FREE CROCHET PATTERN

Easy Crochet Balaclava

A ribbed hood with a snug neck · child, adult S/M, adult L · US terms

SKILL LEVEL	SIZES	HOOK
Easy	Child, Adult S/M, Adult L	5.5 mm (US I-9)
YARN	**STITCHES**	**TIME**
Worsted (#4)	hdc blo, dc, fpdc, bpdc	About 5–7 hours

Materials

- Worsted (#4) yarn, a soft wool blend or acrylic: Child 100 yd, Adult S/M 140 yd, Adult L 160 yd
- 5.5 mm (US I-9) hook, tapestry needle, stitch marker

Abbreviations (US terms)

hdc	half double crochet	**fpdc**	front post dc
blo	back loop only	**bpdc**	back post dc
dc	double crochet	**sl st**	slip stitch

Gauge: 13 hdc × 10 rows = 4 in in hdc back loop (assumed standard worsted gauge: swatch first, the hood should be about as tall as your crown-to-nape).

Child (head 19.5 in)

Hood: foundation Ch 58.

Row 1	Hdc in the 3rd ch from the hook and in each ch across. Turn.	**(56)**
Rows 2–20	Ch 2 (does not count), hdc in the BACK loop of each st across. Turn.	**(56)**
Fold and seam	Fasten off with a 24 in tail. Fold the piece in half so the two halves of the last row meet (28 sts each side), and whip stitch them together: this is the back seam, from the crown down to the nape. The foundation edge is the face opening.	
Neck Rnd 1	Turn the hood upside down. Join yarn at the back seam. Ch 2 (does not count), work 50 dc evenly around the bottom edge (along the row ends of both halves, about 1.2 dc per row end). Sl st to the first dc.	**(50)**
Neck Rnds 2–7	Ch 2 (does not count), *fpdc around the next st, bpdc around the next st*; repeat around. Sl st to the first st.	**(50)**
Neck finish	Fasten off. The neck tube is meant to be snug: it stretches over the head.	
Face Rnd 1	Join yarn at the centre front of the neck (under the chin). Ch 2, work an even number of dc around the face opening: 1 dc in each foundation ch (56) plus 2 dc at the chin, where the two ends of the face edge meet = 58 dc. Sl st to the first dc.	**(58)**
Face Rnds 2–2	Ch 2, *fpdc, bpdc*; repeat around. Sl st to the first st. Fasten off and weave in the ends.	**(58)**

Adult S/M (head 21.5 in)

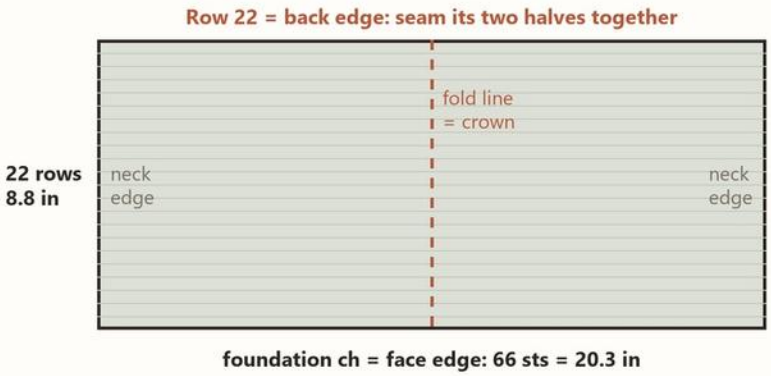
Hood: foundation	Ch 68.	
Row 1	Hdc in the 3rd ch from the hook and in each ch across. Turn.	**(66)**
Rows 2–22	Ch 2 (does not count), hdc in the BACK loop of each st across. Turn.	**(66)**
Fold and seam	Fasten off with a 24 in tail. Fold the piece in half so the two halves of the last row meet (33 sts each side), and whip stitch them together: this is the back seam, from the crown down to the nape. The foundation edge is the face opening.	
Neck Rnd 1	Turn the hood upside down. Join yarn at the back seam. Ch 2 (does not count), work 56 dc evenly around the bottom edge (along the row ends of both halves, about 1.3 dc per row end). Sl st to the first dc.	**(56)**
Neck Rnds 2–9	Ch 2 (does not count), *fpdc around the next st, bpdc around the next st*; repeat around. Sl st to the first st.	**(56)**
Neck finish	Fasten off. The neck tube is meant to be snug: it stretches over the head.	
Face Rnd 1	Join yarn at the centre front of the neck (under the chin). Ch 2, work an even number of dc around the face opening: 1 dc in each foundation ch (66) plus 2 dc at the chin, where the two ends of the face edge meet = 68 dc. Sl st to the first dc.	**(68)**
Face Rnds 2–3	Ch 2, *fpdc, bpdc*; repeat around. Sl st to the first st. Fasten off and weave in the ends.	**(68)**

