Another Hair Tutorial

baw 8/30/2014

Materials:
- Doll with scalp crocheted onto the head
- Yarn for hair. This tutorial uses fine fingering/lace weight yarn for hair that really looks like hair!
- C or D crochet hook
- Patience :-) This is not a difficult technique, it just takes a little time.

This is a very simple technique that produces a lovely head of hair that is full styling. All you need is some time. So, put on a favorite movie or CD, grab a cuppa coffee (or tea) and join me in making a lovely head of hair for you doll :-) 

To start, when you crochet your doll's head, change the yarn to one as close as possible to the color of your hair yarn, at the hairline. For this doll, the hairline begins seven rows above the eyes. The eyes on this doll are set one row lower than the midpoint of the head. I used Isabelle Kessedjian's My Tutorial by Beth Webber.
Crochet Doll for this tutorial.

Crochet the hair color yarn in the back loops only, which will leave a free loop (unstitched) for each stitch you take. You can see the loops in the first and second pictures above. To cover the back of the head below the crocheted hairline, I embroidered long stitches to cover the skin color.

Depending on how long you want your dolls hair, cut strands from 12 inches long (for shoulder length) to 20 inches long (if you want to be able to braid the hair). Cut 32 short strands to hook into the first two rows as bangs, 16 stitches each across the forehead. Cut an additional 160 strands for the rest of the head. Hook a strand of yarn into every other free loop, beginning at the crown of the head and working in a spiral out to the last round of hair color. In the last round, hook into every stitch. If you find you are short a few strands, cut some more.

When you've finished hooking all the strands into the scalp, the hair will look like the leftmost picture. The parting line is a bit scraggly, so we create a part for the doll with a length of chain that we hook strands into on each side. Chain 17, then cut 32 strands of yarn and hook one strand into each chain, first on one side, then on the other. Your finished parting line will look like the rightmost picture.

Pin this parting line to the dolls head where you want it. In the case above, I wanted an off-center part. Stitch the parting line down to the dolls head using matching yarn or matching thread.

Tutorial by Beth Webber.
Your doll will look a bit like a wild child at this point, but you can do a lot with this hair! For the shoulder length 'Madelaine' look, pull a few of the top strands of hair gently together, spread them over the top of the head, then tie them off. Tie a bow around this, or add a clip, trim her hair a bit, and you're done!

If you cut long strands for braiding the hair, part the hair on either side, then at the back weave a few strands from each side back and forth a little to neaten the back part, then braid the hair.

Tutorial by Beth Webber.
The first two picture here just show the difference creating the parting line with the chain length makes, and finally, your finished dolls :-)