Oh Captain, My Captain
all content by Jinger Roy (http://jingersnaps.wordpress.com)

If you are anything like me, you are constantly looking for a way to show everyone at all times how much you love Captain America. And Bucky, a.k.a. the Winter Soldier. *(Spoiler alert? It's been years, people.)*

What better way than to wear Cap's shield on your head to keep you warm in the winter? Or perhaps toss things up with a more subdued and somehow looking like it belongs in a Scott Pilgrim comic book Winter Soldier colorway?

Then the whole world will know that not only are you a big Cap fan, but they will also know that you are a boss at fair-isle colorwork and fiddly five-pointed decreasing.
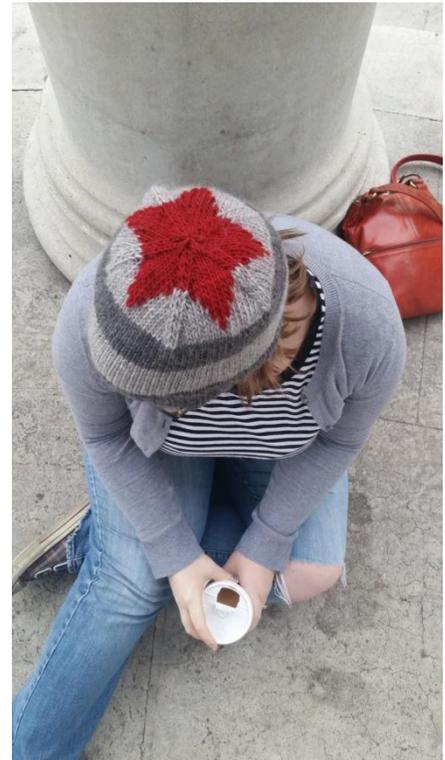
This original design will fit heads up to 22", and changes in size can be made easily by decreasing/increasing the number of stitches cast on in multiples of five.

Yarn:
Captain America Colorway:
> Brown Sheep Lamb's Pride Worsted (85% wool, 15% mohair blend, 190 yds. per skein), 1 skein each of M-145 Spice (Color A) and M-79 Blue Boy (Color C)
> Brown Sheep Nature Spun Worsted (100% wool), 1 skein 740W Snow (Color B)

Winter Soldier Colorway:
>   Brown Sheep Lamb's Pride Worsted (85% wool, 15% mohair blend, 190 yds. per skein), 1 skein each of M-04 Charcoal Heather (Color A), M-03 Grey Heather (Color B) and M-145 Spice (Color C)

[Note! There is a big difference in the order of color sequences between the 2 colorways. The Captain America colorway is the first one presented, the Winter Soldier alternate colorway is in brackets [ ] as the second choice. You'll see what I mean when you get there.]

Supplies:
US size 8 (5.0mm) 16-inch circular needle
US size 8 double-pointed needles
stitch markers
tapestry or yarn needle
scissors

Gauge:
5 sts per inch on US 8 (5.0mm) needles

Abbreviations & Definitions:
ssk: Slip the next 2 sts as if to knit. Insert the LH back into the front of these two sts and knit them together to dec 1 st.
k2tog: Insert the RH hand needle through the front of the next 2 sts as if to knit and knit the 2 sts together to dec 1 st.
sk2p2: Slip the next 2 sts as if to knit 2 together, k the next st, insert the LH needle into the 2 slipped sts from the front and pull them over the knitted st and off the needle to dec 2 sts.

Pattern:
CO 95 sts with Color A on circular needle. Join into round, being careful not to twist.

K3, p2 until end of round. Repeat round for 2" (approximately 12 rounds).

Break yarn. Join Color B and knit in st st for another 2".

Break yarn. Join Color A and knit in st st for 1 1/4" (approximately 8 rounds).

Break yarn. Join Color C [B] and knit in st st for 2 rows. *[If you are knitting the Winter Soldier colorway, these 2 rounds should be in color B. Get it? Good.]*

Star Crown:
Divide your sts into 5 groups of 19 sts, using your stitch markers. This section is knit in fair-isle style, "floating" the accent color on the back side of the work. (Want an awesome fair-isle tutorial? Look here: http://www.dummies.com/how-to/content/knitting-stranded-colorwork-explained.html) My favorite way to keep my floats loose so that there's no puckering? Flip the hat inside-out

on the circulars and let the floats space themselves out over the outside of the knitting. Super easy! *(See, like the picture above! Just don't pay too much attention to the shape of the star in that picture, because it's from a previous version where the star looked way too much like a flower.)*

Round 1: *ssk and k7 in Color C [B], join Color B [C] and k1, switch back to Color C [B] then k7 and k2tog, sl m* until end of round. *[Again, if you are knitting the Winter Soldier colorway, your first color will be Color A, and accent color will be color C throughout this entire section, but you figured that out already.]* (10 sts decreased, 85 sts remain.)

Round 2: *k8 in Color C [B], k1 in Color B [C], k8 in Color C [B], sl m* until end of round.

Round 3: *ssk and k5 in Color C [B], k3 in Color B [C], k5 and k2tog in Color C [B], sl m* until end of round. (10 sts decreased, 75 sts remain.)

Round 4: *k6 in Color C [B], k3 in Color B [C], k6 in Color C [B], sl m* until end of round.

Round 5: *ssk and k3 in Color C [B], k5 in Color B [C], k3 and k2tog in Color C [B], sl m* until end of round. (10 sts decreased, 65 sts remain.)

Round 6: *k4 in Color C [B], k5 in Color B [C], k4 in Color C [B], sl m* until end of round.

Round 7: *ssk and k1 in Color C [B], k7 in Color B [C], k1 and k2tog in Color C [B], sl m* until end of round. (10 sts decreased, 55 sts remain.)

Round 8: *k2 in Color C [B], k7 in Color B [C], k2 in Color C [B], sl m* until end of round.

Round 9: Break Color C [B]. Now you're only working with Color B [C], your accent color. *ssk, k7, k2tog, sl m* until end of round. This is also a good round to transfer to double-pointed needles because it starts getting small and fiddly. (10 sts decreased, 45 sts remain.)

Round 10: Knit all sts.

Round 11: *ssk, k5, k2tog, sl m* until end of round. (10 sts decreased, 35 sts remain.)

Round 12: Knit all sts.

Round 13: *ssk, k3, k2tog, sl m* until end of round. (10 sts decreased, 25 sts remain.)

Round 14: Knit all sts.

Round 15: *ssk, k1, k2tog, sl m* until end of round. (10 sts decreased, 15 sts remain.)

Round 16: Knit all sts.

Round 17: *s2kp2, sl m* until end of round. (10 sts decreased, 5 sts remain.)

Break yarn, thread tail through yarn needle and pull through the remaining 5 sts on the needles, pull snugly, and secure to the inside of the hat.

Weave in all ends, being sure to keep the colors in their respective places, otherwise they'll show through when you put the hat on.

Wash and wet-block your awesome fandom hat, being sure to add some vinegar to the water to prevent excessive color bleeding from those red/white stripes. There's an excellent instruction on how to do this on the Lamb's Pride label, so be sure to check it out.

Now, find out where the nearest Comic Con is and show your nerd cred with pride. Or maybe just rock the more subtle Winter Soldier colorway in public and be secure in the fact that the people who need to know, will definitely know.

They'll know you're awesome.