Cat ear hood

Woman, head 22 in (56 cm) · US terms



Finished size

About 21½ in (55 cm) round and about 18½ in (47 cm) tall; the first measure is round the cowl, and the second from the lower edge of the cowl, unrolled, to the seam along the top. The cowl is about 8 in (20 cm) high, and half as high when it is rolled down. The hood above it is about 10½ in (27 cm) high and, folded flat, about 9½ in (24 cm) from the front edge to the fold at the back, without its edging

To fit a head of 22 in (56 cm)

Skill

Easy

Half double crochet in rounds and rows, one seam, small pieces to sew on

Yarn

Medium (4), 2 colors

Hook

5.5 mm (US I-9)

Gauge

13 stitches and 10 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)

In half double crochet (UK half treble).

What you need

Yarn A: heathered graphite, the hood, the cowl, the ears and the paws **about 450 yd (411 m), an estimate**

Yarn B: blush pink, the face edge, the inner ears and the patches **about 40 yd (37 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 250 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 and pins.

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)	19 in (48 cm) round, 16 in (41 cm) tall	about 385 yd (352 m)
Teen	21 in (53 cm)	20¼ in (51 cm) round, 17½ in (44 cm) tall	about 440 yd (402 m)

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Woman (this file)	**22 in (56 cm)**	**21½ in (55 cm) round, 18½ in (47 cm) tall**	**about 490 yd (448 m)**

Gauge

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

The gauge is measured on the hood itself, round the outside of the cowl along round 3: if it measures more than the line under round 3 says, begin again with a smaller hook; if less, with a larger one. The heights are worked out from the rounds and rows: to 4 in (10 cm) go 10 of them. If yours are taller or lower, the hood comes out that much taller or lower.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After round 3, put a soft tape round the outside of the hood along that round, without pulling it in: the hood should measure about 21½ in (55 cm) round.

Notes

- Measure the head: put a soft tape round its widest part, across the middle of the forehead and just above the ears, and choose the size whose head measurement is nearest. If yours lies halfway between two sizes, take the larger. The hood is pulled on over the head. Its cowl is made about ½ to ¾ in (1.2 to 2 cm) smaller round than the head and gives as it is pulled on. The list below gives the measures of each size.
- The hood begins with a ring of chains: leave a tail of 6 in (15 cm) before the first chain, see that the chain is not twisted, and slip stitch in the first chain. Round 1 is worked into each chain, one stitch in each, the first of them into the chain that was joined. At the end sew the little gap at the foot of round 1 closed with the beginning tail.
- The patches, the paw pads and the toes 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 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 ears and the inner ears 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 right side of the cowl faces you in every round. A joined round begins with a chain that does not count as a stitch and ends with a slip stitch in its first stitch; the first stitch of the next round goes into the same place as that slip stitch. The line where the rounds are joined is the middle of the front. Work the chain at the beginning loosely.
- The first row of the hood begins with 4 slip stitches: the first of them goes into the joined stitch itself, the other three into the next 3 stitches. Chain 2 from there, and work the first half double crochet into the stitch after the 4th slip stitch. That row is worked with the right side facing; every later row begins with a chain and a turn. The chain at the start of a row does not count as a stitch. After the turn the first stitch goes into the last stitch of the row before, and the last one into the first stitch of the row before.
- 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. A toe has one round only: pull its ring closed before its slip stitch.

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Instructions

Woman, head 22 in (56 cm). US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **hdc** half double crochet (UK half treble), **MR** magic ring, **st** stitch, **rnd** round.

RS right side, the one that shows.

2 sc in next st: both in one stitch. **hdc in next 62 sts**: one in each.

[ ] 2 times: work what is inside 2 times in all.

(70 hdc): the stitches you have when the round 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.

hdc2tog (half double crochet 2 together; UK htr2tog): [Yarn over, pull up a loop in the next stitch] twice, yarn over and pull through all 5 loops: 1 stitch decreased.

Hood

Yarn A, heathered graphite.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 70, sl st in first ch to form a ring.	

Cowl

☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 2, hdc in each ch around, sl st in first hdc to join	(70 hdc)
☐ **Rnds 2 to 3**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(70 hdc)

The heavy box is where you stop and measure.

2 **3**

> **Stop and measure now, after round 3.** Put a soft tape round the outside of the hood along that round, without pulling it in: the hood should measure about 21½ in (55 cm) round.

☐ **Rnds 4 to 20**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(70 hdc)

4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Above the cowl

From here the hood is worked in rows. The 8 stitches at the middle of the front, 4 on each side of the line where the rounds are joined, are left free under the chin.

☐ **Row 21**	Sl st in next 4 sts, ch 2, hdc in next 62 sts, leave remaining 4 sts unworked	(62 hdc)
☐ **Rows 22 to 40**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in each st across	(62 hdc)

22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40

☐ **Row 41**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in next 29 sts, **[**hdc2tog over next 2 sts**] 2 times**, hdc in next 29 sts	(60 hdc)
☐ **Row 42**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in next 28 sts, **[**hdc2tog over next 2 sts**] 2 times**, hdc in next 28 sts	(58 hdc)
☐ **Row 43**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in next 27 sts, **[**hdc2tog over next 2 sts**] 2 times**, hdc in next 27 sts	(56 hdc)
☐ **Row 44**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in next 26 sts, **[**hdc2tog over next 2 sts**] 2 times**, hdc in next 26 sts	(54 hdc)
☐ **Row 45**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in next 25 sts, **[**hdc2tog over next 2 sts**] 2 times**, hdc in next 25 sts	(52 hdc)

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☐ **Row 46**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in next 24 sts, **[**hdc2tog over next 2 sts**] 2 times**, hdc in next 24 sts	(50 hdc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 30 in (76 cm) for the top seam.	

