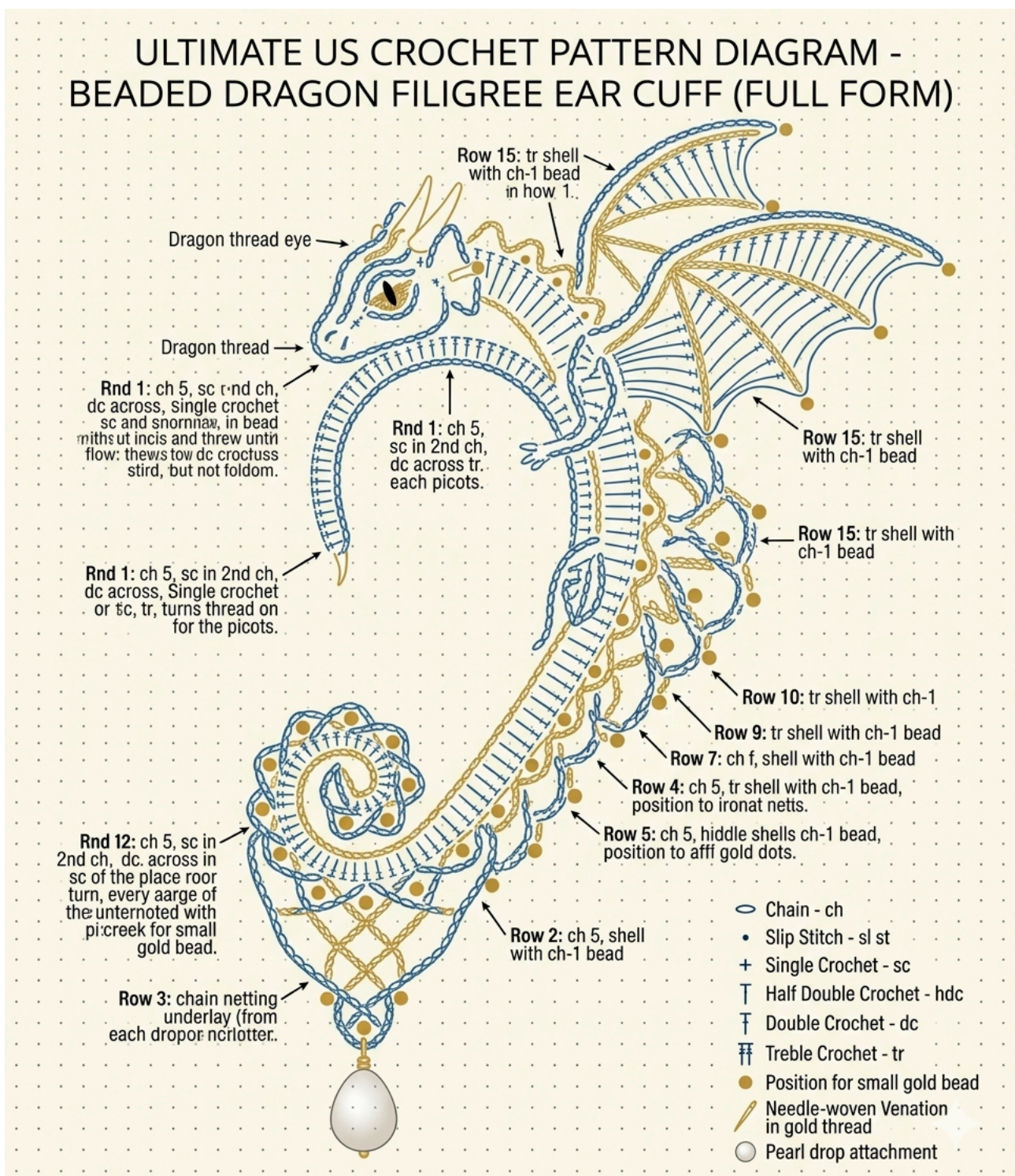


Ultimate Beaded Dragon Filigree Ear Cuff Crochet Pattern

A detailed step-by-step tutorial based on the diagram







Create a dramatic fantasy-inspired dragon ear cuff featuring a sculpted dragon head, textured body, elegant wings, filigree lacework, bead embellishments, and a pearl drop pendant. This tutorial follows the structure and construction shown in the chart while expanding every step into detailed written instructions suitable for crocheters familiar with basic stitches.



