

# Queen Bee

## A COLOR WORK YOKE PULLOVER

BY MEGAN-ANNE AND JAC OF LATTES & LLAMAS

*Bees are fierce, loyal, deadly, beautiful, and indispensable. It only makes sense that you should adorn yourself with them. You've always known how powerful you are, it's time for the rest of the world to get the memo. Today, you cast on the power-suit of sweaters: The Queen Bee Pullover.*

*Knit from the bottom up, this regal sweater begins with an exciting sleeve pattern, then moves on to a relaxing, meditative body knit in simple stockinette. After the quiet Zen of the body, you'll finish on the dramatic high-note of the Queen Bee Yoke.*

*Chin up Queen, and never let them see your crown slip.*





### Yarn

Lattes & Llamas [Geek-A-Long Yarn](#) (100 grams/328 yards). Sample is knit with Gilded (gold) as MC, and Jessica Jones (purple) as CC.  
 CC: 1(1, 1, 2) 2(3, 3, 3) 3(3, 3, 3) balls.  
 MC: 3(3, 4, 4) 4(5, 5, 5) 5(5, 6, 6) balls.

### Needles

US4 / 3.5 mm 16" & 32" circular needles  
 US5 / 4.0 mm 16" & 32" circular needles  
 For the 16" needles you can substitute 40" circulars and work in magic loop or use DPNs.

### Notions

Stitch Markers, including one visibly different marker to indicate BoR

### Gauge

26 sts and 30 rounds = 4" in stranded colorwork, blocked.

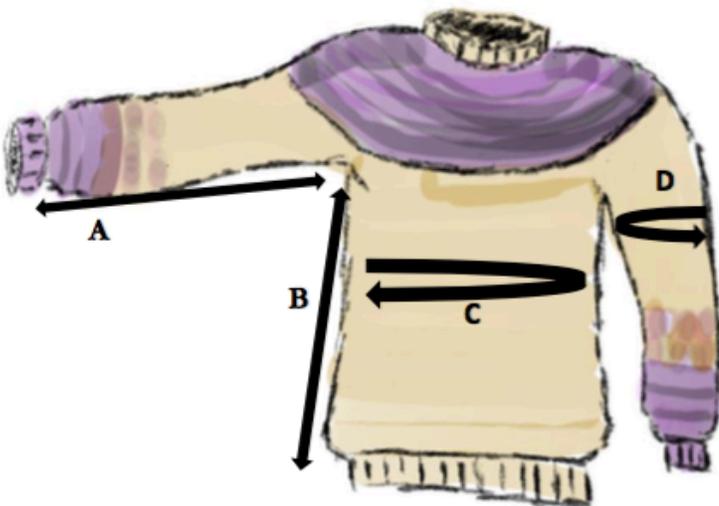
### Sizing

1(2, 3, 4) 5(6, 7, 8) 9(10, 11, 12)  
 28(31, 35, 39)" 41(46, 50, 54)" 60(65, 70, 74)" bust.  
 Note that these measurements are on the final blocked sweater. The sweater was designed to be worn with 2"-5" of positive ease, so choose as size based on your desired amount of ease.

## Abbreviation Key

BoR	Beginning of round
CC	Complementing color
CDD	Center double decrease. Slip 2 sts as if to k2tog. Knit the next st. Pass the 2 slipped sts over the knit st. 2 decreased.
CO	Cast on
K	Knit
K2tog	Knit 2 sts together
Kfb	Knit into the front and back of the st
M	Marker
M1	Make 1 by lifting the bar between the st you just knit, and the st you are about to knit, and knitting through the back loop of this bar.
MC	Main color
P	Purl
R	Row / round
Sl	Slip
St(s)	Stitch(es)
W	Wrap stitch

## Blocking Guide



### A: Sleeve from cuff to underarm

16(16, 16, 17)" 17(18, 18, 18)" 19(19, 19, 19)"

### B: Body from hem to underarm

15(15, 16, 16)" 17(17, 17.5, 17.5)" 18(18, 18.5, 19)"

### C: Body circumference

28(31, 35, 39)" 41(46, 50, 54)" 60(65, 70, 74)"

### D: Upper arm circumference

9.5(10, 10.5, 11)" 12(12.5, 13, 13.5)" 15(15, 15.5, 16)"



# Instructions

Tips and tricks for customizing your fit are found at the end of the pattern. I strongly recommend reading the full pattern before you begin, to familiarize yourself with the charts and instructions.

