Chicken potholder

US terms



Finished size
About 9 in (23 cm) from the beak to the tail and 10 in (25 cm) tall with the comb, without the loop; the body alone about 8 in (20 cm) across with its scallops

Skill
Easy
Rounds with increases, single stitches of a second color, and pieces to sew on

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 colors

Hook
4 mm (US G-6)

Gauge
16 stitches and 18 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet (UK double crochet).

What you need

Yarn A: ivory, main color	**about 140 yd (128 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: charcoal, stripe	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: red, stripe	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: honey, stripe	**about 2 yd (2 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 90 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

Fiber: cotton

Hook: 4 mm (US G-6), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, a tape measure and about 15 pins and 1 stitch marker.

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 15 percent added.

Gauge

16 stitches and 18 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

Check it on the lining: 4 rounds measure about 1¾ in (4.5 cm) across and 9 rounds about 4 in (10 cm). If it measures more, start again with a smaller hook; if it measures less, with a larger one.

Notes

- The ch 1 at the start of a row or a round does not count as a stitch.
- The right side of a piece in rounds is the side that faces you as you work; the right side of a piece in rows is the side that faces you in row 1.

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- An oval (the head, the wing, the tail feather) and a leaf shape (the wattle) begin with a chain that is worked on both of its sides. When the last chain is worked, do not turn: go on round the end and work back along the other side of the chain, the first stitch into the same chain as the last one, and the last stitch into the chain where the round began.
- Where the words in square brackets of an oval are worked 2 times, each time is one half of the oval: from one end, along one long side, to the other end.
- To sew a piece on: lay it where the step says, right side up, and hold it with pins. With the yarn on a yarn needle, come up from below through both loops of a stitch of its edge and go down into the piece underneath, just outside that stitch. Work one sewing stitch for each stitch of the edge that is named. A chain of a foundation edge counts as a stitch, and so does the end of a row. Fasten off where it does not show.
- Use it dry: a wet potholder lets the heat through.
- Leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) when you begin, when you join a yarn and when you fasten off, unless another length is given. The ends that are not sewn with are woven in.
- When a ball runs out in the middle of a round, work the last yarn over of a stitch with the next ball, and leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) on both.
- Whip stitch: with the yarn on a yarn needle, pass the needle under both loops of a stitch on one edge and under both loops of the stitch that lies against it on the other edge, and pull the yarn through. Do the same in the next stitch of each edge. On a foundation chain edge, pass the needle under the lower strands of each chain that holds a stitch of row 1. Fasten a length where the sewing begins and where it ends: sew 2 or 3 times into the same place.
- Stitches in parentheses are all worked into the one place named after them. "2 sc in next st" puts both stitches in that one place.
- Magic ring: wind the yarn once round two fingers, put the hook through the ring and pull up a loop of the working yarn. Round 1 begins with this loop on the hook. Work round 1 into the ring, over both strands, then pull the tail to close it.
- In joined rounds, the first stitch of a round goes into the same stitch as the joining sl st. The joining sl st itself is not a stitch and is not worked into.
- To join a yarn with a sl st, make a slip knot of it on the hook, put the hook in the place named, yo, and pull through the place and the loop on the hook.
- Specks: in the rounds of the body that name B, join B with a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) on the wrong side, just before its first stitch in that round. Make the last yarn over of the stitch before a speck with B, work the one sc of the speck in B, and make its last yarn over with A. Between the specks lay the yarn that is not in use along the top of the round below and work over it. After the last speck of the round cut B, leaving a tail of about 6 in (15 cm). A is not cut in the body.
- Wing: rounds 1 and 3 are worked in A, rounds 2 and 4 in B. Make the joining sl st of rounds 1, 2 and 3 with the yarn of the next round: put the hook in the first stitch, take the new yarn over the hook and pull it through. Cut the old yarn each time, and leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) on the old yarn and on the new one.
- Use cotton yarn. Acrylic yarn can melt.
- Buy whole balls from one dye lot.

