# Guinea pig tunnel and house

Guinea pig · US terms



Finished size

**About 10¼ × 11 in (26 × 28 cm)**

About 10¼ in (26 cm) across the hut and 11 in (28 cm) tall without the stem, with a door 4½ in (11.5 cm) wide at the foot and 4½ in (11.5 cm) tall inside its edge, and a tunnel about 8 in (20.5 cm) long and 6½ in (16.5 cm) across inside, for a grown guinea pig

Skill

**Intermediate**

The wall is worked in two pieces between its openings, and the tunnel is worked on from one of them.

Yarn

**Super bulky (6), 4 colors**

Hook

**9 mm (US M/N-13)**

Gauge

**9 stitches and 10 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)**

In single crochet (UK double crochet).

## What you need

| | |
|---|---|
| Yarn A: cream, the floor, the wall, half of the tunnel stripes, the seeds and the scallops | **about 250 yd (229 m), an estimate** |
| Yarn B: strawberry red, the roof, the door edge and the rim of the tunnel | **about 145 yd (133 m), an estimate** |
| Yarn C: blush, half of the tunnel stripes | **about 50 yd (46 m), an estimate** |
| Yarn D: leaf green, the leaf cap and the stem | **about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate** |

Fiber: cotton T-shirt

Hook: 9 mm (US M/N-13). Also: a stitch marker, pins or clips, a large blunt yarn needle, scissors and a tape measure.

## Before you start

- The rounds of the floor itself, before the foot of the wall, and all the rounds of the roof, of the leaf cap and of the stem are not joined: work in a spiral, and move a marker up to the first stitch of each round.
- The two rounds of the foot of the wall, the upper wall, the door edge and the tunnel are joined. The joined rounds end with a slip stitch in the first stitch; the chain of 1 or 2 at their start does not count as a stitch, and the first stitch goes into the stitch the round before was joined in. In the rows of the walls and of the leaves the chain of 1 does not count as a stitch either.
- 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. In the roof, draw it through as the last yarn over of the slip stitch that levels the edge. Cut the old yarn at each change, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).


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## Sizes

| Size | Finished size, about | Yarn, an estimate |
|---|---|---|
| **Rat** | 7¾ × 9 in (20 × 23 cm) | about 310 yd (283 m) |
| **Guinea pig (this file)** | **10¼ × 11 in (26 × 28 cm)** | **about 475 yd (434 m)** |

## Gauge

**9 stitches and 10 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 12 the floor should measure about 10 in (25.5 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.

9 stitches and 7 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in half double crochet, worked in the round.

## Instructions

Guinea pig. US terms.

**sc** single crochet (UK dc), **ch** chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **hdc** half double crochet (UK htr), **dc** double crochet (UK tr), **BLO** only the loop away from you, **FPhdc** hdc round the stitch below, hook in and out at the front, **BPhdc** hdc round the stitch below, hook in and out at the back, **FLO** only the loop nearest you, **sk** skip, **sc2tog** 2 sc made into one, **sc3tog** 3 sc made into one, **st** stitch.

2 sc in next st: **both in one stitch**. Sc in next 3 sts: one in each. **ch-8 sp**: the hole under eight chains. The hook goes in the hole, never into a chain.

[ ] 6 times: 6 times in all. (18 sc): the round now has 18; a check, not a step. **How to read a pattern**

Also: sp space, RS right side, yo yarn over.

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

### Floor and foot of the wall

**Yarn A, cream.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Start** | Make a magic ring.<br>*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) |


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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **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) |
| ☐ **Round 10** | **[**Sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times** | (60 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 11** | 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 | (66 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 12** | **[**Sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times** | (72 sc) |

> **Stop and measure now, after round 12.** The floor should measure about 10 in (25.5 cm) across. Anything from 9½ in (24 cm) to 10¼ in (26 cm) is near enough. Slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. The two rounds after it are joined. Work the first stitch of round 13 into the stitch you slip stitched in, so that every one of the 72 stitches of round 12 is used once. Larger? Begin again with a smaller hook. Smaller? A larger hook.

### Foot of the wall

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Round 13** | Ch 1, sc in BLO of each st around, sl st in first sc to join | (72 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 14** | Ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join | (72 sc) |
| ☐ | Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). | |

## Long wall

**Yarn A, cream.**

Stitch 1 is the first stitch of round 14, the one the round was joined in. Put the stitch marker in it. The next 12 stitches of the round after the long wall, stitches 37 to 48, are left free for the door.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Start** | Stitches 1 to 36 of round 14 of the floor, RS facing: 36 stitches. | |
| ☐ **Row 1 (RS)** | Join A with sl st in first st, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 35 sts | (36 sc) |
| ☐ **Rows 2 to 11** | Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across<br>2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 | (36 sc) |
| ☐ **Row 12** | Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 34 sts, 2 sc in last st | (38 sc) |
| ☐ **Row 13** | Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 36 sts, 2 sc in last st | (40 sc) |
| ☐ | Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). | |

