African flower elephant

US terms



Finished size
About 8½ in (21.5 cm) long from trunk to tail and 5¾ in (14.5 cm) tall

Skill
Intermediate
13 pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 6 colors

Hook
3.5 mm (US E-4)

Gauge
20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet, in a spiral.

What you need

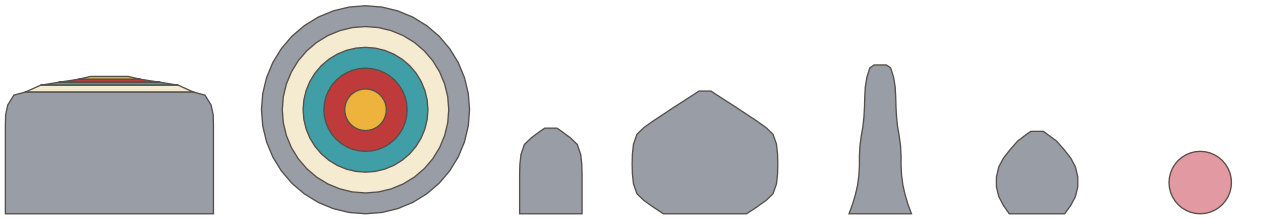
Yarn A: marigold, side with gusset and other side	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cherry red, side with gusset, other side and tail	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: turquoise, side with gusset and other side	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: cream, side with gusset and other side	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: gray, several of the pieces	**about 190 yd (174 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: rose pink, inner ear and the details	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 120 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

Hook: 3.5 mm (US E-4), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: toy stuffing, a yarn needle, a stitch marker, pins, scissors and two black plastic eyes with washers, 10 mm.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. Buy them from one dye lot. The estimate is from the stitches of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

The pieces



Side with gusset · **Other side** · **Leg x 4** · **Head** · **Trunk** to the head · **Ear x 2** to the head · **Inner ear x 2**

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Tail

Gauge

20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet, in a spiral.

To check it, work a flat circle: 6 sc in a magic ring, then 6 more sc in each round (12, 18, 24, 30, 36). After round 6 it should measure about 2¼ in (5.5 cm) across. The stitches should be tight enough that the stuffing does not show.

Use any hook that gives you this. If you count more stitches than this in 4 in (10 cm), change to a larger hook; if you count fewer, to a smaller one.

Notes

- The two motifs are worked in joined rounds, as their lines say; every other piece is worked in a continuous spiral. The right side faces you all the time: do not turn. In a spiral do not join: put the marker in the first stitch of each round and move it up.
- Square brackets hold a repeat; work it as many times as the line says. The number in parentheses is the count at the end of the round.
- The two motifs are the side with gusset and the other side.
- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work round 1 into the loop and pull the tail to close it. Or chain 2 and work round 1 into the first chain.
- Color change: where a line begins "With E," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in E. Cut the old yarn and knot the ends on the wrong side.
- Center line: places on a piece are given by round and by stitches from a center line. It is half way round from where the rounds begin. Mark it with a pin or a scrap of yarn as listed here, run it straight from round 1 to the last round by eye, and count out from it along the round, in stitches and half stitches.
- Head: the center line runs between stitches 21 and 22 of round 7 (42 sts). This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the front end.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the toy. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- Running stitches go in and out along a line.
- In every step of putting it together: where a piece meets or overlaps another, sew through both. Where no tail is left or a tail is too short, sew with a new length of the yarn of the piece you are putting on.
- To work sc2tog, put the hook under the front loop only of each of the next 2 stitches, yarn over, pull through both loops, yarn over, pull through 2 loops.
- For a child under three, or a pet, embroider the eyes instead: satin stitch dots of the same size in black yarn (about 2 yd (2 m), 2 m, not in the list above).
- The rounds and stitches are the same for every size; the yarn and the hook make the difference. Lengths in the words (tails, details) are for Standard, the size written here: for another size multiply them by the number in its line.
- Small: fine (2, sport) yarn, 2.25 mm (B-1) hook, 27 sc and 30 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): 6¼ in (16 cm) long from trunk to tail and 4¼ in (11 cm) tall; eyes 7 mm; multiply lengths by 0.74; about 0.74 times the yarn.

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- Large: bulky (5, chunky) yarn, 5 mm (H-8) hook, 14 sc and 15.4 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): 12¼ in (31 cm) long from trunk to tail and 8¼ in (21 cm) tall; eyes 14 mm; multiply lengths by 1.4; about 1.4 times the yarn.
- Jumbo: super bulky (6, plush or velvet) yarn, 6.5 mm (K-10½) hook, 11 sc and 12.1 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): 15½ in (39.5 cm) long from trunk to tail and 10½ in (26.5 cm) tall; eyes 18 mm; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.

