

HOW TO CROCHET CAT-SHAPED MATS

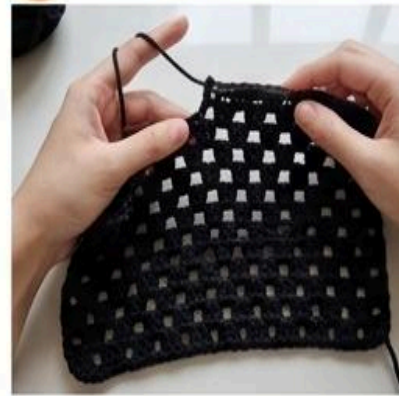
Step-by-step pattern to create your own pair of interlocking cat mats!

1. MATERIALS NEEDED



Yarn (Black, White, Pink), Crochet Hook (4.5mm), Tapestry Needle, & Scissors.

2. START THE BODY



Chain 35. Work rows of granny stitch clusters (3 dc, ch 1), gradually decreasing on one side to shape the sloped back.

3. SHAPE THE NECK & HEAD



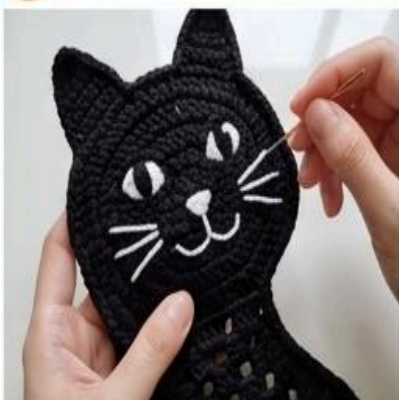
Decrease stitches to form the neck, then increase on one side to shape the chin, nose, and back of the head.

4. CROCHET THE EARS



Attach yarn to the top of the head. Crochet triangular ears. Use pink yarn for the white cat's inner ear.

5. EMBROIDER THE FACES



Using contrasting yarn (white on black, black on white) and a tapestry needle, stitch on the eyes, whiskers, and a cute smile.

6. THE FINISHED MATS!



Weave in all loose ends. Lay your mats together so they face each other snugly! Your cat mats are complete!

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Here is the complete English tutorial for the Kitty Rug Crochet Diagram, written for US crocheters and based on the uploaded chart. It follows the cat silhouette, pointed ears, textured shell motifs, face embroidery, and stitch legend. As with the previous chart, the image does not specify every stitch count, yarn weight, or finished measurement, so those details are identified rather than invented.

KITTY RUG CROCHET PATTERN

Complete Step-by-Step Tutorial for Beginners (US Crochet Terms)

Create an adorable kitty-shaped crochet rug featuring pointed ears, a rounded head, a decorative body, and embroidered facial details. This design uses repeated shell and cluster motifs to create a textured surface while maintaining the recognizable silhouette of a sitting cat.

This tutorial follows the supplied Kitty Rug Crochet Diagram, including its stitch symbols, directional arrows, shaping, and facial details.

