

# :: Nellie the Elephant ::

## A Heidi Bears Design Pattern © Heidi Bears 2013

Please note that I have permission from the designers of this African Flower Crochet Hexagon to design patterns using the African Flower Hexagon motif, and to sell these patterns.

You are welcome to sell any finished Nellie's, made by yourself. Please respect the pattern itself, including instructions, words, photographs, diagrams and the actual construction of the elephant, and do not copy, post or distribute in any way, electronic or other that will infringe my right as the author and creator of this pattern. Please do not use the idea and actual elephant pattern to modify and/or alter in any way to create or design and sell derivative patterns, including the use of a different hexagonal / polygonal motif to make an elephant like Nellie. Thank you for respecting the hard work that has gone into designing this pattern. I hope you will love making your own Nellie ☺

You have permission to make and sell finished Nellie's, but with the proviso that you yourself have made the elephant and that a credit link is added to any finished items, linking to my Ravelry shop: <http://www.ravelry.com/designers/heidi-bears>  
**Your finished item tag should state that this elephant is made from a Heidi Bears Design pattern. NO mass production is allowed.**



Nellie is the fourth of my patterns that makes use of the African Flower hexagon crochet motif and variations thereof, joined in a specific order to make a recognizable 3D toy. I love this African Flower pattern and the creative possibilities of using it to make 3D items ☺ Nellie is made using four different African Flower motifs: Hexagon, Pentagon, Heptagon and Octagon. She is also an excellent stash buster project, as you only need to use very small amounts of leftover sock yarn to make a motif.

So, let's take a look at the important points and how you will start to make your own happy Nellie ☺

### **:: Steps to making your own little Nellie ::**

1. Read the whole pattern through properly, so you have a good overview.
2. Make sure you know how to crochet the African Flower hexagon crochet motif. I have included both written and charted instructions for the African Flower hexagon in this pattern. If you are a visual learner, you can see a step by step photo tutorial on my blog: <http://heidibearscreative.blogspot.com/2010/05/african-flower-hexagon-crochet-tutorial.html>
3. Make sure you are able to crochet the different variations of the African Flower motif, including how to make an African Flower Pentagon, Heptagon and Octagon... for clarity: the pentagon has five petals and five sides, the heptagon has seven petals and seven sides and the octagon has eight petals and eight sides. The difference is simply the number of "petal" repeats that you crochet...each variation is therefore equally easy to crochet. I have included written and charted instructions in this pattern on how to crochet each of these African Flower motif variations. I have also posted a fully explained tutorial on how to crochet an African Flower pentagon, on my blog, which can be found here:  
  
<http://heidibearscreative.blogspot.com/2011/09/african-flower-pentagon-tutorial.html>
4. Make sure you have gone through and practiced the join-as-you-go technique. This has been explained and illustrated at the end of the pattern: Appendix : Joining Tutorials. Since the joining method is really very important to the success of the project, I strongly suggest that you practice joining on scrap yarn motifs before starting the project. If you would prefer to sew your motifs together, you won't need to practice the join-as-you-go technique, but will need to be confident in your neat sewing ability. I have included some instructions on how to sew stuff together... you can use the same principles for sewing body motifs together.
5. Either choose your yarn for this project or use the sock yarn that you have left over from other projects. Make all the required motifs for Nellie **BUT only up to Round 4 of the African Flower motif if you are doing a join-as-you-go method**, or the full motif up to Round 5 if you are sewing up the motifs.
6. Know how to do a basic hand sewing backstitch using thread and a needle or have a sewing machine to do this instead of by hand. You will need to make a small weight material filled fabric bag to act as a counterweight to Nellie's trunk (tutorial pg 33)

## :: Materials Requirements ::

The Nellie that has been crocheted for this pattern, was made using sock weight/fingering/#1 weight yarn. Using this weight yarn will give you a Nellie measuring approximately 37cm measured nose to tail, and approximately 14cm high at the shoulder.

**ALL THE CROCHET STITCHES USED IN THIS PATTERN ARE BASED ON AMERICAN CROCHET TERMS**

**Abbreviations :**      sc = single crochet                      dc = double crochet

**Sock weight / Fingering weight yarn/ #1**    in colors of your choice... this little ellie is a great stash busting project as you can use small amounts of sock yarn for each motif, and the more colourful the happier ☺ I used random colors, keeping only to the cream colored yarn for Round 5 of each motif. Although I can't tell you how much yardage of each color I used, I can tell you that the total weight of yarn for the whole ellie was around 120g (unstuffed).

The yardage for the sock yarn I used is around 320m/100g (350yds/100g). It is a superwash merino yarn, but you can use any alternative fingering weight yarn you like...I suggest that animal fibre yarns would be preferable, as they have more stretch, making the stuffing and shaping of the hippo easier.

**Crochet Hook**              2.0mm

**Polyester toy stuffing**

**Ellie Eyes**    (plastic safety eyes or glass looped eyes). **PLEASE NOTE THAT ATTACHED EYES ARE NOT RECOMMENDED FOR TOYS CREATED FOR CHILDREN!** They can be a suffocation hazard. If you are making this ellie for a child, rather embroider the eyes using embroidery thread! I would still suggest sculpting the eye sockets before embroidering the eyes...it adds a lovely realistic element ☺ I have used 10mm wire looped glass eyes. These can easily be sourced from sellers on eBay.

**Embroidery Thread**                      Plastic pellets used in toy making

**Scissors**                      Four pieces of cotton fabric 10 x 10cm each

**Long sewing needle**    (doll making needles work well)

**Tapestry Needle**    used for sewing in ends    **Normal sewing needle**

**General sewing thread**

## :: Skills Requirements ::

**Basic Crocheting Skills:** Chain stitch (ch) , Single Crochet (sc), Double Crochet (dc), Slip Stitch (sl st) joining a chain to make a ring, joining in a new color yarn.

**Join-as-you-go motif joining:** This pattern will require that you join the crocheted motifs each stitch to each stitch. This is necessary to prevent the stuffing popping out of the toy. It is imperative that you are confident in your join-as-you-go ability. The method I use is explained in the Appendix pages found at the end of the pattern. These tutorials are illustrated by using actual motif chart illustrations with explanatory notes. This cuts down on printing ☺

However, if you are scared witless by the thought of doing a join-as-you-go joining method, all is not lost...you can simply make all your motifs in full (including Round 5), then sew them together. The order of motif placement and the number of sides needing to be joined stays exactly the same whether you join-as-you-go or sew up.

**Basic sewing skills:** You will be sewing the ears to the head using spare yarn and a tapestry needle. You will also need to sew up a small fabric bag filled with plastic pellets to use as a body counterweight.

## :: General Tips ::

There are a few tips that you will want to know, to make your life easier, when making Nellie.

I strongly recommend that you work through the Joining Tutorial...because Nellie is stuffed, you will need to join the African Flower motifs, **stitch to stitch**, so that the stuffing doesn't pop out. Although this is really easy once you get the hang of it, if you aren't careful in having the correct stitch number etc, you will have a nightmare joining motifs, and more than likely give up in despair! I want you to be a happy Nellie creator, so please take the time to be a joining superstar!

If you prefer, you can make the motifs as required for each body part, and sew up the motifs with yarn and needle instead.

**TIP 1: ROUND 4:** When you crochet Round 4 of the African Flower Hexagon, ie the round of sc's on the outer edge of the flower petals, (in the photos on page 6, the apricot colored sc's), make sure that you end up with SEVEN sc's between the long dc stitches. In order for you to easily join the motifs, each stitch to each stitch, you will have to have the correct number of outer sc's separated by long dc's.

**TIP 2: ROUND 5:** When you crochet Round 5 of the African Flower motif (in the photos on pg 6, seen as the outermost round in cream colored yarn...), make sure that you have NINE dc's separated by

the chain stitches as shown. **NOTE that dc number 9 of a “9dc repeat”, and dc number 1 of the next along “9dc repeat” (of round 5), are made into THE SAME sc space below of round 4. This point is what I have arbitrarily called the APEX of the flower petal.**

**TIP 3: JOINING-AS-YOU-GO PROCESS:** When you join a motif to another, the motif you are joining **TO**, will **ALWAYS** have all its Rounds completed, ie Round 5 will always have been crocheted. The motif you are joining (ie the one you are **ADDING/JOINING** to the other), will only have been crocheted up to Round 4. The join-as-you-go process creates Round 5 of this motif. So when you see an instruction like “Join a hexagon on three sides”, it means that you need to take a hexagon that has been crocheted only up to Round 4, and crochet Round 5 as you join to the other motifs.

**TIP 4: JOINING-AS-YOU-GO:** If you find the joining-as-you-go too difficult, then make up the completed motifs for each body part and sew them together using spare yarn and a tapestry needle.

**TIP 5: 9dc REPEAT:** When you are joining sides of motifs to each other, you will essentially be matching petal apex to petal apex (that is why you need to be sure that you have 9 dc between each petal apex...ie matching and joining 9dc's to 9dc's on the joined sides). Where I have indicated the sides of motifs to be joined, I am using colored lines to show which sides correspond to each other. Remember that the **lines will run from petal apex to petal apex** (sometimes it is hard to illustrate exactly the beginning and end of the side to be joined, because the crocheted work tends to naturally curl, so the photos can be a bit distorted...)

**TIP 6: ALWAYS WORK WITH THE RIGHT SIDE FACING YOU:** I have photographed the work from the **RIGHT SIDE**, up to the point where it has become impractical to keep the work flat for photographing...because you are creating a 3D shaped body and head, your work will curl up naturally after adding several motifs. The motifs are **ALWAYS** added with the right sides facing you, and the “bottom” end of Nellie facing **AWAY** from you (once you have made the “bottom” ☺). If you look down at the work when starting to add a new motif, you will be crocheting in an **ANTICLOCKWISE** direction, starting the joining round at the point indicated in some of the photographs/illustrations by a pink arrow. If you have worked through the joining tutorial, you will have a clearer understanding of this tip.

**TIP 7: CROCHET HOOK QUALITY:** I strongly recommend that you use good quality crochet hooks. Your hooks **MUST** have good deep throats, or you might struggle with crocheting the smaller motifs. As Nellie is a stuffed animal, the motif stitch density has to be tight, to prevent the stuffing popping out. Unfortunately this means that your crochet will be quite tight, and if your hooks don't have good throats, you will struggle to pull the yarn through motif stitches.

