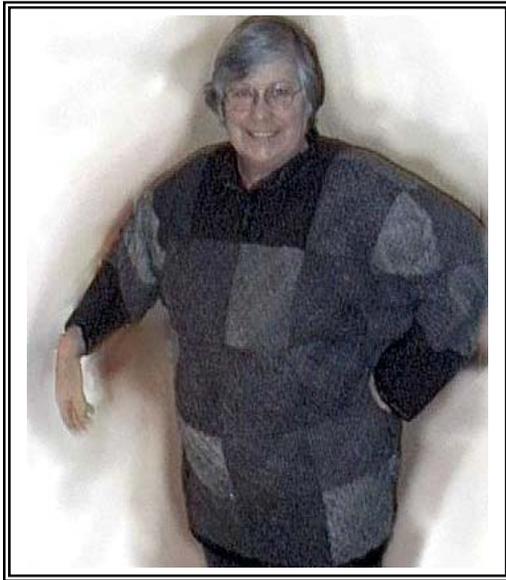


Weaving Wearables



Okay now, bare with me. Hummm... maybe that should be bear? We're making clothing but we don't have to start from the bottom! I am by no means an expert on this subject. In fact, some of you probably know much more about it. I've made this sweater and a couple of sweater/jackets on the Big tri loom. I also made a vest, which I managed to felt... Let that be a lesson to you!

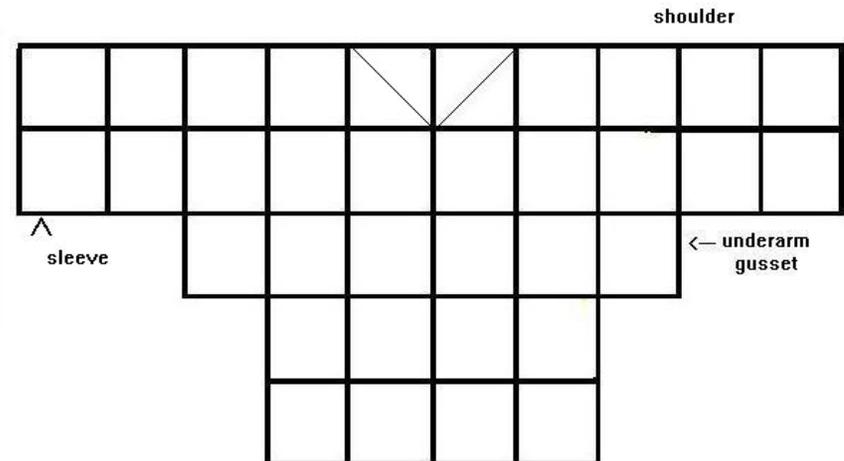
But here is what little I know about the subject. We can add to this page as we learn. I do hope you'll all be willing to help me. The hardest part about weaving clothing with these looms is that while people are different sizes we are all using the same size looms. So what fits my ample figure is not going to fit well on your willowy one.

Everyone at this point is going to have to fit themselves.

You have to swatch. That is, you have to weave a square or tri from the yarn you plan to use in the project. You have to wash or full it. Then measure it. After that comes the math. Oh yes, you'll have to do math! My sweater turned out to have sleeves that were a tad long. I could have made them one block shorter and knitted a cuff. I also planned a boat neck on my sweater but when I got down to it, I found that it was too high and tight for my comfort so I opened it into a kind of collar.

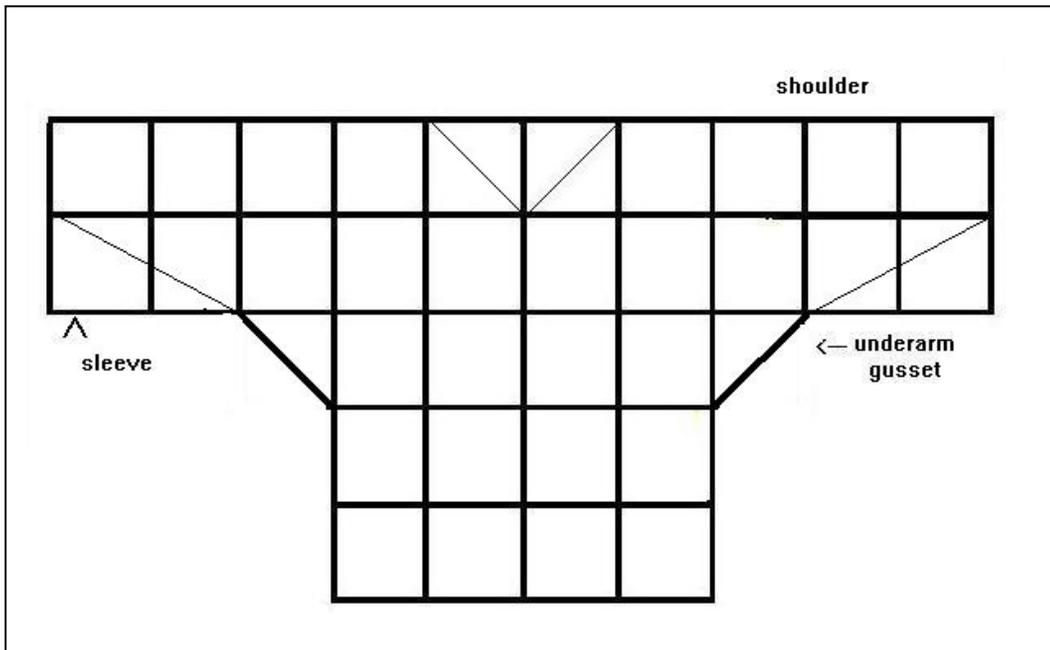
About all I'm giving you here is the basics of How I Did It. The rest is up to you.

Here is the basic layout I used. This is the same front and back, joined at the shoulder. The underarm gusset folds into a triangle and is stitches to the front and the back sleeve.



MAKING FABRIC

The thing to remember when you are planning your jacket, sweater, blouse, or vest is that you are weaving not a vest... you are weaving fabric to make a vest! My sweater had some modifications. The sleeves were way too wide for my liking. I could not take out one square of width, it wouldn't go together correctly and if I took out two it would be too tight so I used my sewing machine. I pinned where I wanted to make a seam and sewed it and then cut the excess off and bound the seam with a zigzag stitch. I could have used seam tape. But the sleeves came out fitting just as I wanted them too.



The neck line in the picture is just to show you how mine lay when I opened the center seam. You can sew this also to make the neckline you want. If you are going to knit a ribbing you'll want to cut a nice rounded neckline but do stay stitch it first and bind the edge well after you cut and before knitting.

I am planning a vest for my next project and will probably use this same basic layout. If I stop the shoulder at the 3rd block from the center it will give me a sleeve about half way to my elbow. Not exactly a vest. I'll probably leave off the gusset and just open the side for two blocks below the shoulder, making the vest a rectangle. I'm not sure what I'll do for the front.

You can see how this sweater could easily become a cardigan.

Those of you with the 12" looms can also make clothing but you'll have different math. I haven't worked with that yet... successfully .

Well, I hope this helps you somewhat with your own project planning. It is a learning process for us all but I am so enthused at how my sweater turned out that I know I'll be weaving more clothing.

Hazel

<http://www.hazelroselooms.com/>

