Best Friends Beanie

A simple cable pattern summarizes the way friends interact over a problem – one talking, one supporting, and both sharing a hug as snug as the negative ease in this quick knit!

Materials

Viola M/C/N Worsted (80% merino wool, 10% nylon, 10% cashmere; 183m/115g), 1 skein – buy online at www.etsy.com/ca/shop/violaviola

4.0 mm double pointed needles (you may use a 16" circular needle for the body of the hat) or size to obtain gauge

Stitch marker for start of round, if using a circular needle

Cable needle

Tapestry needle to run in ends

Sizing

Close fitting toque offered in three sizes from small child to youth to adult; shown in size M stretched over a 22" head.

Size S (M, L) – 16" around, 6-3/4" long (18-1/2" around, 7" long; 21" around, 7-1/2" long)

Gauge

20 sts 31 rows = 4" in stocking stitch

Abbreviations

C4L: Cable 4 left – slip next 2 sts onto cable needle to hold at front of work, K2, K2 sts from cable needle
C4R: Cable 4 right – slip next 2 sts onto cable needle to hold at back of work, K2, K2 sts from cable needle
K: knit
K2tbl: knit the next two stitches through their back loop (twisting the knit stitch)
K2tog: knit two together (decrease 1)
Pfb: purl into front and back of stitch (increase 1)
st (s): stitch(es)

Directions

Cast on 72 (81, 90) sts, divide onto 4 needles and join to work in the round or, if using a circular needle, slip on a stitch marker and join to work in the round.

Ribbing

Rounds 1-7: *K2tbl, P1; repeat from * to end of round.

Round 8: *[K2tbl, Pfb] twice, K2tbl, P1; repeat from * to end of round - 90 (99, 108) sts.

Body

Rounds 1 and all subsequent odd rounds: P2, K4, P2, K4, P2, K to end of round.

Round 2: P2, K4, P2, C4R, P2, K to end of round.

Rounds 4, 8, 12: P2, C4L, P2, K4, P2, K to end of round.

Rounds 6 & 10: as Round 1.

Repeat Rounds 1-12 twice, then rounds 1-2 (1-4, 1-8) once.

Crown – Size S

Round 1: P2, K4, P2, K2tog, K2, P2, K4, K2tog, *K8, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 81sts

Round 2: P2, C4L, P2, K3, P2, K to end.

Round 3: P2, K4, P1, K2tog, K2, P2, K3, K2tog, *K7, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 72 sts

Round 4: P2, K4, P1, K3, P2, K to end

Round 5: P2, K4, K2tog, K2, P2, K2, K2tog, *K6, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 63 sts

Round 6: P2, C4L, K3, P2, K to end

Round 7: P2, K3, K2tog, K2, P2, K1, K2tog; *K5, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 54 sts

Round 8: P2, K6, P2, K to end

Round 9: P2, K2, K2tog, K2, P2, K2tog; *K4, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 45 sts

Round 10: P2, K1, C4R, P2, K to end

Round 11: *K3, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 36 sts

Round 12: Knit

Round 13: *K2, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 27 sts

Round 14 and all further even rounds: Knit

Round 15: *K1, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 18 sts

Round 17: *K2tog; repeat from * to end - 9 sts

Proceed to Finishing

Crown – Size M

Round 1: P2, K4, P2, K1, K2tog, K1, P2, K6, K2tog, *K9, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 90 sts

Round 2: P2, K4, P2, K3, P2, K to end

Round 3: P2, K4, P2, K2tog, K1, P2, K5, K2tog, *K8, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 81 sts

Round 4: P2, C4L, P2, K2, P2, K to end

Round 5: P2, K4, P1, K2tog, K1, P2, K4, K2tog, *K7, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 72 sts

Round 6: P2, K4, P1, K2, P2, K to end

Round 7: P2, K4, K2tog, K1, P2, K3, K2tog, *K6, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 63 sts

Round 8: P2, C4L, K2, P2, K to end

Round 9: P2, K3, K2tog, K1, P2, K2, K2tog, *K5, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 54 sts

Round 10: P2, K1, C4R, P2, K to end

Round 11: P2, K2, K2tog, K1, P2, K1, K2tog, *K4, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 45 sts

Round 12: P2, C4R, P2, K to end

Round 13: P2, K1, K2tog, K1, P2, K2tog, *K3, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 36 sts

Round 14: P2, K3, P2, K to end

Round 15: *K2, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 27 sts

Rounds 16 and all further even rounds: Knit

Round 17: *K1, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 18 sts

Round 19: *K2tog; repeat from * to end - 9 sts

Proceed to Finishing

Crown – Size L

Round 1: P2, K4, P2, K2, K2tog, P1, K9, K2tog, *K10, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 99 sts

Round 2: P2, K4, P2, K3, P1, K to end

Round 3: P2, K4, P2, K1, K2tog, P1, K8, K2tog, *K9, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 90 sts

Round 4: P2, C4L, P2, K2, P1, K to end

Round 5: P2, K4, P2, K2tog, P1, K7, K2tog, *K8, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 81 sts

Round 6: P2, K3, C4R, P1, K to end (note: knit all 4 sts of the C4R here, including the P sts)

Round 7: P2, K5, K2tog, P1, K6, K2tog, *K7, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 72 sts

Round 8: P2, C4R, K2, P1, K to end

Round 9: P2, K4, K2tog, P1, K5, K2tog, *K6, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 63 sts

Round 10: P2, K5, P1, K to end

Round 11: *K5, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 54 sts

Round 12 and all further even rounds: Knit

Round 13: *K4, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 45 sts

Round 15: *K3, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 36 sts

Round 17: *K2, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 27 sts

Round 19: *K1, K2tog; repeat from * to end - 18 sts

Round 21: * K2tog; repeat from * to end - 9 sts

Finishing

Cut 8" tail and run through 9 remaining live sts; tack down inside hat. Run in cast-on tail and wet block.