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THE MAGIC LOOP METHOD: **FREE Crochet Magic Ring Instructions and Patterns**

THE ADJUSTABLE MAGIC RING IS PERFECT IF YOU DO NOT WANT A HOLE IN THE CENTER OF YOUR MOTIF, HAT, OR OTHER PROJECT WORKED IN THE ROUND. This method is sometimes referred to as adjustable ring, magic loop, magic circle, or adjustable loop.

In this free eBook, we have created a detailed how-to article on how to create both the basic magic ring and the double magic ring. Large color photographs will walk you through the creation process. Also included, three patterns will give you the perfect opportunity to try out the magic ring.

The **Basic Magic Ring** is the perfect technique for creating projects in the round. In contrast to working into a chain or a chain circle, the basic magic ring allows you to tighten the first row, eliminating any opening. This is perfect for hats, afghans, and many motifs that are worked in the round.

The **Double Magic Ring** is stronger than the basic magic ring making it the perfect technique for items that will receive hard use or for children's accessories and toys. The double magic ring is created using two strands of yarn and is especially great when you are using a single ply or light-weight yarn.

Use your new magic ring skills to create **Play Time** by Kim Werker. These easy juggling balls or hacky sacks are quick and easy and the perfect opportunity to play with colors and stitched embellishments. Whip up a set in a weekend or build a stash with left-over yarn from finished projects.

The **Sisal Spiral Rug** by Julie Armstrong Holetz elevates a classic crochet motif to an eye-catching conversation piece. Worked in sisal twine, this rug can be used indoors or out. The use of the magic ring ensures a seamless spiral. Create this fun rug for your own home or as a unique housewarming gift.

The **Lil' Vampire Hat** by Brenda K. B. Anderson is a perfect example of a how to use the magic ring to create a fun and warm crochet hat. This basic earflap hat is transformed from simple to a sweet and adorable monster with the addition of a pair of pointy ears and a couple wee fangs.

So grab some yarn and your favorite hook and practice creating the magic ring. Then apply your new technique to a great free pattern. We would love to see your work; share your pictures in the Crochet Me Member Gallery.

Best wishes,



Toni Rexroat
Editor, CrochetMe.com

P.S. Do you have friends who love crochet bags and would appreciate learning new crochet techniques as well as free patterns? Forward this link to them so they can download their own free copy of *The Magic Loop Method: Free Crochet Magic Ring Instructions and Patterns* from Crochet Me.

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THE MAGIC LOOP METHOD: FREE CROCHET
MAGIC RING INSTRUCTIONS AND PATTERNS

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THE MAGIC RING

THE ADJUSTABLE MAGIC RING IS PERFECT IF YOU DO NOT WANT A HOLE IN THE CENTER OF YOUR MOTIF, HAT, OR OTHER PROJECT WORKED IN THE ROUND. This method is sometimes referred to as adjustable ring, magic loop, magic circle, or adjustable loop.

Unlike working your stitches into a chain or into a ring created by joining chains, the adjustable ring does not begin with a chain. Instead, wrap the tail into a circle. Insert the hook into the resulting ring and pull up a loop, chain one, and work the desired number of stitches into the resulting loop. Don't worry if your stitches don't fill the entire loop as they do with the chain methods. After you have worked your last stitch, pull the tail to tighten the ring. Tada, no hole.

Basic Magic Ring

STEP 1: Leaving a long tail create a loop by placing the tail behind the working yarn. The working yarn is the end of the yarn that is coming from your working skein or ball. When you first begin working the magic loop, it is a good idea to leave a tail of 6" or longer. It may seem like wasted yarn, but it will really help you keep your loop from coming undone as you work the first few stitches. As you become more practiced, you can decrease the length of your long tail.

STEP 2: Insert the crochet hook through the ring and yarn over with the working yarn. Continue to keep a firm hold on the long tail and loop.

STEP 3: Pull up a loop through the magic ring.

STEP 4: Chain 1 by yarning over and drawing through the loop on the hook. The magic ring is now more stable and easier to work into. In order to work half double crochet stitches, chain 2 or chain 3 to work double crochet stitches in the ring.

