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The Big Knit Snail Hat by shaz peacock

Please feel free to print this pattern and share it with anyone who wishes to use it to make the hats for charity or for their own personal use - not for sale

SNAIL HAT

You will need:

Size 4mm needles; large tapestry needle; equal amounts of main colour DK wool for the body, and contrast colour for the shell and mouth; a scrap each of black and white wool for the eyes (or stick on googly eyes).

Body

Using a light colour, cast on 40sts Knit 2 rows Starting with a p row, stocking stitch 3 rows dec 1st at each end 34sts Cast off 5sts at the beg of the next 4 rows 14sts

Head

On these 14sts: stocking stitch 10 rows Next row: k2tog twice, k6, k2tog twice 10sts Next row: p

Eyes

On the first 5sts * make an i-cord 6 rows long Next row: keeping the i-cord going: k1, k1fb 3 times, k1 8sts Next row: knit Next row: k2tog to end Fasten off.

For the other eye, work on the next 5sts from *

Whilst inside out, sew half way down the back of the head. Turn right side out.

Shell

Using a darker contrast colour and with right side facing, pick-up and knit 26sts (starting and ending aprox 2.5cm/1 inch away from the end of the cast on edge on the body, which will form the tail)

Knit 3 rows

** k to the last 4sts; turn; p to the last 4sts: turn; k to the end; p across whole row Rep from ** twice more Next row: k2tog to end Next row: p2tog to end Fasten off and sew along seem.

Tail

Using a scrap of the lighter colour, sew along the top of the tail. Turn right side out.

Stick on googly eyes, or using white, sew 3 long stitches for each eye and with black, make knots for the centre of each eye and sew on a smile using the same colour as you have used for the shell, as shown.

To finish, sew in any loose threads to keep tidy.

N.B.

k1fb = knit into the front and back of the next stitch