

# Heartless Top

By Emma Jaeger



## Overview

The Heartless Top is exactly the top you should wear to break hearts in (wink, wink). The heart cut-out, which keeps its shape with wire reinforcements, makes this piece a serious statement. Otherwise, it features a simple and clean design with a high neckline, double-knit armhole edgings, and a folded hem for the bottom edge. Turn heads and break hearts in this iconic tank!

## Yarn

443 (504, 567, 637, 701, 775) (845, 910, 990, 1062) yards [404 (460, 518, 582, 640, 707) (771, 831, 904, 970) meters] of worsted- or DK-weight yarn to achieve gauge. You may need more if you are planning to make a longer length tank top, although these yardages already have an extra 10% as buffer. I recommend choosing a fiber that will provide enough elasticity for this style of top, such as a wool or wool/cotton blend.

The red sample pictured above was knit in a size 2 and used approximately 1.6 skeins of Hazel Knits Lively DK (90% superwash merino wool, 10% nylon/polyamide, 275yd/251m per 130g skein) in the colorway Ruby Love.

The purple sample pictured at the end of the pattern was knit in a size 2 and used approximately 1.5 skeins of Dream in Color Classy (100% merino wool, 250yd/229m per 113g skein) in the colorway Lavender Bloom. This sample used less yarn since it was slightly more cropped than the pattern calls for.

## Gauge

22 sts and 34 rows in stockinette stitch to 4" [10 cm] on US 5 [3.75 mm] needles or needles needed to obtain gauge, after blocking.

## Needles & Notions

- US 5 [3.75 mm] circular needles for working the body, or whatever size needles are needed to achieve gauge as mentioned above
  - Recommended cable length will vary. I recommend choosing between 16", 24", 32", or 40" needles (depending on your size and preferred method for working in the round).
- US 4 [3.5 mm] circular needles for working the hem and neckline
  - Recommended cable length will vary, but I recommend choosing a needle with a shorter cable length (closer to 16") as this needle will only need to span the neckline of the top and other smaller details.
- **(Optional, but strongly recommended)** 20 gauge [0.88 mm] galvanized steel wire to add structure to the heart cut-out
  - **Note:** It is not recommended to machine wash your top if you've included wire, but using wire is highly recommended for structural integrity.
  - If using wire, wire cutters and pliers are also highly recommended
- Removable stitch markers
- Tapestry needle
- Stitch holder or waste yarn to place stitches on temporarily

## Size Guide

Size	1	2	3	4	5
To fit bust size	26-28 in 66-71 cm	28-30 in 71-76 cm	32-34 in 81-86 cm	36-38 in 91-97 cm	40-42 in 102-107 cm
<b>A:</b> Body circumference (unstretched)	21 in 53.5 cm	25 in 66 cm	29 in 74 cm	33 in 84 cm	37 in 94 cm
<b>B:</b> Total length (recommended)	16.75 in 42.5 cm	17 in 43 cm	17.5 in 44.5 cm	17.75 in 45 cm	18 in 45.5 cm

Size	6	7	8	9	10
To fit bust size	44-46 in 112-117 cm	48-50 in 122-127 cm	52-54 in 132-137 cm	56-58 in 142-147 cm	60-62 in 152-157 cm
<b>A:</b> Body circumference (unstretched)	41 in 104.5 cm	45 in 114.5 cm	49 in 124.5 cm	53 in 135 cm	57 in 145 cm
<b>B:</b> Total length (recommended)	18.25 in 46.5 cm	18.75 in 47.5 cm	19 in 48.5 cm	19.25 in 49 cm	19.75 in 50 cm

**Ease:** The red sample is worn in a size 2 with about 4" [10 cm] negative ease, which is the recommended ease factored into the size chart above.

**Body length:** All sizes have a recommended body length of 9.25" [23.5 cm] from the underarm through the hem. A longer body will require more yarn.

## Construction

This tank top is knit seamlessly from the top down. Begin by casting on across the back shoulders and working flat down to the underarm. Stitches are picked up along the cast-on edge of the back to work the front shoulders, followed by increasing to join the neckline. The front panel is then knit flat with the heart cutout being incorporated until the front and back are joined under the armholes.

The main body is worked in the round with optional waist shaping and ending with a folded hem. The armholes are finished with a double-knit edging and the neckband is finished with a 1x1 rib folded hem. An applied i-cord edging (with a wire insert recommended) is used to finish off the heart cutout.