## SLEEVES

*The sleeves are worked from the cuff up and placed onto holders. If you are comfortable working sleeves two-at-a-time, we recommend working the cuff and colorwork of each sleeve individually, and then working the increases and straight knit rounds two-at-a-time to ensure perfectly identical sleeves without having to track your rounds. Alternately, you can work them one-at-a-time and track how many rounds you work after your last increase on sleeve 1, to work an equal number on sleeve 2.*

**Cast On:** With CC and smaller needles, co 48(48, 48, 48) 64(64, 64, 64) 76(76, 76, 76) sts using your favorite CO. We love the Twisted German CO, and a tutorial for it is available [here](#). Join to work in the round, taking care not to twist your sts. Place marker to indicate BoR.

**Cuff:** Work K2P2 ribbing for 2(2, 2, 2) 2.5(2.5, 2.5, 2.5) 3(3, 3, 3) inches. Change to larger needles.

**Set Up:** K 2 rounds. On the first round increase 6(6, 6, 6) 8(8, 8, 8) 14(14, 14, 14) sts by M1 evenly spaced around. 54(54, 54, 54) 72(72, 72, 72) 90(90, 90, 90) sts.

**Rounds 1-50:** Join MC. Repeat the Bumble Bee Chart 3(3, 3, 3) 4(4, 4, 4) 5(5, 5, 5) times around.  
**Recommended:** Place markers between your chart repeats. Break CC after completing round 50 and remove all markers except the BoR marker.

**Rounds 51-52:** K all sts around.

**Round 53:** K2 sts, M1, K to 2 sts before end, M1, K2.

**Rounds 54-60:** K all sts around.

**Repeat Rounds 53-60** 0(2, 4, 6) 0(1, 2, 4) 0(0, 1, 3) times more. 56(60, 64, 68) 74(76, 78, 82) 92(92, 94, 98) sts.

**Next:** Knit all rounds until the sleeve measures 16(16, 16, 17) 17(18, 18, 18) 19(19, 19, 19) from the co, or desired length to underarm. Take note of how many rounds you work after your last repeat of round 60 so that you can work an identical number on the second sleeve.

**Move Sleeve sts to holders as follows:** K to 5(5, 5, 5) 7(7, 7, 7) 7(7, 8, 8) sts before end. Place the next 10(10, 10, 10) 14(14, 14, 14) 18(18, 18, 18) sts on a holder, removing the BoR marker when you come to it. Note that you are placing the last sts of one round, and the first sts of what would have been the next round on one holder. Place the remaining 46(50, 54, 58) 60(62, 64, 68) 74(74, 76, 80) sts on a separate holder. These sts will become part of the yoke. Break MC, leaving a long tail for sewing.

**Make a second sleeve and put them both aside to be picked up when joining the body and sleeves.**

## BODY

*The body is worked bottom up, beginning with the ribbing.*

**Cast On:** With MC and smaller needles, co 168(188, 212, 232) 268(292, 320, 340) 368(396, 424, 444) sts using the same co us used for the sleeves. Join to work in the round, taking care not to twist you sts. Place marker to indicate BoR.

**Cuff:** Work K2P2 ribbing for 2(2, 2, 2) 2.5(2.5, 2.5, 2.5) 3(3, 3, 3) inches. Change to larger needles.

**Set Up:** K 2 rounds. On the first round increase 0(2, 0, 2) 0(2, 0, 2) 0(2, 0, 2) sts by M1 evenly spaced around. 168(190, 212, 234) 268(294, 320, 342) 368(398, 424, 446) sts.

**Next:** Knit all rounds until the body measures 15(15, 16, 16) 17(17, 17.5, 17.5) 18(18, 18.5, 19) from the co, or desired length to underarm.



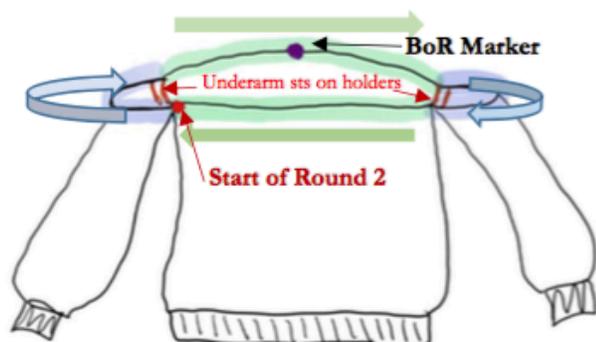
## JOIN BODY AND SLEEVES

Now you will place body sts for the underarms onto holders and pick up the sleeves over two rounds while moving the BoR M to the center back of the sweater. Note that picking up the sleeves and placing sts on holders takes place over 2 rounds to account for moving the marker.

