Koala baby hat

Baby, 3 to 6 months, head 15 in (38 cm) · US terms



Finished size
About 13¾ in (35 cm) round and about 5¾ in (15 cm) deep
To fit a head of 15 in (38 cm)

Skill
Intermediate
Joined rounds, loop stitch, small pieces sewn on

Yarn
Light (3), 3 colors

Hook
4.5 mm (US 7)

Gauge
15 stitches and 12 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In half double crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: silver gray, the hat and the ears	**about 105 yd (96 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: white, the inner ears	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: black, the nose, the eyes and the smile	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**

Hook: 4.5 mm (US 7), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a soft tape measure, a stitch marker, a yarn needle, scissors, pins and a little toy stuffing for the nose.

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
Newborn	13½ in (34 cm)	12½ in (32 cm) round, 5 in (13 cm) deep	about 100 yd (91 m)
Baby, 3 to 6 months (this file)	**15 in (38 cm)**	**13¾ in (35 cm) round, 5¾ in (15 cm) deep**	**about 125 yd (114 m)**
Baby, 6 to 12 months	16½ in (42 cm)	15½ in (39 cm) round, 6½ in (17 cm) deep	about 145 yd (133 m)
Toddler	18 in (46 cm)	17 in (43 cm) round, 7½ in (19 cm) deep	about 175 yd (160 m)

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Abbreviations

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

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

Special stitches

slp (short loop stitch): It is worked with the wrong side of the ear facing you, and its loop hangs on the far side, which is the right side. Insert the hook in the place named, wrap the yarn over a finger of the other hand, held behind the work, to make a loop about ½ in (1.5 cm) long, catch both strands at the foot of that loop with the hook and pull them through the stitch (3 loops on the hook), let the loop slip off the finger, yarn over and pull through all 3 loops. Tug each loop once, so that it holds. In the next round the stitch over a short loop stitch goes under its two top loops, as usual. It leaves 1 short loop stitch for the next round.

Gauge

15 stitches and 12 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in half double 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. The depths given are worked out from the rounds: to 4 in (10 cm) go 16 rounds of single crochet or 12 rounds of half double crochet.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After round 10, put a soft tape round the outside of the hat along that round, without pulling it in: the hat should measure about 13¾ in (35 cm) round.

The pattern also stops you to measure after round 6.

Before you start

- On a baby: sew every part on firmly all round, and take the hat off for sleep.
- Measure the head if you can: 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. Each size is made about 1 in (2.5 cm) smaller round than the head it is for, as nearly as whole repeats of its stitches allow, so that it stays on.
- The pattern is written in United States terms, the directions of the special stitches too; the United Kingdom term stands beside each stitch in the list of abbreviations.
- 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.

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- A joined round begins with a chain that does not count as a stitch and ends with a slip stitch in its first stitch. Unless the line says otherwise, the first stitch of the next round goes into the same place as that slip stitch.
- The inner ears, the nose and the eyes are begun with a magic ring like the hat 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.
- 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.
- 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 ears are begun with a magic ring like the hat and worked in a spiral from the wrong side: in every round the wrong side of the ear faces you, and the loops of rounds 4 and 5 hang on the far side, which is the right side. 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. Leave the loops whole.
- Back stitch, as it is used for the embroidery: thread the needle and fasten the yarn on the wrong side, behind the place where the line begins. First stitch: come up one stitch length along the line from its beginning and go down at the beginning. Every stitch after it: come up one stitch length farther along the line than the end of the stitch just worked, and go down in the hole at that end, so that the stitches touch.
- Baby, 3 to 6 months: for a head of 15 in (38 cm). The finished hat is about 13¾ in (35 cm) round and about 5¾ in (15 cm) deep.

Instructions

Chosen: Baby, 3 to 6 months, head 15 in (38 cm). 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 round is done. In UK terms sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet and hdc is half treble.

Hat

Yarn A, silver gray.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	

Crown

☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 2, 8 hdc in MR, sl st in first hdc to join	**(8 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 2, 2 hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	**(16 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 2, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(24 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(32 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 2, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(40 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 4 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(48 hdc)**

Stop and measure now, after round 6. The crown, laid flat, should measure about 4 in (10 cm) across.

☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 11 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 4 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(52 hdc)**

Sides

☐ **Rnds 8 to 10**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	**(52 hdc)**

A box for each round, 8 to 10: tick them off as you go. The heavy box is where you stop and measure.

8 9 **10**

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> **Stop and measure now, after round 10.** Put a soft tape round the outside of the hat along that round, without pulling it in: the hat should measure about 13¾ in (35 cm) round.

☐ **Rnds 11 to 15**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	**(52 hdc)**

A box for each round, 11 to 15: tick them off as you go.

☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15

Band

☐ **Rnds 16 to 18**	Ch 1, sc in BLO of each st around, sl st in first sc to join	**(52 sc)**

A box for each round, 16 to 18: tick them off as you go.

☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Ear: make 2

Yarn A, silver gray.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**Slp in next 2 sts, 2 slp in next st**] 6 times**	**(24 slp)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**Slp in next 3 sts, 2 slp in next st**] 6 times**	**(30 slp)**
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 25 in (64 cm) for sewing.	

Inner ear: make 2

Yarn B, white.

☐ **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 next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 20 in (51 cm) for sewing.	

Nose

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)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 20 in (51 cm) for sewing.	

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Eye: make 2

Yarn C, black.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	8 sc in MR	**(8 sc)**
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 12 in (30 cm) for sewing.	

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. Small pieces: before a piece is sewn on, pull its ring tight once more and weave in its starting tail on its wrong side. Sew it on with its own long tail, its right side outward.

3. Ears: the wrong side of an ear is the side without loops. Lay an inner ear, its right side up, on the middle of the side of an ear that has the loops, so that it covers the 3 rounds without loops, and sew it down all round by the stitches of its last round, with the loops of the ear standing out round it. That face is the front of the ear.

4. Lay the hat flat with the line where its rounds are joined at the middle of the back, the center of the top at the middle of the upper fold: the fold on each side is then the side of the hat. An ear stands out at each side, its front toward the front of the hat. Lay 8 stitches of its edge, next to its sewing tail, along a straight line that runs up and down 3 stitches in front of the fold, the middle of them on round 7 of the hat, counted from the center of the top, and sew them to the hat along the back of the ear and then along its front, between the loops.

5. The middle of the front is opposite the line where the rounds of the hat are joined; fold the hat in half there to find it. Mark with pins the straight line that runs from there up to the center of the top. Where a place is given by a round and a number of stitches from the middle of the front, count the rounds from the center of the top and the stitches along that round from the marked line; left and right are meant as you look at the front. Nose: shape its open edge to an oval about 1¼ in (3 cm) wide and 1¾ in (4 cm) tall and sew it upright to the middle of the front, its center on round 11 of the hat, all round by the stitches of its last round; before the last third is closed, fill it lightly with stuffing, so that it stands out about ¼ in (0.5 cm).

6. Eyes: sew one eye on each side of the nose, its center on round 10 of the hat, 5 stitches from the middle of the front. With a strand of yarn B 12 in (30 cm) long for each, work one French knot on each eye, on the upper right as you look at it, about halfway between its center and its edge. French knot: bring the needle up from below, wrap the yarn 2 times round it close to the cloth, hold the wraps snug and go down again one thread away from where it came up.

7. Smile: with a strand of yarn C 30 in (76 cm) long, held double in the needle, work in back stitch on the hat, each back stitch about ¼ in (0.6 cm) long. First 1 stitch straight down from the middle of the lower edge of the nose. From the lower end of that stitch work two curves, one to the left and one to the right, the same on both sides. Each has 4 stitches, so that it is about 1 in (2.5 cm) long: the first slants outward and down, its outer end about 1/8 in (0.3 cm) lower than its beginning; the second lies level; the third and the fourth slant outward and up, so that the curve ends about ¼ in (0.6 cm) higher than its level stitch.

Finishing

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

In all: 8 pieces.

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