



**flax**

*a simple modern pullover* ♥ *by Tin Can Knits*



# flax sweater

a simple modern pullover from Tin Can Knits

*Learn to knit with Alexa and Emily! The Flax sweater is part of **The Simple Collection**, a learn to knit series with excellent free patterns and clear tutorials.*



## **Knit it in the free Tin Can Knits App!**

- See ONLY your size
- Help linked on each instruction
- Make notes and tick through

## **sizing:**

0-6 mo (6-12 mo, 1-2 yrs, 2-4 yrs, 4-6 yrs, 6-8 yrs, 8-10 yrs, **Adult XS, S, SM, M, ML, L, XL, XXL, 3XL, 4XL, 5XL, 6XL**). Sizes listed in this order unless otherwise noted.

See sizing table for garment measurements.

## **yarn:**

Worsted/aran weight yarn - see sizing table for yardages.

Samples shown in **De Rerum Natura Gilliatt** in Cypress and **SweetGeorgia Superwash Worsted** Deep Olive, Hush, and Tumbled Stone.

## **gauge:**

18 sts & 24 rounds / 4" in stockinette on larger needles.

## **suggested needles:**

US #6 / 4mm & US #8 / 5mm  
(or as required to meet gauge)

0 to 2 yrs: 16" circular, and DPNs\* in each size.

4 to 10 yrs: 16", 24" circulars, and DPNs\* in each size.

XS to XL: 16", 32" circulars, and DPNs\* in each size.

XXL to 6XL: 16", 32", 48" circulars, and DPNs\* in larger size, 16", 48" circulars, and DPNs\* in smaller size.

*\*Magic loop technique, with a single long circular needle, can be used in place of DPNs.*

## **notions:**

Darning needle, stitch markers.

## sizing notes:

Two body length options are given; c1 is the cropped length option, c2 is the regular length option.

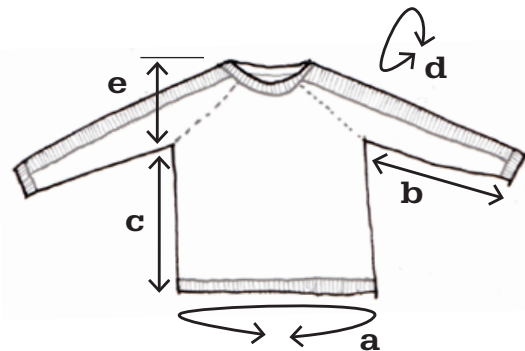
Francine is wearing size ML (40") cropped with 1" of positive ease. Jordan is wearing size L (42") with 2" of positive ease, Emily is wearing size S (34") with 2" of negative ease, and Jones is wearing size 1-2 yrs (22") with 3" of positive ease.

## sizing table:

The sizing table lists finished garment measurements. Choose a size based upon your chest measurement plus desired ease.

