

Double Breasted Seed Stitch Jacket

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Since many infants loathe hats, hooded jackets are ideal winter garments that save parents the trouble of keeping track of hats. Four large buttons make this a snap to get on and off.

Please note the finished measurements of the jacket, as it includes plenty of ease. If you seek a closer fit, please make adjustments accordingly.

One nice thing about this jacket is that since it is knit in reversible seed stitch, you do not need to know immediately the sex of the intended recipient (that is, if you care about which side the buttons are placed). If you choose, knit the garment up but save the finishing until after the baby is born. It is the seaming that ultimately determines the button placement. However, the pattern specifies the buttons be placed on the right front and the buttonholes on the left front. It's entirely up to you.

Sizes

3-6 months, 6-9 months, 9-12 months, 12-18 months, 18-24 mos

Finished Measurements:

Length from back of the neck to bottom edge: 10.25"(11.5", 12.5", 13.25", 14")

Chest circumference: 20.5"(22.5", 24", 25.5", 27")

Back width: 10.5"(11.25", 12", 12.75", 13.5")

Sleeve length: 6.5"(7.25", 8.5", 8.75", 9")

Materials:

2 (3, 3, 4) skeins Cascade 220 (100% wool; 220 yd [203 m]; 100g), color: #7814

US7 24" or 32" circular needle, or size required to obtain gauge

Four buttons (7/8" – 1" in diameter)

tapestry needle

Yarn Substitutes:

Any worsted weight yarn will do: Mission Falls 1824 Wool or Cotton, Cascade 220, Plymouth Encore Worsted, Lion Brand Cotton-Ease, Knit Picks Wool of the Andes, etc.

Author's note: Please note that it is important to make row gauge on this garment. If you cannot, you will need to adjust the frequency of increases and decreases in the hood, the sleeves, and the front and back neck shaping.

Gauge:

19 stitches and 36 rows = 4" in seed stitch



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Abbreviations:

K	knit
P	purl
Sl	slip
BO	bind off
CO	cast on

Buttonhole Row 1:

Beginning at the neck edge of the front (i.e. *not* the shoulder edge), work two stitches in seed stitch, bring yarn in back.

[Sl1 as if to purl and bring the yarn in front. Keep yarn in front.

Sl1, pass 1st slipped stitch over the 2nd stitch

Sl1, pass 2nd slipped stitch over the 3rd stitch

Sl1, pass 3rd slipped stitch over the 4th stitch

Reverse the 4th stitch, place the stitch back on the left needle. Reverse the last stitch on the right needle. Pull yarn tightly and make a backward loop from front to back over the right needle. Pass the last stitch on the right needle over this loop.

Make 4 such backward loops, k2tog, p1 and continue on (i.e. do not turn work).]

Pattern 10 stitches in seed stitch pattern, ending with yarn in back. Repeat buttonhole shaping from [to]. Pattern to end.

Buttonhole Row 2:

Pattern as usual but when you reach the newly made loops, knit and purl into the backs of them.

***NOTE: The buttonholes I suggest come from Elizabeth Zimmerman. I chose this style because it makes a slightly tighter buttonhole. If you would prefer to make your buttonholes by binding them off, work the buttonhole rows as follows and use slightly larger (probably about 1") buttons:*

Alternative Buttonhole Row 1:

Work two stitches in seed stitch, bind off 3, work 10 stitches in pattern, bind off 3, pattern to the end of the row.

Alternative Buttonhole Row 2:

Work until you reach the first set of bound off stitches. Cast on 3, continue to next set of bound off stitches, cast on 3, pattern to the end of the row.

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Back and Fronts:

Cast on 124(130, 138, 146, 154) stitches.

Row 1 (WS): *P1,K1*

Row 2 (RS): *K1, P1*

Repeat rows 1 & 2 until piece measures 5”(6”, 6.5”, 7”, 7.5) in, ending with RS.

On the next row (WS), work Buttonhole Rows 1 and 2 (or use Alternative Buttonhole Rows 1 and 2).

Continue until piece measures 6”(6.75”, 7.5”, 7.75”, 8.25”) from cast on edge.

Divide for fronts:

On the next row (RS), pattern 31(32, 34, 36, 38) stitches, BO 10, pattern 42(46, 50, 54, 58) stitches, BO 10, pattern 31(32, 34, 36, 38) stitches to end.

Left Front:

Work back and forth on the left front until the piece measures 8”(9”, 9.75”, 10.5”, 11.5”) ending with a RS row.

On the next row (WS), work Buttonhole Rows 1 and 2 (or use Alternative Buttonhole Rows 1 and 2).

When front measures 8.5”(9.75”, 10.5”, 11.5”, 12.25”), begin neck shaping.

Neck Shaping:

On the next WS row, BO 12 stitches at the beginning of the neck edge.
19(20, 22, 24, 26) stitches remain.

On the following WS row, BO 3(3, 4, 4, 4) more stitches at the neck edge.
16(17, 18, 20, 22) stitches remain.

Decrease 1 stitch at neck edge every other row until 13(14, 15, 16, 17) stitches remain.

Continue until front measures 10.75”(12”, 13”, 13.75”, 14.5”).

Bind off remaining 13(14, 15, 16, 17) stitches.

Back:

Join yarn to back piece and work until back measures 10.25”(11.5”, 12.5”, 13.25”, 14”).

BO the central 9(11, 12, 12, 14) stitches.

Working each shoulder separately, BO 5(5, 5, 6, 6) at the neck edge.

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Continue until the back shoulders measure even with the front shoulders.

BO 13(14, 15, 16, 17) remaining stitches.

Right Front:

Work same as front, reversing neck shaping and omitting buttonhole rows.

Sleeves:

CO 34(36, 38, 40, 42). Working in seed stitch, increase one stitch at each end of needle every 10 rows 5(6, 6, 7, 8) times. 44(48, 50, 54, 58) stitches.

Continue until sleeve measures 6.5”(7.25”, 8.5”, 8.75”, 9”). Bind off all stitches.

Hood:

CO 76(78, 82, 82, 82) stitches. Work in seed stitch until piece measures 5”(5.5”, 6”, 6.25”, 6.75”).

Decrease 1 stitch at each end every other row. Repeat five times for a total of 10 stitches decreased.

Bind off 66(68, 72, 72, 72) remaining stitches.

Finishing:

Join back and fronts at shoulder seams.

Fold the hood in half and sew the cast-off edge together for the back of the hood.

Baste the hood seam to the middle of the back. Find the last bound off stitch on each side of the hood. Baste these to each of the jacket fronts where the neck decreases begin. The hood will appear too large. You will need to sew the hood in place, easing in the extra hood fabric. The extra ease allows makes room for those large baby heads!

Note: It is easy to sew this hood on slightly off center. The basting is worth the effort.

Sew in sleeves, seam up underarms. Place buttons. Weave in ends.

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