

Held Together

“Though free to think and act, we are held together, like the stars in the firmament, with ties inseparable.

These ties cannot be seen, but we can feel them.”

—Nikola Tesla



Every year during the Yarn Crawl, we highlight a yarn company that exemplifies who we are and what we believe at String Theory.

This year we are highlighting two: Plied Yarns and Neighborhood Fiber Co., both amazing companies working hard to make the world a better place.

As I designed this hat I kept coming back to the idea of friendship: my friendship with Ann Weaver (cofounder of Plied), and Ann's friendship with Karida Collins (cofounder of Plied and founder of Neighborhood Fiber Co). So much good has come from these relationships.

I hope as you knit this hat you will take a minute to appreciate all the people that hold you together. And recognize all that you do for them.

Pattern Information

Finished Dimensions

19" circumference (fits up to 24" head)

Yarn

1 full skein (380 yd) Plied North Ave (MC)

1 bobbin (30yards) Plied North Ave (CC)

1 full skein NFC Loft (

Note

Loft and North Ave. are held together throughout. We love working with these yarns on their own. But, held together?! They are even better.

Needles

Size US 5 16" circular

Size US 6 16" circular and double-pointed needles, or size needed to get gauge

Gauge

22 sts = 4 in (10 cm) in Stockinette stitch, with MC and Loft held together on #6 needles

Materials

6 stitch markers

Tapestry needle

Tutorial

If you haven't done the Latvian Braid before I suggest you look at the tutorial provided by Kelbourne Woolens: kelbournwoolens.com/tips-and-tricks/latvian-braid

Abbreviations

CC contrast color

k2tog knit 2 stitches together

MC main color

rep repeat

Pattern Instructions

Holding MC together with Loft, using smaller needles, cast on 114 stitches.

Place a marker and join in the round.

RND 1: * K3, P3, repeat from* around.

Repeat Round 1 for 2.25 inches

Drop MC and Loft but do not cut.

With CC knit one round.

Left Leaning Latvian Braid

RND 1: *K1 MC, K1 CC; rep from* around.

RND 2: Bring both yarns to front. *P1 MC, bring CC over MC, P1 CC, bring MC over CC; rep from* around.

RND 3: *P1 MC, bring CC under MC, P1 CC, bring MC under CC; rep from* around.

With CC Knit one round.

Cut CC, leaving a tail to weave in later.

With larger needles and holding MC and Loft together continue to knit until hat measures 7" from cast on.

Crown

*Knit 19, place a marker, Repeat from * to the end of round.

*Knit to two stitches before the marker, K2tog, slip marker, repeat from * until end of round

Repeat this decrease round until you have 12 stitches. (At some point you will need to switch to double pointed needles.)

K2tog all the way around removing markers.

Cut yarns, leaving a 12-inch tail.

Using a tapestry needle, draw tail through remaining stitches and cinch closed.

Weave in ends.

Braids

To make the braids, I cut 15" lengths of the Plied yarns. I tied multiple strands together with an overhand knot. I divided the strands into thirds and braided them. I finished the braid with a final not and trimmed the ends to be even.

Each braid used a different number of strands so that they would be different thicknesses.

Finally I tied the three braids together with a knot, arranging them so that the ends would be unequal. I attached the knot to the top of the hat with the tail.