



Cardigans

Maja Karlsson

Wreath

WINTER

A wreath has neither a beginning nor an end – its shape is infinite. It can symbolize honour and recognition, but also the sun's trajectory in the sky and eternal life. Perhaps you are making your own wreath to hang on the door during Advent. I have a soft spot for the classic evergreen, which also is the base for the yoke pattern on this cardigan.

The Wreath winter cardigan is perfect for Christmas parties and glistening walks in the snow. The cuffs are knitted in twisted rib and decorated with Latvian braids, which makes them look extra special.

Yarn: Léttlopi from Ístex (100% Icelandic wool, 50 g = 100 m/109 yd)

Tension: 18 sts x 24 rows in stocking stitch in pattern using 5 mm (US 8) needles = 10 x 10 cm

Sizes: XS (S) M (L) XL (2XL) 3XL (4XL)

Bust: 85 (94) 98 (107) 120 (134) 143 (156) cm / 33½ (37) 38½ (42¼) 47¼ (52¾) 56¼ (61½) in

Length: 55 (55.5) 59 (60) 63 (64.5) 66.5 (68) cm / 21¼ (21¾) 23¼ (23½) 24¾ (25½) 26¼ (26¾) in

Sleeve length: 44 (45) 47 (49) 51 (52) 52 (52) cm / 17¼ (17¾) 18½ (19¼) 20 (20½) 20½ (20½) in

Amounts: Colour 1 = 350 (400) 450 (500) (500) 550 (600) (600) g Light Ash Heather (no. 10054)

Colour 2 = 150 (150) 150 (150) 150 (150) 200 (200) g Pine Green Heather (no. 11407)

Double-pointed needles: 4.5 mm (US 7) and 5 mm (US 8)

Circular needles: 4.5 mm (US 7) and 5 mm (US 8), 80 cm

Notions: 10 buttons (15 mm in diameter), stitch holder, decorative band (optional)

Difficulty level: 3 of 3

Construction: Body and sleeves are knitted bottom up in the round separately and are then placed on the same circular needle. Then the yoke is knitted with a colourwork band, decreases, back short rows and a neckband. To finish, the cardigan is cut open (see Knitting School, page 160) after the button bands are knitted on. Note that the hem and neckband are knitted back and forth.

Techniques: Since the steek stitches are cast on in conjunction with row 1 in the Latvian braid it's recommended they are cast on with every other stitch in colour 1 and every other stitch in colour 2.
k1tbl = twisted knit stitch. Knit the stitch through the back loop.

p1tbl = twisted purl stitch. Purl the stitch through the back loop.

M1L = increase 1 st slanting left, see Knitting School, page 163.

M1R = increase 1 st slanting right, see Knitting School, page 163.





Body

With 4.5 mm circular needle and colour 2: Cast on 145 (161) 173 (189) 213 (233) 249 (273) sts.

Work twisted rib back and forth:

Row 1 (WS): *p1tbl, k1*, repeat from *-* to last 1 st, 1 p1tbl.

Row 2 (RS): *k1tbl, p1*, repeat from *-* to last 1 st, 1 k1tbl.

Row 3 (WS): *p1tbl, k1*, repeat from *-* to last 1 st, 1 p1tbl.

Repeat rows 2 and 3 until the rib measures 5 cm.

N.B. Finish the rib with a WS row.

LATVIAN BRAID

Rnd 1 (RS): With 5 mm circular needle and colour 2, k1 *k1 with colour 1, k1 with colour 2*. Repeat from *-* to end of row. Then cast on 5 steek stitches using the double twisted loop technique (see video links in the Knitting School, page 164 and Techniques). Cont to knit in rnd. The steek stitches also work as a 'marker' for the beginning and end of a round. (N.B. The steek stitches don't count towards the cardigan's total stitch count, and any increases or decreases should not be made within these stitches.)

