

Natural Oatmeal Cat Bed With Soft Cushion

A simple neutral bed that can grow with Skyla



Photo-matched snapshot

Pet shown: Skyla, a real adult cat

Colours: natural oatmeal with a cream cushion

Shape: low round basket with a broad dense wall and an open front

Finished size: Outer diameter about 54 cm; inner sleeping area about 43-46 cm; wall about 8-10 cm.

Starting gauge: 9 sc x 9 rounds = 10 cm in sturdy medium-bulky yarn. Treat this as a planning gauge until a sample is washed.

Prototype notice: This guide is drafted from the supplied photograph. It is not a physically tested pattern until you crochet a sample, wash it, confirm the measurements and fit-test the finished bed.

Materials

Medium-bulky washable oatmeal yarn, 5.5 mm hook, needle, stitch marker, washable cotton fabric and removable cushion insert.

US crochet terms

ch = chain; sc = single crochet; hdc = half double crochet; dc = double crochet; sl st = slip stitch; inc = work two stitches in the same stitch; BLO = back loop only.

Washable cushion

Use a 44 cm washable cream cushion with a removable cotton cover and a lightly filled insert that can be replaced as Skyla grows.

Construction route

Dense single crochet rounds with a low open front and a plain rounded rim.

How to Crochet the Bed

1. For a growing cat, measure the current curled length and add 8-12 cm. Leave enough room to enlarge the base by adding increase rounds later.
2. Base: Work 6 sc in a magic ring and increase evenly in each round until the base reaches about 44-46 cm. Keep the circle flat by spreading increases if it begins to cup.
3. Wall: Work one back-loop-only round, then continue even in sc for 7-8 cm. Keep the front open by working short rows over the back and sides for the final 2-3 rounds.
4. Rim: Work one relaxed sc round. For a larger future version, unravel only the rim, add one increase round to the base, then rebuild the wall to the same height.
5. Cushion: Make the removable cover after the shell is washed. Replace or enlarge the insert as the cat's sleeping space changes.

Make the washable cushion

1. Measure the washed inside of the shell, then make the cushion 1-2 cm smaller so it settles without buckling the wall.
2. Cut two washable cotton pieces to the planned cushion shape, adding a seam allowance. For a round cushion, cut two matching circles; for an oval or square cushion, round the corners slightly.
3. Sew around the edge, leaving a wide opening. Turn the cover right side out, insert a removable low-loft cushion or washable polyester filling, then close the opening with a secure ladder stitch or concealed closure.
4. Do not leave long ties, exposed cords, loose buttons or dangling fasteners. The cushion must lift out of the crochet shell for inspection and cleaning.

Finish and care

Weave every yarn tail deeply into the inside of the shell, trim only after the end is secure and wash a swatch before washing the finished bed. Dry the shell and cushion completely. Replace the cushion if the filling clumps, the cover tears or the insert no longer lies flat.

Fit checkpoint

This is the most useful version for explaining growth: the base can be widened without making the wall taller or the entry harder to use.

Pet-safety checkpoint

Remove the bed if Skyla chews the yarn or cushion seam. A larger bed is not automatically better if it slides or folds under her weight.

Photo note: Skyla is the personal thread through this collection. The goal was not to make one bed last forever, but to make resizing simple as her body and habits changed.