CABLED HAT WITH LINED BRIM

This is a snug fitting and very warm hat with a double-thickness patterned brim. The size is mediumish (hat sizes 6.5 to 7.25).

Materials:

- 2.5 ounces of handspun 3-ply yarn (this was made of Tunis) at 2000 yds/lb and 27 wpi, wound into one large ball and one small one.
- 2.5 mm needles (single point, double point or circular) for flat knitting.
- 3.0 mm circulars in 16" and 24"
- 3.0 mm short double points

Smooth scrap yarn (I used 8/4 cotton)

Gauge:

About 10 st/inch horizontally and 11.5 st/inch vertically in pattern on the 2.5 mm needles.

Instructions:

Use the smooth yarn for a provisional cast-on, and cast on 36 stitches with the 2.5mm needles. Work the cable pattern according to the chart for 16 repeats (about 22.5"), slipping the first stitch of each row purlwise. Remove the provisional cast-on, and graft the two ends.

Using the 16" 3 mm circular, pick up the slipped edge stitches on one side. Make sure to use the side of the loop closest to the right side of the cable. I got 126 stitches, which I increased to 128 on the first round. Purl one round. Work two rounds of a herringbone ridge, as follows:

P1, P next stitch with the small ball of yarn. Hold the just-worked strand to the *right*, and bring the other strand up from underneath. Repeat across the round. The yarns will tangle extravagantly — don't worry.

On the next round, P1, hold the working yarn to the *left*, and P the next stitch from the other strand. Repeat across the round. The yarns will untangle during this round.

Break off one strand, and P straight across the next round. Transfer the stitches to the 24" 3 mm needle. This will keep them from dropping off the ends as you work the other edge.

Pick up the same number of stitches on the other edge of the band, and work the herringbone stitch the same way. Break off the yarn to the small ball, and P 3 or 4 rounds. This makes a nicely rolled edge. It's also a good idea to weave in the loose ends now. You don't need to be particularly

neat about it — the lining will cover it all. K the succeeding rounds until the lining is as long as the width of the brim and there's enough give for the two sets of stitches to fold together and meet comfortably.

Fold the brim together with the cabled side facing you. Knit a stitch from the front needle together with a stitch from the back needle all the way around. On the next round, start the mini-honeycomb pattern, placing a marker every 16 stitches. Work 4 repeats of the mini-honeycomb (16 rounds). Begin the crown decreases by knitting two together before each marker on each plain K round, while maintaining the honeycomb pattern. When there are 16 stitches left, K2 tog across the round. Break off the yarn and draw through the 8 stitches.

To make a slightly larger hat, use 3.0 mm and 3.5 mm needles. This basic shaping lends itself to many variations. Experiment!