Rnd 2: p1 with colour 2, *p1 with colour 1, p1 with colour 2*. Repeat from *-* to end of rnd. N.B. Hold both threads in front of work when knitting. When changing colours the new yarn should be passed under the yarn you have just knitted with.

Rnd 3: p1 with colour 2, *p1 with colour 1, p1 with colour 2*. Repeat from *-* to end of rnd. N.B. Hold both threads in front of work when knitting. When changing colours the new yarn should be passed over the yarn you have just knitted with.

BODY, CONTINUED

With colour 1: Knit 1 rnd.

Knit and at the same time increase 8 (8) 4 (4) 4 (8) 8 (8) sts evenly spaced across the rnd = 153 (169) 177 (193) 217 (241) 257 (281) sts.

Continue in stocking stitch (= knit all rows when knitting in the round) until the body measures 25 (26) 27 (28) 29 (30) 31 (32) cm, or length of your choice. Set the work aside.

Sleeves

With 4.5 mm dpns and colour 2: Cast on 40 (40) 40 (40) 40 (44) 44 (44) sts.

Work twisted rib in the round (1 k1tbl, p1) for 5 cm.

LATVIAN BRAID

Rnd 1: With 5 mm dpns *k1 with colour 2, k1 with colour 1*. Repeat from *-* to end of rnd.

Rnd 2: *p1 with colour 2, p1 with colour 1*. Repeat from *-* to end of row. N.B. Hold both threads in front of work when knitting. When changing colours the new yarn should be passed under the yarn you have just knitted with.

Rnd 3: *p1 with colour 2, p1 with colour 1*. Repeat from *-* to end of rnd. N.B. Hold both threads in front of work when knitting. When changing colours the new yarn should be passed over the yarn you have just knitted with.

With colour 1: Knit 1 rnd. Place marker at beg of rnd.

Continue in stocking stitch and at the same time increase 8 (8) 8 (8) 4 (4) 4 (4) sts evenly spaced across the rnd = 48 (48) 48 (48) 48 (48) 48 (48) sts.

With colour 1: Knit 14 rnds.

Inc rnd: * k1, MIL (see Techniques), knit to last 1 stitch on the rnd, MIR (see Techniques), k1.

Knit 19 (13) 9 (7) 5 (3) 3 (3) rnds without increases.*

Repeat from *-* 2 (4) 6 (10) 14 (18) 21 (23) times in total = 52 (56)

60 (68) 76 (84) 90 (94) sts.

Knit until the sleeve measures 44 (45) 47 (49) 51 (52) 52 (52) cm, or length of your choice.

Next rnd: Knit to last 4 (5) 5 (6) 7 (7) 8 (8) sts on the row. Place the following 8 (10) 10 (12) 14 (14) 16 (16) sts on a stitch holder/scrap yarn (= underarm armhole stitches).

Cut the yarn and place the sleeve's remaining 44 (46) 50 (56) 62 (70) 74 (78) sts on a stitch holder.

Set the work aside and make a second sleeve the same way.

Join body and sleeves

Continue knitting in the round in stocking stitch.

With 5 mm circular needle and colour 1: Knit right front 34 (37) 39 (42) 47 (53) 56 (62) sts. Place the following 8 (10) 10 (12) 14 (14) 16 (16) sts on a stitch holder. Knit right sleeve 44 (46) 50 (56) 62 (70) 74 (78) sts. Knit the back 69 (75) 79 (85) 95 (107) 113 (125) sts. Place the following 8 (10) 10 (12) 14 (14) 16 (16) sts on a stitch holder. Knit left sleeve 44 (46) 50 (56) 62 (70) 74 (78) sts. Knit left front 34 (37) 39 (42) 47 (53) 56 (62) sts = 225 (241) 257 (281) 313 (353) 373 (405) sts on the needle.

Knit 1 rnd.

Next rnd, sizes XS, S, M, 2XL: Knit. Sizes L, XL, 3XL, 4XL: Decrease 8 (8) 4 (4) sts evenly spaced = 225 (241) 257 (273) 305 (353) 369 (401) sts.

