Hot air balloon baby mobile

US terms



Finished size

About 12¼ in (31 cm) long with the hanging loop and 10¼ in (26 cm) across; each balloon about 3 in (7.6 cm) tall without its basket

Skill

Intermediate

30 pieces worked in rounds and rows and sewn together.

Yarn

Light (3), 5 colors

Hook

3 mm

Gauge

24 stitches and 26.4 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)

In single crochet, in a spiral.

What you need

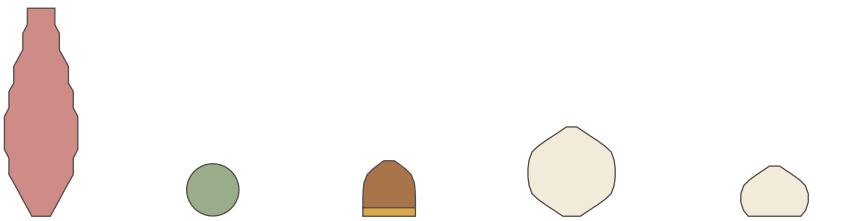
Yarn A: dusty rose, gore and the details	**about 45 yd (41 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: sage, bottom disc and the details	**about 55 yd (50 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: mustard, basket and the details	**about 50 yd (46 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: cream, cloud middle, cloud side and the details	**about 160 yd (146 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: caramel, basket	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 130 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 250 yd (229 m).

Hook: 3 mm, or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: toy stuffing, a yarn needle, a stitch marker, pins, scissors, a wooden ring or the inner ring of an embroidery hoop 8 in (20 cm) across on the outside and about 5/16 in (8 mm) thick and a ceiling hook.

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.

The pieces



Gore x 18 **Bottom disc x 3** **Basket x 3** **Cloud middle x 2** **Cloud side x 4**

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

Gauge

24 stitches and 26.4 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 1 7/8 in (4.8 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.

Notes

- Every piece that has rounds 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.
- Cords: every cord is a plain chain, pulled firm. 24 ch measure about 4 in (10 cm). Leave an 8 in (20 cm) tail at each end of a cord for sewing it on; the chains counted are the ones that are seen.
- Whip stitch: hold two edges side by side, right sides out, and take the needle over the edges and through both, from the same side every time.
- 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 C," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in C. Cut the old yarn and knot the ends on the wrong side.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the mobile. 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.
- No plastic eyes are used.
- One size, at the gauge above: 12¼ in (31 cm) long with the hanging loop and 10¼ in (26 cm) across; each balloon about 3 in (7.6 cm) tall without its basket. A thinner or a thicker yarn with a hook to suit makes it smaller or larger; every length then changes with it.

Instructions

US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **MR** magic ring, **Rnd** round, **st** stitch.
sc2tog 2 sc made into one. **BLO**: only the loop away from you. **yo** yarn over the hook, **RS** right side, the one that shows.
2 sc in next st: both in one stitch. **sc in next 2 sts**: one in each.
[ ] 6 times: work what is inside 6 times in all.
(3 sc): the stitches you have when the row is done. **How to read a pattern**.

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

Gore: make 18

Yarn A, dusty rose.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 3 stitches wide at the start. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

Work five gores in A, five in B (sage), five in C (mustard) and three in D (cream): for those read B, C or D wherever a line says A.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 4.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st	(4 sc)
☐ **Rows 4 to 5** 4 5	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(4 sc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st	(6 sc)
☐ **Rows 8 to 9** 8 9	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(6 sc)
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st	(7 sc)
☐ **Rows 11 to 12** 11 12	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 1, turn, sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st	(8 sc)
☐ **Rows 14 to 17** 14 15 16 17	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(8 sc)
☐ **Row 18**	Ch 1, turn, sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog	(7 sc)
☐ **Rows 19 to 20** 19 20	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 21**	Ch 1, turn, sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog	(6 sc)
☐ **Row 22**	Ch 1, turn, sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog	(5 sc)
☐ **Row 23**	Ch 1, turn, sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog	(4 sc)
☐ **Row 24**	Ch 1, turn, sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog	(3 sc)
☐ **Row 25**	Ch 1, turn, sc in next st, sc2tog	(2 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing. The foundation chain is the lower end of the gore and row 25 is its top. The side on which row 1 shows its right side (RS) is the outside. The piece is turned after every row, so the stitches that are added at the ends of rows 3, 6, 7, 10 and 13 and taken away at the ends of rows 18, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25 fall by turns at the one side and at the other, and the gore comes out even to within a stitch.	

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

Bottom disc: make 3

Yarn B, sage.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(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)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

Basket: make 3

Yarns in order of use: E, caramel; C, mustard.

