


# Mystery Green Sweater ~ Out of Blue Comes Green *

## Soft and relaxed sweater in beautiful merino wool

**Yarn:** Malabrigo Merino Worsted - 100 % merino wool
**Color:** VAA - deep forest green
**Amount:** 6 skeins = 1296 yards = 1185 m
**Recommended needle size:** US 6  (4 mm) & US 4 (3,5 mm) circular 30 inches
**Knitting gauge:** 17 sts = 4 inches

**Approximate measurements**
**Body circumference:** 44 in (111 cm)
**Full body length:** 24 in (60 cm)
**Sleeve length:** 17 inches (43 cm)

This sweater is knitted as a tube in garter rib stitch, and then steeked.
Steeking is an old technique developed by Shetland knitters to save time and work.
Steeking means that the sleeve openings are cut inside a reinforced seamed edge in each side of the knitted tube.

Steeking has several advantages: It is time saving to work continuously in the round, always on the the right side of the work, and it is easier to maintain an even tension and to knit faster.
The nature of knitted stitches is that they really do not want to unravel along a vertical cut edge. Stitches “prefer” to unravel horizontally.



But if you absolutely hate the idea of steeking, you can always knit each front and back part separately, by splitting your work in two when you get to the sleeves, and knitting back and forth on the needle. But this takes a little longer...

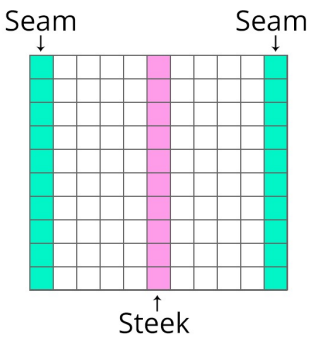
**Body**

Cast on 188 sts on needle US 6.
Mark the beginning of the round, and the middle when you get there, after the 94th st.

**Garter rib pattern**

First row: Knit one, purl one.
Second row: Knit all the stitches.
Repeat and alternate these two rows.

Continue till the body measures approx. 24 inches (60 cm).
Put the middle 32 sts on a strand of yarn for the neckline, for knitting later.
The neckline should be approx. 11-12 inches (28-29) cm wide.
Knit the shoulders together using three needles (3-needle bind off).




**Steeking**

When the knitting is complete, you will steek the sleeve openings.
Make sure the sweaters body tube is «divided» in two equal parts by the markers.
Put a strand of colored yarn along the last 8,5 inches (22 cm) of each of the bodys center sides. This line creates the steek, or the line along where you will cut your sleeve openings.
It also determines the upper width of the sleeve.
The steek bridge should be approx. 8 sts wide.

**Pick up stitches for sleeves *before* cutting**

Pick up approx. 72 stitches (must be even number) around the steek, with a smaller needle or a crochet hook. The steek bridge should be approx. 8 sts wide, with the cutting line in the center. Pick up from right to left.  Skip every 4th st when you pick up: pick up 3 sts, skip one, pick up 3 more, etc. Leave the sts on a strand of yarn as you proceed with the steek.
Reinforce the steek bridge (8-9 sts wide) by sewing a double (or triple!) machine-sewn seam along and around the 8,5 inch long line. The seam should be approx. 4 sts away from either side of the actual cutting line. Cut the sleeve openings carefully with sharp scissors **inside** of the reinforced seam. Be careful to cut exactly along the center line, no more, no less - after you have reinforced around with a tight double seam. Do not cut in the «seam» on the top of the shoulders.

**Sleeves**

The 72 sts for the sleeves are then picked up from the strand of yarn, and the sleeves are knitted from the top and down to the cuff. Use magic loop or double-pointed needles.
Mark the beginning of the round, which should be at the bottom center (below) of the sleeve.
Knit the first round k1, p1. Follow the same pattern as for the body.
Decrease 2 sts around each side of the marker, for every 6th round. Knit 5 rounds, decrease...
Decrease till you have 42 sts left, and the sleeve is approx. 17 inches long.
Switch to needle US 4 (3,5 mm) and knit two more rounds.
Bind off with knit and purl stitches.

**Neckline**

Pick up the 32 + 32 sts from the strand of yarn + 2 sts  = 66 sts on needle US 6.
Knit 2 rounds of stockinette sts. Bind off loosely on the 3rd round.
Check that the width of the neckline is wide enough, approx. 11-12 inches.
Weave in loose ends on the inside.

Happy knitting & enjoy your sweater!

:) Katrine

**Model:** Henriette F.
**Design & photography:** © Katrine Hammer 2015

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Inspired by
**Out of Blue Comes Green**
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