



SIDEKICK HAT

design by mary lou egan

Excerpted from *Drop-Dead Easy Knits* by Gale Zucker, Mary Lou Egan, and Kirsten Kapur



Sharing beverages, sharing a weekend getaway, sharing skeins—we are all about sharing when it comes to our knitting buddies. The simple colorwork in these hats uses small amounts of a delicious yarn. Get together with your friends and purchase multiple skeins, winding off smaller amounts of each color. It's mixology in Rambouillet and alpaca. Woolen spun, not stirred.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

Relaxed

SIZES

S (M, L)

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Head circumference: 18½ (20, 21½)" (47 [51, 55]cm)

MATERIALS

Blue Hat
Swans Island All American Collection Sport, 100% Rambouillet wool, 1½ oz (40g), 185 yd (169m). MC: 1 skein in Ocean; CC: 1 skein in Cloud

Multicolor Hat

Swans Island All American Collection Sport 100% Rambouillet wool, 1½ oz (40g), 185 yd (169m). MC: 1 skein in Ash; CC1: 1 skein in Straw; CC2: 1 skein in Ochre; CC3: 1 skein in Fern

Both Hats

1 US size 2 (2.75mm) 16" (40cm) circular needle for cuff
1 US size 4 (3.5mm) 16" (40cm) circular needle (adjust needle size as necessary to obtain gauge)
1 set US size 4 (3.5mm) double-pointed needles
Stitch markers
Tapestry needle

GAUGE AFTER BLOCKING

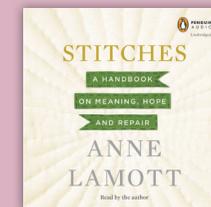
26 stitches and 30 rows = 4" (10cm) in stockinette stitch

PATTERN NOTE

If you are new to stranded colorwork, stay loose. Spread the stitches out as you strand to help ensure that the floats are long enough to prevent excess puckering.



Suggested Listen



Stitches
By Anne Lamott
Read by Anne Lamott
Running Time: 2 Hours

PATTERN INSTRUCTIONS

With MC and smaller circular needle cast on 120 (130, 140) stitches. Join to work in the round, being careful not to twist the stitches. Place a stitch marker for the beginning of the round. Work 8 rounds in (k1, p1) rib.

With larger circular needle, work rounds 1-8 of main chart 7 (8, 9) times total. For Multicolor Hat, work first repeat using Ochre as CC (CC2), second repeat using Straw as CC (CC1), and third repeat using Fern as CC (CC3). Continue in this pattern until required number of repeats is completed.



CROWN

Note: As needed, switch to double-pointed needles. For the multicolor hat, begin with the next CC in sequence.

Round 1 (decrease): *K1 in CC, (k2, ssk) in MC, k1 in CC, (k2tog, k2) in MC, repeat from * to the end of the round.

Rounds 2, 4, and 6: Knit even in color pattern as established.

Round 3 (decrease): *K1 in CC, (k2tog, k1) in MC, k1 in CC, (k1, ssk in MC), repeat from * to the end of the round.

Round 5 (decrease): *K1 in MC, k2tog in CC, repeat from *.

Rounds 7 and 8 (decrease): K2tog around in MC.

Cut yarn, leaving an 8" (20.5cm) tail.

FINISHING

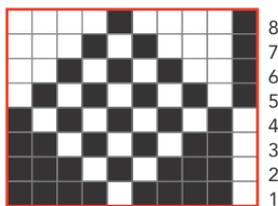
Thread the tail on the tapestry needle, then draw it through the stitches remaining on the needle. Cinch into a tight gather and firm secure the tail. Weave in ends. Block.

Add pom-pom if desired.

TIP

It is important to work your stranded colorwork gauge swatch in the round, but you can still do it on a smaller number of stitches with a "speed swatch." Use the circular needle but, instead of turning at the end of the row, bring the working yarns to the beginning of the row and knit the next row on the right side each time. Wrap the working yarn around your hand or a couple of fingers to provide some slack to keep the swatch flat. —MLE

MAIN CHART



CROWN DECREASES



CHART KEY

- knit with MC
- knit with CC
- k2tog with MC
- ssk with MC
- no stitch
- repeat