Step 1: Gather Your Materials

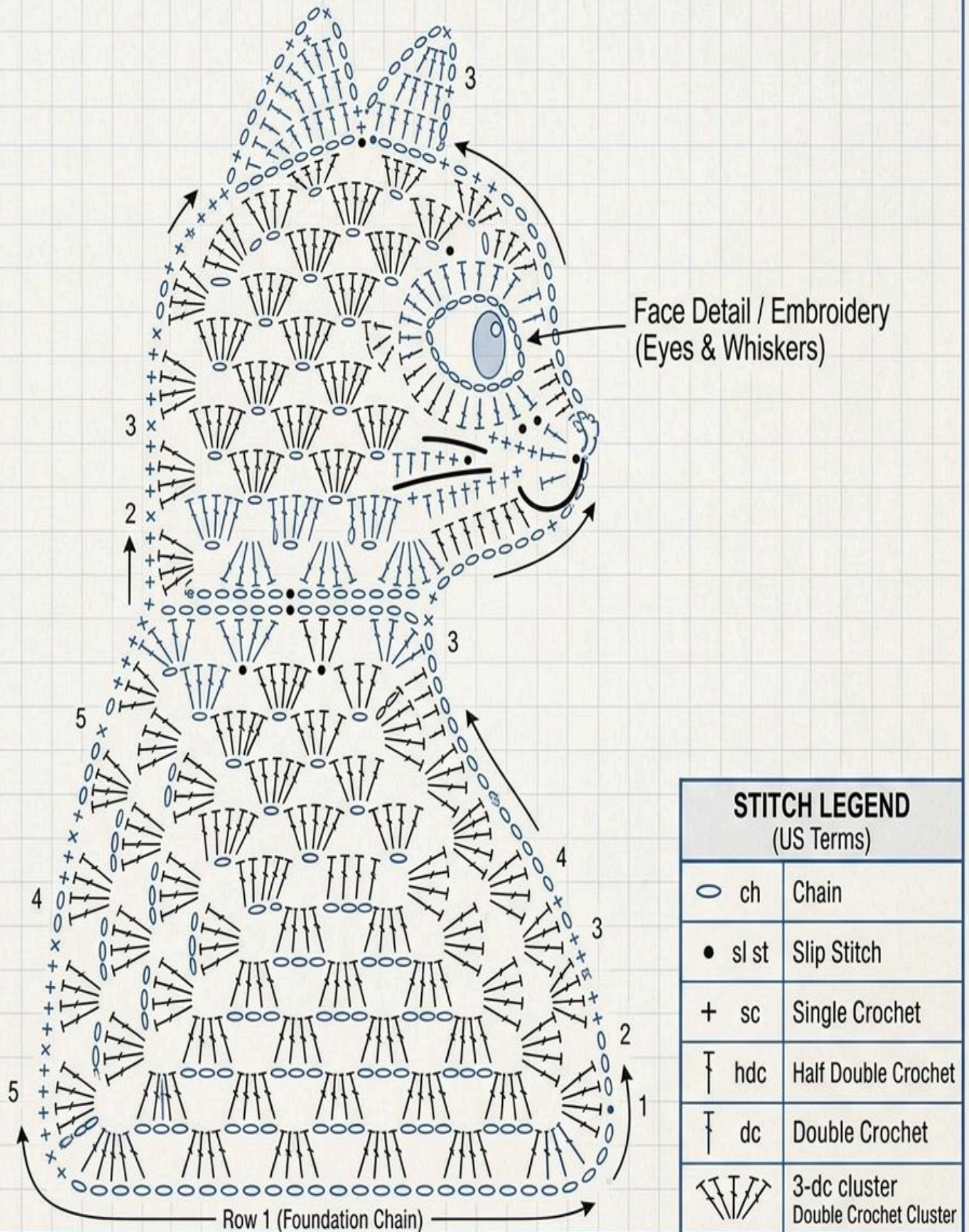
Before starting, gather everything you need to complete the kitty rug.

Materials and Supplies

- **Main-color yarn:** Choose your preferred color for the cat's body. White, cream, gray, black, or pastel shades work beautifully.
- **Contrast yarn:** Optional, for highlighting the ears, paws, or decorative details.
- **Black embroidery yarn:** For the eyes, whiskers, nose, and mouth.
- **Crochet hook:** Use the size recommended on your yarn label as a starting point.
- **Scissors:** For cutting yarn.
- **Yarn needle:** For weaving in ends and embroidering facial details.
- **Stitch markers:** For marking the center line, row beginnings, and shaping points.
- **Measuring tape:** For checking the finished dimensions.
- **Non-slip rug backing:** Optional, but recommended if the rug will be used on a smooth floor.

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KITTY RUG CROCHET DIAGRAM



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Choosing the Yarn

Choose a durable yarn suitable for a rug. Cotton, sturdy acrylic, or an appropriate rug yarn may work, depending on the desired texture and care requirements.

For a soft, classic kitty, cream or white yarn creates a simple look. Gray yarn gives the cat a traditional appearance, while black or pastel yarn can create a more playful design.

Use yarn of a consistent thickness throughout the project so the motifs and edges remain even.

Choosing the Hook

The chart does not specify a hook size or yarn weight. Follow the yarn manufacturer's recommendations and make a small test swatch before starting.

The fabric should be firm enough to hold its shape but not so tight that the hook becomes difficult to insert.

Step 2: Understand the Kitty Rug Diagram

The chart depicts a single cat-shaped design with a broad lower body, a narrower upper section, a rounded head, and two pointed ears.

The design is formed from repeated crochet motifs arranged to follow the cat's silhouette.

