

Dark Academia

A design by

Sharon Hartley

[ravelry.com/designers/sharon-hartley](https://www.ravelry.com/designers/sharon-hartley)

<https://www.etsy.com/shop/riverroadknits>

<https://riverroadknits.com/>

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Dark Academia has always been one of my favorite aesthetics. Quiet libraries, gothic architecture, crunching leaves on a college campus, strong coffee, reading books on a crisp autumn evening – all of these are the inspirations that strike me in the fall months. When I found this moody and grungy colorway combo at my LYS, I immediately wanted to channel it into an intricate colorwork garment with inspiration from all the aspects I love in Dark Academia.

Sizing and Dimensions

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

Finished measurements: 33.25 (37, 40.25, 44.25) **(48, 51.75, 55.5)** (59, 62.75, 66.5) / 84.5 (94, 102, 112.5) **(122, 131.5, 141)** (150, 159.5, 169) cm finished bust.

Designed to be worn with 0-6" / 0-15 cm positive ease. Sample is Size 2 with 2" / 5 cm of positive ease.

Yarn

MC: 965 (1115, 1240, 1415) **(1505, 1640, 1730)** (1920, 2050, 2240) yards / 880 (1020, 1135, 1295) **(1375, 1500, 1580)** (1755, 1875, 2045) meters fingering weight yarn (shown in Murky Depths Dyeworks Deep Sock in colorway No More Shall We Part, 80% superwash merino & 20% nylon, 400 yards / 366 meters per 3.5 ounce / 100 gram skein)

CC: 495 (525, 565, 610) **(625, 665, 715)** (765, 820, 875) yards / 450 (480, 515, 560) **(570, 610, 655)** (700, 750, 800) meters fingering weight yarn (shown in Murky Depths Dyeworks Deep Sock in colorway Never Enough Thyme, 80% superwash merino & 20% nylon, 400 yards / 366 meters per 3.5 ounce / 100 gram skein)

Supplies

US 4 (3.5 mm) circular needle (or size needed to obtain Stockinette gauge) slightly shorter in length than bust size – for body

US 3 (3.25 mm) 16" (40 cm) circular needle (or 1 size smaller than gauge needle) – for neckline

US 4 (3.5 mm) DPNs or short circular needle (or size needed to obtain Stockinette gauge) – for sleeves

US 3 (3.25 mm) DPNs (or 1 size smaller than gauge needle) – for sleeve cuffs

Scrap yarn in contrasting color or stitch holders

Stitch markers

Yarn needle

Gauge

4" / 10 cm = 26 sts and 36 rounds in Stockinette on larger needle (blocked)

Many knitters find that they have a different tension (often tighter) when working stranded colorwork as opposed to single-color Stockinette. It is recommended to either swatch in colorwork pattern in the round, or to adjust your needle size accordingly if you know your tension changes.

Construction

The body is worked from the top down, following increases as noted in the chart. At the sleeve split, the sleeves are put on hold and the body is worked top down. The sleeves are knit top down.

Techniques and Tutorials

The following techniques are used in this pattern. I have attached helpful tutorials for each one, but these techniques are easily found on YouTube if you want more info.

German Short Rows: <https://www.asatricosa.com/german-short-rows/>

Reading a Colorwork Chart: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8gkFyKj1sw>

Pick up and Knit: <https://verypink.com/2010/09/28/pick-up-and-knit/>

Casting On in Colorwork Pattern: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eYYldLKZFwx>

ABBREVIATIONS

BO – bind off / bound off	m1r – make 1 right
BORM – beginning of round marker	MC – main color
DPNs – double-pointed needles	p – purl
DS – Double Stitch (used in German Short Rows)	pm – place marker
CC – contrast color	RS – right (knit) side
CO – cast on	sm – slip marker
k – knit	ssk – slip one stitch knitwise, slip one stitch knitwise, knit the stitches together
k2tog – knit 2 stitches together	st(s) – stitch(es)
m – marker	WS – wrong (purl) side
m1l – make 1 left	

Instructions for replacing German Short Rows with Japanese Short

Rows

German Short Rows are a common choice for short rows, but I generally opt for Japanese Short Rows because of how seamless they are. If you'd like to swap out the German Short Rows for Japanese Short Rows, follow the instructions below:

Short Row 1 (RS): k35 (37, 37, 38) **(38, 40, 42)** (42, 44, 46), turn work.

Short Row 2 (WS): place a removable stitch marker on working yarn, and slip 1 stitch purlwise and purl next stitch so that the marker hangs between the slipped stitch and the worked stitch. P to BORM, p 35 (37, 37, 38) **(38, 40, 42)** (42, 44, 46) after BORM, turn work.

Short Row 3 (RS): place a removable stitch marker on working yarn and slip 1 stitch purlwise with yarn in back. Knit next stitch so that the marker hangs between the slipped stitch and the worked stitch. K to first gap, slipping BORM as you come to it. Pull on hanging marker to loosen the loop it is attached to. Using the marker, lift the loop onto the left hand needle with right leg in front (untwisted) and remove marker. Knit this new loop together with the next stitch. K 4 more sts, turn work.

Short Row 4 (WS): place a removable stitch marker on working yarn, and slip 1 stitch purlwise and purl next stitch so that the marker hangs between the slipped stitch and the worked stitch. P to gap, slipping BORM as you come to it. Pull on hanging marker to loosen the loop it is attached to. Using the marker, lift the loop onto the left hand needle with right leg in front (untwisted) and remove marker. Purl this new loop together with the next stitch. P 4 more sts, turn work.

