LETYOUCRAFT | CHRISTMAS KNITS

01 Santa Face Christmas Sweater

Flat Santa face + flat ivory hat pompom | no raised trim



DIGITAL KNITTING PATTERN ONLY - NO PHYSICAL GARMENT SHIPPED

Calculated design targets. No physical prototype or test knitting has been completed.

Included sizes: 2, 4 and 6 years

Project overview, size and materials

Santa Face Christmas Sweater | Confident beginner | Sizes 2 / 4 / 6 years | flat drop-shoulder sweater

Motif adaptation: the Santa hat pompom is FLAT ivory duplicate stitch, not the fluffy raised pompom in the photo. The design uses no loose yarn balls.

Digital download only. NO physical garment or prototype was made. Sizing, fabric behavior, yarn usage and appearance are untested calculated design targets, not physically validated claims.

Recommended yarn

DK washable SCARLET RED main yarn (300 / 365 / 440 m estimated), IVORY for hem/cuffs/neck and beard/hat brim/pompom (45-75 m accents total), plus small amounts of skin BEIGE, BLACK, ROSE PINK, and DARK BURGUNDY DK for the diagonally sloped hat. Match the symbol key on the counted chart.

Gauge and swatch

22 sts x 30 rows in 10 cm blocked stockinette, 4 mm

Before starting: knit a swatch of the exact stated stitch pattern on the working needles, making a square at least 15 cm across. Wash or block as permitted by the yarn label, dry flat, and measure stitches and rows across a centered 10 cm. Change needles and re-swatch as needed. Use the actual blocked fabric gauge, not the photo, to choose final size.

Needles and equipment

4 mm flat needles for body/sleeves; 3.5 mm flat rib needles; 3.5 mm double-pointed needles OR an 80 cm+ circular needle suitable for magic-loop neckband rounds; stitch holders, markers and tapestry needle.

Size chart (centimeters and inches)

Age	Body chest	Target chest*	Body length	Sleeve length
2 years	52.0 cm / 20.5 in	60.0 cm / 23.6 in	36.0 cm / 14.2 in	26.0 cm / 10.2 in
4 years	56.0 cm / 22.0 in	63.6 cm / 25.0 in	40.0 cm / 15.7 in	30.0 cm / 11.8 in
6 years	60.0 cm / 23.6 in	67.3 cm / 26.5 in	44.0 cm / 17.3 in	34.0 cm / 13.4 in

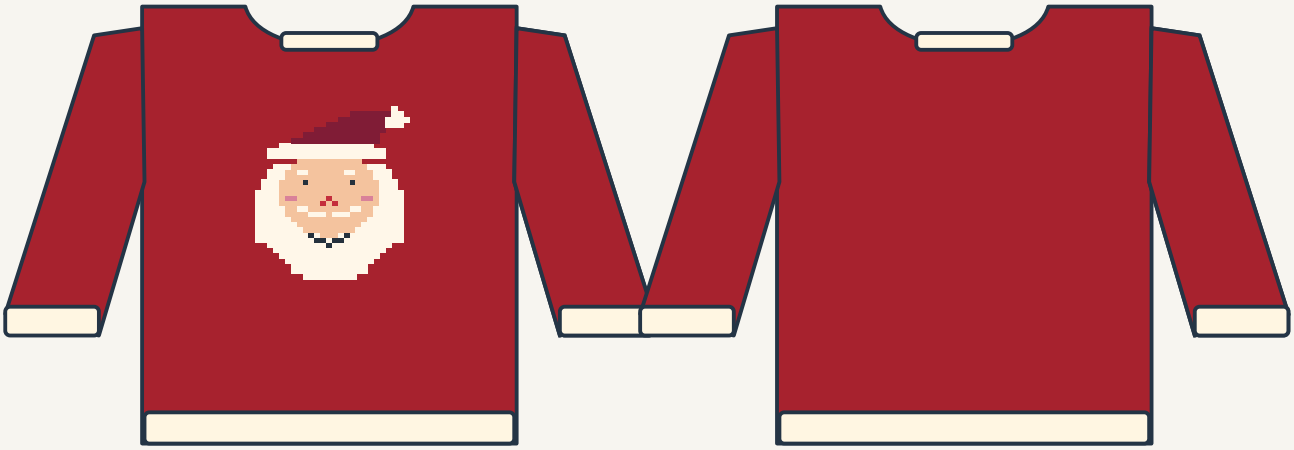
*Panel-equivalent circumference before minor seam take-up. Ribbing recovery and finished fit depend on the swatch.

