

Keep Warm in Your Travels

Hello dear,

It's been a long day, the years have gone by, and it's wonderful that you have decided to make a gift for your grandchild. They may not be related by blood, but they still love you and call you their grandparent. Your little adventurer is certainly making a name for themselves, but my they must be just a little cold in these winter months. It's wonderful that you're making them a gift, even if you're just starting to learn to craft.

In this game, you are playing a grandparent to someone's player character in an already existing campaign. This could be your friend's PC, an actual play podcast PC, or an adventurer on a show you enjoy. You are handcrafting them, your grandchild, your little adventurer, a gift.

If your little adventurer is a character in an actual play podcast or in a show, this is a solo game.

If a friend wants to join in as the adventurer, it's a two player game.

I personally prefer knitting, and will focus on knitting a hat, as it usually takes less time than a scarf. If you prefer crochet, or loom knitting, or any other fiber art, please use that craft instead, or stick to the end for non-fiber crafts. Your time will vary based your experience with knitting, and how much you may change colors.

For this game please have:

- 4 colors of yarn
 - Black
 - Red (or a color you associate with warmth)
 - Blue (or a color you associate with emotional distance)
 - Your character's favorite color (or your favorite color if they don't have one)
- Knitting needles
- Stitch marker
- Time to either listen to your actual play podcast, or time to chat with your friend

Starting your gift

Please cast on your yarn and complete the brim of the hat (if you're working bottom up) or the increases in your hat (if you're working top down) in your grandchild's favorite color. As you are making this, please place a stitch marker at the end of the round (Please see the Patterns section if this doesn't make sense) Once you've finished that, please start listening to your grandchild's adventures while you knit.

While you knit, keep with this color pattern:

Default is your grandchild's favorite color
Red when you're pleased or proud of them
Blue when you wish they did better

Making your gift

Please start listening to your show, or talk with your friend about the adventure. If you are with a friend, please let them speak as their character, and you chat with them as their grandparent. As you listen, or converse, continue knitting in the default color. If you feel that red or blue matches how you feel about your little adventurer, then switch to that color until you reach the stitch marker. Do you still feel that way towards your grandchild? If you do, please continue knitting in that color until you reach the stitch marker again, and ask yourself how you feel again. If the moment passed, please switch back to the default color.

There are dangers

Your grandchild is an adventurer in a truly dangerous world. I'm sorry, but we need to talk about the possibility of their death. If they pass away, please switch to the black yarn. Continue in pattern for what feels like an inch, or however long you feel black is the appropriate color to use. You don't need to measure. If you think they died doing something you feel is good, switch to the red yarn, also for about an inch or however long you feel. Switch to their favorite color when you are ready, and continue the pattern in that color, unless you feel you want to switch to a different color for a bit, then back to their favorite color

Finishing your gift

When you are about to start decreases on your hat (if bottom up) or the brim (if top down), switch to your grandchild's favorite color and finish the pattern.

Preparing your gift

If you'd like, please write a short letter for your grandchild to go with the hat. Thank them for keeping in touch. Wish them well in their travels, offer the hat for when it's cold outside, or for when they feel coldness coming. Please tell them you love them.

Giving your gift

If a friend is playing the part of the grandchild, offer them the item with the letter on top. If you do not personally know the person whose character you're making the item for, keep it and wear it. Think of the adventures you've heard, and feel warm when it's cold out. Hold onto the letter

Variants

Knitting circle

If you have a couple friends who all want to do this, please see if you can meet up sometimes, and talk about your grandchildren together as their proud grandparents.

Did you go on adventures in your day?

What do you like about your friend's little adventurer?

Other Crafts

If you'd prefer to make a scarf instead of a hat, please switch, making sure that the cast on and cast off are your grandchild's favorite color.

If you're not one for fiber arts, try another craft.

Get some colored markers and an old sweatshirt and start drawing.

Find colorful beads and make necklaces or bracelets.

The important part is to keep the colors and pattern guide in mind.

Extra colors

If you are in a position to have more yarn, or want to, please add more colors and color changes as you see fit. As in the base version, please do at least one row of that color change, and consider if the emotion that caused you to switch colors is still true. If not, switch to an appropriate color.

Examples:

Are you proud of your little adventurer?

Did your little adventurer go with, or against, your personal beliefs?

Did your adventurer grow or develop? Do you like this change?

Patterns

If you are fairly new or inexperienced in knitting and would like to try, please visit some of the links below and see what works for you.

Learn to knit a hat in the round

<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2015/07/06/learn-to-knit-a-hat-in-the-round-kit/>

Basic hat

<https://www.purlsoho.com/create/2013/10/10/purl-soho-basic-hats-for-everyone/>

Cocoon

<https://www.lamaisonrilie.com/free-cocoon-pattern.html>

Loom knit a hat

<http://www.loomahat.com/how-to-loom-knit-a-hat/start/>

Thank you ever so much to Avery Alder, who made the game Three Days, which is based around a color change knitting mechanic as well. Please see her work at buriedwithoutceremony.com

Thank you for taking the time out of your day to read this. I hope you enjoyed making your gift, and will continue to make fun little things. Please stay warm if you can.

Take care