Child's egg gathering apron

Small · US terms



Finished size

About 15 × 15½ in (38 × 39 cm)

About 15 in (38 cm) wide, 8½ in (21.5 cm) across the top of the bib and 15½ in (39.5 cm) long without the neck loop. To fit a child of about 3 to 5 years, measured 16 in (40.5 cm) to 19 in (48.5 cm) from the collarbone to just above the knee, with six pockets for hen eggs of up to 1¾ in (4.5 cm) across

Skill

Intermediate

It is single crochet in rows with a shaped bib, loop stitch on the pockets and a hen of small rounds sewn on.

Yarn

Medium (4), 5 colors

Hook

4.5 mm (US 7)

Gauge

16 stitches and 18 rows to 4 in (10 cm)

In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: butter yellow, the apron, the pockets, the ties and the neck loop	**about 325 yd (297 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: white, the edge and the hen	**about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: straw, the nests, the wing, the beak and the legs	**about 40 yd (37 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: red, the comb and the wattle	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: dark brown, the eye	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

Fiber: cotton

Hook: 4.5 mm (US 7), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: pins, a stitch marker, a yarn needle 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.

Sizes

Size	Fits	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Small (this file)	**a child of about 3 to 5 years, measured 16 in (40.5 cm) to 19 in (48.5 cm) from the collarbone to just above the knee, with six pockets for hen eggs of up to 1¾ in (4.5 cm) across**	**15 × 15½ in (38 × 39 cm)**	**about 435 yd (398 m)**

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Large	a child of about 6 to 8 years, measured 19 in (48.5 cm) to 23 in (58.5 cm) from the collarbone to just above the knee, with six pockets for hen eggs of up to 1¾ in (4.5 cm) across	17 × 17¾ in (43 × 45 cm)	about 515 yd (471 m)

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)
sc2tog	single crochet 2 stitches together: [insert hook in next st, yo, pull up a loop] 2 times, yo, pull through all 3 loops (UK dc2tog)
MR	magic ring
yo	yarn over (UK yrh, yarn round hook)
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

Special stitches

loop-st (Loop stitch): Insert hook in the place named. Lift a forefinger behind the work so that the yarn lies over it in a loop about ½ in (1.5 cm) long, catch both strands of that loop with the hook, the one in front of the finger and the one behind it, and draw both through the stitch, so that 3 loops are on the hook; then yo, pull through all 3 loops, and slip the long loop off the finger. It stands at the back of the work. It leaves 1 loop-st for the next row or round.

Gauge

16 stitches and 18 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

> **The swatch.** A test piece to measure and pull out. It is not the start of the pattern. Lay it flat and count the stitches and rows over 4 in (10 cm) in its middle. There should be 16 stitches and 18 rows. If you count more stitches than that, change to a larger hook; if you count fewer, change to a smaller hook. The swatch can be pulled out and its yarn used again.
>
Swatch foundation	Ch 25.	
Swatch row 1 (RS)	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(24 sc)**
Swatch rows 2 to 27	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(24 sc)**

Before you start

- The chain of 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

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- The edge is worked along the finished outline of the apron: down the left side, along the hem from left to right, up the right side and back along the top of the bib, turning the piece as you go, with the right side facing you in both rounds. If you work with your left hand, begin at the upper right corner of the bib and go round the other way: in the edge read left for right and right for left. Join the yarn with a slip knot on the hook and a slip stitch where the line says; the first single crochet goes into the same place. Where the places are the ends of rows, work into the side of the stitch at that end of each row, whether the row begins or ends there: the end of each row is one place. The chain of 1 at the start of round 2 does not count; its first single crochet goes into the stitch the round was joined in.
- Begin with a magic ring: wind the yarn once round two fingers, put the hook through the ring, draw up a loop and chain 1 to hold it, which does not count as a stitch. Work round 1 into the ring, then pull the tail to draw the ring closed.
- The parts of the hen are worked in a spiral: their rounds are not joined, and the marker is moved up to the first stitch of each round.
- Row 6 and row 8 of a pocket have loops. Row 7 is plain single crochet and is worked into the loop stitches of row 6: put the hook under the top of each loop stitch, as in any other stitch. Row 8 is worked into the single crochet of row 7, and nothing is worked into row 8.
- To change color at the end of a row, draw the new yarn through as the last yarn over of the last stitch. Cut the old yarn, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).
- Whip stitch: put the needle through both edges from back to front, one stitch for each stitch or row, and draw the yarn snug.
- Measure the child from the collarbone to just above the knee: the apron should not be longer than that. The neck loop goes over the head: measure round the head too, and if it would not pass easily, begin the loop with 4 more chains for every 1 in (2.5 cm) it has to grow and work as many more stitches in each of its 3 rows; 1 in (2.5 cm) takes about 1 yd (1 m) of yarn. The ties meet behind and are tied in a bow. The apron is for a child who is awake and watched by a grown-up; it is taken off before climbing or play.
- Colors. The apron is A and the edge is B. Each pocket is A in rows 1 to 5 and C in rows 6 to 8. The body, the head and the tail feathers are B, the wing is C and the comb pieces are D.

