



A170

Lana Bambu
Entrelac Tunic / Poncho Pullover



Designed by Betty Balcomb

Lana Bambu Entrelac Tunic/Poncho Sweater

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Check out my Child's Entrelac Sweater. You will see in the blurb that I predicted an adult-sized version. Creating a big one just like the small one wouldn't have quite satisfied my creative juices. So I started with the same concept but then ended it with a rather different look. The top of this tunic is a poncho that doesn't quite reach poncho size. Then I just divvied up the closing triangles of the Entrelac into sleeves and body and finished up quite quickly.

Materials: 4(4, 5) 100 gram skeins of Lana Bambu in Color A (pictured sweater is color #7), 4(4,5) 100 gram skeins of Lana Bambu in Color B (pictured sweater is color #10). Size 9 16" circular, size 10 24" circular needles and size 10 32" circular, and a single size 11 needle for binding off the collar , **or sizes required to obtain gauge.** Markers.

Gauge: 4 stitches/inch on size 10s in stockinette stitch. **BE SURE TO CHECK GAUGE!!**

Sizes: The poncho part of the sweater is almost one-size-fits-all. The minor differences occur in the last 2 tiers of rectangles and in the final triangle and then in the number of stitches in the tunic, so you don't need to worry about size for quite awhile. Directions are for size small with changes for sizes medium/large and extra large in parenthesis. Pictured sweater is size medium/large. Where only one number is given, it applies to all sizes.

DIRECTIONS:

With Color A (the lighter of your 2 colors) and size 10 16" needles, CO 96 sts. Place marker and join in the round being careful not to twist sts. Purl 3 rows. Now you are ready to begin working the Entrelac.

Note: You are still working in the round but each little piece of the Entrelac, whether a triangle or a rectangle is worked back and forth. The great feature of Entrelac in the round is that there are no pesky little side triangles. As many times as I've done Entrelac, I always need to check the directions for those side triangles and that's where I make mistakes and have to rip and start cursing.

First tier, base triangles: Work each of 16 triangles as follows: K2, *turn, P2, turn, K3, turn, P3, turn, K4, turn, P4, turn, K5, turn, P5**, turn, K7, repeat from * but on last triangle stop at **. The needle tips will be at the tops of 2 adjacent triangles. Cut yarn leaving enough to weave in the end.

Second tier, right leaning rectangles: Note: Rectangles in this tier start with 5 sts but grow to 6. Change to Color B (the darker of your 2 colors). Turn work so **wrong** side is facing. Using the needle tip in your right hand, pick up and **PURL** 5 sts down the left edge of the last triangle completed. Turn, K the 5 sts just picked up, turn, P4, P2tog (1 of the new sts and 1 st in Color A from the next adjacent triangle), turn K3, M1, K2, turn (rectangle now has 6 sts), P5, P2tog, continue to K and P the 6 sts doing P2tog at end of each purl row until the sts of the adjoining triangle are used up. Now work the other 15 rectangles the same way, picking up the 5 sts down the side of the triangle just joined from the wrong side and merging with the next adjacent triangle and increasing the 5 sts to 6 on the 2nd knit row. Cut yarn.

Third tier, left leaning rectangles: Change to size 10 24" needles. With **right** side facing and Color A, pick up and **KNIT** 6 sts. Now work this 6-st rectangle much like the previous tier except the knit rows will be K5, SSK for the first couple rows and then you will M1 in the middle of the 2nd knit row and finish the rectangle with 7 sts, K6, SSK. Continue with 15 more left leaning rectangles, 6 sts inc'd to 7 sts in each rectangle around yoke. Cut yarn.

Fourth tier, right leaning triangles: Go back to Color B. This tier is worked almost exactly like the second tier except that the sts are being picked up and purled from the previous tier of rectangles instead of the base triangles. Also you will now begin with 7 but increase to 8 in the 2nd knit row. Cut yarn.

Fifth tier, left leaning rectangles: Worked just like third tier, except begin by picking up 8 stitches and increase to 9 on 2nd knit row.

Sixth tier to ninth tier: These tiers are simply repeats of the third and fourth tiers, alternate left-leaning and right-leaning triangles. The left-leaning tiers are all worked in Color A and the right-leaning are all worked in Color B. On each tier you will pick up and knit/purl one more stitch than the previous tier and then increase in the 2nd knit row so the rectangle ends with one more st than you began. For size small just increase one st in every tier. For size medium, inc. 2 times in the 9th tier, once at the beginning and once about halfway. For size large, inc 2 times in both the 8th and 9th tiers, once at the beginning and once about halfway which means the 9th tier will start with 2 more sts than the 8th.

Tenth tier, top triangles: With Color B and wrong side facing, pick up and P 15(16,17) sts, turn, K15 (16,17), turn P2tog, P to last st, P2 tog (last st of Color B with next st on adjoining Color A Rectangle, Turn, K14(15,16), turn, P2tog, P to last st and P2tog (last st plus next st from adjoining rectangle), continue in this manner decreasing at start of triangle and joining end of triangle until so there is one less st in each pair of rows. You will end up with a triangle lying between 2 rectangles with a reasonably horizontal edge and 1 st still on needle. Starting with st on needle pick up 14(15,16) more sts and proceed as above, making 15 more top tier triangles.

The Entrelac Poncho top is now complete. You will finish the tunic part of the sweater in ribbing on size 10 32" needles. Beginning in center back, above tail from cast on edge, pick up and knit 15(16,17) sts in top edges of the next 2 triangles, half of back. Cable cast on 8 sts for the underarm. Skip the next 4 triangles for the sleeves and pick up and knit 15(16,17) sts in top edges of the next 4 triangles, all of front. Again, cable cast on 8 sts for the other underarm and skip 4 triangles for the second sleeve. End with pick up and k 15(16,17) sts in the final 2 triangles, second half of back. Place marker for beginning of row and work in K4, P4 ribbing for desired length, putting in stripes of Color B as desired. The pictured sweater has a tunic that is 11 inches long. There are 8 inches in Color A, then a 1-1/4 inch stripe of Color B, 1/2 inch of Color A and 1-1/4 inches of Color B. Bind off loosely.

Cuffs: Using size 10 24" circular, starting at middle of cast on underarm sts, pick up and K 4 sts in the tops of the cable cast on sts, 16 sts in each triangle edge and end with 4 more sts in the remaining cable cast on sts. Place marker and work in K4, P4 ribbing for 1 inch or desired length. Bind off loosely.

Collar: Using size 9 16 inch circular and Color B, with right side facing, pick up and knit 78 sts in tops of cast on sts. Work in K3, P3 ribbing for 1-1/2 inches. In next row, M1 purlwise between the 2nd and 3rd sts of each P3 rib. Change to size 10 24 inch needles. **Note:** on the side facing you as you knit, you will now be working K3, P4 ribbing, however, when you turn the color down, the wrong side becomes the right side and what shows is K4, P3 ribbing. Continue until collar is 5 inches deep or desired length. Bind off very loosely so collar fans out. Use a size 11 needle for the bind off. Weave in ends. No sewing required.