

## 2017 PURPLE CAP SIZING GUIDELINE S

How to MAKE SURE the **PURPLE** Caps you donate will fit a newborn:  
 “Try on” your finished caps using any spherical object that measures 14” around: inflated balloon, ball, bowl, jar, doll's head, stuffed animal head, etc. Hats should measure 4-6” high.

All patterns are available for free online. Use your browser to search for the pattern name and designer.

### “SWEET CHILD OF MINE HAT” BY Shannon Squire, 2013



Once made, many crocheted and knit baby caps may appear too small.

The inside circumference of this completed hat is only 7”.

Follow pattern specifics for a newborn head circumference of 13”-15” (average 14”), including needle or hook size and yarn weight.



Once cap is stretched open and pulled over a 14” circumference balloon, if it fits snugly, it should fit a newborn’s head perfectly!

Notice how the 7” inside circumference easily stretches to 14”.



### “PLAIN AND STRIPED NEWBORN PURPLE HAT” BY Halifax Charity Knitters, 2012

(L-CORD TOP-KNOT NOT PART OF ORIGINAL PATTERN)



This and other “Watchman” style caps may appear too small for a newborn due to the ribbed and folded brim.

The inside circumference of the finished hat is only 7”.



Once cap is stretched open and pulled over any 14” circumference object, it should fit a newborn snugly...a perfect fit!

See how the 7” inside circumference stretches to 14”.



### “BABY ROLLIN’ BERET” BY Woolly Wormhead, 2006



This cap was made using the 14” circumference size specifications.

The inside circumference of the completed cap measures 10.5”.



Once cap is stretched open and pulled over a 14” circumference ball (or any object with a 14” circumference), if it fits snugly on the ball, it should fit a newborn’s head perfectly!

Notice how the 10.5” hat opening easily expands to 14”.





## 2017 PURPLE CAP CRAFTING GUIDELINES

Thank you for paying close attention!

Parents select their favorite hat from the dozens that are on display in their birth centers. The most popular hats have common characteristics. These guidelines will increase the likelihood of YOUR hat going home with a family.

### **YARN**

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Hats that are either KNITTED or CROCHETED will need to be made with new, clean, SOFT-TO-THE-TOUCH and WASHABLE yarn.

*“VALUE” yarns are sometimes scratchy and tend not to be selected by new parents.  
Test softness on your cheek if you’re unsure!*

### **SIZE**

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Of the THOUSANDS of beautifully hand crafted *PURPLE* caps that are donated each year, many hundreds cannot be used because the size is either too big or too small. These hats will be worn by 1 or 2 day old infants. The average newborn head circumference is 14” (13”– 15”) and hats should be approximately 4-6” high.

*For further sizing instructions, please check our [SIZING GUIDELINES](#).*

### **COLOR**

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Hats NEED to be **50%** or more of any shade of *PURPLE* (for the *Period of PURPLE Crying*).

*Please help us meet families’ requests for more “BOY-FRIENDLY” hats by considering patterns with darker purples, and stripes of blue, orange, green, or gray.*

### **STYLE**

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Please use EITHER: all Gender-Neutral (Unisex) styles OR: an equal number of Girl-Friendly and Boy-Friendly styles.

### **SAFETY**

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Please help us keep babies safe from choking and strangulation risks:

PLEASE DO NOT ATTACH DECORATIONS: pom-poms, tassels, straps, bows, ribbons, buttons, etc.

### **WARMTH**

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These hats keep babies’ heads warm outdoors during the colder winter months. Smaller stitches result in a warmer hat. The large, loose stitches (typically made by looms) tend not to provide enough warmth.

### **LOOMS**

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This type of knitting is allowed, but should be used with caution. Please ensure that the caps are not too LOOSE or too TIGHT for a comfortable fit around the baby’s head.