

basic information

sizes

Sizing is a matter of personal taste. Some people like a garment to fit snugly, while others prefer a larger size to feel comfortable. It is often a mistake to buy clothes specifically for maternity that one will never wear again. Better then, to select styles that will flatter that body, be comfortable and allow for an expanding waistline.

For baby, too, one cannot predict the weight of a newborn. He or she may be quite small and so a first-size garment may be a little large. Alternatively, he or she may be much bigger than anticipated and so it may be best to skip the first couple of sizes. Baby sizes are given in ages and are intended as an average guide only, although approximate body width, body length and sleeve length measurements are given with the patterns. My patterns tend to err on the generous side but, as children of similar ages can vary so much, use your tension swatch to establish which size is best for your baby.

Where instructions are given for more than one size, the figures for the larger sizes are given in round () brackets whilst the smallest size is given outside the brackets. Where only one figure appears, this figure applies to all sizes and where 0 appears no stitches or rows are worked for this size. Where instructions are given in square [] brackets, work these instructions the number of times stated after the brackets.

tension

Tension is the number of stitches and rows per centimetre that should be obtained on the given needles, yarn and stitch pattern. Achieving the correct tension is very important when making children's clothing as it determines the finished size of the garment. A tension is specified for each pattern in this book, so always work a tension swatch before beginning a garment. To check your tension, work a sample at least 10cm square using the given yarn, needles and stitch pattern used for the garment. Press the tension swatch lightly on a flat surface, but do not stretch the sample. Using a ruler, measure and mark the number of stitches and rows in the central area of the sample and check this number against the set tension. If you have too many stitches try another swatch using larger needles, but if you have too few stitches try again with smaller needles.

charts

Instructions for the embroidery for the Pixie hat (see pages 52-6) are given in the form of charts. Each square depicted on a chart represents one stitch and each horizontal line of squares on a chart represents one row of knitting. Once you have knitted the basic fabric, if required, embroider the decoration using Swiss darning or duplicate stitch. The embroidered stitch is worked on top of the knitted stitch in a contrasting colour. Using a blunt-ended needle and the required colour in a yarn of similar weight, darn the yarn invisibly at the back. * Then bring the needle up through the centre of the stitch from the back of the work, insert the needle from the right to the left, behind the stitch immediately above. Insert the needle through the centre of the original stitch and out through the centre of the stitch to the left, repeat from *.

When reading from a chart, start at the bottom right-hand corner unless otherwise stated and read from right to left for right-side rows and left to right for wrong-side rows. Each stitch and/or colour used is given a symbol in the key, so check the key to the chart before beginning a pattern.

finishing touches

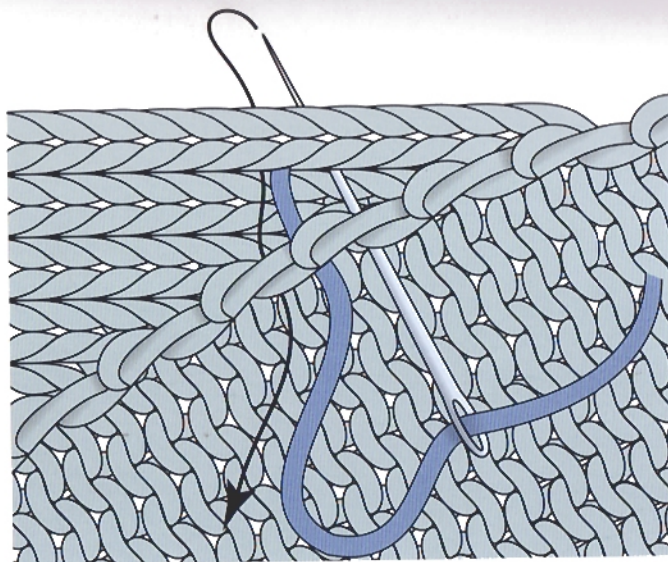
If you go to the trouble of knitting for a new mum or baby, then make sure that you finish off your knitted gift appropriately. Take time over the finishing details. All too often the final touches to a beautifully knitted garment are rushed in the euphoria of completing the project. By taking time with the detail of putting the pieces together a professional finish will be achieved. Weave in all the yarn ends along the row at the back of the knitting, never up the side, as this will give bulky seams. Lay the pieces out flat on the wrong or reverse side and press the knitting with a steam iron or press gently under a damp cloth. Do not flatten the knitting or stretch it out of shape. When you have to join up sections of knitting, make sure you join each piece in turn, matching rows, and taking time to line up pieces accurately. Sewing stitches used in making up should be neat and unobtrusive. When sewing up, I prefer to use mattress stitch for most seams although I sometimes use backstitch to sew in sleeves. Never overstretch when making up a garment as this makes for a very bulky finish.

Any trims or embellishments should be chosen with care to match both the colour and style of the garment and need to be securely attached to it.



mattress stitch

This is the best stitch to use for an invisible seam when making up garments as it provides a really neat finish. With right sides facing up, lay the two pieces of knitting to be joined together side by side. Bring the yarn needle through to the front of the right-hand piece and insert it between the edge stitch and second stitch on the first two rows. Then take the yarn needle across and pick up the corresponding two strands between the edge stitch and second stitch on the first and second rows of the left-hand piece. Repeat this zig-zag action back and forth until the pieces are joined all the way along. Pull the yarn to join the seam, pulling it a little tighter than necessary at first, then stretch the seam back into shape.



backstitch

This stitch provides a good strong seam. With right sides together, hold the two pieces of knitting to be joined in one hand. Insert the yarn needle up between the edge stitch and second stitch between the first and second rows. Pull the yarn tight. Insert the yarn needle down between the first row and cast-on edge, then up between the second and third row. Pull the yarn tight. Continue always going down where you first went up, and up one row further along.

giftwrapping ideas

Many of us are induced to knit for a baby when a close friend or relative becomes pregnant. If you want to offer something you have knitted to a friend or relative as a gift to welcome the newborn baby, do take care to present it beautifully. It becomes a token of your love and esteem, and will be very much appreciated. Nothing is too good for the new baby!

The best way to wrap any kind of present is with simplicity and style. Make sure that the knitted garment or project is neatly folded, ideally layered with tissue paper to prevent it creasing. Choose plain, good-quality papers for wrapping, and find novel forms of tie, rather than the ubiquitous cheap ribbon. If you wrap the gift carefully, you can avoid the use of sticky tape, and the paper is then reusable. String, raffia or unusual ribbons can be used instead to package the parcel. Why not add a small additional present, in the shape of a baby's rattle or small charm, as a finishing detail, tied to the ribbon? And don't forget to add a matching tag with a special message of congratulations. You can make these yourself very easily from pieces of card.

t-shirt with side ties

A wardrobe essential, this t-shirt for the expectant or new mother is made in fine cashmere yarn for the ultimate in softness and comfort. An indulgence, but why not? Alternatively, it can be made in most fine 4-ply yarns, cotton, wool or a blend of both. It is knitted in stocking stitch with a subtle emphasis on detail; the fully fashioned increase and decrease shapings enhance the simplicity of this design. The front is knitted slightly longer than the back, with side vents worked in rib, to accommodate a growing baby. It is finished with fine tonal suede ties at the sides.



making the t-shirt

size	1	2	3
To fit chest	86cm	92cm	96cm
Width	86cm	92cm	96cm
Front length	58cm	61cm	63cm
Back length	52cm	55cm	57cm

materials

Any 4-ply yarn, such as Jaeger *Cashmina*

9 (10: 11) x 25g balls

1 pair each of 3mm and 3.25mm knitting needles

Stitch holders and large sewing needle

Approximately 1.6m suede ribbon, 0.5cm wide, for side ties

tension

28 stitches and 36 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 3.25mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.



knitting the back

Using 3mm needles, cast on 107 (113: 119) stitches.

Work 2cm in single rib as follows:

Row 1 (right side): * Purl 1, knit 1, repeat from * to last stitch, purl 1.

Row 2: * Knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to last stitch, knit 1.

Finish with right side facing for next row.

Change to 3.25mm needles and work 14 (14: 16) rows in stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately – working first and last 5 stitches of every row in single rib as set to make side vents.

*** Decrease row:** Rib 5, knit 2, knit 2 together, knit to last 9 stitches, knit 2 together, knit 2, rib 5.

Decrease as given on next and every following 10th row until 101 (107: 113) stitches remain.

Work 11 rows straight, ending with a wrong side row.

Increase row: Knit 3, make 1 (by picking up horizontal loop before next stitch and working into back of it), knit to last 3 stitches, make 1, knit 3.

Increase as given on next and every following 10th row until there are 113 (119: 125) stitches, working all stitches in stocking stitch. **

Continue without shaping until back measures 34 (34: 35)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape armholes

Cast off 4 (4: 5) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

105 (111: 115) stitches.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next 5 (7: 7) rows, then on following 6 (6: 7) alternate rows. *83 (85: 87) stitches.*

Continue without shaping until armhole measures 20 (21: 21)cm, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape shoulders and back neck

Cast off 8 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows. *67 (69: 71) stitches.*

Next row: Cast off 8 stitches, knit 11 (12: 12), turn and leave remaining stitches on stitch holder.

Work each side of neck separately.

Cast off 4 stitches at beginning of next row.

Cast off remaining 7 (8: 8) stitches.

With right side facing, place next 29 (29: 31) stitches on stitch holder, rejoin yarn to remaining stitches and knit to end.

Work to match first side, but reverse all shaping.

knitting the front

Using 3mm needles, cast on 107 (113: 119) stitches.

Work 2cm in single rib as for back.

Change to 3.25mm needles and work 32 (32: 34) rows in stocking stitch, working first and last 5 stitches of every row in single rib as set to make side vents.

Work shapings from * to ** as for back.

Continue without shaping until front measures 39.5 (39.5: 40)cm, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape armholes

Work as for back. *83 (85: 87) stitches.*

Continue without shaping until 24 (24: 26) rows less have been worked before start of shoulder shaping on back, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape neck

Next row: Knit 29 (30: 31), turn.

Work as follows on these stitches.

Decrease 1 stitch at neck edge on next 2 rows.

Decrease 1 stitch at neck edge on next and following 1 (1: 2) alternate rows.

Decrease 1 stitch at neck edge on every following 4th row until 23 (24: 24) stitches remain.

Work 8 (8: 6) rows, ending at armhole edge.

Shape shoulder

Cast off 8 stitches at beginning of next and following alternate row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off remaining 7 (8: 8) stitches.

With right side facing, slip next 25 (25: 25) stitches onto a stitch holder, rejoin yarn to remaining stitches and knit to end.

Work to match first side, but reverse all shaping.

knitting the sleeves (make 2)

Using 3mm needles, cast on 83 (85: 87) stitches.

Work 2cm in single rib as for back.

Change to 3.25mm needles and continue in stocking stitch until work measures 6.5cm from cast-on edge.

Shape top

Cast off 4 (4: 5) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

75 (77: 77) stitches.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next 5 rows.

Work 1 row.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next and following 2 alternate rows.

Work 1 row.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next and every following 4th row until 47 (49: 49) stitches remain.

Work 1 row.

Decrease 1 stitch each end of next and following 2 (3: 3) alternate rows.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next 3 rows. *35 stitches.*

Cast off 4 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows. *27 stitches.*

Cast off.

making up the t-shirt

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out all finished pieces. Press gently with a steam iron, taking care not to flatten the rib. Join right shoulder seam.

knitting the neckband

With right side facing and using 3.25mm needles, pick up and knit 31 (31: 33) stitches down left side of neck, 25 (25: 25) stitches from front stitch holder, 31 (31: 33) stitches up right side of neck, and 37 (37: 39) stitches from back stitch holder. *124 (124: 130) stitches.* Cast off purlwise loosely but evenly to give a neat edge.

finishing the t-shirt

Join left shoulder seam and neckband. Set in sleeves. Join sleeve seams. Join side seams to top of ribbing to make side vents.

To make side ties, thread a 80cm length of ribbon through the top of each side vent and tie loosely in a bow.

sweater and pants set

A simple yet contemporary update on a traditional classic: two coordinating pieces worked in contrasting weights of cashmere. The basic sweater is knitted in luxurious chunky cashmere yarn. It knits up so quickly, which makes this an immediate new favourite design. The jumper is square in shape with a shoulder fastening, so it is easy to pop on over grumpy heads. The finer cashmere pants complement the sweater beautifully, again a modern twist on the traditional baby's 'romper'. Both pieces are knitted in stocking stitch with fully fashioned shaping for extra detail. This set would also look great in other blends of yarns: try any other 4-ply in soft pinks, grey marl or pale blues for a more traditional palette. This stylish two-piece is sure to become a much-loved hand-me-down.





making the sweater

size	1 (early baby)	2 (0-3 months)	3 (3-6 months)	4 (6-12 months)
To fit chest	35.5cm	38cm	46cm	52cm
Width	43cm	48cm	53cm	56cm
Length	24cm	26cm	28.5cm	30.5cm
Sleeve	14cm	15cm	16.5cm	18cm

materials

Any chunky yarn, such as Jaeger *Cashair*

5 x 25g balls

1 pair each of 7.5mm and 8mm knitting needles

Stitch holder

Large sewing needle

2 buttons

tension

12 stitches and 18 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 8mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

knitting the back

Using 8mm needles, cast on 26 (29: 32: 35) stitches and work in single rib as follows:

Row 1: * Purl 1, knit 1, repeat from * to last 0 (1: 0: 1) stitch, purl 0 (1: 0: 1).

Change to stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately – and continue until work measures 13 (14: 15.5: 16.5)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Place coloured threads as markers at each end of last row.

Continue without shaping until work measures 23 (25: 27.5: 29.5)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Next row: Knit 8 (9: 10: 11) stitches, turn.

Purl 1 row on these stitches.

Cast off.

With right side facing, place next 10 (11: 12: 13) stitches onto a stitch holder, rejoin yarn to remaining stitches and knit to end of row.

Work 3 more rows in stocking stitch.

