



## Classic Checked Vest

Designed by John Crane for *skacel collection, Inc.*



Large, shown in MC & CC2 (#100 - Slate Grey), and CC1 (#098 - Bright Blue)

### addi Needles:

- 4 mm (approx US 6) 16" (16", 24", 24") circular needle
  - 4 mm (approx US 6) 24" (24", 32", 32") circular needle
  - 5 mm (approx US 8) 32" (32", 32", 32") circular needle
- or sizes needed to obtain gauge

**Additional Notion:** Stitch marker, tapestry needle

All yarn and needles distributed by *skacel collection, Inc.*

### Gauges:

- 18 sts and 24 rows over 4" x 4" in St st on larger needle
- 22 sts and 27 rows over 4" x 4" in Checked Pattern on larger needle

**To save time, check your gauge and read all instructions thoroughly before beginning.**

### INSTRUCTIONS:

**Note:** Many color combinations can be chosen, but for a gingham check, choose a Coordinating Color 1 that is dark, a Coordinating Color 2 that is light, and a Main Color that is halfway between CC1 and CC2. A different effect – a grid of squares (shown left) – can be achieved by choosing the same color yarn for the Main Color and the Coordinating Color 2 with a contrasting CC1.



Shown (top to bottom): **1) Large** in MC & CC2 (#100 - Slate Grey), and CC1 (#098 - Bright Blue); **2) Large** in MC (#100 - Slate Grey), CC1 (#002 - Black), and CC2 (#099 - Grey Flannel); **3) Small** in MC (#035 - Turkish Coffee), CC1 (#057 - Gold Crest), & CC2 (#032 - First Press Olive); and **4) Extra Large** in MC (#096 - Tangent), CC1 (#053 - Cabernet), and CC2 (#097 - Camel).

**SKILL LEVEL:** Intermediate

### SIZE AND MATERIALS:

Sizes	S	M	L	XL
Finished Chest Circum	36"	39"	42"	45"
Finished Length	24"	25.25"	26.5"	28.75"
<b>Yarn</b>				
Main Color (MC)	3 hanks	4 hanks	4 hanks	4 hanks
Coordinating Color 1 (CC1)	1 hank	1 hank	1 hank	1 hank
Coordinating Color 2 (CC2)	1 hank	1 hank	1 hank	1 hank

**Featured Yarn:** *Simplinatural* by HiKoo, 40% Baby Alpaca, 40% Fine Merino Wool, 20% Mulberry Silk; 183 yds / 100g hank.

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**Front:**

Using waste yarn, the larger needle, and a provisional cast on method, CO 92 (100, 108, 116) sts.

**Checked Pattern:** (over 6 rows)

**Row 1 (WS):** Using MC, purl all sts.

**Row 2 (RS):** Using CC1, k1, \*k2, sl2yb; repeat from \* to last 3 sts, k3.

**Row 3 (WS):** Using CC1, p1, \*p2, sl2yf; repeat from \* to last 3 sts, p3.

**Row 4 (RS):** Using MC, knit all sts.

**Row 5 (WS):** Using CC2, p1, \*sl2yf, p2; repeat from \* to last 3 sts, sl2yf, p1.

**Row 6 (RS):** Using CC2, k1, \*sl2yb, k2; repeat from \* to last 3 sts, sl2yb, k1.

Repeat Rows 1 - 6 until Front meas 12.5" (13.5", 14.5", 16") or to desired length, ending after working a WS row.

Front Armhole Shaping:

**Note:** Cont to work in pat as armholes are shaped.

Starting with a RS row, BO 11 sts at beg of next two rows = 70 (78, 86, 94) sts.

Cut the two yarns orphaned at the outer edges, leaving 12" tails (reattach these yarns, when needed, to continue in pat).

While working WS rows in pat, work the next 5 RS rows as follows:

SSK, work in pat to last 2 sts, k2tog.

End after working a RS row = 60 (68, 76, 84) sts.

Right Front Shoulder:

Mark the 2 center sts by placing a stitch marker on each side of the pair.

