Cloche à la mode
Felted Hat
by Turit

Materials
2 skeins Galway or similar 100% wool
1 US 13 24 inch circular needle size + double pointed needles in same size for shorter rounds at top of head, OR use longer circular needle for magic loop method

Cast on 85 st., k 15 rounds. Round 16: * k15, k2tog, *, repeat from * to * (80st).
Knit 40 rounds.
Now start decreasing for the crown. Switch to double pointed needles when it becomes necessary. If you are using the magic loop method, you don't have to change to doublepoints.
Next round: * k 6, k2tog * repeat from * to *.
Knit one round without decreases.
Next round: * k5, k2tog * repeat from * to *.
Knit one round without decreases.
Next round: * k 4, k2tog * repeat from * to *.
Knit one round without decreases.
Next round: * k3, k2tog * repeat from * to *.
Knit one round without decreases.
Next round: * k 2, k2tog * repeat from * to *.
Knit one round without decreases.
Next round: * k1, k2tog * repeat from * to *.
Knit one round without decreases.
Next round * k2tog * repeat from * to *.
Knit one more round without decreases. Cut yarn, thread on tapestry needle and pull through the 10 remaining stitches. Pull tight and weave yarn carefully in on the inside of hat.

Felting: Place hat in washable pillow case that can be closed. Put in washing machine, add a little shampoo or Eucalan and run hot cycle. Check every five minutes or even more often. When you think hat is small enough,

take it out, press the water out (you might spin it briefly) and try the hat on (sorry, this might ruin your hair for the rest of the day). Now you have to shape it by pulling on the brim. Attention, this can give you rug burn on your knuckles! I recommend putting some gardening gloves on. When hat and brim have the desired shape, dry the hat over the top of a vase. You can blow up a balloon to the size of a head, put it on a vase and dry the hat on that.

Tip: The hat can very easily be decorated:
- put a few stripes in, or cast on and knit the first round in a different color
- just put a pretty pin on it
- knit some i-cord and sew it on to delineate the brim (felted or unfelted)
- cast on 30 stitches with some leftover yarn that's 100% wool, knit a square in stockinette stitch, felt together with hat. Dry and cut out flower shapes, sew on hat. Sew some beads on, too…..
- embroider directly on the hat with smooth yarn (lazy daisies, your initials, hearts….)