Tide pool play set

US terms



Finished size

The starfish 6¼ in (16 cm) across, the sea urchin 2½ in (6.3 cm) across and 2 in (5.1 cm) tall, the crab 5½ in (14 cm) across the legs, the snail 3¾ in (9.5 cm) long and 3¾ in (9.5 cm) tall

Skill

Intermediate

24 pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn

Medium (4), 8 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: apricot, starfish center and starfish arm	**about 75 yd (69 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: plum violet, sea urchin	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: tomato red, several of the pieces	**about 80 yd (73 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: sunny yellow, snail body, snail eyestalk and the details	**about 35 yd (32 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: teal, snail shell and the details	**about 25 yd (23 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: cream, snail shell	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn G: dark brown, the details	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn H: lilac, sea urchin	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**

Hook: 3.5 mm (US E-4), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: toy stuffing, a yarn needle, a stitch marker, pins, scissors and two black plastic eyes with washers, 6 mm.

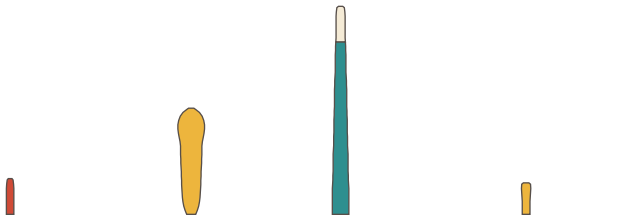
To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. Buy them from one dye lot. The estimate is from the stitches of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

The pieces



Starfish center · **Starfish arm x 5** · **Sea urchin** · **Crab body** · **Crab eyestalk x 2** to the crab body · **Crab claw x 2** to the crab body · **Crab thumb x 2**

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Crab leg x 6
to the crab body

Snail body

Snail shell

Snail eyestalk x 2
to the snail body

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, through the front loops only: how is under “Before you start” (UK dc2tog, double crochet 2 stitches together)
MR	magic ring
RS	right side
Rnd	round
st	stitch
yo	yarn over (UK yrh, yarn round hook)

Special stitches

bobble: [yarn over, insert hook in the stitch, pull up a loop, yarn over, pull through 2 loops] 4 times in the same stitch, yarn over, pull through all 5 loops (United Kingdom: a bobble of 4 trebles). Push it out to the right side. It leaves 1 st for the next round.

Gauge

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

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.

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.
- Four toys: the starfish is the starfish center and the starfish arms; the crab is the pieces named Crab; the snail is the pieces named Snail; the sea urchin is one piece with no others sewn to it.
- 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 H," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in H. Cut the old yarn and knot the ends on the wrong side.

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- 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.
- Starfish center: the center line runs between stitches 15 and 16 of round 5 (30 sts). It faces down.
- Sea urchin: the center line runs between stitches 18 and 19 of round 6 (36 sts). It faces the front.
- Crab body: the center line runs between stitches 18 and 19 of round 6 (36 sts). It faces the front.
- Snail body: the center line runs between stitches 9 and 10 of round 4 (18 sts). This piece lies with its center line along the top.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the set. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- Running stitches go in and out along a line.
- In every step of putting it together: where a piece meets or overlaps another, sew through both. Where no tail is left or a tail is too short, sew with a new length of the yarn of the piece you are putting on.
- 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.
- For a child under three, or a pet, embroider the eyes instead: satin stitch dots of the same size in G (dark brown).
- 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, the size written here: 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): the starfish 4¾ in (12 cm) across, the sea urchin 1 7/8 in (4.8 cm) across and 1½ in (3.8 cm) tall, the crab 4 in (10 cm) across the legs, the snail 2¾ in (7 cm) long and 2¾ in (7 cm) tall; eyes 4 mm; 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): the starfish 9 in (23 cm) across, the sea urchin 3½ in (8.9 cm) across and 2 7/8 in (7.3 cm) tall, the crab 7¾ in (19.5 cm) across the legs, the snail 5¼ in (13.5 cm) long and 5¼ in (13.5 cm) tall; eyes 9 mm; 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): the starfish 11¼ in (28.5 cm) across, the sea urchin 4½ in (11.5 cm) across and 3¾ in (9.5 cm) tall, the crab 10 in (25.5 cm) across the legs, the snail 6¾ in (17 cm) long and 6¾ in (17 cm) tall; eyes 11 mm; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.

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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 sc is double crochet.

Starfish center

Yarn A, apricot.

☐ **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)**

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 15 and 16 of round 5. It faces down.

☐ **Rnds 6 to 7**	Sc in each st around	**(30 sc)**

A box for each round, 6 to 7: tick them off as you go.

