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Adaptation of Gene Bailey's "WONDER DRESS"  
by Pat Groves

Machine: standard gauge with ribber

Yarn: 2 pounds of Krinklespun, 2 strands for skirt and collar (tuck pattern)

3 strands for ribbing and stocking stitch

Stitch size (tension) on the Passap: 5 for stocking stitch

2 1/2 for the ribbing

3 1/4 for the tuck.

Dress is knit straight from hem to neck (except for neck shaping and if desired armhole shaping) using three different stitch patterns. Skirt is a double bed tuck pattern which changes to 1:1 rib 3" below the waist, has a casing for elastic at the waist, changes to stocking stitch for the bodice. Neckline is your choice, the model was a slight scoop. The sleeves are stocking stitch with 1:1 rib at the wrist. The collar is the same pattern as the skirt or you could knit the sleeves in the same tuck pattern as the skirt. You can change the sleeve to the lace pattern and also change the collar to stockinette – it's your choice, just make the necessary adjustments to the pattern.

Knit three swatches and calculate the following gauges: (**Passap knitters:** You may want to do the stocking stitch swatch on the back bed - see the note under Bodice).

Stocking stitch --- stitches/inch - A = .

rows/inch - B = .

1:1 rib rows/inch - C = .

Tuck stitch rows/inch - D = .

The tuck pattern is a double bed pattern with needles tucking on the main bed and knitting on the other bed. (For Passap machines AX on the front, N on the back; E-6000 machines knit techniques 137, 138, 139, 140).

Cast-on used at hem is for a full needle rib (Passap - use closed tubular cast-on, E-6000 cast-on number 2). Immediately go into the tuck pattern stitch after the cast-on. There is no hem. Back and front are knit the same except for neck shaping.

**SKIRT:**

Cast on # of stitches (Gauge A x 1/2 [bust measurement + ease]) = .

Knit # of rows in tuck for skirt (Gauge D x skirt length minus 3") = .

**WAIST:**

Change to 1:1 rib (move every other needle to the opposite bed following your machine's rules for knitting ribbing). Knit # of rows in ribbing (Gauge C x 3") = .

Casing for elastic: Set up for stocking stitch by bring non-working needles on each bed between the two end ribbing needles into work.

Knit 1" of stocking stitch on one bed. # of rows (Gauge B x 1") = .

Break yarn and knit the same number of rows on the other bed.

## BODICE:

Transfer all stitches to the main bed to do stocking stitch.

**(Passap machines--**if you do the stocking stitch swatch on the back bed, and transfer the front to the back at this step, you won't need to take the dress off the machine and turn it around to have the "right side" of the tuck pattern on the "knit" side of the bodice.) Use a garter bar or waste yarn to turn the skirt "back-to-front" so that the "right side" of the tuck pattern will be on the "knit" side of the bodice.

Bodice is 30" or desired length from waist to shoulder. # of rows (Gauge B x desired length) =  
This is the total number of rows for the bodice, you must plan for your neck shaping and if desired, armhole shaping within this number of rows.

## SLEEVES:

Sleeves are dropped shoulder or shaped depending on preference, (be sure to make the necessary adjustments in the bodice to correspond to the sleeve) so take this into account when measuring for sleeve length to calculate V.

Cast-on # of stitches (Gauge A x wrist measurement + ease) = . S  
Knit in 1:1 rib # of rows (Gauge C x 3") = . T

Change to stocking stitch. Sleeves are 19" or desired width at top

# of ending stitches (Gauge A x 19" or desired width) = . U  
Sleeve length # of rows (Gauge B x 17" or desired length) = . V

Calculate the number of increases:

Difference between start and end stitches divided by 2 (U - S / 2) = . W

This is the number of stitches to be increased on each side of the sleeve.

Divide the number of increases into the number of rows to get the increase interval (drop remainder) (V / W) = . Y

You will increase 1 stitch each side every "Y" rows for a total of "W" times. Mark center stitch on last row. This mark will be positioned at the shoulder seam on the dress. Take off on scrap yarn or cast off.

## COLLAR:

Measure neck opening. Multiply by Gauge A to get # of stitches = . Cast on as for skirt.

Knit collar # of rows (Gauge D x 7") = .

Knit 6 rows stocking stitch on one bed. Take off on scrap yarn. Knit 6 rows on other bed. Take off on scrap. This casing will be used to encase the neck edge of the dress.

## FINISHING:

Sew shoulder seams. Sew sleeves to dress positioning center of sleeve to shoulder seam. Sew side seams and sleeve seams. Back stitch collar to neck edge. Thread 3/4" elastic through waist casing.