Fox hood cowl

Child, head 19½ in (50 cm) · US terms



Finished size

About 19¼ in (49 cm) round and about 9½ in (24 cm) deep; the first measure is along the front edge, from one side of the neck over the top of the head to the other, and the second from the back seam to the outer edge of the front band. The neck band is about 16½ in (42 cm) long and 3¼ in (8 cm) high, and its ends stand about 1 in (2.5 cm) apart under the chin; the tail is about 8½ in (22 cm) long

To fit a head of 19½ in (50 cm)

Skill

Easy

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

Yarn

Medium (4), 3 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: fox orange, the hood, the ears, the neck band and the tail	**about 300 yd (274 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: warm cream, the front band, the inner ears and the tip of the tail	**about 40 yd (37 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: bark brown, the tips and the edges of the ears, the nose and the eyes	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 180 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, pins, 1 button about ¾ in (2 cm) across (or a flat snap fastener), a sewing needle and sewing thread for the button.

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
Toddler	18 in (46 cm)	16¾ in (43 cm) round, 8½ in (22 cm) deep	about 300 yd (274 m)

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Child (this file)	**19½ in (50 cm)**	**19¼ in (49 cm) round, 9½ in (24 cm) deep**	**about 360 yd (329 m)**
Teen	21 in (53 cm)	21½ in (55 cm) round, 10¼ in (26 cm) deep	about 415 yd (379 m)

Gauge

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

The gauge is measured on the hood itself, laid flat after the tenth row: along a row, which checks the stitches, and then across the rows, which sets the size along the front edge. If the rows measure more than they should, begin again with a smaller hook; if less, with a larger one.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After row 10, lay the piece flat without stretching it and measure it along a row: it should be about 8¼ in (21 cm) long.

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. A hood does not go round the whole head: it covers the top, the sides and the back, and its finished measures are those of its front edge and of its depth.
- The nose and the eyes 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 chain at the start of a row does not count as a stitch. After the turn the first stitch of the row goes into the stitch nearest the hook, which is the last stitch of the row before, and the last goes into the first stitch of the row before; the chains skipped at the start of row 1 do not count either.
- Back loop only: of the two loops at the top of a stitch work under the one that lies farther from you as you work, on the right side and on the wrong side alike.
- 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 and the neck band and the tail 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 hood is one flat strip: its rows run from the back of the hood to the front and back again, and the strip grows from one side of the neck over the top of the head to the other side of the neck. Row 1 begins at the back edge.
- To change yarn at the start of a row of an ear or of the tail, make the last yarn over of the last stitch of the row before with the new yarn; cut the old yarn, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).
- In the tail the buttonhole is made by 3 chains over 3 skipped stitches; the next row works 3 stitches into the space under those chains.
- 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. An eye has one round only: pull its ring closed before its slip stitch.

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Instructions

Child, head 19½ in (50 cm). US terms.

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

BLO: only the loop away from you. **sk** skip, **RS** right side, the one that shows.

2 hdc in next st: both in one stitch. **sc in next 7 sts**: one in each. **ch-3 sp**: the gap under three chains; the hook goes in the gap.

(27 hdc): the stitches you have when the row 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, fox orange.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 29.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Hdc in 3rd ch from hook and in each ch across	(27 hdc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 10**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in each st across	(27 hdc)

The heavy box is where you stop and measure.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 **10**

> **Stop and measure now, after row 10.** Lay the piece flat without stretching it and measure it along a row: it should be about 8¼ in (21 cm) long. Then measure across the rows: the 10 rows should measure about 4 in (10 cm) from the outer side of row 1 to the outer side of row 10. If the 10 rows measure more, begin again with a smaller hook; if less, with a larger one. If the 10 rows measure right and the row is longer or shorter than it should be, keep the hook: the hood comes out that much deeper or shallower, and its neck edge and neck band, 54 stitches long, come out longer or shorter by twice as much. The tail closes the collar in the same way.

☐ **Rows 11 to 48**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in each st across	(27 hdc)

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

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 45 in (114 cm) for the back seam.	

Ear: make 4

Yarns in order of use: A, fox orange; C, bark brown.

