



*Free Knitting Pattern*

LION BRAND® VANNA'S CHOICE®

# GRAMMINAL ELEPHANT HAT

Pattern Number: L40444 VC



## SKILL LEVEL – EASY+

## SIZES

Newborn (Small, Medium, Large)

**Finished Hat Circumference** About 13 1/2-16 (15 1/2-18, 17 1/2-20, 19 1/2-22) in. (34-40.5 (38-45.5, 44.5-51, 49.5-56) cm), stretched

**Note:** Pattern is written for smallest size with changes for larger sizes in parentheses. When only one number is given, it applies to all sizes. To follow pattern more easily, circle all numbers pertaining to your size before beginning.

## Designer Notes about Hat Fit

On average, my Newborn size fits from birth to six months, Small from three months to eighteen months, Medium from twelve months to seven years, and Large size from five to ten years.

But not all babies are the same!

Your child's age does not necessarily tell you which hat size will fit them. Heads come in an incredibly wide range of sizes at every stage of life. I have made a Medium-size hat for both nine-month-old Sofie and nine-year-old M'lynn, both girls with head sizes considered normal for their age. I kid you not.

Each hat pattern is offered in four sizes, stepping up ever so gradually, so there is a hat size that will fit your little one from the happy day they are born until the sad day they tell you (in no uncertain terms) that they are way too old for Gramminals.

Girls enjoy them well into their tweens, however, and I am happy to report that I made a Panda for Joey, a very cool sixteen-year-old boy, who wears his to school!

## MATERIALS

- LION BRAND® VANNA'S CHOICE® (Art. #860)  
#149 Silver Grey 1 (1, 2, 2) ball(s) (A)  
#158 Mustard 1 (1, 1, 1) ball (B)  
#100 White 1 (1, 1, 1) ball (C)  
or colors of your choice
- LION BRAND® double pointed knitting needles size 8 (5 mm), set of 5
- LION BRAND® crochet hook size F-5 (3.75 mm) OR
- LION BRAND® crochet hook size G-6 (4 mm)
- LION BRAND® stitch markers
- LION BRAND® large-eyed blunt needle



## ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Circular knitting needle size 8 (5 mm), 16 in. (40.5 cm) long

Fiberfill stuffing

Round glass bowl vase in circumference just a bit larger than the size Hat you are making (see Designer's note below)

Pair of solid black eyes, 9 (9, 12, 12) mm (see Designer's note below)

Side-cutting needle-nosed pliers

High-temperature (60-watt) hot-glue gun and glue sticks

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## GAUGE

16 sts + 24 rows = about 4 in. (10 cm) in St st worked in rnds (k every rnd).

BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR GAUGE.

## STITCH EXPLANATION

### **kfb (knit into front and then back)**

An increase worked as follows:

1. Knit the next st through the front loop, but do not remove the st from your left hand needle.
2. Knit the same st once more, this time inserting your needle through the back loop of the st. You will have created 2 loops (sts) on your right hand needle.
3. Drop the st from your left hand needle – you have increased 1 st.

**M1 (make 1)** An increase worked by lifting the horizontal strand lying between needles and placing it onto left needle. Knit this new stitch through the back loop – 1 st increased.

**w&t (wrap and turn)** is a technique used to ensure that a small hole doesn't form at the end of a short row. How you work a w&t depends on whether you are doing a KNIT stitch or a PURL st. Follow the specific instructions below to work a w&tK (a wrap and turn for a KNIT st) or a w&tP (wrap and turn for a PURL st).

### **w&t (wrap and turn for KNIT)**

1. Bring the yarn between the needles to the front of the work (the front is the side that is facing you). Take care not to wrap the yarn over a needle, this would create a new st.
2. Slip the next st from the left hand needle to the right hand needle as if to purl.
3. Turn the work. After turning, the yarn will be in the back of the work.
4. Bring the yarn between the needles to the front of the work.
5. Slip the first st on left needle as if to purl, back onto right needle. You will now have one stitch on the right needle with a wrap of yarn around the base of the st.
6. Bring the yarn between the needles to the back of the work and continue with the row.
7. When you encounter the wrapped st on the next row, lift the wrap with the tip of your right hand needle and work it tog with the wrapped st.

