Rainbow cape for a child

Age 2 to 4 · US terms



Finished size
About 27½ × 10¼ in (70 × 26 cm)

Skill
Easy
Double crochet, increases, color changes

Yarn
Medium (4), 6 colors

Hook
5.5 mm (US I-9)

Gauge
13 stitches and 7 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In double crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: red, first band and ties	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: orange, second band	**about 35 yd (32 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: yellow, third band	**about 45 yd (41 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: green, fourth band	**about 55 yd (50 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: blue, fifth band	**about 65 yd (59 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: purple, sixth band	**about 75 yd (69 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5.5 mm (US I-9). Also: yarn needle, scissors and tape measure.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. The estimate is from the stitches and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

Sizes

Size	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Age 2 to 4 (this file)	**27½ × 10¼ in (70 × 26 cm)**	**about 305 yd (278 m)**
Age 5 to 7	35 × 13¾ in (89 × 35 cm)	about 500 yd (457 m)
Age 8 to 10	42½ × 17 in (108 × 43 cm)	about 735 yd (672 m)

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Abbreviations

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

ch	chain stitch
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
RS	right side
WS	wrong side
st	stitch

Gauge

13 stitches and 7 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in double crochet.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After row 6 the piece, laid flat, is about 3.4 in (9 cm) deep from the neck edge to the last row. If yours is less, use a larger hook; if it is more, use a smaller one.

The three sizes have 49, 53 and 57 stitches at the neck and 18, 24 and 30 rows; each is printed in full when it is chosen. For a deeper cape go on in the last color in the same way: every row has one more dc before each increase than the row before it, 8 stitches more in all, and adds about 0.6 in (1.5 cm) to the depth.

Before you start

- Ages are a guide to the size of the finished piece: go by the measurements.
- Keep the ties short and tie them in a loose bow.
- The ch 3 at the start of a row counts as a dc; the last stitch of the next row is worked into the top of it.
- Where several stitches have one place after them, as in "2 dc in next st", they are all worked into that one place.
- What is in square brackets is worked as many times as the number after them says, in all.
- Row 1 is a right side row. Turn once between rows: the word "turn" near the start of each row is that turn.
- To change color, work the last stitch of the old color until two loops are left on the hook and draw the new color through them. Cut the old color, leaving a tail of about 6 in (15.2 cm), and fasten in a fresh piece each time: the yarn amounts and the ends to weave in are counted this way.
- The cape is a wide arc. Laid flat it is about 27.6 in (70.1 cm) across at its widest. The neck edge is about 15.1 in (38.4 cm), the lower edge about 56.9 in (144.5 cm) measured along the curve, and the piece is 10.3 in (26.2 cm) deep from the neck to the lower edge, which is the second figure of the size.
- 18 rows in six bands of 3 rows: A for rows 1 to 3, B for rows 4 to 6, C for rows 7 to 9, D for rows 10 to 12, E for rows 13 to 15, F for rows 16 to 18.

Instructions

Chosen: Age 2 to 4. 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 row is done. In UK terms dc is treble.

Yarns in order of use: A, red; B, orange; C, yellow; D, green; E, blue; F, purple.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 51.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Dc in 4th ch from hook (skipped chs count as dc) and in each ch across	**(49 dc)**
☐ **Row 2 (WS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 5 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 4 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(57 dc)**
☐ **Row 3 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 6 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 5 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(65 dc)**

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☐ **Row 4 (WS)**	**Yarn B.** Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 7 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 6 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(73 dc)**
☐ **Row 5 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 8 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 7 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(81 dc)**
☐ **Row 6 (WS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 9 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 8 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(89 dc)**
☐ **Row 7 (RS)**	**Yarn C.** Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 10 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 9 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(97 dc)**
☐ **Row 8 (WS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 11 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 10 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(105 dc)**
☐ **Row 9 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 12 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 11 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(113 dc)**
☐ **Row 10 (WS)**	**Yarn D.** Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 13 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 12 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(121 dc)**
☐ **Row 11 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 14 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 13 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(129 dc)**
☐ **Row 12 (WS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 15 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 14 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(137 dc)**
☐ **Row 13 (RS)**	**Yarn E.** Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 16 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 15 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(145 dc)**
☐ **Row 14 (WS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 17 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 16 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(153 dc)**
☐ **Row 15 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 18 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 17 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(161 dc)**
☐ **Row 16 (WS)**	**Yarn F.** Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 19 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 18 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(169 dc)**
☐ **Row 17 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 20 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 19 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(177 dc)**
☐ **Row 18 (WS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**dc in next 21 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 7 times**, dc in next 20 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	**(185 dc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Finishing

- Ties: worked after the last row. Join yarn A with a slip stitch in the first chain of the neck edge, leaving a tail to weave in; chain until the tie is about 12 in (30.5 cm) long, fasten off and knot the end close to the last chain. Make the same tie in the last chain of the neck edge.
- Weave in the ends.

In all: 18 rows; 2,106 stitches; 14 ends to weave in.

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

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