Calico cat loaf

US terms



Finished size

About 6¼ in (16 cm) long, 4¾ in (12 cm) across with the tail and 4¼ in (11 cm) tall

Skill

Intermediate

13 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.

What you need

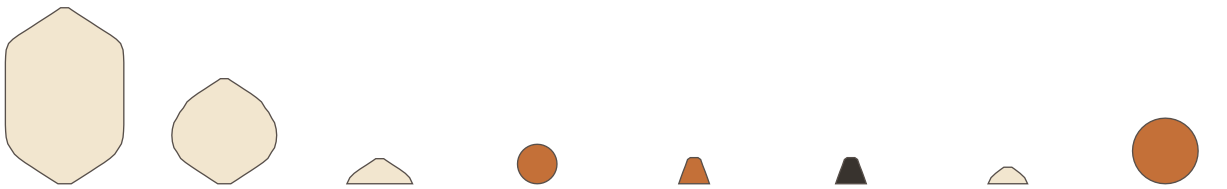
Yarn A: cream, the main color	**about 175 yd (160 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: rust, face patch, rust ear and rust patch	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: black, black ear, black patch, tail and the details	**about 35 yd (32 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: rose, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 110 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: toy stuffing, a yarn needle, a stitch marker, pins and scissors.

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 **Head** **Haunch x 2** to the body **Face patch** to the head **Rust ear** to the head **Black ear** to the head **Muzzle** to the head **Rust patch** to the body

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Black patch
to the body



Paw x 2
to the body



Tail
to the body

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.

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 27 and 28 of round 9 (54 sts). This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the front end.
- Head: the center line runs between stitches 24 and 25 of round 10 (48 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the top.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the toy. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- Running stitches go in and out along a line.
- 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): about 4¾ in (12 cm) long, 3½ in (8.9 cm) across with the tail and 3 1/8 in (7.9 cm) tall; multiply lengths by 0.74; about 0.74 times the yarn.

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- Large: bulky (5, chunky) yarn, 5 mm (H-8) hook, 14 sc and 15.4 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): about 9 in (23 cm) long, 6¾ in (17 cm) across with the tail and 6 in (15 cm) tall; 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): about 11¼ in (28.5 cm) long, 8¾ in (22 cm) across with the tail and 7¾ in (19.5 cm) tall; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 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**.

Body

Yarn A, cream.

The decreases of rounds 26, 28 and 29 lie only across the top of the body, so that the back slopes down to the tail and the underside stays flat. (The first stitches of the rounds lean round the piece as you work: in these rounds the middle of the top is about 5 stitches past the middle of the round.)

☐ **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 next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	(54 sc)

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 27 and 28 of round 9. This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the front end.

☐ **Rnds 10 to 25**	Sc in each st around	(54 sc)

10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

☐ **Rnd 26**	Sc in next 20 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**, sc in next 10 sts	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnd 27**	Sc in each st around	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnd 28**	Sc in next 17 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**, sc in next 7 sts	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 29**	Sc in next 14 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**, sc in next 4 sts	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 30**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	(30 sc)

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☐ **Rnd 31**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(24 sc)

Stuff firmly now, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 32**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 33**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 34**	**[**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 flat on the underside with the palm of your hand, until it is about 2 7/8 in (7.3 cm) from top to underside and lies on the table without rolling.	

Head

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 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)

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 24 and 25 of round 10. It faces the front, round 1 at the top.

☐ **Rnds 11 to 14**	Sc in each st around	(48 sc)

11 12 13 14

☐ **Rnd 15**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	Sc in each st around	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 18**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(24 sc)

Stuff firmly now, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 20**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(18 sc)

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☐ **Rnd 21**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**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.	

Haunch: 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 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 each st around	(30 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Face patch

Yarn B, rust.

☐ **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 2 sts, 2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next st**] 2 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up, into an oval: the two groups of increases are its two ends.	

Rust ear

Yarn B, rust.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(8 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	(10 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 7 stitches.	

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Black ear

Yarn C, black.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(8 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	(10 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 7 stitches.	

Muzzle

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 each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in each st around	(18 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge. Shape the stuffed piece with your fingers into an oval, about 1½ in (3.8 cm) wide and ¾ in (1.9 cm) tall.	

Rust patch

Yarn B, rust.

☐ **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 2 sts, 2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next st**] 2 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up, into an oval: the two groups of increases are its two ends.	

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Black patch

Yarn C, black.

☐ **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 2 sts, 2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next st**] 2 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up, into an oval: the two groups of increases are its two ends.	

Paw: 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 each of next 4 sts, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	(11 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnds 4 to 5**	Sc in each st around	(14 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

4 5

Tail

Yarn C, black.

Stuff lightly every few rounds as you go, so that the tube still bends.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(4 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	(8 sc)
☐ **Rnds 4 to 34**	Sc in each st around	(8 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.	