☐ **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; sc in each st across	(9 sc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(7 sc)

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☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 8**	With C, ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next st, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next st	(2 sc)
☐ **Row 11**	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, warm cream.

☐ **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; sc in each st across	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next st, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next st	(2 sc)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts	(1 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 25 in (64 cm) for sewing.	

Neck band

Yarn A, fox orange.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 56.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Hdc in 3rd ch from hook and in each ch across	(54 hdc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 8**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	(54 hdc)
	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Tail

Yarns in order of use: A, fox orange; B, warm cream.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 9.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Hdc in 3rd ch from hook and in each ch across	(7 hdc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 4**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in each st across	(7 hdc)
	2 3 4	
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 2, turn; 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 5 sts, 2 hdc in next st	(9 hdc)

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☐ **Rows 6 to 7** 6 7	Ch 2, turn; hdc in each st across	(9 hdc)
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in next 3 sts, ch 3, sk next 3 sts, hdc in next 3 sts	(6 hdc, 1 ch-3 sp)
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in next 3 sts, 3 hdc in next ch-3 sp, hdc in next 3 sts	(9 hdc)
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 2, turn; 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 7 sts, 2 hdc in next st	(11 hdc)
☐ **Rows 11 to 13** 11 12 13	Ch 2, turn; hdc in each st across	(11 hdc)
☐ **Row 14**	With B, ch 2, turn; hdc in each st across	(11 hdc)
☐ **Row 15**	Ch 2, turn; hdc2tog over next 2 sts, hdc in next 7 sts, hdc2tog over next 2 sts	(9 hdc)
☐ **Row 16**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in each st across	(9 hdc)
☐ **Row 17**	Ch 2, turn; hdc2tog over next 2 sts, hdc in next 5 sts, hdc2tog over next 2 sts	(7 hdc)
☐ **Row 18**	Ch 2, turn; hdc2tog over next 2 sts, hdc in next 3 sts, hdc2tog over next 2 sts	(5 hdc)
☐ **Row 19**	Ch 2, turn; hdc2tog over next 2 sts, hdc in next st, hdc2tog over next 2 sts	(3 hdc)
☐ **Row 20**	Ch 2, turn; hdc2tog over next 2 sts, hdc in next st	(2 hdc)
☐ **Row 21**	Ch 2, turn; hdc2tog over next 2 sts	(1 hdc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Nose

Yarn C, bark brown.

☐ **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.	

Eye: make 2

Yarn C, bark brown.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	8 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(8 sc)
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 15 in (38 cm) for sewing.	

Assembly

1. Back seam: the strip has two long edges made of the ends of its rows. The back edge is the one where the long tail hangs; the front edge is the other one. Fold the strip in half with the right side in, so that the last row lies against the beginning chain and the two halves of the back edge lie on each other. With the long tail whip stitch the back edge together from the corner where that tail hangs up to the fold, the end of one row to the end of one row, 24 rows on each side. Do not cut the tail: it now hangs at the fold, where seam and fold meet in a point.

2. Rounding the back: with the hood still inside out flatten that point, so that the seam runs down the middle of a small

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triangle. Measure 2 in (5 cm) from the tip along the seam, and there sew straight across the triangle with the same tail, in running stitch through both layers, about 4 in (10 cm) from edge to edge, and back again. Fasten off and leave the little triangle inside. Turn the hood right side out: its back is round now. The long edge that is still open is the front, round the face; the beginning chain and the last row lie beside each other as the neck.

3. Front band, in yarn B, the fox's muzzle edge, worked in 3 rows. Hold the hood with the right side toward you and the front edge at the top. Row 1 (RS): join yarn B with a slip stitch in the end of row 48, the last row of the strip, at the right-hand corner, ch 1, and beginning in the same place work [1 single crochet in the end of each of the next 2 rows, 2 single crochet in the end of the next row] 16 times, ending in the end of row 1 (64 sc). Row 2: ch 2, turn, half double crochet in each stitch across (64 hdc). Row 3: like row 2 (64 hdc). Fasten off.

