

Sage Ribbed Flat-Back Corner Cave

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



A sage ribbed shell with a flat back, tall rounded front 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	Rounded-rectangle double base; flat back panel; curved side and roof panel in ribbed rows.
Starting gauge	Prototype starting gauge: 9 sc x 9 rows = 10 cm in back-loop-only sc, lightly stretched.
Photo-style target	Starting target: 42-46 cm wide, 38-42 cm deep, 40-44 cm high, 26-30 cm opening.
Wash plan	A separate cushion handles routine washing; the flat-back shell is reshaped upright after cleaning.

Materials

- Bulky washable sage yarn
- 7-9 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

Base from curled footprint plus 8-10 cm. Back panel width equals finished base width; curved panel length runs from one base side, over the roof, to the other side.

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. Make and join two rounded-rectangle floor panels in regular sc.
2. Crochet a flat back panel in dense sc to the full desired height, tapering the top corners slightly.
3. Crochet a long back-loop-only sc panel for the two sides and roof. Shape its center with short rows so it curves over the top without a point.
4. Seam the ribbed panel to the back panel, then attach both lower edges to the base while keeping the front open.
5. Work one sc border around the tall rounded opening. Add an extra stabilizing round along the lower front only if the base curls.
6. Place the removable cushion inside and test the flat back against the actual wall with enough airflow for drying.

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 tall opening should clear Skyla's ears and breakaway-collar hardware, and the back must not tip when she steps onto the front edge.

- 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 gently, press water out without twisting, then dry upright with the flat back supported by towels.

Safety

Do not wedge the cave so tightly into a corner that the opening narrows or airflow is blocked.

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: ____