Big Kids Bulky Mock Turtleneck

designed by Amy Thompson

This pattern is based on my baby sized From the Top Mock Turtleneck, using the same neck shaping but with more stitches cast on and done in bulky yarn to yield a youth L-XL depending on your gauge. Sample was knit in Lamb's Pride Bulky in Ink Blue on US size 10.5 needles using the wrap & turn method for the short rows at the neck. This produced a sweater with a chest measurement of 36.5" before blocking which should fit a youth size 16 with 4" of ease. Child wearing sample has a 32" chest measurement and wears a youth 14-16. Sample used literally every inch of 6 skeins of Lamb's Pride Bulky.

Size: Youth L-XL, approx 36" chest

US size 10.5 needles: DPNs, 16" circular, and 29" circular, recommend 36" circular for the last part of the yoke but it can be squeezed onto a 29"

US size 10 DPNs and 29" circular: for ribbing

Lamb's Pride Bulky, 6+ skeins (625-650yds)

Gauge: 3¹/₂ stitches per inch



Abbreviations: K=knit; P=purl; PM=place marker; M1=increase 1; M1p-st=increase 1 purl stitch; WT=wrap & turn; PWK= knit the wrap & stitch together; PWP=purl the wrap & stitch together

Helpful hints: photo tutorial at Purl Bee showing how to WT in both knit and purl rows: <u>http://www.purlbee.com/short-row-tutorial/2008/6/18/short-rows-tutorial.html</u>, and a photo tutorial at Knitting Geek on the slip stitch method of short rows: http://knittinggeek.com/simple/2005/03/magic-of-short-rows.html

<u>Collar:</u> loosely CO 64 stitches, place marker* and join in the round, K1P1 around for 16 rows Knit around once, placing markers as follows; K11, PM, K21, PM, K11, PM, K21. If you are using a different color for the collar, this last row should be the one where you change color for the body. **this marker remains your start of round for the sweater throughout and marks the right back shoulder of the raglan increases; it's helpful to keep this one different from the rest as a reference point.*

Choose an increase method for the raglan seams and remain consistent; it needs to work on a purl row increase as well for these first few rows. I prefer to knit (or purl) into the stitch in the row below the stitch on each side of the marker, which I denoted as M1 or M1p-st in the instructions. Other methods work just as well.

There are two ways of working the turns on the short rows on this sweater neck and shoulder, one involves slipping the last stitch after the turn and the other is a wrap & turn. I've included them as separate sets of directions to avoid confusion. I have found for bulky yarns I much prefer W&T.

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Neck Shaping, Wrap & Turn method:

Row 1, right side: after starting marker K1 M1, K9, M1 K1, slip marker, K1 M1, K1, WT

Row 2, wrong side: P3, slip marker, P13, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P19, M1p-st, P1, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P9, M1p-st, P1, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P1, WT

Row 3, right side: K3, slip marker, K13, slip marker, K23, slip marker, K1, M1, K11, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K2, PWK, WT

Row 4, wrong side: P5, slip marker, P15, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P21, M1p-st, P1, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P11, M1p-st, P1, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P2, PWP, WT

Row 5, right side: K5, slip marker, K15, slip marker, K25, slip marker, K1, M1, K13, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K4, PWK, WT

Row 6, wrong side: P7, slip marker, P17, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P23, M1p-st, P1, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P13, M1p-st, P1, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P4, PWP, WT

Row 7, right side: K7, slip marker, K17, slip marker, K27, slip marker, K1, M1, K15, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K6, PWK, K11, PWK, Knit (<u>do not turn</u>) to one stitch before next marker (left front), M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K15, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K25, M1, K1, you are now back at your starting marker. Stitch count: 29 each front and back, 19 each sleeve.

