Cotton face mask

Adult · US terms



Finished size

About 7¼ in (18 cm) wide along the top and along the bottom, about 9¼ in (23 cm) across the middle and 5 in (13 cm) tall, measured over the curve, with the edges and without the elastic

To fit a face of 10¾ to 12 in (27 to 30.5 cm)

Skill

Easy

Single crochet, shaped at the middle

Yarn

Light (3), 2 colors

Hook

3.5 mm (US E-4)

Gauge

20 stitches and 22½ rows to 4 in (10 cm)

In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: storm, main	**about 50 yd (46 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, mask, row 1, mask, row 28, the right channel and the left channel	**about 25 yd (23 m), an estimate**

Fiber: cotton

Hook: 3.5 mm (US E-4), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, a tape measure, cotton fabric, washed, for the lining: 9½ in (24 cm) by 10¼ in (26 cm) for Adult, 7½ in (19 cm) by 8¼ in (21 cm) for Child, 10¾ in (27 cm) by 11 in (28 cm) for Large, soft elastic cord or flat elastic, ¼ in (6 mm) wide or less: 23 in (58 cm) for Adult, 19 in (48 cm) for Child, 25 in (64 cm) for Large and a sewing needle, sewing thread, pins and a blunt needle to draw the elastic through.

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	Fits	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Child	a face of 9 to 10¾ in (23 to 27 cm), from 5 years	5¾ in (15 cm) wide, 7¼ in (18 cm) across	about 50 yd (46 m)
Adult (this file)	**a face of 10¾ to 12 in (27 to 30.5 cm)**	**7¼ in (18 cm) wide, 9¼ in (23 cm) across**	**about 75 yd (69 m)**
Large	a face of 12 to 13½ in (30.5 to 34 cm)	8 in (20 cm) wide, 10½ in (27 cm) across	about 85 yd (78 m)

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Abbreviations

Written in US terms. Where the UK name differs it is given beside the US one.

ch	chain stitch
sl st	slip stitch: insert hook in the place named, yo, pull through it and the loop on hook (UK ss, slip stitch)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
sc2tog	single crochet 2 together: [insert hook in next st, yo, pull up a loop] 2 times, yo, pull through all 3 loops (UK dc2tog, double crochet 2 together)
RS	right side
st	stitch
yo	yarn over (UK yrh, yarn round hook)

Gauge

20 stitches and 22½ rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

The cloth should be close, so that no light shows between the stitches. Check it on the mask itself, laid flat and not stretched, when row 5 is done: 20 stitches in the middle of a row are about 4 in (10 cm) wide, and the 5 rows are about 7/8 in (2.3 cm) tall. If they measure more, start again with a smaller hook; if they measure less, with a larger one.

Before you start

- The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.
- "2 sc in next st, 2 sc in next st" puts 2 stitches in each of the two middle stitches: the middle of the mask grows and rounds out. The two sc2tog draw it in again for the nose.
- To choose a size, measure the face from the front of one ear, over the tip of the nose, to the front of the other ear. A face that is right between two sizes takes the larger. The elastic bridges what the mask does not cover.
- Odd-numbered rows are the right side.
- To change yarn, work the last yarn over of the last stitch of the row before with the new yarn. Cut the old yarn, leaving a tail of about 6 in (15 cm), and leave a tail of the same length on the new yarn.
- Leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) when you begin and when you fasten off, unless another length is given.
- 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. The first sc goes into the same place as the sl st.
- Both channels are worked with the right side of the mask facing you, from right to left. The right and the left side are named as the mask lies with its right side up and its last row at the top.
- A row end is the side of the first or the last stitch of a row: put the hook under two strands of it.
- 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.
- This mask keeps the face warm. It is not a medical mask, and it is no protection from illness, dust or smoke. It is not for a child under 5 years or for anyone who cannot take it off without help, and not for sleep or hard exercise.
- Wash it before the first use and after each use, with the knots of the elastic left tied.
- Use cotton yarn: it takes up water and stands up to washing.

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Instructions

Chosen: Adult. The count in round brackets at the end of a line is what that line leaves. Tick the box when a row is done. In UK terms sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet, sc2tog is double crochet 2 together and yo is yarn round hook.

Mask

Yarns in order of use: B, cream; A, storm.

Row 1 is the chin edge, and the last row lies on the nose. Both are cream, and all the rows between them are in A.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 33.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(32 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	With A, ch 1, turn; sc in next 15 sts, 2 sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 15 sts	**(34 sc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(34 sc)**
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 16 sts, 2 sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 16 sts	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 17 sts, 2 sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 17 sts	**(38 sc)**
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(38 sc)**
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 18 sts, 2 sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 18 sts	**(40 sc)**
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(40 sc)**
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 19 sts, 2 sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 19 sts	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rows 11 to 17**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(42 sc)**

A box for each row, 11 to 17: tick them off as you go.

☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17

☐ **Row 18**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 19 sts, sc2tog, sc2tog, sc in next 19 sts	**(38 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 19**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(40 sc)**
☐ **Row 20**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 18 sts, sc2tog, sc2tog, sc in next 18 sts	**(36 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 21**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(38 sc)**
☐ **Row 22**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 17 sts, sc2tog, sc2tog, sc in next 17 sts	**(34 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 23**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Row 24**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 16 sts, sc2tog, sc2tog, sc in next 16 sts	**(32 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 25**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(34 sc)**
☐ **Row 26**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 15 sts, sc2tog, sc2tog, sc in next 15 sts	**(30 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 27**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(32 sc)**
☐ **Row 28**	With B, ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(32 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

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Right channel

Yarn B, cream.

Turn the mask so that its right side edge is at the top, the right side of the cloth facing you. The end of row 1 is then at your right hand and the end of row 28 at your left. "End of next row" in the first line is the end of row 1: the sl st goes into it and the first sc into the same place, so that the 28 sc lie in the ends of rows 1 to 28.

☐ **Foundation**	Work along the ends of the rows on the right of the mask, right side facing: 28 row ends.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Join B with sl st in end of next row, ch 1, sc in end of each of next 28 rows	**(28 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(28 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 5: tick them off as you go.

2 3 4 5

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 26 in (66 cm) to sew the channel with.

Left channel

Yarn B, cream.

Turn the mask so that its left side edge is at the top, the right side of the cloth facing you. The end of row 28 is then at your right hand and the end of row 1 at your left. "End of next row" in the first line is the end of row 28: the sl st goes into it and the first sc into the same place, so that the 28 sc lie in the ends of rows 28 to 1.

☐ **Foundation**	Work along the ends of the rows on the left of the mask, right side facing: 28 row ends.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Join B with sl st in end of next row, ch 1, sc in end of each of next 28 rows	**(28 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(28 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 5: tick them off as you go.

2 3 4 5

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 26 in (66 cm) to sew the channel with.

Assembly

1. Weave in all the ends but the long tails of the two channels.

2. Lining: cut a rectangle of cotton fabric 9½ in (24 cm) wide and 10¼ in (26 cm) tall. Fold it in half across, right sides together, so that it is 5 1/8 in (13 cm) tall. Sew the three open sides with a seam ¼ in (6 mm) from the edge, but leave 2 in (5 cm) of the long side open. Turn it right side out through the opening, sew the opening closed and press it: about 9 in (23 cm) wide and 4 7/8 in (12.5 cm) tall, about ¼ in (6 mm) wider at each side than the part of the mask in A.

3. Pleats: lay the lining down with the side that will lie on the face under. At the middle of its top long edge pinch up a fold 1 in (2.5 cm) deep, lay it flat to the right and baste it with 3 stitches through all its layers, close to the edge. The fold takes up twice its depth, so the edge is now 2 in (5 cm) shorter. Do the same at the middle of its bottom long edge: a fold of the same depth, laid to the right again. Between the two the lining stays loose, as the middle of the mask does.

4. Lay the mask with its wrong side up and its last row at the top, and lay the lining on it, the side with the folds down, the pleats at the middle of the mask. Its top edge lies on the back of the last row, which is cream, and its bottom edge on the back of row 1, which is cream too, each about 1/8 in (3 mm) past the line where the cream begins. At each side it reaches past the part in A, over the channel. With sewing thread sew its top edge and its bottom edge to the backs of the cream stitches, from the first of the 32 cream stitches to the last, about 4 stitches to 1 in (2.5 cm), so that nothing shows on the right side.

5. Channels: at each side fold the 5 cream rows in half to the wrong side, so that the short edge of the lining lies inside the fold and the tops of row 5 lie on row 1. With the long tail, whip stitch row 5 to row 1 of the same channel: 28 stitches,

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each under both loops of a stitch of row 5, then through the lining and under one strand on the wrong side of the sc of row 1 that lies behind it. The first and the last of the stitches lie at the ends of the two cream rows, where the lining may not reach: there the needle goes through the crochet only. In all the stitches between them the lining is held in the seam. The two ends of the channel stay open. Weave in what is left of the tail.

6. Elastic: cut two lengths of elastic, 11½ in (29 cm) each. Thread a blunt needle with each and draw it through one channel, in at one end and out at the other. Try the mask on, tie the two ends of each length together at the length that is comfortable (the elastic draws the two sides of the mask in a little), trim them to ½ in (1.5 cm) and pull the knot into the channel.

Finishing

- All the ends are woven in as you put it together.

In all: 1,336 stitches (1,056 in the mask, 140 in the right channel, 140 in the left channel).

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