

Crochet Cow Mat

A round, spotted floor mat with a sculpted cow face, soft horns and four little hooves. Written in **U.S. crochet terms**.



PROJECT	DETAILS
Main circle	Approximately 100 cm / 39 in across; measure your actual fabric.
Skill level	Confident beginner to intermediate: spiral rounds, increases, decreases and sewing.
Construction	Flat circle + sewn spots + separately stuffed head and legs.

About this pattern: This is an original, untested interpretation of the supplied design, not a verified transcription. Measurements and yarn quantities are estimates. Follow the written counts; the last-page supplied chart is a visual reference, not a complete counted chart.

Use: Decorative floor mat; any infant play must be awake and continuously supervised on the floor. Never use as a sleep surface, crib liner or pillow. Keep the raised head and other parts away from a baby's face.

01 / Materials & measurements

Use the same smooth, washable, super bulky yarn for all crochet pieces. Choose a firmly plied cotton or cotton-blend yarn that holds stitches well. Yarn thickness varies greatly; match the swatch before buying the full quantity.

ITEM	PLANNING AMOUNT / SIZE
Ivory yarn	About 900-1,300 m / 985-1,422 yd, including head and legs.
Black yarn	About 160-240 m / 175-262 yd for spots, hooves and markings.
Pink + beige	Pink: 40-70 m / 44-77 yd. Beige: 20-35 m / 22-38 yd.
Hooks	Start with 8 mm for the mat; try 6-7 mm for stuffed pieces. Adjust to your fabric.
Other supplies	Washable polyester stuffing (about 150-250 g), blunt yarn needle, scissors, tape measure, 7 stitch markers and contrasting smooth embroidery yarn.

Gauge and size

Mat target: about 8 sc and 8 rounds per 10 cm / 4 in, measured across a flat circular sample. After Round 10, aim for roughly 24-26 cm / 9½-10¼ in diameter. Forty rounds should give about 100 cm / 39 in; the actual result depends on yarn and tension.

Stuffed pieces: aim for about 10 sc and 10 rounds per 10 cm / 4 in. Use a smaller hook until stuffing cannot show between stitches. At this gauge, head approximately 15 cm / 6 in wide and 22-24 cm / 8½-9½ in long; muzzle approximately 14 × 8 cm / 5½ × 3 in; legs approximately 6 × 12 cm / 2¼ × 4¾ in.

Budget accurately: weigh the completed 10-round mat sample. A 40-round circle uses approximately 15 times its yarn weight before attachments; add an allowance for edging and tension changes. Buy one dye lot. The estimates above are a starting point, not a guaranteed shopping list.



02 / Read the stitches

TERM	U.S. MEANING
ch / st / rnd	Chain / stitch / round.
sc / sl st	Single crochet / slip stitch.
inc	Work 2 sc into the same stitch: adds 1 stitch.
dec	Single crochet 2 stitches together: removes 1 stitch.
MR	Magic ring: adjustable starting loop.
(...) × 6	Repeat everything inside the parentheses 6 times.
[24]	Total stitches at the end of the round.

Foundation techniques

Single crochet: insert hook under both top loops, yarn over and draw up a loop; yarn over and pull through both loops on the hook.

Magic ring: form an adjustable loop, insert hook, pull up yarn and chain 1. Work the stated sc into the ring; pull the tail to close. The chain does not count. Secure the tail through several stitches in different directions. If preferred, ch 2 and work the starting stitches into the second ch from the hook.

Invisible decrease for stuffed pieces: insert hook under the front loop of each of the next 2 stitches, yarn over and pull through both front loops, then yarn over and pull through the 2 loops on the hook.

Continuous rounds: do not join or turn unless directed. Mark the first stitch and move the marker each round. Count at the end of every round. Work through both loops unless directed otherwise.

Color change: work the last sc of the old color until 2 loops remain; finish that stitch with the new color. Tie and bury ends inside a stuffed part. Do not leave exposed knots or loops.

Illustrations: the newly generated 3D images explain shapes and assembly; their visible stitches are not counting charts. Use the written instructions for exact stitch totals.



