Olga - a beautiful sweater in wide stripes

Design: Ditte Lerche

Ditte Lerche has created a series of designs inspired by classic vintage knitwear, but designed in a very contemporary style. Olga is the loveliest feminine mohair sweater worked in beautifully contrasting stripes with a small transition pattern between each colour that resembles little flowers.

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Materials

Colour A: 50 (50) 50 (100) 100 g Arwetta Classic by Filcolana in colour 253 (Power Pink)

Colour B: 50 (50) 50 (50) 75 g Tilia by Filcolana in colour 335 (Peach Blossom)

Colour C: 50 (75) 75 (75) 100 g Tilia by Filcolana in colour 353 (Fresia)

Colour D: 50 (75) 75 (75) 100 g Tilia by Filcolana in

colour 136 (Mustard) Colour E: 50 (75) 75 (75) 100 g Tilia by Filcolana in

colour 145 (Navy Blue) Colour F: 50 (50) 50 (50) 50 g Arwetta Classic by Filcolana in colour 145 (Navy Blue)

3,5 mm and 5 mm circular needle, 80 cm 3,5 mm and 5 mm double-pointed needles (if the

magic loop technique is not used) Stitch markers

Sizes

XS (S) M (L) XL

Measurements

Body, chest: 80-88 (88-96) 96-104 (104-112) 112-120 cm

Sweater, chest: 102 (110) 118 (126) 136 cm Sleeve length: 45 cm

Total length: approx. 56 (57) 60 (62) 65 cm





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Gauge

21 sts and 25 rows in stockinette stitch with two strands of Tilia held together on a 5 mm needle = 10×10 cm.

The sleeves and body are worked in 2 strands of Tilia held together, while the rib edges are worked in 1 strand of Arwetta Classic and 1 strand of Tilia held together.

Special abbreviation

M1R (Make 1 Right)

- from the RS: From the back, lift the horizontal strand between stitches with the left needle and knit through the front loop.
- from the WS: From the front, lift the horizontal strand between stitches with the left needle and purl through the back loop.

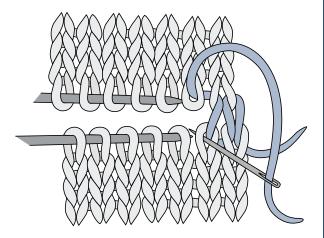
Kitchener stitch

Break the yarn, leaving a tail of yarn long enough to sew with. Thread it onto a blunt needle.

Hold the two sets of stitches parallel to each other, WS to WS. Hold the working yarn below the needles at all times.

Begin as follows:

Insert needle into first stitch on front needle at if to purl. Leave the stitch on the needle. Insert needle into first stitch on back needle as if to knit. Leave the stitch on the needle.



Then continue as follows:

- 1. Insert needle into first stitch on front needle as if to knit. Let the stitch fall off needle.
- 2. Insert needle into next stitch on front needle as if to purl. Leave the stitch on the needle.
- 3. Insert needle into first stitch on back needle as if to purl. Let the stitch fall off needle.
- 4. Insert needle into next stitch on back needle as if to knit. Leave the stitch on the needle. Repeat Step 1-4 until all the stitches have been sewn together.

M1L (Make 1 Left)

- from the RS: From the front, lift the horizontal strand between stitches with the left needle and knit through the back loop.
- from the WS: From the back, lift the horizontal strand between stitches with the left needle and purl it

Special techniques

Short rows - GSR (German short rows): Work to where the turn needs to be, turn, then slip the first stitch purl-wise with the yarn held in front. Bring the working yarn up and over the needle and down on the other side, pulling hard enough on the yarn to make the stitch on the needle look like a double stitch (the 2 legs of the stitch are visible). Continue row as pattern describes.

When working across the stitch that looks like a double stitch, work it as 1 stitch, either knitting or purling the 2 legs together, as the pattern describes.

Pattern worked in the round (4 stitch repeat)

Round 1: *K1, (view the next 3 sts together as a unit) insert the right needle through the stitch 2 rows below the centre stitch of the next 3 sts, pull the working yarn through to the RS, lift it up and over the next 3 sts on the left needle og let it fall off the right needle again, then slip the next 3 sts from left to right needle without knitting them*, repeat from * to * to end of round.

Round 2: *K2, slip the next stitch purl-wise from left to right needle with the yarn held to the back, k1 *, repeat from * to * to end of round.

Pattern worked back and forth (4 stitch repeat)

Row 1 (RS): *K1, (view the next 3 sts together as a unit) insert the right needle through the stitch 2 rows below the centre stitch of the next 3 sts, pull the working yarn through to the RS, lift it up and over the next 3 sts on the left needle og let it fall off the right needle again, then slip the next 3 sts from left to right needle without knitting them*, repeat from * to * to end of row.

Row 2 (WS): *P2, slip the next stitch purl-wise from left to right needle with the yarn held to the front, p1*, repeat from * to * to end of row.

Directions for knitting

The sweateren is worked from the bottom up. The body is worked in the round to the armholes, then the work is divided into front and back and the two are finished separately. The shoulder seams are sewn together using Kitchener stitch, then a rib neck edge is knitted on. Sleeves are knitted from the bottom up, then sewn onto the body. The design is oversize with shortened sleeves and body.

Body

Cast on 216 (232) 248 (264) 288 sts on a 3,5 mm circular needle with 1 strand colour A and 1 stand colour B held together. Join in the round and work 6

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(7) 7 (8) 9 cm of k2, p2 ribbing.

