



MARA CARDIGAN

Knitting Pattern by Woolbird | No.38

The Mara Cardigan is a classic button front raglan cardigan in a simple garter rib texture with a relaxed fit, polished button band, and balloon sleeves.

S U P P L I E S

2350 (2635) 2995 (3320) 3775 (4155) 4655 (4995) 5590 (5965) yds [2150 (2410) 2740 (3035) 3450 (3780) 4255 (4570) 5110 (5455) m] of We Are Knitters Finita **held double** (100g; 437 yds [400m] per ball) in color Cinnamon, or similar to meet gauge. [Alternatives](#)

Or

1175 (1315) 1495 (1660) 1885 (2080) 2330 (2500) 2795 (2980) yds [1075 (1205) 1370 (1520) 1725 (1900) 2130 (2285) 2555 (2730) m] of DK or light worsted weight yarn **held single** to meet gauge.

One 3.25mm(US3) DPN *for button band*

3.25mm(US3) 40" circular needle [100 cm] *for button band*

Set of five 3.5mm(US4) DPNs *for sleeve ribbing*

3.5mm(US4) 32-40" circular needle [80-100 cm] *for hem ribbing*

4mm(US6) 16" and 32-40" circular needles [40 and 80-100 cm] *for main fabric*

3 buttons 20-22mm in diameter (more or fewer buttons for a longer or shorter length)

Notions: 10 stitch markers, scissors, yarn needle, waste yarn/barber cord, measuring tape, sewing thread & needle, optional: cable connector

P A T T E R N N O T E S

This pattern requires a working knowledge of knitting flat & in the round, increasing and decreasing in pattern, reading a simple chart, picking up stitches, double knitted button band, Italian bind off.

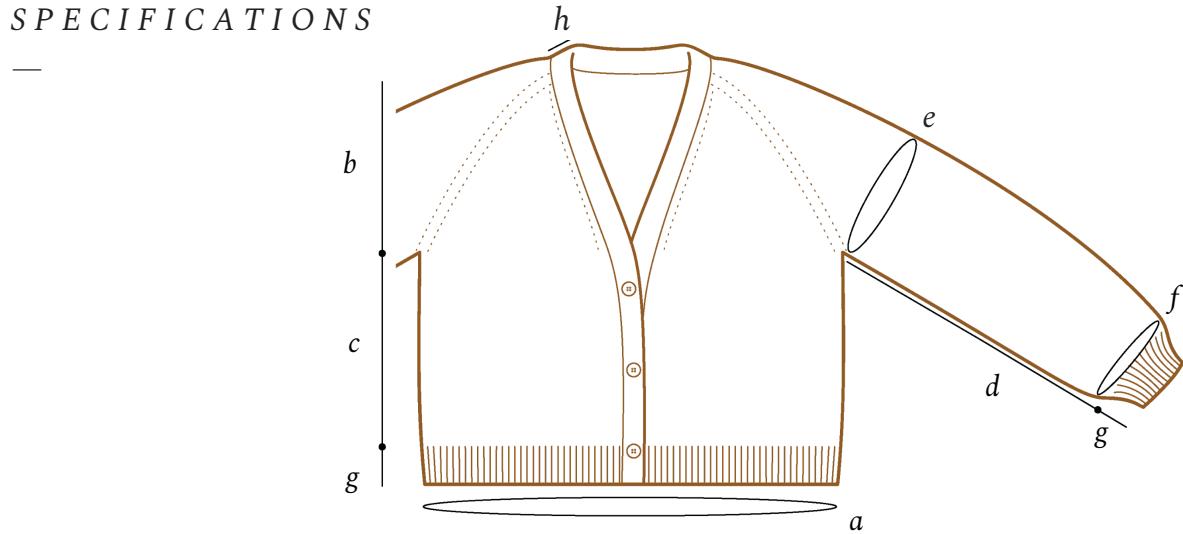
Circular needles are used to work flat and in the round, starting with the longer cable for the yoke and body, switching to a short cable for the sleeves. A long cable and a DPN are used for the button band.

The suggested cast on and bind off methods can be substituted with any other.

