Toy ukulele

US terms



Finished size

About 12¾ in (32.5 cm) long, 4¾ in (12 cm) across the lower part of the body and 2 in (5.1 cm) deep

Skill

Intermediate

Eleven pieces worked in rounds and rows and sewn together.

Yarn

Medium (4), 6 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.

What you need

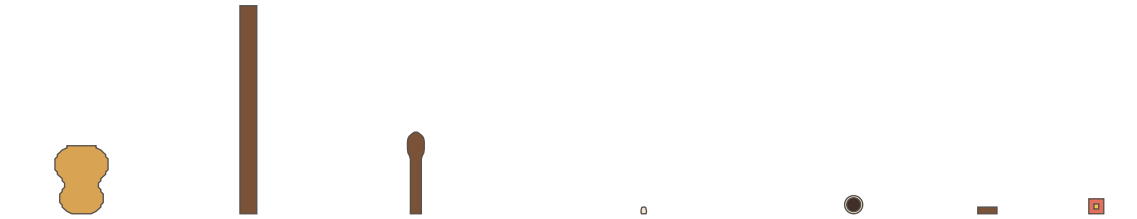
Yarn A: honey, body piece	**about 75 yd (69 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: walnut, side strip, neck, head and bridge and the details	**about 90 yd (82 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: cream, peg, sound hole and the details	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: espresso, sound hole	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: coral, flower	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: golden yellow, flower	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 100 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

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 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.

The pieces



Body piece x 2 **Side strip** **Neck and head** **Peg x 4** to the neck and head **Sound hole** **Bridge** **Flower**

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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.

Notes

- Every piece that has rounds 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.
- Right side: on the pieces in rows, the side that faces you while you work row 1.
- 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 C," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in C. 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.
- Neck and head: the center line runs between stitches 11 and 12 of round 4 (22 sts). It faces the front, round 1 at the top.
- Right and left are as you look at the front of the ukulele. Rounds are counted from the start of each piece.
- 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.
- 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, 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): 9½ in (24 cm) long, 3½ in (8.9 cm) across the lower part of the body and 1½ in (3.8 cm) deep; 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): 18¼ in (46.5 cm) long, 6¾ in (17 cm) across the lower part of the body and 2¾ in (7 cm) deep; 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): 23¼ in (59 cm) long, 8¾ in (22 cm) across the lower part of the body and 3½ in (8.9 cm) deep; multiply lengths by 1.8; about 1.8 times the yarn.
- Whip stitch: hold the two edges together, put the needle through both from back to front, bring the yarn over the edges and go in again from the back, one stitch along.

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Instructions

US terms.

ch chain, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **MR** magic ring, **Rnd** round, **st** stitch.
sc2tog 2 sc made into one, **yo** yarn over the hook, **RS** right side, the one that shows.
2 sc in next st: both in one stitch. **sc in each of next 2 sts**: one in each.
[ ] 6 times: work what is inside 6 times in all.
(12 sc): the stitches you have when the row is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Body piece: make 2

Yarn A, honey.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 12 stitches wide at the start. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 13.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(12 sc)
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn, 2 sc in each of next 2 sts, sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in each of next 2 sts	(16 sc)
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 14 sts, 2 sc in next st	(18 sc)
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 16 sts, 2 sc in next st	(20 sc)
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(20 sc)
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 18 sts, 2 sc in next st	(22 sc)
☐ **Rows 7 to 11** 7 8 9 10 11	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(22 sc)
☐ **Row 12**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 18 sts, sc2tog	(20 sc)
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(20 sc)
☐ **Row 14**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 16 sts, sc2tog	(18 sc)
☐ **Row 15**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 14 sts, sc2tog	(16 sc)
☐ **Row 16**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(16 sc)
☐ **Row 17**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 12 sts, sc2tog	(14 sc)
☐ **Rows 18 to 19** 18 19	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(14 sc)
☐ **Row 20**	Ch 1, turn, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 12 sts, 2 sc in next st	(16 sc)
☐ **Row 21**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(16 sc)
☐ **Row 22**	Ch 1, turn, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 14 sts, 2 sc in next st	(18 sc)
☐ **Rows 23 to 26** 23 24 25 26	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(18 sc)
☐ **Row 27**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 14 sts, sc2tog	(16 sc)
☐ **Row 28**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(16 sc)

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☐ **Row 29**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 12 sts, sc2tog	(14 sc)
☐ **Row 30**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts, sc2tog	(12 sc)
☐ **Row 31**	Ch 1, turn, sc2tog 2 times, sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog 2 times	(8 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off and weave in the end. The right side of row 1 is the outside. Row 1 is the lower end, the widest rows (6 to 11) are the lower part of the body, rows 17 to 19 the waist. Press it flat: it is about 4 3/8 in (11.1 cm) across at its widest and 5 5/8 in (14.3 cm) tall.	

Side strip

Yarn B, walnut.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 7 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 8.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(7 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 95**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(7 sc)

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57
58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85
86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing. The right side of row 1 is the outside. It is a strip about 1 3/8 in (3.5 cm) wide and 17¼ in (44 cm) long.	

Neck and head

Yarn B, walnut.

Stuff the long part firmly every few rounds as you go, so that it stays straight.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(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 3 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts**] 2 times**	(22 sc)

Mark the center line now: a pin or a scrap of yarn between stitches 11 and 12 of round 4. It faces the front, round 1 at the top.

