

Rainbow Cardigan

by Clara Falk

Everybody loves rainbows! And the perfect thing for your (or somebody else's) kid is of course a rainbow cardigan.

This simple top-down raglan cardigan has short row shaping for a better fit and is slightly A-line shaped.

Materials:

Needles:

4mm / US6 circular needle and DPN:s or just a circular needle if you knit the sleeves with magic loop. I knit loosely, so check your gauge and go up a needle size or two if you knit tightly.

I also recommend going down a needle size for the ribbing if you are a loose knitter like me.

Yarn:

Filcolana - Peruvian Highland wool
100m/ 50 g, 100 % wool

2 (2) 2 skeins of color:

A: White 101

1 (1) 1 skein of each color:

B: Red 218

C: Orange 215

D: Yellow 223

E: Green 279

F: Turquoise 280

G: Blue 249

H: Purple 194

Or any other aran weight yarn at 109 yards / 100m/50 g which gives you proper gauge.

Gauge:

18sts x 26rows = 10 x 10 cm / 4" in stockinette after blocking



Sizes:

1 (2) 3-4 years.

Finished measurements:

Chest: 55 (60) 65 cm

Raglan depth: 11 (14) 17 cm

Length from underarm: 15.5 (18.5) 22 cm

Sleeves from underarm: 18.5 (22) 25.5 cm

The pictures shows size 2yrs on my kid who are 17 months, so it's a little bit big on her.

If anything in the pattern is unclear or perhaps wrong, please contact me at clara@clarafalk.se. I will also be really happy if you add a picture of your finished cardigan to Ravelry!

Begin knitting:

CO 76 (84) 92sts with color A (white).

WS: p3, *k2, p2* k2, p3.

RS: k3, *p2, k2* p2, k3.

Continue to work these two rows until the ribbing measures 2.5 (3) 3.5cm, ending with a WS row and placing markers as follows:
p10 (11) 12, pm, p 16 (18) 20, pm, p24 (26) 28, pm, p16 (18) 20, pm, p10 (11) 12.

Change to color B (red), and stockinette stitch. The stripes are knitted like this: 6 (8) 10 rows in rainbow color, 2 white rows.

Start increasing: *k to 1st before marker, M1R, k1, sm, k1, M1L* repeat to end of row. 8 sts are increased each row.



Short rows:

WS: p to 7sts before third marker, w&t.

RS: k to 7sts before next marker, w&t.

WS: p to 3sts before next marker, pick up and knit the wrap together with the wrapped st as you work, w&t.

RS: k to 3sts before next marker, pick up and knit the wrap together with the wrapped st as you work, w&t.

Purl until end of row, and knit back and forth from now on.

Continue working in stockinette stitch and working increase row on every RS row a total of 11 (12) 13 times. Sleeve sts for each arm = 38 (42) 46. Total body sts: 88 (96) 104. Continue to work in stockinette stitch without making increases until you have finished knitting 3 colors of the rainbow (red, orange and yellow).

Abbreviations:

CO: cast on

sts: stitches

r: row/round

k: knit

p: purl

pm: place marker

sm: slip marker

WS: wrong side

RS: right side

K2tog: knit two sts together

Ssk: slip slip knit

Stockinette stitch: knit on RS, purl on WS

w&t (wrap & turn) on RS: keep yarn in back, slip 1st from left needle to the right as if to purl. Bring yarn forward and put the slipped st back on the left needle. Turn.

w&t on WS: keep yarn in front, sl 1 st from left needle to right needle as if to purl. Bring yarn back and put the slipped st back on left needle. Turn.

M1L (make one left): pick up the bar between the stitches, bringing your needle from the front to the back, and knit through the back of the stitch.

M1R (make one right): pick up the bar between the stitches, bringing your needle from the back to the front, and knit through the front of the stitch.

BO: bind off

Separate sleeves from body:

K to marker, put the 38 (42) 46 sleeve sts on a piece of scrap yarn or a spare cable, CO 2sts, k to next marker, put the 38 (42) 46 sleeve sts, CO 2sts, k to end. Place markers between casted on sts.

Total body sts: 92 (100) 108 sts. Continue to work in stockinette stitch.

Increase for A-line:

K to 1st before marker, M1R, k1, sm, k1, M1L, repeat one more time and then knit to end of row. Repeat one time for each stripe = 4 increases x 4sts and 108 (116) 124 sts in total.

When you have finished your rainbow (green, turquoise, blue and purple) it's time to start the ribbing. Length from underarm should be approx 13 (15) 18.5 cm.

Next row: change to white and work ribbing:

RS: k to end.

WS: p3, *k2, p2*, k2, p3.

RS: k3, *p2, k2*, p2, k3.

Continue to work in pattern until the ribbing measures 2.5 (3) 3.5 cm. Bind off in established ribbing pattern.

Sleeves:

Put the 38 (42) 46 sleeve sts back on the needle. Pick up 2sts under each sleeve and pm between picked up sts. Start knitting in the round.

In order to make the sleeve longer than the body while still knitting it like the rainbow you have to knit the rainbow stripes longer: 10 (12) 14 rounds in rainbow color, 2 white rounds.

Start decreasing after 5 rounds as follows: k1, k2tog, k until 3 sts remain, ssk, k1. Then decrease every 8th (9th) 10th round 5 more times = 28 (32) 36 sts. Continue until the whole rainbow is completed (green, turquoise, blue and purple).

Change to white and k 1 row. Then work *k2,p2* until the ribbing measures 2.5 (3) 3.5cm. BO in ribbing.

Work the other sleeve in the same way.

Button bands:

Left edge:

Pick up approx 46 (58) 70 sts with color A, white.

Note: if your gauge is off, I recommend that you pick up 2sts for every 3 rows. Make sure that the number of sts you pick up is divisible by 4sts + 2sts so that the ribbing starts and ends with knitted sts on the RS.

WS: p2, *k2, p2*

RS: k2, *p2, k2*

Continue to work these two rows until the ribbing measures 2.5 (3) 3.5cm. Bind off in established ribbing pattern.

Right edge:

Pick up and knit just as on left edge. Work 3 rows.

Next row (RS) is the buttonhole row: place 5 (6) 6 buttonholes evenly on your cardigan. There are numerous ways to make buttonholes, and the one you choose depends on your buttons. I recommend the one-row buttonhole, a good tutorial is found here:

<http://www.knittingdaily.com/blogs/howto/archive/2008/05/15/2-3-4-5-stitch-one-row-buttonhole.aspx>

I knitted one-row-buttonholes over 2sts.

Continue to knit ribbing until the buttonband measures 2.5 (3) 3.5cm. Bind off in established ribbing pattern.

Finishing:

Weave in all ends (I know, Rainbow Cardigan has A LOT of ends to weave in) and block your cardigan. Finished!

