

Baby Hat Guidelines and Size Chart

Bronson's goal is to provide every baby born at Bronson with a handmade hat to help them maintain proper body temperature. This is more than **3000** babies every year!

Pattern

You may use any knit or crochet pattern, as long as:

- The pattern makes a closed-weave hat.
- The hat fits newborn babies.
- The hat can s-t-r-e-t-c-h. Test your pattern to make sure that the bottom row will also stretch.

Patterns are available at bronsonhealth.com/volunteer/handmade-items or contact Volunteer Services.*

Yarn

Please use washable, light weight or fine weight yarn. Avoid bulky yarn. Please do not use wool yarn.

Color

Please use white and solid colors. Avoid black, brown and tan.

Hats in holiday colors (red, green, orange) or collegiate colors (maize & blue, green & white) are accepted.

You may use several colors to make striped hats. When using up "scrap" yarn, mix and match colors carefully.

Please avoid variegated yarn. We have found that mothers of baby boys prefer items without *any* pink, purple or peach. With this in mind, please do not mix blue with pink, purple or peach.

Size

See the size chart on the back. Most hats should be size **large**.

Shape

The bottom (cuff) of the hat should be the same width as the sides. The cuff should not "flare-out" wider than the sides of the hat.

Decoration

For safety reasons, please do not attach pom-poms, buttons, ribbons, etc.

Samples

Samples of hats are available in Volunteer Services. *

Laundry

It is appreciated if hats are laundered after they are made.

The items must be laundered in a home that is smoke-free and animal-hair free.

Any low-scent detergent or liquid softener is acceptable. Please do not use dryer sheets.

Place laundered hats in a *new* bag (Ziploc or new trash bag). Please do not reuse grocery bags.

Please indicate that an item has been laundered, or Bronson will assume it has not.

If you are not able to launder your donation it will be laundered by a Bronson volunteer.

*Contact Volunteer Services

Email at InKindDonations@bronsonhg.org or call Sue Haas, 269-341-8754 or Julie VanderNoot, 269-341-8644.

Hat Size Chart

Size	Used for	Hat Width Inches	Hat Height Inches
Large – most needed	Full Term Newborn	6	6
Medium	Large Premie & Small Newborn	5 ½	5 ½
Small	Medium Premie	4 ½	4 ½

Lay the hat flat on the chart below.

- The Width must measure between 4 ½ and 6 inches.
- The Length should be equal to the width.

For safety, the hat should be short enough that it cannot be “cuffed up” (the cuff can come down and cover the baby’s face).

