

Wayfarer Poncho

by Audrey Koval

EXPERIENCE LEVEL
Intermediate/ Advanced
Beginner

The Wayfarer Poncho is a light and cozy poncho that shows off a gradient of colors from three different skeins. Switch up the color combinations to make a subtler (or bolder!) look. With a higher back, the Wayfarer Poncho won't accidentally be pulled or stretched when sitting, while the longer front provides warmth and comfort.



PURVEYOR OF FINE YARNS

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MATERIALS

3 skeins Madelinetosh Tosh Merino Light in gradient or bold shades (420 yards, 113g each)

Sample Yarn Colours

1 skein Tosh Merino Light Optic (A)
1 skein Tosh Merino Light Birch Grey (B)
1 skein Tosh Merino Light Salt (C)

Two size US 7, 32" circular needles (or size to obtain gauge)

Size US G/ 4mm (or similar) crochet hook for provisional cast-on

4 yards waste yarn for provisional cast-on (fingering weight, contrasting color preferable)

Cable needle (for joining poncho)
Tapestry needle

GAUGE

42 rows x 20.5 sts = 4 x 4 inches in unblocked garter stitch

26 rows x 23 sts = 4 x 4 inches in blocked garter stitch

FINISHED SIZE

Front shoulder to tassel = 40"
Back from collar to bottom = 24"
Approx. 40" bust

TECHNIQUES

Provisional cast-on
I-cord neck edging
Tassels

SET-UP

The Wayfarer Poncho is knit with a slipped stitch outside edge and an i-cord neck edging. The slipped stitches give a clean flexible edge and the i-cord creates a stable neck hole. These edging stitches are optional, and the poncho can also be knit solely in garter stitch.

With waste yarn and crochet hook, CO 114 sts on US 7 needles using *provisional cast on. Using color A, knit across provisional CO then knit one more row. (two rows of color A created)

BEGIN PONCHO BACK

Row 1: slip the first stitch of the row purlwise, knit until last 3 sts, slip last 3 stitches purlwise with yarn in front.

Row 2: Knit

Repeat rows 1-2 until the piece measures approximately 17 inches and there is approximately 15 grams left of color A (or until piece measures the desired neck circumference).

JOINING THE PONCHO

Using the second circular needle, undo the provisional CO and place stitches on needle. Returning to the original needle with working yarn attached, slip first stitch purlwise and knit until last 3 sts, slip last 3 sts purlwise.

Now, take the needle with the CO sts and place it in your left hand. Keep the needle you just worked across in your right hand. Pivot both needles so that they point toward each other, as if to knit.



You will now knit the last 3 sts on your right hand needle together with the first 3 sts on your left hand needle. Take the last 3 unworked sts from the right hand needle and place them on a cable needle. Hold the cable needle in front of the first 3 sts on your left hand needle. Using your right hand needle, knit together the first stitch on your cable needle and the first stitch on your left hand needle. Repeat this process with the remain two sts on the cable needle and the next two stitches on your left hand needle.



Knit across left hand needle. The poncho is now joined and will be worked straight for the remainder of the work, with the first stitch of every row being slipped purlwise.



PONCHO FRONT

Row 1: slip first stitch purlwise, knit until end of row

Now the fading of color A into color B will begin

Row 2: taking color B, slip first stitch purlwise then knit until end of row.

Row 3: repeat row 2

Row 4: taking color A, slip first stitch purlwise then knit until end of row.

Row 5: repeat row 4

Repeat rows 2-5 four more times.

End of color A to color B fade

Row 6: With color B, slip first stitch purlwise, knit until end of row.

Repeat row 6 until there is approximately 15 grams of color B left. Fade color B into color C by following rows 2-5 and repeating these rows four more times, substituting color A mentioned for color B, and color B mentioned for color C.

Row 7: With color C, slip first stitch purlwise, knit until end of row.

Repeat row 7 until the poncho front reaches desired length.

The poncho shown has a poncho front (measured from bottom of neck hole to cast off edge) of 15 inches before blocking.

BIND OFF

Bind off all stitches by working stretchy bind off:

Knit 2, *insert left needle purlwise from left to right through front of 2 sts on right hand needle, knit 2 stitches together, knit 1*.

Repeat between * * until all stitches have been bound off.

FINISHING

Weave in all ends and spray or steam block poncho. If desired, make two tassels and attach them to the bottom two corners of poncho.

MAKE OPTIONAL TASSELS

To make tassels, wrap yarn around a piece of cardboard approximately 3 inches long. Make 30 wraps around the cardboard. Cut yarn. Take another piece of yarn and tie it around the top of the loops of yarn. Take another piece of yarn and tie it around the upper portion of the tassel. Cut the tassel loops at the bottom. Use the top yarn pieces to attach tassel to poncho.



Notes

CO: Cast-on

STS: Stitches

K: Knit

*PROVISIONAL CAST-ON

The purpose of the cast-on is to keep stitches live, so that they may be knit later.

Learn the provisional cast-on at wooland-company.com/Techniques

“I will not buy any more yarn until I use my stash at home,” I said...& then I laughed and laughed.



