Ivy League Vest

by Eunny Jang

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IVY LEAGUE VEST

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STITCH GUIDE

Striped Steeks: Work 8 steek sts in vertical stripes every rnd as foll: [K1 background color, k1 patt color] 2 times, [k1 patt color, k1 background color] 2 times. This provides a clear 2-st centerline in patt color for cutting the steeks open and a clear, unobtrusive edge in background color for picking up armhole edging and neckband sts.

Fair Isle Increase (FI inc): Yo in patt (with the color called for by the pattern). On the next rnd, knit the yo through the back loop to prevent a hole from forming. This results in a nearly invisible inc in the Fair Isle patt.

NOTES

◆ This vest is worked entirely in the round from the bottom up, with steeks used to form front and back neck openings and armholes. The vest shown used no reinforcement before cutting the steeks. Neck and armhole ribbed edges are picked up and worked in the round after the openings have been cut.

◆ The front neck shaping begins after the bust shaping begins and continues through the armhole shaping and the beginning of the back neck shaping. The armhole and back neck shaping begin before the front neck shaping ends. Read through the entire pattern before beginning to knit.

◆ One side stitch is purled throughout at either side of the vest body as a faux "seam."

"I like pieces that use traditional techniques in modern contexts. Here, I've combined traditional Fair Isle border and peerie patterns with a body-conscious silhouette," says designer Eunny Jang.

Finished Size 28 (31½, 34¾, 37¾, 41¾)" bust circumference. Vest shown measures 31½". Note: Deep V-neck accomodates a bust size up to 5" larger than finished size.
Yarn Harrisville Designs New England Shetland (100% wool; 197 yd [180 m]/ 50 g): #46 oatmeal (MC), #41 sandalwood (CC), #14 woodsmoke (light blue-green), and #44 white, 2 skeins each; #45 pearl (gray), 1 skein; #15 loden (dark green-blue), 1 (2, 2, 2, 2) skein(s).
Needles Size 4 (3.5 mm): 24" circular (cir). Size 2 (2.75 mm): 16" cir. Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.
Notions Markers (m); stitch holders; tapestry needle.
Gauge 28 sts and 32 rnds = 4" in Fair Isle patt on larger needle.

VEST

Rib: With larger cir needle and MC, CO 192 (208, 240, 256, 272) sts. Place marker (pm) and join for working in the rnd. Join CC.
Set-up rnd: *[K3 with MC, k1 with CC] 23 (25, 29, 31, 33) times, k3 with MC, pm for side "seam," k1 with CC, pm; rep from * to end.
Rnd 1: *K3 with MC, p1 with CC; rep from * to end.
Rep last rnd 23 more times, changing colors as foll: **Rnd 4:** Change MC to pearl. **Rnd 5:** Change CC to woodsmoke. **Rnd 7:** Change MC to white. **Rnd 8:** Change CC to loden. **Rnd 9:** Change CC to woodsmoke. **Rnd 10:** Change MC to pearl. **Rnd 12:** Change CC to sandalwood. **Rnd 13:** Change MC to oatmeal. **Rnd 14:** Change MC to pearl. **Rnd 15:** Change CC to woodsmoke. **Rnd 17:** Change MC to white. **Rnd 18:** Change CC to loden. **Rnd 19:** Change CC to woodsmoke. **Rnd 20:** Change MC to pearl. **Rnd 22:** Change CC to sandalwood. **Rnd 23:** Change MC to oatmeal.
Body: Work chart as foll: *Beg and ending as indicated for your size, work to m, p1

