Neuron plush

US terms



Finished size
About 10¼ in (26 cm) long and 7½ in (19 cm) wide, laid in an S

Skill
Intermediate
17 pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Light (3), 5 colors

Hook
2.75 mm (US C-2)

Gauge
24 stitches and 26.4 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet, in a spiral.

What you need

Yarn A: violet, cell body, dendrite and branch	**about 95 yd (87 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: gold, axon and end foot	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: cream, axon	**about 40 yd (37 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: charcoal, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: pink, end foot and the details	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 70 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 250 yd (229 m).

Hook: 2.75 mm (US C-2), 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.

The pieces



Cell body **Dendrite x 6** **Branch x 6** **Axon** to the cell body **End foot x 3**

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Gauge

24 stitches and 26.4 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 1 7/8 in (4.8 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.

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 C," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in C. 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.
- Cell body: the center line runs between stitches 24 and 25 of round 10 (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 plush. 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 D (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.
- Large: medium (4, worsted) yarn, 3.5 mm (E-4) hook, 20 sc and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): 12¼ in (31 cm) long and 9 in (23 cm) wide, laid in an S; eyes 10 mm; multiply lengths by 1.2; about 1.2 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): 22¼ in (56.5 cm) long and 16¼ in (41.5 cm) wide, laid in an S; eyes 17 mm; multiply lengths by 2.2; about 2.2 times the yarn.

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

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.
[ ] 6 times: work what is inside 6 times in all.
(6 sc): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Cell body

Yarn A, violet.

Round 1 is the middle of the side with the face. The center line runs from it straight up to the rim and over it.

☐ **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 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 each st around	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in each st around	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(48 sc)

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 24 and 25 of round 10. This piece lies with its center line along the top, round 1 at the front end.

☐ **Rnds 11 to 12**	Sc in each st around	(48 sc)

11 12

☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	Sc in each st around	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 18**	Sc in each st around	(24 sc)

Fix the eyes now: two 8 mm black plastic eyes, on the cell body on round 5, one to each side, 4½ stitches from the center line (9 stitches apart). For a child under three, or a pet, leave them out and embroider them later. Then stuff firmly, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(18 sc)

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

☐ **Rnd 20**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 21**	**[**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. Press the stuffed piece flatter from front to back: about 2 5/8 in (6.7 cm) across and 1 5/8 in (4.1 cm) thick.	

Dendrite: make 6

Yarn A, violet.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	5 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(5 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in each st around	(5 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in each st around	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts	(7 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc in each st around	(7 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts	(8 sc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	Sc in each st around	(8 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	Sc in each st around	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts	(10 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 9 sts	(11 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Branch: make 6

Yarn A, violet.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(4 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st	(5 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in each st around	(5 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnds 5 to 6**	Sc in each st around	(6 sc)

5 6

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

☐ **Rnd 7**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts	(7 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Axon

Yarns in order of use: B, gold; C, cream.

Stuff each cream bead firmly as soon as its last round is worked. Leave the gold rounds empty, so that the axon bends there.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	5 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(5 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnds 3 to 5** 3 4 5	Sc in each st around	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	With C, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	2 sc in next st, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 4 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(16 sc)
☐ **Rnds 9 to 12** 9 10 11 12	Sc in each st around	(16 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 14**	Sc2tog, **[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 4 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	With B, **[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 3 times**	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnds 16 to 17** 16 17	Sc in each st around	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 18**	With C, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 19**	2 sc in next st, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 4 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 20**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(16 sc)
☐ **Rnds 21 to 24** 21 22 23 24	Sc in each st around	(16 sc)
☐ **Rnd 25**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 26**	Sc2tog, **[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 4 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 27**	With B, **[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 3 times**	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnds 28 to 29** 28 29	Sc in each st around	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 30**	With C, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 31**	2 sc in next st, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 4 times**	(14 sc)

