

Checked Knit-Weave Beret

Find complete Knit-Weave instructions in the

Knitter's Weaving Book



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This project will be in the forthcoming book --
Knitters' Weaving Projects

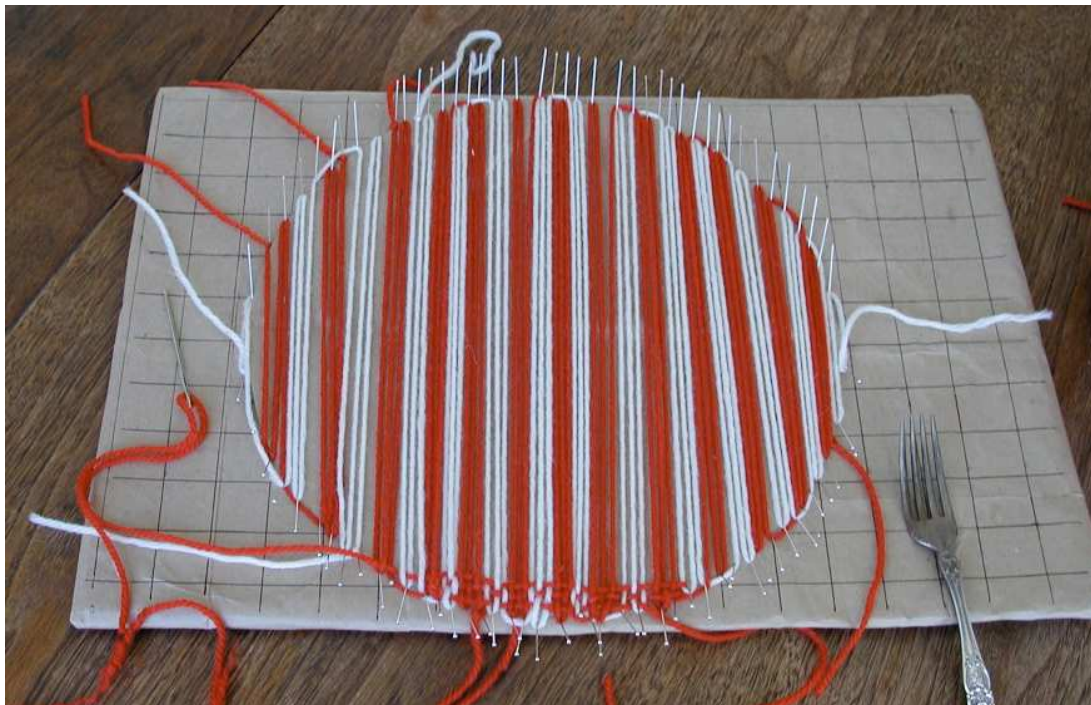


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Open a kraft paper bag and smooth out a section that is at least 13" square. Draw a circle with a 11.5" diameter. Cut out the circle for your beret weaving pattern. Put it on your loom-board and hold it in place with a few straight pins until it is warped.

Warp the circle pattern on your loom-board. (See warping in the *Knitter's Weaving Book* page 11.) For this project warp the pattern for a check weave. (See "Checks" on page 20 in the *KWB*.) Begin weaving in the check weave pattern.

(You can use a plain tabby weave or any other pattern you prefer for weaving your own beret design.)



When your beret circle is woven, take out the pins. Remove the woven circle from your loom-board and darn in the yarn tails from the wefts and warps into the wrong side of your new fabric. (See page 19 in the *Knitter's Weaving Book*.)



After darning in the tails, it is time to begin the knitting part of the project. I used a 29" size 8/5mm circular needle to pick up the loops around my checked fabric circle.

Knit around the circle twice and count the stitches on your needle. I had 90 stitches on mine. You might have a different number.

For decreasing you will want **six** places to decrease. I divided my 90 stitches by six (6) and came up with 15. I marked those places with contrasting yarn loops. (You can use a yarn marker or whatever you prefer.)

I knitted and decreased after every 15 stitches. Knit 15 then K2 together for two rounds. This brought me down to 78 stitches on my needle. You could have a different number.



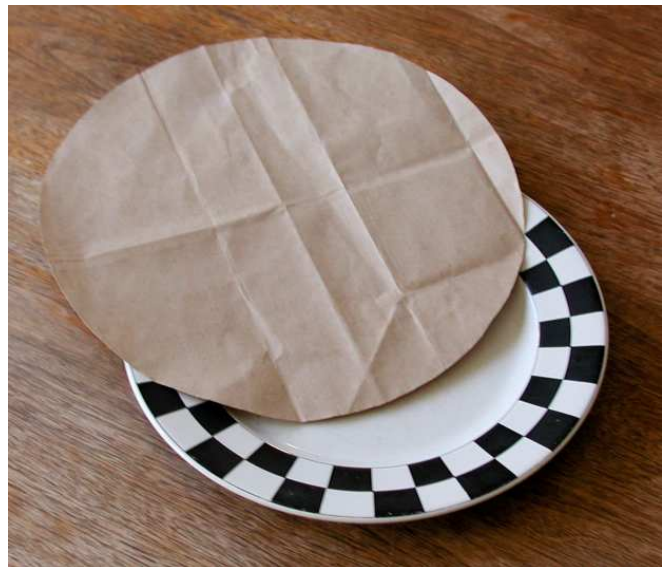
Plain knit the next eight rounds. Begin ribbing on round 9 for the next 10 rounds. Bind off.



BLOCKING

To block the beret, find a large dinner plate (approximately the same size as the kraft paper pattern you used for weaving). Thanks to Elizabeth Zimmerman for this tip in her book, *Knitting Without Tears*.

Dampen the top of the beret in lukewarm water. Squeeze most of the water out (do not wring), roll the beret in a terry towel to absorb more moisture, and then stretch it over the plate.



Don't stretch the knitted ribbing. Let the beret dry away from heat or sunlight for 24 hours.



You can make a knitted/woven beret in any weaving pattern. Plain tabby or stripes (page 17 *KWB*) would probably be the easiest. See "Weaves" on pages 20 through 23 in the *Knitter's Weaving Book*. "Free Weaving" will give you a unique beret that no one will ever mistake for store-bought.

