

Spiral Hat

by The Knitting Harpy, knittingharpy.wordpress.com



The Spiral Hat is a warm, cushy and close-fitting, with architectural details that make it simple to knit but elegant to wear. The twisted knit stitches give the soft wool definition, while the frequent crossovers increase the density and warmth of the fabric. Because of the frequent crossovers, the gauge for this hat is smaller than typical for a worsted-weight yarn. A fun detail: the spirals on the inside of the hat run in the opposite direction! This pattern would be mind-blowing in tweed or subtle heather.

SIZE

Small [Large]

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Length: 9 inches [10 inches]

Circumference: 14-20 inches [18-24 inches]

MATERIALS

Patons Classic Wool Merino [100% merino wool; 223 yds/100g]; color: gray; 1 skein

1 16-inch US #6/4.0 mm circular needle

1 set US#6/4.0 mm dpns

1 Tapestry needle

Stitch marker

GAUGE

30 sts/24 rows = 4 inches in pattern stitch

PATTERN NOTES

Hat is worked in the round on circular needles. In shaping crown, switch to double-pointed needles when necessary.

When working pattern in round, RLC will sometimes require you to cross a stitch over the stitch marker that indicates the beginning of a round. When this happens, take out stitch marker, perform the cross and replace it.

Right-leaning cross [RLC]:

Three versions of the instructions for RLC are described below. Use the one that makes the most sense to you.

First version of instructions:

1. Knit into *back* loop of second stitch on lefthand needle (second stitch should be a knit stitch), leaving st on lefthand needle.
2. Purl first stitch on lefthand needle (first stitch should be a purl stitch).
3. Slip both stitches off lefthand needle. The two worked stitches will now be on your righthand needle, the knit stitch twisted and crossed in front of the purl stitch.



Second version of instructions: Similar to cabling without a cable needle.

1. Insert the tip of the righthand needle into the second stitch on the lefthand needle (a knit stitch) in front of the work.
2. Slip the lefthand needle out of the first two stitches (a purl stitch and a knit stitch). You will now have an unworked knit stitch on the righthand needle, and a loose purl stitch.
3. Slip the lefthand needle back through the purl stitch at the back of the work.
4. Slip the unworked knit stitch from the righthand needle to the lefthand needle. You have now successfully crossed the two stitches.
5. Knit into the *back* loop of the first stitch on the lefthand needle (a knit stitch) to create a twisted stitch and purl the second stitch (a purl stitch).

Third version of instructions: Similar to cabling with a cable needle.

1. Place first stitch on lefthand needle (purl stitch) on cable needle and hold in back.
2. Knit into *back* loop of new first stitch on lefthand needle (knit stitch). The result will be a twisted knit stitch.
3. Replace purl stitch held on cable needle on lefthand needle and purl as normal.

DIRECTIONS

Using circular needle, CO 100 [130] sts. Place marker to indicate beginning of round. Join ends, being careful not to twist.

Begin twisted rib brim:

Row 1: *p1, k1 tbl* repeat to end.

Repeat row 1 until twisted rib brim is 1 inch long, or until length desired.

Begin spiral pattern:

Set up row 1:: *RLC* repeat to end

Set up row 2: ktbl of all knit stitches, purl all purled stitches

Row 1: k1 tbl, *RLC* repeat to end. For last purl stitch in round, perform RLC with last remaining purl stitch and knit stitch from beginning of round.

Row 2: ktbl of all knit stitches, purl all purled stitches

Repeat rows 1-2 until hat is desired length to begin shaping the crown, approx 6.5 [7.5] inches from cast-on edge.

Crown-shaping: (Shaping adds approximately 3.5 inches to the hat—if you want a shorter hat, start the shaping earlier than 6.5”)

Row 1: *Continue spiral pattern for 18[24] sts, p2tog* repeat to end

Row 2: *Continue spiral pattern for 17[23] sts, p2tog* repeat to end

Continue to decrease in this way, subtracting one stitch from the number of stitches worked before p2tog each round, until you are left with 10 sts on needles. Switch to DPNS when round circumference becomes too small for circular needle.

When only 10 sts are left, break yarn, draw through rem sts and pull tight.

FINISHING

Weave in ends. Do not block.