Construction schematic

Front/back views or multi-angle garment views, structural shape, recognisable motifs, and stitch-count checkpoints. Follow the counted instructions for the actual fabric.

CHART-MATCHED GARMENT / CONSTRUCTION VIEWS

Size 2 illustration; independently counted positions for ages 4 and 6 follow.



FRONT **BACK**

Santa front reproduces the SAME 31 x 35 chart as page 6.

Dark burgundy diagonal hat / FLAT ivory pompom / cream beard.

IVORY cuffs, hem and neckband; full sleeves; drop shoulders.

CO: 66 / 70 / 74 stitches per flat body panel.

All dimensions and visual proportions are calculated design targets.

Refer to separate charts and garment-row anchors for every size.

Abbreviations and techniques

Term	Definition
CO / BO	Cast on / bind off.
RS / WS	Right side / wrong side.
k / p	Knit / purl; stockinette flat = knit RS / purl WS.
st / sts / rnd	Stitch / stitches / round.
k2tog	Knit two together; decreases 1 st.
ssk	Slip-knit decrease left-leaning; decreases 1 st.
M1L / M1R	Mirrored lifted-bar increases, each adds 1 st.
kfb	Knit front and back of one stitch; adds 1 st.
pm / sm / BOR	Place marker / slip marker / beginning of round.
duplicate stitch	Follow existing knit-V loops using contrast yarn; no new fabric stitches.
I-cord ROW	Knit 3 without turning; slide stitches on DPN and repeat with yarn carried behind.
Three-needle BO	Hold the matching live edge sets together and bind off pairs of stitches.
Mattress seam	Alternate bars at selvedges; ease differently oriented edges in measured sections.

Construction and chart-reading rules

Unless a row/round states otherwise, flat stockinette works RS knit and WS purl. In the round, knit every round. In decoration charts, each colored square corresponds to an existing stitch worked in duplicate stitch. Check size-specific row numbers BEFORE transferring motifs.

All garment measurements and construction details are pattern-design calculations, not test-knit results. Any alternative gauge changes finished dimensions.

Complete row-by-row construction

Read each size independently. Work the shaping intervals exactly; color overlays never alter fabric stitch counts.

Work sizes throughout in the order 2 (4, 6) years. Numbered row references and final counts in the tables take priority over visual proportions in the picture.

Component 2 years 4 years 6 years

Rows below armhole 66 74 84

Sleeve CO and final 34 to 62 36 to 66 38 to 70

Front and back: In IVORY with 3.5 mm needles, CO 66 (70, 74) stitches. Rows 1-12: work 1x1 rib in IVORY. Change to RED and 4 mm needles on Row 13 (RS); from this row work stockinette. On BACK work through Row 104 (116,128), then work back neckline. On FRONT work through Row 96 (108,120), then work front neckline.

Back neck - exact final 4 rows: Row 105 (117, 129), RS: K23 (24,25), BO22 (24,26), knit remaining 21 (22,23). Use the conventional pass-over bind-off. The stitch remaining on the working needle after the final bind-off counts as the first live stitch of the second shoulder. Count the stitches on both sides separately before beginning further neckline shaping. Each shoulder now has 22 (23, 24) stitches. Shoulder just worked: Row 106 (118, 130), WS: purl all 22 (23, 24) stitches to the neck edge. Row 107 (119, 131), RS: bind off 4 stitches at the neck edge, then knit to the end of the row. There are 18 (19, 20) live shoulder stitches remaining. Row 108 (120, 132), WS: purl 18 (19, 20) stitches and hold them. Opposite shoulder: rejoin yarn at the neckline edge with WS facing. Row 106 (118, 130), WS: bind off 4 stitches at the neckline edge, then purl to the end of the row. There are 18 (19, 20) live shoulder stitches remaining. Row 107 (119, 131), RS: knit 18 (19, 20). Row 108 (120, 132), WS: purl 18 (19, 20) and hold them. Final shoulder count is 18 (19, 20) live stitches on EACH side; do not bind off shoulders separately.

