

# Top Down Premie Hat

by C.C. Almon / JavaPurl Designs



*I've been knitting hats for quite some time and many of the hats I have knitted have been to donate to local hospitals for the premature babies in their Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (side note: I spent two years as a hospital chaplain and my primary unit was the NICU so I have a deep connection and affection for families of premature babies.). Having recently learned a new cast-on method, I decided to write this pattern for a top down premie hat. Happy Knitting!*

## Sizing:

8.75 inch (22cm) will fit an average 24 week baby

9.5 inch (24cm) will fit an average 26 week baby

10.25 inch (26cm) will fit an average 28 week baby

11.5 inch (29cm) will fit an average 31 week baby

12.5 inch (32cm) will fit an average 35 week baby

13.5 inch (34.5cm) will fit an average 38 week baby

14.5 inch (37cm) will fit an average full-term baby

## Gauge:

5 sts / 7 rows = 1" in stockinette stitch

(gauge isn't super important in this pattern though since babies come in many different sizes)

## Materials:

- Approximately 24 grams/42 yards of worsted weight yarn
- US6 (4mm) circular needle (cable length should be whatever is comfortable for you when magic looping - I used a 24")

- US F/5 (3.75mm) crochet hook (to cast on stitches)
- yarn needle
- stitch markers (Including 1 locking stitch marker)
- scissors
- tape measurer

## Abbreviations:

K : Knit

P : Purl

KFB : Knit front and back (Knit stitch as normal but do not slide stitch off left hand needle, knit into the back of the stitch that remained on the left hand needle, slide stitch off left hand needle). [KFB results in one stitch increased.]

K2tog : Knit two stitches together. [K2tog results in one stitch decreased.]

*Pattern Notes: (make sure and read the pattern in it's entirety before beginning so you don't miss important details)*

This pattern is written to be worked using the magic loop method. If you are unfamiliar with this technique, instructions may be found here <http://www.weebleknits.net/mloop.html> and here <http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/advanced-techniques>.

To cast on, use Emily Ocker cast on (instructions found here [http://www.spellingtuesday.com/circular\\_co.html](http://www.spellingtuesday.com/circular_co.html)).

To bind off, use Elizabeth Zimmermann's sewn bind off (instructions found here <http://www.woolywonder.com/classpages/sewncastoff/sewncastoff.htm>).

*Pattern:*

Using the Emily Ocker cast on method, cast on 12 stitches. Transfer stitches to circular needle. Arrange stitches with 6 on each needle ready to join and to begin knitting using the magic loop method. Attach small coil-less safety pin to first stitch to mark where your round begins.

**Round 1: Knit all stitches.**

**Round 2 (and all even rows in this section ending with Round 12): Knit all stitches.**

**Round 3: KFB of each stitch. 24 sts.**

**Round 5: \*K1, KFB,\* repeat from \* around. 36 sts.**

**For 8.75 inch (22cm) - Round 7: \*K4, KFB,\* repeat from \* 7 times total, K1. 43 sts. Then move on to Round 12.**

**For 9.5 inch (24cm) - Round 7: \*K2, KFB,\* repeat from \* 11 times total, K3. 47 sts. Then move on to Round 12.**

**For 10.25 inch (26cm), 11.5 inch (29cm), 12.5 inch (32cm), 13.5 inch (34.5cm), and 14.5 inch (37cm) - Round 7: \*K2, KFB,\* repeat from \* around. 48 sts.**

**For 10.25 inch (26cm) - Round 9: \*K15, KFB,\* repeat from \* around. 51 sts. Then move on to Round 12.**

**For 11.5 inch (29cm) - Round 9: \*K4, KFB,\* repeat from \* 9 times total, K3. 57 sts. Then move on to Round 12.**

**For 12.5 inch (32cm), 13.5 inch (34.5cm), and 14.5 inch (37cm) - Round 9: \*K3, KFB,\* repeat from \* around. 60 sts.**

**For 12.5 inch (32cm) - Round 11: \*KFB, K29,\* repeat from \* around. 62 sts. Then move on to Round 12.**

**For 13.5 inch (34.5cm) - Round 11: \*K7, KFB,\* repeat from \* 7 times total, K4. 67 sts. Then move on to Round 12.**

**For 14.5 inch (37cm) - Round 11: \*K4, KFB,\* repeat from \* around. 72 sts. Then move on to Round 12.**

**Round 12: Knit all stitches. (At this point, you have knit far enough to pull the tail from the Emily Ocker cast on tight. This will pull your stitches into a tight circle for the top of the hat. You will weave in this tail at the end of your project. Isn't your piece beautiful? Great job, keep knitting!)**

**For 8.75 inch (22cm) - Rounds 13 through 22: Knit all stitches EXCEPT Final stitch on Round 22, KFB. 44 sts. Then move on to Round 37.**

**For 9.5 inch (24cm) - Rounds 13 through 24: Knit all stitches EXCEPT Final stitch on Round 24, KFB. 48 sts. Then move on to Round 37.**

**For 10.25 inch (26cm) - Rounds 13 through 26: Knit all stitches EXCEPT Final stitch on Round 26, KFB. 52 sts. Then move on to Round 37.**

**For 11.5 inch (29cm) - Rounds 13 through 29: Knit all stitches EXCEPT Final 2 stitches on Round 29, K2tog. 56 sts. Then move on to Round 37.**

**For 12.5 inch (32cm) - Rounds 13 through 31: Knit all stitches EXCEPT Final 4 stitches on Round 32, K2tog twice. 60 sts. Then move on to Round 37.**

**For 13.5 inch (34.5cm) - Rounds 13 through 34: Knit all stitches EXCEPT Final stitch on Round 34, KFB. 68 sts. Then move on to Round 37.**

**For 14.5 inch (37cm) - Rounds 13 through 36: Knit all stitches. 72 sts. Then move on to Round 37.**

Rounds 37 through 40: \*K2, P2,\* repeat from \* around.

Bind off using Elizabeth Zimmermann's sewn bind off.

Finishing: Weave in all ends.

C.C. Almon has been knitting since 2005 & designing since 2012. You can find out more about C.C. on her blog "I'm On My Way ~ my journey as a Christ follower, wife, mamma, knitter, & fibromyalgia fighter" at <http://javapurl.blogspot.com>.

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