

BUBBLE CREW NECK BAND AND HEM

NOTES

BUBBLE CREW NECK BAND AND HEM

Bubbles are fun and can be so versatile. They can be elegant, classy and sporty, it all depends on the yarn being used. One or many colours may be introduced. They offer a fair amount of elasticity and therefore, are quite suitable for neck bands, cuffs and hemlines.

Sample #1 is done using two techniques of knitting, Slip (two colours) and Tuck. Both samples derive from the same design card and yet look so different. The Tuck Technique created a wider fabric which made it possible to start the sample with the bubble hemline, while the Slip sample (a narrower fabric) required a reduction in stitches to accommodate the bubble hemline.

●**SAMPLE #1** - is demonstrated via

- Swatch A - application of Cut & Sew Technique
- Swatch B - application of the neck band onto the knit bodice
- Swatch B - steps for the bubble hemline
- Sample #1 - steps for the bubble hemline

●**SAMPLE #1a**

Yarn used: Forsell 4-ply superwash in bluebell and snow white

CMSHW tension: 6 CMSHW gauge: 3.33 sts/cm (8.32 sts/in)
6.66 rows/cm (16.65 rows/in)

Stitch pattern: 2 colour Slip stitch, using colour changer
(Card #5)

Preparation for ●**SAMPLE #1a**

(X = Main Tension) CMSHW colour #1 = snow white
colour #2 = blue bell

Mini Bodices

- Prepare two knit squares for front and back.
25cm (10") X 25cm (10")
- Thread and set main yarns (colours #1 and #2) into yarn changer.

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- Cast on the required number of stitches onto waste yarn. CMSHW (84 sts)
- Knit 7 or 9 rows (carriage on the left for change of colour).
- RC-000 • Prepare machine for the Slip Technique, using colour #1 and Slip knit 2 rows. Make sure that the first row knit is the first row of the design card (the black row) and not the Slip one. This is very important when re-hooking the hemline later and also to get the pattern started properly.
- RC-002 • Change to colour #2 and knit 2 rows.
- RC-004 • Knit the necessary number of rows, alternating colours #1 and #2 every 2 rows. CMSHW (164)
- RC-168 • Re-set carriage for stockinet and knit 1 row.
- RC-169 • Mark centre, using a contrast coloured yarn.
- Cast off.
- Block carefully, according to dimensions.
- Prepare front and back for Cut & sew, using templates and following instructions on the Application of the Cut & Sew technique in the general information section at the front of the binder. Swatch A
- Once the pieces have been Cut & Sewn, it is time to apply the hemline finish. Hemlines should be done prior to assembling the garment, when possible. This enables the knitter to work with separate and smaller knit pieces which facilitates the task.

Bubble Hem

For a successful straight hem, it is always best to plan on a reduction of 10% to 15%. This avoids the flaring of the hem. In this case, the difference between the gauges of the Slip Stitch and the Bubbles are different, and, if the gauges are different, it definitely must be accounted for. A mini version of the bubble band was knit over 40 stitches to determine its proper gauge.

Bubble tension: 6 Bubble gauge: 2.85 sts/cm (7.1 sts/in)

- Take the hem measurement of one of the garment pieces, CMSHW mini bodice 25cm (10"), and reduce by 10% to 15% (that's for a straight hem, a greater percentage will pull the garment in even more). CMSHW 25cm (10") minus 15% (3.75cm (1½")) = 21.25cm (8½")
- Take the reduced measurement and multiply by the gauge of the bubble band swatch. CMSHW 21.25cm (8½") X 2.85 sts/cm (7.1 sts/in) = 60 sts
- Then take the smallest measurement in stitches (the bubbles) and divide it by the greater number of stitches (the mini bodice). CMSHW 60 sts divided by 84 sts = .71
- Look up the decimal figure on the stitch reduction chart and it will give you the decreasing sequence needed for the re-hooking of the hem for the mini bodice.
- Using one of the mini bodices, wrong side of the fabric facing you, (careful, the

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wrong side in this sample is the knit side) re-hook the open stitches of the hemline according to the calculated decreasing sequence.

