Sloth hanging on a branch

US terms



Finished size

About 9¼ in (23.5 cm) across the branch and 6¾ in (17 cm) tall from the top of the leaves to the bottom of the sloth, without the loop

Skill

Intermediate

Eleven pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn

Medium (4), 6 colors

Hook

3.5 mm (US E-4)

Gauge

20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)

In single crochet, in a spiral.

You will need

Yarn A: mocha, the main color	**about 180 yd (165 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, face patch, branch and the details	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: espresso, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: bark brown, branch	**about 50 yd (46 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: moss, leaf	**about 25 yd (23 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: rose, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

Hook: 3.5 mm (US E-4), 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 (the back loops in a BLO row or round): how is under “B
MR	magic ring
RS	right side
Rnd	round
st	stitch
BLO	back loop only

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Gauge

20 stitches and 22 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 2¼ in (5.5 cm) across. The stitches should be tight enough that the stuffing does not show.

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 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.
- 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 D," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in D. Cut the old yarn and knot the ends on the wrong side.
- Center line: places on a piece are given by round and by stitches from a center line. It is half way round from where the rounds begin. Mark it with a pin or a scrap of yarn as listed here, run it straight from round 1 to the last round by eye, and count out from it along the round, in stitches and half stitches.
- Head: the center line runs between stitches 24 and 25 of round 10 (48 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the top.
- Body: the center line runs between stitches 21 and 22 of round 10 (42 sts). This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the left end.
- Branch: the center line runs between stitches 7 and 8 of round 3 (14 sts). This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the left end.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the toy. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- In every step of putting it together: where a piece meets or overlaps another, sew through both. Where no tail is left or a tail is too short, sew with a new length of the yarn of the piece you are putting on.
- 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. In a BLO round, use the back loops instead.
- No plastic eyes are used: every detail is worked in yarn.
- 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: fine (2, sport) yarn, 2.25 mm (B-1) hook, 27 sc and 30 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): 6¾ in (17 cm) across the branch and 5 in (12.5 cm) tall from the top of the leaves to the bottom of the sloth, without the loop; multiply lengths by 0.74; about 0.74 times the yarn.
- Large: bulky (5, chunky) yarn, 5 mm (H-8) hook, 14 sc and 15.4 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): 13¼ in (33.5 cm) across the branch and 9¾ in (25 cm) tall from the top of the leaves to the bottom of the sloth, without the loop; multiply lengths by 1.4; about 1.4 times the yarn.
- Jumbo: super bulky (6, plush or velvet) yarn, 6.5 mm (K-10½) hook, 11 sc and 12.1 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): 16¾ in (42.5 cm) across the branch and 12¼ in (31 cm) tall from the top of the leaves to the bottom of the sloth, without the loop; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.

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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.

Body

Yarn A, mocha.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	**(28 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 4 times**	**(32 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 9 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 10 sts**] 2 times**	**(35 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	Sc in next 10 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 11 sts**] 2 times**, 2 sc in next st	**(38 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 9 sts**] 2 times**	**(40 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 19 sts**] 2 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 11 to 15**	Sc in each st around	**(42 sc)**

A box for each round, 11 to 15: tick them off as you go.

☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15

☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**sc in next 19 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	**(40 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**sc in next 9 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 9 sts**] 2 times**	**(38 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 17 sts**] 2 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**sc in next 10 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times**	**(33 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 20**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 3 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts**] 3 times**	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times**	**(24 sc)**

Stuff firmly now, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	**[**sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(6 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 8 in (20 cm) tail. Thread the tail through the front loop of each of the last 6 stitches, pull it tight to close the hole and bury the end inside.	

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Head

Yarn A, mocha.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in each st around	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 11 to 15**	Sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**

A box for each round, 11 to 15: tick them off as you go.

☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15

☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 17**	Sc in each st around	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 20**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

Stuff firmly now, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 21**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(6 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 8 in (20 cm) tail. Thread the tail through the front loop of each of the last 6 stitches, pull it tight to close the hole and bury the end inside.	

Face patch

Yarn B, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

Arm: make 2

Yarn A, mocha.

Stuff lightly every few rounds as you go, so that the tube still bends.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in each st around	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 5 to 30**	Sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**

A box for each round, 5 to 30: tick them off as you go.

☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20 ☐ 21 ☐ 22 ☐ 23 ☐ 24 ☐ 25 ☐ 26 ☐ 27 ☐ 28 ☐ 29 ☐ 30

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.	

Leg: make 2

Yarn A, mocha.

Stuff lightly every few rounds as you go, so that the tube still bends.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in each st around	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 5 to 30**	Sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**

A box for each round, 5 to 30: tick them off as you go.

☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20 ☐ 21 ☐ 22 ☐ 23 ☐ 24 ☐ 25 ☐ 26 ☐ 27 ☐ 28 ☐ 29 ☐ 30

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.	

Branch

Yarns in order of use: B, cream; D, bark brown.

Stuff firmly as you go, about every 8 rounds, pushing the stuffing well down with the handle of the hook, so that the branch is stiff.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 3**	With D, working in BLO all the way round, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 4 to 51**	Sc in each st around	**(14 sc)**

A box for each round, 4 to 51: tick them off as you go.

☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 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 ☐ 34 ☐ 35 ☐ 36 ☐ 37 ☐ 38 ☐ 39 ☐ 40 ☐ 41 ☐ 42 ☐ 43 ☐ 44 ☐ 45 ☐ 46 ☐ 47 ☐ 48 ☐ 49 ☐ 50 ☐ 51

Top up the stuffing now, to the end.

