

NEW ISSUE!

LOVE
CRAFT
series

CUTE AMIGURUMI DESIGNS FOR ALL LEVELS



LITTLE CRITTERS



CHEEKY GIRL!



3 LOVELY BEARS



PRETTY
RABBITS

Love Crochet

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FUN-FILLED
PATTERNS!

**Foxy
friend**

Hook up an
adorable pal!

MAKE
& PLAY
CROCHET TOY
COLLECTION



✿ SWEET HONEY BEAR



✿ FAB GAMES FOR KIDS

GREAT
IDEAS FOR
GIFTS



✿ SWEET STRIPY GIRAFFE

SO EASY! TOYS TO MAKE IN A DAY

HOOK
UP A MINI
ZOO



EXPERT ADVICE Top tips on how to make toys





Welcome

Like many crocheters, the inspiration to pick up the hook came from the desire to make super-sweet toys for my children. There's something special about giving a toy that you have spent time and love creating. So, this issue is dedicated to all the cutest critters we could find!

We couldn't resist putting this classic honey bear on our cover. He comes complete with bow tie, honey pot and tiny bee. You'll notice that it's often the little details that give a toy character, like our trio of love bears – each have their own scarf and pom pom filled ears. Just adorable. While our lovely dinosaur Monty is so loveable with his pot belly and different-coloured spots

We couldn't have an issue dedicated to toys without tipping our hat to the most popular trend in toy-making at the moment: amigurumi. We've upped the kawaii factor with a tiny elephant, brother bears and a rose-cheeked little girl to make. If you'd like to know a bit more about amigurumi and some of its finest designers, our special feature on 46 will tell you all you need to know. Also take a look at our amigurumi tutorial on page 26.

The cute factor is high this issue and there's plenty of inspiration for games, gifts and gorgeous crochet friends to make and love. We hope you enjoy this special issue, and see you next time.

Katie

Katie Nicholls
Editor

PS. The next issue of *Love Crochet* is on sale on July 5th 2016. If you have any queries about patterns, email patternhelp@immediate.co.uk and we'll be happy to give you a hand!

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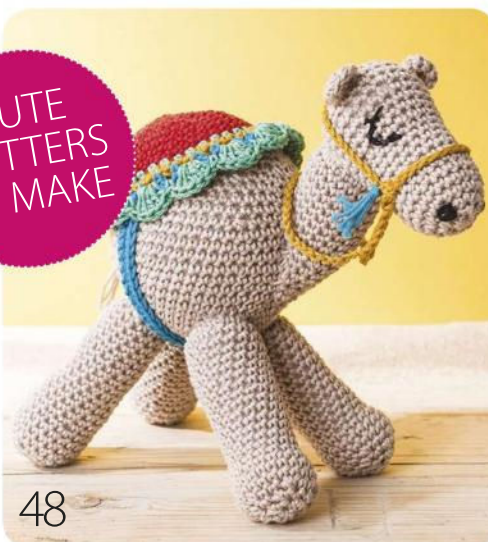
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Crocheting toys



Crocheting a character may seem daunting, but with just a few basic crochet skills, you're good to go! Jo Benner tells you how.



The internet is teeming with adorable crochet toys right now, of every colour, shape and style imaginable. Most use patterns that are pretty simple to master – just remember that unlike knitted toys, crochet ones are usually seamless, so you'll need to stuff as you go, and in most cases you'll be working in rounds.

Yarn and markers

A pattern will tell you what yarn to use. Although acrylic and wool can be used, if the pattern says any 4ply or DK yarn, go for cotton if you can, as it has more body and can be easily washed. If your child has allergies you can get rid of allergens by putting a newly-washed and dried toy in the freezer – unless it's wool as it may shrink. Drops Safran is a good budget cotton yarn, available in 32 gorgeous colours. To buy it for £1.15/50g, go to www.garnstudio.com.



Safety also needs to be considered when buying the stuffing. Make sure it has the safety kite mark...

com. Although it's easy to work a round by counting the stitches as you go, you may want to use stitch markers. You need the type that you can hook into the crochet.

Focus on the face

The face is the part of the toy that is going to give your creation its personality, so it's worth taking time and effort to make it look as appealing as you can. Features can be crocheted or embroidered (a good way to use up yarn or embroidery threads) or you can use safety eyes and noses. If crocheting amigurumi style you need to put the eyes (and nose if

used) in place before you finish. There should always be instructions on a pattern for the size of eyes and where to put them. Don't be tempted to use beads – even if the child is over five, a younger sibling may become curious.

Safety first

Safety also needs to be considered when buying the stuffing, but so long as you make sure it has the safety kite mark on the packet, it will be fine. Previous generations of parents used to snip up old stocking to use as stuffing, but that makes toys very lumpy and they don't dry as easily as polyester toy stuffing. If your toy needs to be sewn together, make sure your stitches are secure so the limbs won't pull apart. Thread your yarn ends onto a long dolls needle (designed for stitching cloth dolls together) and draw them deep into the body of the toy to ensure they are well hidden.

Toy hygiene

To keep toys spick and span, but avoid the risk of them losing their shape, hand wash by submerging them in warm soapy water, rinsing well, and then rolling them in a thick clean towel to soak up the excess water. The crucial thing is to get it dry quickly because it could start to smell mouldy if there is any dampness left in the stuffing – a sunny day or warm radiator will help to get it dry and keep it fresh. If giving your toy as a present, include a note and instructions for washing – this will ensure that your work will give pleasure to a little one for a long time to come. 🧡



Images: Triceratops by Wendy Holmes (www.etsy.com/shop/sittingcrochet).
Giraffes and bunny by Alison North (www.etsy.com/shop/KornflakeStew)

Sweet as can be...

Create a cute duo of amigurumi bunnies with floral touches and sewn patch feet.

By Stephanie Lau.

LOVE THESE?

Turn to our amigurumi feature on page 46 for more



* Amigurumi rabbits in yarn and fabric by Stephanie Lau,

www.allaboutami.com

Crochet news

Books, products and events from
the crafting world...

WE
love

Visit Briswool

Briswool is back this year, bigger and better than ever! The crocheted and knitted model of Bristol features local landmarks, notable characters and reams of colourful houses, all created by volunteers, and masterminded by Vicky Harrison from Paper Village. The model will be on display at the M Shed until Sunday 12th June, and is well worth a look. There are also a number of themed workshops, including Woolly Model-Making: Your House' on Sunday 5th June (£15/£12, book in advance at www.bristolmuseums.org.uk), which will take you through of designing and making a crochet version of your own home. We also love the sound of Yarn-storming: Bristol Flags on Sunday 12 Jun, 11am- 4pm, which invites you to bring along a Bristol-themed pennant you've crocheted, knitted or sewn, to become part of a yarn-storming event outside M Shed. Pop into the exhibition or visit the website for details.



Happy owl

Looking for a new crochet companion, how about this cute little fellow? Dan Sattler-Reimer began making his needle-felted 'guys' eight years ago and recently decided to introduce them to crochet. "Sometimes it seems like they are looking for something to do to pass the time," he says. "The ways that we pass the time in our house can spark ideas that can translate down, so having the owls, penguins and bears do their own crochet seemed obvious." Find the whole range at www.Scratchcraft.etsy.com.



CUTE IDEAS
*Never be alone in
your crochet
pursuits with this
little friend!*



Daisy chain

What better way to show off a posy of summer blossoms than with understated chic in a vase inspired by crochet's loops and holes. The hand cut decoration allows stems to show through a translucent layer in the white glass, adding an extra element to the beauty of this deceptively simple work of art. At just under 20cm tall, it's ideal for Michaelmas daisies and other flowers, or even for storing craft essentials. Buy it for £60 from www.black-by-design.co.uk

Rainbow light

A delicate crochet top will bring a hit of sunshine to your wardrobe, and this one by Gina Garderobe is deliciously colourful too! Gina makes the tops from high-quality mercerised cotton yarn at her home in Barcelona, and we think she imbues them with a little of the Catalan capital's energetic spirit! They're ideal for squishing into a suitcase to wear over a swimsuit or vest. There's also a matching pair of bikini bottoms if you fancy a matching set. Buy it for £42.53 from www.GinaGarderobe.etsy.com



A BRIGHT IDEA

The Oxford Drunken Knitwits are spreading yarny wonder this summer to raise funds and awareness for Oxfordshire Mind, a charity that works to help people affected by mental health issues. The plan is to create a mass of crocheted, knitted and stitched blossoms to transform the fence surrounding Oxford's Radcliffe Camera. You can deliver your garden-themed creations by 15th July 2016 to Oxfordshire Mind, Attn: Drunken Knitwits, 2 Kings Meadow, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0DP.

Lazy days

What better way to wile away a tranquil afternoon than relaxing on your own crochet-trimmed hammock? All you need is your latest WIP to hand, and perhaps a glass of something chilled and bubbly, and you're set to unwind till the sun goes down. This large version is 200x100cm (approx. 79x39in), so there's plenty of room to curl up and get comfy. Buy it for £79 from www.notonthehighstreet.com.



NEWS



Smoothie time?

What could be more useful than a hand-held blender made from yarn? Um, a chocolate teapot, perhaps? Regardless, we can't resist these quirky cuisine-themed accessories. Each one includes an 'on' button and even a length of flex. Made by Macarena Bilbao in Tenerife, they're intended as children's toys, but we think they'd make a fab talking point propped in the corner of your kitchen. You can order a selection of crocheted fruit and veggie too to get your summer health regime off to a good start! www.macarenabilbao.com



Moths b-ware

Keep pesky nibblers at bay and avoid unwanted holes in your beloved crochet makes with a fragrant solution from Loop London. Blithe and Bonny's handmade Cedar Sade sachets smell divine but repel moths, making them ideal for hanging in your wardrobe. Quite simply, your clothes will be gorgeously scented and critter-free! The size of the sachet means you can split the contents into several smaller packages and spread throughout your home. Buy yours for £14 from www.loopknitting.com



Shine a Spotlight... EasyKnits.co.uk

We grab a cup of tea with Jon Dunn-Ballam, founder of EasyKnits.co.uk, to find out all about his yarny business!

How did EasyKnits.co.uk come about?

Easyknits.co.uk was born in 2006. After re-locating to London, and wanting to get out and meet new people, I joined a craft group. I wasn't fond of the drab colours of yarn available at that time. A little research and some playing with food colouring and un-dyed skeins of yarn purchased online, I was making my own hand dyed sock yarns and getting lots of lovely comments from friends about them. After moving from food colouring to professional dyes and finding a reliable provider of quality un-dyed yarns I was supplying local yarn stores with exclusive hand dyed yarns to sell on my behalf, and selling at small craft markets.

What are your main aims with the brand?

My goal has always remained the same: to bring something new and exciting to the world of yarn. I started dyeing yarn to appease my own thirst for

'fun' and colourful yarns, and found a gap in the market for them. When asked what easyknits.co.uk is about, I always reply with providing vivid, bright, fun yarns in a selection of luxurious yarn bases.

How important is colour to you?

Colour is everything to easyknits.co.uk, I have always loved colour, I am a very visual person, coming from a design background I have very strong emotional connections to colours. It's an integral part of my design process.

What range of weights and colours do you currently offer?

Predominantly easyknits.co.uk has always offered sock weight yarns (4-ply /fingering weight). I also stock lace-weight for fine knits and Double Knit weight for those warm winter knits too. Currently we have a rainbow of approximately 16 colours in our most popular range Deeply Wicked, so

TOP YARN BUSINESS



named because of the intense saturation of colour throughout each skein, achieved with a secret dye method developed over the years in the studio.

What do you most enjoy about running the business?

Meeting the lovely people who buy and create with my yarns. Attending shows and fairs is really rewarding. Being an independent yarn dyer can be a lonely job sometimes, locked in your studio at the dyepots for 10 hours a day sometimes 7 days a week if a show deadline is coming up. The reward of seeing knitters get excited about my yarns, makes me excited, and keeps me going back to the studio to dye more yarn. www.easyknits.co.uk

Love bears

Hook up this cute trio of trouble, to snuggle and love. By Justine Maree Hall.



TOP TIP

If a toy becomes a fave, buy duplicate yarn and save in case the toy gets lost.

YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ Sirdar Snuggly Baby Bamboo DK: 3 balls of Cream (131); 1 ball of Lula (112); 1 ball of Peony (110); 1 ball of Bobbi Blue (115)
- ✿ 3.5mm hook
- ✿ 6 safety eyes (9mm)
- ✿ 3 safety noses (11mm)
- ✿ Tapestry needle
- ✿ Brown embroidery thread
- ✿ Polyester filling
- ✿ Scissors
- ✿ Craft glue
- ✿ Pom poms 2.5cm in pink; 2 in lilac and 2 in light blue
- ✿ Assorted buttons: 1 'I love you' heart; 2 pink hearts; 4 heart shaped – 1 yellow, 1 orange, 1 purple, 1 green (or substitute)

FINISHED SIZE

Approx 16cm tall

TENSION

Tension unimportant for this project

ABOUT THIS YARN

SIRDAR SNUGGLY BAMBOO DK

80% bamboo; 20% wool

95m per 50g

£4

www.sirdar.co.uk

They say the best things comes in threes – and we concur when it comes to cherubic little bears! Justine has certainly worked hard on making this threesome as sweet as possible with their bright eyes, heart-shaped buttons and pert little pom pom ears. Hooked in Sirdar's Bamboo Cotton, you'll enjoy how easy and 'clean' it is to make these bears. Each stitch will drop off your hook without any fuss. Why not hook up a whole family for a teddy bear's picnic?

3 BEARS

Head

Using Cream, ch3, join with ss in first ch to form a ring.

Round 1: 6dc into ring.

Round 2: 2dc in each dc to end. (12dc)

Round 3: *1dc in next 1dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (18dc)

Round 4: *1dc in next 2dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (24dc)

Round 5: *1dc in next 3dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (30dc)

Round 6: *1dc in next 4dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (36dc)

Round 7: *1dc in next 5dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (42dc)

Round 8: *1dc in next 6dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (48dc)

Round 9: *1dc in next 7dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (54dc)

Round 10: 1dc in next dc to end. (54dc)

Round 11: *1dc in next 8dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (60dc)

Round 12: 1dc in next dc to end. (60dc)

Round 13: *1dc in next 9dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (66dc)

Rounds 14-15: 1dc in next dc to end. (66dc)

Round 16: *1dc in next 9dc, dc2tog in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (60dc)

Round 17: 1dc in next dc to end. (60dc)

Round 18: *1dc in next 8dc, dc2tog in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (54dc)

Round 19: 1dc in next dc to end. (54dc)

Round 20: *1dc in next 7dc, dc2tog in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (48dc)

Round 21: 1dc in next dc to end. (48dc)

Round 22: *1dc in next 6dc, dc2tog in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (42dc)

Round 23: 1dc in next dc to end. (42dc)

Round 24: *1dc in next 5dc, dc2tog in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (36dc)

Round 25: *1dc in next 4dc, dc2tog in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (30dc)

Round 26: *1dc in next 3dc, dc2tog in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (24dc)

Fasten off.

Ears

Make 2

Using Cream, ch3, join with ss in first ch to form a ring.

Round 1: 6dc into ring.

Round 2: 2dc in each dc to end. (12dc)

Round 3: *1dc in next 1dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat * 6 times. (18dc)

Rounds 4-12: 1dc in each dc to end. (18dc)

Fasten off.

Body

Using Cream, ch3, join with ss in first ch to form a ring.

Round 1: 6dc into ring.

Round 2: 2dc in each dc to end. (12dc)

Round 3: *1dc in next 1dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (18dc)

Round 4: *1dc in next 2dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (24dc)

Round 5: *1dc in next 3dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (30dc)

Round 6: *1dc in next 4dc, 2dc in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (36dc)

Rounds 7-16: 1dc in next dc to end. (36dc)

Round 17: *1dc in next 4dc, dc2tog in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (30dc)

Rounds 18-19: 1dc in next dc to end. (30dc)

Round 20: *1dc in next 3dc, dc2tog in next dc, repeat from * 6 times. (24dc)

Fasten off.

Arms

Make 2

Using Cream, ch3, join with ss in first ch to form a ring.

Round 1: 6dc into ring.

Round 2: 2dc in each dc to end. (12dc)

Rounds 3-8: 1dc in each dc to end. (12dc)
Fasten off.

Legs

Make 2

Using Cream, ch3, join with ss in first ch to form a ring.

Round 1: 6dc into ring.

Round 2: 2dc in each dc to end. (12dc)

Rounds 3-9: 1dc in each dc to end. (12dc)
Fasten off.

Tail

Using Cream, ch3, join with ss in first ch to form a ring.

Round 1: 6dc into ring.

Round 2: 2dc in each dc to end. (12dc)

Rounds 3-5: 1dc in each dc to end. (12dc)
Fasten off.

Purple scarf

Using Peony yarn, ch70.

Row 1: 1dc in 2nd ch from hook (count as 1dc), 1dc in each ch to end (70dc). Turn.

Row 2: 1dc in each dc to end.

Sew on 2 Pink heart buttons (1 button at each end of scarf). Fasten off.

Pink scarf

Using Lula yarn, ch60.

Row 1: 1dc in 2nd ch from hook (count as 1dc), 1dc in each ch to end (60dc). Turn.

Row 2: 1dc in each dc to end.

Fasten off.

Blue scarf

Using Bobbi Blue yarn, ch60.

Row 1: 1dc in 2nd ch from hook (count as 1dc), 1dc in each dc to end (60dc). Turn.

Row 2: 1dc in each dc to end. Fasten off.

Sew on 4 heart buttons (1 Yellow, 1 Orange, 1 Purple, 1 Green) to end of scarf. Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Sew ears to head.

Fill arms and legs with stuffing, sew to body.

Attach eyes and nose to head, using six strands

of brown thread sew on eyebrows and mouth using image as a guide.

Fill body and head with stuffing, sew together. Fasten off.

Place scarf around neck.

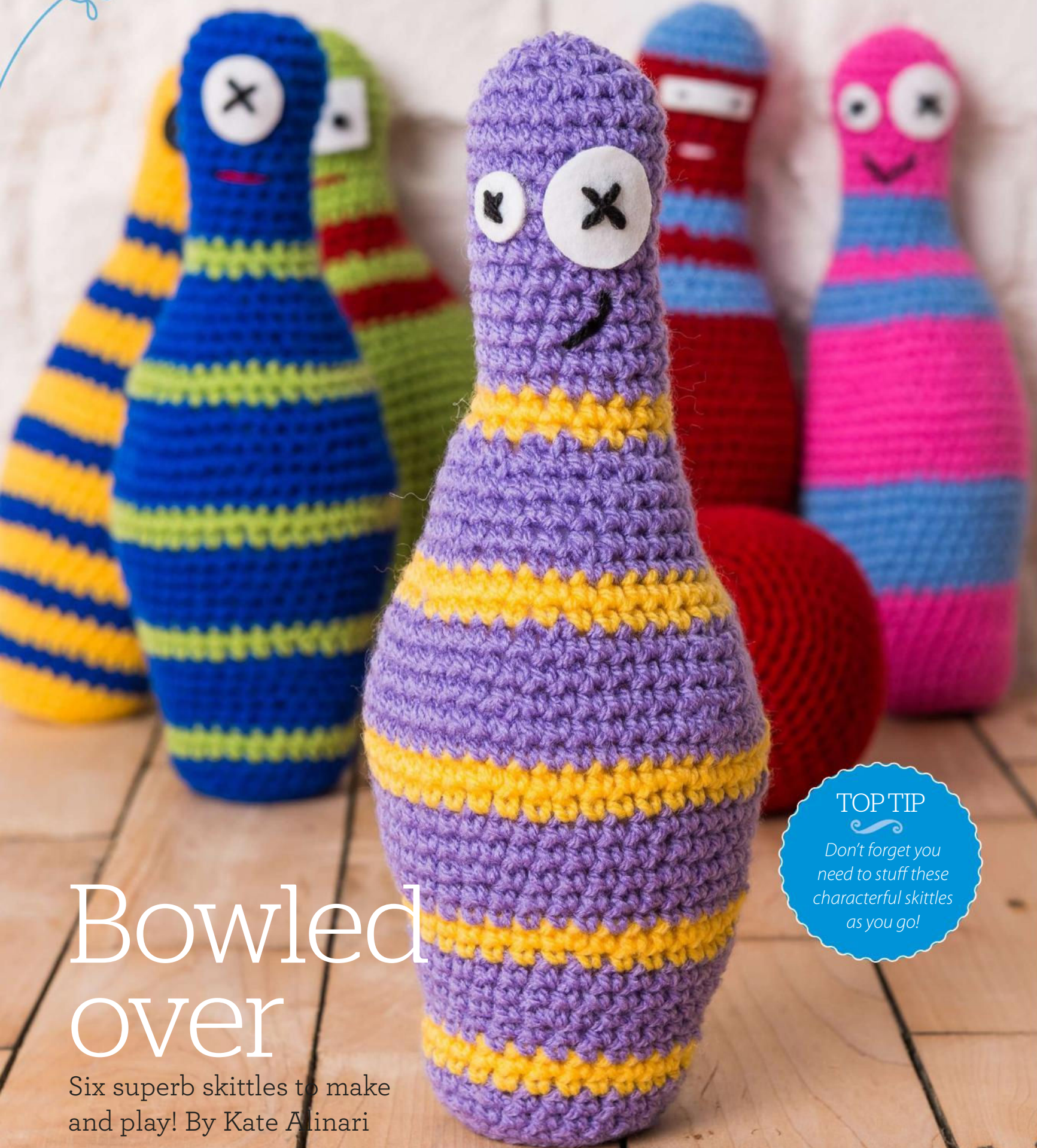
Purple scarf: secure with half bow.

Pink scarf: secure with knot and sew on 'I Love You' button.

Blue scarf: wrap scarf around back of neck and secure in place while leaving buttons side hanging at front).

Glue matching colour pom poms to ears. 🍡





TOP TIP

*Don't forget you
need to stuff these
characterful skittles
as you go!*

Bowled over

Six superb skittles to make
and play! By Kate Alinari

YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ Red Heart Detroit in Lime (8194) – yarn A; Cherry (5669) – yarn B; Yellow (0184) – yarn C; Royal (133) – yarn D; Fielder (5691) – yarn F; Candy (8305) – yarn G; Azure (5670) – yarn H; small amount in Black (217) and White (208)
- ✿ 4mm hook or as needed to obtain tension
- ✿ Tapestry needle
- ✿ Black and white felt
- ✿ Fabric glue or sewing needle and thread
- ✿ Cardboard or flat plastic packaging to cut up to reinforce skittles base, choose plastic if you want to wash them
- ✿ Optional: plastic pellets (not recommended for use with small children)

FINISHED SIZE

Finished skittles measure approx 24cm high and ball has 1cm diameter.

TENSION

Skittles base (Rounds 1-4) measures approx 4.5cm in diameter.

SPECIAL STITCHES

Invisible colour change: after last st in indicate colour, ss in next st, fasten off and leave a long tail. Thread tail on tapestry needle, go under both loops of next st and then back into centre of last st. Weave in. Join new yarn in ss made with old colour, ch1 (counts as first st) and work as indicate in the pattern.

ABOUT THIS YARN

RED HEART DETROIT

100% Acrylic
266m per 100g
£2.65

www.loveknitting.com

Frankly, when these six skittles arrived in the *Love Crochet* office we were (please excuse the pun!) totally bowled over! What a gorgeous collection of little characters these striped beauties are! Each and everyone is as quirky and different to the next. Not only do they look fantastic, but they're great for a game too. Kate has factored in a nice solid base into her design, so they stand up pert and proud!

