

Tara the Cat

Pattern by sarsel

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Thanks so much for purchasing my pattern! If you encounter any problems, notice any errors or have trouble understanding my instructions, feel free to email me at sarselgurumi@gmail.com and I will try to help you ASAP! **Feel free to make as many kitties as you like for yourself or for friends, but please don't redistribute/resell my pattern or sell the finished product for profit.** Thank you for understanding!

Abbreviations:

SC: Single Crochet

HDC: Half double crochet

DC: Double crochet

MR: Make an adjustable ring. If you're unfamiliar with the method, check out the instructional video linked below. If you still have trouble with it, you can just ch 2, sc 6 in second ch from hook, but making a ring is best.

BLO: Crochet in back loops only

FLO: Crochet in front loops only

SL: Slip stitch

Dec: Decrease

Invdec: Invisible decrease. If you're unfamiliar with this method, check out the youtube video also linked below.

Inc: Increase (sc 2 into same sc)

Materials:

1. Size F (3.75 mm) and size G (4 mm) crochet hooks (a)
2. Stitch markers (b)
3. Straight pins (c)
4. Yarn needle (d)
5. Worsted weight yarn
6. Embroidery thread
7. 15 MM plastic safety eyes
8. Polyester Stuffing
9. Knitting needles in varying sizes (I use 5 and 10)
10. Sewing needles
11. Fabric glue (optional)
12. Buttons (optional)

Note:

All of my amigurumi are crocheted with **tight** tension. If you want your finished product to look like the example photo, I recommend that you crochet tightly, and also **stuff your amigurumi very generously!** Most of my pieces border on being overstuffed. Tara's head, for example, looks quite square before you fill it with lots of stuffing!

When wearing their shoes, both Huey and Tara stand 8.5" tall. Without their shoes, they are closer to 8". As mentioned above, your finished product's size will vary on your hook size, tension and the yarn you use.



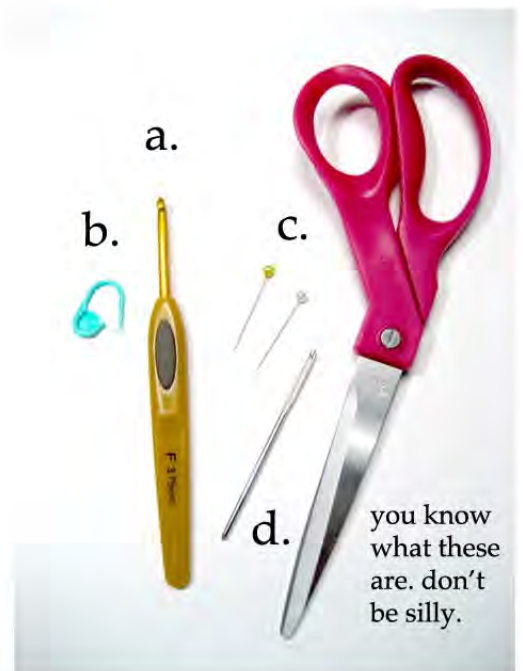
Tara was made with Vanna's Choice in:

Body: Taupe

Headband: Dusty green (main) and terracotta (flower)

Dress: Dusty purple

Shoes: Rose



instructional links (clickable)

(thanks, creators!)

Invisible decrease 

Adjustable ring 

Head:

Round 1: MR (or Ch 2, SC 6 in second chain from hook). (6)

Round 2: SC 2 in each SC around. (12)

Round 3: (SC 1, inc 1) 6 times around. (18)

Round 4: (SC 2, inc 1) 6 times around. (24)

Round 5: (SC 3, inc 1) 6 times around. (30)

Round 6: (SC 4, inc 1) 6 times around. (36)

Round 7: (SC 5, inc 1) 6 times around. (42)

Rounds 8-13: SC 42 around.

Round 14: (SC 6, inc 1) 6 times around. (48)

Rounds 15-16: SC 48 around.

Round 17: (SC 6, invdec 1) 6 times around. (42)

Round 18: (SC 5, invdec 1) 6 times around. (36)

Round 19: (SC 4, invdec 1) 6 times around. (30)

Add eyes and embroider the facial features before continuing.

Round 20: (SC 3, invdec 1) 6 times around. (24)

Round 21: (SC 2, invdec 1) 6 times around. (18)

Round 22: (SC 1, invdec 1) 6 times around. (12)

Round 23: SC 12 around.

Stuff the head, adding more stuffing at the bottom to give it its shape.

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing.



Ears (make 2):

Round 1: MR (or Ch 2, SC 6 in second chain from hook).

Round 2: (SC 1, inc 1) 3 times around. (9)

Rounds 3-4: SC 9 around.

Round 5: (SC 2, inc 1) 3 times around. (12)

Round 6: (SC 3, inc 1) 3 times around. (15)

Round 7: SC 15 around.

