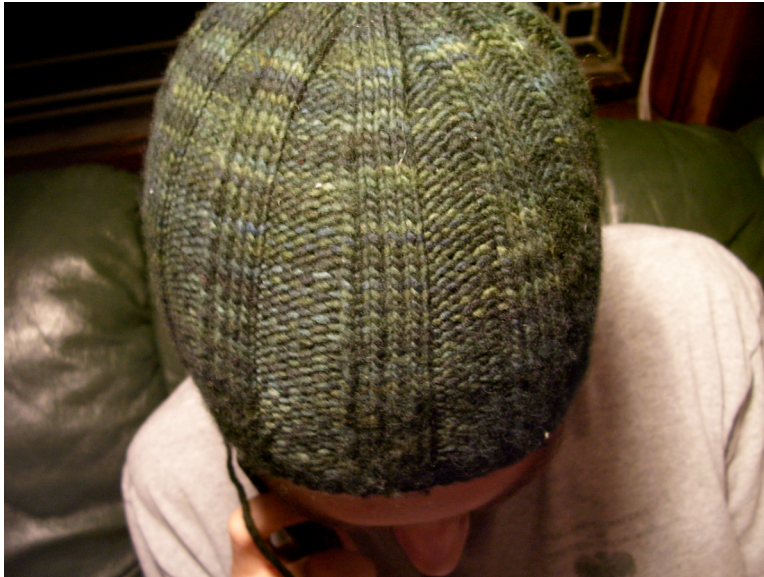


The Boy Hat Pattern



A basic boy-friendly ribbed hat, using about 120 yards of yarn. The boy in question has a 23” head, and the ribiness will definitely let it fit people who have a head a bit smaller or larger, but by adjusting gauge and yarn weight you can easily get it to fit anyone!

Gauge: 4.5 stitches to the inch, 8 rows to the inch (A nice worsted weight will do – I used about half of a skein of malabrigo worsted weight merino in Vaa)

Needles: Size 7 16” circulars and dpns, or whatever you need to get gauge.

Notes:

I knit the yarn at a slightly tighter gauge than called for, since that gives me springier ribbing. If you are more gifted than I, you don’t need to worry about springy ribbing.

Also, you don’t need the 16” circular if you would prefer to make the whole hat on dpns, which would work just as well. I just found it easier this way and I had the 16” circular lying around.

Directions:

CO 96 stitches on circular needles. Join, making sure not to twist and place a stitch marker at the beginning of the round. Work every round as p2, [knit 4, purl 4] to last 6 stitches, k4, p2 until piece measures 6 inches. (Note: if you feel that you have a tall or short head, this part can easily be modified to accommodate you. For example, you could knit to 4 inches. Or 14, it doesn’t matter. Just be sure to knit until about 2 inches less than your head height, since the crown shaping takes about 2 inches.) This is just a 4x4 ribbing that has been worked a little weirdly so as to make the crown shaping easier to explain. You’ll see.

Crown shaping:

Set-up row: [P2, K4, P4, K1, pm, K2, pm, K1, P4, K4, P2] to end. You should have 8 markers placed, each pair framing a column of four knit stitches.

Note: You can switch to dpns whenever you need to, and the way that the pattern is written, if you divide the number of stitches on 4 dpns evenly, starting with the beginning of the round (so you have one of the above repeats on each needle), you shouldn't have to rearrange them at the end of the crown shaping.

Decrease round: [Work in pattern until 2 stitches before 1st marker in column. K2tog, sm, K2, sm, ssk] repeat 3 times. 8 stitches decreased. If this seems confusing, think about the decreasing. We are keeping four columns of knit stitches constant and decreasing around them, so before the first marker of every marked column, you k2tog, and after the second marker in every marked column, you ssk. Easy peasy. Work decrease round every other row 3 more times, or until you have 64 stitches remaining.

Work decrease round every round until you have 16 stitches remaining (4 on each needle, only the marked knit columns left). You can discard the markers, you don't need them anymore.

K2tog to the end of the round for two rounds. 4 stitches remaining. (If this feels too fussy for you, you can work only one round of k2togs, with only 8 stitches remaining. It shouldn't make much of a difference.)

Break the yarn, leaving enough of a tail to weave in later. Thread through the remaining 4 loops, secure the tail, and weave in ends.

There, you're done! Now enjoy your hat, or encourage whichever lucky person receives it to do the same.

If you have any problems, email me at biomusicologist@gmail.com or message me on ravelry – my username is biomusicologist.



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