

Cabled "Rangoli" Hat

This hat was inspired by an 8-point lotus-shaped 'rangoli' design my mother makes, one of the many rice-powder free-hand designs drawn outside many South Indian homes everyday (with more ornate ones filled with colour for festivals). This is my first attempt at adapting these designs to cabled knits. This is a relatively simple knit, with the same pattern repeated 8 times throughout. The hat begins at the brim and is knit to the crown in the round.

This hat is snug at the ribbing over the ears, but not over the head; stitches are increased just after the ribbing to make it roomy. It is intended to be looser than a watch cap but not as floppy as a beret. If you have hat hair issues, this project is for you! You can see an earlier iteration on my head here: http://desiknitter.typepad.com/photos/uncategorized/camera_eye_rangoli_hat.jpg



Designed by Desi Knitter

- **Materials:** sport weight yarn, approx. 175 yards (I used just under two skeins of Knitpicks Wool of the Andes (108 yds each) on size 5s, but I'm a *very* loose knitter). I recommend a tightly spun wool, which will make the cables stand out.
- **Needles:** size 5 16 inch circular and DPNs, or any size that gives you the gauge below.
- **Gauge:** 6 stitches per inch in stockinette.
- **Dimensions:** depth: 7 inches, circumference 22 inches.
- **Notes:** If you want to make the hat deeper (longer), I recommend adding more rows to the ribbing, or between rows 1-6. Similarly, if you want to make the circumference smaller, go down a needle size for the ribbing. This keeps the chart and number of stitches the same, but allows the ribbing to be tighter.

Pattern:

Cast on 96 stitches with a cable cast on, nice and stretchy. Join, taking care to not twist the stitches. You don't want to end up with a moebius rangoli hat! Mark the beginning of the row.
Ribbing: Knit k2, p2 all around for 12 rows.

Increase row: [p1, k2, (m1, k1) 3 times, m2, (k1,m1) 3 times, k2, p1] 8 times. 160 stitches.

Begin chart at bottom right. Read chart from right to left, every single row. Change to DPNs when there are too few stitches for the circular.

The chart, put differently (if you are working from the chart, skip ahead to finishing directions, after completing the chart):

1. [p1, k2, p 14, k2, p1] 8 times.
- 2-6. Repeat row 1.
7. [p1, C2L, p12, C2R, p1] 8 times.
8. Work stitches as they appear.
9. [p2, C2L, p10, C2R, p2] 8 times.
10. Work stitches as they appear.
11. [p3, C2L, p 8, C2R, p3] 8 times.
12. Work stitches as they appear.
13. [p4, C2L, p6, C2R, p4] 8 times.
14. [p5, C2L, p4, C2R, p5] 8 times.
15. [p6, C2L, p2, C2R, p6] 8 times.
16. [p7, C2L, C2R, p7] 8 times.
17. [p7, C2X2, p7, {p1,yo,p1,yo,p1} all in one stitch, p7] 8 times.
18. [p8, k4, p7, p5tog] 8 times.
19. [p7, C2R, C2L, p7] 8 times.
20. [p6, C2R, p2, C2L, p6] 8 times.
21. [p5, C2R, p4, C2L, p5] 8 times.
22. [p3, C2R, p6, C2L, p4] 8 times.
23. [p2, C2R, p8, C2L, p3] 8 times.
24. [p1, C2R, p10, C2L, p2] 8 times.
25. Work stitches as they appear.
26. [p1, C2R, p12, C2L, p1] 8 times.
27. Work stitches as they appear.
28. [C2R, p14, C2L] 8 times.
29. [k2tog, p7, {p1,yo,p1,yo,p1} all in one stitch, p8, SSK] 8 times.
30. [k1, p7, p5tog, p8, k1] 8 times.
- 31-32. [k1, p16, k1] 8 times.
33. [SSK, p14, k2tog] 8 times.
34. Work stitches as they appear.
35. [SSK, p12, k2tog] 8 times.
36. Work stitches as they appear.
37. [SSK, p10, k2tog] 8 times.
38. Work stitches as they appear.
39. [SSK, p8, k2tog] 8 times.
40. [SSK, p6, k2tog] 8 times.
41. [SSK, p4, k2tog] 8 times.
42. [SSK, p2, k2tog] 8 times.
43. [SSK, k2tog] 8 times. 8 stitches remaining.

Finishing: Cut off yarn with a few inches tail left off. Thread yarn through darning needle.

Draw through the remaining 8 stitches, pull tight, and secure yarn. Weave in all loose ends.