☐ **Rnd 52**	With B, working in BLO all the way round, **[**sc2tog**] 7 times**	**(7 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 8 in (20 cm) tail. Thread the tail through the front loop of each of the last 7 stitches, pull it tight to close the hole and bury the end inside.	

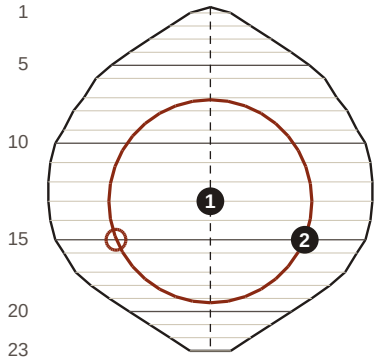
Leaf: make 3

Yarn E, moss.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc in each st around	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(6 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 3 stitches.	

Assembly

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Head: 1 face patch, 2 cheeks

Each line is a round, counted as the rounds are worked. The upright broken line is the center line. A place with a broken edge is on the far side.

1. Set the head at the left end of the body: round 14 of the head, 13 stitches to the right of its center line, lies over round 1 of the body. The center line of the head looks straight forward, and the top of the head (round 1) leans a little to the left. The middle of the head is level with the middle of the body. Press the two together and, with a new length of A (mocha), sew them in a circle about 1½ in (3.8 cm) across, going round twice.

2. Lay the face patch flat on the head, right side out, the middle of it on round 13, on the center line. Ease it into an oval about 2 1/8 in (5.4 cm) wide and 1 5/8 in (4.1 cm) tall as you pin it. Sew down all 30 stitches of the edge.

3. Sew the two arms to the top of the body by their open edges (9 sts each): the middle of one edge on round 6 of the body, 5 stitches from the center line, toward the back, and the middle of the other on round 9, 3 stitches from the center line, toward the front. Both point straight up. Sew all the way round each with its tail.

4. Sew the two legs to the top of the body in the same way: the middle of one edge on round 16 of the body, 3 stitches from the center line, toward the front, and the middle of the other on round 19, 5 stitches from the center line, toward the back.

5. Lay the branch above the sloth, from left to right, its center line on top, so that the gap between the underside of the branch and the top of the body is about 1½ in (3.8 cm). Take each limb up behind the branch, over the top of it and down its front, until round 1 of the limb lies on the front of the branch, half way down. From left to right: the back arm goes over round 19 of the branch, the front arm over round 25, the front leg over round 37 and the back leg over round 43. Sew rounds 1 to 5 of each limb to the front of the branch where they touch it, with a new length of A (mocha), and catch the back of each limb to the branch with a few stitches.

6. Pin one leaf to the branch: the middle of the flat edge lies on round 46, 1½ stitches from the center line, toward the back. The edge runs lengthwise along the branch, half of it on each side of that place. It points up and to the right, its broad side facing you. Sew through both layers of the 3-stitch edge with the tail.

7. Pin one leaf to the branch: the middle of the flat edge lies on round 7, on the center line. The edge runs lengthwise along the branch, half of it on each side of that place. It points up and to the left, its broad side facing you. Sew through both layers of the 3-stitch edge with the tail.

8. Pin one leaf to the branch: the middle of the flat edge lies on round 9, 5 stitches from the center line, toward the back (low on the back of the branch). The edge runs lengthwise along the branch, half of it on each side of that place. It hangs straight down, its broad side facing you. Sew through both layers of the 3-stitch edge with the tail.

9. With D (bark brown), chain 54, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) end at each side: this is the loop. Sew one end of the chain to the top of the branch on round 5 and the other on round 48, both on the center line, and bury the ends inside the branch. Hang the sloth by the middle of the loop, over a hook or a peg.

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Finishing

- Embroider with one strand of yarn and the yarn needle when the pieces round the place are sewn on; begin and end each strand inside the toy. Satin stitch is straight stitches side by side until the shape is filled. Backstitch is a line of short stitches end to end: bring the needle up one stitch ahead, put it down at the end of the stitch before, and repeat.
- Eye patches: with C (espresso), in satin stitch, an oval about ¾ in (19 mm) long and 7/16 in (11 mm) wide for each eye. Its middle is ¾ in (19 mm) out from the center of the face patch and 3/16 in (5 mm) above its middle, one to each side; its outer end is the lower one (a tilt of about 25 degrees). Where it reaches past the edge of the face patch, it lies on the head.
- Claws: with B (cream), three long straight stitches on each of the four feet (the part of each arm and leg that hangs down the front of the branch), from round 1 to round 4, side by side, the middle one in the middle of the foot and the others about 1½ stitches to each side of it.
- Closed eyes: with B (cream), in backstitch, worked on top of the eye patches, one on each: a curve about 5/16 in (8 mm) wide that dips 1/8 in (3 mm) below its ends, in the middle of the eye patch.
- Nose: with C (espresso), in satin stitch, an oval about 5/16 in (8 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the face patch, centered, 1/8 in (3 mm) below the middle of the face patch.
- Mouth: with C (espresso), in backstitch, a smile, one curve about 5/8 in (16 mm) wide that dips 3/16 in (5 mm) below its ends. Its two ends are on the face patch, 3/8 in (10 mm) below the middle of the face patch, one to each side of its center.
- Cheeks: with F (rose), in satin stitch, an oval about ¼ in (6 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the head on round 15, one to each side, 5 stitches from the center line (10 stitches apart). They lie across the edge of the face patch there, half on the patch and half on the head.
- Weave every tail through the toy and trim it. For a toy that will be played with, go round each seam a second time with a new length of yarn. Check the seams and small parts from time to time.

In all: 11 pieces; 3,664 stitches (749 in the body, 744 in the head, 90 in the face patch, 269 in each arm, 269 in each leg, 711 in the branch, 98 in each leaf).

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

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