

CHARMED KNITS



PROJECTS
FOR FANS OF
HARRY POTTER®

Alison Hansel



Wiley Publishing, Inc.

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Charmed Knits: Projects for Fans of Harry Potter®

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- Westminster Fibers/Rowan and Jaeger Yarns

To all the children who inspire us to write and knit and believe. They are truly magical.

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This book would not have been possible without the help of many wizards. First and foremost, thank you to all the designers for sharing their magic spells and to all the editors who understand the mysterious ways that books get made. Special thanks to Jean, the technical editor, for doing a miraculous job standardizing patterns from such a wide and varied range of designers and to the other reviewers who jumped in at the end with their circled spectacles to lend us another pair of eyes. Thanks also to my wonderful knitting buddies Johanna, Colleen, and Lisa, who eagerly whipped out their magic needles to help knit samples.

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Final thanks go to the entire online knitting community, which has fueled the huge knitting phenomenon of recent years and helped create a full and fantastic world of Harry Potter knitting. And, of course, to J.K. Rowling for inspiring us all with her wonderful vision of a world where knitting needles can work magic.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alison Hansel is a popular knitting blogger whose daily knitting-related missives can be read on the blue blog at alison.knitsmiths.us. She started knitting in 2001 while on bed rest with her twins and started blogging about it in 2002, when those twins let her start knitting again. She became an avid Harry Potter fan after seeing those Weasley twins and those Weasley sweaters in the first movie and has since designed several Potter-inspired patterns as well as hosted several highly popular Weasley knit-alongs on her blog. She occasionally knits other things (like socks for her Sockapalooza sock exchanges) but always finds herself drawn back to scarlet and gold before long. She has published patterns in the popular online knitting magazines *MagKnits* and *Knitty.com* and in the recently published *Big Girl Knits* and forthcoming *Handpainted Yarns*.

Alison lives in Boston, with her husband, who thankfully is as patient and understanding as Richard Harris's Dumbledore, her twin boys, who have no idea what the H on their sweaters really stands for, and a baby girl on the way, whom her husband will very sensibly not let her name Fred.



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INTRODUCTION

It may at first seem surprising that the magical world J.K. Rowling creates in the Harry Potter series is filled with knitting. In each book, we catch another glimpse of one of her characters taking up the needles: Hagrid knits something huge and yellow while escorting Harry to Diagon Alley for the first time; Mrs. Weasley charms up sweaters for her entire clan every year; Hermione learns to knit in an attempt to free the Gryffindor house-elves with hats and scarves; Dobby saves his money to buy yarn and knit Christmas socks for Harry; and even Dumbledore admits that he enjoys reading a good knitting pattern! Gradually, one begins to sense that the rather humble craft of knitting is somehow at home in this fantastical world full of magical mirrors and maps, flying brooms and floo powder, and mind-boggling time-turners and portkeys.

But why should we be surprised to find that there just might be a genuine connection between the traditional art of knitting and the ancient art of magic? Isn't knitting itself a form of alchemy: giving form to fiber, shaping yarn into useful objects, conjuring a sweater from a sheep's wool? A knitting pattern, much like a magic spell, is a set of instructions for transfiguration, a set of phrases and commands that appear mysterious to uninitiated Muggles but to students of the art reveal a process of metamorphosis as magical as any in the wizarding world.

Perhaps this is why Rowling's rich world, with its combination of the traditional and the fantastic, has been such an inspiration to so many knitters. The books and films have inspired people to learn to knit so they can make their own genuine house scarves or sweaters. And they've also inspired knitters to start designing. From sweaters to cellphone cozies, knitters have designed dozens of unique, imaginative items drawn from what they've read in the books or seen in the movies. This book has grown from that spirit and brings together some of the best of those now almost cult patterns, along with a host of new ones.

There are designers here whose names you will recognize from knitting publications or the Internet, and there are also many fans-turned-designer whose names may be new to you. But because they are all fans, you can be sure that their patterns reflect a love for the characters and a respect for the marvelous world Rowling has created. They just may transport you into that magical world through knitting.