Yoke

Knit 11 (12) 13 (14) 16 (17) 18 (19) rnds.

Dec rnd 1: k1, *k6, k2tog*. Repeat from *-* to end of rnd = 197 (211) 225 (239) 267 (309) 323 (351) sts. Knit 5 rows.

Decrease rnd 2, sizes XS, M and 2XL: k7, *k2tog, k12*. Repeat from *-* to last 8 sts on the rnd, k2tog, k6 = 183 (-) 209 (-) (287) (-) sts.

Dec rnd 2, sizes S, L, XL, 3XL and 4XL: k7, *k2tog, k12*. Repeat from *-* to last 8 sts on the rnd, k8 = - (197) - (223) 249 (-) 301 (327) sts.

Knit 1 rnd.

Work the colour pattern according to the chart, rnds 1-12, reading chart from right to left from every rnd. For each rnd repeat stitches 2-7 (1-6) 1-6 (6-11) 5-10 (4-9) 3-8 (2-7) a total of 14 (15) 16 (18) 20 (23) 24 (26) times. Then knit stitches 8-22 (7-23) 7-23 (12-18) 11-19 (10-20) 9-21 (8-22) a total of 1 time. Finally repeat stitches 23-28 (24-29) 24-29 (19-24) 21-26 (22-27) 22-27 (23-28) for the remainder of the rnd.

Knit 1 rnd and at the same time decrease 0 (1) 0 (1) 1 (0) 1 (1) sts = 183 (196) 209 (222) 248 (287) 300 (326) sts.

Dec rnd 3: k2, *k2tog, k11*. Repeat from *-* to last 12 sts on the rnd, k2tog, k10.

Knit 2 rnds.

Dec rnd 4: k3, *k2tog, k4*. Repeat from *-* to last 4 sts on the rnd, k2tog, k2.

Knit 5 rnds.

Dec rnd 5: k3, *k2tog, 3 rm*. Repeat from *-* to last 3 sts on the rnd, k2tog, k1.

Knit 2 rnds.

Dec rnd 6: k2, *k2tog, k2*. Repeat from *-* to last 3 sts on the rnd, k2tog, k1 = 85 (91) 97 (103) 115 (133) 139 (151) sts.

Back short rows

Read about short rows and wrap and turn on page 162. Now you will knit stocking stitch back and forth with knit and purl short rows: Knit 56 (60) 64 (68) 76 (88) 92 (100), wrap and turn. Purl 28 (30) 32 (34) 38 (44) 46 (50), wrap and turn. *Knit to last 4 sts before the last turn, wrap and turn. Purl to last 4 sts before the last turn, wrap and turn*.

Repeat from *-* 2 (2) 3 (3) 4 (4) 5 (5) times in total, then knit to end of rnd at the same time picking up the wrapped stitches according to the description in the Knitting School. Work 1 row where the rest of the wrapped stitches are picked up and knitted.

Neckband

Knit 1 rnd and at the same time, decrease 4 (2) 4 (2) 2 (12) 14 (22) sts evenly spaced across the row = 81 (89) 93 (101) 113 (121) 125 (129) sts.

LATVIAN BRAID

Row 1: With circular needle 5 mm and colour 2, k1 *k1 with colour 1, k1 with colour 2*. Repeat from *-* to end of row.

Row 2: p1 with colour 2, *p1 with colour 1, p1 with colour 2*. Repeat from *-* to end of row. N.B. Hold both threads in front of work when knitting. When changing colours the new yarn should be passed under the yarn you have just knitted with.

Row 3: p1 with colour 2, *p1 with colour 1, p1 with colour 2*. Repeat from *-* to end of row. N.B. Hold both threads in front of work when knitting. When changing colours the new yarn should be passed over the yarn you have just knitted with.

