Dragon scale bucket bag

US terms



Finished size
About 6 in (15 cm) across the base and 7¾ in (19.5 cm) tall, with about 13¾ in (35 cm) of strap between its sewn ends

Skill
Intermediate
It has one special stitch, the scale, worked round the posts of the stitches below.

Yarn
Light (3), 5 colors

Hook
4 mm (US G-6)

Gauge
20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: deep emerald, the base, the lowest scales, the cord and the tassels	**about 120 yd (110 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: emerald, scales	**about 50 yd (46 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: moss, scales	**about 50 yd (46 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: old gold, scales	**about 50 yd (46 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: bronze, the top scales, the top and the strap	**about 130 yd (119 m), an estimate**

Fiber: cotton

Hook: 4 mm (US G-6), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, pins and a piece of card 2 in (5 cm) wide, for the tassels.

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.

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)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
BLO	back loop only
MR	magic ring
st	stitch
sp	space
sk	skip (UK miss)

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rnd	round
RS	right side

Special stitches

pair: 2 dc in the place named. A pair counts as 1 stitch.

scale: Worked on the right side, in front of the pair named, round the posts of its two dc. Every dc of a scale is worked with the hook under the whole post, as under a bar. Turn the bag a quarter, so that the base is at your left (at your right if you work left-handed), and work 5 dc round the post of the first dc of the pair, the first of them at its top and the last at its foot. Turn the bag half round, so that the base is at the other hand, and work 5 dc round the post of the second dc, the first at its foot and the last at its top. Turn the bag upright again. The 10 dc stand out to both sides of the pair as one rounded scale, its tip toward the base. A scale counts as 1 stitch.

Gauge

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

A scale row is a round of pairs and a round of scales together. The ten scale rows are about 5½ in (14 cm) tall, measured on the wrong side; the scales themselves are longer and hang over the row below. If yours come out a little taller or shorter, the bag is so much taller or shorter and nothing else changes.

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 16 the base should measure about 6 in (15 cm) across, laid flat and not stretched. If the piece measures more than that, begin again with a smaller hook; if it measures less, with a larger hook.

Before you start

- Begin with a magic ring: wind the yarn once round two fingers, put the hook through the ring and draw up a loop. Work round 1 into the ring, then pull the tail to draw the ring closed.
- Each round is joined with a slip stitch and all of them are worked with the right side facing; never turn. The chain at the start of a round does not count as a stitch: work the first stitch of the round into the first place of the round below, the one the round below was joined in. A round of pairs is joined in the top of the first dc of its first pair, and a round of scales in the top of its first sc, or of the first dc of its first scale.
- Into a pair or a scale: where the pattern says to work a stitch into a pair, put the hook between the two dc of that pair, at their tops. A scale hangs in front of its pair, so a stitch worked into a scale goes into the same place: between the two dc of the pair behind it.
- How the scales lie: each is worked on every second pair, with one sc in the pair between, which holds it down. In the next scale row the scales come on the other pairs, so that each lies over the gap between two of the row below.
- Where the pattern says BLO, put the hook under the back loop only; the front loop stays on the outside as a ridge.
- The chain of 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch. This is for the strap, which is worked in rows.
- Whip stitch: put the needle through both edges from back to front, one stitch for each stitch or row, and draw the yarn snug.
- To change color where a joined round begins, draw the new yarn through as the last yarn over of the slip stitch that ends the round before. Cut the old yarn at each change, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).
- For a longer strap begin with more chains: 20 more for every 4 in (10 cm). Every row then has 20 more stitches.
- Colors, round by round. Rounds 1 to 23: A. Rounds 24 to 27: B. Rounds 28 to 31: C. Rounds 32 to 35: D. Rounds 36 to 49: E.

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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 sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet, dc is treble and sk is miss.

Bag

Yarns in order of use: A, deep emerald; B, emerald; C, moss; D, old gold; E, bronze.

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

> **Stop and measure now, after round 16.** The base should measure about 6 in (15 cm) across.

Sides

☐ **Rnd 17**	Ch 1, sc in BLO of each st around, sl st in first sc to join	**(96 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 18 to 19**	Ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	**(96 sc)**

A box for each round, 18 to 19: tick them off as you go.

☐ 18 ☐ 19

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Scale row 1

☐ **Rnd 20**	Ch 2, **[**pair in next st, ch 1, sk next 2 sts**] 32 times**, sl st in first pair to join	**(32 pairs, 32 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next st, sk next ch-1 sp, scale in next st, sk next ch-1 sp**] 16 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(16 sc, 16 scales)**

Scale row 2

☐ **Rnd 22**	Ch 2, **[**pair in next st, ch 1**] 32 times**, sl st in first pair to join	**(32 pairs, 32 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	Ch 1, **[**scale in next st, sk next ch-1 sp, sc in next st, sk next ch-1 sp**] 16 times**, sl st in first scale to join	**(16 scales, 16 sc)**

Scale row 3

☐ **Rnd 24**	With B, ch 2, **[**pair in next st, ch 1**] 32 times**, sl st in first pair to join	**(32 pairs, 32 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next st, sk next ch-1 sp, scale in next st, sk next ch-1 sp**] 16 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(16 sc, 16 scales)**

