

Folk Vests

24" (60-cm) needle and color A, cast on 293 sts. Being careful not to twist sts, join into a round by knitting into the first st on left needle. This st is the first st of each round. Place marker at beginning of round and before last 7 sts of round to mark front steek. The last 7 sts of the round are the steek and should be knitted alternating colors on every st and every round (see page 129).

Work corrugated ribbing in the following color sequence:

Rounds 1–3: K2 A, p2 B.

Rounds 4–7: K2 A, p2 C.

Rounds 8–11: K2 A, p2 B.

BEGIN COLOR PATTERN

Next Round: Change to larger needle and knit with Color A, increasing 3 sts evenly spaced—296 sts. Mark underarms by placing a marker between the 72nd and 73rd sts and between the 217th and 218th sts.

Patterns are worked as sets of one XO band and one peerie band. One pattern set equals 19 rounds. The color sequence for each set is the same. Remember to alternate the colors in the steek on every st and every round.

Work in pattern for 4 sets then work rounds 1–18 of the 5th set.

RESERVE UNDERARM STITCHES

Next Round (round 19 of 5th set): Work to 14 sts before right underarm marker. Place next 29 sts, including underarm marker, on a holder. Make a 7-st steek, placing a marker on each side of the steek sts; join again by knitting into the next st on the left needle.

Knit to 15 sts before second marker. Place next 29 sts and underarm marker on a holder. Make second armhole steek just like the first. Place markers on each side of the steek sts, work to end of round.

SHAPE ARMHOLE AND NECK

Decreases for armhole and neck shaping are worked on either side of each respective steek. Remember to alternate colors on the steek sts.

Next Round (round 1 of 6th set): K1, ssk (right neck decrease), knit to 3 sts before right armhole steek, k2tog, k1, knit the steek sts, k1, ssk (right armhole decrease). Knit to 3 sts before left armhole steek, k2tog, k1, knit the steek sts, k1, ssk (left armhole decrease), knit to 3 sts before front steek, k2tog, k1 (left neck decrease). Repeat armhole decreases every other round 8 more times (9 times total). Repeat neck decreases alternating every 3rd and every 4th round for a total of 26 decreases along each front neckline—164 sts on needle including steeks.

Continue even with pattern as established, completing chart 3. Place all sts on holder.

STITCHING AND CUTTING

Machine stitch and cut the steek for the front opening and both armholes. See pages 128–129 for cutting and steeking techniques.

SHOULDERS

Reserve 23 sts for each shoulder, front and back. Bind off shoulders together (see three-needle bind-off on page 127). Keep center 51 sts on holder for back neck.

FRONT BAND

With smaller needles and Color A, begin at the bottom right front and pick up by knitting 72 sts to beginning of V shaping, 72 sts from point of V to shoulder, knit 51 back neck sts decreasing 1 st in middle of back neck, pick up by knitting 72 sts to beginning of V shaping, and 72 sts down left front to bottom—338 sts on needle). Turn.

Row 1: Purl with A.

Work corrugated ribbing in the following color sequence: