Margaret's Hearts-and-Rib Knitted Hat
based on Sara's Hearts of Hope Knitted Hat

Size 6 needles, circular 29" long (if longer,
could go straight to "Magic Loop" method)
1 skein worsted weight Lily Sugar and
Cream all cotton yarn (2.5 oz) – buy 2 if
variegated – one skein seems to not
complete a full hat lately
Yarn needle for finishing off the hat

Cast on 96 stitches to circular needles.
Using the "Travelling Loop" method (can
see pictures here:
http://sites.google.com/site/purplesagedesig
ns/techniques-1/single-loop-not-magic-loop-
knitting-in-the-round), move the cast-on
stitches to the other end of the circular
needles, and adjust the cable until it brings
the stitches together, ready to knit. Be
careful not to twist the stitches, or you'll end
up with something like a mobius strip.

(see end of file for larger picture)

Rows 1-8: K2, P2 all the way across row – you don't need a stitch marker because the loop in
the cable will show you the end of the row. Every time you get to another row, make the first
few stitches of the row tight so that your hat won't show where the rows start. These first 8
rows are the rib-knit portion of the hat, but are not intended to be rolled up. If you want them
rolled up, K2 P2 for another 8 rows.

Row 9: K3, Increase next stitch by your favorite method (I use the Bar method, described
below), *K11, Increase; Repeat from * to last 8 stitches, K8 – this will increase your stitches by
8, for a total of 104 stitches.

Row 10: Knit

Row 11: K5, *T2B, T2F, K13, C2R, C2L, K13; Repeat from * to last 10 stitches, K10

Row 12: K6, P2, K32, P2, K32, P2, K28

Row 13: K4, *T2B, P2, T2F, K11, C2R, K2, C2L, K11; Repeat from * to last 9 stitches, K9

Row 14: K5, P4, K30, P4, K30, P4, K27

Row 15: K3, *T2B, P4, T2F, K9, C2R, K4, C2L, K9; Repeat from * to last 8 stitches, K8

Row 16: K4, P6, K28, P6, K28, P6, K26

Row 17: K2, *T2B, P6, T2F, K7, C2R, K6, C2L, K7; repeat from * to end of row
Row 18: K3, P8, K26, P8, K26, P8, K25

Row 19: K1, *T2B, P8, T2F, K5, C2R, K8, C2L, K5; repeat from * to last 6 stitches, K6

Row 20: K2, *P10, K24; repeat from * to end of row

Row 21: K1, *C2L, P2, C2R, C2L, P2, C2R, K5, C2L, K2, C2R, C2L, K2, C2R, K5; Repeat from * to last 6 stitches; K6

Row 22: K3, P2, K4, P2, K26, P2, K4, P2, K26, P2, K4, P2, K25

Row 23: K2, *C2L, C2R, K2, C2L, C2R, K2, C2R, C2L, K1; repeat from * to end of row
Row 24: K4; move those 4 stitches to other side of loop; K to end of row. This is to be set up for the next row of hearts.

Row 25: K9, *C2R, K2, C2L, K11; Repeat from * to last 4 stitches, K4
Row 26: Knit

Row 27: K8, *C2R, K4, C2L, K9; Repeat from * to last 3 stitches, K3
Row 28: Knit

Row 29: *K7, C2R, K6, C2L; Repeat from * to last 2 stitches, K2
Row 30: Knit

Row 31: K6, *C2R, K8, C2L, K5; Repeat from * to last stitch, K1
Row 32: Knit

Row 33: K6, *C2L, K2, C2R, C2L, K2, C2R, K5; Repeat from * to last stitch, K1
Row 34: Knit

Row 35: *K7, C2L, C2R, K2, C2L, C2R; Repeat from * to last 2 stitches, K2
Row 36: Knit until last 4 stitches. Move those stitches to the cable – basically you are moving back the 4 stitches from Row 24. At this point I have about 4.5" of knitted hat. If you have less, you can knit a few rows to get to 4.5". If you have more, then you'll want to change this pattern such that you start closing the 2nd row of hearts sooner – for example, you can make a heart just 8 stitches wide.

Row 37: Start decreasing. I do a left-slant decrease, instead of the right-slant which are in most of these patterns. For this row, K2, *left-decrease, K11; Repeat from * to last 9 stitches, K9. This decreases the stitches by 8 to 96 stitches.
Row 38: Knit

Row 39: Knit 2 stitches, *left-decrease, K10; Repeat from * (88 st)
Row 40: Knit

Row 41: Knit 2 stitches, *left-decrease, K9; Repeat from * (80 st)
Row 42: Knit
Row 43: Knit 2 stitches, *left-decrease, K8; Repeat from * (72 st)
Row 44: Knit

When decreasing, you'll notice that the "travelling loop" method doesn't work anymore (too tight) – for me, it's generally with Row 45 or 47. Then you need to go to the "Magic Loop" method, described here: http://www.knitpicks.com/tutorials/Magic_Loop__D119.html .
Basically you split the stitches on the cable so that half are on one needle and half on the other. *Move the stitches with the working end of yarn to the cable and draw up enough slack on the cable to allow you to use that needle tip to work the stitches on the other needle. Then when you get to the end of that needle, continue with "*Move…". Repeat.

Row 45: Knit 2 stitches, *left-decrease, K7; Repeat from * (64 sts)
Row 46: Knit
Row 47: Knit 2 stitches, *left-decrease, K6; Repeat from * (56 sts)
Row 48: Knit
Row 49: Knit 2 stitches, *left-decrease, K5; Repeat from * (48 sts)
Row 50: Knit
Row 51: Knit 2 stitches, *left-decrease, K4; Repeat from * (40 sts)
Row 52: Knit
Row 51: Knit 2 stitches, *left-decrease, K3; Repeat from * (32 sts)
Row 52: Knit
Row 53: Knit 2 together across row (16 sts).
Row 54: Purl 2 together across row (8 sts).

When 8 or fewer stitches remain - cut yarn ~12 inches from hat. With a yarn needle thread remaining stitches through the needle. Weave in any loose ends.

Definitions:

K - Knit
P - Purl

T2B = (Twist 2 Back) slip next st onto cable hook and hold at back of work K next st, then P st from cable needle.

T2F = (Twist 2 Front) slip next st onto cable hook and hold at front of work, P next st, then K st from cable needle.

C2R - Cross 2 Right. Slip next st onto cable needle and hold at back of work, K next st from left-hand needle, then K st from cable needle.

C2L - Cross 2 Left. Slip next st onto cable needle and hold at front of work, K next st from left-hand needle, then K st from cable needle.

Bar Increase: Knit the stitch normally but without transferring the knitted stitch to the right needle; the same stitch is then knitted through the back loop. (Knitting through the front loop again is not feasible, since it would undo the first stitch.) This increase makes a bar or a nub on the fabric.

Left-slant Decrease: I knit in a Combination style, so for me this is K2tog. For those normal people who knit this is a SSK (slip-slip-knit). The "normal" way is to slip the first stitch as if to knit, slip the second stitch as if to knit, then stick your right needle in the front of the two stitches and knit together. You can see 7 different left-slant decreases here: http://nonaknits.typepad.com/nonaknits/tips_and_techniques/index.html (about 5/6th of the way down the page)