

BALALAÏKA : Skirt

for Maru and Friends, Kidz 'n' Cats, 19" Götz dolls
or 18-20.5" (46-52 cm) similar dolls

(The jacket belongs to «Rentrée des Classes»
to be ordered in my Boutique, at the top of the blog)



Cotton example : Schachenmayr « Catania » for 2.5-3.5 needles

Circular needle Nr. 3 (or 2 needles Nr. 3). Crochet Nr. 3

Needle sizes comparison :

Europe	2	2.25	2.5	3	3.25	3.5	4	4.5
UK	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7
USA	00	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

Note : if this skirt is made for a Kidz 'n' Cats instead of a Maru and Friends, knit 0.79" (2 cm) less at the top of the dress.

Cast on 146 stitches on a circular needle Nr. 3. Insert a colored yarn to mark the beginning of each row and move it every time you end a row. (Note : the skirt is knitted from bottom to top).

Should you not have any circular needle knit on 2 needles but, in this case, for obtaining "stocking stitch", make knit stitches on right side and purl stitches on wrong size. In this case, you will have to sew the back of the skirt which I wanted to avoid in my model. It is up to you !

Knit in order to obtain 3 bars of garter stitch on right side, but, as we knit using a circular needle, for obtaining, on right side, these horizontal bars, you have to knit like that : purl stitches (1 row), knit stitches (1 row), purl stitches (one row), knit stitches (1 row), purl stitches (1 row). (on 2 needles, make knit stitches all the time, on right and wrong side, in order to obtain these 3 bars of garter stitch visible on right side)

Make 1 more row of knit stitches and begin the so called « Bas-Relief » lace design until row 18 of this design stitch. From now on, for this special design, rows will be named from 1 to 18

Once again, should you knit on a circular needle, do not forget to insert a contrasted yarn at the beginning of each row in order to remember when each new row begins. Move this yarn every time you begin a new row.

“Bas-Relief” lace stitch :

Abbreviations : ks (knit stitch), yo (yarn over), pssso (slip stitch, knit stitch, pass slip stitch over knitted stitch), sk2p (Slip 1, knit 2 together, pass slip stitch over knit stitch), k2 (knit 2 together)

Row 1 : 1 ks *1 ks., 1 yo, 1 pssso, 3 ks, 1 k2, 1 yo*. Repeat from * to * and finish the row by 1 ks.

Row 2 and all even rows, knit as stitches are, making knit stitches, in the case you use a circular needle.

(Note : should you use 2 needles, make purl stitches on all odd rows).

Row 3 : 1 ks, *2 ks, 1 yo, 1 pssso, 1 ks., 1 k2., 1 yo, 1 ks*. Repeat from * to * and finish the row by 1 ks.

Row 5 : 1 ks. *1 ks 1 yo, 1 pssso, 1 yo, 1 sk2p, 1 yo, 1 k2., 1 yo*. Repeat from * to * and finish the row by 1 ks.

Row 7 : 1 ks, *2 ks, 1 yo, 1 pssso, 1 ks, 1 k2., 1 yo, 1 ks*. Repeat from * to * and finish the row by 1 ks.

Row 9 : 1 ks, *3 ks, 1 yo, 1 sk2p, 1 yo, 2 ks*. Repeat from * to * and finish the row by 1 ks.

DOLL Family tutorial...offered for the 2014 blog anniversary

www.dollfamily.canalblog.com

Row 11 : 1 ks, *1 ks., 1 k2, 1 ks, 1 yo, 1 ks, 1 yo, 1 ks, 1 pssso *. Repeat from * to * and finish the row by 1 ks.

Row 13 : like row 11

Row 15 : like row 11

Row 17 : 1 ks *1 ks, 1 yo, 1 pssso, 3 ks, 1 k2, 1 yo*. Repeat from * to * and finish the row by 1 ks.

Row 18 : knit stitches (circular needle) or purl stitches (if you use 2 needles)

END OF THE « BAS-RELIEF » lace stitch !

