Cat butt coaster

US terms



Finished size
About 4¾ in (12 cm) wide and 6½ in (16.5 cm) tall with the ears, paws and tail (12 by 17 cm); the body alone is about 4¾ in (12 cm) wide

Skill
Easy
Worked in rounds, with 8 pieces and color changes.

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

Gauge
14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: light gray, the body	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: slate gray, the ears and the cat tail	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: cream, the paws	**about 7 yd (6 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: pink, the pads	**about 4 yd (4 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, pins for blocking and a spray bottle.

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 and chains 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.

ch	chain stitch
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
tr	treble crochet (UK dtr, double treble)
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

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Gauge

14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After round 2 the body measures about 2½ in (6 cm) across. If yours is larger, use a smaller hook; if it is smaller, use a larger hook.

Before you start

- Rounds are worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work the first round or row into the loop, then pull the tail until the ring is closed. Four chains joined into a ring with a slip stitch may be used instead.
- A chain that counts as a stitch is marked so in its line and is included in the count.
- A chain 1 at the start of a round does not count as a stitch.
- Working along the other side of the chain: turn the piece round, not over, and work into the unused loops of the foundation chain, beginning in the chain next to the one just used.
- At the start of a round, same st is the stitch the round before was joined in.
- A round worked in each st around begins in the st the round before was joined in.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches; slip stitches are not counted.
- In the cat tail the last 2 sc are worked in the chain that holds the first sc.
- The tr of an ear is its point; the round is joined at its other end.
- In the line about another yarn, the longest way is from the top of the cat tail down to the lower edge of the paws.
- Use cotton yarn: it takes up drips and stays flat under a warm cup.
- For a gift set of three cats, work a ginger one with light ginger for A and deep ginger for B, and a black one with black for both A and B and white for C.
- The distances under FINISHING are for the yarn and gauge above; in another yarn make them larger or smaller in the same proportion as the size.
- French knot (sewn): bring the yarn needle up from the back, wrap the yarn twice round the needle close to the surface, hold the wraps and put the needle down beside the place where it came up. For a large knot use the yarn double and wrap it three times.
- Straight stitch (sewn): bring the yarn needle up from the back at one end of the stitch and put it down at the other end.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured the longest way: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 4½ in (11 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 5 in (13 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 8½ in (22 cm).

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Instructions

Square brackets [ ] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. Round brackets ( ) inside a line hold stitches that all go into one place. 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, hdc is half treble, dc is treble and tr is double treble.

Body

Yarn A, light gray.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), 11 dc in ring, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(12 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), dc in same st, 2 dc in each of next 11 sts, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(24 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), dc in same st, dc in next st, **[**2 dc in next st, dc in next st**] 11 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(36 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), dc in same st, dc in next 2 sts, **[**2 dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts**] 11 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(48 dc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.	

Ear: make 2

Yarn B, slate gray.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 9 hdc in ring, sl st in first hdc to join	**(9 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, sc in same st, 2 sc in next st, (sc, hdc) in next st, (hdc, dc) in next st, (dc, tr, dc) in next st, (dc, hdc) in next st, (hdc, sc) in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, sl st in first sc to join	**(8 sc, 4 hdc, 4 dc, 1 tr)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 15 in (38 cm) tail for sewing.	

Cat tail

Yarn B, slate gray.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 15.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 12 chs, 3 sc in next ch, working along the other side of the chain, sc in next 12 chs, 2 sc in next ch, sl st in first sc to join	**(30 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing.	

Paw: make 2

Yarn C, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 8 hdc in ring, sl st in first hdc to join	**(8 hdc)**

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☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	**(16 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing.	

Pad: make 2

Yarn D, pink.

☐ **Foundation**	With D, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 8 sc in ring, sl st in first sc to join	**(8 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.	

Finishing

- Block: pin the pieces to shape on a flat surface, all right side up. Pin the cat tail with the end where its round is joined, the end with the sewing tail, at the bottom: this end is kept straight for 2¼ in (5.7 cm), pointing straight up, and the rest is bent over to the right in a hook, like the handle of a cane. Spray the pieces with water and let them dry.
- Lay the body down, right side up, and choose the stitch of Rnd 4 that is to be the top; the middle line runs from it straight down through the magic ring. Lay an ear behind each side of the body, right side up, its magic ring 1¼ in (3.2 cm) from the middle line and 1 5/8 in (4.1 cm) above the magic ring of the body, so that the body hides the magic ring of the ear. The point of the right ear is turned to half past twelve on a clock, that of the left ear to half past eleven. With its sewing tail, sew the part of each ear that lies behind the body to the back of the body, and the edge of the body to the ear.
- Lay the cat tail on the body, right side up, the end with its sewing tail 7/8 in (2.2 cm) straight above the magic ring of the body and the rest straight up from there, over the top stitch and between the ears. Above the body it bends to the right: the top of the bend is 1 5/8 in (4.1 cm) above the top edge of the body, and the rounded tip points down, its middle 1 1/8 in (2.9 cm) to the right of the middle line. With its sewing tail, sew it down all round where it lies on the body.
- With D, work an x of two straight stitches on the middle line under the cat tail, ½ in (1.3 cm) wide and ½ in (1.3 cm) tall, its middle ¼ in (0.6 cm) above the magic ring of the body.
- Lay a pad on each paw, right side up, its magic ring ¼ in (0.6 cm) straight below the magic ring of the paw, and sew it down all round its edge with its tail. Above it, with D, work three large French knots for the toes: one ½ in (1.3 cm) straight above the magic ring of the paw, and one to each side of it, ¼ in (0.6 cm) above the magic ring and 3/8 in (1 cm) from the middle line of the paw.
- Lay the paws on the body, right sides up, the magic ring of each 1¾ in (4.4 cm) below the magic ring of the body and 1 1/8 in (2.9 cm) to the side of the middle line; turn the right paw until its middle toe points to half past twelve on a clock, and the left paw until its middle toe points to half past eleven. With its tail, sew each paw down all round where it lies on the body; the rest of it stands out beyond the edge.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 8 pieces; 266 stitches (120 in the body, 26 in each ear, 30 in the cat tail, 24 in each paw, 8 in each pad).

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