



the dan hat

I designed this tweed stitch hat for my other half, Dan. When I asked him what he'd like to name it, he said "the dan hat", so there you go. The tweed stitch blends the stripes of colour together, creating a subtle effect. A colourful hat that is also masculine. The tweed stitch also elegantly disguises the decreases at the top of the hat so that they become invisible. The brim of corrugated ribbing adds a graphic contrast to the shifting tones of the tweed stripes. The dan hat is a great platform for playing with colour (see 'variations' at the end of these instructions) and using up small quantities of stashed yarn.

yarn

As mentioned above, the dan hat is intended as a platform for playing with colour, but the tweed stitch works best with classic shetland style yarns such as Rowan Scottish Tweed 4 Ply, Jamieson & Smith 2 Ply Jumper Weight, Jamieson's Shetland Spindrift and Alice Starmore Hebridean 2 Ply. The version pictured was made with the following:

Colour A: Rowan 4 Ply Scottish Tweed in Blue Mist (a dark blue)

Colour B: Alice Starmore Hebridean 2 Ply in Pebble Beach (multifaceted grey)

Colour C: A mystery Shetland tweed from my stash in light brown

Colour D: Rowan 4 Ply Scottish Tweed in Apple (a bright leafy green)

Colour E: Rowan 4 Ply Scottish Tweed in Sea Green (turquoise)

You will need a 25g skein of Colours A and B (approximately 85 - 100 metres each) and small amounts of Colours C, D and E (around 5-10g or 25 - 30 metres each).

needles

One 3.5mm (US number 4) circular needle, 24 inches long and 1 set of 3.25mm double pointed needles. One stitch marker is also needed.

gauge

28 stitches and 46 rows = 10cm/4" in pattern

abbreviations

k, knit

k2tog, knit two stitches together

p, purl

psso, pass the slipped stitch over

s1, slip stitch purlwise

tbl, through the back loop

yf, yarn to the front

yb, yarn to the back

size

Designed to fit a manly head of 23" in diameter around the ears.

pattern

Slip all stitches purl wise.

Using the circular needle cast on 168 stitches in Colour A. Join to make the round, being careful not to twist the stitches on the needle. Mark the beginning of the round.

the brim

round 1: *p2 in Colour A, k2 in Colour B, repeat from * till end of round for 12 rounds whilst carrying the strands along the front of the work (which will become the reverse side of the brim).

round 13: Move strands to the back of the work and knit in Colour A.

the hat body

Work the pattern as follows:

round 14: *k3, yf, s1, yb, repeat from * till end.

round 15: *k3, s1, repeat from * till the last four stitches, k2 in Colour X, k2 in Colour Y.

round 16: using Colour Y: k1, *yf, s1, yb, k3, repeat from * till the last three stitches, yf, s1, yb, k2.

round 17: k1, *s1, k3, repeat from * till the last three stitches, s1, k2. Next round in Colour Z.

Repeat these four rounds changing colour at the end of round 15 and between rows 17 and 14 with the colour changes as follows: *A, B, C, A, B, D, A, B, E, repeat from * until work measures 6 inches from the top of bottom of the brim (round 13), finishing on round 4. During the decreases that follow, the colours continue to change every two rounds following the same colour repeat. Switch to DPNs when necessary.



the decreases

next round: *(k3, yf, s1, yb) five times, k2tog, k1, yf, s1, yb, repeat from * till end (7 repeats, 161 stitches).

next round: *(k3, s1) five times, k2, s1, repeat from * six times, (k3, s1) five times, k2 then k1 in the next Colour.

next round: k1, *(yf, s1, yb, k3) four times, yf, s1, yb, k2tog, k1, yf, s1, yb, k2, repeat from * six times, (yf, s1, yb, k3) four times, k2tog, k1, yf, s1, yb, k1 (154 stitches).

next round: k1, *(s1, k3) four times, (s1, k2) twice, repeat from * six times, (s1, k3) four times, s1, k2, s1, k1. Next Colour. (Now is when you probably need to switch to the DPNs)

next round: *(k3, yf, s1, yb) three times, k2tog, k1, (yf, s1, yb, k2) twice, yf, s1, yb, repeat from * till end (147 stitches).

