

## IRISH HIKING HAT: Bulky Version with Fleece Lining

**Materials:** Less than one skein of Wool Ease Bulky, US9 straight and circular needles or dpns (length depends on whether you magic loop or not)

**Directions:** Cast on 16 stitches on the straight needles

1. p3, k2, p6, k2, p3, turn
2. k3, p2, k6, p2, k3, turn
3. rep row 1
4. rep row 2
5. rep row 1
6. rep row 2
7. rep row 1
8. k3, p2, work front cable, p2, k3
9. Repeat above until it goes around your head (this is the same cable pattern from [the Irish Hiking Scarf](#) - just one cable wide instead of 3)



Cast off and seam the two ends together.

**Row 1:** Switch to a circular and pick up one stitch per row of knitting all around one side of the band with your circular needle. *For a benchmark, I picked up 92 stitches*

**Row 2:** Knit around.

**Row 3:** Count the number of stitches and divide by 4. K2tog, \*k 1/4 of your stitches, k2tog\* until you are back where you began.

**Rows 4 +:** Continue to knit around the circle decreasing evenly at the four points. Make sure when you k2tog that the second stitch of the k2tog is the decrease from the row before. You will see the decreases start to form a spiral pattern. Continue until the hat is as tall as you would like it to be plus a round or two if you are going to line it.

Too close the top flatly, add another decrease halfway between each of the existing ones about halfway up and keep going around until there are only 4 stitches left. Cut yarn and sew the last 4 stitches together and pull through to the wrong side.

**Lining:** (NOTE: if you don't want to line it, instead of doing stockinette stitch on both sides of the cable band, do one side k3 and one side in moss stitch like [the edges of the scarf](#). You can see that on the [unlined one](#)) Measure the circumference and height of your hat. Cut a piece of fleece or other warm, soft fabric to the width +1" and the height +3". Sew it into a tube with a 1/2 seam. Pin one edge of the tube to the right side of the brim of the hat - preferably one row in. The goal is to sew it between the first and second stitch of the knitting. Sew together. (Note to self: Make sure all the pins are out before trying it on again.)

The fleece will show at this point. If you like that look, move on to the top. If not, you can either machine stitch the fleece to the knitting (aim for the purl bit just below the cable) or blind stitch it by hand. If you machine stitch make sure your thread matches well or it will show.

How you do the top depends on your level of sewing talent, level of patience, and space in the top of your hat. I didn't leave much room so I needed as little bulk as possible. I took a largish needle and some embroidery floss and hand sewed a running seam around the loose end of the fleece. Then I just gathered it up and tied it off and tacked it to the top of the hat. If you really wanted to make the inside pretty too you could fold it in little triangles and stitch it to make a similar spiral-y pattern on the inside. If you sew - particularly quilt - you know what I mean. If you don't, probably best not to try. You'll curse a lot.



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