Apple tree applique

US terms



Finished size
About 5½ in (14 cm) wide and about 7¼ in (18 cm) tall

Skill
Easy
Worked in rows and rounds, with 10 pieces, color changes and 1 special stitch.

Yarn
Medium (4), 5 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

Gauge
14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: leaf green, rounds 1 to 5 of the crown	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: deep green, round 6 of the crown	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: bark brown, the trunk	**about 6 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: apple red, the apples	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: grass green, the grass	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, pins for blocking and a spray bottle.

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 and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

Abbreviations

Written in US terms. Where the UK name differs it is given beside the US one.

ch	chain stitch
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
sk	skip (UK miss)
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

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Special stitches

sc2tog (UK dc2tog): [insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] twice (3 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 3 loops. It leaves 1 st for the next row or round.

Gauge

14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After round 2 the crown measures about 1¾ in (4.5 cm) across. If yours is larger, use a smaller hook; if it is smaller, use a larger hook.

Before you start

- Rounds are worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- Where a line says turn, turn the piece over and work back along the stitches just made.
- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work the first round or row into the loop, then pull the tail until the ring is closed. Four chains joined into a ring with a slip stitch may be used instead.
- A chain 1 at the start of a round or a row does not count as a stitch.
- Fasten off the old color, then join the new one with a slip stitch in the place named; the first stitch or chain of the line is worked in that same place.
- At the start of a round, same st is the stitch the round before was joined in; after a new color is joined, it is the stitch the color was joined in.
- A round worked in each st around begins in the st the round before was joined in, or the new color was joined in.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches; slip stitches are not counted.
- For a cherry tree in bloom, work the crown in pale pink (A) edged in rose pink (B) and the apples in white (D), and leave off the stems.
- Either side of the trunk may be the front. Row 1 of the grass is its right side.
- The distances under FINISHING are for the yarn and gauge above; in another yarn make them larger or smaller in the same proportion as the size.
- Straight stitch (sewn): bring the yarn needle up from the back at one end of the stitch and put it down at the other end.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured the longest way: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 5 in (13 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 5¾ in (15 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 9¼ in (23 cm).

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Instructions

Square brackets [ ] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. The count in round brackets at the end of a line is what that line leaves. Tick the box when a round is done. In UK terms sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet, hdc is half treble and dc is treble.

Crown

Yarns in order of use: A, leaf green; B, deep green.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 8 hdc in ring, sl st in first hdc to join	**(8 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	**(16 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, hdc in same st, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(24 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, hdc in same st, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(32 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1, sc in same st, **[**sk next st, 5 dc in next st, sk next st, sc in next st**] 7 times**, sk next st, 5 dc in next st, sk next st, sl st in first sc to join	**(8 sc, 40 dc)**

Fasten off A.

☐ **Rnd 6**	Join B with sl st in first sc, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 7 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(56 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.	

Trunk

Yarn C, bark brown.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 11.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 9 chs	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog in next 2 sts	**(2 sc2tog, 6 sc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog in next 2 sts	**(2 sc2tog, 4 sc)**
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog in next 2 sts	**(2 sc2tog, 2 sc)**
☐ **Rows 5 to 8**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(4 sc)**

A box for each row, 5 to 8: tick them off as you go.

5 6 7 8

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 20 in (51 cm) tail for sewing.	

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Apple: make 7

Yarn D, apple red.

☐ **Foundation**	With D, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 8 sc in ring, sl st in first sc to join	**(8 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.	

Grass

Yarn E, grass green.

☐ **Foundation**	With E, ch 20.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 2 chs, hdc in next 4 chs, dc in next 5 chs, hdc in next 4 chs, sc in next 3 chs	**(6 sc, 8 hdc, 5 dc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next 15 sts, sc2tog in next 2 sts	**(2 sc2tog, 15 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing.	

Finishing

- Block: pin the pieces to shape on a flat surface, spray them with water and let them dry.
- Lay the crown right side up with one scallop at the top. Lay the trunk under it, its narrow end up, in the middle of the scallop at the bottom, so that 5/8 in (1.6 cm) of the trunk is hidden behind the crown, and sew it to the crown with its tail.
- Lay the grass, right side up, over the foot of the trunk, its straight foundation edge 3/8 in (1 cm) below the foundation edge of the trunk and its middle on the middle of the trunk. Sew it to the trunk with its tail.
- Think of the crown as the face of a clock. Lay one apple, right side up, with its magic ring on the magic ring of the crown, and the other six with their magic rings 1 3/8 in (3.5 cm) from it, at 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 o'clock. Sew each down all round its edge with its tail.
- With C, work a straight stitch for the stem of every apple: it begins at the edge of the apple that is nearest the top of the tree, goes up ¼ in (0.6 cm) and ends 1/8 in (0.3 cm) to the right of where it began.
- To sew the applique to your project, pin it where it is to go and sew round its edge with lengths of the yarns it is made of, each part in its own color.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 10 pieces.

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