

*aimee sher*



***Building Blocks Drop***

*Bottom-up, perfect fit drop shoulder  
tee and pullover with pockets*

[aimeeshermakes.com](http://aimeeshermakes.com)

# Building Blocks Drop

The perfect canvas for your imagination, the Building Blocks Drop is just that... a base upon which to build your perfect custom fit pullover.

Featuring a drop-shoulder construction, worked bottom-up in the round, then split for front and back, this sweater is packed full of features to fit your unique body. This sweater has a comfortable shoulder fit graded across all sizes to ensure the shoulder seam sits comfortably on the upper arm, as well as optional bust darts for those whose sweater fronts always annoyingly ride up due to bust tissue!

## Specs

### Sizes

A (B, C, D) [E, F, G, H] (I, J, K) designed to fit based on upper bust, with optional bust dart shaping built into the pattern.

Actual upper bust measurements of: 31 (34.25, 37.5, 40.75) [44, 47.25, 50.5, 53.75] (57, 60.25, 63.5)" / 77.5 (85.5, 93.5, 102) [110, 118, 126.25, 134.5] (142.5, 150.5, 159) cm

Finished full bust measurements are: 38.5 (43.25, 47, 50.75) [54.5, 59.25, 63, 66.75] (70.5, 75.25, 79)" / 96.5 (108, 117.5, 127) [136.5, 148, 157.5, 167] (176.5, 188, 197.5) cm

**Choose a size based on your upper bust measurement.** If the difference between your full bust measure and the finished full bust is between 7 / 18 cm to 11" / 28 cm, then you have chosen the correct size. Check the Choose Your Cup Size section if the difference is 6" / 15 cm or less.

This pattern was designed with a very slim ease in the arm to balance the boxy body. Measure the upper arm halfway between the shoulder and the elbow to determine desired ease. Instructions are given in the pattern for lengthening the armhole depth for knitting the next size up for sleeve.

Model is wearing Size B with about 9" / 22½ cm positive ease on 34" / 86½ cm full bust and 31" upper bust.

## Credits

Tech Editing: Becky Monahan

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Schematics: Becky Monahan

Schematics: Symphony Chau

Grading Consultant: Jen Parroccini

Pink Sample Knitter: Hannah Graham

Layout: Symphony Chau

Photos: Roy and Aimee Sher

## Pattern Support

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## Gauge

17 stitches and 24 rounds = 4" / 10 cm, Stockinette stitch knit in the round on Needle A

## Needles

### NEEDLE A (MAIN FABRIC)

US8 / 5 mm or size to obtain Stockinette stitch gauge, in the following lengths:

- Circular needle 32" / 80 cm or higher depending on size
- Preferred style for knitting in a small circumference for sleeves
- *Optional: use only 32" / 80 cm and magic loop anywhere the work is too small.*

### NEEDLE B (RIBBING)

US6 / 4 mm or 2 sizes down from Needle A, in the following lengths:

- Circular needle 32-40" / 80-100 cm for body
- Circular needle 16" / 40 cm for neckline
- Preferred style for knitting in a small circumference for sleeve cuffs
- *Optional: use only 32" / 80 cm and magic loop anywhere the work is too small.*

### NEEDLE C (OPTIONAL TUBULAR CAST ON)

US5 / 3.75 mm or 3 sizes down from Needle A, in the following lengths:

- Circular needle 32-40" / 80-100 cm

## *Yarn Selection*

Choose a very lightweight, fluffy worsted weight yarn **held single**, or unspun yarn (**held single if particularly fluffy, held double if not**), that gets gauge.

### **Vest**

Wooldreamers La Rinconada in Granito (MC) and Blanc Naturele (CC), **held single**.

La Rinconada is a worsted weight, woolen spun 100% Spanish Merino, 252 yards / 230 meters per 3.5 oz / 100g skein.

### **Pullover**

Honer Och Eir's Nutiden in Sejd, **held double**.

Nutiden is an unspun yarn and works up to about worsted / light aran weight. It comes in slightly variable yardage (but very flexible gauge) in 100 gram plates.

