

Piet Sweater



Pattern

written by kolibri by johanna

Sweater with a modern stripes pattern with vertical and horizontal stripes in sizes XS | S | M (L | XL | 2XL) 3XL

Please note: All measurements in chart are in cm.

Materials:

1 main color:

- 150 | 150 | 150 (150 | 200 | 200) g Organic Soft Merino by Kaos Yarn (250 m/50 g)
- 75 | 75 | 75 (75 | 100 | 100) g Organic Brushed Alpaca by Kaos Yarn (250 m/25 g)

4 different contrast colors:

- for the horizontal stripes: 3 different colors with each 50 g Organic Soft Merino by Kaos Yarn (250 m/50 g) AND 25 g Organic Brushed Alpaca by Kaos Yarn (250 m/25 g)
- from size L onwards: for contrast color 3 you will need 100 g of Merino and 50 g of Brushed Alpaca
- for a horizontal and a vertical stripe in one contrast color: 100 g Organic Soft Merino by Kaos Yarn (250 m/50 g) AND 50 g Organic Brushed Alpaca by Kaos Yarn (250 m/25 g)

Please note: If you use different yarn, please check the yardage to be sure that you have the right amount of yarn!

- 4.5 mm and 3.5 mm circular knitting needles (optional: DPNs for the sleeves), crochet hook 4.5 mm
- darning needle
- stitch markers or leftovers

Knitting Tension:

10x10 cm = 19 sts x 31 rs in stockinette stitch with 2 threads of yarn held together on 4.5 mm knitting needles (wet blocked)

Measurements:

Bust circumference finished sweater:

- 104 | 108 | 114 (121 | 128 | 134) 141 cm with a positive ease of 15 to 20 cm.

Length:

can be easily adapted, but the pattern is calculated for a length of 50 | 50 | 55 (55 | 64 | 64) 66cm (including 3 cm hem)

Sleeve length (from under the armpits): 40 cm (excluding 6 cm hems)

Armpholes: 21 | 22 | 23 (25 | 26 | 27) 28 cm with a circumference of 42 | 44 | 46 (50 | 52 | 54) 56 cm.

Notes:

Edge stitch (first and last st of a r) = knit stitch

stockinette stitch: k all sts in rsr and p all sts in wsr. When you knit stockinette stitch in rounds, k all sts in all rounds.

raglan increases: In every rsr and wsr you make raglan increases along the raglan line on each shoulder – to shape the shoulders and the round neck. The raglan increases are knitted as right and left leaning increases in rsr. In wsr, you increase a p st.

Make 1 right: Insert your needle under the strand of yarn between the stitch you have just knitted and the RS from back to front and place it on your left needle. Knit it through the front loop.

Make 1 left: Insert your needle under the strand of yarn between the RS and the next stitch you are going to knit from front to back and place it on your left needle. Knit it through the back loop so that it is twisted.

Please remember that you are going to increase purl stitches in WSR!

The sweater is knitted with 2 strands of yarn held together: 1 thread of Organic Soft Merino and 1 thread of Organic Brushed Alpaca by Kaos Yarn (or similar yarn to meet the gauge).

Abbreviations:

St/sts = stitch/stitches
R/rs = row(s)/round(s)
rsr = right side row
wsr = wrong side row
k = knit
p = purl
SM = stitch marker
RS = raglan stitch
m1l/m1r = make 1 left/right

Structure

The sweater is knitted top down: First, the shoulders and the round neck are shaped. Afterwards, you are going to work the back and front part separately while shaping the armholes with increases. As soon as the total number of stitches for each size is reached, back and front part are finished in rounds in one piece and are finished with a hem in 1x1 twisted ribbing. Afterwards, the sleeves are knitted directly to the body, using short rows to shape the sleeves. The sleeves are tight at the cuffs to highlight the slight balloon shape of the sleeves. Last, but not least, you are going to crochet the vertical stripes all over body and sleeves. Then, you are going to finish the round neck with a hem in 1x1 ribbing.

