

# La Gitana Creations

## **Checkered Flag Flies**

I am a NASCAR Nut. I have been one since....oh...about the late 80's or so. Even though I am Canadian and \*should\* love hockey, curling, ice skating or careening down a tree-filled slope 90 miles an hour on a pair of skinny wooden planks, NASCAR is my sport of choice. There is something about the 43 Supercharged 800+ horsepower engines roaring to life every week that give me goose bumps.

In honour of my NASCAR fetish, I created a set of woolies I appropriately call "Checkered Flag Flies", modeled after the check pattern of the flag displayed at the end of the last lap of every race.



This is a very easy pattern to follow. The pattern is suitable for the Beginner, but is not too plain for the more experienced knitter, allowing just enough variety to keep from being bored to death.

**\*\* Please read through instructions first before commencing work \*\***

### **Materials:**

Yarn: Vanna's Choice (Lion Brand) Naturals Tweeds (Items Worked in Yarn Colourway - 400 Oatmeal) 50 Gram Balls  
1 Ball for Mitts, 1 Ball for Hat and 3 Balls for Cowl

### **Notions:**

1 Set DPN 4.5 mm (U.S.#7) (Double Point Needles)  
1 Set DPN 5.0 mm (U.S.#8) (Double Point Needles)  
1 Pair 4.5 mm (U.S. #7) Single Point (Standard) Needles  
1 Pair 5.0 mm (U.S. #8) Single Point (Standard) Needles  
(or whatever needles needed to attain gauge below)  
3 - 1 ¼" buttons  
Tapestry Needle

**Gauge:** 28 stitches and 30 rows = 4" (10 cm) in Stockinette Stitch using 5.0 mm (U.S. # 8)

**Size:** Mitts (Fits Ladies Small to Medium)

Hat (Fits a Ladies Small)

Cowl (one size fits all)

### **Checkered Flag Mitts**

With 4.5 mm (U.S.#7) DPNS, cast on 32 stitches and divide onto 3 needles as follows: 10 on needle 1, 12 on needle 2 and 10 on needle 3.

Join round (being careful not to twist) and work 20 rounds of K2, P2 ribbing, increasing 8 stitches evenly across last round (40 stitches total).

Change to 5.0 mm (U.S.#8) needles and re-distribute stitches so that there are 10 stitches on each of 4 needles.

#### **Work in pattern as follows:**

Row 1: \*K4, P4. Repeat from \* to end of round.

Rows 2 to 4: As Row 1

Row 5: \*P4, K4. Repeat from \* to end of round.

Rows 6 to 8: As Row 5

These 8 rounds make one pattern 'set', after first 8 rounds have been completed, work rounds 1 to 4 once more.

**To shape Thumb Gusset:** *Note - All Thumb Gusset stitches are knitted in stockinette (knit) stitch, including increase stitches.*

Round 1: Work 1<sup>st</sup> 20 stitches in established pattern, Inc. 1 stitch in each of next 2 stitches (knit-wise), complete remaining round in established pattern.

Rnd 2: Work 20 stitches in pattern, but knit the next 6 stitches in the Thumb Gusset shaping.

\*Note: the beginning 2 stitches and the last 2 stitches in the Thumb Gusset shaping will be for a 4 stitch pattern block that will become part of the original established pattern.

Rnd 3: Work 1<sup>st</sup> 20 stitches in pattern, inc. 1 stitch in next stitch, K4, increase 1 stitch in next stitch, work in pattern to end of round.

Rnd 4: Work 20 stitches in pattern, K8, work remaining stitches in pattern.

Rnd 5: Work 20 stitches in pattern, P2, inc. 1 stitch in next stitch, K3, inc. 1 stitch in next stitch, P2, complete remaining round in pattern.

Rnd 6: Work 20 stitches in pattern, P2, K6, P2, work in pattern to end of round.

Rnd 7: Work 20 stitches in pattern, P2, inc. 1 stitch in next stitch, K4, inc. 1 stitch in next stitch, P2, work remaining round in pattern.

Rnd 8: Work 20 stitches in pattern, P2, K8, P2, work in pattern to end of round.

Rnd 9: Work 20 stitches in pattern, K2, inc. 1 stitch in next stitch, K6, inc. 1 stitch in next stitch, K2, work in pattern to end of round.

Rnd 10: Work 20 stitches in pattern, K2, inc, 1 stitch in next stitch, K8, inc. 1 stitch in next stitch, K2, work in pattern to end of round.

Rnd 11: Work 20 stitches in pattern, K2, place next 12 stitches in stitch holder or waste yarn (these will be your thumb stitches to be worked later), K2, work in pattern to end of round.

Next Round: Work round in established pattern.

Continue in established pattern until 6 complete patterns (rows 1-8) have been worked, THEN work rows 1 – 4 of pattern once more (6 ½ patterns completed)

### **To Shape Top:**

Next Round: \*K2, K2 tog, repeat from \* to end of round (32 stitches on needles)

Next Round: Knit

Next Round: \*K1, K2 tog, repeat from \* to end of round (20 stitches on needles)

Next Round: Knit

Next Round: \*K2 tog, repeat from \* to end of round (10 stitches on needles)

Break yarn, thread yarn with a darning needle through remaining stitches, pull tight and secure, weave in tail.

