



Aimee Sher
MAKES



ZIG ZAG ALONG HAT

*Colorwork hat with
zig zag motif*

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The Zig Zag Along Hat is a pattern intended to teach the basics of colorwork. Happily, it doubles as a swatch for the Zig Zag Along Pullover or Cardigan.

If this is your first time working with colorwork, I recommend you use only 1 contrast color to avoid having to work 3 colors at once. Additionally, you'll learn how to work colorwork while trapping floats in one of two ways (your choice).

Size Selection

Sizes Kids (Adult S, Adult L) to fit head circumferences of 19 (21, 25)" / 47.5 (52.5, 62.5) cm.
Finished circumferences: 15.25 (20.25, 25.25)" / 38 (50.5, 63) cm.

Finished length (adjustable) is 8.25 (8.75, 9)" / 20.5 (22, 22.5) cm.

Sample shown in Adult L for an oversized look.

Gauge

19 sts and 27 rnds = 4 x 4" / 10 x 10 cm knit in the round with Needle A in Stockinette Stitch and Needle B in colorwork chart.

Construction Notes

- Working the colorwork with caught floats every inch or so is recommended. Practice this skill on a swatch if you are not familiar with it. On the sample, we used jacquard ladder-back method.
- Work colorwork with the CC's held in the left hand for color dominance.
- Colorwork may be worked with combinations of 1-3 contrast colors (ie. CC1-CC2-CC3, CC1 only, or CC1-CC2-CC1 arrangements). If you are new to colorwork, working only 1 contrast color is recommended.
- The colorwork is charted only on this pattern. No written version is available.

Materials & Tools

Yarn Selection

Use a worsted weight yarn that has bloom to create a cohesive fabric in colorwork. We used Gilliat by De Rerum Natura (270 yards / 250 meters / 100g / 100% French and Portuguese merino woolen spun yarn).

Yardage

MC (MAIN COLOR):

1 ball of Gilliat in the colorway Sel OR 120 (170, 210) yards / 110 (150, 190) meters of worsted weight yarn.

CC (CONTRAST COLORS)

1 ball each of Gilliat in the colorway Argile (CC 1), Dore (CC 2), and Caramel (CC 3).

OR 15 (20, 20) yards or meters of each colorway.

If working 1 CC instead of 3, use 40 (55, 70) yards / 35 (50, 65) meters for CC.

Credits

Tech Editor: Heather Storta

Photos: Lindsey Tyler

Sample: Melissa Tinzmann

Pattern Support

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Needles

A (Main Fabric): US 6 / 4 mm circular needles in 16" / 40 cm, and DPN's or method to work small circumferences.

B (Colorwork): US 7 / 4.5 mm circular needles in 16" / 40 cm.

C (Ribbing): US 4 / 3.5 mm circular needles in the same lengths as main fabric.

Colorwork gauge is variable depending on the person. On the sample, we used one size up from Needle A to match the Stockinette gauge. Swatch the colorwork to find out what needle size you require to get the same gauge.

Notions

Unique marker for beginning of round, waste yarn, spare needle for tubular cast on (optional), tapestry needle, optional pom pom.

Color dominance

For most knitters, holding yarn in the left hand will make the stitches in that color appear more plump. So, when knitting colorwork, whichever color you'd like to stand out more, hold that in the left hand with the other color in the right hand. We used CC for the more dominant color, held in the left hand.

Float management

The long strands of yarn being unused between their stitches in the back are called floats. You need to manage the tension of your floats so that they do not cinch in. For some knitters, this means pushing the sts on right needle further along more frequently. For long sections without using a color (usually MC, here) you should trap the float by twisting your two yarn balls whenever a color repeats more than 1" / 2.5 cm (in this pattern, about 5 sts) or so, or using jacquard ladderback technique.

Special Techniques

Tubular Cast On

Use Italian Cast On to cast on the pattern stitches in rib (see cast on steps at Purl Soho, [link here](#)). Work foundation rows as follows:

Foundation Row 1 (RS): (Ktbl, slip 1 wyif) to end.

Foundation Row 2 (WS/RS): (K1, slip 1 wyif) to end.

Repeat Foundation Row 2 only twice more.

1x1 Rib

To work 1x1 rib in the round, repeat the following rnd:

Ribbing Rnd: (K1, p1) to end.

Ladderback Jacquard

<https://www.moderndailyknitting.com/community/how-to-work-ladderback-jacquard/>

Abbreviations

BOR	beginning of round
k	knit
k2tog	knit two together
ktbl	knit through the back loop
p	purl
rnd(s)	round(s)
RS	right side
st(s)	stitch(es)
WS	wrong side
wyif	with yarn in front