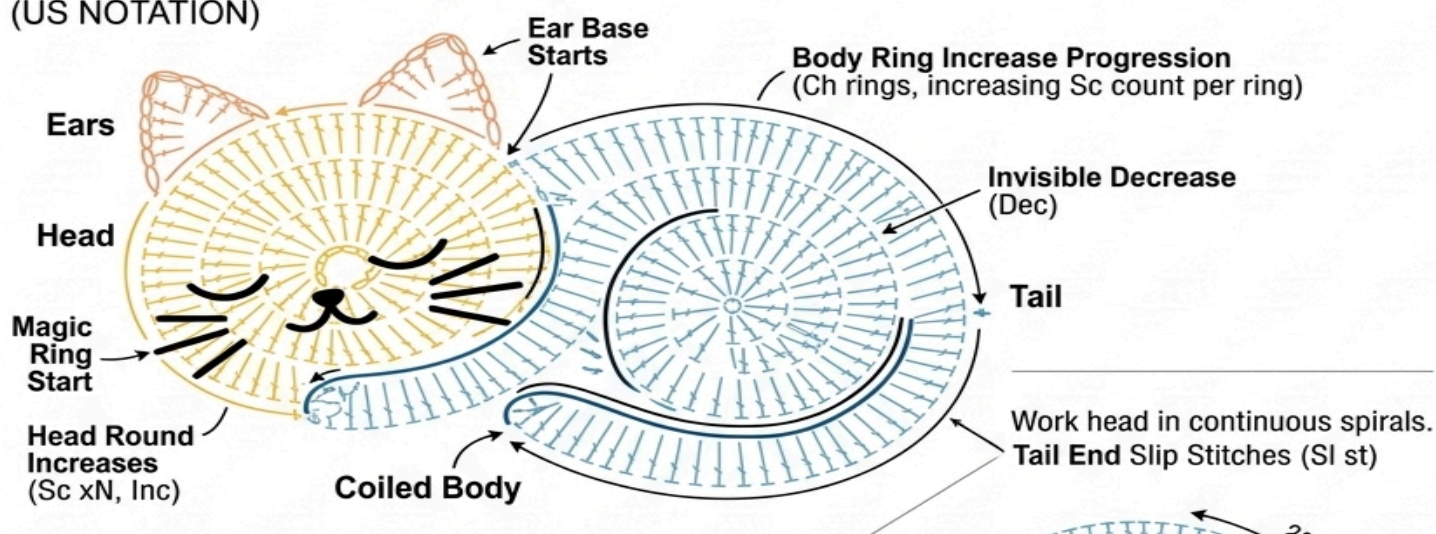


Crochet Sleeping Cat Appliqué – Complete Step-by-Step Tutorial 🐱💤

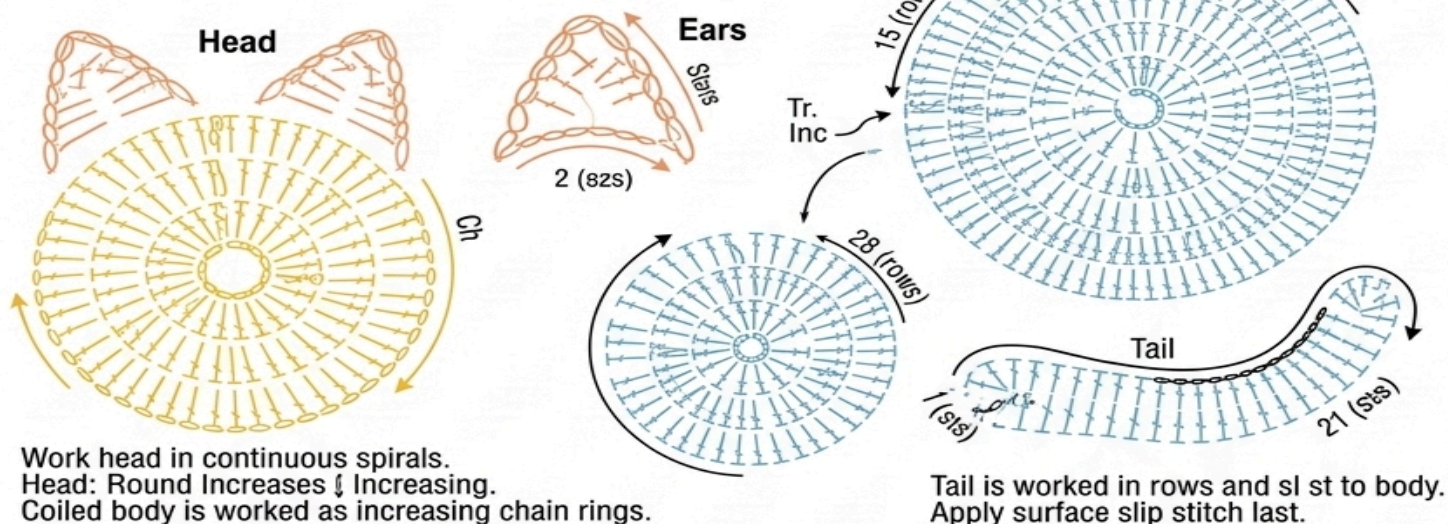
This tutorial is based on the stitch chart shown in the image and is written to help beginners and experienced crocheters recreate the design as accurately as possible. The project is worked from the center outward using standard crochet chart symbols.

