

Family Basic Hat

Materials: 4.0 mm US # 6 16-inch circs and dpns; 80 to 130 m light worsted weight yarn, samples were knit with Estelle Lumiere; 4.5 mm crochet hook (if making the loopy finish); markers and the usual notions.

Sizes: Newborn 15in, Baby 17in, Child 19in, Adult 21in (measurements are approx.)

Gauge: 18 sts in 4 inches

Abbreviations: **pm** – place marker. **K2tog** – knit 2 stitches together.

Hats can be knit entirely on dpns (recommended for the newborn cap) or on the circular until there are too few sts during decreasing for the crown to reach around the circular at which time you must switch to double points.

Pattern

With 16 in circ cast-on 72 (80, 88, 96) sts. Being careful not to twist the cast-on row, pm, and connect into a round.

Knit 5 (5, 6, 7) rounds in stocking stitch followed by 3 rounds of K2, P2 rib.

Continue in stocking stitch until hat measures 3.5 (4.5, 4.5, 5.5) ins from rolled edge.

Begin decreasing as follows:

Round 1: (K6, K2tog) repeat around – 63 (70, 77, 84) sts

Round 2 and all even rounds: Knit.

Round 3: (K5, K2tog) repeat around – 54 (60, 66, 72) sts

Round 5: (K4, K2tog) repeat around – 45 (50, 55, 60) sts

Round 7: (K3, K2tog) repeat around – 36 (40, 44, 48) sts

Round 9: (K2, K2tog) repeat around – 27 (30, 33, 36) sts

Round 11: (K1, K2tog) repeat around – 18 (20, 22, 24) sts

Round 13: (K2tog) repeat around – 9 (10, 11, 12) sts

Chose preferred finish. Do not cut yarn without choosing finish.

Finishing

Plain top – cut yarn leaving an 8-inch tail. Thread tail through remaining sts and pull tight to close the opening – push yarn to inside of cap. Weave in all ends.

I-cord top – each cord worked over 3 or 4 sts for 20 rows. These numbers are different for each cap.

Method for I-cord: With double pointed needles, knit 3 (4) sts. Without turning your work, slide these 3 (4) sts to the right (yarn will still be on the left). Pulling the yarn across the back of your work, knit 3 (4) sts thus cinching your cord closed as you continue. Work for 20 rows total then bind off. Repeat for next 2 cords. Weave in all ends and knot cords as desired.

Loopy top – after last decreasing round slip last st worked onto crochet hook, chain 20, insert hook into next st on needle and make a slip st to connect st; repeat from * until all sts have been worked 9 (10, 11, 12) loops. Slip hook into first st and slip st to finish off last loop, cut yarn leaving a tail and thread the tail back through the original sts. Pull to tighten and close top opening, push yarn to inside and weave in all ends.

