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West Coast: Super, Natural.

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TYEE FISH HAT



Tyee Fish Hat: what do you mean, the squash is just to show my shape better?

A "tyee" is a chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, also known as the spring or king salmon) that weighs 30 pounds minimum: that is one big, special fish!! When fishers catch a west coast Tyee, they smile: and so will you when you hook this special fish hat! This pattern is dedicated to my son-in-law, who loves to fish (and catch the big ones) so much that his company is named Tyee!

These crocheted fish hats were inspired by the incredible knitted **Fish Hat [Dead or Alive!]**; the pattern is available free online at that wonderful site, **Knitty.com**: <http://www.knitty.com/ISSUEwinter08/PATfishy.php> It is designed by **Thelma Egberts (also known as Mrs. T. on her marvellous blog: <http://talesof4needles.blogspot.com/>)**. I do knit, but lately have been doing a lot of crocheting. I thought how wonderful it would be if crocheters could hook some fine big fish hats up, too, so I took out some yarn and a couple of hooks and began to experiment. Then I asked Mrs. T. if I could share the pattern with others, and she has very graciously given her whole-hearted consent. **Thank you, Mrs. T!**

I would also like to thank designer Cathy Scott for her review of the pattern, corrections, and advice.

GAUGE: So far, using only worsted weight yarn and 4, 5, and 5.5 mm hooks I have made hats that measure 16", 20", and 21". I know that by using a finer yarn, and even smaller hooks, I would be able to make even a newborn size hat! By using a heavier yarn and bigger hook, of course, the hat could be made larger. So decide what size you want to make (measure around the fullest part of the wearer's head) and then experiment. It is easy to crochet a couple of rounds then measure to see if it is about right--keep going if it is, but if it's not then rip it out and use a bigger or smaller hook. Here is the chart of my hook/hat sizes, but keep in mind that everyone's tension is different, and your work may be bigger or smaller depending on how loosely or tightly you crochet. I found that just switching yarns caused a difference in the finished size--Red Heart Supersaver seems to be quite a bit bulkier than the James Brett Marble and Patons Decor, though they are both called "worsted weight". But luckily, yarn stretches in wearing, if it is a little tight fitting; and if it is a little loose it still looks great (hey, don't we all need a Slouchy Fish around?).

4 mm hook = 16" (with James Brett Marble and Patons Decor yarns) hdc: 16 stitches, 11 rows = 4 inches

5 mm hook = 20" (with Red Heart Supersaver) hdc: 12 stitches, 10 rows = 4 inches

5.5 mm hook = 21" (with Red Heart Supersaver) (sorry, no stitch/row count, hat gifted already)

TERMS USED IN THE PATTERN: NOTE: CANADIAN/AMERICAN TERMS ARE USED IN THIS PATTERN; FOR BRITISH/AUSTRALIAN STITCH CONVERSION, PLEASE CONSULT INTERNET OR BOOK

single crochet = sc; (sc 8 means a single crochet in each of the next 8 stitches)

half double crochet = hdc

single crochet decrease = sc dec

half double crochet decrease = hdc dec

single crochet increase = sc inc
 slip stitch = sl st
 chain = ch
 yarn over = yo
 front post double crochet = fpdc
 back post double crochet = bpdc

There are many excellent crochet how-to books, and your local yarn store folk can help you choose one if you need it; in my experience, they are always ready to help with knit & crochet questions, and help you choose the right yarn, hook, etc., too. As well, there are internet sites with crochet stitch instructions that give illustrations; there are also online videos so you can actually see how to do various stitches. Just search for the stitch you want, i.e. "back post double crochet instructions". One of my favourite sites is Crochet Pattern Central--oodles and oodles of free patterns for everything you have ever thought of (and some you haven't), stitch instructions, tutorial for all kinds of things (including CHANGING COLOURS, which you will most likely want to do for this pattern). Find them online at <http://www.crochetpatterncentral.com/>

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE "TYEE FISH HAT"

DO NOT TURN AT END OF ROUNDS UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED.

JOIN ROUNDS WITH A SLIP STITCH, PULL THIS TIGHT AND THEN CHAIN ONE; THE CH 1 DOES NOT COUNT AS A STITCH, YOU WILL MAKE YOUR FIRST STITCH OF THE NEXT ROUND IN THE SAME STITCH YOU DID THE SLIP ST. IN! This ensures that there will not be a gap in the stitches.

For your FISH BODY, change colours whenever you like, for wide or thin stripes. I have also used single crochet for a thin stripe, then a row or two of hdc. Mix or match colours and stitches to make a unique fish! How about some shell stitch rows, popcorn stitches (even two-colour popcorn stitch), or other stitches? I have only put single crochet and half double crochet in the pattern, but that is because it would take too long to try to list many possibilities.

I really encourage you to look at the knitted hat that inspired this one, if you haven't already seen it, and read the instructions--Mrs. T's instructions for finding the right place to put fins are very clear! And if you are a knitter, too, you will definitely want to pick up those knitting needles and dive into the Fish Hat [Dead or Alive!]

Chain 60, join with a slip stitch making sure it is not twisted.

LIPS: Single crochet 6 rounds, approximately 1.5". **Tip:** hate doing single crochet? Do 4 rounds of hdc instead.

Change colour for fish head.

