

LAZY WEEKEND SWEATER

by Nikol Lohr

With the slouchy, comfy fit of your favorite old t-shirt and a removable hood that can be worn independently, this oversized short-sleeved sweater is perfect for three seasons of layering. Designed in textured reverse stockinette, it's knit inside out to avoid excess purling. But because it's worked seamlessly in the round, it reverses beautifully if you prefer the stockinette side. The hood, which can be removed and worn on its own, is knit separately and worked flat. Knit on large needles for a relaxed fit. This quick-knitting project is perfect for a lazy weekend when you're snowed in.



MATERIALS AND SPECS

- » US size 10 (6mm) 24" circulars and 16" circulars (or use 16" needles throughout), or what works to produce gauge
- » US size 8 (5mm) 24" circulars and 16" circulars (or use 16" needles throughout), or 2 sizes smaller than above needle
- » Stitch marker
- » Yarn needle
- » Really long circular needle (any size, up to largest needle size used in this pattern) or waste yarn
- » ½" buttons (8) 7 for the hood and 1 for the throat
- » Sewing needle and thread to match yarn

Yarn

- » 4–10 skeins Knit Picks City Tweed HW (100g, 164 yds, 55% merino/25% superfine alpaca/20% Donegal tweed), shown in Chipmunk.

You'll need roughly 4 (5, 5, 6, 8, 10) balls for XS (S, M, L, XL, XXL). The hood uses 1 ball of yarn (included in above estimates; deduct if you're skipping the hood).

Note: The sweater shown is a very roomy women's L with a fit roughly equivalent to a men's XL t-shirt. It used just over 5 balls, including the hood. The size will vary somewhat by the length and fit you choose, so if you're tall or you like a longer sweater, get an extra ball.

Size

Custom oversized fit.

Gauge

14 st, 20 rows = 4" (10cm) in stockinette stitch on larger needles.



WEARING OPTIONS

- » Button hood onto sweater and wear as hoodie in either direction
- » Wear hood separately, with last button securing hood at your throat
- » Wear sweater in either direction without hood
- » Remove hood, twist, and randomly insert buttons through fabric to form bunched cowl

Pattern

Note: You can use 24" needles in two sizes on the body and 16" needles in two sizes on the sleeves, or use just the 16" needles in two sizes for everything if you're knitting the equivalent of a size L or smaller. When "smaller" and "larger" needles are referenced below, it is referring to needle size (i.e. US 8 and 10, if your gauge is true), not length.

Collar

- » With smaller needles, CO 104 sts.
- » Join in the round.
- » P 1 rnd.
- » Switch to larger needles. K 1 rnd.
- » Switch to smaller needles. P 2 rnds.

Switch to larger needles.

- » **Rnd 1:** K1, Sl 1, repeat across rnd.
- » **Rnd 2:** Knit.
- » **Rnd 3:** Sl 1, K1, repeat across rnd.
- » **Rnd 4:** Knit.
- » Repeat all 4 rounds 3 more times (16 rnds total, though it will look like 12 rnds because of the slipped stitches).

Switch to smaller needles. P 2 rnds.

Raglan Shaping (Shoulders)

Switch to larger needles.

- » K21, PM, K31, PM, K21, PM, K31. This marks off the sleeves (smaller sections) and front and back (larger sections).
- » **Rnd 1:** [K1, M1, K to 1 st before marker, M1, K1], repeat across rnd.
- » **Rnd 2:** Knit.
- » Repeat above two rnds until raglan increases fall 4"–6" below your armpit, or to desired looseness (for my L, that was about 12" from cast-on edge).

Note: To try on sweater, transfer live stitches to waste yarn or very long circular needles (40" for smaller sizes, 60" for larger sizes). You can use any size needle that's smaller than the larger size. Alternately, you can thread waste yarn onto a yarn needle and transfer all stitches to the waste yarn. Either method will allow you to try on the sweater.

Body

When sweater has reached desired length, transfer all of the stitches from the first sleeve section (section between round marker and next marker) to waste yarn. To do this, just thread a yarn needle with 2' of waste yarn and slide all of the stitches onto the waste yarn, using the yarn needle. Knot the ends together so

the stitches can't fall off.

