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CUTE CREATURES TO CROCHET

Amigurumi COLLECTION

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She's a miniature style icon!

54 patterns to crochet today!

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FAB FOOD PROJECTS!



FELINE GOOD CUDDLY CAT COUPLE



OTTERLY LOVELY WOOLLY WILDLIFE



HOT DOG YOUR NEW PET PROJECT!

CUTE CREATURES TO CROCHET

Amigurumi COLLECTION



Amigurumi COLLECTION

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DISTRIBUTION
Frontline
Printed in England by William Gibbons

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Hello!



Making amigurumi figures has to be one of the most fun things you can do as a crocheter. These Japanese-inspired creations with their oversized heads and cute details are so adorable. And it's not just people and animals that can get the amigurumi treatment – even **FOOD CAN BE CUTE** with a smiley face on it!

To celebrate this technique we've collected our favourite amigurumi projects from the *Simply Crochet* archives – plus a few new treats! There are designs to suit everyone, taking in **MINI CRITTERS**, **TINY PEOPLE** and **FUN FIGURES**. Beginners will find plenty of inspiration, such as the woodland animals on page 40 and the irresistible fruit and veg on page 104, while more experienced crocheters will love a big project like Claude the Octopus (page 26) as their next challenge.





As well as these gorgeous designs, we've also included a handy workshop on page 72 that shows you how to **ADD FACIAL FEATURES** to your creations and really bring them to life. Head over there now to find out how to improve your skills. Enjoy!



SARA HUNTINGTON
EDITOR







PS Subscribe to *Simply Crochet* magazine today and you can get 3 issues for £5, as well as free gifts and extra patterns! See page 62 for more information.



FIND ME ON PAGE 43!

CUTE CREATURES TO CROCHET

Amigurumi COLLECTION



64
CRAFT A MINI ME!



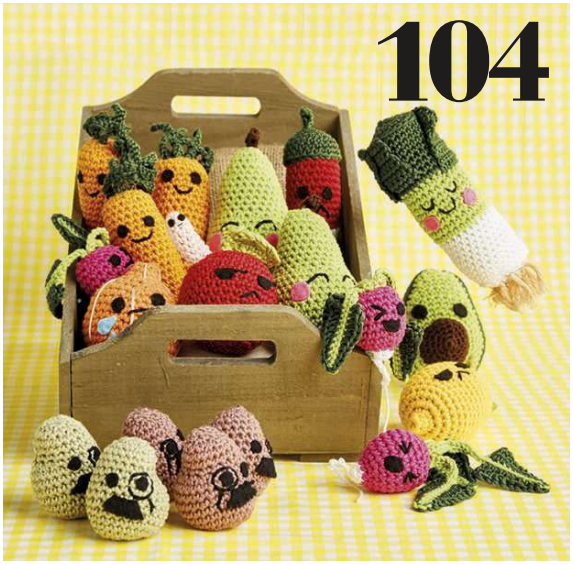
52



37



40
IN THE FOREST



104

MINI CRITTERS

8 OTTERLY IN LOVE
Who can resist this cute pair?
11 BERTIE BEAR
Float up and away with this fun toy
14 BUNNY LOVE
Say hello to Josephine
17 HENRY J. FOX
The most dapper chap
21 BILL AND COO
An adorable pair of lovebirds
26 DAY OF THE TENTACLE
Kate Hancock's amazing octopus
31 COCO THE CRAB
The smiliest crustacean ever!
34 HUMPBACK HARRY
You'll love this stripy whale
37 SAM THE SEAHORSE
Hook a deep sea creature
40 WOODLAND FRIENDS
Four adorable animals to make
43 SUPER SAUSAGE
A superhero on a crochet mission!
48 KITTY SISTERS
Meet Bella and Bow!
52 CLARENCE THE CAMEL
Val Pierce's sleepy dromedary
55 LITTLE RED
A playful long-eared puppy
58 OH, DEER!
Sweet mother and baby duo

TINY PEOPLE

64 ALL DOLLED UP
The perfect crochet companion
67 GELATO GIRL
She's sure to melt your heart
70 LITTLE LILLY
The ideal rainy day design
75 DARLING CLEMENTINE
An easy first amigurumi doll
78 TINY DANCER
Make a beautiful ballerina
81 MAKE A SPLASH
Go on an underwater adventure with this shimmering mermaid

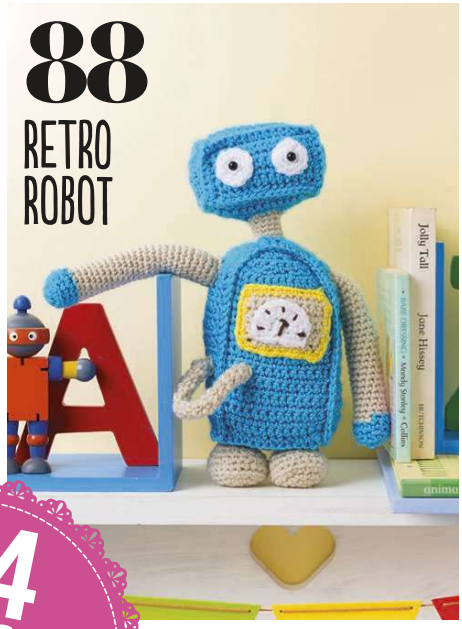












54 PATTERNS TO MAKE!

FUN FIGURES

86 PERFECT PRETZEL
Twinkie Chan's tasty brooch
88 ROBBIE THE ROBOT
A great toy for children
91 HOPPY EASTER
Hours of bunny fun
94 FEELING LUCKY
Hook a pair of traditional cats
98 FISHY FRIEND
An easy-to-make keyring
104 PICK YOUR OWN
Fruit and veg with attitude
108 TOTALLY ROAR-SOME
A duo of fun dino pals
111 MASKED MASCOT
The cutest raccoon badge
113 SLEEPY BUNNY
Send a little one off to soothing slumber with an adorable blanket
116 LITTLE MONSTER
This stripy cushion is a great project for beginners to try
118 ROCKET POWER
A retro ice lolly

GOOD READS

24 KATE HANCOCK PROFILE
We venture into the wonderful world of Kate's snuggly creations
46 ILARIA CALIRI PROFILE
Meet the designer of *Amigurumi Collection*'s cover star!
100 GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT
What happens when crochet designs meet food!

ESSENTIALS

72 AMIGURUMI FACES
Learn how to perfect the facial detailing on your creations
121 THE GUIDE
Step-by-step pictures to take you through all the techniques and basic stitches that you'll need





Hook a snack on page 86!

Discover all the ideas, inspiration and crafting supplies you could ever dream of!



THE SCOTTISH QUILTING SHOW
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SECC, GLASGOW // 2 - 5 MARCH

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21 adorable animals to make

MINI CRITTERS

Hook your own yarny menagerie, including undersea creatures, snuggly pets and woodland wildlife.





OTTERLY IN LOVE

Does amigurumi get much cuter than this? Crochet Ilaria Caliri's doting otter darlings.



Otter pair



YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of each: Salomé (N80), Lin (N78)
- A 2.5mm (US C/1 or B/2) hook
- Safety eyes or black beads, approx 5mm diameter
- Plastic nose, approx 1cm
- Black embroidery thread
- Pipe cleaners
- Stitch markers
- Toy stuffing
- PVA glue

For yarn stockists, contact DMC 0116 275 4000 www.dmccreative.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

12cm (4¾in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

Confession time: we're a little obsessed with otters here in the *Simply Crochet* office, and it's not solely due to a certain Mr Cumberbatch. Did you know that pairs or groups of otters hold hands (or paws) so they don't float away from each other while they sleep? It's called rafting. We looked it up. They're pretty much the original romantics. What could be a better gift for your sweetheart, then, than a pair of loved-up amigurumi otters? Otterly adorable.

NOTES

This pattern is worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off the round with a ss. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work.
Head and Body are worked as one piece starting from the top of the Head. All the other pieces are sewn to the Body. Choose either shade of yarn for your Otter; each piece for each Otter is made with the same colour.

HEAD AND BODY

Make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Rounds 7-12 Dc in each dc around.
Round 13 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 14 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 15 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Secure the eyes between Rounds 9 and 10, approx 9 sts apart.
If you're using black beads or embroidery for the eyes, you might like to wait until the Muzzle is attached before you sew them in place.

Stuff the Head with toy stuffing and continue stuffing as you go.
Rounds 16-18 Dc in each st around. [18 sts]
Round 19 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Rounds 20-21 Dc in each st around.
Round 22 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 23-24 Dc in each st around.
Round 25 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Rounds 26-28 Dc in each st around.
Round 29 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]
Rounds 30-34 Dc in each st around.
Round 35 (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 36 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 37 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 38 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 39 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 40 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Use the long tail to sew the Ears to the Head between Rounds 5 and 6.

MUZZLE

Make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the ring. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 1htr, 4tr, 1htr, 12dc. [18 sts]
Round 5 1htr, 4tr, 1htr, 1dc, ss in next st. **Fasten off**, leaving a long tail.
Secure the plastic nose between Rounds 3 and 4 (in the middle of the tr sequence).
Embroider the mouth and stuff the Muzzle lightly with toy stuffing.
Use the long tail to sew the Muzzle to the Head, between Rounds 10 and 16.
If using black beads or embroidery for eyes, sew them on now.

WHISKERS

Split a strand of black embroidery thread and cut 3 pieces approx 20cm long for each otter.
Wet the thread in a solution of water and PVA glue. Place the soaked whiskers on a plastic sheet and let them dry. Use these slightly stiffened threads to embroider the whiskers.

Otter pair



Soaking thread in a PVA solution will help you create sturdier whiskers for your couple.



Instead of using safety eyes you could stitch the eyes and make them ultra expressive.



Make sure your amigurumi otters join hands so they don't float apart at nap time.

ARMS (MAKE 2)
Make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 (2dc in next st, 2dc) twice. [8 sts]
Rounds 3-7 Dc in each st around.
Do not stuff, flatten the piece and start working in rows.
On the next row, you will work across the open top of the Arm, working each st through both layers to close the top.
Row 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc through both layers in each of 4 sts, turn. [4 sts]
Row 2 (Ch3, skip the first ch from the hook, ss in each of next 2 ch, ss in the next st, skipping the st at the base of the ch) 4 times to make paws.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Use the long tail to sew the Arms to the Body, between Rounds 20 and 21.

FEET (MAKE 2)
Make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 (2dc in next st, 2dc) twice. [8 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 3dc) twice. [10 sts]
Rounds 4-6 Dc in each st around.
Do not stuff, flatten the piece and start working in rows.
On the next row, you will work across the open top of the Foot, working each st through both layers to close the top.
Row 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc through both layers in each of 5 sts, turn. [5 sts]
Row 2 Ch3, skip the first ch from the hook, dc in each of next 2 ch, ss in the next st, skipping the st at the base of the ch, (ch4, skip the first ch from the hook, dc in each of next 3 ch, ss in the next st, skipping the st at the base of the ch) twice, ch3, skip the first ch from the hook, dc in each of next 2 ch, ss in the last st of the row.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Use the long tail to sew the Feet to the Body, between Rounds 27 and 36.

TAIL
Make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 Dc in each st around. [4 sts]
Round 3 2dc in next st, 3dc. [5 sts]
Rounds 4-5 Dc in each st around.
Round 6 2dc in next st, 4dc. [6 sts]
Rounds 7-8 Dc in each st around.
Round 9 2dc in next st, 5dc. [7 sts]
Rounds 10-11 Dc in each st around.
Round 12 2dc in next st, 6dc. [8 sts]
Rounds 13-14 Dc in each st around.
Round 15 2dc in next st, 7dc. [9 sts]
Rounds 16-17 Dc in each st around.
Round 18 2dc in next st, 8dc. [10 sts]
Rounds 19-20 Dc in each dc around.
Round 21 2dc in next st, 9dc. [11 sts]
Rounds 22-23 Dc in each dc around.
Round 24 2dc in next st, 10dc. [12 sts]
Rounds 25-32 Dc in each dc around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Insert a pipe cleaner into the tail and then stuff with toy stuffing.
Use the long tail of yarn to sew the Tail to the bottom of the Body.



BERTIE BEAR

Banish bad days with Ilaria Caliri's charming teddy. He's a keeper!

Balloon bear



A BIT TRICKY | DK WEIGHT | 3MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Safran (100% cotton, 50g/160m), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Beige (21)
  Yarn B Turquoise (30)
  Yarn C Brown (23)
  Yarn D Orange (28)
  Yarn E Black (16)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- Safety eyes or black beads, approx 5mm diameter
- 2 small buttons
- Dark brown waxed cord
- Fine white wire for balloon string, approx 13cm (5in)
- Tapestry needle
- Stitch markers
- Toy stuffing
- Craft glue

For yarn stockists, contact Wool Warehouse 01926 882818 www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

18cm (7in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

Bertie is a tubby teddy, whichever way you look at it, but give him a balloon and he's away. And he's got a taste for adventure, so you'll have to make sure you hold on to him tightly. This dungaree-clad cutie is worked in the round in simple dc stitches and is really brought to life by the tiny extra details, such as his buttons and laces. Stitch on a smile and he's yours forever.

NOTES

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

HEAD

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 8 (2dc in next st, 6dc) 6 times. [48 sts]
Round 9 (2dc in next st, 7dc) 6 times. [54 sts]
Round 10 (2dc in next st, 8dc) 6 times. [60 sts]
Rounds 11-18 1dc in each dc around.
Round 19 (Dc2tog, 8dc) 6 times. [54 sts]
Round 20 (Dc2tog, 7dc) 6 times. [48 sts]
Round 21 (Dc2tog, 6dc) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 22 (Dc2tog, 5dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 23 (Dc2tog, 4dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 24 (Dc2tog, 3dc) 6 times. [24 sts]

Place the eyes between Rounds 9 and 10 approximately 14 stitches apart. Stuff the Head with toy stuffing.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

MUZZLE

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 4dc, 4htr, 8tr (these 8 sts form the centre top of the Muzzle), 4htr, 4dc. [24 sts]
Round 6 1dc in each dc around. [24 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Embroider the nose with black yarn, making long stitches to create a triangle between Rounds 3 and 5, using the image as a guide. Sew the Muzzle to the Head, with the top between the eyes, adding toy stuffing while you sew.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Rounds 3-5 1dc in each dc around.
Do not stuff.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Sew on the Ears symmetrically, between Rounds 7 and 11 of the Head.

BODY

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 8 (2dc in next st, 6dc) 6 times. [48 sts]
Round 9 (2dc in next st, 7dc) 6 times. [54 sts]
Rounds 10-17 1dc in each dc around.
Round 18 (Dc2tog, 7dc) 6 times. [48 sts]
Rounds 19-20 1dc in each dc around.

Round 21 (Dc2tog, 6dc) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 22 1dc in each dc around. Change to Yarn A.
Round 23 1dc in back loop only of each dc.
Round 24 (Dc2tog, 5dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Rounds 25-26 1dc in each dc around.
Round 27 (Dc2tog, 4dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 28 1dc in each dc around.
Round 29 (Dc2tog, 3dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Stuff with toy stuffing.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

Sew the Head to the top of the Body.

DUNGAREE BIB
Using stitch markers, mark out the 12 central sts on the front of the Body in the remaining front loops of Round 23, placing the seam of the Body piece at the back.

Rejoin Yarn B in the first of these marked sts, ready to work in the remaining front loops of this row.
Row 1 (RS) Ch1, 12dc in the remaining front loops, turn.
Rows 2-3 Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end, turn. [12 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

DUNGAREE BRACES
Mark 10 sts centrally at the back of the Body in the remaining front loops of Round 23.
Using Yarn B, ch15, 10dc in the front loops only of the marked stitches. Ch16, turn, 1dc in the second ch from the hook, ch2, skip 2 sts (to create button loop), 12dc, work 10dc across the 10 sts from the previous row, 12dc in the chain on the other side, ch2, skip 2 sts (to create button loop), dc in the last ch.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

Sew two little buttons onto the corners of the front of the Bib.

DUNGAREE POCKET
Using Yarn B, ch11.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to the end, turn. [10 sts]
Rows 2-3 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.
Row 4 Ch1, dc2tog, 6dc, dc2tog. [8 sts]
Row 5 Ch1, dc2tog, 4dc, dc2tog. [6 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Sew the pocket onto the body, under the Dungaree Bib.

ARMS (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Rounds 3-7 1dc in each dc around.
Round 8 Dc2tog, 10dc. [11 sts]
Round 9 1dc in each dc around.
Round 10 Dc2tog, 9dc. [10 sts]
Round 11 1dc in each dc around.
Round 12 Dc2tog, 8dc. [9 sts]
Round 13 1dc in each dc around.
Round 14 Dc2tog, 7dc. [8 sts]
Rounds 15-16 1dc in each dc around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Stuff each Arm, sew closed along the top and sew to the Body.

LEGS (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Rounds 3-11 1dc in each dc around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Stuff each Leg with toy stuffing and sew to the bottom of the Body.

TROUSER LEGS (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn B, ch18, ss in the first ch to join into a ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 1dc in each ch. [18 sts]
Rounds 2-3 1dc in each dc around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Put each Trouser Leg over each Leg and sew to the bottom of the Body.

SHOES (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 5dc into the loop. [5 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [15 sts]
Round 4 1dc in back loop only of each dc.
Round 5 1dc in each dc around.
Round 6 4dc, (tr2tog) 3 times, 5dc. [12 sts]
Rounds 7-8 1dc in each dc around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Put each Shoe on the bottom of each Leg and sew with a few stitches to secure.
Tie a bow for each Shoe with waxed cord and sew or glue to each Shoe.

BALLOON
Using Yarn D, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Rounds 7-12 1dc in each dc around.
Round 13 (Dc2tog, 4dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 14-15 1dc in each dc around.
Round 16 (Dc2tog, 3dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 17 1dc in each dc around.
Round 18 (Dc2tog, 2dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 19 1dc in each dc around.
Round 20 (Dc2tog, 1dc) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 21 1dc in each dc around.
Stuff with toy stuffing.
Round 22 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Round 23 Ch3 (counts as tr), 1tr in st at base of ch, 2tr in each dc around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 sts]
Fasten off.

Place a blob of craft glue on the end of the piece of wire and insert into the bottom of the balloon. Leave to dry. Bend the wire to shape.

BUNNY LOVE

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



Josephine the rabbit



YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Petra 3 (100% cotton,100g/280m), 1 ball each of:
  White (B5200)
  Grey (5414)
  Silver (5415)
- DK yarn in a colour of your choice for the bow tie
- A 3mm hook
- Safety eyes, approx 6mm (¼in) diameter
- Toy stuffing
- Dark purple embroidery thread
- Tapestry and sewing needle
- Pink pencil

MEASUREMENTS

33x9cm (13x3½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

We often think that simple is best, and with Josephine the rabbit, designer Sandrine Deveze has created a classically neat rabbit with delicate features and lots of expression. "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," says Sandrine. This pattern is for the Josephine with the grey dress. Once you've mastered it you can create all sorts of dresses for her!

NOTES

Ch1 at beginning of a row is not counted as a stitch.
Each part (except for the Bow Tie) 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.

HEAD

Using White, ch2.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc in second ch from hook. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 8 Dc in each st around.
Round 9 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [48 sts]
Round 10 (Dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [54 sts]
Rounds 11-17 Dc in each st around.
Round 18 (Dc in each of next 7 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [48 sts]
Round 19 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 20 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 21 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 22 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
At the end of this round, fix the toy safety eyes between the Rounds 13 and 14, leaving a 4-5cm gap between them.
Begin stuffing the Head.
Round 23 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 24 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Finish stuffing the Head.
Round 25 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Round 26 (Dc2tog) 3 times. [3 sts]
Ss in next st. **Fasten off**.
Using the purple embroidery thread and embroidery needle, sew an 'X' in the middle of the Rabbit's Head.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using White, ch2.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc in second ch from hook. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Rounds 4-35 Dc in each st around.
Ss in next st. **Fasten off**.
Make a second identical Leg but do not fasten off. Stuff the Legs.

BODY

Using White, join Legs as follows.
Round 1 (RS) 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 and dc in each of the 18 sts of the first Leg, then dc in each of the 18 sts of the second Leg. [36 sts]
Rounds 2-5 Dc in each st around, changing to Grey and Silver held double on last yrh of last dc of Round 5.
Round 6 Dc in each st around.
Round 7 Dc in back loop only of each st around.
Round 8 Dc in each st around.
Round 9 Dc in each of next 11 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 15 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts. [34 sts]
Rounds 10-12 Dc in each st around.
Round 13 Dc in each of next 11 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 15 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts. [32 sts]
Rounds 14-21 Dc in each st around.
Round 22 Dc in each of next 12 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 14 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts. [30 sts]
Stuff the torso.
Round 23 Dc in each st around.
Round 24 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Rounds 25-26 Dc in each st around.
Round 27 *(Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Ss in next st. **Fasten off**.
Finish stuffing the torso.

SKIRT
Use Grey and Silver held double.
Round 1 (RS) Starting at centre back, insert hook into spare loop of a stitch on Round 7 of Body, ch1 (not counted as st), dc in same st at base of ch-1, 2dc in next st (dc in next st, 2dc in next st) around. [54 sts]
Rounds 2-8 Dc in each st around.
Ss in next st. **Fasten off**.

ARMS (MAKE 2)
Using White, ch2.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc in second ch from hook. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [16 sts]
Rounds 4-5 Dc in each st around, changing to Grey and Silver held double on last yrh of last dc of Round 5.
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 3 times, dc in next st. [13 sts]
Rounds 7-29 Dc in each st around.
Do not stuff the Arms.

EARS (MAKE 2)
Using White, ch2.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc in second ch from hook. [6 sts]
Round 2 Dc in each st around.
Round 3 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each st around.
Round 5 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Rounds 6-9 Dc in each st around.
Round 10 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 3 times, dc2tog, dc in next st. [14 sts]
Rounds 11-12 Dc in each st around.
Round 13 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 4 times, dc in each of next 2 sts. [10 sts]
Round 14 Dc in each st around.
Ss in next st. **Fasten off**.
Do not stuff the Ears.

BONNET
Using White, ch2.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc in second ch from hook. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]


A combo of grey and silver gives a pretty sparkle.

Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [48 sts]
Round 9 (Dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [54 sts]
Rounds 10-13 Dc in each st around.
Continue in rows.
Row 14 Dc in each of next 46 sts, turn (leaving remaining sts unworked). [46 sts]
Row 15-18 Ch1 (not counted as st here and throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.
Note: Row 19 corresponds to the two openings for the Ears.
Row 19 Ch1, dc in each of next 16 sts, ch5, skip next 5 sts, dc in each of next 4 sts, ch5, skip next 5 st, dc in next 16 sts, turn. [36 sts, 2 ch-5 loops]
Row 20 Ch1, dc in each of next 16 sts, 5dc in next ch-5 loop, dc in each of next 4 sts, 5dc in next ch-5 loop, dc in each of next 16 sts. [46 sts]
Rows 21-23 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.
Fasten off.

BOW TIE
Using colour of your choice, ch14.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [13 sts]
Rows 2-12 Ch1 (not counted as st), dc in each st to end, turn.
Fasten off, leaving a tail no less than 40cm long. Using a wool needle, bring the yarn to the centre of the crocheted rectangle and wrap it around to shape the bow tie. Bring the initial yarn tail to the centre as well, and knot the two together.

TO FINISH
Gather together all pieces for assembly. 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.
Begin by joining the Head to the Body, stitch for stitch, using the wool 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 Round 4. Place the Bonnet and sew the Bow Tie onto the neck. Colour in the cheeks using pink pencil.



Josephine is taken from *Sweet Crochet* by Sandrine Deveze, published by Pauper Press, £9.99. Visit www.peterpauper.com for more info.



HENRY J. FOX

Yan Schenkel's distinguished gent is ready for a globe-trotting adventure!

Professor fox



A BIT TRICKY | DK WEIGHT | 2.75MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Patons Diploma Gold DK (55% wool, 25% acrylic, 20% nylon, 50g/120m),
  2 balls of Yarn A Seville (6201)
  1 ball of each:
  Yarn B Cream (6142)
  Yarn C Apple Green (6125)
  Yarn D Gold (6200)
  Yarn E Black (6183)
  (see Notes)
- A 2.75mm (US C/2) hook
- Toy stuffing
- Safety eyes, approx 8mm diameter
- Stitch marker
- Tapestry or yarn needle

MEASUREMENTS

27cm (10½in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

Bobble stitch Tr5tog in the same st as follows: (Yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 5 times, inserting the hook in the same st each time, yrh and draw through all loops on hook.
Jacquard Working with 2 colours, work 1 st in the first colour and the next st in the second colour and continue alternating colours with each st.
For a full list, see page 130

Meet Henry J. Fox: Professor of Medieval Literature at Oxford University," says designer Yan Schenkel. "He loves walks in the park, reading The Canterbury Tales and going on adventures." We'd certainly sign up for an expedition with the Prof, with his shrewd but friendly demeanour! He's crocheted almost in a single piece from head to toe and would make a perfect present for a well-travelled friend.

NOTES

The sample in these photos was made in a cotton DK yarn that is unavailable in the UK. We have suggested a yarn which is the best match for colour and weight, but bear in mind that the shades suggested are not exactly as shown in the image and the measurements may differ slightly from those stated.
The Fox is made using the amigurumi method in a continuous spiral. You may find it helpful to put a stitch marker in the first st of each round and move it up as you work. Head, body and legs are worked in a single piece.

FOX TOY

SNOUT

Using Yarn E, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 8dc in loop. [8 sts]
Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.
Change to Yarn B and Yarn A. You will work with both yarns, changing colour













during the round. When you change, make sure you twist the working ends around one another to avoid a hole in the fabric. 01
Round 4 4dc in Yarn B, 4dc in Yarn A.
Round 5 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn B, repeat () twice in Yarn A. [12 sts]
Round 6 6dc in Yarn B, 6dc in Yarn A.
Round 7 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 3 times in Yarn B, 3 times in Yarn A. [18 sts]
Round 8 9dc in Yarn B, 9dc in Yarn A.
Round 9 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times in Yarn B, 3 times in Yarn A. [24 sts]
Round 10 12dc in Yarn B, 12dc in Yarn A.


07


08


09

Round 11 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times in Yarn B, 3 times in Yarn A. [30 sts]
Round 12 15dc in Yarn B, 15dc in Yarn A.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Embroider the mouth with Yarn E and stuff.

HEAD

Worked from top down.
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc in loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [48 sts]
Round 9 (Dc in next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [54 sts]
Rounds 10-17 Dc in each st around.
Change to Yarn B.
Rounds 18-20 Dc in each st around.
Round 21 (Dc in next 7 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [48 sts]
Round 22 (Dc in next 6 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 23 (Dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 24 (Dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Sew the Snout to the Head 02 and insert eyes, using the image as a guide.
Round 25 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 26 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 27 Dc in each st around.
Stuff the Head firmly.

VEST

Change to Yarn C.
Round 28 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Change to Yarn B and Yarn C.
In the foll row work in jacquard, alternating colours with each st 03:
Round 29 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 30 In Yarn C, dc in each st around.
Round 31 In jacquard, dc in each st around.
Rounds 32-35 Repeat the last 2 rows a further 2 times.
Round 36 In Yarn C, dc in each st around.
Stuff the body.
Change to Yarn A.
Round 37 Working in the back loop of each st only, dc in each st around.
Rounds 38-39 Dc in each st around.

DIVIDE THE LEGS

To divide the work to make two Legs, identify the central stitch at the back of the fox and place a stitch marker. 04
Dc in each st up to and including that marked st. There will be 15 sts on each Leg, and this marked st will be the 15th st of the first Leg. To join to first st of the Leg, count back from 15th st to find the first st which will be in the centre front. Now work a dc in first st, so that the sts of the first Leg are joined in the round.
Continue working the first Leg:
Rounds 40-62 Dc in each st around.
Stuff the body and leg firmly.
Round 63 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]
Round 64 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Using a tapestry needle, weave the yarn tail through the front loop of each rem st and pull tight to close.

SECOND LEG

Rejoin Yarn A to the next unworked st of Round 39, which will be the first st of the second Leg. 05
Round 40 Dc in each st of the second Leg, and when you reach the 15th st of the Leg, dc in first st to join into the round.
Continue working as for the first Leg.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn E, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into loop. [5 sts]
Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.
Change to Yarn A.
Round 4 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Rounds 5-6 Dc in each st around.
Round 7 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.
Round 10 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]



Colour changes worked in a spiral will result in a jog. These jogs are hidden at the back.

When adding the facial features and bow tie to your fox, refer to the images for accuracy.



Rounds 11-12 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Don't stuff.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into loop. [5 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each st around.
Round 5 Dc in next st, bobble st in next st, dc in next 13 sts. 06
Round 6 Dc in each st around.
Round 7 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]
Rounds 8-20 Dc in each st around.
Round 21 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 3 times, 1dc. [7 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.
Stuff the arm firmly.

