



Free Knitting Pattern
Lion Brand® Vanna's Choice® - Vanna's Choice® Baby
Gramminal Lion Hat
Pattern Number: L40445



Reproduced with permission from *Gramma Nancy's Animal Hats (and Booties Too!)*
by Nancy Nielson, published by Potter Craft.

Free Knitting Pattern from Lion Brand Yarn

Lion Brand® Vanna's Choice® - Vanna's Choice® Baby Gramminal Lion Hat

Pattern Number: L40445

SKILL LEVEL: Easy + (Level 3)

SIZE: Child (Multiple 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

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!

CORRECTIONS: None as of Oct 1, 2014. To check for later updates, click [here](#).

MATERIALS

- 860-158 Lion Brand Vanna's Choice Yarn: Mustard
1 2, 2, 2 Ball (A)
- 840-098 Lion Brand Vanna's Choice Baby Yarn: Lamb
1 1, 1, 1 Ball (B)
- Lion Brand Double-Pointed Needles - Size 8
- Boye Aluminum Circular Knitting Needles 16 inches Size 8
- Lion Brand Crochet Hook - Size F-5 (3.75 mm)
- Lion Brand Crochet Hook - Size G-6 (4 mm)
- Lion Brand Split Ring Stitch Markers
- Lion Brand Large-Eye Blunt Needles (Set of 6)
- Additional Materials
Round glass bowl vase in circumference just a bit larger than the size Hat you are making (see Designer's note)
Pair of animal eyes, 15 mm (see

**Vanna's Choice® (Article #860).
100% Premium Acrylic
400, 401, 403: 92% Acrylic, 8% Rayon
402: 96% Acrylic, 4% Rayon;
package size: **Solids:** 3.5 oz (100 g), 170 yards (156 m)
Prints, Tweeds, & Heathers: 3 ozs (85 g), 145 yards (133 meters)
Twists: 2.5 oz (70 g), 121 yards (111 meters)*

**Vanna's Choice® Baby (Article #840). 100% Premium Acrylic;
package size: 3.50oz/100.00 gr.
(170yds/156m) pull skeins*



Designer's note)
Black plastic nose with post, 21 mm
Side-cutting needle-nosed pliers
High-temperature (60-watt) hot-glue gun and glue sticks
Craft foam ball, 1 1/2 in. (4 cm) in diameter
Serrated knife
Small amount of black yarn

GAUGE:

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

When you match the gauge in a pattern, your project will be the size specified in the pattern and the materials specified in the pattern will be sufficient. The needle or hook size called for in the pattern is based on what the designer used, but it is not unusual for gauge to vary from person to person. If it takes you fewer stitches and rows to make your swatch, try using a smaller size hook or needles; if more stitches and rows, try a larger size hook or needles.

Making a Gauge Swatch

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 horizontal thread lying between needles and placing it onto left needle. Knit this new stitch through the back loop – 1 st increased.

LOOP STITCH EXPLANATIONS

Double-Loop Knit

Knit into the next stitch, leaving it on the needle. Bring the yarn forward between the newly created loop on the right needle and the original stitch on the left needle. Place your right thumb on the right needle and wrap the yarn over and around your thumb twice.

With thumb still wrapped, move yarn back between needles and knit into the same stitch as before, this time dropping it off as usual - 2 stitches on right needle.

Pass 1st stitch over 2nd stitch, leaving 1 stitch to lock loop in place.

Single-Loop Knit

Work as for Double-Loop Knit, but wrap yarn around thumb only once.

DLk2tog

Knit 2 stitches together while making a double loop.

SLk2tog

Knit 2 stitches together while making a single loop.

NOTES:

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 1 row, you will turn your double-pointed needle to the purl side when you 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 bowls 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 and being careful not to twist sts.

Rnds 1 and 3: Knit.

Rnds 2 and 4: Purl.

Rnd 5 (Decrease Rnd): *Double-loop knit 7 (8, 9, 10), DLk2tog; rep from * to end of rnd – you will have 48 (54, 60, 66) sts at the end of this rnd.

Rnd 6: Knit.

Rnd 7: Double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Rnd 8: Knit.

Shape Face Opening

Rnd 1: Double-loop knit 5 (7, 9, 11), k12, double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Rnd 2 and all even rnds: Knit.

Rnd 3: Double-loop knit 4 (6, 8, 10), k14, double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Rnd 5: Double-loop knit 3 (5, 7, 9), k16, double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Rnd 7: Double-loop knit 2 (4, 6, 8), k18, double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Rnd 9: Double-loop knit 1 (3, 5, 7), k20, double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Sizes Small (Medium, Large) ONLY

Rnd 11: Double-loop knit 2 (4, 6), k22, double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Rnd 13: Double-loop knit 1 (3, 5), k24, double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Sizes Medium (Large) ONLY

Rnd 15: Double-loop knit 2 (4), k26, double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Rnd 17: Double-loop knit 1 (3), k28, double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Size Large ONLY

Rnd 19: Double-loop knit 2, k30, double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Rnd 21: Double-loop knit 1, k32, double-loop knit to end of rnd.

ALL SIZES

Shape Crown (top of Hat)

Notes:

1. Change to double pointed needles 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: K22 (26, 30, 34), double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Rnd 2: *K4, k2tog; rep from * to end of rnd – 40 (45, 50, 55) sts.

Rnd 3: K19 (22, 25, 29), double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Rnd 4: *K3, k2tog; rep from * to end of rnd – 32 (36, 40, 44) sts.

Rnd 5: K16 (18, 20, 24), double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Rnd 6: *K2, k2tog; rep from * to end of rnd – 24 (27, 30, 33) sts.

Rnd 7: K12 (14, 15, 18), double-loop knit to end of rnd.