### **w&t (wrap and turn for PURL)**

1. Bring the yarn between the needles to the back of the work (the back is the side that is facing away from you). Take care not to wrap the yarn over a needle, this would create a new st.
2. Slip the next st from the left hand needle to the right hand needle as if to purl.
3. Turn work. After turning, the yarn will be in the front of the work.
4. Bring the yarn between the needles to the back of the work.
5. Slip the first st on left needle as if to purl, back onto right needle. You will now have one stitch on the right needle with a wrap of yarn around the base of the st.
6. Bring the yarn between the needles to the front of the work and continue with the row.
7. When you encounter the wrapped st on the next row, lift the wrap with the tip of your right hand needle and work it tog with the wrapped st.

## NOTES FROM THE DESIGNER

### ***Knit Cast-On***

It is essential that you use the knit cast-on to start a hat. This method creates a row of actual knit stitches on the left needle and has hardly any stretch in it, which provides a better, tighter roll on the Hat. The knit cast-on is also essential when knitting most components that are made separately and attached to the Hat later.

To do the knit cast on:

Create a slipknot on the left needle, and \*insert the tip of the right needle as if to knit. Wrap the working yarn around the tip of the right needle, draw the right needle through, and place the newly created loop on the left needle. Repeat from \* until the number of stitches indicated in the pattern has been cast on. With the knit cast-on, the working yarn ends up at the beginning of the left needle, ready to knit the first row without turning.

### ***Picking Up Stitches for Ears***

If you are a better knitter than I am, you may be able to pick up the stitches for the front needle of your ears, using a double-pointed needle to begin with, but I find it is much easier to start them off on a crochet hook, and then to transfer them onto a double-pointed needle afterward.

1. To start, find where you will begin the first stitch by counting to the left from the center “wheel” at the top of the hat. Using a crochet hook (I use a size F-5 [3.75mm]), push the crochet hook under the entire V of the stitch (both bars) and pull yarn from under and toward you, creating a stitch on the hook.
2. Go under the next V (in the round below) and pull up another stitch onto the crochet hook. Continue in this manner, pulling up stitches, until you have picked up all the stitches the pattern requires.
3. Transfer these stitches onto a US size 8 (5mm) double-pointed needle. Then flip the hat over and pick up another set of corresponding stitches on the back side of the hat, in the row right next to the ones already placed on the first needle. 4. You don't need to transfer the second set of stitches onto a second double pointed needle; simply knit them off of the crochet hook on the first round. If you've done this right, when you look down between your needle and hook, you will see the two rows of knit Vs that you used.

### ***Creating a Flat Ledge***

Many components need to be finished with a flat ledge underneath them, before they are attached to the hat. This flat ledge is made possible by creating a bend in your work by knitting the first row flat. After you knit the first row flat, you will turn your double-pointed needles to the purl side and begin knitting in the round. This bend in your work is required to enclose craft foam pieces into snouts and to finish components that are stuffed with fiberfill, creating a flat ledge, where you can apply hot glue and give the appearance that it was sewn on. Some facial features (including beaks, cheeks, jaws, and nose triangles) don't need a ledge, so you will join your knitting to work in the round right after the knitted cast-on.

### ***Glass Bowl Vase***

To complete a hat, I always use one of several glass bowl, or bubble vases, which I found in the flower arranging department of my local craft store. With three sizes – 15 in. (39.5 cm), 17 in. (43 cm), and 18 in. (47cm) in circumference – you'll be prepared to finish any size hat in this pattern. Dried hot glue has no stretch to it, so it's best to glue details to a hat in its stretched form. When the hat is stretched on a round form, it looks just like it's going to look on your little one's head, making it obvious where the snout and eyes should be. And best of all? Hot glue does not stick to glass!