TAIL

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into loop. [5 sts]
Round 2 Dc in each st around.
Round 3 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each st around.
Round 5 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [25 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [30 sts]
Round 9 (Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [35 sts]
Change to Yarn A.
Rounds 10-16 Dc in each st around.
Round 17 (Dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 18-19 Dc in each st around.
Round 20 (Dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [25 sts]
Rounds 21-22 Dc in each st around.
Round 23 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [20 sts]
Rounds 24-25 Dc in each st around.
Round 26 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [15 sts]
Rounds 27-28 Dc in each st around.
Round 29 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]
Round 30 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing, and stuff. 07

BOW TIE

Using Yarn D, ch6.
Round 1 (RS) Dc in the second ch from the hook, dc in each ch to last ch, 3dc in the last ch, rotate to work on the other side of the foundation ch, dc in each st to last st, 2dc in last st. [12 sts]
Rounds 2-5 Dc in each st around.
Round 6 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Round 7 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 8-12 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Don't stuff.
Using a tapestry needle, close the open end of the Bow Tie and wrap yarn around the centre of the tie to pinch it in the middle. 08
Fasten off securely.

TO FINISH

Using a tapestry needle, sew the Tail and the Arms to the Body. Sew the Ears to the Head. 09
Position the Bow Tie and sew it to the front of the Body.



BILL AND COO

Hook a couple of sweet amigurumi lovebirds designed by Mei Li Lee.

Lovebirds



EASY PEASY | DK LACE | 2MM 2.5MM

YOU WILL NEED

- DK cotton yarn in duck egg blue, bright blue and pink
- Laceweight yarn in pale yellow
- Black crochet thread
- A 2mm (US 4 steel) hook
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- Tapestry needle
- Polyester toy stuffing

MEASUREMENTS

Approx 5cm (2in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

Invisible decrease (invdec)
Insert hook into front loop of first st without putting yarn round hook, bring hook to front of work and insert hook into front loop of next st (3 loops on hook). Yrh and draw through all 3 loops

For a full list, see page 130

Whimsy comes in all shapes and sizes but tiny crochet critters are our favourite form. Mei Li Lee's feathered friends are adorable and quick to stitch – ideal for amigurumi newbies. These lovebirds are happily perched in a large glass jar, but you could keep your pocket-sized pals free range, too. They'd make a lovely gift or a charming addition to your craft area.

NOTES

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

BODY

Using duck egg blue yarn and a 2.5mm hook, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc in the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each dc around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next dc, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Rounds 4-7 Dc in each st around.
Round 8 (2dc in next dc, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Rounds 9-12 Dc in each st around.
Round 13 (Invdec, 2dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Stuff Body.
Round 14 (Invdec, dc in next dc) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 15 (Invdec) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail, thread through the remaining sts to close.



Those tiny beaks are worked in one round. Are they puckering up or whistling a tune?

BEAK

Using pale yellow yarn and 2mm hook, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as a st), 6dc in the loop. [6 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

TO MAKE UP

Sew Beak onto the Body. The top of the Beak should fall below Round 5.
Using black thread or embroidery floss, sew the eyes with a diagonal backstitch. They should fall below Round 6.
Add pink blushing cheeks with several backstitches of pink yarn below the eyes. 01
Use black thread to sew 3 straight stitches for each of the feet.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK CHAIN STITCH



1 Bring needle to the front of the fabric, after securing the thread at the back. Insert needle back into same hole (or very close to it) and pull gently to leave a small loop.



2 Bring needle to the front a little way to the right, making sure the needle passes through the loop. Insert the needle back into the same hole (or very close to it). Pull gently to leave a small loop.



3 Repeat Step 2 to make more loops.



4 After the final loop, make a small stitch over the last loop to secure it.

Lovebirds

WINGS
The Wings are worked using bright blue yarn and embroidered chain st. Cut a 20cm length of yarn and thread it through a tapestry needle.
Bring the yarn up to a spot below the cheeks. 02
Work 6 or 7 chain stitches to form a curved Wing on each side of the Body. 03 04 05
Bring the yarn ends out at the bottom of the body and trim the excess.

TAIL
The Tail is surface crocheted onto the back of the Body below Round 11, using bright blue yarn and a 2.5mm hook.
The Tail is worked across a total of 6 sts on the back of the Body, so identify these sts centrally on the back of your work and dc into first st.
The following is worked in a continuous row over the next 5 sts:
Ch2, ss to next st, 3htr in next st, ss to next st, dc in next st, ch2, dc in next st.
06 **Fasten off** and weave in ends.



The extra details on these cute birds are worked with embroidery and surface crochet.














"I stumbled across amigurumi and instantly fell in love."

SNUGGLE-READY AMIGURUMI

Designer Kate Hancock uses her crochet skills to recreate adorable wildlife. Prepare to discover a world of sloths and badgers and bears, oh my!

Designer Kate Hancock is doing crochet proud by imbuing yarn with armfuls of personality. Her amigurumi animals look like they've escaped from the woodlands and jungles of children's fiction, with a cast of characters including cute crocheted rabbits, reindeer and even a sloth.

It makes perfect sense when Kate admits that her first forays into crochet began with a twinge of nostalgia. "I suppose it's always been there in the background," she muses. "I have some very vivid childhood memories of my mother's crochet blankets covering our old sofa, so it's actually quite surprising that I only started crocheting about seven years ago."

Kate joined a knitting group in her local library, but a bit of browsing through the books for inspiration changed her direction. "I stumbled across a book on amigurumi and instantly fell in love. I just knew I had to learn how to make them so I started crocheting instead!"

HOOKED WITH LOVE

Kate has remained steadfast in her passion for making sweet beasties. "I've enjoyed crocheting so many things, but I always come back to amigurumi. I never tire of it," she says. "I think it's because they're made with so much love and every one you make is different, with a character of its own. You can't really make them wrong, any mistakes just add to their personality. Being handmade, you can tell somebody cared about making them, and it shows – a wonky nose or one arm longer than the other just makes them more appealing."

After gaining experience making tiny, kawaii-influenced amigurumi, Kate began to tackle ideas of her own. "I started to design my first pattern for Bramble the bunny. People like him and I loved the experience of designing my own creatures, so it went on from there."

We love the fact that a lot of her creatures have such a distinctly British







look, such as Aneira the lamb, Felix the robin, Bracken the kitten and Ambrose the badger, and are based on the kind of wildlife you might find meandering through a field or woodland, or happily tucked up in a family home.

"I mostly draw inspiration from nature and the wildlife around us," Kate says. "I started on Ambrose after finding a set of badger prints in the woods nearby. We have a lot of badgers around us, but we don't see them very often and I was keen to work on an animal that was close to us.

"Sometimes I'll design a specific animal for people and sometimes I see a really cute photo and I think wow – I have to make one of those! I designed my sloth Artemis after I was sent an adorable picture of one in pyjamas."

Choosing a favourite character is difficult. "Hmmm, that's a tricky one as it changes constantly! I tend to get a bit attached to them when they're in progress and I'm usually happiest with the one I've just finished, but I'll always have a soft spot for Moss the puppy (see *Simply Crochet* issue 22) and Theo the bear. Theo was my first cuddle-sized amigurumi and despite being a simpler design than some of my projects, he was a bit of a labour of love."

Kate works hard to squeeze as much cuteness as possible into each of her creations. "I was so happy with Theo when I got him just right. I guess the same goes for Moss really – I don't release a design until I feel it's the best I can make it and that means that some are works in progress for quite a long time, but they are always worth it to me."

Naming each creature is an important part of the job. "A few of them have been named for children and if I'm reading a book and I like a character, I might use that name if it fits. I love old-fashioned names. I have a list that I add my favourites to as I come across them and then I choose based on which one suits them the most. If none of them quite fit then I start hunting for a new one."

MAKING A GO OF IT

It didn't take long for Kate's ever-growing yarn menagerie to attract a sizeable fan base, so she decided to launch her own website, www.patchworkmoose.co.uk. "About three years ago I started selling online and I set up my website. I had so much support from the Ravelry community, my family and people that shared my love of my amigurumi creations and I finally got to the point where I thought I could actually make a go of it," she explains. "I'd been designing for a while before then and it took a bit of time to grow my confidence, but I knew that I had to take the opportunity."

> "I LOVED THE EXPERIENCE OF DESIGNING MY OWN CREATURES SO IT WENT ON FROM THERE."

She'd had the website name, Patchwork Moose, in mind for a while. "I wanted something memorable and fun, and I still like it. It's one of my ambitions to create a crochet patchwork moose amigurumi one day, so it's a goal, too."

Kate tells us she's happy to sit down and crochet almost anywhere. "On car journeys, on the bus or train, in waiting rooms…" she laughs. "I love to crochet in the garden if it's warm and I tend to chase the sunshine around the house, but I do have a comfy chair that used to belong to my grandfather. If I can persuade my cats to share it with me, that's where I most like to crochet. As for the actual designing and computer work, I have a tiny office where I'm surrounded by yarn. It's heaven."

Making amigurumi is a thoroughly immersive experience for Kate. "I find crochet very meditative and it's so versatile – you can take a ball of yarn and a hook and create so many things from it, it's only limited by your imagination," she says. "There's usually an animal or two waiting in the wings and I have a basket of works-in-progress, but I'm currently furthest along with a little piglet design. Turning a length of yarn into a cuddly animal is still magical to me."

Interview by Judy Darley



A FEW OF HER FAVOURITE THINGS...

"I adore all fibre-related crafts. I started with crochet and as I fell in love with yarn it led into so many other things. I like to knit when I have a little time and I spin yarn as well. I also enjoy felting, sewing and a bit of machine embroidery, although I still can't sew a straight line very well!"

Check out Kate's octopus on page 26 and sea creatures on pages 31 and 37. You can find more patterns at www.patchworkmoose.co.uk.

DAY OF THE TENTACLE

Kate Hancock's incredibly detailed octopus is a brilliant challenge for crocheters.



Claude the octopus



YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Paris (100% cotton, 50g/75m), 6 balls of Yarn A Light Turquoise (02), 3 balls of Yarn B Off White (17), 2 balls of each: Yarn C Apricot (01), Yarn D Strong Blue (09)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Safety eyes, approx 24mm (1in) diameter
- Toy stuffing
- Stitch markers

For yarn stockists, contact
Wool Warehouse
0800 505 3300
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

23cm (9in) head height
115cm (45in) across, from tentacle tip to tip

ABBREVIATIONS

3-tr cluster (Yrh, insert hook in space/st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 3 times, inserting the hook in the same space/st each time, yrh and draw through all loops on hook
4-tr cluster As above, working () 4 times
For a full list, see page 130



Turn to page 30 to find a diagram to help you construct Claude's eight tentacles.

Meet Claude the octopus. He's an amigurumi masterpiece and he's a real sucker for sudoku and adventures on the high seas. Plus with all those arms (eight, we counted), he's perfect for cuddling and playtime.

NOTES

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.
The pattern involves working into chains. Make sure your chain sts are very loose in order to make working into them easier. In this pattern, when working into chains, you need to work into the bump on the back of the chain.

HEAD

The Head is worked from the top down to the Tentacles.
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 8 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts) 6 times, dc in each of next 18 sts. [48 sts]
Round 9 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 7 sts) 6 times. [54 sts]
Round 10 Dc in next st, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts) 6 times, dc in each of next 17 sts. [60 sts]
Round 11 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 9 sts) 6 times. [66 sts]
Round 12 Dc in each of next 2 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 7 sts) 6 times, dc in each of next 16 sts. [72 sts]
Rounds 13-22 Dc in each st around.
Round 23 Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 7 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 25 sts, (dc2tog, dc in each of next 7 sts) 3 times, dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts. [66 sts]
Rounds 24-25 Dc in each st around.
Round 26 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 9 sts) 6 times. [60 sts]
Rounds 27-28 Dc in each st around.
Round 29 Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 18 sts, (dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts) 3 times, dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts. [54 sts]
Rounds 30-31 Dc in each st around. Start stuffing the Head firmly and continue to stuff as you go.
Round 32 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 7 sts) 6 times. [48 sts]
Rounds 33-34 Dc in each st around.
Round 35 Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 11 sts, (dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts) 3 times, dc2tog, dc in next st. [42 sts]

Mark the 17th dc on Round 36 with a stitch marker. This will indicate where the front of the Head is and help to place the eyes later.
Round 36 Dc in each st around.
Round 37 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 38 Dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, (dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts) 3 times, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts. [36 sts]
Round 39 Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, (dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts) 3 times, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts. [36 sts]
Round 40 Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, (dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts) 3 times, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts. [36 sts]
Round 41 (Dc in each of next 8 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [40 sts]
Round 42 Dc in each st around.

UPPER TENTACLES

Continue to work in the round, making a chain for each Tentacle then working down the back of the chain as when working a row. Skipped turning ch do not count as a st. Continue in the round to the next Tentacle. See Chart on p30.
Round 43 *Dc in each of next 3 sts, ch31, dc in the back of the second ch

from the hook (the skipped first ch becomes the first turning ch), dc in the back of the next 29 ch, dc in each of the next 2 dc of the Body*; rep from * to * another 7 times. [528 sts in total; 66 sts for each Tentacle, including ch sts]
Round 44 *Dc in each of next 33 sts (working in the 'ch' side of the dc sts of the previous round), dc in first turning ch, ch51, dc in the back of the second ch from the hook (the skipped first ch becomes the second turning ch), dc into the back of the next 49 ch, dc in the first turning ch, dc in each of the next 32 sts (working in the top of the dc sts of the previous round)*; rep from * to * another 7 times. [1344 sts; 168 sts for each Tentacle, including ch sts]
Using a stitch marker or scrap thread, mark the beginning stitch of each Tentacle in Round 45 (8 markers). This will help to join the Tentacle Flaps later.
Round 45 *Dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in each of next 62 sts, (dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times, dc in next st, 2dc in second turning ch, dc in next st, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts) 6 times, dc in each of next 62 sts, dc2tog*; rep from * to * another 7 times. [1432 sts; 179 sts for each Tentacle] **Fasten off**.

BASE AND LOWER TENTACLES

The Base is worked from the middle out to the Tentacles.
You will need to change to Yarn C for every 3-tr/4-tr cluster stitch. Switch back to Yarn B for all other stitches.
To change colour smoothly, start your cluster in Yarn C but when you have 4 or 5 loops left on the hook, yrh with Yarn B and pull through all 4 or 5 loops on the hook to complete the stitch.
When changing colour, drop the yarn not being used to the back of your work and pick it up again when you need it, being careful not to leave it too loose or pull it 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 because they will be on the inside.

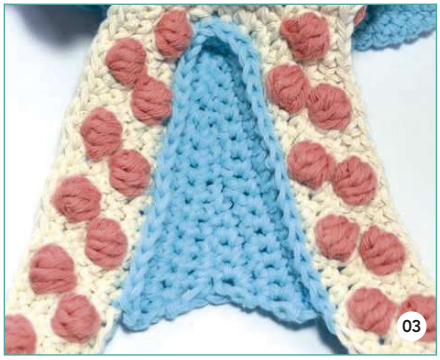
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as a st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Change to Yarn B.
Start your colour change in the previous dc. **Fasten off** Yarn A.
Round 4 Working in fl of Round 3, ss in each st around. [18 sts]
Round 5 Working in bl of Round 4, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 6 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 7 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in each of next 8 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [40 sts]
Round 9 Dc in each st around.
Now start the Tentacles. Continue working in the round, making a chain for each Tentacle, then working down the back of the chain as when working a row. Continue in the round to the next Tentacle.
Round 10 *Dc in each of next 3 sts, ch31, dc in the back of the second ch from the hook (the skipped first ch becomes the first turning ch), dc in the back of the next 29 ch, dc in each of the next 2 dc at the base*; rep from * to * another 7 times. [528 sts; 66 sts for each Tentacle, including ch sts]
Round 11 *Dc in each of next 3 sts, (dc in each of next 3 sts, 4-tr cluster in next st) 7 times. **Fasten off** Yarn C, dc in each of next 2 sts, dc in first turning ch, ch31, dc in the back of the second ch from the hook (the skipped first ch becomes the second turning ch), dc in the back of the next ch, (4-tr cluster in next ch, dc in each of next 3 ch) 7 times, dc in the first turning ch, (4-tr cluster in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts) 8 times*; rep from * to * another 7 times. [1024 sts; 128 sts for each Tentacle, including ch sts]
Using a stitch marker or scrap thread, mark the beginning stitch of every Tentacle in Round 12 (8 markers). This will help to join the Tentacle Flaps later.
Round 12 *Dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in each of next 61 sts, dc in second turning ch, ch26, dc in the back of the first ch from the hook (there is no turning ch), (3-tr cluster in next ch, dc in each of next 3 ch) 6 times, 3-tr cluster in next ch. **Fasten off** Yarn C, dc in second turning ch, dc in each of next 61 sts, dc2tog*; rep from * to * another 7 times. [1432 sts; 179 sts for each Tentacle] **Fasten off**.

TENTACLE FLAPS (MAKE 8)

The Tentacle Flaps start with a chain. As with the Tentacles, the Flap rows will be worked up one side of the chain and back down the other. The ch1 at the end of each row adds height and is not counted as a st throughout.
See Chart on p30.
Using Yarn A, ch5.
Row 1 (RS) Dc into the back of the second ch from the hook (the skipped first ch becomes the first turning ch), dc in the back of each of the next 3 ch, turn. [4 sts]
Row 2 Ch1, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts, dc in first turning ch, ch5, dc in the back of the second ch from the









Claude is full of wonderful details that help to make him anatomically correct.



The tentacle flaps are attached to the tentacles using dc.

hook (the skipped first ch becomes the second turning ch), dc in the back of the next 3 ch, dc in the first turning ch, dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, turn. [21 sts, including 5 ch sts]
Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 9 sts, dc in second turning ch, ch5, dc in the back of the second ch from the hook (the skipped first ch becomes the third turning ch), dc in the back of the next 3 ch, dc in the second turning ch, dc in each of the next 9 sts, 2dc in next st, turn. [33 sts, including 5 ch sts]
Row 4 Ch1, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 15 sts, dc in third turning ch, dc in each of next 15 sts, 2dc in next st. [35 sts] **Fasten off**.

JOINING THE TENTACLE FLAPS
Next, join the individual Tentacle Flaps to the upper and lower sides of the Tentacles. Place Body on top of base so that wrong sides are facing each other. Line up one of the stitch markers from the Head with a stitch marker on the Base (it doesn't matter which one).
With the underside of Tentacles facing you, count 17 dc down one Tentacle away from marker, on both the upper and lower sides of the Tentacles – this is your starting stitch. Place Tentacle Flap on top of the Upper Tentacle, so the last stitch made on the Tentacle Flap (where you fastened off) lines up with the starting stitch on the other two pieces.
Using Yarn A, place a slip knot on your hook and with underside facing you, dc through the loops of Upper Tentacle, Lower Tentacle and Tentacle Flap, joining them tog 01.
Cont to work 16 dc along the Tentacle side working through the upper, lower and flap of the Tentacles, joining them as you go until you come to the stitch markers. Remove stitch markers, then continue to work 18 dc in the next Tentacle side, working through the loops of the Upper, Lower and Flap of the Tentacles as before 02 03. [35 sts]
Fasten off.
Rep for all eight Tentacles. Stuff the base and the Tentacles firmly as you go.

JOINING THE TENTACLES
We will now join the upper and lower sides of the Tentacles, in one round, crocheting around the edges and joining them together.
Using Yarn D, place a slip knot on your hook. With the underside of the Tentacles facing you, start at the right-hand side of a Flap, preparing to work across the open Flap edge.
Round 1 *Work 8 dc across the Flap, then dc through the last dc made when joining the Flaps and Tentacles earlier. Cont to work 72 dc along the Tentacle side, working through both the Lower and Upper Tentacles, joining them as you go, until you reach the tip. Turn and work 72 dc along the opposite side of the Tentacles back up to the flap, stopping every 10 dc to stuff the Tentacle firmly as you go, dc through the first dc made when joining the flaps and Tentacles earlier*; rep from * to * another 7 times. [1232 sts; 154 sts for each Tentacle]
Ss to first dc in round. **Fasten off**.

EYE RINGS (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn A, ch3.
Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, 5dc in next ch. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 Working in fl only, (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 Dc in each st around.
Round 8 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 9 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 10 (Dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 11 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]
Ss to first dc in round.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.
Lightly stuff the Eye Ring and then push the beg rounds down toward the back hole to flatten. Flip Eye Ring over and thread yarn tail onto a needle. St last round to the inside of the Eye Ring,

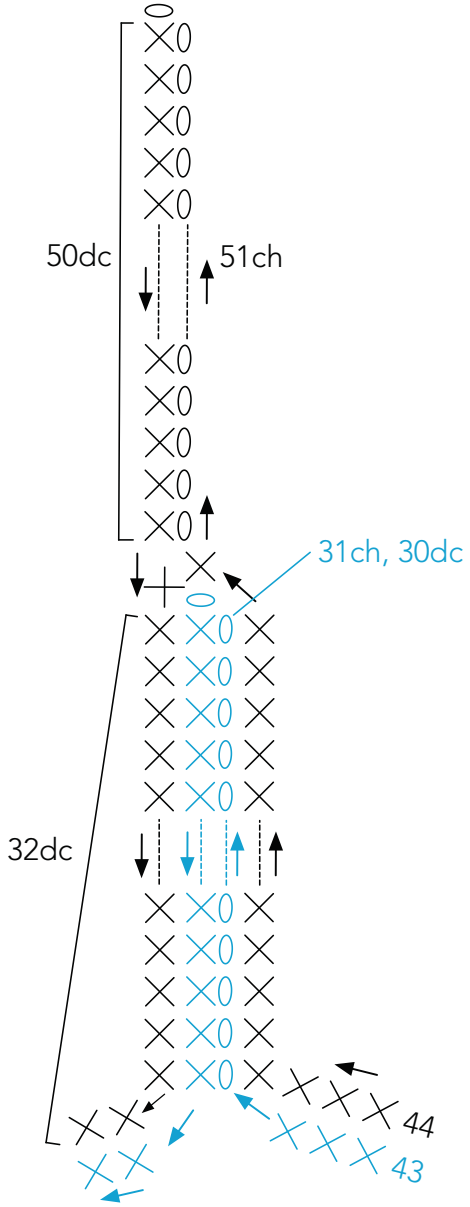
through open loops left over by Round 3. Flip Eye Ring back and attach safety eye through the space made by beg ch-2.

FIRST EYELID
Using Yarn A, ch7.
Row 1 (RS) 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. [6 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

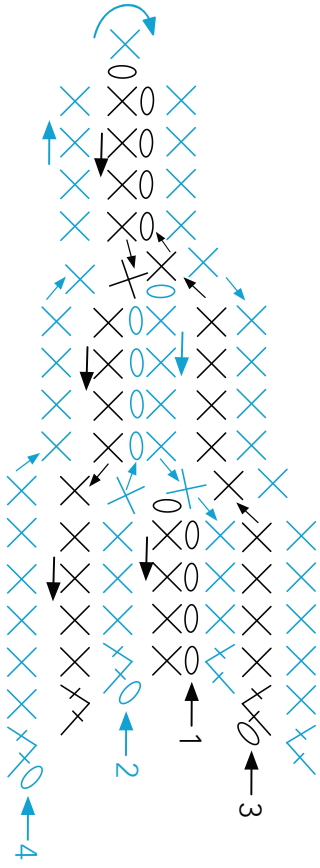
SECOND EYELID
Using Yarn A, ch7.
Row 1 (RS) Ss in second ch from hook, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, htr in next ch, dc into last ch. [6 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

TO FINISH
St Eyelids onto Eye Rings, making sure to curve them around the eyes. Using the st marked earlier as a guide for front of Head, place Eye Rings either side of marker so they are 5 dc apart. Line up centres of eyes with the stitch marker and sew the Eye Rings on firmly. Next, make a st to pull in the bottom of the Base. Using Yarn A, thread a needle and insert it into the middle of the Base, exiting at Round 40 at the back of the head, then st back into Round 40, exit back at the Base and pull tightly. Cont to st in and out of these two points. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

OCTOPUS UPPER TENTACLES



OCTOPUS TENTACLE FLAPS



Key
- Chain (ch)
- Double crochet (dc)
- 2dc in one stitch
- Direction of work



COCO THE CRAB

Hasn't Kate Hancock designed the cutest crustacean you've ever seen? Coco's a real charmer!

Happy crab



A BIT TRICKY | DK WEIGHT | 3.5MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Wendy Merino DK (100% merino wool, 50g/116m), 1 ball of Yarn A Persian Red (2352)
- Small amount of black and white yarn for the eyes
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Toy stuffing
- Stitch markers

For yarn stockists, contact TB Ramsden 01943 872264 www.tbramsden.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

16.5cm (6½in) from leg tip to leg tip

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

Bright red Coco the Crab is a cheery soul. She spends her days scuttling sideways along the sandy shoreline and hanging out with friends. Her intricate shape means she's a great toy to try if you want to improve your amigurumi skills, and she makes an ideal gift for any of your friends or family born under the sign of Cancer.

NOTES

The Crab is made using the amigurumi method in a continuous spiral. You may find it helpful to put a stitch marker in the first st of each round and move it up as you work.

PINCER ARM (MAKE 2)

The Pincers are made in 2 parts. Make the First Claw, fasten off, then make the Second Claw, joining it to the First Claw during Round 6.

FIRST CLAW

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into loop. [6 sts]
Rounds 2-3 Dc in each dc around.
Fasten off.

SECOND CLAW

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 Dc in each dc around.
Round 3 2dc in each dc around. [12 sts]
Rounds 4-5 Dc in each dc around.
Round 6 Dc in next dc, dc in next 5 dc of First Claw, dc2tog over last dc and st edge of First Claw, dc2tog over the st edge of Second Claw and next dc on Second Claw, dc in next 10 dc on Second Claw. [18 sts]
The First and Second Claws are now joined and worked as one.
Round 7 Dc in each dc around. [18 sts] Stuff Pincer and cont to stuff as you go.
Round 8 (Dc2tog, dc in next dc) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 9 Dc in each dc around.
Round 10 (Dc2tog, dc in next dc) 4 times. [8 sts]
Rounds 11-15 Dc in each dc around.
Round 16 Dc2tog, dc in next dc, 2dc in each of next 2 dc, dc in next dc, dc2tog. [8 sts]
Rounds 17-19 Dc in each dc around.
The Pincer Arm is now flattened to close. Dc in next 2 dc, pinch the top of the Pincer closed and dc through both the next dc and the last dc made, cont to work 3 more dc across top of Arm, working through 2 sts at a time to close the gap. [4 sts] 01
Fasten off and weave in ends.

LEG (MAKE 8)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 Dc in each dc around.
Round 3 (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) twice. [6 sts]
Rounds 4-7 Dc in each dc around. Stuff the Leg lightly and continue to stuff as you go.
Round 8 (Dc2tog) twice, 2dc in next 2 dc. [6 sts]
Rounds 9-12 Dc in each dc around.
Pinch top of Leg closed and dc through both loops of next dc and last dc of Round 12, work 2 dc across top of Leg through 2 sts at a time to close gap. [3 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

BODY

The Body is worked from the top of the shell to the belly.
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 (Dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc) 3 times. [9 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next dc, 2dc in each of next 2 dc) 3 times. [15 sts]


01


02


03


04

Round 4 (Dc in next 2 dc, 2dc in each of next 2 dc, dc in next dc) 3 times. [21 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in next 3 dc, 2dc in each next 2 dc, dc in next 2 dc) 3 times. [27 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in each of next 2 dc, dc in next 3 dc) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in next 5 dc, 2dc in each of next 2 dc, dc in next 4 dc) 3 times. [39 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 3 dc) 3 times. [45 sts]
Round 9 (Dc in next 5 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 4 dc) 3 times. Mark the 44th st with a stitch marker. [51 sts]
Round 10 (Dc in next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 5 dc) twice, dc in next dc. **Fasten off**, leaving rem sts unworked. [39 sts]
Re-join your yarn at the st marked earlier. This is now beg of round.
Rounds 11-12 Dc in each dc around. [55 sts]
In next round, the Legs and Pincers are joined to the Body. Starting from the back, join 4 Legs and first Pincer, then work the front and join second Pincer and last 4 Legs. It is important to take care that the bends in each Leg are facing in the correct direction when working the next round. Place a stitch marker in the front loop of the first st of Round 12, to indicate where to re-attach for the Shell Edge later.
Round 13 Working through the back loops only, dc in next 3 dc, then place a Leg in front of the shell, with the Leg pointing toward the back of the Crab, *work the next 3 dc through both the dc loops of the Leg and the back dc loops of the Body, joining them both tog. 02 Rep from * for second Leg. Place third Leg pointing toward the front of the crab and **work the next 3 dc through the Leg and back loops on the Body. Rep from ** for fourth Leg. Place a Pincer Arm pointing forward and work next 4 dc through both the arm and the back loops on the body. Dc in next 17 dc. Place a Pincer Arm pointing forward and work the next 4 dc through both the arm and the back loops on the Body. Join the next 4 Legs in the same way as first 4, with fifth and sixth Leg pointing toward the front and seventh and eighth pointing toward the back, then dc in rem 3 dc. [55 sts] 03
Round 14 Dc in next 14 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 4 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 11 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 4 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 14 dc. [51 sts]
Round 15 (Dc in next 2 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 9 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 2 dc) 3 times. [45 sts]
Round 16 (Dc in next 2 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 7 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 2 dc) 3 times. [39 sts]
Dc in the next dc and then cont to Round 17. Move your st marker to the first st of Round 17, marking the new beg of the round.
Round 17 (Dc2tog, dc in next 9 dc, dc2tog) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 18 (Dc2tog, dc in next 7 dc, dc2tog) 3 times. [27 sts]
Round 19 (Dc2tog, dc in next 5 dc, dc2tog) 3 times. [21 sts]
Stuff the Body firmly and cont to stuff as you go.
Round 20 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 dc, dc2tog) 3 times. [15 sts]
Round 21 (Dc2tog, dc in next dc, dc2tog) 3 times. [9 sts]
Round 22 (Dc2tog, dc in next dc) 3 times. [6 sts] **Fasten off**, leaving a long tail. Thread yarn tail onto a needle, pass through final 6 sts and gather up. Stitch closed firmly.

