

READY, SET, KNIT

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Shay Cap Sleeve KAL: Part 5 – Wrap-Up

I hope you enjoyed our short-row vs. sewn in cap sleeve chat last time, and thanks to Dori for sharing her views on the subject with us. We both agree that the concept is very appealing and that the pros might outweigh the cons if we use needle and thread to snug up the offending stitches after the fact. I just know there's someone out there who will figure out how to make the pick-up armhole stitches-short-row sleeve cap technique work perfectly. I've been wondering if the shaping could somehow be done in the middle of the sleeve instead of at the armhole; one of our teachers, Sara, suggested to me that the problem might be with the twist of the yarn on the side that is hinky and that pulling from the other end of the ball to do those stitches might help. If you have any ideas on this subject, please let us know.

If you're doing the pick-up and short-row sleeve, you'll probably get your correct p/u number by using a ratio of 2 out of 3.

If you'd like to do the sewn-in sleeve, just c/o 56/60 sts, work in Twisted Ribbing for 2 rows, and then increase one stitch each side (2 sts in from the edge) until 16/18 sts remain. Bind off on the next row. Sew in the sleeve; sew up the side and sleeve seams.

However you do the sleeves, enjoy your sweater! By the way, without sleeves, it makes a really cute vest.

And, while we are on the subject of sleeves, I'd like to share a method with you that knocked my socks off. I am currently working on Lucy Neatby's Venus Rising Cardigan (when I'm not knitting for our KALs) and, although I'm being challenged, I'm finding it great fun. The sweater starts at the cuff; when you get to the underarm, you start doing short rows to shape the sleeve cap – there are no hinky stitches, just smooth knitting. Then you do Judy's Magic Cast-On to form the side seam of the cardigan and knit this onto your sleeve cap, continue a bit with short rows and proceed with the shoulder, front and back of the sweater --- AMAZING!!!! If your interest is piqued, you can get the pattern at lucyneatby.com.

Next Week: TBD