



# Top-Down Ear Flap Hat

What winter demands is a hat that does the job of keeping your head and ears warm, and does it without making you look like a Smurf. Our Top-Down Ear Flap Hat is such a hat... the good kind, that is!

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([HTTPS://WWW.PURLSOHO.COM/S  
ALPACA.HTML](https://www.purlsoho.com/s/alpaca.html))

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  152...  
PRINT

    



([https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn/  
-  
cotton\\_chirp\\_dk.html](https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn/cotton_chirp_dk.html))



Basic, yes, but beautiful, and in Season Alpaca (<https://www.purlsoho.com/season-alpaca.html>), our Top-Down Ear Flap Hat is as soft as it gets. Warm? Check. Cozy? Check. There's not much more to ask of a winter hat, except...



Except that it have ear flaps and adorable I-cords and tassels! And how about constructing it from the top down, so you can determine exactly when the rim falls just to

your eyebrows, the flaps hit the bottom of your lobes, and the back perfectly covers the nape of your neck.



Sized from babies to adults, you'll need just one skein of Season Alpaca to make one adult hat, two kid hats, or three or four baby ones. Choose from 14 straight-from-nature colors and cast on for this wear-everywhere topper!

*Yarn (<https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn.html>) lovers, if you adore the yarn used in this project, you'll love exploring all of our other yarn collections! Discover over 45 thoughtfully designed yarns in nearly every natural fiber and in every spectacular color you can imagine. Only available here at Purl Soho's online yarn store (<https://www.purlsoho.com/>), where every skein is created with care and your creativity in mind!*



Pattern designed and written by Purl Soho designer, Laura Ferguson (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/laura-ferguson-for-purl-soho/>).

*Share your progress and connect with the community by tagging your pics with #PurlSoho. We can't wait to see what you make!*

*Want to print this pattern? On desktop, find the "print" icon in the right margin, and on mobile, scroll to the end of the pattern for it. Use the on-screen instructions to remove anything you don't want to print!*

## MATERIALS



(<https://www.purlsoho.com/season-alpaca.html>)



(<https://www.purlsoho.com/season-alpaca.html>)



(<https://www.purlsoho.com/season-alpaca.html>)

- 1 skein of Purl Soho's Season Alpaca (<https://www.purlsoho.com/season-alpaca.html>), 100% baby alpaca yarn. Each skein of this sport weight yarn is 218 yards/100 grams; approximately 40 (50, 70, 85, 115, 145, 170) yards required. We used Heirloom White, Peony Pink, and Raw Sienna.
- US 3 (3.25mm), 16-inch circular needles ([https://www.purlsoho.com/tools-and-notions/knitting-and-crochet.html?collection\\_filter=23796](https://www.purlsoho.com/tools-and-notions/knitting-and-crochet.html?collection_filter=23796)) (for Kid and Adult sizes only)
- Set of US 3 double pointed needles ([https://www.purlsoho.com/tools-and-notions/knitting-and-crochet.html?collection\\_filter=23799](https://www.purlsoho.com/tools-and-notions/knitting-and-crochet.html?collection_filter=23799))
- Stitch markers ([https://www.purlsoho.com/tools-and-notions/knitting-and-crochet.html?collection\\_filter=23799](https://www.purlsoho.com/tools-and-notions/knitting-and-crochet.html?collection_filter=23799))

notions/knitting-and-crochet.html?  
collection\_filter=964&type\_filter=902),  
including one unique

NOTE: One skein is enough to make 1 Adult hat, 2 Kid Small hats, or 3-4 baby ones.

## GAUGE

25 stitches and 32 rows = 4 inches in stockinette stitch

## SIZES

Newborn-3 months (3-6 months, 6-12 months, Kid Small, Kid Large/Adult Small, Adult Medium, Adult Large)

- Finished Circumference: 14 (15¼, 16¾, 18, 19¼, 20½, 21¾) inches
- Finished Height (from crown to center front): 6 (7, 7½, 8, 8¾, 9½, 10) inches

SAMPLES: We knit size 3-6 months, Kid Small, and Adult Medium.

## NOTES

### LIFTED INCREASES

LLI (Left Lifted Increase): Lift the left leg of the stitch 2 rows below the stitch on right-hand needle onto left-hand needle and knit it through the back loop. [1 stitch increased]

Rli (Right Lifted Increase): Lift right leg of the stitch below the next stitch on the left-hand needle onto the left-hand needle and knit it. [1 stitch increased]

To see both techniques in action, visit our Lifted Increase Tutorial (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/lifted-increases-rli-lli/>)!

### SSP

ssp (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/purl-2-together-through-back-loop-p2tog-tbl/>) (slip slip purl): Slip one purlwise, slip one

knitwise, replace slipped stitches back onto left-hand needle, p2tog through the back loop. [1 stitch decreased]

## CSD

csd

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/centered-single-decrease-csd/>) (centered single decrease): The centered single decrease is worked over three stitches and is essentially an ssk (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/slip-slip-knit-ssk/>) followed by a k2tog. Here's how to do it...

Slip 2 stitches knitwise, one at a time. Insert left-hand needle into front of the two slipped stitches, knit together. Now, insert tip of left-hand needle into the second of the two just-worked slipped stitches, k2tog (the next stitch on the left-hand needle and the slipped stitch you just picked up). [1 stitch decreased]

Confused? Watch our Centered Single Decrease Tutorial

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/07/19/centered-single-decrease-csd/>) for all the step-by-steps!

## PATTERN

### SHAPE CROWN

Using Long Tail Cast On

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/long-tail-cast-on/>), cast 8 stitches onto a double pointed needle.

Distribute stitches evenly on 4 double pointed needles.

Join for working in the round, being careful to not twist the stitches.

Round 1: [Knit into front and back (kfb (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/knit-front-and-back-kfb/>)))] eight times. [16

stitches]

Row 2: For needle 1- K2, place unique marker to indicate first needle, k2; For needles 2, 3, and 4- K2, place marker, k2.

Round 3: For each needle- Knit to next marker, LLI

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/lifted-increases-rli-lli/>) (see Notes), slip marker (sm), k1, RLI

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/lifted-increases-rli-lli/>) (see Notes), knit to end of needle. [8 stitches increased]

Round 4: Knit.

Repeat Rounds 3 and 4 eight (9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9) more times. [88 (96, 96, 96, 96, 96) stitches]

## SIZES NEWBORN-3 MONTHS AND 3-6 MONTHS ONLY

Go to Continue Even section.

## SIZES 6-12 MONTHS, KID SMALL, KID LARGE/ADULT SMALL, ADULT MEDIUM, AND ADULT LARGE ONLY

Round 1: [Knit to next marker, LLI, sm, k1, RLI] four times, knit to end of round. [8 stitches increased]

Round 2: Knit.

Repeat Rounds 1 and 2 - (-, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4) more time(s). [- (-, 104, 112, 120, 128, 136) stitches]

## CONTINUE EVEN

Change to circular needles and on the next round, replace the unique marker with a regular marker, and when you reach the end of the round, place the unique marker for end of round.

Continue in stockinette stitch, knitting each round, until piece measures 6 (7, 7½, 8, 8¾, 9½, 10) inches from cast on, ending the last round 10 (10, 11, 12, 12, 13, 13) stitches before end of round.

## SHAPE EAR FLAPS

Set-Up Round: Bind off 20 (20, 22, 24, 24, 26, 26) stitches for Back, removing end-of-round marker when you come to it; k20 (22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32), place previous 21 (23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33) stitches on stitch holder for Right Ear Flap; bind off 26 (30, 32, 34, 38, 40, 44) stitches for Front, knit remaining stitches. [21 (23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33) stitches remain for Left Ear Flap]

## LEFT EAR FLAP

Note: Work back and forth in rows on two double pointed needles.

Row 1 (wrong side): Purl.

Row 2 (right side): Knit.

Row 3: Repeat Row 1.

Row 4: K2, ssk (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/slip-slip-knit-ssk/>), knit to last 4 stitches, k2tog (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/knit-two-together-k2tog/>), k2. [2 stitches decreased]

Repeat Rows 3 and 4 three (4, 5, 6, 5, 6, 7) more times. [13 (13, 13, 13, 17, 17, 17) stitches remain]

Next Row (wrong side): P2, p2tog, purl to last 4 stitches, ssp (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/purl-2-together-through-back-loop-p2tog-tbl/>) (see Notes), p2. [2 stitches decreased]

Next Row (right side): Repeat Row 4. [2 stitches decreased]

Repeat last two rows 0 (0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1) more time. [9 stitches]

Next Row: P2, p2tog, purl to last 4 stitches, ssp, p2. [7 stitches]

Next Row: K2tog, csd (see Notes), ssk. [4 stitches]

## WORK I-CORD

\*Without turning the work, slide stitches to right-hand end of needle, pull yarn from left-most stitch behind back of work to right-most stitch, k4, repeat from \* until I-cord (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/i-cord/>) measures 1 (1, 1, 8, 10, 12, 12) inch(es), or desired length.

Next Row (wrong side): P2tog, ssp, bind off first stitch by passing it over second stitch and off the needle, cut yarn leaving an 8-inch tail and pull tail through remaining stitch.

## RIGHT EAR FLAP

Transfer 21 (23, 25, 27, 29, 31 33) on-hold stitches to a double pointed needle.

Join yarn to wrong side and work as for Left Ear Flap.

## FINISH

### ADD A TASSEL

Cut eight 7-inch lengths of yarn. Using a tapestry needle, thread each length halfway through the tip of I-cord at bottom of Ear Flap to make 16 strands of fringe. Wrap the I-cord tail several times around the base of the fringe where it joins the I-cord. Thread the tail down through the wraps and trim the fringe and tail to desired length.

Repeat for other Ear Flap, weave in remaining ends, and block as desired!



## LEARN ABOUT SEASON ALPACA + ALL OUR BEAUTIFUL YARNS

Season Alpaca

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/season-alpaca.html>) always brings deep beauty to your hand-knits. Made of 100% super baby alpaca

([https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn/fiber\\_filter--alpaca.html](https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn/fiber_filter--alpaca.html)), the most special grade of Peruvian alpaca there is, this sport-weight yarn

([https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn/yarn\\_stitches\\_per\\_inch\\_filter--sport%3A\\_6\\_6.5.html](https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn/yarn_stitches_per_inch_filter--sport%3A_6_6.5.html)) is incredibly soft, and with its long fibers and many fine plies, it also

creates smooth stockinette and lovely stitch definition. Prepare to knit with your new favorite alpaca yarn!

#### More Free Knitting Patterns

- Be sure to explore our collection of (mostly free!) Season Alpaca knitting patterns (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/category/all-knitting-patterns/filter-season-alpaca/>) and cast on!

#### More Sport-Weight Yarns

- Shop our entire collection of sport-weight yarns ([https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn/yarn\\_stitches\\_per\\_inch\\_filter-sport%3A\\_6\\_6.5.html](https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn/yarn_stitches_per_inch_filter-sport%3A_6_6.5.html))
- If you want to use a different yarn, be sure to take the time to get the correct gauge. Need help? Check our All About Gauge Tutorial (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/all-about-gauge/>)!

#### More Yarns With Similar Fibers

- Shop alpaca yarn ([https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn/fiber\\_filter--alpaca.html](https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn/fiber_filter--alpaca.html))

Looking for more inspiration? Explore all of our free knitting patterns (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/category/all-knitting-patterns/filter-free-knitting-patterns/>) and knitting tutorials (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/knit/tutorials/>), buy one of our many knitting kits and yarn bundles (<https://www.purlsoho.com/kits-and-bundles.html>), and shop for beautiful yarn (<https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn.html>). We have over 45 gorgeous natural fiber yarns (<https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn.html>) in 1000's of magnificent colors, designed to bring integrity, beauty, and joy to your next knitting project and only available at Purl Soho!

OCTOBER 13, 2017 | LAURA'S LOOP  
([HTTPS://WWW.PURLSOHO.COM/CREATE/AUTHOR/LAURAS-LOOP/](https://www.purlsoho.com/create/author/lauras-loop/))

TAGS: Babies  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/babies/>), Free

Knitting Pattern

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/free-knitting-pattern/>), Hats

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/hats/>), i-Cord

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/i-cord/>), Kids

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/kids/>), Laura

Ferguson For Purl Soho

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/laura-ferguson-for-purl-soho/>), Men

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/men/>), Purl Soho's

Season Alpaca (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/purl-sohos-season-alpaca/>), Quick Projects

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/quick-projects/>),

Sport Weight Yarn Patterns

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/sport-weight-yarn-patterns/>), Tassels

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/tassels/>), Toddlers

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/toddlers/>), Women

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/tag/women/>)

< PREVIOUS POST



Lifted Increases (RLI + LLI)

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/18/lifted-increases-rli-lli/>)

NEXT POST >



Granny Square Blanket in New Colors

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/18/granny-square-blanket-in-new-colors/>)

## SIMILAR POSTS YOU MIGHT ENJOY:

How to Knit the Right Hat Size, A Complete Guide

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2025/02/06/how-to-knit-the-right-hat-size-a-complete-guide/>)

Sweet Bunny

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2024/07/27/sweet-bunny/>)

Little Tassels Wrap

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2025/06/12/little-tassels-wrap/>)

Little Garter Baby Set

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2025/06/08/little-garter-baby-set/>)

## 152 COMMENTS ON “TOP-DOWN EAR FLAP HAT”

**Alexis**

(<https://instagram.com/dammitalexis>)

says:

October 13, 2017 at 10:06 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131315>)

This is great! I have 2 skeins of Season Alpaca that I bought to make a slew of baby socks with. This pattern will help to break up my sock streak.

reply

**Cassy** says:

October 13, 2017 at 10:44 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131316>)

Hi Alexis,

We are so glad that this project inspires you!

Happy knitting!

Cassy

reply

**Yolanda** says:

October 13, 2017 at 11:48 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131323>)

This is so fantastic! Love all the size options. Is there a way to do this without the I-cord on the earflaps? Thank you!

reply

**Cassy** says:

October 13, 2017 at 12:13 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131324>)

Hi Yolanda,

Thank you for your kind words! You can certainly omit the I-cord. For the smallest size we did a small amount of I-cord and the tassel which you can try on the larger sizes. Or you can omit the i cord all together and just bind off the last 4 stitches!

Best,  
Cassy

reply

**Mary** says:

October 13, 2017 at 12:57 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131325>)

Darling pattern and I'd love to make it. How does one "get" this pattern? It appears to be a blog entry with no download. This format is awkward to use for me. Thank you, Mary

reply

**Cassy** says:

October 14, 2017 at 1:12 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131368>)

Hi Mary,

Thanks for writing in! You can certainly print out a printer friendly version of this pattern or download a PDF. To do so, follow these directions:

If you're on a desktop version of the site, you will find a "print" icon in the right column just below the date and tags. If you're on a mobile version of the site, you will find a "print" icon below the pattern and above the comments.

Follow the easy on-screen instructions to delete whichever parts of the pattern you don't want to print or save. For example, you may decide to shorten the pattern by omitting certain images or the list of materials.

Best,  
Cassy

[reply](#)

**Angela** says:

October 13, 2017 at 1:08 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131327>)

I'm looking forward to knitting this. Can the first steps using double pointed needles be done using magic loop?