SHELL EDGE

The Shell Edge is created by working a round of dc in the open front loops of Round 12. With the top of the Shell facing you, rejoin Yarn A at the st marked earlier.
Round 1 (RS) Dc in next 27 dc, 3dc in next dc, dc in next 27 dc, ss to the first dc to join. [57 sts] 04
Fasten off.


Coco's peepers are crochet circles, but you could also use a pair of safety eyes.

EYE (MAKE 2)

Using black yarn, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr), 11htr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join. [12 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

FIRST EYELID

Using Yarn A, ch7.
Row 1 (RS) Dc into 2nd 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 long tail.

SECOND EYELID

Using Yarn A, ch7.
Row 1 (RS) Ss into 2nd ch from hook, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, htr in next ch, dc into last ch.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

TO MAKE UP

Use the image and the 3 dc in Shell Edge as a guide for the centre of face. Sew Eyes to Head, 5 dc apart, with bottom edge of eyes resting against the Shell Edge.
Sew Eyelids on, making sure to curve them around Eyes.
Using white yarn, embroider 3 small straight sts to form a highlight on each Eye. Weave in loose ends.

HUMPBACK HARRY

Make a splash with Becky Garratt's charming whale chappie. He's nautical but nice!



Stripy whale



YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Paris (100% cotton, 50g/75m), 2 balls of Yarn A Dark Wash (103)
  1 ball each of:
  Yarn B Pistachio (39)
  Yarn C Dark Turquoise (10)
  Yarn D Light Purple (05)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Safety eyes, approx 9mm diameter
- Toy stuffing
- Stitch marker

For yarn stockists, contact
Wool Warehouse 01926 882818
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

22cm (8½in) long

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

With his distinctive stripy belly and freely flapping fins, Humpback Harry is an extremely lovable marine make. The Dark Wash shade of DROPS Paris is a recycled denim yarn, which adds a bit of character and texture to Harry's skin.

NOTES

The Whale Body is worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch.
You may find it helpful to place a marker in the first st of each round and move it up as you work. The Under Belly is worked as a separate piece and sewn on afterwards.

BODY

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 5dc into the loop, ss to the first dc to join. [5 dc]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 dc]
Round 3 (1dc in the next st, 2dc in the next st) 5 times. [15 dc]
Round 4 (1dc in each of the next 2 sts, 2dc in the next st) 5 times. [20 dc]
Round 5 (1dc in each of the next 3 sts, 2dc in the next st) 5 times. [25 dc]
Round 6 (1dc in each of the next 4 sts, 2dc in the next st) 5 times. [30 dc]
Round 7 (1dc in each of the next 5 sts, 2dc in the next st) 5 times. [35 dc]
Round 8 (1dc in each of the next 6 sts, 2dc in the next st) 5 times. [40 dc]
Rounds 9-15 Dc in each st around.
Round 16 (1dc in each of the next 6 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [35 dc]

Add the safety eyes between Rounds 15 and 16 approximately 15 sts apart. These 15 sts will be located on the belly side of the whale.

Rounds 17-19 Dc in each st around. [35 dc]
Round 20 (1dc in each of the next 5 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [30 dc]
Rounds 21-23 Dc in each st around.
Round 24 (1dc in each of the next 4 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [25 dc]
Rounds 25-26 Dc in each st around.
Round 27 (1dc in each of the next 3 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [20 dc]
Rounds 28-30 Dc in each st around.
Round 31 (1dc in each of the next 2 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [15 dc]
Round 32 Dc in each st around.



Harry's stripy belly is crocheted separately then sewn onto the rest of his body.

Round 33 (1dc in the next st, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 dc]
Rounds 34-35 Dc in each st around.
Stuff Body with toy stuffing.
Round 36 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 dc]
Fasten off.

UNDER BELLY

Using Yarn B, ch4.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in the second ch from the hook and each of the next 2 ch, turn. [3 dc]
From this point onwards, continue the colour sequence of: 2 rows Yarn C, 2 rows Yarn D, 2 rows Yarn B.
Row 2 Change to Yarn C, ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first st, 2dc in the next st, 1dc in the last st, turn. [4 dc]
Row 3 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st across, turn.
Row 4 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first st, 2dc in the next st, 1dc in the last 2 sts, turn. [5 dc]
Row 5 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first 2 sts, 2dc in the next st, 1dc in the last 2 sts, turn. [6 dc]
Row 6 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first 2 sts, 2dc in the next st, 1dc in the last 3 sts, turn. [7 dc]
Row 7 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each dc across, turn.
Row 8 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first 3 sts, 2dc in the next st, 1dc

in the last 3 sts, turn. [8 dc]
Row 9 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each dc across, turn.
Row 10 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first 3 sts, 2dc in the next st, 1dc in the last 4 sts, turn. [9 dc]
Row 11 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each dc across, turn.
Row 12 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first 4 sts, 2dc in the next st, 1dc in the last 4 sts, turn. [10 dc]
Row 13 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first 4 sts, 2dc in the next st, 1dc in the last 5 sts, turn. [11 dc]
Rows 14-16 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each dc across, turn.
Row 17 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first 5 sts, 2dc in the next st, 1dc in the last 5 sts, turn. [12 dc]
Row 18 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first 5 sts, 2dc in the next st, 1dc in the last 6 sts, turn. [13 dc]
Row 19 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each dc across, turn.
Row 20 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first 6 sts, 2dc in the next st, 1dc in the last 6 sts, turn. [14 dc]
Rows 21-25 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each dc across, turn.
Row 26 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first 6 sts, dc2tog, 1dc in the last 6 sts, turn. [13 dc]
Row 27 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each dc across, turn.
Row 28 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first 5 sts, dc2tog, 1dc in the last 6 sts, turn. [12 dc]
Row 29 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first 5 sts, dc2tog, 1dc in the last 5 sts, turn. [11 dc]
Row 30 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in the first 2 sts, htr in the next 2 sts, tr in the next 3 sts, htr in the next 2 sts, 1dc in the last 2 sts. [11 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

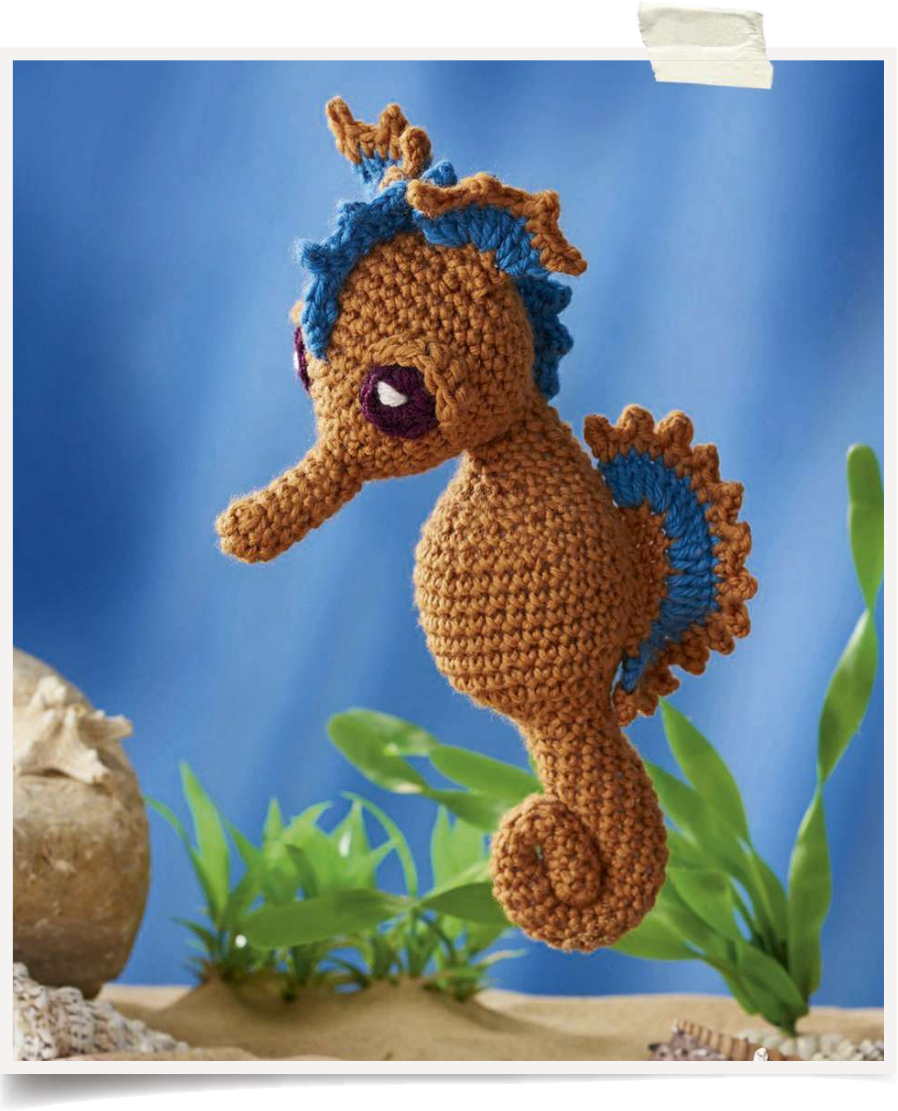
Pin this piece to the belly of the Body, making sure the eyes are evenly spaced on each side.
Sew in place.

TAIL (MAKE 4)
Using Yarn A, ch5.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in the second ch from the hook and each of the next 3 ch, turn. [4 dc]
Rows 2-6 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st across, turn.
Row 7 Ch1 (does not count as st), skip the first st, dc in each st across, turn. [3 dc]
Row 8 Ch1 (does not count as st), skip the first st, dc in each st across, turn. [2 dc]
Fasten off.
Holding wrong sides together, sew around the edge of 2 pieces to create one side of the tail.
Repeat with the other 2 pieces and sew both to the tail end of the Body, using the image as a guide.


You can use up any yarn in your stash to make Harry's striped belly.

FLIPPERS (MAKE 4)
Using Yarn A, ch5.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in the second ch from the hook, htr in the next ch, tr in the next ch, dtr in the next ch, turn. [4 sts]
Rows 2-8 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st across, turn. [4 dc]
Row 9 Ch1 (does not count as st), skip first st, dc in each st across, turn. [3 dc]
Row 10 Ch1 (does not count as st), skip the first st, dc in each st across, turn. [2 dc]
Fasten off.

Holding wrong sides together, sew around the edge of 2 pieces to create one flipper. Repeat with the other 2 pieces and sew both to the Body, using the photographs as a guide.



SAM THE SEAHORSE

Go on an underwater adventure with
Kate Hancock's sweet seafaring fellow.

Cute seahorse



A BIT TRICKY | DK WEIGHT | 3.5MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Wendy Merino DK (100% superwash merino wool, 50g/116m), 1 ball of Yarn A Cobnut (2397), 5g of Yarn B Oasis (2389)
- Small amount of coloured and white yarn for the crochet eyes
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Toy stuffing
- Stitch marker

MEASUREMENTS

20cm (8in) from tip of ears to tail

ABBREVIATIONS

Picot Ch3, ss to third ch from hook

For a full list, see page 130



Picot stitches create the distinctive bumps on the mane, pectoral fin and dorsal fin.

Seahorses are pretty unusual creatures. Not only do the males give birth, but they can completely change colour. They definitely deserve to be immortalised with hook and yarn, and Kate's adorable version is a great project if you're looking for a crochet challenge.

NOTES

The Seahorse is made using the amigurumi method in a continuous spiral. You may find it helpful to put a stitch marker in the first st of each round and move it up as you work.

HEAD

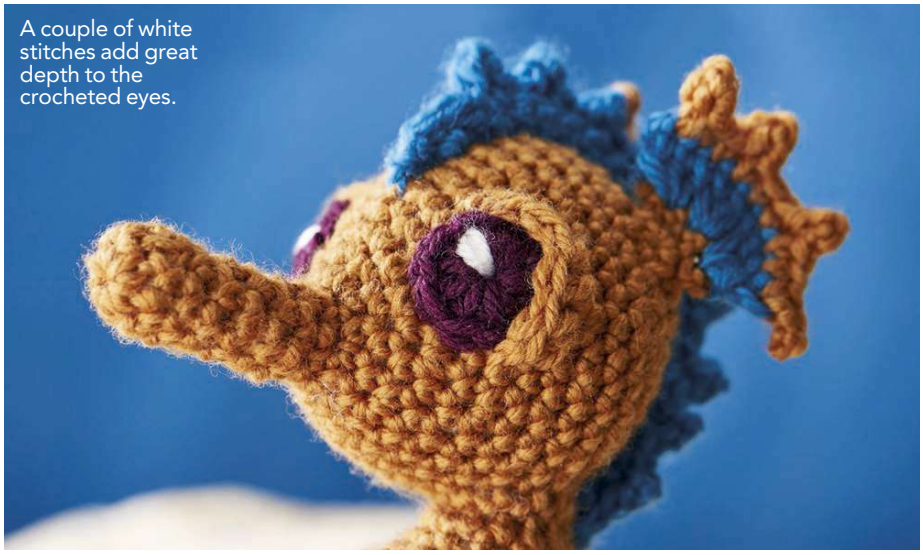
The Head is worked from the snout to the back.
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 (2dc in next dc) 3 times, dc in next 3 dc. [9 sts]
Round 3 (Dc2tog) 3 times, dc in next 3 dc. [6 sts]
Rounds 4-9 Dc in each dc around. Stuff the snout firmly and continue to stuff as you go.
Round 10 2dc in each dc around. [12 sts]
Round 11 Dc in each dc around.
Round 12 (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 13 Dc in next dc, 2dc in each of next 2 dc, dc in next 6 dc, 2dc in each of next 2 dc, dc in next 3 dc, 2dc in each of next 2 dc, dc in next 2 dc. [24 sts]
Round 14 Dc in each dc around.
Round 15 Dc in next dc, (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) twice, dc in next 6 dc, (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) twice, dc in next 3 dc, (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) twice, dc in next 2 dc. [30 sts]
Round 16 Dc in each dc around.
Round 17 Dc in next dc, (2dc in next dc, dc in each of next 2 dc) twice, dc in next 6 dc, (2dc in next dc, dc in each of next 2 dc) twice, dc in next 3 dc, (2dc in next dc, dc in each of next 2 dc) twice, dc in next 2 dc. [36 sts]
Rounds 18-20 Dc in each dc around.
Round 21 Dc in next 3 dc, (dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 dc) twice, dc in next 6 dc, (dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 dc) twice, dc in next 3 dc, (dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 dc) twice. [30 sts]
Round 22 Dc in next 3 dc, (dc2tog, dc in next dc) twice, dc in next 6 dc, (dc2tog, dc in next dc) twice, dc in next 3 dc, (dc2tog, dc in next dc) twice. [24 sts]
Round 23 Dc in next 3 dc, dc2tog twice, dc in next 6 dc, dc2tog twice, dc in next 3 dc, dc2tog twice. [18 sts]
Round 24 (Dc2tog, dc in next dc) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 25 (Dc2tog) 6 times, ss to first dc to join. [6 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Finish stuffing. Thread the yarn tail onto a needle, pass through final 6 sts and gather up. Repeat and then stitch closed firmly.

BODY

The Body is worked from the tip of the tail to the neck. Leave a long tail at the start for sewing up later.
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into loop. [6 sts]
Rounds 2-11 Dc in each dc around. Stuff the tail lightly and continue to stuff as you go.
Round 12 2dc in next dc, dc in next 5 dc. [7 sts]
Rounds 13-15 Dc in each dc around.
Round 16 2dc in next dc, dc in next 6 dc. [8 sts]
Rounds 17-19 Dc in each dc around. Stuff more firmly from here onward.
Round 20 2dc in next dc, dc in next 7 dc. [9 sts]
Rounds 21-23 Dc in each dc around.
Round 24 2dc in next dc, dc in next 8 dc. [10 sts]
Rounds 25-27 Dc in each dc around.
Round 28 2dc in next dc, dc in next 9 dc. [11 sts]
Rounds 29-31 Dc in each dc around.
Round 32 2dc in next dc, dc in next 10 dc. [12 sts]
Round 33 Dc in each dc around.
Round 34 Dc in next 2 dc, (2dc in next dc) 6 times, dc in next 4 dc. [18 sts]
Round 35 Dc in next 2 dc, (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 6 times, dc in next 4 dc. [24 sts]
Round 36 (2dc in next dc, dc in next 3 dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 37-41 Dc in each dc around.
Round 42 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 43 Dc in each dc around.
Round 44 Dc in next 3 dc, (dc2tog, dc in next dc) 6 times, dc in next 3 dc. [18 sts]
Round 45 Dc in each dc around.
Round 46 Dc in next 3 dc, (dc2tog) 6



The seahorse's tail is curled up at the end and stitched into place to form a spiral.



A couple of white stitches add great depth to the crocheted eyes.

times, dc in next 3 dc. [12 sts]
Rounds 47-48 Dc in each dc around.
Round 49 Dc in next 2 dc, ss in next 8 dc, dc in next 2 dc. [12 sts]
Round 50 Dc in next 2 dc, ss to next st.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail and rem sts unworked.

EYE (MAKE 2)
Using coloured yarn (we used burgundy), make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr), 11htr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join. [12 htr]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

FIRST EYELID
Using Yarn A, ch7.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd 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 long tail.

SECOND EYELID
Using Yarn A, ch7.
Row 1 (RS) Ss into 2nd ch from hook, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, htr in next ch, dc into last ch. **Fasten off**, leaving a long tail.

MANE
Leave a long tail at the start for sewing up later.
Using Yarn B, ch21.
Row 1 (RS) Ss into 2nd ch from hook, ss in next ch, dc in next 18 ch, turn. [20 sts]
Row 2 Picot, dc in first dc, (dc in next dc, picot, dc in next st) 9 times, (dc, picot, ss) in last st. [20 dc and 11 picots]
Fasten off. The end where you fasten off will become the front of the Mane later on.

DORSAL FIN
Leave a long tail at the start for sewing up later.
Using Yarn A, ch7.
Row 1 (RS) Dc into 2nd ch from hook, dc in next 5 ch, turn. [6 sts]
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 2dc in first dc, dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in last dc, turn. [8 sts]
Fasten off Yarn A.
Row 3 Join Yarn B in first st, ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in st at base of ch-3, 3tr in each of next 7 dc, turn. [24 sts]
Fasten off Yarn B.
Row 4 Join Yarn A in first st, picot, dc in first dc, (dc in next dc, picot, dc in next dc) 11 times, (dc, picot, ss) in last dc. [24 dc and 13 picots]
Fasten off.

PECTORAL FIN (MAKE 2)
Leave a long tail at the start for sewing up later.
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Row 1 3dc into loop, turn. [3 sts]
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each dc across. [3 sts]
Fasten off Yarn A.
Row 3 Join Yarn B in first st, ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in st at base of ch-3, 3tr in each of next 2 dc. [9 sts]
Fasten off Yarn B.
Row 4 Join Yarn A in first st, picot, dc in first dc, (dc in next 2 sts, picot, dc in next st) twice, dc in next dc, (dc, picot, ss) in last dc. [9 dc and 4 picots]
Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP
Using the image as a guide, sew the Eyes to the Head, with the centres between Rounds 14 and 15, and the edges 6 dc apart. Sew the Eyelids on, making sure to curve them around the Eyes. Using white yarn, embroider 3 small straight sts to form a highlight on each Eye.
Place the Head on top of the neck edge, with the back of the neck resting along Round 19 of the Head. Sew on firmly.
Place the Mane on the Head with the start of the foundation chain (the back of the Mane) resting at the base of the neck.
Pin the Mane in place so that it runs from the centre of the neck to the centre of the face.
Sew the Mane on, starting at the tip of the first picot, sewing along the foundation chain and ending at tip of last picot, between the Eyes.
Pin the Pectoral Fins along Round 21 of the Head, either side of the mane. Sew them on firmly.
Sew the Dorsal Fin in place on the lower back.
Curl up the tail and sew in place. Weave in any loose ends.

WOODLAND FRIENDS

If you go down to the woods today,
be sure to invite Liz Ward's cuties!



Woodland creatures



YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Essentials Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/130m), 1 ball of each:
  Pumpkin (072)
  Beige (091)
  Taupe (081)
  Natural (051)
  Dark Grey (045)
  Grey (025)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Safety eyes or black beads, approx 6mm (¼in) diameter for the Fox, Raccoon and Hedgehog
- Safety eyes or black beads, approx 9mm diameter for the Bunny
- Toy stuffing
- Brown embroidery thread
- Wool and embroidery needle
- Stitch markers
- Felt in pink, peach, mint, blue, brown, cream and reddish brown
- Fabric glue
- Small buttons

For yarn stockists, contact Rico www.rico-design.co.uk

Note: Dark Grey (045) has been discontinued. We suggest substituting it for Black (090) or for a grey yarn from your stash

MEASUREMENTS

10x5cm (4x2in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

As the leaves fall, the woodland critters come out to play! These sweet beasties are easy to customise by changing colours, tails and ears, so you can use this pattern to make virtually any animal you desire.

NOTES

Each 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.

BASIC BODY

Using main yarn colour, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in every st. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [21 sts]
Round 5 Dc in each st around.
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [24 sts]
Round 7 Dc in each st around.
Round 8 (Dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [27 sts]
Round 9 Dc in each st around. Mark this round by threading a small length of contrast yarn through the last st.
Round 10 (Dc in each of next 8 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [30 sts]
Round 11 Dc in each st around.
Round 12 (Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 13 Dc in each st around.
Round 14 (Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]
Rounds 15-24 Dc in each st around.
Round 25 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 26 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 27 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts) 6 times. [18 sts].
Fix toy safety eyes on marked round, following instructions provided for each pattern.
Round 28 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]. Stuff the body now.
Round 29 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Using a wool needle, weave the yarn tail through the last 6 sts and pull tight to close. Weave in ends and trim.

BUNNY

Make Body in Beige.
Place 9mm eyes on marked round, 6 sts apart.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Beige, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in every st. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [15 sts]
Rounds 4-5 Dc in each st around.
Rounds 6-12 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st. [8 sts]
Round 13 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Cut bunny ear inners out of cream felt and glue, then sew, to the ear. Sew Ears in place on the bunny's Head.

TAIL

Using Beige, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in every st. [12 sts]
Rounds 3-4 Dc in each st around.
Round 5 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail, and pull through loop to secure.
Stuff slightly. Use the photo as a guide and sew the Tail in place on the Body.
Cut the face shape out of cream felt. Glue onto the Bunny's face and sew a line of brown embroidery thread in the middle.

HEDGEHOG

Using Nature, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Rounds 2-6 2dc in the first st, dc in each remaining st. [9 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [12 sts] Mark Round 7 by threading a small length of contrast yarn through the last st.
Round 8 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [15 sts]
Round 9 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [18 sts]
Round 10 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [21 sts]
Continue as given for Basic Body, from Round 5 to the end, but work every stitch in the back loop of the stitch only (bl throughout). Fix toy safety eyes on Round 7 (marked round), widely spaced on each side of head.

SPINES

Using Taupe and starting at the head

end, join yarn with ss to any spare loop on Round 5 of main body pattern. Work in the loops created by bl rows.
Rounds 5-29 2ch, 1dc in bl of same st, (2ch, 1dc in bl of next st) to end.
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Cut nose from brown felt, then glue and sew.

FOX
Using Pumpkin, make Basic Body.
Pause at Round 26 to create face as follows: cut a large face shape out of cream felt (like a triangle with rounded edges) and face detail out of reddish-brown felt (see image for guidance). Glue and sew the face onto the cream base. Snip tiny holes for the eyes through both layers of felt. Insert 6mm eyes through the holes and through the stitches on the marked round of the Body. Fix in place at back with the washers, then glue and sew the face to the Body. Cut a nose out of brown felt then glue and sew this in place.
Continue with Rounds 27-29 of Basic Body.

TAIL
Using Nature, make a magic loop
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 2dc in every st. [8 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [12 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [15 sts]
Rounds 5-7 Dc in each st around changing to Pumpkin on last yrh of last dc of Round 7. Continue in Pumpkin.
Rounds 8-14 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st. [8 sts]
Rounds 15-16 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Stuff slightly. Use the photo as a guide and sew Tail in place on the Body.

EARS (MAKE 2)
Using Pumpkin, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 2dc in every st. [8 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [12 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [15 sts]
Rounds 5-7 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Cut fox ear inners out of cream felt and glue, then sew, to the ear. Sew ears in place on Fox's Head.

RACCOON
Using Grey, make Basic Body.
Pause at round 26 to create face as follows: cut eye mask out of charcoal felt and face detail out of cream felt (see image for guidance). Snip tiny holes for the eyes through both layers of felt. Insert 6mm eyes through the holes and through the stitches on the marked round of the body. Fix in place at back with the washers. Use image as a guide, sew nose and mouth on cream face using brown embroidery thread, then glue and sew face in place as shown.

EARS (MAKE 2)
Using Grey, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 2dc in every st. [8 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [12 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [15 sts]
Rounds 5-6 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Sew the ears on place on the Body.

TAIL
Work the same as Fox's Tail but working alternate rounds of two rounds of Grey and two of Dark Grey. Stuff slightly then sew Tail in place on the Body.



All the critters share the same basic body shape, so it won't take long to make the set.

FLOWERS
Cut two flower shapes out of two different felt colours, layer up and glue together. Sew a small button in the middle. Leave to dry, then sew in place on your animal.



Pastel coloured felt flowers add a pretty finishing touch.



SUPER SAUSAGE

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? Nope, it's a superhero pooch by Ilaria Caliri!

Superhero dog



A BIT TRICKY | 4PLY WEIGHT | 2.5MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Brique (86)
  Yarn B Passion (23)
  Yarn C Prussian (64)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- Safety eyes or black beads, approx 5mm diameter
- Plastic nose, approx 1cm diameter
- Black embroidery thread
- Tapestry needle
- Stitch markers
- Toy stuffing

For yarn stockists, contact
DMC 0116 275 4000
www.dmccreative.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

19cm (7½in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

Sure they're adorable, but who knew dachshunds had superhero powers? Super Sausage is speeding through the sky to deliver an urgent letter (or maybe it's a *Simply Crochet* subscription) to a special someone. He loves feeling the wind whistling past his silky ears and showing off his monogrammed cape to crowds of amazed onlookers. Will you hook this amigurumi cutie and give him a place to land? It's never been easier to make your very own hero!

NOTES

The pattern is worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off the round with a ss. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work.
The Legs and Arms are made first, and joined into the Body as you work. All the other pieces are worked separately and then sewn in place.

ARMS AND LEGS (MAKE 4)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each dc around. [10 sts]
Rounds 3-10 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.
Stuff lightly.

HEAD AND BODY

Worked from Head down.
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]
Rounds 8-15 Dc in each st around.
Round 16 (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 17 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 18 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 19 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Secure the eyes between Rounds 11 and 12, approx 13 sts apart.
If you are using black beads for the eyes, you might like to wait until the Muzzle is attached before you sew them in place.
Round 20 Dc in each st around.
Stuff the Head with toy stuffing and continue stuffing as you go.
Round 21 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 22 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 23 5dc, join the first Arm, crocheting the next 5 dc of the Body and Arm together, 10dc, join second Arm, crocheting the next 5 dc of the Body and Arm together, 5dc. [30 sts]
Round 24 5dc, 5dc in the remaining 5 sts of the first Arm, 10dc, 5dc in the remaining 5 sts of the second Arm, 5dc. [30 sts]
Rounds 25-41 Dc in each st around.
Round 42 2dc in next st, 2dc, 2dc in next st, 22dc, 2dc in next st, 2dc, 2dc in next st. [34 sts]
Round 43 2dc, 2dc in next st, 28dc, 2dc in next st, 2dc. [36 sts]
Round 44 Dc in each st around.
Make sure to start the next Round from the centre back, so dc around to this position if you need to.
Round 45 7dc, join the first Leg, crocheting the next 5 dc of the Body and Leg together, 13dc, join the second Leg, crocheting the next 5 dc of the Body and Leg together, 6dc. [36 sts]
Round 46 7dc, 5dc in the remaining 5 sts of the first Leg, 13dc, 5dc in the remaining 5 sts of the second Leg, 6dc. [36 sts]
Round 47 Dc in each st around.
Round 48 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 49 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 50 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 51 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]



Super Sausage's safety eyes and removable cape make him perfect for playtime.



