Hot air balloon applique

US terms



Finished size
About 4 in (10 cm) wide and about 5½ in (14 cm) tall

Skill
Easy
Worked in rows and rounds, with 2 pieces and color changes.

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

Gauge
14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: red, rounds 1 and 5 of the balloon	**about 7 yd (6 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: yellow, rounds 2 and 4 of the balloon	**about 6 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: aqua, round 3 of the balloon	**about 4 yd (4 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: basket brown, the basket and the two lines	**about 4 yd (4 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8). Also: a yarn needle, scissors, pins for blocking and a spray bottle.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. The estimate is from the stitches and chains 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.

ch	chain stitch
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

Gauge

14 stitches and 15 rows 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. After round 2 the balloon measures about 1¾ in (4.5 cm) across. If yours is larger, use a smaller hook; if it is smaller, use a larger hook.

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Before you start

- Rounds are worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- Where a line says turn, turn the piece over and work back along the stitches just made.
- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work the first round or row into the loop, then pull the tail until the ring is closed. Four chains joined into a ring with a slip stitch may be used instead.
- A chain 1 at the start of a round or a row does not count as a stitch.
- Fasten off the old color, then join the new one with a slip stitch in the place named; the first stitch or chain of the line is worked in that same place.
- A round worked in each st around begins in the st the round before was joined in, or the new color was joined in.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches; slip stitches are not counted.
- The finished size takes in the lines and the basket.
- The pieces worked in rows look much alike on both sides: take either side as the right side.
- The distances under FINISHING are for the yarn and gauge above; in another yarn make them larger or smaller in the same proportion as the size.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured the longest way: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 3¾ in (10 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 4¼ in (11 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 7 in (18 cm).

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 sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet and hdc is half treble.

Balloon

Yarns in order of use: A, red; B, yellow; C, aqua.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 8 hdc in ring, sl st in first hdc to join	**(8 hdc)**
	Fasten off A.	
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join B with sl st in any st, ch 1, 2 hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	**(16 hdc)**
	Fasten off B.	
☐ **Rnd 3**	Join C with sl st in any st, ch 1, hdc in same st, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(24 hdc)**
	Fasten off C.	
☐ **Rnd 4**	Join B with sl st in any st, ch 1, hdc in same st, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(32 hdc)**
	Fasten off B.	
☐ **Rnd 5**	Join A with sl st in any st, ch 1, hdc in same st, hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(40 hdc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 40 in (102 cm) tail, for sewing this piece down at the end.	

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Basket

Yarn D, basket brown.

☐ **Foundation**	With D, ch 5.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 3 chs	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 4**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(4 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 4: tick them off as you go.

2 3 4

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing.	

Finishing

- Block: pin the pieces to shape on a flat surface, spray them with water and let them dry.
- For the lines, with D, ch 5 and fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail at each end; make 2.
- Lay the basket below the balloon, its middle below the middle of the balloon, with 3/8 in (1 cm) between the edge of the balloon and the top of the basket. Sew one end of each line behind the edge of the balloon, ¼ in (0.6 cm) of it hidden, the two 2 in (5.1 cm) apart; sew the other ends behind the basket, 3/8 in (1 cm) of each hidden, the two ¾ in (1.9 cm) apart.
- To sew the applique to your project, pin it where it is to go and sew round its edge with the long tail, under the outermost strands of the stitches; where a part is of another color, use a length of that color.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 2 pieces; 136 stitches (120 in the balloon, 16 in the basket); 18 ends to weave in.

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

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