Hen on a nest

US terms



Finished size
About 5¼ in (13.5 cm) tall in the nest, the nest about 6 in (15 cm) across

Skill
Intermediate
17 pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 8 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: speckled gray, the main color	**about 115 yd (105 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: white, several of the pieces	**about 50 yd (46 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: barn red, comb bump and wattle	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: marigold, beak	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: wheat, nest ring and nest floor	**about 65 yd (59 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: tan, nest ring	**about 35 yd (32 m), an estimate**
Yarn G: egg blue, egg	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn H: brown, nest ring	**about 35 yd (32 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, scissors and two black plastic eyes with washers, 8 mm.

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.

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

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
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
ch	chain stitch
MR	magic ring
RS	right side
Rnd	round
st	stitch
BLO	back loop only

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 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.
- 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 and neck: the center line runs between stitches 18 and 19 of round 14 (36 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the top.
- Body: the center line runs between stitches 27 and 28 of round 9 (54 sts). This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the front 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.
- For a child under three, or a pet, embroider the eyes instead: satin stitch dots of the same size in H (brown).
- 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.

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

- Small: fine (2, sport) yarn, 2.25 mm (B-1) hook, 27 sc and 30 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): about 4 in (10 cm) tall in the nest, the nest about 4½ in (11.5 cm) across; eyes 6 mm; 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): about 7½ in (19 cm) tall in the nest, the nest about 8½ in (21.5 cm) across; eyes 11 mm; 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): about 9½ in (24 cm) tall in the nest, the nest about 11 in (28 cm) across; eyes 15 mm; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 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 and sl st is slip stitch.

Body

Yarns in order of use: A, speckled gray; B, white.

☐ **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**	With B, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	With A, **[**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**	With B, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	With A, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	With B, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(54 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 10 to 11**	With A, sc in each st around	**(54 sc)**

A box for each round, 10 to 11: tick them off as you go.

☐ 10 ☐ 11

☐ **Rnd 12**	With B, sc in each st around	**(54 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 13 to 14**	With A, sc in each st around	**(54 sc)**

A box for each round, 13 to 14: tick them off as you go.

☐ 13 ☐ 14

☐ **Rnd 15**	With B, sc in each st around	**(54 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 16 to 17**	With A, sc in each st around	**(54 sc)**

A box for each round, 16 to 17: tick them off as you go.

☐ 16 ☐ 17

☐ **Rnd 18**	With B, sc in each st around	**(54 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	With A, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts**] 6 times**	**(48 sc)**

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

☐ **Rnd 20**	Sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	With B, **[**sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 22**	With A, sc in each st around	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	With B, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	With A, **[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

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

☐ **Rnd 26**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 27**	With B, **[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 28**	With A, **[**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. Press the stuffed piece a little flatter from top to underside: at its widest rounds about 3¾ in (9.5 cm) across and 3 in (7.6 cm) from top to underside.	

Head and neck

Yarns in order of use: A, speckled gray; B, white.

☐ **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**	With B, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	With A, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	With B, sc in each st around	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	With A, sc in each st around	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 3 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	With B, sc in each st around	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	With A, sc in each st around	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts**] 3 times**	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	With B, **[**sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	With A, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 3 times**	**(33 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 10 sts**] 3 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 28 in (71 cm) tail for sewing. Fix the eyes now (see Finishing). Do this before you stuff the piece or sew it on. Stuff firmly up to the open edge.	

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Comb bump: make 3

Yarn C, barn red.

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

A box for each round, 3 to 4: tick them off as you go.

3 4

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Beak

Yarn D, marigold.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Wattle: make 2

Yarn C, barn red.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in each st around	**(6 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Wing: make 2

Yarns in order of use: B, white; A, speckled gray.

☐ **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**	With A, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	With B, **[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(16 sc)**

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

☐ **Rnd 6**	With A, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts**] 2 times**	**(20 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	With B, sc in each st around	**(20 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	With A, sc in each st around	**(20 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next 8 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 3 times**	**(15 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 6 stitches.	

Tail feather: make 3

Yarns in order of use: B, white; A, speckled gray.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	With A, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 6 to 10**	Sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**

A box for each round, 6 to 10: tick them off as you go.

☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 6 stitches.	

Nest ring

Yarns in order of use: F, tan; E, wheat; H, brown.

