

Russian Princess in Exile

by Sarah Sutherland

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The Russian émigrés were so influential after they fled the revolution. They brought different perspectives and new fashions west and east and helped people learn to think in a new way. They also knew a thing or two about how to stay warm. This hat would not be for those who brought their fortune with them – leave the fox and mink for them; this is for those who made it out with their lives and had to make a life how they could that meant wearing wool, but wearing it like a princess, which is what I suggest you should do too.

Difficulty

Intermediate

Size

M[L] (shown in size L)

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Finished measurements

Around head: 20[24] inches

Crown to brim: 8[10] inches

Materials

Rowan Big Wool [100% wool; 87yd/80m per 100g skein]; color: Best Brown; 1[2] skeins

1 set US #17/12mm straight needles

Tapestry needle

Gauge

7.5 sts/10 rows = 4" in stockinette stitch

Abbreviations

C8B: put next 4 sts on cable needle and put at back of work, K4, then K4 from cable needle

C8F: put next 4 sts on cable needle and put at front of work, K4, then K4 from cable needle

Pattern

All sizes:

CO50[62], turn.

Row 1: K1, *C8B, K4*, repeat between * 3[4]times, K1.

Row 2 and all wrong side rows: P.

Row 3-5: K.

Row 7: K5, *C8F, K4*, repeat between * 3[4]times, K1.

Size M only:

Row 9 (dec row): K1, * put 4 sts on cable needle and hold to back as if to C8B, k2tog 2 times, k2tog 2 times from cable needle, K4*, repeat between * 3 times, K1 (34 sts).

Rows 9-13: work even.

Row 15 (dec row): K1, *K2, put 4sts on cable needle and put to front of work as if to C8F, k2tog, k2tog 2 times from cable needle*, repeat between * 3 times, K1 (22 sts).

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Row 16 (dec row): P3 together 7 times, P1 (8 sts).

Size L only:

Repeat Rows 1-5.

Row 15 (dec row): K1, *K4, put 4 sts on cable needle and hold to front as if to C8F, k2tog 2 times, k2tog 2 times from cable needle*, repeat between * 4 times, K1 (42 sts).

Rows 17-19: work even.

Row 21 (dec row): K1, *put 4sts on cable needle and put to back of work as if to C8B, k2tog, k2tog 2 times from cable needle, K2*, repeat between * 4 times, K1 (27 sts).

Row 22 (dec row): P3 together 9 times (9 sts).

Finishing

Draw end of yarn through remaining sts, draw tight to close the crown.

Using tapestry needle sew the seam from the brim to the crown with mattress stitch; weave in loose ends.

About the designer

Sarah knits and works on the prairies, and she finds that clothing designed to keep out the wild winds of the steppes also does very well on the North American plains. It also adds a touch of glamour to very cold weather.



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