The arms and legs are made first and joined as the body is worked – less sewing up to do!

Round 52 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

EARS (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 5 times. [15 sts]
Rounds 4-8 Dc in each st around.
Round 9 Dc2tog, 13dc. [14 sts]
Round 10 Dc2tog, 12dc. [13 sts]
Round 11 Dc2tog, 11dc. [12 sts]
Round 12 Dc2tog, 10dc. [11 sts]
Round 13 Dc2tog, 9dc. [10 sts]
Round 14 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Do not stuff.
Use the long tail to sew the Ears to each side of the Head, between Rounds 7 and 8.

MUZZLE
With Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc2tog, 2dc) 3 times, 18dc. [27 sts]
Round 7 9dc.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail and the remaining sts unworked.
Secure the plastic nose between Rounds 4 and 5.
Stuff the Muzzle with toy stuffing.
Use the long tail to sew the Muzzle to the Head, between the Eyes.

TAIL
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 2dc in next st, 3dc. [5 sts]
Round 3 Dc in each st around.
Round 4 2dc in next st, 4dc. [6 sts]
Round 5 2dc in next st, 5dc. [7 sts]
Round 6 2dc in next st, 6dc. [8 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Stuff lightly.
Use the long tail to sew the Tail to the bottom of the Body, between Rounds 43 and 45.



The 'S' on Super Sausage's cape is a neat, but simple, addition.

CAPE
Using Yarn C, ch51.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in the second ch from the hook and in each ch across. [50 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Join Yarn B to the WS of the previous row in the 20th stitch.
Row 1 (WS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 12dc, turn leaving remaining sts unworked. [12 sts]
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc, 2dc in next st, dc in each st to last 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in last st, turn. [14 sts]
Rows 3-4 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st across.
Rows 5-22 Repeat (Rows 2-4) 6 more times. [26 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

BORDER
With RS facing, rejoin Yarn B to top-left of cape, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each row end and dc around to top-right of cape, working 3dc in each corner. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

SUPER SAUSAGE 'S'
Using Yarn C, ch17.
Row 1 (RS) Skip the first ch, 3dc, dc2tog, 1dc, dc2tog, 2dc, 2dc in next st, 1dc, 2dc in next st, 3dc. [16 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Sew the 'S' on the centre back of the Cape.


"I like a crochet project with a bit of a challenge."



A CURIOUS WONDERLAND

Amigurumi designer Ilaria Caliri has hordes of gorgeous characters at her fingertips. She lets us peek into her imaginative world.

Growing up in Naples, Italy, Ilaria Caliri was happy to split her time between crafting and exploring the surrounding countryside. "I always saw my mum spending her spare time with crochet in her hands," she remembers. "Over summers spent in my grandmother's garden on a Sorrento hillside, my grandmother and mum taught me to crochet, knit and sew, though between rows and rounds I climbed trees and ran after the cats!"

Ilaria rediscovered her love of crochet in her 20s. "My cousin told me about amigurumi and within minutes I'd found an old crochet hook and leftover yarn to make my first project!" This was only the first of a long series of adorable creations. "I soon learnt how to create 3D shapes with yarn and started to translate my own illustrations into amigurumi characters."

CHARMINGLY ASKEW

Before long, amigurumi was an important part of Ilaria's life. Early projects included mini-cakes for a party and a cute teddy bear. "The birth of a new life inspired me to design a unique toy," she explains.

As her skills and confidence developed, Ilaria began creating the quirky mini-beasts and dolls she's now well known for, working directly from her imagination much of the time. Humour is a large part of her motivation, which explains why so many of her characters make us smile! "Generally, I think about an animal or an object, then try to imagine it in an amusing way. I have to thank my followers and friends who ask me weird questions like: can you make a blue giraffe with a very long neck, a doll with pink hair, a teddy bear with a swimsuit? I start out with a funny detail, and then I draw and re-draw a character until I'm happy with it, then I turn it into a pattern and make it from yarn."

To make it easier for her fans to find her work, Ilaria launched a website, Airali Design at www.airalidesign.com/en/. The name of the site, Airali, is a lovely example of her love of whimsy – it's actually her







name spelt backwards. She comments on the site's welcome page: "I have a propensity to do/see things upside down." We're certain her delightfully off-centre view contributes to the originality of her designs.

Ilaria's stylish accessories are equally appealing and her Ravelry page (http://bit.ly/SC44rav) is littered with enticingly cosy hats, scarves, cowls and capes.

"I like small projects with a bit of a technical challenge," she tells us. "My favourite design is Binario, a crochet cowl, but I'm particularly proud of one of my few blankets, Meadow. A lot of people write to me about that blanket and its flowers, and a picture of it was also published in *Simply Crochet* magazine!"

The blossom-infused blanket was a special request from a couple for their newborn. "I put in a lot of work to make the huge number of flowers and to sew them onto the crochet blanket base," Ilaria recalls, a hint of pride in her voice. "Until the end, I could only imagine it!"

NEW TERRITORY

In future, Ilaria plans to devote as much time as possible to creating "cute and weird amigurumi, but I'd also like to spend more time designing accessories, clothes and home décor."

Home is an important place for Ilaria, not least because in the latter months of 2015 she moved twice. "Until quite recently, I'd lived in Sorrento all my life, but when my boyfriend found a job in London we decided to move here. I've spent years trying to focus my energy on my job as an independent crochet designer. The beauty of this kind of job is that you can work almost anywhere."

It's been a big change for Ilaria to leave behind her beloved Italy, but she's already feeling content in the UK. "When I was in Italy, I had a corner in one room and a dedicated studio. Now in London I always have a corner in my home and a huge wardrobe full of my yarns and other crafting stuff," she says. "I love to work at home because I can start early in the morning when I'm still in my pyjamas! And when I have to start a new project, I can use the living room to create a mess with a lot of yarn and materials."

> "I DRAW AND RE-DRAW A CHARACTER UNTIL I'M HAPPY, THEN I TURN IT INTO A PATTERN AND MAKE IT."

Her favourite place to work, she says, is at her desk: "So I can crochet with my notebook computer and sketches in front of me. I can take notes while I'm working and chat away on Facebook or Instagram between one row and the next."

FINDING INSPIRATION

It should come as no surprise that Ilaria seeks out crocheters with impressive levels of talent and ingenuity. "I admire those who can create pieces of art with their crochet hooks, like Kate Jenkins (www.cardigan.ltd.uk); those who fill their blog with lovely photos, such as Kat Goldin (www.slugsontherefrigerator.com); those who put positive energy into their work, like Gaia Segattini (www.gaiasegattini.com); and everyone who crochets with passion and inspires me to improve my own skills and designs."

She admits to following a large number of blogs, "which are very different from each other. Every one has a different theme and a style all its own. I often discover them through Instagram or Pinterest – starting with a single image, I discover a whole new universe."

At the moment, though, one particular part of the universe has caught Ilaria's eye. "Since moving to London from Italy, I never tire of strolling around this city!" she comments. "I'm finding such a lot of positive input and inspiration in the sights here and I'm putting as much of it as possible into my crochet and amigurumi design work."

The results will undoubtedly be as weird, wonderful and irresistible to crochet as her creations so far, though perhaps with a hint of a British accent. We can't wait to see what else she creates.

Interview by Judy Darley



A FEW OF HER FAVOURITE THINGS...

"If I'm not crocheting, I love to knit. But if we're not talking about yarn, I enjoy long walks and discovering new places around me. I also love baking, especially cakes and muffins, as well as watching science and nature documentaries late at night – they are my favourites."

There are a number of Ilaria's projects in this magazine, such as the otter pair on page 8, the crochet doll on page 64 and the ice cream girl on page 67.

KITTY SISTERS

Meet Bella and Bow, our super-cute cat pair designed by Liz Ward.



Cat pair



YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Baby Cotton Soft (100% cotton, 50g/125m), 1 ball of each:
  White (01)
  Yellow (019)
  Candy Pink (030)
  Emerald (032)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Stitch markers
- Safety eyes or black beads, approx 15mm (½in) diameter
- Black embroidery thread
- Wool and embroidery needle
- Pink felt
- Fabric glue
- Small buttons in yellow and green

For yarn stockists, contact Rico www.rico-design.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

18x12x12cm (7x4¾x4¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

These amigurumi kittens have been raiding the dressing-up box for their favourite outfits! Made with Rico Baby Cotton Soft yarn, this adorable pair are as soft as they are cute and fun to make. "When creating new designs I always make a little story in my head to make the characters come alive," says designer Liz Ward, "and these two kitties are sisters playing dress-up." Ballerina Bella is ready to twirl in her ruffled tutu, while Bow is snuggled up in a cosy hooded sleepsuit. Just purr-fect.

NOTES

The Cats are made 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.

HEAD AND BODY (MAKE 1 PER CAT)

Using White, ch5.
Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each of next 2 ch, 3dc in last ch, rotate and work along opposite side of ch, dc in each of next 2 ch, 2dc in next ch. [10 sts]
Round 2 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [25 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in each of next 11 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [39 sts]
Round 9 (Dc in each of next 12 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [42 sts]
Round 10 (Dc in each of next 13 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [45 sts]
Round 11 (Dc in each of next 14 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [48 sts]
Round 12 (Dc in each of next 15 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [51 sts]
Round 13 (Dc in each of next 16 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [54 sts]
Place 2 stitch markers on the next round 12 sts apart to mark the position of the eyes.
Rounds 14-17 Dc in each st around.
Round 18 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 7 sts) 6 times. [48 sts]
Round 19 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 20 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 21 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 22 (Dc2tog) around. [15 sts]
Put working loop onto a stitch holder and fix the toy safety eyes to the marked stitches on Round 14. Stuff the head with toy filling.
Replace working loop back on hook and continue.
Round 23 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [18 sts]
Round 24 Dc in each st around, changing to Emerald on last yrh of last dc for Bow's sleepsuit.
Round 25 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [21 sts]
Round 26 Dc in each st around, changing to Yellow on last yrh of last dc for Bella's dress.
Round 27 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [24 sts]
Round 28 Dc in each st around.
Round 29 (Dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [27 sts]
Round 30 Dc in each st around.
Round 31 (Dc in each of next 8 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [30 sts]
Round 32 Dc in each st around.
Round 33 (Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 34 Dc in each st around, changing to White on last yrh of last dc for Bella or continue in Emerald for Bow's sleepsuit.
Round 35 (Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]
Round 36 Dc in each st around.
Round 37 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 10 sts) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 38 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 9 sts) 3 times. [30 sts]


Bella's dress bodice is made as part of the body, and the skirt is crocheted separately.


Keep your stitches tight so that no stuffing shows through when you make up the toys.



Small buttons and a heart shaped nose add sweet finishing touches.

Round 39 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 40 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 41 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 42 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Stuff the Body firmly with toy filling. Thread yarn onto wool needle and weave through the last 6 stitches, pull the yarn to close the hole at the bottom of the Body, weave in yarn ends and trim.

LEGS (MAKE 2)
Using White, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, 3htr in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, 3htr in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st. [18 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, htr in next st, 2htr in next st, htr in each of next 4 sts, 2htr in next st, htr in next st, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts. [22 sts]
Round 5 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 8 sts, 3htr in next st, htr in each of next 5 sts, 3htr in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts. [27 sts]
Round 6 Dc in each st around.
Round 7 Dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in each of next 8 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts. [24 sts]
Round 8 Dc in each of next 11 sts, htr3tog, htr in each of next 3 sts, htr3tog, dc in each of next 4 sts. [20 sts]
Round 9 Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog, dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts. [16 sts]
Round 10 Dc in each of next 8 sts, dc2tog, dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts. [14 sts]
For Bow, change to Emerald and work a round of slip stitches so Round 10 is worked into the dc stitches of Round 9, leaving a decorative edge.
Round 11 Dc in each st around.
Round 12 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st around. [13 sts]
Rounds 13-22 Rep Rounds 11 and 12 another 5 times. [8 sts after Round 22]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Stuff firmly with toy filling.
Finish as before. Cut hearts out and dots

out of pink felt and, using image as a guide, stick to the underside of the foot. Sew the Legs to the underside of the Body so that the cat is in a sitting down position.

ARMS (MAKE 2)
Using White, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc in the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Rounds 3-4 Dc in each st around.
Round 5 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st around. [11 sts]
Round 6 As Round 5. [10 sts]
Round 7 Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 3 sts. [9 sts]
For Bow, change to Emerald now and work a round of slip stitches so Round 8 is worked into the dc stitches of Round 7 leaving a decorative edge.
Round 8 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st around. [8 sts]
Rounds 9-17 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Stuff the Arm firmly with toy filling and finish as before. Sew in place on the Body.

EARS (MAKE 2)
Using White for Bella and Emerald for Bow, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) twice. [6 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [8 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [10 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [12 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [14 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [16 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Cut triangles of pink felt and glue inside the Ears. Sew in place on the Head (do not sew Bow's Ears on until you've made her Hood).

TUTU (FOR BELLA ONLY)
Using Yellow, ch37.
Row 1 (RS) 2dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [36 sts]
Row 2 Ch1 (not counted as st), 2dc in each st to end, turn. [72 sts]
Row 3 Ch1 (not counted as st), 2dc in each st to the end. [144 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Sew in place around the waist of the Cat, making sure it doesn't twist.

DRESS STRAP (FOR BELLA ONLY)
Using Yellow, ch20.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Sew one end to one side of the Top, wrap chain round the back of the Head and sew the other end to the opposite side of the Top. Weave in ends and trim. Sew or glue a small yellow button to each end of the Strap to decorate.

HOOD (FOR BOW ONLY)
Using Emerald, ch5.
Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each of next 2 ch, 3dc in last ch, rotate and work along the opposite side of the ch, dc in each of next 2 ch, 2dc in next ch. [10 sts]
Round 2 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [25 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in each of next 11 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [39 sts]
Round 9 (Dc in each of next 12 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [42 sts]
Round 10 (Dc in each of next 13 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [45 sts]
Round 11 (Dc in each of next 14 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [48 sts]
Round 12 (Dc in each of next 15 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [51 sts]
Round 13 (Dc in each of next 16 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [54 sts]
Rounds 14-19 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail, and pull through loop to secure. Sew in place on the Head.

PINK BOW (FOR BOW ONLY)
Using Candy Pink, ch6.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [5 sts]
Rows 2-7 Ch1 (not counted as st), dc in each st to end.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Wrap yarn tightly around the middle of the rectangle and fasten off securely to create a bow shape. Sew in place on the Head. Sew or glue 3 small green buttons down the front of the sleepsuit to decorate.

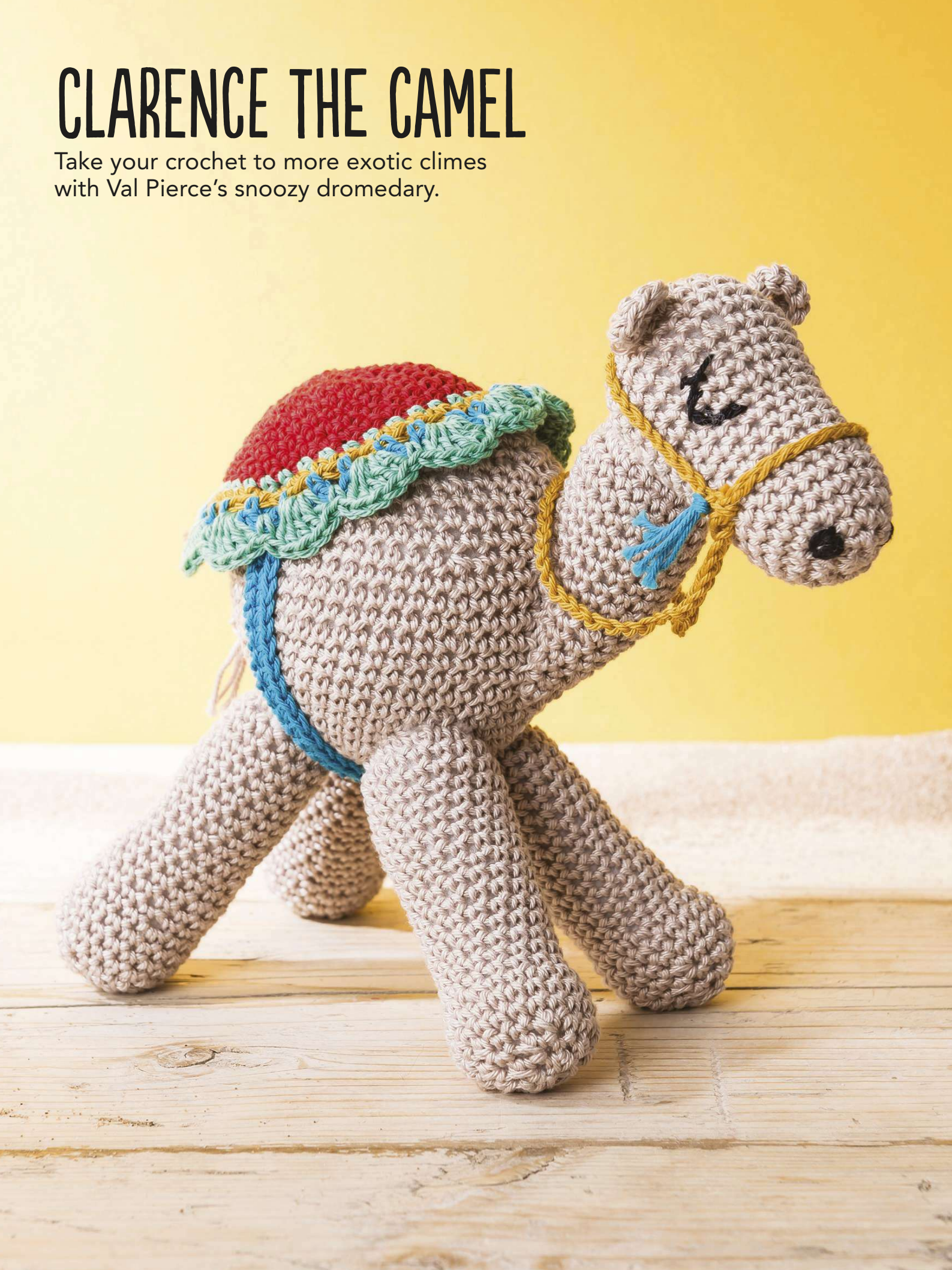


We love the oversized paws, exaggerated for maximum kitty cuteness!

TO FINISH
Use the photographs as a guide when creating the face. Glue a pink felt heart to the centre of the face to make a nose. Using two strands of black embroidery thread and long stitches, create the mouth and whiskers.

CLARENCE THE CAMEL

Take your crochet to more exotic climes with Val Pierce's snoozy dromedary.



Sleepy camel



YOU WILL NEED

- Sirdar Cotton DK (100% cotton, 100g/212m), 1 ball of Beige (0504)
- Oddments of red, green, gold, turquoise and black yarn
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Toy stuffing
- Wool needle

For yarn stockists, contact Sirdar 01924 371501 www.sirdar.co.uk

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

Who could resist falling in love with Clarence the camel? He's got a wonderfully doleful, sleepy expression and would 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!

NOTES

The Camel 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.

BODY

Begin at the base of the Body.
Using Beige, ch2.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc in second ch from hook. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [48 sts]
Rounds 9-14 Dc in each st around
Round 15 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]
Rounds 16-19 Dc in each st around
Round 20 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 7 times. [35 sts]
Rounds 21-22 Dc in each st around
Round 23 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [30 sts]
Round 24 Dc in each st around
Round 25 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 26 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 8 times. [16 sts]
Round 27 (Dc2tog) 8 times. [8 sts]
Round 28 (Dc2tog) 4 times. [4 sts]
Fasten off.



Pick any four colours from your stash to make the back cloth.

HEAD

Using Beige, ch2.
Round 1 (RS) 8dc in second ch from hook. [8 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [16 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [20 sts]
Rounds 4-15 Dc in each st around
Round 16 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [24 sts]
Round 17-20 Dc in each st around.
Round 21 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [28 sts]
Rounds 22-24 Dc in each st around.
Round 25 (Dc in each of next 2dc, dc2tog) 7 times. [21 sts]
Round 26 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 7 times. [14 sts]
Round 27 (Dc2tog) 7 times. (7 sts)
Fasten off, leaving a 5cm tail. Using a wool needle, weave the yarn tail through the last round of stitches and pull tight to close. Weave in ends and trim.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Beige, ch2.
Row 1 (RS) 8dc in second ch from hook, turn. [8 sts]
Row 2 Dc in each st to end, turn.
Repeat Row 2 once more.
Fasten off.

NECK

Using Beige, ch22, ss to first ch to join into a ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (not counted as st), dc in same st at base of beg ch-1, dc in each ch around. [22 sts]
Rounds 2-15 Dc in each st around.

Round 16 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 5 times, dc in each of next 2 sts. [17 sts]
Round 17-18 Dc in each st around.
Round 19 (Dc in next dc, dc2tog) 5 times, dc in each of next 2 sts. [12 sts]
Round 20 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off. Using a wool needle, weave the yarn tail through the last round of stitches and pull tight to close. Weave in ends and trim.

LEGS (MAKE 4)
Using Beige, ch16, ss in first ch to join into a ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (not counted as st), dc in same st at base of beg ch-1, dc in each ch around. [16 sts]
Rounds 2-19 Dc in each st around.
Round 20 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [20 sts]
Rounds 21-23 Dc in each st around.
Now decrease for base.
Round 24 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 25 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]
Round 26 Dc in each st around.
Round 27 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]
Fasten off. Using a wool needle, weave the yarn tail through the last round of stitches and pull tight to close. Weave in ends and trim.

HALTER AND LEAD REIN
Using Gold, make a chain long enough to fit around the Camel's nose and then around the back of the Head. Use the photo as a guide when sewing in place. Make a longer chain for the Lead Rein.

TAIL
Using Beige, ch15.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [14 sts]
Row 2 Ch1 (not counted as a st), dc in each st to end.
Fasten off. Cut a few lengths of Beige and add to one end of the Camel's Tail.

BACK CLOTH
Using Red, ch2.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc in second ch from hook. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around, changing to Green on last yrh of last dc.
Round 10 (Dc in next st, 1ch, miss next st) around, ss to first dc to join, changing to Gold on yrh of ss. [21 dc, 21 ch-1 sps]
Round 11 (Dc in next ch-1 sp, 2dc in next ch1-sp) around, ss to first dc, changing to Turquoise on yrh of ss. [30 sts]
Round 12 (Dc in next st, 2ch, miss next st) around, ss to first dc, changing to Green on yrh of ss. [15 dc, 15 ch-2 sps]
Round 13 Ch1 (not counted as st), dc in same st at base of ch-1, (5tr in next 2-ch loop, dc in next 2-ch loop) to last 2-ch loop, 5tr in last 2-ch loop, ss to top of first dc. [8 5-tr groups, 8 dc]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

UNDER BODY STRAP
Using Turquoise, ch38.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [37 sts]
Row 2 Dc in each st to end.
Fasten off.

TO FINISH
Make the Head first. The widest part is the back of the Head. Take the Ears and curl them into semi circles, then sew one to each side of the Head. Using black yarn, embroider an eye onto each side, using the image 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 do not close the tops. Stuff the Neck quite firmly but 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. Aim to get all the Legs level. 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.


If you prefer a more alert-looking camel, you can use safety eyes or black beads.



LITTLE RED

With his lopsided ears and cheery smile,
Liz Ward's pooch is seriously cute.

Long-eared puppy



A BIT TRICKY | DK WEIGHT | 3.5MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Rowan Handknit Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/85m), 2 balls of Yarn A Florence (350), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn B Ecru (251)
  Yarn C Bleached (263)
  Yarn D Atlantic (346)
- A 3.5mm (US F/5) hook
- Safety eyes, approx 15mm (¾in) diameter
- Toy stuffing
- Wool and embroidery needle
- Brown and black embroidery thread
- Felt in blue, brown and yellow
- Fabric glue
- Red ribbon

For yarn stockists, contact Rowan 01484 950630 www.knitrowan.com

MEASUREMENTS

20x18x15cm (8x7x6in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130



Finish off the puppy's bone with a length of brightly coloured ribbon.

Designer Liz Ward says the inspiration for this toy came from her sister's dog. "I wanted my amigurumi puppy to have the same big paws, big eyes and floppy ears," she explains. You can personalise your pup with different collar colours, or embroider his name on his dog tag for an extra-special bit of detail.

NOTES

The Puppy is made 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.
The Head and Body are worked together as one piece.
The Bone is made by making two circles and joining them to create each half of the finished Bone shape.

LEGS (MAKE 4)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6 dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, 3htr in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, 3htr in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in last st. [18 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, htr in next st, 2htr in next st, htr in each of next 4 sts, 2htr in next st, htr in next st, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts. [22 sts]
Round 5 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 8 sts, 3htr in next st, htr in each of next 5 sts, 3htr in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts. [27 sts]
Round 6 Dc in each st around.
Round 7 Dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in each of next 8 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts. [24 sts]
Round 8 Dc in each of next 11 sts, htr3tog, htr in each of next 3 sts, htr3tog, dc in each of last 4 sts. [20 sts]
Round 9 Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog, dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts. [16 sts]
Round 10 Dc in each of next 8 sts, dc2tog, dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts. [14 sts]
Round 11 Dc in each st around.
Round 12 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st. [13 sts]
Rounds 13-23 Rep Rounds 11-12 another 5 times. [8 sts after Round 23]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Stuff firmly with toy filling. Use the yarn tail to close the hole at the top of the Leg.
Using the image as a guide, cut paw pads out of brown felt and stick in place onto the base of the foot. Use brown embroidery thread to sew the detail on the paws. Anchor the thread to the base of the foot by sewing a few small stitches. Use the image as a guide to work long stitches, 1cm (¼in) apart, three times over the paw to create the pads (pull the thread really tight as you do this, so it shapes the paw). Secure thread as before to keep paw shape in place, then weave in and cut off any loose ends.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each st around.
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 6 Dc in each st around.
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.
Rounds 10-27 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st. [12 sts at end of Round 27]
Fasten off and leave to one side until the Head and Body have been made.

EYE PATCH

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, 2htr in next st, tr in each of next 2 sts, 2htr in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, ss to first dc to join. [22 sts]
Fasten off. Insert a toy safety eye through the centre (do not fix washer yet) and leave to one side until the Head and Body have been created.

MUZZLE

Using Yarn A, ch5.
Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook,

dc in each of next 2 ch, 3dc in last ch, turn and work along the opposite side of ch, dc in each of next 2 ch, 2dc in last ch. [10 sts]
Round 2 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [25 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 6-9 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off and leave to one side until the Head and Body have been created.

HEAD AND BODY

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in each of next 11 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [39 sts]
Round 9 (Dc in each of next 12 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [42 sts]
Round 10 (Dc in each of next 13 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [45 sts]
Round 11 (Dc in each of next 14 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [48 sts]
Round 12 (Dc in each of next 15 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [51 sts]
Round 13 (Dc in each of next 16 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [54 sts]
Place 2 stitch markers on the next row, 15 sts apart, to mark where you will put the toy eyes.
Rounds 14-15 Dc in each st around.
Round 16 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 7 sts) 6 times. [48 sts]
Round 17 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 18 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 19 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 20 (Dc2tog) 15 times. [15 sts]
Put your working loop on a stitch holder and fix the toy safety eyes to your Head in the stitches marked on Round 14 (one of the eyes will have the Eye Patch on it).
Stuff the Head with toy stuffing. Put your working loop back onto your hook and continue:
Round 21 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in the next st) 3 times. [18 sts]
Round 22 Dc in each st around.
Round 23 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in the next st) 3 times. [21 sts]
Round 24 Dc in each st around.
Round 25 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in the next st) 3 times. [24 sts]
Round 26 Dc in each st around.
Round 27 (Dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in the next st) 3 times. [27 sts]
Round 28 Dc in each st around.
Round 29 (Dc in each of next 8 sts, 2dc in the next st) 3 times. [30 sts]
Round 30 Dc in each st around.
Round 31 (Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in the next st) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 32 Dc in each st around.
Round 33 (Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in the next st) 3 times. [36 sts]
Round 34 Dc in each st around.
Round 35 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 10 sts) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 36 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 9 sts) 3 times. [30 sts]
Round 37 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 38 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 39 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]
Stuff firmly.
Round 40 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Sew the hole closed at base of Body.
Use the image as a guide to sew the Muzzle in place between the eyes, stuffing the Muzzle as you go. Weave in ends and trim.

