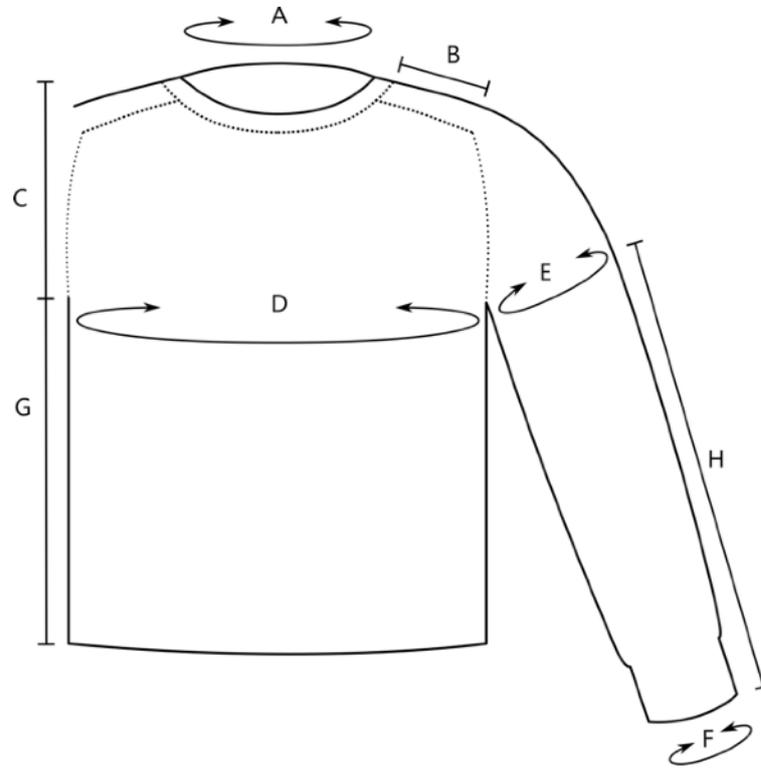


# VERSAL

by Ailbína McLochlainn

A basic pullover with saddle shoulder construction, Versal is designed with ease and versatility in mind. Select your preferred bodice fit and neck treatment, for a sweater that suits your personal style and use-case scenario. The DK-to-Aran-weight gauge makes Versal a quick knit, and you might find yourself returning to this pattern for multiple iterations of a classic wardrobe staple. Try it with a high or a low neck option. Try it in a rustic wool for winter, or in a plant fibre for summer. For the marled effect shown here, try it in two differently coloured strands of a fingering to sport weight yarn held together. The possibilities are what makes this pattern versatile and universal.

This men's version of the pattern differs from the women-centred original in that it is proportioned for wider shoulders and back, and a longer torso. Instructions are provided for a tapered Bodice and Sleeves, and for adding length to the lower back.



## MEASUREMENTS

Size 1 (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)

Finished garment measures as follows:

### A. Neck Opening:

46cm/ 16.75" (48cm/ 17.5", 50cm/ 18.25", 52cm/ 19", 52cm/ 19", 54cm/ 19.75", 54cm/ 19.75", 56cm/ 20.25")

### B. Shoulder Length:

5cm/ 2" (5cm/ 2", 6cm/ 2.5", 6cm/ 2.5", 7cm/ 2.75", 8cm/ 3.25", 8cm/ 3.25", 8cm/ 3.25")

### C. Yoke Depth:

20cm/ 8" (22cm/ 8.75", 24cm/ 9.5", 26cm/ 10.5", 28cm/ 11.25", 30cm/ 12", 31cm/ 12.5", 33cm/ 13.25")

### D. Bodice Circumference:

85cm/ 34" (91cm/ 36.5", 98cm/ 39", 105cm/ 42", 115cm/ 46", 126cm/ 50.5", 138cm/ 55", 154cm/ 62")

### E. Sleeve Circumference:

29cm/ 11" (30cm/ 12", 32cm/ 13", 34.5cm/ 13.75", 39cm/ 15.5", 42cm/ 17", 45.5cm/ 18.25", 50cm/ 20")

### F. Cuff Circumference:

20cm/ 8" (20cm/ 8", 22cm/ 8.75", 22cm/ 8.75", 23.5cm/ 9.5", 23.5cm/ 9.5", 25.5cm/ 10.25", 27.5cm/ 11")

### G. Bodice Length from Underarm:

40cm/ 16"

### H. Sleeve Length from Underarm:

47cm/ 18.75"

## FIT RECOMMENDATIONS

Referring to Measurement D above, select a size with your preferred amount of ease around the chest, according to preference.

