

## Knitty Kat's Ponytail Pi Hat

I have to first say that this hat is a combination of several other basic top down hat patterns out there. I'm also pretty positive someone else has come up with this type of "ponytail hat" before, so in no way am I claiming this to be totally original.

And please be kind, this is the first pattern I've tried to actually write down so I can re-knit it!

You don't actually need to make a swatch for this hat, since it's knit top down and since it uses a bit of math, you can just knit and measure as you go.

Cast on eight. I usually use a knitted cast-on, just for a bit of extra stability. Join in the round, being careful not to twist your stitches.

Starting round: knit all stitches through the back loop. This helps to close up the gap at the top of the hat better than knitting through the front loops. (Two stitches per needle.)

Round 1: (all needles) kfb of both stitches (four stitches per needle, sixteen stitches total)

Round 2: knit even

Round 3: (all needles) k1, kfb, kfb, k1 (24 stitches total)

Round 4: knit even

Round 5: (all needles) k1, kfb, knit to two end stitches, kfb, k1 (32 stitches total)

Round 6: knit even

Repeat rounds 5&6 until hat is at the right circumference.

Here's how you figure that out. As long as you keep increasing, you'll notice you are knitting more of a square shape than a round shape. Lay your knitting out flat (being sure to keep it on the needles!) and measure from the top left corner across to the bottom right corner (the diagonal of the square.) Multiply that number by pi and you'll get the circumference of your hat! Of course, you want this number to be a bit smaller than your actual head measurement, since the hat will stretch.)

When the hat is at the right circumference, knit three or five or so rows even (now your hat will begin to resemble an actual round hat instead of a flat square.)

To make the ponytail slit, when you reach the end of the fourth needle, turn your work (so not joining it) and knit (or purl) back to needle one, knitting the piece flat in

other words. Knit for two or three inches, then join back into a round.

Knit until the hat is as long as you want, use a stretchy bind off, and presto - a ponytail hat!