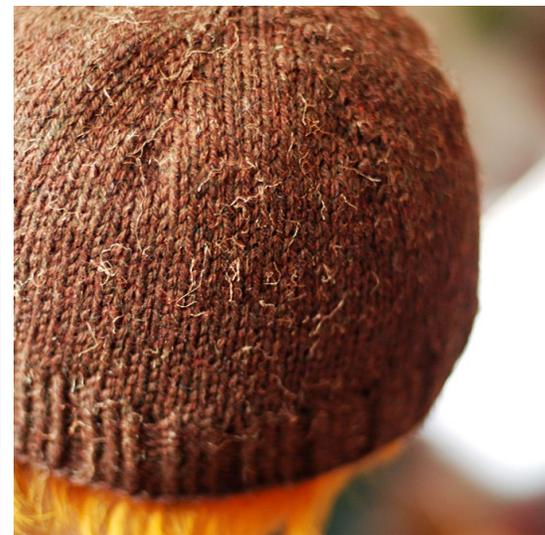


SCANT

by Lee Meredith





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If you like this free pattern, consider checking out other leethal patterns—chances are, if you have fun with this one, there are lots more that you'll enjoy!

A very simple pattern for a very basic custom hat in any weight yarn. Great for single skeins of special yarn, this hat is custom fit to your head, in any gauge. If gift knitting, sizing notes are included to get a good size.

Scant can be made in fitted or slouchy styles, the twisted ribbed bottom making for a nice fit. It can also be made with stripes, for a more interesting look, and/or for using up leftover yarn scraps!

This pattern was originally published in November 2012 on leethalknits.com, with the full pattern directly on the Scant pattern page; this pdf is that exact pattern, converted to leethal pdf format so you can get a taste of Leethal Knits patterns, though this one is much simpler than most and is written to be especially beginner-friendly.

YOU NEED

- one skein of any weight yarn (or enough yardage for a hat in your weight; some single skeins may not be enough, but most will)
- needles sized to match your yarn (to get a tight-ish gauge if you want a snug, warm hat; to get a loose-ish gauge if you want a slouchy style)
 - start with either DPNs or a long circular for magic loop, then switch to a 16" circular once you work out to enough stitches

SIZING

Hat circumference notes

If knitting for yourself, measure around your head, then subtract about 2 inches / 5 cm to get a good hat circumference. Unless you want a big, slouchy style hat, then do not subtract anything.

For gift knitting, for a fitted hat, general small{medium, large} hat sizes (small is for child-teen, medium is standard adult woman, large is standard adult man) are 18{20, 22} inches / 45{50, 55} cm hat circumference.

For a large, slouchy style hat, small{medium, large} hat sizes are 20{22, 24} inches / 50{55, 60} cm hat circumference.

You'll probably need to stop increasing in the middle of an increase round to achieve your stitch count; just stop whenever you reach your exact number and do not work any more increases, regardless of where you are.

Or, if you want to get fancy, when you are beginning the increase round which will bring you to your stitch count in less than 12 increases, work those increases evenly around the hat (so work every other pattern increase, or every third pattern increase, for example, as needed to reach your final stitch count during the round).

Hat height notes

Standard hat height is about 8-9 inches / 20-23 cm (total), so work up to 6-7 inches / 15-18 cm before starting 2 inch / 5 cm wide ribbed section.

For a longer, slouchy style hat, total height should be around 10-11 inches / 25-28 cm (depending on how much extra slouch length you like).

To get your perfect final hat height, try the hat on

as you work the ribbed section (when you think the height might be good, transfer some stitches onto another needle so that you're able to try it on) and then stop and bind off when the height is as you like.

Note: You can make the ribbed brim any height you want; just decide how high you want it, work the stockinette body until the piece is that much less than your total desired hat height, then work the brim until reaching that total height.

TECHNIQUES

Binding off

A stretchy bind-off is recommended, like this **decrease bind off**:

Start by knitting 2 together through the back loops.

*

When the next stitch is a knit stitch: with yarn in back (as if to knit), pass just-worked stitch back onto left-hand needle without twisting it, knit 2 together through the back loops.

When the next stitch is a purl stitch: with yarn in front (as if to purl), pass just-worked stitch back onto left-hand needle without twisting it, purl 2 together.

Repeat from * to end.

NOTES

During setup round 2, use a different colored marker for the first one, to mark the first increase point of the round—you don't need an extra marker for the actual round beginning since you won't do anything until hitting this marker.

List of numbers which are multiples of 4:

40, 44, 48, 52, 56, 60, 64, 68, 72, 76, 80, 84, 88, 92, 96, 100, 104, 108, 112, 116, 120, 124, 128, 132, 136, 140, 144, 148, 152, 156, 160, 164, 168, 172, 176, 180, 184, 188, 192, 196, 200

(choose one of these numbers for your stitch count)

ABBREVIATIONS

m1R = make 1, right-slanting, by picking up the strand between needle points from back to front, and knitting into the front (increases 1)

m1L = make 1, left-slanting, by picking up the strand between needle points from front to back, and knitting into the back (increases 1)

(See photo tutorials for these make 1 techniques on leethalknits.com)

PATTERN

Cast on 12 stitches, join around. (Leave a tail long enough to sew up hole later.)

Setup round 1: Knit all.

Setup round 2: [M1R, place marker, knit 2] six times.

INCREASE SECTION REPEAT ROUNDS

Repeat rounds 1-2: Knit 2 rounds.

Repeat round 3: [Knit to marker, m1R, slip marker, knit 1, m1L] six times, knit to end.

Repeat those 3 rounds until you have enough fabric to measure your gauge.

Measure stitches per inch or cm.

Determine your hat circumference (using notes).

Multiply:

[stitches per inch] x [inches in circumference]

or [stitches per cm] x [cm in circumference].

Round that number to the nearest multiple of 4 (from the list above); **this = stitch count.**

Continue in increase section repeat rounds until the total number of stitches is your stitch count.

Knit all stitches around all rows until piece measures about 2 inches / 5 cm less than your desired hat height (measured from cast-on tip straight down to working edge).

Start rib pattern.

Rib pattern repeat row: [Knit 3 stitches through the back loop, purl 1] repeat to end.

Work in rib pattern for about 2 inches, or until total hat height is what you want.

Bind off in knit/purl pattern (knit the knits and purl the purls; see bind-off instructions).

Use cast-on tail to close top hole - sew around stitches, pull closed tightly and tie securely.

Weave in ends and block.