PATTERN NOTE

Skittles and ball are worked with amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off the round with a ss. It may help to use a stitch marker in first st of each round, moving it up as you work. Skittles are worked from bottom to top, in a single piece, embellishment are cut up and glue (sew) onto them. Each skittle has the same pattern but different colourway. For colour changing I suggest the invisible one as describe in special stitches, but you could use your own method. Working skittles weave in ends as you go. Ball is worked in one piece, pole to pole.

SKITTLES

Changing colour as indicate in colourway, work each skittle as following pattern.

Cut a disk of approx 4.5cm diameter on cardboard (or plastic).

Make a magic loop.

Round 1: ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the ring. (6 dc)

Round 2: 2dc in each st around. (12 dc)

Round 3: *dc in next st, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (18 dc)

Round 4: *dc in next 2 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (24 dc)

Round 5: working blo, dc in each dc around. (24 dc)

Round 6: *dc in next 5 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (28 dc)

Rounds 7-11: dc in each dc around. (28 dc)

Round 12: *dc in next 6 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (32 dc)

Rounds 13-15: dc in each dc around. (32 dc)

Round 16: *dc in next 7 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (36 dc)

Rounds 17-18: dc in each dc around. (36 dc)

Place cardboard disk on the bottom of the

skittle, pay attention that it fit on skittle base (Rounds 1-4).

Shape and cut the disk a little bit if it's needed to place it. Start stuffing and continue as you work. To maintain skittle shape stuff creating even fibre fill layers (not fibre fill balls).

Optional: fill a balloon with a small amount of plastic pellets, close it firmly and place it over first layer of fibre fill, surround the balloon with stuffing.

Round 19: *dc in next 5 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (42 dc)

Rounds 20-22: dc in each dc around. (42 dc)

Round 23: *dc in next 6 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (48 dc)

Rounds 24-25: dc in each dc around. (48 dc)

Round 26: *dc in next 6 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (42 sts)

Rounds 27-28: dc in each dc around. (42 dc)

Round 29: *dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (36 sts)

Rounds 30-31: dc in each dc around. (36 dc)

Round 32: *dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (30 sts)

Rounds 33-34: dc in each dc around. (30 dc)

Round 35: *dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (24 sts)

Round 36: *dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (18 sts)

Rounds 37-44: dc in each dc around. (18 dc)

Round 45: *dc in next 2 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (24 sts)

Rounds 46-48: dc in each dc around. (24 dc)

Round 49: *dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (18 sts)

Round 50: *dc in next 1 st, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (12 sts)

Round 51: dc2tog six times. (6 sts)

Fasten off and weave in end.

Colourway 1 – Bee Skittle

Rounds 1-7: yarn C
Rounds 8-9: yarn D
Rounds 10-12: yarn C
Rounds 13-14: yarn D
Rounds 15-17: yarn C
Rounds 18-19: yarn D
Rounds 20-22: yarn C
Rounds 23-24: yarn D
Rounds 25-27: yarn C
Rounds 28-29: yarn D
Rounds 30-32: yarn C
Rounds 33-34: yarn D
Rounds 35-37: yarn C
Rounds 38-39: yarn D
Rounds 40-51: yarn C

Colourway 2 – Candy Skittle

Rounds 1-13: yarn G
Rounds 14-20: yarn H
Rounds 21-30: yarn G
Rounds 31-33: yarn H
Rounds 34-35: yarn G
Rounds 36-39: yarn H
Rounds 40-51: yarn G

Colourway 3 – Soldier Skittle

Rounds 1-30: yarn A
Rounds 31-33: yarn B
Rounds 34-35: yarn A
Rounds 36-38: yarn B
Rounds 39-51: yarn A

Colourway 4 – Scallywag Skittle

Rounds 1-7: yarn F
Rounds 8-9: yarn C
Rounds 10-14: yarn F
Rounds 15-16: yarn C
Rounds 17-21: yarn F
Rounds 22-23: yarn C
Rounds 24-28: yarn F
Rounds 29-30: yarn C
Rounds 31-35: yarn F
Rounds 36-37: yarn C
Rounds 38-51: yarn F

Colourway 5 – Ninja Skittle

Rounds 1-30: yarn B
Rounds 31-33: yarn H
Rounds 34-35: yarn B
Rounds 36-38: yarn H
Rounds 39-46: yarn B
Rounds 47-51: yarn H

Colourway 6 – One eye Skittle

Rounds 1-7: yarn D
Rounds 8-9: yarn A
Rounds 10-14: yarn D
Rounds 15-16: yarn A
Rounds 17-21: yarn D
Rounds 22-23: yarn A
Rounds 24-28: yarn D
Rounds 29-30: yarn A
Rounds 31-35: yarn D
Rounds 36-37: yarn A
Rounds 38-51: yarn D

BALL

With yarn B make a magic loop.

Round 1: ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the ring. (6 dc)

Round 2: 2dc in each st around. (12 dc)

Round 3: *dc in next st, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (18 dc)

Round 4: *dc in next 2 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (24 dc)

Round 5: dc in each dc around. (24 dc)

Round 6: *dc in next 3 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (30 dc)

Round 7: dc in each dc around. (30 dc)

Round 8: *dc in next 4 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (36 dc)

Rounds 9-10: dc in each dc around. (36 dc)

Round 11: *dc in next 5 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (42 dc)

Rounds 12-13: dc in each dc around. (42 dc)

Round 14: *dc in next 6 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (48 dc)

Rounds 15-17: dc in each dc around. (48 dc)

Start stuffing and continue as you work.

Stuff firmly.

Round 18: *dc in next 6 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (42sts)

Rounds 19-20: dc in each dc around. (42 dc)

Round 21: *dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog; repeat





Kate knows it only takes a little quirk - like a funky eye patch - to give an inanimate object life!

from * around. (36sts)

Rounds 22-23: dc in each dc around. (36 dc)

Round 24: *dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (30sts)

Rounds 25-26: dc in each dc around. (30 dc)

Round 27: *dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (24sts)

Round 28: dc in each dc around. (24 dc)

Round 29: *dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (18sts)

Round 30: *dc in next 1 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (12sts)

Round 31: dc2tog six times. (6sts)
Fasten off and weave in end.

TO FINISH

Weave all the ends.

Using templates provided, trace the shape onto a piece of paper, cut them out, pin them against a piece of felt and cut out the shape.

Cut out:

- Two small eyes on white felt
- Three small eyes on white felt
- One Bee skittles glasses on black felt
- One Ninja skittle glasses on white felt
- One soldier skittle glasses on white felt

With Black embroider a X on each eye, make one line and then the other one. With Black embroider two french knots on Soldier glasses, centred and approx 1.5cm from each border.

With Black embroider two small – on Ninja glasses, centred and approx 0.5cm from each border.

Make up Bee Skittle (colourway 1): glue or sew the glasses approximately between Round 44 and 48, with B embroider a V on round 43, centred stitch respect the glasses.

Make up Candy Skittle (colourway 2): glue or sew the eyes approximately between Round 44 and 48, with Black embroider a V between round 41 and 43, centred respect the glasses.

Make up Soldier Skittle (colourway 3): glue or sew the glasses approximately between



Round 43 and 47, with B embroider a horizontal line, 3 sts long, between round 41 and 42, centred respect the glasses.

Make up Scallywag Skittle (colourway 4): glue or sew the eyes approximately between Round 44 and 48, with Black embroider the smile, formed by two line, between round 39 and 41.

Make up Ninja Skittle (colourway 5): glue or sew the glasses approximately on Round 45, with White embroider a horizontal line, 2 sts long, between round 41 and 42, centred respect the glasses.

Make up One eye Skittle (colourway 6):

glue or sew the eye approximately between Round 44 and 48, with B embroider the smile a horizontal line, 3 sts long, between round 41 and 42. 🧵

MORE INFO

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TOP TIP

Double check the placement of the eyes before you put on the washers!



Hello, Monty

Hook up this pot-bellied little dinosaur and make a loyal friend for life.
By Kate E Hancock.

YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ Wendy Merino DK & Rowan Felted Tweed DK: Yarn A, 3 balls of Wendy Merino DK in Pacific (2369) Yarn B, 15g/53m of Rowan Felted Tweed DK in Avocado (161)
- ✿ 3.5mm crochet hook
- ✿ 2 x 20mm safety eyes
- ✿ Polyester toy stuffing
- ✿ Stitch markers
- ✿ Strong thread for stitching jointed limbs

TENSION

- ✿ Not critical for this project

ABBREVIATIONS

- ✿ 5-tr cluster. Turn to page 90 for full list of abbreviations

Little Monty is a big-eyed, chubby little dinosaur that's a joy to make and lovely for toddlers to hold. Hooked from Wendy merino and Rowan felted tweed he's a hard-wearing little fella too, so you needn't worry about him being grabbed, thrown or swung around. A bona fide family heirloom to pass down and share with other children.

PATTERN NOTE

The pattern is worked using the amigurumi method. Work stitches continuously in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work.

DINO Head

The head is made from the muzzle to the back. Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1: 6dc into loop. (6sts)

Round 2: 2dc in each dc. (12sts)

Round 3: (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 6 times. (18sts)

Round 4: 2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc, 5-tr cluster, dc in next dc (2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc) 3 times, 2dc in next dc, 5-tr cluster, dc in next dc. (24sts)

Rounds 5-8: Dc in each dc around.

Round 9: 2dc in next 6 dc, dc in rem 18 dc. (30sts)

Round 10: (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 6 times, dc in rem 18 dc. (36sts)

Round 11: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 5 dc) 6 times. (42sts)

Round 12: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 6 dc) 6 times. (48sts)

Round 13: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 7 dc) 6 times. (54sts)

Rounds 14-18: Dc in each dc around.

Attach the safety eyes now, placing them between Rounds 11 and 12 of the head, so that the centres rest in line with the nostrils. Stuff the head firmly and continue to stuff as you go.

Round 19: (Dc2tog, dc in next 7 dc) 6 times. (48sts)

Round 20: (Dc2tog, dc in next 6 dc) 6 times. (42sts)

Round 21: (Dc2tog, dc in next 5 dc) 6 times. (36sts)

Round 22: (Dc2tog, dc in next 4 dc) 6 times. (30sts)

Round 23: (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 dc) 6 times. (24sts)

Round 24: (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 dc) 6 times. (18sts)

Round 25: (Dc2tog, dc in next dc) 6 times. (12sts)

Round 26: Dc2tog around. (6sts)

Ss to first dc in round and fasten off, leaving a tail to sew with. Finish stuffing. Thread the yarn tail into a needle and pass repeatedly through all 6 sts, gathering together to close. Stitch closed firmly.

First eyelid

Using Yarn A, ch7.

Row 1: Dc into second ch from hook, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, htr in next ch, dc in next ch, ss into last ch. Fasten off, leaving a tail to sew with.

Second eyelid

Using Yarn A, ch7.

Row 1: Ss into second ch from hook, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, htr in next ch, dc in next ch. Fasten off, leaving a tail to sew with.

Body

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1: 6dc into loop. (6sts)

Round 2: 2dc in each dc. (12sts)

Round 3: (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 6 times. (18sts)

Round 4: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc) 6 times. (24sts)

Round 5: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 3 dc)

ABOUT THIS YARN

WENDY MERINO DK

100% Merino wool
116m per 50g
£4.29

www.deramores.com



6 times. (30sts)

Round 6: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 4 dc)

6 times. (36 sts)

Round 7: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 5 dc)

6 times. (42 sts)

Round 8: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 6 dc)

6 times. (48 sts)

Round 9: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 7 dc)

6 times. (54 sts)

Rounds 10-14: Dc in each dc around.

Round 15: (dc2tog, dc in next 7 dc) 6 times.

(48 sts)

Round 16: Dc in each dc around.

Round 17: (Dc2tog, dc in next 6 dc) 6 times.

(42 sts)

Round 18: Dc in each dc around.

Round 19: (Dc2tog, dc in next 5 dc) 6 times.

(36 sts)

Round 20: Dc in each dc around.

***Stuff body firmly and continue to stuff as you go.**

Round 21: (Dc2tog, dc in next 4 dc) 6 times.

(30 sts)

Round 22: Dc in each dc around.

Round 23: (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 dc)

6 times. (24 sts)

Rounds 24-29: Dc in each dc around.

Round 30: (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 dc) 6 times. (18 sts)

Round 31-35: Dc in each dc around.

Ss to first dc in round and fasten off, leaving a tail to sew with.

Tail

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1: 5dc into loop. (5sts)

Round 2: Dc in each dc around.

Round 3: 2dc in next dc, dc in rem dc around.

(6sts)

Round 4: 2dc in next dc, dc in rem dc around.

(7sts)

Round 5: 2dc in next dc, dc in rem dc around.

(8 sts)

Round 6: 2dc in next dc, dc in rem dc around.

(9 sts)

Round 7: 2dc in next dc, dc in rem dc around.

(10 sts)

Round 8: 2dc in next dc, dc in rem dc around.

(11 sts)



Make sure your tension is tighter rather than looser – this way the stuffing won't escape

Round 9: 2dc in next dc, dc in rem dc around.

(12 sts)

Round 10: 2dc in next dc, dc in rem dc around.

(13 sts)

Round 11: 2dc in next dc, dc in rem dc around.

(14 sts)

Round 12: 2dc in next dc, dc in rem dc around.

(15 sts)

Round 13: 2dc in next dc, dc in rem dc around.

(16 sts)

Round 14: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 3 dc) 4

times. (20 sts)

Round 15: Dc in each dc around.

Round 16: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 4 dc) 4

times. (24 sts)

Round 17: Dc in each dc around.

Round 18: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 5 dc) 4

times. (28 sts)

Round 19: Dc in each dc around.

Round 20: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 6 dc) 4

times. (32 sts)

Round 21: Dc in each dc around.

Ss to first dc in round and fasten off, leaving a

tail to sew with.

Arm

Make 2

Note: The arms involve a colour change in the cluster stitches. These are not stated in the pattern below but you will need to change to Yarn B for every 5-tr cluster stitch. Switch back to Yarn A for all other stitches. To change colour smoothly start your cluster in Yarn B but when you have your 6 loops left on the hook, yarn round hook with Yarn A and pull through all 6 loops on the hook to complete the stitch. When making colour changes, drop the yarn you are not using to the back of your work and pick it up again when you need it, being careful not to pull it too loose or too tight when starting with it again. You will have the tails running behind your work, but this won't be seen in the finished piece, as it will be on the inside.

Legs are worked from foot up.

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1: 6dc into loop. (6sts)

Round 2: 2dc in each dc. (12sts)

Round 3: (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 6 times.

(18sts)

Round 4: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc)

6 times. (24sts)

Round 5: (5-tr cluster, dc in next 2 dc) 4 times, dc in rem 12 dc. (24sts)

Rounds 6–11: Dc in each dc around.

***Stuff the arm here and continue to stuff as you go.**

Round 12: (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 dc) 6 times. (18sts)

Round 13: (Dc2tog, dc in next 7 dc) 2 times. (16sts)

Rounds 14–23: Dc in each dc around.

Round 24: (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 dc) 4 times. (12sts)

Round 25: (Dc2tog) 6 times. (6sts)

Ss to first dc in round and fasten off, leaving a tail to sew with. Finish stuffing. Thread the yarn tail into a needle and pass repeatedly through all 6 sts, gathering together to close. Stitch closed firmly.

Leg

Make 2

The legs involve a colour change in the cluster stitches. These are not stated in the pattern below but you will need to change to Yarn B for every 5-tr cluster stitch. Switch back to Yarn A for all other stitches.

Legs are worked from foot up.

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1: 6dc into loop. (6sts)

Round 2: 2dc in each dc. (12sts)

Round 3: (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 6 times. (18sts)

Round 4: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc) 6 times. (24sts)

Round 5: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 3 dc) 6 times. (30sts)

Round 6: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 4 dc) 6 times. (36sts)

Round 7: (5-tr cluster, dc in next 5 dc) 4 times, dc in rem 12 dc. (36sts)

Rounds 8–10: Dc in each dc around.

Round 11: Dc in next 3 dc, (dc2tog, dc in next dc) 6 times, dc in rem 15 dc. (30sts)

Round 12: Dc in next 3 dc, (dc2tog) 6 times, dc in rem 15 dc. (24sts)

Round 13: (Dc2tog, dc in next dc) 8 times. (16sts)

Stuff the foot here and continue to stuff as you go.





Rounds 14–24: Dc in each dc around. (16 sts)

Round 25: (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 dc) 4 times. (12sts)

Round 26: (Dc2tog) 6 times. (6sts)

Ss to first dc in round and fasten off, leaving a tail to sew with. Finish stuffing. Thread the yarn tail into a needle and pass repeatedly through all 6 sts, gathering together to close. Stitch closed firmly.

Foot shaping

Use Yarn A to shape the toes. To shape the toes you will be making three stitches in between the cluster stitches on the feet. With a needle, stitch between the first two cluster stitches, into round 2 of the foot and make a long stitch exiting vertically between rounds 10 and 11. Then stitch again in the same place, looping the yarn around the foot and pulling it tightly. Repeat this stitch a few times and fasten off securely. Repeat these stitches twice more between the other cluster stitches.

Belly patch

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1: 6dc into loop. (6sts)

Round 2: 2dc in each dc. (12sts)

Round 3: (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 6 times. (18sts)

Round 4: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc) 6 times. (24sts)

Round 5: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 3 dc) 6 times. (30sts)

Round 6: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 4 dc) 6 times. (36sts)

Ss to first dc in round and fasten off, leaving a tail to sew with.

Small spot

Make 6

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1: 6dc into loop. (6sts)

Round 2: 2dc in each dc. (12sts)

Ss to first dc in round and fasten off, leaving a tail to sew with.

Medium spot

Make 5

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1: 6dc into loop. (6sts)

Round 2: 2dc in each dc. (12sts)

Round 3: (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 6 times. (18sts)

Ss to first dc in round and fasten off, leaving a tail to sew with.

Large spot

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1: 6dc into loop. (6sts)

Round 2: 2dc in each dc. (12sts)

Round 3: (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 6 times. (18sts)

Round 4: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc) 6 times. (24sts)

Ss to first dc in round and fasten off, leaving a tail to sew with.

Making up

Sew the eyelids on making sure to curve them around the eyes.

***Stuff the body firmly.**

Make sure to really stuff the neck well to give

extra support to the head. Place the head on top of the neck edges and stitch firmly.

Stitch one of the medium spots to the centre of each of the feet.

Take a long length of strong yarn and stitch through the first leg at about 1cm from the top, through the body and into the second leg at about 1cm from the top then stitch back through the second leg, then the body and the first leg in the same place and pull firmly. Repeat these stitches back and forth through the legs and body until legs are securely attached but still movable and fasten off. Repeat this process for the arms attaching them in the same way, 15 rounds down from the neck edge.

Stuff the tail and sew to the lower back.

Sew the belly patch to the stomach.

Take three of the small spots and two of the medium spots and arrange them around the head. When you are happy with the placement stitch them on firmly.

Arrange the rest of the spots around the tail and back. When you are happy with the placement stitch them on firmly.

Weave in any loose ends. 🧵



Hook up a magic loop to make Monty's spots

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TOP TIP

Always test to make sure your loop opens and closes before you start working into it

STEP-BY-STEP



STEP 1
Start by placing the yarn over your index finger with the tail end in your palm.



STEP 2
Bring the yarn in-between your fingers so that it is wrapped around your finger with the ball end of the yarn over the top of the tail end.



STEP 3
Insert your hook under the strand of yarn.



STEP 4
Yarn over with the ball end of the yarn and pull up a loop, forming a loop on the hook.

Pure magic

If you want to try amigurumi, knowing how to make a magic loop is essential. **Joanne Scrace** shows you how...

Magic loops are one of the best ways to start off your amigurumi or any project worked in the round where you do not want a hole in the centre.

The technique, also known as a magic ring, adjustable ring or an adjustable loop, is a way of starting off work in the round. It is an alternative to making a loop from chains, which leaves a small hole in the centre of the work. Initially, it can be a bit tricky to understand and fiddly to work but, with a little practise, it soon becomes a very easy way to begin.

This method of making the loop rarely fails to completely close as methods that wrap several times around the fingers are prone to do. It also has no bulky not involved, which can ruin

the appearance of your work. You will need to fasten it off afterwards, but this allows you to place the fastening discretely.

Follow the steps carefully, using a thicker yarn for practise, then we will use this technique to make a cute kawaii-style eye to sew to your ami creations. 🧡

TOP TIP

Make sure you fasten off and secure the magic loop into a secure knot. Otherwise, all your hard work might come undone!



STEP 5

Yarn over with the ball end of yarn and pull through the loop on the hook. This secures the loop and creates your first chain.



STEP 6

Remove the loop from your finger.



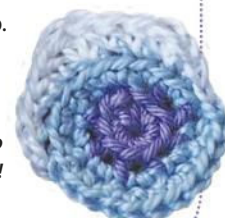
STEP 7

Work your stitches for the first round into the loop, as directed in the pattern.

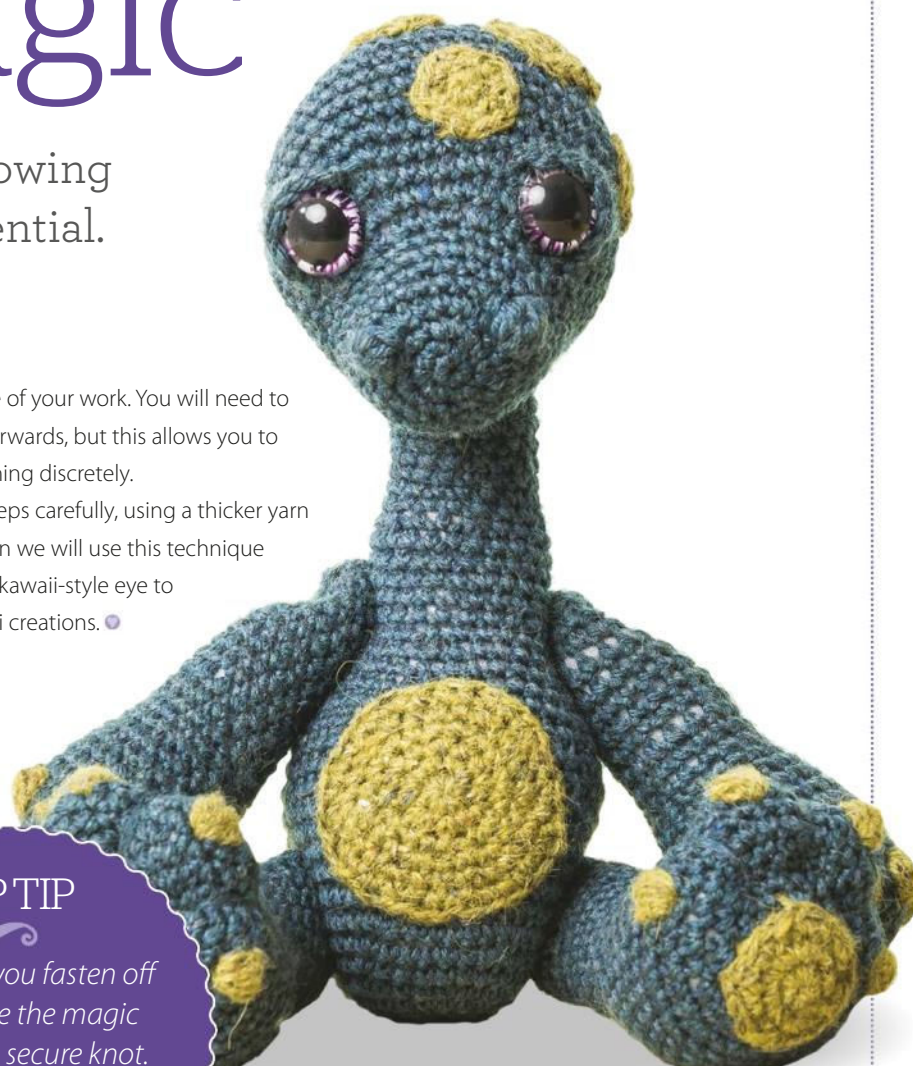


STEP 8

Pull the tail end to tighten and close the loop.



