

# Saturnalia Yoke



On December 21, 2020, the Winter solstice, Jupiter and Saturn will come within 0.1 degrees of one another, forming the cyclical, 20 year, great conjunction. When these planets are aligned we can expect the end of one era and the birth of another, the intensification of old forms dying as new growth and fertility replaces them.

This two-color brioche, reversible yoke speaks to the transition from a very dark winter to the growth and rebirth of spring. Its reversible nature allows the knitter to choose two opposing color stories and wear the yoke however fits the season. Its high neck can be rolled down for a cooler wear or kept high for those blustery winter days.



*Please share your progress pictures and finished yokes with the hashtag **#SaturnaliaYoke***

*Designed by Tommy Schafer (@edible\_chrome on instagram)*

*Questions or issues with the pattern can be directed to @tschafer47 on Ravelry or [tschafer47@gmail.com](mailto:tschafer47@gmail.com)*



## Sizes

1(2,3) small(medium, large)

## Dimensions

Circumference of bottom edge: 46(50,54) inches, 64.5(70,75.5) inches stretched (measured around upper chest, just below shoulder tip)

Circumference of neck: 20(22,24) inches, 31(34,37) inches, stretched (measured around head at nose point for minimum width of neck)

Top of neck to bottom edge: 11(11,11) inches

## Materials

### Suggested Needles

1 US #5 (3.75 mm) circular, 16"

1 US #5 (3.75 mm) circular, 40"

1 US #6 (4.0mm) double pointed needle or other single needle (For I-cord bind off)

(Or needles to obtain desired gauge)

**This pattern is FREE** and should not be sold, feel free to give copies to your friends! If you liked this pattern and would like to support my work and vision of a future with more **pay-if-you-like-it** patterns, contributions can be sent to one of the following:

**Venmo:** @ToastedBrioche

**Paypal:** [tschafer47@gmail.com](mailto:tschafer47@gmail.com)

**CashApp:** \$ToastedBrioche

*Or feel free to contact me about other options*

[www.tommyplayswithfiber.com](http://www.tommyplayswithfiber.com)

## Notions

1 removable stitch marker for beginning of round, 1 removable stitch marker for centered decreases

1 tapestry needle

## Gauge

### Unblocked

16 stitches and 26 rows per 4" x 4" square, un-stretched

### Blocked

14 stitches and 26 rows per 4" by 4" square, un-stretched

## Yarn

2 x 100g+ skeins each of DK weight yarn (Yard/Mass Ratio similar to 245yds/100g), in high contrast opposing colors, darker color for MC and lighter color for CC. Or 1 skein solid DK for MC and a gathering of 100g of scraps or mini set skeins for CC. (For sizes 1 and 2, for size 3, you will need a little extra than 1 skein of each, see *Yardage*)

Sample shown, size 2, in MC, a light DK weight natural colored carbonara alpaca, and CC, Hue Loco 2020 Fall Palette, Merino DK mini set, using mostly the brighter colored minis, and fading in a new color as each mini ran out.



To work a fade with mini skeins or a selection of scraps, work 2-5 alternating rows when changing colors, making sure to keep your colors in order when switching at the beginning of the round, so as not to disrupt the brioche stitch with crossed yarns. Keep in

mind the number of stitches increases dramatically after the neck, so you will need more yarn per row to do a fade, but the number of rows and frequency of color transition is up to you!

### ***Yardage***

**Total:** 450(480,520) yds

**MC:** 225(240,260) yds

**CC:** 225(240,260) yds

### ***Abbreviations and Special Stitches***

**St(s):** Stitch(es)

**Rnd:** Round

**RS:** Right side, the side of the knit work that faces out, in this pattern the MC column side.

**WS:** Wrong side, the side of the knit work that faces in, in this pattern the CC column side.

**CO:** Cast-On

**BO:** Bind-Off

**K:** Knit

**P:** Purl

**MC:** Main Color (RS Brk Columns)

**CC:** Contrast Color (RS Brp Columns)

**Brk:** Bark— Knit Stitch and its wrap together

**Brp:** Burp— Purl Stitch and its wrap together

**Sl1Yo:** Slip 1 Yarn Over—

(Following a K or Brk St) bring the working yarn under the right needle to the front of the work, slip the next stitch, create wrap around this stitch when working the next stitch.

(Following a P or Brp St) the working yarn is already in front, slip the next stitch purl-wise, then bring the yarn over the needle (and over the slipped stitch), then to the front under the needle and in position to work the next stitch

**BrLsldec:** Brioche Left-slant decrease (2-stitch decrease worked over 3 sts) —slip 1st st knit wise, K next 2 sts together, pass slipped stitch over right needle and the K2tog st.

