

Hugs and Kisses Cardigan

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This is a light, airy, yet warm cropped cardigan meant for those cool spring nights too warm for a coat, but not quite warm enough to walk around bare armed. I named it Hugs and Kisses because the Hugs and Kisses pattern resembles the X's and O's we so often use to reflect our love for someone. Knit in Alpaca, this cardigan has a perfect luxurious feel and would look great with jeans and a tank or the perfect little black dress.

Finished Measurements:

Bust Measurements with 2" Positive Ease: 34" (36", 38", 40", 42")

Materials:

Knit Picks Alpaca Cloud in Iris Heather (4, 4, 5, 5, 6) hanks or any yarn that gets gauge. If you choose to use a lace weight yarn, like the Alpaca cloud, please note that you will be holding the yarn double. If you chose to use a fingering weight yarn, then you will simply knit with a single strand.

Recommended Needle Size:

US 3 (3.25mm) straight or circular needle.

US 4 (3.5mm) straight or circular needle.

Tapestry Needle

Gauge:

24 stitches and 36 rows = 4" in Stockinette Stitch.

Pattern Notes:

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Please note this was inspired by the Froot Loop Sock Pattern by Kristi Geraci which was featured in the Spring 2008 edition of Knitty.

This cardigan is knit in pieces and seamed together.

Knitting Glossary:

RS: Right Side

WS: Wrong Side

Right Twist (RT): K2tog, but do not drop the stitches off your left needle; instead, insert your right needle between the stitches just worked together and knit into the first stitch again; drop both stitches from the left needle.

Close Loop: Insert your right needle into the third stitch on the left needle and draw this stitch over the first two stitches on left needle; k1, yo, k1

Close Loop (Stockinette Variation): Insert your right needle into the third stitch on the left needle and draw this stitch over the first two stitches on left needle, k1, m1(CL), k1

M1 (CL): After closing the loop and knitting the first stitch, rather than YO, with your right needle pick up the bar of yarn in between the stitch on your right needle and the stitch on your left needle and slide onto your left needle; k2.

M1: Pick up the bar in between stitches and knit into the back of it.

Hugs and Kisses Pattern

Row 1: (RT, p1, close loop, p1) to end

Row 2: (K1, p3, k1, p2) to end

Row 3: (K2, p1, k3, p1) to end

Row 4: Repeat row 2

Reverse Hugs and Kisses Pattern:

Row 1: K1 (P1, close loop, p1, RT) to last 2 stitches, K2

Row 2: P1 (K1, p3, k1, p2) to last 2 stitches, P2

Row 3: K1 (P1, k3, p1, k2) to last 2 stitches, K2

Row 4: Repeat row 2

Directions:

Back: *Before beginning, please read above about the difference between using lace weight and fingering yarn.*

With the smaller needle, CO 106 (114, 120, 128, 134)

Row 1(RS): K2, P2 to end.

Row 2: P2, K2 to end.

* Repeat these 2 rows until the ribbing measures 1" ending with a **WS** row.

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Switch to larger needles.

Increase (sizes 34", 38", 42" only):

Row 1(RS): K53 (64, 67), m1, K all remaining stitches (107, 121, 135 stitches).

All Remaining Sizes: K all stitches (114, 128 stitches).

Row 2: P all stitches.

Row 3: K all stitches

Rows 4-10: Repeat Rows 4-10 ending with a purl row.

Hugs and Kisses Panel:

Row 1(RS): K1; Work Row 1 of Hugs and Kisses pattern to last stitch; K1.

Row 2: P1; Work Row 2 of Hugs and Kisses pattern to last stitch; P1.

* Continue working the Hugs and Kisses pattern for 10 rows, maintaining a stockinette stitch for the first and last stitch, ending with a **WS** row.

Stockinette Panel:

Row 1(RS): K4; (close loop (stockinette variation)) to last 2 stitches, K2.

Row 2: Purl

Row 3: Knit

* Continue working in stockinette for the next 7 rows, ending with a **WS** row and then revert back to the Hugs and Kisses Panel. Continue to do work on the back alternating between the 2 panels until it measures 9 (10, 10.5, 11.5, 12)"s, ending with a **WS** row.

