

Polar Bear Hat Pattern #1

Materials:

1 skein Lamb's Pride bulky weight yarn white or cream with a small amount in grey or black for the inside of the ears, 4.5mm –US sz 7, 24 in circular needle or double pointed needles, 4 stitch holders.

Gauge: 18 stitches to 4 inches

Size: adult

Instructions:

Cast on 82 stitches, join the ends being careful not to twist. Knit 2 rows, purl 2 rows then keep knitting in the round until your knitting measures 6 inches from the cast-on edge.

Split knitting for the ears:

Knit 40, slip next 2 stitches onto SEPARATE needles, the first one purlwise and the second one knitwise, onto stitch holders or double pointed needles. Knit 39, slip next 2 stitches onto SEPARATE stitch holders or needles, the first one purlwise and the second one knitwise.

Continue with the body of the hat knitting in the round, slipping 4 stitches on to 4 separate needles or stitch holders every round until you have 16 stitches on each holder/needle and 9 stitches in the middle.

Put all stitches onto double pointed needles if they aren't already keeping the ears on 2 for each ear and the center 9 on another 2 needles.

Slip 2 stitches from each ear needle (8 total) back onto the middle needles. Bind off middle stitches using the 3 needle bind off. Knit 2, one from each needle and bind off as you go.

Ears: Bind off the stitch on your middle needle with the first stitch of the ear, then knit around the ear, 32 stitches, 16 per side. Row 2 knit 5 of white and 6 of black/grey, then 5 of white on the front of the ear only, repeat this row 3 times then reduce black/grey to 4 stitches. Break off black/grey and continue to work around the ear, binding off one stitch on each side of the ear until 4 stitches remain. Bind these off with 3 needle bind off.

Repeat for second ear making sure the black faces front.

Sew in ends!