

Twist & Twirl Hat

sock-weight version:

medium (large) preemie

adjustments for larger size is indicated in parenthesis

straight needles 3.75 mm (US 5), double point needles 3.5 mm (US 4)

MC: 1/2 oz, CC: 5 yds

gauge: 13 st/17 r = 2" in twirl pattern

DK version:

(newborn)

straight needles 4.25 mm (US 6)

double point needles 3.75 mm (US 5)

MC: 3/4 ounce, CC: 10 yds

gauge: 11 st/15 r = 2" in twirl pattern

many thanks to Barbara Burns for editing the decrease section!

abbreviations:

garter stitch: always knit

k: knit

p: purl

sl1 p1 pssso: slip one stitch, purl next stitch, pass slipped stitch over the purlled stitch (a decrease)

instructions:

border:

♥ cast on 66 (77) stitches with CC on straight needles

♥ knit in garter stitch for 5 rows

♥ twist row: knit 3 (3). before knitting next stitch take left needle and rotate it forward and around back, making a full twist in the work. *knit next stitch. one twist completed. knit 5 (6). twist. repeat from * across, ending with knit 2 (3). This is the right side of the hat. NOTE: IF YOU ARE LEFT HANDED, THE "TWISTING NEEDLE" SHOULD BE THE RIGHT NEEDLE.

♥ clip cc, leaving an 8" tail. transfer stitches to double point needles and join to form a circle. the rest of the hat is knit in the round.

crown (stitch pattern is a multiple of 11):

rnd 1: with MC, knit around

rnds 2/3: k9, p2 around

rnds 4/5: p1, *k9, p2. repeat from * around. end with p1.

rnds 6/7: p2, k9 around

rnds 8/9: k1, *p2, k9. repeat from * around. end with k8.

rnds 10/11: k2, *p2, k9. repeat from * around. end with k7.

rnds 12/13: k3, *p2, k9. repeat from * around. end with k6.

rnds 14/15: k4, *p2, k9. repeat from * around. end with k5.

rnds 16/17: k5, *p2, k9. repeat from * around. end with k4.

rnds 18/19: k6, *p2, k9. repeat from * around. end with k3.

making a loopy topper:

♥ Use a US E (F) hook. Leaving a 6" tail before you create the slip knot, ch 15 - 20 (depending on the size of the finished hat and weight of the yarn).

♥ slip stitch into the slip knot at the other end to make 1 loop. Repeat 3 or 4 more times create a "base".

♥ ch 12 - 15 (a little smaller than the first batch) and chain in the center on top of the "base" -- usually in the bottom of one of the original loops. Repeat 4 or 5 times.

♥ After attaching the last loop, clip, leaving another 6" tail and drawing it to the underside of the loops.

♥ draw the two tails to the inside of the hat (using a crochet hook) on opposite sides of where you closed the hat, so it holds well. Tie them on the inside -- 2 or 3 knots -- and then weave the tails a few times to ensure they are securely attached.

finishing:

Cut 6" tail and thread through loops. Pull tight, knit and weave through inside of stitches to secure. Clip.

Use tail and weave together ends of twisted border. Top with a pom pom or loopy topper.

yarn used in photo: Bernat Baby Softee - white, Plymouth Astra DK - variegated



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