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Instructions

US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **hdc** half double crochet (UK half treble), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **tr** treble crochet (UK double treble), **Rnd** round, **st** stitch.
sc2tog 2 sc made into one, **sc3tog** 3 sc made into one, **sk** skip, **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. **( )**: all of it goes into the one place.
(6 sc): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Lining

Yarn A, ivory.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1, 6 sc in ring; pull the tail to close the ring; join with sl st in first sc	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(54 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(60 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 10 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(72 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(78 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 12 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(84 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(90 sc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 14 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(96 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

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Body

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

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1, 6 sc in ring; pull the tail to close the ring; join with sl st in first sc	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(54 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 4 sts, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(60 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 10 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(72 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(78 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 12 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(84 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 4 sts, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 4 sts, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(90 sc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 14 sts**] 6 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(96 sc)

Stop here for a moment: weave in the ends of the lining and of the body. Lay the lining behind the body, wrong sides together, the joins of the two one behind the other. In round 17 work every stitch through both layers: through the st of the body and the st of the lining that lies behind it. Where the round says sk, the stitches are skipped in both layers

☐ **Rnd 17**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 16 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(16 sc, 80 dc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

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Head: make 2

Yarn A, ivory.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 10.
☐ **Rnd 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across, working along the other side of the chain, sc in each ch across; join with sl st in first sc (18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, **[**3 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**; join with sl st in first sc (24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in each of next 2 sts**] 2 times**; join with sl st in first sc (30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**; join with sl st in first sc (36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**; join with sl st in first sc (42 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.

Comb

Yarn C, red.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 14.
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across (13 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; sl st in first st, **[**sk next st, 5 tr in next st, sk next st, sl st in next st**] 3 times** (4 sl sts, 15 tr)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.

Ruff

Yarn A, ivory.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 14.
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across (13 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; sl st in first st, **[**sk next st, 5 tr in next st, sk next st, sl st in next st**] 3 times** (4 sl sts, 15 tr)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 20 in (51 cm) for sewing.

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Beak

Yarn D, honey.

☐ **Foundation**	With D, ch 6.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(5 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 3** 2 3	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next st, sc2tog	(1 sc, 2 sc2tog)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc3tog	(1 sc3tog)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Wattle

Yarn C, red.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 7.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, hdc in next ch, dc in next 2 chs, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch, working along the other side of the chain, sc in next ch, hdc in next ch, dc in next 2 chs, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch; join with sl st in first sc	(4 sc, 4 hdc, 4 dc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 14 in (36 cm) for sewing.	

Eye

Yarn B, charcoal.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1, 7 sc in ring; pull the tail to close the ring; join with sl st in first sc	(7 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 16 in (41 cm) for sewing.	

Wing

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

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 11.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across, working along the other side of the chain, sc in each ch across; join with sl st in first sc	(20 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	With B, ch 1, **[**3 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**; join with sl st in first sc	(26 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	With A, ch 1, sc in next st, 2 sc in each of next 2 sts, hdc in next 4 sts, sc in next 6 sts, (hdc, dc, hdc) in next st, sc in next 6 sts, hdc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in each of next 2 sts; join with sl st in first sc	(21 sc, 10 hdc, 1 dc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	With B, ch 1, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 14 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 14 sts, 2 sc in next st; join with sl st in first sc	(36 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 38 in (97 cm) for sewing.	

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Tail feather: make 4

Yarn B, charcoal.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 10.
☐ **Rnd 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across, working along the other side of the chain, sc in each ch across; join with sl st in first sc (18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, **[**3 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**; join with sl st in first sc (24 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 20 in (51 cm) for sewing.

Assembly

1. Weave in all the ends but the tails to sew with.

2. Lay the body with its specked side up and the join of its rounds at the bottom: this is the front of the hen, and she looks to the left. The middle of the rounds is the middle of the body. Round 17 has 16 scallops, and an sc stands between every two of them. The sc at the join is the 1st, and the 9th is at the very top. The upright middle line runs from the join to this sc.

