



tiny boats

pattern by Elizabeth Doherty





tiny boats

A miniature fleet of boats sets sail upon a slipped stitch band—bringing with it a bit of extra warmth for your ears. The intricate-looking pattern is deceptively simple to knit. Only one color is worked per round; no need to carry two strands of yarn at once.

Explore classic and exciting color pairings, add a contrast edge, or for a fun variation, introduce a new color for each set of boats! The slightly slouchy hat can also easily be customized to have more slouch, or to be a fitted beanie.

Sizes

x-small, small, medium, large, x-large

Finished measurements

17½ (19, 20¼, 21¾, 23¼)" [44.5 (48, 51.5, 55.5, 59) cm]
circumference at band, approximately 9½" [24 cm] tall.

For the best fit, choose a size that is slightly smaller than the wearer's head.

Yarn

A lofty fingering or sport weight yarn in two colors.

Color A: 70 (78, 82, 90, 93) yds [64 (71, 75, 82, 85) m]

Color B: 121 (132, 140, 152, 163) yds [110 (121, 128, 139, 149) m]

Blue and Gold hat: The Birlinn Yarn Company *Hebridean Colours 4 Ply*; 70% Cheviot, 30% Hebridean; 191 yd [175 m] per 50g skein, in *Chuan* and *Còinneach*

Grey and Navy hat: Önling No. 1; 75% Merino, 25% Angora; 197 yd [180 m] per 50g skein, in *Dark Navy* and *Dark Grey*

Note: If you are working with true fingering weight yarn, you may wish to go up a pattern size, and down in gauge to get your desired fabric and hat size. Fingering weight yarn will require approximately 10% more yardage than the above estimate.

Needles

Use circular needles or dpns, according to your preference for working small circumferences in the round.

- US 6 [4 mm] (gauge needle)
- US 7 [4.5 mm], or one size larger than gauge needle
- US 4 [3.5 mm], or two sizes smaller than gauge needle

Adjust needle size as necessary to obtain gauge.

Notions

- Stitch marker for beginning of round
- Optional: 11 (12, 13, 14, 15) additional stitch markers
- Yarn needle

Gauge

22 sts x 32 rnds = 4" [10 cm] in stockinette, after washing and blocking. Suggested needle: US 6 [4 mm].



HAT

With US 4 [3.5 mm] needles, and color A, loosely cast on 96 (104, 112, 120, 128) stitches using the long-tail cast-on. Join for working in the round, taking care not to twist. Place marker for beginning of round.

Note: For a contrast edge, use color B for the cast-on and first round of broken ribbing.

Broken ribbing

Rnd 1: [P1, k1] to end.

Rnd 2: Knit.

Rep these two rnds 2 more times.

Slip-stitch band

Colors will be alternated every two rounds. Carry the unused color up the inside of hat, rather than breaking the yarn. With each color change, take the working yarn from underneath the resting yarn. This will gently twist the two yarns together, keeping them tidy.

Change to US 7 [4.5 mm] needles.

Set-up rnd: With color A, knit.

Join color B.

Rnd 1: With color B, [sl 1 wyib, sl 1 wyif, sl 1 wyib, k1] to end.

Rnd 2: With color B, [sl 3 wyif, yo-b, k1] to end.

Rnd 3: With color A, knit, dropping all yo's off needle to make long loose color B strands across front of work.

Rnd 4: With color A, knit.

Rnd 5: With color B, [sl 1 wyib, insert right needle tip from front under loose color B strand and knit next st, bringing needle out under strand to catch strand behind st, sl 1 wyib, k1] to end.

Rnd 6: With color B, [sl 1 wyib, k1] to end.

Rnd 7: With color A, knit.

Rnd 8: With color A, knit.

Rnd 9: With color B, [sl 1 wyif, k1] to end.

Rnd 10: With color B, knit.

Rnds 11–20: Rep Rnds 1–10, reversing colors.

Rnds 21–30: Rep Rnds 1–10 using original colors.

Break color A.

Continue hat body

Change to US 6 [4 mm] needles.

