Shell scale mermaid tail blanket

Child · US terms



Finished size

About 29¼ in (74 cm) around at the waist and 14¾ in (37 cm) around at the ankles, 36¼ in (92 cm) long without the fin; fin about 13¼ in (34 cm) long, each half 7½ in (19 cm) wide

To fit a height of 3 ft 7 in (109 cm) to 4 ft 3 in (130 cm)

Skill

Easy

A two-row shell pattern, color changes and a fin to sew on

Yarn

Bulky (5), 4 colors

Hook

6.5 mm (US K-10½)

Gauge

10 stitches and 6½ rows to 4 in (10 cm)

In shell stitch.

What you need

Yarn A: lagoon, main color	**about 200 yd (183 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: aqua, stripe	**about 160 yd (146 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: teal, stripe	**about 160 yd (146 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: plum, stripe	**about 90 yd (82 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 470 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 130 yd (119 m).

Hook: 6.5 mm (US K-10½), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, a tape measure and a stitch marker.

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.

Sizes

Size	Fits	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Child (this file)	**a height of 3 ft 7 in (109 cm) to 4 ft 3 in (130 cm)**	**29¼ in (74 cm) around at the waist, 14¾ in (37 cm) around at the ankles, 36¼ in (92 cm) long without the fin**	**about 610 yd (558 m)**
Teen	a height of 4 ft 9 in (145 cm) to 5 ft 3 in (160 cm)	36½ in (93 cm) around at the waist, 18½ in (47 cm) around at the ankles, 46¼ in (117 cm) long without the fin	about 970 yd (887 m)

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Adult	a height of 5 ft 3 in (160 cm) to 5 ft 9 in (175 cm)	43½ in (110 cm) around at the waist, 22 in (56 cm) around at the ankles, 54¾ in (139 cm) long without the fin	about 1,370 yd (1,253 m)

Gauge

10 stitches and 6½ rows to 4 in (10 cm) in shell stitch.

Check it on the tail itself when 12 rows are done, laid flat and not stretched: the 73 stitches of a row in Child are about 29¼ in (74 cm) wide, the 91 in Teen about 36½ in (93 cm), the 109 in Adult about 43½ in (110 cm), and rows 5 to 12 are about 5 in (13 cm) tall. If they measure more, start again with a smaller hook; if they measure less, with a larger one.

Notes

- For sitting or lying in while awake, with a grown-up near a child. It holds both legs: it is not for sleep, for walking or for stairs.
- The tail is worked in one flat piece from the waist to the ankles; the long edges are sewn to each other afterward.
- The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch: the first stitch of the row goes into the st it rises from. The ch 2 at the start of a row of the fin does not count either.
- The ch 3 at the start of a row counts as a dc and stands on the first st; "same st" in such a row is that first st. The last sc of the next row is worked into the top of it.
- Where several dc are named with one place, all of them are worked into that place. The sp before next st is the gap between two stitches, under all the loops, not the top of a stitch.
- To change yarn, work the last yarn over of the last stitch of the row before with the new yarn. If the old yarn is needed again after only 2 or 4 rows of another yarn, leave it hanging at the edge and bring it loosely up the side when you need it. Otherwise cut it, leaving a tail of about 6 in (15 cm), and leave a tail of the same length on the new yarn.
- Leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) when you begin and when you fasten off, unless another length is given. The ends that are not sewn with are woven in.
- When a ball runs out, join the next at the end of a row: work the last yarn over of the last stitch with the new yarn, and leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) on both.
- Whip stitch: with the yarn on a yarn needle, pass the needle under both loops of a stitch on one edge and under both loops of the stitch that lies against it on the other edge, and pull the yarn through. Do the same in the next stitch of each edge. On a foundation chain edge, pass the needle under the lower strands of each chain that holds a stitch of row 1. On a side edge there are no loops: pass the needle through the end stitch of the row on one side and the end stitch of the row that lies against it on the other. Fasten a length where the sewing begins and where it ends: sew 2 or 3 times into the same place.
- Buy whole balls from one dye lot.

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Instructions

Child. US terms.

ch chain, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **hdc** half double crochet (UK half treble), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **sp** space, **st** stitch.

sc3tog 3 sc made into one, **hdc2tog** 2 hdc made into one. **BLO**: only the loop away from you. **sk** skip, **yo** yarn over the hook, **RS** right side, the one that shows.

5 dc in next st: all in one stitch. **sc in next 36 sts**: one in each.

[ ] 12 times: work what is inside 12 times in all.

