

Dusty-Rose Open-Front Hooded Bed

A photo-matched crochet cat cave with a stable floor, removable washable comfort layer and measurement-based fit checks.



A dusty-rose nest with a low base, open front, broad hood and quilted cream cushion.

Publishing status

Prototype-ready draft. Crochet, wash and fit-test one physical sample before calling this pattern tested.

Project plan

Construction	Double oval basket base; low front wall; shaped hood panel attached across back and sides.
Starting gauge	Prototype starting gauge: 9 sc x 9 rows = 10 cm. Make the hood fabric dense but flexible.
Photo-style target	Starting target: 46-50 cm wide, 40-44 cm deep, 30-35 cm hood height, open front approximately 32-36 cm.
Wash plan	The open front makes the cushion easy to remove and lets the shell dry more quickly than a closed dome.

Materials

- Bulky washable cotton blend
- 7-9 mm hook
- markers
- yarn needle
- quilted washable cushion cover.

Also have: scissors, yarn needle, locking stitch markers, measuring tape and the intended washable cushion materials. Keep pins, needles and small tools away from the cat.

Abbreviations

ch = chain; sc = single crochet; sl st = slip stitch; BLO = back loop only; st(s) = stitch(es); rnd = round; sc2tog = single crochet two together.

Measure first

Floor = curled footprint plus 10 cm. Hood depth should cover roughly two-thirds of the floor, leaving the front third fully open.

Write the actual floor width, depth, entrance width and entrance height in the boxes below before crocheting. Do not rely on breed, age or a generic size label.

Floor width	Floor depth	Entrance width	Entrance height
_____ cm	_____ cm	_____ cm	_____ cm

Before the full project

- Crochet and wash a 15 cm swatch. Record stitch gauge, row gauge and any growth after drying.
- Make a paper floor template from the calculated dimensions and place it where the cave will live.
- Confirm the cat can turn on the template and that the intended doorway is wider than the shoulders.
- Choose smooth yarn with no large holes, shedding fibers or rough cut ends.

Construction steps

1. Crochet and join two oval floor panels. Work 4-6 even basket rounds around the edge.
2. Mark a wide front section and stop working it. Continue the back and side stitches in rows, decreasing slightly at the front edges.
3. Crochet a separate rounded hood panel from side to side, increasing through the lower third and working even through the crown.
4. Pin the hood to the back and sides of the basket base. Adjust until the front opening stays broad, then seam with flat slip stitches.
5. Add one finishing round around the open front and smooth any seam that presses into the cushion area.
6. Make the quilted cushion cover removable. The cushion must lie below the front rim so Skyla can step in easily.

Finishing checklist

- Weave each yarn tail through dense fabric in more than one direction, tug-test it, then trim.
- Press the floor on a hard surface. It must sit flat and return flat after the front edge is pressed.
- Run a hand over every inside seam and doorway edge. Correct any ridge, loop or rough point.
- Lift the cushion out without stretching the entrance and confirm every component is fully dry.

Fit check

The hood may sit above Skyla's back, but it should not force her head down or narrow the entry path.

- Let the cat approach voluntarily; do not place or hold the cat inside.
- Watch one complete entry, turn, lie-down and exit sequence.
- The roof and entrance must stay clear of ears, whiskers and functioning breakaway-collar hardware.
- Stop use if the cat chews yarn, catches a claw, pants, freezes, struggles to turn or avoids the exit.

Care

Wash the cushion often. Reshape the hood while damp and let both sides dry before returning it to the base.

Safety

An open hood can still collapse. Remove it if the roof no longer lifts away from the cat.

If a collar is worn, it must be a functioning breakaway collar. A bell or tag can snag, so test generous clearance or remove the collar during supervised cave use. Never hide wire, tubing or sharp stabilizers inside the shell.

Final sign-off

Sample crocheted: ____ Washed and fully dried: ____ Base stayed flat: ____ Entrance stayed open: ____ Cat entered and exited comfortably under supervision: ____ Pattern version/date: _____