## Eyes

I only use plastic eyes, and since acrylic yarn is a form of plastic, too, a very hot (at least 60-watt) glue gun bonds the two surfaces together. My young moms report that, years later, after a lot of wear by both their first- and second-born children, those eyes are still on the first hats I ever made. If you glue your eyes on askew, there is no fixing them later. (Believe me, I have tried.) So, make sure you have five minutes, all to yourself, to focus on assembly before you heat up your glue gun. If you have more patience and skill than I do, of course you can sew each piece onto the hat, hiding your stitches on the knitted ledge (see Note for Ledge explanation) or under it (where I run a bead of hot glue). If you like, instead of gluing on plastic eyes, you may choose to embroider eyes with scraps of yarn or to create them with shapes cut from felt, as I sometimes do.

## Care

Wash hat in cold water and lay flat to dry. Avoid heat if your hat is assembled with hot glue.

## HAT

With circular needle and A, cast on 54 (60, 66, 72) sts.

Purl one row.

Place marker for beg of rnd and join to work in the round by working the first st on the left hand needle with the working yarn from the right hand needle, being careful not to twist sts.

Work in St st worked in rnds (k every rnd) for 27 (31, 35, 39 rnds).

## Shape Crown (top of Hat)

### Notes:

1. Change to double pointed needles (dpn) when sts have been sufficiently decreased.
2. When you see '0' in the instructions, this means that for your particular size, you need not do anything, simply proceed to the next instruction.

**Rnd 1:** \*K4, k2tog; rep from \* to end of rnd – 45 (50, 55, 60) sts.

**Rnds 2 and 3:** Knit.

**Rnd 4:** \*K3, k2tog; rep from \* to end of rnd – 36 (40, 44, 48) sts.

**Rnds 5 and 6:** Knit.

**Rnd 7:** \*K2, k2tog; rep from \* to end of rnd – 27 (30, 33, 36) sts.

**Rnd 8:** Knit.

**Rnd 9:** K1 (0, 1, 0), \*k2tog; rep from \* to end of rnd – 14 (15, 17, 18) sts.

**Rnd 10:** K0 (1, 1, 0), \*k2tog; rep from \* to end of rnd – 7 (8, 9, 9) sts.

Cut yarn, leaving a long yarn tail. Thread yarn tail into blunt needle then through the remaining sts and pull to gather. Knot securely.

## Ears

**Note:** Read through the Designer note about picking up sts for ears before beginning.

Lay Hat flat. With the crochet hook and, beg at the center top of the Hat then working along the side of the Hat going towards the lower edge, pick up 14 (16, 18, 20) sts along the edge of the face. Transfer sts to a double-pointed needle (dpn). Turn Hat over to the back side. With hook, pick up 14 (16, 18, 20) sts directly behind the sts on the dpn – 28 (32, 36, 40) sts total; 14 (16, 18, 20) sts on dpn, 8 (8, 10, 10) sts on hook.

**Note:** You will be working the ears on 2 needles, in the round, knitting the back stitches off the crochet hook as you work Rnd 1.

**Rnd 1:** \*Ktbl; rep from \* across sts on dpn, then ktbl all the sts on hook - 14 (16, 18, 20) sts on each of 2 dpn.

**Rnd 2:** \*K1, M1, k to the last st on front needle, M1, k1; rep from \* for back needle - 32 (36, 40, 44) sts; 16 (18, 20, 22) sts on each needle.

**Rnd 3:** Rep Rnd 2 - 36 (40, 44, 48) sts; 18 (20, 22, 24) sts on each needle.

**Rnd 4:** Knit.

**Rnd 5:** K1, M1, k to last st of back needle, M1, k1 - 38 (42, 46, 50) sts; 19 (21, 23, 25) sts on each needle.

**Rnd 6:** K to last 2 sts of front needle, k2tog; k2tog, k to end of rnd – 36 (40, 44, 48) sts; 18 (20, 22, 24) sts on each needle.

