



BRIM

With cir needle, CO 132 sts. Place marker (pm) to denote center back and join for working in the rnd, being careful not to twist sts. *Next rnd:* K33, pm, k66, pm, k33. Slip markers every rnd. Knit 3 rnds even. Dec as foll:

Dec rnd 1: K36, [k2tog, k4] 10 times, k36—122 sts rem. Knit 7 rnds even.

Dec rnd 2: [K2tog, k4] 5 times, k6 to m, [k2tog, k3] 10 times, k6, [k2tog, k4] 5 times—102 sts rem. Knit 7 rnds even.

Dec rnd 3: [K2tog, k8] 10 times, k2—92 sts rem. Place a coilless pin to mark this rnd.

Knit even until piece measures 9½" (24 cm) from coilless pin. Remove coilless pin.

CROWN

Dec for crown as foll, changing to dpn when necessary:

Rnd 1: [K7, k2tog] 10 times, k2tog—81 sts rem.

Rnds 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12: Knit.

Rnd 3: [K6, k2tog] 10 times, k1—71 sts rem.

Rnd 5: [K5, k2tog] 10 times, k1—61 sts rem.

Rnd 7: [K4, k2tog] 10 times, k1—51 sts rem.

Rnd 9: [K3, k2tog] 10 times, k1—41 sts rem.

Rnd 11: [K2, k2tog] 10 times, k1—31 sts rem.

Rnd 13: [K1, k2tog] 9 times, [k2tog] 2 times—20 sts rem.

FINISHING

Place 10 sts each on 2 dpn. With yarn threaded on a tapestry needle and using the Kitchener st (see Glossary, page 139), graft sts tog. Weave in loose ends.

Place coilless safety pin at center back to enable you to shape the felted piece accurately.

Felting: Felt according to the instructions on page 134 (I felted this one by machine) until hat folded flat measures 11" (28 cm) to 11½" (29 cm) at base of crown. Rinse out soap and blot out excess water with bath towels.

Shaping: Holding top of crown, pull brim downward to smooth lengthwise grain of knitting around entire brim. Fold hat at marked center back and make a crease to define the center front of hat. Place a coilless pin at base of crown at center front. Shape round dome of crown on your head, a hat form, or a bowl that is the perfect size. When roundness is achieved, lay hat on flat surface and shape brim by rolling up hatback and sides slightly, without stretching the edge of the brim, and taper roll to nothing at the center front. With the side of your flattened palm, make an indentation on the top of the crown along the back/front axis. If necessary, lift up the hat and restore the crown curve at the back of the indentation. Pinch hat sides on both sides of center front to create a sharper tripartite definition at the front of the crown.