Rag doll with yarn braids

US terms



Finished size
About 11¾ in (30 cm) long and 8 in (20.5 cm) across the hands

Skill
Intermediate
Eleven pieces worked in rounds and rows and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 6 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.

What you need

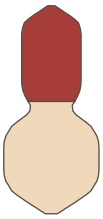
Yarn A: muslin, body and head and arm	**about 70 yd (64 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: country red, several of the pieces	**about 90 yd (82 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: cream, leg, skirt, apron and the details	**about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: navy, leg, skirt, pocket and the details	**about 50 yd (46 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: brick, hair cap and the details	**about 70 yd (64 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: dusty rose, skirt and the details	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 180 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

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.

The pieces



Body and head



Leg x 2
to the body and head



Arm x 2
to the body and head



Skirt



Hair cap



Apron
to the skirt

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Pocket
to the apron



Bow x 2

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.

Notes

- 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.
- 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.
- Hair cap: the center line runs between stitches 27 and 28 of round 12 (54 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the back.
- Body and head: the center line runs between stitches 15 and 16 of round 5 (30 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the bottom.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the doll. 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 8¾ in (22 cm) long and 6 in (15 cm) across the hands; 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 16¾ in (42.5 cm) long and 11½ in (29 cm) across the hands; 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 21¼ in (54 cm) long and 14½ in (37 cm) across the hands; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.

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Instructions

US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **MR** magic ring, **Rnd** round, **st** stitch.
sc2tog 2 sc made into one, **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**.

Body and head

Yarns in order of use: B, country red; A, muslin.

Round 1 is the lower end of the body. Stuff as you go, through the open top: the body lightly when round 19 is done, and the neck hard when round 25 is done, so that the head does not flop.

☐ **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 next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(30 sc)

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 15 and 16 of round 5. It faces the front, round 1 at the bottom.

☐ **Rnds 6 to 17**	Sc in each st around	(30 sc)

6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

☐ **Rnd 18**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 3 times**	(27 sc)
☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts**] 3 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 20**	With A, **[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 21**	Sc in each st around	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 24**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 25**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 26**	Sc in each st around	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 27**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 6 times**	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnds 28 to 35**	Sc in each st around	(48 sc)

28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35

☐ **Rnd 36**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 37**	Sc in each st around	(42 sc)

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☐ **Rnd 38**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 39**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 40**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(24 sc)

Stuff the head firmly now, and keep adding stuffing until the last round. Press the body and the head a little flatter from front to back with your hands as you stuff.

☐ **Rnd 41**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 42**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 43**	**[**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.	

Leg: make 2

Yarns in order of use: D, navy; C, cream.

☐ **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 next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(10 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next st, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 3 times**	(13 sc)
☐ **Rnds 4 to 7**	Sc in each st around	(13 sc)

4 5 6 7

☐ **Rnd 8**	Sc2tog, sc in next 11 sts	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnds 10 to 11**	With C, sc in each st around	(12 sc)

10 11

☐ **Rnds 12 to 13**	With D, sc in each st around	(12 sc)

12 13

☐ **Rnds 14 to 15**	With C, sc in each st around	(12 sc)

14 15

☐ **Rnds 16 to 17**	With D, sc in each st around	(12 sc)

16 17

☐ **Rnds 18 to 19**	With C, sc in each st around	(12 sc)

18 19

☐ **Rnds 20 to 21**	With D, sc in each st around	(12 sc)

20 21

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☐ **Rnds 22 to 23** 22 23	With C, sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnds 24 to 25** 24 25	With D, sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnds 26 to 27** 26 27	With C, sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnds 28 to 29** 28 29	With D, sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnds 30 to 31** 30 31	With C, sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnds 32 to 33** 32 33	With D, sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnds 34 to 35** 34 35	With C, sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff very lightly. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 6 stitches with the tail, where the rounds begin, in the middle of the upper layer. That layer is the back of the leg.	

Arm: make 2

Yarns in order of use: A, muslin; B, country red.

☐ **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 next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	(10 sc)
☐ **Rnds 3 to 4** 3 4	Sc in each st around	(10 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnds 6 to 9** 6 7 8 9	Sc in each st around	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnds 10 to 22** 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	With B, sc in each st around	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 23**	Sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts	(8 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff very lightly. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 4 stitches with the tail, where the rounds begin, in the middle of the upper layer. That layer is the back of the arm.	

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Skirt

Yarns in order of use: B, country red; C, cream; F, dusty rose; D, navy.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 30; 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	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in each st around	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	With C, **[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	(42 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	With F, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 6 times**	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	With C, **[**sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(54 sc)
☐ **Rnd 7**	With B, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	(60 sc)
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 9 sts**] 6 times**	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in each st around	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	With C, sc in each st around	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	With F, sc in each st around	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	With C, sc in each st around	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnds 13 to 14** 13 14	With B, sc in each st around	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	With D, sc in each st around	(66 sc)
☐ **End**	Sl st in the next st to level the edge. Fasten off and weave in the end. Do not stuff.	

Hair cap

Yarn E, brick.

☐ **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 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**	Sc in each st around	(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)

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☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in each st around	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	(54 sc)

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 27 and 28 of round 12. It faces the front, round 1 at the back.

☐ **Rnds 13 to 14**	Sc in each st around	(54 sc)

13 14

☐ **Rnd 15**	**[**sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(48 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 36 in (91 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff.	

Apron

Yarn C, cream.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 13 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 14.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(13 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 12**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(13 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing.	

Pocket

Yarn D, navy.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 7 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With D, ch 8.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(7 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 6**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(7 sc)

2 3 4 5 6

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing.	

