Pumpkin cat cave

US terms



Finished size

About 18½ in (47 cm) across and 16¼ in (41.5 cm) tall with the stem, the door opening about 6½ in (16.5 cm) wide and 7½ in (19 cm) tall

Skill

Intermediate

13 pieces worked in rounds and rows and sewn together.

Yarn

Super bulky (6), 5 colors

Hook

10 mm (US N/P-15)

Gauge

8 stitches and 8.8 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)

In single crochet, in a spiral.

You will need

Yarn A: pumpkin orange, light panel, door panel and the details	**about 235 yd (215 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: burnt orange, floor, dark panel and the details	**about 385 yd (352 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: cream, door ring	**about 80 yd (73 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: olive green, stem	**about 40 yd (37 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: leaf green, leaf	**about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**

Hook: 10 mm (US N/P-15), 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
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
ch	chain stitch
MR	magic ring
RS	right side
Rnd	round
st	stitch

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Gauge

8 stitches and 8.8 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 5¾ in (14.5 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 that has rounds 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.
- 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.
- Stem: the center line runs between stitches 17 and 18 of round 13 (34 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the top.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the cave. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- 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.
- One size, at the gauge above: 18½ in (47 cm) across and 16¼ in (41.5 cm) tall with the stem, the door opening about 6½ in (16.5 cm) wide and 7½ in (19 cm) tall. A thinner or a thicker yarn with a hook to suit makes it smaller or larger; every length then changes with it.

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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 and sl st is slip stitch.

Floor

Yarn B, burnt 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)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts**] 6 times**	**(60 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(66 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(72 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 11 sts**] 6 times**	**(78 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc in next 38 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(80 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 8 in (20 cm) tail. Weave it in. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

Dark panel: make 4

Yarn B, burnt orange.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 10 stitches wide at the start. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 11.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rows 3 to 5**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(12 sc)**

A box for each row, 3 to 5: tick them off as you go.

☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rows 7 to 20**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(14 sc)**

A box for each row, 7 to 20: tick them off as you go.

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7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

☐ **Row 21**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts, sc2tog	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rows 22 to 24**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(12 sc)**

A box for each row, 22 to 24: tick them off as you go.

22 23 24

☐ **Row 25**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts, sc2tog	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rows 26 to 27**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(10 sc)**

A box for each row, 26 to 27: tick them off as you go.

26 27

☐ **Row 28**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rows 29 to 30**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(8 sc)**

A box for each row, 29 to 30: tick them off as you go.

29 30

☐ **Row 31**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Row 32**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Row 33**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rows 34 to 35**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(4 sc)**

A box for each row, 34 to 35: tick them off as you go.

34 35

☐ **Row 36**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc2tog	**(2 sc)**
☐ **Rows 37 to 38**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(2 sc)**

A box for each row, 37 to 38: tick them off as you go.

37 38

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 60 in (152 cm) tail for sewing.	

Light panel: make 3

Yarn A, pumpkin orange.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 10 stitches wide at the start. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 11.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rows 3 to 5**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(12 sc)**

A box for each row, 3 to 5: tick them off as you go.

3 4 5

☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(14 sc)**

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☐ **Rows 7 to 20**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(14 sc)**

A box for each row, 7 to 20: tick them off as you go.

7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

☐ **Row 21**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts, sc2tog	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rows 22 to 24**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(12 sc)**

A box for each row, 22 to 24: tick them off as you go.

22 23 24

☐ **Row 25**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts, sc2tog	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rows 26 to 27**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(10 sc)**

A box for each row, 26 to 27: tick them off as you go.

26 27

☐ **Row 28**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rows 29 to 30**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(8 sc)**

A box for each row, 29 to 30: tick them off as you go.

29 30

☐ **Row 31**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Row 32**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Row 33**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rows 34 to 35**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(4 sc)**

A box for each row, 34 to 35: tick them off as you go.

34 35

☐ **Row 36**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc2tog	**(2 sc)**
☐ **Rows 37 to 38**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(2 sc)**

A box for each row, 37 to 38: tick them off as you go.