Turn over to find out how to make an ami monster eye!





Eye, eye!

Test out your new skills with this multi-hued monster eye.
By Joanne Scrace

YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ Small amounts of DMC Perla 5 in white, purple and blue
- ✿ 2mm hook
- ✿ Removable stitch marker

SIZE

- ✿ Approx 2.5cm high

ABBREVIATIONS

- ✿ Turn to page 90 for a full list of abbreviations

ABOUT THIS YARN

DMC PERLA 5

100% cotton
Handwash only

www.dmccreative.co.uk

Got to grips with making a magic loop? Let's get cracking, then, with an essential element for any little amigurumi monster: a googly, scary eye! Before you start, take note that you will work in a spiral without turning, joining or raising chains.

MONSTER EYE

Using the colour for the pupil (in this case purple) make a magic loop.

Round 1: 8 dc into magic loop, complete the last step of the final stitch with the colour of the iris (in this case blue), place marker in last stitch to show round end.

Round 2: Continuing in iris colour, working in the back loops only, 2 dc in each dc around. (16 dc).

Round 3: Working in both loops, *1 dc, 2 dc in

next st; rep from * to end, complete the last step of final st in white. (24 dc).

Round 4: Continuing in white, working in the back loops, 1 sl st, 2 dc in next st, 2 htr, 2 tr in next st, 2 htr, 2 dc in next st, 1 sl st, fasten off leaving remaining stitches unworked.

To finish

Secure magic loop and weave in ends. Sew securely to your amigurumi creation. ●

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Bear bros!

Say hello to Tako-chan and Yaki-chan:
two cute brothers by Mei Li Lee.

TOP TIP

*The eyes bring your
bears to life, so take a
moment to consider
placement!*



YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ 4ply yarn in dark brown
- ✿ 2mm hook
- ✿ Tapestry needle
- ✿ 4 black round brads, 8mm in diameter
- ✿ 1 oval doll's nose, 5mm in diameter
- ✿ 1 oval doll's nose, 3mm in diameter
- ✿ Polyester toy stuffing
- ✿ Small pieces of felt in pink and white for cheeks and eyes
- ✿ Craft glue

TENSION

- ✿ Yaki-chan: approx 8cm (3in) tall; Tako-chan: approx 10cm tall.

ABBREVIATIONS

- ✿ 1-Inv dec Insert your hook into the front loop of the first st. Without putting the yarn round the hook, bring the hook to the front of the work and insert the hook into the front loop of the next st (3 loops on hook). Yrh and draw through all 3 loops.

So we all know that amigurumi can be sweet but, frankly, we just weren't prepared for the high levels of cuteness that overwhelmed us when we first laid eyes on this gorgeous pair of bears! These cookie-coloured bear cub brothers Tako-chan and Yaki-chan will present some new challenges for anyone new to amigurumi. You'll learn how to do an invisible decrease and use it for your shaping, plus, we'll show you how to make their legs movable.

PATTERN NOTE

Pattern is worked using the amigurumi method, where rounds are worked in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it helpful to mark the first stitch of the round with a stitch marker, and move it up to the next round as you work.

TAKO-CHAN

Head

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. (6sts)

Round 1: 2dc in each st around. (12sts)

Round 2: *2dc in next st, 1dc; rep from * another 5 times. (18sts)

Round 3: *2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (24sts)

Round 4: *2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (30sts)

Round 5: *2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (36sts)

Round 6: *2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (42sts)

Round 7: *2dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (48sts)

Rounds 8-14: Dc in each st around. (48sts)

Round 15: *Inv dec, dc in next 6 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (42sts)

Round 16: *Inv dec, dc in next 5 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (36sts)

Round 17: *Inv dec, dc in next 4 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (30sts)

Round 18: *Inv dec, dc in next 3 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (24sts)

Round 19: *Inv dec, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (18sts)

*** Stuff head.**

Round 20: *Inv dec, dc in next st; rep from * another 5 times. (12sts)

Round 21: Inv dec all around. [6 sts] Fasten off and thread tail of yarn through remaining stitches to close. Do not cut off the yarn.

Eye indentations

With a tapestry needle, bring the remaining yarn out to a stitch on the left side of the head, positioning it at the bottom of Round 11. Make one horizontal stitch and bring the thread

SUGGESTED YARN

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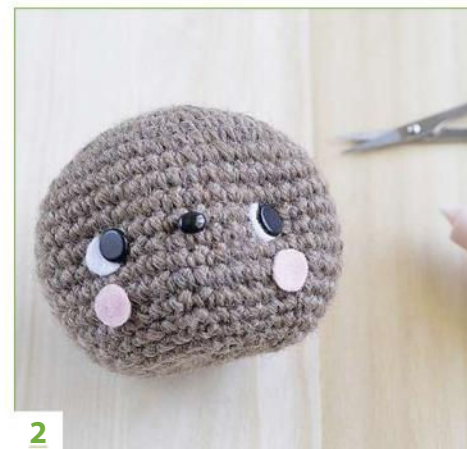
100g/422m

Machine wash at 40°C

www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk



1



2

back down to the bottom of the head. Gently tug on the yarn to create a slight indentation. Now repeat with the right side of the head – there should be 8 stitches in between the indentations.
Fasten off ends at the bottom of the head.

Facial features

Cut out two small half-moons of white felt – they should match the size of the black brads. Glue them near the indentations.
Add glue onto the black brads and pop each of them into the st with the indentation.
Centre the oval doll's nose in between the eyes and glue it on.
Cut out two small circles of pink felt and glue them onto the cheeks.

Body

Make a magic loop, ch 1, 6dc in loop. (6sts)
Round 1: Ch1, 2dc in each st around. (12sts)
Round 2: *2dc in next st, 1dc; rep from * another 5 times. (18sts)
Round 3: *2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (24sts)
Rounds 4-8: Dc in each st around. (24sts)
Round 9: *Inv dec, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (18sts)
Fasten off and leave a long end for sewing.
Stuff body.

Arms

Make 2

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. (6sts)
Rounds 1-5: Dc in each st around. (6sts)



3

Fasten off and leave a long end for sewing.

Legs

Make 2

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. (6sts)
Round 1: 2dc in each st around. (12sts)
Rounds 2-3: Dc in each st around. (12sts)
Round 4: Inv dec all around. (6sts)
Rounds 5-6: Dc in each st around. (6sts)
Fasten off and leave a long end for sewing.

Ears

Make 2

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. (6sts)
Round 1: 2dc in each st around. (12sts)
Round 2: Dc in each st around. (12sts)
Fasten off and leave a long end for sewing.

Tail

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. (6sts)
Round 1: 2dc in each st around. (12sts)
Round 2: Dc in each st around. (12sts)
Round 3: *Inv dec into each st around. (6sts)
Fasten off and leave a long end for sewing.

TO FINISH

Pin the pieces in place to gauge where each part should go.

Sew the body onto the head, sew on the ears and arms.

Make moveable legs as follows:

Thread the long yarn end from one of the legs through a darning needle. Pierce leg and body where this leg will be attached and bring it out on the other side where the other leg will go. Make a horizontal stitch and go back to the other leg. Remember not to tug too tightly. Do this one more time. Bring the needle out through the body and trim excess. Repeat the entire process with the long yarn end from Tako-chan's other leg.

Position the tail at a spot that will help Tako-chan sit on his own and sew in place.



YAKI-CHAN

Head

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. (6sts)
Round 1: 2dc in each st around. (12sts)
Round 2: *2dc in next st, 1dc; rep from * another 5 times. (18sts)
Round 3: *2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (24sts)
Round 4: *2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (30sts)
Round 5: *2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (36sts)
Rounds 6-11: Dc in each st around. (36sts)
Round 12: *Inv dec, dc in next 4 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (30sts)
Round 13: *Inv dec, dc in next 3 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (24sts)
Round 14: *Inv dec, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (18sts)
***Stuff head**
Round 15: *Inv dec, dc in next st; rep from * another 5 times. (12sts)
Round 16: Inv dec all around. (6 sts)
Fasten off and thread tail of yarn through remaining stitches to close.
Do not cut off the yarn

Eye indentations

Follow the instructions on Tako-chan, but position them below Round 8 with 6 sts between each indentation.



Facial features

Follow the instructions on Tako-chan, gluing on the brads, doll's nose and felt pieces.

Body

Make a magic loop, ch1, 5dc in loop. (5sts)

Round 1: 2dc in each st around. (10sts)

Round 2: *2dc in next st, 1dc; rep from * another 4 times. (15sts)

Round 3: *2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 4 times. (20sts)

Rounds 4-7: Dc in each st around. (20 sts)

Round 8: *Inv dec, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 4 times. (15sts)

Fasten off and leave a long end for sewing.

Stuff body.

Arms

Make 2

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. (6sts)

Rounds 1-4: Dc in each st around. (6sts)

Fasten off and leave a long end for sewing.

Legs

Make 2

Make a magic loop, ch1, 5dc in loop. (5sts)

Round 1: 2dc in each st around. (10sts)

Rounds 2-3: Dc in each st around. (10sts)

Round 4: (Inv dec) 4 times, dc in next 2 sts. (6sts)

Round 5: Dc in each st around. (6sts)

Fasten off and leave a long end for sewing.

Ears

Make 2

Make a magic loop, ch1, 5dc in loop. (5sts)

Round 1: 2dc in each st around. (10sts)

Round 2: Dc in each st around. (10sts)

Fasten off and leave a long end for sewing.

Tail

Make a magic loop, ch1, 5dc in loop. ●

MORE INFO

This is an original pattern by Mei Li Lee of AmigurumiMEI (www.amigurumei.com). You may not claim it as your own, reprint it, sell or distribute it, or sell items made from it.





TOP TIP

Hook up this little feral friend to sit next to you on the desk at work



Mr Fox

More cute than cunning, you'll love to make this little fox by Stephanie Lau.

YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ 1 x 50g ball of 4ply-weight cotton yarn in each of red (A), white (B) and black (C); Stephanie chose DMC Natura Just Cotton in Coral N18, Ibiza N01 and Noir N11
- ✿ 2mm crochet hook
- ✿ Pair of 6mm safety eyes
- ✿ 2 pink brads for cheeks
- ✿ Toy stuffing
- ✿ Black embroidery thread
- ✿ Yarn needle
- ✿ Sheet of white felt
- ✿ Glue gun

FINISHED SIZE

Height: 15cm to top of ears
Width: 10cm at base

TENSION

Accurate tension is not essential for this project; the first 5 rounds of the head in double crochet measure 3.5cm in diameter on sample shown.

Amigurumi lover Stephanie Lau hooked up this sweet little fox as a guest for designer for Tracey Todhunter's wonderful new book, *Women's Weekly Guide To Crochet*. Stephanie has called him Finnley and he's an adorable character with his innocent expression, rosy cheeks and big bushy tail – like every fox should have! Stephanie has a knack for giving her amigurumi animals plenty of personality and you'll love hooking up this little foxy friend.

PATTERN NOTE

The nose tab is worked in rows, but all other parts of the fox are worked in rounds of tubular crochet to form a double crochet spiral cylinder. Take care to work in continuous rounds to form a spiral, otherwise a seam will show. Use a stitch marker to help you keep track of each round.

Wherever the pattern requires a decrease (dc2tog), use the invisible decrease method for a cleaner look and less visible holes (see step-by-step images).

When attaching limbs and ears, make sure that the colour changes are positioned towards the back of the toy for a neater look

NOSE TAB

Foundation chain: Using A and leaving a long end for sewing nose tab to head, ch 3.

Row 1: 1 dc in second ch from hook, 1 dc in next ch, turn. (2sts)

Row 2: Ch 1, (3 dc in next st) twice, turn. (6sts)

Row 3: Ch 1, 1 dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 4: Ch 1, 2 dc in first st, 1 dc in each of next 4 sts, 2 dc in last st. (8 sts)
Fasten off.

Head

Using B, make a magic ring.

Round 1: 6 dc into ring. (6sts)

Round 2: 2 dc in each st around. (12sts)

Round 3: (1 dc in next st, 2 dc in next st) 6 times. (18sts)

Round 4: (1 dc in each of next 2 sts, 2 dc in

next st) 6 times. (24sts)

Round 5: (1 dc in each of next 3 sts, 2 dc in next st) 6 times. (30sts)

Round 6: (1 dc in each of next 4 sts, 2 dc in next st) 6 times. (36sts)

Round 7: (1 dc in each of next 5 sts, 2 dc in next st) 6 times. (42sts)

Round 8: (1 dc in each of next 6 sts, 2 dc in next st) 6 times. (48sts)

Round 9: (1 dc in each of next 7 sts, 2 dc in next st) 6 times. (54sts)

Round 10: (1 dc in each of next 8 sts, 2 dc in next st) 6 times. (60sts)

Rounds 11–12: 1 dc in each st around.

Round 13: 1 dc in each of next 23 sts, (2 dc in next st, 1 dc in each of next 3 sts) 3 times, 2 dc in next st, 1 dc in each of next 24 sts. (64sts)

Rounds 14–17: 1 dc in each st around. Change to A and create a hole where the nose tab will be attached to form the snout as follows.

Round 18: 1 dc in each of next 28 sts, ch 6, skip 11 sts, 1 dc in each of next 25 sts. (53 dc and 6 ch)

Round 19: 1 dc in each of next 28 sts, 1 dc tbl in each of next 6 ch, 1 dc in each of next 25 sts. (59sts)

Rounds 20–27: 1 dc in each st around.

Round 28: [1 dc in each of next 8 sts, dc2tog] 5 times, 1 dc in each of next 9 sts. (54sts)

Round 29: [1 dc in each of next 7 sts, dc2tog] 6 times. (48sts)

Round 30: [1 dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog] 6 times. (42sts)

Round 31: [1 dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog] 6 times. (36sts)

Place safety eyes at the junction of yarns A and B between rounds 17 and 18, about 3 stitches

ABOUT THIS YARN

DMC NATURA JUST COTTON

100% cotton

Machine wash at 30°C

£3.55

www.dmccreative.co.uk



outwards from the nose hole on either side. For cheeks, place pink brads between rounds 15 and 16 diagonally downwards and outwards from eyes.

***Begin stuffing head.** Sew nose tab to head to form snout. Embroider the nose using black embroidery thread in a triangle shape.

Round 32: (1 dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. (30sts)

Round 33: (1 dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. (24sts)

Round 34: (1 dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. (18sts)

Round 35: 1 dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times. (12sts)

***Finish stuffing head.**

Round 36: [Dc2tog] 6 times. (6sts)
Fasten off and weave in ends.

Ears

Make 2

Using C, make a magic ring.

Round 1: 4 dc into ring. (4sts)

Round 2: 1 dc in each st around.

Round 3: 2 dc in each st around. (8sts)

Round 4: (1 dc in next st, 2 dc in next st) 4 times. (12sts)
Change to A.

Round 5: (1 dc in each of next 5 sts, 2 dc in next st) twice. (14sts)

Round 6: (1 dc in each of next 6 sts, 2 dc in next st) twice. (16sts)

Round 7: (1 dc in each of next 7 sts, 2 dc in next st) twice. (18sts)

Rounds 8–10: 1 dc in each st around.

Round 11: (1 dc in each of next 7 sts, dc2tog) twice. (16sts)

Round 12: 1 dc in each st around.

Each ear has slightly different instructions for next round so that they can be attached more cleanly to the curves of the head.

Round 13 (right ear only): Ch 1, turn, starting in second st from hook, 1 dc in each of next 8 sts.

Round 13 (left ear only): Sl st in next st, (sl st, ch 1, 1 dc) in next st, 1 dc in each of next 7sts.

Fasten off, leaving long end for sewing. Fold ears so that colour changes are positioned towards the back and the stitches worked on round 13 are folded in half. These stitches should be positioned on the outer edge of the ears to help attach the ears more cleanly to the curve of the head. Cut out ear lining from white felt and glue lining on to ears. Sew ears to top of head.

Body

Using A, make a magic ring and work first 6 rounds as for head.

Round 7: 1 dc tbl in each st around.

Rounds 8–12: 1 dc in each st around.

Round 13: (1 dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. (30sts)

Rounds 14–18: 1 dc in each st around.

Round 19: (1 dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. (24sts)

Round 20: 1 dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving long end for sewing.

***Stuff body and sew to head.**

Cut out belly lining from white felt and glue to body.

Arms

Make 2

Using C, make a magic ring.

Round 1: 6 dc into ring. (6sts)

Round 2: 2 dc in each st around. (12sts)

Round 3: 1 dc in each st around.

Round 4: 1 dc tbl in each st around.

Rounds 5–6: As round 3.

Change to A.

Rounds 7–8: As round 3.

Round 9: (1 dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) twice. (10sts)

HOW TO WORK AN INVISIBLE DECREASE



STEP 1:

Work to the instruction dc2tog, then insert the hook into the front loop only of the next stitch (2 loops on hook).



STEP 2:

Insert the hook into the front loop only of the following stitch (3 loops on hook).



STEP 3:

Wrap the yarn over the hook and draw it through the first two loops on the hook. Wrap the yarn over the hook again and draw it through the remaining two loops on the hook to complete the decrease.

Rounds 10-16: As round 3.

Fasten off, leaving long end for sewing. Stuff lightly. Pinch open end together and sew shut. Attach to sides of body.

Optional: After sewing all the parts together (arms, legs and tail onto body), sew paws together in front of body for better posing and sitting.

Legs

Make 2

Using C, make a magic ring and work first 6 rounds as for arms. Change to A.

Rounds 7-13: As round 3.

Round 14: (1 dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) twice. (10sts)

Rounds 15-17: As round 3.

Fasten off, leaving long end for sewing. Stuff lightly. Pinch open end together and sew shut. Attach to sides of body.

Tail

Using B, make a magic ring.

Round 1: 4 dc into ring. (4sts)

Round 2: 1 dc in each st around.

Round 3: (1 dc in next st, 2 dc in next st) twice. (6sts)

Round 4: 2 dc in each st around. (12sts)

Round 5: As round 2.

Round 6: As round 4. (18sts)

Round 7: As round 2.

Round 8: 1 dc in each of next 3 sts, 2 dc in each of next 6 sts, 1 dc in each of next 9 sts. (24sts)

Rounds 9-11: As round 2.

Round 12: 2 dc in each of next 2 sts, 1 dc in each of next 18 sts, 2 dc in each of next 4 sts. (30sts)

Round 13: As round 2.

Round 14: 2 dc in each of next 2 sts, 1 dc in each of next 24 sts, 2 dc in each of next 4 sts. (36sts)

Rounds 15-17: As round 2.

Change to A.

Round 18: 2 dc in next st, 1 dc in each of next 30 sts, 2 dc in each of next 5 sts. (42sts)

Round 19: As round 2.

Round 20: 1 dc in each of next 36 sts, 2 dc in each of next 6 sts. (48sts)

Rounds 21-30: As round 2.

Round 31: (1 dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. (42sts)

Round 32: (1 dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. (36sts)

Round 33: (1 dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. (30sts)

Round 34: (1 dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. (24sts)

*Begin stuffing tail.

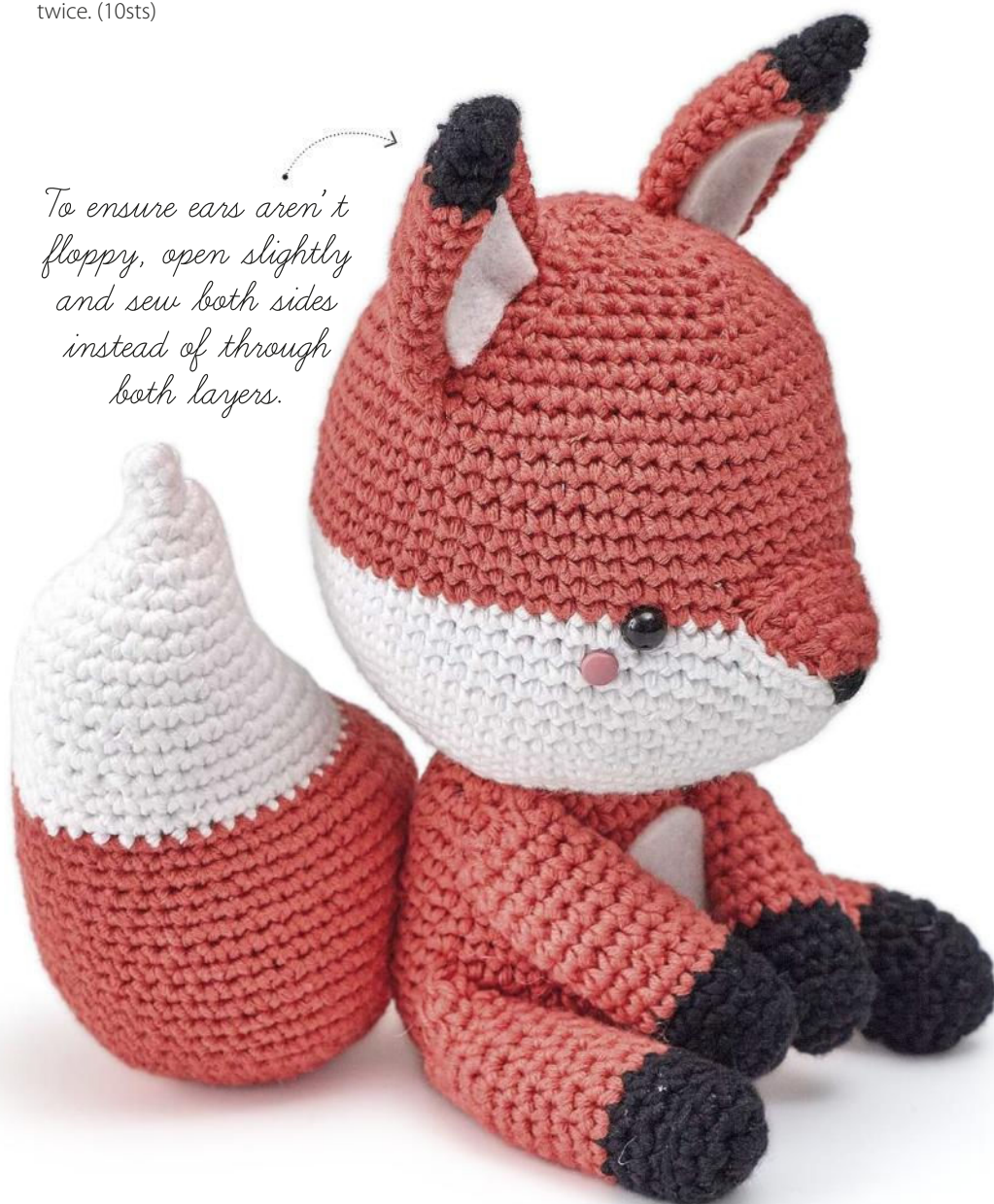
Round 35: (1 dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. (18sts)

Round 36: (1 dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times. (12sts)

*Finish stuffing tail.

Round 37: (Dc2tog) 6 times. (6 sts). Fasten off, leaving long end for sewing. Bring long end of A to right side between rounds 28 and 29 (nine rounds up from bottom of tail) and attach tail to back of fox. ●

To ensure ears aren't floppy, open slightly and sew both sides instead of through both layers.



MORE INFO

This cute little fella is taken from *Women's Weekly Guide to Crochet* by Tracey Todhunter (Search Press, £12.99). Visit www.searchpress.com for more information on this and other titles.



