Cascade

By Raya Budrevich

Even with babies in tow I have still managed to continue exploring the wonderful Oregon outdoors. Over the years I have found cardigans to be the perfect baby accessory. Button them up for use like a sweater in the winter, or quickly drape them over the shoulders on a chilly summer evening. My kids hated (and still do) pulling things over their heads, so having buttons is a huge bonus.

The lace inspiration was again brought up by our time in the outdoors. The leaf motif along the button band incorporates form and function. It reminds me of flowing creeks while cleverly concealing buttonholes.

» photos: Raya Budrevich » model: Reid

Size

3 months [6 months, 12 months, 18 months, 2T, 3T, 4T, 6]
Size shown: 6 Months

Finished Measurements

Chest: 17½ [19, 21, 21¾, 23½, 25¼, 27, 28] inches
Length: 9 [11, 11, 13½, 13½, 15¾, 16, 18] inches

Materials

MadelineTosh Vintage Worsted Weight [100% superwash merino, 200 yards/182 meters per 3.5 ounce/100 gram hank];

Tern; 1 [2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 4] hanks

Recommended needle sizes

US #7/4.5 mm 16 inch or longer circular needles
US #7/4.5 mm dpns (set of 4 or 5)

Notions

4 [5, 5, 6, 6, 7, 7, 8] buttons
Scrap yarn

Tapestry needle

Gauge

18 stitches and 24 rows = 4 inches square in St st

Pattern Notes

The cardigan is raglan styled and is knit in a top down fashion. The leaf placket is worked in line with the rest of the cardigan and incorporates buttonholes. The leaf placket is designed as such that the next leaf begins at the same time as the previous leaf ends, which means that the first and last rows of the pattern are done in sequence within the same row of the cardigan. The leaf also incorporates a CDD (Central Double Decrease - sl2 tog kwise, k1, pass slipped stitches over). When the cardigan reaches the appropriate length the bottom band is knit in a broken rib stitch. In order to maintain the design, the cardigan's length changes in whole-leaf increments only.
The right placket is knit next, also in the broken rib stitch; the neckband is added last.
The sleeves are knit in the round using double pointed needles and are finished in the same manner as the rest of the cardigan.

M1p (make 1 purl) - with left needle and working from back to front, pick up strand between sts and purl it.
Skpo – Slip next st kwise, k1, pass slipped st over
Sk2po – Slip next st kwise, k2tog, pass slipped st over

Leaf Placket Pattern
Row 1 (WS): K2, p5, k1.
Row 2: P1, k2, yo, k1, yo, k2, m1p, p1, k1.
Row 3: K3, p7, k1.
Row 4: P1, k3, yo, k1, yo, k3, m1p, p2, k1.
Row 5: K4, p9, k1.
Row 6: P1, skpo, k5, k2tog, m1p, p3, k1.
Row 7: K5, p7, k1.
Row 8: P1, skpo, k3, k2tog, m1p, p1, k1, yo, p2tog, k1 – Buttonhole Row.
Row 9: K3, p1, k2, p5, k1.
Row 10: P1, skpo, k1, k2tog, m1p, [p2, k1] twice.
Row 11: K3, p1, k3, p3, k1.
Row 12: P1, CDD, pass first st on right needle over second st, bind off next 2 sts pwise (5 sts remain before pattern marker), [k1, yo] twice, k1, p1, k1.
Repeat Rows 1-12 for pattern.

Skills Required

Knitting on dpns, keeping track of stitch counts and following pattern repeats across multiple rows, kfb, and m1p.

INSTRUCTIONS

Body

With circular needle, cast on as follows:
cast on 3 [3, 4, 4, 5, 5, 6, 6], PM,
cast on 10 [10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10], PM,
cast on 18 [18, 20, 20, 22, 22, 24, 24], PM,
cast on 10 [10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10], PM,
cast on 3 [3, 4, 4, 5, 5, 6, 6]: 44 [44, 48, 48, 52, 52, 56, 56] sts total.