There are two methods of working the magic ring. The basic magic ring consists of a single strand of yarn. This construction is great for most hats, afghans, and most motif projects. It is also the simpler of the two methods.

The double magic ring is created with a double strand of yarn. This double strand makes the magic ring stronger and is perfect for hats that will see heavy use, children's amigurumi, or many home decor items. Because the double magic ring is constructed of two strands, it is not ideal for chunky or bulky yarns.

You can substitute a magic ring for other ways of beginning a project worked in the round, i.e. working into the first chain or creating a beginning ring from chain stitches. To substitute, work the stitches from round one into the magic ring.



Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



Step 4

STEP 5: Work first single crochet in the magic ring by inserting the hook in the ring, yarn over, and draw up a loop. Yarn over and draw through both loops on hook. Try placing your pinkie inside the ring and applying slight pressure to the far side of the ring from the hook. This will keep the ring from moving and make it easier to work in.



Step 5



Step 6

STEP 6: Working over the tail, continue to work single crochet stitches in the magic ring. Twelve single crochet stitches have been worked into this ring. Don't worry if the stitches do not completely fill the ring.

STEP 7: Firmly grasp the tail and pull. Continue pulling until the hole is eliminated, even after the stitches meet.

STEP 8: If the pattern is worked in the round, either continue crocheting in each single crochet around or slip stitch in the first stitch, chain one, and continue crocheting in each stitch around.



Step 7



Step 8

Double Magic Ring

STEP 1: Pinning the long tail between your thumb and middle finger, wrap the working yarn around your index finger three times.



Step 1



Step 2

STEP 2: Remove the ring from your finger.

STEP 3: Insert the hook in the ring and yarn over with the working yarn.

STEP 4: Pull up a loop through the ring.



Step 3



Step 4

STEP 5: Chain one and single crochet in the ring.

STEP 6: Working over the tail, continue to work single crochet stitches in the magic ring. Twelve single crochet stitches have been worked into this ring. Don't worry if the stitches do not completely fill the ring.

STEP 7: Pull the yarn tail slightly, then pull the working yarn firmly to tighten.

STEP 8: Pull the yarn tail to finish closing the ring, slip stitch in beginning stitch to join.

STEP 9: If the pattern is worked in the round, either continue crocheting in each single crochet around or slip stitch in the first stitch, chain one, and continue crocheting in each stitch around.



Step 5



Step 6



Step 7



Step 8



Step 9

DESIGNER *kim werker*

PLAY TIME

Sometimes small speaks volumes. These wee juggling balls or hacky sacks are easy—they’re worked entirely in single crochet—and they’re quick to stitch up. Since so little yarn is used, you can whip up a whole batch in a weekend or use up the random yards-long scraps you can’t bear to throw away.



PATTERN

Note: Instructions are given for solid-color ball. Add striping, colorwork, and/or embellishment as you wish. Loop yarn tail behind working yarn to form an adjustable ring, insert hook in ring, yo and pull up lp.

Rnd 1: Ch 1, 8 sc in ring, place marker (pm) in last st to mark end of rnd (move m up as work progresses), pull yarn tail to tighten ring—8 sts.

Rnd 2: 2 sc in each st around—16 sts.

Rnd 3: [Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st] around—24 sts.

Rnd 4: [Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st] around—32 sts.

FINISHED SIZE About 2½" (6.5 cm) in diameter.

YARN Worsted weight (Medium #4), about 10–15 yd (10–15 m) for each ball. *Shown here:* Patons SWS (70% wool, 30% soy; 110 yd [100 m]/2.8 oz [80 g]); tan 70012 and light blue 70129, 1 skein each.

HOOK Size H/8 (5.0 mm) crochet hook. Adjust hook size if necessary to obtain a firm fabric (see Notes).

NOTIONS Stitch marker (m); tapestry needle; small balloon; small amount of poly-fill or stuffing of your choice; rice or small dry beans.

GAUGE About 5 sts and 5 rows = 1" (2.5 cm) in sc.

NOTES + Ball is worked in spiral without joining rounds.

