Curly octopus

US terms



Finished size
About 4 in (10 cm) tall

Skill
Easy
Nine pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 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.

You will need

Yarn A: periwinkle, head and arm	**about 175 yd (160 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: peach, head and arm	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: navy, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: coral, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

Hook: 3.5 mm (US E-4). Also: toy stuffing, a yarn needle, a stitch marker, pins, scissors and two black plastic eyes with washers, 12 mm.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. The estimate is from the stitches 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.

sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
sc2tog	single crochet 2 stitches together
MR	magic ring
RS	right side

Gauge

20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet, in a spiral.

20 sc and 22 rounds = 4 in (10 cm), worked 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.

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Before you start

- Every piece 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.
- 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.
- Color change: where a line begins "With B," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in B. 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 27 and 28 of round 9 (54 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the top.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the toy. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- Running stitches go in and out along a line.
- 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.
- For a child under three, or a pet, embroider the eyes instead: satin stitch dots of the same size in C (navy).
- 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: 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 3 in (7.6 cm) tall; eyes 9 mm; 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 5¾ in (14.5 cm) tall; eyes 17 mm; 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 7¼ in (18.5 cm) tall; eyes 22 mm; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.

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Instructions

Square brackets [ ] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. 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 sc is double crochet.

Head

Yarns in order of use: A, periwinkle; B, peach.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(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 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(54 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 10 to 21**	Sc in each st around	**(54 sc)**

A box for each round, 10 to 21: tick them off as you go.

☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20 ☐ 21

☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts**] 6 times**	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	Sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 26**	With B, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 27**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

Fix the eyes now (see Face and details). Then stuff firmly, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 28**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 29**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 30**	**[**sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(6 sc)**
☐ **End**	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.	

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Arm: make 8

Yarns in order of use: B, peach; A, periwinkle.

Stuff lightly every few rounds as you go, so that the tube still bends.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	With A, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 4 to 6**	Sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**

A box for each round, 4 to 6: tick them off as you go.

4 5 6

☐ **Rnd 7**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 8 to 10**	Sc in each st around	**(10 sc)**

A box for each round, 8 to 10: tick them off as you go.

8 9 10

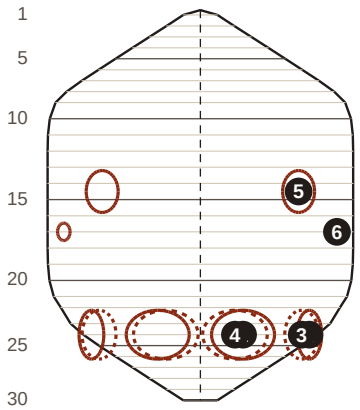
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(11 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	Sc in each st around	**(11 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 14 to 18**	Sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**

A box for each round, 14 to 18: tick them off as you go.

14 15 16 17 18

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing.

Assembly



Head: 1 arms, 2 arms, 3 arms, 4 arms, 5 eyes, 6 cheeks

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.

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1. Pin two arms to the head: the middle of each open edge lies on round 24, one to each side, 2½ stitches from the center line (5 stitches apart). The edge (12 sts) covers about rounds 22 to 26 of the head. They point forward and down, then curve until the tip of each points up. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a few running stitches along its inner side, drawn up a little. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

2. Pin two arms to the head: the middle of each open edge lies on round 24, one to each side, 8 stitches from the center line (16 stitches apart). The edge (12 sts) covers about rounds 22 to 26 of the head. They point out to the side and down, turn up by about round 8 of the arm and in toward the middle by the tip. Bend each 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 the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

3. Pin two arms to the head: the middle of each open edge lies on round 24, one to each side, 14 stitches from the center line (14 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). The edge (12 sts) covers about rounds 22 to 26 of the head. They point out to the side and down, turn up by about round 8 of the arm and in toward the middle and forward by the tip. Bend each 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 the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

4. Pin two arms to the head: the middle of each open edge lies on round 24, one to each side, 19 stitches from the center line (4 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). The edge (12 sts) covers about rounds 22 to 26 of the head. They point back and down, turn up by about round 8 of the arm and forward by the tip. Bend each 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 the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

Finishing

- Put in the plastic eyes when the words of a piece say so, or embroider eyes in the same places with the other details. 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. Satin stitch is straight stitches side by side until the shape is filled. 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.
- Eyes: two 12 mm black plastic eyes, on the head between rounds 14 and 15, one to each side, 6 stitches from the center line (12 stitches apart).
- Cheeks: with D (coral), in satin stitch, an oval about 5/16 in (8 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the head on round 17, one to each side, 9½ stitches from the center line (19 stitches apart).
- Mouth: with C (navy), in backstitch, a smile, one curve about 7/16 in (11 mm) wide that dips 3/16 in (5 mm) below its ends. Its two ends are on the head between rounds 16 and 17, one to each side of the center line.
- 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: 9 pieces; 2,654 stitches (1,182 in the head, 184 in each arm); 18 ends to weave in.

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

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