

# Power Station Hat

Shannon Okey

This is a very, very simple hat with an elegant look, thanks to overtwisted singles that cause the stockinette stitches to angle in various directions. The singles were spun from samples of Hatchtown Farm's Coopworth fiber in natural shades of grey and white; the decoration on the side is made from Houndscroft Farm silk-wrapped wool. I call this hat "Power Station" because it's so full of "energized" singles. This pattern is extremely flexible; depending on the yarn's weight, you can use any size needle from U.S. 6 to 10½. I've knitted more hats like this than I can count, and have never altered the number of stitches I cast on!

**Finished Size** About 20" (51 cm) head circumference with fabric relaxed and 8" (20.5 cm) tall.

**Yarn** CYCA #3 Light (DK-weight) singles: about 200 yd (183 m). *Shown here:* Handspun yarn by Shannon Okey, spun as highly overtwisted singles using three natural colors of Coopworth roving from Hatchtown Farm. About 1 yd (1 m) handspun silk-wrapped wool yarn by Houndscroft Farm for optional flower decoration.

**Needles** Size 9 (5.5 mm): 16" (40 cm) circular (cir) and set of 4 or 5 double-pointed (dnp).

**Notions** Marker (m); tapestry needle.

**Gauge** 16 sts and 28 rnds = 4" (10 cm) in St st with overspun yarn allowed to bias and with rnd gauge measured along a diagonal column of biased knit sts. Your handspun yarn and gauge may vary.

## Hat

With cir needle, CO 80 sts. Place marker (pm) and join for working in the rnd, being careful not to twist sts. Work k2, p2 rib until piece measures 1" (2.5 cm). Work in rnds of stockinette, seed st, occasional rnds of 2-ply yarn, or other "overtwist-controlling" patt (see page 58), changing patts and colors randomly every 1–2" (2.5–5 cm) until piece measures 7" (18 cm) from CO.

## Crown

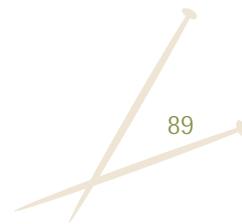
Dec as foll, changing to dnp when there are too few sts to fit comfortably on cir needle.

Rnd 1: \*K6, k2tog; rep from \*—70 sts rem.

Even-numbered Rnds 2–12: Knit.

Rnd 3: \*K5, k2tog; rep from \*—60 sts rem.

Rnd 5: \*K4, k2tog; rep from \*—50 sts rem.



Rnd 7: \*K3, k2tog; rep from \*—40 sts rem.  
 Rnd 9: \*K2, k2tog; rep from \*—30 sts rem.  
 Rnd 11: \*K1, k2tog; rep from \*—20 sts rem.  
 Rnd 13: [K2tog] 10 times—10 sts rem.  
 Cut yarn, leaving a 10" (25.5 cm) tail.

### Finishing

Thread tail on tapestry needle, draw through rem sts, pull tight to close top, and fasten off on WS.

Weave in loose ends.

### Flower

(optional) Wrap flower yarn about 4 times loosely around the fingers of one hand as if making a yarn butterfly. Wind one end tightly around the middle of the flower a few times to secure it, and tie ends together in a knot. With ends threaded on tapestry needle, attach to hat where desired, and fluff out loops into a flower shape.

## Laura Jefferson and Sarah Dunham

**Y**ou may already have a dye store in your backyard; Laura Jefferson and Sarah Dunham do! These crafty housemates have a large garden in the New Hampshire woods, filled with plants, flowers, cats, chickens, granite-loving lichens, and more. They enjoy dyeing with natural color sources, including indigo, lichens, and plant materials. In these photos, the pale purple color was obtained using lichens native to New England, and the blue came from indigo. You can see that while the fiber rests in the indigo pot, it looks green with an almost "oily" blue film on top. As soon as it comes out, though, it oxidizes in the air and turns the deep blue we think of as "indigo-colored." Check out Laura's Felted Mammoth Tea Cozy pattern on page 91; she's a dedicated archeologist who devotes much of each summer to Paleolithic-era digs near her home and has managed to combine both her interests in one project!



### Available in October 2006!

Power Station Hat is one of twenty designs featured in the forthcoming book *Spin to Knit: The Knitter's Guide to Making Yarn* by Shannon Okey. Paperbound, \$21.95, Interweave Press, online at [www.interweave.com](http://www.interweave.com).

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