

# Wren ★ Feathers

Colorwork yoke sweater in extended single crochet



Doll is a Götz Happy Kidz available here: <https://gotzusa.com/>

I made this sweater for my Penelope, (an 18" Tonner) but it will fit similar-size slim 18-inch dolls like Götz Happy Kidz, etc. Yes, I'm working on an AG/OG/Maplelea version too!

I used Lion Mandala yarn (Tip: buy a ball and wind off the colors separately to get small amounts of many colors for doll projects!)

**Hook size 5.5mm (US size I)** but note that I always size up because I crochet tightly

**Gauge 4sts/in in esc stitch**

**All of my crochet patterns assume you are already an experienced crocheter and don't need a lot of instructions.** In this case, I assume you've done colorwork before, and:

- Can follow a chart
- Know how to deal with two strands at once
- Understand about finishing the previous stitch with the next color before changing

Colorwork in crochet can be tricky because there are SO many ways to do it, and they all come out looking very different. In my opinion, it usually looks best when worked in the round, but even then there can be weird little bits that stick out and distort the edges of your design with some stitches.

My current favorite stitch for crocheted colorwork is called extended single crochet (esc). The stitches do end up a bit taller than regular sc, but don't have the little bit sticking out that can blur the motifs. As a bonus, it feels stretchier than regular sc to me, so the fit might be a little more forgiving.

This stitch is very easy: Insert the hook like you're doing regular sc, pull up a loop, yo, pull through one loop, yo again, pull through both loops on the hook (**with next color if changing on the next stitch**).

For example Row 5 below, which has \*2 green sts in the one below and one brown\* would have this color sequence:

Pull up a loop, yo, pull through one loop, yo again, pull through both loops on the hook

Pull up a loop, yo, pull through one loop, yo again, pull through both loops on the hook

Pull up a loop, yo, pull through one loop, yo again, pull through both loops on the hook

|    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 1  | r | r |   |   | r | r |   |   | r | r |   |   |
| 2  | r | r |   |   | r | r |   |   | r | r |   |   |
| 3  | r | r |   |   | r | r |   |   | r | r |   |   |
| 4  | s | s |   |   | s | s |   |   | s | s |   |   |
| 5  | v | x |   |   | v | x |   |   | v | x |   |   |
| 6  | x | x | x |   | x | x | x |   | x | x | x |   |
| 7  | x | x | v | x | x | x | v | x | x | x | v | x |
| 8  | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| 9  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 10 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 11 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 12 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 13 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

Pay attention to the V markings in white on the chart. They are where you need to increase – on the first row of colorwork before you start the first new color, and the row where you start the second new color. (Rows 5 and 7)

## Ready? Start here:



1. Ch3 and work ribbing as either sc or sl st through the back loop for 40 rows/20 ribs
2. Join and do 1 row of sc all around

After doing the collar ribbing (marked r on the chart above) and first row of sc, (marked s) we're on the 5th row of the chart. On the first box marked **V**, you'll **increase** by putting 2 green esc in one stitch below. Then start brown and do 1 esc in the next st. Alternate that around, increasing every other stitch with green.

Row 6 is all esc in brown.

Row 7 is the last increase row. It calls for \*1 esc brown, 1 esc orange, increase (2-esc-in-one) brown, 1 esc brown\*

Your increases are done now (80sts), and you just follow the chart to row 13!

Yes, it's possible your motifs didn't line up perfectly at the center back. No problem! That part will be covered up later!



Divide for sleeves and body as follows:



Each sleeve has 17 sts and the front and back each have 23 (80sts total)

If, for some reason your stitches don't come out to exactly these numbers and you need to increase or decrease a couple, you can either:

- Do one more row of the main color, increasing evenly around OR
- Add/decrease up to 2 sts at the underarm on each side to narrow the body

Keep going in esc and make the sleeves and body as long as you want. You can rib at the cuffs and bottom or just leave plain, it's up to you.

**If you're interested in finding another doll this could fit or making any adjustments right now:**

**At a gauge of 4sts/in:**

**17sts=4.25" arm circumference and 46sts=11.5" chest circumference**

**Remember the stitch is somewhat stretchy!**

EEK! Time to steak!  
Weave in all your ends before doing this!



At human size, it's easy to work a sweater in the round and slip it over your head, but many of the dolls I own have heads that are disproportionately large, and something that slips over their heads will probably be too big on their shoulders. Because of that, we're going to steak!

**This part was very scary to me.** To get up the courage to do this, I practiced on some old sock tops from the rag bag and a small crochet sample. Maybe you saved your gauge swatch and want to use it to practice now?

Knitters often (always?) only do rows of straight machine stitching when they steak their lovely wool colorwork. I was afraid of that because this is crochet and my yarn was slippery. **I'm new to steeking, so if you have a preferred method that differs from this, go for it!**

Baste a contrasting thread up the center back as a marker. Using a walking foot will be VERY helpful to avoid pulling everything out of shape. Zigzag on either side of your contrasting thread and pull it out. Take a deep breath, and cut the back end open between the rows of zigzags. Tug gently on the edges and reinforce anything that seems loose with some additional straight or zigzag stitching if needed.



