CROCHET PATTERN

Octopus

Easy / No sewn pieces / US crochet terms

Work an eight-armed octopus with a domed head and a reserved ring of front loops for evenly spaced curly arms.

Save one ring of visible loops before closing the head. Each arm gets exactly three loops, so the eighth arm lands next to the first.

Materials

Smooth #4 worsted yarn in the listed colors, a 3.5 mm starting hook, stitch marker, washable stuffing, blunt tapestry needle and scissors. Adjust hook size if stuffing shows through a gently stretched swatch. Use coral for the head and arms and deep plum for stitched features. A second removable marker helps identify the first reserved loop.

Colors

coral, deep plum

How To Read This Pattern

Use US terms. Sc = single crochet, inc = 2 sc in one stitch, dec = single crochet 2 together across the next two stitches. A number before an operation tells how many times to work it. Brackets or parentheses followed by × repeat the whole sequence. Work in continuous rounds through both loops unless directed otherwise. Place a marker in the first stitch and move it up each round. Begin at the crown. FLO and BLO mean front loop only and back loop only. When looking at the working edge, the front loop is the one nearer you. Ch = chain, sl st = slip stitch. The arm pass uses the 24 unused front loops of R7 after the body is complete.

Head And Underside / Make 1

	ROUND / STEP	INSTRUCTION	START	END
☐	**R1**	Make a magic ring, work 6 sc into the ring and pull the tail to close. Use coral.	**0**	**6**
☐	**R2**	(inc) × 6.	**6**	**12**
☐	**R3**	(sc, inc) × 6.	**12**	**18**
☐	**R4**	(2 sc, inc) × 6.	**18**	**24**
☐	**R5-7**	24 sc.	**24**	**24**

Head And Underside (continued)

	ROUND / STEP	INSTRUCTION	START	END
☐	**R8**	BLO: 24 sc. Mark the first unused front loop of R7 with a spare marker.	**24**	**24**
☐	**R9**	(2 sc, dec) × 6. Return to both loops. Stuff the dome and leave the underside shallow.	**24**	**18**
☐	**R10**	(sc, dec) × 6.	**18**	**12**
☐	**R11**	(dec) × 6.	**12**	**6**

Finish Cut the yarn, leaving a tail. Thread it under the front loop of each remaining stitch in order, draw the opening closed, secure and bury the end.

Assembly

1. Hold the dome upright with the reserved loops facing out. Attach coral with a slip stitch into the first marked front loop. This anchors arm 1.
2. Ch 8. Starting in the second chain from the hook, work 2 sc in each of the seven chains, giving 14 sc along the arm. Slip stitch into the next reserved loop and again into the following loop. You have used three base loops.
3. Start the next arm by slip stitching into the next unused loop. Repeat the chain, 14 sc and two return anchors. Make eight arms in total and fasten off after the last anchor. Curl each arm in the direction it naturally turns.
4. Embroider two plum eyes between R5 and R6 about four stitch widths apart. Center a small smile one round below.

Checkpoint

Count eight groups of three base loops before starting. If only two loops remain after arm seven, check whether any previous arm used four. At a gauge of 4 sc per inch the 24-stitch dome is about 6 inches around, excluding the arms.