

Mustard Geometric Panel Cat Pod

A photo-matched crochet cat cave with a stable floor, removable washable comfort layer and measurement-based fit checks.



A mustard faceted pod made from clearly joined crochet panels, with a round opening and cream cushion.

Publishing status

Prototype-ready draft. Crochet, wash and fit-test one physical sample before calling this pattern tested.

Project plan

Construction	Twelve dense pentagon-style panels; open-front panel arrangement; joined base layer; removable cushion.
Starting gauge	Prototype panel target: each blocked motif approximately 16-18 cm across, with no hole larger than a claw tip.
Photo-style target	Starting target: 45-50 cm widest point, 40-44 cm high, 25-29 cm round opening.
Wash plan	Panels make repairs approachable, while the cushion remains removable. Use flat seams that cannot catch claws.

Materials

- Bulky washable wool blend or cotton blend
- 6.5-8 mm hook
- markers
- yarn needle
- removable cream cushion.

Also have: scissors, yarn needle, locking stitch markers, measuring tape and the intended washable cushion materials. Keep pins, needles and small tools away from the cat.

Abbreviations

ch = chain; sc = single crochet; sl st = slip stitch; BLO = back loop only; st(s) = stitch(es); rnd = round; sc2tog = single crochet two together.

Measure first

Panel width controls the pod size. Make one sample panel, arrange paper templates around the cat's measured floor footprint, then resize the motif before making the full set.

Write the actual floor width, depth, entrance width and entrance height in the boxes below before crocheting. Do not rely on breed, age or a generic size label.

Floor width	Floor depth	Entrance width	Entrance height
_____ cm	_____ cm	_____ cm	_____ cm

Before the full project

- Crochet and wash a 15 cm swatch. Record stitch gauge, row gauge and any growth after drying.
- Make a paper floor template from the calculated dimensions and place it where the cave will live.
- Confirm the cat can turn on the template and that the intended doorway is wider than the shoulders.
- Choose smooth yarn with no large holes, shedding fibers or rough cut ends.

Construction steps

1. Crochet one dense pentagon sample in joined rounds, increasing at five marked corners. Block it lightly and confirm the finished measurement.
2. Make the remaining panels to the identical measured size. Use one or two additional floor panels if the assembled bottom does not lie flat.
3. Join panels with a flat slip-stitch or mattress seam, keeping all tails on the outside until the shape is confirmed.
4. Leave the planned front panel space open and join partial side panels around it to create the round doorway shown.
5. Add a firm sc border around the doorway and a second dense floor layer. Weave every joining tail across several stitch directions.
6. Insert a cushion smaller than the floor. Press each seam from inside and remove any ridge sharp enough to catch a claw.

Finishing checklist

- Weave each yarn tail through dense fabric in more than one direction, tug-test it, then trim.
- Press the floor on a hard surface. It must sit flat and return flat after the front edge is pressed.
- Run a hand over every inside seam and doorway edge. Correct any ridge, loop or rough point.
- Lift the cushion out without stretching the entrance and confirm every component is fully dry.

Fit check

The faceted walls should surround Skyla without narrowing at shoulder level. The pod must return to shape after a gentle hand press.

- Let the cat approach voluntarily; do not place or hold the cat inside.
- Watch one complete entry, turn, lie-down and exit sequence.
- The roof and entrance must stay clear of ears, whiskers and functioning breakaway-collar hardware.
- Stop use if the cat chews yarn, catches a claw, pants, freezes, struggles to turn or avoids the exit.

Care

Wash panels or the assembled shell only as the yarn allows. Support every seam while wet and dry on a flat base.

Safety

A decorative openwork granny motif is not suitable here. Use dense panels and inspect every join regularly.

If a collar is worn, it must be a functioning breakaway collar. A bell or tag can snag, so test generous clearance or remove the collar during supervised cave use. Never hide wire, tubing or sharp stabilizers inside the shell.

Final sign-off

Sample crocheted: ____ Washed and fully dried: ____ Base stayed flat: ____ Entrance stayed open: ____ Cat entered and exited comfortably under supervision: ____ Pattern version/date: _____