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

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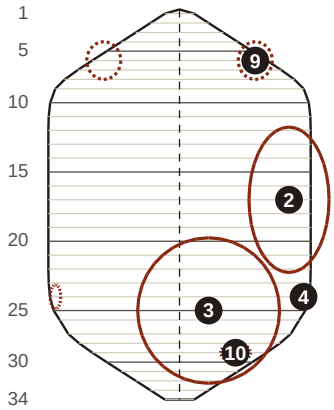
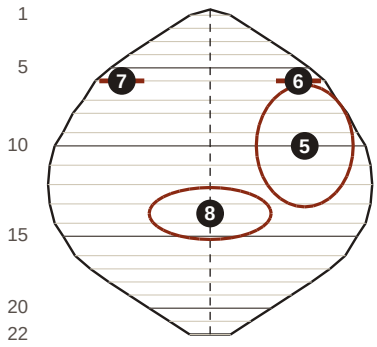
Assembly



Body: 2 rust patch, 3 black patch, 4 haunches, 9 paws, 10 tail



Head: 5 face patch, 6 rust ear, 7 black ear, 8 muzzle

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 the body on the table, its center line on top, and set the head on its front end, round 1 of the head at the top and the face to the front, turned about 25 degrees to the right. The place on round 16 of the head, 3 stitches to the right of the line opposite its center line, lies over round 7 of the body, on the center line. Press the head down so that the two bed together, and pin it to the body along an oval that is wider from side to side (about 3 1/8 in, 8 cm) than from front to back (about 1 5/8 in, 4 cm). On the body the front of the oval crosses the center line on round 3, the back crosses it on round 12, and its two sides are on round 8, 8 stitches to each side of the center line. The head is rounder than the body there: ease it in, so that it lies close to the body all along the oval. With a new length of A (cream), sew round the oval twice, through the stitches of the body on the oval and the stitches of the head that lie over them.

2. Lay the rust patch flat on the body, right side out, the middle of it on round 17, 8½ stitches to the right of the center line, one of its two ends toward the head. Ease it into an oval about 2¼ in (5.7 cm) from front to back and 1½ in (3.8 cm) across as you pin it. Sew down all 30 stitches of the edge.

3. Lay the black patch flat on the body, right side out, the middle of it on round 25, 2 stitches to the right of the center line, one of its two ends toward the head. Ease it into an oval about 2¼ in (5.7 cm) from front to back and 1½ in (3.8 cm) across as you pin it. Sew down all 30 stitches of the edge.

4. Pin the two haunches to the body: the middle of each open edge lies on round 24, one to each side, 16 stitches from the center line (22 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). The edge (30 sts) is a circle: it reaches from about round 19 to about round 29 of the body, and on round 24 from about 11 stitches from the center line, on the side of the body, to about 21 stitches, down at the table. They point out to the side. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

5. Lay the face patch flat on the head, right side out, the middle of it on round 10, 5 stitches to the right of the center line. Ease it into an oval about 1 3/8 in (3.5 cm) from end to end and 1 in (2.5 cm) across as you pin it: one end toward the center line, the other end away from it and a little higher, toward the place of the right ear. Sew down all 18 stitches of the edge.

6. Pin the rust ear to the head: the middle of the flat edge lies on round 6, 7 stitches to the right of the center line. The flat edge lies with its upper end on about round 3, 2½ stitches from the center line to the right, and its lower end on about round 10, 9½ stitches from it to the right. It points up and a little out to the right. Sew through both layers of the 7-stitch edge with the tail.

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7. Pin the black ear to the head: the middle of the flat edge lies on round 6, 7 stitches to the left of the center line. The flat edge lies with its upper end on about round 3, 2½ stitches from the center line to the left, and its lower end on about round 10, 9½ stitches from it to the left. It points up and a little out to the left. Sew through both layers of the 7-stitch edge with the tail.

8. Pin the muzzle to the head: the middle of the open edge lies between rounds 13 and 14, on the center line. The edge (18 sts) covers about rounds 12 to 15 of the head. It points the way the face looks. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

9. Pin the two paws to the body: the middle of each open edge lies on round 6, one to each side, 12 stitches from the center line (12 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). The edge (14 sts) covers about rounds 4 to 8 of the body. They point forward. Set them so that their undersides lie on the table, level with the underside of the body. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

10. Pin the tail to the body: the middle of the open edge lies on round 29, 14 stitches to the right of the center line. The edge (8 sts) covers about rounds 28 to 30 of the body. It points back and to the right. Sew all the way round with its tail of yarn, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

11. Lay the tail on the table, close against the toy all the way. From the seam it goes round the back of the right haunch: round 29 of the tail points to the right and round 21 forward. From there to round 6 it runs straight forward, along the haunch and the side of the body. Rounds 5 to 1, the tip end, turn a little to the left, so that the tip lies against the outer side of the right paw. Hold the bend with a few running stitches along the side of the tail that touches the haunch, from round 31 to round 21, drawn up a little. With a new length of C (black), take two or three stitches at each of three places to hold the tail to what it touches: round 31 of the tail to the haunch, round 24 of the tail to the haunch and round 2 of the tail to the outer side of the right paw.

Finishing

- Embroider with one strand of yarn and the yarn needle when the pieces round the place are sewn on; begin and end each strand inside the toy. 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.
- Eyes: with C (black), in backstitch, a closed, sleeping eye on each side, one curve about 7/16 in (11 mm) wide that dips 3/16 in (5 mm) below its ends, like a U. The left one: the place half way between its two ends is on the head on round 11, 5 stitches to the left of the center line. The right one lies on the face patch, level with the left one: the place half way between its two ends is over round 11 of the head, 5 stitches to the right of the center line. That is one round, 3/16 in (5 mm), below the middle of the patch, which lies on round 10. Work it through the patch and the head.
- Nose: with D (rose), in satin stitch, a triangle with its point down about ¼ in (6 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the muzzle, centered, ¼ in (6 mm) above the middle of the muzzle.
- Mouth: with C (black), in backstitch, a straight line down, 1/16 in (2 mm) long, and from its lower end two small smile curves side by side, one to each side, about ½ in (13 mm) wide and ¼ in (6 mm) tall in all, starting at the bottom of the nose.
- 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; 3,088 stitches.

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

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