***KNITTERS NOTES***

***This pattern is not difficult to knit, but interpreting the pattern for the different types and sizes of needles – to make it as comprehensive as possible - may take a bit of experience! Please don’t be put off by the amount of information before you get to the actual method!!***

*If you are using dpns, distribute the sts over the needles in multiples of 16 eg 48 sts on needles 1 and 3 and 64 st on needle 2 for the basic 160 st pattern; this means that when you are increasing or decreasing you begin and end with each needle at the same part of the pattern repeat. If you start to struggle with keeping all the sts on 3 dpns towards the end of the increasing section, add an extra dpn and re-distribute the sts over 4 needles [ideally keeping () sections on the same needle as before.] You will be able to return to working over the original 3 needles during the decreasing section.*

 *If you are working on 2 straight needles rather than a circular needle or dpns, follow the instructions in red.*

***SIZES***

*When knitted on 2.5 or 2.75 mm needles, this pattern will make a beret for an older child / adult with a smaller head – circumference of approximately 50 cm when stretched. If you are using this size of needles and want it larger, cast on an extra 16 sts (176 in total) and work an extra repeat of the section in () brackets on the increasing and decreasing rows. [The basic pattern has 10 `panels’; with the extra 16 sts, there will be 11 `panels’.]*

*If you work on 3mm or 3.25 needles, the basic pattern should be large enough for an adult. If you want to make a child’s version on these sizes of needles, cast on 144 sts and work 8 repeats, giving 9 `panels’ instead of 10.*

*If you make either of these changes, you will need to adjust the last 2 or 3 rows of the decreasing section to take account of having 1 st more or less; if you have an even number at the start of a knit row, do all as k2 together (or p2 together, if on wrong side) and if you have an odd number, do k2tog to last st, then k1 (or p1, p2 tog to end, if on wrong side) . You are aiming to finish with 3 or 4 sts.*

**Abbreviations**

**Dec** = decrease, **Inc** = Increase, **K** = knit, **k2tog** = knit 2sts together, **p** = purl, **p2tog** = purl 2 together, **Rep** = Repeat, **Rnd(s)** = Round(s), **rs** = right side, **ws** = wrong side, **sts** = stitches, **tog** = together,

**Special Abbreviations**

Inc in next st = knit into front and back of next st

**Materials**:

1 ball of Yarndale sock-weight yarn,

**Needles –** *Please read the notes above, then choose the needles that work best for you from the list below:*

one circular needle

**or** one set of double-pointed needles (dpns)

**or** a pair of straight needles of 2.5 / 2.75 / 3.0 / 3.25 mm size

*choose according to whichever size gives you a neat finish for the tension at which you naturally knit with sock-weight yarn.*

**Method**:

Cast on 160 sts (ideally using the thumb / long tail method) and join in the round. **Place a marker to show beg/end of round**.

Work 16 rounds in k2, p2 rib.

(***Knitter Note:*** *If you usually prefer to work a few rows using the ends of the circular needle as straight needles initially, before joining in the round (as I do) when knitting socks: work either 1 or 3 rows ie an odd number, with a p2, k2 rib on the 1st (and 3rd) rows which form the wrong side.* )

Change to all knit rows except for the \*\* round.

**Increasing section:**

K6 rnds.

**Inc Rnd:** (k15, Inc in next st) rep to end of round. (170sts)

K5 rnds.

**Inc Rnd:** (k16, Inc in next st) rep to end of round. (180sts)

K5 rnds.

**Inc Rnd:** (k17, Inc in next st) rep to end of round. (190sts)

K5 rnds.

**Inc Rnd:** (k18, Inc in next st) rep to end of round. (200sts)

K5 rnds.