TAIL

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [9 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [12 sts]
Rounds 4-6 Dc in each st around.
Round 7 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st. [11 sts]
Round 8 Dc in each st around.
Rounds 9-14 Rep Rounds 7-8 another 3 times. [8 sts after Round 14]
Rounds 15-21 Dc in each st around.
Stuff firmly and sew onto back of Body.

COLLAR

Using Yarn D, ch5.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [4 sts]
Rows 2-16 Ch1, dc in each stitch to end, ch42. [4 sts and 42 ch]
Fasten off and sew in place round the neck of the Puppy.

TO FINISH

Pin Legs in place so the Puppy is in a sitting position. When you are happy with the arrangement sew firmly in place. Sew Ears onto Head using the image as a guide for positioning. Sew the Eye Patch down onto the Head. Weave in ends and trim. Using the image as a guide, cut a nose out of brown felt and glue in place. Use black embroidery thread and long stitches to create the mouth. Using the image as a guide, cut the collar tag out of felt and glue in place.

BONE (MAKE 2)

1ST CIRCLE

Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Rounds 3-5 Dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Ss in next st. **Fasten off**.

2ND CIRCLE

Work as given for Circle 1 to the end of Round 5. Do not ss in next st or fasten off.

JOINING CIRCLES

Round 1 (RS) Dc in each of 12 sts of Circle 2, then dc in each of 12 sts of Circle 1. [24 sts]
Round 2 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts) 3 times. [21 sts]
Round 3 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts) 3 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts) 3 times. [15 sts]
Round 5 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts) 3 times. [12 sts]
Rounds 6-16 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off and stuff firmly. Make second half of Bone then sew each end of Bone together to create the full Bone. Tie a piece of red ribbon around the join to hide it.

OH, DEER!

This mum and baby make the sweetest twosome. By Becky Garratt.



Deer duo



YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of each:
  Bourgogne (N34)
  Nacar (N35)
  Noir (N11)
- A 3mm (US D/3) hook
- Toy stuffing
- Two pairs of safety eyes or beads, approx 6mm (¼in) diameter
- Wool needle

For yarn stockists, contact
DMC 0116 275 4000
www.dmccreative.co.uk

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

This adorable mum and baby deer tick all the amigurumi boxes with their cute spots, sticky-up ears and stubby tails. They're quick to make up with a minimal amount of stitching.

NOTES

Each part (except for the Belly) 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.

BABY DEER

SPOTS (MAKE 6)

Using Nacar, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 5dc into the loop, ss to first dc to join. [5 sts]
Fasten off.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Bourgogne, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 (2dc in next st, dc in next st) twice. [6 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [9 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [12 sts]
Rounds 5-12 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off. Flatten the Ear, fold and stitch the bottom together to make Ear shape.

BODY

Add stuffing as you go.
Using Bourgogne, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 5dc into the loop. [5 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [25 sts]
Rounds 6-10 Dc in each st around.
Round 11 (Dc in each of next 4 sts 2dc in next st) 5 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 12-13 Dc in each st around.
Round 14 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [35 sts]
Rounds 15-17 Dc in each st around.
Round 18 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [30 sts]
Round 19 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [25 sts]
Round 20 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 21 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 22 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]
Round 23 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]
Fasten off.

HEAD

Add stuffing as you go.
Using Noir, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop.
Round 2 Dc in each st around, changing to Nacar on last yrh of last dc.
Round 3 2dc in each st around. [8 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in each of next 4 sts. [12 sts]
Round 5 Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in each of next 4 sts, dc in each of next 2 sts. [16 sts]
Round 6 Dc in each st around.
Round 7 Dc in each of next 3 sts changing to Bourgogne on last yrh of 3rd dc, dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in each of next 4 sts, dc in each of next 2 sts. [20 sts]
Round 8 Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in each of next 8 sts, Dc in each of next 2 sts. [28 sts]
Round 9 Dc in each st around.
Fix toy safety eyes to front Head, using image as a guide for placement.
Round 10 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [32 sts]
Rounds 11-13 Dc in each st around.
Round 14 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [28 sts]
Rounds 15-17 Dc in each st around.
Round 18 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [24 sts]
Round 19 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [20 sts]
Round 20 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [16 sts]
Round 21 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [12 sts]
Round 22 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 4 times. [8 sts]
Round 23 (Dc2tog) 4 times. [4 sts]
Fasten off.

NECK

Using Bourgogne, ch22, ss to first ch to join into a ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (not counted as st), dc in same st at base of beg ch-1, dc in each ch around. [22 sts]
Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.

Deer duo

BELLY
Using Nacar, ch5.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [4 sts]
Row 2 Ch1 (not counted as st here and throughout), 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in last st, turn. [6 sts]
Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in last st, turn. [8 sts]
Row 4 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in last st, turn. [10 sts]
Row 5 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 8 sts, 2dc in last st, turn. [12 sts]
Row 6 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in last st, turn. [14 sts]
Rows 7–14 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.
Row 15 Ch1, dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts, turn. [13 sts]
Row 16 Ch1, skip first st, dc in each of next 10 sts, dc2tog, turn. [11 sts]
Row 17 Ch1, skip first st, dc in each of next 8 sts, dc2tog, turn. [9 sts]
Row 18 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.
Row 19 Ch1, skip first st, dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog, turn. [7 sts]
Row 20 Ch1, skip first st, dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog, turn. [5 sts]
Row 21 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.
Row 22 Ch1, ss across the stitches of the top row and then continue down the row ends, across the foundation chain and up the opposite row ends to make a neat border all the way round. **Fasten off**.

TAIL
Using Bourgogne, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 (2dc in next st, dc in next st) twice. [6 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [9 sts]
Rounds 4-5 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.

LEGS
Stuff as you go, stuffing the top half of the Legs very lightly, as you need to bend them when you sew them on.
Using Noir, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [8 sts]
Round 3 Dc in each st around, changing to Bourgogne on last yrh of last dc.
Rounds 4-13 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.

TO FINISH
Sew Ears onto Head, Neck onto Body and Head onto Neck (adding a little extra toy filling to create a firm neck). Sew Belly Patch onto Body then sew legs onto Body, pinning them first so you can check the Deer sits properly as the Head is a little heavy. Sew Tail onto Body, then attach the Spots.

MOTHER DEER
SPOTS
Make as for Baby Deer.

HEAD
Add stuffing as you go.
Using Noir, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop.
Round 2 (2dc in next st, dc in next st) twice. [6 sts]
Round 3 Dc in each st around, changing to Nacar on last yrh of last dc.
Round 4 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 5 Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in each of next 6 sts. [18 sts]
Round 6 Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in each of next 6 sts, dc in each of next 3 sts. [24 sts]
Rounds 7-8 Dc in each st around.
Round 9 Dc in each of next 4 sts, changing to Bourgogne on last yrh of 4th dc, dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in each of next 6 sts, dc in each of next 4 sts. [30 sts]
Round 10 Dc in each of next 13 sts, 2dc in each of next 2 sts, dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in each of next 3 sts, dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in each of next 2 sts. [37 sts]
Round 11 Dc in each st around.
Fix toy safety eyes to front Head, using image as a guide for placement.
Round 12 Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 12 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 11 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts. [40 sts]
Rounds 13-16 Dc in each st around.
Round 17 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [35 sts]
Rounds 18-20 Dc in each st around.
Round 21 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [30 sts]
Round 22 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [25 sts]
Round 23 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 24 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 25 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]
Round 26 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]
Fasten off.

EARS
Using Bourgogne, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [8 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next) 4 times. [12 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next) 4 times. [16 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next) 4 times. [20 sts]
Rounds 6-10 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off. Flatten out piece, fold and sew bottom edge together to make Ear shape.

BODY
Add stuffing as you go.
Using Bourgogne, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 6-10 Dc in each st around.
Round 11 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Rounds 12-15 Dc in each st around.
Round 16 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Rounds 17-20 Dc in each st around.
Round 21 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 22 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 23 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 24 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 25 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 26 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off.

NECK
Using Bourgogne, ch30, ss to first ch to join into a ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (not counted as st), dc in same st at base of beg ch-1, dc in each ch around. [29 sts]
Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.

BELLY
Using Noir, ch4.

Deer duo



Take your time to shape the ears before sewing them into position on your deer.



The dinky little tails and curved limbs on the deer give them a real kawaii feel.

Although you can make both deer with one ball of Bourgogne, buy two in case of any errors.



Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each of next 2 ch, turn. [3 sts]
Row 2 Ch1 (not counted as st here and throughout), 2dc in first st, dc in next st, 2dc in last st, turn. [5 sts]
Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in last st, turn. [7 sts]
Row 4 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in last st, turn. [9 sts]
Row 5 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in last st, turn. [11 sts]
Row 6 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in last st, turn. [13 sts]
Row 7 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 11 sts, 2dc in last st, turn. [15 sts]
Row 8 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 13 sts, 2dc in last st, turn. [17 sts]
Rows 9-20 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.
Row 21 Ch1, skip first st, dc in each of next 14 sts, dc2tog, turn. [15 sts]
Row 22 Ch1, skip first st, dc in each of next 12 sts, dc2tog, turn. [13 sts]
Row 23 Ch1, skip first st, dc in each of next 10 sts, dc2tog, turn. [11 sts]
Row 24 Ch1, skip first st, dc in each of next 8 sts, dc2tog, turn. [9 sts]
Row 25 Ch1, skip first st, dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog, turn. [7 sts]
Row 26 Ch1, skip first st, dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog, turn. [5 sts]
Row 27 Ch1, ss across the top row and then down the rows, across the foundation chain and up the rows to make a neat border all the way round.
Fasten off.

LEGS

Stuff as you go, stuffing the top half of the Legs very lightly, as you need to bend them when you sew them on.
Using Noir, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 5dc into the loop. [5 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 Dc in each st around, changing to Bourgogne on last yrh of last dc.
Rounds 4-16 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Sew together following instructions as given for Baby Deer.

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See page 72 for our workshop on creating perfect faces

TINY PEOPLE

From a magical mermaid to a mini crocheter, these adorable characters are just bursting with personality.





ALL DOLLED UP

Make Ilaria Caliri's little amigurumi crocheter. Isn't she the cutest?



Crochet doll



YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Gardenia (36)
  Yarn B Aguamarina (25)
  Yarn C Malva (31)
  Yarn D Ivory (02)
  Yarn E Prussian (64)
  Yarn F Safran (47)
  Yarn G Cerise (62)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1) hook
- Safety eyes, approx 8mm diameter
- Pipe cleaners (optional)
- Recycled plastic sheet (optional)
- Wooden crochet hook or skewer carved into a hook shape, for doll to hold (optional)
- Stitch marker
- Toy stuffing

For yarn stockists, contact DMC 0116 275 4000 www.dmccreative.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

Finished doll is 25cm (9¾in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

What better toy for a crocheter to create than your own mini maker? With her vibrantly coloured granny square scarf and tiny crochet hook, she's also the perfect gift for a crafter. What a doll!

NOTES

The doll is worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off the round with a ss. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work.
The Body and Head are worked as one piece starting from the bottom of the Body. All the other pieces are sewn to the Body.

BODY AND HEAD

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into loop. [6 dc]
Round 2 2dc in each dc around. [12 dc]
Round 3 (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 6 times. [18 dc]
Round 4 (2dc in next dc, dc in each of next 2 dc) 6 times. [24 dc]
Round 5 (2dc in next dc, dc in each of next 3 dc) 6 times. [30 dc]
Round 6 (2dc in next dc, dc in each of next 4 dc) 6 times. [36 dc]
Rounds 7-11 Dc in each dc around. [36 dc]
Fasten off Yarn B, join Yarn C.
Round 12 Dc in each dc around. [36 dc]
Round 13 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 dc) 3 times, dc in each of next 18 dc. [33 dc]
Round 14 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 dc) 3 times, dc in each of next 18 dc. [30 dc]
Round 15 As Round 12. [30 dc]
Round 16 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 dc) 6 times. [24 dc]
Round 17 As Round 12. [24 dc]
Round 18 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 dc) 6 times. [18 dc]
Round 19 As Round 12. [18 dc]
Fasten off Yarn C, join Yarn A.
Round 20 Working in the back loop only: (Dc2tog, dc in next dc) 6 times. [12 dc]
Round 21 As Round 12. [12 dc]
Stuff the Body.
Rounds 22-25 Work as for Rounds 3-6. [36 dc]
Round 26 (2dc in next dc, dc in each of next 5 dc) 6 times. [42 dc]
Round 27 (2dc in next dc, dc in each of next 6 dc) 6 times. [48 dc]
Rounds 28-34 Dc in each dc around. [48 dc]
Round 35 (Dc in each of next 6 dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 dc]
Round 36 (Dc in each of next 5 dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 dc]
Round 37 (Dc in each of next 4 dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 dc]
Round 38 (Dc in each of next 3 dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 dc]
Secure the eyes between Rounds 29 and 30, approx 11 stitches apart.
Stuff the Head with toy stuffing and continue stuffing as you go.
Round 39 (Dc in each of next 2 dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 dc]
Round 40 (Dc in each of next dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 dc]
Round 41 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 dc]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 dc]
Round 2 2dc in each dc around. [10 dc]
Rounds 3-5 Dc in each dc around. [10 dc]
Fasten off Yarn A, join Yarn C.
Round 6-12 Dc in each dc around. [10 dc]
Round 13 Dc2tog, dc in each of next 8 dc. [9 dc]
Round 14 Dc2tog, dc in each of next 7 dc. [8 dc]
Round 15 Dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 dc. [7 dc]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Stuff and insert pipe cleaners if you want to be able to bend the Arms.
Sew Arms to the Body.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn D, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 dc]
Round 2 2dc in each dc around. [10 dc]
Round 3 (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 5 times. [15 dc]
Round 4 (partial round) 1htr, 3tr in each of next 2 dc, 1htr, dc in each of next 2 dc, ss in next st. [19 sts]
The first st of the next round will count as the new first st of each round, so move your marker to this st.
Round 5 Dc in each of next 10 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts,

dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts. [17 sts]
Round 6 Dc in each of next 10 dc, (dc2tog) twice, dc in each of next 3 dc. [15 dc]
Round 7 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 dc) 3 times. [12 dc]
Round 8 Dc in each dc around.
Fasten off Yarn D, join Yarn A.
Round 9 Working in back loop only: dc in each st around. [12 dc]
Rounds 10-11 Dc in each dc around. [12 dc]
Fasten off Yarn A, join Yarn B.
Rounds 12-18 Dc in each dc around. [12 dc]
Round 19 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 dc) twice. [10 dc]
Rounds 20-29 Dc in each dc around. [10 dc]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Stuff and insert pipe cleaners if you want to be able to bend the Legs.
Sew Legs to the Body.

SHOES (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn E, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 dc]
Round 2 2dc in each dc around. [10 dc]
Round 3 (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 5 times. [15 dc]
Round 4 (partial round) 1htr, 3tr in each of next 2 dc, 1htr, dc in each of next 2 dc, ss in next st. [19 sts]
The first st of the next round will count as the new first st of each round, so move your marker to this st.
Round 5 Working in back loop only: dc in each st around. [19 sts]
Round 6 Working in back loop only: dc in each of next 10 dc, dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 dc, dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 dc. [17 dc]
Round 7 (partial round) Dc in each of next 5 dc, ss to next dc.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
If desired, cut shapes out of recycled plastic and insert into the soles of the shoes to make them rigid.
Insert Feet into Shoes and sew in place.

SKIRT
Using Yarn E, ch12.
Row 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), ss in next 3 ch, htr in each of next 9 ch, turn. [12 sts]
Row 2 Working in back loop only: Ch2 (does not count as st), htr in each of next 9 htr, ss in each of next 3 ss, turn. [12 sts]
Row 3 Working in back loop only: Ch1 (does not count as st), ss in next 3 ss, htr in each of next 9 htr, turn. [12 sts]
Repeat Rows 2-3 another 20 times.
Join the last row to the foundation chain using a ss seam.
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Place Skirt on the doll.

HAIR CAP
Using Yarn D, make a magic loop.
Rounds 1-6 Work as Rounds 1-6 of Head and Body. [36 dc]
Round 7 (2dc in next dc, dc in each of next 5 dc) 6 times. [42 dc]
Round 8 (2dc in next dc, dc in each of next 6 dc) 6 times. [48 dc]
Rounds 9-15 Dc in each dc around. [48 dc]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

HAIR BUN CAP
With Yarn D, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop but don't tighten the loop. [6 dc]
Round 2 2dc in each dc around. [12 dc]
Round 3 (2dc in next dc, dc in next dc) 6 times. [18 dc]
Round 4 (2dc in next dc, dc in each of next 2 dc) 6 times. [24 dc]
Round 5 (2dc in next dc, dc in each of next 3 dc) 6 times. [30 dc]
Rounds 6-8 Dc in each dc around. [30 dc]
Round 9 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 dc) 6 times. [24 dc]
Round 10 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 dc) 6 times. [18 dc]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

ATTACH HAIR
The Hair Cap is used as a base for securing the hair.
To make strands of hair, cut lengths of Yarn F measuring approx 20cm. Fold in half and use a crochet hook to apply these strands in each st of the last two rounds of the Hair Cap. Sew the Hair Cap to the Head.
Comb the hair to the centre of the Head and make a knot. Place the Hair Bun Cap over the knot and if necessary, stuff with toy stuffing to create a round shape. Secure the Hair Bun Cap with a few stitches, then cut long lengths of Yarn F and sew from the edge of the Hair Bun Cap to the centre (into the magic loop).

Make a long chain using Yarn E.
Fasten off, and sew it around the bun to embellish.


On the skirt, some of the stitches are worked in the back loop only for a pleated effect.

SCARF
Make 13 squares, as follows:
Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), (1dc, ch2) 4 times into the loop, ss to first dc to join the round.
Fasten off Yarn B, join Yarn E.
Round 2 Ch1, *dc in next dc, (1dc, ch2, 1dc) in the next ch-2 sp of prev round; rep from * 3 more times, ss to first dc to join.
Fasten off Yarn E, join Yarn G.
Round 3 Ch1, *dc in each of next 2 dc, (1dc, ch2, 1dc) in the next ch-2 sp of prev round, 1dc; rep from * 3 more times, ss to the first dc to join.
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Sew the squares together using a tapestry needle and Yarn G.
Wrap Scarf around doll.



GELATO GIRL

Let Ilaria Caliri's super-sweet ice cream cutie melt your heart.

Ice cream doll



GO PRO | DK WEIGHT | 3MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Essentials Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/130m), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Beige (91)
  Yarn B Jade Green (47)
  Yarn C White (80)
  Yarn D Candy Pink (12)
  Yarn E Fuchsia (14)
  Yarn F Curry (61)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- White tulle fabric, 7x50cm (3x20in)
- Safety eyes, approx 8mm diameter
- 2 small buttons
- Sewing pins
- Brown seed beads
- Tapestry needle
- Stitch markers
- Toy stuffing

For yarn stockists, contact Rico www.rico-design.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

27cm (10½in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

With her mint choc chip frills and pink hair, Ilaria's summery doll is a cool favourite. Her body and head are worked together and the other bits are sewn on afterwards.

NOTES

The pattern is worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a ss. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first st of each round, moving it up as you work. The Body and Head are worked as one piece starting from the bottom of the Body. All the other pieces are sewn to the Body.

BODY AND HEAD

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Rounds 7-12 1dc in each dc around.
Round 13 (Dc2tog, 4dc) 3 times, 18dc. [33 sts]
Round 14 (Dc2tog, 3dc) 3 times, 18dc. [30 sts]
Round 15 1dc in each dc around.
Round 16 (Dc2tog, 3dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 17 1dc in each dc around.
Round 18 (Dc2tog, 2dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 19 1dc in each dc around.
Round 20 (Dc2tog, 1dc) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 21 1dc in each dc around, do not fasten off. Stuff the Body.

HEAD

Round 22 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 23 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 24 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 25 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 26 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 27 (2dc in next st, 6dc) 6 times. [48 sts]
Rounds 28-34 1dc in each dc around.
Round 35 (6dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 36 (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 37 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 38 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Secure eyes between Rounds 29 and 30, approx 11 sts apart.
Stuff Head with toy stuffing and cont stuffing as you go.
Round 39 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 40 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 41 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Rounds 3-12 1dc in each dc around.
Round 13 Dc2tog, 8dc. [9 sts]
Round 14 Dc2tog, 7dc. [8 sts]
Round 15 Dc2tog, 6dc. [7 sts]
Stuff. **Fasten off**, leaving a long tail for sewing and sew the Arms to the Body.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 5 times. [15 sts]
Rounds 4-5 1dc in each dc.
Round 6 (Tr2tog) 3 times to shape the foot, 9dc. [12 sts]
Rounds 7-17 1dc in each dc around.
Round 18 (Dc2tog, 4dc) twice. [10 sts]
Rounds 19-27 1dc in each dc around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Stuff. Sew the Legs to the bottom of the Body.

HAIR CAP

Using Yarn D, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 8 (2dc in next st, 6dc) 6 times. [48 sts]
Rounds 9-15 1dc in each dc around. [48]
Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing.

The Hair Cap is used as a base for securing the hair. To make strands of hair, cut a 20cm piece of adhesive tape and fix it to your work surface sticky side up. Using equal amounts of Yarns D and E, cut lengths measuring approx 30cm. Place the centre of each yarn piece at right angles to the adhesive tape, positioning them close tog and alternating randomly Yarns D and E. Cover 14cm of the tape, then remove it from the work surface.
Split a strand of Yarn D, taking just 1 fine strand to use as sewing thread. With a needle and this thread, sew along the 14cm with backstitches, then remove the tape from the yarn.

Repeat this process once more so that you have 2 pieces of hair. Use sewing pins to fix these two hair pieces to the Hair Cap. Place the first one at the front with the stitching line in the position of the centre parting. Place the second one to cover the back of the head. Sew each piece in place with small sts along the prev stitching line. Divide hair into two ponytails and tie each with Yarn C. Then sew the Hair Cap onto the Head.

HAIRBAND

Using Yarn C, ch27, leaving a long starting tail for sewing.
Row 1 (RS) Skip the first ch, 4ss, 3dc, 12htr, 3dc, 4ss, cont on the other side of foundation ch to match the existing sts: 4ss, 3dc, 12htr, 3dc, 4ss.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Pin the Hairband on the Head and sew with a single st at each end.

CONE HAT

Using Yarn F, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 2dc in next st, 3dc. [5 sts]
Round 3 2dc in next st, 4dc. [6 sts]
Round 4 2dc in next st, 5dc. [7 sts]
Round 5 2dc in next st, 6dc. [8 sts]
Round 6 (2dc in next st, 3dc) twice. [10 sts]
Round 7 (2dc in next st, 4dc) twice. [12 sts]
Round 8 (2dc in next st, 5dc) twice. [14 sts]
Round 9 (2dc in next st, 6dc) twice. [16 sts]
Round 10 (2dc in next st, 7dc) twice. [18 sts]
Round 11 (2dc in next st, 8dc) twice. [20 sts]
Round 12 (2dc in next st, 9dc) twice. [22 sts]
Round 13 (2dc in next st, 10dc) twice. [24 sts]
Round 14 Reverse dc in each st around (work a dc in each st, moving in the opposite direction, so that if you are right handed each st will be on the right of prev st).
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Stuff and sew the Hat to Head.

SANDALS (MAKE 2)

SOLE

Using Yarn F, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 Ss in each dc.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

UPPER

Using Yarn B, ch28.
Take the Sole with WS facing and cont working in the front loops only of the ss from the last round: 1dc, 1htr, 3tr2tog, 1htr, 1dc. Leave the rem sts unworked and ch28.
Fasten off and put the Sandals on the doll, crossing the shoelaces behind the heels and making a bow at the front.

DRESS

Using Yarn B, ch25.
Row 1 (RS) Skip first ch, 8dc, ch8, count back 5 dc and ss in fifth dc to create a strap for the Dress, ss back along each ch of the strap, cont on foundation ch with 13dc, ch8, ss in fifth dc back to make second strap, ss back along each ch of the strap, cont on foundation ch with 3dc, ch6, ss into the side of last dc worked (the row end – this ch forms first buttonhole loop). [24 dc, 2 straps and a ch-6 buttonhole loop]



The doll's flouncy dress fastens neatly at the back with two cherry red buttons.

Rotate the piece and cont to work on the other side of the ch.
Row 2 (RS) Ch3 (counts as an increase st, so work next st in st at base of this ch), (3tr, 2tr in the next st) 5 times, 4tr, turn. [30 sts]
Row 3 (WS) Ch3 (counts as an increase st), (4tr, 2tr in the next st) 5 times, 5tr, ch6, ss into the side of the last tr worked (this is the second buttonhole), turn. [36 sts]
Row 4 Ch3 (counts as an increase st), (5tr, 2tr in the next st) 5 times, 6tr, turn. [42 sts]
Row 5 Ch3 (counts as st), working in front loops only: 2tr in st at base of ch, 3tr in each st across. **Fasten off**.
Row 6 Turn and join Yarn C with RS facing in first st, ready to work in rem back loops of Row 4. Ch3 (counts as an increase st), (6tr, 2tr in the next st) 5 times, 7tr, turn. [48 sts]
Row 7 Ch3 (counts as st), 2tr in st at base of ch, 3tr in each st across.
Fasten off, leaving an extra long tail for gathering the tulle and sewing to the Dress.
Sew the buttons to the opposite row end from the buttonholes.

Fold tulle fabric in half lengthwise and with a tapestry needle and tail of Yarn C, make long sts all along the fold. Pull yarn to gather fabric until it is the same size as the edge of the Dress (approx 25cm). With the same yarn, sew tulle to inside of Dress along hem, level with top of the white rows, so that it shows approx 1cm below bottom of the Dress.

TO FINISH

Sew approx 30 seed beads to the Dress front, splitting a strand of Yarn B to use as sewing thread, and using the image as a guide. Put the Dress on the doll.

LITTLE LILLY

Designed by Janie Nabb, Lilly is the cutest amigurumi lady on the block.



Rainy day doll



YOU WILL NEED

- 4ply cotton yarn in white, yellow and brown
- Black embroidery thread (for mouth and eyebrows)
- A 2mm (US 4 steel) hook
- Safety eyes, approx 4mm diameter
- Black pipe cleaner (for legs)
- Fabric glue
- Polyester toy stuffing
- Stitch marker
- Tapestry or sewing needle
- Tiny quilting pins (to shape Lilly's hair)

MEASUREMENTS

Approx 10cm (4in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

Invisible decrease (invdec)
Insert the hook into the front loop of the first st (do not yrh), insert the hook into the front loop of the next st, yrh, draw through first two loops on hook, yrh, draw through both loops on the hook

For a full list, see page 130

She may look a bit gloomy, but Lilly is a little ray of sunshine, making the best of a windy, rainy day. We love her bright hooded raincoat, perfect hairdo (in spite of the weather!) and neat pipecleaner legs. Lilly's charms are many but it's her facial expression that makes her unique.

HEAD AND BODY

Using white, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st) 6dc in loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each dc around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next dc, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 1dc, (2dc in next dc, 3dc) 5 times, 2dc in next dc, 2dc. [30 sts]
Round 6 3dc, (2dc in next dc, 4dc) 5 times, 2dc in next dc, 1dc. [36 sts]
Round 7 (5dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. [42 sts]
Rounds 8-14 Dc in each st around.
Round 15 (5dc, invdec) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 16 (invdec) 18 times. [18 sts]
Change to yellow for Body.
Rounds 17-18 Dc in each st around.
Insert safety eyes, stuff the Head and embroider the eyebrows and mouth.
Round 19 5dc, 2dc in next dc, 6dc, 2dc in next dc, 5dc. [20 sts]
Rounds 20-21 Dc in each st around.
Round 22 6dc, 2dc in next dc, 6dc, 2dc in next dc, 6dc. [22 sts]
Rounds 23-24 Dc in each st around.
Round 25 7dc, 2dc in next dc, 6dc, 2dc in next dc, 7dc. [24 sts]
Round 26 Dc in each st around.
Round 27 Dc in each st working into the back loop only.
Round 28 (2dc, invdec) 6 times. [18 sts]
Stuff firmly.
Round 29 (1dc, invdec) 6 times. [12 sts]
The following round makes two small gaps for the legs:
Round 30 Invdec, ch1, skip next two sts, (invdec) twice, ch1, skip next two sts, invdec. [6 sts]
Fasten off and weave in end.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using yellow, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc in loop. [5 sts]
Rounds 2-8 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving long tail for sewing. Use tails to sew Arms to sides of body.



Use this image as a guide to help you when you stitch on Lilly's mouth and eyebrows.

HOOD

Using yellow, make a magic loop.
Rounds 1-14 Work as for Rounds 1-14 of Head and Body. [42 sts]
Round 15 36dc, turn, leaving rem sts unworked. [36 sts]
Rows 16-18 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st to end, turn. Ch25.
Fasten off. Rejoin yellow on opposite side of hood, ch25. **Fasten off**.