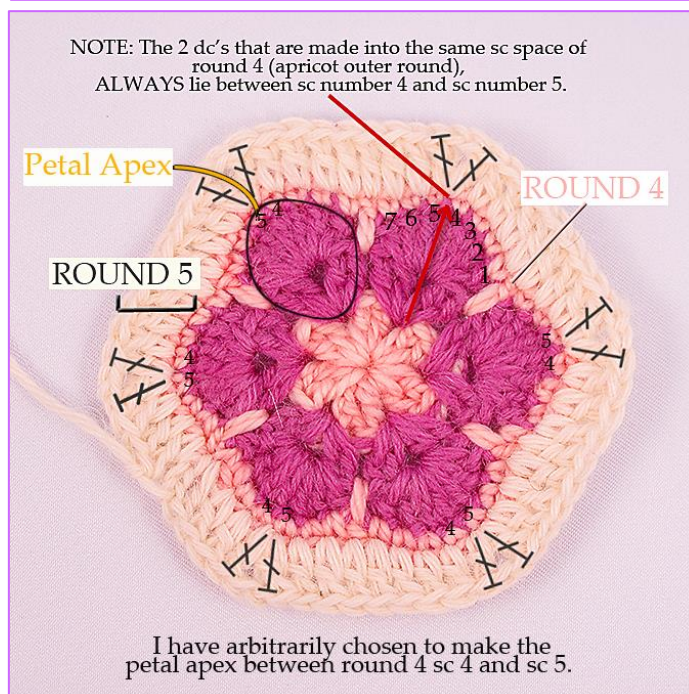
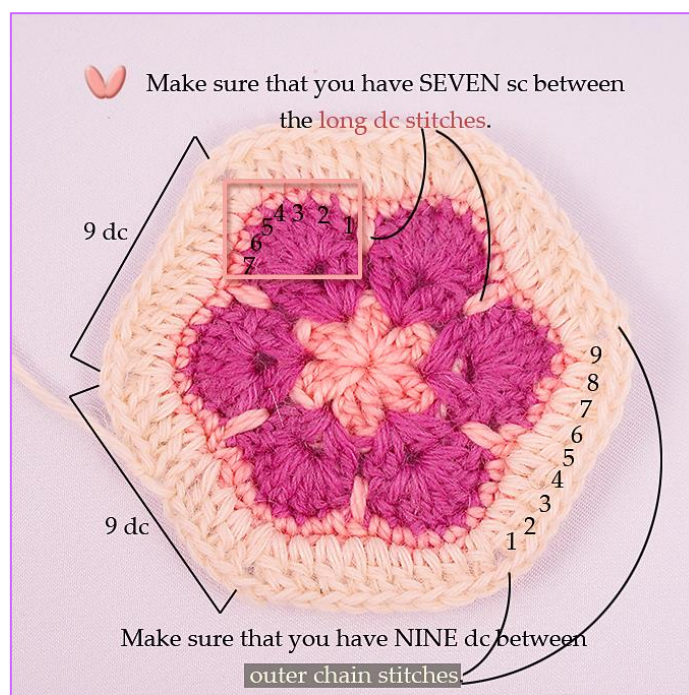
**TIP 8: MOTIF SIZE:** The exact size of each motif is not as important as that your tension should be the same over time as you crochet. Remember, the yarn and hook stay the same, the only variable for motif size is your tension.

**TIP 9: COLOR VARIATIONS :** I have made Nellie in a variety of colors, but the sky is the limit...choose your own color combinations, the making process remains the same ☺

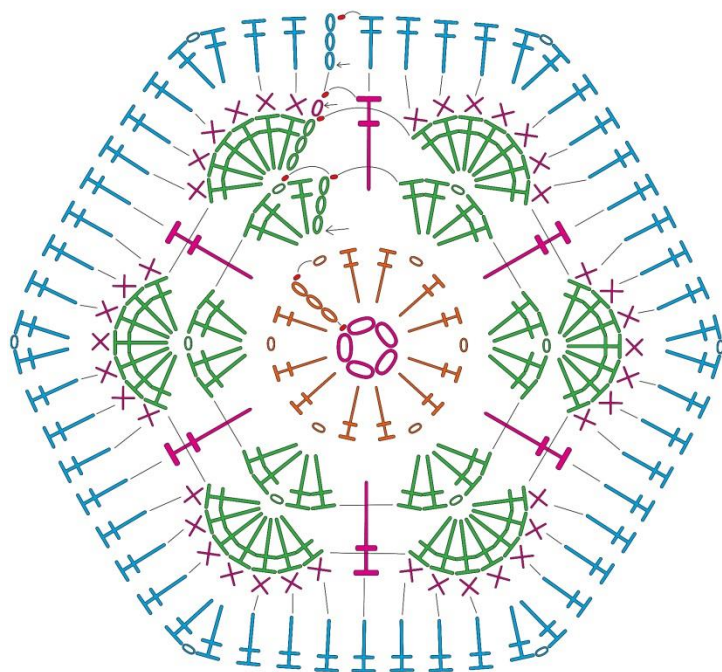
**TIP 10: STUFFING:** In some of the photos I have stuffed Nellie partly, mostly to show the motifs more clearly for reference purposes...this does not mean you need to stuff your ellie as well...only stuff the body and head when the pattern instructs you to do so...☺

**TIP 11: ORIENTATION:** When I talk of Nellie's left and right or left and right hand sides, I use the terms as anatomically correct, ie if you are facing Nellie's bottom, all motifs on the right hand side are "Right side" motifs, and all motifs on the left side are "Left side" motifs.

Please take a good look at the following photos for reference, they will save you a lot of frogging!



## African Flower Hexagon Crochet Motif Instructions



-  Chain stitch (ch)
-  Single Crochet (sc)
-  Double Crochet (dc)
-  Long dc into Round 2
-  Slip Stitch (sl st)
-  Arrow showing color change

**Round 1:** Ch5 and join with slip stitch to form a ring. Ch3 (counts as first dc), 1 dc in ring, ch1. Then, make \* 2 dc in ring, ch1 \* Repeat from \* to \* 4 times more, slip stitch join to third chain of beginning "ch3" of the round. Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (6 sets of 2dc's separated by chain stitches).

**Round 2:** Join next color in the ch1 space (just to the right of the previous round's ch3 beginning) and ch3 (counts as first dc). Make a dc in that same chain space then ch1. Make 2 dc (still in the same chain space). Move on to the next chain space of the previous round, and make the following: 2 dc, ch1, 2dc in that chain space. Repeat this in each of the next 4 chain spaces. Join with slip stitch to third chain of beginning "ch3" of the round. (6 clusters of [2dc,ch,2dc] )

**Round 3:** Continue with the same colour. Slip stitch into the chain space in the middle of the first cluster of the previous round. Ch3 (counts as first dc). Make 6 dc in same chain space (total of 7 dc's). Make 7 dc's into the chain space of the next cluster. Repeat 4 more times, so that each cluster has 7 dc's in its chain space. Join with slip stitch to the third chain of the beginning "ch3" of the round. Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (6 sets of 7 dc's).

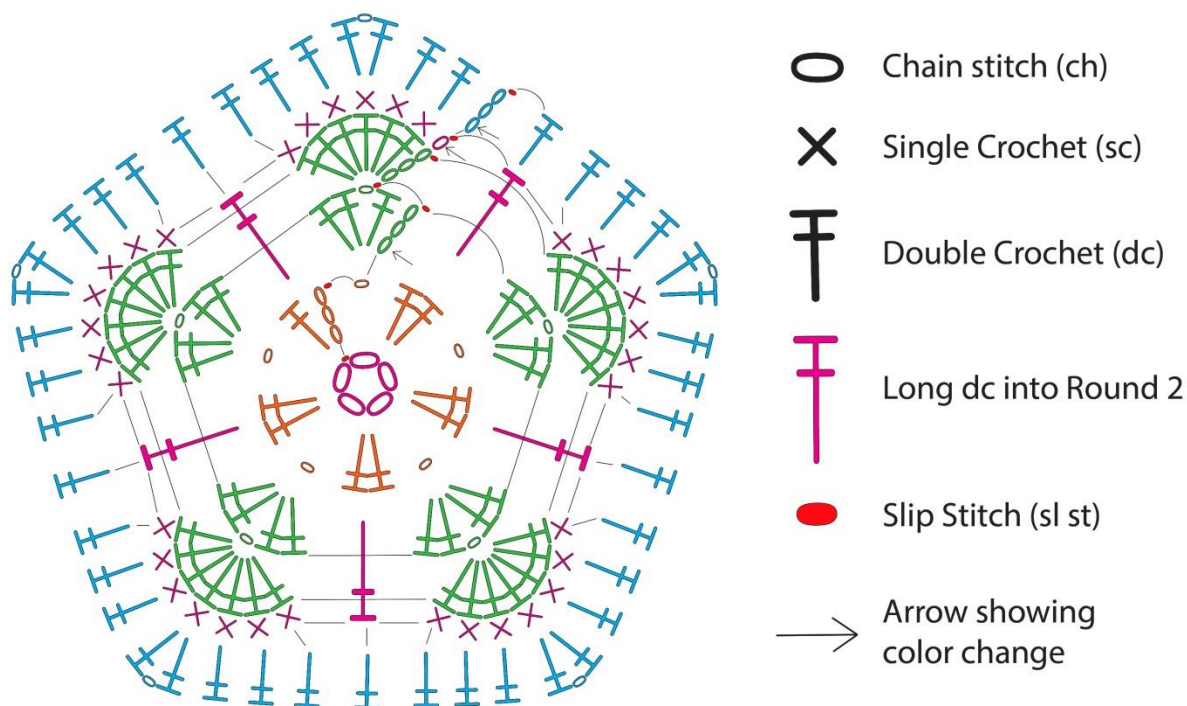
**Round 4:** Join new colour in the slip stitch of previous round's end, and ch1 (counts as a sc). Make one sc into each of the dc's of the cluster (this makes 7 sc including the ch1). Make one long dc (between clusters) that extends down into round 2 of the flower, so that it separates the round 2 clusters. \* Sc into each of the 7 dc stitches of the next cluster. Make one long dc (between clusters) that extends down into round 2 of the flower, so that it separates the round 2 clusters. \* Repeat from \* to \* four more times. Slip stitch to the beginning of the round "ch1" stitch. Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (42 sc and 6 long dc)

**Round 5:** Join next colour to the slip stitch at the end of the previous round. Ch3 (counts as first dc). Make one dc into each of the next 2 sc's, then (dc, ch1, dc) into the next sc (this forms the "apex" of the flower petal). Then make one dc into each of the next three sc. Make one dc into the previous round's "long dc" stitch.

\* Make one dc into each of the next petal's first three sc stitches, then (dc, ch1, dc) into the next sc (this forms the "apex" of the petal), then make one dc into each of the next three sc. Make one dc into the previous round's long dc stitch. \* Repeat from \* to \* four more times. Slip stitch to the third chain of the "ch3" of the beginning of the round.

Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (You should have nine "dc" stitches between each petal apex, separated by a chain stitch, so 54 dc in all).

## African Flower Pentagon Crochet Motif Instructions



**Round 1:** Ch5 and join with slip stitch to form a ring. Ch3 (counts as first dc), 1 dc in ring, ch1. Then, make \* 2 dc in ring, ch1 \*. Repeat from \* to \* 3 times more, slip stitch join to third chain of beginning "ch3" of the round. Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (5 sets of 2dc's separated by chain stitches).

**Round 2:** Join next color in the ch1 space (just to the right of the previous round's ch3 beginning) and ch3 (counts as first dc). Make a dc in that same chain space then ch1. Make 2 dc (still in the same chain space). Move on to the next chain space of the previous round, and make the following: 2 dc, ch1, 2dc in that chain space. Repeat this in each of the next 3 chain spaces. Join with slip stitch to third chain of beginning "ch3" of the round. (5 clusters of [2dc,ch,2dc] )

**Round 3:** Continue with the same color. Slip stitch into the chain space in the middle of the first cluster of the previous round. Ch3 (counts as first dc). Make 6 dc in same chain space (total of 7 dc's). Make 7 dc's into the chain space of the next cluster. Repeat 3 more times, so that each cluster has 7 dc's in its chain space. Join with slip stitch to the third chain of the beginning "ch3". Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (5 sets of 7 dc's).

