

Mohair Swirl

This cardigan is light, warm and shaped into the waist with a flare over the hips, and knitted in Yeoman Elsa [3 ply] their Ofelia yarn would also be fine, or you could try a fluffy fine acrylic, T10 [standard gauge] stocking stitch throughout. Mohair is fairly easy to knit with, but use lots of weight and pull it down from the gate pegs every few rows, or you will get it catching on the gate pegs and tucking badly.

My tension was about 5 stitches and 7.5 rows to an inch, but this is not too critical. My size 14 took about 150g of yarn, so it is very economical.

It is knit in 4 pieces: upper back, main body and two sleeves. Seaming only on sleeves!

Sizes: 12 [14 16 18 20 22 24 26] chest 30/32 (34/36, 38/40, 42/44, 46/48, 50/52, 54/56, 58/60) inches

These edges form a v shape round your neck and make up the front edge

Upper back

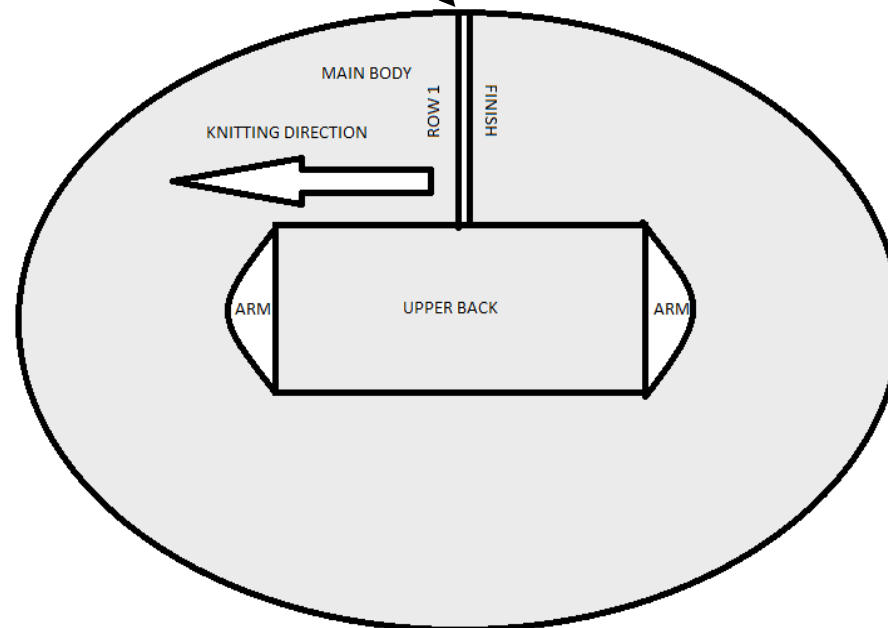
Cast on in waste yarn 74[80 84 88 92 96 100 104] stitches. Knit a few rows, COR.

Join main yarn. Place marker on centre stitch [L1] Knit 56[60 64 68 72 76 80 84] rows. Place marker on L1 again.

Join waste yarn and knit a few rows. Remove piece from machine.

Main body

You will be knitting 15 'wedges' round the upper back and picking up from it. I used the plain side of the upper back, and the purl side of the main body, as the right side – this made picking up fairly easy and it looked ok. This is a diagram of what you are doing:



Cast on 130 stitches at row 1! [80/50] Pick up 1 stitch from Upper Back and place on L80 i.e. you now have 2 stitches on this needle.

Wedge

Knit 1 row. Pick up 1 stitch again, then knit 1 row. Knit one row without picking up a stitch. RC003

[This will be your basic picking up stitches routine i.e. on 2 out of 3 rows. Don't worry if you get slightly out of sync – it will still work and you can check your position at the armholes.]

*For 1st wedge and 15th wedge only continue until RC 024 [024 034 030 028 038 034 032] Then for 1st wedge knit the **dart** as below until RC = 042 [042 052 048 046 056 052 050]end of wedge. 15th wedge ends before dart.*

2nd to 14th wedges: Continue in this way until RC 022 [024 024 026 028 028 030 032].

Now you are going to **knit a dart** to provide some flare.

Set machine to hold. Put needles L30 – L80 to holding position. Knit 1 row. *Put 1 more needle into hold at left side, knit a row* Repeat from * to * until RC shows 040 [042 042 044 046 046 048 050] Cancel hold **End of Wedge**

Set RC to 000.

Repeat Wedge. You should now have knitted 2 darts and be nearing, but not at, the edge of the top of the upper back.

Set RC to 000

You are now going to knit the Wedge again, **but** when you get to the edge of the back, you must stop picking up stitches for the remainder of this wedge. [Armhole] This should be about halfway through the straight knitting.

Repeat 2 more wedges.

Start picking up from bottom edge of upper back Knit 5 wedges picking up all the stitches at the bottom of the back.

Second armhole: knit 2 and a half wedges before starting to pick up at the top again.

Finish the other half of the wedge, knit 2 more wedges [**NB** final (15th) wedge see note in basic wedge instruction] and cast off loosely. You have finished the body!

Sleeve

12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26		12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	
									Sleeve - Knit 2								
final row count									Cast off remaining								
142	146	148	152	154	154	154	154		20	20	20	22	22	22	22	24	
									Decrease 1 stitch each side alternate rows								
									8	8	0	8	8	0	0	10	times
									Dec 1 st each side every 3 rd row								
									2	2	0	4	4	0	0	2	times
									Decrease 1 stitch each side alternate rows								
									8	9	21	8	9	22	23	10	times
Knit to row									Cast off [over next 2 rows] either side								
102	104	104	106	106	106	106	106		5	5	5	6	6	6	6	7	sts
									Stitch count								
									66	68	72	74	76	78	80	82	sts
									increase 1 stitch either side every								
									7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	row
									13	13	14	14	15	15	16	16	times
									Cast on								
0									40	42	44	46	46	48	48	50	sts
Rows									Stitches								
									Cast on and knit a 10 row hem / then set counter to 000								

Finishing: Steam press all pieces: sew up sleeve seams and insert sleeves. Wash before wearing for best results, the mohair needs to fluff up!

I left the edge unfinished, which I think is quite acceptable.