

A French Press Cozy For Jenny

Raison d'etre: french press coffee gets cold fast.



Yarn: Araucania Nature Wool (color shown AZ14), or any aran weight yarn. You'll need less than half a skein.

Needles: US #6, 4.0mm

Gauge: Unimportant, as the pattern will tell you how to get the right size rectangle to fit your press.

Other Materials: About five buttons, and a sewing needle (not a yarn needle) and thread.

Notes: Basically, you'll be making a rectangle, and sewing buttons to one side. For the buttonholes, the easiest way is to just poke the buttons through the rather large natural holes in the yarn, but if you want, you can use the [buttonhole stitch](#) to make a particular hole more firm.

Pattern

How many stitches to cast on?

If your Press is 7" high and 12" around, like mine, look no further, your work is done. Cast on 52 stitches, and work the following pattern:

Knit about two more rows than is exactly 7 inches, as the rectangle will shrink downwards when wrapped around the press. Bind off in pattern.

Now skip down to the button sewing part!

If your press is smaller or larger, no problem. I've made a worksheet for you to help with the math of adapting the stitch pattern to your press size.

Basically, you'll want to make a rectangle that has the same height and a slightly smaller width, or rather, circumference, than your French Press.

So, measure its height and write it down here: _____ **A**

Now wrap the tape around the middle and write that number down here: _____ **B**

Your rectangle will need to be **A** inches high and 4.5 inches less than **B**. We'll call (**B** minus 4.5) **C**, just for the hell of it.

Write down **C** here if you feel like it: _____ **C**

For example, my press is 7" high
and 12" around.

I made a rectangle that was 7" high and 7.5" wide, unstretched, just lying there in its ribbing.

So now, we factor in the stitch pattern. Multiply **C** by 7 and then add three. Your result will tell you the number of stitches to cast on.

(If you don't get a whole number, just round up.)

For example, my new press, when the old one broke 'cause I was sewing on buttons, is 7" high and has a 14.5" circumference.

So, **C** is 10, and $(10 \times 7) + 3 = 73$, which means, I should cast on 73 stitches if I want a new cozy.

Once you've got your stitches, just knit in the pattern above until you have one or two more rows than the height, then cast off in pattern.

Nota Bene: Since there's so much negative ease in the pattern, no worries if you fudge things by a few stitches or so. It will not hurt your cozy!

Button Sewing

Now, Jenny is more conservative, so she picked out five buttons that match, but you might want to do cool different ones. Hers were $\frac{5}{8}$ of an inch big, and fit through the natural holes in the yarn fine. Basically, I sewed the buttons on the cozy while holding it wrapped around the actual press, with the press in my lap. Now, I did end up breaking the damn press because I was trying to do it with a martini, but it is a good way to judge where the buttons ought to be: one at the top, two (or one if you prefer) at the bottom, and two in between where the handles attach.



Have fun! Keep your coffee warm!

Feel free to email me with any questions about the pattern at m.m.townsend@gmail.com.