Continuing in color B, work even in stockinette until hat measures approximately 7" [18 cm] from cast-on edge, or to 2½" [6.5 cm] less than desired hat depth. If a beanie is preferred, work to approximately 5" [13 cm] before beginning crown decreases.

Crown shaping

Rnd 1: Knit.

Note: To make it easier to count stitches between decreases, you may wish to place markers between the crown segments. If so, work Rnd 1 as follows: [K8, pm] to end—11 (12, 13, 14, 15) markers placed.

Rnd 2 dec rnd: [K2tog, k6] to end—84 (91, 98, 105, 112) sts.

Rnds 3–5: Knit.

Rnd 6 dec rnd: [K5, ssk] to end—72 (78, 84, 90, 96) sts.

Rnds 7–9: Knit.

Rnd 10 dec rnd: [K2tog, k4] to end—60 (65, 70, 75, 80) sts.

Rnds 11–13: Knit.

Rnd 14 dec rnd: [K3, ssk] to end—48 (52, 56, 60, 64) sts.

Rnds 15 & 16: Knit.

Rnd 17 dec rnd: [K2tog, k2] to end—36 (39, 42, 45, 48) sts.

Rnds 18 & 19: Knit.

Rnd 20 dec rnd: [K1, ssk] to end—24 (26, 28, 30, 32) sts.

Rnd 21: Knit.

Rnd 22 dec rnd: [k2tog] to end—12 (13, 14, 15, 16) sts.

Rnd 23 dec rnd: K0 (1, 0, 1, 0), [k2tog] to end—6 (7, 7, 8, 8) sts.

Finishing

Break yarn leaving an 8" tail. Thread tail onto yarn needle, and pass it through the remaining stitches, then through hole to the inside of hat. Pull yarn tight to cinch closed, fasten off, and weave in end.

Thread tail from cast-on onto yarn needle. Complete edge by passing tail under both legs of first cast-on stitch, then back through center of stitch where strand originates. Adjust tension to match bound off stitches. Weave in tail.

Weave in all remaining tails. Soak hat in lukewarm water with a little wool wash for 20 minutes. Roll in a towel to remove excess moisture. Block hat over a balloon, ball, or upturned bowl of a suitable diameter.



abbreviations

BOR	beginning of round
CO	cast on
dpn	double-pointed needle
k	knit
k2tog	knit 2 stitches together
p	purl
rep	repeat
rnd	round
sl	slip stitch
ssk	slip, slip, knit
st(s)	stitch(es)
wyib	with yarn in back
wyif	with yarn in front
yo-b	wrap yarn back to front over needle

special stitches and techniques

Yarnover backwards (yo-b): Bring yarn over right-hand needle from back to front, opposite of the conventional direction for making a yarnover.

Knit 2 together (k2tog): Knit the next two stitches together—1 stitch decreased (right-slanting).

Slip, slip, knit (ssk): Slip two stitches individually as if to knit, then knit those two stitches together through the back loops—1 stitch decreased (left-slanting).

tiny boats pattern for swatching flat

If you'd like to experiment with color combinations, it's easiest to work a small slip-stitch swatch flat.

With largest needle, cast on a multiple of 4 sts, plus 1 extra stitch, using color A.

Set-up row: (WS) With color A, purl.

Row 1: (RS) With color B, k1, [sl 1 wyib, sl 1 wyif, sl 1 wyib, k1] to end.

Row 2: With color B, p1, [sl 3 wyib, yo, p1] to end.

Row 3: With color A, knit, dropping all yo's off needle to make long loose color B strands across front of work.

Row 4: With color A, purl.

Row 5: With color B, k1, [sl 1 wyib, insert needle from front under loose color B strand and knit next st, bringing needle out under strand to catch strand behind st, sl 1 wyib, k1] to end.

Row 6: With color B, p1, [sl 1 wyif, p1] to end.

Row 7: With color A, knit.

Row 8: With color A, purl.

Row 9: With color B, k1, [sl 1 wyif, k1] to end.

Row 10: With color B, purl.

Rows 11–20: Rep Rows 1–10, reversing colors.

Rows 21–30: Rep Rows 1–10. Bind off.