+ If desired, insert small balloon filled with rice or dried beans into ball

before stuffing with poly-fill and closing up. Be sure to insert balloon and/or stuffing when hole is still large enough to accommodate it; finish remaining rows and fasten off after stuffing, topping up as needed as you work.

+ Gauge should be tight to prevent stuffing from coming through the stitches, but attaining exact gauge listed is not crucial.

This pattern is an excerpt from *Interweave Presents Crocheted Gifts: Irresistible Projects to Make & Give* by Kim Werker, Interweave, 2009.

sisal spiral

RUG



PHOTOS BY JOE HANCOCK

This rug takes a classic crochet motif that might normally be found in doilies and delicate projects and gives it a twist with a bulky, nontraditional yarn. Sisal twine is a natural, durable fiber that is perfect for a rug that can be used indoors or out. When crocheting with sisal twine you'll notice that the fiber is stiff and crunchy; a thorough wet block at the end will magically transform your project from warped and crunchy to soft and flat. A unique housewarming gift!

FINISHED SIZE 36" (91.5 cm) diameter.

YARN Chunky (Super Bulky #6) cotton or jute, about 667 yd (610 m).

Shown here: Lehigh 1-ply 100% sisal bundling twine (2,250 ft [686 m] per spool).

HOOK Size N/13 (9 mm) aluminum hook. Adjust hook size if necessary to obtain the correct gauge.

NOTIONS Removable stitch markers (m); pins (for blocking); tapestry needle.

GAUGE 9 sts and 10 rows = 4" (10 cm) in sc.

First 5 rnds of patt = 7" (18 cm) diameter.

NOTES

+ Sisal is a stiff fiber that requires you to use a sturdy aluminum hook because plastic or wood hooks may break. If the fibers scratch uncomfortably at your fingers, wrap a strip of felt around your finger and secure it all the way around with tape.

+ The pattern is worked in a spiral with the RS facing unless indicated otherwise. Do not join at the end of the round. Place a marker (pm) as indicated and move the marker up as your work progresses.

+ Stitches in the second round are worked into the space between stitches rather than into the stitch itself. The lace rounds are worked into the stitch as usual.

This pattern is an excerpt from *Interweave Presents Crocheted Gifts: Irresistible Projects to Make & Give* by Kim Werker, Interweave, 2009.

RUG

Loop the yarn tail around the working yarn to form an adjustable ring; work all sts from Rnd 1 into the center of the ring.

Rnd 1: Work 12 dc in ring, place marker (pm) in last st to mark end of rnd (see Notes), pull tail to tighten ring—12 dc.

Rnd 2: 2 dc in each sp between (bet) stitches (see Notes), move m up—24 dc.

Rnd 3: *Sc in next 3 sts, ch 3, sk next st; rep from * around, skipping the last marked st, move m to last ch-3 sp—3 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 4: *Sk next sc, sc in next 2 sc, 2 sc in next ch sp, ch 4; rep from * around—4 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 5: *Sk next sc, sc in each sc to next ch sp, 2 sc in ch sp, ch 5; rep from * around—5 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 6: *Sk next sc, sc in each sc to next ch sp, 2 sc in ch sp, ch 6; rep from * around—6 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 7: *Sk next sc, sc in each sc to next ch sp, 2 sc in ch sp, ch 7; rep from * around—7 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 8: Rep Rnd 7—8 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 9: *Sk next sc, sc in each sc to next ch sp, 2 sc in ch sp, ch 8; rep from * around—9 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 10: Rep Rnd 9—10 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 11: *Sk next sc, sc in each sc to next ch sp, 2 sc in ch sp, ch 9; rep from * around—11 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 12: Rep Rnd 11—12 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 13: *Sk next sc, sc in each sc to next ch sp, 2 sc in ch sp, ch 10; rep from * around—13 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 14: Rep Rnd 13—14 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 15: *Sk next sc, sc in each sc to next ch sp, 2 sc in ch sp, ch 11; rep from * around—15 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 16: Rep Rnd 15—16 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 17: *Sk next sc, sc in each sc to next ch sp, 2 sc in ch sp, ch 12; rep from * around—17 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 18: Rep Rnd 17—18 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 19: *Sk next sc, sc in each sc to next ch sp, 2 sc in ch sp, ch 13; rep from * around—19 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 20: Rep Rnd 19—20 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 21: *Sk next sc, sc in each sc to next ch sp, 2 sc in ch sp, ch 14; rep from * around—21 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 22: Rep Rnd 21—22 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 23: *Sk next sc, sc in each sc to next ch sp, 2 sc in ch sp, ch 15; rep from * around—23 sc bet ch sps.

