Three stacking bears

US terms



Finished size

The stack about 7¼ in (18.5 cm) tall; the big bear 3¾ in (9.5 cm) across, the middle bear 3 1/8 in (7.9 cm) and the little bear 2¼ in (5.7 cm) across the base

Skill

Easy

24 pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn

Medium (4), 6 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.

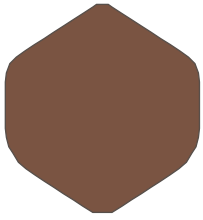
You will need

Yarn A: cocoa, the main color	**about 110 yd (101 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: honey, several of the pieces	**about 80 yd (73 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: polar cream, several of the pieces	**about 55 yd (50 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: tan, big muzzle and little muzzle	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: dark brown, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: rose, the details	**about 5 yd (5 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, 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. Buy them from one dye lot. The estimate is from the stitches of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

The pieces



Big bear



Big ear x 2
to the big bear



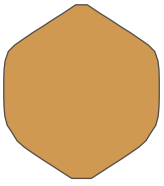
Big muzzle
to the big bear



Big arm x 2
to the big bear



Big foot x 2



Middle bear



Middle ear x 2
to the middle bear

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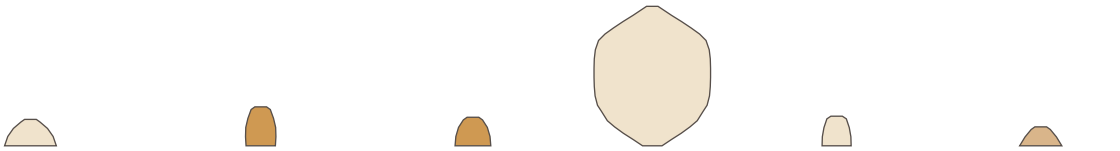

Middle muzzle
to the middle bear

Middle arm x 2
to the middle bear

Middle foot x 2

Little bear

Little ear x 2
to the little bear

Little muzzle
to the little bear

Little arm x 2
to the little bear

Little foot x 2

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.
- Big bear: the center line runs between stitches 30 and 31 of round 14 (60 sts). It faces the front.
- Middle bear: the center line runs between stitches 24 and 25 of round 12 (48 sts). It faces the front.
- Little bear: the center line runs between stitches 18 and 19 of round 9 (36 sts). It faces the front.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the bear. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- Running stitches go in and out along a line.

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- 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.
- For a child under three, or a pet, embroider the eyes instead: satin stitch dots of the same size in E (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, 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): the stack about 5¼ in (13.5 cm) tall; the big bear 2 7/8 in (7.3 cm) across, the middle bear 2¼ in (5.7 cm) and the little bear 1¾ in (4.4 cm) across the base; 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): the stack about 10¼ in (26 cm) tall; the big bear 5½ in (14 cm) across, the middle bear 4½ in (11.5 cm) and the little bear 3¼ in (8.3 cm) across the base; 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): the stack about 13¼ in (33.5 cm) tall; the big bear 7 in (18 cm) across, the middle bear 5½ in (14 cm) and the little bear 4¼ in (11 cm) across the base; eyes 18 mm; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.

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.

Big bear

Yarn A, cocoa.

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)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(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 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(54 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts**] 6 times**	**(60 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 11 to 14**	Sc in each st around	**(60 sc)**

A box for each round, 11 to 14: tick them off as you go.

☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14

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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 19**	Sc in each st around	**(60 sc)**

A box for each round, 15 to 19: tick them off as you go.

15 16 17 18 19

☐ **Rnd 20**	**[**sc in next 8 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(54 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	Sc in each st around	**(54 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	**[**sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 26**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

Fix the eyes now: two 10 mm black plastic eyes, on the big bear on round 20, one to each side, 5 stitches from the center line (10 stitches apart). Then stuff the sides firmly and the base (rounds 1 to 10) only lightly, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 27**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 28**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 29**	**[**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. Press the top (rounds 25 to 29) flatter with the palm of your hand, and push the base in with your thumbs until it is hollow, about 3/8 in (10 mm) deep in the middle, so that the bear stands on the edge of its base.	

Big ear: make 2

Yarn A, cocoa.

☐ **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 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc2tog, sc in next 12 sts	**(13 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**, sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog	**(10 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 5 stitches.	

Big muzzle

Yarn D, tan.

☐ **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**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 8 sts**] 2 times**	**(20 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in each st around	**(20 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 1½ in (3.8 cm) wide and 1 in (2.5 cm) tall.	

Big arm: make 2

Yarn A, cocoa.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each of next 4 sts, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	**(11 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 4 to 5**	Sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**

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

☐ 4 ☐ 5

☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Big foot: make 2

Yarn A, cocoa.

☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts	**(13 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Middle bear

Yarn B, honey.

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)**

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☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 9 to 12**	Sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**

A box for each round, 9 to 12: tick them off as you go.

☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 24 and 25 of round 12. It faces the front.