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Pattern support: Please email any questions to support@woolbirdknits.com

SPECIFICATIONS



Sizes: 1 (2) 3 (4) 5 (6) 7 (8) 9 (10)

- a. **Finished bust** (when buttoned) *Fullest point of torso + ease: 35 $\frac{3}{4}$ (39 $\frac{1}{2}$) 42 $\frac{3}{4}$ (46 $\frac{1}{4}$) 50 $\frac{3}{4}$ (54 $\frac{1}{4}$) 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ (62 $\frac{1}{4}$) 65 $\frac{1}{2}$ (70 $\frac{1}{4}$)" [91 (100.5) 108.5 (117.5) 129 (138) 146 (158) 166.5 (178.5) cm]*
- b. **Yoke depth:** 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ (8 $\frac{1}{4}$) 9 (9 $\frac{3}{4}$) 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ (11 $\frac{1}{4}$) 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ (13) 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ (14 $\frac{1}{2}$)" [18.5 (21) 23 (25) 26.5 (28.5) 31 (33) 35 (37) cm]
- c. **Body** (underarm to start of ribbing): 9 (9) 10 (10) 11 (11) 12 (12) 13 (13)" [23 (23) 25.5 (25.5) 28 (28) 30.5 (30.5) 33 (33) cm]
- d. **Sleeve length:** 16 (16) 16 (16 $\frac{1}{4}$) 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ (16 $\frac{3}{4}$) 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ (16 $\frac{3}{4}$) 17 (17)" [40.5 (40.5) 40.5 (41.5) 41.5 (42.5) 42.5 (42.5) 43 (43) cm]
- e. **Upper arm:** 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ (14 $\frac{1}{4}$) 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ (16 $\frac{1}{2}$) 18 $\frac{1}{4}$ (19 $\frac{1}{2}$) 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ (22 $\frac{1}{4}$) 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ (25 $\frac{1}{4}$)" [33.5 (36) 39.5 (42) 46.5 (49.5) 52 (56.5) 59.5 (64) cm]
- f. **Wrist:** 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ (9 $\frac{1}{2}$) 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ (10 $\frac{1}{4}$) 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ (10 $\frac{1}{2}$) 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ (11) 11 (11 $\frac{1}{2}$)" [22 (24) 26 (26) 26.5 (26.5) 26.5 (28) 28 (29) cm]
- g. **Hem & Sleeve ribbing:** 2" [5 cm]
- h. **Button Band width:** 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " [3 cm]

FIT

This cardigan is designed with a recommended positive ease of 8" [20.25 cm]. It is loose fitting at the bust and drapes straight through the body. The sample pictured is worn with 8" [20.25 cm] of ease.

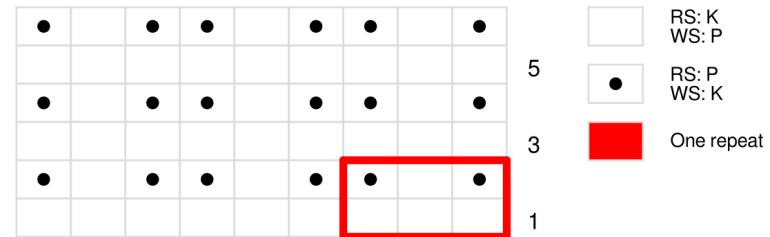
G A U G E

(4mm needle) 21 sts x 30 rows = 4" [10 cm] in 1x2 Broken Rib Pattern pattern worked both flat & in the round, wet blocked. If your gauge is off, choose a needle size larger/smaller accordingly and try again.

