

# **Berries and Buds Beret**

di Alice Twain

This fall-like beret uses the lovely pure cotton Circe or the recycled wool Amore to maximum effect. The tightly plied texture and vivid colors of the yarn create an unusually elastic fabric with a unique softness and elasticity which enhances to the maximum ribbing, cables, bobbles and leaves. The result is a romantic and fresh design that, if knitted in Circe, will add that light touch of protection in cool but not yet cold weather, if knitted in Amore is perfect for the winter cold.

The hat is a slouched beret that will fit an average woman's head. For a smaller size to fit a child, skip rounds 4-6 in the second repetition of the bobble section (there will be only 3 bobbles) this will make the hat both smaller and shorter. You may also skip a few plain rounds before you work the border. For a longer, wider hat, add 2-3 extra plain rounds.





# **Materials & measures**

#### Yarns

- Borgo de' Pazzi Amore 115, 70% recycled wool, 25% polyammide, 5% others, 50 g = 115 m (1,75 oz = 125 yds), 2 balls.
- Borgo de' Pazzi Circe, 100% cotton, 100 g = 175 m (3,5 oz = 191 yds), 1 hank.

### Tools

- Size 4,5 mm (US 6) circular needle, 40 cm (16") long, or the size to obtain gauge.
- One set of 4 DPNs in the same size (or a long circular for magic loop).
- One set of size 3,75 mm (US 3) 4 DPNs (or a long circular for magic loop).
- A small cable needle.
- Scissors and tapestry needle.

*Tension:* 1 Berries and Buds motif is 4,8 mm wide (1" 7/8), 18 sts in 10 cm (4") in rev st st in the round.

*Measures and sizes:* crown circumference: 48 cm (18" <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>); border circumference: 44 cm (17" <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>); total height: 25 cm (9" <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>); border: 2 cm (<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>").

### **Special Techniques**

*l-cord:* a thin cord worked on 2 DPNs over 3 sts: \*k3 with the yarn coming from the st further away from the needle tip, making sure to knit tightly the 2nd st on the needle, do not turn, slide sts to the opposite end of the needle, repeat from \*.

*Mb (bobble):* the bobbles in this hat are worked by sharply increasing 3 sts in the same stitch, then working them in I-cord





for 3 rounds. Work bobble as follows: \*k1, yo, k1\* in the same stitch, \*return sts to the LH needle, k3\* 3 times, return sts to the LH needle, k3tog.

*M1:* increase 1 st by placing a firm backwards loop on RH needle; on the foll rd purl this st as usual.

*Kf&b (bar increase):* knit the same stitch twice: knit the stitch once, do not drop from LH needle, knit again tbl and drop the stitch from LH needle; 1 st increased.

*Elizabeth Zimmermann's sewn bind off:* cut the yarn leaving a tail that is at least 3 times longer than the circumference of the hat plus 20 cm (that would be about 140 cm) and thread it on a needle; insert the needle purlwise in the first two stitches on the LH needle, pull the yarn through, insert the needle knitwise in the first stitch, pull through and drop this stitch off the needle; continue until you run out of stitches and close off (https://youtu.be/DM40GtSq6aU).

### Instructions

C.o. 3 sts on the DPN needle, k3. Do not turn.

Work I-cord for 3 roundlets.

### Crown setup section

**Rd1:** Kf&b the 3 existing sts and distribute the resulting 6 sts on 3 dpns (2 sts on each n).





Rd2: Kf&b on all sts (12 sts).

- Rd3: K all sts.
- **Rd4:** \*m1, k1\* around (24 sts); on N1 only, PM after the 1st increase to mark the start of the round; on all foll rds, SM as you come to it.

**Rds5&6:** \*P1, k1\* around.

Crown increase section

**Rd1:** \*P1, m1, k1\* around (36 sts).

**Rds2&3:** \*P2, k1\* around.

- **Rd4:** \*P to next k st, m1, k1\* around (48 sts).
- **Rds5&6:** \*P to next k st, k1\* around.

Repeat rds 4-6 once again: you will have 60 sts tot, 20 on each n; there will be 4 purls between the knitted ribs.

#### Bobbles section

- **Rd1:** \*P to next k st, m1, k1\* around.
- **Rd1:** \*P to 2 sts bef next k st, MB, p1, k1, P to next k st, k1\* for 6 times.
- **Rd3:** \*P to next k st,  $k1^*$  around.
- **Rd4:** As rd1.
- **Rd5:** \*P to next k st, k1, p to 2 sts bef next
- k st, MB, p1, k1\* for 6 times.
- **Rd6:** As rd3.

Rep the above 6 rds once more. You will have a total of 108 sts.

Transfer the knitting to the circular needle, moving the stitch marker so that it sits between the first and the last stitch of the round.



Body of the hat

Continue working according to the charts. The Bud chart describes how to knit the leaves, which will have to be positioned corresponding to the blackened squares in the Berries and Buds chart. Work the Berries and Buds chart twice, then work all sts as they appear for 4 rds.

If you prefer working from *written instructions*, work the following 16 rounds twice, then work rd 16 only for 4 more times.

**Rd 1:** p7, C2b. **Rd 2:** p7, k2. **Rd 3:** p6, T2b, k1.



Rd 4: p6, k1, p1, k1. Rd 5: p5, T2b, p1, k1. Rd 6: p5, k1, p2, k1. Rd 7: p4, T2b, p2, k1. Rd 8: p4, k1, p1, mb, p1, k1. Rd 9: p4, k1, \*yo, k1\* twice, p3, k1. Rd 10-12: p4, k5, p3, k1. Rd 13: p4, k2tog, k1, ssk, p3, k1. Rd 14: p4, k3, p3, k1. Rd 15: p4, cdd, p3, k1.

**Rd 16:** p8, k1.

#### Border

Change to the smaller DPNs: use either 4 or 5 needles to work the lower border, distribute the stitches on the DPNs as you knit this section, moving the marker so that it sits between the first 2 sts of n1 to mark the start of the round.

Rd1 (decrease rd): (\*p2tog, p1\* twice, p2tog, k1) around (72 sts).
Rd2: k around.
Rd3: \*p5, k1\* around.

Work rds 2 and 3 for 5 times.

B.o. very loosely all sts using Elizabeth Zimmermann's sewn bind off (see Special Techniques).

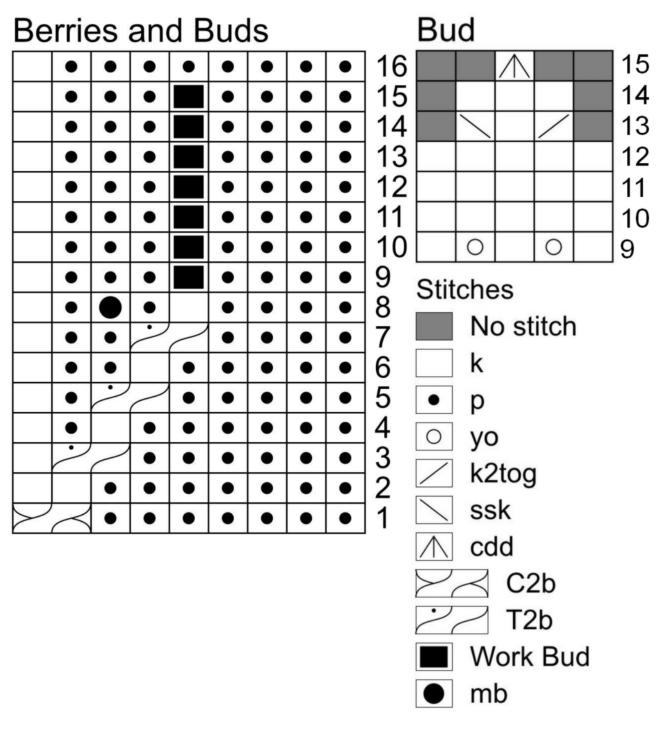
### Finishing

Wash the hat in tepid water with a little delicate detergent. Rinse and drain off the excess water. Roll in a clean towel and press to remove as much water as possible.

If you want the hat to have a beret shape, place a large dish or a lid into the hat and let dry. If you prefer it to be a shapeless slouch, just dry flat turning in order to prevent creases.

Weave the yarn tails into the back and





## Glossary

C.o.: cast on.

**C2b:** slip 1 stitch (a purl) to cable needle and hold in back, k1, k1 from cable needle (the purl stitch will become a knit).

**Cdd (centered double decrease):** Slip 2 stitches together knitwise, knit 1, then pass slipped stitches over.

K: knit.

K2tog: knit 2 sts together.

K3tog: knit 3 sts together.

**Kf&b:** bar increase (see Special Techniques).

LH: left hand.

**Mb (bobble):** see Special Techniques. **N:** needle/s.

**No stitch:** this stitch is to be ignored. **P:** purl.

**P2tog:** purl 2 sts together.

**Rd/s:** round/s.

**RH:** right hand.

- **RS:** right side of the work, the part that will face outside when the hat is worn.
- **Ssk (slip, slip, knit):** slip 1 knitwise, slip 1 st knitwise again, insert the LH needle in the front of the 2 sts on the RH needle and k them together from this position. **St/s:** stitch/s.
- **T2b:** slip 1 stitch to cable needle and hold in back, k1, p1 from cable needle.
- **Tbl:** through back loop, insert the RH needle in the back part of the stitch to be knitted.

Work Bud: work according the Bud chart.

WS: wrong side of the work, the part that will face inside when the hat is worn.Yo: yarn over.



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