HEAD SOCK

The basic ribbed hat. Makes a perfect gift for even the most persnickety recipient.

Skill level: patient beginner

Skills needed: knit, purl, decreases (k2tog, ssk)

Yarn: approximately 100 g of fingering weight yarn

Needles: US 2 / 2.75 mm, one 16" circular and one longer circular/two 24" circular/DPNs for crown decreases

Notions: four stitch markers, with one that looks different from the rest

Sizes: M, L

Abbreviations:
k = knit
p = purl
[…] = repeat stitches in brackets for instructed length
pm = place marker
sm = slip marker
k2tog = knit two together
ssk = slip slip knit
"work in established pattern" = knit the stitches which were knit on the previous row and purl the purl stitches

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Using the 16" circular, cast on (144, 160) stitches using a stretchy method. Join to work in the round, being careful not to twist your work.

Work in k2, p2 rib for 8-9" (6" for a non-folding brim)

Crown decreases
Beginning between any two purl stitches, place BOR (beginning of round) marker.

Setup round: [p1, work in established rib for (34, 38) stitches, p1, pm] three times then continue in established pattern to BOR marker - you will have four markers total with (36, 40) stitches between them.

Row 1: [p1, k1, ssk, work in established pattern to 4 stitches before next marker, k2tog, k1, p1, sm] four times - 8 stitches decreased
Row 2: work in established pattern

Repeat rows 1 and 2 until there are 12 stitches between markers. Switch to magic loop or DPNs when stitches get too tight for the 16" circular.

Don't worry if your hat isn't looking like the picture right now - we are actually doing the crown decreases inside out!

Repeat row 1 until there are 6 stitches between markers. Remove markers on the last row of this section.

Row 3: [p1, ssk, k2tog, p1] four times - 16 stitches remaining.
Row 4: k2tog all the way around - 8 stitches remaining

Cut yarn and thread through remaining stitches, pulling tight to close top of hat. Flip it inside out, weave in ends, and enjoy!