

Pup Squad

APPLIQUED DOG SWEATER

EASY QUICK-KNIT

Get ready for the fall gridiron action with this winsome sweater in your team's colors, complete with cheerleader skirt and appliqued felt mascot. Any worsted weight yarn will work ~ try different colors with other mascots for your favorite team. Got a boy dog? Make a ribbed hem instead of the skirt. Your imagination is the limit!

Finished Sweater Size

Chest: 14 (16 ~ 18)"

Gauge

4-1/2 sts = 1" in st st using US 7 needles

Materials

1 skein worsted weight yarn
Straight or circular needles: US 7
Felt and embroidery thread for applique
Pompom maker
F crochet hook (optional)



Roll Tide! Willie sports his "Pup Squad" (above), knit in Lorna's Laces Shepherd Sport Worsted in Crimson Pride; see *Where To Buy* on last page

Make It

BACK

Cast on 25 (30 ~ 35) sts for neck and work in st st. Increase one st at each end of fifth row. Continue in st st, increasing 1 st at each end of each following sixth (RS) row until there are 35 (40 ~ 45) sts. Continue working in st st until piece measures 10 to 11" long or 2" less than desired length of sweater, ending with a WS row. On next-to-last row, increase number of sts necessary to make a multiple of 4, then purl the last row.

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SKIRT

Row 1 (RS): *K4, yo; repeat from *; end K4.

Row 2: Purl.

Row 3: *K5, yo; repeat from *; end K4.

Row 4: Purl.

Repeat this pattern of four rows for six rounds, working increases on each RS row and working one stitch more in each repeat. Bind off.



FRONT

Cast on 10 (15 ~ 20) sts for neck and work in st st. Increase one st at each end of fifth row. Continue in st st, increasing 1 st at each end of each following sixth (RS) row until there are 20 (25 ~ 30) sts. Continue working in st st until piece measures about 7 (7½ ~ 8)'' long. Bind off on next (RS) row.



PUT IT TOGETHER

Block front and back pieces.

Join front and back. Using mattress stitch or preferred method, stitch front to back for about 1-1/4 (1½ ~ 1-3/4)'' down each side. Taking into consideration side of your dog's legs, leave 3½ to 4½'' open, then continue stitching front to back until end, reinforcing all beginning and ending stitches.

Optional: To keep sweater from stretching, make edges lie flat and give a more finished appearance, single crochet an edge along sides, front bottom, arm openings and neck.



NECK

Around top of sweater, pick up 42 (46 ~ 50) sts (or appropriate even number for your dog's neck size) and work in K1P1 rib for 2''. Bind off in rib.

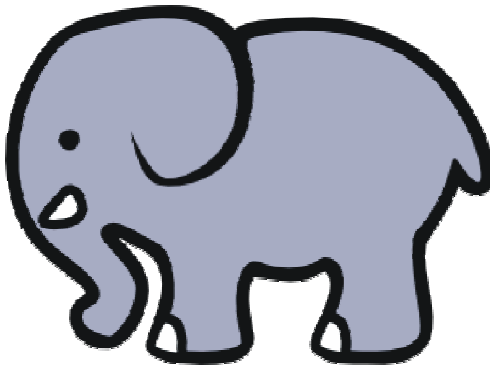
Optional: With small pom-pom maker, make a pom-pom and securely fasten it to the neck. *For excellent instructions on how to make your own pom-pom maker, see "Knitting on the Edge," by Nicky Epstein, or "Vogue Knitting: The Ultimate Knitting Book," by the editors of Vogue Knitting Magazine.

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APPLIQUE

Enlarge the elephant drawing, below, on your computer to the size you want (mine is 3" tall and 4" wide), and trace it onto a piece of felt. Embroider details ~ ear, eye, tusk, school letter* ~ as desired. Place the elephant and pin it to the sweater; then, using embroidery thread, blanket stitch it onto the sweater.

(I cannot reproduce the copyrighted Alabama logo "A" here, but you can do it yourself on the computer by copying the letter ~ flipped the opposite direction ~ and shrinking or enlarging it to the desired size. Using a No. 2 or soft-lead art pencil, darken over the letter; place it on the felt elephant and scribble on the reverse side to make a light pencil impression on the felt. This transfer will be your embroidery guide.)



CHANGE IT UP!

- ~ Google "YOUR MASCOT clip art" to find your favorite bulldog, tiger or razorback picture.
- ~ Download your team's logo and duplicate stitch it onto the sweater, or purl it in your main color for a subtle tone-on-tone effect.
- ~ Try solid red body and black skirt for the Georgia Dawgs; yellow-and-white stripes for the Tech yellowjackets; all-over sky blue for the North Carolina Tarheels, with white single-crochet edging.
- ~ Decorate your sweater with extra pompoms (try a row all the way around the collar or hem); tiny football or mascot buttons; beads; faux fur.
- ~ Make yourself a matching scarf or hat.

The yarn used in this project Lorna's Laces Shepherd Worsted is a special hand-dyed color for the University of Alabama, "Crimson Pride", \$21, available at Serendipity Needleworks, Tuscaloosa, Ala., www.serendipityneedleworks.com 888-248-4743.

Check out all my patterns on Ravelry.com (Savannahkay) and my blog, at www.mysavannahcottage.wordpress.com, or visit my Etsy store, www.mysavannahcottage.etsy.com

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