

Forest Dragon

A detailed crochet tutorial in U.S. terminology



Make a leafy woodland dragon with a long neck, curved horns, a curled tail and soft mesh wings. Work each piece separately, then assemble it with secure sewn seams.

Skill level: intermediate to advanced. **Planning size:** approximately 28-32 cm (11-12.6 in) seated height, including horns. Measurements depend on gauge and assembly.

Pattern note: this is an original, simplified interpretation of the supplied images, not a reconstruction of an authenticated pattern. It has not been physically test-crocheted. The new 3D pictures illustrate appearance and assembly; follow the written stitch counts. The supplied chart is reproduced on the final page as a visual reference.



01 / Materials & measurements

Use smooth cotton or a cotton blend so small stitches and leaf details remain visible. Choose all colors from the same yarn range. Quantities below are planning estimates; allow extra yarn for gauge swatches and additional leaves.

Material	Suggested amount / specification
Main yarn	Forest green, sport/fine weight: 150-200 g (about 480-640 m at 160 m/50 g).
Accent yarn	Moss and light green: 25 g each; cream: 25 g. Small amounts of gold and black for embroidered eyes.
Hook	Start with 2.5 mm; adjust for a dense, flexible fabric with no visible stuffing.
Other supplies	About 80-120 g polyester fiberfill; blunt tapestry needle; scissors; locking markers; pins or temporary basting thread; ruler.

Target measurements

Part	Approximate size at the suggested gauge
Body	11-12 cm tall; 6-7 cm wide (4.3-4.7 × 2.4-2.8 in).
Neck / head	Neck 9 cm long; head 7 cm from nose to back (3.5 / 2.8 in).
Legs / tail	Front legs 7-8 cm; tail 14-16 cm along curve (2.8-3.1 / 5.5-6.3 in).
Wings	Each triangle about 10-12 cm across; spread about 26-30 cm (10.2-11.8 in).

Gauge before you begin

Aim for **24 sc and 28 rounds per 10 cm / 4 in**, measured on unstretched fabric. Make a small tube: ch 24, join without twisting, and work at least 14 rounds of sc. Flatten gently; measure across the stitches, avoiding the fold. Count rounds vertically. Use a smaller hook if the fabric is loose; use a larger hook if painfully stiff.

Wing mesh has a different gauge. A 10-space foundation should measure roughly 10-12 cm before edging. Keep both wings the same size; the precise dimension is less important than matching tension.



02 / Read the pattern

Abbreviation	Meaning in U.S. crochet terms
MR / ch	Magic ring / chain.
sc / hdc / dc	Single crochet / half double crochet / double crochet.
sl st	Slip stitch.
inc / dec	2 sc in one stitch / invisible sc decrease over 2 stitches.
BLO / st(s)	Back loop only / stitch(es).
R / [number]	Round or row, as specified / total completed stitches.
(...) × n	Repeat the instructions inside parentheses n times.

Working in the round

All stuffed pieces use **continuous spiral rounds**: do not join or turn unless instructed. Put a marker in the first stitch and move it up every round. Work through both loops unless BLO is stated. Turning chains for flat sc rows do not count as stitches.

Magic ring: make an adjustable loop, insert the hook through it, pull up a loop and ch 1. Work the required sc into the loop, then pull the yarn tail firmly to close. Secure the tail inside the piece.

Invisible decrease: insert the hook under the front loop of each of the next 2 stitches, yarn over and draw through both front loops; yarn over and draw through the remaining 2 loops. Two stitches become one.

Double crochet: yarn over, insert hook, yarn over and pull up a loop; yarn over and pull through 2 loops twice. For hdc, yarn over, insert hook and pull up a loop, then yarn over and pull through all 3 loops.

Stuffing & fastening off

Add small tufts gradually. Fill neck and torso firmly enough to hold their shape without spreading the stitches. Keep paws and tail tip softer. To close a 6-stitch opening, thread the yarn through the 6 front loops, pull closed and bury the tail. For sewn openings, leave 25-35 cm of yarn.

Count at every increase or decrease round. Example: (6 sc, inc) × 6 uses 42 old stitches and makes 48 new stitches. Ranges such as R9-18 include every round from 9 through 18.



03 / Body & long neck

Use forest green for both pieces. The body is worked from the seated base upward; the neck is worked from its closed top down to its open base.

Body - make 1

Round	Instruction	Total
1	6 sc in MR	6
2	inc × 6	12
3-8	R3: (1 sc, inc) × 6. Add 1 sc to each repeat each following round: R4 uses 2 sc; continue through R8 with 6 sc.	18, 24, 30, 36, 42, 48
9-18	sc in every st for 10 rounds	48
19	(6 sc, dec) × 6	42
20-22	sc in every st for 3 rounds	42
23	(5 sc, dec) × 6	36
24-26	sc in every st for 3 rounds	36
27	(4 sc, dec) × 6	30
28-30	sc in every st for 3 rounds	30
31	(3 sc, dec) × 6	24
32	sc in every st; leave opening and long tail	24

Stuff the lower body, flattening the base slightly against the table. Finish filling before attaching the neck. Do not close the 24-stitch opening.

Neck - make 1

R1: 6 sc in MR [6]. **R2:** inc × 6 [12]. **R3:** (sc, inc) × 6 [18]. **R4-18:** sc in every st [18] for 15 rounds. **R19:** (2 sc, inc) × 6 [24]. **R20-26:** sc in every st [24] for 7 rounds. Leave the base open and a long sewing tail.

Stuff every few rounds. The closed narrow end supports the head; the open wide end joins the body. Pin the two 24-stitch openings together, matching stitches one-to-one. Sew around twice. A slight curve is added during assembly; the tube itself is straight.



04 / Head & curved horns

Make the head from nose to back in forest green. Mark its underside with a second marker after R8. Keep the nose lightly stuffed and the larger back of the head firmer.

Round	Head - make 1	Total
1-3	R1: 6 sc in MR. R2: inc × 6. R3: (sc, inc) × 6.	6, 12, 18
4-8	sc in every st for 5 rounds	18
9	(2 sc, inc) × 6	24
10	(3 sc, inc) × 6	30
11	(4 sc, inc) × 6	36
12-15	sc in every st for 4 rounds	36
16	(4 sc, dec) × 6	30
17	(3 sc, dec) × 6	24
18	(2 sc, dec) × 6; finish stuffing	18
19-20	R19: (sc, dec) × 6. R20: dec × 6. Close opening.	12, 6

Horns - make 2

R1: 4 sc in MR [4]. **R2:** sc around [4]. **R3:** (sc, inc) × 2 [6]. **R4-5:** sc around [6]. **R6:** (2 sc, inc) × 2 [8]. **R7-8:** sc around [8]. **R9:** (3 sc, inc) × 2 [10]. **R10-12:** sc around [10]. Leave the base open and a long tail. Stuff the lower half lightly.

Curve each horn by running a matching yarn strand from inside the base to near the tip and back along one side. Pull gently until curved, secure at the base and bury the ends. Sew the bases over R13-16 of the head, spaced evenly on either side of the top center.

Embroidered face

Place a gold oval, about 8-10 mm tall, on each side of the head over R11-13. Fill with small satin stitches; add a vertical black pupil and a tiny cream highlight. Outline the upper edge in green. Add two short black nostril stitches near R4-5. Keep the face symmetrical.

The illustrations show stylized eyes and sculpted contours. This written version uses embroidery and a simpler stuffed head; do not add plastic eyes to match the pictures.



05 / Legs, feet & claws

Work all green pieces in spiral rounds. Keep the two members of each pair identical. Make the claws separately in cream and sew them securely into place.

Front legs - make 2, starting at the paw

R1: 6 sc in MR [6]. **R2:** inc × 6 [12]. **R3:** (sc, inc) × 6 [18]. **R4-6:** sc around [18]. **R7:** (sc, dec) × 6 [12]. **R8-20:** sc around [12] for 13 rounds. Stuff the paw moderately and the leg lightly. Fasten off, leaving the top open and a long tail. Approximate length: 7 cm / 2.8 in.

Rear haunches - make 2

R1: 6 sc in MR [6]. **R2:** inc × 6 [12]. **R3:** (sc, inc) × 6 [18]. **R4:** (2 sc, inc) × 6 [24]. **R5-9:** sc around [24]. **R10:** (2 sc, dec) × 6 [18]. **R11:** (sc, dec) × 6 [12]. Stuff firmly, then **R12:** dec × 6 [6]. Close. Leave a long tail for attaching the outer surface to the body.

Rear feet - make 2

R1: 6 sc in MR [6]. **R2:** inc × 6 [12]. **R3:** (sc, inc) × 6 [18]. **R4-7:** sc around [18]. **R8:** (sc, dec) × 6 [12]. Stuff lightly. **R9:** dec × 6 [6]. Close. Sew one foot to the lower front of each haunch so its toe end points forward.

Claws - make 12

In cream: **R1:** 4 sc in MR [4]. **R2:** (sc, inc) × 2 [6]. **R3:** sc around [6]. Do not stuff. Flatten the open base and sew it shut with the yarn tail. Attach 3 claws across the front of each paw or foot, with their MR tips pointing outward. Stitch through the full base, then bury the tail deep in the foot.



3D placement aid: long front legs sit in front; rounded haunches support the seated pose. The rear feet are separate pieces in the written instructions.

06 / Tail & cream chest plates

Tail - make 1, working from the tip

Round	Instruction in forest green	Total
1-3	R1: 4 sc in MR. R2-3: sc around.	4
4-6	R4: (sc, inc) × 2. R5-6: sc around.	6
7-9	R7: (2 sc, inc) × 2. R8-9: sc around.	8
10-12	R10: (3 sc, inc) × 2. R11-12: sc around.	10
13-15	R13: (4 sc, inc) × 2. R14-15: sc around.	12
16-18	R16: (5 sc, inc) × 2. R17-18: sc around.	14
19-21	R19: (6 sc, inc) × 2. R20-21: sc around.	16
22-24	R22: (7 sc, inc) × 2. R23-24: sc around.	18
25-27	R25: (8 sc, inc) × 2. R26-27: sc around.	20
28-30	R28: (9 sc, inc) × 2. R29-30: sc around.	22
31-40	R31: (10 sc, inc) × 2. R32-40: sc around.	24

Stuff the tip very lightly and the base moderately. Leave the 24-stitch base open. Curve into a C, then secure the curve with several small matching stitches between touching sections. Do not pull one long strand tightly through the entire tail; it can pucker.

Overlapping chest plates - make 10 in cream

Small plates, make 6: ch 7. Row 1: sc in second ch from hook and next 5 ch [6]. Rows 2-3: ch 1, turn, sc across [6]. Row 4: ch 1, turn, dec, 2 sc, dec [4]. Fasten off with a sewing tail.

Large plates, make 4: ch 11. Row 1: sc in second ch and next 9 ch [10]. Rows 2-4: ch 1, turn, sc across [10]. Row 5: ch 1, turn, dec, 6 sc, dec [8]. Fasten off. Arrange the smaller plates on the neck and larger ones on the belly, narrow final-row edges pointing down. Overlap by about one row.



07 / Leaves & leafy frills

Use moss, light green and forest green. Each leaf is worked around both sides of a foundation chain. Do not turn after the tip: rotate the chain and work into its unused underside loops. The starting slip knot is not a stitch.

Small leaf - make 24

Ch 7. Starting in the second chain from the hook: sl st, sc, hdc, dc, hdc, then **(sc, ch 2, sc)** in the last chain. Rotate to the other side of the chain. In the 5 unused chain loops, work hdc, dc, hdc, sc, sl st. Fasten off, leaving a 15-20 cm tail. There are 12 worked stitches around the chain, plus the ch-2 tip.

Large leaf - make 12

Ch 10. Starting in the second chain from the hook: sl st, sc, hdc, dc, dc, dc, hdc, sc, then **(sc, ch 2, sc)** in the last chain. Rotate. In the 8 unused chain loops, work sc, hdc, dc, dc, dc, hdc, sc, sl st. Fasten off with a tail. There are 18 worked stitches, plus the ch-2 tip.

Placement plan

Area	Leaf allocation
Head frills	3 large leaves on each side of head: 6 large total. Overlap the bases behind the eyes; point tips back.
Back and tail	6 large leaves down the center line. Add 12 small leaves in staggered pairs beside them.
Wings	3 small leaves per wing: 6 small total. Keep them near the ribs to limit weight.
Paws / forehead	4 small leaves above paws, plus 2 at the forehead: 6 small total.

Sew through each leaf base and at least one additional point along its center vein. Leave only the outer edges slightly raised. Use fewer leaves if a wing becomes heavy. The reference dragon has many more decorative layers; repeat either leaf pattern for extra coverage.



3D texture study. The written leaves have simple smooth edges; clustered leaves create the frilled effect without extra branching stitches.



08 / Soft mesh wings

Make 2 matching wings in moss green. Work flat rows. Each opening is a **ch-1 space between dc posts**. The ch 4 at the start counts as 1 dc plus ch 1. These wings are flexible and will drape unless held or supported by their sewn placement.

Triangle: 10 spaces down to 1

Row 1: ch 24. Dc in the sixth chain from the hook. Repeat (**ch 1, skip 1 chain, dc in next chain**) 9 times. You have 10 mesh spaces and 11 dc posts, counting the turning chain as the first post.

Row 2: turn. Sl st in the first ch-1 space and in the next dc; this moves past the first mesh opening. Ch 4, dc in the next dc. Repeat (ch 1, dc in next dc) across, working the last dc into the third chain of the previous turning chain. There are 9 spaces and 10 posts.

Rows 3-10: repeat Row 2, always moving past the first opening before making ch 4. Each row has one fewer space. The space totals are **8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1**. Row 10 has 1 space and 2 posts. Fasten off. Do not work another decreasing row.

Forest-green edging

Join forest green at a corner. Work sc evenly around: along the foundation, place 1 sc at each post base and 1 sc in each intervening chain space; along row ends, begin with 2 sc per dc-row height. Work 3 sc at each corner. Join to the first sc with sl st. Add a second round of sc, placing 3 sc into the middle corner stitch of each 3-sc group. Join and fasten off.

There is no fixed border total: row-end tension varies. Lay the wing flat after every side. If cupped, add a few evenly spaced stitches; if ruffled, reduce them. Both wings should lie flat and have matching outlines.

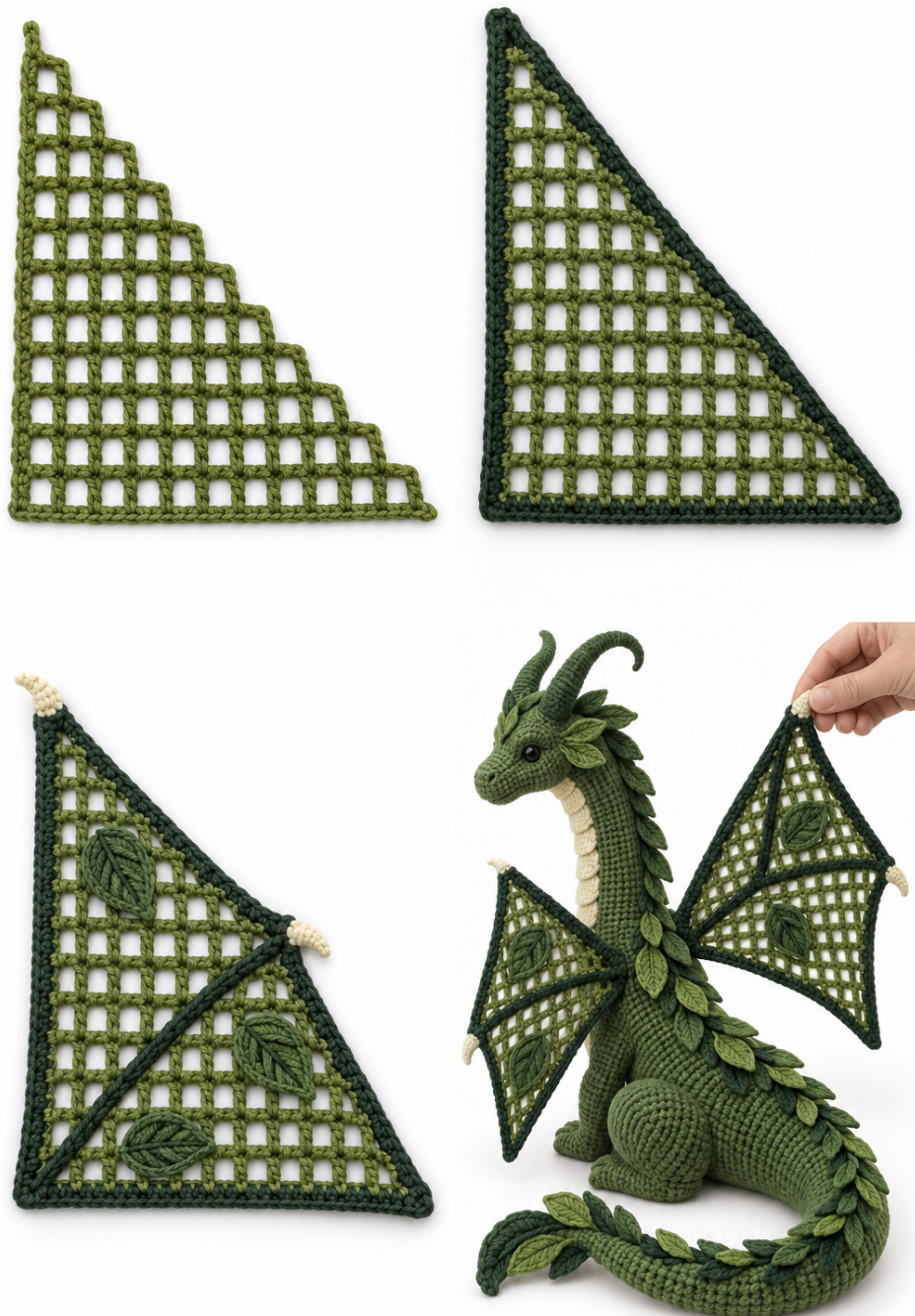
Ribs, leaves & wing tips

Choose one corner as the **root**. With dark green yarn, surface-slip-stitch two lines from the root to two points along the opposite edge. Insert through existing mesh posts or around chain strands, never through empty space alone. Keep the yarn loose enough that the wing stays flat. Sew on 3 small leaves per wing. Optionally make 2 extra cream claws from page 6, one for each outer upper tip.

The generated wing pictures on the next page explain the stages, not an exact mesh count. Your stitch totals come from the written rows above.



09 / Wing construction in 3D



Top left: crochet the decreasing mesh triangle. **Top right:** add two rounds of forest-green edging. **Bottom left:** add surface ribs and leaf details. **Bottom right:** attach the root area to the upper back; a hand supports the flexible wing for display.

Make the second triangle using the same instructions, then flip it to mirror the first. Place decorations on the outward-facing side of each wing. These new AI illustrations are assembly aids; loop shapes, eye details and decorative density may differ from the written version.



10 / Assemble your dragon

Use a tapestry needle and matching yarn. Pin or baste every major piece before permanent sewing. Place the dragon on a flat surface often; adjust its balance before hiding the ends.

1. Join the neck and body

Match the 24-stitch body opening to the 24-stitch neck base. Sew through one stitch from each edge all the way around; add stuffing before the last few stitches. Sew a second pass through the seam. To add a gentle neck curve, make 2-3 short anchoring stitches that draw neighboring rounds together on the front; stop if the fabric puckers.

2. Position the head

Center the closed top of the neck under the wider rear half of the head, approximately beneath head R12-16. Point the snout slightly downward. Sew a broad oval around the contact area, catching multiple stitches of both pieces. Make a second pass. If the head droops, enlarge the sewn contact area and add firmer neck stuffing before closing the seam.

3. Set the seated stance

Pin the haunches low on either side of the torso, roughly across body R6-16, with their feet resting on the table. Sew each haunch to the body around an oval contact area. Place front-leg openings against the front sides of the torso around R22-27. Angle legs down until both paws touch the surface; sew around each opening and add a few anchoring stitches along the upper leg.

4. Attach and curl the tail

Sew the open tail base onto the lower rear torso around body R6-13. Its opening is sewn onto the body surface, not into a new hole. Add stuffing at the joint if needed. Curl the tail beside the dragon so it helps balance the seated body; tack a touching section to the haunch with a few secure stitches.

5. Add the chest plates

Start at the bottom belly with the widest plate. Sew its upper edge and both upper corners. Add the next plate above, overlapping the previous upper seam. Continue upward with the smaller plates along the neck. Keep the cream strip centered and leave the bottom edge of each plate slightly free.

6. Sew wings and remaining leaves

Position wing roots on opposite upper sides of the back around body R25-31. Sew each root plus 3-4 cm of the adjacent border to the body/neck base, making two passes. Angle wings outward; they remain soft. Finish with the back, tail, forehead and paw leaves. Remove every pin and basting thread.



11 / Finish, check & print

Check the finished piece

Balance: place the dragon on a table and confirm that the base, rear feet and curled tail provide stable contact. **Symmetry:** compare horns, eyes, paws and wings from the front.

Seams: gently tug each attachment; reinforce any movement. **Ends:** weave each yarn end through several stitches in two directions, bury inside and trim.

Common fixes

Issue	Adjustment
Stuffing shows	Use a smaller hook for the affected piece, or remove excess stuffing. Do not stretch the fabric while sewing.
Head leans forward	Reinforce the neck-head seam over a larger area; check stuffing density. The head should sit over the neck, not at its front edge.
Wing curls or ruffles	Relax surface ribs; adjust border stitches. Dampen and pin flat to dry if the yarn label permits.
Dragon tips sideways	Reposition haunches and front paws before final sewing. Curl the tail toward the unsupported side.
Leaf twists	Check that the return stitches use the underside of the same foundation chain; gently shape flat.

Care & use

This detailed design is intended as a decorative display piece. Small sewn parts and open-mesh wings need secure attachment. No wire, rigid supports, glue or plastic eyes are required. Spot-clean gently according to the yarn label, press out moisture with a towel and dry fully in the intended shape.

About the final-page diagram

The final page preserves your supplied image on its own, with only the requested branding footer. It is an **unnumbered visual reference**: the image does not establish a verifiable stitch key, row sequence, starting points or stitch counts. It is not a validated chart for the written adaptation. Follow pages 3-11 for construction and use the image to study the overall arrangement of parts.

Printing: select A4 portrait. Print the tutorial at 100% or Actual Size for readable text; use Fit only if your printer clips the page margins. The diagram is not a life-size template, so its printed dimensions do not determine the dragon size. The green footer button links to Site AllFree Patterns in the digital PDF.



