

CATALINA SWEATER

Based on a delightful 1940s design, this jumper features decorative shell pockets, a wide waist rib, and set-in sleeves (with optional shoulder pads). The side neck fastening adds a touch of elegance.

A reworked and revitalised pattern, offering modern instructions and a broader size range for knitters who appreciate authentic vintage styling.

Subversive Femme

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CATALINA SWEATER

by Subversive Femme

ERRATA 3/9/26 - this version features a correction to the front neckline shaping

SIZES

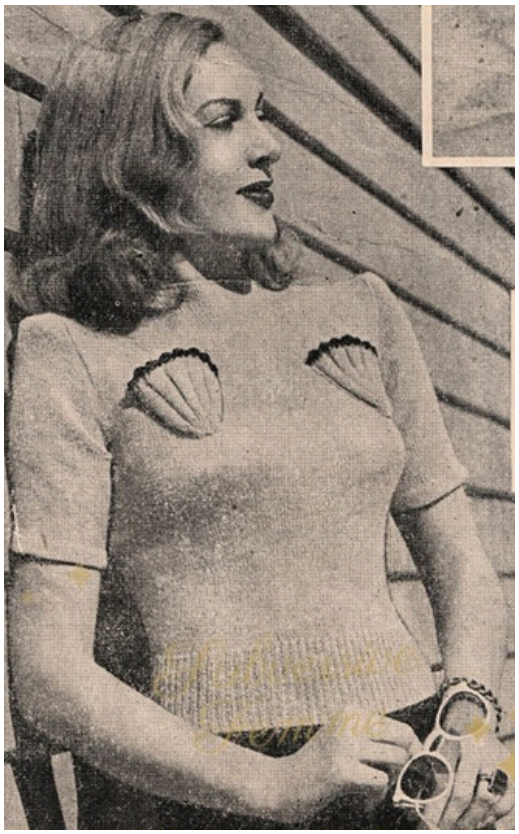
34, 36, 38, (40, 42, 44), [46, 48, 50], {52, 54}
Catalina is meant to fit with zero ease. Choose a size that is closest to your actual chest size for an authentic 1940s look.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

- **CHEST**: 34, 36, 38 (40, 42, 44)[46, 48, 50]{52, 54} inches (85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135 cm)
- **CHEST TO HEM**: 13, 13.5, 14 (14, 14.5, 14.5)[14.5, 14.5, 15]{ 15, 15.5} inches (33, 34, 35, 35, 36, 36, 36, 36, 38, 38, 39 cm)

YARN & SUPPLIES

- 6, 6, 6 (6, 7, 7)[7, 7, 8]{8, 9} skeins of Knitpicks Stroll (Mint)
- Or 1250, 1300, 1350(1400, 1450, 1500)[1550, 1600, 1700]{1800, 1900] yards of 4-ply yarn
- Or 1125, 1170, 1215(1260, 1305, 1350)[1395, 1440, 1530]{1620, 1710) metres of 4-ply yarn
- Approx 10 yards or metres of a contrast 4-ply for the shell edging (Knitpicks Stroll, in Patina)
- 4 x small snaps, needle and thead. Optional purchased shoulder pads.



NEEDLES

- Metric 2.75mm and 3.25mm or needle size to achieve the tension below
- 2.75mm crochet hook

TENSION

- 29 sts and 40 rows to 4 inches (10cm)

ABBREVIATIONS

- k -Knit
- p - Purl
- k2tog - knit two together (decrease)
- skp - slip the first stitch, knit the next, pass the slip stitch back over (decrease)
- m1L - make one left leaning increase
- m1R - make one right leaning increase
- plain - stocking stitch
- kfb - knit front and back increase
- p2tog - purl two together
- w+t - wrap and turn
- DC - double crochet (UK)

CATALINA

NOTES

FIT
The 1940s were a time of wool rationing, which meant knitwear was often fitted and higher waisted. Shoulders are narrower with higher underarms than modern styles, giving a pert effect.

Catalina is meant to be worn with minimal ease, and the top of the ribbing (before you start the plain body of the sweater) should hit around your waist. If you need to lengthen or shorten your sweater, do so after the increase section in the body.

SLEEVES
Option 1 - Sleeves with a ribbed hem
Option 2 - Sleeves with a sewn hem (per the original)

BACK

Using 2.75mm needles, cast on 110, 118, 126, (134, 142, 148)[154, 162, 170]{178, 186} stitches.

