

Lost City Knits

Encouraging Intrepid & Eclectic Knitters

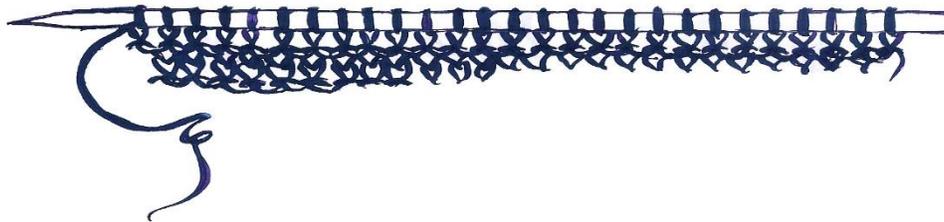
Milo and Maize

Milo & Maize is a yoke pullover knit from the bottom up. Its simple pattern of plants dancing around the neck was inspired by rows and rows – miles and miles – of grains dancing in a gentle breeze as we drove through the Midwest. The sight is mesmerizing and quite soothing.

The greatest portion of this sweater is knit in plain stockinette with a single color. Miles and miles of it some knitters might say, just like those crops. With a garter stitch hem, cuffs, and neckline, the classic construction offers the knitter a good bit of (nearly) mindless knitting, holding off on the fancy work for the very last.

The pattern includes ten sizes. The samples were knit in Jamieson & Smith jumper weight Shetland wool which makes it a light breathable garment, especially when worn with several inches of positive ease as seen on our model Emma.

Whether or not you've driven through the American Midwest where crops such as sorghum (milo) and maize (corn) are abundant, most of us can find beauty in the rhythmic patterns of crops in a planted field. This sweater is an homage to that beauty.



Materials

Yarn: Jamieson & Smith 2 ply Jumper Weight Shetland

Shade number (quantity) – MC – Shade FC55 (12, 12, 12, 13, 13, 14, 14, 15, 15, 15 balls), CC1 Shade 32 (1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3 balls), CC2 Shade 1281 (1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3 balls) CC3 Shade FC45 (1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3 balls)

Needle Size: US 2.5 / 3.0 mm (32" / 80 cm) circular needle (or size to obtain gauge in solid knitting) for main body, US 3 / 3.25 mm (32" / 80 cm) circular needle (or size to obtain gauge in pattern) for yoke, US 2 / 2.75 mm (16" / 40 cm and 24" / 60 cm) circular needles for garter stitch hems. Double point needles in small, and medium sizes for small circumference knitting is recommended, but if magic loop method is preferred by some knitters.

Gauge: 28 stitches and 28 rounds = 4 inches / 10 cm using larger needle (in pattern after blocking)

Finished Sizes Approximately: A 31.5, B 35, C 38, D 41, E 44.5, F 47.5, G 50.5, H 53.5, I 57, J 60".

Notions: smooth waste yarn, darning needle, scissors, and stitch markers



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GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

It is always best to read through a pattern completely before beginning any project, underlining important notes and circling the details about your size throughout. Abbreviations, a bird's-eye view, and a chart with key symbols can be found on page 4. Swatching in the round with two colors and also swatching in a solid (non-patterned) color is recommended to achieve gauge. For many people, gauge can be different when knitting in a pattern than when knitting a solid non-patterned fabric. If you find your gauge for swatching in pattern and in non-pattern to be different, change your needle size accordingly to achieve gauge in each section. This is a bottom up sweater, worked in the round throughout. Some knitters prefer to knit the sleeves first, some like to start with the body and work it to the armhole, then work the sleeves. Either way you will join sleeves and body before proceeding on to the yoke. The choice is yours. One of the things I like to do when working a sweater is to lightly wet block the body of my sweater when I am about four inches beyond the hem. This will help combat rolling which allows you to better admire your handwork and is a good way to let you to double check your gauge on fabric larger than a swatch.

CAST-ON BODY

Using MC and smallest circular needle, and using long-tail cast-on method, cast on 200 (220, 240, 260, 280, 300, 320, 340, 360, 380) stitches.

Work back and forth in garter stitch for 1.5”.

Change to medium circular needle. Without twisting, join to work in the round. Place marker at the beginning of the round (BOR).

INCREASE ROUND

Increase stitch count by 22 (24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40) stitches evenly around. New stitch count 222 (244, 266, 288, 310, 332, 354, 376, 398, 420).

Here's a nifty online calculator that I like to help with increasing (or decreasing) evenly on a round.

<http://www.anycalculator.com/knittingcalculator.html>

Place markers to establish front and back sides after 111 (122, 133, 144, 155, 166, 177, 188, 199, 210) stitches.