Rnd 24: *Sk next sc, sc in each sc to next ch sp, 17 sc in ch-sp; rep from * around.

Rnd 25: Sc around, working 2 sc in st at each tip, turn.

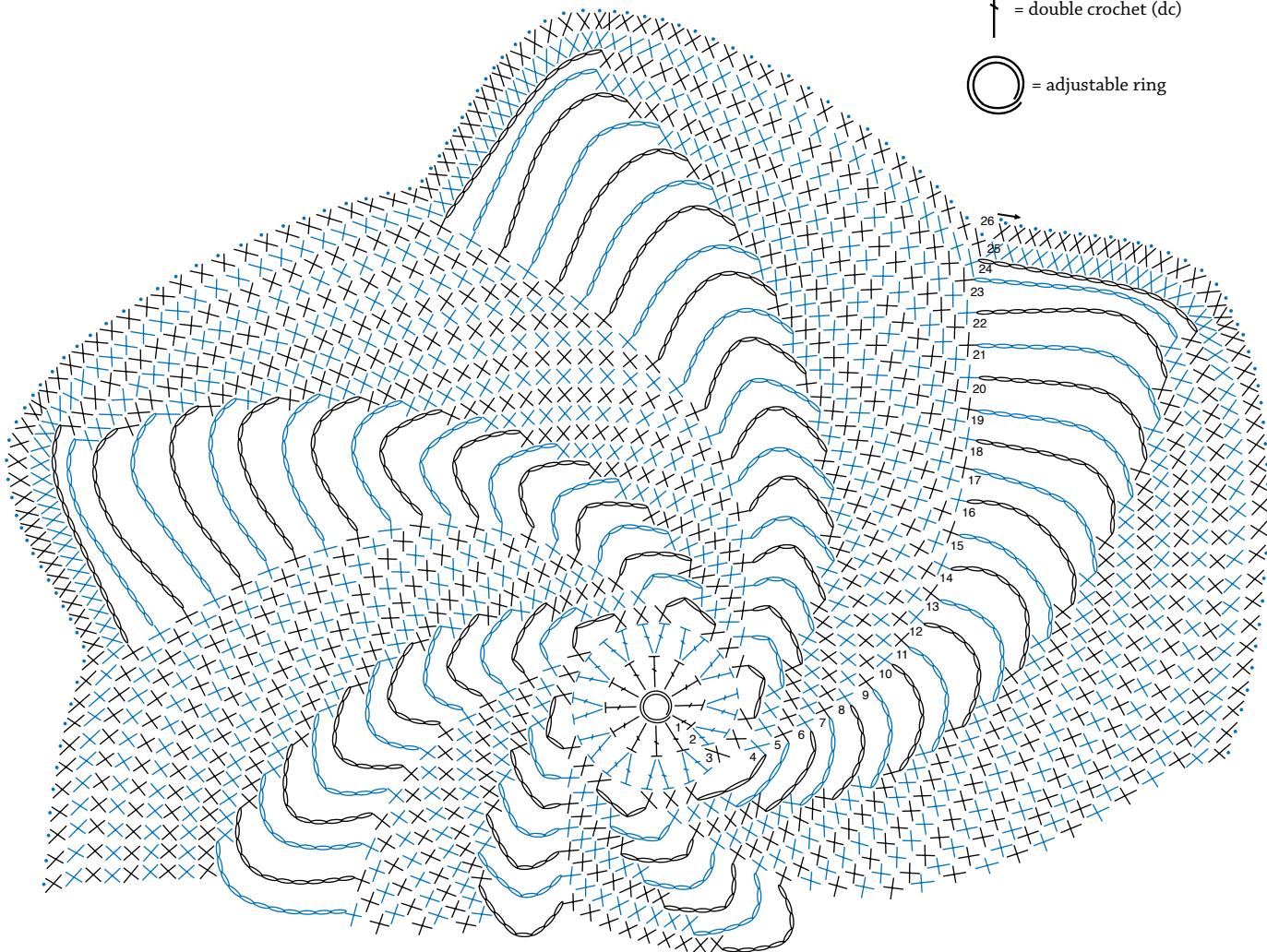
Rnd 26: With WS facing, sl st in each st around, sl st in first st to join. Fasten off and weave in loose ends.



