

# MAGGIE'S RAGS™

## GROW AS YOU GO SWEATER

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The innovative ribbed texture and cuff to cuff structure allow the sleeve length to adjust automatically to fit as the child grows. The stripes of color make this sweater particularly good for using up odd balls of yarn and leftovers from other projects. Many color combinations are possible, with either a single or many contrast colors. The instructions are sized for infant's 3 month through child's size 12. Differences in sizing depend entirely on the weight of yarn and needle size used. Please check your gauge carefully to insure that you end up with the correct size!



**Suggested Needle Sizes:** See Chart Below. Use the needle size that gives you the appropriate gauge in stockinette stitch. A circular needles 24" long or more, especially for larger sizes, is recommended. A circular needle 2 sizes smaller will also be needed for finishing.

**Recommended Fibers:** Wool, wool-blend or acrylic yarns are recommended. Cotton, silk, rayon or 100% mohair or angora yarns should be avoided, because the weight and inelasticity of the fibers may cause the sweater to stretch excessively over the shoulders.

	Size Range	Suggested Needle Size	Required Gauge	Yarn Requirements		
				Yarn Type	Main Color	Contrast Color(s)
Infant	3 - 24 month	US #6	5 sts / inch	Sport Weight 1200-1800 ypp ~ 14 wpi	100 gr (3½ oz) 230 yds	75 gr (2¾ oz) 140 yds
Child's Small	3 - 5	US #8	4 sts / inch	Worsted Weight 900-1200 ypp ~ 12 wpi	150 gr (5¼ oz) 300 yds	125 gr (4½ oz) 180 yds
Child's Med	6 - 8	US #10	3½ sts / inch	Bulky 600-800 ypp ~ 10 wpi	225 gr (8 oz) 310 yds	200 gr (7 oz) 190 yds
Child's Large	10 - 12	US #13	3 sts / inch	Very Bulky 400-500 ypp ~ 8 wpi	350 gr (12 oz) 350 yds	300 gr (10½ oz) 210 yds

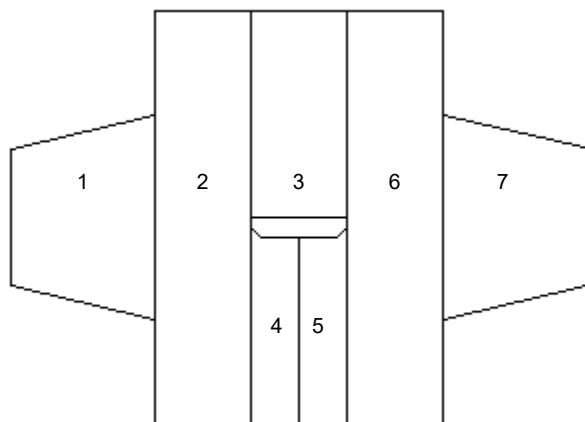
### Other Tools and Supplies:

Crochet hook, approximately the same size as your knitting needles (G, H or J).  
Small amount of waste yarn in a contrasting color.  
5 Buttons. Infant: 3/4". Child: 7/8" or 1"  
Two large stitch holders.

### Finished Garment Measurements

Size	Length	Chest*	Center back to end of sleeve cuff*
Infant	9½"	14½"-22"	8½"-12"
Child's Small	13¼"	20"-29"	12"-20"
Child's Med	15 1/8"	23"-35"	13"-22¾"
Child's Large	17¾"	27"-41"	15¼"-26¾"

\* Note that the chest and center to cuff measurements are *expandable*, showing the minimum *and* maximum measurement.



**Order of Construction**

(1) Knit right sleeve up to underarm. (2) Cast on stitches for side seams. (3) Knit back, below neck opening. (4) Knit right front. (5) Knit in a row of waste yarn, then work the left front. (6) Join front and back at the left shoulder and knit to the underarm. (7) Bind off side seams and knit the left sleeve down to the cuff. (8) Add ribbing, neck band, bottom band, and button band

Pattern Stitch	
Using Main Color:	Row 1 - Purl
	Row 2 - Knit
Using Contrast Color:	Row 3 - Knit
	Row 4 - Purl
	Row 5 - Knit
	Row 6 - Purl
Using Main Color:	Row 7 - Knit
	Row 8 - Knit

**Pattern Chart**

-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

**Key**

- Main color, knit on the right side, purl on the wrong side
- Main color, purl on the right side, knit on the wrong side
- Contrast color, knit on right side, purl on the wrong side

**Right Sleeve:** Using provisional cast on, larger needles, and MC, PCO 30 sts. Knit 1 row (wrong side). Working in pattern starting with row 1, Inc 1 st at each edge on the first row and on every 6th row thereafter, until there are 46 sts. Work even in pattern on 46 sts until row 8 of pattern has been completed (6 full repeats from cast on).

**Body Front & Back:** Continuing to work in pattern, CO 22 sts at beg of next 2 rows (90 sts). Work even in pattern on 90 sts until 4 more pattern repeats have been completed (10 full repeats from cast on).

**Neck Shaping:** Working row 1 of pattern, P41 (this is sweater front). If desired, place these 41 sts for front on a stitch holder. If you prefer, stitches for sweater front may simply be left on the working needle until they are used again. BO next 4 sts for neck opening. Work to end of row (44 more sts).