with background color, sl m; rep from * once more. Work through Row 4 (4, 4, 4, 5) of chart. **Shape waist: Dec rnd:** (Row 5 [5, 5, 5, 6] of chart) *K2tog, work in patt to 2 sts before m, ssk (see Glossary), sl m, p1 with background color, sl m; rep from * to end—4 sts dec'd. Cont in patt, work Dec rnd every 4 (4, 4, 4, 5)th rnd 5 (5, 1, 6, 5) more time(s), then every 3rd rnd 0 (0, 6, 0, 0) times—168 (184, 208, 228, 248) sts rem: 83 (91, 103, 113, 123) sts each for front and back, plus 2 seam sts. Work 7 rnds even in patt. **Shape bust and front neck: Inc rnd:** *FI inc (see Stitch Guide), work in patt to m, FI inc, sl m, p1 in background color, sl m; rep from * to end—4 sts inc'd. Cont in patt and work Inc rnd every 7 (6, 6, 6, 5)th rnd 2 (7, 7, 7, 10) more times, then every 8 (7, 7, 7, 0)th rnd 4 (1, 1, 1, 0) time(s)—28 (36, 36, 36, 44) sts total added for bust shaping. Work 7 (6, 6, 6, 5) rnds even, ending last rnd 9 (9, 10, 10, 10) sts before end of rnd in preparation for beg of armhole shaping. **At the same time,** beg front neck shaping on Rnd 59 (62, 63, 67, 70) of body as foll: Work to
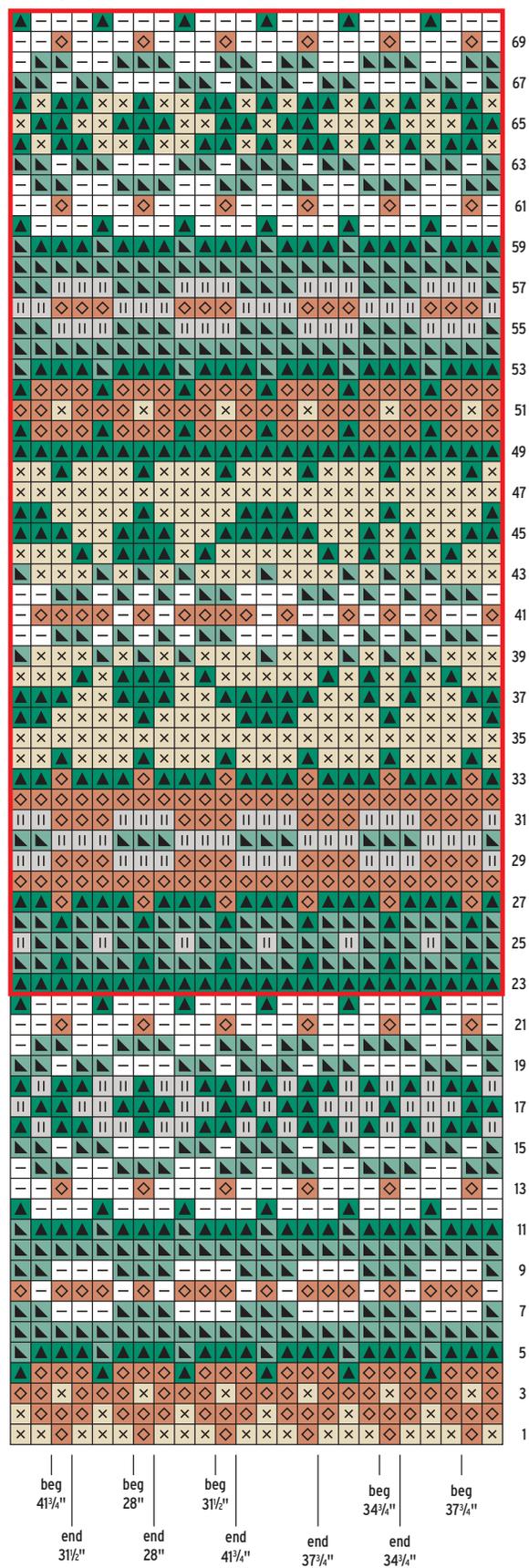
Fair Isle

Legend:

- ✕ oatmeal (MC)
- ◇ sandalwood (CC)
- ◣ woodsmoke
- – white
- ‖ pearl
- ▲ loden
- ▭ pattern repeat

Chart row numbers (right side): 69, 67, 65, 63, 61, 59, 57, 55, 53, 51, 49, 47, 45, 43, 41, 39, 37, 35, 33, 31, 29, 27, 25, 23, 21, 19, 17, 15, 13, 11, 9, 7, 5, 3, 1

Bottom labels:
- beg 41¾" / end 31½"
- beg 28" / end 28"
- beg 31½" / end 41¾"
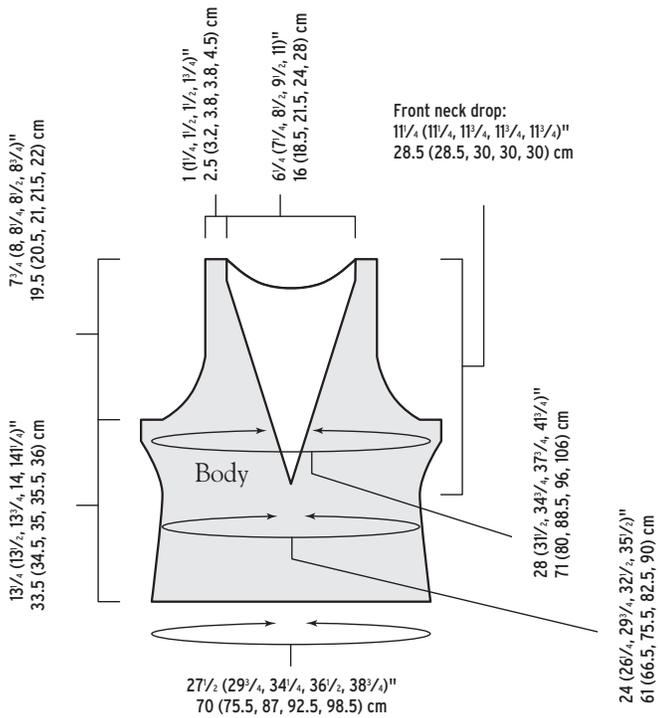- beg 34¾" / end 37¾"
- beg 37¾" / end 34¾"