CAT APPLIQUÉ

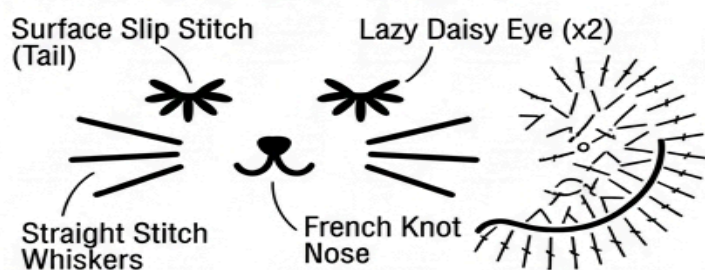
FULL UNROLLED STITCH DIAGRAM (US NOTATION)



DETAILED MOTIF EXPLOSIONS



EMBROIDERY & FINISHING



STITCH KEY & LEGEND

⊙	Magic Ring	SI st	Slip Stitch
○	Chain	Inc.	Increase
×	Single Crochet	Dec.	Invisible Decrease
⌋	Half Double Crochet	↪	Crab Stitch (Reverse Sc)
⌈	Double Crochet	SI st	Joining Point
⌈	Treble Crochet		

- <https://handcrafted.craftsforlove.com/> SEE THE BEST PATTERNS

Skill Level

Intermediate

You should be comfortable with:

- Chain stitches (ch)
- Slip stitches (sl st)
- Single crochet (sc)
- Double crochet (dc)
- Reading crochet charts
- Working in rounds
- Shaping with increases and decreases

Finished Size

The finished size depends on the yarn and hook used.

Approximate sizes:

- Fine cotton yarn + 2.5 mm hook: 5–6 inches (13–15 cm)
- Worsted weight yarn + 4 mm hook: 8–10 inches (20–25 cm)
- Bulky yarn + 5 mm hook: 10–12 inches (25–30 cm)

