Cow ears headband

US terms



Finished size
About 20 in (51 cm) round, not stretched, and 1¾ in (4.4 cm) wide, with ears 3 in (7.6 cm) long and 1¾ in (4.4 cm) wide

Skill
Easy
15 pieces worked in rounds and rows and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 5 colors

Hook
3.5 mm (US E-4)

Gauge
20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet, in a spiral.

You will need

Yarn A: cream, band	**about 70 yd (64 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: black, several of the pieces	**about 65 yd (59 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: pink, ear front and flower	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: sand, horn and the details	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: yellow, flower	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

Hook: 3.5 mm (US E-4), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: toy stuffing, a yarn needle, a stitch marker, pins and scissors.

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 30 percent added.

Abbreviations

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

sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
ch	chain stitch
MR	magic ring
RS	right side
Rnd	round
st	stitch
BLO	back loop only

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Special stitches

bobble: [yarn over, insert hook in the stitch, pull up a loop, yarn over, pull through 2 loops] 4 times in the same stitch, yarn over, pull through all 5 loops (United Kingdom: a bobble of 4 trebles). Push it out to the right side. It leaves 1 st for the next row or round.

Gauge

20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet, in a spiral.

20 sc and 22 rows = 4 in (10 cm) in the rib of the band, lying flat, not stretched; the other pieces are worked at 20 sc and 22 rounds or rows to 4 in (10 cm).

Use any hook that gives you this. If you count more stitches than this in 4 in (10 cm), change to a larger hook; if you count fewer, to a smaller one.

Before you start

- Every piece that has rounds is worked in a continuous spiral with the right side facing you: do not join and do not turn. Put the marker in the first stitch of each round and move it up. Square brackets hold a repeat; work it as many times as the line says. The number in parentheses is the count at the end of the round.
- Leave a 12 in (30 cm) tail before the first chain of each ear front and each ear back.
- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work round 1 into the loop and pull the tail to close it. Or chain 2 and work round 1 into the first chain.
- Color change: where a line begins "With B," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in B. Cut the old yarn and knot the ends on the wrong side.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the headband. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- Running stitches go in and out along a line.
- In every step of putting it together: where a piece meets or overlaps another, sew through both. Where no tail is left or a tail is too short, sew with a new length of the yarn of the piece you are putting on.
- No plastic eyes are used.
- The band stretches. Measure round the head where the band will sit and make the band 2 in (5 cm) shorter. Go by the measure, not by the age: for another head work more or fewer rows, always an even number; two rows of rib are about 3/8 in (9 mm). Head 17 in (43 cm), a baby: 82 rows, about 15 in (38 cm) round, not stretched. Head 19½ in (49.5 cm), a child: 96 rows, about 17½ in (44.5 cm) round, not stretched. Head 22 in (56 cm), an adult (the size written here): 110 rows, about 20 in (51 cm) round, not stretched. Every other piece, and its place counted from the mark, stays the same.

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Instructions

Square brackets [ ] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. 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 sc is double crochet, sl st is slip stitch, hdc is half treble and dc is treble.

Band

Yarn A, cream.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 9 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 10.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 110**	Ch 1, turn, sc in BLO of each st across	**(9 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 110: tick them off as you go.

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59
60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88
89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110							

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing.	

Ear front: make 2

Yarns in order of use: C, pink; B, black.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 12; being careful not to twist the chain, sl st in the first ch to form a ring. Round 1 begins in that same ch.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Sc in each ch around	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 3 sts, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 3 sts	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	With B, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 3 sts, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 3 sts	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 7 sts, hdc in next st, 2 dc in each of next 2 sts, hdc in next st, sc in next 7 sts	**(35 sts)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing. Press it flat with the right side up, so that the ring of chains closes into a slit and one group of increases lies at each end. Sew the two sides of the slit together, chain to chain (6 chains on each side), with the tail at the start. The first 15 stitches of round 5 go round one end of the ear, the round end; the double crochet stitches are at the tip.	

Ear back: make 2

Yarn B, black.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 12; being careful not to twist the chain, sl st in the first ch to form a ring. Round 1 begins in that same ch.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Sc in each ch around	**(12 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 3 sts, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 3 sts	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 3 sts, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 3 sts	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 7 sts, hdc in next st, 2 dc in each of next 2 sts, hdc in next st, sc in next 7 sts	**(35 sts)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 32 in (81 cm) tail for sewing. Press it flat with the right side up, so that the ring of chains closes into a slit and one group of increases lies at each end. Sew the two sides of the slit together, chain to chain (6 chains on each side), with the tail at the start. The first 15 stitches of round 5 go round one end of the ear, the round end; the double crochet stitches are at the tip.	

