

FEARLESS FINISHING PROJECT SWEATER, PP. 78-82

TEXT: *Seven Things that can "Make or Break" a Sweater* by Margaret E. Fisher

Notes:

1. It is very important for you to **read** this book! While we may not cover everything in class or practice every technique, each page contains useful tips that you can continue to refer to long after the class is over.
2. We are changing the pattern slightly, so be sure to **refer to this handout** before you work the pattern from the book.
3. Please bring a pad of **graph paper** or several loose sheets of graph paper to each class. It is often easier to grasp a concept if you work it out visually.

Materials:

- 2 skeins Cascade 220 Superwash
- 24" circular needles, sizes 5 and 7, or size needed to obtain gauge
- Stitch holders
- 3 or 4 buttons
- Tapestry needle
- Graph paper
- The usual knitting tools

Gauge: 4.5 sts = 1" and 6 rows = 1" in St st on larger needles

Read the Preface, Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 now.**BACK****Step 1**

Note: The smooth side of the long-tail cast-on is considered as the first **RS** row.

With **smaller needles**, CO **45** sts. (This is a change from the original pattern.) Since the first row is the cast-on row, place a marker on this row.

Row 2 (WS): Work P2, then rep K1, P1 rib and end with K1, P2.

Row 3 (RS): Work K2, P1, then rep K1, P1 rib and end with P1, K2.

Repeat rows 2 and 3 for about an inch and end having completed a **WS** row. (This is a change from the original pattern.)

Step 2

Inc 5 sts "evenly spaced" ("evenly spaced" really means "as evenly spaced as possible") on the next **RS** rib row – **50** sts. For Margaret's method, refer to chapter 2. For an adult sweater, here is a very good way to plan your increases. Just be sure never to work your increase on an edge stitch.

For this small sweater, I decided the "eyeball" method would work fine. This is the information I needed to know:

1. 5 inc required – this means 2 inc in from each edge and one in the middle.
2. The kf&b inc must be made on a knit st.

I placed my markers on the 6th and 14th sts in from each edge and the 5th marker “as evenly spaced as possible” on the 22nd st from the right edge. Yes, I was one st off, but this is OK. It’s not going to show because the purl bump of the kf&b will get lost in the purl “ditch” between knit sts.

Step 3

Change to **larger needles** and St st, **purl** the next row, and continue until back measures about 6” from the CO edge. End having completed a **WS** row.

Read Chapter 3 now.

Step 4

Shape armholes as indicated on p. 80, but use **full-fashioned** shaping. See page 28 and use Option 1 = K3, SSK, knit across until 5 sts rem, K2tog, K3. (Reminder of how to work an **SSK** can be found on p. 22. You may wish to practice this on your swatch.) When you have finished the shaping, you will have 38 sts. Work even until armholes measure about 3”; end having completed a **WS** row.

Step 5

Divide for the neckline. K 14, **join a new ball of yarn and BO center 10 sts**, K 14. work each side separately.

Work Left and Right Neck shaping as indicated on p. 80. Note that for the Left Neck shaping you will have to work a **SSP**. See pages 25 – 27 and **practice this decrease on your swatch more than once** before working it on the sweater. It’s a little tricky, but Margaret’s illustrations and explanation are very clear. First, with **WS** facing, slip the first st **knitwise** from the left needle to the right needle; repeat for the second stitch on the left needle. Now, slip these 2 sts back to the left needle **purlwise**. Then, purl these 2 sts tog through the back loops. In order to do this, you must turn the tip of the left hand needle toward you so you can see the back of the needle. Place the right hand needle, from the back, through the second st from the tip of the needle and then through the st nearest the tip of the left needle. Bring the right needle to the front without dropping the 2 sts and p2tog.

Place the 9 rem sts from each shoulder on waste cotton yarn holders. No metal holders, please!!

LEFT FRONT

Note: Many knitters work the left and right fronts together to assure that each front will be the same. Please try this method for our project.

Read Chapter 4 now.

SLEEVES

Note: Many knitters work the sleeves together to assure that each one will be the same. Please try this method for our project.

Step 1

Cuff to Underarm

With **smaller needles**, CO 28 sts. This is the **RS**, place a marker.

Row 2 (WS): P1, K1, P1..., ending with a **K1**. This is NOT an error.

Row 3 (RS): K1, P1..., ending with a **P1**. This is NOT an error, either.

Work in rib as for back and fronts. End after completing a **WS** row. Inc 2 sts evenly (but not on the edge sts!) on next rib row (**RS**) – **30** sts.

Change to **larger** needles and St st; begin with a **purl** row. Work 7 rows even, then work inc row on the 8th row (**RS**). You will be increasing with **Make One Right** and **Make One Left** – see pp. 35 – 36. **Practice these increases on your swatches** before you do them on the sweater. Continue as indicated on p. 81 until piece measures about 6 ½ “ from cast-on edge. End after completing a **WS** row.

Step 2

Shape Cap

Work as indicated on p. 81, but remember to use **full-fashioned** shaping. BO sleeves.

Read Chapters 5 and 6 now.

PREPARATION FOR WORKING SHAWL COLLAR AND FRONT BANDS

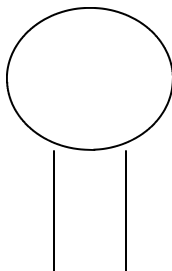
Step 1

Block all pieces to measurements.

