

Just Ducky Hat

sized for small with (med/large in parenthesis)

materials:

all sizes:

Two 5/8" black buttons for eye (or yarn to embroider, or sew-on google eyes)

for preemies:

double point needles - 2.75 mm (US 2) and 3.5 mm (US 4)

dk weight yarn - MC (white): 1/2 ounces , CC (yellow): 20 yards

gauge: 2" = 12 st/17 rows with larger needles

for older babies/toddlers up to 18 months

double point needles - 4.5 (US 7) and 5.5 (US 9)

worsted weight yarn - MC: 2 ounce, CC: 1/2 ounce

gauge: 2" = 8 st/10 rows with larger needles

all yarn requirements are approximate

needle size may need to be adjusted in order to achieve gauge

abbreviations:

CC: contrasting color

MC: main color

incr : make a new stitch using a Simple Increase (backwards "e" or thumb increase)

k: knit

k2tog: k two stitches together as one

ndl(s): needles

p: purl

rnd(s): round(s)

sl X: slip X stitch(es), purlwise and with yarn in back, unless otherwise noted

st(s): stitches

instructions:

for the bill (like starting a toe-up sock):

with smaller needles and CC, cast on 8 (10, 10) stitches (4/5/5 on each needle).

EASY CLOSED END CAST ON: hold the 2 ndls parallel to each other. use a Simple Cast on, placing one st on the left, the 2nd on the right and so on.

1: k around. first row only, split sts onto 3 ndls

2: k around, splitting the sts onto 3 ndls:

ndl 1: 2/3/3 st, ndl 2: 2/2/2 st, ndl 3: 4/5/5st

3: ndl 1: k1, inc 1, k across

ndl 2: k across to next to last st, inc 1, k1.

ndl 3: k1, inc 1, k across to next to last st, inc 1, k1

repeat rnd 3 until there are 32 (38, 42) total stitches.

7 rnds: k around

(or until bill is desired length – about 1" for preemies, 1 1/2" for older babies/toddlers)

combine the stitches on ndls 1 and 2. clip yarn and weave end, but do not remove from needles

(designer's note: if you only have one set of the smaller dpns, work the ribbing of the hat first and transfer to the larger needles then use the smaller ones for the bill)

ribbing:

with smaller needles and MC, cast on 60 (70/80) stitches. Split onto 4 ndls evenly. Join, being careful not to twist.

9 (10, 11) rnds: *k3, p2. repeat from * around. change to larger needles

attaching the bill

(designer's note: this is done at the same time as you knit the first row and with a technique similar to the 3-needle bind off)

rnd 1: k 10. holding the needle for the bottom of the bill (with yellow sts) against the needle in your left hand (right hand, if you're a lefty), pick up a st from each needle (one yellow, one white) with your working needle and knit as one. proceed in a similar manner until you've knitted all the stitches from the bottom of the bill into the hat (the upper stitches will be worked into the next row). then knit around the remainder of the round.

rnd 2: k 10. just as you did in row one, knit the stitches from the top side of the bill into the hat. knit the remainder of the round.

rnds 3 - 12 (15, 18): k around

decreases:

1: *k10 (12, 14), k2tog. repeat from * around.

2: *k9, (11, 13), k2tog. repeat from * around.

continue working decreases (reducing number of sts between decreases by 1 each time) until 10 sts remain.

finishing:

Cut 6" tail and thread through loops. Pull tight, weave in all ends and clip.

If desired, add a loopy topper (for a feather tuft).

Add eyes ... sew on buttons or google eyes. Shown with embroidered "whites" of the eyes and a sewed button on for the iris.

yarn used in photo: white - Bernat Baby Softee, yellow: Dreambaby DK



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Prefer to knit this using circular needles?

easily make the conversion by placing the stitches from Double Points 1 and 2 onto Circular Needle 1, and the stitches from Double Points 3 and 4 onto Circular Needle 2.

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