HAIR CAP

Hair Cap is made first, then yarn strands are stitched to Cap around edge to form the hairline.
Using brown, make a magic loop.
Rounds 1-6 Work as for Rounds 1-6 of Head and Body. [36 sts]
Round 7 (8dc, 2dc in next dc) 4 times. [40 sts]
Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.
Round 10 36dc, turn, leaving rem sts unworked. [36 sts]
Rows 11-12 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st to end, turn. **Fasten off**.
Turn Cap inside out. Strands of hair are attached into 10 sts around outer edge of Hair Cap. Find what will be centre st of hairline, count 2 sts to the right of this, and mark this st with a marker. Now count 9 sts to the left of this marker and mark this st, so that there are 10 sts marked in total.
Place a strand of yarn in each of these 10 sts as follows: cut a strand of brown yarn approx 28cm, fold in half and pull loopy end half way through st. Pass ends through the loop and pull tight.
Glue Hair Cap onto Head.
Style hair using quilting pins.

LEGS

Shape pipe cleaner into 2 legs, each approx 4cm long. Glue them into the Body so 3cm of each leg is showing.

Amigurumi workshop

MAKING FACES

Give your amigurumi makes a professional finish with our step by step guide to creating facial features.



Making amigurumi toys is one of the joys of crochet, but when it comes to creating the face, this can be an area that many of us struggle with, as it can make or break a creation you've spent hours working on.

GETTING IT RIGHT

Here, we explain how to make eyes, embroider the face and create the hair, using simple techniques that anyone can master. Once you're confident with your new face-making skills you can use them to crochet our sweet doll Clementine on page 75 and give her the most gorgeous features.

HOW TO ADD SAFETY EYES

Add eyes to your amigurumi toy and create its personality.

Nothing gives amigurumi toys character like their eyes – whether you choose beads, crochet or felt circles, embroidery or shop-bought safety eyes.

Safety eyes are robust domed plastic pins with a screw back. Plain black pairs are the cheapest (around 50p per pair), but you can also get eyes with a black pupil and coloured iris, or with eyelashes and even realistic animal eyes. They're called 'safety eyes' because they're difficult to remove – handy when making toys. But always check the detail on recommended ages.

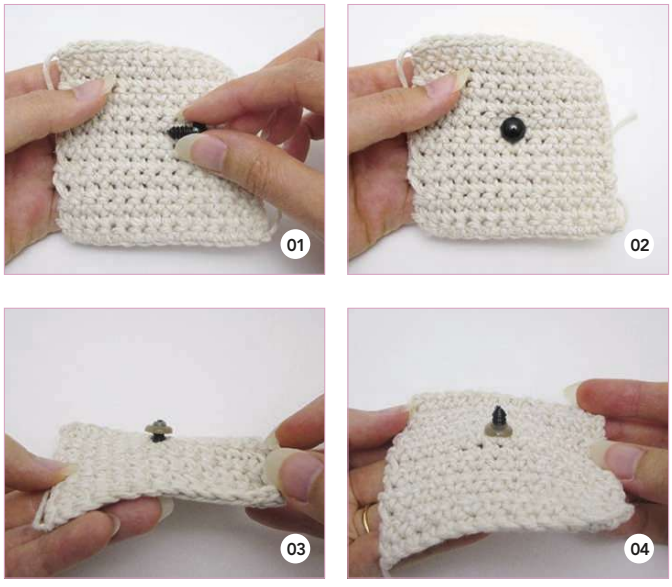
ATTACHING SAFETY EYES

Safety eyes need to be attached when you can still get to the back of the fabric, so it's best to add them before closing up and stuffing. Attaching them is very simple – the eye piece is like a small screw, then there's a small plastic washer that fits on the back.

Step 1 & 2 Take the eye piece and carefully insert it into the gap in your fabric. Make sure you're happy with the placement and move it around if you need to.

Step 3 Turn the fabric over to the other side, where the stem of the eye piece is protruding and place the washer over the top, making sure that the washer is positioned with its domed side facing away from the fabric.

Step 4 Press down hard on the washer until it snaps in place over the eye piece.



MAKING EYE INDENTS

Whichever method you use to form the eyes on your amigurumi toy, you can make them look more realistic by creating an indent before attaching the eye. To do this, you'll need to make a small straight stitch where you want to place the eyes. Follow the instructions for embroidering the facial features (right), then when you come to knotting the two ends together, pull the ends tight to pull in the fabric and form an indent in the face. Repeat to form a second indent.

WORK THE FACE DETAILS

Use embroidery to add facial features to your creation.

Once your eyes are attached, you can add extra facial features if you want. Apart from embroidery there are other ways to add facial details, such as using small circles of felt to form cheeks or adding a plastic safety nose in the same way as you would eyes.

Embroidery stitches tend to be the most popular method and are worked right at the end of your make, after your toy has been sewn together and the eyes added. You can use any embroidery stitches you like, but simple straight stitches and chain stitches tend to be the most popular.

Step 1 To work embroidery stitches on your finished toy, thread a tapestry needle with your chosen thread or yarn. Insert the needle into the back of the head and bring it out at the front, where you want to start your stitch. Pull the yarn through slowly, leaving a long tail (approx 12cm) at the back of the head.

Step 2 Work your choice of stitch here – we worked a variation on chain stitch by inserting the needle two stitches to the left and bringing it out one stitch down in between the first and second hole to form a triangle shape.

Step 3 Make sure the needle exits the fabric over the top of the yarn. Pull the yarn through gently until the yarn sits next to the fabric, making sure it isn't pulled too tight. Bring the needle over the stitch and insert it back into the same hole it's coming out of, over the top of the stitch you just made – this will hold that stitch in place.

Step 4 Take the needle out of the back of the head at the same point you went in.

Step 5 Pull the thread through gently to complete the face detail.

Step 6 You'll be left with two tails at the back of the head that you will need to secure – to do this, knot the two ends together gently, making sure you don't pull on or distort the stitches of the face.

Step 7 Thread the two tails onto a tapestry needle and insert the needle into the head at the hole next to the knot, bringing it out at the top of the head. Pull the tails through until just the knot remains.

Step 8 Pull gently to tuck the knot inside the head. Trim the tails close to the head and push any remaining yarn that's visible inside the head using the blunt end of a crochet hook or tapestry needle.

















HOW TO ADD A HEAD OF HAIR

Top off your toy with gorgeous-looking locks.

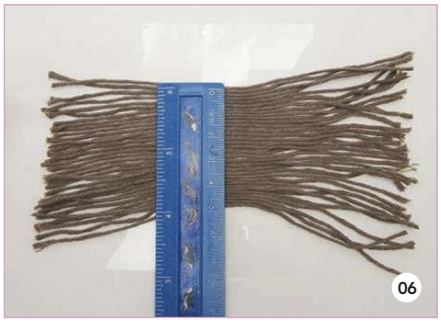




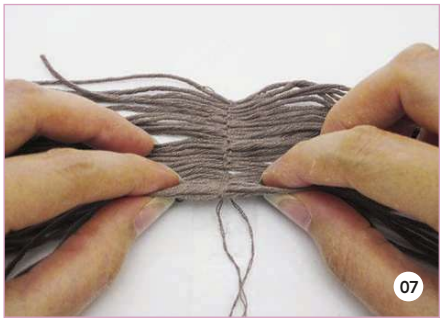








Hair is key to finishing off your toy. Whether you attach a shaped hair-coloured crochet cap, embroider straight stitches over a hair cap, add yarn lengths to your hair cap or attach lengths of yarn directly onto the head of your doll, it's up to you. You can even stitch lengths of yarn together down the centre to create a hair piece with a parting, and attach it to your toy by itself (see below). Whichever method you use, making hair takes time and patience, but is definitely worth it in the end.





ADDING LENGTHS TO THE HEAD

Step 1 To attach lengths of yarn directly onto the head of your doll, work in the same way as you would if you were creating fringing. To do this, start by cutting approx 50 lengths of yarn, each around 20cm long or the length you'd like – cut more lengths as you need them. Starting at the back of the head, as low down as you'd like the hair to go, insert your crochet hook from top to bottom around one stitch. *Take one of your yarn lengths and fold it in half. Place the halfway loop onto your hook and gently pull the loop through the head.

Step 2 Use the hook to catch the two strands of yarn on the other side of the loop and pull the two strands through the loop.

Step 3 Pull gently on the tails of yarn, making sure you keep them even, until the length is secure. Repeat from * to attach more yarn lengths, working around every other stitch around to the face. Once you complete one row, move upwards to the next row and insert yarn lengths into alternate stitches again, but this time work in between the stitches you worked into on the previous row.

Step 4 Continue to attach yarn lengths in this way until you've reached the top of the head.

MAKING A HAIR PIECE

Step 5 To create a hair piece with a parting, start by cutting approx 20 lengths of yarn, each one around 15cm long or the length you'd like. Cut a piece of sticky tape approx 20cm long and place it sticky side up on your worktop – use two more pieces of tape to secure the ends in place. Place the lengths of yarn one by one across the sticky tape, lining up the centre of the yarn with the centre of the tape to keep the lengths even.

Step 6 Place the yarn lengths as close together as you can to get good coverage on the head. Cover approx 5cm of the tape or the length specified in your pattern.

Step 7 Thread a sharp sewing needle with thread that matches your yarn colour and stitch down the centre of the piece using backstitches, working through the tape. Try working across two strands of yarn at a time to the end, then stitch back again, working across alternate strands to secure them firmly. Carefully remove the hair piece from the tape – it should easily break away from where you've worked the stitches.

Step 8 Place the hair piece on top of the doll's head and stitch it in place using the same thread, stitching over the backstitches in the hair parting piece. Once you're happy that the hair piece is secure, trim the hair into your doll's chosen hairstyle.

Written by Becky Skuse



DARLING CLEMENTINE

Put your newly acquired skills into practice with this sweet doll by Becky Skuse.

Sunshine doll



EASY PEASY | 4PLY WEIGHT | 3MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Lin (78)
  Yarn B Moss Green (75)
  Yarn C Safran (47)
  Yarn D Ombre (39)
- Scrap of pink yarn
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- Toy stuffing
- Safety eyes
- Sewing needle and thread to match hair colour

For yarn stockists contact DMC 0116 275 4000 www.dmccreative.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

Approx 13cm (5¼in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

Invisible decrease (invdec)
Insert the hook into the front loop of the first st (do not yrh), insert the hook into the front loop of the next st, yrh, draw through first two loops on hook, yrh, draw through both loops on the hook

For a full list, see page 130

Designer Becky says: "Clementine is a simple lady – she loves orange and yellow, and letting her hair grow long. Her wide eyes are full of wonder and she sees the beauty of the world everywhere she looks. She's easy to make using dc stitches in spiral rounds and great for newcomers to amigurumi because we'll explain in detail what you need to do at every step."

NOTES

Most of this pattern is worked in spiral rounds, unless otherwise stated. To work in a spiral, don't close a round with a slip stitch between the first and last stitches of a round. To help you keep track of the beginning of the round, you'll need to use a stitch marker placed in the first stitch of the round and move it up as you work.
Where there is a change of colour and a colour jog might be visible, you may be instructed to ss to next stitch in the old colour before starting with a new colour. For the frills, you will be instructed to work in standard rounds, working a turning chain at the start of the round and joining the first stitch to the last stitch with a ss.
Tuck the start and end tails inside each piece as you work, unless otherwise noted.
A 'long tail' for sewing up needs to be approx. 20cm in length.
A 'long tail' for weaving in and out of stitches to close the final round only needs to be approx 10cm. Long sewing tails are only needed at the base of the Head, the tops of the Arms and the tops of the Legs.
If desired, add weighted stuffing to the bottom of the Legs.
Where you are instructed to 'weave end inside', thread the end onto a tapestry needle and insert inside the piece, bringing it out as far away as possible. Trim the tail close to the fabric and push any remaining yarn inside using the blunt end of a crochet hook or tapestry needle.
The doll's frills are made by working a round of stitches into the remaining front loops of the stitches below, which have already had their back loops worked into on a previous round. Rounds are labelled as 'b' to denote that they are worked as part of a second layer of a piece.

HEAD

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into loop. [6 dc]
Round 2 2dc into each dc around. [12 dc]
Round 3 (2dc into next dc, dc in next dc) around. [18 dc]
Round 4 (2dc into next dc, dc in each of next 2 dc) around. [24 dc]
Round 5 (2dc into next dc, dc in each of next 3 dc) around. [30 dc]
Round 6 (2dc into next dc, dc in each of next 4 dc) around. [36 dc]
Rounds 7-12 Dc in each dc around.
Round 13 (Invdec, dc in each of next 4 dc) around. [30 dc]
Round 14 (Invdec, dc in each of next 3 dc) around. [24 dc]
Round 15 (Invdec, dc in each of next 2 dc) around. [18 dc]
Round 16 (Invdec, dc in next dc) around. [12 dc]
Ss to next dc.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail to allow for sewing up. Add safety eyes 5 sts apart between Rounds 10 and 11. Stuff Head.

BODY

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into loop. [6 dc]
Round 2 2dc into each dc around. [12 dc]
Rounds 3-4 Dc in each dc around.
Ss to next dc. **Fasten off** and tuck in ends.

DRESS

Join Yarn B in any dc.
Round 5 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), *(3dc in next dc) 3 times, dc in each of next 3 dc; repeat from * once more. [24 dc]
Rounds 6-11 Dc in each dc around.
Ss to next dc. **Fasten off** and tuck in ends.
Stuff and add more stuffing as you work.

LOWER BODY

Join Yarn A in the back loop of any dc.
Round 12 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in back loop of each dc around. [24 dc]
Round 13 (Invdec, dc in each of next 2 dc) around. [18 dc]
Round 14 (Invdec, dc in next dc)

around. [12 dc]
Round 14 (Invdec) around, ss to next dc. [6 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Thread the tail onto a tapestry needle, weave in and out of the last 6 sts, pull tight and secure. Weave end inside.

SKIRT

Join Yarn C in the front loop of any dc from Round 11.
Round 12b (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in front loop of each dc around, ss to first dc. [24 dc] **Fasten off**.
Round 13b Join Yarn B in any dc of Round 12b, ch1 (does not count as st), (2dc into next dc, dc in each of next 3 dc) around. [30 dc]
Round 14b (2dc into next dc, dc in each of next 4 dc) around. [36 dc]
Round 15b (2dc into next dc, dc in each of next 5 dc) around. [42 dc]
Round 16 Dc in each dc around, ss to next dc. **Fasten off**.
Round 17 Join Yarn C in any dc, ch1 (does not count as st), dc each dc around, ss to first dc. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

ARM (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop, leaving a long tail for sewing up (do not tuck inside).
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into loop. [6 dc]
Rounds 2-5 Dc in each dc around. Ss to next dc. **Fasten off** and tuck in end.

HAND

Round 6 Join Yarn A in the back loop of any dc, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in back loop of each dc around.
Round 7 Dc in each dc around, ss to next dc.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Thread the tail onto a tapestry needle, weave in and out of the last 6 dc, pull tight to secure and weave end inside.

WRIST FRILL

Join Yarn C in the front loop of any dc of Round 6.
Round 7b (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 2dc in front loop of each dc around, ss to first dc. [12 dc]
Fasten off and weave end inside.

LEG (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop, leaving a long tail for sewing up (do not tuck inside).**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into loop. [6 dc]
Round 2 (Dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc) around. [9 dc]
Rounds 3-8 Dc in each dc around.
Ss to next dc. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

SHOE

Join Yarn B in the back loop of any dc.
Round 9 Working in the back loop only of each stitch, (dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc) around to last dc, dc in last dc. [13 dc]
Round 10 Dc in each dc around.
Stuff and add more stuffing as you work, or add a weighted pouch.
Round 11 Dc in each of next 5 dc, 2dc in each of next 3 dc, dc in each of next 5 dc. [16 dc]
Round 12 (Invdec) around, ss to next dc.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Thread tail onto a tapestry needle, weave in and out of the last 8 sts, pull tight to secure and weave end inside.

FRILL

Join Yarn C in the front loop of any dc from Round 8.
Round 9b Ch1 (does not count as st), 2dc in front loop of each dc around, ss to first dc. [18 dc]
Fasten off and weave end inside.



Clementine is made with appropriately zesty shades of yellow and orange.

TO MAKE UP

Sew the Arms to the Body's shoulders so that the top of the Arm is level with the top of the yellow dress. Sew the Legs in place to the bottom of the Body, under the skirt.
Stuff the Head firmly. Sew the Head in place at the top of the Body, using mattress stitch and joining the 12 sts of the last round of the Head to the 12 sts of Round 2 at the top of the Body.
Embroider the mouth using a scrap of pink yarn and following the steps on page 73.

HAIR

Cut lengths of yarn to 20cm and use them to make a hair parting piece following the method on page 74. Cut lengths of yarn to 20cm and insert them into the Head as fringe pieces, starting at the lower back of the Head, as described in on page 74. Fringe pieces should be inserted into alternate stitches on every round up to the top of the Head.
Sew the hair parting piece to the top of the head, using matching thread, stitching over the backstitches that were previously made in the hair parting piece.
Trim the hair to finish.

TINY DANCER

Sally Shepherd's ballerina is sure to become any little girl's new best friend.



Ballerina doll



YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Gardenia (N36)
  Yarn B Tournesol (N16)
  Yarn C Crimson (N61)
  Yarn D Glicine (N30)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- Safety eyes or black beads, approx 6mm (¼in) diameter
- Toy stuffing
- Wool needle

For yarn stockists, contact DMC 0116 275 4000 www.dmccreative.co.uk

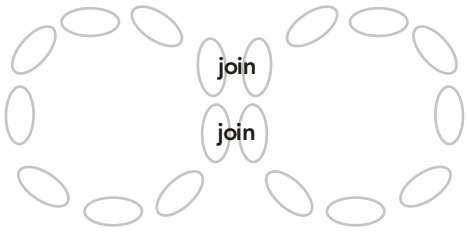
MEASUREMENTS

23x7.5cm (9x3in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

DIAGRAM FOR BODY



Stitch budding dancers a lucky mascot with this sweet doll, dressed in her colourful tutu and funky legwarmers. The doll uses just double and treble crochet stitches and is worked in the round, so this is a great project for a confident beginner to attempt. We've used a 4ply cotton yarn to work the doll, but you can change the yarn to suit your own preferences – just be sure to use a hook that's a size smaller than specified on the yarn ball to keep the stitches neat and tight.

NOTES

The Ballerina 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.

HEAD

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Rounds 8-13 Dc into each st around.
Fix toy safety eyes between Rounds 10 and 11, leaving 8 sts between the eyes.
Round 14 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 15 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 16 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 17 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 18 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Stuff Head firmly.
Round 19 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off. Using a wool needle, weave the yarn tail through remaining sts and pull tight to close. Weave in ends and trim.

HAIR CAP

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.



Make sure that the finished bun cover sits snugly over the doll's hair.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Rounds 8-13 Dc in each st around.
Round 14 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail of thread to sew the Cap onto Head later.

LEG (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn D, ch8.
Round 1 (RS) 3dc in third ch from hook, dc in each of next 4 ch, 3dc in last ch, rotate and work along opposite side of ch, dc in each of next 4 ch. [14 sts]
Round 2 Dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts. [16 sts]
Round 3 Dc in each st around.
Round 4 Dc in each of next 8 sts, dc2tog changing to Yarn A on last yrh of dc2tog, (dc2tog) twice changing to Yarn D on last yrh of second dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts. [13 sts]
Round 5 Dc in each of next 7 sts changing to Yarn A on last yrh of 7th dc, (dc2tog) 3 times. [10 sts]
Round 6 Dc in each of next 8 sts, dc2tog. [9 sts]
Rounds 7-15 Dc in each st around changing to Yarn D on last yrh of last dc

of Round 15.
Rounds 16-17 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off and weave in ends. Stuff the Foot and half way up the Leg. Use the blunt end of the crochet hook to push stuffing down.

BODY
Using Yarn D, hold 2 Legs together with feet both pointing forwards. Each Leg has 9 sts and Legs will be joined though the 2 inner sts of each Leg (see diagram, page 79). Rejoin yarn to the sts at back of Legs where the two Legs touch (inserting hook through the sts of both Legs)
Round 1 Using Yarn D, ch 1 (not counted as st) dc in same set of sts, dc in each of next 7 sts around left Leg, dc in next st of Left Leg and adjacent st of right Leg (to join), dc in each of next 7 sts around right Leg. [16 sts]
Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.
Round 4 Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next, dc in each of next 3 sts. [18 sts]
Round 5 Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 8 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts. [20 sts]
Round 6 Dc in each st around.
Round 7 Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 8 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts. [18 sts]
Round 8 Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 7 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts. [16 sts]
Rounds 9-19 Dc in each st around, changing to Yarn A on last yrh of last dc of Round 19.
Round 20 Dc in each of next 7 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog. [14 sts]
Round 21 Dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog. [12 sts]
Round 22 Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog. [10 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long thread, and stuff firmly through opening.

ARMS (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [8 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [10 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2tr in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts. [11 sts]
Round 5 Dc in each of next 4 sts, tr2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts. [10 sts]
Round 6 Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts. [9 sts]
Rounds 7-14 Dc in each st around changing to Yarn D on last yrh of last dc of Round 14.
Rounds 15-17 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off. Stuff Hand firmly and Arm lightly. Flatten top of Arm and sew it together.

TUTU
Using Yarn C, ch17, ss into first chain to join into a ring, changing to Yarn D on yrh of ss.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (not counted as a st), dc in same st at base of ch-1 (dc in next st, 2dc in next st) around, ss to first dc, changing to Yarn C on yrh of ss. [25 sts]
Round 2 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in same st at base of ch-3, 2tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3, changing to Yarn D on yrh of ss. [50 sts]
Round 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), 3tr in next st, (tr in next st, 3tr in next st) around, ss to top of beg ch-3, changing to Yarn C on yrh of ss. [100 sts]
Round 4 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each of next 2 sts, 3tr in next st, (tr in each of next 3 sts, 3tr in next) around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [150 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

LEG WARMERS
Using Yarn C, ch15, ss into first chain to join into a ring changing to Yarn D on yrh of ss.
Round 1 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3 changing to Yarn C on yrh of ss. [15 sts]
Round 2 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3 changing to Yarn D on yrh of ss.
Round 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3 changing to Yarn C on yrh of ss.
Round 4 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

BUN COVER
Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop, ss to first dc to join. [6 sts]
Round 2 Ch6, (counts as tr, ch3) (tr, ch3) in each st around, ss to third of beg ch-6. [6tr, 6 ch-3 sps]
Round 3 Ss in next ch-3 sp, ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), tr in same ch-3 sp, ch1, *(tr, ch1, tr) in next ch-3 sp, ch1; rep from * around, ss to third of beg ch-4. [12tr, 12 ch-1 sps]
Round 4 Ss into next ch-1 sp, ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), (tr in next ch-1 sp, ch1) around. [12trs, 12 ch-1 sps]
Depending on the size of the knot you tie in the Doll's hair (see the Making Up section below), you may need to repeat Row 4 again until the Bun Cover fits snugly over the Bun. **Fasten off**, leaving a long end. Weave in ends.


You can experiment with different colours for the doll's tutu and leg warmers.

MAKING UP
Sew the Arms of the Doll to the shoulders of the Doll with the thumbs facing forwards. Sew the Head of the Doll to the top of the Body. Place the Hair Cap onto the Head, slightly towards the back of the Head, and sew in place around the edge of the Hair Cap.

ADDING HAIR
Cut 30.5cm (12in) strands of Yarn B. Fold each piece in half, and knot it through the edge of the Hair Cap. Once you have worked all the way round, pull the hair backwards and knot it tightly into the centre of the Doll's Head. Trim the ends. Take the Bun Cover and run the thread through each space, place over Bun and pull tightly to hold it on. Stitch through the Bun a couple of times to secure.



MAKE A SPLASH

Fall hook, line and sinker for this little mermaid darling by Ilaria Caliri.

Magical mermaid



A BIT TRICKY | 4PLY WEIGHT | 3MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Rose Soraya (N32)
  Yarn B Gardenia (N36)
  Yarn C Amaranto (N33)
  Yarn D Aguamarina (N25)
  Yarn E Turquoise (N49)
  Yarn F Prussian (N64)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/2) hook
- Safety eyes approx 8mm in diameter
- Sequins
- Tapestry needle
- Toy stuffing
- Adhesive tape
- Sewing needle, thread and pins

For yarn stockists, contact DMC 0116 275 4000 www.dmccreative.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

Approx 25cm (10in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

With her sequinned tail and blue fishtail braid, Ilaria Caliri's adorable mermaid doll is sure to become a firm favourite. She's hooked using simple dc stitches in a spiral and her hair is made with two pretty ocean shades. Can you resist?

NOTES

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

The Tail, Body and Head are worked as one piece, starting from the Tail to the Head. Fins, Arms and Bikini are made separately and sewn onto the Body. Strands of hair are sewn onto a cap made to the fit the Head, then this is sewn to the Head.

TAIL, BODY AND HEAD

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 2dc in next st, 3dc. [5 sts]
Round 3 1dc in each dc around.
Round 4 2dc in next st, 4dc. [6 sts]
Round 5 2dc in next st, 5dc. [7 sts]
Round 6 2dc in next st, 6dc. [8 sts]
Round 7 1dc in each dc around.
Round 8 2dc in next st, 7dc. [9 sts]
Round 9 2dc in next st, 8dc. [10 sts]
Round 10 (2dc in next st, 4dc) twice. [12 sts]
Round 11 1dc in each dc around.
Round 12 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 4 times. [16 sts]
Round 13 1dc in each dc around.
Round 14 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 4 times. [20 sts]
Round 15 1dc in each dc around.
Round 16 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 4 times. [24 sts]
Round 17 1dc in each dc around.
Round 18 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 19 1dc in each dc around.
Round 20 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Rounds 21-22 1dc in each dc around.
Round 23 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]
Rounds 24-25 1dc in each dc around.
Round 26 (2dc in next st, 6dc) 6 times. [48 sts]
Rounds 27-35 1dc in each dc around.
Round 36 (Dc2tog, 10dc) 4 times. [44 sts]

Change to Yarn B.
Round 37 Working in the back loops only: 1dc in each dc around.
Round 38 (Dc2tog, 9dc) 4 times. [40 sts]
Rounds 39-40 1dc in each dc around.
Round 41 (Dc2tog, 8dc) 4 times. [36 sts]
Rounds 42-43 1dc in each dc around.
Round 44 (Dc2tog, 4dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 45 1dc in each dc around.
Round 46 (Dc2tog, 3dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 47 (Dc2tog, 2dc) 6 times. [18 sts]

Stuff the Body.
Round 48 (Dc2tog, 1dc) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 49 1dc in each dc around.
Round 50 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 51 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 52 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 53 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 54 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]



For a smooth, clean line where the body joins the tail, work in the back loops only.

Round 55 (2dc in next st, 6dc) 6 times. [48 sts]
Rounds 56-62 1dc in each dc around.
Round 63 (6dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 64 (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 65 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 66 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Secure the safety eyes between Rounds 57 and 58, approximately 11 stitches apart.
Stuff the Head with toy stuffing and continue stuffing as you go.
Round 67 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 68 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 69 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

FINS (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn C, ch16.
Row 1 (RS) Skip the first ch, 2ss, 3dc, 5htr, 3dc, 2ss, turn. [15 sts]
Rows 2-6 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in back loops only: 2ss, 3dc, 5htr, 3dc, 2ss, turn.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

Pinch one end of each Fin and secure with a stitch.
Sew the Fins on either side of the Tail, placing the pinched end at the top.

ARMS (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Rounds 3-12 1dc in each dc around.
Round 13 Dc2tog, 8dc. [9 sts]
Round 14 Dc2tog, 7dc. [8 sts]
Round 15 Dc2tog, 6dc. [7 sts]
Stuff and **fasten off**, leaving a long tail for sewing up.
Sew the Arms to the Body.

BIKINI: FIRST CUP
Using Yarn F, ch6.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, 2dc, 2ss, turn. [5 sts]
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in back loops only: 2ss, 3dc, turn.
Row 3 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in back loops only: 3dc, 2ss, turn.
Row 4 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in back loops only: 2ss, 3dc, turn.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

BIKINI: SECOND CUP
Using Yarn F, ch6.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, 2ss, 3dc, turn. [5 sts]
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in back loops only: 3dc, 2ss, turn.
Row 3 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in back loops only: 2ss, 3dc, turn.
Row 4 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in back loops only: 3dc, 2ss, turn.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

Sew both Bikini cups to the Body.

HAIR CAP
Using Yarn D, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 8 (2dc in next st, 6dc) 6 times. [48 sts]
Rounds 9-15 1dc in each dc around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

TO MAKE UP HAIR
The Hair Cap is used as a base for securing the hair.
To make the strands of hair, cut a 10cm piece of adhesive tape and fix it to your work surface sticky side up.
Using equal amounts of Yarns D and E, cut lengths measuring approx 45cm.
Place the centre of each yarn piece at right angles to the adhesive tape, putting them close together and alternating randomly Yarns D and E.
Cover 6cm of the tape, then remove it from the work surface.



