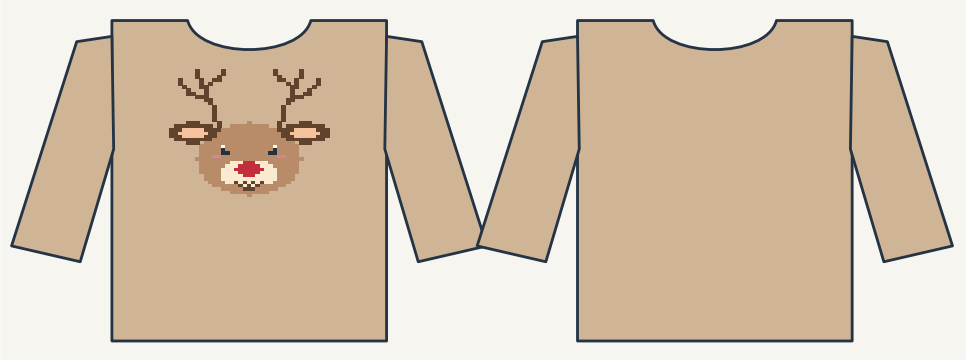
LETYOUCRAFT | CHRISTMAS KNITS

02 Reindeer Christmas Sweater

Drop-shoulder adaptation | flat charted antlers, not projecting antlers

CHART-MATCHED GARMENT SCHEMATIC



DROP-SHOULDER SWEATER | FLAT ANTLERS

This charted version differs from the raglan reference.

Sleeves: warm tan; body: oatmeal. Exact shades vary by yarn.

Digital design illustration - not a test-knitted sample.

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

Reindeer Christmas Sweater | Intermediate | 2 / 4 / 6 years | flat DROP-SHOULDER pullover

DIGITAL DOWNLOAD ONLY. No prototype or physical test knitting was performed. Dimensions, yarn use and fit are calculated targets; confirm blocked swatch and safety before use.

Recommended yarn

DK WARM TAN for both entire sleeves, cuffs, hem and neckband; DK OATMEAL for both body panels. Accent yarns: warm tan, dark brown, cream, pink cheeks, blush inner ears, black eyes, ivory highlights, red nose. All yardages are untested estimates: approx. OATMEAL 170 / 205 / 250 m and WARM TAN 175 / 215 / 260 m, plus 45-75 m combined accents. Allow extra yarn and check swatch consumption.

Gauge and swatch

Target: 22 stitches and 30 rows / 10 cm in blocked stockinette on 4 mm needles. Knit at least a 15-cm swatch in the actual fabric, wash/block as yarn permits, dry fully and measure central 10 cm. Change needle size and re-swatch if necessary.

Needles and equipment

4 mm flat body/sleeve needles; 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, tapestry needle, optional DPNs for FLAT sewn-down I-cords.

Size chart — calculated targets (dimensions: cm / in)

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

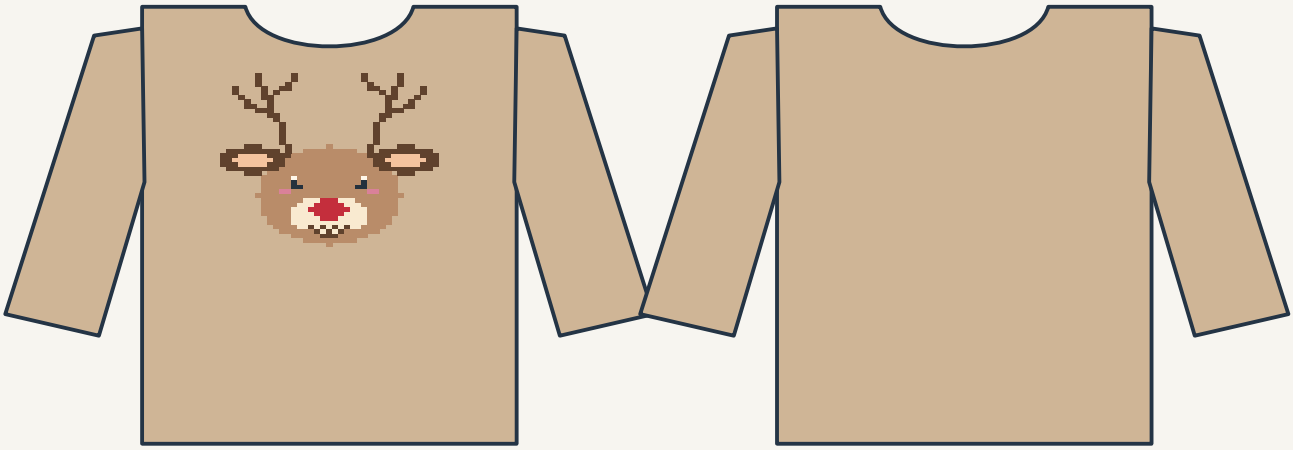
This pattern uses DROP-SHOULDER seams, not the diagonal raglan construction pictured in the reference. Reproducing a raglan would require a new graded pattern and independent stitch audit. Both raised antlers and raglan shaping are omitted adaptations.

