❈ Ice Queen Poncho ❈

By Elena Nodel

My daughter is finally old enough to appreciate ponchos. It was Maya's idea to design one after her class used ponchos at school as a prop for their end of the year show. I was reminded daily for the whole summer, and here it is! Maya is so delighted with her poncho and wears it to school every morning.

The poncho is constructed from 2 rectangular pieces that are easily adjustable to your child's measurements. This design has an endless possibility of color combinations. You can use one color, variegated colors, and several colors. What I liked the most is the fact that I was able to get rid of so much scrap yarn, and so can you. The design can be worked with any yarn and any gauge.

Have fun and enjoy your colors!

Sizes

Size	Arm Length	Total Yarn Required (yds)	
		DK	Aran
XS (baby)	6-8"	500	400
Small (toddler)	7-10"	600	500
Medium (child)	10-13"	750	650
Large (teen)	13-16"	950	850
XLarge (adult)	15-18"	1200	1100

Note: You will need approximately equal amounts of each color. Count trim color as an extra color. For example, if your total yardage is 800 yds and you are using 7 colors, then count the one that will be part of a trim as another color (8th color in this case), thus each color is 100 yds and trim is 200 yds.

Suggested Yarns

- **Dia Worsted** *by* **Colour Adventures** (100% merino; 199 m/218 yds in 100 g/3.53 oz)
- **Rios** *by* **Malabrigo** (100% merino; 192 m/210 yds in 100 g/3.5 oz)
- **Sweet Aran** *by* **Colour Adventures** (1000% merino; 183 m/200 yds in 115 g/4 oz)
- **And any yarn!**

  Shown in size M and following colorways
  Sweet Aran: Seafoam, Rainy Day, Sherwood
  Dia Worsted: Lavanda, Blue Bell
  Rios: Teal Feather, Purple Mystery, Black, Natural

Gauge

19 sts = 10 cm/4 inches on 4.5 mm/US #8 needles in Star Stitch
And any gauge on any appropriate needles!

Notions

2 sets of 4.5 mm/US #8 circular needles (60 cm/24" and 100 cm/39")
2 stitch markers (in different colors)
Darning needle

Abbreviations

k = knit
p =purl
pm = place marker
slipm = slip marker from left needle to right needle
k2tog = knit two stitches together as one, 1 stitch decreased
skp = slip one stitch as if to knit, knit the following stitch, then pass the slipped stitch over the knitted one
kfb = knit into the front of the stitch, then knit into the back of the same stitch, slip the stitch off from the left needle; 2 sts made out of 1
yo = yarn over needle

Pattern Notes

- The poncho is made from 2 rectangular pieces that are grafted together either via Kitchener Stitch/3- needle bind off or sewed together with Mattress Stitch (please see Reference chapter on page 7 for technique help).
- The length of each piece is more or less standard for the given age group; though it can be adjusted further to suit your needs.
- The height of each piece is determined by the regular sleeve length and is easily adjustable.
- Even though the pattern was designed with the worsted/aran gauge, you can use any yarn at any gauge. Please see page 4 formula.
- You can make your poncho with as many colors as you like, including variegated yarns. The sample shown here was created using 9 different colors.

Star Stitch pattern is worked over the multiple of 3 sts and a repeat of 4 rows:

Row 1 (RS): k2, *yo, k3, pass first of the 3 knit stitches you knit over the 2nd and 3rd sts*, repeat * till last stitch, k1

Rows 2, 4 (WS): purl

Row 3 (RS): k1, * k3, pass first of the 3 knit stitches you knit over the 2nd and 3rd sts, yo*, repeat * till last 2 sts, k2

Diagram/Schematic

A = height determined by arm length (wrist to underarm)

XSmall: 6, 7, 8, 9"
Small: 7, 8, 9, 10"
Medium: 10, 11, 12, 13"
Large: 13, 14, 15, 16"
XLarge: 15, 16, 17, 18"

B= length of each piece

XSmall: 14, 15, 16, 18"
Small: 18, 19, 20, 21"
Medium: 21, 22, 24, 25"
Large: 25, 26, 27, 27"
XLarge: 27, 28, 31, 32"

Pattern Instructions

Note*: If you want to make identical halves and are concerned about having enough color for each piece, I suggest working both pieces at the same time.*

Using your preferred method and one of the colors, cast on the required number of stitches to achieve the desired A measurement (see page 3). You will be making 2 pieces.

