Fish scrubby

US terms



Finished size
About 7 in (18 cm) long and 5 in (12.5 cm) high, without the loop

Skill
Easy
Worked in rows, with the stitches named

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

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

You will need

Yarn A: aqua net and cotton, main color	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: coral, color B	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: white, color C	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: black, color D	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

Fiber: cotton

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a 3.75 mm (US F-5) hook for the eyes and the loop, pins, a yarn needle and scissors.

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.

Abbreviations

Written in US terms. Where the UK name differs it is given beside the US one.

ch	chain
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)
st	stitch
sk	skip (UK miss)
rnd	round

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Gauge

14 stitches to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

After rnd 6 one side of the fish, 46 sc, measures about 4¾ in (12 cm) long and 3¼ in (8.5 cm) high. If yours is larger, use a smaller hook; if it is smaller, use a larger hook.

Before you start

- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work the first round into the loop, then pull the tail to close it. Ch 4 joined into a ring with a sl st does as well.
- Every round is worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- A beginning chain counts as the stitch in brackets after it. A ch 1 at the start of a round does not count as a stitch.
- Join a new color with a sl st in the place named. Fasten off a color only where the round says so; where it does not, the same color goes on into the next round.
- Strips: nylon net comes about 72 in (183 cm) wide. Fold it so that its two side edges meet and then once more the same way, so that it lies in four layers about 18 in (46 cm) wide. Cut straight across, from fold to fold, through all four layers, into strips ½ in (1.3 cm) wide. Opened out, each strip is about 72 in (183 cm) long. Stiff tulle of the same width does as well.
- To join strips: when about 4 in (10 cm) of a strip is left, tie the next strip to its end with a square knot (right over left, then left over right). Pull it tight, cut the ends to ½ in (1.5 cm), and leave the knot on the wrong side as you come to it. Gather a strip between the fingers and work it like a thick yarn.
- A is two as one: a strip of net and a strand of cotton are held side by side and worked as one yarn; each time the hook draws up a loop it takes both. Leave the loops easy, so that the net stays springy.
- B is two strands of the coral cotton worked as one: use the two ends of a ball, or two balls. There is no net in what is worked with B: the side fins, the tail and rnd 8 of the fish.
- In a joined round the first stitch goes in the same stitch as the joining sl st. The sl st itself is not counted and is never worked into.
- Rnd 1 of an oval goes along one side of the chain, round its end and back along the other side: the 3 sc in the last ch turn the corner, the next 5 sc go in the under side of the next 5 chs, and the last 2 sc go in the under side of the ch that holds the first sc.
- In the tail, the last 2 tr of row 2 go in the top of the 3 skipped chs; in row 3 the last 2 dc go in the top of the ch 4 that began row 2, and in row 4 the last 2 tr go in the top of the ch 3 that began row 3. The 3 sc in the middle of row 4 go in the hdc, the sc and the hdc of row 3.
- A stitch is counted from the beginning of its round, the first sc being number 1.

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 row 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.

Side fin: make 2

Yarn B, coral.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Row 1**	With B, ch 4 (counts as tr), 6 tr in ring	**(7 tr)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off. Leave a tail of 12 in (30 cm) of one strand at the last tr for sewing. Pull the ring closed, so that the fin is a fan. Its right side is the side that faced you as you worked.	

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Eye: make 2

Yarn C, white.

Worked with one strand of C and the 3.75 mm hook, tightly, so that it is small: about 1 in (2.5 cm) across.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	With C, ch 1, 7 sc in ring, join with sl st in first sc	**(7 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 sc in same st, **[**2 sc in next sc**] 6 times**, join with sl st in first sc	**(14 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off. Leave a tail of 10 in (25 cm) for sewing. Pull the ring closed.	

Middle of the eye: make 2

Yarn D, black.

Worked with one strand of D and the 3.75 mm hook, tightly: about ½ in (1.5 cm) across.

☐ **Foundation**	With D, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	With D, ch 1, 7 sc in ring, join with sl st in first sc	**(7 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off. Leave a tail of 8 in (20 cm) for sewing. Pull the ring closed.	

