Lamb Easter basket

Medium · US terms



Finished size
About 5½ in (14 cm) across and 4½ in (11.5 cm) tall, the loops and the handle not counted

Skill
Intermediate
It uses loop stitch, and the face, ears and bow are sewn on.

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

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

What you need

Yarn A: cream, stripes	**about 135 yd (123 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: soft gray, stripes	**about 55 yd (50 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: blush pink, stripes	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: charcoal, the eyes and the mouth	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 110 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

Fiber: wool

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8). Also: a little fiberfill or scrap yarn, for the face, 4 stitch markers, pins, a yarn needle, scissors and a tape measure.

Sizes

Size	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Small	4¼ in (11 cm) across, 3½ in (9 cm) tall	about 150 yd (137 m)
Medium (this file)	**5½ in (14 cm) across, 4½ in (11.5 cm) tall**	**about 210 yd (192 m)**

Gauge

14 stitches and 15 rounds 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. The gauge is checked on the piece itself: after round 10 the base should measure about 5½ in (14 cm) across, laid flat and not stretched. A range that is near enough is printed after that round. If the piece measures more than that, begin again with a smaller hook; if it measures less, with a larger hook.

The loop stitch rounds are counted at the same height as single crochet rounds.

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Instructions

Medium. US terms.

sc single crochet (UK dc), **ch** chain, **sc2tog** 2 sc made into one, **st** stitch.
2 sc in next st: **both in one stitch**. Sc in next 3 sts: one in each.
Rounds run in a **spiral**: mark the first stitch and move the marker up each round. **Working in the round**
[ ] 6 times: 6 times in all. (18 sc): the round now has 18; a check, not a step. **How to read a pattern**
Also: yo yarn over, RS right side, WS wrong side.
Every stitch, drawn: flossfield.com/crochet/stitches.

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 ¾ in (2 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.

Basket

Yarn A, cream.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring. *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.*	
☐ **Round 1 (WS)**	6 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Round 2**	2 sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 3**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 2 sts	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 6**	**[**Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Round 7**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 3 sts	(42 sc)
☐ **Round 8**	**[**Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(48 sc)
☐ **Round 9**	Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 4 sts	(54 sc)
☐ **Round 10**	**[**Sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(60 sc)

> **Stop and measure now, after round 10.** The base should measure about 5½ in (14 cm) across. Anything from 5¼ in (13.5 cm) to 5½ in (14 cm) is near enough. Larger? Begin again with a smaller hook. Smaller? A larger hook.

Wall

☐ **Round 11**	Sc in each st around	(60 sc)
☐ **Round 12**	Loop-st in each st around	(60 loop-sts)

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☐ **Rounds 13 to 27** 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	Repeat rounds 11 and 12 in turn: every even-numbered round is worked as round 12, every odd-numbered round as round 11.	
☐	Slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Face

Yarn B, soft gray.

A long oval, worked round both sides of a chain: along one side, 3 stitches in the last chain, then back along the other side.

☐ **Start**	Ch 5.	
☐ **Round 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 2 chs, 3 sc in last ch, working along the other side of the foundation ch, sc in next 2 chs, 2 sc in last ch	(10 sc)
☐ **Round 2**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in each of next 2 sts	(16 sc)
☐ **Round 3**	2 sc in next st, sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 2 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	(22 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 2 sts, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(28 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, sc in next 2 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**, sc in next 2 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(34 sc)
☐	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 36 in (91 cm) for sewing.	

Ear: make 2

Yarn B, soft gray.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Round 1 (RS)**	4 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(4 sc)
☐ **Round 2**	**[**Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(6 sc)
☐ **Round 3**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(8 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	**[**Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(10 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	**[**Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Rounds 6 to 8** 6 7 8	Sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 9**	**[**Sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	(10 sc)
☐ **Round 10**	Sc in each st around	(10 sc)

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☐ **Round 11**	**[**Sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	(8 sc)
☐	Slip stitch in the next stitch. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 18 in (46 cm) for sewing. Weave the starting tail in on the inside. Do not stuff the ear: press it flat with its increases at its two edges, and with the tail sew the open last round shut, 4 stitches to 4 stitches. Do not cut the tail: it sews the ear on.	

Handle

Yarn B, soft gray.

☐ **Start**	Ch 6.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(5 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 48**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(5 sc)
	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 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48	
☐	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 20 in (51 cm) to sew one end. To sew the other end, cut a new length of the same yarn, also 20 in (51 cm).	

Bow

Yarn C, blush pink.

☐ **Start**	Ch 11.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(10 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 5**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(10 sc)
	2 3 4 5	
☐	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 36 in (91 cm).	

