

the henry vest



1) A full frontal view of the sweater. 2) A detail shot of the zipper facing. 3) The contrast pocket lining is a fun touch. 4) A full back view.

What could be knit for a man to be worn throughout almost all seasons, have pockets to carry odds and ends, and go from the golf course to dinner with friends—all while being simple and modern yet interesting enough to knit? Oh yeah, and is easy to care for to boot?

The Henry vest (a knitting ode to my dad), worked from the top down in straight stockinette, is a loose-fitting, mock-neck vest (great for layering) with a simple stripe in monochromatic greys that can be dressed up or down. Knit with Patons Canadiana, an acrylic that thankfully doesn't feel like one!, it's machine washable and dryable for the active man on the go. If greys aren't your thing, Patons Canadiana comes in a vast array of colors.

Knitting interest can be found in the unusual start that reserves all the finishing work for weaving in loose ends (no seams!), short-row shaping and hand-sewing the zipper with a knit zipper facing for a clean finish (no ugly exposed zipper stitching!).

SIZE

S [M, L, XL] (shown in size L)

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Chest: 40 [44, 46, 48] inches

Length: 25.5 [26, 27, 28] inches

MATERIALS

[MC] Patons Canadiana [acrylic; 241yd/220m per 100g skein]; color: Dark Grey Mix; 4 [4, 4, 5] skeins

[CC] Patons Canadiana [acrylic; 241yd/220m per 100g skein]; color: Silver Grey Mix; 2 [2, 2, 2] skeins

32-inch US #6/4mm circular needle

32-inch US #5/3.75mm circular needle

NOTIONS REQUIRED

Stitch markers, (2) 24-inch spare circular needles (US #6/4mm or smaller), stitch holders, 24-inch waste yarn/string for invisible (provisional) cast-on, tapestry needle, sewing needle, sewing thread, 2-way separating zipper

GAUGE

20 sts/24 rows = 4-inches in stockinette stitch

PATTERN NOTES

Trim is in Double Seed Stitch

(multiples of 4 stitches)

Rows 1 and 2: * K2, p2; rep from *.

Rows 3 and 4: * P2, k2; rep from *.

Repeat rows 1-4.

PATTERN

Back:

Using US #6/4mm circular needle and the invisible (provisional) cast-on method, CO 78[80, 85, 90] sts with MC.

K first row and P second row to establish St st.

K 26[26, 28, 30] sts, pm, K 26[27, 29, 30] sts, pm, K remaining 26[26, 28, 30] sts.

* P to 4 sts past second marker, W&T, K to 4 sts past 1st marker, W&T. Rep from * 6 [6, 7, 7] times more, adding 4 sts past last point of W&T for each subsequent pair of short rows—so 8, 12, 16, 20, then 24 sts [up to 28 sts for M and L sizes only] past markers. This establishes the shoulder slope.

Work 5 inches of St st from CO ending with a WS row.

Work 4 rows using CC, carrying MC at right edge.

Work 2 rows using MC, carrying CC at right edge.

Switch to CC again and work 1.75[2.5, 2.75, 3.25] inches more of St st, carrying MC at right edge.

Armhole shaping:

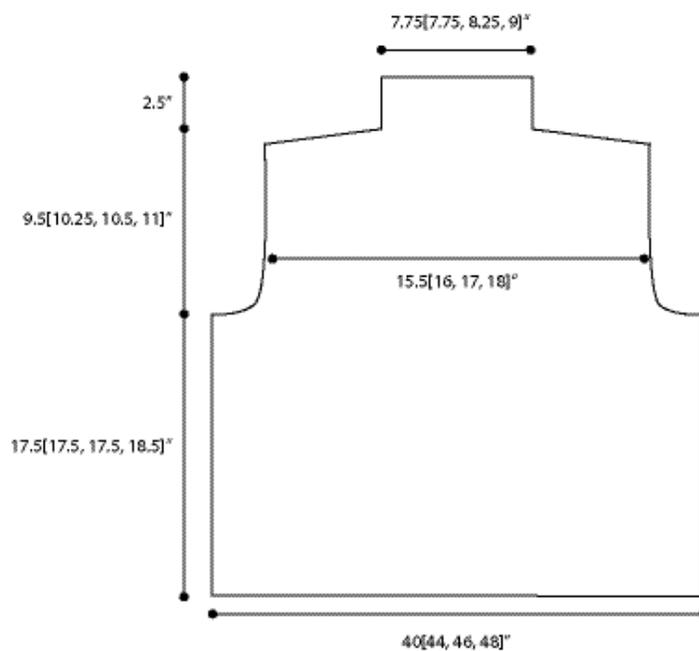
Next Row [RS]: * 2 sts in from each end, M1. Rep from * 4 times more on every RS row to add 10 sts for a total of 88[90, 95, 100] sts.

Place sts on spare circular needle.

Front:

Going back to original CO sts on waste yarn, using US #6/4mm circular needle, place 26[26, 28, 30] sts on needle, skip middle 26[27, 29, 30] sts, and place remaining 26[26, 28, 30] sts on needle. Remove waste yarn from stitches placed on needle so waste yarn remains holding only center 26[27, 29, 30] sts.

SCHEMATICS



RS facing, join yarn [MC] and K 26[26, 28, 30] sts to establish front right shoulder.

At left neck edge, join new ball of yarn [MC] and K 26[26, 28, 30] sts to establish front left shoulder.

* P to 4 sts past right neck edge, W&T, K to 4 sts past left neck edge, W&T. Rep from * 6 [6, 7, 7] times more, adding 4 sts past last point of W&T for each subsequent pair of short rows—so 8, 12, 16, 20, then 24 sts [up to 28 sts for M and L sizes only] past markers. This establishes the shoulder slope.

