

CROCHET TUTORIAL

~ Easy Chunky Ear Warmer / Cowl ~



This is an easy beginner's crochet project with a few variations, no experience required! This tutorial can be used to make:

- An ear warmer or cozy headband
- A wide cowl
- A narrow cowl that can be worn two ways

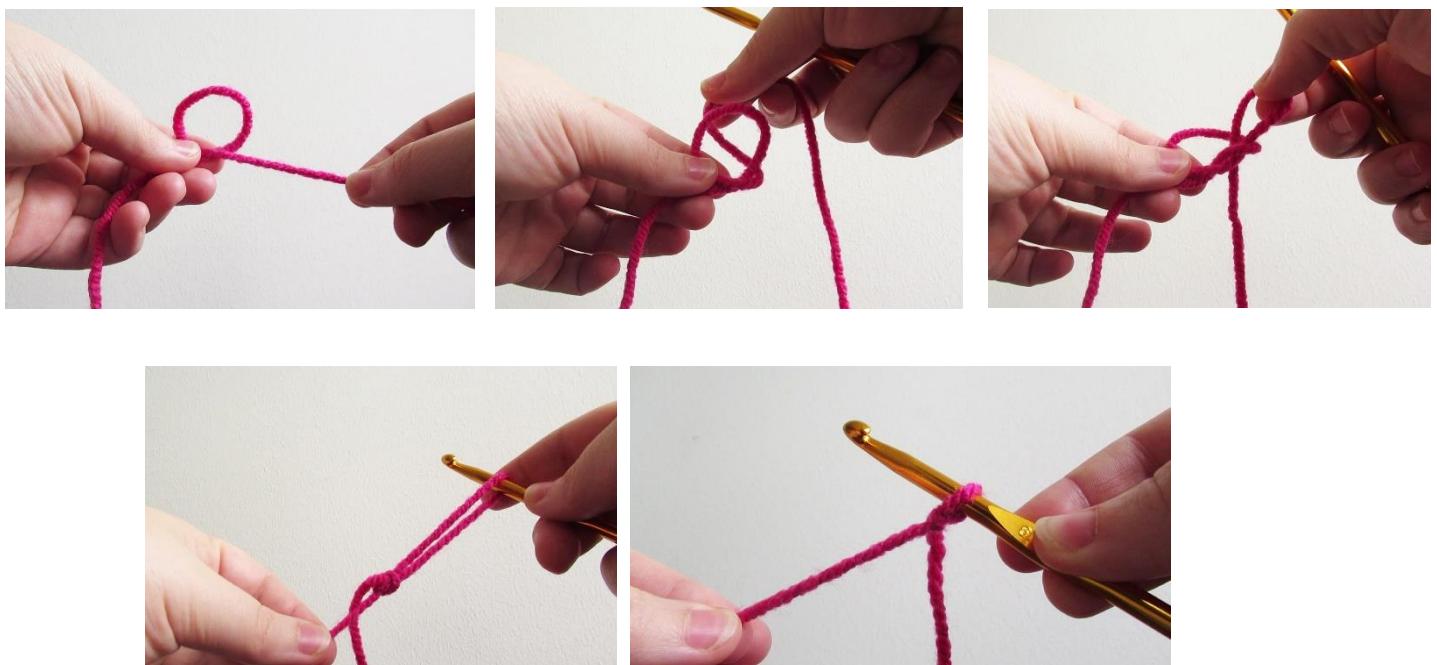
Supplies

- Chunky yarn (100g for an adult ear warmer or small cowl, 200g for a large cowl)
- Buttons (cowl only)
- Sharp scissors
- A yarn needle (large, blunt needle)
- Crochet hook, size 10mm or 12mm
- Tape measure (ear warmer only)

Method

Step One – Slip knot:

Make a loop with your yarn, on the left side will be your tail, the right should be connected to your ball of yarn. Bring the right side behind the loop and pull it through. This will create the loop we use for our hook. Hold onto this loop and pull the two sides until the loop becomes small enough to fit your hook. It should be loose enough to wiggle around a bit and to work with.



Step Two – Chain:

The first step (below left) is pull your working yarn, the one connected to the ball of yarn, over the back of your hook to the front. This is called YARN OVER (or YO). Use your hook to pull this yarn through the loop on that is already on your hook. You've completed your first chain!