Main Sections of the Design

1. **Foundation edge:** The bottom edge of the rug, labeled Row 1.
2. **Lower body:** The broad section containing repeated decorative shell motifs.
3. **Body shaping:** The sides gradually narrow as the design approaches the neck and head.
4. **Head:** The upper rounded section with a decorative textured surface.
5. **Pointed ears:** Two triangular extensions at the top of the head.
6. **Face details:** Embroidered eyes and whiskers, with a small nose and mouth.
7. **Outer edge:** A border following the entire cat silhouette.

Understanding the Arrows and Numbers

The black arrows indicate the direction of work in different parts of the chart.

The numbers printed along the sides identify marked rows, rounds, or shaping points in the diagram. Because the image does not include a complete written row-by-row sequence, these numbers should be treated as visual references rather than a complete stitch-count specification.

Follow the arrows, color-coded symbols, and shape of the outline together.

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Step 3: Learn the Stitch Symbols (US Terms)

The chart uses six stitch types or stitch combinations. Understanding them is essential before beginning.

Chain (ch)

The chain stitch forms the foundation and creates spaces between decorative motifs.

How to make a chain:

1. Make a slip knot and place it on your hook.
2. Yarn over.
3. Pull the yarn through the loop on your hook.
4. Repeat until you have the required number of chains.

The chart represents chain stitches with small oval symbols.

Slip Stitch (sl st)

Slip stitches are used to join sections, move across stitches, and finish edges.

How to make a slip stitch:

1. Insert the hook into the indicated stitch or space.
2. Yarn over.
3. Pull the yarn through the stitch and the loop on your hook.

The chart uses a solid dot to represent a slip stitch.

Keep slip stitches neat, especially along the outer edge, so they do not pull the rug out of shape.

Single Crochet (sc)

Single crochet creates a compact fabric that is useful for shaping and edging.

How to make a single crochet:

1. Insert your hook into the indicated stitch.
2. Yarn over and pull up a loop.
3. Yarn over again.
4. Pull through both loops on the hook.

The chart uses a plus sign to represent single crochet.

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Half Double Crochet (hdc)

Half double crochet creates a stitch taller than single crochet but shorter than double crochet.

How to make a half double crochet:

1. Yarn over.
2. Insert your hook into the indicated stitch or space.
3. Yarn over and pull up a loop. You now have three loops on your hook.
4. Yarn over again.
5. Pull through all three loops.

The chart uses a T-shaped symbol with an additional crossbar for half double crochet.

Double Crochet (dc)

Double crochet is one of the main stitches used in the decorative shell motifs.

How to make a double crochet:

1. Yarn over.
2. Insert your hook into the indicated stitch or space.
3. Yarn over and pull up a loop.
4. Yarn over and pull through the first two loops.
5. Yarn over again and pull through the remaining two loops.

The chart uses a T-shaped symbol for double crochet.

Three-Double-Crochet Cluster (3-dc Cluster)

The chart includes a cluster made from three double crochet stitches.

For a standard cluster worked into the same stitch or space:

1. Yarn over and insert your hook into the indicated stitch or space.
2. Yarn over and pull up a loop.
3. Yarn over and pull through two loops, leaving the double crochet unfinished.
4. Repeat the partial double crochet twice more in the same location.
5. You will have four loops on your hook.
6. Yarn over and pull through all four loops.

This creates three partially completed double crochets joined at the top.

Follow the chart's exact cluster placement. A cluster is different from three ordinary completed double crochets.

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Step 4: Practice the Decorative Shell Motif

The repeating shell motifs create the textured appearance across the cat's head and body.

Before beginning the main rug, practice the basic shape using scrap yarn.

How to Create a Shell

The chart uses groups of double crochets arranged like small fans. The exact number of stitches in each shell must be read from the symbols in the chart.

For practice:

1. Make a short foundation chain.
2. Work into the indicated chain or stitch space.
3. Crochet a group of double crochets into the same location.
4. Allow the stitches to spread outward naturally.
5. Secure the motif at the next indicated stitch or space.
6. Repeat to create a row of shells.

This is a practice exercise, not a substitute for the precise stitch sequence in the original diagram.

Tips for Consistent Shells

- Keep each double crochet approximately the same height.
- Avoid pulling the chains too tightly.
- Place each shell in the intended space.
- Keep the gaps between motifs consistent.
- Check that the fabric remains flat.

