

# Knit Cape for a Little Girl

Designer: Jamie Quick



## Materials

- 3.5 oz Sport Weight Yarn in Main Color
- 1 oz Sport Weight Yarn in White, for boarder
- 1 oz Sport Weight Yarn in Black, for boarder embroidery
- Silk or Merino Wool Lining (optional)
- Hook and Eye Closure
- Decorative Bow
- Knitting needles in size 4
- Sewing needle & tapestry needle
- Thread
- Blocking Board and Pins
- 2 Stitch holders (optional)
- Measuring tape

**Gauge** = 1 inch in garter = 7 stitches x 10 rows

**Resizing the Pattern** *This pattern is sized for my daughter, who currently wears size 4T, with a 12 inch back length. However, the cape is very adjustable in sizing. There are italicized sizing notes throughout the pattern to help you along.*

*Measure from the base of the neck to natural waistline to obtain a back length measurement. Take your measurement, and divide it by 3. Each shaping section of the back and the front is worked in vertical thirds.*

**Abbreviations and Eyelet Pattern** This cape is worked in a four row pattern repetition to create the eyelet design. The pattern instructions assume that you maintain the eyelet design throughout working the cape.

The cape does have a three stitch border that is knit on the right side, and purled on the wrong side. This border keeps the increases off the edge, creating a smoother finish.

The pattern calls for mirroring your increases and decreases. To increase, on one side of your work you have a m1R (make one right leaning increase) and other other side, you have a m1L (make one left leaning increase). To decrease, you will use k2tog (knit two together) and mirror it with ssk (slip slip knit) on the other side. This keeps your work from being lopsided. If you lean all your increases and decreases in one direction you will find your work slanting to that direction. Mirroring, keeps it even.

#### **Stitch Abbreviations Uses**

sl – slip stitch

k – knit

p – purl

m1R – make stitch leaning right (increase)

m1L – make stitch leaning left (increase)

k2tog – knit two together (decrease)

ask – slip slip knit together (decrease)

yo – yarn over

#### **Four Row Eyelet Repetition**

**Row 1:** Knit

**Row 2:** Purl

**Row 3:** \*slip 1, yo, k2tog\* repeat till center of your work then change to \*slip 1, yo, ssk\* until end. NOTE: The final series doesn't always end with a ssk, depending on the number of stitches in the row. If it doesn't you can end the row with slipping the last stitch before the border. Or, if there are two stitches left before the border, slip 1, knit 1.

**Row 4:** Purl 3 for border, knit till last three stitches, purl 3.



## Knitting Pattern

At the start the eyelet design rows are incorporated in the written pattern, to get you started.

**Center Back** Cast on 16 stitches.

**Row 1:** Slip 1, knit 2, m1R, knit 5, place marker, knit 5, m1L, knit 3. (18 stitches)

**Row 2:** Slip 1, purl across.

**Row 3:** Slip 1, knit 2, m1R, \*slip 1, yo, knit 2 together\* repeat to marker, then replace the k2tog with a ssk decrease. At last three stitches, m1L, knit 3 (20 stitches)

**Row 4:** Slip 1, purl 2, knit till last three stitches, purl 3. Move marker to center if needed.

*At this point, you have established the four row pattern repetition. You also see that you have a three stitch border on both sides of your work. And you have mirroring increases and decreases. You will be increasing every other row in this section.*

**Row 5:** Sl1, k2, m1R, knit till last three stitches, m1L, k2. (22 stitches)

**Row 6:** S1, purl.

**Row 7:** Sl 1, k2, m1R, \*slip 1, yo, k2tog\* repeat till center, then replace k2tog for ssk, at the last four stitches, slip 1, m1L, knit 3. (24 stitches)

**Row 8:** S1, p2, knit till last three, moving center marker as needed, p3.

Continue to work eyelet and increase rows, until work is 4 inches long and 64 stitches wide.

**Sizing Note:** *Work till cape is one third of the desired length.*

Slow Increase

Before beginning the sequence below, work without increasing until you get to row 1 on the eyelet pattern.

**Row 1:** sl1, k2, m1R, knit till last three stitches, m1L, k3.

**Row 2:** sl1, purl.

**Row 3:** sl1, k2, m1R, \*sl1, yo, k2tog\* till center, then mirror with ssk till last 3 stitches, m1L, k3.

**Row 4:** sl1, p2, knit till last three, p3.

Continue to work eyelet rows, only increasing during row 1. Work until your work measures 8 inches long and 84 stitches wide.

**Sizing Note:** *Work till cape is two thirds the desired length. Write down your stitch count upon completion on this section. Divide stitch count by five and write down the answer. This new number is the shoulder width.*

### Shoulder Decrease

At this point, we are DONE increasing stitches! We are going to start decreasing for shoulder shaping. I chose to do this by casting off stitches on the ends, and then later picking them back up again. If you prefer, you can put your stitches onto a stitch holder instead of casting off.

