



## Sunshine elf hat

I am longing for the sun after a long winter in Stockholm. Deep down in my stash I find exactly what I need: Soft merino wool in bright and happy sunshine colors. Perfect! I knit this simple elf hat for Sóldís and I've got plenty of sunshine all over!

The hat makes me smile every time I see it..... :-) Isn't knitting great?

**\*Size:** To fit head size about 43(47)51cm / 17(18.5)20 inches or just about 6-12 months(1-2 yrs)2-3 yrs old. But babies heads vary greatly, grab a tape measure to be sure :-).

**\*Yarn:** Lucca merino wool, in orange (Kool aid hand dyeing experiment) and red.

**\*Needles:** 2.5mm (US 1.5) 40 cm /16 inches circular needles for the ribbing, and 3.5mm (US 4) 40 cm /16 inches circular needles as well as double pointed needles for the hat itself - or size needed to obtain gauge.

**\*Gauge:** 20 sts make 10 cm/ 4 inches over stockinette stitch. Make a swatch with the yarn and needles you plan to use to find your gauge. Change needle size to obtain gauge - or increase or decrease the number of stitches you cast on to get a good fit. Just remember that the number of stitches has to be dividable with 4.

Cast on 84(92)100 stitches with orange yarn on 2.5mm (US 1.5) 40 cm /15 inch circular needles. Join to knit in the round and do 2x2 ribbing (knit 2, purl 2) for 8 rounds. Change to needle size 3.5mm (US 4) and now knit stockinette stitch. Knit 5 rows with orange, and 2 rows with red, throughout the hat. Knit until hat measures 8 (9)10 cm/ 3(3.5)4 inches. Now place 4 markers evenly spread throughout

the row (after every 21(23)25 stitches). A. [Knit to marker, knit 2 sts together], repeat throughout the row (=4 stitch decrease). B. knit 3 rows.

Repeat A and B until only 8 stitches are left on the needles. Change to double pointed needles when the stitches become too few for a circular needle. Break yarn and pull it through the remaining stitches, and weave in loose ends.

I made a pom-pom by winding the yarn around a flat 6 cm / 2.5 inch wide frying stick (I). Tied yarn around one end and sewed the pom-pom together. Cut all threads in the other end, used a crochet needle to chain for 2-3 cm/ 1 inch and then sewed it to the hat.



This hat makes me happy every time I see it... :-) !