Round 8: (SC 4, inc 1) 3 times around. (18)

Fasten off and leave a tail for sewing. Do not stuff - press flat and whip stitch to head.

Legs (make 2):

Round 1: MR (or Ch 2, SC 6 in second chain from hook).

Round 2: SC 2 in each SC around. (12)

Round 3: (SC 1, inc 1) 6 times around. (18)

Round 4: SC 18 around in BLO.

Round 5: SC 5, invdec 4, SC 5. (14)

Round 6: SC 5, invdec 2, SC 5. (12)

Rounds 7-8: SC 12 around.

Round 9: SC 4, invdec 2, SC 4. (10)

Rounds 10-16: SC 10 around.

Stuff the legs as you go, putting more stuffing at the bottom to give the foot its shape. When you finish the first leg, fasten off. You don't need to leave a tail for sewing. When you finish the second leg, **DO NOT** cut your yarn. You're going to merge the two legs together and keep crocheting upwards to create the body: the two legs and the body will end up being one single, finished piece.



To merge the legs:



Line up the legs as desired (pinning them together helps)



Hold them with the feet facing away from you as shown



Insert your hook from right to left, so your hook is in both legs



Grab the dropped loop from the second leg, pull it through both legs and complete the SC.



Continue single crocheting around the outside of the left leg, then proceed to the right: treat them like a single piece of crochet



This is what it should look like once you've single crocheted around both legs once. Since each leg was composed of 10 SCs, you should end up with 20 SCs.

SUPER IMPORTANT

You're all ready to start the body now, but before you continue you must mark where you'll start your rounds from now on. Place your marker as shown in step #6, in the middle-back of the body. **This placement is crucial!** If you place it anywhere else, the increases and decreases that shape the amigurumi's belly will end up in the wrong spot.

I've noticed that sometimes, after working on the body for a while, the marker sometimes migrates a little to the right or left. I just take the marker and put it right back in the middle, so everything remains centered.

Body:

Round 1: SC 20.

Round 2: SC 8, inc 4, sc 8. (24)

Rounds 3-5: SC 24 around.

Round 6: SC 5, invdec 1, SC 1, invdec 4, SC 1, invdec 1, SC 5. (18)

Round 7-8: SC 18 around.

Round 9: (SC 4, invdec 1) 3 times around. (15)

Round 10: SC 15 around.

Round 11: (SC 3, invdec 1) 3 times around. (12)



The 4 increases in the front, which give the cat its "belly"



Building upwards



The finished body

Tail:

Make a ring of 7 SCs (or Ch 2, SC 7 in second chain from hook) and work in rounds of 7 upwards, until the tail is as long as desired.

Arms (Make 2):

Round 1: MR (or Ch 2, SC 6 in second chain from hook).

Round 2: SC 2 in each SC around. (12)

Rounds 3-4: SC 12 around.

Round 5: HDC 5 into first stitch. After your 5th HDC, remove your hook from the loop, re-insert it into the first HDC, grab the loop you just dropped and pull it through the first stitch, then yarn over and pull through both. This is the thumb. Finish the rest of the round like you normally would.

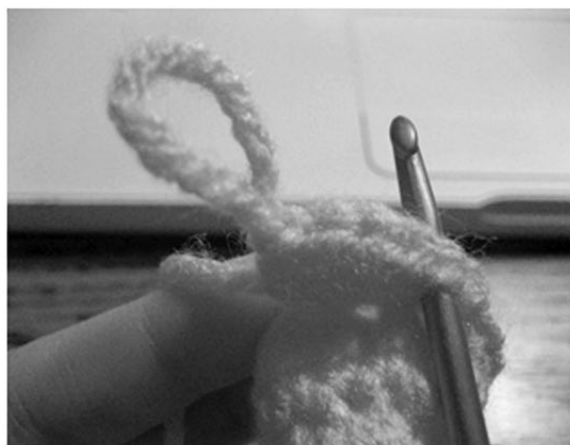
Round 6: SC 12 around.

Round 7: (SC 1, invdec 1) 4 times around. (8)

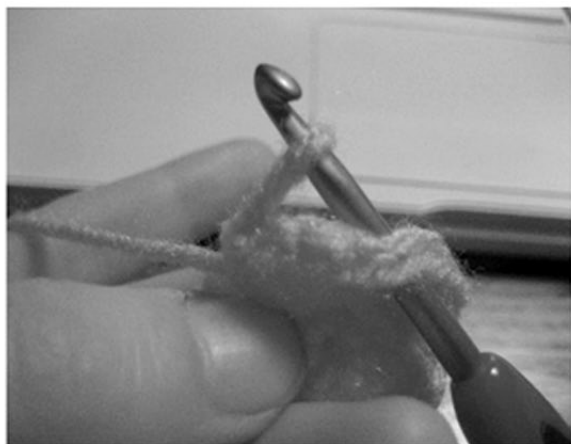
Rounds 8-13: SC 8 around.