Pick up sts all down the back and do a row of sc.

I tried two methods and here's what I think:

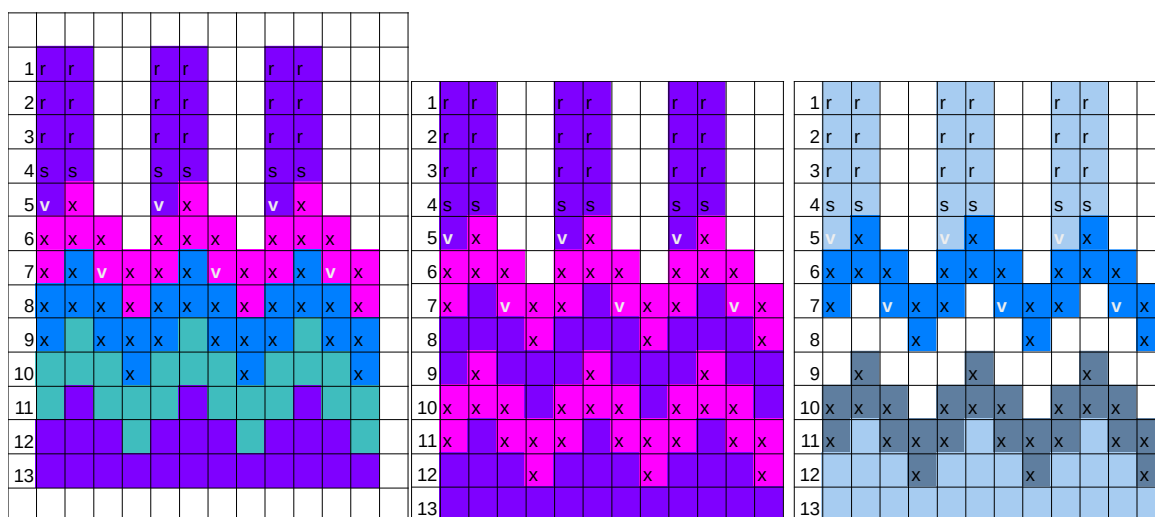
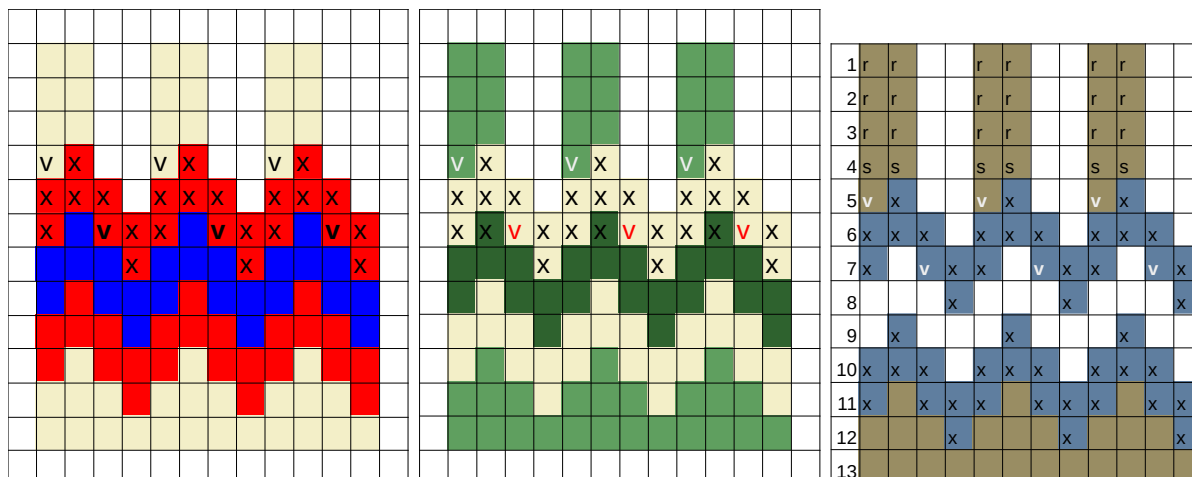


(L) Covering up the sewn edges with crochet looks much nicer on the inside, but adds bulk that pulls the back slightly out of shape. A smaller size hook helped a little.

(R) It's hard to tell, but the side where I just left the stitched edge turned under and crocheted a row looked the best from the outside. (That's what's happening in the top pic on this page.)

Make the bands however wide they need to be. Maybe the doll wears it open in front with no closures? A zipper? Or you might want to put a few buttonholes on one band and close that way.

Here are some more color ideas:



As always this pattern is © by me (Jennie Bagrowski) and is for your personal use only, you MAY share it by linking to this blog, you may NOT sell it or upload it to any site without my permission. If you sell things made from this pattern I'd appreciate credit for the pattern design. If you downloaded this elsewhere it was stolen from: <http://jenwrenne.wordpress.com> You use this tutorial at your own risk. I assume you have basic sewing/crochet knowledge and the explanation should suffice, but if you need help please email me!