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Alice Beanie

By Erssie Major



This is a very simple striped beanie for a grown up little girl who loves all things pink. Her name is Alice. It could be made for a boy too in the appropriate colours. The idea is to use luxurious yarns in merino, silk or cashmere for softness but to make it a resourceful knit by only choosing leftover yarns from your other projects and knitting stripes. This would also make a perfect gift for a child who is about to have a new brother and sister and feels a little left out with the amount of knitwear the new little bundle is getting from you. You could even make a matching pair of hats, one in this size and one for an infant using the same yarns.

Size

One size to fit 4yrs upwards
From 17 inches up to 19 inches

Finished Measurements

16 inches unstretched

Materials

Yarns

Debbie Bliss Rialto Aran

100% extra fine merino wool 86m/50g

1 x 30g in Shade Rose (**Yarn MC**)

Sublime Cashmerino Silk Aran

75% Extra Fine Merino/20% Silk/5% Cashmere/86m/50g

1 x 15g in Shade 009 Blush (**Yarn A**)

Debbie Bliss Cashmerino Aran

55% merino wool, 33% microfibre, 12% cashmere 80m/50g

1 x 15g in 101 Shade Off White (**Yarn B**)

Needles

1 set of dpns size 5mm (US 8)

Notions

1 wool/darning needle for weaving in ends

1 stitch marker to mark beg of rnd

4 stitch markers for decreases

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Gauge

18 sts x 24 rows = 4 inches on 5mm dpns

Abbreviations

See end of pattern

Pattern Notes

Striped Pattern Sequence

3 rnds Yarn A
3 rnds Yarn B
3 rnds Yarn MC

Brim

Using MC and 5mm dpns, CO 72 sts loosely (any method)
Divide between 4 dpns (using 5th to knit with) i.e. 18sts per dpn
Join carefully into rnd (pm if necessary)
K 8 rnds MC

Main Body of Hat

Join Yarn A, and following the **Striped Pattern Sequence** as set above,
K a total of 3 pattern rpts i.e. a total of 9 stripes ending on 3rd rnd of MC (35 rnds from CO edge)

Crown

Prepare to decrease, make sure you have 18sts per dpn
Pm half way along each dpn, so that there is a marker every 9 sts (the end of a dpn serves as a marker too so keep stitches where you placed them throughout)
Now decrease 1 st before a marker, and 1 st before the end of a dpn on every rnd as follows:

Next Rnd: K7, K2tog (64 sts)

Next Rnd: K6, K2tog (56 sts)

Next Rnd: K5, K2tog (48 sts)

Next Rnd: K4, K2tog (40 sts)

Next Rnd: K3, K2tog (32 sts)

Next Rnd: K2, K2tog (24 sts)

Next Rnd: K1, K2tog (16 sts)

Next Rnd: K2tog (8sts) stop here for two I-Cords for a bow on top of the hat

Next Rnd: K2tog (4sts) stop here for an I-Cord stalk

I-cord Topknot

*Put remaining 4 stitches on to one dpn
Slide stitches to other end of this dpn so yarn tail is at 'wrong' end
Pulling tail across back of work knit these 4 stitches
Then slide the stitches to the end of the dpn again
Pull yarn across back of work as before and knit these stitches again
Keep repeating this to form an I-cord stalk
When stalk is desired length, cut yarn and thread through last 4 stitches**
Knot I-cord into a cute stalk.

Bow

With the first 4 stitches of the remaining 8 follow instructions for I-cord from * to ** until you have a length long enough to tie into a bow

Repeat with remaining 4 stitches so that you have two lengths of I-cord on top of the hat

Knot together and tie a cute bow for a girl's hat.

Finishing

Thread tail(s) of I-Cord stalks onto a darning needle, and secure the ends of cords hiding the ends of yarn inside the centre of the cord. Weave in all ends. Launder in a mild baby shampoo and reshape whilst damp and dry flat. When worn, the edge of the hat can be rolled up as far as necessary and extended as the baby grows.

Extra Tip

To eliminate the jog in the stripes

Knitting in the round means that you are going round in a circle, making stitches in a spiral fashion. This means that when you change colours, where the old round meets the new round the ends of the stripes that are not lined up look slightly offset and can cause a visual 'jog'. To reduce the effect you can do the following:

At beginning of round, drop old colour and pick up new yarn and knit one round with the new colour as normal. At the beginning of the of next rnd, on the first stitch on the LH needle, place the tip of your needle into the stitch below and lift it up onto the needle with the first stitch, then knit together both the first stitch and the picked up stitch. Continue knitting the next round as normal until you change colours again, then repeat this procedure. You won't get a perfect match for your stripes, but you will get a neat line of 'slip' stitches at centre back and from afar the stripes do not look 'jogged'.

Abbreviations (A - Z)

Beg: Beginning

CC: Contrast Colour

Cont: continue

Dpn: double pointed needle

K - Wise: Knit wise

K: Knit

K2tog: Knit 2 together (decrease or knitting wrap + stitch)

LH: Left hand

MC: Main Colour

P - Wise: Purl wise

P: Purl

P2tog tbl: Purl 2 together through back of loops (decrease or purling wrap + stitch)

Pm: place marker

PU and K: Pick up and knit

Rem: remaining

RH: Right hand

Rnd: round

Rpt: repeat

RS: right side

Sl m: slip marker

St st: stockinette (stocking stitch)

St(s): stitch (es)

Tbl: through back of loop(s)

Wrap
W & T: Wrap and Turn
WS: Wrong side

The Designer

Erssie Major has enjoyed knitting and crochet on and off since she was 4yrs old and she loves to write simple knitting and crochet patterns for on line magazines, print magazines and books. She lives with her partner and two rescued greyhounds. Her blog *Skeinspotting: A World of Erssie Knits* on her website

<http://www.erssieknits.com> documents her knitting adventures as well as knitting patterns, book and yarn reviews, links to other free patterns and craft community websites and the Erssie Knits gallery. She also writes a blog about rescued greyhounds where occasionally her interests in knitting and dogs overlap resulting in amusing photo collections of hounds in knitwear. Erssie has a long term chronic illness with disabilities and as such is committed to the idea of knitting as therapy. You can contact her via her email address; erssiemajor@yahoo.co.uk



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