My little lamb
Sheep hat for small kids

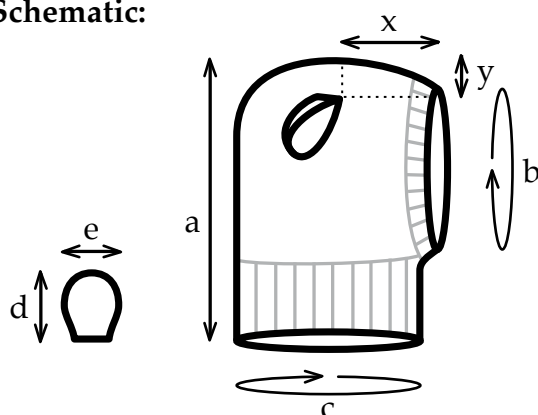My little lamb is a balaclava hat with sheep ears for small kids.

Balaclava hat has seamless construction. You can knit the hat without cutting the yarn.

Sheep ears will be knitted seamless as well. They have an interesting construction. You can knit tubular pieces while you knit back and forth.

Ears will be sewn onto the hat at the end.

Sizes: 1Y[2–3Y, 4–5Y]

Schematic:

	a	b	c	x	y
1Y	30cm 11¾"	39 15¼	35 13¾	9 3½	6 2½
2–3Y	31 12¼	41.5 16¼	37.5 14¾	9.5 3¾	6.5 2½
4–5Y	32 12¾	44 17¼	42 16½	10 4	7 2¾

d = 7.5 cm (3")   e = 5.5 cm (2¼")

Yarn: Aran or bulky weight yarn. Photographed with Cascade Yarns Ecological Wool®, 437 m (478 yds)/250g, 100% Wool.

Yardage: 130[145, 155] m (142[159, 170] yds), excluding yarn for knitting swatch.

Gauge: 16 stitches x 26 rows = 10 cm (4"), in stockinette stitch after wet blocking. Knitted hat will get bigger after washing. I recommend knitting a swatch and checking the gauge after wet blocking before you start knitting your hat.

Needles: 5mm (US 8) circular needle and spare double pointed or circular needle (same size or smaller than main needle) for 3 needle BO. Adjust needle size if necessary to get gauge.

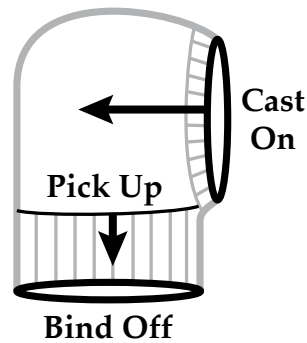**Notions:** 4 stitch markers, tapestry needle and cable needle.

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HAT

With two tips of circular needle together use double start method (see *page 5* or *video list on Ravelry pattern page*), CO 64[68, 72] sts. PM to mark end of round and join in the round.

Cast On

Pick Up

Bind Off

SECTION 1 – knit 2 x 2 rib in round:

Round 1: P1, (k2, p2) repeat to 3 sts before marker, k2, p1, SM.

Repeat Round 1, 4 more times.

SECTION 2 – increase rows and stockinette stitch rows:

RM and knit *back and forth*.

Row 1 (RS): K13[14, 15], PM, M1, k12[13, 13], M1, PM, k14[14, 16], PM, M1, k12[13, 13], M1, PM, k13[14, 15]. = *68[72, 76] sts*

Row 2 (WS) and all WS rows: Purl.

Row 3: knit.

Row 5: K13[14, 15], SM, M1, k14[15, 15], M1, SM, k14[14, 16], SM, M1, k14[15, 15], M1, SM, k13[14, 15]. = *72[76, 80] sts*

Row 7: Knit.

Row 9: K13[14, 15], SM, M1, k16[17, 17], M1, SM, k14 [14, 16], SM, M1, k16[17, 17], M1, SM, k13[14, 15]. = *76[80, 84] sts*

Row 11: Knit.

Row 13: K13[14, 15], SM, M1, k18[19, 19], M1, SM, k14[14, 16],SM, M1, k18[19, 19], M1, SM, k13 [14, 15]. = *80[84, 88] sts*

RM and **work 11[13, 15] rows** in stockinette stitch or until stockinette stitch measures 9[10, 11]cm (3½[4, 4¼]"), purl on WS and knit on RS. End with WS row.

SECTION 3 – Decrease Rows:

Row 1 (RS): K31[33, 34], ssk, PM, k14[14, 16], PM, k2tog, k31[33, 34]. = *78[82, 86] sts*

Row 2 (WS) and all WS rows: Purl.

Row 3: K30[32, 33], ssk, SM, k14[14, 16], SM, k2tog, k30[32, 33]. = *76[80, 84] sts*

Row 5: K29[31, 32], ssk, SM, k14[14, 16], SM, k2tog, k29[31, 32]. = *74[78, 82] sts*

Row 7: K28[30, 31], ssk, SM, k14[14, 16], SM, k2tog, k28[30, 31]. = *72[76, 80] sts*

Row 9: K27[29, 30], ssk, SM, k14[14, 16], SM, k2tog, k27[29, 30]. = *70[74, 78] sts*

Row 11: K26[28, 29], ssk, SM, k14 [14, 16], SM, k2tog, k26[28, 29]. = *68[72, 76] sts*

SECTION 4 – Decrease Row:

SIZE 4-5 Y ONLY!

