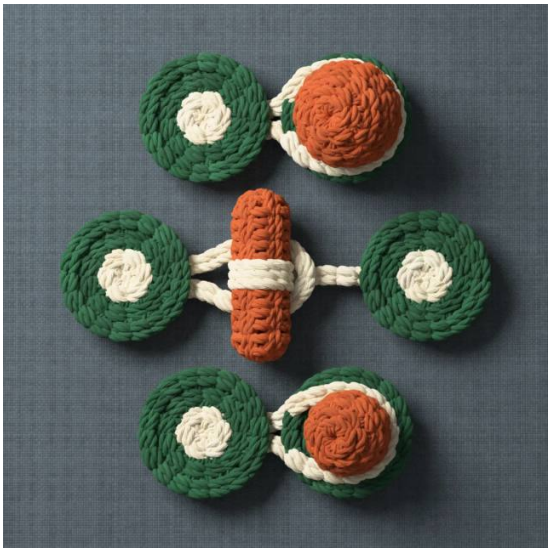
Ball and toggle buttons

US terms



Finished size

The balls about 1 in (2.5 cm) and 7/8 in (2.2 cm) across, the toggle about 1½ in (3.8 cm) long and 3/8 in (1 cm) thick, each base about 1¼ in (3.2 cm) across, a ball closing with its two bases 1/8 in (0.3 cm) apart about 2 5/8 in (6.7 cm) from side to side, the base with the toggle loop about 2 3/8 in (6 cm) from the far edge of the base to the tip of the loop, and the base with the cord about 2¼ in (5.7 cm) from the far edge of the base to the toggle

Skill

Easy

Worked in rows and rounds, with 9 pieces, color changes and 1 special stitch.

Yarn

Light (3), 3 colors

Hook

4 mm (US G-6)

Gauge

18 stitches and 19 rows to 4 in (10 cm)

In single crochet (UK double crochet).

What you need

Yarn A: cream, round 1 of the bases	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: rust, the large ball, the small ball and the toggle	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: forest green, rounds 2 and 3 of the bases	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 20 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 250 yd (229 m).

Hook: 4 mm (US G-6), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, a handful of toy stuffing, pins 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.

Gauge

18 stitches and 19 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

Work a piece a little more than 4 in (10 cm) square, lay it flat and count. If you count more stitches than this, use a larger hook; if fewer, a smaller one.

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Notes

- 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.
- Stuffing: stop after Rnd 6 of the large ball and Rnd 4 of the small one. Put the working loop on a pin, pull the beginning end inside and fill the ball firmly; then take up the loop and work the last round.
- Last round of each ball: the first sc2tog is worked over the st the round before was joined in and the st after it, and each of the next 5 over the next 2 sts, 6 sc2tog over the 12 sts.
- Work the balls firmly, so that the stuffing does not show. The magic ring is the front of a ball, the last round is its back, and the right side is outside.
- Toggle: the right side faces you in row 1 and in every odd row.
- Ball loops: 1/8 in (0.3 cm) of the chain at each of its ends is sewn under a base, and only the chain between goes round the ball. Try it before you cut the yarn: pinch the chain 1/8 in (0.3 cm) from each end, hold the two pinched places together and slip the part between them over the ball. It is meant to go over without force, but not to slip off by itself; work a chain more or a chain less if it does not.
- 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.
- Whip stitch: hold the two edges together, put the needle through both from back to front, bring the yarn over the edges and go in again from the back, one stitch along.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured from side to side over a ball closing: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 2¼ in (6 cm); medium yarn (4) and a 5 mm hook, about 3½ in (9 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 4¼ in (11 cm).

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Instructions

US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **rem** remaining, **st** stitch, **rnd** round.
RS right side, the one that shows.
2 sc in next st: both in one stitch. **sc in next 2 sts**: one in each.
[ ] 2 times: work what is inside 2 times in all.
(6 sc): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

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.

Large ball

Yarn B, rust.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 6 sc in ring, pull the tail to close the ring, sl st in first sc to join	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**, sl st in first sc to join	(15 sc)
☐ **Rnds 4 to 5** 4 5	Ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	(15 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	Ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog in next 2 sts, **[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog in next 2 sts**] 2 times**, sl st in first sc to join	(9 sc, 3 sc2tog)
☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 1, **[**sc2tog in next 2 sts**] 6 times**, sl st in first sc2tog to join	(6 sc2tog)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing.	

