Sunflower spare tire cover

Medium · US terms



Finished size
About 28 × 28 in (71 × 71 cm)
About 28 in (71 cm) across the front and 8½ in (21.5 cm) deep over the tread. To fit a tire about 28 in (71 cm) across and 8 in (20.5 cm) to 9 in (23 cm) wide

Skill
Intermediate
The cover is one large piece in joined rounds; thirty-six petals are worked one by one and sewn on.

Yarn
Bulky (5), 4 colors

Hook
6.5 mm (US K-10½)

Gauge
10 stitches and 8 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In half double crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: leaf green, the cover and the cord	**about 1,350 yd (1,234 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: golden yellow, the upper row of petals	**about 140 yd (128 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: dark brown, the middle of the flower	**about 145 yd (133 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: amber, the lower row of petals	**about 140 yd (128 m), an estimate**

Fiber: acrylic

Hook: 6.5 mm (US K-10½), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a stitch marker, pins, a safety pin, to thread the cord, a large 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, with 30 percent added.

Sizes

Size	Fits	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Small	a tire about 26 in (66 cm) across and 7½ in (19 cm) to 8½ in (21.5 cm) wide	26 × 26 in (66 × 66 cm)	about 1,600 yd (1,463 m)
Medium (this file)	**a tire about 28 in (71 cm) across and 8 in (20.5 cm) to 9 in (23 cm) wide**	**28 × 28 in (71 × 71 cm)**	**about 1,775 yd (1,623 m)**
Large	a tire about 30 in (76 cm) across and 9 in (23 cm) to 10 in (25.5 cm) wide	30 × 30 in (76 × 76 cm)	about 2,000 yd (1,829 m)

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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)
tr	treble crochet (UK dtr, double treble)
hdc2tog	half double crochet 2 stitches together: [yo, insert hook in next st, yo, pull up a loop] 2 times, yo, pull through all 5 loops (UK htr2tog)
BLO	back loop only
MR	magic ring
st	stitch
sp	space
sk	skip (UK miss)
rnd	round
RS	right side
yo	yarn over (UK yrh, yarn round hook)

Special stitches

pc (Popcorn): 5 double crochet (UK treble) in the stitch named, take the hook out of the loop, put it in from front to back through the top of the first of the five and then into the loop, draw the loop through, and chain 1 to close. That chain does not count as a stitch; the next round goes into the stitch the loop was drawn through. It leaves 1 pc for the next round.

Gauge

10 stitches and 8 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in half double crochet.

10 stitches and 11 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet, worked in the round.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. The gauge is checked on the piece itself: after round 9 the brown middle should measure about 9¼ in (23.5 cm) across, laid flat and not stretched. A range that is near enough is printed after that round. If the piece measures more than that, begin again with a smaller hook; if it measures less, with a larger hook.

Before you start

- Begin with a magic ring: wind the yarn once round two fingers, put the hook through the ring and draw up a loop. Work round 1 into the ring, then pull the tail to draw the ring closed.
- Each round is joined with a slip stitch in its first stitch. The chain at the start of a round does not count as a stitch; work the first stitch of the round into the stitch the round before was joined in. This is so in the cover; its right side faces you in every round. Put the marker in the first stitch of each round and move it up round by round. In a round that begins with a popcorn the slip stitch goes into the top of the first popcorn.
- In the rounds with popcorns the popcorns stand between half double crochet; push each out to the right side. The round after them goes into every popcorn and every half double crochet.
- To change color where a joined round begins, draw the new yarn through as the last yarn over of the slip stitch that ends the round before. Cut the brown yarn after round 10, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).
- Where the pattern says BLO, put the hook under the back loop only; the front loop stays on the outside as a ridge.

