

# Sigga sweater

by Rosee Woodland



## Pattern guidance

This is a classic Icelandic-style sweater, traditionally known as a lopapeysa or lopi. Lopis are always worked in the round, so you will need circular needles, plus double-pointed needles for the sleeves. If you are comfortable using the Magic Loop technique you won't need the DPNs.

The colourwork sections are worked using the stranded technique. When working a colourwork round, strand the colour you're not using loosely across the wrong side of the work. However, unlike Fair Isle designs, which only use two colours in a round, lopis often use three colours per round, as is the case in this garment.

Because of this you'll need to take extra care when stranding the colour across the back of the work. Hold the colours in the same way throughout. I favour the two-handed technique for stranded colourwork, as this allows me to keep track of how I'm holding the colours more easily. If you use a one-handed technique for colourwork you may find this a little more challenging.

Some knitters find they get more even tension if they occasionally catch sections of long float at the back of the work, by twisting them together as they work. This is a matter of personal preference, so I'd recommend treating your first sleeve as a swatch worked in the round. If you're happy with the result you get after you've worked the small colourwork section above the cuff, carry on. If not, it was only ever a swatch! This is how Elizabeth Zimmermann approached swatching and it seems eminently sensible to me...

When working the sleeve colourwork I highly recommend turning your work inside out. This will give the colours not in use a little further to travel across the back of the work, and assist you in keeping an even tension.

## Sizing

XS (S, M, L, 1X, 2X, 3X)

Designed to fit with 6 to 8cm (2½-3¼in) positive ease depending on where you are in the size range. See schematic on last page for exact measurements.

## Yarn requirements

600 (650, 750, 850, 975, 1050, 1150) m of worsted weight yarn (MC).

657 (711, 820, 930, 1066, 1148, 1258) yds of worsted weight yarn (MC).

180m/ 197 yds or less of four contrast colours.

Please note that, while every care has been taken to ensure yarn quantities are accurate, minute differences in tension may result in different yarn requirements when worked over a garment.

## Sample yarn information

Sample shown in Debbie Bliss Falkland Aran

(Aran; 100% wool; 180m/ 197 yds per 100g/ 3.5oz skein)

4 (4, 5, 5, 6, 6, 7) skeins in Apple (MC)

1 skein each in Camel (A), Teal (B), Mustard (C) and Duck Egg (D)

## Needles & accessories

1 set 4.5mm (UK 7/ US 7), circular needles, 80cm long

1 set 4.5mm (UK 7/ US 7) DPNs or your preferred needles for working small circumferences in the round.

1 set 5mm (UK 6/ US 8) circular needles, 80cm long

1 set 5mm (UK 6/ US 8) DPNs or your preferred needles for working small circumferences in the round.

Tapestry needle, 4 stitch markers (one to be contrast).

## Tension

18 sts x 26 rnds to 10cm over st st using 5mm needles

18 sts x 22 rnds to 10cm over colourwork st st using 5mm needles

You should only need one needle size to get tension in both patterns as stranded colourwork tends to have a 'squarer' tension than normal stocking stitch.

## Abbreviations

**pm** place marker

**s2kpo** slip 2 stitches together as if to knit 2 together, knit one stitch, pass two slipped stitches over knitted st. 2 sts dec'd

**M1** Make 1 (left leaning). Bring the tip of the left-hand needle under the strand between stitches, from front to back. Knit through the back of this loop.

## Special instructions

When working decreases work as follows,

Beg and end of rnd: K1, ssk, work to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. 2 sts dec'd

Beg of rnd only: K1, ssk, work to end. 1 st dec'd

End of rnd only: Work to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. 1 st dec'd

When working increases work as follows,

Beg and end of rnd: K1, M1, patt to last st, M1, k1. 2 sts inc'd

Beg of rnd only: K1, M1, patt to end. 1 st inc'd

End of rnd only: Patt to last st, M1, k1. 1 st inc'd

When working short Rows work as follows:

Wrap and turn (w&t) on knit rows; Take yarn between needles to front of work, slip the next st purlwise from the LH to RH needle, take yarn between needles to back of work, slip the st back to the LH needle, turn your work.

Wrap and turn (w&t) on purl rows: Take yarn between needles to back of work, slip the next st purlwise from LH to RH needle, take yarn between needles to front of work, slip the st back to LH ndl, turn your work.