NECKBAND, CONTINUED

Change to 4.5 mm circular needle and cast off the 5 steek stitches at the middle of the front. Then work in twisted rib back and forth:

Row 1 (RS): Knit.

Row 2 (WS): *p1tbl, k1*, repeat from *-* to last 1 st, p1tbl.

Row 3 (RS): *k1tbl, p1*, repeat from *-* to last 1 st, k1tbl.

Row 4 (WS): *p1tbl, k1*, repeat from *-* to last 1 st, p1tbl.

Repeat rows 3 and 4 until the rib measures 4 cm. Finish with a wrong-side row.

Dec row: *k1tbl, p1, k2tog tbl*. Repeat from *-* 19 (21) 22 (24) 27 (29) 30 (31) times and finish in rib to end of row.

Knit sleeve and body stitches together

With 3.5 mm dpns: Knit the stitches together from the sleeves and the body underneath the armholes using the 3-needle cast off method (see Knitting School, page 164). Weave in loose ends.

Button bands

LEFT BUTTON BAND

With 4.5 mm circular needle and colour 2 (RS): Pick up stitches along the left front edge starting from the top. To make the edge flexible, pick up 2 of 3 sts (= *knit 2 st, skip the 3rd st*, repeat from *-*). Make sure to have an odd number of stitches. Now work in twisted rib:

Row 1 (WS): *p1tbl, k1*, repeat from *-* to last 1 st, p1tbl.

Row 2 (RS): *k1tbl, p1*, repeat from *-* to last 1 st, k1tbl.

Row 3 (WS): *p1tbl, k1*, repeat from *-* to last 1 st, p1tbl.

Repeat rows 2 and 3, 4 times in total (= 9 rows in total). Cast off in rib.



RIGHT BUTTON BAND

With 4.5 mm circular needle and colour 2 (RS): Pick up stitches along the right front edge starting from the bottom. Make sure to pick up the same number of stitches as on left button band. Distribute 10 buttonholes evenly over the edge and place markers on needle. (Each buttonhole goes over 2 sts.)

Work in twisted rib according to the instructions for the left button band up to and including row 3.

Row 4 (buttonhole row 1, RS): Work in rib to the first buttonhole. Then work as follows: *Cast off 2 sts, continue in rib pattern to the next buttonhole*. Repeat from *-* until you have made a start on all buttonholes, then work in rib to end of row.

Row 5 (buttonhole row 2, WS): Work in rib as set to the first buttonhole and finish as follows:

Cast on 2 sts using the double twisted loop technique, continue in established rib to next buttonhole. Repeat from *-* until all buttonholes have been finished and then work in rib to end of row.

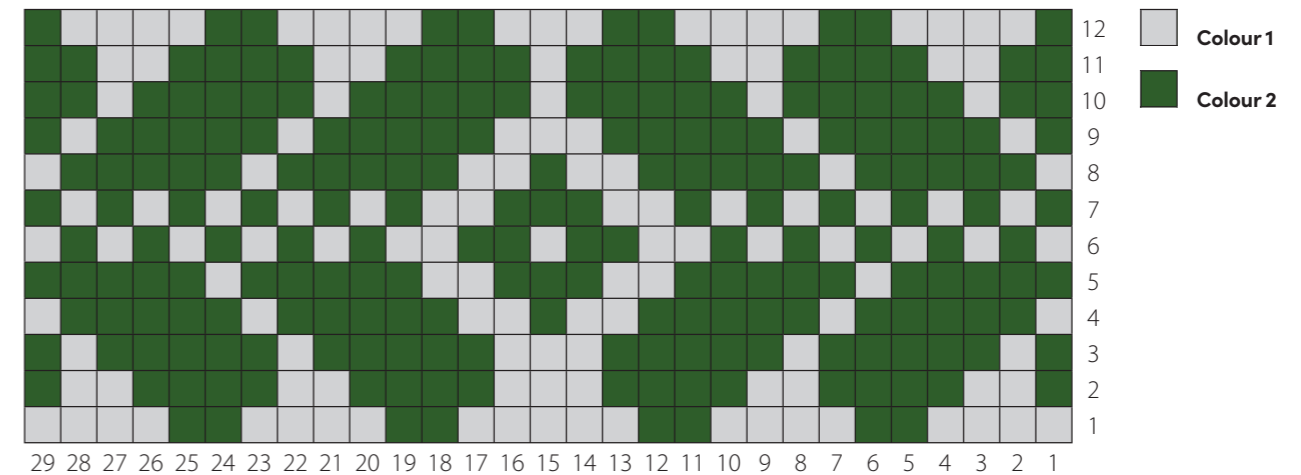
Work 4 rows twisted rib and then cast off in rib.

