



[www.erssieknits.com](http://www.erssieknits.com)  
[erssiemajor@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:erssiemajor@yahoo.co.uk)

## How to adapt a crochet beanie to an earflap hat By Erssie Major

Assuming that you just want to add earflaps onto the bottom of a brim of a beanie, as an afterthought, then you would need to divide your hat into proportions so that it fits around the face and leaves a small gap at the back of the head, whilst still maintaining a perfect triangular shape in proportion.

You can do this as follows:

1. On the brim of the beanie mark out, with centre back, approx 20% of your stitches for your back opening; 10% on each side of back 'seam' or jog.

2. Mark out 30% of your stitches for your face

3. Mark out 50% of your stitches divided between 2 earflaps; 25% for each earflap.

This will give you roughly the correct proportions.

4. Then join new yarn and crochet between the earflap markers, decreasing on every other row, one stitch from the edge. Eg. if I had 15 sts to begin an earflap I would:

5. \*Join yarn and crochet 15 (or 25% of all sts) sts between markers for earflap.

6. Work 1 or a few rows straight with no decs

**Next Row:** Work 1 st, work next 2 sts tog, work to last 3 sts, work 2 sts tog, work 1 st, all on the RS\*. If you prefer, you can decrease by skipping stitches. It looks neater if you decrease 1 or 2 sts from the edge rather than right on the edge. Then you can work a round of crochet all the way around the brim and earflaps to finish.

### Tips:

- If you want to, you can crochet the earflaps in a different stitch or gauge, provided that you pick up evenly from the edge. That means if you were crocheting a large gauge, of say 15sts per earflap, but went down a hook size, then you can still mark out the 15sts on your brim, but if you join new yarn with a smaller hook, 20sts may fit more neatly into that gap. The important part is making sure markers are in the correct place.
- If you work slightly taller rows e.g. Htr, or Tr, or Hdc, you might find you need to decrease every row to get the correct proportions. Leaving more rows between decs, gives your earflap hat a long and skinny look. For a fat, wide short earflap have fewer rows in between decrease rows.
- These earflaps should hug the face fairly closely, and also have a very small gap at the back, so that part of the neck is covered.
- Why not try this with knitted projects too? You can work out the same % proportions in stitches, pick up on the earflap edges and knit a triangular piece decreasing on the RS at intervals to get the required shape.

© 2010 Erssie Major

These tips are for information and teaching purposes only and may not be circulated, reproduced or printed in any medium whatsoever nor may they be copied or used for any commercial purpose without written prior permission from the copyright owner

