Cow-Shaped Crochet Rug — Pattern & Step-by-Step

Detailed English instructions, diagram legend, and clear assembly steps

Includes: original photo and annotated diagram. Author: Generated for user

Note: This PDF uses the photo and a symbolic diagram to show stitches and placement. Stitch counts and shapes are illustrative — adapt as needed for yarn thickness and hook size.



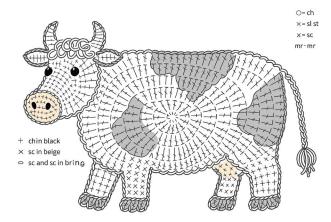


Photo: Reference cow rug (photo).

Annotated diagram: Symbols and stitch placements.

Materials, Abbreviations & Diagram Legend

Materials:

- Bulky/Chunky yarn in white/cream, black, and beige (or colors of choice). Amount depends on rug size; estimate 800-1200g total for a large rug. - Crochet hook suitable for the yarn (e.g., 6.5–8.0 mm for bulky yarn). Adjust for gauge. - Tapestry needle for weaving ends, stitch markers, scissors. - Optional: Non-slip rug backing or fabric glue if used on hard floors.

Abbreviations & stitches used (UK/US notes):

- ch = chain - sl st = slip stitch - sc = single crochet (US) / double crochet (UK) - hdc = half double crochet (US) - dc = double crochet (US) - tr = treble crochet (US) - mr = magic ring

Legend (as shown in diagram):

- \bigcirc = chain (ch) - x or x = single crochet (sc) - T symbol = double crochet (dc) - Shaded areas = color-change patches (black spots) - Thick outlined border = twisted/rope edging or surface chain

Step-by-step: Body & Head

Overview & Strategy:

This cow rug is constructed in layers and parts: (A) circular/oval body worked in rounds with color changes to create cow spots; (B) separate head worked flat or in rounds and appliquéd; (C) four legs and hooves crocheted flat and sewn; (D) tail braided or crocheted; (E) decorative edging around the body and head to join all parts together.

Gauge and sizing:

Gauge will vary with yarn and hook. The photographed rug appears to be made with bulky yarn and a large hook—expect about 10-12 stitches and 8-10 rows per 10 cm with dc/hdc in bulky yarn. Adjust hook to reach desired size.

Step 1 - Body (circular foundation):

1. Begin with a magic ring (mr). Round 1: ch 2 (counts as first dc), work 10–12 dc into the ring; join with sl st. 2. Round 2: ch 2, 2 dc in each stitch around (increase evenly) — you will double the stitch count. Join. 3. Continue increasing with evenly spaced increases every round to keep the piece flat: e.g., Round 3: (dc in next st, 2 dc in next) repeat; Round 4: (dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next) repeat. Increase rounds until the body reaches the desired oval/circle diameter. 4. To create the oval shape (elongated body), selectively add extra increases on two opposite sides of the circle over several rounds so the circle stretches into an oval.

Color patches (spots):

– For each spot, either carry the black yarn along the back (if comfortable) or cut and rejoin black where needed. Work the designated dc or sc stitches in black to form irregular spot shapes as shown in the diagram. Aim to place spots symmetrically or asymmetrically depending on your preference.

Step 2 — Head (worked separately):

1. The head can be worked flat as an oval using sc (US single crochet) or hdc, following an increasing and decreasing row pattern to shape the muzzle and forehead. Begin with a ch 8–12, join and work in rounds, or work rows increasing at ends to shape. 2. Work the snout in beige: make a small oval (mr → sc rounds or ch foundation) and stitch it to the head. Embroider nostrils or add safety eyes as shown in the photo. 3. Add ear shapes: make 2 small ovals or triangles in contrasting color and sew them to sides of the head. Horns: crochet short cone shapes or use amigurumi horn shaping (increase then decrease rows).

Step-by-step: Legs, Tail, Assembly & Finishing

Step 3 — Legs and hooves:

1. Each leg is worked flat in rows or worked in a small tube in rounds. The pictured legs are rectangular columns with a small scalloped hoof at the bottom. 2. For a leg: ch 8–12 (depending on desired leg width). Work sc or hdc in rows to the desired length, switching to black for the last 5–8 rows to form the hoof. Make 4 legs. 3. Light padding can be added where the hooves meet the floor (optional). Sew the legs to the underside edge of the body following the diagram placement.

Step 4 — Tail:

1. Work a long chain the length you need, then single crochet back along the chain to give thickness OR braid 3 lengths of yarn and knot; add a tassel end as shown. 2. Secure the tail to the back edge of the rug using a strong weave and extra stitches.

Step 5 — Assembly & Edge join:

1. Position and pin the head and legs to the body. Using a tapestry needle or whipstitch, join the head around the neckline—use a decorative slip-stitch round or a braided surface chain to hide seams. 2. Work a uniform edging around the entire rug (including head) using a rope-like chain border: e.g., sc around the perimeter, then work a twisted chain surface pattern or crab stitch (reverse sc) to emphasize outline.

Edging suggestion (rope/chain look):

- Round: sc evenly around. Next round: chain loops (ch 4, sl st into next sc) to form scallops OR work crab stitch (reverse sc) for a neat raised outline. For a thick rope, you can use two strands held together when crocheting the border.

Finishina:

1. Weave in all ends securely; use mattress stitch or whipstitch for seaming. 2. Steam-block lightly if yarn permits to flatten areas and even stitches. 3. For floor use, consider a non-slip rug pad or sew on a non-slip backing fabric.

Tips & troubleshooting:

- If the body pucker/ruffles: you increased too much in a round; add an extra round of plain dc without increases to even it out. - If the rug cups (edges curl): add a round of sc or a tighter border; blocking helps. - Keep stitch marker at the start of each round to track increases.

Stitch explanation (clear):

- Chain (ch): create foundation loops. - Slip stitch (sl st): join rounds or move along without adding height. - Single crochet (sc): insert hook, yarn over, pull up a loop, yarn over and pull through both loops (short, dense stitch). - Double crochet (dc): yarn over, insert, yarn over, pull through, yarn over pull through two, yarn over pull through final two — taller stitch useful for body rounds.

Customization:

– Change colors, add applique flowers or patch pockets, alter size by changing yarn weight and hook, and add non-slip backing.

End of pattern

Credits: Image-based pattern created from user-provided photo and an annotated diagram. Use the diagram for stitch placement and the photo for visual reference.