**Round 1:** K to 5(5, 5, 5) 7(7, 7, 7) 7(7, 8, 8) sts before end. Place the next 10(10, 10, 10) 14(14, 14, 14) 18(18, 18, 18) sts on a holder, removing the BoR marker when you come to it. Note that you are placing the last sts of one round, and the first sts of what would have been the next round on one holder.

**Round 2:** Pick up the first sleeve and hold it so that the 10(10, 10, 10) 14(14, 14, 14) 18(18, 18, 18) underarm sts (which are on a separate holder from the rest of the sleeve sts) are facing the underarm body sts that you just placed on a holder. Pick up and knit the 46(50, 54, 58) 60(62, 64, 68) 74(74, 76, 80) sts from Sleeve 1. When you reach the end of the sleeve sts, resume knitting body sts, now on the other side of the underarm. K 37(42, 48, 53) 55(61, 68, 73) 81(88, 96, 102) sts. Place BoR marker. This is the center back of your sweater.

K 37(43, 48, 54) 55(62, 68, 74) 81(89, 96, 103) sts. Move the next 10(10, 10, 10) 14(14, 14, 14) 18(18, 18, 18) sts to a holder. These are underarm sts. Pick up the second sleeve and hold it with the underarm sts of the sleeve facing the underarm sts of the body, just as you did for the first sleeve. Pick up and knit the 46(50, 54, 58) 60(62, 64, 68) 74(74, 76, 80) sts from sleeve 2. Resume knitting the front of the body. K to the BoR. 240(270, 300, 330) 360(390, 420, 450) 480(510, 540, 570) sts.



**Next:** K all sts for 1(1, 1, 1) 2(2, 2, 2) 3(3, 3, 3) rounds.

## YOKE

Now you will begin to work the color charts and decrease for the yoke.

Join CC.

**Rounds 1-36:** Work the Queen Bee Chart 8(9, 10, 11) 12(13, 14, 15) 16(17, 18, 19) times around.

**Recommended:** place markers between the chart repeats and leave them in place until completing all charts. 192(216, 240, 264) 288(312, 336, 360) 384(408, 432, 456) sts.

**Sizes 1-4: Proceed to the Royal Procession Chart.**

**Next** 0(0, 0, 0) 10(10, 10, 10) 20(20, 20, 20) rounds: Work the Sweet Honeycomb Chart around.

**Next 9 rounds:** Work the Royal Procession Chart 8(9, 10, 11) 12(13, 14, 15) 16(17, 18, 19) times around.

**On round 8, work the CDDs with CC.** Note that for the first CDD you will work the CDD over the last st of round 7, plus the first 2 sts of round 8. After completing that CDD, keep the BOR marker before it. You will need to remove the BOR M to complete the CDD, but take care to replace it to the right of the CDD when you are finished. 128(144, 160, 176) 192(208, 224, 240) 256(272, 288, 304) sts.

**Next 7 rounds:** Work the Regal Collar Chart around. Break MC.

**Next 2 rounds:** Switch to smaller needles. K all sts around.

## COLLAR

Working with the smaller sized needles, you will now work short rows before beginning the ribbing and binding off.

**Round 1:** [K5, CDD] repeat around. 96(108, 120, 132) 144(156, 168, 180) 192(204, 216, 228) sts.

**Round 2:** K all sts around.



Work short rows as follows, noting that sizes 1-4 should work only a-b:

- a) K 36(40, 45, 49) 54(58, 63, 67) 72(76, 81, 85) sts. Wrap the next st and turn.
- b) Slip the wrapped st purlwise, and P to 36(40, 45, 49) 54(58, 63, 67) 72(76, 81, 85) sts past the BoR. Wrap the next st and turn.

**Sizes 1-4: proceed to round 3.**

- c) K to 5 sts before the last wrapped st, slipping the BoR when you come to it. Wrap the next st and turn.
- d) P to 5 sts before the last wrapped st, slipping the BoR when you come to it. Wrap the next st and turn.

Repeat c-d 0(0, 0, 0) 0(0, 0, 0) 1(1, 1, 1) time more.

**Round 3:** Resume working in the round and K all sts around. When you come to a wrapped st, use the tip of your needle to pick up the wrap and place it on the needle next to the st it was wrapping. K the st together with its wrap.

