Bear hooded cowl

6 to 12 months · US terms



Finished size

Cowl about 17½ in (44 cm) around the neck, 26¼ in (67 cm) around the hem and 6 in (15 cm) deep with the scallops; hood about 8½ in (22 cm) high above it and 7¾ in (20 cm) deep, without the ears; each ear about 2½ in (6.5 cm) across

To fit a head of 16½ to 18 in (42 to 46 cm)

Skill

Easy

One stitch in rounds and rows, a round of shells, and two ears to sew on

Yarn

Bulky (5), 2 colors

Hook

6.5 mm (US K-10½)

Gauge

11 stitches and 9½ rounds to 4 in (10 cm)

In half double crochet (UK half treble).

What you need

Yarn A: toffee brown, main color **about 180 yd (165 m), an estimate**

Yarn B: cream, the hem and the inner ear **about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 160 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 130 yd (119 m).

Hook: 6.5 mm (US K-10½), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, a tape measure and pins, to hold the ears while you sew.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. Buy them from one dye lot. The estimate is from the stitches of this size at this gauge, with 15 percent added.

Sizes

Size	Head	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
6 to 12 months (this file)	**a head of 16½ to 18 in (42 to 46 cm)**	**17½ in (44 cm) around the neck, 26¼ in (67 cm) around the hem, 6 in (15 cm) deep with the scallops**	**about 210 yd (192 m)**
1 to 3 years	a head of 18 to 19½ in (46 to 50 cm)	19¾ in (50 cm) around the neck, 30½ in (77 cm) around the hem, 7 in (18 cm) deep with the scallops	about 270 yd (247 m)

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4 to 8 years	a head of 19½ to 21½ in (50 to 55 cm)	21¾ in (55 cm) around the neck, 35 in (89 cm) around the hem, 7¾ in (20 cm) deep with the scallops	about 330 yd (302 m)

Gauge

11 stitches and 9½ rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in half double crochet.

Check it on the cowl when 8 rounds are done. Lay the tube flat: along its foundation chain the tube is about 13 in (33 cm) wide in 6 to 12 months (72 stitches round), 15¼ in (39 cm) in 1 to 3 years (84), 17½ in (44 cm) in 4 to 8 years (96), and the 8 rounds are about 3¼ in (8.5 cm) tall. If they measure more, start again with a smaller hook; if they measure less, with a larger one. The ears are worked with the same hook: rounds 1 to 4 of an ear measure about 2½ in (6.5 cm) across.

Notes

- The ch 1 at the start of a row or a round does not count as a stitch.
- The cowl is worked from its wide hem up to the neck. The scallops of the hem are worked last, along the foundation chain. The decreases in the middle of the last 6 rows of the hood round the back of the head.
- Leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) when you begin, when you join a yarn and when you fasten off, unless another length is given. The ends that are not sewn with are woven in.
- Whip stitch: with the yarn on a yarn needle, pass the needle under both loops of a stitch on one edge and under both loops of the stitch that lies against it on the other edge, and pull the yarn through. Do the same in the next stitch of each edge.
- Magic ring: wind the yarn once round two fingers, put the hook through the ring and pull up a loop of the working yarn. Round 1 begins with this loop on the hook. Work round 1 into the ring, over both strands, then pull the tail to close it.
- The right side of a round is the side that faces you as you work it.
- In joined rounds, the first stitch of a round goes into the same stitch as the joining sl st (in round 1, the same chain). The joining sl st itself is not a stitch and is not worked into.
- To join a yarn with a sl st, make a slip knot of it on the hook, put the hook in the place named, yo, and pull through the place and the loop on the hook.
- When a ball runs out, work the last yarn over of a stitch with the next ball, and leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) on both. In the rows of the hood do it in the last stitch of a row.
- The right side of the cowl is the side that faces you as you work its rounds. The right side of the hood is the same side: its odd-numbered rows are right-side rows.
- The neck is a closed ring and goes over the head: choose the size by the head, measured round over the ears and the forehead. The age is only a guide. A head that is right between two sizes takes the larger.
- Take the hooded cowl off for sleep.
- Buy whole balls from one dye lot.

