Braided dwarf beard

Man, head 23 in (58 cm) · US terms



Finished size

About 2 in (5 cm) deep and about 12½ in (32 cm) wide, both measured on the base without its fringe; its upper edge is about 11 in (28 cm) long, the braids hang about 8¼ in (21 cm) below the base and the loose fringe about 7 in (18 cm) in the middle and the mustache is about 9 in (23 cm) wide from curl to curl

To fit a head of 23 in (58 cm)

Skill

Easy

Single crochet in rows, knotted fringe, braids, small pieces sewn on

Yarn

Medium (4), 2 colors

Hook

5.5 mm (US I-9)

Gauge

13 stitches and 14 rows to 4 in (10 cm)

In single crochet, worked in rows.

What you need

Yarn A: ginger, the beard, the mustache and the ear loops **about 225 yd (206 m), an estimate**

Yarn B: old gold, the rings of the braids **about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 120 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

Hook: 5.5 mm (US I-9), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a soft tape measure, a stitch marker, a yarn needle, scissors, pins and a little toy stuffing for the mustache.

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 and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

Sizes

Size	Head	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Child	19½ in (50 cm)	2 in (5 cm) deep, 9½ in (24 cm) wide	about 150 yd (137 m)
Teen	21 in (53 cm)	2 in (5 cm) deep, 10½ in (27 cm) wide	about 175 yd (160 m)
Woman	22 in (56 cm)	2 in (5 cm) deep, 11½ in (29 cm) wide	about 205 yd (187 m)
Man (this file)	**23 in (58 cm)**	**2 in (5 cm) deep, 12½ in (32 cm) wide**	**about 240 yd (219 m)**

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Gauge

13 stitches and 14 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet, worked in rows.

The gauge is measured on the beard itself, along row 1, which sets its width.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After row 1 the row should measure about 11 in (28 cm) from end to end. If it measures more, begin again with a smaller hook; if less, with a larger one.

Notes

- Choose the size by the head or by the face. Head: put a soft tape round its widest part, across the middle of the forehead and just above the ears. Face: lay the tape from the front of one ear, across the chin just below the lower lip, to the front of the other ear; choose the size whose upper edge, named in the list below, is from 1 in (2.5 cm) to 3 in (8 cm) less than that; the two ear loops reach over the rest. A loop that is too short or too long is begun again with more or fewer chains: 3 chains are about 1 in (2.5 cm).
- The mustache sides are begun with a magic ring and worked in a spiral: no chain at the start of a round and no slip stitch at its end; put a marker in the first stitch of each round and move it up every round. The right side faces you.
- The chain at the start of a row does not count as a stitch. After the turn the first stitch of the row goes into the stitch nearest the hook, which is the last stitch of the row before, and the last goes into the first stitch of the row before, unless the line says otherwise. The chain skipped at the start of row 1 does not count as a stitch either.
- The number at the end of each line is the number of stitches it has when it is finished; chains and slip stitches that are not named there are not counted.
- Whip stitch: hold the two edges together and sew them over and over, the needle always going in from the same side, through one stitch of each edge at a time.
- The gold rings are worked in rows: the chain at the start of a row does not count as a stitch, and the first stitch after the turn goes into the last stitch of the row before.
- The mustache sides begin with a magic ring: wrap the yarn once round two fingers, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm), and with the hook draw a loop of the working yarn up through the ring; make 1 chain to hold the loop, and do not count it. Work the stitches of round 1 into the ring, over the tail too, then pull the tail until the ring is closed.
- The beard is worn by its two ear loops, which go over the ears; the base lies under the mouth from cheek to cheek, and the mustache over the upper lip.
- The base is worked in rows; the rows with odd numbers are worked with the right side toward you. The base grows in rows 3, 5 and 7, so that it bends. The gold rings are 3 rows of single crochet each, and a ring has no right or wrong side.

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Instructions

Man, head 23 in (58 cm). US terms.

ch chain, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **MR** magic ring, **st** stitch, **rnd** round.
RS right side, the one that shows.
2 sc in next st: both in one stitch. **sc in next 4 sts**: one in each.
[ ] 4 times: work what is inside 4 times in all.
(36 sc): the stitches you have when the row is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Special stitches

sc2tog (single crochet 2 together; UK dc2tog): Pull up a loop in each of the next 2 stitches, yarn over and pull through all 3 loops: 1 stitch decreased.

Beard

Yarn A, ginger.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 37, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm) before the first chain.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(36 sc)

> **Stop and measure now, after row 1.** The row should measure about 11 in (28 cm) from end to end. If it measures more, begin again with a smaller hook; if less, with a larger one.

☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(36 sc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 4 times**	(40 sc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(40 sc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 4 times**	(44 sc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(44 sc)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; **[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 4 times**	(48 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). Laid flat the base is now a band about 2 in (5 cm) deep that bends like a shallow bowl: its shorter edge, the beginning chain, is the upper edge, under the mouth, and its longer edge, row 7, is the lower edge.	

Ear loop: make 2

Yarn A, ginger.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 21, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm) before the first chain.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(20 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 10 in (25 cm) for sewing. Both tails are at the same short end of the strip, the end where row 1 ends; the other short end has none. The strip should measure about 6¼ in (16 cm) from end to end.	