FINISHING

Wet block rug in the bathtub. Place the rug flat on a large towel and roll it up to squeeze out excess water. With WS facing, place rug on a dry towel, stretch each pinwheel panel and shape the tips until they lay flat, then pin to towel. Allow to dry. For a neat finish, trim wispy strands of fiber with scissors.

- = chain (ch)
- = slip stitch (sl st)
- X = single crochet (sc)
- T = double crochet (dc)
- = adjustable ring



Reduced sample of Spiral Motif

Lil' vampire hat

Everyone knows that fuzzy equals cute (think kitties, ducklings, the top of a baby's head). So if you want to make a scary monster into something sweet and adorable, just make it fuzzy! When a vampire is this cute and cuddly, can you really blame parents for allowing it to bite the top of their child's head?

sizes

Newborn (6–12 months, Child, Adult Small, Adult Medium).

Samples made in Child for Vampire Hat and Newborn for Little Bear Hat version.

finished measurements

15 (16 $\frac{3}{4}$, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$, 20, 2 $\frac{3}{4}$)" (38 [42.5, 46.5, 51, 55] cm) in circumference.

yarn

Chunky (#5 Bulky).

Shown here: Plymouth Yarn Baby Alpaca Brush (80% baby alpaca, 20% acrylic; 110 yd [100 m]/1.75 oz [50 g]; #1538 Light Gray (MC), 1 (2, 2, 2, 2) skeins; small amount of each of the following colors: #1000 Off White (CC1); #500 Black (CC2), and #1620 Light Periwinkle (CC3).

hooks

Size G/6 (4 mm) [for all sizes].

Adjust hook size if necessary to obtain correct gauge.

Size F/5 (3.75 mm) [for Newborn and 6–12 months].

notions

Stitch markers (medium).

Yarn needle.

Large-headed sewing pins (or quilting pins).

gauge

Work through Rnd 8 of hat directions. Circle should measure 4" (10 cm) in diameter using larger hook.

note

* If you are substituting yarns and want to use a smoother yarn, try a Worsted (#4 Medium). The yarn used is a Chunky (#5 Bulky), but it is due to its fluffy-soft halo.

This pattern is an excerpt from *Beastly Crochet: 23 Critters to Wear and Love* by Brenda K.B. Anderson, Interweave, 2013.



Construction Plan

Hat is worked top down in the rnd. Earflaps and ties are worked in turned rows. Eyes and ears are made separately, in the rnd, and stitched onto hat.

Hat

With MC yarn and larger hook, make an adjustable loop.

RND 1: 6 sc into loop; pull on beginning yarn tail to tighten loop—6 sts.

RND 2: 2 sc into each st around—12 sts.

RND 3: [2 sc into next st, 1 sc into next st] 6 times—18 sts.

RND 4: [1 sc into next st, 2 sc into next st, 1 sc into next st] 6 times—24 sts.

RND 5: [1 sc into each of the next 3 sts, 2 sc into next st] 6 times—30 sts.

RND 6: [2 sc into next st, 1 sc into each of the next 4 sts] 6 times—36 sts.

RND 7: [1 sc into each of the next 2 sts, 2 sc into the next st, 1 sc into each of the next 3 sts] 6 times—42 sts.

For Sizes 6–12 months (Child, Adult Small, Adult Medium) Only

RND 8: [1 sc into each of the next 4 sts, 2 sc into the next st, 1 sc into each of the next 2 sts] 6 times—48 sts.

For Sizes Child (Adult Small, Adult Medium) Only

RND 9: [1 sc into each of the next 7 sts, 2 sc into the next st] 6 times—54 sts.

