


Monkster's Sweater

a free pattern from

mary ann
stephens 



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Our dear friend Monkster (at left) has an aversion to the high-priced-yet-pedestrian offerings found in his size at malls across the country. Monkster is a discerning fellow who prefers garments made of natural fibers and, of course, he insists upon a custom fit. As you can see from his smile, Monkster is thoroughly pleased with our handknit solution for him. So, the next time you or your little one get the urge to go bananas & "build a bear" (or monkey or dog or anyone else) at your local mall, don't go bananas paying for a common outfit – make them their very own sweater just like Monkster's (as we did for Spot, see below.) Spot's striped version used 1 50g ball of red, 1 50g ball of blue. As you can imagine, the possibilities for customizing this pattern are endless.

Abbreviations: dpn(s) = double-pointed needles; K = knit; K2tog = knit 2 stitches together as 1; P = purl; rd = round; rem = remain; rep = repeat; sl = slip; SSK = slip 2 sts individually knitwise, then knit those 2 sts together; st(s) = stitch(es); st st = stockinette stitch (K all sts)

Yarn: 2-50g balls of worsted weight yarn. (We recommend washable wool.)

Gauge: 18 sts, 24 rows = 4"/10cm in st st for body of sweater.

Needles: dpns in US size 7 (4.5 mm). *As always, use whatever size needles you find necessary to obtain the gauge, above.*

How to: All parts are knit circularly. The sleeves are knit up until the underarm. Then, the body is knit up to the same point. The sleeves and body are then worked together with double raglan decreases to



form the yoke. (See photos at left.) It's finished with an easy ribbed and rolled collar. There are no side or sleeve seams to finish.

Sleeves: Cast on 32 sts, placing 8 sts on each of 4 dpns. Join circularly. *K1, P1, rep from * for 5 rds. Work 14 rds in st st. Break off yarn and set aside. Work other sleeve to match.

Body: Cast on 80 sts, placing 20 sts on each of 4 dpns. Join circularly. *K1, P1, rep from * for 5 rds. Work 14 rds in st st.

Yoke: Place marker. The next sts will be from a sleeve. Adding these sleeve sts to the same needle just used to finish the last rd on body, K 1, SSK, K next 13 sleeve sts, change to next needle and K next 13 sleeve sts, K2tog, K1, place marker, continuing with front body sts, K1, SSK, K 17 sts, change to next needle, still doing body sts, K 17 sts, K2tog, K1, place marker, now onto the next sleeve, K 1, SSK, K next 13 sleeve sts, change to next needle and K next 13 sts of sleeve, K2tog, K1, place marker, continuing with back body sts, K1, SSK, K 17 sts, change to next needle and still working back body, K 17 sts, K2tog, K1, end of rd. 136 sts rem. Work 5 more consecutive decrease rds, i.e, begin rds at back of left sleeve with K1, SSK, *work to 3 sts before marker, K2tog, K1, slip marker, K1, SSK, rep from * to 3 sts before end of rd, K2tog, K1, slip marker. (With each decrease rd, you decrease 8 sts.) 96 sts rem. *K 1 rd straight. Work 1 decrease rd, rep from * 5 times. 48 sts rem.

Collar: * K1, P1, rep from * for 3 rds. Work 3 rds in st st. BO loosely. Weave in loose ends.

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