BANKHEAD

By: Susie Gourlay

I named this hat in honor of my favorite ghost town; Bankhead (1904-1922). Nestled in the heart of Banff National Park, you'll miss it if you aren't paying attention. It was an old mining town that extracted the coal from Cascade Mountain. The settlement has been abandoned for almost a century, yet all that remains today are a few foundations, coal heaps and the stairs that once lead up to the church. Well worth a visit despite its haunting feel.

The 2 parts of this hat remind me of the 2 sections of the town; upper and lower Bankhead, where the houses existed and the industrial area thrived. The simple pattern resembles the train tracks and mine shafts which scatter the mountainside. This hat would have been a favorite among these coal miners.

Sizes:

Baby (Toddler, Child/Adult S, Adult M, Adult L, Adult XL)
To fit a head circumference of 12" (14, 16, 19, 22, 24)
Circle correct size throughout pattern to make it easier to follow.

Gauge: 20 stitches & 28 rows in stockinette = 4"

Materials:

- Size 7 US (4.5mm) 16" circular needle (or size needed to obtain gauge)
- Size 7 US (4.5mm) double pointed needles (or size needed to obtain gauge)
- Worsted Weight Yarn 75 – 200 yards depending on size
- Stitch Marker
- Tapestry Needle

Abbreviations:

k: knit
p: purl
ktbl: knit through the back loop
k2tog: knit 2 stitches together as if they were one
sl2kpsso: slip 2 stitches as one knitwise, knit the next stitch, pass the two slipped stitches over the stitch just knit

Cast on 60 (70, 80, 90, 100, 110) stitches using the long tail cast on method. Join for working in the round being careful not to twist stitches. Place a stitch marker on your right needle to mark the beginning of the round.

Ribbing:

ktbl, p1 repeat from * to * until end of round until you have knit about 2" (3, 3, 3, 3, 3) or desired length.

Body:

Round 1: *k4, p1* repeat from * to * until end of round
Round 2: knit all stitches
Continue repeating rounds 1 & 2 until you have 5" (6, 7, 7, 8, 9) from cast on edge (or desired length).

Decreases:

Switch to dpn's when you have too few stitches to knit comfortably
Round 1: *k1, k2tog, k1, p1* repeat from * to * until end of round
        48 (56, 64, 72, 80, 88) stitches remaining
Round 2: knit across all stitches
Round 3: *k3, p1* until end of round 48 (56, 64, 72, 80, 88)
Round 4: knit across all stitches
Round 5: *sl2kpsso, p1* 24 (28, 32, 36, 40, 44)
Round 6: knit across all stitches
Round 7: *k2tog* until end of round 12 (14, 16, 18, 20, 22)
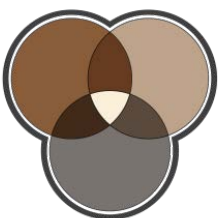**Round 8:** *k2tog* until end of round 6 (7, 8, 9, 10, 11)

For Adult M & XL sizes ONLY:
Round 9: k1, *k2tog* until end - (-, -, 5, -, 6)

Cut yarn leaving an 8" tail and gather up remaining stitches with tapestry needle and weave in ends.

Thank you and I hope you enjoy your new Bankhead. If you have any questions please email me at susie@knitnatural.com Follow me for patterns, tutorials and so much more at

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