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Finished Design

This project creates a lightweight dragon-shaped ear cuff that curves around the ear. Features include:

-  Sculpted dragon head
-  Two decorative dragon wings
-  Gold bead accents throughout
-  Needle-woven gold thread details
-  Pearl drop pendant
-  Filigree lace edging

Skill Level

Advanced Intermediate to Advanced

You should be comfortable with:

- Chain stitch (ch)
- Slip stitch (sl st)
- Single crochet (sc)
- Half double crochet (hdc)
- Double crochet (dc)
- Treble crochet (tr)
- Working decorative picots
- Sewing beads
- Basic embroidery with thread
- Reading crochet diagrams

Materials

Crochet Thread

- Size 10 crochet cotton thread in dragon blue
- Metallic gold crochet thread or embroidery thread

Hook

- 1.25 mm steel crochet hook
- 1.50 mm steel crochet hook (optional)

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Beads

- Small gold seed beads
- Pearl drop bead for pendant
- Optional extra accent beads

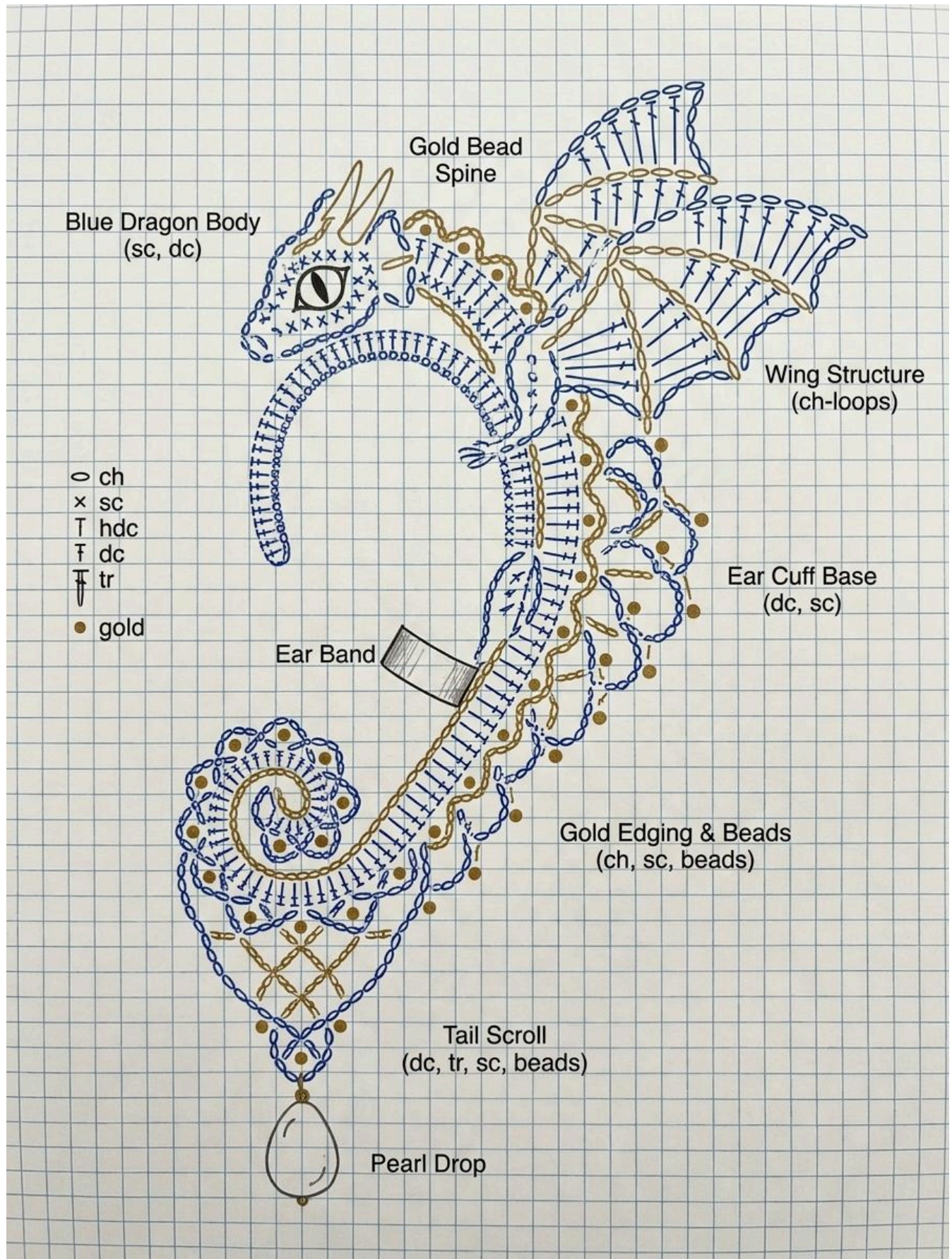
Additional Supplies

- Fine beading needle
- Thread conditioner (optional)
- Scissors
- Stitch markers
- Jewelry pliers
- Blocking board
- Fabric stiffener (optional)

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
ch	chain
sl st	slip stitch
sc	single crochet
hdc	half double crochet
dc	double crochet
tr	treble crochet
picot	chain 3, slip stitch into first chain
shell	multiple stitches worked into same stitch
bead	slide bead into position before completing stitch

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Construction Overview

The project is built in the following order:

1. Dragon body foundation
2. Dragon head shaping
3. Neck and upper spine
4. Beaded shell edging
5. Decorative wing structures
6. Tail spiral
7. Filigree lace sections
8. Gold thread embroidery
9. Pearl drop attachment
10. Blocking and finishing

Step 1: Create the Dragon Body Foundation

Begin with blue thread.

Chain 5.

Work 1 single crochet into the second chain from hook.

Work double crochet stitches across the remaining chains.

Turn.

This establishes the narrow beginning section shown at the lower front curve of the dragon.

Continue working rows of double crochet while gradually increasing along the outer edge.

The body should naturally curve as shown in the diagram.

Keep one edge relatively straight while adding shaping stitches on the opposite side.

The dragon body should begin forming a crescent shape.

Do not fasten off.

Step 2: Shape the Main Neck and Ear Cuff Curve

Continue working rows around the body section.

