

Hat for a Prince

by Unfurled
(www.HollyKlein.blogspot.com)



For lovers of the purple musician, this hat knits up quickly in the round. I knew my boy-fan would be wearing it a lot, and it bothers me when he takes off hats to scratch his forehead from the wool itch. This hat is made with a soft alpaca lining so there's no itchiness. If you don't want the lining, simply begin knitting the pattern where the MAIN HAT section begins.



Materials:

1 skein worsted/aran weight yarn (I used Cascade 220) in purple

Small amount worsted/aran weight yarn (for Symbol) in white

1 skein alpaca sport weight yarn for soft lining (I used Blue Sky Alpaca Sportweight) in white

1 size 6 (4mm) 60cm circular knitting needle
1 set of size 6 (4mm) double pointed needles
1 stitch marker

Gauge:

18 stitches/4inches with 4.5 needles in stockinette stitch

Skills needed:

Knitting in the round, Double pointed knitting, Provisional cast-on (description below), simple Intarsia knitting, simple chart reading, crocheting a chain

Level: Intermediate

Instructions:

Begin with a provisional cast-on. A provisional cast-on keeps stitches “live” so they can be knit later. This is one method to do a provisional cast-on:

1. With a smooth waste yarn and a crochet hook, crochet a chain 100 stitches long
2. Turn the crochet chain over, so you can see the “bumps” in the chain that are not visible on the front of the chain.
3. Pick up 85 stitches within these bumps, using the alpaca yarn and the circular knitting needle.
4. When you need to “pick up cast on edge” (not yet, see below) thread a knitting needle through the right side of each stitch. It’s like weaving – over a strand, under a strand...
5. Then unravel the waste yarn, and you’re ready to knit these stitches!

Following the provisional cast-on, with 85 stitches on the circular knitting needle, join ends being careful not to twist, and put a marker at the beginning of the round.

Knit 20 rows.

Change to purple color.

Knit 1 row

Purl 1 row (this is the turn row, to go into the MAIN BODY of the hat)

Knit 3 rows

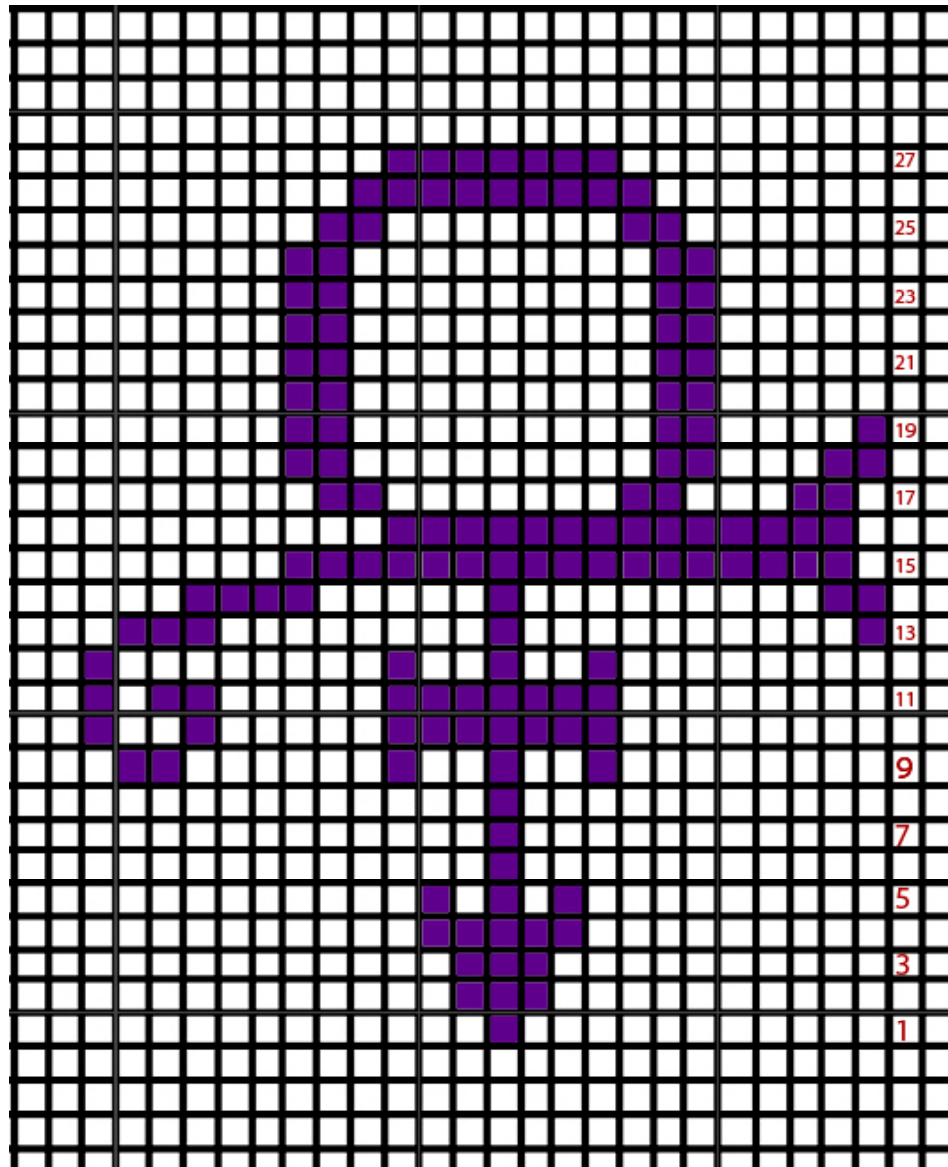
Now pick up cast on edge (see above) with spare circular needle. Tuck lining (alpaca rows) into main body of hat, and knit next row through both wool and alpaca, joining them.

Knit 1 row

In the next row, begin the chart:

Knit 42 in purple, K1 in white, K42 in purple.

Now use the chart to knit to row 19 of the chart.



Please note that when you knit the symbol stitches, you must use an Intarsia technique of twisting the yarn before the first stitch and after the last stitch with the main color yarn to “lock” the stitches in. Otherwise, the yarn on each side won’t be connected!

Knit to row 20 of the chart, knitting k8 k2tog in the main body of the hat. When you get to charted stitches, simply leave this, do the chart, and resume when you’re done with the charted stitches. 77 stitches remain.

Knit to row 23 of the chart. On the main body of the hat, k3, *k7tog, k7, repeat from *. When you get to the charted stitches, simply leave this, do the chart, and resume when you’re done with the charted stitches.

Knit to row 27 of the chart. k3, k2 together in main body of the hat..

Knit 3 rows.

Next row: k7, k2 together. 55 stitches.

Knit 2 rows.

Next row: k2, k2 tog.

Knit 2 rows.

Continue to shape hat with the previous 2 rows, trying on the hat to customize the height of the hat to your liking. When you've gotten to the crown of your head, K2 together on all stitches until 4 stitches remain. Knit these 4 stitches twice. Bind off.

Weave in all ends, try on, wear to concert, email me a picture, and enjoy!