Alisterus - a delightfully colorful cardigan for kids

Design: Hanne Pjedsted

Alisterus are colourful parrots, and these are what inspired this kids' sweater. We show you two versions - one in brighter colours and one in more muted tones. The sweater is an easy knit and practically without finishing work at the end.

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Materials

Arwetta Classic by Filcolana in a total of 8 colours: 50 (50) 50 (100) g for colour B (also edges) 20 (30) 35 (40) g each for colour A, C, D, E and F 20 (20) 20 (20) g each for colour G and H - see which colours were used for the cardigans in the photos on page 3

If you prefer to choose your stripes and colours yourself, you need at least 200 (250) 300 (350) g of Arwetta Classic - of this at least 50 g in the colour also used for the edges

Circular needle 2.5 mm, 60 cm Circular needle 3 mm, 60 cm or 80 cm Markers or loops of scrap yarn 5 (5) 6 (6) little buttons in different colors

Sizes

2 years/92 cl (4 years/104 cl) 6 years/116 cl (8 years/128 cl)

Measurements

Body, chest: 54-56 (58-60) 62-64 (65-66) cm Sweater, chest: 66 (70) 76 (80) cm Sleeve length: 24 (27) 30 (33)cm Total length to armhole: 20 (22) 25 (28) cm





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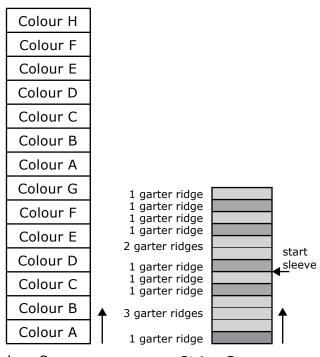
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Gauge

27 sts and 50 rows in garter stitch on a 3 mm needle = 10×10 cm.

Techniques

Use the 2 diagrams simultaneously: One shows the color sequence and guides you in the color changes. The other shows how many garter ridges (1 garter ridge = 1 knitted rows) to work in each color. Read both from the bottom up, starting at the same place, and begin over with each when you reach the end.



Colour Sequence

Stripe Sequence

In other words: Start by knitting 1 garter ridge in the color you used for the cast-on (color A), then you work 3 garter ridges in color B, 1 garter ridge in color C, 1 garter ridge in color D, 1 garter ridge in color E, 2 garter ridger in color F etc.

When you have worked the 13 garter ridges in the stripe sequence, you start the stripe sequence over from the bottom. You do not start the color sequence over at the same time. This means that the widest stripe is worked in a new color for each repeat of the stripe diagram, which is part of the reason this design is so interesting and the colors so pleasingly balanced. The color sequence you continue until you have worked all 14 colors. Then you start the color sequence over.

When working the sleeves, you begin at the arrow in the stripe sequence and at the bottom of the color sequence.

Abbreviations

 $\underline{\text{M1}}:$ Make 1. Increase one stitch by lifting the chain between sts onto the left needle and knitting it





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Colours

352 (Red Squirrel)		236 (Red Clover)
234 (Slate)		198 (Tagerine)
192 (Steel Blue)		101 (Natural White)
812 (Granite)		135 (Straw)
957 (Very Light Grey)	2	43 (Basswood Green)
679 (North Atlantic)		266 (Misty Lagoon)
146 (Deep Sea)		245 (Bordeaux)
973 (Nougat)		139 (Deep Red)
234 (Slate)		198 (Tagerine)
192 (Steel Blue)		101 (Natural White)
812 (Granite)		135 (Straw)
957 (Very Light Grey)	2	43 (Basswood Green)
679 (North Atlantic)		266 (Misty Lagoon)
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through the back loop.

<u>Skp</u>: slip 1 stitch, knit the next stitch, pass the slipped stitch over the knit one.

<u>Tbl</u>: Through the back loop(s).

<u>Stbl</u>: Insert right needle through first stitch as if to knit without letting the stitch slip off the needle, then insert the right needle through the back leg of the second stitch on the needle and knit the 2 sts together, letting them slip off the needle.

Edge stitches: for the front edges, knit a 2 stitch chained edge: Knit the first and last 2 sts on all RS rows. Slip the first and last 2 sts on all WS rows (the working yarn is attached to the 3rd st when you turn to knit the next row!)

Special techniques

Buttonhole (worked from the RS): 2 st chained edge, k2tog, yo twice, skp. The two yarn overs are worked as k1 tbl, k1 on the next row.

Knitted cast-on: *Knit 1 without slipping the st off the left needle, give the new st a half turn and place back on the left needled twisted and repeat from * I-cord bind-off: K2, *place both sts back on the left needle, k1, skp*. Repeat from * to * until there are 2 sts left (of the neck edge sts), k2tog tbl and break the yarn.

Directions for knitting

The sweater is seamlessly worked back and forth

from the bottom up. The body is split at the armholes, then the sleeves are worked and joined with the body. The yoke is then worked with raglan decreases.

