

Kaleidoscope

by Sarah Sutherland

sarah@parallaxknitting.com



What I really wanted was a sweater that would show off all those beautiful hand dyed sock yarns that I keep seeing but that would not hide them in shoes, partly because I have never fallen in love with knitting socks. If you love knitting socks, of course, please continue to do so, but if you do happen to have about 640 yards [590 metres] (for the small or medium sizes) of sock yarn which you want to go crazy with, please read on.

This close fitting, hip length sweater is perfect for early autumn, when you need a little something, but you don't want to be so committed to the cold as to be bundled up. It is knit in a loosely spun soft sock yarn in a loose gauge, which is something to keep in mind if you want to substitute yarns and keep the same drape. It is wonderful over a collared shirt or tank top

Difficulty

Intermediate

Size

Finished bust 28 (32, 36, 40, 44)" [71 (81, 92, 102, 112) cm]

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Materials

2 (2, 3, 3, 3) skeins Princess Farms 3 ply sock weight (80% alpaca, 10% silk, 10% mohair; 320 yd [292 m] per 90 g), colour 55-G

US 7 [4.5 mm] circular needle, 24" [60 cm] or longer

US 7 [4.5 mm] double pointed needles or circular needle, 16 inches [40 cm] long

6 3/4" [15 mm] buttons

Stitch markers

Tapestry needle

Stitch holders

Waste yarn for provisional cast on

Crochet hook for provisional cast on (optional)

Sewing needle and thread

Gauge

18 sts and 22 rows = 4" [10 cm] in stockinette

Techniques

Right lifted increase: insert tip of right needle into st of row below on left needle and knit into it.

Left lifted increase: insert tip of left needle into st of row below on right needle and knit into it.

Pattern

The body of this sweater is worked in one piece to the underarm, then stitches for sleeves are cast on provisionally and the yoke is worked to the neck. After the yoke is finished, the sleeve stitches are picked up from the provisional cast on and worked down to the cuffs.

With longer circular needle, cast on 33 (39, 43, 49, 53), pm, cast on 72 (84, 92, 104, 112), pm, cast on 33 (39, 43, 49, 53)—138 (162, 178, 202, 218) sts.

Row 1 (RS): K2, *p2, k2; rep from * to end.

Row 2 (WS): P2, *k2, p2; rep from * to end.

Change to stockinette and work 10 (6, 6, 4, 4) rows even.

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Waist decreases:

Dec row (RS): *Work to 2 sts before marker, k2tog, sl marker, ssk; rep from * once, knit to end—4 sts dec'd.

Rep Dec Row on every foll 4th row 4 (6, 6, 7, 7) times more—118 (134, 150, 170, 186) sts.

Work even until piece measures 8" [20.5 cm], ending with a WS row.

Waist increases:

Inc row (RS): *Work to 1 st before marker, work right lifted increase, k1, sl marker, k1, work left lifted increase; rep from * once, knit to end—4 sts inc'd.

Rep Inc Row on every foll 6th row 1 (2, 2, 2, 2) times more—126 (146, 162, 182, 198) sts.

Work even until piece measures 15.5 (16, 16, 16.5, 16.5)" [40 (42, 42, 43, 43) cm], ending with a WS row.

Yoke:

Next row (RS): Knit to 3 (4, 4, 5, 5) sts before marker, *pm, place next 7 (8, 9, 10, 11) sts on a holder (removing underarm marker). Use a provisional method to cast 35 (40, 45, 50, 55) sts for sleeve onto right tip of needle, pm.* Knit to 4 (4, 5, 5, 6) sts before second marker, repeat from * to *, knit to end of row—182 (210, 234, 262, 286) sts.

Purl 1 WS row.

Yoke decreases:

To decrease for the body (RS): *Knit to 2 sts before marker, ssk, sl marker, knit to next marker, sl marker, k2tog; rep from * once, knit to end—4 sts dec'd.