Front neck - exact final 12 rows: Row 97 (109,121), RS: K24 (25,26), BO20 (22,24), knit remaining 22 (23,24). Use the conventional pass-over bind-off. The stitch remaining on the working needle after the final bind-off counts as the first live stitch of the second shoulder. Count the stitches on both sides separately before beginning further neckline shaping. Work the final 12-row shoulder sections separately. On the right-hand section just worked, next WS row: purl toward neckline, turn; on next RS row BO 3 neck-edge sts and finish row; work WS; on next RS BO 2 neck-edge sts and finish row. You now have 18 (19,20) live shoulder sts. Continue stockinette to complete Row 108 (120,132); hold them. For the opposite section, join yarn at the neck edge on the next WS row, BO 3 and purl across; work next RS; at the beginning of the next WS row BO 2 and work across. Finish stockinette to Row 108 (120,132) and hold 18 (19,20) live sts. Each side loses exactly 5 sts after the central BO.

Armhole markers: mark both panel sides after Row 66 (74,84) counted up from the cast-on. Do not seam above these markers. The 42 (46,48) rows from marker to shoulder form each open armhole side.

Sleeves (make two): CO 34 (36,38) stitches in IVORY with 3.5 mm needles. Work sleeve Rows 1-12 in IVORY 1x1 rib. Change to RED and 4 mm at Sleeve Row 13. Increase 1 stitch at EACH edge on Rows 13,17,21 and every 4th row thereafter, a total of 14 (15,16) increase rows, with the last on Row 65 (69,73); total 62 (66,70) sts. Work RED stockinette even through Sleeve Row 78 (90,102). Bind off all 62 (66,70) stitches loosely on the following pass. Knit a second sleeve identically; match each bound-off sleeve top midpoint to its shoulder seam and seam across the two marked armhole edges without gathering.

Sleeve fit: completed sleeve top stitch counts are 62 (66,70) and target top widths are 28.2 (30.0,31.8) cm. Ease sleeve tops gently and evenly into the corresponding body openings - do not gather.

Counted colorwork and exact placement

Charts use DUPLICATE STITCH on existing fabric: each square is ONE knitted stitch. Row 1 is the bottom chart row and Column 1 is the leftmost stitch viewed from the garment RS. An empty light-blue chart square means leave the original red background stitch unchanged. Work from bottom to top after blocking, without long yarn floats. Decoration does not add stitches or rows.

Rounded Santa with hat, pompom and facial detail

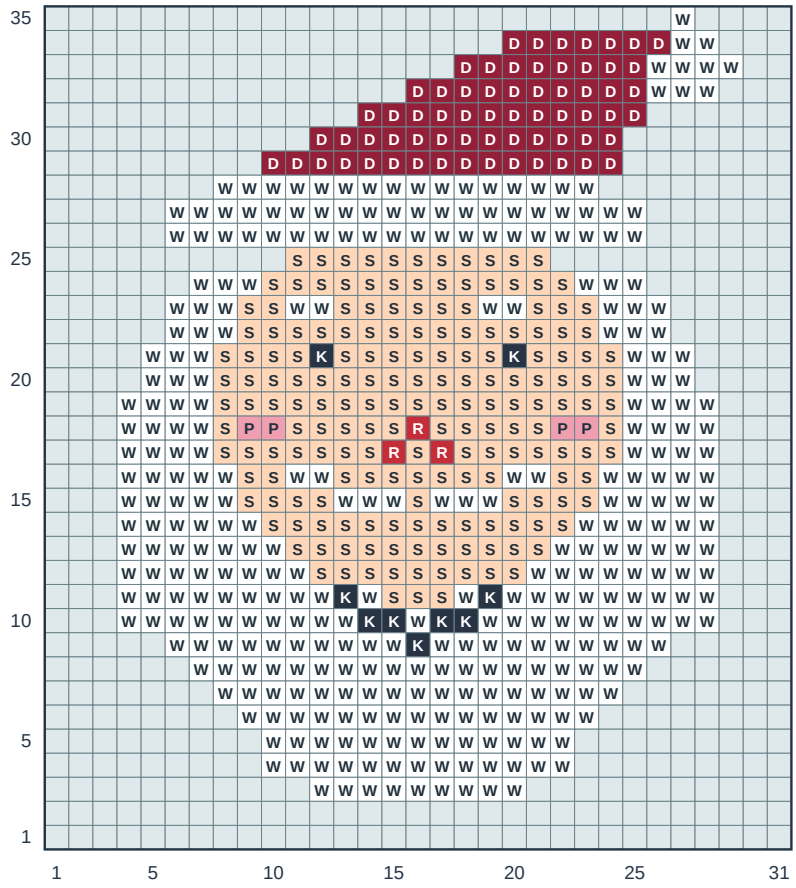
CHART SIZE: 31 stitches x 35 rows = target 14.1 cm wide x 11.7 cm high at 22 stitches and 30 rows per 10 cm. Use no additional fabric stitches. The RED sweater fabric remains the background; D is darker burgundy red used to show the Santa hat distinctly. Duplicate-stitch the ivory white beard/hat brim/pompom, peach skin, pink cheeks, dark eyes/smile and red nose. REFERENCE ADAPTATION: the counted ivory pompom is FLAT duplicate stitch, not a raised fluffy pompom. The hat, beard and other face details remain counted surface stitches. No detachable or stuffed pompom is included.