**Note:** Both center sts should be the same color yarn.

On WS, work in pat to 1 stitch before the 1<sup>st</sup> stitch marker, p1.

Place the 2 center sts on a small stitch holder and remove the stitch markers.

Move the remaining 29 (33, 37, 41) sts to a stitch holder for left shoulder.

Neck Shaping:

While cont to work in pat on the right shoulder, work dec as follows until 16 (20, 24, 28) sts remain:

**On all RS rows:** SSK, work in pat to last stitch, k1.

**On all WS rows:** P1, work in pat to last stitch, p1.

Cont working even in pat until top of shoulder is 22" (23", 24", 26") from cast on edge. Work one more row, if necessary, to complete a 2-row block of color.

Transfer all 16 (20, 24, 28) sts to waste yarn.

Cut all yarns leaving 12" tails.

**Work the Left Front Shoulder**

Keeping the 2 center sts on a stitch holder, transfer the 29 (33, 37, 41) sts from stitch holder to larger circular needle.

**Note:** Attach appropriate yarn when needed to maintain pat.

**Next Row (WS):** P1, work in pat to last stitch, p1.

While cont to work in pat on the left shoulder, work dec as follows until 16 (20, 24, 28) sts remain:

**On all RS rows:** K1, work in pat to last 2 sts, k2tog.

**On all WS rows:** P1, work in pat to last stitch, p1.

Cont working even in pat until top of shoulder is 22" (23", 24", 26") from cast on edge. Work one more row, if necessary, to complete a 2-row block of color.

Transfer all 16 (20, 24, 28) sts to waste yarn.

Cut all yarns leaving 12" tails.

**Back:**

Using waste yarn, the larger needle, and a provisional cast on method, CO 80 (88, 96, 104) sts.

**Note:** The entire back is worked flat in St st using MC yarn.

**Row 1 (RS):** Knit all sts.

**Row 2 (WS):** Purl all sts.

Repeat Rows 1 & 2 until Back meas 12.5" (13.5", 14.5", 16") or to desired length, ending after working a WS row.

Starting with a RS row, BO 10 sts at the beginning of the next two rows = 60 (68, 76, 84) sts.

While purling the next 4 WS rows, work the next 5 RS rows as follows:

On the next 5 RS rows: K1, SSK, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1.

End after working a RS row = 50 (58, 66, 74) sts.

Cont working Back in St st until piece meas 21.5" (22.5", 23.5", 25.5") from cast on edge, ending after working a WS row.

Neck Shaping:

**Row 1:** K22 (26, 30, 34) sts, bind off next 6 sts, knit to end of row.

**Row 2:** Purl to bound off sts, turn.

**Row 3:** BO 3 sts, knit to end of row.

**Row 4:** Purl to bound off sts, turn.

**Row 5:** BO 3 sts, knit to end of row.

Cut yarn, leaving a 36" tail = 16 (20, 24, 28) sts.

Transfer sts for left shoulder from the working needle to waste yarn.

With RS facing, slide remaining 22 (26, 30, 34) sts to the working end of the needle.

Reattach yarn at outside edge.

**Row 1:** Knit to end of row.

**Row 2:** BO 3 sts, purl to end of row.

**Row 3:** Knit to end of row.

**Row 4:** BO 3 sts, purl to end of row.

Cut yarn, leaving a 36" tail = 16 (20, 24, 28) sts.

Transfer these sts for right shoulder from working needle to waste yarn.

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## Joining Front and Back

Before sewing the pieces together, and to mitigate this stitch pattern's tendency to draw in, the Front and Back pieces first need to be blocked to the desired size, in order to match each other following the suggested measurements in the chart below:

Sizes	S	M	L	XL
Chest Width	18"	19.5"	21"	22.5"
Cast on edge to underarm	12.5"	13.5"	14.5"	16"
Cast on edge to shoulder seam	22"	23"	24"	26"

Stitch together left and right side seams using the mattress stitch.

With right sides together, use larger needle and the Three Needle Bind Off to attach the corresponding Front and Back shoulder sts with the 36" tail from the Back.



