Hippo in the water

US terms



Finished size
The water about 8½ in (21.5 cm) across; the hippo about 7½ in (19 cm) long and 3 in (7.6 cm) tall

Skill
Easy
16 pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 9 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: slate purple, body, head and the details	**about 105 yd (96 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: dusty mauve, muzzle and ear	**about 25 yd (23 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: deep aqua, water	**about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: aqua, water	**about 40 yd (37 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: white, water and tusk	**about 35 yd (32 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: leaf green, lily pad	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn G: pink, petal	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn H: charcoal, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn I: yellow, lily center	**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, scissors and two black plastic eyes with washers, 10 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.

Abbreviations

Written in US terms. Where the UK name differs it is given beside the US one.

sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
sc2tog	single crochet 2 stitches together, through the front loops only: how is under “Before you start” (UK dc2tog, double cro
MR	magic ring
RS	right side

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Rnd	round
st	stitch

Special stitches

bobble: [yarn over, insert hook in the stitch, pull up a loop, yarn over, pull through 2 loops] 4 times in the same stitch, yarn over, pull through all 5 loops (United Kingdom: a bobble of 4 trebles). Push it out to the right side. It leaves 1 st for the next round.

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 33 and 34 of round 15 (66 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the top.
- Muzzle: the center line runs between stitches 18 and 19 of round 6 (36 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.
- For a child under three, or a pet, embroider the eyes instead: satin stitch dots of the same size in H (charcoal).
- 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): the water about 6¼ in (16 cm) across; the hippo about 5½ in (14 cm) long and 2¼ in (5.7 cm) tall; eyes 7 mm; multiply lengths by 0.74; about 0.74 times the yarn.

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- Large: bulky (5, chunky) yarn, 5 mm (H-8) hook, 14 sc and 15.4 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): the water about 12¼ in (31 cm) across; the hippo about 10¾ in (27.5 cm) long and 4¼ in (11 cm) tall; eyes 14 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): the water about 15½ in (39.5 cm) across; the hippo about 13½ in (34.5 cm) long and 5½ in (14 cm) tall; eyes 18 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, hdc is half treble and dc is treble.

Water

Yarns in order of use: C, deep aqua; D, aqua; E, 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**	**[**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)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(72 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 11 sts**] 6 times**	**(78 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	With D, **[**sc in next 12 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(84 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts**] 6 times**	**(90 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 16**	With C, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 14 sts**] 6 times**	**(96 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**sc in next 15 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(102 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	With D, **[**sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts**] 6 times**	**(108 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 17 sts**] 6 times**	**(114 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 20**	With C, **[**sc in next 18 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(120 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	With D, **[**sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 10 sts**] 6 times**	**(126 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 22**	With E, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 20 sts**] 6 times**	**(132 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next st, dc in next st, 2 dc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, sc in next 2 sts**] 12 times**	**(156 sts)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off and weave in the end, drawing it through the first stitch of the last round so that the edge runs on without a step. Press it flat with the right side up.	

Body

Yarn A, slate purple.

☐ **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**	Sc in each st around	**(54 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts**] 6 times**	**(60 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	Sc in each st around	**(60 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc in next 19 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(63 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	Sc in each st around	**(63 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	**[**sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 10 sts**] 3 times**	**(66 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 16 to 17**	Sc in each st around	**(66 sc)**

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

16 17

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 46 in (117 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge.	

Head

Yarn A, slate purple.

☐ **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)**
☐ **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)**

Fix the eyes now (see Finishing). Then stuff firmly, 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.	

Muzzle

Yarn B, dusty mauve.

☐ **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)**

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☐ **Rnds 7 to 8**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**

A box for each round, 7 to 8: tick them off as you go.

7 8

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 28 in (71 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge. Shape the stuffed piece with your fingers into an oval, about 2 7/8 in (7.3 cm) wide and 1 5/8 in (4.1 cm) tall.	

Ear: make 2

Yarn B, dusty mauve.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	5 sc in MR	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts	**(11 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in each st around	**(11 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts	**(9 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 4½ stitches. The odd stitch lies at one fold.	

Tusk: make 2

Yarn E, white.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in each st around	**(4 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 2 stitches.	