Row 1 (RS): K-[-, 28] , ssk, SM, k1, k2tog, k10, ssk, k1, SM, k2tog, k-[-, 28]. = *-[-, 72] sts*

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

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SECTION 5 – Decrease Row:

ALL SIZES

Row 1 (RS): K25[27, 27], ssk, SM, k1, k2tog, k8, ssk, k1, SM, k2tog, k25[27, 27]. = *64[68, 68] sts*

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Row 3: K24[26, 26], ssk, SM, k1, k2tog, k6, ssk, k1, SM, k2tog, k24[26, 26]. = *60[64, 64] sts*

Row 4: Purl.

Row 5: K23[25, 25], ssk, SM, k1, k2tog, k4, ssk, k1, SM, k2tog, k23[25, 25]. = *56[60, 60] sts*

Row 6: Purl.

Row 7: K22[24, 24], ssk, SM, k1, k2tog, k2, ssk, k1, SM, k2tog, k22[24, 24]. = *52[56, 56] sts*

Row 8: Purl.

Row 9: K21[23, 23], ssk, SM, k1, k2tog, ssk, k1, SM, k2tog, k21[23, 23]. = *48[52, 52] sts*

Row 10: Purl 24[26, 26] sts. = *24[26, 26] sts on each needle*

Work 3 needle BO on the inside and RM.

Do not cut yarn and keep last st of BO on needle. Turn the work out. Pick up 75 [79, 87] sts (about 4 sts from every 5 rows, 2 sts from rib). You have 76 [80, 88] sts on your needle.

PM to mark end of round and join round. Knit 2 x 2 rib until ribbing measures 6.5 cm (2½").

Work Jeny's Surprisingly Stretchy BO. *(video list)*

L A M B E A R S – m a k e t w o
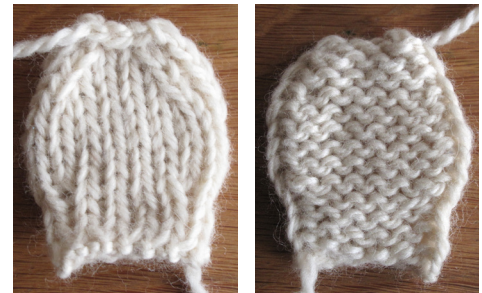
CO 13 sts. Keep enough tail yarn from CO to sew ears onto hat. Knit back and forth.

Row 1 (RS): K1, (wyif sl1, k1) 6 times.

Row 2 (WS): Wyif sl1, (p1, wyif sl1) 6 times.

Row 3, 5 and 7: Repeat Row 1.

Row 4, 6 and 8: Repeat Row 2.

Row 9: K1, wyif sl1, k1, LLI from the 1st st on the RHN, (wyif sl1, k1) 3 times, wyif sl1, RLI from the 1st st on the LHN, k1, wyif sl1, k1. = *15 sts. (video list)*

Row 10: Wyif sl1, p1, wyif sl1, LLIp from the 2nd st on the RHN, (wyif sl1, p1) 4 times, wyif sl1, RLIp from the 2nd st on the LHN, wyif sl1, p1, wyif sl1. = *17 sts. (vid. l.)*

Row 11: K1, (wyif sl1, k1) 8 times.

Row 12: Wyif sl1, (p1, wyif sl1) 8 times.

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Row 13, 15, 17 and 19: Repeat Row 11.

Row 14, 16, 18 and 20: Repeat Row 12.

Row 21: K1, wyif sl1, sl the next st onto a cable needle and hold at front of work, wyif sl1, sl the st on the cable needle back onto the LHN, ssk, (wyif sl1, k1) repeat to 6 sts before end, wyif sl1, sl1, sl the next st onto a cable needle and hold at back of work, sl the 1st st on the RHN back onto the LHN, k2tog, wyif sl the st on the cable needle onto the RHN, wyif sl1, k1. = *15 sts. (vid. l.)*

Row 22: Wyif sl1, ssp, (wyif sl1, p1) repeat to 4 sts before end, wyif sl1, p2tog, wyif sl1. = *13 sts*

Row 23: K1, (wyif sl1, k1) 6 times.

Row 24: Wyif sl1, (p1, wyif sl1) 6 times.

Row 25: Repeat Row 21. = *11 sts*

Row 26: Repeat Row 22. = *9 sts*

BO: k2tog, [k2tog, bind off in the traditional manner, pull the first st over the second st on the RHN] twice, k3tog, pull the first st over the second st on the RHN. Pull yarn through remaining loop.

Fold bottom of the lamb ears in half (purled st is inside) and use the long tail of CO to sew the ears onto your hat.

