Honeycomb Preemie Hat & Booties

(a 2-needle pattern - booties based on a pattern by Michelle Howard)

materials:

needles:

small preemie: 3.25 mm (us 3) and 3.75 mm (us 5) large preemie: 3.75 mm (us 5) and 4.25 mm (us 6)

yarn.

approx ½ ounce sports weight/DK yarn

(gauge:4" = 22 st/30 r using 4.25mm (us 6) needles)

abbreviations:

k: knit

k2tog: knit 2 stitches together (a right-leaning decrease)

p: pur

p2tog: purl 2 stitches together (a decrease)

psso: pass slipped stitch over

sl1: slip one stitch knitwise with yarn in back

yo: yarn over



hat:

Using smaller needles: cast on 58 stitches

rows I - 9: kI, pI ribbing

change to larger needles

row 10: k29, inc 1, knit across (59 st)

work across in honeycomb stitch until 23 total rows are completed from beginning (end w/row 2 of pattern)

row 24: p29, inc I, purl across (60 st)

decreases:

row 25: sl 1, k1, psso, k8 (6 times)

row 26: p7, sl 1, p1, psso (6 times)

row 27: sl 1, k1, psso, k6 (6 times)

row 28: p5, sl 1, p1, psso (6 times)

row 29: sl 1, k1, psso, k4 (6 times)

row 30: p3, sl 1, p1, psso (6 times)

finishing:

bind off loosely

fold hat in half and weave top and open side.

Weave in end from cast on stitches and clip.Cast off loosely. Weave in ends.

booties:

using larger needles, cast on 35

knit across

work 7 rows in honeycomb stitch

decreases:

p15, p2 tog, p1, p2 tog, p15

k 14, k2 tog, k1, k2 tog, k14

p13, p2 tog, p1, p2 tog, p13

k12, k2 tog, k1, k2 tog, k12

pll, p2 tog, pl, p2 tog, pll

k10, k2 tog, k1, k2 tog, k10

ribbed cuff and finishing:

change to smaller needles

k1, p1 across each row for 8 rows. (double the rows for a fold down cuff).

bind off loosely.

fold in half and weave closed back/sole of bootie.

honeycomb stitch:

must be worked on an odd number of stitches

rows 2 and all even rows: k1, *s1, k1. repeat from * to end

rows 3 and all odd rows: k1 across