**Rnd 7:** K1, M1, k to last 2 sts of front needle, k2tog; k2tog, k to last st of back needle, M1, k1.

**Rnd 8:** K to last 2 sts on front needle, k2tog; k2tog, k to end of rnd - 34 (38, 42, 46) sts; 17 (19, 21, 23) sts on each needle.

**Rnds 9 and 10:** Rep Rnd 8 – 30 (34, 38, 42) sts; 15 (17, 19, 21) sts on each needle.

**Rnd 11:** \*K2tog, k to last 2 sts on front needle, k2tog; rep from \* for back needle – 26 (30, 34, 38) sts; 13 (15, 17, 19) sts on each needle.

**Rnd 12:** K to last 4 sts on front needle, k2tog twice; k2tog twice, k to end of rnd – 22 (26, 30, 34) sts; 11 (13, 15, 17) sts on each needle.

**Rnd 13:** Rep Rnd 12 – 18 (22, 26, 30) sts; 9 (11, 13, 15) sts on each needle.

**Rnd 14:** K2tog, knit to last 2 sts on back needle, k2tog – 16 (20, 24, 28) sts; 8 (10, 12, 14) sts on each needle.

**Rnd 15:** Knit.

**Rnd 16 (Decrease Rnd):** \*K2tog, k to the last 2 sts on front needle, k2tog; rep from \* for back needle – 12 (16, 20, 24) sts; 6 (8, 10, 12) sts on each needle.

**Rnd 17:** K2tog, k to last 2 sts on back needle, k2tog – 10 (14, 18, 22) sts; 5 (7, 9, 11) sts on each needle.

Rep Rnd 16 (Decrease Rnd) until you have 5 sts on each needle.

Cut yarn, leaving a long yarn tail. Thread yarn tail into blunt needle then through the remaining 10 sts and pull to gather. Knot securely. With same yarn tail, sew a few sts across the opening to create a straight finished edge.



## TRUNK

**Note:** Trunk is worked in the rnd, but begins with a row knitted flat. The first row creates a 'ledge', a neat edge that can be sewn to the Hat. Read Designer note about creating a flat ledge before beginning.

With dpn and A, and leaving a 9 in. (23 cm) yarn tail, cast on 21 sts.

Knit 1 row.

Join to work in the round as follows: K4 onto 1st needle, k12 onto 2nd needle, k5 onto 3rd needle; continuing with 3rd needle, k4 from 1st needle – 12 sts on front needle, 9 sts on back needle.

**Rnd 1:** Knit.

**Rnd 2:** \*K1, k2tog; rep from \* to end of rnd – 14 sts; 8 sts on front needle, 6 sts on back needle.

**Rnd 3:** K7, w&t, p6, w&t, k6, knit wrap tog with the next st, k6.

**Rnd 4:** Knit wrap tog with the 1st st, k5, w&t, p4, w&t, k4, knit wrap tog with the next st, k7.

**Rnd 5:** K1, knit wrap tog with the next st, k12.

**Rnds 6–8:** Repeat Rnds 3–5.

**Rnd 9:** K2, k2tog twice, k3, k2tog twice, k1 – 10 sts; 6 sts on front needle, 4 sts on back needle.

**Rnd 10:** K5, w&t, p4, w&t, k4, knit wrap tog with the next st, k4.

**Rnd 11:** Knit wrap tog with the 1st st, k3, w&t, p2, w&t, k2, knit wrap tog with the next st, k5.

**Rnd 12:** K1, knit wrap tog with the next st, k8.

**Rnds 13–15:** Rep Rnds 10–12.

**Note:** If you are making a Single-Bend Trunk, proceed to to Rnd 19.

Double-Bend Trunk only (as seen on Elephant Hat with Crown)

**Rnd 16:** K1 and sl that stitch onto the back needle. With a 3rd needle, k4 – 1 st remaining on front needle. With 4th needle, knit 1 remaining st, k4, w&t, p4, w&t, k4, knit wrap tog with the next st.

