Monarch butterfly applique

US terms



Finished size
About 5 in (13 cm) wide and about 4 in (10 cm) tall

Skill
Intermediate
Worked in rounds, with 5 pieces and color changes.

Yarn
Light (3), 3 colors

Hook
4 mm (US G-6)

Gauge
18 stitches and 19 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: monarch orange, rounds 1 and 2 of the left upper wing, rounds 1 and 2 of the right upper wing and rounds 1 and 2 of the lower wings	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: black, round 3 of the left upper wing, round 3 of the right upper wing, round 3 of the lower wings and the body	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: white, the sewn details	**about 2 yd (2 m), an estimate**

Hook: 4 mm (US G-6), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, pins for blocking and a spray bottle.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. Buy them from one dye lot. Yarns A and B: the estimate is from the stitches and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added. Yarn C: 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.

ch	chain stitch
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
tr	treble crochet (UK dtr, double treble)
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

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Gauge

18 stitches and 19 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

Work a piece a little more than 4 in (10 cm) square, lay it flat and count. If you count more stitches than this, use a larger hook; if fewer, a smaller one.

Before you start

- Rounds are worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work the first round or row into the loop, then pull the tail until the ring is closed. Four chains joined into a ring with a slip stitch may be used instead.
- A chain 1 at the start of a round does not count as a stitch.
- Fasten off the old color, then join the new one with a slip stitch in the place named; the first stitch or chain of the line is worked in that same place.
- Working along the other side of the chain: turn the piece round, not over, and work into the unused loops of the foundation chain, beginning in the chain next to the one just used.
- At the start of a round, same st is the stitch the round before was joined in; after a new color is joined, it is the stitch the color was joined in.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches; slip stitches are not counted.
- Right and left are as you look at the finished butterfly. The left and the right upper wing are mirror images. The two lower wings are alike.
- The narrow end of an upper wing is where its rounds begin and end. Its apex is the upper outer corner, where the (dc, tr, dc) of Rnd 2 is, and its lower corner is where the (hdc, dc, hdc) of Rnd 2 is. The narrow end of a lower wing is where its rounds begin and end.
- The distances under FINISHING are for the yarn and gauge above; in another yarn make them larger or smaller in the same proportion as the size.
- Backstitch (sewn): thread the yarn needle and bring it up from the back one stitch length (about ¼ in, 0.6 cm, and half that round a small curve, unless the line names another) along the line. Put it down at the start of the line and bring it up again one stitch length ahead of where it last came up; keep going down at the end of the stitch before and up one length ahead.
- French knot (sewn): bring the yarn needle up from the back, wrap the yarn twice round the needle close to the surface, hold the wraps and put the needle down beside the place where it came up. For a large knot use the yarn double and wrap it three times.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured the longest way: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 4¼ in (11 cm); medium yarn (4) and a 5 mm hook, about 6½ in (17 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 8¼ in (21 cm).

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Instructions

Round brackets ( ) inside a line hold stitches that all go into one place. 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 sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet, hdc is half treble, dc is treble and tr is double treble.

Left upper wing

Yarns in order of use: A, monarch orange; B, black.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 6.
☐ **Rnd 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, hdc in next ch, dc in next 2 chs, (3 tr, 5 dc) in next ch, working along the other side of the chain, hdc in next 2 chs, sc in next ch, 2 sc in next ch, sl st in first sc to join **(4 sc, 3 hdc, 7 dc, 3 tr)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next st, (dc, tr, dc) in next st, 2 dc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, (hdc, dc, hdc) in next st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, sl st in first sc to join **(7 sc, 10 hdc, 7 dc, 1 tr)**
Fasten off A.	
☐ **Rnd 3**	Join B with sl st in first sc, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 5 sts, 2 hdc in next st, (hdc, dc, hdc) in next st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 6 sts, (hdc, dc, hdc) in next st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next st, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, sl st in first sc to join **(14 sc, 17 hdc, 2 dc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing.