Cast off.

knitting the front

Work as for back until armhole is 4 rows less to start of shoulder shaping, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape neck

Next row: Knit 10 (11: 12: 13) stitches, turn.

Decrease 1 stitch at neck edge on next 2 rows. *8 (9: 10: 11) stitches.*

Make strip for buttonholes (worked in reverse stocking stitch)

Next row: Knit.

Next row: Purl 1 (2: 3: 4), yarn forward, purl 2 together, purl 3, yarn forward, purl 2 together.

Next row: Knit.

Cast off.

With right side facing, place next 6 (7: 8: 9) stitches onto a stitch holder, rejoin yarn to remaining stitches and knit to end of row.

Decrease 1 stitch at neck edge on next 2 rows.

Next row: Knit.

Next row: Purl.

Cast off.

knitting the sleeves (make 2)

Using 8mm needles, cast on 18 (20: 22: 24) stitches and work 1 row in single rib as for back.

Change to stocking stitch and increase 1 stitch each end of every 6th (6th: 7th: 8th) row until 24 (26: 28: 30) stitches.

Continue without shaping until work measures 14 (15: 16.5: 18)cm from cast-on edge.

Cast off.

making up the sweater

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out all finished pieces. Press gently with a steam iron, taking care not to flatten the rib. Join right shoulder seam.

knitting the neckband

With right side facing and using 7.5mm needles, pick up and knit 6 (7: 8: 9) stitches along left front of neck, 6 (7: 8: 9) stitches from stitch holder, 4 (5: 6: 7) stitches up right front of neck, 10 (11: 12: 13) stitches along back of neck, and 2 (2: 2: 2) stitches from facing. *28 (32: 36: 40) stitches.*

Cast off.

finishing the sweater

Set in sleeves, overlapping bands at left shoulder. Join sleeve seams. Join side seams, leaving 2.5cm unsewn at hem edges to make small side vents. Sew buttons onto shoulder bands to align with buttonholes.

making the pants

size	1 (early baby)	2 (0–3 months)	3 (3–6 months)	4 (6–12 months)
To fit chest	35.5cm	38cm	46cm	52cm

materials

Any 4-ply yarn, such as Jaeger *Cashmina*

A (dark grey) 2 x 25g balls

B (light grey) 1 x 25g ball

C (lilac) 1 x 25g ball

1 pair of 3mm knitting needles

Large sewing needle

Narrow elastic

tension

28 stitches and 38 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 3mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

stripe pattern (15 row repeat)

Rows 1–6	A
Rows 7–8	B
Rows 9–14	A
Row 15	C

knitting the back and front (worked in one piece)

Using 3mm needles and yarn B, cast on 52 (60: 68: 76) stitches.

Work 10 (10: 12: 12) rows in single rib as follows:

Row 1: * Purl 1, knit 1, repeat from * to end.

Change to stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately – following stripe pattern, increase 1 stitch at each end of 5th and every following 5th (5th: 6th: 6th) row until 68 (76: 84: 92) stitches.

Work 3 (7: 5: 7) rows without shaping.

Shape leg openings

Cast off 3 stitches at beginning of every row until 8 (10: 18: 20) stitches remain. Note pattern row.

Start working back and reverse pattern, starting with noted row, so stripes will match when finishing.

Cast on 3 stitches at beginning of every row to 68 (76: 84: 92) stitches.

Work 3 (7: 5: 7) rows without shaping.

Decrease 1 stitch each end of next and every following 5th (5th: 6th: 6th) row until 52 (60: 68: 76) stitches remain.

Work 5 rows straight then shape top of back as follows:

Row 1: Knit to last 5 (6: 7: 8) stitches, turn.

Row 2: Purl to last 5 (6: 7: 8) stitches, turn.

Row 3: Knit to last 10 (12: 14: 16) stitches, turn.

Row 4: Purl to last 10 (12: 14: 16) stitches, turn.

Row 5: Knit to last 15 (18: 21: 24) stitches, turn.

Row 6: Purl to last 15 (18: 21: 24) stitches, turn.

Row 7: Knit to last 20 (24: 28: 32) stitches, turn.

Row 8: Purl across all stitches to end of needle.

Work 10 (10: 12: 12) rows in single rib.

Cast off in rib.

knitting the leg bands

With right side facing, pick up and knit every stitch round one leg. 60 (66: 66: 72) stitches.

Work 5 (5: 7: 7) rows in single rib.

Cast off in rib.

making up the pants

Sew in any yarn ends. Press gently with a steam iron. Join side seams, matching stripes. Sew elastic around inside of waist.



pompom papoose

The simplest and most stylish little project to make for a new baby. It is knitted in one 'scarf' or strip of stocking stitch, folded and sewn, then finished with a garter stitch edge and a pompom. It makes a snug and practical wrap for a new arrival in the crib, stroller or simply for carrying in your arms. The yarn is a beautiful merino cotton, which is ideal for a summer or winter baby, comfortable and easily washable. Make this in classic cream, traditional baby pastels or modern brights. Stripe it or edge it in a contrasting tonal colour or texture. If you have never picked up knitting needles before, try this simple project!



making the pompom papoose

one size

Width 68cm
Length 70cm

materials

Any medium-weight or dk yarn, such as

Rowan *Wool Cotton*

A (cream) 6 x 50g balls

B (lilac) 1 x 50g ball

1 pair each of 3.75mm and 3.25mm

knitting needles

Large sewing needle

Cardboard for pompom

Scissors

tension

23 stitches and 30 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 3.75mm needles.

Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

When picking up and knitting the stitches around the hood, you may find it easier to use circular needles, but work in rows rather than rounds.

knitting the papoose (worked in one piece)

With 3.75mm needles and yarn A, cast on 80 stitches.

Work 360 rows in stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately – marking each end of row 60 and row 210.

(The finished strip should measure 34cm wide and 120cm long.)

Cast off.

making up the papoose

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out the finished piece. Press gently with a steam iron. Fold the strip along row 210 marker and line up the cast-off edge with row 60 marker. Sew down both sides. Fold top section to form hood and join centre seam.

With 3.25mm needles and yarn B, pick up 80 stitches along front and 60 stitches along each side of the hood. *200 stitches.*

Knit 1 row.

Cast off.

making the pompom

Cut two cardboard circles approximately 6.5cm in diameter, then carefully cut another hole in the centre of each to leave a ring. Wind a small amount of yarn B into a ball that will pass through the centre of the ring. Hold the two cardboard circles together and wind the yarn around the ring, keeping the strands close together. Wind as many layers of yarn as possible around the ring before the centre hole becomes too small for the ball of yarn to pass through. Using sharp scissors, slip one of the blades between the two layers of card and cut around the circumference of the circle. Slip a length of yarn between the two layers and around the centre of what will become the pompom, pull tight and knot the yarn. Cut the cardboard ring away. Shake the pompom, fluff it up and trim it to a neat shape. Attach the pompom to the point of the hood.

chunky zip-up cardigan

This casual-look v-neck cardigan is set to become a contemporary classic. It is knitted in a chunky twist yarn in tones of ecru and soft grey. The yarn is a blend of merino wool and alpaca, which gives a great texture to the simple stocking stitch fabric, although it would work in any chunky yarn. To give some interest to this otherwise plain garment, a small pocket and double-ended zipper have been added. The pattern for this cardigan is given in two sizes, which is fairly oversized and so perfect for layering.



making the chunky zip-up cardigan

size	1 (6–9 months)	2 (9–12 months)
To fit chest	52cm	58cm
Width	58cm	64cm
Length	29cm	32cm
Sleeve	18cm	19cm

materials

Any chunky yarn, such as Rowan *Plaid*

3 (4) x 100g balls

1 pair of 8mm knitting needles

Stitch holder

Large sewing needle

20 (23)cm double-ended zipper

Approximately 75cm cotton tape (optional)

2 safety pins

tension

12 stitches and 16 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 8mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

The only special techniques required are increasing and decreasing, and knitting through the back of the loops for the full fashioning detail. When knitting a fully-fashioned garment, work the increases and decreases 3 stitches in from the outside edge.

knitting the back

With 8mm needles, cast on 34 (38) stitches.

Work 2 rows in single rib as follows:

Row 1: * Purl 1, knit 1, repeat from * to end.

Change to stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately – and continue until work measures 18 (19)cm from cast-on edge.

Shape armholes: Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Decrease row: Knit 2, knit 2 together through back loops, knit to last 4 stitches, knit 2 together, knit 2.

Decrease as given on next and following 3 knit rows. 22 (26) stitches.

Work 9 (11) rows straight.

Shape shoulders: Cast off 4 (5) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Cast off remaining 14 (16) stitches.

knitting the left front

With 8mm needles, cast on 17 (19) stitches. Work 2 rows in rib as for back, but keep front edge as knit 1 stitch to give a neat edge.

Change to stocking stitch and continue until work measures 18 (19)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape armhole: Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next row.

Purl 1 row.

Next row: Knit 2, knit 2 together through back loops, knit to end.

Repeat this row on next 2 knit rows. 12 (14) stitches.

Purl 1 row.

Next row: Knit 2, knit 2 together through back loops, knit to last 4 stitches, knit 2 together, knit 2.

Purl 1 row.

Next row: Knit to last 4 stitches, knit 2 together, knit 2.

Repeat this row on next 3 (4) knit rows. 6 (7) stitches.

Purl 1 row.

Cast off 4 (5) stitches, knit 2.

Work 8 (9) rows in stocking stitch.

Leave stitches on a stitch holder.

knitting the right front

With 8mm needles, cast on 17 (19) stitches. Work 2 rows in rib as for back, but keep front edge as knit 1 stitch to give a neat edge.

Change to stocking stitch and continue until work measures 18 (19)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a right side row.



Shape armhole: Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next row.

Next row: Knit to last 4 stitches, knit 2 together, knit 2.

Repeat this row on next 2 knit rows. *12 (14) stitches.*

Purl 1 row.

Shape neck

Next row: Knit 2, knit 2 together through back loops, knit to last 4 stitches, knit 2 together, knit 2.

Purl 1 row.

Next row: Knit 2, knit 2 together through back loops, knit to end.

Repeat this row on next 3 (4) knit rows. *6 (7) stitches.*

Work 2 rows.

Cast off 4 (5) stitches, purl 2.

On 2 stitches, work 7 (8) rows in stocking stitch.

Leave stitches on a stitch holder.

knitting the sleeves (make 2)

With 8mm needles, cast on 20 (22) stitches.

Work 2 rows in single rib as for back.

Change to stocking stitch, increase 1 stitch at each end of every 5th row to 28 (30) stitches.

Continue straight until work measures 18 (19)cm from cast-on edge.

Shape top: Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next 4 alternate rows.

Cast off 3 stitches at beginning of next 4 rows.

Cast off remaining 4 (6) stitches.

knitting the pocket

With 8mm needles, cast on 6 stitches.

Work in stocking stitch, increasing 1 stitch at each end of next and alternate row. *10 stitches.*

Continue straight until pocket measures 5cm from cast-on edge.

Work 3 rows in rib.

Cast off in rib.

making up the cardigan

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay pieces out flat. Gently press with a steam iron. Join shoulder seams. Graft together front extensions and sew around back neck. Set in sleeves. Join sleeve and side seams. Sew in zipper, starting just above rib hem. Cover zipper tape on inside with cotton tape. Sew pocket onto left front.

soft wrap jacket

The perfect knitted jacket to see you all through a winter pregnancy and, once baby is occupying your arms, it's the ideal easy garment to throw on as there are no buttons to try to fasten one-handed. The luxurious blend of angora, cashmere and merino ensures this simple shape will be an enduring favourite. It is a very easy garment to make as it is knitted in oblongs with no increases, decreases or buttonholes. And while the revers collar looks difficult, it simply folds over naturally.





making the soft wrap jacket

size	1	2	3
To fit chest	82cm	86cm	92cm
Width	96cm	100cm	106cm
Length	73cm	75cm	77cm
Sleeve	51cm	53cm	55cm

materials

Any chunky yarn, such as Jaeger *Chamonix*
12 (13: 14) x 50g balls
1 pair of 7mm knitting needles
Large sewing needle
2 large kilt or nappy pins (optional)

tension

14 stitches and 20 rows to 10cm square measured over stitch pattern on 7mm needles.
Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

Avoid joining in a new ball of yarn along the front edges. Keep any joins to the side seams to ensure a neat and smooth finish.

knitting the back

With 7mm needles, cast on 66 (70: 74) stitches.

Work 51 (52: 53)cm in single rib as follows:

Row 1: * Purl 1, knit 1, repeat from * to end.

Row 2: * Knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to end.

Place coloured threads at each end of last row to mark armholes.

Continue until work measures 73 (75: 77)cm from cast-on edge.

Cast off.

knitting the right front

With 7mm needles, cast on 40 (42: 44) stitches and work

66 (68: 70)cm in single rib as for back, placing coloured threads at end of row for armhole when work measures 51 (52: 53)cm.

Shape front neck

Cast off 17 stitches at opposite edge to armhole on next row.

Continue straight on remaining 23 (25: 27) stitches until work measures 73 (75: 77)cm from cast-on edge.

Cast off.

knitting the left front

Work to match right front, but reverse all shaping.

sleeves (make 2)

With 7mm needles, cast on 60 (64: 68) stitches.

Work 51 (53: 55)cm in single rib as for back.

Cast off.

knitting the collar

With 7mm needles, cast on 67 (71: 75) stitches.

Work 14cm in single rib as for back.

