

Preemie Broken Checkerboard Cardigan



This is a top-down raglan shaped cardigan, designed for preemie babies around 5-6lbs. For ease and speed (since we want to help as many teeny babies as possible) the collar, hems, and button band are all knitted as you go.

The bottom of the cardigan features my broken checkerboard pattern, which you may have seen on a few of my other designs.

introduction

Materials:

Any standard DK weight yarn (100g is approx. 300m)
4.00mm needle (UK8 / US6)
Darning Needle
Four buttons

Difficulty: Beginner

Sizing:

Gauge: 20 sts x 28 rows over stocking stitch worked flat and unblocked
Size: 32cm chest—up to 6lbs—preemie

Note: If you use 2.75mm needles and fingering/4ply weight yarn you can make a teeny preemie cardigan!

Abbreviations:

K = Knit
P = Purl
St/ sts = stitches
Sl1 = slip stitch as if to purl
Kfb = knit front and back of the stitch
Yo = yarn over
K2tog = knit two stitches together
PM/ SM/ RM = Place marker, slip marker, remove marker

Pattern Construction:

The cardigan is a top-down raglan sleeve garment. The collar is cast on and starts immediately. Once complete increases are worked to shape the front, back, and sleeves. The sleeves are then cast off and the front and back are joined and worked straight, including the hem. The button band is worked as you go.

pattern instructions

Cast on 52 sts.

Rows 1-2: Sl1, knit to end. (52 sts)

Row 3: Sl1, k1, yo, k2tog, knit to end. (52 sts)

Rows 4-5: Sl1, knit to end. (52 sts)

Row 6: Sl1, knit to end. (52 sts)

Row 7: Sl1, k3, pm, k5, kfb, pm, kfb, k6, kfb, pm, kfb, k14, kfb, pm, kfb, k6, kfb, pm, kfb, k5, k4. (60 sts).

Row 8: *Slip all markers as you go.* Sl1, k3, purl to last 4 sts, k4. (60 sts)

Row 9: Sl1, k3, sm, *knit to one stitch before next marker, kfb, sm, kfb* repeat for all markers, and then knit to the end. (68 sts).

Rows 10-16: Repeat rows 8 & 9 three times more, and then row 8 once more. (100 sts).

Row 17: Sl1, k1, yo, k2tog, sm, *knit to one stitch before next marker, kfb, sm, kfb* repeat for all markers, and then knit to the end. (108 sts).

Row 18: As row 8. (108sts)

Row 19: As row 9. (116sts).

Row 20: As row 8. (116 sts)

Row 21: Sl1, knit to end. (116 sts)

Row 22: *Slip all markers as you go.* Sl1, k3, purl to marker, knit to marker, purl to marker, knit to marker, purl to marker, k4. (116 sts)

Row 23: As row 9. (124sts).

Row 24: As row 22. (124 sts)

Row 25: *Slip all markers as you go.* Sl1, knit to third marker, kfb, knit to one stitch before next marker, kfb, knit to end. (126 sts)

Row 26: *Remove all markers as you go.* Sl1, k3, purl to marker, cast off 24 sts knitwise, purl to marker, cast off 24 sts knitwise, purl to marker, k4. (74 sts).

Row 27: Sl1, knit across remaining sts. (74 sts)

Row 28-30: Sl1, knit to end. (74 sts)

Row 31: Sl1, k1, yo, k2tog, knit to end. (74 sts)

Row 32: Sl1, k3, *p2, k2* repeat until 6 sts left, p2, k4. (74 sts)

Row 33: Sl1, knit to end. (74 sts)

Row 34: As row 32. (74 sts)

Row 35-38: Sl1, knit to end. (74 sts)

Rows 39-42: As rows 31-34. (74 sts)

Rows 43-44: Sl1, knit to end. (74 sts)

Row 45: Sl1, k1, yo, k2tog, knit to end. (74 sts)

Rows 46-47: Sl1, knit to end. (74 sts)

Cast off knitwise.

Darn in yarn ends and sew on buttons.

Wash and block if desired.