

PONCHO-EULA

by Susan H. Esser



Materials:

4 - 4 oz skeins worsted wt (220 yds per skein) Main Color (MC)

1 - 4 oz skein Contrasting Color (CC)

Size 10 circulars (16 inch for the beginning and then a long enough circular to hold at least 350 to 400 sts. This will vary with your size and length you choose). Using a tape measure, go around entire body at largest point - with arms at your side. This sample poncho in the photo measures 56 inches at the bustline, but can easily be made ample-sized.

Gauge: 4 sts to the inch, using worsted weight yarn

With Main Color, cast on 64 sts, place a marker and join. Work in k2, p2 ribbing for 3 1/2 inches. Then increase 1 st in each purled section and work another inch. Now increase 1 st in each knit section and work another inch. Next increase 1 st in each purled section and work an inch, and again, increase 1 st in each knitted section and work an inch. Your entire ribbed neck should now measure 7 to 8 inches in length. (It is now knit 4 sts and purl 4 sts)

Using the Contrasting Color (CC), knit 1 row even, then purl the next 5 rows,). You now have 128 sts on your needle. Going back to MC, knit the next entire row.

Now using markers, purl 2, knit 6 sts (which will be cabled), purl 2, place a marker, then knit 22, place a marker. Do this 4 times. On the next row, cable twist (see below) in the 6 knitted stitches (between the sets of purl 2 sts.)

CABLE TWIST: Slip the first 3 stitches to a cable needle and hold in the back of work, knit the next 3 stitches, then the 3 stitches on the cable needle. Work this cable twist every 8th row. (Use a separate counter for your cable twist rows, or keep track on paper.)

Now begin the increasing, (which is done in the knitted sections only, between the cables) - increase 1 st before the first marker (the cabled section), and 1 st after the marker (the cabled section). You will have 8 increases, and will do this every other row until you have reached the desired width. My sample has 12 increase rows, and my poncho measures 56 inches at this point. (224 stitches). This measurement includes arms plus chest, so continue to increase every other row until desired width.

Now increase more slowly, every 4th row twice. For the remainder of the poncho, I increased every 8th row until I reached the length I desired (minus the bottom trim). Here you will have to try it on, and work until the length reaches 2 inches away from your wrist bone. Another way, is to measure from the back center neck to the wrist bone (the same as a sleeve length). My sample was 28 inches from back neck at this point.

For a very long poncho, I would suggest slowing down the rate of increases even more — every 12th row instead of every 8th.

Bottom trim (using the same color or a contrasting color): work reverse stockinette stitch (purl only in this case) for 5 rows. Then use either ribbing (k2, p2) to match the collar or seed stitch for 6 rows, and then bind off (in pattern.)

This poncho can be worn with the point in front, or turning it slightly, with the cables 2 on the front and 2 on the back, as in a raglan sweater.

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