\*\* Purl 1 round *[which gives a contrast stitch row on which the `brim’ of the beret turns].*

**Decreasing section:**

K3 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k18, k2tog), rep to end of round. (190sts)

K 7 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k17, k2tog), rep to end of round. (180sts)

K 7 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k16, k2tog), rep to end of round. (170sts)

K 7 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k15, k2tog), rep to end of round. (160sts)

K 5 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k14, k2tog), rep to end of round. (150sts)

K 5 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k13, k2tog), rep to end of round. (140sts)

K 5 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k12, k2tog), rep to end of round. (130sts)

K 5 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k11, k2tog), rep to end of round. (120sts)

K 4 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k10, k2tog), rep to end of round. (110sts)

K 4 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k9, k2 tog), rep to end of round. (100sts)

K 4 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k8, k2tog), rep to end of round. (90sts)

K 4 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k7, k2tog), rep to end of round. (80sts)

K 3 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k6, k2tog), rep to end of round. (70sts)

K 3 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k5, k2tog), rep to end of round. (60sts).

K 3 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k4, k2tog), rep to end of round. (50sts).

K 2 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k3, k2tog), rep to end of round. (40sts)

K 2 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k2, k2tog), rep to end of round. (30sts)

K 2 rounds.

**Dec Rnd**: (k1, k2tog), rep to end of round. (20sts)

K 1 round.

**Dec Rnd**: K2tog 10\* times. (10sts)

K 1 round

**Dec Rnd**: K2tog 5\* times (5sts)

K2 tog twice, k1.

Break yarn leaving a few cms to work with. Using a sewing-up needle, pass the yarn through the remaining sts and draw up tightly.

On the inside, secure with a couple of sts and thread in the end of the yarn.

If you are working throughout on straight needles:

Cast on an 161sts and work the rib as follows:

**Row 1 (ws):** k1, (p2, k2) to end.

**Row 2 (rs):** (P2, k2) to last st, p1.

When you sew up the seam, you should lose ½ st from each side and end up with a k2-looking join on the right side.

Rib 17 rows in total on 2.75 mm needles / 15 rows in total on 3.0mm or 3.25mm then change to stocking st for the rest of the beret except for the \*\* row.

**Increasing section:**

Beginning with a Knit row, work 6 rows in stocking st.

**Next row (rs):** (k15, inc in next st) rep to last st, k1. (171sts)

Work 5 rows in st st beg with a P row.

**Next row (rs):** (k16, inc in next st) rep to last st, k1. (181sts)

Work 5 rows in st st beg with a P row.

**Next row (rs):** (k17, inc in next st) rep to last st, k1. (191sts)

Work 5 rows in st st beg with a P row.

**Next row (rs):** (k18, inc in next st) rep to last st, k1. (201sts)

Work 5 rows in st st beg with a P row.

\*\* (Right side) Purl 1 row [which gives a contrast stitch on which the `brim’ of the beret turns].

**Decreasing section:**

(ws) Work 5 rows in st st beginning with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k18, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (191sts)

Work 7 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k17, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (181sts)

Work 7 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k16, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (171sts)

Work 7 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k15, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (161sts)

Work 7 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k14, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (151sts)

Work 5 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k13, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (141sts)

Work 5 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k12, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (131sts)

Work 5 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k11, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (121sts)

Work 5 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k10, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (111sts)

Work 5 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k9, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (101sts)

Work 3 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k8, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (91sts)

Work 3 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k7, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (81sts)

Work 3 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k6, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (71sts)

Work 3 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k5, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (61sts)

Work 3 rows in st st, starting with a purl row.

**Next row (rs):** (k4, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (51sts)

Purl 1 row.

**Next row (rs):** (k3, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (41sts)

Purl 1 row.

**Next row (rs):** (k2, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (31sts)

Purl 1 row.

**Next row (rs):** (k1, k2tog), rep to last st, k1. (21sts)

Purl 1 row.

**Next row (rs):** K2tog 10 times, k1. (11sts)

P1, p2tog 5 times. (6sts)

K2tog 3 times. (3sts)

Break yarn leaving a few cms to work with. Using a sewing-up needle, pass the yarn through the remaining sts and draw up tightly.

On the inside, secure with a couple of sts and thread in the end of the yarn. Sew up the seam from the bottom edge using mattress st or over-sewing through the end sts of rows. Thread in the loose end.