Shell stitch basket

Eight inch · US terms



Finished size

About 8¼ in (21 cm) across the base and 3¾ in (9.5 cm) tall to the fold of the rim, with a scalloped collar about 1 in (2.5 cm) deep

Skill

Easy

The base is plain single crochet, and the two rounds of the shell pattern are worked by turns.

Yarn

Medium (4), 3 colors

Hook

5.5 mm (US I-9)

Gauge

12 stitches and 13 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)

In single crochet (UK double crochet).

What you need

Yarn A: pistachio, every other round of shells	**about 90 yd (82 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, the rounds of shells between	**about 70 yd (64 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: leaf green, the base, the first round of the sides and the rim	**about 185 yd (169 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 170 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

Fiber: cotton

Two strands of yarn are held together throughout; the amounts above are for all of them.

Hook: 5.5 mm (US I-9), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a stitch marker, a yarn needle 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.

Sizes

Size	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Eight inch (this file)	**8¼ in (21 cm) across, 3¾ in (9.5 cm) tall**	**about 345 yd (315 m)**
Ten inch	10¼ in (26 cm) across, 4½ in (11.5 cm) tall	about 495 yd (453 m)

Gauge

12 stitches and 13 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

Two rounds of shells add about ¾ in (2 cm) to the height.

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Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. The gauge is checked on the piece itself: after round 13 the base should measure about 8¼ in (21 cm) across, laid flat and not stretched. A range that is near enough is printed after that round. If the piece measures more than that, begin again with a smaller hook; if it measures less, with a larger hook.

Notes

- Begin with a magic ring: wind the yarn once round two fingers, put the hook through the ring, draw up a loop and chain 1 to hold it, which does not count as a stitch. Work round 1 into the ring, then pull the tail to draw the ring closed.
- The rounds are not joined: work in a spiral, and move a marker up to the first stitch of each round. Where a round begins with a skip, the first stitch is the single crochet after the skip.
- Two strands are held together throughout. The right side, the outside, faces you all the time.
- Where the pattern says BLO, put the hook under the back loop only; the front loop stays on the outside as a ridge. Where it says FLO, put the hook under the front loop only; the back loop stays on the inside, and the rim folds outward and down there.
- Shells: a shell is 5 dc in one stitch. In the first round of shells the shells stand in stitches of a plain round. After that each shell stands in a single crochet, and each single crochet stands in the third, the middle one, of the 5 dc of a shell: it holds the shell down, and the shells of the next round rise on both sides of it. The shells of the rim have 7 dc. Where one round of shells ends and the next begins, two shells or two single crochet follow each other; that is right.
- To change color, draw the new yarn through as the last yarn over of the stitch before. Cut C at the end of the last round before the shells, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm). Between the rounds of shells cut neither A nor B: carry the one that is not in use loosely up the inside. Cut each of the two after its last round of shells, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).
- Colors, round by round. Rounds 1 to 14: C. Round 15: A. Round 16: B. Round 17: A. Round 18: B. Round 19: A. Round 20: B. Round 21: A. Rounds 22 to 25: C.

Instructions

Eight inch. US terms.

sc single crochet (UK double crochet), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **MR** magic ring, **st** stitch, **rnd** round.
BLO: only the loop away from you. **FLO**: only the loop nearest you. **sk** skip, **RS** right side, the one that shows.
2 sc in next st: both in one stitch. **sc in next 3 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**.

Yarns in order of use: C, leaf green; A, pistachio; B, 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 each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 2 sts	(30 sc)
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(36 sc)

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☐ **Rnd 7**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 3 sts	(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 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 4 sts	(54 sc)
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**Sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(60 sc)
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 5 sts	(66 sc)
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**Sc in next 10 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(72 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sc in next 6 sts	(78 sc)

> **Stop and measure now, after round 13.** The base should measure about 8¼ in (21 cm) across. Anything from 8 in (20.5 cm) to 8¼ in (21 cm) is near enough.

Sides

☐ **Rnd 14**	Sc in BLO of each st around	(78 sc)
☐ **Rnd 15**	With A, **[**sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 13 times**	(13 sc, 65 dc)
☐ **Rnd 16**	With B, **[**5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 13 times**	(65 dc, 13 sc)
☐ **Rnd 17**	With A, **[**sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st**] 13 times**	(13 sc, 65 dc)
☐ **Rnds 18 to 21**	Repeat rnds 16 and 17 in turn: every even-numbered rnd is worked as rnd 16, every odd-numbered rnd as rnd 17.	

18 19 20 21

Rim

☐ **Rnd 22**	With C, sc in each st around	(78 sc)
☐ **Rnd 23**	Sc in each st around	(78 sc)
☐ **Rnd 24**	Sc in FLO of each st around	(78 sc)
☐ **Rnd 25**	**[**Sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 7 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 13 times**	(13 sc, 91 dc)
☐ **End**	Slip stitch in the next stitch to level the edge. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Finishing

- Weave in all the tails but the last one on the inside, and the starting tail of the magic ring round the middle of the base. The last tail hangs from the edge of the collar, whose outer side will be hidden when it is folded down: weave it in on the outer side of the last 2 rounds, the side that faced you as you worked them, so that none of it shows after the fold. Dampen the basket. Stretch each round of shells up a little with your fingers, then fold the last 2 rounds outward and down along the free loops on the inside, so that they lie round the outside of the basket like a collar, their inner side now showing, and pull each scallop into a half circle. Let it dry standing on its base.

In all: 25 rounds; 1,508 stitches; 18 ends to weave in.

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

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