1x2 Broken Rib Pattern: 3 st x 2 row repeating pattern

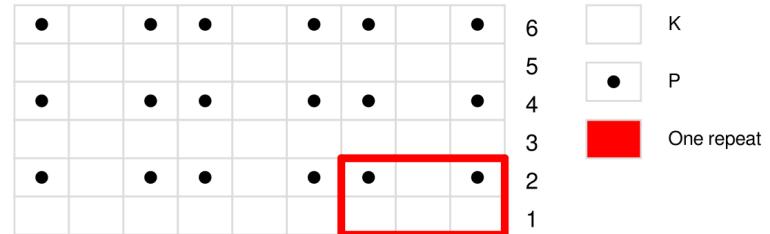
Flat (Yoke [P1](#), [P2](#), [Body](#))

1. [RS] K across
2. [WS] *K1, P1, K1* rep
or *K2, P1* rep
or *P1, K2* rep



In the Round ([Sleeves](#))

1. K to EOR
2. *P1, K1, P1* rep
or *P2, K1* rep
or *K1, P2* rep



CONSTRUCTION

The Mara Cardigan is worked flat, top down, and seamlessly. Circular needles are used to work flat beginning with the yoke that is shaped with raglan increases while working the 1x2 Broken Rib Pattern. The yoke is then divided and the sleeve stitches are placed on hold while the body is worked and finished with 1x1 ribbing then bound off.

The sleeves are worked one at a time, placing the held stitches back onto a circular needle and working in pattern in the round, with some sizes gradually decreasing to the wrist, and all sizes finishing with 1x1 ribbing and bound off.

A double knit button band is created by picking up stitches along the entire front opening. With a DPN, double knitting is worked around the entire cardigan opening while joining to the picked up stitches.

K E Y T E R M S

BO: bind off

BOR: beginning of round/row

CO: cast on

DPN: double pointed needle

EOR: end of round/row

K: knit

K2tog: Knit 2 sts together

M: marker

M1L: Make 1 left; Pick up bar between two sts with left needle coming from front.

Insert right needle into the lifted bar through the back loop, from right to left and in the back of work and knit.

M1R: Make 1 right; Pick up bar between two sts with left needle coming from behind.

Insert right needle into the lifted bar from left to right and knit.

P: purl

PM: place marker

P2tog: Purl 2 sts together

rep: repeat

RGLN: M1R, SM, K4, SM, M1L; Right Side [RS] Raglan

RM: remove marker

rnd: round

RS: Right side of work

Sl1wyif: slip 1 stitch purlwise with yarn in front

SM: slip marker

SSK: Slip, slip, knit; slip 2 sts knitwise, knit these 2 sts together through back loops

SSP: Slip, slip, purl; slip 2 sts knitwise, place these 2 sts back onto left needle, purl these 2 sts together through back loops

St(s): stitch(es)

tbl: through the back loops

Work in pattern: Work in 1x2 Broken Rib pattern worked flat or in the round

wRGLN: SM, P1, K2, P1, SM; Wrong Side [WS] Raglan

WS: Wrong side of work

* *: a sequence to rep

(): a number of sts, rows, or rnds

[]: total st count, increases/decreases at EOR, or metric units

INSTRUCTIONS

Y O K E P A R T 1

With 4mm 32-40" [80-100 cm] circular needles, long-tail CO 63 (66) 69 (72) 75 (78) 81 (84) 87 (90) sts. Turn to work flat.

Raglan Increase Definitions:

RGLN = M1R, SM, K4, SM, M1L; Right Side [RS] Raglan

wRGLN = SM, P1, K2, P1, SM; Wrong Side [WS] Raglan

Refer to [chart](#) of 1x2 Broken Rib worked flat.

First and last sts are Purled on WS and Knitted on RS throughout Yoke and Body. First and last sts are selvedge and are not part of the stitch patterning / charts.

