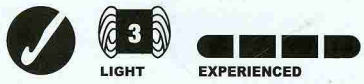
BEYOND THE PATTERN

I came upon the Daisy Stitch while looking for ways to minimize the pooling effect seen when using variegated yarns. Use of increases and decreases disguises striping and pooling. The increase and corresponding decrease are made in the same stitch elongating stitches to create the flower shape. This stitch can be worked in stripes by alternating two rows of one color with two rows of another color.

A cotton variegated yarn such as Araucania Ulmo creates a field of flowers. Araucania Ulmo is a non dyelot yarn and this must be taken into account while working to avoid noticeable demarcation lines when adding a new yarn.

Wildflowers Vest
by Leslie Gonzalez



Finished Measurements:
Chest at Underarm: 36 (38, 42, 46, 50)"
Length: 24 (24 1/2, 25 1/2, 27, 28 1/2)"

Sizes: XS (S, M, L, XL)

Materials:
Araucania ULMO (3.5oz/100g, 202yds/185m, 100% Cotton):
4 (4, 5, 6, 7) skeins #707
Size 9 (5.5 mm) needles or size needed to obtain correct gauge
Size F-5 (3.75mm) crochet hook
Stitch holders
Tapestry needle
Two 1 1/2" buttons
The buttons used in the sample garment are from Nifty Thrifty Dry Goods
55 Fountain Ave, Barrington, RI 02806
Phone: 401.246.0863
www.niftythriftydrygoods.com/default.asp

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Gauge:
In Daisy st, 18 sts & 22 rows = 4"/10 cm.
In Garter st, 16 sts & 24 rows = 4"/10 cm.
To save time, take time to check gauge.

Pattern Stitches:
Daisy Stitch (Mult of 4 + 5)
Row 1 (RS): Knit.
Row 2: K1 *p3tog-yo-p3tog in next st, k1, rep from * to end.
Row 3: Knit.
Row 4: K1, p1, k1, *p3tog-yo-p3tog in next st, k1, rep from * to last 2 sts, p1, k1.
Rep Rows 1-4 for Daisy St.

Crochet Trim
With RS facing insert crochet hook into work and join with a slip stitch. *Work 3 dc in one st, then 1 sc in next st. Rep from * for crochet edging.

Back
CO 81 (85, 97, 105, 113) sts. Knit 2 rows (Garter st), end with a WS row. Beg Daisy St pat, until piece meas 13 1/2 (14, 14 1/2, 15, 15 1/2)", end with a RS row.

TECHNICAL TIP: To avoid lines of demarcation when working with non dyelot yarns, alternate rows using several skeins at the same time. An easy way is to work with 3 skeins at once. Work one row with skein 1, the next with skein 2, the third with skein 3. Then begin again. This way you can carry the yarns up sides of work. Because you will need more than three skeins for the project, periodically replace one of the skeins. Working multiple decreases and increases into one stitch can be difficult. To make it easier use needles with a pointy tip. The project is designed to be tensioned loosely which will also aid in forming the stitches.

Next Row (WS): K across dec 9 (9, 13, 13, 13) sts evenly spaced – 72 (76, 84, 92, 100) sts. Cont to work Garter St (knit every row) until piece meas 14 1/2 (15, 15 1/2, 16, 16 1/2)" end with a WS row.

Shape Armhole: BO 4 (4, 4, 4, 5) sts at beg of next two rows. Then BO 3 (3, 3, 3, 4) sts beg next two rows. Dec 1 st ea end of next and every following RS row 2 (2, 4, 4, 4) times – 52 (56, 60, 68, 72) sts. Cont to work straight until armhole meas 8 1/2 (9 1/2, 10, 11, 12)" end with a WS row.
Next Row: K14 (15, 16, 18, 20), BO center 24 (26, 28, 30, 32) sts, k14 (15, 16, 18, 20). Place rem sts on st holders.

Left Front
CO 41 (45, 49, 53, 57). Knit 2 rows (Garter st), end with a WS row. Beg Daisy St Pat. Work until piece meas 13 1/2 (14, 14 1/2, 15, 15 1/2)", end with a RS row. ** Place sts on a holder or spare needle.

Right Front
Work as for Left Front to **.

Join front pieces.
Next Row (WS): Knit across Right Front, dec 4 (6, 6, 6, 6) sts evenly spaced, k last st of right front tog with first st of Left Front (WS), then k across Left Front dec 5 (7, 7, 7, 7) sts evenly spaced – 72 (76, 84, 92, 100).

DESIGNER NOTE: Knitting the last stitch of one front with first stitch of the other will help keep the join tidy.

Cont to work in Garter St (k every row) until piece meas 14 1/2 (15, 15 1/2, 16, 16 1/2)".

Shape Armhole: BO 3 (4, 4, 4, 5) sts beg next two rows. Then BO 3 (3, 3, 3, 4) sts beg next two rows. Dec 1 st ea end of next and every following RS row 1 (2, 4, 4, 4) times – 52 (56, 60, 68, 72) sts. Cont to work straight until armhole meas 2 (3, 3, 4 1/2, 4 3/4)" end with WS row.

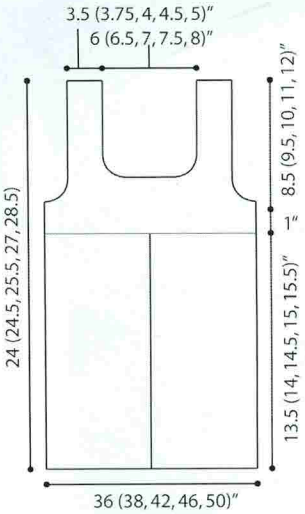
Shape Scoop Neck: K19 (21, 23, 26, 28) sts, BO center 14 (14, 14, 16, 16) sts, k to end of row. Work both sides separately, BO 2 sts at ea neck edge, 2 (2, 2, 2, 2) times. Then dec 1 st ea neck edge on every RS row, 1 (2, 3, 4, 4) times – 14 (15, 16, 18, 20) rem for ea shoulder.

Finishing
Join shoulders using the Three-needle BO technique. Seam sides. Pattern Basics section of the magazine describes this technique.

TECHNICAL TIP: Mattress stitch can be used to join sides of Daisy stitch because the selvedges will come out to be Garter stitch.

Beg at bottom of Right Front with crochet hook and work in Crochet trim Pat up Right Front, end with a sc in V-center, then cont Pat down Left Front. Beg with a sc and end with a dc group at left bottom. Break yarn. Beg at Right Front bottom, work Crochet trim around bottom of Vest. Work Crochet trim beg at armhole base around ea armhole.

DESIGNER NOTE: When working the crochet border along selvedges work one selvedge stitch deep into the fabric, to work evenly. Space the crochet in this manner: Double crochet three times into one, skip one, single crochet into the next, skip two. When working along the horizontal, work into every other stitch: *double crochet 3 times into one stitch, skip a stitch, single crochet the next, then skip, repeat from*.

Weave in ends and block to measurement. Place two buttons on front of vest.

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