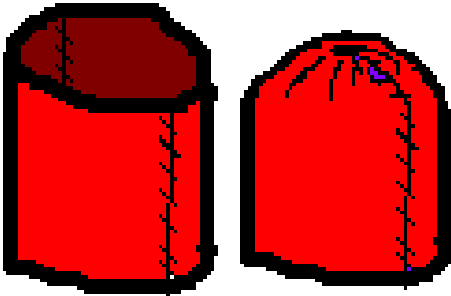


The Two-Square Hats!

This hat is made using the 12" square loom. Weave two squares. You can use your same yarn to sew the squares together or find some embroidery thread that matches the color and use that to sew the two squares into a tube. This last works particularly well with fuzzy or 'designer' yarns which are usually a bit weak for sewing. Run a gather thread through the loops at one end of the tube and pull up tightly and fasten off securely, as in the second sketch below.



Fold up the bottom edge to make a brim and your hat is done. You can easily make a pompom and sew it to the top of the hat if you like. Try weaving this hat with one fat bulky yarn and one thin one, taking turns weaving alternately rows...fat, fat, thin, thin, fat, fat, thin, thin... and carrying the unused yarn along the side. This will give you a nice 'hounds tooth' pattern and some texture as well.

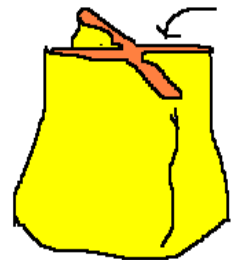


To make a different look, sew the top of the hat into an X. fold and pin as in picture and stitch the seams where the arrow points. You can use the hidden thread or use a bold color as part of the design as I did in these two photos.

You can also use regular worsted yarn for these hats. For best results, pick one that has a bit of elasticity. I made the tan one using Lion Brand Woolease, it is quite light weight. Or you might choose Jiffy or one of the "Quick and Something" versions. Handspun yarns work great for this project. It only takes 100 yards to weave this hat!



The hat on the left was woven with RedHeart acrylic yarn in shades of blue. It works up quickly, is warm and washable, and comes in an endless variety of colors. It's also inexpensive. Are you a team Mom? How about one in the team colors? One for each team member! You can weave while you warm the bleachers at practices! They'll love you!



The photo on the right shows the hat with a plain finish. In black or Navy this could be a "watch cap" in the military style. This is Lion Brand Woolease yarn in a color called "Mushroom." This yarn was rather thin when I finished weaving but after construction I tossed it into the regular laundry, washer and drier, and it fullled up nicely and will be a good cap.

It's fun to experiment with these hats. You can make them in fancy yarns (try chenille!) and trim them to match... Buttons & bows, crocheted flowers, ribbons... It's up to you. Go play!