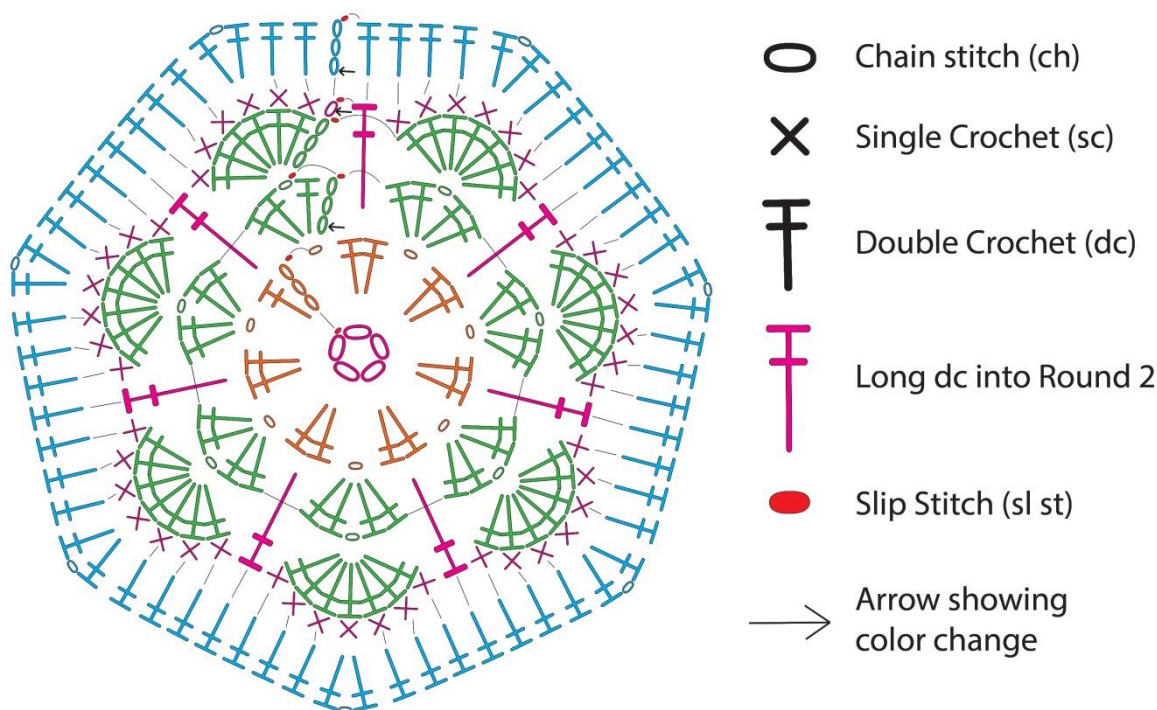
**Round 4:** Join new colour in the slip stitch of previous round's end, and ch1 (counts as a sc). Make one sc into each of the dc's of the cluster (this makes 7 sc including the ch1). Make one long dc (between clusters) that extends down into round 2 of the flower, so that it separates the round 2 clusters. \* Sc into each of the 7 dc stitches of the next cluster. Make one long dc (between clusters) that extends down into round 2 of the flower, so that it separates the round 2 clusters. \* Repeat from \* to \* three more times. Slip stitch to the beginning of the round "ch1" stitch. Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (35 sc and 5 long dc)

**Round 5:** Join next colour to the slip stitch at the end of the previous round. Ch3 (counts as first dc). Make one dc into each of the next 2 sc's, then (dc, ch1, dc) into the next sc (this forms the "apex" of the flower petal). Then make one dc into each of the next three sc. Make one dc into the previous round's "long dc" stitch.

\* Make one dc into each of the next petal's first three sc stitches, then (dc, ch1, dc) into the next sc (this forms the "apex" of the petal), then make one dc into each of the next three sc. Make one dc into the previous round's long dc stitch. \* Repeat from \* to \* three more times. Slip stitch to the third chain of the "ch3" of the beginning of the round.

Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (You should have nine "dc" stitches between each petal apex, separated by a chain stitch, so 45 dc in all).

## African Flower Heptagon Crochet Motif Instructions



**Round 1:** Ch5 and join with slip stitch to form a ring. Ch3 (counts as first dc), 1 dc in ring, ch1. Then, make \* 2 dc in ring, ch1 \*. Repeat from \* to \* 5 times more, slip stitch join to third chain of beginning "ch3" of the round. Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (7 sets of 2dc's separated by chain stitches).

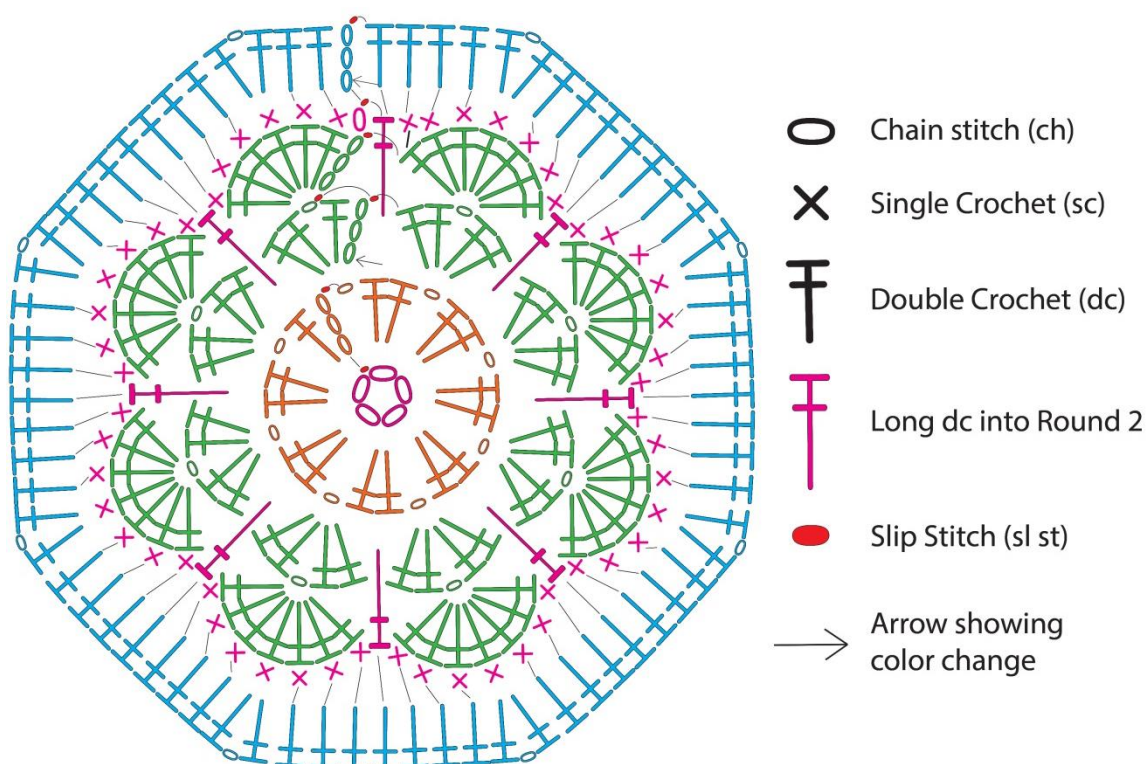
**Round 2:** Join next color in the ch1 space (just to the right of the previous round's ch3 beginning) and ch3 (counts as first dc). Make a dc in that same chain space then ch1. Make 2 dc (still in the same chain space). Move on to the next chain space of the previous round, and make the following: 2 dc, ch1, 2dc in that chain space. Repeat this in each of the next 5 chain spaces. Join with a slip stitch to third chain of beginning "ch3" of the round. (7 clusters of [2dc,ch,2dc] )

**Round 3:** Continue with the same colour. Slip stitch into the chain space in the middle of the first cluster of the previous round. Ch3 (counts as first dc). Make 6 dc in same chain space (total of 7 dc's). Make 7 dc's into the chain space of the next cluster. Repeat 5 more times, so that each cluster has 7 dc's in its chain space. Join with slip stitch to the third chain of the beginning "ch3" of the round. Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (7 sets of 7 dc's).

**Round 4:** Join new colour in the slip stitch of previous round's end, and ch1 (counts as a sc). Make one sc into each of the dc's of the cluster (this makes 7 sc including the ch1). Make one long dc (between clusters) that extends down into round 2 of the flower, so that it separates the round 2 clusters. \* Sc into each of the 7 dc stitches of the next cluster. Make one long dc (between clusters) that extends down into round 2 of the flower, so that it separates the round 2 clusters. \* Repeat from \* to \* five more times. Slip stitch to the beginning of the round "ch1" stitch. Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (49 sc and 7 long dc)

**Round 5:** Join next colour to the slip stitch at the end of the previous round. Ch3 (counts as first dc). Make one dc into each of the next 2 sc's, then (dc, ch1, dc) into the next sc (this forms the "apex" of the flower petal). Then make one dc into each of the next three sc. Make one dc into the previous round's "long dc" stitch.  
\* Make one dc into each of the next petal's first three sc stitches, then (dc, ch1, dc) into the next sc (this forms the "apex" of the petal), then make one dc into each of the next three sc. Make one dc into the previous round's long dc stitch. \* Repeat from \* to \* five more times. Slip stitch to the third chain of the "ch3" of the beginning of the round. Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (You should have nine "dc" stitches between each petal apex, separated by a chain stitch, so 63 dc in all).

## African Flower Octagon Crochet Motif Instructions



**Round 1:** Ch5 and join with slip stitch to form a ring. Ch3 (counts as first dc), 1 dc in ring, ch1. Then, make \* 2 dc in ring, ch1 \*. Repeat from \* to \* 6 times more, slip stitch join to third chain of beginning "ch3" of the round. Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (8 sets of 2dc's separated by chain stitches).

**Round 2:** Join next color in the ch1 space (just to the right of the previous round's ch3 beginning) and ch3 (counts as first dc). Make a dc in that same chain space then ch1. Make 2 dc (still in the same chain space). Move on to the next chain space of the previous round, and make the following: 2 dc, ch1, 2dc in that chain space. Repeat this in each of the next 6 chain spaces. Join with slip stitch to third chain of beginning "ch3" of the round. (8 clusters of [2dc,ch,2dc] )

**Round 3:** Continue with the same colour. Slip stitch into the chain space in the middle of the first cluster of the previous round. Ch3 (counts as first dc). Make 6 dc in same chain space (total of 7 dc's). Make 7 dc's into the chain space of the next cluster. Repeat 6 more times, so that each cluster has 7 dc's in its chain space. Join with slip stitch to the third chain of the beginning "ch3" of the round. Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (8 sets of 7 dc's).

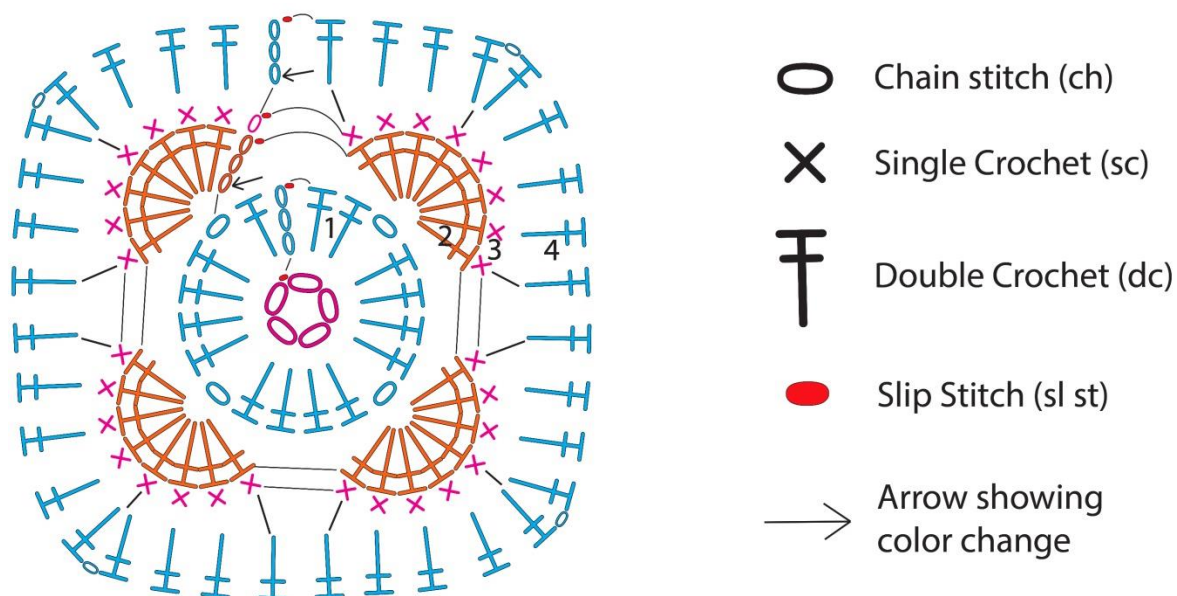
**Round 4:** Join new colour in the slip stitch of previous round's end, and ch1 (counts as a sc). Make one sc into each of the dc's of the cluster (this makes 7 sc including the ch1). Make one long dc (between clusters) that extends down into round 2 of the flower, so that it separates the round 2 clusters. \* Sc into each of the 7 dc stitches of the next cluster. Make one long dc (between clusters) that extends down into round 2 of the flower, so that it separates the round 2 clusters. \* Repeat from \* to \* six more times. Slip stitch to the beginning of the round "ch1" stitch. Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (56 sc and 8 long dc)

**Round 5:** Join next colour to the slip stitch at the end of the previous round. Ch3 (counts as first dc). Make one dc into each of the next 2 sc's, then (dc, ch1, dc) into the next sc (this forms the "apex" of the flower petal). Then make one dc into each of the next three sc. Make one dc into the previous round's "long dc" stitch.