For Sizes Adult Small (Adult Medium) Only

RND 10: [1 sc into each of the next 4 sts, 2 sc into next st, 1 sc into each of the next 4 sts] 6 times—60 sts.

For Size Adult Medium Only

RND 11: [1 sc into each of the next 2 sts, 2 sc into next st, 1 sc into each of the next 7 sts] 6 times—66 sts.

For All Sizes

RND 8 (9, 10, 11, 12): [1 sc into each of the next 13 (15, 17, 19, 21) sts, 2 sc into the next st] 3 times—45 (51, 57, 63, 69) sts.

RND 9 (10, 11, 12, 13): [1 sc into each of the next 4 (5, 6, 7, 8) sts, 2 sc into the next st, 1 sc into each of the next 10 (11, 12, 13, 14) sts] 3 times—48 (54, 60, 66, 72) sts.

RND 10 (11, 12, 13, 14): [1 sc into each of the next 12 (13, 14, 15, 16) sts, 2 sc into the next st, 1 sc into each of the next 3 (4, 5, 6, 7) sts] 3 times—51 (57, 63, 69, 75) sts.

RND 11 (12, 13, 14, 15): [1 sc into each of the next 0 (1, 2, 3, 4) sts, 2 sc into the next st, 1 sc into each of the next 16 (17, 18, 19, 20) sts] 3 times—54 (60, 66, 72, 78) sts.

RNDS 12–20 (13–22, 14–24, 15–26, 16–28): 1 sc into each st—54 (60, 66, 72, 78) sts.

RND 21 (23, 25, 27, 29): 1 sc into each of the next 38 (42, 46, 50, 54) sts, leaving the rest of the rnd unworked—38 (42, 46, 50, 54) sts. DO NOT FASTEN OFF. Work in turned rows to make earflaps as follows.



Earflap

ROW(S) 1 (1, 1-3, 1-3, 1-3): Ch 1, turn. Work 1 sc into each of the next 38 (42, 46, 50, 54) sts,—38 (42, 46, 50, 54) sts.

ROW 2 (2, 4, 4, 4): Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Work 1 sc into each of the next 37 (41, 45, 49, 53) sts—37 (41, 45, 49, 53) sts.

ROW 3 (3, 5, 5, 5): Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Work 1 sc into each of the next 36 (40, 44, 48, 52) sts—36 (40, 44, 48, 52) sts.

ROW 4 (4, 6, 6, 6): Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Work 1 sc into each of the next 13 (14, 15, 16, 17) sts, leaving the remainder of sts in the row unworked—13 (14, 15, 16, 17) sts.

ROW 5 (5, 7, 7, 7): Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Work 1 sc into each of the next 12 (13, 14, 15, 16) sts—12 (13, 14, 15, 16) sts.

ROW 6 (6, 8, 8, 8): Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Work 1 sc into each of the next 11 (12, 13, 14, 15) sts—11 (12, 13, 14, 15) sts.

ROW 7 (7, 9, 9, 9): Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Work 1 sc into each of the next 10 (11, 12, 13, 14) sts—10 (11, 12, 13, 14) sts.

ROW 8 (8, 10, 10, 10): Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Make 1 sc into each of the next 9 (10, 11, 12, 13) sts—9 (10, 11, 12, 13) sts.

ROW 9 (9, 11, 11, 11): Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Make 1 sc into each of the next 8 (9, 10, 11, 12) sts—8 (9, 10, 11, 12) sts.

ROW 10 (10, 12, 12, 12): Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Make 1 sc into each of the next 7 (8, 9, 10, 11) sts—7 (8, 9, 10, 11) sts.

For Sizes 6–12 months (Child, Adult Small, Adult Medium) Only

ROW 11 (13, 13, 13): Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Make 1 sc into each of the next 7 (8, 9, 10) sts—7 (8, 9, 10) sts.

For Sizes Child (Adult Small, Adult Medium) Only

ROW 14: Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Make 1 sc into each of the next 7 (8, 9) sts—7 (8, 9) sts.

For Sizes Adult Small (Adult Medium) Only

ROW 15: Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Make 1 sc into each of the next 7 (8) sts—7 (8) sts.

