Cat cave bed with ears

Large · US terms



Finished size
About 18¼ × 15 in (46 × 38 cm)
About 18¼ in (46.5 cm) across and 15 in (38 cm) tall without the ears, with a door 7¼ in (18.5 cm) tall and 8¾ in (22 cm) wide inside its rib. To fit a cat that measures up to 16 in (40.5 cm) from side to side when it sleeps in a curl

Skill
Intermediate
It is single crochet in rounds, with rows at both sides of the door, a ribbed edge and sewn ears.

Yarn
Super bulky (6), 2 colors

Hook
9 mm (US M/N-13)

Gauge
8 stitches and 8 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet (UK double crochet).

What you need

Yarn A: charcoal, the dome, the wall, the ears and the underside of the cushion	**about 650 yd (594 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: blush, the rib of the door, the ear linings and the top of the cushion	**about 170 yd (155 m), an estimate**

Fiber: cotton T-shirt

Hook: 9 mm (US M/N-13), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: two stitch markers, pins, a large blunt yarn needle, scissors and about 1¼ lb (570 g) of toy stuffing, for the cushion.

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.

Sizes

Size	Fits	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Medium	a cat that measures up to 14 in (35.5 cm) from side to side when it sleeps in a curl	16¼ × 13¾ in (41 × 35 cm)	about 660 yd (604 m)
Large (this file)	**a cat that measures up to 16 in (40.5 cm) from side to side when it sleeps in a curl**	**18¼ × 15 in (46 × 38 cm)**	**about 820 yd (750 m)**

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Gauge

8 stitches and 8 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

8 stitches and 6 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in half double crochet, worked in the round.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. The gauge is checked on the piece itself: after round 6 the dome should measure about 5¾ in (14.5 cm) across, laid flat and not stretched. A range that is near enough is printed after that round. If the piece measures more than that, begin again with a smaller hook; if it measures less, with a larger hook.

Notes

- Begin with a magic ring: wind the yarn once round two fingers, put the hook through the ring, draw up a loop and chain 1 to hold it, which does not count as a stitch. Work round 1 into the ring, then pull the tail to draw the ring closed.
- The rounds of the dome and of the two circles of the cushion are not joined: work in a spiral, and move a marker up to the first stitch of each round.
- The rounds of the foot and of the rib are joined with a slip stitch in their first stitch. The chain of 1 or 2 at their start does not count as a stitch; work the first stitch into the stitch the round before was joined in. In the rows of the wall, of the ears and of their linings the chain of 1 does not count as a stitch either.
- Leave a tail of 6 in (15 cm) wherever a yarn begins.
- Sc3tog: draw up a loop in each of the next 3 stitches, yarn over, and draw through all 4 loops on the hook.
- FPhdc and BPhdc, front and back post half double crochet (UK raised half treble, front and back): work a half double crochet round the post of the stitch below, from the front for FPhdc and from the back for BPhdc.
- Work firmly, for the wall is to stand by itself. The right side is the outside all over.
- T-shirt yarn differs a good deal in thickness. Go by the measure of the dome and not by the number of the hook.
- To choose a size, measure your cat asleep in a curl, from side to side, and take the size that names that measure or more. The cat must also pass easily through the door.
- Colors. The dome, the wall, the foot, the ears and the underside of the cushion: A. The rib of the door, the ear linings and the top of the cushion: B.

Instructions

Large. US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **hdc** half double crochet (UK half treble), **MR** magic ring, **st** stitch, **sp** space, **rnd** round.
sc2tog 2 sc made into one, **sc3tog** 3 sc made into one, **FPhdc** round the stitch below, from the front, **BPhdc** round the stitch below, from the back, **yo** yarn over the hook, **RS** right side, the one that shows.
2 sc in next st: both in one stitch. **sc in next 3 sts**: one in each. **ch-22 sp**: the gap under 22 chains; the hook goes in the gap.
[ ] 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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Dome

Yarn A, charcoal.