37 38

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 60 in (152 cm) tail for sewing.	

Door panel

Yarn A, pumpkin orange.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 14 stitches wide at the start. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 15.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts, sc2tog	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rows 4 to 6**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(12 sc)**

A box for each row, 4 to 6: tick them off as you go.

4 5 6

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☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts, sc2tog	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rows 8 to 9**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(10 sc)**

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

8 9

☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rows 11 to 12**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(8 sc)**

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

11 12

☐ **Row 13**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Row 14**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Row 15**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rows 16 to 17**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(4 sc)**

A box for each row, 16 to 17: tick them off as you go.

16 17

☐ **Row 18**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc2tog	**(2 sc)**
☐ **Rows 19 to 20**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(2 sc)**

A box for each row, 19 to 20: tick them off as you go.

19 20

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 60 in (152 cm) tail for sewing.	

Door ring

Yarn C, cream.

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

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 7; being careful not to twist the chain, sl st in the first ch to form a ring. Round 1 begins in that same ch.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Sc in each ch around	**(7 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 2 to 63**	Sc in each st around	**(7 sc)**

A box for each round, 2 to 63: tick them off as you go.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59
60 61 62 63

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 90 in (229 cm) tail for sewing.	

Stem

Yarn D, olive green.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**

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☐ **Rnds 3 to 6**	Sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**

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

☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6

☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	Sc in each st around	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts	**(22 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(28 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(34 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 66 in (168 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Leaf: make 2

Yarn E, leaf green.

☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 28 in (71 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 4 stitches.	

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Assembly

1. Lay the four dark panels and the three light panels side by side, right side up and row 1 toward you, in this order: dark, light, dark, light, dark, light, dark. Sew each one to the next along their sides, row to row, from row 38 down to row 1, with the tail of one of the two. As you go, draw the seam up until it is about 1 in (2.5 cm) shorter than the panels, so that it lies in a groove and the panels swell out between the seams.

2. Bring the two outer sides of these seven panels round to meet the door panel, right sides out: row 1 of the door panel lies beside row 19 of the panel on each side of it, and its row 20 beside their row 38. Sew both its sides in the same way. Under it the doorway stays open, 18 rows tall.

3. The top: with a new length of A (pumpkin orange), run the needle through the 2 stitches of the last row of each of the eight panels (16 stitches), pull up the yarn to close the hole and fasten off.

4. The floor: lay the floor flat, right side up, and stand the panels on its edge. With a new length of B (burnt orange), sew the foundation chains of the seven long panels (10 to a panel, 70 in all) to 70 of the 80 stitches of the last round of the floor, chain to stitch. The 10 stitches left over are the sill of the doorway.

5. Bend the door ring into a ring and sew its last round (7 sts) to its foundation chain (7 chains), stitch to chain. Lay it over the edge of the doorway, the seam at the middle of the sill and round 32 at the middle of row 1 of the door panel, so that it covers the edge all the way round, its corners rounded. With its tail, sew it down from the inside: to the 10 stitches of the sill, the 18 rows of each side and the 14 chains of the door panel, easing it to fit. Then go round the outer side of the ring once more.

6. Set the stem over the middle of the top, its open edge (34 sts) spread out flat over the ends of the panels. Sew it down all the way round with its tail, adding a little stuffing before the last stitches.

7. Sew the two leaves to the foot of the stem. The flat edge of each lies along round 11 of the stem (22 sts): the middle of one is 3 stitches to the left of the center line, the middle of the other 5½ stitches to the right of it. Sew through both layers of the 4-stitch edge with its tail. They point outward. Let them bend down over the panels and catch each one to the panel under it with two stitches, one third of its length from its tip.

Finishing

- 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: 13 pieces; 4,571 stitches (626 in the floor, 400 in each dark panel, 400 in each light panel, 160 in the door panel, 441 in the door ring, 212 in the stem, 166 in each leaf).

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

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