Mustache side: make 2

Yarn A, ginger.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(4 sc)

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☐ **Rnds 2 to 4** 2 3 4	Sc in each st around	(4 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st	(5 sc)
☐ **Rnds 6 to 7** 6 7	Sc in each st around	(5 sc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnds 9 to 10** 9 10	Sc in each st around	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st	(7 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	Sc in each st around	(7 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st	(8 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	Sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	Sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st	(10 sc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	Sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st	(11 sc)
☐ **Rnd 17**	Sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 18**	Sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in next st	(13 sc)
☐ **Rnds 19 to 20** 19 20	Sc in each st around	(13 sc)
☐ **Rnd 21**	Sc in next 11 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**Sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts**] 2 times**	(10 sc)
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 25 in (64 cm) for sewing.	

Gold ring: make 4

Yarn B, old gold.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 10, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm) before the first chain.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(9 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 3** 2 3	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(9 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 12 in (30 cm) for sewing.	

Assembly

1. Ear loops: weave in the two ends of the base. Lay the base down with its right side up and its longer edge toward you. On each side edge put one short end of an ear loop strip on the wrong side of the end of row 1 and the other short end on the wrong side of the end of row 5, so that the strip stands out from the edge as a loop, not twisted, its right side uppermost. One short end of each strip has its two tails: sew that end down with the longer tail, with four stitches, and fasten off on the wrong side. The other short end has no tail: sew it down with a strand of yarn A 12 in (30 cm) long, with four stitches, and fasten both ends of the strand on the wrong side. It does not matter which of the

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two short ends is the upper one.

2. Fringe: cut 132 strands of yarn A, each 19 in (48 cm) long, for rows 7 and 4, and 54 strands, each 26 in (66 cm) long, for row 1. The base lies before you with its right side up and its longer edge toward you. Each knot takes two stitches of a row: fold its strands in half together; push the hook from right to left behind the posts of both stitches, catch the fold and draw it out behind the two posts to the right side of the base; put the ends through the fold and pull the knot tight, so that the ends hang toward the longer edge. Begin in row 7, along the longer edge, and count its 48 stitches from the left as they lie before you: with 3 of the shorter strands a knot round stitches 1 and 2, then round stitches 3 and 4 and so on, 24 knots. Do the same in row 4 with 3 of the shorter strands a knot (40 stitches, 20 knots). Then do it in row 1, on its 36 stitches, with 3 of the longer strands a knot: 18 knots. The fringe of each row hangs over the rows below it.

3. Trim: comb the fringe straight down with your fingers. Trim the ends of rows 7 and 4, and in row 1 those of knots 1 to 3, the two knots in the middle, 9 and 10, and the last 3 knots, along one rounded line: about 4 in (10 cm) long at the two outer ends of the base and about 7 in (18 cm) long in the middle, both measured from the longer edge of the base. Do not cut the ends of the other knots of row 1: they are the braids.

4. Braids: the left braid is made from knots 4 to 8 of row 1, counted from the left, the right braid from knots 11 to 15. Gather the 30 ends of one braid in your hand so that they hang straight down over the loose fringe, and tie them tightly together with a strand of yarn A 12 in (30 cm) long, about 1½ in (4 cm) below the longer edge of the base. Below this tie part the ends in three groups of 10 and braid them for about 5½ in (14 cm); tie the end of the braid with another strand of yarn A 12 in (30 cm) long, cut off the ends of the ties and trim the ends below the braid to about 1¼ in (3 cm). Do the same with the other braid. The loose fringe stays behind the braids.

5. Gold rings: lay a ring round each of the four ties, so that it hides the tie, its long edges running round the braid. Draw its two short ends together at the back of the braid as tightly as they will go, and with the long tail whip stitch them together, row end to row end (3), catching a few strands of the braid. Fasten off and hide both ends inside the braid.

6. Mustache: pull the ring at the tip of each side closed once more and run its tail down inside. Stuff both sides, the thin tips too. Hold the open ends of the two sides together and with one of the long tails whip stitch the two edges together all round, stitch to stitch (10), so that the two sides make one tube with a point at each end. Run this tail and the other long tail each down inside its own side and bring it out at round 9. Curl: take a strand of yarn A 20 in (51 cm) long for each side. Fasten it in the tip and run it in small stitches along the side that shall be the upper one, through every round, from round 1 to round 8; draw it in until the tip rolls up into a curl, fasten it there and run its ends inside.

7. Lay the beard down with its right side up. Pin the mustache over it, its curls turned up, its seam straight above the middle of the base, so that the lower edge of the seam is about ¾ in (2 cm) above the upper edge of the base: the opening between them is the mouth. Each side crosses the upper edge of the base at its 12th chain from the middle, with rounds 9 to 11 on the edge and the curl on the base beyond it. With the long tail of each side sew these rounds to rows 1 and 2 of the base, between the knots of the fringe and through to the wrong side, with eight stitches, and fasten off on the wrong side.

Finishing

- Weave in every end that is left on the wrong side of the beard.

In all: 9 pieces; 784 stitches (288 in the beard, 20 in each ear loop, 174 in each mustache side, 27 in each gold ring).

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

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