Cast off.



making up the jacket

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out all finished pieces. Press gently with a steam iron, taking care not to flatten the rib. Join shoulder seams. Sew top of sleeves into armholes between coloured markers. Join sleeve seams. Join side seams, leaving 5cm unsewn at hem edges to make small side vents. Sew cast-off edge of collar around neck, ignoring front neck cast-off stitches. Stitch 4cm of side of collar to front neck cast-off stitches, leaving remainder open to make revers collar.

finishing the jacket

Wrap yarn around straight edge of kilt or nappy pin and tie securely. Use to fasten front of jacket.

zip-up hoodie

The essential hooded cardigan for expectant mothers. The double-ended zipper makes this garment extremely versatile; it can be undone from the bottom for continuing comfort as your bump gets bigger. With its cosy hood, this cardigan can be layered over simple garments to create a unique look during pregnancy and beyond. Worked in random stripes of vivid colour in basic stocking stitch, this cardigan is surprisingly easy to knit – you'll be amazed at how quickly it grows as you add stripe upon stripe. Of course, this cardigan looks great in a plain colour, too. It's a must-have wardrobe basic that you will want to make time and time again.



making the zip-up hoodie

size	1	2
To fit chest	82–86cm	92–96cm
Width	94cm	99cm
Length	56cm	61cm
Sleeve	45cm	45cm

materials

Any Aran or chunky-weight yarn, such as
Rowan *All Seasons Cotton*

A (ecru)	3 x 50g balls
B (orange)	3 x 50g balls
C (turquoise)	3 x 50g balls
D (lime)	3 x 50g balls
E (olive)	3 x 50g balls
F (grey)	3 x 50g balls
G (coral)	3 x 50g balls
H (brown)	3 x 50g balls

Lurex Shimmer

I (copper) 3 x 50g balls
1 pair each of 4.5mm and 5mm knitting needles
Large sewing needle
Stitch holder
51 (56) cm double-ended zipper
Assorted beads and sequins
Approximately 117cm tape, 1.25cm wide

tension

17 stitches and 24 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 5mm needles.
Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

The only special techniques required are increasing and decreasing, and knitting through the back of the loops for the full fashioning detail. When knitting a fully-fashioned garment, work the increases and decreases 3 stitches in from the outside edge.

85 row pattern repeat

Rows 1–4	B
Row 5	C
Rows 6–7	A
Row 8	B
Rows 9–12	D (with Swiss darned embroidery in I, see page 12)
Row 13	E
Rows 14–16	F
Rows 17–18	B
Rows 19–24	C
Row 25	B
Row 26	E
Row 27	G
Row 28	E
Row 29	A
Row 30	F
Row 31	B
Row 32	F
Row 33	A
Row 34	H

Row 35	C
Row 36	H (with Swiss darned embroidery in I, see page 12)
Row 37	C
Rows 38–41	A
Row 42	D
Rows 43–44	A
Row 45	F
Rows 46–53	G
Row 54	A
Row 55	B
Rows 56–57	F
Rows 58–62	H (with Swiss darned embroidery in I, see page 12)
Row 63	B
Rows 64–65	A
Row 66	G
Row 67–70	A
Row 71	C
Rows 72–73	F
Row 74	E
Rows 75–78	C



Row 79 E
Rows 80–81 A
Rows 82–85 D

knitting the back

With 4.5mm needles and yarn A, cast on 77 (80) stitches.

Work in 2 x 1 rib as follows:

Row 1: * Knit 2, purl 1, repeat from * to last 2 stitches, knit 2.

Row 2: * Purl 2, knit 1, repeat from * to last 2 stitches, purl 2.

Continue until work measures 5cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row, increasing 1 stitch at end of last row for size 2 only. 77 (81) stitches.

Change to 5mm needles and work in stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately – following stripe pattern, breaking off and adding in colours as required, and at the same time decrease 1 stitch at each end of every 10th row until 73 (77) stitches remain. Work a further 10 rows straight, keeping stripe pattern correct. Continue in stocking stitch and at the same time increase 1 stitch at each end of next and every 12th row until 79 (83) stitches. Continue without shaping until work measures 35.5 (39)cm from cast-on edge.

Shape armhole

Cast off 3 (4) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next and every following 3rd row until 61 (63) stitches remain.

Continue in stocking stitch without shaping until work measures 20.5 (22)cm from beginning of armhole shaping.

Shape shoulder

Cast off 4 (5) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Cast off 5 stitches at beginning of next 4 rows.

Work 1 row straight.

Cast off remaining 33 stitches or leave on stitch holder or length of yarn for picking up later.

knitting the left front

With 4.5mm needles and yarn A, cast on 39 (41) stitches.

Work in 2 x 1 rib as follows:

Row 1: Knit 0 (2), * purl 1, knit 2, repeat from * to end.

Row 2: Knit 3, * purl 2, knit 1, repeat from * to last 0 (2) stitches, purl 0 (2).

Continue until work measures 5cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Change to 5mm needles and stocking stitch following stripe pattern, breaking off and adding in colours as required, keeping



'knit 2' at front edge (this will give a neater edge for inserting zipper) and at the same time decrease 1 stitch at end of every 10th row until 37 (39) stitches remain.

Work 10 rows in stocking stitch without shaping.

Increase 1 stitch at beginning of next and every 12th row until 40 (42) stitches.

Continue without shaping until work measures 35.5 (39)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape armhole

Cast off 3 (4) stitches at beginning of next row.

Decrease 1 stitch at armhole edge on next and every following 3rd row until 31 (33) stitches remain.

Continue in stocking stitch without shaping until work measures 15 (16)cm from beginning of armhole shaping, ending with a right side row.

Shape neck

With wrong side facing, cast off 7 (8) stitches, purl to end.

Decrease 1 stitch at neck edge of next 10 rows. *14 (15) stitches.*

Continue in stocking stitch without shaping until armhole measures 20.5 (22)cm, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape shoulder

With right side facing, cast off 4 (5) stitches, knit to end.

Work 1 row.

Cast off 5 stitches at beginning of next and following alternate row.

knitting the right front

Work as given for left front, but reverse all shaping, noting:

Row 1: * Knit 2, purl 1, repeat from * to last 0 (2) stitches, knit 0 (2).

knitting the sleeves (make 2)

With 4.5mm needles and yarn A, cast on 38 stitches.

Work 8.5cm in 2 x 1 rib as for back, ending with a wrong side row.

Increase 4 stitches evenly over last row. *42 stitches.*

Change to 5mm needles and stocking stitch, following stripe pattern, and at the same time increase 1 stitch at each end of 9th row and every following 10th (8th) rows until 56 (62) stitches.

Continue without shaping until work measures 45cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape top

Cast off 3 (4) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of every 3rd row until 32 stitches remain.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of every 5th row until 26 stitches remain.

Work 1 row straight.

Cast off remaining 26 stitches.

knitting the hood (worked in 2 halves)

Join shoulder seams. With right side facing and using 5mm needles and yarn C, pick up 76 stitches evenly around neck.

Starting on row 22 of stripe sequence and keeping 'knit 2' at each end of rows for a neat finish, work 22cm in stocking stitch beginning with a purl row and ending with a wrong side row.

Shape top of hood

Row 1: Knit 35, knit 2 together, knit 2, slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, knit 35.

Row 2: Knit 2, purl to last 2 stitches, knit 2.

Row 3: Knit.

Row 4: Knit 2, purl 32, purl 2 together through back loops, purl 2, purl 2 together, purl 32, knit 2.

Work 2 rows.

Row 7: Knit 33, knit 2 together, knit 2, slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, knit 33.

Work 2 rows.

Row 10: Knit 2, purl 30, purl 2 together through back loops, purl 2, purl 2 together, purl 30, knit 2.

Work 2 rows.

Row 13: Knit 31, knit 2 together, knit 2, slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, knit 31.

Work 2 rows.

Row 16: Knit 2, purl 28, purl 2 together through back loops, purl 2, purl 2 together, purl 28, knit 2.

Work 2 rows.

Row 17: Knit 29, knit 2 together, knit 2, slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, knit 29.

Row 18: Knit 2, purl 26, purl 2 together through back loops, purl 2, purl 2 together, purl 26, knit 2.

Rows 19–32: Decrease every row as set. *32 stitches.*

Cast off.

making up the hoodie

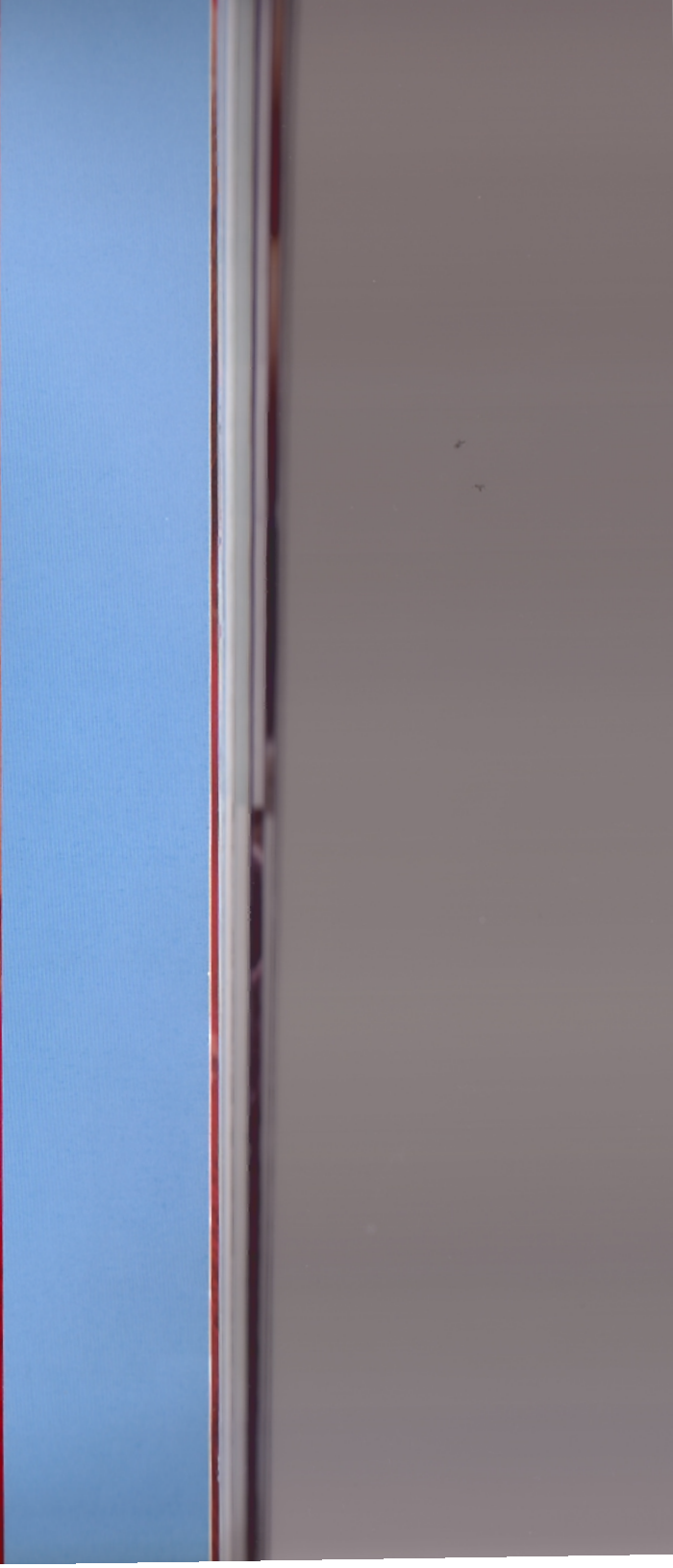
Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out all finished pieces. Press gently with a steam iron, taking care not to flatten the rib. Join hood seam. Set sleeves into armholes. Join side and sleeve seams.

Sew in zipper using a sewing machine. Place tape on inside of garter stitch edge and hand stitch into place to neaten.

Add Swiss darned embroidery using yarn I where indicated in stripe pattern. Sew on lines of beads, buttons and sequins.

embroidered raglan sweater

This is a basic raglan sweater that you will want to make time and time again for your baby. Knitted in brightly coloured cotton yarn with contrasting decorative embroidery, the flower motif shown here is just a few simple embroidery stitches and French knots. Adapt the embroidered motif to include your own favourite design for either a boy or a girl.





making the embroidered raglan sweater

size	1 (3–6 months)	2 (6–9 months)	3 (9–12 months)
To fit chest	46cm	52cm	58cm
Width	55cm	58cm	61cm
Length	24.5cm	28.5cm	31cm
Sleeve	16cm	19cm	21cm

materials

Any medium-weight or dk yarn, such as

Rowan *Handknit DK Cotton*

A (red) 5 (5: 5) x 50g balls

B (pink) 1 (1: 1) x 50g balls

Oddments of yarn for embroidery

1 pair each of 3.75mm and 4mm knitting needles

Large sewing needle

3 small buttons, different colours and designs

tension

18 stitches and 25 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 4mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

The only special techniques required are increasing and decreasing, and knitting through the back of the loops for the full fashioning detail. When knitting a fully-fashioned garment, work the increases and decreases 3 stitches in from the outside edge.

knitting the back and front (make 2)

With 3.75mm needles and yarn B, cast on 53 (57: 63) stitches. Change to 4mm needles and yarn A and continue in stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately – until work measures 13 (15: 17)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape raglan

Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next and every alternate row until 19 (21: 23) stitches remain.

Cast off.

knitting the sleeves (make 2)

With 3.75mm needles and yarn B, cast on 33 (35: 37) stitches.

Change to 4mm needles and yarn A and continue in stocking stitch, increasing 1 stitch at each end of 5th and every following 6th (8th: 6th) row until 45 (47: 53) stitches remain.

Continue without shaping until work measures 16 (19: 21)cm from cast-on edge.

Shape raglan

Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next and every alternate row until 11 (11: 13) stitches remain.

Cast off.

making up the sweater

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out all finished pieces. Press gently with a steam iron, taking care not to flatten the rib.

