"Dolly's Chemise" from Weldon's Practical Knitter Twenty-Fourth Series (1893) and republished in Weldon's Practical Needlework Volume 8.

The Twenty-fourth series features "clothing for dolls, including dresses, undergarments, socks, hoods, infants' cloths, &c." and I'm going to make a few things for a 14-16" doll.

The original pattern calls for "1 oz. of white Andalusian wool and a pair of No. 12 steel knitting needles. A smaller garment can be fashioned by substituting Shetland Wool, and a larger one by using Andalusian Wool with No. 11 needles."
Yarn: I used Knitpicks “Bare” merino wool sock weight yarn, which I hand-dyed using Lac (a natural dye). It’s pale pink, nice for a dolly’s garments. I used less than 50 yards.

Needles: US #2/2.75 mm

Gauge: 6.5 sts/ 10 rows= 1” in stockinette stitch.

The chemise was designed to fit a 14” to 16” doll. The chemise measures 12 ½” long.

Abbreviations:
K: knit
P: purl
St(s): stitch(es)
DC: double crochet
K2tog: knit 2 stitches together
M1: Make one stitch by picking up bar between 2 stitches and knitting through the back loop
YO: yarn over
Instructions:

Front and Back (knit 2 alike):
Cast on 46 stitches.
Row 1: K2, *p2, k2; repeat from * to end.
Row 2: P2, *k2, p2; repeat from * to end.
Repeat Rows 1 and 2 of ribbing until 18 rows are worked. Work body of garment in stockinette stitch:
Row 1: K
Row 2: P
Row 3: K2, k2tog, k to 4 sts from end, k2tog, k2.
Row 4: P
Row 5: K
Row 6: P
Work Rows 3-6 twice more; 40 sts on needle. Work 50 rows (6.5") in stockinette stitch.
Shape Sleeves:
Row 65: K2, m1, k9, (p2, k2) 4x, p2, k9, m1, k2.
Row 66: P12, (k2, p2) 4x, k2, p12.
Row 67: K2, m1, k10, (p2, k2) 4x, p2, k10, m1, k2.
Row 68: P13, (k2, p2) 4x, k2, p13.
Row 69: K2, m1, k11, (p2, k2) 4x, p2, k11, m1, k2.
Row 70: P14, (k2, p2) 4x, k2, p14.
Row 71: K2, m1, k12, (p2, k2) 4x, p2, k12, m1, k2.
Row 72: P15, (k2, p2) 4x, k2, p15.
Row 73: K2, m1, k13, (p2, k2) 4x, p2, k13, m1, k2.
Row 74: P16, (k2, p2) 4x, k2, p16.
Row 75: K16, (p2, k2) 4x, p2, k16.
Row 76: P16, (k2, p2) 4x, k2, P16.
Repeat last 2 rows three times.
Shoulders:
Row 83: K2 for the shoulder, turn work, p12. Work 8 more short rows in stockinette stitch, then bind off the 12 sts.
Attach yarn where you divided for the shoulder and bind off 26 sts across front of chemise; k11.
Work 9 more rows in stockinette stitch, then bind off the 12 sts.
Finishing:
Sew the shoulders, and sew up the side seams as far as the armhole.

Crochet Edging for Neck and Armholes:
NOTE: Probably due to my lack of skill as a crocheter, I wasn’t happy with my edging as worked following the original instructions. To achieve an edging that looks like the engraving, I opted to work a simple picot border. Both sets of instructions are given below.

ORIGINAL INSTRUCTIONS:
*1 dc in a stitch of the knitting, 5 chain, 1 dc in the 4th chain from the needle, skip 2 sts of the knitting and repeat from *; join evenly at completion of round.

SIMPLE PICOT EDGING:
*Chain 3, insert hook in 3rd chain from the hook, yo, draw yarn through loop on hook, skip 2 sts of the knitting and repeat from *; join evenly at completion of round.

Finishing:  Weave in ends, block gently.

Copyright © Laurie Sundstrom 2012. All Rights Reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced without written consent from the author.