

Fibres  Exotica

Twist in the tail

By Suzanne Strachan



Difficulty:

Some Thought Required.

Materials:

Yarn A = 100g (1 skein) Fibres Exotica Recycled Sari Silk (100% mulberry Silk ; c.90m per 100g)

Yarn B = 50g (1 skein) Fibres Exotica Kohinoor (100% mulberry Silk ; c.80m per 100g)

1 40cm Circular needle - size 6mm/UK 4/US 10 (or size needed to obtain gauge)

1 set of Double point needles - size 6mm/UK 4/US 10 (or size needed to obtain gauge)

1 set of Double point needles - size 5mm/UK 6/US H-8 (or size needed to obtain gauge)

1 Crochet hook - size 4.50mm/G (or size needed to obtain gauge)

Knitter's needle

Scissors

Gauge:

Kohinoor: 11-12 stitches = 10cm

Recycled Sari Silk: 15 stitches by 20 rows = 10cm square

Sizes:

One Size. (56cm-58cm)

Abbreviations:

Knitting

CO:	Cast on
BO:	Bind off
K:	Knit
P:	Purl
M:	Make 1 stitch (Bar increase)
Sl:	Slip 1 Stitch knitwise to right hand needle.
St(s):	Stitch(es)
K2tog:	Knit two stitches together, decreasing two sts into one.
P2tog:	Purl two stitches together, decreasing two sts into one.
PM:	Place marker
DPN:	Double Pointed Needle

Crochet (UK Terms)

Ch:	Chain
SS:	Slip Stitch
SC:	Single Crochet

Pattern Notes:

Both Kohinoor and Recycled Sari Silk have a tendency to ply up to themselves. If necessary, hold the yarn and let it dangle to take some of the excess spin out whilst knitting. But beware not to let it spin too far especially the Kohinoor yarn.

Provisional Cast on:

Video: http://www.knittinghelp.com/apps/flash/video_player/play/37/1

Printable: <http://www.knitandtonic.typepad.com/LTPCastOn.pdf>

Kitchener Stitch:

Video: http://www.knittinghelp.com/apps/flash/video_player/play/189/1

Printable: <http://www.knitty.com/ISSUESummer04/FEATtheresasum04.html>

Directions:

Brim:

On 6mm needles, CO 20 st with yarn A using provisional cast on - either to waste yarn or a small circular needle.

Row 1: With yarn B, k1, m1, k17, k2tog

Row 2: sl 1, k19

Row 3: sl 1, m1, p17, p2tog

Row 4: sl 1, k19

Row 5: With yarn A, sl1, m1, K17, k2tog

Row 6: sl 1, p19

Repeat rows 1-6 14 more times or when the brim measures the desired measurement

Next row: With yarn B, k1, m1, k17, k2tog

Next row: sl 1, k19

Next row: sl 1, m1, p17, p2tog

Next row: sl 1, k19

Next row: With yarn A, sl1, m1, K17, k2tog

Transfer provisionally cast on sts onto a needle (if cast on to a small circular, slide st so they are live.)

Join both ends using Kitchener grafting technique.

Crown:

With yarn A and 6mm circular needles; at Kitchener join pick up 66 st along inner edges of the brim.

PM to mark start/end of round.

Knit 7 rounds

Start Crown decreases:

Round 8 *k9, k2tog, repeat from * 6 times till end of round stitch marker,

(PM after each K2tog to help in marking where to decrease on alternate rows if required.)

Rounds 9&10: knit

Round 11: *k8, k2tog, repeat from * 6 times till end of round stitch marker

Round 12: knit

Round 13: *k7, k2tog, repeat from * 6 times till end of round stitch marker

Round 14: knit

Round 15: *k6, k2tog, repeat from * 6 times till end of round stitch marker

Round 16: knit

Continue in this manner, reducing the crown by 6 stitches every other round until you have 6 stitches left on the needle.

Switch to 6mm DPNs as the number of stitches in a round gets too small to be easily manoeuvrable with a circular needle.

Twisted tail:

Transfer the last remaining 6 stitches to 5mm double pointed needles and spread the stitches so there are 2 stitches on each needle.

Next round: K1, m1, k1, k2, m1, k2. (Number of stitches at end of the round is = 8: 3 on 1st needle; 3 on the second needle; 2 on the 3rd. Note that these instructions do not state specifically which needle a given stitch is on.)

Next 6 rounds: K

Next 8 rounds: K2tog, k1, k1, m1, k4.

Note that K2tog reduces the stitches on the 1st needle and m1 increases on the second.
At end of round slide a stitch from 2nd needle to first.

Next round: K2tog, k1, k1, m1, k2, k2tog. (Number of stitches = 7)

Next 4 rounds: K2tog, k1,k1,m1,k3

Next round: K2tog, k2tog, m1, k3. (Number of stitches = 6)

Next 3 rounds: K2tog, k1, m1, k3

Next round: K2tog, k1, m1, k2tog, k1. (Number of stitches = 5)

Next round: K2tog, k1, m1, k2tog. (Number of stitches = 4)

Next round: K2tog, K2tog. (Number of stitches = 2)

K2tog, cut yarn and pull end through the loop and weave end.

Stuff the tail with some waste yarn in order to get rigidity

Ring (Optional):

* With yarn B and crochet hook; Make 10 ch, join with ss into a ring.

Check the ring fits snugly around the twisted tail but not too tight.

If it is too tight or loose adjust the ring by reducing or increasing chains

Next round: 1 ch, 18 sc in ring.

Join with ss to first sc

Fasten off

Mount ring on twisted tail and sew to the hat

About the Designer:

Suzanne took up knitting twenty or so years ago but due to family and career commitments she was not able to pay much attention to the craft until a year ago. Since then she has been totally committed to her passion for knitting and using her flair for colours & design and her knowledge of maths and topology she recently started to create her own designs. Her aim is to produce and publish unique designs which are fun to knit and trendy to wear.

You can see her work on Ravelry @ jsandss