

Crochet Cat in a Pumpkin

PATTERN

A sleepy black kitty with an embroidered face, tucked into a ribbed orange pumpkin with a tiny pumpkin cap.



The finished Cat in a Pumpkin, about 5 in tall including the cap.

Size	Pumpkin about 4.5 in wide; total height about 5 in	Skill level	Confident beginner
Time	About 3 hours	Terms	US crochet terms

Two simple amigurumi shapes make this piece: a hollow, ridge-shaped pumpkin that stays open like a nest, and a round black kitty head with triangle ears, an embroidered sleepy face and two little paws that drape over the rim. A miniature pumpkin cap finishes the look. Work in a continuous spiral and mark the first stitch of every round.

Materials

- Worsted weight (#4) yarn in **orange** - approx. 150 yds (pumpkin + cap)
- Worsted weight (#4) yarn in **black** - approx. 100 yds (kitty)
- Small amounts of **brown** (stem), **green** (leaf + vine) and **white** (face)
- 4.0 mm (US G-6) crochet hook
- Polyester fiberfill stuffing
- Yarn needle with a large eye
- Scissors
- Stitch markers

Abbreviations (US Terms)

MR	magic ring	ch	chain
sl st	slip stitch	sc	single crochet
inc	increase - 2 sc in one stitch	dec / sc2tog	decrease - sc 2 sts together
st(s)	stitch(es)	rnd	round

FO	fasten off	BLO	back loop only
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Gauge: not critical for this project. With worsted yarn and a 4.0 mm hook the pumpkin finishes about 4.5 in across. Work tightly so no stuffing shows between stitches.

The Pumpkin Body (orange)



Step 1 - crocheting the open pumpkin body in the round.

Rnd 1: 6 sc into a magic ring. **[6]**

Rnd 2: 2 sc in each st around. **[12]**

Rnd 3: (Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st) 6 times. **[18]**

Rnd 4: (Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st) 6 times. **[24]**

Rnd 5: (Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st) 6 times. **[30]**

Rnd 6: (Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st) 6 times. **[36]**

Rnd 7: (Sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next st) 6 times. **[42]**

Rnd 8: (Sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st) 6 times. **[48]**

Rnds 9-14: Sc in each st around (6 rounds, no increases). **[48]**

Fasten off with a long tail (about 30 in) for the ridge shaping. Do not close the top - the pumpkin stays open like a bowl. The wall should stand about 3.5 in tall.

Shape the Ridges & Stuff



Step 2 - cinching the shaping yarn and stuffing the pumpkin.

- Thread the long tail (or a double strand of orange) onto the yarn needle.
- Run the yarn from the centre of the base, up the inside, over the rim and back down through the centre bottom. Pull gently until a shallow channel sinks into the surface.
- Repeat to make 8 evenly spaced ridges around the pumpkin.
- Stuff as you shape, packing fiberfill around the sides so the centre stays slightly hollow - a soft nest for the kitty.
- Tie off underneath and hide all ends inside the pumpkin.

The Kitty Head (black)



Step 3 - the black head with triangle ears and orange inner ears.

- Rnd 1:** 6 sc into a magic ring. **[6]**
- Rnd 2:** 2 sc in each st around. **[12]**
- Rnd 3:** (Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st) 6 times. **[18]**
- Rnd 4:** (Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st) 6 times. **[24]**
- Rnd 5:** (Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st) 6 times. **[30]**
- Rnd 6:** (Sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st) 6 times. **[36]**
- Rnds 7-10:** Sc in each st around (4 rounds). **[36]**
- Rnd 11:** (Sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog) 6 times. **[30]**

Rnd 12: (Sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog) 6 times. **[24]**

Stuff the head firmly before the opening gets small. Pull the remaining opening closed with the tail, or leave it slightly open - the base hides inside the pumpkin either way. Fasten off.

The Ears (make 2, black with orange inner ear)

Row 1: Ch 5. Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook and in each ch across. **[4]** Ch 1, turn.

Row 2: Sc2tog, sc2tog. **[2]** Ch 1, turn.

Row 3: Sc2tog. **[1]** Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Inner ear: With orange, repeat Rows 1-2 only and fasten off. Sew or glue one inner ear centred on each black ear.

Sew one ear to each side of the top of the head, angled slightly outward.

Embroider the Face



Step 4 - embroidering the sleepy face with white and orange yarn.

- **Eyes (white):** stitch two downward curves for closed eyes. Add 3 tiny lashes fanning from the outer end of each curve.
- **Nose (orange):** a tiny triangle of 3 horizontal stitches at the centre, with one short vertical stitch below it.
- **Whiskers (white):** 3 long straight stitches on each cheek, angled slightly downward.
- Knot and bury every end inside the head so nothing shows.

The Paws (make 2, black)

Rnd 1: 6 sc into a magic ring. **[6]**

Rnd 2: 2 sc in each st around. **[12]**

Rnds 3-4: Sc in each st around (2 rounds). **[12]**

Flatten each paw slightly, fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing.



Step 5 - sewing the paws to the front rim of the pumpkin.

The Pumpkin Cap, Stem, Leaf & Vine

Rnd 1: 6 sc into a magic ring (orange). **[6]**

Rnd 2: 2 sc in each st around. **[12]**

Rnd 3: (Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st) 6 times. **[18]**

Rnd 4: (Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st) 6 times. **[24]**

Rnd 5: Sc in each st around. **[24]**

Lightly cinch 6 shallow ridges around the cap with a strand of orange, exactly like the big pumpkin, or skip the ridges for a smooth cap.

Stem (brown): Ch 4, sl st in the 2nd ch from the hook and in each ch across; or crochet 4 sc around a magic ring and work 2 short rounds. Sew to the centre top of the cap.

Leaf (green): Ch 6. Sc in the 2nd ch, hdc in next, dc in next, hdc in next, sc in last. Fasten off and sew beside the stem.

Vine (green): Ch 20. Work 2 sc in each ch across - the chain curls into a spiral as you go. Sew beside the leaf.

Assembly



Step 6 - the finished kitty, cap perched between the ears.

- 1. Set the kitty in:** nestle the head into the pumpkin's hollow, tilted very slightly forward. Add a pinch of stuffing behind the head if it wobbles.
- 2. Sew the paws:** pin the two paws to the front rim, evenly spaced either side of the face, and sew them down firmly so they drape over the edge.
- 3. Add the cap:** perch the cap between the ears, tilted a little to one side, and secure it with a few stitches through the head.
- 4.** Weave in all remaining ends and fluff the pumpkin ridges with your fingers.

Finishing & Care

- Display away from direct sunlight to keep the orange bright.
- Spot clean with a damp cloth; if the yarn allows, a gentle hand wash and flat dry keeps the ridges crisp.
- Refresh the ridges any time by re-cinching the shaping channels with fresh yarn.

3 Tips for a Perfect Cat in a Pumpkin

- 1. Shape the ridges before the final stuffing.** Cinching is twice as easy while you can still reach the centre, and the stuffing added afterwards locks the grooves in place.
- 2. Stuff the head firmer than feels natural.** A plump head keeps the kitty peeking proudly out of the pumpkin instead of sinking in.
- 3. Pin the paws and cap before sewing.** Symmetry sells this design - pin everything, check from the front, and only then sew.

Happy crocheting! Make a grey kitty, a white kitty, a whole pumpkin patch of kitties - and keep this pattern handy for every autumn fair.