Curled-up sleeping fox

US terms



Finished size
About 6 in (15 cm) across, 6¼ in (16 cm) from front to back and 3¾ in (9.5 cm) tall at the ears

Skill
Intermediate
Ten pieces worked in rounds and rows and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 3 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.

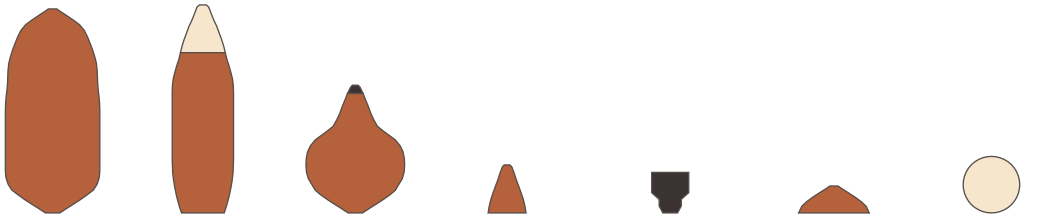
What you need

Yarn A: copper	**about 195 yd (178 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, tail, cheek and the details	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: charcoal, head, inner ear and the details	**about 10 yd (9 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.

The pieces



Body
Tail to the body
Head
Ear x 2 to the head
Inner ear x 2
Haunch to the body
Cheek x 2 to the head

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.

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Instructions

US terms.

sc single crochet (UK dc), **hdc** half double crochet (UK htr), **ch** chain, **sc2tog** 2 sc made into one, **st** stitch.
2 sc in next st: **both in one stitch**. Sc in next 2 sts: one in each.
Rounds run in a **spiral**: mark the first stitch and move the marker up each round. **Working in the round**
[ ] 6 times: 6 times in all. (18 sc): the round now has 18; a check, not a step. **How to read a pattern**
Also: RS right side, yo yarn over.
Every stitch, drawn: flossfield.com/crochet/stitches.

Body

Yarn A, copper.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring. *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.*	
☐ **Round 1 (RS)**	6 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Round 2**	2 sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	(28 sc)
☐ **Round 6**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts**] 2 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 14 sts**] 2 times**	(32 sc)
☐ **Round 8**	**[**sc in next 15 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(34 sc)
☐ **Round 9**	**[**sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts**] 2 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Round 10**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 17 sts**] 2 times**	(38 sc)
☐ **Rounds 11 to 14** 11 12 13 14	Hdc in next 19 sts, sc in next 19 sts	(38 sts)
☐ **Round 15**	**[**sc in next 18 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(40 sc)
	Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 20 and 21 of round 15. This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the right.	
☐ **Rounds 16 to 27** 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	Hdc in next 20 sts, sc in next 20 sts	(40 sts)
☐ **Round 28**	Sc in each st around	(40 sc)
☐ **Round 29**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 4 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Round 30**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 31**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(24 sc)

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

☐ **Round 32**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 33**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 34**	**[**sc2tog**] 6 times**	(6 sc)
☐	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. Bend the body into a crescent, its center line on top: the half of each round worked in hdc is the outside of the curve, the half worked in sc the inside. (The hdc side leans a little round the piece from one end to the other, as rounds worked in a spiral do; go by its middle.) With a new length of A (copper), work running stitches along the middle of the inside, a quarter of the way round from the center line, from round 9 to round 29, draw them up until the middle of round 1 and the closed hole are about 3¾ in (9.5 cm) apart, and fasten off. Press the underside flatter with the palm of your hand. Lay the crescent on the table, center line up, its open side toward you, round 1 at the right and the closed hole at the left: this is the front.	

Tail

Begin with yarn B, cream.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Round 1 (RS)**	5 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(5 sc)
☐ **Round 2**	Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st	(7 sc)
☐ **Round 3**	Sc in next st, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 3 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Round 6**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(16 sc)
☐ **Round 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts**] 2 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 8**	Sc in next 17 sts, 2 sc in next st	(19 sc)
☐ **Round 9**	With A, sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 9 sts	(20 sc)
☐ **Round 10**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 9 sts**] 2 times**	(22 sc)
☐ **Round 11**	**[**sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Round 12**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**	(26 sc)
☐ **Rounds 13 to 26**	Sc in each st around	(26 sc)

13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

☐ **Round 27**	Sc2tog, sc in next 24 sts	(25 sc)
☐ **Round 28**	Sc in next 23 sts, sc2tog	(24 sc)
☐ **Round 29**	Sc in next 11 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 11 sts	(23 sc)
☐ **Round 30**	Sc2tog, sc in next 21 sts	(22 sc)

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☐ **Round 31**	**[**sc in next 9 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	(20 sc)
☐ **Round 32**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	(18 sc)
☐	Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Head

Begin with yarn C, charcoal.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Round 1 (RS)**	4 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(4 sc)
☐ **Round 2**	2 sc in each of next 2 sts, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	(7 sc)
☐ **Round 3**	With A, sc in next st, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts	(11 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st	(13 sc)
☐ **Round 6**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts	(15 sc)
☐ **Round 7**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts	(17 sc)
☐ **Round 8**	Sc in next st, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 5 times**, 2 sc in next st	(23 sc)
☐ **Round 9**	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 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts	(29 sc)
☐ **Round 10**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 5 times**	(35 sc)
☐ **Round 11**	Sc in next 7 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts**] 3 times**, 2 sc in next st	(39 sc)
☐ **Round 12**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 3 times**	(42 sc)

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 21 and 22 of round 12. This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the front end.

