take turns tank

by LILY KATE FRANCE

A classic summer staple with subtle sporty style. Can be worked with or without raised stripes for a chance to use those funky novelty yarns you don't know what to do with!

YARN: Option A (blue sample) shown in Kokon Yarns Merino Linen in shade Licorice. If using fingering weight, you will need approx. 421 (480; 550; 603; 665) [733; 805; 871; 945] metres / 459 (524; 601; 658; 726) [800; 879; 951; 1031] yards.

You will also need oddments of textured / contrast yarn. Since stripes are not part of the main fabric, gauge is not particularly important. Sample shown in Kokon Yarns Slubby Mohair in shade Ice.

Option B / (red sample) shown in YarnArt Jeans (55% cotton, 45% acrylic, 160m per 50g ball). If using sport weight, you will need approx. 436 (497; 570; 625; 689) [759; 834; 903; 979] metres / 475 (542; 621; 681; 751) [827; 909; 984; 1067] yards in total.

For the stripe sequence shown in sample you will need approx. 381 (434; 497; 545; 600) [661; 726; 786; 851] metres / 415 (473; 541; 593; 654) [720; 791; 856; 928] yards of **MC** and 55 (63; 73; 80; 89) [98; 108; 117; 128] metres / 60 (69; 80; 88; 97) [107; 118; 128; 139] yards of **CC**.

GAUGE: 24 sts & 36 rows to 4 inches / 10 cm in stocking stitch, *blocked*. Suggested needle size 3.5mm.

NEEDLES & NOTIONS:
3.5mm & 3.25mm circular needles for body & hem (suggested length 24" / 60 cm)
Spare 3.5mm needle of any length for working stripes (option A only)
3.5mm short circular (suggested length 16" / 40cm) for armholes and neck edging
Tapestry needle
Stitch markers
Scrap yarn

SIZING: 1 (2; 3; 4; 5) [6; 7; 8; 9] detailed below, designed to be worn with between 3-5" / 7-12 cm negative ease. Sample shown is a size 2 worn on a 34" bust with around 4" / 10 cm negative ease.

Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
To fit bust (inches)	28-30	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50	52-54	56-58	60-62
To fit bust (cm)	71-76	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127	132-137	142-147	152-157
A: Bust	25.5" 64 cm	29.5" 75 cm	33.5" 85 cm	37.5" 95 cm	41.5" 105 cm	45.5" 115 cm	49.5" 125 cm	53.5" 135 cm	57.5" 146 cm
B: Waist	21.5" 54 cm	24" 61 cm	28" 71 cm	32" 81 cm	36" 91 cm	40" 102 cm	44" 112 cm	48" 122 cm	52" 132 cm
C: Armhole depth	8" 20 cm	8.5" 22 cm	9" 23 cm	9.5" 24 cm	10" 25 cm	10.5" 27 cm	11" 28 cm	11.5" 29 cm	12" 30 cm
D: Length	19" 48 cm	19.5" 50 cm	20" 51 cm	20.5" 52 cm	20.5" 52 cm	21" 53 cm	21.5" 55 cm	22" 56 cm	22.5" 57 cm

