

SUNNY FLOWER FEZ

KRISTIN NICHOLAS

A Moroccan flat-top fez served as the springboard for [Kristin Nicholas's](#) joyful topper. She worked the body of the hat in two-color stranded knitting. Kristin turned to her passion for simple, naïve stitchery to add bright accent colors. To mix the folk with the familiar, she intertwined sunflower motifs inspired by the traditional floral patterns of Suzani textiles from Uzbekistan and ones fresh from her own garden.

NOTE

❖ Take care to strand yarn loosely across the back of the work when knitting the flower centers to maintain a consistent gauge. If you find that your two-color knitting usually puckers, try using even larger needles when doing stranded color-work.

HAT

Brim

With A and smaller needles, CO 80 sts. Place marker (pm) and join for working in the rnd, being careful not to twist sts.

Rnds 1 and 2: Purl.

Work 2-color garter st on Rnds 3 and 4 as foll:

Rnd 3: *K2 with B, k2 with C; rep from * to end.

Rnd 4: *Bring B to front, p2 with B, bring B to back, bring C to front, p2 with C, bring C to back; rep from * to end.

Rnds 5–7: With D, knit 1 rnd, then purl 2 rnds.

Rnd 8: With C and larger needles, knit 1 rnd, inc 10 sts evenly spaced—90 sts.

Rnds 9–15: With C, knit 7 rnds.

Work flower centers in 2-color stranded St st on Rnds 16–20 (see Note) as foll:

Rnd 16: K6 with C, *k3 with B, k7 with C; rep from * to last 4 sts, k3 with B, k1 with C.

Rnds 17–19: *K5 with C, k5 with B; rep from *.

Rnd 20: Rep Rnd 16.

Rnds 21–30: With C, knit 10 rnds.

Rnd 31: With A, knit 1 rnd, inc 1 st—91 sts.

Rnds 32–34: With A, purl 3 rnds—piece measures about 5¼" (13.5 cm) from CO.

FINISHED SIZE

21½" (54 cm) circumference. To fit an adult.

YARN

Worsted weight (#4 Medium).

Shown here: Nashua Handknits Julia (50% wool, 25% alpaca, 25% mohair; 93 yd [85 m]/50 g): #1220 tarnished brass (gold, A), #8141 pretty pink (B), #6396 deep blue sea (dark teal, C), and #3961 ladies mantle (green, D), 1 ball each.

NEEDLES

Sizes 5 (3.75 mm) and 7 (4.5 mm): set of four or five double-pointed; a 16" (40 cm) circular (cir) needle may be used for the brim. Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS

Marker (m); tapestry needle.

GAUGE

17 stitches and 24 rows = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette stitch using larger needles.

