Tiny thread owl

US terms



Finished size
About 2½ in (6.5 cm) tall with the ear tufts

Skill
Intermediate
Worked in rounds, with the stitches named

Yarn
Super fine (1), 5 colors

Hook
1.8 mm (US steel 6)

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

You will need

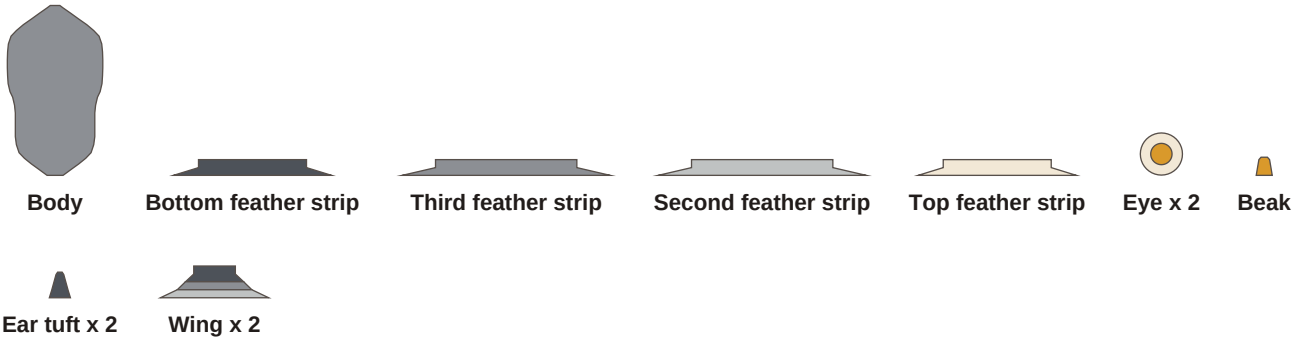
Yarn A: gray, main color	**about 25 yd (23 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: light gray, color B	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: charcoal, color C	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: cream, color D and the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: ochre, color E and the details	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**

Fiber: cotton

Hook: 1.8 mm (US steel 6), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a sewing needle that goes through the beads, black sewing thread, 2 round black beads, 5 mm (3/16 in (40.5 cm)) wide, a small handful of polyester filling, about ¼ oz (7 g), 2 stitch markers (one for the first stitch of the round, one for the center back), pins, a twig about 3/8 in (1 cm) thick and 2¼ in (5.5 cm) long, clean and dry, 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.

The pieces



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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)
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
sk	skip (UK miss)
rnd	round
yo	yarn over (UK yrh, yarn round hook)

Gauge

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

About 35 rounds of single crochet to 4 in (10 cm).

Use any hook that gives you this. If you count more stitches than this in 4 in (10 cm), change to a larger hook; if you count fewer, to a smaller one.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After rnd 4 the body measures about 1 in (2.5 cm) across.

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. Pull it until no hole is left.
- Every round is worked with the right side facing; do not turn. The right side is the outside.
- A beginning chain counts as the stitch in brackets after it. A ch 1 at the start of a round does not count as a stitch.
- Join a new color with a sl st in the place named. Fasten off a color only where the round says so; where it does not, the same color goes on into the next round.
- The body, beak and ear tufts are worked in a spiral: do not join the rounds. Put a marker in the first stitch of each round and move it up as you go. The eyes are worked in joined rounds, the wings and feather strips in rows.
- Work tightly, so that no filling shows. The owl is a keepsake for a shelf. It has beads on it, so it is not for a child under three.
- After a turn, a ch 3 stands on the last stitch of the row below and counts as the first dc; after a ch 1 the first sc goes in that last stitch. Where a new color is joined after a turn, it is joined in that last stitch, named the first dc of the row; same st is that stitch too. The last dc of row 2 of a wing goes in the top of the ch 3 of row 1; the last stitch of rows 3 and 4 goes in the top of the first ch 3 of the row below.
- Sewing: bring the needle up through the edge of the part and down through the body beneath it, one stitch for each stitch of the edge. End with two small stitches in one place and draw the end inside.

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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 sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet and dc is treble.