The fit of the sweater is loose and oversized, the sleeves tighten at the cuffs with a small hem in 1x1 ribbing. The length is cropped, but can be easily adapted to your individual measurements.

Body

You start to pick up sts for the back part, the two raglan stitches and the right and left shoulder part. The sweater is now worked in rows back and forth to shape the shoulders. The raglan increases take place in rsr AND in wsr along the raglan line on both shoulders. Additionally, you are going to make increases to shape the round neck. As soon as you have reached a certain number of sts, front and back part are going to be finished separately. The armholes are shaped on both sides with increases and after reaching the total number of sts for your individual size, back and front part are finished in one piece.

Basic pattern colour change

For the horizontal stripes, you knit the following basic pattern with colour change:

Rows	Colour	Number of Rows	Colour scheme	Your individual colour choice
R 1-4	Contrast colour 1	4 rs in lilac		
R 5-6	Contrast colour 2*	2 rs in pink		
R 7-8	Main colour	2 rs in white		
R 9-10	Contrast colour 3	2 rs in salmon		
R 11-12	Main colour	2 rs in white		
R 13-14	Contrast colour 2	2 rs in pink		
R 15-18	Contrast colour 4	4 rs in blue		
R 19-24	Main colour	6 rs in white		
R 25-28	Contrast colour 3	4 rs in salmon		
R 29-30	Contrast colour 2	2 rs in pink		
R 31-38	Main colour	8 rs in white		

*contrast colour 2 is used to crochet the vertical stripes over body and sleeves – so make sure to use the contrast colour where you have twice the amount of yarn than you have for the other contrast colour stripes

R 1-38 are repeated steadily throughout the whole body and sleeves. The vertical stripes are going to be crocheted all over body and sleeves afterwards.

Back, shoulder parts and round neck

Cast on 32 sts on your 4.5 mm knitting needles, with 2 threads of yarn held together (1 thread of Organic Soft Merino and 1 thread Organic Brushed Alpaca) in your main colour (e. g. white). Furthermore, I recommend to use an elastic cast-on-method. The second st is marked with SM to highlight the first RS, the second last st is marked with SM too to highlight the second RS. Before and after the RS you are going to make increases in every row (right side rows AND wrong side rows). The first row after casting on is a wsr, p all sts without increases. The table below provides an overview about how many stitches you should have for each part:

Size	Left front	RS	Back	RS	Right front	TOTAL
All sizes	1	1	28	1	1	32

Now, start with the basic pattern for the colour change as described above and stick to the scheme until you have finished the body. K as follows:

RSR: K all sts, make 1 right before and make 1 left after the first RS, repeat this for the second RS.

WSR: P all sts, make 1 purl before and after the RS.

Repeat these two rs in total 6 times.

Now you should have the following numbers of sts on your knitting needles:

Size	Left front	RS	Back	RS	Right front	TOTAL
All sizes	13	1	52	1	13	80

Additionally, to the raglan increases, you are now going to increase after the first and before the last st of every right side row (m1l after the 1st and m1r before the last st) to shape the round neck. In the wrong side rows, you are making only the raglan increases. These 2 rows with the additional increases for the round neck are repeated in total 3 times.

Now, you are going to make the increases for the round neck in every row – right side rows and wrong side rows. Repeat these 2 rows in total 1 | 1 | 1 (1 | 3 | 3) 4 times. Now you should have the following numbers of sts on your knitting needles:

Size	Left front	RS	Back	RS	Right front	TOTAL
XS	26	1	68	1	26	122
S	26	1	68	1	26	122
M	26	1	68	1	26	122
L	26	1	68	1	26	122
XL	34	1	76	1	34	146
XXL	34	1	76	1	34	146
3XL	38	1	80	1	38	158

Now, front and back are worked separately to shape the armholes.