Round 1 is the middle of the base.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(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**	Sc in BLO of each st around	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnds 5 to 7** 5 6 7	Sc in each st around	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	With C, sc in each st around	(18 sc)
☐ **End**	Sl st in the next st to level the edge. Fasten off and weave in the end. Do not stuff.	

Cloud middle: make 2

Yarn D, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(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)
☐ **Rnds 6 to 10** 6 7 8 9 10	Sc in each st around	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times** Stuff firmly now, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(18 sc)

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

☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**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.	

Cloud side: make 4

Yarn D, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(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)
☐ **Rnds 5 to 7** 5 6 7	Sc in each st around	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge.	

Assembly

1. The first balloon: take three gores in A (dusty rose) and three in C (mustard). Sew the six gores together side by side, the colors by turns, right sides out, the rows level: whip stitch each seam with the tail of one of its two gores, from row 25 down to the foundation chain, one stitch for each row, and sew the last side to the first. Then run a new 12 in (30 cm) length of A through the 12 stitches of row 25 (2 of each gore), draw it up to close the hole at the top and fasten off inside. The balloon is about 2½ in (6.4 cm) across at its widest.

2. The second balloon: three gores in B (sage) and three in D (cream), the colors by turns. Sew the six gores together in the same way and close the top with a length of B.

3. The third balloon: two gores each of A (dusty rose), B (sage) and C (mustard), in this order twice round. Sew the six gores together in the same way and close the top with a length of A.

4. Stuff each balloon firmly through the opening at the bottom, and shape it round, widest at rows 13 to 17. Put one of the three bottom discs, right side out, in the opening of each balloon, and sew the 18 stitches of its edge to the 18 chains of the six foundation chains (3 of each gore), stitch to chain.

5. Lay the two cloud middles on the table, each with round 1 at the top. Sew the four cloud sides to them, two to each, one on the right and one on the left. The middle of each open edge (18 sts) lies on round 8, the two of them opposite each other (15 of the 30 stitches of round 8 from one middle to the other). The edge covers about rounds 5 to 11. Sew all the way round with the tail.

6. The rims: with D (cream), for each balloon work a chain of 19 ch and fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail. Lay it round the bottom edge of the balloon, over the seam of the bottom disc, so that its two ends meet. Sew the ends together and sew the chain down all the way round with the tail.

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

7. The lines and the baskets: for each balloon cut six lengths of D (cream), each 22 in (56 cm) long. Fasten one at the top of each seam and work backstitch down along the seam to the chain at the bottom edge, with stitches about ¼ in (6 mm) long. Backstitch is a line of short stitches end to end. Bring each strand out under the chain and leave the six ends hanging. Now hang the three baskets, one under each balloon: sew the six ends to the rim of the basket (18 sts), to every third stitch, so that ¾ in (2 cm) of each strand shows between the balloon and the basket and the basket hangs level. Weave in the ends inside the basket.

8. The ring: with D (cream), fasten the yarn with a knot and wind it closely round the ring, turn beside turn, all the way round until no wood shows. Fasten off and run the end under the windings.

9. The hanger: with D, work two chains of 70 ch, leaving an 8 in (20 cm) tail at each end, and fasten off. Lay them side by side, fold both in half together, and tie the four strands in one knot ¾ in (2 cm) below the fold: the folds are the hanging loop, and four equal ends of about 25 ch (4 1/8 in, 10.5 cm) hang below the knot. Mark twelve places on the ring with pins, one twelfth of the way round from one to the next, and number them 1 to 12 like a clock face. Wind the tail of each end three times round the ring and knot it: midway between pins 1 and 2, between 4 and 5, between 7 and 8 and between 10 and 11.

10. The cords: with D, work a cord of 4 ch, one of 8 ch and one of 14 ch for the balloons. Sew one end of each to the top of a balloon: the cord of 4 ch to the first, of 8 ch to the second and of 14 ch to the third. Wind the tails at the other ends three times round the ring and knot them: the cord of the first balloon at pin 9, of the second at pin 3, straight across from it, and of the third at pin 6, midway between them.

11. The clouds: with D, work one cord of 41 ch and one of 45 ch. Sew one end of each to round 1 of a cloud middle, wind the tails at the other ends three times round the ring and knot them: the cord of 41 ch at pin 11 and the cord of 45 ch at pin 1. The clouds, at the back, balance the third balloon, at the front. Hang the mobile up, and slide the ends of the hanger a little along the ring until it hangs level.

Finishing

- Weave every tail into the piece it belongs to and trim it. Check the hook, the knots and the seams from time to time. Hang the mobile from a firm hook in the ceiling, well out of reach: no part of it may hang where a baby or a child can touch it, and it is never tied to a crib. It is a decoration, not a toy.

In all: 30 pieces; 4,260 stitches (143 in each gore, 36 in each bottom disc, 126 in each basket, 300 in each cloud middle, 150 in each cloud side).

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.