# Red squirrel

US terms



Finished size
**About 4¾ in (12 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: chestnut, the main color | **about 130 yd (119 m), an estimate** |
| Yarn B: cream, 5 of the pieces | **about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate** |
| Yarn C: dark brown, acorn cap | **about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate** |
| Yarn D: dusty pink, the details | **about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate** |
| Yarn E: acorn brown, acorn | **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 |
| **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.
- Head: the center line runs between stitches 24 and 25 of round 10 (48 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the top.
- Body: the center line runs between stitches 15 and 16 of round 5 (30 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.
- Running stitches go in and out along a line.
- 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 C (dark brown).
- 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 3½ in (8.9 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 6¾ in (17 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 8¾ in (22 cm) tall; eyes 18 mm; 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.

### Head

**Yarn A, chestnut.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **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** | 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)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 10** | **[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times** | **(48 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnds 11 to 15** | Sc in each st around | **(48 sc)** |

A box for each round, 11 to 15: tick them off as you go.

☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Rnd 16** | **[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times** | **(42 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 17** | Sc in each st around | **(42 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 18** | **[**sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times** | **(36 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 19** | **[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times** | **(30 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 20** | **[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times** | **(24 sc)** |

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

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Rnd 21** | **[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times** | **(18 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 22** | **[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times** | **(12 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 23** | **[**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. | |


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## Body

**Yarn A, chestnut.**

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)** |
| ☐ **Rnds 6 to 11** | Sc in each st around | **(30 sc)** |

A box for each round, 6 to 11: tick them off as you go.

☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Rnd 12** | **[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times** | **(24 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnds 13 to 14** | Sc in each st around | **(24 sc)** |

A box for each round, 13 to 14: tick them off as you go.

☐ 13 ☐ 14

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **End** | Fasten off, leaving a 22 in (56 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge. | |

## Ear: make 2

**Yarn A, chestnut.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **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 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. | |

## 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)** |


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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Rnd 3** | **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 4 times** | **(16 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 4** | **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts**] 2 times** | **(18 sc)** |
| ☐ **End** | Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge. Shape the stuffed piece with your fingers into an oval, about 1 3/8 in (3.5 cm) wide and 7/8 in (2.2 cm) tall. | |

## Arm: make 2

**Yarns in order of use: B, cream; A, chestnut.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **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 10** | With A, sc in each st around | **(9 sc)** |

A box for each round, 3 to 10: tick them off as you go.

☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10

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

## Leg: make 2

**Yarns in order of use: B, cream; A, chestnut.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **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 2 sts**] 3 times** | **(15 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnds 4 to 5** | With A, sc in each st around | **(15 sc)** |

A box for each round, 4 to 5: tick them off as you go.

☐ 4 ☐ 5

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Rnd 6** | **[**sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times** | **(12 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 7** | Sc in each st around | **(12 sc)** |
| ☐ **End** | Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge. | |

## Tummy patch

**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**] 6 times** | **(18 sc)** |
| ☐ **End** | Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up. | |


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## Tail

**Yarns in order of use: B, cream; A, chestnut.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **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 2 sts**] 3 times** | **(15 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 4** | **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 3 times** | **(18 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 5** | With A, **[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times** | **(21 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 6** | Sc in each st around | **(21 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 7** | **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times** | **(24 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnds 8 to 14** | Sc in each st around | **(24 sc)** |

A box for each round, 8 to 14: tick them off as you go.

☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Rnd 15** | **[**sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts**] 3 times** | **(21 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 16** | Sc in each st around | **(21 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 17** | **[**sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times** | **(18 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 18** | Sc in each st around | **(18 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 19** | **[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 3 times** | **(15 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 20** | Sc in each st around | **(15 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 21** | **[**sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times** | **(12 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnds 22 to 23** | Sc in each st around | **(12 sc)** |

A box for each round, 22 to 23: tick them off as you go.

