Oak leaves and acorns

US terms



Finished size
About 9½ in (24 cm) wide and about 8½ in (22 cm) tall

Skill
Easy
Worked in rows and rounds, with 7 pieces, color changes and 2 special stitches.

Yarn
Medium (4), 5 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

Gauge
14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet (UK double crochet).

What you need

Yarn A: russet, the leaves	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: copper, some of the pieces	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: olive, some of the pieces	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: honey gold, the nuts	**about 7 yd (6 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: dark brown, the caps	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 35 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8), 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. The estimate is from the stitches and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

Gauge

14 stitches and 15 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.

Notes

- Rounds are worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- Where a line says turn, turn the piece over and work back along the stitches just made.
- 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.

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- A chain 1 at the start of a round or a row does not count as a stitch.
- 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.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches; slip stitches, and chains that are not named there, are not counted.
- Leaf: the slip knot of the foundation chain lies at the tip of the leaf, and every round begins and ends at its base. In Round 2 each lobe stands on 3 stitches of Round 1, and the slip stitches are the dips between the lobes: three lobes on each side and one at the tip.
- Nut: the dc of Round 2 is the point of the nut, and the round begins and ends opposite it.
- Cap: the foundation chain is its wide lower edge. The stem is the last chain of Row 5, between the sc and the second sc2tog: ch 5 and slip stitch back along 4 of the chains. The right side faces you in Rows 1, 3 and 5; the mini bobbles of Rows 2 and 4 are made with the wrong side facing and pushed through to the right side. Round 1 of the leaf and the nut is worked with the right side facing too.
- 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.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured the longest way: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 6¼ in (16 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 7½ in (19 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 12 in (30 cm).

Instructions

US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **hdc** half double crochet (UK half treble), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **tr** treble crochet (UK double treble), **st** stitch, **rnd** round.

RS right side, the one that shows.

3 tr in next st: all in one stitch. **sc in each of next 2 sts**: one in each.

[ ] 3 times: work what is inside 3 times in all. **( )**: all of it goes into the one place.

(2 sc, 27 hdc): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Special stitches

mini bobble: [yarn over, insert the hook in the place named, yarn over and pull up a loop, yarn over and pull through 2 loops] 3 times, all in the same place (4 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 4 loops; push it to the right side.

sc2tog (UK dc2tog): [insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] twice (3 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 3 loops.

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Leaf: make 3

Make 1 in each of A, B and C. The lines say A; for the leaves in B and C, read that letter in its place.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 15.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, hdc in next 12 chs, 3 hdc in last ch, working along the other side of the chain, hdc in next 12 chs, sc in next ch, sl st in first sc to join	(2 sc, 27 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, sc in same st, (sc, hdc) in next st, (hdc, dc, hdc) in next st, (hdc, sc) in next st, sl st in next st, (hdc, dc) in next st, 3 tr in next st, (dc, hdc) in next st, sl st in next st, (hdc, dc) in next st, (dc, tr, dc) in next st, (dc, hdc) in next st, sl st in next st, 2 dc in next st, 3 tr in next st, 2 dc in next st, sl st in next st, (hdc, dc) in next st, (dc, tr, dc) in next st, (dc, hdc) in next st, sl st in next st, (hdc, dc) in next st, 3 tr in next st, (dc, hdc) in next st, sl st in next st, (sc, hdc) in next st, (hdc, dc, hdc) in next st, (hdc, sc) in next st, sc in next st, sl st in first sc to join	(6 sc, 16 hdc, 18 dc, 11 tr)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing.	

Nut: make 2

Yarn D, honey gold.

☐ **Foundation**	With D, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 8 hdc in ring, pull the tail to close the ring, sl st in first hdc to join	(8 hdc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 hdc in same st, 2 sc in each of next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st, (hdc, dc, hdc) in next st, 2 hdc in next st, 2 sc in each of next 2 sts, sl st in first hdc to join	(8 hdc, 8 sc, 1 dc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 15 in (38 cm) tail for sewing.	