For Size Adult Medium Only

ROW 16: Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Make 1 sc into each of the next 7 sts—7 sts.



For All Sizes

NEXT ROW: Ch 1, turn, sk first st, sc2tog. Make 1 sc into each of the next 2 sts, sc2tog—4 sts.

NEXT ROW: Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Work 1 sc into the next st, sc2tog,—2 sts.

NEXT ROW: Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Work 1 sc into the next st—1 st. DO NOT FASTEN OFF.

Tie

Loosely ch 23 (27, 31, 35, 37) sts.

ROW 1: Starting with 2nd ch from hook and working into the bottom of the chain, work 1 sl st into each of the next 22 (26, 30, 34, 36) sts. DO NOT FASTEN OFF.

Edging

Work 8 (9, 11, 12, 13) sc sts down the back edge of earflap. Make 1 sc into each of the next 22 (25, 28, 31, 34) sts across back of neck to the other side of hat. DO NOT FASTEN OFF.



Second Earflap

NEXT ROW: Ch 1, turn, sk first st. Work 1 sc into each of the next 12 (13, 14, 15, 16) sts—12 (13, 14, 15, 16) sts.

Follow directions for first earflap starting with Row 6 (6, 8, 8). DO NOT FASTEN OFF.

Tie

Make tie as for first earflap.

Edging/Teeth

Work 13 (14, 15, 16, 17) sc down the front edge of the earflap, changing to CC1 on last yo of 13th (14th, 15th, 16th, 17th) sc. With CC1 and working across front of hat, work 1 sl st blo into each of the next 2 (2, 2, 3, 3) sts, 1 sc blo into the next st, 1 hdc (for newborn/6–12 month sizes) or 1 dc (for remaining sizes), ch 2, sl st into the bottom of the 2nd ch from hook, 1 hdc (for newborn/6–12 month sizes) or 1 dc (for remaining sizes) into the blo of the next st, 1 sc blo into the next st, 1 sl st blo into each of the next 6 (8, 10, 10, 12) sts, 1 sc blo into the next st, 1 hdc (for newborn/6–12 month sizes) or 1 dc (for remaining sizes), ch 2, sl st into the bottom of the 2nd ch from hook, 1 hdc (for newborn/6–12 month sizes) or 1 dc (for remaining sizes) into the blo of the next st, 1 sc blo into the next st, 1 sl st into each of the next 3 sts, changing to MC on yo of third sl st. With MC, make 13 (14, 15, 16, 17) sc sts up the front of the other earflap, sl st near base of tie to fasten off.

With RS facing, and hat upside down, join yarn at back edge of the only remaining unbound earflap edge. Work 8 (9, 11, 12, 13) sc sts along back edge of earflap, ending with a sl st near tie end to fasten off.

Eye (make 2)

With CC1 and using smaller hook for newborn and 6–12 month sizes (or larger hook for all other sizes), make an adjustable loop.

RND 1: 6 sc into loop, pull on beginning yarn tail to tighten loop—6 sts. DO NOT JOIN but work in a spiral.

RND 2: 2 sc into each st—12 sts.

RND 3: [1 sc into the next st, 2 sc into the following st] 6 times—18 sts. Insert hook into back loop of next st and yo with CC3 to change color.

RND 4: With CC3, work 1 sl st into each of the remaining 17 sts (make sure that these are loose enough so that they don't distort the edge of the circle). Remove hook from loop. Insert hook under first sl st from backside of work to front. Place working loop back on hook and pull through to back of work. Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Pupil (make 2)

With CC2 and using smaller hook for newborn and 6–12 month sizes (or larger hook for all other sizes), make an adjustable loop.

RND 1: 6 sc into loop, pull on beginning yarn tail to tighten loop—6 sts. Slip stitch to fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Ear (make 2)

With MC and using smaller hook for newborn and 6–12 month sizes (or larger hook for all other sizes), make an adjustable loop.

RND 1: 6 sc into loop, pull on beginning yarn tail to tighten loop—6 sts.

RND 2: 2 sc into each st around—12 sts.

RND 3: [2 sc into next st, 1 sc into next st] 6 times—18 sts. Place marker in first st to indicate the beginning of rnd.

