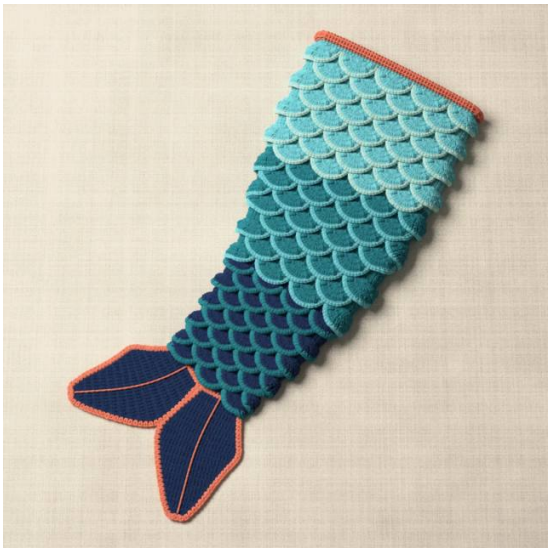
Scallop scale mermaid tail

Teen · US terms



Finished size

About 33¾ in (86 cm) around at the waist and 16 in (41 cm) around at the ankles, 35 in (89 cm) long without the fin; each leaf of the fin about 11¼ in (29 cm) long and 7¾ in (20 cm) wide

To fit a height of 4 ft 9 in (145 cm) to 5 ft 3 in (160 cm)

Skill

Intermediate

Shaping at the edges and many scales to sew on

Yarn

Medium (4), 5 colors

Hook

5.5 mm (US I-9)

Gauge

13 stitches and 11¼ rows to 4 in (10 cm)

In half double crochet (UK half treble).

What you need

Yarn A: deep aqua, main color	**about 630 yd (576 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: sea teal, stripe	**about 560 yd (512 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: midnight navy, part of the tail, part of the medium navy scale and the fin leaf	**about 410 yd (375 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: warm coral, the tail, rows 1 to 6 and the leaf rim	**about 80 yd (73 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: sea glass, the large aqua scale, row 4	**about 105 yd (96 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 890 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

Hook: 5.5 mm (US I-9), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, a tape measure and 2 stitch markers.

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.

Sizes

Size	Fits	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Teen (this file)	**a height of 4 ft 9 in (145 cm) to 5 ft 3 in (160 cm)**	**33¾ in (86 cm) around at the waist, 16 in (41 cm) around at the ankles, 35 in (89 cm) long without the fin**	**about 1,785 yd (1,632 m)**

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Adult	a height of 5 ft 3 in (160 cm) to 5 ft 8 in (173 cm)	40 in (102 cm) around at the waist, 18½ in (47 cm) around at the ankles, 40 in (102 cm) long without the fin	about 2,350 yd (2,149 m)

Gauge

13 stitches and 11¼ rows to 4 in (10 cm) in half double crochet.

Check it on the tail itself when row 17 is done, laid flat: in Teen the 110 stitches are about 33¾ in (86 cm) wide, in Adult the 130 stitches are about 40 in (102 cm), and rows 7 to 17 are about 4 in (10 cm) tall. A large scale is about 3¾ in (9.5 cm) along its straight edge, a medium one about 3 in (7.5 cm). If they measure more, start again with a smaller hook; if they measure less, with a larger one.

