

Breton Stripe Cap



This pattern makes a short cap that just covers the top of the ears. For a long, more hat-like version, work more rows straight before starting the decreases for the crown.

The stripes in the cap are worked in the round, which can cause a step or jog where you switch colors at the beginning of a row. See my directions on how to do a stepless stripe <http://www.justcraftyenough.com/2012/09/go-team-mittens/>.

Supplies:

- white or ecru fingering or sock weight yarn, about 100 yards (I used Red Heart Heart and Sole)
- black or navy blue fingering or sock weight yarn, about 100 yards (I used King Merinos Lamé which is technically a sport weight)

Tools:

- 4 or 5 size 2 (2.75mm) double-pointed needles (or size needed to get gauge)
- 16" size 2 circular needle (optional) (or size needed to get gauge)
- stitch marker
- tapestry needle

Gauge: 7 stitches and 9 rows in 1 inch

Size: 22" (approx. 66cm)

Cast on 154 with the ecru or white yarn. You can do this on a circular needle or 5 double-points. Switch over to 4 double-points when the hat gets too small. Join in the round being careful not to twist stitches. Place a stitch marker between the last and first stitch.

Knit for 1 1/2 inches.

Purl one row.

Knit another 1 1/2 inches this time changing color ever two rows. (Make sure to use the stepless stripe technique on the second row of each color.) Don't bother cutting the yarn when you change colors, since you are only going up two rows just twist the colors when you change by bringing the new color up underneath the old. Here's what it will look like on the inside.



Weave in the ends where you started the black or blue yarn.

Fold the first 1 1/2 inches inside the hat at the purl row. On the next row pick up the corresponding cast on stitch with each stitch on the needle and knit them together. Here's what it will look like on the inside.



Continue working in knit stripes for another 1 1/2 inches.

Decreases:

Row 1: k5, k2tog (repeat until end of row) (132 stitches)

Row 2 -4: k

Row 5: k20, k2tog (repeat until end of row) (126 stitches)

Row 6 - 7: k

Row 8: k19, k2tog (repeat until end of row) (120 stitches)

Row 9 - 10: k

Row 11: k18, k2tog (repeat until end of row) (114 stitches)

Row 12 - 13: k

Row 14: k17, k2tog (repeat until end of row) (108 stitches)
Row 15 - 16: k
Row 17: k16, k2tog (repeat until end of row) (102 stitches)
Row 18 - 19: k
Row 20: k15, k2tog (repeat until end of row) (96 stitches)
Row 21 - 22: k
Row 23: k14, k2tog (repeat until end of row) (90 stitches)
Row 24: k
Row 25: k13, k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (84 stitches)
Row 26: k
Row 27: k12, k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (78 stitches)
Row 28: k
Row 29: k11, k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (72 stitches)
Row 30: k
Row 31: k10, k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (66 stitches)
Row 32: k9, k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (60 stitches)
Row 33: k8, k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (54 stitches)
Row 34: k7, k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (48 stitches)
Row 35: k6, k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (42 stitches)
Row 36: k5, k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (36 stitches)
Row 37: k4, k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (30 stitches)
Row 38: k3, k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (24 stitches)
Row 39: k2, k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (18 stitches)
Row 40: k1, k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (12 stitches)
Row 41: k2tog (repeat until the end of row) (6 stitches)

Cut yarn leaving about a 6" tail. Put the tail on a tapestry needle and weave through the six remaining stitches. Pull tail to the inside of the hat and pull the stitches tight. Weave in all remaining ends.

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