(73 sc): the stitches you have when the row is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Tail

Yarns in order of use: A, lagoon; B, aqua; C, teal; D, plum.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 74.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	(73 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 4** 2 3 4	Ch 1, turn; sc in BLO of each st across	(73 sc)
☐ **Row 5**	With B, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 12 times**	(13 sc, 60 dc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in last st	(61 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 7**	With C, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 60 dc)
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in last st	(61 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 9**	With A, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 60 dc)
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in last st	(61 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 11**	With B, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 60 dc)
☐ **Row 12**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in last st	(61 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 13**	With C, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 60 dc)

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☐ **Row 14**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in last st	(61 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 15**	With A, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 60 dc)
☐ **Row 16**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in last st	(61 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 17**	With B, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 60 dc)
☐ **Row 18**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in last st	(61 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 19**	With C, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 60 dc)
☐ **Row 20**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in last st	(61 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 21**	With A, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 60 dc)
☐ **Row 22**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in last st	(61 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 23**	With B, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 60 dc)
☐ **Row 24**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in last st	(61 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 25**	With C, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 60 dc)
☐ **Row 26**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 2 dc in last st	(48 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 27**	With A, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, 4 dc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 48 dc)

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☐ **Row 28**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 2 dc in last st	(48 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 29**	With B, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, 4 dc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 48 dc)
☐ **Row 30**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 2 dc in last st	(48 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 31**	With C, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, 4 dc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 48 dc)
☐ **Row 32**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 2 dc in last st	(48 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 33**	With A, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, 4 dc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 48 dc)
☐ **Row 34**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 2 dc in last st	(48 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 35**	With B, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, 4 dc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 48 dc)
☐ **Row 36**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 2 dc in last st	(48 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 37**	With C, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, 4 dc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 48 dc)
☐ **Row 38**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 2 dc in last st	(48 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 39**	With A, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, 4 dc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 4 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 48 dc)
☐ **Row 40**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 3 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next 2 sts, sc in sp before next st, sk next 2 sts, 2 dc in last st	(37 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 41**	With B, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st, **[**sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 36 dc)

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☐ **Row 42**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, **[**sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 2 dc in last st	(37 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 43**	With C, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st, **[**sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 36 dc)
☐ **Row 44**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, **[**sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 2 dc in last st	(37 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 45**	With A, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st, **[**sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 36 dc)
☐ **Row 46**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, **[**sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 2 dc in last st	(37 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 47**	With B, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st, **[**sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 36 dc)
☐ **Row 48**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; dc in same st, **[**sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 2 dc in last st	(37 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 49**	With C, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st, **[**sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 3 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 36 dc)
☐ **Row 50**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, 2 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st, dc in last st	(24 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 51**	With A, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, 2 dc in next st, **[**sk next st, sc in sp before next st, sk next st, 2 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 24 dc)
☐ **Row 52**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**sk next st, sc in sp before next st, sk next st, 2 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in sp before next st, sk next st, dc in last st	(24 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 53**	With B, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, 2 dc in next st, **[**sk next st, sc in sp before next st, sk next st, 2 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 24 dc)
☐ **Row 54**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**sk next st, sc in sp before next st, sk next st, 2 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in sp before next st, sk next st, dc in last st	(24 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 55**	With C, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, 2 dc in next st, **[**sk next st, sc in sp before next st, sk next st, 2 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 24 dc)

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☐ **Row 56**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**sk next st, sc in sp before next st, sk next st, 2 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in sp before next st, sk next st, dc in last st	(24 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 57**	With A, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, 2 dc in next st, **[**sk next st, sc in sp before next st, sk next st, 2 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 24 dc)
☐ **Row 58**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; **[**sk next st, sc in sp before next st, sk next st, 2 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sk next st, sc in sp before next st, sk next st, dc in last st	(24 dc, 12 sc)
☐ **Row 59**	With B, ch 1, turn; sc in first st, 2 dc in next st, **[**sk next st, sc in sp before next st, sk next st, 2 dc in next st**] 11 times**, sc in top of turning ch	(13 sc, 24 dc)
☐ **Row 60**	With D, ch 1, turn; sc in next 36 sts, sc in last st	(37 sc)
☐ **Rows 61 to 62** 61 62	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	(37 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 54 in (137 cm) to sew the foot with.	

Fin half: make 2

Yarns in order of use: D, plum; A, lagoon.

