Big plush seal

US terms



Finished size

About 17¼ in (44 cm) long, 15 in (38 cm) across the flippers and 8 in (20.5 cm) tall

Skill

Easy

13 pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn

Super bulky (6), 5 colors

Hook

7 mm

Gauge

10 stitches and 11 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)

In single crochet, in a spiral.

What you need

Yarn A: cream, body, front flipper and tail lobe	**about 385 yd (352 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: silver gray, large mottle, small mottle and the details	**about 40 yd (37 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: charcoal, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: white, muzzle	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: blush, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 500 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 90 yd (82 m).

Hook: 7 mm, 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, 24 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



Body

Front flipper x 2
to the body

Tail lobe x 2
to the body

Muzzle
to the body

Large mottle x 3
to the body

Small mottle x 4
to the body

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Gauge

10 stitches and 11 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 4½ in (11.5 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

- Every piece is worked in a continuous spiral with the right side facing you: do not join and do not turn. 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Body: the center line runs between stitches 33 and 34 of round 14 (66 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.
- 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 C (charcoal).
- The rounds and stitches are the same for every size; the yarn and the hook make the difference. Lengths in the words (tails, ovals, details) are for Standard, the size written here: for another size multiply them by the number in its line.
- Small: medium (4, worsted) yarn, 3.5 mm (E-4) hook, 20 sc and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): 8¾ in (22 cm) long, 7½ in (19 cm) across the flippers and 4 in (10 cm) tall; eyes 12 mm; multiply lengths by 0.5; about 0.5 times the yarn.

Instructions

US terms.

sc single crochet (UK double crochet), **MR** magic ring, **Rnd** round, **st** stitch.
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 2 sts**: one in each.
[ ] 6 times: work what is inside 6 times in all.
(6 sc): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

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Body

Yarn A, cream.

Work rounds 1 to 26 and stop: fix the eyes now, while you can still reach in (see Finishing). Then go on with round 27.

☐ **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)
☐ **Rnd 8**	Sc in each st around	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	(54 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in each st around	(54 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts**] 6 times**	(60 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sc in each st around	(60 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(66 sc)

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 33 and 34 of round 14. This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the front end.

☐ **Rnds 15 to 26**	Sc in each st around	(66 sc)

15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

☐ **Rnd 27**	**[**sc in next 15 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 16 sts**] 2 times**	(64 sc)
☐ **Rnd 28**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 30 sts**] 2 times**	(62 sc)
☐ **Rnd 29**	**[**sc in next 29 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	(60 sc)
☐ **Rnd 30**	**[**sc in next 14 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 14 sts**] 2 times**	(58 sc)
☐ **Rnd 31**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 27 sts**] 2 times**	(56 sc)
☐ **Rnd 32**	Sc in next 16 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 17 sts**] 2 times**, sc2tog	(53 sc)
☐ **Rnd 33**	Sc in next 7 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 16 sts**] 2 times**, sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts	(50 sc)
☐ **Rnd 34**	Sc2tog, sc in next 14 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 15 sts**] 2 times**	(47 sc)
☐ **Rnd 35**	Sc in next 13 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 14 sts**] 2 times**, sc2tog	(44 sc)
☐ **Rnd 36**	Sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 12 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 13 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts	(41 sc)

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☐ **Rnd 37**	Sc2tog, sc in next 11 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 12 sts**] 2 times**	(38 sc)
☐ **Rnd 38**	Sc in next 10 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 11 sts**] 2 times**, sc2tog	(35 sc)
☐ **Rnd 39**	Sc in next 4 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts**] 2 times**, sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts	(32 sc)
☐ **Rnd 40**	Sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 9 sts**] 2 times**	(29 sc)
☐ **Rnd 41**	Sc in next 7 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts**] 2 times**, sc2tog	(26 sc)
☐ **Rnd 42**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 43**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts**] 2 times**	(22 sc)
☐ **Rnd 44**	**[**sc in next 9 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	(20 sc)

Stuff now through the open end, first the face and then the rest, firmly but so that it is still soft to hug, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 45**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 46**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts**] 2 times**	(16 sc)
☐ **Rnd 47**	Sc in next 14 sts, sc2tog	(15 sc)
☐ **Rnd 48**	Sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 49**	Sc2tog, sc in next 12 sts	(13 sc)
☐ **Rnd 50**	Sc in next 11 sts, sc2tog	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 51**	Sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 52**	**[**sc2tog**] 6 times**	(6 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 8 in (20 cm) tail. Thread the tail through the front loop of each of the last 6 stitches, pull it tight to close the hole and bury the end inside. Press the stuffed body flatter on the underside (the side opposite the center line), so that it lies on the table without rolling.	

Front flipper: make 2

Yarn A, cream.

☐ **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 next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(10 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	(17 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st	(19 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 9 sts	(20 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 19 sts	(21 sc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	Sc in each st around	(21 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in next 19 sts, sc2tog	(20 sc)

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☐ **Rnd 10**	Sc in next 9 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 9 sts	(19 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc2tog, sc in next 17 sts	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	Sc in next 16 sts, sc2tog	(17 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 32 in (81 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 8½ stitches. The odd stitch lies at one fold.	

