

Pontus - balloon pants for boys and girls



Design: Sanne Bjerregaard

The designer has been playing with stripes, bobbles and yummy colours for this series of fun and adorable baby knits. Here is the most adorable pair of balloon pants for both boys and girls.

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English translation: Signe Strømgaard

Materials

Pernilla by Filcolana

Colour A (main colour): (100) 150 (150) 150 (200) g

Colour B (stripe colour): 50 g for all sizes

Colour C (bobbles): 50 g for all sizes

Girl pants: Colour A: 817 (Cinnamon), colour B: 829 (Malve), colour C: 825 (Akacia)

Boy pants: Colour A: 818 (Fisherman Blue), colour B: 827 (Dijon), colour C: 819 (Raindrop)

3 mm circular needle, 40 cm

4,5 mm circular needle, 40 and 60 cm

3 mm double-pointed needles (short circular needle or double-pointed needles can be replaced by a 80 cm circular needle if the magic loop technique is used)

1 blunt needle for Italina bind-off

4 stitch marker – the pattern specifies 2 different colours, blue and red, but the colours are not important as long as you can tell the markers apart

2 safety pins

Optional: a bit of elastic band (preferably transparent) for the waist

Sizes

(6 months/68 cl) 9 months/74 cl (1 year/ 80 cl) 1½ year/86 cl (2 year/92 cl)



Measurements

Waist circumference, measured lightly stretched: (47) 50 (52) 54 (54) cm
 Length (mid front): (44) 48 (54) 58 (63) cm

Gauge

38 sts and 42 rows in rib (unstretched) on a 3 mm needle = 10 x 10 cm
 21 sts and 29 rows in stockinette stitch on a 4,5 mm needle = 10 x 10 cm

Special abbreviations

M1R (Make 1 Right): From the front, lift the horizontal strand between stitches with the left needle and knit through the back loop.

M1L (Make 1 Left): From the back, lift the horizontal strand between stitches with the left needle and knit through the front loop.

M1p (Make 1 Purl): From the back, lift the horizontal strand between stitches with the left needle and purl through the front loop.

tbl: Knit or purl stitch through the back loop (twisted).

Skp: slip 1 stitch, knit the next stitch, pass the slipped stitch over the knit stitch.

Bobble: Work in colour C, slip a stitch back on the left needle and work (k1, yarn over, k1 tbl) into this stitch, turn, p1, yarn over, p1 tbl, yarn over, p1, turn, k1, k1 tbl, k1, k1 tbl, k1, turn, p2tog, p1, p2tog, turn, let go of colour C and continue in colour A, hold the yarn tight and work as follows: Slip 2 sts as if knitting them together, k1, pass the slipped stitch over. Continue knitting in colour A, holding the yarn tight for the first stitch after the bobble.

Special techniques

Short rows - GSR (German short rows): Work to where the turn needs to be, turn, then slip the first stitch purl-wise with the yarn held in front. Bring the working yarn up and over the needle and down on the other side, pulling hard enough on the yarn to make the stitch on the needle look like a double stitch (the 2 legs of the stitch are visible). Continue row as pattern describes.

When working across the stitch that looks like a double stitch, work it as 1 stitch, either knitting or purling the 2 legs together, as the pattern describes.

Directions for knitting

The design is worked from the top down. The pants are started with an elastic cast-on and finished with an Italian bind-off at the bottom of each leg to give a soft, elastic edge. The pants themselves are worked in a loose gauge.

Rib edge

Cast on (63) 67 (69) 71 (71) sts on a 3 mm circular needle with colour C. Break the yarn.
 Continue in colour B. Note: Working the rib a bit tight is a good idea.
 Row 1: Purl to end of row.

Row 2: *K1, M1p *, repeat from * to * to the last 2 sts, k1 lift the strand between sts onto the left needle and purl it together with the last stitch. There are (124) 132 (136) 140 (140) sts on the needle.

Join in the round, being careful not to twist the work.
 Round 1: *slip stitch purl-wise with the yarn held behind the needle, p1*, repeat from * to * to end of round.

Round 2: *k1, slip stitch purl-wise with the yarn held in front of the needle *, repeat from * to * to end of round.

Turn the work so you are now working from the "WS" of the work.

Round 3: Yarn over, *k1, p1*, repeat from * to * to the last stitch, which is knit together with the yarn over at the beginning of the round. Place a red marker for the beginning of the round – this is the right side of the pants.

Round 4: *k1, p1*, repeat from * to * to end of round.

Change to colour A and work 5 rounds of rib as Round 4.

Change to colour B and work 5 more rounds of rib. Now work 5 more round in colour A and 5 more rounds in colour B.

Size 1, 1½ and 2 years only

Work 5 more rounds in colour A and 5 more rounds in colour B.

All sizes

Break colour B.

Knit 1 round in colour A.

Now carefully cut the cast-on yarn up and remove it from the rib.

Pants

Change to a 4,5 mm, 60 cm circular needle.

Increase round: *K2, M1R*, repeat from * to * to the last 2 sts, k2.

There are now (185) 197 (203) 209 (209) sts on the needle.

