



Mini Christmas Sweater

by Martine Ellis

Knit these cute little sweaters to decorate your Christmas tree.

This pattern was originally written for using up leftover sock yarn, but actually, it will work with any weight yarn. Just adjust your needle size accordingly.



You will need

- Size 2.5mm double pointed needles (US size 1.5). Work with all 5 needles in the set
- Approximately 10 grams of fingering/sock weight yarn (shown in Jamieson's Shetland Spindrift 104 Natural White)
- Contrasting colour yarn if doing duplicate stitch pattern (shown in Jamieson's Shetland Spindrift 788 Leaf and 525 Crimson)
- Waste yarn
- 4 stitch markers
- Tapestry needle for weaving in ends and duplicate stitch (if using)
- 20-22 gauge wire for the mini hanger

Gauge and sizing

Gauge is really not important because the finished article won't be worn by anyone other than your Christmas tree. The finished sweater measures approximately 15cm/6 inches wide and 8cm/3 inches tall.

Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|--|
| dpns | double pointed needles |
| k | knit |
| kfb | knit into the front and back of the stitch (increase one stitch) |
| k2tog | knit 2 together |
| pm | place marker |
| p | purl |
| sts | stitches |

Set up

Cast on 24 sts using your preferred method (long tail works well), divide the sts over 4 double pointed needles (6 sts per needle). Join in the round being careful not to twist sts.

Neck

Rounds 1-4: k1, p1 (repeat until end of round)

Shoulder increases

Round 5: k all sts

Round 6: k2, pm, k8, pm, k4, pm, k8, pm, k2

Round 7: k to one stitch before marker, kfb, sm, kfb: repeat 3 more times to finish round (32 sts: 8 sts and one marker on each needle)

Round 8: k all stitches

The sts between the first and fourth, and the second and third markers, are **sleeve** sts. The sts between the first and second, and third and fourth markers, are **body** sts.

Repeat the 2 row shoulder increases 6 more times until there are 16 sts between the sleeve markers, and 20 sts between the body markers. Finish this section on a (no increase) k row.

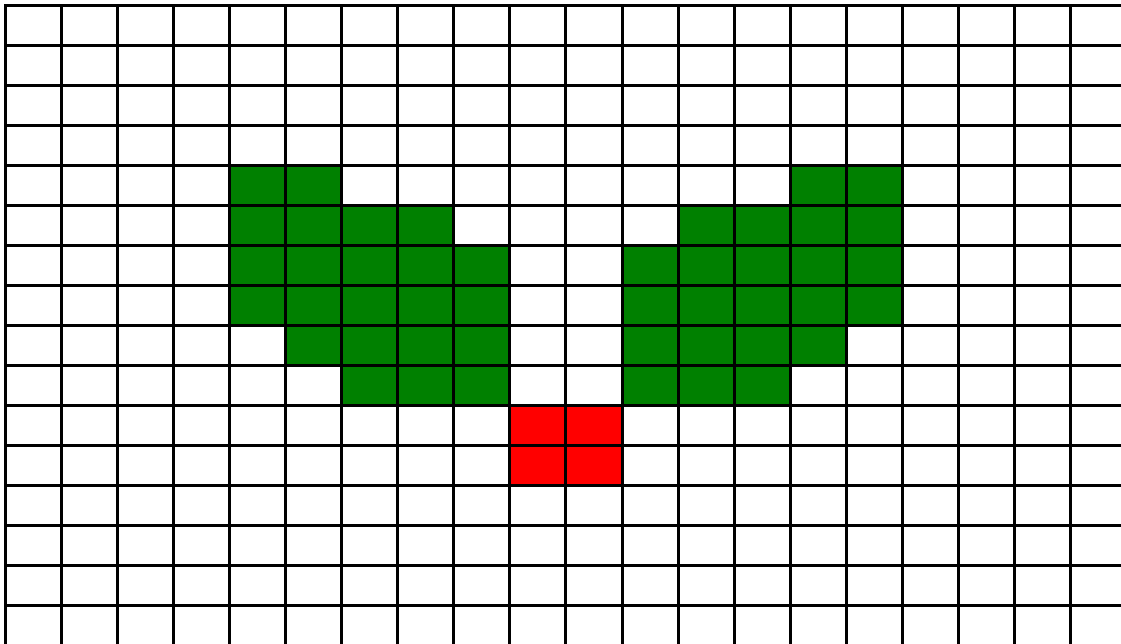
Body: set up and knitting

Start knitting the next round, knit to the second marker and remove it. Place the sleeve stitches onto waste yarn. Remove the third marker and k the rest of the body stitches until you reach the fourth marker. Remove the fourth marker and place the sleeve stitches onto waste yarn. You are now at the end of your round (10 sts on each needle). Leave the first marker in to show the start of the round, although it will need to sit between stitch 1 and 2 so it does not fall off.