Right upper wing

Yarns in order of use: A, monarch orange; B, black.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 6.
☐ **Rnd 1**	2 sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next ch, hdc in next 2 chs, (5 dc, 3 tr) in next ch, working along the other side of the chain, dc in next 2 chs, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch, sl st in first sc to join **(4 sc, 3 hdc, 7 dc, 3 tr)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, sc in same st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, (hdc, dc, hdc) in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, 2 dc in next st, (dc, tr, dc) in next st, 2 dc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, sc in next 2 sts, sl st in first sc to join **(7 sc, 10 hdc, 7 dc, 1 tr)**
Fasten off A.	
☐ **Rnd 3**	Join B with sl st in first sc, ch 1, sc in same st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, (hdc, dc, hdc) in next st, hdc in next 6 sts, 2 hdc in next st, (hdc, dc, hdc) in next st, 2 hdc in next st, sc in next 6 sts, sl st in first sc to join **(14 sc, 17 hdc, 2 dc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing.

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Lower wing: make 2

Yarns in order of use: A, monarch orange; B, black.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 10 hdc in ring, sl st in first hdc to join	**(10 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 sc in same st, 2 sc in next st, 2 hdc in each of next 2 sts, 2 dc in each of next 3 sts, 2 hdc in each of next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sl st in first sc to join	**(6 sc, 8 hdc, 6 dc)**
	Fasten off A.	
☐ **Rnd 3**	Join B with sl st in first sc, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 3 sts, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, sl st in first sc to join	**(6 sc, 20 hdc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing.	

Body

Yarn B, black.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 10.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 7 chs, 4 hdc in next ch, working along the other side of the chain, sc in next 7 chs, 2 sc in next ch, sl st in first sc to join	**(17 sc, 4 hdc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing.	

Finishing

- Block: pin the pieces to shape on a flat surface, right sides up. Each upper wing is 2¾ in (7 cm) long from its narrow end to its apex, with an almost straight top edge, and 1 7/8 in (4.8 cm) across from the apex to the lower corner; each lower wing is an egg 1¾ in (4.4 cm) wide and 1 7/8 in (4.8 cm) long with its narrow end at the top. Spray the pieces with water and let them dry.
- Veins: on each upper wing, with B, work three lines of backstitch over the orange. They start together on the line down the middle of the wing, ¼ in (0.6 cm) from its narrow end, and fan out: the first ends at the upper outer corner of the orange, the second at the middle of the outer edge of the orange, and the third at its lower outer corner. The middle line of a lower wing runs from its narrow end through the magic ring. Work three lines over the orange of each lower wing, all from its narrow end: one straight down the middle, through the magic ring, to ¾ in (1.9 cm) beyond the ring, and one to each side of it that ends 3/8 in (1 cm) from the first line and ½ in (1.3 cm) beyond the level of the ring.
- Dots: with C, work French knots on the black, halfway across it. On each upper wing work seven: one at each of the two outer corners, three evenly spaced between these, and one 3/8 in (1 cm) beyond each corner. On each lower wing work five, 3/8 in (1 cm) apart, round the wide end, the third on the middle line of the wing.
- Lay the two lower wings side by side, right sides up, their magic rings level and 1 7/8 in (4.8 cm) apart. The narrow end of the right one points to half past ten on a clock and that of the left one to half past one. The middle line of the butterfly runs straight up and down halfway between them.

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- Lay the left upper wing and the right upper wing above them, right sides up and over the lower wings. The middles of their narrow ends meet on the middle line, ¾ in (1.9 cm) above the line from magic ring to magic ring. On each side the apex is 2 1/8 in (5.4 cm) above this meeting point and 1¾ in (4.4 cm) from the middle line, and the lower corner is 3/8 in (1 cm) above the meeting point and 2½ in (6.4 cm) from the middle line. With their tails, sew the narrow ends together and sew the lower edge of each upper wing to the lower wing where it lies on it. With the tails of the lower wings, sew their top edges to the backs of the upper wings.
- Feelers (make 2): with B, ch 7 and fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail at each end.
- Body: lay it on the middle line, right side up, its wide end (4 hdc) at the top, 7/8 in (2.2 cm) above the meeting point. Lay the first ch of each feeler under the top of the body, 1/8 in (0.3 cm) to each side of the middle line, so that the feelers rise above it and bend outward. Sew the body down all round with its tail, through the feelers as well, and weave their tails down behind the body and along the backs of the chains.
- To sew the butterfly to your project, pin it where it is to go and sew round the edges of the wings with a length of B, under the outermost strands of the stitches.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 5 pieces; 283 stitches (75 in the left upper wing, 75 in the right upper wing, 56 in each lower wing, 21 in the body).

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