☐ **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**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 2 sts	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(36 sc)

> **Stop and measure now, after round 6.** The dome should measure about 5¾ in (14.5 cm) across. Anything from 5¾ in (14.5 cm) to 6 in (15 cm) is near enough.

☐ **Rnd 7**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 3 sts	(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 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 4 sts	(54 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**Sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(60 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 5 sts	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**Sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(72 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 6 sts	(78 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**Sc in next 12 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(84 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 13 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 7 sts	(90 sc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**Sc in next 14 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(96 sc)
☐ **Rnd 17**	Sc in each st around	(96 sc)
☐ **Rnd 18**	**[**Sc in next 15 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(102 sc)
☐ **Rnd 19**	Sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 16 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 8 sts	(108 sc)
☐ **Rnd 20**	Sc in each st around	(108 sc)

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☐ **Rnd 21**	Sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 17 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 9 sts	(114 sc)
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. That stitch is stitch 1 of the round. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Wall round the door

Yarn A, charcoal.

The last 8 stitches of round 21, stitches 107 to 114, are left free: they are the top of the door. Row 1 and every odd row are right side rows. The chain of 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch. The rows grow shorter at first, for the curve of the arch, and are then all alike.

☐ **Foundation**	Stitches 1 to 106 of round 21 of the dome, RS facing: 106 stitches.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Join A with sl st in first st, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 105 sts	(106 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; sc3tog, sc in next 100 sts, sc3tog	(102 sc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 98 sts, sc2tog	(100 sc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 96 sts, sc2tog	(98 sc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 94 sts, sc2tog	(96 sc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 92 sts, sc2tog	(94 sc)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(94 sc)
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 90 sts, sc2tog	(92 sc)
☐ **Rows 9 to 18**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(92 sc)
	9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Foot

Yarn A, charcoal.

Row 18, the last of the wall, is a wrong side row, so turn the piece round to the right side. Hold the piece with the dome down, the last row at the top and the door opening toward you. The first st of round 1 is the stitch that was made last in row 18, where the yarn was fastened off: it is just to the left of the opening. Work along row 18 to your left, away from the opening and round the back, to its other end just to the right of the opening, and make the chain across the foot of the door. Left-handed, the first st is just to the right of the opening, and you work to your right.

☐ **Foundation**	The last row of the wall, RS facing: 92 stitches.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Join A with sl st in first st, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 91 sts, ch 22, sl st in first sc to join	(92 sc, 1 ch-22 sp)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, sc in next 92 sts, 22 sc in next ch-22 sp, sl st in first sc to join	(114 sc)
☐ **Rnds 3 to 4**	Ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	(114 sc)
	3 4	
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

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Rib of the door

Yarn B, blush.

Hold the cave upright with the outside toward you and begin at the right end of the foot of the door. The places are, in this order, with left and right as you see them while the cave stands upright: along the foot from right to left, 22 over the chain of 22: put the hook through the fabric close below the chain, once in each gap between two of the 22 sc worked over it and once beside the last of them, and out through the opening; up the side at your left, 1 in the end of each row of the wall (18); along the top from left to right, 1 in each free stitch of round 21 of the dome (8); and down the side at your right, 1 in the end of each row of the wall (18). In the two lower corners pass over the end of round 1 of the foot, between row 18 and the chain: the rib goes round the corner in a curve there. Turn the cave as you go, so that the edge you work into is always at the top of what you hold. Left-handed, begin at the left end of the foot and go round the other way.

☐ **Foundation**	The edge of the door, the outside facing: 66 places.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Join B with sl st in first st, ch 2, hdc in same st, hdc in next 65 sts, sl st in first hdc to join	(66 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 2, **[**FPhdc around next st, BPhdc around next st**] 33 times**, sl st in first FPhdc to join	(33 FPhdc, 33 BPhdc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Ear: make 2

Yarn A, charcoal.

Begin at the point. The last row is the lower edge. The two ears are alike.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 2.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook	(1 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; 3 sc in next st	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st	(9 sc)
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(9 sc)
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st	(11 sc)
☐ **Row 11**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(11 sc)
☐ **Row 12**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st	(13 sc)
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(13 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 44 in (112 cm) for sewing.	

