

And One More Makes Four! USA Hat



This hat, along with "A Trio of Patriotic Hats," was designed for The Ships Project, a support group which provides handmade items to troops serving in our Armed Forces. For more information, visit the project's website at: <http://www.wtv-zone.com/kjsb/bataan.html>.

MATERIALS: 3 skeins of worsted weight yarn (each 3.5 oz/100g - 210 yds/192 m)
(1 skein each of red, white and blue)
16" circular knitting needles in size #7
Double-pointed knitting needles in size #7
Stitch marker (for marking beginning of round)
Tapestry needle for weaving ends

SIZE: Mens' medium/Womens' large (about 20" circumference, unstretched)
(To change the size of this hat, add/subtract multiples of 8 stitches, distributing the stitches evenly between the chart repeats, i.e. 2 stitches added/subtracted in the plain blue area between each repeat.)

GAUGE: 4.5 stitches/inch on #7 needles

YARN NOTE: I used Paton's Decor, which is 75% acrylic and 25% wool, in the following colors: Barn Red #1714, Winter White #1614, Navy #1643. You should be able to make at least three hats, probably four, from the three skeins.

"USA" Hat:

Cast on 88 stitches with red. Place marker on needle and join, being careful not to twist stitches.

Work in K2, P2 rib for 8 rounds. (To add a cuff to be turned up, work 20 rounds.)

Continue knitting with red for 6 rounds. Break yarn.

With white, knit for 3 rounds. Do not break yarn!

With blue, knit 2 rounds, then begin "USA" chart, carrying white up from previous stripe. When chart is complete, do not break off white.

Knit with blue for two more rounds, then break off blue.

With white, knit 3 rounds. Break off yarn.

With red, knit 6 rounds, then begin decreases, changing to double-pointed needles when needed:

Knit 6, K2tog around - 77 stitches.

Knit 3 rounds even.

Knit 5, K2tog around - 66 stitches.

Knit 3 rounds even.

Knit 4, K2tog around - 55 stitches.

Knit 3 rounds even.

Knit 3, K2tog around - 44 stitches.

Knit 3 rounds even.

Knit 2, K2tog around - 33 stitches.

Knit 2 rounds even.

Knit 1, K2tog around - 22 stitches.

K2tog around - 11 stitches.

Break yarn, leaving a 6" tail. Thread the yarn onto a tapestry needle and run the needle through the stitches in the direction of the knitting, removing them from the needles as you go. Run the needle through the stitches again, then pull tight. Take the yarn to the inside and weave in the end.

Weave in all ends, including the cast-on tail.

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