

## Braided Cowl – Hairpin lace



### You need:

- Basic knowledge of Hairpin lace crochet.
- 164 - 273 yards of bulky, soft yarn.
- Scrap yarn for guidelines.
- Crochet hook in the correct size for the yarn, Hairpin lace loom set to 3 1/4 inches (8 cm). You might prefer to use a larger crochet hook for the joining of the hairpin lace strips.
- Clip on markers (safety pins can be used).
- Tapestry needle.

**Notes:** Read the complete pattern before you start. If you are new to Hairpin lace, you can find instruction videos on Youtube, and on Stitch Divas site which also shows you how to set up guidelines: [stitchdiva.com/pages/creating-the-basic-strip](http://stitchdiva.com/pages/creating-the-basic-strip)

The cowl is worked flat.

I recommend that you always use guidelines to keep the loops in check, and make it easier to see what is the beginning and what is the end of the strip.

### Pattern:

Make 4 strips that are approximately 25 1/4 inches (64 cm) long. For strips, keep 10 inches starting and ending tails. Make sure the number of loops on both sides of the strips are the same, and can be divided by both 2 and 3. The strips in the cowl shown has 72 loops on each side.

**Join strips with cable joins for a braided look:** Place 2 hairpin strips side by side. Starting from the beginning edge of both strips, insert hook through 3 loops on first strip, and then through 3 loops on the second strip. Pull the loops from the second strip through the loops on the first strip. The loops from the second strip remains on the hook. Pick up the next 3 loops on the first strip and

pull through the 3 loops from the second strip on your hook. Now only the loops from the first strip remain on the hook. Continue taking alternate loops (groups of 3) in the same manner until the end of the strips. You will end up with 3 loops on the hook, temporarily secure them with a clip-on marker to the first loop of middle crochet stitch.

Place the third hairpin strip along the second, insert hook through 3 loops on third strip, and then through 3 loops on the second strip. Continue in the same manner as previous on the first two strips until the the last 3 loops.

Place the fourth hairpin strip along the third, insert hook through 3 loops on third strip, and then through 3 loops on the fourth strip. Continue as with previous strips.

Now you will join the loops at the top of the fourth strip: Insert hook through 4 loops, pull the last 2 on hook through the first 2 on hook. Continue pulling 2 loops through 2 on hook.

Leave the bottom loops on the first strip as a fringe.

**Finishing:** With tapestry needle and right side facing to best preserve hairpin pattern, fasten the strips together into continuous circles using one tail to join the end and beginning of the hairpin strip by stitching into the crochet stitches in the middle, and then the other tail to fasten the the last group of 3 (2) loops on each strip around the first loops in a way that mimics the braided joins. With wrong side facing weave the tails into the crochet stitches in the middle (only one tail through the same crochet stitches). Remove guidelines and markers. Do not block.



*Close-up of the join where the strips are connected to form a continuous circle.*