Body

Yarn A, gray.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	6 sc in ring	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**2 sc in next sc**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next sc, 2 sc in next sc**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**sc in each of next 2 sc, 2 sc in next sc**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	**[**sc in each of next 3 sc, 2 sc in next sc**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in each of next 4 sc, 2 sc in next sc**] 6 times**	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 7 to 13**	Sc in each of next 36 sc	**(36 sc)**

A box for each round, 7 to 13: tick them off as you go.

☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13

☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc in each of next 4 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc, 6 sc2tog)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	Sc in each of next 30 sts	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 16 to 17**	Sc in each of next 30 sc	**(30 sc)**

A box for each round, 16 to 17: tick them off as you go.

☐ 16 ☐ 17

Put a second marker in the first st of rnd 18 and leave it there: it is the center back.

☐ **Rnds 18 to 21**	Sc in each of next 30 sc	**(30 sc)**

A box for each round, 18 to 21: tick them off as you go.

☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20 ☐ 21

☐ **Rnd 22**	**[**sc in each of next 3 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(18 sc, 6 sc2tog)**

Fill the body firmly now, and go on adding filling after each round to the end.

☐ **Rnd 23**	**[**sc in each of next 2 sts, sc2tog over next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(12 sc, 6 sc2tog)**
☐ **Rnd 24**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog over next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(6 sc, 6 sc2tog)**
☐ **Rnd 25**	**[**sc2tog over next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(6 sc2tog)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off. Leave a 6 in (15 cm) tail, draw it through the 6 sts that are left, pull them closed and draw the end inside.	

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Bottom feather strip

Yarn C, charcoal.

Leave the first end 10 in (25 cm) long; it sews the strip down.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 14.	
☐ **Row 1**	With C, sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each of next 12 chs	**(13 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, sc in same st, **[**sk next sc, 5 dc in next sc, sk next sc, sc in next sc**] 3 times**	**(15 dc, 4 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Third feather strip

Yarn A, gray.

Leave the first end 10 in (25 cm) long; it sews the strip down.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 18.	
☐ **Row 1**	With A, sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each of next 16 chs	**(17 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, sc in same st, **[**sk next sc, 5 dc in next sc, sk next sc, sc in next sc**] 4 times**	**(20 dc, 5 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Second feather strip

Yarn B, light gray.

Leave the first end 10 in (25 cm) long; it sews the strip down.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 18.	
☐ **Row 1**	With B, sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each of next 16 chs	**(17 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, sc in same st, **[**sk next sc, 5 dc in next sc, sk next sc, sc in next sc**] 4 times**	**(20 dc, 5 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Top feather strip

Yarn D, cream.

Leave the first end 10 in (25 cm) long; it sews the strip down.

☐ **Foundation**	With D, ch 14.	
☐ **Row 1**	With D, sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each of next 12 chs	**(13 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, sc in same st, **[**sk next sc, 5 dc in next sc, sk next sc, sc in next sc**] 3 times**	**(15 dc, 4 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

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Eye: make 2

Yarns in order of use: E, ochre; D, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	With E, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	With E, ch 1, 8 sc in ring, join with sl st in first sc. Fasten off E	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join D with sl st in first sc, ch 1, 2 sc in same st, 2 sc in each of next 7 sc, join with sl st in first sc	**(16 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off. Leave a 10 in (25 cm) tail of D.	

Beak

Yarn E, ochre.

☐ **Foundation**	With E, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	With E, 4 sc in ring	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	[sc in next sc, 2 sc in next sc] twice	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in each of next 6 sc	**(6 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off. Leave a 6 in (15 cm) tail.	

Ear tuft: make 2

Yarn C, charcoal.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	With C, 3 sc in ring	**(3 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in next sc, sc in each of next 2 sc	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	[sc in next sc, 2 sc in next sc] twice	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	[sc in each of next 2 sc, 2 sc in next sc] twice	**(8 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off. Leave an 8 in (20 cm) tail.	

Wing: make 2

Yarns in order of use: C, charcoal; A, gray; B, light gray.

