

Big Stitch Alpaca Vest

Designed by Becca Smith



Finished Measurements: Small - 36"; Medium - 40"; large - 44"; extra large - 48" Instructions for M, L and XL are in parentheses

Materials: One bump of Big Stitch Alpaca yarn; 125 yards, 70% alpaca, 15% wool, 15% nylon

Tools: Size 50, 20" or 24" straight needles

Needle felting tools: needle and mat

Gauge: 1 st per inch; 1 row per inch

Skill Level: Advanced Beginner

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Stitch Pattern:

Stockinette Stitch: knit one row, purl one row Mesh Pattern: Row 1: K1, *yo, k2tog; rep from * to end

Row 2: K1, *k2tog, yo; rep from * to last to sts, then k2

Instructions:

Back:

CO 18 (20, 22, 24) sts.
Row 1: K2, *yo, k2tog; rep from * to end
Row 2: K2, *k2tog, yo; rep from * to last 2 sts, then k2.
Row 3: K all sts
Row 4: K2, p to last 2 sts, K2
Rep rows 3 and 4 until piece meas 12" (13", 14", 14") from CO row
Begin dec for armhole: BO 2 sts at beg on next two rows. Stay in stockinette patt.
K2 at beg and end of all purl rows. You should have 14 sts (16, 18, 20) sts.
Cont until piece meas 21" (22", 23", 23") from CO row.
BO. Leave 12" - 14" long tail for assembly .

Left Front:

CO 9 (10, 11, 12) sts.
Row 1: K2, *yo, k2tog; rep from * to end.
Row 2: K2, *k2tog, yo; rep from * to end.
Row 3: K all sts
Row 4: K2, p to last 2 sts, K2
Rep rows 3 and 4 until piece meas 12" (13", 14", 14") from CO row
Begin dec for armhole: BO 2 sts at beg of row. Stay in stockinette patt
K2 at beg and end of all p rows. You should have 7 (8, 9, 10) sts.
Cont until piece meas 21" (22", 23", 23") from CO row.
BO. Leave 12" - 14" long tail for assembly.

Right Front:

Reverse instructions for left front.

Assembly:

Place right sides tog of back and left front. Starting at the outside shoulder, use your fingers to wind the tail through the inside bind off loops of both pieces. Leave 2 sts open at the neck edge. It is good to wind the yarn back towards the shoulder edge to secure the seam. Repeat for the other side. For the side seams, cut a piece of yarn approx. double the length of the seam. Beg at the armhole, thread the yarn through the top stitch half way. Wind each half through the stitches along the sides in a figure 8 pattern through the back and front pieces. Leave a 2" opening at the bottom edge.

Finishing: After all seams are complete, wind the ends in and needle felt them securely in place, preferably with a single needle and foam base. The remaining yarn can be used for a skinny scarf.



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Knitting



For lots of other fun patterns, check out The Complete Idiot's Guide to Knitting by Becca Smith.

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