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Medina

1st edition - January 2023 © filcolana #FilcolanaMedina

The medinas in Morocco are surrounded by high walls with impressive gates, and everywhere in the old parts of the city you can see kilim carpets in exuberant colours and characteristic graphic patterns. The beautiful hand-woven carpets have been walked on by great kings and poor shepherds for several centuries. The carpets have also been used as prayer rugs and decorative decorations.

SIZES

S (M) L (XL) 2XL

MEASUREMENTS

Fits chest sizes: 78-84 (84-94) 94-106 (106-116)

116-126 cm

Circumference: 88 (98) 110 (120) 130 cm

Length (from center of the back incl. ribbing edge): 48

(52) 56 (60) 62 cm

Length (from under arm): 32 (33) 34 (35) 35 cm Sleeve length (from shoulder): 12 (12) 13 (13) 14 cm

GAUGE

22 sts and 33 rows in stockinette on 3.5 mm needles = $10 \times 10 \text{ cm}$.

The knitting sample is measured after washing.

Needle sizes are for guidance only.

If you have more stitches on 10 cm, change to a larger needle. If you have fewer stitches on 10 cm, change to smaller needles.

MATERIALS

Yarn from Filcolana

Colour A (Main colour):

50 (100) 100 (150) 150 g **Saga** in col. 977 (Marzipan) and 50 (75) 100 (125) 150 g **Alva** in col. 101 (Natural White)

Colour B: 50 g Saga in col. 123 (Lichten) and

25 g Alva in col. 355 (Green Tea)

Colour C: 50 g Saga in col. 254 (Coral) and

25 g Alva in col. 254 (Coral)

Colour D: 50 g Saga in col. 111 (Pumpkin) and

25 g Alva in col. 375 (Red Clay)

Colour E: 50 g Saga in col. 973 (Nougat) and

25 g **Alva** in col. 976 (Taupe)

Each colour is worked with 1 strand of each quality held together.

Circular needle 3 mm, 40 and 80 cm Circular needle 3.5 mm, 80 cm 3 stitch markers or contrast-coloured thread Scrap yarn for Italian cast on

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Technique

ABBREVIATIONS

St(s): stitch(es)

K: knit P: purl

Tbl: through back loop

Tog: together

SPECIAL TECHNIQUES

Short rows

Slip 1st st purl-wise with varn in front onto right needle. Tug the working yarn up and over the needle. This creates a double stitch. Continue working the row as instructed in pattern. On next row work the double sts together. When working the double st, insert needle through both stitch legs as in one stitch, either knit-wise or purl-wise as pattern indicates.

This technique is called German short rows.

Italian bind off

Bind off with Italian bind off like this: Measure a tail approx. 3 times the length of the rib circumference. Thread tail onto a tapestry needle. First st should be a knit st.

- 1. Insert tapestry needle into the first st on left needle as if to purl, pull the yarn through.
- 2. From behind work insert needle between 1st and 2nd st. Pull needle and varn to front of work.
- **3.** Insert tapestry needle through the 2nd st, from front and out on the back.
- **4.** Insert tapestry needle from front into the 1st st as if to knit it, slip st off needle.
- **5.** From the front insert tapestry needle from right to left – into the front leg of the 2nd st (knit st), pull yarn
- **6.** Insert tapestry needle into 1st st as if to purl, slip st off needle.

Finish:

- 7. From the front insert needle, from right to left, into the first bound off st, pull the yarn through.
- **8.** Knit as point 6.

All sts are now bound off. Weave in end carefully.

CHART

See page 5.

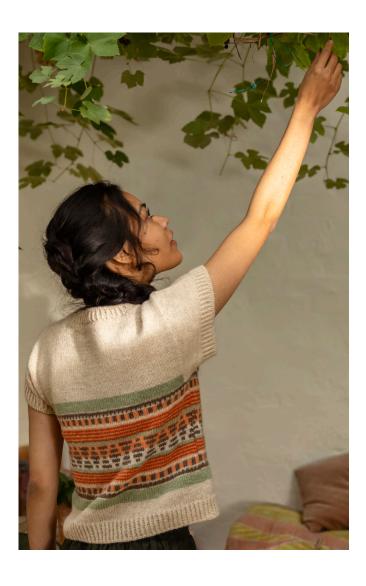
Workflow

The blouse is worked bottom and up, to the armhole, where work is divided into front and back, which are finished separately.