Scale row 4

☐ **Rnd 26**	Ch 2, **[**pair in next st, ch 1**] 32 times**, sl st in first pair to join	**(32 pairs, 32 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 27**	Ch 1, **[**scale in next st, sk next ch-1 sp, sc in next st, sk next ch-1 sp**] 16 times**, sl st in first scale to join	**(16 scales, 16 sc)**

Scale row 5

☐ **Rnd 28**	With C, ch 2, **[**pair in next st, ch 1**] 32 times**, sl st in first pair to join	**(32 pairs, 32 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 29**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next st, sk next ch-1 sp, scale in next st, sk next ch-1 sp**] 16 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(16 sc, 16 scales)**

Scale row 6

☐ **Rnd 30**	Ch 2, **[**pair in next st, ch 1**] 32 times**, sl st in first pair to join	**(32 pairs, 32 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 31**	Ch 1, **[**scale in next st, sk next ch-1 sp, sc in next st, sk next ch-1 sp**] 16 times**, sl st in first scale to join	**(16 scales, 16 sc)**

Scale row 7

☐ **Rnd 32**	With D, ch 2, **[**pair in next st, ch 1**] 32 times**, sl st in first pair to join	**(32 pairs, 32 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 33**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next st, sk next ch-1 sp, scale in next st, sk next ch-1 sp**] 16 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(16 sc, 16 scales)**

Scale row 8

☐ **Rnd 34**	Ch 2, **[**pair in next st, ch 1**] 32 times**, sl st in first pair to join	**(32 pairs, 32 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 35**	Ch 1, **[**scale in next st, sk next ch-1 sp, sc in next st, sk next ch-1 sp**] 16 times**, sl st in first scale to join	**(16 scales, 16 sc)**

Scale row 9

☐ **Rnd 36**	With E, ch 2, **[**pair in next st, ch 1**] 32 times**, sl st in first pair to join	**(32 pairs, 32 ch-1 sps)**

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☐ **Rnd 37**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next st, sk next ch-1 sp, scale in next st, sk next ch-1 sp**] 16 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(16 sc, 16 scales)**

Scale row 10

☐ **Rnd 38**	Ch 2, **[**pair in next st, ch 1**] 32 times**, sl st in first pair to join	**(32 pairs, 32 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 39**	Ch 1, **[**scale in next st, sk next ch-1 sp, sc in next st, sk next ch-1 sp**] 16 times**, sl st in first scale to join	**(16 scales, 16 sc)**

Top

☐ **Rnd 40**	Ch 1, 3 sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	**(96 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 41 to 44**	Ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	**(96 sc)**

A box for each round, 41 to 44: tick them off as you go.

41 42 43 44

☐ **Rnd 45**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 5 sts, ch 1, sk next st**] 16 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(80 sc, 16 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 46**	Ch 1, **[**sc in next 5 sts, sc in next ch-1 sp**] 16 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(96 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 47 to 49**	Ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	**(96 sc)**

A box for each round, 47 to 49: tick them off as you go.

47 48 49

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Strap

Yarn E, bronze.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 77.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(76 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 6**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(76 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 6: tick them off as you go.

2 3 4 5 6

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 16 in (41 cm) to sew one end. To sew the other end, cut a new length of the same yarn, also 16 in (41 cm).	

Assembly

1. Weave in all the tails of the bag itself on the wrong side; the tails of the strap come later. Turn the bag right side out, with the ridge of front loops round the edge of the base, and smooth every scale down so that its tip points to the base.

2. The strap is about 15¼ in (38.5 cm) long. Lay the bag flat. Count along round 44, the last round below the round of spaces: the middles of the two ends of the strap are 48 stitches apart, at the two side folds. Lay the end with the long tail upright on the outside of the bag, its middle on one side fold, so that it covers the 4 rounds of single crochet just below the round of spaces, rounds 41 to 44, and the strap goes up past the spaces. Whip stitch it down round its four edges, the fourth along the top of round 44, with that tail. Sew the other end at the other side fold in the same way with the new length. Take care that the strap is not twisted.

3. For the cord, with A, ch 165, about 26½ in (67.5 cm) long, and fasten off with a tail of 6 in (15 cm) at each end. Round 45 has 16 chain-1 spaces, an even number. Begin with the space nearest the middle of the front, halfway between the two ends of the strap: go in at that space from the outside, out at the next, and so on round, behind the strap at each

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side, so that the cord comes out at the last space, beside the one where it went in. Make both ends equally long.

4. Make two tassels. For each, wind A 24 times round a card 2 in (5 cm) wide and slip a 12 in (30 cm) length of A under the loops at one edge and knot it tight. Take the loops off the card and cut them at the other edge. Wind another 12 in (30 cm) length six times round the strands about ½ in (1.5 cm) below the knot, knot its two ends together and hide them among the strands. Knot each end of the cord to the tie at the top of a tassel, and draw its tail and the ends of the tie in among the strands. Draw the cord up and tie it in a bow.

Finishing

- Weave in on the inside the tail from the start of the strap and the ends left from sewing it on.
- If a scale curls up, pin its tip down on the row below, damp it and let it dry.

In all: 2 pieces.

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