

Colourful Braided Ear Flap Hat

New Born

Keep those young people's ears warm this winter with a crochet baby hat that has ear flap. The current trend is to have braids at the end of the flaps. Adding braids is up to you. This hat makes a great accessory for a photo prop as well.

Colour changing is up to you. Cathy's original pattern has 3 colours. You can opt to use one solid colour or even a colour transitioning yarn such as Red Heart Treasure or Eclipse Yarns as well.

Please note that braids may be a choking or suffocation hazard for young children. These size hats are really cute for photo props. Use your own discretion.

More Inspiration

Play with your creativity with experimenting with colour choices and embellishing.



Materials

- Size G Crochet Hook or 4.5 MM
- Cathy used **Vanna's Choice Yarn by Lion Brand**. You will need only 1 ball of each. You can do a few hats using the same yarn as these hats don't use up a lot of yarn.

Definitions

CH - Chain, DC - Double Crochet, HDC - Half Double Crochet, SC - Single Crochet, SL ST - Slip Stitch, BEG - Beginning, REP - Repeat, 2TOG HDC Decrease - 2 Stitches Together to Decrease,

Free Pattern

Colours Definitions, you can use 1 colour or colour transitioning yarns if you prefer.

- Colour A - Red
- Colour B - Blue
- Colour C - Green

- ★ This pattern works in rounds.
- ★ Ch 2 counts as st in this pattern.
- ★ Joining means to sl st to beg st or top of ch.

With A, ch 4. Join with sl st to beg ch to form ring.

1. Ch 2, 9 hdc in ring.
2. Ch 2, 1 hdc in same st as join. 2 hdc in each st around. Join.
3. Ch 2, 1 hdc in same st as join. 2 hdc in next st. *1 hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st. Rep from * around. Join.
4. Ch 2, 1 hdc in next 2 sts. 2 hdc in next st. *1 hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st. Rep from * around. Join.
5. Ch 2, 1 hdc in next 3 sts. 2 hdc in next st. *1 hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st. Rep from * around. Join. Break A.
6. With B, join with sl st to same st as join. Ch 2, 1 hdc in each st around. Join. Break B.
7. With A, join with sl st to same st as join. Ch 1, 1 sc in each st around. Join. Break A.
8. With C, join with sl st to same st as join. Ch 1, 1 sc in each st around. Join. Break A.
9. With A, join with sl st to same st as join. Ch 1, 1 sc in each st around. Join. Break A.
10. With B, join with sl st to same st as join. Ch 2, 1 hdc in each st around. Join. Break B.
11. Ch 2, 1 hdc in each st around. Join. Break B.
12. With A, join with sl st to same st as join. Ch 2, 1 hdc in each st around. Join.
13. Ch 2, 1 hdc in each st around. Join.
14. Ch 2, 1 hdc in each st around. Join. Fasten off.

Ear Flap

Using Colour A

Fold the hat into half with the sl st seam at the fold line. Measure or eye up the halfway point between the two sides of the hat. Mark both sides of the hat's middle point as you will need to do two ear flap sides to keep them the same distance.

From the middle, count 5 stitches back to find your starting point. Fasten on yarn.

1. Ch 2, 1 hdc in the next 10 stitches. Turn.
2. Ch 2, 1 hdc across. Turn.
3. Ch 2, hdc2tog over next 2 sts, 1 hdc across. On final two stitches, hdctog. Turn.
4. Ch 2, hdc2tog over next 2 sts, 1 hdc across. On final two stitches, hdctog. Turn. Fasten off and weave in ends.

Repeat the second flap by going back to the middle point and counting back 6 stitches to find your beginning. Repeat steps 2 - 6 once again.

Surrounding Brim



Using Col

our C

1. Fasten on at the corner of one of the ear flaps where it is next to the brim of the hat. On the picture, it is fastened on where the pink meets the white.
2. Ch 1, SC all the way around the brim which includes around the ear flaps. For the sides of the ear flap where there are no stitches, equally space your SC so it looks like the same distance of regular stitching. Do not do anything special for the corners of turns of the material as this technique will create soft edges.
3. Fasten off and weave in ends.

Braids

1. Cathy recommends a total of 12 or so strands per side. The tightness of the braid is up to you.
2. The length of the braid is about 10" but that length is a personal choice. Cut 6 strands that are about 54" Long. She used 2 strands of each of the colours to make it a bit more interesting.
3. Bunch the strands together and fold into half. Using a crochet hook, insert the hook from the inside of the hat and grab the strands at the fold and pull through about 3". Then insert the tails of the strands through the loop to secure.
4. Separate strands into 3 groups of 4 strands. Braid them together to the desired length.
5. Repeat again for the other side.