

Sweater Ornaments

Ornament sized sweaters in two sizes, one for fine gauge yarns (like sock yarn) and one for thicker gauges. There are also two ways to knit the yoke of the sweater, and two ways to do the sleeves (see the notes at the end of the pattern).



Sweaters based on my books, from left to right: worsted weight, fine gauge pattern; worsted weight, thicker gauge pattern- both from upcoming Wizard at Pembroke; fabric knit at bulky gauge, thicker gauge pattern, from Ella and the Panther's Quest; sock yarn, fine gauge pattern, from Fantasy Kingdom XXI

Yarn: Whatever you have. The sample sweaters were knit in sock yarn (Premier Yarns, Serenity Sock, chili colorway), worsted yarn (Red Heart Collage in rust), and fabric strips that equal a bulky gauge. All took less than 100 yards (sock yarn was approx 50 yards, the worsted was approx 60 yards for the fine gauge sweater and 30 for the thicker gauge sweater)

Needles: Again, whatever works with the yarn you have. These are worked in the round, so you'll need double points.

Approximate finished sizes by gauge (listed as sts/inch; chest circumference following thicker gauge pattern; fine gauge pattern).

3sts/inch; 9"; 14"

4sts/inch; 7"; 10.5"

5sts/inch; 5.6"; 8.4"

6sts/inch; 4.5"; 7"

7sts/inch; 4"; 6"

8sts/inch; 3.5"; 5.25"



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Pattern:

Sizes are listed as: thicker gauge (fine gauge)

Sleeves (make two, see notes at end of pattern for alternative way to make them):

cast on 6 (10) join and work in round
knit 2 (4) rounds of knit 1, purl 1 ribbing
knit 2 (2) rounds
*inc. round: knit in front and back of first stitch, knit to last stitch of round, knit in front and back of last stitch
knit 2 (4) rounds*
repeat between *'s 3(4) times, 12 (18) stitches.

move stitches to a holder or scrap yarn until ready to join to body

Sweater Body:

cast on 28 (42) join and work in the round
knit 2(4) rounds knit 1, purl 1 ribbing
knit 10 (17) rounds in stockinette (knit every round)

Joining Body and Sleeves:

Raglan method:

Knit across 7(10) stitches of body. Place marker. Knit across all 12 (18) stitches of first sleeve. Place marker. Knit across 14(21) stitches. Place marker. Knit across all 12(18) stitches of second sleeve. Place marker. Knit across remaining 7(11) stitches. 52(78) stitches total.



Knit 1 round to settle the stitches (it might feel tight for the first couple of rounds, but will become easier to knit after a couple of rounds).

Round 1: *Knit to 2 stitches before the first marker. Knit 2 together. Slip marker.

Slip,slip,knit* repeat between * 4 times.

Knit to the end of the round

Round 2: knit

Repeat rounds 1 and 2 until 4 stitches remain between the sleeve markers, total of 20(22) stitches remain.

Knit 2(3) rounds knit 1, purl 1 ribbing

Bind off.



Circular Yoke method:

Knit across 7(10) stitches of body. Knit across all 12 (18) stitches of first sleeve. Knit across 14(21) stitches. Knit across all 12(18) stitches of second sleeve. Knit across remaining 7(11) stitches. 52(78) stitches total.

Knit 3(5) rounds.

Reduce round: Knit 1, knit 2 together around. If there is an extra stitch at the end, knit it.

Knit 1(2) rounds

Repeat reduce round.

Knit 1(2) rounds.

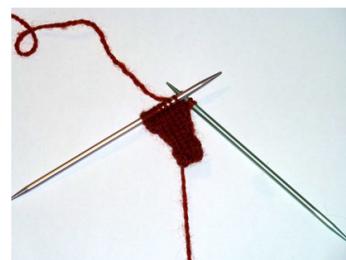
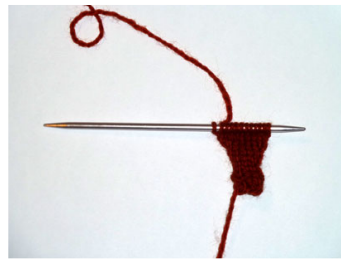
Bind off.

Weave in ends.

Sleeves:

There are two ways to knit the sleeves.

Method 1 (traditional): Divide stitches between three needles and work in the round. This is easiest on short (less than 6") needles and makes the neatest sleeves.



Method 2 (i-cord): Cast on and keep the stitches on 1 needle. *Slide the stitches to the right end of the needle (working yarn will be on the left).

Bring the yarn across the back and into working position. Knit across the stitches, pulling first couple of stitches tight. Repeat from * It will look like flat knitting but will curl into a tube as it moves away from the end of the needle. This method is a bit easier when working with small numbers of stitches, but the beginning/end of round is not as neat.

Notes:

To make it easier to join the round without twisting, you can work the ribbing back and forth, then join and work the stockinette section in the round. Close the small opening with the tail end of the yarn before weaving it in.

Normally when knitting a seamless sweater, you hold a few of the stitches under the arms to make a seam. For sweaters this small, that would have been 1-2 stitches, so I left it out. You can use the tail end of the sleeve yarn to neaten up the underarm area if you need to.

You can make a hanging loop from the tail left by the bind off, just make sure to weave it in before making the loop. That way if the loop should break, you won't have to worry about it coming unraveled.

You could also string several sweaters on a long piece of yarn for a winter garland, or use them to hold gift cards or tickets.

For instructions on knitting with fabric strips, see my pattern for Ella's Fabric Knit Bag in the free stuff section of my web page.

Notes for doll sweaters:

If you decide to use these for doll sweaters, sleeve method 1 works best. Method 2 leaves loose yarn that can catch on doll fingers.

Also watch the head. Dolls tend to have large heads in proportion to their bodies, so you may have to stop reducing sooner and add more ribbing (which will pull in, making up for the lost decreases), or knit the last bit back and forth, making a slit which can then be fastened with a snap or hook and loop tape. Check a top that fits the doll to see how long a slit to make.