

Small Doughnut Pet Bed

Version 1.0 / 14 September 2026. US terms. Intermediate.



Shared source reference: the red bed shows the construction. Its exact size is not labelled.



Prototype-ready editorial draft. This edition has not been crocheted, fit-tested or wash-tested.

Original pattern and photographs: Ouma Ralie, 2 February 2021. PetsCrochet editorial adaptation.

Inner-circle target. 25 cm / 9-10 in, as reported in the source. Check again after stuffing; this is not an outer-bed measurement.

Yarn allowance. 2 x 300 g skeins of Bernat Blanket (600 g total purchasing allowance).

Filling. About 300 g, as reported for Small.

Round plan. 17 body rounds. Mark round 5; final edge and marked round each have 60 stitches.

Materials, gauge and alternatives

Yarn. Source yarn: Bernat Blanket, super bulky / super chunky (6), 100% polyester, 201 m / 220 yd per 300 g / 10.5 oz, about 5-6 wraps per inch. The skein quantities in each guide are the source allowances, not newly measured consumption.

Hook and tools. Start with an 8 mm crochet hook. You also need stitch markers, scissors, a yarn needle for ends or a sewn seam, filling and clean, intact stockings or socks to contain it. The source prefers stretch nylon stockings and may use more than one pair for bigger beds. The liner stays fully enclosed in the rim.

Fabric test. Make the first 5 joined dc rounds, lay the circle flat without stretching and measure across its centre. The source target is about 25 cm / 9-10 in. A smaller or larger result changes all the bed dimensions. Check that the fabric is flat and suitably dense; the guide is not sample-tested.

Label gauge versus project gauge. The source also records yarn-label gauges of 7 sc and 8 rows per 4 in, and 8 knit stitches and 13 rows per 4 in. Those are not the double-crochet project test. The listed label hook is US L / 8 mm and knitting needle US 11 / 8 mm.

T-shirt yarn. The source offers T-shirt yarn as an alternative. Consistent-width yarn is easier to compare than variable offcut yarn. Make the first 3 rounds to judge how it works with your hook; use a larger hook if stitches are too difficult to enter, or a smaller one if the fabric is too open. Then check the 5-round diameter. No fixed alternative hook size or yarn amount is supplied.

Three strands of scraps. The source also uses 3 strands of worsted / medium (4) yarn held together with an 8 mm hook, giving Vanna's Choice as an example. Test the combined fabric and diameter. Do not assume the Bernat skein allowance applies to scraps. Join ends securely and hide them inside, with no loose loops or tassels.

Stitch guide and working notes

US terminology. ch = chain; sl st = slip stitch; dc = double crochet; dc2tog = decrease two double crochets into one stitch; st/sts = stitch/stitches; yo = yarn over. An increase is 2 dc in the same stitch. Counts include the starting ch 3 as one dc, and exclude the joining sl st.

Round placement. Work joined rounds without turning. At every round end, sl st into the top of the starting ch 3. That chain occupies the first stitch position. When directed to dc in the same stitch, place it at the chain base; otherwise move to the next stitch. Do not work an extra dc into the base unless an increase calls for it.

Double crochet. Yo, insert the hook in the indicated stitch and draw up a loop. Yo and pull through 2 loops; yo and pull through the last 2 loops. Work through both loops of the stitch unless the seam instructions specify paired layers.

Double-crochet decrease. Yo, enter the next stitch and draw up a loop. Yo and pull through 2 loops, leaving 2 loops on the hook. Yo, enter the following stitch and draw up a loop. Yo and pull through 2 loops, leaving 3 loops. Yo and pull through all 3. Always use two successive base stitches, even where the source shorthand says "in next st". Source photos 1-5.

Magic circle. Form an adjustable loop with the working yarn crossing over the tail. Bring the working strand under the circle, insert the hook beneath it and draw up a loop. Hold the crossing while starting ch 3. Work the dc over both strands of the circle so the tail can close it. If the tail is too short, reduce the loop before continuing. Source photos 6-15.

Three rounds of increases beyond the marked circle make the underside of the rim. Three even rounds form its outer wall; three decrease rounds turn it inward; the final three even rounds reach back to the marked circle.

The source's XL rounds 24-26 show 96 stitches even though round 23 has 276 and those rounds contain no decreases. This edition corrects them to 276. All sizes retain the source increase/decrease placement. The source says the stuffed section adds about 10 cm / 4 in "to the size", without defining total diameter, radial width or height; this edition does not turn that phrase into a guaranteed outer diameter. Source inch/cm values are approximate and retained as reported.

Round schedule

Every round begins with ch 3 counted as one dc and ends with a sl st in its top. Do not count the joining sl st. Follow the placement note on page 3.

