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CROCHET CAT BONNET

WITH CURLY EARS & TASSEL

🐾 CROCHET GUIDE (US TERMS) 🐾



FINISHED SIZE

Fits most cats.
Head circumference:
26 – 30 cm
(10½ – 11¾ in)
Bonnet width (ear
to ear): 15 cm (6 in)
Height
(top to bottom):
10 cm (4 in)

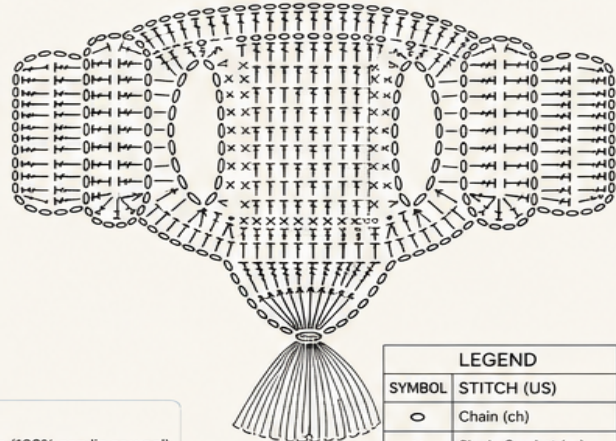
MATERIALS

- Worsted weight yarn (100% acrylic or wool)
 - Main color (blue): ~40 g (1.4 oz)
 - Accent ribbon (pink): 30 cm (12 in)
- Crochet hook: 4.0 mm (US G/6)
- Yarn needle
- Scissors

GAUGE

14 sc x 16 rows = 10 cm x 10 cm
(Gauge is not critical but affects fit.)

CROCHET CHART (US TERMS)

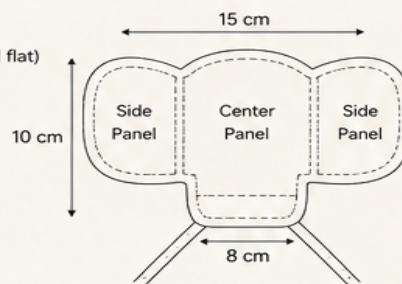


LEGEND

SYMBOL	STITCH (US)
○	Chain (ch)
x	Single Crochet (sc)
T	Half Double Crochet (hdc)
Ɔ	Double Crochet (dc)
•	Slip Stitch (sl st)
↑ ↑	Increases (increase)
↓ ↓	Decreases (decrease)

PATTERN OVERVIEW

The bonnet is made in one main piece (worked flat) with two side panels for the curly ears. A tassel is added to the back and ties are attached under the chin.



ABBREVIATIONS (US TERMS)

ch = chain
sc = single crochet
hdc = half double crochet
dc = double crochet
sl st = slip stitch
st(s) = stitch(es)
rep = repeat
* * = repeat instructions between **
() = total number of stitches

NOTES

- Ch 1 does not count as a stitch unless otherwise stated.
- Join each row with a sl st to the first stitch unless otherwise stated.
- Weave in all ends.
- Use soft, medium-weight yarn for comfort.



STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

1. CENTER PANEL

Ch 21.
Row 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. (20 sc)
Rows 2–16: Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across. Fasten off.



2. LEFT SIDE PANEL

Row 1: Reattach yarn to left edge of center panel. Ch 1, work 1 sc in same st, (sc, hdc, dc, hdc, sc) in next 5 sts, sc in last st. (8 sts)
Rows 2–8: Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across. Fasten off.



3. RIGHT SIDE PANEL

Repeat Step 2 on the right edge of the center panel.



4. TOP EDGE

Row 1: Reattach yarn to top left corner. Ch 1, sc evenly across the top edge of left side panel, across the center panel, and across the right side panel. Fasten off.



5. CURLY EARS

Make 2 (one for each side). Ch 11.
Row 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. (10 sc)
Row 2: Ch 1, turn, (sc, hdc, dc, hdc, sc) across. (10 sts)
Row 3: Ch 1, turn, sc across.
Roll strip into a spiral and sew to each side panel.