The mermaid's fishtail braid shows off her blue locks. Fasten with yarn to match her tail.



Ridges on the tail fins are formed by working in the back loops of some of the stitches.

With a needle and sewing thread, sew along the 6cm with back stitch before removing the tape.
Repeat this process once more so that you have 2 pieces of hair.

With sewing pins, fix these two hair pieces to the Hair Cap.
Place the first one at the front with the stitching line in the position of the side parting and the second one to cover the back side of the head.
Sew each piece in place with small stitches along the previous stitching line.

Sew the Hair Cap onto the Head, comb the hair to the side and make a fishtail braid (or a classic braid).

TO FINISH
Sew some sequins to the tail, using the image as a guide.

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23 fab designs to try today

FUN FIGURES

Put a smile on your face as well as your amigurumi with quirky homewares, accessories, toys and more.





PERFECT PRETZEL

Whip up Twinkie Chan's scrumptious salted snack using amigurumi spirals. It's a tasty accessory!



Snack brooch



YOU WILL NEED

- Aran weight yarn in brown, approx 25m
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- White 5mm pompoms (you could also use white beads or small pieces of white felt)
- Fabric glue
- Tapestry needle
- A brooch back
- 4-5 straight pins (optional)
- Stitch marker
- Sewing needle and thread

MEASUREMENTS

Approx 12x8cm (4¾x3in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

Crochet designer Twinkie Chan says: "Looking for a quick, easy project to add some fun to your wardrobe? This pretzel brooch is great for crochet beginners as well as lovers of whimsical fashion. All you need is a little bit of yarn and some mini pompoms!" Getting the perfect salted pretzel twist is easy – just refer to the images at the bottom of the page. We love this delectable, calorie-free creation and are hankering to hook up a whole batch. All the beauty of a fresh bake and not a single soggy bottom in sight. Result!

NOTES

The pretzel is worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch.
You may find it helpful to place a marker in the first stitch of each round and move it up as you work.

PRETZEL

Make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 dc]
Round 2 1dc in each dc around.

Repeat Round 2 until you have a tube that measures approximately 43cm (17in) long.
Ss to the next st to join.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Using a tapestry needle and yarn tail, weave the tail through the remaining 5 sts and pull to close the hole.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Fold each end of the tube toward the tube's centre to form a basic pretzel shape. 01
Give the ends a twist and pin down to secure. 02

You can keep adjusting the shape with the pins until it's perfectly pretzel-y. Using a sewing needle and thread, sew the pretzel ends into place, as well as the twist at the centre.

Arrange the pompoms, beads or felt for your 'salt' and then glue them on firmly. 03
When the fabric glue is dry, glue the brooch back onto the back of the pretzel.

01



02



03



ROBBIE THE ROBOT

Sally Shepherd's cute and cuddly robot is a wonderful retro toy.



Robot toy



YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Special DK (100% acrylic, 100g/295m), 1 ball of each:
  Turquoise (1068)
  Stone (1710)
- A 3mm hook
- Safety eyes, approx 6mm (¼in) diameter
- Toy stuffing
- A small amount of yellow and white DK yarn
- Brown DK yarn or embroidery thread
- Embroidery and wool needles

For yarn stockists, contact Stylecraft 01484 848435 www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130



Simple embroidery stitches are used to add great little details to the body.

Why not crochet a robot for a budding young engineer or mechanic? With a nod to the design of an old-fashioned petrol pump, our charming Robbie Robot character will quickly become a firm favourite with both boys and girls. Robbie is made using just double crochet stitches, so this is a great project for a confident beginner to attempt. Many of the pieces of the robot are made separately and joined together with a row of double crochet making a ridge between the panels, but if you prefer to sew the panels together you can simply overstitch them using a wool needle.

NOTES

Ch1 at beginning of a row is not counted as a stitch.
Some parts are 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.

LARGE HEAD RECTANGLE (MAKE 3 FOR HEAD, 1 FOR BASE OF BODY)

Using Turquoise, ch14, turn.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [13 sts]
Rows 2-8 Ch1 (not counted as st), dc in each st to end, turn. **Fasten off**.

LARGE NECK RECTANGLE

Using Turquoise, ch15, turn.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [14 sts]
Rows 2-3 Ch1 (not counted as st here and throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.
Row 4 Ch1, dc in each of next 5 sts, ch4, skip next 4 sts, dc in each of next 5 sts, turn. [10 sts, 4 ch]
Row 5 Ch1, dc in each of next 5 sts, 4dc in ch-4 sp, dc in each of next 5 sts, turn. [14 sts]
Rows 6-7 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. **Fasten off**.

SMALL HEAD SQUARE (MAKE 2)

Using Turquoise, ch8.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc into each ch to end, turn. [7 sts]
Rows 2-8 Ch1 (not counted as st), dc in each st to end, turn. **Fasten off**.



The ridged seams used to join the robot together give the feel of welded metal.

EYES (MAKE 2)

Using White, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around, ss to first dc to join. [12 sts]
Fasten off.

BODY (MAKE 2)

Using Turquoise, ch15.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [14 sts]
Rows 2-24 Ch1 (not counted as st here and throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.
Row 25 Ch1, dc in next st, (dc2tog) twice, dc in each of next 4 sts, (dc2tog) twice, dc in next st. [10 sts]
Row 26 Ch1, dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts dc2tog, dc in next st. [8 sts]
Row 27 Ch1, dc in next st, (dc2tog) 3 times, dc in next st. [5 sts]
Fasten off.

BODY SIDE STRIP

Using Turquoise, ch8.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc into each ch to end, turn. [7 sts]
Rows 2-58 Ch1 (not counted as st throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.
Fasten off.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using Turquoise, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Rounds 3-4 Dc in each st around, changing to Stone on last yrh of last dc of Round 4.
Rounds 5-29 Dc into each st around.
Fasten off.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using Turquoise, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 Working in back loop only, dc in each st around.
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, dc-2tog) 3 times. [21 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc-2tog) 3 times. [18 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc-2tog) 3 times. [15 sts]
Round 9 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc-2tog) 3 times. [12 sts]
Round 10 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [9 sts]
Fasten off.

PIPE
Using Stone, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Rounds 2-20 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.

FRONT PLATE
Using Stone, ch12.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc into each ch to end, turn. (11 sts)
Rows 2-9 Ch1 (not counted as st throughout), dc in each st to end, turn. [11 sts]
Fasten off.
Join Yellow and work around the outside of the square as follows:

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc into each st around and in each corner work (dc, ch1, dc), ss to first dc to join.
Fasten off.

GAUGE FOR FRONT PLATE
Using White, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop, turn. [6 sts]
Round 2 Ch1 (not counted as st here and throughout) dc in next st, 2dc in each of next 4 sts, dc in last st, turn. [10 sts]
Round 3 Ch1, (dc in next st, 2dc in next st) twice, dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next st. [14 sts]
Fasten off.

TO FINISH
For all seams, unless specified otherwise, place the two pieces with WS together and work a row of double crochet along the edge, working through both layers at the same time.

Take one Large Rectangle Head piece and position eyes onto it. Put the toy safety eyes through the centre of the crocheted eyes and then through the blue Head Rectangle and fasten them on the WS of the blue Head Rectangle. Stitch the white Eyes in place with a wool needle.



You can definitely see the petrol pump influences in Robbie!

Take another large Head Rectangle and place it behind the piece with the Eyes attached, with wrong sides together. Join Turquoise yarn and work a row of double crochet along the top edge, working through both Rectangles. You will have a ridge of stitches visible on the RS.

Take the large Neck Rectangle and join it onto the other long edge of the Eye Piece in the same way. Take another Large Head Rectangle and join it to the other long edge of the Neck piece in the same way.

Attach the two Small Head Squares to the short edges of the Eye Piece in the same way as before.
Work around the Small Head Squares, joining them to the short edges of the larger Rectangles to make an elongated cube shape. Use the Neck hole to stuff the Head.

Join the Stone yarn to the Neck gap and work 10 dc around the hole, working 6 rows of dc in a spiral then fasten off. Stuff the Neck.

Place the last Large Rectangle against the bottom of the Front Body piece and crochet together. Attach the Back Body piece.

Join the short edge of the Side Strip to one short edge of the Body base and using dc, join it up and around the edge of the Front Body piece. Stuff the Body firmly and then join to the other short edge of the Body base using double crochet. Sew the Neck to the top of the Body.

Sew the white Gauge centrally onto the Front Plate and sew it onto the front piece of the Robot. Using a brown scrap of wool, embroider the front with some detail, using the image as a guide.

Stuff the Arms lightly and sew to the sides of the Robot. Stuff the Legs and sew them to the bottom of the Robot.

Sew one end of the Pipe to the front of the Robot, below the Base Plate, and the other end to the side of the Robot.



HOPPY EASTER

Stitch adorable bunny tops and tails for your table. By Becky Garratt.

Bunny decorations



A BIT TRICKY | DK WEIGHT | 3MM 4MM

YOU WILL NEED

- Sirdar Cotton DK (100% cotton, 100g/212m), 1 ball of each:
  Larkin (506)
  Hot Pink (511)
  Honeysuckle (508)
  Sapling (529)
  Bluebird (515)
  Light Taupe (504)
  Toasted (505)
  Mill White (501)
- Black cotton yarn or embroidery thread for face details
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Safety eyes, approx 5mm diameter
- Toy stuffing
- Pink felt
- Craft glue

For yarn stockists, contact Sirdar 01924 231682 www.sirdar.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

Each piece measures 15cm (6in) in diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

We're digging Becky Garratt's super-cute Easter bunny decorations (and love any excuse to make bun puns). One half is popping up to say hello while the other is busy burrowing away. The rabbits themselves are worked in amigurumi style, then embellished with felt and flowers. Won't they look adorable on your table or in the middle of a bright spring wreath? Hop to it!

NOTES

All pieces except the Grass and Flowers are worked in a spiral, without closing off each round with a slip stitch.
You may find it helpful to use a stitch marker in the first st of the round, moving it up as you work.
Leave long tails of yarn at the start and end of all pieces, in case they are needed for sewing up later.

GRASS (MAKE 2)

Using Larkin and a 4mm hook, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as first st throughout), 6htr into loop, ss to top of first st.
Round 2 Ch1, 2htr in each st around, ss to top of first st. [12 sts]
Round 3 Ch1, (1htr, 2htr in next st) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [18 sts]
Round 4 Ch1, (2htr, 2htr in next st) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [24 sts]
Round 5 Ch1, (1htr, 2htr in next st, 2htr) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [30 sts]
Round 6 Ch1, (4htr, 2htr in next st) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [36 sts]
Round 7 Ch1, (2htr, 2htr in next st, 3htr) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [42 sts]
Round 8 Ch1, (6htr, 2htr in next st) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [48 sts]
Round 9 Ch1, (3htr, 2htr in next st, 4htr) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [54 sts]
Round 10 Ch1, (8htr, 2htr in next st) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [60 sts]
Round 11 Ch1, (5htr, 2htr in next st, 4htr) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [66 sts]
Round 12 Ch1, (10htr, 2htr in next st) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [72 sts]
Round 13 Ch1, (5htr, 2htr in next, 6htr) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [78 sts]
Fasten off.



Use this image as a guide for placing the safety eyes and sewing on facial features.

BUNNY HEAD

Using Light Taupe and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into magic loop, ss to top of first st.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Rounds 5-6 Dc in each st around.
Round 7 6dc, (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times, 6dc. [30 sts]
Round 8 8dc, (1dc, 2dc in next st) 7 times, 8dc. [37 sts]
Rounds 9-12 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.

Stitch face details using black and position safety eyes, using the image as a guide. Stuff then sew to the centre of the first piece of Grass.

BUNNY EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Light Taupe and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into magic loop, ss to top of first st.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Rounds 4-14 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.

Press the Ear flat, pinch the bottom edge in half and sew to secure the shape. Sew onto the Head.

FRONT PAWS (MAKE 2)

Using Light Taupe and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into magic loop and ss to top of first st.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [8 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [12 sts]
Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [16 sts]
Rounds 5-7 Dc in each st around.

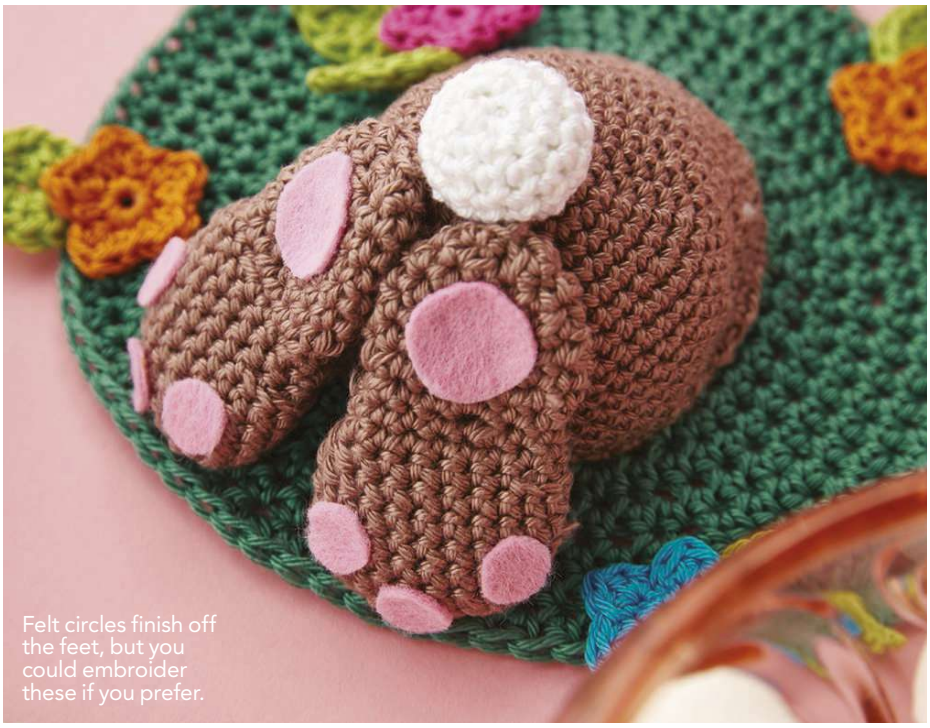
Round 8 (2dc, dc2tog) 4 times. [12 sts]
Rounds 9-10 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.

Add a little stuffing and sew on in front of the Bunny, at the join of the Head and Grass.

BUNNY TAIL
Using Mill White and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 5dc into magic loop.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Rounds 4-5 Dc in each st around.
Round 6 (1dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]
Round 7 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]
Fasten off.

BUNNY BOTTOM
Using Toasted and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 5dc into magic loop.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [25 sts]
Round 6 (4dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [30 sts]
Round 7 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [35 sts]
Round 8 10dc, (1dc, 2dc in next st) 7 times, 11dc. [42 sts]
Rounds 9-13 Dc in each st around.
Round 14 16dc, (2dc in next st, 1dc) 10 times, 6dc. [52 sts]
Rounds 15-17 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.
Sew the Tail in place onto the Bottom. Stuff the Bottom and then sew to the centre of the second piece of Grass.

BUNNY FEET (MAKE 2)
Using Toasted and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 5dc into loop.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (4dc, 2dc in next st) twice. [12 sts]
Round 4 (5dc, 2dc in next st) twice. [14 sts]
Round 5 (6dc, 2dc in next st) twice. [16 sts]
Rounds 6-7 Dc in each st around.
Round 8 (2dc, dc2tog) 4 times. [12 sts]


Felt circles finish off the feet, but you could embroider these if you prefer.

Round 9 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [16 sts]
Round 10 (7dc, 2dc in next st) twice. [18 sts]
Round 11 (8dc, 2dc in next st) twice. [20 sts]
Rounds 12-13 Dc in each st around.
Round 14 (8dc, dc2tog) twice. [18 sts]
Round 15 (7dc, dc2tog) twice. [16 sts]
Round 16 (6dc, dc2tog) twice. [14 sts]
Round 17 (5dc, dc2tog) twice. [12 sts]
Fasten off.

Fold the Foot flat and sew closed. Sew to the Bunny Bottom, underneath the Tail.

Cut out 1 pink felt circle approx 2cm in diameter, and 3 felt circles approx 1cm diameter. Glue them onto the Foot. Sew Feet onto the Bunny Bottom underneath the Tail, using the images as a guide.

FLOWERS (MAKE 9)
Using either Hot Pink, Honeysuckle or Bluebird and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 10dc into the loop and ss to top of first st.
Round 2 *(Htr, tr, htr) in next st, ss in next st; rep from * 4 more times.
Fasten off.


Choose the brightest shades of cotton to make your decorative spring flowers.

LEAVES (MAKE 9)
Using Sapling and a 3mm hook, ch8.
Round 1 (RS) Ss in second ch from hook, dc in next st, htr in next st, 2tr in next st, htr in next st, dc in next st, ss in next st, ch1, rotate and mirror these sts on the other side of the ch, ss into first st. **Fasten off**.

Sew the Leaves and Flowers to both pieces of Grass, using the images as a guide for placement.

FELINE LUCKY

Get your paws on these charming good-luck cats designed by Liz Ward.



Lucky cats



YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of each:
  Ivory (N02)
  Tournesol (N16)
  Passion (N23)
- A 3mm hook
- Embroidery thread in black, green and red
- Stitch markers
- Toy stuffing
- Wool needle
- Air erasable pen
- Pink and red felt
- Small buttons
- Gold bells

For yarn stockists, contact DMC 0116 275 4000 www.dmccreative.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

Large cat measures 28x15cm (11x5¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

Bobble stitch yrh, insert hook in stitch, yrh, draw loop through, yrh draw through first 2 loops on hook *yrh, insert hook in same stitch, yrh, draw loop through, yrh, draw through first 2 loops on hook; rep from * another 3 times, yrh and draw through all 6 loops on hook

For a full list, see page 130

Want some luck in your home? Do it the crochet way with these traditional cats. *Maneki-neko* – 'beckoning cats' – are Japanese figurines displayed in doorways to bring luck to their owner. You'll often see them with coins, too, to help bring wealth. Make our cute version and while we can't guarantee you good fortune, you'll definitely raise a smile when your visitors spot them!

NOTES

The Cats are 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.

LARGE CAT

HEAD AND BODY

Using Ivory, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in each of next 11 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [39 sts]
Round 9 (Dc in each of next 12 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [42 sts]
Round 10 (Dc in each of next 13 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [45 sts]
Round 11 (Dc in each of next 14 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [48 sts]
Round 12 (Dc in each of next 15 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [51 sts]
Round 13 (Dc in each of next 16 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [54 sts]
Rounds 14-16 Dc in each st around.
Round 17 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 7 sts) 6 times. [48 sts]
Round 18 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 19 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 20 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 21 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts) 6 times. [24 sts]
Stuff with toy filling.
Round 22 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 23 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 24 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 25 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 26 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 27 (Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 28 (Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]
Round 29 (Dc in each of next 11 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [39 sts]
Round 30 (Dc in each of next 12 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [42 sts]
Round 31 (Dc in each of next 13 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [45 sts]
Round 32 (Dc in each of next 14 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [48 sts]
Rounds 33-36 Dc in each st around.
Round 37 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 38 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 39 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 40 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts) 6 times. [24 sts]
Stuff with toy filling.
Round 41 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 42 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 43 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off, then thread yarn onto wool needle and weave through the last 6 sts. Pull yarn to close the hole and weave in ends.

SMALL ARM (MAKE 1)

Using Ivory, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Rounds 3-4 Dc in each st around
Rounds 5-8 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st around. [8 sts after Round 8]
Rounds 9-15 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off. Stuff the Arm firmly with toy filling, then sew the gap at the top of the Arm closed.

BECKONING ARM (MAKE 1)

Using Ivory, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Rounds 4-5 Dc in each st around.
Round 6 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]
Rounds 7-9 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st around. [9 sts after Round 9]
Rounds 10-18 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off. Stuff Arm firmly with toy filling and sew the gap at the top of the Arm closed. Using Ivory, embroider the detail on the paws as follows. Anchor the thread to the base of the Arm by sewing a few small stitches. Then, using the image as a guide, work long stitches 1cm (½in) apart, twice over the paw to create the pads (pull the thread really tight as you do this so it shapes the paw). Secure thread as before to keep paw shape in place then weave in ends.

FEET (MAKE 2)

Using Ivory, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Rounds 4-5 Dc in each st around.
Round 6 (Dc2tog) around. [9 sts]
Fasten off, stuff firmly and close as before. Shape the Feet as for the Beckoning Arm.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Ivory, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) twice. [6 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [8 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [10 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [12 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [14 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [16 sts]
Fasten off. Cut a small triangle of red felt and glue inside the Ear. Then, using the image as a guide, sew the Ears to the Cat's Head. Pin the Arms and Feet in place and, when you are happy with the positioning, sew together. Weave in ends.



Display your cat with its pot of gold and wealth may soon come your way...

COLLAR

Using Passion, ch4.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each of next 2 ch, turn. [3 sts]
Rows 2-30 Ch1(not counted as st), dc in each st to end. [3 sts]
Fasten off and sew around the Cat's neck.

MEDALLION

Using Tournesol, make a magic ring.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the ring. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around, ss to first dc to join. [12 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends. Stitch the medallion to the collar.

TO FINISH

Using the image as a guide, draw the face onto the Head using an air erasable pen. Use red embroidery thread to sew long stitches for the nose and mouth and black thread for the eyes, eyelashes and whiskers.
Cut 4 small circles of pink felt then cut 4 tiny slits out of them to turn them into flower shapes. Glue or sew onto the Cat in a random pattern over the Body and Head, then join together with stitches of green embroidery thread for stems. Add tiny buttons as flower centres. Thread a gold bell onto red thread and tie around the Cat's neck.

SMALL CAT

HEAD AND BODY

Using Ivory, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 6-8 Dc in each st around.
Round 9 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 10 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 11(Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]
Stuff the Head with toy filling.
Round 12 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Round 13 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 14 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 15 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Rounds 16-17 Dc in each st around.
Round 18 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 19 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]
Stuff with toy filling.
Round 20 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off, then thread yarn onto wool needle and weave through the last 6 sts, pulling the yarn to close the hole. Weave in ends.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Ivory, ch4.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, htr in next ch, tr in last ch. [3 sts]
Fasten off. Cut small red felt triangles and



Since amigurumi started out in Japan, it feels appropriate to use it to make Japanese cats!

glue into the Ear, then sew in place on the Head.

ARM (MAKE 1)

Using Ivory, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [9 sts]
Rounds 3-4 Dc in each st around.
Round 5 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 3 times. [6 sts]
Rounds 6-13 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off. Stuff Arm firmly with toy filling and sew one to the right side of the Body of the Cat.

COLLAR

Using Passion, ch16.
Row 1 (RS) Ss in second ch from hook, ss in each ch to end. [15 sts]
Fasten off and sew in place around Cat's neck. Weave in ends.
Create the face as you did for the Large Cat.

POT OF GOLD

Using Passion, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in each of next 11 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [39 sts]
Rounds 9-11 Dc in each st around.
Round 12 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 11 sts) 3 times. [36 sts]
Round 13 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 10 sts) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 14 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off and stuff firmly with toy filling.

GOLD

Using Tournesol, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 (Bobble st, ch1) in each st to the end. [6 bobbles and 6 ch-1 sps]
Round 3 (Bobble st, ch1, bobble st, ch1) in each ch-1 sp around, ss to top of first bobble st to join. [12 bobbles and 12 ch-1 sps]
Fasten off, then sew the Gold onto the top of the Pot. Weave in ends.

FISHY FRIEND

Hook Hannah Cross's aquatic beauty as the perfect guard for your keys.



Koi keyring



YOU WILL NEED

- King Cole Cottonsoft DK (100% cotton, 100g/210m), 1 ball of each:
  Coral (1574)
  Black (746)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- A plastic ring, 3cm (1¼in) diameter
- A key ring and clip

For yarn stockists, contact King Cole 01756 703670 www.kingcole.com

MEASUREMENTS

Finished fish meas 12cm (4¾in) long
Entire key ring meas 17x5cm (6¾x2in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

NOTES

The Fish Body 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.



Keep your koi attached by sewing the yarn ends from the ring into its mouth.

Go underwater for your next project with this dinky keyring. It's great stash buster, too, as you only need small amounts of yarn.

FISH BODY

Using Coral, ch8, ss to first ch to join into a ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each ch around. [8 sts]
Round 2 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts) twice. [10 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts) twice. [12 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts) twice. [14 sts]
Round 5 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts) twice. [16 sts]
Round 6 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 7 sts) twice. [18 sts]
Round 7 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 8 sts) twice. [20 sts]
Rounds 8-10 Dc in each st around.
Round 11 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [16 sts]
Round 12 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [12 sts]
Rounds 13-16 Dc in each st around.
Round 17 (Dc2tog) around. [6 sts]
Round 18 Dc in each st around.
Round 19 (Dc2tog) around. [3 sts]
Sew up end of Round 19.
Stuff the Body through the mouth,using a little leftover yarn to shape the fish.

EYES (MAKE 2)

Using Coral, ch2.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc in second ch from hook, ss to first dc to join into a ring.
Fasten off.
Add a French knot in Black in the centre of each eye.
Sew each eye in place on the Body.

SIDE FINS (MAKE 2)

Using Coral, ch2.
Row 1 (2tr, 2dtr, ttr, 2dtr, 2tr) in second ch from hook.
Fasten off.
Sew in place on sides of Body.

TOP FIN

Using Coral, ch6.
Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, dc in next ch, ss in next ch. **Fasten off**.
Sew in place on top of Body.

MAIN TAIL

Using Coral, ch12.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in fourth ch from hook, dc in each of next 6 ch, ss in each of last 2 ch, turn. [7 dc, 2 ss].
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), skip each of next 2 ss, dc in each of next 4 sts, ss in next st, turn, leaving rem sts unworked. [4 dc, 1 ss]
Row 3 Skip ss, dc in each of next 3 sts, ss in next st, turn. [3 dc, 1 ss]
Row 4 Skip ss, dc in each of next 2 sts, ss in next st. [2 dc, 1 ss]
Fasten off.
With RS facing, rotate work so that foundation ch is at the top. Rejoin Coral to opposite side of foundation ch (top right corner), to work mirror image:
Row 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), skip both ss, dc in each of next 4 sts, ss in next st, turn. [4 dc, 1 ss]
Row 2 Skip ss, dc in each of 3 sts, ss in next st, turn. [3 dc, 1 ss]
Row 3 Skip ss, dc in each of next 2 sts, ss in next st. [2 dc, 1 ss]
Fasten off.
Sew in place at centre back of Body.

SIDE TAILS (MAKE 2)

Using Coral, ch7.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in fourth ch from hook, dc in each of next 2 ch, ss in last ch, turn. [3 dc, 1 ss]
Row 2 Skip ss, dc in each of next 2 sts, ss in next st, turn. [2 dc, 1 ss]
Row 3 Skip ss, dc in next st, ss in next st. [1 dc, 1 ss]
Fasten off.
With RS facing, rotate work so that foundation ch is at the top. Rejoin Coral to opposite side of foundation ch (top-right corner), to work mirror image:
Row 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each of next 2 sts, ss in next st, turn. [2 dc, 1 ss]
Row 2 Skip ss, dc in next st, ss in next st. [1 dc, 1 ss]
Fasten off.
Sew in place at sides of Main Tail.

TO COVER RING AND FINISH

Using Black, place a slipknot on hook and join to ring with ss, ch1 (does not count as st), 22dc around the plastic ring, ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off**, leaving a long tail. Sew yarn end into mouth and back to ring again, as shown in image (left). Secure end. Attach key ring to covered ring.



"Crochet and food are a match made in heaven."

GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT

Adore food and crochet in equal measure? Why not bring your passions together in a glorious yarny feast of crochet cuisine? We chat to designers who have done just that.

These days, you only need to spend a few moments scrolling on Pinterest or Instagram to recognise that we're increasingly obsessed both by crochet and by food. They're a match made in heaven, so it's no wonder a growing number of us are beginning to combine the two.

But why do they work so well together? We've got a few theories. For one thing, have you noticed it's rarely healthy food that makes it into a project bag? While there's certainly a movement for crocheted fruit and veggies (check out ours on p104), there's an astonishing array of doughnuts, cakes and pizza slices being rendered in yarn form. Surely that means there's an element of wish fulfilment to it?

Then there's the fact that the foodie items made are often much dinkier than their real-world components, suggesting that on some level we're much more interested in recreating the toy food we used to play with than in making exact replicas of our lunchtime sandwiches.

Lara Messer uses her crocheted food to reflect the delight she finds in her kitchen. "I love to bake and cook," she says. "I spend my spare time watching cookery programmes, reading cookery books and researching origins of foods and their traditions. Combining my two loves – food and crochet – seemed very natural to me."

Phil Ferguson has an entirely different approach to crocheted food, not least the fact that he likes to supersize it. "I moved to Melbourne a few years ago and was just doing little things to occupy my time," he says. "I started with my first Burger Hat and after seeing the response I looked at things around me and was inspired by food!"

