



Thanks for your help on these – you can hand them in to Pattie Longenecker in the Volunteer Office at Hbg. Hosp., or any PinnacleHealth volunteer office, when completed – be sure to put your name with them, so we can recognize you for your efforts. We always need these hats, as we have more than 3500 babies a year! Also, sometimes we have yarn donated, so check in the Volunteer Office if you need yarn to make these caps.

CROCHETING INSTRUCTIONS – BABY CAPS

1. Use any 3-ply baby yarn (“Sport weight” is my favorite - nice and easy to work with). Some yarn labels don’t list the ‘ply’, so just take the end of the yarn, and separate the pieces. If there are 3, it’s 3-ply yarn! You can use “fingering” yarn, but it is finer, and the hat will be thinner. Please do not use 4-ply yarn.
2. No wool content (allergies) or all cotton (stretches out) - 100% acrylic is best. “Feel” the yarn before you buy – definitely, some are softer!
3. Pastels are preferred, but other colors are ok, too. Colors in the skein will be slightly darker in the finished project.
4. Stitch options are in parentheses (). Babies come in all sizes, and some crochet tighter, or looser, so any combination will fit one little dear baby’s head ☺.

Size G or H (Size H, if you tend to crochet tighter) Crochet Hook. I like the metal ones (the yarn seems to “slide” a little better) but if you like the plastic ones, that’s fine too.

Yarn (Tapestry) Needles (set of 2) (plastic)

Sm. Pair of scissors (the folding ones are great for your knitting bag).

Wash your hands each time before crocheting. This keeps the yarn clean ☺

All work is done in the blo (back loop only). This creates the ribbing in the cap, which hugs the head, and makes it fit well.

Chain (ch) 29

Row 1: Sc (single crochet) in back loop only (blo) beginning with second stitch from needle, and continue to end of row (28 stitches), chain 1, turn.

Row 2: Continue for 45 more rows, being careful to always pick up the last hidden stitch of each row. This stitch will have a “nubby” or horizontal stitch anchoring it at the bottom.

To count your stitches - after you chain 1 and turn, put your hook in the second stitch from the needle and begin counting (this is the first stitch). Count occasionally to be sure you have the same amount of stitches that you started with.

Cut yarn, leaving about 15”. To complete hat, thread tapestry needle with cut end of yarn. Pick up the top stitch of every second row on the needle (you’ll be able to tell these by where the “hole” is). Pull tightly and tack with several stitches and knot on the wrong side (there should be no holes in the top of the hat). Then, put the right sides of the side seams of the hat together and continue with an overcast stitch down the seam, to the bottom edge of the hat (keep checking as you sew to be sure the bottom edges will come together). You could instead crochet this seam together, matching each stitch along the edge. Take several stitches to hold bottom together securely, and take needle back up through the seam about 1½” (this keeps the loose thread from hanging out the bottom of the hat), take several more stitches, knot tightly, and cut off (this conceals the end of the yarn beyond the border of the hat, which you do not want to show when the bottom edge is turned up). Turn hat to right side, and turn up brim about an inch.

You can be as creative as you like with these hats!! If you use several colors in stripes, make sure the stripes are even. These hats do not look good with just one stripe in the hat. Don’t be afraid to vary slightly (2 or 3) the number of stitches you begin with. The above pattern is for an average size baby, but remember, babies come in all sizes, from our tiny 4-pounders to our occasional 10-pounders!

No buttons, bows, or poms on the hats, please! (choking hazard).

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Director
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