6. TASSEL

Cut a piece of cardboard 10 cm (4 in) wide. Wrap yarn around it 30 times.
Tie a long piece of yarn tightly around the top. Remove from cardboard. Cut the bottom loops. Wrap another piece of yarn around 2 cm (¾ in) below the top. Trim ends evenly. Tie a pink ribbon around the tassel.



7. ATTACH TASSEL

Sew the tassel to the center back of the bonnet.



8. CHIN TIES

At the bottom edge of each side panel, attach yarn. Ch 25 (or desired length). Sl st back in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. Fasten off. Repeat on the other side.



9. FINISHING

Weave in all ends. Adjust ties length. Tie under the chin in a bow. Your cat bonnet is ready!



BASIC CROCHET STITCH GUIDE (US TERMS)

CHAIN (ch)

Yarn over, pull through loop on hook.



SINGLE CROCHET (sc)

Insert hook, yarn over, pull up a loop, yarn over, pull through both loops.



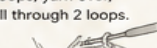
HALF DOUBLE CROCHET (hdc)

Yarn over, insert hook, yarn over, pull up a loop, yarn over, pull through all 3 loops.



DOUBLE CROCHET (dc)

Yarn over, insert hook, yarn over, pull up a loop, yarn over, pull through 2 loops, yarn over, pull through 2 loops.



SLIP STITCH (sl st)

Insert hook, yarn over, pull through stitch and loop on hook.



TIPS & CARE

- Use soft yarn to keep your cat comfortable.
- Do not leave cats unattended while wearing any accessory.
- Hand wash in cool water, lay flat to dry.
- Adjust tie length for a snug but comfy fit.



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Crochet Cat Bonnet with Curly Ears & Tassel

This tutorial recreates the crochet cat bonnet shown in the provided pattern chart and illustrated guide. It is written using US crochet terminology and follows the construction, measurements, materials, stitch symbols, and finishing details shown in the reference.

The bonnet is worked primarily flat, then the side sections are shaped for the ears. Two curled crochet pieces create the decorative curly ears, while a yarn tassel is attached to the back. Crochet ties are added underneath the chin to keep the bonnet comfortably in place.

Finished Size

The finished bonnet is designed to fit most cats.

- Head circumference: approximately 26–30 cm (10–11¾ in)
- Bonnet width, ear to ear: approximately 15 cm (6 in)
- Bonnet height, top to bottom: approximately 10 cm (4 in)
- Center panel width: approximately 8 cm (3¼ in)
- Gauge: 14 single crochet × 16 rows = 10 × 10 cm (4 × 4 in)
- Gauge is not critical for this project, but matching it will help you achieve a similar finished size.

