



A quick and easy cabled hat, perfect for gifting, or making funny faces in.

By Liz Abinante

# *Thistle Cap*



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I like to think I'm not a selfish knitter, but sometimes I kind of am. I spend more time designing and working up samples for patterns that I have very little time left to knit. People often expect hand knit gifts as a result of my constant needle working, and I get a wee bit stressed come holiday times. My solution? Quick, easy, unisex gift knits that can be whipped up during a movie marathon. Thistle Cap works up pretty quickly - faster if you cable without a cable needle.

<b>Yarn</b> Approximately 180 yards aran weight yarn.	<b>Needles</b> US 7 (4.5mm) 16" circular US 8 (5.0mm) 16" circular Set of US 8 (5.0mm) DPNs	<b>Finished Size</b> 23" circumference (women's large/men's medium)
<b>Shown in</b> The Grinning Gargoyle Doppio MCN (80% merino, 20% cashmere, 10% nylon; 181 yards per 100 grams).	<b>Gauge</b> 4.5 sts per inch, 2x2 ribbing unstretched	<b>Notions</b> 1 stitch marker Darning needle Cable needle (optional)

## Notes

To up or downsize the hat, adjust the number of stitches you cast on by 8. Any multiple of 8 will work without making too many modifications to the crown decreases.

## Abbreviations

C2B: sl1 onto cable needle, hold in back, k1, k1 from cable needle  
C2F: sl1 onto cable needle, hold in front, k1, k1 from cable needle  
C3B: sl2 onto cable needle, hold in back, k1, k2 from cable needle

C3F: sl1 onto cable needle, hold in front, k2, k1 from cable needle  
cn: cable needle  
CO/BO: cast on/bind off  
k: knit  
k2tog: knit two together  
ndl: needle

p: purl  
pm: place marker  
sl: slip  
slm: slip marker  
st(s): stitch(es)  
wyib: with yarn in back  
yo: yarn over

## Instructions

Using smaller needle, CO 88 sts. Pm and join for knitting in the round.  
Work in (k2, p2) ribbing for 2 inches. Switch to larger needle.

## Cable Motif

Rounds 1–2: \*(k2, sl1, k1), repeat from \* to end.  
Round 3: \*(C3B, k1), repeat from \* to end.  
Round 4: k all sts.  
Rounds 5–6: \*(k2, sl1, k1), repeat from \* to end.  
Round 7: k1, \*(k1, C3F), repeat from \* to last 3 sts, k1, C2F.  
Round 8: k all sts.  
Work 4 repeats of the Cable Motif.

## Crown Decreases

Round 1: \*(k2tog, sl1, k3, sl1, k1), repeat from \* to end.  
Round 2: \*(k1, sl1, k3, sl1, k1), repeat from \* to end.  
Round 3: \*(C2B, k1, C3B, k1), repeat from \* to end.  
Round 4: \*(k3, k2tog, k2), repeat from \* to end.  
Rounds 5–6: \*(k1, sl1, k1), repeat from \* to end.  
Round 7: \*(k1, C2F), repeat from \* to end.  
Round 8: k2, \*(k2tog, k4), repeat from \* to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2.

Switch to DPNs.

Round 9: k all sts.  
Round 10: k1, \*(k2tog, k3), repeat from \* to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2.  
Round 11: k all sts.  
Round 12: \*(k2, k2tog), repeat from \* to end.  
Round 13: k all sts.  
Round 14: k2, \*(k2tog, k1), repeat from \* to last st, k1.  
Round 15: k all sts.  
Round 16: k1, \*k2tog, repeat from \* to end.  
Round 17: \*k2tog, repeat from \* to last st, k1. Cinch remaining sts together and weave in ends.