Below is a modification to add a bit of waist shaping after approximately 3-4” from cast on if you choose. If you do not want waist shaping - continue knitting in stockinette to desired height from hem to underarm. In the stitch glossary on the final page you'll find the Dee Barrington version of Barbara Walker's standard SSK. Although there are at least four versions of the standard SSK, the Dee Barrington method is my preferred way.

- Decrease round: *Knit 1, k2tog, knit to 3 stitches before marker, ssk, k1*, repeat for back side. Knit 7 rounds. Repeat these 8 rounds 2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3) more times. 210 (232, 254, 276, 298, 316, 338, 360, 382, 404) stitches.
- Knit straight for 2 (2, 2, 2.5, 2.5, 2.5, 2.5, 3, 3, 3) additional inches.
- Increase round: *Knit 1, M1R, knit to 1 stitch before marker, M1L, k1*, repeat for back side. Knit 7 rounds.
- Repeat these 8 rounds 2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3) more times. 222 (244, 266, 288, 310, 332, 354, 376, 398, 420) stitches.



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Continue working in the round using MC shade until body reaches desired height from hem to underarm approximately 13 (13.5, 14, 14.5, 15, 16, 17, 17, 18, 18) inches.

On the next round work until 9 (10, 10, 11, 12, 14, 14, 15, 16, 17) stitches AFTER the BOR (Marker A) marker, put the PREVIOUS 18 (20, 20, 22, 24, 28, 28, 30, 32, 34) on waste yarn and remove them from the working needle. These are your left underarm stitches. Elizabeth Zimmermann calls this a “kangaroo pocket”, which I think is an apt description. Knit across the front until 9 (10, 10, 11, 12, 14, 14, 15, 16, 17) stitches AFTER the Side Seam. Put the PREVIOUS 18 (20, 20, 22, 24, 28, 28, 30, 32, 34) on waste yarn and remove them from the working needle. These are your right underarm. Knit across the back until you reach the end of the round. This is your new BOR and position A on the Bird’s-eye View graphic.

Set aside body.

CAST ON SLEEVES (make 2)

Using MC and smallest circular needle, and using long-tail cast-on method, cast on 52 (54, 53, 55, 55, 59, 58, 60, 60, 60) stitches. Work back and forth in garter stitch without joining for 1-1.5”.

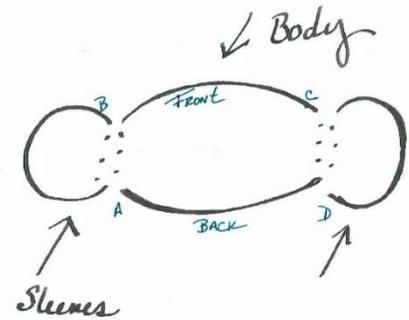
Change to medium circular needle. Without twisting, join to work in the round. Place marker (BOR). Work 3 rounds even then increase on every 4 (4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 3, 3, 3, 3) rounds 24 (25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 36) times by knitting 1 stitch, M1L, knit to 1 stitch before the BOR marker M1R, k1. 100 (104, 105, 109, 113, 119, 120, 124, 128, 132) stitches on the needle.

Knit sleeve until it reaches desired length or 17 (17.5, 17.5, 18, 18.5, 18.5, 19, 19, 19.5, 19.5) inches.

On next round work until 9 (10, 10, 11, 12, 14, 14, 15, 16, 17) stitches before BOR marker and put the next 18 (20, 20, 22, 24, 28, 28, 30, 32, 34) on waste yarn. 82 (84, 85, 87, 89, 91, 92, 94, 96, 98) sleeve stitches on the needle. These will be your underarm stitches.

JOINING BODY TO SLEEVES

When both sleeves are completed to desired length position them to add to the body stitches as per the bird’s eye view sketch. You stopped knitting at Position A. Knit the 82 (84, 85, 87, 89, 91, 92, 94, 96, 98) left sleeve stitches to Position B, PM. Knit across the front to Position C, PM. Knit the 82 (84, 85, 87, 89, 91, 92, 94, 96, 98) right sleeve stitches to Position D, PM, and knit across the back. You are once again at Position A and the BOR. Allow the stitches on waste yarn to dangle unknitted, they will be grafted for the underarm after the yoke is completed. Total stitch count 350 (372, 396, 418, 440, 458, 482, 504, 526, 548).



With MC work one round increasing 2 (2, 0, 0, 0, 4, 2, 2, 2, 2) evenly for a total stitch count of 352 (374, 396, 418, 440, 462, 484, 506, 528, 550). Adjust stitch markers if necessary.



