



Ugly Slippers

*crochet photo tutorial
by MadMadme*

The sample below was worked up with weight 5 yarn (solids: from Loops & Threads, Charisma. Variegated: Yarn Bee, First Love) with an 8mm hook. The entire pattern is worked with two strands of yarn and works up very quickly.

Every brand and type of yarn is different, even if the weight is the 'same' on a scale, they don't always work up the same. Please use a ruler to double check your measurements along the way.

Stitch counts and measurements below create a slipper for shoes sizes 8-9.5. You can refer to a foot chart for sizes or measure the actual foot you are making these for to get a perfect fit.



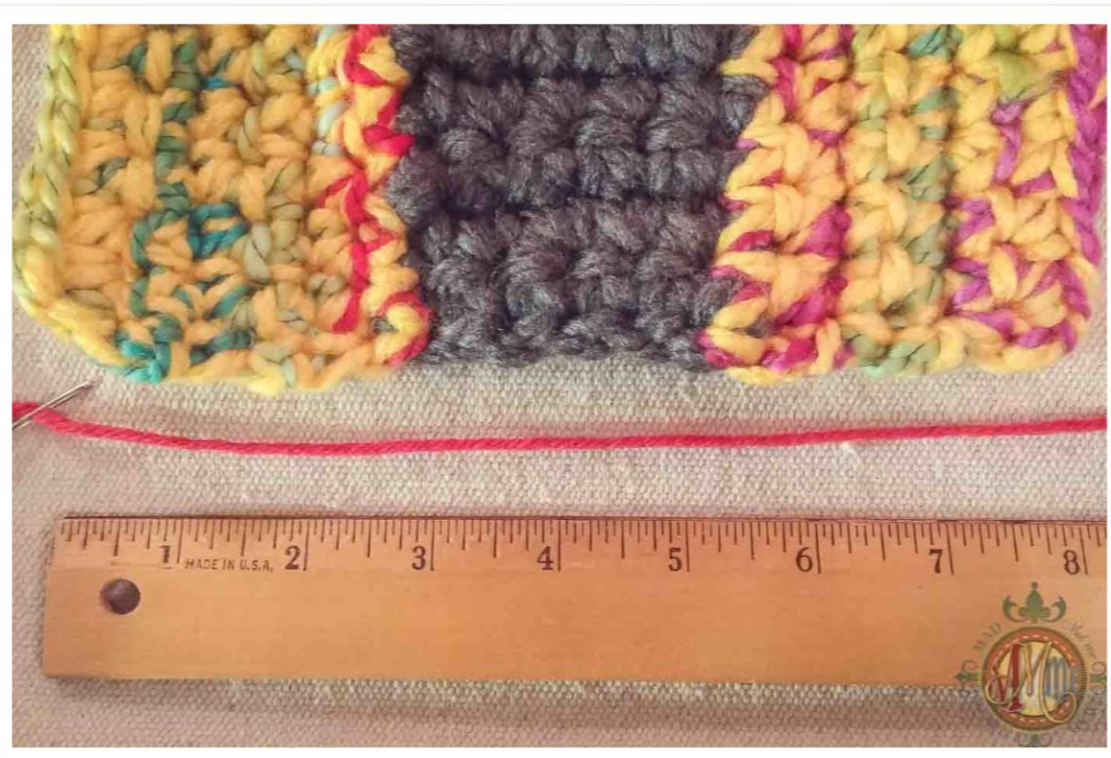
Sole/Round 1-Using two strands of 5 weight yarn together: Ch 6, sc into second chain from hook, sc in next four stitches. *Ch1, turn, sc in 5sts across. Repeat from *until length of sole reaches 1 inch short of intended length (12 times in sample). For last Row: ch1, turn, sc into first stitch, Dc into next stitches across (for sample size 3 stitches), sc into last stitch, finish off. 15 Rows total for sample. (Sole should measure between 2.5-3 inches in width. Ideally, get close to 3 inches without going over.)

