



Mossy Cottage Patterns

Dulaan Zud Hat

This hat was designed for the Dulaan Project which collects warm, hand-knitted items for homeless and orphaned children and homeless adults in Mongolia which, in the winter, has extreme, sub-zero weather.

Zud (pronounced “zood”) is a Mongolian word which means “winter weather that’s atrocious even by Mongolian standards.” Zud conditions occurred two years in a row in Mongolia, which led to the death of millions of livestock animals, which forced thousands of nomads to move to the capital city of Ulan Bataar, which led the city to overflow with impoverished migrants, which led to orphaned and homeless children and people killing each other over the right to pick through garbage piles, which led to the Dulaan Project, which led to the design of this all-rib watch cap made with the bulkiest and warmest yarn I could find. The entire purpose for the existence of this hat is to provide extreme warmth and head-hugging comfort.



MATERIALS:

- 1 skein of Cascade Magnum or any other super-bulky yarn. Two skeins of Magnum will make three of these hats, if, for the third hat, you combine what’s left from the first two.
- 1 16”, size 13 circular needle
- 1 set size 13 double-pointed needles (dpns) for the decreases
- Embroidery needle

GAUGE: Not terribly important but the yarn band says on size 15 needles you get 1.5 stitches to the inch, so I assume you get approximately 2 to 2.5 stitches to the inch with size 13 needles.

SIZE: Because this has is ribbed from top to bottom, it fits a variety of head sizes but, in general, I would say the size is adult medium to large

ABBREVIATIONS:

- K = knit
- P = purl
- K2tog = knit two stitches together. This will combine two stitches together with a right-leaning slant. Your stitch count will be reduced by one.

CAST ON: Loosely cast on 48 stitches. Put a stitch marker on your right-hand needle. (Even if you don’t normally use stitch markers, I recommend doing this since later on in the pattern there’s a switcheroo and the stitch marker will help you find the beginning of the round.)

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BRIM:

- Join, being careful not to twist the stitches, and k1, p1 around.
- Continue k1, p1 until the brim is 2.75" long.

OPTIONAL FOLD ROW: Knit around. This optional row creates a crisp edge for turning up the brim of the hat.

THE CROWN AND THE SWITCHEROO:

- Continue to knit in rib *but now using p1, k1*. When you turn up the brim, this will allow the knit ridges of the crown to fit into the purled depressions of the brim, and vice versa. This makes for a nice, neat, head-hugging fit.
- Knit until the measurement from the cast-on edge is approximately 9.5" or 9.75".

DECREASES:

- *Round 1:* *P1, k1, k2tog. Repeat from * around. You will now have 36 stitches.
- *Round 2:* *P1, k2. Repeat from * around. (This is a good place to switch to the dpns, putting 12 stitches on each.)
- *Round 3:* *P1, k2tog. Repeat from * around. You will now have 24 stitches.
- *Round 4:* *P1, k1. Repeat from * around.
- *Round 5:* K2tog around. You will now have 12 stitches.
- *Round 6:* K2tog around. You will now have 6 stitches.



FINISHING:

- Break off the yarn, leaving a tail long enough to run through the remaining stitches and to weave in.
- Using the embroidery needle, run the yarn through the six stitches, removing the dpns as you go. Pull gently on the yarn to tighten and neaten the stitches at the top of the hat. Run the embroidery needle down through the middle of the top of the hat. Snug everything up, and weave in the end of the yarn.
- Weave in the cast-on end of the yarn and turn up the brim.