Shape Armholes:

RS: Continuing pattern as established, BO 6 (7, 7, 8, 8) at the beginning of the next 2 rows 95 (100, 107, 112, 119 stitches).

Decrease 1 stitch on both ends every **RS** row, 12 (14, 14, 16, 16) times 71 (72, 79, 80, 87 stitches).

Work back as established until it measure 12 (12.5, 12.5, 13, 13)"s, ending with a **WS** row within the stockinette panel.

Shape neck and shoulders:

Row 1(RS): K21 (21, 23, 23, 26); BO 29 (30, 33, 34, 35); K21 (21, 23, 23, 26)). (Left and Right shoulder will be left on the needle)

Row 2(WS): P21 (21, 23, 23, 26) on right shoulder and rejoin the yarn for the left shoulder and P21 (21, 23, 23, 26).

Continue working in stockinette stitch until back measures 16 (17, 18, 19, 20)"s, ending with a **WS** row.

Row 1(RS): BO 11 (11, 12, 12, 14); K31 (31, 24, 24, 38)

Row 2(WS): BO 11 (11, 12, 12, 14); P21 (21, 22, 22, 24)

Row 3: BO remaining stitches

Right Front:

With the smaller needle, CO 50 (58, 64, 72, 78) stitches

Row 1(RS): K2, P2 to end

Row 2: P2, K2 to end

Repeat these 2 rows until ribbing measures 1" ending with a **WS** row.

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Switch to larger needles

Row 1 (RS): K16 (19, 21, 24, 26) stitches, m1, K17 (19, 21, 24, 26) stitches, m1, k remaining stitches.

Sizes (36" and 40" only) (RS): K all stitches

Row 2: P all stitches

Row 3: K all stitches

Continue working in stockinette stitches for 7 rows, ending with a **WS** row.

* With RS facing you work Hugs and Kisses pattern for 12 rows ending with **WS**.

Row 1(RS): K4 (close loop (stockinette variation)) to last 2 stitches; K2

Row 2(WS): Purl all stitches

Row 3: Knit all stitches

*Continue working in stockinette stitch for the next 7 rows. Continue working pattern as established, alternating between Stockinette Panel and Hugs and Kisses Panel until back measures Work back as established until it measure 9(10, 10.5, 11.5, 12)"s, ending with a **WS** row within the stockinette panel.

Shape Armhole:

Row 1(RS): K all stitches

Row 2(WS): BO 6 (7, 7, 8, 8) stitches, P to end of row.

Row 3: K to last 3 stitches; K2tog; k1.

* Work the pattern as established, decreasing 1 stitch at the end, as mentioned above, 11 (11, 11, 13, 13) more times 34 (41, 47, 54, 60 stitches) and ending with a **WS** row. Work the established pattern until the garment measures 12 (12.5, 12.5, 13, 13)"s.

Shape Neck and Shoulder:

Row 1: Beginning with **RS**, BO 2 (4, 6, 8, 10); K31 (36, 40, 46, 50).

Row 2: P all stitches

Row 3: K1, ssk, K29 (33, 37, 43, 47).

* Continue working in stockinette stitch, decreasing 1 stitch every other row at the neckline 9 (13, 15, 17, 19) times (21, 21, 23, 27, 28 stitches). Work straight until the piece measures 16 (17, 18, 19, 20)"s, ending with a **RS** row.

Bind Off:

Row 1 (WS): BO 10 (10, 12, 12, 15) stitches; K remaining stitches.

Row 2(RS): K all stitches

Row 3: BO remaining 11 stitches.

Left Front:

* Work as Right Front, but use the Reverse Hugs and Kisses pattern and reverse decreases as mentioned below.

Shape Armhole for Left Front:

Row 1(RS): BO 6 (7, 7, 8, 8) stitches; K42 (53, 59, 64, 72) stitches.

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Row 2(WS): P all stitches

Row 3: K1, ssk, K remaining stitches

* Work the pattern as established, decreasing 1 stitch at the end, as mentioned above, 11 (11, 11, 13, 13) more times 34 (41, 47, 54, 60 stitches) and ending with a **WS** row. Work the established pattern until the garment measures 12 (12.5, 12.5, 13, 13)"s.

