

# Loom Knit Baby Sweater

Ruth Volk – February 2015



This sweater is very simple - much harder to explain than it is to make!

All general instructions and instructions for any stitches I use in my loom patterns are fully documented in my "Loom Knitting Common Instructions" sheet.

This pattern uses just 5 rectangles, each made on a knitting loom using the e-wrap method.

The rectangles are made using a round loom, but working back and forth rather than around in a circle.

You will need the blue loom (24 pegs) or larger.

The back is one square 10X10 inches, the front panels are two rectangles 5x10 inches, and the sleeves are two rectangles 5x7 inches worked off the sides outward. See Diagram at bottom of pattern.

**Cast-on method:** This pattern requires casting on one peg at a time (double e-wrap cast on). Make a slip knot and place loop on the 1st peg to the right of the anchor peg. Working toward the right, loosely e-wrap the next peg twice, pull the lower loop over the upper loop, then pull the yarn to tighten. Continue with each peg to the right until you have cast-on the number of pegs listed for each piece. This method makes a better garment edge than the e-wrap cast on, which tends to be very loose.

The cast on rows will become the bottom edge of the sweater.

**Cast-off method:** Cast off loosely, either with the knit off method, or crochet off method (see Loom Knitting Common Instructions sheet). Cut yarn and pull through tight, leaving a tail long enough to sew a seam later as needed for assembly of the pieces.

**Back** – 24 pegs wide by 34 rows long

**Front panels** (make 2) – 12 pegs wide by 34 rows long

**Sleeves** (make 2) – 22 pegs wide by 17 rows long

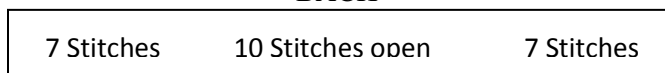
**Instructions:** Make one back and 2 front panels, as described above.

The front panels are sewn to the back panel at the shoulder as shown in the diagram below.

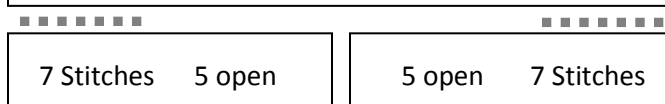
The back is 24 pegs and fronts are 12 pegs each. To sew, stitch together only 7 stitches of each, from the shoulder inward, leaving 10 open stitches along the center back neck edge, and leaving 5 stitches open on the neck edge of each front panel.

Back cast-off edge:  
24 stitches total

BACK



Front cast-off edges:  
24 stitches total  
(12 each)



**Sleeve Instructions:** Once the shoulder seams are sewn, pick up one side edge, right side facing you. Lift it up into the loom with the center shoulder seam at the middle. Pull up 11 stitches to the right of the seam, placing each one onto a peg, and pick up 11 stitches to the left of the shoulder seam, placing each of those onto a peg. You should have 22 working pegs with the shoulder seam in the very middle. Attach the yarn to the left edge by the 1<sup>st</sup> working peg. Work back and forth on those 22 pegs for 17 rows.

**[Optional Sleeve Tapering:** I like to decrease on the last two rows to taper the sleeve a little. Do this by taking the leftmost stitch off the peg and placing it onto the peg to the right of it. When you work the next row, work those two sets of loops as though they were one. Similarly, take the rightmost stitch off the peg and place it onto the peg to the left of it, working as one set of loops.]

Cast off loosely, leaving a long yarn tail to sew the side seam.

With right sides together, sew side seam from the wrist all the way to the bottom sweater edge.

*Work the other sleeve the same as the first.*

**Finishing:** I like to work one round of single crochet (using a size I or J hook) all around the neck, front edges and bottom of sweater. As I crochet the edging, I make loops for the button holes along one front. To do this, single crochet to the spot where you want to position the button loop. Chain 2 (or however many needed to fit the button through), slip stitch into the same stitch as the sc just worked. Continue to sc around. Then sew buttons on the opposite side to line up with the button loops.

### Helpful Hints:

When working pieces that need to be sewn together later, I find it helpful to leave a long yarn tail at the beginning and/or end of the work to use for stitching the seams needed to assemble pieces together. Then I don't have extra yarn tails to hide.

When sewing a long seam, use stitch holders or large safety pins to attach the two pieces at key points that need to line up. For example on this sweater, pin at the underarm. Sew the underarm seam from the wrist to the pin, then from the pin down to the bottom edge. This helps keep the two sides lined up as you sew. For the shoulder seams, pin the work at the 7<sup>th</sup> stitch so you know where to end and can space the stitches evenly.

**Blocking:** To block the pieces, you can either do each piece separately before sewing together, or wait and block at the end. I prefer to block at the end, and only block what needs to be flattened to prevent it from rolling. I like to use the steam from my steam iron, but be sure NOT TO PRESS DOWN. Just lightly run the iron over the piece, holding it slightly above the garment, not touching. Let the steam release the fibers until they lay flat. Sometimes it helps to steam from the back side rather than the front.

**Yarn:** On the knitting looms, you typically use 2 strands of worsted weight yarn. I have used one worsted and one a lighter weight, which works OK for certain things. If you have lighter weight yarn only, you will need 3 strands, or enough to equate to the same thickness as 2 worsted weight strands. I found that

using two different variegated yarns is very pretty. For the sweater in the photo above, I used one strand of a variegated peach/pink yarn, and one strand of variegated baby pastel colors.

**Knit Off method of Cast-off:** The pattern will have your last row end with the working yarn on the right-most peg. Take the working yarn and wrap that last peg once, then lift off the lower loop. \*Take the working yarn and wrap the peg to the left. Lift off the lower loop. Take the remaining loop off that peg and move it to the peg on the right (the last working peg). Lift off the lower loop. Take the remaining loop off that peg and move it to the peg on the left, which now becomes the last working peg. Continue from \* to the last peg. Work the last peg as above, then cut the yarn leaving a yarn tail long enough to sew the seam later (as needed). Lift last loop off the peg, pull the yarn tail through the loop and pull tight.

**Crochet Off method of Cast-off:** Do not cut yarn! The pattern will have your last row end with the working yarn on the right-most peg. Using a size I or J hook, take off the loop on the right most peg and insert crochet hook. Hook the yarn and pull through the loop on the hook. \*Lift the stitch off the next peg to the left and place on hook. Hook the yarn and pull through both loops on hook. Repeat from \* to last stitch. Finally, yarn over and pull through the last loop in your hook, cut yarn (leave a tail for sewing) and pull through that last loop, pulling yarn tight.

Be sure not to make your stitches too tight. The work should lay flat and be no tighter than cast-on row.

## Diagram:

