Beyond the Pattern ...

This child’s coat features a shrinking cabled skirt separated from the Stockinette stitch bodice by a welt. This welt is repeated on the set-in sleeves and the hood. The oversized hood, knitted separately, is designed to drape on the shoulders. It is shaped by a series of short rows so that the hood is wider at the top back. The coat is worked in one piece to the armholes. The bottom of the coat is shaped by reducing the size of the cables after a prescribed number of rows. The cables are worked over 10 stitches at the bottom of the skirt but at the waist they are worked over just 4 stitches. The number of rows between the cables also is reduced. The decrease which makes the cables smaller are worked on the row immediately following the cable. Since the decrease is worked in the cable fold, it is virtually invisible.

One of the problems knitters encounter when knitting cables is accurately counting the number of rows worked. The cabled stitches can make it difficult. It is very important when working this pattern to accurately keep track of the number of rows worked. One way to do this is to place row markers as you work. You can use elastic row counter rings which are commercially available and can be cut out when finished or you can thread a tapestry needle with waste yarn and mark the row.

The welts add texture to the garment. Welts can be tricky to work. See the Technical Tips for some suggestions for working welts. The fit of the coat is oversized so it can be worn over clothes.

Little Red Hooded Coat by Arenda Holladay

C8F – Sl 4 to cn, hold to front, k4, k4 from cn.
C7F – Sl 3 to cn, hold to front, k4, k3 from cn.
C6F – Sl 3 to cn, hold to front, k3, k3 from cn.
C5F – Sl 2 to cn, hold to front, k3, k2 from cn.
C4F – Sl 2 to cn, hold to front, k2, k2 from cn.
P2tog – Purl 2 sts together.

DESIGNER NOTE
Skirt Bottom: The difference in the sizes is the number of purl stitches worked between the cables. At the base of the skirt, cables are worked over 10 sts. It is very important to keep track of rounds in this pattern. The pattern will instruct you to place a row marker after every cable round. You can use a row counter as well.

TECHNICAL TIP
Anytime you change from knit to purl stitches as you do when knitting ribbing or cables, bring the yarn forward tightly when changing from knit to purl stitches. If you do not, the excess yarn leaves a ladder between the column of knit stitches and purl stitches or it works back into the previous knit stitch making it overlarge. When you work the cables, try not to stretch the stitches on the cable needle when working them. If you do, they will be overlarge. Try keeping these stitches at your needle tip.

Skirt Bottom
CO 250 (270, 290) sts using the long tail method. Est Pat (WS): *K3 (4, 5), p10; rep from * to last 3 (4, 5) sts, k3 (4, 5).
Next Row (RS): *P3 (4, 5), k10; rep from * to last 3 (4, 5) sts, k3 (4, 5). Work in pat as est for total of 20 rows.

Cable Row 1 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), C10F; p3 (4, 5), k10; rep from * to last 16 (18, 20) sts, p3 (4, 5), C10F, p3 (4, 5).
Dec Row 1 (WS): *K3 (4, 5), p4, p2tog, p4, k3 (4, 5), p10; rep from * to last 16 (18, 20) sts, k3 (4, 5), p4, p2tog, p4, k3 (4, 5) – 242 (260, 278) sts. (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 15 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

DESIGNER NOTE
Between Cable Rows: Although it may seem that there is no rhyme or reason as to the number of rows worked between the cable rows, there is a reason. There is a total of 19 cabled columns in the skirt but only half of the columns are cabled on one row so that the cables (and decreases) are more evenly spaced. Not only does the width of the cables decrease as the skirt is worked, but the number of rows between the cables do too. As the skirt of the coat is worked, there are fewer rows between the cabled rows.

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Cable Row 2 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), k9, p3 (4, 5), C10F; rep from * to last 15 (17, 19) sts, p3 (4, 5), k9, p3 (4, 5).

Dec Row 2 (WS): *K3 (4, 5), p9, k3 (4, 5), p4, p2tog, p4; rep from * to last 15 (17, 19) sts, k3 (4, 5), p9, k3 (4, 5) – 231 (251, 271) sts. (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 11 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

Cable Row 3 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), C9F, p3 (4, 5), k9; rep from * to last 15 (17, 19) sts, p3 (4, 5), C9F, p3 (4, 5).

Dec Row 3 (WS): *K3 (4, 5), p4, p2tog, p3, k3 (4, 5), p9; rep from * to last 15 (17, 19) sts, k3 (4, 5), p4, p2tog, p3, k3 (4, 5) – 221 (241, 261) sts. (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 13 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

Cable Row 4 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), k8, p3 (4, 5), C9F; rep from * to last 14 (16, 18) sts, p3 (4, 5), k8, p3 (4, 5).

Dec Row 4 (WS): *K3 (4, 5), p8, k3 (4, 5), p4, p2tog, p3; rep from * to last 14 (16, 18) sts, k3 (4, 5), p8, k3 (4, 5) – 212 (232, 252) sts. (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 9 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

Cable Row 5 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), C8F, p3 (4, 5), k8; rep from * to last 14 (16, 18) sts, p3 (4, 5), C8F, p3 (4, 5).

Dec Row 5 (WS): *K3 (4, 5), p3, p2tog, p3, k3 (4, 5), p8; rep from * to last 14 (16, 18) sts, k3 (4, 5), p3, p2tog, p3, k3 (4, 5) – 202 (222, 242) sts. (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 11 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

Cable Row 6 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), k7, p3 (4, 5), C8F; rep from * to last 13 (15, 17) sts, p3 (4, 5), k7, p3 (4, 5).

Dec Row 6 (WS): *K3 (4, 5), p7, k3 (4, 5), p3, p2tog, p3; rep from * to last 13 (15, 17) sts, k3 (4, 5), p7, k3 (4, 5) – 193 (213, 233) sts. (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 9 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

Cable Row 7 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), C7F, p3 (4, 5), k7; rep from * to last 13 (15, 17) sts, p3 (4, 5), C7F, p3 (4, 5).

Dec Row 7 (WS): *K3 (4, 5), p3, p2tog, p2, k3 (4, 5), p7; rep from * to last 14 (16, 18) sts, k3 (4, 5), p3, p2tog, p2, k3 (4, 5) – 183 (203, 223) sts. (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 9 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

Cable Row 8 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), k6, p3 (4, 5), C7F; rep from * to last 12 (14, 16) sts, p3 (4, 5), k6, p3 (4, 5).

Dec Row 8 (WS): *K3 (4, 5), p6, k3 (4, 5), p3, p2tog, p2; rep from * to last 12 (14, 16) sts, k3 (4, 5), p6, k3 (4, 5) – 174 (194, 214) sts. (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 7 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

Cable Row 9 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), C6F, p3 (4, 5), k6; rep from * to last 12 (14, 16) sts, p3 (4, 5), C6F, p3 (4, 5).

Dec Row 9 (WS): *K3 (4, 5), p2, p2tog, p2, k3 (4, 5), p6; rep from * to last 12 (14, 16) sts, k3 (4, 5), p2, p2tog, p2, k3 (4, 5) – 164 (184, 204) sts. (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 7 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

Cable Row 10 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), k5, p3 (4, 5), C6F; rep from * to last 11 (13, 15) sts, p3 (4, 5), k5, p3 (4, 5).

Dec Row 10 (WS): *K3 (4, 5), p5, k3 (4, 5), p2, p2tog, p2; rep from * to last 11 (13, 15) sts, k3 (4, 5), p5, k3 (4, 5) – 155 (175, 195) sts. (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 5 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

Cable Row 11 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), C5F, p3 (4, 5), k5; rep from * to last 11 (13, 15) sts, p3 (4, 5), C5F, p3 (4, 5).

Dec Row 11 (WS): *K3 (4, 5), p2, p2tog, p1, k3 (4, 5), p5; rep from * to last 11 (13, 15) sts, k3 (4, 5), p2, p2tog, p1, k3 (4, 5) – 145 (165, 185) sts. (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 7 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

Cable Row 12 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), k4, p3 (4, 5), C5F; rep from * to last 10 (12, 14) sts, p3 (4, 5), k4, p3 (4, 5).

Dec Row 12 (WS): *K3 (4, 5), p4, k3 (4, 5), p2, p2tog, p1; rep from * to last 10 (12, 14) sts, k3 (4, 5), p4, k3 (4, 5) – 136 (156, 176) sts. (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 3 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

Cable Row 13 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), C4F, p3 (4, 5), k4; rep from * to last 10 (12, 14) sts, p3 (4, 5), C4F, p3 (4, 5). (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 4 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

Cable Row 14 (RS): *P3 (4, 5), k4, p3 (4, 5), C4F; rep from * to last 10 (12, 14) sts, p3 (4, 5), k4, p3 (4, 5). (Remember to place a row marker ring or use waste yarn to mark this row.)
Work a total of 4 rows (include the marked row) in pat as est.

Rep Cable Rows 13 and 14, 2 (3, 4) more times. Rep Cable Row 13 one more time ending on WS row.

**TECHNICAL TIP**
To work a welt, you knit several rows in Stockinette, ending on a WS row. You then knit the stitch on the needle with the purl bump of the first row of Stockinette. These purl bumps can be difficult to line up properly. If you do not line them up properly, the welt will be slanted. To help you see the purl bumps, place a life line on the first row by threading waste yarn through the stitches before purling the next row (see illustration 1, page 45). When all the rows are knit, place the purl bumps of the first row on a smaller sized dpn or circular needle (see illustration 2, page 45). The life line helps you see the proper location. Knit the stitch together with the purl bump (see illustration 3, page 45). Make sure you do not miss a bump and the bump aligns with the stitch.

The welts in the garment use only a few rows. If you want the welts larger, work 2 or 4 more rows before making the welt.

**Welt:** Knit 4 rows in St st, ending on RS row, placing a life line on the first row. Make the welt using the instructions in the Technical Tip above. Work in St st until piece meas 2 (2 1/4, 2 1/4)" above welt, ending on WS row.

**DESIGNER NOTE**
**Shapings:** The armhole and neckline shapings for this design are accomplished by binding off stitches.
Next Row (RS): Right Front – K27. Back – BO 3 sts, work to end of row. Left Front – BO 3, work to end of row. Using the same procedure, BO 2 sts at armhole edge – 21 (25, 29) sts on Fronts, 55 (65, 75) sts on back. Work in pat as est until piece meas 8 (8 1/2, 9") from wkt. At the neck edge, BO 4 sts 2 times and 2 sts 1 time. BO all sts.

**DESIGNER NOTE**

Sleeves: The cuff features a folded hem. A knit row is worked on the WS which forms a ridge that indicates where the hem is folded. A welt is also worked at the cuff. Increases will be made at both sides in regular intervals. These increases are made every 4th row or every other RS row. Work two stitches at the beginning of the row before making increases on the right side and leave two stitches after the increases on the left side. Mirrored lifted increases are recommended for the increases as they are more invisible. Mirrored M1 increases may be used as well. Most knitters prefer to knit both of the sleeves at the same time to guarantee the shapings match.

**Cuff**

CO 48 (50, 52) sts using the long tail method. Work 4 rows in St st, ending on RS. Next Row (WS): Knit. Work 1" in St st.

Welt: Knit 4 rows in St st, end on RS row, placing a life line on the first row. Make the welt using the instructions in the Technical Tip on page 44. Work 1 row after the welt, end on WS.

**Sleeves (Make 2)**

Inc 1 st at ea side every 4th row 7 (8, 9) times - 62 (66, 70) sts. Work in pat as est until the piece meas 12 1/2 (13, 13 1/2") from cuff fold line ending on WS.

**TECHNICAL TIP**

Sleeve Cap: Stitches are bound off on each side of the sleeve to make the armhole shaping. Then stitches are decreased to shape the cap. Two stitches should be worked before the decrease on the right side of the cap and two stitches should be worked after the decrease on the left side. To mirror the decrease use SSK decreases on the right side and K2tog decreases on the left side.

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Shape Cap: BO 6 at beg of next 4 rows – 50 (54, 58) sts. Dec 1 st ea side every RS row 11 times – 28 (32, 36) sts. BO 3 sts at beg of next 4 rows, 2 sts at beg of next 0 (2, 4) rows then BO rem sts.

DESIGNER NOTE

Hood: The cast on edge is the front of the hood. It is folded in half and the bind off edges are seamed. The selvedge edges of the hood are seamed to the neck opening. A welt is worked at the front of the hood. When the length of the hood measures 6 1/4", series of short rows are worked so that the top of the hood will be longer than the edge seamed to the neck opening. If you have not worked short rows before, the Reference Section in this magazine includes information on this technique. This hood is designed to be extra long so that it drapes on the shoulders. Should you decide that you do not want the hood to drape over the shoulders you can cast on fewer stitches.

Hood

CO 200 sts. Work 1" in St st.

Welt: Knit 4 rows in St st, ending on RS row, placing a life line on the first row. Make the welt using the instructions in the Technical Tip on page 44. Work in est pat until piece meas 6 1/4", ending on WS.

Shape Hood: Row 1 (RS): Work to last 5 sts. Using the short row method you prefer, turn.

Row 2 (WS): Work to the last 5 sts. Using the short row method you prefer, turn. Rep this procedure, working 5 less sts ea row until 10 sts rem. Work all of the wraps. BO.

DESIGNER NOTE

Finishing: The skirt portion of the coat should be very firmly blocked. Wet blocking is recommended. Once the pieces are blocked the shoulders should be seamed and the hood should be seamed to the neck opening. The stitches are picked up along the right front, hood and left front. The pattern does not specify the number of stitches to pick up along the front edges and hood. You may want to experiment with your gauge swatch to determine an appropriate ratio. As for the sleeve cuff, the front band is folded. A knit row worked on the WS forms a ridge for the fold. Once the band is finished, the sleeves may be seamed to the armhole. The sleeve cap is seamed to the armhole opening first. Then the sides of the sleeves are seamed. The Reference Section in this magazine provides sources for all of the finishing techniques.

Finishing

Block all pieces. Sew the shoulder seams using the Invisible Horizontal Seaming technique. Seam the hood to the neck opening using the mattress stitch.

Band: Beg at the right front bottom of the skirt, pick up stitches along the length of the skirt, bodice and around the hood and then along the left front bodice and working to the bottom of the left front skirt. Work 1" in St st, ending on RS. Next Row (WS): Knit. Work 1" in St st. BO.

TECHNICAL TIP

Managing all of these stitches can be a bit trying. Use the longest circular needle you have. You may also want to distribute the stitches along several circular needles making sure you do not have too many stitches on one needle.

Using the mattress stitch, seam the sleeve caps to the armhole openings. Using the mattress stitch, seam the sleeve sides.

Fold the sleeve cuff hem along the ridge line. Using the overcast stitch, seam the sleeve cuff hem.

Fold the front bands along the ridge line. Using the overcast stitch, seam the front band hem.

Sew the four clasps evenly spaced along the bodice front.

If desired, make a tassel or pom pom for the hood.

Weave in all yarn tails.

TECHNICAL TIP

Front Band: Depending on the tightness of your knitting, the front band may flare along the ridge line. If this is the case, use a tapestry needle and a very long length of the yarn to run the needle through each purl bump in the ridge of the fold line. If you run a length of yarn through the entire front, this will provide additional stability to the front band.