



## Bumble pattern notes

### making neater cdds

In colorwork, centered double decreases can sometimes look a little loose and wobbly when worked in the usual way. To neaten them up, try this:

Slip the first two stitches purlwise to a smaller dpn – I like a short US 0 [2 mm] wooden needle. Then rotate the dpn counter-clockwise, and use it to make the next stitch. Pass the slipped stitches over the stitch just knit, and transfer to right hand needle.

Using the small dpn allows you to manipulate the stitches without tugging and distorting them quite as much as with the working needle.

### working with long floats

Every knitter has their preference about catching floats. I normally don't catch mine at all, especially inside a hat – but some rows in the “bee trails” part of the chart (in particular rows 18 and 29) have *really* long floats, and I do catch these.

When you are carrying a long float, be sure to fan out the stitches on the right hand needle before working the next stitch in the contrasting color.

A bit of lumpiness in the work will even out in the blocking, but if you are finding it difficult to keep your tension even, try turning the work inside out. You'll still be working on the knit side of the tam, but the floats will be stretched around the outside circumference.