Extra Large (shown left) in MC (#096 - Tagent), CC1 (#053 - Cabernet), and CC2 (#097 - Camel). Small (shown right) in MC (#035 - Turkish Coffee), CC1 (#057 - Gold Crest), and CC2 (#032 - First Press Olive)

## Ribbed Band at Armholes:

**Notes:** When picking up sts for the armhole ribbing, begin at the bottom center of the armhole using the shorter of the smaller needles and working in a clockwise direction. On the patterned front, pick up one stitch for every row, and on the Stockinette Back, pick up three sts for every four rows.

Using MC, begin working a K2, P2 ribbing sequence in such a way that the 2 x 2 squares of color on the patterned front align with the 2 x 2 ribbing.

On the first rnd, adjust the number of picked up sts to a multiple of 4 by discretely inc or dec the number of sts on the Back as necessary.

Work 5 rnds of K2, P2 Rib, and then bind off all sts in pat.

Repeat for opposite armhole.

## Ribbed Band at Neck:

**Notes:** When picking up sts for the ribbed neck, begin at the point where the patterned front joins the Stockinette Back on the left shoulder. Use the shorter of the smaller needles, and work in a clockwise direction around the neck opening. When the bottom V-point has been reached, knit the two center sts that are on the stitch holder, placing a stitch marker between these two sts. Mirror the picked up sts on the opposite side of the neck to the first side, then finish by picking up sts across the Back to the starting point.

Using MC, begin working a K2, P2 ribbing sequence in such a way that the 2 x 2 squares of color on the patterned front align with the 2 x 2 ribbing on the corresponding armhole.

Work the K2, P2 Rib from the left shoulder to 2 sts before the stitch marker at the V-point, then k2tog, slip marker, SSK, and cont working in K2, P2 Rib up to the right shoulder (mirroring the left shoulder) and across the back. On this first rnd, adjust the number of sts across the back to a multiple of 4 by discretely inc or dec the number of sts as necessary.

Work 5 rnds of K2, P2 Rib as follows on every rnd: Work to 2 sts before marker, k2tog, slip marker, SSK, work to end of rnd.

Bind off all sts in pat.

## Ribbed Band at Waist:

Move all of the provisionally cast on sts at the waist to the longer of the smaller needles.

Work in K2, P2 Rib until waist band meas 2" (2.25", 2.5", 2.75").

Bind off all sts in pat.

## FINISHING:

Weave in all ends, being careful to tighten the sts at the bottom of the v-neck.

Wet block to size following the suggestions in the schematic below.

## TECHNIQUES:

### Three Needle Bind Off:

With the right side of the 2 pieces facing each other, and with the two working needles held parallel in left hand, insert a third needle (right hand needle) into first stitch on each parallel needle and knit these 2 stitches together. \*Knit together the first stitch on each parallel needle again, slip first stitch made on right needle over second stitch just made (one stitch has been bound off); repeat from \* until all the stitches are bound off. Weave in yarn tail.

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**ABBREVIATIONS:**

<b>approx</b>	approximate(ly)
<b>BO</b>	Bind Off
<b>CC1</b>	coordinating color yarn 1
<b>CC2</b>	coordinating color yarn 2
<b>CO</b>	Cast On
<b>cont</b>	continue(s) / continuing
<b>dec</b>	decrease(s) / decreased / decreasing
<b>inc</b>	increase(s) / increased / increasing
<b>k</b>	knit
<b>k2tog</b>	knit 2 stitches together (decreases 1 stitch)
<b>MC</b>	main color yarn
<b>meas</b>	measures
<b>p</b>	purl
<b>pat</b>	pattern
<b>rnd(s)</b>	round(s)
<b>RS</b>	Right (public) Side
<b>sl2yb</b>	slip next 2 stitches as if to purl with yarn held in back
<b>sl2yf</b>	slip next 2 stitches as if to purl with yarn held in front
<b>SSK</b>	slip the next stitch as if to knit, slip the next st as if to purl, knit the 2 stitches together through the back loops
<b>st(s)</b>	stitch(es)
<b>St st</b>	Stockinette Stitch
<b>WS</b>	Wrong (private) Side