If the shells overlap excessively, review your stitch placement and tension. If the fabric becomes too wavy, check whether the spacing and number of stitches match the chart.

Step 5: Begin With the Foundation Chain

The bottom of the diagram is labeled **Row 1 (Foundation Chain)**.

This is the starting edge for the main body of the cat.

Working the Foundation

1. Make a slip knot.
2. Chain the number of stitches required by your complete pattern instructions.
3. Lay the chain flat and check that it is not twisted.
4. Identify the left and right edges of the planned rug.
5. Mark the center of the foundation if it will help you maintain symmetry.
6. Begin the first row using the stitch sequence indicated by your pattern.

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The foundation chain must be wide enough for the lower body shown in the diagram.

Important: The image does not provide a reliable written foundation-chain count. Do not use an arbitrary number if you need a precise finished width. Establish the count from a complete written pattern or a verified stitch-by-stitch reading of the original chart.

Step 6: Crochet the Lower Body

The lower body is the broadest section of the kitty rug. It has a rounded base and sides that narrow as the design approaches the upper body.

The decorative shell motifs are repeated across the interior.

Working the First Rows

1. Begin from the foundation edge.
2. Follow the chart's stitch symbols along the first row.
3. Work the indicated chains, single crochets, double crochets, and clusters.
4. Place the first row of shell motifs as shown.
5. Keep the bottom edge as straight as possible.
6. Check the placement of the next row before continuing.

Building the Textured Body

Continue working the shell motifs in the arrangement shown by the chart.

1. Identify each chain space or stitch that supports a shell.
2. Work the indicated stitch group into that space.
3. Use the chart to determine where the next motif begins.
4. Keep the shells in consistent rows.
5. Follow the outer outline as the body takes shape.
6. Compare the left and right edges regularly.

The chart shows repeated motifs arranged in offset positions, rather than a plain fabric of solid double crochet stitches.

Maintaining the Shape

The body should remain broad near the bottom and gradually narrow toward the upper section.

Do not decrease randomly. Follow the indicated placement of the edge stitches and motifs so the rug maintains the intended silhouette.

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Step 7: Shape the Outer Sides

The chart includes single crochet symbols along parts of the outer edge. These contribute to the border and help define the silhouette.

Working the Edge

1. Locate the outermost stitches along one side.
2. Follow the direction of the arrow.
3. Work the indicated edge stitches and spaces.
4. Maintain the same method along the opposite side.
5. Check the outline against the diagram.
6. Adjust only where the original pattern calls for shaping.

Keeping the Rug Flat

Lay the work on a flat surface after completing several rows.

If the edges curl inward, the fabric may be too tight or may need the increases indicated by the pattern. If the edges become wavy, there may be too many stitches or too much tension variation.

Do not automatically add or remove stitches without checking the chart.

Step 8: Shape the Upper Body and Neck

Above the lower body, the cat's shape becomes narrower before transitioning into the head.

This area creates the appearance of the cat's shoulders and neck.

Working the Transition

1. Identify where the broad lower body begins to narrow.
2. Follow the marked shaping points and arrows.
3. Continue the shell motifs in the spaces shown.
4. Keep the left and right sides balanced.
5. Check that the neck does not become excessively narrow.
6. Continue until the work connects naturally with the lower edge of the head.

The transition should be gradual enough to preserve the seated-cat silhouette.

Checking the Proportions

Before continuing, compare the shape with the diagram:

- The lower body should be broad.
- The sides should taper toward the upper body.
- The head should sit centrally above the body.

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- The shell motifs should remain visually consistent.

The image does not provide all the written increases or decreases needed to reconstruct this shaping exactly. Use the original symbol positions as your guide.

Step 9: Crochet the Head

The head forms the large rounded upper section of the design, beneath the ears.

It contains the same decorative shell motifs as the body.

Working the Head

1. Identify the beginning of the head where it joins the upper body.
2. Continue following the chart's directional arrows.
3. Work the indicated chain spaces and decorative shell motifs.
4. Follow the rounded outline at both sides.
5. Keep the upper head wide enough to support the ears.
6. Leave the correct area for the face details.
7. Check that the head remains centered over the body.

