

The Knights Who Say “Knit!”

pattern by Devon Monk



Pattern Details

Yarn:

Worsted acrylic so it can wash. I used Red Heart “with love” in pewter

Sock weight yarn – silver sparkly string (I’ve long ago lost the label on this one)

Needles:

US #8 (5mm) cable needles – US #8 dpns

US #8 straight (optional, the cable needles can be used instead)

Additional Materials:

Tapestry needle

Crochet hook (optional)

Notes:

I knit tight, so the worsted and the sock weight yarn together made a stiff fabric. But that’s good! A helm should be sturdy. If you’re a loose knitter, you might want to go down a needle size. I knit this for a 23” head, but it fits a 21” nicely too.

Since I gave the helm away and didn’t write the pattern down as I went, I’m going to give you the **basic guidelines** for making this helmet. When I knit additional helms, I’ll make a *real* pattern.

Basic Guidelines

Hat:

I started with the hat, and any beanie pattern would do. So if you have a favorite, use it–however, I suggest no ribbing since helms are meant to be smooth. I decided I liked the decreases in the Turn A Square pattern by Jared Flood (free on Ravelry [here](#)) so that’s the hat I used, EXCEPT I modified it a bit:

Modifications: cast on 84 stitches. Didn’t bother to do the tubular cast on (used a long tail cast on) and purled the first 4-5 rows. I thought I’d leave that purled edge, but in the end, I rolled the purled edge up and it created such a nice border around the brim I left it up.

Neck Piece:

To make the piece at the back of the hat that covers the neck, I put on the hat and marked the points above my ears. In retrospect, I might have come a little forward and marked points at my temples. Where ever you choose to mark, you will now pick up stitches (here’s where the crochet hook can come in handy) from one mark, all the way around the back to the other mark.

If you made the rolled up purl edge (like mine) pick up the stitches about 4 rows down from the top of the rolled edge, while the edge is rolled up.

Knit this flat in **stockinette** stitch, slipping the last stitch at the end of each row to give it a nice clean edge, until the piece that covers the neck measures 3-4 inches down from the edge of the hat. If you have the recipient handy, try it on them at this point. You want the neck piece to NOT touch the shoulders. Bind off. My edge seemed to roll a bit, so once again, I just rolled it up about 2-3 rows, and did a quick basting stitch with the tapestry needle and gray yarn to hold it there. And happy accident—it made the bottom edge match the brim.

Visor:

When I make more of these helms, I'll note the real steps to making the visor. I did not make button holes, but you could. The basic guidelines are:

Cast on 6 stitches and knit flat in garter stitch, slipping the last stitch of each row (with yarn in front) to give it a nice clean edge on both sides. You'll want to attach the visor right where the hat and the neck piece join over the ear (or temple). For this hat, I knit those 6 stitches in garter stitch (slipping last stitch of each row) for about 2.5 inches, then did an increase row: knit 1, KFB (knit front and back), knit until last two stitches, KFB, slip stitch.

Knit 3 rows, work increase row, knit 3 rows, work increase row. Somewhere along the way, I increased 4 for the row instead of just two, knit 3 rows, worked increase (adding 4 instead of 2 stitches) and then knit for several rows. The idea is that you're adding stitches at the ends of the rows to create the diamond that fits over the mouth and chin.

Once I was near the nose, I did the final increase of 8 stitches in the row (4 at the start, 4 at the end) and knit 4-5 rows. The piece should reach the center of the nose. I marked that as my center point, and basically knit and reduced to create the opposite side of the visor (you'll ssk at the start of rows, and k2 at the ends of the rows to get the shaping correct.) I folded the piece in half to check my progress and to try to create an even second half. You will end with 6 stitches, knit 2.5 inches, and cast off.



Crest or Comb:

Cast on 10 stitches, knit flat in garter stitch slipping the last stitch of each row to make a nice clean edge. Knit until piece measures 6 or 7 inches. Bind off.

Bringing It All Together:

Hat: I ran a basting stitch with tapestry needle and gray yarn (or just a quick stitch here and there) under the rolled up edge of the purl stitch to keep it in place.

Fit the visor by choosing a button with a looped backing. I pressed the looped back of the button through the end of the visor and sewed the button in place right where the hat and neck covering met, making sure the visor could slide up and rest on the hat, and slide down and rest over the nose. Repeat on the other side of the visor.

As mentioned above, I also rolled up the bottom edge of the neck piece and ran a basting stitch with tapestry needle and gray yarn to keep it rolled up in place. I only rolled up about 2-3 rows, so it's a very thin "hem".

Pin the crest/comb in place in the center of the head, down to the neck. Stitch it in place (standing up) by sewing the bottom edge firmly with tapestry needle and gray yarn to the hat.

Tie off & weave in all tails of the yarn, and you, my friend are now ready to defend the kingdom! (and to bring me a shrubbery.)

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