Travel neck pillow

Adult · US terms



Finished size

About 12¾ in (32 cm) wide and 13 in (33 cm) from front to back, the tube about 4 in (10 cm) thick, with an opening for the neck about 5 in (13 cm) across

To fit a neck of 13 to 17 in (33 to 43 cm) around

Skill

Intermediate

A special stitch, and increases and decreases that curve the piece

Yarn

Medium (4), 2 colors

Hook

4.5 mm (US 7)

Gauge

15 stitches and 13 rows to 4 in (10 cm)

In herringbone half double crochet.

What you need

Yarn A: heather gray, main color **about 280 yd (256 m), an estimate**

Yarn B: mustard, the end and the strap **about 55 yd (50 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 170 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

Hook: 4.5 mm (US 7), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, a tape measure and about 12 pins, 1 flat button, about 1 in (2.5 cm) across, sewn on with B and polyester fiberfill (stuffing): about 10 oz (280 g) for Adult, about 5 oz (140 g) for Child.

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 15 percent added.

Sizes

Size	Fits	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Child	a neck of 10½ to 13 in (27 to 33 cm) around	10¼ in (26 cm) wide, 10¼ in (26 cm) from front to back	about 215 yd (197 m)
Adult (this file)	**a neck of 13 to 17 in (33 to 43 cm) around**	**12¾ in (32 cm) wide, 13 in (33 cm) from front to back**	**about 335 yd (306 m)**

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Gauge

15 stitches and 13 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in herringbone half double crochet.

Check it on the pillow itself, along the straight end of the rows, laid flat and not stretched, when 8 rows are done: the first 15 stitches of a row are about 4 in (10 cm) long, and the 8 rows are about 2½ in (6.3 cm) tall. If they measure more, start again with a smaller hook; if they measure less, with a larger one. The cloth should be close enough to hide the stuffing.

Notes

- The ch 1 at the start of a row or a round does not count as a stitch. The first stitch of a row goes into the first st, at the edge where you turned.
- Every size is written out from its first chain to its last seam under its own name. Choose one and work only that one.
- Each row runs along the horseshoe from one end to the other. Row 1 is worked with the right side facing you, and so is every odd-numbered row.
- The two ends are worked in rounds that are never turned: the right side of a round is the side that faces you as you work it.
- The slanting strand of a herringbone half double crochet leans one way on odd-numbered rows and the other way on even-numbered rows. Two rows together make the herringbone.
- Leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) when you begin and when you fasten off, unless another length is given. The ends that are not sewn with are woven in.
- When a ball runs out, work the last yarn over of a stitch with the next ball, and leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) on both.
- Whip stitch: with the yarn on a yarn needle, pass the needle through the edge of one piece and through the edge that lies against it, and pull the yarn through. Do the same in the next stitch of each edge. On an edge of stitches the needle goes under both loops of the stitch; on a foundation chain under the two strands of the chain that are left free; on a side edge, which has no loops, through the end stitch of the row. Where a piece is laid on the middle of another, the needle goes through the edge of the piece laid on, in one of these three ways, and then under two strands of the cloth right beside that edge. Fasten a length where the sewing begins and where it ends: sew 2 or 3 times into the same place.
- Magic ring: wind the yarn once round two fingers, put the hook through the ring and pull up a loop of the working yarn. Round 1 begins with this loop on the hook. Work round 1 into the ring, over both strands, then pull the tail to close it.
- In joined rounds, the first stitch of a round goes into the same stitch as the joining sl st. The joining sl st itself is not a stitch and is not worked into.
- Measure the neck with room for two fingers. A pillow of this kind is worn loose: the range is for the neck, and nothing is drawn tight.
- It is for sitting up awake or asleep in a seat. It is not for a baby or for a child under three, and the button is kept out of small hands.
- Buy whole balls from one dye lot.

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Instructions

Adult. US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **hdc** half double crochet (UK half treble), **Rnd** round, **sp** space, **st** stitch.

sc2tog 2 sc made into one, **sk** skip, **yo** yarn over the hook, **RS** right side, the one that shows.