NOTES
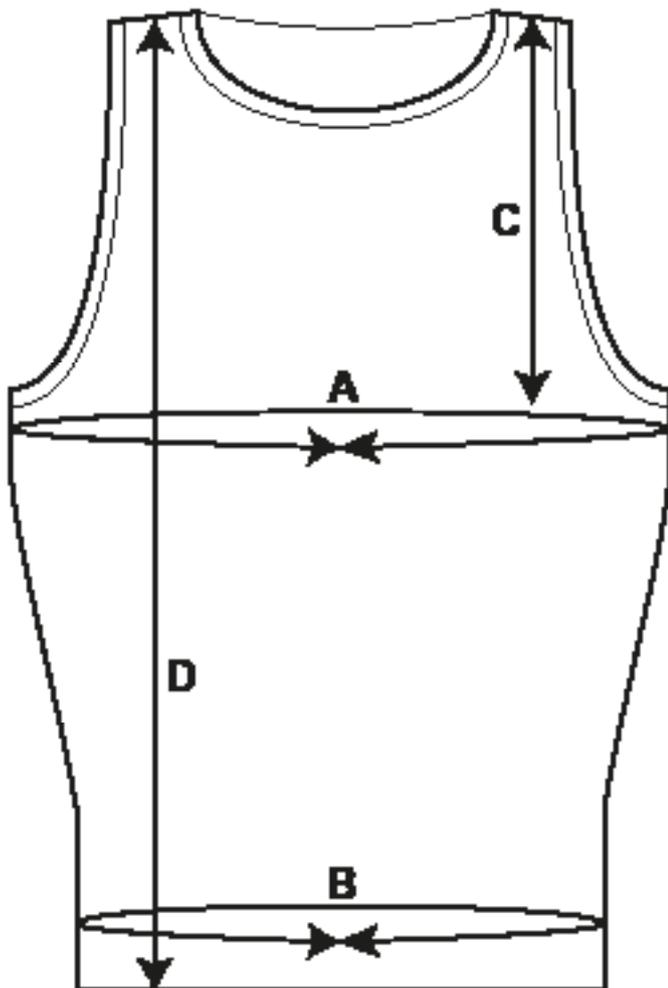
Construction: the Take Turns Tank is worked seamlessly from the top down. It begins by casting on across the back shoulders, working short rows to shape the neck, then working back and forth down to the underarm. Optional raised stripes add texture to the upper back, and there is no shaping to give an angular racerback style.

Stitches are picked up along the cast on edge of the back to work the front shoulders and upper body. The upper front is worked down to the underarm to match the length of the back, however the fronts use increases to shape a curved armhole. Stitches are cast on at the underarm and the upper front and back are joined together.

The main body is worked in the round with optional bust darts and waist shaping, before ending with a neat folded hem. Armholes are finished with 1x1 rib and a rolled edge, whilst the neckband is a simple folded edge with an optional tiny feature of contrast yarn.

Terminology: left and right means as worn, not as looking at the garment.

Pattern support: for pattern support queries please **EMAIL lilykate@jolihouse.com** rather than sending an Instagram DM.

ABBREVIATIONS & TECHNIQUES

K: knit
inc: increase
PM: place marker
BOR: beginning of round
MC: main colour
Sl: slip 1 stitch purlwise
k2tog: knit 2 stitches together

P: purl
dec: decrease
SM: slip marker
St(s): stitch(es)
CC: contrast colour
SR: short row

SSK: slip next stitch knitwise, slip another stitch knitwise, then slip both stitches back to left needle (stitches now sit twisted). Knit these stitches together through the back loop.

m1R: make one right. (Insert left needle tip under bar between needles from back to front, place bar on left needle tip, knit this stitch through the front loop normally).

m1L: make one left. (Insert left needle tip under bar between needles from front to back, place bar on left needle tip, knit this stitch through the back loop).

DDEC: double decrease. Slip 2 stitches together knitwise, k1, pass both slipped stitches over.

Video tutorials: knit stitch / stocking stitch / 1x1 rib / basic decreases / picking up stitches / German short rows / whipstitch hem

This pattern uses **German short rows**, which are worked as follows:

1) Work the required number of stitches, then turn work (leaving the remaining stitches on the previous round unworked).

2) With the yarn held in front, slip the first stitch on your left needle (the GSR stitch) purlwise.

3) Pull your working yarn firmly up and over the right needle. This is referred to as 'pull yarn' in the pattern.

4) The stitch below is stretched up and over the needle and now appears as a 'double stitch'. If next working a knit stitch, the yarn is now on the correct side of the work. If next working a purl stitch, bring the yarn to the front between the needles.

5) Work in pattern as directed to the end of the row.

When you encounter a GSR stitch on the next row / round, work both legs of the 'double stitch' together as one stitch.

BEGIN BACK SHOULDERS

With 3.5mm needle (needle 1), **MC**, and the long tail method, cast on 52 (52; 56; 60; 64) [64; 68; 72; 76] sts.

Place marker on cast on edge 10 (10; 10; 11; 11) [11; 11; 13; 13] sts in from each end (be sure to place markers on the actual cast on itself, not between sts on the needle – these markers will be used as reference points later when picking up for the front. Must be removable markers or scrap yarn).

Row 1 (RS): knit

Row 2 (WS): purl

You will now work short rows to shape the back neck and shoulders. For a full explanation of how to work German Short Rows, see Abbreviations & Techniques.

