

Midwest Machine Knitters' Collaborative
January to March 2023 Knit-A-Long
Alison Dupernex's *Wall of Colour* Jacket

Machine and Yarn Suggestions

Machine Recommendations

Recommendation from the pattern, any single bed standard bed machine, electronic or punchcard. You do not need a ribber to complete this project.

Mid-gauge machines such as the LK-150 and Brother KX350 can be used, but dependent on your yarn selection, you may need to sacrifice overall length to fit on the machine bed.

Bulky machines were not recommended. The machine bed may not have enough needles to get the length recommended for this jacket.

Yarn

Dupernex, suggests yarns of your choice that you think will work well together for your color palette. Her suggestion is, “Use lots of colours.” “You’ll need yarns of the same quality and weight but from differing manufacturers.”

The original design is knitted to be felted after assembly, so wool yarns are required. If you choose to not felt your sweater, any yarn fiber can be used.

To match Dupernex’s pattern standard, (26 stiches and 54 rows at tension 8 = 10 cm/4 inches), Linda calculated that Dupernex used a sport weight yarn, at 1300-1800 yards/pound.

The amount of yarn suggested is 400 grams.

But...

Our members made prototypes to assist with these instructions. We all wanted to use yarn from our stashes. We all experienced a wide range of yardage required in our jackets.

Maria Ann knit her sample sweater on the LK150 mid-gauge machine, using Winona Knits wool acrylic blend. Her yardage weight is 1 pound 5.7 ounces or 613 grams. She made a smaller size than directed with this yardage. She did not felt her sweater.

Linda knit her sample sweater using three strands of a [2/30 cobweb weight merino wool yarn](#) on her standard gauge machine, knit at tension 5.1 to get 9 stitches/inch and 13 rows/inch. Total weight 480 grams. Linda did not felt her jacket but did lightly full it by washing it on gentle cycle and drying it in the dryer and removing it while still damp. It served the purpose of “blooming” the yarn. Her measurements for the jacket are 60 inches wide, 21 1-1/2 inches long, armhole depth 7-1/2 inches. The sleeve is 18 inches long with an 8-inch circumference at the wrist.

Karen knit her sample sweater on her Brother 940 at Tension 6 using [Lana Grossa Meilenweit Cotton self-striping yarn](#) in Fiesta gray (color 4060). She used 500 grams/4189 yards.

For the lapel and cuff, she used 100 grams/415 yards Lana Grossa Meilenweit Cotton in color Red/Gray (color 507).

For her I-Cord trim, she used 100 grams/415 yards Lana Grossa Meilenweit Cotton in Red, (color number unknown). Total 700 grams/4389 yards. Her total jacket weight is 550 grams. She did not felt her sweater.

Karen also used her Brother KnitLeader accessory to get her dimensions for each piece. Her KnitLeader swatch was 13 cm row/12.4 cm stitches. Karen writes,

I used the schematic for the Wall of Colour jacket to draw the pattern on the Knit Leader mylar. However, only half of the sideways jacket could fit on a sheet. To put the entire pattern on one sheet, I drew the first half measurements with one color of ink, marking the center point, then continued from the bottom in a different color. The same sheet was rolled through twice. Also, the collar extensions could not fully fit on the mylar and maintain the body length to match the schematic.

Thus, the full width of the jacket body was included on the mylar (56cm) with the remaining stitches (7cm) for the collar. An added collar extension was knitted separately and used to fill in at the back neck.

Maggie used yarn from Schuessler Knitting Mills - red, a 12/2 Poly Thermolit and Spectrum Dyed yarns Inc. Karded Cot 12/2 Camel for contrast, knit on her standard gauge machine.

She used approximately 352 grams (missing one sleeve) or 13.4 oz, using both colors with a double strand. She did not felt her prototype sweater, but plans to with her KAL sweater. She is planning on redoing the sleeves. Maggie found that the sweater length was too short for her liking. She added a patterned bottom band to increase the length. On her KAL sweater, she noted that in felting the bottom band, you may experience problems if you do not knit it sideways as the body of the sweater is. The band may not felt as you would want it.

Cindy used [Hobby Lobby's Yarn Bee Chloe self-striping sock weight yarn](#). This yarn is a viscose/wool blend and used 693 grams which was insufficient to finish the jacket. Cindy used her KX-350 mid-gauge machine. She increased the jacket and arm length to match her size requirements. She didn't finish this jacket as she ran out of yarn and could not match it.

She began a second jacket. Using one strand of 16/2 cotton in Navy and one strand of Zegna Baruffa/Lane Borgosesia textured thread. One black thread/one white looped thread which knits as gray. Overall color of the fabric is a navy marl. She followed the identical changes above to lower the armhole and length. Knit on the Passap, the Long Stitch pattern was used. This was a stitch which alternated the front in a one-by-one rib with stockinette on the back. It provided a nice structure to the knit, was easy to go through the machine and provided a stable edge to the knitting. The cast on tension was 4 to 5. The body tension was 5.5 with a mast tension of 2, which allowed the yarn to slip but was a bit tight, which provided neat edges. At row 1154 (!), she experienced a major problem with the electronics of her machine. As of this writing she is attempting to recover and complete the sweater.

To help determine the amount of yarn you will need, use ["Calculating the Amount of Yarn Needed"](#) worksheet. This document is available on the MMKC website.