

THE CHERUB CARDIGAN

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Cherub Cardigan Pattern

Construction

This is a seamed cardigan with a combination of working flat and in the round. The back and front panels are knit flat in three separate pieces bottom up, and then joined at the shoulder with a three needle bind off. The button band is then knit separately and sewn to the body. Finally, the sleeves are worked bottom up in the round and then seamed to the body.

Fit

The cardigan is designed to have a relaxed, cropped fit with a slightly cinched waist that sits around your natural waist. It is designed to have around 15–20cm of positive ease around the chest, but you can size up or down depending on your preferences.

The back panel is worked with short rows to provide shaping across the shoulders. The front panels are approximately 5cm longer than the back panels, so the shoulder seam sits slightly behind the top of your shoulder.

Size Guide

Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Actual chest (cm)	75	83.5	92.5	105.5	114.5	123	130	145	154
Finished chest (cm)	90	100	110	120	130	140	150	160	170
Armhole depth (cm)	25	25	25	30	30	30	35	35	35
Meterage	700	800	900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500

Materials

- 700–1500m worsted weight yarn
- 5mm circular knitting needles
- 4mm circular knitting needles
- Tapestry needle for weaving in ends
- 1 stitch marker
- 1 stitch holder or scrap piece of yarn
- 4 25mm buttons

Gauge

The gauge is measured using stocking stitch, or stockinette stitch, on 5mm needles.

16st x 24rows = 10cm x 10cm

Abbreviations

K	Knit
P	Purl
C2B	Cable two back. Slide one stitch onto your cable needle and place it behind your work. Knit the next stitch on your needle, then knit the stitch from your cable needle.
C2F	Cable two front. Slide one stitch onto your cable needle and place it in front of your work. Knit the next stitch on your needle, then knit the stitch from your cable needle.
C2BP	Cable two back purlwise. Slide one stitch onto your cable needle and place it behind your work. Purl the next stitch on your needle, then purl the stitch from your cable needle.
C2FP	Cable two front purlwise. Slide one stitch onto your cable needle and place it in front of your work. Purl the next stitch on your needle, then purl the stitch from your cable needle.
K2tog	Knit two together
SSK	Slip slip knit
M1R	Make one right
KFB	Knit front and back
S1WYIF	Slip one with yarn in front

Start here!

Front right

Cast on 35 (39) 43 (47) 51 (55) 59 (63) 67 stitches on 4mm needles using the long tail cast on method.

Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Waist stitch count	35	39	43	47	51	55	59	63	67

Row 1 (wrong side): *p1, k1* to last stitch, p1

Row 2 (right side): *k1, p1* to last stitch, k1

Continue working in rib until you have worked 16 rows total.

Set up row (WS): Purl to last 10 stitches, place marker, k1, p7, k1, p1

Switch to 5mm needles. You will now begin to work the cable pattern.

Row 1 (right side): k1, p1, c2f, k5, p1, slip marker, k to end of row

Row 2 (wrong side): p to marker, slip marker, k1, p4, c2fp, p1, k1, p1

Row 3: k1, p1, k2, c2f, k3, p1, slip marker, k to end of row

Row 4: p to marker, slip marker, k1, p2, c2fp, p3, k1, p1

Row 5: k1, p1, k4, c2f, k1, p1, slip marker, k to end of row

Row 6: p to marker, slip marker, k1, c2fp, p5, k1, p1

Repeat this cable pattern a total of 8 times. This cardigan is written to be 50cm in length from shoulder to waist, including the ribbing around the hem. If you would like to make the cardigan longer or shorter, this is where you can adjust the length. You can adjust the length in increments of 2.5cm by adding additional repeats of 6 rows or subtracting repeats of 6 rows.

Shaping

Maintaining the cable pattern as established, begin working decreases by working a ssk immediately after the marker on the right side row.

Work a decrease in row 1 of your next cable pattern, and then every 6 (6) 6 (6) 6 (4) 4 (4) 4 rows. Your decreases are done on the right side (knit) rows.

After the decreases you will have 27 (31) 35 (39) 43 (43) 47 (51) 55 stitches.

Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Number of decreases	8	8	8	8	8	12	12	12	12
Shoulder stitch count	27	31	35	39	43	43	47	51	55

Continue for a further 4 pattern repeats with no decreases, ending on row 6 of the cable pattern. You will have worked a total of 20 pattern repeats if knitting to pattern.

