Black cat mask

US terms



Finished size

About 8¾ in (22 cm) wide and 5¾ in (15 cm) tall with the ears, without the ties and the whiskers

Skill

Intermediate

Worked in rows and rounds, with 7 pieces, color changes and 2 special stitches.

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: charcoal black, rounds 2 and 3 of the right eye piece, rounds 2 and 3 of the left eye piece and the ears	**about 35 yd (32 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: gold, round 1 of the right eye piece and round 1 of the left eye piece	**about 7 yd (6 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: pink, the inner ears and the nose	**about 6 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: pale gray, the sewn details	**about 5 yd (5 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

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Special stitches

sc2tog (UK dc2tog): [insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] twice (3 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 3 loops. It leaves 1 st for the next row or round.

sc3tog (UK dc3tog): [insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] 3 times (4 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 4 loops. It leaves 1 sc3tog for the next row or round.

Gauge

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

An eye piece is about 4 3/8 in (11 cm) long and 3½ in (9 cm) tall, and its opening is about 2 1/8 in (5.5 cm) long.

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

- Rounds are worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- Where a line says turn, turn the piece over and work back along the stitches just made.
- 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 or a row does not count as a stitch.
- Fasten off the old color, then join the new one with a slip stitch in the place named; the first stitch or chain of the line is worked in that same place.
- At the start of a round, same st is the stitch the round before was joined in; after a new color is joined, it is the stitch the color was joined in.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches; slip stitches are not counted.
- Rnd 1 of an eye piece is worked along the chain from end to end and then joined into a ring with the sl st: see that it is not twisted, with the chain on the inside round the opening. At the end close the small gap between the first and the last chain with the tail of the foundation.
- Left and right are as you look at the finished mask. The two eye pieces are alike up to Rnd 2; Rnd 3 is worked in the opposite order, so that the pieces are mirror images. Rounds begin and end at the inner end of a piece, at the bridge. The 3 tr in one st are its upper inner corner, beside the bridge; the 6 sc lie along its top edge; the two groups of 2 dc that stand nearest to the 6 sc, beyond the single hdc, are its upper outer corner.
- Ears, inner ears and nose: odd-numbered rows are worked with the right side facing.
- 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.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured from side to side without the ties and the whiskers: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 5¾ in (15 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 6¾ in (17 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 11 in (28 cm).

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Instructions

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.

Right eye piece

Yarns in order of use: B, gold; A, charcoal black.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 23.
☐ **Rnd 1**	2 sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 10 chs, 3 sc in next ch, sc in next 10 chs, sl st in first sc to join **(25 sc)**
	Fasten off B.
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join A with sl st in first st, ch 1, 2 hdc in same st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st, 3 hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, sl st in first hdc to join **(35 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, hdc in same st, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next st, 2 dc in each of next 2 sts, dc in next 4 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, dc in next st, 2 dc in each of next 2 sts, hdc in next st, sc in next 6 sts, hdc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next st, 3 tr in next st, dc in next st, sl st in first hdc to join **(12 hdc, 23 dc, 6 sc, 3 tr)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing.

Left eye piece

Yarns in order of use: B, gold; A, charcoal black.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 23.
☐ **Rnd 1**	2 sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 10 chs, 3 sc in next ch, sc in next 10 chs, sl st in first sc to join **(25 sc)**
	Fasten off B.
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join A with sl st in first st, ch 1, 2 hdc in same st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st, 3 hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, sl st in first hdc to join **(35 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), hdc in next 3 sts, dc in next st, 3 tr in next st, 2 dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, hdc in next st, sc in next 6 sts, hdc in next st, 2 dc in each of next 2 sts, dc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts, 2 dc in each of next 2 sts, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(23 dc, 12 hdc, 3 tr, 6 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Ear: make 2

Yarn A, charcoal black.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 10.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 8 chs	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog in next 2 sts	**(2 sc2tog, 5 sc)**
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(7 sc)**
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog in next 2 sts	**(2 sc2tog, 3 sc)**
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next st, sc2tog in next 2 sts	**(2 sc2tog, 1 sc)**
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(3 sc)**
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn, sc3tog in next 3 sts	**(1 sc3tog)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing.	