1. [WS] P1, PM, P1, K2, P1, PM, K2, *P1, K2*x2 for right shoulder, PM, P1, K2, P1, PM, K2, *P1, K2*x 9 (10) 11 (12) 13 (14) 15 (16) 17 (18) times for back, PM, P1, K2, P1, PM, K2, *P1, K2*x2 for left shoulder, PM, P1, K2, P1, PM, P1. [63 (66) 69 (72) 75 (78) 81 (84) 87 (90)] 8 markers have been placed to mark the 4 points of raglan increases.
2. [RS] K1, RGLN, (K to M, RGLN)x3, K1. Turn. [+8 sts, 71 (74) 77 (80) 83 (86) 89 (92) 95 (98)]
3. [WS] P2, wRGLN, (P1, *K2, P1* rep to M, wRGLN)x3, P2. Turn.
4. [RS] K1, M1L, K1, RGLN, (K to M, RGLN)x3, K1, M1R, K1. Turn. [+10 sts, 81 (84) 87 (90) 93 (96) 99 (102) 105 (108)]
5. [WS] *P1, K1*x2, wRGLN, (*K1, P1, K1* rep to M, wRGLN)x3, *K1, P1*x2. Turn.
6. [RS] K1, M1L, (K to M, RGLN)x4, K to last 1 st, M1R, K1. Turn. [+10 sts, 91 (94) 97 (100) 103 (106) 109 (112) 115 (118)]
7. [WS] P1, K2, P1, PM, K2, wRGLN, (K2, *P1, K2* rep to M, wRGLN)x3, K2, PM, P1, K2, P1. Turn. 2 additional markers have been placed to mark future neckline increases. First and last 4 sts are always worked in same pattern from WS.
8. [RS] K4, SM, M1L, (K to M, RGLN)x4, K2, M1R, SM, K4. Turn. [+10 sts, 101 (104) 107 (110) 113 (116) 119 (122) 125 (128)]
9. [WS] P1, K2, P1, SM, Work in pattern across row, incorporating newly increased sts into pattern and wRGLN at the 4 sets of raglan markers, SM, P1, K2, P1. Turn.

Y O K E P A R T 2

Refer to [chart](#) of 1x2 Broken Rib worked flat.

Work the below 4 row sequence 11 (13) 14 (16) 17 (19) 20 (22) 23 (25) times. **Sizes 1, 3, 5, 7, 9:** Work rows 1 & 2 once more. Frequently check from RS to ensure stitch pattern is maintained. As the work grows, the purl columns on WS will become more apparent.

1. [RS] K across, working RGLN at the 4 sets of raglan markers. Do not increase at first and last M. Turn. [+8 sts]
2. [WS] P1, K2, P1, SM, Work in pattern across row, incorporating newly increased sts into pattern and wRGLN at the 4 sets of raglan markers, SM, P1, K2, P1. Turn.
3. [RS] K across, working a M1L after first M, RGLN at the 4 sets of raglan markers, and a M1R before last M. Turn. [+10 sts]
4. [WS] Rep row 2.

A total of 23 (26) 29 (32) 35 (38) 41 (44) 47 (50) increase rows have been worked. 11 (13) 14 (16) 17 (19) 20 (22) 23 (25) sts have been increased at each neckline edge. 307 (338) 367 (398) 427 (458) 487 (518) 547 (578) sts will be on the needles.

Back: 83 (92) 101 (110) 119 (128) 137 (146) 155 (164) sts

Each sleeve: 62 (68) 74 (80) 86 (92) 98 (104) 110 (116) sts

Each front (*inclusive of 4 sts at BOR/EOR*): 42 (47) 51 (56) 60 (65) 69 (74) 78 (83) sts

4 sts at each raglan line

D I V I D E Y O K E

The sleeve sts and 2 raglan sts from either side of sleeves are placed on hold while body and remaining raglan sts are joined with backward loop CO sts at underarms. Remove increase markers as encountered.

(Continued on next page)

[RS]: **Front half:** K4, RM, K to M, RM, K2. **Sleeve:** Place next 2 sts, RM, sleeve sts, RM, and following 2 sts onto waste yarn or barber cord. **Underarm:** Backward loop CO 3 (3) 3 (3) 6 (6) 6 (9) 9 (12) sts to right needle. **Back:** K2, RM, K to M, RM, K2. **Sleeve:** Place next 2 sts, RM, sleeve sts, RM, and following 2 sts onto waste yarn or barber cord. **Underarm:** Backward loop CO 3 (3) 3 (3) 6 (6) 6 (9) 9 (12) sts to right needle. **Front half:** K2, RM, K to M, RM, K4. Turn. [181 (200) 217 (236) 259 (278) 295 (320) 337 (362)]

B O D Y

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Refer to [chart](#) of 1x2 Broken Rib worked flat.

