



A **Top-Down** beret/hat pattern that can easily be adjusted for width, length and slouch factor. You don't have to swatch or fudge with stitch and row gauge, unless you want to.

A simple and subtle 2x2 cable proceeds after the increases are completed, and travel down into the band. *There are no purl borders on either side of the cable until the band ribbing.*

*This pattern gives directions for a DK weight hat with a semi-total of 136 sts. You then **increase** 2 stitches per repeat for the cables, for a total of 152 stitches. Chart 1 gives a snapshot some of how the crown is increased, and Chart 2 gives a snapshot of the 2-stitch increase that creates the cable.*

Christmas fuzzy retains, but minimizes the YO holes by knitting them through their

back loops (K1tbl). Feel free to use your favorite increase stitch of choice.

Level of Expertise: Advanced beginner to Intermediate. Hats knit using the Magic Loop technique.

Knitting techniques: Knitting in the round, stockinet stitch, purl stitch, yarn overs, make one increase, right lifted increase, and an easy 4-stitch right leaning cable twist. The band uses an optional knit 1 through the back loop (K1TBL-purl 1 rib), or k1-p1 rib.

Optional (Recommended): 8 stitch markers.

Yarn: Any weight

Brown Hat: Used 54 grams of DK weight yarn created by plying 2 strands of lace weight yarn with 1 strand of Zephyr lace weight).

Needles: US 6 (4.0 mm)

Gauge: 22 sts = 4"

Abbreviations:

K knit **P** purl

YO = yarn over **St/Sts:** Stitch(es)

K1TBL Knit one stitch through back loop

Cable 4 Right: slip next 2 sts. to a cable needle and hold to the back of your work; knit the next 2 stitches, then the 2 cable needle sts.

Right (lifted) increase: Lift first leg of st below the next st onto needle and knit this stitch.

PM: Place Marker **SM:** Slip Marker

BODY OF HAT

Cast on 8 stitches using your favorite circular cast on technique. I use the Disappearing Loop cast on. See "djinnj" video on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rfc-Q-v3Dns> for a great "how to" tutorial that shows 2 different methods. I use the

Techknitter's method demonstrated 5 ½ minutes into the video.

You Tube, Tech Knitter, and Knitty.com also have great tutorials on cabling without a needle, and bind-off techniques.

Stitches noted in (): total stitches.

Round 1: *Place Marker, YO – k1, place marker * across = 16 total sts (8 markers)

Rnd 2: *This round only* * Slip Marker (SM), Knit YO through the back loop, k1 *; repeat across (16 sts)

Rnd 3: * SM, YO – k2 *; repeat across rnd (24 sts)

Rnd 4: *and all alternate even numbered rounds: knit across unless otherwise specified*

Rnd 5: * SM, YO - k3 *; rept across rnd (32 sts)

Rnd 6: Knit across.

Rnd 7: *and all odd numbered rounds:* * SM, YO, knit to next marker * repeat (40 sts)

Repeat rounds 6 and 7. At * SM, YO, knit 16 sts *, repeat until you have 136 or desired number divisible by 8.

Important: Next (even) round: * Move marker one stitch to the right, knit across to next marker *; repeat 7 more times.

MEASURE YOUR WORK FROM THE **HAT'S CENTER** to the end of your needle after completing the even numbered round. I had 4.5" (a loose hat). You should be able to go up to 5" for a 10" diameter and a definitely roomier beret. Increase until you are at the width you want, but remember to slip your marker one stitch to the right on the last even round.

ADDING THE EXTRA CABLE STITCHES:
On the next odd number round you'll be compensating for the natural drawing-in/contraction of your work that cabling produces.

Now you will be adding 2 extra sts per repeat for the 4-stitch cable.

- Slip marker; knit next st front & back (or Make 1); then make 1 right leaning increase in the next stitch. Repeat this 2-stitch increase 7 more times.

Knit the next round plain.

I find that a right-leaning, 3 round cable stands out more in top-down hats; important since there are no purl sts on either side of the cable.

Cable:

* Slip marker, C4R – knit to marker *; repeat. Knit next 2 rounds plain (tight cable recommended); or 3 rounds plain (traditional cable).

When I wet block a hat with a band, the band stretches/loosens it no matter how carefully I string thread throughout the it, so I block the body of the hat first, and then add the band. I put the stitches on a piece of long string that accommodates a 9"-9.5" diameter dinner plate or an inflated

balloon, and do a preliminary dry check to see how the unblocked hat fits the plate/balloon to get a good idea of how much to stretch the damp piece.

WET BLOCKING:

If the yarn is not superwash DO NOT put hat in basin and then turn on the water; changes of temperature and agitation easily felt non-superwash wools.

Fill basin or sink with warm water and place hat in to soak about 20 minutes. Scoop entire hat up in both hands so it does not stretch, put in lingerie bag, and spin out on non-rinse cycle of a top loader washing machine, or roll in towel. Lay flat on towel to dry, or block hat on plate for a beret shape. Block on a balloon or small 22.5" diam. basket-ball for a slouchy shape.

HAT BAND:

Knit until the beret is 1.25" shorter than desired, ending at just having completed a cable twist round followed by one plain rnd.

Measure the hat from the top of the crown to sts under needles:

6.5" long is fine for an adult with a small head, or for someone who prefers a hat that doesn't fully cover the ears. For a larger 22-plus inch head with ear coverage, aim for 7" to 7.5" pre-band length.

