

# What you need for the “How to Knit Sweater Workshop #1:” Long-Sleeve Drop-Shoulder Polo

## TOOLS

- Calculator. A simple one will do.
- Notebook and pen or pencils for notes.
- Pencil (with eraser) for creating Picture Pattern.
- Flat ruler. 6-inch is OK. 12-inch is better.
- Needles sizes 4 through 8 or so. *You will not have to try multiple times to “match the gauge!” You will create a pattern that matches **your** gauge.* You’ll need circulars or double pointed sets for the collar/neck edge (in a several sizes like 4s through 7s) and straights are fine for the body pieces
- Your knitting ditty bag with crochet hooks, tapestry needles, scissors, stitch holders, markers, a counter if you like to use one, safety pins, chocolate, etc. All your regular necessities.
- A vinyl tape measure if you don’t keep one in your ditty bag.
- A copy of the Picture Pattern Template for the class project.
- A copy of the Gauge Record Sheet.

## SKILLS

- Long-tailed cast on
- Bind off
- Knit and Purl

## MATERIALS

- 450 yards or more of plain, light-colored worsted weight yarn, preferably washable wool or a good quality acrylic. Three 100-gram skeins is plenty. Two might be cutting it close.
- 3 buttons ½ inch to 1 inch. They can match or they can be different.

## WRITTEN CLASS MATERIALS

- One copy of the Size 1 **Long Sleeve Polo Picture Pattern** for the class
- One copy of the **Gauge Record Sheet**



Sweater "Title" Drop-Shoulder Long Sleeved Polo Date Started \_\_\_\_\_

For \_\_\_\_\_ "Size" Child's 1 Date Completed \_\_\_\_\_

Body Measurements

Actual Body Chest/Bust \_\_\_\_\_

Body Length to Underarm \_\_\_\_\_

Arm Length \_\_\_\_\_ Hips \_\_\_\_\_

Kimono Sleeve Length \_\_\_\_\_

Yarn used \_\_\_\_\_

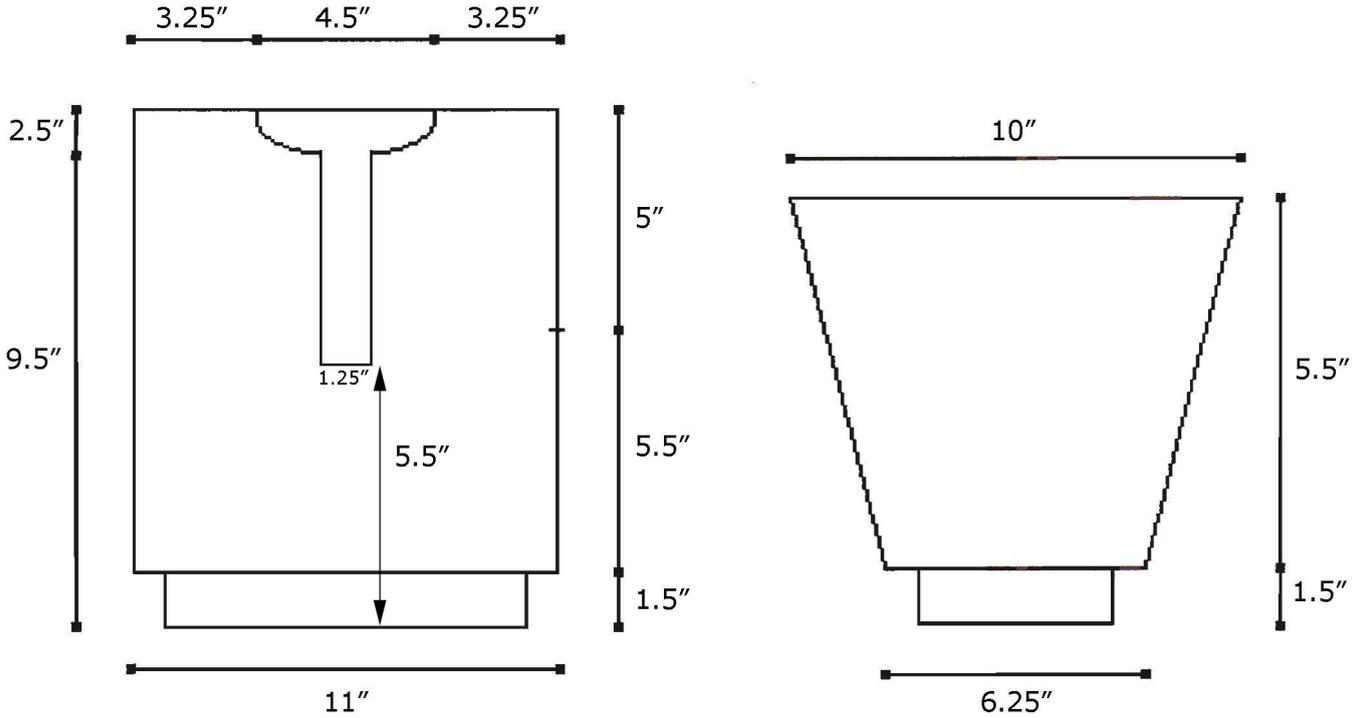
Yarn Amount: wt \_\_\_\_\_ yards \_\_\_\_\_

