Strawberry scrubby

US terms



Finished size
About 4¼ in (11 cm) wide and 4½ in (11.5 cm) long, without the cap and the loop

Skill
Easy
Worked in rounds, with the stitches named

Yarn
Bulky (5), 3 colors

Hook
6.5 mm (US K-10½)

Gauge
11 stitches to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: red net and cotton, main color	**about 40 yd (37 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, color B	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: leaf green, color C	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**

Fiber: cotton

Hook: 6.5 mm (US K-10½), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a thread in another color for marking, a 5 mm (US H-8) hook for the loop, pins, 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.

Abbreviations

Written in US terms. Where the UK name differs it is given beside the US one.

ch	chain
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
tr	treble crochet (UK dtr, double treble)
sc2tog	single crochet the next 2 stitches together: work each up to its last pull through, then yo and draw through all loops on hook (UK dc2tog, double crochet 2 stitches together)
st	stitch
rnd	round
yo	yarn over (UK yrh, yarn round hook)

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Special stitches

picot: Ch 3, sl st in the 3rd ch from hook.

Gauge

11 stitches to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

After rnd 7 the berry, 24 sc, measures about 8¾ in (22 cm) round, or 4¼ in (11 cm) wide laid flat. If yours measures more, use a smaller hook; if it measures less, use a larger hook. About 11½ rnds to 4 in (10 cm).

Before you start

- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work the first round into the loop, then pull the tail to close it. Ch 4 joined into a ring with a sl st does as well.
- Every round is worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- A ch 1 at the start of a row or round does not count as a stitch.
- The amounts are for two strawberries.
- Strips: nylon net comes about 72 in (183 cm) wide. Fold it so that its two side edges meet and then once more the same way, so that it lies in four layers about 18 in (46 cm) wide. Cut straight across, from fold to fold, through all four layers, into strips 1 in (2.5 cm) wide. Opened out, each strip is about 72 in (183 cm) long. Stiff tulle of the same width does as well.
- To join strips: when about 4 in (10 cm) of a strip is left, tie the next strip to its end with a square knot (right over left, then left over right). Pull it tight, cut the ends to ½ in (1.5 cm), and leave the knot on the wrong side as you come to it. Gather a strip between the fingers and work it like a thick yarn.
- A is two as one: a strip of net and a strand of cotton are held side by side and worked as one yarn; each time the hook draws up a loop it takes both. Leave the loops easy, so that the net stays springy.
- C is two strands of the green cotton worked as one: use the two ends of a ball, or two balls.
- In the rounds after a decrease an sc2tog is one stitch, worked like any other.
- The berry is not stuffed: it is two layers thick, and the hand flattens it.

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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, dc is treble and tr is double treble.

Berry: make 2

Yarn A, red net and cotton.

Worked round and round from the tip without joining or turning, the right side outside.

Lay a thread of another color between the last stitch of a round and the first stitch of the next as you go, forward and back over the work: it shows where every round begins, and it is pulled out when the seeds are on.

A ch 1 that holds the magic ring before rnd 1 is not counted and is never worked into.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	6 sc in ring	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**2 sc in next sc, sc in next sc**] 3 times**	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 2 sc**] 3 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 3 sc**] 3 times**	**(15 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 4 sc**] 3 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 5 sc**] 3 times**	**(21 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 6 sc**] 3 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 8 to 11**	Sc in each of next 24 sc	**(24 sc)**

A box for each round, 8 to 11: tick them off as you go.

8 9 10 11

☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc in each of next 2 sc, sc2tog over next 2 sc**] 6 times**	**(12 sc, 6 sc2tog)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog over next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(6 sc, 6 sc2tog)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off. Leave a tail of 16 in (40 cm) of the cotton for closing the top; cut the net short.	

Cap: make 2

Yarn C, leaf green.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	With C, ch 1, 10 sc in ring, join with sl st in first sc	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, sc in same st, (dc, tr, picot, tr, dc) in next sc, **[**sc in next sc, (dc, tr, picot, tr, dc) in next sc**] 4 times**, join with sl st in first sc	**(10 dc, 10 tr, 5 sc, 5 picots)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off. Pull the ring closed. Leave a tail of 24 in (60 cm) of one strand for sewing, weave in the other ends, and run the tail down along the stitches on the wrong side of the cap to rnd 1. The cap measures about 3¼ in (8.5 cm) from point to point.	

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Assembly

1. Seeds: for each berry, with a 1½ yd (1.4 m) length of B and the yarn needle work a seed on each of these stitches, counted along each round from its marked beginning: every 4th stitch of rnd 3, beginning with the first (3 seeds); every 3rd stitch of rnd 5, beginning with the 2nd (6 seeds); every 4th stitch of rnd 7, beginning with the 3rd (6 seeds); every 4th stitch of rnd 9, beginning with the first (6 seeds). A seed is one straight stitch: bring the needle up at the foot of the stitch, between it and the next one, and put it down over its top. Pull it just snug and go on to the next inside the berry. Knot both ends inside and pull out the marking thread.

2. Close the top: flatten the opening so that the last stitch of rnd 13 is at one end of the fold, 6 stitches in front and 6 behind. Push all knots and ends inside. With the tail of cotton sew across from that end to the other, 6 stitches: each time pass the needle under both loops of a front stitch and of the back stitch behind it. Fasten off and draw the end inside.

3. Cap: lay the middle of the cap, right side up, on the middle of the closed top. Let one point lie straight down the middle of one side, the front, the next point on each hand over a shoulder, and the last two points down the back. Pin them. With the tail of C, which hangs at rnd 1 under the cap, sew round the ring with six small stitches through the closed top, then run the needle under the cap and catch down each point with two stitches just below its picot. Draw the end inside the berry.

4. Hanging loop: with the 5 mm (US H-8) hook and one strand of C, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm), and with the front toward you, join with a slip stitch round the upright of the first sc of rnd 1 of the cap (the hook goes in on one side of the stitch and comes out on the other), ch 12, and slip stitch in the same place again without twisting the chain. Work 18 single crochet (UK double crochet) into the ring this makes, over the chain, pushing them close together; slip stitch in the same place once more. Fasten off with a tail of 6 in (15 cm). Draw both tails down inside the berry with the yarn needle, bring them out 2 in (5 cm) away, pull lightly and cut them close.

Finishing

- Draw every end that is left inside the berry with the yarn needle. Work the second strawberry in the same way.

In all: 4 pieces.

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