



JOOSYNNE

Sweater

Cat sweater in tweed

You create the cat sweater from the top down. You begin at the upper back and first shape the diagonal shoulders. Next, you knit the left and right front sections from the shoulders. All the stitches are placed on a long cable for the remainder of the body. You attach the sleeves to the sections. Finally, you sew the cats and tails onto the knitting. The sweater features an oversized fit and is available in three sizes: Small, Medium, and Large. Mieke, shown in the photo, is wearing size Medium.

Dimensions

Width 59 (61) 63 cm

Height 60 (62) 64 cm

Sleeve length 46 (48) 50 cm



Soft Tweed by Drops

Soft Tweed is an exceptionally soft yarn. It is composed of merino wool, fine alpaca, and viscose. By carding these fibers together, small felted 'tweed knots' are formed in the yarn. Additionally, color specks have been incorporated to enhance the rustic look of the tweed.



YARN

Soft Tweed by Drops

50% wool, 25% alpaca, 25% viscose

50 g = 130 m

A significant leftover of Brushed Alpaca Silk from Drops in black (16)

18 Carrot Cake 150 (150) 200 grams

09 Raven 150 (150) 200 grams

16 Guacamole 100 (100) 150 g

04 Cookie Dough 50 grams

NEEDLES

(Circular) knitting needles size 3.5 and 4
tapestry needle

STITCH GUIDE

17 stitches x 26 rows in stockinette stitch
with size 4 needles, after washing and
blocking = 10 cm



STITCHES AND TECHNIQUES

Rib stitch 2/2 and stockinette stitch

Duplicate stitch

M1L: increase 1 stitch on a straight
needle from the left side

M1R: increase 1 stitch on a straight
needle from the right side

M1Lp: increase 1 stitch on a purl
needle from the left side

M1Rp: increase 1 stitch on a purl
needle from the right side

DIFFICULTY LEVEL



METHOD



1

BACK

Take your knitting needles 4 and cast on 30 (32) 34 stitches using the color Guacamole. Knit 1 row purlwise and place a stitch marker after the first 3 stitches and before the last 3 stitches. You will increase for the shoulders within those stitch markers. This method ensures that the 3 edge stitches (the shoulders) continue smoothly in a diagonal line.

Increase on every row, both right-side and wrong-side rows, by 1 stitch after the first marker and 1 stitch before the second marker. Repeat 32 (33) 34 times.

Knit row increases: knit 3 stitches, M1L, knit to the last 3 stitches, M1R, knit 3 stitches. Purl row increases: knit 3 stitches, M1Lp, knit to the last 3 stitches, M1Rp, knit 3 stitches.

Increase until you have 94 (98) 102 stitches on the needle. Continue without increasing until your knitting measures 26 (27) 28 cm, measured from the top of one shoulder. Transfer stitches onto a stitch holder and fasten off.



2

FRONT

On the right side of the right shoulder, pick up 32 (33) 34 stitches (1 stitch in each row). Knit 6 cm in stockinette stitch.

Then increase 1 stitch 6 times at the neckline edge as follows:

Knit to the last 3 sts, M1R, knit 3 sts.

There are 38 (39) 40 stitches on the needle. Transfer them to a support needle and secure.

On the right side of the left shoulder, pick up 32 (33) 34 stitches (1 stitch in each row). Knit 6 cm in stockinette stitch.

Then increase 1 stitch 6 times at the neckline edge as follows:

Knit three stitches on the right needle, M1L, knit the row.

There are 38 (39) 40 stitches on the needle.

Join the right and left front pieces on the next purl row.

Knit the 38 (39) 40 stitches of the left front, cast on 18 (20) 22 additional stitches, and knit the 38 (39) 40 stitches of the right front. This results in a total of 94 (98) 102 stitches on your needle.

Continue in stockinette stitch until your work measures 26 (27) 28 cm, measured from the top of one shoulder. Conclude with a purl row and fasten off.



