

Code 88 Hat (with 120 stitches)

by Amanda Shopa

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Perfect for a quick Valentine's Day gift, this hat is called 88 not because it has 88 stitches per round (it doesn't), but because 88 is used in Morse Code to mean "hugs and kisses." The number eight in Morse code is written as --- ·, which I translated to K3, P2. This hat features twelve 88s all around. Made to fit closely without a folded brim or hem, this pattern includes two methods of decreasing for the hat. One will produce the star shape (as shown) and the other will produce a swirl.



Skills Needed

Knitting in the round
Decreasing (K2tog and SSK)

Size

Fits 20-24" head

Finished Measurements

Width (relaxed state, flat): 7"/18 cm
Height (relaxed state, flat): 8"/20 cm

Materials

- o Two balls Schechenmayr Lipomo yarn (color shown 32, rose; 60% Acrylic, 40% Viscose; 108 yards/108 meters per 50 g hank; ball band gauge of 18 stitches over 4"/10 cm using US 7-9/4.5-5.5 mm needles; I used 75 g (164 yards/150 meters) for the hat)
- o Double points US 6/4 mm OR needles size needed to obtain gauge
- o Stitch marker
- o Tapestry needle
- o A possible yarn substitution is a worsted or Aran weight yarn with some elasticity and give.

Gauge

36 wide by 32 high over 4"/10 cm in P2, K3 ribbing in a RELAXED state

Pattern Notes

K2tog is knit two together

SSK is slip one stitch knitwise, place on left hand needle and knit 2 together through the back loop

P2, K3 Ribbing

P2, K3 repeat 24 times for one round.

Pattern

Cast on 120 stitches. Place marker and join, being careful not to twist stitches. Work P2, K3 ribbing until piece measures 4 inches, or desired length (I like my hats to cover my ears entirely, as shown).

Decrease as follows (star shaped, as shown):

Rnd 1: *Work 18 stitches as established, K2tog* 6 times around.

Rnd 2-34 even: Work stitches as they appear.

Rnd 3: Work 2 as established, *SSK, work 17 as established* 6 times around.

Rnd 5: *Work 16 stitches as established, K2tog* 6 times around.

Rnd 7: Work 2 as established, *SSK, work 15 as established* 6 times around.

Rnd 9: *Work 14 stitches as established, K2tog* 6 times around.

Rnd 11: Work 2 as established, *SSK, work 13 as established* 6 times around.

Rnd 13: *Work 12 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 15: Work 2 as established, *SSK, work 11 as established* 6 times around.
Rnd 17: *Work 10 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 19: Work 2 as established, *SSK, work 9 as established* 6 times around.
Rnd 21: *Work 8 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 23: Work 2 as established, *SSK, work 7 as established* 6 times around.
Rnd 25: *Work 6 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 27: Work 2 as established, *SSK, work 5 as established* 6 times around.
Rnd 29: *Work 4 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 31: Work 2 as established, *SSK, work 3 as established* 6 times around.
Rnd 33: *Work 2 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 35: Cut thread, leaving long tail, run through all 18 stitches once purlwise and once knitwise, pull tight.

Weave in all ends.

Decrease as follows (swirl shaped, not shown, as written will produce a right-slanting swirl, using SSK instead of K2tog will produce a left-slanting swirl):

Rnd 1: *Work 18 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 2-34 even: Work stitches as they appear.
Rnd 3: *Work 17 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 5: *Work 16 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 7: *Work 15 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 9: *Work 14 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 11: *Work 13 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 13: *Work 12 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 15: *Work 11 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 17: *Work 10 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 19: *Work 9 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 21: *Work 8 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 23: *Work 7 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 25: *Work 6 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 27: *Work 5 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 29: *Work 4 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 31: *Work 3 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 33: *Work 2 stitches at established, K2tog* 6 times around.
Rnd 35: Cut thread, leaving long tail, run through all 18 stitches once purlwise and once knitwise, pull tight.

Weave in all ends.

ABOUT THE DESIGNER

Amanda C. Shopa is an elementary educator in the Atlanta, Georgia area. When not knitting in her own home, she's knitting in other people's homes, knitting in the car while someone else drives, or working out new knitting patterns. She can occasionally be found at a hangar, gazing at WWII airplanes. She has a pattern currently available at

Chiagu.com, another pattern featured in the Spring 2006 issue of *Twists and Turns*, and has a pattern set to come out in the April 2006 issue of *MagKnits.com*. More of her work can be seen at www.amandaknits.com.

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