

ELVES WITH HATS

By Terry Liann Morris – *SailingKnitter*

Knit up some sweet little friends using Styrofoam balls and fingering/sock weight yarns. Use these to decorate your work area, Christmas tree, or attach to presents. Personalize your elf face as you wish.

Size

Finished size of completed ornament is approximately 3 to 5 inches depending on style of hat selected for your elf.

Materials

Small amounts of fingering weight yarns, including some that is desired flesh color. Samples knit in Knit Picks Palette, colors red, blue, green, yellow, white, and tan.

1 set US Size 1 (2.25mm) needles

Styrofoam ball – 7”(18cm) circumference, 2 ¼” (5.5cm) diameter

Flathead straight pins

Glass or plastic headed straight pins for eyes

Gold craft wire, ribbon or yarn for hanging ornament if desired.

Small brass jingle bell for Hat #2

Gauge

8 sts = 1” over stockinette stitch

FACE

With your choice of “flesh” colored yarn, cast on 20 sts.

Work in rows in stockinette stitch (knit a row, purl a row) until piece measures 2 ¾” (7cm). Bind off. Stretch fabric

over a section of the Styrofoam ball and secure with flathead straight pins around edges. Insert two glass or plastic headed straight pins for eyes about ½” (1cm) from top edge of face, centered.

FINISHING

Make selected hat. Place hat on Styrofoam ball adjusting to cover edges of face. Pin in place. Make a loop with craft wire and insert ends into top of head, or pin a loop of ribbon where desired. Enjoy!

HAT #1: BEANIE WITH POMPOM

Color A = blue

Color B = white

With Color A cast on 52 sts. Divide onto double point needles. Join into the round, being careful not to twist the stitches. Work 2 x 2 ribbing (knit 2, purl 2) for 4 rounds.

Change to Color B (do not cut Color A yarn) and knit 2 rounds. Cut Color B yarn.



Change back to Color A and knit in rounds until piece measures 1 ½" from cast on edge, decreasing 2 sts evenly spaced in last round = 50 sts.

Decrease Rounds

Rnd 1: *k8, k2tog*, repeat to end of round = 45 sts

Rnd 2: knit

Rnd 3: *k7, k2tog*, repeat to end of round = 40 sts

Rnd 4: knit

Rnd 5: *k6, k2tog*, repeat to end of round = 35 sts

Rnd 6: knit

Rnd 7: *k5, k2tog*, repeat to end of round = 30 sts

Rnd 9: knit

Rnd 10: *k4, k2tog*, repeat to end of round = 25 sts

Rnd 11: knit

Rnd 12: *k3, k2tog*, repeat to end of round = 20 sts

Rnd 13: knit Color A = blue

Color B = white

Rnd 14: *k2, k2tog*, repeat to end of round = 15 sts

Rnd 15: knit

Rnd 16: *k1, k2tog*, repeat to end of round = 10 sts

Rnd 17: k2tog 5 times = 5 sts.

Break yarn leaving a 6" tail and thread tail through remaining sts. Gather together and secure yarn end. Make a pompom using both colors of yarn and sew to top of hat.

HAT #2: STRIPED STOCKING CAP WITH JINGLE BELL

Color A = red

Color B = green

Note: Carry unused color of yarn up vertically keeping strand loose.

With Color A, cast on 52 sts. Divide onto double point needles. Join into the round, being careful not to twist the stitches. Work 2 x 2 ribbing (knit 2, purl 2) for 4 rounds.

Stripe Pattern

Rnd 1: Change to Color B yarn (do not cut Color A, you will pick this up again for following stripes) and knit 3 rounds.

Rnd 2: Pick up Color A yarn again and knit 3 rounds.

Repeat these 2 rounds of the Stripe Pattern 4 more times.

Shaping Decreases

Maintain the striping color pattern throughout the rest of the hat. Colors are given in the instructions when there is a change.

Rnd 1 : Color B; k9, k2tog, knit to last 2 sts, k2tog = 50 sts.

Rnd 2: knit

Rnd 3: *k8, k2tog)*, repeat from * to * to end of round = 45 sts.
Rnds 4 & 5: Color A; knit these 2 rounds
Rnd 6: *k7, k2tog)*, repeat from * to * to end of round = 40 sts.
Rnds 7 & 8: Color B; knit these 2 rounds
Rnd 9: *k6, k2tog)*, repeat from * to * to end of round = 35 sts.
Rnds 10 & 11: Color A; knit these 2 rounds
Rnd 12: *k5, k2tog)*, repeat from * to * to end of round = 30 sts.
Rnds 13 – 15: Color B; knit these 3 rounds
Rnd 16: Color A; *k4, k2tog)*, repeat from * to * to end of round = 25 sts.
Rnd 17 & 18: knit these 2 rounds
Rnd 20: Color B; knit one round
Rnd 21: *k3, k2tog)*, repeat from * to * to end of round = 20 sts.
Rnd 22: knit
Rnd 23 - 25: Color A; knit these 3 rounds
Rnd 25: Color B; *k2, k2tog)*, repeat from * to * to end of round = 15 sts.
Rnds 26 & 27: knit these 2 rounds
Rnds 28 – 30: Color A; knit these 3 rounds
Rnd 31: Color B; *k1, k2tog)*, repeat from * to * to end of round = 10 sts.
Rnds 32 & 33: knit these 2 rounds
Rnds 33 – 35: Color A; knit these 3 rounds
Rnd 36: Color B; knit one round
Rnd 37: k2tog 5 times = 5 sts
Rnd 38: knit, cut Color B yarn leaving a 6" tail to weave
Rnd 39: Color A; knit one round
Rnd 40: k1, k2tog, k2 = 4 sts. Cut yarn leaving a 6" tail. Thread tail through remaining stitches and gather together. Secure yarn tail.

Sew jingle bell to top of hat.