Finished Sizes: XS (S, M, L, XL), with circumferences of 46 (49, 54, 59, 62)" (measured with front borders overlapped). Recommended for bust sizes: 28-32 (32-38, 38-48, 48-54, 54-58)". The fit is as for a poncho - very loose. Shown in size M in charcoal, tunic length on cover, and later in size XS in celery, hip length.

Gauge: 24 sts and 32 rows = 4" in St st using size 5 needles. Measure gauge in the center of a large washed and dried swatch.

Yarn: Sunday Knits 3 ply (sport weight - 245 yd per 50 g skein) in Angelic (merino angora), Nirvana (merino cashmere), Eden (merino) or Brigadoon (merino tweed): 6 (7, 7, 8, 9) skeins for tunic length or 5 (6, 6, 7, 8) skeins for hip length. Shown in Nirvana charcoal in tunic length and in Eden celery in hip length.

Substitute any sport-weight yarn that works nicely to gauge: 1400 (1520, 1730, 1950, 2080) yds for tunic length; 1110 (1220, 1400, 1590, 1700) yds for hip length.

Needles: Size 5 US (3.75 mm) straight or circular needles, size 7 (4.5 mm) for bottom bind-off only.

Techniques used: Provisional cast-on, pick up and knit, short-rows (shadow-wrap method recommended).

Pattern includes: Instructions for all sizes and two lengths, schematic, glossary, link to shadow-wraps short rows tutorial, stitch pattern in both charted and written formats.

Construction: Capture the Moment begins with a provisional cast-on across center back neck. The progress is modular, with more provisional cast-ons across the shoulders. Back neck is picked up and knitted. Shoulders are short-row-shaped. Back and Fronts are worked separately until just below the armhole, and then joined and worked all together as one piece. Optional slant pockets are knit in, and the only finishing required is a bit of stitching to tack the pocket sides in place.

You'll reach for this sleeveless open-front cardigan again and again, It's worked seamlessly from the top down in a modular fashion with a lovely and reversible border pattern and cleverly knit-in optional slant pockets. Knit it, wear it, love it.
Capture the Moment

INSTRUCTIONS

BACK COLLAR

Left Neck

Using provisional method (see Glossary) cast on 43 sts.

RS: K1 (edge st), k1, [p1, k1] to last st, k1 (selvedge st).

WS: P1 (selvedge st), p1, [k1, p1] to last st, p1 (edge st).

Cont as est until piece measures 2”, ending after a WS row.

Begin Pattern (see page 7)

RS: K1, work patt Row 1 to last st, k1.

WS: P1, work patt Row 2 to last st, p1.

Cont as est until piece measures 5½ (6, 6½, 7, 7½)” ending after a RS row.

Make note of last row number, place sts on holder for Left Border; keep yarn intact, or cut to splice onto later.

Right Neck

Reveal 43 live sts from provisional cast-on and place onto ndls with Left Neck downward and RS of fabric facing up.

Begin Pattern

Note: There will be a half-stitch jog between Left Neck stitches and Right Neck stitches.

RS: K1 (selvedge st), work patt Row 1 to last st, k1 (edge st).

WS: P1 (edge st), work patt Row 2 to last st, p1 (selvedge st).

Cont as est until piece measures 9 (10, 11, 12, 13)” ending after a WS row that is one row more than the last Left Neck row.

Place sts on holder for Right Border; keep yarn intact, or cut to splice onto later.

BACK

Using provisional method and new yarn, cast on 42 (44, 48, 52, 54) sts for Left Shoulder.

RS: Knit to end; cont’ing row over collar: with RS up and selvedge sts on right, pick up and knit along back neckline at a rate of one stitch per row to end of neckline; cont row and using provisional method cast on 42 (44, 48, 52, 54) sts for Right Shoulder.

WS: P42 (44, 48, 52, 54), pm, decrease evenly (using p2tog’s) along back neckline to reach a target of 53 (59, 65, 71, 77) back neckline sts, pm, p42 (44, 48, 52, 54). 137 (147, 161, 175, 185) sts.

Slip markers every row.

RS: Knit to end.

Shoulder shaping - short rows

WS: Purl to 2nd m, turn and make twin stitch (TMT; see Glossary - Short Rows);

RS: Knit to m, TMT;

* WS: Purl to turn point, purl twin stitches (PT; see Glossary - Short Rows), p2, TMT;

RS: Knit to turn point, knit twin stitches (KT; see Glossary - Short Rows), k2, TMT;

Rep from * 3 (5, 5, 5, 7) more times;

* WS: Purl to turn point, PT, p1, TMT;

RS: Knit to turn point, KT, k1, TMT;

Rep from * until the last two turn points are each 6 sts from the ends.

Ribbed edging for armhole

WS1: Purl to turn point, PT, p1, RLI then slip this st back to LN, turn;

RS1: Knit to turn point, KT, k1, RLI-p, ytb slip this st back to LN, turn;

WS2: Purl to turn point, k1, p1, RLI then slip this st back to LN, turn;

RS2: K1, p1, knit to turn point, p1, k1, RLI-p, ytb slip this st back to LN, turn;

WS3: Kkpp to turn point, k1, p1, RLI then slip this st back to LN, turn;

RS3: Kkpp to turn point, p1, k1, RLI-p, ytb slip this st back to LN, turn;

WS4: Kkpp to turn point, k1, p1, RLI then slip this st back to LN, turn;

RS4: Kkpp to turn point, p1, k1, RLI-p, ytb slip this st back to LN, turn;

WS5: Kkpp to last 8 sts, [k1, p1] 4 times.

RS5: [K1, p1] 4 times (edge sts), knit to last 8 sts, [p1, k1] 4 times (edge sts). 145 (155, 169, 183, 193) sts.