Join both sleeves to back raglan seams and left sleeve to front raglan seam.

knitting the buttonband

With 3.75mm needles and yarn A, and with right side facing,

pick up and knit 32 (34: 38) stitches up right sleeve raglan,

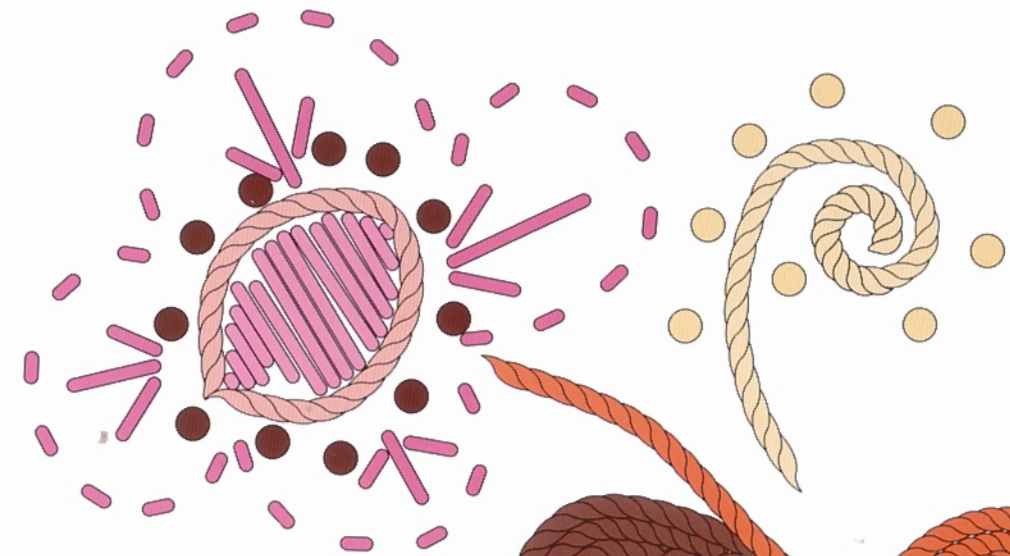
10 (10: 12) stitches across sleeve top, 19 (21: 23) stitches across

back, 10 (10: 12) stitches across top of sleeve, 19 (21: 23) stitches

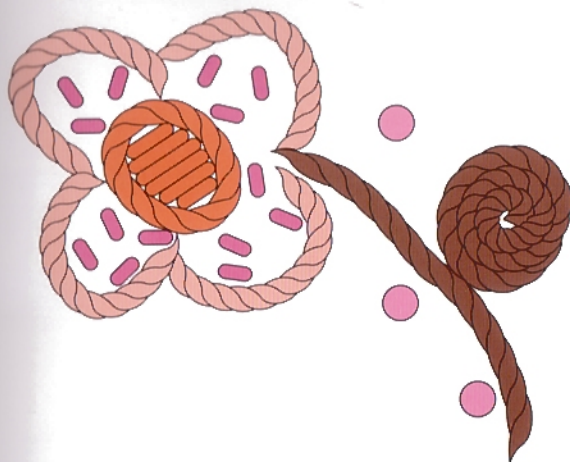
across front, and 32 (34: 38) stitches down front raglan.

122 (130: 146) stitches.

- stem stitch 
- satin stitch 
- running stitch 
- French knot 



front



back

Make buttonholes

Knit 8 (8: 9) stitches, * with yarn forward knit 2 together, knit 8 (9: 10), repeat from * with yarn forward knit 2 together, knit to end.

Change to yarn B and knit 1 row.

Cast off in yarn B.

embroidering the sweater

Using oddments of yarn, embroider simple running stitch around each edge of the sweater, up the sides and around the cuffs.

Using the embroidery template as a guide, copy the flower motif using simple stem stitch, running stitch, satin stitch and French knots. Alternatively work a design of your own to personalise your garment.

finishing the sweater

Sew buttons onto shoulder bands to align with buttonholes. Join side and sleeve seams.



pixie hat

A delightful baby's hat to make in many different colourways, which incorporates earflaps for extra warmth and style. Knitted in plain stocking stitch, easy increasing and decreasing are used to shape the hat. Once knitted, the hat is finished with a simple edge and ties trimmed with pompoms for a little fun. Make it either in a single colour edged with a contrast yarn or in a multi-coloured pattern – the choice is yours. You may want to include yarns from other projects, such as the colourful chunky tweedy cardigan (see pages 58–63), to coordinate an outfit. Whatever you choose, I guarantee you will be making more than one once baby is spotted out and about in it.





making the pixie hat

size

	1 (0–6 months)	2 (9–18 months)	3 (18 months+)
Circumference	36cm	44cm	48cm
Length	20cm	24cm	28cm

materials

Any medium-weight yarn, such as Rowan *All Seasons Cotton*
1 (2: 2) x 50g balls

Oddments for any embroidery, edging and pompoms

1 pair each of 4mm and 5mm knitting needles

1 pair 4.5mm double-pointed knitting needles to make the strings

Stitch holder, safety pin or spare length of yarn

Sewing needle

knitting the earflaps (make 2)

With 4.5mm needles, cast on 1 stitch.

Row 1: Knit 1 purl 1 knit 1 into stitch.

Row 2: Purl.

Work in stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately – increasing 1 stitch at each end of next and every alternate row until 15 (19: 23) stitches, ending with a wrong side row. Leave stitches on a stitch holder, safety pin or spare length of yarn.

knitting the hat

With 4.5mm needles and yarn A, cast on 7 (9: 11) stitches, knit across 15 (19: 23) stitches from one earflap, cast on 12 (14: 16) stitches, knit across 15 (19: 23) stitches from other earflap, cast on 7 (9: 11) stitches. *56 (70: 84) stitches.* Starting with a purl row, work 17 (21: 25) rows in stocking stitch.

Shape top (row 1): Knit 8 (10: 12), knit 3 together, knit 15 (20: 25), knit 3 together, knit 15 (20: 25), knit 3 together, knit 9 (11: 13).

Row 2 and every even row: Purl.

Row 3: Knit 7 (9: 11), knit 3 together, knit 13 (18: 23), knit 3 together, knit 13 (18: 23), knit 3 together, knit 8 (10: 12).

Row 5: Knit 6 (8: 10), knit 3 together, knit 11 (16: 21), knit 3 together, knit 11 (16: 21), knit 3 together, knit 7 (9: 11).

Row 7: Knit 5 (7: 9), knit 3 together, knit 9 (14: 19), knit 3 together, knit 9 (14: 19), knit 3 together, knit 6 (8: 10).

Row 9: Knit 4 (6: 8), knit 3 together, knit 7 (12: 17), knit 3 together, knit 7 (12: 17), knit 3 together, knit 5 (7: 9).

Row 11: Knit 3 (5: 7), knit 3 together, knit 5 (10: 15), knit 3 together, knit 5 (10: 15), knit 3 together, knit 4 (6: 8).

Row 13: Knit 2 (4: 6), knit 3 together, knit 3 (8: 13), knit 3 together, knit 3 (8: 13), knit 3 together, knit 3 (5: 7).

Row 15: Knit 1 (3: 5), knit 3 together, knit 1 (6: 11), knit 3 together, knit 1 (6: 11), knit 3 together, knit 2 (4: 6).

Size 1 only (last row)

Row 17: Knit 1, knit 3 together, knit 1, knit 3 together. *4 stitches.*

Size 2 and 3 only

Row 17: Knit 0 (2: 4), knit 3 together, knit 0 (4: 9), knit 3 together, knit 0 (4: 9), knit 3 together, knit 0 (3: 5).

tension

16 stitches and 24 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 5mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.



Row 19: Knit 0 (1: 3), knit 3 together, knit 0 (2: 7), knit 3 together, knit 0 (2: 7), knit 3 together, knit 0 (2: 4).

Size 2 only (last row)

Row 21: [Knit 3 together] 3 times, knit 1. *4 stitches.*

Size 3 only

Row 21: Knit 2, knit 3 together, knit 5, knit 3 together, knit 5, knit 3 together, knit 3. *18 stitches.*

Row 23: Knit 1, knit 3 together, knit 3, knit 3 together, knit 2. *12 stitches.*

Row 25: [Knit 3 together, knit 1] 3 times. *6 stitches.*

finishing the hat

Cut working yarn, leaving a long end. Thread yarn through remaining stitches and pull tight. Join hat at back with a flat seam. With 4.5mm needles and contrasting yarn, starting at centre back seam, pick up 1 stitch at edge, knit it then * pick up and knit next stitch, put this stitch back onto left hand needle and knit it and cast off with stitch on right needle. Repeat from * all around edge of hat. Fasten off. Sew in any yarn ends.

knitting the ties (make 2)

With 4.5mm double-pointed needles and contrasting yarn, cast on 3 stitches.

Next row (right side): Knit 3 (all 3 stitches now on right needle), slip these stitches to opposite end of needle and transfer needle to your left hand, without turning work, take yarn tightly across back of work and knit these 3 stitches again (all 3 stitches now on right needle again).

Repeat until tie is approximately 20cm in length.



crown

	pale blue
	pink
	orange
	yellow
	coral
	turquoise
	grey
	brown
	purple
	lime

making the pompoms

Cut two cardboard circles approximately 6.5cm in diameter, then carefully cut another hole in the centre of each to leave a ring. Wind a small amount of matching or contrasting colour yarn into a ball that will pass through the centre of the ring. Hold the two cardboard circles together and wind the yarn around the ring, keeping the strands close together. Wind as many layers of yarn as possible around the ring before the centre hole becomes too small for the ball of yarn to pass through. Using sharp scissors, slip one of the blades between the two layers of card and cut around the circumference of the circle. Slip a length of yarn



main hat (11 stitch pattern repeat)



earflaps

between the two layers and around the centre of what will become the pompon, pull tight and knot the yarn. Cut the cardboard ring away. Shake the pompon, fluff it up and trim it to a neat shape.

Attach a pompon to one end of each tie and sew one tie to each earflap. Alternatively add a pompon to the tip of the hat.

embroidering the hat

Following the charts above, embroider the hat using oddments of yarns in Swiss darning or duplicate stitch (see page 12).



chunky tweed cardigan

The simplest little cardigan made in vibrant natural silk tweed yarn and trimmed with a narrow edge of contrast colour. With its extremely attractive flecks and neps of bright colour, this yarn has a rich natural texture. Knitted in stocking stitch with rib trim, it has discreet touches of fully fashioned shaping. This is an adaptable design that can be knitted in different combinations of yarns and colours. The ones shown here are finished with complementary buttons made of natural horn.





making the chunky tweed cardigan

size	1 (0–3 months)	2 (3–6 months)	3 (6–9 months)
To fit chest	38cm	46cm	52cm
Width	46cm	52cm	58cm
Length	19cm	21cm	23cm
Sleeve	11cm	13cm	15cm

materials

Any Aran-weight yarn, such as Rowan *Summer Tweed*

A (turquoise) 2 x 50g hanks

B (red) 1 x 50g hank

1 pair each of 4mm and 4.5mm knitting needles

Stitch holder or safety pin

Large sewing needle

4 small horn buttons, 2cm in diameter

Length of ribbon to trim neck (optional)

tension

18 stitches and 25 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 4.5mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

The only special techniques required are increasing and decreasing, and knitting through the back of the loops for the full fashioning detail. When knitting a fully-fashioned garment, work the increases and decreases 3 stitches in from the outside edge. Weave in all yarn ends as you work and cut off at the end.

knitting the back

With 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 40 (44: 48) stitches.

Change to yarn A and work 2.5cm in single rib as follows:

Next row: * Knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to end.

Change to 4.5mm needles and continue in stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately – until work measures 9 (11: 13)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape armholes

Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Next row: Knit 3, knit 2 together, knit to last 5 stitches, knit 2 together through the back loops, knit 3.

Next row: Purl.

Repeat last 2 rows 3 times. 28 (32: 36) stitches.

Continue in stocking stitch without shaping until work measures 17 (19: 22)cm from cast-on edge.

Shape shoulders

Cast off 7 (8: 10) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Leave remaining stitches on stitch holder or spare length of yarn.

knitting the left front

With 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 19 (21: 24) stitches.

Change to yarn A and work 2.5cm in single rib as for back.

Change to 4.5mm needles and continue in stocking stitch until work measures 9 (11: 13)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row. **

Shape armhole

Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next row, knit to end.

Next row: Purl to last 5 stitches, purl 2 together, purl 3.

Next row: Knit.

Repeat last 2 rows 3 times. 13 (15: 18) stitches.

Continue in stocking stitch without shaping until work measures 14.5 (16: 18.5)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a right side row.

Shape neck

With wrong side facing, cast off 3 stitches, purl to end.

Decrease 1 stitch at neck edge of next 3 (4: 5) rows.

7 (8: 10) stitches.

Continue without shaping until work measures 17 (19: 22)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Cast off remaining stitches.

knitting the right front

Work as given for left front to **.

Next row: Knit.

Shape armhole

Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next row, purl to end.

Next row: Knit to last 5 stitches, knit 2 together, knit 3.

Next row: Purl.

Repeat last 2 rows until 13 (15: 18) stitches remain.

Continue in stocking stitch without shaping until work measures 14.5 (16: 18.5)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape neck

With right side facing, cast off 3 stitches, knit to end.

Decrease 1 stitch at neck edge of the next 3 (4: 5) rows.

7 (8: 10) stitches.

Continue in stocking stitch without shaping until work measures 17 (19: 22)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Cast off remaining stitches.

knitting the sleeves (make 2)

With 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 23 (25: 27) stitches.

Change to yarn A and work 2.5cm in single rib as for back.

Change to 4.5mm needles and continue in stocking stitch, increasing 1 stitch at each end of next and every following 6th row until 29 (31: 33) stitches remain.

Continue in stocking stitch without shaping until work measures 12.5 (15: 18)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape top

Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Next row: Knit 3, knit 2 together, knit to last 5 stitches, knit 2 together through the back loops, knit 3.

Next row: Purl.

Repeat last 2 rows until 17 (19: 21) stitches remain.

Cast off 3 stitches at beginning of next 4 rows. *5 (7: 9) stitches.*

Cast off remaining stitches.





knitting the front bands

Right front

With right side facing, with 4mm needles and yarn A, pick up and knit 35 (38: 41) stitches from right front.

Work 1 row in single rib.

Make buttonholes

Next row: Rib 3, * cast off 2 stitches, rib 9 (10: 11), repeat from * cast off 2 stitches, rib 8 (9: 10).

