

Cherry Bomb



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"Hello Daddy, Hello Mom
I'm your Ch-ch-ch-ch-cherry bomb!"
- Joan Jett

When I saw this yarn, aptly titled "Black Cherry" by Farmhouse Yarns, that song was the first thing I thought of. I figured it was destined to be something equally saucy, involving zippers. Because I have a bit of thing for giant zippers.

SIZE

XS [S, M, L, 1X, 2X, 3X] (shown in size S)

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Chest: 32 [34, 38, 42, 44, 48, 52] inches

Length: 12 [12, 13, 13, 14, 14.5, 15] inches
(See diagram at end of pattern.)

MATERIALS

[MC] Farmhouse Yarns' "Lumpy Bumpy" [9% merino wool, 1% nylon; 150 yd/137 m per 113g/4 oz skein]; color: Black Cherry; 2 [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7] skeins

[CC] Farmhouse Yarns' "Lumpy Bumpy" [9% merino wool, 1% nylon; 150 yd/137 m per 113g/4 oz skein]; color: Cranberry; 1 [1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 3] skeins

1 40 inch length US #10.5/6.5mm circular needle

OR

1 set US #10.5/6.5mm double-point needles

1 set US #10.5/6.5mm straight needles

Notions required:

bulky darning needle

scissors

4 markers

4 extra large snaps

1 separating/industrial zipper, approx. 13[13, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17] inches in length (measurements may vary for your finished product - see Finishing instructions)

2 extra-large stitch holders, or scrap yarn.

GAUGE

13 sts/18 rows = 4 inches in stockinette stitch

PATTERN NOTES

This sweater is worked from the top down with a raglan sleeve. It is worked back and forth with an asymmetric front split for the body. The sleeves are then picked up one at a time and worked in the round. Magic Loop method is used for the sleeves, as the entire sweater was knit using a single 40 inch long circular needle.

Please see the Knitty article archives for excellent instructions on the Magic Loop method. All instructions in this pattern are given assuming this method. Straight needles for the body and double pointed needles for the sleeves can be substituted.

The recommended bind off for hem and cuffs is as follows:

On US #10.5/6.5 mm needles, *BO 3 (standard chain BO), yo, BO the new yo*, repeat between ** until end of row.

PATTERN

Collar:

CO 46[46,48,52,56,60,64] st. in CC. Work 15 rows (approx. 3 inches) in garter stitch. On next row (WS) BO 4, work rest of row even. Break CC and pick up MC.

Yolk:

On Next row (RS facing), K 10[10,10,11,12,13,14], pm, K 7[,7,7,8,8,9,10], pm, K 14[14,15,16,18,19,20], pm, K 7[,7,7,8,8,9,10], pm, K 4[4,5,5,6,6,6].

Next row (WS): K2, P to last two stitches, K2.

NOTE: On all WS rows, first two and last two stitches will be K.

Beginning on next row (RS), repeat this two row pattern 15[16,19,22,24,25,26] times:

[R1: K2tog, K to one before marker, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K to 1 before 2nd marker, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K to 1 before 3rd marker, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K to 1 before 4th marker, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K to last two stitches, M1, K2.

R2: K2, P to last two stitches, K2.]

When finished, repeat this two row pattern 4[4,2,0,0,0,0] times:

[R1: K2tog, K to one before marker, M1, K1, slip 1st marker, K to 2nd marker, slip marker, K1, M1, K to 1 before 3rd marker, M1, K1, slip marker, K to 4th marker, slip marker, K1, M1, K to last two stitches, M1, K2.

R2: K2, P to last two stitches, K2.]

You should now have a total of 178[186,204,224,244,256,268] stitches and 36[38, 42, 46, 50, 52, 54] rows after the garter stitch collar.

On next row (RS), K2tog, K to 1st marker, drop 1st marker, place next 37[39,45,52,56,59,62] stitches on holder or scrap yarn (all stitches between 1st and 2nd marker), drop 2nd marker, join working yarn to next live stitch, K across to 3rd marker, drop 3rd marker, place next 37[39,45,52,56,59,62] stitches on holder or scrap yarn (all stitches between 3rd and 4th marker), drop 4th marker, join working yarn to next live stitch, K to two before end, M1, K2.

