Tiny sun hat for a hen

Hen, head 5¼ in (13 cm) · US terms



Finished size

About 5¼ in (13 cm) round and about 1¾ in (4 cm) deep, measured along the cloth from the center of the top to where the brim begins, with a brim about 1¼ in (3 cm) wide; the edge of the brim is about 12½ in (32 cm) round, and each tie is about 9 in (23 cm) long

To fit a head of 5¼ in (13 cm)

Skill

Easy

A small spiral with a brim, twisted ties

Yarn

Fine (2), 2 colors

Hook

3.75 mm (US F-5)

Gauge

18 stitches and 20 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)

In single crochet (UK double crochet).

What you need

Yarn A: straw, the crown and the brim **about 25 yd (23 m), an estimate**

Yarn B: barn red, the band, the edge and the ties **about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 10 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 350 yd (320 m).

Hook: 3.75 mm (US F-5), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a soft tape measure, a stitch marker, a yarn needle 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 and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

Sizes

Size	Head	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Bantam	4 in (10 cm)	4 in (10 cm) round, 1½ in (4 cm) deep	about 25 yd (23 m)
Hen (this file)	**5¼ in (13 cm)**	**5¼ in (13 cm) round, 1¾ in (4 cm) deep**	**about 40 yd (37 m)**

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Gauge

18 stitches and 20 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

The gauge is measured on the hat itself, at the two places the rounds name: across the crown, which checks the height of the rounds, and round the outside of the hat with a soft tape, along the round just worked, which checks the stitches and so the size round. If the hat measures more round than its round says, begin again with a smaller hook; if less, with a larger one. If it is right round and the crown measures more than it says, your rounds are taller than the gauge and the hat will come out deeper than stated; if the crown measures less, it will come out shallower.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After round 7, put a soft tape round the outside of the hat along that round, without pulling it in: the hat should measure about 5¼ in (13 cm) round.

The pattern also stops you to measure after round 4.

Notes

- Measure the hen before you choose a size: lay a soft tape loosely round her head just behind the comb, in front of the ears and under the chin, without pressing the feathers flat; this is the "head" in the list of sizes. The crown is as large round as that head and no smaller, so it rests on the feathers and does not grip; the ties alone hold it. For a hen between the two sizes take the larger one.
- The hat begins with a 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. Keep that loop on the hook and make the chain that round 1 begins with; where round 1 names no chain, 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.
- The right side of the hat faces you in every round; the rounds are never turned.
- The rounds of the hat are worked in a spiral: do not join; put a marker in the first stitch of each round and move it up every round.
- To change yarn at the start of a round, finish the last stitch of the round before with the new yarn. Where a yarn rests for 4 rounds or fewer before it is used again, carry it up the inside; where it rests for more, or is not used again, cut it, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).
- Front loop only: of the two loops at the top of a stitch work under the one that lies nearer to you as you work.
- 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.
- The first round of the brim goes into the front loops of the last round of the band, so that the brim begins with a bend; the back loops stay on the inside. All other rounds go under both loops.
- The hat sits on top of the head, behind the comb or over a low one; a tall comb must stand free in front of the brim, and the brim must not reach over the eyes. Pull the brim up at the front if it does.
- Tie the ties under the chin in a loose bow that comes undone with one pull, with room for two fingers under it. Put the hat on for a few minutes only, while you hold the hen or stand beside her, and take it off as soon as she minds it.
- Nothing on the hat may hang loose: a hen pecks at every thread she sees. Weave each end in twice, forward and back, before you cut it.

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Instructions

Hen, head 5¼ in (13 cm). US terms.

sc single crochet (UK double crochet), **MR** magic ring, **st** stitch, **rnd** round.
FLO: only the loop nearest you. **RS** right side, the one that shows.
2 sc in next st: both in one stitch. **sc in next 2 sts**: one in each.
[ ] 6 times: work what is inside 6 times in all.
(6 sc): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Yarns in order of use: A, straw; B, barn red.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	

Crown

☐ **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)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(24 sc)

> **Stop and measure now, after round 4.** The crown, laid flat, should measure about 1½ in (4 cm) across.

Sides

☐ **Rnds 5 to 7**	Sc in each st around	(24 sc)

The heavy box is where you stop and measure.

5 6 **7**

> **Stop and measure now, after round 7.** Put a soft tape round the outside of the hat along that round, without pulling it in: the hat should measure about 5¼ in (13 cm) round.

Band

☐ **Rnd 8**	With B, sc in each st around	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in each st around	(24 sc)

Brim

☐ **Rnd 10**	With A, **[**sc in FLO of next 3 sts, 2 sc in FLO of next st**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	(38 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**, **[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	(44 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 4 times**	(50 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**Sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**, **[**sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	(56 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	With B, sc in each st around	(56 sc)
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

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Assembly

1. Pull the ring at the start of the hat closed once more and weave its tail through the stitches of round 1 on the inside.

2. Ties: the back loops of round 9, the last red round above the brim, lie free on the inside of the hat. Number the 24 stitches of that round in the order they were worked; the middle of the back lies between stitch 24 and stitch 1. Make one tie at the back loops of stitches 6 and 7 and one at the back loops of stitches 18 and 19: these are the two sides. For each tie cut 2 strands of yarn B 30 in (76 cm) long. With the hook pull them halfway under those two loops, so that 4 ends hang level. Part them in 2 pairs, the two ends that come out on each side of the loops, twist each pair to the right until it begins to kink, hold the two pairs side by side and let them wind round each other to the left. Knot the cord at about 9 in (23 cm), pull the knot very tight and cut the ends to about ¼ in (0.5 cm) below it.

Finishing

- Weave in every end on the inside of the hat.

In all: 15 rounds; 454 stitches.

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

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