Adult L (head 23 in)

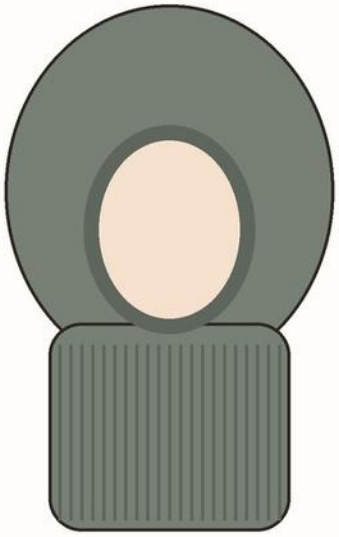
Hood: foundation	Ch 74.	
Row 1	Hdc in the 3rd ch from the hook and in each ch across. Turn.	**(72)**
Rows 2–25	Ch 2 (does not count), hdc in the BACK loop of each st across. Turn.	**(72)**
Fold and seam	Fasten off with a 24 in tail. Fold the piece in half so the two halves of the last row meet (36 sts each side), and whip stitch them together: this is the back seam, from the crown down to the nape. The foundation edge is the face opening.	
Neck Rnd 1	Turn the hood upside down. Join yarn at the back seam. Ch 2 (does not count), work 62 dc evenly around the bottom edge (along the row ends of both halves, about 1.2 dc per row end). Sl st to the first dc.	**(62)**
Neck Rnds 2–10	Ch 2 (does not count), *fpdc around the next st, bpdc around the next st*; repeat around. Sl st to the first st.	**(62)**
Neck finish	Fasten off. The neck tube is meant to be snug: it stretches over the head.	
Face Rnd 1	Join yarn at the centre front of the neck (under the chin). Ch 2, work an even number of dc around the face opening: 1 dc in each foundation ch (72) plus 2 dc at the chin, where the two ends of the face edge meet = 74 dc. Sl st to the first dc.	**(74)**
Face Rnds 2–3	Ch 2, *fpdc, bpdc*; repeat around. Sl st to the first st. Fasten off and weave in the ends.	**(74)**

Crochet Balaclava · How It's Built

1) a flat rectangle 2) fold on the dashed line, seam the top edge 3) neck rib 4) face rib



Worn: back seam behind, rib around the face and neck



Shown: adult S/M · hood 10.2 in tall × 8.8 in deep · neck rib 17.2 in around, 8 rounds

Dashed line: fold the rectangle in half and seam the two halves of the last row (the back of the head)

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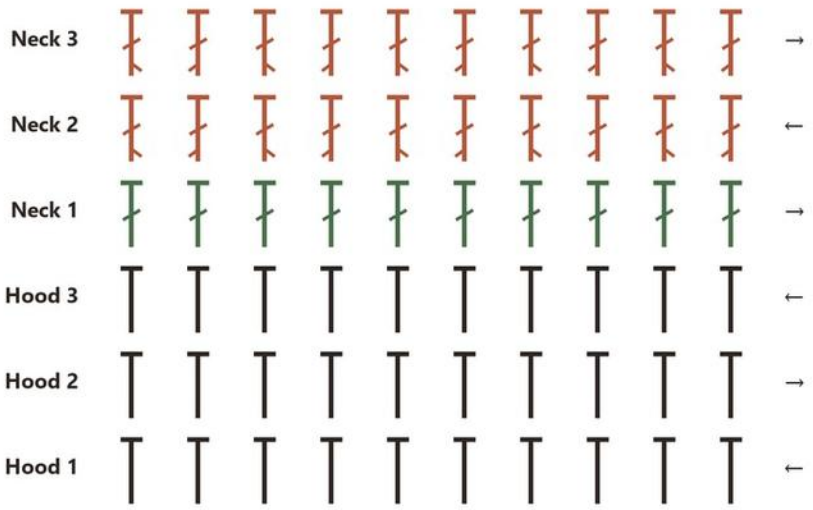
Balaclava · Stitch Chart

Hood rows (hdc in back loops), then the neck rib in rounds



Hood: hdc in the BACK loop of every st gives soft horizontal ridges.

Neck and face: Rnd 1 dc, then *fpdc, bpdc* around (hook on the post = raised / pushed back).

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Crochet Balaclava · Sizes

Worsted (#4) yarn, 5.5 mm (US I-9) hook · 13 hdc × 10 rows = 4 in

Size	Head	Foundation	Hood	Neck rib	Yarn
Child	19.5 in	ch 58	20 rows	50 sts × 6 rnds	100 yd
Adult S/M	21.5 in	ch 68	22 rows	56 sts × 8 rnds	140 yd
Adult L	23 in	ch 74	25 rows	62 sts × 9 rnds	160 yd

Measure around the head above the ears and pick the closest size; the rib stretches about 2 in.

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