

The Yarn Barn



These wonderful, fast to make, yet oh so useful little items, do much to give our soldiers comfort. The wool helps keep them warm and dry as well as helps to keep the sand out of their noses and mouths. The Local Yarn Shop goal is to collect 30,000 liners. Please join us in our cause! I will attempt to see that these are delivered to locally deployed troops.

Knit a Helmet Liner

We are knitting helmet liners out of **100% wool** for our servicemen deploying to Afghanistan and Iraq. These liners are warmer, fit better and are more comfortable to wear than the issued gear. They are also less flammable in case of an incident.

Materials Needed:

100% wool yarn, worsted weight, approx. 175 yards. Accepted colors are tan, brown, olive, gray, black and brown & tan variegated (black or brown are preferred)

Size 8 circular needle, 16 inches long, or size to get gauge

Size 8 double pointed needles (DP), or size to get gauge

Size 6 circular needle, 16 inches long for ribbings

Stitch marker

Gauge: 4.5 stitches/inch in Stockinette Stitch on Size 8- **Gauge is extremely important!!** These liners have to fit under an already tight fitting helmet. Your gauge swatch is extremely important!

BEGIN NECK:

With smaller needle, cast on 84 sts loosely. Place marker. Join in round being careful not to twist and knit in 2 x 2 ribbing for 7”.

CONTINUE ONTO CAP PORTION: (Use DPs when needed)

- With larger circular needle, knit 32 stitches off smaller needle. Leave smaller circular needle in the rest of the stitches to hold their place. You will come back to them

- With Size 8 Cast on 60 additional stitches.

- Place marker to mark beginning of round, join in round, Knit for 4 inches

- Begin decrease rows as follows:

K11, K2tog, repeat to end of round

Knit next row

K10, k2tog, repeat to end of round

Knit next row

- Continue decreases as established until *K2, K2tog* then decrease every row (do not knit the rows inbetween the decrease rows) until 7 stitches remain on the needle.

- Cut yarn 8-9 inches long, feed through the remaining stitches and weave in ends.

Face Ribbing: With the smaller needle still in neck portion, pick up stitches around face. Join in circle and knit in 2 x 2 ribbing for one inch. On last row of ribbing, decrease 4 times by using P2tog at the 10 o'clock, 2 o'clock, 8 o'clock and 4 o'clock positions around the face . Bind off snugly and weave in the tail. The fit around the face is crucial, make sure there are no gaps.

Thanks to Terri at Yarnheaven, Arlington, Tx. for organizing this effort and supply us with a modified better fitting liner.

Please Return Your Helmet Liners to:

Yarn Barn, 5077 Andersonville Rd, Dillwyn, Va. 23936 434-983-1965

www.yarnbarn.com