

## Drop Shoulder Cardigan for Infants



This simple pattern lends itself to a variety of designs. You can knit it in a solid or variegated color, striped, with a fairisle band or all over fairisle design. To prevent little fingers from being tangled when using a fairisle pattern, select one with very short floats in the design. Better yet, use one of those fantastic new variegated sock yarns that create their own design. Try a simple tuck stitch for a “designer” look.

### Materials:

This pattern calls for any fingering weight yarn [approximately 5-7 oz.] that will give you a stitch and row gauge of 7.9 [8] stitches x 11.3 [11] rows to the inch. A tuck stitch will take about 20-30% more yarn.

Be sure to knit a tension swatch to verify the gauge on your machine before knitting. Please read through the entire pattern to familiarize yourself with all the steps before starting to knit.

Sample was knit on a Brother 950 [standard gauge] with ribber, but the pattern can be knit on any model machine of the same gauge.

Suggested yarn: Any fingering weight yarn with approximately 200 - 230 yard per 50 gr. or 1 ¾ oz. Sock yarns work well too – the variegated colors create a built in pattern. A personal favorite? Dale of Norway Baby Ull but more economical is Red Heat® Ann Geddes yarn in beautiful solid and variegated shades.

### Finished Measurements:

Size	S (6 mos.)	M (12 mos.)	L (18 mos.)
Back & Front Width	21 ½”	22 ¼”	22.8”
Length	11”	12”	12 ½”
Sleeve Length	7 ¾”	8.9”	9.9”

### Stitch & Row Gauge:

7.9 stitches by 11.3 rows = 1 inch at **T** 6 on a Brother 950 knitting machine.  
The rib Tension is 4/4 [Tension 4 on main bed & Tension 4 on ribber].

## Working Notes

Stripe pattern is 2 rows of **MC** and 2 rows of **CC**. Ribbing and all bands are knit with main color. Begin stripe pattern with 2 rows of MC.

Bands are 1 x 1 rib.

### Abbreviations:

- T [Tension]
- MC [main color]
- CC [contrast color]
- RC [row counter]
- H [holding position]
- ER [every row]
- EOR [every other row]
- E3R [every 3 rows]
- X [times]
- L10 [needle #10 on the LEFT of center 0]
- R12 [needle #12 on the RIGHT of center 0]

After knitting each piece of the garment, gently pull lengthwise to set the stitches and allow knit pieces to \*rest\* before blocking to size.

## Back

### RC 000.

Using MC, cast on 85 stitches. Work 1 x 1 rib at T4 to **RC 014**.

On right edge of the knitting, use a double transfer tool to move 2 stitches over one space. Leave empty needle in working position. Pick up the purl end of third stitch and place on the adjoining needle to fill in. You now have 86 working needles.

Do not reset row counter. Begin stripe pattern with 2 rows of main color.

**RC 067** - Attach yarn markers to edges of your knitting to mark the beginning of armhole.

**RC 115** - You are now ready to work the back neckline curve using short rows or the holding position and a manual wrap of the stitches. Set the carriage to holding position. You will be working on half the neckline at a time. Short rowing the neckline avoids the

stair step effect of casting off stitches but you may prefer to cast off the stitches. Be sure to maintain the stripe pattern while decreasing.

Place a yarn marker at center 0 as a reference point during assembly of garment.

The carriage is on the left side of your knitting.

Pull forward to holding position:

- L12>R42

Knit 1 row to the right [RC 116] and **wrap** - the yarn from the last needle in working position is placed or wrapped under the first needle in holding position. The yarn comes up between the first and second needle in holding position and rests on the remaining needles.

Knit back to the left.[RC117]

**RC 117** - Opposite the carriage, pull **2** needles into holding position. The needles in holding position are now at L14>R42.

**RC 118** – Pull 1 needle up into holding position. L15>R42

There is no need to wrap the needle just pulled up. Notice that it has wrapped automatically [this is known as an automatic wrap versus a manual wrap]. Knit back to the left.

