



# Week Eighteen



## “Easy as a Beanie” Baby Jacket

This is a top down raglan pattern. Easy to knit and easy to get on and off, the off-centre front makes it easy to fasten and the hospital our CWA Branch sends them to likes easy access to the baby’s tummy! Might also mean less dribble on the button.

### You will need:

For newborn size:

- 150 grams of 4 ply yarn
- 3.25 mm needles
- approx. 1m thin ribbon and a blunt ended needle

For 3 month size:

- 150 grams of 8 ply yarn
- 4.00 mm needles
- approx. 1m thin ribbon and a blunt ended needle



Choosing the right size needles for the yarn is part of the art of great knitting. It used to be possible to be sure that the ply of wool was the same across different brands. It’s not critical for this pattern as babies come in all sizes, but if you are knitting something where the size matters, you need to be careful. Some thin ones labelled 8ply need to be treated like 4ply. If not sure, knit a tension square.

### Tension:

This jacket has been designed at a tension of 28 stitches per 10 cm, using 3.25 mm needles, for the newborn size, and 22 stitches per 10cm, using 4.00 mm needles, for the 3 month size, worked in stocking stitch. Check your tension by knitting a tension square: using the needles and yarn indicated, cast on 35 stitches. Work 40 rows stocking stitch (1st row: Knit; 2nd row: Purl; repeat these 2 rows.) Place two pins 10 cm apart, and count stitches between pins. If you have less stitches, use smaller needles. If you have more stitches, use larger needles.



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## Pattern:

Cast on 53 stitches

All rows are knit rows, called garter stitch. (Although you could choose other stitches that you know!)

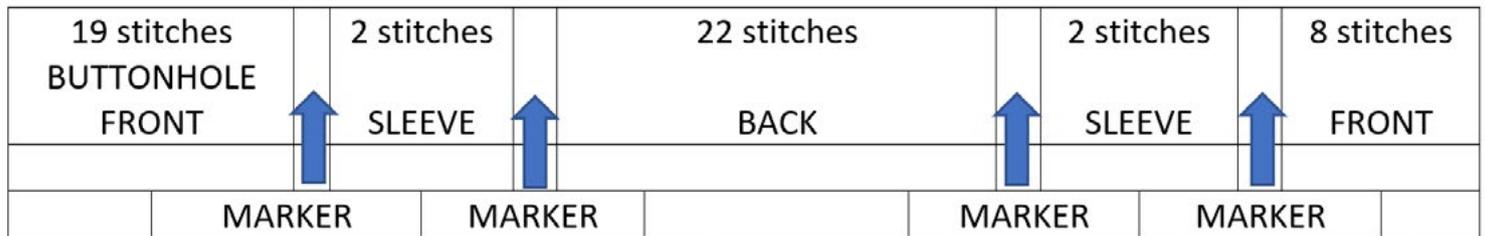
Row 1. Knit

Row 2. Knit

Row 3. Buttonhole row: knit 3, yarn over needle, knit 2 together, knit to end

Row 4. Knit

Row 5. This is the row where you put markers for increasing. Make sure you are starting from the button hole end. You can use special plastic markers or yarn of a different colour tied into small circles. Knit 19, place marker onto the needle, knit 2, place marker, knit 22, place marker, knit 2, place marker, knit 8.



Row 6 and alternate rows. (Increase row) Knit across the row, moving the markers from needle to needle as you go, increasing before the last stitch before each marker, and after the first stitch after each marker. [61 stitches] See page 3 if you need instructions on increasing.

(Take notice or mark which end you start with so you keep increasing on same alternate row)

Row 7 and alternate rows. Knit

Continue repeating rows 6 and 7 until you have 52 stitches on back section, and a total of 173 stitches:

34 stitches	32 stitches	52 stitches	32 stitches	23 stitches
BUTTONHOLE FRONT	SLEEVE	BACK	SLEEVE	FRONT

Continue knitting all rows, keeping markers in place until jacket measures 13cms from centre back.

This is when you divide for front, sleeves back etc.



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Starting from buttonhole end, Knit 34, drop marker off, knit 1 stitch and return this stitch to left needle. (this is so the yarn is ready for the sleeve.)

Using length of thin ribbon on a blunt ended tapestry type needle put the 34 stitches from the right needle onto the ribbon.

Slip first stitch onto right hand needle, Knit to next marker.

Using other end of the ribbon put the next 52 stitches (these are the back) onto the ribbon.

Knit across to next marker using other end of the ball of yarn.

Put the remaining stitches onto the ribbon

You should now have two sleeves on the needle. Fronts and back connected with the ribbon.

Now to knit the sleeves using the two ends of the ball of yarn.

Continue knitting in garter stitch.

Sleeve Row 20. Decrease by knitting two together at each end of sleeve

Sleeve Row 30. Decrease by knitting two together at each end of sleeve. [28 stitches]

Continue until sleeve measures 10cm - or 12 cm if you fancy a turned back cuff (measure from underarm where you divided for sleeve).

Cast off loosely (or in rib if you know how!).

## BODY

Put stitches from fronts and back, back onto one needle starting at no-buttonhole side of front.

Slip first 34 stitches (buttonhole side) without knitting them as they were knitted earlier, join in yarn and continue to knit across the body and other front.

Continue to knit all rows until jacket measures 23cm from the top of centre back, or longer if you want.

Cast off. Decide which side looks best or which side you want the button. Turn the jacket to the inside. Sew up sleeve seams. Turn right side out. Sew on button.

You're done - and you finished before the baby outgrew the jacket!



Part way down the sleeves showing the ribbon holding the stitches from fronts and back



Types of markers



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## INCREASING

For this pattern you do this before the last stitch before marker and after the first stitch after the marker.

(The stitch either side of the marker is a knit stitch) by picking up yarn from row below, using the right hand needle



Then put the yarn over onto left needle



Then knit into the back of the stitch

**GOOD LUCK!**

***With thanks to Viv Speight***