TOP TIP

*This silky soft
elephant is made
all in one, with ears
added at the end.*



Tiny ellie

Simple, sweet and easy to make, who wouldn't love this adorable elephant?
By Brigette Read.

YOU WILL NEED

- ❖ 25g of any grey Aran yarn
- ❖ An oddment of pink DK yarn
- ❖ A 3.5mm hook
- ❖ 2 x 7.5mm black safety eyes
- ❖ Polyester toy stuffing
- ❖ Tapestry needle

SIZE

- ❖ 9x5.5cm

TENSION

- ❖ Tension is not important

PATTERN NOTE

The elephant is worked in the round in a spiral from the top down, without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it helpful to put a stitch marker or piece of waste yarn in the first st of the round, and move it up as you work each round.



SUGGESTED YARN

STYLECRAFT LIFE ARAN

75% acrylic, 25% wool

100g/198m

Machine wash at 40°C

www.deramores.com

Worked in double crochet stitches, this teeny, tiny pachyderm will become a fast favourite for anyone with a passion for amigurumi. This baby elephant appears in only an hour and is as light as a feather(ish!), and offers a lot, for a little effort.

Body

With grey, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS): Ch1 (does not count as st), 7dc into the loop. (7sts)

Round 2: 2dc into each st. (14sts)

Round 3: (1dc, 2dc into next st) 7 times. (21sts)

Round 4: (2dc, 2dc into next st) 7 times. (28sts)

Rounds 5-7: Dc in each st.

Trunk

Round 8: Dc into each of the first 4 sts, ch3.

With RS facing and the ch-3 behind the dc just worked, dc into each of the same 4 dc from round 8 again.

Cont the round by working 3dc into the ch-3 loop, ready to start the beg of the next round of the trunk with the 4dc again. (7sts)

Continue working on these 7 sts for another 8 rounds.

Fasten off, using the tail of yarn to sew up the end of the trunk.

Rejoin grey into the next st of round 8 after the 4 trunk sts.

Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st to end, ss into base of trunk.

Fasten off.

First leg

With RS facing, join grey into next available st after the trunk.

Round 1: Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc, ch5.

Round 2: With RS facing and the ch-5 behind the dc just worked, dc into each of the same 6 dc again.

Cont the round by working 5dc into the ch-5 loop, ready to start the beg of the next round with the 6dc again. (11sts)

Continue working on these sts for another 4 rounds.

Fasten off.

Next round: Join pink and dc in each st. Fasten off and use the tail of yarn to sew the remaining sts closed.

Other legs

Work the other 3 legs in the same way as the first, each time joining the yarn in the next available st of the round.

Eyes

Secure the safety eyes using the image as a guide.

Tummy

With grey, make a magic loop.

Round 1: Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. (6sts)

Round 2: 2dc into each st. (12sts)

Round 3: (1dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times. (18sts)

Round 4: (2dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times. Fasten off. (24sts)

With the legs pointing upwards, push the tummy in so that it sits underneath the legs, filling up the space in between.

Start sewing the edges of the legs and the trunk to the tummy piece to close. Before sewing up completely, stuff the body of the elephant.

Ears

Make 2 with grey yarn and 2 with pink yarn.

Ch7, 9dtr in the fourth ch from the hook, ss in...to the first ch.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail on the grey ears.

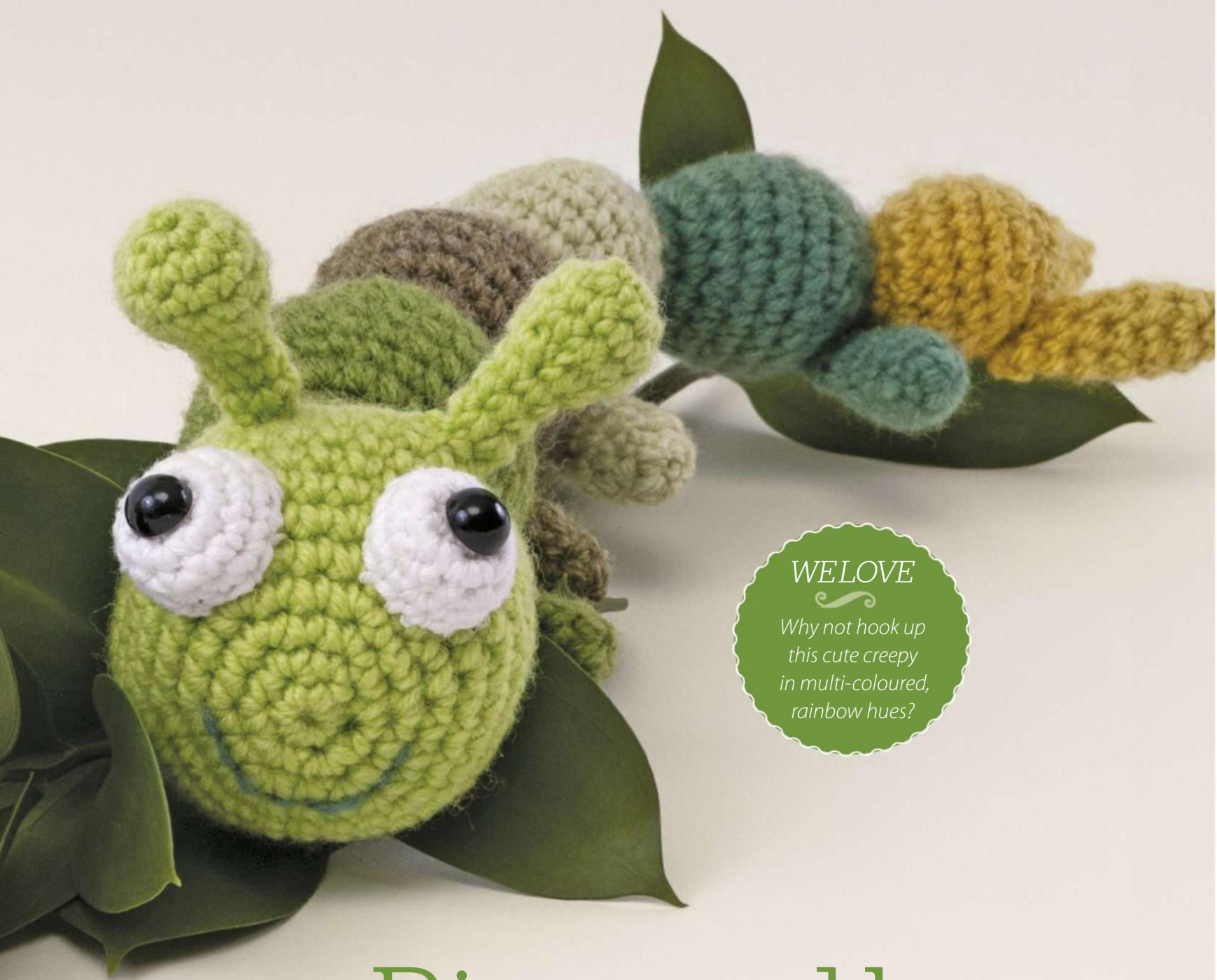
Sew each pink ear on top of a grey one and use the long tail on the grey ears to sew each ear to the body, using the image as a guide.

Tail

Secure a piece of yarn to the elephant's bottom, then tie a knot in the end. 🐘



CUTE CATERPILLAR



WE LOVE

*Why not hook up
this cute creepy
in multi-coloured,
rainbow hues?*

Big-eyed bug

Called Little Lettuce, this caterpillar is as green as his favourite food! By Susan Yeates.

YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ 3mm and 2.5mm crochet hooks
- ✿ Yarns A-F – selection of six different coloured green double knit (DK) yarns
- ✿ Yarn G – Small amount of white double knit (DK) yarn for eyes
- ✿ Stitch marker
- ✿ Toy stuffing
- ✿ Darning needle
- ✿ Black embroidery thread
- ✿ 2 x black 5mm press-through toy eyes
- ✿ Scissors

For this project you need six different shades of green double knit yarn, all the same thickness, one for every different section of his body. While Little Lettuce looks like he is constructed in pieces, he is, in fact, made in one long tube starting from the head that increases and decreases as you go along to create the classic caterpillar shape. This project is a good lesson for newbie crocheters who want to practise increasing and decreasing – and, even better, toddlers will love to play with this little fella once he's all hooked up!

HEAD AND BODY

Make 1

Using the 3mm hook, cast on Yarn A and create a magic ring.

Round 1 (Yarn A): 6dc into ring. (6)

Place stitch marker on last stitch and move to last stitch of the new round as you progress.

Round 2: 6inc. (12)

Round 3: (dc, inc) x 6. (18)

Round 4: (2dc, inc) x 6. (24)

Round 5: (3dc, inc) x 6. (30)

Round 6: (4dc, inc) x 6. (36)

Round 7-12: 36dc. (36)

Round 13: (4dc, dec) x 6. (30)

Round 14: (3dc, dec) x 6. (24)

Round 15: (2dc, dec) x 6. (18)

Stuff toy and continue to stuff until end.

Round 16: (1dc, dec) x 6 = 12. Cast off Yarn A.

Round 17 (Yarn B): (1dc, inc) x 6. (18)

Round 18: (2dc, inc) x 6. (24)

Round 19: (3dc, inc) x 6. (30)

Rounds 20-24: 30dc

Round 25: (3dc, dec) x 6. (24)

Round 26: (2dc, dec) x 6. (18)

Round 27: (1dc, dec) x 6. (12)

Cast off Yarn B.

Round 28 (Yarn C): (1dc, inc) x 6. (18)

Round 29: (2dc, inc) x 6. (24)

Round 30: (7dc, inc) x 3. (27)

Rounds 31-34: 27dc. (27)

Round 35: (7dc, dec) x 3. (24)

Round 36: (2dc, dec) x 6. (18)

Round 37: (1dc, dec) x 6. (12) Cast off Yarn C.

Round 38 (Yarn D): (1dc, inc) x 6. (18)

Round 39: (2dc, inc) x 6. (24)

Rounds 40-43: 24dc

IT'S IN THE DETAIL

Make sure you press the washer on the back of the eye firmly. Try to pull the two pieces apart and if you can't, you know it's safe. There are alternative ways to make eyes – some crochet 6dc into a ring, fasten off and sew it on – very quick and effective!



Round 44: (2dc, dec) x 6. (18)

Round 45: (1dc, dec) x 6. (12)

Round 46: (4dc, dec) x 2. (10)

Cast off Yarn D.

Round 47 (Yarn E): (4dc, inc) x 2. (12)

Round 48: (1dc, inc) x 6. (18)

Round 49: (5dc, inc) x 3. (21)

Rounds 50-52: 21dc

Round 53: (5dc, dec) x 3. (18)

Round 54: (1dc, dec) x 6. (12)

Round 55: dec x 6 = 6. Cast off Yarn E

Round 56 (Yarn F): inc x 6. (12)

Round 57: (dc, inc) x 6. (18)

Rounds 58-60: 18dc

Round 61: (dc, dec) x 6. (12)

Round 62: dec x 6. (6)

SUGGESTED YARN

STYLECRAFT SPECIAL DK

100% acrylic

295m per 100g

Machine wash at 40°C

£1.99

www.deramores.com



CUTE CATERPILLAR

Close up hole and cast off yarn.

Sew in all ends of yarn.

Eyes

Make 2

Using a 2.5mm hook and Yarn G (white) create a magic ring.

Round 1: 6dc into ring. (6)

Place stitch marker on last stitch and move to last stitch of the new round as you progress.

Round 2: 6inc. (12)

Round 3: 12dc

Round 4: 12dc, ss

Double knot and cast off. Leave a long end to sew eyes to body when we construct.

Legs

Make 10 legs

Two in each of yarns B-F. Using the 2.5mm

crochet hook, create a magic ring.

Round 1: 5dc into ring = 5 stitches

Place stitch marker on last stitch and move to last stitch of the new round as you progress.

Round 2: 2dc, inc, 2dc. (6)

Round 3: (2dc, inc) x 2. (8)

Round 4: 8dc

Round 5: (2dc, dec) x 2. (6)

Round 6: 6dc. (6)

Round 7: 6dc, ss. (6)

Double knot and leave a long length of yarn to sew legs onto body when we construct. Stuff leg with a small amount of toy stuffing so that the round end is stuffed and the open end is flat.

Antennae

Make 2

Using Yarn A and a 2.5mm crochet hook, create a magic ring.

Round 1: 6dc into ring = 6 stitches

Place stitch marker on last stitch and move to last stitch of the new round as you progress.

Round 2: 6inc (12)

Rounds 3-4: 12dc

Round 5: 6dec. (6)

Round 6: 6dc

Round 7: 6dc

Round 8: 6dc, ss

Double knot and leave a long length of yarn to sew onto the head when we construct. Stuff with a small amount of toy stuffing to fill.

Making up

1. Press the black 5mm press-through eyes through the centre of the white eye parts that you have crocheted. Sew these onto the head of the caterpillar using the photos as a guide. Use a very small amount of toy stuffing in eyes.
2. Sew the two antennae onto the head so that they stand up. Make sure they are well-stuffed so that they stand up properly.
3. Sew the 10 legs onto the body using the photos as a guide. There are six true legs at the front and the other four prolegs sit right at the back of the body. You can then bend the body into a curve or leave him straight. 🐛

Be generous when stuffing antennae to ensure they stand nice and pert!



MORE INFO

Amigurumi Animals by Susan Yeates is a collection of 21 super-sweet, cute crocheted animals for crocheters of all levels.

Visit www.magenta-sky.com for more details.



Fiery friend

This pocket pal by Stephanie Lau
is too cute to be scary!



TOP TIP

*Unlike much
amigurumi, this
dragon's head isn't
ball-shaped.*

YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ Green yarn, such as Patons Fab DK; 1 ball of Lime 02317
- ✿ 2mm steel hook
- ✿ Yarn needle
- ✿ Polyester toy stuffing
- ✿ Beige felt (for wings and scaled body), dark brown felt (for horns), and pink felt (for cheeks)
- ✿ 7.5mm safety eyes
- ✿ Black embroidery floss (for mouth), white embroidery thread (for fang), tan embroidery floss (for scaled body)
- ✿ Glue gun
- ✿ Fabric glue

TENSION

- ✿ Tension is not important

The dragon is a symbol of power, strength and good fortune in Chinese culture, and in this case, it represents masses of sweetness too! Designed by Stephanie Lau, this little critter is packed with cute details and cunning features, including a quartet of conical horns, and two wings made from felt. If you can bear to give him away, this dragon will make a wonderful gift!

PATTERN NOTE

Work in continuous rounds, in a spiral, without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may wish to use a stitch marker to mark the first stitch of the round.

HEAD

Using green yarn, ch7 (Step 1).

Round 1: Starting with second chain from hook, 6dc. Turn and work 6dc along the other side of the foundation ch. (12sts)

(Step 2) We are making an oval by crocheting around the chain.

Round 2: (1 dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. (18sts)

Round 3: (2dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. (24sts)

Round 4: (3dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. (30sts)

Round 5: (4dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. (36sts)

Rounds 6-8: 36dc.

Round 9: (5dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. (42sts)

Round 10: (6dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. (48sts)

Round 11: (7dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. (54sts)

Rounds 12-16: 54dc. (Step 3)

Round 17: (7dc, dc2tog) 6 times. (48sts)

Round 18: 48dc.

Round 19: (4dc, dc2tog) 8 times. (40sts)

Round 20: (2dc, dc2tog) 10 times. (30sts)

Position safety eyes and embroider mouth and fang. (Step 4)

Round 21: (1dc, dc2tog) 10 times. (20sts)

Stuff head firmly.

Round 22: (Dc2tog) 10 times. (10sts)

Round 23: (Dc2tog) 5 times. (5sts)

Fasten off and weave in end. Cut two oval pieces of pink felt and glue onto face as cheeks.



ABOUT THIS YARN

PATONS FAB DK

100% acrylic

100g per 274m

Machine wash at 40°C

www.loveknitting.com

Wings

Make 2

Cut out two isosceles triangles from beige felt. Using same yarn as head, cut 5 pieces of yarn for each wing and splay them outwards from the tip of the triangle. Using fabric glue, secure the yarn in place. (Step 5)
Trim the felt cutting from one piece of yarn to the next and then scallop the edges between the yarn pieces. (Step 6)
Secure wings onto your dragon's head using a glue gun.

Horns

Make 4

Make 2 small and 2 large horns.
With dark brown felt, cut pieces into the shape shown in Step 7 below. Make two larger cones for the back and two smaller cones for the front.
Apply glue with a glue gun and roll into cone shapes. (Step 8)
Glue them onto the dragon's head.

Legs & body

Make 2 legs

Using green yarn, make a magic ring.

Round 1: 6dc in magic ring. (6sts)

Round 2: 2dc in each dc around. (12sts)

Round 3: 12dc.

For the first leg, fasten off (no need to leave long end for sewing). For the second leg, do not cut off the yarn. Ch1 and join with slip stitch to any dc on first leg. *Ss in next dc around on same leg, Chain 1, then slip stitch to next dc on opposite leg; rep from * another 2 times. (Step 9)

The leg joins should take up 4 stitches on each leg, leaving 8 dc on each leg remaining. For the next round, work one complete round around the joined leg pieces as follows:

Round 4: Work 8dc around the leg, 3dc evenly across the join, 8dc around the other leg, 3dc across the join. (22sts)

Rounds 5-12: 22dc.

Fasten off and leave long end for sewing. Sew body to head.

Arms

Make 2

Using green yarn, make a magic ring.

Round 1: 6dc in magic ring. (6sts)

Rounds 2-4: 6dc.

Fasten off and leave long end for sewing. Attach

one to each side of the body.

Tail

Using green yarn, make a magic ring.

Round 1: 4dc in magic ring. (4sts)

Rounds 2-3: 4dc.

Round 4: (1dc, 2dc in next dc) 2 times. (6sts)

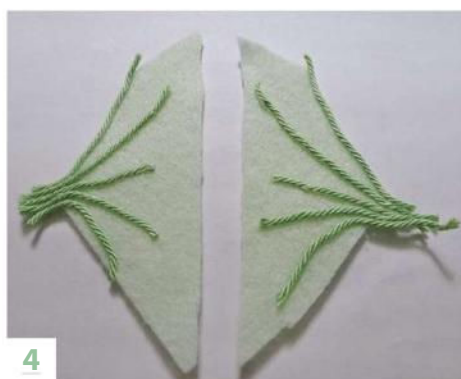
Round 5: (2dc, 2dc in next dc) 2 times. (8sts)

Fasten off and leave long end for sewing. Attach to bottom-back of dragon to help give him balance. If you want your dragon to appear like he is leaning back and about to give out a puff of fire, angle the tail upwards.

(Step 10) Adding scaled detailing to body – cut out shape to fit from beige felt. Wrap tan embroidery floss around felt piece, applying glue dots on the back along the way to secure the thread in place. Glue felt piece with embroidery thread onto body of dragon when complete. 🐉

MORE INFO

This is an original pattern by Stephanie Lau of All About Ami (January 2012). You may not claim it as your own, reprint it, sell or distribute it, or sell items made from it.



So kawaii

Small in stature but big in personality, everyone loves the super-cute trend for amigurumi. We take a look at its origins as well as meeting three of its best designers.

Amigurumi are crocheted or knitted stuffed toys with a big cute factor. They come from Japan – ‘ami’ meaning ‘crocheted or knitted’, and ‘nigurumi’ meaning ‘sew and wrap’. These cute dolls and animals soared in popularity during the 1970s in Japan, and it was from this craft form that the Hello Kitty brand was born.

The toys are characterised by an oversized head, with sweet human-like features and a small cylindrical body with undersized arms and feet, or no limbs at all. Some amigurumi toys just have a head and body that is crocheted as one piece. Animals are the most popular form, but there

are many examples of other items, such as food, furnishings and household accessories, that are given human features.

Quick and easy to make, amigurumi suits beginners because the technique only uses double crochet, and the figures are always small so materials are inexpensive and light to carry around. The dolls and animals are usually worked in the round using double crochet, but some makers prefer to work in a spiral.

Amigurumi uses crochet hooks that are smaller than you might normally choose and the result is a firm, dense fabric. The toys are then stuffed and sewn together – the dense construction means the polyester stuffing doesn’t show. Finally, the details are added to the stuffed forms, to bring the creature to life. The details are often added using embroidery thread, felt or beads. We’ve got plenty of examples of amigurumi in this issue, so let’s meet some of its finest designers.

“The toys are characterised by an oversized head, with sweet human-like features.”



Mei Li Lee

Over in the city of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, a kawaii revolution has been quietly taking place. Fuelled largely by crochet designer Mei Li Lee, it has involved an army of thousands, each only a few inches tall and usually created in pastel shades of yarn. “I’m inspired by anime, so you’ll definitely find nuances of Japanese kawaii in my work,” admits Mei. “I’m all for anthropomorphism and I like giving my dolls child-like expressions, which I ‘steal’ from my little niece!”



Mei’s passion for kawaii, which translates as the ultimate in cute, began in crochet form with amigurumi. “I picked up an amigurumi book from the bookstore while mulling over the craft section. The rest, as they say, is history.” Before long, Mei was inventing crochet versions of all kinds of quirky characters – the majority stem from her own imagination, with a few stalwarts from kawaii culture, too – not least Hello Kitty. “All the dolls I make have a burst of kawaii-ness – that hopelessly cute element that will tug at the heartstrings of people when they see them for



the first time,” she comments. Quirk Books were keen to publish a Hello Kitty-themed amigurumi book: “To tie-in with the not-a-cat-and-yet-not-really-a-girl character’s 40th anniversary celebrations,” Mei explains. Happily for Mei, they found her website, www.amigurumei.com, and decided she was just the designer they wanted. Soon after Mei began sharing her super-cute amigurumi creations with the world, she was invited to write the Craftypedia column for her local newspaper, The Star (take a peek at www.thestar.com.my/Lifestyle/Viewpoints/Craftypedia). “It means I get to dabble in all types of craft and share step-by-step tutorials with our readers, in the hopes of encouraging ever-busy parents to take up crafting with their children.”

DESIGNER INTERVIEW



Sandrine Devezé

Every little thing has personality and charm in the world of Sandrine Devezé. The crochet cushion you lean against may well have ears and a sweet, sleepy expression. The plump pear you reach for might smile right back at you. A giant octopus curls up on the corner of the bed, daydreaming of shoals of fish. It's like entering a place of enchantment. Sandrine's



home is deep in the French Pyrenees, built of stone with bright red shutters thrown open on sunny days. "I discovered crochet in 2009 when Lisenn, my second baby, was two years old," Sandrine remembers. "One day, I saw a wonderful crocheted toy (or doudou, in French) in a store. It was a very colourful little dog. I bought it for Lisenn and it quickly became her favourite toy.

As I could not buy my daughter all the toys in the store, I decided to try to make them myself," she explains with a grin. Sandrine set about teaching herself to crochet. The first crochet item Sandrine made was an amigurumi apple. "The first rows were the most complicated, but as I got used to it, the process began to feel very easy," Sandrine went on to make more fruit, vegetables, cakes and biscuits. Having built up her confidence making food in crochet form, Sandrine began to create the whimsical amigurumi creatures she's now best known for. It was through blogging at www.lisenncabane.canalblog.com that Sandrine's first book, *Sweet Crochet* (*Tendre Crochet* in French), came to be published. Her second book, *Tendre Crochet 2*, was published in France in September 2015 and, says Sandrine, "features some new, surprising and funny characters!"