Work k1, p1 ribbing for 4 inches (10 cm). Change to 3.25mm needles.

Row 1 (RS): K1, m1R, knit to last three stitches, m1L, k1.
Knit 7 rows plain.

Repeat the above 8 row pattern 6, 6, 5, (5, 4, 5)[5, 5, 5]{4, 4} more times.

You should have 124, 132, 138, (146, 152, 160) [166, 174, 182,] {188, 196} stitches on your needles.

Work in stockinette until your piece measures 13, 13.5, 14 (14, 14.5, 14.5)[14.5, 14.5, 15]{15, 15.5} inches from cast on edge (32.5, 33.75, 35 (35, 36.25, 36.25) [36.25, 36.25, 37.5]{37.5, 39}cm) OR desired length.

Work Underarm shaping:
Cast off 8, 8, 10 (10, 12, 7)[7, 8, 8](8, 10) stitches at the start of the next 2, 2, 2 (2, 2, 4)[4, 4, 4]{4, 4} rows.

Tip, place a locking stitch marker in the centre of your work now to help with measuring later

Slanted decreases:
Row 1 (RS): K1, skp, knit to last three stitches, k2tog, k1.
Row 2 (WS): P1, p2tog, purl to last three stitches, p2tog, p1.

Repeat above two row pattern 2, 4, 3(4, 5, 5)[5, 7, 7]{8,6} more times.

102, 106, 110 (116, 116, 120) [126, 126, 134] [138, 142} stitches on needle.

Row 1 (RS): K1, skp, knit to last three stitches, k2tog, k1.
Row 2 (WS): P to end.

Repeat the above two row pattern 2, 3, 2 (3, 3, 4)[6, 5, 7]{6, 6} more times.

96, 98, 104 (108, 108, 110) [112, 114, 118] {124, 128} stitches on needle.

***

Work plain until the Back measures 7, 7.25, 7.5 (7.5, 7.75, 8) [8.25, 8.5, 8.75]{9, 9.25} inches measured straight up from the **underarm cast off row** (17.5, 18, 18.75, 18.75, 19.5, 20, 20.5, 21.25, 22, 22.5, 23 cm).

Shoulder shaping:
Cast off 10, 11, 11 (12, 12, 11)[12, 12, 13]{13, 14} stitches at the start of the next 4 rows.

Cast off 12, 11, 12 (12, 12, 14)[12, 12, 13]{16, 15} stitches at the start of the next 2 rows.

Cast off remaining 32, 32, 36 (36, 36, 38) [40, 40, 40]{40, 42} stitches.

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FRONT

Work as for Back up to ***

Work plain until the front measures 5, 5, 5.25 (5.25, 5.25, 5.25) [5.25, 5.25, 5.5]{5.5, 6} inches measured straight up from the underarm cast off row (12.5, 12.5, 13, 13, 13, 13, 13, 13, 13.75, 13.75, 15cm) ending on a purl row.

Divide for Neck

Knit 38, 40, 39 (44, 45 ,46)[47, 48, 50]{50, 50} and place on stitch holder, cast off 20, 18, 26 (20, 18, 18)[18, 18, 18]{24, 28} stitches, knit across remaining 38, 40, 39 (44, 45 ,46)[47, 48, 50]{50, 50}
Next Row: Purl to last two sts, p2tog.

Work neck shaping by decreasing at the neck edge on every row for 5, 6, 4 (7, 8, 9) [110, 10, 10]{7, 6} more rows.

32, 33, 34 (36, 36, 36)[36, 37, 39]{42, 43} stitches on needle.

Work plain until armhole depth matches the back finishing on a knit row.



Shoulder shaping:

Cast off 10, 11, 11 (12, 12, 11)[12, 12, 13]{13, 14} stitches, purl to end.
Knit one row.

Repeat the above two rows once more.

Cast off remaining stitches.

Other side:

Place remaining stitches from holder onto needles, and join yarn at neck edge.

P2tog, purl to end.

Work neck shaping by decreasing at the neck edge on every row for 5, 6, 4(7, 8, 9) [10, 10, 10]{7, 6} more rows.

You should have 32, 33, 34 (36, 36, 36)[36, 37, 39]{42, 43} stitches on needle, finishing on a purl row.

