



Circular Knitting Basics: Making Hats in the Round

with Joy Macdonell



When it comes to knitting in the round, there are lots of ways to get the job done. Joy Macdonell teaches all of the essentials, including how to work with circular needles, double-pointed needles and with the Magic Loop method (to name a few). She demonstrates all of these techniques on two different knitted hats—a slouchy beanie with I-cord accents, and a pom-pom hat with I-cord edging—both of which are ideal for putting all of these techniques to use.

You Will Learn:

- How to cast on with circular needles
- How to work in the round with circular needles, double-pointed needles, two circular needles and with Magic Loop
- How to decrease stitches
- How to finish a hat with I-Cord
- How to start a hat with I-Cord
- How to add a basting stitch
- How to join with Kitchener stitch
- How to make a pom-pom

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Beanie with I-Cord Brim

with Joy Macdonell



Skill Level:

Some Experience Necessary

Size:

One Size: Adult with head size from 20-22" [51-56 cm]

Finished Measurements:

21" [53.34 cm] circumference x 8" [21 cm] deep

Continued →

Needles:

Boye® Size 13 [9 mm] double point needles

Boye® Size 11 [8 mm] 16" [40.5] circular needle

Boye® Size 11 [8 mm] double point needles

or sizes needed to obtain gauge

Note: A Size 11 36" [91.5 cm] circular needle may be substituted for the Size 11 double point and 16" circular needles if the Magic Loop method of knitting in the round is used.

Yarn:

#6 Super Bulky Weight Yarn: 106 yards (we used: Lion Brand® Wool-Ease® Thick & Quick® Yarn (80% Acrylic, 20% Wool, 6 oz/170 g, 106 yd/97 m), Fig — 1 skein)

Additional Materials:

- Tapestry Needle
- Stitch marker
- Waste yarn
- Boye® Pompom Maker or 4" [10 cm] x 3" [7.5 cm] piece of cardboard

Gauge:

10½ sts = 4" St st in the round

To save time, take the time to check gauge.

Abbreviations:

cm	Centimeter
CO	Cast on
k	Knit
k2tog	Knit 2 sts together
rep	Repeat
RS	Right side
St st	Stockinette stitch
St(s)	Stich(es)

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SPECIAL STITCHES AND TECHNIQUES

I-CORD:

With two double-point needles or a circular needle, *k4, do not turn work. Slide all the stitches to opposite end of needle; rep from * until I-cord measures desired length.

STOCKINETTE STITCH IN THE ROUND:

Knit every round.

KITCHENER STITCH:

- Thread tapestry needle with yarn tail.
- Holding needles with needles parallel (one above the other), insert tapestry needle into first stitch on front needle as if to purl, draw yarn through but leave stitch on front needle.
- Insert tapestry needle into first stitch on back needle as to knit, draw yarn through leaving stitch on back needle.
- *Insert tapestry needle into first stitch on front needle as if to knit, slip stitch off needle; insert tapestry needle into next stitch on front needle as if to purl, draw through yarn but leave stitch on needle.
- Insert tapestry needle into next stitch on back needle as if to purl, slip stitch off needle, insert tapestry needle into next stitch on back needle as if to knit, draw yarn through but leave stitch on needle.
- Repeat from * until all stitches are joined.

INSTRUCTIONS

I-CORD EDGING

With waste yarn and size 13 double point needles, CO on 4 sts.

Knit 4 rows of garter st. Cut waste yarn and begin working with #6 yarn.

Work I-Cord for 55 rows. Cut yarn leaving 12" [30.5 cm] tail.

Thread a 24" [61 cm] piece of waste yarn onto yarn needle. Weave waste yarn loosely between two sts the length of the I-cord. This will serve as a guide so stitches are not twisted when joined.

JOIN I-CORD ENDS TO FORM BOTTOM EDGE OF HAT.

With a spare double point needle, pick up first row of sts made with #6 yarn on cast on edge. Make sure stitches are not twisted. Unravel waste yarn. Live stitches are now on needles on both ends of the I-cord. Join ends of I-cord using Kitchener Stitch. (See Special Stitches and Techniques)

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BODY OF HAT

With Size 11 circular needle and using the waste yarn as a guide, pick up and knit the thread between stitches on each row of I-cord. – 55 sts.

Place a stitch marker and begin knitting in the round until hat measures 4" [10 cm] above I-cord edging.

