

## Andycrafts Handknitted Cardigans for Premature Babies. Updated August 2012

**Useful Tip:** With the cardigans being small I always add the Back and 2 fronts stitches together, usually 50 stitches for the back and 25 stitches each for the fronts, (Double Knitting wool) Then I divide for the back and fronts, It saves sewing the seams together I knit the sleeves on four pins, up to armhole, again saves sewing the seam The small hats I also use four pins

The instructions are for 4ply yarn. Instructions for DK yarn are in brackets.

**Back.** Using size 12(10) needles, cast on 40(32) sts.

Work 6(4) rows K1 P1 rib.

Change to size 10(8) needles and work in stocking stitch for 48(38) rows.

Cast off.

**Fronts.** Using size 12(10) needles, cast on 20(16) sts.

Work rib as back.

Change to size 10(8) needles.

Work 22(18) rows st. st..

Dec at front edge on the next row.

Work 3 rows st.st..

Repeat the last 4 rows to 14(11) sts.

Cast off.

### **Sleeves.**

Using size 12(10) needles, cast on 26(22) sts..

Work rib as back.

Change to size 10(8) needles and st.st.

Increase at both ends of 5th and every following 4th row to 40(32)sts.

Work to row 32(24).

Cast off.

### **Making up and front band.**

Join shoulder seams. Place a shoulder seam to centre of the top of each sleeve. Attach sleeve. Join side and sleeve seam in one.

Mark positions for 3 buttons on front edge.

Using size 12(10) needles cast on 7(5) sts. Work in K1 P1 rib until the band is long enough to fit all round the front of the cardigan, making buttonholes to correspond with the positions marked for the buttons. Attach band and buttons.

### **Helmet for premature babies.**

Using size 10 needles and DK yarn, cast on 50sts. and work 4 rows K1, P1rib. Change to size 8 needles and starting with a knit row, work 10 rows in st.st.

### **Shape top.**

Next row:[k4, k2 tog] 8 times, K2.(42sts)

Next row: P.

Next row:[K3, K2tog] 8 times, K2.(34sts)

Next row P.

Next row: [K2, K2tog] 8 times, k2 (26sts)

Next row P.

Next row : [K1, K2tog] 8 times K2. (18sts)

Next row P.

Next row K2 tog to end. (9sts)

Break off yarn leaving a long end, thread end through sts and then pull up and secure.

**Making up.** Join the seam.

### **Bonnet for premature babies.**

Using size 12 needles and 4ply yarn, cast on 65 sts. using 2 needle method.

K2 rows.

Next row: P1,\*yarn,P2tog, rep from 8 to end. K2 rows.

Change to size 10 needles and, starting with a K row work 20 rows st.st.

### **Shape top.**

1st row: [K6, K2tog] 8 times, K1.(57sts)

2nd and every alternate row: P.

3rd row: [K5, K2tog] 8 times, K1.(49sts)

5th row: [K4, K2tog] 8 times, K1. (41sts)

7th row: [K3, K2tog] 8 times, K1. (33sts)

9th row: [K2, K2tog] 8 times, K1. (25sts)

11th row: [K1, K2tog] 8 times, K1.(17sts)

13th row: K2 tog to the last st, K1.(9sts).

Break off yarn, leaving a long end, thread end through sts. Pull up sts and secure.

### **Making up.**

Join seam for 4.5cm, or 2". Make 2 crochet cords and attach to front edges.