



ANY YARN HANDSPUN HAT

By Leef Bloomenstiel © 1999

YARN: four to five ounces of handspun yarn, ANY YARN!

Ruler

Needles: circular or dpn's

Circular markers

Large needle for sewing in the ends

Visit the farm website at:
<http://appleleafarm.com/>

This pattern works with just about ANY handspun yarn!

1. Do a rather large gauge swatch with the yarn and appropriately sized needles you want to use. Make it by casting on about 20 stitches and knitting 20 rows. Use a ruler to measure your gauge in several places. Use the average stitches per inch for your gauge.
2. Measure the head size and multiply the head size by your gauge to get the number of stitches to CAST ON. *For example. If my gauge swatch is 3.5 stitches per inch, and the head size is 20 inches:*

$$3.5 \times 20 = 70 \text{ stitches to } \mathbf{CAST\ ON^*}$$

(*NOTE: if your CAST ON number of stitches is not divisible by 2, decrease the number by 1 so that it is!)

3. I use a 16 inch circular needle, but you can also use double pointed needles. I like using a cable CAST ON as it is quick and stretchy.
4. Knit in the round, using K1 P1 ribbing until you have knit 1 1/2 inches.
5. Knit in stockinette stitch until the total piece measures 5 1/2 inches.

DECREASE evenly across the next row so that the total number of stitches you have on your needles is divisible by 6

For example, with a total of 70 stitches, decrease evenly across the row by 4 stitches for a total of 66 stitches.

Divide your hat into 6 sections and place markers.

ROW1—*Knit two together, knit to the next marker, slip marker*, repeat * to * across.

ROW2—knit

Repeat these two rows until there are 6 stitches left. Break off the yarn and pull through the remaining stitches. Faster off and sew in the ends.

This handspun hat looks great, especially when slightly full by washing in hot soapy water, then rinsing thoroughly in cool water.

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