You can place your lamb ears in your favorite place. I measured my sample hat (see *page 1*) for those who are not sure where to put ears.

Weave in ends. Wet-block your work.

Abbreviations & Techniques:

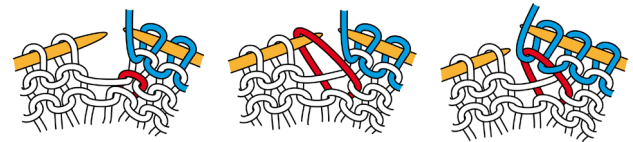*You can find video list on Ravelry pattern page.*

CO = cast on

k = knit

k2tog = knit 2 stitches together

LHN = left-hand needle

LLI = left lifted increase: k into the st 2 rows below the previous st

LLIp = left lifted increase in a purl st: p into the st 2 rows below the previous st
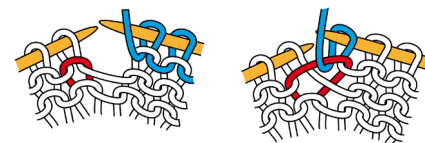

M1 = make one st

p = purl

p2tog = purl 2 stitches together

PM = place marker

RHN = right-hand needle

RLI = right lifted increase: k into the st immediately below the next st

RLIp = right lifted increase in a purl st

RM = remove marker

RS = right side

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sl = slip purl wise

SM = slip marker

ssk = slip slip knit

ssp = slip slip purl: slip two stitches from left-hand to RHN separately as if to knit. Return these stitches to the LHN in their new orientation and purl them together through their back loops. *(video list)*

st(s) = stitch(es)

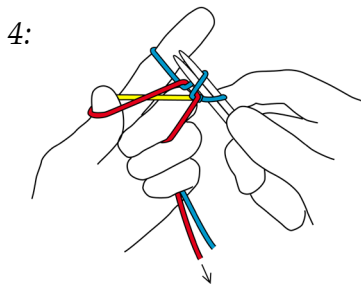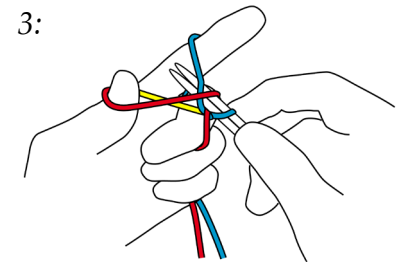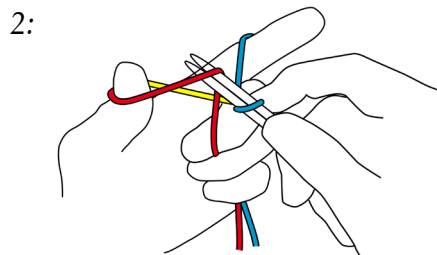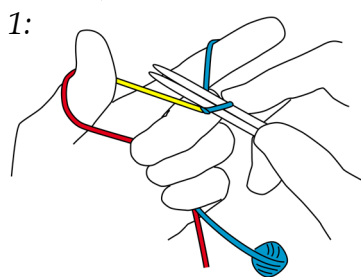**WS** = wrong side

wyif = with yarn in front

Double Start Cast On: Make slip knot, leaving a long tail, [CO 1 st like following picture 1 to 4, CO 1 st like picture 5 to 8] repeat. (see *video list on Ravelry pattern page*)

1 to 4: Same as long tail CO, CO 1 st.

■ red = *tail yarn,*
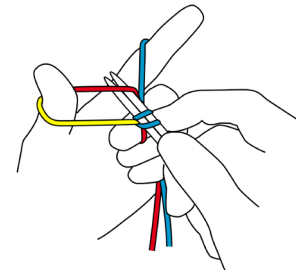■ yellow = *tail yarn between needle and thumb,*
■ blue = *working yarn*
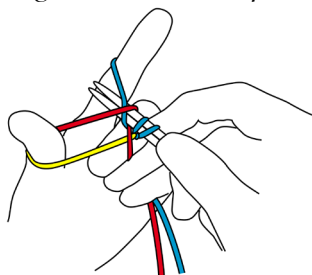
1:

2:

3:

4:

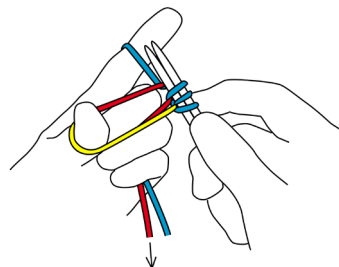*5: Reposition the yarn on your thumb*
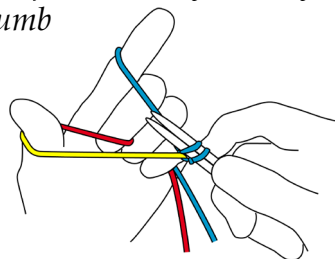
6: Insert needle tip under the tail yarn and over the working yarn.

7: Bring working yarn through the thumb loop

8: drop the yarn off your thumb.