Rnd 8: SLk2tog to last 0 (1, 0, 1) st, single-loop knit 0 (1, 0, 1) – 12 (14, 15, 17) sts.

Rnd 9: SLk2tog to last 0 (0, 1, 1) st, single-loop knit 0 (0, 1, 1) – 6 (7, 8, 9) sts.

Cut yarn, leaving a long yarn tail. Thread yarn tail into blunt needle then through the remaining 6 (7, 8, 9) sts and pull to gather. Knot securely.

Ears

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 8 (8, 10, 10) sts along the edge of the face opening. Transfer sts to a double-pointed needle (dpn). Turn Hat over to the back side. With hook, pick up 8 (8, 10, 10) sts directly behind the sts on the dpn – 16 (16, 20, 20) sts total; 8 (8, 10, 10) 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 across all sts on dpn, then with a second dpn, ktbl all the sts on hook - 8 (8, 10, 10) sts on each of 2 dpn.

Rnd 2: *K1, M1, knit to last st on front needle, M1, K1; rep from * for back needle – 20 (20, 24, 24) sts; 10 (10, 12, 12) sts on each needle.

Rnd 3: Knit.

Rnd 4: *K1, k2tog, k to last 3 sts on front needle, k2tog, k1; rep from * for back needle – 16 (16, 20, 20) sts; 8 (8, 10, 10) sts on each needle.

Rnd 5: Knit.

Rep last Rounds 4 and 5 until you have 6 sts on each needle.

Next Rnd: *K1, k2tog twice, k1; rep from * for back needle – 8 sts; 4 sts on each needle.

Cut yarn, leaving a long yarn tail. Thread yarn tail into blunt needle then through the remaining 8 sts and pull to gather. Knot securely. With same yarn tail, sew a few sts across the opening to create a straight finished edge.

Cheeks

With B and one dpn, and leaving an 18 in. (45.5 cm) long yarn tail for sewing, cast on 21 sts.

Beginning with a RS row, work 8 rows in St st (k on RS, p on WS).

Decrease Row (RS): *K1, k2tog; rep from * to end of rnd – 14 sts.

Beginning with a WS row, work 3 rows in St st.

To bind off, pass all sts over the first st until only the first st remains. Cut yarn, leaving a long yarn tail, draw yarn tail through last st, then knot securely.

Cut 2 pieces from the 1 1/2 in. (3.8 cm) craft foam ball, each 1/8 in. (.5 cm) shy of center. Discard the leftover center portion of the foam ball.

Thread beginning yarn tail into blunt needle. Hold the cheek with the purl side facing you. Sew into the bars of the cast on edge by inserting the needle under the first bar from the outside and pulling the yarn through.

Once you have sewn through approximately half of the cast-on bars, place one cut piece of the foam ball into the center of the purl side of the cheek and pull the tail until it starts closing around the ball.

Sew through the rest of the bars, tightening stitches as you go. Weave in the end.

Rep with second knit cheek and rem piece of foam ball.

Nose

With A and dpns, and leaving an 18 in. (45.5 cm) long yarn tail for sewing, cast on 24 sts.

Divide sts onto 2 dpn, with 12 sts on each needle.

Rnd 1: Knit.

Rnd 2: *K1, k2tog, k to last 3 sts on first needle, k2tog, k1; rep from * across second needle – 10 sts on each needle.

Rnd 3: Knit.

Rnds 4-9: Rep Rnds 2 and 3 – at the end of Rnd 9 you will have 4 sts on each needle.

Rnd 10: *K1, k2tog, k1; rep from * across second needle – 3 sts on each needle.

Cut yarn, leaving a long yarn tail. Thread yarn tail into blunt needle then through the remaining 6 sts and pull tightly to gather. Knot securely.

Thread cast-on yarn tail into blunt needle and hold the piece with the purl side facing you. Sew only into the bars of the cast-on edge, going under the first bar from the outside and pulling yarn through.

Tighten sts as you go until you have sewn through all the cast-on bars. Pull tightly and weave in the end.

FINISHING

With black yarn, and following the photo, embroider a straight st mouth onto the cheeks as follows:

Start and finish in the same place so that you can tie the beginning and ending tails together, where the knot will be hidden under the plastic nose. Beginning at the center of the mouth, where the plastic nose

will be secured, sew straight stitches out to the corner of one side of the mouth, leaving equal spaces between the stitches. Then, sew back toward the center, filling in the spaces with straight stitches on the way back, and ending in the same place as you started.

With the pliers, snip the post off the plastic nose.

Hot-glue the plastic nose above the mouth and the knitted Nose triangle behind the Cheeks, making sure that the triangle bulges in the center.

Stretch the hat onto the round glass vase and hot glue the knitted Nose triangle and Cheeks into the face opening. Snip the post off the animal eyes and glue in place on either side of the top of the knitted Nose triangle.

Weave in ends.

| ABBREVIATIONS / REFERENCES | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Click for explanation and illustration | |
| <u>k = knit</u> | <u>k2tog = knit 2 together</u> |
| <u>p = purl</u> | <u>p2tog = purl 2 together</u> |
| <u>rem = remain(s)(ing)</u> | <u>rnd(s) = round(s)</u> |
| <u>RS = right side</u> | <u>St st = Stockinette stitch</u> |
| <u>st(s) = stitch(es)</u> | <u>tbl = through the back loop</u> |
| <u>tog = together</u> | <u>WS = wrong side</u> |

Learn to knit instructions: <http://learnToKnit.LionBrand.com>

Every effort has been made to have the knitting and crochet instructions accurate and complete. We cannot be responsible for variance of individual knitters and crocheters, human errors, or typographical mistakes.

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