\* Make one dc into each of the next petal's first three sc stitches, then (dc, ch1, dc) into the next sc (this forms the "apex" of the petal), then make one dc into each of the next three sc. Make one dc into the previous round's long dc stitch. \* Repeat from \* to \* six more times. Slip stitch to the third chain of the "ch3" of the beginning of the round.

Cut yarn and pull through, leaving a tail. (You should have nine "dc" stitches between each petal apex, separated by a chain stitch, so 72 dc's in all).

## Nellie Underneck Patch Motif Crochet Chart



**Round 1:** Ch5 and join with a slip stitch to make a ring. Ch3 (counts as first dc), then make 1dc into the ring, ch1. Make \* 4 dc into ring, ch1. \* Repeat from \* to \* twice more. Make 2 dc into ring and join with a slip stitch to the third chain of the "ch3" of the beginning of the round. (4 sets of 4dc's separated by chain stitches)

**Round 2:** If you choose, you can join a new color yarn. Ch3 into a chain space of Round 1. If you choose not to change colors, first slip stitch into the next along chain space, then Ch3 (counts as first dc). Make 7 dc into this same chain space. Make 8dc's into each of the three remaining chain spaces of Round 1. Join with a slip stitch to the third chain of the "Ch3" beginning of Round 1. (4 clusters of 8 dc's)

**Round 3:** Join a new color if you wish. Ch1 into the slip stitch of the previous round. Sc into each of the seven dc's of this cluster. Sc into each of the 8 dc's of the next cluster. Repeat for the remaining two clusters. Join with a slip stitch to the ch1 at the beginning of the round. (4 sets of 8 sc's)

**Round 4:** Join a new color yarn to the slip stitch of round 3. Ch3 (counts as first dc). Make a dc into each of the next four sc stitches. Ch1, then \* make a dc into the same sc space as the previous dc. Make a dc into each of the next eight sc's from Round 3. Ch1. \* Repeat from \* to \* two times more. Make a dc into the same sc space as the previous dc. Make a dc into each of the next three sc stitches of Round 3. Join with a slip stitch to the third chain of the "ch3" at the beginning of the round. (4 sets of 9 dc's separated by 4 chain stitches, ie four "9dc repeats")

## Motifs Required for Nellie

### Body:

19 X Pentagons

2 X Hexagons

2 X Octagons

1 X Square motif

2 X Octagons (ears)

TOTAL Motifs = 35

27 X Pentagons

3 X Hexagons

1 x Heptagon

4 X Octagons

### Head:

8 X Pentagons

1 X Heptagon

1 X Hexagon

## NOTE

Please carefully go over the Appendices...you need to know what they say before starting your Nellie ☺

APPENDIX :: Sewing up a little counterweight bag :: pg 32

APPENDIX :: Sewing the Trunk motifs: how to make an easy and pretty seam :: pg 33

APPENDICES :: Joining tutorials :: pg 37

## :: Overview of Body ::

Below are some photos that show you the body in overview...you can use them for reference in constructing the ellie body ☺



Far left: body viewed from the front/head end

Left: View of the bum end



Far left: View of body from above

Left: View of underside of the body

## :: Body ::

Nellie is worked from the bum area towards the tip of her trunk. Her body is essentially divided into three broad areas:

Hind legs and Bum area, Waist and Belly motifs, Front legs and front of body motifs

Right! Let's get started ☺

### Hind Legs and Bum Area

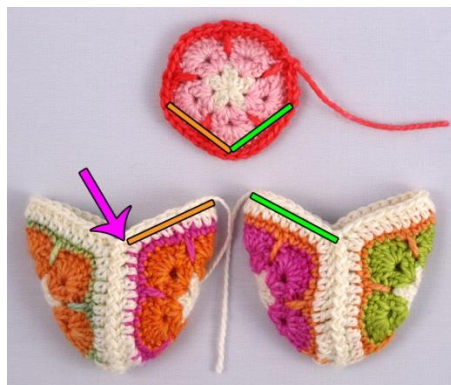


You will make two hind legs, in exactly the same way.

Crochet Round 5 on a pentagon. Now join-as-you-go a second pentagon to this completed pentagon, on **three sides (above left)**, starting at the point indicated by the pink arrow. The colored lines represent the areas that will be lying adjacent to each other/joined when your joining is completed. Once your three sides are joined, you will have a little "pocket" shaped leg, with each pentagon still having two "free" edges. Repeat to make the second hind leg. Above right you can see both hind legs are complete.



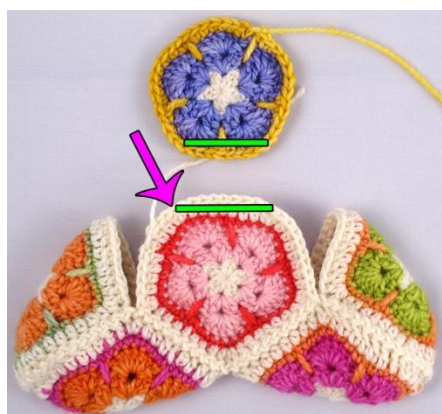
Flatten out the two little hind legs, so that they lie next to each other as shown on the left. The two pentagons facing each other will form the **inner** hind leg motifs (in this case my purple and orange motifs), so decide now which colors you would like to face in and which you'd like to be the outer pentagons, if you have used different colored motifs.



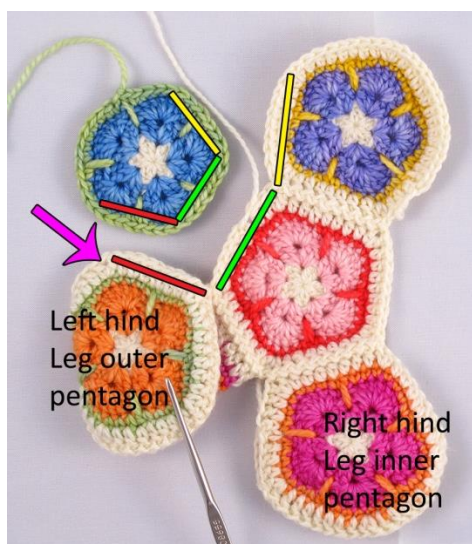
Take a pentagon and join on two sides as shown left and below, again starting to join at the point indicated by the pink arrow. So your first side will be joined to the **one hind leg inner pentagon** and the second side will be joined to the **other hind leg inner pentagon**.



Above left, the pentagon has been joined and I have flattened the legs so that the inner hind legs are seen (purple and orange motifs). You can see the two sides where the inner hind legs are joined to the pink pentagon. Now, open up the leg pockets again, and your work should look like the photo above on the right.



Join a pentagon on one side to the previously joined pentagon, as shown far left. Again, start joining at the pink arrow. Your work should look like the photo on the left.



Squash your work a little, so that the left hind leg outer pentagon faces you. Next you will join a pentagon to this left hind leg and bum, **on three sides**. Start joining the pentagon to **the outer hind leg motif** (point shown by the pink arrow), then onto the two bum motifs as shown above left.

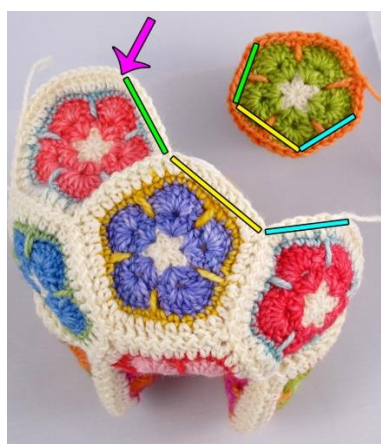
Your work should look like the photo above on the right.



Repeat these steps on the other side of the body to join a pentagon to the right hind legs and bum on three sides, BUT this time you can see that your start point is on the top bum pentagon, not on the right hind leg. This is because you are always facing the right side of your work when you join-as-you-go, and crocheting in an anti-clockwise direction.



Your work should look like the photo far left. Next you need to join a pentagon to the left side of the body, lying between the left bum pentagon and the top bum pentagon as seen on the left. This new pentagon will be joined on two sides, starting at the point shown by the pink arrow.

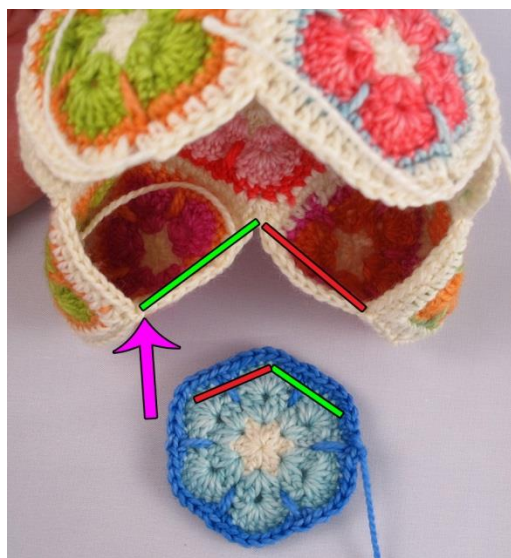


Awesome! Only one more pentagon to join and the bum and hind legs are done...Join a pentagon to the right side of the body, but this time you need to join it on three sides, starting at the point shown by the pink arrow, which lies on the previously joined motif, then to the top bum pentagon and finally to the right hand side bum pentagon. On the left you can see how things should look at this point.

## Waist and Belly



Let's take a look at the work so far. The photo far left, shows the view looking INTO the bum area (facing the wrong side of the bum motifs). Notice the two "free" edges of the inner leg pentagons (red lines on the photo left). You will add the belly motif to these two sides.

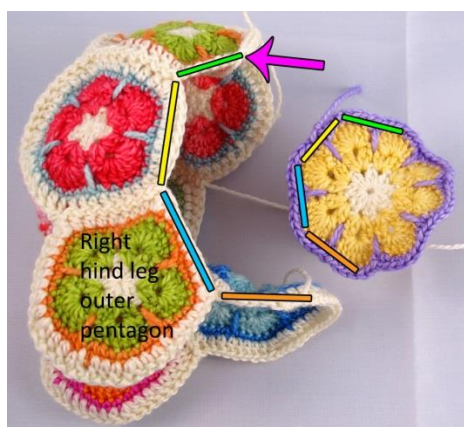


You need one hexagon for the belly motif. In the photo on the left, I have placed the belly hexagon on the work surface, with the right side facing us, but you are still viewing the legs from above, ie the “wrong side” of the inner hind leg motifs showing.

Remember that you will need to turn the work upside down in order to have the right sides of your work facing you, so that you can join-as-you-go. That is why the colored lines seem to be opposite to those on the belly motif. Flip your body over so that you are facing the inner hind leg motifs right side showing. Now join your belly hexagon **on two sides** as seen, starting at the spot shown by the pink arrow.



