Fox tail to wear

US terms



Finished size
About 18¼ in (46.5 cm) long without the belt loop and 3½ in (8.9 cm) thick

Skill
Easy
Two pieces worked in rounds and rows and sewn together.

Yarn
Bulky (5), 2 colors

Hook
5.5 mm (US I-9)

Gauge
13 stitches and 14.3 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet, in a spiral.

You will need

Yarn A: cream, tail	**about 45 yd (41 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: rust, tail and belt loop	**about 160 yd (146 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5.5 mm (US I-9), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: toy stuffing, a yarn needle, a stitch marker, pins 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, 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, through the front loops only: how is under “Before you start” (UK dc2tog, double cro
ch	chain stitch
MR	magic ring
RS	right side
Rnd	round
st	stitch

Gauge

13 stitches and 14.3 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet, 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 3½ in (8.9 cm) across. The stitches should be tight enough that the stuffing does not show.

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Use any hook that gives you this. If you count more stitches than this in 4 in (10 cm), change to a larger hook; if you count fewer, to a smaller one.

Before you start

- Every piece that has rounds 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.
- Stuff the tail as you work it, because it is too long to fill from its end: when round 24 is done stuff the cream tip (rounds 1 to 19) firmly; when round 32 is done, and again after every 8 rounds, stuff what you have worked since, lightly, so that the tail swings. Slip the loop on your hook onto the stitch marker while you stuff, and leave the last 4 rounds before the hook empty each time.
- 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.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the tail. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- 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.
- No plastic eyes are used.
- 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, the size written here: for another size multiply them by the number in its line.
- Small: medium (4, worsted) yarn, 3.5 mm (E-4) hook, 20 sc and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): 11¾ in (30 cm) long without the belt loop and 2¼ in (5.7 cm) thick; multiply lengths by 0.65; about 0.65 times the yarn.
- Large: super bulky (6) yarn, 8 mm (L-11) hook, 9 sc and 9.9 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): 26¼ in (66.5 cm) long without the belt loop and 5 in (12.5 cm) thick; multiply lengths by 1.4; about 1.4 times the yarn.

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.

Tail

Yarns in order of use: A, cream; B, rust.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in each st around	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**	**(15 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	Sc in each st around	**(15 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**	**(21 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	Sc in each st around	**(21 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 3 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sc in each st around	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 3 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	Sc in each st around	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 9 sts**] 3 times**	**(33 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 17**	Sc in each st around	**(33 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	**[**sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 20 to 32**	With B, sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**

A box for each round, 20 to 32: tick them off as you go.

☐ 20 ☐ 21 ☐ 22 ☐ 23 ☐ 24 ☐ 25 ☐ 26 ☐ 27 ☐ 28 ☐ 29 ☐ 30 ☐ 31 ☐ 32

☐ **Rnd 33**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 3 times**	**(33 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 34 to 37**	Sc in each st around	**(33 sc)**

A box for each round, 34 to 37: tick them off as you go.

☐ 34 ☐ 35 ☐ 36 ☐ 37

☐ **Rnd 38**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 9 sts**] 3 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 39 to 43**	Sc in each st around	**(30 sc)**

A box for each round, 39 to 43: tick them off as you go.

☐ 39 ☐ 40 ☐ 41 ☐ 42 ☐ 43

☐ **Rnd 44**	**[**sc in next 8 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times**	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 45 to 49**	Sc in each st around	**(27 sc)**

A box for each round, 45 to 49: tick them off as you go.

☐ 45 ☐ 46 ☐ 47 ☐ 48 ☐ 49

☐ **Rnd 50**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 3 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 51 to 55**	Sc in each st around	**(24 sc)**

A box for each round, 51 to 55: tick them off as you go.

☐ 51 ☐ 52 ☐ 53 ☐ 54 ☐ 55

☐ **Rnd 56**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts**] 3 times**	**(21 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 57 to 60**	Sc in each st around	**(21 sc)**

A box for each round, 57 to 60: tick them off as you go.

☐ 57 ☐ 58 ☐ 59 ☐ 60

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☐ **Rnd 61**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 62 to 65**	Sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**

A box for each round, 62 to 65: tick them off as you go.

62 63 64 65

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a 26 in (66 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff the last rounds lightly too, as far as 4 rounds below the open edge. Jagged edge: worked from the outside, on the stuffed tail. With A (cream) and the yarn needle, work long straight stitches over the rust rounds next to the color change. They all start at the upper edge of round 19, the last cream round, and run straight up over round 20 and the rounds after it: over each of the 36 stitches of round 19 work two straight stitches side by side, both the same length. The lengths are, in order, 1 round, 2 rounds, 3 rounds, 4 rounds, 3 rounds and 2 rounds; work these six lengths 6 times round. To begin a length of yarn, put the needle in among the cream stitches about 2 in (5 cm) below the color change, bring it out through the stuffing where the first stitch starts, and leave the end outside; to finish, bring the needle out in the same way. Run each end once more through the stuffing to another place among the cream stitches, pull it gently and cut it off close, so that it slips inside. Pull the yarn only until each stitch lies flat.

Belt loop

Yarn B, rust.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 8 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 9.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 22**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(8 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 22: tick them off as you go.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing.

Assembly

1. Fold the belt loop in half with the right side out, its last row on its foundation chain. Press the open top of the tail flat, 9 stitches wide, and push the two ends of the belt loop 2 rows deep into it, in the middle. Sew straight across through the front of the tail, both ends of the belt loop and the back of the tail with the yarn left at the end of the tail, then sew across once more one round lower with the yarn left at the end of the belt loop.

Finishing

- Weave in every end. Go across the seam of the belt loop once more with a new length of yarn.

In all: 2 pieces; 1,898 stitches (1,722 in the tail, 176 in the belt loop).

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

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