### **Thumb:**

Remove thumb stitches from stitch holder and divide equally onto 3 needles (4 per needle), pickup and knit 4 stitches across upper 'V' side of thumb, place these stitches on 4<sup>th</sup> needle. 16 stitches total.

Knit 10 rounds in stockinette stitch (knit every round) or until desired length of thumb is reached (my hands are small, so 10 rounds was perfect).

### **To shape top:**

Round 1: \*K2 tog. repeat from \* to end of round (8 stitches on needles)

Round 2: \*K2 tog. repeat from \* to end of round ( 4 stitches on needles)

Break yarn, thread yarn through remaining 4 stitches with a darning needle and pull tight and secure. Weave in end. Take starting tail from beginning of thumb gusset and weave in any gaps in 'V' area of thumb.

## **Checked Flag Buttoned Cowl**

### **Materials:**

3 Balls Vanna's Choice, Colour: Oatmeal

3 - 1 ½" buttons

5.0 mm (U.S. #8) Single Point Knitting Needles

(or whatever needles needed to obtain gauge listed above)

Using 5.0 mm single-point needles, CO 54 stitches. Work 5 rows Garter Stitch (knit every row).

### **Then commence work in pattern as follows:**

Row 1: P2, \*K4, P4, repeat from \* to last 2 stitches, P2  
Row 2: K2, \*P4, K4, repeat from \* to last 2 stitches, K2  
Row 3: As Row 1  
Row 4: As Row 2  
Row 5: K2, \*P4, K4, repeat from \* to last 2 stitches, K2  
Row 6: P2, \*K4, P4, repeat from \* to last 2 stitches, P2  
Row 7: As Row 5  
Row 8: As Row 6

These 8 rows make one completed pattern set. Repeat these 8 rows until work measures 20" long.

### **Create Buttonholes:**

Next Row: Knit  
Next Row: K5, BO 5 stitches, K15, BO 5 stitches, K15, BO 5 Stitches, K4  
Next Row: K4, CO 5 stitches, K15, CO 5 stitches, K15, CO 5 stitches, K5  
Next Row: Knit  
Next Row: Knit

BO all stitches Knit-wise.

Sew Buttons on opposite end of cowl, across from corresponding Buttonholes.

### **Checkered Flag Hat**

**Size:** Ladies Small

### **Materials:**

1 Ball Vanna's Choice, Colour: Oatmeal  
1 Pair 4.5 mm (U.S.#7) Single Point Knitting Needles  
1 Pair 5.0 mm (U.S.#8) Single Point Knitting Needles  
(or whatever needles needed to obtain gauge listed at beginning)

With 4.5 mm (U.S.#7) needles, cast on (CO) 100 stitches and work 10 rows K2, P2 ribbing.

Next Row (RS): Knit (this will be the fold-line of your ribbing)

Work 11 more rows K2, P2 knit, increasing 4 stitches evenly across last row.

Change to 5.0 mm (U.S.#8) needles and work in pattern as follows:

Row 1: P1, \*K4, P4, repeat from \* to last 2 stitches, P1  
Row 2: K1, \*P4, K4, repeat from \* to last 2 stitches, K1  
Row 3: As Row 1  
Row 4: As Row 2  
Row 5: K1, \*P4, K4, repeat from \* to last 2 stitches, K1  
Row 6: P1, \*K4, P4, repeat from \* to last 2 stitches, P1  
Row 7: As Row 5  
Row 8: As Row 6

These 8 rows make one completed pattern set. Repeat these 8 rows until work measures 5" long from the fold-line of the ribbing. I have a small head, so for my hat, I worked 2

complete patterns and then rows 1-4 of pattern once more to make 2 ½ patterns. From the beginning cast on edge, the total length was 6 ½". Adjust length of hat to suit your needs.

### **To Shape Crown:**

(Shaping is done in stockinette stitch)

Row 1: K2, \*K4, K2 tog, repeat from \* to end of row

Row 2: Purl entire row

Row 3: K2, \*K2, K2 tog, repeat from \* to end of row

Row 4: Purl entire row

Row 5: K2, \*K1, K2 tog, repeat from \* to end of row

Row 6: Purl entire row

Row 7: \*K2 tog, repeat from \* to end of row

Row 8: Purl entire row

Break yarn, leaving a tail about 12" long or so. Thread yarn through remaining stitches and pull tight and secure.

Finishing: With right sides together, sew seam with remaining tail for top shaping. Weave in ends.

\* Every effort has been made to ensure that the pattern instructions are correct, if you find an error or need clarification on something, please do not hesitate to contact me at: [info@deborahsykes.com](mailto:info@deborahsykes.com)

### **Glossary of Abbreviations:**

CO = Cast On

BO = Bind Off

Tog = Together

P = Purl

K = Knit

Inc = Increase

RS = Right Side

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