**RC 119** - Pull 2 needles into holding position. Knit to the right and wrap before knitting back to the left. L17>R42

RC120 – We will not pull any \*new\* needles into holding position on this row but remember to wrap the yarn around the last needle in hold. Knit back to the left.

**RC 121** - Pull 1 needles into holding position. L18>R42

Knit to the right and wrap before knitting back to the left. L16>R42

**RC 123, 133** - Push 1 needle in holding position down to D position. Knit to the right and wrap before knitting back to the left.

**RC 125, 135** - Push 1 needle in holding position down to D position. Knit to the right and wrap before knitting back to the left.

**Knit straight to RC 127, 137, \_\_\_\_.** Cast off the remaining 23, 22 stitches or scrap off using waste yarn. These are your shoulder stitches.

Release the carriage and place on the right side of your knitting.

Reset the counter to RC 115, 125, \_\_\_\_.

You will now reverse the short rowing process to decrease the opposite half of the neckline.

Cast off the remaining 23, 22, \_\_\_\_ shoulder stitches or scrap off using waste yarn.

## **Front (Make 2 – Right Front & Left Front)**

### **RC 000.**

Using MC, cast on 39, 41, \_\_\_ stitches. Work 1 x 1 rib at T4 to **RC 014.**

On right edge of the knitting, use a double transfer tool to move 2 stitches over one space. Leave empty needle in working position. Pick up the purl end of third stitch and place on the adjoining needle to fill in. You now have 40, 41, working needles

Do not reset row counter. Begin stripe pattern with 2 rows of main color.

**RC 67, 072, \_\_\_** - Attach yarn markers to edge of your knitting to mark the beginning of armhole.

Continue knitting in stripe pattern to:

**RC 101, 108, 113 [102, 109, 114 for left front]** – You are now ready to work the right front neckline curve using short rows or the holding position and a manual wrap of the stitches. You can also cast off stitches.

### **Size 6 mos.**

RC 101 – Carriage is on the left. Cast off opposite carriage as follows:

5 stitches

ER 1 stitch 6x

EOR 1 stitch 3x

E3R 1 stitch 3x

### **Size 12 mos.**

RC 108 - Carriage is on the right. Cast off opposite carriage as follows:.

6 stitches 1x

ER 1 stitch 6x

EOR 1 stitch 4x

E3R 1 stitch 3x

### **Size 18 mos.**

RC 113 – carriage is on the left. Cast off opposite carriage as follows:

6 stitches 1x

ER 1 stitch 6x

EOR 1 stitch 4x

E3R 1 stitch 3x

Continue knitting straight to RC 127, 137. Take remaining 23, 22 stitches off on waste yarn or cast off.

## Sleeve (Make 2)

### RC 000.

Using MC, cast on 55 stitches. Work 1 x 1 rib at T4 to **RC 014**.

On right edge of the knitting, use a double transfer tool to move 2 stitches over one space. Leave empty needle in working position. Pick up the purl end of third stitch and place on the adjoining needle to fill in. You now have 56 working needles.

Do not reset row counter. Begin stripe pattern with 2 rows of main color.

Keeping in stripe pattern, increase 1 stitch [pull an extra needle on each side into working position] on the following rows:

RC 20, 26, and on rows RC 31, 36, 41, 45, 49, 53, 58, 63, 68, 73, 78, 83, 88, and 93.  
Knit straight to RC 101. You now have 90 stitches.

Break the yarn leaving a tail about 4 times the width of your knitting. You will use this length of yarn to sew the sleeve to the body of the sweater.

Take the sleeve stitches off on 10-12 rows of waste yarn.

Block the back, fronts and sleeves to size before adding ribbed bands.

## Neckband

With the right side of the back facing you, re-hang both sets of shoulder stitches on the main bed of the machine. Unravel the scrap yarn carefully and push open stitches behind the latches of the needles.

With the wrong side facing you, re-hang stitches from each front shoulder onto the back shoulders, keeping these stitches in the needle hooks. Unravel the scarp yarn. Carefully push all shoulder needles back so that the open stitches in the hooks are pulled through the open stitches of the back shoulders. You now have one set of open stitches on the needles. Latch tool bind off or back stitch through the open stitches to close the shoulders.

