

Basic Teddy Bear Sweater

Draft your own pattern to fit any size bear

By Janet Johnson Stephens

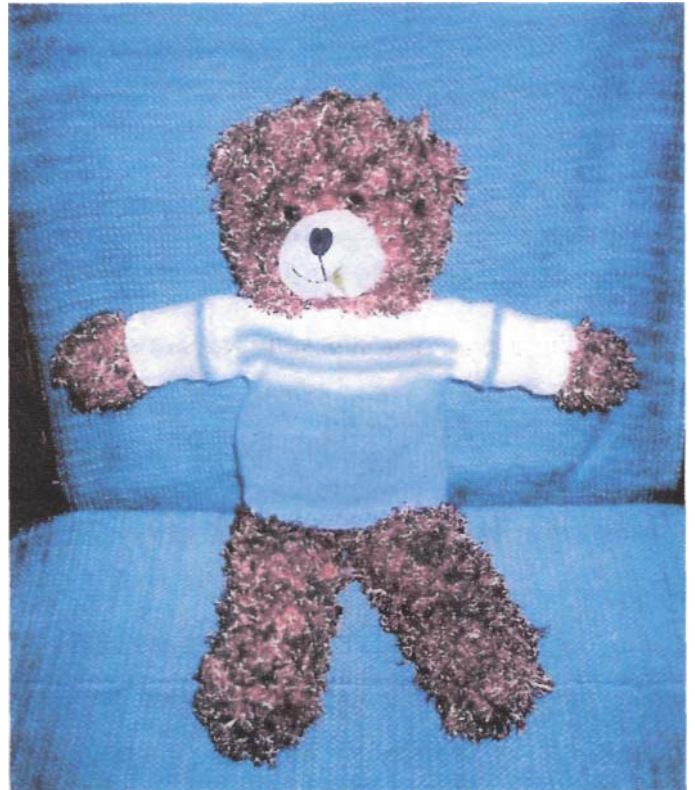
Supplies Needed:

- Plush bear, any size
- 2-4 oz. sport or worsted weight yarn main color, few yards contrasting color for stripes
- Appropriate size needles: #5-6 for sport weight or #7-8 for worsted weight yarn
- Tape measure
- Yarn sewing needle
- Notebook, pencils and eraser (not pen)
- Calculator

Make a Knitted Swatch:

Make it 4" wide and 4" long in stockinette stitch (knit a row, purl a row). Write down number of stitches and rows per inch to determine the number of stitches to use for width. Length is measured with a tape measure.

Example: If you need a piece 8" wide and your gauge is 5 stitches per inch, multiply 8 by 5 and that tells you to use 40 stitches.



This is not a pattern. You will fill in the blanks to size it for your bear after you work your gauge swatch. You may make extra copies to use for each bear or yarn you use.

Needed Bear Measurements:

Width around widest part of tummy _____"

Front and Back: Divide width in half for each piece _____" Add 1" seam allowance _____" Total.

Chest: Width from shoulder to shoulder, each piece _____" Add 1/2" seam allowance _____" Total.

Neck: Width across each piece _____" Add 1" seam allowance _____" Total.

Sleeve: Width around top of arm _____". Add 1" seam allowance _____" Total.

Wrist: Width around _____". Add 1/2" seam allowance _____" Total.

Lengths: (measure number of inches with tape measure) - Bottom to armhole _____", armhole to shoulder _____" and sleeve armhole to wrist _____"

Directions:

Back and Front: Make 2 identical pieces.

With size _____ needles, cast on _____ stitches. (Half of total tummy measurement. Even number of stitches.)

Work 1/2" in k1, p1 ribbing.

Change to stockinette stitch. Work _____" to armhole.

Armhole: Bind off 1/2" worth of stitches at beginning of next 2 rows. _____ stitches.

Decrease one stitch at each end _____ times every knit row to _____ stitches. (Total chest measurement)

Work even to _____". (Length to shoulder.) Bind off.

If desired, work one or two stripes of garter stitch in contrasting color in that armhole section. (Knit each row).

Make them 2 rows wide with 2 rows of main color stockinette stitch.

Mark center _____" for total neck measurement and sew shoulder seams.

Sleeves:

Pick up _____ stitches around armhole. (Total sleeve width)

Work 1" even. Decrease one stitch each end every 1/2" until proper total width at cuff if needed.

When _____" worked for length, including 1/2" k1, p1 ribbing. Bind off in pattern.

Finishing:

Sew side and sleeve seams. Block. Use trims as desired.

Headband:

Cast on 1-1/2" worth of stitches, even number _____ stitches. Work in k1, p1 ribbing until long enough to fit around bear's head. Bind off. Sew short ends together. Trim as desired.

Bow for Neck or Headband:

Knit a piece in garter stitch about 2-3" wide and 1" long. Bind off. Gather it up in center tightly and attach.