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SHORT ROW SHAPING

Knit 20 (22, 22, 24, 24, 26, 26, 28, 28, 30) stitches past the left front marker- marker B. Slip the next stitch as if to purl. Bring yarn to the front and return the slipped stitch to the left needle. Turn your work so the wrong side (WS) is facing and move the yarn to the front. You just worked a wrap & turn! Purl to 20 (22, 22, 24, 24, 26, 26, 28, 28, 30) stitches past the right front marker (C). Wrap the next stitch and turn your work so the RS is facing you again. Knit 14 (16, 16, 18, 18, 20, 20, 22, 22, 24) stitches past marker B. Wrap and turn again! With WS facing purl to 14 (16, 16, 18, 18, 20, 20, 22, 22, 24) stitches past marker C. Wrap and turn. Knit to 8 (10, 10, 12, 12, 14, 14, 16, 16, 18) stitches past marker B. Wrap and turn again! With WS facing purl to 8 (10, 10, 12, 12, 14, 14, 16, 16, 18) past marker C. Wrap and turn again! Turn your work so the RS is facing and knit to marker A again. Now knit one round picking up each of the wraps to be knit together as one with the next stitch. Remove all but BOR marker.

Using the MC knit the yoke until it measures approximately 2.5 (2.5, 3, 3, 3.25, 3.25, 3.5, 3.5, 4, 4)” past the underarm join.

BEGIN YOKE CHART

You are now ready to begin the fun part of knitting a yoke sweater! If while swatching you found that you needed to go down a needle size to get gauge while knitting solid fabric, now is the time to change to the largest needle size to achieve gauge in 2-color pattern knitting.

Some knitters find it helpful to use stitch markers to delineate between pattern repeats. Personally, I like coilless safety pins and use a standard silver between repeats except for the BOR marker which is often a bright colored marker to catch my eye.

The Milo and Maize Chart has decreases on Rounds 17, 27, and 38. On these decrease rounds shift the BOR to the LEFT by 1 stitch before starting. This will keep the pattern in sequence. If you are using markers to delineate each pattern repeat all markers will shift by one stitch.

STITCH COUNT AFTER YOKE DECREASES

After completing Round 17 there should be 288 (306, 324, 342, 360, 378, 396, 414, 432, 450) stitches.

After completing Round 27 there should be 224 (238, 252, 266, 280, 294, 308, 322, 336, 350) stitches.

After completing Round 38 there should be 160 (170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250) stitches.

Work the 44 rounds of the Milo and Maize Chart decreasing needle length as necessary. After working a few rounds double check your gauge. Do you need to change needle size? The initial swatch done before casting on should give you this information, but sometimes the true test is when working the garment.



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UPPER NECK SHORT ROW SHAPING

Using the same size needle as used for the solid portion of the body and sleeves, knit 30 (35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75) stitches past the BOR marker, wrap and turn. Purl 135 (140, 145, 150, 155, 160, 165, 170, 175, 180) stitches, wrap and turn. Knit 25 (30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70) stitches past the BOR, wrap and turn. Purl 125 (130, 135, 140, 145, 150, 155, 160, 165, 170) stitches, wrap and turn. Turn your work so the RS is facing and knit to the BOR marker again. Now knit one round picking up each of the wraps to be knit together as one with the next stitch ending at the BOR. 160 (170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250) stitches.

NECKBAND

With smallest needle knit 1 round decreasing 6 (6, 8, 8, 10, 10, 14, 14, 16, 16) stitches evenly. Knitting flat, work back and forth six times decreasing 4 additional stitches on the next three WS rows. 142 (152, 160, 170, 178, 188, 194, 204, 212, 222) stitches. Bind off on the WS, breaking yarn and leaving a 12" tail that can be used to graft the neck together after washing and blocking.

GRAFT UNDERARMS

With medium needle remove sleeve and underarm Kangaroo Pocket stitches from waste yarn. If there is a small gap between the kangaroo pockets and the stitches to the side of each, consider picking up (and twisting) one stitch on either side to snug up the underarm. Graft all stitches using Kitchener Stitch.