For a figure-hugging fit, select size with less than 5cm (2") of ease.

For a standard fit, select size with 5cm (2") - 10cm (4") of ease.

For a relaxed fit, select size with at least 10cm (4") of ease.

For half-sizes, or a size larger than Size 8: Change gauge to 17 sts/ 10cm (4") and follow instructions for the *smaller* or the two sizes.

For half-sizes, or a size smaller than Size 1: Change gauge to 19 sts/ 10cm (4") and follow instructions for the *larger* or the two sizes.

## MATERIALS & INFORMATION

### Yarn

suitable for DK to Aran weight yarns (150-200m/ 100g)  
requires approximately 5 (5, 6, 6, 7, 7, 8, 8) 100g skeins

### Gauge

18 sts x 24 rounds = 10cm/ 4" x 10cm/ 4" in stockinette, for main fabric  
22 sts x 29 rounds = 10cm/ 4" x 10cm/ 4" in double rib (blocked open), for edgings

### Needles

**Needle A:** circular needle, 4.5mm (US 7) in diameter,  
or as needed to meet gauge for main fabric  
**Needle B:** circular needle, 3.00mm (US 3) in diameter,  
or as needed to meet gauge for edgings

### Notions

stitch markers, tapestry needle, scrap yarn, measuring tape

### Special Techniques

short rows, provisional cast-on

## ABBREVIATIONS

K = knit

K2Tog = K 2 sts together

M1L = make 1 left

M1R = make 1 right

P = purl

PM = place marker

RS = right side of work

SKP = slip 1, K1, pass the slipped st over

SLM(s) = slip(ping) marker(s)

St(s) = stitch(es)

WS = wrong side of work

W&T = wrap and turn

∅ = no action in this size

## PATTERN NOTES

### Construction

This pullover is worked seamlessly from the top down, with contiguous saddle shoulder construction and short row neckline shaping. The Bodice is worked top-down with optional tapered shaping and optional short rows to lengthen the lower back. Sleeves are picked up from live sts and likewise worked top-down, with tapered shaping.

### Neck Length Options

Instructions are provided for polo neck, mock neck, and crewneck options.

If unsure which neck length you prefer: Cast on the stated number of sts using a provisional cast-on method, and begin with the Yoke instructions. After completing the sweater, move the live cast-on sts onto working needle and work the Neck until it reaches your preferred length. Bind off using an elastic bind-off method.

If over-stretching is a concern, you can alternatively cast on using an elastic (non-provisional) cast-on method and pick up sts for the Neck from the resulting selvage edge.

### Working Short Rows

Where instructions indicate to wrap and turn (W&T), wrap yarn around the next st and turn work. Where instructions indicate to 'pick up wraps', unwrap st and work st together with wrap. If you are new to short rows and find these instructions insufficient, look up video tutorials using the search terms 'short rows' and 'wrap and turn.'

### Working the Provisional Cast-On at Underarms

My preferred provisional cast-on method is the 'invisible cast-on.' It is simple, suitable for beginners, and does not involve crochet! Carol Feller offers an excellent tutorial: <https://stolenstitches.com/blogs/tutorials/provisional-cast-on-invisible-method>  
Note: when casting on underarm sts, you can use the same piece of scrap yarn onto which you've placed the Sleeve sts.



## INSTRUCTIONS

### Neck

With Needle B and using an elastic cast-on method, CO 92 (96, 100, 104, 104, 108, 108, 112) sts.

Connect to work in the round, taking care not to twist.

Round 1: K2, P2, to end.

For a polo neck: Repeat Round 1 until piece measures 25cm/ 10".