A Journey of Stitchcraft and Wizardry

This book takes us on a knitting journey through the world of Harry Potter. It begins where Harry begins every year—with a visit to the Burrow. Who else could usher us into this new world of stitchcraft but the mother knitter herself, Mrs. Weasley? In the “Weasley Knits” section, we get a first look at the wonders this world has to offer, and, in true Weasley style, the patterns range from functional to funky to full-on fantastic. Up next is a trip to Diagon Alley



Weasley Knits

When the Weasley welcome wagon comes wheeling over to Harry at the entrance to Platform 9³/₄, we know he's in for a wonderful journey. The Weasleys are Harry's introduction to the magical world, and Mrs. Weasley, as an avid knitter, serves as our introduction to the world of Harry Potter knitting. She is an inspiration for knitters, both magical and Muggle. From her holiday jumpers to her own colorful knitwear, she teaches us that while wizards may not need telephones or cars, they can always use a handknit sweater.

These patterns take us on a trip to the Burrow, where we find not only the now-classic Weasley sweater and Molly's outrageous ruffled housecoat, but also her special bag of stitch witchery and the incredible clock she uses to keep track of her brood. And the Burrow wouldn't be complete without the Weasleys' shabby old owl, Errol! These uncommon, funky knits capture the style of the entire Weasley family and show that wizard knitting can be as strange and as marvelous as you can imagine.

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Place rem 20 (24, 26, 30, 32, 36, 38, 42) sts on st holder for the neck.

Mark beg of armhole by measuring 6 (7½, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14)" [15 (19, 23, 25.5, 28, 30.5, 33, 35.5) cm] down from each shoulder and tying scraps of yarn through the edge st at each end of row to use as markers.

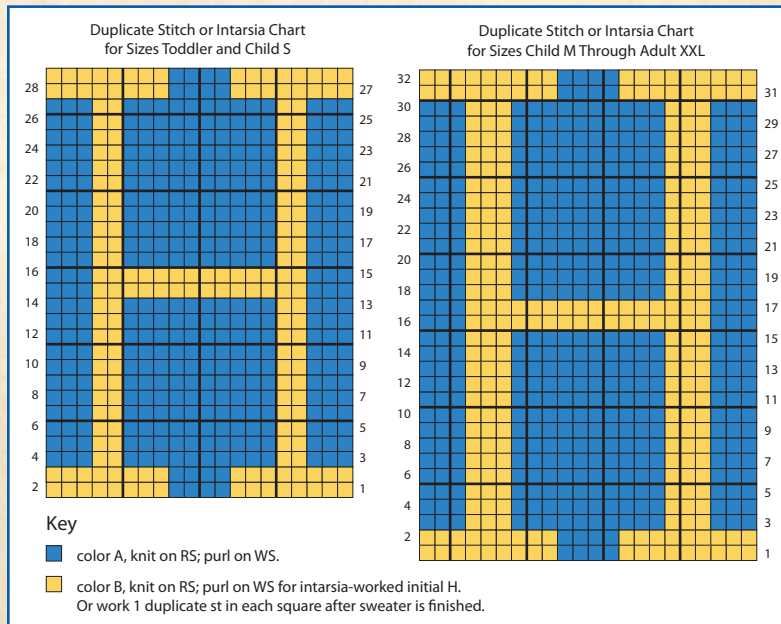
Front

Work as for back until piece measures 4½ (6½, 9½, 12½, 13½, 15½, 16½, 18½)" [11.5 (16.5, 24, 31.5, 34.5, 39, 42, 47) cm] from CO edge (uncurl lower edge to measure correctly), ending with a WS row completed.

At this point, you need to decide whether to add the H now, using the intarsia method, or continue knitting in color A and add the H later, using duplicate stitch.

Adding H with Duplicate Stitch Only

If you plan to add the initial H later by using duplicate stitch, continue knitting in St st until piece measures 10½ (13, 17½, 20½, 22, 24, 25½, 27½)" [26.5 (33, 44.5, 52, 56, 61, 65, 70) cm] from CO edge (uncurl edge to measure correctly), ending with a WS row completed.



Finished Size

Toddler (Child S, Child M, Child L/Adult S, Adult M, Adult L, Adult XL, Adult XXL)

To fit chest: 20 (24, 28, 32, 36, 40, 44, 48)" [51 (61, 71, 81.5, 91.5, 101.5, 112, 122) cm]

Circumference: 24 (28, 32, 36, 40, 44, 48, 52)" [61 (71, 81.5, 91.5, 101.5, 112, 122, 132) cm]

Length: 13 (16, 20, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32)" [33 (40.5, 51, 61, 66, 71, 76, 81.5) cm]

Sample shown: Size Child M

Note: This sweater includes a lot of ease because it looks so great oversized!