Back part and armholes

Put to rest the sts for the front part (including the 2 RS) and continue knitting with the 68 | 68 | 68 (68 | 76 | 76) 80 sts for the back part. K in stockinette stitch and remember to follow the basic pattern for the colour change for in total 22 | 22 | 24 (24 | 26 | 26) rs – **in these rows, you are NOT making any increases.**

Start shaping the armholes with right and left leaning increases after the first and before the last st of a rsr – in wsr, p all sts without increases. Please stick to the following detailed instructions for the increases (to make the counting easier, it starts for all sizes by 1 again):

R 1 (rsr): make 1 left after the first and make 1 right before the last st of a row, k all sts.

R 2 (wsr) and all even rows: P all sts.

R 3-8: K all sts in stockinette stitch.

R 9: Repeat the instructions of R 1.

R 10-16: K all sts in stockinette stitch.

R 17: Repeat the instructions of R 1.

R 18: p all sts.

Now you should have in total 74 | 74 | 74 (74 | 80 | 80) 84 sts on your knitting needles. From now onwards, the increases for the armholes take place in every rsr (every 2nd row). Repeat the increases in the rsr in total 12 | 14 | 15 (16 | 17 | 18) 19 times. Now you should have in total 98 | 102 | 104 (106 | 114 | 116) 122 sts on your knitting needles. From now onwards, the increases for the armholes take place in every row – in rsr AND in wsr for in total 0 | 0 | 2 (4 | 2 | 4) 4 rows. You should have nun 98 | 102 | 108 (114 | 118 | 124) 130 sts on your knitting needles.

Cut the yarn and put the sts to rest.

Front part and armholes

Pick up the sts for the left front part (including the RS). To shape the round neck, make 1 left after the first st in every right side row, make 1 purl before the last st in every wrong side row. Repeat this for the next 6 | 6 | 6 (6 | 2 | 2) 2 rows. **IMPORTANT:** The RS is casted off in the 2nd row (wrong side row), to make sure you will have the same numbers of stitches for the front parts as for the back part. Remember to work the basic pattern of the colour change too. Now you should have 32 | 32 | 32 (32 | 36 | 36) 40 sts on your knitting needles.

Cut the yarn and start to knit the right front part the same way you have knitted the left front part, with the only difference, that the increases for the round neck are made before the last st in every right side row and after the first st in every wrong side row. The RS is casted off in the 1st right side row. Knit until you have in total

32 | 32 | 32 (32 | 36 | 36) 40 sts on your knitting needles.

In the next right side row both front parts are joined. Therefore, start to knit the sts of the right front part, then cast on 4 new sts (except for size XL: 0 sts) and then knit the sts of the left front part – in this row, you do not make any increases. Now you should have in total 68 | 68 | 68 (68 | 76 | 76) 80 sts on your knitting needles – the same amount as for the back part. In the next wrong side row, purl all sts. Knit in stockinette stitch for the next 14 | 14 | 14 (16 | 20 | 22) 22 rows – you are not making any increases in these rows.

Now you are going to shape the armholes. Therefore, follow the instructions for the back part. After you have made all increases, end with a wrong side row, but do not cut the yarn because you are going to join front and back part in the next row.

Connection of back and front part

Start with your front part in a rsr and k all sts without any increases. Cast on 1 | 1 | 1 (1 | 2 | 2) 2 new sts under the armpit and k all sts of the back part. Cast 1 | 1 | 1 (1 | 2 | 2) 2 new sts under the armpit and place a SM – this is your new beginning of the round. You should have in total 198 | 206 | 218 (230 | 240 | 252) 264 sts on your knitting needles.

Finishing the body

Finish the body in stockinette stitch and remember to follow the instructions for the basic pattern of the colour change. K until your body has reached a length of 22 | 22 | 23 (23 | 25 | 25) cm (from the armpits onwards) – or until you have reached your individual desired length.

Note for a smooth colour change when knitting in rounds: Cut the yarn of your 1st colour and pick up the thread of your 2nd colour. K all sts for the next round using the 2nd colour. As soon as you have reached the first st (knitted with the 2nd colour), pick up PURLWISE the st under the first st. Put the st on your left needle. Now, k both sts together and continue knitting.