Tail lobe: make 2

Yarn A, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	5 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(5 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**, 2 sc in next st	(8 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st	(11 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next 13 sts, 2 sc in next st	(15 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc in each st around	(15 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	Sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts	(13 sc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts	(10 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 5 stitches.	

Muzzle

Yarn D, white.

☐ **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 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	(22 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in each st around	(22 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 38 in (97 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge. Shape the stuffed piece with your fingers into an oval, about 3¼ in (8.3 cm) wide and 2¼ in (5.7 cm) tall.	

Large mottle: make 3

Yarn B, silver 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)

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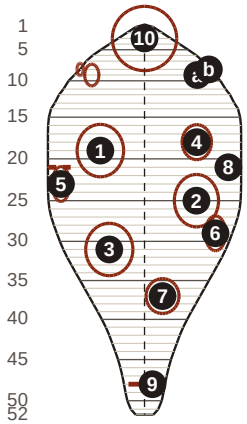
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 34 in (86 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

Small mottle: make 4

Yarn B, silver 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)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 26 in (66 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

Assembly



Body: 1 large mottle, 2 large mottle, 3 large mottle, 4 small mottle, 5 small mottle, 6 small mottle, 7 small mottle, 8 front flippers, 9 tail lobes, 10 muzzle, a eyes, b cheeks

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. Lay one large mottle flat on the body, right side out, the middle of it on round 19, 5 stitches to the left of the center line. Sew down all 18 stitches of the edge.

2. Lay one large mottle flat on the body, right side out, the middle of it on round 25, 6 stitches to the right of the center line. Sew down all 18 stitches of the edge.

3. Lay one large mottle flat on the body, right side out, the middle of it on round 31, 4 stitches to the left of the center line. Sew down all 18 stitches of the edge.

4. Lay one small mottle flat on the body, right side out, the middle of it on round 18, 6 stitches to the right of the center line. Sew down all 12 stitches of the edge.

5. Lay one small mottle flat on the body, right side out, the middle of it on round 23, 11 stitches to the left of the center line. Sew down all 12 stitches of the edge.

6. Lay one small mottle flat on the body, right side out, the middle of it on round 29, 9 stitches to the right of the center line. Sew down all 12 stitches of the edge.

7. Lay one small mottle flat on the body, right side out, the middle of it on round 37, 2 stitches to the right of the center line. Sew down all 12 stitches of the edge.

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8. Pin the two front flippers to the body: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 21, one to each side, 20 stitches from the center line (26 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). The flat edge runs lengthwise along the body, half of it before that place and half behind. They point out to the side and down, then curve until the tip of each points out to the side and forward and rests on the table. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a stitch or two on the side it turns toward. Sew through both layers of the 8½-stitch edge with the tail.

9. Pin the two tail lobes to the body: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 48, one to each side, 2½ stitches from the center line (5 stitches apart). The flat edge lies with its upper end on about round 46, 1 stitch from the center line, and its lower end on about round 49, 4½ stitches from it. They point back, up and out to the side, like an open V. Bend the outer half of each a little farther out with your fingers; nothing holds it. Sew through both layers of the 5-stitch edge with its tail of yarn.

10. Pin the muzzle to the body: the middle of the open edge lies on round 3, on the center line. The edge has 22 sts. Its long way runs from side to side: its upper edge lies on about round 6 of the body and its lower edge over the middle of round 1. It points straight forward. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

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. Backstitch is a line of short stitches end to end: bring the needle up one stitch ahead, put it down at the end of the stitch before, and repeat.
- Nose: with C (charcoal), in satin stitch, a heart about 1 in (25 mm) wide and 13/16 in (21 mm) tall, its middle on the muzzle, centered, ¾ in (19 mm) above the middle of the muzzle.
- Mouth: with C (charcoal), in backstitch, a straight line down, 3/16 in (5 mm) long, and from its lower end two small smile curves side by side, one to each side, about 15/16 in (24 mm) wide and 9/16 in (14 mm) tall in all, starting at the bottom of the nose.
- Eyes: two 24 mm black plastic eyes, on the body on round 9, one to each side, 6½ stitches from the center line (13 stitches apart).
- Brow freckles: with B (silver gray), in satin stitch, a round dot about 5/16 in (8 mm) across, its middle on the body on round 12, one to each side, 4½ stitches from the center line (9 stitches apart).
- Outer brow freckles: with B (silver gray), in satin stitch, a round dot about 5/16 in (8 mm) across, its middle on the body on round 12, one to each side, 6½ stitches from the center line (13 stitches apart).
- Cheeks: with E (blush), in satin stitch, an oval about 7/8 in (22 mm) wide and 9/16 in (14 mm) tall, its middle on the body on round 8, one to each side, 10½ stitches from the center line (21 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; 3,057 stitches (2,211 in the body, 202 in each front flipper, 91 in each tail lobe, 80 in the muzzle, 36 in each large mottle, 18 in each small mottle).

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

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