Striped Easter egg

US terms



Finished size
About 4¼ in (11 cm) tall

Skill
Beginner
One piece, worked in rounds.

Yarn
Medium (4), 5 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: buttercream, stripes	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: mint, a stripe	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: lilac, stripes and the upper zigzag	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: peach, stripes and the lower zigzag	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: white, stripes and the dots	**about 25 yd (23 m), an estimate**

Hook: 3.5 mm (US E-4). 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. 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.

sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
sc2tog	single crochet 2 stitches together (UK dc2tog, double crochet 2 stitches together)
MR	magic ring
RS	right side

Gauge

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

20 sc and 22 rounds = 4 in (10 cm), worked 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.

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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.
- Color change: where a line begins "With E," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in E. Cut the old yarn and knot the ends on the wrong side.
- 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.
- Egg: the center line runs between stitches 24 and 25 of round 9 (48 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the bottom.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the toy. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- 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: 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 3 1/8 in (7.9 cm) tall; 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 6 in (15 cm) tall; 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 7¾ in (19.5 cm) tall; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.
- Every size is approximate and follows from your gauge and how firmly you stuff.

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: C, lilac; E, white; D, peach; A, buttercream; B, mint.

☐ **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**	With E, sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	With D, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	Sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 11**	With E, sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 12 to 14**	With A, sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**

A box for each round, 12 to 14: tick them off as you go.

☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14

☐ **Rnd 15**	With E, sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 16 to 18**	With B, sc in each st around	**(48 sc)**

A box for each round, 16 to 18: tick them off as you go.

☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18

☐ **Rnd 19**	With E, **[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 6 times**	**(42 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 20 to 21**	With C, sc in each st around	**(42 sc)**

A box for each round, 20 to 21: tick them off as you go.

☐ 20 ☐ 21

☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	With E, sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	With D, sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 26**	Sc in each st around	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 27**	With A, **[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 28**	Sc in each st around	**(24 sc)**

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

☐ **Rnd 29**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 30**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 31**	**[**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.	

Finishing

- Embroider with one strand of yarn and the yarn needle; begin and end each strand inside the toy. Satin stitch is straight stitches side by side until the shape is filled.
- Zigzag: with D (peach), 32 straight stitches in a zigzag all the way round the egg, up and down by turns between round 12 and round 14, each reaching 1½ stitches farther along the round.
- Zigzag, upper: with C (lilac), 32 straight stitches in a zigzag all the way round the egg, up and down by turns between round 16 and round 18, each reaching 1½ stitches farther along the round.
- Dots: with E (white), 7 satin stitch dots about 3/16 in (5 mm) across, on the front of the egg, on round 9: one on the center line and three to each side, 4 stitches apart.
- Dots, upper: with E (white), 6 satin stitch dots about 3/16 in (5 mm) across, on the front of the egg, between rounds 20 and 21: three to each side of the center line, the first 2 stitches from it and the others 3½ stitches apart.
- Weave every tail through the toy and trim it. Check the toy from time to time.

In all: 31 rounds; 1,062 stitches; 2 ends to weave in.

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