Curled-up orange tabby

US terms



Finished size
About 5¼ in (13.5 cm) wide, 5¾ in (14.5 cm) from front to back and 2¾ in (7 cm) tall

Skill
Easy
Six pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 5 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: tabby orange, the main color	**about 130 yd (119 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, muzzle and tail	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: dark brown, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: rose, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: rust, tail and the details	**about 10 yd (9 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 and scissors.

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.
- 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: the center line runs between stitches 21 and 22 of round 7 (42 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the top.
- Body: the center line runs between stitches 27 and 28 of round 9 (54 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.
- 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.
- No plastic eyes are used: every detail is worked in yarn.
- 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 4 in (10 cm) wide, 4¼ in (11 cm) from front to back and 2 in (5.1 cm) tall; 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 7½ in (19 cm) wide, 8¼ in (21 cm) from front to back and 4 in (10 cm) tall; 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 9½ in (24 cm) wide, 10½ in (26.5 cm) from front to back and 5 in (12.5 cm) tall; 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

Yarn A, tabby orange.

☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(54 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 10 to 18**	Sc in each st around	**(54 sc)**

A box for each round, 10 to 18: tick them off as you go.

☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18

☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts**] 6 times**	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 20**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

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

☐ **Rnd 24**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 26**	**[**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 a little flatter from front to back: at its widest rounds about 3¾ in (9.5 cm) across and 3¼ in (8.3 cm) from front to back.	

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Head

Yarn A, tabby orange.

☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnds 8 to 13**	Sc in each st around	**(42 sc)**

A box for each round, 8 to 13: tick them off as you go.

☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13

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

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

☐ **Rnd 18**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 20**	**[**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.	

Ear: make 2

Yarn A, tabby orange.

☐ **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)**

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☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 7 stitches.	

Muzzle

Yarn 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, sc in next st**] 4 times**	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in each st around	**(16 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge. Shape the stuffed piece with your fingers into an oval, about 1¼ in (3.2 cm) wide and ¾ in (1.9 cm) tall.	

Tail

Yarns in order of use: B, cream; A, tabby orange; E, rust.

Stuff lightly every few rounds as you go, so that the tube still bends.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 3 to 4**	Sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**

A box for each round, 3 to 4: tick them off as you go.

☐ 3 ☐ 4

☐ **Rnds 5 to 6**	With A, sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**

A box for each round, 5 to 6: tick them off as you go.

☐ 5 ☐ 6

☐ **Rnd 7**	With E, sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 8 to 9**	With A, sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**

A box for each round, 8 to 9: tick them off as you go.

☐ 8 ☐ 9

☐ **Rnd 10**	With E, sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 11 to 12**	With A, sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**

A box for each round, 11 to 12: tick them off as you go.

☐ 11 ☐ 12

☐ **Rnd 13**	With E, sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**

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☐	**Rnds 14 to 15**	With A, sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**

A box for each round, 14 to 15: tick them off as you go.

14 15

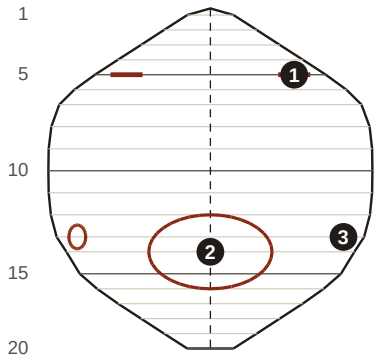
☐	**Rnd 16**	With E, sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**
☐	**Rnds 17 to 26**	With A, sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**

A box for each round, 17 to 26: tick them off as you go.

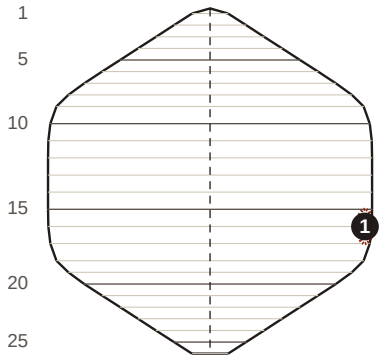
17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.

Assembly



Head: 1 ears, 2 muzzle, 3 cheeks



Body: 1 tail

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. Set the head in front of the body, a little to the left, both on the table and the back of the head against the body: round 10 of the head, on the line opposite its center line, meets round 15 of the body, 4½ stitches to the left of the center line. The center line of the head looks straight forward. Press the two together and sew them in a circle about 1 3/8 in (35 mm) across with a new length of A (tabby orange).

2. Pin the two ears to the head: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 5, one to each side, 6½ stitches from the center line (13 stitches apart). The flat edge lies with its upper end on round 1 and its lower end on about round 9, 9½ stitches from the center line. They point up and out to the side. Sew through both layers of the 7-stitch edge with the tail.

3. Pin the muzzle to the head: the middle of the open edge lies on round 14, on the center line. The edge (16 sts) covers about rounds 12 to 16 of the head. It points forward. 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 the tail to the body: the middle of the open edge lies on round 16, 16 stitches to the right of the center line. The edge (9 sts) covers about rounds 15 to 17 of the body. It points to the right, then curves forward round the side of the body to its front. Bend it 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 its tail of yarn, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

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Finishing

- 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. 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.
- Closed eyes: with C (dark brown), in backstitch, a closed eye on each side, one curve about 3/8 in (10 mm) wide that dips 3/16 in (5 mm) below its ends. The place half way between the two ends of each is on the head on round 11, one to each side, 4½ stitches from the center line (9 stitches apart).
- Nose: with D (rose), in satin stitch, a triangle with its point down about ¼ in (6 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the muzzle, centered, ¼ in (6 mm) above the middle of the muzzle.
- Mouth: with C (dark brown), in backstitch, a straight line down, 1/16 in (2 mm) long, and from its lower end two small smile curves side by side, one to each side, about 3/8 in (10 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall in all, starting at the bottom of the nose.
- Cheeks: with D (rose), in satin stitch, an oval about ¼ in (6 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the head on round 13, one to each side, 7 stitches from the center line (14 stitches apart).
- Forehead stripes: with E (rust), long straight stitches on the head: one on the center line from round 5 to round 8; one on each side, from round 6, 2 stitches from the center line, to round 8, 2 stitches from the center line.
- Back stripes: with E (rust), long straight stitches on the body: from round 5, 3 stitches left of the center line, to round 5, 3 stitches right of the center line; from round 8, 4 stitches left of the center line, to round 8, 4 stitches right of the center line; from round 11, 9 stitches right of the center line, to round 11, 15 stitches right of the center line; from round 8, 8 stitches right of the center line, to round 8, 13 stitches right of 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: 6 pieces; 1,943 stitches (972 in the body, 582 in the head, 54 in each ear, 50 in the muzzle, 231 in the tail).

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

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