**Round 4:** K all sts around.

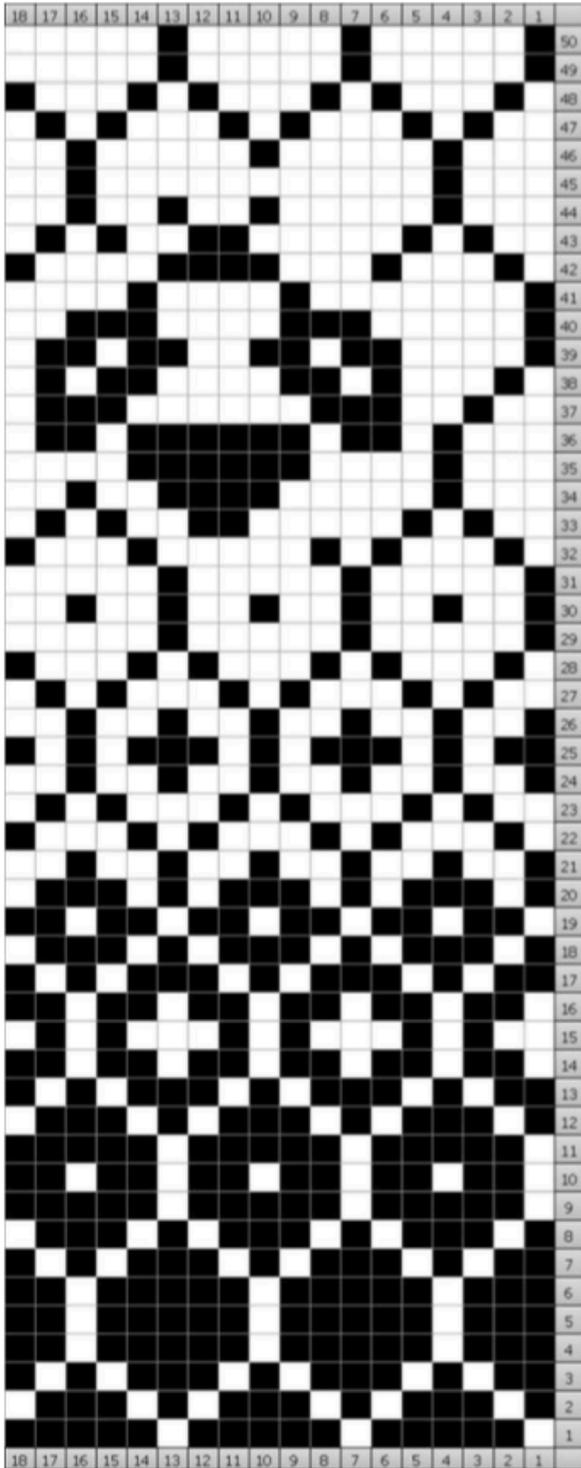
**Round 5:** [K5, CDD] repeat around to last 12(12, 8, 4) 0(12, 8, 4) 0(12, 8, 4) sts, K to end. 72(84, 92, 100) 108(120, 128, 136) 144(156, 164, 172) sts.

**Round 6:** K all sts around.

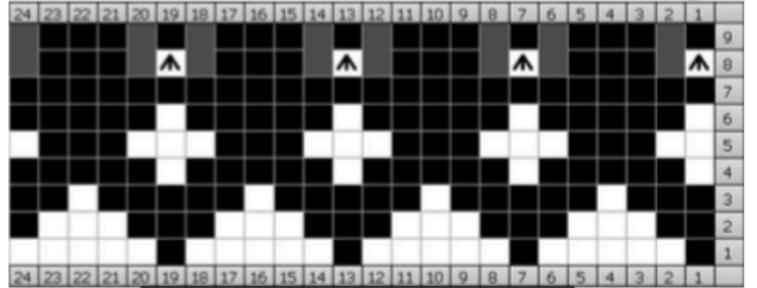
**Next:** Work K2P2 ribbing for 4 rounds. Bind off using your favorite stretchy bind off.

**Finishing:** Use the kitchener st to graft the body and sleeve underarm sts together. If a hole forms at the corners of the underarm, sew it closed when grafting the sts. Weave in all ends and block lightly.





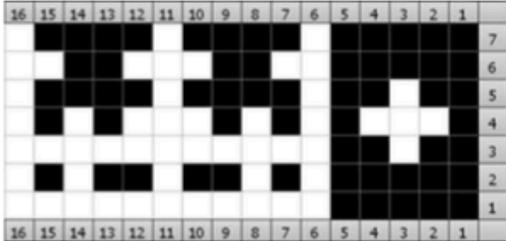
Bumble Bee (Sleeve)



Royal Procession (yoke chart 3)

