

Swirly Cat Toys

crochet pattern


BEGINNER



An original design by 
Julie Oparka, Red Berry Crochet © 2003

Materials:

For 3 cat toys you will need approximately 1/2 oz. each of a variegated and a solid color medium weight (worsted) yarn.

Colors used in the sample project:

Red Heart variegated Mexicana (color #0950)

Red Heart solid colors: Royal Blue (#0385),

Bright Yellow (#0324), Cherry Red (#0319)

Size K (6.5 mm) hook

Yarn needle



Gauge:

5 sc = 2", but gauge is not important for overall pattern.

Finished size:

5 1/2" from tip of toy to knot, 10 1/2" long including yarn ends.



Swirly Cat Toy Instructions:

Note: The entire cat toy is worked holding two strands of yarn together, one in a variegated and one in a solid color yarn.

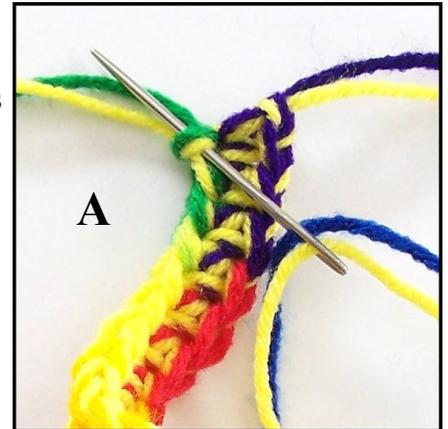
Leaving a 9 inch tail, ch 26 loosely.

Row 1: Working into the back ridge of the starting chain (see Helps & Hints), work 2 dc in the 4th ch from hook. Work 3 dc in each of the next 8 chs. Sc in the rem 14 chs. Fasten off, leaving a 9 inch yarn end. Using a yarn needle, thread these 2 ends through the beginning knot of the ch sts. (see photo A)

Make a knot at this same spot securing all 4 ends. Trim yarn ends to 5 1/2 inches, and knot each yarn

end individually at the bottom to prevent fraying.

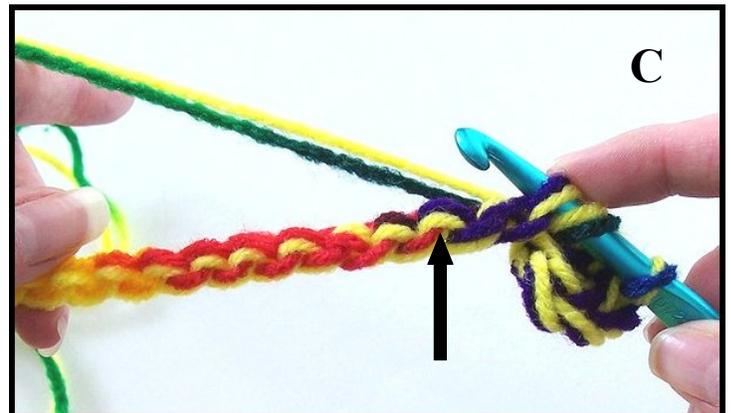
The dc groups as well as the sc sts will naturally curl up giving the toy its swirly, curly fun. You can fluff it up a bit by separating the swirls before giving it your cat.



Helps & Hints

Working into the back ridge of starting chain:

With the front of your starting chain facing you (photo B), roll your chain over so the back center loops are facing you (photo C). Work your stitches through these loops only. This will give your beginning edge the same look as your last row top stitches. It's especially helpful when you won't be adding a border, and I use this technique all the time when beginning row projects.



Abbreviations

ch(s)- chain(s)
 sc - single crochet
 dc - double crochet
 rem - remaining
 st(s) - stitch(es)

Cats love these swirly toys and small dogs love them too! Rub them in some catnip to give your kitty extra fun! These toys are a great gift for your pet, and best of all, when they get lost under furniture, you can whip up some new ones in no time!



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If you have any questions, comments, or need additional help with this pattern,
please email me at: redberrycrochet@gmail.com

I hope you enjoy crocheting this pattern as much as I have!
Julie Oparka, Red Berry Crochet

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