



Sarah's Fun Fleece Hat¹

1-2 Hours

What will you learn?

How to:

Use a paper pattern

Recognize and use the attributes of a stretch knit fabric to make a hat to wear or give to charity

What will you need?

A sewing machine and basic sewing tools

¼ yard of fleece fabric with the greatest stretch along the cross grain (some fleece fabrics may not have any stretch on the cross grain, avoid using them)

Coordinating all-purpose polyester thread

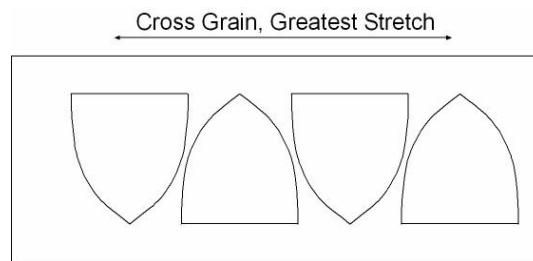
Optional: A button, pom-pom, or decoration of your choice for the top of the hat

¹ Project pattern was created by Sarah Kane. The digital version was developed by Sally Walter.

Seam Allowances: The seam allowance on this pattern is 3/8". Most standard presser feet will make a 3/8" seam allowance. You may use a 1/4" seam allowance for a slightly larger hat. Remember to backstitch at the beginning and ends of your seams!

Directions to make this project:

1. For this project, you don't need to pre-wash the polyester fleece.
2. To find the "right" side of the fleece, stretch the fleece along the cut edge running from selvage to selvage (crosswise grain edge); it will roll to the wrong side.
3. Using the pattern provided, cut 4 of the wedge shaped hat sections. Remember the stretch of the fabric must go around your head for the hat to fit properly. The base of the wedge must be along the grain with the greatest amount of stretch. See pattern layout for best use of fabric.



Pattern Layout

4. Cut a rectangle: 8" x 22" with the stretch of the fleece going the length of the piece. This will be the band for your hat. You may want to exchange band sections with someone whose fabric coordinates with yours so you can have contrasting bands as shown in the picture of the finished hat.
5. Before you start sewing, check to make sure your machine has a universal 90/14 needle inserted. You may also use stretch or ball point needles when sewing on knit fabrics. Sew 2 of the wedge shaped pieces together from tip to base with the right sides of the fabric facing each other. Use the right edge of your presser foot as a seam guide for a seam allowance of 3/8". Make sure to backstitch to secure the ends of your seams. Repeat for the remaining 2 wedge shaped pieces.



6. With right sides together, sew the 2 hat sections together. (Optional decoration: If you would like to have a fabric loop at the top of your hat, you may wish to insert it where the seams meet before you sew the two hat sections together.)



7. Fold the rectangle for the band in half, matching the two 8" sides; sew together with a 3/8 inch seam allowance to make a circle.



8. Fold the band in half lengthwise wrong sides together matching the cut edges. Sew the cut edges together with a scant 1/4 inch seam allowance. Divide the band into quarters and mark with pins along the cut edge.



9. Place the band on the wrong side of the hat, matching the quarter mark pins on the band to seams of the hat. Pin band in place. The band will cover the seam when it is rolled to the right side.



10. Sew the band to the hat with a 3/8 inch seam allowance. When you sew, place the band on top and the hat sections next to the feed dogs. Stretch the band slightly to fit the hat as you sew.



11. Turn the hat right side out and roll up the band approximately 2 ½ inches to the right side of the hat to make a cuff. You are done! 😊



12. You can add a button, a loop, pom-pom, flower, or decoration of your choice to the top of the hat or to the band.

13. You may want to make a hat in your favorite team's colors or your school colors.
14. Plan a community service event to make hats to give to local charities to distribute during the winter.

Notes:

You might like to design your own hat pattern from the instructions and measurements at Martha Stewart's site:
<http://www.marthastewart.com/page.jhtml?type=content&id=channel1403>

Pattern Page

