

Licorice Whip



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Sexy open-work, top-down knit raglan in worsted weight yarn. Shown here as size XXXS in super soft organic cotton.

Yarn: Blue Sky Alpaca's *Dyed Cotton* in "Ink" 5[5,6,6,7,7,7,9,10] skeins (150 yds (137 m)/100g, 100% dyed brushed organic cotton)

Gauge: 14 St./20 rows = 4" in. (10 cm) Stockinette stitch on size #8 US (5 mm) needles.

Size: XXXS[XXS,XS,S,M,L,XL,XXL,XXXL]

Sizes correspond to the following finished measurements. (*Important: these are the **finished measurements** of the garment unstretched, NOT your body measurements. Make the size you want according to the amount of ease or stretch that you desire.*)

Size	Chest	Bicep	Cuff	Underarm -to-Cuff	Collar-to- Underarm	Collar
XXXS	34"	12"	8"	20"	9"	16.5"
XXS	36"	14"	9"	20"	10"	17"
XS	38"	16"	10"	22"	10"	17.5"
S	40"	18"	10"	22"	10"	17.5"
M	42"	20"	11"	22"	11"	18"
L	44"	22"	11"	22"	11"	18"
XL	46"	22"	11"	22"	12"	18"
XXL	48"	24"	12"	23"	12"	19"
XXXL	50"	26"	13"	24"	13"	19.5"

Collar-to-Underarm refers to the distance from your cast on row to the point in the pattern where you will separate the sweater into three sections for the arms and chest. It is effectively the distance from your collar to where the underarms of the sweater will fall, and should be measured straight down from the collar, NOT along the increase lines.

Underarm-to-cuff is the length of the sleeve from the underarm to the cuff.

All measurements are in inches.

Chest, Bicep, Cuff, and Collar are all circumference measurements.

Key: For most abbreviations, please see the standard list of knitting abbreviations at <http://www.knitty.com>.

Special abbreviations used here are:

plm, which stands for Place Lace Marker. This is just to differentiate these from the other standard markers you will be using.

x-st. This means knit into the second stitch on the left hand needle, do not drop that stitch, then knit into the first stitch on the left hand needle. Now drop both stitches. You

are effectively making a 1x1 right-crossing cable when you do this. It is often called a cross-stitch.

CO 58[60,62,62,64,64,64,66,68] st. PM and join. On first round, K 23[23,24,24,22,22,20,20,20], pm, K 6[7,7,7,10,10,12,13,14], pm, K 23[23,24,24,22,22,20,20,20], pm, K 6[7,7,7,10,10,12,13,14]. Work 3 more rounds in twisted St.st (K all stitches tbl). On next round, *K2tog, YO*, for entire round. Work one round K all stitches, Then work one more round with all stitches K tbl.
You now have 7 rounds, and the collar is complete.

On the next round, K 6[6,6,6,6,6,5,5,5], plm, K 11, plm, K to next existing marker, slip marker, K 0[1,1,1,2,2,3,3,4], plm, K 6, plm, K to next existing marker, slip marker, K 23[23,24,24,22,22,20,20,20], slip existing marker, K 0[1,1,1,2,2,3,4,4], plm, K 6, plm, K to end of round.

This round was to establish lace markers. You will be working the open-work panels between these markers for the remainder of the sweater. It will be assumed that on the next round, you will begin both open-work patterns (one for the chest, and one for the sleeves), and will continue working these patterns while following all other instructions. DO NOT STOP lace patterns until expressly told to do so. Sorry if that sounds harsh, I just know this stuff can be confusing. :) A tip: it will be less confusing if your lace markers look different than your standard increase markers.

PLEASE NOTE: If an instruction does not expressly say "Lace Marker", but rather just says "next marker", it is referring to the non-lace markers. I had received notes that this was confusing some people, so I just wanted to make it clear. All references to "work to marker", etc., have nothing to do with the lace markers. Those are just place holders to help you keep track of the lace pattern.

Special note for size XXXS: you will see I said K0 before and after placing the lace markers for the sleeves. This is because the lace pattern is only 6 stitches wide. Please start the lace pattern now, as instructed for all sizes, and place your sleeve lace markers after you complete your first set of sleeve increases (see below, under increase patterns)

Chest lace pattern (to be worked on 11 stitches between lace markers):

R1: x-st., K1, K2tog, YO, K1, YO, SSK, K1, x-st.

R2: K all stitches

Sleeve lace pattern (to be worked on 6 stitches between lace markers):

R1: K2tog, YO, x-st., YO, SSK.

R2: K al stitches.

Next round, begin the following increase patterns depending on the size you are knitting:

XXXS and XXS: Repeat this 5 row pattern 9 times:

[R1 & 2: K around.

R3: K around in stockinette stitch, but YO one stitch before and one stitch after every marker (8 increases total).

R4: K around.

R5: same as R3]

On the last repeat of the pattern, work R3 and R5 as follows:

K1, YO, K to 1 st. before 1st marker, YO, K1, slip first marker, K to second marker, slip second marker, K1, YO, K to 1 st. before third marker, YO, K1, slip third marker, K to end of round.

This is so that on the last set of increases, you are only adding stitches to the chest and back, NOT to the sleeves.

XS[S,M,L,XL,XXL,XXXL]: Repeat this 2 row pattern 21[23,26,28,30,32,34] times:

[R1: K around.

R2: K around, but YO one stitch before and one stitch after every marker (8 increases total).]

K 0[0,8,9,8,4,0,0,0] rounds even.

You should now have 194[212,230,246,272,288,304,322,340] stitches and 51[56,56,61,66,66,66,70,74] rows total.

On next round, K to first marker, place stitches between 1st and 2nd marker on waste yarn or holder, and replace one marker to mark the side of the sweater. Then join and K to third marker, place stitches between 3rd and last marker on waste yarn or holder, dropping 3rd marker. Join and begin next round.

What you have done is set aside the stitches that will later become the sleeves, while joining the round underneath the arms to create a seamless chest. You should now have two markers (besides the lace markers): one at the beginning, and one at the midway point of the round.

You should now have 118[126,132,140,148,156,160,168,176] stitches joined in a round on your needle, and 38[43,49,53,62,66,72,77,82] stitches on each piece of scrap yarn.

On next round, K for 3"[3",3",4",4",4",4",4",5"]], then on next round, begin the following decrease pattern for waist shaping:

*R1-5: K all stitches

R6: K2tog, K to 2 stitches before next marker, SSK, slip marker, K2tog, K to 2 stitches before end of round, SSK.*

Repeat this 6 round pattern 4 times. K another 6 rounds, then begin the increase pattern for hip shaping below:

*R1-5: K all stitches

R6: K1, M1, K to 1 stitch before marker, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K to 1 stitch before end of round, M1, K1.*

Repeat this 6 round pattern 2 times.

Continue working in St. st. until chest measures

16"[16",16.5",17",17.5",18",18",18",19"] total from the split for the underarms, or until length desired. *Make sure to end on a "R2" of the chest lace pattern - **stop chest lace here.*** Work one round with all stitches K tbl. Next round, *K2tog, YO* all around.

Then K all stitches for one round, followed by 3 rounds of all stitches K tbl. BO loosely.

Sleeves (make 2):

Note: As you follow all the instructions below, don't forget to keep following the sleeve lace pattern!

Pick up 2[2,3,3,3,3,3,3,3] stitches on one side of the underarm area, place the 38[43,49,53,62,66,72,77,82] held stitches on the needle, then pick up another 2[2,3,3,3,3,3,3,3] stitches along the underarm. Pm (this marker should fall smack between the picked up stitches, at the center of the underarm), and K 5[5,7,4,7,2,2,2,2] rounds. On next round, begin the following patterns based on the size you are knitting:

*XXXS and XXS: Repeat the following 11 row pattern 7[7] times:

R1-10: K around.

R11: K2tog, K to last 2 stitches, SSK.

XS: Repeat the following 9 row pattern 10 times:

R1-8: K around.

R9: K2tog, K to last 2 stitches, SSK.

S: Repeat the following 8 row pattern 12 times:

R1-7: K around.

R8: K2tog, K to last 2 stitches, SSK.

M and L: Repeat the following 6 row pattern 15[17] times:

R1-5: K around.

R6: K2tog, K to last 2 stitches, SSK.

XL, XXL, and XXXL: Repeat the following 5 row pattern 20[21,22] times:

R1-4: K around

R5: K2tog, K to last 2 stitches, SSK.

K 12[12,7,4,7,2,2,2,2] more rounds. **END lace pattern here.** Work next round with all stitches K tbl. Next round, *K2tog, YO* to end of round. Then K one round, followed by three rounds with all stitches K tbl. BO loosely.

Finishing:

Work in any loose ends. Block lace sections by turning sweater inside out and running hot iron on cotton setting (or setting appropriate for the fiber you chose) over the stretched-out open-work panels. If you chose a size that closely fits your own measurements, the sweater may stretch when you put it on, and blocking may not be necessary. Photo above is of an unblocked sweater, made to fit wearer with negative ease as just described.