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**

Reindeer front reproduces the SAME 41 x 41 chart as page 6.

Black eyes + ivory glints; rosy cheeks; forked brown antlers.

FLAT charted antlers; optional sewn-down I-cord texture only.

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

Reference adaptation: DROP-SHOULDER seams and FLAT charted antlers, not raglan.

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 - establish fabric: Cast on 66 (70, 74) stitches in WARM TAN on 3.5 mm needles. Work Rows 1-12 in 1x1 ribbing, maintaining knit and purl columns. Change to OATMEAL and 4 mm needles on Row 13 (RS). Work stockinette in OATMEAL through BACK Row 104 (116, 128) and FRONT Row 96 (108, 120), then follow the exact neck shaping below. This is a knitted drop-shoulder construction, NOT a raglan construction.

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: Cast on 34 (36, 38) in WARM TAN on 3.5 mm needles. Work Rows 1-12 in WARM TAN 1x1 ribbing. Change to 4 mm on Row 13 but retain WARM TAN through the complete sleeve. Increase once at EACH edge using M1L near the start and M1R near the end of RS Rows 13, 17, 21 and every fourth row thereafter, 14 (15, 16) increase rows in all, with last increase on Row 65 (69, 73). Counts progress from 34 (36, 38) to 62 (66, 70). Continue stockinette without shaping to Sleeve Row 78 (90, 102), then loosely bind off all 62 (66, 70) stitches. Work the second sleeve identically, keeping WARM TAN throughout. Align each sleeve top midpoint at its shoulder seam, distribute evenly across the marked armhole edges, and sew 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

Counted DUPLICATE-STITCH chart: every square represents ONE EXISTING stitch. Row 1 is the bottom of the chart and Column 1 the leftmost visible stitch on the RS. An EMPTY PALE-BLUE chart square indicates an unchanged OATMEAL background stitch. Apply the chart after blocking from bottom to top; no long yarn floats.

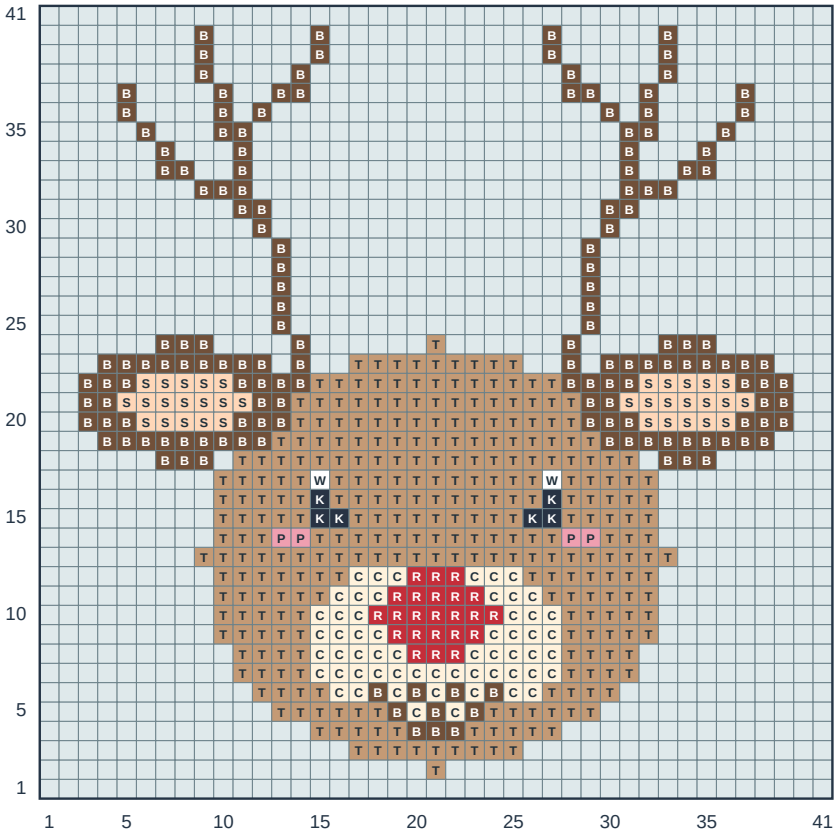
Full reindeer face with anatomically branched antlers