*Lengths are given in inches and yards.*

*One inch = 2.54 cm, one yard = 0.91 m.*



**a** - chest circumference

**b1** - short sleeve length underarm to cuff

**b2** - 3/4 sleeve length underarm to cuff

**b3** - long sleeve length underarm to cuff

**c1** - cropped body length underarm to hem

**c2** - regular body length underarm to hem

**d** - top sleeve circumference

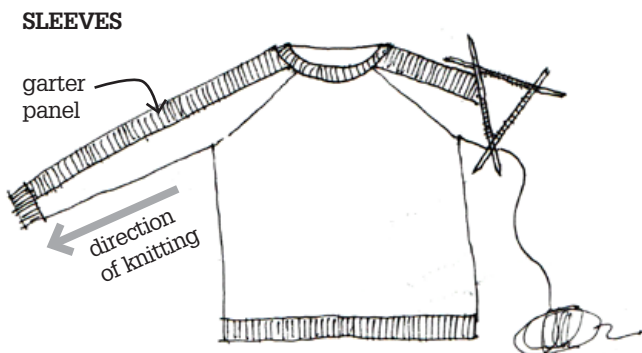
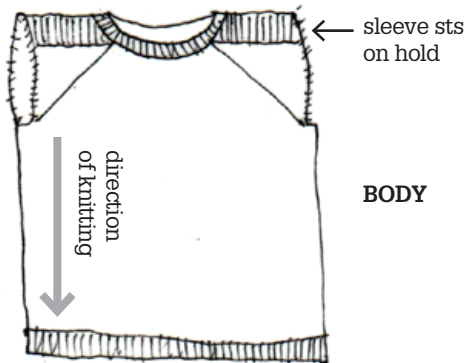
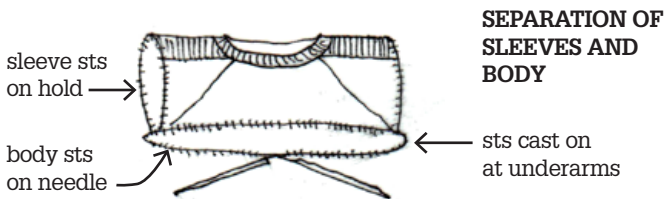
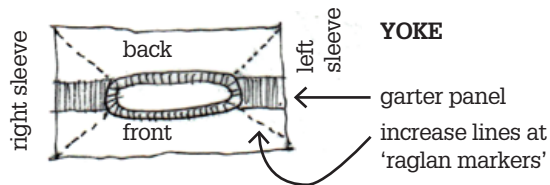
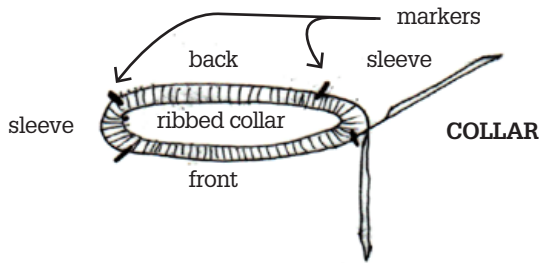
**e** - yoke depth at front

yardage*											
Size	a	b1	b2	b3	c1	c2	d	e	c1	c2	
Child sizes	0-6 mo	18"	2"	4"	6.5"	4"	6"	6.5"	4"	200	240
	6-12 mo	20.5"	2"	5"	7.5"	4"	6.5"	7.25"	4.5"	240	280
	1-2 yrs	22"	2"	6"	8.5"	5"	7"	7.5"	5"	300	340
	2-4 yrs	24"	3"	7"	10.5"	6"	8"	8.25"	5.5"	400	420
	4-6 yrs	26"	3"	9"	12"	7"	10"	8.75"	6"	480	540
	6-8 yrs	28.5"	3"	10"	13"	8"	13"	9.5"	6.5"	560	660
	8-10 yrs	30"	3"	11"	15"	9"	15"	10.5"	7"	660	800
	XS	32"	3"	12"	18"	10"	15"	11.5"	7.5"	800	920
Adult sizes	S	34"	3"	12"	19"	11"	15"	12"	8"	880	980
	SM	36.5"	3"	12"	19"	11"	16"	12.5"	8.25"	940	1080
	M	38"	3"	12"	20"	11"	16"	13"	8.5"	1000	1160
	ML	40"	4"	13"	20"	12"	17"	14.25"	9"	1100	1260
	L	42"	4"	13"	21"	13"	18"	15"	9.25"	1200	1380
	XL	46"	4"	13"	21"	13"	18.5"	16"	9.5"	1320	1520
	XXL	50"	4"	13"	21"	14"	19"	17.5"	10"	1500	1700
	3XL	55.5"	5"	14"	21"	14"	20"	19"	10.5"	1620	1880
	4XL	60.5"	5"	14"	21"	14"	20"	20"	11"	1800	2080
	5XL	65"	5"	14"	21"	14"	20"	21"	11.5"	1900	2200
6XL	70"	5"	14"	21"	14"	20"	22.25"	12"	2000	2340	

\* Yardages given are for long sleeves.

If working 3/4 length sleeves subtract 30 (30, 30, 50, 50, 50, 60, 80, 100, 110, 110, 110, 150, 150, 150, 150, 150, 150, 150) yards.

If working short sleeves subtract 40 (50, 60, 80, 100, 120, 150, 190, 210, 220, 230, 230, 250, 270, 280, 280, 300, 300, 300) yards.



## construction:

This sweater is worked seamlessly in the round from the top down. You cast on at the neckline and the yoke is shaped by raglan increases to the underarm. Sleeve sts are placed on hold on waste yarn, the body is completed, then sleeves are worked last.

For help with this project, check out our [in-depth Flax sweater tutorial](#).

## neckline:

Using smaller needles cast on 56 (62, 68, 68, 70, 72, 78, **80, 82, 88, 90, 90, 90, 92, 96, 96, 96, 96, 96**) sts, place BOR marker and join for working in the round.

Select one of the following two ribbing methods for the neckline:

## ribbing first method:

The simpler, but less structured, method is to knit neckline ribbing immediately.

