Crochet Balaclava: Kids Size Pattern

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Finished Size and Skill Level

One kids size: fits head circumference about 16 in (41 cm).

Finished length from crown to neck edge: about 11 in (28 cm).

Skill level: Easy. You should know how to increase in the round.

Materials

Worsted weight yarn (#4): about 170 yards. This is an estimate from the stitch count: the kids version has about 56 percent of the adult stitch total, and 300 x 0.56 = 168 yards, rounded to about 170 yards.

5.5 mm crochet hook, or size needed to obtain gauge.

Stitch marker, tapestry needle, scissors.

Gauge

12 half double crochet and 10 rows = 4 in (10 cm) using a 5.5 mm hook. Take time to check your gauge so the balaclava fits snugly.

Abbreviations (US Terms)

ch = chain, hdc = half double crochet (UK: half treble crochet), sc = single crochet (UK: double crochet), BLO = back loop only, sl st = slip stitch, st(s) = stitch(es), rep = repeat

Pattern Notes

The balaclava is worked from the crown down in joined rounds. Place a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round to keep your place. This kids version is a full recompute of the adult Classic Balaclava base pattern. At the gauge of 3 sts per inch, 48 sts give 48 divided by 3 = 16 in around.

Crown

Round 1: Make a magic ring, ch 1, work 8 hdc into the ring, join with a sl st to the first hdc. Pull the ring closed. (8 sts)

Round 2: Ch 1, 2 hdc in each st around, join. (16 sts)

Round 3: Ch 1, *hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st; rep from * around, join. (24 sts)

Round 4: Ch 1, *hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st; rep from * around, join. (32 sts)

Round 5: Ch 1, *hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st; rep from * around, join. (40 sts)

Round 6: Ch 1, *hdc in next 4 sts, 2 hdc in next st; rep from * around, join. (48 sts = about 16 in around)

Sides

Rounds 7-15: Ch 1, hdc in each st around, join. (48 sts) That is 9 rounds.

Face Opening

Round 16: Ch 1, hdc in next 15 sts, ch 18, skip the next 18 sts, hdc in the remaining 15 sts, join. (48 sts; the opening is about 6 in wide)

Check: 15 + 18 + 15 = 48 sts. The opening is 18 divided by 48 = 37.5 percent of the round, the same share as the adult opening, 24 divided by 64 = 37.5 percent.

Rounds 17-19: Ch 1, hdc in each st around (working into the chain as well), join. (48 sts) That is 3 rounds.

Neck

Rounds 20-26: Ch 1, hdc BLO in each st around, join. (48 sts) That is 7 rounds.

Round 27: Ch 1, sc in each st around, join. Fasten off. (48 sts)

Face Edging

Join yarn at the face opening.

Round 1: Ch 1, work sc evenly around the opening: 1 sc in each st across the top and bottom edges and 2 sc in the end of each round along both sides. Join with a sl st to the first sc.

Round 2: Ch 1, sc BLO in each st around, join. Fasten off.

Finishing

Weave in all ends. The face opening should fit snugly; the ribbed edging will relax slightly with wear.

Finished length for this version is about 11 in from crown to neck edge: 27 rounds at 10 rows = 4 in give 27 divided by 2.5 = 10.8 in, plus the edging.

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