## Abbreviations & Techniques

**cdd:** center double decrease; slip two stitches together knitwise, knit one stitch, pass the two slipped stitches over the knitted stitch.

**CO:** cast on

**k:** knit

**k2tog:** knit two together

**k2togtbl:** knit two together through the back loops

**m1r:** make one right; insert your left needle tip under the bar between needles from back to front, place the bar on your left needle tip, knit this stitch through the front loop.

**m1l:** make one left; insert your left needle tip under the bar between needles from front to back, place the bar on your left needle tip, knit this stitch through the back loop.

**m1rp:** make one right purlwise; follow the instructions for m1l above, but *purl* the stitch rather than knitting it.

**m1lp:** make one left purlwise; follow the instructions for m1r above, but *purl* the stitch rather than knitting it.

**p:** purl

**p2tog:** purl two together

**RS:** right side

**sl1wyif:** slip one with yarn in front; bring yarn to the front of the needle, then slip one stitch as if to purl.

**sm:** slip marker

**ssk:** slip, slip, knit; slip one stitch as if to knit, slip a second stitch as if to knit, return these stitches to the left-hand needle in this position and knit them together through the back loops.

**ssp:** slip, slip, purl; slip one stitch as if to knit, slip a second stitch as if to knit, return these stitches to the left-hand needle in this position and purl them together through the back loops.

**WS:** wrong side

**Recommended video tutorials:** [knitted cast on](#) | [folded hem](#) | [double-knit edge](#) | [joining i-cord in the round](#) | [wire i-cord edging and folded over neckband](#)

## Back

Cast on 51 (53, 55, 59, 61, 65) (67, 69, 73, 75) stitches using the long-tail cast on method. Work in stockinette stitch (knitting the RS rows and purling the WS rows) starting with a WS row for 7.25 (7, 6.75, 7.25, 7, 7.25) (7.25, 7, 7, 7) in [18.5 (18, 17.5, 18, 18, 18.5) (18.5, 18, 18, 18) cm], ending on a WS row.

### Armhole Increases

#### Sizes 1-3 only:

**Row 1 (RS):** k1, m1l, k to the last stitch, m1r, k1. (2 sts increased)

**Row 2 (WS):** p to end.

Work rows 1 and 2 a total of 1 (2, 2, -, -, -) (-, -, -, -) times.

#### Sizes 2-10 only:

**Row 3 (RS):** k1, m1l, k to the last stitch, m1r, k1. (2 sts increased)

**Row 4 (WS):** p1, m1rp, p to the last stitch, m1lp, p1. (2 sts increased)

Work rows 3 and 4 a total of - (1, 3, 5, 7, 8) (9, 11, 13, 14) times.

**Sizes 2-5, 7-8, and 10 only:** Repeat row 3 once more.

**Sizes 1, 6, and 9 only:** K to end.

**All sizes:** You should now have 53 (63, 73, 81, 91, 97) (105, 115, 125, 133) sts total. Cut yarn and place stitches on hold. Continue to front.

## Front

### Left Strap

With RS facing and CO edge facing up, count in 10 (10, 10, 12, 12, 13) (14, 14, 16, 16) stitches from the left corner of the back piece, then pick up and knit 10 (10, 10, 12, 12, 13) (14, 14, 16, 16) stitches from this point on the cast-on edge. Work in stockinette stitch for 0.75 (1, 1, 1.5, 1.75, 1.75) (1.75, 2.25, 2.5, 2.75) inch(es) [2 (2.5, 2.5, 4, 4.5, 4.5) (4.5, 5.5, 6.5, 7) cm], ending on a WS row.

### Neckline Increases

**Row 1 (RS):** k1, m1l, k to end. (1 st increased)

**Row 2 (WS):** p to end.

Work rows 1 and 2 a total of 5 times. You should now have 15 (15, 15, 17, 17, 18) (19, 19, 21, 21) sts total. Cut yarn and place stitches on hold while you complete the right strap.

## Right Strap

Beginning at the right corner of the back piece, pick up and knit 10 (10, 10, 12, 12, 13) (14, 14, 16, 16) stitches from the cast-on edge. Work in stockinette stitch for 0.75 (1, 1, 1.5, 1.75, 1.75) (1.75, 2.25, 2.5, 2.75) inches [2 (2.5, 2.5, 4, 4.5, 4.5) (4.5, 5.5, 6.5, 7) cm], ending on a WS row.