Shape Neck and Shoulder:

Row 1(RS): Knit across.

Row 2(WS): BO 2 (4, 6, 8, 10); P31 (36, 40, 46, 50).

Row 3: K to the last 3 stitches; ssk, k1.

* Continue working in stockinette stitch, decreasing 1 stitch every other row at the neckline Continue working in stockinette stitch, decreasing 1 stitch every other row at the neckline 9 (13, 15, 17, 19) times (21, 21, 23, 27, 28 stitches) times ending with a **WS** row.

Bind Off:

Row 1 (RS): BO 11 stitches; K remaining stitches.

Row 2: Purl

Row 3: BO all remaining stitches.

Sleeve (*make 2*):

With the smaller needle, CO58 (62, 62, 66, 66) stitches

Row 1(RS): K2, P2 to last 2 stitches; K2

Row 2(WS): P2, K2 to the last 2 stitches; P2.

*Continue working in 2x2 rib for 1"ending with a **WS** row.

Switch to larger needle

Row 1(RS): Work sleeve in stockinette stitch increasing on both ends every 4th row 5 (5, 5, 7, 7) times and then every 6th row 4 (4, 5, 7, 7) times. Continue working straight until sleeve measures 7 (7, 7.5, 8, 8.5)"s, ending with **RS** row (76, 80, 82, 86, 86) stitches.

Shape Armhole:

Row 1(WS): BO 6 (8, 8, 10, 10); P 70 (72, 72, 76, 76)

Row 2(RS): BO 6 (8, 8, 10, 10); K 64 (64, 64, 66, 66)

Row 3: P all stitches

Row 4: K1, ssk, K to last 3 stitches, K2tog, K1.

* Continue working in stockinette stitch, decreasing 1 stitch one each end as mentioned in row 4, 21 (20, 20, 19, 19) times (20, 22, 22, 26, 26 stitches).Work straight until sleeve measures 9 (9.5, 10, 10.5 11)"s. BO all remaining stitches.

Finishing:

Block the pieces to desired measurements.

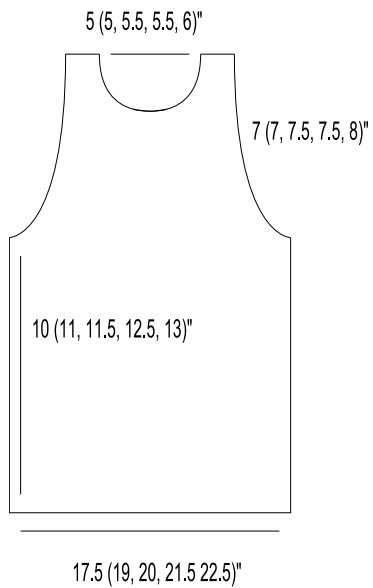
To work the collar, first sew the right and left shoulder seams to the back.

Starting from the Right Front edge, pick up 134 (138, 138, 142, 142) stitches from the Right front edge to the middle of the back. Work in a 2x2 rib for a 1 and 1/2 inches or desired length. Do the same for the 2nd half of the collar by picking up the same amount of stitches from the Left front edge to the middle of the back. Seam the two edges on the middle back together. Finish seaming the remaining pieces of the garment. Weave in ends and Enjoy!

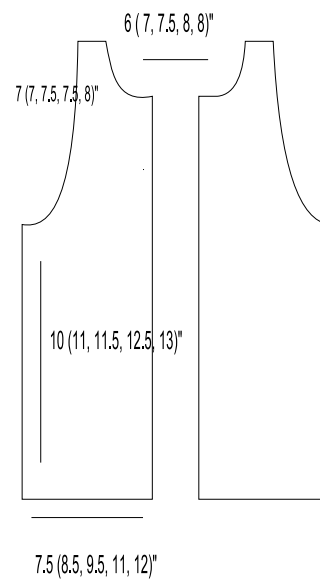
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Schematics after blocking:

Back:



Fronts:



Sleeves:

