## **Encore Mega Colorspun Earflap Hat**



SIZE: Adult

**MATERIALS:** 1- 100g ball of Encore Mega- shown in color 7158; 16" circular needle size US 15, set of double pointed needles size US 11 or 13, and 1 stitch marker.

**GAUGE:** 2 sts = 1" over st st.

## HAT Earflaps

**Note:** Earflaps are worked back and forth in rows on circular needle as if working on straight needles.

With circular needle, cast on 3 sts.

**Rows 1, 3 and 5, 7 & 9 (WS):** K1, purl to last st, k1.

Row 2: Kf&b, kf&b, k1-5 sts at end of row.

Row 4: Kf&b, knit to last 2 sts, kf&b, k1-7 sts at end of row.

**Row 6:** Kf&b, knit to last 2 sts, kf&b, k1-9 sts at end of row.

**Row 8:** Kf&b, knit to last 2 sts, kf&b, k1- 11 sts at end of row.

**Row 9:** K1, purl to last st, k1.

Slip sts to a holder.

Repeat to make second earflap, but do not slip sts to a holder.

**Next Row (RS):** Cast on 7 sts for back of hat, knit across these 7 sts, then knit across sts of second earflap, cast on 11 sts for front of hat, knit across 11 sts from holder (first earflap) - 40 sts at end of row. Being careful not to twist sts, join, to beginning, working in the round.

Place marker for beginning of round.

Work in St st worked in the round (knit every round) until piece measures 6" above earflaps, ending at the marker.

Begin decreasing on the next round as follows, changing to double pointed needles when needed:

Round 1: \* (Knit 6, k2tog): repeat from \* around.

Round 2: \* (Knit 5, k2tog); repeat from \* around.

Round 3: \* (Knit 4, k2tog); repeat from \* around.

Round 4: \* (Knit 3, k2tog); repeat from \* around.

Round 5: \* (Knit 2, k2tog); repeat from \* around.

Round 6: \* (Knit 1, k2tog); repeat from \* around.

Round 7: \* (K2tog); repeat from \* around.

Cut the yarn leaving a 12" tail, thread it through the remaining stitches, draw up tightly and secure. Weave in the ends.

## **Braid**

Cut 3 strands of yarn each 20" long. Hold strands together and fold in half. Use a crochet hook to draw fold through lower edge of earflap to make a loop. Pull ends through loop and tighten. Divide strands into 3 groups of 2 strands each and braid. Knot ends. Trim ends.

In same way, make a braid on second earflap.

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