Red-combed hen

US terms



Finished size
About 5 in (12.5 cm) tall

Skill
Intermediate
13 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: cream, body, wing and tail feather	**about 115 yd (105 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: tomato red, comb bump and wattle	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: marigold, beak and foot	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: cocoa, wing and tail feather	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: rose, the details	**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, 8 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
MR	magic ring
RS	right side

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.

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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.
- Body: the center line runs between stitches 27 and 28 of round 9 (54 sts). It faces the front.
- 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.
- For a child under three, or a pet, embroider the eyes instead: satin stitch dots of the same size in black yarn (about 2 yd (2 m), 2 m, not in the list above).
- 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 3¾ in (9.5 cm) tall; eyes 6 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 7¼ in (18.5 cm) tall; eyes 11 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 9 in (23 cm) tall; eyes 15 mm; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.

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, cream.

Round 1 is the middle of the base.

☐ **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)**

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☐ **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 each st around	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 22**	Sc in each st around	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 24 to 29**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**

A box for each round, 24 to 29: tick them off as you go.

☐ 24 ☐ 25 ☐ 26 ☐ 27 ☐ 28 ☐ 29

☐ **Rnd 30**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 31**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

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

☐ **Rnd 32**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 33**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 34**	**[**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.	

Comb bump: make 2

Yarn B, tomato red.

☐ **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

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge. Shape the stuffed piece so that it is a little narrower from side to side.	

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Beak

Yarn C, marigold.

☐ **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)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Wattle: make 2

Yarn B, tomato red.

☐ **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 each st around	**(6 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Wing: make 2

Yarns in order of use: D, cocoa; A, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	5 sc in MR	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**, 2 sc in next st	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st	**(11 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	With A, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next 3 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**, 2 sc in next st	**(17 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts	**(20 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 7 to 8**	Sc in each st around	**(20 sc)**

A box for each round, 7 to 8: tick them off as you go.

☐ 7 ☐ 8

☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts**] 2 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	**(16 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 8 stitches.	

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Tail feather: make 3

Yarns in order of use: D, cocoa; A, cream.

☐ **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**	With A, **[**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 each st around	**(12 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 6 stitches.	

Foot: make 2

Yarn C, marigold.

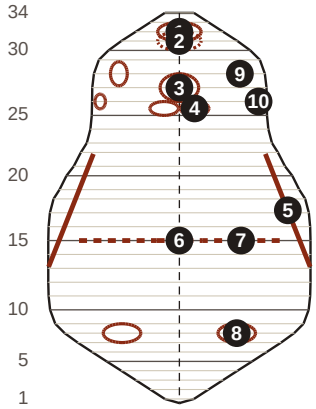
☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 3 to 4**	Sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**

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

☐ 3 ☐ 4

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Assembly



Body: 1 comb bump, 2 comb bump, 3 beak, 4 wattles, 5 wings, 6 tail feather, 7 tail feathers, 8 feet, 9 eyes, 10 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. Pin one comb bump to the body: the middle of the open edge lies on round 32, on the center line. The edge (9 sts) covers about rounds 31 to 33 of the body. It points up. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

2. Pin one comb bump to the body: the middle of the open edge lies on round 31, on the line opposite the center line. The edge (9 sts) covers about rounds 30 to 32 of the body. It points up and back. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

3. Pin the beak to the body: the middle of the open edge lies on round 27, on the center line. The edge (8 sts) covers about rounds 26 to 28 of the body. 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 two wattles to the body: the middle of each open edge lies between rounds 25 and 26, one to each side, 1 stitch from the center line (2 stitches apart). The edge (6 sts) covers about rounds 25 to 26 of the body. They point down and forward. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft. Their upper edges touch the lower edge of the beak.

5. Pin the two wings to the body: the middle of each flat edge lies between rounds 17 and 18, one to each side, 14 stitches from the center line (26 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). The flat edge runs straight up and down the body, half of it above that place and half below. They point out to the side, then curve until the tip of each points back. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a stitch or two on its inner side. Sew through both layers of the 8-stitch edge with the tail.

6. Pin one tail feather to the body: the middle of the flat edge lies on round 15, on the line opposite the center line. The flat edge runs along the round, half of it on each side of that place. It points up and back. Sew through both layers of the 6-stitch edge with its tail of yarn.

7. Pin two tail feathers to the body: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 15, one to each side, 22½ stitches from the center line (9 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). The flat edge runs along the round, half of it on each side of that place. They point back and up. Sew through both layers of the 6-stitch edge with its tail of yarn. Lay their inner ends over the ends of the middle feather.

8. Pin the two feet to the body: the middle of each open edge lies on round 8, one to each side, 4 stitches from the center line (8 stitches apart). The edge (9 sts) covers about rounds 7 to 9 of the body. They point forward from under the front edge of the body, lying along the table. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

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.
- Eyes: two 8 mm black plastic eyes, on the body on round 28, one to each side, 4½ stitches from the center line (9 stitches apart).
- Cheeks: with E (rose), in satin stitch, an oval about ¼ in (6 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the body on round 26, one to each side, 6½ stitches from the center line (13 stitches apart).
- 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; 1,914 stitches (1,278 in the body, 33 in each comb bump, 18 in the beak, 16 in each wattle, 149 in each wing, 52 in each tail feather, 33 in each foot); 26 ends to weave in.

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

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