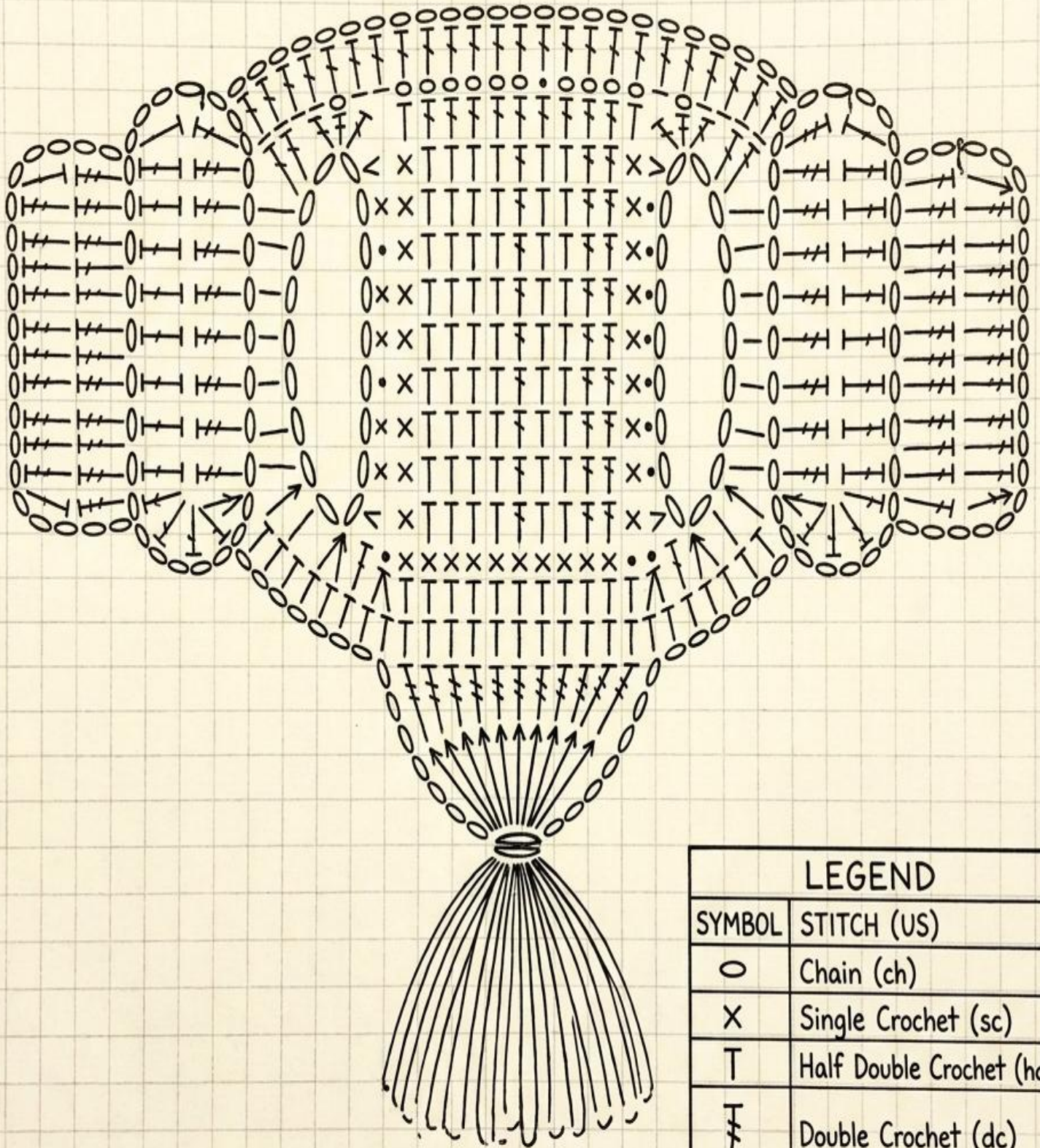
Materials

Gather everything before beginning:

- Worsted-weight yarn, approximately 40 g (1.4 oz)
 - The reference uses blue as the main color.
 - A worsted-weight 100% acrylic or wool yarn is recommended.
- Approximately 30 cm (12 in) of pink ribbon for the tassel
- 4.0 mm crochet hook (US size G/6)
- Yarn needle
- Scissors
- A small piece of cardboard approximately 10 cm (4 in) wide for making the tassel

Choose a soft, lightweight yarn because the bonnet will rest directly against your cat's head and ears.

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LEGEND	
SYMBOL	STITCH (US)
○	Chain (ch)
X	Single Crochet (sc)
T	Half Double Crochet (hdc)
ƒ	Double Crochet (dc)
•	Slip Stitch (sl st)
↗ ↘	Increases / increases
↙ ↚	Decreases / decreases

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US Crochet Abbreviations

The pattern uses standard US crochet terminology.

Abbreviation	Meaning
ch	Chain
sc	Single crochet
hdc	Half double crochet
dc	Double crochet
sl st	Slip stitch
st / sts	Stitch / stitches
rep	Repeat
()	Work the instructions inside the parentheses as directed

Crochet Chart Symbols

The chart in the reference uses the following symbols:

- Oval: chain (ch)
- X: single crochet (sc)
- T: half double crochet (hdc)
- Double-stroke T: double crochet (dc)
- Dot: slip stitch (sl st)
- Arrows pointing outward: increase/increases
- Arrows pointing inward: decrease/decreases

The chart is a visual representation of the same construction described in the written instructions below.

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Before You Start

Read through the entire tutorial once before picking up your hook.

The bonnet consists of:

1. A rectangular center panel
2. A left side panel
3. A right side panel
4. A top edging
5. Two curled ear pieces
6. A yarn tassel
7. Two chin ties
8. Final weaving and shaping

The main bonnet is worked flat rather than crocheted continuously around the cat's head.

