



mbm hat cowl knit pattern Firefly Edition • 2026 Update

✨ One skein • One needle • Wear it as a hat or a cowl

A refreshed version of my original 2017 Hat Cowl, knit in King Cole Firefly Aran.



Firefly Edition Details

Yarn

1 skein King Cole Firefly Aran
Color: Dragonfly
100g • 219 yards

Needles

US 8 (5mm) 16" circular needle

Gauge

20 sts x 24 rows = 4" (10 cm)



optional finishing update

Instead of weaving strands of yarn through the eyelets, make **two 20" i-cords** and thread them through single-hole cord stops for an updated cinch closure.

Everything else in this pattern remains the same.

The Hat Cowl is a versatile piece that can be worn as either a hat or a cowl and continues to be one of my favorite quick, giftable projects.

Originally published in 2017. Updated with the Firefly Edition in June 2026.

The Yarny Way

HAT COWL KNIT PATTERN

Skill Level: Adventurous Beginner to Intermediate.

A versatile piece that can be worn as either a hat or a cowl. For all genders.

A fun project for knitters who want to practice knitting in the round, creating decorative eyelets, and adding an optional i-cord finish. The Hat Cowl is a quick knit that transforms from a cozy cowl into a hat with a simple cinch closure.



materials & pattern info

Yarn

- 1 skein of King Cole Firefly Aran
- Color shown: Dragonfly
- Fiber: 65% Polyester / 35% Acrylic
- Approx. Yardage: 219 yards (200 m)
- Weight: 100 g (3.5 oz)

The subtle color shifts and soft sheen of Firefly create a beautiful fabric and make this Hat Cowl an easy one-skein project.

Needles & Notions

- US Size 8 (5 mm) 16" circular needle
- 2 single-hole plastic cord stops
- Optional: i-cord maker or double-pointed needle for making two 20" i-cords

Gauge

20 sts x 24 rounds = 4" (10 cm) in stockinette stitch using US Size 8 (5 mm) 16" circular needle

Measurements

One size fits most adults.
Finished piece measures approximately 9" wide by 9-10" high when laid flat.

Abbreviations

K: Knit

sts: stitches

TP: Twisted Purl (With yarn in front, insert the right needle through the back loop of the next stitch on the left needle and complete the stitch as a purl.)

CO: Cast on stitches in the middle of a round.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8s7G1K8d_KE

sl2-k1-p2sso: Slip 2 stitches, knit 1 stitch, then pass the 2 slipped stitches over the knitted stitch.

directions

Using a US Size 8 (5 mm) 16" circular needle or a set of US Size 8 (5 mm) double pointed needles (8" DPNs preferred), cast on 84 sts (a multiple of 7).

Join in the round, being careful not to twist. If using double pointed needles, distribute 21 stitches onto each of four needles.

Rounds 1 & 2:

*TP1, K6, TP1, K6, TP1, K6; repeat from * around.

Round 3:

*TP1, K2, sl2-k1-p2sso, K1; repeat from * around.

Round 4:

*TP1, K2, CO 2 sts, K2; repeat from * around. (84 sts)

Rounds 5 & 6:

*TP1, K6, TP1, K6, TP1, K6; repeat from * around.

Continue knitting every round until the piece measures approximately 9" from the cast-on edge, or to your desired height.

Last 6 Rounds:

*TP1, K6, TP1, K6, TP1, K6; repeat from * around.

Cast off loosely, knitting the knit stitches and purling the TP1 stitches as established. Weave in ends.

Finishing

For the original version, thread yarn strands through the eyelets as described on the Drawstring page.

For the *Firefly Edition*, make two 20" i-cords and thread them through single-hole cord stops to create a polished cinch closure.

drawstring

Watch my video tutorial here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LSxyGIMPs_8

1. Cut 4 strands of yarn 40" long each.
2. Thread all 4 strands through a large needle.
3. Thread the needle through the Cord Stop. (You must push the button on the Cord Stop to open the hole.)
4. Tie a double knot at the end so that the yarn won't slip through the Cord Stop.
5. Take the needle off the 4 strands. Divide the strands into two groups. Thread 2 strands through the needle.
6. Weave in and out of the first 6 holes.
7. Do the same with the other 2 strands, threading them through the remaining 6 holes.
8. Now thread all 4 strands together and pull them through the second Cord Stop.
9. Stretch the cowl and make sure there is enough give to pull it comfortably over your head.
10. Make a double knot just after the second Cord Stop.
11. Try it on and make any adjustments. Trim the ends to about 1 inch in length.

Optional Firefly Finish: Replace the yarn drawstrings with two 20" i-cords threaded through the cord stops for a polished, reusable closure. If you've never made an i-cord before, don't worry—it's easy to learn! Follow this tutorial for step-by-step instructions:
<https://nimble-needles.com/stitches/how-to-knit-an-i-cord-for-beginners/>