Creating the Rounded Shape

The chart shows a rounded head rather than a rectangular block.

To maintain this appearance, follow the indicated edge stitches and shaping points. Avoid adding extra rows simply to increase the height.

The shell motifs should remain distinct and consistently spaced across the head.

Step 10: Crochet the Pointed Ears

The cat has two pointed ears at the top of the head.

Each ear forms a triangular extension, with stitches arranged to create a narrow tip and a broader base.

Working the Ears

1. Identify the first ear's starting point on the upper edge of the head.
2. Follow the chart's indicated direction of work.
3. Work the chains and stitches required by the ear section.
4. Maintain the triangular outline as you progress toward the tip.
5. Secure the tip without pulling it too tightly.
6. Work the second ear to match the first.

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Keeping Both Ears Balanced

Compare the ears frequently.

They should have similar heights, widths, and angles. The center gap between them should remain visible.

If the ears are worked as part of the main piece, follow the chart's transitions between the head and ear sections. If your chosen construction uses separate pieces, sew them securely into their indicated positions.

The image does not provide a complete written ear-specific stitch count, so the exact number of stitches per row must come from a more detailed pattern or a verified chart transcription.

Step 11: Complete the Face Area

The chart marks the face detail with the instruction **“Face Detail / Embroidery (Eyes & Whiskers).”**

This indicates that the facial features are added as decorative details rather than being represented entirely by the main shell pattern.

Prepare the Face

1. Lay the head flat.
2. Identify the center line between the ears.
3. Mark the approximate locations of the eyes.
4. Check the intended position of the nose and mouth.
5. Mark the whisker area on both sides.

Use removable stitch markers or small pieces of contrasting yarn so you can adjust the placement before embroidering.

Embroider the Eyes

The chart shows the eyes as small oval details.

1. Thread a yarn needle with black embroidery yarn.
2. Bring the needle through the fabric at the first eye position.
3. Use small satin stitches or closely spaced embroidery stitches to create the eye.
4. Repeat for the second eye.
5. Compare their size, height, and distance from the center.
6. Secure the ends on the back.

Keep the eyes balanced. Small differences can noticeably change the expression.

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The chart does not specify exact eye dimensions, so use the illustration as a visual placement guide.

Embroider the Nose

The nose is positioned near the center of the face, below the eyes.

1. Mark the center of the face.
2. Use black or another chosen contrasting yarn, following the appearance you want to reproduce.
3. Make a small embroidered nose with neat, closely spaced stitches.
4. Check its alignment with both eyes.
5. Secure the yarn on the back.

The chart does not clearly establish a separate nose color or a written nose motif. If your reference version includes a colored nose, use that version as your color guide.

Embroider the Mouth

The diagram depicts a small curved mouth beneath the nose.

1. Thread the needle with the chosen embroidery yarn.
2. Make the central mouth line.
3. Add the curved sections on either side.
4. Keep the curves balanced.
5. Secure the ends on the reverse side.

Avoid pulling the embroidery so tightly that the crochet fabric puckers.

Add the Whiskers

The chart identifies whiskers as embroidered details.

1. Mark the whisker positions on the left side of the muzzle.
2. Use straight embroidery stitches to create the whisker lines.
3. Repeat on the right side.
4. Check that the whiskers are balanced and evenly spaced.
5. Secure the yarn ends carefully.

Keep the whiskers small enough to complement the face without dominating it.

Step 12: Finish the Outer Border

The outer edge follows the cat's entire silhouette, including the bottom, sides, head, and ears.

The chart includes chain stitches, single crochets, slip stitches, and decorative stitch placements along different parts of the edge.

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Working the Border

1. Inspect the entire perimeter.
2. Identify the remaining edge stitches and chain spaces.
3. Work the indicated border stitches.
4. Follow the shape of the lower body.
5. Continue up the sides.
6. Trace the head and both ears.
7. Complete the remaining edge sections.
8. Join or fasten off according to your construction method.

Keeping the Border Neat

- Maintain consistent stitch tension.
- Avoid stretching the pointed ears.
- Keep the bottom edge stable.
- Do not pull the joining stitches too tightly.
- Check that the border does not curl or form unwanted waves.

The diagram does not include a fully written border sequence or exact stitch count. Follow the original symbols carefully rather than assuming that every side uses an identical number of stitches.