Key for chart:



Knit



Purl



Knit two together (k2tog)



Slip, Slip, Knit two together (SSK)



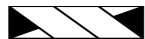
[p1, yo, p1, yo, p1] all in one stitch (make 5 stitches out of one)



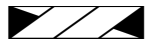
purl 5 together (p5tog: you can purl 3 together, then slip remaining two stitches over the purled stitches)



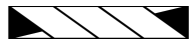
No stitch



C2L: slip two stitches to cable needle and hold to front, purl third stitch, knit two slipped stitches from cable needle

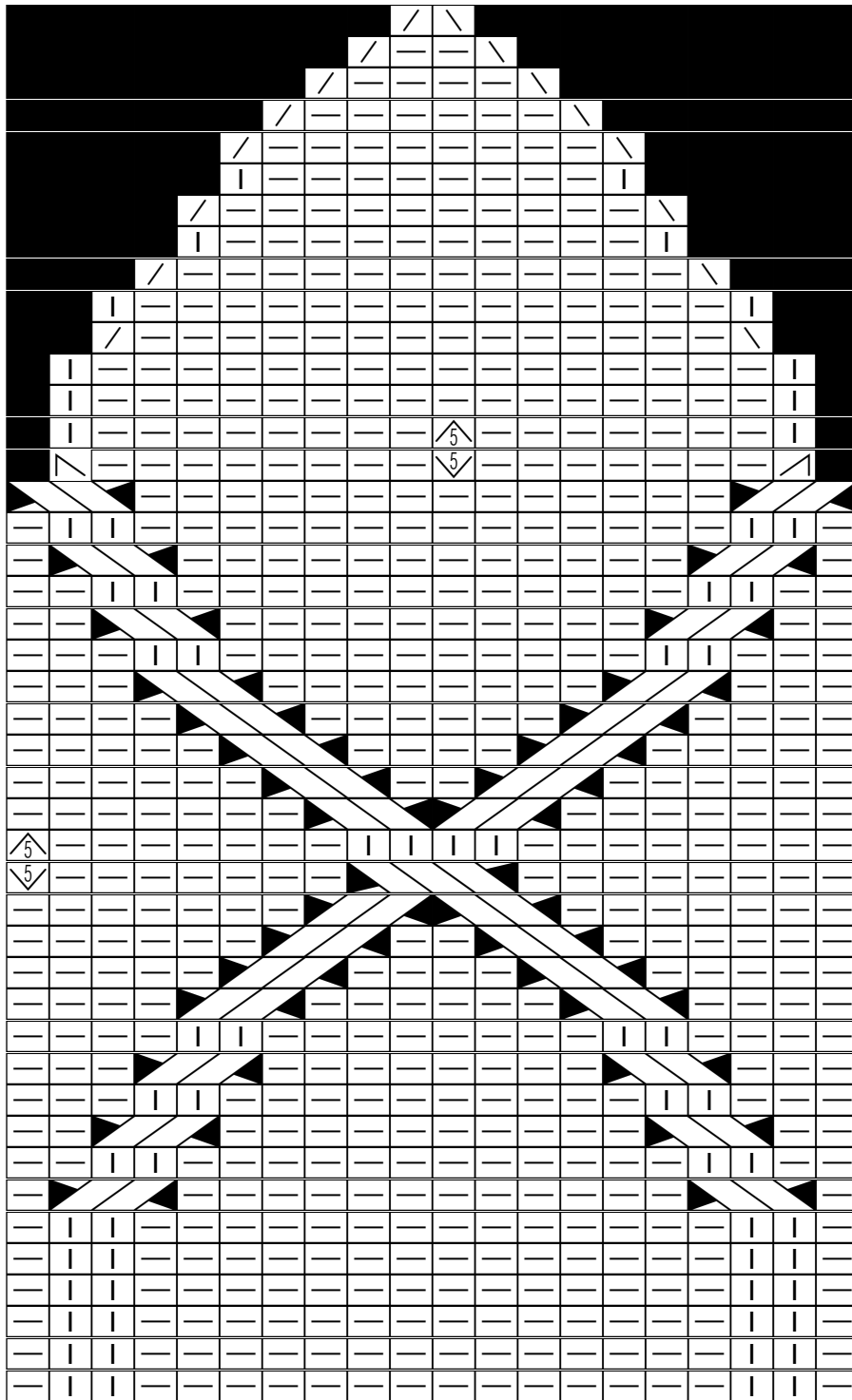


C2R: slip one stitch to cable needle and hold to back, knit two stitches, purl slipped stitch from cable needle



C2x2: slip two stitches to cable needle and hold to front, knit two stitches, knit two stitches from cable needle





Note: work chart from bottom right to left, bottom to top, every row.

I hope you enjoy making the hat!

Please feel free to use and circulate the pattern for non-commercial purposes, and let me know your comments, feedback and any problems with the pattern at desiknitter@gmail.com. <http://desiknitter.typepad.com>. March 5, 2007.