

5 Degree Woolly

The Original Sweater

<http://5degreewoolly.blogspot.com>

Use up your wool stash at random and create a body warming, energy saving work of eco-fashion. It's 5 degrees warmer inside than out: get out the big needles, turn down the heating. Save the world one woolly at a time.

The large size fits up to a UK 14 with loads of space for flinging it on top of all the other clothes you're already wearing.

You'll need:

15mm needles.

You'll need about 1.8kg of yarn to knit one like this, that's 36 x 50g balls. Use around 10 strands of mixed yarn, depending on thickness. My tension square 10cm x 10cm (4x4 inches) is made up of 8 rows of 6 stitches.

When you run out of one yarn, just join on another that's about the same thickness. You can keep changing colours and see how it turns out; the important thing is to use up all the leftovers. You can try a couple of rows, and either keep going change it or pull it out and re-knit it; it grows so quickly it doesn't matter.

Sizes are for large (medium, huge).

Front and back

Cast on 36 (30,40)

Single rib (knit one, purl one) for 15 rows

Row 16 knit.

Row 17 purl.

Repeat the last two rows until it's long enough to make you really warm you want to keep going until it's mid thigh length.

This one is 40 rows (55cm / 22 inches) long

Shoulders and neck.

This is a really easy method. It does make one side a row longer than the other, but you can absorb the small difference as you sew up the sides later.

R1 Cast off 10 (8,12) and knit the remaining 26 (22,30).

R2 Cast off 10 (8,12) and purl the remaining 16 (14,18).

These stitches form the neck.

Continue for 8 rows and cast off your 16 (14,18) stitches.

Make it longer or shorter depending on the level of cosiness you want.

Sleeves

Continue with a similar bundle of yarn. You can make the sleeves totally different colours if you like. Just keep on



using up the stash.

Cast on 14 (16,16)

Work eight rows of single rib (knit one, purl one).

Row 9: knit

Row 10: purl

Row 11: knit one, increase into second stitch, knit to two stitches from the end, increase into second last stitch, knit one.

Row 12: purl

Row 13: knit one, increase into second stitch, knit to two stitches from the end, increase into second last stitch, knit one.

Row 14: purl

Row 15: knit

Row 16: purl

Repeat rows 13-16 until your sleeves are long enough.

Measure the width of your front and back and how far down your arms they go, then see how far it is to your wrists. That's how long to make the sleeves.

Cast off.

To finish off, hand it over to someone who likes sewing.

Failing that, take a big darning needle (one with a smooth end not a point of you can get hold of one) and use a strong selection of your yarns for sewing the seams.

With insides facing outwards, sew up the two shoulder seams. Fix the centre of one sleeve to one shoulder seam and sew it on so it reaches equally down the front and back sides. Do the same thing with the other sleeve. Sew up the undersides of the sleeves and the side seams. Darn in the loose ends, turn it the right way around and put it on.

Have someone take your photograph, email it to sarah@4160Tuesdays.com and you can go up on the blog. Include your address and you can have a 5 Degree Woolly label to sew on.