Notes

- For sitting or lying in while awake, with a grown-up near a child. It holds both legs: it is not for sleep, for walking or for stairs.
- The tail is one flat piece, worked from the waist down to the ankles. Row 1 is a right side row, and so is every odd row. The two long edges meet at the back.
- The ch 1 at the start of a row of sc or hdc does not count as a stitch: the first stitch of the row goes into the st it rises from. The ch 3 at the start of a row of a scale counts as a dc and stands on the first st, which is the "same st" of row 2; the last stitch, or the last two, of the next row go into the top of it.
- Every scale is a half circle. Its straight edge is made of the ends of its rows, with the magic ring in the middle; its last row is the round edge and has few increases or none, so that the scale lies flat. A row of a scale is turned like any row, and row 1 is a right side row.
- Back stitch: bring the needle up one stitch ahead of where the line ended, put it down where the line ended, and come up again one stitch farther ahead; so every stitch on the right side begins where the one before it ended. The first stitch begins at the first place named.
- To change yarn, work the last yarn over of the last stitch of the row before with the new yarn. Cut the old yarn at the end of its stripe, leaving a tail of about 6 in (15 cm), and leave a tail of the same length on the new yarn.
- Leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) when you begin, when you join a yarn and when you fasten off, unless another length is given. The ends that are not sewn with are woven in.
- When a ball runs out, work the last yarn over of a stitch with the new yarn, and leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) on both. In the rows do it in the last stitch of a row; in the round of the edging any stitch will do.
- Whip stitch: with the yarn on a yarn needle, pass the needle under both loops of a stitch on one edge and under both loops of the stitch that lies against it on the other edge, and pull the yarn through. Do the same in the next stitch of each edge. On a foundation chain edge, pass the needle under the lower strands of each chain that holds a stitch of row 1. On a side edge there are no loops: pass the needle through the end stitch of the row on one side and the end stitch of the row that lies against it on the other. Fasten a length where the sewing begins and where it ends: sew 2 or 3 times into the same place.
- Magic ring: wind the yarn once round two fingers, put the hook through the ring and pull up a loop of the working yarn. Row 1 begins with this loop on the hook. Work row 1 into the ring, over both strands, then pull the tail to close it.
- The ch 1 at the start of a round does not count as a stitch.
- To join a yarn with a sl st, make a slip knot of it on the hook, put the hook in the place named, yo, and pull through the place and the loop on the hook.

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- Edging: work along the last row, down the ends of the rows, along the other side of the foundation chain and up the ends of the rows. The 3 sc in one place turn a corner.
- Buy whole balls from one dye lot.

Instructions

Teen. US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **hdc** half double crochet (UK half treble), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **Rnd** round, **st** stitch.

hdc2tog 2 hdc made into one, **yo** yarn over the hook, **RS** right side, the one that shows.

2 dc in next st: both in one stitch. **hdc in next 98 sts**: one in each.

[ ] 5 times: work what is inside 5 times in all.

(110 sc): the stitches you have when the row is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Tail

Yarns in order of use: D, warm coral; A, deep aqua; B, sea teal; C, midnight navy.

☐ **Foundation**	With D, ch 111.	

Coral roll

☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(110 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 6**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(110 sc)

2 3 4 5 6

First sea, in A

☐ **Row 7**	With A, ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(110 hdc)
☐ **Rows 8 to 33**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(110 hdc)

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

☐ **Row 34**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 106 sts, hdc2tog	(106 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 35**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(108 hdc)
☐ **Row 36**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 104 sts, hdc2tog	(104 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Rows 37 to 38**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(106 hdc)

37 38

Second sea, in B

☐ **Row 39**	With B, ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 102 sts, hdc2tog	(102 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 40**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(104 hdc)
☐ **Row 41**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 100 sts, hdc2tog	(100 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 42**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(102 hdc)
☐ **Row 43**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 98 sts, hdc2tog	(98 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)

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☐ **Rows 44 to 45** 44 45	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(100 hdc)
☐ **Row 46**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 96 sts, hdc2tog	(96 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 47**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(98 hdc)
☐ **Row 48**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 94 sts, hdc2tog	(94 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 49**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(96 hdc)
☐ **Row 50**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 92 sts, hdc2tog	(92 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Rows 51 to 52** 51 52	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(94 hdc)
☐ **Row 53**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 90 sts, hdc2tog	(90 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 54**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(92 hdc)
☐ **Row 55**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 88 sts, hdc2tog	(88 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 56**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(90 hdc)
☐ **Row 57**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 86 sts, hdc2tog	(86 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Rows 58 to 59** 58 59	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(88 hdc)
☐ **Row 60**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 84 sts, hdc2tog	(84 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 61**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(86 hdc)
☐ **Row 62**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 82 sts, hdc2tog	(82 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 63**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(84 hdc)
☐ **Row 64**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 80 sts, hdc2tog	(80 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 65**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(82 hdc)
☐ **Row 66**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 78 sts, hdc2tog	(78 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Rows 67 to 68** 67 68	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(80 hdc)
☐ **Row 69**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 76 sts, hdc2tog	(76 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 70**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(78 hdc)

