



National Museum of the Marine Corps Presents:

HELMET LINERS

Knitting Instructions

“Knitting for Marines” is an ongoing effort to make and distribute helmet liners to Marines who are deployed to Afghanistan and other locations where a little extra warmth is a much welcomed addition to their gear. Knitters across the country are participating in small groups and individually. *You can, too!*



Materials

Any soft worsted (100 grams/3.5 ounces) wool yarn that will knit to gauge, such as Cascade 220 or equivalent. (The label should state that for size 7 needle, 5 stitches per inch, and for size 8 needle, 4-1/2 stitches per inch. Approx. 200 yds.)

Only 100% soft wool yarn will be accepted. Wool is inherently non-flammable and won't melt against the skin in the event of an accident and is warm even when wet.

ONLY tan, brown, black, charcoal, or combinations of these colors are allowed by our Armed Forces. **Marines strongly prefer darker shades of tan, such as khaki.**

Size 8-16" circular needle and double-pointed needles, or size to get gauge.
Size 6-16" circular needles for ribbing 1 stitch marker.

Gauge

4.5 stitches per inch in stockinette stitch with the large needles.

Be sure to check your gauge to ensure the helmet liner will fit properly when worn. Even being off ½ stitch per inch will make the helmet liner useless, as it will not fit properly. Helmet liners that do not fit cannot be sent to our troops. You may need to use a different needle size to get the gauge listed above. If this is the case, use a needle 2 sizes smaller for the ribbing. Please remember that every knitter is different and every yarn is different... Check gauge with **your yarn** and **your needles** before you begin to ensure a properly fitting liner.

Abbreviations

dpn - double-pointed needles
k2tog - knit 2 stitches together
p2tog - purl 2 stitches together

Please ship completed helmet liners to:
National Museum of the Marine Corps
Attn: Ben Kristy
2014 Anderson Ave.
Quantico, VA 22134

Additional copies of the pattern are available at the
Museum's website: [www.usmcmuseum.org/](http://www.usmcmuseum.org/supportmarines.asp)
supportmarines.asp

Directions:

Neck Ribbing:

With smaller circular needle, cast on 84 stitches loosely. Place marker. Join in round and work in knit 2, purl 2 ribbing for 6 in.

Cap:

With larger circular needle, knit 32 stitches off smaller needle onto the larger needle. Leave smaller circular needle in the rest of the stitches. The smaller circular needle will act as a stitch holder while you complete the cap portion with the larger needles.

Cast on 59 additional stitches, place marker to mark beginning of round, join in round, knit even for 4". ("Knit even" means knit every stitch.)

Begin decreases for the crown as follows (change to dpn when necessary):

Rnd 1: *K 11, k2tog, repeat from * to end of round.

Even rnds 2 – 18: Knit even.

Rnd 3: *K 10, K2tog, repeat from * to end of round.

Rnd 5: *K 9, K2tog, repeat from * to end of round.

Rnd 7: *K 8, K2tog, repeat from * to end of round.

Rnd 9: *K 7, K2tog, repeat from * to end of round.

Rnd 11: *K 6, K2tog, repeat from * to end of round.

Rnd 13: *K 5, K2tog, repeat from * to end of round.

Rnd 15: *K 4, K2tog, repeat from * to end of round.

Rnd 17: *K 3, K2tog, repeat from * to end of round.

Rnd 19: *K 2, K2tog, repeat from * to end of round.

Rnd 20: *K 1, K2tog, repeat from * to end of round.

Rnd 21: K2tog around.



A total of 7 stitches remains on the dpn. Cut yarn 8-9" long, run tail through remaining stitches and weave in.

Face Ribbing:

With the smaller circular needle that is still in neck portion, pick up and knit 60 stitches from the cast on edge of the cap portion.

Join in circle and work k2, p2 ribbing for 1 inch.

On the next row: *k2, p2tog, repeat from * to end of round.

Bind off loosely in pattern. Weave in ends.