

PetiteKnit

BARBARA BALACLAVA



Sizes:	S (M) L
Fits head circumference:	54-56 (56-57) 57-59 cm [21¼-22 (22-22½) 22½-23¼ inches]
Width while laying flat:	approx. 20 (21) 22 cm [7¾ (8¼) 8¾ inches]
Gauge:	24 sts x 38 rows = 10 x 10 cm [4 x 4 inches] in stockinette stitch on a 3 mm [US2½]
Needles:	3 mm [US2½] / 40 and 80 cm [16 and 32 inches], 2.5 mm [US1½] / 40 cm [16 inches] and 2 mm [US0] / 40 cm [16 inches] circular needles
Materials:	Suggestion 1: 50 (50-100) 100 g Merino by Knitting for Olive (50 g = 250 m [273 yds]) or Sunday by Sandnes Garn (50 g = 235 m [257 yds]) held together with 25-50 (50) 50 g Soft Silk Mohair by Knitting for Olive (25 g = 225 m [246 yds]) or Silk Mohair by Isager Yarn (25 g = 212 m [232 yds]) or Tynn Silk Mohair by Sandnes Garn (25 g = 212 m [232 yds]) Suggestion 2: 75 (75) 75 g Cashmere Classic by Cardiff (25 g = 112 m [122 yds]) or Cashmere Premium by Lang Yarn (25 g = 115 m [126 yds]) or Cashmere 6/28 by Pascuali (25 g = 112 m [122 yds])

PATTERN

The Barbara Balaclava is worked from the top down in stockinette stitch. First, a square is worked for the top of the head, then stitches are picked up and knitted along both sides of the square, and short rows are worked to round the top of the balaclava. After this the balaclava is worked straight down and then joined in the round below the chin. The neck is worked in the round in stockinette stitch before it is finished with a rib edge. At the end a rib edge is worked along the face opening.

About increases and decreases

Increases and decreases are worked so they either slant left (M1L and skp) or right (M1R and k2tog). They are worked as follows (see video at www.petitekmit.com):

M1L: Insert the left needle under the strand that runs between the stitches from front to back, then knit this strand through the back loop (twisted).

M1R: Insert the left needle under the strand that runs between the stitches from back to front, then knit this strand.

Skp: Slip 1 stitch knit-wise, k1, pass the slipped stitch over the knitted stitch.

K2tog: Knit 2 stitches together.

Balaclava

First, the top of the balaclava is worked from the forehead to the back top.

Cast on 34 (36) 38 sts on a 3 mm [US2½] / 80 cm [32 inches] circular needle.

Purl across 1 row.

Work back and forth in stockinette stitch as follows:

Row 1 (RS): Knit across.

Row 2 (WS): Purl across.

Work Rows 1 and 2 a total of 18 (19) 19 times (i.e. work a total of 36 (38) 38 rows). The next row is a RS row.

Break the working yarn and let the sts rest on the circular needle.

The square for the top of the balaclava has now been completed. Now stitches are picked up and knitted along the two sides of the square, so the sides of the balaclava can be worked. RS facing, join new yarn and pick up and knit sts with a 3 mm [US2½] / 80 cm [32 inches] circular needle as follows:

Row 1 (RS): Start at the corner of the cast-on edge (the first stitch is picked up very close to the corner) and pick up and knit 26 (27) 27 sts along one side of the square (this is the equivalent to picking up and knitting 2 sts for every 3 rows) until you reach the resting sts on the needle, work a backward yarn over by bringing the yarn from back to front, place a stitch marker, **k2tog**, knit to the last 2 sts on the needle, **skp**, place a stitch marker, work a yarn over by bringing the yarn from front to back, pick up and knit 26 (27) 27 sts in extension of the sts on the needle along the other side of the square (the last stitch is picked up very close to the corner). There are now a total of 86 (90) 92 sts on the needle.

Break the yarn.

Now work short rows to shape the rounding at the top of the balaclava, while at the same time working increases along the back. Use the *German Short Row* technique when working short rows (see video at www.petitekmit.com). *The first few rows worked back and forth can be a little "tight" – to help with this, use the same method as when using the Magic Loop technique (just without working in the round on the circular needle) (see video at www.petitekmit.com).*

From the RS, move 12 sts from the left to the right needle without knitting them. Join new yarn and work as follows:

Row 1 (RS): Knit to 1 stitch before marker, knit the yarn over (to prevent a hole from forming), slip marker, knit to marker, slip marker, knit the yarn over through the back loop (to prevent a hole from forming), knit to the last 12 sts on the needle, turn.

Row 2 (WS): Purl to the last 8 sts on the needle, turn.

Row 3 (RS): Knit to marker, **M1R**, slip marker, knit to marker, slip marker, **M1L**, knit to 4 sts after last RS turn (i.e. knit the turning stitch from the previous row and then knit 4 more sts), turn. (2 sts have been increased)

Row 4 (WS): Purl to 4 sts after last WS turn (i.e. purl the turning stitch from the previous row and then purl 4 more sts), turn.

Row 5 (RS): Work as Row 3.

Row 6 (WS): Work as Row 4.

Row 7 (RS): Work as Row 3.