Next row: Rib, cast on 2 stitches over cast off stitches in previous row.

Work 1 further row in rib.

Change to yarn B and cast off in knit.

Left front

Work as for right front, but omit buttonholes.

knitting the neckband

Join shoulder seams. With right side facing and using 4mm needles and yarn A, pick up and knit 5 stitches from buttonhole band, 9 (10: 11) stitches up right front neck, 14 (16: 16) stitches from back neck, 9 (10: 11) stitches down left front neck and 5 stitches from button band.

Work 4 rows in single rib, making 4th buttonhole on rows 2-3 as before.

Change to yarn B and cast off in knit.

making up the cardigan

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out all finished pieces. Press gently with a steam iron, taking care not to flatten the rib. Set sleeves into armholes. Join side and sleeve seams. Sew buttons onto buttonband to align with buttonholes. If using, sew ribbon into inside of neck.

rosebud cardigan

Knitted in whisper-fine mohair, this long-sleeved cardigan is embellished around the neck with rough rag organza rosebuds, which are over-embroidered with beads and brightly coloured threads. Worked in plain stocking stitch, the mohair yarn produces a most delicate fabric. With its simple shape, this cardigan is a most beautiful piece either to dress up or to dress down.



making the rosebud cardigan

size	1	2	3
To fit chest	86cm	92cm	96cm
Width	86cm	92cm	96cm
Length	54cm	55cm	56cm
Sleeve	42cm	42cm	43cm

materials

Any 4-ply yarn, such as Rowan *Kidsilk Haze*

4 (5: 6) x 25g balls

1 pair each of 3mm and 3.25mm knitting needles

Large sewing needle

Approximately 1m organza, 2cm wide, for rosebud decoration

Coloured thread for embroidery

Coloured beads for decoration

tension

28 stitches and 36 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 3.25mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

The only special techniques required are increasing and decreasing, and knitting through the back of the loops for the full fashioning detail. When knitting a fully-fashioned garment, work the increases and decreases 3 stitches in from the outside edge.

knitting the back

Using 3mm needles, cast on 107 (113: 119) stitches.

Work 2cm in single rib as follows:

Row 1 (right side): * Purl 1, knit 1, repeat from * to last stitch, purl 1.

Row 2: * Knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to last stitch, knit 1.

Finish with right side facing for next row.

Change to 3.25mm needles and work 14 (14: 16) rows in stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately – ending with a wrong side row.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next and every following 10th row until 101 (107: 113) stitches remain.

Work 11 rows straight, ending with a wrong side row.

Increase 1 stitch at each end of next and every following 10th row to 113 (119: 125) stitches.

Continue without shaping until work measures 34 (34: 35)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape armholes

Cast off 4 (4: 5) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

105 (111: 115) stitches.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next 5 (7: 7) rows, then on following 6 (6: 7) alternate rows. 83 (85: 87) stitches.

Continue without shaping until armhole measures 20 (21: 21)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape shoulders and back neck

Cast off 8 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows. 67 (69: 71) stitches.

Next row: Cast off 8 stitches, knit 11 (12: 12), turn.

Leave remaining stitches on stitch holder and work on these 11 (12: 12) stitches.

Cast off 4 stitches at beginning of next row.

Cast off remaining 7 (8: 8) stitches.

With right side facing, rejoin yarn to remaining stitches, cast off 29 (29: 31) stitches, knit to end.

Work to match first side, but reverse all shaping.

knitting the left front

Using 3mm needles, cast on 57 (60: 63) stitches.

Work 2cm in single rib as for back.

Change to 3.25mm needles and work 14 (14: 16) rows in stocking stitch and at the same time keep last 3 stitches of all right side rows and first 3 stitches of all wrong side rows in single rib to make a neat front edge.

Decrease 1 stitch at beginning of next and every following 10th row until 54 (57: 60) stitches remain.

Work 11 rows straight, ending with a wrong side row.

Increase 1 stitch at beginning of next and every following 10th row to 60 (63: 66) stitches.

Continue without shaping until work matches back to armhole, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape armhole

Cast off 4 (4: 5) stitches at beginning of next row.

56 (59: 61) stitches.

Work 1 row.

Decrease 1 stitch at armhole edge of next 5 (7: 7) rows, then following 6 (6: 7) alternate rows. *45 (46: 47) stitches.*

Continue without shaping until 23 (23: 25) rows less have been worked before start of shoulder shaping on back, ending with a right side row.

Shape neck

Cast off 16 stitches, work to end of row. *29 (30: 31) stitches.*

Decrease 1 stitch at neck edge on next 2 rows, then on following 2 (2: 3) alternate rows, then on every following 4th row until 23 (24: 24) stitches remain.

Work 9 rows straight, ending at armhole edge.

Shape shoulder

Cast off 8 stitches at beginning of next and following alternate row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off remaining 7 (8: 8) stitches.

knitting the right front

Work as for left front, but reverse all shaping.

knitting the sleeves (make 2)

Using 3mm needles, cast on 57 (59: 61) stitches.

Work 2cm in single rib as for back.

Change to 3.25mm needles and work in stocking stitch, increasing 1 stitch at each end of 9th and every following 10th row to 83 (85: 87) stitches.

Continue without shaping until sleeve measures 42 (42: 43)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape top

Cast off 4 (4: 5) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows. *75 (77: 77) stitches.*

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of the next 5 rows.

Work 1 row.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next and following 2 alternate rows.

Work 1 row.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next and every following 4th row until 47 (49: 49) stitches remain.

Work 1 row.

Decrease 1 stitch each end of next and following 2 (3: 3) alternate rows, then on following 3 rows. *35 (35: 35) stitches.*

Cast off 4 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Cast off remaining stitches.

making up the cardigan

Sew in any yarn ends. Join both shoulder seams.

knitting the neckband

With right side of work facing and using 3mm needles, pick up and knit 16 stitches along right front neck, 24 (24: 26) stitches up right side of neck, 37 (37: 39) stitches across back neck, 24 (24: 26) stitches down left side of neck, then 16 stitches along left front neck. *117 (117: 123) stitches.*

Knit 1 row.

Cast off loosely but evenly to give a neat edge.

finishing the cardigan

Set sleeves into armholes. Join sleeve and side seams. Cut six strips of organza approximately 15cm long. Using a strip, thread a large needle, knot the end and pass the needle from back to front through the knitted fabric at the front neck. Wrap the strip twice around your finger to make a spiral, then using your thumb to hold it in position, pass the needle back through the knitted fabric. Bring the needle up through the centre of the spiral and then back down again to secure. Add leaves by making a series of simple running stitches using more organza strips. Sew on beads.

lacy ribbon-tie cardigan

This pretty shrug-style cardigan will make you feel wonderfully feminine: it is perfect for pulling on en route to the nursery or in the small hours of the night. Layer it over a t-shirt, team it with jeans or wear it with a delicate slip for a vintage look. Here it has been knitted in medium-weight mercerised cotton, but this design would also work well in soft cotton or pure wool. Knitted in a simple lacy pattern with a deep v-neckline, rib welt and flared cuffs, there are no buttons or buttonholes; instead, the eyelets are threaded with wide satin ribbon that is tied into a floppy bow. A perfect piece for a new mum, both before and after baby is born.



making the lacy ribbon-tie cardigan

size	1	2	3
To fit chest	86cm	92cm	96cm
Actual width	89cm	98cm	104cm
Length	52cm	53cm	54cm
Sleeve length	47cm	47cm	47cm

tension

22 stitches and 30 rows to 10cm square measured over stitch pattern on 4mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

materials

Any medium-weight yarn, such as Jaeger *Aqua*

11 (12: 13) x 50g balls

1 pair each of 3.75mm and 4mm knitting needles

Large sewing needle

Approximately 1.8m satin ribbon, 2.5cm wide for tie

Approximately 1.2m satin ribbon, 2.5cm wide for sleeves (optional)

knitting the back

Using 3.75mm needles, cast on 96 (106: 116) stitches.

Work 18cm in single rib as follows:

Next row: * Knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to end.

Change to 4mm needles and work a row of eyelets as follows:

Next row: Knit 3 (8: 5), * yarn forward, slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, knit 6; repeat from *, end last repeat, knit 3 (8: 5).

Continue in pattern as follows:

Row 1 (and all other odd rows): Purl.

Row 2: Knit.

Row 4: Knit 3 (8: 5), * yarn forward, slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, knit 6; repeat from *, end last repeat, knit 3 (8: 5).

Row 6: Knit 1 (6: 3), * knit 2 together, yarn forward, knit 1, yarn forward, slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, knit 3; repeat from *, end last repeat, knit 2 (7: 4).

Row 8: As row 4.

Row 10: As row 2.

Row 12: Knit 7 (4: 9), * yarn forward, slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, knit 6, repeat from *, end last repeat, knit 7 (4: 9).

Row 14: Knit 5 (2: 7), * knit 2 together, yarn forward, knit 1,

yarn forward, slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, knit 3, repeat from *, end last repeat, knit 6 (3: 8).

Row 16: As row 12.

Repeat the last 16 rows until work measures 30 (30.5: 31)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row. Note pattern row *.

Shape armhole

Keeping stitch pattern correct, cast off 5 (6: 7) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows. *86 (94: 102) stitches.*

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next 3 rows. *80 (88: 96) stitches.*

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of following 4 (5: 6) alternate rows. *72 (78: 84) stitches.*

Continue without shaping until armholes measure 20 (20.5: 21)cm, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape shoulders

Cast off 6 (6: 7) stitches at beginning of next 4 rows.

Cast off 6 (7: 7) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Cast off remaining 36 (40: 42) stitches.

knitting the left front

Using 3.75mm needles, cast on 52 (56: 60) stitches.

Work 18cm in single rib as for back.

Change to 4mm needles and work a row of eyelets as for back.

Starting with row 1, work the stitch pattern and decrease 1 stitch [1 stitch in from the edge] at neck edge on 5th and every following 4th row until 43 (45: 49) stitches remain.

Decrease 1 stitch on every 3rd row and at the same time when work measures 30 (30.5: 31)cm from cast-on edge and noted pattern row *:

Shape armhole

Cast off 5 (6: 7) stitches at beginning of next row.

Work 1 row.

Decrease 1 stitch at armhole edge on next 3 rows.

Decrease 1 stitch at armhole edge on next 4 (5: 6) alternate rows.

Continue shaping at neck on every 3rd row to 18 (19: 21) stitches.

Continue without shaping until work matches back to shoulder shaping, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape shoulder

Cast off 6 (6: 7) stitches at beginning of next and following alternate row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off.

knitting the right front

Work to match left front, but reverse all shaping, noting row 4: start, knit 7 (6: 5).

knitting the sleeves (make 2)

Using 4mm needles, cast on 73 (77: 81) stitches.

Change to 3.75mm needles and work in single rib as follows:

Row 1 (right side): * Knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to last stitch, knit 1.

Row 2: Purl 1, * knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to end.

Work rib as set decreasing 1 stitch at each end of every 3rd row as follows: Rib 3 stitches, knit 2 together, rib to last 5 stitches, knit 2 together, rib 3 stitches.

Continue decreasing until 49 (53: 57) stitches remain.

Work straight until rib measures 12.5cm from cast-on edge, but decrease 1 stitch at centre of last row, ending with a wrong side row.

Change to 4mm needles and work a row of eyelets as follows:

Next row: Knit 3 (5: 7), * yarn forward, slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, knit 6, repeat from *, end last repeat, knit 3 (5: 7).

Starting with row 1 of stitch pattern and keeping pattern correct, increase 1 stitch at each end of every 9th row to 66 (70: 74) stitches.

Continue without shaping until sleeve measures 47cm from cast-on edge.

Shape top

Cast off 5 (6: 7) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next 3 rows.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next 3 alternate rows.

44 (46: 48) stitches.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of every 4th row until 30 (32: 34) stitches remain.

Work 1 row.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next and every alternate row until 26 (28: 30) stitches remain.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next 3 rows.

Cast off remaining 20 (22: 24) stitches.

finishing the cardigan

Sew in any yarn ends. Gently press all the pieces with a steam iron. Join the shoulder seams. Insert the sleeves and sew between the armhole shaping. Join sleeve and side seams.

Thread the ribbon through the eyelets.



heirloom silk shawl

The arrival of a new baby is always a special occasion. This simple shawl is the perfect knitted gift to celebrate a birth or a Christening, when nothing but the best will do. Worked here in a delicate spun silk in the softest cream, this precious shawl looks just as good in cashmere, fine mercerised cotton or merino wool. Although it is knitted in a fine yarn, the shawl is worked on quite large needles and so it doesn't take too long to make. It is made in five simple pieces: the main part is worked in an easy four-row stitch pattern, while the borders are made up of moss stitch with a fine picot edge. The eyelet holes are knitted in and threaded with a sumptuous satin, velvet or organza ribbon, tied in each corner with a big bow.



making the heirloom silk shawl

one size

Width 86cm

Length 86cm

materials

Any 4-ply yarn, such as Rowanspun *Silk*

7 x 50g balls

1 pair each of 4.5mm and 5mm knitting needles

Sewing needle

Approximately 6m ribbon, 2.5cm wide

tension

20 stitches and 38 rows to 10cm square measured over stitch pattern. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.





knitting the centre panel

With 5mm needles, cast on 161 stitches.

Purl 1 row.

Continue in pattern as follows:

Row 1: Knit 1, * knit 2 together, yarn forward, repeat from * to last 2 stitches, knit 2.

Row 2: Purl 2, * slip 1 purlwise [the made stitch of row 1], purl 1, repeat from * to last stitch, purl 1.

Row 3: Knit 2, * yarn forward, slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over, repeat from * to last stitch, knit 1.

Row 4: As Row 2.

Repeat the last four rows until work measures 71cm from cast-on edge, ending with row 4.

Knit 1 row.