*See page 4 for yardage.*

My personal preference for this pattern is to use a yarn that has light grist ([link](#)) for its wraps per inch labeling (sometimes known as weight). A woolen spun yarn will have a lighter hand and weight, and hold more air (and thus be warmer and more insulating) than a worsted spun yarn. An unspun yarn will be even more so.

Alternatives to Nutiden, the unspun yarn used in the sample, include Lopi Plötulopi and Wooldreamers Manchelopi. When using unspun, always purchase an extra plate, just in case, as each batch can change in its density and yardage depending on the season, humidity and temperature at time of milling, and the exact blend of fiber.

Alternatives to Wooldreamers La Rinconada, the woolen spun yarn used in the sample, include Harrisville Highland, De Rerum Natura Gilliat, and Peace Fleece Worsted.

Any worsted weight yarn that gets gauge will work, but will create a heavier garment if it is worsted spun and/or superwash.

## *Notions*

Unique marker for beginning of round, 2 stitch markers to mark side and short rows, tapestry needle, waste yarn, removable markers

## *Construction Notes*

Slip all markers as they are encountered.

This pattern is knit bottom-up in the round, split at the underarm, and then the front and back pieces are worked separately at the same time as V-neck decreases. Slip all markers as they are encountered. The shoulders are joined with three-needle bind off, then the sleeves are picked up and worked in the round. Both tubular cast off/bind off and long tail/in pattern instructions are given to customize the finish desired.

## *Special Techniques*

### **GERMAN SHORT ROW (MAKE DS)**

(WS): With yarn in front, slip next st purlwise. Bring yarn over needle, to back of work, drawing the legs of the st up the needle, creating a double stitch (DS). Bring yarn to the front between needles, ready to purl the next st. (RS): Bring yarn to front between needles, slip the next st purlwise. Bring yarn up and over needle, to back of work, drawing the legs up the st onto the needle, creating a double st. Leave yarn in back, ready to knit the next st.

To resolve short rows, knit or purl into both legs of double stitch as one when coming upon it again.

### **THREE-NEEDLE BIND OFF**

With the RS of garment pcs together (to form ridge on inside of garment), hold the needles parallel. With a third needle, join working yarn, knit the first st of front and back needles together, \*knit next st from each needle together, (2 sts on RH needle), BO 1 st; rep from \* until all sts are BO. Cut tail and thread through the last st.

### **LONG TAIL CAST ON**

[www.knitty.com/ISSUESummer05/FEATsum05TT.html](http://www.knitty.com/ISSUESummer05/FEATsum05TT.html)

### **TUBULAR CAST ON**

[www.tutorials.knitpicks.com/tubular-cast-on](http://www.tutorials.knitpicks.com/tubular-cast-on)

### **TUBULAR BIND OFF**

[www.purlsoho.com/create/long-tail-tubular-bind-off/](http://www.purlsoho.com/create/long-tail-tubular-bind-off/)

### **SLOPED BIND OFF (USED FOR ALL NECKLINE BIND OFFS)**

[www.purlsoho.com/create/sloped-bind-off](http://www.purlsoho.com/create/sloped-bind-off)

### **MATTRESS STITCH**

[www.purlsoho.com/create/mattress-stitch/](http://www.purlsoho.com/create/mattress-stitch/)



## Yardage

All yardage / meterage given as if held single. So, if purchasing an unspun yarn or other fingering weight yarn held double, please double check yardage. Base yardage without pockets or bust shaping:

Full Length Sleeves											
Size	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
yards	1175	1275	1375	1475	1575	1700	1800	1875	1975	2125	2225
meters	1075	1166	1257	1349	1440	1555	1646	1715	1806	1943	2035
plates of Nutiden	4	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	7	8	8
grams of Nutiden	400	425	450	500	525	575	600	625	650	700	725
Vest View											
Size	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
yards	800	900	975	1075	1150	1250	1325	1425	1500	1600	1675
meters	725	825	900	975	1050	1150	1200	1300	1375	1475	1525
plates of Nutiden	3	3	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	6	6
grams of Nutiden	275	300	350	375	400	425	450	475	500	550	600

### Additional yardage for cup sizes:

Cup Size 1: 15 yds/m or 7 grams of Nutiden  
 Cup Size 2: 30 yds/m or 14 grams of Nutiden  
 Cup Size 3: 45 yds/m or 21 grams of Nutiden  
 Cup Size 4: 60 yds/m or 28 grams of Nutiden

