

Knitting for Olive



Tractor Sweater

Sizes: 1 (2, 4, 6) years

Finished measurements: Chest circumference: approx. 64 (73, 77, 82) cm [25¼ (28¾, 30¼, 32¼)]"; Length from shoulder to hem: approx. 32 (35, 40, 44) cm [12½ (13¾, 15¾, 17¼)]"; Sleeve length from underarm to cuff: approx. 21 (23, 26, 30) cm [8¼ (9, 10¼, 11¾)]"

Yarn: MC: Knitting for Olive Heavy Merino (125 g [137 yd] / 50 g [1.8 oz]), worsted weight yarn, 3 (4, 4, 5) balls. CC: Knitting for Olive Heavy Merino, 1 (1, 1, 1) ball or 10 g leftover yarn. Sample is in Heavy Merino in Rainy Day (MC) and Dark Moose (CC) colorways

Needles: 3.5 mm / US4 and 4.5 / US7 circular and double-pointed needles, or in size to obtain gauge

Gauge (after blocking): 18 sts and 27 rows = 10 cm [4"] in st st with 4.5 / US7 needles

Notions: Stitch markers, waste yarn or stitch holders, tapestry needle

Special Techniques

Our Knitting for Olive video tutorials clearly demonstrate the special techniques used in Tractor Sweater (in Danish):

- M1R and M1L increases on RS:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n4bAF8eMcvM&t=23s>

Construction Notes

Tractor Sweater is a simple and basic staple sweater that showcases a fabulous tractor design on the front. The body is worked back and forth, while sleeves are worked in the round. The front is worked from the bottom up and the back from the top down. Tractor Sweater is knit using 1 strand of Heavy Merino.

You begin working bottom up and back and forth, starting with front hem. You continue with stockinette stitch and colorwork back and forth over front and shape for armholes. Stitches are bound off for the neckline and each shoulder is subsequently worked separately back and forth until shoulder pieces are joined with new cast on stitches at back neck. You then work the back top down to the hem, back and forth. Side seams are grafted, and you pick up stitches for the sleeves and work these in the round down to the cuffs. The sweater is finished with a ribbed neckband.

The Fair Isle pattern is charted only.

Notes on the Fair Isle Technique

We recommend using the Fair Isle technique when working in the round with multiple colors at the same time. On those rounds of the chart where you alternate between colors, both the strand with the main color and the strand with the contrast color are carried at the back of the work, creating horizontal strands, or floats, on the wrong side of your work. When you knit using the main color, the strand of contrast color travels behind the stitches until it is ready to be used again, and vice versa.

Chart Notes

When you work from charts, always start from the bottom right corner with the first stitch of Row 1 and work the chart from the bottom up. When you are working back and forth, work the chart from right to left on odd numbered rows (RS) and from left to right on even numbered rows (WS).

You will find a detailed guide on how to read charts that features examples from our patterns if you go to www.knittingforolive.com

Front

Ribbed edge

With 3.5 mm / US4 needle and 1 strand of Heavy Merino in MC, cast on 58 (66, 70, 74) sts using long-tail cast-on method

Note: You will now work back and forth to create the front hem. First row is from WS

Set-up Row (WS): (P2, k2) to last 2 sts, p2

Work in 2x2 rib pattern until work measures approx. 3 (4, 5, 5) cm [1¼ (1½, 2, 2)]", ending with a WS row

Body

Change to 4.5 mm / US7 needle

Note: First row is from RS

Work in st st for 16 (18, 26, 32) rows

Note: You will now start working Chart A back and forth. Chart is worked over the middle 38 stitches on front only. First row is from RS. Be sure to read the notes on page 2 carefully before proceeding

Chart Set-up Row (RS): K10 (14, 16, 18), then beginning with 1st st of Chart A and Row 1, work Chart A across next 38 sts as indicated, k to end of row

Continue back and forth in st st and with Chart A across the middle 38 sts as established, beginning with Row 2 and ending with Row 26 (26, 28, 30) of Chart A

Armhole shaping

Note: You will now bind off stitches for armholes in both sides. Chart A is still worked across the middle 38 stitches

Row 1 (RS): Bind off 3 (3, 4, 4) sts *knitwise*, k to end of row = 55 (63, 66, 70) sts

