



Baby Bear Hat

By Kristin Baird

This hat is knitted from the bottom up, starting with the ear flaps. The braid attached to the ear flaps is an [8-stranded square braid](#). The ears and bow are knitted separately and sewn in place. This hat is for a newborn (3-6 months) (6-12 months). If you would like a different size, adjust your needles and/or your yarn.

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Gauge:

10 rows is 2", 6.5 STS is 2"

Materials:

Size 10 Double Point Needles (DPNs) and Circular Needles
1 skein of [Bernat Softee Chunky](#) in Dark Taupe
1 skein of [Lion Brand Baby's First](#) in Fairy Tale
Size J Crochet Hook
Yarn Needle

Abbreviations:

MC = Main Color
CC = Contrast Color
CO = Cast On
K = Knit
[M1A = Make 1 Away](#)
STS = Stitches
PM = Place Marker
K2Tog = Knit 2 Together
SC = Single Crochet
SL = Slip Stitch

Ear Flaps:

Using the circular needles, with MC, CO 3 STS

Row 1: K1, P to 1 before end, K1

Row 2: K1, M1A, K to 1 before end, M1A, K1

Repeat Rows 1 and 2 until there are 15 STS (17 STS) (19 STS).

Repeat Row 1 once more. Cut yarn. Push the ear flap out of the way of the needles and hold on the circular part.

For the second ear flap, repeat the same process as for the first, but don't cut the yarn.

Hat Body:

Turn and K across the 2nd ear flap. Using a [Cable CO](#), loosely CO 13 STS (13 STS) (15 STS), K across the 1st ear flap. Again, using the Cable CO, loosely CO 3 STS (3 STS) (3 STS), PM. Total: 44 STS (52 STS) (56 STS)

Being careful not to twist, connect for knitting in the round. Knit all rounds until the hat reaches 5" (5.5") (6") and switch to double point needles for the decreases.

Decreases for all sizes:

Round 1: *K2, K2Tog, K2 repeat from * around (40 STS)

Round 2 and 4: K around

Round 3: *K1, K2Tog, repeat from * around

Round 5: K2Tog around

Cut a 6" tail and using the yarn needle, thread through the remaining STS and pull tight to close up the hole then go through the top of the hat and tie a knot inside of the hat. Weave in loose ends.

Finishing:

SC around the edge of the hat with MC. Weave in ends. Using CC, SL around the base of the SCs just made. Weave in ends. Using MC, make 4 long strands for the braids (I usually just do the length between my hands outstretched). Fold in half and using the crochet hook,

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pull about an inch of the middle of the strands through the middle of the ear flap, then pull the ends through the loop just made. Cut the ends to about 3" past how long you want the braid to go, then do the [square braid](#) and tie a knot at the end. Trim up the ends if necessary.

Ears:

Using MC with an [invisible cast on](#), CO 12 STS while leaving an 8" tail

Row 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11: K across

Row 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12: Purl across

DO NOT BIND OFF

Cut an 8" tail and using the yarn needle, thread tail through stitches, sinch together and tie to secure. Use the yarn needle to thread original tail through cast on stitches (removing scrap thread as you go), sinch and tie to secure and cut working yarn.

Repeat the same process for the second ear. Use the tails to secure the ears to the hat.

Bow:

I got the pattern for the bow from [Cornflower Blue](#). I did number 2, but I only cast on 11.