Duckling Easter basket

Medium · US terms



Finished size
About 7¾ in (19.5 cm) across at the widest, 5½ in (14 cm) tall at the rim and 6¼ in (16 cm) across the opening, the head, the tail and the handle not counted

Skill
Easy
It is single crochet in plain rounds, with small pieces sewn on.

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 colors

Hook
5.5 mm (US I-9)

Gauge
12 stitches and 13 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet (UK double crochet).

What you need

Yarn A: butter yellow, the basket, the head, the wings, the tail and the handle	**about 475 yd (434 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: duck orange, the bill and the feet	**about 35 yd (32 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: dark brown, the eyes	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: white, the glints in the eyes	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 260 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

Fiber: cotton or acrylic

Two strands of yarn are held together throughout; the amounts above are for all of them.

Hook: 5.5 mm (US I-9). Also: a handful of toy stuffing, gingham ribbon 1 in (2.5 cm) wide, 30 in (76 cm) long, in blue and white, 4 stitch markers, pins, a yarn needle, scissors and a tape measure.

Sizes

Size	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Small	6¼ in (16 cm) across, 4¾ in (12 cm) tall	about 390 yd (357 m)
Medium (this file)	**7¾ in (19.5 cm) across, 5½ in (14 cm) tall**	**about 520 yd (475 m)**

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Gauge

12 stitches and 13 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

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 9 the base should measure about 5¾ in (14.5 cm) across, laid flat and not stretched. A range that is near enough is printed after that round. If the piece measures more than that, begin again with a smaller hook; if it measures less, with a larger hook.

Instructions

Medium. US terms.

sc single crochet (UK dc), **ch** chain, **hdc** half double crochet (UK htr), **dc** double crochet (UK tr), **sc2tog** 2 sc made into one, **st** stitch.

2 sc in next st: **both in one stitch**. Sc in next 3 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. ( ) in one place: all of it there. (18 sc): the round now has 18; a check, not a step. Not 18? **Pull it back**.

Also: RS right side.

Every stitch, drawn: flossfield.com/crochet/stitches.

Basket

Yarn A, butter yellow.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring. *Begin with a magic ring: wind the yarn once round two fingers, put the hook through the ring, draw up a loop and chain 1 to hold it, which does not count as a stitch. Work round 1 into the ring, then pull the tail to draw the ring closed.*	
☐ **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**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	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	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 6**	**[**Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Round 7**	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	(42 sc)
☐ **Round 8**	**[**Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(48 sc)
☐ **Round 9**	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	(54 sc)

> **Stop and measure now, after round 9.** The base should measure about 5¾ in (14.5 cm) across. A quarter of an inch (0.5 cm) more or less is near enough. Larger? Begin again with a smaller hook. Smaller? A larger hook.

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Sides

☐ **Round 10**	**[**Sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(60 sc)
☐ **Round 11**	Sc in each st around	(60 sc)
☐ **Round 12**	**[**Sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(66 sc)
☐ **Round 13**	Sc in each st around	(66 sc)
☐ **Round 14**	**[**Sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(72 sc)
☐ **Rounds 15 to 25**	Sc in each st around	(72 sc)

15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

☐ **Round 26**	**[**Sc in next 10 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(66 sc)
☐ **Round 27**	Sc in each st around	(66 sc)
☐ **Round 28**	**[**Sc in next 9 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(60 sc)
☐ **Round 29**	Sc in each st around	(60 sc)
☐	Slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Head

Yarn A, butter yellow.

Begin at the top of the head. The eyes and the bill are sewn on before the head is stuffed.

☐ **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**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	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	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 6**	**[**Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Rounds 7 to 12**	Sc in each st around	(36 sc)

7 8 9 10 11 12

☐ **Round 13**	Sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, **[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog**] 5 times**, sc in next 2 sts	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 14**	**[**Sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 38 in (96.5 cm) for sewing.	

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Bill

Yarn B, duck orange.

The bill is a flat pocket: it begins with its front edge and grows toward the head. Do not stuff it.

☐ **Start**	Ch 6.	
☐ **Round 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 3 chs, 3 sc in last ch, working along the other side of the foundation ch, sc in next 3 chs, 2 sc in last ch	(12 sc)
☐ **Rounds 2 to 4** 2 3 4	Sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 20 in (51 cm) for sewing.	

Eye: make 2

Yarn C, dark brown.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Round 1 (RS)**	6 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 14 in (35.5 cm) for sewing.	

Wing: make 2

Yarn A, butter yellow.

Begin at the tip of the wing. Do not stuff it: press it flat.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Round 1 (RS)**	6 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Round 2**	Sc in each st around	(6 sc)
☐ **Round 3**	**[**Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	Sc in each st around	(9 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 6**	**[**Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	(15 sc)
☐ **Rounds 7 to 8** 7 8	Sc in each st around	(15 sc)
☐ **Round 9**	**[**Sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 10**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Round 11**	**[**Sc in next st, sc2tog**] 3 times**	(6 sc)
☐	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 26 in (66 cm). With the needle run the tail through the front loops of the 6 stitches of round 11, pull it tight so that the hole closes, and take one stitch over the place. Keep the rest of the tail for sewing.	

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Tail

Yarn A, butter yellow.

Begin at the point. Stuff it lightly when the last round is done.

☐ **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 each st around	(6 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	**[**Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	Sc in each st around	(9 sc)
☐ **Round 6**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 7**	**[**Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	(15 sc)
☐ **Round 8**	Sc in each st around	(15 sc)
☐	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 24 in (61 cm) for sewing.	

Foot: make 2

Yarn B, duck orange.

The foot begins at the heel. The three groups of 5 stitches worked in one stitch are the toes.

☐ **Start**	Ch 4.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; **[**(hdc, 3 dc, hdc) in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**, (hdc, 3 dc, hdc) in next st	(6 hdc, 9 dc, 4 sc)
☐	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Handle

Yarn A, butter yellow.

☐ **Start**	Ch 6.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(5 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 47**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(5 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47

☐	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 20 in (51 cm) to sew one end. To sew the other end, cut a new length of the same yarn, also 20 in (51 cm).	

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Assembly

1. Weave in the tails of the basket on the inside, and the tails of the feet on their wrong side. The starting tails of the head, the bill, the wings and the tail stay inside these parts; weave in those of the eyes on the wrong side. The long tails are for sewing.

2. Where things go. The last stitch of the last round is at the middle of the back. The rounds of the sides are counted upward from 1, the first round after the base, to 20, the rim. Stitch 1 of the rim is the first stitch of the last round, the one the leveling slip stitch was worked into. Count from it in the direction you worked: put a marker in stitch 30, the middle of the front, one in stitch 15 and one in stitch 45, the two sides, and one in stitch 60, the last, the middle of the back.

3. The face. The last stitch of the neck is at the middle of the back of the head; turn the head so that it is away from you. The eyes lie on the middle of round 8, each with its middle 3 stitches to one side of the middle of the front, so that their middles are 6 stitches apart. With its own tail, on the right side of the head, sew each eye down flat. Fasten off inside the head. For each eye cut one strand of D, 12 in (30.5 cm) long, and work two straight stitches close together at the upper right of the eye as you look at it, each ¼ in (0.5 cm) long and upright. Fasten off inside.

4. The bill. Press it flat with its first round, the rounded edge, to the front: its open edge is then 6 stitches above and 6 below. The middle of the bill is straight below the middle between the eyes. With its tail whip stitch the 6 upper stitches to the head along the line between rounds 9 and 10, and the 6 lower stitches to the head one round further down, between rounds 10 and 11, so that the bill stands straight out and level. Fasten off inside the head. Now stuff the head firmly up to its open edge.

5. The tuft. Cut three lengths of A, each 5 in (12.5 cm) long, one strand each. Fold them in half together, draw the fold with the hook through the fabric at the magic ring on the top of the head, put the ends through the fold and pull them tight. Trim the tuft to ¾ in (2 cm).

6. The head goes on the rim at the front, its face to the front, away from the middle of the basket. The 24 stitches of its open edge are in two parts: the back part is the last stitch and the 5 stitches on each side of it, 11 in all, and the front part is the other 13. Pin the front part to the outside of the basket, its middle straight below the front marker on round 16 of the sides; let the two sides of the edge cross the rim, each 4 stitches from the front marker; and pin the back part to the inside, its middle straight below the same marker on round 17. With the long tail whip stitch the edge down all round, one stitch for each of its 24 stitches, through the wall. Before the last 4 stitches push in a little more stuffing, so that the head stands straight. Fasten off inside the basket.

7. The wings. Press each wing flat. Its tip points to the back and upward and its round end is toward the face. At each side of the basket, on the outside, the round end is 4 stitches in front of the side marker on round 9 of the sides, and the tip is 4 stitches behind the marker on round 14. With its tail, which is at the round end, sew the wing down flat along its edge: from the round end along the upper edge, and stop 3 rounds from the tip; pass the needle back to the round end on the inside of the basket, and sew the lower edge in the same way. The tip stays free. Fasten off inside.

8. The tail. Its point looks upward and back. Set its open edge on the outside of the back, below the back marker, in a circle: the upper edge of the circle is on round 18 of the sides, the lower edge on round 13. Pin it and with its tail whip stitch the 15 stitches down all round. Fasten off inside. Bend the point up with your fingers.

9. The feet. Turn the basket over. Lay the feet on the base with their right sides down, so that the right side is up when the basket stands, and their toes to the front: the first 2 rows of each lie on the base, and the last 2 rows stand out beyond its edge. The middle of each foot is 5 stitches of the last round of the base to one side of the middle of the front. For each foot cut 18 in (45.5 cm) of B and sew the part that lies on the base down flat: its heel, its two sides and across it along the edge of the base. Fasten off and draw both ends inside the basket.

10. The handle is about 14½ in (37 cm) long. Lay the last 1 in (2.5 cm) of one end flat against the inside of the basket at one side, over the 5 stitches 13 to 17 of the rim, the side marker in their middle. With its long tail sew it down flat along its end, up both of its sides to the rim, and along the rim. Sew the other end, with the new length, in the same way over the stitches 43 to 47; see that the handle is not twisted. Fasten off inside. Take the markers out.

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11. The bow. Lay the ribbon round the middle of the handle and tie it in a bow at the front, with loops 2½ in (6.5 cm) long. Cut the ends aslant.

12. Weave in all the tails that are left on the inside of the basket.

Finishing

- Pull the sides into a round shape with your hands, and press the base flat so that the basket stands level.

In all: 11 pieces; 2,701 stitches (1,638 in the basket, 396 in the head, 48 in the bill, 6 in each eye, 114 in each wing, 76 in the tail, 34 in each foot, 235 in the handle).

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

- The rounds of every part worked in rounds are not joined: work in a spiral, and move a marker up to the first stitch of each round.
- Two strands are held together throughout, for the sewing too, except where one strand is named. Every part in rounds is worked with its right side, the outside, facing you.
- The bill begins with an oval. Round 1 is worked along both sides of the foundation chain: along one side, 3 stitches in the last chain, then back along the other side.
- The feet and the handle are worked in rows. The chain of 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.
- sc2tog: draw up a loop in each of the next 2 stitches, yarn over and pull through all 3 loops on the hook.
- 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 sew a piece down flat: bring the needle up through the piece under the top of a stitch at its edge and down through the fabric beneath just outside the edge, one stitch for each stitch or row of the edge.
- Straight stitch: bring the needle up at one end of the stitch and put it down at the other.
- The basket has small parts and a ribbon that a child under three could pull off.
- Colors. A: the basket, the head, the wings, the tail and the handle. B: the bill and the feet. C: the eyes. D: the glints.

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

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