Stephanie Lau

Light and welcoming, the home of Canadian crochet artist Stephanie Lau is filled with her personality. Stephanie is uncannily energetic, eagerly talking about her love of amigurumi. "I always loved crafts as a child," she enthuses. "I learnt how to knit and crochet when I was 10, making stuffed animals and sweaters for my teddy bears." At high school and then university,

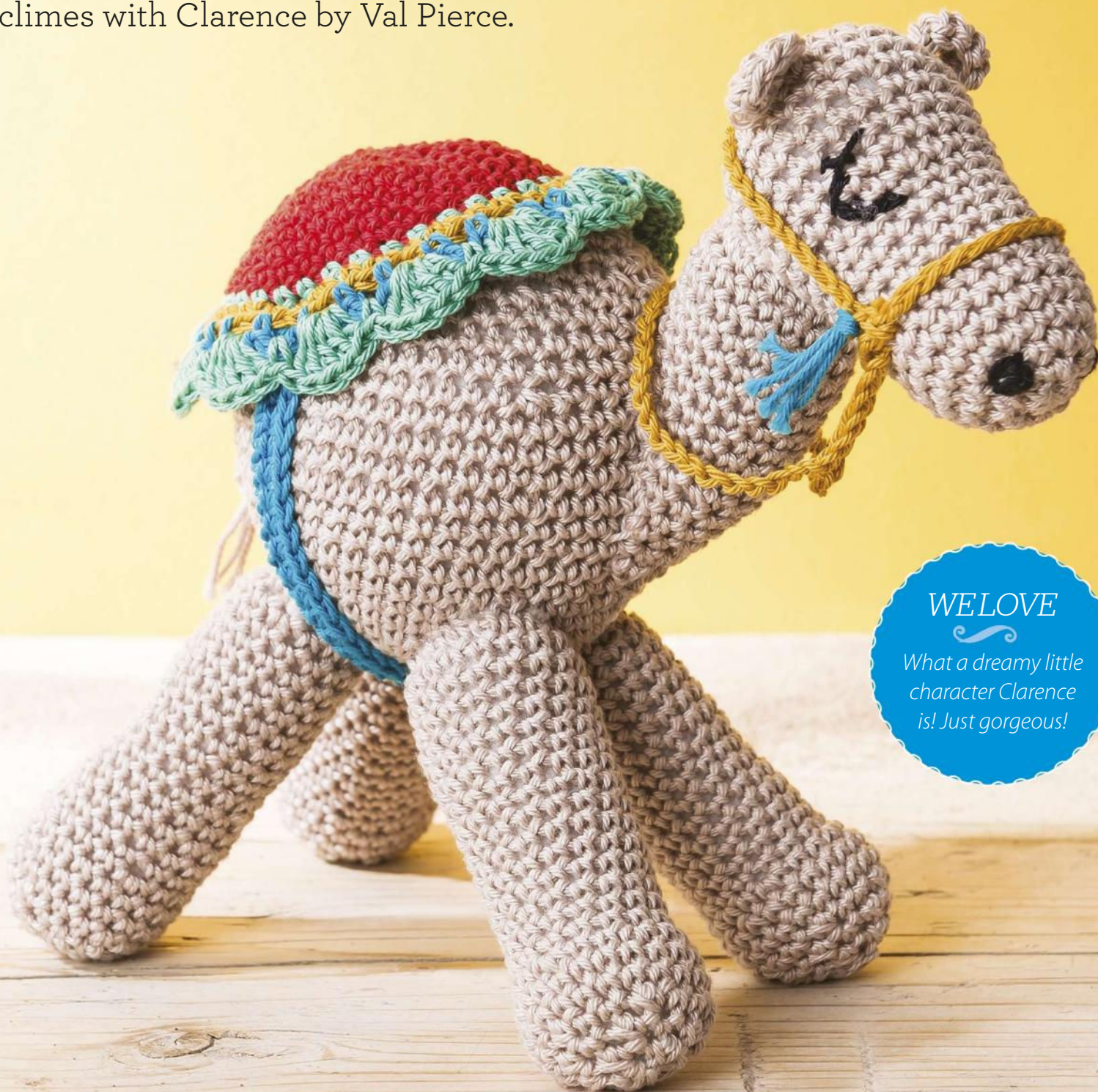


however, crafting took a back seat as she focused on her studies. "It wasn't until after I got married and started working that I delved back into my old hobbies, and discovered amigurumi. I found pictures of adorable stuffed crocheted animals online, from Star Wars characters to cupcake bears. They were all incredibly cute with their typically oversized heads and undersized

extremities – it amazed me that people could design and make such cute creations, simply using yarn and a crochet hook!" Stephanie developed her new skills, and the next step was making creatures of her own. "Designing amigurumi really stretches my creativity when I'm figuring out how I want it to look and what shapes I need. It can be time-consuming because I'm meticulous when writing out my patterns, but it's exciting seeing it all come together!" Through being an avid blog follower, Stephanie has founded her own – www.AllAboutAmi.com, which features technique guides to aid other amigurumi enthusiasts. "I thought people might benefit from seeing the step-by-step making instead of just the pattern and final product. It breaks the whole process down so people can see what a project looks like from start to finish."

Cute camel

Take your imagination to exotic climes with Clarence by Val Pierce.



WE LOVE

What a dreamy little character Clarence is! Just gorgeous!

YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ 1 x 100g ball Sirdar Cotton DK in Beige (0504)
Oddments of Red, Green, Gold, Turquoise and Black
- ✿ 3.5mm hook
- ✿ Safety stuffing

TENSION

- ✿ Not important for this project

ABBREVIATIONS

- ✿ Turn to page 90

Who could resist falling in love with Clarence the camel? He's got a wonderfully doleful expression and even, dare we suggest, a little sleepy? He'd look great sitting on a child's bedroom shelf. Don't forget that you need to stuff the body and head as you go along – the last thing you want is a floppy camel!

Body

Begin at the base of the body.

Using Beige and size 3.5mm hook make 2ch, work 6dc into 2nd ch from hook. join into a circle with a sl st.

Next round: work 2dc into each dc to end, join with s sl st. (12dc)

Next round: * 1dc in to next dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (18dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 2 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (24dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 3 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (30dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 4 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (36dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 5 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (42dc)

Next round: 1dc into each of next 6 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (48dc)

Work 6 rounds in dc, joining as before.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 6 dc, dc 2tog * repeat from * to * to end, join as before. (42dc)

Work 4 rounds in dc, joining as before.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 4 dc, dc 2tog * repeat from * to * to end, join as before. (35dc)

Work 2 rounds in dc.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 5 dc, dc 2tog * repeat from * to * to end, join as before. (30dc)

Work 1 round in dc

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 3dc, dc2tog * repeat from * to * to end. Join as

before. (24dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each next dc, dc2tog * rep from * to * to end, join as before. (16dc)

Next round: * dc 2tog * rep from * to * all around. (8dc)

Next round: * dc 2tog *, 4times. (4dc)
Fasten off.

Head

Using Beige and 3.5mm hook make 2ch, work 8dc into 2nd ch from hook, join with a sl st into a circle.

Next round: 1ch, work 2dc into each dc to end, join with a sl st to beg of round. (16dc)

Next round: 1ch, * 1dc into each of next 3dc, 2dc into next dc *, rep from * to * all around, join as before. (20dc)

Work a further 12 rounds of dc, joining each round as before.

Next round: 1ch, * 1dc into each of next 4 dc, 2dc into next dc * rep from * to * all around. (24dc)

Work 4 rounds in dc, joining as before.

Next round: 1ch, * 1dc into each of next 5 dc, 2dc into next dc * rep from * to * all around. (28dc)

Work 3 rounds in dc, joining as before.

Next round: 1ch, * 1dc into each of next 2dc, dc2tog * rep from * to * to end, join as before. (21dc)

Next round: 1ch, * 1dc into next dc, dc2tog * rep from * to * to end, join as before. (14 dc)

Next round: 1ch, * dc2tog * rep from * to * all around join as before. (7dc)

Break yarn and fasten off leaving a 5cm tail.

Thread tail into needle and then run thread through last round of stitches, draw up and fasten off.

ABOUT THIS YARN

SIRDAR COTTON DK

100% cotton

212m per 100g

Machine wash at 40°C

www.sirdar.co.uk



*Val's choice of colours
are evocative of the
Middle East*

Ears

Make 2

Using Beige and 3.5mm hook make 2 ch.

Work 8 dc into 2nd ch from hook. Turn

Next row: work 1dc into each dc to end. Turn.

Repeat last row one more time and fasten off.

Neck

Using 3.5mm hook and Beige make 22ch, join into a circle with a sl st.

Round 1: work 1dc into each ch to end, join with a sl st.

Work a further 14 rounds of dc, joining each round as before.

Next round: *1dc into each of next 2 dc, dc2tog *, rep to last 2dc, 1dc into each dc, join as before. (17dc)

Work 2 rounds in dc, joining as before.

Next round: *1dc into next dc, dc2tog *, rep

from * to * to last 2st, 1dc into each dc, joining as before. (12dc)

Next round: * dc2tog * rep from * to * all around, join as before. 6dc. Break yarn and fasten off. Using the tail of yarn close the small hole at the end of the neck.

Legs

Make 4

Using 3.5mm hook and Beige make 16 ch, Join into a circle with a sl st.

Work 1dc into each ch to end, join with a sl st. (16dc)

Next round: 1 dc into each dc to end, join with a sl st.

Work a further 17 rows.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 3dc, 2dc into next dc * rep from * to * 3 times more. (20dc). Work 3 rounds dc on these sts.

Now decrease for base.

Next round: * dc 2, dc 2tog, * rep from * to * 4 more times. (15dc)

Next round: * dc 1, dc2tog * rep from * to * 4 more times. (10dc)

Next round: work in dc

Next round: *Dc2tog* rep from * to * all around. 5dc. Fasten off. Run thread neatly through last round and draw up to close base.

Halter and lead rein

Using 3.5mm hook and gold yarn make a chain long enough to fit around the camel's nose and then around back of head. Use photo as a guide to help when sewing in place. Make a longer chain for the lead rein.

Tail

Using 3.5mm hook and beige yarn, make 15 chain, work 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, turn. Work 1 dc into each dc to end, fasten off. Take a few lengths of beige and add to one end of the camel's tail.

Back cloth

Using Red and size 3.5mm hook make 2ch, work 6dc into 2nd ch from hook. join into a circle with a sl st.

Next round: work 2dc into each dc to end, join with s sl st. (12dc)

Next round: * 1dc in to next dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (18dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 2 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (24dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 3 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (30dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 4 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (36dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 5 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join

Work 2 more rounds in red.

Join in green and work, * 1dc, 1ch, miss 1 dc, repeat from * to end, join with a sl st.

Join gold and work, * 1dc in first space, 2dc in next space, rep from * to end, join with a sl st.

Join in turquoise.

Next round: Work 1dc in first dc, 2ch, miss 1 dc, 2ch, miss 1 dc, work 1dc into next dc. Join in green.

Next round: * 5tr in next 2ch loop, 1dc, into next 2ch loop, rep from * all around join with a sl st and fasten off.

Under body strap

Using 3.5mm hook make 38 ch using turquoise. Work 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each dc to end, turn

Next row: Work 1dc into each dc to end. Fasten off.

TO ASSEMBLE

Make the head first. The widest part is the back of the head. Take the ears and curl them into

semi circles, sew one to each side of the head. Using black yarn embroider an eye onto each side, use photograph as a guide. Embroider nostrils onto the camel's nose. Take the gold chain halter and sew in place on the head. The tassels are made by winding a few lengths of yarn together and knotting them. Attach a tassel to each side of the halter. Add the lead rein to the sides of the head.

The body and head will already be stuffed. Stuff each leg firmly, but don't close the tops. Stuff the neck quite firmly, again do not close the top. This is the part of the neck that you will sew the head onto. Take the body and pin the legs in place onto the base. Angle them outwards slightly to make the camel stand well. Get the legs all level if you can. Sew each one in place. Take the neck and sew the head to the open

end, the head should sit onto the neck. Sew in place. Carefully pin the neck onto the front of the body, sew firmly in place. Attach the tail to the back of the camel. Place the back cloth onto the back of the camel, sew neatly in place. Sew the under body strap in place. 🧡



Use double crochet in the round over four colours to make Clarence's jaunty cloth



BUNNY RABBIT



WE LOVE

*Have fun working
Josephine's dress
in any colours that
you like*

Bunny love

Simple and sweet, Josephine rabbit is a dream to hook. By Sandrine Deveze

YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ 1 ball size 3 white cotton crochet thread
- ✿ 1 ball size 3 grey cotton crochet thread
- ✿ 1 ball size 3 silver metallic thread
- ✿ Dark purple embroidery thread
- ✿ 3mm crochet hook
- ✿ 2 plastic safety eyes, black, 6mm
- ✿ 1 tapestry or wool needle
- ✿ 1 sewing needle
- ✿ 1 pair scissors
- ✿ Stitch markers
- ✿ Kapok or synthetic stuffing

FINISHED SIZE

33 x 9 cm

TENSION

Not important for this project

ABOUT THIS YARN

DMC PETRA 3

100% cotton

www.dmccreative.co.uk

We often think that simple is best and Sandrine has created a rabbit with delicate features and lots of expression. She's also a stylish bunny and her dresses and accessories really help to create this character. "With her little grey dress, delicate bonnet, and jaunty bow tie, Josephine's slightly modern, trendy look has made her an all-time favourite with my oldest daughter, six-year-old Lisenn," says Sandrine. This pattern is for the Josephine with the grey dress.

JOSEPHINE RABBIT

Head

Use the white colourway

Round 1: ch 2, then add 6 dc in the 1st ch.

Round 2: inc 1 in each dc in previous round. (12dc)

Round 3: *dc 1 in next st, inc 1 in next st*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (18dc)

Round 4: *dc 2, inc 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (24dc)

Round 5: *dc 3, inc 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (30dc)

Round 6: *dc 4, inc 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (36dc)

Round 7: *dc 5, inc 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (42dc)

Round 8: dc 1 in each of the 42 dc in previous round. (42dc)

Round 9: *dc 6, inc 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (48dc)

Round 10: *dc 7, inc 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (54dc)

Rounds 11-17: dc 1 in each of the 54 dc in previous round. (54dc)

Round 18: *dc 7, dec 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (48dc)

Round 19: *dc 6, dec 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (42dc)

Round 20: *dc 5, dec 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (36dc)

Round 21: *dc 4, dec 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (30dc)

Round 22: *dc 3, dec 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (24dc)

At the end of this round, clip in the plastic safety eyes between the 13th and 14th rounds, leaving a 4-5 cm gap between them.

*Begin stuffing the head.

Round 23: *dc 2, dec 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (18dc)

Round 24: *dc 1, dec 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (12dc)

*Finish stuffing the head.

Round 25: dec 6. (6dc)

Round 26: dec 3 to close the head.

Finish with 1 sl st and break yarn.

Using the purple embroidery thread and a tapestry needle, embroider an X in the middle of the rabbit's head (A).

Legs

Use the white colourway

Use the white colourway to make the legs.

Round 1: ch 2, then add 6 dc in the 1st ch.

Round 2: inc 1 in each dc in previous round. (12dc)

Round 3: *dc 1 in next st, inc 1 in next st*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (18dc)

Rounds 4-35: dc 1 in each of the 18 dc in previous round. (18dc)

Finish with 1 sl st and break yarn. Make a second identical leg. Do not break yarn. Stuff the legs.



Body

Use the white colourway to make the torso and, beginning in round 5, the grey colourway, doubled with the silver thread.

Round 1: place the first leg next to the second leg to bring them together. From the second leg, insert the hook into the first stitch of the first leg (**B**) and dc 1 in each of the 18 dc of the first leg, then dc 1 in each of the 18 dc of the 2nd leg (this gives us $18 + 18 = 36$ dc).

Rounds 2-6: dc 1 in each of the 36 dc in previous round. (36dc)

Use the grey colourway doubled with the silver thread beginning in round 5.

Round 7: dc 1 in each of the 36dc in previous round, but insert the hook into a strand at the back of the stitch. This will make attaching the skirt onto this row of stitches much easier. (36dc) (**C**)

Round 8: dc 1 in each of the 36 dc in previous round. (36dc)

Round 9: dc 11, dec 1, dc 15, dec 1, dc 6. (34dc)

Rounds 10-12: dc 1 in each of the 34 dc in



previous round. (34dc)

Round 13: dc 11, dec 1, dc 15, dec 1, dc 4. (32dc).

Rounds 14-21: dc 1 in each of the 32 dc in previous round. (32 dc).

Round 22: dc 12, dec 1, dc 14, dec 1, dc 2. (30dc)

Stuff the torso.

Round 23: dc 1 in each of the 30 dc in previous round (= 30dc)

Round 24: *dc 3, dec 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (24dc)

Rounds 25-26: dc 1 in each of the 24 dc in previous round. (24dc)

Round 27: *dc 2, dec 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (18dc)

***Finish stuffing the torso.**

Finish with 1 sl st and break yarn.

Skirt

Use the grey colourway doubled with the silver thread.

Round 1: around the middle of the back, insert the hook into a strand at the back of a stitch in the 7th round of the torso. *dc 1, inc 1*, repeat 17 more times from * to * all around the torso. (54dc) (**D, E**)

Rounds 2-8: dc 1 in each of the 54 dc in previous round. (54dc)

Finish with 1 sl st and break yarn.

Arms

Use the white colourway. Beginning in the 5th round, switch to the grey colourway doubled with the silver thread.

Round 1: ch 2, then add 6 dc in the 1st ch.



Round 2: inc 1 in each dc in previous round. (12dc)

Round 3: *dc 2, inc 1*, repeat 3 more times from * to *. (16dc)

Rounds 4-5: dc 1 in each of the 16 dc in previous round. (16dc)

Change colour in the fifth round.

Round 6: *dc 3, dec 1*, repeat 2 more times from * to *, and finish the round with dc 1. (13dc)

Rounds 7-29: dc 1 in each of the 13 dc in previous round. (13dc)

Finish with 1 sl st and break yarn.

Make a second identical arm.

Do not stuff the arms.

Ears

Use the white colourway

Round 1: ch 2, then add 6 dc in the 1st ch.

Round 2: dc 1 in each of the 6 dc in previous round. (6dc)

Round 3: inc 1 in each dc in previous round. (12dc)

Round 4: dc 1 in each of the 12 dc in previous round. (12dc)

Round 5: *dc 1, inc 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (18dc)

Rounds 6-9: dc 1 in each of the 18 dc in previous round. (18dc)

Round 10: *dc 3, dec 1*, repeat 2 more times from * to *, and finish the round with dc 1, dec 1. (14dc)

Rounds 11-12: dc 1 in each of the 14 dc in previous round. (14dc)

Round 13: *dc 1, dec 1*, repeat 3 more times from * to *, and finish the round with dc 2.

(10dc)

Round 14: dc 1 in each of the 10 dc in previous round. (10dc)

Finish with 1 sl st and break yarn.

Make a second identical ear.

Do not stuff the ears.

Bonnet

Use the white colourway.

Round 1: ch 2, then add 6 dc in the 1st ch.

Round 2: inc 1 in each dc in previous round.

(12dc)

Round 3: *dc 1 in next st, inc 1 in next st*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (18 dc)

Round 4: *dc 2, inc 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (24dc)

Round 5: *dc 3, inc 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (30dc).

Round 6: *dc 4, inc 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (= 36dc)

Round 7: *dc 5, inc 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (= 42dc)

Round 8: *dc 6, inc 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (= 48dc)

Round 9: *dc 7, inc 1*, repeat 5 more times from * to *. (= 54dc)

Rounds 10-13: dc 1 in each of the 54 dc in previous round (= 54dc).

Row 14: beginning here, work in back-and-forth crochet until the bonnet is completed. Dc 46, then ch 1, then turn the work. (46 dc)

Row 15: dc 46, ch 1, turn the work. (46 dc)

Rows 16-18: dc 46, ch 1, turn the work. (46 dc)

Row 19: this row corresponds to the two openings for the ears. Dc 16, ch 5, skip 5 stitches, dc 4 (after the 5 skipped stitches), ch 5,



skip 5 stitches, dc 16, ch 1, turn the work.

(46dc) **(F)**

Rows 20-23: dc 46, ch 1, turn the work. (46 dc)

Finish with 1 sl st and break yarn.

Bow tie

To make the bow tie, ch 14 in the colourway of your choice. Work in back-and-forth crochet, beginning each row with ch 1 to obtain the height of the first dc.

Row 1: dc 1 in each ch of the chain.

Rows 2-12: dc 1 in each of the 14 dc in previous round (= 14 dc). Finish with 1 sl st. Break yarn, leaving a tail no less than 40 cm (15.75") long. Using a tapestry needle, bring the yarn to the center of the crocheted rectangle **(G)** and roll it around to shape the bow tie. Bring the initial yarn to the center as well, and knot the two together **(H)**.



VARIATION

You might like to replace the little crocheted bow tie with a pretty floral scarf. Simply cut a strip of fabric approximately 1.5 x 30 cm. 🌸

MORE INFO

This adorable rabbit is taken from *Sweet Crochet* by Sandrine Deveze (published by Pauper Press at £9.99. Visit www.peterpauper.com for more.



ASSEMBLY

Gather together all pieces for assembly. Begin by joining the head to the body, stitch for stitch, using a tapestry needle. Next, attach the arms at the height of the penultimate round of the rabbit's body.

Sew the ears to the top of the rabbit's head, at the height of the 4th round. Place the bonnet and sew the bow tie onto the neck. Colour in the cheeks.

Tip: Make sure the head is tightly stuffed. To ensure proper placement, adjust the bonnet on the rabbit's head before joining the head to the body. If the bonnet is too loose, add some extra stuffing into the head and pack it in tightly.



Be careful not to overstuff the torso. Keep her nice and slim!

TOP TIP

Over stuff Chiyo-chan just a little bit to keep her perky and wide awake!

Rosy girl

Cute, quirky and very cool
– we're going ga ga over Chiyo-chan. By Mei Li Lee.



YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ 4ply yarn in cream, burgundy, white and dark brown
- ✿ A 1.75mm hook
- ✿ A 2.5mm hook
- ✿ Black sewing thread
- ✿ 2 black doll's eyes, 4mm diam
- ✿ Polyester toy stuffing
- ✿ Small pieces of felt in pink and white for cheeks and collar
- ✿ Craft glue

MEASUREMENT

- ✿ Approx 8cm tall

ABBREVIATIONS

- ✿ Inv dec invisible decrease: Insert your hook into the front loop of the first st. Without putting the yarn round the hook, bring the hook to the front of the work and insert the hook into the front loop of the next st (3 loops on hook). Yrh and draw through all 3 loops.

Anyone new to amigurumi will really enjoy making this lovely little doll who measures just 8cm tall. She's easy to create using simple double crochet stitches, worked with small crochet hooks, and is made up of several different pieces before being carefully stitched together. Tiny felt cheeks and a collar bring Chiyo-chan to life, ready for all sorts of adventures!

PATTERN NOTE

The pattern is worked in rounds. Work stitches continuously in a spiral without closing each round with a slip stitch. To keep on track, it may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you go along.

Head

With 2.5mm hook and cream yarn, make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. (6sts)

Round 1: *2dc in next st; rep from * another 5 times. (12 sts)

Round 2: *2dc in next st, 1dc; rep from * another 5 times. (18sts)

Round 3: *2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (24sts)

Round 4: *2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (30sts)

Round 5: *2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (36sts)

Round 6: *2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (42sts)

Round 7: *2dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (48sts) **01**

Rounds 8-14: Dc in each st to end. (48 sts)

Round 15: *Inv dec, dc in next 6 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (42sts)

Round 16: *Inv dec, dc in next 5 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (36sts)

Round 17: *Inv dec, dc in next 4 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (30sts)

Round 18: *Inv dec, dc in next 3 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (24sts)

Round 19: *Inv dec, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (18sts)

* Stuff head

Round 20: *Inv dec, dc in next st; rep from * another 5 times. (12sts)

Round 21: *Inv dec; rep from * another 5 times. (6sts)

Fasten off and thread tail of yarn through remaining stitches to close.

