Mini octopus

US terms



Finished size
About 2¼ in (5.7 cm) tall

Skill
Easy
Nine pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 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: coral pink, the head and the arms	**about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, the underside of the head	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: black, the mouth	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: raspberry, the cheeks	**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 (UK dc2tog, double 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.
- 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 inside.
- Center line: on a piece that others are sewn to, places 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: a whole number of stitches ends between two stitches, a half ends in the middle of one.
- Head: the center line runs between stitches 18 and 19 of round 6 (36 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the top.
- 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.
- Eyes: for a child under three, or a pet, embroider the eyes instead of plastic ones: satin stitch dots of the same size in C (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: 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 1 5/8 in (4.1 cm) tall; 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 3¼ in (8.3 cm) tall; 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 4 in (10 cm) tall; eyes 18 mm; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.
- Every size is approximate and follows from your gauge and how firmly you stuff.

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 and sc2tog is double crochet 2 stitches together.

Head

Yarns in order of use: A, coral pink; B, cream.

☐ **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)**

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☐ **Rnds 7 to 13**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**

A box for each round, 7 to 13: tick them off as you go.

7 8 9 10 11 12 13

☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	With B, **[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

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

☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	**[**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.	

Arm: make 8

Yarn A, coral pink.

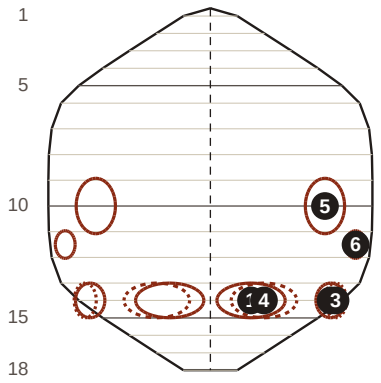
☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 3 to 6**	Sc in each st around	**(8 sc)**

A box for each round, 3 to 6: tick them off as you go.

3 4 5 6

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Assembly



Head: 1 arms, 2 arms, 3 arms, 4 arms, 5 eyes, 6 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. In every step: 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 same yarn; where a seam has two, use the longer. Pin two arms to the head: the middle of each open edge lies on round 14, one to each side, 1½ stitches from the center line (3 stitches apart). The edge (8 sts) covers about rounds 13 to 15 of the head. They point forward and down, then curve up. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a few running stitches along its inner side, drawn up a little. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

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2. Pin two arms to the head: the middle of each open edge lies on round 14, one to each side, 5½ stitches from the center line (11 stitches apart). The edge (8 sts) covers about rounds 13 to 15 of the head. They point out to the side and down, then curve up. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a few running stitches along its inner side, drawn up a little. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

3. Pin two arms to the head: the middle of each open edge lies on round 14, one to each side, 9 stitches from the center line (12 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). The edge (8 sts) covers about rounds 13 to 15 of the head. They point out to the side and down, then curve up. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a few running stitches along its inner side, drawn up a little. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

4. Pin two arms to the head: the middle of each open edge lies on round 14, one to each side, 13 stitches from the center line (4 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). The edge (8 sts) covers about rounds 13 to 15 of the head. They point back and down, then curve up. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a few running stitches along its inner side, drawn up a little. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

Finishing

- Use one strand of yarn and the yarn needle for all the embroidery. Plastic eyes go in before a piece is closed or sewn on; embroider, and knot in any lengths, when the pieces round the place are sewn on.
- Eyes: two 10 mm black plastic eyes, on the head on round 10, one to each side, 4½ stitches from the center line (9 stitches apart).
- Cheeks: with D (raspberry), in satin stitch, an oval about ¼ in (6 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the head between rounds 11 and 12, one to each side, 6½ stitches from the center line (13 stitches apart).
- Mouth: with C (black), in backstitch, a smile, one curve about 3/8 in (10 mm) wide that dips 1/8 in (3 mm), the point midway between its ends on the head on round 11, on the center line.
- 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: 9 pieces; 836 stitches (468 in the head, 46 in each arm); 18 ends to weave in.

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

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