☐ **Rounds 13 to 16**	Sc in each st around	(42 sc)

13 14 15 16

☐ **Round 17**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Round 18**	Sc in each st around	(36 sc)
☐ **Round 19**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 20**	**[**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.

☐ **Round 21**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 22**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(12 sc)

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☐ **Round 23**	**[**sc2tog**] 6 times**	(6 sc)
☐	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.	

Ear: make 2

Yarn A, copper.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Round 1 (RS)**	4 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(4 sc)
☐ **Round 2**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(6 sc)
☐ **Round 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	(8 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(10 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Round 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**	(16 sc)
☐ **Round 8**	Sc in each st around	(16 sc)
☐	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 8 stitches.	

Inner ear: make 2

Yarn C, charcoal.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 5 stitches wide at the start. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Start**	With C, ch 6.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second 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	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next st	(2 sc)
☐	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing.	

Haunch

Yarn A, copper.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Round 1 (RS)**	6 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Round 2**	2 sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)

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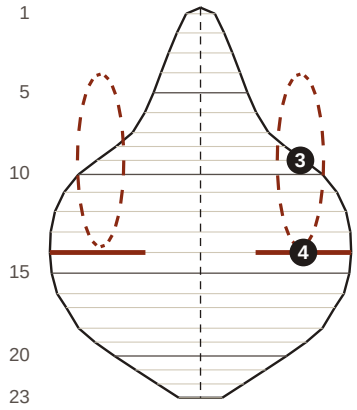
☐ **Round 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 6**	Sc in each st around	(30 sc)
☐	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Cheek: make 2

Yarn B, cream.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Round 1 (RS)**	6 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Round 2**	2 sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐	Fasten off, leaving a 22 in (56 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

Assembly



Head: 3 cheeks, 4 ears

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. Pin the tail to the body: the middle of the open edge lies on round 31, on the center line. The edge (18 sts) covers about rounds 28 to 34 of the body. It points to the left and forward, turns to the right by about round 18 of the tail and points to the right by the tip, so that it closes the ring in front and its tip lies under the place of the chin. Bend it as you pin it, and hold each bend with a few running stitches, drawn up a little, on the side it turns toward. 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. Where the tail lies against the front of the body, catch the two together with two or three stitches.

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2. Set the head on the right end of the body, its center line on top. Turn the nose (round 1) to point forward and to the left, half way between the two, level with the table. The place on round 16 of the head, 6 stitches to the left of the line opposite its center line, lies over round 4 of the body, on the center line. Press the head down until the two touch in a circle. On the body it reaches from about round 1 to about round 8 along the center line and about 5 stitches to each side of it on round 4. On the head it reaches from about round 13 to about round 20, and on round 16 from about 3 stitches to about 10 stitches to the left of the line opposite the center line. With a new length of A (copper), sew round that circle twice, through both pieces. The chin rests on the tip of the tail: with a new length of B (cream), sew the two together where they touch.

3. Lay the two cheeks flat on the head, right side out, the middle of each on round 9, one to each side, 8½ stitches from the center line (12 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). Ease each into an oval about 1¾ in (4.5 cm) from front to back and 1 in (2.5 cm) across as you pin it. Sew down all 24 stitches of the edge.

4. Pin the two ears to the head: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 14, one to each side, 6½ stitches from the center line (13 stitches apart). The flat edge runs along the round, half of it on each side of that place. They point up and out to the side. Sew through both layers of the 8-stitch edge with the tail.

5. Sew one inner ear flat to the side of each ear that faces the way the nose points, right side out, row 1 along the lower edge and the point toward the tip, the same distance from both sides. Go all the way round its edge with its tail.

6. Pin the haunch to the body: the middle of the open edge lies on round 25, 5 stitches from the center line, on the outside of the curve. The edge (30 sts) covers about rounds 21 to 29 of the body. It points up and a little to the outside. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

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. 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.
- Closed eyes: with C (charcoal), in backstitch, a closed eye on each side, one curve about 3/8 in (10 mm) wide that dips 1/8 in (3 mm) below its ends. The place half way between the two ends of each is on the head on round 11, one to each side, 5 stitches from the center line (10 stitches apart). The two ends of each are level, one nearer the nose and one nearer the ear, and the curve dips toward the cheek.
- 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: 10 pieces; 2,816 stitches (1,096 in the body, 688 in the tail, 574 in the head, 86 in each ear, 23 in each inner ear, 120 in the haunch, 60 in each cheek).

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.

Notes

- Every piece that has rounds 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.
- Color change: where a line begins "With A," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in A. Cut the old yarn and knot the ends on the wrong side.
- 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.
- Head: the center line runs between stitches 21 and 22 of round 12 (42 sts). This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the front end.

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- Body: the center line runs between stitches 20 and 21 of round 15 (40 sts). This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the right.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the fox. 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 4½ in (11.5 cm) across, 4¾ in (12 cm) from front to back and 2¾ in (7 cm) tall at the ears; multiply lengths by 0.74; about 0.74 times the yarn.
- Large: bulky (5, chunky) yarn, 5 mm (H-8) hook, 14 sc and 15.4 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): about 8½ in (21.5 cm) across, 9 in (23 cm) from front to back and 5¼ in (13.5 cm) tall at the ears; 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 11 in (28 cm) across, 11¼ in (28.5 cm) from front to back and 6¾ in (17 cm) tall at the ears; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.

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

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