

Ready, Set, Knit

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The Staghorn Cabled Tunic, part 2

Row 1, WS, is the set-up row for your cables. K20, P16, K the number indicated for your size, P16, K the number indicated for your size, P16, K20.

Row 2, RS, P20, work row 2 of cable pattern, purl the number for your size, work row 2 of cable pattern, purl your number, work row 2 of cable, P20.

Row 3 and all following WS rows, knit the knits and purl the purls.

Rows 4, 6, continue with the cable pattern.

Row 7, decrease one stitch at the beginning and end of this row. Be sure to do your decreases on the 2nd or 3rd stitch in from the edge, not on the edge stitch. Kirsten was really thinking when she put the decreases on the WS, so much easier (and more invisible) on the stockinette side than on the garter stitch side. I used the ssk decrease at the beginning of the row and the k2tog at the end. Just a reminder – when you ssk, always slip as if to knit.

Every following 6th row decrease one stitch each side the number of times for your size, then every 4th row as indicated.

Then, work even in pattern with no decreases until the piece measures as indicated for your size. Be sure to end having completed a row 6 of the cable pattern.

Check the cables often to spot any mistakes you might make early on. If you do make a mistake on the cables and the mistake isn't too far down, you don't need to rip back. Place all but the offending cable stitches on a string holder or if you are using a circular needle, leave them on the needle and rubber-band the tips together so you don't lose any stitches. Rip just the cable stitches back to the mistake and, using 2 double-pointed needles in the correct size, knit the cable back up. Don't forget that the cabling occurs on one row and a WS row comes next, then a row of cable and a WS row and so on. You can do them both with the front side facing you. You'll be amazed at how well this technique works. Be brave!

CHANGE TO SMALLER NEEDLES and knit every row (garter). Increase by one stitch at the beginning and end of the 2nd and then every indicated number of rows twice. Be sure you have the correct number of remaining stitches. I used the Make One increase because it doesn't show. Be sure not to do your increases on the edge stitch.

Work even without increases until the bodice measures the indicated number of inches from the top of the cables. Be sure to end having completed a WS row.