Long costume beard

Man, head 23 in (58 cm) · US terms



Finished size

About 12¼ in (31 cm) long and about 9½ in (24 cm) wide, measured without the loops of its loop stitches, which hang about 2 in (5 cm) lower; the mouth is about 2¾ in (7 cm) wide

To fit a head of 23 in (58 cm)

Skill

Easy

Single crochet and loops in rows, one opening, no seam

Yarn

Medium (4), 3 colors

Hook

5.5 mm (US I-9)

Gauge

13 stitches and 14 rows to 4 in (10 cm)

In single crochet, worked in rows.

What you need

Yarn A: heathered pewter gray, the upper part of the beard and the ear loops	**about 115 yd (105 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: heathered silver gray, the middle of the beard	**about 45 yd (41 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: soft white, the point of the beard and the mustache	**about 50 yd (46 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 110 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 yarn needle, scissors, pins and a strip of stiff card 2½ in (6 cm) wide and about 6 in (15 cm) long for the loops.

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
Child	19½ in (50 cm)	8¾ in (22 cm) long, 7 in (18 cm) wide	about 125 yd (114 m)
Teen	21 in (53 cm)	10½ in (27 cm) long, 8¼ in (21 cm) wide	about 165 yd (151 m)
Woman	22 in (56 cm)	11¾ in (30 cm) long, 9 in (23 cm) wide	about 190 yd (174 m)
Man (this file)	**23 in (58 cm)**	**12¼ in (31 cm) long, 9½ in (24 cm) wide**	**about 210 yd (192 m)**

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Gauge

13 stitches and 14 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet, worked in rows.

The gauge is measured on the beard itself, at the places the rows name: along a row, which sets the width, and from the beginning chain down, which sets the length. If it is right along a row and longer or shorter than it should be, keep the hook: the beard only comes out that much longer or shorter.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After row 3 the beard should measure about 9½ in (24 cm) along a row, laid flat. If it measures more, begin again with a smaller hook; if less, with a larger one.

Notes

- Choose the size by the head or by the face. Head: put a soft tape round its widest part, across the middle of the forehead and just above the ears. Face: lay the tape from the front of one ear, under the nose and over the upper lip, to the front of the other ear; choose the size whose width in the list below, the length of its upper edge, is from 1 in (2.5 cm) to 2½ in (6 cm) less than that; the two ear loops reach over the rest. A loop that is too short or too long is begun again with more or fewer chains: 3 chains are about 1 in (2.5 cm).
- 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, unless the line says otherwise. The chain skipped at the start of row 1 does not count as a stitch either.
- 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 beard is worn by its two ear loops, which go over the ears, the side with the loops outward; the mouth is left free.
- The rows with odd numbers are worked with the right side toward you and are plain single crochet; in the rows with even numbers the wrong side faces you and the loops are made. The beard is worked from its upper edge down to its point, so the loops hang the way they should. A row of beard loop stitch is counted as high as a row of single crochet.
- The yarn changes twice, each time for a row with an even number: row 22 is the first row of yarn B and row 32 the first row of yarn C. Make the last yarn over of the row before with the new yarn, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm), and cut the old yarn, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).

Instructions

Man, head 23 in (58 cm). US terms.

ch chain, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **st** stitch, **sp** space.

sk skip, **RS** right side, the one that shows.

ch-11 sp: the gap under eleven chains; the hook goes in the gap.

(31 sc): 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.

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blp (beard loop stitch): It is worked with the wrong side facing you, and its loop hangs on the far side, which is the right side. Hold the strip of card upright behind the work, its long edges running from left to right and its upper edge level with the stitches you work into. Lead the working yarn over the upper edge of the card, down its far side, under its lower edge and up again between the card and the work. Insert the hook in the place named, with it catch both strands at the upper edge of the card, the one that goes over the edge and the one that has come up, and pull them through the stitch (3 loops on the hook); yarn over with the working yarn and pull through all 3 loops. Slide the loop off the card when the card is full; each loop is then about 2½ in (6 cm) long. Tug it once from the right side, so that it holds. In the next row the stitch over a beard loop stitch goes under its two top loops, as usual.

Beard

Yarns in order of use: A, heathered pewter gray; B, heathered silver gray; C, soft white.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 32, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm) before the first chain.	

Above the mouth

☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(31 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; blp in next 11 sts, sc in next 9 sts, blp in next 11 sts	(22 blp, 9 sc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(31 sc)

> **Stop and measure now, after row 3.** The beard should measure about 9½ in (24 cm) along a row, laid flat. If it measures more, begin again with a smaller hook; if less, with a larger one.

☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; blp in next 11 sts, ch 11, sk next 9 sts, blp in next 11 sts	(22 blp, 1 ch-11 sp)

In row 4 the 9 stitches that are skipped are the upper edge of the mouth and the chain is its lower edge; the chain is 2 longer than the stitches it skips, so that the mouth stands open.

☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 11 sts, 9 sc in next ch-11 sp, sc in next 11 sts	(31 sc)

Below the mouth

☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(31 blp)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(31 sc)
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(31 blp)
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(31 sc)
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(31 blp)
☐ **Row 11**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(31 sc)
☐ **Row 12**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(31 blp)
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(31 sc)

> **Stop and measure now, after row 13.** The beard should measure about 3¾ in (10 cm) from its beginning chain straight down to row 13, without the loops.

☐ **Row 14**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(31 blp)
☐ **Row 15**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 27 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(29 sc)
☐ **Row 16**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(29 blp)
☐ **Row 17**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(29 sc)

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☐ **Row 18**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(29 blp)
☐ **Row 19**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 25 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(27 sc)
☐ **Row 20**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(27 blp)
☐ **Row 21**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(27 sc)
☐ **Row 22**	With B, ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(27 blp)
☐ **Row 23**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 23 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(25 sc)
☐ **Row 24**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(25 blp)
☐ **Row 25**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(25 sc)
☐ **Row 26**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(25 blp)
☐ **Row 27**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 21 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(23 sc)
☐ **Row 28**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(23 blp)
☐ **Row 29**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 19 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(21 sc)
☐ **Row 30**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(21 blp)
☐ **Row 31**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 17 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(19 sc)
☐ **Row 32**	With C, ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(19 blp)
☐ **Row 33**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 15 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(17 sc)
☐ **Row 34**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(17 blp)
☐ **Row 35**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 13 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(15 sc)
☐ **Row 36**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(15 blp)
☐ **Row 37**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 11 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(13 sc)
☐ **Row 38**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(13 blp)
☐ **Row 39**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(9 sc)
☐ **Row 40**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(9 blp)
☐ **Row 41**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc in next st, sc2tog over next 2 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 42**	Ch 1, turn; blp in each st across	(5 blp)
☐ **Row 43**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(5 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). The beard, without its loops, should now measure about 12¼ in (31 cm) from its beginning chain straight down to the last row.	

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Ear loop: make 2

Yarn A, heathered pewter gray.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 21, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm) before the first chain.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(20 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 10 in (25 cm) for sewing. Both tails are at the same short end of the strip, the end where row 1 ends; the other short end has none. The strip should measure about 6¼ in (16 cm) from end to end.	

Assembly

1. Ear loops: the right side of the beard is the side with the loops. Lay the beard down with its right side up and its point toward you. On each side edge, put one short end of an ear loop strip on the wrong side of the end of row 1 and the other short end on the wrong side of the end of row 7, so that the strip stands out from the edge as a loop, not twisted. The right side of the strip, the side that faced you as you worked its row, is uppermost. One short end of each strip has its two tails: sew that end down with the longer tail, with four stitches, and fasten off on the wrong side. The other short end has no tail: sew it down with a strand of yarn A 12 in (30 cm) long, with four stitches, and fasten both ends of the strand on the wrong side. It does not matter which of the two short ends is the upper one. Each loop then reaches about 2½ in (6 cm) beyond the edge.

2. Mustache: cut 40 strands of yarn C 14 in (36 cm) long. Lay them side by side in a bundle, their ends level, and tie the bundle very tightly round its middle with the middle of a strand of yarn C 20 in (51 cm) long; knot it twice and leave both ends of this tie hanging. Find the 16th stitch of row 3, which is the middle of the beard, straight above the middle of the mouth. On the right side lay the tie on that stitch, half of the bundle running to the left and half to the right along row 3. With the two ends of the tie sew the tie to that stitch with four stitches and fasten them on the wrong side. Then take a strand of yarn C 12 in (30 cm) long for each half: at the 6th stitch of row 3 to the left and to the right of that middle stitch make four stitches from the wrong side that catch only the strands on the underside of the half bundle, so that they do not show, and fasten the strand on the wrong side. From there the ends fall beside the mouth. Comb them with your fingers and trim each half to a point about 5½ in (14 cm) from the middle.

3. Shake the beard out, lay the loops downward with your fingers, row over row, and draw the loops at the side edges a little outward, so that they hide the edges.

Finishing

- Weave in every end that is left on the wrong side of the beard.

In all: 3 pieces.

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

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