

MADISON'S OWL HAT & BAG

I had gone to our local yarn store and on display was an owl hat with a matching bag. Unfortunately it was not for sale. The person who had knitted the hat and bag had left some notes with the store owner and she gave me copy. Well it has been almost 4 years since I figured out how to knit and write out the pattern for the hat and bag. I never dreamed that so many people would want the pattern. I have finally become motivated to update the pattern – thanks to the information on the internet, especially at Ravelry, I was able to figure out the math involved for different sizes as well as reviewing a number of different basic hat patterns. I sure hope that this works out and that everyone enjoys knitting this as much as I have.



Madison with her new hat & bag for her 6th birthday, April 15, 2009.
(Original pattern picture before I made all the revisions in 2013)



Revised pattern – no accents on the eyes

Materials:

Any Worsted Weight Yarn

US size 6/4.0mm 16" circular needles and/or DPN's

Stitch markers

Cable Needle

Tapestry Needle

Beading Needle

Seed Beads, Buttons or Yarn to do a French Knot for the eyes, or you can choose not to accentuate the eyes.

Gauge: 5.5 stitches = 1" in stockinette stitch (your gauge will tighten up a bit in the cable section of the owl)

Please make sure to read the Notes regarding gauge. It is very easy to adjust the number of stitches needed to cast on for the different sizes because as we all know not all yarns or knitters knit the same.

Abbreviations:

C4B: slip 2 stitches onto the cable needle and hold at back of work, knit 2 stitches, then knit 2 stitches from the cable needle.

C4F: slip 2 stitches onto the cable needle and hold at front of work, knit 2 stitches, then knit 2 stitches from the cable needle.

Owl Pattern: (11 stitches and 18 rows)

1. *P3,K8*, *rep to end
2. *P3,K8*, *rep to end
3. *P3, C4B, C4F, *rep to end
4. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
5. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
6. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
7. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
8. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
9. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
10. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
11. *P3, C4B, C4F*, *rep to end
12. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
13. *P3, K1, P2, K2, P2, K1*, *rep to end
14. *P3, K1, P2, K2, P2, K1*, *rep to end
15. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
16. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
17. *P3, C4B, C4F*, *rep to end
18. *P3, K8*, *rep to end

SIZES:

Baby, Toddler, Child, Adult Small, Adult Large

(12-14", 14-16", 16-18", 18-20" 20-22")

NOTES: The pattern can easily be adjusted to fit any head circumference if you have the measurements. Otherwise you can use the above guideline, the cast on numbers for each size go with the larger inch size listed as most kids seem to grow rather quickly. If you have a fussy tween/teen or even an adult who likes a snug fitting hat then you would probably want to adjust your cast on number accordingly.

(i.e. 16.5" head circumference – multiply $16.5 \times 5.5 = 90.75$, round down to 90 stitches to cast on. Decrease the number of stitches evenly on the knit row before the Owl Pattern starts to a multiple of 11 (i.e. 2 stitches for 88 stitches – 8 owls) then increase the number of stitches on the knit row after the owl pattern is completed and continue the rest of the pattern.

Approximate hat heights will be: Baby 5 ½", Toddler 6 ½", Child 7 ½", Adult Small 8 ½", Adult Large 9 – 9 ½".

Pattern:

Cast on 78 (88, 100, 110, 122) stitches, place marker and join to work in the round, being careful not to twist the stitches.

K1, P1 or K2, P2 ribbing for 4 rows

Knit 2 rows - decrease 1(0, 1,0,1) on the 2nd knit row so there is a multiple of 11 stitches to start the Owl Pattern.

K3, P8, *rep to end

K3, P8, *rep to end

Start Owl Pattern:

(If needed a stitch marker can be placed between each P3, K8 section so you don't have to constantly be counting your stitches. 7 Owls (8, 9, 10, 11)

1. *P3,K8*, *rep to end
2. *P3,K8*, *rep to end
3. *P3, C4B, C4F*, *rep to end
4. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
5. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
6. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
7. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
8. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
9. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
10. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
11. *P3, C4B, C4F*, *rep to end
12. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
13. *P3, K1, P2, K2, P2, K1*, *rep to end
14. *P3, K1, P2, K2, P2, K1*, *rep to end
15. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
16. *P3, K8*, *rep to end
17. *P3, C4B, C4F*, *rep to end
18. *P3, K8*, *rep to end

Knit until hat measures 4" (5", 6", 7", 8") from beginning

Crown Shaping: (decreasing starts)

Switch to double pointed needles or use magic loop method when needed.

K9, K2tog across

Knit

K8, K2tog across

Knit

K7, K2tog across

Knit

Continue decreasing in this manner until 6 stitches remain.

Draw thread through the 6 stitches, pulling tightly to close.

Note: If you think the hat is going to be longer than you want decrease for 2 rows then knit a row.

Weave in ends.

Attach beads, buttons or using contrasting yarn do French Knots on rows 13/14 to accentuate the eyes of the owl. You can also add nothing.

Happy Knitting