FINISHING

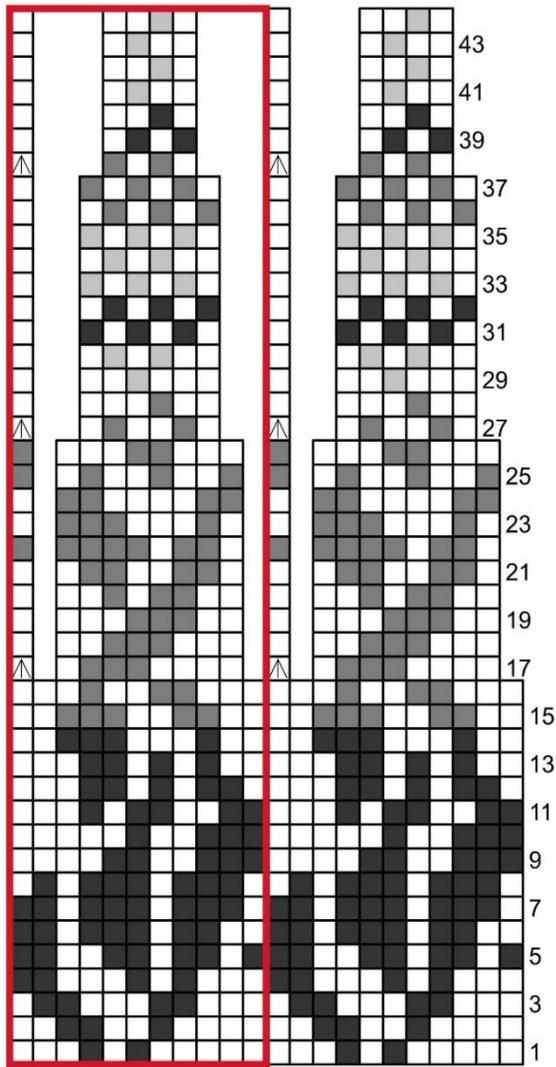
Wash your new sweater using a nice gentle wool wash. Dry flat, patting lightly into shape if needed, or use a wooly/jumper board for drying. After the garment is thoroughly dry, weave in ends and join garter stitches at hem, neck, and wrists.

Now plan a trip somewhere interesting where you can wear your new sweater in the setting that inspired it! And post a photo on Ravelry, Facebook, or Instagram, and tag Lost City Knits! We love to see your LCK projects in the wild!

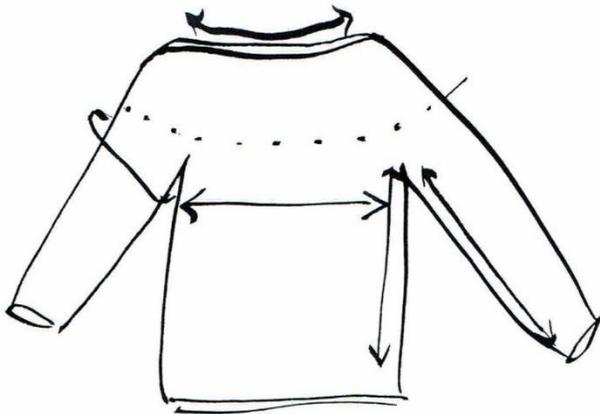


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Milo and Maize Chart



Yarn	Stitches	Borders
MC	k	Pattern Repeat
CC1	s2tog-k1-p2sso	
CC2		
CC3		



ABBREVIATIONS:

PM – Place marker

BOR – Beginning of round

w&t – Wrap and turn

pw&t – Process wrap and turn
Work the wrap and the stitch together as one.

RS – Right side

WS – Wrong side

K2tog - Knit 2 stitches together (single right leaning decrease).

SSK – Slip 2 stitches separately knitwise, move stitches back to the left needle, then knit the slipped stitches together.

SSKDB (Dee Barrington version) – Slip 1 stitch as if to knit, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, then knit the slipped stitches together.

M1R – Make 1 Right pick up the bar between the last stitch you knit and the one you're about to knit, bringing the needle from the back to the front. Then knit into the front of the stitch.

M1L – Make 1 Left pick up the bar between the stitch you knit and the one you're about to knit, bringing the needle from front to back. Then knit into the back of the stitch.

S2tog-k1-p2sso – Slip two stitches together (as if to knit) to the right needle, knit the next stitch, then pass the slipped stitches over the knitted stitch. This is a double decrease.

Garment Measurements

Bust: 31.5 (35, 38, 41, 44.5, 47.5, 50.5, 53.5, 57, 60)''

Approximate body length from armhole to hem: 13 (13.5, 14, 14.5, 15, 16, 17, 17, 18, 18)''

Upper sleeve width: 14.5 (15, 15, 15.5, 16, 17, 17, 17.5, 18.5, 19)

Sleeve length from joint to wrist: 17 (17.5, 17.5, 18, 18.5, 19, 19, 19.5, 19.5)''

Yoke depth: 9.25 (9.25, 9.75, 9.75, 10, 10, 10.25, 10.25, 10.75, 10.75)''

Neck circumference: 20 (21.5, 22.5, 24, 25, 26.5, 27.5, 29, 30, 31)''



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