

Passing the Hat for the Troops

It's a small token—a homemade hat that rests on each seat aboard the chartered flights that carry troops from the Portsmouth (N.H.) International Airport at Pease to Iraq or Afghanistan. ■ JoAnne Schottler, 65, of Stratham, N.H., launched the hats program in November 2008. She's distributed 5,000 hand-knit or crocheted hats to be worn under helmets, and she has another 4,000 in storage. "Never in my wildest dreams did I think this program would fly like this," she says. ■ The troops also find an embroidered star from a retired U.S. flag on their plane seats following a reception hosted by the Pease Greeters. The group of volunteers gather from four states, day or night, to honor inbound and outbound soldiers.

■ **Soldiers sport handmade hats from the Pease Greeters.**

■ Gail Curran, 55, of Sandown, N.H., adds a special message to the hats she makes. "I write that there's a prayer for them in every stitch," she says. —Pat Remick



Knitting instructions for a wool cap liner:

Use knitting worsted weight yarn. Synthetic yarn is more easily washed but pure wool is much safer because it does not go up in flames in case something dangerous is going on.

Dark colors like green, brown, navy are good so that the caps blend in with uniforms and dark clothing.

Start with size 6 needles and cast on 82 stitches. The first and last stitch should always be knit (on both sides). The remaining instruction will ignore those two stitches. Do knit 2 - purl 2 ribbing for 10 rows. Switch to size 8 needles and do 24 rows in stockinette stitch (knit one row, purl the next). To form the top of the cap: Knit 6, knit 2 together, and repeat to end of row. Next row purl across. Then knit 5, knit 2 together and repeat to end of row. Next row purl across. Continue this with Knit 4, Knit 3, etc. until you have 20 (plus the two extra) on your needle. Knit 2 together across the row and cut the yarn leaving a 12 inch tail. With a yarn needle run the end through the remaining stitches and sew the back seam.

Coffeehouse Cap - Lion Brand® Vanna's Choice®

GAUGE: 12 sc = 4 in. (10 cm). BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR GAUGE. When you match the gauge in a pattern, your project will be the size specified in the pattern and the materials specified in the pattern will be sufficient. If it takes you fewer stitches and rows to make a 4 in. [10 cm] square, try using a smaller size hook or needles; if more stitches and rows, try a larger size hook or needles.

NOTES: Carry unused color up WS of work.

HAT

With A, ch 4, join with sl st in beg ch to form a ring.

Rnd 1: Ch 1, work 6 sc in ring, join with sl st in beg ch.

Rnd 2: Ch 1, 2 sc in each sc, join with sl st in beg ch - 12 sc.

Rnd 3: Ch 1, *sc in next sc, 2 sc in next sc; rep from * around, join with sl st in beg ch - 18 sc. Change to B.

Rnd 4: With B, ch 1, *sc in each of next 2 sc, 2 sc in next sc; rep from * around, join with sl st in beg ch - 24 sc.

Rnd 5: Ch 1, *sc in each of next 3 sc, 2 sc in next sc; rep from * around, join with sl st in beg ch - 30 sc.

Rnd 6: Ch 1, *sc in each of next 4 sc, 2 sc in next sc; rep from * around, join with sl st in beg ch - 36 sc.

Change to A.

Rnd 7: With A, ch 1, *sc in each of next 5 sc, 2 sc in next sc; rep from * around, join with sl st in beg ch - 42 sc.

Rnd 8: Ch 1, *sc in each of next 6 sc, 2 sc in next sc; rep from * around, join with sl st in beg ch - 48 sc.

Rnd 9: Ch 1, *sc in each of next 7 sc, 2 sc in next sc; rep from * around, join with sl st in beg ch - 54 sc.

Change to B.

Rnd 10: With B, ch 1, *sc in each of next 8 sc, 2 sc in next sc; rep from * around, sl st in beg ch - 60 sc.

Rnds 11 and 12: Ch 1, sc in each sc around, sl st in beg ch - 60 sc.

Change to A.

Rnd 13: With A, ch 1, *sc in each of next 2 sc, ch 2, skip 2 sc; rep from * around, join with sl st in beg ch. Change to B.

Rnd 14: With B, ch 3, *skip 2 sc, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp, ch 2; rep from * around, sl st in first ch of beg ch-3. Change to A.

Rnd 15: With A, ch 1, 2 sc in ch-3 sp, *ch 2, skip 2 sc, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp; rep from * around, sl st in beg ch. Change to B.

Rnd 16: With B, ch 3, skip 2 sc, *2 sc in next ch-2 sp, ch 2, skip 2 sc; rep from * around, sl st in first ch of beg ch-3. Change to A.

Rnd 17: With A, ch 1, 2 sc in first ch-3 sp, *ch 2, skip 2 sc, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp; rep from * around, sl st in beg ch. Change to B.

Rnd 18: With B, ch 3, skip 2 sc, *2 sc in next ch-2 sp, ch 2, skip 2 sc; rep from * around, sl st in first ch of beg ch-3.

Rnd 19: Ch 1, 2 sc in first ch-3 sp, *sc in next 2 sc, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp; rep from * around, sl st in

beg ch.