Row 2 (WS): Bind off 3 (3, 4, 4) sts *purlwise*, p to end of row = 52 (60, 62, 66) sts

Row 3 (dec row, RS): K1, k2tog, k to last 3 sts, sl1k, k1, pss0, k1 [2 sts decreased]

Row 4 (WS): P to end of row

Repeat Rows 3 and 4, 0 (1, 1, 1) time(s) [0 (2, 2, 2) sts decreased] = 50 (56, 58, 62) sts

Sizes 1, 2 and 4 years only:

Continue working back and forth in st st until all rows of Chart A have been worked

All sizes:

Using MC, work in st st for 12 (12, 14, 16) rows

Neckline shaping

Note: You will now bind off stitches for the neckline

Next row (RS): K17 (20, 20, 22), bind off next 16 (16, 18, 18) sts *knitwise*, k to end of row

Upon completion of this section, you will have 17 (20, 20, 22) remaining sts for each shoulder

Note: Left and right shoulders will now be finished separately

Right front shoulder

Next row (WS): P to end of row

Note: You will now shape right front shoulder with decreases

Row 1 (dec row, RS): K1, k2tog, k to end of row [1 st decreased]

Row 2 (WS): P to end of row

Repeat Rows 1 and 2, 3 (4, 4, 4) times more [3 (4, 4, 4) sts decreased] = 13 (15, 15, 17) sts

Work in st st for 4 (6, 8, 10) rows

Mark last row by attaching a marker or a piece of waste yarn into one of the stitches. You will need to measure from this marker later

Note: After you have marked last row on right front shoulder, you will continue with the stitches on the needle from right shoulder and start working right back shoulder

Right back shoulder

Work in st st for 2 (2, 4, 4) rows

Note: You will now shape right back shoulder with increases

Row 1 (inc row, RS): K1, M1L, k to end of row [1 st increased]

Row 2 (WS): P to end of row

Repeat Rows 1 and 2, 2 (3, 3, 3) times more [2 (3, 3, 3) sts increased] = 16 (19, 19, 21) sts

Break yarn, let sts rest

Left front shoulder

Note: Start working from WS on the neckline side

Next row (WS): P to end of row

Note: You will now shape left front shoulder with decreases

Row 1 (dec row, RS): K to last 3 sts, sl1k, k1, pssso, k1 [1 st decreased]

Row 2 (WS): P to end of row

Repeat Rows 1 and 2, 3 (4, 4, 4) times more [3 (4, 4, 4) sts decreased] = 13 (15, 15, 17) sts

Work in st st for 4 (6, 8, 10) rows

Mark last row by attaching a marker or a piece of waste yarn into one of the stitches. You will need to measure from this marker later

Note: After you have marked last row on left front shoulder, you will continue with the stitches on the needle from left shoulder and start working left back shoulder

Left back shoulder

Work in st st for 2 (2, 4, 4) rows

Note: You will now shape left back shoulder with increases

Row 1 (inc row, RS): K to last st, M1R, k1 [1 st increased]

Row 2 (WS): P to end of row

Repeat Rows 1 and 2, 2 (3, 3, 3) times more [2 (3, 3, 3) sts increased] = 16 (19, 19, 21) sts

Note: You will now join left and right shoulder and cast on new stitches for back neckline

Joining Row (RS): K to end of row, cast on 18 (18, 20, 20) new sts, k across right shoulder sts = 50 (56, 58, 62) sts

Next row (WS): P to end of row

Back

Work in st st back and forth for 22 (22, 22, 24) rows

Armhole shaping

Note: You will now shape armholes with increases

Row 1 (inc row, RS): K2, M1R, k to last 2 sts, M1L, k2 [2 sts increased]

Row 2 (WS): P to end of row

Repeat Rows 1 and 2, 0 (1, 1, 1) more time(s) [0 (2, 2, 2) sts increased] = 52 (60, 62, 66) sts

Note: You will now further shape armholes by casting on new stitches

Next row (RS): K to end of row, cast on 3 (3, 4, 4) new sts = 55 (63, 66, 70) sts

Next row (WS): P to end of row, cast on 3 (3, 4, 4) new sts = 58 (66, 70, 74) sts

