Beehive tea cozy

4 cup · US terms



Finished size
About 6 × 7 in (15 × 18 cm)
About 18¾ in (47.5 cm) round at its widest, 16 in (40.5 cm) round in its three lower grooves, and 7 in (18 cm) tall. To fit a teapot 15¾ in (40 cm) to 18 in (45.5 cm) round

Skill
Easy
It is worked in rounds and in short rows, with even increases and decreases.

Yarn
Bulky (5), 4 colors

Hook
6 mm (US J-10)

Gauge
12 stitches and 13 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: honey, the hive	**about 130 yd (119 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: dark brown, the doorway and the bees	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: butter yellow, the bees	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: cream, the wings	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**

Fiber: wool

Hook: 6 mm (US J-10), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a stitch marker, a yarn needle, pins, scissors, a little scrap yarn to fill the bees and 1 button, about ¾ in (2 cm) across.

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.

Sizes

Size	Fits	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
2 cup	a teapot 12 in (30.5 cm) to 13½ in (34.5 cm) round	4¾ × 5½ in (12 × 14 cm)	about 125 yd (114 m)
3 cup	a teapot 13½ in (34.5 cm) to 15¾ in (40 cm) round	5 × 6½ in (13 × 17 cm)	about 145 yd (133 m)
4 cup (this file)	**a teapot 15¾ in (40 cm) to 18 in (45.5 cm) round**	**6 × 7 in (15 × 18 cm)**	**about 165 yd (151 m)**

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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)
sc2tog	single crochet 2 stitches together: [insert hook in next st, yo, pull up a loop] 2 times, yo, pull through all 3 loops (UK dc2tog)
MR	magic ring
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side
yo	yarn over (UK yrh, yarn round hook)

Gauge

12 stitches and 13 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

The height given is that of the standing cozy. It is less than the length of its rounds and rows put together, because every round of increases or decreases slopes. The sides and the foot are worked in rows at the same gauge.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. The gauge is checked on the piece itself: after round 4 the top should measure about 2½ in (6.5 cm) across, laid flat and not stretched. If the piece measures more than that, begin again with a smaller hook; if it measures less, with a larger hook.

Before you start

- Begin with a magic ring: wind the yarn once round two fingers, put the hook through the ring, draw up a loop and chain 1 to hold it, which does not count as a stitch. Work round 1 into the ring, then pull the tail to draw the ring closed.
- The rounds of the top and of the bees are not joined: work in a spiral, and move a marker up to the first stitch of each round.
- The sides and the foot are worked back and forth in rows, so wrong side rows show on the right side too. The chain of 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.
- Choose the size by the girth: measure round the body of your teapot at its widest, not over the spout and the handle. The 2 cup size is for a pot 12 in (30.5 cm) to 13½ in (34.5 cm) round and up to 4¼ in (11 cm) tall to the top of the knob of its lid. The 3 cup size: 13½ in (34.5 cm) to 15¾ in (40 cm) round and up to 5¼ in (13.5 cm) tall. The 4 cup size: 15¾ in (40 cm) to 18 in (45.5 cm) round and up to 5¾ in (14.5 cm) tall. The grooves lie close to the pot, and the rolls stand off it and keep air in them. To put the cozy on, open the button, set the cozy over the pot with the spout in its gap, draw the open edges down on both sides of the handle and button them below it.
- To change color, draw the new yarn through as the last yarn over of the stitch before. Cut the old yarn, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). Where only one or two rounds are worked before the old yarn is used again, do not cut it: carry it loosely up the inside. That is for the bees; the hive is all A.
- Weave the starting tail of every small part in on its wrong side before the part is sewn shut or sewn on.

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Instructions

Chosen: 4 cup. 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 and sc2tog is dc2tog.

Top

Yarn A, honey.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
Roll 1		
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
Stop and measure now, after round 4. The top should measure about 2½ in (6.5 cm) across.		
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 3 sts	**(28 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	**(32 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	Sc in each st around	**(32 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**Sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog**] 4 times**	**(28 sc)**
Roll 2		
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 3 sts	**(32 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**Sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts	**(40 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**Sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	**(44 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sc in each st around	**(44 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**Sc in next 9 sts, sc2tog**] 4 times**	**(40 sc)**
Roll 3		
☐ **Rnd 15**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 5 sts	**(44 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**Sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 17**	Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 6 sts	**(52 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	Sc in each st around	**(52 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	Sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog, **[**sc in next 11 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times**, sc in next 6 sts	**(48 sc)**
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch, the first stitch of round 19. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

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Side: make 2

Yarn A, honey.

