Shell stitch cowl

Standard · US terms



Finished size
About 25½ in (65 cm) around by 9½ in (24 cm) deep

Skill
Easy
Skipped stitches, groups in one place

Yarn
Medium (4)

Hook
5.5 mm (US I-9)

Gauge
13 stitches and 8½ rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In shell stitch.

You will need

Yarn: sage, medium (4) **about 170 yd (155 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5.5 mm (US I-9). Also: a yarn needle, scissors and a 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 of this size at this gauge, with 15 percent added.

Sizes

Size	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Standard (this file)	**25½ in (65 cm) around, 9½ in (24 cm) deep**	**about 170 yd (155 m)**
Tall	25½ in (65 cm) around, 11½ in (29 cm) deep	about 200 yd (183 m)

Abbreviations

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

ch chain stitch
sc single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
dc double crochet (UK tr, treble)
RS right side
sk skip (UK miss)
st stitch

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Gauge

13 stitches and 8½ rows to 4 in (10 cm) in shell stitch.

Work a piece a little more than 4 in (10 cm) square, lay it flat and count. If you count more stitches than this, use a larger hook; if fewer, a smaller one.

Before you start

- 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.
- The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.
- Row 1 is the right side.
- "5 dc in next ch" puts all 5 stitches in that one place.
- Leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) when you begin, and weave it in at the end with the others.
- Whip stitch: with the yarn on a yarn needle, pass the needle under both loops of a stitch on one edge and under both loops of the stitch that lies against it on the other edge, and pull the yarn through. Do the same in the next stitch of each edge. On a foundation chain edge, pass the needle under the strands of each chain that lie below row 1, whether or not a stitch was worked into that chain. The chain skipped at the start of row 1 is not sewn.
- For another width, add or take away 6 chains at a time: each 6 chains adds one more repeat of each bracketed group. Measure your own gauge first.

Instructions

Chosen: Standard. 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 sc is double crochet, dc is treble and sk is miss.

The 54 rows below make a strip about 25½ in (65 cm) long. Before you sew it, check that it goes over the head easily when its ends meet. For another length, work fewer or more rows in the same order; rows 2 and 3 are the set that is worked over and over, so stop after a row that is worked as row 2.

Check your width as you go: when row 7 is done, measure the width, across the middle of the rows and not along the chain edge. It is about 9½ in (24 cm). If it is wider, start again with a smaller hook; if it is narrower, with a larger one. If only the chain edge is tight, make the chain with a larger hook.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 32.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, **[**sk next 2 chs, 5 dc in next ch, sk next 2 chs, sc in next ch**] 5 times**	**(6 sc, 25 dc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 4 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in last st	**(26 dc, 5 sc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 4 times**, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in top of turning ch	**(6 sc, 25 dc)**

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☐	**Rows 4 to 54**	Repeat rows 2 and 3 in turn: every even-numbered row is worked as row 2, every odd-numbered row as row 3.

A box for each row, 4 to 54: tick them off as you go.

4	5	6	7	8	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	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54							

☐	**End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 34 in (86 cm) to sew the seam with.

Assembly

1. Lay the strip flat with its right side down. Bring the last row round to lie against the foundation chain, without twisting the strip. The right side is on the outside of the ring.

2. With the long tail, whip stitch the last row to the foundation chain, easing the two edges to fit: about 31 stitches.

Finishing

- Weave in the ends with the yarn needle, changing direction once or twice.

In all: 54 rows; 1,674 stitches; 2 ends to weave in.

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

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