☐ **Rnds 5 to 11**	Sc in each st around	(22 sc)

5 6 7 8 9 10 11

☐ **Rnd 12**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog**] 2 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Rnd 13**	Sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts	(14 sc)

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☐ **Rnds 14 to 39**	Sc in each st around	(14 sc)

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 16 in (41 cm) tail for sewing. Round 1 is the top of the head. Rounds 4 to 11 are the head and rounds 14 to 39 the neck. Stuff firmly up to the open edge. Press the head and the neck a little flat from front to back, all the way down: the head is about 1¾ in (4.4 cm) wide and 1 in (2.5 cm) deep, and the neck about 1 1/8 in (2.9 cm) wide and 5/8 in (1.6 cm) deep.	

Peg: make 4

Yarn C, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	5 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(5 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	2 sc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sc in each st around	(9 sc)
☐ **Rnd 4**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 3 times**	(6 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing. Stuff lightly up to the open edge.	

Sound hole

Yarns in order of use: D, espresso; C, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	6 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(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**	With C, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 22 in (56 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up.	

Bridge

Yarn B, walnut.

Worked flat, to and fro in rows, 8 stitches wide. The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 9.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in second ch from hook and in each ch across	(8 sc)
☐ **Rows 2 to 3**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	(8 sc)

2 3

☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing.	

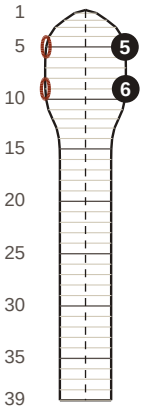
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Flower

Yarns in order of use: F, golden yellow; E, coral.

☐ **Foundation**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	5 sc in MR. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(5 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	With E, 3 sc in each of next 5 sts	(15 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	**[**2 dc in each of next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 5 times**	(25 sts)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 22 in (56 cm) tail for sewing. Do not stuff. Press it flat with the right side up: five petals of four dc, with one sc in the dip between two petals.	

Assembly



Neck and head: 5 pegs, 6 pegs

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.

1. Take one body piece for the front, its right side up. Lay the sound hole flat on it, right side out: its middle over row 22, half way across (between stitches 9 and 10 of the 18). It reaches about from row 18 to row 26. Sew down all 24 stitches of the edge.

2. Lay the bridge flat on this body piece, right side out, half way across: its foundation chain on row 10 and its last row (row 3) on row 12, 4 stitches to each side of the middle. Sew it down all the way round with the tail.

3. Lay the flower flat on this body piece too, right side out: its middle over row 5, 5½ stitches to the left of the middle of the row (left as you look at the right side, row 1 at the bottom). Sew down all 25 stitches of the edge, so that the petals lie flat.

4. Sew the two body pieces to the long edges of the side strip, the front to one edge and the back to the other, all right sides out and row 1 of both at the same end. First sew the last row of the strip to its foundation chain with the tail, 7 stitches to 7 chains, to make a ring. Set this seam at the middle of the lower edge of the body and pin the ring to the front at these places, counting the rows of the strip from the seam, first up one side: row 7 at the corner (the end of row 1), row 18 at row 9 of the body, row 28 at the waist (row 18), row 35 at row 25, row 43 at the upper corner (the end of row 31) and row 48 at the middle of row 31; then down the other side, the same places at rows 53, 61, 68, 78 and 89. Between the pins ease the edges together evenly. With a new length of B (walnut), whip stitch them together all the way round, one stitch over the edge for every row of the strip: the needle goes through the end stitch of the row of the strip and through the edge stitch of the body piece. Pin and sew the back to the other edge in the same way, and stuff the body firmly before the last 3 in (7.5 cm) are closed: it is about 2 in (5.1 cm) deep in the middle, and the waist stays narrow.

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5. Pin two pegs to the neck and head: the middle of each open edge lies on round 5, one to each side, 5½ stitches from the center line (11 stitches apart). The edge (6 sts) covers about rounds 4 to 6 of the neck and head. They point out to the side. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

6. Pin two pegs to the neck and head: the middle of each open edge lies on round 9, one to each side, 5½ stitches from the center line (11 stitches apart). The edge (6 sts) covers about rounds 8 to 10 of the neck and head. They point out to the side. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches if the edge is still soft.

7. Set the neck on the top of the body: the middle of its open edge (14 sts) over row 48 of the side strip, the middle of the top, its center line to the front, level with the middle of the front. The wide side of the edge lies from left to right, and its front 5 stitches lie along the seam of the front piece. Sew all the way round with the tail, adding a little stuffing before the last few stitches, and go round a second time, so that the neck stands firm.

Finishing

- Embroider with one strand of yarn and the yarn needle when the pieces round the place are sewn on; begin and end each strand on the wrong side of a flat piece, inside a stuffed one.
- Frets: with C (cream), five long straight stitches across the front of the neck, on rounds 16, 21, 26, 31 and 36 of the neck and head, each from 3 stitches to the left of the center line to 3 stitches to the right of it.
- Strings: work them last, with C (cream), as four long straight stitches side by side, 3/16 in (5 mm) apart, two to each side of the middle. Each comes up through row 3 of the bridge, goes straight up over the sound hole, the top of the body and the front of the neck, and goes down into the head on round 11 of the neck and head. Draw it just tight enough to lie straight; the neck must not bend. Then, with a new length of C, hold each string down with one tiny stitch over it at the top and at the bottom edge of the sound hole, at the top end of the body and at every fret, so that no string can be pulled into a loop.
- 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, the pegs and the strings from time to time. For a child under three leave out the strings.

In all: 11 pieces; 2,594 stitches (538 in each body piece, 665 in the side strip, 608 in the neck and head, 29 in each peg, 60 in the sound hole, 24 in the bridge, 45 in the flower).

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

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