Stretchy Crochet Hat

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The hat fits well - nice and snug, it can be made with or without a roll-up brim and it looks great in plain colours, stripes or variegated yarn.

The ribbing allows for extra warmth as well as stretch to fit the child. If you are concerned about warmth, please use 100% wool or a wool/acrylic blend.

Materials and Equipment

- Warm, soft yarn in appropriate weight
- 4.500/US7 or 5.00 mm/ US8 hook *
- Yarn needle

Note: Since the hat will be made in SC, I recommend using a 0.5mm bigger hook than advised on the yarn label. SC is a rather tight/stiff stitch while the hat needs to be flexible and stretchy

Abbreviations

Note: Pattern uses American terminology

American	British
slip stitch (sl st)	single crochet (sc)
single crochet (sc)	double crochet (dc)

Instructions:

Make a chain which measures 8 inch/21 cm (height for hat **without** brim) or 9.5 inch/24 cm (height for hat **with** brim)

Row 1: Sc in second chain from hook and in each chain across, chain 1**, **turn**.

Row 2: Sc in **Back Loop** of each stitch, last stitch in **both loops** of sc of previous row, chain 1**, turn.**

** **Note:** By making the "chain one" at the end of the row instead of at the beginning of the next row you will have a twisted stitch for a solid edge.

Repeat row 2 until the rectangle measures 18 inch/46 cm.

End, leaving a long tail for sewing.

The rectangle will stretch to about 20 inches/52-53cm.

Pattern note:
When the circumference is big enough to almost fit you, and the height is long enough for the hat to cover your head and ears, it will fit the child.

Join the foundation row and the last row , sew sides together.

Alternate joining instructions: Join by crochet

Join the foundation row and the last row by single crochet. The advantage will be <u>an invisible seam</u> on both sides of the work (see picture) and the seam will have the same tension as the hat.

Work as follows:
Fold the work, join the **beginning chain** and the **last row** by single crochet beginning chain at the **front** of the work and put the hook through the opposite back loop of the last row, make a single crochet in each stitch as shown in the photo.

Leave a long tail for finishing off the top of the hat.

Finishing off the top of the hat:

Insert yarn by stringing through the spaces between the stitches at the top of the hat. Pull tight and anchor firmly by stitching crosswise several times through the top of the hat.

The top should look like this:

Variations:

If you would like to make a fancy hat, why not add a pompon to give a little bit of joy to the child who is going to wear it.

For girls, crochet a little flower or other embellishment and add it to the hat, any girl will love it.

For boys, choose a cool "boy" colour and make the hat with hook 5.00mm/US8 or 6.00 mm/US10, which will give a sturdy look.

Enjoy!

Matching set: This hat matches the crochet handwarmers in the Knit-a-Square Pattern Book, so why not make a pair of these handwarmers in matching colours. The children will love them.

If you're having a hard time pulling through the loops of the puff stitch, make sure you "yo, pull up a loop" LOOSELY.

knit a square
…and make a vulnerable or orphaned child warm
a KasCare program

If you find that your puff stitch isn't puffing out very much, change the Puff Stitch instructions to "(yo, pull up a loop) 5 times, 11 loops on hook, yo, pull thru 10 loops, yo pull thru 2 loops, push puff to front of work, work next st."

Using 2 strands of yarn, Chain 26.

Note: Work all stitches in BOTH LOOPS of the stitch.

Row 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Rows 2-4: Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 5: Sc in first 12 sts, PS in next st, sc in rem 12 sts. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 6: Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 7: Sc in first 10 sts, PS in next st, sc in next 3 sts, PS in next st, sc in rem 10 sts. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 8: Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 9: Sc in first 8 sts, PS in next st, sc in next 7 sts, PS in next st, sc in rem 8 sts. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 10: Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 11: Sc in first 6 sts, PS in next st, sc in next 11 sts, PS in next st, sc in rem 6 sts. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 12: Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 13: Sc in first 5 sts, PS in next st, sc in next 13 sts, PS in next st, sc in rem 5 sts. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 14: Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 15: Sc in first 3 sts, PS in next st, sc in next 17 sts, PS in next st, sc in rem 3 sts. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 16: Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 17: Sc in first 3 sts, PS in next st, sc in next 17 sts, PS in next st, sc in rem 3 sts. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 18: Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 19: Sc in first 3 sts, PS in next st, sc in next 8 sts, PS in next st, sc in next 8 sts, PS in next st, sc in last 3 sts. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 20: Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 21: Sc in first 4 sts, PS in next st, sc in next 6 sts, PS in next st, sc in next st, PS in next st, sc in next 6 sts, PS in next st, sc in last 4 sts. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 22: Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Row 23: Sc in first 6 sts, (PS in next st, sc in next st) 3 times, sc in next 2 sts, (PS in next st, sc in next st) 3 times, sc in rem 5 sts. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Rows 24-27: Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn. (25 sts)

Measure the square. If it is smaller than 20cm/8",sc around each side of square, working (sc, ch 3, sc) in each corner, until square measures 20cm/8". End off.

Leave a 50 cm/20" tail (for sewing the squares together). Butterfly* the tail to the square.

*How to 'butterfly the tail' is as easy as 1, 2, 3 . Use contrasting yarn and follow the directions:

1.

2.

3.

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http://knit-a-square.com/postal.html

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