Rnds 20 and 21: Ch 1, sc in each sc around, sl st in beg ch. Change to A.

Rnds 22-24: With A, ch 1, sc in each sc around, sl st in beg ch.

Fasten off A. Continue with B only.

Rnds 25-27: With B, ch 1, sc in each sc around, sl st in beg ch. Fasten off.

FINISHING

Border

From RS, join A with sl st anywhere along lower edge of Hat. Ch 1, work 1 rnd reverse sc (single crochet worked from right to left) around edge. Fasten off.

Weave in ends.

ABBREVIATIONS / REFERENCES	
Click for explanation and illustration	
beg = begin(s)(ning)	ch(s) = chain(s)
ch-space = space previously made	rep = repeat(s)(ing)
rnd(s) = round(s)	sc = single crochet
sl st = slip stitch	st(s) = stitch(es)

Learn to Crochet Instructions: <http://learnToCrochet.LionBrand.com>



Head Huggers: Crochet Pattern: 6

Charles Cap

**Crochet Head Hugger
(crocheted liner for baseball caps)**
Designed by: Ro Cafaro

Cap is made using Lion Heart microfiber yarn, or sport weight baby yarn and an I hook. Yarn must be thin so as not to bunch up under the baseball cap. Pattern may be worked with an H hook to make a smaller liner.

Round 1: chain 4, join, 11 dc in the ring.

NOTE: All following stitches are worked in front loop only so there is no seam on the inside of the hat, the seam is on the outside and touches the baseball cap and not the skin.

Round 2: ch 3, dc in same st, 2 dc's in each stitch around, join in top of first ch 3 with a sl st.

Round 3: chain 3, dc in same st, *dc in next dc, 2 dc in next dc,* repeat from * around from until you get to the last stitch. 2 dc's in last stitch, join to top of first ch 3.

Round 4: chain 3, dc in same st, *dc in next 2 stitches, 2 dc in next st * Repeat around until last stitch. 2 dc's in last stitch, join to top of first chain 3.

Round 5: chain 3, dc in same st, *dc in next 3 sts, 2 dc in next st* repeat around until last stitch. 2 dc in last stitch, join in top of chain 3.

Round 6: chain 3, dc in same st, *dc in next 4 stitches, 2 dc's in next st* repeat around until last st, 2 dc's in last st, join in top of first chain 3.

Rounds 7-8 chain 3, dc in each st around, join.

Round 9: chain 2, *dc in next 2 sts, dc decrease* repeat around, join in top of first chain 3.

Round 10, chain 2, *dc in next 3 sts, dc decrease* repeat around, join in top of chain 3.

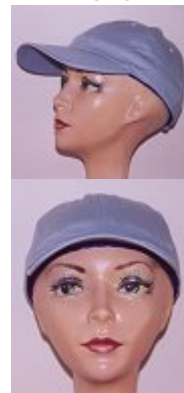
Round 11: chain 2, *dc in next 4 dc's, dc decrease* repeat around, join in top of chain 3.

Round 12: loosely sc in each st around to form band to hold liner to head. Hat should not slide around but shouldn't be so tight that it is uncomfortable. Sl. st in last two sts, finish off, weave in ends.

(If larger liner is desired, add an additional row of dc between rounds 8 and 9. If tighter/longer brim is necessary to hold hat to head, add another row of sc after round 12.)



More styles/colors:
Click thumbnails for larger views



Adapt-a-Platoon
Helmet Liners
Worsted 5Ht 100% Wool!
(not flammable)
G Hook Black
H Hook - if you work
tight
Should be flexible.

Row 1 - ch 5 or 6 and join
2 - ch 2 - 12 DC in
circle + join
Row 3 - ch 2 - 2 DC in each of
12 DC in Row 2 - 24 st
Row 4 - ch 2 - 2 DC in first
DC - 1 DC in next DC,
2 DC in next DC - 1 DC
in next DC - repeat
around - 36 st
Row 5 - ch 2 - 2 DC in first DC,
DC in next 2 DC - 48
Repeat around

Row 6 ch 2 - 2 DC in
 first DC, DC in next
 3 DC, 2 DC in next
 DC, 3 DC in next
 3 DC, Repeat around
 join 60 Sts

No more increases -
 this work should
 measure about 6" in.
 across.
 This is top of helmet.

No more increases

1 group { Side - ch 1 - sc around
 1 DC { for 2 rows - (put a
 2 sc { marker at beginning.)
 rows { Row ch 2 and do 1 Row
 of DC, join to 1st DC -
 next - ch 1 - do 2 rounds of
 sc, join to 1st ch -
 do DC on next row
 then 2 rows sc -

around - So you will
Have 2 rows sc and
1 Row dc

repeated 5 x - 15 rows

Then about 5 rows
all sc before doing
last row of slip st.
Measure your work.

Finished Cap should
measure $7\frac{3}{4}$ " to $8\frac{1}{2}$ "

Beginning to last row deep

Man's head size is
usually 22" so your
work should stretch
to about 11", doubled
would be 22".

Then do your slip st
around and end.

Pull in end of yarn.