



(Red) Star Beret

This hat is to my thinking a real beret—(it can be worn as a slouch hat, but it is a proper flat beret)

Yarn: about 200 yards of worsted weight wool or wool blend- but any worsted weight would be suitable—provided you achieve desired gauge!

(sample is worked in Lion Brand Wool Ease)

Stars come in a range of colors—white, blue, yellow, red--Pick your favorite color!

Needles: Size 6 (4 mm) needle and Size 8 (5mm) (circs or DPN's-your choice)
--or needle sizes required to achieve gauge.

The pattern is based on a multiple of 5 --and I think it is easier to knit on single circular needle (or if you have a spare, work on a set of 6(not 5!) DPN's!)

5 or 6 (or 10) stitch markers—in different colors (best)

Gauge: (will effect size!) 18 stitches/24 rows = 4 inches/10cm (size 8 needles)

Cast on-Using the smaller needles, **101 stitches***

(or 100 if not using suggested cast on)

(I used an [Open/Closed Long Tail](#) (also know as a Latvian cast on)

Join into a round; knit the last cast on stitch together with the first, to

A) correct the stitch count (100 stitches)

B) make the ribbing work evenly on the pairs of stitches created by cast on

(an obsessive detail only required if you use suggested cast on)

I just use the tail to mark Beginning of round, alternately, use marker.

Work in 2 X 2 ribbing for 2 inches—(you can do less, but I think a deep ribbed hem looks and fits better)

Change to larger needle and increase:

*Knit 10, M1 (or Knit 9, Knit front & Back) repeat—**110 stitches**

The style of increase doesn't matter at this point, what is important is 10 evenly space increases.

Work even for 7 rounds; Next increase

Round 8: Knit 6, *M1, Knit 11, Repeat from *, end round with K5.

(Here, the style of increase does matter, and you should use a Make 1, (lifted bar type) to make the increases almost invisible) –120 stitches

Work even for 7 more rounds

Round 16: K12, *M1, Knit 24, Repeat from * end round with K12—**125 stitches**

(again, invisible increases are required)

Work even for 7 more rounds.

On the last round, place markers for decreases—I find that split ring of safety pin markers **IN THE STITCH** work better—but do as you chose!

Mark the **13th** stitch, then the **38th**, the **63rd**, **88th**, **113th**,

(I also like, as I am working, to mark the segments (i.e., using a different color marker between stitches 25/26, and between, 50/51, etc.)

The plan is to have 5 groups of 25 stitches, with the center (13th stitch) of each group marked. I use one color marker for center stitch, and other to mark the groups of 25 stitches —place markers as works best for you.

Next Round: begin decreases—decreases will be worked Every Other Round till completion.

Make Raised Center Double Decrease, with the marked stitch being the center stitch of the decrease.*(ie, the 13th, 38th, et al)*

A Raised Center Double Decrease:

Slip 2 stitches together (both at once) as if to knit. K1, then Pass both stitches over Knit 1, (both at once) so that the marked stitch (the center stitch) is raised (on top), and remains in center.

There are 5 sets of decreases EOR, and stitch count will decrease by 10 stitches ever other round.

The center stitch should be evident after the 2nd set of increase, but you can, if desired, move the marker up as you work.

Continue, working a round of plain knitting, and round of decreases, till 5 stitches remain.

Work these stitch as an I-cord for 5 to 7 rounds, then bind off drawstring style.

Finish by weaving in the yarn tails.

The 5 raised decreases will create the spokes of a 5 pointed star; the beret will have a vague pentagon shape, and will easily fold/lie flat.

If desire block, (use a small (about 10 inch) dinner plate or pot lid to block to shape.