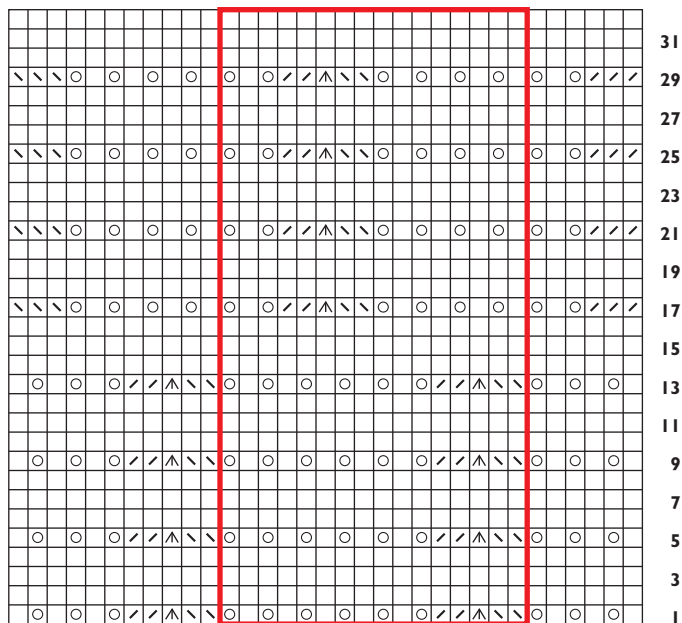
Poncho

CO 65 sts. Work Ostrich Plumes chart (see page 3) until Rows 1–32 have been repeated a total of 9 times; 288 rows completed; piece should measure about 50" (127 cm). BO all sts.

Finishing

Block to approximate measurements, allowing the fabric to curve into scallops on all 4 sides. Bring the BO edge around to meet lower 16" (40.5) of long side edge, and pin in place with long side edge slightly overlapping BO edge. With yarn threaded on tapestry needle, sew pieces tog, sewing 1 or 2 sts in from selvedge of upper layer so that curved edge is left free, and not pulled straight by the seam. Weave in loose ends.

Ostrich Plumes



HIP TO BE SQUARE

Sandi Wiseheart, Managing Editor

Finished Size Two rectangles, each 20" (51 cm) wide and 30" (76 cm) long; crochet insert 12" (30.5 cm) square.

Yarn Valley Yarns Monterey (50% wool, 50% cotton; 322 yd [294 m]/8 oz [227 g]): #3002 sage, 3 skeins.

Needle Size 11 (7.5 mm): 24" (60 cm) circular. Adjust needle size as necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

Notions Size J/10 (6 mm) crochet hook; stitch holders; markers (m); tapestry needle.

Gauge 12 sts and 16 rows = 4" (10 cm) in twisted St st.

Stitch Guide

Twisted Stockinette Stitch:

Row 1: (RS) Knit all sts through the back loops (tbl).

Row 2: (WS) Purl.

Repeat Rows 1 and 2 for pattern.

Seed Stitch: (even number of sts)

Row 1: (RS) *K1, p1; rep from *.

Row 2: *P1, k1; rep from *.

Repeat Rows 1 and 2 for pattern.

Note

See page 4 for crochet chain (ch), slip stitch (sl st), double crochet (dc), and single crochet (sc) instructions.

Front Crochet Square

Foundation ring: With size J/10 (6 mm) crochet hook, ch 4, join with sl st to form a ring.

Rnd 1: Ch 6 (counts as 1 dc, ch 3), [1 dc into ring, ch 3] 7 times, join with sl st into third ch of first ch 6—8 ch-3 spaces (sp) around.

Rnd 2: Sl st into next ch-3 sp, ch 3 (counts as 1 dc), 3 dc into same sp, [ch 2, 4 dc into next ch-3 space] 7 times, ch 2, join with sl st into third ch of ch 3.

Rnd 3: Sl st in top of each of next 3 dc, sl st into next ch-2 space, ch 3 (counts as 1 dc), 5 dc into same sp, [ch 1, 6 dc into next ch-2 sp, ch 3, 6 dc into next ch-2 sp] 3 times, ch 1, 6 dc into next ch-2 sp, ch 3, join with sl st to third ch of ch 3.

Rnd 4: Sl st in top of each of next 5 dc, sl st in next ch-1 space, ch 1, sc in same space, *ch 3, 1 sc between third and fourth dc of next 6-dc group, ch 3, [2 dc, ch 3, 2 dc] into next ch-3 space to make corner, ch 3, 1 sc between third and fourth dc of next 6-dc group, ch 3, **1 sc into next ch-1 space; rep from * 2 more times, then rep from * to ** once more, join with sl st to first sc.

Rnd 5: Sl st in next ch-3 space, ch 1, sc in same space, ch 3, sc in next ch-3 space, ch 3, [2 dc, ch 3, 2 dc] into corner, *[ch 3, 1 sc in next ch-3 space] 4 times, ch 3, [2 dc, ch 3, 2 dc] in corner; rep from * 2 more times, [ch 3, 1 sc in next ch-3 space] 2 times, ch 3, join with sl st to first sc.

Rnd 6: Sl st in next ch-3 space, ch 1, sc in same space, ch 3, sc in next ch-3 space, ch 3, [3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc] into corner, *[ch 3, 1 sc in next ch-3 space] five times, ch 3, [3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc] in corner; rep from * 2 more times, [ch 3, 1 sc in next ch-3 space] 3 times, ch 3, join with sl st to first sc.

Rnd 7: Sl st in next ch-3 space, ch 1, sc in same space, ch 3, sc in next ch-3 space, ch 3, [3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc] into corner, *[ch 3, 1 sc in next ch-3 space] 6 times, ch 3, [3 dc, ch 3, 3 dc] in corner; rep from * 2 more times, [ch 3, 1 sc in next ch-3 space] 4 times, ch 3, join with sl st to first sc.

Rnd 8: Sl st in next ch-3 space, ch 3, 1 dc in same space, 1 dc in sc, 2 dc in next ch-3 space, 1 dc in each of next 3 dc, 5 dc in corner, cont around in this manner, working 2 dc in each ch-3 space, 1 dc in each dc, 1 dc in each sc, and 5 dc in each corner. Join with sl st to top of first ch 3.

Rnd 9: Sc in each dc around, working 2 sc in each corner, join with sl st to first sc, fasten off.

Crochet Square Panel

With cir needle and RS facing, pick up and knit through the back loop (pick up and knit tbl) 34 sts along one side of crochet square. Work in twisted St st (see Stitch Guide) for 2½" (6.5 cm), ending with a WS row. Place sts on holder. Rep for opposite side of square, also placing sts on holder. With cir needle and RS facing, pick up and knit tbl 8 sts along selvedge of knit section, 34 sts along one side of crochet square, and 8 sts along selvedge of other knit section—50 sts. Work in twisted St st for 2½" (6.5 cm), then work seed st (see Stitch Guide) for 1½" (3.8 cm)—piece should measure 4" (10 cm) total from pick-up. BO in patt. With cir needle and RS facing, pick up and knit tbl 50 sts in the same manner along rem side of crochet square and selvedges of knit sections. Work in twisted St st until piece measures 12½" (31.5 cm) from pick-up, then work seed st (see Stitch Guide)

for 1½" (3.8 cm). BO in patt—piece should measure about 30" (76 cm) long and 17" (43 cm) wide. With cir needle and RS facing, with crochet square to the left as you look at the piece, pick up and knit tbl 54 sts along selvedge to sts on holder, knit tbl 34 sts from holder, then pick up and knit tbl 20 sts to end—108 sts. Work in seed st for 1½" (3.8 cm). BO all sts in patt. For rem side of panel, with RS facing and cir needle, pick up and knit tbl 20 sts along selvedge to sts on holder, knit tbl 34 sts from holder, then pick up and knit tbl 54 sts to end—108 sts. Work in seed st for 1½" (3.8 cm). BO all sts in patt—piece should measure about 30" (76 cm) long and 20" (51 cm) wide.

Plain Panel

Using the knitted method (see below), CO 52 sts. Work seed st for 1½" (3.8 cm). Change to twisted St st and work until piece measures 27" (68.5 cm) from CO. Work seed st for 1½" (3.8 cm).

BO all sts in patt. Do not break yarn. Turn work 90 degrees and pick up and knit tbl about 108 sts along side edge of panel. Work in seed st for 1½" (3.8 cm). BO all sts in patt. Rep for the other long side of panel—piece should measure about 30" (76 cm) long and 20" (51 cm) wide.

Finishing

Weave in loose ends. **Edging:** With crochet hook and RS facing, work (ch 1, sc) edging along all 4 sides of each panel, working (sc, ch 1, sc) into each corner. Steam-block to dimensions, making sure crochet block is square. With yarn threaded on a tapestry needle and working through both loops of sc and ch sts, sew short edge of plain panel to long edge of crochet panel at lower end. Sew upper short edge of crochet panel to other long edge of plain panel. Steam-block again, if desired. ∞



Crochet Chain (ch)

Make a slipknot on hook. Yarn over hook and draw it through loop of slipknot. Repeat, drawing yarn through the last loop formed.

Three-Needle Bind-Off

Place stitches to be joined onto two separate needles. Hold them with right sides of knitting facing together. Insert a third needle into first stitch on each of the other two needles and knit them together as one stitch. *Knit next stitch on each needle the same way. Pass first stitch over second stitch. Repeat from * until one stitch remains on third needle. Cut yarn and pull tail through last stitch.



Knitted Cast-On

Place slipknot on left needle if there are no established stitches. *With right needle, knit into first stitch (or slipknot) on left needle (Figure 1) and place new stitch onto left needle (Figure 2). Repeat from *, always knitting into last stitch made.



Figure 1



Figure 2

Slip Stitch Crochet (sl st)



Insert hook into stitch, yarn over hook and draw loop through stitch and loop on hook.

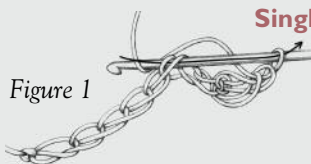


Figure 1

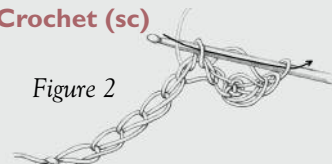


Figure 2

Insert hook into an edge stitch, yarn over hook and draw a loop through stitch (Figure 1), yarn over hook and draw it through both loops on hook (Figure 2).

Double Crochet (dc)

Yarn over hook, insert hook into a stitch, yarn over hook (Figure 1) and draw a loop through (three loops on hook), yarn over hook (Figure 2) and draw it through two loops, yarn over hook and draw it through the remaining two loops (Figure 3).



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

Treble Crochet (tr)

Wrap yarn around hook two times, insert hook into a stitch, yarn over hook (Figure 1) and draw a loop through (four loops on hook), yarn over hook and draw it through two loops (Figure 2), yarn over hook and draw it through the next two loops (Figure 3), yarn over hook and draw it through the remaining two loops.

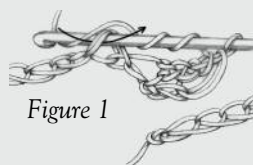


Figure 1

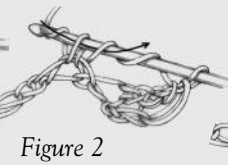


Figure 2



Figure 3



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