LETYOUCRAFT | CHRISTMAS KNITS

04 Christmas Tree Sweater Vest

Sleeveless holiday tree top | flat knit



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

Christmas Tree Sweater Vest | Confident beginner | 2 / 4 / 6 years | flat crewneck vest

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 forest green; plus scarlet red and ivory rib trim, ivory tree, GOLD star and baubles, red baubles, brown trunk. Estimate 220 / 270 / 320 m of main yarn plus 25-40 m of combined accent yarn; quantities are design estimates.

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 straight or circular needles for FLAT body panels; 3.5 mm needles for flat ribbing; 3.5 mm DPNs or an 80 cm or longer circular needle suitable for magic-loop neckline/armhole borders; holders, markers and tapestry needle.

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

Age	Body chest	Vest chest*	Vest length	Armhole depth
2 years	52.0/20.5	60.0/23.6	34.7/13.7	14.7/5.8
4 years	56.0/22.0	63.6/25.0	38.7/15.2	16.0/6.3
6 years	60.0/23.6	67.3/26.5	42.7/16.8	17.3/6.8

All dimensions are calculated gauge targets; actual rib recovery and blocked width need to be checked.

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.

ILLUSTRATED DESIGN + CONSTRUCTION REFERENCE

Vector diagrams show intended design features; stitch and row counts take precedence.



FRONT BACK

Inward crewneck • recessed armholes • three-color ribbing • front tree

FRONT / BACK CO: 66 / 70 / 74 sts

Armhole shaped to 56 / 60 / 64 stitches

Shoulders 16 / 17 / 18 live stitches

Target chest 60.0 / 63.6 / 67.3 cm; length 34.7 / 38.7 / 42.7 cm

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.

Both panels: With 3.5 mm needles and RED CO 66 (70,74) sts. Work 1x1 rib Rows 1-4 RED, Rows 5-8 IVORY, Rows 9-12 RED. Change to forest GREEN and 4 mm; work stockinette Rows 13-60 (68,76), then work the armhole shaping instructions below.

Armhole shaping: for each panel, armhole-local Row 1 (global Row 61/69/77), RS: BO 3 sts, knit across. Local Row 2, WS: BO 3 sts, purl across = 60 (64,68) sts. Local Row 3, RS: k1, ssk, knit to last 3, k2tog, k1 = 58 (62,66). Local Row 4 WS purl. Local Row 5, RS: repeat local Row 3 = 56 (60,64). Thereafter work even through local Row 30 (34,38) on the FRONT, and local Row 40 (44,48) on the BACK.

Front neckline: local Row 31 (35,39), RS: K20 (21,22), BO18 (20,22), knit remaining 18 (19,20). 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. On each shoulder BO 3 sts at its next neck-edge row: 16 (17,18) remain each. Work stockinette independently through armhole-local Row 44 (48,52) = global Row 104 (116,128). Place live shoulder sts on holders.

Back neckline: local Row 41 (45,49), RS: K19 (20,21), BO20 (22,24), knit remaining 17 (18,19). 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. On each shoulder BO 2 sts at next neck-edge row: 16 (17,18) remain. Finish through armhole-local Row 44 (48,52). Place shoulders on holders.

Neck border: After joining shoulders, pick up 62 (66,70) stitches around the neckline. In 1x1 rib work Rounds 1-3 in RED; Round 4 IVORY; Rounds 5-7 RED. Bind off very elastically with RED; keep the neck opening clear.

Armhole edges: After side seams, pick up 68 (74,80) stitches around EACH armhole, dividing pickups equally between front/back edges. Work 1x1 rib in RED on Rounds 1-2, IVORY on Round 3, RED on Rounds 4-5. Bind off with RED elastically. Repeat the second armhole identically.

Stitch checkpoint: after armhole shaping there are 56 (60,64) stitches per panel, and after neck shaping there are 16 (17,18) live stitches per shoulder.

Counted colorwork and exact placement

Charts show counted DUPLICATE STITCH on existing knitted fabric: each square is one existing stitch. Chart Row 1 is the bottom; Column 1 the leftmost RS stitch. An EMPTY LIGHT-BLUE square indicates an unchanged forest-green background stitch. Follow colored chart symbols and the stated row/column placement; no floats are carried.

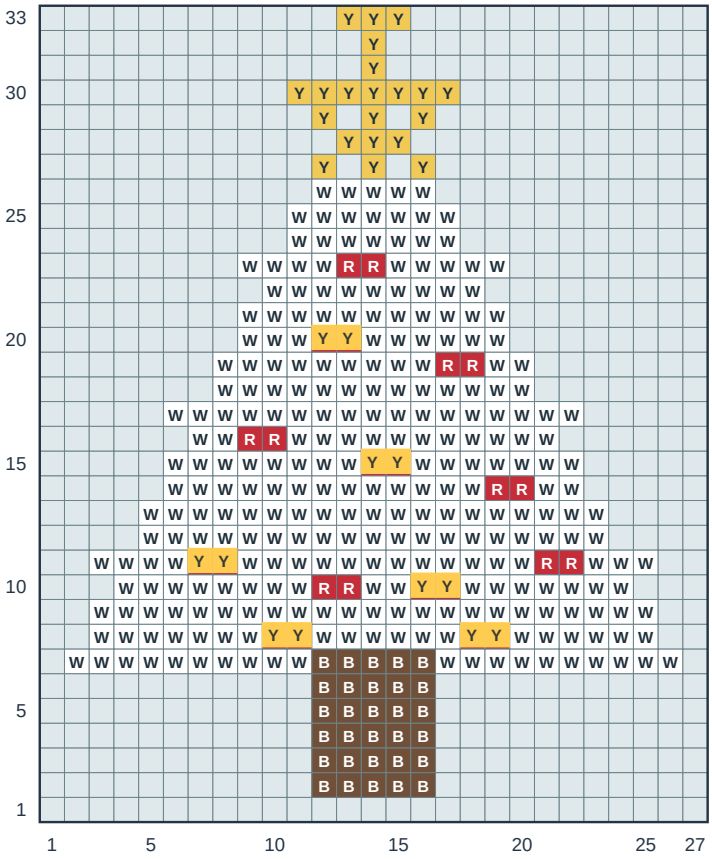
Filled ivory Christmas tree, red AND gold ornaments, and gold star. Every chart square is one existing knitted stitch. W = ivory branches; R = scarlet bauble; Y = gold star / bauble; B = brown trunk. An empty light-blue square leaves the forest-green background stitch unchanged.

SOLID TREE, ornaments and star | 27 x 33

27 actual stitch columns x 33 actual rows; RS viewed from front; chart row 1 at BOTTOM

Columns 1 -> 27 read LEFT to RIGHT on visible garment face; stitch overlays worked after knitting.

W ivory | R scarlet | Y gold star and ornaments | B brown | empty = forest green



Center on FRONT only: sizes 2 / 4 / 6 years: Chart left = front Columns 20 / 22 / 24, starting garment Rows 26 / 34 / 42. Finish garment Rows 58 / 66 / 74, all BEFORE armhole shaping begins at Rows 61 / 69 / 77. Work the specified red/ivory ribbing at the hem, neckband and armholes.

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: Hand wash in cool water if wool; follow care label for a blended yarn.

Three-needle BO the 16 (17,18) matching shoulder stitches. Seam each vest side from rib hem to underarm below the armhole decreases; do not sew the armhole openings. Work neck and armhole ribs. Duplicate-stitch the Christmas tree, knot and weave contrast ends on the inside, and block flat.

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.