Small ball

Yarn B, rust.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 6 sc in ring, pull the tail to close the ring, sl st in first sc to join	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnds 3 to 4** 3 4	Ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1, **[**sc2tog in next 2 sts**] 6 times**, sl st in first sc2tog to join	(6 sc2tog)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing.	

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Toggle

Yarn B, rust.

Leave an 8 in (20 cm) end of yarn before the first chain; it draws in one end of the toggle later.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 8.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each rem ch across	(7 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 5** 2 3 4 5	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(7 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing.	

Base: make 6

Yarns in order of use: A, cream; C, forest green.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)** Fasten off A.	Ch 1, 6 sc in ring, pull the tail to close the ring, sl st in first sc to join	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join C with sl st in any st, ch 1, 2 sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, sc in same st, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sl st in first sc to join	(18 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.	

Finishing

- Block: pin only the six bases flat, spray them with water and let them dry. The balls and the toggle are not blocked.
- Large ball and small ball: thread the tail, take the needle under the front loop of each st of the last round, draw the hole closed and fasten off, but do not cut the yarn.
- Ball loops (make 1 for each ball): with A, ch 21 for the large ball, about 3 7/8 in (9.8 cm) long, and ch 17 for the small ball, about 3 1/8 in (7.9 cm) long. Fasten off, leaving an 8 in (20 cm) tail at each end of every loop. Fold each chain in half.
- Bases with a ball loop (one for each ball): lay a base right side up and slide the two ends of the loop side by side under its edge, 1/8 in (0.3 cm) of each hidden, the fold pointing straight out from the middle of the base. Sew the ends to the wrong side of the base with their tails.
- Bases with a ball (one for each ball): lay a base right side up and set the ball on it, the back of the ball on the magic ring of the base. With the tail of the ball sew it on with a ring of 6 small stitches, one for each sc2tog of the last round: up through the base, through the sc2tog, down through the base. Go round twice and fasten off on the wrong side of the base. The loop lies round this narrow foot of the ball.
- Toggle: lay the toggle on the table wrong side up, the foundation chain nearest you. Roll it tightly away from you, with the foundation chain inside and the right side out, into a roll 1½ in (3.8 cm) long and about 3/8 in (1 cm) thick. Pin it. With its 16 in (41 cm) tail, beginning at the end of the roll where the tail is, whip stitch the tops of row 5 to the roll, all along: put the needle through a stitch of the roll and through the top of the stitch that lies over it, again and again, to the other end. Take the needle round the edge of that end, through one strand of each turn, draw it in so that the end is round and fasten off. Draw in the first end in the same way with the 8 in (20 cm) end left before the foundation chain. The sewn line is the seam of the toggle.

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- Cord: with A, ch 6, about 1 1/8 in (2.9 cm) long. Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail at each end. Sew one end of the cord to the seam of the toggle, half way along it. With the tail at that end wind the yarn 3 times firmly round the middle of the toggle, side by side and over the end of the cord, and fasten off under the cord. The winding draws the toggle in at its middle.
- Toggle loop: with A, ch 14, about 2½ in (6.4 cm) long. Fasten off, leaving an 8 in (20 cm) tail at each end. Fold the chain in half.
- Bases of the toggle: lay one base right side up and slide the free end of the cord under its edge, so that 1/8 in (0.3 cm) of the cord is hidden; sew it to the wrong side of the base with the tail of the cord. Lay the two ends of the toggle loop side by side under the edge of the last base, 1/8 in (0.3 cm) of each hidden, and sew them in the same way.
- Sewing the closings on: close each closing first. Ball: slip the loop over the ball and down round its foot. Toggle: push the toggle endwise up through the loop and turn it across the loop, so that the loop lies round the cord behind the toggle. Lay the closing on the fabric, right side up, one base on each side of the opening, with the loop pointing straight across: the edges of the two bases of a ball closing 1/8 in (0.3 cm) apart (the loop must be long enough to go over the ball, so it lies loosely round the foot; for an opening that is to be held tight, draw the two bases apart until the loop is straight and sew them on there), the cord and the loop of the toggle drawn out in one straight line. Pin the bases and sew each one down all round its edge with its tail.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 9 pieces.

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

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