The beautiful hat and mitts in the photo used to be an old wool sweater, bought at a thrift store by member Marcia Reed. As you know, there are often beautiful "old fashioned" sweaters in thrift stores for a very good price. Marcia has kindly written out the method by which she achieved this wonderful transformation. What an absolutely inspirational way to "re-use, reduce, recycle". Thank you, Marcia.



Use a wool sweater. Wash and dry. It should shrink like boiled wool but still have some stretch. The sleeves will become the mitts and the lower body will become the fringed cap. See diagrams below.

- 1) Cut off the sleeves about 1" below the armhole.
- i) Roll the cut part of the sleeve down two times about 1" for each fold.
- ii) Cut a 1 ½ " slit very close to the sleeve seam and about 3" up from the edge of the sleeve cuffs.
- iii) Use yarn to do a buttonhole or blanket stitch around the slit to finish the raw edge.
- 2) Cut the lower body off at just under the armpit. Discard the upper section. Cut down the side seam and remove the bulky seam. Open flat. Use the remaining side seam as the center to measure for cap width. You will need the knit to stretch 22 to 23 inches for an adult cap and 17 inches for a child. Use the center seam and measure out from there for that measurement
- 3) Cut off the remaining part of the sweater and discard.
- 4) Use yarn or machine to stitch the raw edges closed to form a tube.
- 5) Roll the lower ribbing up once.
- 6) You now have the finished tube.
- 7) Measure from the bottom of the folded ribbing up 9" and mark this spot.
- i) Use yard and do a running stitch all the way around the tube. Pull as tight as possible, secure and tie off.
- 8) Now cut from the top of the cap down to the secured stitching $\frac{1}{4}$ inches to form the fringe.