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Ear lining: make 2

Yarn B, blush.

Begin at the point. The last row is the lower edge. It is two stitches narrower and two rows shorter than the ear.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 2.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook	(1 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; 3 sc in next st	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st	(9 sc)
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(9 sc)
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st	(11 sc)
☐ **Row 11**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(11 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 52 in (132 cm) for sewing.	

Edging of an ear: make 2

Yarn A, charcoal.

Hold the ear with its right side up, the side that faced you in row 1, and the point away from you. Begin at the lower end of the side at your right, in the end of row 13, and work up to the point and down the other side. Left-handed, begin at your left. The lower edge has no edging.

☐ **Foundation**	The two sloping sides of an ear, its right side facing: 26 places, 13 up one side and 13 down the other, 1 in the end of each row.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Join A with sl st in first st, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in each of next 2 sts, sc in next 12 sts	(28 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Cushion top

Yarn B, blush.

☐ **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**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(24 sc)

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☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 2 sts	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 3 sts	(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 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 4 sts	(54 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**Sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(60 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 5 sts	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**Sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(72 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 6 sts	(78 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**Sc in next 12 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(84 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 13 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 7 sts	(90 sc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**Sc in next 14 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(96 sc)
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Cushion underside

Yarn A, charcoal.

☐ **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**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 2 sts	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 3 sts	(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 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 4 sts	(54 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**Sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(60 sc)

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☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 5 sts	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**Sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(72 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 6 sts	(78 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**Sc in next 12 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(84 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 13 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 7 sts	(90 sc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**Sc in next 14 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(96 sc)
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Assembly

1. Weave in all the tails of the dome, the wall, the foot and the rib on the inside, each along a round or a row for about 4 in (10 cm), and the starting tails of the ears and the linings and all the tails of the edgings and of the two circles on their wrong sides. Leave only the long tails of the ears and of the linings.

2. Ears: lay each lining on an ear, the right side of row 1 of both up, the lower edges level and in the middle of each other, so that the edging and about one stitch of the ear show at the two sides, and more at the point. With the long tail of the lining sew its two sloping sides down: bring the needle up through the lining one stitch in from its edge and down through the ear beneath, beside the edge, one stitch for each row, 11 rows up to the point and 11 down the other side. Then whip stitch the two lower edges together, 11 stitches. Whip stitch: put the needle through both edges from back to front, one stitch for each stitch or row, and draw the yarn snug. Fasten off between the two layers.

3. Place of the ears: round 21 is the last round of the dome, and the middle of the top of the door is between its stitches 110 and 111. From there count 23 stitches along round 21 to one side and put a marker in the last of them, and 23 to the other side and put the second marker in the last of those. An ear stands on the straight line from each marker up to the magic ring in the middle of the dome, from round 5 to round 17: its lower edge, the 13 stitches between the two ends of the edging, lies along that line, one stitch to each round, its point is up, and its lining faces the side of the door. Pin both ears and look at them from the front, to see that they are level.

4. Sew each ear on with its long tail. Whip stitch along the lower edge, through a stitch of the ear and a stitch of the dome beneath it, 13 stitches; then go back along the other side of the same edge, 13 stitches more, so that the ear stands up by itself. Fasten off and weave in the end on the inside. Take out the pins and the markers.

5. Cushion: lay the two circles on each other, the wrong sides inside, stitch to stitch. Cut two lengths of A, each 7 ft (2 m) long. Whip stitch the edges together from outside, through both loops of both, half way round with each length, 48 stitches. Before the last 12 stitches put in the stuffing, spread it flat to the edge all round, and sew the rest. Fasten off and draw the ends inside. Lay the cushion in the cave, the blush side up.

Finishing

- Pull the cave into shape from inside with both hands and turn the rib outward a little. Look at the ears and the seams every week, and sew on again what has come loose. Wash the cave and the cushion by machine in a net bag, cold, and let them dry flat, the cave with towels in it.

In all: 7 pieces; 5,636 stitches.

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

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