



Chemo Caps for Kids program

This is an ongoing project. There are no deadlines.

A single handmade hat is a powerful demonstration of kindness and compassion for a sick child.

Multiply that by hundreds of people knitting, and the result is, literally, thousands of such special moments for children who feel the joy of knowing someone has given them a gift handmade with love and care.

Employees at Allen Insurance and Financial are participating in the Chemo Caps for Kids program started by our colleagues at Commonwealth Financial Network, our broker-dealer partner in Boston.

If you would like to:

- ❖ Knit a cap ...
- ❖ Donate yarn ...
- ❖ Help coordinate donations of caps or yarn ...

... Please call Kimberly Edgar at 230-5831 or email kedgar@allenif.com

<http://www.commonwealth.com/story/chemo-caps.aspx>

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- ❖ Handmade - knit, crochet, sewn. loom, machine knit
- ❖ New, unworn
- ❖ Baby, Toddler, Children, Pre-Teens and Teens
- ❖ Washable fibers and fabrics (preferred)
- ❖ "Soft" means comfort to a bald sensitive head
- ❖ Avoid wool, mohair or afghan-type acrylic yarns; they don't soften enough for a stressed head.
- ❖ Seamless hats made with lightweight yarns and fabrics are ideal year-round and make good sleep caps.
- ❖ Fleece, heavier yarns and fabrics are best for late fall and winter. *(Please send heavier weight hats in the August - October timeframe, so we can get them to centers while the weather is crisp and cold.)*

Best Sizes

Baby - 6 to 12 months
Head Circumference: 16"-17"

Toddler - preschooler (12 months - 3 years)
Head Circumference: 18"-19"

Child (3 - 10 years)
Head Circumference: 19"-20.5"

Pre-teens and Teens
Head Circumference: 20.5"-21"

Local Yarn Shops!

Cashmere Goat (<http://www.thecashmeregoatknit.com/>) in Camden

Over the Rainbow (<http://www.overtherainbowyarn.com/>) in Rockland

Heavenly Socks Yarn Shop (<http://heavenlysocksyarns.com>) in Belfast

Additional Information and Resources

<http://www.commonwealth.com/story/chemo-caps.aspx>

Pattern Suggestions to help you get started

Bev's "Josh" Beanie Cap

based on a beanie hat [Josh Groban](#) used to wear

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Gauge: 5 sts = 1"

Size 6 needles 65 sts fits 2-4 year olds 72 sts for 5-8 yr. olds

Size 8 needles (4 mm) (75 sts for tweens) (82 sts for teens and adults)



(2 -3 oz. sport yarn or soft worsted weight yarn/wool)

Row 1-12: Garter st (knit every row)

Row 13: Purl

Row 14: knit

Rows 15-26: Garter stitch again for 12 rows

Row 27: Purl

Row 28: knit

Rows 29-40: Garter st for 12 rows

Row 41: Purl

Row 42: Knit

Rows 43-48: Garter st for ONLY 6 rows this time

If hat isn't tall enough, add a few more rows before decreasing.

Decrease

Row 49: *Knit 2, knit 2 together, Repeat from * to end of row. Just knit any sts that don't fit into this pattern.

Row 50: Knit

Row 51: Repeat row 49

Row 52: knit

Row 53: repeat row 49

Row 54: knit

You should now have about 28 sts left. (It's NOT important to have exactly that many, by the way.)

Row 55: Knit. Cut yarn leaving a 12" tail of yarn.

Now using a sewing needle, thread the yarn, and weave it into the sts on the knitting needle. When all the sts are off, then pull the thread tightly to gather the top of the beanie cap. Stitch the side seam shut with weaving stitch.

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Hats will be donated to Boston area hospitals. We are reaching out to Pen Bay, Maine Medical Center and Eastern Maine Medical Center to see if our donations can stay closer to home.