

Easy Baby Aran

*Designed by
Sarah Hoffman*



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Sized to fit a 12-18 month toddler, this is an easy “first Aran” pattern for the advanced beginner or intermediate level knitter who is ready to learn simple knit/purl pattern stitches, simple cables, and an easy travelling stitch. There are no seams to sew, and it buttons at the shoulders for easy on and off.

Designed by Sarah Hoffman – this is her first KnitNet appearance! – Easy Baby Aran should be worked in a sturdy washable wool or wool blend so that it can take the crawling, climbing and exploring of an active toddler.

The sweater is knitted in the round up to the yoke division. Instead of the traditional vertical Aran panels, there are five horizontal pattern panels in the body. The panels are knit in three different, easy texture stitches arranged in an A-B-C-B-A sequence. The same texture stitches are used for the sleeves. The front and back yokes have a lattice-stitch center framed by 6-row cables.

After the body is knit to the lower armhole, the front and back yokes are knitted back and forth individually. After completing the button and buttonhole ribs at the shoulders, the sleeve stitches are picked up around the armhole and the sleeves are knitted in the same horizontal patterns as the body.

The natural gauge contrast between the yoke pattern and the body pattern makes the sleeves appear set in.

Skill Level

Recommended for intermediate knitters.

Finished Size

12 to 28 mos

Materials and tools

- Lion Brand Wool-Ease, 3 skeins (3oz/80 grams; 197 yds/180 m), color 099, Fisherman;
- four 5/8” buttons;
- one US size 7 (4.5 mm) circular needle (20 in/50 cm);
- one set US size 7 (4.5 mm) double-pointed needles;
- (optional) one pair US size 7 (4.5 mm) straight needles;
- one US size 5 (3.75 mm) circular needle (20 in/50 cm),
- one set US size 5 (3.75 mm) double-pointed needles,
- (optional) one pair US size 5 (3.75 mm) straight needles or sizes which give gauge;
- medium-sized cable needle;
- stitch markers;
- stitch holders.

Gauge:

Stockinette stitch on larger needles – 19 stitches/4 inches (10 cm); 6 rows/1 inch (2.5 cm).

Moss stitch on smaller needles – 9 stitches/2 inches (5 cm); 8 rows/1 inch (2.5 cm).

NOTE: All ribbing and moss stitch lower edges on body and sleeves are knit with smaller size needles.

Finished Measurements:

Chest = 20 inches (50 cm);

Sleeve length from shoulder = 9½ inches (23.5 cm);

Back neck length (before neck ribbing) = 12 inches (30 cm).

Stitch Patterns for Body of Sweater & Sleeves (all worked in round):

Moss Stitch Pattern:

Because the moss stitch gauge is always looser than the other pattern stitches, use smaller needles for this pattern.

1st Row – * k1, p1 *; repeat from * to * to beginning of round.

2nd Row – * p1, k1 *; repeat from * to * to beginning of round.

Repeat rows 1 and 2 as indicated.

Elm Stitch Pattern:

Rows 1, 2 – Knit around.

Row 3 – * Knit 2, yo, knit 2, pass yo over last two stitches * ; repeat from * to * until beginning of next round.

Rows 4, 5, 6 – Knit around.

Row 7 – * Yo, Knit 2, pass yo over last two stitches, knit 2 * ; repeat from * to * until beginning of next round.

Row 8 – Knit around.

Diamond Stitch Pattern:

Row 1 – * K 7, p1 * ; repeat from * to * until beginning of next round;

Row 2 – * P1, k5, p1, k1 * ; repeat from * to * until beginning of next round;

Row 3 – K1, * p1, k3, p1, k3 * ; repeat to last 3 stitches before beginning of round, p1, k2;

Row 4 – K2, * p1, k1, p1, k5 * ; repeat to last 4 stitches before beginning of round, p1, k3;

Row 5 – K3, * p1, K7 * ; repeat to last 5 stitches before beginning of round, p1, k4;

Row 6 – Repeat Row 4;

Row 7 – Repeat Row 3;

Row 8 – Repeat Row 2;

Row 9 – Repeat Row 1.

Checkerboard Stitch Pattern:

Rows 1 & 2 – * K2, p2 * - repeat to end of round.

Rows 3 & 4 – * P2, k2 * - repeat to end of round.

Repeat Rows 1-4 as indicated.

