Top-Down Preemie Cardigan

med preemie (3 lb-14" finished chest)/lg preemie (5 lb-15½" finished chest) adjustments for larger size in ()

materials & gauge:

- ✓ circular needles (at least 24") 4.25mm (us 6); for picot neck, one extra needle (straight or circ) same size or one size smaller or sizes necessary to achieve gauge
- DK weight yarn: gauge: 24 s/40 r = 4" in garter st

medium preemie – 150 yards; large preemie – 200 yards

☆ four or five ½" buttons (enough to match buttonholes) all yarn requirements are approximate

instructions:

Cast on 52 sts. Do NOT join–cardigan will be worked flat.

ribbed neck:

- 1: (WS) p1, k2. *p2. k2. repeat from * across. end sl1.
- 2: *k1, m1. p2. *k2, p2. repeat from * to last st. end m1, sl1.
- 3: *p2, k2. repeat from * across. end p1, sl1. (54 sts)

picot neck:

use a provisional cast on to create 54 st

- 1: p across, sl last st
- 2: k across, sl last st
- 3: p1. *(yo, p2tog) to last st. sl1.
- 4: k across, sl last st
- 5: p across
- remove provisional anchor, transferring those stitches to the empty needle fold the newly mounted stitches and needle to the front, wrong sides together, and hold needle parallel to the circular needle with the working neck stitches (WS) purl together 1 stitch from each needle until all stitches on needle are worked

raglan yoke:

- (RS) k2, yo, k2tog, k1. (ONE BUTTONHOLE MADE) sl1 YIB, k6. (FRONT) kfb, PM k1, kfb, k3 (sleeve) ,kfb, PM k1, kfb, k13 (back), kfb, PM k1, kfb, k3 (sleeve), kfb, PM k1, kfb, k6, sl1 YIB, k3, sl1 YIF (FRONT). (62 st)
- 2: (and all even (WS) rows) k4, p1. k to last 6 sts. p1, k4, sl1.
- 3: (and all odd (RS) rows) k5, sl1 YIB. [k to stitch before marker. kfb, slip marker, k1, kfb.] 4x. k to last 5 sts. sl1 YIB, k3, sl1 YIF. turn.

repeat steps 2 & 3 until there are 134 (150) sts. end by working row 2.

EACH RS ROW WILL INCREASE ST COUNT BY 8 STS.

 BUTTONHOLE ROW - (RS) k2, yo, k2tog, k1, sl1. continue in established pattern to end of row. (142/158 sts

split for sleeves:

- ✓ (RS) k5, sl1. k to marker. (LEFT FRONT).
 ✓ place next 27 (31)
- st (SLEEVES) onto a piece of waste yarn. c/o 4 st.
- ✓ place next 27 (31) st (SLEEVES) onto a piece of waste yarn. c/o 4 st.
- ∨ k to last 5 sts. sl1 YIB, k3, sl1 YIF. turn. (RIGHT FRONT). 88 (104) working st

lower body:

- and all odd (WS) rows k4, p1. k to last 6 sts. p1, k4, sl1.
 - repeat steps 1 and 2 for 2½" (3") from armhole split.

work a buttonhole row after every 10th ridge. last buttonhole will be worked in the lower ribbing. end by working row 1.

- 2. and all even (RS) rows k5, sl1, k to last 5 sts. sl1 YIB, k3, sl1 YIF.
- 3. (RS) continuing as established, decrease 5 sts evenly. (83, 99) st

ribbing:

- (WS) k4, p1. k1. *p2, k2 repeat from * to last 7 sts. k1, p1, k4, sl1.
- 2. k5, sl1. p1. *k2, p2. repeat from * to last 6 sts. p1, sl1 YIB, k3, sl1 YIF.

repeat these steps until ribbing is $1\frac{4''}{1^3/4''}$. bind off using a decrease bind off.

techniques &

abbreviations: c/o: cast on k: knit k2tog: knit 2 stitches together as one LH: left hand kfb: knit in front and back of st PM: place marker RS: right side rnd: round sl x: slip x stitch(es) purlwise, unless otherwise noted ssk: slip 2 stitches, separately and knitwise, then knit them together through their back loops st(s): stitch(es) WS: wrong side YIF: yarn in front YIB: yarn in back yo: yarn over

DECREASE CAST OFF:

*k2tog. return new st to LH needle. *repeat across.



sleeve (worked in the round):

transfer sleeve st from waste yarn to a circular needle or dpns.

 With RS facing, pick up a st in each of the 3rd and 4th cast on st at the underarm.
 pick up on st in the corner between the cast on and the yoke st.

knit around the sleeve st.

pick up a stitch in the corner and then in the first 2 cast on st. PM to note beg of round. 33 (37) st

work in garter st (p one rnd, k one rnd) until sleeve measures 1¾" (2") from underarm, or until 2¼" from desired length to ribbing.

last rnd worked should be a purl rnd.

- 1: k1, k2tog. k to last 3 st on round. ssk, k1.
- 2: p around
- 3: k around
- 4: p around

repeat steps 1 - 4 until 21 (25) sts remain.

- 5: k around, decreasing 1 st.
- 6: k2, p2 around until cuff is 1" (1¼") long, or to desired length.

finish with a decrease cast off. make 2nd sleeve.

finishing:

 \vee weave in all ends.

ℽ sew on buttons opposite buttonholes.

DESIGN NOTES:

- ♡ For 2-color yoke and sleeves, change colors on the RS every 2 rows/rounds.
- For stockinette sleeves, knit every round.
 Once decreases begin, only work 2 rounds between decrease rounds.

updated 11/2010
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