## Short wall

**Yarn A, cream.**

The last 12 stitches of round 14, stitches 61 to 72, are left free for the tunnel.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Start** | Stitches 49 to 60 of round 14 of the floor, RS facing: 12 stitches. | |
| ☐ **Row 1 (RS)** | Join A with sl st in first st, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 11 sts | (12 sc) |
| ☐ **Rows 2 to 11** | Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across<br>2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 | (12 sc) |
| ☐ **Row 12** | Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in last st | (14 sc) |


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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Row 13** | Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 12 sts, 2 sc in last st | (16 sc) |
| ☐ | Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). | |

## Upper wall

**Yarn A, cream.**

Begin in the first stitch of the last row of the long wall, its stitch at your right with the right side facing you, work along it to your left, chain over the door, work along the short wall, and chain over the tunnel opening.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Start** | The last row of the long wall and then of the short wall, RS facing: 56 stitches. | |
| ☐ **Round 1 (RS)** | Join A with sl st in first st, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 39 sts, ch 8, sc in next 16 sts, ch 8, sl st in first sc to join | (56 sc, 2 ch-8 sps) |
| ☐ **Round 2** | Ch 1, sc in next 40 sts, 8 sc in next ch-8 sp, sc in next 16 sts, 8 sc in next ch-8 sp, sl st in first sc to join | (72 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 3** | Ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join | (72 sc) |
| ☐ | Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). | |

## Door edge

**Yarn B, strawberry red.**

Hold the hut upright, with the outside facing you, so that the foot of the opening is at the bottom, and begin at the right end of the foot. Turn the hut as you go, so that the edge you work into is always under your hook. The places are, in this order, with left and right as you see them while the hut stands upright: along the foot from right to left, 1 in each free stitch of round 14 (12); up the side at your left, 1 in the end of each row of the wall (13); along the top from left to right, 1 in each chain, under the chain (8); and down the side at your right, 1 in the end of each row (13).

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Start** | The edge of the door, the outside of the hut facing: 46 places. | |
| ☐ **Round 1 (RS)** | Join B with sl st in first st, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 45 sts, sl st in first sc to join | (46 sc) |
| ☐ | Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). | |

## Tunnel

The places are the same as for the door edge, in the same order, and the hut is held in the same way. The tunnel grows outward from the wall, with its right side outside.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Start** | The edge of the tunnel opening, the outside of the hut facing: 46 places. | |
| ☐ **Round 1 (RS)** | Join C with sl st in first st, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 45 sts, sl st in first sc to join | (46 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 2** | Ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join | (46 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 3** | With A, ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join | (46 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 4** | Ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join | (46 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 5** | With C, ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join | (46 sc) |
| ☐ **Rounds 6 to 16** | Repeat rounds 2 to 5 in order, over and over. The last round, round 16, is worked as round 4. (46 sc) | |

6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16


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## Rim

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Round 17** | With B, ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join | (46 hdc) |
| ☐ **Rounds 18 to 19** | Ch 2, **[**FPhdc around next st, BPhdc around next st**] 23 times**, sl st in first FPhdc to join | (23 FPhdc, 23 BPhdc) |
| | 18 19 | |
| ☐ | Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). | |

## Roof

**Begin with yarn B, strawberry red.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **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) |
| ☐ **Round 7** | Sc in each st around | (36 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 8** | **[**Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times** | (42 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 9** | Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 3 sts | (48 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 10** | Sc in each st around | (48 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 11** | 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) |
| ☐ **Round 12** | Sc in each st around | (54 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 13** | Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 4 sts | (60 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 14** | Sc in each st around | (60 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 15** | 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 | (66 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 16** | Sc in each st around | (66 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 17** | Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 5 sts | (72 sc) |
| ☐ **Round 18** | Sc in each st around | (72 sc) |

> **Stop here, after round 18.** Slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. The scallops of round 19 are worked in the front loops; the back loops of round 18 stay free, and the roof is sewn on by them. The first stitch of round 19 goes into the stitch you slip stitched in.


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### Scallops

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Round 19** | With A, **[**sc in FLO of next st, sk next st, 5 dc in FLO of next st, sk next st**] 18 times** | (18 sc, 90 dc) |
| ☐ | Slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). | |

## Leaf cap

**Yarn D, leaf green.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **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) |

**Stop here, after round 3.** Slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. That stitch is stitch 1 of the 18.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ | Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). | |

## Leaf: make 6

**Yarn D, leaf green.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Start** | Round 3 of the leaf cap, RS facing, 3 stitches for each leaf: stitches 1 to 3 for the first leaf, 4 to 6 for the second, 7 to 9, 10 to 12 and 13 to 15 for the next three, 16 to 18 for the last. | |
| ☐ **Row 1 (RS)** | Join D with sl st in first st, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 2 sts | (3 sc) |
| ☐ **Row 2** | Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next st, 2 sc in last st | (5 sc) |
| ☐ **Rows 3 to 4** 3 4 | Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across | (5 sc) |
| ☐ **Row 5** | Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next st, sc2tog | (3 sc) |
| ☐ **Row 6** | Ch 1, turn; sc3tog | (1 sc) |
| ☐ | Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). | |