Tail

Yarn B, coral.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 7.	
☐ **Row 1**	With B, dc in 4th ch from hook (skipped 3 chs count as dc), dc in each of next 3 chs	**(5 dc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 4 (counts as tr), turn, tr in same st, tr in each of next 3 dc, 2 tr in next dc	**(7 tr)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, dc in same st, dc in next tr, hdc in next tr, sc in next tr, hdc in next tr, dc in next tr, 2 dc in next tr	**(6 dc, 2 hdc, 1 sc)**
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 4 (counts as tr), turn, tr in same st, 2 tr in next dc, 2 dc in next dc, sc in each of next 3 sts, 2 dc in next dc, 2 tr in each of next 2 dc	**(8 tr, 4 dc, 3 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off. The tail measures about 3½ in (9 cm) across its widest part. Row 1 will lie inside the fish. It is sewn in when rnd 8 of the fish is done (Assembly, step 5).	

Fish

Yarns in order of use: A, aqua net and cotton; B, coral.

Two ovals, worked round and round from a chain along the middle.

Make the back first: work the foundation and rnds 1 to 6, fasten off and set it aside.

Front: work the foundation and rnds 1 to 6 again; keep A on the hook for rnd 7, the working loop held by a pin or a thread while you sew.

The beginnings of the rounds are at the tail end; the other end is the nose.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 8.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each of next 5 chs, 3 sc in last ch, working along opposite side of foundation ch, sc in each of next 5 chs, 2 sc in next ch, join with sl st in first sc	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 sc in same st, sc in each of next 5 sc, 2 sc in each of next 3 sc, sc in each of next 5 sc, 2 sc in each of next 2 sc, join with sl st in first sc	**(22 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, sc in same st, 2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 5 sc, **[**sc in next sc, 2 sc in next sc**] 3 times**, sc in each of next 5 sc, [sc in next sc, 2 sc in next sc] twice, join with sl st in first sc	**(28 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, 2 sc in same st, sc in each of next 7 sc, **[**2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 2 sc**] 3 times**, sc in each of next 5 sc, [2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 2 sc] twice, join with sl st in first sc	**(34 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 1, sc in same st, sc in each of next 2 sc, 2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 5 sc, **[**sc in each of next 3 sc, 2 sc in next sc**] 3 times**, sc in each of next 5 sc, [sc in each of next 3 sc, 2 sc in next sc] twice, join with sl st in first sc	**(40 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Ch 1, 2 sc in same st, sc in each of next 9 sc, **[**2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 4 sc**] 3 times**, sc in each of next 5 sc, [2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 4 sc] twice, join with sl st in first sc	**(46 sc)**

Joining round. First sew an eye and a side fin to each side of the fish and work a mouth on it (Assembly, steps 1 to 3). Lay the back behind the front, wrong sides together, the tail ends together and the front toward you with its eye above its mouth. The back is turned over, so its rounds begin below the middle of the tail end: the first sc of rnd 6 of the front lies on the 40th sc of rnd 6 of the back, the 40th of the front on the first of the back, and so stitch lies on stitch all round; the last 6 sc of rnd 6 of the front (numbers 41 to 46) lie on the last 6 of the back. Pin them. Rnd 7 is worked with A and with the front toward you. Work its sts in the first 40 sc of rnd 6 through both sides at once: put the hook under both loops of the front stitch and then under both loops of the back stitch behind it. As you go, push every knot and end in between the two sides. Work the last 6 sc of rnd 7 under both loops of the front stitches only, and leave the last 6 sc of rnd 6 of the back unworked: this is the opening for the tail.

☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 1, 2 sc in same st, sc in each of next 15 sc, 2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 6 sc, 2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 15 sc, 2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 6 sc, join with sl st in first sc. Fasten off A	**(50 sc)**

Coral edge and fins. Rnd 8 is worked with B all the way round in the tops of the sts of rnd 7; the tail is not there yet. Its first three fans, of 5, 7 and 5 dc, are the back fin, and its last two, of 5 dc each, are the belly fin.