At the outer edge:

- Work dc increases where necessary
- Add occasional hdc stitches to smooth the curve
- Maintain firm tension

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The body should now wrap into a large ear cuff shape.

The opening should be large enough to comfortably sit around the ear.

Check the shape frequently.

The inside curve should remain smooth while the outside curve expands naturally.

Step 3: Form the Dragon Head

Continue upward from the neck.

Create the snout by working shorter rows.

Reduce stitch counts gradually to taper the nose.

For the jaw:

- Work a row of sc
- Follow with hdc
- Return to dc

This creates a natural dragon profile.

Shape the forehead by adding a few extra stitches across the top.

The head should become slightly wider than the neck.

Step 4: Crochet the Dragon Eye Area

Work a small oval using blue thread.

Round 1:

- Chain 4
- Work around the chain
- Form a small oval ring

Attach this piece to the head where indicated in the diagram.

Using gold thread:

- Embroider around the eye socket
- Add decorative outlining

For the pupil:

- Sew a black bead
- Or embroider a narrow vertical eye

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The eye should have a reptilian appearance.

Step 5: Create the Dragon Horns

Attach gold thread at the top of the head.

For each horn:

Chain 8–12.

Work slip stitches back down the chain.

Fasten securely.

Make two horns of slightly different lengths.

Allow them to curve naturally.

Position them according to the chart.

Step 6: Create the Dragon Spine

Working along the upper edge of the neck:

Chain 3.

Slip stitch into the next stitch.

Repeat across the spine.

Every few points:

- Work a picot
- Or create a longer chain point

These represent the dragon's dorsal spikes.

Continue until reaching the wing section.

Step 7: Row 2 Beaded Shell Border

Attach gold beads to your thread beforehand.

Along the outer body edge:

Work:

- sc
- ch 1

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- shell

Place one bead into the chain-1 space of each shell.

Repeat along the entire edge.

The gold beads should match the gold dots shown on the chart.

Keep spacing even.

Step 8: Row 4 Decorative Beaded Shell Layer

Continue above the previous edging.

Work:

- ch 5
- tr shell
- ch 1 with bead

Repeat around the body.

Each shell should sit between shells from the previous round.

This creates layered scales.

Step 9: Row 5 Hidden Beaded Shell Layer

Create another row of shells slightly behind the previous layer.

Work:

- ch 5
- shell
- bead

Position carefully.

