Striped ball

US terms



Finished size
About 3 in (7.6 cm) across

Skill
Easy
Single crochet in a spiral with increases, decreases and changes of color, in one piece

Yarn
Medium (4), 3 colors

Hook
3.5 mm (US E-4)

Gauge
20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet worked in a spiral, the piece stuffed.

You will need

Yarn A: red, the two ends of the ball	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: white, two bands of the ball	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: blue, the middle band of the ball	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**

Hook: 3.5 mm (US E-4). Also: toy stuffing, yarn needle, stitch marker and scissors.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. The estimate is from the stitches of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added. To measure your own: work ten stitches, mark the yarn at both ends, pull them out, measure between the marks and divide by ten; multiply by the number of stitches.

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 (UK dc2tog, double crochet 2 stitches together)
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side
MR	magic ring

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Gauge

20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet worked in a spiral, the piece stuffed.

Work tightly enough that the stuffing does not show. Every size given is about, and moves with your gauge.

The gauge piece. A test piece to measure and pull out. It is not the start of the pattern. A toy's gauge is measured on a small piece worked in the round, not on a flat swatch. Work the gauge piece (20 rounds), stuff it lightly, press its open edge flat and measure: about 3 in (7.5 cm) from fold to fold, which is half of its 30 stitches, and about 1¾ in (4.5 cm) over ten of its even rounds. If it is wider, use a smaller hook; if it is narrower, a larger one. 20 rounds. Stuff it lightly before you measure. It is not part of the toy, and its yarn is not in the amounts.

Gauge piece foundation	Make a magic ring.	
Gauge piece rnd 1 (RS)	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
Gauge piece rnd 2	2 sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**
Gauge piece rnd 3	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
Gauge piece rnd 4	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
Gauge piece rnd 5	Sc in each st around	**(24 sc)**
Gauge piece rnd 6	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
Gauge piece rnds 7 to 20	Sc in each st around	**(30 sc)**
End	When it is measured, fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail, or pull the piece out and use the yarn.	

Before you start

- Worked in a spiral with the right side facing: do not join the rounds and do not turn. Put the stitch marker in the first stitch of every round, move it up as you go, and count the stitches against the number at the end of the line.
- Right side out: the side facing you as you work is the outside of the piece. A small piece often curls so that the wrong side faces out; push it through to the right side after a few rounds.
- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work round 1 into the loop, then pull the tail until the ring is closed. If you prefer, begin with 2 chains and work round 1 into the first of them.
- Sc2tog on a stuffed piece: put the hook under the front loop only of each of the next two stitches, then finish the stitch as one. It closes more neatly than working under both loops.
- Square brackets hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. The number in parentheses at the end of a line is the stitches that round leaves.
- Written for right-handed work. Left-handed makers work round the other way, which mirrors the lean of the stitches; every place in this pattern is given for right-handed work.
- Color changes: where a line says "With B", work the last pull-through of the stitch before it in the new color. Cut the old color leaving 4 in (10 cm), knot the two ends together inside and leave them there. In a spiral the new color starts one round higher than the old one ends, so a change shows as a small step where the round begins.
- Rounds are counted from the start of each piece: round 1 is worked into the ring.

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- Every size here is about, and grows and shrinks with your gauge. For a larger toy use a thicker yarn and a larger hook, keeping the fabric tight enough that the stuffing does not show.
- It rolls: it has no base, and rests on whichever rounds are under it.

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 and sc2tog is double crochet 2 stitches together.

Yarns in order of use: A, red; B, white; C, blue.

Size at 20 stitches and 22 rounds to 4 in (10 cm): about 3 in (7.6 cm) across and 3 in (7.7 cm) tall. 26 rounds, 828 stitches.

Round 1 is one end of the ball; it does not matter which.

Before round 25: Stuff firmly now, and top up just before the last round.

☐ **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**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in each st around	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	With B, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	Sc in each st around	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	With C, **[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 12 to 16**	Sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**

A box for each round, 12 to 16: tick them off as you go.

☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16

☐ **Rnd 17**	With B, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	Sc in each st around	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	**[**Sc in next 5 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 20**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	**[**Sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 22**	With A, **[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	Sc in each st around	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	**[**Sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 25**	**[**Sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 26**	**[**Sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(6 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 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.	

Finishing

- Weave every tail inside the toy.

In all: 1 piece; 26 rounds; 828 stitches; 4 color changes; 10 ends to weave in.

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

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