CMSHW [.71 (\wedge T T \wedge T) on the chart, 60 sts]

- Once the stitches have been re-hooked, gently pull and remove the waste yarn. Make sure that all stitches have been carefully re-hooked. Swatch B

RC-000

- ***Bring all needles forward (D or E position).
- Using colour #2, knit one row at tension 10.

RC-001

- Knit 6 rows at main tension. CMSHW (t.6)

RC-007

- Pick up and re-hook all the sinker loops from the row at tension 10.
- Knit 1 row at main tension***.

RC-008

- Prepare machine for Fair-Isle, using card #1 blocked, Fair-Isle knit for 2 rows with colour #2 in feeder 1 and colour #1 in feeder 2.

RC-010

- Re-set carriage to stockinet.
- Repeat bubble from ***to***.

RC-018

- Cast off, wrapping around the sinker posts.
- Steam gently.

●SAMPLE #1b

Yarn used: Forsell 4-ply superwash in bluebell and snow white

CMSHW tension: 6 CMSHW gauge: 2.53 sts/cm (6.3 sts/in)
6.66 rows/cm (16.7 rows/in)

Stitch pattern: Tuck (Card #5)

Preparation for ●SAMPLE #1b

(X = Main Tension)

Mini Bodices

- Prepare two knit squares for the front and back 25cm (10") X 25cm (10"), excluding hemline

Starting with the bubble hemline

- Cast on the required number of stitches onto waste yarn. CMSHW (64 sts)
- Knit 8 to 10 rows of waste yarn.

RC-000

- ***Change to colour #1, CMSHW (snow white) and knit 1 row at tension 10.

RC-001

- Knit 6 rows at main tension.

RC-007

- Pick up the sinker loops from the very first row at tension 10.
- Knit 1 row at main tension.***

RC-008 • Change to colour #2 and knit 2 rows at main tension.

RC-010 • Change to colour #1 and repeat bubble from *** to ***

Bodices

RC-018 • Prepare machine for the Tuck Technique and Tuck knit the necessary number of rows. CMSHW (166 rows)

RC-184 • Re-set carriage to stockinet and knit 2 rows.

RC-186 • Cast off, wrapping around the sinker posts.

• Block carefully, according to dimensions.

• Cut & Sew necklines as for Sample 1a

Bubble Crew Neck Band

• Prepare a separate neck band for a neck entrance of 48cm (19.2") minus a reduction of 10% to 20%. In this case, it is best to use the gauge of the bubble band found in Sample 1a. CMSHW used a 12% reduction, i.e. 48cm (19.2") X 2.85 sts/cm (7.1 sts/in) = 136 sts - 12% (16 sts) = 120 sts.

• For more details, you may review Calculations for Neck Bands in the general information section at the front of the binder, or consult our book (pgs. 35/36).

Starting on the **upper** side and bottom edge of the neck band

• Cast on the required number of stitches onto waste yarn. CMSHW (120 sts)
• Knit 6 to 8 rows of waste yarn at (X+2). The higher tension helps when blocking.

RC-000 • Using colour #2, knit 2 rows at (X+1). CMSHW (t.7)

RC-002 • Knit 2 rows at (X). CMSHW (t.6)

RC-004 • Knit 2 rows at (X-1). CMSHW (t-5)

RC-006 • Bring all needles forward (**D** or **E** position) and manually weave a contrast coloured ravel cord over and under the needles for later reference.

• Knit 1 row at tension 10.

RC-007 • ***Change to colour #1.

• Knit 1 row at tension 10*.

RC-008 • Knit 6 rows at main tension. CMSHW (t.6).

RC-014 • Pick up and re-hook the sinker loops from the second row at tension 10*. The sinker loops are easy to spot, they are the snow white ones!***

• Knit 1 row at (X+2). A looser tension is important in this case because of the decrease coming up! CMSHW (t.8)

RC-015 • Remove on waste yarn.

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Continuing with the **under** side of the neck band

- With the wrong side of the neck band facing you, bubble against the machine, stand and waste yarn towards you, pick up and re-hook the sinker loops from the very first row at tension 10. The sinker loops appear going over the ravel cord. Make sure to leave the first and last 3 sinker loops off the needles at both ends. CMSHW (113 sts)
- Remove the ravel cord by gently pulling at one end.