### Additional yardage for pockets:

20 yds/m each or 13 grams of Nutiden each

### If working contrast edge:

43 (45, 47, 50) [51, 53, 55, 57] (59, 61, 63) yards / 39 (41, 42, 45) [46, 48, 50, 52] (53, 55, 57) meters total for CC

## Choosing A Cup Size

This pattern includes instructions for short row shaping for the breasts. They add a wedge to the front of the garment to add length. To choose a cup size, measure the intended wearer's body from the top of the shoulder to the underbust line in the back and the front. This may require help from a second person. Be sure that the back and the front underbust points are parallel to the ground. It may be helpful to tie a piece of yarn or string around the underbust point so that the measurement is consistent.

Subtract the back length from the front length, then subtract 2" / 5 cm from this number (because the pattern accommodates a 2" difference already). The remaining difference is how much you need to add.

Each subsequent cup size adds 1" / 2.5 cm.

It's better to have slightly too few short rows than slightly too many. If you are in between or unsure, choose one cup size smaller.

Cup Size 1: Adds 1" / 2.5 cm  
 Cup Size 2: Adds 2" / 5 cm  
 Cup Size 3: Adds 3" / 7.5 cm  
 Cup Size 4: Adds 4" / 10

Schematics

Schematic measurements											
Size	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
To fit upper bust	31	34.25	37.5	40.75	44	47.25	50.5	53.75	57	60	64
To fit full bust	30	34	38	42	46	50	54	58	62	66	70
A) Chest circumference, inches	38.5	43.25	47	50.75	54.5	59.25	63	66.75	70.5	75.25	79
centimeters	96.5	108	117.5	127	136.5	148	157.5	167	176.5	188	197.5
B) Back shoulder across, inches	19.25	21.75	23.5	25	26	26.25	28.75	29.75	30.5	31.5	32
centimeters	48	54	59	62.5	64.5	66	72	74	76.5	79	80
C) Back neck width, inches	6.5	6.5	7	7	7.5	7.5	8	8	8.5	9	9
centimeters	16.5	16.5	17.5	17.5	19	19	20	20	21	22.5	22.5
F) Back neck to hem, inches	23.75	24	24.25	24.5	24.75	25	25.25	25.5	25.75	26	26.25
centimeters	60.5	61	61.5	62	63	63.5	64	65	65.5	66	66.5
E) Front neck drop, inches	3	3	3	3	3	3.25	3.25	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75
centimeters	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	8.5	8.5	9	9	9	9
G) Underarm to hem, inches	16.5	16.25	16.25	16.25	16.25	16	16	16	15.75	15.75	15.75
centimeters	42	41.5	41.5	41.5	41.5	40.5	40.5	40.5	40	40	40
J) Shoulder width, diagonal	6.5	7.75	8.5	9.25	9.5	9.75	10.5	11	11.25	11.25	11.5
centimeters	16.5	19.5	21.5	23.5	24	24.5	26.5	27.5	28.5	29	29.5
N) Armhole depth, inches	5.75	6.25	6.75	7	7.25	7.75	8	8.25	8.75	9	9.25
centimeters	14.5	15.5	17	17.5	18	19.5	20	20.5	22	22.5	23
P) Upper arm circumference	11.25	12.25	13.25	14	15	16.5	18	18.75	20.25	21.75	23
centimeters	28	30.5	33	35.5	37.5	41	44.5	47	50.5	54	57.5
Q) Sleeve Length from underarm, inches	18.50	17.50	17.00	16.50	16.25	16.25	15.50	15.00	15.00	15.00	14.75
centimeters	46.5	44.5	42.5	41.5	40.5	40.5	38.5	37.5	37.5	37.5	37
R) Wrist circumference	8.5	8.5	9	9.5	10	10.25	10.25	10.75	11.25	11.75	11.75
centimeters	21	21	22.5	23.5	24.5	26	26	27	28	29.5	29.5