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- Each petal is worked along both sides of its foundation chain, in one round that is not joined. The side that faces you is its right side.
- Whip stitch: put the needle through both edges from back to front, one stitch for each stitch or row, and draw the yarn snug.
- Measure the tire itself in two ways: straight across its round face, through the middle of the wheel, from the outside of the tread to the outside of the tread opposite; and then across the tread, from the front edge of the tire to its back edge. The cover is as wide as the tire and stretches a little, so choose the nearest size that is not larger than the tire.
- Do not cover a license plate, a lamp, a camera or a sensor: where one sits in or over the spare wheel, this cover is not for that car. Look at the bow now and then, and take the cover off before a car wash.
- Colors of the cover, round by round. Rounds 1 to 10: C. Rounds 11 to 51: A. The golden petals are in B and the amber petals in D.

Instructions

Chosen: Medium. 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 sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet, hdc is half treble, dc is treble, tr is double treble, hdc2tog is htr2tog and sk is miss.

Cover

Yarns in order of use: C, dark brown; A, leaf green.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 2, 8 hdc in MR, sl st in first hdc to join	**(8 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 2, 2 hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	**(16 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(24 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 2, **[**pc in next st, hdc in next st**] 12 times**, sl st in first pc to join	**(12 pc, 12 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 2, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(40 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Ch 2, **[**pc in next st, hdc in next st**] 20 times**, sl st in first pc to join	**(20 pc, 20 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 2, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(56 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	Ch 2, **[**pc in next st, hdc in next st**] 28 times**, sl st in first pc to join	**(28 pc, 28 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	Ch 2, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 5 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(72 hdc)**

> **Stop and measure now, after round 9.** The brown middle should measure about 9¼ in (23.5 cm) across. Anything up to ½ in (1.5 cm) less is near enough.

☐ **Rnd 10**	Ch 2, **[**pc in next st, hdc in next st**] 36 times**, sl st in first pc to join	**(36 pc, 36 hdc)**

Field

☐ **Rnd 11**	With A, ch 2, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 7 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(88 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 10 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(96 hdc)**

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☐ **Rnd 13**	Ch 2, hdc in next 5 sts, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 11 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, hdc in next 6 sts, sl st in first hdc to join	**(104 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 12 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(112 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	Ch 2, hdc in next 6 sts, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 13 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, hdc in next 7 sts, sl st in first hdc to join	**(120 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 16**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 14 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(128 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 17**	Ch 2, hdc in next 7 sts, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 15 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, hdc in next 8 sts, sl st in first hdc to join	**(136 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 16 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(144 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 19**	Ch 2, hdc in next 8 sts, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 17 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, hdc in next 9 sts, sl st in first hdc to join	**(152 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 20**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 18 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(160 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 21**	Ch 2, hdc in next 9 sts, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 19 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, hdc in next 10 sts, sl st in first hdc to join	**(168 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 22**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 20 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(176 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 23**	Ch 2, hdc in next 10 sts, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 21 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, hdc in next 11 sts, sl st in first hdc to join	**(184 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 22 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(192 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	Ch 2, hdc in next 11 sts, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 23 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, hdc in next 12 sts, sl st in first hdc to join	**(200 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 26**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 24 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(208 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 27**	Ch 2, hdc in next 12 sts, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 25 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, hdc in next 13 sts, sl st in first hdc to join	**(216 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 28**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 26 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(224 hdc)**

Over the tread

☐ **Rnd 29**	Ch 2, hdc in BLO of each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	**(224 hdc)**
☐ **Rnds 30 to 45**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	**(224 hdc)**

A box for each round, 30 to 45: tick them off as you go.

☐ 30 ☐ 31 ☐ 32 ☐ 33 ☐ 34 ☐ 35 ☐ 36 ☐ 37 ☐ 38 ☐ 39 ☐ 40 ☐ 41 ☐ 42 ☐ 43 ☐ 44 ☐ 45

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Behind

☐ **Rnd 46**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 26 sts, hdc2tog**] 8 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(216 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 47**	Ch 2, hdc in next 12 sts, hdc2tog, **[**hdc in next 25 sts, hdc2tog**] 7 times**, hdc in next 13 sts, sl st in first hdc to join	**(208 hdc)**
☐ **Rnds 48 to 49**	Ch 2, hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	**(208 hdc)**

A box for each round, 48 to 49: tick them off as you go.