[reply](#)

**Marilla** says:

October 13, 2017 at 3:07 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131337>)

Hello Angela,  
Thank you for reaching out! You can certainly use magic loop instead of dpns. I hope this helps and happy knitting!  
-Marilla

[reply](#)

**Patricia** says:

October 13, 2017 at 4:51 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131342>)

Trying to do this on magic loop, but kind of miffed! How to distribute the markers on the magic loop?  
Thanks!

reply

**Marilla** says:

October 24, 2017 at 10:13 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131937>)

Hello Patricia,  
Thank you for reaching out!  
Unfortunately we do not have a magic loop tutorial, however if you do a quick google search you will find lots of in depth videos that should help.  
Happy knitting!  
-Marilla

reply

**Julia** says:

October 19, 2017 at 7:31 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131589>)

Hi. Love this pattern! I'm also trying to figure out how I might proceed with just using magic loop rather than dpns. Not sure it's as obvious as I was hoping it would be. Has anyone done this yet and can share their tips? Thanks so much!

reply

**Marilla** says:

October 24, 2017 at 10:22 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131939>)

Hello Julia,  
Thanks for writing in! Yes, because this pattern is written for dpns using magic loop will add some extra obstacles. One thing that might help is placing markers to show which stitches

should be on which dpn in the pattern. It could also help if you start with the first couple of rows and then switch over to magic loop once the hat has become more established.

I hope this helps!

-Marilla

reply

**Yolanda** says:

October 28, 2017 at 1:34 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-132336>)

Hi, Julia-

I've made two of these using Magic Loop. Instead of thinking about the needles, just follow the pattern as written and ignore the instructions about the needles. So, for the round where you place the markers, you should be starting with 8 stitches on each needle.

On the first needle, you would K2, PM, K2 then K2, PM, K2 [2 markers on the first needle], On the second needle, you will K2, PM, K2 then K2, PM, K2 [2 markers on the second needle].

From there, it is simply following the pattern to create the lifted increases as written. You should be increasing 4 stitches on each needle on Round 3.

NOTE: This may or may not be helpful, but in Magic Loop, this pattern creates a very splendid situation in which you always have double the amount of stitches BETWEEN the markers that you have on either side of the markers on each needle. Meaning if you have 40 stitches

on a needle, there will be 10 before the first marker, 20 after the first marker, and 10 after the second marker.

I hope this makes sense!  
-Yolanda

[reply](#)

**Marilla** says:

October 30, 2017 at 8:34 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-132513>)

Thank you Yolanda! This is quite helpful.  
Happy knitting!  
-Marilla

[reply](#)

**Yasmin** says:

October 13, 2017 at 1:34 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131330>)

Thank you for this pattern, I love this SOOOO much! Everyone in my family is going to get one of these for Christmas. I don't think I'll be making I-cord with tassles but would an I-cord bind-off work for the hem edges?

[reply](#)

**Cassy** says:

October 17, 2017 at 12:46 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131493>)

Hi Yasmin,

Thank you so much for your kind words! You can certainly try an i-cord bind off. My worry is that it would not look continuous along the whole bottom. If you like the look of the i-cord along the edges, I might suggest adding an applied i-cord along the

whole of the bottom edge. I think that it would look more continuous and could be quite nice!

Happy knitting!  
Cassy

[reply](#)

**Daisy** says:

October 13, 2017 at 3:13 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131338>)

Since I have quite the sock yarn stash, I wonder if I could use some sock yarn for this hat.

[reply](#)

**Cassy** says:

October 14, 2017 at 1:10 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131367>)

Hi Daisy,

Thanks for writing in! The yarn used for this lovely hat is roughly a sport weight, so quite thicker than the fingering weight that you have, You can certainly try holding it doubled but I would be sure to knit a gauge swatch to see if you like the fabric at the correct gauge.

I hope that this helps!  
Cassy

[reply](#)

**Daisy** says:

October 16, 2017 at 1:01 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131440>)

Thank you, Cassy. I'll make a swatch.

[reply](#)

**Heather** says:

October 13, 2017 at 5:26 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131343>)

I think this is a beautiful project, sadly as I have severe Arthritis I cannot manage a cluster of needles as in a set. Is it at all possible to get this pattern using only two single point needles? I hope so....I hope so.

reply

**Cassy** says:

October 17, 2017 at 12:41 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131491>)

Hi Heather,

Thanks for writing in! I am so sorry to hear about your arthritis.

Unfortunately, this pattern is only written to be knit in the round.

Altering the pattern to be knit flat would constitute quite a bit of work. If you want to give a go, you certainly can. I would be sure to factor in a few more stitches to account for seaming.

Best of luck!

Cassy

reply

**Susan** says:

October 14, 2017 at 11:03 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131365>)

Love this hat but I have a question about the lifted increase video. For the left leaning lifted increase you say pick up the leg of the stitch 2 rows below the stitch on the right needle but it looks like in the video you're picking up the leg of the stitch just one row below. Is it really 2 rows below and I'm just seeing that wrong?

reply

**Marilla** says:

October 24, 2017 at 10:42 am

Hello Susan,

Thank you for writing us! When it says 2 rows below it means the row below the row you are working on, meaning the row of stitches on the left needle is row 1 and the row below the row on the left needle is row 2. I think you might find the wording in the description for the Right Lifted Increase a little less confusing... “Lift right leg of the stitch below the next stitch on the left-hand needle onto the left-hand needle and knit it. [1 stitch increased]”

I hope this all makes sense! let me know if you have any further questions.

Warmly,  
Marilla

[reply](#)

***shannon*** says:

October 30, 2017 at 11:37 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-132485>)

i have the same concern – is the lifted increase picking up from the same row on both the right and left sides? the left says “2 rows below” and the right says “the row below” – do they mean to reference the same row?

[reply](#)

***Marilla*** says:

October 30, 2017 at 9:06 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-132517>)

Hello Shannon,

This is a great question. Yes, they do reference the same row, because on the right lifted increase you lift the stitch below the next stitch on the LEFT-hand needle it is the stitch

below because it is the stitch that hasn't been worked yet. For the Left lifted increase you lift 2 rows below the stitch on RIGHT-hand needle which is the side of your knitting which you have just knit a new stitch on. I think watching this video will also help clear this up (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/increases-rli-lli/>)

Happy knitting,  
Marilla

[reply](#)

**Lisa**

(<http://www.lesadams.wordpress.com>)

says:

October 14, 2017 at 4:54 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131380>)

I've never done a hat top down and an ear flap hat is on my list of fall projects. Thanks for the pattern.

[reply](#)

**Stephanie** says:

October 17, 2017 at 11:47 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131489>)

Love this pattern! Could you suggest a cotton yarn that would work for this pattern?

[reply](#)

**Marilla** says:

October 24, 2017 at 10:31 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131941>)

Hello Stephanie,  
Thank you for reaching out! The best cotton substitution for this pattern would be our [Cotton Pure](#)

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/cotton-pure.html>) yarn. Using this yarn will change the look of the hat, just because of the nature of Cotton vs. Alpaca yarn. I would also highly recommend knitting a gauge swatch before jumping in to see how many stitches per inch you are getting. I hope this helps and please let me know if you have any further questions!  
Happy knitting,  
Marilla

[reply](#)

**Jorunn Ellen** says:

October 18, 2017 at 12:32 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131551>)

This hat is adorable 😊 Would your Mulberry Merino be suitable for this project?

Kind regards

Jorunn

[reply](#)

**Marilla** says:

October 24, 2017 at 10:33 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131942>)

Hello Jorunn,

Thank you for reaching out! Mulberry Merino should work beautifully for this project. I would still highly recommend knitting up a gauge swatch before jumping in to eliminate any unpleasant surprises.

Happy knitting!