Place markers on the next round as follows: Knit (46) 49 (51) 52 (52), place a blue marker (mid back), knit (46) 49 (51) 52 (52), place a red marker (side), knit (46) 49 (50) 52 (52), place a little scrap of yarn (e.g. colour B) around the next stitch (mid front), knit (46) 49 (50) 52 (52).

Now work short rows across the back of the pants as follows:

Knit to the blue marker, k10, turn.

Short row 1: Work short row stitch, purl to 10 sts after blue marker, turn.

Short row 2: Work short row stitch, knit to short row stitch, knit short row stitch through both legs, k10, turn.

Short row 3: Work short row stitch, purl to short row stitch, purl short row stitch through both legs, p10, turn.

Repeat Short row 2 and 3 until there are (6) 9 (11) 12 (12) sts from the last short row stitch to the side

marker. Knit these (6) 9 (11) 12 (12) sts and turn right before the side marker at either side. The last turn is worked from the WS and then you go back to working in the round again.

Knit 3 rounds. Now work bobbles mid front as follows:

Next round: Knit to the marked stitch mid front, join colour C and work a bobble in this colour, then work the rest of the round in colour A.

Work 5 rounds in colour A.

Repeat these 6 rounds once more. Work 1 more round with a bobble.

Next round: Knit to the marked stitch mid front, place a marker (marking mid front), k2tog, knit to end of round. There are (184) 196 (202) 208 (208) sts on the needle.

Knit until work measures (22) 24 (27) 29 (31) cm, measured mid front.

Leg

Divide the work for the legs and finish each leg separately as follows: Knit to 2 sts after the blue marker mid back, place the last 4 sts just knit on a safety pin (remove marker), knit to 2 sts after the marker mid front, place the last 4 sts just knit on a safety pin (remove marker), move the remaining sts on the right needle to a stitch holder. Knit the remaining sts on the needle.

You are now at the first safety pin and are ready to knit the first leg = (88) 94 (97) 100 (100) sts.

Change to a 4,5 mm, 40 cm circular needle (or use the magic loop technique on a longer circular needle). Work in the round in stockinette stitch until the leg measures (13) 15 (18) 20 (23) cm from the safety pins.

Next round: (4) 0 (4) 0 (0) r, *k8, k2tog*, repeat from * to * ending with (4) 4 (3) 0 (0) r = (80) 85 (88) 90 (90) m.

Next round: (4) 0 (4) 0 (0) r, *k7, 1 r løs af, 1 r, træk den løse m over*, repeat from * to * ending with (4) 4 (3) 0 (0) r = (72) 76 (79) 80 (80) m.

Next round: (4) 0 (4) 0 (0) r, *k6, k2tog*, repeat from * to * ending with (4) 4 (3) 0 (0) r = (64) 67 (70) 70 (70) m.

Next round: (4) 0 (4) 0 (0) r, *5 r, 1 r løs af, 1 r, træk den løse m over*, repeat from * to * ending with (4) 4 (3) 0 (0) r = (56) 58 (61) 60 (60) m.

Size (6 months) only

Next round: K2tog, k2, *k4, k2tog *. Repeat from * to *. End with k2, k2tog.

There are = (46) - (-) - (-) sts on the needle.

Size 9 months only

Next round: *k4, k2tog *. Repeat from * to *. End with k2, k2tog.

There are (-) 48 (-) - (-) sts on the needle.

Size (1 year) 1½ year (2 year) only

Next round: Knit (-) - (3) 6 (6), *k4, k2tog *. Repeat from * to *. End with knit (-) - (4) 6 (6).

There are(-) - (52) 52 (52) sts on the needle.

All sizes

Change to a 3 mm needle and colour B and knit 1 round.

Next round: *k1, p1*, repeat from * to * to end of round.

Work 3 more rows of rib in colour B.

Change to colour A and knit 5 rounds of rib, then knit 5 rounds of rib in colour C, then 5 rounds in colour A and then 5 rounds in colour B. Break the colour B yarn, leaving an approx. half meter long tail for binding off. Bind off using the Italian bind-off as follows:

Thread the end on a blunt needle.

1. Insert the needle through the first stitch on the left needle as if to purl.

2. Insert the needle between the 1st and 2nd stitch from back to front.

3. Insert the needle through the 2nd stitch as if to knit.

4. Insert the needle through the first stitch as if to knit.

5. Insert needle through front leg of the 2nd stitch, from the front and from right to left.

6. Insert the needle in the 1st stitch on the left needle as if to purl.

Repeat pt. 2-6 until there is 1 (purl) stitch left on the left needle.

End:

7. Insert the needle from front to back and right to left in the first bound off stitch.

8. Work at pt. 6

All sts have been bound off. Weave in the end.

Join colour to the sts on the second leg, leaving an approx. 30 cm long tail to use when binding off the sts on the safety pins. Work the second leg the same way as the first.

Turn the pants WS out, move the sts from the safety pins back on the needle, holding the 2 sets of sts parallel to each other, right sides together. Knit the 2 sets of sts together while binding off using the tail of colour A yarn from the second leg and a 3-needle bind-off.

Finishing

If there are holes at either end of the bind off at the crotch, sew these closed on the WS.

Weave in all ends. If the rib at the waist is a bit too loose, an elastic thread can be sewn to each stripe from the WS.

Gently wash the finished work as instructed on the yarn label and lay it on a flat surface to dry.