

CITRUS HAT

BY LAURA TREADWAY

Called the Citrus Hat for the way the decreases create the appearance of a citrus fruit, this is a pretty basic hat pattern that works well with pretty much any yarn and can fit multiple head sizes.

It looks great in handspun or commercial yarn, and in solid, semi-solid, or variegated colorways. The combination of knits and purls used throughout the hat means it is very accommodating of different head sizes and a good match for kids that keep growing.



While the pattern is written for worsted-weight yarn, it's easy to adjust for different yarn weights, and the pattern includes some helpful hints for yarn modifications.

Materials:

- Depending on the size you are knitting, 75-125 yards of worsted weight yarn (or yarn of your choice. Less yardage will work for smaller heads or bulkier yarn; more yardage will be needed for larger heads or thinner yarn).
- US size 4 (3.5 mm) and US size 6 (4.0 mm) circular needles – or adjust size if substituting yarn. Using DPNs or two circular needles can be very helpful for the cast-on in the smaller sizes.
- Stitch marker(s), darning needle

Skills Used:

- Knitting in the round, decreasing, using DPNs and circular needles
- Stitches used: Knit, purl, k2tog (knit 2 together), p2tog (purl 2 together), and ssk (slip slip knit)



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	Baby	Toddler	Child-Teen	Adult Small	Adult Large
Hat size	14-16 inches	17 inches	18-19 inches	20 inches	22 inches
<i>(Hat size includes approximately 2 inches of negative ease compared to average head size)</i>					
Cast on	CO 64	CO 72 sts	CO 88 sts	CO 96 sts	CO 104 sts
Brim rows	For 1-1.5 inches			For 1.5-2 inches	
Body rows	Knit body of hat to 5.5 inches from cast-on edge			Knit to 6 inches from cast-on	

Instructions

- CO number of stitches indicated in chart above using US 4s (3.5 mm) (DPNs or two circls recommended for smaller sizes)
 - Use a stitch marker to mark the beginning of the round
- Brim rows: (*k2, p2); repeat from * to the end of the row
 - Repeat this 2x2 ribbing for 1 to 1.5 (1.5 to 2) inches
- Switch to US 6s (4.0 mm) needles and knit the body rows:
 - Body rows: (*k6, p2); repeat from * to the end of the row
 - Repeat this k6, p2 ribbing until 5.5 (6) inches from the cast-on edge
- Decrease rows – note that they work so that the p2 columns remain intact:
 - Row 1: (*k4, k2tog, p2); repeat from * to the end of the row
 - Rows 2, 4, 6, 8 (“plain row”): knit the knits and purl the purls
 - Row 3: (*ssk, k3, p2); repeat from * to the end of the row
 - Row 5: (*k2, k2tog, p2); repeat from * to the end of the row
 - Row 7: (*ssk, k1, p2); repeat from * to the end of the row
 - Row 9: (*k2tog, p2); repeat from * to the end of the row
 - Row 10: purl all stitches
 - Row 11: (*p2tog); repeat from * to the end of the row
 - Row 12: (*p2tog); repeat from * to the end of the row
 - If you have an uneven number of stitches in one row, you can just purl the final stitch of a row, or continue to p2tog until there are approximately 6 to 10 sts left
- Finishing: Break yarn, sew the remaining sts together, and weave in ends

Adjustments pointers:

- If you want to use thinner or bulkier yarn, adjust the number of stitches you cast on by multiples of 8
- Make a stockinette gauge swatch to help determine how to adjust the number of stitches you need, based on “hat size” in the chart above
- If using yarn that is sport weight or thinner, knit two “plain rows” between each decrease row to keep the hat from being too short
- Have fun – this hat is very forgiving!!