After casting on, work in 1x1 (*k1, p1*) rib for 0.75 (0.75, 0.75, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, **1.25, 1.25, 1.25, 1.25, 1.25, 1.25, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5**). Switch to larger needles and proceed to neckline increase round.

## ribbing last method:

An alternative method is to pick up and knit a ribbed neckline after completing the remainder of the sweater.

This creates more structure from which the sweater can hang. This is most useful for larger sizes and heavier yarn weights. Working the ribbing last also makes it easier to adjust the neckline stitch count, gauge, and bind-off tension for a perfect fit.

After casting on, switch to larger needles, knit a single round, then proceed to neckline increase round.

## neckline increase round:

Knit increasing 12 (14, 12, 20, 22, 24, 26, **24, 26, 28, 30, 34, 34, 36, 36, 44, 52, 64, 76**) sts evenly spaced.

[68 (76, 80, 88, 92, 96, 104, **104, 108, 116, 120, 124, 124, 128, 132, 140, 148, 160, 172**) sts]

## yoke:

**Marker set-up:** [k2, p8 (8, 8, 10, 10, 10, 12, **12, 12, 12, 14, 14, 16, 16, 16, 16, 16, 16**), k2, PM, k22 (26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, **36, 38, 42, 44, 44, 44, 44, 46, 50, 54, 60, 66**), PM] twice

The 4 raglan markers separate the right sleeve, front, left sleeve, and back sections.

The central 8 (8, 8, 10, 10, 10, 12, **12, 12, 12, 12, 14, 14, 16, 16, 16, 16, 16, 16**) sts purled in the sleeve sections are the garter panels - they are worked in garter st from this point to the cuff. To work garter st in the round, knit 1 round then purl the next.

*Note: You may place markers (of a different colour or type from the raglan markers) either side of the garter panels to help keep you on track.*

**Round 1:** [kfb, knit to 2 sts before raglan marker, kfb, k1, SM] 4 times [8 sts inc - 2 sts per section]

**Round 2:** [knit to garter panel, purl garter panel, knit to marker, SM, knit to marker, SM] twice

Work rounds 1-2 a total of 7 (8, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, **14, 15, 15, 16, 18, 20, 16, 19, 21, 20, 22, 22**) times. This is 14 (16, 16, 18, 20, 24, 26, **28, 30, 30, 32, 36, 40, 32, 38, 42, 40, 44, 44**) rounds.

[124 (140, 144, 160, 172, 192, 208, **216, 228, 236, 248, 268, 284, 256, 284, 308, 308, 336, 348**) total sts,

26 (28, 28, 32, 34, 38, 42, **44, 46, 46, 48, 54, 58, 52, 58, 62, 60, 64, 64**) sts at each sleeve,

36 (42, 44, 48, 52, 58, 62, **64, 68, 72, 76, 80, 84, 76, 84, 92, 94, 104, 110**) sts at each front and back]

**Sizes 0-6 mo to L:** proceed to check yoke depth.

**Sizes XL (XXL, 3XL, 4XL, 5XL, 6XL) only:**

**Round 3:** [kfb, knit to 2 sts before raglan marker, kfb, k1, SM] 4 times [8 sts inc - 2 sts per section]

**Round 4:** [kfb, knit to garter panel, purl garter panel, knit to 2 sts before raglan marker, kfb, k1, SM, kfb, knit to 2 sts before raglan marker, kfb, k1, SM] twice [8 sts inc - 2 sts per section]

Work rounds 3-4 a total of **2 (2, 3, 4, 4, 5)** times, this is **4 (4, 6, 8, 8, 10)** rounds.

[**288 (316, 356, 372, 400, 428)** total sts,

**60 (66, 74, 76, 80, 84)** sts at each sleeve,

**84 (92, 104, 110, 120, 130)** sts at each front and back]

**Round 5:** [knit to raglan marker, SM, kfb, knit to 2 sts before raglan marker, kfb, k1, SM] twice [4 sts inc - 2 sts at each front and back]

**Round 6:** [knit to garter panel, purl garter panel, knit to raglan marker, SM, kfb, knit to 2 sts before raglan marker, kfb, k1, SM] twice [4 sts inc - 2 sts at each front and back]

Work rounds 5-6 a total of **2 (2, 2, 3, 3, 3)** times, this is **4 (4, 4, 6, 6, 6)** rounds.