Do not cut off the thread.

Face

Eye indentations

With a tapestry needle, bring the remaining thread out to a stitch on the left side of the head, positioning it at the bottom of Round 12. Make one horizontal stitch and bring the thread back down to the bottom of the head. Gently tug on the yarn to create a slight indentation. Now repeat with the right side of the head – there should be

ABOUT THIS YARN

DEBBIE BLISS ECO BABY

100% cotton
125m per 50g

www.designeryarns.uk.com



1



2



7 stitches in between the indentations. Fasten off ends at the bottom of the head.

Facial features

Add craft glue to doll's eyes and pop them in where the indentations are. With black sewing thread, bring the thread through from the bottom of the doll's head to the centre of the face, between the eyes. Make a small horizontal stitch – this will be the nose. For the mouth, bring the thread through two stitches below the nose and make a vertical stitch. Bring the thread back down to the bottom of the head. Fasten off ends. **02**

Body

With 2.5mm hook and white yarn, make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. (6sts)

Round 1: *2dc in next st; rep from * another 5 times. (12sts)

Round 2: *2dc in next st, dc in next st; rep from * another 5 times. (18sts)

Round 3: *2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (24sts)

Rounds 4-5: Dc in each st to end. (24sts)

Round 6 Dc in the front loop of each st to end. [24sts]

***Change colour to cream.**

Round 7: Dc in the back loop of each st to end. (24sts)

Rounds 8-9: Dc in each st to end. (24sts)

Round 10: *Inv dec, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (18sts)

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Dress

Turn the body upside down.

With 2.5mm hook and burgundy yarn, make a

slipknot on your hook. You're going to surface crochet on the body – do this by inserting the hook in between two stitches and bringing it out in the next gap between two stitches, from right to left. Yrh and draw the loop through the stitches. Yrh again and bring the yarn through the loops to complete the stitch.

Foundation round: Surface crochet dc around each st of Round 10 of the body. (18sts) **03**

Rounds 1-2: Dc in each st to end. (18sts)

Round 3: *2dc in next st, dc in next st; rep from * another 8 times. (27sts)

Rounds 4-7: Dc in each st to end. (27sts)

Fasten off and leave a long end for sewing. Thread the yarn through to the opening of the body. Stuff body.

Arms

With 1.75mm hook and cream yarn, make a magic loop, ch1, 8dc in loop. (8sts)

Rounds 1-2: *Dc in each st to end. (8sts)

Change colour to burgundy.

Rounds 3-6: *Dc in each st to end. (8sts)

Fasten off and leave a long end for sewing.

Legs

With 1.75mm hook and cream yarn, make a magic loop, ch1, 8dc in loop. (8sts)

Rounds 1-4: *Dc in each st to end. (8sts)

Fasten off and leave a long end for sewing. **04**

Hair

With 2.5mm hook and dark brown yarn, make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. (6sts)

Round 1: *2dc in next st; rep from * another 5 times. (12sts)

Round 2: *2dc in next st, dc in next st; rep from *

another 5 times. (18sts)

Round 3: *2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (24sts)

Round 4: *2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (30sts)

Round 5: *2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (36sts)

Round 6: *2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (42sts)

Round 7: *2dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts; rep from * another 5 times. (48sts)

Rounds 8-10: Dc in each st to end. (48sts)

Now you're going to work back in forth in rows to give the hair length.

Row 11: Dc in the next 33 sts, turn. (33sts)

Rows 12-18: Ch1 (does not count as st) 33dc, turn. **05**

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Pin the pieces in place to gauge where each part should go.

Sew the body onto the head.

Sew on the arms and legs.

Glue on the hair.

Cut out two small ovals of pink felt and glue them onto the cheeks.

Cut out two half circles of white felt and glue them on as a collar for the dress. **06**

MORE INFO

This is an original pattern by Mei Li Lee of www.AmigurumiMEI.com. You may not claim it as your own, reprint it, sell or distribute it, or sell any items made from it.



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Sweet as honey

Everyone loves a honey bear! Make this classic design to cuddle and love. By Val Pierce.

TOP TIP

Use plenty of toy stuffing in your bear's arms to keep them nice and firm



YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ 2 x 100g balls Sirdar Cotton DK in shade 0505 Brown
- 1 x 100 g ball Sirdar Cotton DK in shade 0504 Beige
- Small amounts of green, cream, yellow, gold and black Cotton DK
- ✿ 3mm crochet hook
- ✿ Toy stuffing

TENSION

- ✿ Tension is not important

ABBREVIATIONS

- ✿ Turn to page 90

A dapper honey bear will make a welcome addition to any toy box, and this one by Val Pierce is lovely and squishy, making him the ideal pal for anyone who loves a hug. We've included the full instructions to crochet a honey bee and honey pot too, so you can make him with all the trimmings for extra appeal!

PATTERN NOTE

Remember to stuff the body and head pieces as you make them.

Body

You will begin at the base of the body.

Using Beige and 3mm hook make 2ch, work 6dc into 2nd ch from hook. join into a circle with a sl st.

Next round: work 2dc into each dc to end, join with s sl st. (12dc)

Next round: * 1dc in to next dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (18dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 2 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (24dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 3 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (30dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 4 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (36dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 5 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (42dc)

Next round: 1dc into each of next 6 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (48dc)

Next round: 1dc into each of next 7 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (54dc)

Next round: 1dc into each of next 8 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (60dc)

Next round: 1dc into each of next 9 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (66dc)

Next round: 1dc into each of next 10 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before.

(72 dc). Work 26 rounds in dc

Decrease for top

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 4dc, dc2tog,* repeat from * to end join with a sl st

Next round: work in dc.

Next round: * 1dc in each of next 3dc, dc2tog * repeat from * to end. Join as before

Next round: work in dc

Next round: * 1 dc in each of next 2dc, dc2tog, * repeat from * to end. Join as before.

Next round: work in dc.

Next round: * 1dc in next dc, dc2tog * repeat from * to end. Join as before.

Next round: dc2tog all around. Fasten off.

Head

You will begin at top of head.

Using Beige and size 3mm hook make 2ch, work 6dc into 2nd ch from hook. join into a circle with a sl st.

Next round: work 2dc into each dc to end, join with s sl st. (12dc)

Next round: * 1dc in to next dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (18dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 2 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (24dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 3 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (30dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 4 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (36dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 5 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (42dc)

Next round: 1dc into each of next 6 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end. Join as before. (48dc)

ABOUT THIS YARN

SIRDAR COTTON DK

100% cotton
212m per 100g
Machine wash at 40°C
www.sirdar.co.uk



Next round: 1dc into each of next 7 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (54dc)

Next round: 1dc into each of next 8 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (60dc). Work 12 rounds of dc. Decrease for base of head.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 4dc, dc2tog,* repeat from * to end. Join.

Next round: work in dc.

Next round: * 1dc in each of next 3dc, dc2tog * repeat from * to end. Join.

Next round: work in dc

Next round: * 1 dc in each of next 2dc, dc2tog, * repeat from * to end. Join

Next round: work in dc.

Next round: * 1dc in next dc, dc2tog * repeat from * to end. Join.

Next round: dc2tog all around. Fasten off. (10sts)

Arms

Make 2 alike

Remember to stuff arms as you work.

Using Beige and 3mm hook make 2ch, work 6dc into 2nd ch from hook. Join into a circle with a sl st.

Next round: work 2dc into each dc to end, join with s sl st. (12dc)

Next round: * 1dc in to next dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (18 dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 2 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (24dc)

Work 22 rounds of dc.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 2dc, dc2tog * repeat from * to end. Join.

Next round: work in dc.

Next round: * 1dc into next dc, dc2tog * repeat from * to end. Join.

Next round: work in dc.

Next round: dc2tog all around. Fasten off. Join.

Paw pads

Make 2 alike

Using beige and 3mm hook make 9 ch.

Work 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, turn.

Work 4 rows in dc.

Now decrease 1 st at each end of every row until 2dc remain.

Fasten off.

Legs

Make 2 alike

Using Brown and size 3mm hook make 2ch, work 6dc into 2nd ch from hook. join into a circle with a sl st.

Next round: work 2dc into each dc to end, join with s sl st. (12dc)

Next round: * 1dc in to next dc, 2dc into next

dc * repeat to end, join as before. (18 dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 2 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (24dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 3 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (30dc)

Work 14 rounds in dc.

Shape foot

Next round: work 10 dc, inc in each of next 10 dc, work 10 dc.

Work 4 rounds of dc.

Decrease for foot.

Next round: work 10 dc, dc2tog 10 times, work 10 dc.

Next 2 rounds: work in dc. Fasten off.

Foot pads

Make 2 alike

Using beige and 3m hook make 2ch, work 6dc into 2nd ch from hook, join with a sl st.

Next round: work 2dc into each dc to end. Join as before.

Next round: * 1dc into next dc, 2dc into next dc * rep from * to end.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 2dc, 2dc into next dc * rep from * to end.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 3dc, 2dc into next dc *, rep from * to end. Fasten off.

Ears

Make 2 in Brown and 2 in Beige

Using correct shade and 3mm hook make 9 ch, Work 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end. Turn.

Work 1 row in dc.

Next row: increase in each st to end.

Work 4 rows in dc.

Decrease 1 st at each end of every row to 4dc.

Fasten off.

Muzzle

Using Beige and size 3mm hook make 2ch, work 6dc into 2nd ch from hook. join into a circle



You can change the colour of the bow tie to match your recipient's favourite shades

HONEY BEAR

with a sl st.

Next round: work 2dc into each dc to end, join with s sl st. (12dc)

Next round: * 1dc in to next dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (18dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 2 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (24dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 3 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (30dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 4 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (36dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 5 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (42dc)

Work 5 more rounds in dc. Fasten off.

Nose

Using black and 3mm hook make 9 ch.

Work 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end. Turn.

Next row: work 1dc into each dc to end, turn.

Repeat last row twice more.

Decrease 1 st at each end of every row until 2dc remain.

Next Row: dc2tog and fasten off.

Bow tie

Using green and hook size 3.00m make 9ch,

Work 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end. Turn.

Next row: work 1dc into each dc, to end. Turn.

Repeat last row another 46 times and fasten off.

Neck band

Using green and 3mm hook make 43 ch

Work 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each dc to end. Turn.

Next row: work 1dc into each dc to end, Turn.

Repeat last row one more time. Fasten off.

Bee

Using 3mm hook and yellow make 2ch, work 6dc into 2nd ch from hook, join with a sl st.

Next round: work 2dc into each dc to end. Join.

Join in black and work 1 round in dc. Join.

Join in yellow and work 2 rounds dc. Join.

Join in black and work 1 round in dc. Join.

Join in yellow and work 1 round in dc. Join.

Join in black and work 1 round in dc. Join.

Next round: dc2tog all around and fasten off.

Wings

Using cream and 3mm hook make 3ch, work 15tr into 3rd ch from hook. Fasten off.

HONEY POT

Using gold and 3mm hook make 2ch, work 6dc into 2nd ch from hook, join into a circle with a sl st.

Next round: work 2dc into each dc to end, join with s sl st. (12dc)

Next round: * 1dc in to next dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (18dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 2 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (24dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 3 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (30dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 4 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (36dc)

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 5 dc, 2dc into next dc * repeat to end, join as before. (42dc)

Work 10 rounds in dc.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 5dc, dc2tog * , rep from * to end.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 4dc, dc2tog * rep from * to end.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 3dc, dc2tog * rep from * to end.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 2dc, dc2tog * , rep from * to end. Fasten off.

Honey

Using 3mm hook and cream make 2ch, work





If you like, personalise the pot with the name of a child or the bear

6dc into 2nd ch from hook.

Next round: Work 2dc into each dc to end, join as before.

Next round: * 1dc into next dc, 2dc into next dc * rep from * to end. Join.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 2 dc, 2dc into next dc * rep from * to end. join.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 3dc, 2dc into next dc *, rep from * to end. Join.

Next round: * 1dc into each of next 4dc, 2dc into net dc * rep from * to end, join.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Head and body

Stuff head and body firmly, leave small openings at the base of head and top of body. Joins will run down the back of the head and body pieces. This allows the head to sit nicely on top of the body. Sew head in place firmly.

Take muzzle and stuff to form a cup shape. Place onto the front of the head, pin and then sew

carefully in place, adding extra stuffing as needed to give a good shape. Take nose and pin in place on muzzle. Sew in place, pull the fastened off tail of yarn down to the bottom centre of muzzle to shape bear's cheeks, sew firmly in place. Embroider eyes in black on either side of muzzle, using picture as a guide.

Take the ears and sew in pairs of one brown and brown beige. Pin to either side of head and sew in place.

Stuff arms quite firmly. Sew a paw pad to the base of each arm. Using black, embroider claws onto the pads. Sew the arms in place onto either side of the body at shoulder level. Stuff legs through the open base, push extra stuffing into foot part to give shape. Sew a foot pad over the opening on each foot, add more stuffing if needed. Using black, embroider claws. Sew legs onto bear in a sitting position.

Take the bow tie and fold in half lengthways.

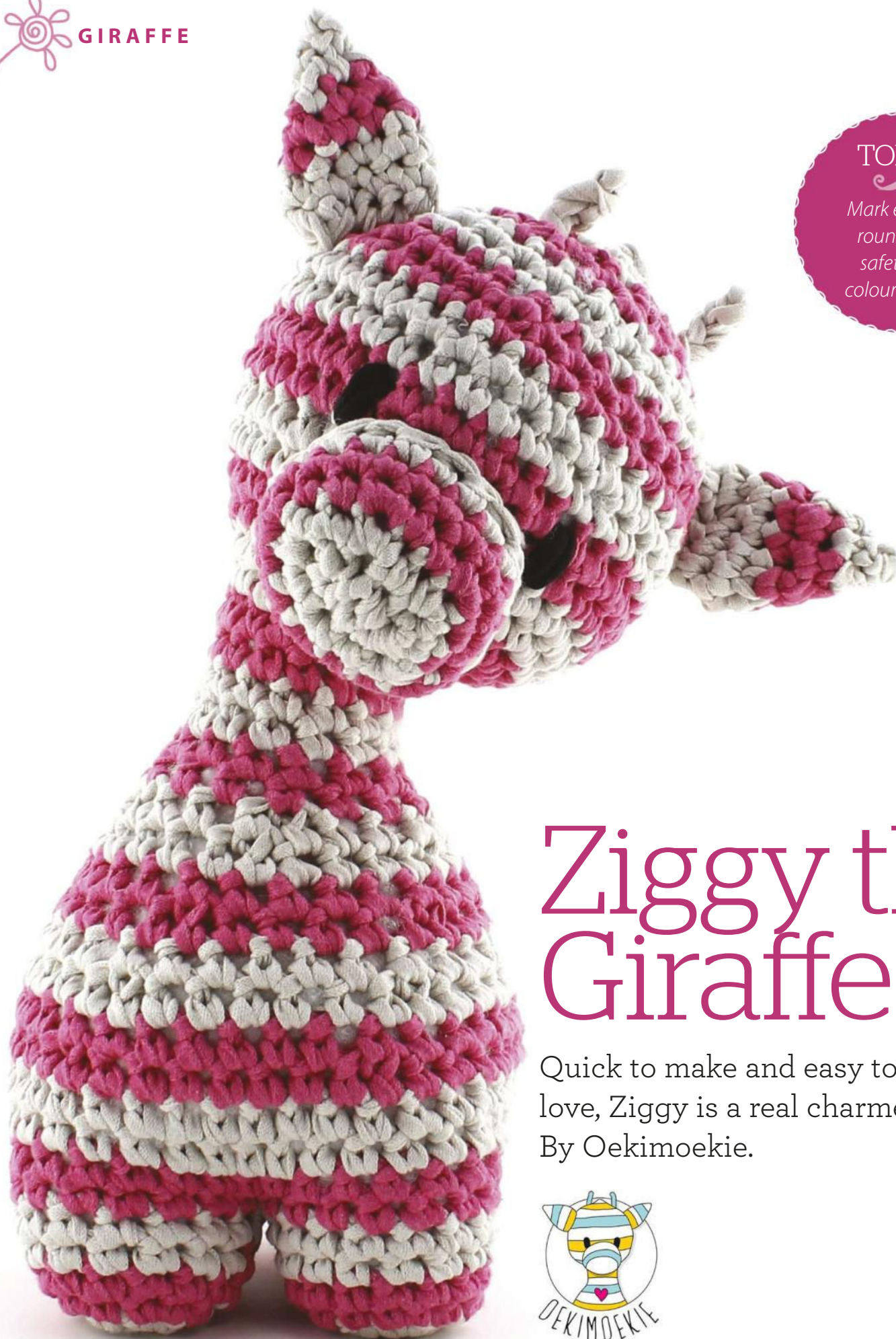
Place the join at the centre back. Gather along the centre back line to form the bow shape. Place the neck band around bear's neck and sew in place. Attach the bow to the front of the neck band.

Stuff the honey pot quite firmly. Place the honey circle down inside the opening of the pot and sew in place. Using gold and 3mm hook make 3ch, work 10 tr into 3rd ch from hook, fasten off. Using tail from fasten off draw up to form a small ball, sew to top of lid.

Stuff bee lightly. Take wings and separate the trebles in half to form the two wings, wind a small amount of cotton around the centre, sew to back of bee. Sew the bee to the bear's paw. 🐝



GIRAFFE



TOP TIP

Mark each new round with a safety pin or coloured thread

Ziggy the Giraffe

Quick to make and easy to love, Ziggy is a real charmer.
By Oekimoekie.



YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ 2 x balls of Hooooked Ribbon XL in Pink & Grey
- ✿ 1m of Hooooked Ribbon XL in Black
- ✿ 9mm hook

TENSION

Tension is unimportant

COLOUR CHANGE

Change colour at the end of each 2nd row. Start the last dc of the round as usual but complete the stitch by taking the new colour and pull it through the last 2 loops. You will get a nice and clean colour change. Now crochet along with the 'new' colour. Do not cut the threads at the end of the row, just put it to one side. When you are ready for this colour again you just pick the thread up and crochet along.



ABOUT THIS YARN

HOOOOKED RIBBON XL

80% cotton; 20% synthetic
120m per 250g
£8.50
www.lovecrochet.com

What a cutie! This adorable stripy giraffe has plenty of character and is a breeze to make. We suggest that you work this design in a spiral, which means that you work the crochet round and round from the centre without starting/ finishing each round with a slip stitch and chain stitch (so you don't get a seam). Always crochet the number of stitches indicated for each round and don't start the next round until you have the exact number of stitches.

FEET, BODY & HEAD

Crochet 4 feet

Make 2ch.

Round 1: work 5dc in the second ch from the hook.

Round 2: *2dc in the next 5 sts* repeat from * to *. (10dc)

Round 3: *1dc, 2dc in the next st* repeat from * to *. (15dc)

Rounds 4-6: work dc all around. (15dc)

Fasten off 3 feet leaving a long length of yarn for each foot. The feet will be sewn together in the centre, using this extra thread. Do not finish the final foot but continue to crochet:

Round 7: work 8dc, take the 2nd foot and work 10dc. Ensure the spare threads are in the middle. Take the 3rd foot and work 10dc and then work 10dc around the 4th foot. You now have 4 legs in a row. Count back 40sts. Insert your hook in the 40th st (in the first foot) and crochet 1dc in the next 2sts. (40dc)

Rounds 8-9: work 40dc all around. (40dc)

Using the long threads in the centre sew the legs together.

Rounds 10-11: work dc all around. (40dc)

Round 12: *6dc, work 2dc together* repeat from * to *. (35dc)

Round 13: work dc all around. (35dc)

Round 14: *5dc, work 2dc together* repeat from * to *. (30dc)

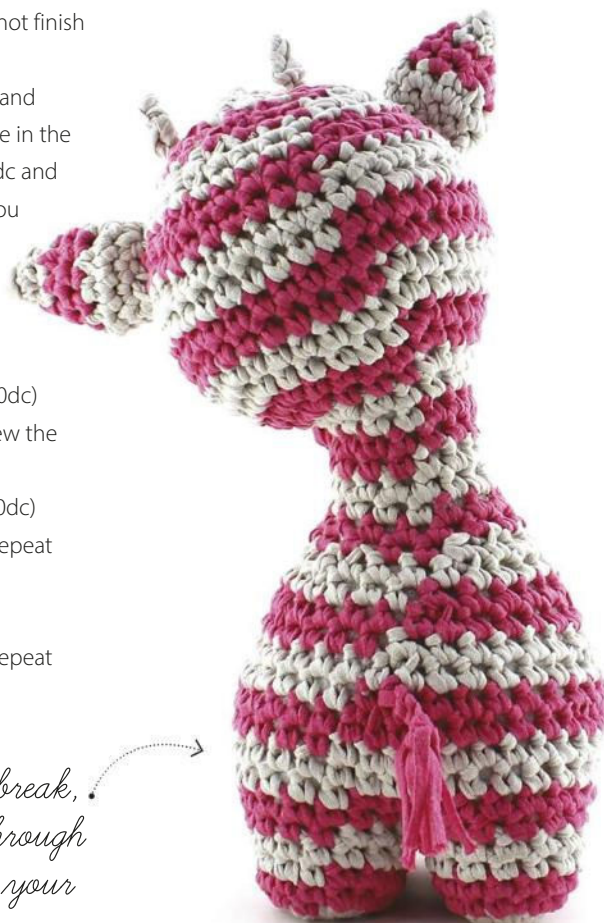
Round 15: work dc all around. (30dc)

Round 16: *4dc, work 2dc together* repeat from * to *. (25dc)

Round 17: work dc all around. (25dc)

Round 18: *3dc, work 2dc together* repeat from * to *. (20dc)

Round 19: *2dc, work 2dc together* repeat from * to *. (15dc)



When you stop for a break, put a big safety pin through the last stitch to stop your work unravelling.



GIRAFFE

Stuff the feet and body firmly.

Rounds 20-25: work dc all around. (15dc)

Round 26: *2dc, work 2dc in the next st* repeat from * to *. (20dc)

Round 27: *3dc, work 2dc in the next st* repeat from * to *. (25dc)

Round 28: *4dc, work 2dc in the next st* repeat from * to *. (30dc)

Round 29: *5dc, work 2dc in the next st* repeat from * to *. (35dc)

Round 30: *6dc, work 2dc in the next st* repeat from * to *. (40dc)

Rounds 31-35: work dc all around. (40dc)

Round 36: *6dc, work 2dc together* repeat from * to *. (35dc)

Round 37: *5dc, work 2dc together* repeat from * to *. (30dc)

Round 38: *4dc, work 2dc together* repeat from * to *. (25dc)

Round 39: *3dc, work 2dc together* repeat from * to *. (20dc) Stuff the neck and head firmly.

Round 40: *2dc, work 2dc together* repeat from * to *. (15dc)

Round 41: *1dc, work 2dc together* repeat from * to *. (10dc)

Round 42: work 2dc together 5 times. Fasten off.

Nose

Work 4ch, leaving a longer length of yarn at the beginning (for finishing the nose).

Round 1: crochet an oval: work 2dc in the second ch from the hook. Work 1dc in the next st. Work 4dc in the next st. Now turn the nose and crochet along: 1dc in the next st, 2dc in the next st. (10dc)

Round 2: *1dc, work 2dc in the next st* repeat from * to *. (15dc)

Round 3: *2dc, work 2dc in the next st* repeat from * to *. (20dc)

Rounds 4-5: work in dc all around. (20dc)
Fasten off, leaving a long length of thread for sewing the nose onto the head. If the stitches at the front of the nose are a little too far apart then sew them together with the long thread from the beginning. Sew the nose just below the centre of the head, make sure the bottom of

the nose touches the bottom of the head.

