

Striped Earflap Hat

This little hat will keep your ears and neck nice and warm. Lots of pretty plain and tweed-effect horizontal stripes in three colors look lively and make great use of small skeins of yarn. The hat is worked in one piece, from the top down; there is a seam in the back.



Loom: Knitting board, small gauge (56+ needles) ½" between boards

Yarn: Bulky weight, Lion Brand Wool Ease, 3 colors wool/acrylic blend, 75 yards each. Shown in in gray, white, and black.

Notions: Knit hook, crochet hook size 5/F or 6/G, large sewing needle.

Gauge: 3 stitches and 4 rows = 1 inch

Stitch: Stockinette

Size: Fits most adults
Aprox size=23" around, above ears

Instructions

Start at crown with the gray yarn. Cast on 56 stitches in Stockinette Stitch using a gray Anchor Yarn.

Work in Stockinette Stitch for 5 rows. Cut the gray yarn, leaving a short tail of 2-3". Continue in Stockinette Stitch as you work the stripes.

Plain Stripes

Row 6: Tie on white yarn at beginning of row; work row; do not cut yarn.

Row 7: Tie on black yarn at beginning of row; work row; do not cut yarn.

Row 8: Tie on gray yarn at beginning of row; work row; do not cut yarn.

Rows 9 through 14: Repeat the colored stripe sequence twice more, picking up each color when needed. When the 9th stripe row is complete, cut and knot the gray and black yarns leaving short tails, 2-3". Do not cut the white.

Rows 15 through 17: With white yarn, work 3 rows. Do not cut the white yarn.



Tweed stripes

Row 18: Weave across board to end of stitches with white yarn; do not return the circular. Tie on gray yarn and return to the beginning of the row with gray. Hook over. Do not cut the yarns.

Row 19: Tie on the black yarn. Weave to end of stitches with black; then pick up the white yarn and return to the beginning. Hook over.

Row 20: In the same way, work a tweed row with the white and then the gray yarn.

Row 21: Repeat Row 20 with white and then black yarn.

Row 22: Repeat again with white and then gray yarn. Cut and knot the black and gray yarns, leaving short tails.

Row 23: Work a full circular with white yarn.

Rows 24 through 28: Tie on gray yarn at the beginning of row 24; cut and knot the white yarn, leaving a short tail. Continuing in Stockinette Stitch with gray yarn, work 5 rows. Do not cut the gray yarn; lay it between the boards and bring it to the front between needle #8 and needle #9.

Bind Off for back neck and forehead edges

At the beginning of the next row, bind off 8 stitches using the Soft Crochet (2 loop) method.

Place the last loop from the bind off onto needle #9. Leave the next 11 stitches on the needles for one earflap. Then, working from left to right, bind off next the 18 stitches for front of hat and place the last loop from the bind off onto the next needle on one board. Leave the next 11 stitches on the needles for the second earflap. Now, working from right to left, bind off the last 8 stitches; place the last loop from the bind off onto the adjacent earflap needle.

Note that some of the earflap needles have 2 loops; be sure to lift both these loops when you hook over the next row.

Ear Flaps

Pick up the gray yarn at the left edge of the first earflap. Work 2 rows on these 11 stitches in Stockinette stitch.

(To keep the stitches for the second earflap from being jiggled off their needles, place a piece of tape over them.)

Next row: Decrease 1 stitch at each end on both boards.

Work the row in Stockinette Stitch.

Work 2 additional rows in Stockinette stitch.

*Next row: Decrease 1 stitch at each end on both boards. Work the row in Stockinette Stitch.

*Work 1 additional row.

Repeat these 2* rows until you have 1 stitch remaining. Cut and knot the yarn, leaving a short tail.

Tie on gray yarn at left edge of the remaining 11 stitches and work the second earflap just as you did for the first one.

Finishing

Fold the hat so the back edges meet and the stripes match; sew together using gray yarn and invisible stitch. Cut and knot the sewing yarn. Tie the anchor yarn to itself snugly, sliding all the cast-on stitches together, and then cut the yarn, leaving short tails, 2-3" long. Pull the tails in between the knit layers. Add a pompom to the top of hat at center.



Ties

Add a tie to the end of each earflap

Cut a 7-foot length of yarn, double it, and use a crochet hook to pull the fold through the end of the earflap. Remove the hook and then pass the ends of the yarn through the folded loop; pull snugly. Crochet this double strand to make the tie.

Repeat for the other earflap. If you like, attach a small pompom to the end of each tie.