Third sea, in C

☐ **Row 71**	With C, ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 74 sts, hdc2tog	(74 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 72**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(76 hdc)
☐ **Row 73**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 72 sts, hdc2tog	(72 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)

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☐ **Rows 74 to 75** 74 75	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(74 hdc)
☐ **Row 76**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 70 sts, hdc2tog	(70 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 77**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(72 hdc)
☐ **Row 78**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 68 sts, hdc2tog	(68 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 79**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(70 hdc)
☐ **Row 80**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 66 sts, hdc2tog	(66 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Rows 81 to 82** 81 82	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(68 hdc)
☐ **Row 83**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 64 sts, hdc2tog	(64 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 84**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(66 hdc)
☐ **Row 85**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 62 sts, hdc2tog	(62 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 86**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(64 hdc)
☐ **Row 87**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 60 sts, hdc2tog	(60 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Rows 88 to 89** 88 89	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(62 hdc)
☐ **Row 90**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 58 sts, hdc2tog	(58 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 91**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(60 hdc)
☐ **Row 92**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 56 sts, hdc2tog	(56 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 93**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(58 hdc)
☐ **Row 94**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 54 sts, hdc2tog	(54 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Rows 95 to 96** 95 96	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(56 hdc)
☐ **Row 97**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 52 sts, hdc2tog	(52 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 98**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(54 hdc)
☐ **Row 99**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 50 sts, hdc2tog	(50 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Rows 100 to 102** 100 101 102	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(52 hdc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

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Large aqua scale: make 36

Yarns in order of use: A, deep aqua; E, sea glass.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), 6 dc in ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(7 dc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, 2 dc in each of next 5 sts, 2 dc in top of turning ch	(14 dc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in next st, **[**dc in next st, 2 dc in next st**] 5 times**, dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	(20 dc)
☐ **Row 4**	With E, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sc in next 18 sts, sc in top of turning ch	(20 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 28 in (71 cm) to sew with.	

Large teal scale: make 32

Yarns in order of use: B, sea teal; A, deep aqua.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), 6 dc in ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(7 dc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, 2 dc in each of next 5 sts, 2 dc in top of turning ch	(14 dc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in next st, **[**dc in next st, 2 dc in next st**] 5 times**, dc in next st, dc in top of turning ch	(20 dc)
☐ **Row 4**	With A, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sc in next 18 sts, sc in top of turning ch	(20 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 28 in (71 cm) to sew with.	

Medium navy scale: make 35

Yarns in order of use: C, midnight navy; B, sea teal.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), 6 dc in ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(7 dc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, 2 dc in each of next 5 sts, 2 dc in top of turning ch	(14 dc)
☐ **Row 3**	With B, ch 1, turn; hdc in first st, hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 6 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, hdc in top of turning ch	(16 hdc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 24 in (61 cm) to sew with.	

