

LACY THONG

LAURA RINTALA

When faced with the challenge of creating knitted lingerie, I envisioned a lacy camisole in fine yarn worked on tiny needles. Then I looked at my calendar—no time. I needed something delicate and feminine that could be completed in a very short time. A thong! I placed a reworked version of the lace repeat I had intended for the camisole on the front of the thong, and for a finishing touch, I trimmed the waistband with a crocheted picot edging.

NOTES

- ◆ Thong begins at the top edge of the front panel, which is worked downward. A chained thong reaches from the end of the front panel down, around, and up to a small triangular panel at upper back. The waistband is worked by casting on stitches at one side of the back panel, picking up stitches across the top of the front panel, and casting on stitches for the other side. The waistband is worked in the round with a crocheted picot edging added after the stitches have been bound off.
- ◆ The selvages of the front and back panels are worked in a two-stitch garter and slip-stitch edging worked by slipping the first stitch purlwise with yarn in front on all rows.

FRONT PANEL

CO 25 (27, 29) sts.

Row 1: (RS) Knit.

Even-numbered Rows 2-30: (WS) Sl 1 (see Notes), k1, purl to last 2 sts, k2.

Row 3: Sl 1 (see Notes), knit to end.

Row 5: Sl 1, k1, ssk (see page 2), knit to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2—23 (25, 27) sts rem.

Row 7: Sl 1, k6 (7, 8), [k2tog, yo] 2 times, k1, [yo, ssk] 2 times, k7 (8, 9).

Row 9: Sl 1, k5 (6, 7), [k2tog, yo] 2 times, k3, [yo, ssk] 2 times, k6 (7, 8).

Row 11: Sl 1, k1, ssk, k1 (2, 3), [k2tog, yo] 3 times, k1, [yo, ssk] 3 times, k1 (2, 3), k2tog, k2—21 (23, 25) sts rem.

Row 13: Sl 1, k2 (3, 4), [k2tog, yo] 3 times, k3, [yo, ssk] 3 times, k3 (4, 5).

Row 15: Sl 1, k1, ssk, k0 (1, 2), [ssk, yo] 2 times, k5, [yo, k2tog] 2 times, k0 (1, 2), k2tog, k2—19 (21, 23) sts rem.

Row 17: Sl 1, k3 (4, 5), [ssk, yo] 2 times, k3, [yo, k2tog] 2 times, k4 (5, 6).

Row 19: Sl 1, k1, ssk, k1 (2, 3), [ssk, yo] 2 times, k1, [yo, k2tog] 2 times, k1 (2, 3), k2tog, k2—17 (19, 21) sts rem.

Row 21: Sl 1, k4 (5, 6), ssk, yo, k3, yo, k2tog, k5 (6, 7).

Row 23: Sl 1, k1, ssk, k2 (3, 4), ssk, yo, k1, yo, k2tog, k2 (3, 4), k2tog, k2—15 (17, 19) sts rem.

Row 25: Sl 1, k4 (5, 6), ssk, yo, k1, yo, k2tog, k5 (6, 7).

Row 27: Sl 1, k1, ssk, knit to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2—2 sts dec'd.

Row 29: Sl 1, knit to end.

Rep Rows 27-30 two (three, three) more times—9 (9, 11) sts rem. *Work Rows 29 and 30 once, then work Rows 27 and 28 once; rep from * 0 (0, 1) more time—7 sts rem for all sizes; 42 (46, 50) rows total in front panel; piece measures about 6½ (7, 7½)" from CO. Cont as foll:

Row 31: (RS) Sl 1, k1, sl 2 sts as if to k2tog, k1, p2sso, k2—5 sts rem.

Rows 32 and 34: (WS) Sl 1, knit to end.

Row 33: Sl 1, sl 2 sts as if to k2tog, k1, p2sso—3 sts rem.

Row 35: Sl 2 sts as if to k2tog, k1, p2sso—1 st rem; piece measures 7¼ (7¾, 8¼)" from CO.

Place last st on crochet hook and work a crochet chain (ch; see page 2) for 3 (3½, 4)". Do not fasten off.

BACK PANEL

Return st to needle with RS facing, and shape back panel as foll:

Row 1: (RS) Knit into front and back of st (k1f&b)—2 sts.

