Elephant ears headband

US terms



Finished size
About 17½ in (44.5 cm) round, not stretched, 1¾ in (4.4 cm) wide, with ears 4 in (10 cm) long and 2 5/8 in (6.7 cm) wide

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

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 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: gray, the main color	**about 140 yd (128 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: pink, ear front	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: black, eye	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: white, the details	**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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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 A," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in A. 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: every detail is worked in yarn.
- 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 (the size written here): 96 rows, about 17½ in (44.5 cm) round, not stretched. Head 22 in (56 cm), an adult: 110 rows, about 20 in (51 cm) round, not stretched. Every other piece, and its place counted from the mark, stays the same. The adult band needs about 10 yd (9 m) more of A.

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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, gray.

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 96**	Ch 1, turn, sc in BLO of each st across	**(9 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 96: 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																					

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

Ear front: make 2

Yarns in order of use: B, pink; A, gray.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 14; 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	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	**(20 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts	**(26 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts	**(32 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts	**(38 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	With A, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts	**(44 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in each of next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, sc in next 4 sts	**(53 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 (7 chains on each side), with the tail at the start. The first 21 stitches of round 7 go round one end of the ear, the narrow end; the double crochet stitches are at the wide end.	

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Ear back: make 2

Yarn A, gray.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 14; 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	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	**(20 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts	**(26 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts	**(32 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts	**(38 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts	**(44 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in each of next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, sc in next 4 sts	**(53 sts)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 36 in (91 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 (7 chains on each side), with the tail at the start. The first 21 stitches of round 7 go round one end of the ear, the narrow end; the double crochet stitches are at the wide end.	

Trunk

Yarn A, gray.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in BLO of each st around	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 4 to 5**	Sc in each st around	**(10 sc)**

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

☐ 4 ☐ 5

☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc in BLO of each st around	**(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

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☐	**Rnd 9**	Working in BLO all the way round, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐	**Rnds 10 to 11**	Sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**

A box for each round, 10 to 11: tick them off as you go.

10 11

☐	**Rnd 12**	Sc in BLO of each st around	**(12 sc)**
☐	**Rnds 13 to 14**	Sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**

A box for each round, 13 to 14: tick them off as you go.

13 14

☐	**Rnd 15**	Working in BLO all the way round, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐	**Rnds 16 to 17**	Sc in each st around	**(14 sc)**

A box for each round, 16 to 17: tick them off as you go.

16 17

☐	**Rnd 18**	Sc in BLO of each st around	**(14 sc)**
☐	**Rnds 19 to 20**	Sc in each st around	**(14 sc)**

A box for each round, 19 to 20: tick them off as you go.

19 20

☐	**Rnd 21**	Working in BLO all the way round, **[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(16 sc)**
☐	**Rnd 22**	Sc in each st around	**(16 sc)**
☐	**End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge.	

Eye: make 2

Yarn C, 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)**
☐	**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, narrow end on narrow end, so that stitch 1 of round 7 of each lies on stitch 21 of the other. With the tail of the ear back sew the two edges together, stitch to stitch, all the way round (53 sts). Do not stuff.

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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 48 and 49 (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 6 stitches of round 7. 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 5 to 10 of round 7, the ear to the left by stitches 12 to 17. Both groups lie at the narrow 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 6 stitches upright against the 20th row from the mark, one to each of the upper 6 of the 9 stitches of the band, and ease their curve to the straight row: on the right stitch 5 is at the upper edge of the band and stitch 10 at the fourth stitch from the lower edge; on the left stitch 17 is at the upper edge and stitch 12 at the fourth stitch from the lower edge. Each ear now stands straight out from the band, like a flag from its pole, and its wide end points out and up. Sew up along the front of these 6 stitches with the tail of the ear front (take it there inside the ear), then back down along the back of the same 6 places, through the edge of the ear back, so that the ear cannot swing to the front or to the back.

3. Pin the trunk to the outside of the band, the middle of its open edge (16 sts) on the mark and in the middle of the width of the band; the edge covers rows 1 to 3 to each side of the mark. Sew all the way round with its tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches. It points straight forward. With a new length of A bend it twice. First work a line of running stitches along its upper side from round 20 to round 13 and draw it up until rounds 1 to 12 point straight up. Then work a line along its right side from round 9 to round 3 and draw it up until the tip points to the right and a little up.

4. Sew the two eyes flat to the outside of the band, right side out, one to each side of the mark: the middle of each on the 9th row from the mark and one stitch above the middle of the width of the band. Sew down all 12 stitches of each with its tail. The shine of both eyes is to the upper left.

Finishing

- Embroider with one strand of yarn and the yarn needle when the pieces round the place are sewn on, unless a line gives another time; begin and end each strand inside the toy.
- Eye shine: with D (white), on each eye, three upright straight stitches side by side, close together, each about 1/8 in (3 mm) long. Work them before the eyes are sewn to the band: hold the eye with the right side toward you; the middle of the three lies about 1/8 in (3 mm) above the middle of the eye and about 1/8 in (3 mm) to the left of it. Knot the ends on the wrong side of the eye.
- Weave in every end.

In all: 8 pieces; 2,072 stitches (864 in the band, 227 in each ear front, 227 in each ear back, 264 in the trunk, 18 in each eye).

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

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