Reusable water balloons

US terms



Finished size
Each balloon 3¼ in (8.5 cm) across and 4¼ in (11 cm) tall with the lip

Skill
Beginner
Six pieces worked in rounds and sewn together.

Yarn
Bulky (5), 6 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

Gauge
14 stitches and 15.4 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet, in a spiral.

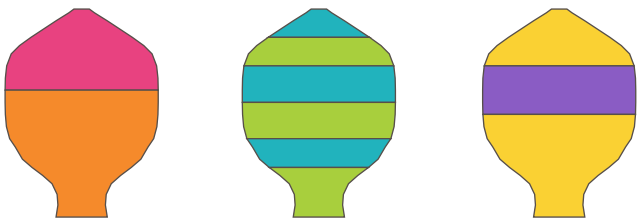
What you need

Yarn A: hot pink, dipped balloon	**about 50 yd (46 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: orange, dipped balloon	**about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: turquoise, striped balloon	**about 55 yd (50 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: lime, striped balloon	**about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: yellow, banded balloon	**about 80 yd (73 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: violet, banded balloon	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 260 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 130 yd (119 m).

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, a stitch marker and scissors.

The pieces



Dipped balloon x 2 **Striped balloon x 2** **Banded balloon x 2**

Gauge

14 stitches and 15.4 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet, in a spiral.

To check it, work rounds 1 to 6 of a balloon: lying flat, the circle measures about 3¼ in (8 cm) across.

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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.

Instructions

US terms.

sc single crochet (UK dc), **sc2tog** 2 sc made into one, **st** stitch.
2 sc in next st: **both in one stitch**. Sc in next 2 sts: one in each.
Rounds run in a **spiral**: mark the first stitch and move the marker up each round. **Working in the round**
[ ] 6 times: 6 times in all. (18 sc): the round now has 18; a check, not a step. Not 18? **Pull it back**.
Also: yo yarn over.
Every stitch, drawn: flossfield.com/crochet/stitches.

Dipped balloon: make 2

Begin with yarn A, hot pink.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring. *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.*	
☐ **Round 1**	6 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Round 2**	2 sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Rounds 7 to 9** 7 8 9	Sc in each st around	(36 sc)
☐ **Rounds 10 to 13** 10 11 12 13	With B, sc in each st around	(36 sc)
☐ **Round 14**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 15**	Sc in each st around	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 16**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Round 17**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 18**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 19**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 4 times**	(8 sc)
☐ **Round 20**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	(12 sc)

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☐ **Round 21**	Sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for the lip and the neck. Do not stuff. Weave in all the ends but this last tail on the inside now, while the top is open. Round 19 is the neck; rounds 20 and 21 are the lip. Lip: press rounds 20 and 21 flat, so that the last stitch of round 21 lies at one end of the fold, and sew the two sides of round 21 together, stitch to stitch (6 stitches on each side), with the tail. Neck: run the tail down between the two layers of the lip to round 19. Take it in and out through the 8 stitches of round 19, all the way round, and pull it up until the neck is closed. Bring it to the outside, wind it twice round the neck, pull it tight, knot it and bury the end inside the balloon. The lip stands up from the neck like a small flat fan.	

Striped balloon: make 2

Begin with yarn C, turquoise.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Round 1**	6 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Round 2**	2 sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	With D, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Round 7**	Sc in each st around	(36 sc)
☐ **Rounds 8 to 10** 8 9 10	With C, sc in each st around	(36 sc)
☐ **Rounds 11 to 13** 11 12 13	With D, sc in each st around	(36 sc)
☐ **Round 14**	With C, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 15**	Sc in each st around	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 16**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Round 17**	With D, **[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 18**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 19**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 4 times**	(8 sc)
☐ **Round 20**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	(12 sc)

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☐ **Round 21**	Sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for the lip and the neck. Do not stuff. Weave in all the ends but this last tail on the inside now, while the top is open. Round 19 is the neck; rounds 20 and 21 are the lip. Lip: press rounds 20 and 21 flat, so that the last stitch of round 21 lies at one end of the fold, and sew the two sides of round 21 together, stitch to stitch (6 stitches on each side), with the tail. Neck: run the tail down between the two layers of the lip to round 19. Take it in and out through the 8 stitches of round 19, all the way round, and pull it up until the neck is closed. Bring it to the outside, wind it twice round the neck, pull it tight, knot it and bury the end inside the balloon. The lip stands up from the neck like a small flat fan.	

Banded balloon: make 2

Begin with yarn E, yellow.

☐ **Start**	Make a magic ring.	
☐ **Round 1**	6 sc in the ring. Pull the tail to close the ring.	(6 sc)
☐ **Round 2**	2 sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 3**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 4**	**[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Round 5**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 6**	**[**sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts**] 6 times**	(36 sc)
☐ **Round 7**	Sc in each st around	(36 sc)
☐ **Rounds 8 to 11** 8 9 10 11	With F, sc in each st around	(36 sc)
☐ **Rounds 12 to 13** 12 13	With E, sc in each st around	(36 sc)
☐ **Round 14**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts**] 6 times**	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 15**	Sc in each st around	(30 sc)
☐ **Round 16**	**[**sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog**] 6 times**	(24 sc)
☐ **Round 17**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(18 sc)
☐ **Round 18**	**[**sc2tog, sc in next st**] 6 times**	(12 sc)
☐ **Round 19**	**[**sc in next st, sc2tog**] 4 times**	(8 sc)
☐ **Round 20**	**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**	(12 sc)

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☐ **Round 21**	Sc in each st around	(12 sc)
☐	Fasten off, leaving a 24 in (61 cm) tail for the lip and the neck. Do not stuff. Weave in all the ends but this last tail on the inside now, while the top is open. Round 19 is the neck; rounds 20 and 21 are the lip. Lip: press rounds 20 and 21 flat, so that the last stitch of round 21 lies at one end of the fold, and sew the two sides of round 21 together, stitch to stitch (6 stitches on each side), with the tail. Neck: run the tail down between the two layers of the lip to round 19. Take it in and out through the 8 stitches of round 19, all the way round, and pull it up until the neck is closed. Bring it to the outside, wind it twice round the neck, pull it tight, knot it and bury the end inside the balloon. The lip stands up from the neck like a small flat fan.	

Assembly

1. The balloons are not sewn to each other. Put the two dipped balloons, the two striped balloons and the two banded balloons side by side: each neck is tied shut and no end of yarn hangs out of it.

Finishing

- To use a balloon, hold it under water, squeeze it, let it go and wait a moment until the yarn is full of water, then throw it. Squeeze it out afterward and let it dry in the air. Keep small balloons away from babies and from pets that chew.

In all: 6 pieces; 3,144 stitches (524 in each dipped balloon, 524 in each striped balloon, 524 in each banded balloon).

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.

Notes

- 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.
- Chenille hides its stitches. Feel for each stitch with a finger, and count every round.
- Color change: where a line begins "With B," (or another letter), work the last pull-through of the round before it in B. Cut the old yarn and knot the ends on the wrong side.
- 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.
- One size, at the gauge above: each balloon 3¼ in (8.5 cm) across and 4¼ in (11 cm) tall with the lip. A thinner or a thicker yarn with a hook to suit makes it smaller or larger; every length then changes with it.

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

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