

## MY FAIR LADYBUG

By Vickie Howell

» When I was 3 or 4 years-old, my mom knit me a ladybug vest and skirt. Man, I loved that outfit! Unfortunately, the original was lost in the great, hand-me-down beyond. Still to this day though, I appreciate the cuddly kitsch of the ensemble; so much so that I decided to create new version for my own daughter. Enter the My Fair Ladybug set--updated with a micro-mini skirt, and an ode-to-the-80's, boxy vest. For texture (and fanciness), I used a Dimple stitch pattern and knit the pieces up in a pop-y a green--the Chartreuse(ish) from my Sheep(ish) yarn line. Lastly, the ladybug touch is added with some simple embroidery. The result, well, is a set of nostalgic knits!



### MATERIALS AND SPECS

#### Materials

» **Stitch.Rock.Love Sheep(ish) for Caron (70% acrylic; 30% wool; 167 yds/153 m), in colors: 3(3, 4) balls Chartreuse(ish), scraps of Black(ish) & Hot Pink(ish)**

#### Needles & Notions

- » **Size US 8 (5mm) needles**
- » **Size US 8 (5mm), 16" circular needles**
- » **Size H or I crochet hook, optional**
- » **Tapestry needle**

#### Size

18 mos(2T, 4T)

#### Measurements

Skirt hips (snug fitting, micro-mini): 18(18 1/2, 19 1/2)"  
Skirt length: 8(8 1/2, 9 1/2)" (or desired length)  
Vest bust (loose fit): 21(21 1/2, 22)"  
Vest length: 11(12, 12 1/2)"

#### Gauge

18 sts x 22 rows= 4" (10cm) in patt st.

#### Dimples Stitch Pattern

(Worked over even amount of sts)

Row 1 (RS): \*K1, Sl 1; rep from \* to end.

Rows 2 and 6: Slip all of the slipped sts and P all the purl sts.

Rows 3 and 7: Knit.

Rows 4 and 8: Purl.

Row 5: \*Sl 1, K1; rep from \* to end.

Rep rows 1-8.

## Pattern

### Vest Back

- » With Chartreuse(ish), CO 46(48, 50) sts.
- » Rows 1-10: \*K2, P2; rep from \* to end.
- » Row 11(RS): K4, \*K1, Sl 1; rep from \* to last 4, K4.
- » Row 12: K4, \*Sl all slipped sts, P all purl sts; rep from \* to last 4, K4.
- » Row 13: Knit.
- » Row 14: K4, K to last 4, K4.
- » Row 15: K4, \*Sl 1, K1; rep from \* to last 4, K4.
- » Row 16: Repeat row 12.
- » Row 17: Knit
- » Row 18: Repeat row 14.
- » Repeat rows 11-18 until piece measures 11(11 1/2, 12 1/2)" from edge, ending with a row 18.

### Neck

- » Next row (RS): Work 12 sts in established patt st, BO 30, work to end.
- » Leave Right Shoulder sts on hold on the needle.

### Left Shoulder

- » Next Row (WS): K4, Sl all slipped sts, P all purl sts to end.
- » RS: Knit.
- » BO.

### Right Shoulder

- » Join yarn on WS.
- » Next row (WS): Sl all slipped sts, P all purl sts to last 4, K4.
- » RS: Knit.
- » WS: BO.

### Vest Front

- » Work same as for back until piece measures 10 1/2 (11, 12)" from edge, ending with row 16.

### Neck

- » Next row (RS): Work 12 sts in established st patt, BO 30, work to end.
- » Leave Left Shoulder sts on hold on the needle.



### About the Author

Vickie Howell is a mother, designer, writer and TV host. She's best known as the Host and Creative Consultant of TV's *Knitty Gritty*, the Needle Arts host for

MyLifetime.com's *CRAFTED* series, and Celebrity Spokesperson for [Caron International](#). She's the author of six knit, crochet & craft books, which have been published internationally and has just launched [Sheep \(ish\)](#), the first yarn in her *Stitch.Rock.Love* line for Caron.

Vickie writes about crafting on her *Craft.Rock.Blog*, and parenting on *The Mothercraft* blog. She lives, breathes and crafts with her husband and 3 children, in Austin, TX. For more information on Vickie and all of her projects, go to: [www.vickiehowell.com](http://www.vickiehowell.com)

## Right Shoulder

- » Next row (WS): K4, P to end.
- » RS: Work in established st patt to last 4, K4.
- » WS: K4, work in established st patt to end.
- » RS: Knit.
- » WS: K4, P to end.
- » RS: Work in established st patt to last 4, K4.
- » WS: K4, work in established st patt to end.
- » BO.

## Left Shoulder

- » Join yarn.
- » Work same as for Right, except reversing side that the K4 border is on.

## Tube Skirt

- » With Chartreuse(ish) and circs, CO 80(84, 88). Join round, taking care not to twist.
- » Rnds 1-7: \*K2, P2; work from \* around.
- » Rnd 8: \*K1, Sl 1; rep from \* around.
- » Rnd 9 & 13: \*Sl all slipped sts, K all knit sts; rep from \* around.
- » Rnds 10, 11, 14 & 15: Knit.
- » Rnd 12: \*Sl 1, K1; rep from \* around.
- » Repeat rnds 8-15 until piece measures 7 1/4(7 3/4, 8 3/4)" from edge, or 3/4" shorter than desired length.
- » Next rnd: Purl.
- » Next rnd: Knit.
- » Repeat last 2 rnds once more.
- » BO.

## Finishing

- » Seam up vest shoulders and waist band.
- Optional: Use crochet hook to evenly but **loosely** single-crochet a finishing row around neck opening.

*If crochet isn't your thing, you could embroider a blanket stitch border, hand-sew rickrack around the neck, or just leave the edges raw. Your choice!*

## Applique

- » Using Hot Pink(ish), a tapestry needle, the chain st and the photo as a guide (Fig. 1), embroider desired-sized spiral on the vest front. This will be the ladybug body.
- » Using Black(ish), embroider ladybug head, antenna, and spots.
- » Weave in ends of vest and skirt. Block if necessary.