RNDS 4 & 5: 1 sc into each st—18 sts.

RNDS 6–14: 1 sc into each stitch, making one decrease (sc2tog) each rnd. Place the decrease in a different place each rnd—9 sts at the end of rnd 14.

RND 15: [1 sc into the next st, sc2tog] 3 times—6 sts.

RND 16: 1 sc into each st—6 sts. Fasten off with long tail.

Using yarn needle, thread yarn tail through the front loop of each of the remaining 6 sts and pull tight to close tip of ear.

Finishing

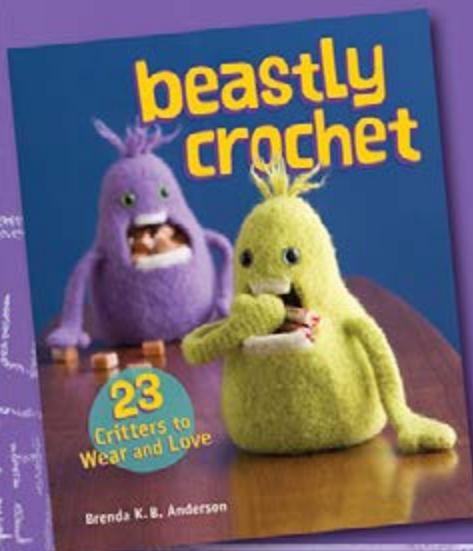
Pin eyes in place on front of hat. The bottom edge of each eye should be 3 (3, 3, 4, 4) rows above the teeth row. The center of each eye should be one or two sts closer to the center of the head, compared to the point of each tooth. In other words, there should be about 4 (4, 5, 5, 5) sts visible between the eyes. Using the CC3 tail ends and yarn needle, stitch around the edge of each eye to secure to the hat. This can be done with a backstitch right through the center of each sl st. Pin pupils to eyes. Do not center them in each eye, but place them just slightly toward the center of the face and just slightly toward the bottom of the eye. Stitch around the edge of pupil (into eye) using yarn needle and CC2.

Fold hat flat with face up and centered to find the sides of the hat. Pin an ear to each side of hat, just above the section of turned rows (for earflaps). Using yarn needle and MC, slip stitch (or whipstitch) the bottom half of each ear to the side of the hat. In order to keep the ears from flopping back and forth, you can run two lines of stitching parallel but about $\frac{1}{4}$ " (6 mm) apart from each other down the side of the ear. If a larger surface of the ear is in contact with the hat, the attachment point will act like less of a hinge, and the ear will be more substantially attached to the sides of the head.

Weave in all ends. Block if necessary.



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glossary

Abbreviations

beg	begin(s); beginning
bet	between
blo	back loop only
CC	contrasting color
ch	chain
cm	centimeter(s)
cont	continue(s); continuing
dc	double crochet
dtr	double treble crochet
dec(s)(d)	decrease(s); decreasing; decreased
est	established
fdc	foundation double crochet
flo	front loop only
foll	follows; following
fsc	foundation single crochet
g	gram(s)
hdc	half double crochet
inc(s)(d)	increase(s); increasing; increased
k	knit
lp(s)	loop(s)
MC	main color
m	marker
mm	millimeter(s)
patt(s)	pattern(s)
pm	place marker
p	purl
rem	remain(s); remaining
rep	repeat; repeating
rev sc	reverse single crochet
rnd(s)	round(s)
RS	right side
sc	single crochet
sk	skip
sl	slip
sl st	slip(ped) stitch
sp(s)	space(es)
st(s)	stitch(es)
tch	turning chain
tog	together
tr	treble crochet
WS	wrong side
yd	yard
yo	yarn over hook
*	repeat starting point
()	alternate measurements and/or instructions
[]	work bracketed instructions a specified number of times

Single Crochet Two Together (sc2tog)

Insert hook in next stitch, yarn over, pull up loop (2 loops on hook, Figure 1), insert hook in next stitch, yarn over, pull up loop (3 loops on hook), yarn over and draw through all 3 loops on hook (Figure 2)—1 stitch decreased (Figure 3).



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

Illustrations by Gayle Ford