## Stem

**Yarn D, leaf green.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Start** | Make a magic ring. | |
| ☐ **Round 1 (RS)** | 5 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring. | (5 sc) |
| ☐ **Rounds 2 to 4** 2 3 4 | Sc in each st around | (5 sc) |
| ☐ | Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 18 in (45.5 cm) for sewing. | |

## Assembly

**1.** Weave in all the tails on the inside of the hut, of the tunnel and of the roof, along a row or a round for at least 4 in (10 cm), and the tails of the leaf cap and of its leaves on the wrong side of the cap, and the starting tail of the stem inside the stem. Leave only the long tail of the stem.


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**2.** Seeds. With A, cut 4 lengths of 60 in (152.5 cm), one for each round of seeds, and begin each with a tail of 6 in (15 cm) on the inside. Straight stitch: bring the needle up from the inside at the foot of a stitch, put it down at the top of the same stitch, one round higher, and go on to the next place on the inside. Round 10 (48 stitches): 8 seeds, in stitch 2 and then in every 6th stitch. Round 12 (54 stitches): 9 seeds, in stitch 4 and then in every 6th stitch. Round 14 (60 stitches): 10 seeds, in stitch 2 and then in every 6th stitch. Round 16 (66 stitches): 11 seeds, in stitch 4 and then in every 6th stitch. The stitches are counted from the first stitch of the round; that is 38 seeds. Fasten each length off on the inside with two small stitches and weave its ends in there.

**3.** Leaf cap. Lay it on the roof, right side up, the magic ring of the cap on the magic ring of the roof, so that round 3 of the cap lies on round 3 of the roof. With a new length of D, 60 in (152.5 cm), sew it down with backstitch all round through round 3 of the cap, close inside the leaves, and through the roof beneath, one stitch in each of the 18 stitches. Backstitch: bring the needle up one stitch length ahead along the line, put it down again at the end of the last stitch, and go on so that the stitches on the cap lie end to end. Begin on the inside of the roof with a tail of 6 in (15 cm), end on the inside with two small stitches in one place, and weave in both ends there. The six leaves lie outward and down on the roof and are not sewn; their points reach about as far as round 9.

**4.** Stem. Set the open end of the stem on the middle of the leaf cap, and with its long tail sew it down all round: the needle goes through a stitch of the last round of the stem and then through the cap and the roof beneath, close beside it, 5 stitches, one for each stitch of the stem. Fasten off on the inside of the roof.

**5.** Roof. Set the roof on the hut, the right side out, so that the free back loops of round 18 lie on the top of the last round of the upper wall, 72 loops on 72 stitches, with the scallops hanging outside. Pin it at four points. With B, cut two lengths of 13 ft (4 m), one for each half of the round. Whip stitch the roof to the wall, with the needle through the back loop of the roof and through both loops of the stitch of the wall beneath it. Both begin over the middle of the long wall, with a tail of 6 in (15 cm), and go round to the right and to the left until they meet, 36 stitches each, under the scallops. Fasten off and draw all the ends inside along the seam.

## Finishing

- Pull the wall straight, round out the roof with your hand from inside, and open the rim of the tunnel.

In all: 4 pieces; 3,468 stitches.

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

- Whip stitch: put the needle through both edges from back to front, one stitch for each stitch or row, and draw the yarn snug.
- Where the pattern says BLO, put the hook under the back loop only; the front loop stays on the outside as a ridge.
- The right side is the outside all over. The walls are worked back and forth, and their last row is a right side row again.
- FPhdc and BPhdc, front and back post half double crochet (UK raised half treble, front and back): work a half double crochet round the post of the stitch below, from the front for FPhdc and from the back for BPhdc. In the first round of ribbing the posts are those of half double crochet; after that a front post goes over a front post and a back post over a back post.
- Work firmly, for the wall is to stand by itself. The hook that gives the gauge at the floor is used for every part; do not change it later.
- Use T-shirt yarn of plain cotton. Look at the house every week: where a strand is chewed through, take it out of the cage until it is mended. It can be washed whole, by machine, and dried flat with the hut pulled into shape.
- Colors. The floor and the whole wall are in A, the door edge in B, the leaf cap, its leaves and the stem in D. Tunnel. Rounds 1 to 2: C. Rounds 3 to 4: A. Rounds 5 to 6: C. Rounds 7 to 8: A. Rounds 9 to 10: C. Rounds 11 to 12: A. Rounds 13 to 14: C. Rounds 15 to 16: A. Rounds 17 to 19: B. Roof. Rounds 1 to 18: B. Round 19: A.

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


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