Step 1 — Crochet the Center Panel

The center panel forms the main portion of the bonnet.

Foundation Chain

Chain 21.

You should now have a foundation chain containing 21 chains.

Row 1

Insert your hook into the second chain from the hook.

Work:

1 sc in the second chain from the hook, then 1 sc in each chain across.

You should have 20 sc at the end of Row 1.

Do not count the chain that you skipped as a stitch.

Rows 2–16

For every remaining row:

Ch 1, turn.

Work 1 sc in each stitch across.

Repeat this same row until you have completed 16 rows total.

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Keep your stitches reasonably even. Avoid pulling the yarn too tightly, since a very tight fabric can make the finished bonnet smaller and less comfortable.

Finish the Center Panel

After completing Row 16, fasten off.

Leave a yarn tail long enough to weave in securely if necessary.

The completed center panel should be approximately:

8 cm (3¼ in) wide × 10 cm (4 in) tall.

Set it aside temporarily while you prepare the side panels.

Step 2 — Crochet the Left Side Panel

The side panels extend from the sides of the center panel and provide the extra width needed for the bonnet to wrap around the cat's head.

Place the center panel with the right side facing you.

Identify the left edge of the center panel.

Attach the Yarn

Reattach your main-color yarn to the left edge of the center panel.

Chain 1.

Work 1 sc in the same point where you attached the yarn, then continue across the available edge stitches according to the chart.

The side-panel shaping uses the combination of sc and hdc shown in the reference pattern. The half double crochet creates additional height and helps produce the slightly shaped outer section.

Work the stitches evenly so that the side panel remains aligned with the center panel.

Continue the Side Panel

Work the remaining side-panel rows as shown in the reference, turning at the end of each row.

For the subsequent rows, use:

Ch 2, turn.

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Continue working the side-panel section until the left side reaches the size shown in the tutorial.

Fasten off.

The side panel should remain relatively compact and should not be stretched while crocheting.

Step 3 — Crochet the Right Side Panel

The right side panel is made in the same way as the left side panel.

Turn your work so that you can comfortably access the right edge of the center panel.

Reattach the yarn to the right edge.

Repeat the construction from Step 2, mirroring the shaping of the left side.

Work the same number of rows and maintain the same stitch tension.

When the right side panel is complete, fasten off.

You should now have three connected sections:

Left side panel → Center panel → Right side panel

The overall bonnet should resemble the flat shape shown in the pattern overview.

Step 4 — Crochet the Top Edge

The top edge joins and visually cleans up the three sections.

Reattach the yarn at the top-left corner of the bonnet.

Top Edging Row

Chain 1.

Work single crochet evenly across:

1. The top edge of the left side panel
2. The top edge of the center panel
3. The top edge of the right side panel

Continue all the way across the complete top edge.

Keep the spacing as even as possible.

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The goal is to create a clean continuous edge rather than allowing the individual panels to remain visually separated.

When you reach the opposite side, fasten off.

Weave in the end with your yarn needle.

Step 5 — Make the Two Curly Ears

The bonnet has two decorative curled ear pieces.

Make 2 ear pieces total:

- 1 for the left side
- 1 for the right side

These pieces are intentionally shaped so that they naturally curl into spirals.

Make the First Ear

Begin by chaining the number of stitches indicated in the reference chart for the ear strip.

Work sc in the second chain from the hook and in each chain across.

Create the Curl

For the next row:

Ch 1, turn.

Work the sc, hdc, sc combination across the strip as indicated by the chart.

The combination of different stitch heights causes the strip to curl.

Work the following row in single crochet as shown in the reference.

Fasten off, leaving a long enough tail for sewing.

Shape the Ear

Do not try to force the piece flat.

Instead, gently roll the crocheted strip around itself to create a spiral.

Arrange the spiral so that it resembles the curly ear shown in the reference photographs.

Use the yarn tail and your yarn needle to secure the spiral.

Make sure the stitches holding the spiral together are firm but not bulky.

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Make the Second Ear

Repeat the entire process to make the second curly ear.

Try to make the two ears approximately the same size.

Place them side by side before attaching them so you can compare their shape.

Step 6 — Attach the Curly Ears

Position one curly ear on each side of the bonnet.

The ears should sit on the side sections rather than directly in the middle of the center panel.

