

Little Leaf Booties

Sage & ivory • A photo-inspired crochet adaptation



A soft little pair, built from the sole upward

Make an oval green sole, add an ivory upper, shape the toe with decreases, then finish with a green cuff and sewn-on leaves. The same instructions make both booties.

Target finished sole: approximately 9-10 cm (3½-4 in) long and 4-4.5 cm (1■-1¾ in) wide. Choose by actual foot measurements, not age alone. **Skill level:** confident beginner to intermediate.

About this pattern: the reference photograph shows knitted fabric. This original crochet adaptation recreates its colors and leaf styling, not its exact construction. The instructions are a calculated, untested sample pattern; make and measure one bootie before making the pair.

New AI-generated 3D illustrations show the construction stages. They are visual aids, not stitch-count charts.



Before you begin

Materials for one pair

Smooth DK / light yarn: allow approximately 25 g sage green and 25 g ivory (roughly 120-150 m / 131-164 yd total, depending on yarn). Use soft, washable yarn. Start with a 3.0 mm crochet hook; adjust to obtain the measured sole. Also gather a blunt yarn needle, scissors, tape measure and 3 locking stitch markers.

Gauge and fit

Starting swatch target: about **22 sc × 26 rows = 10 × 10 cm (4 × 4 in)**, worked flat and relaxed. This is a starting guide; the completed sole is the decisive check. Make a swatch at least 12 cm square and measure the center. More stitches per 10 cm means a smaller fabric; try a larger hook. Fewer stitches means a larger fabric; try a smaller hook.

Measure the foot from heel to longest toe. Aim for approximately 0.5-1 cm (¼-½ in) extra length. Stop after the sole and check its length and width. Do not add arbitrary sole rounds: that changes every later count. If this size is unsuitable, remake the sole with a different hook/yarn and remeasure.

US stitch abbreviations

ch = chain; **sl st** = slip stitch; **sc** = single crochet; **hdc** = half double crochet; **dc** = double crochet; **st(s)** = stitch(es); **rnd** = round; **BLO** = back loop only; **inc** = 2 sc in the same stitch; **sc2tog / hdc2tog** = decrease 2 stitches into 1.

Working rules

Work joined rounds without turning. At the start of every round, ch 1; this never counts as a stitch. Work the first stitch into the same stitch as the join, then sl st to the first real stitch at the end. Never work into the joining slip stitch. Numbers in brackets are the completed stitch totals.

Count each round before continuing. Keep the beginning marker at the heel. The centered decrease groups shape the toe. Use both loops unless BLO is specifically stated.



01 / Crochet the oval sole



Make 2 in green. Ch 13 loosely. Work around both sides of the foundation chain. In Round 1, the last chain means the chain farthest from the hook at the start.

Round 1: 2 sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 10 ch, 4 sc in last ch. Rotate to the unused side: sc in next 10 ch, 2 sc in the same chain that holds the first 2 sc. Join. **[28]**

Round 2: Inc in next 2 sts, sc in next 10, inc in next 4, sc in next 10, inc in next 2. Join. **[36]**

Round 3: (Sc in next st, inc) twice; sc in next 10; (sc in next st, inc) 4 times; sc in next 10; (sc in next st, inc) twice. Join. **[44]**

Round 4: (Sc in next 2 sts, inc) twice; sc in next 10; (sc in next 2 sts, inc) 4 times; sc in next 10; (sc in next 2 sts, inc) twice. Join. **[52]**

Round 5: (Sc in next 3 sts, inc) twice; sc in next 10; (sc in next 3 sts, inc) 4 times; sc in next 10; (sc in next 3 sts, inc) twice. Join. **[60]**

Checkpoint: lay flat without stretching and measure. A little curvature can relax during finishing; pronounced ruffling usually means extra stitches or loose increases. Fasten off green. Mark the join at the heel center.

02 / Build the ivory upper



Raise the side walls

With the sole right side facing outward, join ivory at the marked heel stitch. Keep the oval flat below your work. Count the heel stitch as stitch 1.

Round 6: Ch 1, sc BLO in each stitch around. Join. **[60]** The unused front loops form a neat green ridge between the sole and upper.

Rounds 7-8: Ch 1, hdc in every stitch around, using both loops. Join each round. **[60 each round]** Do not increase; the fabric should rise into a shallow cup.

How to make the stitches

Single crochet: insert hook, yarn over and pull up a loop; yarn over and pull through both loops. **Half**

double crochet: yarn over, insert hook, yarn over and pull up a loop; yarn over and pull through all 3 loops.