3

BODY

Knit now using the color Carrot Cake. Connect the front and back: Knit the 94 (98) 102 stitches of the front, cast on 6 additional stitches (bottom of the right sleeve), knit the 94 (98) 102 stitches of the back, cast on 6 additional stitches (bottom of the left sleeve) = 200 (208) 216 stitches. Place a stitch marker at the start of the round.

Continue in rounds until reaching 54 (56) 58 cm, measured from the top of one shoulder, or to the desired length. On the final round, decrease 32 stitches evenly. You have 168 (176) 184 stitches. Switch to 3.5 mm needles and work a 6 cm rib pattern, knitting 2 and purling 2. Cast off smoothly.

4

SLEEVES

With color Raven, pick up 90 (94) 98 stitches, distributed across the front, back, and the 6 additional stitches. Place a stitch marker at the beginning of the round. Work in stockinette stitch, decreasing every 6th round 18 (20) 22 times as follows:

Knit 1 stitch, knit 2 stitches together, knit to 3 stitches before the marker, slip 1 stitch, knit 1 stitch, pass the slipped stitch over the knitted stitch, knit 1 stitch.

After the decreases, you will have 54 stitches on the needle. Knit until the sleeve measures 40 (42) 44 cm. Decrease 14 stitches evenly distributed, resulting in 40 stitches on the needle. Switch to 3.5 mm needles and knit a 6 cm rib of 2 knit/2 purl. Bind off smoothly. Knit the second sleeve in the same manner.



5

NECKBAND

Using 3.5 mm needles and the color Cookie Dough cast on 136 (140) 144 stitches along the neck. Work in a 2 knit/2 purl pattern for 12 cm and bind off the stitches evenly. Fold the neckband in half and sew it to the inside.

6

DUPLICATE STITCH

Work the three cats on the front in duplicate stitch according to the charts, using DROPS Brushed Alpaca Silk. Begin with the middle cat, positioning it nicely in the center of your knitting, and start working the duplicate stitches in the color Guacamole on the last round. Ensure that the thread is not pulled too tightly, allowing the Brushed Alpaca Silk to nearly cover the stitch completely. Next, work the left and right cats in duplicate stitch, leaving 5 (6) 7 stitches between them. Then, identify where the tails will be placed. The right cat features two tails, with one extending to the back and finishing on the left front. Using a vibrant color, outline the tail with a sturdy thread and fill it in with duplicate stitches.