center st of front, place 1 st onto holder, pm, use both yarns and the long-tail method (see Glossary) to CO 8 steek sts, pm, work to end of rnd in patt. From this point, cont working rnds in patt, working 8 marked steek sts in steek stripe patt (see Stitch Guide). Work 2 (2, 1, 0, 0) rnd(s) even. **Neck dec rnd:** Work in patt to 2 sts before first steek m, ssk, sl m, k8 in steek stripe patt, sl m, k2tog, work to end in patt—2 sts dec'd. Cont to work bust shaping and armhole shaping (see below) as directed, work Neck dec rnd every 3rd (3rd, 2nd, 2nd, 2nd) rnd 2 (17, 1, 13, 27) more time(s), then every 4th (4th, 3rd, 3rd, 3rd) rnd 18 (7, 27, 19, 10) times—43 (51, 59, 67, 77) sts total removed for neck shaping. **Shape armholes:** After bust shaping is complete, shape armholes as foll: Place next 17 (17, 19, 19, 19) sts onto holder, removing m, pm, use both yarns to CO 8 steek sts, pm, work across front in patt, working any neck decs, to 8 (8, 9, 9, 9) sts before first side-seam m, place next 17 (17, 19, 19, 19) sts onto holder, removing m, pm, CO 8 steek sts using both yarns, pm, work across back in patt, sl m, k8 in steek stripe patt. **Note:** Beg of rnd has moved to first st of body after left armhole steek. **Double dec rnd:** *K3tog, work in patt to 3 sts before first armhole steek m, sssk, sl m, k8 steek sts in steek stripe patt, sl m; rep from * once more—8 sts dec'd. Work Double dec rnd every rnd 1 (1, 1, 1, 2) more time(s). **Dec rnd:** *K2tog, work in patt to 2 sts before first armhole steek m, ssk, sl m, k8 steek sts in steek stripe patt, sl m; rep from * once more—4 sts dec'd. Work Dec rnd every rnd 5 (5, 5, 5, 4) more times, then every other rnd 2 (2, 2, 3, 2) times—82 (82, 86, 90, 90) sts total removed for armhole shaping. Cont in patt, including neck decs, for 37 (39, 41, 41, 45) rnds. **Shape back neck: At the same time,** beg back neck shaping on Rnd 137 (141, 145, 149, 153) of body as foll: Work in patt to center 21 (21, 29, 35, 45) sts of back, place center 21 (21, 29, 35, 45) sts onto holder for back neck, pm, use both yarns to CO 8 sts for back neck steek, pm, work to end of rnd. **Triple dec rnd:** Work in patt to 4 sts before first back neck steek m, ssssk, sl m, k8 steek sts in steek stripe patt, sl m, k4tog, work to end in patt—6 sts dec'd. Work Triple dec rnd every rnd 0 (1, 1, 2, 2) more time(s). **Double dec rnd:** Work in patt to 3 sts before first back neck steek m, sssk, sl m, k8 steek sts in steek stripe patt, sl m, k3tog, work to end in patt—4 sts dec'd. Work Double dec rnd every rnd 0 (2, 2, 1, 1) more time(s). **Dec rnd:** Work in patt to 2 sts before first back neck steek m, ssk, sl m, k8 steek sts in steek stripe patt, sl m, k2tog, work to end in patt—2 sts dec'd. Work Dec rnd every rnd 3 (0, 0, 0, 0) more times, then every other rnd 2 times—43