Body Increases

Row 1 (RS): Kfb, * knit to one st before marker, kfb, sm, kfb; repeat from * 3 times more, knit to last st, kfb: 54 [54, 58, 58, 62, 62, 66, 66] sts total.
Row 2: Purl to last st, PM (use a contrasting marker; this is the leaf pattern marker), k1.
Row 3: Kfb, * knit to one st before marker, kfb, sm, kfb; repeat from * 3 times more, knit to last st, kfb: 64 [64, 68, 68, 72, 72, 76, 76] sts total.
Row 4: Purl to leaf repeat marker, k1, p1.
Row 5: Kfb, k1, * knit to one st before marker, kfb, sm, kfb; repeat from * 3 times more, knit to last st, kfb: 74 [74, 78, 78, 82, 82, 86, 86] sts total.
Row 6: Purl to leaf repeat marker, k2, p1, cast on 3 sts: 77 [77, 81, 81, 85, 85, 89, 89] sts total.
Row 7: [P2, k1] twice, * knit to one before sleeve marker, kfb, sm, kfb; repeat * 3 times more, knit to end of row: 85 [85, 89, 89, 93, 93, 97, 97] sts.
Row 8: Purl to leaf repeat marker, k3, p1, k2.
Row 9: P1, (k1, yo) 3 times, p1, k1, * knit to one st before marker, kfb, sm, kfb; repeat from * 3 times more, then knit to end of row. (The third yo in this Rnd creates a buttonhole, and is done in this specific Rnd only): 96 [96, 100, 100, 104, 104, 108, 108] sts.

Rnd 10: Purl to leaf repeat marker, k1, k2tog, p5, k1: 95 [95, 99, 99, 103, 103, 107, 107] sts.

Continue working leaf pattern on left front edge starting with Row 2 while also maintaining raglan increases for 10 [14, 16, 1 20, 24, 26, 28] more rows, ending on a WS row.

So far the cardigan should have 20 [24, 26, 28, 30, 34, 36, 38] rows and 38 [42, 46, 48, 52, 56, 60, 62] sts between back markers, 30 [34, 36, 38, 40, 44, 46, 48] stitches for each sleeve.

Divide for Sleeves

(RS): Work next row of leaf pattern, knit to first sleeve marker, remove marker, slip next 30 [34, 36, 38, 40, 44, 46, 48] st to scrap yarn, remove marker, cast on 1 st, knit to next marker, remove marker, cast on 1 st, remove marker, slip next 30 [34, 36, 38, 40, 44, 46, 48] sts to scrap yarn, remove marker, knit to end of row.

Continue Body in St st while maintaining leaf pattern on left front, until 3 [4, 4, 5, 5, 6, 6, 7] leaves are finished, working the last row of the last leaf (Row 13) in the following manner:

(RS): P1, sk2po, pass first st on the right hand needle over the second st, bind off next 5 sts pwise (2 sts remain before marker), k2, remove marker, knit to end of row.

Lower Band

Row 1 (WS): [K1, p1] across.
Row 2 (RS): Knit across.
Repeat Rows 1 and 2, 2 [2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4] more times, then repeat Row 1 once more.
Loosely bind off all sts knitwise and weave in loose ends.

Sleeve

Slip stitches to dpns or 12 inch circular needles.
Pick up 2 stitches under arm, place marker between picked up stitches: 32 [36, 38, 40, 42, 46, 48, 50] sts.

Knit every round (St st) until sleeve measures 4 [4¼, 4½, 5, 5¼, 5½, 5¾, 6] inches from armhole edge (approximately 24 [26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38] rows).

[K4, k2tog] 5 [6, 6, 6, 6, 7, 8, 8] times, [k2tog] 1 [0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0] time, k0 [0, 2, 4, 6, 2, 0, 2]: 26 [30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42] sts remain

Sleeve Cuff

Rnd 1: [K1, p1] around.
Rnd 2: Knit around.
Repeat Rnds 1 and 2, 2 [2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4] more times

Bind off all sts knitwise.

