Juniper Bonnet

by Larissa Brown

Please contact me at dumbmail@larissabrown.net if you have questions or if you find anything at all that does not work with this pattern. It's put together from notes on a few bonnets. I'm happy to update it with input from users. Thanks!

SIZE

6 to 18 months, depending on yarn used and the variability of baby heads. For those who are not familiar with a newborn up close, their heads are very tiny, about 14" around. As shown, this bonnet would be large as a newborn gift, but the baby would grow into it. Alternatively you could use a finer yarn and smaller needles.

YARN

Shown in Elann Den-M-Nit Pure Indigo Cotton.
For a smaller bonnet, use Rowan Wool Cotton and size 4 needles.
For a larger bonnet, use Tahki Cotton Classic and stay with size 6s.

It takes less than 1 ball of any of these yarns. You may use a very small amount of a second color to make an edge, as shown in the denim sample.

NEEDLES

(4 mm) US 6

GAUGE

20 sts/10 cm (4")
Not critical, since babies tend to grow through things as long as they are large enough.

INSTRUCTIONS

Cast on 60 sts.
Knit 2 rows (in contrast color, if using one).

If using a contrast color, switch to main color now. **Keeping a 2-stitch garter border at all times**, work 10 repeats of the following pattern:
Row 1: Knit
Row 2: Purl (remember the 2-stitch garter border, though)
Row 3: Border, then k1, (k2tog) 3 times, (yarn over, k1) 6 times, (k2tog) 6 times, (yarn over, k1) 6 times, (k2tog) 6 times, (yarn over, k1) 6 times, (k2tog) 3 times, k1, then border.
Row 4: Knit

After 10 repeats of this pattern, work in garter stitch performing decreases as follows.
Row 1: K8, k2tog, across.
Row 2 and all even rows: Knit.
Row 3: K7, k2tog, across.
Row 5: K6, k2tog, across.
Row 7: K5, k2tog, across.
Row 9: K4, k2tog, across.
Row 11: K3, k2tog, across.
Row 13: K2, k2tog, across.
Row 15: K1, k2tog, across –12 sts remain.
Bind off 12.

Fold the bonnet so these 12 stitches fold in half and face one another—with 6 facing 6. Seam them together.

NECK EDGING
With the right side facing, and starting just after the cast on edge, pick up and knit sts evenly around the bottom of the entire bonnet—about 50 to 55 sts.
Rows 1 and 2: Knit.
Row 3: K 2, purl to last 2 sts, k 2.
Row 4: Work a row of eyelets, spacing the eyelets evenly based on your number of sts on the needle (an eyelet=yarn over, k2tog).
Row 5: Repeat row 3.
Row 6: Knit.
Bind off all sts knitwise.

Weave in all ends, and block piece if desired. Thread ribbon through eyelets as shown.