Crochet Baby Slippers With a Toe Bow: Free Pattern, 0 to 12 Months

Crochet a wide oval sole, turn the sides up with one back-loop round, close the toe over four rounds and leave the top open like a slipper, then edge the opening with two rounds of white ribbing and sew a small crocheted bow on the toe. The stretchy white edge is what keeps the slipper on. In DK yarn on a 3.5 mm hook the 0–3 month sole comes out about 9 cm long and the opening about 11 cm round.

In the picture at the top, the bow has a pearl in the middle and what look like small beads round its edge. This pattern has a crocheted centre instead, and the whole bow is sewn down all round, because a pearl or bead that comes off is small enough for a baby to choke on. The opening is also drawn in smaller than the one in the picture, so that the slipper stays on.

This is our own design. A script checks every round and row against the one before it, the sole against our bootie size chart (https://crochetbabygifts.com/baby-bootie-size-chart/), and the opening against measured baby feet and ankles. The sizes are worked out from a gauge, so the first thing to check is your own sole against the size table.

Pick your size

Size	Sole	Opening	Height at the heel	Bow	Yarn for the pair
0–3 months	9 cm long, 5 cm wide	22 sts, 11 cm round	about 4 cm	3.5 cm wide	about 40 m blue, 10 m white
3–6 months	10 cm long, 5 cm wide	26 sts, 13 cm round	about 4 cm	4 cm wide	about 45 m blue, 10 m white
6–12 months	11.5 cm long, 5 cm wide	28 sts, 14 cm round	about 4 cm	4.5 cm wide	about 50 m blue, 10 m white

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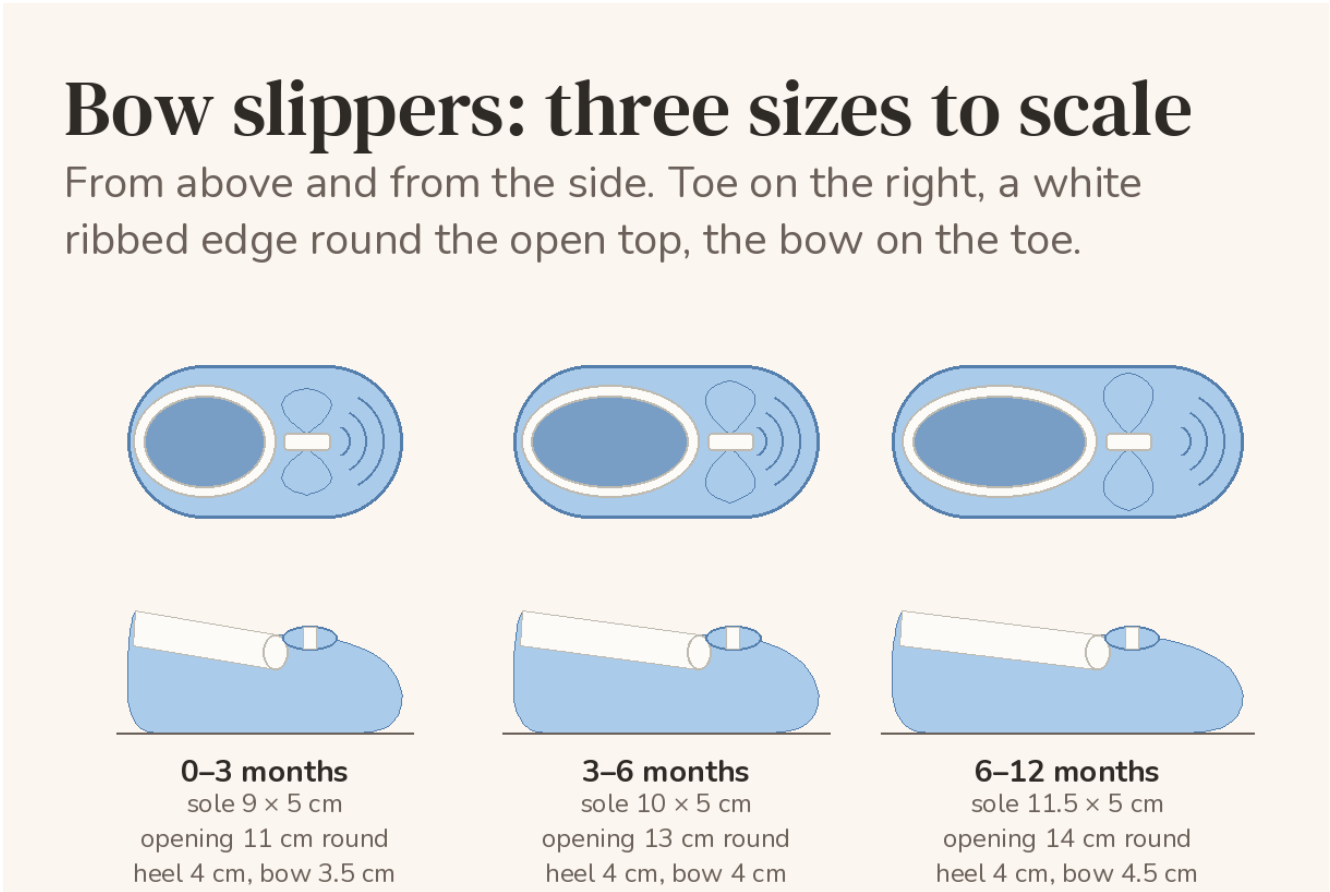

