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Draped Lace Shell

by Lien Ngo

A shell with a subtly draped neckline is flattering on lots of figures. This version is made from bamboo, giving it beautiful drape and sheen. The lace is easy to memorize and execute and looks simple and elegant in this shell shape. The pictured version has 5 cm / 2 inches of negative ease. If you want a looser fitting shell, knit a size larger. If you want the top to be longer, knit an extra vertical repeat before starting waist shaping or before starting the armhole shaping. A change from the pictured version: I've improved the armhole shaping and given it a bit more underarm and shoulder coverage.

Sizes

Finished bust: 30.5 (34.5, 38.5, 42.5, 46.5) inches / 78 (88, 98, 108, 118) cm

Finished length: 19.75 (20.75, 22, 23.25, 24.5) inches / 50 (53, 56, 59, 62) cm

Requirements

Yarn: Be Sweet Bamboo (100% Bamboo, 50 g / 110 yds): 4 (4, 5, 6, 7) balls

Substitutions: This would work in any smooth DK weight yarn.

Needles: 4 mm straight needles (or size needed to get gauge)

Notions: stitch markers, stitch holders or waste yarn

Tension

3 horizontal / 3 vertical repeats = 15 cm x 9 cm in horseshoe lace pattern

22 sts / 30 rows = 10 cm in stockinette stitch

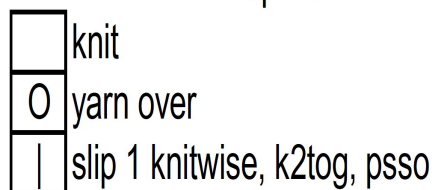
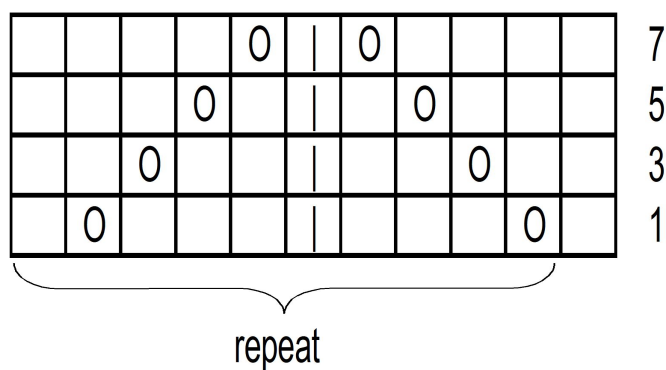
Stockinette gauge is only given to help you in yarn substitution- please swatch in the lace pattern. It is vitally important that you wash and block your swatch!



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Pattern Notes and Tips

This lace is worked over a multiple of 10 sts +1, with an 8-row repeat. All wrong side rows are purled. All slipped stitches are slipped knitwise.



Line-by-line instructions:

Row 1 (RS): k1, *yo, k3, sl1-k2tog-pssso, k3, yo, k1, repeat from * to end

Row 2 and all WS rows: purl all stitches

Row 3: k1, *k1, yo, k2, sl1-k2tog-pssso, k2, yo, k2, repeat from * to end

Row 5: k1, *k2, yo, k1, sl1-k2tog-pssso, k1, yo, k3, repeat from * to end

Row 7: k1, *k3, yo, sl1-k2tog-pssso, yo, k4, repeat from * to end

When shaping in lace and working incomplete repeats of the pattern, to keep the stitch count unchanged, don't do an increase unless you have the necessary stitches to do the accompanying decrease. On actual increase/decrease rows, of course, you will want to change the stitch count, and if you can do this by keeping in pattern, great. If not, use a make 1 increase / k2tog or slip-slip-knit decrease.

Tip: the decrease in this lace pattern is a 2-stitch decrease. You can always substitute a 1-stitch decrease (I like the slip-slip-knit decrease for this

lace pattern) to keep your stitch count even if you want to do a YO increase in the pattern

Abbreviations

- BO: bind off
- CO: cast on
- dec: decrease
- inc: increase
- k: knit
- k2tog: knit two stitches together
- p: purl
- pssso: pass slipped stitch over
- RS: right side
- st st: stockinette stitch
- WS: wrong side
- YO: yarn over

Instructions

Back

CO 73 (83, 93, 103, 113) stitches. Keeping the first and last stitch in plain stockinette (for a seam selvedge), work 7 (8, 9, 10, 11) horizontal repeats of the lace pattern. Work 1 (2, 2, 2, 2) vertical repeats of the lace. On next repeat, decrease 1 stitch at each end of the 5th pattern row. On the next repeat after that, decrease 1 stitch at each end of the 1st and 5th pattern rows. Total 6 stitches decreased. Work 2 vertical repeats even. On next two vertical repeats, increase 1 stitch at each end of the 3rd and 7th pattern rows. On next repeat after that, increase 1 stitch at each end of the 3rd pattern row. Total 10 stitches increased. 77 (87, 97, 107, 117) stitches. Work 1 (1, 2, 2, 3) vertical repeat even. Total 9 (10, 11, 11, 12) vertical repeats from CO.

Shape armholes: Bind off 2 (2, 3, 4, 4) stitches at the beginning of the next two rows, then decrease 1 stitch at each end of every RS row 4 times. Work even until you've finished 5 (5, 5, 6, 6) vertical repeats from the beginning of armhole shaping. On next wrong side row, purl across, binding off centre 13 (15, 17, 19, 21) stitches as you go. You will now work the shoulders



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separately. For right shoulder, bind off 3 (5, 5, 5, 6) stitches at the beginning of the next WS row, then bind off another 3 (3, 4, 4, 5) stitches at the beginning of the next WS row after that, then bind off - (-, 2, 2, 2) stitches at the beginning of the third WS row. Continue in lace pattern until you have finished 6 (6, 6, 7, 7) vertical repeats from beginning of armhole shaping. Work one plain knit row on next RS row, and put all 20 (22, 22, 25, 27) stitches on stitch holder. For left shoulder, attach new ball of yarn to start a right side row. Bind off 3 (5, 5, 5, 6) stitches at the beginning of this RS row, then bind off another 3 (3, 4, 4, 5) stitches at the beginning of the next RS row, then bind off another - (-, 2, 2, 2) stitches at the beginning of the next RS row. Continue in lace pattern until you have finished 6 (6, 6, 7, 7) vertical repeats from beginning of armhole shaping. Work one plain knit row on the next RS row and put all 20 (22, 22, 25, 27) stitches on stitch holder.

Front

Work as for back until you've finished the armhole shaping. You will now continue knitting the lace pattern, but for every RS row, increase one stitch at each edge, incorporating the increases into the pattern as you go. Keep doing this until you've worked 6 (6, 6, 7, 7) vertical repeats from the beginning of armhole shaping. Then, leaving 20 (22, 22, 25, 27) stitches on both edges live for the shoulders, bind off all the centre stitches. Break yarn and put shoulder stitches on stitch holders.

Finishing

Wash and block to measurements. Make sure to pin out the points of the scallops at the hem. Join shoulders with three needle bind off and seam the

sides. Single crochet around the back neck edge to neaten up the bind offs.



Questions? Comments?

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Schematics