Bow tail: make 2

Yarn C, blush pink.

☐ **Start**	Ch 4.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(3 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 8**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(3 sc)
	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	
☐	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 12 in (30 cm).	

Assembly

1. Weave in the tails of the basket on the plain side, the side that faced you. Then turn the basket inside out, so that the loops are on the outside and hang downward. Put a finger into the loops and draw out any that are caught inside.

2. Find the front. Lay the basket flat with the end of the last round at the middle of the back. Put a marker in the rim at the middle of the front, 30 stitches from the end of the round, and one at each side, halfway between the two.

3. The eyes and nose are embroidered on the face before it is sewn on, the oval held upright, so that its foundation chain runs up and down, and its right side toward you. Each eye, with D, is a shallow curve like a smile: 3 straight stitches end to end, each about ¼ in (0.5 cm) long, the middle one level and the two outer ones rising to its sides. Its middle is level with the upper end of the foundation chain and three rounds in from the edge at the side. From the outer end of the curve sew 2 lashes, each about ¼ in (0.5 cm) long, outward and down.

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4. The nose, with C, is in the middle of the face, level with the lower end of the foundation chain: 4 level straight stitches close below one another, the top one about ¾ in (2 cm) long and each one below it a little shorter. With D, one straight stitch about ½ in (1.5 cm) long goes straight down from the middle of the lowest one, and from its lower end a straight stitch about ½ in (1.5 cm) long goes out and a little up to each side. Fasten off at the back.

5. Part the loops at the middle of the front and lay the face on the wall, upright, its upper edge on the uppermost round of loops, just below the rim. Pin it. With its long tail whip stitch round it, through every stitch of its last round and into the basket; before the last 2 in (5 cm) push a little filling behind it, so that it is softly rounded. Draw the loops of the basket out from under the edge as you go, and bring the uppermost ones down over the top of the face. Fasten off on the inside of the basket.

6. The ears. The sewn end of each ear stands upright on the wall beside the face, 6 stitches from the marker at the middle of the front, its upper end on the uppermost round of loops. The ear lies outward from it, away from the face, its tip pointing to the side and a little down; with the rest of its tail sew the sewn end to the wall, on both of its sides, through both layers. The rest of the ear is free and droops over the loops.

7. The handle is about 12¾ in (32.5 cm) long. Lay the last 1 in (2.5 cm) of one end flat against the inside of the basket, its right side toward the wall, one of the side markers at the middle of the handle's width. Sew it with the 20 in (51 cm) tail, or with the new length of that size at the other end, beginning at a corner of its end edge: whip stitch up one side to the rim; then across the handle along the rim, 5 stitches, each through the handle and under the top of a stitch of the last round; down the other side; and along the end edge to the corner where you began. Sew the other end at the other side marker in the same way, the handle not twisted. Take the markers out.

8. The bow. Lay the two bow tails side by side, right sides up, the edges of their last rows together at the top, where their long tails are, and the bow over these two edges, its right side up too, so that they lie behind the middle of its upper half. With the long tail of one of them sew both edges to the back of the bow, side by side, one stitch through each stitch of the edge, so that the two hang down below the bow like an upside down V; weave the long tail of the other in on the back. Bring the long tail of the bow along its back to the middle, and wind it tightly round the middle of the bow and of the sewn ends eight times, so that the strip is drawn in to about ¾ in (2 cm), and fasten the yarn at the back. Sew the back of the bow with what is left to the front edge of the handle, at the middle of its length, through the edge stitches.

Finishing

- Weave all the tails that are left in on the inside. The loops stay closed: do not cut them.

In all: 8 pieces.

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.

Notes

- The rounds are not joined: work in a spiral, and move a marker up to the first stitch of each round.
- The loops of loop stitch come out at the back of the work. So the basket is worked with its wrong side, the plain side, facing you all the time: keep that side toward you, on the outside, as the wall grows, and the loops inside. The basket is turned inside out when it is done. All the other parts have their right side facing in round 1 or row 1.
- The handle, the bow and its tails are worked in rows. The chain of 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.
- Whip stitch: put the needle through both edges from back to front, one stitch for each stitch or row, and draw the yarn snug. Where a part is sewn on another, the needle goes through the edge of the part and through the piece under it in the same way.
- Straight stitch: bring the needle up at one end of the stitch and down at the other.
- Weave the starting tail of every small part in on its wrong side before the part is sewn shut or sewn on.
- Colors. A: the basket. B: the face, the ears and the handle. C: the bow, its tails and the nose. D: the eyes and the mouth.

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

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