



Tickled Pink

This is an easy to knit, drop-shoulder cardigan/pullover with looped I-cord trim at lower edges and cuffs. Sized from small to XX-large it is basic enough to knit on a hobby-knitting machine.

Size: Small (Medium, Large, X-Large, XX-Large)

Finished chest measurement: 38 (42, 46, 50 54)"

Finished length: (Including 1.5" trim) 19.5 (20, 21, 22.5, 24)"

Yarn: Plymouth Yarn's "Shire Silk" (100% silk with 109 yards/50 gram ball), 8 (9, 10, 12, 14) balls color #5653.

Check out all the colors at www.plymouthyarn.com

Gauge: 18 stitches and 25 rows = 4" in stockinette

Machine: Model was knitted on SK860 (mid-gauge). (Yarn is suitable for chunky machines, but there will only be enough needles to knit the first 3 sizes).

Stitch Size: 9 or size to match gauge; I-cords knitted at stitch size 8

Notions: 8 buttons (5/8" – 1" size). Model garment used mismatched antique mother of pearl buttons.

Notes: (1) Begin and end all garment pieces with scrap knitting. Because garment pieces will be handled a lot while knitting and picking up the I-cord trim, you should bind off the scrap knitting to avoid losing stitches in the process. (2) Sleeves are knitted from the top down to ensure proper length and allow alterations before adding the trim. This is not a style that allows for any blousing at cuff. (3) The model garment is a mock cardigan; the front is stitched closed. If knitted as a cardigan, the buttons must be large enough to hold in the I-cord loops, but fairly light weight because the silk will not support heavy buttons and retain its shape.



Back

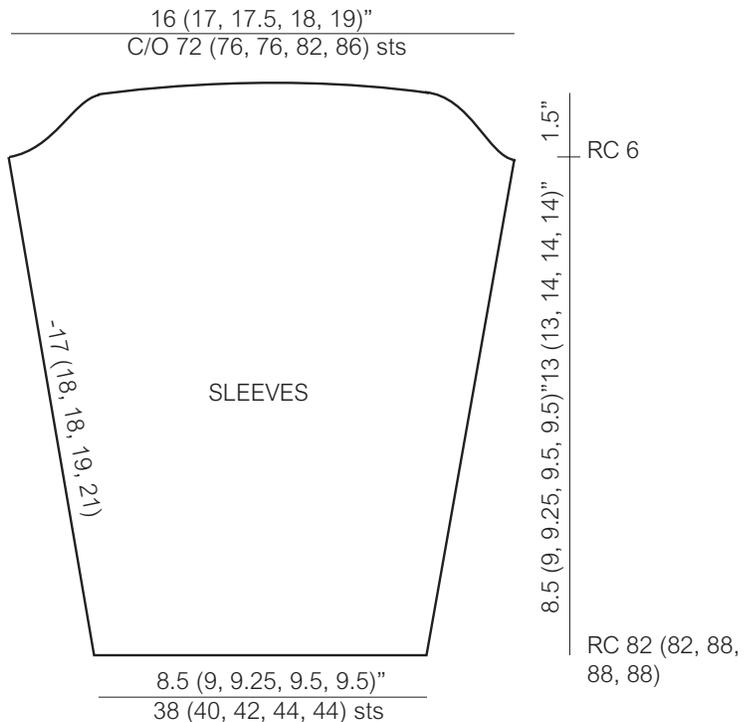
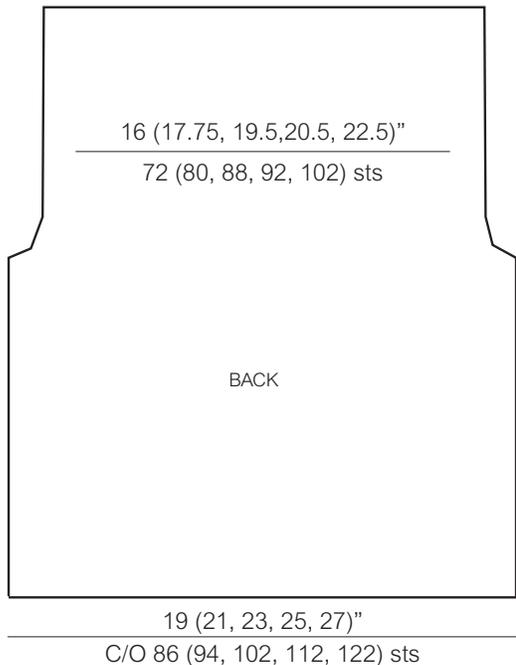
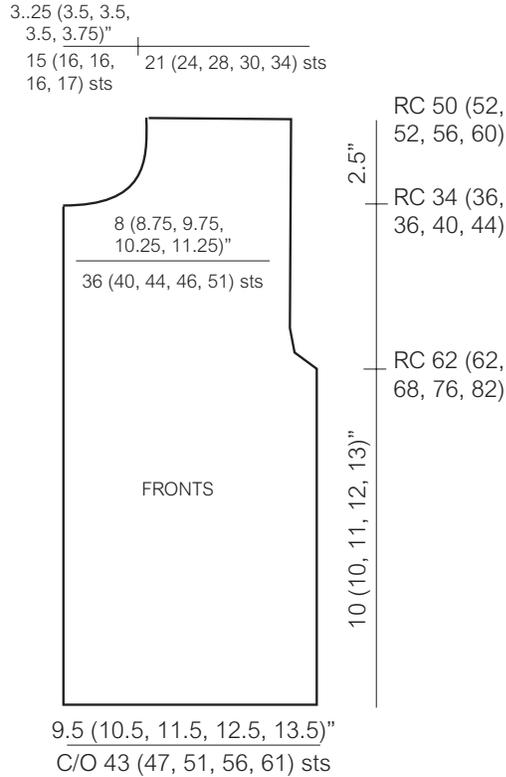
With scrap and ravel cord, cast on 86 (94, 102, 112, 122) stitches and knit some rows. Row counter (RC) 000. Change to the main yarn and knit straight to RC 62 (62, 68, 76, 82). RC000. Shape armholes by binding off at each edge a total of 7 (7, 7, 10, 10) stitches, binding off at the beginning of every row on the carriage side as follows: 4 stitches twice, 3 stitches 0 (0, 0, 2, 2) times, 2 stitches twice, 1 stitch twice. Continue straight to RC 50 (52, 52, 56, 60). Separately scrap off (binding off scrap) 30 (32, 32, 32, 34) stitches for the back neck and 21 (24, 28, 30, 34) stitches for each shoulder.