Repeat for second sleeve.

FINISHING

Right Front Band

With RS facing, pick up 3 sts for every 4 rows, across right front, making sure to pick up an even number of sts.
Row 1: [K1, p1] across.
Row 2: Knit across.
Repeat Rows 1 and 2, 3 more times for all sizes.
Bind off all sts knitwise.

Neckband

With RS facing, pick up stitches along the neck in the following manner:
pick up 4 sts from Right Front Band edge,
pick up 3 [3, 4, 4, 5, 5, 6, 6] sts from cast on stitches of right front, PM,
pick up 10 sts across top of sleeve, PM,
pick up 18 [18, 20, 20, 22, 22, 24, 24] sts across back neck, PM,
pick up 10 sts across top of sleeve, PM,
pick up 3 [3, 4, 4, 5, 5, 6, 6] sts across cast on stitches of left front,
pick up 3 sts across left front panel (the first 6 rows of cardigan where kfb increases were made),
pick up 3 sts across where 3 sts were cast on for the leaf placket: 54 [54, 58, 58, 62, 62, 66, 66] sts.
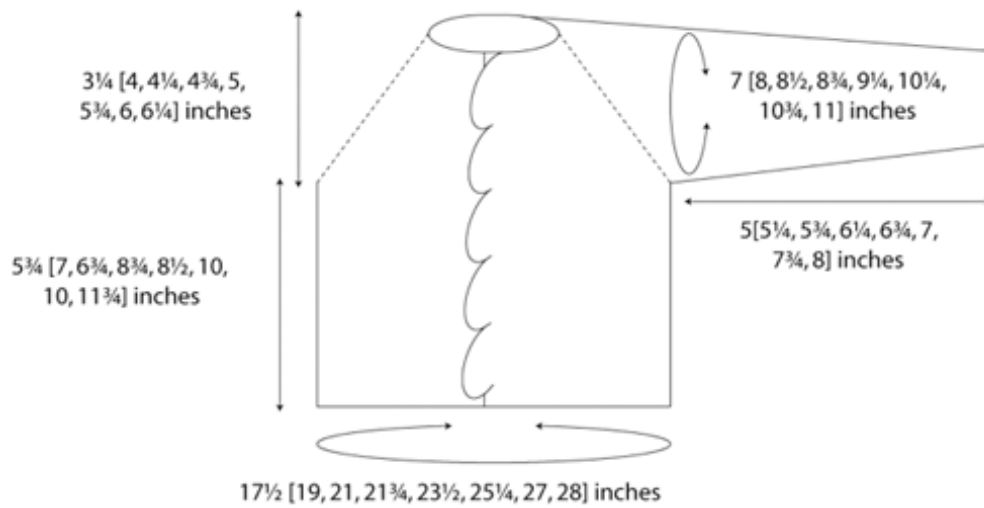
Row 1: [K1, p1] across.
Row 2: * Knit to 2 sts before marker, ssk, sm, k2tog; repeat from * 3 times more, knit to end of row.

Row 3: [K1, p1] across.
Bind off all sts knitwise.

Weave in all loose ends and block. Using a steam iron and working from the WS, steam the leaves to shape.

3¼ [4, 4¼, 4¾, 5,
5¾, 6, 6¼] inches

7 [8, 8½, 8¾, 9¼, 10¼,
10¾, 11] inches

5¾ [7, 6¾, 8¾, 8½, 10,
10, 11¾] inches

5[5¼, 5¾, 6¼, 6¾, 7,
7¾, 8] inches

17½ [19, 21, 21¾, 23½, 25¼, 27, 28] inches

Raya is a very lucky mama to two lovely boys. She lives with her husband, the boys, a Great Dane, and four hens in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. **Raya** is an aspiring fiber artist, who spends every free moment knitting and hand painting yarn.