

These two baby hat patterns are based on recommendations from the Meriter Hospital North Wing staff around adaptability and patient preferences. The finished hat should fit on an averaged sized clenched fist and stay on, if hanging the hand down at one's side.



Ribbed Baby Hat Pattern

Cast on 60 stitches loosely (gauge is less important for ribbed baby hat because of the stretch of the overall ribbing).

Hat is knit in 2x2 ribbing as follows:

Row 1: Knit 2, purl 2 across, turn

Row 2: Purl 2, knit 2 across, turn

Keep repeating rows 1 and 2 until hat measures 8 inches from cast on edge.

Cut yarn, leaving a 15-inch tail. Thread tail through stitches on the working needle. Pull tightly to close (you may need to run a couple of stitches through the top to close) and sew the back seam.

Stockinette Baby Hat Pattern

Cast on 56 stitches loosely and work in knit 2, purl 2 ribbing for 1.5-2 inches (see ribbing instructions above) from cast on edge. If you are doing the ribbing in a different color than the body of the hat, leave a 12-inch tail long enough to sew up the ribbing in that color.

Knit in stockinette stitch (knit one row, purl one row) until 6.5 inches from cast on edge.

Cut yarn, leaving a long tail. Thread tail through stitches on working needle. Pull tightly to close (you may need to run a couple of stitches through the top to close) and sew the back seam.

Hat should measure 11.5 inches around.

PATTERN NOTES

MATERIALS

Sizes: The patterns are designed to fit a variety of baby head sizes.

Yarn

Approximately 50-70 yds of yarn, weight: 3 (dk or light worsted)

Needles

US 8/5 mm for stockinette hat

You can also use circular needles and knit a seamless hat in the round if you are comfortable using them.

Gauge

Gauge is not critical for ribbed hat. For stockinette hat, gauge is 5 stitches per inch, using size 8 straight needles and a yarn weight of 3. Feel free to change needle size to meet the gauge requirements.

Notes

*Do not decrease either hat at the top as these hats fit better without decreases, and do not add any embellishments such as buttons that can be a choking hazard. Also, do not add a pom-pom. Adding weight to the top of the hat tends to make the hat fall off.

Loose cast on suggestions

*Consider casting on using a larger size needle to cast on for a looser stitch.