Bow: make 2

Yarn B, country red.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 3 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 4.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(3 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 9**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(3 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail.	

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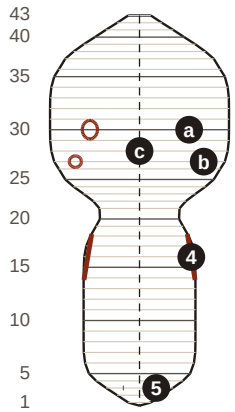
Assembly



Body and head: 4 arms, 5 legs, a eyes, b cheeks, c nose

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. Slip the skirt, right side out and its chain edge first, up over the lower end of the body until the chain edge lies on round 12 of the body and head and the last round hangs free below. Turn it until the beginning of its rounds is at the back, on the line opposite the center line. Sew the 30 chains to the 30 stitches of that round all the way round.

2. Lay the apron, right side out, on the front of the skirt, its middle on the center line of the body: row 12 lies along round 1 of the skirt and row 1 along round 12. Sew row 12 and the two sides to the skirt only; let row 1 hang free.

3. Lay the pocket, right side out, on the apron, in the middle of its width: row 1 lies along row 3 of the apron and row 6 along row 8. Sew row 1 and the two sides to the apron; leave row 6 open.

4. Pin the two arms to the body and head: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 16, one to each side, 7 stitches from the center line (14 stitches apart). The flat edge runs straight up and down the body and head, half of it above that place and half below. They slant down and out to the side and hang loose, the layer with the tail to the back. Sew through both layers of the 4-stitch edge with the tail.

5. Fold the skirt up out of the way and sew to the body only. Pin the two legs to the body and head: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 3, one to each side, 4½ stitches from the center line (9 stitches apart), that is, one at the far left of that round and one at the far right, each a quarter of the way round. The flat edges run from side to side across the lower end, in one line: the inner ends meet at round 1, and the outer end of each lies on about round 6, at the side of the body. The layer with the tail looks to the back. The legs hang straight down, loose. Sew through both layers of the 6-stitch edge with the tail.

6. Pull the hair cap over the head, center line in front, the middle of its round 1 at the back, on the line opposite the center line, between rounds 38 and 39 of the body and head. Pin that middle first. Its edge (round 15) lies on round 35 on the center line in front, on round 25 on the line opposite it and on about round 29 at the two sides of the head (12 stitches from the center line): pin it at these four places, then between them. With the thickness of the fabric the cap is as deep as the head is under it, and its edge (48 sts) is as long as this line, so nothing is gathered or folded. Sew all 48 stitches of the edge down.

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7. Braids: cut 30 lengths of E (brick), each 14 in (36 cm) long, 15 for each side. On the last round of the hair cap use stitches 11, 12 and 13 from its center line, on each side (stitch 1 is the one beside the line). Through each of the three draw five lengths with the hook, half way, so that ten ends hang down from it. Braid the three bunches (plait them) for 3½ in (9 cm), tie the end tightly with a length of E (brick) and trim what hangs below to about 5/8 in (16 mm). Two bows: for each, lay the strip flat, right side up, its two long edges running from left to right, so that row 1 is one end and row 9 the other. Thread the needle with the tail and weave it along the nearest long edge, without drawing that edge in, to row 5, the middle of the strip; take one small backstitch in place there to hold it. Now run it across row 5 to the other long edge with running stitches, pull up only these stitches, tight, so that the middle puckers, and fasten it on the wrong side. Then wind the rest of the tail three times tightly round the pucker, from long edge to long edge, and fasten it on the wrong side. Sew one bow to the end of each braid, over the tie.

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. Knot in the lengths of yarn at the same time. 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.
- Pinafore straps: with C (cream) and two strands in the needle, in backstitch, one line on each side of the body and head. Begin in front on round 12, just above the chain edge of the skirt, 4½ stitches from the center line, go straight up to round 19 (the last red round, just below the neck), then back along round 19 over the shoulder, above the place of the arm, to 4½ stitches from the line opposite the center line, and straight down the back to round 12, 4½ stitches from the line opposite the center line.
- Bangs: cut 90 lengths of E (brick), each 4 in (10 cm) long. At each place, use the needle to draw three lengths under the stitch, from side to side, until 2 in (5.1 cm) of each hangs out on one side. Tie the two sides together in a firm knot close to the fabric, pull the ends of the other side inside the toy and trim the ends left outside to 5/8 in (1.6 cm). They hang down. Where a piece covers a place, use the nearest free stitch. The places on the hair cap, counting stitches from the center line (stitch 1 is the one beside it), the same on each side: round 14: stitches 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; round 15: stitches 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8.
- Eyes: with D (navy), in satin stitch, a round dot about 5/16 in (8 mm) across, its middle on the body and head on round 30, one to each side, 4½ stitches from the center line (9 stitches apart).
- Cheeks: with F (dusty rose), in satin stitch, an oval about 5/16 in (8 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the body and head on round 27, one to each side, 6½ stitches from the center line (13 stitches apart).
- Mouth: with B (country red), in backstitch, a smile, one curve about 9/16 in (14 mm) wide that dips 3/16 in (5 mm) below its ends. Its two ends are on the body and head on round 27, one to each side of the center line.
- Nose: with F (dusty rose), in satin stitch, an oval about 3/16 in (5 mm) wide and 1/8 in (3 mm) tall, its middle on the body and head on round 28, on 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: 11 pieces; 4,231 stitches (1,353 in the body and head, 417 in each leg, 206 in each arm, 828 in the skirt, 552 in the hair cap, 156 in the apron, 42 in the pocket, 27 in each bow).

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

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