

Positive Ease

This oversized, striped hat is knit with the yarn held double for a thicker fabric and improved stash busting properties. A braided drawstring folds the excess fabric into an attractive pleat that can be worn at the back or one side. It's a warm and cosy hug for your head!

Materials

Rowan Felted Tweed DK (50% merino wool, 25% alpaca, 25% viscose, 175m/50g) 2 balls A, 1 ball B (shown in Phantom 153 for A and Avocado 161 for B)

4.5mm double point or circular needles, or size to obtain gauge
darning needle
stitch marker

Gauge

19 sts, 26 rows = 4" in stocking stitch

Finished Dimensions

Pattern offers two sizes, with instructions for larger size given in brackets.

S/M, (M/L)

21" around, 9.5" long (23" around, 9.75" long)

Abbreviations

A: color A.

B: color B.

K: knit.

Kfb: knit into front and back of next stitch (increase 1).

K2tog: Knit two together.

P: purl.

sl: slip st as if to purl.

ssk: slip the next 2 sts as if to knit, and then knit them together.

st(s): stitch(es).

yo: yarn over.

TIP: Yarn Substitution

If you are substituting leftover yarns, plan for 70g of for A and 20g for B at gauge.

Directions

Hold yarn double throughout; for B, either divide the ball into two or work ball from both ends.

Using 4.5 mm needles (or size to obtain gauge) and B, cast on 88 (96) sts.

Ribbing

Round 1: With B, *K2, P2; repeat from * to end of round.

Round 2: With A, sl1, K1, P2, *K2, P2; repeat from * to end of round.

Rounds 3-8: With A, *K2, P2; repeat from * to end of round.

Increase Band

Round 1: With A, K43 (30), Kfb, K44 (31), Kfb, K0 (31) kfb - 90 (99) sts.

Round 2: With B, sl1, K to end of round.

Round 3: With B, K1, yo, K2tog, ssk, yo, K to end of round.

Round 4: With A, sl1, K to end of round.

Round 5: With A, [K 9 (10), Kfb] 9 times - 99 (108) sts.

Rounds 6-9: With A, Knit.

Body

Round 1: With B, sl1, K to end of round.

Round 2: With B, K1, yo, K2tog, ssk, yo, K to end of round.

Round 3: With A, sl1, K to end of round.

Rounds 4-9: With A, Knit.

Repeat rounds 1-9 once more.

Round 19: With B, sl1, K to end of round.

Round 20: With B, K1, yo, K2tog, ssk, yo, K to end of round.

Round 21: With A, sl1, K to end of round.

Round 22: With A, Knit.





Crown

The crown is knit entirely with A, held double as before.

Round 1: *K9 (10), K2tog; repeat from * to end of round - 90 (99) sts.

Round 2 and all even rounds: Knit.

Round 3: *K8 (9), K2tog; repeat from * to end of round - 81 (90) sts.

Round 5: *K7 (8), K2tog; repeat from * to end of round - 72 (81) sts.

Round 7: *K6 (7), K2tog; repeat from * to end of round - 63 (72) sts.

Round 9: *K5 (6), K2tog; repeat from * to end of round - 54 (63) sts.

Round 11: *K4 (5), K2tog; repeat from * to end of round - 45 (54) sts.

Round 13: *K3 (4), K2tog; repeat from * to end of round - 36 (45) sts.

Round 15: *K2 (3), K2tog; repeat from * to end of round - 27 (36) sts.

Round 17: *K1 (2), K2tog; repeat from * to end of round - 18 (27) sts.

Round 19: *K0 (1), K2tog; repeat from * to end of round - 9 (18) sts; size S/M is complete; advance to Finishing.

Round 21: *K- (0), K2tog; repeat from * to end of round - - (9) sts.

Finishing

Cut an 8-10" tail and run through the 9 live stitches remaining; pull tight and run in ends. Block hat and let dry.

Cut six strips of B 13-14" in length and tie a knot at one end, leaving a 3/4" tassel beyond the knot. Holding the yarn in three sections of two strands each, braid the strips to the last inch and tie another knot, leaving another 3/4" tassel. **13" strips reduce to an 11" braid and a smaller bow; if you prefer a larger bow, cut 14" strips.**

When the hat is dry run the braid, from outside the hat to the inside, through the left side top eyelet. Bring it out again at the eyelet below and run it along the outside of the hat to the next eyelet down, then run it inside again, to bring it out at the bottom eyelet. Run the braid across the outside of the hat, then push it back in again through the bottom eyelet at the right. Continue weaving the braid through the right side eyelets as before, until it ends at the outside of the top right eyelet. Ensure the two ends of the braid are even, then pull tight and tie the braid in a bow.