3. Comb and beak: lay the two heads wrong sides together, the join of both at the lower end and the front one up. Put a marker in the stitch of round 5 in the middle of the upper end: it is stitch 22 of the 42. In what follows, left and right are said of the front head as it faces you, and each stitch of it lies on one of the head behind. The comb goes between the heads, its scallops standing out and its foundation chain one round in from the edge: it takes the marked stitch, 9 stitches to the right of it and 3 to the left. The beak goes between the heads with its point outward and its row 1 inside, so that rows 2 to 5 stand out: it takes the 4th to the 8th stitch on the left. Pin both.

4. Cut a length of A about 34 in (86 cm) long. Whip stitch the two heads together, stitch to stitch, from the 10th stitch on the right of the marker, over the top and down to the 12th stitch on the left: 23 stitches, through the comb and the beak where they lie between. The 19 stitches round the lower end stay open.

5. Head on the body: slip the open end over the edge of the body, the front head on the front and the other one behind. The middle of the lower end of the head lies 1¾ in (4.5 cm) to the left of the upright middle line and 1¼ in (3 cm) higher than the middle of the body. The marked stitch at the top lies 2¾ in (7 cm) to the left of the upright middle line and 5 3/8 in (13.5 cm) higher than the middle of the body. Pin it. Cut a length of A about 42 in (107 cm) long. Sew the 19 open stitches of the front head to the front, taking up only the front layer, and to the scallops where they lie under it. Then turn the hen over and sew the 19 open stitches of the head behind to the lining in the same way: 38 stitches.

6. Ruff: lay it on the front head, right side up, with its scallops outward over the body. Its foundation chain follows round 5 of the head round the lower end, the 7th of its 13 chains at the join of the head, which is the middle of the lower end. Run the tail down the end of row 1 to the chain, ease the chain to that curve and sew it to the front head: 13 stitches. The scallops stay free.

7. Wattle: the end where its round was joined is its top. Lay it right side up on the front head, over the ruff where it reaches that far. Its top lies ¼ in (6 mm) in from the edge of the head, beside the 9th stitch to the left of the marker, just below the beak. From there it hangs straight down, so that about half of its width lies on the head and half stands past the edge. With its tail sew the top to the front head: 4 stitches, 2 on each side of the join. The lower part hangs free.

8. Eye: sew it to the front head with its tail, 7 stitches. Its place: the head leans, and its long middle line runs from the marked stitch at the top to the join at its lower end. Measure 1 in (2.5 cm) from the marked stitch along this leaning line, toward the join, and from there ¼ in (6 mm) to the left, square to the line: this is the place of the middle of the eye. Glint: cut a length of A about 10 in (25 cm) and work one tiny straight stitch into the upper left part of the eye.

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Take out the marker.

9. Wing: the end where its rounds are joined is the shoulder, and the pointed end is the tip. Lay it on the front, right side up: the middle of the shoulder end is 1¼ in (3 cm) to the left of the upright middle line and 1 in (2.5 cm) lower than the middle of the body; the tip is 2 7/8 in (7.5 cm) to the right of the upright middle line and level with the middle of the body. With its tail sew it down all round, taking up only the front layer of the body, so that the lining stays clean: 36 stitches.

10. Tail: the base of a feather is the end where its rounds were joined. Turn the hen over. Lay the four feathers on the lining like a fan, wrong side up, every one with its middle line on a line that runs straight out from the middle of the body, its base 1 in (2.5 cm) in from the edge of round 16 and its tip outward. Seen from the front they are at the upper right: count from the sc at the very top to the right. The 1st feather crosses the edge at the next sc, the 2nd at the middle of the scallop after it, the 3rd at the sc after that, and the 4th at the middle of the next scallop. The 1st and the 3rd lie on the lining first, and the 2nd and the 4th lie over their edges. With its tail sew each feather to the lining, along the part of its edge that lies on it: about 10 stitches.

11. Hanging loop: join A with a sl st in the sc at the very top of round 17, ch 16, sl st in the same sc, and fasten off. Weave in the ends.

Finishing

- Weave in what is left of the sewing lengths between the layers.

In all: 14 pieces; 2,412 stitches.

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

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