Owl newborn cocoon and hat

Newborn · US terms



Finished size

About 18¼ in (46.5 cm) round and 19½ in (49.5 cm) long with the top unfolded, 16¾ in (42.5 cm) with it folded down, for a baby up to 16¼ in (41.5 cm) round over the arms, with a hat about 12 in (30.5 cm) round and 6 in (15 cm) deep

Skill

Intermediate

The cocoon and the hat are plain rounds; strips of shells, the wings, the eyes and the beak are sewn on.

Yarn

Medium (4), 5 colors

Hook

5 mm (US H-8)

Gauge

14 stitches and 10 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)

In half double crochet (UK half treble).

What you need

Yarn A: chestnut brown, the cocoon and the hat	**about 400 yd (366 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: oat, the feathers and the eyes	**about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: teal, the feathers, the wings, the ribbing and the eyes	**about 160 yd (146 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: mustard, the beak	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: dark brown, the pupils	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 320 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

Fiber: soft acrylic or cotton blend

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: 2 stitch markers, pins, a yarn needle, scissors and a piece of card 3 in (7.5 cm) wide, for the tassels.

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 of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

Sizes

Size	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Newborn (this file)	**18¼ in (46.5 cm) round, 19½ in (49.5 cm) long**	**about 630 yd (576 m)**
Up to 3 months	20½ in (52 cm) round, 21¾ in (55.5 cm) long	about 760 yd (695 m)

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Gauge

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

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. The gauge is checked on the piece itself: after round 8 the bottom should measure about 6 in (15 cm) across, laid flat and not stretched. A range that is near enough is printed after that round. If the piece measures more than that, begin again with a smaller hook; if it measures less, with a larger hook.

Notes

- Begin the cocoon and each eye with a magic ring: wind the yarn once round two fingers, put the hook through the ring and draw up a loop. Work round 1 into the ring, then pull the tail to draw the ring closed. The hat begins with a ring of chains at the brim.
- Put the marker in the first stitch of each round, where the round is joined.
- Each round is joined with a slip stitch in its first stitch. The chain at the start of a round does not count as a stitch; work the first stitch of the round into the stitch the round before was joined in.
- The cocoon and the hat are worked with the right side, the outside, facing you all the way.
- FPhdc and BPhdc, front and back post half double crochet: work a half double crochet round the post of the stitch below instead of into its top. For FPhdc put the hook in from the front, behind the post, and out to the front again. For BPhdc put it in from the back, in front of the post, and out to the back again. In the first round of ribbing the posts are those of half double crochet; from then on a front post goes over a front post and a back post over a back post.
- Whip stitch: put the needle through both edges from back to front, one stitch for each stitch or row, and draw the yarn snug.
- To change color where a joined round begins, draw the new yarn through as the last yarn over of the slip stitch that ends the round before. Cut the old yarn at each change, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).
- A feather strip is two rows: the first is single crochet, with the wrong side facing you, the second is shells, with the right side facing you. 5 dc in one stitch make a shell. The chain of 1 at the start of row 2 does not count as a stitch.
- A wing is worked round both sides of a chain: along one side from its tip to the last chain, 7 stitches in that chain, then back along the other side to the tip. Round 1 begins in the second chain from the hook, with no other chain before it. All of it is worked with the right side facing you.
- Measure the baby round the body over the arms, at the widest place, and from the shoulders to the feet with the knees drawn up. The cocoon is 2 in (5 cm) more round than the widest baby it is for, and with its top folded down, as it is worn, it should be at least as long as the second measure. Measure the head too; the hat is to be about 1 in (2.5 cm) less round.
- Colors, round by round. Cocoon. Rounds 1 to 41: A. Rounds 42 to 49: C. Hat. Rounds 1 to 4: C. Rounds 5 to 15: A. Eye. Rounds 1 to 2: E. Round 3: C. Round 4: B. Wing. Round 1: C. Round 2: B. The oat feather strips: B. The teal feather strips: C. Beak: D.

