



DK165

Cascade Venezia Worsted
Floating Basketweave Hat



Designed by Betty Balcomb

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The basketweave has always been one of my favorite patterns. Usually I work it the traditional way with knits and purls. But I was playing around with patterns that use floats as part of the design, and came up with this terrific variation on the theme. This version of basketweave is not only rather elegant, it is astonishingly easy, especially worked in the round.

Materials: 1 skein of Cascade Venezia Yarn. Pictured hat is color 159. Size 7 and 8 needles, 16 inch circular for both and double points for 8s only **OR SIZE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN GAUGE.** Marker.

Gauge: 9 sts to 2 inches in pattern.

Size: This hat should fit almost all woman. To make it in a man's size increase 8 sts. (Pattern is a multiple of 8) and work an extra 1/2 inch before shaping crown.

Glossary:

SI 4: Slip 4 stitches from left needle to right inserting the needle as if to purl.

YB: move the working yarn to the back of the work as if to knit the next st.

YF: move the working yarn to the front of the work as if to purl the next st.

DIRECTIONS:

With smaller circular needle cast on 84 sts. Place marker and join in the round being careful not to twist sts. Work K2, P2 ribbing for about 1-1/2 inches. Change to larger circular needle and K 1 row increasing 12 sts evenly spaced across row, that is make one after every 7th st (96 sts). Begin pattern:

The pattern: Multiple of 8 sts, 12 rows

Row 1: *YF, Sl 4, YB, K2, rep. from * to end of row.

Row 2 and all even rows **EXCEPT** Row 12, K 96 or all sts.

Rows 3 and 5: same as row 1.

Row 7: Remove marker, K1, replace marker (this won't cause a problem because you replace the wandering stitch on row 12), *K2, YF, Sl 4, YB, rep. from * to last 2 sts, K2.

Rows 9 and 11: Same as row 7 but without the stitch shift.

Row 12: K 95 or to 1 st before marker, remove marker, slip 1 st from left to right needle, replace marker.

Repeat rows 1 to 12 until hat measures about 6-1/2 inches from CO edge ending with a row 6 or row 12. The pictured hat has 4 repeats and ends on row 12.

Shape crown:

The shaping of the crown is a little more complicated than most hats but if you watch what is happening with the pattern, it should be fairly intuitive. The decreases are worked only on every other row on even, just knit rows. On the pattern rows, observe the distribution of sts carefully to be sure you are maintaining the pattern. By decreasing this way, the look of the pattern is maintained almost to the very end. The hat domes very smoothly and looks terrific in a bird's eye view.

First work row 1 or 7.

Dec. row 1: K2tog in every other set of 4 sts. Work next pattern row, only slipping 3 sts as necessary. 8 sts dec'd.

Dec. row 2: K2tog in the sets of 4 sts that weren't dec'd before. Work next pattern row only slipping 3 sts every time. 8 sts dec'd. 80 sts. remain.

Dec. row 3: K2tog in every 2 st group. 16 sts dec'd, 64 sts remain.

Switch to DPNs and work next pattern row with 3 slips and K1 between.

Dec. row 4: K1, K2tog, in every other group of 3 sts. Work next pattern row.

Dec. row 5: *K1, K2tog in remaining 3 st. sets. Work Next Pattern row.

Complete crown shaping as most hats:

Dec. row 6: *K4, K2tog, repeat from * to end of row. K 1 row even.

Dec. row 7: *K3, K2tog, repeat from * to end of row. K 1 row even.

Dec. row 8: *K2, K2tog, repeat from * to end of row. K 1 row even.

Dec. row 9: *K2tog, repeat from * to end of row. 12 sts.

Cut yarn leaving about a 9" tail. Thread yarn onto tapestry needle, pass it through the remaining sts and pull tail tight. Weave in ends.