

Yarnthoughts Designs

How Does My Garden Grow?



This hat was designed for a young girl but can easily be increased in size by adding extra white stitches between the flowers in the motif. My niece Tori is 10 years old and in her head thoughts are always growing and reaching for the sky. She has a beautiful nature and it seemed fitting to place a garden of flowers around her fantastic mind.

Finished hat circumference - 17 inches

POST BLOCK Gauge: 5 stitches per inch stranded, 6 per inch in stockinette

This yarn stretches with use and blocking.

Yarn: Knitpicks Shine Worsted in White and Eggplant - 1 ball each

Needles - Harmony 16' Circular needles, size 6

With any questions please contact me at yarnthoughts@yahoo.com or as Meg McG on ravelry

Directions:

Cast on 96 (112) stitches

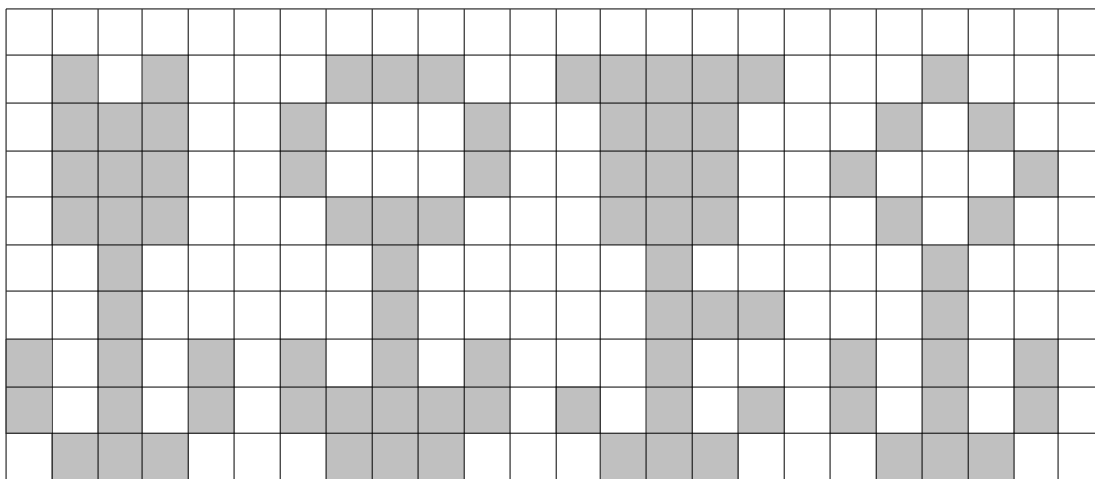
Join, being careful not to twist and place marker to indicate the beginning of the round. Knit 1 round plain - this is not necessary but I find knitting one round plain after casting on always makes it easier to incorporate purl stitches on the second round. Cast on stitches are typically tighter and purling can be more difficult


Round 2 - *Knit 1, purl 1 rep from *

Round 3-9 repeat round 2 or until ribbing is approx 1.5 inches

Begin colorwork

Colorwork is deceptively simple. At the beginning of the first colored stitch (the third in the row) hold the next color as if you were joining a new ball of yarn. Follow the chart and knit the 3 purple stitches. Then drop the purple yarn and knit 3 stitches with the white. Carry the yarns loosely behind the work. Stranded colorwork comes out to a tighter gauge than plain stockinette. If this is a problem you can always go up one needle size for the colorwork portion.



The chart is read from 

and moves to the left.

This motif is worked across 24 stitches. If making the larger hat add and extra white stitch between each flower, increasing the motif sections to 28 stitches.

After the color work portion is complete cut the purple yarn leaving a long enough strand to weave in later. Continue knitting plain until the piece measures 6.5(7.5) inches from the cast on edge.

Begin decreases:

Decrease round 1: *Knit 14, Knit 2 together, rep from*

Decrease round 2: Knit plain

Decrease round 3: *Knit 13, Knit 2 together, rep from*

Decrease round 4: Knit plain

Decrease round 5: *Knit 12, Knit 2 together, rep from*

Decrease round 6: Knit plain

Follow this pattern of alternating decreasing rounds and plain rounds until there 6 stitches left on the needle. Remove marker if you haven't done so yet. Cut the yarn leaving a long tail and use a tapestry needle to pull the tail through the remaining 6 stitches and tighten to close.

Weave in all ends and block to dry. Gift to recipient, take their picture and post in on Ravelry so I can see how it turns out. Then, AND ONLY THEN, the hat is finished!