

The Mainstay – Fingering

Designed by Nadia Glaser
Skill level: Intermediate



BERROCO®

www.berroco.com

Copyright 2026 in USA and Canada



SIZES

(1, 2, 3, 4) [5, 6, 7, 8] {9, 10, 11, 12}

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Bust: (32, 36¼, 40, 44¼) [48, 52¼, 56, 60¼] {64, 68¼, 72, 76¼}" / (80, 91, 100, 111) [120, 131, 140, 151] {160, 171, 180, 191} cm

Length: (21½, 21¾, 22, 22½) [23¼, 23¼, 23½, 24] {24½, 25, 25¼, 25½}" / (54, 54.5, 55, 56.5) [58, 58, 59, 60] {61.5, 62.5, 63, 64} cm

Shown in size 3 (40" / 100 cm), modeled with approximately 4" / 10 cm positive ease.

Recommended ease: 4–8" / 10–20 cm positive ease.

YARN

BERROCO VINTAGE SOCK (100 g): (3, 3, 4, 4) [5, 5, 5, 6] {6, 7, 7, 7} balls #12076 Rhubarb

NEEDLES

32–40" / 80–100 cm circular needles, sizes 2 / 2.75 mm & 3 / 3.25 mm or size to obtain gauge

16" / 40 cm circular needle, size 2 / 2.75 mm

1 set each double-pointed needles, or preferred needles for working small circumferences, sizes 2 / 2.75 mm & 3 / 3.25 mm

NOTIONS

Stitch markers, removable stitch markers, waste yarn to hold stitches

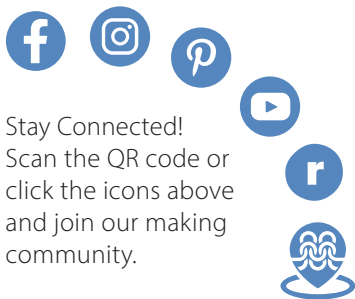
GAUGE

26 sts and 34 rows/rnds = 4" / 10 cm in St st using larger needle

Gauge shown is after blocking. To save time and ensure accurate measurements, take time to check gauge.

We recommend using yarns called for in our instructions. Every effort has been made to ensure that directions contained in this pattern are accurate and complete, however errors do occur. We cannot be responsible for variance of individual knitters, human or typographical errors.

All pattern PDFs are updated when corrections are made. In the event of finding an error, please make sure you've downloaded the most recent version.



Stay Connected!
Scan the QR code or
click the icons above
and join our making
community.



#berrocoyarn

Berroco Vintage® Sock

Find this Yarn

CONSTRUCTION NOTES

Pullover is worked seamlessly from the top down, beginning with the upper back. Stitches are picked up along each back shoulder edge for the top of the fronts, which are joined at the front neck. Sleeve stitches are picked up around the armhole and worked in the round to the wrist with a short-row sleeve cap. Options are included for a circular or split hem and a rolled or ribbed neckband.

INSTRUCTIONS

BACK

With larger needle, cast on (46, 50, 52, 52) [52, 54, 54, 56] {56, 60, 60, 60} sts. Do not join.

Purl 1 WS row.

Row 1—Inc Row (RS): K3, M1R, knit to last 3 sts, M1L, K3.
2 sts inc'd.

Row 2—Inc Row (WS): P3, M1pR, purl to last 3 sts, M1pL, p3.
2 sts inc'd.

Rep Rows 1 and 2 (9, 10, 11, 11) [13, 13, 14, 15] {16, 16, 17, 19} times more. (86, 94, 100, 100) [108, 110, 114, 120] {124, 128, 132, 140} sts.

Sizes (1, 2, X, 4) [X, 6, 7, 8] {X, 10, 11, X} ONLY: Rep Row 1 once more. (88, 96, X, 102) [X, 112, 116, 122] {X, 130, 134, X} sts.

For ALL Sizes:

Place removable stitch marker at each end of last row worked to mark shoulder edge.

Work even in St st until piece measures (4, 3½, 3, 2) [2, 2, 2, 2] {2, 2, 2, 2}" / (10, 9, 7.5, 5.5) [5.5, 4.5, 4.5, 4.5] {4.5, 4.5, 4.5, 4.5} cm along armhole edge, ending after completing a WS row.

