Elephant granny square

US terms



Finished size
About 5½ in (14 cm) across

Skill
Easy
Worked in rounds, with 5 pieces, color changes and 1 special stitch.

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

Gauge
14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: blush pink, rounds 1 to 8 of the square	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: elephant gray, round 9 of the square, round 2 of the ears, the head and the trunk	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: rose pink, round 1 of the ears	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: charcoal, the sewn details	**about 2 yd (2 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, pins for blocking and a spray bottle.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. Buy them from one dye lot. Yarns A, B and C: the estimate is from the stitches and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added. Yarn D: 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)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
tr	treble crochet (UK dtr, double treble)
sp	space
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

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Special stitches

sc2tog (UK dc2tog): [insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] twice (3 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 3 loops. It leaves 1 st for the next round.

Gauge

14 stitches and 15 rows 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. After round 6 of the square the piece measures about 3¼ in (8 cm) across. If yours is larger, use a smaller hook; if it is smaller, use a larger hook.

Before you start

- Rounds are worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work the first round or row into the loop, then pull the tail until the ring is closed. Four chains joined into a ring with a slip stitch may be used instead.
- A chain that counts as a stitch is marked so in its line and is included in the count.
- A chain 1 at the start of a round does not count as a stitch.
- Fasten off the old color, then join the new one with a slip stitch in the place named; the first stitch or chain of the line is worked in that same place.
- Working along the other side of the chain: turn the piece round, not over, and work into the unused loops of the foundation chain, beginning in the chain next to the one just used.
- At the start of a round, same st is the stitch the round before was joined in; after a new color is joined, it is the stitch the color was joined in.
- A round worked in each st around begins in the st the round before was joined in, or the new color was joined in.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches and the chain spaces between them; slip stitches are not counted.
- The narrow end of an ear is at the 6 sc of Rnd 2: the first 4 and the last 2. The two ears are alike.
- The round of the trunk begins and ends at its top, with the 3 sc in one ch, and the 4 sc in one ch are its tip. With the top of the trunk upward and its right side toward you, the side where 2 sc are worked in one ch is the longer one; the sc2tog on the other side let the tip bend that way, to the right.
- The distances under FINISHING are for the yarn and gauge above; in another yarn make them larger or smaller in the same proportion as the size.
- Backstitch (sewn): thread the yarn needle and bring it up from the back one stitch length (about ¼ in, 0.6 cm, and half that round a small curve, unless the line names another) along the line. Put it down at the start of the line and bring it up again one stitch length ahead of where it last came up; keep going down at the end of the stitch before and up one length ahead.
- French knot (sewn): bring the yarn needle up from the back, wrap the yarn twice round the needle close to the surface, hold the wraps and put the needle down beside the place where it came up. For a large knot use the yarn double and wrap it three times.
- Straight stitch (sewn): bring the yarn needle up from the back at one end of the stitch and put it down at the other end.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured straight across: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 3¾ in (10 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 4¼ in (11 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 7 in (18 cm).

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Instructions

Square brackets [ ] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. Round brackets ( ) inside a line hold stitches that all go into one place. 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, hdc is half treble, dc is treble and tr is double treble.

Square

Yarns in order of use: A, blush pink; B, elephant gray.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 6 sc in ring, 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, sc in same st, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 4 (counts as tr), 4 tr in same st, dc in next 2 sts, hdc in next 4 sts, dc in next 2 sts, **[**5 tr in next st, dc in next 2 sts, hdc in next 4 sts, dc in next 2 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-4 to join	**(20 tr, 16 dc, 16 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), dc in next st, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next st, **[**dc in next 12 sts, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next st**] 3 times**, dc in next 10 sts, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(64 dc, 4 ch-2 sps)**
Fasten off A.		
☐ **Rnd 9**	Join B with sl st in any ch-2 sp, ch 1, 3 sc in same sp, sc in next 16 sts, **[**3 sc in next ch-2 sp, sc in next 16 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(76 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.	

Ear: make 2

Yarns in order of use: C, rose pink; B, elephant gray.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), 11 dc in ring, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(12 dc)**
Fasten off C.		
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join B with sl st in any st, ch 1, 2 sc in same st, 2 sc in next st, 2 hdc in each of next 2 sts, 2 dc in each of next 5 sts, 2 hdc in each of next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sl st in first sc to join	**(6 sc, 8 hdc, 10 dc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 20 in (51 cm) tail for sewing.	

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Head

Yarn B, elephant gray.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 6 sc in ring, 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, sc in same st, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(30 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 25 in (64 cm) tail for sewing.	

Trunk

Yarn B, elephant gray.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 13.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	3 sc in 2nd ch from hook, hdc in next 5 chs, [2 sc in next ch, sc in next ch] twice, 2 sc in next ch, 4 sc in next ch, working along the other side of the chain, sc in next ch, [sc2tog in next 2 chs] twice, hdc in next 5 chs, sc in next ch, sl st in first sc to join	**(17 sc, 10 hdc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 28 in (71 cm) tail for sewing.	

Finishing

- Block: pin the pieces to shape on a flat surface, right sides up: the square 5½ in (14 cm) each way with straight sides, each ear as an egg with its narrow end down, 1 7/8 in (4.8 cm) wide and 2¼ in (5.7 cm) tall, the head as a circle 2¾ in (7 cm) across, and the trunk straight for 1¾ in (4.4 cm) from its top, then bent to the right in a half circle, so that its tip points straight up again. The last ¼ in (0.6 cm) of the trunk, its rounded tip, stands upright above the end of the half circle, and the middle of the tip lies 1 1/8 in (2.9 cm) to the right of the middle of the straight part. Spray the pieces with water and let them dry.
- Lay the square down, right side up, with one side at the top. The middle line runs straight up and down through the magic ring of the square.
- Ears: lay an ear on each side of the middle line, right side up, its narrow end down. The magic ring of each ear is 5/8 in (1.6 cm) above the magic ring of the square and 1¼ in (3.2 cm) from the middle line. Turn the top of the right ear outward until it points to half past twelve on a clock, and the top of the left ear until it points to half past eleven. Sew each ear down all round its edge with its tail.
- Head: lay it on the square, right side up, its magic ring on the middle line and ¼ in (0.6 cm) above the magic ring of the square, so that its sides cover the inner sides of the two ears. Sew the head down all round its edge with its tail.
- Eyes: with D, work two large French knots on the head, ½ in (1.3 cm) above its magic ring and 5/8 in (1.6 cm) to each side of the middle line. With A, work one straight stitch, 1/8 in (0.3 cm) long, over the upper right of each knot.

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- Trunk: lay it on the head, right side up, its top ¼ in (0.6 cm) above the magic ring of the head and its straight part on the middle line. The straight part runs down over the lower edge of the head and ends as soon as it has crossed that edge. Below it, on the pink of the square, the trunk bends to the right and upward in its half circle. Because the rounded tip stands ¼ in (0.6 cm) above the end of the half circle, the top of the tip is ¼ in (0.6 cm) higher than the lower end of the straight part: 1¼ in (3.2 cm) below the level of the magic ring of the head. The middle of the tip is 1 1/8 in (2.9 cm) to the right of the middle line. Sew the trunk down all round its edge with its tail.
- Mouth: with D, work a short curve of backstitch on the head, on each side of the trunk. It begins at the edge of the trunk, ¾ in (1.9 cm) below the level of the magic ring of the head, and ends 7/8 in (2.2 cm) from the middle line and ½ in (1.3 cm) below that level; its middle dips 1/8 in (0.3 cm).
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 5 pieces.

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