☐ **Foundation**	With D, ch 11.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Hdc in 3rd ch from hook and in each ch across	(9 hdc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 2, turn; 2 hdc in first st, hdc in BLO of next 7 sts, 2 hdc in last st	(11 hdc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	(11 hdc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 2, turn; 2 hdc in first st, hdc in BLO of next 9 sts, 2 hdc in last st	(13 hdc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	(13 hdc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 2, turn; 2 hdc in first st, hdc in BLO of next 11 sts, 2 hdc in last st	(15 hdc)
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	(15 hdc)
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 2, turn; 2 hdc in first st, hdc in BLO of next 13 sts, 2 hdc in last st	(17 hdc)
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	(17 hdc)
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 2, turn; 2 hdc in first st, hdc in BLO of next 15 sts, 2 hdc in last st	(19 hdc)
☐ **Rows 11 to 12** 11 12	Ch 2, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	(19 hdc)
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 2, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in BLO of next 15 sts, hdc2tog	(2 hdc2tog, 15 hdc)
☐ **Row 14**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	(17 hdc)
☐ **Row 15**	With A, ch 2, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in BLO of next 13 sts, hdc2tog	(2 hdc2tog, 13 hdc)
☐ **Row 16**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	(15 hdc)
☐ **Row 17**	With D, ch 2, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in BLO of next 11 sts, hdc2tog	(2 hdc2tog, 11 hdc)

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☐ **Row 18**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	(13 hdc)
☐ **Row 19**	With A, ch 2, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in BLO of next 9 sts, hdc2tog	(2 hdc2tog, 9 hdc)
☐ **Row 20**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	(11 hdc)
☐ **Row 21**	With D, ch 2, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in BLO of next 7 sts, hdc2tog	(2 hdc2tog, 7 hdc)
☐ **Row 22**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	(9 hdc)
☐ **Row 23**	With A, ch 2, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in BLO of next 5 sts, hdc2tog	(2 hdc2tog, 5 hdc)
☐ **Row 24**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	(7 hdc)
☐ **Row 25**	With D, ch 2, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in BLO of next 3 sts, hdc2tog	(2 hdc2tog, 3 hdc)
☐ **Row 26**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	(5 hdc)
☐ **Row 27**	Ch 2, turn; hdc2tog, hdc in BLO of next st, hdc2tog	(2 hdc2tog, 1 hdc)
☐ **Row 28**	Ch 1, turn; sc3tog	(1 sc3tog)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 32 in (81 cm) to sew with.	

Assembly

1. Weave in the ends of the tail, all but the long one at the ankles, and those of the fin halves, all but the long ones. Fold the tail in half with the wrong side out, so that its two long edges, the ends of the rows, meet. Put a marker through both edges at the end of row 12, counted from the foundation chain.

2. Back seam: cut two lengths of C, each about 54 in (137 cm) long. With the first, begin at row 13, the first beside the marker, and whip stitch the two edges to each other, row end to row end, toward the ankles; go on with the second to the last row, row 62: 50 pairs of row ends. Above the marker the edges stay open, at the back of the waist, so that the tail is easy to slip into. Take out the marker and turn the tail right side out.

3. Foot: lay the tail flat with the seam in the middle of the back. The last row is now doubled: its stitches 10 to 27 in front lie on its stitches 9 to 1 and 37 to 29 behind, 18 pairs; stitch 28, at a fold, is left over. The long tail of D hangs at stitch 37, beside the seam. Lead it through stitches 37 to 29 of the back to the fold beside them. With it whip stitch the 18 pairs to each other: stitch 27 with stitch 29 first, and so on across the foot to stitch 10 with stitch 9 at the other fold. Fasten off.

4. Fin: with the front of the tail up, lay the two fin halves below the closed foot, right sides up, their foundation chains along it: 9 chains of the first half against the 9 pairs on the left, 9 chains of the second against the 9 pairs on the right. The long tail of each half hangs at its tip. Begin with the half on the right: lead its tail up its left edge, through the ends of the rows, to the end of the foundation chain that lies in the middle of the foot, and with it whip stitch its 9 chains to the 9 pairs, from the middle out to the fold. Fasten off. Then take the half on the left: lead its tail up its left edge to the end of the foundation chain at the fold, and whip stitch its 9 chains to the 9 pairs on that side, from the fold in to the middle. With what is left of this tail sew the two halves to each other from the foot down along the edges that meet in the middle, the ends of rows 1 to 3 of one to the ends of rows 1 to 3 of the other, 3 pairs, and fasten off.

Finishing

- Weave in what is left of the ends with the yarn needle.
- Use the tail for sitting and resting, with the legs inside and the waist open. Do not walk in it.

In all: 3 pieces; 4,310 stitches (3,638 in the tail, 336 in each fin half); 16 ends to weave in.

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

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