Fin leaf: make 2

Yarn C, midnight navy.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 14.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Hdc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(13 hdc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(13 hdc)

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☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; 2 hdc in first st, hdc in next 11 sts, 2 hdc in last st	(15 hdc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(15 hdc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; 2 hdc in first st, hdc in next 13 sts, 2 hdc in last st	(17 hdc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(17 hdc)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; 2 hdc in first st, hdc in next 15 sts, 2 hdc in last st	(19 hdc)
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(19 hdc)
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; 2 hdc in first st, hdc in next 17 sts, 2 hdc in last st	(21 hdc)
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(21 hdc)
☐ **Row 11**	Ch 1, turn; 2 hdc in first st, hdc in next 19 sts, 2 hdc in last st	(23 hdc)
☐ **Rows 12 to 13** 12 13	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(23 hdc)
☐ **Row 14**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 19 sts, hdc2tog	(19 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 15**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(21 hdc)
☐ **Row 16**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 17 sts, hdc2tog	(17 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 17**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(19 hdc)
☐ **Row 18**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 15 sts, hdc2tog	(15 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 19**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(17 hdc)
☐ **Row 20**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 13 sts, hdc2tog	(13 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 21**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(15 hdc)
☐ **Row 22**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 11 sts, hdc2tog	(11 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 23**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(13 hdc)
☐ **Row 24**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 9 sts, hdc2tog	(9 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 25**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(11 hdc)
☐ **Row 26**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 7 sts, hdc2tog	(7 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 27**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in each st across	(9 hdc)
☐ **Row 28**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 5 sts, hdc2tog	(5 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 29**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next 3 sts, hdc2tog	(3 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **Row 30**	Ch 1, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in next st, hdc2tog	(1 hdc, 2 hdc2tog)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

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Leaf rim: make 2

Yarn D, warm coral.

Work one round round each leaf. The 3 sts of the last row are the tip; the 13 chs of the foundation are the chains under the sts of row 1.

Hold the piece with the right side facing you and the last row at the top; the first st is the one at the right-hand corner.

☐ **Foundation**	Work around the edge of the piece, right side facing: the 3 sts of the last row, the ends of the 30 rows, the 13 chs of the foundation, the ends of the 30 rows.
☐ **Rnd 1**	Join D with sl st in first st, ch 1, sc in first st, 3 sc in next st, sc in next st, sc in end of each of next 30 rows, sc in next 13 chs, sc in end of each of next 30 rows; join with sl st in first sc (78 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off.

Assembly

1. Weave in the ends of the tail and of the leaves, and on every scale the ends that are not sewn with: the tail of its last row is the one to sew with. Draw every magic ring tight.

2. Scales: lay the tail flat, right side up, the coral rows away from you. The scales point to the ankles, right sides up, and every scale is sewn on by its straight edge only, the round edge stays free. They are sewn in courses, the lowest first; each course is one row of the tail, and its scales hang over the course below it, about half a scale to the side of the scales there (half drop); only in course 11, where the large scales begin, the four large scales hang over the four medium ones of course 10 scale over scale. The straight edge of a course stays in sight in three places: a little of it below each place where two scales of the next course meet; half a scale of it at each end where the next course has one scale fewer; and all of it in course 26, the top one. Stitches of a row are counted from the right. In a course the scales lie side by side: a large scale takes 12 stitches of the row, a medium one takes 10. Mark the first and the last stitch of a course before you sew it. The courses: course 1: row 99, 3 medium navy, stitches 12 to 41; course 2: row 96, 4 medium navy, stitches 9 to 48; course 3: row 93, 3 medium navy, stitches 15 to 44; course 4: row 90, 4 medium navy, stitches 11 to 50; course 5: row 87, 3 medium navy, stitches 17 to 46; course 6: row 84, 4 medium navy, stitches 14 to 53; course 7: row 81, 3 medium navy, stitches 20 to 49; course 8: row 78, 4 medium navy, stitches 16 to 55; course 9: row 75, 3 medium navy, stitches 23 to 52; course 10: row 72, 4 medium navy, stitches 19 to 58; course 11: row 68, 4 large teal, stitches 17 to 64; course 12: row 64, 3 large teal, stitches 24 to 59; course 13: row 60, 4 large teal, stitches 20 to 67; course 14: row 56, 3 large teal, stitches 28 to 63; course 15: row 52, 4 large teal, stitches 24 to 71; course 16: row 48, 5 large teal, stitches 19 to 78; course 17: row 44, 4 large teal, stitches 27 to 74; course 18: row 40, 5 large teal, stitches 23 to 82; course 19: row 36, 4 large aqua, stitches 30 to 77; course 20: row 32, 5 large aqua, stitches 26 to 85; course 21: row 28, 4 large aqua, stitches 32 to 79; course 22: row 24, 5 large aqua, stitches 26 to 85; course 23: row 20, 4 large aqua, stitches 32 to 79; course 24: row 16, 5 large aqua, stitches 26 to 85; course 25: row 12, 4 large aqua, stitches 32 to 79; course 26: row 8, 5 large aqua, stitches 26 to 85. In all 103 scales.