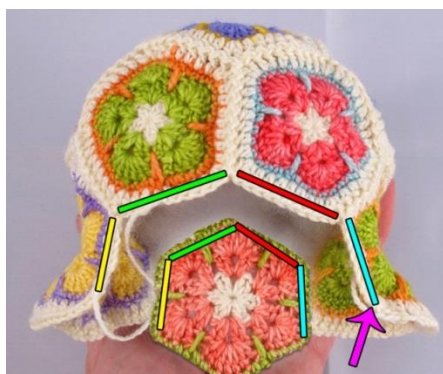
On the far left, the belly hexagon has been joined on the two inner edges of the hind legs. Your work should look like these photos. Note that the belly hexagon still has four remaining “free” edges.



Turn your work so that you are facing the right hand side of the body. Join an octagon, on **four sides**, as shown far left. Start by joining to the top right bum pentagon, then to the right-hand bum pentagon, then to the remaining side of the right hind leg pentagon, and finally to the belly hexagon.



Now turn your work again, so that you are facing the left hand side of the body. Join an octagon, again **on four sides**, but this time start at the belly hexagon (pink arrow). You have one more hexagon to add and then ellie’s waist (if an ellie can be described as having a waist ;) ) is done. The waist is essentially formed by two octagons (one on each side of the body) and two hexagons, one forming the belly and the other (which you will add next) forming the top of the back.



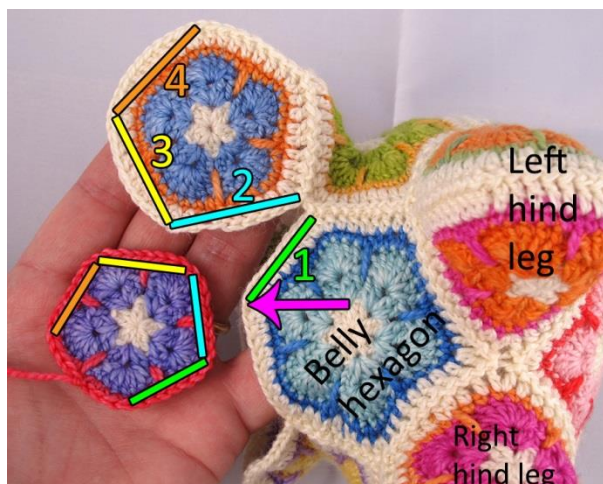
Hold your work in the palm of your hand. When the body is viewed from above, you can see a nice half hexagon shape left over, where you will join the final hexagon of the “waist” section of the body. Join a hexagon, on **four sides**, starting at the “just-joined” left hand side octagon, and joining across the two top of bum pentagons and finally to the opposite octagon.

The waist section of the body is done!

### Front Legs and Body Front



We will first make the front left leg, then the right. Each leg is made up of two pentagons. Join a pentagon on ONE side only, to the left hand side waist octagon (above left). I have pinned the edges to be joined (can't hold a camera, work and motif all together ☺). Above right it has been joined in.



Now turn your ellie, so that you are facing her belly hexagon, and her hind legs are on the right. You need to join in a pentagon, on **FOUR SIDES**, starting at the belly hexagon (pink arrow), then joining along three sides of the leg pentagon you joined in previously. The numbers indicate the order of joining.

When you get to the first leg pentagon joining side, you may need to adjust your angle of work a little, but the joining process remains exactly the same ☺



This is what your work should look like now. The pink arrow shows where you started your joining process.



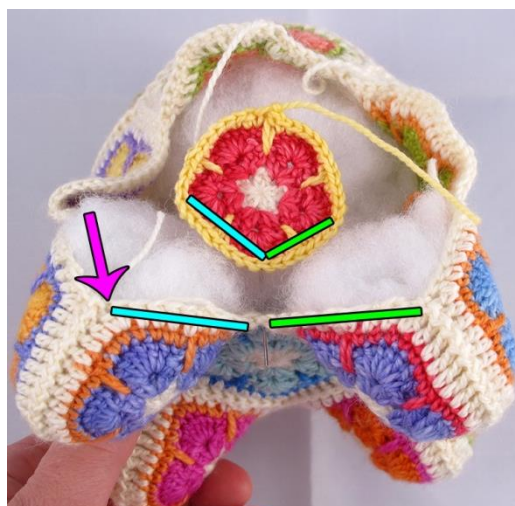
Far left, you can see the belly hexagon in the middle, which still has one “free” edge. Join a pentagon here as shown left, on this ONE side only starting at the point shown by the pink arrow.



You need to add one more pentagon to finish creating the right front leg. This will be joined on **FOUR** sides, starting on the right hand waist octagon (pink arrow), then crocheting along the previously joined pentagon on three sides. The numbers indicate the order of joining sides. Again, you will need to change your angle once you have finished joining your motif to the octagon, but the joining process remains the same. You will have two little “pocket” legs now (photo below left).



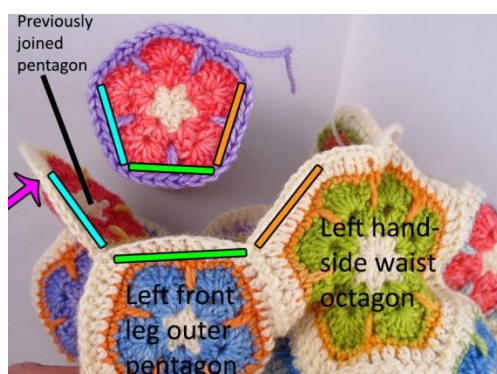
In the photo on the left I have stuffed the ellie to show how the front legs are shaped into little pockets. You are NOT to stuff your ellie yet, this is purely for illustration purposes ☺



Ok, next we will work on the chest and shoulders. First join in a pentagon, on two sides to the “V” shaped area between the front leg inner pentagons, starting at the point shown by the pink arrow.



Once joined, your work should look like the photos on the left.



Next, join a pentagon on three sides, starting at the previously joined pentagon (pink arrow), photo left. Your work should look like the photo right.

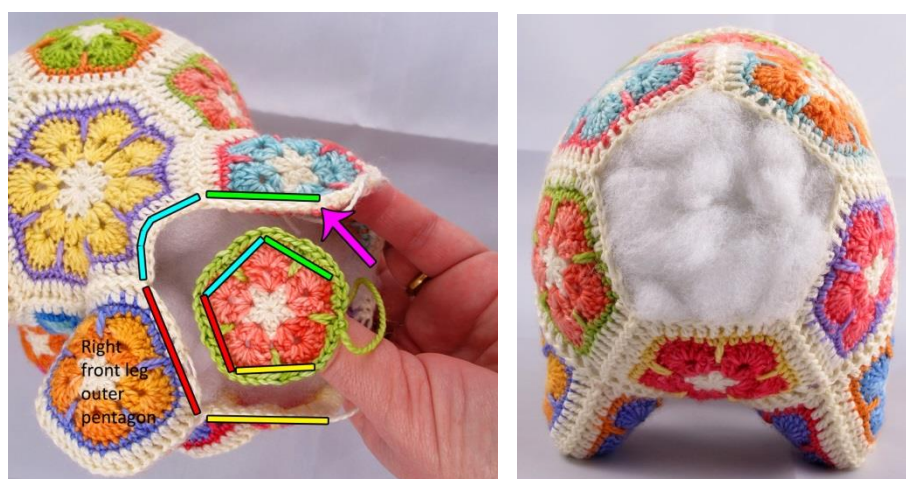


Join the next pentagon, again on three sides, as shown left and far left. These pentagons you have been adding will form the “shoulders”, so to speak.

Your ellie body is nearly done!



Far left, the body is viewed from above. See the space next to the previously added motif? Join a pentagon there, on three sides, starting to join on this previously added pentagon, then to the “waist” hexagon, then to the “waist” octagon. Your work should look like the photo above right.



Join the last body pentagon to the remaining space on the body above the right front leg outer pentagon, on **FOUR sides**, starting at the point shown by the pink arrow (on the previously joined motif), and ending on the bottom chest pentagon (hot pink and yellow pentagon). Above right, I have stuffed the body...you have a pentagon shaped space left ☺, which is where you will start to add motifs to form the neck of your Nellie .



Well done! Your Nellie body is finished. The photos above are what your work should look like at this point. Shown are the right and left sides of the body, squashed flat to show the motifs and their position.

### :: Stuffing and weighting the ellie bottom ::

Now you need to partly stuff the body using polyester stuffing. Start with small amounts pushed into the hind legs, making sure that they are NOT STUFFED TOO TIGHTLY! If you stuff them hard, they will splay out and Nellie will look like she's doing the splits! Even stuffing is very important for the final overall shape of your toy, and there is an art to it. Make sure that the legs are equally stuffed, shape and firmness being considered. Now add small tufts of stuffing to the body, again being careful to distribute the stuffing evenly between the left and right hand sides of the body. When you have stuffed the bum section, place a small "weight bag" (page 32) filled with a plastic pellets/material that has some weight to it, in the tummy section, making sure that it is well surrounded by stuffing, with none of the material of the weight bag showing through. Stuff the body about three quarters of the way, so that you can still work on the neck comfortably. I have stuffed Nellie to the neck in the photos below for illustration purposes.



#### Forming the neck

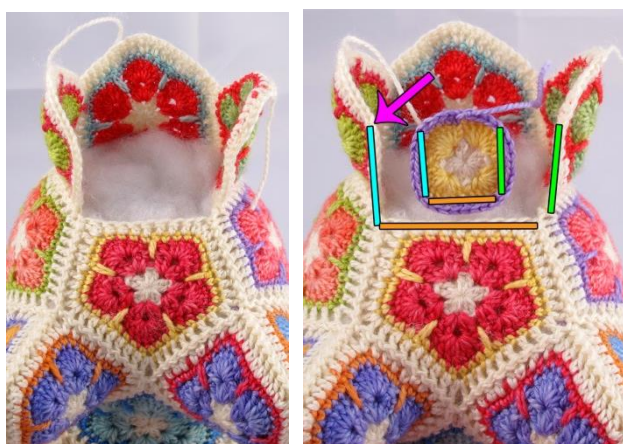
Join the first neck pentagon on two sides, as shown on the left, starting at the pink arrow point. This motif will be called the "Top of Neck" motif.



Next, join a pentagon on two sides, as always, starting at the point shown by the pink arrow, seen in the photos above left. This pentagon forms the left side of the neck.



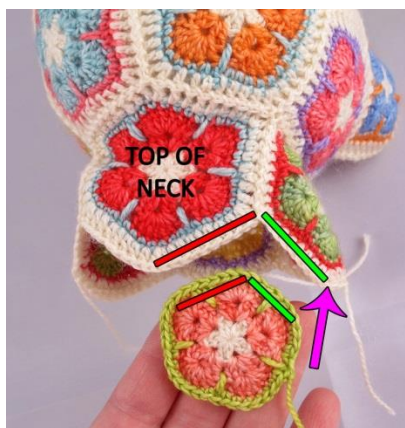
Now join a pentagon on the right hand side of the neck, again on **two sides** (photos left), but this time starting to join on the Top of Neck motif. Your work should look like the photos on the left.



Hold your work so that the chest is facing you. Do you see the square shaped space left to fill to complete the neck?



Join in a square motif on three sides, starting at the previously joined pentagon (pink arrow).



Hooray, next you are making Nellie's eyes...soon she will be able to see ☺ Each eye is made by joining a pentagon. Start with the left eye...join a pentagon on **two sides**, starting your joining on the left side of neck pentagon, then joining to the Top of Neck pentagon (above left). Your work should look like the middle photo above. Above right you can see where the right eye will be joined.