CHART: 41 stitches x 41 rows (approximately 18.6 x 13.7 cm at DK gauge). The reindeer shows warm-tan cheeks and forehead, pale cream muzzle, BLACK eyes with explicitly charted IVORY eye glints, SCARLET nose, ROSE PINK cheek accents (P), BLUSH inner ears (S), and DARK BROWN branched antlers (B). Symbol P and symbol S are distinct yarn colors. REFERENCE ADAPTATION: the countable brown antlers are FLAT duplicate stitch. Optional sewn-down I-cords add surface relief only; they do not project above the shoulders. Freestanding antlers are NOT included.

Reindeer head and forked horns | 41 x 41

41 actual stitch columns x 41 actual rows; RS viewed from front; chart row 1 at BOTTOM

B = dark brown; T = tan; C = cream; S = blush; P = pink cheeks; W = ivory eye glints; K = black; R = red; empty pale-blue = oatmeal



Front panel placement (stitch 1 at RS left edge): size 2, start Column 13 / Row 54; end Column 53 / Row 94 (front neck starts Row 97). Size 4, Column 15 / Row 62; end Column 55 / Row 102 (neck starts 109). Size 6, Column 17 / Row 70; end Column 57 / Row 110 (neck starts 121). Both antlers finish below neckline shaping and the face remains centered.

OPTIONAL FLAT ATTACHED TEXTURE (not freestanding antlers): knit TWO 3-stitch main I-cord stems 18 rows long in dark brown and FOUR 3-stitch forks 6 rows long each. Use DPNs: knit 3; without turning slide stitches to opposite working tip; pass yarn behind and knit all 3 again. One cycle = ONE I-cord row. Fully secure each main cord along chart-stem lines B at motif columns 12 and 30, approximately chart rows 22-39, one on each side. Fully stitch two 6-row branches onto each stem, following outer/inner branch diagonals shown on the chart from chart rows 30 and 34. Sew each branch down throughout its FULL LENGTH, with ends embedded in fabric. This supplies surface relief only; it does NOT reproduce raised projecting antlers from the photograph; avoid loose loops or detachable pieces.

Reindeer 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 WARM TAN, 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. BLOCK the front, back and both WARM TAN sleeves separately; dry fully. 2. On the flat front, apply the 41x41 reindeer duplicate-stitch motif, secure all ends, and keep the charted antlers flat and sewn down. 3. Join matching 18 (19, 20)-st shoulder groups by three-needle bind-off. 4. With WARM TAN and 3.5 mm circular/DPN needles, pick up exactly 78 (82, 86) neckband stitches according to the complete pickup map on the preceding page. Work eight rounds in 1x1 rib and bind off elastically. 5. Center the 62 (66, 70)-st bound-off sleeve tops at the shoulders and mattress-seam to the 84 (92, 96) combined upper armhole-edge rows; ease evenly. 6. Seam sleeves and sides, secure all attachments, and check the neckline. The reference has raglan-style lines and projecting antlers; this is a disclosed drop-shoulder, flat-antler design adaptation.

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.