Santa face and diagonal cap | 31 stitches x 35 rows

31 actual stitch columns x 35 actual rows; RS viewed from front; chart row 1 at BOTTOM

Columns 1 -> 31 read LEFT to RIGHT on visible garment face; stitch overlays worked after knitting.

W ivory | S beige | P pink | R scarlet | D burgundy | K black | empty light-blue = red



Front motif anchoring (count from LEFT EDGE on garment RS): Size 2: Column 18, garment Row 42 (ends Column 48, Row 76). Size 4: Column 20, Row 48 (ends Column 50, Row 82). Size 6: Column 22, Row 54 (ends Column 52, Row 88). In each case the centered 31-st motif fits the full 66 / 70 / 74-st front, clear of the neck shaping from Row 97 / 109 / 121 onward. The same chart applies to all sizes; no colorwork on the back.

Santa sweater: counted neckband

Sizes 2 (4, 6) years. Follow this map when completing the neckline; the assembly directions are on the next page.

Neckline edge section	2 years	4 years	6 years
Front center bind-off loops	20	22	24
Front shaping steps: 3 + 2 each side	10	10	10
Front upright pickups: 7 each side	14	14	14
Back center bind-off loops	22	24	26
Back shaping steps: 4 each side	8	8	8
Back upright pickups: 2 each side	4	4	4
TOTAL neckband pickups	**78**	**82**	**86**

Pickup starting point

RS facing, both shoulders already joined. Begin at one shoulder seam, and pick up around the entire neck with 3.5 mm DPNs or an 80 cm+ magic-loop circular needle. Count horizontal bind-off loops ONCE, pick up upright stitches from the selvedge bars, and avoid double-picking corner loops. Front horizontal totals are 30 (32, 34) and back horizontal totals 30 (32, 34).

Front step and back upright distribution

Use seven pickups along EACH upper front neckline, distributed over the shaping runs: on the side where a row intervenes before the first 3-stitch neck bind-off, use 1 pickup there, 1 between the 3-stitch and 2-stitch steps and 5 over the remaining seven upright rows (1 + 1 + 5). On the opposite front, use 1 between the 3-stitch and 2-stitch steps and 6 along its final eight upright rows (1 + 6). BACK upright detail: on the side with the 4-stitch bind-off on Row 107 (119, 131), pick 1 from the edge at Row 106 (118, 130) and 1 at Row 108 (120, 132). On the other side, which binds off 4 at Row 106 (118, 130), pick 1 each from the edge at Rows 107 and 108 (119 and 120 / 131 and 132). Count bind-off corners once and complete a continuous circle.

Neckline gauge and modeled circumference

Blocked design targets: 22 stitches and 30 rows per 10 cm in the main 4 mm stockinette, and 22 stitches per 10 cm in **relaxed, blocked 1x1 rib** on 3.5 mm needles. The estimated neck-edge path is approximately 34.6 (36.4, 38.2) cm, combining 60 (64, 68) horizontal loops at stockinette stitch gauge and approximately 22 upright row segments at row gauge. The picked-up rib targets are 35.5 (37.3, 39.1) cm before stretching. These are calculated estimates, not measured sample dimensions.

