STRIPED TOP-DOWN RAGLAN SWEATER

A comfy raglan sweater knitted from the top down in the round. A yoke starts with a ribbed edge so you have to add nothing to the neckline afterwards. Colorful stripes brightening up this garment are a good way to use leftover yarn. No seams on sleeves necessary if you knit them in the round.

Level of skills: intermediate

Stitches: knit, purl, simple and yarn-over increases, ssk and k2tog decreases

SIZE
Women's XS [S, M, L, XL]

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS
Chest: 30 [32.5, 36, 40, 44]" /76 [82.5, 91, 101.5, 112] cm
Hips: 32 [34.5, 38, 42, 46]" /81 [87.5, 96, 106.5, 117] cm
Length (center front): 25" /63.5 cm
Arm length (to underarm): 17 [-, -, 17.5, -]" /43 [-, -, 44, -] cm
Armhole depth: 6.5 [7, 7.5, 8, 8.5]" /16.5 [17.5, 19, 20.5, 22] cm

YARN
Worsted medium-weight wool yarn or wool/acrylic blend:
- Dark green 4 [4.5, 5, 5.5, 6] skeins (250yds/228m, 4oz/113g per skein) or 1000 [1125, 1250, 1375, 1500] yds /914 [1029, 1143, 1257, 1372] m;
- White, orange, emerald 20 [-,-, 25,-] yds/18[-,-, 23, -] m each and red 10 [-,-,12,-] yds /9 [-,-,11,-] m

RECOMMENDED NEEDLES
Short 16" and long 24-29" US #7 (4.5 mm) circular needles
Short 16" and long 24-29" US #8 (5 mm) circular needles
US #8 (5 mm) straight needles (for seamed sleeves) or 3-4 double pointed needles (for seamless sleeves)

NOTIONS
Stitch marker
Waste yarn to hold sleeve stitches (2 strands 20-25" /50-60 cm each)
Yarn needle

GAUGE
16 sts/24 rows = 4"/10 cm in stockinette stitch

ABBREVIATIONS
k: knit
p: purl
yo: yarn over
st(s): stitch(es)
kfb: knit in front and back of st (simple increase to add 1 st)
k2tog: knit two stitches together
ssk: slip, slip, knit (slip stitch, slip next stitch, knit 2 slipped stitches together)
Using short #7 circular needle, cast on 74 [-, -, 78, -] sts with green yarn, place marker and join to work in the round.

**Rounds 1-12**: k1, p1 rib.
Change to short #8 circular needle after 8 rounds.

Next steps include yarn-over increases on sides of 4 diagonal raglan lines determining the front, back and sleeves. Every raglan line is one-stitch wide and serves as a marker for yarn-over increases on its sides. Rounds start at the back before the right sleeve.

**Round 13**: yo, k1 (raglan line), yo, k11 (right sleeve), yo, k1 (raglan line), yo, k25 [-, -, 27, -] (front), yo, k1 (raglan line), yo, k11 (left sleeve), yo, k1 (raglan line), yo, k23 [-, -, 25, -] (back).

**Round 14 and following even rounds to end of yoke**: knit.

Optional slight rise at back for increased back neckline (omitted from total round count):

2 extra rows between rounds 14 and 15: at back section, knit to next raglan line, turn needle, slip 1st st purl-wise, purl to next raglan line, turn needle, slip 1st st knit-wise, knit to marker.

**Round 15 and following odd rounds to end of yoke**: knit across, adding yo before and after every raglan line as on round 13 (total 8 yo increases on each round).
Change to longer #8 circular needle on round 18 or 20.

**Rounds 21-22, 39-40** for all sizes and also rounds 57-58 for L and XL: work color stripes (see below). The yoke counts 44 [48, 54, 60, 66] rounds with 16 [18, 21, 24, 27] eyelets along each side of every raglan line (1 eyelet = 2 rounds).