Inner ear: make 2

Yarn C, pink.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 6.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 4 chs	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next st, sc2tog in next 2 sts	**(2 sc2tog, 1 sc)**
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(3 sc)**
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn, sc3tog in next 3 sts	**(1 sc3tog)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.	

Nose

Yarn C, pink.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 6.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 4 chs	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next st, sc2tog in next 2 sts	**(2 sc2tog, 1 sc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn, sc3tog in next 3 sts	**(1 sc3tog)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing.	

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Finishing

- Block: pin the pieces to shape on a flat surface, right sides up. Each eye piece has a straight inner end, a level top edge with a nearly square corner at its inner end and a rounded corner at its outer end, and a round lower edge; draw its opening to an almond about 1 1/8 in (2.9 cm) tall in its middle. Spray the pieces with water and let them dry.
- Bridge: lay the right eye piece at the right and the left eye piece at the left, right sides up, inner ends together and the 3 tr of both at the top. Sew 6 sts of one to 6 sts of the other, from the top down, with the tail of the right piece: on the right piece these are, from the top, the last tr of the 3 tr, the last dc, and the first 4 sts of Rnd 3 (3 hdc and 1 dc); on the left piece, from the top, the first tr of the 3 tr, and then, going back, the 5 sts before it (dc, 3 hdc and the ch 3 that began the round). This seam is the middle of the mask. Take the tail through to the back.
- Inner ears: lay each inner ear on an ear, both right side up and points up, the middle of its straight edge 5/8 in (1.6 cm) above the middle of the straight edge of the ear. Sew it down all round with its tail.
- Ears: put the ears behind the top edge of the mask, right sides up, the middle of the straight edge of each 2 5/8 in (6.7 cm) to the side of the line of the seam, with ¼ in (0.6 cm) of the ear hidden along its whole straight edge. The ears lean outward: the tip of each lies 3 in (7.6 cm) to the side of the line of the seam. Run the tail of each ear down through the stitches on its wrong side, from the tip to the straight edge, and sew the ear to the back with it, along the top edge of the mask and along the straight edge of the ear, through the back of the stitches.
- Nose: lay it on the bridge, right side up, its straight edge at the top, level, with its middle on the seam and 3/8 in (1 cm) above the lower end of the seam; its point hangs 3/8 in (1 cm) below the seam. Sew it down with its tail: from the point up one side, along the straight edge and down the other side, wherever it lies on the mask.
- Whiskers: with D, make 2 long chains of ch 17 and 2 short chains of ch 13, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail at the start and a 3 in (8 cm) tail at the end of each. A long chain is about 4 in (10.2 cm) long and a short one 3 in (7.6 cm). Each side of the mask has a long whisker above a short one; the end with the long tail goes nearest to the nose. Measure to the side from the seam, and down from the level of the straight edge of the nose. The long whisker begins 5/8 in (1.6 cm) to the side and ¾ in (1.9 cm) down, lies on the black below the gold rim, is at its lowest 2 in (5.1 cm) to the side and 7/8 in (2.2 cm) down, and then rises in a long curve: it leaves the mask 3 7/8 in (9.8 cm) to the side and 5/8 in (1.6 cm) down. The short whisker begins ¾ in (1.9 cm) to the side and 1 in (2.5 cm) down and slants outward and down in a curve that grows steeper: it leaves the mask 2¼ in (5.7 cm) to the side and 1½ in (3.8 cm) down. With the long tail, sew each chain down, with small stitches through the middle of every 2nd chain, as far as the edge of the mask. The rest of it is free. Draw the short tail back through the free chains with the needle and trim it.
- Ties: at the outer end of each eye piece, with A, join with a sl st in the single dc of Rnd 3 that stands between the 3 hdc and the two groups of 2 dc of the upper outer corner, ch 51 and fasten off. Each tie is about 12 in (30.5 cm) long. Knot its end and trim the yarn to ½ in (1.3 cm).
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 7 pieces.

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

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.