Row 2: Sl 1 (see Notes), k1.

Row 3: Sl 1 (see Notes), yo, k1—3 sts.

Row 4: Sl 1, knit to end.

Row 5: Sl 1, M1 (see page 2), k1 M1, k1—5 sts.

PROJECT

LAURA RINTALA is managing editor of *Interweave Knits*. She enjoys portable projects that she can work on during her morning power walks.

Finished Size 28 (32, 35½)" waist/hip circumference. Thong shown measures 28".

Yarn Halcyon 2/5 Gemstone Silk (100% silk; 260 yd [238 m]/100 g): #19 light blue, 1 skein.

Needles Size 5 (3.75 mm): 24" circular (cir). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

Notions Markers (m); size D/3 (3.25 mm) crochet hook; tapestry needle 1½ yd of satin ribbon ¼" wide.

Gauge 19½ sts and 26 rows = 4" in St st.



Even-numbered Rows 6-12: Sl 1, k1, purl to last 2 sts, k2.

Row 7: Sl 1, k1, yo, k1, yo, k2—7 sts.

Row 9: Sl 1, k1, yo, k3, yo, k2—9 sts.

Row 11: Sl 1, k1, yo, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, ssk, yo, k2—11 sts.

Row 13: Sl 1, k1, yo, k2tog, yo, k3, yo, ssk, yo, k2—13 sts; piece measures about 12¼ (13¼, 14¼)" from front panel CO. Do not break yarn.

WAISTBAND

Turn work so WS of back panel is facing. Place marker on needle (pm), and use the cable method (see below) to CO 50

(58, 66) sts, pm. Turn work so RS is facing. Holding front panel with RS facing, pick up and knit 25 (27, 29) sts across front CO edge of panel, pm. Turn work so WS is facing, and CO 50 (58, 66) sts, pm—138 (156, 174) sts. With RS facing, join for working in the rnd; start of rnd is at beg of back-panel sts.

Rnd 1: K13 back panel sts, slip marker (sl m), [k1, p1] 25 (29, 33) times, sl m, k25 (27, 29) front-panel sts, sl m, [k1, p1] 25 (29, 33) times.

Rnd 2: (eyelet rnd) *K2tog, yo; rep from * to end.

Rnd 3: *K1, p1; rep from * to end.

BO all sts in rib until 1 st rem. Place st on crochet hook. **Picot edging rnd:** With RS still facing, ch 1, work 1 sc (see below for crochet instructions) in each of next 2 BO sts, *ch 3, work a sl st in first ch to form picot, work 1 sc in each of next 2 BO sts; rep from * ending with ch 3, sl st in first ch, then join with sl st in first sc. Fasten off last st. Weave in loose ends. Block lightly. If desired, weave silk ribbon through eyelets in Rnd 2 of waistband, beg and ending at center front as shown, and tie into a bow. ■

Cable Cast-On

Begin with a slipknot and one knitted cast-on stitch if there are no established stitches. Insert right needle between first two stitches on left needle (Figure 1). Wrap yarn as if to knit. Draw yarn through to complete stitch (Figure 2) and slip this new stitch to left needle as shown (Figure 3).



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

Raised (M1) Increases



Figure 1

Left Slant (M1L)



Figure 2

With left needle tip, lift strand between needles from front to back (Figure 1). Knit lifted loop through the back (Figure 2).



Figure 1

Right Slant (M1R)



Figure 2

With left needle tip, lift strand between needles from back to front (Figure 1). Knit lifted loop through the front (Figure 2).

Ssk Decrease

Slip two stitches knitwise one at a time (Figure 1). Insert point of left needle into front of two slipped stitches and knit them together through back loops with right needle (Figure 2).



Figure 1



Figure 2

Single Crochet (sc)



Figure 1



Figure 2

Insert hook into an edge stitch, yarn over hook and draw a loop through stitch, yarn over hook (Figure 1) and draw it through both loops on hook (Figure 2).

Slip Stitch Crochet (sl st)



Insert hook into stitch, yarn over hook and draw loop through stitch and loop on hook.



Crochet Chain (ch)

Make a slipknot on hook. Yarn over hook and draw it through loop of slipknot. Repeat, drawing yarn through the last loop formed.



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