Pick up 103 stitches around the front, back and front necklines, and place yarn marker from center back neckline at center 0 on the needle bed.

With carriage on the right set at main tension and using main color, knit 1 row to the left over all stitches. Transfer every other needle to the ribber for a 1 x 1 rib setup. Carefully insert ribber comb. Knit 18 rows with main bed set at tension 4 and ribber set at tension 3. Remove cast on comb immediately. Re-hang the stitches from the first knit row. Keep the stitches lined up. Push both sets of stitches behind the latches. Cast off using latch tool.

## Front bands

Cast on 83 stitches in main color. In 1 x 1 rib, knit 8 rows at Tension 4/4.

Transfer ribber stitches to main bed. Reset tension to main tension and knit 1 row over all stitches. Take stitches off on 10-12 rows of waste yarn. This extra row creates a row of purl stitches, which will edge the band.

Knit one band plain and the second band with 8 buttonholes spaced evenly across the 83 stitches. On Row 4, make buttonholes by transferring a main bed stitch to the ribber. Leave empty needles in working position.

Bring 83 needles forward to working position. Pick up a whole stitch along the front edge of the cardigan including the bottom ribbing and the top half of the neckband and place on these 83 needles. You may have to stretch the knitting some but don't worry – it will not stay stretched out.

Once the front edge stitches are on the needles, push all of them behind the latches. Pick up the open front band stitches and place on the same needles making sure the stitches stay within the hook of the needle. Carefully close the latches, unravel the waste yarn, and push the front band stitches through the front edge of the sweater. Bring all needles back to holding position – it makes it much easier to cast off the stitches using any cast off method of your choice.

A Button-band Reminder: Girls are always right – boys are left over!

You're almost done!

## Assembly

Bring 90 needles forward into working position. Pick up the stitches of the “armhole” of your sweater - the rows between the yarn markers - and place them on those 90 needles. Stretch the armhole a little to fit on the needles. Push all the stitches behind the latches. Pick up the open stitches from the top of the sleeve and place them in the open hook of the needles.

Carefully close the latches, unravel the waste yarn, and push the open sleeve stitches through the armhole edge of the sweater. Bring all needles back to holding position and cast off the stitches.

Repeat for second sleeve.

Embroidery is optional. Design made using “Lazy Daisy” embroidery stitch was applied before final assembly of sweater.

Sew side and sleeve seams. Use a mattress stitch for best results in matching strips but a simple crocheted slipstitch work well too.

Sample has underarm sections sewn with a mattress stitch and sleeves finished with a crocheted slipstitch. Sew on buttons.

