Mallard duck

US terms



Finished size
About 6 in (15 cm) long, 4 in (10 cm) across and 4½ in (11.5 cm) tall

Skill
Intermediate
Six pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 8 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: oatmeal gray, body	**about 45 yd (41 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: bottle green, head and neck	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: white, body, head and neck and wing	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: chestnut, body and head and neck	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: yellow, bill	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: black, body and tail curl	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn G: royal blue, wing	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn H: gray, wing	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**

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, 8 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.

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, through the front loops only: how is under “Before you start” (UK dc2tog, double cro
MR	magic ring
RS	right side
Rnd	round
st	stitch

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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.

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.

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.
- For a hen mallard, work the body, the head and neck and the neck ring in two or three mixed browns, the wings in dark brown with the same white and blue band, and the bill in orange brown. Leave out the tail curl.
- 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 A," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in A. 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.
- Head and neck: the center line runs between stitches 15 and 16 of round 6 (30 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the top.
- 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.
- 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 F (black).
- 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, 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 4½ in (11.5 cm) long, 3 in (7.6 cm) across and 3 3/8 in (8.6 cm) tall; eyes 6 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 8½ in (21.5 cm) long, 5¾ in (14.5 cm) across and 6½ in (16.5 cm) tall; eyes 11 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 11 in (28 cm) long, 7¼ in (18.5 cm) across and 8¼ in (21 cm) tall; eyes 15 mm; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.

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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

Yarns in order of use: D, chestnut; A, oatmeal gray; F, black; C, 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)**
☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnds 9 to 11**	Sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**

A box for each round, 9 to 11: tick them off as you go.

☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11

☐ **Rnds 12 to 21**	With A, sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**

A box for each round, 12 to 21: tick them off as you go.

☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20 ☐ 21

☐ **Rnd 22**	Sc2tog 3 times, sc in next 36 sts, sc2tog 3 times	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	Sc2tog 3 times, sc in next 30 sts, sc2tog 3 times	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	Sc2tog 3 times, sc in next 24 sts, sc2tog 3 times	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	With F, sc2tog 3 times, sc in next 18 sts, sc2tog 3 times	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 26**	With C, sc in each st around	**(24 sc)**

Stuff firmly now, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 27**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 28**	Sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 29**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 30**	Sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 31**	**[**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. The center line is the top of the back. The decreases of rounds 22 to 25 lie on the underside, so that the tail end tips up. Press the stuffed piece a little flatter from top to underside: at its widest rounds about 3 3/8 in (8.6 cm) across and 2 5/8 in (6.7 cm) from top to underside.	

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Head and neck

Yarns in order of use: B, bottle green; C, white; D, chestnut.

☐ **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 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 3 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 7 to 9**	Sc in each st around	**(30 sc)**

A box for each round, 7 to 9: tick them off as you go.

☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9

☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts**] 3 times**	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times**	**(24 sc)**

Fix the eyes now (see Finishing).

☐ **Rnd 12**	With C, **[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**	**(21 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sc in each st around	**(21 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	With D, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 3 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	**(28 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge.	

Bill

Yarn E, yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(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)**
☐ **Rnds 4 to 6**	Sc in each st around	**(14 sc)**

A box for each round, 4 to 6: tick them off as you go.

☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6

☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 2 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	Sc in each st around	**(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.	

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Wing: make 2

Yarns in order of use: H, gray; C, white; G, royal 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**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	With C, **[**sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 9 to 10**	With G, sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**

A box for each round, 9 to 10: tick them off as you go.

9 10

☐ **Rnd 11**	With C, sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	With H, sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 3 times**	**(15 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 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.	

Tail curl

Yarn F, black.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 2 to 7**	Sc in each st around	**(4 sc)**

A box for each round, 2 to 7: tick them off as you go.

2 3 4 5 6 7

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff.	

Assembly

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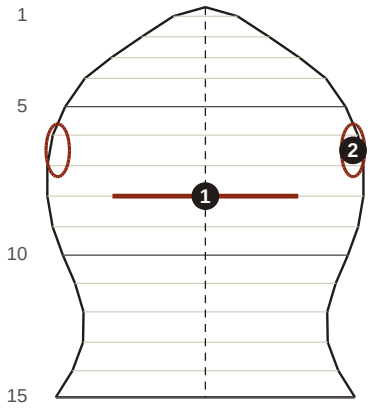

Head and neck: 1 bill, 2 eyes

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. Pin the head and neck to the body: the middle of the open edge lies on round 7, on the center line. The edge has 28 sts: its front is on round 3 and its back on round 12, both on the center line of the body, and its two sides are on round 8, 4½ stitches from the center line. It points up, the center line of the head and neck to the front. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

2. Pin the bill to the head and neck: the middle of the flat edge lies on round 8, on the center line. The flat edge runs along the round, half of it on each side of that place. It points forward. Sew through both layers of the 6-stitch edge with the tail.

3. Pin the two wings to the body: the middle of each flat edge lies between rounds 11 and 12, one to each side, 10 stitches from the center line (20 stitches apart). The flat edge runs along the round, half of it on each side of that place. They point back. Sew through both layers of the 6-stitch edge with the tail. Lay each wing down along the side of the body, run the rest of the tail down inside it and catch the tip to the body with two or three stitches.

4. Pin the tail curl to the body: the middle of the open edge lies on round 25, on the center line. The edge has 4 sts. It stands up and leans a little back, then curls over to the front until its tip points down, like a hook. Bend it as you pin it, and hold the curl with a stitch or two on its front side. Sew all the way round with its tail of yarn.

Finishing

- Put in the plastic eyes when the words of a piece say so, or embroider eyes in the same places. 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. Satin stitch is straight stitches side by side until the shape is filled.
- Eyes: two 8 mm black plastic eyes, on the head and neck between rounds 6 and 7, one to each side, 6 stitches from the center line (12 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: 6 pieces; 1,912 stitches (1,062 in the body, 352 in the head and neck, 96 in the bill, 187 in each wing, 28 in the tail curl).

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

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