Leave the first end 12 in (30 cm) long; it closes the ring and later sews the wing down.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Row 1**	With C, ch 3 (counts as dc), 4 dc in ring	**(5 dc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), turn, [2 dc in next dc, dc in next dc] twice. Fasten off C	**(7 dc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Turn, join A with sl st in first dc, ch 3 (counts as dc), dc in next dc, 2 dc in next dc, dc in next dc, 2 dc in next dc, dc in each of next 2 dc. Fasten off A	**(9 dc)**
☐ **Row 4**	Turn, join B with sl st in first dc, ch 1, sc in same st, [sk next dc, 5 dc in next dc, sk next dc, sc in next dc] twice	**(10 dc, 3 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off. Weave in all the other ends at the back.	

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Assembly

1. The front line. The stitches of a spiral lean to one side, so do not follow them. Count 15 sts of rnd 18 from the marked st and put a pin there: it is the center front. From the pin go straight up to the closed top and straight down to the magic ring at the bottom: that is the front line. Stitches below are counted from it, to both sides.

2. Feather strips. Each is sewn along its foundation chain, row 1 side out, its scallops hanging down, its middle on the front line, one stitch for each of the 13 or 17 chs that have an sc of row 1. Sew with its first end, from one end of the chain to the other, and hide the last end behind it; leave the scallops free. Begin below: the bottom strip (charcoal, 13 sts) on rnd 9, the third strip (gray, 17 sts) on rnd 11, the second strip (light gray, 17 sts) on rnd 13, the top strip (cream, 13 sts) on rnd 15. Each lies over the top of the one below; the cream strip is narrower, so a little of the light gray strip shows past each end of it.

3. Eyes. Lay the two eyes side by side on the front, right side out, their edges touching on the front line, their middles between rnd 17 and rnd 18. Sew each down round its 16 sts with its tail of D. With black thread sew a bead to the middle of each, 3 times through each bead.

4. Beak. Push its beginning end inside as the filling. Thread its 6 in (15 cm) tail in the needle for the sewing. Set its open edge on the front line at rnd 16, between the lower halves of the eyes, its point forward and down; its edge lies a little over the edges of both eyes, so sew through them there. Sew the 6 sts down with that tail.

5. Ear tufts. Pinch each flat so that its open edge is a line of two layers, 4 sts wide. Sew it through both layers on rnd 22, its middle 5 sts from the front line, its point up and outward.

6. Wings. Each wing is a narrow fan. Lay one on each side of the body, right side of row 3 out, its ring on rnd 15, 9 sts from the front line (30 sts go round the body there, so 6 sts are left to the line of the center back). Let the middle of the wing hang straight down from the ring, its two straight edges slanting away from that line by the same amount to both sides, the two scallops at the bottom. The upper part of the wing stays clear of the cream strip and, lower down, its front edge crosses the end of the gray strip on rnd 11; its back edge stops short of the center back. Sew with the first end: 2 stitches through the ring, then down one straight edge, 2 stitches to the end of row 1 and 2 to the end of row 2; take the needle through the inside of the body back to the ring and sew the other straight edge the same way. Leave rows 3 and 4 free.

7. Feet. For each foot cut 60 in (150 cm) of E, fold it in half and thread the two cut ends together in the needle, so that the doubled thread is 30 in (75 cm) long with the fold at its far end. A toe is wound between rnd 4 of the body and rnd 3 straight behind it, toward the magic ring; the 3 toes of a foot stand at the 2nd, the 3rd and the 4th st of rnd 4 from the front line. Begin with the toe nearest the line. Take the needle under one st of rnd 3 there and draw the thread through until only a small loop of the fold is left; pass the needle through that loop and pull it tight: the thread is fastened. Put the needle in beside this place and bring it out at rnd 4. Hold the twig level across under the front of the body. Take the thread down over the front of the twig, under it and up behind it, put the needle in at rnd 3 and pull until the twig lies against the body. Bring the needle out at the same place in rnd 4 and go round the twig once more in the same way, so that the toe is two windings thick. Then bring the needle out at rnd 4 for the next toe and make it in the same way, and so the third. After the third toe make two small stitches in one place in rnd 3 and draw the end inside. Make the other foot in the same way on the other side of the front line.

Finishing

- Take out the markers. Draw every end that is left inside the owl.

In all: 8 pieces; 1,000 stitches.

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

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