Cast off loosely but evenly for a neat edge.

knitting the borders (make 4)

Using 4.5mm needles, cast on with picot edge as follows:

Row 1: * Cast on 5 stitches, cast off 2 stitches, slip stitch from right-hand needle back onto left-hand needle, repeat from * until

183 stitches on needle, cast on 2 stitches. *185 stitches.*

Work in moss stitch, knitting the first and last 2 stitches of every row, decreasing 1 stitch at each end of next and every alternate row until 175 stitches.

Make the eyelets as follows:

Next row: Knit 2, moss stitch 2, * yarn forward, knit 2 together, moss stitch 3, * repeat to last 6 stitches, yarn forward, knit 2 together, moss stitch 2, knit 2.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next row as set and every alternate row until 161 stitches remain.

Cast off.

making up the shawl

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out all finished pieces. Press gently with a steam iron. Sew borders around edges. Join corners.

finishing the shawl

Cut the ribbon into four equal lengths. Thread a length of ribbon through the eyelets of each border. Tie the ribbon ends into bows at each corner where they meet.

dainty bootees

These bootees are a great gift to make for a baby shower. I have designed them in a beautiful blend of merino wool and cotton for ultimate comfort, but they will work in any medium-weight yarn. The stitches used are very simple: my favourite moss stitch and stocking stitch. The bootees have a strap fastened with a mother-of-pearl button to fit securely on the tiny foot. Knit a pair to match the lacy bonnet (see pages 90–93) in soft shades of retro pastels. You will want to make a pair in every colour!





making the dainty bootees

size	1 (early baby)	2 (0–3 months)	3 (3–6 months)	4 (6–9 months)
Length	7cm	8cm	9cm	10cm

materials

Any medium-weight or dk yarn, such as Rowan *Wool Cotton*

1 x 25g ball

1 pair of 3.75mm knitting needles

Sewing needle

2 tiny buttons

tension

23 stitches and 30 rows to 10cm
measured over stocking stitch on
3.75mm needles. Always work a tension
swatch and change needles accordingly
if necessary.

knitting the left bootee

Shape shoe strap

With 3.75mm needles, cast on 32 (34: 36: 38) stitches.

Work 2 rows in moss stitch – * knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to end.

Next row: Moss stitch 2, yarn forward, knit 2 together, moss stitch to end.

Next row: Moss stitch.

Next row: Cast off 11 (12: 13: 14) stitches, moss stitch to end.
21 (22: 23: 24) stitches.

Work 4 rows in moss stitch, cut yarn and leave stitches on stitch holder or spare length of yarn.

Shape shoe top

Cast on 7 (8: 9: 10) stitches and knit 1 row.

Starting with a knit row, work 12 (14: 14: 16) rows in stocking stitch.
Cut working yarn.

With right side of work facing, rejoin yarn at right side of shoe top,
pick up and knit 7 (8: 9: 10) stitches up right side, knit 7 (8: 9: 10)
stitches across top, pick up and knit 7 (8: 9: 10) stitches down left
side, moss stitch across 21 (22: 23: 24) stitches left on stitch holder,
making sure buttonhole is to left of needle. 42 (46: 50: 54) stitches.





Work 7 (7: 9: 9) rows in moss stitch.

Next row: Cast off 7 (8: 9: 10) stitches, moss stitch 7 (8: 9: 10) stitches (includes the stitch on needle after cast off), cast off remaining 28 (30: 32: 34) stitches.

Cut working yarn.

Rejoin yarn to remaining 7 (8: 9: 10) stitches and work 23 (25: 27: 29) rows in moss stitch.

Cast off.

knitting the right bootee

Work shoe strap as for left bootee.

Work shoe top as for left bootee.

With right side of work facing, moss stitch across 21 (22: 23: 24) stitches left on stitch holder, making sure buttonhole is to right of needle, pick up and knit 7 (8: 9: 10) stitches along right side of shoe top, knit 7 (8: 9: 10) stitches across top, pick up and knit 7 (8: 9: 10) stitches down left side. *42 (46: 50: 54) stitches.*

Work 7 (7: 9: 9) rows in moss stitch.

Next row: Cast off 28 (30: 32: 34) stitches, moss stitch 7 (8: 9: 10) stitches [includes stitch on needle after cast off], cast off

remaining 7 (8: 9: 10) stitches.

Cut working yarn.

Rejoin yarn to remaining 7 (8: 9: 10) stitches and work 23 (25: 27: 29) rows in moss stitch. Cast off.

making up the bootees

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out all finished pieces. Press gently with a steam iron. Join side and foot seams. Sew on buttons very securely to align with buttonholes.

classic matinee coat

This matinee coat is reassuringly timeless with its gently gathered yoke and fully fashioned shaping. It is worked in the finest soft cashmere: pure natural fibres provide the ultimate comfort and allow a baby's delicate skin to breathe. The coat is knitted as one piece up to the armholes, so although there are a lot of stitches on the needles, the finished garment is virtually seamless. You may wish to make this coat with a little stand collar for a boy or perhaps a shawl collar for a girl. Made in cashmere or any other 4-ply yarn, it is still suitable for hand washing. This is a piece to treasure, hand down to younger siblings or pass on to valued friends.



making the classic matinee coat

size	1 (newborn)	2 (0–3 months)	3 (3–6 months)
Chest	38cm	43cm	48cm
Length	24cm	27cm	29cm
Sleeve	10cm	11.5cm	13cm

materials

Any 4-ply yarn, such as Jaeger *Cashmina*
6 x 25g balls
1 pair each of 3mm and 3.25mm knitting needles
Stitch holder or safety pin
Sewing needle
4 small mother-of-pearl buttons, 1cm in diameter
Length of ribbon to trim neck (optional)

tension

28 stitches and 38 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 3.25mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

The only special techniques required are increasing and decreasing, and knitting through the back of the loops for the full fashioning detail. When knitting a fully-fashioned garment, work the increases and decreases 3 stitches in from the outside edge. The moss-stitch borders are knitted in to the fronts to save time when making up the garment and to give a neater finish.





knitting the body

With 3mm needles, cast on 217 (232: 247) stitches.

Work 8 rows in moss stitch – * knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to last stitch, knit 1.

Change to 3.25mm needles and stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately – but work first and last 8 stitches in moss stitch as follows:

Row 1: Moss stitch 8 as set, knit 231, moss stitch to end.

Continue as set until work measures 15 (17.5: 20)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape yoke

Next row: Moss stitch 8 as set and leave on a stitch holder or safety pin, * knit 6, [knit 3 together] 3 times; repeat from * to last 14 stitches, knit 6, leave last 8 stitches on a stitch holder or safety pin. *123 (132: 141) stitches on needle.*

Change to 3mm needles and continue in stocking stitch until work measures 16.5 (19: 21.5)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Divide stitches for fronts and back as follows:

Next row: Knit 27 (30: 33), cast off 4 stitches, knit 61 (64: 67)

[includes stitch already on the needle], cast off 4 stitches, knit to end.

Work left front on first set of 27 (30: 33) stitches, decreasing 1 stitch at armhole edge on every alternate row until 22 (25: 28) stitches remain.

Continue on these 22 (25: 28) stitches until work measures 23 (25.5: 28)cm from cast-on edge, finishing at front edge.

Shape neck

Next row: Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next row and every alternate row until 12 (15: 18) stitches remain, finishing at armhole edge.

Cast off 6 (8: 9) stitches at beginning of next row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off remaining stitches.

Rejoin yarn to centre set of 61 (64: 67) stitches for back of coat.

Shape armholes

Next row: Decrease 1 stitch at each end of every alternate row until 49 (52: 55) stitches remain.

Continue on these stitches until work matches fronts up to 12 (15: 18) stitches.

Cast off 6 (8: 9) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Cast off 6 (7: 9) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Cast off.

Rejoin yarn to remaining set of 27 (30: 33) stitches for right front and work on these to match left front, but reverse all shaping.

knitting the sleeves (make 2)

With 3mm needles, cast on 30 (33: 36) stitches.

Work 10 (12: 12) rows in moss stitch.

Next row: Knit 2, [increase in next stitch, knit 1] 13 (14: 15) times, knit 2. *45 (48: 51) stitches.*

Change to 3.25mm needles and work in stocking stitch until sleeve measures 10 (11.5: 13)cm from the cuff.

Shape top

Next row: Cast off 1 stitch at beginning of every row until 31 (33: 37) stitches remain.

Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of every row until 23 (25: 29) stitches remain.

Cast off 3 stitches at beginning of every row until 5 (7: 11) stitches remain.

Cast off.

making up the matinee coat

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out all finished pieces. Press gently with a steam iron, taking care not to flatten the moss stitch borders. Sew shoulder seams neatly to avoid bulky seams.

knitting the front bands

Instructions given for girl, reverse bands for boy.

Left band: Rejoin yarn to 8 stitches from stitch holder and with 3.25mm needles continue in moss stitch until band is long enough to fit up front edge.

For shawl collar, cast off stitches.

For stand-up collar, leave stitches on stitch holder or safety pin.

Shawl collar

Right band: Work as for left band, but work 4 buttonholes, 2.5cm apart, down right front as required, working topmost one, 1cm from neck edge.

Row 1: Moss stitch 3, yarn forward, knit 2 together, moss stitch to end.

Row 2: Moss stitch 8.

Stand-up collar

Right band: Work as for left band, but work 3 buttonholes, 2.5cm apart, down right front as required, working topmost one,

1cm from neck edge.

Sew bands to front edge above yoke.

knitting the stand-up collar

With right side of work facing, using 3mm needles, moss stitch across right band, knit 44 (47: 47) stitches all around neck edge, moss stitch across left band. *60 (63: 63) stitches.*

Work 6 rows in moss stitch, making fourth buttonhole on row 2.

Cast off in moss stitch.

knitting the shawl collar

Using 3mm needles, cast on 32 (35: 35) stitches.

Work in moss stitch increasing 1 stitch at beginning of every row until 50 (53: 53) stitches.

Continue in moss stitch until collar measures 6cm from cast-on edge.

Shape collar

Next row: Moss stitch 20 (21: 21), cast off 10 (11: 11) stitches, moss stitch to end.

Next row: Moss stitch 13 (14: 14), turn.

Next row: Moss stitch across all stitches.

Next row: Moss stitch 6 (7: 7), turn.

Next row: Moss stitch across all stitches.

Cast off this group of 18 (21: 21) stitches.

Slip remaining set of stitches on to a spare needle and complete other side to match.

finishing the matinee coat

Shawl collar

Join shoulder seams. Stitch the collar round the neck.

Sew bands to front edge above yoke.

Both versions

Sew a piece of ribbon inside the neck edge to cover any uncomfortable seams and to provide detail. Join sleeve and side seams. Set sleeves into armholes. Sew on the buttons to align with the buttonholes.



lacy bonnet

Unashamedly retro, but so back in vogue, this is the prettiest little bonnet to frame your little cherub's face. Made in medium-weight wool cotton yarn in a flattering shade of blush pink, the bonnet features the sweetest lacy design with a star pattern at the crown. It is finished and tied with oversized bows in contrasting 'café au lait' satin ribbon. This vintage-look bonnet coordinates with the dainty bootees (see pages 80–83) to make the perfect little gift set.



making the lacy bonnet

one size

Width around front edge –

one size (6–9 months)

33cm

materials

Any medium-weight or dk yarn, such as Rowan *Wool Cotton*

2 x 50g balls

1 pair each of 3.75mm and 3.25mm knitting needles

Large sewing needle

Approximately 3m satin ribbon, 2.5cm wide for rosettes and ties

tension

23 stitches and 30 rows to 10cm square measured over stitch pattern on 3.75mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

Make 1 = make a stitch without leaving a hole by picking up the thread before the next stitch and placing it on the left needle to make a stitch, then knit it through the back loop.

knitting the bonnet (worked in one piece)

Starting at the centre back, using 3.75mm needles cast on 8 stitches.

Row 1: * Knit 1, yarn forward, repeat from * to the last stitch, knit 1.

Row 2 and all alternate rows: Purl.

Row 3: * Knit 2, yarn forward, repeat from * to last stitch, knit 1.

Row 5: * Knit 3, yarn forward, repeat from * to last stitch, knit 1.

Row 7: * Knit 4, yarn forward, repeat from * to last stitch, knit 1.

Row 9: * Knit 5, yarn forward, repeat from * to last stitch, knit 1.

Row 11: * Knit 3, knit 2 together, yarn forward, knit 1, yarn forward, repeat from * to last stitch, knit 1.

Row 13: * Knit 2, knit 2 together, yarn forward, knit 3, yarn forward, repeat from * to last stitch, knit 1.

Row 15: * Knit 1, knit 2 together, yarn forward, knit 5, yarn forward, repeat from * to last stitch, knit 1.

Row 17: * Knit 2 together, yarn forward, knit 7, yarn forward, repeat from * to last stitch, knit 1. *71 stitches.*

Row 19: Cast off 4, knit 6 (includes stitch on the needle after cast off) * yarn forward, knit 1, yarn forward, knit 4, knit 2 together, knit 3, repeat from * to last 11 stitches, yarn forward, knit 1, yarn forward, knit 10.

Row 20: Cast off 4 stitches, purl to end. *70 stitches.*

Row 21: Knit 2, * knit 2 together, knit 3, yarn forward, knit 1, yarn forward, knit 3, knit 2 together through back loops, repeat from * to last 2 stitches, knit 2.



Row 22: Purl.

Work the last 2 rows a further 11 times.

Next row: Knit 2, * knit 2 together, knit 3, make 1, knit 1, make 1, knit 3, knit 2 together through back loops, repeat from * to last 2 stitches, knit 2.

Next row: Knit.

Work last 2 rows a further 3 times.

Cast off.

making up the bonnet

Sew in any yarn ends. Gently steam the finished piece and, using your hands, mould it into shape. Using a flat seam, join crown from centre to groups of 4 cast off stitches.

With right side of work facing, using 3.25mm needles pick up and knit 65 stitches along the lower edge.

Knit 2 rows.