Instructions

US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **hdc** half double crochet (UK half treble), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **MR** magic ring, **Rnd** round, **st** stitch, **sp** space.
sc2tog 2 sc made into one, **yo** yarn over the hook, **RS** right side, the one that shows.
2 sc in next st: both in one stitch. **sc in next 7 dc**: one in each. **ch-1 sp**: the gap under the one chain; the hook goes in the gap.
[ ] 5 times: work what is inside 5 times in all. **( )**: all of it goes into the one place.
(12 dc, 6 ch-1 sps): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Side with gusset

Yarns in order of use: A, marigold; B, cherry red; C, turquoise; D, cream; E, gray.

Worked in joined rounds.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as 1 dc), dc in MR, ch 1, **[**2 dc in MR, ch 1**] 5 times**; pull the tail to close the ring; join with a sl st in the top of the ch 3	(12 dc, 6 ch-1 sps)
	Fasten off A.	
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join B with a sl st in any ch-1 sp, ch 3 (counts as 1 dc), (dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in the same sp, (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in each of next 5 ch-1 sps; join with a sl st in the top of the ch 3	(24 dc, 6 ch-1 sps)
	Fasten off B.	
☐ **Rnd 3**	Join C with a sl st in any ch-1 sp, ch 3 (counts as 1 dc), 6 dc in the same sp, 7 dc in each of next 5 ch-1 sps; join with a sl st in the top of the ch 3	(42 dc: 6 petals of 7)
	Fasten off C.	
☐ **Rnd 4**	Join D with a sl st in the first dc of any petal, ch 1, **[**sc in next 7 dc, long sc in the gap between the two groups of rnd 2 below**] 6 times**, the first sc in the same st; join with a sl st in the first sc	(48 sts)
	Fasten off D.	
☐ **Rnd 5**	Join E with a sl st in the middle sc (the fourth of the seven) of any petal, ch 2 (counts as 1 hdc), (ch 1, hdc) in the same st, **[**hdc in next 7 sts, (hdc, ch 1, hdc) in next st**] 5 times**, hdc in next 7 sts; join with a sl st in the top of the ch 2	(54 hdc, 6 ch-1 sps)
☐ **Rnd 6**	Ch 1, sc in each hdc and in each ch-1 sp around, beginning in the same st; join with a sl st in the first sc	(60 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 1, sc in each st around, beginning in the same st; join with a sl st in the first sc	(60 sc)

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☐ **Rnds 8 to 17**	Repeat rnd 7. (60 sc) 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 44 in (112 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff yet. Rounds 1 to 5 are one side of the body. Rounds 6 to 17 stand up from it as a plain gray wall: the gusset.	

Other side

Yarns in order of use: A, marigold; B, cherry red; C, turquoise; D, cream; E, gray.

Worked in joined rounds.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as 1 dc), dc in MR, ch 1, **[**2 dc in MR, ch 1**] 5 times**; pull the tail to close the ring; join with a sl st in the top of the ch 3 Fasten off A.	(12 dc, 6 ch-1 sps)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join B with a sl st in any ch-1 sp, ch 3 (counts as 1 dc), (dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in the same sp, (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in each of next 5 ch-1 sps; join with a sl st in the top of the ch 3 Fasten off B.	(24 dc, 6 ch-1 sps)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Join C with a sl st in any ch-1 sp, ch 3 (counts as 1 dc), 6 dc in the same sp, 7 dc in each of next 5 ch-1 sps; join with a sl st in the top of the ch 3 Fasten off C.	(42 dc: 6 petals of 7)
☐ **Rnd 4**	Join D with a sl st in the first dc of any petal, ch 1, **[**sc in next 7 dc, long sc in the gap between the two groups of rnd 2 below**] 6 times**, the first sc in the same st; join with a sl st in the first sc Fasten off D.	(48 sts)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Join E with a sl st in the middle sc (the fourth of the seven) of any petal, ch 2 (counts as 1 hdc), (ch 1, hdc) in the same st, **[**hdc in next 7 sts, (hdc, ch 1, hdc) in next st**] 5 times**, hdc in next 7 sts; join with a sl st in the top of the ch 2	(54 hdc, 6 ch-1 sps)
☐ **End**	Fasten off and weave in the end. Do not stuff. It is a flat hexagon, the other side of the body.	

Leg: make 4

Yarn E, gray.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)

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☐ **Rnds 4 to 10**	Sc in each st around	(18 sc)
	4 5 6 7 8 9 10	
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge.	

Head

Yarn E, gray.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	(42 sc)

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 21 and 22 of round 7. This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the front end.

☐ **Rnds 8 to 13**	Sc in each st around	(42 sc)
	8 9 10 11 12 13	
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 22 in (56 cm) tail for sewing. Fix the eyes now (see Finishing). Do this before you stuff the piece or sew it on. Stuff firmly up to the open edge.	

Trunk

Yarn E, gray.

Stuff lightly every few rounds as you go, so that it still bends.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnds 3 to 7**	Sc in each st around	(9 sc)
	3 4 5 6 7	
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 3 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnds 9 to 13**	Sc in each st around	(12 sc)
	9 10 11 12 13	

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☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**	(15 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	Sc in each st around	(15 sc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing. The wide end stays open and is stuffed lightly too.	