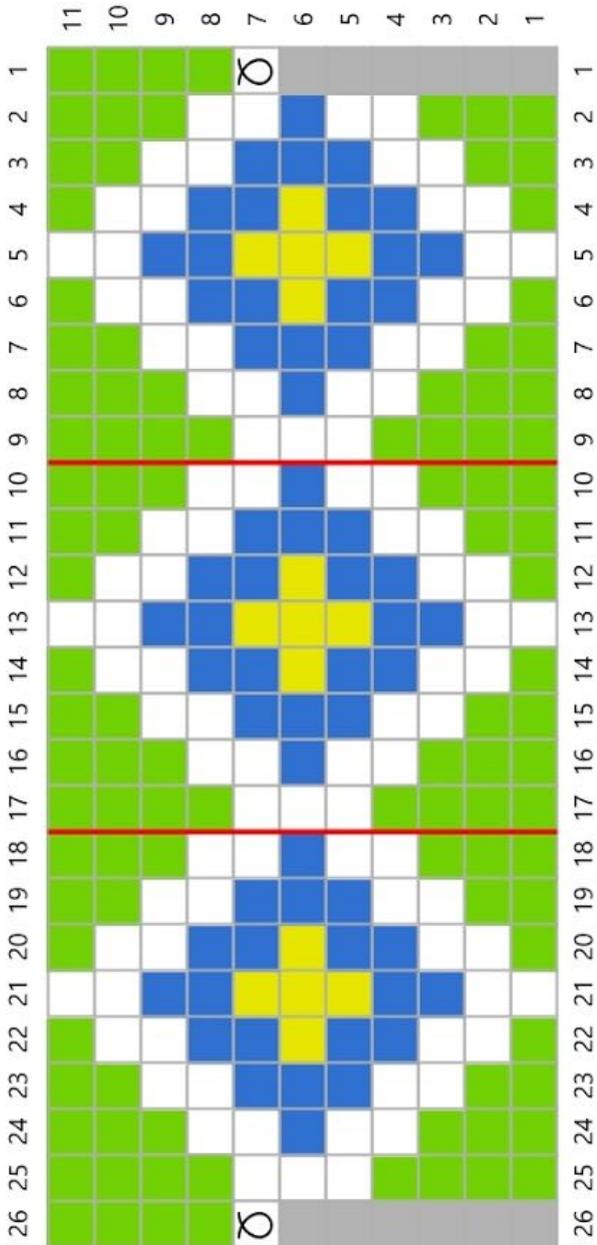
Knit stitch and wrap together on a knit row: Insert RH needle up through the wrap then into the st. Knit stitch and wrap together.

Purl stitch and wrap together on a purl row: From the knit side of work, lift the wrap and place it in front of the purl st. Purl stitch and wrap together.

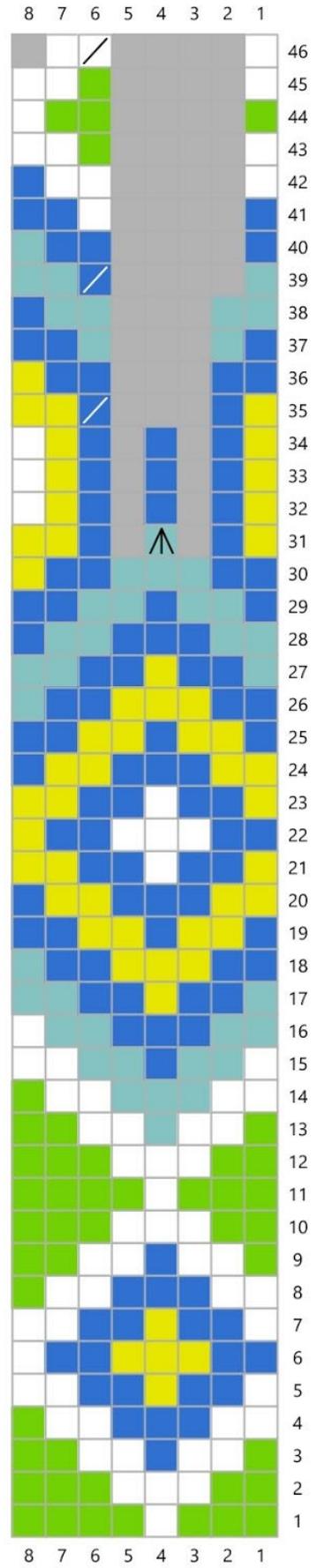
# CHARTS

-  k2tog
-  s2kpo
-  M1
-  pattern repeat
-  no stitch

Cuff



Yoke



## **SLEEVES**

NOTE: When working small circumferences, such as sleeves, in stranded colourwork it can help keep tension even if you turn the piece inside out as this means the unused colours have to stretch a little further.

With 4.5mm DPNs and A cast on 32 (32, 40, 40, 40, 40, 48) sts. Join to work in the round, being careful not to twist sts, pm.  
Work 2 rnds in 2x2 rib.

Change to MC.  
Knit 1 rnd.  
Work in 2x2 rib for 9 rnds.

Change to 5mm DPNs.  
Knit 3 rnds.  
Work cuff chart, stranding colour(s) not in use across back of work, and at same time, inc at beg and end of 11 (13, 9, 10, 7, 9, 10) foll 6th rnds, continuing in MC and st st only after chart complete.  
54 (58, 58, 60, 62, 66, 68) sts.