Sizes 2, 4, 6, 8, 10: Increase 1 final st at each neckline edge

1. [WS] P1, K2, P1, Work in pattern across row to last 4 sts, P1, K2, P1. Turn.
2. [RS] K4, M1L, K to last 4 sts, M1R, K4. Turn. [+2 sts]

All sizes resume:

Each body row has 181 (202) 217 (238) 259 (280) 295 (322) 337 (364) sts.

1. [WS] P1, Work in pattern across row to last 1 st, P1. Turn.
2. [RS] K to EOR. Turn.

Rep rows 1 & 2 until body is 9 (9) 10 (10) 11 (11) 12 (12) 13 (13)" [23 (23) 25.5 (25.5) 28 (28) 30.5 (30.5) 33 (33) cm] from underarm or to desired length, **ending after a WS row.** Ribbing will add 2" [5 cm].

Ribbing

Switch to 3.5mm 32-40" [80-100 cm] circular needles.

Sizes 1, 3, 5, 7, 9: [RS] K to EOR.

Sizes 2, 4, 6, 8, 10: [RS] K2tog, K to EOR. [-1 st]

1. [WS] P2, *K1, P1* rep to last st, P1.
2. [RS] K2, *P1, K1* rep to last st, K1.

Rep rows 1 & 2 for a total of 14 rows, or to just short of 2" [5 cm], or to desired length. Work 1 more WS row and decrease selvedge (first and last) sts to prepare for Italian BO:

15. [WS] SSP, K1, *P1, K1* rep to last 2 sts, P2tog.

[Italian BO](#). BO can be substituted with any other, i.e. standard bind off in pattern.

S L E E V E S

With 4mm 16" [40 cm] needles or long cable for magic loop, begin on either sleeve. Transfer held sts onto needles and begin with a new length of yarn.

Pick up and knit 2 (2) 2 (3) 3 (3) 3 (6) 6 (6), PM to note BOR, pick up and knit 1 (1) 1 (0) 3 (3) 3 (3) 3 (6) more sts. 69 (75) 81 (87) 96 (102) 108 (117) 123 (132) sts are on the needles.

To prevent holes at sides of underarm, pick up 1 additional st at each side and decrease them in following rnd.

Refer to chart of 1x2 Broken Rib worked in the round.

Sizes 1, 2, 3: Work in established pattern until sleeve is 16" [40.5 cm] from underarm, or to desired length, **ending after a row 2 of chart**. Ribbing adds 2" [5 cm] to total length. Continue to Decrease & Ribbing.

Sizes 4-10: Work in established pattern. Adjust from *P1, K1, P1* repeats to *P2, K1* / *K1, P2* / *P1, K1, P1* repeats as sts at BOR and EOR decrease.

Work in pattern, decreasing per the below decrease rnd on every - (-) - (40th) 20th (14th) 10th (8th) 7th (6th) rnd for a total of - (-) - (3) 6 (9) 12 (15) 18 (21) decrease rnds worked.

Decrease rnd: K2tog (or P2tog to keep in pattern), work in pattern to last 2 sts, SSK (or SSP to keep in pattern). [-2 sts]

After last decrease rnd, - (-) - (81) 84 (84) 84 (87) 87 (90) sts are on needles. Work in pattern until sleeve is - (-) - (16 $\frac{1}{4}$) 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ (16 $\frac{3}{4}$) 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ (16 $\frac{3}{4}$) 17 (17)" [- (-) - (41.5) 41.5 (42.5) 42.5 (42.5) 43 (43) cm] from underarm, or to desired length, **ending after a row 2 of chart**. Ribbing adds 2" [5 cm] to total length. Continue to Decrease & Ribbing.

Decrease & Ribbing

Switch to 3.5mm DPNs or long cable for magic loop.

1. *K2tog, K1* rep to EOR. [46 (50) 54 (54) 56 (56) 56 (58) 58 (60)]
2. *K1, P1* rep to EOR.

Rep rnd 2 for a total of 15 rnds or to 2" [5 cm] or to desired length. Italian BO. Rep sleeve instructions to other side.

