

SANTA'S ELVES[©] by Deborah Tomasello

(Four-Stranded Knitting Pattern: See Instructions at end of pattern.)



Size: Adult 21"- 23"

Child 18" – 20"

Materials: 1 ball each of KnitPicks Palette: *Limeade Heather, Aurora Heather, Golden Heather, Serrano, White and Black.* (Most colors will take less than a ball for one hat)

One 16" #3 circular needle, four #3 DPNs (or size needed to obtain gauge), stitch marker, and tapestry needle

Gauge: 32 stitches and 32 rounds = 4" using #3 needles.

Abbreviations: K2TOG = Knit two stitches together.

SSK = Slip one stitch, then slip the next. Insert left needle into the front loops of the slipped stitches and knit them together from this position.

(Cover photo shows child's hat.)

ADULT:

Instructions: With circular needle, CO 136 sts. using *Limeade Heather*. Join to work in round, placing stitch marker and being careful not to twist stitches. Knit eight rounds corrugated rib (see CHART A) using *Aurora Heather*, *Serrano* and *Black* for knit sts. and *Limeade Heather* for purl sts.

Increase round: (Round 1 of CHART B) Using *Limeade Heather*, inc evenly to 168 sts (knit 4 sts, knit 4 make 1 around until last 4 sts, knit last 4 sts.)

Follow CHART B Knit rounds 19-35. Then start with round 2 again (7 repeats per round) for 94 rounds, decreasing as indicated and switching to DPNs when necessary. (Each dec round has 2 decreases next to each other; k2tog for first dec, and ssk for second each time.) After round 94, with 14 sts. on the needles, k2tog around. 7 sts. remain. Knit last seven sts. for 5 rounds; cut yarn leaving a tail several inches long. Move all sts. from needles to tapestry needle, and pull tightly. Secure from the inside.

Finishing: Tie and weave in or trim all color change ends. Wash and block to fit.

CHILD:

Instructions: With circular needle, CO 136 sts using *Limeade Heather*. Join to work in round, placing stitch marker and being careful not to twist stitches. Knit six rounds corrugated rib (see CHART C) using *Aurora Heather*, *Serrano* and *Black* for knit sts. and *Limeade Heather* for purl sts.

Increase round (round 1 of CHART B): Using *Limeade Heather*, inc 8 st around evenly to total 150 sts

Follow CHART B (6 repeats per round) for 94 rounds, decreasing as indicated and switching to DPNs when necessary. (Each dec round has 2 decreases next to each other; k2tog for first dec, and ssk for second each time.) After round 94, with 12 sts. on the needles, k2tog around. 6 sts. remain. Knit last six sts. for 5 rounds; cut yarn leaving a tail several inches long. Move all sts. from needles to tapestry needle, and pull tightly. Secure from the inside.

Finishing: Tie and weave in or trim all color change ends. Wash and block to fit.

CHART A

Use *Aurora Heather*, *Serrano* and *Black* for knit sts. and *Limeade Heather* for purl sts.

Dash in st means purl.

4	3	2	1	
—	—	—	—	8
—	—	—	—	7
—	—	—	—	6
—	—	—	—	5
—	—	—	—	4
—	—	—	—	3
—	—	—	—	2
—	—	—	—	1

