

Broc sweater

THE DESIGN for the Broc Sweater was inspired by both the traditional, textural one-color fishermen's jerseys, or "ganseys," and the Estonian Vatt, or knitted jacket. Traditionally Vatts were knitted by brides and given as gifts to their bridegrooms. Vatts were usually black and knitted in a textured relief pattern, or nuppiline stitch.

Although Vatts were traditionally knitted on two needles, felted, and then sewn together, I thought that the simplicity of the Broc Sweater would make an interesting and easy project in which to introduce the use of steeks. The steeks are incorporated as you knit and are then reinforced and cut to make the armholes. The Broc Sweater is knitted in the round from the bottom and has decorative Estonian nuppiline relief-stitch patterns between twisted braids at the lower edge and across the shoulders. It is knitted in a chunky pure Shetland wool, and the steeks are reinforced using a four-ply pure Shetland wool yarn.



FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

61¾" (157 cm) chest circumference and 27¾" (70.5 cm) long.

YARN

Chunky weight (#5 Bulky).

Shown here: Jamieson's of Shetland Shetland Marl (100% Shetland wool; 131 yd [120 m]/3½ oz [100 g]): #126 Charcoal, 13 skeins.

Fingering weight (#1 Super Fine).

Shown here: Jamieson's of Shetland Spindrift (100% wool;

115 yd [105 m]/25 g): #122 Granite, 1 skein (for reinforcing steeks).

NEEDLES

Size U.S. 9 (5.5 mm) two 16" (40 cm) and one 40" (100 cm) circular (cir) and set of 5 double-pointed (dpn).

Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

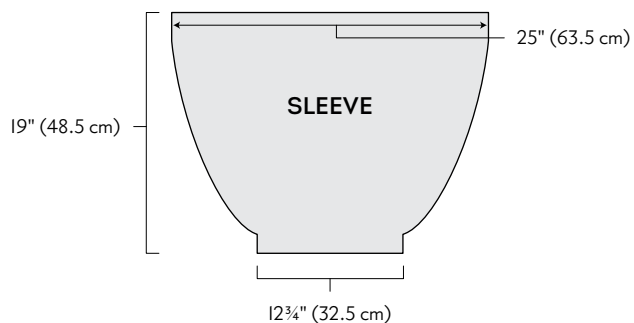
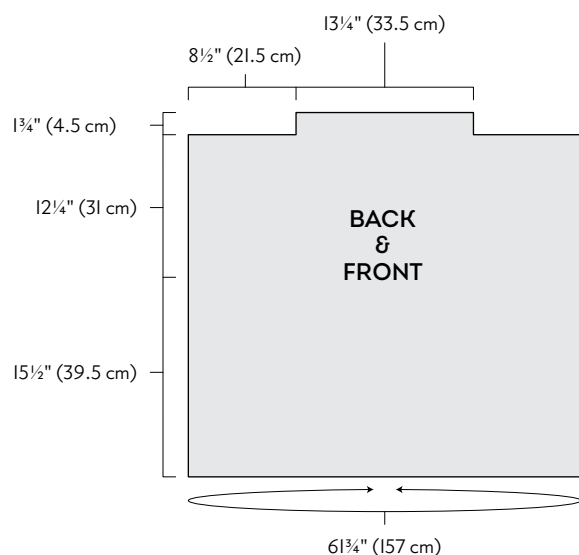
Marker (m); holders or waste yarn; size 2 mm (no equivalent; between U.S. 1 steel and B-1) crochet hook; tapestry needle.

GAUGE

15 sts and 21 rnds = 4" (10 cm) in St st using larger needles, after washing.

NOTE

When working the Estonian twisted braid (worked same as twined purling, see Techniques), use both ends of the same ball of yarn. I would recommend that you dedicate one ball of yarn specifically for the Estonian twisted braid.



Body

With longer cir needle, CO 232 sts using Knitted Cast-On (see Techniques). Place marker (pm) and join for working in rnds.

RNDS 1–7: *K1, p1; rep from * to end of rnd.

RNDS 8 AND 9: Knit.

RND 10: Work in Estonian twisted braid (worked same as twined purling, see Techniques).

RND 11: Knit.

RNDS 12 AND 13: Rep Rnds 10 and 11.

RND 14: K2, p3, *k3, p3; rep from * to last 5 sts, k3, p2.

RND 15: *K1, p2; rep from * to last st, k1.

RND 16: P2, *k3, p3; rep from * to last 2 sts, k2.

RND 17: Knit.

RND 18: Work in Estonian twisted braid.

RNDS 19 AND 20: Rep Rnds 17 and 18.

Cont in St st until piece measures 15 1/2" (39.5 cm) from beg.

Armhole Steeks

NEXT RND: K115, place next 2 sts on holder or waste yarn, pm, using backward-loop method (see Techniques) to CO 7 steek sts, pm, knit to last st, place last st and first st of rnd on holder or waste yarn and remove beg-of-rnd m, pm, CO 7 steek sts, place new beg-of-rnd m—242 sts (114 sts rem each for front and back, and 14 steek sts).

Cont in St st until piece measures 25" (63.5 cm) from beg.