

Preemie Burial Bunting Designed by Janice Helge for the Northern Illinois Chapter of NIN; September 2002

Fits 2 - 3 lbs. Baby:

- 6 oz. skein TLC Baby 3-ply Sport Weight (Red Heart); will make 2 buntings
- Size 10 knitting needles; size 9 knitting needles for the hood

Gauge: 4 sts = 1"

Abbreviations:

K = Knit

P = Purl

St = Stitch

K2 tog = Knit 2 stitches together

Inc = Increase

Garther stitch = knit every row

Stockinette stitch = *knit one row, purl one row, repeat from *

Back:

Starting at bottom with #10 needles, cast on 41 sts. Knit 14 rows (2") in garter stitch; then do stockinette stitch for 6" ending with a purl row (wrong side). On right side, begin K3, P1 rib pattern as follows:

Row 1 (rib pattern): P1, *k3, p1, repeat from * across row, ending k1.

Row 2 (rib pattern): K1, *p3, k1, repeat from * across row. Work in the rib pattern until the back piece measures 12" in total length ending with a wrong side row.

Next row (right side): K2 tog at each end of row while working the rest of the stitches in the rib pattern as established.

Divide for shoulders

Row 1: Rib pattern on 12 sts for left shoulder. 2nd row: Working only those 12 sts, k2 tog at neck edge and complete row in established rib pattern. 3rd row: Rib pattern across; place 11 sts on holder. Break yarn.

Join yarn; work across 7 sts, K2 tog, work across last 6 sts for center back. Place these 14 sts on a holder.

Work remaining 12 sts for right shoulder as follows: Row 1: K2 tog, work across row; Row 2: rib pattern across; Row 3: rib pattern across. Place 11 sts on holder. Break yarn.

Front: Cast on 41 sts. Knit 14 rows (2") in garter stitch; then do stockinette stitch for 2-1/2 inches ending with a purl row (wrong side). Next row (right side): K 18 sts, inc 1 st in each of next 5 sts, k 18 sts.



Divide for center front opening

On wrong side row, P 18 sts; for the next 10 sts, p every st, placing the 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 9th sts on a cable holder. Slip the sts from the cable holder to the left needle. You now have 23 sts on the right needle for the right front and 23 sts on the left needle for the left front. Place the sts for the left front on a stitch holder and work each front separately.

Right Front:

Keeping the center front 5 sts in garter st for a buttonband, continue in stockinette stitch until you have completed 6" of stockinette stitch. Begin K3, P1 ribbing and continue until piece measures 12", ending with a wrong side row. Next row (right side): At front edge, bind off first 6 sts, K2 tog, work pattern to last 2 sts, end K2 tog. Work 3 rows in established rib pattern, decreasing 1 st at neck edge on each row and 1 st at shoulder edge on second row. (11 sts) Place sts on holder for 3-needle bind-off at shoulder.

Left side:

Place sts from holder onto needle; join yarn at center front. Keeping 5 sts in garter st for the buttonhole band, purl to end of row. Continue in st st (keeping 5 garter sts at front edge) until you have 6" of st st. Begin rib pattern on a knit row: K2, p1, k3, p1, k3, p1, k3, p1, k8 (for garter st border) and continue until piece measures 12". On a knit row, K2 tog at side edge, pattern across to last 7 sts, K2 tog, K5. Next row: Bind off 6 sts, P2 tog, pattern across. Work 2 rows in established pattern, decreasing 1 st at neck edge on each row plus 1 st at shoulder edge on second row. (11 sts) Place sts on holder for 3-needle bind-off.

Using the 3-needle bind-off, complete the shoulder seams. Sew side and bottom seams.

Hood:

With right side facing, using size 9 needles, pick up 10 sts on the right front edge. The first stitch picked up should be at the inside edge of the garter st buttonband. Knit across the 14 sts of the center back and pick up 10 sts on the left front. (34 sts)

Work 2 rows of garter st. 3rd row: Knit 16 sts, k2tog, k 16 sts. (33 sts)

Increase row: K 15 sts, inc, k1, inc, k 15 sts. Knit one row.

2nd Increase row: K 16 sts, inc, k1, inc, k 16 sts. Knit one row.

3rd increase row: K 17 sts, inc, k1, inc, k 17 sts. Knit one row.

4th increase row: K 18 sts, inc, k1, inc, k 18 sts. Knit 15 rows.

Begin 1st decrease row on right side: K 18 sts, k2tog, k1, k2tog, k 18 sts. Knit 1 row.

2nd decrease row: K 17 sts, k2tog, k1, k2tog, k 17 sts. Knit 1 row.

3rd decrease row: K 16 sts, k2tog, k1, k2tog, k 16 sts. Knit 1 row.

4th decrease row: K 15 sts, k2tog, k1, k2tog, k 15 sts. Knit 15 sts, k2 tog. Fold hood in half and do 3-needle bind-off.

Sew buttons on front buttonband, using buttons small enough to be buttoned through the stitches.

Notes: A larger size burial bunting may be made by knitting with a worsted weight yarn (2 skeins) and the same size needles. You would then want to make the bunting about 2" longer in total length.

You can elect to bind off the shoulder stitches rather than doing a 3-needle bind off. Then you simply sew the shoulder seams.