

Mosaic Headband

Kara Shallenberg, June 2011

Note: mosaic knitting (also known as slip-stitch knitting) is easy (very very easy!) but it is an unfamiliar technique to many people. If you've never tried it, please read the instructions in Barbara Walker's "Charted Knitting Designs" (from which I took this chart) or <http://www.knitty.com/ISSUEsummer03/FEATslipstitch.html> and perhaps practice on a swatch. This is the important part from the knitty.com article:



"After casting on, work two rows in the first color [say, the lighter color], then attach the second color, leaving the first hanging. With the darker yarn, the light-colored stitches shown on the chart are slipped and the darker stitches are worked. Always slip stitches as if to purl; that is, insert the needle from right to left, and carry the yarn on the wrong side of the work. After you have knit your second row with the darker color, switch back to the light. You will always work two rows in each color and the two rows are the same: a stitch never changes its color in the second row."

Materials: about 14 grams (total) of two contrasting colors of fingering weight yarn.
1" wide elastic

Needles that give you a pleasant fabric, neither stiff nor floppy. I used size 1, but I am a very loose knitter. Gauge is unimportant; you can use more or less elastic to give you a perfect fit.

RS = right side (odd-numbered rows)
WS = wrong side (even numbered rows)

Headband is worked entirely in garter stitch. Don't purl, ever!

Use whatever increase method you prefer for the m1s.

Cast on 7 stitches with the lighter color.

Knit one row (WS).

Increase row (RS): k1, m1, k to last stitch, m1, k1.

Knit all WS rows.



Repeat increase row for all RS rows until you have a total of 19 stitches.

Begin mosaic chart on next RS row, using darker color for the black squares and lighter color for the white squares. Work with only one color at a time, across and back, slipping the stitches of the other color. When slipping, slip purlwise so you don't twist your stitches! Remember to slip with the yarn held to the **WRONG SIDE** -- that means that on WS rows, you will slip with yarn in **FRONT**.

Work chart 5 times, then work rows 1-6 one more time.

Drop darker color and work another pointed end with lighter color as follows:

Knit across, knit back.

Now, on all RS rows: k1, ssk, work until you have 3 stitches remaining, k2tog, k1, turn.

Knit WS rows.

Cast off on RS when you have 7 stitches remaining.

Weave in ends, block gently. It's ok if it seems too short -- it will stretch like crazy!

Pin elastic to short ends and make sure it'll fit your head comfortably, then cut to the correct length and stitch in place. The headband will **STRETCH** so you might not need as much elastic as you think you do! I needed 3.5 inches, plus an extra half-inch on each end to underlap.

When it stretches out with wear, just wash and re-block into shape.



WALLPAPER LATTICE

Multiple of 16 sts plus 3.