Measure your sole, it should be .5 to 1 inch short of the desired end result length. In this case, my foot is 9.5 inches long, my goal was 8.5 inches. **THIS WILL BE DIFFERENT FOR DIFFERENT YARNS.** Rather than a new pattern of stitch counts with every type of yarn, keep in mind that the average sole width of 3 inches will work for most foot sizes, while a length of 7.5 to 10 inches will cover small, medium and large sizes.

Starting in the first chain stitch of the sole, attach new yarn (still using two strands together), pull up a loop and chain 2. Single crochet into the end of each Row of the sole, sc into the last chain of the starting chain. Now you are ready to build up the sides/top of the slipper. As you build the Rows, the sole will remain flat while the sides stack to make a 'wall' above the sole.

*Ch1, turn, sc into each sc around the sides and heel of the slipper. Repeat from * two more times. Start the next Row (Row 5) the same as previous Rows, but when you get to the back of the heel (the rounded portion of the slipper, work a sc3tog decrease as a pucker to grab the heel, and continue with your sc Row across. Ch1, turn and sc another Row around, finish off yarn.

Again, these Row counts and stitch counts are for **THIS SIZE ONLY**. Please note that amount of Rows you use for the side/top portion of this pattern will determine how high the edge lands near the ankle and how much room there is inside the slipper. For wide feet, or for high arched feet, consider adding a row or two to this section for a better fit.



Use a piece of yarn (approx. 10 inches) to weave into the very edge of the flat/toe portion of the slipper, starting in the far right stitch and weaving across to the far left stitch.



You will use this string to cinch the end closed. Once you have woven the yarn across the full length of the flat end, insert it back into the first/far right stitch to close the loop. Half tie both ends of your weaving string and pull tightly to cinch the toe closed.



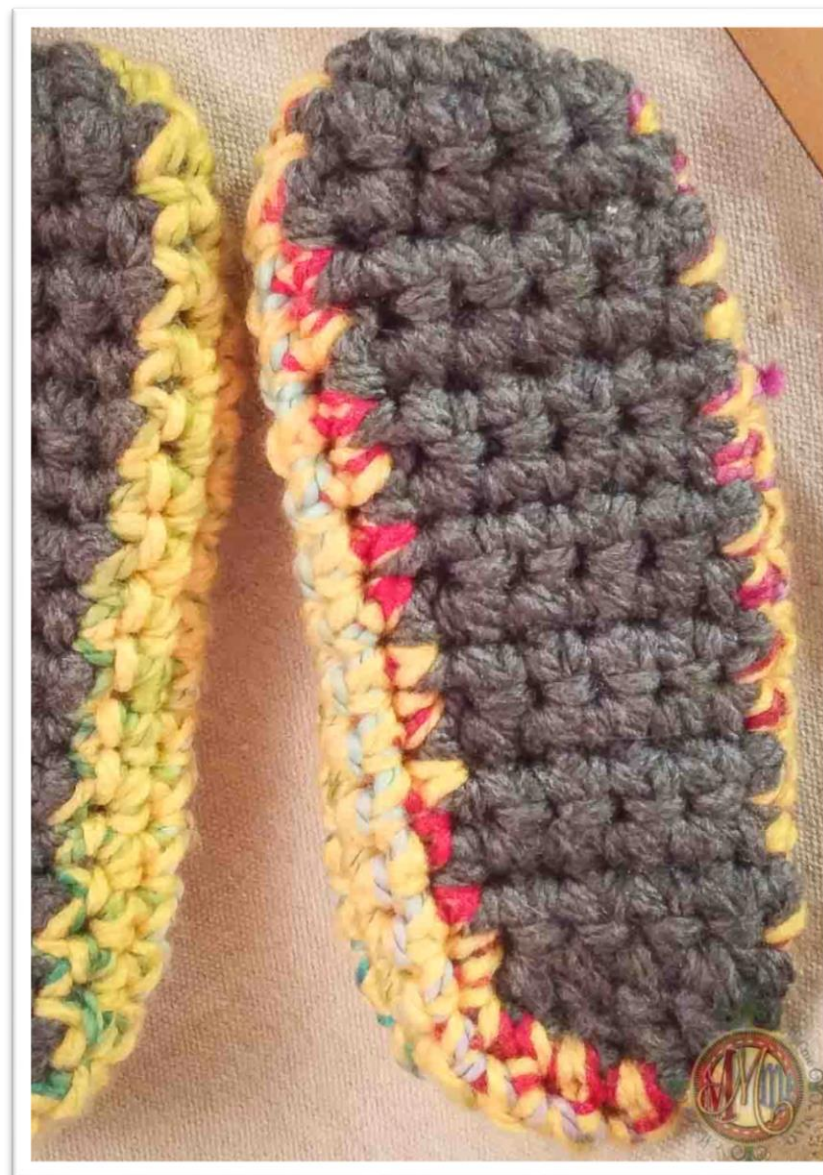
This is what your cinched toe end will look like. Be sure to cinch tightly and tie a good strong knot! Weave in tails of yarn. You don't want any space for toes to escape and once you weave in this string, you should not be able to readily see it if you pulled tightly enough.