2 hdc in next st: both in one stitch. **hdc in next 2 sts**: one in each. **ch-3 sp**: the gap under three chains; the hook goes in the gap.

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

(92 hhdcs): the stitches you have when the row is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Special stitches

hhdc (Herringbone half double crochet): Yo, insert hook in the place named, yo, pull the new loop through it and straight on through the first loop on the hook (2 loops are left), yo, pull through both loops. In UK terms: herringbone half treble.

hhdc2tog (Herringbone decrease): [yo, insert hook in next st, yo, pull the new loop through it and straight on through the first loop on the hook] 2 times (3 loops are left), yo, pull through all 3 loops. Two stitches become one. In UK terms: 2 herringbone half trebles together.

Pillow

Yarn A, heather gray.

In every row the first 20 and the last 20 stitches are the straight ends of the horseshoe: the increases and decreases all lie between them.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 93.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Hhdc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(92 hhdcs)
	Rows 2 to 10, out to the long outer side: each row but row 10 is longer than the one before it	
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 23 sts, **[**2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 12 sts**] 3 times**, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 29 sts	(96 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 23 sts, **[**2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 13 sts**] 3 times**, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 30 sts	(100 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 33 sts, **[**2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 19 sts**] 2 times**, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 26 sts	(103 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 35 sts, **[**2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 20 sts**] 2 times**, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 25 sts	(106 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 25 sts, **[**2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 21 sts**] 2 times**, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 36 sts	(109 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 28 sts, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 33 sts, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 46 sts	(111 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 45 sts, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 34 sts, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 30 sts	(113 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 56 sts, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 56 sts	(114 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in each st across	(114 hhdcs)

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Rows 11 to 30, over the top to the short inner side

☐ **Rows 11 to 12** 11 12	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in each st across	(114 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 56 sts, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 56 sts	(112 hhdcs, 1 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 14**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 29 sts, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 34 sts, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 46 sts	(109 hhdcs, 2 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 15**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 28 sts, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 33 sts, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 46 sts	(107 hhdcs, 2 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 16**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 35 sts, **[**hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 21 sts**] 2 times**, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 26 sts	(103 hhdcs, 3 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 17**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 35 sts, **[**hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 20 sts**] 2 times**, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 25 sts	(100 hhdcs, 3 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 18**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 25 sts, **[**hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 19 sts**] 2 times**, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 34 sts	(97 hhdcs, 3 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 19**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 23 sts, **[**hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 13 sts**] 3 times**, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 30 sts	(92 hhdcs, 4 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 20**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 29 sts, **[**hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 12 sts**] 3 times**, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 23 sts	(88 hhdcs, 4 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 21**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in each st across	(92 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 22**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 23 sts, **[**hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 11 sts**] 3 times**, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 28 sts	(84 hhdcs, 4 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 23**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 23 sts, **[**hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 10 sts**] 3 times**, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 27 sts	(80 hhdcs, 4 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 24**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 29 sts, **[**hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 12 sts**] 2 times**, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 25 sts	(78 hhdcs, 3 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 25**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 27 sts, **[**hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 11 sts**] 2 times**, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 26 sts	(75 hhdcs, 3 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 26**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 23 sts, **[**hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 10 sts**] 2 times**, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 29 sts	(72 hhdcs, 3 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 27**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 24 sts, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 15 sts, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 32 sts	(71 hhdcs, 2 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 28**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 30 sts, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 14 sts, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 25 sts	(69 hhdcs, 2 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 29**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 34 sts, hhdc2tog over next 2 sts, hhdc in next 35 sts	(69 hhdcs, 1 hhdc2tog)
☐ **Row 30**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in each st across	(70 hhdcs)

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Rows 31 to 40, back to the underside

