

Simply Cute Lion

crochet pattern by Teri Crews



Materials:

Worsted Weight &
Handspun thick and thin Yarn
I used: Vanna's Choice Mustard, Sweet Pea
and Black along with *thick and
thin singles handspun yarn
Size G Crochet Hook
Fiberfill
Tapestry needle

*handspun yarn available in Etsy shops.

For my lion, I used my handspun available in our store,
The Wool Purl

<http://www.etsy.com/shop/thewoolpurl>

Lion's Mane can also be made with Lion Brand Homespun or
any other fun bumpy, bulky yarn you might find

Optional Materials:

safety eyes (my lion has 12 mm safety eyes), beads or buttons
plastic pellets and scrap nylon if not using as a toy,
blush for a little color and white felt for eyes

Finished measurements: approx 11 inches not counting ears.

Since this is a toy pattern, gauge is not important. Use a smaller or bigger hook to create different size lions

Abbreviations and Stitches Used:

ch=chain

dc=double crochet

fo=fasten off

rnd= round

sc=single crochet

sl st = slip stitch

tog = sc 2 stitches together

* = repeat between stars to last stitch

Notes and Tips:

*Pieces are crocheted in the round, do not join with slip stitch unless indicated in individual piece instructions.

*When stuffing pieces, try not to overstuff. Over stuffing will spread out your stitches making bigger holes and showing too much fiberfill.

*I like to use a stitch counter to count off my rows, or scrap paper to mark off. A stitch marker will come in handy when repeating rounds or you can pull through the beginning tail as you go to help you spot the beginning of each round.

*I crochet all my pieces then put my toys together, but maybe you prefer putting them together as you go. Either way your lion will look great.

*I use a little felt under my eyes to help them stand out. Trace around a button that is just a little bit bigger than your eyes. Cut a small slit in the center of the circle, insert eye, and then attach to head. After securing eyes and nose, you might want to do some additional shaping on your lion's face. Thread a tapestry needle with yarn (same color as your lion's head). Insert needle in bottom of head where stitches won't be seen. Pull the needle up through a stitch directly above the eye, in next stitch directly to the right, insert needle and go back down through head. Pull gently on yarn to indent eye, repeat for other eye, tie off.

*If your lion is not going to be a toy you might want to give him a little weight. I fill the bottom of an old knee high nylon with plastic pellets, tie it off and use to stuff my lion's bottom, then I fill the rest of the body with fiberfill.

*If using safety or glass eyes, remember not to close the bottom of the head until you have positioned and secured eyes. To help me make sure my eyes are just where I want them I stuff lightly test positions and then remove stuffing and secure eyes.

*Toes or Claws, insert threaded tapestry needle in bottom center of foot about 3 rounds up, insert needle directly above (another 3 rounds) pull back through beginning stitch (first claw made), insert needle (move it over just a tad so you don't pull out the first claw) and come up 3 rounds to the right of the center claw you just made, insert needle directly below (3 rounds again), pull needle back through beginning stitch, repeat for another claw on the left. FO and bury thread. Refer to photos if needed.

*Before attaching legs I always thread my tapestry needle, hold one leg next to my lion's bottom and then insert the threaded needle all the way through the body. This shows me where my legs need to be. Then I attach legs by sewing through a couple stitches on the inside of the leg, insert needle back into body and do the same for the other leg. I tug on my yarn slightly to indent my lion's body just a little, but not too tight or he'll be out of portion. Repeat sewing through legs at least 2 times.

*After I've securely sewn on the head, I sew on my arms. Adding them after the head helps me make sure they look correctly positioned.



Body

Rnd 1: ch 2, 6 sc in 2nd ch. from hook (6)

2: 2 sc in each sc around (12)

3: *sc 1, sc 2 in next sc* (18)

4: *sc 2, sc 2 in next sc* (24)

5: *sc 3, sc 2 in next sc* (30)

6: *sc 4, sc 2 in next sc* (36)

7-9: sc in each sc around (36)

10: *sc 4, sc2tog* (30)

11-13: sc in each sc around (30)

now is a good time to weave in that beginning tail

14: *sc 3, sc2tog* (24)

15: *sc 2, sc2tog* (18)

16-18: sc in each sc around (18)

stuff body

19: *sc 2 tog* (9)

FO, leave a long time for sewing. Thread tapestry needle with yarn tail, weave through remaining stitches pull tight to close.