Row 8 (WS): Purl across.

There are now a total of 92 (96) 98 sts on the needle. The next row is a RS row.

The shaping of the top of the balaclava has now been completed. The stitch markers can now be removed.

Continue working back and forth in stockinette stitch as follows:

Row 1 (RS): Knit across.

Row 2 (WS): Purl across.

Work Rows 1 and 2 until the section measures 20 (22) 24 cm [$7\frac{3}{4}$ ($8\frac{3}{4}$) $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches] from where sts were picked up and knitted, measured along the face opening.

Continue working back and forth in stockinette stitch while at the same time working increases for the neck as follows:

Row 1 (RS): K3, **M1L**, knit to the last 3 sts on the needle, **M1R**, k3. (2 increases have been worked)

Row 2 (WS): Purl across.

Work Rows 1 and 2 a total of 5 times. There are now a total of 102 (106) 108 sts on the needle.

Join to work in the round on the next row (which is a RS row), while at the same time casting on sts for the front of the neck.

Using a 3 mm [US2½] / 40 cm [16 inches] or 80 cm [32 inches] circular needle (if you're using the *Magic Loop* technique) work as follows:

Row 1 (RS): K3, **M1L**, knit to the last 3 sts on the needle, **M1R**, k3, cast on 14 (16) 20 sts in extension of the sts on the needle using the backward loop method. There are now a total of 118 (124) 130 sts on the needle.

Join to work in the round and place a marker to mark the beginning of the round.

Work in the round in stockinette stitch until the work measures 8 (9) 9 cm [3¼ (3½) 3½ inches] from where sts were cast on for the front of the neck.

Change to a 2.5 mm [US1½] / 40 cm [16 inches] circular needle and work 6 rounds in 1 x 1 rib (k1, p1).

Work 2 rounds in double knitting before binding off using the Italian bind-off technique as follows (see video at www.petiteknit.com):

Round 1: * K1, slip 1 stitch purl-wise with the yarn held in front *, repeat from * to * to end of round.

Round 2: * Slip 1 stitch purl-wise with the yarn held in back, p1 *, repeat from * to * to end of round.

Bind off using the Italian bind-off technique.

Rib edge for face opening

RS facing, pick up and knit approx. 218 (234) 250 sts along the face opening using a 2 mm [US0] / 40 cm [16 inches] circular needle. This is the equivalent to picking up 1 stitch in every stitch/row all the way around. Start and end at the bottom of the face opening. Join in the round.

Purl across 1 round.

Work 6 rounds in 1 x 1 rib (k1, p1).

Work 2 rounds in double knitting before binding off using the Italian bind-off technique the same way as for the neck.

Finishing

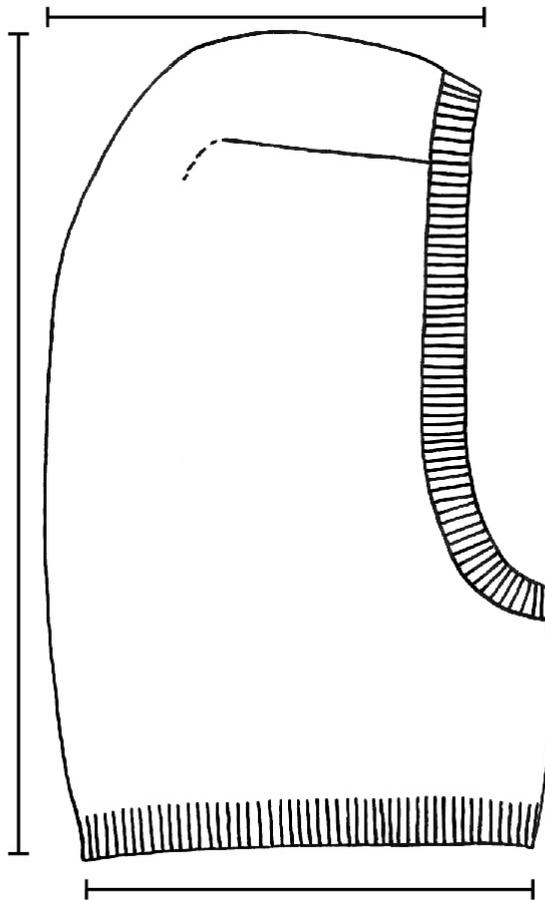
Weave in all ends.

Abbreviations

k	knit
k2tog	right-leaning decrease; knit two stitches together
M1R	make one right; insert the left needle under the strand between the stitches from back to front, then knit this strand.
M1L	make one left; insert the left needle under the strand between the stitches from front to back, then knit this strand through the back loop (twisted).
p	purl
RS	right side of your work
skp	left-leaning decrease; slip 1 stitch knit-wise, k1, pass the slipped stitch over the knitted stitch.
st(s)	stitch(es)
WS	wrong side of your work

20 (21) 22 cm
[7³/₄ (8¹/₄) 8³/₄ inches]

35 (38,5) 41 cm
[13³/₄ (15¹/₄) 16¹/₄ inches]



24,5 (26) 27 cm
[9³/₄ (10¹/₄) 10³/₄ inches]



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Happy knitting!