Body

Work even in st st until work measures approx. 29 (31, 35, 39) cm [11½ (12¼, 13¾, 15¼)]" from shoulder marker, ending with a WS row

Ribbed edge

Change to 3.5 / US4 needle

Set-up Row (RS): (K2, p2) to last 2 sts, k2

Work in 2x2 rib pattern until hem measures approx. 3 (4, 5, 5) cm [1¼ (1½, 2, 2)]", ending with a WS row

Bind off in pattern

Graft side seams

Sleeves

Note: Sleeves are worked in stockinette stitch in the round. Pick up ratio is approx. 2 stitches every 3 rows

With 4.5 mm / US7 needle, using MC, with RS of work facing, and beginning at center of underarm, pick up and knit 50 (54, 58, 60) sts evenly around armhole, join for working in the round and place BOR m

Work in st st for 5 (5, 6, 6) rounds

Note: You will now shape sleeve with decreases

Round 1 (dec round): K1, k2tog, k to last 3 sts, sl1k, k1, pss0, k1 [2 sts decreased]

Rounds 2-5: K to end of round

Repeat Rounds 1-5, 6 (8, 8, 9) more times [12 (16, 16, 18) sts decreased] = 36 (36, 40, 40) sts

Work even in st st until sleeve measures 17 (19, 22, 25) cm [$6\frac{3}{4}$ ($7\frac{1}{2}$, $8\frac{3}{4}$, $9\frac{3}{4}$)]" from underarm, or 4 (4, 4, 5) cm [$1\frac{1}{2}$ ($1\frac{1}{2}$, $1\frac{1}{2}$, 2)]" short of desired length

Change to 3.5 mm / US4 needle

Dec Round: *K7 (7, 8, 8), k2tog; repeat from * to end of round [4 sts decreased] = 32 (32, 36, 36) sts

Ribbed edge

Set-up Round: (K2, p2) to end of round

Work in 2x2 rib pattern until cuff measures approx. 4 (4, 4, 5) cm [$1\frac{1}{2}$ ($1\frac{1}{2}$, $1\frac{1}{2}$, 2)]"

Bind off in pattern

Work second sleeve the same

Ribbed Neckband

With 3.5 mm / US4 needle, using MC, with RS of work facing and beginning from the first of back neck cast-on stitches, pick up and knit 18 (18, 20, 20) sts along back (= 1 stitch into each of back neck cast-on stitches), pick up and knit 19 (21, 21, 23) sts evenly along shoulder until first bound off st mid-front, pick up and knit 16 (16, 18, 18) sts along front (= 1 st into each of the bound-off sts mid-front), pick up and knit 19 (21, 21, 23) sts evenly along shoulder until you are back at first picked up st on back = 72 (76, 80, 84) sts

Set-up Round: (K2, p2) to end of round

Work in 2x2 rib pattern until neckband measures approx. 3 (4, 5, 5) cm [$1\frac{1}{4}$ ($1\frac{1}{2}$, 2, 2)]"

Change to 4.5 mm / US7 needle

Bind off in pattern

Finishing

Weave in all loose ends

Block

We hope you enjoy knitting the Tractor Sweater!

We would love to see your finished projects! If you would like to share your work with us on Instagram, please use the hashtags #knittingforolive, #traktorsweater and #tractorsweater, or tag us @knittingforolive

Abbreviations

Approx. – approximately

BOR – beginning of round

K – knit

P – purl

Dec – decrease

Inc – increase

K2tog – knit 2 stitches together [1 stitch decreased]

MC – main color

CC – contrast color

M1L – make 1 new left leaning knit stitch (RS): insert right needle, from back to front, under the bar running between first stitch on left needle and last stitch on right needle, pick up bar and knit this stitch into the back loop [1 stitch increased]

M1R – make 1 new right leaning knit stitch (RS): insert right needle, from front to back, under the bar running between first stitch on left needle and last stitch on right needle, pick up bar in twisted position and knit this stitch [1 stitch increased]

M – marker

Pss0 – pass slipped stitch(es) over

RS – right side

WS – wrong side

Sl1k – slip 1 stitch knitwise

St/sts – stitch/stitches

St st – stockinette stitch