The shoulder seams are knitted together.

Sleeve sts are picked up along the edges of the armhole and the sleeve cap is shaped with short rows.

As a final touch sts are picked up along the neckline, which is worked in twisted rib and finished with Italian bind off.





Pattern

BODY

Begin work with Italian cast on like this: With the scrap yarn and 3 mm circular needles cast on 97 (109) 121 (133) 145 sts.

Knit 2 rows back and forth. Break the scrap yarn.

Join colour A to work and purl 1 row.

Next row: *K1, pick up the bar between the sts, the one worked with the main colour, onto the left-hand needle and purl this st*, repeat from * to * to last 2 sts, k1, pick up the bar between the sts onto left-hand needle and purl this st together with the last st = 192 (216) 240 (264) 288 sts.

Do not turn, but join round and continue knitting in the round like this:

1st round: *Sl1 purl-wise with yarn behind work, p1*, repeat from * to * over entire round.

2nd round: *K1, sl1 purl-wise with yarn in front of work*, repeat from * to * over entire round.

Turn work to knit from the side that was previously the wrong side.

3rd round: Make a yarn over, *k1, p1*, repeat from * to * to last st, purl this last st together with the yarn over, place a start marker.

Next round: Knit twisted rib (k1 tbl, p1) over the next 96 (108) 120 (132) 144 sts, place side marker, continue in twisted rib over rest of the round.

Gently cut off the cast on yarn.

Continue in twisted rib until work measures 4 (4) 4 (5) 5 cm.

Change to 3.5 mm needles.

Continue in stockinette until work measures 8 (10) 12 (14) 14 cm. If you wish your blouse longer, add the extra length before starting the chart. In that case, note that you will need more yarn in colour A than indicated under yarn consumption.

Work 1st-72nd round of the chart, ATTHE SAME TIME, when work measures 28 (30) 32 (34) 34 cm

separate the back and the front and finish each part separately, like this:

Bind off the first 6 (7) 8 (8) 9 sts, knit to last 6 (7) 8 (8) 9 sts before the side marker, bind off the next 12 (14) 16 (16) 18 sts, knit to last 6 (7) 8 (8) 9 sts, bind off the sts and break yarn.

Let the last knitted sts rest on a stitch holder and knit back and forth on the 84 (94) 104 (116) 126 front sts.

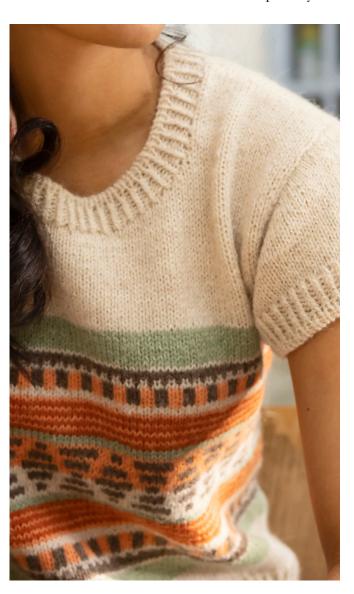
FRONT

Join yarn to right side of the front and continue working flat until work measures 9 (10) 12 (12) 14 cm from where the parts were separated, finish with a purl side row.

Neck

Next row (RS): Knit 35 (38) 41 (45) 49 sts, bind off the next 14 (18) 22 (26) 28 sts, knit remaining sts.

Now each side of the neckline is finished separately.





Right side

Next row (WS): Purl remaining sts.

Now bind off towards the neck on every right side row like this:

4 (4) 4 (6) 6 sts once, 3 (3) 3 (3) 4 sts once, 2 (2) 2 (2) 2 sts once and 1 (1) 1 (1) 1 st 3 times = 23 (26) 29 (31) 34 sts.

Continue without decreases until the armhole measures $20\,(22)\,24\,(26)\,28\,\text{cm}$, finish with a wrong side row.