-Marilla

[reply](#)

**Anna** says:

October 21, 2017 at 3:20 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131684>)

Hi. I have a question. The section where you have to change to a circular needle is just a continuation of the previous increase section with four needles? Thank you!

reply

**Marilla** says:

October 24, 2017 at 10:25 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-131940>)

Hello Anna,  
Thank you for reaching out! Yes, you are correct.  
Happy knitting,  
Marilla

reply

**Catriona** says:

March 17, 2018 at 4:10 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-138267>)

Hiya, I don't have to change then to a circular needle then, is that the case? Many thanks for a great and clear pattern?

reply

**Marilla** says:

March 27, 2018 at 9:32 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-138633>)

Hello Catriona,  
Thank you for reaching out! You will need circular needles for every size, except the baby size. This is because The circumference of the baby size is too small throughout the whole hat to fit on 16" circulars. I hope this helps and let us know if you have any further questions!  
Happy knitting,  
Marilla

reply

***kate*** says:

October 27, 2017 at 7:00 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-132258>)

Hi there,

Im very excited to make this for my brother. However, my family has a much larger head than the given adult sizes. usually on your hat patterns i add 10 to 15 more cast on loops however since this is top down i was wondering the best way to cater to a larger head

[reply](#)

***Marilla*** says:

October 30, 2017 at 8:43 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-132515>)

Hello Kate,

Thank you for reaching out!

To make this hat larger I would recommend repeating Rounds 1 and 2 in the second increase section an extra time. I hope this helps and please let me know if you have any further questions!

Happy knitting,

Marilla

[reply](#)

***Yulia*** says:

October 27, 2017 at 11:56 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-132277>)

Hi! Thanks for this beautiful pattern.

When we complete the ear flap and are left with last 7 stitches the pattern says:

Next Row: K2tog, csd (see Notes), ssk. [4 stitches]

If I slip the selvage loop, then K2G, csd ... then I have just one stitch left. How shall I do ssk then?

reply

**Marilla** says:

October 30, 2017 at 8:47 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-132516>)

Hello Yulia,

Thank you for writing in! For this row you do not slip the the first stitch you go straight to knit 2 together. I hope this clarifies things and please let me know if you have any further questions!

-Marilla

reply

**Mary Ellen** says:

October 29, 2017 at 4:55 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-132432>)

Hi, I also have bad hands and cannot manage dpn.

Could I use circular needles l.e. 12”?

Thanks for your help.

Mary Ellen

reply

**Melissa** says:

October 30, 2017 at 10:17 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-132480>)

Hi Mary Ellen,

Yes, you can do magic loop for the hat.

Best,

Melissa

reply

**Olivia** says:

November 6, 2017 at 11:28 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-132847>)

How do you know if you're Head is adult medium or adult large? How many inches does the circumference stretch? My head is about 23 inches

reply

**Marilla** says:

November 17, 2017 at 12:40 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-133308>)

Hello Olivia,

Thank you for reaching out! Because there is no ribbing and this hat is made in stockinette I would recommend that you knit the size adult large.

I hope this helps and happy knitting!

-Marilla

reply

**Claire** says:

December 2, 2017 at 1:02 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-134097>)

Hello,

I just knit this, such a quick & elegant knit, thanks for sharing the pattern!

My question: how do you block the hat?

Many thanks,

Claire

reply

**Marilla** says:

December 3, 2017 at 7:39 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-134158>)

Hello Claire,

Thank you for reaching out! I would recommend look at our [blocking tutorial](#)

[\(https://www.purlsoho.com/create/bloc](#)

which goes into detail about process of

blocking. I hope this helps and Happy

blocking!

-Marilla

reply

**Zag** says:

December 5, 2017 at 1:59 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-134269>)

Hello!

I'm really enjoying this hat, but I'm knitting a little tightly. Can you please tell me how long the increase ridge should be? I'm making a large, but the other size lengths would be great also.

Many thanks, Zag

reply

**Cassy** says:

December 5, 2017 at 2:05 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-134270>)

Hi Zag,

Thanks for writing in! The gauge that we are getting for this lovely hat is 25 stitches and 32 rows = 4 inches in stockinette stitch. For the largest size, you will work 32 rows between the cast on and the work even section for a total of 4 inches!

I hope that this helps!  
Cassy

reply

**Zag** says:

December 5, 2017 at 2:33 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-134272>)

Thanks! Looking forward to getting back to it this evening.

reply

**Sam**

(<http://www.essentiallysassy.com>)

says:

August 27, 2018 at 12:52 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-144327>)

I've just made this hat and I found that the front and back are rolling upwards? Is this normal? Something I can fix? Absolutely

adore the pattern!

reply

**Marilla** says:

August 28, 2018 at 12:54 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-144405>)

Hello Sam,

Thank you for reaching out, I'm thrilled to hear how much you love this pattern. Have you blocked your project yet? If not this will flatten everything because the blocking process relaxes the yarn. I would suggest wet [blocking](https://www.purlsoho.com/create/blocking) your hat.

I hope this helps and let us know if you continue to have any issues!

Warmly,  
Marilla

reply

**Megan** says:

September 25, 2018 at 8:06 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-146420>)

I'm knitting the 3-6 month and it's not adding up. 96 stitches being divided for the ear flaps should be 118 when you add it up, right? Is there an errata for this pattern or am I missing something?

reply

**Julianna** says:

September 30, 2018 at 12:51 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-146718>)

Hi Megan,

Thanks for reaching out! When you work the set up row for the ear flaps, for 3-6 month size, you will be binding off 20 stitches for the back of the hat, placing the next 23 stitches on a holder for the right ear flap, binding off 30 stitches for the front of the hat, and

working the left ear flap over the remaining 23 stitches. This should add up to 96!

I hope that helps!  
Julianna

[reply](#)

***Amy*** says:

December 13, 2018 at 12:53 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-151334>)

I love this pattern! It would be helpful to me to provide a video on how to create the tassel.

On a separate note, have you ever considered opening a Purl Soho “West” in the San Francisco?

Thanks,  
Amy

[reply](#)

***Julianna*** says:

December 18, 2018 at 12:09 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-151604>)

Hi Amy,

Thanks for writing in. Unfortunately we don't have the resources at the moment to do a video tutorial of this, but we will keep your request in mind for the future! Although we don't have any plans to open a new retail location, San Francisco is a beautiful city – thank you for the lovely suggestion!

Best,  
Julianna

[reply](#)

***Esther*** says:

December 31, 2018 at 12:56 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-152264>)

In the Continue Even section, do you knit each round, or do you alternate knit rows with purl rows? I am a bit confused because it mentions stockinette (which I thought was alternating knit rows with purl rows) but says to knit.

Thanks!

[reply](#)

**Julianna** says:

January 4, 2019 at 12:02 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-152437>)

Hi Esther,

Thanks for reaching out! Although stockinette is created by alternating knit and purl rows when worked flat, when you are working in the round as you are for this hat, stockinette is created by knitting every row.

I hope that clears things up!

Julianna

[reply](#)

**Diane Johnson-Quinn** says:

January 6, 2019 at 4:51 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-152573>)

I've never done a top down hat before. What is the suggested cast on? Thank you.

[reply](#)

**Marilla** says:

January 8, 2019 at 1:29 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-152702>)

Hello Diane,

This is a great question! You can use any cast on for this hat, I would suggest a long tail cast on.

Happy knitting!

[reply](#)

**Seasoned knit lover Marjorie** says:

January 11, 2019 at 10:07 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-152903>)

This is a very well written, perfectly shaped hat pattern. Without the tassels fits really well under a ski helmet. It really snubs the head beautifully!

My only negative comment is that I like to see the YARN thickness ( e.g.. #3, or #4) in the pattern so that you don't have to look up the YARN type used in the pattern.

Love, love, love this hat!

[reply](#)

**Rhoda** says:

February 15, 2019 at 4:35 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-156829>)

Is there a video tutorial for this pattern.

