Soccer ball

US terms



Finished size
About 3¾ in (9.5 cm) across

Skill
Intermediate
13 pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Medium (4), 2 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.

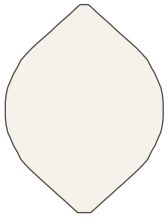
You will need

Yarn A: white, ball	**about 90 yd (82 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: black, pentagon and the details	**about 55 yd (50 m), an estimate**

Hook: 3.5 mm (US E-4), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: toy stuffing, a yarn needle, a stitch marker, pins 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.

The pieces



Ball



Pentagon x 12
to the ball

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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, through the front loops only: how is under “Before you start” (UK dc2tog, double crochet 2 stitches together)
MR	magic ring
RS	right side
Rnd	round
st	stitch
yo	yarn over (UK yrh, yarn round hook)

Gauge

20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet, 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.

Use any hook that gives you this. If you count more stitches than this in 4 in (10 cm), change to a larger hook; if you count fewer, to a smaller one.

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.
- 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.
- Ball: the center line runs between stitches 30 and 31 of round 14 (60 sts). It faces the front.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the ball. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- In every step of putting it together: where a piece meets or overlaps another, sew through both. Where no tail is left or a tail is too short, sew with a new length of the yarn of the piece you are putting on.
- 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.
- No plastic eyes are used: every detail is worked in yarn.
- 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, the size written here: 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 2 7/8 in (7.3 cm) across; 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 5½ in (14 cm) across; 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 7 in (18 cm) across; 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.

Ball

Yarn A, white.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	5 sc in MR	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**	**(15 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 5 times**	**(20 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**	**(25 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 5 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 5 times**	**(35 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**	**(40 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 5 times**	**(45 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts**] 5 times**	**(50 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in each st around	**(50 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**	**(55 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sc in each st around	**(55 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 5 times**	**(60 sc)**

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 30 and 31 of round 14. It faces the front.

☐ **Rnds 15 to 20**	Sc in each st around	**(60 sc)**

A box for each round, 15 to 20: tick them off as you go.

☐ 15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20

☐ **Rnd 21**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts**] 5 times**	**(55 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 22**	Sc in each st around	**(55 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**sc in next 9 sts, sc2tog**] 5 times**	**(50 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	Sc in each st around	**(50 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 5 times**	**(45 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 26**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts**] 5 times**	**(40 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 27**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog**] 5 times**	**(35 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 28**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 5 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 29**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 5 times**	**(25 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 30**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 5 times**	**(20 sc)**

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Stuff firmly now, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 31**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 5 times**	**(15 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 32**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 5 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 33**	**[**sc2tog**] 5 times**	**(5 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 8 in (20 cm) tail. Thread the tail through the front loop of each of the last 5 stitches, pull it tight to close the hole and bury the end inside.	

Pentagon: make 12

Yarn B, black.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	5 sc in MR	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each st around	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 3 sc in next st**] 5 times**	**(20 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving an 18 in (46 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up and pull out the five corners: each is the middle one of 3 sc in one stitch. From the middle to a corner is about 3½ rounds.	

Assembly

1. Sew one pentagon, right side out, over round 1 of the ball (this is the top), its middle on the magic ring and its five corners on round 4 (20 sts), one of them on the center line and the others 4 stitches apart. Sew down all 20 stitches of its edge with its tail.

2. The upper five: pin the five pentagons of the upper ring to the ball, right side out, their middles on round 12 (55 sts): one on the center line, and the others 11 and 22 stitches to each side of it, so that they are all 11 stitches apart. Turn each so that one corner points straight up, at a corner of the top pentagon, and lies on about round 8. Sew down all 20 stitches of each edge with its own tail.

3. The lower five: pin the five pentagons of the lower ring to the ball, right side out, their middles on round 22 (55 sts), each below the space between two of the upper five: 5½ and 16½ stitches to each side of the center line, and one on the line opposite the center line. Turn each so that one corner points straight down and lies on about round 26. Sew down all 20 stitches of each edge with its own tail.

4. Sew one pentagon, right side out, over the closed hole at the end of the ball (the bottom), its five corners on round 30 (20 sts), each looking at the lowest corner of one of the lower five. Sew down all 20 stitches of its edge with its tail.

Finishing

- 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. 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.
- Seam lines: when all twelve pentagons are on, with B (black), in backstitch, one straight line from each corner of a pentagon to the corner of the next pentagon that looks at it, 30 lines in all: 5 from the top pentagon down to the upper five, 5 between neighbors of the upper five, 10 up and down between the upper five and the lower five, 5 between neighbors of the lower five, and 5 from the lower five to the last pentagon.
- 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; 1,710 stitches (1,290 in the ball, 35 in each pentagon).

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

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