

Frances Beret

Designed by Fiona Morris



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Size

Adult medium, diameter when laid flat 25.5cm/10 inches

Materials

Col 1, 1 x 50gm ball Rowan Felted Tweed or 2 x50gm balls of another DK yarn
Col 2, 1 x 50gm ball Rowan Tapestry or other long colour change DK yarn. (A fine Aran or Worsted yarn could be used instead of DK)
1 x 3.25mm circular needle (max length 60cm) and either 2 x 4mm circular needles (max length 60cm) or 1 x 4mm circular needle and a set of 4mm double pointed needles.

Tension

26sts and 27 rows to 10cm/4 inches over the Fair Isle pattern knitted in the round on 4mm/6US needles

Knitting Notes

The hat is knitted in the round using the two-colour stranded knitting technique. The hat is knitted from the rib border to the centre so as the hat becomes smaller it is necessary to change from knitting on 1 circular needle to either knitting with 2 circular needles (4 groups of stitches on one needle and 3 groups on the other) or 4 double pointed needles (2 groups of stitches on one needle, 3 groups on the other 2 needles and a 4th needle to knit with)

The Fair Isle patterns are given as charts. To read the charts start at the right hand side of the chart and read each row of the chart (and each repeat within the round) from right to left.

Invisible cast on

I have used a k1, p1 rib so it is possible to cast on using the invisible cast on for k1, p1 rib as follows;

It is worked using 2 needles rather than 1 needle and your thumb

Make a slip-loop and place this on the Left Needle, then cast-on a 2nd stitch.

*Insert the Right Needle from the back to the front between the last 2 stitches, and then take the yarn round the needle as if to purl. Draw the yarn through and place the loop on the Left Needle taking care not to twist it.

Insert the Right Needle from front to back between the last 2 stitches, and take the yarn round the needle as if to knit. Draw the yarn through and place the loop on the Left Needle taking care not to twist it. *

Repeat from * to * for the required number of stitches.

On the first row, work into the back loop of each knit stitch.

Double decrease

The double decrease is worked as follows; *slip the next 2 stitches together knitwise to the right needle, knit the next stitch and pass the 2 slip stitches over together.*

The centre stitch of the group of 3 stitches in the decrease sits at the front of the knitting giving a vertical line to the decrease.

One stitch marker is used to identify the beginning/end of the round. When starting to knit the crown six more stitch markers of a different colour are used to divide the crown into 7 sections.

Beret

Using 3.25mm circular needle and Col 1, cast on 112sts.

k1, p1 repeat to the end of the round remembering to place the stitch marker at the end of the round.

Continue in k1, p1, rib until knitting measures 2.5cm/1 inch

Change to 4mm circular needle and work an increase round as follows;

k1, kfb rep to end of round – 168sts

Knit 2 round

Next Round: start working Fair Isle pattern following **Chart A** working from right to left of the chart every round repeating the pattern 14 times in 1 round. Knit one complete repeat of the pattern i.e. 23 rounds.

Continue knitting with Col 1 until the beret measures 9cm/3.75 inches from the end of the ribbing.

Next Round: as you knit place a stitch marker after every 24 stitches.

Decrease for the crown

Start knitting the Fair Isle pattern from **Chart B** starting at column 1 on the chart and reading the chart from right to left, repeat the chart 7 times to work 1 round.

The first round of decreases is worked on row 3 of the chart; follow the chart to column 12, work a double decrease as follows * slip the next 2 stitches together knitwise to the right needle, knit the next stitch and pass the 2 slip stitches over together.* knitting with the yarn colour shown in column 13.

Continue following **Chart B** and decreasing every alternate round as shown on the chart until 14 stitches remain. As you decrease the number of stitches on the needle will become too small to fit on a circular needle so you will need to change to either 2 circular needles or 4 double pointed needles to complete the crown (see **Pattern Notes**)

Next Round: k2tog 7 times – 7 sts

Cut the yarn leaving a long tail end. Thread the tail end into a darning needle and pull the yarn through the remaining stitches to tighten and close the top.

Sew in all the yarn ends to finish.

Abbreviations

Kfb – knit into the front and back of the next stitch to increase 1 stitch

K2tog – knit 2 together

The white squares are Colour 1, the black squares are Colour 2 and the grey squares are stitches that have been decreased

Chart A head band pattern

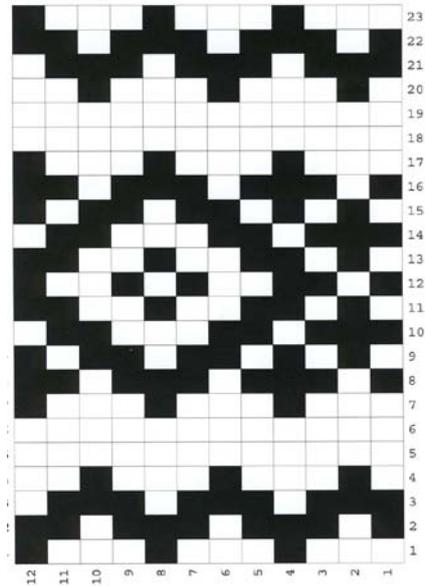
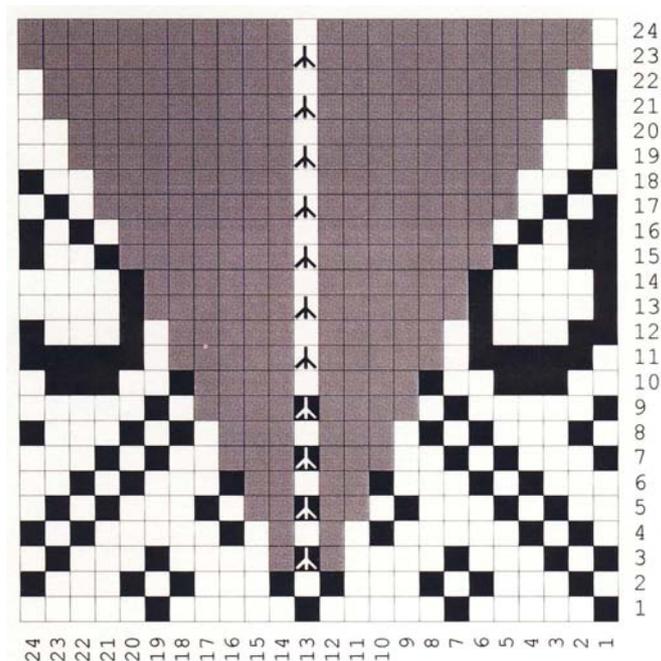


Chart B crown pattern including decreases



Column 13 on the chart represents the stitch colour to be used when working the double decrease. The double decrease (shown by the arrow symbol) is worked as follows; * slip the next 2 stitches together knitwise to the right needle, knit the next stitch and pass the 2 slip stitches over together.*