Continue to make the number of chains you need for your project. For the cowl (using a 10mm or 12mm hook) this will be around 58 chains. For the head wrap, measure the circumference of your head (or the head you're making for!) and chain a length that is 2-4 inches / 5 – 10 centimetres LESS than this number. So for example, if your head is 55cm in circumference, chain a length that is 45cm for a tighter fitting head band, up to 50cm for a looser fit.

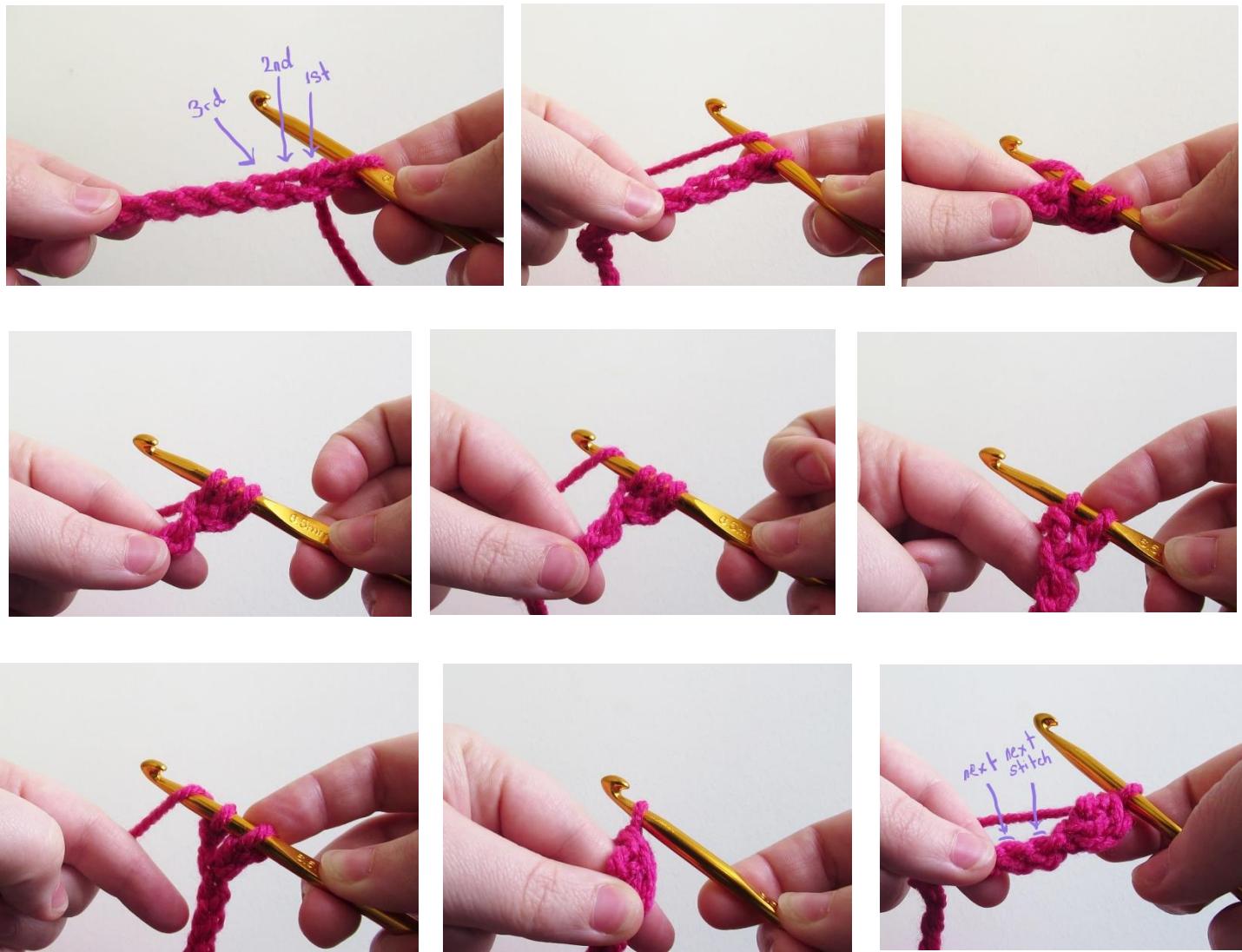


Step Three – Double Crochet into Third Chain from Hook:

Now you will have a length of chain that we can stitch into! For these projects we're doing a stitch called the DOUBLE CROCHET and the first double crochet (or DC) will go into the third chain from your hook (see below).