For a mock neck: Repeat Round 1 until piece measures 10cm/ 4".

For a crewneck: Repeat Round 1 until piece measures 5cm/ 2". Purl the next round. Repeat Round 1 again for a further 5cm/2".

### Yoke

*Continue with Needle B.*

Setup Round: K14, PM, K34 (36, 38, 40, 40, 42, 42, 44), PM, K14, PM, K30 (32, 34, 36, 36, 38, 38, 40), PM.

Identify sections of your work as follows:

The sections with 14 sts each flanked by markers are the Shoulders. The section with 34 (36, 38, 40, 40, 42, 42, 44) sts is the Back of the Body. The section with 30 (32, 34, 36, 36, 38, 38, 40) sts is the Front of the Body. Round begins at Left Shoulder.

Switch to Needle A.

You will now work short rows to shape the Neckline. And at the same time you will begin to increase for the Front and the Back of the Body, to the 'outside' of the Shoulder markers, *on every row*. Work as follows:

Short Row 1 (RS): K to marker, SLM, M1L, K to marker, M1R, SLM, K to marker, SLM, M1L, W&T.

Short Row 2 (WS): P to marker, M1R, SLM, P to marker, SLM, M1L, P to marker, M1R, SLM, P to marker, SLM, M1L, W&T.

Short Row 3 (RS): K to marker, M1R, SLM, K to marker, SLM, M1L, K to marker, M1R, SLM, K to marker, SLM, M1L,

K 1 st past previous turn, picking up wrap along the way, W&T.

Short Row 4 (WS): P to marker, M1R, SLM, P to marker, SLM, M1L, P to marker, M1R, SLM, P to marker, SLM, M1L,

P 1 st past previous turn, picking up wrap along the way, W&T.

Work Short Rows 3&4 until you have worked a total of 12 (12, 14, 14, 16, 18, 18, 18) short rows. After the final turn, work to return to the original start of the round as follows: K to marker, M1R, SLM.

There are now 58 (60, 66, 68, 72, 78, 78, 80) Back sts and 54 (56, 62, 64, 68, 74, 74, 76) Front sts.

You will now resume working in the round (remember to pick up remaining wraps when working the first full round).

No longer increasing for Front or Back of the Body, you will now begin to increase for Sleeves to the 'insides' of markers on every *other* round, as follows:

Round 1: \*K1, M1L, K to 1 st before marker, M1R, K1, SLM, K to marker, SLM, repeat from \* once more.

Round 2: K to end, SLMs.

Repeat Rounds 1 & 2 until there are 22 sts for each Sleeve. (Other st counts remain as before).

### For Sizes 1-3 Only:

Continue increasing for the Sleeves in the same manner, until there are 40 (44, 48, ∅, ∅, ∅, ∅, ∅) sts for each Sleeve.

### For Size 4 Only:

Continue to increase for the Sleeves *on every 3 out of 4 rounds*, as follows -

Rounds 1-3: \*K1, M1L, K to 1 st before marker, M1R, K1, SLM, K to marker, SLM, repeat from \* once more.

Round 4: K to end, SLMs.

Repeat Rounds 1-4 until there are 52 sts for each Sleeve.

### For Sizes 5-8 Only:

Continue to increase for the Sleeves *on every round*, as follows -

Round 1: \*K1, M1L, K to 1 st before marker, M1R, K1, SLM, K to marker, SLM, repeat from \* once more.

Repeat Round 1 until there are ∅ (∅, ∅, ∅, 58, 64, 70, 76) sts for each Sleeve.

### Continue For All Sizes:

No longer increasing for the Sleeves, increase again for the Front and Back of the Body, to the 'outside' of the Sleeve markers, *on every round*, as follows -

Round 1: \*K to marker, SLM, M1L, K to marker, M1R, SLM, repeat from \* once more.

Repeat Round 1 until there are 68 (74, 80, 86, 94, 104, 114, 126) Back sts and 64 (70, 76, 82, 90, 100, 110, 122) Front sts. There are now 212 (232, 252, 272, 300, 332, 364, 400) sts on the needles in total.

No longer increasing for Sleeves or Body, work additional rounds in stockinette (K to end, SLMs) if needed, until the Yoke measures 20cm/ 8" (22cm/ 8.75", 24cm/ 9.5", 26cm/ 10.25", 28cm/11.25", 30cm/ 12.25", 31cm/ 12.75", 33cm/13.25") from the base of the neckline, measured along centre Back.

### **Sleeve Separation**

You will now separate the Sleeve sts from the Bodice sts, so that these sections can be worked on separately.

Work the next round as follows:

Move the sts between the start of round and the next st marker onto scrap yarn, RMs in the process. Using a provisional cast-on method and scrap yarn, CO 10 (10, 10, 10, 12, 12, 12, 14) sts for the Underarm onto the right needle. K to marker. Move the sts between the next two markers onto scrap yarn, RMs in the process. Using a provisional cast-on method and scrap yarn, CO 10 (10, 10, 10, 12, 12, 12, 14) sts for the Underarm onto the right needle. K to end. RM. K5 (5, 5, 5, 6, 6, 6, 7). Round now begins at centre Underarm. With Sleeve sts set aside on scrap yarn, you are ready to work the Bodice.

### **Bodice**

There are now 152 (164, 176, 188, 208, 228, 248, 276) sts on the needles.

#### For a Straight Bodice:

Work in stockinette (K to end, every round) until Bodice measures 30cm/ 12" from Underarm, or 10cm/ 4" shorter than preferred length.

#### For a Tapered Bodice:

PM at each centre Underarm. Work in stockinette (K to end, every round). And at the same time work paired decreases, approximately every 5cm/ 2", as follows - SKP, K to 2 sts before marker, K2Tog, SLM, repeat from \* once more - a total of 5 times. There are now 132 (144, 156, 168, 188, 208, 228, 256) sts on the needles. If needed, continue working in stockinette, no longer decreasing, until Bodice measures 30cm/ 12" from Underarm, or 10cm/ 4" shorter than preferred length.

#### To Add Length to the Lower Back (Optional):

PM at each centre Underarm. Work either Straight or Tapered Bodice, as described above. Before proceeding, check to make sure round begins at left Underarm marker (so that you will be working the Back sts first).

Short Row 1 (RS): K to 2nd Underarm marker, SLM, K1, W&T.

Short Row 2 (WS): P back to start of round marker, SLM, P1, W&T.

Short Row 3 (RS): K to 2 st before previous wrap, W&T.

Short Row 4 (WS): P 2 st before previous wrap, W&T.

Repeat Short Rows 3 & 4 until you have worked 12 Short Rows in total.

(This will add approximately 5cm/ 2" of additional length to the lower back.)

### **Hem**

Switch to Needle B.

Round 1: \*K2, P2, repeat from \* to end.

Repeat Round 1 until Hem measures 10cm/ 4".

Bind off using an elastic bind-off method.

## Sleeves

(Worked identically). Starting at centre Underarm, move Sleeve sts and Underarm sts from scrap yarn onto Needle A.

PM at centre Underarm.

There are now 50 (54, 58, 62, 70, 76, 82, 90) sts on the needles.

Setup Round: K to end, and at the same time pick up 1 st to each side of Underarm sts (i.e. 2 sts in total), to avoid gaps.

There are now 52 (56, 60, 64, 72, 78, 84, 92) sts on the needles.

Work in stockinette (K to end, every round). And at the same time, work paired decreases approximately every 8cm/ 3.25" (5cm/ 2", 5cm/ 2", 4cm/ 1.5", 3cm/ 1.25", 2cm/ 0.75", 2cm/ 0.75", 2cm/ 0.75") as follows - SKP, K until 2 sts before marker, K2Tog - until there are 44 (44, 48, 48, 52, 52, 56, 60) sts on the needles. Then, no longer decreasing, continue if needed until Sleeve measures approximately 37cm/14.75" from Underarm, or 10cm / 4" shorter than preferred length.

## Cuff

Switch to Needle B.

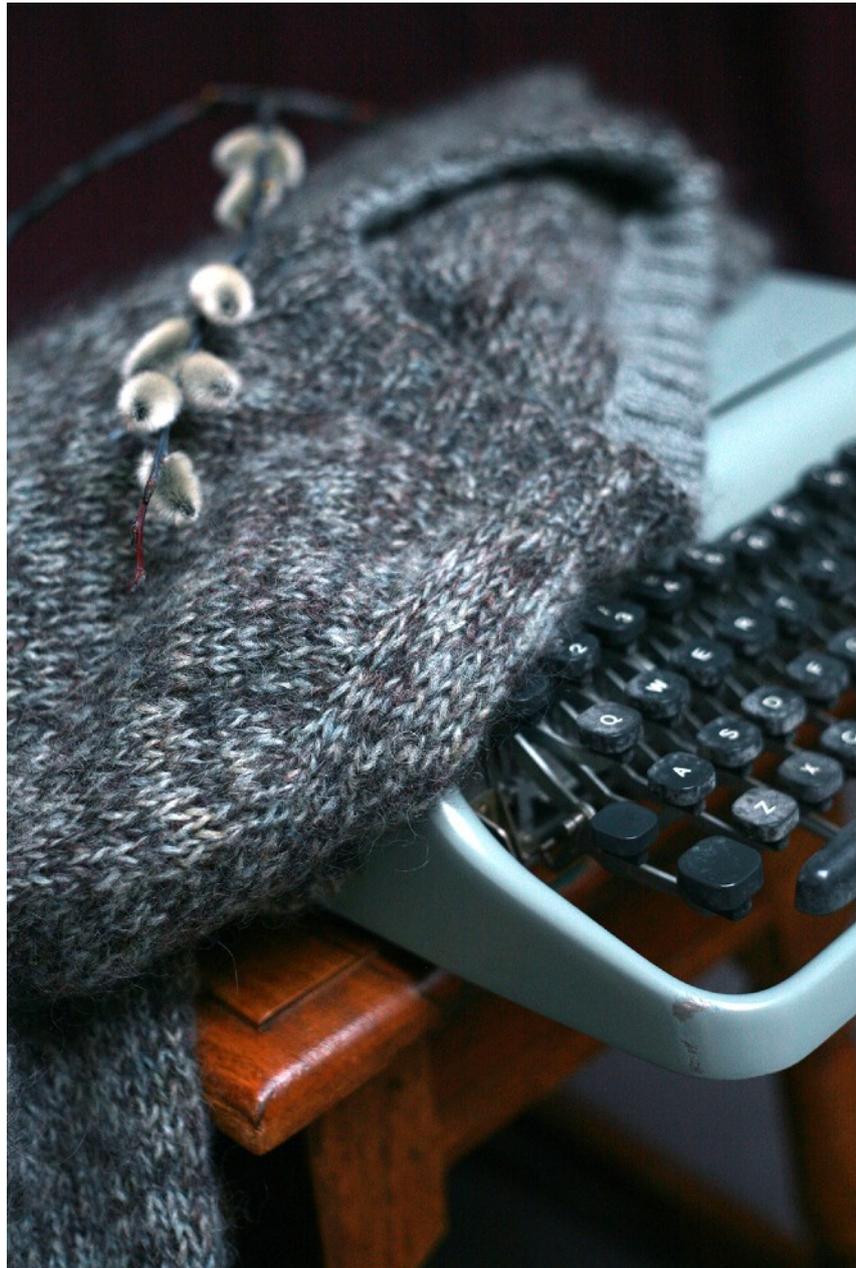
Round 1: \*K2, P2, repeat from \* to end.

Repeat Round 1 until Cuff measures 10cm/ 4".

Bind off using an elastic bind-off method.

## Finishing

Weave in ends. For the Crewneck option: Fold neck inward (toward WS) and sew edge to WS of main fabric. To block: Soak in lukewarm water, squeeze out excess moisture, and let dry flat.





**SAMPLE INFO.**

The model wears a Size 5 with 5cm/ 2" of ease around the chest, crew-neck option, tapered bodice option, with added length at the lower back.

This sample was knitted with Höner och Eir Nutiden, two strands, holding together the colourways Aquamarine and Gateway for a marled effect.