

Crochet Jack-O-Lantern

PATTERN

A grinning little Halloween pumpkin with the classic carved face and a curly stem - a one-evening make for confident beginners.



The finished jack-o'-lantern, about 10 cm (4 in) wide.

Finished size	Approx. 10 cm (4 in) wide, 11.5 cm (4 1/2 in) tall with stem	Skill level	Confident beginner
Time	About 2 hours	Terms	US crochet terms

This chubby orange pumpkin has the face everyone recognises: two black triangle eyes, a tiny triangle nose and a zigzag grin, with a curly brown stem on top. The body is one simple sphere worked in a continuous spiral, the five face pieces are quick flat shapes, and the whole jack-o'-lantern comes together in about two hours. Mark the first stitch of every round and stuff the body firmly as you go.

Materials

- Worsted-weight (#4) yarn in **orange**, approx. 50 g - pumpkin body
- Worsted-weight yarn in **black**, small amount - face pieces
- Worsted-weight yarn in **brown**, small amount - curly stem
- 4.0 mm (US G-6) crochet hook
- Fiberfill stuffing
- Yarn needle, stitch marker, scissors, sewing pins
- Optional: black felt + fabric glue as an alternative to the crocheted face

Abbreviations (US Terms)

MR	magic ring	ch	chain
sl st	slip stitch	sc	single crochet
inc	increase - 2 sc in one stitch	dec	invisible decrease
BLO	back loop only	FO	fasten off
st(s)	stitch(es)	rnd	round

Size & gauge: Gauge is not critical for amigurumi - work tightly so the stuffing does not show through. With the yarn and hook listed, the pumpkin measures about 10 cm (4 in) wide and 11.5 cm (4 1/2 in) tall including the curly stem.

Pumpkin Body (orange)



Step 1 - the magic ring that starts the body.

Work in a continuous spiral. When the opening narrows at Rnd 19, pause and stuff the body firmly - firm stuffing is what gives the pumpkin its satisfying round shape.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rnds 9-15: Sc in each st around (7 rounds). **[48]**

Rnd 16: (Sc in next 6 sts, dec) 6 times. **[42]**

Rnd 17: (Sc in next 5 sts, dec) 6 times. **[36]**

Rnd 18: (Sc in next 4 sts, dec) 6 times. **[30]**

Rnd 19: (Sc in next 3 sts, dec) 6 times. **[24]**

Rnd 20: (Sc in next 2 sts, dec) 6 times. **[18]**

Rnd 21: (Sc in next st, dec) 6 times. **[12]**

Rnd 22: Dec 6 times. **[6]**

Fasten off, thread the tail through the front loops of the last 6 stitches, pull to close the hole and weave in the end.



Step 2 - the round body, worked up in even rounds.

Curly Stem (brown) - make 1 or 2



Step 3 - the curly stem beside the finished body.

Row 1: Ch 12. Work 2 sc in the 2nd ch from the hook and in each ch across - the extra stitches force the chain to twist into a springy curl. **[22]**

Fasten off leaving a long tail for sewing. A tall curl and a short curl side by side look especially cute - repeat for a second stem if you like.

Face Pieces (black)



Step 4 - the five face pieces, ready to attach.

Triangle Eyes - make 2

Row 1: Ch 6. Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook and in each ch across. **[5]**

Row 2: Ch 1, turn. Dec, sc in next st, dec. **[3]**

Row 3: Ch 1, turn. Dec, sc in next st. **[2]**

Row 4: Ch 1, turn. Dec. **[1]**

Fasten off leaving a long tail for sewing.

Triangle Nose - make 1

Row 1: Ch 4. Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook and in each ch across. **[3]**

Row 2: Ch 1, turn. Dec, sc in next st. **[2]**

Row 3: Ch 1, turn. Dec. **[1]**

Fasten off leaving a long tail for sewing.

Zigzag Smile - make 1

Row 1: Ch 13. Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook and in each ch across. **[12]**

Fasten off leaving a long tail. When you sew it on, ease the strip into a gentle zigzag wave as you stitch - the wave is what makes the grin.

Assembly



Step 5 - the face sewn on, stem ready to attach.

- 1. Close and stuff:** finish Rnd 22 of the body, stuffing firmly before the opening gets too small. Close the top and weave in the end.
- 2. Sew the stem:** anchor the curly stem to the top centre of the pumpkin with the brown tail, stitching through several stitches so it stands upright.
- 3. Position the face:** lay out all five pieces on the front before you sew anything - the two triangle eyes first, then the nose below and between them, then the zigzag smile underneath. Pin them and check the look from a distance: a classic grin sits wide and slightly crooked.
- 4. Sew the face:** sew each piece on securely with black yarn, easing the smile strip into its zigzag wave as you stitch.
- 5.** Weave in all remaining ends. Roll the pumpkin gently in your hands to even out the stuffing - and your jack-o'-lantern is finished!



Your finished crochet jack-o'-lantern!

3 Tips for a Perfect Jack-O'-Lantern

- 1. Keep your stitches tight.** Snug single crochet is the whole secret of neat amigurumi - it hides the stuffing and makes the orange surface look smooth and professional.
- 2. Lay out the face before sewing.** The difference between a cute jack-o'-lantern and a lopsided one is two minutes of arranging. Big eyes set wide apart read as friendly; close-set eyes read as mischievous.
- 3. Vary the grin.** Make the zigzag smile symmetrical for the classic look, or shift it to one side for a goofy, tipsy grin. No two jack-o'-lanterns need to match.

Happy Halloween crocheting! Make one for your mantel, gift one to a friend - and keep this pattern handy so your next jack-o'-lantern is never more than an evening away.