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Instructions

Newborn. 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.
sc2tog 2 sc made into one, **FPhdc** round the stitch below, from the front, **BPhdc** round the stitch below, from the back, **sk** skip, **yo** yarn over the hook, **RS** right side, the one that shows, **WS** wrong side, the back.
2 hdc in next st: both in one stitch. **hdc in next 2 sts**: one in each.
[ ] 8 times: work what is inside 8 times in all.
(8 hdc): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Cocoon

Yarns in order of use: A, chestnut brown; C, teal.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 2, 8 hdc in MR, pull the tail to close the ring, 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, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, hdc in next 2 sts, 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)
☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 2, hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 5 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, hdc in next 3 sts, sl st in first hdc to join	(56 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 6 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	(64 hdc)

> **Stop and measure now, after round 8.** The bottom should measure about 6 in (15 cm) across. Anything from 5¾ in (14.5 cm) to 6½ in (16.5 cm) is near enough.

Sides

☐ **Rnds 9 to 41**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(64 hdc)

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41

☐ **Rnd 42**	With C, ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(64 hdc)

Ribbed top

☐ **Rnds 43 to 49**	Ch 2, **[**FPhdc around next st, BPhdc around next st**] 32 times**, sl st in first FPhdc to join	(32 FPhdc, 32 BPhdc)

43 44 45 46 47 48 49

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

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Oat feather strip: make 4

Yarn B, oat.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 26.	
☐ **Row 1 (WS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(25 sc)
☐ **Row 2 (RS)**	Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next st, 5 dc in next st, sk next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(7 sc, 30 dc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Teal feather strip: make 4

Yarn C, teal.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 22.	
☐ **Row 1 (WS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(21 sc)
☐ **Row 2 (RS)**	Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next st, 5 dc in next st, sk next st, sc in next st**] 5 times**	(6 sc, 25 dc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Short oat feather strip

Yarn B, oat.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 18.	
☐ **Row 1 (WS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(17 sc)
☐ **Row 2 (RS)**	Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next st, 5 dc in next st, sk next st, sc in next st**] 4 times**	(5 sc, 20 dc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Short teal feather strip

Yarn C, teal.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 14.	
☐ **Row 1 (WS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(13 sc)
☐ **Row 2 (RS)**	Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next st, 5 dc in next st, sk next st, sc in next st**] 3 times**	(4 sc, 15 dc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Wing: make 2

Yarns in order of use: C, teal; B, oat.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 13.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, hdc in next 3 chs, dc in next 7 chs, 7 dc in last ch, working along the other side of the foundation ch, dc in next 7 chs, hdc in next 3 chs, sc in next ch, sl st in first sc to join	(2 sc, 6 hdc, 21 dc)

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☐ **Rnd 2**	With B, ch 1, sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in each of next 7 sts, sc in next 11 sts, sl st in first sc to join	(36 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 32 in (81.5 cm) for sewing.	

Hat

Yarns in order of use: C, teal; A, chestnut brown.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 42, sl st in first ch to form a ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 2, hdc in each ch around, sl st in first hdc to join	(42 hdc)

Ribbed brim

☐ **Rnds 2 to 4**	Ch 2, **[**FPhdc around next st, BPhdc around next st**] 21 times**, sl st in first FPhdc to join	(21 FPhdc, 21 BPhdc)

2 3 4

Sides

☐ **Rnd 5**	With A, ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(42 hdc)
☐ **Rnds 6 to 15**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	(42 hdc)

6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 28 in (71 cm) for sewing.	

Eye: make 2

Yarns in order of use: E, dark brown; C, teal; B, oat.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 6 sc in MR, pull the tail to close the ring, sl st in first sc to join	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	With C, ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**, sl st in first sc to join	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	With B, ch 1, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**, sl st in first sc to join	(24 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 30 in (76 cm) for sewing.	

Beak

Yarn D, mustard.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 5.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(4 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; **[**sc2tog**] 2 times**	(2 sc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog	(1 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 16 in (40.5 cm) for sewing.	

Assembly

1. Weave in the tails of the cocoon on the wrong side, the tail of the magic ring round the middle of the bottom. Weave in the tails of the feather strips on their wrong sides. Weave in the starting tails of the wings, the eyes and the beak and the tails of their color changes on their wrong sides; the long tail of each is left for sewing. On the hat weave in all the tails but the long one at the top.