BUTTON BAND

[Button Band Tutorial](#) / How to pick up & knit from: [Side](#) & [CO edge](#)

Pick up stitches with 3.25mm 40" [100 cm] circular needle. Begin at bottom right edge of the ribbing. **Tip: Use 2 interchangeable needle cords and a connector to create a long cable.*

Pick up and knit along cardigan opening in 4 sts per 5 rows ratio (e.g. *Pick up and knit 4 sts from 4 rows, skip 1 row, repeat.*)

When you reach the cast on edge, pick up and knit 1 st per 1 st across shoulders and back neck, approximately 63 (66) 69 (72) 75 (78) 81 (84) 87 (90) sts.

Continue down opposite side of cardigan opening in 4 sts per 5 rows ratio.

Cut yarn. If worked to the listed body length while matching the row gauge, you will have approximately 283 (296) 320 (333) 357 (370) 395 (407) 432 (444) picked up sts. As the body length differs, more or fewer sts are expected.

Place markers on needle cable on right side of cardigan for buttonholes.

Marker 1: 1½" [3.75 cm] or 9 sts from bottom.

Marker 2: 2" [5 cm] after end of yoke increases/beginning of body rows.

Place any number of markers evenly spaced between these 2 markers. Sample pictured uses 3 total, placed 25 sts and 4" [10 cm] apart.

Begin double knitting at right hem on WS.

With a new length of yarn, Italian tubular CO 13 sts to circular needle in *P1, K1* sequence. Turn to RS. With a 3.25mm DPN, work the following 2 row double knitting repeat.

Double Knitting Repeat: (on very first row after cast on: Ktbl on all K sts)

1. [RS] *K1, sl1wyif*x6, K2tog tbl. Turn.

2. [WS] Sl1wyif, *K1, sl1wif*x6. Turn.

Rep rows 1 & 2 until you reach a marker, remove it and work a WS row, then work the buttonhole instructions on next page. After all buttonholes are complete, continue double knitting repeat across remaining picked up sts until you reach the opposite hem edge.

(Continued on next page)

Buttonhole: The right half of buttonhole is worked first, then left half is worked while using yarn overs to bridge the gap.

1. [RS] *K1, sl1wyif*x3, K1. Turn.
2. [WS] Sl1wyif, *K1, sl1wif*x3. Turn.
- 3-4. Rep rows 1 & 2 once more.
5. [RS] *K1, sl1wyif*x3, K1, YO, sl1wyif, *K1, sl1wif*x2, K2tog tbl. Turn.
6. [WS] Sl1wyif, *K1, sl1wif*x2, SSK(*slip K st and YO knitwise then k2tog tbl*), insert left needle through the YO from front to back; it becomes a new YO on left needle. Turn.
7. [RS] Sl1wyif, *K1, sl1wif*x2, K2tog tbl. Turn.
- 8-9. Rep rows 6 & 7 once more.
10. [WS] Sl1wyif, *K1, sl1wif*x2, SSK(*slip the K st and the YO knitwise then k2tog tbl*), sl1wif, *K1, sl1wyif*x3. Turn.

Work the double knitting repeat to the next marker.

Bind off

13 sts will remain on the needle after the last WS row, having worked across all of the picked up sts around the cardigan opening. [Italian BO](#).

FINISHING & CARE

Sew buttons on button band after blocking, using sewing thread or same yarn as project. Use a yarn needle to weave in any remaining ends and cut excess. Tighten underarm gaps, if any, with tail from start of picked up stitches, or with a new length of yarn.

Gently block using warm water and wool soap. Always hand wash knitted items, avoiding scrubbing or agitating. Leave in the water to relax the fibers. When water is cooled, gather the garment with your arms and carefully lift it out all at once (water weight will cause stretching if any parts are hanging down). Squeeze out the excess water. Take care not to wring or twist. Lay flat on a towel and roll towel up to remove more water. Lay flat to air dry, straightening and smoothing out to listed measurements.

To preserve shape and color, store folded and away from direct sunlight. Take note of the fiber content and washing instructions for future reference. Enjoy!