### Neckline Increases

**Row 1 (RS):** k to last stitch, m1r, k1. (1 st increased)

**Row 2 (WS):** p to end.

Work rows 1 and 2 a total of 5 times. You should now have 15 (15, 15, 17, 17, 18) (19, 19, 21, 21) sts total.

### Joining Fronts

**CO Row (RS):** k to the end of the right strap. CO 21 (23, 25, 25, 27, 29) (29, 31, 31, 33) stitches using the knitted cast on ([suggested YouTube tutorial](#) to follow). Place the stitches for the left front on the needle and k to end. You should have 51 (53, 55, 59, 61, 65) (67, 69, 73, 75) sts total.

Work in stockinette stitch for 1 inch [2.5 cm], ending on a WS row.

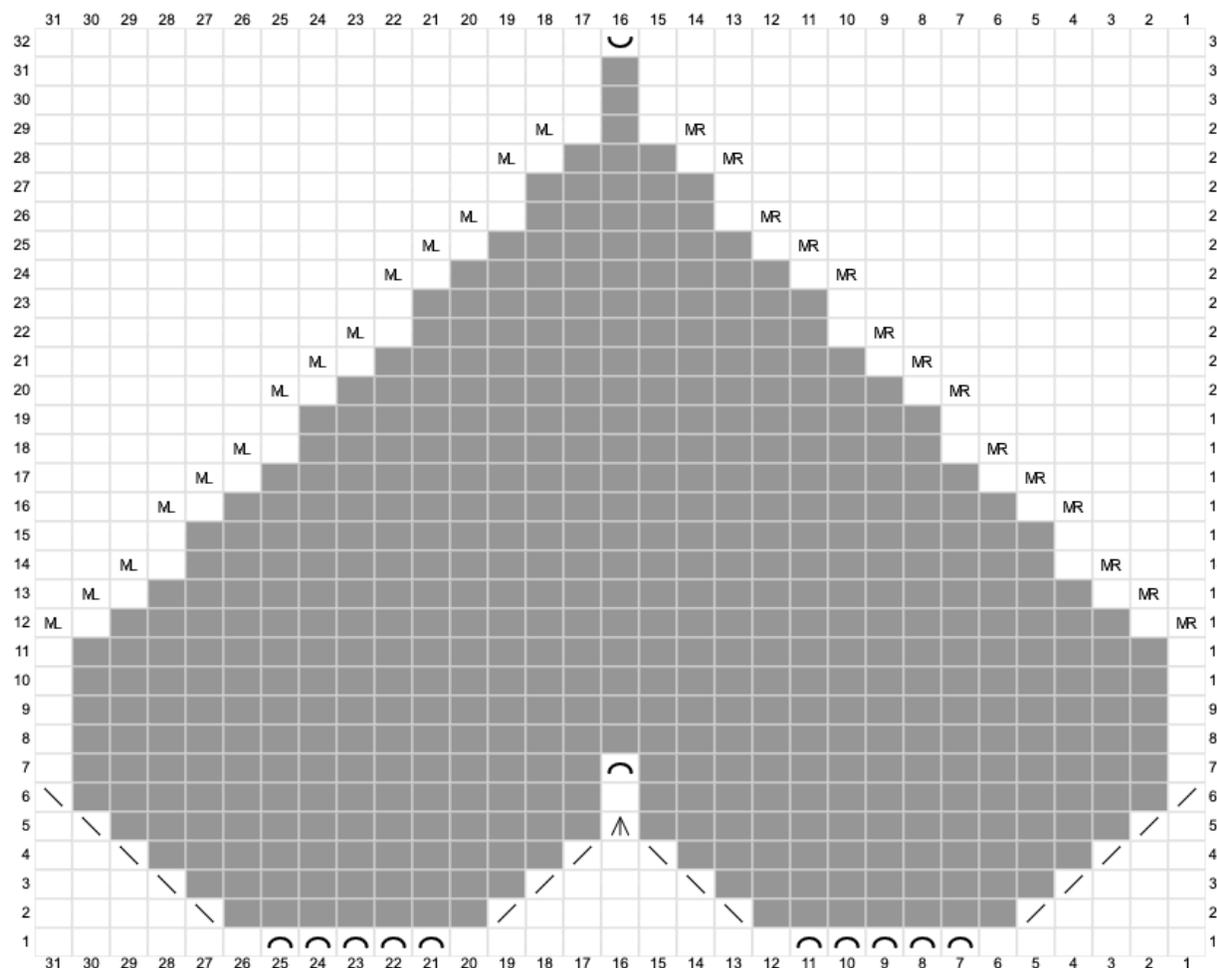
## Heart Motif

Follow the chart to create the heart motif as follows. Note that you'll have to knit all three segments of the cut-out separately (the left side, center/top of the heart, and right side). A full chart of the heart cut-out is provided to give a general sense of how the cut-out is shaped, but I would recommend working directly from the separate left, right, and center charts while working those respective pieces for greater clarity.

### Legend

	k (p on WS)
	no stitch
	ssk (ssp on WS)
	bind off
	m1r (m1rp on WS)
	k2tog (p2tog on WS)
	m1l (m1lp on WS)
	cast on
	cdd

## Joined Chart



**Setup round (RS):** K10 (11, 12, 14, 15, 17) (18, 19, 21, 22), place marker, follow the chart for row 1 on the **joined** chart, place marker, k10 (11, 12, 14, 15, 17) (18, 19, 21, 22). Place stitches which will not be actively knit in the next row (corresponding to stitch numbers 1 through 20 on the chart, plus the plain stockinette to the right of those stitches) on a stitch holder or spare needle. You will continue to work the left half of the heart.

### Left Side of Heart

**Row 1 (WS):** P to marker, sl marker, follow the current row of the left chart (starting with row 2).

**Row 2 (RS):** Follow the current row of the chart to marker, sl marker, k to end.

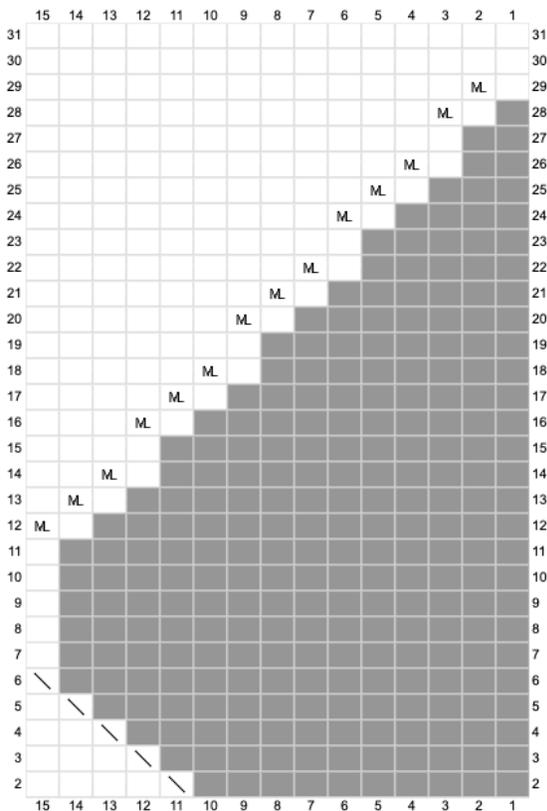
Repeat rows 1 and 2 until you have finished the chart **OR** have worked the front to a depth of 7.25 (7, 6.75, 7.25, 7, 7.25) (7.25, 7, 7, 7) inches [18.5 (18, 17.5, 18, 18, 18.5) (18.5, 18, 18, 18) cm] from the back cast-on edge, at which point you will start working the armhole increases.

**Size 1** will need to work 0.5 inch [1.5 cm] in stockinette stitch after completing the chart before beginning armhole increases, assuming you match the pattern's row gauge. **Size 2** will be

ready to work the armhole increases after finishing the chart, assuming you match the pattern's row gauge. **Sizes 3-10** are expected to begin the armhole shaping simultaneously while working the chart.

**IMPORTANT:** If you are beginning armhole increases before you have completed the separate left chart, it is important to **note down which row** of the chart you begin armhole increases on. This is necessary so that you can begin the armhole increases on the same row for the right side of the heart and therefore have a symmetrical top.

### Left Chart



**Note:** This chart intentionally does not have a row 1. You should follow row 1 on the **joined** chart before beginning to follow the individual left, right, and middle charts, which start with row 2 (a WS row).

### Left Armhole Increases

#### **Sizes 1-2 only:**

Work to the end of the left chart and then proceed to the **Top Edge of Heart** instructions.