I'm a beginner.. thank you!!

[reply](#)

**Julianna** says:

February 15, 2019 at 11:37 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-156874>)

Hi Rhoda,

Thanks for writing in. Unfortunately we don't have the resources at the moment to do a video tutorial of this, but we will keep your request in mind for the future!

Best,  
Julianna

[reply](#)

**Enid Muhonen** says:

February 22, 2019 at 8:21 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-157952>)

Are the RLI & the LLI in the same spot when knitting this hat in continental style?

[reply](#)

**Julianna** says:

February 25, 2019 at 11:56 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-158289>)

Hi Enid,

Thanks for reaching out! Despite the fact that you hold your yarn in your left hand when knitting continental, it does not affect how you follow a pattern or work the increases. You should be able to follow all of our patterns as written, no matter what style of knitting you use!

Best,  
Julianna

[reply](#)

**Raemy** says:

March 5, 2019 at 1:23 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-159223>)

Hello!

I have a question. At the beginning, does the number of stitches you cast on include the extra to join in the round? Or should I cast on 9 stitches instead?

Thanks a lot!

Raemy

[reply](#)

**Marilla** says:

March 6, 2019 at 1:36 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-159501>)

Hello Raemy,

Thank you for reaching out! We didn't add a stitch when joining for the round, so you will cast on 8 stitches and join without adding a stitch.

I hope this clears things up and happy knitting!

-Marilla

reply

**Sara Wells** says:

September 11, 2019 at 2:52 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-176041>)

In the afternoon description you mention being able to adjust where the brim falls, as well as the nape of the neck. I don't see any instructions to explain how to do either of these things. Please advise as I'm 6 1/4" in and want to make sure it fits my husband's head perfectly.

Thank you,  
Sara

reply

**Julianna** says:

September 14, 2019 at 12:05 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-176155>)

Hi Sara,

Thanks for writing in! You can adjust the height of the hat by beginning the ear flaps either sooner for a shorter hat or later for a longer one. If you're not sure where to start, I would suggest threading the stitches onto a piece of scrap yarn and trying it on your husband to see how it is fitting so far!

I hope that helps!  
Julianna

reply

**Kate** says:

October 28, 2019 at 9:17 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-178976>)

Help, please! I don't understand the setup round instructions: bind off 20, k20, place previous 21 stitches on holder... how do you place 21 stitches on the holder if you've only knit 20?

reply

**Julianna** says:

October 30, 2019 at 11:41 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-179487>)

Hi Kate,

Thanks for reaching out! After binding off 20 stitches, you will have one stitch left on your right hand needle. You will then knit 20 more stitches, for a total of 21, and place those stitches on a holder.

I hope that clears things up!

Julianna

reply

**Heather** says:

October 30, 2019 at 9:23 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-179457>)

Thanks for responding to multiple years of comments on this pattern! I've read them all and imagine if no one has asked this, my confusion comes from being a beginner but: when beginning to shape the ear flaps, you bind off k20 and then "place previous 21 stitches on stitch holder for Right Ear Flap", how would you do that? Is k20 just an error and should be k21? (That's the only way the math works for me). This pattern is so popular it seems unlikely that's the explanation. Thank you!!

reply

**Julianna** says:

October 30, 2019 at 11:41 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-179488>)

Hi Heather,

Thanks for writing in! After binding off 20 stitches, you will have one stitch left on your right hand needle. You will

then knit 20 more stitches, for a total of 21, and place those stitches on a holder.

I hope that clears things up!  
Julianna

[reply](#)

***Karen*** says:

November 14, 2019 at 1:51 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-181687>)

I am knitting the newborn version of this pattern. After I reach 88 stitches, do I just keep knitting, or keep increasing by 8 every 2 rows?

[reply](#)

***Julianna*** says:

November 15, 2019 at 11:59 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-181923>)

Hi Karen,

Thanks for writing in! Yes, that is correct! Once you have 88 stitches on your needle, you will go to the “Continue Even” section and knit without any increases until the hat measures 6 inches.

Warmly,  
Julianna

[reply](#)

***Amelia*** says:

December 7, 2019 at 10:12 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-183520>)

This is a beautiful pattern, thank you, I’m almost finished. The bound off front and back roll up quite a bit (which I was wondering about as I did it). Does blocking fix this? Thank you!

[reply](#)

**Julianna** says:

December 11, 2019 at 12:51 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-183750>)

Hi Amelia,

Thanks for reaching out! Wet blocking the finished hat should go a long way toward helping everything lie flat, but you could also add a row of crochet or an [applied i-cord](https://www.purlsoho.com/create/atta-i-cord-tutorial/) (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/atta-i-cord-tutorial/>) around the finished edge if you find that the edges still curl after blocking!

Happy knitting!

Julianna

[reply](#)

**Kas** says:

January 26, 2020 at 8:43 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-186197>)

Hi,

What size do you recommend for a 4 yr old?

Thanks!

[reply](#)

**Julianna** says:

February 1, 2020 at 12:14 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-186478>)

Hi Kas,

Thanks for reaching out! You will most likely be happy with the Kid Small size, but kids' heads do come in all sizes! For best results, I would recommend measuring the recipient's head and choosing a size with a finished measurement that is two to four inches smaller than their head.

Happy knitting!

Julianna

reply

**Kim** says:

February 25, 2020 at 7:05 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-188076>)

Hello,

I am at the step for the larger sizes where I move to the circular needles and it seems to me that the 16" circular needles are not big enough to hold all the stitches and have room to knit. Am I missing something?

Kim

reply

**Cassy** says:

February 26, 2020 at 7:38 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-188126>)

Hi Kim,

Thanks for reaching out! Our apologies! The round noting where to change to circular needles was located in the wrong place. We have corrected the pattern above and moved it to the "Continue Even" section.

Our apologies for any confusion that this may have caused!

Cassy

reply

**Micki** says:

April 13, 2020 at 3:44 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-190925>)

So this is my first top down hat and I'm pretty excited about how far I've gotten (with help of the previous comments here?). My question is during shaping the ear flaps for an adult large, if I placed previous 33 sts onto a holder, how would I

continue on to bind off the next 44 sts if I'm now on a holder? I hope this question isn't too silly. Thank you in advance

reply

**Gaby** says:

April 15, 2020 at 11:08 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-191061>)

Hi Micki,

Thank you for writing in! You can think of stitches on scrap yarn or a stitch holder as passive; you've already worked them and now they are hanging out until you're ready for them later. Both ends of your needles should be free to continue knitting, or in this case binding off. By the end of this row you'll have 33 stitches on a stitch holder for one ear, and 33 stitches left on your needles for the other ear!

I hope this helps!

Gaby

reply

**Gloria Milmont** says:

August 3, 2020 at 2:20 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-198803>)

Love this hat! ...In the process of making a second one t using Cotton Pure this time. What other yarns would work with this pattern?

reply

**D. Oscar Horner** says:

August 8, 2020 at 4:20 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-199176>)

Hi Gloria,

We're so happy that you love this hat so much!! This hat would also work up nicely with our Mulberry Merino and

our Good Wool. Both are very nice sport weight yarn.

Happy knitting,  
Oscar

[reply](#)

**Trisha** says:

August 26, 2020 at 8:04 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-200134>)

Help! While knitting in stockinette for the main body of the beanie I accidentally dropped my unique marker and kept knitting. How do I figure out where to put it? Thank you so much for any help you can give!

[reply](#)

**Julianna** says:

August 28, 2020 at 12:01 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-200191>)

Hi Trisha,

Thanks for writing in! In a top-down hat, putting the marker in at exactly the right place is nearly impossible, but fortunately, there is a little bit of wiggle room! Your marker was right in the middle of one of the columns of decreases, so at this point, you can choose any column of paired decreases and trace a line straight down from the middle of that column to the stitches currently on the needle to place your marker. It's okay if you're off by one or two stitches, but as long as your beginning of round marker is aligned with one set of decreases, your ear flaps will end up in the correct spots!

