Whale applique

US terms



Finished size
About 4½ in (11 cm) wide and about 4 in (10 cm) tall

Skill
Easy
Worked in rows and rounds, with 3 pieces and color changes.

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

Gauge
14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: whale blue, the body and the tail	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: white, the belly	**about 3 yd (3 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: aqua, the spout	**about 2 yd (2 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: black, the eye	**about 2 yd (2 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8). Also: a yarn needle, scissors, pins for blocking and a spray bottle.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. Yarns A, B and C: the estimate is from the stitches and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added. Yarn D: the estimate is from the stitches of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

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)
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

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Gauge

14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After round 2 the body measures about 1¾ in (4.5 cm) across. If yours is larger, use a smaller hook; if it is smaller, use a larger hook.

Before you start

- Rounds are worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work the first round or row into the loop, then pull the tail until the ring is closed. Four chains joined into a ring with a slip stitch may be used instead.
- A chain 1 at the start of a round or a row does not count as a stitch.
- A petal or point is worked back along its own chain: begin in the chain named and work one stitch or group in each chain until none is left.
- At the start of a round, same st is the stitch the round before was joined in.
- A round worked in each st around begins in the st the round before was joined in.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches; slip stitches, and chains that are not named there, are not counted.
- The finished size takes in the tail and the spout.
- The pieces worked in rows look much alike on both sides: take either side as the right side.
- The distances under FINISHING are for the yarn and gauge above; in another yarn make them larger or smaller in the same proportion as the size.
- French knot (sewn): bring the yarn needle up from the back, wrap the yarn twice round the needle close to the surface, hold the wraps and put the needle down beside the place where it came up. For a large knot use the yarn double and wrap it three times.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured the longest way: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 3 in (8 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 3½ in (9 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 5¾ in (15 cm).

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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, hdc is half treble, dc is treble and tr is double treble.

Body

Yarn A, whale blue.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 8 hdc in ring, sl st in first hdc to join	**(8 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 hdc in each st around, sl st in first hdc to join	**(16 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, hdc in same st, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(24 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, hdc in same st, hdc in next st, 2 hdc in next st, **[**hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 7 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(32 hdc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 50 in (127 cm) tail, for sewing the parts in this color to your project at the end.	

Belly

Yarn B, white.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 10.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, hdc in next ch, dc in next ch, 2 dc in next ch, 2 tr in next ch, 2 dc in next ch, dc in next ch, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch	**(2 sc, 2 hdc, 6 dc, 2 tr)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing.	

Tail

Yarn A, whale blue.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	**[**Ch 6, sl st in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next ch, hdc in next ch, dc in next 2 chs, sl st in ring**] 2 times**	**(2 sc, 2 hdc, 4 dc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing.	

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Finishing

- Block: pin the pieces to shape on a flat surface, spray them with water and let them dry.
- Sew the belly to the lower part of the body, its straight (chain) edge at the top, 5/8 in (1.6 cm) below the middle of the body, and its curved edge along the lower edge of the body.
- The head of the whale is at the left. Sew the ring of the tail behind the edge of the body at the right, 1 in (2.5 cm) above the middle of the body, the two flukes in a V, one pointing up and one out to the right.
- For the spout, with C, ch 7 and fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail at each end; make 2. Sew one end of each behind the top edge of the body, side by side, 3/8 in (1 cm) to the left of the middle, ¼ in (0.6 cm) hidden. They stand up side by side for half their length. Curl the rest of one over to the left and of the other over to the right, and with its tail sew the end of each to its own chain, to hold the curl.
- With D, work a large French knot for the eye, 7/8 in (2.2 cm) to the left of the middle of the body and 1/8 in (0.3 cm) above it.
- To sew the applique to your project, pin it where it is to go and sew round its edge with the long tail, under the outermost strands of the stitches; where a part is of another color, use a length of that color.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 3 pieces; 100 stitches (80 in the body, 12 in the belly, 8 in the tail); 16 ends to weave in.

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

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