



Baby Cocoon

by

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Look at any professional photographer's work and you'll see the ubiquitous Baby Cocoon. They are a must-have for the pros, who find them useful for keeping babies warm, snug, asleep and settled while they take those all-important first portraits. For the rest of us, they are useful as swaddles or sleep-sacks, and for giving that precious little bundle a feeling of security. One skein and one day are all it takes to knit this up!

DIFFICULTY

Advanced beginner - techniques used:
I-cord, short rows

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Newborn (this is stretchy and will fit up to about 3 months, depending on the size of the baby)

Circumference: 16 inches

Length: 20 inches (excluding knot)

MATERIALS

Lion Brand Hometown [100% acrylic; 185yds/169m per 6oz/170g skein]; colour: Tudor, 315; 1 skein

1 set size US 13 (9 mm) double pointed needles (or 2 circulars, or 1 long circular for magic loop)

GAUGE

2.5 stitches and 3.5 rows to 1 inch in Stockinette Stitch

Photography by Rebecca Painter www.barefootjourneyimages.com

Knit the Cocoon

Cast on 40 stitches and join in the round, being careful not to twist. Place marker.

Work 1 inch in Stockinette Stitch (every row knit).

Short Row Shaping for Hood:

Slip marker, K18, with yarn in back (away from you) slip 1 purlwise, bring yarn to front, turn, slip wrapped stitch to right hand needle. *This is the wrap and turn on the right side (w&t).*

P16, with yarn in front slip 1 purlwise, bring yarn to back, turn, slip wrapped stitch to right hand needle. *This is the wrap and turn on the wrong side (w&t).*

Next row: K15, w&t

Next row: P14, w&t

Next row: K13, w&t

Next row: P12, w&t

Next row: K11, w&t

Next row: P10, w&t

Next row: K9, w&t

Next row: P8, w&t

K8, pick up wrap (lying at foot of next stitch) by pulling the wrap up onto the left hand needle and knitting it together with stitch. Then, with yarn in back, slip 1 purlwise, bring yarn to front, turn, slip wrapped stitch to right hand needle. This stitch has now been wrapped twice.

P9, pick up wrap by pulling the wrap up onto the left hand needle and purling it together with stitch. Then, with yarn in front, slip 1 purlwise, bring yarn to back, turn, slip wrapped stitch to right hand needle. This stitch has now been wrapped twice.

Next row: K10, pick up both wraps by pulling them up onto the left hand needle from bottom to top, and knitting together with stitch. Then, with yarn in back, slip 1 purlwise, bring yarn to front, turn, slip wrapped stitch to right hand needle.

Next row: P11, pick up both wraps by pulling them up onto the left hand needle from bottom to top on the right side, and purling together with stitch. Then, with yarn in front, slip 1 purlwise, bring yarn to back, turn, slip wrapped stitch to right hand needle.

Repeat last 2 rows until all wrapped stitches are picked up, that is: K16, pick up both wraps by pulling them up onto the left hand needle from bottom to top, and knitting together with stitch. Then, with yarn in back, slip 1 purlwise, bring yarn to back front, slip wrapped stitch to right hand needle. (We are wrapping the first non-wrapped stitch to prevent a hole forming at the corner).

Next row: P17, pick up both wraps by pulling them up onto the left hand needle from bottom to top on the right side, and purling together with stitch. Then, with yarn in front, slip 1 purlwise, bring yarn to back, turn, slip wrapped stitch to right hand needle.

Next row: K18, pick up single wrapped stitch - **do not turn.**

Continue knitting in the round, picking up the remaining wrapped stitch on the next round.

Continue in Stockinette Stitch until piece measures 16 inches from top of hood.

Decrease for Bottom:

Next row: *K6, K2tog. Repeat from * around.

Next and every alternate round: Knit

Next row: *K5, K2tog. Repeat from * around.

Next row: *K4, K2tog. Repeat from * around.

Next row: *K3, K2tog. Repeat from * around.

Next row: *K2, K2tog. Repeat from * around.

Next row: *K1, K2tog. Repeat from * around.

Next row: K2tog around.

Continue in Stockinette Stitch for about 6 inches -- this is a 5-stitch I-cord.

Bind off all stitches.

Finishing

Weave in ends, tie knot in I-cord. Stick a baby in it, you're done!

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If you have any questions please email mail@eileencaseycreations.com for pattern support. Eileen's designs can be seen at eileencaseycreations.com and on Ravelry at www.ravelry.com/designers/eileen-casey.