

Little Black Dress

WITH PEARLS

EASY QUICK-KNIT

What's a little lady to wear? Something pretty, sweet and classic, the perfect outfit for the Jackie in all of us. Here's a darling wardrobe addition you can stitch up in a day or a weekend for your favorite little debutante. Is she more punk than princess? Knit this in a neon bright and add your favorite chunky "jewels" at the neck..

Finished Sweater Size

Chest: 14 (16 ~ 18)"

Gauge

4 sts = 1" in st st using US 8 needles

Materials

1 skein worsted weight yarn

Straight or circular needles: US 8

10 mm craft pearls

1/8 yard coordinating lining fabric (optional)

F crochet hook (optional)



Willie explores his feminine side in the LBD knit in Caron Simply Soft, Black #9727

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 1" less than desired length of sweater, depending on your dog's size, ending with a WS row. Bind off on next (RS) row.

RUFFLES

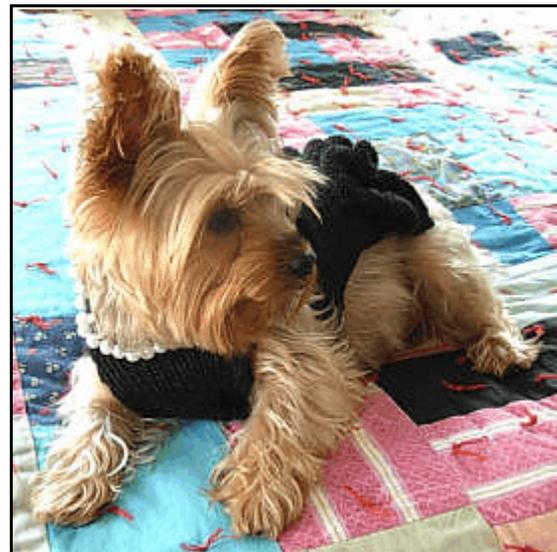
From WS, pick up approximately 35 (40 ~ 45) sts along bottom edge. Turn to RS. K1, M1 to end of row. Next row (WS), purl. Repeat these two rows. Work 4 additional rows in st st. On next row (RS), bind off.

Approximately 1" up, with RS facing and garment facing you with beginning row at top and previous ruffle at bottom, pick up sts as before. Repeat as above for a second ruffle.

Optional: With size F crochet hook, crochet slip stitch along top of second ruffle to finish 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.



FINISHING

~ 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.

~ Add pearls. Using sewing needle and white thread, stitch pearls individually around neck edge, taking care to stitch them closely together so they appear to be a "necklace" when dog is wearing the sweater.

~ Add optional fabric neck lining. *

* For neck lining instructions, see my blog at www.mysavannahcottage.wordpress.com.

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