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Instructions

6 to 12 months. US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **hdc** half double crochet (UK half treble), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **Rnd** round, **st** stitch.
hdc2tog 2 hdc made into one, **sk** skip, **yo** yarn over the hook, **RS** right side, the one that shows.
5 dc in next st: all in one stitch. **hdc in next 10 sts**: one in each.
[ ] 6 times: work what is inside 6 times in all.
(72 hdc): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Cowl

Yarn A, toffee brown.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 72, join with sl st in first ch to make a loop, without twisting the chain.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1, hdc in each ch around; join with sl st in first hdc	(72 hdc)
☐ **Rnds 2 to 3** 2 3	Ch 1, hdc in each st around; join with sl st in first hdc	(72 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, **[**hdc in next 10 sts, hdc2tog**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first hdc	(60 hdc, 6 hdc2tog)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1, hdc in each st around; join with sl st in first hdc	(66 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	Ch 1, **[**hdc in next 9 sts, hdc2tog**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first hdc	(54 hdc, 6 hdc2tog)
☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 1, hdc in each st around; join with sl st in first hdc	(60 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	Ch 1, **[**hdc in next 8 sts, hdc2tog**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first hdc	(48 hdc, 6 hdc2tog)
☐ **Rnd 9**	Ch 1, hdc in each st around; join with sl st in first hdc	(54 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	Ch 1, **[**hdc in next 7 sts, hdc2tog**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first hdc	(42 hdc, 6 hdc2tog)
☐ **Rnds 11 to 12** 11 12	Ch 1, hdc in each st around; join with sl st in first hdc	(48 hdc)
☐ **End**	Do not fasten off: the loop stays on the hook and the same yarn goes on into the hood.	

Hood

Yarn A, toffee brown.

The loop of round 12 is still on the hook and the right side faces you. Where the set-up line below says the last row of the cowl, it means round 12. Work to and fro on its first 42 stitches: the first of them is the stitch that holds the joining sl st. The 6 stitches after them stay free under the chin.

☐ **Foundation**	Work along the first 42 sts of the last row of the cowl, right side facing: 42 sts.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, hdc in each st across	(42 hdc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 14** 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(42 hdc)
☐ **Row 15**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 19 sts, hdc2tog, hdc2tog, hdc in next 19 sts	(38 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 16**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 18 sts, hdc2tog, hdc2tog, hdc in next 18 sts	(36 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)

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☐ **Row 17**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 17 sts, hdc2tog, hdc2tog, hdc in next 17 sts	(34 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 18**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 16 sts, hdc2tog, hdc2tog, hdc in next 16 sts	(32 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 19**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 13 sts, **[**hdc2tog**] 4 times**, hdc in next 13 sts	(26 hdc, 4 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 20**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in next 11 sts, **[**hdc2tog**] 4 times**, hdc in next 11 sts	(22 hdc, 4 hdc2tog)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 24 in (61 cm) to sew the top with.	

Hem

Yarn B, cream.

Hold the cowl with its foundation chain at the top and its right side facing you. The first ch is the one under the joins of the rounds. Work into the strands of each chain that lie free below round 1.

☐ **Foundation**	Work along the foundation chain of the cowl, right side facing: 72 chs.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Join B with sl st in first ch, ch 1, sc in each ch around; join with sl st in first sc	(72 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next st, sk next st, 5 dc in next st, sk next st**] 18 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(18 sc, 90 dc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Ear: make 2

Yarn A, toffee brown.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1, 6 sc in ring; pull the tail to close the ring; join with sl st in first sc	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(24 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 20 in (51 cm) to sew with.	

Inner ear: make 2

Yarn B, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1, 6 sc in ring; pull the tail to close the ring; join with sl st in first sc	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(18 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 28 in (71 cm) to sew with.	

Assembly

1. Weave in all the ends but the long tails that are for sewing.

2. Top: fold the hood in half with the wrong sides together, so that the two ends of its last row meet. The last row is the top. With the tail of the hood whip stitch the two halves of the last row together, stitch to stitch, from the open end,

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which is at the face, to the fold, which is at the back: 13 stitches. Fasten off.

3. Ears: lay each inner ear on an ear with the wrong sides together and their middles one on the other. Round 4 of the ear stands out all round. With the tail of the inner ear, whip stitch its last round to round 3 of the ear, just inside round 4, stitch to stitch: 18 stitches. Fasten off and weave in.

4. Sew the ears on, one on each side of the hood. The ear stands up from the hood with its inner ear toward the face. Its place is the 5th stitch from the face edge, in rows 14 to 18 of the hood (count the rows from the neck; row 20 is at the seam). Pin 5 stitches of the last round of the ear there, side by side and one to each of these 5 rows; the stitch with the tail is the first of the 5 or the last, whichever comes lowest on that side of the hood, in row 14. With the tail, whip stitch these 5 stitches of the ear to the 5th stitch of the 5 rows, one to one, up to row 18, and then back over the same 5 stitches. Fasten off.

Finishing

- Weave in what is left of the sewing tails and lengths with the yarn needle.

In all: 5 pieces; 1,884 stitches (720 in the cowl, 792 in the hood, 180 in the hem, 60 in each ear, 36 in each inner ear).

Found a mistake in this pattern? Tell us at flossfield.com, under Make a request.

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