SR 1 (RS): k 11 (11; 11; 12; 12) [12; 12; 14; 14], turn,

SR 2: s1, pull yarn, p 5 (5; 5; 6; 6) [6; 6; 7; 7], turn,

SR 3: s1, pull yarn, k 7 (7; 7; 8; 8) [8; 8; 9; 9], turn,

SR 4: s1, pull yarn, p 12 (12; 12; 13; 13) [13; 13; 15; 15] / to end.

SR 5: k 16 (16; 16; 17; 18) [18; 18; 20; 21], turn,

SR 6: s1, pull yarn, p to end.

SR 7: k 20 (20; 21; 22; 23) [23; 24; 26; 28], turn,

SR 8: s1, pull yarn, p to end.

Knit across all sts.

SR 1 (WS): p 11 (11; 11; 12; 12) [12; 12; 14; 14], turn,

SR 2: s1, pull yarn, k 5 (5; 5; 6; 6) [6; 6; 7; 7], turn,

SR 3: s1, pull yarn, p 7 (7; 7; 8; 8) [8; 8; 9; 9], turn,

SR 4: s1, pull yarn, k 12 (12; 12; 13; 13) [13; 13; 15; 15] / to end.

SR 5: p 16 (16; 16; 17; 18) [18; 18; 20; 21], turn,

SR 6: s1, pull yarn, k to end.

SR 7: p 20 (20; 21; 22; 23) [23; 24; 26; 28], turn,

SR 8: s1, pull yarn, k to end.

UPPER BACK
Option A (raised stripes)

Beginning with a purl row, work 3 rows in stocking stitch. Set this piece aside but do not break yarn.

You will now begin to create the raised stripes on the upper back.

With a **separate** 3.5mm needle (needle 2), **Yarn B**, and the backwards loop (thumb) method, cast on 52 (52; 56; 60; 64) [64; 68; 72; 76] sts.

Knit 1 row.

You will now attach this stripe to the main fabric following a similar technique to a 3 needle bind off.

Hold needle 2 in front of needle 1, with knit sides facing. It may be difficult to tell which is the knit side of your contrast stripe due to the textured yarn, but the attached yarns should both be at the same end.

With the RS of the upper back facing you, needle 1, and **Yarn A**, *knit together 1 stitch from needle 2 together with 1 stitch from needle 1. Repeat from * to end. Break **Yarn B** and set aside needle 2.

Beginning with a purl row, work 9 rows in stocking stitch using **Yarn A**. **##**

Repeat from **#** to **##** a further 5 (5; 6; 6; 6) [7; 7; 8; 8] times.

Sizes 1 & 3: break yarn, place back sts on holder / scrap yarn, and proceed to Right Shoulder Front.

Sizes 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9: work 1 more stripe as before, then work - (5; -; 3; 7) [3; 7; 1; 5] rows in stocking stitch. Break yarn, place back sts on holder / scrap yarn, and proceed to Right Shoulder Front.

UPPER BACK
Option B (regular stripes)

The upper back is worked straight without shaping. The position of the first stripe has been carefully chosen to not interfere with any neck or underarm shaping at the front or back, for the neatest finish. This is the reason for each size starting the stripe sequence at a different point.

Beginning with a purl row, work 9 (9; 9; 11; 9) [9; 11; 1; 1; 3] rows in stocking stitch.

Now begin working in stripe sequence of (*2 rows CC, 12 rows MC*) for a further 54 (60; 64; 66; 72) [76; 90; 94; 96] rows.

You should end having just worked 10 (2; 6; 8; 0) [4; 4; 8; 10] rows of **MC**.

RIGHT SHOULDER FRONT

Option A: work in MC throughout.

Option B: work in MC until instructed to change to begin stripes.

With RS facing, **MC**, and 3.5mm needle, rejoin yarn at cast on edge of back. Pick up and k 10 (10; 10; 11; 11) [11; 11; 13; 13] sts from top right corner of fabric to marker on cast on edge.

Purl 1 row, then knit 1 row.

You will now work short rows to shape the right shoulder.

Next row (WS): p 5 (5; 5; 6; 6) [6; 6; 7; 7], turn.

s1, pull yarn, k to end.

Option A (all sizes) & Option B (sizes 7-9): beginning with a purl row, work 7 rows straight in stocking stitch.

Option B, sizes 1-6: work 3 (3; 3; 5; 3) [5; -; -; -] rows in stocking stitch using MC, then 2 rows using CC, then 2 (2; 2; 0; 2) [0; -; -; -] rows in MC.