Round	Instructions	Sts
1	Ch 3, then work 11 dc into a magic circle. Tighten the circle and join to the top of ch 3.	12
2	Ch 3, dc in the same stitch; (2 dc in next st) 11 times.	24
3	Ch 3, (2 dc in next st, dc in next 1 sts) 11 times; 2 dc in next st.	36
4	Ch 3, dc in the same stitch; (dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next st) 11 times; dc in next 2 sts.	48
5	Ch 3, dc in next 2 sts; (2 dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts) 11 times; 2 dc in next st. Mark this round for the final seam and measure the inner circle now.	60
6	Ch 3, dc in the same stitch; (dc in next 4 sts, 2 dc in next st) 11 times; dc in next 4 sts.	72
7	Ch 3, dc in next 4 sts; (2 dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts) 11 times; 2 dc in next st.	84
8	Ch 3, dc in the same stitch; (dc in next 6 sts, 2 dc in next st) 11 times; dc in next 6 sts.	96
9-11	Ch 3, dc in each remaining stitch. Repeat for all 3 rounds.	96
12	Ch 3, dc in next 5 sts; (dc2tog over next 2 sts, dc in next 6 sts) 11 times; dc2tog over next 2 sts.	84

After round 5, check the circle flat and leave a marker on that round. After the final body round, do not fasten off; keep the loop for joining.

Round schedule - continued

Every round begins with ch 3 counted as one dc and ends with a sl st in its top. Do not count the joining sl st. Follow the placement note on page 3.

Round	Instructions	Sts
13	Ch 3; (dc2tog over next 2 sts, dc in next 5 sts) 11 times; dc2tog over next 2 sts; dc in next 4 sts.	72
14	Ch 3, dc in next 3 sts; (dc2tog over next 2 sts, dc in next 4 sts) 11 times; dc2tog over next 2 sts.	60
15-17	Ch 3, dc in each remaining stitch. Repeat for all 3 rounds. Keep the working loop live after the final join.	60

After round 5, check the circle flat and leave a marker on that round. After the final body round, do not fasten off; keep the loop for joining.

Fill the rim and join the seam

Join final round 17 to marked round 5: 60 paired stitch positions.

Prepare the liner. Place filling inside a clean, intact stocking leg, initially filling about 5-6 in / 13-15 cm of its length. Keep the rest available to fill gradually. A small bed may use one leg; larger beds may require several lengths. This is an enclosed filling liner, not a removable cushion.

Choose the visible texture. The source allows either fabric face outward. Turn the work if you prefer the reverse texture. The side with the curled rim is the top; the flat circle is the bottom. The choice changes the visible texture, not the stitch counts.

Bring the edges together. Fold the final edge inward to the marked inner-circle round. Pair one final-edge stitch with one stitch of the marked round. Use temporary markers at quarter points to distribute the pairing evenly. The two rounds have equal stitch counts; do not stretch one edge to cover a mismatch.

Move the working loop. Remove the live loop from the hook. From the bottom, insert the hook through the top of the starting ch 3 of the marked round. Catch the live loop from the final edge and pull it to the underside. Keep the yarn connected.

Join and fill. Working from beneath, insert through the next marked-round stitch and the next final-edge stitch. Draw working yarn through both layers and through the loop on the hook to make a joining sl st. Repeat around. After a short section, insert the liner; pause often to add and spread filling as you seam. Keep the filling firm and even without forcing holes open in the fabric. Source photos 21-31.

Close the liner and seam. Before closing the last section, securely knot the cut liner end to contain the filling. Tuck every liner end and knot entirely inside the rim, placing the end beside the starting end and spreading filling to avoid a hard lump. Join the remaining paired stitches, fasten off the crochet yarn and weave in all tails securely. Source photos 32-33.

Sewn alternative. If you prefer sewing to slip stitches, pair the same two rounds one stitch to one stitch, catch both fabric edges with a yarn needle, and sew around with matching yarn while inserting the filled liner in stages. Leave no gaps. This explains the source's optional sewn join; it is not a separately tested seam.

Fit, cleaning and custom sizes

Check the usable space. The listed diameter is the marked inner circle before the rim is stuffed. Measure the clear resting area again after assembly because the rim can lean inward. Compare it with the space your pet occupies when resting and turning. Do not choose solely from breed names or the size label.

Check the rim and floor contact. Set the finished bed on a level floor. Press around the rim and centre to check that it settles without tipping or sliding and that the pet can step over the rim and leave freely. These are practical checks to perform, not verified stability or mobility-support claims.

Introduce and inspect. Remove every marker and loose tail before use. Observe initial use and inspect regularly, especially after scratching or chewing. If yarn loops, liner or filling become exposed, remove the bed for repair. It is not chew-proof. Keep loose craft yarn and tools out of reach; swallowed yarn can cause serious harm.

Cleaning. Follow the care labels of the yarn, liner and filling together. The whole bed is not automatically machine washable because one yarn is. Test colourfastness, start with spot-cleaning, and verify drying through the stuffed rim before returning it to use. This edition has not been wash-tested. Removing the liner later requires opening the seam; no zip or access opening is included.

Troubleshooting. A ruffled base can come from extra stitches or a mismatch between yarn and hook; a cup can come from missed increases or tight tension. Recount the 12 increases per base round and the starting chain before changing the schedule. A rippled seam calls for checking one-to-one pairing and redistributing filling, not skipping stitches at random.

