Apple a Day

by Sara Galley



A simple little apple hat, with a stem and leaf. The hat has an optional rolled brim, and is sized for children from preemies through school age; shown in Newborn size on a 15" doll head.

Sizes

Preemie[Newborn, Toddler, Child] – circumference 10[13,16,19] inches

Preemie size will fit most preemies from 2-3 lbs through full-term size.

Newborn size will fit from "day one" to around 3 months.

Toddler size will fit from a couple of months to somewhere around 18 months.

Child size will fit 18 months and up.

Materials

Plymouth Encore Worsted (or other worsted-weight yarn) in red, approximately 1/3-1/2 skein, scraps of brown and green

Set of US 7 (4.5mm) DPNs (or size required to obtain gauge)

One US 7 (4.5mm) 16" circular for Toddler and Child sizes (optional – entire hat may be worked on DPNs if desired)

Stitch markers

Tapestry needle

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Gauge

5 st/in in stockinette

Notes

For optional rolled brim, a small amount of ribbing helps to contain the roll and to make the hat more stable on the head. It will be hidden by the roll.

SK2P: Slip 1 st as if to knit; k2tog; pass slipped stitch over new stitch and off the needle.

Directions

For rolled brim:

Loosely cast on 50[65,80,95] stitches, and join for working in the round, placing a marker at the beginning of the round.

Knit in stockinette for 1.5[1.5,2,2] inches.

On next round, k2tog 2[1,0,0] times; for Child size only, m1 1 time; knit all remaining stitches. 48[64,80,96] stitches.

Skip to * and resume following instructions.

For ribbed brim:

Cast on 48[64,80,96] stitches, and join for working in the round, placing a marker at the beginning of the round.

*For both:

Rounds 1-3: *k2, p2,* repeat from * to * around.

Rounds 4-6: For ribbed brim only, repeat instructions for rounds 1-3.

Knit in stockinette until hat measures 2.5[3.5,4.5,5.5] inches from bottom of ribbing (do not include rolled portion for rolled-brim hat).

On next round, *knit 6[8,10,12] sts, place marker,* repeat from * to * around. Including the beginning-of-round marker, a total of 8 markers will be used.

Round 1: *Knit until 2 sts before marker, k2tog,* repeat from * to * around.

Round 2: Knit all stitches.

Repeat these two rows until 24 stitches remain. If using circular needle, switch to DPNs when necessary.

Next row: *k1,k2tog,* repeat from * to * around.

Next row: *k2tog, remove marker,* repeat from * to * around.

Next row: k2tog 4 times, then slip all 4 remaining stitches onto 1 DPN.

Break red yarn.

With brown yarn, work i-cord on 4 remaining stitches for 1.5 inches or desired length.

Break yarn and use tapestry needle to pull tail through all 4 stitches, like a drawstring.

Leaf:

With green yarn, cast on 3 stitches.

Row 1 and all odd rows: Knit.

Row 2: K1, m1, k1, m1, k1.

Row 4: k2, m1, k1, m1, k2.

Row 6: k3, m1, k1, m1, k3.

Row 8: Knit.

Row 10: k2, SSK, k1, k2tog, k2.

Row 12: k1, SSK, k1, k2tog, k1.

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Row 14: k1, SK2P, k1, Row 16: SK2P. Pull yarn through remaining stitch and weave in this end. Sew leaf to hat with other end. Weave in all ends.