

Loomed Mermaid Outfit

Words and photography by Zoe MacLean.



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As the photographs are of my niece, please don't share or use them separately from this document. Thank-you for your understanding.

If you have any questions about this pattern, please feel free to contact me on Facebook (facebook.com/ZoeMacLean) or via email (zoe@veryzoe.com).



You will need:

- 200g of 8ply wool (for the whole costume, I has a little left over)
- A 31 peg round loom with a gauge similar to the KK looms
- A 4mm crochet hook (optional)
- Scissors, wool needle, stylus (optional, I prefer it for the figure 8 stitch)
- A way to count rows (such as a row counter, or a notebook and pen)
- A way to mark pegs (such as masking tape)

Knowledge required:

- E-wrap cast on
 - Purl stitch
 - Figure 8 stitch
 - Invisible blanket seam join
 - Stretchy bind-off
 - Basic bind off
 - Chain cast-on
 - Single crochet (optional)
- (All of these can be found on Youtube, don't be afraid to learn something new!)

Tail Pattern

Main Body

R1. Cast on with an e-wrap cast on and knit over. Keep your tension a little loose for the band.

R2. Purl

R3-10. Alternate with a row of e-wraps and a row of purls. You should have made five garter ridges. This is the waistband.

R11-onwards. Use any stitch you like for the body. I used a kind of figure 8 stitch (but I think I got it backwards, picture below). Knit until the length of the entire piece is about 36cm long.

Now we're going to divide the loom in half. Take the loop on the 16th peg (the middle one) and move it to the 17th peg. Pegs 1-15 will become the front half and pegs 17-31 will become the back half. They are knitted as two separate flat panels, decreasing on both sides to form a triangle. My method of decreasing works, but looks messy. If anyone has a better way to decrease, please let me know.

We will start with pegs 17-31 as your working yarn should be coming from peg 31. I work the decrease in lots of three rows, but for the first two lots I used four rows. Bear with me. And I'm going to call the first row of this section R1 again, just cause it's easier than trying to count what actual row I'm up to.

So for the back half, working with pegs 17-31, working yarn currently on peg 31.

R1. E-wrap peg 31 across to 17 on peg 17 knit both stitches over as one.

R2. Before you start this row, mark which pegs will be e-wrap pegs. The pattern for the decrease is k1p1 for the ridges on the tail. I used small pieces of masking tape on the base of the loom. Your knit pegs will be all the odd numbered pegs and your purl pegs will be the even numbers. This should make your middle peg (number 24) a purl peg. Now, your working yarn is coming from peg 17. Before you start knitting this row, move the loop on peg 31 to peg 30. Knit across in the k1p1 pattern as marked on your loom. Purl the two loops on peg 30 as one.

R3. Now your working yarn is on peg 30. Move the loop on peg 17 to peg 18 and knit across the row in the k1p1 pattern as marked, purling the two loops on peg 18 as one.

R4. Without moving any loops, just knit across in the k1p1 pattern as marked.

R5. Without moving any loops, just knit across in the k1p1 pattern as marked.

R6-9. Repeat R2-5

R10-12. Repeat R2-4

R13-15. Repeat R2-4

R16-18. Repeat R2-4

R18-20. Repeat R2-4 on the final row, R20 there will only be one stitch on the middle peg. Pull this loop long, remove from loom and cut a tail. Do not close this stitch up just yet.

Tie a slipknot with the yarn and turn the loom around. Repeat the decreasing method, not forgetting that the first row is entirely e-wrap and when you mark you knit and purl pegs, the middle peg (number 8) will be a purl. Remove the whole piece from the loom, fasten the ends and weave in. I then did a single crochet around the edges on the inside, to tighten it up slightly and to make stitches that are easier to join the find to. This is optional. Now the body piece is complete.

Fins

The fins are done in a very similar way to the pointy part of the tail. I counted the crochet stitches on the body piece and got about 61 stitches per side, so I made each fin on 31 pegs. This stretches very nicely when attaching them to the body. The fins are worked in a k2p2 pattern. On my fins, the three middle pegs were all worked as purl stitches, but they sit differently when stitched, so I would suggest making the middle stitch knit and one peg either side as purl before going into lots of two. Mark your pegs before you cast on.

R1. Cast on 31 pegs, as a flat panel, not in the round, e-wrap and knit all pegs off.

R2. Knit across in the k2p2 pattern as marked.

R3. Working yarn will be coming from peg 1. Move the loop from peg 31 to peg 30 and knit across following the k2p2 pattern as marked, knitting off the two loops on peg 30 as one.

R4. Working yarn will be coming from peg 30. Move the loop from peg 1 to peg 2 and knit across following the k2p2 pattern as marked, knitting off the two loops on peg 2 as one.

R5. Without moving any loops, just knit across in the k2p2 pattern as marked.

R6-8. Repeat R3-5

R9-11. Repeat R3-5

R12-14. Repeat R3-5

R15-17. Repeat R3-5

R18-20. Repeat R3-5

Anyway you get the point. Keep going until you get to the last stitch and take it off the loom. Cut, tie and weave in the ends. Crochet around the edges to neaten it up, if you wish.

Repeat all of that to make a second fin.

Using an invisible blanket seam join, stitch the fins to the body, making sure to line the centre up correctly. Then stitch the edges closed. Done!

Tube top pattern

R1. E-wrap cast on and knit off 31 pegs in the round.

R2. Purl

R3. E-wrap

R4. Purl

R5. Figure 8

R6. Figure 8

R7. Purl

R8. E-wrap

R9. Purl

R10. E-wrap

Stretchy bind off

Crown like headband

It's tighter on the bottom than the top, so it kind of sits out like a crown.

R1. Chain cast on (keep it loose though) and e-wrap knit off.

R2. Purl

R3. E-wrap

R4. Purl

R5. E-wrap

Basic bind off (not too tight, but tighter than the cast on).

The decoration on the headband was made by my mum with ribbon and stick on pearls. Be creative, make something sea-themed and stick it on!