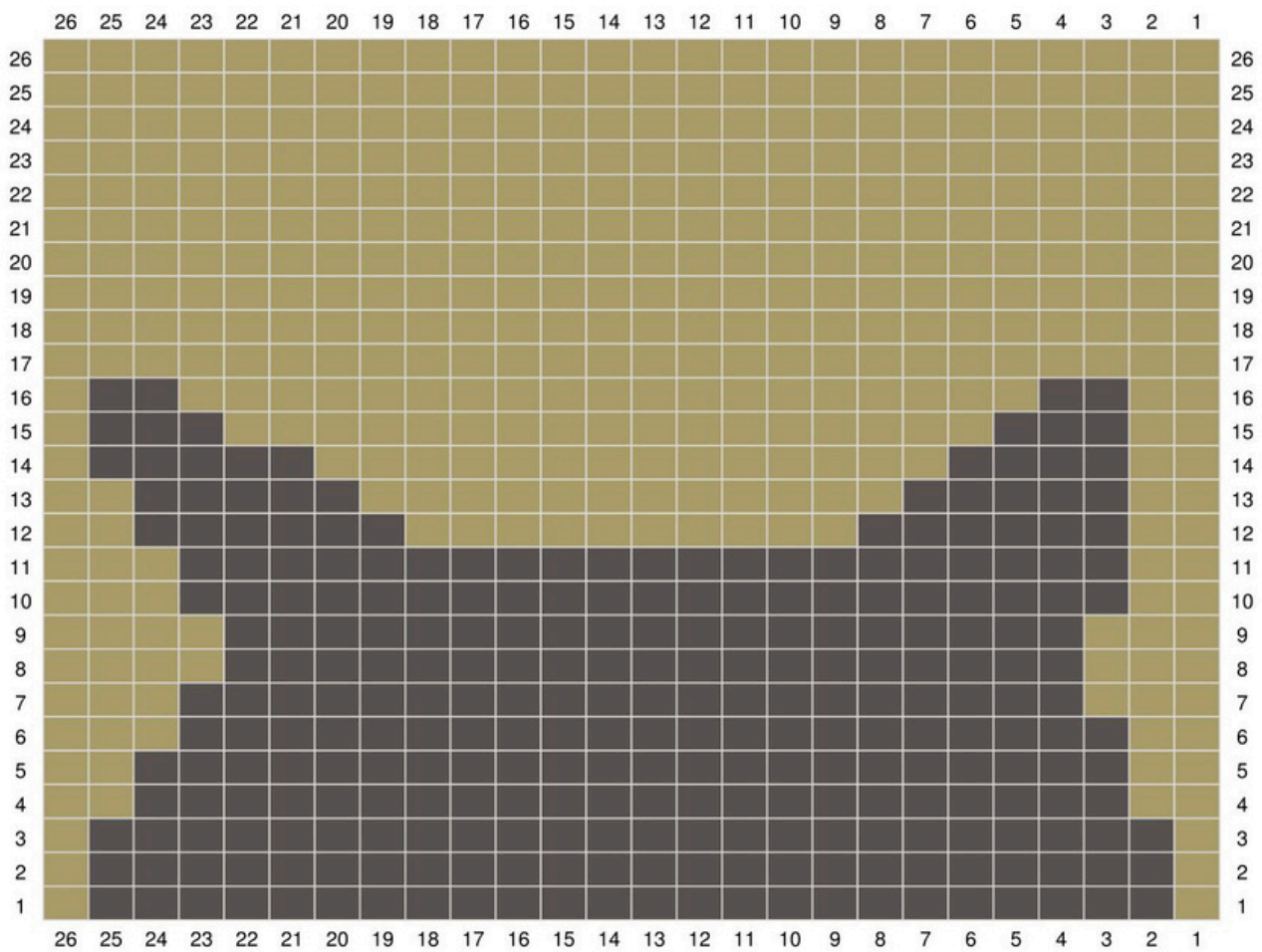
7

FINISHING

