Deer ears and antlers headband

US terms



Finished size
About 20 in (51 cm) round, not stretched, 1 5/8 in (4.1 cm) wide and 5½ in (14 cm) tall with the antlers

Skill
Intermediate
17 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: tan, band and ear	**about 100 yd (91 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, inner ear	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: dark brown, antler and tine	**about 45 yd (41 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: moss green, leaf	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: berry red, berry	**about 10 yd (9 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)
sc2tog	single crochet 2 stitches together, through the front loops only: how is under “Before you start” (UK dc2tog, double cro
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
ch	chain stitch
MR	magic ring
RS	right side
Rnd	round
st	stitch
BLO	back loop only

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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 inner ear.
- 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.
- 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.
- To work sc2tog, put the hook under the front loop only of each of the next 2 stitches, yarn over, pull through both loops, yarn over, pull through 2 loops.
- 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 and sl st is slip stitch.

Band

Yarn A, tan.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 8 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 9.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 110**	Ch 1, turn, sc in BLO of each st across	**(8 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: make 2

Yarn A, tan.

☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	**(20 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 11 to 13**	Sc in each st around	**(20 sc)**

A box for each round, 11 to 13: tick them off as you go.

11 12 13

☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts**] 2 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	Sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	**(16 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 7 stitches.	

Inner ear: make 2

Yarn B, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 10; 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	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 2 sts, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 2 sts	**(22 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 20 in (51 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 (5 chains on each side), with the tail at the start.	

Antler: make 2

Yarn C, dark brown.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 2 to 5**	Sc in each st around	**(6 sc)**

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

☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(7 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 7 to 8**	Sc in each st around	**(7 sc)**

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

☐ 7 ☐ 8

☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 10 to 25**	Sc in each st around	**(8 sc)**

A box for each round, 10 to 25: tick them off as you go.

☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20 ☐ 21 ☐ 22 ☐ 23 ☐ 24 ☐ 25

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly, a little at a time, pushing it up to the tip with the blunt end of the hook.	

Tine: make 4

Yarn C, dark brown.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	5 sc in MR	**(5 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 3 to 8**	Sc in each st around	**(6 sc)**

A box for each round, 3 to 8: tick them off as you go.

☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly, a little at a time.	

Leaf: make 3

Yarn D, moss green.

☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	**(6 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 3 stitches.	

Berry: make 3

Yarn E, berry red.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**

Stuff firmly now, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(6 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail. Thread the tail through the front loop of each of the last 6 stitches and pull it tight to close the hole. Do not bury it: this tail sews the berry on.	

Assembly

1. Sew one inner ear flat to the side of each ear that will face forward, right side out: one end of it 3 rounds above the flat edge of the ear, the other toward the tip, the same distance from both sides. Go all the way round its edge (22 sts) with its tail.

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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 upper edge of the band, one to each side of the mark: leave 13 rows free beside the mark, and lay the flat edge (7 stitches) of each ear along the ends of the next 8 rows, on top of the edge, the inner ear to the front. Both point out to the side and up. Sew through both layers of the edge and the edge of the band with the tail of the ear, then go along the back of the same seam once more.

3. Sew one tine to the inner side of each antler, the side that will look toward the other antler: the middle of its open edge lies on round 16 of the antler (round 1 is the tip). It points up and in. Sew all the way round its 6-stitch edge with its tail.

4. Sew one tine to the outer side of each antler, opposite the first: the middle of its open edge lies on round 10 of the antler. It points out and up. Sew all the way round its 6-stitch edge with its tail.

5. Sew the two antlers to the upper edge of the band, one to each side of the mark. Set the open edge (8 sts) of each over the upper edge of the band at rows 5 to 7 from the mark, so that 4 stitches lie against the outside of the band and 4 against the inside, one stitch down from the edge. Sew all the way round with its tail, then round once more. Both lean out a little. Bend each so that its tip points up, and hold the curve with a few running stitches along its inner side, above the first tine, drawn up a little.

6. Sew the three leaves to the outside of the band at the mark. Round 1 of each is its tip and round 9 its flat edge. First the two side leaves: one points to the left and one to the right along the band; their flat edges (3 stitches each) stand upright, about 1/8 in (3 mm) from the mark, one on each side of it, and the middle of each flat edge is about 1/8 in (3 mm) below the middle of the width of the band. Then the third leaf: it points straight up; its flat edge lies level along the middle of the width of the band, its middle on the mark, over the flat edges of the side leaves, so that its tip stands about ¾ in (2 cm) above the upper edge of the band. Sew the flat edge of each with its tail. Catch each side leaf to the band along both its sides from round 9 to round 4, so that rounds 1 to 3 are free; catch the third leaf to the band along both its sides as far as the upper edge of the band, and leave the part above the band free.

7. Sew one berry over the flat edges of the leaves, a little to the left of the mark, its closed end against the leaves and its lower side level with the lower edge of the band. Sew it down with the tail left at its closed end, in a circle about 3/8 in (10 mm) across, and bury the rest of the tail inside.

8. Sew one berry on in the same way a little to the right of the mark, touching the first, and catch the two together.

9. Sew one berry on in the same way above the two, in the middle, touching both, and catch it to them.

Finishing

- Weave in every end.

In all: 17 pieces; 2,378 stitches (880 in the band, 252 in each ear, 48 in each inner ear, 187 in each antler, 47 in each tine, 76 in each leaf, 36 in each berry).

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