

PURPLE Knitted and Crocheted Infant Hats

Why do you only accept purple hats?

Due to the increasing cases of infants with Shaken Baby syndrome, The Period of P.U.R.P.L.E. crying initiative was started to educate parents and caregivers about infants who cry excessively. The intense crying has often been referred to as “colic”. The chronic crying can bring on cases of abuse by those who love the infant most. The purple hats are sent home with the parents as an important reminder of the education they received about the Period of PURPLE Crying and the options they have when they begin to feel frustrated or overwhelmed.

Other than the knitted/crocheted purple hats, we no longer provide infants hats due to temperature regulation of the babies in our Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

The purple hats must be at least 50% purple. Any color purple is fine as is a mix of purples. The softer purple yarns are more comfortable for the babies.



What does P.U.R.P.L.E. stand for?

- P = Peak of Crying** (babies may cry more and more each week)
- U= Unexpected** (crying can come and go and you don't know why)
- R= Resists soothing** (baby may not stop crying no matter what you do to soothe them)
- P= Pain Like Face** (a crying baby may look like they are in pain when they are not)
- L= Long Lasting** (crying can last as much as 5 hours a day or more)
- E= Evening** (the baby may cry more in late afternoon and evening)

****For more information on the Period of Purple Crying and Shaken Baby Syndrome, please visit: www.cookchildrens.org/SpecialtyServices/Psychiatry/Resources/Pages/Period-of-Purple-Crying.aspx**

What patterns can I use?

Any pattern is acceptable. If you add decoration to the hat (such as a flower), please make sure they are securely sewn on the hat so they do not become a choking hazard.

If you do not have a pattern, there are many available for free on the Click for Babies website: <http://clickforbabies.org/stitchers-club/>

What size should the hats be?

The sizes we use range from micro preemie to 6 months of age.

What about hats for older children or H/O (cancer) patients?

We have found that our older patients prefer not to wear hats, including the children who have been diagnosed with cancer.

What other organizations can use hats?

Many non-profits will happily accept crocheted/knitted hats for infants, toddlers, and older children as well as teens and adults. Some of those organizations may include:

- Homeless shelters (adults, teens, children, and infant sizes)
- Local hospitals (adults and Labor Delivery areas)
- Churches
- Foster care and adoption centers

We suggest you call them to be sure it is something they can accept.

What do you do with hats that are donated but we cannot be used?

Any item that Cook Children's is unable to use is donated to other non-profit organizations.



801 Seventh Avenue
Fort Worth, TX 76104-2796
682-885-4000
www.cookchildrens.org