Lily pad

Yarn F, leaf green.

☐ **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)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

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Petal: make 6

Yarn G, pink.

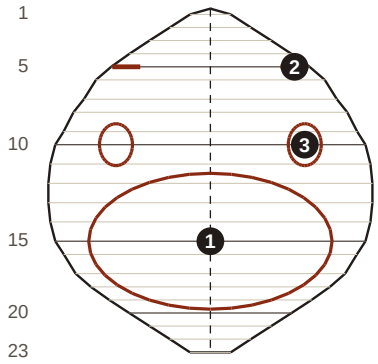
☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	3 sc in MR	**(3 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st	**(7 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog	**(7 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next st	**(5 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 2½ stitches. The odd stitch lies at one fold.	

Lily center

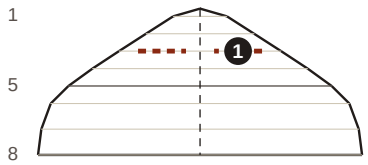
Yarn I, yellow.

☐ **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, bobble in next st**] 6 times**	**(12 sts)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Assembly



Head: 1 muzzle, 2 ears, 3 eyes



Muzzle: 1 tusks

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. Lay the water flat with the right side up. Set the body on it, its open edge down and its center line to the front: the middle of the body lies 1 5/8 in (4.1 cm) behind the middle of the water. With its tail, sew the open edge of the body (66 sts) to the water all the way round, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if it is still soft.

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2. Set the head in front of the body, round 1 at the top, the face forward, turned about 10 degrees to the left and tipped back until it looks up by about 15 degrees; its underside rests on the water. The back of the head touches the front of the body: round 14 of the head, on the line opposite its center line, lies on round 13 of the body, 2½ stitches to the left of the center line of the body. Press the two together until they touch in a circle about 1½ in (38 mm) across, from about round 9 to about round 17 of the body and from about round 10 to about round 18 of the head. With a new length of A (slate purple), sew round the circle twice. Then sew the underside of the head to the water in a circle about 1 in (25 mm) across.

3. Pin the muzzle to the head: the middle of the open edge lies on round 15, on the center line. The edge (36 sts) covers about rounds 11 to 19 of the head. It points straight out from the face. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

4. Pin the two ears to the head: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 5, one to each side, 6 stitches from the center line (12 stitches apart). The flat edge lies with its upper end on about round 3, 3 stitches from the center line, and its lower end on about round 7, 8 stitches from it. They point up and out to the side. Sew through both layers of the 4½-stitch edge with the tail.

5. Pin the two tusks to the muzzle: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 3, one to each side, 7½ stitches from the center line (3 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). The flat edge runs along the round, half of it on each side of that place. They point down. Sew through both layers of the 2-stitch edge with the tail. Their upper edges lie just under the curve of the smile.

6. Lay the lily pad flat on the water, right side out, in front of the body and to the right: its middle lies half way between straight in front and straight to the right, 3 in (7.6 cm) from the middle of the water. Sew down all 30 stitches of the edge.

7. Set the six petals in a ring on the lily pad, evenly spaced: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 2 of the lily pad, along the round, and each edge laps a little over the next. They point outward and up. Sew through both layers of each 2½-stitch edge with its tail.

8. Set the lily center in the middle of the petals, its open edge down, over round 1 of the lily pad. With its tail, sew its open edge (10 sts) to the petals and the pad all the way round.

Finishing

- Put in the plastic eyes when the words of a piece say so, or embroider eyes in the same places with the other details. 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.
- Eyes: two 10 mm black plastic eyes, on the head on round 10, one to each side, 5 stitches from the center line (10 stitches apart).
- Nostrils: with H (charcoal), in satin stitch, an oval about 3/16 in (5 mm) wide and ¼ in (6 mm) tall, its middle on the muzzle, one to each side, 11/16 in (17 mm) out from its center and 3/8 in (10 mm) above the middle of the muzzle.
- Mouth: with H (charcoal), in backstitch, a smile, one curve about 1 5/16 in (33 mm) wide that dips ¼ in (6 mm) below its ends. Its two ends are on the muzzle, level with its middle, one to each side of its center.
- 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: 16 pieces; 3,830 stitches.

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

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