



Josephine

by Sarah Sutherland

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This sweater has much to recommend it: it is warm and cosy and a fast enough knit to be ready before it gets too warm to need it. The cowl can be worn buttoned or open as an oversized collar. There is a minimum of actual direction in this pattern, with most sizing being placed anywhere along the row you like – like many things this pattern shows that random numbers can create great results.

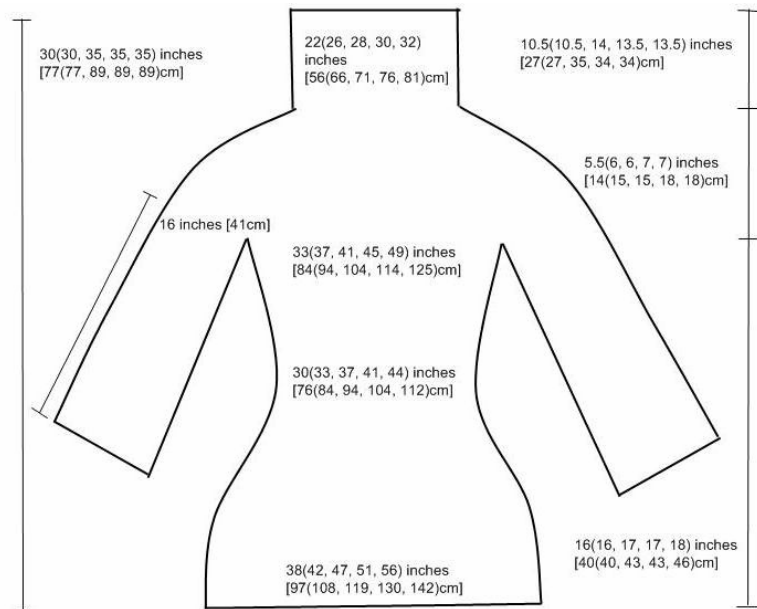
Of course human beings do not make good random number generators as we dislike to see the same number appear consecutively, but for the purposes of this design that is fine, because humans are the beings who will look at your sweater most, and most other humans have the same biases as you.

Difficulty

Easy

Size

33 inch / 84cm (37 inch / 94cm, 41 inch / 104cm, 45 inch / 114cm, 49 inch / 125)



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Materials

6 (6, 7, 8, 8) skeins Rowan Big Wool (100% wool, 87 yd [80 m] per 100g); colour: tremble #35

US 17 [12 mm] circular needle, 16 inches (40cm) long

US 17 [12 mm] straight needles

OR

US 17 [12 mm] circular needle, 24-32" (60-80 cm) long

Stitch markers

Tapestry needle

7 1.75-inch [44 mm] buttons

Gauge

7.5 sts and 10 rows = 4" [10 cm] in stockinette

Abbreviations

See <http://www.yarnstandards.com/knit.html>

Pattern

Body

Using straight needles or the longer circular needle, cast on 70(77, 89, 97, 104) sts.

Row 1 (RS): k18(20, 23, 25, 27) (right front), place marker, k34(37, 43, 47, 51) (back), place marker, k18(20, 23, 25, 27) (left front).

Row 2 (WS): k.

Row 3 (RS): (make button hole) k2, yarn over, k2tog, k to end. Make a button hole every 10(10, 12, 12, 12) rows to end.

Work even, as established for 7 more rows.

Row 11 (decrease row): *k to 2 before marker, ssk, slip marker, k2tog*, repeat between *, k to end.

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Row 12 (and all WS rows): k between 4 and 10 sts, placed randomly to create an irregular column of garter st along the button placket, p to between 4 and 10 sts from end, k to end. Continue to work the edges in garter st as established and the rest of the body in stockinette.

Repeat decrease row every 6(6, 4, 4, 4) rows 2(2, 3, 3, 3) more times [58(65, 73, 81, 88) sts].

Work even until piece measures 11(11, 12, 12, 13) inches [28(28, 30, 30, 33)cm].

Increase row: *work to 1 st before marker, knit into front and back of st, slip marker, knit into front and back of st*, repeat between *, work to end [62(69, 77, 85, 92) sts].

Work even until piece measures 17 inches(43 cm).

Yoke shaping:

(RS): *Work to 2(2, 3, 3, 3) sts before marker, put next 4(4, 6, 6, 6) sts on holder, using provisional cast on, CO 18(20, 20, 22, 22) sts*, repeat between *, work to end [90(101, 105, 117, 120) sts].

Next row: work as established.

Short row: work to 14(15, 17, 19, 20) sts from end, at the same time k2tog 3 times randomly spaced, turn, yo the right needle (you will knit this yo with the following st in the next row to close the hole that would otherwise happen at the join of the short row), work to 14(15, 17, 19, 20) sts from end, at the same time p2tog 2 times randomly spaced, turn, yo the right needle, k to end, at the same time k2tog 3 times randomly spaced [82(93, 97, 109, 112) sts].

Next row [WS]: work in pattern as established, at the same time p2tog 4 times randomly spaced across row [78(89, 93, 105, 108) sts].

Work 2 rows in pattern as established, at the same time decrease 4 sts randomly spaced each row [70(81, 85, 97, 100) sts].

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Work the last 4 rows 1 (1, 1, 2, 2) more times [50(61, 65, 57, 60) sts].

(33 inch / 84cm size only): Work 2 rows in pattern as established, at the same time decrease 4 sts randomly spaced each row [42 sts].

(37 inch / 94cm, 41 inch / 104cm sizes only): Short row: work to 15(17) sts from end, at the same time k2tog 3 times randomly spaced, turn, yo the right needle (you will knit this yo with the following st in the next row to close the hole that would otherwise happen at the join of the short row), work to 15(17) sts from end, at the same time p2tog 2 times randomly spaced, turn, yo the right needle, k to end, at the same time k2tog 3 times randomly spaced [53(57) sts].

(37 inch / 94cm, 41 inch / 104cm sizes only): Next row [WS]: work in pattern as established, at the same time p2tog 4 times randomly spaced across row [49(53) sts].

Collar:

Work straight in pattern until you have completed the 5 button holes. Work 8 rows straight in pattern.

Next row [WS]: knit. Next row [RS]: knit.

Work the 6th and 7th button holes, continuing regular spacing. After working the row with the 7th button hole, work 2 more rows in pattern as established. [WS] Cast off.

Sleeves:

Take the live sts from the provisional cast on and put them on the shorter circular needle. Place marker at beginning of round. Work until sleeves measure 12 inches(30cm), or 4 inches(10cm) from your desired length. Switch to garter st (p 1 round, k 1 round), work 10 rounds, cast off in pattern on a p round. (Make two)

Finishing

Sew on buttons matching to button holes. Weave in ends using tapestry needle.

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About the designer

Sarah is loving bulky knits this season and wants all projects to be done in less than a month, but she anticipates a dramatic climactic shift coming on in February towards bamboo and cotton fine knits to wear in the warmth. She blogs at [ParallaxKnitting](http://ParallaxKnitting.com).