I hope that helps!  
Julianna

[reply](#)

**Josey** says:

September 14, 2020 at 2:34 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-200871>)

I'm making this cap with cotton yarn for a few kids, age 4 – 8, and they all have 20 inch circumference heads. The kid small – and even adult small – sizes seem like they'd be too small to fit. Should I go with adult medium sizing?

reply

**Julianna** says:

September 15, 2020 at 11:02 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-200941>)

Hi Josey,

Thanks for writing in! Hats actually fit best with two to four inches of negative ease, meaning the finished measurement of the hat should be two to four inches smaller than the wearer's head. I think the 18" Kid Small would probably be the best fit for these kiddos!

I hope that clears things up!

Julianna

reply

**Judith** says:

October 30, 2020 at 10:51 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-203175>)

To have a slightly warmer hat, I'd like to knit this in a dk weight yarn, specifically Cashmere Merino Bloom. If you think this will work, can you advise me how to adjust the pattern? Thank you!

reply

**Gianna** says:

November 2, 2020 at 10:57 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-203293>)

Hi Judith,  
Thanks for reaching out! That sounds like a fun idea! If you want a dense hat with the Cashmere Merino Bloom, I would recommend sticking to the gauge we have already in the pattern (US size 3 needle!) If you would like a less dense hat then I would recommend going up to a US Size 4 or 5 needle and working up a gauge swatch and then you can adjust the pattern from there based on the gauge you are getting! Our [All About Gauge \(https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2020/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-203443\)](https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2020/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-203443) tutorial is an excellent resource to use!  
All the best,  
Gianna

reply

**Judith** says:

November 3, 2020 at 4:12 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-203443>)

Thanks for your excellent advice, Gianna. I'll give the dense approach a try. I do appreciate your help.

All good wishes,  
Judith

reply

**Martha** says:

November 5, 2020 at 1:26 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-203562>)

I just made this flap hat in your alpaca wool in the medium adult size. . I washed it in cool water and blocked it. Sadly it is too big for my daughter. Is there any way I can shrink it?

reply

**Gianna** says:

November 6, 2020 at 10:06 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-203562>)

flap-hat/#comment-203614)

Hi Martha,

Thanks for reaching out!

Unfortunately alpaca is especially well known for stretching and growing once knit, blocking it again may be able to help! I would recommend **blocking** (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/blocking>) it with warm water and being sure to not stretch the hat too much when it is wet, then laying it out pushing it closer together so that the stitches dry more compact together!

I hope this helps!

Gianna

reply

**Martha** says:

November 6, 2020 at 12:09 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-203631>)

Thanks so much for these tips Gianna. It's a beautiful soft hat and I really want it to fit.

reply

**Elena** says:

November 22, 2020 at 5:34 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-204583>)

I am wondering why after you have done the stockinette portion why do you end the last round 10 stitches before the end? Thank you!

reply

**Gianna** says:

November 24, 2020 at 12:12 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-204731>)

Hi Elena,

Thanks for reaching out! Since you are working top down for this pattern, after the stockinette portion of the hat you end the round 10 stitches before

the end of round because that is where you start working the next step of shaping the ear flaps!  
I hope this clarifies things, happy knitting!  
Gianna

[reply](#)

**Natalie** says:

January 7, 2021 at 9:47 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-207189>)

Hi,

I am new to SSP.

If I am doing the SSK by slipping both knit-wise, how should I do the SSP so it looks the same? I am not sure if the Notes indicate the way I should do them to match. Would I perhaps slip both knit-wise?

[reply](#)

**Gianna** says:

January 8, 2021 at 5:25 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-207258>)

Hi Natalie,

Thanks for reaching out! I recommend checking out our [Purl 2 Together \(p2tog\) + Slip Slip Purl \(ssp\)](https://www.purlsoho.com/create/p2tssp/) (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/p2tssp/>) tutorial! Its an excellent resource to use and will show you exactly how to work an SSP so that it mimics a SSK!

I hope this helps!

Warmly,  
Gianna

[reply](#)

**VERA DIERICKX** says:

January 26, 2021 at 7:35 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-208425>)

Please translate the making off 'earl flat hat' in dutch!

Thanks very much, is so beautifull

reply

**Gianna** says:

January 26, 2021 at 2:00 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-208470>)

Hi Vera,

Thanks for reaching out and expressing your interest, I will be sure to pass this along to the rest of the team!

Warmly,  
Gianna

reply

**Alona Varshal**

(<https://avarshal.gatsbyjs.io/>) says:

March 24, 2021 at 5:59 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-212594>)

Thank you very much for this pattern! I'm currently enjoying making it.

reply

**Audra** says:

October 10, 2021 at 11:45 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-225547>)

Hi, I don't see where the regular markers are mentioned after the "continue even" section— though the pattern indicates replacing the unique marker with a regular one. When can the regular markers be removed? Thank you for the sharing this fun pattern and for your gracious help!

reply

**Lili** says:

October 11, 2021 at 3:53 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-225610>)

Hi Audra,

Thanks for reaching out! I took a look at the pattern, and I'm seeing the same as you. Feel free to remove all the regular markers at the "Continue Even" section!

All the best,  
Lili

[reply](#)

***Alyssa*** says:

October 19, 2021 at 1:43 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-226460>)

I just finished making the smallest size for my niece and added a pom-pom to the top. The instructions were so easy to follow and it was a really fun make!

[reply](#)

***lisa+sweet*** says:

November 7, 2021 at 1:52 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-227781>)

Hello Friends!

I have a question about the Crown Shaping part and the alternating LL Increase and knitted rows (in the directions, these are Rounds 3 and 4). For R3, the LLI tutorial was very helpful and I \*think\* I am doing this right. When I am knitting R4, and I come to the LL Increased stitch, I'm finding that I am knitting the increased stitch by knitting through the back loop, rather than the usual knitting through the front loop to make a stitch. Is that correct, or am I missing something?

[reply](#)

***Gianna*** says:

November 16, 2021 at 9:51 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-228463>)

Hi lisa+sweet,  
Thanks for reaching out! When working the LLI, you should knit it through the back loop, so it sounds like you are doing the increase correctly when working round 4! You can find the breakdown for this technique and how it should be worked for this pattern under the special instructions section:

LLI (Left Lifted Increase): Lift the left leg of the stitch 2 rows below the stitch on right-hand needle onto left-hand needle and knit it through the back loop. [1 stitch increased]

I hope this helps, happy knitting!  
Gianna

[reply](#)

***Susan Brown***

***(<https://www.purlsoho.com/>)*** says:

November 24, 2021 at 1:06 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-228983>)

Hello Happy Knitters, I have a question about where exactly the beginning of the round is. Is it where the unique marker is originally placed or is it the beginning of first dpn that the unique marker is placed on? I also have a question about whether or not I have to switch to a circular needle if I have two sets of the 3.25mm dpns? Can I use the other set for the ear flaps? I hope these questions makes sense. I love this pattern and can't wait to see the finished results. I am probably going to make one for everyone in the family!! Thank you so much!  
Susan

[reply](#)

***Lili*** says:

November 25, 2021 at 4:14 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-229075>)

Hi Susan,

Thanks for reaching out. The beginning of the round is actually the beginning of the first DPN, which the unique marker is on! And as long as you can fit all the stitches on your DPNs, switching to a circular needle is completely optional. Hope this helps, and I'm so glad to hear that you're enjoying the pattern!