SHORT ROWS (must be single crochet, do not substitute hdc for these rows):

1. Sc 18, ch 1, Turn
2. Sc 6, ch1, Turn
3. Sc 8, ch 1, Turn (for the seventh and eighth of these sc, you are going to do them in the fish lips row. **Tip:** make sure you keep the 7th sc tight, so there is not a gap, and also keep the stitch tight when going up or down these "jogs" each time you come to them.
4. Sc 10, ch 1, Turn **Tip:** stitches 9 & 10 will be into the row 1 of the Short Rows section.
5. Sc 12, ch 1, Turn
6. Sc 14, ch 1, Turn
7. Sc 18, ch 1, Turn
8. Sc 22, ch 1, Turn
9. Sc 44, ch 1, Turn

Rows 10-16, repeat rows 2 - 8 of Short Row Section.

17. Sc to the first stitch of the Short Row Section, join with a slip stitch, pull tight, chain 1, then commence the

FISH BODY SECTION

Working in rounds now, crochet even (do not increase or decrease on these rounds) in single crochet **OR** half double crochet **OR** your choice of stitches for 4.75", measuring from end of short row section. (See note at beginning of page re: joining rounds)

FIRST DECREASE ROUND

(Sc 8, sc dec) **OR** (hdc 8, hdc dec), repeat for the entire round.

Then crochet even in your choice of stitch for 2.5 ", measuring from decrease round.

SECOND DECREASE ROUND

(Sc 7, sc dec) **OR** (hdc 7, hdc dec), repeat for the entire round.

Then crochet even in your choice of stitch for 1.5", measuring from decrease round.

THIRD DECREASE ROUND

(Sc 6, sc dec) **OR** (hdc 6, hdc dec), repeat for the entire round.

Then crochet even in your choice of stitch for **1.5"**, measuring from decrease round.

FOURTH DECREASE ROUND

(Sc 5, sc dec) **OR** (hdc 5, hdc dec), repeat for the entire round.

Then crochet even in your choice of stitch for **.75"**, measuring from decrease round.

FIFTH DECREASE ROUND

(sc dec) **OR** (hdc dec) repeat for entire round. (18 stitches now).

Then crochet three rounds of sc on these 18 stitches.

Now sc 4 stitches. Check that you are in the right place: fold your fish flat, with the longest mouth part--the short row sections--at top and bottom (making a crescent moon shape!). If you are in the middle you are ready to start the

TAIL

1. sc 9, ch 1 and Turn; **working over these 9 sts now:**
2. (sc, sc inc), repeat to last stitch, sc, ch1, Turn (13 stitches on row)
3. (sc, sc inc), repeat to last stitch, sc, ch1, Turn (19 stitches on row)
4. sc, sc inc, (sc3, sc inc), repeat to last stitch, ch 1, turn (24 stitches on row)
5. sc 24, ch 1, Turn
6. sc 24, ch 1, turn
- 7-8. sc, sc dec, sc to last three stitches, sc dec, sc, ch 1, Turn.
9. sc, sc dec, sc to last three stitches, sc dec, sc. Fasten off yarn. (first half of tail is complete!)

SECOND HALF OF TAIL: Fasten yarn to the sc after the 9th sc of TAIL Row 1. Draw up a loop on hook, ch 1, and repeat Rows 1-9 of Tail.

SEWING UP THE TAIL: Use yarn and a bodkin to sew the first 4 rows to each other--first tail half to second tail half--on each side. Then fold the tail so the shaped edges of one tail half are together, and sew. Repeat for the other tail half. (I sew the tail this way so that it makes a neat little secret stash pocket if you reach your hand way up inside the fish!)

DORSAL (top) FIN this is crocheted with front post and back post double crochet stitches, to give ribbed effect.

Fold your fish in half again, so the longest parts of the mouth are top and bottom.



Tyee Fish Hat: folded to show placement for top fin.

Measure up about 6 inches from the starting chain, and fasten the yarn you have chosen for your fins to a stitch here. Keep the fish folded while you work row 1. Pull up a loop, ch 1.

1. Working your hook into stitches along the "backbone", sc 15. Ch 1, Turn.
2. sc inc in each stitch across (30 stitches in the row). Ch 2, Turn. (Don't forget, this is not a stitch! Just ignore it for the next row).
3. dc in each stitch in the row, ch 2, turn. (30 stitches in the row).
4. (fpdc, bpdc) across row. Fasten off. (30 stitches in the row).

PECTORAL (side) FINS this is crocheted with front post and back post double crochet stitches, to give ribbed effect.



Tyee Fish Hat: folded flat to place side fins.

Fold your fish flat the other way, so the dorsal fin is in the middle of its back. Fasten your yarn about an inch further back than you started the dorsal fin. Keep the fish folded while you work row 1. Pull up a loop, ch 1.

1. Working your hook into the stitches on the fold line, sc 10
2. sc inc in each stitch across (20 stitches in the row). Ch 2, turn.
3. dc in each stitch in the row, ch 2, turn. (20 stitches in the row).
4. (fpdc, bpdc) across row. Fasten off. (20 stitches in the row).

REPEAT THE PECTORAL FIN INSTRUCTIONS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FISH.

EYES: MAKE 2, of course! Either cut circles of white felt about 1" - 1 3/4" diameter, embroider a black X (dead fish) or I (live fish) for the pupil, then sew onto fish. Or buy "google eyes" at a craft store, and put them on according to directions. Or use buttons. Or, as I have done, crochet eyes to sew on: For dead eyes, use white for both rounds and embroider an X on them. For live eyes, use black (or blue or green or whatever colour you want the pupils to be) for round 1, then change to white for round 2.

1. Ch 2; in second ch from hook, sc 5, join with a slip stitch to first sc. Ch 2, do not turn.
2. 2 dc in each stitch. Join with a slip stitch to first dc. Fasten off.

Darn in any ends that are lurking, then

TRY THE HAT ON (even if you made it for someone else!), LOOK IN A MIRROR, AND SMILE!



Tyee Fish Hat ~ Cornucopia

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