E - Back neck drop - 1" / 2.5 cm

H - Hem ribbing length, front, high-low - 2" / 5 cm

I - Hem ribbing length, back, high-low - 5" / 12.5 cm

I - Hem Ribbing length, back, plain view - 4" / 10 cm

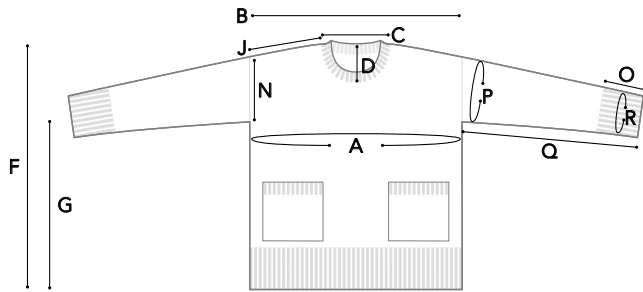
K - Shoulder drop - 1.75" / 4 cm

L - Neckband Length - 1.5" / 4 cm

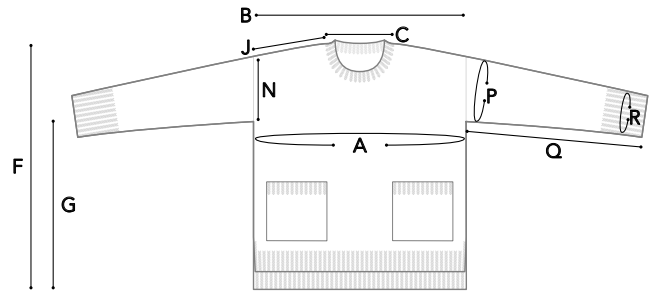
M - Sleeve cap height - 1" / 2.5 cm

O - Sleeve cuff length (two views) - 4" / 10 cm (long sleeves), or 1.5" / 4 cm (sleeveless)

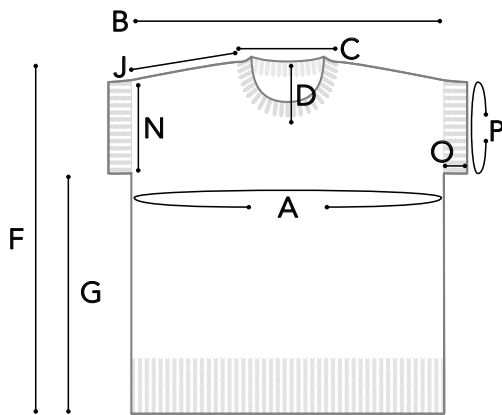
*Pullover (Standard Hem)*



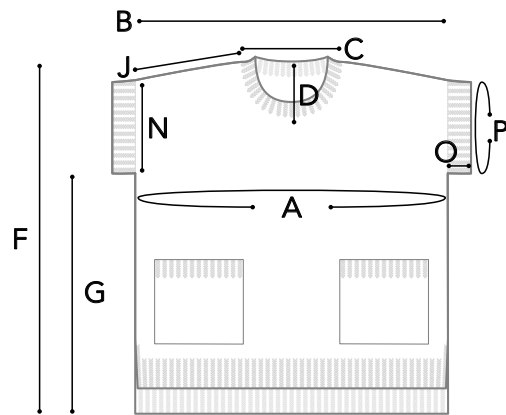
*Pullover (High-Low Hem)*



*Vest (Standard Hem)*



*Vest (High-Low Hem)*



### *Views and Fit Modifications in this Pattern*

The following are the mix and match options written into the pattern, which you may use to construct your perfect garment:

- **Sleeves:** Long and vest (sleeveless)
- **Pockets:** One pocket, two pockets, no pockets
- **Hem:** Plain and high-low
- **Length:** High hip and full length

Additional tips included:

- **Full Bicep:** This pattern was written with a boxy, oversized fit in the body and shoulders, and a slim sleeve fit with 1" / 2.5 cm ease to contrast the oversized body. This location is highly variable on the human body. Measure the upper arm of the intended wearer, by first holding the measuring tape from the side of neck to the upper arm, using the J measurement to determine where the shoulder drop will be. Then, measure the upper arm circumference at that location to determine whether the intended wearer needs a full bicep adjustment. Instructions for knitting a different size than the body to accommodate a full bicep are given in the pattern at the necessary points.
- **Optional Bust Darts** (see *Choosing a Cup Size*, page 5)
- **Lengthening and Shortening Instructions** throughout.