



Copy these flower and leaf templates, then use them to cut pieces from felt.



You Spin Me Right Round. Baby

CHANGING A PATTERN FROM STRAIGHT KNITTING TO KNITTING IN THE ROUND

If you are a circular knitting fanatic, there's nothing to stop you from knitting most of a sweater in the round even if a pattern tells you to knit it flat. You just need to make a few simple adjustments. Start with the front, casting on the total number of stitches minus 2, and place a stitch marker. Then cast on the total number of stitches for the back minus 2 stitches, place another stitch marker, and join your round. This reduction of 4 stitches—1 per side per piece—is what would have been taken up by the seams. Since you're knitting in the round, you won't need to make side seams (yay!) so you can lose those stitches.

Then just knit in the round until you get to the armhole shaping. Here you'll have to accommodate your changes in the pattern for the missing seam once again, and the number of bound-off stitches to start the armhole shaping will have to be reduced by 2 on each side. So, if the bind-off for each side is 5 stitches, meaning 10 stitches for the entire armhole (front and back combined), knit to 4 stitches before the stitch marker, remove the marker and bind off 8 stitches, then knit to 4 stitches before the next stitch marker, bind off 8 stitches again, and remove the second stitch marker.

Knit the remainder of the sweater back and forth in the usual way. Just put all the stitches for the first side on a spare circular needle or scrap yarn and work the front and the back of the sweater separately.

- There are a few important things to take into account when altering a flat-knit pattern for knitting in the round. First, your gauge for knitting in the round may be tighter than for knitting back and forth. If this is true for you, knit the back-and-forth parts on a smaller needle so that your gauge is consistent. Second, if you're working with a stitch pattern other than stockinette, you'll have to make sure that the pattern works all the way around. There is some leeway in the number of stitches you can decrease, as long as you make sure you take that into consideration when you bind off for the armholes. Finally, any shaping that is done in the body of the sweater has to be done at least a couple of stitches in from the stitch marker on either side to make the sides flow smoothly. *Marney Anderson, New York, NY*

