

Urban Shells Beanie

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Newborn size

This beanie is feminine and simple to make. It has instructions for three sizes and the length is easy to alter. It stretches a lot due to the front-post double crochets (which create the ridges), and while you are working it up it will look smaller than its actual size. If you have never done front-post double crochets before, they are easy to master and I have included instructions.

This beanie matches my scarf pattern, Urban Shells, available for free on www.ravelry.com and on www.abeautifulramble.blogspot.com

Suggested Yarn: I recommend *Bendigo Woollen Mills* Luxury 8ply. One 200g ball is enough for two adult size beanies and a toddler sized one. Your favourite 8ply, however, should be more than adequate.

Sizes: *Newborn* (0-3 months); *Toddler* (6 months-2 years); *Adult*

Hook: 4.00mm

Approximate Yarn Required for the Three Sizes: approximately 80metres for the newborn size, 120metres for the child size and 150metres for the adult size.

Gauge: The diameter of the first three rounds (when beanie is unworn) should be 6cm (2 3/8 inch)



Adult size

All instructions use American abbreviations:

ch = chain

sk2st = skip two stitches

dc = double crochet

slst = slip stitch

sc = single crochet

fpdc = front-post double crochet

How to do a Front-Post Double Crochet

A front-post double crochet is made just like a double crochet, the only difference being that instead of inserting your hook under the top two loops of the stitch you are working into, you put the hook around the post of the stitch.

1. Yarn over (same as you do at the start of a double crochet).
2. Insert the crochet hook from front to back and back to front around the indicated stitch.
3. Yarn over, and draw up a loop (3 loops on the hook).
4. Yarn over and draw a loop through the first two loops on your hook (2 loops on hook).
5. Yarn over and draw through the last 2 loops on your hook (1 loop left).

**If these written instructions are confusing, a good picture tutorial can be found here:

<http://www.crochetspot.com/how-to-crochet-front-post-double-crochet-fpdc/>

Instructions

Top of the Beanie:

All sizes:

Round 1: Tie a knot and ch3, work 12dc into the third chain from the hook (the one closest to the knot). Join with a slst in the top of the first dc.

Round 2: ch2, 2dc in same st, *2dc in next st, repeat from *, join with a slst in top of first dc (24dc)

Round 3: ch2, dc in same st, 2dc in next st, *dc in next st, 2dc in next st, repeat from *, join with a slst in top of first dc (36dc)

Round 4: ch2, dc in same st, dc in next st, 2dc in the following st, *dc in each of the next 2 stitches, 2dc in next st, repeat from *, join with a slst in top of first dc (48dc)

Round 5: ch2, dc in same st, dc in each of the next two stitches, 2dc in the following st, *dc in each of the next 3 stitches, 2dc in next st, repeat from *, join with a slst in top of first dc (60dc)

Child and Adult only:

Round 6: ch2, dc in same st, dc in each of the next three stitches, 2dc in the following st, *dc in each of the next 4 stitches, 2dc in next st, repeat from *, join with a slst in top of first dc (72dc)

Adult only:

Round 7: ch2, dc in same st, dc in each of the next four stitches, 2dc in the following st, *dc in each of the next 5 stitches, 2dc in next st, repeat from *, join with a slst in top of first dc (84dc)

Sides of the Beanie:

Newborn and Child sizes only:

Round 8: chain 3, and into the same stitch make (1dc, ch1, 2dc) (to make a shell). Then, sk2st, dc in next st, sk2st, *(2dc, ch1, 2dc) into next st, sk2st, make dc in the next st, sk2st, repeat from *, join with a slst into the third turning chain. (newborn: 10 shells, 10 dc; child: 12 shells, 12 dc)

Round 9: slst into top of first dc, sc into the chain-space, chain 3 and into same chain-

space (dc, ch1, 2dc), make a fpdc around dc from the previous round, *(2dc, ch1, 2dc) into next chain-space, fpdc around dc from the previous round, repeat from *, join with a slst into third turning chain (newborn: 10 shells, 10 fpdc; child: 12 shells, 12 fpdc)

Round 10-17: repeat row 9

Child size only:

Round 18-21: repeat row 9

Adult sizes only:

Round 8: chain 3, and into the same stitch make (1dc, ch1, 2dc) (to make a shell). Then, sk2st, dc in each of the next two stitches, sk2st, *(2dc, ch1, 2dc) into next st, sk2st, make dc in each of next two stitches, sk2st, repeat from *, join with a slst into the third turning chain. (12 shells, 24 dc)

Round 9: slst into top of first dc, sc into the chain-space, chain 3 and into same chain-space (dc, ch1, 2dc), make a fpdc around each of the two dc stitches from the previous round, *(2dc, ch1, 2dc) into next chain-space, fpdc around each dc from the previous round, repeat from *, join with a slst into third turning chain (12 shells, 24 fpdc)

Round 10-20: repeat row 9

Edging:

All sizes:

Edging round: ch1, sc in same stitch, sc around the entire edge as following: one sc in the top of each dc and fpdc, 2sc into each chain-space.

For a near-invisible finish, after making a sc in the last st (which should be a fpdc), cut the yarn leaving a tail of at least 4 inches. Thread the tail onto a needle, and pass it under both loops of the ch1 (from the start of the edging round), bring it back up and insert the needle in the middle of the last sc and pull the yarn snug but not too tight.

Finish by weaving in the ends and putting it on someones head!

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