

“EMILY BROOKS”

A COWL NECK CAPELET DESIGNED BY PRISCILLA WHITE-TOCKER



My beautiful niece Emily is a talented artist whose charming artwork is featured on greeting cards and calendars, and her gift wrap and gift tag designs were featured in one of the holiday issues of Real Simple magazine. And these are only some of the things that she does. Emily is inspired by nature and memories of childhood – and the tiny people, animals, houses, birds and animals that are featured in her work may appear to be simply drawn, but also convey her own very unique style and point of view. Thus I chose tiny, simple, exquisite lace patterns that also evoke nature and childhood, and combined them to create a unique knitted accessory. I used Sycamore Lace for the cowl neck and Nested Lace for the capelet body as reminders of one of

my favorite holiday cards that Emily designed, showing a wooded area with tiny birds in every tree. The Garland border between the cowl neck and body of the capelet is described by Barbara Walker as being perfect for a child's garment, and the capelet actually looks like a little girl's dress when it is laid flat.

This pattern is designed to be knit with lace weight yarn, and the lengths of the cowl neck and the capelet body are adjustable according to your own preference. It is knit from the bottom up, and to ensure that there is plenty of stretch around the edge you will initially cast on a large number of stitches. Don't be intimidated, however – these will immediately be decreased by half when you work your first row! The capelet in this photo has a diameter of 22" and a circumference of slightly more than 66". The Nested Lace body of this capelet is 6" in length (7" if you include the Garland border) and the cowl neck with the Sycamore Lace measures 6" in height with a circumference of 20".

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CAPELET

Suggested Materials: (used for capelet in the photo)

- **Yarn:** Juniper Moon Farm Findley, Lace/2ply, 50% Silk, 50% Merino, 798 yds/100 g per skein (capelet in the photo uses approx 400 yds), colorway Hyacinth.

- **Needles:** Two US# 4 circular needles, one at least 27" and the other 16" – or size needed to achieve gauge. The capelet in this photo is knit and blocked to a gauge of approximately 5.5 stitches per inch in stockinette.

- **Round stitch markers** – essential – to mark off the repeats of the pattern within each row

- **Small tapestry needle** for weaving in ends
- **Large blocking board and rust-proof pins** for blocking

Legend:

K= knit

P= purl

YO= yarn over

K2TOG=knit 2 stitches together (creates a right-leaning decrease)

P2TOG = purl 2 stitches together

SKP - slip 1 stitch knitwise, knit one stitch, pass slipped stitch over the knit stitch and off the needle (creates a left-leaning decrease)

S1-K2TOG-PSSO - slip one stitch knitwise, knit 2 stitches together, pass slipped stitch over the knit stitch and off the needle (also creates a right-leaning decrease)

RS = Right Side

BO = bind off

CHART LEGEND:

	K
O	YO
/	K2TOG
\	SKP
<	S1-K2TOG-PSSO

Also, the written instructions mention sections of garter stitch rows, which consist of one K row followed by one P row, or can be vice versa (and then these two rows repeated as per the instructions).

General Note on the Charts

Each chart is read starting in the lower right hand corner, with row 1 at the bottom of each chart. Since you will be knitting circularly, all of the rows will be RS rows and are read from right to left.

Starting to Knit:

Cast on 504 stitches. Join in the round, being careful not to twist the stitches*.

Row 1: *P2 TOG* around the row (252 stitches).

Row 2: K

Row 3: P

*An alternative way to start would be to cast on 504 stitches, and then knit Rows 1-3 back and forth straight before joining in the round. This might make it easier to join in the round without twisting the stitches and creating a Mobius strip by mistake. If you choose this option, you will *K2 TOG* for Row 1, and then K for Rows 2 and 3. Then join in the round and you can weave the 3-row slit together later.

Now work Chart A, the Nested Lace. The 9 stitch pattern is repeated 28 times around each row.

CHART A

									4
	o		/	\				o	3
									2
o		/	\				o		1

- Repeat rows 1-4 of Chart A as many times as you need to reach your desired length for this section of the capelet. **For row 4 in your last repeat of Chart A, you will knit this row as *K2 Tog* all the way around (126 stitches).**

- Now P 1 row.

- K 1 row.

- Repeat these two rows twice more so that you have a total of 6 garter stitch rows.

Knit Chart B, Garland Lace, once (7 stitch pattern repeated 18 times around each row).

CHART B

		o	<	o			5
	o	\		/	o		4
	o	<	o	/	o		3
/	o				o	\	2
	\	o		o	/		1

- Now K 1 row.

- P 1 row.

- Repeat these two rows twice more so that you have a total of 6 garter stitch rows.

- *K5, K2TOG* all the way around the next row, so you will now have a total of 108 stitches

Now knit Chart C, the Sycamore Lace. **Please note that the first time you knit this chart you will start with Row 2.**

CHART C

						16
o	/		\	o		15
						14
				\	o	13
						12
						11
						10
						9
						8
\	o		o	/		7
						6
	\	o				5
						4
						3
						2
						1

- Repeat rows 1-16 of Chart C until you reach the desired length for the cowl neck, minus about an inch.

- Now K 4 rows.

- K 5 garter stitch rows, starting and ending with a P row.

- BO off loosely. I recommend using a needle several sizes larger (I used a size 7). Weave in all ends.

BLOCKING THE CAPELET

I actually blocked this capelet in two parts. First I soaked the body of the caplet, including the garland border, in lukewarm water and squeezed out the excess moisture. Then I pinned it out in a circle on the blocking board, accentuating the points of the lace. I also pinned in a circle around the base of the cowl neck, right at the edge where the Sycamore Lace begins. I left the cowl neck dry and folded it down into the middle of the circle, as shown in the photo below.



Once this was dried and removed from the blocking board, I washed and blotted dry the cowl neck and pinned it out flat on the blocking board, leaving the body of the caplet loose. You could also steam block the cowl neck without pinning it.



Wear and enjoy your lovely creation! If you have any questions about this pattern, please message me directly on Ravelry, username **pwhitocker**.