For a custom version, choose a flat inner circle ending on round N (N at least 2 for the written decrease formulas). Mark it: $12N$ stitches. Continue 3 increase rounds to $12(N+3)$. Work 3 rounds even. Work 3 decrease rounds, removing 12 stitches each round, back to $12N$. Work 3 rounds even and join the final edge to the marked round. Total body rounds = $N+12$. As an initial estimate only, N is approximately $5 \times \text{desired marked-circle diameter} / \text{measured diameter of your own 5-round test}$. Round to a whole round, crochet and remeasure; this estimate is not a guarantee of final clear space, outer diameter or yarn consumption.

Care references: [Cats Protection: choosing a bed](#); [VCA: string and yarn ingestion](#). These sources do not test this design.

Original photo guide: 1-9

Source photos: Ouma Ralie. The demonstration uses the Small bed; follow your selected size's round numbers. Original annotations are retained.



1. Start the first partial double crochet.



2. Pull through two loops of the first stitch.



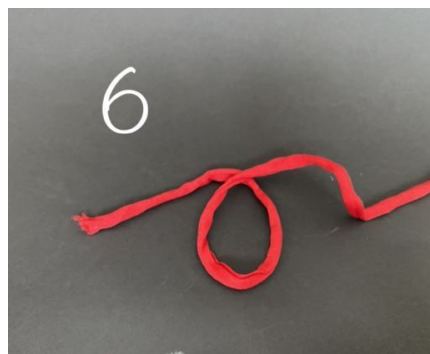
3. Start the second partial double crochet.



4. Pull through two loops of the second stitch.



5. Pull through the last three loops to finish dc2tog.



6. Arrange the yarn for a magic circle.



7. Insert the hook under the central strand.



8. Hold the crossed yarn and pick up the hook.



9. Draw the central strand up onto the hook.

Original photo guide: 10-18

Source photos: Ouma Ralie. The demonstration uses the Small bed; follow your selected size's round numbers. Original annotations are retained.



10. The adjustable loop is ready.



11. Chain 3 for the first counted double crochet.



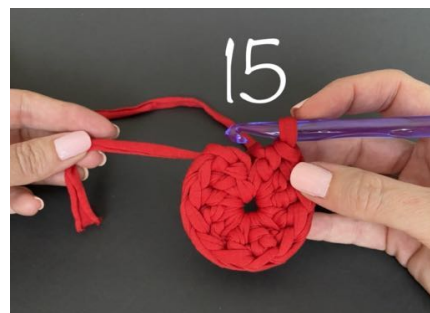
12. Keep both circle strands beneath the stitches.



13. Adjust a short starting tail before continuing.



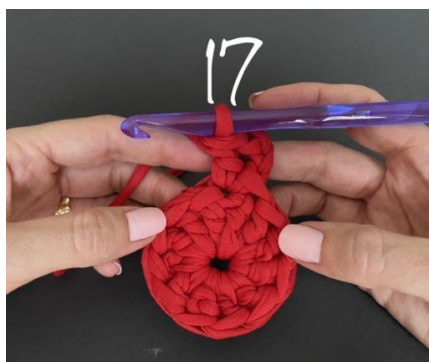
14. Work the remaining double crochets into the ring.



15. Pull the ring closed.



16. Begin the next round with chain 3.



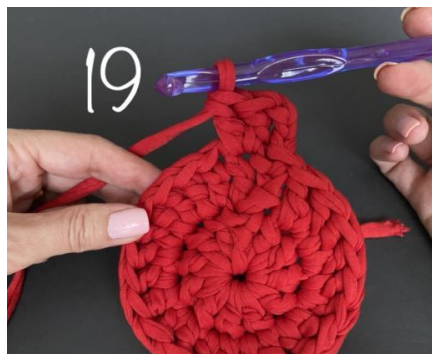
17. Add a double crochet at the chain base for an increase.



18. Continue the joined-round fabric.

Original photo guide: 19-27

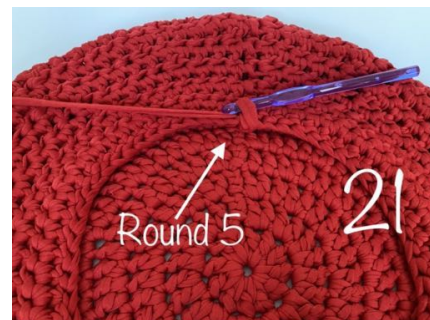
Source photos: Ouma Ralie. The demonstration uses the Small bed; follow your selected size's round numbers. Original annotations are retained.



19. Place an increase in the next stitch.



20. Begin filling a clean stocking liner.



21. Align the final edge with the marked inner-circle round.



22. Enter the marked round from the underside.



23. Catch the live loop from the finished edge.



24. Draw the loop down to the underside.



25. Insert through the next pair of aligned stitches.



26. Draw working yarn through both fabric layers.



27. Pull the yarn toward the underside.

Original photo guide: 28-33

Source photos: Ouma Ralie. The demonstration uses the Small bed; follow your selected size's round numbers. Original annotations are retained.



28. Complete the joining slip stitch.



29. Continue pairing the two edges.



30. Pause the seam to insert the filling liner.



31. Work filling into the rim as you join.



32. Close the liner end securely inside the rim.



33. Bring the filled liner ends together and close the seam.