Which size, quickly: for a gift with no measurements, make 3–6 months. If you can measure the baby's foot, choose the size whose sole is about 1 cm longer than the foot.

The sole lengths are the ones on our bootie size chart (https://crochetbabygifts.com/baby-bootie-size-chart/). The sole is about 5 cm wide, at least as wide as the average baby foot at that age, 3.6 (4, 4.7) cm across in a published US survey of infants, so the foot does not spill over the edge.

Why it stays on. A slipper with an open top falls off unless its edge hugs the foot, so the opening is the number that matters most. The opening is 11 (13, 14) cm round before it is stretched. It has to go over the foot, which is about 11 cm round at its widest for a baby, by the Craft Yarn Council's foot chart. And it has to be snug: in the same survey of infants the average ankle is 10.2 (11.6, 12.9) cm round and a big one 12.9 (13, 14.5) cm. The ankle is the narrowest place above the foot, and the white edge sits lower, round the back of the heel and

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over the top of the foot, so an edge no bigger than a big ankle is held there by its own stretch. The ribbing stretches over the heel to go on, the way a sock cuff does.

What you need

Every tool our patterns use is on the Crochet essentials (https://crochetbabygifts.com/essentials/) page.

- DK (#3) baby yarn in two colours: A, light blue, for the slipper and the bow, and B, white, for the edge and the bow's centre, about the amounts in the size table. A soft cotton or a washable baby acrylic both work.
- A 3.5 mm crochet hook. The hook size chart (https://crochetbabygifts.com/crochet-hook-size-chart/) gives the US letter near it.
- One stitch marker, a blunt tapestry needle and scissors.

Everything on these slippers is crochet and sewn in place with the same yarn. Nothing hangs from them.

Gauge and abbreviations

Gauge: about 20 single crochet and 22 rounds to 10 cm (4 in) on a 3.5 mm hook, and each round of post stitch ribbing about 0.6 cm tall. We have not measured this on the slippers yet. It is a planning figure from published DK gauges, the same one our ribbed baby booties (https://crochetbabygifts.com/crochet-ribbed-baby-booties/) and baby socks (https://crochetbabygifts.com/crochet-baby-socks/) use, and every size on this page is worked out from it.

The quick check is the sole: after round 5 it should be about 9 (10, 11.5) cm long and 5 cm wide. If it is more than 0.5 cm off, change your hook by half a size and start again.

US crochet terms throughout. The UK name is in brackets.

- ch: chain. sl st: slip stitch. st(s): stitch(es).
- sc: single crochet (UK: double crochet). hdc: half double crochet (UK: half treble).
- inc: increase, 2 sc in the same stitch. dec: decrease, sc 2 stitches together.
- fphdc and bphdc: front post and back post half double crochet, the white edge's ribbing. Our ribbed baby booties (https://crochetbabygifts.com/crochet-ribbed-baby-booties/) page has a short video of both.
- Back loops only: work into just the loop of each stitch that is furthest from you.
- 10 (12, 15): the first number is for 0–3 months, the ones in brackets for 3–6 and 6–12 months. A single number is for every size.