The cluster of 5 HDCs: remove your hook from the last loop



Reinsert your hook into the first HDC



Grab the loop you dropped



Pull the loop through and continue your round of 12 SCs

Assemble your amigurumi:

As with all of my patterns, I **highly recommend** using a long, thin knitting needle to skewer your amigurumi through to make assembling the head and body easier. It keeps everything in place and from moving around too much. The head and body should be stuffed generously, and the bottoms of the arms should be stuffed more than the top. Use a whip stitch and your yarn needle to sew everything together.

Dress:

Main part

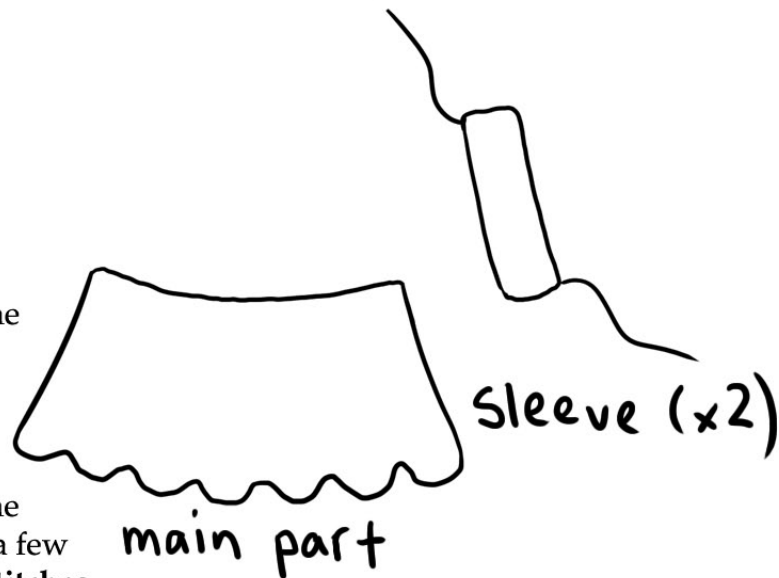
1. (Ch 3, DC in 3rd chain from hook) 7 times.
2. Make a turning chain of one SC. Instead of turning and working into the DCs you just created, turn and work into the top of the chain of DCs. It can be a little tricky, since there are no definitive v's or stitches to insert your hook into, but you can just wing it and SC across. Each time I tried, I ended up with 24 SC's by the end of the row. For the sake of following the pattern, try to make yours have 24 too, if you can.
3. Turn, SC across in FLO. (this is not crucial, you can just SC across normally if you wish).
4. Turn, SC 2. (SC 3, dec 1) 4 times, SC 2. (20)
5. Turn, SC 20 across.
6. Turn, SC 2. (SC 2, dec 1) 4 times, SC 2. (16)
7. SC 16 across. Fasten off and weave in ends.

Sleeves (make 2)

When creating your slipknot, leave a long tail.

1. Chain 10 and make a turning chain of 1.
2. Turn, SC across.
3. Turn, SC across. Fasten off and leave a tail.

You should end up with three pieces that look like this:
Take your yarn needle and pull one of the two tails on the sleeve through to the other side so both tails are on the same side of the piece.



To attach the sleeves:

Sew the first tail of the sleeve into the **second** stitch on the edge of the dress. Sew through the sleeve and the stitch a few times until it's secure. Sew the other tail of the sleeve **4 stitches away from the first one**. Your finished dress will have both sleeves, placed in the second stitch from each side, with **4 stitches** between them in the middle, like this, where each dash represents a stitch on the top row:



It's an abstract representation, but hopefully it makes sense!

When the sleeves are attached, put the dress on your kitty and either stitch or single crochet the back together. I prefer to single crochet since it's faster.

Headband:

Main headband

Chain 40, make a turning chain of 3. DC 40 into your foundation chain, fasten off sew together each end.

Flower

1. HDC 10 into ring.
 2. (HDC 5 into same stitch, slip stitch in next stitch) 5 times around.
- Fasten off and sew to headband.

And lastly, the shoes:

Using a size G (4 mm) crochet hook

Round 1: MR (6)

Round 2: SC 2 in each SC around. (12)

Round 3: (SC 1, inc 1) 6 times around. (18)

Round 4: SC around in BLO.

Round 5: SC 5, invdec in next 4 stitches, SC 5. (14)

Round 6: SC 4, chain 6 and skip the next 6 stitches, reinsert hook and SC 4.

Fasten off and weave in ends. You can add buttons or other embellishments to the shoes if you wish! Like Huey's shoes, it takes a little bit of force to get them onto the feet, but it's not too difficult. Just take your time.

You're finished with your amigurumi!

(hooray)