6 7

☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**

Fix the eyes now: four 6 mm black plastic eyes, two each for the starfish and the sea urchin. On the starfish center on round 3, one to each side, 7 stitches from the center line (4 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). On the sea urchin on round 9, one to each side, 3½ stitches from the center line (7 stitches apart). . Then stuff lightly, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**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.	

Starfish arm: make 5

Yarn A, apricot.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	5 sc in MR	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	Sc in next 3 sts, bobble in next st, sc in next 6 sts	**(10 sts)**

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☐ **Rnd 7**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts	**(11 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 10 sts	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in next 4 sts, bobble in next st, sc in next 7 sts	**(12 sts)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	Sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(13 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	Sc in next 6 sts, bobble in next st, sc in next 7 sts	**(14 sts)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 13 sts	**(15 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	Sc in next 14 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(16 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge. The bobbles lie along the center of its upper side; press the arm a little flatter from top to underside.	

Sea urchin

Yarns in order of use: B, plum violet; H, lilac.

Round 1 is the middle of the base.

☐ **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)**

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 18 and 19 of round 6. It faces the front.

☐ **Rnds 7 to 8**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**

A box for each round, 7 to 8: tick them off as you go.

7 8

☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next st, bobble in next st**] 6 times**, sc in next 12 sts, **[**bobble in next st, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(36 sts)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	With H, **[**sc in next st, bobble in next st**] 18 times**	**(36 sts)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	With B, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	With H, **[**sc in next st, bobble in next st**] 15 times**	**(30 sts)**
☐ **Rnd 14**	With B, **[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(24 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	With H, **[**sc in next st, bobble in next st**] 12 times**	**(24 sts)**

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Fix the eyes now: four 6 mm black plastic eyes, two each for the starfish and the sea urchin. On the starfish center on round 3, one to each side, 7 stitches from the center line (4 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). On the sea urchin on round 9, one to each side, 3½ stitches from the center line (7 stitches apart). . Then stuff firmly, and keep adding stuffing until the last round.

☐ **Rnd 16**	With B, **[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 17**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 18**	**[**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.	

Crab body

Yarn C, tomato red.

Round 1 is the middle of the base.

☐ **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)**

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 18 and 19 of round 6. It faces the front.

☐ **Rnds 7 to 9**	Sc in each st around	**(36 sc)**

A box for each round, 7 to 9: tick them off as you go.

☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9

☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts**] 3 times**	**(33 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**sc in next 9 sts, sc2tog**] 3 times**	**(30 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 3 times**	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 13**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts**] 3 times**	**(24 sc)**

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

☐ **Rnd 14**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(18 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 15**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 6 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 16**	**[**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. Press the stuffed body into an oval, about 2¾ in (7 cm) from side to side and 2 in (5.1 cm) from front to back.	

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Crab eyestalk: make 2

Yarn C, tomato red.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 3 to 4**	Sc in each st around	**(8 sc)**

A box for each round, 3 to 4: tick them off as you go.

3 4

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Fix the eye now, before you stuff the piece (see Finishing). Stuff firmly up to the open edge.	

Crab claw: make 2

Yarn C, tomato red.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts	**(7 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in each st around	**(7 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(10 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts**] 2 times**	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	Sc in each st around	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 10**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog**] 4 times**	**(12 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 11**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 4 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 12 to 15**	Sc in each st around	**(8 sc)**

A box for each round, 12 to 15: tick them off as you go.

12 13 14 15

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff firmly up to the open edge.	

Crab thumb: make 2

Yarn C, tomato red.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(5 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 3**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st	**(7 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts	**(8 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 5**	Sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(9 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Crab leg: make 6

Yarn C, tomato red.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	4 sc in MR	**(4 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 3 to 9**	Sc in each st around	**(5 sc)**

A box for each round, 3 to 9: tick them off as you go.

☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff.	

Snail body

Yarn D, sunny yellow.

Round 1 is the face.

☐ **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, sc in next st**] 4 times**	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts**] 2 times**	**(18 sc)**

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 9 and 10 of round 4. This piece lies with its center line along the top.

☐ **Rnds 5 to 7**	Sc in each st around	**(18 sc)**

A box for each round, 5 to 7: tick them off as you go.

☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7

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

☐ **Rnd 8**	**[**sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	**(16 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 9**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(14 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 10 to 14**	Sc in each st around	**(14 sc)**

A box for each round, 10 to 14: tick them off as you go.

☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14

☐ **Rnd 15**	Sc2tog, sc in next 12 sts	**(13 sc)**

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☐	**Rnds 16 to 19**	Sc in each st around	**(13 sc)**

A box for each round, 16 to 19: tick them off as you go.