☐ **Rows 31 to 32** 31 32	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in each st across	(70 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 33**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 34 sts, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 35 sts	(71 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 34**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 24 sts, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 14 sts, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 31 sts	(73 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 35**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 24 sts, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 15 sts, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 32 sts	(75 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 36**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 27 sts, **[**2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 10 sts**] 2 times**, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 25 sts	(78 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 37**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 27 sts, **[**2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 11 sts**] 2 times**, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 26 sts	(81 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 38**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 23 sts, **[**2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 12 sts**] 2 times**, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 31 sts	(84 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 39**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 23 sts, **[**2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 10 sts**] 3 times**, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 27 sts	(88 hhdcs)
☐ **Row 40**	Ch 1, turn; hhdc in next 27 sts, **[**2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 11 sts**] 3 times**, 2 hhdc in next st, hhdc in next 24 sts	(92 hhdcs)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

End: make 2

Yarn B, mustard.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1, 8 hdc in ring; pull the tail to close the ring; join with sl st in first hdc	(8 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 hdc in each st around; join with sl st in first hdc	(16 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next st**] 8 times**; join with sl st in first hdc	(24 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts**] 8 times**; join with sl st in first hdc	(32 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1, **[**hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts**] 8 times**; join with sl st in first hdc	(40 hdc)
☐ **Rnds 6 to 8** 6 7 8	Ch 1, hdc in each st around; join with sl st in first hdc	(40 hdc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 42 in (107 cm) to sew with.	

Strap

Yarn B, mustard.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 6.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(5 sc)

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☐ **Rows 2 to 31**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 32**	Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, ch 3, sk next 3 sts, sc in last st	(2 sc, 1 ch-3 sp)
☐ **Row 33**	Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, 3 sc in next ch-3 sp, sc in last st	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 34**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 35**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next st, sc2tog	(1 sc, 2 sc2tog)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

2 3 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

Assembly

1. Weave in all the ends but the long tails of the two end pieces.

2. Lay the piece flat with its right side down. It does not lie quite flat: rows 9 to 12 are the longest and rows 29 to 32 the shortest. Fold the last row over to the foundation chain, so that the wrong side is inside, and pin the two edges together. Cut a length of A about 78 in (198 cm) long. Whip stitch the last row to the foundation chain, stitch to chain: 92 stitches. The piece is now a tube that curves, with its seam on the underside and its short rows on the inside of the curve.

3. Lay the tube down with the seam under it. Slip one end piece, with the side that faced you in its rounds (the right side) outside, against one mouth of the tube, edge to edge, and pin it. The mouth has 40 row ends and the last round of the end piece 40 stitches. With its tail, whip stitch them together, one stitch to one row end, beginning at the seam: 40 stitches. Fasten off.

4. Stuff the tube through the other mouth with small, loose pieces of fiberfill: first the closed end, then the curve, a little at a time, and work it round with a finger. It is right when the pillow keeps its horseshoe by itself, springs back when you press it, and still gives when you lay your cheek on it. Too much stuffing pulls the curve open.

5. Sew the other end piece on in the same way, and put in the last of the stuffing before you sew its last 10 stitches.

6. Strap: lay the pillow in front of you with the seam under it and the two ends toward you. The strap starts on the top of the left end. Row 22 runs along the top, a little to the inner side: rows 1 to 20 go from the seam round the outer side up to the top. Count from the seam between gray and mustard, along the row: the 3rd to the 7th gray stitch of row 22 are the place. Lay the foundation chain of the strap on these 5 stitches, along the row, with the right side of the strap up and its length pointing across the gap. Cut a length of B about 16 in (41 cm) long. Sew the 5 chains down, then the first 5 row ends of each long edge, one whip stitch in each: 15 stitches in all.

7. Button: bring the strap across to the right end. The button sits on the 5th gray stitch of row 24 of the right end, counted from the seam between gray and mustard. With a strand of B about 12 in (30 cm) long sew it on: go up and down through the button 4 times and fasten off under it. It goes through the hole in row 32 of the strap.

Finishing

- Weave in what is left of the sewing lengths: take each end once into the pillow and out again a few inches away, pull it a little and cut it, so that it slips back inside.

In all: 4 pieces.

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

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