

blueleaf headband

by adrienne krey



The chunky lace pattern adds some texture to this headband but still keeps your ears toasty. Warning: this is the kind of super wide headband that is almost a hat. If you want to make this a little narrower, use smaller needles, or a thinner yarn. This looks just as cute in a worsted weight. Either way, it is a super fast knit and would make a great last minute gift. There is no set size on this - I added tips to the pattern to get the right length, but it is best knit using your own head as a gauge. If in doubt, go with a smaller circumference as it will stretch out significantly.

abbreviations

M1L - from the front, lift loop between stitches with left needle, knit into back of loop.

M1R - for this pattern, from the back you will lift loop between stitches with left needle, then *purl* into front of loop.

k2tog - Knit two stitches together.

p2tog - Purl two stitches together

p3tog - Purl three stitches together

ssk - slip one stitch, slip another stitch, knit these 2 stitches together

yo - Bring yarn to the front of your needle.

WS - wrong side of work

RS - right side of work

useful information

yarn, needles, gauge:

Yarn and Gauge: Any yarn/gauge will work for this. The chunkier your yarn, the wider your headband will be. I used Malabrigo Chunky.

Needles: This is knit back and forth in rows, not in the round. So you can use straight needles or circular needles, whatever you have on hand. I used size 10.5 US.

yarn suggestions:

I would stay away from novelty yarns or any yarn with texture to it, since the lace panel will get lost. I think this looks best with a smooth, springy yarn like Malabrigo, or Lamb's Pride Bulky, or Knit Picks Cadena.

skills:

In this pattern you'll need to: knit, purl, decrease (k2tog, ssk), increase (M1L, M1R), and make a button hole (optional)

Lace Pattern

Row 1: K2, P2, K3, yo, k2, ssk, k2tog, k2, yo, k2, P2, K2

Rows 2 and 4: P2, K2, Purl to last 4 stitches, K2, P2

Row 3: K2, P2, K2, yo, k2, ssk, k2tog, k2, yo, k3, P2, K2

pattern overview

The majority of this headband will have a 2x2 rib border on each side. You will be increasing your way up until you have 13 stitches in between the rib border - 21 stitches total. Then you will work in the lace pattern until it is time to decrease. Also, for neat edges, you'll want to slip the first stitch of every row throughout the pattern....

pattern instructions

CO 4 stitches.

Knit 1 row (RS)

P2, M1L, P2 (5 Stitches) (WS)

K2, P1, K2

P2, M1L, K1, M1L, P2 (7 Stitches)

K2, P3, K2

P2, M1L, k3, M1L, P2 (9 Stitches)

K2, P5, K2

P2, K2, M1R, P1, M1R, K2, P2 (11 Stitches)

K2, P2, K3, P2, K2

P2, K2, P1, M1R, P1, M1R, P1, K2, P2 (13 Stitches)

K2, P2, K5, P2, K2

P2, K2, P1, M1R, P3, M1R, P1, K2, P2 (15 Stitches)

K2, P2, K7, P2, K2

P2, K2, P1, M1R, P5, M1R, P1, K2, P2 (17 Stitches)

K2, P2, K9, P2, K2

P2, K2, P1, M1R, P7, M1R, P1, K2, P2 (19 Stitches)

K2, P2, K11, P2, K2

P2, K2, P1, M1R, P9, M1R, P1, K2, P2 (21 Stitches)

Okay, increases are done! On the next row you will start knitting in the lace panel pattern. The lace pattern itself is worked on 13 stitches in between the 2x2 rib border. Following the lace pattern above, work as stated. Keep doing these pattern repeats until you need to start decreasing.

For the correct length, hold down the CO tip of the knitting to the nape of your neck and then pull the knitting across your head - once it seems like you've reached the other side of your head, about an inch or so above the ears, start your decrease. It is better to start decreasing sooner rather than later. These things stretch!

Time for Decreases!

Starting on Row 1 or Row 3 of a pattern repeat (RS):

K2, P2, ssk, K9, k2tog, P2, K2

P2, K2, P11, K2, P2

K2, P2, ssk, K7, k2tog, P2, K2

P2, K2, P9, K2, P2

K2, P2, ssk, K5, k2tog, P2, K2

P2, K2, P7, K2, P2

K2, P2, ssk, K3, k2tog, P2, K2

P2, K2, P5, K2, P2

K2, P2, ssk, K1, k2tog, P2, K2

P2, K2, P3, K2, P2

The rib border stops here, now you will be doing reverse stockinette between a k2 border on the right side of the headband, in order to match the increase end:

K2, P2tog, P3, P2tog, K2

P2, K5, P2

K2, P2tog, P1, P2tog, K2*** (If you want a button hole, knit instead as K2, P3tog, yo, P2tog, K2)

P2, K3, P2

K2, P3tog, K2

P2, K1, P2

K2, K2tog, K1

BO

finishing instructions

You have four options for joining your headband. Elastic, Button, I-Cord, or just plain old sewing the two ends together.

Elastic Option: This is what I did. I cut a two inch section of elastic, then laid it down on the wrong side of the headband. Make sure it overlaps a bit on top each end of the headband and then sew in place. It WILL stretch out. Over time you can shorten the elastic, or eventually remove it, and just sew the ends together.

Button Option:

Hopefully you knit the button hole row towards the end of the pattern. If not, you can go back and make a button hole. Sew a lovely button to the other end. You might want to consider sewing on two buttons spaced out for adjustable sizing.

Seaming Option:

If your headband turned out a little on the long side and you can reach the two ends together, go ahead and just seam them together using a spare piece of yarn.

A note on Blocking: I didn't need to block mine at all - it stretched rather firmly against my head so it kind of blocked itself. As with all things lace, however, blocking is definitely recommended, especially if your headband is on the looser side (no judgement intended).