16 17 18 19

☐	**Rnd 20**	Sc in next 11 sts, sc2tog	**(12 sc)**
☐	**Rnds 21 to 23**	Sc in each st around	**(12 sc)**

A box for each round, 21 to 23: tick them off as you go.

21 22 23

☐	**Rnd 24**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts**] 2 times**	**(10 sc)**
☐	**Rnd 25**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 2 times**	**(8 sc)**
☐	**Rnd 26**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog**] 2 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.	

Snail shell

Yarns in order of use: F, cream; E, teal.

Stuff lightly every few rounds as you go, so that the tube still bends.

Round 1 is the middle of the coil. The first 8 rounds are too narrow to stuff: begin after them.

☐	**Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐	**Rnd 1 (RS)**	5 sc in MR	**(5 sc)**
☐	**Rnd 2**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(6 sc)**
☐	**Rnds 3 to 9**	Sc in each st around	**(6 sc)**

A box for each round, 3 to 9: tick them off as you go.

3 4 5 6 7 8 9

☐	**Rnd 10**	With E, sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts	**(7 sc)**
☐	**Rnds 11 to 17**	Sc in each st around	**(7 sc)**

A box for each round, 11 to 17: tick them off as you go.

11 12 13 14 15 16 17

☐	**Rnd 18**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 6 sts	**(8 sc)**
☐	**Rnds 19 to 25**	Sc in each st around	**(8 sc)**

A box for each round, 19 to 25: tick them off as you go.

19 20 21 22 23 24 25

☐	**Rnd 26**	Sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(9 sc)**
☐	**Rnds 27 to 33**	Sc in each st around	**(9 sc)**

A box for each round, 27 to 33: tick them off as you go.

27 28 29 30 31 32 33

☐	**Rnd 34**	Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts	**(10 sc)**

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☐ **Rnds 35 to 41**	Sc in each st around	**(10 sc)**

A box for each round, 35 to 41: tick them off as you go.

35 36 37 38 39 40 41

☐ **Rnd 42**	2 sc in next st, sc in next 9 sts	**(11 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 43 to 49**	Sc in each st around	**(11 sc)**

A box for each round, 43 to 49: tick them off as you go.

43 44 45 46 47 48 49

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing. Add a little stuffing up to the open edge.	

Snail eyestalk: make 2

Yarn D, sunny yellow.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st	**(7 sc)**

Fix the eye now: four 6 mm black plastic eyes, two each for the starfish and the sea urchin. On the starfish center on round 3, one to each side, 7 stitches from the center line (4 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). On the sea urchin on round 9, one to each side, 3½ stitches from the center line (7 stitches apart). .

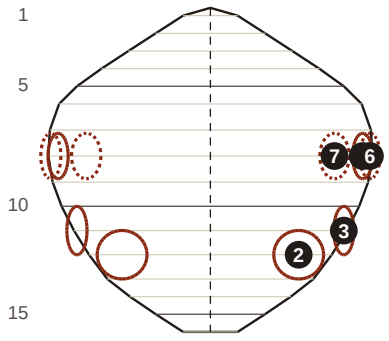
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts	**(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rnds 5 to 8**	Sc in each st around	**(5 sc)**

A box for each round, 5 to 8: tick them off as you go.

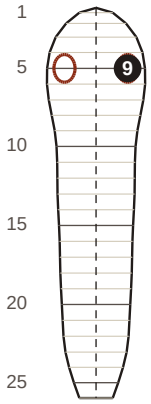
5 6 7 8

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff.	

Assembly



Crab body: 2 crab eyestalks, 3 crab claws, 5 crab legs, 6 crab legs, 7 crab legs



Snail body: 9 snail eyestalks

A number is the step below that puts it on; a letter is put on under Finishing. Each line is a round, counted as the rounds are worked. The upright broken line is the center line. A place with a broken edge is on the far side.

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1. Starfish: set the five starfish arms round the rim of the starfish center, the bobbles on the side of the center where round 1 and the face are. The open edge of each (16 sts) covers about rounds 4 to 8 of the center, and there are 6 stitches of round 6 (30 sts) from the middle of one edge to the middle of the next: begin with one arm on the line opposite the center line, which points straight up over the face. Sew each all the way round with its tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches, and catch each arm to its neighbors with two stitches where their edges meet.

2. Pin the two crab eyestalks to the crab body: the middle of each open edge lies on round 12, one to each side, 3½ stitches from the center line (7 stitches apart). The edge (8 sts) covers about rounds 11 to 13 of the crab body. They point up. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

3. Pin the two crab claws to the crab body: the middle of each open edge lies on round 11, one to each side, 6½ stitches from the center line (13 stitches apart). The edge (8 sts) covers about rounds 10 to 12 of the crab body. They point out to the side and forward, then curve until the tip of each points up and in toward the middle. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a few running stitches along its inner side, drawn up a little. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

4. Sew two crab thumbs to the two crab claws, a thumb to each claw, on the side of the claw toward the eyes: the middle of the open edge lies on round 7 of the claw (14 sts), and the edge (9 sts) covers about rounds 6 to 8. The thumb points up and toward the eyes, then curves until its tip points up, so that the claw and the thumb stand like an open pincer. Hold the curve with a stitch or two on the side toward the claw. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches.