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The video

If you knit, Knitting Art of Loving's video makes a knitted version of this slipper, in Portuguese. She casts on twice the baby's foot length in stitches, 40 stitches for 0 to 3 months, knits a rectangle in garter stitch on 3.5 mm needles, adds a few white rows for the edge, then sews up the sole and gathers the top over the toes. Her bow is a bought one, glued on. If you crochet, follow the rounds below instead: none of her counts are used on this page.

Watch the video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWvyY8NoyYY

- How many stitches to cast on, from the baby's foot length, from 0:37.
- Changing to white for the edge from 3:42.
- Casting off by working two stitches together from 5:16.
- Sewing it up from 6:21.
- Gathering the top over the toes from 9:27.

Video: Knitting Art of Loving, "Sapatinho de Tricô Muito Fácil!" (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWvyY8NoyYY), 2026, in Portuguese, about 12 minutes. A knitted version of this bootie; the crochet pattern on this page is our own.

The pattern

Corrected 23 November 2026: the toe decreases in rounds 8 to 11 now sit on the centre of the toe. If you started before this date, see the rounds below.

Make two. Every round is joined with a sl st in the first stitch and starts with ch 1 (ch 2 before a ribbing round), which does not count as a stitch. Do not turn.

1. Sole

In A.

- Foundation: with A, ch 10 (12, 15).
- Rnd 1: sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc 7 (9, 12), 3 sc in last ch; working along the other side of the chain, sc 7 (9, 12), 2 sc in last ch. [20 (24, 30) sts]
- Rnd 2: inc, sc 7 (9, 12), [inc] 3 times, sc 7 (9, 12), [inc] 2 times. [26 (30, 36) sts]
- Rnd 3: sc 1, inc, sc 7 (9, 12), [sc 1, inc] 3 times, sc 7 (9, 12), [sc 1, inc] 2 times. [32 (36, 42) sts]
- Rnd 4: sc 2, inc, sc 7 (9, 12), [sc 2, inc] 3 times, sc 7 (9, 12), [sc 2, inc] 2 times. [38 (42, 48) sts]

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- Rnd 5: sc 3, inc, sc 7 (9, 12), [sc 3, inc] 3 times, sc 7 (9, 12), [sc 3, inc] 2 times. [44 (48, 54) sts]

The round starts at the heel end of the oval, so the toe is the far end, where the 3 sc went into the last chain. Five rounds make a sole wider than most bootie soles, with room for a chubby foot.

2. Sides and toe

- Rnd 6: in back loops only, sc in each st. [44 (48, 54) sts]
- Rnd 7: sc in each st. [44 (48, 54) sts]
- Rnd 8: sc 12 (14, 15), [dec] 8 (8, 10) times, sc 16 (18, 19). [36 (40, 44) sts]
- Rnd 9: sc 9 (11, 11), [dec] 6 (6, 8) times, sc 15 (17, 17). [30 (34, 36) sts]
- Rnd 10: sc 9 (11, 12), [dec] 4 (4, 4) times, sc 13 (15, 16). [26 (30, 32) sts]
- Rnd 11: sc 6 (8, 9), [dec] 4 (4, 4) times, sc 12 (14, 15). [22 (26, 28) sts]

Round 6's free front loops make a ridge round the sole, which turns the flat oval into a slipper. The decreases all sit over the toe, so the heel and sides stay low and the front closes over the toes. What is left is the open top of the slipper. Fasten off A.

3. Cuff

In B. Join B with a sl st in the first stitch of round 11, at the back of the heel.

- Rnds 12–13: [fphdc around next st, bphdc around next st] around. [22 (26, 28) sts]

In round 13 the fphdc goes round each stitch that sits forward and the bphdc round each stitch that sits back, so the ribs stack up. Fasten off. This white edge is what holds the slipper on: it stretches over the heel, then hugs the back of the heel and the top of the foot.

4. Bow

Make 2, in A.

- Foundation: with A, ch 8 (9, 10).
- Row 1: sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. [7 (8, 9) sts]
- Rows 2–5: ch 1, turn, sc in each st. [7 (8, 9) sts]

Fasten off and leave a 40 cm (16 in) tail for sewing. Pinch the middle of the rectangle from top to bottom so it gathers into a bow shape.