Ear: make 4

Yarn A, heathered graphite.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 12.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(11 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(11 sc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(9 sc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next st, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next st	(2 sc)
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts	(1 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Inner ear: make 2

Yarn B, blush pink.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 8.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next st, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next st	(2 sc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts	(1 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 20 in (51 cm) for sewing.	

Patch: make 2

Yarn B, blush pink.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(24 sc)

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☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 30 in (76 cm) for sewing.	

Paw pad: make 2

Yarn A, heathered graphite.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 20 in (51 cm) for sewing.	

Toe: make 8

Yarn A, heathered graphite.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 15 in (38 cm) for sewing.	

Assembly

1. Top seam: turn the hood inside out and fold its last row, row 46, in half, so that its first stitch lies on its last stitch. The long tail hangs at the front. With it whip stitch the two halves together from the front edge to the fold, one stitch to one stitch through both loops, 25 pairs. Fasten off and turn the hood right side out. The decreases in the last 6 rows make the back of the hood curve in toward the seam.

2. Face edge, in yarn B, 2 rounds of single crochet (UK double crochet) round the whole opening. Hold the hood upright with the right side of the front toward you. Round 1: join yarn B with a slip stitch in the first of the 8 free stitches at the middle of the front, the one at the right-hand end, ch 1, and beginning in the same stitch work 1 single crochet in each of the 8 free stitches of round 20 (4 of them carry the slip stitches of row 21: work over these, into the stitch itself) (8 sc); up the edge on your left [1 single crochet in the end of each of the next 2 rows, 2 single crochet in the end of the next row] 8 times, 1 single crochet in the end of each of the last 2 rows (34 sc); 1 single crochet in the end of the top seam (1 sc); down the edge on your right 1 single crochet in the end of each of the first 2 rows, [2 single crochet in the end of the next row, 1 single crochet in the end of each of the next 2 rows] 8 times (34 sc). Slip stitch in the first single crochet to join: 77 single crochet. Round 2: ch 1, 1 single crochet in each stitch around, the first in the joined stitch, slip stitch in the first single crochet to join (77 sc). Fasten off.

3. Ear edge, in yarn A: first weave in the ends of the four ear pieces on their wrong sides, the sides that faced you in row 2. Lay two of them on each other with their wrong sides together, point on point, the beginning chains at the bottom, and work through the edges of both at once. Join yarn A with a slip stitch in the lower right-hand corner, in the ends of row 1 of both pieces, ch 1, and beginning in the same place work 1 single crochet in the end of each of the 9 rows up to the point, 1 more single crochet in the end of row 9 at the point, and 1 single crochet in the end of each of the 9 rows down the other side: 19 single crochet. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 30 in (76 cm) for sewing the ear on. Make the second ear in the same way.

4. Inner ears: lay an inner ear on one face of each ear, its right side up, its beginning chain level with the beginning chains of the ear and the same number of stitches of the ear free on each side of it. With its tail whip stitch it down all round, through that face of the ear only. That face is the front of the ear.

5. Placing the ears. Each ear stands across the rows, parallel to the front edge, over the 4th stitch from the front edge (the pink edge is not counted), its front toward the face. On each side of the top seam leave 1 row free, row 46, and

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pin the straight edge of an ear over the next 10 rows, rows 45 to 36, the end of the ear nearest to the seam at the upper side of row 45 and its other end at the lower side of row 36. The straight edge of an ear, the ends of its edging included, is about 4 in (10 cm) long and 10 rows are about 4 in (10 cm) high: pin the two ends first and ease in what lies between them. Sew first the front edge and then the back edge of the ear to the hood, so that it stands upright.

6. Patches: before a piece is sewn down pull its ring tight and weave in the tail of the ring on its wrong side; its right side, the side that faced you, is up. Put each paw together first. Pin the paw pad on a patch, its center straight below the center of the patch on the line between round 2 and round 3, and the four toes in an arch above it, all with their centers on the line between round 3 and round 4 of the patch: the two inner toes one on each side of the line straight up from the center and about 3/8 in (1 cm) from it, the two outer toes level with the center of the patch, one at the left and one at the right. Whip stitch each down with its own tail all round, 12 stitches for a pad and 6 for a toe.

7. Roll the cowl down: fold it in half to the outside, so that its lower edge, the beginning chain, lies on round 20 at the foot of the hood. The wrong side of the lower half is now outside. Number the 70 stitches of round 5 from the line where the rounds are joined, which is the middle of the front: stitch 1 is just beside the line on one side and stitch 70 just beside it on the other. Pin a patch on the outside of the roll, through its outer layer only, with its center on round 5 over stitch 6, and the other with its center on round 5 over stitch 65, the toes up, toward the foot of the hood. Unroll the cowl and with the tail of each patch whip stitch it down all round, 30 stitches. Roll the cowl down again; the roll is not sewn.

Finishing

- Weave in every end that still hangs: in the lower half of the cowl on its right side, which the roll hides when the cowl is rolled down, the tail of the beginning chain too; everywhere else on the inside of the hood; and what is left of the tail of a patch under that patch.

In all: 19 pieces; 3,508 stitches (2,970 in the hood, 56 in each ear, 25 in each inner ear, 90 in each patch, 18 in each paw pad, 6 in each toe).

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

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