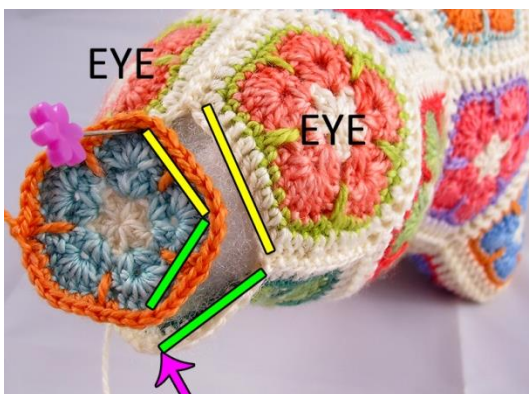
Now join the right eye (a pentagon), this time on three sides, starting at the left eye (pink arrow), as shown far left.

Left, you can see both eyes have been joined ☺

Ok, you can now stuff the rest of Nellie's body, up to the shoulders, again keeping in mind evenness of stuffing and symmetrical shaping. Stuff the front legs, not too firmly as before, and the body up to the neck. Now take a good look at your Nellie, and make sure that the rump and middle are generally symmetrically stuffed and even when viewed from all angles



Face your ellie directly on, and the tilt the head area up slightly...you will see a "U" shaped area under the eyes, made up of 5 sides (above left). Above in the middle, I have folded the eye pentagons down slightly so that you can see the edges a bit more clearly. Starting at the right eye pentagon (pink arrow), join a HEPTAGON, on 5 sides (above right), leaving the green line edges free.

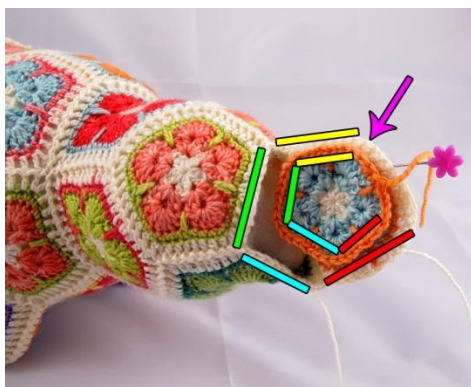


Your work should look like the photo far left. Join in a pentagon, on two sides, as seen on the left, starting your joining at the heptagon, and then joining to the left eye. This forms the first trunk motif on the left hand side of the body.



Things should look like the photo on the left when you have joined this pentagon.

**The next motif you will join, will be the last one you can join-as-you-go.** Thereafter there are still TWO TRUNK PENTAGONS to add in, but because they are now forming a tube shape, they will need to be sewn in. Never fear dear ellie maker, I will show you step by step how to sew these motifs together, so that your seams will be even and neat 😊

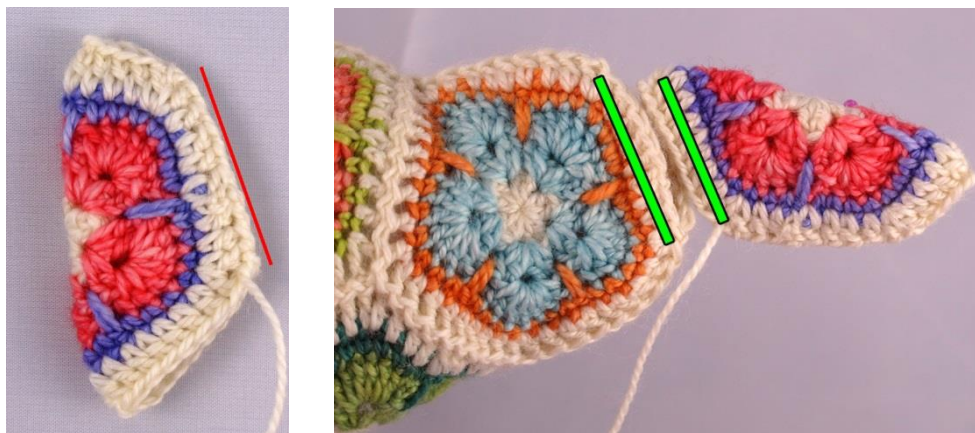


Crochet join-as-you-go, a pentagon **on FOUR sides** starting at the point shown by the pink arrow (on the previously joined trunk pentagon) in the photo above left. When the joining has been completed, you will be left with two “free” edges, one on each trunk pentagon. Stuff the rest of the head, as always, paying attention to shaping and symmetry.



Let's take a look how your work is looking at this stage. Left you can see the view of Nellie from above, and below, both sides. Well done! You are nearly done with your little ellie 😊





Using the sewing up tutorial as reference (at the end of the pattern), sew up two sides of a pentagon (as seen above on the left, red line edge)...DO NOT CUT YOUR YARN! Using this same sewing up yarn, sew the two “free” adjacent edges of this pentagon to the two “free” edges of the trunk pentagons joined-as-you-go previously. Below are some guidance photos...



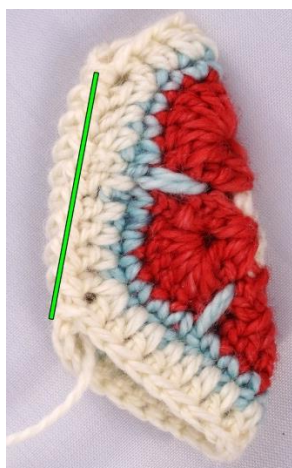
Keeping the same orientation of the motif and the work, fold the pentagon back on the trunk motifs, so that your sewing yarn lies on the right and the ellie eyes are touching your left palm. Now sew up the inner two “free” edges, making sure that you insert your needle into both loops of the stitches on each edge (above right).



When you get to the end of the first side (above left photo), your pentagon will naturally want to curl towards you...in other words, flatten out in line with the trunk pentagons (orange and blue). In the photo above right, you can see that the stitches of the remaining edges are lined up nicely for you to continue sewing up. Sew up the last two edges, making very sure that you don’t accidentally “catch” any thread from the other side...you want the trunk to remain a hollow tube.

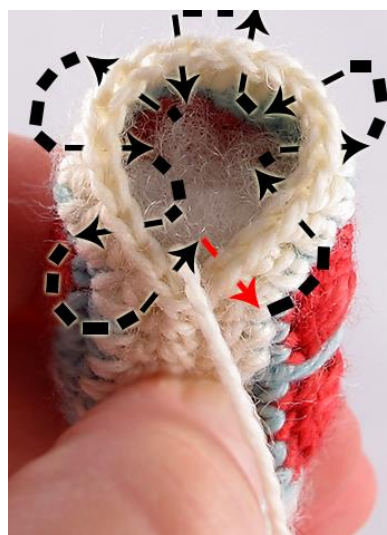


Now tie off your sewing yarn thread and stuff the trunk a little further. Stuff the trunk very softly as you are going to curl the trunk and if it is stuffed too firmly, it will be difficult to do this. Your ellie should look like the photo left.



Ok...drumroll....you only have one motif left to sew in and then your ellie body is done! Whooahoo!

Take the last pentagon and sew up two sides (green line)...use the skills shown in the tutorial on sewing a neat and pretty seam at the end of the pattern to help you. Now sew the narrower open end of this last pentagon to the tip of the trunk, making sure that you don't catch stitches across the "tube" hollow of the join.



Gently stuff this last pentagon. Sew a running stitch (in and out of every second stitch at the tip of the trunk opening (above right)), and draw the trunk tip closed. DO NOT CUT YOUR YARN...you will use this to sew the trunk into a curly shape.

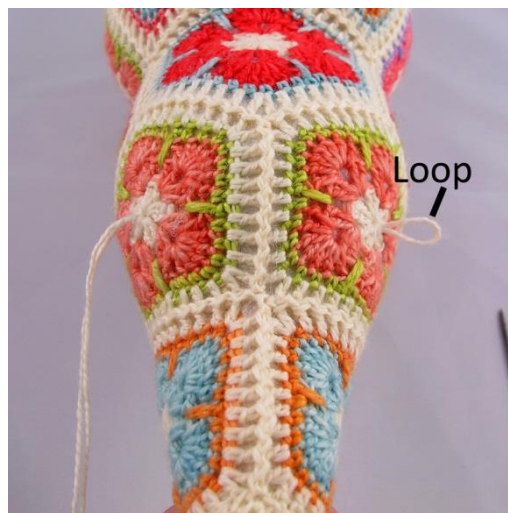


Using the yarn still attached to the trunk tip, sew the trunk end in place as shown on the left, attaching it to the underside of the first trunk pentagons (blue and orange motifs). Try and manipulate the trunk tip to form a pleasing curl. If you need to, gently re-arrange the stuffing with your tapestry needle. Tie off your yarn and cut.

## **:: Sculpting the Eye Sockets and attaching the Eyes ::**

The single best bit of advice that I can give you in making this ellie, is to take the time to sculpt the eye sockets...it really is easy and quick to do and adds a realistic look to your Nellie's face that triples the cuteness factor!

Take a length of yarn around a meter long (around a yard) and fold in half so that the two ends are placed together. Thread these two ends into the eye of a long tapestry needle or doll making needle.



Place Nellie between your knees to hold in place, facing the head. Insert the needle into the left eye area (Round 1 of the left eye pentagon), just to the side of the very centre. Push the needle all the way through the head, exiting at the right eye area, just to the side of the centre of Round 1. Pull the yarn through the head, leaving a small loop at the left eye as seen above left.



Now re-insert the needle into the right eye area, on the opposite side of Round 1 from where your needle exited, and push across the head back to the left eye area, again exiting on the opposite side of where you initially inserted the needle in Round 1 of the left eye motif, putting the needle **through the yarn loop**. Pull up the yarn gently, and you will see the eye sockets indent. Don't pull too hard or the eyes will be placed too close together (unless that's the look you are going for ☺...)

Thread the needle through the wire loop of the glass eye. Re-insert the needle into the centre of the left eye motif, and push through the head to the right eye centre. Before you pull the yarn all the way through, use pointed nose pliers to pinch the wire loop narrower (this allows it to be pulled into the head more easily). Give a gentle tug on the yarn to "sink" the eye into the head.

Repeat the process for the right eye...thread the needle and yarn through the right eye wire loop, re-insert the needle into the same hole that you exited from, and again, pinch the wire loop narrower, and push the needle all the way to the left eye, exiting under the left eye, just to the side of where the wire loop sits. Give a gentle tug on the yarn and see the right eye "sink" into the head. Make a triple stitch under the left eye to anchor the yarn and snip. The eyes are done!



## :: Making Nellie's Ears ::

Make two ears, using the pattern for the African Flower octagon, but modify it slightly...for Round 5, just crochet one dc stitch into every stitch of Round 4, leaving out the chain stitches between the "9dc repeats", and omitting to crochet two double crochet stitches into the same space on either side of where the chain stitch would be. This makes your ear octagon curl slightly, which is exactly what you want! When you get to the end of Round 5, cut your white colored yarn (or whatever color you are using for Round 5) and join in a new color. I have used bright pink.



Fold the motif in half, wrong sides together, so that the working yarn lies to the very right of the folded motif.

Now you will crochet the edges together, making sure that you slip your hook beneath BOTH loops of each stitch on either edge of the motif (above right). Start the crocheting together by chaining 3, then making 3 dc's into the same space the Ch3 lies in. Make 4 dc's into EACH four-loop stitch. This will give you a frilly pretty edge (photo above). When you get to the end of the ear, tie off your yarn and cut.



Using the photo on the left as a guide, sew the ears to the head, starting at the join line that lies between the Top of Head Pentagon and the eye pentagons. The ear runs backwards in a curved shape, and the bottom point stops at the place shown in the photo below. You can place the Ellie ears wherever you feel they look good to you...these photos are just a guide to use if you like ☺



### :: Making Nellie's Tail ::

Nellie's tail is made of a bunch of separate yarn threads which are plaited together. It is incredibly easy to make and looks very cute with a bow around the end. Cut 15 to 20 lengths of yarn of around 30cm long in your desired color, and lay them together. Take a tapestry needle and thread with some waste yarn.