**Rnd 17:** K4, knit wrap tog with the next st, k3, w&t, p2, w&t, k2, knit wrap tog with the next st, k1.

**Rnd 18:** K5, knit wrap tog with the next st, k4.

## BOTH Trunk Styles

**Rnds 19 and 20:** Knit.

**Rnd 21:** Bind off 9 sts – 1 st remains.

Cut yarn, leaving a long yarn tail for sewing. Thread yarn tail into blunt needle, then draw through rem st. Knot securely.

## FINISHING

Stuff Trunk lightly. Thread beg yarn tail into blunt needle and hold the Trunk with the base facing you. Sew into the bars of the cast-on ledge by inserting needle under the 1st bar from the outside and pulling yarn through. Continue by inserting the needle under the next bar tightening as you go, until all of the cast-on bars have been sewn. Pull to form a nice finished edge on the outside of the Trunk and a flat edge underneath the base of the Trunk.

With the ending yarn tail, sew through the inside loops of the bound off edge to finish the top of the trunk. Weave in ends.

## TUSKS (make 2)

With dpn and B, and leaving a 6 in. (15 cm) long yarn tail for sewing, cast on 6 (8, 8, 8) sts.

Beginning with a RS row, work 2 rows in St st.

**Next Row (RS):** K2tog 3 (3, 4, 4) times – 3 (3, 4, 4) sts.

Purl one row.

**Next Row:** Knit the 3 (3, 4, 4) sts. Do not turn work. \*Slide sts to other end of needle and knit them, pulling yarn tightly across the back of the work, (do not turn work); rep from \* for 4 rows.

### Sizes Small, Medium, and Large ONLY

**Next Row:** Slide sts to other end of needle and k2tog twice across them, pulling yarn tightly across the back of the work – 2 sts.

## FINISHING

Cut yarn, leaving a long yarn tail. Thread yarn tail into blunt needle and then through the remaining sts. Pull tightly and weave in end.

With cast-on yarn tail, create a finished edge by sewing into the bars of the cast-on edge by inserting needle under the 1st bar from the outside and pulling through.

Weave in ends.

## CROWN

**Notes:** Crown is worked back and forth in rows on 2 dpn. The finished Crown has 7 (8, 9, 10) points.

With dpn and B, cast on 3 sts.

**Row 1:** Knit.

**Row 2:** K2, kfb – 4 sts.

**Row 3:** Kfb, k3 – 5 sts.

**Row 4:** K4, kfb – 6 sts.

**Row 5:** Kfb, k5 – 7 sts.

**Row 6:** K6, kfb – 8 sts

**Row 7:** Bind off 5 sts, 1 st remains on the needle, k2 – 3 sts.

**Row 8:** Knit.

Rep Rows 1-8 above 12 (14, 16, 18) more times, until you have made 13 (15, 17, 19) points.

Repeat Rows 1-6.

Bind off all sts.

Cut yarn, leaving a long yarn tail for sewing, and pull through the remaining stitch.

Fold Crown in half and sew up and down the points at the top, making a double-thick Crown. Lightly stuff each point.

**Note:** If you elect to sew the Crown to the top of the hat, sew around the inside edge first, then the outside edge 1/2 in. (1.5 cm) farther out.



## FINISHING

Trim the post from the back of the eyes. Stretch the hat onto the round glass vase and hot glue the Elephant's Trunk, then glue on the eyes above the Trunk, and glue the Tusks on either side of the base of the Trunk.

Weave in ends.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**k** = knit

**ktbl** = knit through back loop

**k2tog** = knit 2 stitches together

**rnd(s)** = round(s)

**RS** = right side

**p** = purl

**p2tog** = purl 2 stitches together

**rem** = remain(s)

**st(s)** = stitch(es)

**tog** = together

**WS** = wrong side

*Every effort has been made to produce accurate and complete instructions. We cannot be responsible for variance of individual knitters or crocheters, human error, or typographical mistakes.*

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