Rib rounds, bind-off and fit check

CHECKPOINT: **78 (82, 86) live stitches**. Place BOR at the shoulder seam and ensure that the round has not twisted. In IVORY, work eight full rounds in 1x1 rib: ***k1, p1; repeat from * to BOR.** Bind off elastically in the established rib. The opening must stretch sufficiently to pass over the wearer's head without pressure; elastic bind-off and individual yarn recovery have not been physically tested. Swatch both fabrics and do not promise fit without checking the finished neckline.

Assembly, finishing and blocking

Weave each yarn end into the WS for at least 5 cm (2 in), reverse direction, and trim only when secure. Keep finishing tension smooth and avoid scratchy knots.

For mattress stitch, align corresponding edge rows with right sides outward. Using a blunt needle, alternate under horizontal bars between first and second stitches of paired edges. Pull every 2-3 cm without gathering. Match length markers or quarter points before joining.

To join held shoulders, place matching front and back edges RS together and use three-needle bind-off: knit 1 stitch from each needle together twice, pass first combined stitch over second, and repeat until the held shoulders are fully joined.

Blocking: soak only if fiber label permits, press water out in a towel, shape to the target measurements without aggressive stretching, and dry completely flat. A swatch establishes how your yarn responds; blocking cannot reliably correct significant gauge errors.

Care: Wash only as yarn label instructs; dry flat. Do not iron acrylic or heat-set pompoms.

Assembly sequence: 1. Join the corresponding 18 (19, 20)-st held shoulders with a three-needle bind-off. 2. Pick up exactly 78 (82, 86) neckband stitches in IVORY using the counted map on preceding page; work eight IVORY 1x1 ribbing rounds and use a stretch bind-off. 3. Center each bound-off 62 (66, 70)-st sleeve top at its shoulder seam; attach evenly to the two marked body edges (84 / 92 / 96 edge rows in total) using mattress stitch. 4. Sew underarms and sides. 5. Apply the counted flat Santa duplicate-stitch motif on the red front and secure the yarn ends. 6. Inspect seams and finished neckline.

Final customer checklist

[ ] Measure chest/head/foot as applicable and verify the selected size and stated ease. [ ] Count finished garment stitch totals and compare each component with its table. [ ] Check both sides and any pairs for equal lengths and symmetric shaping. [ ] Verify neck or opening is comfortable and not constricting. [ ] Match seam markers and ensure no twisting, skipped attachments or exposed loose ends. [ ] Check decoration is firmly sewn, with floats/embroidery ends secured on the WS. [ ] Block carefully to target dimensions; record any difference from the design target. [ ] Check washing and small-part warnings with the recipient.

Troubleshooting

Issue	Solution
Gauge differs	Use a larger needle for too many stitches per 10 cm; smaller for too few. Re-swatch in the specified fabric.
Stitch count off	Count at each listed increase/decrease checkpoint; undo to the last correct row before continuing.
Uneven lengths	Count rows rather than comparing unstretched measurements; block paired pieces together.
Neck or cuff too tight	Recheck ribbing elasticity and BO tension. Use a stretchy bind-off or a larger BO needle.
Sleeve/armhole join bunches	Match seam halves and quarter points; do not pull the mattress stitch too firmly.
Circular border alignment	When joining picked-up stitches for the first round, ensure the stitches follow the neckline or armhole edge in order, without accidental crossings. Check the completed first round before continuing.
Ribbing flares or droops	Use a needle approximately 0.5 mm smaller and measure rib gauge before committing.
Stockinette edge curls	Use specified garter/rib borders and blocking; do not omit stabilizing bands.
Color motif puckers	Work duplicate stitches loosely enough to follow existing V shapes; avoid tight long floats.
Finished size incorrect	Compare gauge and completed row/st counts to chart; assess blocking swatch before adjusting.

Customer notes

These are calculated design targets, not test-knitted measurements. Compare your blocked gauge, intended ease, finished garment size and decorations against wearer needs before use.