Armhole Shaping—Row 1 (RS): K2, M1L, knit to last 2 sts, M1R, k2. *2 sts inc'd.*

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Rep Rows 1 and 2 (2, 4, 7, 13) [14, 11, 7, 5] {5, 5, 2, 0} times more. (94, 106, 116, 130) [138, 136, 132, 134] {136, 142, 140, 142} sts.

Sizes (X, X, X, X) [X, 6, 7, 8] {9, 10, 11, 12} ONLY: Armhole Shaping—Row 3 (RS): K2, M1L, knit to last 2 sts, M1R, k2.
2 sts inc'd.

Row 4 (WS): P2, M1pL, purl to last 2 sts, M1pR, p2. *2 sts inc'd.*
Rep Rows 3 and 4 (X, X, X, X) [X, 3, 7, 10] {12, 13, 16, 18} times more. (X, X, X, X) [X, 152, 164, 178] {188, 198, 208, 218} sts.

For ALL Sizes:

Break yarn. Place Back sts on waste yarn.



LEFT FRONT

With RS of Back facing, beginning at back neck edge and ending at shoulder marker, pick up and knit (22, 24, 25, 26) [29, 30, 32, 34] {35, 36, 38, 41} sts along left shoulder slope to marker at the end of shoulder shaping, 1 st in every row of shoulder. (22, 24, 25, 26) [29, 30, 32, 34] {35, 36, 38, 41} sts.

Purl 1 WS row.

Row 1 (RS): Knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. *1 st dec'd at armhole edge.*

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Rep Rows 1 and 2 once more. (20, 22, 23, 24) [27, 28, 30, 32] {33, 34, 36, 39} sts.

Work even in St st until piece measures (3¼, 3¼, 3¼, 3¼) [3¼, 3, 3, 3] {3, 3, 3, 3}" / (8, 8, 8, 8) [8, 7.5, 7.5, 7.5] {7.5, 7.5, 7.5, 7.5} cm from picked up edge, ending after completing a WS row.

Neck Shaping—Increase Row (RS): K2, M1L, knit to end.

1 st inc'd.

Rep Neck Shaping Row every RS Row (6, 6, 6, 6) [6, 7, 7, 7] {7, 7, 7, 7} times more. (27, 29, 30, 31) [34, 36, 38, 40] {41, 42, 44, 47} sts.

Purl 1 WS row.

Break yarn. Place Left Front sts on waste yarn.

RIGHT FRONT

With RS of Back facing, beginning at shoulder marker and ending at back neck edge, pick up and knit (22, 24, 25, 26) [29, 30, 32, 34] {35, 36, 38, 41} sts along right shoulder slope from marker at the end of shoulder shaping to the edge of the back neck. (22, 24, 25, 26) [29, 30, 32, 34] {35, 36, 38, 41} sts.

Purl 1 WS row.

Row 1 (RS): K1, SSK, knit to end. *1 st dec'd at armhole edge.*

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Rep Rows 1 and 2 once more. (20, 22, 23, 24) [27, 28, 30, 32] {33, 34, 36, 39} sts.

Work even in St st until piece measures (3¼, 3¼, 3¼, 3¼) [3¼, 3, 3, 3] {3, 3, 3, 3}" / (8, 8, 8, 8) [8, 7.5, 7.5, 7.5] {7.5, 7.5, 7.5, 7.5} cm from picked up edge, ending after completing a WS row.

Neck Shaping—Increase Row (RS): K2, M1L, knit to end.

1 st inc'd.

Rep Neck Shaping Row every RS Row (6, 6, 6, 6) [6, 7, 7, 7] {7, 7, 7, 7} times more. (27, 29, 30, 31) [34, 36, 38, 40] {41, 42, 44, 47} sts.

Purl 1 WS row.

Do not break yarn.

Joining Row (RS): Knit across Right Front sts, cast on (34, 38, 40, 40) [40, 40, 40, 42] {42, 46, 46, 46} sts for front neck, return Left Front sts to left-hand needle with RS facing, knit across Left Front sts. (88, 96, 100, 102) [108, 112, 116, 122] {124, 130, 134, 140} sts.

Work even in St st until work measures (4¾, 4¾, 4¼, 3¼) [4¼, 4¼, 4¾, 5¼] {5½, 5¾, 6, 6¾}" / (12, 12, 10.5, 8) [10.5, 10.5, 12, 13] {13.5, 14, 15.5, 17} cm from cast-on neck sts, ending after completing a WS row.