Shoulder shaping:

Cast off 10, 11, 11 (12, 12, 11)[12, 12, 13]{13, 14} stitches, knit to end.

Purl one row.

Repeat the above two rows once more.

Cast off remaining stitches.

CATALINA

RIBBED SLEEVE (WORK 2)

Using 2.75mm needles, cast on 84, 88, 92, (96, 100, 104)[104, 108, 108]{112, 116} sts.

Work K1, P1 ribbing for 2 inches (5 cm). Change to 3.25mm needles.

****

Inc Row (RS): K1, m1R, knit to last three stitches, m1L, k1.
Knit 3 rows plain.

Repeat this 4 row increase pattern 4, 4, 5, (5, 5, 7)[7, 7, 7]{7, 7} more times. (94, 98, 104 (108, 112, 120)[120, 124, 124]{128, 132} stitches on needle).

Work plain until your sleeve measures from cast on:

Sizes 34-42: 5 inches (12.5cm)
Sizes 44-54: 5.5 inches (13.75cm)

Work Underarm Shaping

Cast off 8, 8, 10 (10, 12, 7)[7, 8, 8]{8, 10} stitches at the start of the next two rows.

Sizes 44-54 only: Cast off an additional 7 [7, 8, 8]{8, 10} stitches at the start of the next two rows.

78, 82, 84 (88, 88, 92)[92, 92, 92]{96, 92} stitches on needle.

Row 1: K1, skp, knit to last three sts, k2tog, k1
Row 2: P1, p2tog, purl to last 3 sts, p2tog p1

Repeat the above two rows 4, 5, 5 (5, 6, 6)[6, 6, 6]{6, 6} more times (12, 14, 14 (14, 16, 16)[16, 16, 16]{16 16} sts decreased).

Now decrease at the beginning and end of every alternate row (using decrease method above) until 30, 30, 30 (34, 30, 34)[32, 28, 26]{28, 22} stitches remain.

Cast off stitches.

HEMMED SLEEVE (WORK 2)

Using 3.25mm needles, cast on 84, 88, 92, (96, 100, 104)[104, 108, 108]{112, 166} sts.

Work 3 inches (7.5cm) in plain knitting.

Now work from **** as per the Ribbed Sleeve.

OPTIONAL KNITTED SHOULDER PADS

Using 3.25mm needles, cast on 25 stitches.

Knit plain until piece measures approx 2.75" (7 cm) from cast on.

Cast off.

Fold piece in half, matching cast off to cast on edges. Seam along this edge and one shorter side.
Stuff with cotton wool or yarn scraps.

Seam other side to close the pad, but don't weave in the ends yet.

The shoulder pad is placed inside the sleeve head to provide puff.

Simply centre the pad inside the sleeve head, and use the left over yarn thread to attach the pad to the shoulder seams on the inside.

CATALINA

SHELLS (WORK 2)

The Shells are made using short rows (wrap and turn). Ensure you pick up the wraps on the following row for a smooth finish.

Using 3.25mm needles cast on 26 sts (size 34-42) or 30 sts (size 44-54). Larger sizes in brackets.

Knit one row, knitting into the back of the stitches.
Purl one row.

Work pattern as follows:
1st Row: purl
2nd Row: knit
3rd Row: P 22(26), w+t
4th Row: knit
5th Row: purl to end
6th Row: knit
7th Row: knit
8th Row: purl
9th Row: K 22(26), w+t
10th Row: purl to end

Repeat these 10 rows three more times.

Repeat from 1st to 8th Row only.

Cast off leaving a long tail for attaching the shell to jumper.

Using **Contrast Colour,** join yarn to upper right of the Shell.

Work 1 DC into the 1st st, * skip the next st, (1 DC, 2 treble, 1 DC) in the next stitch, skip 1 st, 1 DC into next stitch, repeat from * to end.
Your trebles should be centered in each purl ridge on the Shell.

Break yarn and weave ends.





CATALINA

MAKING UP

Seam front and back together at the shoulders, leaving right side open 2 inches (5cm) at the neck edge for snaps. Gently press the seams flat.

Set in sleeve heads into jumper.
Seam the underarms and sides of the jumper. Gently press.

Starting at the front neck opening, work DC with crochet hook around the neck edge to the other side.

Work 2 rows of DC along each side of the neck opening to form a placket.

Weave in ends. Sew 4 snaps to the placket for the closure.
Press seams.