This sets the position of the first stripe for sizes 1-6. Continue to follow (*2 rows CC, 12 rows MC*) sequence throughout the tank.

RIGHT NECK INCREASES

Sizes 7-9: *change to CC for the - (-; -; -; -) [-; 2nd; 2nd; 3rd] increase row in this section, then continue in stripe sequence throughout.*

Next row / inc row (RS): k to last 2 sts, m1L, k2. 11 (11; 11; 12; 12) [12; 12; 14; 14] sts.

Next row: purl

Repeat last 2 rows a further 7 (7; 7; 8; 8) [8; 9; 9; 10] times. 18 (18; 18; 20; 20) [20; 21; 23; 24] sts.

Next row (RS): k to end, cast on 3 (3; 3; 3; 5) [5; 5; 5; 5] sts using backwards loop method. 21 (21; 21; 23; 25) [25; 26; 28; 29] sts.

Next row: purl

Break yarn and place sts on holder / scrap yarn.

LEFT SHOULDER FRONT

With RS facing, **MC**, 3.5mm needle, and beginning at remaining marker on cast on edge of back, pick up and knit 10 (10; 10; 11; 11) [11; 11; 13; 13] sts across left shoulder.

Purl 1 row.

You will now work short rows to shape the left shoulder.

Next row (WS): k 5 (5; 5; 6; 6) [6; 6; 7; 7], turn.

s1, pull yarn, p to end.

Option A (all sizes) & Option B (sizes 7-9): beginning with a knit row, work 8 rows straight in stocking stitch.

Option B, sizes 1-6: work 4 (4; 4; 6; 4) [6; -; -; -] rows in stocking stitch using MC, then 2 rows using CC, then 2 (2; 2; 0; 2) [0; -; -; -] rows in MC.

This sets the position of the first stripe for sizes 1-6. Continue to follow (*2 rows CC, 12 rows MC*) sequence throughout the tank.

LEFT NECK INCREASES

Sizes 7-9: change to CC for the - (-; -; -; -) [-; 2nd; 2nd; 3rd] increase row in this section, then continue in stripe sequence throughout.

Next row / inc row (RS): k2, m1R, k to end. 11 (11; 11; 12; 12) [12; 12; 14; 14] sts.

Next row: purl

Repeat last 2 rows a further 6 (6; 6; 7; 7) [7; 8; 8; 9] times, then work **inc row** once more. 18 (18; 18; 20; 20) [20; 21; 23; 24] sts.

Next row (WS): p to end, cast on 3 (3; 3; 3; 5) [5; 5; 5; 5] sts using backwards loop method. 21 (21; 21; 23; 25) [25; 26; 28; 29] sts.

Next row: knit

UPPER FRONT

Next row / joining row: purl to end, cast on 10 (10; 14; 14; 14) [14; 16; 16; 18] sts using backwards loop method, place held right front sts on needle and purl across.

52 (52; 56; 60; 64) [64; 68; 72; 76] sts.

Knit 1 row then purl 1 row.

You will now begin to work increases to shape the armhole.

Next row / inc row (RS): k2, m1R, k to last 2 sts, m1L, k2. 54 (54; 58; 62; 66) [66; 70; 74; 78] sts.

Work **3** rows in stocking stitch.

Repeat last **4** rows a further 9 (6; 4; 3; 3) [4; 1; 1; 0] times. 72 (66; 66; 68; 72) [74; 72; 76; 78] sts.

Work inc row as before. 74 (68; 68; 70; 74) [76; 74; 78; 80] sts.

Purl **1** row.

Repeat last **2** rows a further 1 (10; 16; 19; 21) [22; 29; 31; 34] times. 76 (88; 100; 108; 116) [120; 132; 140; 148] sts.

MAIN BODY

Knit across front sts,

cast on 12 (18; 22; 28; 34) [44; 48; 54; 60] sts using backwards loop method,

place held back sts on needle and knit across,

cast on 12 (18; 22; 28; 34) [44; 48; 54; 60] sts using backwards loop method.

152 (176; 200; 224; 248) [272; 296; 320; 344] sts. PM and join to begin working in the round.

Work 14 rounds straight in stocking stitch (ie. knit every round).