*For other sizes: The neckline will be 10 stitches wide. Add the number of stitches for each of your shoulders, to the neckline stitches as shown below.*

*My math:*

$$84 \text{ stitches} / 5 = 16.8 \text{ (width of one shoulder)}$$

$$16.8 \times 2 = 33.6 \text{ (combined shoulder width)}$$

$$33.6 + 10 = 43.6 \text{ rounded to 44 stitches}$$

$$84 \text{ stitches (my widest point)} - 44 \text{ stitches} = 40 \text{ stitches that need decreased}$$

$$\text{Divide your number of stitches that need decreased again by two. } 40/2 = 20$$

*Half of your decrease stitches happen rapidly by casting off two per row. Decrease the other half of your stitches slowly, by casting off 1 per row.*

Remember to maintain the eyelet, four row repetition! I also choose to keep the three stitch border. If you don't like the look of the boarder at this point, you don't have to use it.

**Rows 1 – 10:** Bind off the first two stitches of each row (64 stitches will remain after row 10)

**Rows 11 – 30:** Bind off the first stitch of each row (44 stitches will remain after row 30)

**Row 31:** Work first 20 stitches, cast off 4 stitches for neckline shaping, work next 20 stitches

## Left Side

At this point, you can only work one side of the cape per working yarn. You can tie yarn onto the other side, and mirror the rows, so that you can do them at the same time.

**Row 32 – 34:** Work across to neckline, decrease at neckline with your decrease leaning in the proper direction. (19/18/17 stitches)

Now, we are going to start picking up the stitches that were bound off, or placed onto a stitch holder.

**Row 35:** Slip first stitch at neckline, work in eyelet pattern till the end of the row, then pick up 1 stitch that was bound off or placed onto a stitch holder. (18 stitches)

**Row 36 and all even rows:** Work in eyelet pattern.

**Row 37, 39, 41:** Repeat row 35. (19/20/21 stitches)

**Row 43:** Slip first stitch at neckline, work 3 stitches for the border, m1L, work in pattern till the end of the row, then pick up 1 stitch that was bound off. (23 stitches)

**Row 45 and 47:** Repeat row 43 (25/27 stitches)

You have been increasing stitches along the neckline. Going forward, you are going to continue to work the neckline (inner edge) straight without any increases or decreases till the very end when you bind off.

For the shoulder side (outer edge), you are going to continue working across and picking up 1 stitch that was bound off, until you get to the section where two stitches were bound of per row. At that point, you should have 32 stitches on your needle. Now, you are going to pick up 2 stitches instead of one. Work until you have picked up all the stitches. You should have exactly half of the number of stitches that you had at your widest point. In my case, 42 stitches.

### Decreasing for Outer Edge Shaping

Keep in eyelet pattern, remember to slip the first stitch of every row, and keep the 3 stitch border. You are going to start decreasing slowly only on the outer edge. Decrease one stitch,

every four rows. I prefer to decrease on the knit across row as follows:

Slip 1, knit 2, k2tog, knit across till end.

Continue to decrease, until you have 32 stitches.

*Sizing Note: ...or half the stitches you had when one third of the back of the cape was completed.*

Now, you are going to rapidly decrease. You will decrease one stitch every front facing knit row. Do this until you have 8 stitches remaining. Bind off.

## Right Side

Tie your yarn onto your work, right at the neckline.

**Row 1:** Decrease first stitch, and work across in eyelet pattern. (19 stitches)

**Row 2:** Work across in eyelet pattern, and decrease last stitch. (18 stitches)

**Row 3:** Decrease first stitch, and work across in eyelet pattern. Pick up a stitch from the shoulder (18 stitches)

**Row 4:** Work across.

**Row 5:** Slip first stitch at the neckline, work across in eyelet pattern, pick up stitch from the shoulder (19 stitches)

**Row 6:** Work across in eyelet pattern (19 stitches)

**Row 7:** Slip first stitch at neckline, work across in eyelet pattern, pick up stitch from shoulder (20 stitches)

**Row 8:** Work across in eyelet pattern (20 stitches)

**Row 9:** Slip first stitch at neckline, work across in eyelet pattern, pick up stitch from the shoulder (21 stitches)

**Row 10:** Work across in eyelet pattern (21 stitches)

**Rows 11, 13, & 15:** Slip first stitch at the neckline, knit 2, m1R, work across in eyelet pattern, pick up stitch at the shoulder. (23/25/27 stitches)

**Rows 12, 14, 16:** Work in eyelet pattern.

Now, work in eyelet pattern, increasing by picking up a stitch every time you are at the shoulder. Continue, picking up one stitch, until you reach the area where two stitches were bound off. At this point, you should have 32 stitches on your needle, and you will start picking up two stitches instead of one. (Don't worry if you are a stitch or two off, just pick them up along the shoulder) When the shoulder is finished, you should have 42 stitches on the needle.

Decreasing for Outer Edge Shaping

Keep in eyelet pattern, remember to slip the first stitch of every row, and keep the 3 stitch border. You are going to start decreasing slowly only on the outer edge. Decrease one stitch, every four rows. I prefer to decrease on the knit across row.

