



SEED STITCH TEA COZY

Designed by Karen Alfke

Satisfying to knit in a soft yet serviceable yarn, this textured tea cozy has a stockinette panel that begs embellishment. Embroider a monogram, or any sweet motif for a lovely gift!

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Finished Size: To fit a 4-cup teapot.

Yarn: 1 skein Debbie Bliss *Cashmerino Aran* (100 yds).
Or approx. 80 yds of an equivalent worsted-weight yarn.

Needles & Notions: US 6 (4mm) needles, or size needed to obtain gauge.
2 double-point needles in gauge size for I-cord top.
2 locking stitch markers.
Blunt darning needle to finish.
Optional: washable yarn for embroidery; buttons.

Gauge: Approx. 20 sts/36 rows = 4" in seed stitch.

Glossary: **K** = knit; **K3Tog** = knit 3 stitches together; **P** = purl; **P3Tog** = purl 3 stitches together;
Reverse St St = reverse stockinette stitch (purl on the RS, knit on the WS); **RS** = right side;
St St = stockinette stitch (knit on the RS; purl on the WS); **St(s)** = stitch(es); **WS** = wrong side.

STOCKINETTE PANEL SIDE

Cast on: Using cable cast-on method, cast on 39 sts.

Welted edging: Work a welted edging in reverse St St as follows:

Row 1 (WS): Knit.

Row 2 (RS): Purl.

Row 3 (WS): Knit

Next Row (RS): Knit.

Seed stitch: Row 5: *K1, P1*; repeat between * * to last st, K1.
Repeat Row 5 four more times, ending with a WS row.

Stockinette panel: Row 1 (RS): (K1, P1) 5 times, K19, (P1, K1) 5 times.
Row 2 (WS): (K1, P1) 5 times, P19, (P1, K1) 5 times.
Repeat Rows 1 & 2 ten more times (22 rows in panel).

Note: To help anticipate the St St section (especially on the WS), you may choose to add markers between stockinette and seed st sections (place marker after st 19 and st 29). Slip markers as you come to them; remove markers on the last stockinette panel row.

Work 2 rows in seed st pattern, as in Row 5 above.

Continued on reverse...

Shape top:

With RS facing, clip markers around base of 11th and 29th sts (both are purl sts).

Note: Move markers up as you work so you can easily see your marked sts. The marked sts should always be the center of your K3Tog or P3Tog.

Row 1 (RS): *Work in established seed st pattern to 1 st before marked st, P3Tog to stay in pattern*; repeat between * * once more; work in established pattern to end.

Rows 2 & 3: Work in seed st pattern as established.

Row 4 (WS): *Work in seed st pattern to 1 st before marked st, K3Tog to stay in pattern*; repeat between * * once more; work in pattern to end.

Rows 5 & 6: Work in seed st pattern as established.

Repeat these six shaping rows, until 11 sts remain, ending with Row 1.

Next Row (WS): Repeat Row 4. (7 sts)

Next Row (RS): K1, P1, P3Tog, P1, K1. (5 sts)

Cut yarn, and place remaining sts on a double-point needle. Set aside.

SEED STITCH SIDE

Work as for first side, omitting St St panel; work a total of 29 seed st rows, as established by Row 5; shape top as above and do not cut yarn.

With RS of both pieces facing you, place remaining 5 sts from Seed Stitch Side onto the same double-point needle, to the left of the Stockinette Panel Side.

Turn; with WS facing, P2Tog across (5 sts remain).

I-cord top:

Turn; with RS facing, *Knit across; don't turn; slide sts back to right end of needle in left hand, bring yarn across back firmly*. Repeat between * * for 1". With darning needle, thread tail through all sts, draw up tightly and insert tail to inside of I-cord.

Finishing:

Using mattress stitch, sew side seams from bottom edge up, and from top edge down to fit your handle and spout. Get your teapot out for a fitting, and adjust seams as necessary. Weave in all ends on WS.

Embellishment:

With yarn that will wash in the same way as your cozy, doodle with a needle! Embroider Mom's initial for a Mother's Day surprise; stitch on a tea leaf; sew on your favorite buttons, bows, or pompoms. Anything your heart desires!