Sizes 1, 2, 3 & 4: remove BOR marker, k 3 (3; 3; 1; -) [-; -; -; -], replace BOR marker.

Sizes 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9: end final straight round - (-; -; -; 1) [5; 5; 7; 9] sts before BOR. Slip - (-; -; -; 1) [5; 5; 7; 9] sts purlwise, remove BOR marker, slip- (-; -; -; 1) [5; 5; 7; 9] sts back to left needle tip, replace BOR marker.

All sizes: k 70 (82; 94; 106; 118) [130; 142; 154; 166], PM, k 6, PM, k 70 (82; 94; 106; 118) [130; 142; 154; 166], PM, k 6.

OPTIONAL BUST DARTS

You may wish to add bust darts at this point if you have a particularly full bust. These short row bust darts will not add any width to the top, but will add length so that a fuller bust doesn't cause the hem to ride up.

Approximately 1 (1; 1; 1; 1) [1.25; 1.25; 1.25; 1.25] inches / 2.5 (2.5; 2.5; 2.5; 2.5) [3; 3; 3; 3] cm of length will be added.

Bust darts: k 55 (66; 75; 84; 92) [101; 109; 117; 126], turn,

s1, pull yarn, p 39 (49; 55; 61; 65) [71; 75; 79; 85], turn,

s1, pull yarn, k 42 (53; 59; 66; 71) [76; 81; 86; 92], turn,

s1, pull yarn, p 45 (57; 63; 71; 77) [81; 87; 93; 99], turn,

s1, pull yarn, k 48 (60; 67; 76; 82) [86; 93; 99; 106], turn,

s1, pull yarn, p 51 (63; 71; 81; 87) [91; 99; 105; 113], turn,

s1, pull yarn, k 54 (66; 75; 85; 92) [96; 105; 111; 120], turn,

s1, pull yarn, p 57 (69; 79; 89; 97) [101; 111; 117; 127], turn,

s1, pull yarn, k 60 (72; 83; 93; 102) [106; 116; 123; 134], turn,

s1, pull yarn, p 63 (75; 87; 97; 107) [111; 121; 129; 141], turn,

s1, pull yarn, k 66 (78; 90; 101; 112) [116; 126; 135; 147], turn,

s1, pull yarn, p 69 (81; 93; 105; 117) [121; 131; 141; 153], turn,

Sizes 6, 7, 8 & 9 only:

s1, pull yarn, k - (-; -; -; -) [125; 136; 147; 159], turn,

s1, pull yarn, p - (-; -; -; -) [129; 141; 153; 165], turn.

All sizes: s1, pull yarn, k to end.

WAIST SHAPING

 # Dec round: *SSK, k to 2 sts before M, k2tog, SM, k to m, SM, repeat from * once more. 148 (172; 196; 220; 244) [268; 292; 316; 340] sts.

Knit 8 (6; 6; 6; 6) [6; 6; 6; 6] rounds.

Repeat from **#** a further 5 (7; 7; 7; 7) [7; 7; 7; 7] times. 128 (144; 168; 192; 216) [240; 264; 288; 312] sts.

Continue in stocking stitch until work measures 10 (10; 10; 10; 9.5) [9.5; 9.5; 9.5; 9.5] inches / 25 (25; 25; 25; 24) [24; 24; 24; 24] cm from underarm, or until 1" / 2.5cm shorter than desired length when tried on.

HEM

Attach a removable stitch marker to the first stitch of the round (this will be used as a reference later when sewing the hem).

Knit 9 rounds, change to 3.25mm needle, then knit a further 9 rounds.

Break yarn leaving a tail at least 3x the hem circumference. Sew hem by whipstitching each live stitch together with the purl 'bump' 18 rounds below (using marker as reference).

You may find it easier to place all your live sts onto scrap yarn to sew into place – the scrap yarn can be removed once all sts are secured. Sew this hem *very loosely*, and I would recommend trying the top on before securing to check that it goes over the shoulders.

NECKBAND

With (short) 3.5mm needle, **Yarn B,** and beginning at left shoulder seam, pick up and knit 88 (88; 96; 100; 108) [108; 116; 116; 126] sts around neck opening. See diagram for a clearer description of how many stitches to pick up in each section.

If you knit particularly tightly or have a yarn with very little stretch, you may need to pick up a couple of extra stitches - place stitches on hold and check the fit after picking up and before securing the fold to ensure it fits over your head.

