Skull granny square

US terms



Finished size
About 6¼ in (16 cm) across

Skill
Easy
Worked in rows and rounds, with 4 pieces and color changes.

Yarn
Medium (4), 3 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

Gauge
14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: bone white, the skull	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: black, rounds 1 to 5 of the square, the eyes, the nose and the teeth	**about 35 yd (32 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: pumpkin, round 6 of the square	**about 8 yd (7 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8). Also: a yarn needle, scissors, pins for blocking and a spray bottle.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. The estimate is from the stitches and chains 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.

ch	chain stitch
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
sp	space
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

Gauge

14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After round 2 the square measures about 2½ in (6 cm) across. If yours is larger, use a smaller hook; if it is smaller, use a larger hook.

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Before you start

- Rounds are worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- Where a line says turn, turn the piece over and work back along the stitches just made.
- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work the first round or row into the loop, then pull the tail until the ring is closed. Four chains joined into a ring with a slip stitch may be used instead.
- A chain that counts as a stitch is marked so in its line and is included in the count.
- A chain 1 at the start of a round or a row does not count as a stitch.
- Fasten off the old color, then join the new one with a slip stitch in the place named; the first stitch or chain of the line is worked in that same place.
- A slip stitch at the start of a round only carries the yarn to the place named; the first stitch of the round is worked in that same place. If stitches lie between the joining and that place, slip stitch across them first.
- At the start of a round, same st is the stitch the round before was joined in; after a new color is joined, it is the stitch the color was joined in.
- A round worked in each st around begins in the st the round before was joined in, or the new color was joined in.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches and the chain spaces between them; slip stitches are not counted.
- The right side of the skull is the side that faces you in rnds 1 to 4. Row 5 goes straight on from rnd 4 without turning; its first sc is in the st rnd 4 was joined in.
- Straight stitch (sewn): bring the yarn needle up from the back at one end of the stitch and put it down at the other end.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured straight across: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 4 in (10 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 4¾ in (12 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 7¾ in (20 cm).

Instructions

Square brackets [ ] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. Round brackets ( ) inside a line hold stitches that all go into one place. 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 sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet, hdc is half treble and dc is treble.

Square

Yarns in order of use: B, black; C, pumpkin.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, make a magic ring.
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in ring, ch 2, **[**3 dc in ring, ch 2**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(12 dc, 4 ch-2 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sl st in next ch-2 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), (dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in same sp, dc in next 3 sts, **[**(2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next ch-2 sp, dc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(28 dc, 4 ch-2 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sl st in next ch-2 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), (dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in same sp, dc in next 7 sts, **[**(2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next ch-2 sp, dc in next 7 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(44 dc, 4 ch-2 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sl st in next ch-2 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), (dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in same sp, dc in next 11 sts, **[**(2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next ch-2 sp, dc in next 11 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(60 dc, 4 ch-2 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sl st in next ch-2 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), (dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in same sp, dc in next 15 sts, **[**(2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next ch-2 sp, dc in next 15 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(76 dc, 4 ch-2 sps)**

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Fasten off B.

☐ **Rnd 6**	Join C with sl st in any ch-2 sp, ch 1, 3 sc in same sp, sc in next 19 sts, **[**3 sc in next ch-2 sp, sc in next 19 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(88 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.	

Skull

Yarn A, bone white.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1, 8 hdc in ring, sl st in first hdc to join	**(8 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	**(16 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, hdc in same st, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(24 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, hdc in same st, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(32 hdc)**
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 8 sts, leave the remaining 23 sts unworked	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rows 6 to 7**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(9 sc)**

A box for each round, 6 to 7: tick them off as you go.

6 7

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for sewing.	

Eye: make 2

Yarn B, black.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 8 hdc in ring, sl st in first hdc to join	**(8 hdc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.	

Finishing

- Block: pin the pieces to shape on a flat surface, spray them with water and let them dry.
- Lay the square with one side at the top and the skull on its middle, right sides up, the straight end of the jaw toward the side at the bottom. With the tail of the skull, sew it down all round its edge.
- Sew the eyes side by side on the round part of the skull, right side up, their centers level with its magic ring and their edges ¼ in (0.6 cm) apart.
- With B, work two straight stitches for the nose from one point 5/8 in (1.6 cm) straight below the magic ring of the skull: each 3/8 in (1 cm) long, slanting apart like an upside-down V.
- With B, work three straight stitches for the teeth, up and down across rows 6 and 7 of the jaw: one at its middle and one 5/8 in (1.6 cm) to each side.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 4 pieces; 431 stitches (308 in the square, 107 in the skull, 8 in each eye); 12 ends to weave in.

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

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