Use the yarn tails and a yarn needle to sew each spiral securely to the bonnet.

Sew through the underlying bonnet fabric several times.

Do not leave long loose loops inside the bonnet, since they could catch on your cat's claws.

After the ears are securely attached, weave the remaining yarn ends into the back of the fabric.

The result should look similar to the cat bonnet shown in the reference: a small curled rosette-like ear on each side.

Step 7 — Make the Tassel

The tassel is attached to the back of the bonnet and provides the decorative finishing detail.

Prepare the Cardboard

Cut a piece of cardboard approximately:

10 cm (4 in) wide.

This cardboard will determine the approximate length of the tassel strands.

Wrap the Yarn

Wrap your main-color yarn around the cardboard approximately 30 times.

Keep the wraps next to one another and avoid pulling them excessively tight.

The more evenly you wrap the yarn, the more uniform your tassel will look.

Secure the Top

Cut a separate piece of yarn.

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Slide it underneath the wrapped yarn near the top of the cardboard.

Tie it tightly.

This creates the top of the tassel.

Leave the tying ends long enough to help attach the tassel to the bonnet if desired.

Remove the Tassel

Carefully slide the wrapped yarn off the cardboard.

You should now have a small bundle of loops.

Cut the Bottom

Cut through the loops at the bottom of the bundle.

This creates individual tassel strands.

Trim the ends if necessary so they are approximately the same length.

Create the Tassel Neck

Take another piece of yarn.

Wrap it firmly around the tassel approximately 2 cm ($\frac{3}{4}$ in) below the top.

Tie it securely.

This creates the characteristic tassel shape, with a narrow neck and loose strands underneath.

Trim the bottom ends evenly.

Add the Pink Ribbon

Take the approximately 30 cm (12 in) pink ribbon.

Tie it around the tassel's neck.

Adjust the bow or ribbon ends so they hang neatly.

The ribbon provides the contrasting decorative detail shown in the reference design.

Step 8 — Attach the Tassel to the Back

Turn the bonnet so the back is facing you.

Position the tassel at the center back of the bonnet, as shown in the reference.

Use a yarn needle to sew the top of the tassel securely to the bonnet.

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Pass the needle through the bonnet fabric and through the top of the tassel several times.

Check the attachment by gently pulling the tassel.

It should remain firmly attached without pulling the bonnet fabric out of shape.

Weave the remaining yarn ends into the back of the work.

Step 9 — Add the Chin Ties

The bonnet needs two ties so that it can be secured underneath the cat's chin.

One tie is attached to each lower side of the bonnet.

First Tie

Attach the yarn to the bottom edge of the left side panel.

Chain to the desired tie length.

For a bonnet of the reference size, make the tie long enough to comfortably reach underneath the cat's chin and allow you to tie a small bow.

Fasten off.

Second Tie

Repeat the same process on the opposite side.

The two ties should be approximately the same length.

Weave in any loose ends.

Adjust the Tie Length

Before putting the bonnet on your cat, test the ties by holding the bonnet around the intended head position.

The ties should meet comfortably beneath the chin without requiring excessive tension.

The bonnet should never be tied tightly around the neck.

Step 10 — Weave in All Ends

Use a yarn needle to hide every remaining yarn tail.

For each end:

1. Thread the yarn tail onto the needle.

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2. Weave it through several stitches on the wrong side of the bonnet.
3. Change direction and weave through a few more stitches.
4. Pull gently so the end is secure.
5. Trim the excess yarn close to the fabric.

Pay particular attention to:

- The center-panel starting and finishing ends
- Both side-panel ends
- The top edging
- Both curly ears
- The tassel attachment
- Both chin ties

A neat back side will make the finished bonnet safer and more durable.

Step 11 — Shape the Bonnet

Before trying it on your cat, gently arrange the bonnet into its finished shape.

The center should remain relatively flat.

The side panels should curve naturally around the sides of the head.

The curly ears should face outward and maintain their spiral shape.

The tassel should hang from the center back.

The ties should hang evenly from the lower sides.

Do not aggressively stretch the fabric.

If necessary, lightly smooth the crochet with your hands and allow it to settle into shape.