The slip stitch at the end of the top is not counted as a stitch. For the first side join A with a slip stitch in the first stitch of round 19, the one with that slip stitch in it, leaving a tail of 8 in (20 cm), and work row 1 into it and the 23 stitches after it. For the second side join A in the same way in the next stitch, stitch 25 of round 19, and work row 1 into it and the 23 stitches left. The two sides are not joined to each other. The gap between the end of row 1 of the first side and the start of row 1 of the second is for the spout, and the other gap is for the handle.

☐ **Foundation**	Half of round 19 of the top, RS facing; 24 stitches.	

Roll 4

☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts	**(26 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; **[**sc in next 12 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(28 sc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(28 sc)**
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; **[**sc in next 12 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	**(26 sc)**
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 11 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts	**(24 sc)**

Roll 5

☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; **[**sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(26 sc)**
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 12 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts	**(28 sc)**
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(28 sc)**
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 12 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts	**(26 sc)**
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; **[**sc in next 11 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 8 in (20 cm).	

Foot

Yarn A, honey.

With the right side facing, hold the piece with the top down and the last rows of the sides up. Join A with a slip stitch in the stitch at the right hand end of the last row of the first side (at its left hand end if you are left handed). Work row 1 into that stitch and the 23 after it, then, with no chain between, into the 24 of the second side. This closes the gap for the spout below. The gap for the handle stays open down to the edge: the two short edges of the foot meet there, and a button holds them.

☐ **Foundation**	The last rows of the two sides, RS facing; 48 stitches: the 24 sc of row 10 of the first side, then the 24 sc of row 10 of the second.	

Roll 6

☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 6 sts	**(52 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; **[**sc in next 12 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	**(56 sc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(56 sc)**

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☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; **[**sc in next 12 sts, sc2tog**] 4 times**	**(52 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Doorway

Yarn B, dark brown.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 7.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 4**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(6 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 4: tick them off as you go.

☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4

☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; **[**sc2tog**] 2 times**	**(2 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 24 in (61 cm) for sewing.	

Bee: make 3

Yarns in order of use: B, dark brown; C, butter yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	With C, sc in each st around	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in each st around	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	With B, sc in each st around	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	With C, sc in each st around	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	With B, **[**sc2tog**] 4 times**	**(4 sc)**
☐ **End**	Cut the yarn, leaving a tail of 14 in (35.5 cm). Fill the bee with a little scrap yarn. Thread the tail through the last 4 stitches and draw them closed; the tail sews the bee on.	

Wing: make 6

Yarn D, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR, sl st in first sc to join	**(6 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 8 in (20 cm) for sewing.	

Assembly

1. The corners of the gaps: at the top of each gap draw one of the tails there through the edges with the needle, two or three times from one side of the gap to the other, so that the corner is closed and firm. Do the same with a tail at the foot of the gap for the spout. The gap for the spout is then about 3 in (7.5 cm) long, measured along the rows.

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2. Button: lay the two short edges of the foot edge to edge below the gap for the handle. With a 12 in (30 cm) length of A sew the button on the outside, on row 3 of the foot, one stitch in from the edge that row 1 begins at. Fasten off inside. At the other edge join A with a slip stitch in the end of row 4, make 6 chain stitches, slip stitch in the end of row 2 and fasten off: this is the loop for the button. Weave its two ends in.

3. The middle of the front is the middle of the first side. With the right side of the doorway up, pin its foundation edge, 6 stitches, along row 2 of the foot, the third row from the edge, under the middle of the front, so that the doorway stands up over the lowest roll, the groove above it and the roll above that. With its tail sew it down all round: bring the needle up through the doorway at its edge and down through the hive just beside that edge, one stitch for each stitch or row, and fasten off inside. Stretch it over the groove and do not press it in.

4. Wings: the two dark rounds at the start of a bee are its head, and the side that will lie against the hive is its belly. Lay the edge of a wing, right side up, against the bee on round 3, half way between the middle of its back and one side. Sew that edge down with the tail of the wing, with three small stitches, so that the wing stands out to the side and slants a little away from the head. Sew the second wing on the other side to match; the stripes of the back show behind them. With D, sew two eyes on the head, on round 2, on the upper side of the head, two stitches apart: an eye is one short stitch, worked twice in the same two holes.

5. Sew the bees on along their bellies with their tails, four or five small stitches along each. Count from the middle of the front, straight up from the middle of the first side. The middle of the first bee is on round 18 of the top, the plain round of roll 3, 8 stitches to the left of the middle of the front as you look at it, its head up and to the right. The middle of the second is on row 3 of the first side, 7 stitches to the right of the middle of the front, its head up and to the left. The middle of the third is on row 8 of the first side, 8 stitches to the left of the middle of the front, its head toward the doorway.

Finishing

- Weave all the tails that are left in on the inside. Push each roll out from the inside with a finger so that it is round and full.

In all: 11 pieces; 1,614 stitches (660 in the top, 264 in each side, 216 in the foot, 30 in the doorway, 48 in each bee, 6 in each wing).

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

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