☐ **Rnds 13 to 16**	Sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**

A box for each round, 13 to 16: tick them off as you go.

☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16

☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	Sc in each st around	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 20**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

Stuff the sides firmly and the base (rounds 1 to 8) only lightly now, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	**[**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. Press the top (rounds 20 to 24) flatter with the palm of your hand, and push the base in with your thumbs until it is hollow, about 5/16 in (8 mm) deep in the middle, to fit over the top of the big bear.	

Middle ear: make 2

Yarn B, honey.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each of next 4 sts, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	**(11 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 5 stitches.	

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Middle muzzle

Yarn C, polar 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, sc in next st**] 4 times**	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in each st around	**(16 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge. Shape the stuffed piece with your fingers into an oval, about 1 1/8 in (2.9 cm) wide and 7/8 in (2.2 cm) tall.	

Middle arm: make 2

Yarn B, honey.

☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in each st around	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts	**(9 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Middle foot: make 2

Yarn B, honey.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each of next 4 sts, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	**(11 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts	**(11 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Little bear

Yarn C, polar cream.

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)**

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☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnds 7 to 9**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**

A box for each round, 7 to 9: tick them off as you go.

☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 18 and 19 of round 9. It faces the front.

☐ **Rnds 10 to 13**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**

A box for each round, 10 to 13: tick them off as you go.

☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13

☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	Sc in each st around	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

Stuff the sides firmly and the base (rounds 1 to 6) only lightly now, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**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. Push the base in with your thumbs until it is hollow, about ¼ in (6 mm) deep in the middle, to fit over the top of the middle bear.	

Little ear: make 2

Yarn C, polar cream.

☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts	**(9 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat, so that the last round makes a straight double edge of 4½ stitches. The odd stitch lies at one fold.	

Little muzzle

Yarn D, tan.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each of next 4 sts, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	**(11 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts	**(13 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge. Shape the stuffed piece with your fingers into an oval, about 1 in (2.5 cm) wide and 5/8 in (1.6 cm) tall.	

Little arm: make 2

Yarn C, polar cream.

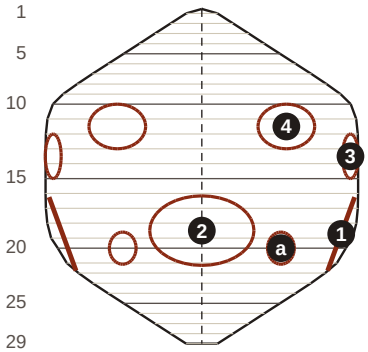
☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in each st around	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts	**(7 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Little foot: make 2

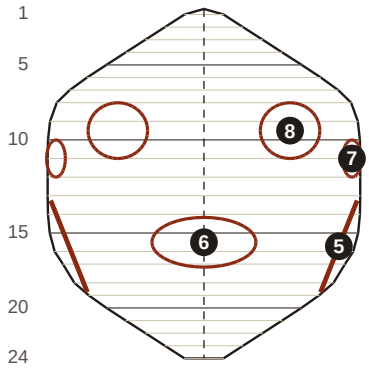
Yarn C, polar cream.

☐ **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)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

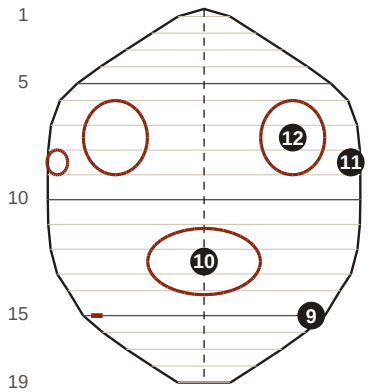
Assembly



Big bear: 1 big ears, 2 big muzzle, 3 big arms, 4 big feet, a eyes



Middle bear: 5 middle ears, 6 middle muzzle, 7 middle arms, 8 middle feet



Little bear: 9 little ears, 10 little muzzle, 11 little arms, 12 little feet

A number is the step below that puts it on; a letter is put on under Finishing. 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. Pin the two big ears to the big bear: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 19, one to each side, 13 stitches from the center line (26 stitches apart). The flat edge runs straight up and down the big bear, half of it above that place and half below. They point out to the side. Sew through both layers of the 5-stitch edge with the tail.

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2. Pin the big muzzle to the big bear: the middle of the open edge lies between rounds 18 and 19, on the center line. The edge (20 sts) covers about rounds 16 to 21 of the big bear. 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.

3. Pin the two big arms to the big bear: the middle of each open edge lies between rounds 13 and 14, one to each side, 12 stitches from the center line (24 stitches apart). The edge (10 sts) covers about rounds 12 to 15 of the big bear. They point out to the side and forward, then curve until the tip of each points straight forward. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a few running stitches along its inner side, drawn up as far as they will go. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

4. Pin the two big feet to the big bear: the middle of each open edge lies between rounds 11 and 12, one to each side, 5½ stitches from the center line (11 stitches apart). The edge (13 sts) covers about rounds 10 to 13 of the big bear. They point forward. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

5. Pin the two middle ears to the middle bear: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 16, one to each side, 10½ stitches from the center line (21 stitches apart). The flat edge runs straight up and down the middle bear, half of it above that place and half below. They point out to the side. Sew through both layers of the 5-stitch edge with the tail.