Instructions

Chosen: Small. 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 row is done. In UK terms sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet, sc2tog is dc2tog and yo is yarn round hook.

Apron

Yarn A, butter yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 57.	

Skirt

☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(56 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 36**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(56 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 36: tick them off as you go.

2 3 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

Bib

☐ **Row 37**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 52 sts, sc2tog	**(54 sc)**
☐ **Row 38**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(54 sc)**

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☐ **Row 39**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 50 sts, sc2tog	**(52 sc)**
☐ **Row 40**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(52 sc)**
☐ **Row 41**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 48 sts, sc2tog	**(50 sc)**
☐ **Row 42**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(50 sc)**
☐ **Row 43**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 46 sts, sc2tog	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Row 44**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Row 45**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 44 sts, sc2tog	**(46 sc)**
☐ **Row 46**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(46 sc)**
☐ **Row 47**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 42 sts, sc2tog	**(44 sc)**
☐ **Row 48**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(44 sc)**
☐ **Row 49**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 40 sts, sc2tog	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Row 50**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Row 51**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 38 sts, sc2tog	**(40 sc)**
☐ **Row 52**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(40 sc)**
☐ **Row 53**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 36 sts, sc2tog	**(38 sc)**
☐ **Row 54**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(38 sc)**
☐ **Row 55**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 34 sts, sc2tog	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Row 56**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Row 57**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 32 sts, sc2tog	**(34 sc)**
☐ **Row 58**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(34 sc)**
☐ **Row 59**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 30 sts, sc2tog	**(32 sc)**
☐ **Row 60**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(32 sc)**
☐ **Row 61**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 28 sts, sc2tog	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rows 62 to 66**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(30 sc)**

A box for each row, 62 to 66: tick them off as you go.

☐ 62 ☐ 63 ☐ 64 ☐ 65 ☐ 66

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).

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Edge

Yarn B, white.

☐ **Foundation**	The whole outline of the apron, RS facing, from the upper left corner of the bib: the ends of 66 rows down the left side, 56 foundation chs, the ends of 66 rows up the right side, and the 30 sts of the last row; 218 places.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Join B with sl st in first st, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 65 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 54 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 66 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 28 sts, 3 sc in next st, sl st in first sc to join	**(226 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, sc in next 67 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 56 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 68 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 30 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next st, sl st in first sc to join	**(234 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Pocket: make 6

Yarns in order of use: A, butter yellow; C, straw.

The loop stitch rows are worked with the wrong side facing you, so that the loops stand on the right side, the outside.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 11.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next st, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 4 times**, sc in next st	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next st, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 4 times**, sc in next st	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 14 sts, sc2tog	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Row 6**	With C, ch 1, turn; loop-st in each st across	**(16 loop-sts)**
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; loop-st in each st across	**(16 loop-sts)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Body of the hen

Yarn B, white.

The body, the tail feathers and the wing are ovals. Round 1 is worked along both sides of the foundation chain: along one side, 3 stitches in the last chain, then back along the other side. The last chain of the second side is the one that has the first stitch of the round in it already.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 8.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 5 chs, 3 sc in last ch, working along the other side of the foundation ch, sc in next 5 chs, 2 sc in last ch	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in each of next 2 sts	**(22 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 3**	2 sc in next st, sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 5 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(28 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 5 sts, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(34 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, sc in next 5 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**, sc in next 5 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(40 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 5 sts, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(46 sc)**
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 42 in (107 cm) for sewing.	

Head

Yarn 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**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 24 in (61 cm) for sewing.	

Tail feather: make 3

Yarn B, white.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 6.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 3 chs, 3 sc in last ch, working along the other side of the foundation ch, sc in next 3 chs, 2 sc in last ch	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in each of next 2 sts	**(18 sc)**
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 18 in (46 cm) for sewing.	

Wing

Yarn C, straw.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 7.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 4 chs, 3 sc in last ch, working along the other side of the foundation ch, sc in next 4 chs, 2 sc in last ch	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in each of next 2 sts	**(20 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 3**	2 sc in next st, sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 4 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(26 sc)**
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 28 in (71 cm) for sewing.	

Comb piece: make 4

Yarn D, red.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 10 in (25 cm) for sewing.	

Neck loop

Yarn A, butter yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 77.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(76 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(76 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 3: tick them off as you go.

2 3

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 18 in (46 cm) to sew one end. To sew the other end, cut a new length of the same yarn, also 18 in (46 cm).	