#### **Size 3 only:**

**Row 1 (RS):** follow current row of left chart to marker, sl marker, k to last stitch, m1r, k1. (1 st increased)

**Row 2 (WS):** p to end.

Work rows 1 and 2 a total of - (-, 2, -, -, -) (-, -, -, -) times **OR** until you've reached the end of the left chart, at which point you should proceed to the **Top Edge of Heart** instructions. If you have still not reached the end of the left chart after completing these increase rows, proceed to rows 3 & 4.

### **Sizes 3-10 only:**

**Row 3 (RS):** follow current row of left chart to marker, sl marker, k to last stitch, m1r, k1. (1 st increased)

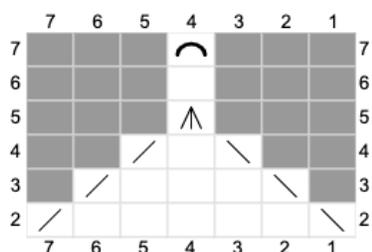
**Row 4 (WS):** p1, m1rp, p to marker, sl marker, follow current row of left chart. (1 st increased)

Work rows 3 and 4 a total of - (-, 3, 5, 7, 8) (9, 11, 13, 14) times **OR** until you've reached the end of the left chart, at which point you should proceed to the **Top Edge of Heart** instructions.

### **Top Edge of Heart**

Place the stitches for the left side of the heart on a stitch holder or spare needle and cut yarn. Place the stitches for the top edge of the heart cutout (the 9 stitches in the middle of your work) on your needles and attach yarn to the **left** side of the work to begin knitting on a **wrong side** row. Follow the chart as follows to complete the top edge of the heart. Break yarn and thread through the last st.

### **Top Chart**



**Note:** This chart intentionally does not have a row 1. You should follow row 1 on the **joined** chart before beginning to follow the individual left, right, and middle charts, which start with row 2 (a WS row).

### **Right Side of Heart**

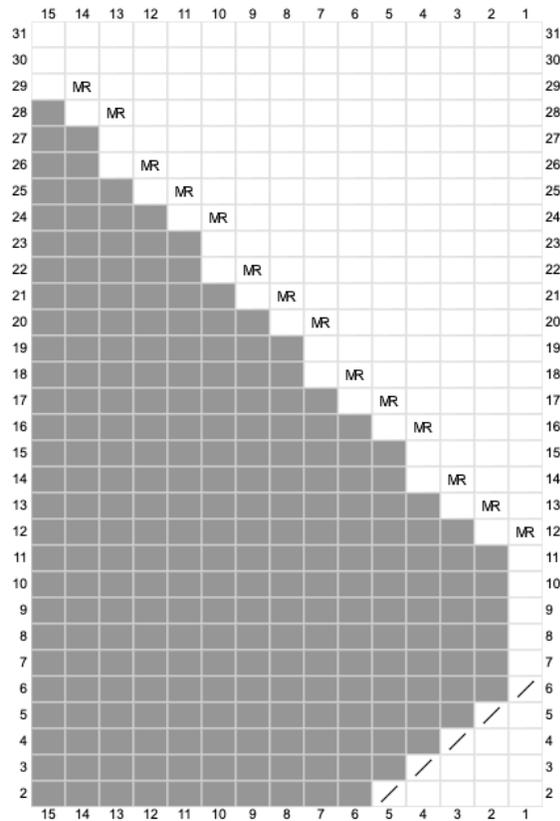
Place the stitches for the right side of the heart cutout on your needles and attach yarn to the left side of the work to begin knitting on a wrong side row.

**Row 1 (WS):** Follow the current row of the chart to marker, sl marker, p to end.

**Row 2 (RS):** K to marker, sl marker, follow the current row of the right chart (starting with row 2).

Repeat rows 1 and 2 until you have finished the chart **OR** until you have reached the row at which you began armhole increases on the left side of the chart. You will proceed to work the right armhole increases the same way you worked the right armhole increases, but mirrored.

## Right Chart



**Note:** This chart intentionally does not have a row 1. You should follow row 1 on the **joined** chart before beginning to follow the individual left, right, and middle charts, which start with row 2 (a WS row).

## Right Armhole Increases

### Sizes 1-2 only:

Work to the end of the left chart and then proceed to the **Right Side of Heart** instructions.

