



## **The Mad Trapper toque**

Knit in the round, this hat is a loose fit. The pattern was developed from a reconstruction of an old toque on its last legs. The hat reminded me of the story about the Mad Trapper who was buried in Aklavik, my father's hometown.

Gauge: 6.25 stitches per 1 inch

Yarn: Sport weight wool, 105 grams, 400 yards

Needle Size: 3.0mm circular or dpn

Head Circumference: 20 inches (22 inches, 24 inches)

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Cast on 126 (138, 150) stitches, and join in the round, being careful not to twist the stitches.

Part 1: Knit 1, purl 1 to the end, continue until the piece measures 3.25 inches from the bottom (126 (138, 150) stitches).

Part 2: Knit in the round until the pieces measures 6.5 inches from the bottom (126 (138, 150) stitches).

Part 3: Place marker, knit 4 rounds, and on the beginning of the fifth row, slip one stitch, knit one, pass the stitch over, knit to the last 2 stitches before the place marker and knit the last two stitches together (124 (136, 148) stitches) . Repeat the 5 rows until you have decreased to the hat measures 11.5 inches from the bottom.

Part 4: Place marker, knit 1 round, and on the beginning of the 2nd row, knit 1, slip 1 stitch, knit one, pass the slip stitch over the knit stitch. Knit to the last 3 stitches, knit two stitches together, knit 1. Repeat the 2 rows until the piece measures 13.75 inches.

Part 5: Place marker, knit 1 round, and on the beginning of the 2nd row, knit 1, slip 1 stitch, knit two stitches together, pass the slip stitch over the knit 2 together stitch. Knit to the last 4 stitch, knit 3 stitches together, knit 1. Repeat the 2 rows until 8 stitches remain.

Part 6: Distribute 4 stitches each onto two needles, so they lay flat with the hat and use a third needle to do a three needle bind off.

Part 7: Pompom – with thick cardstock paper, draw a circle with approximately 3.5 inch diameter. Draw a smaller circle with a 2.5 inch diameter inside the larger circle and cut out the large circle and then cut out the smaller circle, repeat to make a second circle. Holding the two circles together, wrap the remaining yarn you have around the doughnut shape. The more yarn you wrap the thicker the pom-pom.

Once you have finished wrapping the yarn, part the yarn at the edge to cut the yarn in between the two doughnuts. Then take a scarp piece of yarn (12 inches in length) and tie it between the two pieces of paper to secure the pop-pom yarn. Use the tail of the secure yarn to attach the pom-pom to the hat. Weave in all of the loose ends and enjoy your new hat!