- RC-000 • Using main yarn (colour #1 or #2), knit 2 rows at (X-1). CMSHW (snow white) Swatch B
- RC-002 • Knit 1 row at (X) (one row less on the under side of the neck band).
- RC-003 • Knit 2 rows at (X+1).
- Using a contrast coloured yarn, mark centre and half way points of the neck band. CMSHW (29-0-29)
- RC-005 • Cast off loosely, wrapping around the sinker posts.
- Steam press a little.

Finishing the neck band

- *With the wrong side of the neck band facing you, pick up and re-hook the stitches from the bubble edge with a decrease. Double up on every 7th needle, starting at one end. [.875 on the chart (T T T ^ T T T)]

- RC-000 • Using colour #2, repeat bubble from *** to *** (pg.4).
- RC-007 • Knit 1 row at (X+2). CMSHW (t.8)
- RC-008 • Remove on waste yarn.
- Repeat re-hooking of neck band with decrease, as above *.

- RC-015 • Using colour #1, repeat bubble from *** to *** (pg.4)
- RC-016 • Knit 1 row at main tension.
- Cast off loosely, wrapping around the sinker posts.
- Block carefully, shaping the neck band. Ease in the inner edge and stretch the outer edge gently.

- For the bubble area, I prefer to sew a 1cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ ") seam with the sewing machine and then finish the stand on the right side with the mattress stitch going into the second or third stitch. The under side of the stand is not sewn. It is not necessary, since it only adds bulk. Take a close look at the inside of the finished neck band of ●SAMPLE #1.

- To apply the bubble neck band to the mini bodice, follow the instructions on the Application of a Separate Neck Band in the general information section at the front of the binder. Swatch B

THE BUBBLE V-NECK

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THE BUBBLE V-NECK

The Bubble V-Neck is an attractive neckline for both men and women. Six bubbles were introduced into the neck band of this mini sample, but that could vary according to the look desired. The secret to a successful V-Neck band is to increase stitches at the centre front of the stand area so the points match.

●SAMPLE #2

Yarn used: Forsell 4-ply superwash in olive
Forsell Pot Pourri in rose mix

CMSHW tension: 6 CMSHW gauge: 2.58 sts/cm (6.4 sts/in)
6.66 rows/cm (16.6 rows/in)

Stitch pattern: Tuck, using 2 colours and yarn changer
(Card #6)

●SAMPLE #2 is demonstrated via

•Sample #2 - Bubble V-Neck Band and Hem

(X=Main Tension) CMSHW colour #1 = olive
colour #2 = rose mix

Main Bodices

- Prepare two knit squares for front and back.
25cm (10") X 25cm (10"), excluding hemline

Bubble Technique Step-by-Step

- Knit 1 row at tension 10.
- Knit 6 rows at main tension.
- Pick up all the sinker loops from the row at tension 10, one will be missing. Make sure to alternate sides for the missing sinker loop from one bubble to the next, to avoid biasing.
- Knit 1 row at main tension.

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Starting with the bubble hemline

- Thread and set main yarns (colours #1 & #2) into yarn changer.
- Cast on the required number of stitches onto waste yarn. CMSHW (64 sts)
- Knit 7 to 9 rows of waste yarn (carriage on the left for change of colour).

- RC-000 • Change to colour #2, CMSHW (rose mix) and knit first bubble. Refer to Bubble Technique in Step-by-Step box. (pg.6)
- RC-008 • Change to colour #1 and repeat bubble technique.
- RC-016 • Repeat bubble technique 3 more times, alternating colours #1 and #2.
CMSHW (3 rose mix, 2 olive)
- RC-040 • Carriage on the left.