☐ **Rnd 8**	Join B with sl st in first sc, ch 1, sc in same st, 2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 2 sc, sk next sc, 5 dc in next sc, sk next sc, sc in next sc, sk next sc, 7 dc in next sc, sk next sc, sc in next sc, sk next sc, 5 dc in next sc, sk next sc, sc in each of next 5 sc, 2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 2 sc, 2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 7 sc, sk next sc, 5 dc in next sc, sk next sc, sc in next sc, sk next sc, 5 dc in next sc, sk next sc, sc in each of next 4 sc, 2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 7 sc, join with sl st in first sc	**(39 sc, 27 dc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Assembly

1. Eyes: hold the front with its right side toward you, the tail end (where the rounds begin) at the right and the nose at the left. Lay an eye, right side up, with its middle on the 12th sc of rnd 4 and sew it down round its edge with small stitches, with its own tail of yarn. Turn the back with its right side toward you, the tail end at the left and the nose at the right, and lay the other eye with its middle on the 19th sc of rnd 4. Lay a black middle on each eye, right side up, about 1/16 in (2 mm) nearer to the nose than the center of the eye, and sew it down round its edge in the same way. With one strand of C work one short straight stitch on the black, near the top, as a spark of light. Fasten off on the wrong side.

2. Side fins: lay a fin on the front, right side up, with its ring on the 12th sc of rnd 1 (the middle of the lower side of rnd 1) and its curved edge toward the tail, and pin it. With the tail of yarn sew along the straight side it hangs at down to the ring, sew the ring down with three small stitches and sew up along the other straight side. Leave the curved edge free. Fasten off on the wrong side. Sew the other fin to the back with its ring on the 4th sc of rnd 1, its curved edge toward the tail.

3. Mouth: use a 14 in (35 cm) length of D for each side. Each place is the top of the stitch named, just under its two loops.

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With the needle come up on the front at the 19th sc of rnd 5 and go down at the 12th sc of rnd 2, leaving the strand slack enough to hang down to the 18th sc of rnd 4 in (10 cm) between. Come up there, just below the strand, and go down just above it, so that a tiny stitch holds the smile in its curve. Fasten off on the wrong side. On the back come up at the 17th sc of rnd 5, go down at the 9th sc of rnd 2 and hold the strand at the 13th sc of rnd 4.

4. Now join the two sides with rnd 7 and work rnd 8, as told under Fish.

5. Tail: with the front toward you slip row 1 of the tail, its right side toward you, through the opening in between the two sides: behind rnds 7 and 8 and the front, and before the back. Its foundation chain lies inside, the middle dc of row 1 is at the middle of the opening, the tops of row 1 are level with the tops of rnd 6 and rows 2 to 4 stand out. Pin it. Thread the needle with 24 in (60 cm) of one strand of the aqua cotton and sew in running stitch through three layers: through a sc of rnd 6 of the front, just below rnd 7; through the tail, just below the tops of row 1, in a dc or between two dc as it comes; and through the sc of rnd 6 of the back that lies behind, just below its two top loops. Begin at the 40th sc of rnd 6 of the front and go down through one sc and up through the next, as far as the first sc of the round (8 sc in all: numbers 40 to 46 and number 1); then go back along the same line and fill the gaps. The outermost stitches lie just beside the tail, where the sides are joined already. Fasten off on the back and draw both ends in between the two sides.

6. Hanging loop: with the 3.75 mm (US F-5) hook and one strand of the coral cotton, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm), and with the front toward you, join with a slip stitch in the middle one of the 3 sc of row 4 of the tail, in the notch, ch 12, and slip stitch in the same place again without twisting the chain. Work 18 single crochet (UK double crochet) into the ring this makes, over the chain, pushing them close together; slip stitch in the same place once more. Fasten off with a tail of 6 in (15 cm). Run both tails along the back of the stitches of the tail with the yarn needle for 2 in (5 cm) and cut them close.

Finishing

- Draw every end that is left in between the two sides with the yarn needle; run the ends of the tail along the back of its stitches.

In all: 6 pieces; 408 stitches (7 in each side fin, 21 in each eye, 7 in each middle of the eye, 36 in the tail, 302 in the fish).

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

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