

A MOREHOUSE ORIGINAL



Summersizzler



# SummerSizzler

- Sizes:** 30, 34, 36 & 40 (sizes are given for bust size, halter top is snug-fitting, )
- Yarn:** quad skein (880 yards) of variegated Morehouse Merino Lace
- Needles:** circular needle #4, 16" long for neckline  
circular needle #6, 24" long for body
- Gauge:** 5½ stitches = 1 inch over stockinette stitch before washing/blocking  
5 stitches = 1 inch after washing/blocking  
9 rows = 1 inch before washing/blocking  
8 rows = 1 inch after washing/blocking



## A word about knitting the SummerSizzler:

Using a large needle when knitting with lace yarn produces a loosely constructed fabric. When knitting this halter top, attention has to be paid to tension. The needle size #6 given for this pattern will produce a loosely knit top—but knit the individual stitches regularly—not super-tight and definitely not loose—to obtain the proper gauge of 5½ stitches per inch over stockinette stitch and without stretching the swatch. The final gauge will be 5 stitches per inch *after* washing and blocking.

When winding yarn into a ball, wind a small amount into a separate ball (the halters and neckline are knit with yarn double).

SummerSizzler is worked from the top down, beginning with neckband and halter straps. With #4 needle, using yarn double, cast on 122 (126/132/136) stitches. \*Purl 1 round, knit 1 round; repeat from \* total of 8 rounds.

Next round: Purl and bind off 30 (30/32/32) stitches for first strap, purl the next 31 (33/34/36) stitches (these stitches will be for the back piece), purl and bind off the next 30 (30/32/32) stitches for the second strap and purl to end of round. Break off 1 strand of yarn and continue with single yarn. You'll be working back and forth from now on front piece (these last 31 (33/34/36) stitches). Front and back pieces are worked in stockinette stitch—knit on right side and purl on wrong side—until the 2 pieces are joined at the underarm position.

Purl next row (you'll be working on wrong side) as follows: each stitch consists of yarn double—purl each strand separately so each stitch will yield 2 stitches. If this is too difficult, purl stitch, then increase 1 stitch by purling into stitch twice (how? keep stitch on left needle and purl into back of the same stitch again, creating a twisted stitch).

You now have a total of 62 (66/68/72) stitches evenly. Switch to larger needle (#6) and work 2 rows in stockinette stitch pattern. Next row (*sizes 34, 36 and 40 only*): knit and increase 2 (4/10) stitches, then purl 1 row.

Increases:

- Size 30 only* \*Increase 1 stitch at beginning of next 2 rows, then work 2 rows in pattern; repeat from \* until you have 76 stitches, work 8 more rows in stockinette stitch pattern—total of 38 rows from neckband
- Size 34 only* \*Increase 1 stitch at beginning of next 2 rows, then work 2 rows in pattern; repeat from \* until you have 86 stitches—total of 40 rows from neckband
- Size 36 only* \*Increase 1 stitch at beginning of next 2 rows, then work 2 rows in pattern; repeat from \* until you have 92 stitches—total of 42 rows from neckband (ending with row 2 of increase pattern)
- Size 40 only* \*Increase 1 stitch at beginning of next 2 rows, then work 2 rows in pattern; repeat from \* until you have 102 stitches—total of 44 rows from neckband

Repeat for back side. Join both sides by knitting the last and first stitches of each side together—total of 150 (170/182/202) stitches. Knit in the round to desired length—from 10" to 13". Bind off using yarn double.

**Washing/Blocking:** soak top in warm water for a few minutes. Squeeze out as much water as possible and lay flat to dry, stretching it into proper shape and size.

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