Ear: make 2

Yarn E, gray.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 4 times**	(16 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 4 times**	(20 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnds 6 to 8** 6 7 8	Sc in each st around	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 4 times**	(20 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 4 times**	(16 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 8 stitches.	

Inner ear: make 2

Yarn F, rose pink.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

Tail

Yarns in order of use: B, cherry red; E, gray.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(8 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in each st around	(8 sc)

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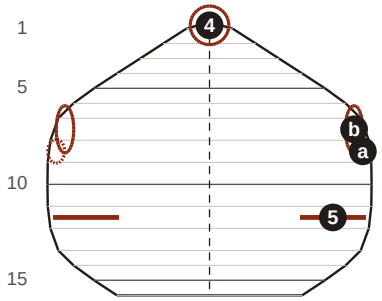
☐ **Rnd 4**	With E, **[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 2 times**	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts	(5 sc)
☐ **Rnds 6 to 12**	Sc in each st around	(5 sc)

6 7 8 9 10 11 12

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff.	

Assembly



Head: 4 trunk, 5 ears, a cheeks, b eyes

A number is the step below that puts it on; a letter is put on under Finishing. Each line is a round, counted as the rounds are worked. The upright broken line is the center line. A place with a broken edge is on the far side.

1. Pin the other side to the open edge of the gusset, right side out. Round 17 has 60 sts and the edge of the other side has 60 places: its 54 hdc and its 6 ch-1 sps. Lay the corners in line: each corner of the side with gusset is the round 6 sc worked in a ch-1 sp; follow it straight across the gusset to round 17 and set a ch-1 sp of the other side there. Sew all the way round with the tail of the side with gusset, stitch to stitch, through both loops, and round the chain of each ch-1 sp. Stuff firmly, a little at a time, before the last 10 stitches are sewn, until both sides dome. This is the body. Hold it on edge, the gusset toward you, the side with gusset (its flower) at the left, the other side at the right and one corner straight up: what you see of the gusset is the front, and the far half of it is the back. Mark with a pin the middle of the gusset at that top corner, between rounds 11 and 12: the top pin. Places on the gusset are given by round and by stitches along the round from the top pin (60 sts go all the way round), toward the front or toward the back.

2. Pin the four legs to the gusset, under the body. The two front legs lie 24 stitches from the top pin toward the front, the two hind legs 24 stitches from it toward the back (12 stitches apart underneath). Of each two, one lies with the middle of its open edge between rounds 8 and 9 and covers rounds 6 to 11, the other with its middle between rounds 14 and 15 and covers rounds 12 to 17, side by side and touching. Along the round each edge (18 sts) covers about 6 stitches. All four point straight down. Sew all the way round each with its tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

3. Pin the open edge of the head (24 sts) to the gusset: its middle lies 10½ stitches from the top pin toward the front, in the middle of the gusset, between rounds 11 and 12, the center line of the head up. The edge covers about 8 stitches along the round (6½ to 14½ from the pin) and rounds 8 to 15. The head points forward and a little up. Sew all the way round with the tail of the head, topping up the stuffing before the last stitches.

4. Pin the trunk to the head: the middle of the open edge lies over the middle of round 1 of the head. The edge (18 sts) lies all the way round on about round 3. It points forward, then curves until its tip points up. Bend it as you pin it and hold the curve with a few running stitches along its inner side, drawn up a little. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

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5. Pin the two ears to the head: the middle of each flat edge lies between rounds 11 and 12, one to each side, 8 stitches from the center line (16 stitches apart). The flat edge runs along the round, half of it on each side of that place. They point out to the side, back and up in equal measure, so that one flat side of each looks forward and out. Sew through both layers of the 8-stitch edge with the tail.

6. Sew one inner ear flat to the side of each ear that looks forward, right side out, its middle over round 5 of the ear and half way between the two folds, all 18 stitches of the edge.

7. Pin the tail to the gusset: the middle of its open edge (5 sts) lies 16 stitches from the top pin toward the back, between rounds 11 and 12. It points back and hangs down. Sew all the way round with its tail of yarn.

Finishing

- Put in the plastic eyes when the words of a piece say so, or embroider eyes in the same places with the other details. Embroider with one strand of yarn and the yarn needle when the pieces round the place are sewn on; begin and end each strand on the wrong side of a flat piece, inside a stuffed one. Satin stitch is straight stitches side by side until the shape is filled.
- Cheeks: with F (rose pink), in satin stitch, an oval about ¼ in (6 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the head between rounds 8 and 9, one to each side, 12½ stitches from the center line (17 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line).
- Eyes: two 10 mm black plastic eyes, on the head between rounds 7 and 8, one to each side, 8 stitches from the center line (16 stitches apart).
- Weave every tail through the toy and trim it. For a toy that will be played with, go round each seam a second time with a new length of yarn. Check the seams and small parts from time to time.

In all: 13 pieces; 2,930 stitches (900 in the side with gusset, 180 in the other side, 162 in each leg, 510 in the head, 180 in the trunk, 186 in each ear, 36 in each inner ear, 68 in the tail).

Found a mistake in this pattern? Tell us at flossfield.com, under Make a request.

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