KNITTING TIPS AND GARMENT CARE



The most important factor in determining the finished size of a knitted item is the tension. Patterns will produce different finished sizes by using a different needle size. It is important to be able to determine how much difference a needle change will make, especially in clothing items. Each of us knits differently and there is no standard for knowing exactly how much a needle size will change the tension of finished size of a garment.

The tension you hold in the yarn will create loose or tight stitches. For smooth, even stitches, it is important to maintain the same tension. Tension is the responsibility of the knitter and must be consistent throughout the entire item to assure an accurate finished size. It is always best to make a small tension swatch, using the yarn, stitch pattern and needles recommended. Check your tension frequently - if you are not getting the proper tension, you will need to rework that portion adjusting your tension accordingly.

Garment Care

This is important for ensuring that your labour of love remains in pristine condition. Always hand wash garments in a mild soapy solution. Allow to dry flat (on a towel on the floor). Never hang your garment on the washing line to dry and always fold and store in a drawer or flat on a shelf.

KNITTING NEEDLE SIZES AND CONVERTIONS

Metric sizes(mm)	US	UK / Canada
2.0	0	14
2.25	1	13
2.75	2	12
3.0	-	11
3.25	3	10
3.5	4	-
3.75	5	9
4.0	6	8
4.5	7	7
5.0	8	6
5.5	9	5
6.0	10	4
6.5	10 1/2	3
7.0	-	2
7.5	-	1
8	11	0
9	13	00
10	15	000
12	17	-
16	19	-
19	35	-
25	50	-

More downloadable patterns available from www.africanexpressions.co.za

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GLOVES AND V-SCARF

IMPORTANT NOTE: Unless yarn specified is used, African Expressions cannot accept the responsibility for the finished work.

Owing to printing restrictions the colour reproduction is matched as closely to the yarn as possible.

Original garment worked in size 87cm and shown on a size 87cm model.

Pattern and design by Margaret Botha.

MATERIALS: LOVE (50g balls) GLOVES: 1 x 50g ball, Col. 3274 V-SCARF: 2 X 50g balls, Col. 3274 One pair each of 3.5mm, 4.5mm and 6.5mm knitting needles.

4 buttons Cable needle

MEASUREMENTS:

GLOVES: To fit an average lady's hand V-SCARF: 32cm wide and 107cm lona

TENSION: SAVE TIME. TAKE TIME. CHECK TENSION GLOVES: 20 sts and 24 rows = 10cm over stocking stitch using 4.5mm needles.

V-SCARF: 15 sts and 20 rows over pattern using 6.5mm needles = 10cm FOR BEST RESULTS IT IS ESSENTIAL TO OBTAIN THE CORRECT TENSION. IF THERE ARE TOO FEW STS ON TEST SWATCH, USE THICKER NEEDLES: IF THERE ARE TOO MANY STS, USE THIN-NER NEEDLES.

ABBREVIATIONS:

alt = alternative; **cn** = cable needle; C4B = slip 1st 2 sts onto cn, hold at back of work, k 2 sts from left hand needle then 2 sts from cn: inc = increase: **k** = knit: **p** = purl: **rep** = repeat: **R(W)SR** = Right (Wrong) Side row; st(s) = stitch(es); st st = stocking stitch; **Skpsso** = slip 1 st, k1, pass slipped st over: toa = toaether: Yf = varn to the front of needle; Yrn = yarn round

needle (yarn is wound right around needle once with yarn ending up in front thus increasing between a k and p st).

STITCHES USED:

RIB PATTERN K2, p2 to end of every row.

STOCKING STITCH 1st row: RSF, one row K. 2nd row: WSF, one row P.

Rep these 2 rows.

LACE PATTERN (worked over 8 sts) **1st row:** p2, k1, p2tog, yf, k1, p2. **2nd row:** k3, p2tog, vf, k3.

Repeat these two rows throughout.

4 STITCH CABLE

1st row: K 2nd row: P

3rd & 4th row: repeat 1st and 2nd rows.

5th row: C4B 6th row: P

MESH STITCH (6sts)

1st row: P1, keep varn in front of needle, skpsso, yf, skpsso, p1. 2nd row: K1, (yf, skpsso) twice, k1.

IMPORTANT NOTE: first and last 5sts of every row are worked in moss st throughout.

GLOVES

LEFT HAND GLOVE:

Using 3.5mm needles, cast on 32sts. Rib 20 rows. Change to 4.5mm needles and work in st st and lace pattern.

1st row: K 19sts; 8sts lace pattern; k to

2nd row: P5, lace pattern, p to end. Keeping pattern correct work 2 more rows.

Shape thumb: 1st row: K13, inc in next st. k1, inc in next st. work to end.

2nd and every WS row: Work sts as set. 3rd row: K13, inc in next st, k3, inc in next st. work to end.

5th row: Work sts as set - no shapina. 7th row: K13, inc in next st, k5, inc in next st. work to end.

9th row: as 5th row.

11th row: K13, inc in next st, k7, inc in next st. work to end.

13th row: K24 turn and cast on 2 sts. 14th row: P12 turn and cast on 2 sts. *On these 14 sts work 4 rows st st and then 2 rows rib. Cast off these 14 sts. Break off yarn leaving a tail to sew up thumb seam later. Rejoin yarn at the right side of the thumb.

Pick up 4 sts at the base of the thumb and work to the end of the row (34sts). Work 12 rows on these sts.

Change to 3.5mm needles and work 2 the 4 buttons. rows rib. Cast off.

RIGHT HAND GLOVE:

Work as for left hand glove up to end of 20 rows rib.

Set pattern as follows:

1st row: K5, 8sts lace pattern, k to end of row.

2nd and every WS row: Work sts as set. 3rd row: K16, inc in next st, k3, inc in

next st. k13.

5th row: Work sts as set.

7th row: K16, inc in next st, k5, inc in

next st, k13.

9th row: as 5th row.

11th row: K16, inc in next st, k7, inc in

next st. k13.

13th row: Work 27 sts. turn. cast on 2

sts.

14th row: P12, turn, cast on 2 sts (14sts). Complete as for left hand glove from

Neatly and keeping the seam as flat as possible, sew up the side seam and thumb seam.

To make a plain glove simply leave out the lace pattern or work the whole glove in rib.

V-SCARF

Using 6.5mm needles cast on 44sts. Work 6 rows in single moss. Set sts as follows: 5 moss sts; (1st row of cable; 1st row of mesh pattern) 3 times: end row with 1st row of cable pattern and 5 moss sts. Continue in pattern as set until work measures about 97cm ending with 2nd row of cable pattern. Work 2 rows in single moss. **Button hole** row: Work 7 sts; yf; k2tog; (work 8 sts, yf, k2toa) three times; work to end. Work 3 more rows and cast off in moss = p the k sts of previous row and k the

TO MAKE UP:

Block scarf and aloves to measurement, cover with a damp cloth and allow to dry. Complete by sewing on