### Size 3 only:

**Row 1 (RS):** k1, m1l, k to marker, sl marker, follow current row of right chart.

**Row 2 (WS):** p to end.

Work rows 1 and 2 a total of - (-, 2, -, -, -) (-, -, -, -) times **OR** until you've reached the end of the right chart, at which point you should proceed to the **Joined Front Piece** instructions.

### Sizes 3-10 only:

**Row 3 (RS):** k1, m1l, k to marker, sl marker, follow current row of right chart. (1 st increased)

**Row 4 (WS):** follow current row of right chart to marker, sl marker, p to last stitch, m1lp, p1. (1 st increased)

Work rows 3 and 4 a total of - (-, 3, 5, 7, 8) (9, 11, 13, 14) times **OR** until you've reached the end of the left chart, at which point you should proceed to the **Joined Front Piece** instructions.

### Joined Front Piece

Once you've completed rows 31 on both the left and right charts, you'll join together the left and right sides of the heart cutout as follows.

**Joining row (WS):** You will now work **row 32** (a WS row) from the joined chart, where stitches 1-15 correspond with the right heart stitches and 17-31 correspond with the left heart stitches. Cut yarn from the stitches currently being worked and re-attach yarn to the left side of the left heart stitches to begin knitting on a wrong side row.

**Sizes 1-2 or if you have not begun armhole increases:** p to start of left chart, follow instructions for stitches 17-31 of **row 32** on the joined chart, cast on one stitch for stitch 16, place stitches for right heart, follow instructions for stitches 1-15 of joined chart, p to end.

**Sizes 3-10 if you HAVE begun armhole increases:** work the chart stitches for row 32 as described above for sizes 1-2. However, instead of plain purl stitches before and after the chart, you will need to incorporate the armhole increases. Start these increases from **where you left off** on the left and right sides. That is, if you haven't yet completed the repeat count for rows 3 and 4 for your size, refer to the instructions for row 4 (on pages 6 and 8) to match the existing pattern for armhole increases on both sides of the heart.

### Joined Armhole Increases

If you have not yet begun armhole increases, ensure you have worked the front to a depth of 7.25 (7, 6.75, 7.25, 7, 7.25) (7.25, 7, 7, 7) inches [18.5 (18, 17.5, 18, 18, 18.5) (18.5, 18, 18, 18) cm] from the back cast-on edge before proceeding with the instructions below. Work in stockinette stitch (knit on RS and purl on WS) until this length has been reached.

If you **HAVE** begun armhole increases, proceed with the instructions below **starting from where you left off** on the separate left and right sides. That is, if you are making a size 6 and have completed rows 3 and 4 three times each, you will need to work rows 3 and 4 below five times for a **total** of eight times.

#### **Sizes 1-3 only:**

**Row 1 (RS):** k1, m1l, k to the last stitch, m1r, k1. (2 sts increased)

**Row 2 (WS):** p to end.

Work rows 1 and 2 a total of 1 (2, 2, -, -, -) (-, -, -, -) times.

#### **Sizes 2-10 only:**

**Row 3 (RS):** k1, m1l, k to the last stitch, m1r, k1. (2 sts increased)

**Row 4 (WS):** p1, m1rp, p to the last stitch, m1lp, p1. (2 sts increased)

Work rows 3 and 4 a total of - (1, 3, 5, 7, 8) (9, 11, 13, 14) times.

**Sizes 2-5, 7-8, and 10 only:** Repeat row 3 once more.

**Sizes 1, 6, and 9 only:** K to end.

**All sizes:** You should now have 53 (63, 73, 81, 91, 97) (105, 115, 125, 133) sts total.

## Joining in the Round

Place marker for beginning of round. Cast on 5 (6, 7, 10, 11, 16) (19, 20, 21, 24) stitches using the knitted cast-on. Continue knitting across the back stitches, cast on 5 (6, 7, 10, 11, 16) (19, 20, 21, 24) stitches, join with the front stitches and continue to k to marker for beginning of round. You should have 116 (138, 160, 182, 204, 226) (248, 270, 292, 314) sts total.

## Body

Continue to work in stockinette stitch (knitting every round) until the piece measures approximately 1 inch [2.5 cm] from the armpit. I would recommend trying your piece on intermittently; adding (optional) waist decreases is the next step, so you may wish to complete these earlier or later depending on where your natural waist sits.

**Note:** If you wish to check on the fit of your piece before knitting the body, I would recommend cutting the yarn and completing the ribbed neckline, armhole edging, and i-cord edging on the heart at this point. This is optional as these steps can be completed when the body is fully knitted, but I strongly recommend doing these finishing steps earlier in the process to verify the fit is correct so you can correct any issues early on. Otherwise, continue to the body section.