Legs (make 2)

Rnd 1: ch 2, 6 sc in 2nd ch. from hook (6)

2: 2 sc in each sc around (12)

3: *sc 1, sc 2 in next sc* (18)

4: *sc 2, sc 2 in next sc* (24)

5-7: sc in each sc around (24)

8: *sc 2, sc 2 tog* (18)

now is a good time to weave in that beginning tail

9: *sc 1, sc 2 tog* (12)

10-19: sc in each sc around (12)

stuff bottom of foot firmly, top of foot lightly

20: *sc 2 tog* (6)

FO, leave a long time for sewing. Thread tapestry needle with yarn tail, weave through remaining stitches pull tight to close.

Arms (make 2)

Rnd 1: ch 2, 6 sc in 2nd ch. from hook (6)

2: 2 sc in each sc around (12)

3: *sc 1, 2 sc in next sc * (18)

4-6: sc in each sc around

7: *sc 1, sc 2 tog* (12)

8-15: sc in each sc around (12)

stuff bottom of arm firmly, top lightly

16: *sc 2 tog* (6)

FO leave long tail for sewing. Thread tapestry needle with tail, weave through remaining stitches pull tight to close.

Head

Rnd 1: ch 2, 6 sc in 2nd ch. from hook (6)

2: 2 sc in each sc around (12)

3: *sc 1, sc 2 in next sc*(18)

4-5: sc in each sc around (18)

6: *sc 2, sc 2 in next sc*(24)

7: sc 9, hdc 6, sc 9 (24)

8: *sc 3, sc 2 in next sc*(30)

9: sc 12, hdc 6, sc 12 (30)

10: *sc 4, sc 2 in next sc* (36)

11: sc in each sc around (36)

12: *sc 5, sc 2 in next sc* (42)

13: *sc 5, sc 2 tog*(36)

14: sc in each sc around

now is a good time to weave in that beginning tail

15: *sc 4, sc 2 tog* (30)

16: sc in each sc around (30)

17: *sc 3, sc 2 tog* (24)

18-19: sc in each sc around

20: *sc 2, sc 2 tog* (18)

21: *sc 1, sc 2 tog* (12)

position/attach eyes (mine are about 7 or 8 rows up from beginning center hole and 7 stitches apart)

stuff

22: *sc 2 tog*

FO, leave long tail for sewing.

After eyes are positioned, thread tapestry needle with tail, weave through remaining stitches pull tight to close.

Ears

Rnd 1: ch 2, 6 sc in 2nd ch. from hook (6)

2: 2 sc in each sc around (12)

3: *sc 1, sc 2 in next sc*(18)

FO, weave in tails



Mane:

This is a little time consuming, but definitely brings out your lion's personality. I think this is easier if you attach your lion's ears first. Cut 30-40 pieces of handspun approx 4 inches long. Pull through stitches and tie around lion's face and head. Use your crochet hook to pull pieces through and tie. Spread some of the handspun apart as you go to help fill in bare spots. Once your mane looks full enough, give him a little haircut.

Nose

Rnd 1: ch 2, 6 sc in 2nd ch. from hook (6)

2: 2 sc in each sc around (12)

3: sc2tog (2 times)

FO weave in ends

Tail

Rnd 1: ch 2, 5sc in 2nd ch. from hook (5)

2-21: sc in each sc or until desired length

note: don't forget to weave in that beginning tail. I did mine around round 4 or 5

cute 4-6 pieces of handspun about 3 inches long and tie to bottom of tail. Once you are happy with the number of strands tied on, cute another piece of handspun and tie a bow on end.

Scarf

Ch 4, join with a clip stitch to form a ring

Rnd 1: ch 1, 5 sc, ch 4, sc in ring, turn

Rnd 2: 5 sc, ch 4, sc in next ring,

Repeat rnd 2, (19 times) or until desired length

hint: when turning, yarn should always be behind your hook

FO, weave in ends.

I pulled my scarf through one of the holes when I put it on my lion



Your ready to put your lion together.

Hope you enjoyed using this pattern. I appreciate your business and had a great time creating it.

Thanks,

Teri