Leopard gecko

US terms



Finished size
About 12½ in (32 cm) long from the nose to the tip of the tail, along the back, and 1¾ in (4.4 cm) tall at the fattest part of the tail

Skill
Intermediate
Seven pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 3 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.

What you need

Yarn A: buttercup, body, leg and the details	**about 110 yd (101 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, body and eye	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: charcoal, body and the details	**about 40 yd (37 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 90 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

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.

The pieces



Body **Eye x 2** to the body **Leg x 4** to the body

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.

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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 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 B," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in B. 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.
- Body: the center line runs between stitches 16 and 17 of round 50 (32 sts). This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the nose.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the gecko. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- Running stitches go in and out along a line.
- 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 C (charcoal).
- The rounds and stitches are the same for every size; the yarn and the hook make the difference. Lengths in the words (tails, 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): about 9¼ in (23.5 cm) long from the nose to the tip of the tail, along the back, and 1¼ in (3.2 cm) tall at the fattest part of the tail; eyes 7 mm; multiply lengths by 0.74; about 0.74 times the yarn.
- Large: bulky (5, chunky) yarn, 5 mm (H-8) hook, 14 sc and 15.4 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): about 18 in (45.5 cm) long from the nose to the tip of the tail, along the back, and 2½ in (6.3 cm) tall at the fattest part of the tail; 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): about 22¾ in (58 cm) long from the nose to the tip of the tail, along the back, and 3¼ in (8.3 cm) tall at the fattest part of the tail; eyes 18 mm; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.

Instructions

US terms.

sc single crochet (UK double crochet), **MR** magic ring, **Rnd** round, **st** stitch.
sc2tog 2 sc made into one, **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.
[ ] 2 times: work what is inside 2 times in all.
(6 sc): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

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Body

Yarns in order of use: A, buttercup; B, cream; C, charcoal.

One piece from the nose (round 1) to the tip of the tail: rounds 1 to 18 are the head and the neck, rounds 19 to 43 the body and rounds 44 to 69 the tail. Stuff it as you go: the head firmly when round 18 is worked, the body firmly every few rounds after that, and the tail firmly.

☐ **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 next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(10 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(22 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc in next 3 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts	(25 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts**] 2 times**, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts	(28 sc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next 13 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in next 14 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 15 sts	(31 sc)
☐ **Rnds 10 to 11**	Sc in each st around	(31 sc)
10 11		
☐ **Rnd 12**	Sc2tog, sc in next 29 sts	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc in next 13 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	(28 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**	(26 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 11 sts**] 2 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**sc in next 10 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	(22 sc)
☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 2 times**	(20 sc)
☐ **Rnd 18**	Sc in each st around	(20 sc)
☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 9 sts**] 2 times**	(22 sc)
☐ **Rnd 20**	**[**sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 21**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**	(26 sc)
☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 12 sts**] 2 times**	(28 sc)
☐ **Rnds 23 to 38**	Sc in each st around	(28 sc)
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38		
☐ **Rnd 39**	**[**sc in next 12 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	(26 sc)
☐ **Rnd 40**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 41**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts**] 2 times**	(22 sc)
☐ **Rnd 42**	Sc in next 20 sts, sc2tog	(21 sc)

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☐ **Rnd 43**	Sc in next 9 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts	(20 sc)
☐ **Rnd 44**	With B, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 19 sts	(21 sc)
☐ **Rnd 45**	Sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st	(23 sc)
☐ **Rnd 46**	With C, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts	(25 sc)
☐ **Rnd 47**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 12 sts	(27 sc)
☐ **Rnd 48**	With B, sc in next 12 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 13 sts, 2 sc in next st	(29 sc)
☐ **Rnd 49**	Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 14 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts	(31 sc)
☐ **Rnd 50**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 30 sts	(32 sc)

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 16 and 17 of round 50. This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the nose.

☐ **Rnds 51 to 52**	With C, sc in each st around	(32 sc)

51 52

☐ **Rnd 53**	With B, sc in next 30 sts, sc2tog	(31 sc)
☐ **Rnd 54**	Sc in next 14 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 15 sts	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 55**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 13 sts**] 2 times**	(28 sc)
☐ **Rnd 56**	With C, **[**sc in next 12 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	(26 sc)
☐ **Rnd 57**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 58**	With B, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts**] 2 times**	(22 sc)
☐ **Rnd 59**	**[**sc in next 9 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	(20 sc)

Fill the tail firmly up to here, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 60**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 61**	With C, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts**] 2 times**	(16 sc)
☐ **Rnd 62**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 63**	With B, **[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 64**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	(10 sc)
☐ **Rnd 65**	Sc in next 8 sts, sc2tog	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 66**	With C, sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts	(8 sc)
☐ **Rnd 67**	Sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts	(7 sc)
☐ **Rnd 68**	Sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog	(6 sc)