Work Short Rows 3 and 4 once more.

Closing round: place a removable stitch marker on working yarn and slip 1 stitch purlwise with yarn in back. Knit next stitch so that the marker hangs between the slipped stitch and the worked stitch. K to first gap. Pull on hanging marker to loosen the loop it is attached to. Using the marker, lift the loop onto the left hand needle with right leg in front (untwisted) and remove marker. Knit this new loop together with the next stitch. Knit to 1 stitch before next gap. Pull on hanging marker to loosen the loop it is attached to. Using the marker, lift the loop onto the left hand needle with right leg in front (untwisted) and remove marker. Knit this new loop together with the next stitch. Knit to BORM. All gaps have been closed. Proceed to Yoke instructions.

Here is a tutorial with photos if you need extra help: <https://www.asatricosa.com/japanese-short-rows/>

Yoke

With the smaller needle and MC, CO 120 (125, 125, 130) **(130, 135, 140)** (140, 145, 150) sts. Place BORM and join in the round, being careful not to twist.

Neck Ribbing

Round 1: *k3, p2, repeat from * until end of round.

Repeat Round 1 for 1"/2.5 cm.

Switch to larger needles and k 3 rounds even.

Short Row Shaping

Instructions below are written for German Short Rows. For an alternate method using Japanese Short Rows, refer to page 3.

Short Row 1 (RS): k34 (36, 36, 37) **(37, 39, 41)** (41, 43, 45), turn, create DS.

Short Row 2 (WS): p to BORM, p34 (36, 36, 37) **(37, 39, 41)** (41, 43, 45) after BORM, turn, create DS.

Short Row 3 (RS): k to DS, slipping BORM as you come to it. K the 2 legs of the DS together as one stitch. K 5 more sts. Turn, create DS.

Short Row 4 (WS): p to DS, slipping BORM as you come to it. P the 2 legs of the DS together as one stitch. P 5 more sts. Turn, create DS.

Repeat Short Rows 3 and 4 once more.

Short Row 5 (RS): k to BORM.

Closing Round (RS): k across round, closing DS as you come to them. Note – for the first DS you come to, knit the 2 legs of the DS together as one stitch. For the second DS, k the first leg by itself and k the second leg with the next stitch as a k2tog.

Short rows are now complete.

Yoke

All sizes: k3 (1, 1, 1) **(1, 1, 3)** (3, 3, 3) rounds even.

Increase Round 1 (Sizes 1 and 2 skip this section. Size 1 proceed to Chart 1 instructions and Size 2 proceed to Increase Round 2)

Increase Round 1: *k—(—, 25, 26) **(10, 9, 7)**(4, 5, 5), m1, rep from * until end of round.

— (—, 130, 135) **(143, 150, 160)** (175, 174, 180) sts

Even rounds: k—(—, 2, 2) **(2, 2, 2)** (2, 2, 2) rounds even.



Increase Round 2 (Size 1 skip this section and proceed straight to Chart 1)

Increase Round 2: using m1, increase — (3, 6, 9) **(9, 10, 8)** (9, 18, 20) sts evenly across round – approximately 1 increase per every — (41, 21, 15) **(15, 15, 20)**(19, 10, 10) knit sts.

— (128, 136, 144) **(152, 160, 168)** (184, 192, 200) sts.

Even rounds: k—(2, 2, 2) **(2, 2, 2)** (2, 2, 2) rounds even

Chart 1

Work Colorwork Chart 1, including increases where they appear.

360 (384, 408, 432) **(456, 480, 504)** (552, 576, 600) sts.

Repeat Round 58 of Chart 1 until piece measures 8 (8.25, 8.5, 8.75) **(9, 9.25, 9.5)** (9.75, 10, 10.25)"/ 20.5 (21, 21.5, 22) **(23, 23.5, 24)** (25, 25.5, 26) cm from CO at center Front.



Sleeve Split

Note: for Sizes 1-7, the repeats for Chart 2 will line up with Chart 1. This means you can keep the stitch markers where they are.

For Sizes 8-10, Chart 2 will be slightly shifted on the front of the body. After the first underarm, you will need to start removing old stitch markers and placing new ones to keep the 24 stitch repeat for the body.

This is a quirk of the math to keep the arms and bust fitting properly for these sizes. See below an image of a finished sweater to see the shifted pattern:

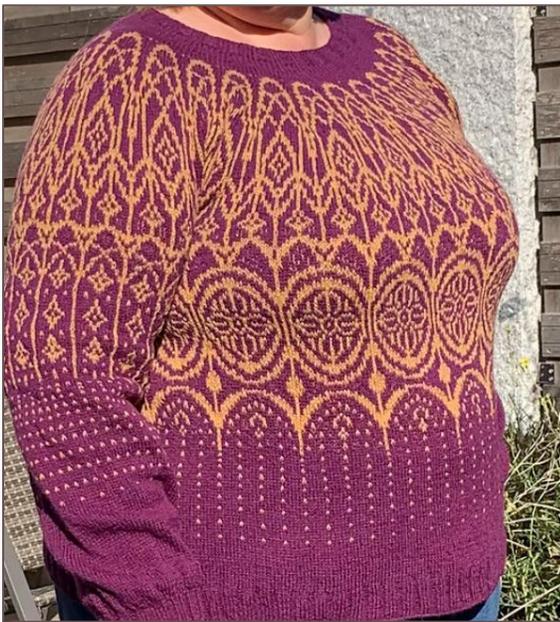


Image used with permission from Ravelry user u4fantasy

Sleeve Split:

- Knitting colorwork per Round 1 of Chart 2, k53 (58, 63, 67) **(72, 76, 82)** (87, 91, 94)
- transfer the next 74 (76, 78, 82) **(84, 88, 88)** (102, 106, 112) sts onto waste yarn for right sleeve
- CO 2 (4, 6, 10) **(12, 16, 16)** (18, 22, 28) sts, continuing in pattern from where you left off on Round 1 of Chart 2. *Refer to long-tail cast on in two colors video, linked in tutorials section.*
- k 106 (116, 126, 134) **(144, 152, 164)** (174, 182, 188) sts for front, continuing in pattern from where you left off on Row 1 of Chart 2.
- transfer the next 74 (76, 78, 82) **(84, 88, 88)** (102, 106, 112) sts onto waste yarn for left sleeve
- CO 2 (4, 6, 10) **(12, 16, 16)** (18, 22, 28) sts, continuing in pattern from where you left off on Round 1 of Chart 2. *Refer to long-tail cast on in two colors, linked in tutorials section.*
- K to end of round, continuing in pattern using Round 1 of Chart 2.

You will now have 216 (240, 264, 288) **(312, 336, 360)** (384, 408, 432) sts on the needle for the body.

Continue with the rest of Chart 2.

Complete Chart 3. Break CC yarn.

Continue straight in Stockinette until piece measures 14" / 35.5 cm from underarm, or about 2" / 5 cm short of desired length. Note that superwash wool has a tendency to stretch long when blocked and worn, so you may want to account for this by making the Stockinette section slightly shorter.

Decrease round: k round, decreasing 1 (0, 4, 3) **(2, 1, 0)** (4, 3, 2) sts evenly across round.

Begin working Bottom Rib:

You may switch to smaller needles if desired. Sample is made with all the same size needle, per the designer's preference.

Bottom Rib

Round 1: *k3, p2, repeat from * until end of round.

Repeat Round 1 for 2"/5 cm.

Bind off loosely in pattern.

Sleeves

Move the stitches of one sleeve from waste yarn to short circular needle (or DPNs or long circular for magic loop) that is the same size as the body needle. Place temporary BORM. With the MC and CC, pick up and knit 1 (8, 6, 14) **(12, 20, 20)** (18, 26, 32) sts from the underarm cast on area in the corresponding yarn color. Be sure to leave a long enough tail for closing any holes and weaving in ends.

- **Note:** for size 1, this means you will be picking up 1 fewer stitch than was cast on, using the MC. You can pick up both stitches at the underarm and knit them together. **THEN** follow the instructions below to decrease to the correct number.
- **Note:** this means that, for Sizes 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 10, you will be picking up 4 **more** stitches than were cast on. In order to generate these additional 4 stitches, you can pick up 2 extra stitches on either side of the cast on stitches to help eliminate the hole in the underarm. These can be picked up in the MC. Pick up the cast on stitches as normal.

75 (84, 84, 96) **(96, 108, 108)** (120, 132, 144) sts.

Note: as you proceed with this first round, the CC stitches in Round 1 of Chart 4 will line up with the CC stitches from Round 58 of Chart 1.

Size 1: Continuing onto the rest of the sleeve stitches, work Round 1 of Chart 4 starting on stitch column number 6. Work Round 1 until 8 sts remain. Place new (permanent) BORM. K2tog 3 times. Remove temporary BORM, continue working Round 2 of Chart 4, starting with stitch column number 6. (Note – future rounds will start with column 1 as normal, right after the BORM.) 72 sts on the needle. Skip to "All Sizes" section below.

Sizes 2-10: Continuing onto the rest of the sleeve stitches, work Round 1 of Chart 4 starting on stitch column number – (11, 4, 8) **(1, 5, 11)** (4, 8, 11) of the chart (this lines up the CC sts with the CC sts in the Yoke). Remove temporary BORM. Continue in

Round 1 pattern for another – (10,3, 7) **(12, 4, 10)** (3, 7, 10) sts. Place new (permanent) BORM, continue working Round 2 of Chart 4, starting from column 1 as normal.

All sizes:

Continue working Chart 4 to end Round 47.

Work Chart 5, making sure to follow the correct chart, either 5A or 5B, for your size. Sizes 6-10 will have decreases in the chart.

At the end of Chart 5, break the CC and continue in Stockinette in MC only.

72 (84, 84, 96) **(96, 96, 96)** (108, 120, 132) sts.



Sleeve Decreases (Sizes 2-10 only - Size 1 proceed to All Sizes section below):

After finishing Chart 5, *work a decrease round as described below then work — (7, 7, 6) **(6, 7, 7)** (6, 3, 2) Stockinette round(s) without decreases.

Decrease Round: k2, k2tog, k to 4 sts before BORM, ssk, k2 (2 sts decreased).

Repeat from * until a total of — (4, 4, 6) **(6, 4, 4)** (6, 12, 18) decrease rounds have been worked.

— (76, 76, 84) **(84, 88, 88)** (96, 96, 96) sts.

All sizes: continue in Stockinette until sleeve measures 16.5" / 42 cm from underarm, or 2" / 5 cm from desired sleeve length.