Right Front

With scrap and ravel cord, cast on 43 (47, 51, 56, 61) stitches, knit some rows and change to the main yarn. RC000. Knit straight to RC 62 (62, 68, 76, 82), RC000. Shape armhole at the right edge as for the back. Begin shaping the neckline at the left edge at RC34 (36, 36, 40,44) as follows: Set the carriage to hold needles in holding position (HP). Beginning with the carriage on the right (COR), hold 4 (5, 5, 5, 5) needles at left. Knit, wrap and knit back to the right. Every other row when the COR, hold (and wrap) at the left edge 3 needles 1 (1, 1, 1, 2) times, 2 needles 3 (3, 3, 3, 2) times and 1 needle twice. At RC50 (52, 52, 56, 60) scrap off the remaining 21 (24, 28, 30, 34) shoulder stitches.

Left Front

Knit the same as the right front, but with reversed armhole and neck shaping.



Sleeves

Knit 2 alike (from the top down)

With scrap and ravel cord, cast on 72 (76, 76, 82, 86) stitches and knit some rows. Change to the main yarn, set the carriage to hold needles in HP and knit to RC6, short rowing (holding) the sleeve head as follows. On the side opposite the carriage, hold 3 stitches twice, 2 stitches twice and 1 stitch twice, wrapping after each. RC000. Set carriage to knit all needles. Knit to RC82 (82, 88, 88, 88) decreasing 1 stitch each end of every 5th row 10 (6, 12, 8, 0) times, then every 4th row 7 (12, 6, 11, 21) times. Scrap off the remaining 38 (40, 42, 44, 44) stitches.

Finishing

Work in all yarn tails and lightly block the garment pieces to size.

Join the front and back shoulders by hand or by machine. To join shoulders by machine, fold back the scrap knitting on the back shoulders and with the right side facing you, re-hang the live stitches of each shoulder over 221 (24, 28, 30, 34) needles. Bring the needles to HP. Fold back the scrap on each of the front shoulders and with the wrong side facing you, re-hang the stitches in the hooks of the needles that already hold the corresponding back shoulder stitches. Close the latches and then carefully push the needles back to working position (WP) so that the back shoulder stitches slide over the front shoulder stitches. Bind off loosely.