Armhole Shaping—Row 1 (RS): K2, M1L, knit to last 2 sts, M1R, k2. *2 sts inc'd.*

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Rep Rows 1 and 2 (2, 4, 7, 13) [14, 11, 7, 5] {5, 5, 2, 0} times more. (94, 106, 116, 130) [138, 136, 132, 134] {136, 142, 140, 142} sts.

Sizes (X, X, X, X) [X, 6, 7, 8] {9, 10, 11, 12} ONLY: Armhole

Shaping—Row 3 (RS): K2, M1L, knit to last 2 sts, M1R, k2. *2 sts inc'd.*



Row 4 (WS): P2, M1pL, purl to last 2 sts, M1pR, p2. *2 sts inc'd.*
Rep Rows 3 and 4 (X, X, X, X) [X, 3, 7, 10] {12, 13, 16, 18} times more. (X, X, X, X) [X, 152, 164, 178] {188, 198, 208, 218} sts.

For ALL Sizes:

Body—Joining Rnd: Knit across Front sts, cast on (5, 6, 7, 7) [9, 9, 9, 9] {10, 12, 13, 15} sts, pm for center of left underarm, cast on (5, 6, 7, 7) [9, 9, 9, 9] {10, 12, 13, 15} sts, place Back sts onto left-hand needle with RS facing, knit across Back sts, cast on (5, 6, 7, 7) [9, 9, 9, 9] {10, 12, 13, 15} sts, pm for BOR, cast on (5, 6, 7, 7) [9, 9, 9, 9] {10, 12, 13, 15} sts. (208, 236, 260, 288) [312, 340, 364, 392] {416, 444, 468, 496} sts.

Work even in St st (knitting every round) until work measures 12" / 30 cm from underarm, or 2" / 5 cm less than desired length.

Hem: Change to smaller needle.

Choose from circular or split hem options below.

Circular Hem—Ribbing Rnd: * K1, p1; rep from * around.

Rep Ribbing Rnd until Hem measures 2" / 5 cm.

Bind off in ribbing.

Split Hem—Dividing Row: Place next (104, 118, 130, 144) [156, 170, 182, 196] {208, 222, 234, 248} sts (sts between BOR and marker placed at center of left underarm) on waste yarn for front hem, removing markers. (104, 118, 130, 144) [156, 170, 182, 196] {208, 222, 234, 248} sts remain for back hem. Turn work to WS.

Set Up Row (WS): P2, kfb, * k1, p1; rep from * to last 3 sts, k1, p2. (105, 119, 131, 145) [157, 171, 183, 197] {209, 223, 235, 249} sts.

Row 1 (RS): Sl 2 wyib, * p1, k1; rep from * to last 3 sts, p1, k2.

Row 2 (WS): Sl 2 wyif, * k1, p1; rep from * to last 3 sts, k1, p2.

Rep Rows 1 and 2 until back hem measures 2" / 5 cm.

Bind off in ribbing.

Front Hem: Place (104, 118, 130, 144) [156, 170, 182, 196] {208, 222, 234, 248} sts from waste yarn onto left-hand needle with WS facing. Join yarn and work as for back hem.



SLEEVES

Fold armhole in half lengthwise, matching underarm shaping, and place a removable marker at the top to help evenly distribute sleeve sts around armhole and center sleeve cap. This should be approximately 1" / 2.5 cm onto the front from the back neck.

With larger dpns and beginning at the center of the underarm, pick up and knit (5, 6, 7, 7) [9, 9, 9, 9] {10, 12, 13, 15} sts in cast-on sts, 1 st in gap after cast on sts, (66, 72, 76, 82) [84, 88, 92, 98] {102, 104, 110, 112} sts evenly around the armhole, approximately 1 st for every 2 rows, 1 st in gap before cast-on sts, and (5, 6, 7, 7) [9, 9, 9, 9] {10, 12, 13, 15} sts in remaining cast-on sts. Pm and join for working in the round. (78, 86, 92, 98) [104, 108, 112, 118] {124, 130, 138, 144} sts.

Sleeve Cap Shaping—Short Row 1 (RS): Knit (48, 53, 57, 61) [64, 67, 69, 73] {77, 81, 86, 89}, w&t.

