Free Basic, Reversible Ribbed Hat Pattern

Holding two different-color strands of sportweight yarn together (look for the symbol of a skein of yarn with the number "2" in it on the yarn label) helps this reversible hat knit up relatively quickly, and gives it the added interest of variegated color. If you'd like to knit a solid-color crown as shown in the image, you'll need an extra skein of yarn in the crown color. At the designated place in the pattern, drop the strand of yarn you don't want to carry into the crown and pick up the extra strand of crown-colored yarn, then continue following the pattern.

Materials

- Two different colors of sportweight yarn
- Size 6 double-pointed needles
- Size 6 circular needle (with a 16-inch or shorter cable)
- Yarn needle
- Stitch marker

Pattern

1. Holding two different colors of sportweight yarn together and using the circular needle, loosely cast on 112 stitches.
2. Join, being careful not to twist, and place a stitch marker at the beginning of the round.
3. Working in the round, do k4, p4 ribbing (knit 4 stitches, purl 4 stitches) until the ribbing is at least 6 inches long.
4. Knit every stitch on the next round. (This is where you switch colors if you'd like to create a solid-color crown.)

Begin decreasing to shape the crown:

- Round 1: (k12, skp), repeating all the way around. Skp means slip one stitch to the right needle, knit the next stitch, then pass the previous (slipped) stitch over the knitted stitch and off the needle.
- Round 2: Knit even (no decreases).
- Round 3: (k11, skp), repeating all the way around.
- Round 4: Knit even.
- Round 5: (k10, skp), repeating all the way around.
- Round 6: Knit even.

Crown and finishing:
1. Continue decreasing on odd-numbered rows, switching to double-pointed needles when you can no longer work comfortably with the circular needle. Stop when you have 8 stitches left on your needles.

2. Cut the yarn, leaving an 8-inch or longer tail. Thread the tail end of the yarn through the yarn needle, then use the needle to draw the yarn tail through the remaining stitches. Slide the stitches off your needles and tug on the yarn tail to bring them all together, closing the top of the hat. Weave the tail end through the stitches near the top of the hat to secure it, then clip any remaining extra yarn.