Little blue whale

US terms



Finished size
About 4¾ in (12 cm) long, 5¼ in (13.5 cm) across and 3¼ in (8.3 cm) tall without the spout

Skill
Intermediate
Six pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 5 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.

You will need

Yarn A: denim blue, body, tail fluke and flipper	**about 95 yd (87 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: white, tummy patch	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: navy, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: rose, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: pale aqua, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

Hook: 3.5 mm (US E-4). 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. The estimate is from the stitches 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.

sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
sc2tog	single crochet 2 stitches together
MR	magic ring
RS	right side

Gauge

20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet, in a spiral.

20 sc and 22 rounds = 4 in (10 cm), worked 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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Before you start

- 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.
- 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 24 and 25 of round 8 (48 sts). This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the front end.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the toy. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- 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 (navy).
- The rounds and stitches are the same for every size; the yarn and the hook make the difference. Lengths in the words (tails, ovals, details) are for Standard: 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 3½ in (8.9 cm) long, 4 in (10 cm) across and 2 3/8 in (6 cm) tall without the spout; 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 6¾ in (17 cm) long, 7½ in (19 cm) across and 4¾ in (12 cm) tall without the spout; 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 8¾ in (22 cm) long, 9½ in (24 cm) across and 6 in (15 cm) tall without the spout; eyes 18 mm; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.

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 sc is double crochet.

Body

Yarn A, denim blue.

☐ **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**	**[**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)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(48 sc)**

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☐ **Rnds 9 to 16**	Sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**

A box for each round, 9 to 16: tick them off as you go.

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	Sc in each st around	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 20**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 22**	Sc in each st around	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	Sc in each st around	**(24 sc)**

Fix the eyes now (see Face and details). Then stuff firmly, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 25**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 26**	Sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 27**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times**	**(15 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 28**	Sc in each st around	**(15 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 29**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 3 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 30**	**[**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.	

Tummy patch

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**	**[**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)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

Tail fluke: make 2

Yarn A, denim blue.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(9 sc)**

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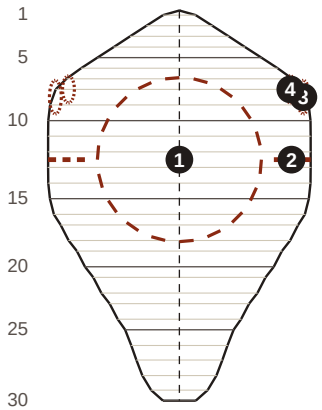
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 3 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(15 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts	**(17 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	Sc in each st around	**(17 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	Sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 6 stitches.	

Flipper: make 2

Yarn A, denim blue.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	Sc in each st around	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 2 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 6 stitches.	

Assembly



Body: 1 tummy patch, 2 flippers, 3 eyes, 4 cheeks

Each line is a round, counted as the rounds are worked. The upright broken line is the center line. A place with a broken edge is on the far side.

1. Lay the tummy patch flat on the body, right side out, the middle of it between rounds 12 and 13, on the line opposite the center line. Ease it into an oval about 2 1/8 in (5.4 cm) from front to back and 1½ in (3.8 cm) across as you pin it. Sew down all 30 stitches of the edge.

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2. Set the two tail flukes side by side on top of the tail end of the body, one to each side of the center line. Their flat edges run lengthwise, touching along the center line, from about round 24 to the closed end. Both rise, and they spread apart to the two sides. Sew each flat 6-stitch edge down through both layers, then a few stitches between the two where they touch.

3. Pin the two flippers to the body: the middle of each flat edge lies between rounds 12 and 13, one to each side, 15 stitches from the center line (18 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). The flat edge runs lengthwise along the body, half of it before that place and half behind. They point out to the side. Sew through both layers of the 6-stitch edge with the 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 inside the toy. Knot in the lengths of yarn at the same time. 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, on the body between rounds 8 and 9, one to each side, 13½ stitches from the center line (21 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line).
- Cheeks: with D (rose), in satin stitch, an oval about 5/16 in (8 mm) long and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the body on round 8, one to each side, 15½ stitches from the center line, just under the eye and in front of the flipper.
- Mouth: with C (navy), in backstitch, a smile, one curve about 7/8 in (22 mm) wide that dips ¼ in (6 mm) below its ends. Its two ends are on the body on round 3, one to each side of the line opposite the center line.
- Spout: cut 8 lengths of E (pale aqua), each 4¼ in (11 cm) long. At each place, use the needle to draw two lengths under the stitch, from side to side, until 2¼ in (5.7 cm) of each hangs out on one side. Tie the two sides together in a firm knot close to the fabric, pull the ends of the other side inside the toy and trim the ends left outside to 7/8 in (2.2 cm). They stand straight out. Where a piece covers a place, use the nearest free stitch. The places on the body, counting stitches from the center line (stitch 1 is the one beside it), the same on each side: round 9: stitch 1; round 10: stitch 1.
- 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: 6 pieces; 1,410 stitches (948 in the body, 90 in the tummy patch, 106 in each tail fluke, 80 in each flipper); 12 ends to weave in.

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

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