Next row : purl stitches (circular needle)

Next row : knit stitches (circular needle)

Next row : purl stitches (circular needle)

(Note : using 2 needles instead of a circular needle, make knit stitches on both sides : right and wrong side)

You must obtain 2 bars of garter stitch visible on the right side (knitting with a circular needle or 2 needles).

Next row : begin the double seed stitch on 6 rows (you alternate stitches after 2 rows in order to obtain every time 2 knit stitches one over the other and 2 purl stitches one over the other. Row after : knit stitches over purl stitches, during 2 rows).

On the first row of double seed stitch, on the right side of work, knit 2 together every 7 stitch : *6 knit stitches, 1 k2*. Repeat from * to * all along. You must obtain 126 stitches at the end.

All together, you must have made 6 rows of double seed stitch.

Next row : purl stitches (circular needle)

Next row : knit stitches (circular needle)

Next row : purl stitches (circular needle)

(Note : on two needles, instead of a circular needle, just knit 2 classic garter stitch bars by making knit stitches on both sides : right and wrong side)

You obtain now 2 bars of garter stitch like the ones made before beginning the double seed stitch.

DOLL Family tutorial...offered for the blog anniversary

www.dollfamily.canalblog.com

Two more rows : make knit stitches : you obtain stocking stitch as you use a circular needle. (should you use 2 needles, knit stitches on right side, purl stitches on wrong side)

Next row (right side) : knit 2 stitches together (knit stitches) every 8 stitches. You must obtain 113 stitches all around.

(Note : Now you may use 4 needles instead of a circular needle if you have difficulties with your circular needle may be now too long for the reduced amount of stitches)

Go on knitting to obtain stocking stitches : knit stitches (with 2 needles : on right side, make knit stitches, on wrong side, make purl stitches).

On the right side, at 7" (17.5 cm) height, measured from beginning of knitting, knit 3 rib stitches every 5 stitches (=5 knit stitches, 1 purl stitch, 1 knit stitch, 1 purl stitch*. Repeat from * to *. (Note : For Kidz 'n' Cats, begin rib stitches at 6.21" from bottom).

Make 2 more rows like that, using the same stitches repartition.

Then begin knitting 1x1 ribs all along on about 0.8" (2 cm) height.

On the first row of these 1x1 ribs, make decreases like that : every 8 stitches, knit 2 together (on the right side if you knit using 2 needles).

Cast off but leave the last stitch on your needle and slip it on a hook Nr 3.

Note : this skirt measures now about 8.8" (22 cm) . 0.79" less for a Kidz 'n' Cats (= 8") !

At the end, it will measure about 9.5" (24 cm) after final work using a hook. 0.79" less for a Kidz 'n' Cats (= 8.7") !

Using a hook 3, make now 1 row of sc (single crochet) and, during the row to follow, work like that, making holes : 2 hdc (half double crochet), 2 chain stitches, 1st one of the 2 next hdc into the next 3rd stitch, 2nd of the hdc into the following stitch, 2 chain stitches, etc...Now you have little holes.

Crochet separately a long chain using hook Nr. 3 and pass this chain through the holes. It will allow you to adjust the top of the skirt to the waist measurement.

Down the skirt, using hook Nr.3, make sc (single crochet) all around and also small curls on last row (optional)

DOLL Family tutorial...offered for the 2014 blog anniversary

www.dollfamily.canalblog.com

Curls : *1 sc, 5 hdc all beginning in the same stitch situated 2 stitches after the first sc, 1 slip stitch in the stitch situated 2 stitches further*. Repeat from * to *.

HAPPY KNITTING !



Note : the jacket worn by Maru is explained in the tutorials entitled RENTREE DES CLASSES (English) to be ordered in the BOUTIQUE at the top of the blog : www.dollfamily.canalblog.com

RENTREE DES CLASSES comprises : jacket, tunic and socks tutorials.



Here a 19" Götz doll is wearing the Balalaïka skirt and the RENTREE DES CLASSES Tunic and Jacket.