

Skull Hat



This is a warm winter hat with an inner ear band that provides the warmth of a double layer and serves to cover the floats behind the skull motif. The skull motif and decorative bands are a simplified version of the ones found on the “We Call Them Pirates” hat. Please visit www.helloyarn.com for this free downloadable pattern.

Yarn: samples knit in Patons Classic Merino
1 ball (100g) main colour and 1 ball (100g) contrast colour will make 2 hats
Gauge: 18sts and 28 rows in 4 inches
Needles: set of 5 US 8 / 5mm dpn
Set of 5 US 7 / 4mm dpn
5mm crochet hook (for provisional cast on)
Size: 22” circumference (adult)

(For a smaller hat, go down a needle size and tighten the gauge. For a very much smaller hat you may choose to eliminate 1 repeat of the skull chart, and cast on 84 stitches.)

Using crochet cast on (or other provisional method) cast on 98 stitches with 4mm / US7 needles. Alternatively, you may use your preferred cast on and slip stitch the ear band into place when the hat is completed. Make sure to cast on loosely if you choose to do this to avoid a tight line.

Join to knit in the round being careful not to twist stitches. Distribute stitches on four needles (25, 24, 25, 24). Mark the first stitch of the round. Knit 24 rows stockinette. Ear band complete.

Switch to 5mm needles.
Purl 1 row. (fold row)

Resume Stockinette stitch and follow chart. The chart is repeated 7 times around the circumference of the hat.

Row 25 is joining row. **Remember to weave in and secure any loose ends before you turn up the hem.** Remove crochet chain a few stitches at a time and slip live stitches onto a 4mm dpn. Work in 25 stitch sections. Hold these stitches to the INSIDE next to the working stitches. (Wrong sides together.) Knit together **matching stitches** from inside needle and outside needles. Make sure that you are starting with the marked stitch on the ear band and the corresponding first stitch on the hat to avoid creating bias. Essentially, you are knitting the inner layer to the main hat. It’s like doing a 3-needle bind off without the bind-off step.

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Complete remaining rows on chart.



Knit 12 rounds.

Start Decreases:

On each needle (repeat 4 times): K1, k2tog, knit to last 3 stitches, k2tog, k1

Repeat every round until there are 8 stitches remaining.

Break yarn. Thread yarn through live stitches and pull tight. Fasten off. Weave in ends.

Block lightly.

Resist the urge to attach a pom-pom.

Now make another one, reversing the main and contrast colours.

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Skull Hat: Chart

	Main colour
■	Contrast colour

														33
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	32
														31
	■		■		■		■		■		■		■	30
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	29
	■		■		■		■		■		■		■	28
														27
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	26
														25
														24
														23
	■				■	■	■				■			22
■	■			■	■	■	■	■			■	■		21
		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				20
			■	■	■	■	■	■	■				■	19
■			■		■	■	■		■			■		18
	■		■		■		■		■		■			17
■			■	■	■	■	■	■	■			■		16
			■	■	■		■	■	■				■	15
		■			■	■	■			■				14
■	■			■				■			■	■		13
	■				■	■	■				■			12
														11
														10
														9
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	8
														7
	■		■		■		■		■		■		■	6
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	5
	■		■		■		■		■		■		■	4
														3
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	2
														1
14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	

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