48 49

☐ **Rnd 50**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 2 sts, ch 1, sk next st, hdc in next st**] 52 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(156 hdc, 52 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 51**	Ch 2, **[**hdc in next 2 sts, hdc in next ch-1 sp, hdc in next st**] 52 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(208 hdc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).	

Golden petal: make 18

Yarn B, golden yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 16.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, hdc in next ch, dc in next 2 chs, tr in next 5 chs, dc in next 3 chs, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch, 3 sc in last ch, working along the other side of the foundation ch, sc in next ch, hdc in next ch, dc in next 3 chs, tr in next 5 chs, dc in next 2 chs, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch	**(7 sc, 4 hdc, 10 dc, 10 tr)**
☐ **End**	Do not join the two ends of the round: the first and the last single crochet are the foot of the petal, the three single crochet in one chain its tip. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 40 in (101.5 cm).	

Amber petal: make 18

Yarn D, amber.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 16.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, hdc in next ch, dc in next 2 chs, tr in next 5 chs, dc in next 3 chs, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch, 3 sc in last ch, working along the other side of the foundation ch, sc in next ch, hdc in next ch, dc in next 3 chs, tr in next 5 chs, dc in next 2 chs, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch	**(7 sc, 4 hdc, 10 dc, 10 tr)**
☐ **End**	Do not join the two ends of the round: the first and the last single crochet are the foot of the petal, the three single crochet in one chain its tip. Fasten off, leaving a tail of 40 in (101.5 cm).	

Assembly

1. Weave in the tails of the cover on the wrong side, and the short tail at the foundation chain of each petal on its wrong side. Keep the long tail of each petal: it is sewn on with that tail in steps 3 and 4.

2. Mark the places of the petals. Round 10, the last brown round, has 72 stitches. Put a pin in the first stitch of round 10, which is at the join of the rounds, and in every fourth stitch after it, 18 pins in all.

3. Amber petals, the lower row: lay the cover flat with its right side up. Lay a petal with its right side up, its foot on round

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10 so that the two ends of the foot lie on the two stitches beside the pin, one to each side, and its tip straight out from the middle of the flower. With the long tail whip stitch the foot to the cover: 4 stitches through the foot and the stitches of round 10. Then run the needle on beneath the petal and take a stitch every 2 in (5 cm) up one side, one at the tip and one every 2 in (5 cm) down the other side, each one up through the edge of the petal and down through the cover beside it, so small that it does not show, so that the wind cannot lift the petal. Fasten off on the wrong side and weave in the tail there. Sew on all 18 amber petals in this way; they stand side by side and need not touch, for the golden petals cover the gaps between them.

4. Golden petals, the upper row: these lie on top, between the amber ones. Move the pins to the stitches half way between, that is, to the third stitch of round 10 and every fourth stitch after it. Sew a golden petal at each pin in the same way, its foot on round 10 too and its sides and its tip to what lies beneath, the amber petals and the cover. Take the pins out.

5. Cord: with two strands of A held together make a chain about 112 in (284.5 cm) long and fasten off. Knot both ends. With the safety pin thread it in and out through the 52 holes of round 50, beginning and ending at two holes side by side, with both ends on the outside.

6. Draw the cover over the tire with the cord loose, first over the top and then down over both sides and the bottom; the edge is a little smaller than the tire and stretches over it. Turn the flower until it stands as you want it, draw the cord close behind the tire, tie it in a firm bow and tuck the ends in behind.

Finishing

- Wash it as the yarn band says and dry it flat, right side up, with the petals straightened.

In all: 37 pieces.

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

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