

Easy Knitted Baby Cardigan

Instructions are for size 6 months. Changes for sizes 1, 2, 3 years in parenthesis.

Materials: One 2 oz. Skein of acrylic sport yarn. #4, 5, or 6 needles. Gauge: 5 stitches and 6 rows = 1 inch over stockinette stitch

Cast on 50 (53,55,58) stitches and work in garter stitch for 8 rows (knit every row). Change to stockinette stitch (alternating knit one row, purl one row) and work until piece measures 5 (5 1/2, 6, 6 1/2) inches. Increase 1 stitch at each end of every other row 3 times, 56 (59, 61, 64) stitches. At the beginning of the next 2 rows cast on 20 (25, 30,35) stitches. Then working first and last 4 stitches in garter stitch and stitches between in stockinette stitch, work even on 96 (109, 121, 134) stitches for 2 (2 1/4, 2 1/2, 2 3/4) inches. Next row, work across first 34 (40, 46, 52) stitches keeping pattern, place marker and knit 28 (29, 29, 30) stitches, place another marker and work across the last 34 (40, 46, 52) stitches in pattern. Continue in pattern for 8 rows working garter stitch on all stitches between markers and on 4 edge stitches.

Shape neck: Work across to marker, knit 4 stitches, bind off next 20 (21, 21, 22) stitches, knit 4 stitches, slip marker, work to end. Continue only on left side of neck. Work for 1 inch, keeping pattern, ending at neck edge. Next row, cast on 10 (10, 10, 11) stitches; knit 14 (14, 14, 15) stitches before marker, work to last 4 stitches, knit 4. Continue for 8 rows, keeping garter stitch at cuff and neck edges. Then continue for 2 more inches, keeping only the first and last 4 stitches in garter stitch and all other stitches in stockinette stitch, ending at sleeve edge. Next row bind off first 20 (25, 30, 35) stitches. Work across next 28 (29, 30, 32) stitches. Continue on remaining stitches keeping 4 stitches at front edge in garter stitch and decreasing 1 stitch at arm edge every other row 3 times. Continue in pattern on remaining stitches until front measures the same as the back from underarm to garter stitch border. Work 8 rows in garter stitch. Bind off. Complete right side to match left front.

Finishing: Sew sleeve and side seams. Attach yarn at neck edge and using a small crochet hook, work chain stitch for 5 inches. Fasten off. Repeat on other neck edge. Make another pair of ties 2 inches down from the neck. Weave in ends.