After tightening the threads and weaving in the ends, there shouldn't be a visible colour change.

Hem

Before you start working the hem, I recommend to knit 2 rs in your main colour to make the change to 1x1 ribbed pattern as smooth as possible. If you have already knitted several rows in your main colour because of the colour scheme, you can leave out the 2 recommended rows in your main colour.

Change to 3.5 mm knitting needles and k for in total 10 rs in 1x1 ribbing with twisted k sts and simple p sts. Cast off all sts in R 11.

Crocheting the vertical stripes

I recommend to crochet the vertical stripes on the body before adding the sleeves. Therefore, follow the instructions on p. 7.

Sleeves

The sleeves are knitted with shorts rows AND in the basic pattern for the colour change. This means, that you are going to pick up the sts step by step and that you have to pull along the threads in wsr before you start picking up the new sts and start knitting. You are going to pick up around 4 sts for each side in every rsr, to make the basic pattern of the colour change similar to the basic pattern of the body. The new sts are picked up along the dots of the edge stitches (1 st per dot = 1 st per 2 rs). R1-6 are knitted with the main colour (1 thread of Organic Soft Merino and 1 thread of Organic Brushed Alpaca), after that you start working after the colour scheme on p. 3.

To visualize this method, you can find a short video on my website explaining how to pick up sts and knit in colour change (<https://www.kolibri-by-johanna.de/piet-sweater-sleeves>).

Alternative Method: If you are a tight knitter, you can pick up sts around the armholes with your main colour. I recommend to pick up 2 sts for 3 rows – or you are going to adapt the number of stitches individually to your knitting tension. If you pick up 2 sts for 3 rows, you should have in total 88 | 92 | 96 (104 | 106 | 114) 116 sts on your knitting needles. To knit the short rows in colour change, follow the instructions below, until you have knitted all picked up sts.

Colour change in short rows:

K as follows:

R 1 (rsr): Start with the left shoulder part, the middle RS facing you. Count 5 rs on the right side of the work and pick up 5 sts out of the 5 rs. Pick up another st for the middle RS and pick up 5 sts for the next 5 rs on the left side of the work. You should have in total 11 sts on your knitting needles.

R 2 (wsr) and all even rs : P all sts (even the edge sts!).

R 3: Count 4 rs on the right side, pull the yarn on the back side of your work and pick up 2 sts for this 4 rs, k all sts with your main colour and pick up 2 more sts for the next 4 rs on the left side.

R 5: Follow the instructions of R 3, but pick up 3 sts for 6 rs on both sides.

From R 7 onwards you are starting to work in the colour change following the colour scheme on p. 3.

R 7: Repeat the instructions of R 3.

R 8: Repeat R 2.

R 9: Repeat the instructions of R 3, but pick up 4 sts for 8 rs on both sides.

R 10: Repeat R2.

Repeat R 9 and 10 for 4 | 5 | 5 (6 | 6 | 7) 7 more times, then pick up 2 | 0 | 1 (0 | 1 | 0) 1 more sts at the beginning and the end and you should have now 70 | 74 | 76 (82 | 84 | 90) 92 sts along the armholes. Place a SM – this is your new beginning of the round.

Continue to knit in rounds (e. g. using the magic loop technique) until your sleeves have reached a length of approximately 38 cm (measured from the armpits onwards). No matter at which point of the colour scheme you are, change to your main colour and k for 2 more rs in stockinette stitch. Before you start to decrease sts for the hem, I recommend to crochet the vertical stripes onto the sleeves, because it can get quite tricky after making the decreases and attaching the hem in 1x1 ribbing. Therefore, follow the instructions on p. 7.

Decreases for the hem

After adding the stripes, continue knitting as follows: In the next round, k2tog until there are 2 | 2 | 0 (2 | 0 | 2) 2 sts left. K the last sts. Now you should have in total 36 | 38 | 38 (42 | 42 | 46) 52 sts on your knitting needles. K all sts in the next round.

