

4 ply v-neck tanktop with zebra motif

Sizes: 20-22-24 inch chest

Materials: 200g Stylecraft Life 4 ply in main colour; oddments for motif; 2.75mm & 3.25mm needles

Tension: 28 stitches x 36 rows = 4 inches, using 3.25mm needles and stocking stitch.

Note: *Work the back first so that you can use this as a guide to position the motif on the front (not forgetting that the neck is lower on the front!). When working the motif twist the yarns when changing colour to avoid making a hole.*

BACK:

Using 2.75mm needles cast on 67-73-79 stitches in main colour.

Work 1½-1½-1¾ inches in knit 1, purl 1 rib.

Change to 3.25mm needles and continue in stocking stitch until work measures 6-7-8 inches from the cast on edge ending with a purl row.

Shape armholes:

Cast off 3-4-4 stitches at the beginning of next 2 rows. Decrease 1 stitch at both ends of next and following 5-5-6 alternate rows - 49-53-57 stitches.

Continue until armhole measures 4¼-5-5½ inches, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape shoulders:

Cast off 4-4-5 stitches at the beginning of next 4 rows and 4-5-4 stitches at the beginning of following 2 rows.

Leave the remaining 25-27-29 stitches on a stitch holder.

FRONT:

Using 2.75mm needles cast on 67-73-79 stitches in main colour.

Work 1½-1½-1¾ inches in knit 1, purl 1 rib.

Change to 3.25mm needles and continue in stocking stitch, incorporating the chart, until work measures 6-7-8 inches from the cast on edge ending with a purl row.

Shape armhole and neck:

Cast off 3-4-4 stitches, knit 28-30-33 (including stitch used in casting off), knit 2 together and turn, leaving remaining stitches on a spare needle.

Decrease 1 stitch at the armhole edge on next 6-6-7 alternate rows **at the same time** decrease 1 stitch at the neck edge on every following 3rd row - 19-21-23 stitches.

Keeping armhole edge straight, continue decreasing 1 stitch at the neck edge on every 3rd row as before until 12-13-14 stitches remain.

Work straight until front matches back to shoulder, ending at side edge.

Shape shoulder:

Cast off 4-4-5 stitches at the beginning of next and following alternate row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off remaining 4-5-4 stitches.

Slip centre stitch onto a safety pin and rejoin the yarn to remaining stitches, knit 2 together, work to end.

Cast off 3-4-4 stitches, work to end.

Decrease 1 stitch at the armhole edge on next and following 5-5-6 alternate rows **at the same time** decrease 1 stitch at the neck edge on the 2nd and every following 3rd row - 19-21-23 stitches.

Complete to match first side of neck, reversing all shapings.

NECKBAND:

Join right shoulder seam.

Using 2.75mm needles and main colour and with right side facing, pick up and knit 34-38-42 stitches down left side of neck, knit stitch from the safety pin (mark this stitch with a coloured thread), pick up and knit 34-38-42 stitches up right side of neck then knit across 25-27-29 stitches of back neck - 94-104-114 stitches.

- purl 1 *(knit 1, purl 1) repeat from * to within 2 stitches of marked centre stitch, knit 2 together, purl centre stitch, knit 2 together through back of stitches, ** (purl 1, knit 1), repeat from ** to end
- work in rib as set to within 2 stitches of marked centre stitch, knit 2 together through back of stitches, knit centre stitch, knit 2 together, rib to end.
- work in rib as set to within 2 stitches of marked centre stitch, knit 2 together, purl centre stitch, knit 2 together through back of stitches, rib to end.

Repeat the last 2 rows 2 more times.

Cast off in rib, decreasing on this row as before.

ARMBANDS:

Join left shoulder seam & neckband.

Using 2.75mm needles and main colour, and with right side of work facing, pick up and knit 66-76-82 stitches evenly around the armhole.

Work 7 rows in knit 1, purl 1 rib.

Cast off loosely in rib.

To make up:

Omitting rib, press lightly on the wrong side. Darn in any stray yarn.

Join side seams.

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