

A Practical Animal Cracker Hat

Based on Ron Weasley's hat from the Animal Cracker scene in the Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban movie, knit to be more practical for winter wear.

Pattern by Becca Evans. Copyright 2009 under Creative Commons license.



Size:

Pattern makes a women's large/men's medium hat, to fit a head 23-24". For smaller or larger, change your needle size.

Materials:

1 set US size 6 dpns

1 16 inch US size 6 circular needle (if you prefer magic loop, use one 40 inch circ instead of dpns and shorter circ)

1 skein Cascade 220 or similar worsted wool in each of these colors:

-Dark green

-Plum

-Dark yellow

-White or cream

-Red

You will use nearly a full skein of the green and less than half of a full skein of the other four colors.

Pattern notes:

Earflaps are worked flat, back and forth. When the first earflap is complete it is set to the side. When the second is complete, the front of the hat is cast on using backwards loop, the first earflap is knit in, and the back is cast on using the same method. From there the body of the hat is worked in the round, up toward the crown.

PATTERN**Earflaps:**

In MC (the dark green, in this case) CO 5 sts onto a dpn.

Row 1 [RS]: K5.

Row 2 [WS]: Kfb, p3, kfb

Row 3 [RS]: Kfb, k5, kfb

Row 4 [WS]: Kfb, p7, kfb

Row 5 [RS]: Kfb, k9, kfb

Row 6 [WS]: Kfb, p11, kfb

Row 7 [RS]: K across

Row 8 [WS]: Kfb, p13, kfb

Row 9 [RS]: K across

Row 10 [WS]: Kfb, p15, kfb

Row 11 [RS]: K across

Row 12 [WS]: K2, p15, k2

Rep rows 11 and 12 twice more.

Row 17 [RS]: Kfb, k17, kfb

Row 18 [WS]: K2, p17, k2

Cut your yarn. Set the earflap aside, leaving stitches on hold on the dpn.

Using another double pointed needle, make another earflap.

Body:

Knit across second earflap using 16" circular needle, CO 47 sts using backward loop method (this is the front of the hat), knit across first earflap, CO 23 sts using backward loop (for the back of the hat). Place a stitch marker and join to work in the round, making sure not to twist.

P 2 row.

K 8 rows in stockinette st, in MC.

Work 20 rows of chart across all sts (chart can be found on last page of pattern).

Once chart is complete, begin decreases.

Decreases:

Note- When working decreases, switch to dpns when it is difficult to work stitches on circular needle.

Row 1: [K14, K2Tog] around

Row 2: Knit all sts

Row 3: [K13, K2Tog] around

Row 4: Knit all sts

Row 5: [K12, K2Tog] around

Row 6: Knit all sts

Row 7: [K11, K2Tog] around

Row 8: Knit all sts

Row 9: [K10, K2Tog] around

Row 10: Knit all sts

Row 11: [K9, K2Tog] around

Row 12: Knit all sts

Row 13: [K8, K2Tog] around

Row 14: [K7, K2Tog] around

Row 15: [K6, K2Tog] around

Row 16: [K5, K2Tog] around

Row 17: [K4, K2Tog] around

Row 18: [K3, K2Tog] around

Row 19: [K2, K2Tog] around

Row 20: [K1, K2Tog] around

Row 21: [K2Tog] around

Cut a long tail, draw it through the remaining seven stitches and pull tight. Pull yarn end to inside of hat and weave in. Weave in all other ends.

Block, laying flat to dry.

Tassels:

Cut 6 pieces of each color, about 3 times the length you would like your tassels to be. Separate into 3 piles, 2 pieces of each color in each pile. Fold in half. Using a crochet hook, pull the folded part of one bundle through the bottom tip of one ear flap, creating a loop. Pull the ends through the loop, creating a larks head knot. Braid loosely, and knot about an inch or two from the bottom. Trim ends. Repeat for second earflap. For crown, pull loop through a stitch or two at the very top of the hat and form braid as for earflaps.

Wear, eat animal crackers, and roar like a lion.

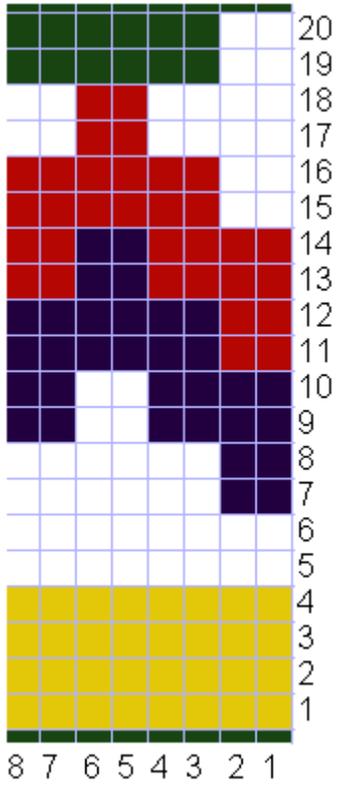


Chart is repeated around, using traditional fair isle techniques. All sts are knit. Be sure to keep floats loose or the hat will pucker.