To decrease for the sleeves (RS): *Knit to marker, sl marker, k2tog, knit to 2 sts before next marker, ssk, sl marker; rep from * once, knit to end—4 sts dec'd.

Body and sleeves may be decreased on the same row, in which case decrease before and after each marker for a total of 8 decs per row.

Follow the instructions for your size:

Size 28

Row 1: Dec body—178 sts.
Row 2 and all WS rows: Purl.
Row 3: Dec body—174 sts.
Row 5: Dec sleeves—170 sts.
Row 7: Dec body and sleeves—162 sts.
Row 9: Dec body—158 sts.
Row 11: Dec sleeves—154 sts.
Row 13: Dec body and sleeves—146 sts.
Row 15: Dec body—142 sts.
Row 17: Dec sleeves—138 sts.
Row 19: Dec body and sleeves—130 sts.
Row 21: Dec body—126 sts.
Row 22: Purl.
Continue to Collar, below.

Size 32

Row 1: Dec body—206 sts.
Row 2 and all WS rows: Purl.
Row 3: Dec body—202 sts.
Row 5: Dec body and sleeves—194 sts.
Row 7: Dec body and sleeves—186 sts.
Row 8: Purl.
Rep Rows 3-8 twice more—146 sts. Next row: Dec body—142 sts.
Continue to Collar, below.

Size 36

Row 1: Dec body and sleeves—226 sts.
Row 2 and all WS rows: Purl.
Row 3: Dec body and sleeves—218 sts.
Row 5: Dec body—214 sts.
Row 7: Dec body and sleeves—206 sts.

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Row 9: Dec body and sleeves—198 sts.

Row 10: Purl.

Rep Rows 5-10 twice more—158 sts.

Continue to Collar, below.

Size 40

Row 1: Dec body and sleeves—254 sts.

Row 2: Purl.

Rep Rows 1-2 10 times more—174 sts.

Continue to Collar, below.

Size 44

Row 1: Dec body and sleeves—278 sts.

Row 2: Purl.

Rep Rows 1-2 11 times more—190 sts.

Continue to Collar, below.

Collar

Row 1 (RS): K2, *p2, k2; rep from * to end.

Row 2 (WS): P2, *k2, p2; rep from * to end.

Rep Rows 1-2 twice more.

Bind off in pattern.

Sleeves

Remove provisional cast on and underarm stitch holder and place sts on shorter circular needle or double pointed needles. Join yarn and place marker for beg of round—42 (48, 54, 60, 66) sts. Work even in stockinette until sleeve measures 10 (10, 11, 11, 12)" [25 (25, 28, 28, 30) cm] from underarm, dec 2 (0, 2, 0, 2) sts on last round—40 (48, 52, 60, 64) sts.

Next rnd: *K2, p2; rep from * to end. Rep last rnd twice more.

Bind off in pattern.

Button band

With RS facing, pick up and knit 74 sts along left front edge.

Row 1 (WS): P2, *k2, p2; rep from * to end.

Row 2 (RS): K2, *p2, k2; rep from * to end.

Rep Rows 1-2 twice more, then Row 1 only once.

Bind off in pattern.

Buttonhole band

With RS facing, pick up and knit 74 sts along right front edge.

Work 3 rows of rib as for button band.

Next row (RS): Work 9 sts in patt, *bind off 2 sts, work 9 sts in pattern; rep from * 5 times more, work in patt to end.

Next row (WS): *Work in patt to bound-off sts from previous row, use backward loop method to cast on 2 sts; rep from * 5 times more, work in patt to end.

Work 2 more rows in rib.

Bind off in pattern.

Finishing

Sew on buttons with thread. Weave in ends.



About the designer

Sarah goes to great lengths and stretches her ingenuity to create great results with a minimum of paraphernalia and number of pieces in her knitting. This fixation on minimalism does not, thankfully, extend to cutting back on the purchase of yarn or other random supplies.

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