Slip 1, knit 2, k2tog or ssk, knit across till end.

Continue to decrease, until you have 32 stitches.

*Sizing Note: ...or half the stitches you had when one third of the back of the cape was completed.*

Now, you are going to rapidly decrease. You will decrease one stitch every front facing knit row. Do this until you have 8 stitches remaining. Bind off.

**Blocking** Yay, you have finished knitting the cape. It probably looks misshapen and kind-of ugly, and you may be feeling a bit discouraged? That is why we block! Because apparently, getting wool wet and blocking it is magical!

The cape can be pinned in place for blocking wet or dry. I blocked mine in double layer, so that everything lined up. I pinned dry and then wet it. The neckline to the bottom was blocked at 12 inches. The shoulders were blocked at 9 inches, and the sides were also blocked at 12 inches.

**Lining (Optional)** Once your cape has dried, you can lay it out flat onto the lining fabric. Cut around leaving 1/2 inch to an inch excess. Fold the raw edge under that that it doesn't show and sew it in place.

**Ermine Border** I started at the bottom right hand side of the cape.

Cast on 6 stitches.

Slip, the first stitch of every row, and work across in the garter stitch. When, you reach the collar, to turn the corners (k1, m1, knit till last three stitches, k2tog, m1) you may have to reverse this depending on what side of the collar you are working, and you may have to do it a few times. Always leave the increase and decreases one stitch away from the edge, to keep the edge neat.

Work to the bottom of the left hand side of the cape. Bind off and sew down.

Starting at left hand side again, cast on 6 stitches. We are going to do short rows to get the shaping.

**Row 1:** K2, turn

**Row 2:** Slip 1, knit 2, turn,

**Row 3:** Knit 3, turn

**Row 4:** Slip 1, knit 3, turn

**Row 5:** Knit 4, turn

**Row 6:** Slip 1, knit 4, turn

**Row 7:** Knit 5, turn

**Row 8:** Slip 1, knit 5, turn

Garter as normal. Do a short row or two, to turn corners in the back, and end with the short rows done as you started. Bind off and sew down.

**Embroidery:** I took black wool and two tapestry needles. I looped around the needle twice in each of the four center garter stitches, and then pulled the thread through. Stitching around a second needle helps keep the stitches open enough to draw a long stitch through in the end. I did this every sixth ridge on the garter.

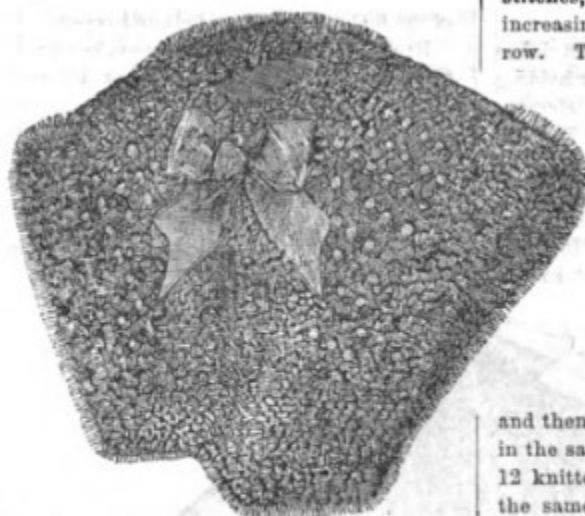


**Add a bow and closure** I used a hook and eye to close the cape. I sewed the bow to the center of the hook. Then sewed both sides of the hook and eye to the cape under the bow.

Enjoy ~ Jamie Quick (Pattern is copyright2022)



# SCARLET KNITTED CAPE FOR A LITTLE GIRL.



*Materials.*—Scarlet and white Berlin wool; three-quarters of a yard of white ribbon,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide; black wool; a pair of wooden knitting needles.

This cape will make a pretty and comfortable addition to a little girl's winter toilet, and will effectually replace furs. The cape is pointed in front and behind; it is worked in *diamond stitch* in scarlet wool, with a white

border spotted with black. The knitting is begun at the bottom of the back. Cast on 16 stitches, and knit backwards and forwards, increasing once at the beginning of every row. The 1st and 2d rows are knitted

plain, the 3d is *pearled*, the 4th is worked as follows: Slip 1, \* throw the wool forward, knit 2 together, repeat from \*. (The number of stitches is increased by 1 in every row.) Repeat these 4 rows in the same order till you have completed them 12 times in all, and have 96 stitches on your needle; now work 3 rows without increasing, in the following row cast off 10 stitches in the middle for the neck,

and then work the fronts one after the other in the same stitch. The border is composed of 12 knitted rows. The knitting is worked in the same direction as the different parts of the cape, up the sides and along the bottom and the neck. In the border it is necessary to decrease several times in the neck, and to increase at the shoulders. The spots are worked in black over the white knitting. The cape is lined with white silk or fine merino, and white ribbon is sewn on at the top to tie it round the throat.