Stuff the nose as you are stitching.

Eyes

Using some black Ribbon XL double satin stitch the eyes over 2 rows, at each side of the nose. Use the picture as a guide.

Ears

Make 2

Leaving a long length of yarn for sewing the ears on the head, work 10ch, join with a ss into the 1st ch, you now have a circle. Crochet into this circle:

Rounds 1-2: work 1dc in every st. (10dc)

Round 3: 2dc, work 2dc together, 2dc, work 2dc together, 2dc. (8dc)

Round 4: work 1dc all around. (8dc)

Round 5: 2dc, work 2dc together, 1dc, work 2dc together, 1dc. (6dc)

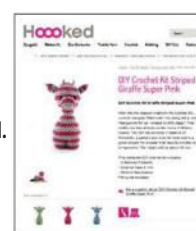
Round 6: work 2dc together, 3 times.

Fasten off and pull the thread through the ear. Fold the ears and sew together. Using the photograph as a guide sew the ears onto the head.

Fasten off. 🧶

MORE INFO

The delicious design is taken from the Hoooked website at www.hoooked.co.uk where you'll find many more cute ami designs plus yarns.



This little giraffe has found himself a solid colour pal! Visit hoooked.co.uk for the pattern.

PANDA

Kung Fu cutie

An adorable desk toy to keep you
company, by Zooeyezo.



TOP TIP

*Buy a 'soft grip'
metal hook as
a wooden one
may snap*



YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ 2 x white Ribbon XL
- ✿ 1 x black Ribbon XL
- ✿ 10mm crochet hook
- ✿ Filling material

TENSION

Not important for this project

ABBREVIATIONS

Turn to page 90

Whether the real deal or a crochet version, we all agree here at *Love Crochet* that pandas surely rank as *the* cutest creatures? Designer Zooeyezo has certainly maximising on the 'ahh' factor with his oversized eyes and pudgy belly. Using Hooooked's Ribbon XL, this will come together quickly. When you come to the end of the instructions for the head, use a 3mm hook or large darning needle to lace the Ribbon XL through the back loops. Also the pattern gives instructions for increases and decreases but 1dc is to be worked in every dc.

HEAD

Step 1: Using white Ribbon XL.

Start with a ring (magic loop).

Row 1: 6 dc into the ring. (6)

Row 2: 2 dc in every dc. (12)

Row 3: 2 dc in every 2nd dc. (18)

Row 4: 2 dc in every 3rd dc. (24)

Row 5: 2 dc in every 4th dc. (30)

Row 6: 2 dc in every 5th dc. (36)

Row 7: 36dc.

Row 8: 2 dc in every 6th dc. (42)

Row 9: 2 dc in every 7th dc. (48)

Row 10: 2 dc in every 8th dc. (54)

Row 11–14: 54dc

Row 15: 1 dc in every 8th and 9th dc together. (48)

Row 16: 1 dc in every 7th and 8th dc together. (42)

Row 17: 1 dc in every 6th and 7th dc together. (36)

Row 18: 1 dc in every 5th and 6th dc together. (30)

Row 19: 1 dc in every 4th and 5th dc together. (24)

Row 20: 1 dc in every 3rd and 4th dc together (18), fill the head firmly.

Row 21: 1 dc in every 2nd and 3rd dc together. (12)

Row 22: 1 dc in every 1st and 2nd dc together (6), fasten off with a sl st.

Lace the leftover thread through the back loop of the 6 remaining dc and pull the thread. The opening will tighten, fasten off and bind off.

Step 2: The body with white Ribbon XL. Start with a ring.

Row 1: 6 dc into the ring. (6)

Row 2: 2 dc in every dc. (12)

Row 3: 2 dc in every 2nd dc. (18)

Row 4: 2 dc in every 3rd dc. (24)

Row 5: 2 dc in every 4th dc. (30)

Row 6: 2 dc in every 5th dc. (36)

Row 7: 2 dc in every 6th dc. (42)

Row 8: 2 dc in every 7th dc. (48)

Row 9–14: 48dc.

Row 15: 1 dc in every 7th and 8th dc together. (42)

Row 16: 1 dc in every 6th and 7th dc together. (36)

Row 17: 1 dc in every 5th and 6th dc together. (30)

Row 18: 1 dc in every 4th and 5th dc together. (24)

Row 19: 1 dc in every 3rd and 4th dc together (18), fill the body firmly.

Row 20: 1 dc in every 2nd and 3rd dc together. (12)

Row 21: 1 dc in every 1st and 2nd dc together (6), fasten off with a sl st.

Lace the leftover thread through the back loop of the 6 remaining dc and pull the thread. The opening will tighten, fasten off and bind off.

Hind paws

Make 2

Step 3: using black Ribbon XL. Start with a ring.

Row 1: 6 dc into the ring. (6)

Row 2: 2 dc in every dc. (12)

Row 3: 2 dc in every 2nd dc. (18)

Row 4: 2 dc in every 3rd dc. (24)

Row 5: 1 dc in every 3rd and 4th dc together. (18)

Row 6: 18dc.



ABOUT THIS YARN

HOOOKED RIBBON XL

80% cotton; 20% synthetic

120m per 250g

£8.50

www.lovecrochet.com

Row 7: 1 sc in every 2nd and 3rd dc together. (12)

Row 8–10: 12 dc, fill the paw.

Row 11–14: 12 dc, fill the rest of the paw slightly.

Row 15: Put the two halves of the row 14 on one another and crochet them together with dc. This way you close the paw.

Front paws

Make 2

Step 4: using black Ribbon XL. Start with a ring.

Row 1: 6 dc into the ring. (6)

Row 2: 2 dc in every dc. (12)

Row 3: 2 dc in every 2nd dc. (18)

Row 4: 18dc.

Row 5: 1 dc in every 2nd and 3rd dc together. (12)

Row 6: 12dc.

Row 7: 1 dc in every 2nd and 3rd dc together (8), fill the paw.

Row 8–13: 8 dc, fill the rest of the paw slightly.

Row 14: Put the two halves of the row 13 on one another and crochet them together with dc.

The muzzle

Step 5: using white Ribbon XL. Start with a ring.

Row 1: 6 dc into the ring. (6)

Row 2: 2 dc in every dc. (12)

Row 3: 12dc.

Row 4: 2 dc in every 2nd dc (18), fasten off with a sl st.

Eyes

Make 2

Step 6: Using black Ribbon XL. Start with a ring.

Row 1: 6 dc into the ring. (6)

Row 2: in the 1st dc: 2dc, in the 2nd dc: 2htr, in the 3rd dc: 3tr, in the 4th dc: 2 htr, in the 5th dc: 2 tr, in the 6th dc: sl st, fasten off with a sl st.

Ears

Make 2

Step 7: using black RibbonXL. Start with a ring.

Row 1: 6 dc into the ring. (6)

Row 2: 2 dc in every dc. (12)

Row 3: 2 dc in every 2nd dc. (18)

Row 4: 18 dc, fasten off with a sl st.

Assembling

Step 8: Assemble by lacing all the pieces

together with a piece of Ribbon XL or sewing with needle and thread.

Lace the head on top of the body. Lace the hind paws on the lower sides of the body.

The forepaws also on the sides, just below the head, a bit more to the back than the hind paws.

Lace the muzzle to the head. Fill the muzzle a bit, before finishing lacing it. Stitch a nose on

the muzzle with a piece of black RibbonXL. Lace the eyes onto the head against the muzzle: the pointy side of the eyes, made by the dc s in row 2, pointing downwards.

Stitch two pupils with a piece of white Ribbon XL.

The ears can be laced on the top of the head: fold the ear together and place it in a slight U-shape on the head. 🐼

MORE INFO

The delicious design is taken from the Hoooked website at www.hoooked.co.uk where you'll find many more cute ami designs plus yarns.



This pattern maximises on the panda's cutest feature: those big, gorgeous eyes!



Chugga choo choo!

This lovely soft and squidgy train by Rose Benton Hutchins is child's play to make.

TOP TIP

If you pin your pieces together, count the pins in and count the pins out.



YOU WILL NEED

- ✿ King Cole Pricewise (White, Red, Grey, Black, Yellow): King Cole Big Value (Royal Blue)
- ✿ 4mm hook
- ✿ Toy stuffing

TENSION

- ✿ Not important for this project

ABBREVIATIONS

- ✿ Turn to page 90

What a lovely choo choo in red, white and blue! This is an easy make and perfect for beginners as it simply involves crocheting three basic carriages in white with one simple colour change to blue. From there on in, it's a case of hooking the separate components – doors, wheels and front/back – and sewing on at the end. Toddlers will just love playing with this soft, safe toy.

TRAIN

Carriage

Make 3

With white yarn, Ch 36,

Round 1: dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in next 33ch, 2dc in next ch, dc in other side of ch, dc in next 33ch, 2dc in last ch.

Round 2: (2dc in next dc, dc in next 33dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) twice.

Round 3: (dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 33dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 2dc) twice.

Round 4: (dc in next 2dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 33dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 3dc) twice.

Round 5: dc in bl of each dc around.

Round 6-11: dc in each dc around.

Fasten off. Change to blue yarn.

Round 12-14: dc in each dc around.

Round 15: in bl (dc in next 2dc, dc2tog, dc in next 33dc, dc2tog, dc in next dc, dc2tog) twice.

Round 16: (dc2tog twice, dc in next 31dc, dc2tog twice) twice.

Round 17: (dc2tog twice, dc in next 27dc, dc2tog twice) twice.

Round 18: (dc2tog twice, dc in next 23dc, dc2tog twice) twice.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

Front/back

Make 2

With red yarn, Ch 8

Row 1: dc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across, turn.

Row 2-6: ch 1, dc in each dc across, turn.

Row 7: ch 1, dc2tog, dc in next 3dc, dc2tog, turn.

Row 8: ch 1, dc2tog, dc in next dc, dc2tog. Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing onto carriage.

Doors

Make 12

With red yarn, Ch 9

Row 1: dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in each ch across, turn.

Row 2-8: ch 1, dc in each dc across, turn.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing onto carriage.

Windows

Make 18

With grey yarn, Ch 7

Row 1: dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in each dc across, turn.

Row 2-4: ch 1, dc in each dc across, turn.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing onto carriage.

Wheels

Make 24

With black yarn, Make a magic ring.

Round 1: 6dc in ring.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing onto carriage.

Finishing off

Sew all the pieces securely onto the carriage and sew on headlights and a line between the doors. Stuff the carriages and sew them up.

To join the carriages

Attach black yarn to one end of a carriage with a dc in the row where the colour changes from white to blue. Make 4ch, ss in same st.

To join the next carriage, attach black yarn in the same place. Ch 2, take hook out of the loop and put it through the 4ch loop on the other carriage, ch 2, ss in first dc. ♡



ABOUT THIS YARN

KING COLE PRICEWISE

100% acrylic
282m per 100g
£1.99
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk



TORTOISE BLANKET

WE LOVE

*Each tortoise
has a number
making it easy to
play and race!*

Race day

Ready? Set? Go! This cute blanket doubles up as a fun game for toddlers. By Kate Alinari

YOU WILL NEED

❖ Special by Stylecraft; 2 balls in Meadow (1065) – yarn A; 1 ball in Green (1116) – yarn B; 1 ball in Grey (1099) – yarn C; 1 ball in Aster (1003) – yarn D; a small amount of Sunshine (1114) – yarn E; a small amount of Black (1002) – yarn F; a small amount of White (1001) – yarn G; a small amount of Lipstick (1246) – yarn H

❖ 4mm hook or as needed to obtain tension

❖ 3mm hook or as needed to obtain tension

❖ Tapestry needle

❖ Fabric glue

❖ Black felt

❖ 14 stitch markers

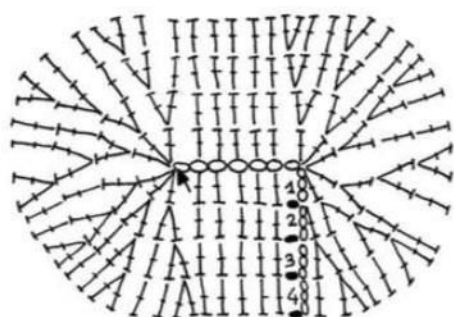
❖ Fibre fill

FINISHED SIZE

The finished and blocked blanket measures approx 71cm x 73cm

TENSION

Blanket rounds 1-8 (blocked) with 4mm hook, measure approx 25cm x 20cm



BLANKET CHART: rounds 1-4

KEY

tr - treble crochet

ch - chain stitch

ss - slip stitch

GLASSES

ABOUT THIS YARN

STYLECRAFT SPECIAL

100% acrylic

295m per 100g

£1.79

Machine wash at 40°C

www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

We love a multi-purpose design, so this adorable idea from Kate Alinari is ticking all the right boxes for everyone here at *Love Crochet*. Such a cute idea too to have three little tortoises racing around. Soft and perfectly-sized for little hands to grab and hold onto, this design will be popular with older babies and toddlers and great for their hand-eye co-ordination. Due to the number of colour changes and extra features, this is a complex pattern so read through first.

NOTES

The blanket is worked in the round for the centre. Bleachers and START sign are worked separately and then sewn onto the blanket.

Tortoises: tortoise mini cars are worked with amigurumi method, each part of them is worked separately.

BLANKET

Join each round with a ss in top of starting chs. 3-ch at beginning of rounds count as tr. 2-ch at beginning of the round count as dc. Do not turn at the end of the round. Use a stitch marker in last stitch of each round and in increases (2tr), moving them up as you work. With 4mm crochet hook and yarn D, ch7 loosely.

Round 1 (RS): ch3, 5tr in fourth ch from the hook, pm, tr in each ch to last ch, pm, 6tr in last ch, pm. Do not turn. Working in remaining loops of foundation ch, tr in each ch to end of chain, pm, join with a ss in top of 3-ch. (22 tr)

Round 2: ch3, tr in same st, pm, (2tr in next st, pm) four times, 2tr in next st, mm, tr in next 5 st, mm, (2tr in next st, pm) five times, 2tr in next st, mm, tr in next 5 st, mm, join with a ss in top of 3-ch. (34 tr)

Round 3: ch3, 2tr in next st, mm, (tr in next st, 2tr in next st, mm) five times, tr in next 5 st, mm, (tr in next st, 2tr in next st, mm) six times, tr in next 5 st, mm, join with a ss in top of 3-ch. (46 tr)

Rounds 4-8: ch3, *(tr in each st to marked st, 2tr in marked st, mm) six times, tr in next 5 st, mm; repeat from * around, twice in total. Join with a ss in top of 3-ch.

Fasten off.

Join A in top of starting chs of Round 8.

Rounds 9-10: repeat Round 4.

Fasten off. Join E in top of starting chs of Round 10.

Round 11: ch2, dc in each st around. Join with a ss in top of 2-ch. (130)

Fasten off.

Join C in top of starting chs of Round 11.

Round 12-17: repeat Round 4.

Fasten off. Join E in top of starting chs of Round 17.

Round 18: ch2, dc in each st around. Join with a ss in top of 2-ch. (202)

Remove stitch markers.

Fasten off. Join A in top of starting chs of Round 18. Make 4 corners as follow.

Round 19: *ch3, tr in next 14 sts, dtr in next 8 sts, (2dtr, ch1, 2dtr) in next st, dtr in next 12 sts, htr in next 7 sts, dc in next 10 sts, htr in next 7 sts, dtr in next 12 sts, (2dtr, ch1, 2dtr) in next st, dtr in next 8 sts, tr in next 15 sts, tr in next 5 sts; repeat from * around, tr instead ch3, twice in total. Join with a ss in top of 3-ch. (214)

Round 20: *ch3, tr in next 14 sts, dtr in next 10 sts, (2dtr, ch1, 2dtr) in 1-ch space, dtr in next 8 sts, tr in next 4 sts, htr in next 4 sts, dc in next 20 sts, htr in next 4 sts, tr in next 4 sts, dtr in next 8 sts, (2dtr, ch1, 2dtr) in 1-ch space, dtr in next 10 sts, tr in next 20 sts; repeat from * around, tr instead ch3, twice in total. Join with a ss in top of 3-ch. (230)

Round 21: *ch3, tr in next 17 sts, dtr in next 9 sts, (2dtr, ch1, 2dtr) in 1-ch space, dtr in next 6 sts, tr in next 10 sts, htr in next 4 sts, dc in next 16 sts, htr in next 4 sts, tr in next 10 sts, dtr in next 6 sts, (2dtr, ch1, 2dtr) in 1-ch space, dtr in next 9 sts, tr in next 23 sts; repeat from * around, tr instead ch3, twice in total. Join with a ss in top

TORTOISE BLANKET

of 3-ch. (246)

Round 22: *ch3, tr in next 26 sts, dtr in next 2 sts, (2dtr, ch1, 2dtr) in 1-ch space, dtr in next 2 sts, tr in next 56 sts, dtr in next 2 sts, (2dtr, ch1, 2dtr) in 1-ch space, dtr in next 2 sts, tr in next 32 sts; repeat from * around, tr instead ch3, twice in total. Join with a ss in top of 3-ch. (*262)

Rounds 23-28: ch3, tr in each st around to next 1-ch space, (2tr, ch1, 2tr) in each 1-ch space. Join with a ss in top of 3-ch.

[4 groups of (2tr, ch1, 2tr)]

Fasten off. Join B in top of starting chs of Round 28.

Round 29: ch3, tr in each st around to next 1-ch space, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in each 1-ch space. Join with a ss in top of 3-ch. [4 groups of (2tr, ch2, 2tr)]

Round 30: ch3, tr in each st around to next 2-ch space, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in each 2-ch space. Join with a ss in top of 3-ch. [4 groups of (2tr, ch2, 2tr)]

Fasten off. Join A in top of starting chs of Round 30.

Round 31: ch2, dc in each st around to next 2-ch space, (2dc, ch2, 2dc) in each 2-ch space. Join with a ss in top of 2-ch. [4 groups of (2dc, ch2, 2dc)]

Fasten off. Join B in top of starting chs of Round 31.

Rounds 32-33: repeat Round 30.

Fasten off.

Weave all the ends.

With E embroider track line between Round 14 and 15, make each line 3 sts long and separated by 3 sts.

Start sign

Start sign is worked in rows, embroidered and then sewn onto the blanket. 2-ch at beginning of the row don't count as dc. With 3mm crochet hook and yarn G, ch5 loosely.

Row 1: ch2, dc in second ch from the hook and in each ch to last ch. Turn. (4 dc)

Row 2: ch2, dc in each ch to last ch. Turn. (4 dc) Repeat Row 2 until the piece is 7cm long.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing onto the blanket.

With H embroider 'START' centred, approx one letter per row.

Sew onto the sign on the track, between Round 11 and 17 on the begging of the rounds, on starting chains.

Bleachers

Bleachers are worked in rows and then sewn onto the blanket.

For invisible changing colour close last st of each even row with new colour; pass old yarn

into third st before last of each odd row; close last st of each even row with new colour.

2-ch at beginning of the row don't count as dc. With 3.00 mm crochet hook and yarn C, ch40 loosely.

Row 1: ch2, dc in second ch from the hook and in each ch to last ch. Turn. (40 dc)

Don't fasten off, join F.

Row 2: ch2, dc in each ch to last ch. Turn. (40 dc)

Row 3-13: repeat row 2, following colourway below.

Row 3: yarn F; **Rows 4-5:** yarn C; **Rows 6-7:** yarn F; **Row 8-9:** yarn C; **Row 10-11:** yarn F

Row 12-13: yarn C

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing onto the blanket.

TORTOISES

Make 4

Tortoise are worked with amigurumi method, each part of them is worked separately and then sewn. Each tortoise is worked with the same pattern, the only difference is the colour number. Sew the bleacher onto the blanket, on the grass, between Round 21 and 27, centre it between the corners, counting sts on the sides. It may help to use a stitch marker in first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work. Leave long tails



Shell

Using B and 3mm crochet hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1: ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the ring. (6 dc)

Round 2: 2dc in each st around. (12 dc)

Round 3: *dc in next st, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (18 dc)

Round 4: *dc in next 2 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (24 dc)

Round 5: *dc in next 3 sts, 2dc next st; repeat from * around. (30 dc)

Rounds 6-9: dc in each dc around. (30 dc)

Round 10: working blo, *dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (30 sts)

Round 11: *dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (24 sts)

TORTOISE BLANKET

Start stuffing and continue as you work.

Round 12: *dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (18 sts)

Round 13: *dc in next 1 st, dc2tog; repeat from * around. (12 sts)

Round 14: dc2tog six times. (6 sts)

Fasten off and long tail. Thread tail on tapestry needle, pass it through sts of last round and tighten. Pull it through the shell, over round 1, then again pull it through, to the opposite side, round 14 and weave in the end.

Head

Using A and 3mm crochet hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1: ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the ring. (6 dc)

Round 2: 2dc in each st around. (12 dc)

Rounds 3-5: dc in each dc around. (12 dc)

Ss to next st, fasten off and long tails for sewing.

Tail

Using A and 3mm crochet hook, ch2, 2dc in second ch from the hook. Fasten off and leave long tails for sewing.

Wheels

Make 4

Using A and 3.00 mm crochet hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS): Ch1 (does not count as st) 6dc into the ring. [6 dc] Round 2: 2dc in each st around. (12 dc)

Ss to next st, fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing. With F embroider a french knot in the centre of each wheel.

Number

Make 4: 1 in D, 1 in H, 1 in G, 1 in E

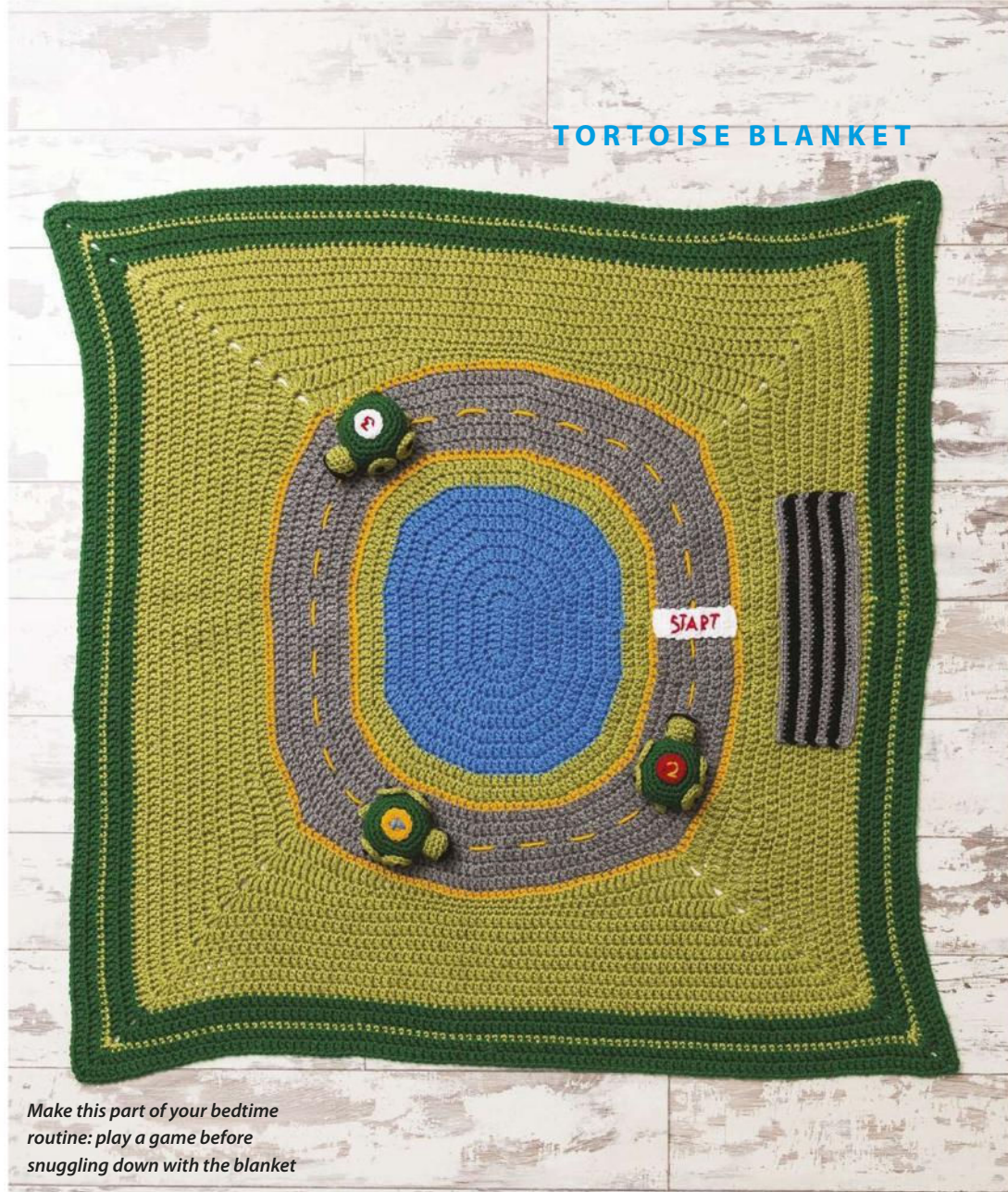
Using 3mm crochet hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS): Ch1 (does not count as st) 6dc into the ring. (6 dc)

Round 2: 2dc in each st around. (12 dc)

Ss to next st, fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing.

