

The Special Elf Hat

This hat was made as a special request for my 7 year old son. He picked out the colors and he picked out the yarn we used.

The sample is knit using Hobby Lobby's I Love This Yarn acrylic yarn. This yarn actually gave the body of the hat a bit of stiffness which causes the hat to stand upright rather than folding over the way most Christmas hats do.

There is one six-inch piece of i-cord at the end of the hat. The i-cord ends with a sewn-on jingle bell to finish it off. The photograph shown was taken before the jingle bell was added, as my son grabbed his hat and took off as soon as I was done with it. I was lucky I got the following picture of it.

Feel free to use any color combination you like for this hat. I Love This Yarn is a thicker worsted weight. Any worsted weight to heavy worsted weight yarn would do well for this project.

The sample was knit using US 8 circular needles.

When knitting using the circular needles becomes difficult, feel free to switch to double point needles, which you will need to complete the i-cord. You can also use the magic loop method or use two circular needles to complete the body of the hat.

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Sample knit using I Love This Yarn acrylic, using red (color A) and black (color B) on US 8 circular needles.

Gauge is roughly 4 stitches per inch.

You will need to know how to work in the round, how to make i-cord, how to work the knit and the purl stitch, how to knit 2 together, and how to bind off.

Abbreviations:

CO = cast on

K = knit

P = purl

K2tog = knit 2 together

BO = bind off

Loosely cast on 76 stitches using color A. Join to work in the round, being very careful not to twist the stitches. Place a marker to designate the beginning of the round.

Begin working K2, P2 ribbing. For the second round, and for subsequent rounds after that, knit the knits and purl the purls to maintain the ribbing. Work in K2, P2 ribbing for 2 ½ inches.

Switch to color B. Begin working in stockinette stitch. That means knit every stitch for every round.

Work in stockinette stitch for 3 inches.

At the beginning of the next round, begin decreases as follows:

{Each line represents a round, or a series of rounds, as designated.}

(K17, k2tog) around.

K 5 rounds.

(K16, k2tog) around.

K 5 rounds.

(K15, k2tog) around.

K 3 rounds.

(K14, k2tog) around.

K 3 rounds.

(K13, K2tog) around.

K 3 rounds.

(K12, K2tog) around.

K 2 rounds.

(K11, K2tog) around.

K 2 rounds.

(K10, k2tog) around.

K 1 round.

(K9, K2tog) around.
K 1 round.
(K8, K2tog) around.
Change to color A.
K 1 round.
(K7, K2tog) around.
K 1 round.
(K6, K2tog) around.
K 1 round.
(K5, K2tog) around.
K 1 round.
(K4, K2tog) around.
K 1 round.
(K3, K2tog) around.
(K2, K2tog) around.
(K1, K2tog) around.
(K2tog) around.
4 stitches remain.
Work i-cord for 6 inches.
BO loosely.
Sew a jingle bell to the end of the i-cord.
Weave in all ends. Try on your hat and wear it with joy.

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