

# 6 Months - 1 Year Braided Hat

## Materials

- Size G Crochet Hook or 4.5 MM
- Cathy used Red Heart Shimmer, Pink, Purple and White for this hat. 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 - Pink
- Colour B - White
- Colour C - Purple

This pattern works in rounds.

1. **Colour A** - Ch 4 and SL ST to the Beg CH to form a ring.
2. Ch 2, then HDC 9 times around the ring. (Ch 2 counts as 1 HDC = 10 HDC). SL ST at the end to the top of the Beg Ch 2.
3. Ch 2, then 1 HDC into the same joining stitch. 2 HDC into each stitch around the circle. SL ST at the end to the top of the Beg Ch 2.
4. Ch 2, \*1 HDC into the next stitch and then 2 HDC into the next. Repeat from \* all the way around. SL ST at the end to the top of the Beg Ch 2.
5. Ch 2, \*1 HDC into the next 2 stitches, 2 HDC into the next. Repeat from \* all the way around. SL ST at the end to the top of the Beg Ch 2.
6. Ch 2, \*1 HDC into the next 3 stitches, 2 HDC into the next. Repeat from \* all the way around. SL ST at the end to the top of the Beg Ch 2.
7. Ch 2, \*1 HDC into the next 4 stitches, 2 HDC into the next. Repeat from \* all the way around. SL ST at the end of the top of the Beg Ch 2.
8. **Colour Change B**, Ch 2 and 1 HDC into each stitch all the way around. SL ST at the end to the top of the Beg Ch 2.
9. **Colour Change A**, Ch 1, SC into each stitch. SL ST at the end.
10. **Colour Change C**, Ch 1, Sc into each stitch. SL ST at the end.
11. **Colour Change A**, Ch 1, SC into each stitch. SL ST at the end.
12. **Colour Change B**, Ch 2, HDC into each stitch. SL ST at the end.
13. Ch 2, HDC into each stitch. SL ST at then end.
14. **Colour Change A**, CH 2, HDC into each stitch. ST ST at the end.
15. Ch 2, HDC into each stitch. SL ST at the end.

16. Ch 2, HDC into each stitch. SL ST at the end.
17. Fasten off and weave in ends.

## Ear Flap

### Using Colour A

1. Fold the hat into half with the SL ST seam at the fold line. Measure or eye up the half way 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.
2. From the middle, count 6 stitches back to find your starting point. Fasten on yarn.
3. Ch 2, then HDC into the next 12 stitches. Turn.
4. Ch 2, HDC across. Turn.
5. Ch 2, HDC across. Turn.
6. Ch 2, HDC across, Turn.
7. Ch 2, then 2 TOG HDC DEC, then HDC until the final two stitches. On the final 2 stitches, 2 TOG HDC DEC again. Turn.
8. Repeat Step 7. Fasten off and weave in ends.
9. Repeat the second flap by going back to the middle point and counting back 6 stitches to find your beginning. Repeat steps 2 - 8 once again.

## Surrounding Brim

### Using Colour 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. Just ensure it's not a choking hazard.
3. Cut 6 strands that are about 54" Long. She used 2 strands of each of the colours to make it a bit more interesting.
4. 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.
5. Separate strands into 3 groups of 4 strands. Braid them together to the desired length.

6. Repeat again for the other side.