Bows for stuffed animals, five styles

US terms



Finished size
The bows from about 4¼ in (11 cm) to about 5¼ in (13.5 cm) across

Skill
Beginner
14 pieces worked in rounds and rows and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 7 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.

What you need

Yarn A: emerald, pinched bow and pinched bow band	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: plum, double bow large layer, double bow band and bow tie band	**about 40 yd (37 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: blush pink, double bow small layer and the details	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: sky blue, sailor bow tail, sailor bow loops and the details	**about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: cream, sailor bow tail and sailor bow band	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: coral, floppy bow ring and the details	**about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**
Yarn G: butter yellow, floppy bow knot and bow tie	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 120 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

Hook: 3.5 mm (US E-4), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, a stitch marker, pins, scissors and a little scrap yarn or stuffing for the knot of the floppy bow.

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



Pinched bow **Pinched bow band** **Double bow large layer** **Double bow small layer** **Double bow band**

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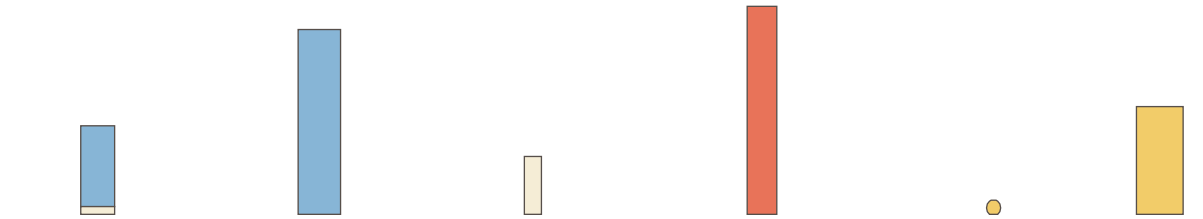

Sailor bow tail x 2 | Sailor bow loops | Sailor bow band | Floppy bow ring x 2 | Floppy bow knot | Bow tie



Bow tie band

Gauge

20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet, in a spiral.

20 sc and 22 rows or rounds = 4 in (10 cm). To check it, work the pinched bow: it should measure about 2 5/8 in (6.5 cm) along a row and 4¾ in (12 cm) from the foundation edge to row 26.

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 that has rounds 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.
- Whip stitch: lay the two edges side by side, wrong sides together. Take the needle through both edges from front to back, carry the yarn over the top and go through from the front again, one stitch for each stitch or row. At the end of a row the needle goes under the whole end stitch. In a piece worked in rows the odd rows are right side rows. Rows are counted from the foundation chain. The rows of a bow run up and down, from its upper to its lower edge: the foundation edge is one end of the bow and the last row the other.
- To pinch: lay the piece with its right side up and gather its middle between two fingers, from the upper to the lower edge, so that it lies in small folds, its two edges turned to the back. With a new length of the same yarn, 24 in (61 cm), go through the folds once with the needle, then wind the yarn round the middle six times, tight, and fasten it at the back. A band goes over this: a narrow strip that is wrapped once round the middle the long way, from the back over the upper edge to the front and under the lower edge to the back again.
- 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 row or round before it in that color. Cut the old yarn and weave in the ends on the wrong side.
- Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- 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.
- Every bow comes in two sizes. Standard suits a toy about 12 to 18 in (30 to 46 cm) tall, Small suits one about 7 to 12 in (18 to 30 cm). Across, in Standard: the pinched bow about 4½ in (11.5 cm), the double bow about 5¼ in (13.5 cm), the sailor bow about 4¼ in (11 cm) and, with its tails, 5¼ in (13.5 cm) long, the floppy bow about 4¾ in (12 cm), the bow tie about 5 in (12.5 cm). In Small each is about three quarters of that.

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- The rounds and stitches are the same for every size; the yarn and the hook make the difference. Lengths in the words (tails) 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): the bows from about 3 1/8 in (7.9 cm) to about 4 in (10 cm) across; multiply lengths by 0.74; about 0.74 times the yarn.

Instructions

US terms.

ch chain, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **MR** magic ring, **Rnd** round, **st** stitch.
sc2tog 2 sc made into one. **BLO**: only the loop away from you. **yo** yarn over the hook, **RS** right side, the one that shows.
2 sc in each st: both in one stitch.
[ ] 6 times: work what is inside 6 times in all.
(13 sc): the stitches you have when the row is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Pinched bow

Yarn A, emerald.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 13 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 14.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(13 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 26**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(13 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Pinched bow band

Yarn A, emerald.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 4 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 5.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(4 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 14**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(4 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.	

Double bow large layer

Yarn B, plum.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 14 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 15.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(14 sc)

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☐ **Rows 2 to 30**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(14 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

☐ **End**	Fasten off.

Double bow small layer

Yarn C, blush pink.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 9 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 10.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(9 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 22**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(9 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22

☐ **End**	Fasten off.

Double bow band

Yarn B, plum.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 4 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 5.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(4 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 16**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(4 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.

Sailor bow tail: make 2

Yarns in order of use: D, sky blue; E, cream.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 8 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With D, ch 9.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(8 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 21**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(8 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

☐ **Rows 22 to 23**	With E, ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(8 sc)

22 23

☐ **End**	Fasten off.

