

READY, SET, KNIT

Air Date: May 23, 2009

Shay Cap Sleeve KAL: Part 4 – The Sleeves

The cap sleeves on this sweater are made by picking up the armhole stitches and then using short rows to shape the sleeve.

This is what I like about this method:

- There are no sleeve seams to sew, and therefore less bulk around the armhole and under the arm.
- The knitting goes really fast.
- The cap of the sleeve is beautiful and clean-looking.
- The pick-up row is very neat.

This is what I don't like:

- After the cap stitches, the remaining stitches are much larger along the armhole edge. **Note:** Dori snugs up these stitches on the wonky side with yarn and a tapestry needle and she says they look just fine.
- The front and back of the sleeve look different; one side looks better than the other.
- On the front of the sweater, the better-looking side will show on one sleeve and the not-so-good-looking side will show on the other. The fronts will not match.

Your other option is to work the sleeves from the bottom up and sew them into the armholes. Even though sewing in set-in sleeves is the most difficult part of finishing a sweater, I still prefer this option. I have done the sleeve both ways on my sweater and there are pictures below. You are the boss of your knitting, so it's your choice! If you need help rewriting the sleeve to knit separately, just shoot me an email and I'll tell you how I did mine.



above: left front



above: left rear



above: right front