Leave your stitches to rest on a stitch holder or piece of scrap yarn.

Front left

Cast on 35 (39) 43 (47) 51 (55) 59 (63) 67 stitches on 4mm needles using the long tail cast on method.

Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Waist stitch count	35	39	43	47	51	55	59	63	67

Row 1 (wrong side): *p1, k1* to last stitch, p1

Row 2 (right side): *k1, p1* to last stitch, k1

Continue working in rib until you have worked 16 rows total.

Set up row (WS): p1, k1, p7, k1, place marker, p to end of row

Switch to 5mm needles. You will now begin to work the cable pattern.

Row 1 (right side): k to marker, slip marker, p1, k5, c2b, p1, k1

Row 2 (wrong side): p1, k1, p1, c2bp, p4, k1, slip marker, p to end

Row 3: k to marker, slip marker, p1, k3, c2b, k2, p1, k1

Row 4: p1, k1, p3, c2bp, p2, k1, slip marker, p to end

Row 5: k to marker, slip marker, p1, k1, c2b, k4, p1, k1

Row 6: p1, k1, p5, c2bp, k1, slip marker, p to end

Repeat this cable pattern a total of 8 times, or if you have adjusted the length mimic what you have done on your front right panel.

Shaping

Maintaining the cable pattern as established, begin working decreases by working a k2tog immediately before the marker on the right side row.

Work a decrease in row 1 of your next cable pattern, then every subsequent every 6 (6) 6 (6) 6 (4) 4 (4) 4 rows. Your decreases are worked on a right side (knit) row.

After the decreases you will have 27 (31) 35 (39) 43 (43) 47 (51) 55 stitches.

Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Number of decreases	8	8	8	8	8	12	12	12	12
Shoulder stitch count	27	31	35	39	43	43	47	51	55

Continue for a further 4 pattern repeats with no decreases, ending on row 6 of the cable pattern. You will have worked a total of 20 pattern repeats if knitting to pattern.

Leave your stitches to rest on a stitch holder or piece of scrap yarn.

Back

Cast on 75 (83) 91 (99) 107 (115) 123 (131) 139 stitches using long tail cast on on 4mm needles. This piece is knit flat, do not join in the round.

Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Back stitch count	75	83	91	99	107	115	123	131	139

Row 1 (wrong side): p2, *k1, p1* to last stitch, p1

Row 2 (right side): k2, *p1, k1* to last stitch, k1

Repeat rows 1 and 2 until you have worked 16 rows total.

Purl one row.

Change to 5mm needles.

Work in stocking stitch, knitting the right side rows and purling the wrong side rows until your back piece measures 42cm. If you have adjusted the length, then add or subtract the length you have added or taken away from this measurement.

End on a wrong side (purl) row.

Short row shaping

You will now work 12 rows of short row shaping using German short rows.

Purl soho has a very helpful tutorial on YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/a3S9cl47PYw?si=2Zc5jwm7ndYUJkpd>

Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Back stitch count	75	83	91	99	107	115	123	131	139
Turning number	4	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	9

Row 1 (rs): Knit until 4 (5) 6 (6) 7 (7) 8 (8) 9 stitches before end of row, then turn your work.

Row 2 (ws): Purl until 4 (5) 6 (6) 7 (7) 8 (8) 9 stitches before end of row, then turn your work.

Continue working for 10 more rows, turning your work 4 (5) 6 (6) 7 (7) 8 (8) 9 stitches before the short row stitch on each row, until you have worked a total of 12 short rows.

Once you have finished working your short rows, work a further 4 rows.

Row 1 (rs): Knit to end, resolving double stitches

Row 2 (ws): Purl to end, resolving double stitches

Row 3: Knit to end

Row 4: Purl to end

Joining the shoulders

With right sides together and wrong sides facing outwards, work a three needle bind off across your back and right front panel, then cast off 21 (21) 21 (21) 21 (29) 29 (29) 29 stitches, then work a three needle bind off across your remaining back stitches and front left panel.

I recommend blocking your body at this point so you can get a good sense of where your shoulders will sit before finalising your sleeve length.

Sleeve

Cast on 36 (36) 36 (40) 40 (40) 44 (44) 44 stitches on 4mm needles. Work in 1x1 rib for 16 rows, joining in the round.

