

Classic Elite Yarns

Allegoro Simple Summer Top

Allegoro

70% organic cotton, 30% linen

Allegoro, a smooth, lightweight, multi-ply summer yarn is 75% certified organic cotton and 25% conventional linen. Soft, buoyant cotton fiber pairs beautifully with linen's long, strong fibers. We chose this particular blend and its structure for several reasons. First, we wanted cotton from organically grown plants. (We'll talk more about 'certified organic' in upcoming web letters.) Second, because the linen component was still identifiable in the yarn. Linen is a crisp, somewhat coarse fiber that softens over time and washing. Too many cotton/linen blends treat the rustic qualities of linen as negatives and work hard to obscure them in a 'soft' yarn. I like Allegoro's pleasantly crisp hand that distinguishes it from cotton and prevents it from being too cushy. Instead, the long strong linen fibers contribute to Allegoro's great stitch-pattern definition and a beautiful even Stockinette. And finally, we chose Allegoro because unlike many multi-ply cotton yarns, Allegoro's plies are cabled and won't separate or split while knitting.

Allegoro is great for transitional garments—little cardigans and tops, and if you're inclined to make something outright summery like a tank top or camisole, Allegoro will keep you cool and comfortable—in the knitting and the wearing. It comes in 10 soft colors.

Allegoro Simple Summer Top

Designed by: Ann Budd

This top features lots of techniques from *Simple Style*, beginning with a decorative Channel Island cast-on that adds interest to the lower edge. The body is worked in the round, eliminating side seams, but the first two rows of the body are worked back and forth to make it easier to join into a round without twisting the stitches (which would produce a helix). The body begins with a k5, p1 rib to eliminate curling, then the purl stitches are systematically decreased, creating a nice flare in the lower body. The shoulders are joined with the three-needle bind-off (no seams!) and the neck and armholes are finished with a simple row of single crochet punctuated with picots.



ABBREVIATIONS

approx – approximately
beg – begin(ning)
BO – bind off
BOR – beginning of round
ch – see Crochet Stitches
CO – cast on
dec – decrease
est – establish(ed)
k – knit
k2tog – see Special Term
meas – measures
p – purl
patt – pattern
pc(s) – piece(s)
pm – place marker(s)
rem – remain(ning)
rep – repeat
RH – right hand
rnd – round
RS – right side
sc – see Crochet Stitches
sl st – see Crochet Stitches
st(s) – stitch(es)
St st – Stockinette Stitch
WS – wrong side

SIZES:

Small (Medium, Large, Extra Large, 2X Large)

Finished Measurements:

33³/₄ (36³/₄, 40, 43¹/₄, 46³/₄)"

To fit bust measurements:

34¹/₄ (37³/₄, 41, 44¹/₄, 47³/₄)"

MATERIALS:

Allegoro by **Classic Elite** (70% organic cotton, 30% linen; 50 gram ball = approx 152 yards)

- 5 (5, 6, 6, 7) balls 5697 Capers

Needles

- One 24" circular size US 4 (3.5 mm)

Or size to obtain gauge

- One needle size US 4 (for shoulder BO)
- One crochet hook size US F/5 (3.75 mm)
- Stitch markers
- Stitch holders or waste yarn

GAUGE: 24 sts and 33 rows = 4" in Stockinette Stitch. **Take time to save time, check your gauge.**

SPECIAL TERM:

k2tog: Knit 2 sts together (1 st decreased).

PATTERN STITCHES:

Channel Island Cast-on Method: (optional) Instructions available in *Simple Style* (Interweave Press, 2009).

5 x 1 Rib: (multiple of 6 sts)

Straight—Row 1: (WS) *K1, p5; rep from * across. Row 2: Knit the knit sts and purl the purl sts as they face you.

Rep Row 2 for 5 x 1 Rib.

Circular—Rnd 1: *K5, p1; rep from * across. Rnd 2: Knit the knit sts and purl the purl sts as they face you.

Rep Rnd 2 for Circular 5 x 1 Rib.

Stockinette Stitch (St st): Knit on the RS, purl on the WS.

Three Needle Bind Off Method: Slip the sts from holders onto each of 2 needles; with the RS of garment pcs together (to form ridge on inside of garment), hold the needles parallel. With a third needle knit the first st of front and back needles together, *knit next st from each needle together, (2 sts on RH needle), BO 1 st; rep from * until all sts are BO.

