

## Stripey Hat

Each September my Knitting Guild hands out sealed brown paper bags containing enough "mystery yarn" to knit a hat. At our December meeting, we bring back whatever we were able to make out of whatever was found within the bag, and all the hats are then donated to a local charity. Most years I get what I consider to be icky yarn, but not this time! Check out the colors in that photo! The top is finished with an i-cord knot.

I'm afraid I don't have much information about important things like the yarn brand or amount, or the exact size the hat turned out to be. The yarn was truly mystery yarn, and I parted with it before I was able to find out how much it weighed.

### Size

20 inch circumference

I used Ann Budd's "The Knitter's Handy Book of Patterns" as a guide (pages 26-27).

### Materials

- Main color (MC) – variegated sport or baby weight
- Contrasting color (CC) – solid sport or baby weight
- Needles – U.S. size 3 (3.25 mm) 16" circular and double points, or size needed to obtain proper gauge.
- One stitch marker
- Scissors
- Darning needle

### Gauge

6 stitches/inch

### Key

k2tog = knit two together

### Hem

With main color (MC), cast on 120 stitches, join without twisting. I used the long tail cast on, so the hem stitches could be picked up more easily.

Continuing with MC:

Knit 8 rounds

Purl 1 round

Knit 8 rounds

Next round: Fold the hem along the purl ridge, and knit each stitch together with the corresponding stitch from the cast on edge. I used the long tail cast on, so I was able to scoop under the diagonal strand on the "knit" side of the cast on row. Still with me?



### **“Body” of hat**

Purl 1 round

\*

Knit 2 rounds

Purl 1 round

With contrasting color (CC), knit 2 rounds

With MC, knit 1 round

Purl 1 round

Repeat from \* 7 more times (8 times total), then:

Knit 2 rounds

Purl 1 round

With CC, knit 1 round

### **Decrease section**

Continuing with CC:

\* K13, K2tog; repeat from \* around (112 stitches remain)

\* K2, K2tog; repeat from \* around (84 stitches remain)

Knit 1 round

\* K1, K2tog; repeat from \* around (56 stitches remain)

Knit 1 round

\* K2tog; repeat from \* around

Repeat last round twice more (7 stitches remain)

### **Top of hat**

Make an i-cord knot as follows:

Transfer the remaining seven stitches to one double pointed needle, so that the strand of yarn (from the skein) is coming out of the leftmost stitch on the needle.

\* Knit 7, slide all stitches back to other end of double pointed needle.

Repeat from \* until knitting measures approximately 4 inches.

Cut yarn, leaving an 8 inch tail. Using blunt darning needle, thread yarn through stitches and pull tightly. Weave yarn tail into i-cord. Tie i-cord into a loose overhand knot.

NOTE: If you have never made i-cord before, you need to know that before each row, the ball of yarn will be attached to the wrong end of your knitting on the left hand needle. That's the way it should look – just pull the yarn across the wrong side of your work and start the new row.

### **Finishing**

Weave in ends.

Place on head.