Rainbow caterpillar

US terms



Finished size
About 7½ in (19 cm) wide, 7½ in (19 cm) from front to back and 3¼ in (8.3 cm) tall

Skill
Easy
Eight pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 8 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: cherry, the head	**about 40 yd (37 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: tangerine, segment 1	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: sunny yellow, segment 2 and the tips of the antennae	**about 25 yd (23 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: leaf green, segment 3 and the antennae	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: sky blue, segment 4	**about 25 yd (23 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: violet, segment 5	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn G: black, the mouth	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn H: rose, the cheeks	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

Hook: 3.5 mm (US E-4). Also: toy stuffing, a yarn needle, a stitch marker, pins, scissors and two black plastic eyes with washers, 10 mm.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. 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 (UK dc2tog, double crochet 2 stitches together)
MR	magic ring
RS	right side

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Gauge

20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet, in a spiral.

20 sc and 22 rounds = 4 in (10 cm), worked 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.

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 D," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in D. 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.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the toy. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- 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.
- Eyes: for a child under three, or a pet, embroider the eyes instead of plastic ones: satin stitch dots of the same size in G (black).
- 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: 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 5½ in (14 cm) wide, 5½ in (14 cm) from front to back and 2 3/8 in (6 cm) tall; eyes 7 mm; 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 10¾ in (27.5 cm) wide, 10¾ in (27.5 cm) from front to back and 4¾ in (12 cm) tall; eyes 14 mm; 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 13¾ in (35 cm) wide, 13¾ in (35 cm) from front to back and 6 in (15 cm) tall; eyes 18 mm; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.
- Every size is approximate and follows from your gauge and how firmly you stuff.

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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 sc2tog is double crochet 2 stitches together.

Head

Yarn A, cherry.

☐ **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 next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

Fix the eyes now (see Finishing). Then stuff firmly, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**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.	

Segment 1

Yarn B, tangerine.

☐ **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)**

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☐ **Rnds 7 to 11**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**

A box for each round, 7 to 11: tick them off as you go.

7 8 9 10 11

☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

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

☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**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.	

Segment 2

Yarn C, sunny yellow.

☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnds 6 to 10**	Sc in each st around	**(30 sc)**

A box for each round, 6 to 10: tick them off as you go.

6 7 8 9 10

☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

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

☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**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.	

Segment 3

Yarn D, leaf 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)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**

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☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnds 6 to 10**	Sc in each st around	**(30 sc)**

A box for each round, 6 to 10: tick them off as you go.

☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10

☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

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

☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**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.	

Segment 4

Yarn E, sky blue.

☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnds 6 to 10**	Sc in each st around	**(30 sc)**

A box for each round, 6 to 10: tick them off as you go.

☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10

☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

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

☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**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.	

Segment 5

Yarn F, violet.

☐ **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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☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnds 5 to 8**	Sc in each st around	**(24 sc)**

A box for each round, 5 to 8: tick them off as you go.

☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8

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

☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**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.	

Antenna: make 2

Yarns in order of use: C, sunny yellow; D, leaf green.

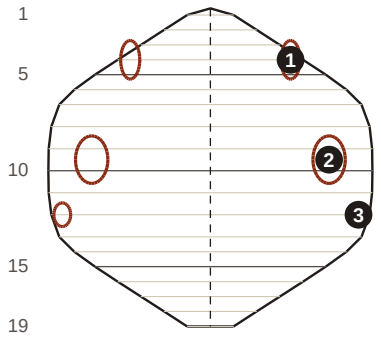
☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	With D, **[**sc2tog, sc2tog**] 2 times**, sc in next st	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 5 to 8**	Sc in each st around	**(5 sc)**

A box for each round, 5 to 8: tick them off as you go.

☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff.	

Assembly



Head: 1 antennae, 2 eyes, 3 cheeks

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.

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1. In every step: 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. Stand all the pieces on the table, closed holes down, and lay them in a curve that begins at the right side of the head and runs round to the back, about 7½ in (19 cm) wide and as deep in all. Segment 1 touches the head about 11½ stitches to the right of the center line, its middle 3/8 in (10 mm) farther back than the middle of the head. Press the two together and sew them in a circle about 1 in (2.5 cm) across, with a new length of the yarn of the segment.

2. Sew segment 2 to the far side of segment 1 in the same way, with its own color, its middle 13/16 in (21 mm) farther back than the middle of segment 1.

3. Sew segment 3 to segment 2 in the same way, with its own color, its middle 1 5/16 in (33 mm) farther back than the middle of segment 2.

4. Sew segment 4 to segment 3 in the same way, with its own color, its middle 1 5/8 in (41 mm) farther back than the middle of segment 3.

5. Sew segment 5 to segment 4 in the same way, with its own color, straight behind it.

6. Pin the two antennae to the head: the middle of each open edge lies on round 4, one to each side, 4 stitches from the center line (8 stitches apart). The edge has 5 sts. They point up, then curve until the tip of each points out to the side. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a stitch or two on its inner side. Sew all the way round with the tail.

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 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.
- Eyes: two 10 mm black plastic eyes, on the head between rounds 9 and 10, one to each side, 5½ stitches from the center line (11 stitches apart).
- Cheeks: with H (rose), in satin stitch, an oval about 5/16 in (8 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the head on round 12, one to each side, 8 stitches from the center line (16 stitches apart).
- Mouth: with G (black), in backstitch, a smile, one curve about ½ in (13 mm) wide that dips 3/16 in (5 mm) below its ends. Its two ends are on the head between rounds 11 and 12, one to each side 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: 8 pieces; 2,132 stitches (546 in the head, 396 in the segment 1, 300 in the segment 2, 300 in the segment 3, 300 in the segment 4, 192 in the segment 5, 49 in each antenna); 16 ends to weave in.

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

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