Body

Cast on 170 (186) 202 (210) sts using color A and a 3 mm circular needle. Work back and forth according to the plan.

Place markers at the "side seams": Work 40 (44) 48 (50) sts (= front), place a side seam marker, work 90 (98) 106(110) sts (= back), place a side seam marker and work the last 40 (44) 48 (50) sts (= front).

Work back and forth in garter stitch changing colors and working stripes according to the plan until the work measures 20 (22) 25 (28) cm. Bind 10 sts off for the armholes at either side seam marker: 5 sts before the marker and 5 sts after the marker (= 150 (166) 182(190) sts left on the needle) Let the body rest and knit the sleeves.

Sleeves

Cast on 44 (46) 48 (50) sts using color A and a 3 mm needle. Work back and forth in garter stitch according to the chart and starting at the sleeve arrow on the Stripe Sequence chart.

Work 9 rows straight in pattern.

Increase row: K1, M1, knit until there is 1 st left on the needle, M1, k1.

Repeat the increase row every 8th row a total of 14 (16) 18 (20) times = 72 (78) 84 (90) sts on the needle. Work straight in pattern until the sleeve measures 24 (27) 30 (33) cm.

End on the same color as on the body, disregarding it if the number of ridges in this color does not not match the number on the body.

Bind off for the armhole by binding off 5 sts at the beginning of the next 2 rows (= 62 (68) 74 (80) sts on the needle) and join the sleeve to the body over





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where stitches were bound off at the side seam. Work the second sleeve the same way as the first, join this sleeve to the body over the armhole bindoff and place markers at each of the 4 places where sleeve meets back and fronts (there are a total of 274 (302) 330 (350) sts on the needle).

Raglan

Work back and forth across all sts, while working decreases at the raglan markers: Knit to 3 sts before the first marker, k2tog, k2, skp (2 sts have been decreased). Repeat these decreases at all 4 markers every other row a total of 16 (18) 20 (22) times. Place a marker at the center of each sleeve. Bind off 5 (5) 6 (6) for the neckline at the beginning of the next 2 rows. Then bind off 3 sts at the beginning of the next 2 rows, then 2 sts at the beginning of the next 2 rows. Continue working decreases at the raglan markers throughout!

Bind off 1 st at the beginning of each row until all the sts of the fronts have been bound off. Next bind off half of the sleeve stitches (to the markers) for each sleeve at the beginning of the next 2 rows. Then bind off all remaining sts on the next row.

<u>Tip</u>: For a softer transition between bind offs, slip the first st of each bind off knit-wise.

Front edges

Left front edge (buttons): Using a 3 mm needle and color B pick up and knit 1 st for each garter ridge (every 2 rows) along the left front edge of the sweater, starting at the top and working down.

Turn and knit 1 row. Break the yarn and start at the bottom. Change to 2.5 mm needle. Cast on 7 sts for the button band using a knitted cast-on, and knit 2 rows with a 2 stitch chained edge. Work the button band onto the front edge:

Work back and forth across the 7 sts, knitting the last stitch together with one of the picked up stitches along the front edge:

WS rows: 2 stitch chained edge (sl2 purl-wise), k4, stbl (last st on front edge and stitch on picked up row worked tog).

RS rows: Turn and knit back.

Repeat these 2 rows until all of the picked up stitches along the front edge have been knit together with a stitch from the 7 stitch edge. End on a WS row.Place the 7 sts on a stitch holder.

Mark a total of 4 (4) 5 (5) buttonholes along the button band using either string or safety pins. The top buttonhole must be placed 2-3 garter ridges above the edge just knit. (Count garter ridges on the button band to make sure the buttons are evenly spaced).

<u>Right front edge (buttonhole edge)</u>: Pick up and knit stitches from the RS the same way as for the left front, but begin at the bottom, turn and knit 1 row. Change to 2.5 mm needle. Cast on 7 sts for the buttonhole edge at the bottom of the front edge and work the buttonhole band:



RS rows: K6, k2tog (= the 7th st from the buttonhole edge and the 1st st from the picked up edge) WS rows: Turn and knit back working a chained edge for the last 2 sts (sl purl-wise with the yarn in front). Repeat these 2 rows and work the 4 (4) 5 (5) buttonholes across from the places you marked on the opposite band. End on a WS row. Do NOT break the yarn.

Neck edge

Using 2.5 mm needle, knit the 7 sts from the right front edge, pick up and knit stitches along the neckline, picking up 1 st for each bound off sts of the neckline, then knit the 7 sts front the left front edge. Turn the work and knit across the row working a chained edge at either end. Decrease 6 sts evenly across every 4th row to reduce the width of the edge toward the neck. Work the final buttonhole after 4 to six knit rows (so it fith with the distance between the other buttonholes), then knit 8 (8) 10 (10) more rows.

Bind off from the RS using an i-cord bind off.

Finishing

Weave in all ends and sew up the sleeve seams. Sew the under arm seams. Sew the little buttons on across from the buttonholes. Lightly steam or wash the sweater, then let it dry lying on a flat surface.



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