Materials

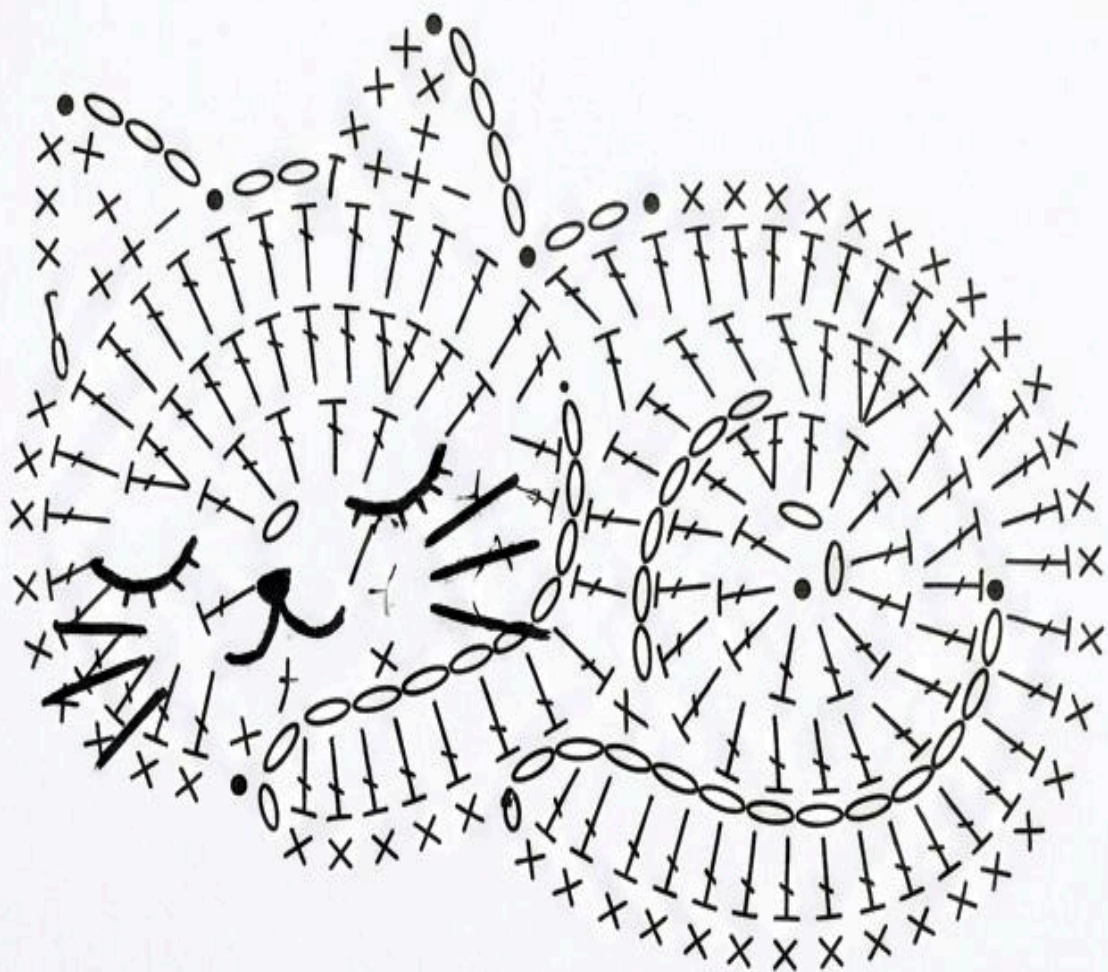
- Yarn in your preferred color
- Matching crochet hook
- Yarn needle
- Scissors
- Stitch markers (optional)

Crochet Chart Symbol Guide

The chart uses common international crochet symbols:

- Oval = Chain (ch)
- X = Single Crochet (sc)
- T = Double Crochet (dc)
- Solid Dot = Starting point or joining point
- Connected ovals = Chain spaces

- <https://handcrafted.craftsforlove.com/> SEE THE BEST PATTERNS



- <https://handcrafted.craftsforlove.com/> SEE THE BEST PATTERNS

Construction Overview

The sleeping cat is crocheted in separate chart sections that flow together:

1. Body
2. Head
3. Front paws
4. Tail
5. Ears
6. Facial embroidery

The body is worked first because it forms the foundation of the entire appliqué.

Step 1 – Crochet the Body

The large circular section on the right side of the chart forms the body.

Begin with:

Round 1:

- Make 6 chains.
- Join with a slip stitch to form a ring.

Round 2:

- Ch 3 (counts as first dc).
- Work 15 dc into the ring.
- Join with a slip stitch.

Total: 16 dc.

Round 3:

- Ch 3.
- Work 2 dc in each stitch around.
- Join.

Total: 32 dc.

Round 4:

- Ch 3.
- *1 dc in next stitch, 2 dc in next stitch.*
- Repeat around.

Round 5:

- Ch 3.

- <https://handcrafted.craftsforlove.com/> SEE THE BEST PATTERNS

- 1 dc in next 2 stitches, 2 dc in next stitch.
- Repeat around.

Round 6:

- Continue increasing evenly to maintain a flat circle.

The body should now resemble the large circular shape shown in the chart.

Step 2 – Create the Lower Belly Curve

The lower edge of the cat is not perfectly round.