[**304 (332, 372, 396, 424, 452)** total sts,

**60 (66, 74, 76, 80, 84)** sts at each sleeve,

**92 (100, 112, 122, 132, 142)** sts at each front and back]

## check yoke depth:

Work in pattern (no further increases, continuing garter panels) until yoke measures at least 3.25 (3.75, 4.25, 4.5, 5, 5.5, 6, **6.5, 7, 7, 7.25, 7.75, 8, 8.25, 8.75, 9, 9.5, 10, 10.5**)" deep, measured from the bottom of the ribbing, or from the cast-on where ribbing has not yet been worked, at the front of the sweater.

## short row shaping (optional):

Optional short rows are worked symmetrically around the centre back. They lift the back neckline relative to the front for a slightly better fit, but are not required. While short-row instructions are given for all sizes, we prefer to skip them for kids under 6, so the garment can be worn either way.

We use **German short rows** here, however you can substitute your preferred short-row method.

**Double the stitch on WS:** With yarn on the WS, slip 1 stitch purlwise. Pass the yarn over the needle to the RS, then back between the needle tips back to the WS. This 'doubled' stitch now appears as 2 loops over the needle, and you are ready to purl.

**Double the stitch on RS:** Bring the yarn between the needle tips to the RS, then slip 1 stitch purlwise. Pass the yarn over the needle to the WS. This 'doubled' stitch now appears as 2 loops over the needle, and you are ready to knit.

The BOR marker is currently located at the back right shoulder, just before the right sleeve. On the following round you will place the CB marker around which the short rows are worked.

**Marker set-up:** [knit to marker, SM] 3 times, k18 (21, 22, 24, 26, 29, 31, **32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 46, 50, 56, 61, 66, 71**), place CB marker, stop

While working the short row section, slip all raglan markers as you come to them.

**Short row 1 (RS):** k25 (29, 30, 33, 36, 41, 44, **46, 49, 51, 54, 58, 62, 66, 73, 83, 89, 96, 103**), turn work

**Short row 2 (WS):** double the stitch, purl to CB, SM, p25 (29, 30, 33, 36, 41, 44, **46, 49, 51, 54, 58, 62, 66, 73, 83, 89, 96, 103**), turn work

**Short row 3 (RS):** double the stitch, knit to CB, SM, knit to 5 sts before doubled st, turn work

**Short row 4 (WS):** double the stitch, purl to 5 sts before doubled st, turn work

Work short rows 3-4 a total of 1 (1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4, **5, 5, 5, 5, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6**), this is 2 (2, 4, 4, 6, 6, 8, **10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12**) rows.

**Next round:** double the stitch, knit to CB, SM, then work one complete round, working each of the doubled sts together to form a single stitch using k2tog, and keeping garter panels in pattern.

**Shift BOR:** Remove the CB marker, knit to the first raglan marker, stop. Proceed to separate body and sleeves.

## separate body and sleeves:

On the separation round that follows body and sleeves will be separated. Sleeve sts are placed on hold on waste yarn. Keep BOR marker in place, all other markers can be removed.

**Separation round:** place the 26 (28, 28, 32, 34, 38, **42, 44, 46, 46, 48, 54, 58, 60, 66, 74, 76, 80, 84**) sts to the next marker on hold on waste yarn (*right sleeve*),

cast on 4 (4, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, **8, 8, 10, 10, 10, 10, 12, 12, 12, 14, 14, 16**) sts using backwards loop method (*right underarm*),

knit 36 (42, 44, 48, 52, 58, 62, **64, 68, 72, 76, 80, 84, 92, 100, 112, 122, 132, 142**) sts to the next marker (*front*),

place sts on hold for left sleeve as at right,

cast on sts for left underarm as at right,

knit to end (*back, same number of sts as at front*)

[80 (92, 100, 108, 116, 128, 136, **144, 152, 164, 172, 180, 188, 208, 224, 248, 272, 292, 316**) body sts on the needles, sleeve sts are now on hold]

## body:

Work in stockinette until body measures:

**Regular length:** 5 (5.5, 6, 6.5, 8.5, 11.5, 13.5, **13, 13, 14, 14, 15, 16, 16.5, 17, 18, 18, 18, 18**)" from underarm, or 1 (1, 1, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, **2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2**)" short of desired length.

**Cropped length:** 3 (3, 4, 4.5, 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, **8, 9, 9, 9, 10, 11, 11, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12**)" from underarm or 1 (1, 1, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, **2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2**)" short of desired length.