Set up row (sizes 1-3): *(k1, m1r) 3 times, kfb, m1r, (k1, m1r) 4 times, kfb, m1r* to end of round. You should have 80 stitches.

Set up row (sizes 4-6): *k1, m1r, k1, m1r, kfb, m1r, k1, m1r, kfb, m1r* to end of round. You should have 96 stitches.

Set up row (sizes 7-9): *k1, m1r, kfb, m1r* to last two stitches, kfb, m1r, kfb, m1r. You should have 112 stitches.

Switch to 5mm needles.

Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Cuff	36	36	36	40	40	40	44	44	44
Sleeve	80	80	80	96	96	96	112	112	112

Pattern repeat:

Round 1: *k5, c2b, p1, c2f, k5, p1* to end of round

Round 2: *k4, c2b, k1, p1, k1, c2f, k4, p1* to end of round

Round 3: *k3, c2b, k2, p1, k2, c2f, k3, p1* to end of round

Round 4: *k2, c2b, k3, p1, k3, c2f, k2, p1* to end of round

Round 5: *k1, c2b, k4, p1, k4, c2f, k1, p1* to end of round

Round 6: *c2b, k5, p1, k5, c2f, p1* to end of round

Repeat these 6 rows a total of 3 times.

Round 1: *k5, c2b, p1, c2f, k5, p1* to end of round

Round 2: *k4, c2b, k1, p1, k1, c2f, k4, p1* to end of round

Round 3: *k3, c2b, k2, p1, k2, c2f, k3, p1* to end of round

Round 4: *k2, c2b, k3, p1, k3, c2f, k2, p1* to end of round

Round 5: *k1, c2b, k4, p1, k4, c2f, k1, p1* to end of round

Note: This is where the pattern starts to change, to fade into stocking stitch.

Round 6: *c2b, k11, c2f, p1* to end of round.

Round 7: *k5, c2b, k1, c2f, k5, p1* to end of round

Round 8: *k4, c2b, k3, c2f, k4, p1* to end of round

Round 9: *k3, c2b, k5, c2f, k3, p1* to end of round

Round 10: *k2, c2b, k7, c2f, k2, p1* to end of round

Round 11: *k1, c2b, k9, c2f, k1, p1* to end of round

Round 12: *c2b, k11, c2f, p1* to end of round

Knit in stocking stitch (knit every round) until your sleeve is your desired length. I recommend trying on the body of your cardigan at this point to test the sleeve length.

Cast off in pattern. Make sure your cast off is not too tight and does not pull the sleeves in at the top.

Button band

Cast on 11 stitches on 4mm needles.

Row 1: *p1, k1* to last stitch, s1 wyif

Row 2: k1, *p1, k1*

Work 1x1 rib until row 5.

Make buttonhole

Row 5: p1, k1, p1, k1, cast off 3, k1, p1, k1, s1 wyif

Row 6: k1, p1, k1, p1, cast on 3, p1, k1, p1, k1

Continue to work in 1x1 rib. Make a buttonhole on every 13th and 14th row 3 more times (4 buttonholes in total).

Note you will have to adjust the frequency of your buttonholes if you have chosen to adjust the length of your cardigan.

Continue to work in 1x1 rib until your trim is long enough to go around the front of your cardigan, from the bottom hem inside the right front cardigan (this is the side with the buttonholes), around the back of the neck and down the front left cardigan to the hem.

Finishing touches.

Seam your sleeves to your body using mattress stitch starting at the under arm, then seam the sides of your cardigan from the underarm to the hem.

Sew your button band to the front of your cardigan.

Attach your buttons to your button band.

Weave in your ends and you're done!

I would love to see your finished cardigans! If you use Instagram, please share them using #CherubCardigan and tag me @pages.and.projects so I can see your creations!

Stitch counts

Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Back stitch count	75	83	91	99	107	115	123	131	139
Shoulder stitch count	27	31	35	39	43	43	47	51	55
Cast off number	21	21	21	21	21	29	29	29	29
Neck stitch count	23	23	23	23	23	31	31	31	31
Front waist stitch count	35	39	43	47	51	55	59	63	67
Front shoulder stitch count	27	31	35	39	43	43	47	51	55
Decreases to shoulder	8	8	8	8	8	12	12	12	12
Rate of decrease	6	6	6	6	6	4	4	4	4