Break yarn and let the remaining 23 (26) 29 (31) 34 sts rest on a stitch holder.

Left side

Join yarn to wrong side of the resting sts in left side and finish this side as the right side, only binding off towards the neck on every wrong side row.

BACK

Slip the back sts back onto the needle, join yarn to right side of work and continue working back and forth, till 6 rows before the finished front shoulder height, finish with a purl side row.

Next row (RS): Knit 26 (29) 32 (34) 37 sts, bind off the next 32 (36) 40 (48) 50 sts, knit remaining sts.

Now finish the shoulders separately.

Left shoulder

Next row (WS): Purl all sts. Now bind off 1 st towards the neck on the next 3 right side rows = 23 (26) 29 (31) 34 sts.

Knit the shoulder together with the front shoulder like this:

Turn the blouse inside out. Slip the front left shoulder sts onto an extra needle, place the back left shoulder opposite the front shoulder, the 2 right sides facing each other:

Hold the needles parallel in left hand, *insert right hand needle into 1st st on the front needle and 1st st on the needle behind, work these 2 sts together*, repeat from * to * once, slip the 1st st on right needle over the 2nd as in normal bind off**. Repeat from * to ** until all sts are bound off.

Break yarn.

Right shoulder

Join yarn to wrong side of the resting shoulder sts and

bind off as on the left shoulder, only this time in the beginning of every wrong side.

Knit the shoulder together with the right front shoulder, as you did on the left side.



SLEEVES

Starting from the right side, in the 'corner' between the horizontal and vertical sides of the armhole, with 3.5 mm needles and colour A, pick up 48 (54) 59 (64) 69 sts along the vertical side of the armhole, to the shoulder seam, place a marker and pick up the same number of sts along the other side of the armhole, to the 'corner' = 96 (108) 118 (128) 138 sts in total. First part of the sleeve is worked flat.

Next row (WS): Purl all sts.

With 2 new stitch markers mark the middle 16 sts on top of the sleeve = 8 sts on each side of the shoulder marker, knit short rows (see special techniques) to shape the sleeve cap, knit like this:



1st short row (RS): Knit to left marker, turn.

2nd short row (WS): Work 1 German short row, purl to next marker, turn.

3rd short row: Work 1 German short row, knit to short row from previous row, knit this st, k6, turn.

4th short row: Work 1 German short row, purl to short row from previous row, purl this st, p6, turn.

Repeat 3rd and 4th short row, till you have worked 5 (5) 6 (6) 7 short rows in total in each side.

Last short row (RS): Work 1 German short row, knit all sts and remove the markers as you go.

Continue in stockinette over all sts until the sleeve measures 3 (4) 4.5 (4.5) 5 cm, measured from the bottom of the armhole.

Now join round and knit stockinette in the round until sleeve measures 4 (4) 5 (5) 6 cm, measured from the bottom of the armhole.

Change to 3 mm needles.

Work twisted rib (k1 tbl, p1) for 3 (3) 3 (4) 4 cm.

Next round: *K1, sl1 purl-wise with yarn in front*, repeat from * to * over entire round.

Next round: *Sl1 knit-wise with yarn behind work, p1*, repeat from * to * over entire round.

Break yarn with a length 3 times the ribbing edge circumference and bind off with Italian bind off (see special techniques).

Neckline

Start at the middle of the back and with 3 mm needles and colour A, pick up 102 (112) 120 (128) 136 sts along the right side of the neckline. Join round and work twisted rib (k1 tbl, p1) until the rib measures 3 (3) 3 (4) 4 cm.

Next round: *K1, sl1 purl-wise with yarn in front*, repeat from * to * over entire round.

Next round: *Sl1 knit-wise with yarn behind work, p1*, repeat from * to * over entire round.

Bind off with Italian bind off as on the shoulders.

FINISHING

Sew the open sides of the sleeve onto the straight edge of the bottom of the armhole.

Weave in all loose ends.

Wash the blouse according to the washing instructions on the labels and lay it flat to dry on a towel. It's advisable to place blocking needles in the sides and at the edges of the blouse to stabilize and maintain the fit during drying.