Cast off.

finishing the bonnet

Cut the length of ribbon in half. With one piece of the ribbon, twist the ribbon over and around to make a 'figure of eight' shape, keeping your thumb securely in the middle. Now fold the end into the middle several times to make a rosette. When it is the desired size and shape, sew down and attach securely to the side of the bonnet, allowing the end to fall freely to be tied under the chin in a bow.

Work the other piece of ribbon for the other side of the bonnet in the same way.

nocturnal

Most new mums will understand the inspiration behind this nocturnal collection – to *add a little glamour* to the wee small hours whether you are tending to a restless baby or *dressing up* for that first nerve-trembling night out after the birth. These designs are *unashamedly luxurious* in fine merino wools and shimmering metallics, with decorative touches of silk embroidery and velvet trims. Dark inky colours

refreshing change for both you and your baby.

wrapover top

The wrapover top is a quintessential piece that is always flattering, especially to expanding waistlines, and looks great with everything from an evening dress to jeans. It's a good basic garment to make in wool, cotton, cashmere or alpaca or blends of any natural fibres. It can also be trimmed in a variety of ways to suit your own style. Here I have used an organza trim with beads, but you could just as effectively use velvet, satin ribbon or even ruffles of a contrasting fabric. For summertime, make this wrap top in mercerised cotton, which has a subtle satin-like sheen.



making the wrapover top

size	1	2	3
To fit chest	86cm	92cm	96cm
Width	86cm	93cm	100cm
Length	46.5cm	46.5cm	49cm
Sleeve	33.5cm	35.5cm	37.5cm

materials

Any 4-ply yarn, such as Jaeger *Matchmaker Merino*
7 (8: 9) x 50g balls
1 pair each of 3mm and 3.25mm knitting needles
Approximately 2m ribbon for ties
Approximately 2m organza, ribbon or other trim (optional)
Sewing needle

tension

28 stitches and 36 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 3.25mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

Work the decreases 2 stitches in from the front edges to give a neat finish.

knitting the back

Using 3mm needles, cast on 88 (98: 108) stitches

Work 4 rows in single rib as follows:

Next row: * Knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to end.

Change to 3.25mm needles and stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately – increasing 1 stitch at each end of 5th row and every following 4th row until 116 (126: 136) stitches, then every following 6th row until 120 (130: 140) stitches.

Work 11 rows straight, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape armhole

Cast off 7 (9: 11) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Work 80 rows straight, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape shoulders

Cast off 11 (12: 13) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Cast off 11 (12: 13) stitches at beginning of next row, work until 17 (18: 19) stitches are on the needle, turn and leave remaining stitches on a stitch holder or spare length of yarn.

Work each side separately.

Cast off 6 stitches at beginning of next row, work to end.

Cast off remaining 11 (12: 13) stitches.

With right side of work facing, cast off centre 28 stitches, work to end.

Complete to match first side, but reverse all shaping.

knitting the right front

Using 3mm needles, cast on 88 (98: 108) stitches.

Work 4 rows in single rib as for back.

Change to 3.25mm needles and work 16 (12: 8) rows in stocking stitch, increasing 1 stitch at end of 5th and every 4th row until 94 (102: 110) stitches.

Shape front slope

Continue increasing at side edge as given for back and working armhole shaping when front matches back, decrease 1 stitch at neck edge on next 25 (29: 33) rows.

Work 1 row.

Decrease 1 stitch at neck edge on next and every following alternate row 29 times, then every 4th row six times.

Decrease 1 stitch every 6th row until 33 (36: 39) stitches.

Continue without shaping until front matches back to shoulder shaping, ending with a right side row.

Shape shoulders

Cast off 11 (12: 13) stitches at beginning of front row and following alternate row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off remaining 11 (-12: 13) stitches.

knitting the left front

Work to match right front, but reverse all shaping.

knitting the sleeves (make 2)

Using 3mm needles, cast on 66 (70: 74) stitches and work 4 rows in single rib as for back.

Change to 3.25mm needles, work in stocking stitch increasing 1 stitch at each end of every 5th row until 82 (86) stitches then every 4th row until 122 (126: 130) stitches.

Continue without shaping until work measures 35.5 (37.5: 40cm) from cast-on edge.

Cast off.

making up the wrapover top

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out all finished pieces. Press gently with a steam iron, taking care not to flatten the rib. Join shoulder seams. Set in the sleeves. Join the side seams, but leave a small slit in the right side seam for the ribbon tie to pass through. Join sleeve seams. Cut the ribbon into two equal lengths and attach one piece to each front at the hem.

finishing the wrapover top

Starting at the centre back, lay the organza, ribbon or other trim all around the neck and down each front, slightly stretching the trim as you go. Pin and then sew into position. Trim cuffs in the same way.



satin-edged blanket

If you have never picked up a pair of knitting needles before, start with this simple blanket. It is worked on very large needles with really chunky wool, so it is very quick to make. Knitted up in the most delicious damson colour in a light and airy stitch, it will make a most impressive gift for any new arrival. However, once you have edged it in wide satin ribbon and given it that gorgeous touch of retro glamour, you may well want to snuggle into it yourself.





making the satin-edged blanket

one size

Length 110cm
Width 92cm

materials

Any chunky yarn, such as Rowan *Big Wool*
6 x 100g balls
1 pair each of 9mm and 12mm knitting
needles
Sewing needle
3.65m satin ribbon, 5cm wide

tension

6.5 stitches and 12 rows to 10cm square measured over stitch pattern on 12mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

The only special techniques required are working the stitch pattern – an aerated garter stitch – worked by winding the yarn twice around the needle.

knitting the blanket

With 12mm needles, cast on 60 stitches.

Change to 9mm needles and knit 2 rows.

Next row: Knit 2, * wind yarn twice around needle when knitting next stitch, repeat from * to last 2 stitches, knit 2.

Next row: Knit 2, * knit first loop of next stitch and slip second loop off needle, repeat from * to last 2 stitches, knit 2.

Repeat the last 2 rows until work measures 110cm from cast-on edge.

Knit 2 rows.

Change to 12mm needles and cast off loosely but evenly for a neat edge.

making up the blanket

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out the finished piece. Press gently with a steam iron. Fold the ribbon in half, sandwich the blanket in between the ribbon and sew in place with small running stitches. Either fold the ribbon neatly or butt up at each corner of the blanket.

night-time teddy

This is quite possibly the simplest first teddy to make for a baby. He has an endearing little face, which is simply stuffed full of character. Worked in garter stitch using extra fine merino wool for softness and stitch clarity, he is embroidered with just the minimum of detail to give him maximum appeal. His ears are finished in a rich velvet that is used again in his magnificent bow. He will be the perfect company for baby all night long.





making the teddy

one size

Height 38cm

materials

Any medium-weight or dk yarn, such as Jaeger *Extra Fine Merino DK*

2 x 50g balls

1 pair of 3.75mm knitting needles

Large sewing needle

Filling/stuffing (washable)

Approximately 20cm velvet, 140cm wide

Scrap of black yarn for embroidery

tension

20 stitches and 32 rows to 10cm square measured over garter stitch on 3.75mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

The only special techniques required are increasing and decreasing, and knitting through the back of the loops for the full fashioning detail. When knitting a fully-fashioned garment, work the increases and decreases 3 stitches in from the outside edge.

knitting the head

With 3.75mm needles, cast on 16 stitches.

Knit 2 rows.

Continue in garter stitch – knit every row – and increase 1 stitch at each end of next and every following 3rd row until 24 stitches.

Knit 17 rows.

Next row: Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next row.

Knit 2 rows.

Next row: Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next row.

Knit 3 rows.

Next row: Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next row.

Knit 2 rows.

Repeat the last 3 rows.

Next row: Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next row. *14 stitches.*

Next row: Increase 1 stitch at each end of next row.

Knit 2 rows.

Repeat the last 3 rows.

Next row: Increase 1 stitch at each end of next row.

Knit 3 rows.

Next row: Increase 1 stitch at each end of next row.

Knit 2 rows

Next row: Increase 1 stitch at each end of next row. *24 stitches.*

Knit 9 rows.

Next row: Knit 17, turn and leave 7 stitches on stitch holder.

Next row: Knit 10, turn and leave 7 stitches on stitch holder.

Next row: Slip first stitch, knit 9, turn.

Repeat the last row 9 times.

Next row: Slip first stitch, knit 9, pick up and knit 5 stitches from along left side of centre section, knit 7 from stitch holder. *22 stitches.*

Next row: Knit across these 22 stitches, pick up and knit 5 stitches from along right side of centre section, knit 7 from stitch holder. *34 stitches.*

Next row: * Knit 2 together, knit 13, knit 2 together, repeat from * to end.

Next row: Knit 13, knit 2 together, knit 2 together, knit 13. *28 stitches.*

Next row: Knit 12, knit 2 together, knit 2 together, knit 12. *26 stitches.*

Next row: * Knit 2 together, knit 9, knit 2 together, repeat from * to end.

Next row: Knit 9, knit 2 together, knit 2 together, knit 9. *20 stitches.*

Next row: Knit 8, knit 2 together, knit 2 together, knit 8. *18 stitches.*

Next row: * Knit 2 together, knit 5, knit 2 together, repeat from * to end.

Knit 4 rows.

Cast off.

knitting the body (make 2)

With 3.75mm needles, cast on 5 stitches.

Knit 2 rows.

Continue in garter stitch and cast on 3 stitches at beginning of next 6 rows. *23 stitches.*

Next row: Increase 1 stitch at each end of next row. *25 stitches.*

Knit 12 rows.

Next row: Increase 1 stitch at each end of next row. *27 stitches.*

Knit 5 rows.

Next row: Increase 1 stitch at each end of next row. *29 stitches.*

Knit 14 rows.

Shape armhole

Cast off 3 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Knit 12 rows.

Shape shoulder

Cast off 4 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Cast off.

knitting the arms (make 2)

With 3.75mm needles, cast on 10 stitches.

Knit 1 row.

Next row: Increase in first stitch, knit 3, [increase in next stitch] twice, knit 3, increase in last stitch.

Next row: Increase in first stitch, knit 5, [increase in next stitch] twice, knit 5, increase in last stitch.

Next row: Increase in first stitch, knit 7, [increase in next stitch] twice, knit 7, increase in last stitch. *22 stitches.*

Knit 32 rows.



Shape top

Cast off 3 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Decrease 1 stitch at beginning of next 4 rows. *12 stitches.*

Cast off.

knitting the legs (make 2)

With 3.75mm needles, cast on 24 stitches.

Knit 35 rows.

Next row: * Knit 1, knit 2 together, repeat from * to end of row.

Knit 1 row.

Next row: Knit 11, turn, leave last 5 stitches on stitch holder.

Next row: Knit 6, turn, leave last 5 stitches on stitch holder.

Next row: Slip first stitch, knit 5, turn.

Repeat the last row 9 times.

Next row: Slip first stitch, knit 5, pick up and knit 6 stitches along left side of centre section, knit 5 from stitch holder.

Next row: Knit 17, pick up and knit 6 stitches along right side of centre section, knit 5 from stitch holder. *28 stitches.*

Knit 6 rows.

Next row: * Knit 2 together, knit 10, knit 2 together, repeat

from * to end.

Next row: * Knit 2 together, knit 8, knit 2 together, repeat

from * to end.

Knit 1 row.

Cast off.

knitting the ears (make 2)

With 3.75mm needles, cast on 8 stitches.

Knit 1 row.

Continue in garter stitch (i.e. knit every row) and increase 1 stitch at each end of next 5 rows.

Knit 4 rows.

Next row: * Knit 2 together, repeat from * to end of row.

Cast off.

making up the teddy

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out all finished pieces. Press gently with a steam iron. With right sides facing, fold head in half so cast-on and cast-off edges are together and join side seams.

Turn right side out. Stuff the head. Join shoulder seams.

Attach head to body at neck, by oversewing neatly. Join body side seams. Join arm and leg seams. Join crotch seam and sew in legs as you would a sleeve. Stuff. Sew in one arm in the same way. Stuff. Stuff body carefully. Stuff last arm and attach carefully.

finishing the ears

Cut two pieces of velvet fabric to the same shape as the knitted ears, using the knitted ears as a template. Sew velvet fabric around the ears, leaving the bottom open and turn inside out. Attach ears to head as shown.

finishing the eyes

Embroider two eyes with large French knots as shown using black yarn.

making the bow

Cut a piece of velvet fabric approximately 140cm by 15cm. Cut diagonally across at each end to make a detail edge. Fold in half lengthwise with right sides facing. Stitch along three sides, leaving one side open. Turn the velvet right side out and stitch remaining edge. Tie around the teddy's neck and fasten with a large bow.

silky wrap sweater

This is a perfect piece for baby, especially if she's accompanying you on an evening out or to a special occasion. It's made in silk for a sumptuous satin sheen, but it will also work well in most 4-ply yarns. It has a delicate picot edge to the wrap fronts and cuffs, and is endearingly embroidered in self-colour yarn for extra charm. Unlike the mother's wrapover top (see pages 96–99), this little wrap is fixed at the sides with a wide neck to make it easier to go over baby's head.



making the silky wrap sweater

size	1 (3–6 months)	2 (6–9 months)	3 (9–12 months)
To fit chest	46cm	52cm	58cm
Width	50cm	54cm	58.5cm
Length	23cm	27cm	30.5cm
Sleeve	15cm	18cm	21cm

materials

Any 4-ply yarn, such as Jaeger *Silk*

3 (3: 4) x 50g balls

1 pair each of 2.25mm and 3mm knitting needles

Sewing needle

tension

28 stitches and 38 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 3mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

The only special techniques required are increasing and decreasing, and knitting through the back of the loops for the full fashioning detail. When knitting a fully-fashioned garment, work the increases and decreases 3 stitches in from the outside edge.

knitting the back

With 2.25mm needles, cast on 70 (76: 82) stitches.

Work 4 rows in single rib as follows:

Next row: * Knit 1, purl 1, repeat from * to end.

Change to 3mm needles and work 42 (54: 64) rows in stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately.

