I Love Lou Lou

Knit 2 Par 3, March 2008



This pattern is modification of the standard raglan cardigan pattern. I recommend The Knitters Handy Book of Sweater Patterns by Anne Budd (Interweave Press, 2004) for a great variety of patterns and styles for all ages. Since there are so many easy to follow patterns out there for cardigans, I am not writing up my own here.

Many raglan patterns are knit all in one piece, with the sleeves knitted in the round added in as you get to the underarms. I made this in separate pieces to make sure I was getting the lace properly inserted. I guess if I made another one, I could do it all in one piece, but making it separate made it simpler.

I did not want this to be a button up cardigan, so I did not incorporate any button holes in the pattern. You may want to , but I was looking for a dress up sweater and not an everyday sweater so I skipped the buttons.

Materials: 24" circular in Size 8, or size to give gauge. About a yard of 1" grosgrain ribbon in a matching or contrasting color. 1 crochet hook, size H or I. 2 markers.

Yarn: I used 3 skeins Rowan Kid Silk Haze, and 3 skeins Dale of Norway Baby Ull for the main color, but I was looking for a slightly fuzzy mohair look without the itchiness of mohair, and you should feel free to use any yarn that will give you the look you want. In making this again, I might consider a shiny cotton. I also used a tiny part of one skein of the Kid Silk Haze for a contrasting collar and trim.

Back: follow directions for the raglan cardigan back in stockinette stitch.

Front: cast on as directed for cardigan front

Row 1: Knit 10, place marker, and insert the Heart pattern as follows, over the next 12 stitches: K1, YO, K2tog, K3, YO, K1, YO, K3 SKP, YO, Knit all remaining stitches.

Row 2 and all even rows: Purl.

Row 3: Knit to marker, K2, YO, K4tog, YO, K3, K all remaining

Row 5: Knit to marker, K1, K!, K2 tog, YO, K5, YO, SKP, K all remaining

Row 7: Knit to marker, K1, K2tog, YO, K7, YO, SKP, K all remaining

Row 9: Knit to marker, K2tog, YO, K9, YO, S1, K2tog, PSSO, K all remaining

Row 10: Purl

Repeat rows until the sweater front is the stated length according to the pattern. You should have enough room with the 10 knitted stitches at the beginning of the row to accommodate any neck decreases.

For the second front, cast on and work in the opposite direction: knit to the last 22 stitches, place marker. Follow the same directions as above.

Sleeves: case on as directed for sleeves and begin lace pattern in the first row as follows below. You will need to incorporate the pattern into the sleeve increases and decreases for the raglan according to the pattern.



Row 1: *Knit 3, YO, Sl 1, K2tog, PSSO, YO. Repeat until end.

Row 2: Purl all

Row 3: Knit all

Row 4: Purl all

Repeat those four rows, again making accommodations for the increases and decreases in the sleeves.

Collar: I used a contrasting color and a simple garter stitch collar. You can follow any collar suggestion given in your pattern and it will look just fine.

Once you've blocked and sewn the sweater together, sew the grosgrain ribbon on the inside of the cardigan where the button placket would have been. This gives it a nice finish without the buttons.

With the crochet hook, do a row of single crochet along the buttonless placket, and the bottom. You could also do it at the end of the sleeves, but it looked just fine to me without an edging.