

SIMPLY SWEET CELTIC BERET



This is for the beret lover in you.....a Celtic touch with French twist! Just a quick note: The large size is for a head circumference of 24 to 26, which is what my large noggin is. If you want a snug fitting beret, make the smaller size.

Gauge: 5 stitches to the inch

Needle sizes: 6 and 7 – 20 inch circular needles

Instructions for large size are in parentheses.

With smaller needles, cast on 80 (90) stitches in Contrasting Color (Note: The initials “CC” will be used from now on when the pattern calls for the contrasting color).

Knit 2, Purl 2 for the entire row. Join being very careful not to twist your work. Place marker to indicate the beginning of your round.

Continue to work in K2, P2 rib pattern for the next five rounds. This should give you a 1 ½ inch brim for your beret.

Next Row:

Continuing in the K2, P2 rib pattern, **Knit 2 with CC, Purl 2 with Main Color (Note: The initials “MC” will be used from now on when the pattern calls for the main color).**

Continue in this fashion for another 6 rounds.



MAIN PART OF HAT

Drop CC and change to larger needles.

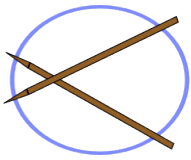
Row 1: With MC, Knit one round. .

Row 2: (For small, knit first three stitches).

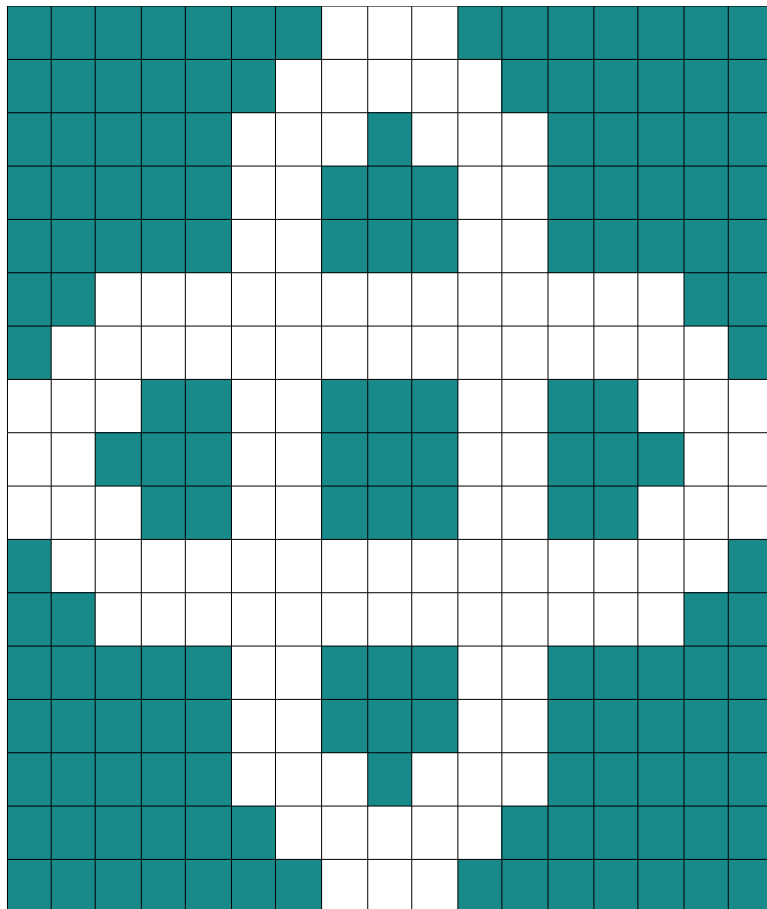
For both sizes now: [K2, M1]. Repeat instructions within brackets for the rest of the round. With the M1 increases you have just made, you will now have 119 (136) stitches.

Knit 8 rounds.

Follow the chart to complete the Celtic design portion of the hat. I recommend placing a marker after every 17 stitches (this indicates where each of the pattern repeats are located) so that it is easier to keep track of your pattern.



While working in fair isle, try to keep the tension of your “floating” yarn loose, so that it does not distort your design. Also, twist your yarn every three stitches or less. You don't want your floats to be too long.



Next Round:

For Small Hat: With MC, K1, M1, Knit for the rest of the round. You now have 120 stitches.

For Large Hat: With MC, K1, M1, Knit to last two stitches, K1, M1, K1. You now have 138 stitches.

Knit 5 rows.

On following row, *K 23, place marker*. Repeat from * to * for the rest of the round.

DECREASE ROUND:



How to do an SSK (Slip, slip, knit)

Slip stitch as if to knit, slip next stitch as if to knit, insert left needle into the front of the two slipped stitches and knit the two stitches together

Row 1:

K2 together, work to 2 stitches before marker, ssk, slip marker. Repeat from * to *. You have now decreased 12 stitches.

Row 2: Knit

Repeat rows 1 and 2 until you have 8 stitches remaining between each set of markers.

Cut off yarn, leaving a tail at least 10 inches long. Thread the tail through the remaining stitches. Pull tightly, cinching the top of the hat shut, and fasten in place by drawing your yarn through to the inside of the hat. Weave in loose ends. Enjoy your hat!!