All the best,  
Lili

[reply](#)

**Susan Brown**

**(<https://www.purlsoho.com/>)** says:

November 30, 2021 at 10:28 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-229534>)

Thank you so much Lili! That was exactly what I needed to know! I am almost to shaping the ear flaps. So much fun!! I appreciate you so much!

Happy Holidays,  
Susan

[reply](#)

**Laura** says:

December 11, 2021 at 6:33 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-230675>)

Hi,

I am knitting the newborn size. Do I still need to change to circular needles or can I knit the entire thing on DPNs?

Thanks,  
Laura

[reply](#)

**Lili** says:

December 12, 2021 at 12:09 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-230719>)

Hi Laura,

Thanks for checking in about this. I would definitely recommend staying on DPNs for the entire hat when knitting the newborn size, since the finished circumference is so small! Hope this helps.

All the best,  
Lili

[reply](#)

**Stevie** says:

January 31, 2022 at 11:25 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-235427>)

DPNs make me so anxious, since I'm a beginning knitter—could you do the crown using magic loop instead?

[reply](#)

**Gianna** says:

January 31, 2022 at 1:29 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-235440>)

Hi Stevie,  
Thanks for reaching out! I think Magic Loop should be fine for the crown!

I hope this helps and please let us know how it goes, happy knitting!  
Gianna

[reply](#)

**Marit** says:

February 13, 2022 at 6:11 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-236579>)

I did this with magic loop, it worked wonderfully! I'm quite used to DPNs, but with only 2 stitches on each needle in the beginning, they kept sliding off, so I did magic loop instead.

[reply](#)

***alis ifrah*** says:

February 16, 2022 at 12:14 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-236835>)

yes i love

reply

***Liza Xydis*** says:

February 24, 2022 at 6:06 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-237504>)

I'd like to to make this in Posy + Tussock held together, and I knit a swatch for gauge. Confusingly, my gauge is about 20% larger than yours, even though Posy + Tussock are much lighter weight yarn. Do you think making a 20% smaller size would work?

reply

***Lili*** says:

March 2, 2022 at 3:36 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-237909>)

Hi Liza,

Thanks for reaching out. There are a few options you can pursue to make this pattern work with the yarn you want to use! First, have you tried using smaller needles yet? That will help make your gauge smaller, and you may even be able to hit the correct gauge this way.

But if you're finding that smaller needles don't quite get you there, then you can absolutely knit a smaller size to balance out the gauge! In order to select the size that will work, first measure how many stitches you're getting in one inch. Then, multiply this number by the finished circumference of the hat size you were originally planning on making. Finally, compare this number to the number of stitches around the body of the hat for each size (for reference, these are 88 (96,

104, 112, 120, 128, 136) stitches), and choose the size that comes closest to this number! Then you can follow the pattern as written for that new size.

I hope this helps!

All the best,  
Lili

[reply](#)

**Jayne Dickinson** says:

May 25, 2022 at 2:10 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-246574>)

I am knitting this hat for a 3 month baby. However I want to knit for Christmas 2022. So I wandered the finished size for small is it for a 1 yr old? Do these finished sizes include negative ease for the crown? I can't predict the baby boy's head size other than using measurement charts. Any advice as to which size hat in this pattern I should choose? Thank you in advance.

[reply](#)

**Lili** says:

May 25, 2022 at 2:23 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-246579>)

Hi Jayne,

Thanks for reaching out, and that's a great question! I'd recommend knitting the Kid Small size. This size will fit children 1 year and older, so it should be perfect and have a little room to grow! In answer to your question about ease, this hat is designed to fit with about an inch or two of negative ease. Hope this helps!

All the best,  
Lili

[reply](#)

**Jayne Dickinson** says:

May 26, 2022 at 2:30 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-246690>)

Oh thank you ! I really appreciate your swift response and valuable information.

[reply](#)

**Tracy** says:

June 11, 2022 at 12:03 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-248149>)

Love the pattern, thanks so much for sharing it. Any particular binding off technique you recommend?

[reply](#)

**Margaret** says:

June 11, 2022 at 2:40 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-248155>)

Hi Tracy!

Thank you for your question, and we are so glad you love this pattern! We recommend doing a basic knit bind off so that the stitches lay nicely around the perimeter of the hat. If you would like to see a tutorial for this, you can find it [here](https://www.purlsoho.com/create/basic-knit-bind-off/) (<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/basic-knit-bind-off/>)!

I hope this helps, and happy knitting!

All the best,  
Margaret

[reply](#)

**Sam Vallejo** says:

July 28, 2022 at 12:59 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-251504>)

Hello, I know nothing about knitting but I was wondering if I can commission one of these hats. Job is open please and obviously I'll pay for the product. Specifications can be talked once contact is reached. thank you!!!!

reply

**Carly** says:

July 28, 2022 at 10:48 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-251545>)

Hi Sam,

Thanks for reaching out to us. I'm sorry to say that we aren't taking any commissions for projects, but we do have all of the materials and instructions for you, or perhaps a knitting friend, to make one of your own! For this project, we used [Season Alpaca](https://www.purlsoho.com/season-alpaca.html) (<https://www.purlsoho.com/season-alpaca.html>), but you can search our selection of sport weight yarn [here](https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn.html?yarn_stitches_per_inch_filter=969) ([https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn.html?yarn\\_stitches\\_per\\_inch\\_filter=969](https://www.purlsoho.com/yarn.html?yarn_stitches_per_inch_filter=969))!

We would also be happy to answer any of your questions about knitting this project if you would like to knit your hat! You can reach out to us any time at [customerservice@purlsoho.com](mailto:customerservice@purlsoho.com) (<mailto:customerservice@purlsoho.com>)

I hope this helps, and please let us know if you have any questions!

All the best,  
Carly

reply

**Anna** says:

August 6, 2022 at 6:19 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-252170>)

Hello! I am a very inexperienced knitter, and this hat is my first real project. I just started to continue even, did like three or four rounds. Is the crown supposed to lay flat at this point, or could I have made a mistake at some earlier point? I love this design so much, really want it to work out.

[reply](#)

**Margaret** says:

August 6, 2022 at 3:55 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-252204>)

Hi Anna!

Thank you for your question, and congratulations on casting on your first project! After shaping the crown of this hat, the quickly-increased crown will have a slight concave curve to it, since so many stitches were added so quickly, thus creating the perfect fit to the top of your head! Once you are knitting even, however, the crown will grow longer to look more and more like a hat. Since this yarn has some lovely drape to it, the fabric of the crown shaping itself could lay flat, but not without a few puckered sections around the increased stitches by design.

I hope this helps, and please feel free to let us know if you have any other questions!

All the best,  
Margaret

[reply](#)

**Sinduja** says:

September 3, 2022 at 9:42 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-254404>)

Hi – my question is on this step  
“Change to circular needles and on the next round, replace the unique marker with a regular marker, and when you reach the end of the round, place the unique marker for end of round.”

How do we know what the end of the round is?

Thanks!

reply

**Lili** says:

September 4, 2022 at 9:17 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-254485>)

Hi Sinduja,

That’s a great question! The end of the round is the gap between Needle 4 and Needle 1. When you knit the first round with circular needles, you can knit straight from the DPNs to the circulars. That way, once you knit the last stitch from Needle 4, you know that that’s exactly where to place the unique marker for the end of round!

I hope this helps clarify things!

All the best,  
Lili

reply

**Sinduja** says:

September 4, 2022 at 12:17 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-254491>)

Thanks!

reply

**Katie** says:

October 27, 2022 at 7:48 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-258206>)

Hey! How do I join the yarn for the left ear flap? Since I think they're just unknit stitches on hold with no nearby yarn to connect to

reply

**Lili** says:

October 29, 2022 at 11:55 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-258310>)

Hi Katie,

Thanks for reaching out! To begin knitting the Left Ear Flap stitches, you can just take a new strand of yarn and begin knitting them. You don't need to do anything extra to "join" the yarn, but you will weave this yarn end in after you're finished with the project, which will secure it completely. Hope this helps!