Hem in 1x1 ribbing

Change to 3.5 mm knitting needles (or DPNs) and k for 18 rs in 1x1 ribbing with twisted knit stitches and simple purl sts. Cast off all sts in R 19 (elastic bind-off method).

NOTE: If you are a tight knitter, I recommend to use half a needle size bigger for the hem.

Vertical stripes on body and sleeves

To make the vertical stripes for the pattern, you will need a 4.5 mm crochet hook and your contrast colour 2 (e. g. pink) with 2 threads of yarn held together (1 thread of Organic Soft Merino and 1 thread of Organic Brushed Alpaca).

Crocheting the vertical stripes with slip stitches

Work on the right side of the sweater. Start at the raglan line of the right shoulder and work in the stripes top down. Insert your crochet hook into the stitch, hold the threads of the contrast colour 2 on the wrong side of the sweater and loop the working yarn over the hook from back to front. Rotate your crochet hook to prepare for hooking the yarn. Pull the hook through the stitch of your sweater. Now you have a loop on the right side of the work. *Insert your hook into the next stitch in the row below, loop the working yarn over the hook from back to front, rotate your crochet hook and pull the hook down and through the stitch of your sweater AND the current loop on your hook. Now you have made 1 slip stitch*. To make the next slip stitch, repeat the instructions from * to * until you reach the hem of the body.

To visualize the method of crocheting the vertical stripes all over body and sleeves, you can find a video tutorial on my website (<https://www.kolibri-by-johanna.de/piet-sweater-vertical-stripes>).

Placing the vertical stripes

The vertical stripes are going to be crocheted after the following rhythm: *1 vertical stripe (1 st of your sweater), leave out the next 2 sts, 1 vertical stripe (1 st), leave out the next 12 sts, 1 vertical stripe (1 st), leave out the next 12 sts*. Repeat from * to * until the total width of body and sleeves are covered with vertical stripes.

How to start placing the stripes on the body:

I recommend to start at the raglan line on your right shoulder. Count the 3rd RS from the round neck – from this stitch onwards your 1st vertical stripe is going to be worked over the length of the body – on front and back part. Leave out the next 2 sts and work in the next vertical stripe from the 6th RS onwards. Now you should have crocheted the first two vertical stripes. The next vertical stripe is going to be crocheted with a distance of 12 sts on each side of the 2 first crocheted stripes. Continue to crochet the stripes all over the body. The stripes are ending before the hem.

How to start placing the stripes on the sleeves:

Start with your RS and count 6 sts on the right side and 5 sts on the left side. On the right side, start crocheting the 1st vertical stripe from the 7th stitch onwards. Leave out the next 2 sts and crochet the next stripe from the 10th stitch onwards. On the left side, start crocheting the 1st vertical stripe from the 6th stitch onwards. Leave out the next 12 sts and then crochet the next 2 vertical stripes. Continue this way until you have covered the whole width of the sleeve with stripes. All the stripes are ending before the hem.

Hem in 1x1 ribbing for the round neck

To finish your sweater, a collar in 1x1 ribbing with twisted knit stitches is attached directly to the round neck of your sweater. Therefore, pick up 80 | 80 | 82 (82 | 84 | 84) 86 sts along the neckline with your 4.5 mm knitting needles with 2 threads of yarn held together (1 thread of Organic Soft Merino and 1 thread of Organic Brushed Alpaca). K in 1x1 ribbed pattern, starting with *k1bl, p1* and repeat from * to * until the end of the round.

K for in total 10 rounds in 1x1 ribbed pattern and cast off all sts (elastically – to make sure that your head will still fit through) in the next round.

Completion

Wet block your sweater and let him dry flat. Weave in all ends.

Your new handmade Piet Sweater is finished!

I would be thrilled to see your results – if you like, share your work on Instagram with the Hashtag **#pietsweater** and tag me **@kolibri.by_johanna**

