NICU-Friendly T-Bonnet
super easy, with decorative eyelet detail

all sizes:

1 yd 1/4″ - 3/8″satin ribbon
(used both for decoration and to stabilize buttons)

Three 3/8″ flat buttons
(please do not use buttons with shanks)

small preemie
2.0 mm (US 0) knitting needles
1/2 ounce lace-weight yarn
gauge: 20 sts/25 rows = 5 cm (2″)

medium preemie (adjustments shown in parenthesis)
2.25 mm (US 1) knitting needles
1/2 ounce baby yarn
gauge: 18 sts/23 rows = 5 cm (2″)

large preemie (adjustments shown in parenthesis)
3.25 mm (US 3) knitting needles
1 ounce fingering (sock) yarn
gauge: 14 sts/18 rows = 5 cm (2″)

directions:

Cast on 21

♡ k1, p1, knit across to last 2 stitches, p1, k1
♡ k1, p1, purl across to last 2 stitches, p1, k1
♡ k1, p1, knit across to last 2 stitches, p1, k1
♡ k1, p1, purl across to last 2 stitches, p1, k1
♡ (k2tog, yo) 5 times, k1, (yo, ssk) 5 times
(10 eyelets created)
♡ k1, p1, purl across to last 2 stitches, p1, k1
♡ k1, p1, knit across to last 2 stitches, p1, k1

repeat last 2 rows until there are 20 rows completed from eyelet, or piece is square. end having complted a purl row.

adding sides:

Cast on 22 stitches before beginning next row (43 st)

♡ k1, p1, k to end of row, then cast on 22 stitches. (65 st)
♡ k1, p1, p to last 2 stitches, p1, k1
♡ k1, p1, (k2tog, yo) 15 times, k1, (yo, ssk) 15 times, p1, k1
(30 eyelets created)
♡ k1, p1, p to last 2 stitches, p1, k1
♡ k1, p1, (k2tog, yo), k to last 4 stitches, (yo, ssk), p1, k1
♡ k1, p1, p to last 2 stitches, p1, k1

repeat last 2 rows until there are 17 rows or piece is 2½″ (3″) from where the sides were added. end with purl row.

♡ k1, p1, (k2tog, yo) 15 times, k1, (yo, ssk) 15 times, p1, k1
(30 eyelets created)
♡ k1, p1, p to last 2 stitches, p1, k1
♡ k1, p1, k to last 2 stitches, p1, k1
♡ k1, p1, p to last 2 stitches, p1, k1

begin picot edge

♡ knit across
♡ purl across
repeat both rows
♡ (k2tog, yo) 16 times, k1, (yo, ssk) 16 times, p1, k1
(32 eyelets created)
♡ purl across
♡ knit across
repeat both rows

strap and finishing

cast off loosely (using a needle 1-size larger is helpful)

do not drop last loop. fold over the edge in preparation for tacking an pick up 4 more stitches along the edge, being sure to catch the loops from both pieces of knitted fabric

1: knit 4, sl 1
2: purl 4, sl 1
3: k2tog, yo, k1, yo, ssk
4: purl 4, sl 1
5: knit 4, sl 1
6: ssp, yo, p1, yo, p2tog

repeat steps 1 - 6 until there are 36 rows completed, or strap is approx 3½″ (4½″) long.

the end eyelets will function as buttonholes when hat is on baby, the rest are decorative.

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♡ clip a 6″ tail and draw through all loops on needle to round edge and weave into the back of the strap.

♡ to secure the picot edge, tack to the inside of the bonnet in one of 3 ways:

-use a contrasting color of yarn and make running stitch that shows on the outside

-whip stitch to the underside, being certain to only catch about half the stitch on the hat side so it does not show on the outside

-attach with a blind hem stitch

♡ weave a length of ribbon (add 2″ for folding under ends) through all 3 sets of eyelets. I liked mine to end on the outside of the hat at both ends. Fold end under and tack in place with sewing thread.

♡ attach buttons, being sure they are sewn securely on top of the ribbon (see picture to clarify placement).

one button at the front edge, opposite the chin strap.

two buttons on the short end

assembly

♡ using the eyelet in the corner of the cast-on edge of the T's crossbar as a buttonhole, slip it over the corner button on the same side of the hat.

♡ repeat with the other side

Nurses will secure the hat on the baby's head with the chin strap and the button on the front edge.

abbreviations:	
k: knit	ssk: slip two stitches, one at a time, knitwise then knit together through the front of the stitches
k2tog: knit two stitches together	
p: purl	
p2tog: purl two stitches together	
sl x: slip x stitches, purlwise unless otherwise noted	ssp: slip two stitches, one at a time, knitwise.Return slipped sts to left needle. p2tog through back loops.
st(s): stitch(es)	

the unassembled bonnet