Pink Ponytail Hat

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A few of you have been asking for a ponytail/messy bun hat, and I'll admit there are two reasons why I haven't jumped on the trend. #1 - Hedwig (my fake head) looks absolutely RIDICULOUS when I try to put her lovely hair in any kind of updo, which means that I have to model any version of this hat myself. Not exactly my favorite activity. And #2 - when one designs these kinds of hats, one doesn't get to design the very best part - the crown. Even in the face of this sad, crownless world, though, when I got a request to do a ponytail hat with a pattern similar to the Cellular Stitch Kids' Poncho, I put on my big girl pants and got it done. Because I couldn't make a crown, however, I had to get a bit fancier nearer to the face. But if you want to make this hat with the Cellular Stitch and that stitch alone (you can get a better view of it in the picture below - it's the top part, with the holes), simply knit the ribbing and then knit rows 26 - 29 on repeat until your hat measures roughly 6" and you've just finished row 29, and then proceed with the remaining rows as written.

Yarn: Sommer Merino 85 (100% Superwash Wool; 96 yards [85 meters]/50 grams); #867 - 2 skeins

Needles: 16" circular needle in size US 6, one 16" circular needle in size US 8, one set of double pointed needles (dpns) in size US 8

Notions: Tapestry needle, stitch marker

Gauge: 17 stitches = 4 inches in stockinette

So let's make one of these hats, shall we? Using your size US 6 circular needle, cast on 90 stitches loosely, place marker, and join in round. Then we'll work the following ribbing:

A better view of the back. And my small, sad little ponytail.

Ribbing Row: * k1, p1; rep from *

Knit this ribbing row until piece measures roughly 2". Transfer work to your size US 8 circular needle, and then we'll work a variation on the Wide Leaf Border from page 342 of Barbara G. Walker's A Second Treasury of Knitting Patterns that transitions into the Cellular Stitch. I wish I had better news for you at this point, but sadly you'll have to follow the pattern for every single row of this hat, as follows:

Rows 1 & 2: knit

Row 3:* k5, k2tog, (k1, yo, k1) in next stitch, ssk, k5 *

Row 4: * p5, k5, p5 *

Row 5: * k4, k2tog, (k1, yo) twice, k1, ssk, k4 *

Row 6: knit

Row 7: * k3, k2tog, k2, yo, k1, yo, k2, ssk, k3 *

Row 8: * p3, k9, p3 *

Row 9: * k2, k2tog, k3, yo, k1, yo, k3, ssk, k2 *

Row 10: knit

Row 11: * k1, k2tog, k4, yo, k1, yo, k4, ssk, k1 *

Row 12: * p1, k13, p1 *

Row 13: * k1, ssk, (k3, yo) twice, k3, k2tog, k1 *

Row 14: knit

Row 15: * k1, yo, ssk, k3, yo, sl1-k2tog-psso, yo, k3, k2tog, yo, k1 *

Row 16: knit

Row 17: * k2, yo, ssk, k7, k2tog, yo, k2 *

Row 18: knit

Row 19: * k3, yo, ssk, k5, k2tog, yo, k3 *

Row 20: knit

Row 21: * k2tog, yo, k2, yo, ssk, k3, k2tog, yo, k1, k2tog, yo, k1 *

Row 22: knit

Row 23: * yo, k1, k2tog, k2, yo, ssk, k1, k2tog, yo, k2, yo, k1, k2tog *

Row 24: knit

Row 25: * (k2tog, yo, k1) twice, yo, sl2-k1-p2sso, yo, (k2tog, yo, k1) twice *

Row 26: knit

Row 27: * yo, k1, k2tog *

Row 28: knit

Row 29: * k2tog, yo, k1 *

Row 30: knit

Row 31: * (yo, k1, k2tog) twice, sl2-k1-p2sso, (yo, k1, k2tog) twice * (78 stitches)

Row 32: * k5, sl2-k1-p2sso, k5 * (66 stitches)

You're going to want to switch to your dpns at this point...

Row 33: * k2tog, yo, k2, sl2-k1-p2sso, k1, k2tog, yo, k1 * (54 stitches)

Row 34: * k3, sl2-k1-p2sso, k3 * (42 stitches)

Row 35: * k2, sl2-k1-p2sso, k2 * (30 stitches)

Complete rows 1 - 35 and then knit 5 rows around. Bind off loosely and tuck in ends. If desired, block.