(**Optional**) Place shoulder pads in jumper, and stitch to seams.

Try on jumper, and place the Shells in an attractive location on the upper chest.

Pin in place securely, and using the left over yarn on the Shells attach to jumper using a running stitch. Weave in ends.

HEMMED SLEEVE ONLY: fold under a 1 inch (2.5 cm) hem on the sleeve. Pin in place and sew hem in place.
Gently press flat.



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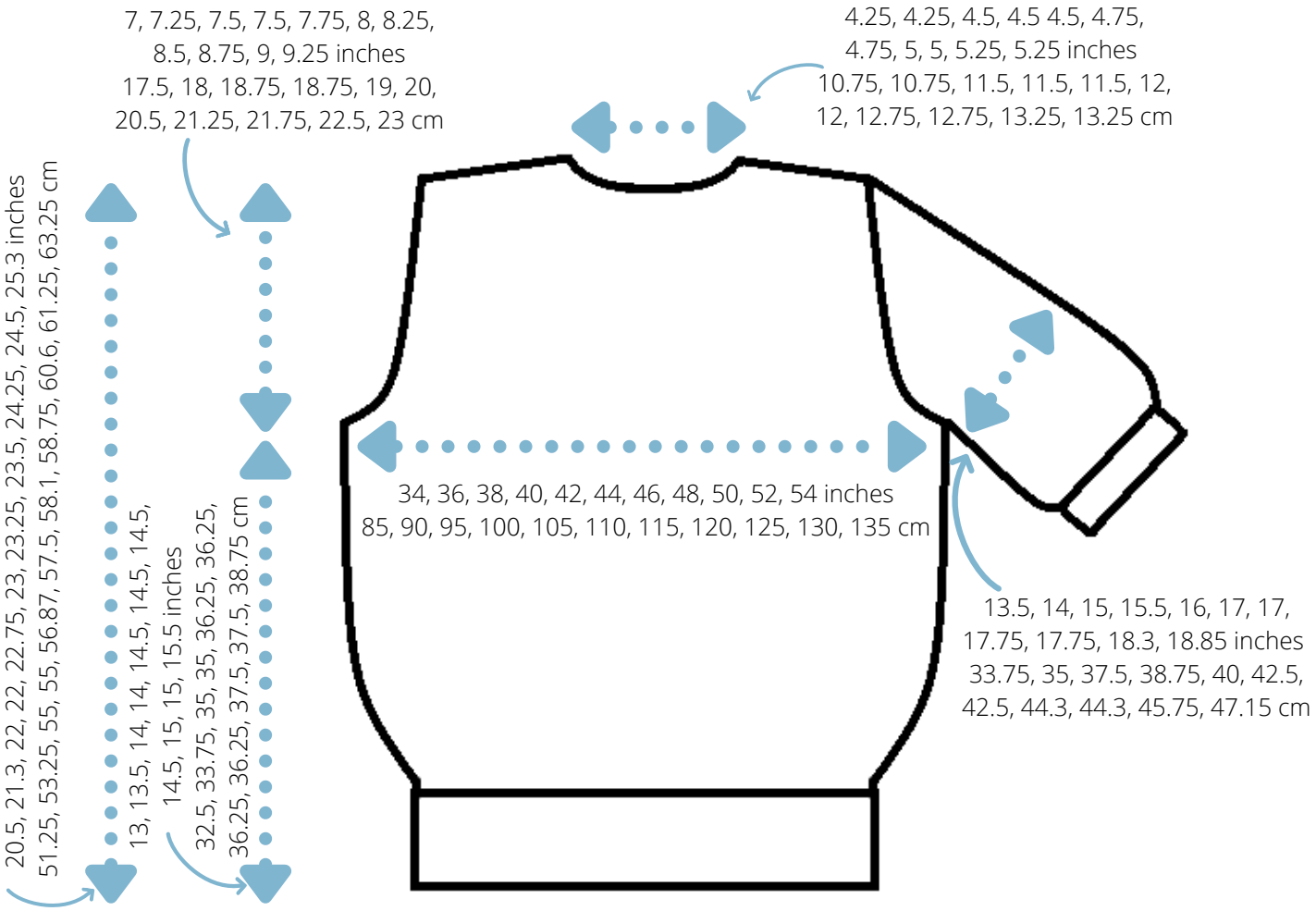
FINISHED MEASUREMENTS



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