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

☐ **Rnd 32**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(16 sc)
☐ **Rnds 33 to 36** 33 34 35 36	Sc in each st around	(16 sc)
☐ **Rnd 37**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 38**	Sc2tog, **[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 4 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 39**	With B, **[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 3 times**	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnds 40 to 41** 40 41	Sc in each st around	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 42**	With C, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 43**	2 sc in next st, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 4 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 44**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(16 sc)
☐ **Rnds 45 to 48** 45 46 47 48	Sc in each st around	(16 sc)
☐ **Rnd 49**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 50**	Sc2tog, **[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 4 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 51**	With B, **[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 3 times**	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnds 52 to 53** 52 53	Sc in each st around	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 54**	With C, **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 55**	2 sc in next st, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 4 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 56**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(16 sc)
☐ **Rnds 57 to 60** 57 58 59 60	Sc in each st around	(16 sc)
☐ **Rnd 61**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(14 sc)
☐ **Rnd 62**	Sc2tog, **[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 4 times**	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 63**	With B, **[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 3 times**	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnds 64 to 66** 64 65 66	Sc in each st around	(6 sc)
☐ **Rnd 67**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	(8 sc)
☐ **Rnd 68**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	(10 sc)
☐ **Rnd 69**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff the last 3 rounds lightly. The beads are rounds 6 to 14, 18 to 26, 30 to 38, 42 to 50 and 54 to 62.	

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

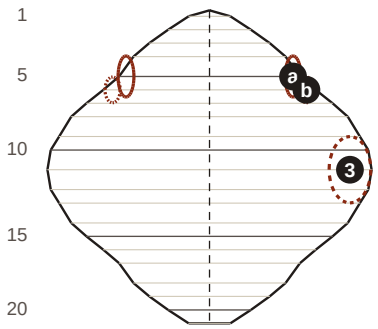
End foot: make 3

Yarns in order of use: E, pink; B, gold.

Stuff the pink knob firmly as soon as round 4 is worked, before you begin round 5: the rounds after it are too narrow to reach through. Leave the gold rounds empty.

☐ **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)
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc2tog, **[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 3 times**	(7 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	With B, sc2tog, sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts	(5 sc)
☐ **Rnds 6 to 9**	Sc in each st around	(5 sc)
6 7 8 9		
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 8 in (20 cm) tail for sewing.	

Assembly



Cell body: 3 axon, a eyes, b cheeks

A number is the step below that puts it on; a letter is put on under Finishing. 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 six dendrites round the rim of the cell body: the middle of each open edge lies on round 11, four of them to the left of the center line, 22, 15, 8½ and 2 stitches from it, and two to the right of it, 4½ and 10½ stitches from it. The edge (14 sts) of each covers about rounds 9 to 13. They point straight out from the rim. Sew all the way round each with its tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

2. Bend the outer half of each dendrite a little to one side, flat along the rim: going round clockwise from the dendrite 22 stitches to the left, the first, the third and the fifth bend counterclockwise as you look at the face, and the second, the fourth and the sixth clockwise. Hold each bend with a few running stitches along its inner side, drawn up a little. Then sew the six branches on, one to each dendrite: the middle of the open edge (7 sts) lies on round 8 of the dendrite, on the side opposite the inner side of its bend, half way between the front and the back. It points out from that side and a little toward the tip. Sew all the way round with its tail.

3. Pin the axon to the cell body: the middle of the open edge lies on round 11, 16 stitches to the right of the center line. The edge (12 sts) covers about rounds 9 to 13 of the cell body. It points to the right and a little down. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

4. Sew the three end feet to the tip of the axon in a fan that lies flat: the open edge (5 sts) of the middle one over round 1, pointing straight on, and the open edges of the two others on round 3, one on each side, pointing out and forward, half way between. Sew all the way round each with its tail.

5. Lay the neuron on its back and bend the axon at the gold rounds into an S: out to the right, round to the left and down. Nothing holds it: it can be laid in any curve.

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 8 mm black plastic eyes, on the cell body on round 5, one to each side, 4½ stitches from the center line (9 stitches apart).
- Mouth: with D (charcoal), in backstitch, a smile, one curve about 7/16 in (11 mm) wide that dips 3/16 in (5 mm) below its ends. Its two ends are on the cell body on round 2, one to each side of the line opposite the center line.
- Cheeks: with E (pink), in satin stitch, an oval about ¼ in (6 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the cell body on round 6, one to each side, 9½ stitches from the center line (11 stitches apart across the side opposite 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: 17 pieces; 2,513 stitches (612 in the cell body, 117 in each dendrite, 39 in each branch, 785 in the axon, 60 in each end foot).

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

For your own crochet, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.