

“Mariechen”
by Isabell Kraemer
KAL Preparations

Welcome to our Fall 2022 KAL. After a fun summer, I hope you are looking forward to Sweater-Weather and adding Isabell Kraemer’s classy “Mariechen” to your wardrobe. I fell in love with it and knit one for myself last winter. As I talked about it, I learned that so many of you also love this sweater, so... let’s make one together!! “Mariechen” is a top down, straight sided, raglan cardigan with details on the front panels and stockinette back and sleeves. Once the body of the sweater is completed, the front edges are picked up to knit button bands, and then sleeves stitches are picked up and knit to your desired length. (As a note, I will support steeking on this sweater).

Our first meeting is **September 10th**, and we will continue for 8 weeks. Here’s how to join:

-Sign up online at AllWoundUpYarnShop.com under Class Registration. Once signed up, you will receive all of the KAL communications and invitations to all zoom sessions.

-Purchase your pattern from Ravelry or All Wound Up Yarn Shop. Here is the link:

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/mariechen>

-Choose your yarn. The pattern gauge is 5 sts/inch, so a worsted or DK weight will work well. Worsted weight yarn will make a jacket weight sweater, and a DK weight yarn will be softer with a looser stitch fabric. Don’t forget how beautiful it is to hold 2 yarns together! Like 2 fingering or a sport and a lace weight. There are so many options!

-Knit your swatch. The pattern calls for 20 sts and 30 rows over 4 inches (5 sts, 7.5 rows/inch). See below for a reminder on how to knit a swatch.

Gauge is critical for a proper fit when making clothing, so we will talk about gauge and sizing in our first class. But feel free to knit your swatch and block it before class. The pattern calls for a US-6 for the body and sleeves, and I agree, but you can also adjust your needle size as needed for gauge or for your preferred fabric.

Here are notes on knitting your swatch:

- Cast-on 26 stitches using a US-6 needle, or your best estimation of needle size that will produce 5 stitches per inch in stockinette.
- Knit 4 inches and bind off.
- Measure your swatch several times over at least 2” and count stitches per inch and rows per inch.
- Soak the swatch in cool water for about 5 minutes.
- Squeeze out the water using a towel, then gently lay it flat without stretching.
- Let it dry and measure again. How close are you to the recommended gauge? Keep in mind that one-half stitch per inch translates to about 4 inches difference in size on a completed sweater! You can adjust needle size to fine tune your gauge. It is easy to adjust the pattern to accommodate gauge differences of up to ½ stitch per inch.
- Most important is that you are happy with the fabric in your swatch as you will have a whole sweater with this lovely fabric!!

I think you will love this sweater as much as I do! Be sure to sign up so you receive KAL info, and then mark your calendar for our first meeting on Saturday, September 10th from 1:00p until 2:30p on zoom. See you there!