

Hex Hat

by Woolly Wormhead



Materials:

100g/180m/197yds Rowanspun DK (100% Wool)

3.5mm hook or size needed to obtain gauge
tapestry needle

Gauge:

20dc to 10cm/4 inches using 3.5mm hook

Sizes:

To fit average female adult (21 inches/53 cm, alteration notes included)

English terminology is used throughout, US equivalents included

Abbreviations:

- dc – double crochet (US – single crochet)
ch – chain
sp – space
htr – half treble (US – half double crochet)
tr – treble (US – double crochet)
cl – cluster - work 3 treble stitches together - tr3cl (US - dc cl) (the start of each round has a 3 ch then tr2cl - a 2tr cluster, which counts as a tr3cl)

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Alteration Notes:

To alter the size of this Hat, you could use a smaller gauge, which will shrink the Hat slightly, depending on the difference in yarns used.

Alternatively, decrease around the brim - ideally done at the points where the hex's are joined – by working 2dc together. Continue this around the brim until the Hat is the desired size, remembering to allow approximately 2 inches/5 cm for negative ease. Likewise, you can increase around the brim for a larger size. Again, for the neatest result work these at the points where the hex's meet.

Hexagons - make 7

Base Ring - 6 chain, join with slip stitch

1st rnd: 3chain, tr2cl into ring (counts as tr3cl) then (2ch, tr3cl into ring) 5 times, chain 1, then 1htr into top of cluster to join round (6 clusters in total)

2nd rnd: 3chain, tr2cl into link formed by previous htr (counts as 1st tr3cl) then *2ch (tr3cl, 2ch, tr3cl) into next sp; repeat from * 4 more times, 2ch, tr3cl into last sp, 1ch, 1htr to link to first cluster and close round (2 clusters worked into each space, giving 12 clusters)

3rd rnd: 3ch, tr2cl into link formed by previous htr (counts as 1st tr3cl) then *2ch, (tr3cl, 2ch, tr3cl) into next sp**, 2ch tr3cl into next sp; repeat from * 4 times more then from * to ** once more, 1ch, 1htr to link to first cluster and close round (alternate 2 cluster then 1 cluster into spaces giving 18 clusters. Hexagon shape should start to be noticeable)

4th rnd: 3ch (counts as 1st treble) 1tr into link formed by previous htr, *3tr into next sp (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) into next sp**, 3tr into next space ; repeat from * 4 more times more then from * to ** once more, 1tr into next space and then join to first 3ch with a slip st.

5th rnd: 1ch, 1dc into same place, 1dc into each treble and each chain all the way round, ending round by joining to first dc with a slip st

6th rnd: use contrast yarn - 1ch, 1dc into same place then work dc all the way round **but** work 2dc into each corner chain (the corner chain is between the double clusters) on previous round, join round with a slip stitch to first dc.

Weave in ends and give the hexagons a light press with a damp cloth.

Joining:

There are a couple of methods for joining. The hex's can either be slip stitched together from the reverse or joined using dc - i.e place hex's together, right sides outwards, and dc into the chains of both hex's at the same time. This gives a visible ridge on the outside, which emphasizes the shape and helps hold the form if the yarn you are using is soft and drapery. Ideally worked in a contrast yarn.

As 2dc were worked into the corner chains of each hex on the last round, this sharpens the corners and makes joining easier. Make sure to match the corners up! There will be one hex in the centre, with the other 6 joining around it, so when flat it looks like a flower. After joining to the central hex, join down the sides of the other 6 hex's (2 sides of each hex), leaving the base of each hex free for the brim.

Brim:

Starting at one of the joins, slip st with choice of yarn, dc into same place then continue to work dc into each chain all the way round. Take care to work neatly whenever a seam is met, and work a dc into each side of the seam and into the join chain itself, to ensure the brim is of the right size. If it looks like it may be a little on the small side, work 2dc into the joins. Mark start of round.

Do not join the rounds! This brim is worked continuously in dc, round and round. Work until brim is 2 inches/5 cm deep. Join round with a slip stitch at starting point. Double crochet can curl slightly and look a little baggy, so for the last round work a decrease every 3 or 4 chains to keep the brim firm.

Finishing:

Weave in all ends.

This Hat will require a light blocking to appreciate the fullness of the shape.