Shape armholes

Cast off 2 (3: 4) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

66 (70: 74) stitches.

Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows. *62 (66: 70) stitches.*

Decrease 1 stitch [3 stitches in from the edge] at each end of next 5 alternate rows. *52 (56: 60) stitches.*

Work 29 (31: 35) rows straight, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape shoulders

Next row: Cast off 7 (8: 9) stitches, work 7 stitches (8 stitches now on the right-hand needle), turn and work to end of row.

Cast off these 8 stitches.

With right side of work facing, rejoin yarn to remaining stitches.

Cast off centre 22 (24: 26) stitches and work to end of row.

Work to match first shoulder, but reverse all shaping.

knitting the right front

With 2.25mm needles, cast on 70 (76: 82) stitches.

Work 4 rows in single rib as for back.

Change to 3mm needles and work 26 (36: 44) rows in stocking stitch, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape front slope

Cast off 4 (6: 7) stitches at beginning of next row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off 3 stitches at beginning of next row. *63 (67: 72) stitches.*

Work 14 (16: 18) rows decreasing 1 stitch at the neck edge [2 stitches in from the front edge] on every row.

49 (51: 54) stitches.

Shape armhole

With wrong side facing, continue decreasing at front edge on every row and at the same time cast off 3 stitches at beginning of next row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next row.

Decrease 1 stitch at armhole edge of next 5 alternate rows.

28 (29: 31) stitches.



Work 1 row.

Continue in stocking stitch working decreases along front edge on alternate rows until 15 (16: 17) stitches remain.

Work 4 (6: 8) rows straight, ending with a right side row.

Shape shoulders

Cast off 7 (8: 9) stitches at beginning of next row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off remaining 8 stitches.

knitting the left front

Work to match right front, but reverse all shaping.

knitting the sleeves (make 2)

Work cast-on picot edge as follows:

With 2.25mm needles, * cast on 5 stitches, cast off 2 stitches, slip stitch from right-hand needle onto left-hand needle * [3 stitches now on left hand needle] repeat from * to * until 42 (42: 45) stitches are on the left hand needle.

Cast on a further 0 (2: 1) stitches. 42 (44: 46) stitches.

Work 2 rows in stocking stitch.

Change to 3mm needles and increase 1 stitch [3 stitches in from edge] at each end of every 5th and every 6th row until 58 (62: 66) stitches.

Continue without shaping until sleeve measures 15 (18: 21)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape top

Cast off 3 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

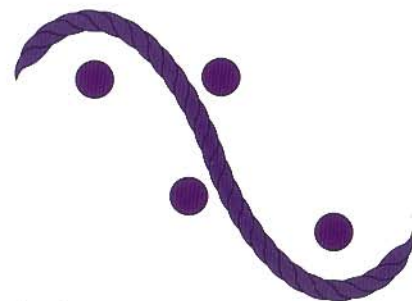
Cast off 2 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next and following 11 alternate rows. 28 stitches.

Purl 1 row.

Cast off 3 stitches at beginning of next 4 rows.

Cast off remaining 16 stitches.



front



sleeve

stem stitch



French knot



making up the sweater

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out all finished pieces. Press gently with a steam iron, taking care not to flatten the rib. Join shoulder seams. Set in the sleeves.

knitting the picot edge on neck

With right side of work facing and using 2.25mm needles, pick up and knit 8 (10: 11) stitches along straight section, 54 (58: 62) stitches up right slope, 22 (24: 26) stitches across back neck, 54 (58: 62) stitches down left slope and 8 (10: 11) stitches along straight section.

Work cast-off picot edge as follows:

Next row: Cast off 3 stitches, * slip stitch on right-hand needle back onto left-hand needle and use to cast on 2 stitches, cast off 5 stitches, repeat from * to end.

finishing the sweater

Join side seams, remembering to cross fronts and join through all three layers at both sides.



shimmer camisole

The simplest knitted vest top to see you through your pregnancy and beyond. It has wide straps to cover that pragmatic nursing bra and a deep v-neck to enhance the décolletage. Shown here in a beautiful midnight blue, it is knitted in stocking stitch in a fine lurex yarn and detailed with a simple eyelet pattern, which traces the outline of the armholes and neck. An essential, very wearable piece for the periods both pre- and post-baby.



making the shimmer camisole

size	1	2	3
To fit chest	86cm	92cm	96cm
Width	86.5cm	92.5cm	96.5cm
Length	53cm	55cm	57cm

materials

Any 4-ply yarn, such as Rowan *Lurex Shimmer*
7 (7: 7) x 50g balls
1 pair each of 3mm and 3.25mm knitting needles
Large sewing needle

tension

28 stitches and 33 rows to 10cm square measured over stocking stitch on 4mm needles. Always work a tension swatch and change needles accordingly if necessary.

techniques and tips

The only special techniques required are increasing and decreasing, and knitting through the back of the loops for the full fashioning detail. When knitting a fully-fashioned garment, work the increases and decreases 3 stitches in from the outside edge.

knitting the back

Using 3mm needles, cast on 118 (126: 134) stitches.

Work 10 rows in stocking stitch – one row knit, one row purl alternately.

Change to 3.25mm needles, continue in stocking stitch and decrease 1 stitch at each end of next and every following 8th row until 110 (118: 126) stitches remain.

Work 13 (15: 17) rows straight, ending with a wrong side row.

Increase 1 stitch at each end of next and every following 10th row until 124 (132: 140) stitches. ***

Work 15 (17: 19) rows straight, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape armholes

Cast off 6 (8: 10) stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Cast off 4 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

104 (108: 112) stitches.

Decrease 1 stitch [2 stitches in from edge] at each end of next 7 rows with eyelet detail on the 3rd and every following 4th row as follows:

Next row: Knit 2, knit 2 together (to decrease stitch), yarn forward, knit 2 together (to form eyelet), knit to last 6 stitches,

knit 2 together through back loops, yarn forward (to form eyelet), knit 2 together through back loops (to decrease 1 stitch), knit 2. Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next 3 alternate rows and then every following 4th row until 74 (78: 82) stitches remain.

Continue straight still working eyelet on every 4th row until armhole measures 19 (20: 22)cm, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape shoulders

Cast off 5 stitches at beginning of next 2 rows.

Next row: Cast off first 5 stitches, work until 5 (4: 4) stitches on needle, work row of eyelets as follows:

* Knit 2 together, yarn forward, knit 1, repeat from * to last 12 (11: 12) stitches, knit 2 together, yarn forward, knit to end. Cast off 5 stitches at beginning of next 3 rows. Cast off remaining stitches.



knitting the front

Work as given for back to ***.

For size 2, work 2 more rows.

For size 3, work 4 more rows.

Next row: Purl.

Divide for neck: Knit 56 (59: 62), knit 2 together through back loops, yarn forward, knit 2 together through back loops, knit 2, turn.

Work 3 rows in stocking stitch.

Next row: Knit to last 6 stitches, knit 2 together through back loops, yarn forward, knit 2 together through back loops, knit 2. Decrease at neck edge on every following 4th row until 58 (61: 64) stitches.

Next row: Purl.

Shape armholes

Cast off 6 (8: 10) stitches at beginning of next row.

Cast off 4 stitches at beginning of following alternate row and at the same time continue to decrease 1 stitch with an eyelet at the neck edge on every following 4th row from the previous decrease.

Next row: Purl.

Now work the eyelet detail along the armhole edge as set for back, working as follows:

Decrease 1 stitch at the armhole edge of next 7 rows, then next 3 alternate rows, then every 4th row until 21 (23: 25) stitches remain.

Decrease 1 stitch with eyelet detail at neck edge on every 4th row from last decrease and an eyelet along armhole edge on every 4th row from last eyelet until 15 stitches remain.

Work straight until front matches back from start of shoulder shaping, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape shoulder

Cast off 5 stitches at beginning of next and following alternate row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off remaining stitches.

With right side facing, rejoin yarn to remaining stitches and work to match first side, but reverse all shaping and work knit 2 together instead of knit 2 together through back loops.

finishing the camisole

Sew in any yarn ends. Lay out all finished pieces. Press gently with a steam iron. Join shoulder seams. Join side seams.

yarn information

The secret to getting the most out of a yarn is to experiment with it, trying out various needle sizes and seeing how it works in different stitch patterns.

I have recommended a yarn type for each project, which is of good quality and specifically suited to baby garments. If you cannot find the particular yarn specified in the instructions, any other make of yarn that is of the same weight and type should serve as well, but to avoid disappointing results, it is very important that you work a tension swatch first that matches that given in each project, changing the needle size if necessary to achieve the correct tension.

substituting yarns

If you decide to use an alternative yarn, in order to find a specific shade or because you cannot obtain the yarn recommended, be sure to purchase a substitute yarn that is as close as possible to the original in thickness, weight and texture so that it will be compatible with the knitting instructions.

Buy only one ball to start with, so you can test the effect and the tension. Calculate quantities required using the information about lengths, yardage or meterage found on the ball bands. The recommended knitting-needle size and knitting tension on the ball bands are extra guides to the yarn thickness.

recommended yarns

The following is a list of the yarns used for the projects in this book. The yarn characteristics given will be helpful if you are trying to find an alternative yarn. Addresses for suppliers of all yarns listed below can be found on pages 124–27 in this book.

fine yarns

Jaeger Cashmina: a 4-ply blend yarn (80% cashmere, 20% extra fine merino wool); approximately 125m per 25g ball.

Jaeger Silk: a 4-ply silk yarn (100% silk); approximately 136m per 50g ball.

Rowan Kidsilk Haze: a light-weight blend yarn (70% super kid mohair, 30% silk); approximately 210m per 25g ball.

Rowan Lurex Shimmer: a light-weight yarn (80% viscose, 20% polyester); approximately 95m per 25g ball.

medium yarns

Jaeger Aqua Cotton DK: a double knitting-weight cotton yarn (100% mercerised cotton); approximately 106m per 50g ball.

Jaeger Extra Fine Merino DK: a double knitting-weight wool yarn (100% extra fine merino wool); approximately 125m per 50g ball.

Rowan Handknit DK Cotton: a double knitting-weight cotton yarn (100% cotton); approximately 85m per 50g.

Rowan Wool Cotton: a double knitting-weight blend yarn (50% merino wool, 50% cotton); approximately 113m per 50g ball.

chunky yarns

Jaeger Cashair: a chunky-weight yarn (65% cashmere, 35% extra fine merino wool); approximately 47m per 25g ball.

Jaeger Chamonix: a chunky-weight yarn (48% angora, 47% extra fine merino wool, 5% polyamide); approximately 110m per 50g ball.

Rowan All Seasons Cotton: an Aran- or chunky-weight blend yarn (60% cotton, 40% acrylic); approximately 90m per 50g ball.

Rowan Big Wool: a bulky-weight wool yarn (100% merino wool); approximately 80m per 100g ball.

Rowan Kid Classic: an Aran-weight yarn (70% lambswool, 26% kid mohair, 4% nylon); approximately 140m per 50g ball.

Rowan Plaid: a chunky-weight blend yarn (42% merino wool, 30% acrylic, 28% superfine alpaca); approximately 100m per 100g ball.

Rowan Summer Tweed: an Aran-weight yarn (70% silk, 30% cotton); approximately 108m per 50g ball.

yarn care

A baby's skin is soft, delicate and very sensitive, and great care should be taken in the laundering of their clothes. One thing is certain; baby clothes will require frequent washing. The yarn you use must be able to stand up to this, but this does not necessarily mean that all yarns must be machine washable. Look at the labels: those on most commercial yarns have instructions for washing or dry cleaning, drying and pressing. So, for a project knitted in one yarn only, a quick look at the yarn label will tell you how to care for it. If you wish to work with several yarns in one piece of work, the aftercare requires a little more thought. If one label suggests dry cleaning, then be sure to dry clean the garment.

If in doubt about whether or not your knitting is washable, then make a little swatch of the yarns. Wash this to see if the fabric is affected by being immersed in water or not, watching out for shrinkage and stretching. If you are satisfied with the results, go ahead and wash the knitting by hand in lukewarm water. Never use hot water, as this will 'felt' your fabric, and you will not be able to return it to its pre-washed state. Take care, too, to keep the rinsing water the same temperature as the washing water. In particular, wool tends to react to major changes in temperature. Natural fibres such as wool, cotton and silk are usually better washed by hand, and in pure soap, than in a machine. Soap flakes are kinder to a baby's skin than most detergents, provided all traces of the soap are removed in the rinsing process.

washing

When washing the finished knitting, handle it carefully. There should be enough water to cover the garment completely and the soap should be thoroughly dissolved before immersing it. If you need to sterilise any garment that has become badly soiled or stained, then use a proprietary brand of steriliser for this purpose. As a precaution, test wash any ribbons or trims you use before you make up the garment with them. Nothing is more infuriating than to spoil an entire garment because the trim colours run in the wash.

rinsing

Squeeze out any excess water, never wring it out. Rinse thoroughly, until every trace of soap is removed, as any left in will matt the fibres and may irritate the baby's skin. Use at least two changes of water or continue until the water is clear and without soap bubbles.

spinning

The garments can be rinsed on a short rinse and spin as part of the normal washing machine programme for delicate fabrics.

drying

Squeeze the garment between towels or fold in a towel and gently spin. Do not hang wet knitting up to dry, as the weight of the water will stretch it out of shape. To dry, lay the knitting out flat on top of a towel, or an old terry nappy, which will absorb some of the moisture. Ease the garment into shape. Dry away from direct heat and leave flat until completely dry.

pressing

When the garment is dry, ease it into shape. Check the yarn label before pressing your knitting as most fibres only require a little steam, and the iron should be applied gently. Alternatively, press with a damp cloth between the garment and the iron.

removing stains

Stains are a fact of life in bringing up baby. Most of the stains that are likely to affect a baby's clothing are to do with foods. The best solution with any stain is to remove the garment while the stain is still wet and soak it thoroughly in cold, never hot, water. Failing that, use a proprietary stain remover.