BEGIN DECREASES

NOTE: Change to size 11 double point needles as needed.

Round 1: *K9, K2tog; rep from* around–50 sts

Rounds 2, 4, 6: Knit.

Round 3: *K8, K2tog; rep from* around–45 sts

Rounds 4: Knit.

Round 5: *K7, K2tog; rep from* around–40 sts

Rounds 6: Knit.

Round 7: *K6, K2tog; rep from* around–35 sts

Rounds 8: *K5, K2tog; rep from* around–30 sts

Round 9: *K4, K2tog; rep from* around–24 sts

Rounds 10: *K2tog; rep from* around–12 sts

Cut yarn leaving 12" [30.5 cm] tail.

FINISHING

With yarn needle thread tail through remaining sts. Gather snugly and fasten off with a secure knot. Turn hat inside out. Weave in all ends.

MAKE POMPOM

Using largest ring on Boye® PomPom Maker, make pompom according to instructions.

If you don't have a pompom maker, wrap yarn around cardboard approximately 75 times.

Thread yarn needle with 8" piece of yarn. Insert needle between cardboard and yarn wraps at top edge. Tie yarn tightly around all wraps. Cut wraps at opposite edge to form pompom.

Shake pompom to distribute yarn evenly. Trim ends as needed. Securely attach pompom to top of hat and weave in yarn tails.

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Slouchy Hat with I-Cord Knot

with Joy Macdonell



Skill Level:

Some Experience Necessary

Size:

One Size: Adult with head size from 20-22" [51-56 cm]

Finished Measurements:

21" [53.34 cm] circumference x 9.5" [24 cm] deep

Continued →

Needles:

Boye® Size 8 [5 mm] double point needles

Boye® Size 8 [5mm] 16" [40.5 cm] circular needle
or sizes needed to obtain gauge

Note: A Size 8 36" [91.5 cm] circular needle may be substituted for the double point and 16" circular needles if the Magic Loop method of knitting in the round is used.

Yarn:

#4 Worsted Weight Yarn: 210 yards (we used:
Patons® (100% Pure Wool, 3.5 oz/100 g, 210
yd/192 m), Mercury — 1 skein)

Additional Materials:

- Yarn needle
- Stitch marker

Gauge:

16 sts = 4"

To save time, take the time to check gauge.

Abbreviations:

CO	Cast on
k	Knit
k2tog	Knit 2 sts together
p	Purl
p2tog	Purl 2 sts together
rep	Repeat
RS	Right side
St(s)	Stich(es)

Continued →

SPECIAL STITCHES AND TECHNIQUES

I-CORD:

With two double-pointed needles, *k all stitches, do not turn work. Slide all the stitches to opposite end of needle; rep from * until I-cord measures desired length.

INSTRUCTIONS

CO 84 sts with circular needle. Place marker and join into round making sure not to twist sts.

Rnd 1 (RS) and all odd numbered rounds: Knit

Rnd 2 and all even numbered rounds: Purl

Rep Rounds 1- 2 until hat measures 6" [15 cm] ending with a Rnd 2.

BEGIN DECREASES

NOTE: Change to double point needles as needed.

Round 1: *K12, K2tog, repeat from* around – 78 sts

Rounds 2 and all even rounds to Rnd 20: Purl

Round 3: *K11, K2tog, rep from* around – 72 sts

Round 5: *K10, K2tog, rep from* around – 66 sts

Round 7: *K9, K2tog, rep from* around – 60 sts

Round 9: *K8, K2tog, rep from* around – 54 sts

Rounds 11: *K7, K2tog, rep from* around – 48 sts

Round 13: *K6, K2tog, rep from* around – 42 sts

Round 15: *K5, K2tog, rep from* around – 36 sts

Round 17: *K4, K2tog, rep from* around – 30 sts

Round 19: *K3, K2tog, rep from* around – 24 sts

Rounds 21: *K2tog, rep from* around – 12 sts

Rounds 22: *P2tog, rep from* around – 6 sts

Place remaining sts on one double point needle. Work I-cord for 4" [10 cm]. Cut yarn leaving 12" [30.5 cm] tail.

FINISHING

With yarn needle thread tail through remaining sts. Gather snugly and fasten off with a secure knot. Weave in all ends. Tie I-cord into decorative knot.