Cap: make 2

Yarn E, dark brown.

☐ **Foundation**	With E, ch 8.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 6 chs	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, sc in next st, **[**mini bobble in next st, sc in next st**] 3 times**	(4 sc, 3 mini bobble)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn, sc in next 7 sts	(7 sc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog in next 2 sts, mini bobble in next st, sc in next st, mini bobble in next st, sc2tog in next 2 sts	(2 sc2tog, 2 mini bobble, 1 sc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next st, ch 5, sl st in 2nd ch from hook, sl st in next 3 chs, sc2tog in next 2 sts	(2 sc2tog, 1 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 15 in (38 cm) tail for sewing.	

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Finishing

- Block: pin the pieces to shape on a flat surface, right sides up, spray them with water and let them dry. A leaf is 4 7/8 in (12.5 cm) long from the base end of its foundation chain to its tip and 2½ in (6.4 cm) across its middle pair of lobes; pin its lobes round. A nut is 1¾ in (4.4 cm) wide, and its point is 1¼ in (3.2 cm) from its magic ring. A cap is 2 in (5.1 cm) wide along its chain and 1½ in (3.8 cm) tall without its stem, which is 1 in (2.5 cm) long; pin the two ends of the chain 1/8 in (0.3 cm) lower than its middle.
- Veins: with the yarn needle and E, sew the veins of each leaf in backstitch on its right side. Work the middle vein up the whole foundation chain, 4 in (10.2 cm) from its base end. Then sew three pairs of straight side veins, one to the left and one to the right, from the middle vein toward the middle of a side lobe. The first pair begins 3/8 in (1 cm) above the base end of the middle vein and is ¾ in (1.9 cm) long, the second begins 1½ in (3.8 cm) above that base end and is 1 in (2.5 cm) long, and the third begins 2 5/8 in (6.7 cm) above that base end and is 7/8 in (2.2 cm) long.
- Leaves: lay the russet leaf down right side up, its tip straight up. Lay the copper leaf over it on the left and the olive leaf over it on the right, right sides up. The base ends of their middle veins are ½ in (1.3 cm) to the left and to the right of the base end of the russet vein and ½ in (1.3 cm) below it, and each leaf leans outward by 60 degrees, so that its middle vein points to ten o'clock or to two o'clock. Sew the two leaves to the russet leaf with their tails wherever they lie over it; the tail of the russet leaf is woven in at the end.
- Acorns: lay a nut down right side up, its point straight down. Lay a cap over it, right side up, its foundation chain at the bottom and its stem at the top: the middle of the chain is ¼ in (0.6 cm) above the magic ring of the nut. The upper edge of the nut is hidden behind the cap; the rest of the cap and its stem stand above the nut, and the two ends of the chain stand out 1/8 in (0.3 cm) beyond the sides of the nut. Run the tail of the cap down along one side edge on the wrong side. With it sew the foundation chain of the cap to the nut wherever the chain lies on the nut, then turn the acorn over and sew the upper edge of the nut to the back of the cap. Make the other acorn in the same way.
- Lay one acorn at the lower left and one at the lower right, right sides up, their stems on top of the leaves. The magic rings of the nuts are 1 3/8 in (3.5 cm) to the left and to the right of the base end of the russet vein and 2½ in (6.4 cm) below it. The point of each nut leans outward by 24 degrees and its stem leans in: the end of the stem is ¼ in (0.6 cm) to the left or to the right of the base end of the russet vein and 1/8 in (0.3 cm) below it, so that the stem on the left crosses the base end of the copper leaf and the stem on the right crosses the base end of the olive leaf. With the tail of its nut, run along the back of the cap, sew each stem to the leaf it crosses, the end of the stem to the bottom edge of the russet leaf, and the cap to the leaf wherever it lies on one.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 7 pieces.

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