- » Continuing in the round, knit across all of the back stitches (those between the sleeve stitches and the next marker).
- » Transfer the other sleeve stitches to another strand of waste yarn.
- » Knit across all of the remaining (front) stitches and PM for beginning of round.
- » Knit all stitches around until the sweater is 24" long (or desired length).

Hem

Switch to smaller needles.

- » Starting with a purl round, work 6 rnds in garter (alternating between purl and knit rnds), then BO loosely.

Sleeves

Starting with either sleeve, transfer sleeve stitches to larger size 16" needle.

- » Join yarn and knit across all sleeve stitches, then PU 2 stitches at the armpit gap. PM to mark beginning of rnd.
- » K 8 rnds.
- » Switch to smaller needles. Starting with a purl round, work 6 rnds in garter (alternating between purl and knit rnds), then BO loosely.
- » Repeat with other sleeve. Weave in all ends.

Hood

The hood starts as a rectangle that forms the back of the hood. The stitches are picked up first on one side, then on the other side of the rectangle, so you end up with live stitches on three sides. Then, just work back and forth to form the sides of the hood towards the face (think of a bonnet shape).

In addition to the buttons along the bottom for fastening to the sweater, there's an extra button at the throat, so you can wear the hood alone — it's a loose-fitting cold-weather head warmer that won't give you hat-hair!

ABBREVIATIONS

- BO** bind off
- CO** cast on
- K** knit
- K2tog** knit 2 stitches together as 1 (decrease)
- M1** make one: increase a stitch
- P** purl
- PM** place marker
- PU** pick up
- Rnd(s)** round(s)
- Sl** slip a stitch
- St(s)** stitch(es)
- YO** yarn over (increase)

With larger needles, CO 32 st.

- » Work 52 rnds in stockinette (alternating between knit and purled rounds), ending in a purled round.
- » Without turning work, PU 39 st along nearest edge (90 degrees from live stitches at the top of your stockinette rectangle. You'll pick up 3 st for every 4 rows of work.
- » Turn work and knit back up the side and across the top.
- » Without turning work, PU 39 st along other edge. You'll have a rectangle with live stitches on 3 sides.
- » Work about 6.5" more in stockinette (alternating between knit and purled rnds), measured from side "seam" (where you picked up the stitches) and ending with a knit row.

Switch to smaller needles.

- » Knit 6 more rows and BO, leaving last live stitch on the needle.
- » Without turning work, and continuing with smaller needles, PU 82 st along bottom edge of hood.

You'll pick up 1 stitch for every 2 rows of garter border, 3 stitches for every 4 rows on sides of bottom, and one stitch for every cast-on stitch along back section of bottom. If you get a few more or less than 82 st, no biggie.

- » Turn work. Slip first stitch, then knit across rnd. Repeat that row five more times, then BO. Weave in ends.

Buttons

You should place your buttons depending on which side of the fabric you want facing out and whether you want visible buttons when the hood is attached.

Sew buttons on the outside of the hood if you want the hood to button on to the inside of the collar with the buttons showing.

Sew buttons on the inside of the hood if you want the hood to button onto the outside of the collar with the buttons hidden.

Either way, if you wear the sweater/hood reversed, the buttons will also be reversed.

- » Space buttons evenly on your chosen side within the bottom garter border and sew down. The small buttons will pass easily yet securely through the loosely knit row at the upper edge of the collar.
- » Sew one last button about 2" in from the front edge and 4" up from the bottom edge.

Blocking/Finishing

Blocking isn't strictly necessary, but it does make everything a little more flat and neat. To block, soak both pieces in warm water, then spin or press out excess. Air-dry, patting edges flat/even.



About the Author

Nicol Lohr lives at The Harveyville Project with her partner, 2 cats, 7 sheep, and 7 hens. She's the author of *Naughty Needles* and founder of Yarn School. She blogs at The Thrifty Knitter (thriftyknitter.com), is cupcake on Ravelry, and queenievonsugarpants on Flickr.