All the best,  
Lili

reply

**Tammy Thornock** says:

December 30, 2022 at 5:59 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-261356>)

Can you tell me the head circumference of the woman wearing the hat in this pattern? I assume she is wearing the adult medium and I am wondering how much negative ease there is.

reply

**Lili** says:

December 31, 2022 at 8:53 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-261371>)

Hi Tammy,

Thanks for writing in! I'm afraid that we don't have a record of this model's head circumference, but based on the

photo, it looks like she's wearing the hat with about an inch or two of negative ease. Hope this helps!

All the best,  
Lili

reply

**Tammy Thornock** says:

December 31, 2022 at 12:05 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-261383>)

Thank you, Lili!

reply

**Erik** says:

January 11, 2023 at 4:39 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-261819>)

Hey Lili,

My question is similar to Sandujah's.

Hi – my question is on this step

“Change to circular needles and on the next round, replace the unique marker with a regular marker, and when you reach the end of the round, place the unique marker for end of round.”

I had already switched to circular needles and am not sure how to interpret this step. Will I still have 4 markers? And since I'm already using circular, how should I move the unique marker?

Thanks

Erik

reply

**Lili** says:

January 12, 2023 at 2:39 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-261856>)

Hi Erik,

Thanks for writing in! This step is important because it adds the fifth stitch marker, which is the end-of-round marker. On DPNs you marked

the first needle with a unique marker, indicating that the beginning/end of the round fell at the gap between the fourth and first DPN. Once you switch to circular needles though, you won't have the gap as a physical marker of where the beginning/end of round is.

At this point, I'd recommend placing the fifth stitch marker so that you know where the end-of-round is! It should fall directly in between the fourth marker and the first marker. Hope this helps clarify things!

All the best,  
Lili

reply

***erik hoagland*** says:

February 5, 2023 at 12:34 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-263023>)

That makes sense and my hat turned out great! Thanks

reply

***Bing*** says:

October 29, 2023 at 9:28 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-277956>)

Hi thank you for the pattern!  
I'm stuck on row 3 where it says knit to marker, LLI, slip marker, Knit 1, RLI, knit to end of needle.  
For row 3, which has 4 stitches on each needle at that point. Do we knit 2, then LLI, and slip the marker after the fourth stitch? I feel like it doesn't add up to the total number of stitches.

reply

***Lili*** says:

November 2, 2023 at 1:08 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-278116>)

Hi Bing,

Thanks for reaching out, and I'm happy to help answer your questions on Round 3! The lifted increases definitely make things confusing, but I want to let you know that the stitch count does work out in the end. There are currently 4 stitches on each needle, with a stitch marker dividing them into 2 groups of 2 stitches.

You start by knitting the first 2 stitches so that the stitch marker is the next thing on your left needle. Then, you work the LLI stitch into the stitch below the *next* stitch (which is the one after the marker!), but don't slip the marker yet. Once you've completed that increase stitch, you'll have 3 stitches before the marker, and you can now slip the marker. Then, k1 and work the RLI into the stitch below the final stitch on the left needle. You'll now have 2 stitches after the marker. Finally, knit the last stitch for a total of 6 stitches on the needle, 3 on either side of the marker!

I hope this helps clarify things, and please let me know if you have any other questions!

All the best,  
Lili

[reply](#)

**Christina** says:

November 20, 2023 at 6:07 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-278912>)

I am shaping the ear flaps for the 6-12 months.

I bound off 22 stitches, removing the end of round marker.

Then I knit the next 24 stitches as

instructed.

Here's where I don't understand: place previous 25 stitches on stitch holder for Right Ear Flap. Does « previous » mean the stitches before the 22 bind off?

Thank you!

reply

**Lili** says:

November 23, 2023 at 1:08 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-279006>)

Hi Christina,

Thanks for writing in! The “previous” stitches are the ones you just knit. After binding off those stitches, you'll have 1 stitch left on your right needle. Then, you knit 24 stitches, which means you'll have 25 stitches on your right needle. Those are the 25 previous stitches you need to put on hold!

All the best,  
Lili

reply

**Susan Baker** says:

January 14, 2024 at 10:33 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-281131>)

Hello! I am interested in knitting this earflap hat, but I would like to substitute the yarn, Speckle, because it has two colors in it that I think would go well with a coat I have. Do you think there would be any major difference if I used the Speckle instead of the Season Alpaca? Thank you so much!

Susan

reply

**Lili** says:

January 16, 2024 at 3:13 pm

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-281235>)

Hi Susan,

Thanks for writing in! Speckled Hen would be a wonderful choice for this hat. Since it's also a sportweight yarn, it should be very easy to match the gauge of the pattern. Just be sure to knit up a gauge swatch before beginning so that you can determine the best needle size to use!

All the best,  
Lili

[reply](#)

**Susan Baker** says:

January 16, 2024 at 5:55 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-281241>)

Thank you!

[reply](#)

**Sarah Henderson** says:

January 22, 2024 at 9:01 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-281570>)

Hi, I can't understand what I need to do between ending the last row 12 stitches from the end, and binding off 20 in the next step. Does the bind off begin 12 stitches from the end of the row? What do I need to do with the remaining 12 stitches on that row?

[reply](#)

**Gavriella** says:

January 23, 2024 at 11:20 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-281597>)

Hi Sarah,

Thanks for writing in! In this step are you beginning to shape your ear flaps. So you will bind off the 20 stitches in between and then place the remaining

stitches on a holder or length of scrap yarn as you work the first ear flap. I hope this helps!

Happy knitting,  
Gavriella

reply

**Sarah Henderson** says:

January 25, 2024 at 6:56 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-281733>)

I see, thank you. I started binding off at the 12 stitches left mark, and the math worked out for the rest of the row. Just finished the first flap. Thank you again for the help.

reply

**Gavriella** says:

January 26, 2024 at 10:12 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-281767>)

No problem at all! Let us know if you have any other questions. We are always here to help!

reply

**Susan** says:

January 23, 2024 at 9:01 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-281586>)

Good morning! I would like to put a contrasting i-cord edge around the entire hat. Can you give me some suggestions? Thank you.  
Susan

reply

**Gavriella** says:

January 23, 2024 at 11:36 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-281602>)

Hi Susan,

That sounds like a fun idea! We actually have a full tutorial on how you can attach an applied i-cord to your work and you can check that out [here \(https://www.purlsoho.com/create/atta-i-cord-tutorial/\)](https://www.purlsoho.com/create/atta-i-cord-tutorial/)! I hope this helps!

Happy knitting,  
Gavriella

[reply](#)

**Susan** says:

January 23, 2024 at 12:56 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-281607>)

Thank you—would you do the ear flaps edges in this pattern any differently if you were going to apply the i-cord edging after knitting them?

[reply](#)

**Gavriella** says:

January 23, 2024 at 1:26 pm  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-281608>)

I would recommend finishing the whole hat including the earflaps before the i-cord attachment. That way you won't have to worry about grafting anything except the end of the i-cord once you are done.

[reply](#)

**farrah** says:

March 25, 2024 at 3:31 am  
(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-285447>)

Hey so im knitting one for my newborn cousin, to which size of circular needles should I change to after knitting with DPNs? Thanks!

[reply](#)

**Gabriella** says:

March 25, 2024 at 10:49 am

(<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2017/10/13/top-down-ear-flap-hat/#comment-285465>)

Hi Farrah,

Thank you for your question! We recommend knitting the newborn size with DPNs all the way through rather than switching to a circular needle due to the small circumference. If you'd prefer, you can also try 12" circulars for working the stitches after the crown section as well! I hope this helps!

Happy knitting,  
Gabriella

[reply](#)

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