Number of sts to cast on = your gauge x sleeve length/4
Then round off to the nearest number that is a multiple of 3.

For example, if your child's sleeves measure 12" from the underarm, then:

Number of stitches to cast on = 19 sts gauge x 12"/4 = 57

57 is a multiple of 3, so no need to round off.

Set Up Row: purl

You will start working in Star Stitch pattern till the pieces reached desired length. You can match any A and B numbers in any given age group. For example size S, you can do 7" and 18" or 7" and 21" depending on whether your child is on the skinnier side or not. Sample is shown in size M 12" x 25". Based on your color choices you will be working as follows:

Make 2 pieces.

One Color or One Variegated Color

Row 1 (RS): k2, *yo, k3, pass first of the 3 knit stitches you knit over the 2nd and 3rd sts*, repeat * till last stitch, k1

Rows 2, 4 (WS): purl

Row 3 (RS): k1, * k3, pass first of the 3 knit stitches you knit over the 2nd and 3rd sts, yo*, repeat * till last 2 sts, k2

Repeat these 4 rows till desired length is reached and end with Row 3; please see page 3 for suggestions.

Bind off if you want to sew or leave sts live if you want to graft. Cut yarn.

Proceed to Assembly Chapter on page 5.

Two Colors:

Row 1 (RS): k2, *yo, k3, pass first of the 3 knit stitches you knit over the 2nd and 3rd sts*, repeat * till last stitch, k1

Row 2 (WS): purl

Change to second color:

Row 3 (RS): k1, * k3, pass first of the 3 knit stitches you knit over the 2nd and 3rd sts, yo*, repeat * till last 2 sts, k2

Row 4 (WS): purl

Repeat these 4 rows till desired length is reached and end with Row 3. Bind off if you want to sew or leave sts live if you want to graft. Cut yarn.

Proceed to Assembly Chapter on page 5.

Multiple Color Shift (shown on cover):

Row 1 (RS): k2, *yo, k3, pass first of the 3 knit stitches you knit over the 2nd and 3rd sts*, repeat * till last stitch, k1

Row 2 (WS): purl

Change to second color:

Row 3 (RS): k1, * k3, pass first of the 3 knit stitches you knit over the 2nd and 3rd sts, yo*, repeat * till last 2 sts, k2

Row 4 (WS): purl

After you have worked Rows 1 and 2 with color #1 for 4 times total (you see 4 lines in this color), change to color #3.

Once you have worked rows 3 and 4 with color #2 for 7 times total (you see 7 lines), change to color #4.

Once you have worked rows 1 and 2 with color #3 for 7 times total (you see 7 lines), change to color #5.

And so on till desired length is reached; please see page 3 for suggestions.

End with 4 lines of last color.

