

Easy Care Cotton Zip Front



Designed by: Barb Burgess

The sweater shown in the picture was made for my son in law, who has a unique body type. He is very slim, with long arms and a long waist. I knit this sweater specifically for his measurements- this is the XS size in the directions. Standard directions for small, medium and large sizes are also included.

Sizes

XS {S, M, L,}(shown in size **XS**)

Finished Measurements

Chest: 73.5cm/29in {86cm/34in; 96cm/38in; 106cm/42in}

Materials

Mission Falls 1824 Cotton; 78 meters/85 yds per ball (Mission Falls 1824 Cotton is an easy care yarn that can be machine washed and dried on the gentle cycle)

Colour: Chili #207-14 (16,18,20) balls

Estelle 100% Silk

Colour: Viva #08-1 ball; 95 meters/103 yds per ball

Gauge

18sts/24 rows = 10cm/4 in stockinette stitch

1- 3.25 mm/US # 3 circular needle

1 - 3.75 mm /US #5 circular needle

1 set 3.75mm/US #5 straight needles

1 heavy duty separating zipper, length determined once sweater is complete

10 stitch markers (8 in one colour; 2 in another)



Pattern Notes

The garter stitch rib pattern runs down the length of the sleeves, as well as in the initial ribbing. It's important to mark the beginning and end of the rib pattern in the sleeves with markers (in a different colour than you will be using for the yoke decreases) to help you keep track once the yoke and sleeves are all on the needle.

The body is worked back and forth on a circular needle to the underarms where it is joined to the sleeves, for the yoke shaping.

Garter Stitch Rib Pattern:

Row 1: Knit

Row 2: P4*K1, P1, K1, P5* repeat from * to * to last 4 stitches, P4

Body

With circular needle cast on 119 {155, 173, 191} stitches, using 1824 Cotton yarn. Work in **garter stitch rib** for 2.5 cm/1 in.

Using Estelle Silk yarn, work a thin stripe (4-6 rows) in the same garter stitch rib.

Change back to 1824 Cotton and continue in garter stitch rib until piece measures 6cm/2.5in, or desired length for ribbing.

Increase 8 stitches, evenly spaced, on last ribbing row, 127{163,181,199} stitches on needle. Work back and forth in stockinette stitch (knit 1 row, purl 1 row) until desired length is reached to underarms. End with a knit row. The sweater pictured measures 45cm/18in to underarms.

Next row: Purl 30{39,43,48}stitches, bind off 4 stitches, purl 59{77,87,95}stitches, bind off 4 stitches, purl 30{39,43,48} stitches.

Leave all body stitches, 119{155,173,191}, on a holder; do not break yarn.

Sleeves

Using 1824 Cotton and straight needles cast on 35{41, 45, 51} stitches.

Work 3 cm /1 ¼ inches in stockinette stitch for hem, ending with a purl row.

Purl 2 rows .

Next row: Knit 12,{15, 17, 20 } place marker, work garter stitch rib pattern over the next 11 stitches, place marker, knit 12 {15, 17, 20}

(The garter stitch rib pattern is worked between the markers as established, throughout the sleeve shaping and continuing throughout the yoke, right up to the collar)

Begin sleeve shaping:

Increase one stitch at each end of every 4th row to 65{79, 85, 93} stitches

Continue pattern as established to desired sleeve length to underarm.

(The sweater pictured measures 52cm/20.5 in. in sleeve length to underarms) Measure carefully for the sleeves as arm length varies widely.

Cast off 2 stitches at the beginning of next 2 rows 61 (75, 81, 89) sts. Place sleeve stitches on a holder.



Yoke

Using the 3.75mm/US #5 circular needle and cotton yarn, beginning with right front of body, K30 {39,43,48}sts, place a marker on needle here; knit the 61 {75, 81, 89} stitches of one sleeve onto the same circular needle, place marker; knit 59 {77,87,95} sts. for the back onto the same circular needle, place marker; knit the 61 {75, 81, 89} sts for second sleeve onto the same circular needle, place marker; knit the 30 { 39,43,48} sts for left front.

In total you will have 241 {305, 335, 369} sts on the circular needle. *It feels like a lot of stitches on the needle at this point but don't worry...you'll be decreasing soon.*

P 1 row.

Change to the Silk yarn at this point to work the yoke stripe for 8 rows.

At the same time begin yoke shaping

(For the x-small size only work 5 cm/2 in. without shaping)

For all other sizes begin yoke shaping now:

Right side row:(decrease row) *Knit to within 3 stitches of marker, ssk, k2, k2 tog* repeat from * to * to end of row.

Wrong side row: Purl.

(After 8 rows for silk stripe switch back to 1824 Cotton Yarn yarn)

Remember to maintain garter stitch pattern on sleeves throughout yoke shaping.

Repeat these 2 rows for yoke shaping to 50{65, 73, 79} sts.

Discontinue the garter stitch rib pattern on sleeves and continue in stocking stitch all around.

Work in stocking stitch for 7.5cm/3 in ending with a purl row.

Purl 2 rows

Work in stocking stitch for 7.5cm/3 in for hem facing.

Bind off all stitches.

Front Bands

Right Front Band: Using the 3.25mm/US #3 circular needle with right side facing, pick up and knit 4 sts for every 5 rows along right front edge. Stop at turning row for collar facing. Do not pick up facing stitches.

Work 5 rows in garter stitch rib pattern, ending with a wrong side row.

Purl 2 rows

Work 5 rows in stocking stitch for band facing. Bind off very loosely.

Work left front band in the same manner, beginning at the turning row for collar facing and picking up stitches to the bottom edge of jacket.

FINISHING

Weave in all ends

Sew sleeve and underarm seams

Turn collar, sleeve and front band facings to inside of sweater and sew with overcast stitch. (I like to use a matching yarn in a lighter weight for this, to reduce bulkiness)

Block sweater

Measure front band length to determine appropriate length of (separating) zipper to buy.

Sew zipper in by hand, using a small backstitch and matching heavy duty thread, not yarn.

I have made every effort to ensure these directions are accurate but if you should find any errors or have any questions about the pattern please leave a note on my blog @ knittingpen.com.