



Erris

By Laura Hogan

As a teenager, my Gran insisted on me using an umbrella, so not to get a wet head and catch a cold.

I put up a huge resistance (continually) but she won (continually).

So as the young teenage girls and boys used to congregate in the car park (parking lot) across the street from St. Mel's Cathedral in Longford after school, there you could quickly pick me out in a crowd.

I was the only one standing there with a blooming umbrella.

Here started my dislike of umbrellas.

Here, possibly started my love of wearing hats and later knitting hats.

Though, one can only surmise.

Materials needed

Ellie and Ada DK yarn or

1 strand of fingering, sock yarn or 4 ply weight yarn and 2 strands of kid silk yarn (held together)

3mm 40 cm circular needles (or whatever length circular needle that you use to knit hats or dpns) (US 2.5-4 16 inch circular needles)

4 mm 40 cm circular needles (or whatever length circular needle that you use to knit hats or dpns) (US 6 16 inch circulars)

I use a longer cable 4 mm circular needles to work on the decreases. I prefer to use the magic loop method to do decreases. I use a 80 cm (32inch) or a 100 cm (40inch)

Darning needle or a needle to sew in the ends.

Stitch markers, handy to have one contrasting and a few similar. (1 contrasting and 5 similar) The contrasting will be to mark the beginning of your round and the similar ones will be marking the decreasing points of the hat.

Sizing -53 cm/21 inches (

Gauge - 22 stitches & 30 rows = 10 cm/4 inches

Method

This hat is knitted from bottom up. I prefer knitting in the round using circular needles and tend to do my decreases using the magic loop method

With smaller needles, cast on 98 sts, pm and join in the round, be careful not to twist your sts.

Knit twisted rib for 1 ½ to 2 inches (3.8 cm to 5cm)

Change to 4mm needles

Increase 4 stitches evenly. You now have 102 stitches.

Knit till piece measures 8 ½ inches (22 cm)

Set up round for decreases - *k17, pm, continue from * to the end of the round.

Decrease round – *k2tog, knit to two sts before marker ssk, sm* repeat from * to the end

Next round – Knit

Alternate these 2 rounds until there is 3 sts between each marker.

Next row – k2tog, removing markers as you go.

Next row – k2tog (do not knit a row in between), there will be one stitch leftover, knit it. 5 sts remain

Cut yarn, leaving a 12 inch tail. Thread the yarn tail through the remaining live sts and pull to close top of hat. Weave in ends and block your hat.

Abbreviations–

k - Knit

k2tog – Knit 2 stitches together

p – Purl

pm – Place Marker

SM – Slip Marker

ssk – Slip next two stitches singly to right hand needle knitwise, insert tip of left needle through front loop of both stitches and knit together.

st/Sts – Stitch/Stitches

k1tbl, p1 - Twisted Rib – Worked in the round over an even amount of stitches.

Round 1 – [K1tbl,p1] to the end of the round. Every round is the same.