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☐ **Rnd 69**	Sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts	(5 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 8 in (20 cm) tail. Thread the tail through the front loop of each of the last 5 stitches, pull it tight to close the hole and bury the end inside. Shape the stuffed piece with your hands: press the underside flat (the line opposite the center line is the middle of it), and press the whole piece from above until it stands about 1¾ in (4.5 cm) tall at the fattest part of the tail (rounds 50 to 52) and a little less at the body, and the head is wide and low, about 1½ in (3.8 cm) tall. Lay it on its underside and bend it a little: rounds 40 to 69 curve to the left as you look at its face. Hold the curve with a new length of B (cream): running stitches along the inner side of rounds 44 to 60, low down beside the flat underside where they are not seen, drawn up until the tail lies as you like it.	

Eye: make 2

Yarn B, 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 of next 4 sts, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	(11 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in each st around	(11 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Fix the eyes now (see Finishing). Do this before you stuff the piece or sew it on. Stuff firmly up to the open edge.	

Leg: make 4

Yarn A, buttercup.

Round 1 is the foot.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(8 sc)
☐ **Rnds 3 to 9**	Sc in each st around 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	(8 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in each st around	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts	(10 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Assembly

1. Pin the two eyes to the body: they sit on the head. The middle of each open edge lies on round 9, one to each side, 4½ stitches from the center line (9 stitches apart). The edge (11 sts) covers about rounds 7 to 11. They point up, a little forward and out to the side. Sew each all the way round with its tail.

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2. Pin two legs to the body: these are the front legs. The middle of each open edge lies on round 24, one to each side, 8 stitches from the center line (16 stitches apart). The edge (10 sts) covers about rounds 22 to 26. They point straight out to the side, bend down to the table and forward at about round 7, and end with the foot flat on the table beside the head. Hold the bend with a few running stitches on the side toward the head, drawn up a little. Sew each all the way round with its tail.

3. Pin two legs to the body: these are the hind legs. The middle of each open edge lies on round 40, one to each side, 6½ stitches from the center line (13 stitches apart). The edge (10 sts) covers about rounds 38 to 42. They point straight out to the side and a little down, so that the foot lies flat on the table. Sew each all the way round with its tail.

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 on the wrong side of a flat piece, inside a stuffed one. 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, one through the middle of round 1 of each eye piece.
- Toes: four on each foot, 16 in all, worked with A (buttercup) and the hook after the legs are sewn on (Putting it together, steps 2 and 3). Set the gecko on the table and flatten the end of a leg (rounds 1 and 2) between finger and thumb, level with the table: of the 8 stitches of round 2, 4 now lie on the upper side. Work the toes round the posts of these 4, from one side of the foot to the other. The post is the upright part of a stitch: to work a sl st round it, put the hook into the leg on one side of the post and out again on the other, so that the post lies over the hook, yarn over, and pull the yarn back under the post and through the loop on the hook. Join A round the first of the 4 posts: pull a loop of A under the post with the hook and ch 1. For each toe: ch 6, sl st in second ch from hook and in next 4 ch, sl st round the same post (a toe about ¾ in, 19 mm, long). After each of the first three toes, sl st round the next post and work the next toe there. Fasten off and pull both ends into the leg. Spread the toes like a fan, flat on the table.
- Spots: with C (charcoal), in satin stitch, ovals about 3/16 in (5 mm) wide and ¼ in (6 mm) long, the long way from head to tail, 33 in all, on the back of the body, their middles counted from the center line: round 16, one on the center line and one to each side at 3½ stitches; round 19, one to each side at 2 stitches and one to each side at 5 stitches; round 22, one on the center line and one to each side at 4 stitches; round 25, one to each side at 2 stitches and one to each side at 5½ stitches; round 28, one on the center line and one to each side at 4 stitches; round 31, one to each side at 2 stitches and one to each side at 5½ stitches; round 34, one on the center line and one to each side at 4 stitches; round 37, one to each side at 2 stitches and one to each side at 5½ stitches; round 40, one on the center line and one to each side at 4 stitches; round 43, one to each side at 2 stitches.
- Head spots: with C (charcoal), in satin stitch, three round dots about 3/16 in (5 mm) across on the head: two on round 11, one to each side, 2½ stitches from the center line, and one on round 14, on the center line.
- Mouth: with C (charcoal), in backstitch, a line on the body: one on each side, from round 2, on the line opposite the center line, through round 2, 3½ stitches from the center line; round 4, 5 stitches from the center line; round 6, 6½ stitches from the center line; round 8, 7½ stitches from the center line, to round 10, 7 stitches from the center line.
- Nostrils: with C (charcoal), two straight stitches side by side, about 1/8 in (3 mm) tall, each pair on the body on round 3, one to each side, 2 stitches from the center line (4 stitches apart).
- 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: 7 pieces; 2,063 stitches (1,615 in the body, 28 in each eye, 98 in each leg).

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

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