

Top-Down Coil Cap

Designed by Mary Rhodes



Here's a basic, top-down watch cap pattern. It's worked in half double crochet. Half double crochet is a great hat stitch. It's softer and more elastic than single crochet, but it doesn't have the gaps between stitches that you get with double crochet. I like to wear it with the "wrong side" facing out, because the back of half double crochet reminds me of the texture of straw hats. Of course, you can wear it whatever way you prefer.

Materials:

50 gr of a DK/lightweight yarn **OR**
100 gr of a worsted/medium weight
yarn
A hook to match your yarn (G or H for
DK, H or I for worsted)
A Yarn needle for finishing
A Tape Measure
A split ring marker or paper clip

Gauge (roughly):

DK weight yarn: 4 sts/inch
Worsted weight yarn: 3 sts/inch

Abbreviations:

Ch = chain
Hdc = half double crochet
Rnd = Round
Sc = single crochet
St/sts = stitch/stitches

Instructions:

Starting at the center of the crown of the cap, ch3, slip stitch to make a ring. (Or if you prefer, start with a Magic Ring.)

Rnd 1: Ch1. Hdc 7 into the ring. (7 stitches) Attach a pin to the last hdc to mark the end of the round. Move the pin from one round to the next.

Rnd 2: Continuing in a coil, hdc 2 into each hdc of Round 1. Move the pin to the last hdc of the round. (14 stitches)

Rnd 3: (hdc1, hdc2 in next st) 7 times – one time around. Move the pin to the last hdc of the round. (21 stitches)

Rnd 4: (hdc2, hdc2 in next st) 7 times – one time around. Move the pin to the last hdc of the round. (28 stitches)

Rnd 5: (hdc 3, hdc2 in next st) 7 times – one time around. Move the pin to the last hdc of the round. (35 stitches)

Rnd 6: (hdc 4, hdc2 in next st) 7 times – one time around. Move the pin to the last hdc of the round. (42 stitches)

See the pattern? Continue increasing like this until the crown measures 5 (6, 7) inches across from edge to edge. Depending on your gauge and yarn, the piece may lie flat, or it may cup a bit – either way is fine. From here on, you don't need the marker, so you can take it off and put it away.

Continue stitching in hdc in a coil until the cap measures 6 (7, 8) inches from the center to the edge, or more if you want a bigger fold-up edge. When you're done, sc

in the next 2 stitches. Slip stitch in the next 2 stitches. Finish off, leaving a 4-inch tail to weave in and finish.