Bodices

- Prepare machine for Tuck Technique, using colour #1, Tuck knit for 2 rows. Make sure to start with the first 2 rows of the design card (the black ones) and not the Tuck one. Otherwise, it will interfere with the effect of the puff pattern.
- RC-042 • Change to colour #2 and knit 2 rows.
- RC-044 • Knit the necessary number of rows, alternating colours #1 and #2 every two rows. CMSHW (164 rows)
- RC-208 • Re-set carriage for stockinet and knit 1 row.
- RC-209 • Mark centre, using a contrast coloured yarn.
- Cast off.
 - Block carefully, according to dimensions.
- Prepare front and back necklines for Cut & Sew, using the V-Neck templates and following the instructions on the Application of the Cut & Sew Technique in the general information section at the front of the binder. ●SAMPLE #1 Swatch A

The Bubble V-Neck Band

- The Bubble V-Neck band is knit from top (inner edge) to bottom (outer edge).
- Prepare a separate neck band for a neck entrance of 49cm (19.6"), minus a reduction of 10% to 20%. A mini version of the bubble neck band was knit over 40 stitches to determine its proper gauge. CMSHW used a reduction of 20%

Bubble gauge: 3.07 sts/cm (7.6 sts/in)

i.e. 49cm (19.6") - 20% (10cm/4") = 39cm (15.6") X 3.07 sts/cm (7.6 sts/in) = 120 sts

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- For more details, you may review Calculations for Neck Bands in the general information section at the front of the binder or consult our book (pgs. 38/39)

First, prepare the **under** side of the neck band. CMSHW (olive colour)

- RC-000 • Crochet cast on the required number of stitches minus 2, using main colour. CMSHW (120 sts minus 2 sts = 118 sts)
- Knit 2 rows at tension (X+1). CMSHW (t.7)
- Using a contrast coloured yarn, mark centre back and half way points of the neck band. CMSHW (29-0-29)
- RC-002 • Knit 2 rows at tension (X). CMSHW (t.6)
- RC-004 • Knit 1 row at tension (X-1). CMSHW (t.5)
- Mark centre again, using a contrast coloured yarn.
- RC-005 • Remove under side of band on garter bar or contrast yarn.
- Set aside.

Upper side of neck band

- Thread and set main yarns (colours #1 & #2) into yarn changer.
- Cast on the required number of stitches for the V-Neck band onto waste yarn. CMSHW (120 sts)
- Knit 7 to 9 rows of waste yarn, carriage on the left.
- RC-000 • Change to colour #2, CMSHW (rose mix) and knit first bubble. Refer to Bubble Technique Step-by-Step. (pg.6)
- RC-008 • Change to colour #1, CMSHW (olive) and repeat the bubble technique.
- RC-016 • Repeat the bubble technique 4 more times, alternating colours #1 & #2. CMSHW (3 rose mix, 3 olive)
- RC-048 • Carriage on the left.

Continuing with the **upper** side of the stand

- Take the under side of the neck band which was prepared earlier and with the wrong side facing you, re-hook the stitches on top of the present knitting. Make sure to match centres. The underside of the stand is smaller than the upper side, by one stitch, on both ends.
- Using colour #2, knit 1 row at tension (X+2). CMSHW (t.8)
- RC-049 • Knit 1 row at tension (X-1). CMSHW (t.5)
- RC-050 • Using the two-prong tool, fully-fashion increase on both ends. Pick up the horizontal bar from under the 3rd needle (from the main neckline) and re-hook to the adjacent empty needle.
- Knit 1 row at tension (X-1). CMSHW (t.5)
- RC-051 • Knit 1 row at tension (X). CMSHW (t.6)

- RC-052
 - Repeat the same increase as before.
 - Knit 1 row at tension (X).
- RC-053
 - Knit 1 row at tension (X+1). CMSHW (t.7)
- RC-054
 - Repeat the increase.
 - Knit 1 row at tension (X+1).
- RC-055
 - Remove V-Neck band onto waste yarn.
 - Block carefully, easing in inner edge and gently stretching outer edge. See blocking instructions in our book (pgs. 52/53).

 - To apply the Bubble V-Neck band to the mini bodice, follow the instructions on the Application of a Separate Neck Band in the general information section at the front of the binder. ●SAMPLE #1 Swatch B

 - The bubbles of the V-Neck band simply overlap at centre front and are tacked down by hand. Be careful when doing the backstitch at the centre front point. Make sure they meet. What a great neckline!