As shown in the pictures, embroider with F the number 1 on D disk, with E the 2 on H disk, with G the 3 on H disk, with D the 4 on E disk.



Make this part of your bedtime routine: play a game before snuggling down with the blanket

Glasses

Using the glasses template provided, trace the shape onto a piece of paper, cut it out, pin it against a piece of black felt and cut out the shape.

TO FINISH

Weave all the ends of the blanket.

Using the glasses template provided, trace the shape onto a piece of paper, cut it out, pin it against a piece of black felt and cut out the shape. Steam block the blanket: lay on a blocking board, pin to shape to measurements, set a household iron to hottest temperature and maximum steam, hover it about 2cm from the blanket. Steam on the blanket without ever touching the iron to the blanket. Move the iron along the length of the garment and then let it dry for approx 30 minutes.

To make up each tortoise, pin pieces in position and sew them. Sew head onto shell, between round 7 and 10, sew tail diametrically opposite to the head onto shell on Round 11.

Sew the wheels on the sides of shell, two for each side, count approx 3 sts from the head sew the first wheel and then the second one.

Sew the number on the top of shell, between round 1 and 3.

Glue or sew glasses onto head and with black embroider glasses arms and the mouth, as shown in the pictures.

MORE INFO

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Make & play crochet!
You'll adore this special issue of Love Crochet dedicated to toys!

Our collection of cute critters, soft snugglies and adorable amigurumi will send you toy crazy and with 27 gorgeous patterns, there's something for everyone - from a crochet game of skittles, to a pot-bellied dinosaur and a rosy-cheeked girl bursting with kawaii. Hook up a crochet zoo, make a foxy desk toy or craft a special birthday gift for a baby or toddler. Our tutorial on making a magic circle will help you get to grips with amigurumi, if you're new to toy making and we meet three of the best crochet toy designers. Plus news, reviews and all the latest ideas from the wonderful world of crochet.

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Let's go shopping!

Loving our toy issue? Here's more inspiration from some of our favourite designer makers on Etsy!

www.sittingcrochet.etsy.com

SittingCrochet was launched by owner Wendy in May 2015 after she had been crocheting for about a year, starting with granny squares and then moving into amigurumi. "The house was filling up with my creations, so Etsy seemed like a good idea!" says Wendy. "I am mostly driven by colours, cuteness and popularity with my customers. I also find my customers comments, reviews and their custom order ideas helpful too!" Look out for a range of jaunty dinosaurs, bears, and unicorns too. Prices from £7.



www.Amuru.etsy.com

The characters roaming through the Amuru Etsy shop look like they've ambled free from a rather sweet animation. Designed and handsewn by owner Anna, they include pretty linen mice and thoughtful felt foxes, made in recycled fabrics, including felt created from old bottles. "It's very important to me to do as little harm to environment as possible," says Anna. "It's the way I live so I couldn't forget about this in the process of creating my toys." We can't resist the sleepy bear with a yellow balloon and top hat – he looks like he's on his way home from a most splendid party! Prices start from £8.



www.KornflakeStew.etsy.com

KornflakeStew is the online home of owner Alison and is a wonderland of blushing mermaids, rainbow-mane unicorns, ballerina cats and other pastel-hued fancies. "I get lots of inspiration for my toy designs from children's books, illustrations, greetings cards, and other every day things that are all around us," says Alison. In most cases you can choose between the finished items and downloadable patterns so you can make your own. Patterns cost from £3.





www.pepperkinscrafts.etsy.com

This cheery Etsy shop is crammed with quirky hand-sewn rag dolls and crocheted monsters. We love the monsters' overly long arms, which mean you can cross them for a grumpy look! The part-time primary school teacher started making her crochet monsters for the children in her class as 'star of the week' prizes. "The children loved them and would request colours and styles for their monsters and write stories about them. Bright colours and beautifully-designed fabrics inspire my work." Every toy in the shop is unique. Prices start from £10.99.



www.pcbangles.etsy.com

Make your own marvellous menagerie with sewing kits and patterns by Angela at pcbangles. Fabric-lover Angela has been selling on Etsy since 2010 and says she loves hand-dyeing her characters' fur and choosing textiles for their clothes. She also sells the completed toys. Look out for wistful mohair bears, lions and mice, plus a dainty elephant named Magnolia. Prices start from £5.99.



www.Lybo.etsy.com

Wiggly-limbed octopi, colourful kitties and peas in pods make up the crew at Lybo, an Etsy shop owned by Elizabeth. "All sorts of things inspire my creations, from a particularly cute animal I may have seen, to a lovely-coloured yarn," says Elizabeth. "Most of my crochet creatures are built from a series of fairly simple shapes, so once I have an idea I start with a sketch and then build up the shapes from there." As well as her crochet menagerie, Elizabeth makes and sells rag dolls with wide-spaced eyes and exquisite outfits ranging from patterned frocks to swimsuits. Many are available as patterns as well as finished items.



www.FancyKnittles.etsy.com

A miniature world comes to life at this beautiful Etsy shop, populated by sweet bunnies in muted shades, little dolls, snails, and a myriad of plants. They're all designed and made by nimble-fingered Irene from Caerphilly. We can't resist the dinky potted flowers, carrots and cauliflowers, or the fact that some of the dolls have their own tiny teds and other dinky accessories. Prices start from just £6 for a teeny crocheted potted cactus – a great housewarming gift!



Crochet essentials

Over the next few pages, you'll find simple step-by-step guides to many useful stitches and techniques that you'll use every time you pick up a hook.

Holding the hook

✿ TRY THESE METHODS AND SEE WHICH WORKS BEST



PENCIL METHOD

Hold the hook like a pencil, in your right hand (if you're right-handed), about 3-5cm from the hooked end. If your hook has a flat area, you'll find it comfortable to hold it here.



KNIFE METHOD

Hold the hook between your thumb and forefinger, about 3-5cm from the hooked end, resting the end of the hook against your palm. This will give you lots of control.

Holding the yarn

✿ EVEN TENSION RESULTS IN EVEN STITCHES



METHOD ONE

Pass the ball end of the yarn between the little finger and third fingers of your left hand (if you are right-handed), then behind the third and middle fingers, over your index finger.



METHOD TWO

Loop the ball end of the yarn loosely around the little finger of your left hand, then take it over the third finger, behind the middle finger and over your index finger.

Making a slipknot ✿ THE FIRST LOOP ON THE HOOK



1 Hold the tail of the ball of yarn in your left hand and drape the yarn clockwise over the top of it to form a circular loop.



2 Hold the loop between left thumb and forefinger, then insert the crochet hook through the centre of the loop from front to back.



3 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook and pull it back through the centre of the loop, taking the yarn through with it.



4 Pull both ends of the yarn to tighten the knot, then pull just the ball end to tighten the loop so it's close to the hook, but not touching it.

Chain stitch ✿ USE THIS STITCH TO MAKE YOUR FOUNDATION CHAIN



1 Hold the hook in your right hand, and both the yarn end and the working yarn in your left hand. Move the hook under and over the yarn to wrap it around anticlockwise.



2 Pull the hook towards the slipknot, catching the yarn in the hook, and pulling it through the slipknot loop. This forms your first chain (ch) stitch. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to form a chain length.



3 This is what your row of chains will look like. Hold the chain with your left hand near the hook, to keep the tension. Keep going until you have the number of chains stated in your pattern.

How to count chains



Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Never count your first slipknot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). So that you can be accurate, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.

Slip stitch (ss)

✿ THIS STITCH HAS NO HEIGHT – OFTEN USED TO JOIN ROUNDS



1 The slip stitch is used to join a length of chain into the round. Insert the hook from front to back into the first chain you worked. Wrap yarn round the hook (yrh) in an anticlockwise direction.



2 Pull the yarn through the chain stitch (as shown) and then the loop already on the hook to make a slip stitch. You can also work this stitch into each stitch along a row to form a neat edging.

Working in rows

✿ FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE RULES TO CONSTRUCT CROCHET FABRIC



1 The first row is made by working across the foundation chain from right to left. At the end of the chain or row, turn the work so that the yarn is behind the hook.



2 For the next row, first make the turning chain for the stitch you're about to work. Now work the next stitch into the top of the stitches on your first row, missing the first stitch.

Double crochet (dc) US term: single crochet

✿ ONE OF THE KEY STITCHES IN CROCHET, DOUBLES ARE SIMPLE, COMPACT STITCHES THAT FORM A DENSE FABRIC



1 To make a double crochet stitch, insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch on the previous row.



2 Wind the yarn around the hook (yrh).



3 Pull the yarn through the stitch, giving you two loops on your crochet hook.



4 Yarn round hook again, then pull the yarn through both loops. There's your double crochet made and you'll have one loop left on the hook, ready to do the next stitch.

Half treble crochet (htr) US term: half double crochet

✿ A HANDY STITCH THAT'S BETWEEN DOUBLE AND TREBLE CROCHET IN SIZE, AND IT LOOKS SLIGHTLY LOOSER THAN DOUBLE CROCHET



1 To make a half treble crochet stitch, work to where you want the htr and then wind the yarn round the hook (yrh).



2 Insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch in the previous row. Wrap yarn around the hook again (yrh).



3 Pull the yarn through the stitch only (3 loops on hook).



4 Yarn round hook again, pull the yarn through all 3 loops. You've made a half treble crochet. Continue working htr into next and following sts to the end of the row.

CROCHET KNOW-HOW

Treble crochet (tr) US term: double crochet

✿ ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR STITCHES IN CROCHET, THIS SIMPLE STITCH IS TWICE AS HIGH AS A DOUBLE CROCHET STITCH



1 To work a treble crochet, start by winding yrh and then insert the hook under the top two loops of the stitch on the previous row.



2 Wrap the yarn around the hook (yrh) and pull the yarn through the stitch only.



3 You will now have 3 loops on the hook. Yrh again, and draw the yarn through just the first 2 loops on the hook.



4 You will now have 2 loops on the hook. Yrh again and draw the yarn through the remaining loops on the hook. Your treble crochet is complete.

Double Treble crochet (dtr)
US term: treble crochet

This is a stitch regularly used as an elongated version of the treble (described above). It's worked in a very similar way to the treble, as follows:
1 Make a foundation chain. Skip 4ch, *yrh twice, and insert the hook under the top loop of the next ch.
2 Yrh, pull the yarn through the ch loop only (4 loops on hook).
3 Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (3 loops on hook). Yrh and pull the yarn through

2 loops only (2 loops on hook).
4 Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops. Repeat from * to make more dtr sts.
5 To make the next row of dtr, turn work and ch4. This turning chain counts as the first dtr in a new row. Skip first st at the base of the t-ch, work 1 dtr under the top two loops of the 2nd stitch in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

Triple Treble crochet (ttr)
US term: double treble crochet

This is one of the longest standard crochet stitches and is mainly used in fancy stitch patterns. It's taller than a double treble crochet stitch (described left) and is worked in a very similar way, as follows:
1 Make a foundation ch. Skip 5 ch, *yrh 3 times, insert hook under top loop of next ch.
2 Yrh, pull yarn through ch loop only (5 loops on hook).

3 † Yrh, draw loop through 2 loops only. Repeat from † 3 times more and your triple treble will be finished. Repeat from * to make more ttr sts.
4 To make the next row, turn work and ch5. This turning chain counts as the first triple treble in a new row. Skip first st at base of the t-ch. Work 1 triple treble, inserting hook under the top 2 loops of the 2nd st in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

Turning Chain (t-ch)

✿ FOR AN EVEN FINISH, START EACH ROW WITH A TURNING CHAIN

In crochet, you need to add turning chains (t-chs) to the beginning of rows. The reason for this is to bring the hook up to the height of the stitches you're crocheting. Each basic stitch has its own number of chains. The

table below tells you how many t-ch sts form the first stitch. *For dc, usually the turning chain does not count as a stitch and the first stitch of the row is worked into the stitch at the base of the turning chain.

STITCH	Add to foundation chain before starting row	Skip at start of foundation row (counts as first st)	For turning chain (counts as first st)
Double crochet	1 ch	1 ch*	1 ch*
Half treble	1 ch	2 ch	2 ch
Treble	2 ch	3 ch	3 ch
Double treble	3 ch	4 ch	4 ch
Triple treble	4 ch	5 ch	5 ch

How to count stitches

✿ CHECK YOUR WORK IS CORRECT

Being able to count your stitches is very important and helps you to ensure that you're following a pattern correctly. It's a good idea to count your stitches at the end of every row. To count short stitches such as double crochet, look at the plaited tops (see above right). For taller stitches, count the upright 'stems' – each 'stem' is counted as a stitch (see right).

How to change colour

✿ CREATE STRIPES AND OTHER COLOUR EFFECTS



1 Before you work the final yrh (yarn round hook) on the last stitch of a row in the old colour, drop the old yarn and pick up the new one with your hook.



2 Pull through a loop of the new yarn to finish the old stitch. The working loop will be in the new colour. Continue, keeping the old yarn at the wrong side.

Increasing and decreasing

✿ SHAPING STITCHES ARE VITAL FOR MAKING GARMENTS



INCREASE To increase one stitch is very simple – work one stitch into the next stitch on the row below. When you've finished, work another stitch into the same stitch.



DECREASE For a quick decrease, just skip one stitch. For a neater look, work the first part of one stitch and then begin the next stitch. Finish both together.

Sewing seams

✿ YOU CAN JOIN CROCHET SEAMS BY USING A TAPESTRY NEEDLE OR A CROCHET HOOK, USING ONE OF THESE FOUR METHODS.



1 Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet right sides together and oversew them as shown above, using a tapestry or yarn needle.



2 To slip stitch a seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together. *Insert hook into both edge stitches, yrh and pull through to complete 1 slip stitch; rep from * working into the next edge stitches, keeping work fairly loose.



3 For a dc seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together, or wrong sides together for a visible seam. Work as for slip stitch seam, using double crochet instead of slip stitch.

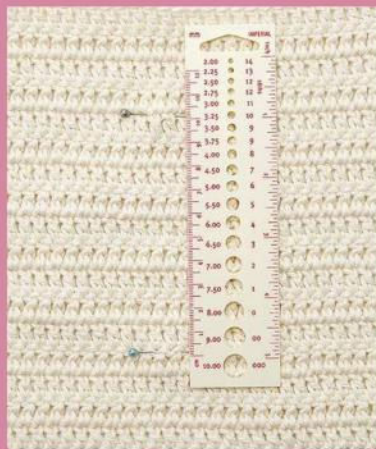


4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

How to check your tension

✿ MAKE AND MEASURE A SWATCH TO CHECK YOUR TENSION.

Most crochet patterns state the tension required, in rows and stitches of a specific type. Make a swatch at least 15cm square and check that your tension matches. Place a ruler across the swatch and insert two pins, 10cm apart. Then place the ruler along a column of stitches and insert two pins 10cm apart. Count the stitches and rows between the pins – if you have less than the pattern, your tension is too loose so you need to use a smaller hook, but if you have too many, use a larger hook. It's usually better to match the stitches than rows, because you can always work more or fewer rows.



Foundation ring

✿ CREATE A FOUNDATION RING FOR WORKING IN THE ROUND



1 Make a chain the length stated in the pattern instructions. Next, insert the crochet hook into the first chain. Close the ring with a slip stitch, working yrh...



2 ...and pull yarn through 2 loops on hook. Now you're ready to start crocheting in the round, following the instructions given right.

Working stitches into a ring

✿ TO MAKE CIRCLES, TUBES AND OTHER SHAPES



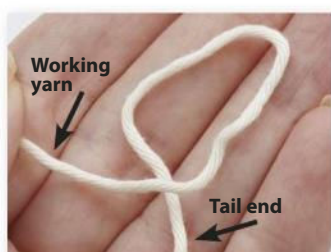
1 Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



2 Finish the treble as usual (yrh, pull yarn through ring, yrh, pull yarn through 2 loops). Work more sts into the ring as needed.

Working a magic loop

✿ AN ALTERNATIVE FOUNDATION RING FOR WORKING IN THE ROUND



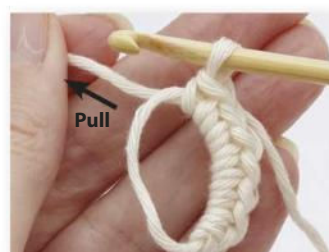
1 To start a Magic Loop, don't make a slipknot. Instead, make a loop with the yarn, leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is under the working yarn.



2 Now insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn around the hook and pull the yarn through the loop.



3 Make a t-ch for the sts you want to work (above, we made 1 t-ch for dc). Work your sts into the Magic Loop, over both the loop and the tail end (so two yarn strands).



4 Once you've worked the first round of stitches, simply pull the tail end of yarn to draw up the ring. Work a slip stitch to join the last and first sts to finish the first round (as instructed below).

Joining rounds

✿ Finish off each round of crochet stitches nice and neatly by using a slip stitch



1 To close a round of stitches, work a slip stitch into the top of the turning chain. To do this, insert the hook into the top stitch of the turning chain.



2 Then place the yarn round the hook. Pull the yarn through the turning chain stitch and through the original stitch on your hook.



3 You've slip stitched the round together! Before working another round, be sure to make the required turning chain. Always work rounds on the right side, unless your pattern instructs you otherwise.

Rounds or spirals

✿ CHECK WHICH TECHNIQUE TO USE

Some patterns are worked in rounds that are joined together at the end of each round (see left). Other patterns are worked in a spiral so you don't need to join the rounds at the end, just keep going, working into the next stitch on the previous row. Amigurumi toys are often worked in a spiral like this.

How to follow a crochet pattern

USE OUR HANDY GUIDE BELOW IF YOU'RE NEW TO CROCHET



Top tips

You'll find expert's top tips and ideas throughout *Love Crochet*, to help you add to your skills.

You will need

Our shopping list tells you what hooks to use, how much yarn to buy and whether you need any extra items such as buttons or embroidery thread.

Tension

The tension tells you how many rows and stitches you need to crochet to the correct size. Make a tension square to ensure you're getting it right before you start to crochet.

Crochet chart key

Some of the patterns in this issue feature a crochet chart. Here's a guide to the symbols featured.

- Chain
- Slip stitch
- Double Crochet (DC)
- Half treble crochet (htr)
- Treble crochet (tr)
- Double treble crochet (dtr)
- Triple treble crochet (trtr)
- Double crochet (dc2tog)
- Double crochet 3tog (dc3tog)
- Treble crochet 2tog (tr2tog)
- Treble crochet 3tog (tc3tog)
- 3 treble crochet cluster
- 3htr cluster
- 5tr popcorn
- 5tr shell
- Chain 3 picot
- Front post treble (fp tr)
- Back post treble (bp tr)
- Worked in back loop only
- Worked in front loop only

Crochet hook conversions

UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	–
13	2.25mm	B/1
12	2.5mm	–
–	2.75mm	C/2
11	3mm	–
10	3.25mm	D/3
9	3.5mm	E/4
–	3.75mm	F/5
8	4mm	G/6
7	4.5mm	7
6	5mm	H/8
5	5.5mm	I/9
4	6mm	J/10
3	6.5mm	K/10½
2	7mm	–
0	8mm	L/11
00	9mm	M/13
000	10mm	N/15

UK/US conversions

UK		US	
chain	ch	chain	ch
slip stitch	ss	slip stitch	ss
double crochet	dc	single crochet	sc
half treble	htr	half double	hdc
treble	tr	double	dc
double treble	dtr	treble	tr
triple treble	ttr	double treble	dtr

Which hook do I use?

Hook size	UK yarn weight
2.5-3.5mm hook	4ply yarn
3.5-4.5mm hook	double knitting yarn
5-6mm hook	aran yarn
7mm and bigger	chunky yarn

Abbreviations

across	to end of the row	htr2tog	work 2htr together
alt	alternate/alternating	in next	sts to be worked into the same stitch
approx	approximate(ly)		
beg	beginning	inc	increase
bl	insert hook under back loop only	LH	left hand
BPtr	Back Post treble: yrh, starting from the back, insert hook from back to front to back around post of st in row below, complete as treble st	lp(s)	loop(s)
ch(s)	chain/chain stitch(es)	meas	measures
ch-sp(s)	chain space(s)	p or pc	picot
ch-	refers to ch made previously, eg. ch-3 clusters	patt(s)	pattern(s)
cl(s)	clusters	pm	place marker
4-tr cl	(yrh, insert hook in sp/st, yrh & pull up loop, yrh & draw through 2 loops) 4 times, inserting hook in same sp/st, yrh & draw through all loops on hook	prev	previous
cont	continue	rem	remain(s)/remaining
dc	double crochet	rep	repeat
dc2tog	(insert hook in next st, yrh and draw a loop through) twice, yrh and draw through all 3 loops on hook	RH	right hand
dec	decrease	rnd(s)	round(s)
dtr	double treble crochet	RS	right side
dtr2tog	work 2dtr together	sk	skip
fl	insert hook under front loop only	sp(s)	space(s)
fol/folls	following/follows	ss	slip stitch
FPtr	Front Post treble: work in opposite way to BPtr	st(s)	stitch(es)
htr	half treble	tbl	through back loop
		t-ch(s)	turning chain(s)
		tog	together
		tr	treble crochet
		tr2tog	(yrh, insert hook in next st, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice, yrh and draw through all loops on hook
		ttr	triple treble crochet
		WS	wrong side
		yoh	yarn over hook
		yrh	yarn round hook
		*	work instructions immediately foll *, then rep as directed
		[] or ()	work or repeat all instructions in the brackets as directed

HOW TO GET A PERFECT FINISH

✿ TO PREVENT YOUR HARD WORK UNRAVELLING ONCE YOU'VE FINISHED CROCHETING, FASTEN THE END OFF CAREFULLY



Complete the final stitch, then cut the yarn about 15cm from the work. Pull it through the last loop on the hook and pull to close the loop. Thread the yarn tail onto a tapestry needle and weave into the back of the work. Most crochet items don't need a lot of blocking, but cotton lace work usually does. To do this, very carefully pin out the item with rust-proof pins, mist with a water spray and leave to dry naturally.

Love Crochet

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