

## Basic "star decrease" hat design

Cast on 48

Knit 4 rows k1p1 rib

Knit all rows until hat 3/4 as tall as you want it to be.

### Begin decreases:

\*k6, k2tog\* entire round

k one round plain

\*k5, k2tog\* entire round

k one round plain

\*k4, k2tog\* entire round

k one round plain

\*k3, k2tog\* entire round

k one round plain

\*k2, k2tog\* entire round

\*k1, k2tog\* entire round

\*k2tog\* entire round

Break yarn, draw through remaining six stitches. Weave in ends.



*shown : preemie hat w/ gauge of 22 sts=4"*

To get even spiraling decreases in any hat, pick two numbers divisible by the number of your cast-on stitches. In this case,  $8 \times 6 = 48$ . To get those six little spiral arms on the top, I want to decrease six stitches a round. So I knit six, then knit the final two stitches of a set of eight together. On the next round, I only have 42 stitches, or  $7 \times 6$ . So I drop the number in my "set" by one. k5, k2tog in the set of seven all the way around to decrease by six again, and so on.

The reason for omitting the plain round in the final few rounds is that if you continue with gradual decreases using the plain rounds, you end up with a little pointy "nipple" on your hat. Omitting the plain rows rounds out the top.

### Other possibilities to try:

Cast on 54.  $9 \times 6 = 54$ , so \*k7, k2tog\*

Cast on 64.  $8 \times 8 = 64$ , so \*k6, k2tog\*

Cast on 80.  $8 \times 10 = 80$ , so \*k8, k2tog\*

Cast on 84.  $7 \times 12 = 84$ , so \*k10, k2tog\*



***Math is not the enemy - it's a knitter's best friend!***