K the body for approximately another 3.5cm/1.25 inches, then go to the “finish body and cast off” instructions below.

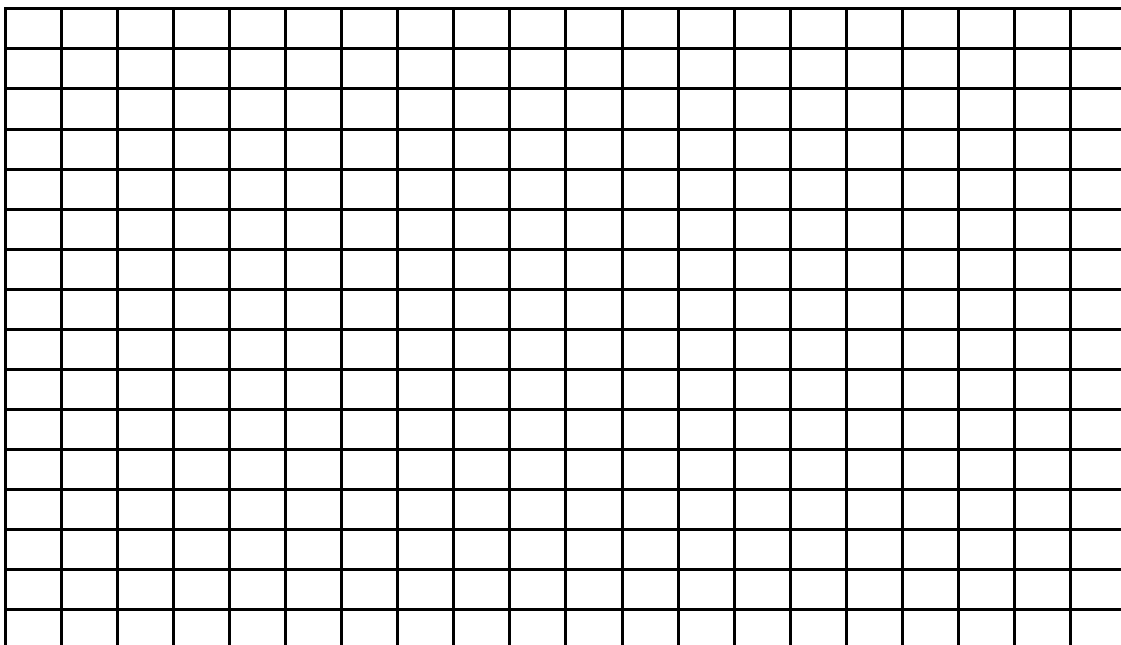
Body: options

If you want a plain sweater, go straight to the sleeves instructions. However, at this stage, you can add a design to your sweater using duplicate stitch. There is an example below, as well as an empty grid if you'd like to design your own motif. This is an excellent video on how to do duplicate stitch: <http://bit.ly/1awxWaO>



The grid above was produced in Microsoft Word so you can easily make your own. Just insert a table measuring 20 columns by 16 rows.

For your own design:



Finish body and cast off

K 4 rounds of k1 p1 ribbing and cast off in rib.

Sleeves

Put your sleeve stitches onto 3 dpns and pick up 3 sts from under the arms (19 sts). Your round starts after the last stitch you picked up so you may wish to mark this with a stitch marker.

Round 1: k to last 2 sts, k2tog (18 sts)

Round 2: knit

Round 3: k to last 2 sts, k2tog (17 sts)

Repeat rounds 2 and 3 until 14 sts remain.

K1 p1 ribbing for 4 rounds then cast off. Repeat for sleeve 2.

Finishing

Weave in ends and make a mini hanger with wire. Here's a good video:
<http://bit.ly/1fuADQ5>