3. Sew each scale with its tail, which hangs at one end of the straight edge. Beginning there, whip stitch the straight edge to the stitches of the row that it takes, one whip stitch to a stitch: under the top of the hdc, at the foot of the st of the next row that stands in it, and through the end of a row of the scale. A large scale takes 12: from its outer edge to the ring 1 in the end of row 4, 2 in (5 cm) row 3, 2 in (5 cm) row 2 and 1 in (2.5 cm) row 1, then from the ring to the other outer edge 1, 2, 2 and 1. A medium one takes 10: 1 in the end of row 3, 2 in (5 cm) row 2 and 2 in (5 cm) row 1, then 2, 2 and 1. So the magic ring lies in the middle. Fasten off on the wrong side of the tail.

4. Coral roll: turn the tail so that the coral rows are nearest to you, right side up. The foundation chain is then the edge nearest to you. Roll it up and away from you, over the right side of the coral rows, until it lies on row 7, the first row of A; the wrong side of the coral rows is then the outside of the roll. Cut two lengths of D, each about 56 in

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(142 cm) long, and whip stitch the 110 chains of the foundation to the 110 stitches of row 7, through the fronts of the stitches: the first length for half of them, the second for the other half.

5. Back seam: fold the tail in half lengthwise with the wrong side out, so that its two long edges meet. Put a marker through both edges at the end of row 22. Cut two lengths of B, each about 48 in (122 cm) long. Begin at row 23 and whip stitch the two edges to each other, the end of every row to the end of the same row, as far as row 102: 80 pairs of row ends, one stitch to a pair, the first length for half of them. Keep the scales out of the seam. Above the marker the edges stay open, at the back of the waist. Take out the marker and turn the tail right side out.

6. Foot: lay the tail flat with the seam in the middle of the back. The last row is now doubled: the front, its stitches 14 to 39, lies on the back, its stitches 13 to 1 and 52 to 40: 26 pairs. Cut a length of C, about 30 in (76 cm), and whip stitch the 26 pairs to each other from fold to fold, 26 stitches, under the scales.

7. Veins: on the right side of each leaf sew a line of back stitch with D, from the middle of the foundation chain up to the middle of the tip, over one row with each stitch: 30 stitches. Cut a length of D about 46 in (117 cm) long for each leaf.

8. Fin: lay the tail with its front, the side with the scales, up. Lay the two leaves below the foot, right sides up, tips down, their lower edges, the 13 sc along the foundation chain, along the foot: the 13 of the first leaf against the 13 pairs on the left, the 13 of the second against the 13 pairs on the right. Cut two lengths of C, each about 28 in (71 cm) long, and whip stitch each leaf to the foot, 13 stitches, each through both loops of an sc of the rim and through both layers of the closed foot, over its seam. The leaves are wider than their lower edges, so that they push each other apart and their tips point outward.

Finishing

- Weave in what is left of the ends with the yarn needle.
- Use the tail for sitting and resting, with the legs inside and the waist open. Do not walk in it.

In all: 106 pieces; 15,629 stitches (9,102 in the tail, 61 in each large aqua scale, 61 in each large teal scale, 37 in each medium navy scale, 464 in each fin leaf, 78 in each leaf rim).

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

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