

## Hat in Raffia Straw made in crochet

Raffia is a very supple straw that can be worked in crochet.

Chose a fine hook in bone or celluloid. These two little hats are made in half-double crochet, which has been described several times in LSDS and all recently again.

Fig. 1—Little walking hat—Make four chain stitches. Close in a round, and for this, the last chain stitch is on the hook, put the hook in the first chain and throw the thread of raffia on the hook and pass it through the two stitches.

In each of the four stitches, make two half-double crochets. Continue to make two half-double crochets in each stitch of the preceding row until you have 18 stitches around.

Make, in spiral\* always, four half-double crochets, two hdc in the same stitch, four hdc, two hdc in the same stitch, and so on.

You continue the same until you have 35 stitches around.

Then you continue to work without increasing, that is to say, making an hdc in each stitch of the preceding row until you count 16 rows of hdc in the little hat. One turns back the last two rows to form a rim which is held by several invisible stitches: the little walker is finished.

One can decorate it with little silk fruits which are made in the following way: Cut from a piece of silk little circles the size of a two franc coin. One gathers each circle all around with a little (running

stitch—guess), one puts a little ball of wadding (cotton) in the middle, then one draws the thread and makes several stitches to close the little fruit.

Figure 2: Large broad-brimmed sun hat” The large broad brimmed sun hat

is made the same; instead of making 16 rows, one first makes 12.

At the 13<sup>th</sup> row, one makes two hdc in each stitch of the preceding row, then make four rounds without increasing, making an hdc in each stitch of the preceding round.

The (large broad-brimmed) sun hat is finished.

One decorates it with a ribbon or a band of taffeta which one knots in the back with a big bow.

With a skein of raffia for 30 cents one can make three hats for Bleurette.

\*Seems to me like the plan is to crochet in a spiral but mark the beginning

of the first row so you know when you've been all the way around.

Nothing is said about joining the ends of a row or chaining to start and new row. "Rang" and "tour" seem to be used interchangeably for "row" or "round"--Jenn