



Five Hour Baby Sweater

<http://yarntootin.typepad.com>

There are many versions of this sweater available for free on the internet and this is a modified version of the Baby Boy 5-Hour Sweater by Gail Bable. The original is for a 7-8 pound newborn, and since I wanted a bigger sweater that would get more use, I made modifications to make it bigger. So far I've knit it twice. Once with Cascade 220 on size 10 needles and once with Rowan Soft Baby on size 8 needles. The recipient of the Cascade sweater tells me it is about a 6 month size and the Soft Baby sweater fit my niece perfectly at three weeks, but she was a big girl at birth (9 lbs. 13 oz.). I used a little more than one skein of the Cascade (plenty left over for matching socks), and a little less than two balls of the Rowan.

Abbreviations

M1 – make a backward loop and place it on the right hand Needle

Increase 1 st in next st – increase by knitting into the front and back of that stitch.

To Begin: This sweater is knit from the top down and will require minimal sewing of seams. You will only have to sew the seam at the underside of the arm. Starting at the neck edge, cast on 39 stitches using a long tail cast on.

Yoke

Rows 1-4: Knit

Row 5: Knit 3, Purl to last 3 sts, Knit 3 (Always knit first and last 3 sts. even on a purl row)

Row 6: K3, * increase 1 in next st, K1, repeat from * to last 4 sts, ending with incr. 1, K3 (56 sts.)

Row 7: K3, P to last 3 sts, K3

Rows 8 & 9: Knit

Row 10: K3, * inc. 1 in next st, K2, repeat from *, ending with incr. 1, K4 (73 sts)

Row 11: K3, P to last 3, K3

Rows 12 & 13: Knit

Row 14: K 4, *increase in next st, K3, repeat from * to last 5 sts, ending with incr. 1, K4 (90 sts)

Row 15: K3, P to last 3, K3

Rows 16 & 17: Knit

Row 18: K4, *increase in next st, K4, repeat from * to last 6 sts., ending with an inc. 1, K5 (107 sts)

Row 19: K3, P to last 3 sts, K3

Rows 20 & 21: Knit

Row 22: K5 *increase in next st, K5, repeat from * to the end of the row. (124 sts)

Row 23: K3, P to last 3 sts, K3

Rows 24 & 25: Knit

Row 26: You will now be placing markers to show the fronts, back, and sleeves

K7, M1, K6, M1, K6, M1, K1, place marker (23 sts for front)

K1, M1, K7, M1, K6, M1, K7, M1, K2, place marker (27 sts for sleeve)

K2, M1, (K7, M1) twice, K6, M1, (K7, M1) twice, K2, place marker (44 sts for back)

K1, M1, K7, M1, K6, M1, K7, M1, K2, place marker, (27 sts for other sleeve)

K1, M1, K6, M1, K6, M1, K7 (23 sts for other front)

Row 27: K3, P to last 3 sts, K3

Row 28: Knit across the row, increasing 1 st before and after each marker. (150 sts)

Row 29: K3, P to last 3 sts, K3

Row 30: Same as Row 28 (158 sts)

Row 31: K3, P to last 3, K3

You are now finished with the yoke and will begin work the sleeves and then the body of the sweater.

Knit to the first marker (25 sts) and place those stitches on a holder. Pull the yarn tight to avoid a hole in the armpit of the sweater. Cast on 2 stitches using the backward loop cast on, knit across to the next marker (31 sts), and cast on two more stitches. These 35 sts will be the first sleeve. Using another set of needles (I used two of my DPN's with rubber bands on one end), work these 35 sts in stockinette stitch for 26 rows.

Sleeve Decrease Row: K2, (K2 tog, K3) 5 times, K2 tog, K2, K2 tog, K2 (28 sts left)

Work in stockinette stitch for 6 more rows.

Knit 4 rows.

You may choose to knit more or fewer rows at the end of your sleeve depending on how wide you want the garter stitch edge of the sleeve to be. I knit four rows so that it would match the width of the neck edge.

Bind off leaving the last stitch on the needle. With right sides together, sew the sleeve closed being careful to close all of the holes at the underarm. Place the last stitch on the left hand needle. Knit 2 tog and knit across the back of the sweater to the next marker. Place the stitches for the back of the sweater on a holder.

Work the second sleeve the same as the first. Don't forget to Cast on 2 stitches at each side of the sleeve! When the second sleeve is complete, Knit across the remaining stitches (the other front side of the sweater).

Slip the stitches on holders and the stitches you just knit (Body Row 1) onto a needle and work the body of the sweater.

Body Row 2: K3, P to last 3 sts, K3

Body Row 3: Knit

Body Row 4: K3, P to last 3 sts, K3

Body Rows 5-26: repeat Body Rows 3 and 4 (you may alter the number of rows depending on how long you want the sweater to be.)

Work 6 rows in garter stitch. (Again, you may want more or fewer rows of garter stitch depending on how wide you want this border to be.)

Bind off.