



Vortex Hat

A striking, geometric design that highlights the spiral pattern from the brim to the two-tier top.



What's Inside . . .

- 🕒 Detailed pattern w/Tables & Charts
- 🕒 4 Gauges & 5 Cast On Options
- 🕒 Knitting Nuance Skills pages including:
Showy Decrease, Double Decker Hat Top,
& Duality Crochet Cast On

Online Extras . . .

- 🕒 Pattern links to online tips, detailed Photobucket pictures & blog posts
- 🕒 Chart files to load onto your phone or tablet.
- 🕒 More project tips and technique help.

Our new Showy Decreases highlight this fun spiral pattern even on the right side of stockinette.

Overview

The Vortex Hat is the first in a trio of patterns designed to introduce and demonstrate various uses for the Showy & Subtle Decrease. It is followed by the Rip Cord and Yosemite Hats which add to these skills.

This design uses a series of right slanting Showy Decreases that are paired with yarn overs - there's no actual decreasing going on here, it's all for show. Take a look at the Intro to Showy Decreases that's included. It will help you understand how these modified k2tog decreases work. Knitting them in the round is a great way to try them for the first time.

Hat Design

The hat can be knit with or without visible eyelets. Don't assume that a guy's hats will not include eyelets - they are very geometric. To eliminate eyelets twist the yarn over from the prior row closed by knitting through the back loop.

When it's time to shape the crown the Showy Decreases turn into actual decreases. The decreases are right there in front of you but they blend seamlessly with the decorative element below.

You have two choices when you start the crown shaping: you can either stop the yarn over and eliminate the eyelet *or* knit a k3tog with the eyelet (more on page 3).

Finishing with a Double Decker Close

When there are 16 stitches remaining, they are separated into two alternating groups of eight stitches. One set is closed first and the other on top. The resulting closure has wonderful depth and is a true accent to the hat. It's also less bunched on top - you may never close a hat the old way again!

A simpler option for Beginner Knitters

All of our designs are created to showcase new techniques. In this case we have three, the Showy Decrease, Duality Cast On & Double Decker Hat Closure. However, if you're a new knitter and would like to simplify the pattern here are two options:

1. Eliminate the Duality Crochet cast on and i-Cord bind of by starting with a one-inch k3 x p1 rib. Then start with the knit 1 round instructions under the Main Hat subtitle.
2. Choose the hat top decrease that eliminates the yarn over. It is the easiest.

Laura



Reference Sheet

Gauge	Size (with eyelets)
Knit the hat at or a bit tighter than the yarn label gauge. Several options are included. - Gauge = 4.0, 4.5, 5.0 and 5.5 st per 1" in stockinette.	The hat stretches to fit heads up to 2 inches larger but the hat looks best when it's not too tight so the eyelets don't stretch and the Showy Decreases flatten. Average head sizes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Infant: 14.5" ▶ Baby: 16.0" ▶ Toddler/Child: 17.5" ▶ Adult Medium: 19" ▶ Adult Large: 21"



Chart Legend

<input type="checkbox"/>	knit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Work tbl to close
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	k2tog
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	k3tog
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	slip
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	yo
<input type="checkbox"/>	No Stitch

Yarn	Notions
Main: 70-110 yards Provisional Cast On Yarn: 3 yards i-Cord Bind Off: 10 yards More specific examples are provide with each of the 5 samples knit.	Needles: Two 16 or 24" circular needles US 4 - 7, as needed for gauge. Crochet Hook: 1 mm larger than knitting needle. G-H (provisional cast on) Stitch Markers: 1 for BOR and 7 optional Tapestry Needle

Abbreviations

k	knit
k2tog	knit 2 together
k3tog	knit 3 together
k1tbl	knit 1 through back loop to close eyelet
sl1	slip 1 stitch (yarn on wrong side)
yo	yarn over
BOR	Beginning of Round

Gauge & Cast On Options with finished hat circumference

Gauge	72	80	88	96	104
5.5 / 1"	-	14.5"	16.0"	17.5"	19.0"
5.0 / 1"	14.5"	16.0"	17.5"	19.0"	21.0"
4.5 / 1"	16.0"	17.5"	19.5"	21.0"	-
4.0 / 1"	18.0"	20.0"	22.0"	-	-

The Interactive Knitting Pattern

- You're Connected with links throughout the PDF file taking you additional online information; more project details, more tips & photos.
- It's portable; download PDF files onto your computer, laptop or phone & take us along. Chart files are also downloadable.
- Don't forget to check out our blog for more project specific information.

[Photobucket](#)

[Online Tips](#)

A Detailed Look at Our Sample Hats

The following info will help you modify the pattern and design your own hat.

Size	Finished Measurement
Gauge	Stitches per Inch
Cast On	Number of Stitches
Yarn	Name & Link to Manu.
Yardage	Main, Crochet, iCord
Eyelets	Open or Closed
Decrease	k2tog or k3tog for continuing eyelets to top
Duality	How was Crochet Cast on Chain Used

Lots of detailed photos of all the hats [HERE!](#)



Size	18" x 7.5"
Gauge	5 st
Cast On	88 st
Yarn	Mochi Plus
Yardage	85 / 3 / 10 yards
Eyelets	Open on base only
Decrease	k2tog
Duality	Connected

The bind off and brim yarns are both merino yarns pulled from my stash since there is so little of it. The i-Cord brim was picked up in that color then bound off on the next round.



Size	18" x 7.5"
Gauge	5 st
Cast On	88 st
Yarn	Autunno Soft Merino
Yardage	90 yards
Eyelets	Open on base only
Decrease	k2tog
Duality	Removed

This yarn is discontinued (Autunno) but the idea is the same. Similar yarn would be Andes by Debbie Bliss or the Mochi Plus (above right). Add a contrasting color brim for some punch.



Size	19" x 7.5"
Gauge	4 st
Cast On	72 st
Yarn	Baby Alpaca Chunky
Yardage	90 yards total
Eyelets	Open to top
Decrease	k3tog
Duality	Removed

Simple one yarn hat with provisional i-Cord removed. Chunky yarn knit on US 8 needles. This super soft Cascade yarn comes in a 100 gram skein so only one is needed. 6mm crochet hook used.



Size	20" x 7.5"
Gauge	5.0 st
Cast On	96 st
Yarn	Wool Bamboo
Yardage	90 / 3 / 12 yards
Eyelets	Open to top
Decrease	k3tog
Duality	Connected

Diagonal decorative brim added between horizontal elements. The yarn is from Classic Elite. You can find additional knitting instructions for this version on page 7.



Size	17.5" x 7"
Gauge	4.5 st
Cast On	80 st
Yarn	Karabella Aurora 8
Yardage	90 yards (50/40)
Eyelets	Closed
Decrease	k2tog
Duality	Removed

Striped hat with 3 rounds per color. This offsets the color in the raised ridge. Results in an stunning 2-tier 2-color closure. You can find additional knitting instructions for this version on page 7.