The stitches you just put on holders will later become the sleeves. You should now have 104[108,114,120,132,138,144] stitches on your needles

Body:

Next row (WS), K2, P to last two stitches, K2.

On following row (RS), begin the following two row pattern and repeat 4[4,5,5,6,6,6] times:

[R1: K2tog, K to last two stitches, M1, K2

R2: K2, P to last two stitches, K2]

You should now have a total of 52[54, 58, 60, 66, 68, 70] rows from the base of the collar to the bottom of your work.

Hem:

Break MC and pickup CC. On next row (RS), K to end, CO 4 stitches. Continue to work for 15 rows (approx. 3 inches) in garter stitch. BO loosely.

Sleeves (Right and Left):

At split for underarm, pick up 2 stitches on one side of split, place the 37[39,45,52,56,59,62] held stitches on the needle, then pick up 2 more stitches on other side of split. Pm and join. K 2 rounds St.st. On next round, begin following pattern and repeat 3 times:

[R1: K2tog, K to two before marker, SSK.

R2-10: K even]

On next round, K2tog, K to two before marker, SSK. Then K 1[3,3,6,6,7,7] more rounds.

Cuff Version 1 - placket inside:

Do not join yarn to next round. All rows will now be worked back and forth. Break MC yarn and pick up CC.

Left: With WS facing, CO 4, then P those 4 stitches and the rest of the row. Work back and forth in garter stitch for an additional 14 rows (approx 3 inches, 15 total rows). BO loosely.

Right: With WS facing, P across row. On next row (RS), CO 4, then K those 4 stitches and the rest of the row. Work back and forth in garter stitch for an additional 13 rows (approx 3 inches, 15 total rows). BO loosely.

Cuff Version 2 - placket outside:

Drop marker and work an additional 16[18,21,24,26,23,30] stitches of the next round in MC. Break MC and pick up CC. All rows will now be worked back and forth.

Now work instructions given for Left and Right cuffs exactly as written under Cuff Version 1.

Cuff Version 3 - no plackets:

Left and Right identical. At end of final MC round, break MC and pick up CC. Work an additional 15 round in Garter stitch. BO loosely.

FINISHING

1. Weaving: Work in all loose ends using the darning needle.

2. Zipper:

Lay your sweater flat, front facing up, and pin the collar and hem plackets together. Now line up the diagonal and pin in several places. Measure the distance from the bottom of the collar to the top of the hem. (see approximate zipper measurements under "Notions"). Add approximately 1 inch to this measurement, to account for stretch when wearing. This is the length of the zipper you will need.

{In the event that you cannot find the zipper you want close to this measurement, you can buy a longer zipper, measure from the bottom of the zipper, and mark your desired length. Later, after you sew in the zipper, you can create a new cap at this length to prevent the zipper from separating. If you will be capping your zipper, leave the zipper unattached one half inch down from the bottom of the collar.}

Separate the zipper and pin first the bottom to the upper edge of the hem, then pin the top (or the mark of your desired length) to the bottom edge of the collar. Now stretch the edge of the sweater slightly so that it is the same length between the two points as the length of your zipper. Pin the rest of the zipper in place to preserve this spacing.

Sew in your zipper, either by hand or my machine. Zipper show on the model was done by machine, upper thread tension 4 (moderately high), stitch length 4 (moderately long), standard presser foot.

Attach the other side of the zipper to the side already sewn, and zip it up all the way. Pin the opposite side of the zipper to the opposite side of the sweater using the method described above. Separate the zipper without unpinning it. Then sew in the second side of the zipper.

If your zipper was the right length, you are done. If you need to cap your zipper, take one half inch wide lace hem tape in the color of your choice and wrap it around the top of the zipper 3-4 times. Topstitch a square on the surface of the hem tape to secure in place. Repeat for both sides of the zipper. Then stitch the top of the zipper in place on your sweater. Once you have double

checked to make sure your caps work, you may finally cut off the tops of your zipper above the caps.

3. Snaps: Hand sew one extra large snap set at each placket (collar, hem, and two cuffs).

No blocking should be necessary, as the sweater is fitted.