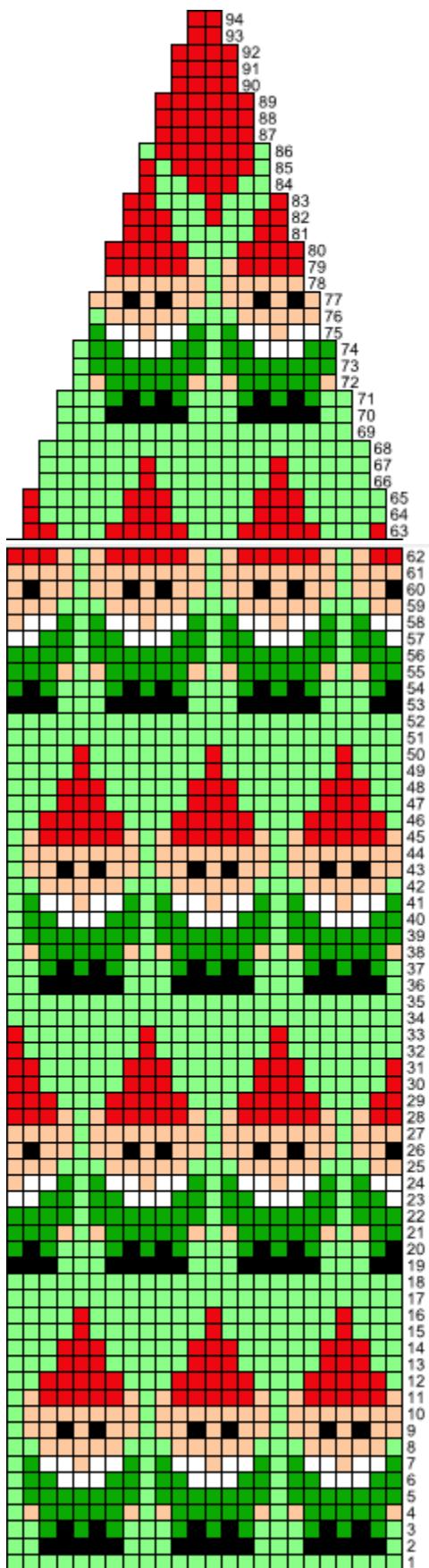
CHART C

Use *Aurora Heather*, *Serrano* and *Black* for knit sts. and *Limeade Heather* for purl sts.

Dash in st means purl.

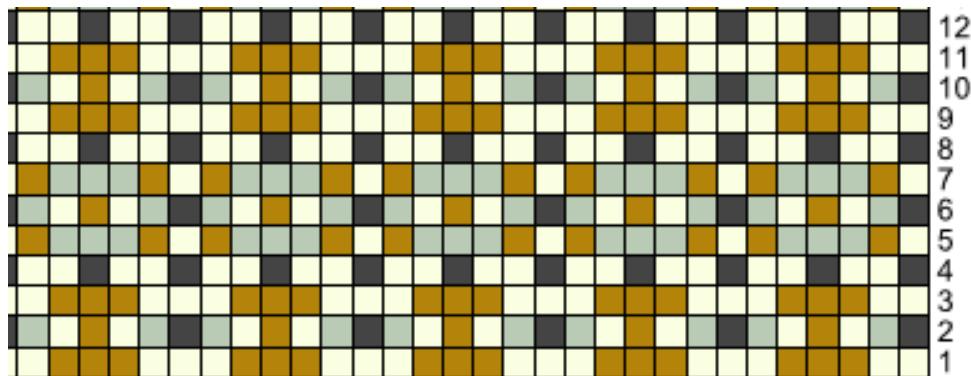
4	3	2	1	
—	—	—	—	6
—	—	—	—	5
—	—	—	—	4
—	—	—	—	3
—	—	—	—	2
—	—	—	—	1

CHART B



FOUR -STRANDED KNITTING INSTRUCTIONS

Look at the chart below.



When knitting round 1, you would just stranded knit as normal, knit one color while you float, mindful of keeping even tension, the other strand in back. The same is true for rounds 3,4,5, 8, 9, 11, and 12. Although some of these rounds involve carrying 3 strands rather than the usual 2, the repeats are close together, and as long as you keep your yarn sources from tangling, these rounds don't present a problem. Now notice rounds 2, 6 and 10. The chart shows 4 colors in each of these rounds. To keep from carrying all that yarn around, simply do the following. Knit the rounds once this way: knit the black st, slip the next 2 sts purlwise, knit the gold st, slip the next 2 sts purlwise and so forth all the way around. Now, **KNIT THE SAME ROUND A SECOND TIME**. Only this time, knit it this way: slip the black st you knitted the first time around, knit the green and cream sts you slipped last time around, slip the gold st previously knit and knit the cream and green sts previously slipped, and so forth. . (It doesn't matter which 2 colors you choose to knit each time around...any two will work!)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVczfDl18Oo>

Remember that stranded knitting draws in your work. You might want to knit loosely or go up a needles size.