



This hat was created while watching hours and hours of *The West Wing* with my boyfriend. I was never a fan of the show during its run, but once I got suckered into watching it, I was hooked. Many hours in November 2007 were in fact spent watching the show while knitting – and this is one of the outcomes.

And the name of the hat derives from one of the characters from the show, C. J. (Claudia Jean) Cregg. No, the hat isn't inspired by the character, but the conception and actual creation of the hat happened while I was watching CJ-heavy episodes so it got stuck from that point on. Or maybe I'm just making this up. You'll never know.

This is a simple ribbed hat with little trellis detail toward bottom. It is very gender-neutral design and because of the ribbed body, it also fits most people's head without having to be so exact.

Materials needed:

- Approx. 130 yds. of worsted weight wool (I used one full skein and a wee left over of Elann Peruvian Highland Wool in Oatmeal Heather)
- 6 stitch markers – it helps to have one of them be distinctive to show the beginning of the round.
- Cable needle
- Size 4 (3.5 mm) 16 inch circular
- Size 6 (4 mm) 16 inch circular
- Size 6 (4 mm) double pointed needles
- Tapestry or yarn needle

Gauge:

5.5 sts per inch, stockinette, with size 6 needles. But this is not too crucial due to the nature of the ribbing

Size:

Again, ribbing is very forgiving. It's meant for average size adult, but it will still fit pretty much anyone. But you can always go up or down a needle size if necessary.

Abbreviations:

C2F: slide 1 stitch onto a cable needle, hold it front, knit the next 1 stitch, knit the stitch from the cable needle.

c2f: slide 1 stitch onto a cable needle, hold it front, purl the next 1 stitch, knit the stitch from the cable needle.

C2B: slide 1 stitch onto a cable needle, hold it back, knit the next 1 stitch, knit the stitch from the cable needle.

c2b: slide 1 stitch onto a cable needle, hold it back, knit the next 1 stitch, purl the stitch from the cable needle.

rm: remove marker

slm: slide marker

k2tog: knit two stitches together (left slanting decrease)

k1 tbl: knit one stitch through back loop

Let's get it started! :

Cast on 120 stitches on smaller circular. Join carefully without twisting the stitches, place a marker to indicate beginning of the round.

RIBBED CUFF: 2x2 ribbing.

K1, repeat [P2, K2] until 3 sts remain, P2, K1. For about 5 rows or until desired length.



TRELLIS PATTERN: This may seem a bit complicated, with knits and purls mixed in, but just keep in mind you'll always knit the knits and purl the purls.

Row 1: k1, p2, repeat [C2F, p2] until 1 st remains, slide it onto cable needle, hold front, rm, knit next stitch, slm, knit from cable needle

Row 2: k1 which is already done from last cable from row 1, then repeat [p2, k2] until 3 sts remain, p2, k1, slm

Row 3: repeat [c2f, c2b] until end of row, slm

Row 4: p1, repeat [k2, p2] until 3 sts remain, k2, p1, slm

Row 5: p1, repeat [C2B, p2] until 3 sts remain, C2B, p1, slm

Row 6: p1, repeat [k2, p2] until 3 sts remain, k2, p1, slm

Row 7: repeat [c2b, c2f] until end of row, slm

Row 8: k1, repeat [p2, k2] until 3 sts remain, p2, k1, slm

Row 9-11: repeat Row 1-3

Row 12: p1, repeat [k2, p2] until 3 sts remain, k2, SLIDE NEXT ST ON RIGHT NEEDLE, REMOVE MARKER, PUT STITCH BACK TO LEFT NEEDLE, PLACE MARKER (now your center has moved one stitch over).

Row 13: switch to larger needle, repeat [p2, k2tog], slm. Now you have 90 sts.

RIBBIN' FOR NOGGIN: This is an easy and mindless, 2x1 ribbing. repeat [p2, k1tbl] until the hat measures 5-5.5" or until desired length.



CROWN SHAPING: Stitches will be divided up into 6 sections for decreasing. For the purpose of the pattern, it's written as if you're using the markers but I didn't use it but it will help (it's optional). You'll need to place a stitch marker after 15 stitches (total of 5, plus one distinguishing marker to show the beginning

of the round). Keep in mind all your purls will be purled, and knit stitches will be now knit through the back loop to show crisp definition. Decreases will be by k2tog last 2 stitches before each marker. This is easy enough.

Set up row: repeat [p2, k1 tbl] 5 times (that's 15 sts), place marker (do this 5 more times)

Following instruction is for each section between the markers. Make sure to repeat 5 times more to end of the row. Only the rows that you'll decrease are written out. Rows that are omitted, you need to purl the purls and knit stitches are to be knit through the back loop. Switch to double points when it's necessary.

Row 1: rib 13 sts, k2tog, slm

Row 4: rib 12 sts, k2tog, slm

Row 7: rib 11 sts, k2tog, slm

Row 9: rib 10 sts, k2tog, slm

Row 11: rib 9 sts, k2tog, slm

Row 13: rib 8 sts, k2tog, slm

Row 15: rib 7 sts, k2tog, slm

Row 17: rib 6 sts, k2tog, slm

Row 19: rib 5 sts, k2tog, slm

Row 20: rib 4 sts, k2tog, slm

Row 21: rib 3 sts, k2tog, slm

Row 22: p2tog, k2tog, slm

Row 23: k2tog, rm

Break long enough yarn to thread it through the remaining 6 stitches, tug it tight, weave in end. And don't forget to weave in the cast-on tail as well. Wash, block and enjoy.

Styling hint:

I did very short 2x2 cuff before the trellis detail. However, the cuff can be longer for a different look, as long as the total length before the crown shaping remains the same. Also, if you prefer tighter cuff, you may also consider using smaller needle (3.25 mm/US 3 perhaps?) for more snug fit.

Pattern and images © 2008 by MJ Kim
For personal use only – not for sale or profit. Be nice!

See more of my work at <http://www.exartstudent.net/>