Cutting the steek

See page 160. Sew a reinforcing seam with sewing thread (by hand using backstitch), on each side of the middle steek stitch. Carefully cut the cardigan open in the middle of the middle steek stitch. (The cut edges will roll in towards the wrong side.)

Finishing

Weave in loose ends. Block the cardigan carefully according to the instructions in the Knitting School, page 161. Sew in buttons in height with the buttonholes. Either cover the cut edges on the inside with a decorative band, or fold them in and sew with discreet stitches to the wrong side (see pages 160–161).

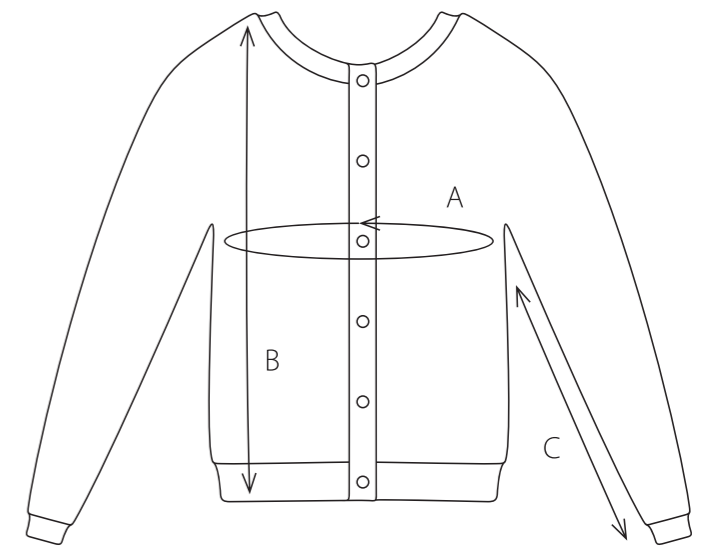




A few things to keep in mind

- The cardigans in the book are sized according to women's clothes sizes.
- The patterns are divided into three different difficulty levels: 1 = Easy, 2 = Medium, 3 = Advanced.
- To decide which size to knit you need to measure your bust. Then add the ease you would like and compare the measurement with the cardigan's finished measurement. Then choose the size that is closest to your total measurement. Read more about sizes on page 160 in the Knitting School.
- Remember that you can always lengthen/shorten the body and sleeves. If you choose to lengthen, however, you will need more yarn than specified in the description.
- Read the whole pattern first before you start knitting to get an idea of the construction and method.
- For information on abbreviations, see page 163.
- All measurements are approximate.
- The yarn usage specified in the pattern means the number of whole balls/skeins needed, and not the actual usage, which can sometimes be less.
- I recommend knitting a test swatch before you start on the actual cardigan to check that your tension is correct. Make the test swatch approximately 12×12 cm/ 5×5 in. Count the number of stitches and rows you get over 10×10 cm/ 4×4 in. If your tension is out, change knitting needle size. If you have too few stitches per row for your tension, change to smaller needles. If you have too many stitches per row for your tension: change to larger needles.
- If you can't find the yarn that is listed, you can substitute it with a yarn of the same material and equivalent tension or meterage/yardage.

How to measure the cardigans in the book



A = Bust
B = Length
C = Sleeve length