Note that superwash wool has a tendency to stretch long when blocked and worn, so you may want to account for this by making the Stockinette section slightly shorter.

Bishop Sleeve Decrease Round 1: *k2, k2tog, repeat from * until all sts have been worked.

54 (57, 57, 63) **(63, 66, 66)** (72, 72, 72) sts.

Decrease Round 2: k round, decreasing 4 (2, 2, 3) **(3, 1, 1)** (2, 2, 2) sts evenly across round.

50 (55, 55, 60) **(60, 65, 65)** (70, 70, 70) sts.

Ribbing:

Switch to smaller needles.

Round 1: *k3, p2, repeat from * until end of round.

Repeat Round 1 for 2"/5 cm.

Bind off loosely in pattern.

Work second sleeve as first.

Finishing

Weave in ends. Extra weaving in may be required at underarms to close up any holes. Block to measurements. Enjoy!



CHART 1

For this chart, work Rounds 1-57 once then repeat Round 58 until yoke measures 8 (8.25, 8.5, 8.75) (9, 9.25, 9.5) (9.75, 10, 10.25)" / 20.5 (21, 21.5, 22) (23, 23.5, 24) (25, 25.5, 26) cm from CO at center Front.

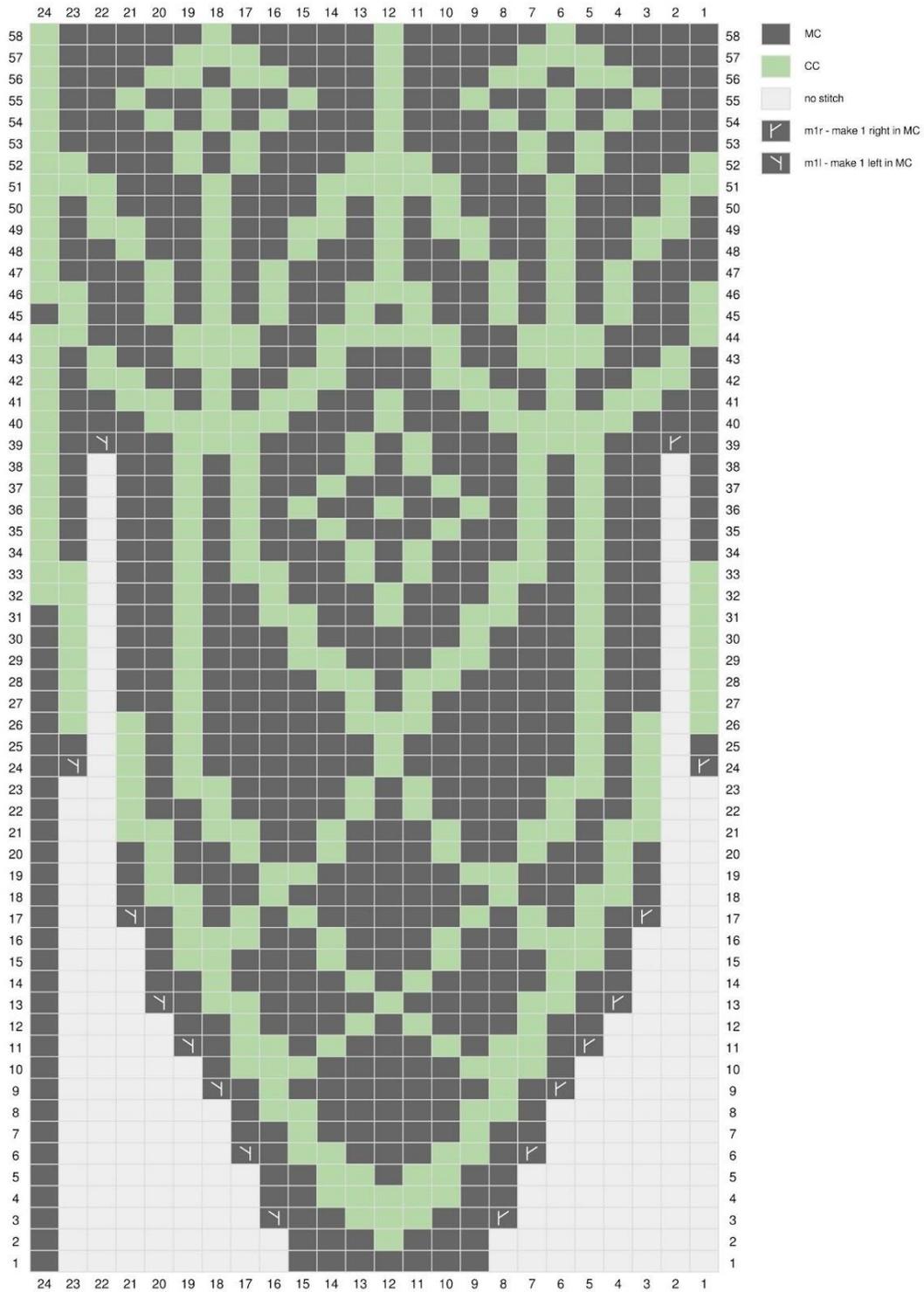


CHART 2

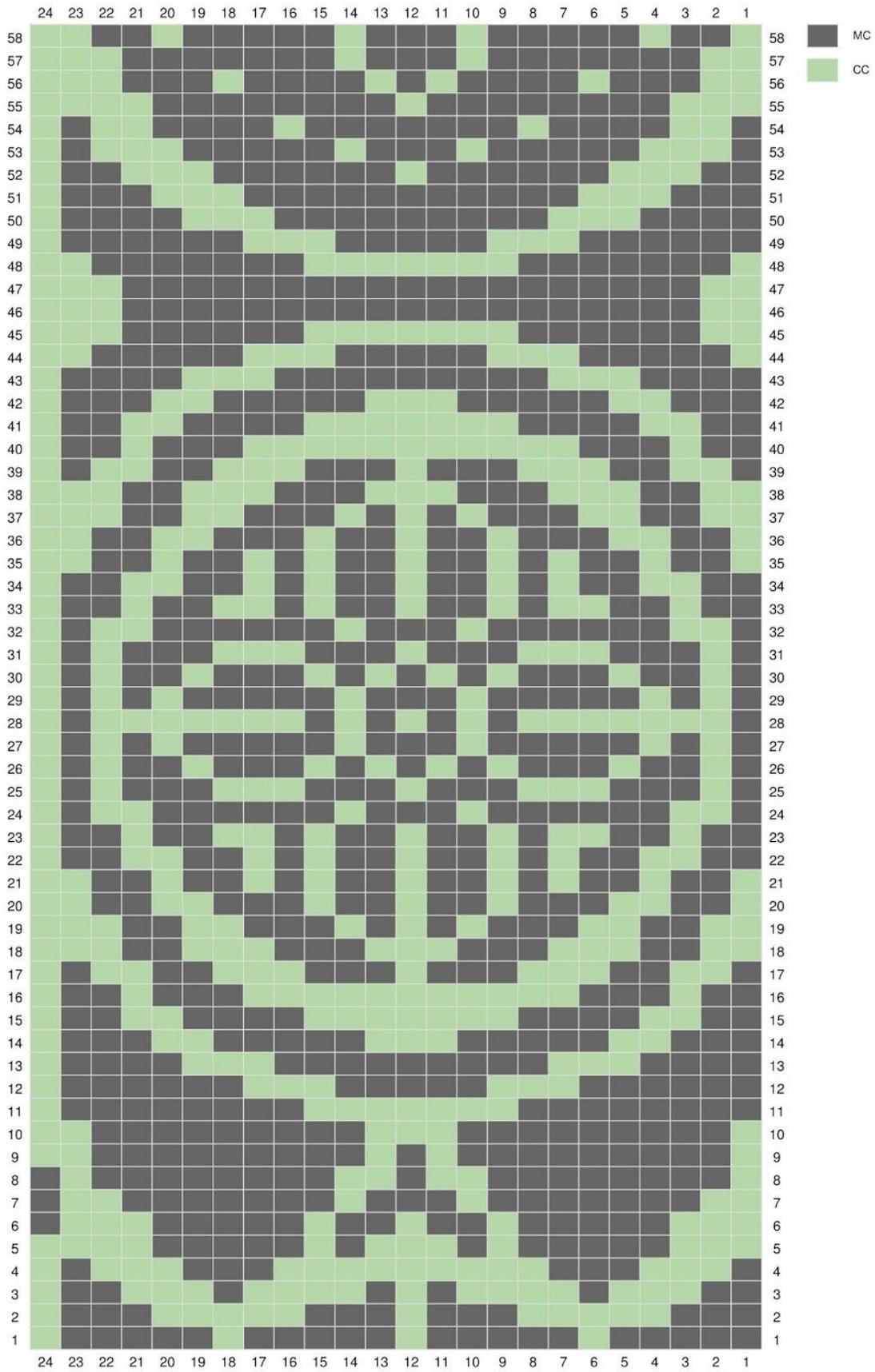


CHART 3

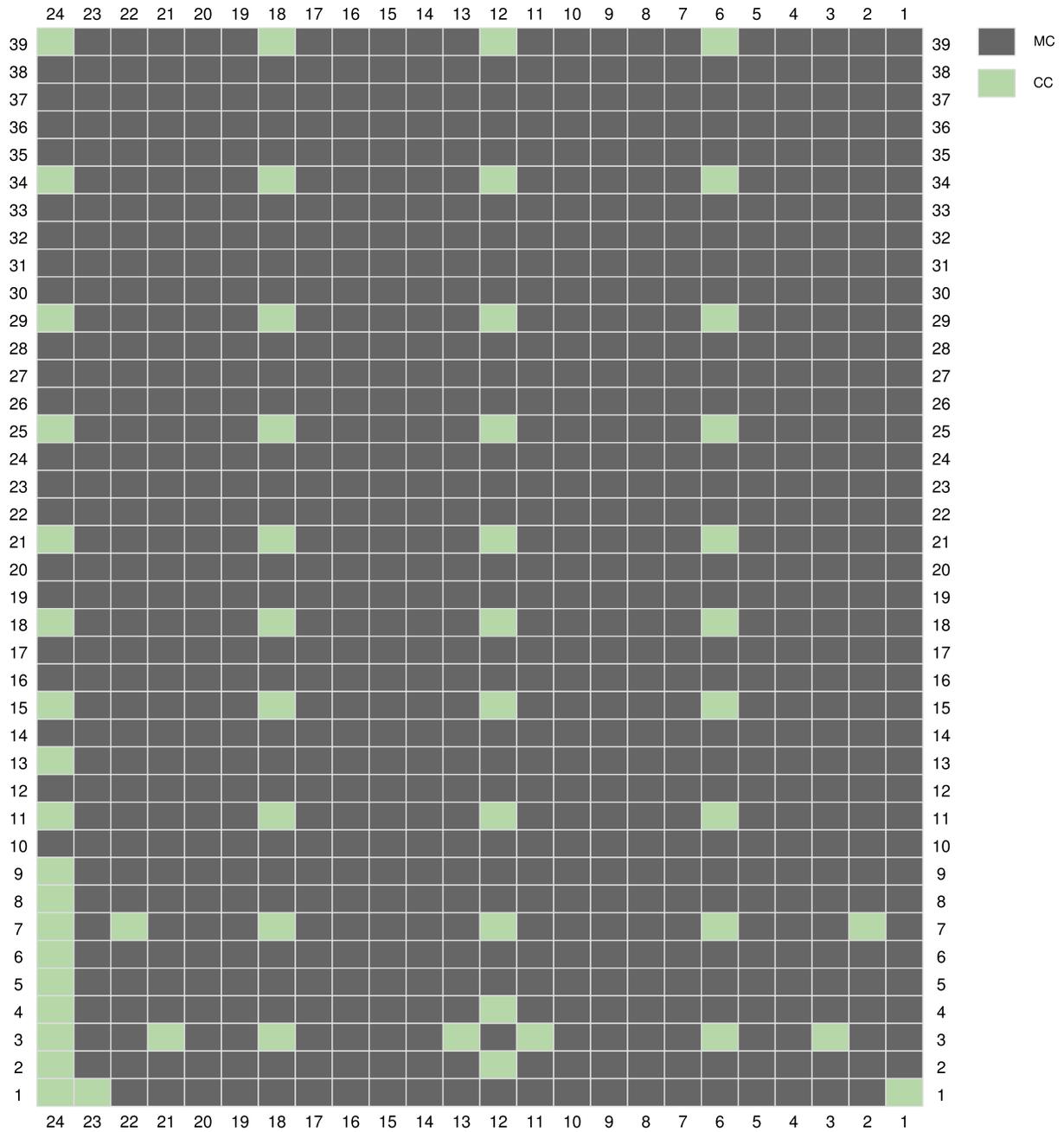


CHART 4

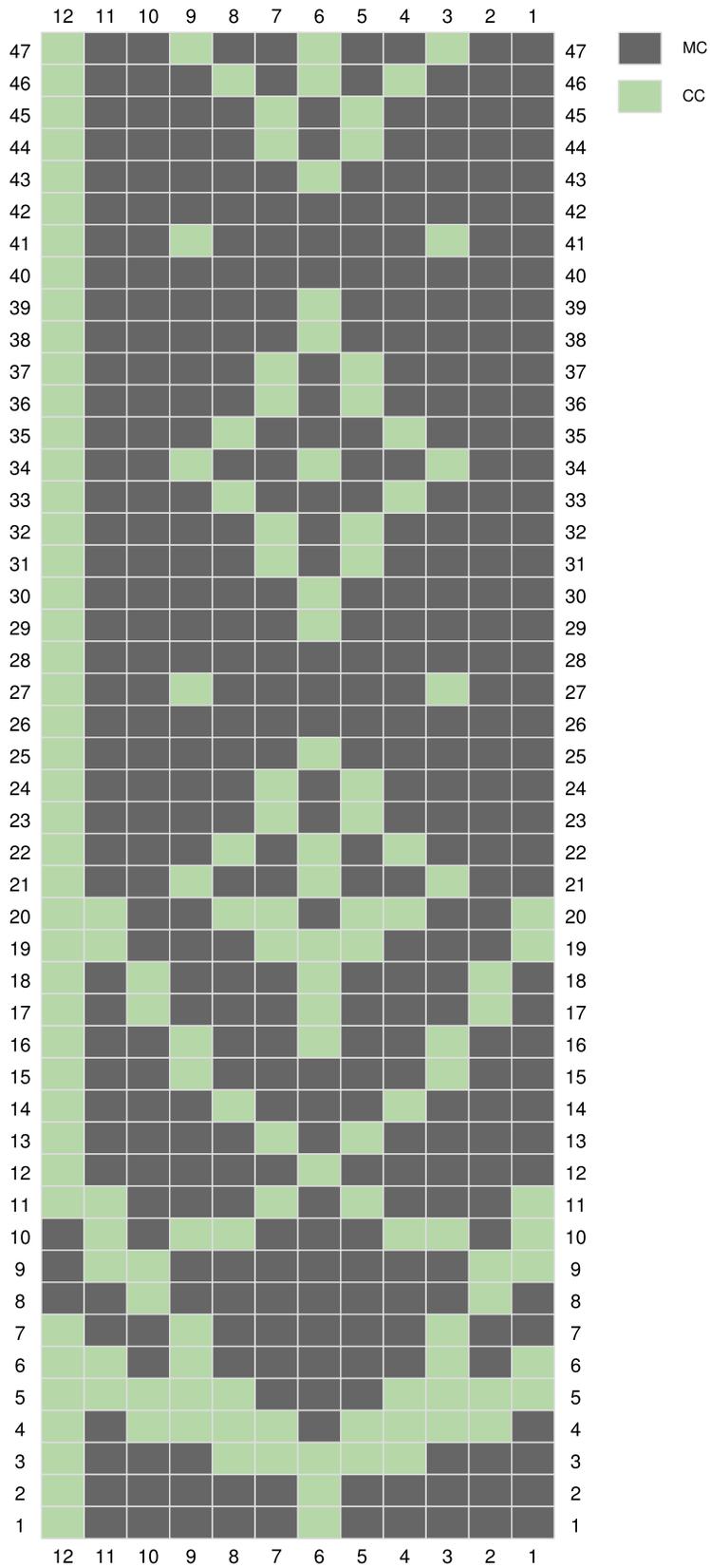


CHART 5A – Sizes 1-5

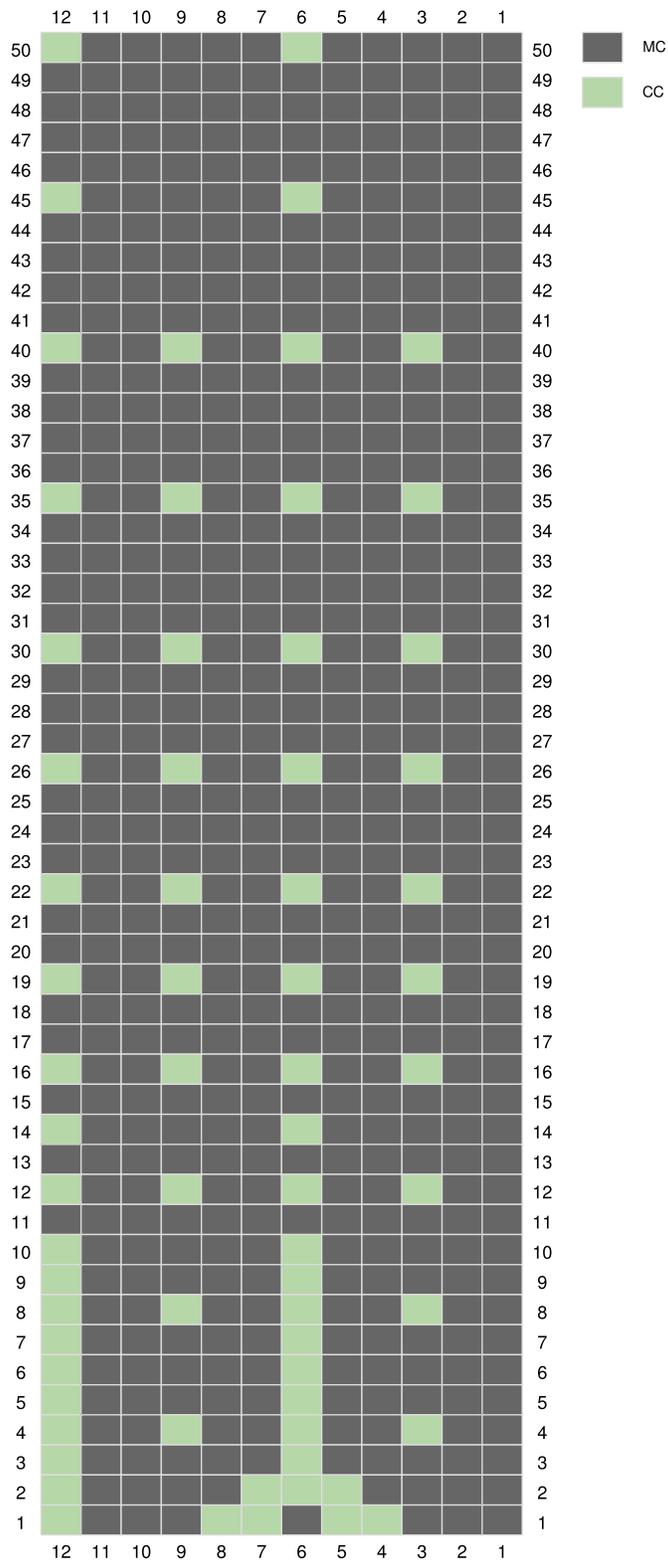
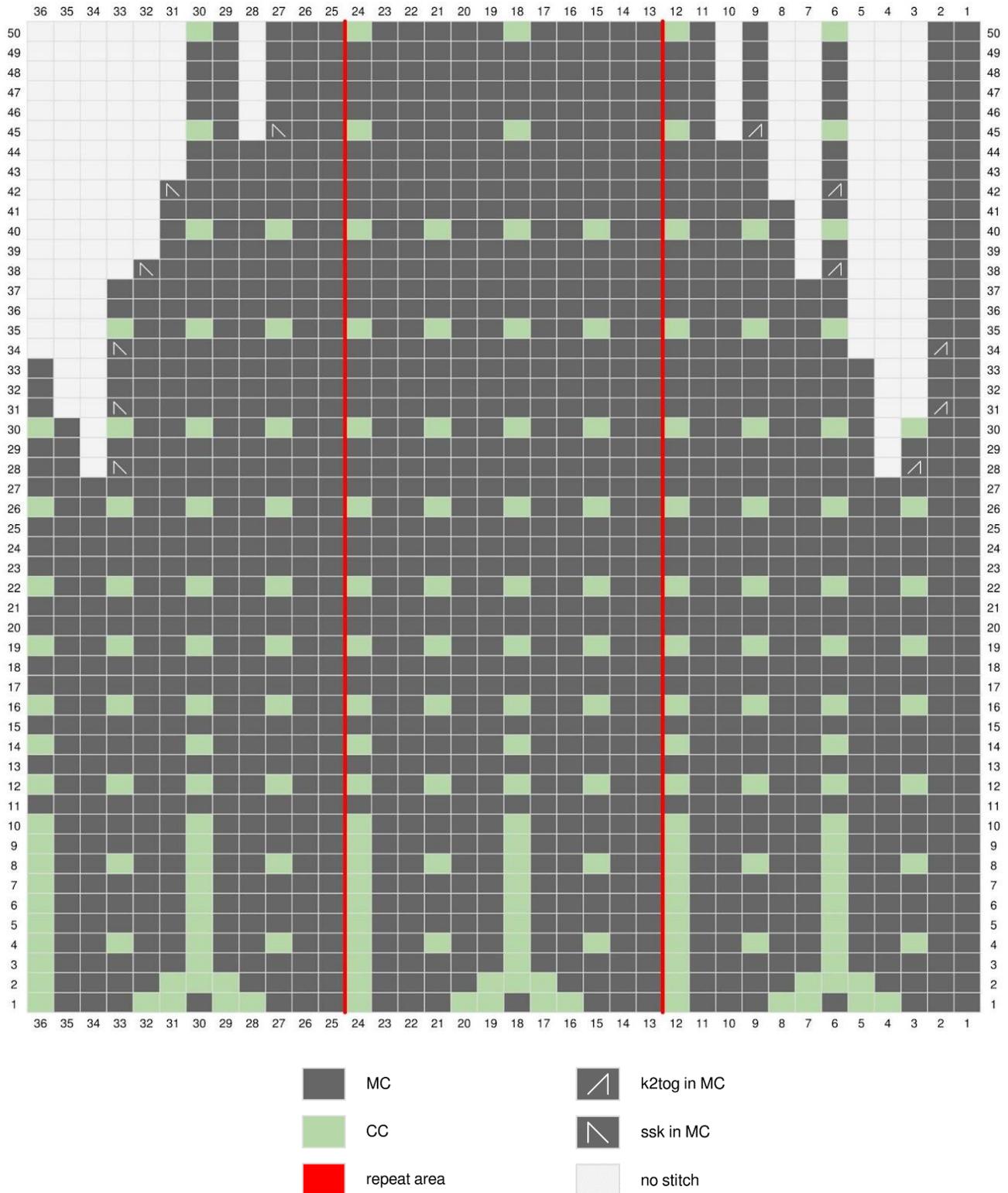
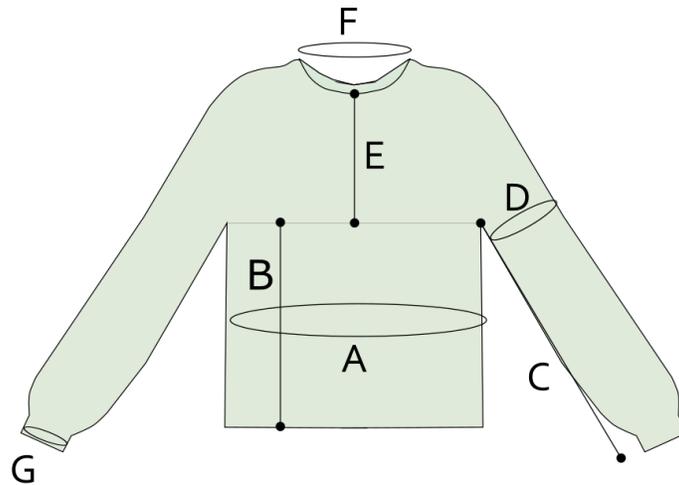