Stitch Patterns for Yoke (worked back and forth)**4-St Left Side Cable:**

Row 1 – P1, k4, p1

Row 2 & all even rows – K1, p4, k1

Row 3 – P1, slip next 2 st to cn and hold to front, k2, k2 from cn, p1

Row 5 – Repeat row 1

Row 7 – Repeat row 1

Repeat rows 3 to 8 for cable pattern.

4-St Right Side Cable:

Work same as for left side, except row 3

Row 3 – P1, slip next 2 st to cn and hold to back, k2, k2 from cn, p1

(This causes both right and left side cables to twist toward center.)

RT (Right Twist): Insert right hand needle into second stitch on left hand needle in the front (in front of first stitch), as if to knit, and knit the second stitch, but do not remove first or second stitch from needle; knit first stitch on left needle; then let both stitches fall off left needle.

LT (Left Twist): Insert right hand needle into second stitch on left needle on the back side (in back of first stitch), and knit second stitch, but do not remove first or second stitch from needle; knit first stitch on left hand needle; then let both stitches fall off left needle.

32-St Lattice Pattern:

Row 1 – * Work LT on first two stitches, k4, work RT * ; repeat from * to * 4 times.

Row 2 & all even rows – Purl across.

Row 3 – K1, * LT, k2, RT, k2 * ; repeat from * to * 4 times; k1.

Row 5 – K2, LT, *RT, k4, LT * ; repeat from * to * 3 times; RT, k2.

Row 7 – K3, * LT, k6 * ; repeat from * to * 3 times; LT, k3.

Row 9 – K2, RT, * LT, k4, RT * ; repeat from * to * 3 times; LT, k3.

Row 11 – K1, * RT, k2, LT, k2 * ; repeat from * to * 4 times, k1.

Row 13 – * RT, k4, LT * ; repeat from * to * four times.

Row 15 – K7, * RT, k6 * ; repeat from * to * 2 times; RT, k7.

Repeat rows 1 to 16 for pattern, as indicated.

BODY (Worked in round)

With larger circular needle, cast on 96 stitches and join in round. Place one marker at beginning of round and another marker after 48th stitch.

Change to smaller circular needle and work Moss Stitch pattern for 1 inch (2.5 cm). Change to larger circular needle.

(First Horizontal Panel) Work 8 rounds of Elm Stitch Pattern.

Transition rounds (work between patterns):
Purl one round; Knit one round; Purl one round.

(Second Horizontal Panel) Work 9 rounds of Diamond Pattern.

Work 3 transition rounds.

(Third Horizontal Panel) Work 8 rounds of Checkerboard Pattern.

Work 3 transition rounds.

(Fourth Horizontal Panel) Work 9 rounds of Diamond Pattern.

Work 3 transition rounds.

(Fifth Horizontal Panel) Work 8 rounds of Elm Stitch Pattern.

Purl one round.

YOKE:

(With all stitches still on larger circular needle)
First yoke row: Starting at marker at beginning of round (front), k2, bind off 1 stitch, k 46, ending at second marker.

Reverse work so that next row is worked on wrong side of front and in opposite direction (Front) K2, bind off first stitch, K45 (46 st remaining for front).

If desired, transfer front yoke stitches to a stitch holder and work back yoke next.

OR attach another ball of yarn here to work front and back yokes simultaneously with separate balls of yarn.

§Before beginning back and front yokes, wind another small ball of yarn for knitting both sides of yoke shoulder ribbing simultaneously.

Back Yoke:

With front side of work facing, k2, bind off 1 st, k 46.

Second yoke row (back of work facing): K 2, bind off 1 st, k44.

Next row (right side facing):

K1 (selvage stitch), work 1st row of Left Side Cable Pattern. Place marker.

Work 1st row of 32-st Lattice Pattern over next 32 stitches. Place marker.

Work 1st row of Right Side Cable Pattern over next 6 stitches, k1 (selvage stitch).

Continue in the cable and lattice patterns as established until the lattice pattern has been worked twice, knitting the first and last stitches of each row for a selvage stitch. End with a purl row.

Next row (first shoulder ribbing row):

Using smaller straight needles (left shoulder), k1, (k1, p1) 5 times, k2. Move next 20 stitches to stitch holder. Attach yarn§ and work the last 13 st (right shoulder stitches) as follows: k2, (p1, k1) 5 times, k1.

Second shoulder ribbing row: K1, (p1, k1) 6 times.

Repeat the first and second shoulder rows until ribbing measures 1 inch (2.5 cm).

Bind off in pattern.

Front Yoke (worked on 46 stitches):

If back yoke was knit separately, attach yarn at left edge.

