

Cecily Beanie

Design by Louisa Harding

This basic hat can be knitted very quickly, and then it becomes a blank canvas for unleashing creative ideas. For a girly feel, embellish the hat with buttons and flowers; alternatively, add dramatic pom-poms. Let your imagination take hold—scour the bottom of your sewing basket or knitting stash, knit stripes, add lazy daisies, sew on beads... Make this hat as individual as you dare.

★ FINISHED SIZE:

20¼" (51.5 cm) circumference, to fit an average female head.

YARN:

Worsted weight (#4 Medium). Louisa Harding Kashmir Aran (55% merino wool, 10% cashmere, 35% microfiber; 83 yd [76 m]/50 g): beanie with pom-poms (next page): #2 sky (blue, MC), 2 balls, and #6 lime (for pom-poms), 1 ball. Embellished beanie (opposite): #14 biscuit (tan, MC), 2 balls.

NEEDLES:

U.S. size 6 (4 mm) and U.S. size 7 (4.5 mm). Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

★ NOTIONS:

Both hats: Tapestry needle. pom-pom beanie only: Size G/6 (4 mm) crochet hook. Embellished beanie only: Sewing needle and thread; about 40 mother-of-pearl buttons; about 12 small fabric flowers; small flower bouquet; 12" (30.5 cm) length of ¼" (6 mm) ribbon.



Stephen Jessup

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★ GAUGE:

18 sts and 27 rows = 4" (10 cm) in St st on larger needles.

★ SKILL LEVEL:

Easy. 

★ BEANIE:

Edging

With MC and smaller needles, CO 91 sts. Work 6 rows in St st, then work 2 rows in garter st.

Change to larger needles and work in St st until piece measures 5" (12.5 cm) from CO (4" [10 cm] when edge is allowed to roll), ending with a WS row.

Crown

Row 1: (RS) [K7, k2tog] 10 times, k1—81 sts rem.

Row 2 and every WS row: Purl.

Row 3: [K6, k2tog] 10 times, k1—71 sts rem.

Row 5: [K5, k2tog] 10 times, k1—61 sts rem.

Row 7: [K4, k2tog] 10 times, k1—51 sts rem.

Row 9: [K3, k2tog] 10 times, k1—41 sts rem.

Row 11: [K2, k2tog] 10 times, k1—31 sts rem.

Row 13: [K1, k2tog] 10 times, k1—21 sts rem.

Row 15: [K2tog] 10 times, k1—11 sts rem.

Break yarn, leaving a 12" (30.5 cm) tail. Thread tail through rem sts, pull tight to gather sts, and fasten off inside.

With MC threaded on a tapestry needle and beg at gathered top, sew seam using mattress stitch or backstitch (see box), reversing seam for lower $\frac{3}{4}$ " (2 cm) for rolled brim.

★ FINISHING:

Beanie with pom-poms

With lime, make four 1" (2.5 cm) pom-poms and four 1½" (3.8 cm) pom-poms (see box). Attach 3 of the smaller pom-poms and 2 of the larger pom-poms to hat using crochet chains as foll: with crochet hook, join lime to hat and crochet a chain (see box) 1–3" (2.5–7.5 cm) long. Fasten off, leaving a 6" (15 cm) tail. Attach pom-pom to tail. Sew rem 3 pom-poms directly to hat, arranging as shown above.

Embellished beanie

With MC threaded on a tapestry needle, sew mother-of-pearl buttons to the hat as shown at left. With sewing needle and thread, sew small fabric flowers to the hat, attaching with small stitches on WS of hat. Tie the length of ribbon around the flower bouquet and secure with a bow, trim ends of ribbon, and sew bouquet into place with small stitches on WS of hat. ✨

LOUISA HARDING, author of *Knitting Little Luxuries* (Interweave Press 2007) has been designing knitwear professionally for more than fifteen years. Her previous books include *Natural Knits for Babies and Moms* (Interweave Press, 2006) and the "Miss Bea" series of children's handknits.

Backstitch Seam

Working from right to left, one stitch in from selvedge, bring threaded needle up through both pieces of knitted fabric (Figure 1), then back down through both layers a short distance (about a row) to the right of the starting point (Figure 2). *Bring needle up through both layers

a row-length to the left of backstitch just made (Figure 3), then back down to the right, in same hole used before (Figure 4). Repeat from *, working backward one row for every two rows worked forward.



Figure 1

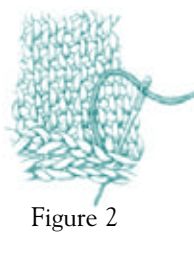


Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4

Illustrations by Gayle Ford

Making Pom-Pom:

Cut two circles of cardboard, each $\frac{1}{2}$ " (1.3 cm) larger than desired finished pom-pom width. Cut a small circle out of the center and a small edge out of the side of each circle (Figure 1). Tie a strand of yarn between the circles, hold circles together and wrap with yarn—the more wraps, the thicker the pom-pom. Cut between the circles and knot the tie strand tightly (Figure 2). Place pom-pom between two smaller cardboard circles held together with a needle and trim the edges (Figure 3). This technique comes from Nicky Epstein's *Knitted Embellishments*, Interweave Press, 1999.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

About the Book:

Knitting Little Luxuries

by Louisa Harding

Pamper yourself and your friends with luxurious knitted gifts that can be made in no time. From a sumptuous striped cloche hat to a sophisticated wrap with delicate embroidery to fingerless mittens with lace edging, these quick-and-easy projects are stylish, luxurious, use small amounts of yarn, and can be created by even the novice knitter.



Crochet Chain (ch)

Make a slipknot on hook. Yarn over hook and draw it through loop of slipknot. Repeat, drawing yarn through the last loop formed.