At this point, length to neckline top is approx. 7 [7.5, 8.5, 9.5, 10.5]"/18 [19, 21.5, 24, 27] cm.
COLOR STRIPES

Every stripe is 2-round high, knitted in established stockinette pattern with respective yarn-over increases on the yoke where applicable.

**Rounds 21-22** (1st stripe): white.
Afterwards, stripes have 16 rounds in-between.

**Rounds 39-40**: orange.

**Rounds 57-58**: emerald.
The yoke has 2 [-,-, 3, -] stripes; other stripes are worked on body.

**Rounds 75-76**: white.

**Rounds 93-94**: red.

**Rounds 111-112**: emerald.

**Rounds 129-130**: orange.

For jogless stripes: on 2nd round of new color, slip 1st st purl-wise (with yarn in back) and continue in pattern; on next round (when changing back to main color), slip 2nd st purl-wise (with yarn in back) and continue in pattern.

Next step is dividing into the body and sleeves on same round.

DIVIDING INTO BODY AND SLEEVES
Joining Back and Front

**Round 45 [49, 55, 61, 67]**:
knit to 1st raglan line (raglan line st inclusive),
place sleeve sts (between 1st and 2nd raglan lines) onto waste yarn with yarn needle, cast on 2 [3,4,6] sts (for underarm) using backwards loop method,
knit front sts (from 2nd raglan line st through to 3rd raglan line st inclusive), place sleeve sts (between 3rd and 4th raglan lines) onto waste yarn with yarn needle,
cast on 2 [3,4,6] sts (for underarm) using backwards loop method, knit next sts (from 3rd raglan line st) to end of round.

After the back and front are joined, the body sts count 120 [130, 144, 160, 176] on round.

BODY

After joining the back and front, continue in stockinette stitch to edge: knit.
Work color stripes as described above and hip increases as described below.
After last color stripe work 6 rounds in stockinette, then start ribbed edge as instructed below.
**Hip Increases**

At hip sides, work increases:

**Round** approx. 10'' /26 cm from underarm: kfb, k2, kfb at each hip side (4 total increases).

**Round** approx. 11'' /28 cm from underarm: kfb, k2, kfb at each hip side (4 total increases).

All hip increases make 8 sts.

**Body Ribbed Edge**

Change to longer #7 needle and work **last 14 rounds** in ribbed edge:

k1, p1 rib (or alternatively k2, p2 rib for all sizes except S).

Bind off knit sts knit-wise and purl sts purl-wise.

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### SLEEVES

(Identical)

**Seamed Sleeve**

Place sleeve sts onto short #8 circular needle and pick up underarm sts knit-wise.

Pick up 1-2 extra loops from stretched sts at sides of underarm to prevent side gaps between body and sleeve.

*How to pick up sleeve sts:* [short video tutorial](#).

1st row starts at center underarm.

Work stockinette on following rows to edge: knit on right side and purl on wrong side.

Change to straight #8 needles after 8-10 rows.

At the same time, decrease 2 sts on every 8th row 8-9 times: k2tog at beginning of row after selvage st and ssk at end of row before selvage st.

**Seamless Sleeve**

Place sleeve sts onto 3 or 4 #8 double pointed needles and pick up underarm sts knit-wise.

Pick up 1-2 extra loops from stretched sts at sides of underarm to prevent side gaps between body and sleeve.

*How to pick up sleeve sts:* [short video tutorial](#).

Place marker at center underarm.

Work stockinette to edge: knit.

At the same time, decrease 2 sts on every 8th round 8-9 times: ssk before marker, k2tog after marker.

**Sleeve Rolled Edge**

After reaching 16.5 [-, -, 17, -] '' /41.5 [-, -, 42.5, -] cm or custom length from underarm (necessary length less 0.5''/1.5 cm), work sleeve edge:

**Last 5-6 rows / rounds:** work reverse (purled) stockinette on right side.

Bind off sts purl-wise on right side.

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### FINISHING

Block the garment by gentle washing (or wetting) and spreading.

Sew the sleeve seams if applicable.