Tie: make 2

Yarn A, butter yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 89.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(88 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(88 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 3: tick them off as you go.

2 3

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 18 in (46 cm) for sewing.	

Assembly

1. Weave in all the tails on the wrong side, but not the long tails of the hen, the neck loop and the ties.

2. The pockets. Lay the apron right side up, the bib away from you. The lower three stand on rows 5 to 12 and the upper three on rows 20 to 27. In both rows leave 6 stitches free at each side of the skirt, without the white edge, and 7 stitches between two pockets, so that each pocket has a place of 10 stitches. Put a pin at each end of every place.

3. Lay a pocket right side up, its loops toward the bib, its foundation edge on the first of its 8 rows between its two pins. Cut a length of A 28 in (71 cm) long. Begin at one upper corner, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm) at the back, and whip stitch down the side through pocket and apron, one stitch in the end of each row of the pocket to one row of the apron; go on along the lower edge, one stitch to each of the 10 foundation chains and to one stitch of the apron each; and up the other side. The seams stay 10 stitches apart, though the pocket is up to 18 stitches wide: the width that is over stands out in a cup. Leave the top open, work two stitches one upon the other at each upper corner, keep the loops out of the seams,

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and fasten off at the back. Weave in both ends there.

4. The hen looks to your left. Each of its pieces is laid right side up on the right side of the bib and sewn down round its edge with its own long tail: bring the needle up through the apron beside the edge and down through the piece one stitch in from its edge, one stitch for each stitch. A comb piece is so small that it is sewn otherwise: bring the needle up through the apron close beside its edge and down through the piece under both loops of the top of a stitch at its edge, one stitch for each of its 6 stitches and nothing into its middle. Fasten off each piece on the wrong side. Pin all of them first. The body is level, its long middle line from side to side, in the middle of the width of the bib, its lower edge on row 42. The middle of the head is on the upper edge of the body, straight above the left end of the foundation chain of the body, so that about the lower half of the head lies on the body and the rest stands above it. The three tail feathers fan out behind the right end of the body, their inner ends under it by about ½ in (1.5 cm): one points to the right, one upward, and the third stands halfway between these two. The wing lies on the middle of the body, its right end about ½ in (1.5 cm) higher than its left end. Three of the comb pieces stand side by side along the top edge of the head, the middle one at its highest point, each with about a third of it under the head. The fourth is the wattle: its middle is level with the second round of the head below the middle of the head, at the left edge, with about a third of it under the head; the beak comes just above it, and its lower part lies on the body.

5. All of these pieces have their right side up. Sew them on in this order, so that what lies on top comes last: the tail feathers, the body, the four comb pieces, the head, the wing.

6. Straight stitch: bring the needle up at one point and down at another, so that one length of yarn lies on the surface. Cut a length of 24 in (61 cm) of C and one of 10 in (25 cm) of E. The beak, in C: 3 level straight stitches close below one another at the left edge of the head, at the height of its middle, the middle one about ½ in (1.5 cm) long and the other two a little shorter, all of them out from the edge to the left. The legs, in C: two upright straight stitches, each about ¾ in (2 cm) long, down from the lower edge of the body, 4 stitches apart and each 2 stitches from its middle; from the lower end of each, three straight stitches about ¼ in (0.5 cm) long, one to the left, one to the right and one down. Work each leg twice in the same places. The eye, in E: 2 straight stitches in the same two points, about ¼ in (0.5 cm) long and upright, one stitch to the left of the middle of the head and one round above it. Fasten off on the wrong side.

7. The neck loop is about 19 in (48.5 cm) long before it is sewn on. Lay the short end of it with the long tail on the wrong side of the bib at one upper corner, right side of the loop to the wrong side of the bib, so that 3 stitches of the loop lie on the bib, counted from the outer edge of the white edge at the top downward, and one long edge of the loop lies along the outer edge of the white edge at the side. With the tail whip stitch it down round all four sides of the part that lies on the bib, and fasten off on the wrong side. Sew the other end down at the other corner in the same way with the new length, the loop not twisted.

8. The ties. Sew the end of one with the long tail to the wrong side of the apron at each side, right side of the tie to the wrong side of the apron. The tie is 3 rows wide and lies on rows 34 to 36, the last three rows of the skirt: its upper long edge is level with the top of row 36. 3 stitches of the tie lie on the apron, counted from the outer edge of the white edge inward, and the tie points straight out to the side. With the tail whip stitch it down round all four sides of the part that lies on the apron. Fasten off on the wrong side.

Finishing

- Dampen the apron, pin it out flat with its sides straight, and let it dry. Draw out the loops of the nests with a finger. Weave in all the tails that are left on the wrong side.

In all: 20 pieces.

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

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