

KNITTED PREEMIE HATS

Using most any soft washable yarn, cast on 58 st onto Size 5 needles. Shorter ones are easier to negotiate than the long ones.

K every row to make 1". Then stockinette st for 2 more inches. Stockinette st means k one row, p one row etc.

Decrease by knitting 4, k 2 tog, across row. Don't worry if it doesn't come out perfectly numberwise.

Purl back.

K3, k 2 tog, across row. Purl back.

K2, k 2 tog, across row. Purl back.

K1, k 2 tog, across row. Purl back.

Cut yarn leaving about 14" strand. Put a sewing needle on it. Pull through the remaining sts, pull up tight, and turning the hat inside out, sew a seam making it into a cap. Weave in ends.

Make a pompom and sew on top.

To make the pompom, wind your yarn around two adjacent fingers about 40 times. Cut yarn and get a ten inch piece to tie around the middle of the circlet you've just made. Circlet can be flat and then tie around both sides of the circlet, in the middle. This will leave lots of loose ends. Tie tightly and leave ends with which to attach the pompom at the top of the hat. Now take your sharp scissors and give the pompom a serious haircut. Lower parts can be made a bit shorter than the rest. Take smaller scissor for a fine tune-up and try to make the pompom as round as you can. Attach by threading a yarn needle through the ends, one at a time, and feed the end to the inside. When the second one is also inside, simply tie in a good knot and cut off the ends. If you don't like your result, never mind, try again and it will be much easier the second time.