

# OTHER LOOPS

MERLE\_LOOP\_SWEATER



**MERLE\_LOOP\_SWEATER** is a soft and loose-fitting sweater with raglan sleeves, a characteristic twisted high neck and marled stripes.

Merle\_loop\_sweater is worked from top to bottom in stripes. First the neck is worked in the round, then raglan increases are made across the yoke. The body and sleeves are worked in the round and finished with ribbed cuffs. At the end, the neck is folded down to the inside, twisted, and sewn down.

#### **Sizes\_**

XS (S) M (L) XL (XXL)

#### **Measurements\_**

Circumference\_ 115 (120) 125 (130) 138 (145) cm  
Length\_ 52 (52) 54 (54) 56 (56) cm, measured from under the neckband on the back piece.

The sweater has a generous positive ease of 25-35 cm, and you should knit the size with a circumference that is 25-35 cm bigger than your own chest circumference, all depending on how loose of a sweater you want.

The sweater shown in the pattern has a positive ease of 34 cm.

#### **Materials\_**

1 strand Bouclé from Isager 50 g / 175 m.  
300 (300) 350 (350) 400 (450) g **in total.**

1 strand Alpaca 2 from Isager 50 g / 250 m.  
100 (100) 150 (150) 150 (150) g for **color A** and **color B**, respectively.

The whole sweater is worked in 1 strand Bouclé in the same color together with 1 strand Alpaca 2, alternating between **color A** and **color B**.

The sweater shown in the pattern is worked in Bouclé col. E6S and Alpaca 2 in col. E0 and 60

#### **Recommended needles\_**

4.5 mm circular needles (40 and 80 or 100 cm).  
4 mm DPNs, unless using Magic Loop technique.

#### **Gauge\_**

16 sts x 26 rows in stockinette on 4.5 mm needles = 10 x 10 cm after washing and blocking.

#### **Abbreviations\_**

BOR = beginning of the round

RS = right side

WS = wrong side

k = knit

p = purl

st(s) = st(s)

tog = together

rnd(s) = round(s)

pm = place marker

sm = slip marker from the left to right needle

**col. A** = 1 strand Bouclé together with 1 strand Alpaca 2 in **color A**

**col. B** = 1 strand Bouclé together with 1 strand Alpaca 2 in **color B**

#### **Increases\_**

**MIL\_** knit left-leaning increase – insert the needle from the front under the strand between the stitches and knit the strand through the back loop.

**MIR\_** knit right-leaning increase – insert the left needle from the back under the strand between the stitches and knit the strand (through the front loop).

#### **Decreases\_**

**K2tog\_** knit right-leaning decrease – knit 2 stitches together.

**SSK\_** knit left-leaning decrease - SSK improved – slip 1 stitch knit-wise, slip the next stitch purl-wise, insert the left needle through the sts from left to right and knit them together through the back loops.

#### **Stripes\_**

The stripes are worked across 2 rnds alternating between **col. A** and **col. B**.

Avoid breaking the yarn when changing colors. At the BOR, take the yarn from the last stripe to the right under the yarn you are knitting with, then to the left over the yarn you are knitting with. Continue knitting with the new color. In this way, you carry the yarn from the previous stripe and bring it along on the WS.



#### **Neck\_**

With **col. A**, loosely cast on 100 (100) 104 (104) 112 (112) sts onto 4.5 mm circular needles (40 cm).

Join in the rnd, pm at the BOR.

Work in the rnd in stockinette and stripes until the neck measures 30 cm. Finish with 2 rnds of a stripe.

Insert a removable marker thread. Use a piece of yarn in a contrast color and a needle to pull the yarn through the sts on the needle, insert the thread on the WS. The marker will be used when the neck is sewn down later.

Work 2 rnds. Do not break the yarn.

## Yoke\_

Now insert markers for dividing the raglan sts as follows:

Pm after 2 sts (*raglan*), 16 (16) 16 (16) 18 (18) sts (right sleeve), 2 sts (*raglan*), 30 (30) 32 (32) 34 (34) sts (front piece), 2 sts (*raglan*), 16 (16) 16 (16) 18 (18) sts (*left sleeve*), 2 sts (*raglan*), 30 (30) 32 (32) 34 (34) sts, BOR marker (back piece).

