

Alison's Basic Hat Recipe

Designed by Alison Green / Skill level: Easy



This "recipe" can be used to make a hat using any yarn at any gauge in any size. Options are given for different types of ribbing and amounts of slouchiness, and a chart is provided for suggested sizes.

SIZES

Calculate your size by measuring around your head and subtracting approximately 1½–2½" / 4–6.5 cm (or 12%) for negative ease, or consult chart on last page.

NEEDLES

16" / 40 cm circular needle in size to achieve desired gauge
Double-pointed needles, or desired needle(s) for working small circumferences, in same size
16" / 40 cm circular needle 1–2 sizes smaller than gauge needle, for ribbing

NOTIONS

Stitch markers (one a different color for beginning of round), tapestry needle

GAUGE

When choosing what gauge and needle size to use, consult the ball band for the recommended gauge and needle size. If it is a range, aim for the tighter end of the range (i.e. a higher number of stitches per inch) to create a somewhat firmer fabric for warmth.

Samples shown in the following yarns / gauges:

1. Berroco Merino 401 (50 g): 2 balls #11274 Teal; 20 sts and 26 rows = 4" / 10 cm on size 7 / 4.5 mm

2. Berroco Hearthside (100 g): 1 ball #11009 Ebony; 15.5 sts and 21 rows = 4" / 10 cm on size 10.5 / 6.5 mm

3. Berroco Gimlet (50 g): 2 balls #10721 Mojito 14 sts and 21 rnds = 4" / 10 cm on size 10 / 6 mm

4. Berroco Carousel (100 g): 1 ball #4465 Leap Frog; 27 sts and 36 rnds = 4" / 10 cm on size 4 / 3.5 mm

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We recommend using yarns called for in our instructions. Every effort has been made to ensure that directions contained in this pattern are accurate and complete, however errors do occur. We cannot be responsible for variance of individual knitters, human or typographical errors.

All pattern PDFs are updated when corrections are made. In the event of finding an error, please make sure you've downloaded the most recent version.

INSTRUCTIONS

Cast On and Ribbing

To determine the number of stitches to cast on, multiply your stitch gauge (number of sts per 1" or 1 cm) by the desired hat size, then round this number to the multiple needed for your desired ribbing.

It is helpful to also round to a multiple of six if possible, which will be the number of sections for decreasing the crown of the hat. However, it is more important to accommodate the multiple you need for the ribbing; you can adjust the stitch count before the crown decreases if needed.

Using a needle 1–2 sizes smaller than your gauge needle, work desired ribbing for 1–2½" / 2.5–6.5 cm, or approximately 4–6" / 10–15 cm for a fold-over brim.

Cast on number and ribbing for samples shown:

Merino 401: 96 sts; 5" / 12.5 cm of k2, p2 ribbing

Hearthside: 76 sts; 2" / 5 cm of k1tbl, p1 ribbing

Gimlet: 72 sts; 1½" / 4 cm of k1, p1 ribbing

Carousel: 120 sts; 1½" / 4 cm of k1tbl, p1 ribbing

Main Section

Change to larger needle and work in stockinette stitch until piece measures approximately 3½–4" / 9–10 cm (for adult hats), or 2–3 / 5–7.5 cm (for baby/child hats), less than the desired hat height. Measure from the cast-on edge unless the hat will have a folded brim; for a folded brim, measure from the fold.

Note: See chart on next page for suggested lengths.

Or if the hat is for you, then you can try the hat on at this point with the stitches still on the circular needle! If it fits on your head at the way you'd like it to fit, without pulling it down farther than you can pull it without the stitches popping off your needle, then you are ready for the crown shaping.

Length to crown shaping and total length for samples shown:

Merino 401: 9¼" / 23.5 cm to crown shaping; 13" / 33 cm total height including full brim

Hearthside: 5" / 12.5 cm to crown shaping; 8½" / 21.5 cm total height

Gimlet: 7½" / 19 cm to crown shaping; 11" / 28 cm total height

Carousel: 8" / 20.5 cm to crown shaping; 11½" / 29 cm total height

Crown Shaping

If you didn't start with a multiple of 6 sts, decrease as needed to get a multiple of 6.

For example, for the hat in *Hearthside* with 76 sts, we decreased 4 sts evenly to 72 sts by working [k2tog, k17] around.

Note: As you shape the crown, when there are too few stitches to fit comfortably on circular needle, change to dpns, dividing stitches onto 3 needles, or preferred needle(s) for working small circumferences.

To determine how many stitches will be in each section, divide your total stitches by 6. Place a marker between each of the 6 sections. For example, if you have 90 sts total, you will have 15 sts in each section, so you would work one round of [knit 15, pm] around.

Decrease Round: * K2tog, knit to marker, sm; repeat from * to end.

Repeat Decrease Round every other round until you have about 4 to 8 sts remaining in each section. Then work the Decrease Round **every** round until only 1 st remains in each section, removing markers on the last round.

Break yarn, leaving an end approximately 8" / 20 cm long. Thread end into tapestry needle and draw through all stitches on needles. Pull up tightly and secure.

ABBREVIATIONS

k: knit

k1tbl: knit 1 through the back loop

k2tog: knit 2 stitches together

p: purl

pm: place marker

st(s): stitch(es)

SUGGESTED HAT SIZES IN INCHES

	preemie	newborn	6 mos	12 mos	child	preteen / teen	adult	adult lg	adult XL
To Fit Head Size	12	14	16	18	20	21	22.5	24	25
Finished Size	10.5	12.25	14	15.75	17.5	18.5	19.75	21	22
Hat Height (fitted)	4.5	6	6.5	7	7.5	8	8.5	9	9.5
Length to start of crown shaping	2.5	3.75	3.75	4.25	4.5	4.75	5.25	5.5	5.75
Hat Height (slouchy)	5.75	7.75	8.5	9	9.75	10.5	11	11.75	12.25
Length to start of crown shaping	3.75	5.5	5.75	6.25	6.75	7.25	7.75	8.25	8.5

SUGGESTED HAT SIZES IN CENTIMETERS

	preemie	newborn	6 mos	12 mos	child	preteen / teen	adult	adult lg	adult XL
To Fit Head Size	30.5	35.5	40.5	45.5	51	53.5	57	61	63.5
Finished Size	26.5	31	35.5	40	44.5	47	50	53.5	56
Hat Height (fitted)	11.5	15	16.5	18	19	20.5	21.5	23	24
Length to start of crown shaping	6.5	9.5	9.5	11	11.5	12	13.5	14	14.5
Hat Height (slouchy)	14.5	19.5	21.5	23	25	26.5	28	30	31
Length to start of crown shaping	9.5	14	14.5	16	17	18.5	19.5	21	21.5



1. Beanie with fold-over brim
knit in Berroco Merino 401



2. Beanie
knit in Berroco Hearthsides



3. Slouchy beanie
knit in Berroco Gimlet



4. Slouchy beanie
knit in Berroco Carousel