Stitch Guide for This Project

Stockinette Stitch (St st) Worked in Rows

Row 1 (RS): Knit.

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Rep rows 1 and 2.

Double Rib (2x2) Worked in Rows over a Multiple of 4 Sts Plus 2

Row 1: *K2, p2; rep from * to last 2 sts, k2.

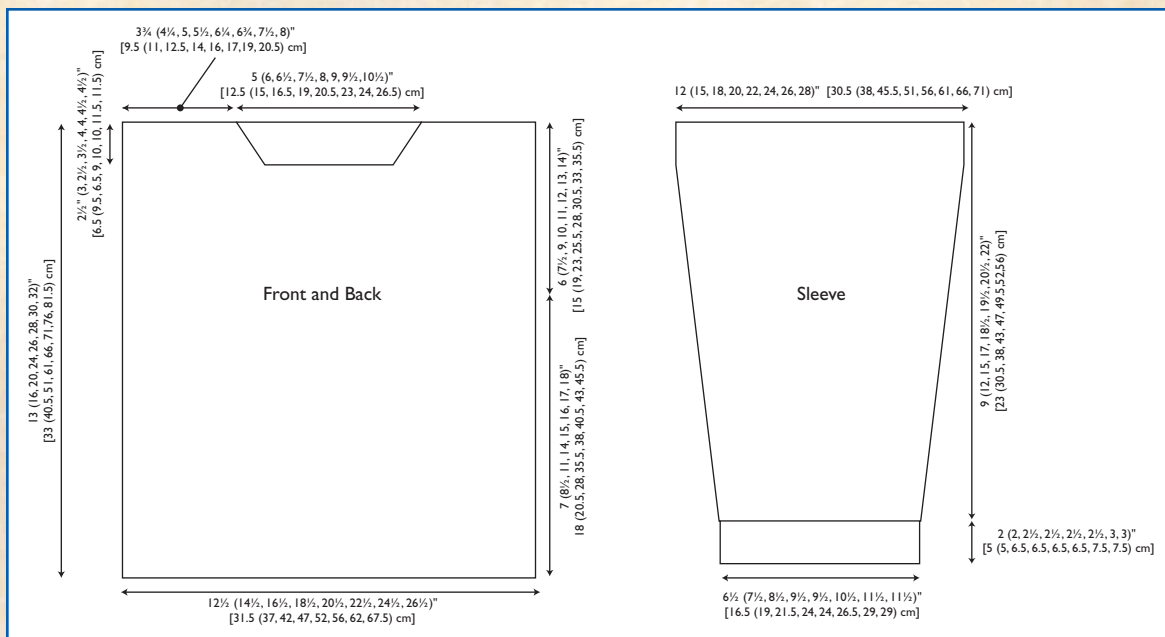
Row 2: P2, *k2, p2; rep from * to end of row.

Rep rows 1 and 2.

Stockinette Stitch (St st) Worked in Rounds

Knit all sts.





Adding H with Intarsia Method Only

To knit the initial H using the intarsia method, center the H as follows:

Row 1 (RS): K15 (19, 22, 26, 30, 34, 38, 42) sts in color A, then follow row 1 in the appropriate color chart (see page 3) for the size you're making, joining new ball of yarn for each separate color and twisting the yarns around each other when switching colors to avoid gaps in the work.



Continue following chart over the center 20 (20, 22, 22, 22, 22, 22, 22) charted sts. When chart row 1 is complete, join new ball of color A and knit rem 15 (19, 22, 26, 30, 34, 38, 42) sts.

When the charted rows are finished, continue working in St st with color A only until piece measures 10 1/2 (13, 17 1/2, 20 1/2, 22, 24, 25 1/2, 27 1/2)" [26.5 (33, 44.5, 52, 56, 61, 65, 70) cm] from CO edge (uncurl edge to measure correctly), ending with a WS row completed.

Shape Neck Opening

Next row (RS): K31 (36, 40, 45, 49, 54, 59, 64), slip last 12 (14, 14, 16, 16, 18, 20, 22) sts worked onto stitch holder for center neck, k19 (22, 26, 29, 33, 36, 39, 42).



