

TOP-DOWN HATLAN



A Top-Down Hat Pattern in Three Acts

By Corrado Lark

The Needs

Yarn:

1 (2 for Doubled Worsted/Bulky Extra Large) 100g skein(s) of worsted or sock/fingering weight yarn.

The doubled worsted sample in Hue Loco “Kewl Kids”, and the doubled sock sample in Hue Loco “Agate”.

A light DK can be subbed instead of doubling a sock yarn, and a light bulky can be subbed instead of doubling worsted yarn.

Needles:

Sock/DK:

US 5 16” and 32-40” magic looping circular needles or DPNs.

US 4 16” circular needle or DPNs.

Worsted/Bulky:

US 10 (6mm) 16” and 32-40” magic looping circular needles or DPNs.

US 8 (5mm) 16” circular needle or DPNs.

Notions:

9 Stitch markers

Darning needle

Gauge:

Doubled Sock/DK: 20 stitches and 30 rows per 4” in the body of hat pattern with your larger needle. (Act Two).

Doubled Worsted/Bulky: 15 stitches and 20 rows per 4” in the body of hat pattern with your larger needle (Act Two).

Adult Sizing (As written in pattern after Row 9):
Doubled Sock/DK Sm (Doubled Sock/DK Med, Doubled Sock/DK Lg, Doubled Sock/DK Ex Lg, Doubled Worsted/Bulky Sm, Doubled Worsted/Bulky Med, Doubled Worsted/Bulky Lg, Doubled Worsted/Bulky Ex Lg).

Final Measurements:

8 1/4” wide by 8” in length (9” wide by 9” in length, 9 3/4” wide by 10 1/2” in length, 10 1/2” wide by 11” in length, 7” wide by 8” in length, 9” wide by 10” in length, 10 1/2 wide by 11” in length, 11 1/2” wide by 12” in length.)

The Key

k - Knit

p - Purl

ktbl - Knit through the back loop

kfb - Knit into front of the stitch, and without pulling the stitch off your needle, knit into back of the stitch

wyif sl1 - With the working yarn in front, slip the next stitch as if to purl.

wyif sl2 - With the working yarn in front, slip one stitch as if to purl, then slip the next stitch as if to purl.

BOR - Beginning of Round

pm - Place marker

sm - Slip marker

The Notes

This is a top-down constructed hat using sock techniques. No decreases, only increases and choosing the appropriate bind off. Knit to whatever length you like.

The yarn is held double throughout, holding fingering double for DK or Worsted doubled. To avoid tangling, divide your skein into two cakes.

I am a loose knitter, so you may want to go up a needle size to meet gauge.

Keep your floats loose in Rows 15 and 19.

Video Tutorial: Judy's Magic Cast on for Top-Down Harlan, video by Morehouse Farms.

Instead of working the bottom needle, which can be clunky, Erin flips the work over after casting on to begin knitting on the wrong side, as required by the pattern.

https://youtu.be/wZ98_jaZsKE

I list two bind off options. I found the sewn bind off would be equally great (if done loosely) as the Stretchy Bind Off.

“How to Knit Elizabeth Zimmerman’s Sewn Bind Off” tutorial by New Stitch a Day: <https://youtu.be/DM40GtSq6aU> . (Note: Do not pull tight, keep this bind off loose)

“Jeny’s Surprisingly Stretchy Bind Off” tutorial by Knitting Blooms: https://youtu.be/ol8aZ7z_ISs



ACT ONE: The Increases

Using your larger-sized magic looping circular needle or DPNs, cast on 16 stitches using Judy’s Magic Cast On.

Work using standard magic loop or DPNs. After the cast on and turning the work, flip the work to use the wrong side of the cast on and continue to work as is standard with a Judy’s Magic Cast On.

- Row 1: Ktbl 8 times, k8. Place marker to indicate the beginning of the row.
- 2: Repeat *k1, kfb, pm* to the end of row. (inc. of 8 to 24 st.)
- 3: Knit.
- 4: Repeat *k2, kfb, sm* to the end of row. (inc. of 8 to 32 st.)
- 5: Knit.
- 6: Repeat *k3, kfb, sm* to the end of row. (inc. of 8 to 40 st.)
- 7: Knit.
- 8: Repeat *k4, kfb, sm* to the end of row. (inc. of 8 to 48 st.)
- 9: Knit.

Repeat as established, increasing to 72 (80, 88, 96, 56, 64, 72, 80) stitches.

ACT TWO: The Body

Switch to 16” circular needles.

- Row 10: Repeat *knit to 1 st. before marker, p1, sm* to the end of row.
- 11: Knit.

Repeat Rows 10-11 to desired length for the body of the hat. I knit my sample so the entire body of the hats were 8”. The ribbing is 2 ¼” as written.

ACT THREE: The RIBBING

Switch to your smaller needles.

- Rows 12-14: Repeat *ktbl twice, p1, ktbl twice, p1, ktbl, p1* to the end of row.
15: Repeat *wyif sl2, p1, wyif sl2, p1, wyif sl1, p1* to the end of row.
16-18: Repeat Rows 12-14.
19: ktbl, repeat *wyif sl2, ktbl, wyif sl2, ktbl, wyif sl1, ktbl* to the end of row (ending with wyif sl1).
20-23: Repeat Rows 12-15.
24-26: Repeat Rows 12-14.

Optional: Repeat Rows 19-26 once more for a longer ribbing section.

Bind off loosely with either the Elizabeth Zimmerman's Sewn Bind Off or Jeny's Surprisingly Stretchy Bind Off in pattern and weave in your ends!



The Backstory

After first conceiving the idea to do a top-down hat, I put out a poll on Instagram to see which bind off to appropriately use for a (comparable) toe-up sock, since I wasn't super familiar with the options. The first response was the "Elizabeth Zimmerman's sewn bind off". I used this on the "Kewl Kids" sample. The video instructions I found said to pull your bind off tight. I found this to be a mistake.

But I kept the tight bind off on my hat because I discovered when using earbuds for music, the tighter bind off keeps your earbuds in.

On the second sample I held a sock/fingering weight double to get a light DK, and used "Jeny's Surprisingly Stretchy Bind Off". While this bind off works better and is definitely stretchier, I am not a fan of the look of it. It's definitely personal choice!

The Credits

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