Left side, top: 7¾ (8, 8¼, 8½, 8¾)" 19.5 (20.5, 21, 21.5, 22) cm

Left side, bottom: 13¾ (13¾, 13¾, 14, 14½)" 33.5 (34.5, 35, 35.5, 36) cm

Top: 1 (1¼, 1½, 1½, 1¾)" 2.5 (3.2, 3.8, 3.8, 4.5) cm

6¼ (7¼, 8½, 9¼, 11)" 16 (18.5, 21.5, 24, 28) cm

Front neck drop: 11¼ (11¼, 11¾, 11¾, 11¾)" 28.5 (28.5, 30, 30, 30) cm

(center label): Body

Bottom: 27½ (29¾, 34¼, 36½, 38¾)" 70 (75.5, 87, 92.5, 98.5) cm

Right side: 28 (31½, 34¼, 37¾, 41½)" 71 (80, 88.5, 96, 106) cm

24 (26¼, 29¼, 32¼, 35½)" 61 (66.5, 75.5, 82.5, 90) cm

(51, 59, 67, 77) sts total removed for back neck shaping. **Next rnd:** Work in patt and BO all steek sts—28 (36, 40, 40, 48) sts rem; 7 (9, 10, 10, 12) sts for each front shoulder and each back shoulder. Cut patt color. Turn garment inside out. With RS tog and background color, use the three-needle BO (see Glossary) to join shoulders.

Finishing

If desired, use sewing machine or hand-sewing to reinforce steeks. Cut all steeks carefully down center lines. **Armhole edgings:** With smaller cir needle and MC, pick up and knit 95 (99, 101, 105, 109) sts evenly spaced around armhole, between body and steek sts,

then k17 (17, 19, 19, 19) held sts—112 (116, 120, 124, 128) sts total. Pm and join for working in the rnd. Join CC. **Next rnd:** *K3 with MC, p1 with CC; rep from * to end. Cont in rib, changing colors as foll: On next rnd, change CC to woodsmoke. On foll rnd, change CC to loden. On foll rnd, change CC to woodsmoke. On next rnd, change CC to sandalwood. Cut CC. With MC, BO all sts kwise. **Neck edging:** With smaller cir needle and MC, beg at left shoulder, pick up and knit 71 (71, 75, 75, 75) sts evenly spaced down left side of front neck between body and steek sts, pm, knit held st at center front, pm, pick up and knit 71 (71, 75, 75, 75) sts evenly spaced up right side of front neck, then 37 (41, 49, 53, 61) sts evenly spaced across back neck—180 (184, 200, 204, 212) sts total. Pm and join for working in the rnd. Join CC. **Next rnd:** *K3 with MC, p1 with CC; rep from * to end. Cont in rib, dec 1 st at each side of center-front neck st every rnd and change colors as foll: **Rnd 3:** Change CC to woodsmoke and MC to pearl. **Rnd 5:** Change CC to loden and MC to white. **Rnd 7:** Change CC to woodsmoke and MC to pearl. **Rnd 9:** Change CC to sandalwood and MC to oatmeal. Work 1 more rnd—10 rnds total.

Cut CC. With MC, BO all sts pwise. Weave in loose ends. Trim waste steek sts neatly and fold to WS. Tack down if desired with a whipstitch or blanket st. Wet-block vest carefully. ❄

Ssk Decrease

Slip two stitches knitwise one at a time (Figure 1). Insert point of left needle into front of two slipped stitches and knit them together through back loops with right needle (Figure 2).
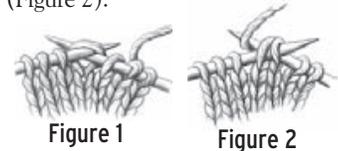

Figure 1   **Figure 2**

Three-Needle Bind-Off

Place stitches to be joined onto two separate needles. Hold them with right sides of knitting facing together. Insert a third needle into first stitch on each of the other two needles and knit them together as one stitch. *Knit next stitch on each needle the same way. Pass first stitch over second stitch. Repeat from * until one stitch remains on third needle. Cut yarn and pull tail through last stitch.

Continental (Long-Tail) Cast-On

Leaving a long tail (about ½" to 1" for each stitch to be cast on), make a slipknot and place on right needle. Place thumb and index finger of left hand between yarn ends so that working yarn is around index finger and tail end is around thumb. Secure ends with your other fingers and hold palm upwards, making a V of yarn (Figure 1). Bring needle up through loop on thumb (Figure 2), grab first strand around index finger with needle, and go back down through loop on thumb (Figure 3). Drop loop off thumb and, placing thumb back in V configuration, tighten resulting stitch on needle (Figure 4).
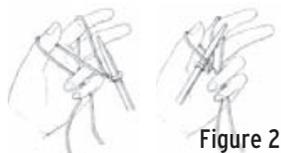

Figure 1   **Figure 2**   **Figure 3**   **Figure 4**