### (Optional) Waist Decreases

You may choose to do more or fewer decreases depending on what fits your waist. I completed three decrease rounds (decreasing 4 stitches per round) for a total of 12 sts decreased, which is reflected in the following instructions.

**Setup round:** K58 (69, 80, 91, 102, 113) (124, 135, 146, 157), place stitch marker to mark the middle of the round, k to end.

**Decrease round:** K1, k2tog, knit to 3 before stitch marker for middle of round, ssk, k1, sm, k1, k2tog, k to 3 stitches before end of round, ssk, k1.

Knit 9 plain rounds, then work the decrease round. Do this twice more for a total of three decrease rounds. You can choose to continue decreasing in this method, or stop after three decreases as shown in the sample. 104 (126, 148, 170, 192, 214) (236, 258, 280, 302) sts total.

## Remaining Body

Continue to work in stockinette stitch to desired length. I continued to knit for a total length of about 8.25 inches [21 cm] for the body measuring from the armpit. This gave me a slightly cropped tank top as pictured. Note that the folded hem in the next step will add about 1 inch [2.5 cm] of length to the body, so please account for this additional length when deciding when to stop knitting.

## Folded Hem

Attach a removable stitch marker to the first stitch in the round. This will be used later to reference which round the folded hem should be attached to.

Knit 8 rounds, purl one round for the edge of the folded hem, then knit 8 rounds again. You'll then use the folded edge technique ([suggested YouTube tutorial](#)) to *loosely* attach the hem to the round where you placed the removable stitch marker, being careful to attach each stitch to the stitch directly below it.

**Note:** I would recommend trying on the top *before* securing the bind-off to ensure that the hem is loose enough to fit over your shoulders. You may wish to switch to a larger needle size if you are having trouble binding off loosely enough.

**Set up:** Fold over your work so that both wrong sides are facing each other. Make sure to align the first stitch on your left-hand needle to the removable stitch marker you previously placed.

\*Pick up one stitch from the setup round (16 rounds back), k together the stitch you picked up with the second stitch on your left-hand needle,\* repeat once more. There should be two stitches on your right-hand needle.

**Bind off:** \*Bind off one st (use left-hand needle to lift second st on right-hand needle over the first st), pick up one st from the setup round, k together the st you picked up with the second st on your left-hand needle,\* repeat until no sts remain. Break yarn and thread through the last st.

Remove the stitch marker when done.

## Neckband

With the smaller needles, pick up and knit a total of 74 (78, 84, 88, 94, 100) (104, 110, 116, 122) stitches around the neck of the top, starting at the back right corner. For reference, you should pick up one stitch in every stitch on the back neck cast-on edge (32 (33, 34, 35, 36, 39) (40, 41, 42, 43) stitches), approximately one stitch every other row for the left shoulder (10 (11, 12, 14, 15, 16) (17, 19, 21, 23) stitches), one stitch in every stitch on the front cast-on edge (21 (23, 25, 25, 27, 29) (29, 31, 31, 33) stitches), and approximately one stitch every other row for the right shoulder (11 (11, 13, 14, 16, 16) (18, 19, 22, 23) stitches).

Work in 1x1 ribbing (k1, p1 to end) for 12 rounds **total**. Follow the instructions to bind off a folded-over edge as used for the folded hem above, but also incorporate Jeny's surprisingly stretchy bind-off method while binding off each stitch (that is, once you knit together two stitches from the left-hand needle, do a yarn over before proceeding). This will ensure that the neckband is stretchy enough to fit over your head, although I would again recommend trying on the top before securing the bind-off to make sure you've bound off loosely enough. For the bind off, there is also an [accompanying YouTube tutorial](#) specifically made for this pattern.

## Armhole Edging

[Suggested YouTube tutorial](#) — please do not follow this tutorial directly as it is for a different pattern, but it's helpful to watch to get a general idea of how the double-knit edging works!

Using the larger needle size, begin picking up stitches around the armhole starting at the bottom of the armhole. There will be a seam wherever you start picking up stitches, which is why I recommend starting at the bottom of the armhole where it will be less visible. Pick up three stitches out of every four rows/stitches until you've picked up stitches around the entire armhole. Cut the yarn and slide stitches back to the left needle tip where you began to pick up stitches.

