Bobble starfish

US terms



Finished size
About 6 in (15 cm) across at the widest, from arm tip to arm tip

Skill
Intermediate
Worked in rounds, with color changes and 2 special stitches.

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: coral, rounds 1 to 5	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: deep coral, round 6	**about 8 yd (7 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: sand, the sewn details	**about 3 yd (3 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8), or the size that gives you the gauge. 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. Buy them from one dye lot. Yarns A and B: the estimate is from the stitches and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added. Yarn C: the estimate is from the stitches 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)
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

Special stitches

bobble: [yarn over, insert the hook in the place named, yarn over and pull up a loop, yarn over and pull through 2 loops] 5 times, all in the same place (6 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 6 loops. It leaves 1 bobble for the next round.

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sc3tog (UK dc3tog): [insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] 3 times (4 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 4 loops. It leaves 1 sc3tog for the next round.

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 4 the piece measures about 4 in (10 cm) across at the widest. If yours is larger, use a smaller hook; if it is smaller, use a larger hook.

Before you start

- Rounds are worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- 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 1 at the start of a round 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.
- 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.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches; slip stitches are not counted.
- A bobble stands out at the back of the work: push each one through to the right side with a finger as you go.
- In Rnds 3 to 5, which begin with slip stitches to a bobble, same st is that bobble. The stitches of the round before that lie ahead of that bobble are worked in their turn at the end of the round.
- A bobble counts as one stitch: the next round works into its top.
- Each sc3tog of Rnds 3 and 6 lies at the bottom of the valley between two arms: its middle stitch is the middle stitch of the valley.
- The distances under FINISHING are for the yarn and gauge above; in another yarn make them larger or smaller in the same proportion as the size.
- French knot (sewn): bring the yarn needle up from the back, wrap the yarn twice round the needle close to the surface, hold the wraps and put the needle down beside the place where it came up. For a large knot use the yarn double and wrap it three times.
- 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 4½ in (11 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 7½ in (19 cm).

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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.

Yarns in order of use: A, coral; B, deep coral.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 10 sc in ring, sl st in first sc to join	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, (sc, bobble, sc) in same st, sc in next st, **[**(sc, bobble, sc) in next st, sc in next st**] 4 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(15 sc, 5 bobbles)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sl st in next bobble, ch 1, (sc, hdc, bobble, hdc, sc) in same st, sc3tog in next 3 sts, **[**(sc, hdc, bobble, hdc, sc) in next bobble, sc3tog in next 3 sts**] 4 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(10 sc, 10 hdc, 5 bobbles, 5 sc3tog)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sl st in next hdc, sl st in next bobble, ch 1, (hdc, dc, bobble, dc, hdc) in same st, sc in next 5 sts, **[**(hdc, dc, bobble, dc, hdc) in next bobble, sc in next 5 sts**] 4 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(10 hdc, 10 dc, 5 bobbles, 25 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sl st in next dc, sl st in next bobble, ch 1, (hdc, dc, bobble, dc, hdc) in same st, sc in next 9 sts, **[**(hdc, dc, bobble, dc, hdc) in next bobble, sc in next 9 sts**] 4 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(10 hdc, 10 dc, 5 bobbles, 45 sc)**
	Fasten off A.	
☐ **Rnd 6**	Join B with sl st in any bobble, ch 1, (sc, 3 hdc, sc) in same st, sc in next 5 sts, sc3tog in next 3 sts, sc in next 5 sts, **[**(sc, 3 hdc, sc) in next bobble, sc in next 5 sts, sc3tog in next 3 sts, sc in next 5 sts**] 4 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(60 sc, 15 hdc, 5 sc3tog)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.	

Finishing

- Block: pin the starfish out on a flat surface, right side up, with its five arms straight and equally far apart, spray it with water and let it dry.
- Lay the starfish right side up with one arm straight up. With C, work 30 French knots, 6 on each arm: one on each side of the bobble of Rnd 3, of the bobble of Rnd 4 and of the bobble of Rnd 5. Each knot is level with the middle of its bobble. Measured across the arm, the middle of a knot is 3/8 in (1 cm) from the middle of the bobble at Rnds 3 and 4 and ¼ in (0.6 cm) from it at Rnd 5. Work the six knots of one arm one after another, then carry the yarn across the back to the next arm.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 6 rounds.

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

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