

Crocheted Christmas Hat Keychain Pattern

Skill Level: Beginner

Finished Size: Approximately 2 inches tall (excluding pom-pom) and 2.5 inches wide. Size is easily adjustable.

Materials You'll Need:

- **Cotton yarns** (You can use any cotton yarn in colors of your choice; I recommend using red, white, and a third color of your choice for contrast.)
- **Pom-pom** (You can either make a pom-pom using yarn or buy a ready-made one.)
- **Keychain clip** (For attaching your finished hat to make it a keychain.)
- **2.50 mm crochet hook** (This size hook works well with cotton yarn for a neat finish.)
- **Needle** (For weaving in the ends.)
- **Scissors** (To cut your yarn.)

Sizing:

- **This pattern makes a hat that is approximately 2.5 inches wide and 2 inches tall. To make a larger hat, increase the starting chain by a multiple of 2. For example, 28 chains for a slightly wider hat, 30 chains for a wider hat, etc.**

Abbreviations:

- **ch:** chain
- **sl st:** slip stitch
- **sc:** single crochet
- **hdc:** half double crochet
- **dc:** double crochet
- **inc:** increase (2 stitches in one stitch)
- **dec:** decrease (invisible decrease - instructions provided below)
- **rnd:** round

Step-by-Step Instructions

Step 1: Creating the Base Chain

1. Start with a slip knot on your hook.
2. Chain 26. This will be the width of your hat.
 - **Tip:** If you want to make a wider hat, add chains in multiples of 2. For example, you could chain 28, 30, or 32.
3. Join your chain into a ring by slip-stitching into the first chain. Be careful not to twist your chain.

Row 1:

1. After chaining 26, sl st into the first ch to form a ring. Be careful not to twist the chain as you join.
2. Ch 3 (this counts as the first double crochet).
3. Dc into each chain around the ring. You should have a total of 26 dc (including the starting chain-3).

4. Sl st into the top of the starting ch-3 to close the round.

Row 2:

1. Ch 3 (this counts as the first double crochet).
2. Dc into the front loop only of the next dc from the previous row. (You're working into the front of each dc stitch.)
3. Dc into the back loop only of the next dc from the previous row. (Now you're working into the back of each dc stitch.)
4. Repeat the front loop and back loop dc alternation all the way around, until you have completed the row. You should still have 26 dc at the end of the row.
5. Sl st into the top of the starting ch-3 to close the round.

Row 3:

1. Switch to a new color of yarn (if you want to change colors, this is where you do it).
2. Fasten the yarn to the top of any double crochet stitch from the previous row.
3. Ch 2 (this counts as the first half double crochet).
4. Hdc into each stitch around the row. You should have 26 half double crochets.
5. Sl st into the top of the starting ch-2 to close the round.

Row 4:

1. Switch to another new color (optional for contrast).
2. Fasten the yarn to the top of any half double crochet stitch.
3. Ch 3 (this counts as the first double crochet).
4. Dc into each stitch around the row. You should have 26 dc stitches in this row.
5. Sl st into the top of the starting ch-3 to close the round.

Row 5:

1. Ch 3 (counts as first dc).
2. Dc into each stitch around the row. You'll still have 26 dc at the end of the row.
3. Sl st into the top of the starting ch-3 to close the round.

Row 6:

1. Repeat Row 5 three more times using the same color for the next rows. You'll create a total of 4 rows of double crochet using white or another color of your choice. Each of these rows should have 26 dc stitches.
2. When you finish the last row, sl st into the top of the first ch-3 to join the round, then ch 1 and cut the yarn, leaving a small tail.

Shaping the Top of the Hat:

1. Create a pucker at the top of the hat by weaving yarn through the top stitches. Use a needle or your crochet hook to thread the yarn in a zigzag pattern through the top of each dc from the last row, pulling the stitches together to close the top of the hat.
2. Once you've gathered the stitches tightly, tie off and secure the yarn at the top.

Attaching the Pom-Pom and Keychain:

1. Attach the pom-pom to the top of the hat. If you've made your own pom-pom, use a small piece of yarn to sew it securely onto the top of the hat.
2. Add the keychain clip by using a needle to stitch it onto the side or top of the hat.

Tips for Customizing:

- **Adjusting the size:** If you want a smaller or larger hat, you can adjust the initial chain count. For a smaller keychain, you could use 22 or 24 chains at the start. For a larger hat, increase the chain count by 2 for each row (e.g., 28 or 30 chains).
- **Color variations:** Get creative with color changes! You can alternate colors for the brim of the hat, add stripes, or use a fun color for the pom-pom.
- **Making it a set:** If you're giving this as a gift, consider making several keychains in different colors and styles to create a cute, matching set.

Final Thoughts:

This crocheted Christmas hat keychain is a fun and festive project, perfect for beginners looking to create a cute holiday gift or decoration. The project is small and quick, making it an ideal gift for friends and family, or you can make several to decorate your own home for the holidays.

Happy crocheting!