With this needle tip, cast on 7 stitches using the long-tail method separately from the stitches you picked up around the armhole. These stitches will make up the double-knit edge around the armhole.

**Row 1:** [k1, sl1wyif] 3 times; with the next two stitches on the needle, k2togtbl. Turn work.

**Row 2:** [sl1wyif, k1] 3 times, sl1wyif. Turn work.

Continue to repeat rows 1 and 2 until all the armhole stitches have been worked.

At this point, you'll want to separate out the front and back of the double-knitted edge by alternating each stitch between two needles. Bind off the double-knit edge as if working in the round by binding off the front of the double-knit edge, followed by binding off the back edge in the opposite direction. Cut the yarn, leaving a long end, and use the horizontal mattress stitch technique to seam both ends of the armhole edging together.

## I-cord Heart Edging

I highly recommend watching the [accompanying YouTube tutorial](#) specifically made for this pattern, which walks through the steps for the i-cord edging on the heart cutout.

Using the larger needle size, cast on 3 stitches with the long-tail method. Without turning work, use the working yarn to pick up a stitch in the bottom corner of the heart. Slide sts down to the opposite end of the needle.

At this point, you will pull the yarn from the end of the row to the start to form the i-cord edging. If you are using wire within your i-cord edging (which is strongly recommended to help the heart cut-out keep its shape), you should place your wire behind your needle at this point and hold it in place before pulling the yarn around to the beginning of the row again. As you continue to knit the i-cord edging, you should make sure on each row that the wire is contained inside the i-cord edging by keeping it between your needle and working yarn when you pull the yarn from the end of the last row to the start of the next row.

**Note:** If you are including wire, I would recommend lightly bending the wire into a heart shape as you knit, making sure to pull enough wire through the i-cord edging so that you will not run out at the end. You can still adjust the wire at the end, but this will make the process easier.

**Row 1:** pull yarn to start of row, k2, k2togtbl, pick up a new stitch along the edge of the heart cut-out. Slide stitches back to the left-hand needle.

Continue to repeat row 1, picking up a new stitch in every row or stitch along the cut-out *except* when transitioning in or out of the “straight knitting” part of the heart cut-out and in the top corner of the heart. Each time transitioning in or out of straight knitting, you should skip picking up one stitch in the first row without increases or decreases, which will help reinforce the round shape of the sides of the heart.



The circled parts of the picture indicate the “straight knitting” parts of the heart cut-out. You should skip picking up a stitch when transitioning in or out of these sections to emphasize the heart shape.

In the very top point of the heart, you should pick up additional stitches; I would recommend picking up 3-4 stitches in the very point of the heart shape, which will also help the shaping of the heart.



The circled parts of the picture indicate the top and bottom points of the heart cut-out. You should pick up an extra 3-4 stitches in both of these sections to emphasize the heart shape.

When you've knit around the entire heart cut-out, you may wish to pick up an extra stitch or two in the bottom corner of the heart shape as well. Once this is done, bind off.

**If you have included wire in your heart cut-out, this next step is important.** Before cutting the wire, fully bend the heart cut-out into shape. You may wish to *carefully* try on the top to make sure the heart cut-out looks as desired, being careful not to scratch yourself with the wire. Use wire cutters to cut the wire, leaving a generous amount to overlap the start and end of the heart shape. Twist the two ends of the wire together to form the full heart shape (noting that in the next step you will seam the i-cord edging together to fully cover the wire).

Cut yarn, leaving a long end, and seam the ends of the i-cord edging together ([suggested YouTube tutorial](#)). If you have included wire in your heart cut-out, make sure to seam around the wire and be careful that the wire is not sticking out anywhere.

## Finishing

Weave in all ends, hand wash, and gently block the completed tank top.



**Note:** If you've included wire in your heart shape, I would strongly recommend not to machine wash your top regardless of what yarn you've used as it could cause the wire to get bent out of shape or rust. The safest option is to continue gently hand washing your top and adjust the heart shape after washing if needed. You may also wish to save a small amount of yarn to redo the heart I-cord edging in case of any issues that may arise with the wire.

**Enjoy your Heartless Top!** Please tag me @midsummer.knits and use the hashtag #HeartlessTop to share on Instagram so I can see your finished object!

**For pattern support and feedback,** please contact me via email at: [emma@midsummerknits.com](mailto:emma@midsummerknits.com)