

Swan Heart Rug – Complete Crochet Tutorial (Step by Step)

This detailed guide is based entirely on the chart you provided. It will walk you through every stage so you can confidently create your swan heart rug from start to finish—even if you're following U.S. crochet terminology for the first time.

SWAN HEART RUG: COMPLETE TUTORIAL AND CHART

1. START THE ARC:

Make a magic ring (or ch 4 and join). Work a small semicircle of single crochet stitches. Increase stitches in subsequent rows (Rows 1-10) to form the base arc, ensuring a symmetric curve. Use white yarn.

2. FORM THE BODIES:

Working in rows, make mirrored double crochet increase stitches upwards (Rows 11-20). The pattern will fan out symmetrically.

3. SHAPE THE NECKS:

At the top edge of the bodies, chain up and work long, narrow chains and rows (Rows 27-30) to form the distinct swan necks that will meet in a heart. Use decreasing stitches to maintain a slender neck shape.

4. CREATE THE 'BEISSIO' JOIN:

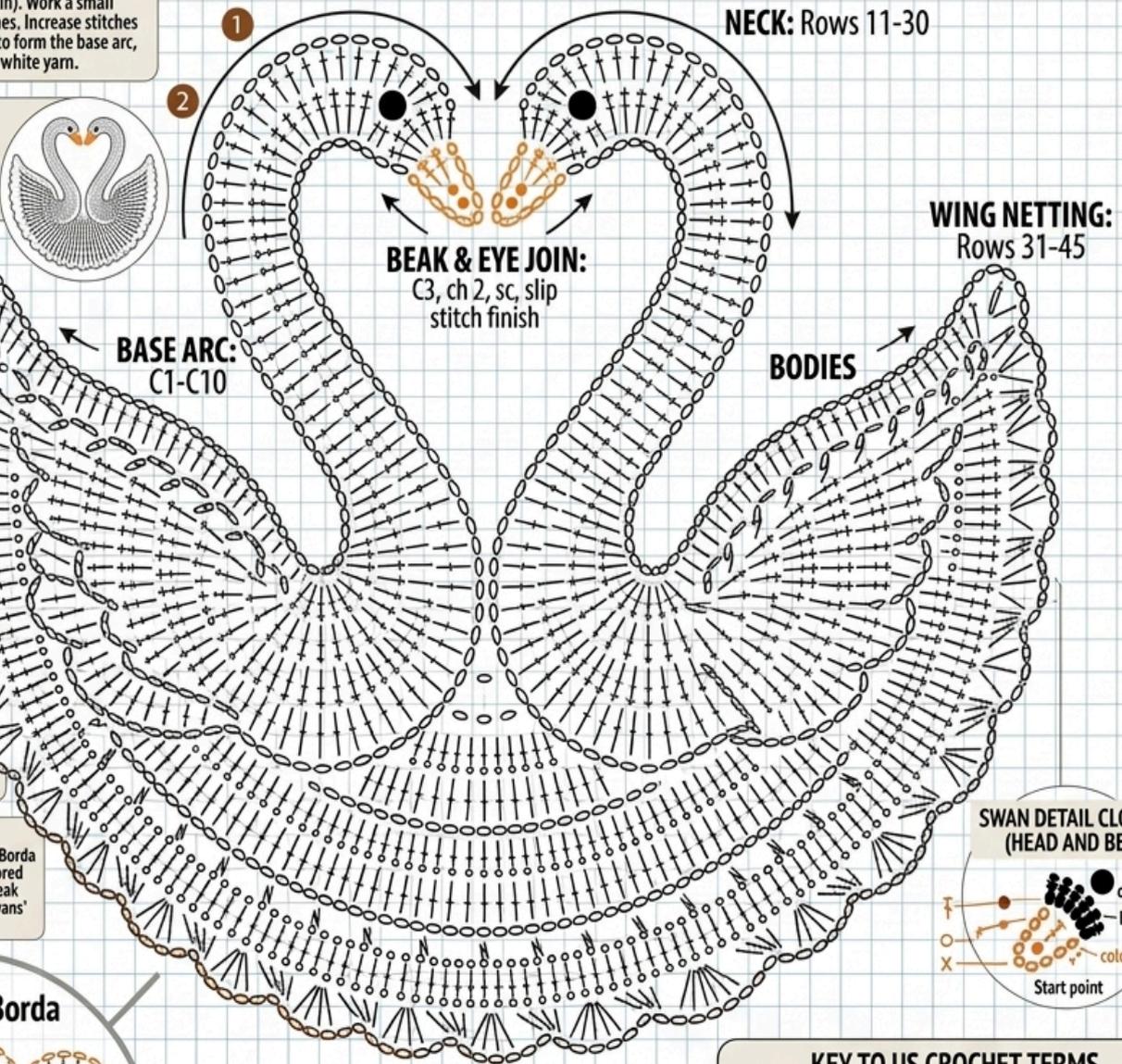
Carefully unite the two neck peaks. Join with 'beak' details: (e.g., Row 31: ch 2, sc into neck. Add orange thread for the beak. This crucial join stabilizes the heart.

