

## March Madness: Sweet Sixteen

### March Madness

For the month of March (and into April), we'll be hosting a Knit-A-Long very similar to our '12 Knits of Christmas'--March Madness.

Between restlessness, winter doldrums and overall cabin fever, things can get stale pretty quickly--why not spice up your knitting life?

Every Thursday afternoon, you'll receive an email newsletter that will include a link to **a free pattern** or one we've written expressly for this purpose. These projects are meant to be fairly straightforward; you need to be able to knit during those Cinderella moments! The yarns used to complete the project will be

Hello knitters!

Are you stitching away to the excitement (and the squeaks and buzzers and whistles!) of the tournament? I know I'll be up late watching the MSU/Kansas game tonight--and this project will be the perfect knitting companion. Simple, straightforward and fast.

And if basketball is furthest thing from your mind, well, this little hat would be fun to knit during Thursday night TV, too!



### Baby Curlique Hat

**Finished Size:** 6-9 months

**Yarn:** Debbie Bliss Rialto DK (100% Extrafine Merino; 116 yd [105 m]/50g)

**Needles:** Size 7, 16" circular and set of 4 dpn

**Gauge:** 5 sts per inch on US 7 needle

### Pattern

Cast on 80 sts. Place a marker and join to knit in the round, being careful not to twist sts. Work in stockinette stitch

available to you at  
**20% off for the entire  
week.**

There's more! For those of you who've got a competitive streak and would like to knit along, bring in your finished project at some point throughout each week to get a stamp on your March Madness card. Fill up your entire card and we'll enter it into a drawing to win a **\$100.00 gift certificate to Inish Knits!**

Can't get here? Send me a picture via email ([inishknits@charter.net](mailto:inishknits@charter.net)) and we'll set you up. Drawing will take place during the championship game.

(knitting all sts), until piece measures 4  $\diamond$ " from cast on edge.

### **Begin decreasing:**

Row 1: \*K8, K2tog; repeat from \* across row.  
Row 2 and all even rows: Knit all sts.  
Row 3: \*K7, K2tog; repeat from \* across row.  
Row 5: \*K6, K2tog; repeat from \* across row.  
Row 7: \*K5, K2tog; repeat from \* across row.  
Row 9: \*K4, K2tog; repeat from \* across row.  
Row 11: \*K3, K2tog; repeat from \* across row.  
Row 13: \*K2, K2tog; repeat from \* across row.  
Row 15: \*K1, K2tog; repeat from \* across row.  
Row 17: \*K2tog; repeat from \* across row. (8sts)  
Row 18: \*K2tog; repeat from \* across row. (4 sts)

### **Topknot:**

With dpn and 4 remaining sts, make a 5-inch I-cord\*\*. Cut yarn and thread through remaining sts. Weave in ends. Tie I-cord into a little knot. Block gently and enjoy!

A few more color ideas:



### **L to R:**

Blue, Pale Blue, Seafoam, Moss, Pale Yellow, Pale Pink, Ecru

\*\*For instructions on knitting an I-cord at home, visit <http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/knitting-tips> to watch a video. **And of course, I'm here to help!**

### **Abbreviations:**

dpn: double pointed needles

K: knit

K2tog: knit two stitches together

sts: stitches

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I've heard tales from afar concerning warmer weather, crocus sightings and green grass. That's not necessarily the scene in Leelanau County this week, but keep your fingers

crossed. For spring and the Spartans.

Best,

**Melissa**

## YIKES!

Obviously you've noticed the change in email newsletter format over the past month or so. I've switched to this new program--and I love it. However, as I made the transition from my regular email editor to this program, many of your email addresses did not make the move! After spending several hours this afternoon making the adjustment, I realize this is the first "March Madness" email some of you have received. I'm sorry.

**If you'd like to participate but couldn't due to problems on my end, please don't hesitate to call me at 231.228.2800--I'll make sure you're not left out of the competition!**

Please bear with me as Inish Knits continues to transition into a more tech-savvy shop--there's just one of me and oftentimes, I make mistakes. I hope you know how much I appreciate each and every one of you, and I strive to make your knitting experience at Inish Knits the best one possible!

**Melissa**

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