Bowling play set

US terms



Finished size
Each pin about 6½ in (16.5 cm) tall and 2 3/8 in (6 cm) across at its widest, the ball about 3 1/8 in (7.9 cm) across

Skill
Easy
Seven pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 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.

You will need

Yarn A: white, pin	**about 420 yd (384 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: red, pin	**about 35 yd (32 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: bright blue, ball	**about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: navy, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

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, six circles of plastic canvas or thick card and each about 1¾ in (4.5 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.

Abbreviations

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

sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
sc2tog	single crochet 2 stitches together, through the front loops only: how is under “Before you start” (UK dc2tog, double cro
MR	magic ring
RS	right side
Rnd	round
st	stitch
BLO	back loop only

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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.

Before you start

- 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.
- Base of a pin: when round 15 is done, lay one circle of plastic canvas or card inside, on rounds 1 to 5, and begin to stuff on top of it.
- 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 B," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in B. Cut the old yarn and knot the ends on the wrong side.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the set. 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.
- No plastic eyes are used: every detail is worked in yarn.
- 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: fine (2, sport) yarn, 2.25 mm (B-1) hook, 27 sc and 30 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): each pin about 4¾ in (12 cm) tall and 1¾ in (4.4 cm) across at its widest, the ball about 2¼ in (5.7 cm) across; multiply lengths by 0.74; about 0.74 times the yarn.
- Large: bulky (5, chunky) yarn, 5 mm (H-8) hook, 14 sc and 15.4 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): each pin about 9¼ in (23.5 cm) tall and 3 3/8 in (8.6 cm) across at its widest, the ball about 4½ in (11.5 cm) across; 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): each pin about 11¾ in (30 cm) tall and 4¼ in (11 cm) across at its widest, the ball about 5¾ in (14.5 cm) across; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.

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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 sc is double crochet.

Pin: make 6

Yarns in order of use: A, white; B, red.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(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 BLO of each st around	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 3 times**	**(33 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 10 sts**] 3 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 9 to 17**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**

A box for each round, 9 to 17: tick them off as you go.

☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17

☐ **Rnd 18**	**[**sc in next 10 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times**	**(33 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	Sc in each st around	**(33 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 20**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 3 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	Sc in each st around	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts**] 3 times**	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	Sc in each st around	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	**[**sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	Sc in each st around	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 26**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**	**(21 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 27**	Sc in each st around	**(21 sc)**

The circle of plastic canvas or card is in its place by now (see “Before you start”). Stuff what is worked so far, firmly, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 28**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 3 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 29 to 30**	With B, sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**

A box for each round, 29 to 30: tick them off as you go.

☐ 29 ☐ 30

☐ **Rnd 31**	With A, sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**

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☐ **Rnds 32 to 33**	With B, sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**

A box for each round, 32 to 33: tick them off as you go.

32 33

☐ **Rnd 34**	With A, sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 35**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(21 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 36**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 37 to 39**	Sc in each st around	**(24 sc)**

A box for each round, 37 to 39: tick them off as you go.

37 38 39

☐ **Rnd 40**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts**] 3 times**	**(21 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 41**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 42**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 43**	**[**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. Roll the neck (rounds 28 to 34) between your hands so that it stands straight above the base.	

Ball

Yarn C, bright blue.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(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**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in each st around	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 11 to 16**	Sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**

A box for each round, 11 to 16: tick them off as you go.

11 12 13 14 15 16

☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	Sc in each st around	**(42 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 20**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

Work the finger holes now (see Finishing). Then stuff firmly, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	**[**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.	

Assembly

1. Nothing is sewn in this step: the six pins and the ball stay loose. To play, set the pins up in a triangle, one in front, two behind it and three behind those, about 5 in (13 cm) apart, and roll the ball from the other side of the room.

Finishing

- Embroider with one strand of yarn and the yarn needle when the pieces round the place are sewn on, unless a line gives another time; begin and end each strand inside the toy. Satin stitch is straight stitches side by side until the shape is filled.
- Finger holes: work these before the ball is stuffed, when the note in its rounds says so: with D (navy), in satin stitch, three round dots, each about 3/8 in (10 mm) across: two on round 6, 3½ stitches apart from middle to middle, and one on round 9, in line with the place half way between the first two.
- Weave every tail through its piece and trim it. Check the pins and the ball from time to time.

In all: 7 pieces; 7,326 stitches (1,083 in each pin, 828 in the ball).

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

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