Neck shaping, Slip Stitch method:

Row 1, right side: after starting marker K1 M1, K9, M1 K1, slip marker, K1 M1, K2, turn work **Row 2**, wrong side: slip the last knit stitch p-wise and pull snug, P3, slip marker, P13, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P19, M1p-st, P1, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P9, M1p-st, P1, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P2, turn work

Row 3, right side: slip the last purled stitch p-wise and pull snug, K3, slip marker, K13, slip marker, K23, slip marker, K1, M1, K11, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K4, turn work

Row 4, wrong side: turn work, slip the last knit stitch p-wise and pull snug, P5, slip marker, P15, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P1, M1p-st, P1, M1p-st, P1, M1p-st, P1, M1p-st, P4, turn work

Row 5, right side: slip the last purled stitch p-wise and pull snug, K5, slip marker, K15, slip marker, K25, slip marker, K1, M1, K13, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K6, turn work

Row 6, wrong side: turn work, slip the last knit stitch p-wise and pull snug, P7, slip marker, P17, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P13, M1p-st, P13, M1p-st, P1, slip marker, P1, M1p-st, P6, turn work

Row 7, right side: slip the last purled stitch p-wise and pull snug, K7, slip marker, K17, slip marker, K27, slip marker, K1, M1, K15, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K across the front (<u>do not turn</u>) to one stitch before left front marker, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K15, M1, K1, slip marker, K1, M1, K25, M1, K1, you are now back at your starting marker. Stitch count: 29 each front and back, 19 each sleeve.

Neck shaping is done. Note there may be small gaps where you turned if you used the slip stitch method, keep those slipped stitches nice and snug! Once you're done knitting the sweater, follow the path of the yarn and redistribute any looseness there may be across the row.

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Row 8: Knit around

Row 9: increase as you have been doing before and after each marker, beginning increases after main marker and ending before it, equaling 8 increases for the round

Continue alternating knit only rounds and increase rounds until there are 59 stitches each between markers for the front and back; and 49 stitches between markers for each shoulder. End with a knit only round. At this point measure from the bottom of the ribbing at the back of the neck to the live edge, if not at least 8", continues to knit plain rows (no increases) until it is.

Body: slip the right shoulder stitches onto a holder, keep main marker in place and remove right front marker, cast on 5 stitches and join to the right front side, knit across to left front shoulder marker, slip left shoulder stitches onto a holder, remove markers, cast on 5 stitches, join to back left side and knit across. There should be a total of 128 stitches around. Continue to knit around until 20" from back neck, *K1P1 for 2" or as it pleases you, bind off.

Sleeves: using sz 10.5 DPNS or beginning with your 16" circular needle, slip the right shoulder stitches distributed across the needles, pick up 7 stitches under the arm, this will give you 56 stitches for the arm. Decrease under the arm to a total of 54 stitches in next round at the first and last stitches you picked up, knitting each of those together with the sleeve stitch next to it as this helps close the gaps that can happen where the picked up stitches meet the stitches that were held for the sleeves. Begin knitting around, placing a marker in the center under the arm, or simply divide the stitches on your DPNs so there's a break at the underarm center. Knit in the round for 8 rows; decrease after the first stitch and before the last stitch of the next round for 2 stitches total reduction. Continue decreasing by 2 in the same places every 6^{th} row thereafter until at 32 stitches, knit in the round until arm length is 15.5" from underarm join. *K1P1 ribbing for 2" and bind off. Total sleeve length 17.5" from underarm.

*you can switch to a smaller needle size for the waist and wrist ribbing if you like.

Work in ends, redistribute any looseness in stitches at the neck, wash and block

I have not tested other sizes but to adjust the sweater one size up or down, try this:

To work this slightly smaller, reduce the number of increase rows on the yoke such that you end up with 55 stitches each front and back and 45 for each sleeve, but be sure the neck to live edge measurement is at least 7.5". There will be fewer decreases on the sleeve. This should give you in the range of a 34" sweater. Shorten the body and sleeves by no more than 1" if at all.

For a larger sweater, continue increasing until you have 63 stitches front and back and 53 for each sleeve, be sure it measures at least 8.5" from the neck to live edge. You will need to do more decreases on the sleeve. This should result in a 39" sweater. You're moving into adult sizes with this one, for females I'd add 1" to sleeves and 2-4" to length, males add 2" to sleeves and 4"-6" to the length. I recommend having 8 skeins of Lamb's Pride Bulky or equivalent on hand for this.