

Spiral Toque Project – Garter Bar Exercise

October , 2002 – Marg Coe



Machine: Mid Gauge 6.5 mm (LK 150)
Accessories: **Garter Bar**, Ravel Cord, Waste Yarn, Yarn Needle, Marker (safety pin)
Yarn: Merit - 3 ply worsted weight
Tension: 5 on carriage 5 on mast (adult size) 4 on carriage 5 on mast (child size)

Using waste yarn E-Wrap cast on 70 stitches 35 – 0 – 35 Knit several rows. Ending with COR.
Hang weights. Put safety pin or something to mark the side facing you as the “**right side**”
Knit one row of ravel cord **OR** if you prefer just do the waste yarn - ending with COL

Knit 1 row to the right (**right side**)

Increase 1 stitch on left side, decrease 1 stitch on right side, then knit to left

Increase 1 stitch on left side, decrease 1 stitch on right side, then knit to right

Remove yarn from carriage and move carriage to opposite side of bed
Using your garter bar, pick up and turn your work – rethread your carriage

Knit 6 rows even (**wrong side**)

Remove yarn from carriage and move carriage to opposite side of bed
Using your garter bar, pick up and turn your work rehang the stitches
Rethread your carriage

Knit 1 row to the left (**right side**)

Increase 1 stitch on left side, decrease 1 stitch on right side, then knit to right

Increase 1 stitch on left side, decrease 1 stitch on right side, then knit to left

Increase 1 stitch on left side, decrease 1 stitch on right side, then knit to right

Increase 1 stitch on left side, decrease 1 stitch on right side, then knit to left

Increase 1 stitch on left side, decrease 1 stitch on right side, then knit to right

Repeat boxed pattern, noting every so often you will have to move your work to the right as it does creep to the left as you do your increasing and decreasing. Do this when you are using the garter bar.

Continue until you have at least 12 raised ridges on the **wrong side**. That is the 6 rows of even knitting without decreases or increases.

Remove yarn from carriage and move carriage to opposite side of bed
Using your garter bar, pick up and turn your work – rethread your carriage

Knit 1 row to the left (**right side**)

Increase 1 stitch on left side, decrease 1 stitch on right side, then knit to right

Increase 1 stitch on left side, decrease 1 stitch on right side, then knit to left

NOTE: Leave a tail of approximately 28" to sew seam and finish closing top of hat.

Knit one row of ravel cord **OR** if you prefer just do the waste yarn

The piece now resembles a drunken rectangle listing severely to the left. **This is good!**

Fold your fabric so waste yarn / ravel cord edges meet and Kitchener Stitch that seam.

Remove Ravel Yarn / Waste Yarn

The end result is a tube of knitting giving a spiral effect.

Using the end of your yarn that you used to Kitchener Stitch your seam, gather the top or bunch it up and secure to close it up. Gather in folds about 1 inch below edge to create a top knot or if you gather the stitches on the edge pull firmly and secure, put on a pom pom, bell or tassel or whatever decoration you feel is appropriate. Nothing at all is nice too as the spiral effect gives a pretty finish. Turn up the other edge to form a brim on the toque.