

Handle

by Larissa Brown



A simple, bright baby hat, with a handle on top. I wish this would actually work for grabbing the little one as he whizzes by or plucking him out of his crib when he's wailing after a nap. As it is, it's just darn cute and a great gift, knittable in mere hours.

Skill Level: Super Easy

SIZES

S (M, L) to fit Newborn-3 months (3-6 months, 6-12 months)

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

About 13" (15", 17") around, to fit 14" (16", 18") head.

MATERIALS

Interlacements Toasty Toes (100% superwash merino wool, 500 yards), 1 skein, in baby-pleasing bright colors

Note: This pattern uses far less than 1 skein of Toasty Toes. If you don't plan on making a pair of ankle socks too, then substitute another

colorful, washable yarn that knits at 6 stitches per inch, such as Lorna's Laces Shepherd Sport or Knitpicks sock yarn.

1 set 3.5 mm (US #4) 12" or 16" circular needles
1 set 3.5 mm (US #4) double point needles
small tapestry needle

GAUGE

24 sts/32 rows = 4" in st st in the round

PATTERN

On circular needle, cast on 80 (90, 100) stitches. Join, being careful not to twist, and place marker.

Work in st st (knit all rounds) until piece measures 2.75" (3.25", 4") **with the brim slightly rolled.**

Work decrease rounds as follows, switching to dpns when it becomes necessary:

Size small:

Round 1: (K2tog, k6), repeat to end
Round 2 and all even rounds: Knit
Round 3: (K2tog, k5), repeat to end
Round 5: (K2tog, k4), repeat to end
Round 7: (K2tog, k3), repeat to end
Round 9: (K2tog, k2), repeat to end

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Small decreases continued...

Round 11: (K2tog, k1), repeat to end

Round 13: K2tog, repeat to end

Size medium:

Round 1: (K2tog, k7), repeat to end

Round 2 and all even rounds: Knit

Round 3: (K2tog, k6), repeat to end

Round 5: (K2tog, k5), repeat to end

Round 7: (K2tog, k4), repeat to end

Round 9: (K2tog, k3), repeat to end

Round 11: (K2tog, k2), repeat to end

Round 13: (K2tog, k1), repeat to end

Round 15: K2tog, repeat to end

Size large:

Round 1: (K2tog, k8), repeat to end

Round 2 and all even rounds: Knit

Round 3: (K2tog, k7), repeat to end

Round 5: (K2tog, k6), repeat to end

Round 7: (K2tog, k5), repeat to end

Round 9: (K2tog, k4), repeat to end

Round 11: (K2tog, k3), repeat to end

Round 13: (K2tog, k2), repeat to end

Round 15: (k2tog, k1), repeat to end

Round 17: K2tog, repeat to end

For all sizes, complete the hat as follows:

10 stitches remain. Divide these stitches evenly on 2 needles.

Let one of these needles sit unused. With the other needle, and a third empty needle, work 5-stitch i-cord for 4 inches. *

Holding the i-cord facing you, twist the cord one full twist around, so the front is facing you again. Fold the i-cord down so its needle meets the resting needle. There are 5 stitches on each needle.

Graft together using kitchener stitch.
Weave in ends.

* I-cord instructions:

Knit all 5 stitches. Then switch hands, so the needle you just worked stitches onto is back in your left hand. Slide the stitches to the right. Tug a bit to tighten the yarn as it crosses in back. Knit them again. Repeat until cord is desired length.

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Larissa Brown is a knitter from Portland, Oregon. Her work—and her cute baby Sebastian—can be seen on her blog (<http://www.larissmix.typepad.com>).