

3-DAY HOLIDAY MYSTERY PATTERN

By Terry Liann Morris – SailingKnitter

HOT CUP PINCHER! A useful little gift for that special someone.

Size: Adult

Materials

40 yards sock/fingering weight yarn, sample knit in Skacel Trampoline (70% wool, 23% Nylon, 7% Polyester Elite) color #239

1 Set US Size 1 (2.25cm) double point needles *or size needed to obtain gauge*
Stitch Holder

Gauge

8 sts = 1" over stockinette stitch

CLUE #1 of 3

Clue #1 is all worked back and forth on 2 needles.

Cast on 34 sts. Slip 1 as if to purl, take yarn to back, (k2, p2) 8 times, k1. Repeat 19 more times for a total of 20 rows.

Next row (right side): Slip 1 as if to purl, take yarn to back, (k2, p2) 4 times. Stop. Turn work without working the rest of the row. Slip the remaining un-worked sts onto a stitch holder.

Next row (wrong side): (k2, p2) 4 times, k1. Turn Work.

Next row (right side): Cast on 20 sts using the Knitted or Cable Cast-On method = 37 sts. Do Not turn work.

End of Clue #1

CLUE #2 of 3



This photo shows the right (public) side of what you should have on your needles by the end of Clue #1. Mark your public side with a safety pin! Both sides will look the same because of the 2x2 rib. **Without turning:** p1, (k2, p2) 9 times to end of row.

Rearrange the 37 sts evenly onto 3 needles. Bring needles around in the **back** to form a circle. To join, slip the purl st last worked over to the front of what is now the next needle. Purl 2 together

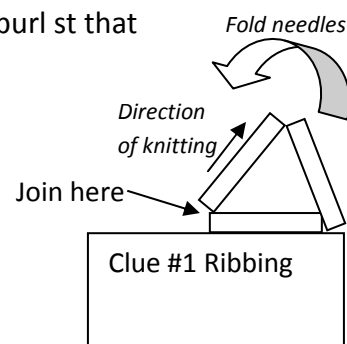
(this would be the last st cast on at the end of Clue #1 together with the last purl st that you just worked). Slip this st back to the last needle = 36 sts.

This is the beginning/ending of each new round.

Continuing in the same direction, begin working in the round: (k2, p2) 9 times.

Make sure that your ribbing matches the ribbing on the rectangular piece from Clue #1.

Repeat these rounds until tube measures $\frac{3}{4}$ " from new cast on edge.



Shaping

Round 1: (k2, p2tog) twice, (k2, p2) 7 times = 34 sts

Rounds 2 thru 5: (k2, p1) twice, (k2, p2) 7 times

Round 6: (k2, p1) twice, k2, p2tog, (k2, p2) 6 times = 33 sts

Round 7: (k2, p1) 3 times, *(k2, p2)* repeat from * to * to end of round

Repeat Round 7 until tube measures 2" from new cast on edge.

Decrease Rounds:

Round 1: (k2, p1) 3 times, (k2, p2, k2, p2tog) 3 times = 30 sts

Round 2: (k2, p1) 3 times, (k2, p2, k2, p1) 3 times

Round 3: (k2, p1) 3 times, (k2, p2tog, k2, p1) 3 times = 27 sts

Round 4: (k2, p1) 9 times

Round 5: [k2tog, p1, (k2, p1) twice] 3 times = 24 sts

Round 6: [k1, p1, (k2, p1) twice] 3 times

Round 7: [k2tog, (k2, p1) twice] 3 times = 21 sts

Round 8: (k2tog, k1, p1, k2, p1) 3 times = 18 sts

Round 9: (k2tog, p1, k2, p1) 3 times = 15 sts

Round 10: (k2tog, k2, p1) 3 times = 12 sts

Round 11: (k2tog, k1, p1) 3 times = 9 sts

Break yarn leaving a 6" tail. Thread tail through the remaining 9 stitches, gather together tightly. Thread yarn tail down through center of gathering to inside of the tube and make secure. Weave in end.

End of Clue #2

CLUE #3 of 3



This photo shows the right (public) side of what you should have on your needles by the end of Clue #2.

Slip the 17 sts from the holder onto a double point needle. Hold work so that the wrong side of the work is facing you (the tube from Clue #2 should be on the left-hand side), and attach the yarn at the right-hand edge.

Working back and forth in rows on two needles:

Row 1: Slip 1 as if to purl, take yarn to back, (k2, p2) 4 times, and continuing in the same direction, pick up and knit through the back loop

2 stitches in the "corner" gap. Turn work = 19 sts.

Row 2: Slip 1 as if to purl, p1, (k2, p2) 4 times, k1

Row 3: Slip 1 as if to purl, take yarn to back, (k2, p2) 4 times, k1, slip 1, pick up and knit 1 stitch from lower edge of "tube" made in Clue #2, slip this new stitch and the stitch that was slipped back onto the left needle and knit these 2 sts together, pick up 1 more sts along the lower edge of the "tube".

Turn work = 20 sts.

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Row 4: slip 1, p2, (k2, p2) 4 times, k1

Row 5: slip 1 as if to purl, take yarn to back, (k2, p2) 4 times, k2, bring yarn to the front, slip 1, pick up a loop from lower edge of “tube” but do not work it, slip the slipped stitch back onto the left needle and purl these 2 sts together

Last Row Bind off: Slip 1, purl 1, pass the slipped st over and continue to bind off in ribbing pattern as established leaving the last stitch worked on the needle. Do Not Cut Yarn.

With right (public) side facing you, pick up and knit 12 stitches along what used to be the left-side of your piece, working into the chain stitches along that edge = 13 sts. Turn Work.

Next (Wrong side): (k2, p2) 3 times, k1. turn work. Now is Right Side: Cast on 31 sts using the Knitted or Cable Cast-On method = 44 sts. Do Not turn work.

Rearrange the stitches evenly onto 3 double point needles. Bring needles around in the **back** to form a circle. Slip the 2 purled stitches from the left side of the needle which has the picked up stitches, over to the left-hand needle to join.

First Round: Purl the 2 transferred stitches snugly to close gap, (k2, p2) 10 times, k2, purl the first 2 stitches of the next needle. Slide these 2 sts over to the last needle worked.

This is the beginning/ending of each new round.

Next Rounds: (k2, p2) 11 times each round until new “tube” measures 3” (8cm) from pick-up edge.

Decreases:

The decreases will all be k2tog or SSK regardless of what the stitches were in the prior round (no purled decreases). Maintain the 2x2 rib patterning on stitches not involved in the decrease actions.

Round 1: k2, SSK, (k2, p2) 3 times, k2, k2tog, k2, p2, SSK, (p2, k2) 3 times, p2, k2tog, p2 = 40 sts.

Round 2: k5, (p2, k2) 3 times, k3, p2, k1, (p2, k2) 3 times, p2, k1, p2

Round 3: k2, SSK, k1, (p2, k2) twice, p2, k1, k2tog, k2, p2, SSK, p1, (k2, p2) twice, k2, p1, k2tog, p2 = 36 sts.

Round 4: k2, SSK, (p2, k2) twice, p2, k2tog, k2, p2, SSK, (k2, p2) twice, k2, k2tog, p2 = 32 sts.

Rearrange the needles so that the first 16 sts are on one needle and the remaining 16 sts are on another. Hold the two needles parallel and graft (Kitchner stitch) the end of the tube closed.

Weave in yarn tails. Enjoy!

Many thanks to the test knitters for their corrections and suggestions – Kris Powell, Susan Lutsky, Al from Germany, Sandra Clockedile and many more Ravelry Free Testers!! You Rock!