To start the stitch YO and push your hook into the third chain from your hook. YO again and pull this through the chain. You will now have three loops on your hook. YO and pull this yarn through the first two loops. You will now have two loops on your hook. YO and pull this yarn through the remaining two loops. You have just done your first Double Crochet!!

Continue doing one DC in each chain to the end.



Step Four – Chain Two and Turn:

Following the same process as step one, chain two (YO, pull through). Turn your work by moving it towards the left so your hook is now on the right and your work is on the left.



Step Five – Double Crochet into the Back Loop:

For the remainder of the rows in either the ear warmer or the cowl we will do double crochet stitches into the BACK LOOP of each stitch (see below right). Skip the two chains you just made (these count as our first stitch) and complete a DC into the back loop of the first proper stitch in the row (see below left). Follow the DC instructions in step three if needed.



Step Six – Chain Two and Turn:

Once you have completed the row by doing a DC into every stitch, repeat step four by chaining two and turning the work again so the hook is on your right and work is on your left.

Step Seven – Repeat Steps Five and Six:

To complete the cowl or ear warmer, repeat steps five and six until you have the width you desire. For an adult ear warmer or narrow cowl, five or six rows should be enough but play around with a number you're happy with! For the wider cowl, nine or ten rows should make a nice warm garment – it's up to you.

Step Eight – Slip Knot to Finish:

Once your project has reached your desired width, we can finish off with another slip knot. We do this the same as in step one but this time we don't need the loop so it can be pulled all the way through. To do this, YO, pull the yarn through and cut the length of yarn attached to your ball. If making an ear warmer, leave enough of a tail to do some final stitching – about 25cm. Pull on the loop until your tail comes loose and pull tightly to finish your knot.



Step Nine – Weaving in Ends:

At this stage you will have two tails, one at the start and end of your work. Thread your large yarn needle with the shorter of the two and weave the tail into the work. Try to weave in the direction of the rows. It is also a good idea to stitch first in one way and then go back the way you came (in a different row) for stability. Use sharp scissors to cut the end of the tail close to your work, being careful not to cut the work itself!

If you are making the cowl make sure to weave in your other tail as well as it won't be used for stitching!



Ear Warmer

Step Ten – Stitch Short Sides Together:

To finish up the ear warmer, hold it length wise, pinching the short ends together as pictured (top left). Fold these two ends into each other so they interlock as shown below (top right). Make sure your loose tail is on the top layer as you will use this to stitch things together. Thread your yarn needle and, making sure to go through all layers, stitch up and down from right to left until the ends are firmly stitched together. Tie a slip knot by stitching into your work to make a loop and threading the end of the tail through. Pull the tail to tighten. Follow step nine to weave in this last tail and neatly cut the end.

Turn your ear warmer inside out and *voila*, all finished!



Cowl

Step Ten – Add Buttons:

To finish your cowl all that's left to do is add buttons. I added two to my large cowl so it can just be worn in an infinity scarf style, and three buttons to the narrow cowl so it can be worn in the infinity and cross over styles (see below). As the crochet rows are used as button holes you can choose exactly where to stitch your buttons and how you want to wear your cowl!



I have chosen buttons with four holes but a button with two would work as well. I don't recommend shank buttons (the ones with a little loop on the back instead of holes) as they might not be as sturdy but it's up to you!

To sew your buttons on, thread a needle that will fit through your button holes with a thread that matches your scarf (or not, contrast can be fun too!) and make a knot in the end of the thread – I used another slip knot. Place the button where you would like it and, on the underside of the cowl, stitch through a small amount of yarn to anchor the thread. Push the needle up through one of the holes in your button, pull tight and head back down through the hole diagonally opposite. Continue to go up and down in the same two holes three or four more times before switching to the other two holes.

To finish off, tie a slip knot by stitching into the work to make a loop and threading your needle back through this loop. Pull tight and weave through your work to hide the end before cutting the thread.

Repeat for any other buttons you're using and you're all done!





And there you have it! A beginners crochet project for everyone to enjoy during the cozy months.

If you have used this tutorial for yourself or your class, please tag me on Instagram!

[@kats_crafternoon_delight_](https://www.instagram.com/kats_crafternoon_delight_)

Or feel free to email me at:

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