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Sailor bow loops

Yarn D, sky blue.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 10 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With D, ch 11.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(10 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 48**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(10 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing.

Sailor bow band

Yarn E, cream.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 4 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With E, ch 5.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(4 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 15**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(4 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.

Floppy bow ring: make 2

Yarn F, coral.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 7 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With F, ch 8.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(7 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 54**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(7 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.

Floppy bow knot

Yarn G, butter yellow.

☐ **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)
☐ **Rnds 3 to 4**	Sc in each st around	(12 sc)

3 4

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Stuff firmly now with a little stuffing or scrap yarn, and keep adding until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 5**	**[sc2tog] 6 times**	(6 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail. Thread the tail through the front loop of each of the last 6 stitches and pull it tight to close the hole. Keep the tail for sewing.	

Bow tie

Yarn G, butter yellow.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 11 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With G, ch 12.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(11 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 28**	Ch 1, turn, sc in BLO of each st across	(11 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Bow tie band

Yarn B, plum.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 4 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 5.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(4 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 14**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(4 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.	

Assembly

1. Pinched bow: pinch the piece between rows 13 and 14. Wrap the pinched bow band round the middle, right side out, and, with the tail, sew the 4 stitches of its last row to the 4 foundation chains at the back, drawing the band up tight. Push the seam to the back.

2. Double bow: pinch the double bow large layer between rows 15 and 16 and the double bow small layer between rows 11 and 12. Lay the small layer on the large one, both right side up, middle on middle, and sew the two together at the middle with two or three stitches of C. Wrap the double bow band round both, right side out, and, with the tail, sew the 4 stitches of its last row to the 4 foundation chains at the back, drawing the band up tight.

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3. Sailor bow: with its tail, whip stitch the 10 stitches of the last row of the sailor bow loops to the 10 foundation chains, so that the strip makes a ring, right side out. Lay the ring flat with this seam at the middle of the back and the line between rows 24 and 25 at the middle of the front, and pinch both layers together at the middle. Wrap the sailor bow band round the middle of the loops, right side out, and, with the tail, sew the 4 stitches of its last row to the 4 foundation chains at the back, drawing the band up tight. The two sailor bow tails are sewn on now. For each, thread the needle with 18 in (46 cm) of D, run it in and out through the 8 stitches of row 1 and draw the edge up tight, to about 3/8 in (10 mm) wide. Turn the bow over, so that its back is toward you and its upper edge is still at the top. Lay the two gathered edges side by side across the back of the band, at the middle of its height, the tails hanging down past the lower edge of the bow and a little out to the two sides, their wrong sides toward you: from the front their right sides are seen. With the same yarn, sew each gathered edge to the back of the band, going over it twice. The cream rows are the lower ends of the tails.

4. Floppy bow: with the tails, whip stitch the 7 stitches of the last row of each of the two floppy bow rings to its 7 foundation chains, so that each strip makes a ring, right side out. Lay each ring flat, the seam at the middle of the back and the line between rows 27 and 28 at the middle of the front: each makes two loops, one to the right and one to the left. Lay one ring on the other, middle on middle, and turn the two loops of the ring underneath down, so that they slant out below those of the ring on top. Pinch all four layers together at the middle, from the upper to the lower edge. With a new length of F, 42 in (107 cm), go through all of them once with the needle, wind the yarn round the middle ten times, tight, and fasten it at the back. With its tail, sew the floppy bow knot over the front of the wound middle, its closed hole down, going round twice.

5. Bow tie: pinch the piece between rows 14 and 15. Wrap the bow tie band round the middle, right side out, and, with the tail, sew the 4 stitches of its last row to the 4 foundation chains at the back, drawing the band up tight.

6. To put a bow on an ear (any but the sailor bow, whose tails would hang over the face): hold the back of its middle against the front of the ear, on the seam that joins the ear to the head, half of its height on the ear and half on the head. The bow lies along the seam, one side toward each end of it, its upper edge toward the tip of the ear; in the pinched bow, the double bow and the bow tie either edge may be the upper one. With a new length of yarn, 18 in (46 cm), in the color of the band (for the floppy bow: F), sew the back of the band, or of the wound middle of the floppy bow, down through the stitches of the ear and of the head, going round twice in a circle about ½ in (13 mm) across, and bury the end.

7. To put a bow on a head: lay the back of its middle on the head, half way between the two ears, one side of the bow toward each ear and its lower edge toward the back of the head, so that the tails or the slanting loops fall behind. Sew it down in the same way through the stitches of the head; for the sailor bow, in this step and the next, go through the gathered edges of the tails with the back of the band.

8. To put a bow or the bow tie on a neck: lay the back of its middle on the seam between the head and the body, at the middle of the front, one side of the bow to the left and one to the right, its upper edge toward the head, and sew it to the seam in the same way. For a bow that comes off again, do not sew it: thread 20 in (51 cm) of the same yarn under the back of the band, or under the winding at the back of the floppy bow, tie the yarn round the neck of the toy in a bow at the back and trim the ends.

Finishing

- Weave in every end at the back. Sew every bow on firmly, unless it is tied on to come off again (step 8). If the toy is for a child under three, do not tie a bow on: loose parts and loose yarn are not for a child that young.

In all: 14 pieces; 3,152 stitches.

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