Moon and star baby nightcap

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



Finished size

About 14¼ in (36 cm) round and about 9¼ in (23 cm) deep, measured along the cloth from the tip of the tail to the lower edge, without the pom-pom; below the tail, which is about 3 in (8 cm) long, the cap is about 6 in (15 cm) deep

To fit a head of 15 in (38 cm)

Skill

Intermediate

Joined rounds, small pieces in their counted places

Yarn

Super fine (1), 3 colors

Hook

3.25 mm (US D-3)

Gauge

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

In half double crochet (UK half treble).

What you need

Yarn A: night blue, the cap	**about 135 yd (123 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: butter yellow, the moon	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: pale cream, the band, the stars and the pom-pom	**about 40 yd (37 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 45 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 400 yd (366 m).

Hook: 3.25 mm (US D-3), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a soft tape measure, a yarn needle, scissors, pins and a piece of card 1½ in (4 cm) wide for the pom-pom.

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)	12 in (30 cm) round, 8½ in (22 cm) deep	about 155 yd (142 m)
Baby, 3 to 6 months (this file)	**15 in (38 cm)**	**14¼ in (36 cm) round, 9¼ in (23 cm) deep**	**about 180 yd (165 m)**
Baby, 6 to 12 months	16½ in (42 cm)	15¼ in (39 cm) round, 10 in (25 cm) deep	about 210 yd (192 m)

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Gauge

22 stitches and 18 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in half double crochet.

The gauge is measured on the nightcap itself, at the two places the rounds name: along the tail, from its tip to the edge of a round, which checks the height of the rounds, and round the outside of the nightcap with a soft tape, along the round just worked, which checks the stitches and so the size round. If the nightcap 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 tail is longer than its round says, your rounds are taller than the gauge and the nightcap will come out deeper than stated; if the tail is shorter, it will come out shallower. The depths given are worked out from the rounds: to 4 in (10 cm) go 24 rounds of single crochet or 18 rounds of half double crochet.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After round 29, put a soft tape round the outside of the nightcap along that round, without pulling it in: the nightcap should measure about 14¼ in (36 cm) round.

The pattern also stops you to measure after round 14.

Notes

- 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 nightcap 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 nightcap faces you in every round; the rounds are never turned.
- The chain that begins a round is not a stitch. The first stitch goes in the same place as the slip stitch.
- To change yarn at the start of a round, finish the joining slip 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).
- 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.
- Baby, 3 to 6 months: for a head of 15 in (38 cm). The finished nightcap is about 14¼ in (36 cm) round and about 9¼ in (23 cm) deep, measured along the cloth from the tip of the tail to the lower edge, without the pom-pom; below the tail, which is about 3 in (8 cm) long, the cap is about 6 in (15 cm) deep.

Instructions

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

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

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

2 hdc in next st: both in one stitch. **hdc in next 2 sts**: one in each.

[ ] 3 times: work what is inside 3 times in all.

(6 hdc): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

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Special stitches

pt (star point): Chain 4, then work back along the chain: slip stitch in the 2nd chain from the hook, single crochet in the next chain, half double crochet (UK half treble) in the next chain. Skip the next stitch of the round and slip stitch in the stitch after it. One point takes 2 stitches of the round.

Nightcap

Yarns in order of use: A, night blue; C, pale cream.

After round 14 the tail, laid flat, should measure about 3 in (8 cm) from its tip straight to the edge of that round.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	

Tail

☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 2, 6 hdc in MR, pull the tail to close the ring, sl st in first hdc to join	(6 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st**] 3 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(9 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 3 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(12 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(12 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 5 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 2 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(14 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(14 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 6 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 2 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(16 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(16 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 7 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 2 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(18 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(18 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 8 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 2 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(20 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(20 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 9 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 2 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(22 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 10 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 2 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(24 hdc)

> **Stop and measure now, after round 14.** The tail, laid flat, should measure about 3 in (8 cm) from its tip straight to the edge of that round.