CHART 5B – Sizes 6-10

For these sizes, stitch columns 1-12 and 25-36 represent the first and last repeat of the round, respectively. When following this chart, work sts 1-12, repeat sts 13-24 until 12 sts remain, then work sts 25-36.



SCHEMATIC



		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A - Bust Circumference	inches	33.25	37	40.25	44.25	48	51.75	55.5	59	62.75	66.5
	cm	84.5	94	102	112.5	122	131.5	141	150	159.5	169
B - Underarm to Hem	inches	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
	cm	40.5	40.5	40.5	40.5	40.5	40.5	40.5	40.5	40.5	40.5
C - Arm Length	inches	19.5	19.5	19.5	19.5	19.5	19.5	19.5	19.5	19.5	19.5
	cm	49.5	49.5	49.5	49.5	49.5	49.5	49.5	49.5	49.5	49.5
D - Upper Arm Circumference	inches	11	13	13	14.75	14.75	16.5	16.5	18.5	20.25	22.25
	cm	28	33	33	37.5	37.5	42	42	47	51.5	56.5
E - Yoke Depth	inches	8	8.25	8.5	8.75	9	9.25	9.5	9.75	10	10.25
	cm	20.5	21	21.5	22	23	23.5	24	25	25.5	26
F - Neck Circumference	inches	18.5	19.25	19.25	20	20	20.75	21.5	21.5	22.25	23
	cm	47	49	49	51	51	52.5	54.5	54.5	56.5	58.5
G - Cuff Circumference (unstretched)	inches	6.5	7.25	7.25	8	8	8.5	8.5	9.25	9.25	9.25
	cm	16.5	18.5	18.5	20.5	20.5	21.5	21.5	23.5	23.5	23.5

EASE

Sample is Size 2 with 2" / 10 cm of positive ease.

Pattern is designed to be worn with 0-6" / 0-15 cm of positive ease.

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If you have any questions about this pattern or note any issues, please contact me at sharonkhartley@gmail.com.

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