Step 13: Weave in the Yarn Ends

Once the crochet work is complete, secure all loose yarn ends.

How to Weave in the Ends

1. Thread a yarn tail into a yarn needle.
2. Pass the needle through several stitches on the reverse side.
3. Change direction and pass through additional stitches.
4. Pull gently so the fabric remains flat.
5. Trim the excess yarn.

Use matching yarn whenever possible so the ends are less visible.

Pay particular attention to the ear tips, body edges, and embroidered face, where loose ends could become noticeable.

Step 14: Shape and Flatten the Kitty Rug

After completing the crochet work, lay the rug on a clean, flat surface.

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Check the Silhouette

Make sure that:

- The bottom edge is reasonably straight.
- The lower body is broad and balanced.
- The upper body transitions smoothly into the head.
- The head is centered.
- The ears have similar shapes.
- The embroidered features are positioned correctly.
- The outer border lies flat.

Blocking

Whether blocking is appropriate depends on the yarn.

If the yarn permits wet blocking, follow its care instructions and shape the rug gently. Allow it to dry completely before use.

Avoid excessive heat or stretching, which may damage the fibers or distort the decorative motifs.

Step 15: Add a Non-Slip Backing (Optional)

A non-slip backing is recommended if you plan to use the rug on tile, hardwood, or another smooth floor.

Choose a backing that is compatible with your yarn and flooring. Follow the manufacturer's installation and cleaning instructions.

Make sure the backing does not make the rug excessively stiff or prevent it from lying flat.

Do not assume that a crocheted rug will remain stationary on a slippery floor without additional support.

Step 16: Final Quality Checklist

Before using or gifting your kitty rug, check the completed design.

- The foundation edge is neat.
- The lower body has the intended broad shape.
- The shell motifs are consistent.
- The sides narrow smoothly toward the upper body.
- The head is centered.
- Both ears are pointed and balanced.
- The eyes are evenly positioned.
- The nose and mouth are centered.
- The whiskers are neatly embroidered.

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- The outer border is complete.
- All yarn ends are secured.
- The rug lies flat.
- The backing, if used, is securely attached.

Step 17: Care and Maintenance

Cleaning

Check the yarn label before washing. Some yarns are machine-washable, while others require hand washing or spot cleaning.

Use a gentle cleaning method suitable for the fibers and colors. Allow the rug to dry completely before returning it to the floor.

Maintaining the Shape

Avoid stretching the ears or pulling on the embroidered details.

If the rug becomes misshapen, gently reshape it according to the yarn's care instructions.

Storage

Store the rug clean and dry. Fold or roll it gently to protect the raised shell motifs.

Avoid placing heavy objects on the ears or face for extended periods.

Troubleshooting Guide

The Edges Curl

Check your tension, hook size, and the stitch placement along the edge. Compare the shaping with the chart before making adjustments.

The Shells Look Uneven

Practice the decorative shell motif separately. Keep the double-crochet height and chain spaces consistent.

The Ears Look Different

Compare their widths, heights, and shaping points. If they are separate pieces, adjust their placement before sewing them down permanently.

The Head Looks Too Wide or Too Narrow

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Check the side shaping and compare the head with the body. Avoid adding or removing rows without checking the chart.

The Face Looks Uneven

Mark the center line before embroidering. Position both eyes first, then add the nose, mouth, and whiskers.

The Rug Does Not Lie Flat

Check the tension and edge stitches. A hook that is too small can create a stiff fabric, while inconsistent edge shaping can cause curling or waves.

Final Notes

The Kitty Rug Crochet Diagram combines a recognizable cat silhouette with a repeating textured stitch pattern. The most important elements are the broad lower body, rounded head, pointed ears, balanced embroidered face, and neat outer border.

For the closest possible match to the chart, keep the image beside your work and compare the silhouette and stitch placement as you progress.

Pattern accuracy note: This tutorial is a detailed construction guide based on the supplied diagram, not a verified stitch-for-stitch transcription. The chart does not provide enough written information to establish every foundation-chain count, row count, increase, decrease, or finished measurement. These details should be confirmed from a complete written pattern before attempting an exact reproduction.

Take your time with the shaping and embroidery, and you will have a charming handmade kitty rug that captures the character of the original design. 🐾

Add a clear pattern limitation upfrontRemove unsupported motif and border claims