Hat with yarn braids

Child, head 19½ in (50 cm) · US terms



Finished size
About 18½ in (47 cm) round and about 7½ in (19 cm) deep
To fit a head of 19½ in (50 cm)

Skill
Easy
A plain spiral; the hair is laid on and sewn

Yarn
Medium (4), 2 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: auburn, the cap and the hair **about 225 yd (206 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: emerald, the bows **about 20 yd (18 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
Baby, 3 to 6 months	15 in (38 cm)	14¼ in (36 cm) round, 5¾ in (15 cm) deep	about 150 yd (137 m)
Baby, 6 to 12 months	16½ in (42 cm)	15½ in (39 cm) round, 6½ in (17 cm) deep	about 185 yd (169 m)
Toddler	18 in (46 cm)	17¼ in (44 cm) round, 7¼ in (18 cm) deep	about 245 yd (224 m)
Child (this file)	**19½ in (50 cm)**	**18½ in (47 cm) round, 7½ in (19 cm) deep**	**about 245 yd (224 m)**
Teen	21 in (53 cm)	19¾ in (50 cm) round, 8 in (20 cm) deep	about 300 yd (274 m)
Woman	22 in (56 cm)	21 in (53 cm) round, 8½ in (22 cm) deep	about 325 yd (297 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)
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side
MR	magic ring

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 13, put a soft tape round the outside of the hat along that round, without pulling it in: the hat should measure about 18½ in (47 cm) round.

The pattern also stops you to measure after round 10.

Before you start

- On a baby: leave off the braids for a small baby, sew every part on firmly all round, and take the hat off for sleep.
- 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 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 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.
- The bows are worked in rows: the chain at the start of a row does not count as a stitch, and the first stitch after the turn goes into the last stitch of the row before.

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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.

Hat

Yarn A, auburn.

☐ **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)**

Stop and measure now, after round 10. The crown, laid flat, should measure about 5¾ in (15 cm) across.

Sides

☐ **Rnds 11 to 13**	Sc in each st around	**(60 sc)**

A box for each round, 11 to 13: tick them off as you go. The heavy box is where you stop and measure.

11 12 **13**

Stop and measure now, after round 13. Put a soft tape round the outside of the hat along that round, without pulling it in: the hat should measure about 18½ in (47 cm) round.

☐ **Rnds 14 to 26**	Sc in each st around	**(60 sc)**

A box for each round, 14 to 26: tick them off as you go.

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

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

Bow: make 2

Yarn B, emerald.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 14, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm) before the first chain.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(13 sc)**

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☐ **Rows 2 to 6**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(13 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 6: tick them off as you go.

2 3 4 5 6

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a tail of 30 in (76 cm).

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. Parting: 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. The parting is a straight line that begins on round 20 at the middle of the front, runs over the center of the top and ends on round 23 at the middle of the back; it is about 12¼ in (31 cm) long. Mark it with pins.

3. Bangs: cut 30 strands of yarn A, each 5 in (13 cm) long. The knots stand on round 21, in the 15 stitches at the middle of the front, the middle one of them straight below the front end of the parting. For a knot fold 2 strands in half together, push the hook from below upward under the two loops at the top of the stitch, catch the fold and pull it through, put the four ends through the fold and pull the knot tight. Let the ends hang down over the edge and trim them level to about 1¾ in (4 cm) long, so that they just cover the edge of the hat. The bangs are knotted on before the hair is laid: the hair then comes down over the knots at the two sides of the bangs and hides them, and the bangs hang out from under it.

4. Hair: cut 78 strands of yarn A, each 38 in (97 cm) long. Lay them across the parting side by side in one layer, close together, the middle of each strand on the line, from the front end of the parting to its back end. With a strand of yarn A 50 in (127 cm) long sew them down along the parting in back stitch, through the hat, 26 stitches in all, each over 3 strands and about ½ in (1.2 cm) long. Back stitch: for the first stitch come up from the inside on the line, one stitch length behind the front end of the parting, and go down at the front end itself. For each stitch after it come up one stitch length beyond the end of the stitch before, farther toward the back, and go down exactly at that end of the stitch before, where the thread of that stitch comes out of the hat. So the stitches lie end to end, and the last one ends at the back end of the parting.

5. Lay the hat flat with the place at its lower edge where its last round begins at the middle of the back, the center of the top at the middle of the upper fold: the fold on each side is then the side of the hat. Draw all the ends on one side smoothly down over the hat to the fold on that side, as hair is combed to the ear, and tie them together there with a strand of yarn A 12 in (30 cm) long, so that the tie lies on the third round from the edge. The front edge of the hair then runs from the front end of the parting down to the tie, over the outer knots of the bangs. Sew the tied hair to the hat at that place with the ends of the tie, through the hat and back, and fasten them on the inside. Do the same on the other side.

6. Braids: below each tie part the 78 ends in 3 groups of 26, braid them for about 8 in (20 cm), tie the end of the braid tightly with a strand of yarn A 12 in (30 cm) long wrapped 4 times round it, and trim the ends to about 1½ in (4 cm) below the tie.

7. Bows: weave the beginning tail of each strip in on its back. With the needle run the long tail along the edge of the strip, through the edge stitches, to the middle of one long side. With the right side toward you pleat the middle of the strip so that its end view is a W, and wrap the tail tightly round the pleats about 10 times to make the knot; fasten it at the back. Sew one bow through its knot over the tie at the top of each braid, its two ends to the front and to the back.

Finishing

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

In all: 3 pieces; 1,446 stitches (1,290 in the hat, 78 in each bow).

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