AT THE SAME TIME, once 2[2, 2.5, 2.5] inches of St st from provisional cast-on row has been worked, * M1, 2 sts in from each neck edge. Rep from * until 9[10, 10, 10] sts are added to each neck edge, ending with a WS row.

K to right neck edge, CO 4[4, 5, 5] sts at each neck edge, and K remaining sts. Each front section should now have 39[40, 43, 45] with the front having a total of 78[80, 86, 90] sts.

Work next 3 rows in St st, ending with WS row.

Join CC yarn at right edge for right and left shoulder sections and work next 4 rows in St st, carrying MC at right edges.

Switch to MC yarn and work next 2 rows in St st, carrying CC at right edges.

Switch to CC again and work 1.75[2.5, 2.75, 3.25] inches more of St st, carrying MC at right edges.

Armhole shaping:

Next Row [RS]: * 2 sts in from each end, M1. Rep from * 4 times more on every RS row to add 5 sts to each section for a total of 44[45, 48, 50] sts.

Attach front to back:

At the end of the last M1 row, CO 20 sts at left shoulder edge and K across all back sts on spare circular needle. CO another 20 sts and K across all right front sts. Break all other MC yarn except the one attached to beginning of left front section, continuing to carry this along the edge. 216 [220, 231, 240] sts.

Work 4 rows in St st.

Switch to MC yarn and work next 2 rows in St st.

Break MC yarn and switch to CC yarn — K for 1 row.

Join MC yarn and work in St st for 7[7, 7, 8] inches.

Place pockets:

Left pocket:

K 15[15, 20, 20] sts and turn to P.

K 14, M1, K and turn to P.

Continue M1 at left edge of section 18[18, 18, 19] times more for a total of 33[33, 33, 34] sts.

Place sts on holder and return to remaining sts on circular needle.

K across all sts.

Right pocket:

P 15[15, 20, 20] sts and turn to K.

K 1, M1, K 14 and turn to P.

Continue M1 at right edge of section 18[18, 18, 19] times more for a total of 33[33, 33, 34] sts.

Place sts on holder and return to remaining sts on circular needle.

Contrast-colored pocket lining:

P one row.

Join CC and CO 15[15, 20, 20] sts. K CO sts in CC and join MC yarn to K remaining sts. At end of row, join CC and CO 15[15, 20, 20] sts. P next row, making sure to twist yarns at color changes to prevent a hole from appearing.

* K 16[16, 21, 21] sts in CC, switch to MC except K last 16[16, 21, 21] sts in CC. P next row. Rep from * adding a st in CC on every right side row until there are 30[30, 30, 31] sts in CC at each side. End with a WS row.

To give pockets a little more room, we're going to use short-row shaping to take it from flat to fabulous:

* K to 6 sts of color switch, W&T, P to 6 sts of edge, W&T. Rep from * 4 times more, adding 1 st past last point of W&T for each subsequent pair of short rows.

* K 31[31, 31, 32] sts in CC, switch to MC except K last 31[31, 31, 32] sts in CC. P next row. Rep from * adding a st in CC on every right side row until there are 33[33, 33, 34] sts in CC at each side.

End with a WS row and break all yarn.

Take sts for left pocket and place on spare circular needle. Hold left pocket sts in front of pocket lining sts and K pocket and lining together with MC. Cont K until last 33[33, 33, 34] sts. Hold left pocket sts in front of pocket lining sts and K pocket and lining together with MC.

Work in St st for 1.5 inches from bottom of pockets.

Switch to US #5/3.75mm circular needle and work 15 rows in Double Seed Stitch. BO 16th row in pattern.

Collar:

Using US #6/4mm circular needle, start from right neck edge and pick up and K 33[33, 35, 38] sts. Place remaining 26[27, 29, 30] sts provisional cast-on sts on spare circular needle and remove waste yarn. K across these sts and pick up and K 33[33, 35, 38] sts along left neck edge. 92[93, 99, 106] sts.

P one row.

* K 4 sts, k2tog next 2 sts. Rep from * across entire row. 77[78, 83, 89] sts.

Work in in St st for 2.5 inches, ending with a RS row.

K across all sts on the next row (WS) to form a turning row.

Resume St st for 2.5 inches ending with a WS row.

K 6 sts, BO next 65[66, 71, 77] sts, K 6 sts.

Switch to US #5/3.75mm circular needle and continue St st on last 6 sts until same length as left front. BO and break yarn (leave about an 18 inch tail to attach zipper cover).

Join yarn to remaining 6 sts and continue St st until same length as right front. BO and break yarn (leave about an 18 inch tail to attach zipper facing).

FINISHING

Weave in ends on the body.

Pockets:

Sew side edges and top of pocket lining to back of front panels.

Pick up and K 36[36, 36, 40] sts on each pocket edge and work 7 rows of Double Seed Stitch, binding off 8th row in pattern.

Sew down sides of pocket trim.

Armholes:

Pick up and K x[x, 80, x] sts around each armhole and work 7 rows of Double Seed Stitch, binding off 8th row in pattern.

Zipper & Collar:

Using sewing needle and thread, sew in zipper, first using basting stitch to hold zipper in place while whipstitching edges down. Remove basting stitch.

Fold collar at turning row and align edges of the zipper facing with edge of vest opening, right along bottom of zipper teeth (though not too close to snag the knitting). Using the long tail from the BO, sew down the edge of zipper facing opposite zipper teeth.

Sew down collar with same tail.

Using sewing needle and thread, use backstitch along the valley of the first stitch in from the center front edge to sew zipper facing and zipper to fronts.

Weave in remaining ends.