Cont straight in st st and MC until sleeve meas 45cm from cast-on edge, or desired length. Note that if you want longer sleeves you may need extra yarn.

Next rnd: K4 (4, 4, 5, 5, 7, 8) and place these last 4 (4, 4, 5, 5, 7, 8) sts on holder, k to end, placing last 4 (4, 4, 5, 5, 7, 8) sts on holder.  
46 (50, 50, 50, 52, 52, 52) sts.  
Place these sts on holder or waste yarn while you make your second sleeve.  
When both sleeves are finished return to spare needles to work yoke section.

## **BODY**

With 4.5mm circular needles and A cast on 140 (160, 180, 196, 216, 232, 252) sts using the long tail method.  
Join to work in the round, taking care not to twist stitches, and place marker for start of round.  
Work 2 rnds in 2x2 rib.

Change to MC.  
Knit 1 rnd.  
Work in 2x2 rib for 11 rnds.

Change to 5mm circular needles.  
Cont straight in st st and MC until body meas approx 39 (38.5, 38.5, 38, 38, 37.5, 37.5) cm from cast-on edge.

Next rnd: K4 (4, 4, 5, 5, 7, 8) and place these last 4 (4, 4, 5, 5, 7, 8) sts on holder, k70 (80, 90, 98, 108, 116, 126), and place last 8 (8, 8, 10, 10, 14, 16) sts worked on holder, k66 (76, 86, 93, 103, 109, 118), and place last 4 (4, 4, 5, 5, 7, 8) sts worked on holder.

Set aside on spare needle while you work the sleeves.  
You should have 66 (76, 86, 93, 103, 109, 118) sts rem per front/back, with 8 (8, 8, 10, 10, 14, 16) sts on hold separately at each armhole.

## YOKE

You will now join the sleeves to the body and work the Yoke in the round.

With RS facing and 5mm circular needles, rejoin yarn to body at start of first side. This is now your Back.

\*Knit across 62 (72, 82, 88, 98, 102, 110) body sts for Back, pm, knit across 46 (50, 50, 50, 52, 52, 52) Left sleeve sts, pm, knit across 62 (72, 82, 88, 98, 102, 110) body sts for Front, pm, knit across 46 (50, 50, 50, 52, 52, 52) Left sleeve sts, place a contrast marker.

Your round will now begin at the beg of your Back sts.

216 (244, 264, 276, 300, 308, 324) sts

### Sizes S, L, 1X, 2X, 3X only

Work 1 rnd, dec 4 sts evenly across rnd.

### All sizes

216 (240, 264, 272, 296, 304, 320) sts

Work a further 0 (2, 3, 6, 8, 10, 13) rnds straight.

Take a break now to join the underarms as this will help to minimise the stitches stretching out.

Return the sts to 4.5mm DPNs (the smaller needle size again prevents the sts from distorting).

Join the sleeve and body underarm sts using either a three needle cast off with RS tog or by grafting the sleeve and body sts together with RS facing you. Use your yarn ends to close any holes at the joins.

## SHORT ROWS (optional)

If you wish to work short rows now to raise the back neck for a better fit, add them here as follows, working in MC throughout:

Short row 1 (RS): Knit across all Back sts to first marker for Left Sleeve, slm, k2, w&t.

Short row 2 (WS): Purl to 2 sts after first marker for Right sleeve, w&t.

Short row 3: Knit to 5 sts before marker for Left sleeve, w&t.

Short row 4: Purl to 5 sts before marker for Right sleeve, w&t.

Short row 5: Knit to 10 sts before marker for Left sleeve, w&t.

Short row 6: Purl to 10 sts before marker for Right sleeve, w&t.

Next round: Work in MC to end of round, working wraps tog with wrapped sts.

Now work yoke pattern from chart, working 27 (30, 33, 34, 37, 38, 40) reps of 8 st pattern per rnd, stranding colours not in use across back of work.

Note that on some rounds you will be working three colours.

5 sts are decreased per repeat from start to end of chart, so that by end of chart you are working 27 (30, 33, 34, 37, 38, 40) reps of 3 st pattern.

After yoke chart is finished you should have 81 (90, 99, 102, 111, 114, 120) sts.

Work 1 rnd, dec 1 (2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 0) sts evenly across rnd.

80 (88, 96, 100, 108, 112, 120) sts

## NECK EDGING

Change to 4.5mm circular needles or DPNs and cont in MC.

Work in 2x2 rib pattern for 10 rnds.

Change to A.

Knit 1 rnd.

Work 1 rnd in 2x2 rib.

Cast off loosely in rib.

## FINISHING

Weave in ends.

Block to measurements.

## SCHEMATIC