5. Pin two crab legs to the crab body: the middle of each open edge lies on round 8, one to each side, 7 stitches from the center line (14 stitches apart). The edge has 5 sts. They point out to the side, then curve until the tip of each points down to the table. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a stitch or two on its inner side. Sew all the way round with the tail.

6. Pin two crab legs to the crab body: the middle of each open edge lies on round 8, one to each side, 10 stitches from the center line (16 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). The edge has 5 sts. They point out to the side, then curve until the tip of each points down to the table. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a stitch or two on its inner side. Sew all the way round with the tail.

7. Pin two crab legs to the crab body: the middle of each open edge lies on round 8, one to each side, 13 stitches from the center line (10 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). The edge has 5 sts. They point out to the side, then curve until the tip of each points down to the table. Bend each as you pin it and hold the curve with a stitch or two on its inner side. Sew all the way round with the tail.

8. Snail: bend the snail body so that the face (rounds 1 to 6) looks forward, the neck stands up and rounds 14 to 26 lie along the table. With a new length of D, work running stitches on the line opposite the center line from round 4 to round 9 and draw them up a little, then running stitches on the center line from round 11 to round 15 and draw them up a little. With the same yarn take running stitches up the left side of the neck (the side on the left of the snail as it looks forward), half way between the center line and the line opposite it, from round 12 to round 8, and draw them up until the head turns a little to its left. Lay the tip of the snail shell (round 1) on the table and coil the rest round it, flat, clockwise, about two and a half turns. Pin it. With a new length of E, sew each turn to the turn inside it along the line where they touch, on the front and on the back. Stand the coil on its rim on the center line of the snail body, behind the neck, the front of the coil (the side you looked at as you wound it) on the left side of the snail as it looks forward, its open edge (11 sts) at the back and down on the body, the middle of it on about round 22. Sew the open edge to the body with its tail, adding a little stuffing before the last stitches, and catch the coil to the body wherever the two touch, from there to the back of the neck.

9. Pin the two snail eyestalks to the snail body: the middle of each open edge lies on round 5, one to each side, 2 stitches from the center line (4 stitches apart). The edge has 5 sts. They point up. Sew all the way round with the tail.

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Finishing

- Put in the plastic eyes when the words of a piece say so, or embroider eyes in the same places with the other details. Embroider with one strand of yarn and the yarn needle when the pieces round the place are sewn on; begin and end each strand inside the toy. Satin stitch is straight stitches side by side until the shape is filled. Backstitch is a line of short stitches end to end: bring the needle up one stitch ahead, put it down at the end of the stitch before, and repeat.
- Eyes: four 6 mm black plastic eyes, two each for the starfish and the sea urchin. On the starfish center on round 3, one to each side, 7 stitches from the center line (4 stitches apart across the side opposite the center line). On the sea urchin on round 9, one to each side, 3½ stitches from the center line (7 stitches apart).
- Starfish mouth: with G (dark brown), in backstitch, a smile, one curve about 7/16 in (11 mm) wide that dips 3/16 in (5 mm) below its ends. Its two ends are on the starfish center on round 2, one to each side of the center line.
- Sea urchin mouth: with G (dark brown), in backstitch, a smile, one curve about 5/16 in (8 mm) wide that dips 1/8 in (3 mm) below its ends. Its two ends are on the sea urchin on round 8, one to each side of the center line.
- Crab mouth: with G (dark brown), in backstitch, a smile, one curve about 3/8 in (10 mm) wide that dips 1/8 in (3 mm) below its ends. Its two ends are on the crab body on round 9, one to each side of the center line.
- Eyes: one 6 mm black plastic eye on each crab eyestalk, on round 2, on the side that faces forward.
- Eyes: one 6 mm black plastic eye on each snail eyestalk, on round 2, on the side that faces forward.
- Snail mouth: with G (dark brown), in backstitch, a smile, one curve about 3/8 in (10 mm) wide that dips 1/8 in (3 mm) below its ends. Its two ends are on the snail body on round 2, one to each side of the line opposite the center line.
- Weave every tail through the toy and trim it. For a toy that will be played with, go round each seam a second time with a new length of yarn. Check the seams and small parts from time to time.

In all: 24 pieces; 3,327 stitches.

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