Step 12 — Check the Finished Measurements

Compare your finished bonnet with the reference dimensions:

- Head circumference: 26–30 cm (10–11¾ in)
- Width: approximately 15 cm (6 in)
- Height: approximately 10 cm (4 in)
- Center panel: approximately 8 cm (3¼ in)

Small variations are normal because crochet tension, yarn thickness, and individual cats can differ.

The most important consideration is that the bonnet fits comfortably and does not restrict breathing, vision, movement, or normal ear movement.

Step 13 — Put the Bonnet on Your Cat 🐾

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Introduce the bonnet slowly.

Allow your cat to smell and inspect it before putting it on.

Place the center of the bonnet over the top of the head.

Position the side sections around the sides of the head.

Make sure the ears are positioned comfortably and are not pressing against the cat's actual ears.

Bring the two chin ties underneath the chin.

Tie them gently.

The finished bow should be secure enough to keep the bonnet in position but loose enough to avoid pressure around the neck.

Step 14 — Final Fit and Safety Check

Before allowing your cat to wear the bonnet, check the following:

- The cat can breathe normally.
- The bonnet does not cover the nose or mouth.
- The cat can see clearly.
- The crochet is not pressing tightly against the eyes.
- The actual cat ears can move comfortably.
- The chin ties are not tight.
- No loose yarn ends are exposed.
- The tassel is firmly attached.
- The ribbon is securely attached.
- The cat can move its head normally.

Never leave a cat unattended while wearing a crocheted accessory.

If your cat becomes stressed, attempts to remove the bonnet repeatedly, or shows discomfort, remove it.

Care Instructions

The reference recommends gentle care.

Washing

Hand wash the bonnet in cool or lukewarm water using a mild detergent.

Do not use harsh chemicals or bleach.

Drying

After washing, gently press out excess water.

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Do not wring or twist the bonnet aggressively.

Lay it flat to dry and reshape it while damp.

Allow it to dry completely before storing or using it again.

Storage

Store the bonnet in a clean, dry place.

Avoid crushing the curly ears or tassel underneath heavy objects.

If the curls become flattened, gently reshape them with your fingers.

Quick Stitch Reference

Chain — ch

Make a slip knot on the hook, yarn over, and pull the yarn through the loop on the hook.

Repeat to create the required number of chains.

Single Crochet — sc

Insert the hook into the indicated stitch.

Yarn over and pull up a loop.

Yarn over again and pull through both loops on the hook.

Half Double Crochet — hdc

Yarn over.

Insert the hook into the indicated stitch.

Yarn over and pull up a loop.

You will have three loops on the hook.

Yarn over and pull through all three loops.

Double Crochet — dc

Yarn over.

Insert the hook into the indicated stitch.

Yarn over and pull up a loop.

Yarn over and pull through two loops.

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Yarn over and pull through the remaining two loops.

Slip Stitch — sl st

Insert the hook into the indicated stitch.

Yarn over and pull directly through the stitch and through the loop already on the hook.

Complete Construction at a Glance

The entire project follows this order:

1. Center panel: chain 21 and work 16 rows of single crochet.
2. Left side panel: attach yarn to the left side and work the shaped side section.
3. Right side panel: repeat the side-panel construction on the opposite side.
4. Top edge: single crochet evenly across the three connected sections.
5. Curly ears: make two curled crochet strips and roll them into spirals.
6. Attach ears: sew one spiral to each side of the bonnet.
7. Tassel: wrap yarn around a 10 cm (4 in) cardboard template approximately 30 times.
8. Shape tassel: secure the top, cut the loops, tie the neck, trim the strands, and add the pink ribbon.
9. Attach tassel: sew it to the center back of the bonnet.
10. Chin ties: add one tie to each lower side.
11. Finishing: weave in every end and reshape the bonnet.
12. Fit: place it gently on the cat and adjust the ties for a comfortable fit.

Final Result

When completed, the bonnet should have a soft blue crochet body, a central top section, two shaped side sections, curly spiral ears on both sides, two chin ties, and a decorative tassel with a pink ribbon at the back.

The finished design is intentionally simple enough to construct from basic crochet stitches while combining increases, stitch-height changes, shaping, sewing, and tassel construction to create the distinctive cat-bonnet appearance shown in the reference.