Octopus hat

Child, head 19½ in (50 cm) · US terms



Finished size
About 18½ in (47 cm) round and about 8¼ in (21 cm) deep; it is measured round at the band, and the full part above it is about 22¼ in (57 cm) round
To fit a head of 19½ in (50 cm)

Skill
Easy
Single crochet in a spiral, small pieces sewn on

Yarn
Medium (4), 5 colors

Hook
5.5 mm (US I-9)

Gauge
13 stitches and 14 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: bright coral, the head and the tentacles	**about 225 yd (206 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: peach, the spots	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: cream, the eyes	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: midnight, the pupils and the smile	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: rose, the cheeks	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

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 and pins.

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)	17¼ in (44 cm) round, 8 in (20 cm) deep	about 265 yd (242 m)
Child (this file)	**19½ in (50 cm)**	**18½ in (47 cm) round, 8¼ in (21 cm) deep**	**about 265 yd (242 m)**
Teen	21 in (53 cm)	19¾ in (50 cm) round, 8¾ in (22 cm) deep	about 290 yd (265 m)
Woman	22 in (56 cm)	21 in (53 cm) round, 9¼ in (23 cm) deep	about 315 yd (288 m)

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Abbreviations

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

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

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. It leaves 1 single crochet for the next row or round.

Gauge

13 stitches and 14 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 14, put a soft tape round the outside of the hat along that round, without pulling it in: the hat should measure about 22¼ in (57 cm) round.

The pattern also stops you to measure after round 12.

Before you start

- 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.
- 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.
- The eyes, the pupils, the cheeks and the spots 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.

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- 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.
- Back stitch, as it is used for the embroidery: thread the needle, fasten the yarn on the inside and work from right to left. First stitch: come up one stitch length to the left of the right-hand end of the line, and go down at that right-hand end. Each stitch after it: come up one stitch length to the left of the left-hand end of the stitch before, and go down at that left-hand end, into the hole out of which the yarn came for the stitch before, so that the two stitches touch.

Instructions

Chosen: Child, head 19½ in (50 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 sc is double crochet, hdc is half treble and dc is treble.

Hat

Yarn A, bright coral.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	

Crown

☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(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)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts**] 6 times**	**(54 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**Sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(60 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 9 sts**] 6 times**	**(66 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**Sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(72 sc)**

> **Stop and measure now, after round 12.** The crown, laid flat, should measure about 6¾ in (17 cm) across.

Sides

☐ **Rnds 13 to 14**	Sc in each st around	**(72 sc)**

A box for each round, 13 to 14: tick them off as you go. The heavy box is where you stop and measure.

13 **14**

> **Stop and measure now, after round 14.** Put a soft tape round the outside of the hat along that round, without pulling it in: the hat should measure about 22¼ in (57 cm) round.

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☐ **Rnds 15 to 25**	Sc in each st around	**(72 sc)**

A box for each round, 15 to 25: tick them off as you go.

15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

Band

☐ **Rnd 26**	**[**Sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts**] 12 times**	**(60 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 27 to 29**	Sc in BLO of each st around	**(60 sc)**

A box for each round, 27 to 29: tick them off as you go. The heavy box is where you stop and measure.

27 28 **29**

> **Stop and measure now, after round 29.** The band is worked on fewer stitches than the head of the octopus, so that it holds: its last round should measure about 18½ in (47 cm) round.

☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Eye: make 2

Yarn C, cream.

☐ **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.	

Pupil: make 2

Yarn D, midnight.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(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 15 in (38 cm) for sewing.	

Cheek: make 2

Yarn E, rose.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 10 in (25 cm) for sewing.	

Spot: make 5

Yarn B, peach.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 15 in (38 cm) for sewing.	

Tentacle: make 8

Yarn A, bright coral.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 27, leaving a tail of 12 in (30 cm) before the first chain.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, **[**2 sc in next ch**] 6 times**, **[**3 hdc in next ch**] 10 times**, **[**3 dc in next ch**] 9 times**	**(13 sc, 30 hdc, 27 dc)**
☐ **End**	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. The middle of the front is opposite the place where the last round of the hat begins; fold the hat in half there to find it. Sew the eyes to the front, one on each side of the middle, the center of each on round 18 of the hat, 5 stitches from the middle of the front.

3. Sew a pupil to each eye, its center about ¼ in (0.5 cm) nearer to the middle of the front than the center of the eye and level with it.

4. With a strand of yarn C 12 in (30 cm) long for each, work one French knot on each pupil, on the upper right as you look at it, halfway between its center and its edge. French knot: bring the needle up from the inside, wrap the yarn 3 times round it close to the cloth, hold the wraps snug and go down again one thread away from where it came up.

5. Sew the cheeks to the front, the center of each on round 22 of the hat, 9 stitches from the middle of the front, so that each lies below the outer side of an eye.

6. Smile: with a strand of yarn D 24 in (61 cm) long, held double in the needle, embroider a curve in back stitch on the front, between the eyes: its lowest point lies on round 21 of the hat at the middle of the front, and its two ends lie on round 20, 1 stitch of the hat to each side of the middle. Make each back stitch about half a stitch of the hat long.

7. Spots: sew them down flat, each by the stitches of its last round, the center of each at these places. On the front, as you look at the front: one on round 9, 6 stitches of that round to the right of the middle; one on round 6, 2 stitches of that round to the left of the middle; one on round 12, 12 stitches of that round to the left of the middle. On the back, as you look at the back, measured from the line that runs from the center of the top to the place where the last round begins: one on round 9, 5 stitches of that round to the left of that line; one on round 13, 7 stitches of that round to the right of that line.

8. Tentacles: the stitches of a tentacle crowd its chain, so that it curls; twist it with your fingers into a corkscrew. Both its tails hang at one end, its thick end. Number the 60 stitches of the last round of the hat in the order they were worked; the middle of the front lies between stitch 30 and stitch 31. With its two tails sew the thick end of one tentacle to the inside of the edge of the hat behind each of these stitches: 5, 11, 16, 21, 40, 45, 50 and 56, so that the tentacles hang down from the edge. Stitches 22 to 39, over the face, have no tentacle. Fasten the tails on the inside.

Finishing

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

In all: 20 pieces; 2,414 stitches (1,644 in the hat, 36 in each eye, 18 in each pupil, 6 in each cheek, 18 in each spot, 70 in each tentacle).

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

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