☐ 22 ☐ 23

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **End** | Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge. | |

## Acorn

**Yarn E, acorn brown.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Foundation** | Make a magic ring. | |
| ☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)** | 6 sc in MR | **(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 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times** | **(12 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 4** | Sc in each st around | **(12 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 5** | **[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times** | **(10 sc)** |
| ☐ **End** | Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge. | |


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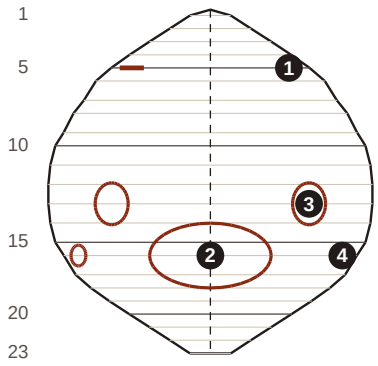
## Acorn cap

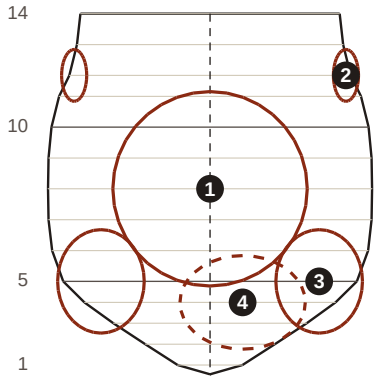
**Yarn C, dark brown.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **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 2 sts**] 3 times** | **(15 sc)** |
| ☐ **Rnd 4** | Sc in each st around | **(15 sc)** |
| ☐ **End** | Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. | |

## Assembly




Head: 1 ears, 2 muzzle, 3 eyes, 4 cheeks




Body: 1 tummy patch, 2 arms, 3 legs, 4 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 on the open edge of the body (24 sts), center lines in line: the edge lies on round 20 of the head (24 sts). With the tail of the body, sew every stitch of the edge to the head, and top up the stuffing in the neck before the last stitches so that the head does not wobble.

**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 about round 2, 2 stitches from the center line, and its lower end on about round 8, 9½ stitches from it. They point up and out to the side. Sew through both layers of the 6-stitch edge with the tail.

**3.** Pin the muzzle to the head: the middle of the open edge lies on round 16, on the center line. The edge (18 sts) covers about rounds 14 to 18 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.** Lay the tummy patch flat on the body, right side out, the middle of it on round 8, on the center line. Sew down all 18 stitches of the edge.

**5.** Pin the two arms to the body: the middle of each open edge lies on round 12, one to each side, 5 stitches from the center line (10 stitches apart). The edge (9 sts) covers about rounds 11 to 13 of the body. They point out to the side and forward, then curve in toward each other in front of the body until the gap between the two tips is about ¾ in (19 mm), room for the acorn. Bend each 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 the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.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**6.** Pin the two legs to the body: the middle of each open edge lies on round 5, one to each side, 4 stitches from the center line (8 stitches apart). The edge (12 sts) covers about rounds 3 to 7 of the body. They point forward and out to the side 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.

**7.** Pin the tail to the body: the middle of the open edge lies on round 4, 11 stitches to the right of the center line. The edge (12 sts) covers about rounds 2 to 6 of the body. It points to the right, turns up by about round 16 of the tail, to the right by about round 5 and down by the tip. Bend it as you pin it, and hold each bend with a few running stitches, drawn up a little, on the side it turns toward. 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.

**8.** Set the acorn cap over the stuffed open top of the acorn, its edge (15 sts) on round 4 of the acorn (12 sts), eased to fit. Sew it down all the way round.

**9.** Sew the acorn, cap up, to the front of the body on the center line, its middle over round 10 of the body, over the tummy patch and between the two arms: sew its back down in a line from the cap to the closed end, with the tail of the acorn. Catch the tip of each arm to the side of the acorn.

## 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 on round 13, one to each side, 5 stitches from the center line (10 stitches apart).
- Cheeks: with D (dusty pink), 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 16, one to each side, 7½ stitches from the center line (15 stitches apart).
- Nose: with C (dark brown), 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.
- 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; 2,153 stitches; 26 ends to weave in.

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


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