**Back:** Work even on 45 sts for 4 more repeats of pattern (14 full repeats from cast on). Break off yarn and place these sts on a holder.

**Right Front:** Using MC, and beginning at neck edge, on wrong side, K41. Beginning with next row (right side, row 3 of pattern), and being careful to maintain pattern, decrease 1 st at neck edge every other row 3 times (38 sts). Work even in pattern for 7 more rows, until row 6 of pattern (complete contrast stripe) has been completed. Break off yarn, leaving tail to be woven in later. Knit one row in contrasting waste yarn (to be removed later).

**Left Front:** Slip all stitches to other end of circular needle, or back to other needle if using straight needles. Begin working with the next contrast color in sequence, beginning with row 3 of pattern. Work even in pattern for 8 rows, ending with row 2 of pattern. Starting on next row, inc 1 st at neck edge every other row 3 times (41 sts). Work one row even (row 8 of pattern).

**Join Back & Front:** On next row (row 1 of pattern), purl across 41 sts of front, CO 4 sts for neck, then purl 45 sts from holder for back (90 sts). Note that contrast stripes on the left front should match the color sequence of those on the left half of the back. Work even on 90 sts for front and back until 4 complete pattern repeats have been completed (18 full repeats from cast on edge, counted across *back* of sweater).

**Left Sleeve:** BO in purl 22 sts at beg of next row. BO in knit 22 sts at beg of next row (46 sts). Maintaining pattern, work even on 46 sts for 4 more rows. Continuing to work in pattern, dec 1 st at each end of row on the next row, and on every 6th row after that, until 30 sts remain. Work even in pattern on 30 sts until row 2 of pattern has been completed.

**Left Cuff:** Change to smaller needles and continue using MC. Work next row in K2 P2 ribbing, decreasing 4 sts even spaced across row. Work even on 26 sts in K2 P2 ribbing for 19 more rows. BO in ribbing. Break off yarn leaving long tail for sewing up underarm and side seam.

**Right Cuff:** Remove waste yarn from provisional cast on and using smaller needles, pick up 29 sts across bottom of sleeve. Using MC and beginning with a right side row, work one row in K2 P2 ribbing, decreasing 3 sts evenly spaced across row (26 sts). Work in K2 P2 ribbing for 19 more rows. BO in ribbing. Break off yarn leaving long tail for sewing up underarm and side seam.

**Neck Band:** Unravel waste yarn at center front and place 38 sts for each front on a holder. Using MC and smaller needles, pick up 57 sts around neck edge. To get 57 sts, pick up 3 sts in the end of each stripe and 6 sts at each neck opening bind off. Work 8 rows in reverse stockinette. Bind off. Break off yarn leaving long tail. Neck band will naturally roll to the inside of the neck edge. Using tail of yarn, sew edge of band in place over garment edge on inside.

**Side Seams:** Starting at cuff and using tail of yarn from bindoff, sew up underarm seams and down side seams.

**Bottom Band:** Using MC and smaller needles, pick up 141 sts (3 sts in each stripe) around bottom starting at center front. Work back and forth in garter st for 14 rows. BO in knitting on wrong side.

## BUTTON BANDS

*NOTE: For a girl, work plain band for buttons on left front, for a boy, work the plain band on the right front.*

**Plain Band for Buttons:** With right side of fabric facing you, using MC and smaller needles, pick up a total of 49 sts along the front of the sweater. Eight sts will be picked up in the end of the bottom band, 3 sts will be picked up from the neck band, and 38 sts

will be knit from the holder. To close the end of neckband, pick up sts through both layers. Work 10 rows in garter st and BO on wrong side.

**Buttonhole Band:** On the opposite front, pick up 49 sts as for button band. Work 4 rows in garter stitch.

Row 5: K3, BO3, \*K6, BO3\*. Repeat between \* across row, ending K2.

Row 6: K3, \*CO3, pick up 1st st bound off on previous row and place on left needle, K tog with next st, K6\*. Repeat between \* across, ending last repeat with K2 rather than K6.

Row 7: Knit across, knitting into the backs of the cast on sts and the stitch following them for each buttonhole, to tighten the stitches.

Knit 3 more rows. Bind off on wrong side in knit.

## FINISHING

Weave in loose ends and sew on buttons. Block, if desired, by washing sweater and laying out flat to dry. Take care not to stretch sleeves. **DO NOT IRON!**

Abbreviations			
Beg	Beginning	MC	Main color
BO	Bind off	P	Purl
CC	Contrast color	PCO	Provisional cast on
CO	Cast on	St/s	Stitch/stitches
Dec	Decrease	Tog	Together
Inc	Increase	WPI	Wraps per inch
K	Knit	YYP	Yards per pound

Provisional Cast On (PCO)
You may use any PCO you are comfortable with. This is just one possibility. Using a crochet hook and waste yarn (yarn which will be removed and discarded later on), crochet a very loose chain, a couple of stitches more than the desired number to be cast on. Break the yarn and pull the tail through the last chain stitch to secure. Using the larger size needle, pick up stitches in the back of each chain stitch until the desired number is reached. Work across these stitches as usual. When the piece is finished, remove the waste yarn by pulling the tail back out of the last stitch and unraveling the chain. Slip the stitches onto a needle.