Crown

☐ **Rnd 15**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 6 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(30 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	Ch 2, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(36 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 17**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 5 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 6 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(42 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 18**	Ch 2, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 6 sts**] 6 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(48 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 19**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 7 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 6 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(54 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 20**	Ch 2, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 8 sts**] 6 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(60 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 21**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(60 hdc)

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☐ **Rnd 22**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 9 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 6 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(66 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 23**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(66 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 24**	Ch 2, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 10 sts**] 6 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(72 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 25**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(72 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 26**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 11 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 6 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(78 hdc)

Sides

☐ **Rnds 27 to 29**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(78 hdc)

The heavy box is where you stop and measure.

27 28 **29**

> **Stop and measure now, after round 29.** Put a soft tape round the outside of the nightcap along that round, without pulling it in: the nightcap should measure about 14¼ in (36 cm) round.

☐ **Rnds 30 to 37**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(78 hdc)

30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37

Band

☐ **Rnd 38**	With C, ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	(78 sc)
☐ **Rnds 39 to 43**	Ch 1, sc in BLO of each st around, sl st in first sc to join	(78 sc)

39 40 41 42 43

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

Moon

Yarn B, butter yellow.

The second row begins without a chain: turn, and make its first slip stitch in the last stitch of row 1. Its last slip stitch falls in the first stitch of row 1.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 12, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm) before the first chain.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next ch, **[**2 sc in next ch, sc in next ch**] 4 times**, sc in last ch	(15 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Turn; sl st in next st, sc in next st, hdc in next st, **[**2 dc in next st, dc in next st**] 4 times**, 2 dc in next st, hdc in next st, sc in next st, sl st in next st	(2 sc, 2 hdc, 14 dc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 25 in (64 cm) for sewing.	

Star: make 3

Yarn C, pale cream.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 10 sc in MR, pull the tail to close the ring, sl st in first sc to join	(10 sc)

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The star begins with a magic ring like the cap; the chain at the start of round 1 does not count as a stitch. Round 2 has no chain of its own at its start: the first point begins from the loop on the hook, the stitch it skips is the one after the joined stitch, and the slip stitch of the last point falls in the joined stitch itself.

☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**Pt over next 2 sts**] 5 times**	(5 pt)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 20 in (51 cm) for sewing.	

Assembly

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

2. Pom-pom: wrap yarn C 80 times round a piece of card 1½ in (4 cm) wide. Slide the wraps off and tie them very tightly round the middle with the middle of a strand of the same yarn 16 in (41 cm) long. Leave both ends of this tie hanging long and hold them out of the way of the scissors: they sew the pom-pom on. Cut the loops at both ends of the bundle, shake the pom-pom out and trim the cut strands, not the two ends of the tie, to a ball about 1¼ in (3 cm) across. Sew it firmly to the tip of the tail with the two ends of its tie, through the tip and back, and fasten them on the inside.

3. Moon: the piece bends by itself so that its beginning chain is the hollow side of a crescent, and its ends narrow to two tips; spread it with your fingers. The right side is the side that faced you in row 1. A tail hangs at each tip: weave the short one, from the beginning, in on the wrong side; the long one sews the moon on.

4. Stars: pull the ring of each star closed once more and weave that tail in on the back. The long tail sews the star on.

5. The middle of the front is opposite the line where the rounds of the nightcap are joined; fold the nightcap in half there to find it. Mark the middle of the front with a line of pins from the band straight up. Count rounds from the tip of the tail, the first round of the cap being round 1; left and right are meant as you look at the front. The last round above the band is round 37. Moon: right side up, its hollow side to the right, the middle of its beginning chain on round 30, 7 stitches to the left of the middle of the front; it is about 2 in (5 cm) tall. Stars, right sides up, each with one point straight up, by the place of its middle: on round 25, 2 stitches to the right of the middle of the front; on round 32, 2 stitches to the right of the middle of the front; on round 28, 9 stitches to the right of the middle of the front. A star is about 1¼ in (3 cm) from point to point. Pin all four first; none lies on another. Sew each down all round its edge with its long tail, small stitches close together, so that no point stands up.

6. On a baby: sew the pom-pom, the moon and the stars on very firmly all round, and take the nightcap off for sleep.

Finishing

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

In all: 5 pieces.

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

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