Horn: make 2

Yarn D, sand.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 4 to 5**	Sc in each st around	**(8 sc)**

A box for each round, 4 to 5: tick them off as you go.

4 5

☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 7 to 8**	Sc in each st around	**(10 sc)**

A box for each round, 7 to 8: tick them off as you go.

7 8

☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 10 to 13**	Sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**

A box for each round, 10 to 13: tick them off as you go.

10 11 12 13

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly, but leave the last round empty.	

Patch: make 4

Yarn B, black.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next 3 sts, hdc in next st, 2 dc in each of next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st, sc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, 2 dc in next st, hdc in next st	**(18 sts)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

Spot: make 3

Yarn B, black.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each of next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, 2 dc in each of next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st	**(12 sts)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

Flower

Yarns in order of use: E, yellow; C, pink.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	With C, 2 sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, bobble in next st**] 6 times**	**(12 sts)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

Assembly

1. Lay the two ear backs behind the two ear fronts, one to each, wrong sides together, round end on round end, so that stitch 1 of round 5 of each lies on stitch 15 of the other. With the tail of the ear back sew the two edges together, stitch to stitch, all the way round (35 sts). Do not stuff.

2. Bend the band into a ring (its two sides look alike, so either may be outside) and sew the last row to the foundation chain, stitch to chain, with the tail of the band. This seam is the middle of the back. Put a marker opposite it, half way round, between rows 55 and 56 (in another size, at half of its rows): the mark is the middle of the front. Rows are counted from the mark to each side, the row beside it being row 1. Sew the two ears to the outside of the band, one to each side of the mark, the ear front to the front, each by 5 stitches of round 5. Count these stitches on the ear front, with its right side toward you: the ear to the right of the mark is sewn on by stitches 4 to 8 of round 5, the ear to the left by stitches 8 to 12. Both groups lie at the round end, one a little to one side of its middle and one a little to the other side (if you work left-handed, change the two groups about). Lay the 5 stitches upright against the 20th row from the mark, one to each of the upper 5 of the 9 stitches of the band, and ease their curve to the straight row: on the right stitch 4 is at the upper edge of the band and stitch 8 at the fifth stitch from the lower edge; on the left stitch 12 is at the upper edge and stitch 8 at the fifth stitch from the lower edge. Each ear now stands straight out from the band, like a flag from its pole, and its tip points out and up. Sew up along the front of these 5 stitches with the tail of the ear front (take it there inside the ear), then back down along the back of the same 5 places, through the edge of the ear back, so that the ear cannot swing to the front or to the back.

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3. Sew the two horns to the upper edge of the band, one to each side of the mark. Set the open edge (12 sts) of each over the upper edge of the band, on rows 5 to 9 from the mark: 5 stitches lie against the outside of the band and 5 against the inside, one stitch to each of these 5 rows, one stitch down from the upper edge; the 2 stitches left, one at each end, go over the upper edge. Sew all the way round with its tail, then round once more. With a new length of D bend each horn: first (round 1 is the tip) work a line of running stitches along its outer side, the side away from the mark, from round 12 to round 8, and draw it up a little, so that the horn leans out; then work a line along its inner side, the side toward the mark, from round 7 to round 2, and draw it up a little, so that the tip points up and a little toward the other horn.

4. Sew the four patches flat to the outside of the band, right side out, each turned a different way, the middle of its first round in the middle of the width of the band: one on the 8th row to the right of the mark, one on the 28th row to the right, one on the 13th row to the left and one on the 34th row to the left. Sew down all 18 stitches of each with its tail.

5. Sew the three spots flat to the outside of the band, right side out, each turned a different way: the middle of one on the 5th row to the left of the mark and on the fourth stitch from the lower edge of the band, the middle of one on the 15th row to the right and the middle of one on the 26th row to the left, both on the fourth stitch from the upper edge. Sew down all 12 stitches of each with its tail.

6. Sew the flower to the outside of the band, right side out, its middle on the mark and between the second and the third stitch from the upper edge of the band; its upper petals stand a little over the edge. Sew it down with its tail in a circle under round 2 and leave the petals free.

Finishing

- Weave in every end.

In all: 15 pieces; 1,942 stitches (990 in the band, 119 in each ear front, 119 in each ear back, 124 in each horn, 36 in each patch, 18 in each spot, 30 in the flower).

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