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 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
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.
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.