Option A: If you used a high contrast / strongly textured yarn, pick up sts using **CC**, then change to **MC** and knit 7 rounds. If you used a more subtle contrast / less textured yarn, pick up using **CC**, knit 1 round in **CC**, then change to **MC** and knit 6 rounds.

Option B: work entire neckband in **MC**, including picking up.
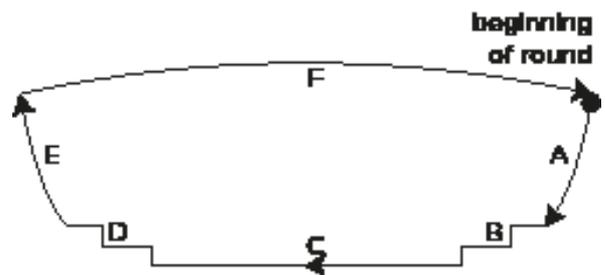
Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
A: from left shoulder seam to cast on step	20	20	20	21	21	21	22	22	24
B: in cast on step	3	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5
C: in centre front neck	10	10	14	14	14	14	16	16	18
D: in cast on step	3	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5
E: from cast on step to right shoulder seam	20	20	20	21	21	21	22	22	24
F: across back neck	32	32	36	38	42	42	46	46	50
Total	88	88	96	100	108	108	116	116	126

Do not cast off. Break yarn leaving a long tail, turn the top inside out, and sew live sts to the picked up 'ridge' at the base of the neckband. There are various methods for attaching a folded hem, but I find this method best for ensuring the neckline remains stretchy.

RIGHT ARMHOLE EDGING

With (short) 3.5mm needle, **MC**, and beginning at right shoulder seam, pick up and knit:

49 (55; 55; 57; 61) [65; 67; 69; 73] sts from shoulder down to underarm *(approx. 2 in 3)*,

12 (18; 22; 28; 34) [44; 48; 54; 60] sts in underarm cast on,

1 st in corner (**mark this stitch**),

50 (54; 56; 58; 62) [66; 68; 70; 74] sts from underarm up to shoulder *(approx. 2 in 3)*.

112 (128; 134; 144; 158) [176; 184; 194; 208] sts.

PM and join to begin working in the round.

Round 1: [p1, k1] to 1 before marked st, DDEC, *(replace marker onto this st)* k1, [p1, k1] to end. 110 (126; 132; 142; 156) [174; 182; 192; 206] sts.

Round 2: [p1, k1] to marked st, k2, [p1, k1] to end.

Round 3: [p1, k1] to 2 before marked st, p1, DDEC, *(replace marker onto this st)* [p1, k1] to end. 108 (124; 130; 140; 154) [172; 180; 190; 204] sts.

Round 4: [p1, k1] to end.

Round 5: as round 1. 106 (122; 128; 138; 152) [170; 178; 188; 202] sts.

Knit 5 rounds.

Cast off all sts knitwise *very loosely*.

LEFT ARMHOLE EDGING

With (short) 3.5mm needle, **MC**, and beginning at left shoulder seam, pick up and knit:

50 (54; 56; 58; 62) [66; 68; 70; 74] sts from shoulder down to underarm,

1 st in corner (**mark this stitch**),

12 (18; 22; 28; 34) [44; 48; 54; 60] sts in underarm cast on,

49 (55; 55; 57; 61) [65; 67; 69; 73] from underarm up to shoulder. 112 (128; 134; 144; 158) [176; 184; 194; 208] sts.

PM and join to begin working in the round.

Round 1: [k1, p1] to 2 before marked st, k1, DDEC, [k1, p1] to end. 110 (126; 132; 142; 156) [174; 182; 192; 206] sts.

Round 2: [k1, p1] to 1 before marked st, k3, p1, [k1, p1] to end.

Round 3: [k1, p1] to 1 before marked st, DDEC, p1, [k1, p1] to end. 108 (124; 130; 140; 154) [172; 180; 190; 204] sts.

Round 4: [k1, p1] to end.

Round 5: as round 1. 106 (122; 128; 138; 152) [170; 178; 188; 202] sts.

Knit 5 rounds.

Cast off all sts knitwise *very loosely*.

FINISHING

Weave in all ends and block, laying flat to dry.

HAPPY KNITTING!

@lilykatemakes | #TakeTurnsTank

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