Continue in the rnd in stockinette and stripes, while also working raglan increases for the sleeves, front and back pieces, every other rnd. (Change to longer circular needles when needed as the piece grows).

Work as follows:

**Rnd 1\_** k2, sm, **MIL** \* knit to marker, **MIR**, sm, k2, sm, **MIL** \* repeat from \* to \* two more times, knit to BOR, **MIR**  
**Rnd 2\_** knit all sts.

You have now worked 8 increases = 108 (108) 112 (112) 120 (120) sts.

Repeat **rnds 1** and **2** for 26 (27) 28 (29) 29 (29) more times = 316 (324) 336 (344) 352 (352) sts.

Stitch distribution: sleeves 70 (72) 74 (76) 78 (78) sts, front and back pieces 84 (86) 90 (92) 94 (94) sts, raglan 8 sts.

**Sizes\_** - (-) - (-) XL (XXL) continue in the rnd with stripes while also working raglan increases for front and back pieces every other rnd.

Work as follows:

**Rnd 1\_** \* k2, sm, knit to marker, sm, k2, sm, **MIL**, knit to marker, **MIR**, sm \* repeat from \* to \* one more time.  
**Rnd 2\_** knit all sts.

Repeat **rnds 1** and **2** for - (-) - (-) 1 (3) more times = - (-) - (-) 360 (368) sts.

Stitch distribution: sleeves- (-) - (-) 78 (78) sts, front and back pieces - (-) - (-) 98 (102) sts, raglan 8 sts.

## Body\_

Now the work is divided into body and sleeves, and sts are cast on for the armholes. Sleeve sts will be set aside to rest while the body is worked to completion.

Work as follows:

Work 2 raglan-sts, cast on 4 (6) 6 (8) 8 (10) new sts with backwards loop cast on, place right sleeve sts to rest, work 2 raglan-sts, work across the front piece, work 2 raglan-sts, cast on 4 (6) 6 (8) 8 (10) new sts with backwards loop cast on, place left sleeve sts to rest, work 2 raglan-sts, work across the back piece to the BOR = 184 (192) 200 (208) 220 (232) sts.  
Remove all markers except for the BOR marker.

Continue in the rnd in stripes until the back piece measures 51 (51) 53 (53) 55 (55) cm, measured from the marker thread on the back, or until desired length. Finish with 2 rnds in **col. A**.

Change to 4 mm needles and work 4 rnds in ribbing (k1, p1). (2 rnds in **col. B**, 2 rnds in **col. A**)

Bind off in ribbing in **col. B**.

## Sleeves\_

The sleeves are worked in the rnd on 4.5 mm circular needles (40 cm).

Place the resting sleeve sts back on the needle. Join new yarn in the color that matches the stripes on the sleeves. Start picking up sts in the middle of the new sts at the bottom of the armhole and pick up 2 (2) 3 (4) 4 (5) sts in the new sts, knit across the sleeve sts, pick up 2 (2) 3 (4) 4 (5) sts in the new sts = 74 (78) 80 (84) 86 (88) sts. Pm for BOR.

Now the sleeve is worked in the rnd in stockinette and stripes, while also making decreases every 6 (6) 6 (5) 5 (5) rnds, a total of 14 (15) 15 (16) 16 (16) times = 46 (48) 50 (52) 54 (56) sts.

Decreasing rnds are worked as follows:  
K1, **k2tog**, knit to 2 sts before marker, **SSK**

Work until the sleeve measures 39 (39) 39 (39) 39 (39) cm, measured along the inner side of the sleeve, or until desired length. Finish with 2 rnds in **col. A**.

Change to 4 mm needles and work in the rnd in stripes and ribbing (k1, p1) until the ribbing measures 7 cm. Finish with 2 rnds in **col. A**.

Bind off in ribbing in **col. B**.

## Assembly\_

Fold the neck down to the WS, so that the cast-on edge aligns with the row of sts marked with the thread. Move the cast-on edge 12 (12) 12 (14) 14 (14) cm / 19 (19) 19 (22) 22 (22) sts to the left and sew it down to the marked row of sts with whip stitch.

Remove the marker thread and weave in all ends. Wash and block the sweater.

Happy loops.

Share your #merle\_loop\_sweater on Instagram.

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