Ruby Red Heart Hat
by: Kristen Ashbaugh Helmreich for
Jimmy Beans Wool

Stitch Red is a campaign that is near and dear to all of our hearts here at Jimmy Beans. Most of us have some personal tie to heart disease, which is why this campaign is SO important to all of us. In my family, my grandfather and father are my reminders of how serious heart disease is. My grandfather died of a heart attack before I was born and my father has been dealing with heart disease related issues for the last ten years. My father’s heart health issues especially have made our family re-evaluate our eating and exercise habits and take charge of the things that we can control in relation to our health.

With my family history in mind, I created the Ruby Red Heart Hat. It is something that I can wear to remind me of this cause and to keep me ever-aware of the daily strides I take for my own health like eating healthy, doing yoga and getting plenty of exercise. It uses Classic Elite’s Magnolia yarn in the Stitch Red color and a light and airy heart lace pattern to show support for the campaign. Stitch Red is such an amazing leap in the direction of heart disease awareness for women and the needlearts industry, and I am so excited and honored to be a part of the campaign (and the Knit Red book). All of us at Jimmy Beans hope you will join us as we strive to lead healthier, more active lives!

Materials:
- 2 Skeins of Classic Elite Magnolia in color #5458 Ruby
- US 5 Double point needles and a 16” Circular needle
- US 7- 16” Circular needle
- Stitch Marker
- Darning needle (for weaving in ends)

Gauge:
Ribbing: 21 sts to 4” (after blocking) on US 5 needles.
Heart Pattern: 12 sts to 2.5” (one full heart pattern repeat) on US 7 needles.
Crown: 6.5 sts to 1” on US 5 needles in Stockinette Stitch.
*Designer’s note: Take time to save time, please check your gauge!

Sizing:
XS/S (19”-20” head circ.) & M/L (21”-22” head circ.) *Directions written for Size XS/S with stitch counts for the M/L in parenthesis. Sample hat was knit in size M/L.
Finished Measurements (after blocking on an 11” plate):
XS/S- Brim: 16” (unstretched) & 21” (fully stretched)/ Height: 9.5”
M/L- Brim: 18” (unstretched) & 23” (fully stretched)/ Height: 10”

Directions:

Brim:
- With size 5 circular needle, cast on 84 (96) sts.
- PM and join to knit in the round. Begin working in 1x1 rib stitch (k1, p1 to the end of the row)
- Continue working in 1x1 rib until band measures 1.5 (2)” tall.
- Increase row: Switching to larger circular needle, *knit 6 (7) sts, k1fb; repeat from * to end of row). You increase on the 7th or 8th stitch depending on the size you make. Total sts after the 12 stitch increase: 96 (108).
- Begin Heart Pattern as written below.

Heart Pattern:
Row 1- *yo, k2tog, k3, yo, kl, yo, k3, ssk, yo, kl; repeat from * to end of row. 112 (126) sts
Row 2- and all even numbered rows- Knit.
Row 3- *kl, yo, k4tog, yo, k3, yo, sk4p, yo, k2; repeat from * to end of row. 96 (108)
Row 5- *kl, k2tog, yo, k5, yo, ssk, k2; repeat from * to end of row.
Row 7- *k2tog, yo, k7, yo, ssk, kl; repeat from * to end of row.
Row 9- remove stitch marker, sl 1st stitch and put marker onto the right needle after it, this is the new start of the round; *yo, k9, yo, sk2p; repeat from * to end of row.
Row 10- Knit.

* Knit Rows 1-10 three times and then Rows 1-4 once more. On final repeat of Row 4, knit row onto US size 5-16” circular needle.

Crown Decreases:
*Switch to US 5 double point needles when decreasing is no longer possible on the 16” needle.
Row 1- *K2tog, knit 8, ssk; repeat from * to end of row. 80 (90) sts left on needle.
Row 2 and all even rows- knit
Row 3- *k2tog, knit 6, ssk; repeat from * to end of row. 64 (72) sts left on needle.
Row 5- *k2tog, knit 4, ssk; repeat from * to end of row. 48 (54) sts left on needle.
Row 7- *k2tog, knit 2, ssk; repeat from * to end of row. 32 (36)sts left on needle.
Row 9- *k2tog, ssk; repeat from * to end of row. 16 (18) sts left on needle.
Row 10- *k2tog; repeat from * all the way to end of row. 8 (9) sts left on needle.

Finishing:
-Cut yarn leaving an 8”-10” tail. Thread end onto your darning needle and run thread through the remaining stitches on the needles, pulling the needles out as you go.
-Weave in all ends.
-Soak in warm water for 10-20 minutes and block over an 11” round dinner plate.
Terms/Abbreviations:
k- knit
p- purl
klfb- knit into the front and back of the stitch (increase)
yo- yarn over
k2tog- knit 2 together
ssk- slip 1st stitch knitwise and the 2nd stitch purlwise, then insert the left needle into the front of both stitches and knit the two together.
sk2p- slip next stitch, knit the next two stitches together, pass the slipped stitch over. (Decrease 2 stitches.)
k4tog- knit the next 4 stitches together.
sk4p- slip next four stitches knitwise one at a time, insert left needle into the fronts of the stitches and knit them all together. (Decrease 3 stitches)