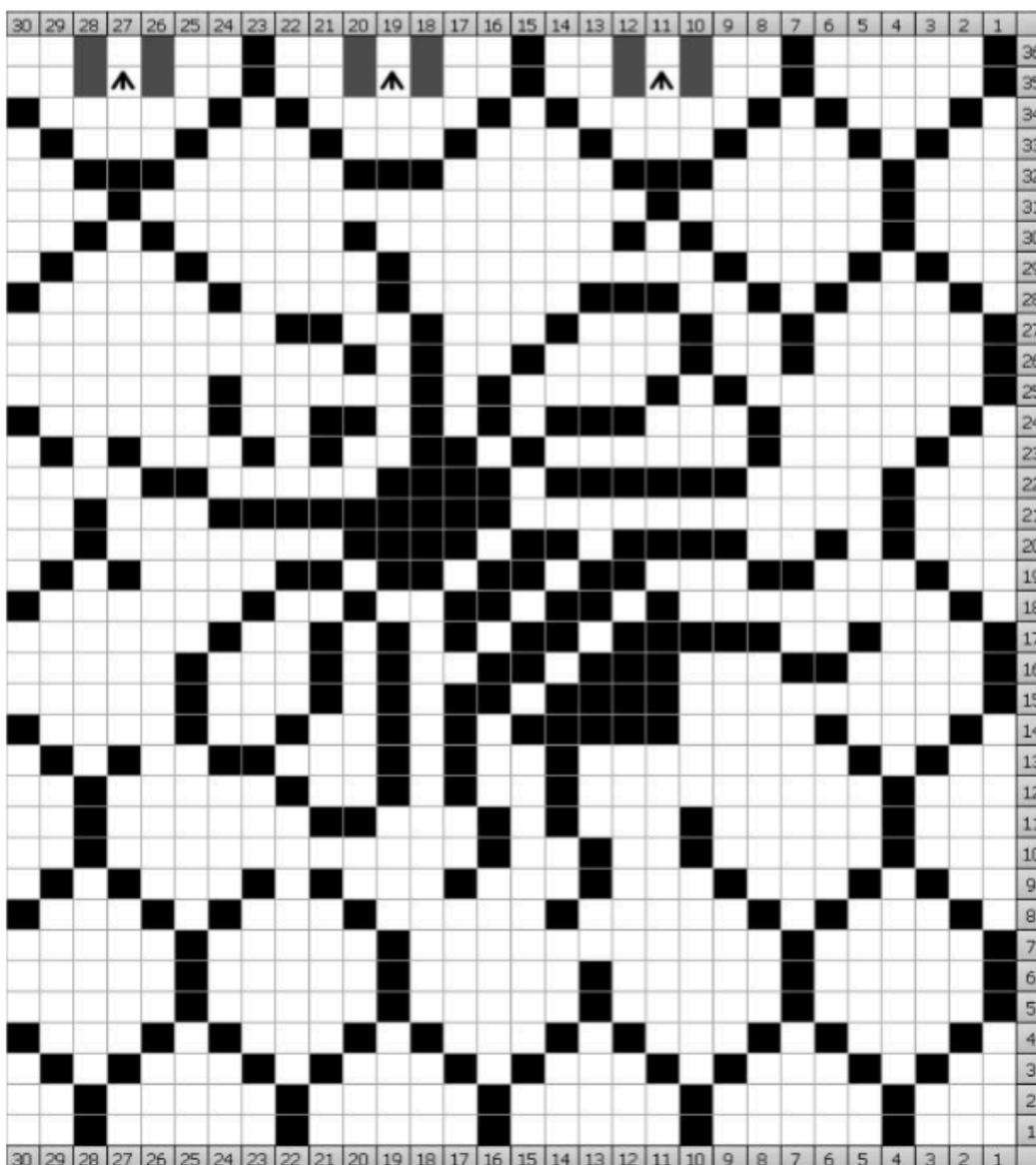


Sweet Honeycomb (yoke chart 2)



Regal Collar (yoke chart 4)

	K1 with CC
	K1 with MC
	No stitch
	CDD (Center Double Decrease)



Queen Bee (yoke chart 1)

Make it your own! My sizing is based on standardized measurements, but there are no standard bodies. The following tips will help you customize your sweater into the perfect fit.

- To add hip/waist shaping, increase sts in multiples of 4 at the body cast on. Decrease the same number of sts by K2tog when you reach the waist. I recommend working these decreases over multiple rounds rather than all at once.
- To add/decrease from the yoke depth, work the sweet honeycomb chart 1 more or 1 less than the pattern indicates for your size.
- To increase upper sleeve circumference, work additional increases on the sleeves, adding sts in multiples of 2. For each set of 2 sts that you add, place one additional st on the underarm holder on both the sleeve and the body.