Bibbity Bobbity



The medium hat fits snugly on a head 21.5 inches around (my head). It measures 18" round when unstretched. The gauge is 4.5 sts to the inch. The smaller hat will measure 16" when knitted, and the largest should measure 20".

Materials Used:

Size 7 (4.5mm) 32" circular needle for magic loop method (or whatever gets you gauge) Approx. 200 yards of worsted weight yarn (I used Malabrigo Water Green – 216 yards with plenty leftover)

stitch markers

yarn needle

pom pom maker or clever skills (I used a Clover 3-3/8 large pom pom maker) stitch holder

Abbreviations:

k2tog: knit two together

ssk: slip, slip, knit

m1r: lift the bar between the sts from the back with the left needle. Knit the new st through the front loop (may be tight).

m1l: lift the bar between the sts from the front with the left needle. Knit new st through the back loop.

w&t: for short rows, lift the next st off the left needle, place the yarn in front then to the left and back of that st, replace it on the left needle, then turn your work.

The increases are all on the wrong side (WS), and the flaps are done in garter stitch to keep them laying flat against the head. The ear flap "right" and "left" correspond to how the hat is worn. The right ear flap goes over your right ear.

Right ear flap:

CO 5 sts

Round 1: (RS) k5

Round 2: (WS) k1, m1r, k3, m1l, k1

Round 3: (RS) k

Round 4: (WS) k1, mlr, k5, m1l, k1

Continue increasing every other round in this way until you have 15 sts and have finished the RS all knit row with those sts. This should be row 11.

On row 12 (WS), begin to increase using the m1r on only the right side of the ear flap. Discontinue the second increase. Continue in this manner until you have 21 sts. This should be round 22 if you're counting. Knit 8 more rows in garter stitch. Do not bind off. Keep stitches live by placing them on a stitch holder. Leave a tail long enough to CO about 22 stitches with.

Left ear flap:

Make like right ear flap, but increase only on the left side of the flap starting at round 12 by doing m11 on the left side, then complete as you did with the right ear flap. Again, place stitches on a stitch holder. Leave a long tail.

The flaps will be situated on the hat so that the angle follows the jaw line, meaning that the side with more increases be toward the back. You may want to place a stitch marker on either side of the flap. Begin with the left flap. CO the 18 [22, 26] sts for the front of the hat. Place the right ear flap on the needle. CO 12 [16, 20] sts for the back of the hat. If you are using the magic loop method, divide the sts so that the starting point is at the middle of the back 16 sts. There will be a slightly noticeable change in the rounds in garter st and I prefer to keep this in the back. You should now have two ear flaps on your needle with 18 [22, 26] sts between them in the front, and 12 [16, 20] between them in the back. You will be joining two different parts, so be careful not to twist the sts when you join them. You will have a total of 72 [80, 88] sts: 21 for each ear flap, 18 [22, 26] for the front portion, and 12 [16, 20] for the back.

You should start with a purl row to remain consistent in garter stitch. Choose the appropriate type of row and begin knitting in garter st for 1.25 inches. Remember, garter st in the round alternates between purl and knit rows, unlike in flat knitting when it is only rows of knitting.

After 1.25 inches of garter st, knit one round. On the next round (which should be starting at the mid back) when you get to the left (as you wear it) ear flap, sl marker, knit until you are 3 sts into the flap, w&t. Purl until you reach the third st in on the right ear flap, w&t. K to the left ear flap, picking up the wrap and knitting it with the st it's around, k1 more, w&t. Purl to the right ear flap, picking up the wrap and purling it with the st it's around, p1 more, w&t. Repeat a knitted w&t and the purled return once more.

K all rounds until piece measures 5.25 inches from the **front** brim. If you are doing magic loop you should be able to try this on and see if you would like to add more before the decreases.

Decreases:

k2, k2tog, k 5 [6, 7] (repeat to the end - - 64 [72, 80] sts remain)

k 3 rounds

k2, k2tog, k 4 [5, 6] (repeat to end - - 56 [64, 72] sts remain)

k 2 rounds

k2, k2tog, k 3 [4, 5] (repeat to end - - 48 [56, 64] sts remain)

k 2 rounds

k2, k2tog, k 2 [3, 4] (repeat to end - - 40 [48, 56] sts remain)

k 2 rounds

k2, k2tog, k 1 [2, 3] (repeat to end - - 32 [40, 48] sts remain)

k 1 round

continue alternating a dec. round and knit round until you have 16 sts remaining k2tog (repeat)

You should have 8 sts remaining. Cut tail, leaving about 4-6 in. Thread yarn needle and put thread through remaining sts and pull tight. Weave in all ends.

Cords for ear flaps:

Pick up 3 sts at the tip of the ear flaps and make an i-cord. If you don't know how, instructions for a plain i-cord can be found here: http://www.knitting-and.com/knitting/patterns/stitches/icord.htm

Continue until cord measures about 11.25 in, or desired length. BO sts and hide yarn ends inside the i-cord.

Make a pom pom (if desired) and place it atop your brand-spanking-new Bibbity Bobbity hat. Look jaunty.

