
Crochet Hat Formula with Cal Patch

Chapter 1 - Introduction

Overview

- A hat's a perfect way to learn working in the round which is our next step. You start from the top, work your way down. It's a little bit different than knitting where you usually start at the bottom and work your way up. So, why don't we get started?

Chapter 2 - Make Hat

Chain and begin working in the round

- I'm going to show you how to make a hat using a basic formula which will allow you to make any size hat you like. So, you're going to begin by making a slipknot just like you do with any project. You're going to begin by chaining four stitches. One, two, three, four. This hat is going to be made out of double crochet, so you've got your four chains which are actually three of the turning chain and one extra that will become the center of the hat. Yarn over and double crochet into the fourth chain over from the hook. So there, I've made my first double crochet and I'm going to continue doubling. I'm actually gonna make nine double crochets into the same chain stitch, so this is working in the round. By the time I have nine, you'll see it's going to be a complete circle. So, let's see how many we have. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, and this one is the chain stitch so that doesn't count. So there's eight. One more as our ninth. So, I've come almost all the way around the circle and I'm going to join into the top of our original chains, we have a chain stitch right here at the top and I'm actually going to make a new stitch that we haven't learned yet which is called slip stitch. This is really just used as a connector. So, I'm just grabbing the yarn and bring it through all my loops in one and now we're connected and we have a perfect little circle. So, that's how you crochet in the round.

Work the 2nd round

- Okay, so we can move onto round two. I've joined my first round, and now I'm going to chain three which is just like a turning chain in a row, only now our rows are going in a circle, which makes them round. My first double crochet is going right into the very first stitch. Normal procedure is to skip to the second, but we want to increase in every stitch. So, I'm working right into the very first stitch that's at the base of the chain. There's my first double, and now moving into the next stitch and each stitch after that, I'm going to do two double crochets into each stitch. Okay, see how both are worked into the same stitch, that's increasing. Because this circle is bigger than the last one we need to increase every stitch. So, this is your basic formula for working kind of a flat pancake, which is really what the top of a hat is. In order to make a round circle the basic formula would be in round one you're making enough stitches just to make your circle. In round two, you increase every stitch, so you're doubling your stitches, making two stitches in each stitch. That's the round we're on now. So, now I just have to get around. Okay. We are at the last stitch of the row, and again we've got our turning chain that we can identify your top stitch and work that slip stitch right in there to connect. So, now our circle's getting bigger and we've got two rounds of the beginning of our hat.

Work the 3rd round

- We have two rounds completed, and now we can move into the third round. You're gonna chain

three, just like you always do. Do your first double into the first stitch again, just like we did in the previous round. So, I've done two crochets into the first stitch, I mean the chain, and crocheted right into the first stitch to increase. Moving to the second stitch. I'm just going to do one stitch. So I've got two, then one. Then again in the next one, two. Increasing again. We're nearing the end of our third round, and you're probably starting to notice a pattern of what's happening here. In our first round we did 10 double crochets. In the second round we did two stitches in each stitch. For the third round, we've done two in one stitch, one in the next, two in one, then one in the next. So probably you can guess what's going to happen in the fourth round. All of this is written in the PDF pattern which is downloadable from the website, so you don't have to worry about memorizing it. You can follow along from the pattern. So we're at the end of our round again. Gonna join into that top chain with a slip stitch. And there's the end of round three.

Work even and finish hat

- Continue to follow along the pattern and you will have another round, which is the fourth round, in which you've increased, then done two double crochets, increased again. So, now you've got a bigger pancake, and you can try it on the top of your head and see if it's getting to be the size that you want. You basically want it just a little smaller than the circumference of the head. So it depends if you're making an adult hat or a baby hat, it also is going to depend what size yarn you're working with. This is a bulky yarn, so the stitches are quite large. And we only need four rounds to get to, basically, the size of an adult head. If you're working with a finer yarn, you may require six, seven, eight rounds until it's big enough. So, things are going to vary, that's why this is a general formula which gives you the power to design your own hat. Now that the hat is big enough, we can continue working and do what's called work even, which means we're not increasing anymore, we're not going to decrease, we're just going to do normal, one stitch and one stitch. Just like you've actually been doing up until this point. So, now we're skipping the first stitch and working into the second stitch, which is normally what you do for double crochet. And continuing around, just working one double into each double. This is what's going to give the hat length and stop the increasing that we've been doing. You're going to work even until the hat is as long as you want it, so what I like to do is just keep trying it on every round. You're probably going to need at least four rounds of working even until you've reached the desired length, which is totally up to you. I like to make my hats nice and long so they cover my ears, but you may feel differently. I have a baby hat here that's almost ready to be finished. I just need to work one more stitch, and then join, just as you've done in every round. So you'll put the hook in your last chain, make a slipknot, and then finish it off. Pull the tail through and give it a pull to snug down the knot. And now you just have to weave in your tail. So you've got your darning needle. Thread the tail through and just like in your swatches, so I'm just finding a good place where I can weave in the end and really you're just trying to hide it. Check from the back that you haven't just stuck it behind. Now you've learned how to work in the round, and you've made your first hat. So, since you understand the formula, you can actually make hats in all sizes, all different kinds of yarn, and make a hat for just about everyone you know.