Place a marker for the beginning of the round and a second marker after 108 (116) 124 (132) 144 sts, to mark the side "seams".

Change to a 5 mm circular needle and continue in stockinette stitch with 2 strands of colour B held together until the work measures 15 (15) 16 (16) 17 cm.

Change to 2 strands of colour C and work the 2 pattern rounds (see above). Continue in stockinette stitch until the stripe measures 36 (36) 38 (38) 40 omg.

Change to 2 strands of colour D and work the 2 pattern rounds once more. Continue in stockinette stitch until the stripe measures 18 omg. The work now measures approx. 36 (36) 38 (38) 40 cm.

Bind off for the armholes on the next round: Bind off 3 sts, knit to 2 sts before next marker, bind off 5 sts, knit to the last 2 sts of the round, bind off these last 2 sts.

Now finish front and back separately.

Back

Work in stockinette stitch with colour D until the stripe measures a total of 36 (36) 38 (38) 40 rounds/ rows. Change to 2 strands of colour E and work the 2 pattern rows. Now work in stockinette stitch for the rest of the work.

At the same time, work the following increases at the armhole edges every 12th row a total of 3 times (RS): K1, M1, knit to the last stitch, k1.

There are now 109 (117) 125 (133) 145 sts on the needle.



This means that the 2 first and last sts need to be worked in stockinette stitch on the pattern rows, so the "flowers" align with the previously worked "flowers".

Work short rows when a total of 26 (26) 30 (30) 34 rows have been worked with colour E as follows:

Row 1 (RS): Knit to the last 6 (8) 9 (9) 10 sts, turn.

Row 2: Purl to the last 6 (8) 9 (9) 10 sts, turn.

Row 3: Knit to 6 (8) 9 (9) 10 sts before last turn, turn.

Row 4: Purl 6 (8) 9 (9) 10 sts before last turn, turn. Work Row 3 and 4 another 3 times.

Break the yarn and move all the sts to the same needle without knitting them.

Work a RS row: Knit 40 (42) 46 (49) 55 sts, bind off 29 (33) 33 (35) 35 sts, knit 40 (42) 46 (49) 55 sts. Place the 40 (42) 46 (49) 55 sts for each shoulder on separate stitch holders to be sewn together with the corresponding front shoulder with Kitchener stitch later.

Front

Work in stockinette stitch with colour D until the stripe measures a total of 36 (36) 38 (38) 40 rounds/ rows. Change to 2 strands of colour E and work the 2 pattern rows. Now work in stockinette stitch for the rest of the work.

At the same time, work the following increases at the armhole edges every 12th row a total of 3 times (RS): K1, M1, knit to the last stitch, k1.

There are now 109 (117) 125 (133) 145 sts on the needle.

At the same time, divide the work for the neck when 14 (14) 16 (16) 18 rows in colour E have been worked as follows (RS): Knit 46 (50) 54 (57) 63 sts, bind off the centre 13 (13) 13 (15) 15 sts, knit 46 (50) 54 (57) 63 sts.

Now work back and forth across the right side of the front, while binding off sts for the neck edge at the beginning of every other row. First bind off 3 sts once, then bind off 2 sts off twice, then 1 stitch a total of 3 times. There are now 36 (40) 44 (47) 53) sts on the right front. Knit the last stitch of all WS rows (for a neat edge).

Now work short rows to shape the shoulder:

Row 1 (RS): Knit to the last 6 (8) 9 (9) 10 sts, turn. **Row 2:** Purl to end of row.

Row 3: Knit to 6 (8) 9 (9) 10 sts before the last turn, turn.

Work Row 2 and 3 another 3 times. Work Row once more.

Then work a row in stockinette stitch across all sts. Break the yarn.

Sew the sts together with the corresponding back shoulder sts using Kitchener stitch.

Finish the left side the same as the right, only mirror reversed.



Sleeves

Cast on 56 (56) 56 (60) 60 sts on a 3,5 mm needle with 1 strand colour A and 1 strand of colour B held together. Join in the round and place a marker for the beginning of the round. Work 8 cm of k2, p2 ribbing. Change to a 5 mm needle and 2 strand of colour B. Increase 8 sts evenly across the first round. There are now 64 (64) 64 (68) 68 sts on the needle.

Increase round: K1, M1k, knit to the last stitch of the round, M1, k1.

Work an increase round every 4th round a total of 16 times. There are now 96 (96) 96 (100) 100 sts on the needle.

At the same time, change to colour C when the work measures 12 cm and work the 2 pattern rounds. Then continue in stockinette stitch until the stripe messures 30 rounds.

Change to colour D and work the 2 rounds of the pattern, then continue in stockinette stitch until the stripe measures 30 omg.

Change to colour E og strik de 2 and work the 2 rounds of the pattern, then continue in stockinette stitch until the stripe measures 26 omg. Bind off loosely.

Work the second sleeve the same as the first.

Neck edge

Pick up and knit 100 (108) 108 (116) 116 sts from the RS around the neck edge using a 3,5 mm needle and 1 strand of colour E and 1 strand of colour F held together. Join in the round and place a marker for the beginning of the round. Work 7 cm of k2, p2 ribbing. Bind off loosely.

Finishing

Weave in all ends. Sew the sleeves in the armholes. Fold the neck edge and sew the bind off edge to the WS. Gently steam or wash the finished sweater.