5. OPEN THE WINGS:

Return to the base arc's side edge. Work open mesh stitches (Rows 31-45) using chain spaces and double crochets. This forms inner from the body. Ensure even tension in the 'Netting Pattern'.

6. ADD FINAL DETAILS:

Work shell stitches as shown in the 'Borda de Conchas' section across. With colored thread (e.g., orange, black), work beak details and slip stitch eyes on the swans' heads. Check all joins.



Seção de Borda



SHELL BORDER SECTION

Working into dc from previous round, repeat X times

KEY TO US CROCHET TERMS

○ Corr. (Correntinha)	ch: Chain	2-dc cluster	2-tr cluster
+ Pb. (Ponto Baixo)	sc: Single Crochet	2-tr cluster	Picot Stitch: (used near beak, can add if applicable)
† Pa. (Ponto Alto)			
● Px. (Ponto Baixíssimo)			
Additions:			
Magic Ring (MR)	2-dc cluster	3-dc cluster	Picot Stitch: Working in Back Loop Only (BLO)
			Picot Stitch: Working in Front Loop Only (FLD)

Materials You'll Need

- Medium to bulky yarn (cotton or acrylic works well)
- Crochet hook (size appropriate for your yarn, typically 5.5–7 mm)
- Stitch markers (optional but helpful)
- Tapestry needle
- Scissors

Stitch Abbreviations (U.S. Terms)

- ch = chain
- sc = single crochet
- dc = double crochet
- sl st = slip stitch
- inc = increase (2 stitches in same stitch)
- MR = magic ring
- picot = ch 3, sl st into first chain
- cluster = multiple stitches worked together

Step 1: Start the Base Arc (Rows 1–10)

Begin by forming the curved base of the rug.

1. Make a **magic ring (MR)** OR chain 4 and join with a slip stitch to form a ring.
2. Work **single crochet stitches (sc)** into the ring to form a semicircle.
3. Continue working in rows (not rounds), turning after each row.
4. Gradually **increase stitches evenly across each row** to expand the semicircle.
5. By Row 10, you should have a smooth, wide arc that forms the base of the swan heart.

 Tip: Keep your increases symmetrical so both sides curve evenly.

Step 2: Form the Swan Bodies (Rows 11–20)

Now you will build the two mirrored swan bodies.

1. Continue working upward from both ends of the base arc.
2. Use **double crochet stitches (dc)** for height and structure.
3. Work increases strategically so each side grows outward and upward.
4. Mirror your stitches on both sides—what you do on the left, repeat on the right.

By Row 20, you should clearly see two rounded swan body shapes forming.

Step 3: Shape the Necks (Rows 21–30)

This is where the swans begin to curve inward to form the heart.

1. At the top edges of each body, begin chaining upward.
2. Use **chains and single crochet stitches** to create long, narrow necks.
3. Gradually curve each neck inward toward the center.
4. Decrease stitches slightly as needed to keep the necks slender.

 Important: Maintain symmetry so both necks meet evenly in the center.

Step 4: Join Beak & Eye Area

Now connect the swans at the top.

1. When both necks meet:
 - Chain 3
 - Chain 2
 - Single crochet into the opposite neck
2. Finish with a **slip stitch** to secure the join.

This creates the heart shape formed by the swans' heads and necks 

Step 5: Create the “Kiss/Join” Stabilization (Row 31)

This step reinforces the center connection.

1. Chain 1
2. Work a **single crochet into the neck join area**
3. Add a bit of tension (not too tight) to stabilize the shape

 This prevents the heart from stretching out of form.

Step 6: Open the Wings (Rows 31–45)

Now we create the decorative wing netting.

1. Return to the outer edges of the swan bodies.
2. Begin working **chain spaces and double crochets** to form a mesh pattern.
3. Skip stitches between clusters to create an airy “net” look.
4. Continue expanding outward row by row.

 Keep your tension even so the lace pattern looks consistent.

Step 7: Add Final Details

Enhance the swan features.

- Use contrasting yarn (black or orange) to:
 - Stitch small **eyes**
 - Add **beak details**
- Secure all ends neatly with a tapestry needle.

Step 8: Shell Border Finish

Finish the rug with a decorative border.

1. Work along the outer edge of the rug.
2. Into each designated space:
 - Work multiple **double crochets in the same stitch** to form a shell
3. Skip stitches between shells to create a scalloped edge.
4. Repeat evenly all around.

 This gives the rug a polished, elegant finish.

Final Tips for Success

- Count your stitches often to maintain symmetry
- Use stitch markers if needed for mirroring sides
- Block your finished rug for a clean shape
- Take your time—this is a decorative piece, not a race 😊