

EASY-CROCHET PONCHO

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Designed by Kathy North; distributed by www.piece-by-piece.net

Size: Stretches to fit a range of sizes - sample poncho is elbow length

Materials:

800 yds. worsted wt. yarn (total) in one or two colors of choice (sample shown in Plymouth Encore):

600 yds. color A

200 yds. color B

Note: if you want a longer poncho, purchase additional yarn

Size K hook (or size to obtain gauge)

Tapestry needle

Gauge: 10 dc = 4", 3 dc rows = 2" with worsted wt. yarn and size K hook

Stitches/Terms: beginning (beg), double crochet (dc), half double crochet (hdc), hook (hk), increase (inc), repeat (rep), single crochet (sc), slip stitch (sl st), space (sp), stitch (st)

Poncho

With Color A, ch 56, join into ring (being careful not to twist chain).

Rnd 1: Ch 1, sc in ea ch around, join with sl st (56 sc)

Rnd 2: Ch 4, hdc in same sc (beg ch-4 counts as beg hdc and ch-2 sp), hdc in next 13 sc, (hdc, ch2, hdc) in next sc, *hdc in next 13 sc, (hdc, ch2, hdc) in next sc, rep from * around, join with sl st to second ch of beg ch-4 (56 hdcs and 4 ch-2 sps)

Rnd 3: Sl st to center of first ch-2 sp, ch 5, dc in same sp (this forms beg dc-ch2-dc increase point), *dc in ea st to next sp, in next sp work dc-ch2-dc increase, rep from * around, join with sl st to third ch of beg ch-5.

Rnds 4-5: Rep Rnd 3.

Rnd 6: Change to Color B at this point if desired. Sl st to center of first ch-2 sp, ch 1, work (sc-ch2-sc) in same sp, *sc in ea st to next sp, (sc-ch2-sc) in sp, rep from * around, ending with sc in ea st to beg of rnd, join with sl st.

Rnds 7-9: Rep Rnd 3.

Rnd 10: Rep Rnd 6.

Repeat Rnds 7-9 once.

Next rnd: Sl st to center of first ch-2 sp (front inc point), ch 1, (sc-ch2-sc) in same sp, sc to next inc point but do not increase (just work 1 sc in ch-2 sp), sc to second marker (back inc point) and work (sc-ch2-sc) in sp, sc to next inc point but do not increase (just work 1 sc in ch-2 sp), sc to beg, join with sl st. Mark front and back increase points with removable markers.

NOTE: From now on, work increases only at marked front and back increase points, working even across sides of poncho.

Continue in pattern, working 3 rnds dc followed by 1 rnd sc, joining with sl st at end of ea rnd and chaining up to proper height to begin next rnd. Change colors at random or in a stripe pattern of your choice. Reserving enough yarn for fringe, when poncho is desired length, finish with 2 rnds sc. Fasten off and weave in ends.

Neckline: Working in free loops on opposite side of beg ch at neck, join yarn at center back, ch 1, sc in ea ch around, join with sl st. Fasten off and weave in ends.

Finishing: To make fringe, wind yarn around a 5" or 6" measure several times, cut through one end of wraps to form strands. Attach one strand in ea sc around bottom edge of poncho by inserting hook into st, fold strand of fringe in half over hook, pull loop through fabric, then pull ends of strands through loop on hook and tighten knot.

Blocking: If necessary, block poncho by following care instructions on ball band of your chosen yarn. Lay poncho flat on thick towels, spreading it out with increase points aligned evenly. Cover with damp towels and leave to dry.

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