



clio notes and tips

swatching and gauge

Which swatch first? While it is important to swatch both the woven lattice and slip-stitch rib patterns, begin with the slip-stitch rib. It's a simple stitch that's easy to memorize, and will give you immediate feedback on your needle and yarn choices. Once you have a gauge and fabric that you like for the slip-stitch rib, then move on to swatching the woven lattice.

When working the woven lattice pattern, it may at first feel unfamiliar to wrap the yarn backwards. Take care not to work these stitches too tightly in your swatch, because once you get to know the stitch, you'll relax into it. See [this tutorial](#) for tips on wrapping stitches backwards.

Clio is forgiving of gauge differences: If your yarn works best at a different gauge than the ones specified in the pattern, you may still be able to knit the design. Check out this Blue Bee Studio [blog post](#) about changing gauge on Clio.

getting started

Shoulder pieces: The gauge for these will be determined by the size of the needle you have chosen for the woven lattice and slip-stitch rib patterns, so getting exact gauge for the wheat cable is not critical. Work the shoulder pieces to the length specified in the pattern, adjusting the number of rows as needed to achieve this. Be sure to end having worked a RS row.

Picking up stitches along the edges of the shoulder pieces: Insert needle tip between the column of stitches on the edge of the piece (selvedge) and the first column of stitches of the wheat cable, picking up under both legs of the edge stitch.

The stitches picked up along the shoulder pieces need to be pretty firm, since this serves as the foundation of the sweater. Picking up on a smaller needle is recommended, however, if this creates stitches that are uncomfortably tight to work with, pick up with the gauge needle, then go back and snug up the stitches on the needle.

Shoulder short rows: The short rows for the front and back shoulders are the only parts of the pattern that require careful attention. Try to allow enough time to get through a whole section in one sitting. If you have to stop in the middle, be sure to mark your place on your pattern so that you can find it again when you resume work. Once the shoulder short rows are finished and the stitch patterns have been established, Clio becomes a very easy, intuitive knit.

Trust the pattern: Each stitch in the short row section has been written out to achieve the optimal result. Some short row wraps—those in the garter columns—will look best if they are not picked up, while others will be worked will look best when picked up. Note that 'Pick up wrap' means to work it together with the stitch that it wraps. The pattern will identify the ideal way to pick up a given stitch—sometimes as a knit, and sometimes a purl.

Use markers as needed: If you have trouble seeing your short row wraps, mark them with locking stitch markers or safety pins.

woven lattice panel

Check your work: Mistakes made in this section can be challenging to fix, therefore it is helpful to check the stitch count between the markers of the woven lattice panel regularly. Also, scan the edges of the panel to make sure that the pattern of stitches is consistent. There will be a passed-over stitch at the panel edge on every fourth row, and this will alternate at the right and left edges of the panel.

The woven stitch dance: When working this stitch it may help you to find the rhythm if you think of the four distinct moves used to make the stitch as dance steps:

slip one—knit with a backwards wrap—yarnover—pass the slipped stitch over

Split the pairs: When working the woven stitch rows, visualizing that you are splitting up the previous pairs of stitches can help keep you on track. In this way, the second stitch from the pair on the previous woven stitch row becomes the slipped-and-passed-over stitch on the next.

Fixing mistakes in the woven lattice panel: It's not impossible. If you do find a mistake, check out [this procedure](#). It only looks scary!

body

Make sure the armholes fit well: Clio is a modern drop shoulder design, and will look best if the upper sleeves fit your biceps with a minimum of positive ease. The armhole depth can easily be adjusted—if you need a bit more room, work it to the depth given for the next size up, or whichever depth suits you. Likewise, if you need a smaller sleeve, follow the depth recommended for one of the smaller sizes. When you are ready to pick up stitches for the sleeves, use the pick-up numbers from that sleeve size.

Skip to the good bits: The neckband and sleeves will change the way the body fits dramatically, so once you've joined front and back and worked to about 2" [5 cm] past the armholes, consider putting the body of the sweater on hold and working first the neckband, then the sleeves, and trying it on periodically to check the fit. Use waste yarn or interchangeable needle cable(s) of a circumference larger than that of your sweater so that you may try it on.

Block the work in progress if you are unsure: Spray-blocking can be useful in determining how your sweater fabric will change when given its final block. The technique can provide feedback on your work in progress faster and more easily than wet-blocking. See [this post](#) for more info.

Check fit regularly: Periodically try on Clio to determine the correct length. You'll need to start working the hem a little more than 4" before you reach your desired length, and it is easy to whiz right by this point!

Curling: If the bound off edge of the hem is curling, try spray blocking that section of the sweater to see if it relaxes. If not, consider working a round of knit 1, purl 1 ribbing before binding off.

neckband

Lateral braid: See [this video](#) tutorial for tips on creating a lateral braid.

Adjusting neckband fit: For a wider neckline, consider going up a needle size. To close up the neckline, additional rounds may be worked. The needle size may also be decreased midway through the neckband rounds, however, because the neckband bind-off incorporates a decrease, it is best worked on a needle size that is a few sizes larger than the main body needle.

If you adjust the stitch pick-up rate, make sure to pick up a multiple of four.

sleeves

Sleeve stitch pick-up: To keep the pick-up as firm as possible, a needle two sizes smaller than the gauge needle is recommended for picking up. If you find it awkward to slide these firmer stitches onto the gauge needle, try knitting off the smaller needle with the gauge needle. When working a sleeve on two circulars in this fashion, it can be helpful to use needles of different colors or different materials so that it is easy to distinguish the gauge needle from the pick-up needle.

Sleeve fit: The sleeve fit is easy to adjust. If you need more room in the upper arm, simply delay the start of the decreases. You can also adjust the rate of decrease, working decrease rounds at closer or wider intervals than the pattern specifies to customize the fit. Just keep in mind that you reach the cuff your stitch count will need to be a multiple of four stitches

Small circumferences: If you tend to knit more tightly when working in the round on small circumferences, consider going up a needle size for the sleeves.

Cuffs: If your yarn has a lot of drape, or you'd like a more fitted cuff, consider going down a needle size for the cuff.

Curling: If the bound off edge of the cuff is curling, try spray blocking that section of the sleeve to see if it relaxes. If not, consider working a round of knit 1, purl 1 ribbing before binding off.