Wobble Boss

by Lee Meredith - leethalknits.com

A stretchy garter stitch gender-neutral hat, with lots of size and shape flexibility in any weight yarn, a wobbly braided cable wrapping around the base and over a single vertical stripe. This hat can be knit up in any weight yarn, different weights making for different looks - make the default adult size (the super stretchy garter stitch makes it a great fit for most heads) or adjust a few numbers for a custom size, or a slouchy style, etc.

The cables come undone and blend into the plain garter stitch back, and they twist up over the contrasting color stripe with some stranded colorwork in that one section. The rest of the hat is a quick and easy knit, especially if you work the cables with no cable needle. Short rows being worked in garter stitch fabric means you don't even have to knit wraps together with the wrapped stitches. A provisional cast-on and grafting at the end finishes it off for a completely seamless back side.

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You need

- approx 1 skein of solid color yarn in any weight for main color (MC)
- -- fingering: 150-250 yards / 140-230 meters MC
- -- sport: 130-180 yards / 120-165 meters MC
- -- worsted: 100-140 yards / 90-130 meters MC
- -- bulky: 80-120 yards / 70-110 meters MC
- ▶ 10-30 yards/meters of same weight in contrasting color (CC)
- needles sized to match yarn (see gauge notes; it's all knit flat)
- crochet hook for provisional cast-on
- 4 stitch markers (3 different kinds ideally, 3 the same type, but 2 the same color and 1 a different color, and the 4th a different type, to most easily keep track of which is which)

The samples

Green hat: Knitted Wit worsted superwash merino (Cedar & Brown Sugar), 131 yards / 120 meters total (116y/106m MC, 15y/14m CC); large/slouchy adult size on US 8 needles.

Brown hat: Knitted Wit worsted superwash merino (Brown Sugar & Cedar) 125 yards / 114 meters total (105y/96m MC, 20y/18m CC); snug adult size on US 5 needles.











Purple hat: Knitted Wit *Cypress Hollow* sport (Beaujolais & French Kiss), 228 yards / 208 meters total (200y/183m MC, 28y/25m CC); extra long size for fold up brim on US 5 needles.

Blue hat: Knitted Wit aran superwash merino (Prussian Blue & Yellow Brick Road), 100 yards / 91 meters total (89y/81m MC, 11y/10m CC); snug adult size on US 9 needles.

Orange hat: Knitted Wit aran superwash merino (Yellow Brick Road) with handspun CC, 108 yards / 99 meters total (95y/87m MC, 13y/12m CC); pointed tip adult size on US 10 1/2 needles.

Gauge

Use whichever needles work best with your yarn, but keep in mind the kind of fabric you want for your hat. If you want it fitted and warm, work at a tight-ish gauge (the smaller of recommended needle sizes); if you're adding extra height for some slouch, or want it extra stretchy with some drape, then work at a looser gauge (the larger of recommended needle sizes, or even a size larger). The garter stitch fabric can be knit loosely and will still spring back into shape; you'll need a loose gauge for a floppy, slouchy look.