



## Knitting patterns – men's accessories

### Helmet with ear openings

**Suggested yarn:** 5 ounces of J. & J. Baldwin's 'Beehive' Double Knitting Wool.

**Needle size:** No. 7 bone knitting needles; a fifth needle of the same size is also a help when knitting the rounds with many stitches, so it is advisable to get an extra pair. This helmet is full size.

Cast 70 stitches on one needle.

**1st row** – K.4, P.1, and repeat from the beginning of the row all along. Repeat the 1st row 14 times.

**16th row** – K.1, K.2 tog, and continue in rib pattern until within 3 stitches of the end, K.2 tog, P.1

\*Do 5 rows in ribbing, then decrease in first and last ribs of next row, as described above. Repeat from \* once.

Cut the wool, leaving about 12 ins. Hanging and put this piece of work aside for the present.

Cast 70 stitches on another needle, and work exactly as described above, then in the next round the pieces of work must be joined together, and the work continued in rounds, thus: At the end of the second piece of work take up the first piece, and continue the ribbing of the second piece, using the wool left hanging on the first piece with the length from the ball, and take care to keep the rib pattern correct. At the side openings where the decreasings occurred, and where the ribs will be incomplete. Do 5 rounds in pattern.

Next round – Decrease at the side openings as before in the same rib, making 4 decreasings in the round.

**Next round** – In rib without decreasing.

**Next round** – Decrease at the beginning of the round, taking the single-knit stitch and the purl stitch tog, then K.2 tog in the middle of every rib until the first side opening is reached, where decrease is at beginning. Decrease again at the beginning of the next needle, and in the centre of every rib to end of round, where after decreasing in centre of last rib, K last 2 stitches tog.

Do 5 rounds of P.1, K.3.

**Next round** – K tog the 2nd and 3rd stitch of each plain rib all round, where there will be 72 stitches all round.

Do 28 rounds of K.2, P.1, for the neck.

**Next round** – This must begin at the side opening. K.6 stitches in rib, then pass these onto the previous needle worked, K the next 23 stitches in rib pattern as usual and pass them on

to a safety pin to keep them out of the way for the present; these are the chin stitches and will be required later on.

On the remaining 49 stitches, K backwards and forwards (keeping the rib pattern correct) for 6 rows and slipping the 1st stitch pf every row.

**Next row** – Decreasing for the back of the head begin here. K.23 stitches in pattern, K.1 in the front and in the back of the next stitch, P on the next stitch (which is the centre one and must be purled on the right side, and knitted on the wrong side all the way up), K.1 in the front and back of the next stitch, and continue in rib pattern to end.

**Next row** – In rib as usual, but you will notice there is an extra stitch to purl before knitting centre stitch, and also an extra one after the centre stitch; these are the increase stitches of previous row, and as these extra stitches are gained in the following increases they must be brought into rib pattern when they are sufficient to make the even rib; when they are first made they are knitted on the right side and purled on the back.

Repeat the last 2 rows (increasing on the front row always in the stitch before the centre stitch and in the stitch after it) until there are 73 stitches on the needles, then do another 14 rows of ribbing.

**Next row** – Here you begin to turn the crown of the head just as you would turn the heel of a stocking: K.48 (in pattern always), K.2 tog, K.1 turn. K.25, P.2 tog, P.1, turn. You will notice that after each turn you have made a little gap, thus dividing the centre stitches from the side stitches, and this will serve as a mark for the decreasing and turning of the following rows, which are worked as follows: K until within the last stitch before the ‘turn’ (that is, the last of the centre stitches), K this last stitch tog with the first of the side stitches, K the next side stitch and turn. Work the back row in pattern until you come to the last centre stitch on this side, purl it together with the 1st side stitch and purl the next stitch.

Continue working as just described, bringing all the stitches into rib pattern as they become centre stitches, until there are no side stitches left. There should be 49 stitches on the needle.

After the last row, pick up the loops down on the side of the flap, taking up both loops for firmness, and knitting the stitch, also pick up a stitch right in the corner, next to the chin stitches, making 25 stitches picked up altogether. Now take another needle and slip the chin stitches onto it, and these stitches must be kept on a needle by themselves; K across the chin stitches in pattern and pick up 25 stitches along the second side of the flap. Divide the stitches equally on three needles (but leaving the chin stitches on their own needle) so that they will be easier to knit 122 in the round. Do a round of plain knitting, taking 2 stitches tog at the bottom end of the flap stitches on each side; the number of stitches left must be divisible by 3, to make an even rib of K.2 and P.1, so if you find you have picked up more stitches than required you must just K.2 tog on the side flaps to make them even; the chin stitches and those on top of the head must be kept intact and the ribs not broken, so that they will run on from the ribs on the head.

Do 1 round in rib.

**Next round** – Work the chin stitches as usual; on the next needle work 8 stitches, cast off the next 9 stitches for the ear opening. Continue on the round until you come to within 17 stitches of the end of the needle before the chin stitches, cast off 9 for the second ear opening, K.8 in pattern to end of round.

**Next round** – In pattern casting on 9 stitches over the 9 cast off on each side; this will complete the ear openings.

Do 8 more rounds of ribbing.

**Next round** – K tog the 2 first stitches on the front needle holding the chin stitches, continue knitting the row in a single rib of K.1, P.1, K.2 tog at end of needle; K.2 tog at beginning of next needle; continue in single rib until you come to 2 stitches before the centre stitch at the back of the head, K these 2 stitches tog, P centre stitch, K.2 stitches tog, K.2 tog at the end of the round.

Do 3 rounds of single rib, then decrease in the next round as before at each end of the front needle at the beginning of the first side needle, on each side of the centre stitch. At back of head and at the end of the last needle.

Do another 2 rounds of ribbing, then a decrease round; another 2 rounds of ribbing, and a decrease round.

**Next round** – Work until within 8 stitches of the centre stitch at the back, then K.2 tog 4 times in succession, purl the centre stitch, K.2 tog 4 times, and continue in single rib to end of round. Cast off the stitches and fasten off securely.