In the photo above left, I have inserted a haemostat tip under Round 1 of the blue and yellow bum motif, for you to see where the tail is attached. Slip your tapestry needle under this round (above middle), being careful not to catch any stitches/stuffing. Pull the yarn through. Now lay your tail threads over the spare yarn (above right).



Slip the tapestry needle under the Round 1 stitches again (be very careful not to catch any stitches or stuffing), and pull through. The loop you have created will help drag the tail threads under the

Round 1 stitches. Gently pull the tail threads under the Round 1 stitches. You can set aside your tapestry needle and spare yarn now. Pull the tail threads so that you have even lengths in each hand. Divide the threads into three equal bundles and plait the tail as you would do for a normal plait. Take some spare yarn and tie a tight knot around the end of the tail. Re-thread each end of the knot yarn into a tapestry needle and sew through the tail threads, making sure you have secured the end of the tail well. Now tie a pretty bow. Your Nellie has a swingin' little tail!

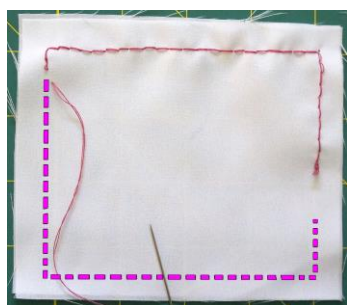
I now dear friends, your little Nellie ellie is done! Give her a little hug and kiss and make her come to life ☺

I hope you have enjoyed making Nellie and that you have found the pattern clear and easy to follow...if you have any questions , please pm me on Ravelry or send me an email to [heidibearscreativeblog@gmail.com](mailto:heidibearscreativeblog@gmail.com) and I will be happy to help ☺

Happy crocheting folks!

### **APPENDIX :: Sewing up a little counterweight bag ::**

Nellie has her trunk stretched out in front of her. Because of this, she is a little front heavy. In order to counter this forward tipping, you need to put a little counterweight bag of plastic pellets in her bottom area. You need four pieces of cotton or other dense fabric and the plastic pellets or other safe weighting material. The plastic pellets are used for toys and can be found on eBay and Etsy. You don't need a lot of pellets, around a half a cup or so.



Take two pieces of fabric and sew up around the two pieces, using ordinary sewing cotton, sewing needle and a backstitch. Leave a small opening, but don't cut your thread. Turn the fabric baggie inside out. Carefully fill with your pellets. Use the thread and needle from before to sew up the opening. Make sure your stitches are small and secure, so that no pellets fall out. Make a double stitch and cut the thread.

Now take a new thread and repeat with the second set of fabric squares, this time sewing up on only three sides. Place the pellet filled baggie inside this second bag and sew up the remaining side. This double bagging will prevent any pellets from spilling out, and becoming a safety hazard. Should your Nellie become so loved and hugged that her crocheted outside is beginning to fall apart, you should be very careful to prevent a child from getting his/her hands on the inside baggie. Please be SAFE folks, and use common sense when making a toy for a child ☺

## **APPENDIX:**

### **:: Sewing the Trunk motifs: how to make an easy and pretty seam ::**

So if you are anything like me, you detest seaming any crocheted or knitted items...it's a pet loathing of mine....but....(yes, there is always a "but" isn't there? ☺), with this project there is a way that would result in an easy, repeatable seaming method, that anyone can do and will always look the same...neat and almost invisible.

In the photos that follow, I have used a green seaming yarn for clarity, but you should use the same color you used for Round 5 of all your motifs. I have tried to explain the process as comprehensively as possible, and the method applies to ANY motif you need to sew, hexagon, pentagon, heptagon or octagon.

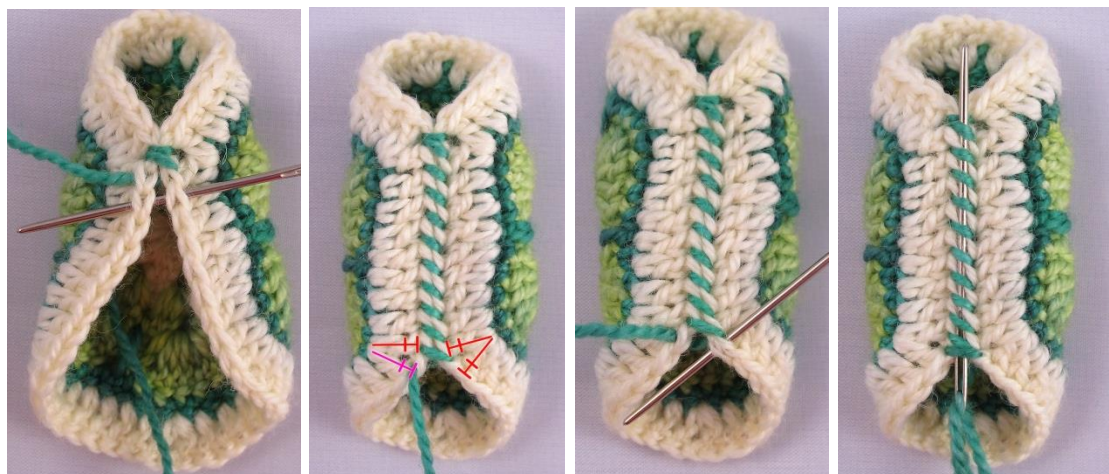


Take a hexagon/pentagon/heptagon or octagon and place in wrong side facing you on your work surface. I will use a hexagon for illustration purposes....Insert a threaded tapestry needle into the Round 5 chain space situated at about 10 o'clock coming from the wrong side (above left). Pull your yarn through leaving a 10cm tail. Now insert the needle into the chain space of Round 5, situated at about 2 o'clock, but this time coming from the right side of the motif (above middle). Pull your yarn through. Now tie a simple knot, making sure that it is tight and strong (below left and middle). Notice how the edge stitches now line up next to each other (below right).





Above left you can see how the stitches of both edges line up next to each other (green stripes). Take note of the stitch indicated by the **red arrow**...this is the stitch right next to your knot thread. Insert your needle (from the *wrong* side of the motif) through this stitch, making sure you have gone under both loops (above middle). Pull your yarn through. Now insert the needle from the right hand side (and the *right* side of your motif) through the first set of adjacent stitches...make sure you have gone under both loops of both stitches ☺ (above right). Pull your yarn through.



Repeat this with the next set of adjacent stitches (above far left), continuing on until you have pulled the yarn through the second dc of the chain space on your left hand side (pink dc in second from left photo above). Notice that the second dc of the chain space on the right hand side is still not sewed (bottom red dc symbol). Now insert your needle from the right side of the motif, into this stitch and pull your yarn through (above third photo from the left).

Ok, you now have two options:

- 1). If you are finishing up the motive (in other words **not /yet** sewing it to any other motifs, or using the sewing-up yarn to sew it to anything else), carefully slide your needle upwards under all the sewing stitches...pull your yarn through. Lastly insert the needle through the right side (at the place where your yarn originates) towards the inside of the leg. Leaving a short tail, cut the yarn.

2). If you intend to use this sewing up yarn to attach this motif to another, then continue on and sew it to the next motif.

See? Easy peasy ☺ When you use the same color yarn as Round 5 of the motif, the seam is virtually invisible!



Far left is how your seam should look.

Now let's say that you want to sew this motif to another, to form a hollow tube, just as you would do for Nellie's trunk...how do you go about that? With the two motifs kept in exactly the same orientation as would be needed to shape the item you are making, eg, as seen in the far right photo above, pick them up and place the two together (the two "hidden" sides touching the work surface are placed together). This ensures that you keep the same orientation in the final bit you are making...



Above left is what your work should look like now. The lower motif is the pentagon and the upper one the hexagon, exactly the way these motifs were lying on your work surface... Your sewing yarn is coming off the pentagon. Insert your needle into the sewn stitch of the hexagon as shown above middle. Pull your yarn through. Now start the same process as before, sewing together the two adjacent loops, always making sure you go under both loops (above right).



Continue along, sewing together the two adjacent stitches until you have reached the last set of adjacent stitches (above left). Hmm...now the stitches don't lie next to each other anymore...don't fret...all you are going to do is sew one stitch at a time, continuing as usual...pull your yarn through the next stitch on the pentagon, then the next along stitch on the hexagon (above middle). Repeat once more (above right). If you pull your yarn a bit you'll see that the two motifs will try to start pulling together and flattening out.



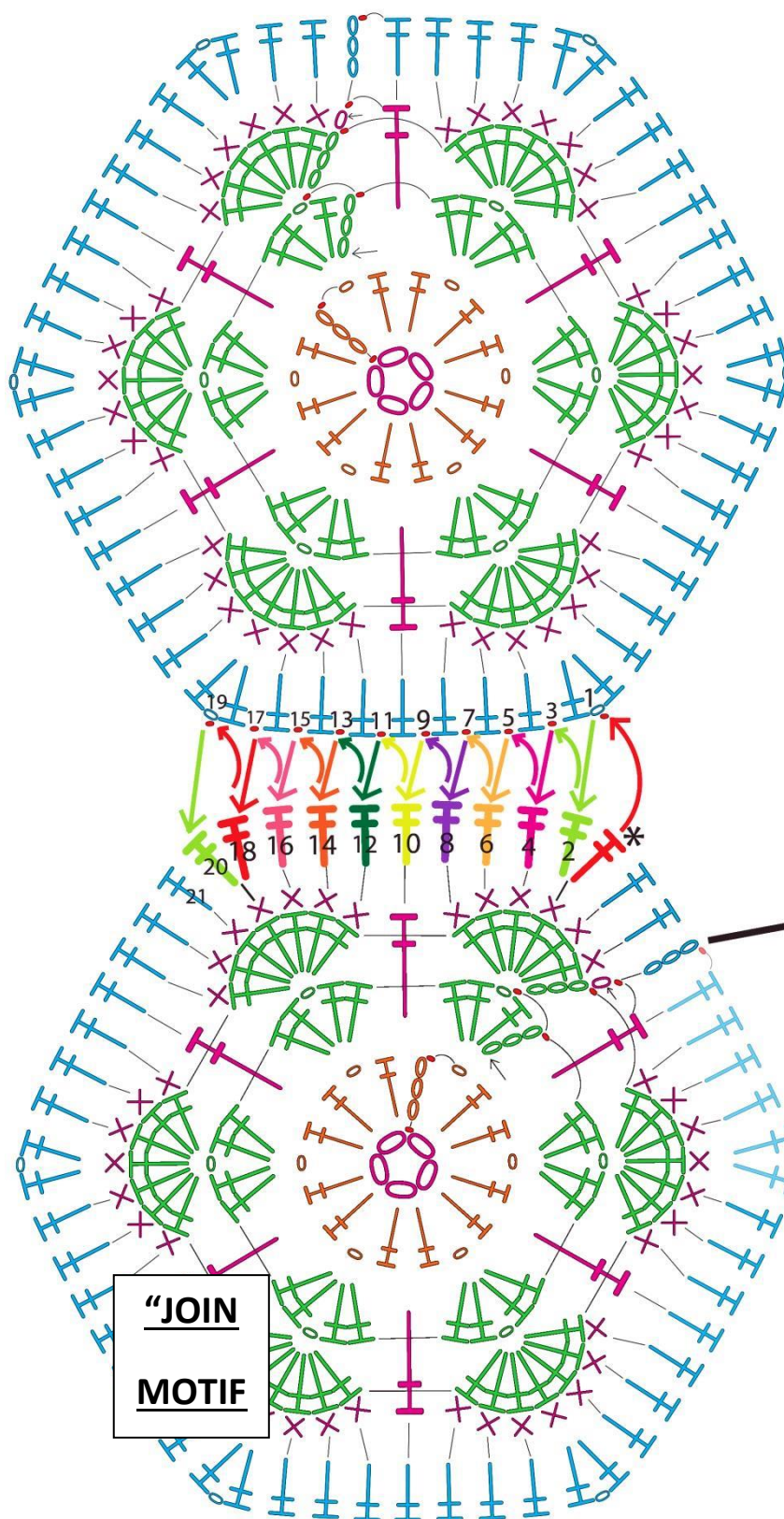
Sew one more stitch from the pentagon (see left). Your remaining stitches should start lining up like little soldiers ☺