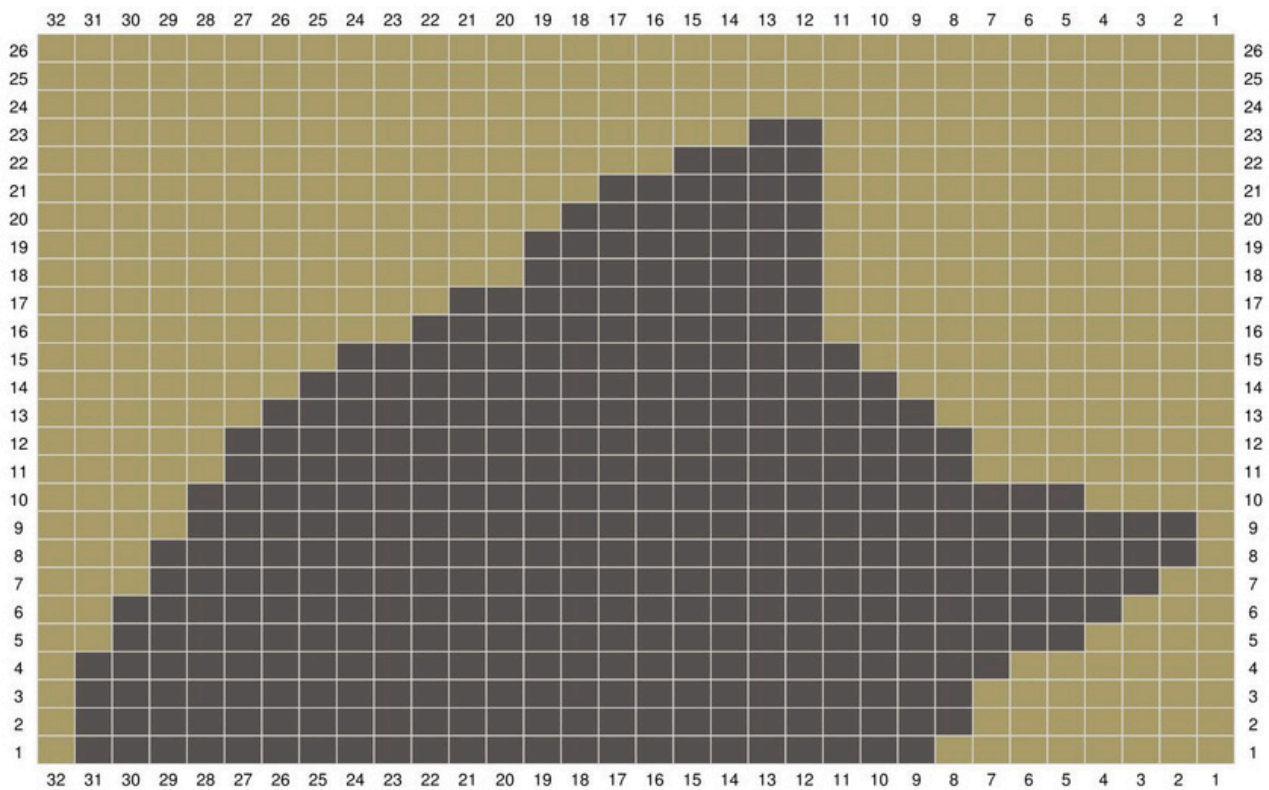
Weave in all the ends.