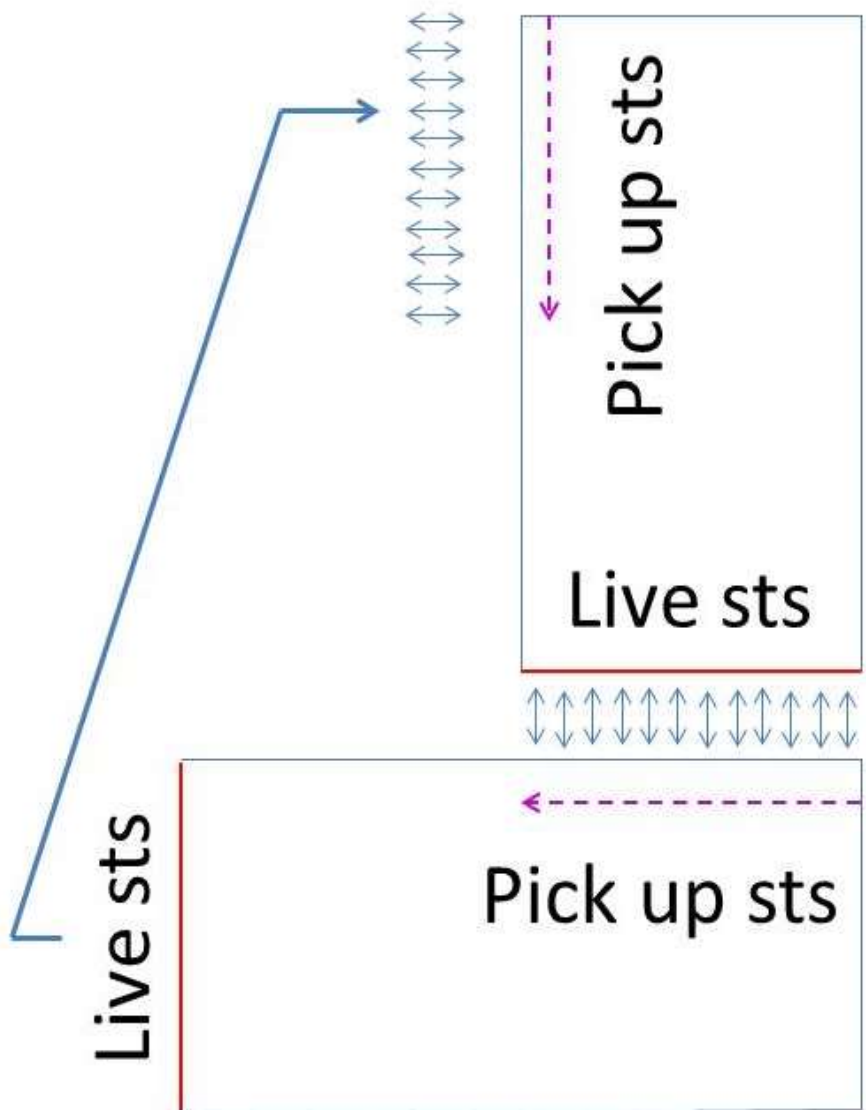Work till desired length is reached and end with Row 3.

Bind off if you want to sew or leave sts live if you want to graft. Cut yarn.

Assembly

Sewing: Sew side A to side B (red to purple as shown on diagram)

Grafting: With the same color that you have as live sts on side A, pick up and knit same number of sts you have cast on along the end of side B (about ½ B length; works approximately to the ratio of 4 sts out of 5 rows).

Graft sts together via Kitchener or 3- needle bind off.

Neckline

With RS facing you and starting at the corner (see top arrow on the picture below), using trim color or one of the colors used, pick up and knit around the neck opening 2 sts for every 3 rows. While picking up sts, place marker at the second corner.

Place marker and join for knitting in the round.

Rnd 1: purl

Rnd 2: k1, k2tog, knit to next marker, skp, slipm, k1, k2tog, knit to the last 2 sts, skp.

Fingering – DK yarn: Repeat these two rnds 2-3 more times.

Worsted- Bulky yarn: Repeat these two rnds one more time.

Bind off purlwise.

You should have 3-5 garter ridges.

Hemline

With RS facing you, using the same color as you did for the Neckline, pick up and knit 2 sts for every 3 rows, and 1:1 ratio along the original cast on sts for each poncho piece. When you come to the corner sts (see bottom arrow on the picture), place marker and pick up a stitch right at the tip of the corner.

Place marker (it will be at the second corner) and join for knitting in the round.

Rnd 1: purl

Rnd 2: kfb, knit to 1 sts before the marker, kfb, slipm, kfb, knit to the last stitch, kfb.

Fingering – DK yarn: Repeat these two rnds 3-4 more times.

Worsted- Bulky yarn: Repeat these two rnds two more times.

Bind off purlwise.

You should have 4-6 garter ridges on each side.

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References

3-needle bind off: knitty.com/ISSUEfall06/FEATfall06TT.html

Kitchener Method: www.knitty.com/ISSUEsummer04/FEATtheresasum04.html

Mattress Stitch: knitty.com/ISSUEspring04/mattress.html

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