Ladybird Hat

MATERIALS
Yarn: 1 x 50g each of red and black double knit
Needles: 3.75mm and 3.5mm crochet hook

ABBREVIATIONS
b = use black yarn
K = knit
K2tog = knit next 2 stitches together
P = purl,
r = use red yarn
rep = repeat
St-st = Stocking stitch (1 row knit, 1 row purl)
it[s]=stitch(es]
tog = together

HINTS AND TIPS
When working the spots it’s better to work with a small ball of the black yarn for each spot rather than carrying the yarn across the back of every row.

INSTRUCTIONS
Using black yarn cast on 72 sts and work 9 rows in St-st.

Next row: purl dec 1 st in the centre

Break off black and join in red yarn. Work 2 rows in St-st starting K

Insert spots:
Row 1: K14 r, K4 b, K r to last 18 sts, K4 b, K r to end
Row 2: P13 r, P6 b, P r to last 19 sts, P6 b, P r to end
Row 3: K13 r, K6 b, K r to last 19 sts, K6 b, K r to end
Row 4: rep Row 2
Row 5: rep Row 1
Row 6: Purl r

Row 7: K24 r, K4 b, K15 r, K4 b, K24 r
Row 8: P23 r, P6 b, P13 r, P6 b, P23 r
Row 9: K23 r, K6 b, K13 r, K6 b, K23 r
Row 10: rep Row 8
Row 11: rep Row 7
Rows 12: Purl r

Row 13: K16 r, K4 b, K r to last 20 sts, K4 b, K r to end
Row 14: P15 r, P6 b, P r to last 21 sts, P6 b, P r to end
Row 15: K15 r, K6 b, K r to last 21 sts, K6 b, K r to end
Row 16: rep Row 16
Row 17: rep Row 15

Starting P and using r, st-st 3 rows

**Shape crown (using red throughout):**
1st Row: K1, [K2tog, K5] 10 times (61 sts)
2nd Row and every alternate row: Purl
3rd Row: Knit
5th Row: K1, [K2tog, K4] 10 times (51 sts)
7th Row: K1, [K2tog, K3] 10 times (41 sts)
9th Row: K1, [K2tog, K2] 10 times (31 sts)
11th Row: K1, [K2tog, K1] 10 times (21 sts)
13th Row: K1, [K2tog] 10 times (11 sts)

Break off yarn and draw through the remaining stitches. Fasten off.

**Antennae:**
Using 3.5mm crochet hook and black, make 10 chain. Work 4 double crochet into the 2nd stitch from the hook. Break off yarn and fasten off.

**Make up:**
Join back seam and sew in all ends. Attach the bottom 1cm of each antennae to the hat, allowing the top to flop over.

Lay a damp cloth over the finished work and leave overnight.

*Pattern kindly donated by John Lewis*