Fold back the scrap knitting at the top of one sleeve and with the right sides together, pin the sleeve head into the armhole of the garment. Join the sleeve to the armhole with slip crochet (or join on the machine as described for shoulder seams. Hang armhole edge of garment first and then the live stitches of the sleeve head.) Repeat for the second sleeve.

Sew the side seams of the garment with mattress stitch. Baste the sleeve seams and try on the sweater. The sleeves will be approximately 1.5" longer once the trim has been added. It is a matter of personal preference how far below the wrist you want the trim. You may want to add – or remove – a few rows from the sleeve length before adding the trim, but there will be no blousing at the cuff, as this is a fairly wide, straight cuff. Once you are satisfied with the sleeve length, sew the sleeve seam with mattress stitch.

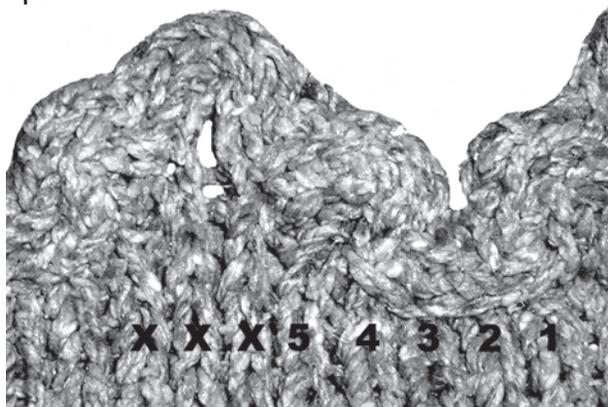
Looped I-cord Trim

All of the trim is knitted as 4-stitch I-cord at stitch size 8. To knit I-cord, set your carriage to knit in one direction and slip in the other. All I-cords are joined to the garment as you knit them by picking up the edge stitches of the garment with the wrong side of the garment facing you. When picking up stitches from the front (selvage) edges, pick up the entire edge stitch (both loops) so that the I-cord has something to hold onto and is less likely to roll.

Begin and end all lengths of I-cord with scrap knitting so that the ends can be butted together and grafted invisibly. Directions indicate row counts, which are twice the number of rows actually knitted because the carriage slips every other row.

As you work around the edges and approach the right center front corner, do a quick count to make sure you will not end up with half a repeat of the looped trim. Double a couple of stitches if necessary to make it end correctly or because the fronts will overlap, you can allow some plain, un-looped trim at that point.

With scrap and ravel cord, cast on 4 stitches, knit some rows and change to the main yarn. Set the carriage to knit I-cord with stitch size 8. Knit 2 rows and with the wrong side of the garment facing you and the scrap knitting folded back, pick up 1 stitch from the lower back edge at the right side seam. *(Knit 2 rows, pick up 1 edge stitch) 5 times. Then knit 10 rows, pick up 1 stitch; 14 rows, pick up 1 stitch; 10 rows, pick up 1 stitch.**. Repeat from * to ** across lower back edge and lower left front edge. At center front edge pick up the same stitch twice (to make the corner). In the photo below, the numbers 1-5 indicate plain pick ups; the X's indicate placement of looped pick ups.



Work plain I-cord up the left front edge and around the neck. Then resume the looped I-cord sequence down the right front, turning the corner and across the lower right front edge. End with scrap knitting at the side seam. If the I-cord seems to be stretching either of the front edges, rather than defining them, alternately skip an edge stitch before picking up.

Front Bands

Work a second row of plain I-cord along the left front edge, beginning and ending with scrap and picking up an edge stitch from the previous I-cord. Then work a plain I-cord along the inside edge of the looped trim on the right front edge, picking up the inner edge of the previous I-cord.

Sleeve Trim

Work the looped trim around the sleeve edges, beginning and ending with scrap at the seam line.

Graft, sew or crochet the ends of the bands as invisibly as possible and work in all ends. Remove all scrap. For the pullover version, sew the right front over the left front and sew buttons to the center loops in each repeat. For a cardigan, sew buttons to left front.

Wash the finished sweater and lay flat to dry. When nearly dry, steam the edging so it lies flat. Steam in as much flare as you like at the lower edges of the body and sleeves.



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