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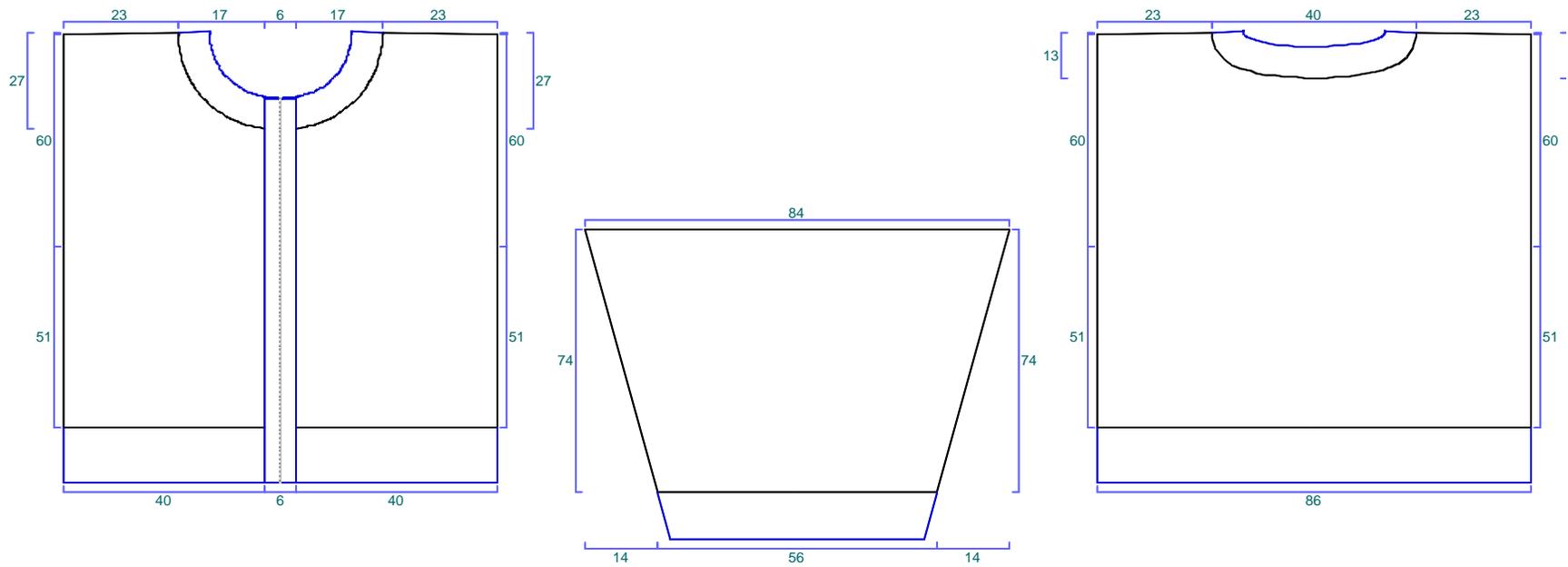


Figure 1 - Stitches & Rows for Size 6mos.

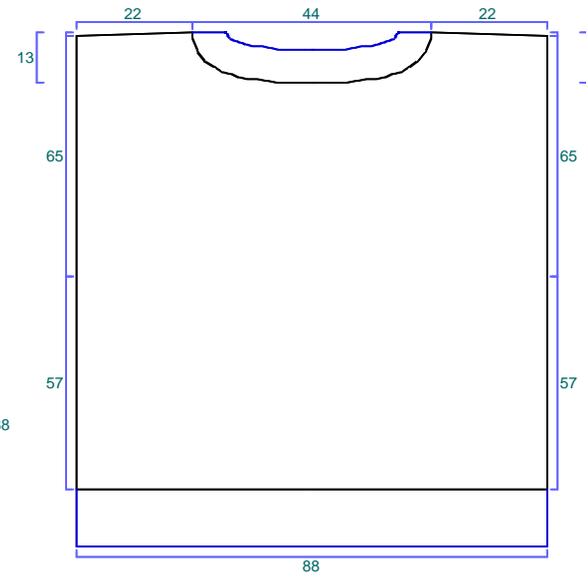
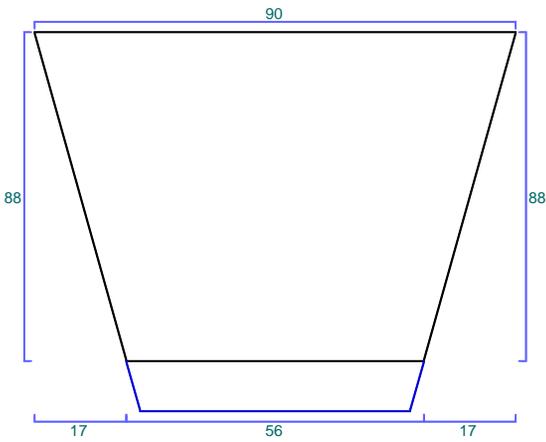
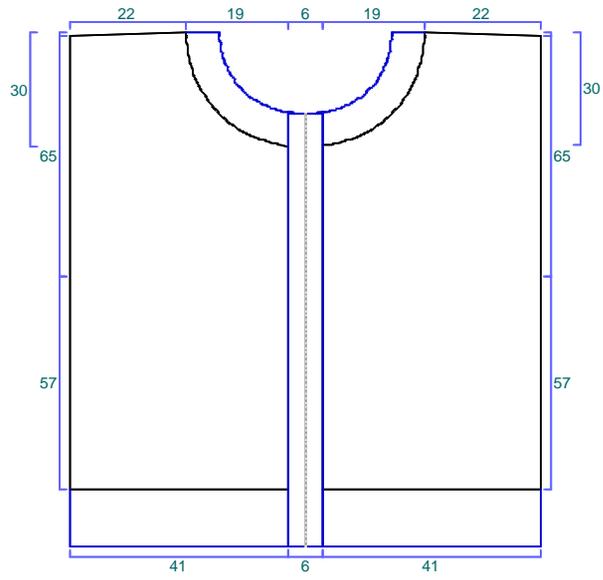