next round: *(k3, s1) three times, (k2, s1) three times, repeat from * six times, (k3, s1) three times, (k2, s1) twice, k2 then k1 in the next Colour.

next round: k1, *(yf, s1, yb, k3) twice, yf, s1, yb, k2tog, k1, (yf, s1, yb, k2) three times, repeat from * six times, (yf, s1, yb, k3) twice, yf, s1, yb, k2tog, k1, (yf, s1, yb, k2) twice, yf, s1, yb, k1 (140 stitches).

next round: k1, *(s1, k3) twice, (s1, k2) four times, repeat from * six times, (s1, k3) twice, (s1, k2) three times, s1, k1. Next Colour.

next round: *k3, yf, s1, yb, k2tog, k1, (yf, s1, yb, k2) four times, yf, s1, yb, repeat from * till end (133 stitches).

next round: *k3, s1, (k2, s1) five times, repeat from * six times, k3, s1, (k2, s1) four times, k2 then k1 in the next Colour.

next round: k1, *yf, s1, yb, k2tog, k1, (yf, s1, yb, k2) five times, repeat from * six times, yf, s1, yb,



k2tog, k1, (yf, s1, yb, k2) four times, yf, s1, yb, k1 (126 stitches).

next round: k1, *(s1, k2) six times, (s1, k2) five times, s1, k1. Next Colour.

next round: *(k2, yf, s1, yb) five times, k2tog, yf, s1, yb, repeat from * till end (119 stitches).

next round: *(k2, s1) five times, k1, s1, repeat from * six times, (k2, s1) five times, k1 then k1 in the next Colour.

next round: k1, (yf, s1, yb, k2) three times, yf, s1, yb, k2tog, yf, s1, yb, k1, *(yf, s1, yb, k2) four times, yf, s1, yb, k2tog, yf, s1, yb, k1, repeat from * six times, yf, s1, yb, k1 (112 stitches).

next round: k1, (s1, k2) three times, (s1, k1) twice, *(s1, k2) four times, (s1, k1) twice, repeat from * six times, s1, k1. Next Colour.

next round: *(k2, yf, s1, yb) three times, k2tog, yf, s1, yb, (k1, yf, s1, yb) twice, repeat from * till end (105 stitches).

next round: *(k2, s1) three times, (k1, s1) three times, repeat from * six times, (k2, s1) three times, (k1, s1) twice, k1 then k1 in the next Colour.

next round: k1, (yf, s1, yb, k2), yf, s1, yb, k2tog, (yf, s1, yb, k1) three times, *(yf, s1, yb, k2) twice, yf, s1, yb, k2tog, (yf, s1, yb, k1) three times, repeat from * six times, k1 (98 stitches).

next round: k1, s1, k2, (s1, k1) four times, *(s1, k2) twice, (s1, k1) four times, repeat from * six

times, k1. Next Colour.

next round: *k2, yf, s1, yb, k2tog, (yf, s1, yb, k1) four times, yf, s1, yb, repeat from * till end (91 stitches).

next round: *k2, s1, (k1, s1) five times, repeat from * six times, k2, s1 (k1, s1) four times, k1 then change colour and knit the last stitch of this round and the first stitch of the next round together (this stitch becomes the first stitch of the next round).

next round: (yf, s1, yb, k1) five times, *yf, s1, yb, k2tog, (yf, s1, yb, k1) five times, repeat from * six times (84 stitches).

next round: (k1, s1) all the way round.

next round: (k2tog, k2tog tbl) all the way round (42 stitches).

next round: knit.

next round: k2tog around (21).

knit the next two rounds.

next round: (s1, k2tog, psso) all the way round (7).

next round: knit.

finishing

Break yarn and thread through the remaining stitches. Pull firmly and tie off. Weave in the loose ends. Block lightly to set hat brim in place.

variations

I think this hat would look great in a bold highly contrasted bicolour variation. If your only using two colours, then around 40g of each should do the job.

thanks

To Dan for being my muse for the hat, and a patient model for the photos. You're the best.

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