Above left, you can see that the edge stitches are all nicely lined up and you can sew along as before. Continue until you have reached the last stitches (above middle). Now re-insert your needle into the last stitch on the hexagon and then insert it into the last stitch you made when sewing up the pentagon initially. This does sound complicated, but if you look carefully at the photo above right you will see how ☺

## :: APPENDIX : JOINING TUTORIALS ::

### JOINING TWO MOTIFS ON ONE SIDE

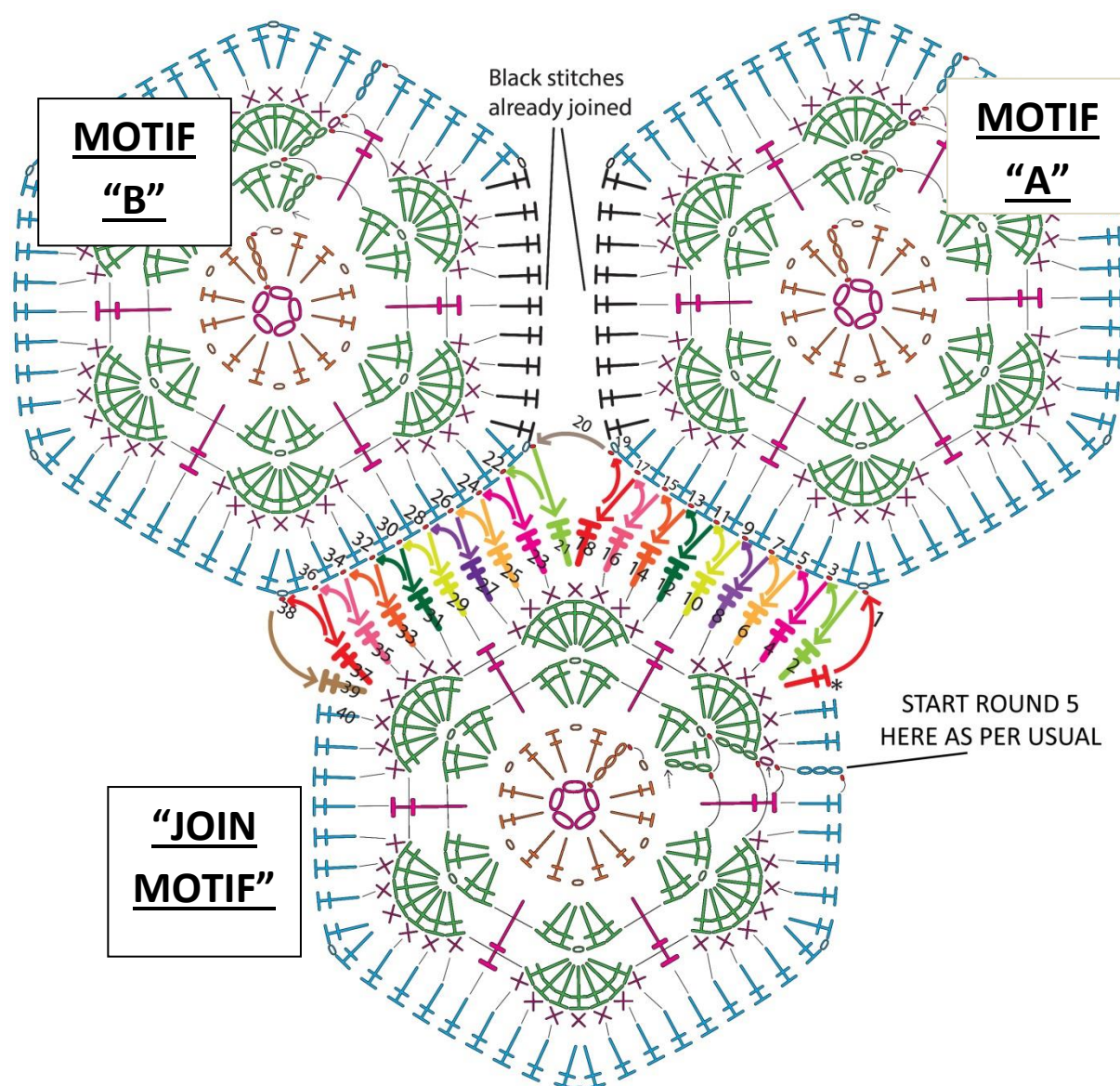


When you join a motif stitch for stitch, to another motif on one side only, you need to start crocheting Round 5 of the “join motif” at the usual point, which is where your Ch3 starts the round. Work as usual up until the first dc of the [dc,ch,dc in same space] set, and make **ONLY** the first dc of this set. This is the dc in red, with an asterisk. **DO NOT** crochet a chain stitch...instead join to the other motif’s flower apex chain space (1) using a slip stitch (shown by a red oval dot). Now crochet a dc (2, lime green) into the same space on the “join motif” as the previously made dc (red\*).

START ROUND 5  
HERE AS PER USUAL

Now slip stitch join to the space (3) on the opposite motif, which lies right next to where you slip stitch joined before. Make the next dc (4, pink) as you usually would on the “join motif”. Continue in this manner, alternating between slip stitch joining to the opposite motif and crocheting a stitch on the “join motif”. The numbers will guide you step wise.

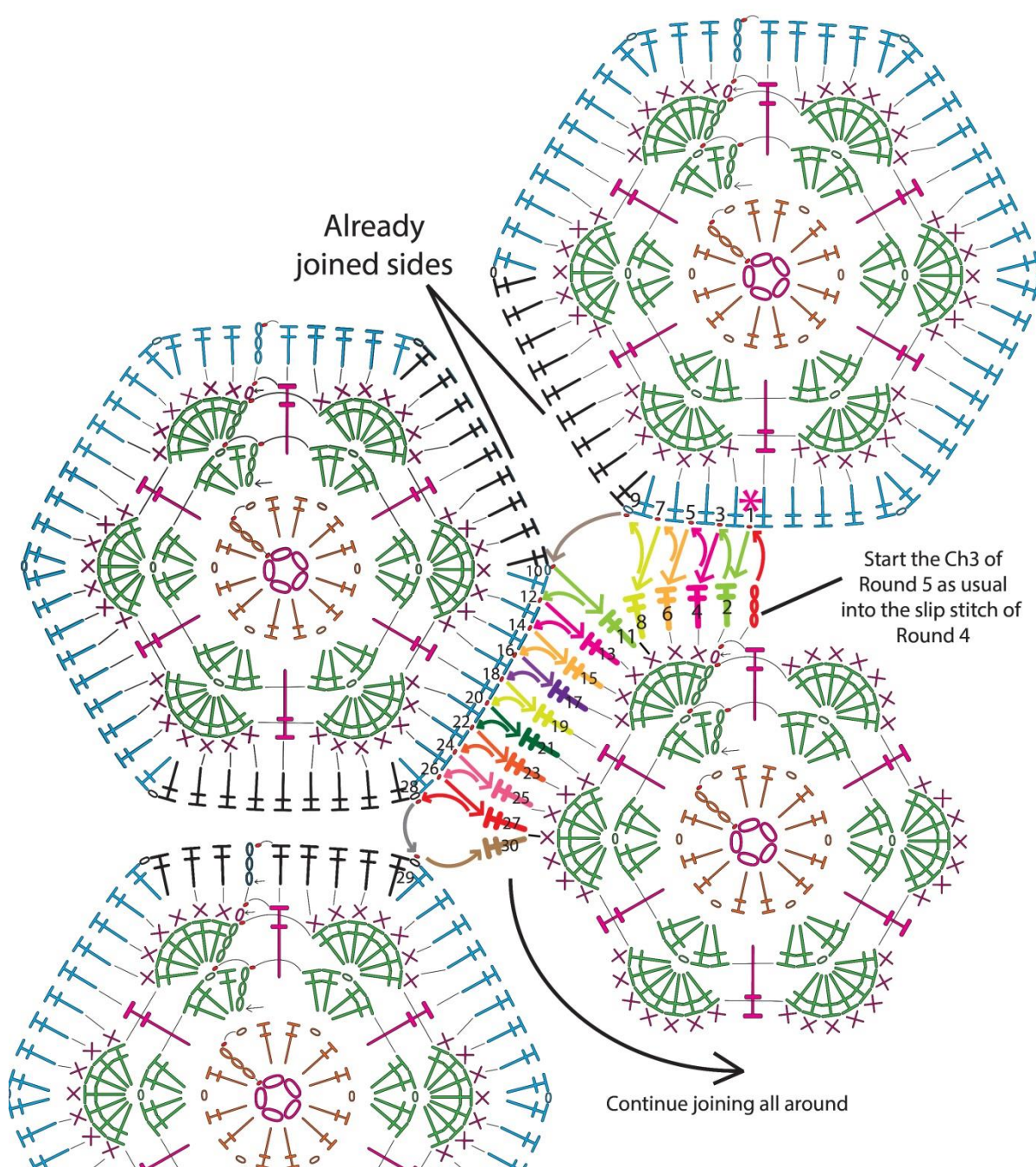
## JOINING A MOTIF ON TWO OR MORE SIDES



Joining a motif to two other motifs "A" and "B" (which would already be joined to each other), involves exactly the same process as joining on one side. Proceed as per the instructions for joining on one side only, up until the point where you have made the first dc of the second set of [dc,ch,dc] of the "Join Motif", (marked 18, red). Now slip stitch join into the Motif "A" flower apex chain space (19). Next, instead of crocheting the green dc (21) on the "Join Motif", **FIRST SLIP STITCH JOIN TO THE flower apex chain space of "Motif B" (20).** **Now** you crochet the green dc (21) on the "Join Motif". This means you have joined on two slip stitch points at a multi-point intersection, making the joins strong and even. Continue as before joining on the second side (the black numbered steps will guide you).

So what do you do if you have to join a motif to 3 or even 4 sides, meaning you have 3 or 4 flower apex chain space points all together? Remember the rule...when you get to a flower apex chain space multi-point, **you slip stitch join INTO EACH OF THEM, from one to the next, to the next and so on, until you have slip stitch joined ALL OF THEM...**then you crochet the second dc of the [dc,ch,dc] set.

## JOINING A MOTIF TO OTHER MOTIFS ON ALL SIDES



Joining a motif to others on all sides seems harder than it is...however, you are usually doing this kind of join when your hippo or other toy is already stuffed, making it harder to accomplish. Remember that you can sew in this last motif if this is easier for you ☺ That being said, the only thing to keep your eye out for is the correct placing of the first slip stitch join. Start the "Join Motif" Round 5 as usual, with a Ch3. Now slip stitch join this to the opposite motif, **MAKING SURE IT IS JOINED AT THE SPACE JUST TO THE LEFT OF WHERE THE LONG DC OF ROUND 4 LIES**. Because you are facing the right sides of motif when joining, and joining in an anti-clockwise direction (except if you are a left handed crocheter), this space will always lie to the left of the long dc stitch. In the diagram above, it is marked with a pink asterisk. A good way to check that you have placed the first

slip stitch join, is to look out for when you reach the flower apex chain space...you should have crocheted the first of the dc's that make up the [dc,ch,dc] set. So the next step would be to slip stitch join to the flower apex chain space of the opposite motif...if this is not the case, your placing of the first slip stitch join is incorrect...check again. If this is correct, then continue crocheting Round 5 of the "Join Motif" joining-as-you-go, all around.