CROCHET STITCHES:

sl st: (slip stitch) Insert crochet hook in the indicated stitch, yarn over and draw through both the stitch and the loop on the hook

sc: (single crochet) Insert crochet hook in indicated stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop; yarn over and draw through both loops on hook.

ch: (chain) Wrap the yarn around the crochet hook (yarn over) and draw it through the loop on the hook to form the first chain. Rep this step as many times as instructed. (The loop on the hook is never included when counting the number of chains).

BODY

Use the Channel Island method (illustrated in *Simple Style*, Interweave Press, 2009) or your favorite method to CO 240 (264, 288, 312, 336) sts. Do not join. **(WS) Begin 5 x 1 Rib;** work 2 rows, end after a RS row. Place marker (pm) for beg-of-rnd (BOR) and join to beg working in-the-rnd, being careful not to twist sts. Work as est until pc meas 5" from beg. **Dec Rnd 1:** K5, *k2tog, work 22 as est; rep from * to last 19 sts, k2tog, work to end as est—230 (253, 276, 299, 322) sts rem. **Est Patt:** *K10, p1, k5, p1, k5, p1; rep from * around. Work as est until pc meas 9½" from beg. **Dec Rnd 2:** *K10, p1, k5, k2tog, k4, p1; rep from * around—220 (242, 264, 286, 308) sts rem. **Est Patt:** *K10, p1; rep from * around. Work as est until pc meas 13" from beg. **Dec Rnd 3:** K10, *k2tog, k9; rep from * to last st, remove marker, k2tog (first st of next rnd with last st of this rnd), replace BOR marker before the k2tog, making the k2tog the first st of the next rnd—200 (220, 240, 260, 280) sts rem.

BACK

Change to St st and Shape Armholes: Counting last k2tog as first st, BO 4 (4, 4, 5, 5) sts, k96 (106, 116, 125, 135). Slip rem 100 (110, 120, 130, 140) sts to stitch holder or waste yarn for front. Turn work to beg working back and forth in rows on back sts only. **Next row:** (WS) BO 4 (4, 4, 5, 5) sts, purl to end—92 (102, 112, 120, 130) sts rem. (RS) BO 3 (3, 3, 3, 4) sts at the beg of the next 2 rows, 2 sts at the beg of the next 4 rows, then 1 st at the beg of the next 6 rows—72 (82, 92, 100, 108) sts rem. Work even until armholes meas 6½ (7, 7½, 8, 8½)" from beg of armhole shaping, end after a WS row. Pm each side of center 20 (22, 24, 24, 26) sts. **Shape Neck:** (RS) Work to first marker, join new ball of yarn, BO center sts and work to end—24 (28, 32, 35, 38) sts rem each side. Working both sides at the same time, with separate balls of yarn, at each neck edge BO 2 (2, 2, 2, 3) sts 1 time, then BO 1 st 4 times—18 (22, 26, 29, 31) sts rem each side. Work even until armhole meas 7½ (8, 8½, 9, 9½)" from beg of armhole shaping. Place sts on holders.

FRONT

Slip front sts from holder to needle preparing to work a RS row—100 (110, 120, 130, 140) sts. Rejoin yarn. BO 4 (4, 4, 5, 5) sts at beg of next



2 rows, 3 (3, 3, 3, 4) sts at beg of next 2 rows, 2 sts at the beg of the next 4 rows, then 1 st at the beg of the next 6 rows—72 (82, 92, 100, 108) sts rem. Work even until armholes measure 4½ (5, 5½, 6, 6½)" from beg of armhole shaping, end after a WS row. Pm each side of center 24 (26, 28, 30, 32) sts. **Shape Neck:** (RS) Work to first marker, join a second ball of yarn, BO center sts and work to end—24 (28, 32, 35, 38) sts rem each side. Working both sides at the same time, with separate balls of yarn, at each neck edge BO 2 (2, 2, 2, 3) sts 1 time, then BO 1 st 4 times—18 (22, 26, 29, 31) sts rem each side. Work even until armhole meas 7½ (8, 8½, 9, 9½)" from beg of armhole shaping. Place sts on holders.

FINISHING

Join shoulders: Place 18 (22, 26, 29, 31) sts for left back shoulder from holder onto 1 needle, place the corresponding 18 (22, 26, 29, 31) sts for left front shoulder on another needle, and use the Three Needle Method to BO the shoulder sts tog. Rep for right shoulder.

Neck edging: With RS facing and crochet hook, join yarn with a sl st to right shoulder

seam, *sc 4, ch 3 (creating a picot); rep from * around, sl st into first sc to join. **Armhole edging:** Work as for neck edging. Use CO tail to sew first 2 rows tog at the side seam. Block pc to measurements.