Short Row 2 (WS): Purl (18, 20, 22, 24) [24, 26, 26, 28] {30, 32, 34, 34}, w&t.

Short Row 3: Knit to wrapped st, knit wrapped st, w&t. (Wraps do not need to be picked up, they will tuck neatly into the armhole edge.)

Short Row 4: Purl to wrapped st, purl wrapped st, w&t. Rep Short Rows 3 and 4 until only (10, 12, 14, 14) [18, 18, 18, 18] {20, 24, 26, 30} sts picked up in cast on sts remain unworked.

Next Rnd: Knit to BOR marker.

Work even in St st until sleeve measures 3" / 7.5 cm from underarm.

Note: You will now begin working in the round.

Dec Rnd: K1, k2tog, knit to last 3 sts, SSK, k1. 2 sts dec'd. Rep Dec Rnd every (10th, 8th, 6th, 6th) [6th, 6th, 4th, 4th] {4th, 4th, 4th, 4th} rnd (3, 3, 13, 7) [5, 1, 24, 21] {20, 17, 13, 10} times, then every (8th, 6th, 4th, 4th) [4th, 4th, 2nd, 2nd] {2nd, 2nd, 2nd, 2nd} rnd (9, 13, 6, 15) [18, 24, 3, 9] {11, 17, 25, 31} times. (52, 52, 52, 52) [56, 56, 56, 56] {60, 60, 60, 60} sts.

Work even in St st until sleeve measures 16" / 40 cm from underarm or 2" / 5 cm less than desired length.

Change to smaller needles.

Cuff—Ribbing Rnd: * K1, p1; rep from * around.

Rep Ribbing Rnd until cuff measures 2" / 5 cm. Bind off in ribbing.

FINISHING

Choose from Rolled Neck or Ribbed Neckband options below. With 16" / 40 cm circular needle and beginning at the right edge of the back neck, pick up and knit 1 st in each CO st along back neck, 3 sts for every 4 rows along left side of neck, 1 st in each CO st along front neck, and 3 sts for every 4 rows along right side of neck, approximately (140, 140, 144, 144) [144, 148, 148, 150] {150, 158, 158, 158} sts. Exact number of sts isn't crucial, but for Ribbed Neckband, it must be an even number. Pm for BOR.

Rolled Neck: Knit every rnd until neck measures 2" / 5 cm. Bind off loosely.

Ribbed Neckband—Ribbing Rnd: * K1, p1; rep from * around. Repeat Ribbing Rnd until neckband measures 1½" / 4 cm. Bind off in ribbing. Weave in all ends and block as desired.

STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS & TERMS

BOR: beginning of round

dec: decrease

dpn(s): double pointed needle(s)

inc: increase

k: knit

k2tog: knit 2 stitches together

kfb: knit in the front and back of the next st

M1L: Make 1 Left— Pick up horizontal strand between stitch just worked and next stitch from front to back, place on left-hand needle, knit this stitch through the back (1 stitch increased).

M1pL: Make 1 purl Left— Pick up horizontal strand between stitch just worked and next stitch from front to back, place on left-hand needle, purl this stitch through the back (1 stitch increased).

M1pR: Make 1 purl Right—Pick up horizontal strand between stitch just worked and next stitch from back to front, place on left-hand needle, purl this stitch through the front (1 stitch increased).

M1R: Make 1 Right—Pick up horizontal strand between stitch just worked and next stitch from back to front, place on left-hand needle, knit this stitch through the front (1 stitch increased).

p: purl

pm: place marker

rep: repeat

rnd(s): round(s)

RS: right side

sl: slip

SSK: Slip 2 stitches knitwise, insert point of left-hand needle through fronts of these 2 stitches and knit 2 together.

st(s): stitch(es)

St st: Stockinette Stitch—Knit 1 row, purl 1 row alternately when working back and forth in rows. The knit side is the right side of work. Knit EVERY round when working in the round.

w&t: wrap and turn, a method of concealing a hole created in short row shaping. On RS rows: With yarn held in front, slip next stitch purlwise, then bring yarn between needles to the back. Slip that same stitch back to the left needle. Turn your work. On WS Rows: With yarn held in back, slip next stitch purlwise, then bring yarn between needles to the front. Slip that same stitch back to the left needle. Turn your work. Unless otherwise indicated, each time you come to a wrapped stitch when working subsequent rows, slip the wrap back over stitch and onto needle, then work the wrap together with its accompanying stitch.