☐ **Foundation**	With F, ch 60; being careful not to twist the chain, sl st in the first ch to form a ring. Round 1 begins in that same ch.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Sc in each ch around	**(60 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in BLO of each st around	**(60 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	With E, working in BLO all the way round, **[**sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(66 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Working in BLO all the way round, **[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(72 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	With H, working in BLO all the way round, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 11 sts**] 6 times**	**(78 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Working in BLO all the way round, **[**sc in next 12 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(84 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	With F, sc in BLO of each st around	**(84 sc)**

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

☐ **Rnd 8**	Working in BLO all the way round, **[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts**] 6 times**	**(90 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	With E, sc in BLO of each st around	**(90 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	Sc in BLO of each st around	**(90 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	With H, sc in BLO of each st around	**(90 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	Working in BLO all the way round, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 13 sts**] 6 times**	**(84 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	With F, sc in BLO of each st around	**(84 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	Working in BLO all the way round, **[**sc in next 12 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(78 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	With E, working in BLO all the way round, **[**sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts**] 6 times**	**(72 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 16**	Working in BLO all the way round, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts**] 6 times**	**(66 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 17**	With H, working in BLO all the way round, **[**sc in next 9 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(60 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	Sc in BLO of each st around	**(60 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 42 in (107 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff the ring evenly and firmly a little at a time as you sew. Fold the last round to the inside so that its 60 stitches meet the 60 chains at the start, and sew the two edges together, stitch to chain, all the way round the hole.	

Nest floor

Yarn E, wheat.

☐ **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**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(54 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts**] 6 times**	**(60 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(66 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 46 in (117 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Egg: make 2

Yarn G, egg blue.

☐ **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, sc in next 2 sts**] 3 times**	**(15 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 4 to 5**	Sc in each st around	**(15 sc)**

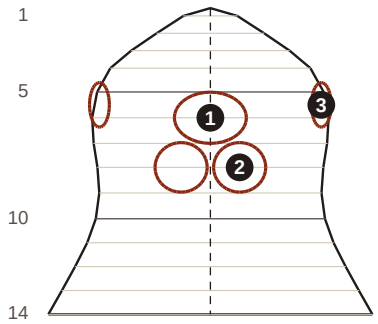
A box for each round, 4 to 5: tick them off as you go.

4 5

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

☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**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.	

Assembly



Head and neck: 1 beak, 2 wattles, 3 eyes

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. Pin the head and neck to the body: the middle of the open edge lies on round 7, on the center line. The edge has 36 sts: its front is on round 3 and its back on round 13, both on the center line of the body, and its two sides are on round 8, 6 stitches from the center line. It points up, the center line of the head and neck to the front. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

2. Sew the three comb bumps in a row from front to back over the top of the head and neck, side against side. The edge of each has 9 sts. The middle of the second one is over the middle of round 1, the middle of the first on round 3, on the center line, and the middle of the third on round 3, on the line opposite the center line. All three point up. Sew each all the way round with its tail, then take a stitch or two between one and the next, so that they stand close.

3. Pin the beak to the head and neck: the middle of the open edge lies on round 6, on the center line. The edge (8 sts) covers about rounds 5 to 7 of the head and neck. It points forward. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

4. Pin the two wattles to the head and neck: the middle of each open edge lies on round 8, one to each side, 1 stitch from the center line (2 stitches apart). The edge (6 sts) covers about rounds 7 to 9 of the head and neck. They point down. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

5. Pin the two wings to the body: the middle of each flat edge lies between rounds 10 and 11, one to each side, 10½ stitches from the center line (21 stitches apart). The flat edge runs along the round, half of it on each side of that place. They point back. Sew through both layers of the 6-stitch edge with the tail. Lay each wing down along the side of the body, run the rest of the tail down inside it and catch the tip to the body with two or three stitches.

6. Pin one tail feather to the body: the middle of the flat edge lies on round 23, on the center line. The flat edge runs along the round, half of it on each side of that place. It points up and back. Sew through both layers of the 6-stitch edge with its tail of yarn.

7. Pin two tail feathers to the body: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 23, one to each side, 2½ stitches from the center line (5 stitches apart). The flat edge runs along the round, half of it on each side of that place. They point up and back. Sew through both layers of the 6-stitch edge with its tail of yarn. They lean a little out to the sides, so that the three spread like a fan. Their inner halves lie in front of the middle feather. Sew through both there.

8. Lay the nest ring on the table so that its first rounds are underneath and its seam looks in to the hole. Put the nest floor into the hole, right side up. From round 2 on the ring was worked in back loops, so the front loops of round 3 are free: sew the edge of the nest floor (66 sts) to the free loops of round 3 of the nest ring (66 sts), stitch to stitch, all the way round.

9. Set the nest ring down with the nest floor at the bottom. Lay the two eggs on the floor side by side at the front, and set the hen in the nest behind them, her breast against the eggs. None of these is sewn down.

Finishing

- Put in the plastic eyes when the words of a piece say so, or embroider eyes in the same places. 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.
- Eyes: two 8 mm black plastic eyes, on the head and neck between rounds 5 and 6, one to each side, 5½ stitches from the center line (11 stitches apart).
- 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: 17 pieces; 4,135 stitches.

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

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.