Needles/ Machine Tens. \_\_\_\_\_

GAUGE \_\_\_\_\_ sts per inch \_\_\_\_\_ rows per inch

Pattern Source **Sweater 101** standards

**DROP-SHOULDER PATTERN**



## DROP-SHOULDER POLO SIZE 1

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**BACK:** With smaller needles, cast on \_\_\_\_\_ sts (an odd number) Work in K 1 P 1 rib (the first row starts and ends with a purl) for 1½ inches ( \_\_\_\_\_ rows). Note that the rib on the right side starts and ends with a knit. Change to larger needles, increase or decrease to \_\_\_\_\_ sts and work in stockinette st until the piece measures 12 inches ( \_\_\_\_\_ rows of stockinette). Put all the sts on a longish circular needle as a holder. Mark the neck edge with contrasting color yarn loops or circular markers.

**FRONT:** Work the same as the back until the piece is 5½ inches long. End with a wrong side row (i.e. the next row is a right-side row). Knit \_\_\_\_\_ sts, bind off the center \_\_\_\_\_ sts, and knit the remaining sts. When you purl back attach a second ball of yarn after the bind off and work both fronts until the entire piece is 9½ inches long. **SHAPE THE FRONT NECK:** Bind off \_\_\_\_\_ stitches at each neck edge over the next 2 rows. Work a plain row on each side. Then decrease every other row at the neck edges \_\_\_\_\_ times. Two things: 1) It's easiest to do all the decreases on the knit rows and make them mirror images. 2) You may decrease the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> sts at the neck edge or move the decreases in to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> stitches of each edge. It depends on the look you want, though the collar will mostly cover that edge.

When your decreases are done, you'll have \_\_\_\_\_ sts left on each side. Work even until the front has the same number of rows as the back.

JOIN THE FRONT AND BACK by putting their right sides together and using a Three Needle bind off for the shoulder seams and a regular bind off across the back of the neck. (Try it with a crochet hook if you have one. It's dandy!)

#### SLEEVES:

Mark an armhole with safety pins if you didn't already mark it with thread. (place a pin where the sleeve starts and ends. Compute with the More-or-Less-Right Formula how often to skip rows). Pick up sts over \_\_\_\_\_ rows along the armhole edge.

KNIT BODY OF SLEEVE: Figure out how many rows you need to make your sleeve long enough: \_\_\_\_\_ rows. Again, using the Formula, compute which are the decrease rows.

SLEEVE RIB: If you have an even number of sts at this point, inc one st. You need an odd number of sts. Beginning and ending with a k on the right side of the fabric, K1P1 rib for 1.5 inches. Bind off loosely in rib. MAKE SLEEVE #2 JUST LIKE YOU MADE SLEEVE #1.

BUTTON BAND: (Left side for a girl, right side for a boy.) With right side of the fabric facing you, and with the smaller needles, pick up and knit one stitch for each row along the placket opening. K1P1 rib until the band is as long as the placket is wide (should be 1.25 inches, but if it's not, fudge), \_\_\_\_\_ rows. Sew the buttons on, centering them and making a good, long shank for each.

BUTTONHOLE BAND: Pick up and knit as for button band but add 3 buttonholes centered over the buttons. Eyeball how many sts you have to cast off for each buttonhole and then cast on that same number on the next row. Err on the side of making the buttonholes too big. You can always sew the ends of the holes to snug them up, but tight buttonholes can be very frustrating for babies and their mothers. (You might also try a one-row buttonhole.)

Sew down the buttonhole placket first using a "modified kitchener seam" (my term . . . nothing official), then sew the button placket down on the inside by catching down threads.

Block. I like leaving lots of "handmade texture," but use your favorite technique. (I never puree my soups either. I like lumps and identifiable vegetables to chew on).

CHOICE TIME: You can make the collar first or sew the underarm seams. I sew my seams first because that's less wrestling with curly parts.

COLLAR: With the right side facing you, and starting and ending in the middle of your placket pieces, pick up and knit every stitch and every row around the neck edge. Adjust to get an odd number of stitches.

You'll work about 1½" of rib, beginning and ending with a purl with the right side facing you. Work with progressively larger needles (3 sizes worth is good) so that the collar grows in width.

Bind off loosely in rib. Sew up any seams that need it and work in the ends. Block again if you like.

Give this to some sweet baby to keep her or him warm and to delight his or her Momma with a gift of love, or keep it as a student project that you can consult later.