

Entrelac Short Poncho. ©Joan Dyer

1 skein washable wool (yarn A)
1 skein silky locks (yarn B)

Circular needles, size #10 1/2, lengths 16" (or less) and 29" (or longer).

This poncho is knitted in the round, beginning at the neck edge, until it reaches elbow length. The work is then divided and the front and rear points are finished separately. The edge is finished using attached I-cord.

The entrelac squares are each 8 stitches wide. Each "round" has 2 more entrelac rectangles than the round before, and the yarns used alternate. The initial neck round and first group of triangles are worked in yarn A (wool) and are in stockinette; the rounds in curly locks (yarn B) are in reverse stockinette.

Start: Using yarn A, cast on $8 \times 8 = 64$ stitches. Join into a circle, being careful not to twist, and work 4 rounds of stockinette. This curls outward and finishes the neck edge. You may work some extra rounds if desired.

Setup triangles (wool, yarn A): Work one triangle:

K1; turn, P1; turn K2; turn P2; turn K3; turn P3; turn K4; turn P4; turn K5; turn P5; turn K6; turn P6; turn K7; turn P7; turn K8

First triangle completed. Repeat these rows 7 more times, until you return to the beginning. Turn, and P8 once only on the last triangle, leaving yarn A at a triangle point farthest from the neck edge (so that you don't need to break the yarn when you need yarn A again). You now have **8** triangles.

Drop yarn A, start yarn B (curly locks) at the free edge of the triangle worked last closest to the neck.

First curly locks (yarn B) rectangle: START-B

Row 1: Pick up and knit 8 stitches beginning at a "valley" between triangles, nearest the neck edge, doing the pickup along a side with non-live stitches. Yarn B is now at a corner farthest from the neck edge.

Row 2: Turn (inside of work facing). Knit 7, K2tog joining a yarn B stitch with a yarn A stitch.

Row 3: Turn and purl 8.

Repeat the last two rows six more times, and then work Row 2 one additional time. All 8 yarn A stitches are now consumed and the first yarn B rectangle is complete. rectangle.

Next yarn B rectangle: ATTACHED-B

Row 1: Without turning, pick up and knit 8 stitches along the adjacent finished edge.

Row 2: Turn, purl back.

Row 3: Turn, K7, K2tog (attaching yarn B stitch to a waiting yarn A stitch).

Repeat: the last 2 rows 7 more times. All 8 waiting stitches are now consumed, the second yarn B rectangle is complete and attached to yarn shapes on two sides.

Next yarn B rectangle: work another ATTACHED-B rectangle.

Next yarn B rectangle: FREE-B

Row 1: Without turning, pick up and knit 8 stitches along the next yarn A edge.

Row 2: Turn, P8.

Row 3: Turn, K8. DO NOT attach.

Repeat: the last 2 rows 7 more times. This free rectangle is now complete and attached only at one edge.

Work 4 ATTACHED-B rectangles, one FREE-B rectangle, and then a last ATTACHED-B rectangle. Turn and work one additional row, then drop yarn B at the rectangle corner farthest from the neck. Round complete (10 rectangles worked). You should find the strand of yarn A at the other end of the side just worked. If this is not true, break yarn A and restart at this place.

Slide stitches around to where you left yarn A, inside facing.

First yarn A rectangle: START-A

Row 1: Using yarn A, pick up 8 stitches along the adjoining finished yarn B rectangle.

Row 2: Turn, K7, SSK.

Row 3: Turn, P8.

Repeat: the last 2 rows 6 more times, then work one more Row 2. This consumes all waiting yarn B stitches.

Next yarn A rectangle: FREE-A

Row 1: Without turning, pick up and knit 8 stitches along the next yarn B edge.

Row 2: Turn, P8.

Row 3: Turn, K8.

Repeat: the last 2 rows 7 more times.

Next yarn A rectangle: ATTACHED-A

Row 1: Without turning, pick up and knit 8 stitches along the next yarn B edge.

Row 2: Turn, P8.

Row 3: Turn, K7, SSK.

Repeat: the last 2 rows 7 additional times, consuming the remaining yarn A stitches.

Next yarn A rectangles: work 4 more ATTACHED-A, 1 FREE-A, 4 ATTACHED-A. Turn and work one additional row, then drop yarn A at the rectangle corner farthest from the neck. Round complete (12 rectangles worked).

Slide stitches around to where you left yarn B, outside facing. Work a round of yarn B rectangles: 1 START-B, 4 ATTACHED-B, 1 FREE-B, 6 ATTACHED-B, 1 FREE-B, 1 ATTACHED-B. Work one additional row, then drop yarn B at the rectangle corner farthest from the neck (14 rectangles worked).

Slide stitches around to where you left yarn A. Work yarn A rectangles: 1 START-A, 2 ATTACHED-A, 1 FREE-A, 7 ATTACHED-A, 1 FREE-A, 4 ATTACHED-A. Break yarn (16 rectangles worked). This is the last circular A round.

Slide stitches around to where you left yarn B, outside facing. Work yarn B rectangles: 1 START-B, 6 ATTACHED-B, 1 FREE-B, 8 ATTACHED-B, 1 FREE-B, 1 ATTACHED-B. Break yarn; this is the last circular B round (18 rectangles worked).

The boundary between the FREE and ATTACHED rectangles of the same yarn is the division between front and back. **Separate** front from back stitches by placing each on its own needle (or put the stitches for one of them on waste yarn). Front and back are worked the same, back and forth.

First side:

With yarn A, right side facing, work a **start triangle** (K1, turn P1, turn K2, turn P2, ..., turn P7, turn K8), then **8** ATTACHED-A rectangles, and finish with an **end triangle** (pick up 8, turn P8; turn K6 SSK; turn P7; turn K5 SSK; turn P6; ..., turn P2, turn SSK, turn K). Break yarn.

With wrong side facing and starting from the point of the end triangle, work **9** ATTACHED-B rectangles. Bind off the 8 stitches of the last rectangle, and break yarn.

With right side facing work **8** ATTACHED-A rectangles, bind off the 8 stitches of the last rectangle, and break yarn.

Repeat, working **7** ATTACHED-B's, **6** ATTACHED-A's, **5** ATTACHED-B's, **4** ATTACHED-A's, **3** ATTACHED-B's, **2** ATTACHED-A's, **1** ATTACHED-B.

Work second side the same way.

Once front and back have been completed, fasten off ends and finish outside edge using yarn A to match the neck edge. Pick up all around using the largest circular needle and work several rounds of stockinette or rib, crochet around, or work attached I-cord as follows using yarn A and the small circ or a pair of double points: cast on 3 stitches and repeat the following all around. Do not turn, slide 3 stitches to the other end of the needle. K2, then K the last stitch together with one picked up stitch from the poncho edge.

Variations: Work rectangle rounds in stockinette, or in garter stitch, or in any small pattern stitch that fits 8 stitches by 16 rows. Make longer or shorter.