Otherwise, with right side facing and using the yarn ball still attached for front, K1 (selvage stitch), and work 1st row of yoke as follows:

Work first row of Left Side Cable Pattern over next 6 stitches. Place marker.

Work 1st row of 32-st Lattice Pattern over next 32 stitches. Place marker.

Work 1st row of Right Side Cable Pattern over next 6 stitches, k1 (selvage stitch). Turn

Continue with cable and lattice patterns as for back yoke until front measures 2 in (5 cm).

Next row: Work in pattern over first 18 st, transfer next 10 stitch to stitch holder, §attach second ball of yarn and work in pattern over last 18 st.

Working both left and right sides of front yoke simultaneously, continue in the cable and lattice pattern, decreasing 1 stitch on both sides of neck opening 5 times until the front lattice pattern has been worked twice and 13 stitches remain on each side. Change to smaller straight needles and work first and second rows of shoulder ribbing on each side for 3 rows. Buttonhole row:
 (Left Side) Work 5, bind off 3, work to end in pattern;
 (Right Side) Work 5, bind off 3, work to end in pattern.
 Next row: (Both Sides) Continuing in pattern across row, work 5 st, cast on 3, work 5 st.
 Continue in shoulder rib until ribbing measures 1 in (2.5 cm).
 Bind off in pattern.

Neckband ribbing:

On back neck edge with right side facing and using smaller circular needle, beginning at neck edge of shoulder ribbing, pick up and knit 5 st.
 From center back stitch holder, knit 20 st; then, pick up and knit 5 st along remaining ribbing edge (30 st total).
 Work k1, p1 rib until back neckband ribbing measures 1" (2.5 cm). Bind off in pattern.

On front neck edge with right side facing and using smaller circular needles, beginning at neck edge of shoulder ribbing, pick up and knit 15 st.
 From center front stitch holder, knit 10 st; then, pick up and knit 15 st along remaining ribbing edge (40 st total).

Work k1, p1 rib for two rows.

Buttonhole row: Work 3 st, bind off 3 st, continue in rib pattern to last 6 st, bind off next 3 st in pattern, finish row in pattern.

Continue in Ribbing pattern until front neckband ribbing measures 1" (2.5 cm). Bind off in pattern.

Overlap front shoulder ribbing over back shoulder ribbing. Baste front ribbing to back ribbing along each armhole edge.

Sleeves (Both the same and worked in the round from the armhole down):

Using larger double-pointed needles, with right side facing, and starting at center of underarm bound off stitches, pick up and knit 60 stitches around armhole, including 1st picked up in each underarm bound-off stitch (1 st underarm plus 29 front plus 29 back plus 1 st underarm). Be sure to pick up stitches through both thicknesses of the overlapping shoulder ribbing. Distribute stitches on 3-4 dp needles so that there is an even number of stitches on each needle (e.g., 20-20-20 or 15-15-15-15).

After each decrease row, stitches may have to be transferred to maintain an even number of stitches on each needle.

First round: P1, p2tog, p54, p2tog, p1 (58 st).

Second round: Knit.

Third round: P1, p2tog, p52, p2tog, p1 (56 st).

Rounds 4-11: Work 8 rows of Elm Stitch Pattern.

Round 12: P1, p2tog, p15, p2tog, p16, p2tog, p15, p2tog, p1 (52 st).

Round 13: Knit.

Round 14: P1, p2tog, p12, p2tog, p18, p2tog, p12, p2tog, p1 (48 st).

Round 15-23: Work 9 rows of Diamond Pattern.

Round 24: P1, p2tog, p42, p2tog, p1 (46 st).

Round 25: Knit.

Round 26: P1, p2tog, p40, p2tog, p1 (44 st).

Rounds 27-34: Work 8 rows of Checkerboard Pattern.

Round 35: P1, p2tog, p38, p2tog, p1 (42 st).

Round 36: Knit.

Round 37: P1, p2tog, p36, p2tog, p1 (40 st).

Rounds 38-46: Work 9 rows of Diamond Pattern.

Round 47: P1, p2tog, p34, p2tog, p1 (38 st).

Round 48: Knit.

Round 49: P1, p2tog, p32, p2tog, p1 (36 st).

Round 50-57: Work 8 rows of Elm Stitch Pattern.

Round 58: Purl.

Round 59: Knit.

Round 60: (Decrease round) P1, p2tog, * p2, p2tog, p3, p2tog *; repeat from * to * until 6 st remain; p2, p2tog, p2 (28 st).