Soak the sweater for thirty minutes in lukewarm water with a small amount of Eucalan to relax the stitches. Gently press the water out between two towels without wringing or spinning the wet sweater in the spin dryer. Lay the sweater flat on a clean towel and allow it to dry.

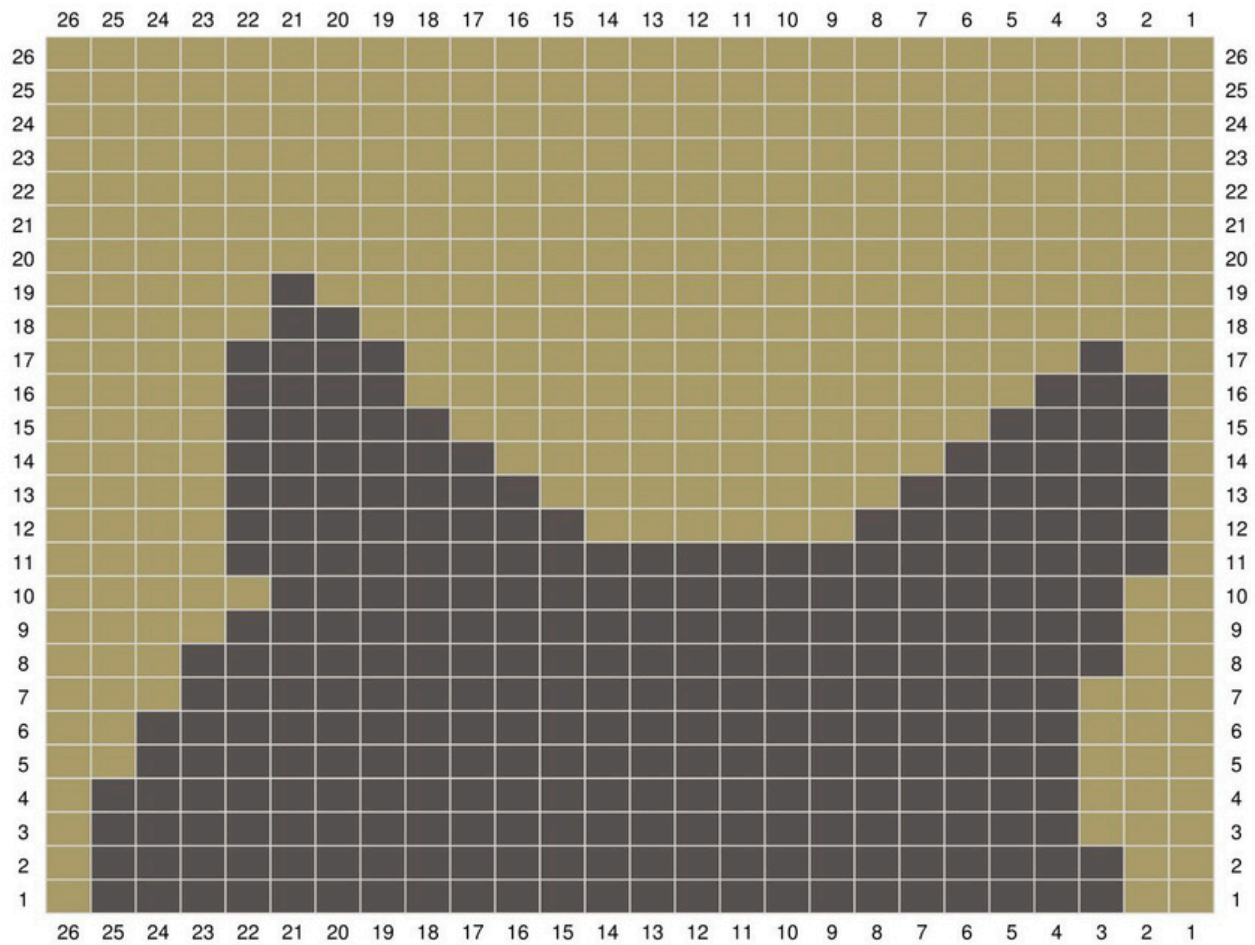
Middle cat



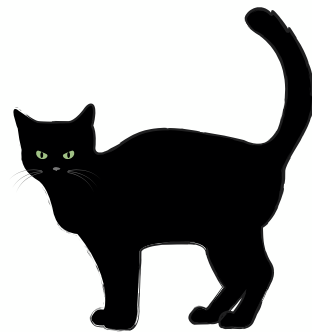
Right cat



Left cat



THE BLACK CAT



Emblem of malevolence

During the era of the witch hunts, it was commonly believed that devils and witches could transform into cats, particularly black cats. Witches were frequently illustrated alongside these black felines. Both the alleged witches and the cats faced severe persecution. They were subjected to burning, quartering, hanging, or drowning. Cats were held responsible for various calamities, initially for the plague and subsequently for numerous misfortunes. The concept of the demonic cat with two tails originates from Japanese folklore. This cat is said to create fireballs and employs its tails as torches to ignite fires. Additionally, it possesses the ability to resurrect the dead and manipulate them like puppets.

Tribute to thousands of 'witches'

The sweater for Joosynne is included in MICCA, a collection that honors the numerous victims of the witch hunt. In Europe alone, an estimated 40,000 to 60,000 people were executed for witchcraft. They were primarily women, but also men and even children.

Butter witch

Joosynne Labyns was executed by burning on 1 August 1664 in Heestert, a part of Zwevegem. Joosynne was identified as a butter witch. With the assistance of the devil, she ensured that the milk did not yield butter. Additionally, she was believed to have the ability to summon milk from a cow and milk the animal from a distance. To rid her of the devil's influence and restore the butter, only the stake could provide salvation. The execution of Joosynne is recognized as one of the final witch trials in this area.

A tribute to the victims

MICCA is a collection of textile designs created in remembrance of the victims of the historical witch persecutions. Each design bears the name of a woman or man who was accused of witchcraft. In Europe alone, an estimated 40,000 to 60,000 people were executed for witchcraft.

Threads of love

MICCA weaves their history into timeless creations made from yarn. Every stitch is part of the chain that connects us across generations.

You can find my designs on Ravelry under Micca-witchcraft or on my website www.micca-witchcraft.be. There you can also discover the stories behind the designs and download my e-book, in which I present the cruel reality of the witch persecutions in an original way.



Colophon

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