Cloud Classic Swing Coat

Designed by Linda Voss Plummer

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A top-down jacket

Size 8 needle (any kind), size 9 circular, at least 32" long – or size required to obtain gauge, 2 size 8 dpns for i-cord

13(14,15,16) skeins Cascade Cloud #2125

stitch markers – 4 of one color, 2 of another color.

3 large buttons (button loops can be adjusted to fit your choice of button)

Gauge over st st: 20 sts/4"

Actual size: 38 (42, 46, 50) "

Note: As you work down, you can slip sts to scrap yarn or to several circular needles and try sweater on – one of the advantages of the top down technique. This is also true as you do the sleeves.

Neckband: With smaller needles, cast on 16 (16, 20, 20) sts

K1,p1 across first row.

Every other row: sl first st kwise, *p1, k1 * to last st, p1.

Continue thus until there are 96(106,112,120) slipped sts along edge. (I marked every 20th slipped st as I went, making it easier to keep track).

When right number of rows are worked, cast off, but do not break yarn

Setup for body: Still using smaller needles, pick up and knit sts along one of the long edges, picking up both strands of the slipped st and placing color A markers as follows (rs): 10 (12,14,16) sts, pm, 22 (23,   23,24), pm, 32 (36,38,40), pm, 22 (23,23,24), pm 10 (12,14,16) sts, - 96 (106,112,120) sts

(ws): cast on 11(11,13,15) sts, place color B marker, k across row, slipping markers and *purling* one st before and after color A markers. At end of row, place color B marker, cast on 11(11,13,15) sts.

The first and last 11(11,13,15) sts will become the front facings. They will be worked as follows: (the slipped sts will provide a nice turning edge and inside edge.) Take yarn to back before slipping stitches on right side.

Row 1: (rs): *Left Front Band:* * sl 1, p 1 * repeat to last st of band, sl 1, slip Color B marker, *k to one st before Color A marker, inc one st with e-warp, k 1, sl m, k 1, inc one st with e-wrap ,* repeat between ** until last increase after last Color A marker, k to color B marker, slip marker *Right Front Band:* * sl 1, p 1* repeat to last st, k 1.

Row 2: (ws): sl 1, * k1, p1* to Color B marker*, sl marker, k across row , purling one st before and after Color A markers, Slip Color B marker, p 1 * k1 p1* to end.

Continue to work as established. You will be increasing 8 sts every rs row, not increasing on ws. The sts on either side of the Color A markers will form a 2 st knit line down the raglan sleeves.

When there are 96(106,116,120) sts between back markers, **try the jacket on!** If it fits, put sleeve sts on scrap yarn (this is more flexible than st holders) to be completed later. If it is not large enough, keep going until it fits. Cast off 3(3,4,5,) sts before and after each underarm marker - 6(6,8,10) sts total - under each arm. Leaving sleeves sts on scrap yarn, knit back and forth, maintaining front band sts as established. 1(1,1 ½, 1 ½)" below armhole, k to one st before underarm marker, inc 1 st with e-wrap, k1, sl marker, k1, inc 1 st with e-wrap), repeat at 2nd underarm marker, work to end of tow. Repeat these side increases every 2" until desired length or 14(15,1617)." Bind off.

Note remember that garter st is somewhat elastic up and down.

Sleeves:

Move sts to the larger needle.   Cast on 3(3,4,5) sts on each side. Working back and forth, K every row, until about 3" before desired length. Increase on st each side. Continue to 10(10 ½, 11, 12)" or desired length. Bind off.

Work other sleeve the same way.

Note, you may try on to check sleeve length.

Sleeves could be knit in the round with a marker showing the beginning of round. If done in the round, the pattern would be k 1 row, p 1 row to obtain garter st.

Sew small seam at underarm and down inseam of sleeve.

Button loops:

Using double pointed needles, cast on 3 sts. Work i-cord 6" long. Make 2 more. Sew to right side of jacket as shown. Sew on 3 buttons to correspond with these.

Wash, block and *swing!*