Cuff: With smaller dp needles, work in Moss Stitch on 28 remaining st for 1 inch (2.5 cm).

Bind off in pattern.

Finishing:

Weave in all yarn ends Sew buttons to back shoulder ribbing beneath buttonholes.

Easy Baby Aran Charts

R	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
8			○	○				
7			○	○				
6	○	○			○	○		
5	○	○			○	○		
4			○	○			○	○
3			○	○			○	○
2	○	○			○	○		
1	○	○			○	○		

Checkerboard Stitch

□ Knit
○ Purl

R	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	6	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
9	○								○							
8		○						○		○						○
7			○				○				○				○	
6				○		○						○		○		
5					○								○			
4				○		○						○		○		
3			○				○				○				○	
2		○						○		○						○
1	○								○							

Diamond Stitch

□ Knit
○ Purl

	Stitches							
R	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
8								
7	Ⓚ		↵		Ⓚ		↵	
6								
5								
4								
3	↵		Ⓚ		↵		Ⓚ	
2								
1								

Elm Stitch

*Note: YO at beginning of Row 7

□ Knit

Ⓚ Knit and yarn over

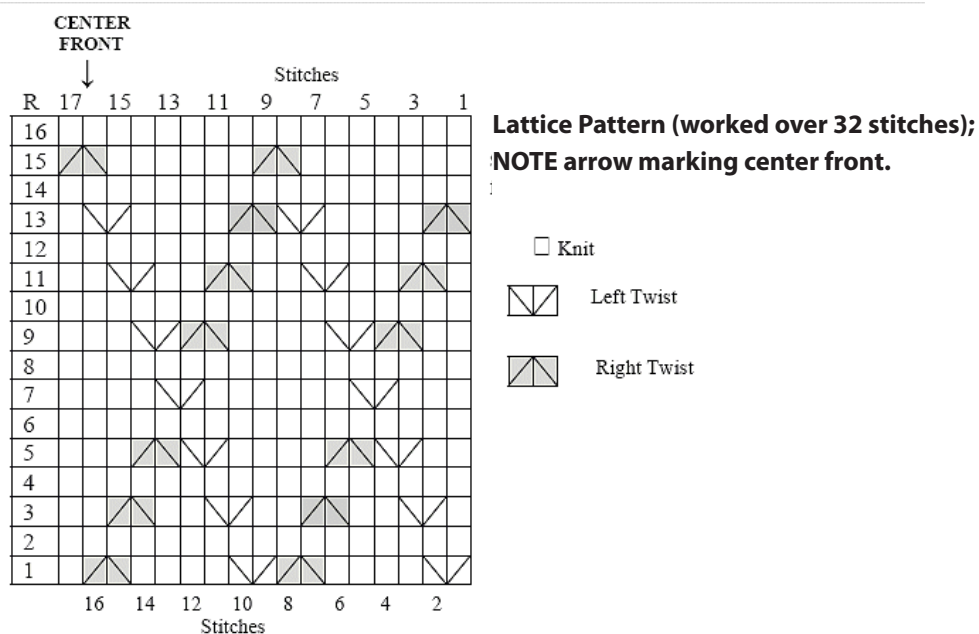
↵ Knit and pass yo over previous two stitches

	Stitches							
R	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
8		○		○		○		○
7	○		○		○		○	
6		○		○		○		○
5	○		○		○		○	
4		○		○		○		○
3	○		○		○		○	
2		○		○		○		○
1	○		○		○		○	

Moss Stitch

□ Knit

○ Purl



Yoke Pattern Rows worked back and forth

Stitches

R	6	5	4	3	2	1
8		○	○	○	○	
7	○					○
6		○	○	○	○	
5	○					○
4		○	○	○	○	
3	○					○
2		○	○	○	○	
1	○					○

Yoke

Left Side Cable

□ Knit

○ Purl

▧ Slip first 2 st to cable needle & hold in front;
 K next two st, K 2 st from cable needle

Stitches

R	6	5	4	3	2	1
8		○	○	○	○	
7	○					○
6		○	○	○	○	
5	○					○
4		○	○	○	○	
3	○					○
2		○	○	○	○	
1	○					○

Yoke

Right Side Cable

□ Knit

○ Purl

▧ Slip first 2 st to cable needle & hold in front;
 K next two st, K 2 st from cable needle

for a full explanation of the abbreviations go to <http://www.knitnet.com/abbreviations>



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