Step 2

Join shoulder sts using the **3-needle BO**. See p. 128. **Practice this on two of your swatches before working it on the sweater.**

Step 3:



- **Mark points B and E** (where the tops of each side of the front bands meet the beginning of the neck shaping) with locking ring markers inserted into the fabric.
- Using a circular needle in the ribbing size (one or two sizes smaller is even better), and beginning at the bottom of the right front (A) and with the **RS** facing, pick up sts by ratio (3 out of 4) from the right front band (A to B), one-for-one across the diagonal for the V-neck, one-for-one across the back, one-for-one down the other diagonal and back to the ratio method for the left front band (E to F) Don't worry about your numbers; they can be adjusted on the first row of rib. Place markers on your needle at points B and E. Remove the other markers from the fabric.
- Now, count the picked up stitches and plan for any adjustments **BEFORE** continuing. This is what you have to take into account:
 1. The numbers from points B to E **must be divisible by 4**.
 2. The **rib pattern must also work effectively**. Since we are using K1, P1 rib and the first rib row is on the **WS**, you will need to **begin with a P1 at F** and **end with a P1 at A** in order to have visual balance.

Note: This means that the first rib row will have to have an **odd** number of stitches, but that the stitches between B and E **must be divisible by four**. Do you see the problem?

- **Row 1** of ribbing. Remember, you are on the **WS** of the work. As you work this row, make the sts from E to B divisible by 4 by decreasing with a K2tog or P2tog as needed, or by increasing kf&b as needed.

This is the “make it so” row! (One front band will have to be one stitch less than the other in order to stay in rib pattern. **Do not stress** about this!)

- **Row 2 (RS):** Divide the sts from B to E by 4. Place a marker $1/4^{\text{th}}$ of the way up from point B (this will be point C) and another one $1/4^{\text{th}}$ of the way up from point E (this will be point D). You now have 4 markers, one each at B, C, D and E. Work in rib from A to E.
- **Row 3 (WS):** Work in rib from points E to A.

Read Chapter 7 now.

Step 4

Purchase 4 buttons – you may only need 3, depending on size.

Take out one of your swatches and practice the buttonhole in chapter 7 **several** times. Repeat the purlwise slip and bind-off maneuver until you have created a buttonhole that your button will fit through. When you practice on your swatch, **note how many sts are used to work your buttonhole**. Write this number down! (My 3-slip st buttonhole used up 5 sts.)

The top buttonhole should be about $1/2$ ” down from the beginning of the V and the bottom one should be about $1/2$ ” up from the bottom of the front band, and the others should be “evenly spaced” between them. Girl’s buttonholes are worked on the right front band; boy’s on the left. If you haven’t yet decided whether to give this sweater to a boy or a girl, use Elizabeth Zimmerman’s method – put buttonholes on both bands!! You should do this anyway for the practice.

Step 5

Use the handout to determine your buttonhole placement. Take into account the number of sts your buttonhole uses up, and space them “as evenly as possible” along the front band.

Step 6

Work the buttonholes on the band(s) and complete the row. This is **RS row 4**. Refer to pp. 68 – 72 as necessary.

Step 7

Work another WS row (5) of ribbing and another RS row (6) of ribbing. You will now be ready to start WS row 7 at point F. Work to marker **C**. **STOP!!**

Step 8

1. Determine the desired depth of the shawl collar. (We will use 2 inches as our depth.)
2. What is your row gauge? Multiply your row gauge x the depth of the collar (2).
3. Count the sts between markers C and D.
4. Divide the answer to #3 by the answer to number 2. This answer is the interval you will use to execute the short rows.

Example:

Let’s say the row gauge is 6. The collar depth is 2. **$6 \times 2 = 12$**

Let’s say the # of sts between C and D is 24. **$24 \div 12 = 2$** .

(Always round up to the nearest whole number if necessary.)

You will execute short rows from points C and D each 2 sts longer than the previous row until you reach points B and E.

How To Do a Wrap and Turn

Knit Row: 1. W/Y in back, sl next st purlwise.
2. Pass yarn between needles to front of work.
3. Sl same st back to left needle and pass yarn between needles to back of work.
4. Turn work and continue to work another row on sts just worked.

Purl Row: 1. W/Y in front, sl next st purlwise.
2. Pass yarn between needles to back of work.
3. Sl same st back to left needle and pass yarn back between needles to front of work.
4. Turn work and cont. to work another row on sts just worked.

How To Pick Up Wraps

Knit Row: Work to just before wrapped st, insert right needle under wrap and knitwise into st, then knit them tog as a single st.

Purl Row: Work to just before wrapped st, insert right needle from behind into back loop of wrap, place wrap on left needle and purl it tog w/wrapped st on the left needle.

Step 9

Remember, you are at marker C. The following example uses an interval of 2:

Remove the marker.

Rib one st.

Wrap the next st.

Turn the work.

Replace the marker.

Rib to marker D.

Remove the marker.

Rib one st.

Wrap the next st.

Turn the work.

Replace the marker.

*Rib to the wrapped st at marker C.

Remove the marker.

Pick up the wrap. (For info on how to pick up wraps, see *The Knitter's Companion*, pp.124 – 125.) You may wish to practice this maneuver on your swatches first!

Rib one st.

Wrap the next st.

Turn the work.

Replace the marker.

Rib to the wrapped st at marker D.

Remove the marker.

Pick up the wrap.

Rib one st.

Wrap the next st.

Turn the work.

Replace the marker.*

Rep from * to * until points B and E are reached. Finish the row and BO all sts on the next row.

Sew on your buttons with sewing thread, not yarn. Yarn cannot be trusted!!

Hint: If your short row interval is 4, you rib 3 sts and wrap the 4th; interval of 7, rib 6 sts and wrap the 7th.

Step 10

Sew sleeves into armhole. See p. 129.

Step 11

Sew side seams and sleeve seams. See p. 125.

Step 12

Weave in all ends.

If you don't have anyone special to give your sweater to, please donate it to charity.