**Regular and cropped lengths:** Change to smaller needles and work in 1x1 ribbing for 1 (1, 1, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, **2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2**)". Bind off all sts loosely.



## sleeves:

Place 26 (28, 28, 32, 34, 38, 42, **44, 46, 46, 48, 54, 58, 60, 66, 74, 76, 80, 84**) held sts back onto larger needles.

**Set-up round:** beginning at the centre of the underarm sts, pick up and knit 2 (2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, **4, 4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 6, 6, 6, 7, 7, 8**) sts,

knit around the previously held sts,

pick up and knit a further 2 (2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, **4, 4, 5, 5, 5, 6, 6, 6, 7, 7, 8**) sts at underarm, then place BOR marker and join for working in the round

[30 (32, 34, 38, 40, 44, 48, **52, 54, 56, 58, 64, 68, 72, 78, 86, 90, 94, 100**) sts]

Throughout the sleeve, until the cuff, continue the garter panel as established.

## short sleeves:

Work 1 (1, 1, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, **1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3**)" in pattern.

Change to smaller needles and work in 1x1 ribbing for 1 (1, 1, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, **2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2**)". Bind off all sts loosely.

## ¾ sleeves:

Work 1 (1.5, 2.5, 3, 5, 5, 4.5, **6, 5, 5, 4, 4, 5, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3**)" in pattern.

**Decrease round:** k1, ssk, work in pattern to 3 sts before BOR marker, k2tog, k1 [2 sts dec]

Work 5 (6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, **5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 3, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4**) rounds even.

Work these 6 (7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, **6, 6, 6, 6, 4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5**) rounds a total of 2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 4, **4, 5, 5, 6, 7, 9, 9, 9, 10, 10, 10, 10**) times.

[26 (28, 30, 34, 36, 38, 40, **44, 44, 46, 46, 50, 50, 54, 60, 66, 70, 74, 80**) sts]

Work even until sleeve measures 3 (4, 5, 5.5, 7.5, 8.5, 9.5, **10, 10, 10, 10, 11, 11, 11, 11, 12, 12, 12, 12**)" from underarm or 1 (1, 1, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, **2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2**)" short of desired length.

**XXL (3XL, 4XL, 5XL, 6XL):** k0 (0, 0, 2, 0), [k28 (9, 5, 4, 3), k2tog] to end [58 (60, 60, 62, 64) sts]

**All sizes:** Change to smaller needles and work in 1x1 ribbing for 1 (1, 1, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, **2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2**)". Bind off all sts loosely.

## long sleeves:

Work 2 (4, 5, 5.5, 7, 6.5, 6, **7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 6, 6, 5, 5, 3.5, 4, 5**)" in pattern.

**Decrease round:** k1, ssk, work in pattern to 3 sts before BOR marker, k2tog, k1 [2 sts dec]

Work 6 (6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, **6, 6, 6, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 4, 3**) rounds even.

Work these 7 (7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, **7, 7, 7, 7, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 5, 4**) rounds a total of 3 (2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 6, **7, 8, 8, 9, 11, 13, 13, 14, 13, 15, 17, 20**) times.

[24 (28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 36, **38, 38, 40, 40, 42, 42, 46, 50, 60, 60, 60, 60**) sts]

Work even until sleeve measures 5.5 (6.5, 7.5, 9, 10.5, 11.5, 13.5, **16, 17, 17, 18, 18, 19, 19, 19, 19, 19, 19**)" from underarm or 1 (1, 1, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, **2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2**)" short of desired length.

**3XL (4XL, 5XL, 6XL):** [k8, k2tog] around [54 sts]

Change to smaller needles and work in 1x1 ribbing for 1 (1, 1, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, **2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2**)". Bind off all sts loosely.

## finishing:

**Weave in all ends**, using yarn tails to sew up the small holes at underarms, then **block your sweater**.

Share your project with the hashtags **#FlaxSweater** and **#TinCanKnits** - we love to see your knits!

## abbreviations:

**BOR** - beginning of round (marker)

**CB** - centre back (marker)

**dec** - decrease(d)

**DPNs** - double pointed needles

**inc** - increase(d)

**k** - knit

**k2tog** - knit two stitches together

**kfb** - knit into the front and the back of the stitch

**p** - purl

**PM** - place marker

**RS** - right side of the work

**SM** - slip marker

**ssk** - slip 1 st knitwise, slip 1 more st knitwise, knit the two slipped sts together through back loops

**st(s)** - stitch(es)

**WS** - wrong side of the work









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