DO NOT DECREASE ACROSS THE 4 STITCH CABLE UNLESS YOU *DO NOT* PLAN TO CARRY IT INTO THE BAND.



Change to needle 2 sizes smaller than the one used for the body of the hat.

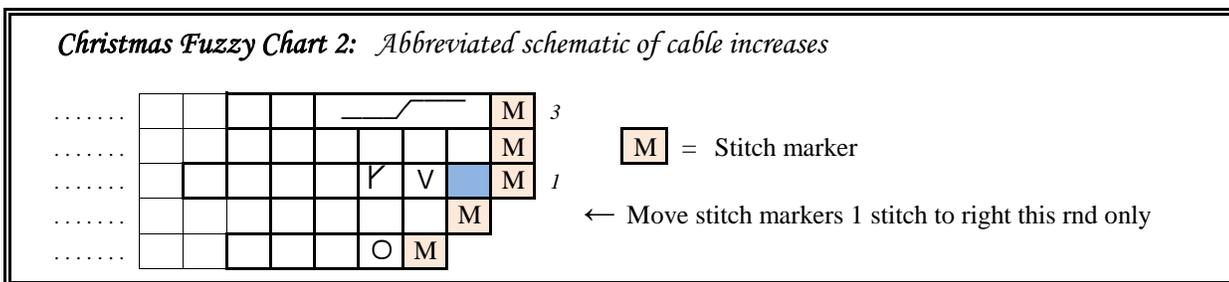
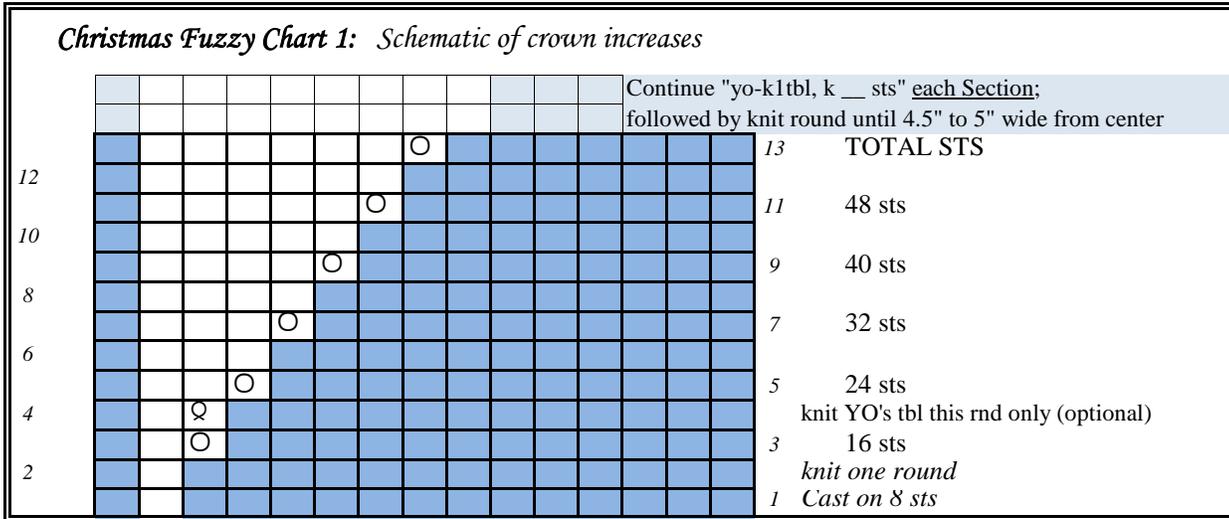
Brown fuzzy had 152 body sts, with a 120 st band that included cables. You'll need to decrease 4 sts per repeat: * (p2tog, k1-p1-k1) x 2, p2tog, k1, p2tog *, repeat 7 more times. Aim for an odd number of sts so you have purl sts on either side of the cables.

Cable round: * PM, C4R, p1, k1-p1 across*, repeat.

Continue band, doing a 3 round cable until band is 1.25" long. BO in pattern on round following the cable turn round using Jeny's Surprising Stretchy Bind Off. Cat Bordhi has an excellent tutorial on You Tube.

Wear with pride.

- = Purl (WS)
- ◻ = Kf&b (bar incr)
- = yo
- ∩ = right incr.
- = no stitch
- = Knit
- ▬ = R leaning cable: sl 2 back, k2, k2 cn (see rnd 3, below)



Line-by-line instructions for cable increases and cable turn

End having done an increase round at desired length slip each marker one st to the right;

Next (even round): *Slip each marker 1 stitch to the right and knit across.*

Rnd 1: - Increase 2 stitches as follows:

- * knit to marker, slip marker; knit next stitch front & back (bar increase of 1 stitch),
- make right leaning increase in next stitch (second 1-stitch increase) knit to marker*, repeat * to *.

Rnds 2, 4 & 5: Knit across

Rnd 3: * K to marker, slip marker, place next 2 sts on cn and hold to back,
knit next 2 stitches, then 2 stitch on cn's (right leaning cable cross); knit to next marker *

Rnd 6: Repeat Rnd 3; for heavier yarns do cable twist every 4th rather than every 3rd rnd.

Continue in pattern for 2.5"- 3"; then either put hat on string and block, or continue to band.