

Some notes from Betty concerning sweater class (beginning Aug. 16):

*****Please purchase your materials for this class ahead of time.*****

There are 2 reasons for doing so. (1) You need to knit a gauge swatch before starting the sweater. See directions below. (2) Having your materials chosen early will enable us to use all of our first class time getting started on the sweater.

Materials Needed to begin: Please see pattern and my notes below.

Yarn:

This pattern is written for light worsted or dk weight yarn. Worsted will work fine if you adjust needle size to get the correct gauge. Ask for help with this at the shop if you need to do so. Light to medium colors are much easier to work with especially if you are fairly new to knitting or have any problems seeing your stitches. Please check the pattern to determine how much yarn you need to buy. That will depend upon which size you plan to make.

Needles:

You will need 2 sizes of needles and may or may not need the double points suggested in the pattern. The pattern suggests sizes 4 and 6 with a 24 in. cord. My suggestions based on working with this pattern are these: (1) I highly recommend interchangeable needles. You can then use the same cord when you switch from the larger to the smaller size needle. (2) I recommend getting a cord longer than 24 in. This will enable you to spread out your work so you can see it better rather than it being so crowded on the 24 in. cord. (3) If you have chosen a worsted weight yarn, buy a size 7 needle. If you have chosen a light worsted or dk yarn then the size 6 as listed in the pattern will most likely work. (4) When you buy your materials, just purchase the larger size needle to begin with (#6 or #7). You will not need the smaller size until later in the project. By that time we will know whether you need to go up a size in the smaller one as well.

Stitch Markers: Very important in this project. You probably already have these.

PLEASE DO THE FOLLOWING AHEAD AND BRING TO OUR FIRST CLASS:

Knit a gauge swatch:

This is very important so that you will get the fit intended by the pattern for your size.

Using the 6 or 7 needle and the yarn you plan to use for your sweater. Cast on 20 stitches and knit a stockinette stitch swatch for 3 or 4 inches. (Knit one row, purl the next, etc) You want to get 5 stitches per inch. If you are getting more than 5 stitches per inch, you might need to go up a needle size. If you are getting less than 5 stitches per inch, you may need to go down a needle size. Just bring this swatch with you to our first class, and we will be ready to get right onto this new project. Knowing that your gauge is correct will ensure a better fit.