Figure 2 - Stitches & Rows for Size 12 mos.

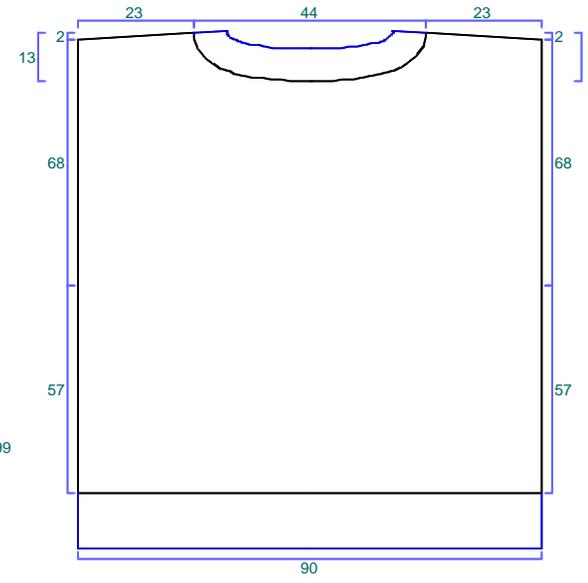
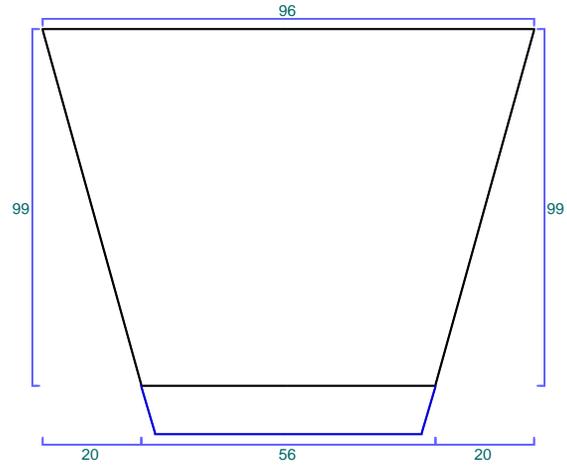
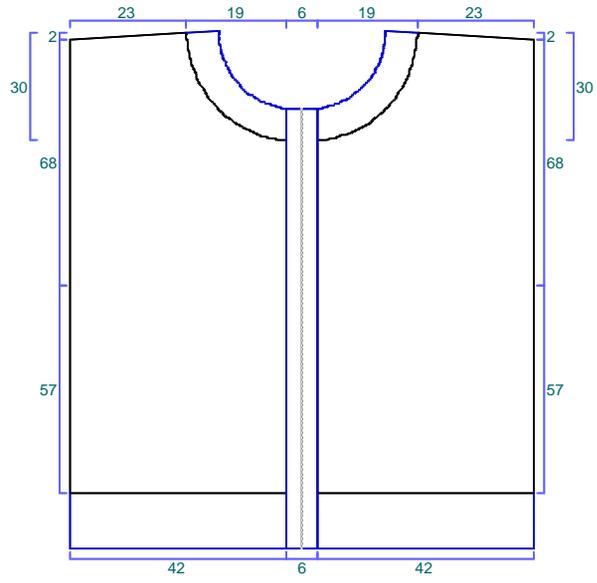


Figure 3 - Stitches & Rows for Size 10 MWS.