Following the chart:

- Work rows of dc around the lower section.
- Add small chain spaces where indicated by the oval symbols.
- Continue shaping so the bottom edge becomes slightly elongated.

This creates the relaxed curled sleeping position.

Step 3 – Form the Tail

The tail extends from the lower right side of the body.

Attach yarn at the tail starting point shown on the chart.

Row 1:

- Ch 12–15.

Row 2:

- Work sc back across the chain.

Row 3:

- Ch 1 and turn.
- Continue with sc while slightly curving the tail.

Row 4:

- Add a few increases along the outer edge to create the rounded tail shape.

Fasten off.

The tail should wrap gently underneath the body just as shown in the chart.

- <https://handcrafted.craftsforlove.com/> SEE THE BEST PATTERNS

Step 4 – Crochet the Head

The head is the circular section on the left side.

Attach yarn at the neck area.

Round 1:

- Ch 4.
- Join into a ring.

Round 2:

- Ch 3.
- Work 11 dc into ring.
- Join.

Total: 12 dc.

Round 3:

- Increase evenly around.

Round 4:

- Continue increasing until the head is approximately two-thirds the size of the body.

The head should sit naturally against the body with a smooth transition at the neck.

Step 5 – Shape the Cheeks and Muzzle

The sleeping cat's face has a slightly rounded muzzle.

Work short rows along the lower front of the head:

- Attach yarn near the nose area.
- Crochet small groups of dc.
- Use decreases at each end.

This creates the gentle cheek curve visible in the chart.

Step 6 – Crochet the First Ear

The ears are triangular sections above the head.

Locate the first ear position.

Row 1:

- <https://handcrafted.craftsforlove.com/> SEE THE BEST PATTERNS

- Attach yarn.
- Ch 1.
- Work 7 sc.

Row 2:

- Turn.
- Decrease at beginning and end.

Row 3:

- Continue decreasing until a triangle forms.

Fasten off.

Step 7 – Crochet the Second Ear

Repeat the same process for the second ear.

Make sure:

- Both ears have equal height.
- The points are slightly rounded.
- The ears angle outward like the chart.

Step 8 – Create the Front Paw

The front paw appears between the head and body.

Attach yarn where shown.

Row 1:

- Ch 6.

Row 2:

- Work sc across.

Row 3:

- Add a few dc stitches in the center.

This creates a soft oval paw shape.

Fasten off.

Step 9 – Refine the Body Contours

- <https://handcrafted.craftsforlove.com/> SEE THE BEST PATTERNS

The chart includes several chain spaces that soften the silhouette.

Work around the entire outer edge:

- Sc evenly around.
- In curved sections, add increases.
- At inward curves, work decreases.

This step is important because it smooths the outline and makes the cat look more natural.

Step 10 – Embroider the Face

Using black yarn or embroidery floss:

Eyes

Embroider two curved lines:

- One on each side of the face.
- Slight downward curve at the ends.

This creates the sleeping expression.

Nose

Create a small upside-down triangle or heart shape.

Mouth

From the center of the nose:

- Embroider two small curved lines downward.

Whiskers

Add three whiskers on each side.

Keep them short and delicate.

Step 11 – Block the Appliqué

Blocking greatly improves the final appearance.

1. Lightly dampen the finished piece.
2. Pin it to a blocking board.
3. Shape the ears, tail, and body.
4. Allow it to dry completely.

- <https://handcrafted.craftsforlove.com/> SEE THE BEST PATTERNS

The sleeping pose will become much more defined after blocking.

Final Check

Before finishing, verify that:

- The body is larger than the head.
- The tail curves beneath the body.
- Both ears are symmetrical.
- The face is centered.
- The outer edge is smooth.
- The cat maintains the curled sleeping posture shown in the chart.

Customization Ideas ✨

You can personalize your sleeping cat by:

- Using gray yarn for a realistic cat
- Using white yarn for a minimalist design
- Adding stripes with embroidery
- Sewing on tiny bows
- Turning it into a coaster
- Using it as a blanket appliqué
- Attaching it to bags, hats, or pillows
- Making multiple cats in different colors

When completed, the appliqué should closely resemble the chart: a curled sleeping cat with a rounded body, tucked paws, curved tail, pointed ears, and embroidered closed eyes. 🐾💖