4. Neck edge, in yarn A, worked once along the neck. Hold the hood with the right side toward you and the neck at the top. Join yarn A with a slip stitch in the end of row 3 of the front band at the right-hand corner, ch 1, and beginning in the same place work 1 single crochet in the end of each of the 3 rows of the front band (3 sc); along the first half of the neck [1 single crochet in each of the next 7 stitches, sc2tog over the next 2 stitches] 3 times (24 sc); pass the seam without a stitch and work along the second half in the same way (24 sc); 1 single crochet in the end of each of the 3 rows of the front band (3 sc): 54 single crochet in all. One half of the neck is the beginning chain: there the stitches go into the chains, one chain counting as one stitch. Fasten off. If the row was about 8¼ in (21 cm) long when you measured along it after row 10, the neck edge is now about 16½ in (42 cm) long.

5. Sewing on the neck band: lay its beginning chain against the neck edge of the hood, the right sides of both outward, and pin them, one chain to one single crochet; the 2 chains that row 1 skipped are not counted. With a strand of yarn A 50 in (127 cm) long whip stitch them together, 54 stitches, from one front corner of the hood to the other.

6. Ear edge, in yarn C: 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 C 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 11 rows up to the point, 1 more single crochet in the end of row 11 at the point, and 1 single crochet in the end of each of the 11 rows down the other side: 23 single crochet. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). Make the second ear in the same way.

7. 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.

8. Placing the ears: the middle of the top of the head lies between row 24 and row 25 of the strip. Each ear stands across the rows, parallel to the front band, over the 8th stitch of a row counted from the front band. On each side of the middle leave 3 rows free and pin the straight edge of an ear over the next 10 rows, one ear over rows 12 to 21, the other over rows 28 to 37, the inner ear toward the front band and the point up. 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 its two ends first, at the outer sides of the first and the last of these rows, and ease in what lies between them. For each ear take a strand of yarn A 30 in (76 cm) long and sew first the front edge and then the back edge of the ear to the hood, so that it stands upright.

9. Eyes and nose: 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. Nose: flatten it to an oval and sew it, the long way along the band, with its center on row 2 of the front band, at the middle of the top, with its own tail, 12 whip stitches. Eyes: pin each with its center over the 4th stitch of the strip counted from the front band, one on row 22, the other on row 27, and whip stitch each down with its own tail, 8 stitches. With a strand of yarn B 12 in (30 cm) long make one short stitch on the upper half of each eye as a light.

10. Tail: its base is its beginning chain, 7 stitches wide. Hold the hood upright with the face toward you, the right side of the neck band and of the tail outward, the base of the tail at your right and its tip at your left. Lay rows 1 to 3 of the

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tail on the outside of the end of the neck band at your right, so that the upper edge of row 3 is level with the end of the band and the tail lies in the middle of the height of the band: the band is about 3¼ in (8 cm) high and the base about 2¼ in (6 cm). The rest of the tail reaches beyond the band, across under the chin to your left. With a strand of yarn A 25 in (64 cm) long whip stitch the beginning chain and the ends of rows 1 to 3 on both sides of the tail to the band, and on the inside the end of the band to the back of row 3.

11. Button: bring the tail across under the chin and lay it on the outside of the neck band at your left, again in the middle of its height, so that the two ends of the neck band lie about 1 in (2.5 cm) apart. Mark through the buttonhole, the gap in row 8 of the tail, where the button belongs on the band: it is about ¾ in (2 cm) from the end of the band. Sew the button firmly there with the sewing thread and button the tail. Beyond the button the tail hangs free. For a child under three a flat snap fastener can be sewn on instead of the button, one half behind the buttonhole and the other on the band.

Finishing

- Weave in every end that still hangs: the ends of the fox's tail on its wrong side, the side that faced you in row 2 of the tail; the ends of an inner ear between it and the ear; all the others on the inside of the hood and the neck band, where an end that hangs on the outside is first drawn through.

In all: 12 pieces; 2,263 stitches (1,296 in the hood, 70 in each ear, 30 in each inner ear, 432 in the neck band, 161 in the tail, 18 in the nose, 8 in each eye).

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

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