

I-LOVE-STOCKINETTE BABY BIB

BY LAURA TREADWAY

I love stockinette stitch. And when I say this, I mean I am a garter stitch snob, and a bib made out of garter stitch just doesn't do it for me. I wanted a simple baby bib pattern to show of the beauty of stockinette. This is what I came up with.



Materials:

- 60 yards of WASHABLE worsted weight yarn. I used Knit Picks Comfy Worsted – a cotton blend that is soft and comes in a nice palette. Dishcloth cotton like Lily Sugar n' Cream or Pisgah Peaches and Creme would also be a good choice.
- 4.5 mm (US 7) needles. You'll need at two double-pointed needles, a set of needles (straight or circular), *and* an extra set of needles, or a large stitch holder, but a circular needle as the extra set would be best.

Gauge:

5 stitches and 7 rows = 1 inch

Skills Used:

Cast on, knit, purl, increases, decreases, i-cord, and applied i-cord (instructions for the latter included in the pattern).

- Make One (M1) refers to the following increase: lift the bar between stitches with the left needle and knit into the back of that loop.

Instructions:

- Cast on 26 stitches
- Knit bottom garter border:
 - Row 1 (WS): knit 26
 - Row 2 (RS): k3, M1, k20, kfb, k2
 - Row 3: k28
 - Row 4: k3, M1, k22, kfb, k2
 - Row 5: k30

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- Move into the stockinette portion:
 - Row 6: k3, M1, knit until there are 3 st left, kfb, k2
 - Row 7 (and all odd rows) k3, purl until there are 3 st left, k3
 - Repeat rows 6 and 7 until there are 40 stitches on the needles (rows 14 and 15)
- Move into the straightaway portion:
 - Row 16: knit
 - Row 17: k3, purl until there are 3 st left, k3
 - Repeat rows 16 and 17 until piece measures 7 inches from cast-on edge.
 - End on a WS row, so that your active stitches are at the upper right.
- Upper right flap:
 - Slip 25 stitches from the left side of the project onto the extra circular needle or stitch holder – point or opening should be facing right. This leaves 15 stitches on the original needles.
 - Row 1: K3, ssk, knit to end of row, slip this last stitch onto the extra needle
 - Row 2: purl until there are 3 st left, k3
 - Repeat rows 1 and 2 until there are 3 st left on the original needle – knit these 3 st so the active stitches are on the outer, right edge. Slip these last 3 st to the extra needle and cut yarn. All stitches are now on the extra needle.
- Upper left flap:
 - Slip 15 stitches from the left onto the original needles. If using straight needles or a stitch holder as your extra needle, you'll need to re-arrange them now so that the point or opening faces left.
 - Join yarn at the right side of the original needles – this will be in the center or the work, not the edge.
 - Row 1: knit until there are 5 st left on needle, k2tog, k3; slip the center-most stitch onto the extra needle
 - Row 2: k3, purl until end of row
 - Repeat rows 1 and 2 until there are 3 st left on the original needle – knit these 3 st so the active stitches are on the inside, not the left edge. Slip these last 3 st to the extra needle and cut yarn.
- I-cord ties:
 - Using 2 DPNs, knit i-cord 3 st wide for 10-12 inches.
 - Applied i-cord to attach to live stitches on extra needle: k2 of the i-cord, slip the 3rd i-cord stitch from left to right DPN, knit one live st from bib (start at the upper right corner of the bib), passed the slipped i-cord st over the bib st, go to next row of i-cord and of the bib.
 - After reaching the end of the bib, continue to knit i-cord until as long as the tie on the other side.
- Finishing:
 - The angled edges along the applied i-cord may benefit from some tightening by sewing up a little on the back side.
 - Weave in ends.

Finished size is roughly 8" wide by 8" tall at tallest point, with a cord of 30-35" long.