BLO: looking down at a stitch, find its two top loops. Insert under only the loop farther from you. Keep the joining slip stitches loose enough to avoid a tight heel ridge.

Prepare for toe shaping

On Round 8, place markers in stitches 21 and 40, counting from the heel marker. These enclose the 20 front stitches that will become 10 decreases in Round 9. There are 20 unchanged stitches on each side of that section.



03 / Shape the toe and instep



Round 9: Ch 1, hdc in next 20 sts, hdc2tog 10 times, hdc in next 20 sts. Join. **[50]** Remove the two toe markers; keep the heel marker.

Round 10: Ch 1, hdc in next 18 sts, hdc2tog 7 times, hdc in next 18 sts. Join. **[43]**

Round 11: Ch 1, sc in next 17 sts, sc2tog 4 times, sc in next 18 sts. Join. **[39]**

Round 12: Ch 1, sc in next 16 sts, sc2tog 3 times, sc in next 17 sts. Join. **[36]** Fasten off ivory, leaving a 15 cm (6 in) tail to weave in.

Decrease methods

Hdc2tog: yarn over, insert in next stitch and pull up a loop; yarn over, insert in following stitch and pull up a loop (5 loops on hook); yarn over and pull through all 5. Two stitches become one.

Sc2tog: insert in next stitch and pull up a loop; insert in following stitch and pull up a loop (3 loops on hook); yarn over and pull through all 3.

Checkpoint: the toe is covered and the heel remains open for the ankle. The upper edge has 36 stitches. Check that the opening admits the foot comfortably before adding the cuff; if the whole bootie is too tight, remake at a larger measured gauge.



04 / Add the cuff and leaves



Cuff, Rounds 13-19: join green at the heel; ch 1, sc in each of the 36 stitches, join. Repeat for 7 rounds total. **[36 each round]** Aim for a cuff about 2.5-3 cm (1-1¼ in) high. Add or omit plain cuff rounds only to adjust height. Fasten off loosely.

Leaf appliques / make 4

With green, ch 8. In 2nd ch from hook work sc; then hdc in next ch, dc in next 3 ch, hdc in next ch, 3 sc in last ch. Turn around the chain end. Along the unused side work hdc in next ch, dc in next 3 ch, hdc in next ch, sc in last ch. Join to first sc. **[15 stitches]**

To sharpen the point at the joined end: ch 2, sl st in 2nd ch from hook, then sl st into the base stitch. Fasten off with a 25 cm (10 in) sewing tail. A leaf should be about 3-3.5 cm (1¼-1½ in) long; use a smaller hook if it overwhelms the cuff.

Attach the leaves securely

Flatten the bootie with the heel seam at the back. Position one leaf on each front side of the cuff, pointing downward toward the ivory instep. Sew each leaf through its center and around its edge with small stitches, catching only the cuff wall beneath it. Do not sew the opening shut.

This adaptation uses sewn appliques to suggest the folded leaf corners in the reference. It does not use a separate wraparound cuff or a drawstring.

05 / Finish, check and care



Finish the pair

Weave each tail through the wrong side for at least 3-4 cm (1¼-1½ in), reverse direction and pass through another section before trimming. Keep the toe smooth. Make the second bootie with the same hook, yarn and counts; compare soles before finishing the second upper.

Dampen and shape gently by hand, following the yarn label. Lay flat to dry. Do not stretch to force a fit. Confirm that both booties have the same length and cuff height, the opening is comfortable, and the leaves withstand a gentle tug.

Troubleshooting

Twisted toe: check that the heel marker stayed at the round start and that all decreases sit at the opposite end. **Unexpected count:** undo to the last correct round; do not hide missed stitches in a later round. **Loose heel:** check gauge and overall fit before changing the pattern.

Wear and care: these soft booties are not walking shoes. Check fit and all attachments before use. Omit loose ties, tassels, beads and buttons. Wash as directed on the yarn label and reshape while damp.

About the diagram on the next page

The supplied diagram is reproduced alone on the final page, apart from the requested footer. It has no row labels or verifiable stitch totals and is **not a stitch-for-stitch chart of this adaptation**. Use the written rounds in this PDF for construction and counts; use the supplied image only as a visual reference.

Print on A4 at actual size or fit to printable area. The diagram is not a full-size template and its printed dimensions do not determine the bootie size.