03 / Begin the flat circle



With ivory and the mat hook, work in a spiral. Keep the center flat and relaxed. Check the circle on a table every 2-3 rounds.

ROUND	INSTRUCTION	TOTAL
1	6 sc in MR	6
2	inc in every st	12
3	(1 sc, inc) × 6	18
4	(2 sc, inc) × 6	24
5	(3 sc, inc) × 6	30
6	(4 sc, inc) × 6	36
7	(5 sc, inc) × 6	42
8	(6 sc, inc) × 6	48
9	(7 sc, inc) × 6	54
10	(8 sc, inc) × 6	60

Checkpoint: Round 10 should be roughly 25 cm / 10 in across. If smaller, try a larger hook or plan extra rounds. If larger, use a smaller hook or stop earlier. Do not stretch the sample while measuring.

04 / Grow & finish the circle

Continue adding **6 stitches each round**. For Round n, repeat **(n - 2 sc, inc) × 6**; the final total is **6 × n**.
Example: Round 11 = (9 sc, inc) × 6 [66].

ROUNDS	SC BEFORE EACH INCREASE	END TOTALS
11-15	9, 10, 11, 12, 13	66, 72, 78, 84, 90
16-20	14, 15, 16, 17, 18	96, 102, 108, 114, 120
21-25	19, 20, 21, 22, 23	126, 132, 138, 144, 150
26-30	24, 25, 26, 27, 28	156, 162, 168, 174, 180
31-35	29, 30, 31, 32, 33	186, 192, 198, 204, 210
36-40	34, 35, 36, 37, 38	216, 222, 228, 234, 240

Rounder edges

To reduce six visible corners, stagger the increases on even rounds. If the repeat is (k sc, inc) and k is even: start with k/2 sc, then (inc, k sc) × 5, inc, and k/2 sc. This replaces that round's standard instruction. Round 10 example: 4 sc, (inc, 8 sc) × 5, inc, 4 sc [60].

Size options

About 80 cm / 31½ in: stop near Round 32 [192]. **About 100 cm / 39 in:** stop near Round 40 [240]. **About 120 cm / 47 in:** continue to Round 48 [288]. Measure to choose the stopping point; these are approximate sizes at the target gauge.

Do not work multiple plain rounds to enlarge the mat. Without increases, the edge will turn upward. If it cups, check for missed increases or tight tension. If it waves, check for extra stitches or loose tension. Undo the affected rounds and correct before continuing.

Finish: at the desired diameter, sl st into the next st, cut yarn and pull through. Weave the tail into the back for at least 8 cm / 3 in, reversing direction twice. Lay flat and gently shape according to the yarn label; do not force it into a circle.



05 / Make & attach the spots



For a beginner-friendly finish, crochet black spots separately and sew them flat onto the ivory mat. This avoids carrying black yarn through the main circle. Use the mat hook so the spots remain flexible.

Round spots: make 2 small and 2 large

R1: 6 sc in MR [6]. **R2:** inc around [12]. **R3:** (sc, inc) × 6 [18]. **R4:** (2 sc, inc) × 6 [24]. **R5:** (3 sc, inc) × 6 [30]. Stop here for a small spot, approximately 12 cm / 4¾ in. For a large spot, add **R6:** (4 sc, inc) × 6 [36] and **R7:** (5 sc, inc) × 6 [42], approximately 17 cm / 6¾ in. Sl st and leave a long sewing tail.

Oval spots: make 2

Ch 7. R1: sc in second ch from hook, sc in next 4 ch, 3 sc in last ch; rotate to the unused side of the chain, sc in next 4 ch, 2 sc in the starting ch [14]. R2: inc, 4 sc, inc in next 3 st, 4 sc, inc in next 2 st [20]. R3: (sc, inc), 4 sc, (sc, inc) × 3, 4 sc, (sc, inc) × 2 [26]. R4: (2 sc, inc), 4 sc, (2 sc, inc) × 3, 4 sc, (2 sc, inc) × 2 [32]. Finish; approximately 16 × 10 cm / 6¼ × 4 in.

Arrange and sew: place six spots asymmetrically, leaving a broad clear center. Keep them 3-5 cm / 1¼-2 in inside the edge. Baste first. Sew every outer stitch to the mat without gathering; add several concealed anchor stitches across each center to prevent lifting. Remove basting and bury all ends.



06 / Shape the cow head

Use ivory and the smaller hook. Begin at the crown; the muzzle will cover the front lower half. Work in a spiral. Keep the beginning of each round toward the back of the head.

ROUND	INSTRUCTION	TOTAL
1	6 sc in MR	6
2	inc around	12
3	(sc, inc) × 6	18
4	(2 sc, inc) × 6	24
5	(3 sc, inc) × 6	30
6	(4 sc, inc) × 6	36
7	(5 sc, inc) × 6	42
8	(6 sc, inc) × 6	48
9-18	sc in every st for 10 rounds	48 each
19	(6 sc, dec) × 6	42
20	(5 sc, dec) × 6	36
21	(4 sc, dec) × 6	30
22	(3 sc, dec) × 6	24
23	(2 sc, dec) × 6	18
24	(sc, dec) × 6	12
25	dec × 6	6

Stuff before closing: after Round 21, add small tufts evenly. Shape an oval with a slightly flatter back for attaching to the rug. Keep it soft, not packed hard. Top up before Round 24. After Round 25, cut a long tail and thread it through the front loops of the last 6 stitches. Draw closed and bury the tail.



07 / Muzzle & facial details



Pink oval muzzle

Ch 9. R1: sc in second ch from hook, sc in next 6 ch, 3 sc in last ch; rotate and work on the unused side: 6 sc, 2 sc in starting ch [18]. Mark the first sc.

R2: inc, 6 sc, inc in next 3 st, 6 sc, inc in next 2 st [24]. **R3:** (sc, inc), 6 sc, (sc, inc) × 3, 6 sc, (sc, inc) × 2 [30]. **R4:** (2 sc, inc), 6 sc, (2 sc, inc) × 3, 6 sc, (2 sc, inc) × 2 [36]. **R5-R6:** sc around [36 each]. Sl st; leave a sewing tail. Keep this shallow oval cup open at the back.

Attach: center the muzzle across the lower front of the head, approximately over head Rounds 14-23. Baste its oval rim in position. Sew most of the way around, add a thin layer of stuffing and finish closing. The oval should project gently without pulling the face out of shape.

Eyes and nostrils: embroider two black eyes above the muzzle, approximately 5-6 cm / 2-2¼ in apart. Use short satin stitches with a tiny ivory highlight if desired. Embroider two short vertical nostrils in black or beige on the pink muzzle. Secure all threads inside. Do not add buttons, beads or plastic eyes.

Face patch: with black and the small hook, make R1-R3 of a round spot [18]. Sew it flat onto one side of the head before embroidering the eyes, or place two small patches beside the muzzle. Keep the eyes clearly visible.

08 / Ears & soft horns

Outer ears: make 2 in ivory

Work a flattened tube. **R1:** 6 sc in MR [6]. **R2:** inc around [12]. **R3:** (sc, inc) × 6 [18]. **R4:** (2 sc, inc) × 6 [24]. **R5-R6:** sc around [24 each]. **R7:** (2 sc, dec) × 6 [18]. **R8:** (sc, dec) × 6 [12]. Do not stuff. Flatten the opening and sc through both layers across 6 paired stitches. Leave a long tail. Approximate size: 8 × 7 cm / 3 × 2¾ in.

Pink ear centers: make 2

Ch 5. **R1:** sc in second ch, 2 sc, 3 sc in last ch; rotate, 2 sc, 2 sc in starting ch [10]. **R2:** inc, 2 sc, inc in next 3 st, 2 sc, inc in next 2 st [16]. Sl st and finish. Sew each flat oval onto the front of an outer ear, leaving ivory visible all around. Do not sew through both ear layers if this causes puckering.

Pinch each ear base in half and stitch the lower 2 cm / ¾ in together to make a shallow cup. Sew the bases onto the sides of the head around Rounds 7-10. Angle the ears outward and keep their height symmetrical.

Horns: make 2 in beige

R1: 4 sc in MR [4]. **R2:** (sc, inc) × 2 [6]. **R3:** sc around [6]. **R4:** (2 sc, inc) × 2 [8]. **R5:** sc around [8]. **R6:** (3 sc, inc) × 2 [10]. **R7:** sc around [10]. **R8:** (4 sc, inc) × 2 [12]. Finish with a long tail; leave the base open. Approximately 7-8 cm / 2¾-3 in tall.

Add only a little stuffing near each base. Sew the full base circumference securely to the crown, around head Rounds 3-6, with 4-5 cm / 1½-2 in between the bases. Use two passes of stitches and anchor into several head stitches. Do not insert wire or rigid supports.

Before attaching the head

Check facial symmetry from the front. Tuck and secure all sewing ends. Gently pull each ear and horn to check its seam. Repair any loose areas now while the head is easy to handle.



09 / Four little legs



Use black and the smaller hook. Make four identical parts. The black end is the hoof; the open ivory end attaches to the mat.

ROUND	INSTRUCTION	TOTAL
1	6 sc in MR, in black	6
2	inc around	12
3	(sc, inc) × 6	18
4-5	sc around in black	18 each
6-12	Change to ivory; sc around	18 each

Stuff lightly: add a little filling to the hoof and lower leg. Keep the final 2 cm / $\frac{3}{4}$ in unstuffed so the attachment is flexible. Each leg should be about 12 cm / $4\frac{3}{4}$ in long at the accessory gauge.

Close the base: flatten the opening with 9 stitches on each side. Work 9 sc through both layers, pairing one stitch from the front with one from the back. Cut a 50 cm / 20 in sewing tail. This is a closing row, not another round.

Placement: treat the mat like a clock with the head at 6 o'clock. Put the legs near 2, 4, 8 and 10 o'clock. Baste the closed ends 3 cm / $1\frac{1}{4}$ in beneath the mat edge; the hooves point outward. Check the spacing before permanent sewing.



10 / Assemble, finish & care



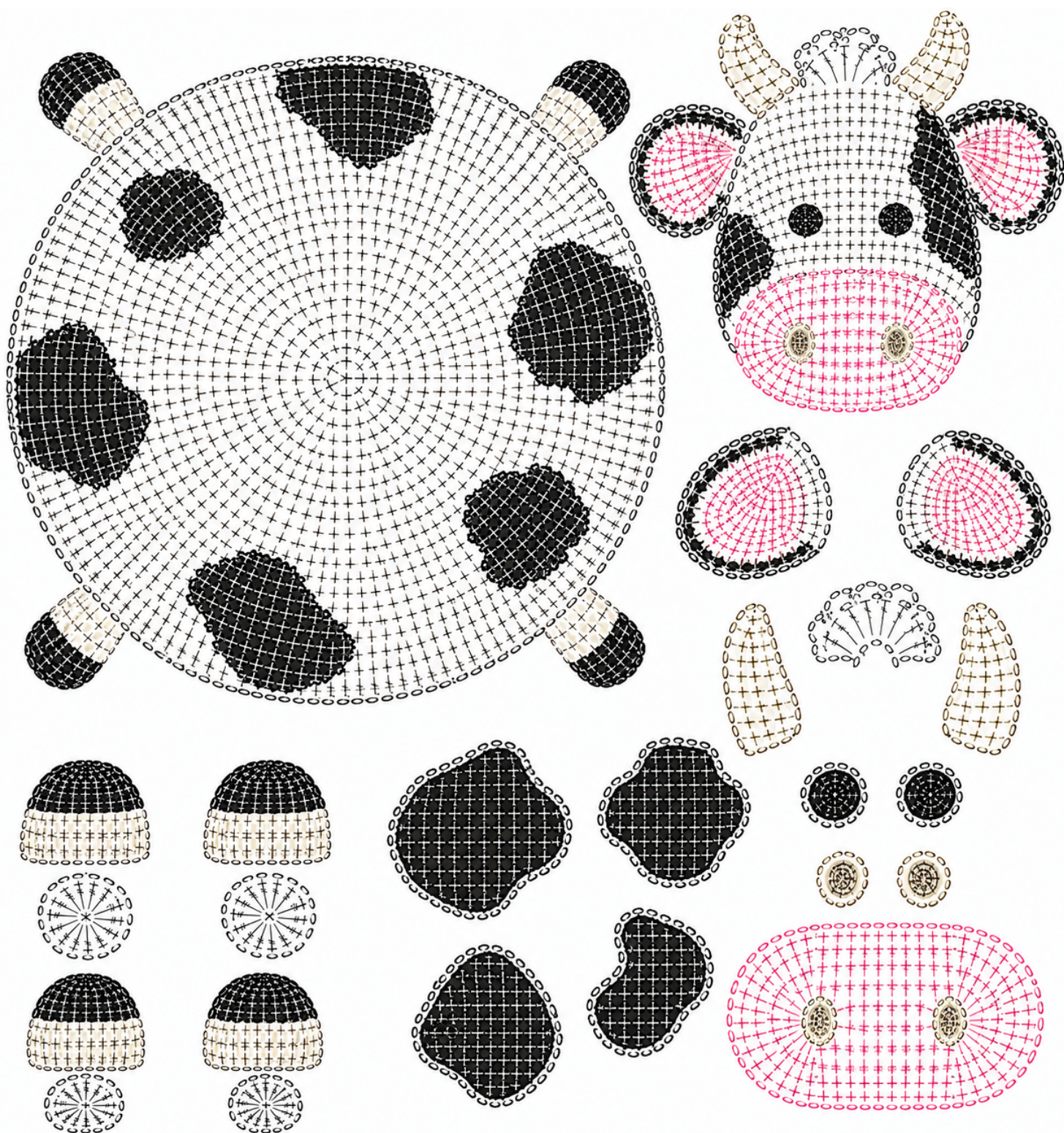
- 1. Attach each leg.** Sew the closed edge to the underside of the mat, then sew a second line approximately 1 cm / ■ in inward through the flattened leg fabric. Catch several mat stitches, not just one loop. Keep the right side smooth and hide all tails.
- 2. Attach the head.** At 6 o'clock, position the upper back of the head beneath the mat edge with the face projecting outward. Baste a broad contact area about 10 cm / 4 in wide and 4 cm / 1½ in deep. Sew around this area twice and add a line of reinforcing stitches through its center. Avoid a single narrow attachment that lets the head flop.
- 3. Inspect.** Remove every pin, marker and basting thread. Pull gently on the head, horns, ears, legs and spots. There should be no loose loops, exposed filling or lifting patch edges. Bury tails in several directions. Lay the mat on the floor and check that the center stays flat.
- 4. Wash and dry.** Follow the yarn and filling labels; test the black and pink yarns for color transfer first. Support the wet mat with both hands. Reshape on a flat drying surface and allow the filling to dry completely. Recheck every attachment after laundering. Use on a clean, dry, nonslip floor; remove if it slides or becomes damaged.

Baby-use note: this handmade mat is not a certified infant sleep product. Never leave a sleeping baby on it, even with supervision. For sleep, move the baby onto their back on a firm, flat, approved infant sleep surface without soft objects. Floor play must be awake and directly supervised; keep raised parts away from the face.

Safety reference: American Academy of Pediatrics, *How to Keep Your Sleeping Baby Safe: AAP Policy Explained*, HealthyChildren.org (accessed September 21, 2026).

Printing the next page: print on A4 in color or grayscale using Fit to Page. The supplied illustration has no reliable round numbering or size scale and is not a stitch-for-stitch substitute for this written pattern. Its pictured eye circles and color layout are illustrative; use the embroidered details and sewn spots described here.





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