**BrCDD5:** Brioche 5-Centered Double Decrease (4-stitch decrease worked over 5 stitches)— with yarn in front, slip 2 (Brk and Sl1yo) stitches knit-wise, place 3rd (Brk) stitch and its wrap onto a removable marker, K the 4th (Brp) stitch (the “working” stitch), slip 2nd stitch over the one you just knit, slip working stitch back to the left needle, slip 5th stitch and its wrap over the left needle and working stitch, slip the working stitch back to right needle and slip the 1st stitch slipped and its wrap over the working stitch and right needle. Slip the working stitch to the left





needle, and slip the 3rd stitch, from the removable marker, back onto the right needle, being careful not to twist it. Slip the working stitch from the left back to the right needle, and slip the center stitch over the working stitch. Pull to tighten. (4 stitches decreased)

**BrkYoBrk:** Brk1, Yo, Brk1 into same stitch

**BrkYo2Brk:** (Brk1, yo) 2 times into the same stitch, Brk again into the same stitch. 5 stitches spring from 1, 4 stitches increased

**BrkYo3Brk:** (Brk1, yo) 3 times into the same stitch, Brk again into the same stitch. 7 stitches spring from 1, 6 stitches increased

### ***Instructions***

CO 88(96,104) sts in MC using a stretchy cast on method and 16" circular US #5 needle. I prefer a knit cast-on, then work the first two setup rows back across before connecting in the round, being careful not to twist, so the chained edge is on the RS.

### ***Setup Rows:***

Rnd 1 (MC): \* K1, Sl1yo\* repeat from \* to \* to end of rnd.

Rnd 2 (CC): \* Sl1yo, Brp1 \* repeat from \* to \* to end of rnd.

### ***Neck***

Rnd 3 (MC): \* Brk1, Sl1yo \* repeat from \* to \* to end of rnd.

Rnd 4 (CC): \* Sl1yo, Brp1 \* repeat from \* to \* to end of rnd.

Work Rnds 3 & 4, 40 more times

### ***Yoke***

Rnd 5 (MC): \* Brk1, Sl1yo, BrkYoBrk, Sl1yo \* repeat from \* to \* to end of rnd. (132(144,156) sts)

Rnd 6 (CC): \* Sl1yo, Brp1, Sl1yo, P1, Sl1yo, Brp1 \* repeat from \* to \* to end of rnd.

Work Rnds 3 & 4, 7 times

Rnd 7 (MC): \* BrkYoBrk, Sl1yo, BrLsldec, Sl1yo \* repeat from \* to \* to end of rnd.

Rnd 8 (CC): \* Sl1yo, P1, Sl1yo, Brp1, Sl1yo, Brp1 \* repeat from \* to \* to end of rnd.

Work Rnds 3 & 4, 7 times

***Note: While working rnd 9, work the stitches from your 16" to 40" circular of the same size.***

Rnd 9 (MC): \* BrLsldec, Sl1yo, BrkYo2Brk, Sl1yo \* repeat from \* to \* to end of rnd. (154(168,182) sts)

Rnd 10 (CC): \* Sl1yo, Brp1, (Sl1yo, P1) twice, Sl1yo, Brp1 \* repeat from \* to \* to end of rnd.

Work Rnds 3 & 4, 6 times

***Note: You shift the BOR 2 stitches right in the next 2 rnds.***

Rnd 11 (MC): \*Brk1, Sl1yo\* repeat from \* to \* to last 2 stitches, move working yarn to front, slip next 2 stitches to BOR.

Rnd 12 (CC): \*Sl1yo, Brp1\* repeat from \* to \* to last 2 stitches, move working yarn to front, remove BOR marker, and place to move BOR. (marker moved 2 stitches to the right)

Rnd 13 (MC): \* BrCDD5, Sl1yo, BrkYo3Brk, Sl1yo \* repeat from \* to \* to end of rnd. (176(192,208) sts)

Rnd 14 (CC): \* Sl1yo, Brp1, (Sl1yo, P1) 3 times, Sl1yo, Brp1 \* repeat from \* to \* to end of rnd.

Work Rnds 3 & 4, 6 times

Rnd 15 (CC): K across all stitches. Break MC.



***I-Cord Bind Off***

CO 3 stitches using a knit CO, pulling first new stitch from between first and second stitch on the left needle. Switch to holding your larger US #6 DPN in your right hand to encourage a looser BO.

**I-Cord BO repeat:** K2, Knit 2 stitches together through their back loops. Slip 3 stitches back to left needle in order.

Repeat this row until all stitches have been bound off. Break yarn leaving at least an 8 inch tail.

***Finishing***

**Graft the final 3 stitches to the first 3 stitches you knit of the BO.**

Using tapestry needle, thread end through first stitch as if to purl, locate the first “V” of the first row on the right and stitch from right to left under the legs of the “V”. Thread needle through the first stitch on your needle as if to knit and remove it from the needle. Continue in this manner forming 3 “V”s of yarn between the last stitches and your CO row for the I-Cord. Tighten stitches and secure end by weaving into I-cord tube.

Weave in ends invisibly and block to measurements.

***Styling***

While the yoke is designed to fit underneath a coat, without bunching in the armpits, it can certainly be worn on its own as a caplet. The MC side will have a darker profile than the CC, so I suggest wearing the MC on the outside in winter and autumn and the CC on the outside as spring nears.

If you used scrap, consider using all the scrap you have accumulated over the past year. This ensures that it will match many of your own accessories and personal color palette.

Rolling the collar down can give you more airflow for warmer days, and the collar can also be left all the way up, with a tightly buttoned coat, to keep your neck warm in lieu of a cowl or scarf.

I would absolutely love to see how you make and style your own so if you share on social media please remember to use the hashtag **#SaturnaliaYoke** so I and others can see your beautiful projects :)