The last move! Alright, to really top off the ugly, cut another length of yarn, this time to weave in and out of the stitches that are now meeting in the middle above the toe. Do this until you have attached both edges about halfway up the slipper. Now weave the yarn back down to the toe, inserting the hook below top loops and around stitch posts all the while.



Pull these strings rather tightly, without bending the slipper, but firmly pulling the edges together and creating a clean, tight top ridge on the slipper. Knot the ends of your weaving yarn together and weave in ends to hide them. Done!!



Bottom of slippers after complete assembly.

NOTES

~I used particularly gaudy colors because, well, that is what I had on hand. I'm sure that the right color and yarn combos would look very nice and I plan on making more of these in many different yarn and color choices.

~There are a several ways to make these non-slip. From applying air dry goop to the bottoms, puff paint decorations, iron on fabric patches, etc.. It's up to you.

~Wear and pilling: Undoubtedly, yarn slippers are a non-durable item. Yarn is prone to pilling, snagging, and generally looking shaggy when abused and what takes more abuse than something we wear on our feet? If you want true durability, consider sewing a leather or rubber soul onto the bottom.

~Clearly, this basic slipper can have a simple "high top" edging added to it, a decorative edging, or embellishment. This is a basic pattern, please enjoy building on it.

~I used very squishy yarn. I know, that is not technically a yarn word but it is the best way to describe the sensation of stepping on a double layer of 5 weight yarn. I chose not to use a yarn that was dense and small to alleviate that "lumpy" feeling sometimes associated with crocheted footwear. This can also be alleviated simply by adding an insert into the slipper for a smooth surface.

~Washability is determined by a couple of factors; the type of yarn you used and the security of the knots you tied and how well you wove in all those loose ends.

SIZING

~This sample slipper is a starting point for other sizes. If you need a **narrower slipper**, simply start with on fewer stitches across the sole and conversely, if you need a **wider slipper**, simply add another stitch to the sole width.

~If you need a **longer slipper**, add another row to the length of the sole, if you need a **shorter slipper** remove a row of length from the sole.

~If you want **the side to come up higher** or **the toe space to be larger**, simply add more rows to the side/top section of the slipper.

~If the **opening for the foot is too narrow**, simply use fewer stitches in the final step of weaving the edges together. If that **opening needs to be smaller**, for narrow ankles and flat feet, simply include more stitches the final weaving step.

~I recommend using a chart for slipper sizes, not shoe sizes, and aiming to make the width of the sole just under the chart width (since crochet stretches a lot during use) and making the length approximately 1 inch shorter than the chart recommends.

Stitches used:

Sc = single crochet

Dc = Double crochet

Sc3tog = single crochet three together

I hope you enjoyed this tutorial, please visit www.MadMadme.com for more creative fun.

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