5. Centre wrap

Make 2, in B.

- Foundation: with B, ch 3.

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- Row 1: sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. [2 sts]
- Rows 2–8: ch 1, turn, sc in each st. [2 sts]

Fasten off and leave a 20 cm (8 in) tail. Wrap the strip round the pinched middle of a bow, with its ends at the back. Sew the two ends together and through the middle of the bow with the tail, so the wrap holds the pinch and cannot slide off.

6. Sew the bow on

Place the bow on top of the toe, centred, just in front of the white edge. With the bow's tail, sew it to the slipper all round: along the top and bottom edges of both halves, round both outer ends, and through the centre wrap. Make small stitches about 0.5 cm apart, through the bow and the slipper each time, so that no edge can be lifted. Fasten off inside the slipper and weave the end in for at least 5 cm (2 in).

Pull the bow hard, at each end and in the middle. If any part lifts, sew it down again.

7. Finishing

Weave every tail into the inside of the stitches, back and forth through several stitches, then trim it close. Turn each slipper inside out and check that there are no loose loops or strands inside, then turn it back.

Fit check

- The sole first: after round 5, check it against the size table. A sole that is too long now will be too long finished, and a long slipper is the first to come off.
- The white edge: it should stretch over the heel without a struggle and sit snugly round the back of the heel and over the top of the foot. It should leave no mark when you take the slipper off. If it marks, work the edge again on a hook half a size bigger.
- Keeps coming off? Check the length first. If the length is right, work the edge again on a hook half a size smaller, or move up a size only if the sole is short.

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Made for a baby

- No pearl, beads or buttons. The picture's bow has a pearl in the middle and small beads round its edge; ours is all crochet, with a crocheted centre.
- The bow is sewn down all round. Sew every edge and the centre, and pull the bow hard before each wear. For a baby who chews their feet, leave the bow off: the slipper is complete without it.
- No ties or cords. These slippers are held on by the stretch of the white edge, and nothing hangs from them.
- Not walking shoes. They are for warm feet. Take the slippers off once your baby starts pulling up to stand on a hard floor.
- Check inside for loose threads. A loose thread or hair can wind round a baby's toe and cut off the blood flow, which doctors call a hair tourniquet. Turn the slippers inside out before each wear.

The sources for each point are on our handmade baby gift safety checklist (https://crochetbabygifts.com/handmade-baby-gift-safety-checklist/#safety-sources).

Yarn and time

A 0–3 month pair takes about 40 m of blue and 10 m of white. The amounts come from counting every stitch and allowing a published length of yarn per stitch for DK, plus the chains and tails, so they are upper estimates. A 50 g ball of DK makes several pairs.

It is about 500 stitches a bootie. The sole and toe are quick; sewing the bow down all round takes the longest.

Frequently asked questions

Will they stay on? That is what the white ribbed edge is for. It is a little smaller round than the foot where it sits, so it hugs the back of the heel and the top of the foot. A slipper that is too long comes off first, so check the sole against the table.

Why is there no pearl on the bow? A pearl or bead that comes off is small enough for a baby to choke on. The crocheted centre wrap looks like the pearl's place in the picture and cannot come loose the same way.

Can I make them in one colour? Yes. Work the edge and the centre wrap in A, and the counts do not change.

Can I leave the bow off? Yes, and that is the safer choice for a baby who chews their feet. The slipper is complete without it.

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Is this a good first project? It suits a confident beginner. The sole and toe are single crochet; the white edge introduces post stitches, and the bow is two small rectangles.

See also

- Easy crochet baby booties (https://crochetbabygifts.com/easy-crochet-baby-booties/), a half double crochet bootie in four sizes
- Ribbed crochet baby booties (https://crochetbabygifts.com/crochet-ribbed-baby-booties/), with a fold-over ribbed cuff
- Crochet Christmas baby booties (https://crochetbabygifts.com/crochet-christmas-baby-booties/), red and cream with a bow
- Crochet baby socks (https://crochetbabygifts.com/crochet-baby-socks/), toe-up in three sizes
- Crochet baby mittens (https://crochetbabygifts.com/crochet-baby-mittens/), to make a matching set
- Baby bootie size chart (https://crochetbabygifts.com/baby-bootie-size-chart/), sole lengths by age

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