The shells should appear staggered.

This creates dimensional dragon scales.

Step 10: Row 7 Large Shell Layer

Continue around the lower side of the dragon.

Work larger treble crochet shells.

Between shells:

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- chain 1
- slide bead into place

Maintain consistent spacing.

The dragon body should now have visible layered armor-like scales.

Step 11: Row 9 Decorative Scale Layer

Repeat treble crochet shell pattern.

Keep shells slightly larger.

Each shell should overlap the previous row.

Beads should align vertically when viewed from the front.

Step 12: Row 10 Outer Scale Border

Work the final visible shell row.

Pattern:

- tr shell
- ch 1
- bead

Continue along the full decorative edge.

This completes the dragon scale border.

Step 13: Build the First Wing Structure

Move to the upper back area.

Attach blue thread.

Create a wing rib:

Chain approximately 20–25.

Anchor near the body.

Create several ribs radiating outward.

Each rib should be slightly different in length.

The longest rib forms the wing tip.

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The shortest rib remains closest to the body.

Step 14: Fill the Wing Membrane

Between wing ribs:

Work rows of treble crochet.

Anchor each row to neighboring ribs.

This forms the membrane.

The membrane should appear stretched between the wing bones.

Do not over-tighten.

The wing should remain open and elegant.

Step 15: Add Wing Border

Along the outer wing edge:

Work a continuous edging of chains and slip stitches.

At the wing tip:

Create a gentle point.

Add a gold bead at the outermost point if desired.

This corresponds to the gold dots shown on the wing tips.

Step 16: Create the Second Wing

Repeat the process for the lower wing.

The second wing should sit slightly beneath the first.

Maintain the same structure:

- Wing ribs
- Membrane filling
- Border edging

The lower wing may be slightly smaller.

Step 17: Row 15 Wing Finishing Shells

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Along wing edges:

Work treble crochet shells.

Between shells:

- chain 1
- place bead

These decorative shells match the notation shown in Row 15.

Continue around both wings.

Step 18: Crochet the Tail Spiral

Move to the tail end.

Continue working rows while gradually narrowing.

Decrease stitches slowly.

As the tail becomes thinner:

- switch to hdc
- then sc

Curl the tail naturally into a spiral.

Secure shape during blocking.

Step 19: Tail Spiral Detail Round

Work a final edging around the spiral.

Use sc stitches.

Insert gold beads at regular intervals.

The spiral should resemble the chart.

Step 20: Create the Tail Filigree Netting

Using gold thread:

Create decorative netting under the tail.

Pattern:

- chain 5

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- anchor
- chain 5
- anchor

Continue forming diamond shapes.

Fill the triangular tail section.

Keep tension even.

Step 21: Add Needle-Woven Gold Details

Using metallic gold thread and a needle:

Outline:

- Wings
- Eye area
- Tail netting
- Spine details

Create decorative woven sections between structural lines.

These gold accents are a major visual feature of the design.

Take your time with this stage.

Step 22: Add Remaining Beads

Following the chart placement:

Sew small gold beads onto:

- Scale rows
- Wing joints
- Tail spiral
- Spine
- Decorative shell points

Ensure all beads are firmly secured.

Step 23: Attach the Pearl Drop

At the very bottom tail point:

Attach a jump ring or thread loop.

Add the pearl drop bead.

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The pearl should hang freely.

This creates movement when worn.

Step 24: Shape the Ear Cuff

Lightly dampen the piece.

Pin onto a blocking board.

Shape:

- Head
- Neck curve
- Wings
- Tail spiral

Allow to dry completely.

Step 25: Optional Stiffening

For extra structure:

Apply a small amount of fabric stiffener.

Avoid saturating the piece.

Focus on:

- Wings
- Head
- Ear cuff curve

Allow to cure completely.

Step 26: Final Inspection

Check:

- All beads secure
- Wings symmetrical
- Tail spiral stable
- Pearl attachment secure
- Ear cuff fits comfortably

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✔ No loose thread ends

Wearing the Dragon Ear Cuff

Slide the curved body around the outer ear.

Position:

- Dragon head toward the upper ear
- Wings behind the ear
- Tail hanging downward

Adjust gently for comfort.

The finished piece should resemble a miniature beaded dragon wrapped elegantly around the ear, with layered scales, filigree wings, gold embellishments, and a graceful pearl drop.