WS: wrong side

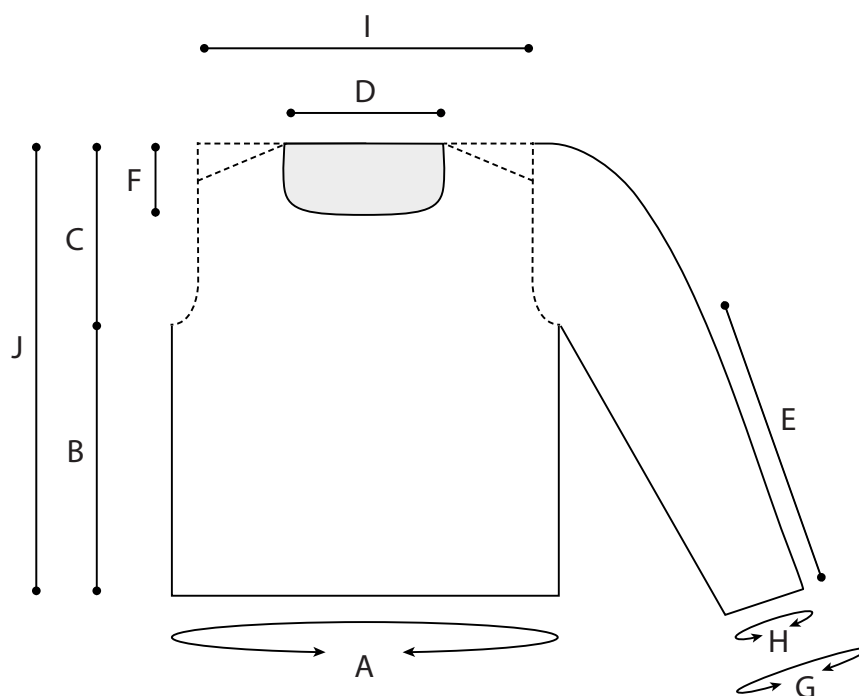
wyib: with yarn in back of work

wyif: with yarn in front of work

QUESTIONS?

Scan the QR code for the Berroco Learning Center where you will find our fit guide, how-to videos, the complete glossary and more.





THE MAINSTAY—FINGERING MEASUREMENTS

A (Bust Circumference): (32, 36¼, 40, 44¼) [48, 52¼, 56, 60¼] {64, 68¼, 72, 76¼}" / (80, 91, 100, 111) [120, 131, 140, 151] {160, 171, 180, 191} cm

B (Length to Underarms): 14" / 35 cm

C (Armhole Length): (7½, 7¾, 8, 8½) [9¼, 9¼, 9½, 10] {10½, 11, 11¼, 11½}" / (19, 19.5, 20, 21) [23, 23, 24, 25] {26.5, 27.5, 28, 29} cm

D (Back Neck Width): (7, 7¾, 8, 8) [8, 8¼, 8¼, 8½] {8½, 9¼, 9¼, 9¼}" / (17.5, 19.5, 20, 20) [20, 20.5, 20.5, 21.5] {21.5, 23, 23, 23} cm

E (Sleeve Length): 18" / 45 cm

F (Front Neck Depth): 4" / 10 cm

G (Upper Arm Circumference): (12, 13¼, 14¼, 15) [16, 16½, 17¼, 18¼] {19, 20, 21¼, 22¼}" / (30, 33, 35.5, 37.5) [40, 41.5, 43, 45.5] {47.5, 50, 53, 55.5} cm

H (Wrist Circumference): (8, 8, 8, 8) [8½, 8½, 8½, 8½] {9¼, 9¼, 9¼, 9¼}" / (20, 20, 20, 20) [21.5, 21.5, 21.5, 21.5] {23, 23, 23, 23} cm

I (Back Width): (13¼, 14¾, 15½, 15¾) [16½, 17¼, 17¾, 18¾] {19, 20, 20½, 21½}" / (33, 37, 39, 39.5) [41.5, 43, 44.5, 47] {47.5, 50, 51.5, 54} cm

J (Total Length): (21½, 21¾, 22, 22½) [23¼, 23¼, 23½, 24] {24½, 25, 25¼, 25½}" / (54, 54.5, 55, 56.5) [58, 58, 59, 60] {61.5, 62.5, 63, 64} cm