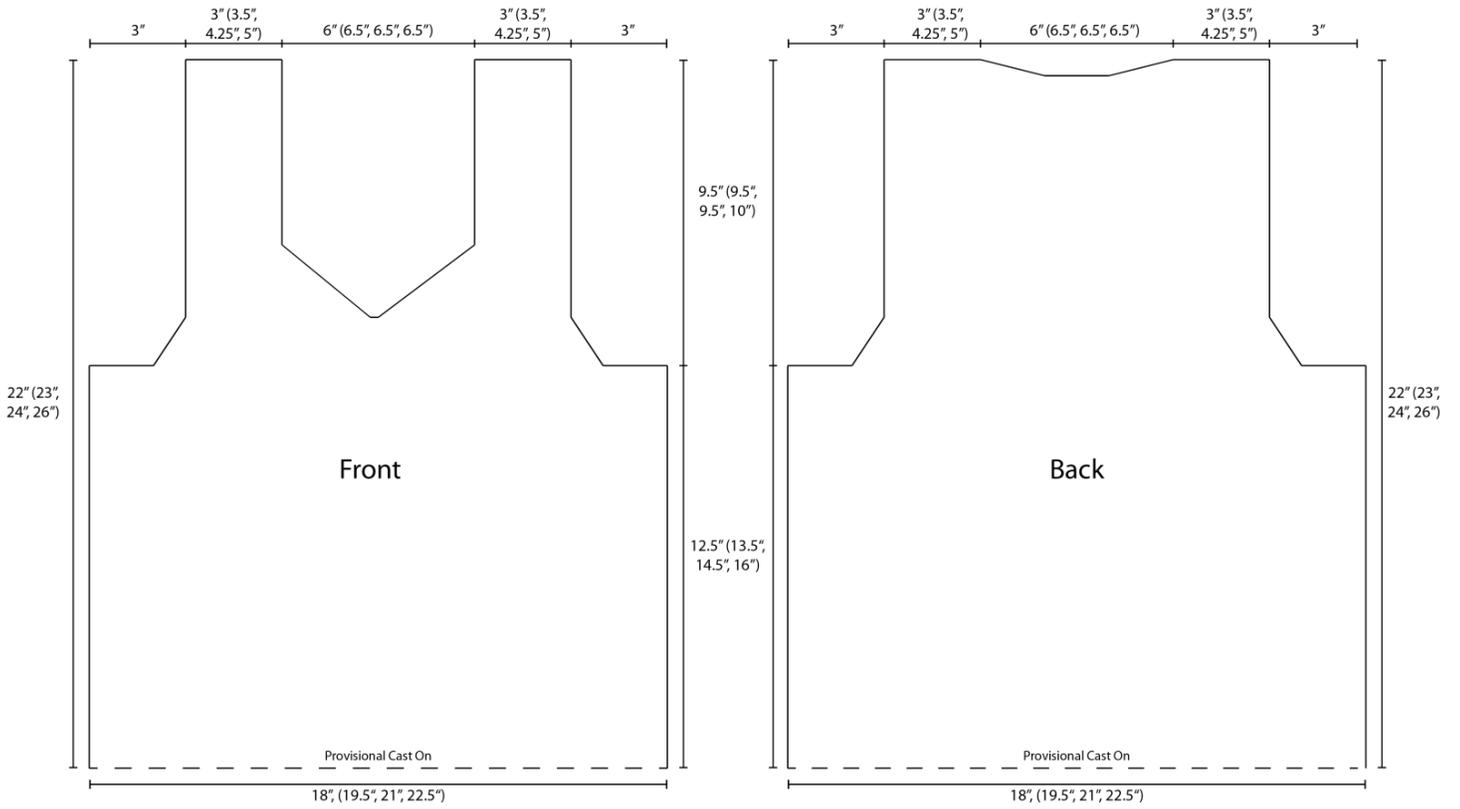
Large, shown in MC (#100 - Slate Grey), CC1 (#002 - Black), and CC2 (#099 - Grey Flannel).

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**Notes:**


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**Schematics for First Blocking**



**Schematic for Final Blocking**

