

## KNIT FOR THE TROOPS: WWII HAT

*This is an original WWII pattern which I have adapted a bit. It makes an incredibly warm hat for a man (or woman – you can adapt it by making the lining smaller). Insulated, pretty much waterproof and extremely stylish in its chunkiness...*



**You need:** 1 ½ balls of Lilla Lovikka from [www.nordicwool.nl](http://www.nordicwool.nl)

2 pairs (4) 6mm bamboo double-pointed knitting needles. If possible get extra long ones as it falls off shorter needles in an annoying way.

Cast on 96 sts, 32 on each of 3 needles.

Join and work in ribbing of k 2, p 2 for 4 inches (about 42 rounds).

Then work in ribbing of k 6, p 2, for 22 rounds.

K 1 round plain.

Decrease 1 st at both ends of each needle, as follows: \* k 1, slip 1, k 1, pass the slipped st over the knitted ("slip-k-pass"), k to within 3 sts of end of needle, k 2 together, k the last st; repeat from \* until 4 sts remain on each needle.

Break off yarn, thread end into a darning needle, draw through all sts, twice, tighten and darn in end.

The hat may feel a bit large: you can catch up all the stitches from the first row with an extra thread and pull it taught, to give the hat less 'give' and to make it feel less like it's going to engulf the wearer in a tide of Icelandic wool.

It is also not wind-proof, so it needs lining. You can make a fleece lining to exactly fit the wearer very easily: if you have him handy, just fold over a strip of fleece in a similar colour round his head, pinning it in place (taking care not to skewer him) wrong side out to get the exact size that feels comfortable. Sew it wrong side out along this line, and then fold up the lower edge and sew the lining into the lower edge of the hat, just inside so it isn't visible. This also makes the hat less stretchy.