

# The Boyfriend

## Valentine's Dog Sweater

A cuddly scrunch-down collar, puffy, fluffy heart shot through with a bone, soft crochet trim and edges lined with a sweet floral print. Who loves ya, baby?.



**INTERMEDIATE TO EXPERIENCED**

### Finished Sweater Size

Chest: 10 (13 ~ 16 ~ 18)"

### Gauge

5 sts = 1" in st st using US 7 needles

### Stuff

*DK weight yarn:* 1 skein each of three colors

*Straight or circular needles:* US 7

*Double-pointed needles:* set of 5, US 6

*Crochet hook, US size F*

*Optional lining fabric, 1/4 yard*

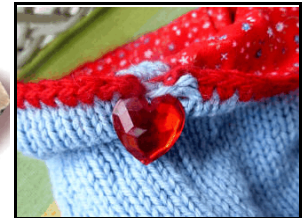
*Optional button*

*Stitch holders and markers*

### Knit It

#### **BODY**

With size 7 needles and main color, cast on 52 (58 ~ 60 ~ 68) sts. Work in st st for 3", ending with a WS row. Using M1 increase directions below, increase 6 (8 ~ 18 ~ 22) sts as follows: On next (RS) and following alt rows knit 21 (24 ~ 25 ~ 29) sts, then M1 right slant; knit 7 sts, then M1 left slant, adding 2 sts to center section between right and left increases on each



*Willie wears the sweater created in Cascade 220 in baby blue and creamy white, plus Cascade Cloud 9 in red*

increase row, until you reach 58 (66 ~ 78 ~ 90) sts.



#### **LEG OPENING**

Next row (RS): Work 7 (9 ~ 10 ~ 10) sts, then place remaining sts on holder. Continue on only these 7 (9 ~ 10 ~ 10) sts for 1½ (2 ~ 2½ ~ 2½)", ending with a RS row. Place sts on a second holder and cut yarn. Rejoin yarn and bind off next

### LEG OPENING (CONTINUED)

7 (7 ~ 8 ~ 8) sts from first holder for leg opening, then work only next 30 (34 ~ 42 ~ 54) sts, beginning chart pattern when sweater measures 6 (6½ ~ 7 ~ 7)”. When this section reaches 1½ (2 ~ 2½ ~ 2½)”, ending with a RS row, place sts on a third holder and cut yarn. Rejoin yarn and bind off next 7 (7 ~ 8 ~ 8) sts from first holder for leg opening. Work remaining 7 (9 ~ 10 ~ 10) sts for 1½ (2 ~ 2½ ~ 2½)”, ending with a RS row.

Next row (WS): Work 7 (9 ~ 10 ~ 10) sts from needle. Cast on 7 (7 ~ 8 ~ 8) sts. Then work 30 (34 ~ 42 ~ 54) sts from third holder, continuing in chart pattern. Cast on 7 (7 ~ 8 ~ 8) sts, then work remaining 7 (9 ~ 10 ~ 10) sts from second holder. Continue until chart is completed and sweater measures 9 ½ (10 ~ 10½ ~ 10½)” or desired length from beginning.

### BOTTOM SHAPING

Bind off 10 sts at beginning of next two rows. Decrease 1 st each side every other row 5 (5 ~ 8 ~ 8) times. Decrease 1 st each side every row 0 (0 ~ 3 ~ 6) times. Bind off remaining sts.

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### FINISHING

Block.

Leg borders: With RS facing, dpn and main color, pick up and k 32 (34 ~ 40 ~ 40) sts evenly around each leg opening. Place marker, then join and work in k2, p2 rib for 5 rows. Knit 3 rows in st st, then bind off.

Crochet trim: With RS facing, crochet hook and red yarn, work a border of SC around neck, bottom and legs.



Lining (optional): Cut 2 pieces of coordinating fabric to fit neck opening and bottom.

### DIRECTIONS FOR RIGHT & LEFT INCREASES

Right: Insert left needle from back to front into the horizontal strand betw last st worked and next st on left needle. Knit this strand through front loop to twist it.

Left: Insert left needle from front to back into horizontal strand betw last st worked and first st on left needle. Knit this strand through back loop to twist the stitch.

Press ¼” hem and hand-stitch just inside crocheted border. Trim and press or pink other hem, then tack to inside of sweater. Sew center seam. Fold down collar one turn and sew button (optional) through both thicknesses to hold fold-down in place.