Armhole

Work edge sts and St st as est until armhole measures 8½ (9, 9½, 10, 10½)” from cast on, ending after a WS row.

RS: K1, k2tog 4 times, knit to last 8 sts, k2tog 4 times. 137 (147, 161, 175, 185) sts.

WS: Purl to end.

Cut yarn and place Back sts on holder while working Fronts.

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GLOSSARY

Provisional cast-on
With crochet hook larger than needle size and using scrap yarn, chain a few more stitches than needed for cast on.

Cast On Row: Identify the ridge of bumps along chain; starting at end of chain, insert needle into bump and knit into it, *insert needle into next bump and knit into it, repeat from * until desired number of stitches are cast on.
To reveal live stitches, starting at end, unravel chain one stitch at a time while placing stitches on needle.

Shadow-wrap short rows
This short-row method was developed by Alice Yu, aka Socktopus. For projects like this one where the short row turns are very close together, it is ideal because it doesn’t leave holes or gaps in the fabric. It works by creating a lifted increase in the stitch beyond the turn point. That newly created “twin stitch” bridges the gap, and then subsequently gets knitted or purled together behind its sister twin stitch. Here’s how:

Turning from a RS to a WS row
- Work to turn point and make twin stitch (TMT) as follows: before turning, RLI into next st then slip (purlwise) that new “twin” stitch back to the left needle, now turn and work WS row.
- To resolve, work RS row to turn point, knit the two twin stitches together (KT).

Turning from a WS to a RS row
- Work to turn point and make twin stitch (TMT) as follows: before turning, with yarn in front sl 1, now turn, with yarn in back RLI and sl 1; work RS row.
- To resolve, work WS row to turn point, purl the two twin stitches together (PT).

Abbreviations
as est: as established (continuing in the same manner as worked in previous rows)
CN: cable needle
CO: cast on
cont: continue
dpn: double-pointed needle
est: established
inc(‘d): increase(d)
k: knit
k2tog: knit 2 stitches together (decreases 1 stitch)
kkpp: knit the stitches that present as knit stitches and purl the stitches that present as purl stitches
KT: knit twin stitches together
m: marker
LLI (left lifted increase): with left needle, pick up stitch 2 rows below stitch just worked, and knit into it (1 stitch increased)
LN: left needle
M1 (make 1 - left slant): with left needle tip, lift strand between needles from front to back, knit lifted loop through the back (1 stitch increased)
M1-p (make 1 purlwise): with left needle tip, lift strand between needles from back to front, purl lifted loop (1 stitch increased)
dnl(s): needles
p: purl
p2tog: purl 2 stitches together (decreases 1 stitch)
patt: pattern
pm: place marker
psso: pass second stitch on right needle over first stitch
PT: purl twin stitches together
rem: remain(ing)
rep: repeat
RLI (right lifted increase): with left needle, pick up stitch in row below next stitch and knit into it (1 stitch increased)
RLI-p (right lifted increase - purlwise): with left-hand needle, pick up stitch in row below next stitch and purl into it (1 stitch increased)
RN: right needle
RS: right side of work
s2k3 (sl1, sl1, sl2-b, k3tog): slip 1 stitch knitwise twice, slip those 2 stitches back (to left needle) together knitwise, knit 3 stitches together (2 stitches decreased - right leaning)
sl: slip (purlwise unless otherwise indicated)
sk2p (sl1, k2tog, psso): slip 1 stitch knitwise, knit the next 2 stitches together, and pass the slipped stitch over (2 stitches decreased - left leaning); alternative (often tidier) method: slip 1 stitch knitwise, slip the next 2 stitches together knitwise, insert left needle knitwise into all three slipped stitches to knit the three together.
skk: slip 1 knitwise, slip 1 knitwise, slip both back to left needle together and knitwise, knit those 2 stitches together (decrease 1 stitch)
st(s): stitch(es)
St st: stockinette stitch
TMT: turn and make twin stitch - see Shadow-Wraps
Short Rows
WS: wrong side of work
yrb: move yarn to back

Resources
See this link for Alice Yu’s Shadow Wraps Short-Rows tutorial.
STITCH PATTERN

Work over 41 sts. Stitch count will be reduced to 37 sts in Rows 2-3, 6-7 and 10-11.

Row 1 (RS): K1, [p1, k1] to end.

Row 2 (WS): *P1, k1, p1, s2k3, [p1, k1] 2 times, M1, k1, M1, [k1, p1] 2 times, sk2p, p1, k1;
   rep from * once more; p1. 37 sts.

Row 3: K1, *p1, [k1, p1] 3 times, k3, [p1, k1] 4 times;
   rep from * once more.

Row 4: *[P1, k1] 4 times, M1, k3, M1, [k1, p1], 3 times, k1;
   rep from * once more; p1. 41 sts.

Row 5: K1, *p1, [k1, p1] 3 times, k5, [p1, k1] 4 times;
   rep from * once more.

Row 6: *P1, s2k3, [p1, k1] 2 times, M1, k5, M1, [k1, p1] 2 times, sk2p;
   rep from * once more; p1. 37 sts.

Row 7: K1, *p1, [k1, p1] 2 times, k7, [p1, k1] 3 times;
   rep from * once more.

Row 8: *[P1, k1] 3 times, M1, k7, M1, [k1, p1] 2 times, k1;
   rep from * once more; p1. 41 sts.

Repeat Rows 1-14.

Legend

k on RS, p on WS
p on RS, k on WS
space, no stitch
sk2p - see Glossary
s2k3 - see Glossary
M1

RS (odd) rows: Reading from right to left, work Sts 1-21, then repeat Sts 2-21.
WS (even) rows: Reading from left to right, work Sts 21-2, then work Sts 21-1.

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