6. Pin the middle muzzle to the middle bear: the middle of the open edge lies between rounds 15 and 16, on the center line. The edge (16 sts) covers about rounds 14 to 17 of the middle bear. 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.

7. Pin the two middle arms to the middle bear: the middle of each open edge lies on round 11, one to each side, 9½ stitches from the center line (19 stitches apart). The edge (9 sts) covers about rounds 10 to 12 of the middle bear. They point out to the side and forward, then curve until the tip of each points straight forward. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a few running stitches along its inner side, drawn up as far as they will go. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

8. Pin the two middle feet to the middle bear: the middle of each open edge lies between rounds 9 and 10, one to each side, 4½ stitches from the center line (9 stitches apart). The edge (11 sts) covers about rounds 8 to 11 of the middle bear. They point forward. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

9. Pin the two little ears to the little bear: the middle of each flat edge lies on round 15, one to each side, 7 stitches from the center line (14 stitches apart). The flat edge lies with its upper end on about round 17, 4 stitches from the center line, and its lower end on about round 13, 8½ stitches from it. They point out to the side and up. Sew through both layers of the 4½-stitch edge with the tail.

10. Pin the little muzzle to the little bear: the middle of the open edge lies between rounds 12 and 13, on the center line. The edge (13 sts) covers about rounds 11 to 14 of the little bear. 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.

11. Pin the two little arms to the little bear: the middle of each open edge lies between rounds 8 and 9, one to each side, 7 stitches from the center line (14 stitches apart). The edge (7 sts) covers about rounds 8 to 9 of the little bear. They point out to the side and forward, then curve until the tip of each points straight forward. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a few running stitches along its inner side, drawn up as far as they will go. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

12. Pin the two little feet to the little bear: the middle of each open edge lies between rounds 7 and 8, one to each side, 3½ stitches from the center line (7 stitches apart). The edge (9 sts) covers about rounds 6 to 9 of the little bear. They point forward. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

13. Set the middle bear on the head of the big bear, between its ears: the edge of its hollow base lies on about round 22 of the big bear (48 sts), just above the upper ends of the ears. Set the little bear on the head of the middle bear in the same way: the edge of its hollow base lies on about round 19 of the middle bear (36 sts). All three face the same way. They are not sewn together: they stack and come apart.

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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 big bear on round 20, one to each side, 5 stitches from the center line (10 stitches apart).
- Big mouth: with E (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 7/16 in (11 mm) wide and ¼ in (6 mm) tall in all, starting at the bottom of the big nose.
- Big nose: with E (dark brown), in satin stitch, a triangle with its point down about 5/16 in (8 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the big muzzle, centered, 5/16 in (8 mm) above the middle of the big muzzle.
- Big cheeks: with F (rose), in satin stitch, an oval about 5/16 in (8 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the big bear on round 18, one to each side, 8 stitches from the center line (16 stitches apart).
- Middle eyes: with E (dark brown), in backstitch, a happy closed eye on each side, one curve about 3/8 in (10 mm) wide that rises 3/16 in (5 mm) above its ends, like an upside-down U. The place half way between the two ends of each is on the middle bear on round 17, one to each side, 5 stitches from the center line (10 stitches apart).
- Middle mouth: with E (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 middle nose.
- Middle nose: with E (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 middle muzzle, centered, ¼ in (6 mm) above the middle of the middle muzzle.
- Middle cheeks: with F (rose), in satin stitch, an oval about ¼ in (6 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall, its middle on the middle bear on round 15, one to each side, 6½ stitches from the center line (13 stitches apart).
- Little eyes: with E (dark brown), in backstitch, a closed eye on each side, one curve about ¼ in (6 mm) wide that dips 1/8 in (3 mm) below its ends. The place half way between the two ends of each is on the little bear on round 14, one to each side, 4 stitches from the center line (8 stitches apart).
- Little mouth: with E (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 ¼ in (6 mm) wide and 3/16 in (5 mm) tall in all, starting at the bottom of the little nose.
- Little nose: with E (dark brown), in satin stitch, a triangle with its point down about 3/16 in (5 mm) wide and 1/8 in (3 mm) tall, its middle on the little muzzle, centered, 3/16 in (5 mm) above the middle of the little muzzle.
- Little cheeks: with F (rose), in satin stitch, an oval about 3/16 in (5 mm) wide and 1/8 in (3 mm) tall, its middle on the little bear on round 12, one to each side, 5 stitches from the center line (10 stitches apart).
- 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: 24 pieces; 3,436 stitches.

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