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2. The front. The join of round 49, the last round of the cocoon, is at the middle of the back. Lay the cocoon flat, right side out, with that join in the middle of the lower layer: 32 stitches lie on top. Put a marker in the middle of them, on round 36: this is the middle of the front. Leave the ribbed top unfolded until step 5.

3. The feathers. All the strips lie on the front right side up, their foundation chains toward the ribbed top and their shells toward the closed bottom, the middle of each on the middle of the front. Begin at the lower end: the short teal strip has its foundation chain on round 18, the short oat strip on round 20. Then come teal and oat strips by turns, teal first, each 2 rounds above the one before, so that its shells lie over the chain of the strip below: the last, an oat strip, has its chain on round 36. Pin all ten and check that they are level. Sew each with a length of its own color, about 32 in (81.5 cm) for an oat strip and 28 in (71 cm) for a teal one: bring the needle up through a foundation chain and down through the upper layer of the cocoon just above it, one stitch in each chain, from one end of the strip to the other. The shells stay free. Fasten off inside and weave in both ends of each length.

4. The wings. The joined end of a wing is its tip. Lay each on the cocoon right side up, its wide end toward the ribbed top, with the wide end on round 35, its tip pointing to the closed bottom and a little outward: the middle of the wide end is 11 stitches from the middle of the front and the tip is 14 stitches from it, one wing at each side. The inner edge of the wing lies over the ends of the feather strips. Pin it. Run its long tail through the edge stitches on the wrong side from the tip to the 6th stitch before the 14 stitches of the wide end. From there sew the wide end down: needle up through the wing one stitch in from its edge and down through what lies beneath beside the edge, one stitch for each of these 6 stitches, the 14 of the wide end and 6 more, 26 in all. The rest of the wing stays free. Fasten off inside.

5. Fold the ribbed top of the cocoon down once to the outside, so that its 7 rounds lie over rounds 36 to 42. Its edge covers the chain of the upper strip.

6. The top of the hat. Turn the hat wrong side out and lay it flat, with the join of its last round in the middle of the upper layer, the back: 21 stitches lie on 21. Run the long tail through the stitches of the last round to the side fold nearest it. From there whip stitch the top shut with it, through both loops of each stitch, 21 stitches of one layer to 21 of the other. Fasten off and turn the hat right side out. The corners are the ears.

7. The eyes. The front of the hat is the layer without the join. Lay the hat flat with the front up: its 21 stitches run from side fold to side fold, and the middle of the front is the 11th of them. Count the rounds from the brim. The middle of each eye is on round 9, 5 stitches from the middle of the front, one at each side. Pin both, right sides out, and sew each down with its own long tail, 24 stitches, all round, through the front layer of the hat only. Fasten off inside. With a length of B about 12 in (30.5 cm) make a glint on each pupil: one straight stitch about ¼ in (0.5 cm) long on its upper half, at your right on both eyes. Straight stitch: bring the needle up at one end of the line and down at the other. Fasten off inside.

8. The beak. Lay it right side up, its 4 foundation chains on round 9 at the middle of the front and its point toward the brim. It is wider than the gap between the eyes: its two upper corners lie on top of the inner edges of the eyes, about ¼ in (0.5 cm) over each. With its long tail sew it down all round, at the corners through the eye and the front of the hat together, one stitch in each chain, one in the end of each row and one at the point, 11 stitches. Fasten off inside.

9. The tassels, one at each ear. Wind A and C together 8 times round the card, 3 in (7.5 cm) wide. Slip a length of A about 12 in (30.5 cm) under the strands at one edge of the card and tie it tightly; slip the strands off and cut them at the other end. Wind a length of C about 10 in (25.5 cm) 5 times round all the strands ½ in (1.5 cm) below the tied end, knot it and let its ends hang in the tassel. Trim the tassel to 2 in (5 cm). Sew it to the corner of the hat with the two ends of the tie, 4 small stitches through the corner, and fasten off inside. Weave in all the tails that are left inside.

Finishing

- Wash both pieces by hand in the way the yarn bands say and dry them flat. The tassels are only for the time a grown-up holds or watches the baby.

In all: 17 pieces; 4,329 stitches.

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