Initially Phil was making his sculptural headwear specifically to showcase on Instagram. But why so super-sized – and why wearable? "I'm inspired mainly by the

animated show *Adventure Time*, where the main character wears a hat covering his whole head," Phil says. "So the whole idea of the hats being objects evolved from that idea of giving a character to them."

Phil's creations certainly have bags of personality, from his immense chicken drumstick to a super-real-looking serving of bacon and fried eggs. He feels that the advertising we're surrounded by has had an impact on his output. "It isn't so much the food I eat, but the food I see all the time. Quite a few of my crochet food hats have real-world equivalents and that is what drives me to create them."

SWEET LITTLE THINGS

Nicole Gastonguay began making faux food in 2006, almost as soon as she'd acquired the crochet skills to do so. She agrees that there's an element of nostalgia to it. "When I was a little girl, my Barbie refrigerator was a favourite toy. It came with all these tiny food items and I would rearrange them in there for hours."

Today, Nicole is a graphic designer and illustrator, "so my focus is more on the pieces as characters," she explains. "There are others out there who make their work look more realistic than I do, but I love that my crocheted food seems to make people laugh."

> "I LOVE TO BAKE AND COOK. COMBINING FOOD AND CROCHET SEEMED VERY NATURAL TO ME."

The humour is a key element for Nicole, directly informing which foods she chooses to recreate in yarn. "The funnier the better!" she says. "I just made a potato, which was simple, crochet-wise, but I got to put a ton of eyeballs all over it."

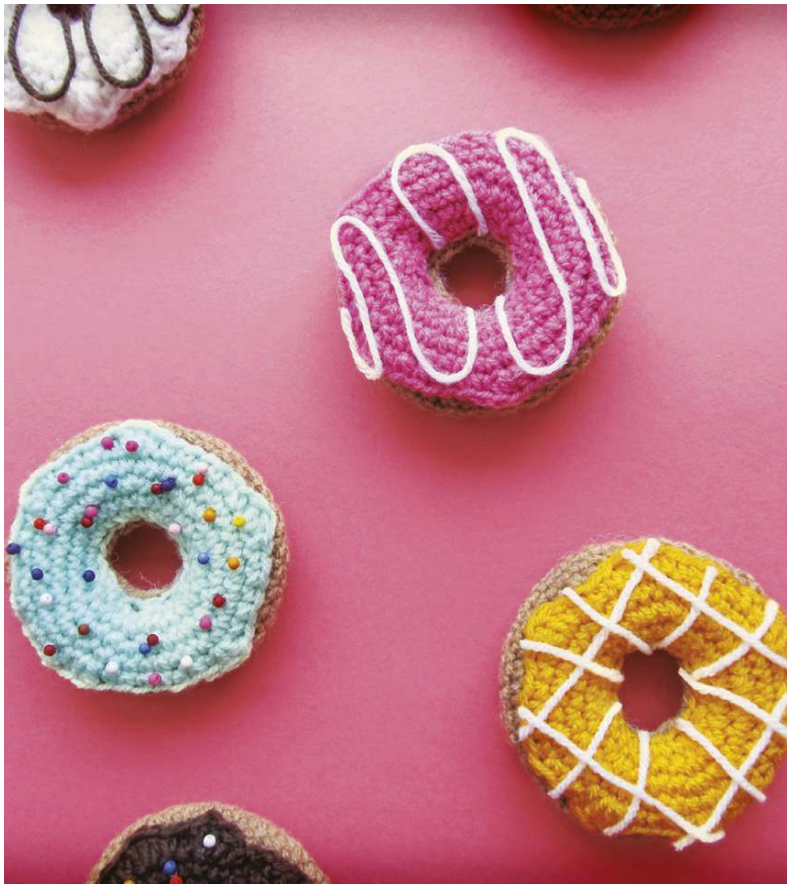
Lara also loves to see the amusement raised by her creations. "Having a bit of joy each day is wonderful and a chocolate cake in crochet form or a bunch of crochet radishes is guaranteed to make people smile," she says. "Pop a Battenberg on a cake stand or a crochet banana in a bowl and see how many people try to eat them."

Aside from the humour, most of our culinary crocheters enjoy crocheting as a celebration of eating. "Eating is one of the great joys of life," Nicole says. "I live in NYC so fantastic food is all around me!"

Twinkie Chan, who is renowned for her food scarves, agrees. "Savoury or sweet – it's all cute and fun! I suppose I tend to stick with foods that I think are universally recognisable."

STITCH AND BAKE

Tanya Eberhardt started her foodie crochet journey by following her taste buds. "To be honest, I didn't put much thought into it," she admits. "I really like doughnuts, so when I stumbled upon a







Opposite: Twinkie Chan's tasty looking corn dog pen cosies, photograph by Twinkie Chan.
This page, clockwise from above: Tempting crochet doughnuts, photograph by Tanya Eberhardt; Phil Ferguson's food-packed Instagram page, www.instagram.com/chiliphilly, where over 140,000 people follow his crocheting genius; A trio of drawstring Slushee cup bags, photograph by Twinkie Chan.



This page, clockwise from left: A scrummy helping of Lara Messer's crocheted pancakes, photograph by Messyla; Nicole's jar of adorable crochet pickles, photograph by Nicole Gastonguay.



recipe on Pinterest and saw the amazing colours used, I thought they would look brilliant in crochet!"

Artist Lilana Wofsey Dohnert initially began crocheting food in a bid manage her cravings. "I love eating all the things I've made in crochet, but what really drove the initial foray into desserts was that I'd just learned to bake for real right before finding out I had a wheat allergy, so I dived into making crocheted forms of my favourite baked goods instead!"

Far from assuaging her hunger, however, creating her works of art often only fuels it, and whets others' appetites, too. "Looking at them makes people hungry and after each food set I make, even I have to go out and eat the type of food I just made thanks to the craving I built up during the process!"

> "I USE COLOURS AND NOTIONS TO MAKE MY CROCHET FOOD LOOK AS REAL AS POSSIBLE."

Twinkie Chan has a big confession to make on this subject. "Foods that I find visually fun are not necessarily those that I actually want to eat," she admits. "Top secret: I don't actually like ice cream much, although I LOVE ice cream imagery! But the first time I crocheted a buttered toast scarf, I could somehow smell the scent of toast in my mind. I find that's a good sign that a design is going in the right direction, and toast is a wonderful smell!"

Lara finds her foodie crochet and hunger pangs are irresistibly entwined. "I always end up baking the piece I've crocheted!" she admits. "It sets me thinking of that food for days and eventually I'll have to make it in edible form in order to curb the food obsession!"

KEEPING IT REAL

Making inedible food look delicious is one pleasure of this flavoursome pastime. "I love using colours and notions to make them look as real as possible," Tanya says. "For example, doughnuts have bright glazing and lots of sprinkles, so to make the crocheted version resemble real doughnuts as closely as I can, I use vibrant shades of yarn for the glazing and plenty of bright beads for the sprinkles."

Lilana puts a lot of effort into "finding the perfect combination of stitches to replicate the angles and curves that food organically takes on, and choosing the exact colours that will unmistakably express the type of food I'm making. One of my goals is that the food should take the right shape because of the stitches, not the stuffing. If it can't hold its shape then it's back to the drawing board!

"So far my favourite has been sushi," she adds. "There are so many colours and textures involved and such interesting little cuts of ingredients that make for great stock patterns I can use on other projects."

Lara tailors her yarn to each food type's characteristics. "If something is glossy in finish, like a shiny chocolate ganache on a cake, I'll use a silky yarn such as DMC Petra," she says. "If I'm creating a crochet croissant or a Brussels sprout, I use a more organic-looking yarn, like DMC Natura."

She advises carrying out plenty of research, too, and not just by eating lots of yummy treats. "Google your favourite foods and think about how you could crochet them," she suggests. "Break them down into shapes and plan how to replicate them with crochet stitches. When

I made a crochet Brussels sprout for the Christmas Wrapping Ideas on my blog, I deconstructed several to see how I could accurately design a pattern. I realised they're made of a sphere with several circles layered around it. Simple!"

SHOW THE LOVE

But why is crochet food so popular right now? It's true that thoughts of our next meal are never far from our minds, a fact that social media has only intensified with the photos people post of each impressive snack. "I think the world is currently obsessed with food," Phil says. "It's something most people can relate to and so to abstract it and change its form from something edible to something that's tangible in another form is why everyone loves it! It's as if you can finally wear that pizza on your head with no mess!"

> "YOU CAN MAKE YOUR CROCHET FOOD AS ELABORATE AND REALISTIC AS YOU WISH."

So that's what we've been aspiring to all this time? We had no idea. "It's fun and the possibilities are endless!" Lilana says. "Why settle for plastic food made in a factory somewhere when you can make your crochet food creations as elaborate and realistic as you wish, and in whatever combination your heart desires?"

Tanya agrees. "Crocheted food makes great toys for kids," she says. "They're great decorations for tea parties or as gifts!"

Nicole has a compelling idea about what's prompted the current craze for crocheted food. "I stumbled on a study in the *Journal of Behavioral Brain Science* called 'Expressing Food through Art: Evidence for a Nutrient-Specific Effect on Mood'," she says. "It explains that food, especially high-calorie food, can enhance emotions. Participants were asked to draw food and those that drew types that were high in fat or sugar had a positive emotional change in their brains. Making food art actually makes your brain happy."

That makes perfect sense to us. And now we're craving crochet cupcakes…

Written by Judy Darley

FEELING PECKISH?

See more from our foodie faves:

- Twinkie Chan www.twinkiechan.com
- Tanya Eberhardt www.littlethingsblogged.com
- Phil Ferguson www.instagram.com/chiliphilly
- Nicole Gastonguay www.nicolegastonguay.com
- Lara Messer www.messyla.com
- Lilana Wofsey Dohnert www.lilana.com

Clockwise from top left: Kitty doughnuts, photograph by Twinkie Chan; Chocolate pin cushion cake, photograph by Lara Messer, Messyla; Crochet sushi, photograph by Lilana Wofsey Dohnert.







PICK YOUR OWN!

Becky Garratt's expressive fruit and veggies have bags of personality.



Fruit and veg



YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Muskat (100% cotton, 50g/100m), 2 balls of Apple Green (53), 1 ball of each: Black (17), Beige (23), Light Orange (51), Red (12), Pink (34), Peach (10), Light Brown (09), White (18)
- Paintbox Yarns Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/125m), 2 balls of Racing Green (428), 1 ball of each: Coffee Bean (411), Pistachio Green (425)
- Rico Creative Cotton Aran (100% cotton, 50g/85m), 1 ball of each: Pistachio (41), Light Yellow (63), Smoky Orange (72)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Felt in black, pink and light blue
- Toy stuffing

For yarn stockists, contact
DROPS Design
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk
Paintbox Yarns
www.lovecrochet.com
Rico www.rico-design.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

Avocado 11cm (4¼in) tall, Radish 6.5cm (2½in) tall without leaves and root, Bean 7cm (2¾) tall, Lemon 13cm (5in) long, Apple 12cm (4¾in) tall, Chilli 15cm (6in) tall, Pear 12cm (4¾in) tall, Leek 14cm (5½in) tall, Onion 9cm (3½in) tall, Carrot 12cm (4¾in) tall without leaves

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

Talk about a bountiful hooky harvest! Take your pick from our crop of 10 fruit and veg patterns, including a bitter lemon, blushing pears, rascally radishes and a handful of very distinguished old beans. Spiffing!

NOTES

For each fruit/vegetable, use black cotton and felt to create details, referring to the image as a guide. Either sew on felt details as you work up the pieces or add them afterwards.
Add stuffing to all pieces as you go.
The patterns are worked using the amigurumi method. After the first round, 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. Leave long tails of yarn after fastening off in case they are needed for sewing up later.

ROTTEN APPLE

Using Red, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 6-14 Dc in each st around.
Round 15 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 16 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 17 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 18 (Dc2tog) 6 times.
Fasten off.

APPLE LEAF

Using Apple Green, ch8.
Round 1 (RS) Ss into second ch from hook, dc in next ch, htr in each of next 2 ch, tr in next ch, htr in next ch, dc in next ch, working along other side of foundation ch to mirror existing sts: dc in next st, htr in next st, tr in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, dc in next st, ss in last st.
Fasten off, sew into first st to smooth edge.

APPLE STALK

Using Apple Green, ch6.
Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end.
Fasten off.

APPLE WORM

Using Peach, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 4dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [8 sts]
Rounds 3-8 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.
Sew Leaf onto Stalk, sew Stalk onto Apple. Sew Worm onto Apple. Bring the needle up halfway along the worm and pull tight to curve it slightly.
Fasten off.

OLD BEAN

Using either Light Brown or Pistachio Green, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st) 6 times, 6dc. [18 sts]
Round 4 3dc, (2dc in next st) 6 times, 9dc. [24 sts]
Rounds 5-10 Dc in each st around.
Round 11 6dc, (dc2tog) 6 times, 6dc. [18 sts]
Round 12 8dc, dc2tog, 8dc. [17 sts]
Round 13 6dc, (2dc in next st) 4 times, 7dc. [21 sts]
Round 14 Dc in each st around.
Round 15 1dc, (dc2tog) 10 times. [11 sts]
Round 16 1dc, (dc2tog) 5 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off.

CRAFTY CARROT

Using Light Orange, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 3dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.
Round 2 1dc, 2dc in next st, 1dc. [4 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) twice. [6 sts]
Round 4 (1dc, 2dc in next) 3 times. [9 sts]
Round 5 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [12 sts]
Round 6 Dc in each st around.
Round 7 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [15 sts]
Round 8 Dc in each st around.
Round 9 (4dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [18 sts]
Round 10 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [21 sts]
Rounds 11-23 Dc in each st around.

Round 24 (5dc, dc2tog) 3 times. [18 sts]
Round 25 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 26 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off.

CARROT LEAVES (MAKE 3 PER CARROT)

Using Racing Green, ch13.
Ss in second ch from hook and next 3 sts, ch5, ss in second ch from hook and next 3 sts, ss into next unworked ch of original ch, ch5, ss in second ch from hook and next 3 sts, ss into same ch on original ch as last Leaf, ss in each unworked ch to end.
Fasten off and sew onto Carrot.

HAPPY AVOCADO

Using Apple Green, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 5dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [25 sts]
Round 6 (1dc, 2dc in next st, 3dc) 5 times. [30 sts]
Round 7 (4dc, 2dc in next st, 1dc) 5 times. [35 sts]
Now working back and forth in rows:
Row 8 10dc, turn leaving remaining sts unworked. [10 sts]
Row 9 Ch1, skip first st, 9dc, turn. [9 sts]
Row 10 Ch1, skip first st, 8dc, turn. [8 sts]
Row 11 Ch1, skip first st, 7dc, turn. [7 sts]
Row 12 Ch1, skip first st, 6dc, turn. [6 sts]
Row 13 Ch1, skip first st, 5dc, turn. [5 sts]
Row 14 Ch1, skip first st, 4dc, turn. [4 sts]
Row 15 Ch1, skip first st, 3dc, turn. [3 sts]
Now working in the row ends of the previous rows, around the unworked sts of Round 7, and in the row ends on the other side to continue working in the round:
Round 16 Ch1, 3dc, 8dc down side of Rows 8-15, 1dc into same stitch as the last dc of Row 8, (4dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times on the unworked sts of Round 7, 1dc in same stitch as the first dc of Row 8, 8dc up sides of Rows 8-15, 1dc in side of the first 3dc at start of this Round. [52 sts]
Change to Racing Green.
Round 17 Dc in each st around.
Round 18 Dc in back loop only of each st around.
Rounds 19-20 Dc in each st around.
Round 21 (11dc, dc2tog) 4 times. [48 sts]
Round 22 (6dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 23 (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 24 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 25 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 26 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 27 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Fasten off and sew the gap together.

AVOCADO STONE

Using Coffee Bean, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 5dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]
Rounds 5-6 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off. Sew onto main Avocado piece using the tail of yarn.

LOVELY LEEK

Using White, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 5dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [25 sts]
Round 6 Dc in back loop only of each st around.
Rounds 7-15 Dc in each st around.
Change to Apple Green.
Rounds 16-22 Dc in each st around.
Round 23 6dc, 7dc in back loop only, 7dc, 5dc in back loop only.
Change to Racing Green.
Round 24 Dc in each st around.
Round 25 7dc in back loop only, 8dc, 5dc in back loop only, 5dc.
Rounds 26-32 Dc in each st around.
Round 33 Working in the back loop only of each st: (3dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 34 (2dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 35 (1dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]
Round 36 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]
Fasten off.

OVERLAPPING LEEK LEAVES

With Racing Green join onto the first remaining loop left in Round 25, dc in each remaining loop across [7 sts], turn, ch1, dc in each st across, turn and continue for a total of 8 rows. Repeat for the other 5 remaining loops on Round 25.
Do the same for the loops left on Round 23 but work a total of 10 rows each time.
Sew a couple of stitches to hold the Leaves down a little but let them overlap and turn at the top.

LEEK ROOTS

Use strands of Beige.
Put hook in and out behind a stitch where you want a Root. Fold a strand in half and pull the loop of yarn through the stitch. Pass ends of yarn through loop and pull tight. Trim to length, but don't trim them too short or they'll come loose.

CHILLY CHILLI

Using Red, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 5dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 5 Dc in the back loop only of each st around.
Rounds 6-14 Dc in each st around.
Round 15 Dc2tog, 18dc. [19 sts]
Round 16 9dc, dc2tog, 8dc. [18 sts]
Round 17 Dc2tog, 16dc. [17 sts]
Round 18 7dc, dc2tog, 8dc. [16 sts]
Round 19 Dc2tog, 14dc. [15 sts]
Round 20 5dc, dc2tog, 8dc. [14 sts]
Round 21 Dc2tog, 12dc. [13 sts]
Round 22 5dc, dc2tog, 6dc. [12 sts]
Round 23 Dc2tog, 10dc. [11 sts]
Round 24 5dc, dc2tog, 4dc. [10 sts]
Round 25 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]
Round 26 (Dc2tog) twice, 1dc. [3 sts]
Fasten off.

CHILLI CAP

Using Racing Green, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]

Rounds 5-7 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.

CHILLI STALK

Using Racing Green, ch5.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end.
Fasten off.
Sew Stalk to Cap, and Cap to Chilli.

CHILLI SCARF

Using White, ch4.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [3 sts]
Rows 2-52 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.
Fasten off.

Tie Scarf around Chilli and secure with stitches if desired.

BITTER LEMON

Using Light Yellow, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 5dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.
Round 2 Dc in each st around.
Round 3 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 4 2dc in each st around. [20 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [25 sts]
Rounds 6-8 Dc in each st around.
Round 9 (4dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 10-11 Dc in each st around.
Round 12 (4dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [25 sts]
Rounds 13-15 Dc in each st around.
Round 16 (3dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 17 (Dc2tog) 10 times. [10 sts]
Round 18 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]
Round 19 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.

LEMON LEAF (MAKE 2)

Using Pistachio, ch6.
Round 1 (RS) Ss into second ch from hook, dc in next ch, htr in each of next 2 ch, dc in next ch, working along other side of foundation ch to mirror existing sts: dc in next st, htr in next 2 sts, dc in next st, ss in last st.
Fasten off.

Use tail end to sew through the first st to smooth the edge.

LEMON STALK

Using Pistachio, ch6.
Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and each ch to end.
Fasten off.
Sew Leaves onto Stalk, sew Stalk onto Lemon.

BLUSHING PEAR

Using Apple Green, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (4dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Rounds 7-15 Dc in each st around.
Round 16 (1dc, dc2tog) 12 times. [24 sts]
Rounds 17-21 Dc in each st around.
Round 22 (4dc, dc2tog) 4 times. [20 sts]
Rounds 23-24 Dc in each st around.
Round 25 (2dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 26 (1dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]
Fasten off.

PEAR STALK

Using Coffee Bean, ch6.
Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end.
Fasten off.
Sew to top of Pear.

WEEPY ONION

Using Smoky Orange, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 6-13 Dc in each st around.
Round 14 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 15 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 16 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 17 (2dc, dc2tog) 3 times. [9 sts]
Round 18 Dc in each st around.
Round 19 (1dc, dc2tog) 3 times. [3 sts]
Fasten off.
Sew long straight stitches using Beige for the detail stripes.

ONION ROOTS

See instructions for Leek Roots.

RADISH RASCALS

Using White, ch7 leaving a starting tail of yarn that will act (along with the chain) as the Root.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into 2nd ch from hook, ss into the first of these dc to join into the round. When you ss into the first st, fold the chain over so that the Root will be on the outside as you continue to work in rounds on these 4 sts.
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [8 sts]
Change to Pink.
Round 3 Dc in each st around.
Round 4 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [12 sts]
Round 5 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [16 sts]
Round 6 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [20 sts]
Rounds 7-10 Dc in each st around.
Round 11 (3dc, dc2tog) 4 times. [16 sts]
Round 12 (2dc, dc2tog) 4 times. [12 sts]
Round 13 (1dc, dc2tog) 4 times. [8 sts]
Round 14 (Dc2tog) 4 times. [4 sts]
Fasten off.

RADISH LEAVES & STALKS (MAKE 3 PER RADISH)

STALKS

Make each of the Stalks different lengths, so using Apple Green ch either 20, 25 or 18 and then ss in each ch down to the end.
Fasten off.

LEAVES

Join Racing Green onto one side of the stalk 11 chains down from the top and then working back up to the top, ch4 (counts as dtr), dtr in next st, tr in each of next 3 sts, htr in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, ss in next 2 sts, ch1 and working down the other side of the Stalk to mirror the existing sts: 2ss, 2dc, 2htr, 3tr, 2dtr.
Fasten off.
Sew onto top of Radish.

TOTALLY ROAR-SOME

Hook up a pair of candy-coloured prehistoric pals. By Liz Ward.



Dinosaur pair



YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Creative Cotton Aran (100% wool, 50g/85m), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Smokey Pink (14)
  Yarn B Sky Blue (37)
  Yarn C Light Pistachio (44)
  Yarn D Light Yellow (63)
  Yarn E Nature (60)
  Yarn F Orange (74)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Safety eyes or beads, approx 12mm (½in) diameter
- Toy stuffing
- Wool and embroidery needle
- Black embroidery thread

For yarn stockists, contact Rico www.rico-design.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

18x12x12cm (7x4¾x4¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130



The tail is key to keeping your dino upright, so pay particular attention when stuffing it.

Standing tall and proud, this happy pair of dinosaurs are just irresistible. "With such cute expressions, there's nothing scary about this pair," says designer Liz. "I've gone all out in the accessories here, so the girl dino has a classic lace crochet collar while the boy has a rather snazzy orange bow tie. Easy to make, this pair of prehistoric critters will be popular with the little ones in your family." With their colourful markings and cheery smiles, we think that they look ready to hit the town and party.

NOTES

The Body starts at the base by joining together the Feet and working up.
Each part 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.

FEET (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A or B, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Rounds 3-6 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off on the first Foot but leave the yarn attached to the second Foot, then continue from Round 1 of the Body.

BODY

Round 1 Dc in each st of the first Foot, dc in each st of the second Foot. [24 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each of next 3 sts, dc in each of next 18 sts, 2dc in each of next 3 sts. [30 sts]
Round 3 (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 3 times, dc in each of next 18 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 11 sts) 3 times. [39 sts]
Round 5 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 12 sts) 3 times. [42 sts]
Rounds 6-8 Dc in each st around.
Round 9 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 12 sts) 3 times. [39 sts]
Round 10 Dc in each st around.
Round 11 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 11 sts) 3 times. [36 sts]
Stuff the legs with toy filling.
Round 12 Dc in each st around.
Round 13 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 10 sts) 3 times. [33 sts]
Round 14 Dc in each st around.
Round 15 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 9 sts) 3 times. [30 sts]
Round 16 Dc in each st around.
Round 17 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 8 sts) 3 times. [27 sts]
Round 18 Dc in each st around.
Round 19 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 7 sts) 3 times. [24 sts]
Round 20 Dc in each st around.
Round 21 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts) 3 times. [21 sts]
Rounds 22-25 Dc in each st around.
Round 26 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts) 3 times. [18 sts]
Rounds 27-28 Dc in each st around.
Round 29 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]
Stuff rest of Body.
Round 30 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

TAIL

For Pink Dino, using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in first st, dc in each remaining st around. [7 sts]
Round 3 Dc in each st around.
Rounds 4-13 Rep Rounds 2 & 3 another 5 times. [12 sts after Round 13]
Rounds 14-26 2dc in first st, dc in each st to end. [25 sts after Round 26]
Fasten off. Stuff and sew in place on Body.

For Blue Dino, using Yarn B, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each st around. [18 sts]
Round 5 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]
Stuff the end of the Tail.
Round 6 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Rounds 7-31 Continue as per instructions for Pink Dino's Tail from Round 2 to the end.
Fasten off. Stuff and sew onto Body. Use Yarn C to work French knots over the ball at the end of the Tail to create spikes.

HEAD

For Pink Dino, using Yarn A, ch5.
Round 1 Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each of next 2 ch, 3dc in last ch, rotate and work along the opposite side of the ch, dc in each of next 2 ch, 2dc in last ch. [10 sts]
Round 2 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 5

times. [15 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [25 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Rounds 7-9 Dc in each st around.
Rounds 10-21 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st around, marking Round 19 with a stitch marker. [24 sts after Round 21]
Insert the toy safety eyes on the marked round at the top of the Head, 14 sts apart.
Round 22 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 23 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times Stuff Head.
Round 24 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off and sew onto the Body.
Using black embroidery thread, use the image as a guide to create a long mouth and two lines for the nostrils.

For Blue Dino, make basic Head using Yarn B, following instructions as given for Pink Dino.

BACK HORN (BLUE DINO ONLY)
Using Yarn B, make a magic loop
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Rounds 2-10 2dc in first st, dc in each remaining st around. [15 sts after Round 10]
Fasten off. Stuff and sew to the back of the Head.

GREEN HORN (BLUE DINO ONLY)
Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]
Rounds 2-5 2dc in first st, dc in each remaining st to end. [8 sts after Round 5]
Fasten off. Stuff and sew to the front of the Head.

ARMS (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn A or B, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Rounds 2-6 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off and sew in place on the Body.

BELLY PATCH (BLUE DINO ONLY)
Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]



The stitches used for the dinos give them a fab strokable texture.

Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2 in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Fasten off and sew in place on the belly of the Dino.

BOW TIE (BLUE DINO ONLY)
Using Yarn F, ch7.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each of next 5 ch, turn. [6 sts]
Rows 2-8 Ch1 (not counted as st), dc in each st to end. [6 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Wrap yarn around the centre of the rectangle to form a bow. Sew in place on the neck of the Dino.

COLLAR (PINK DINO ONLY)
Using Yarn E, ch25.
Row 1 (RS) Ss in second ch from hook, dc in next ch, hrt in next ch, tr in next ch, hrt in next ch, dc in next ch, *ss in next ch, dc in next ch, hrt in next ch, tr in next ch, hrt in next ch, dc in next ch; rep from * to end, turn. [24 sts]
Row 2 (Ch3, dc in next st) to end.
Fasten off and sew in place around the neck of the Dino.

TO FINISH
For Pink Dino, using Yarn D, sew long stitches across the front Body and Tail to form the stripes, using image as a guide.



MASKED MASCOT

Hook Becky Garratt's sweet stripy raccoon to pin on with pride.

Raccoon brooch



YOU WILL NEED

- Patons Diploma Gold DK (55% wool, 25% acrylic, 20% nylon, 50g/120m), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Cream (06142)
  Yarn B Charcoal (06298)
  Yarn C Steel (06184)
- A 3mm (US C2/D3) hook
- 2 safety eyes, 6mm (¼in) diameter
- Toy stuffing
- Brooch back

For yarn stockists, contact Mez Crafts 01484 950630 www.mezcrafts.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

5.5x7cm (2x2¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

Whip up this cute crochet critter in an afternoon. He's worked in rows in easy-peasy double crochet stitches. You'll make two ears and two sides for the face and then sew it all together at the end. Adorable.

NOTES

Leave long tails in each colour to use for sewing the pieces together.

FACE (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, ch4.
Row 1 (RS) Dc into the second ch from the hook and in each of the next 2 ch, turn. [3 dc]
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 2dc in the first st, dc in the next st, 2dc in the last st, turn. [5 dc]
Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in the first st, dc in the next 3 sts, 2dc in the last st, turn. [7 dc]
Row 4 Ch1, 2dc in the first st, dc in the next 5 sts, 2dc in the last st, turn. [9 dc]
Row 5 Ch1, 2dc in the first st, dc in next 7 sts, 2dc in the last st, turn. [11 dc]
Row 6 Change to Yarn B, ch1, 2dc in the first st, dc in the next 9 sts, 2dc in the last st, turn. [13 dc]
Row 7 Ch1, 2dc in the first st, dc in next 11 sts, 2dc in the last st, turn. [15 dc]
Rows 8-9 Ch1, skip the first st, dc in each dc across to end, turn. [13 dc after Row 9]
Row 10 Change to Yarn C, ch1, skip the first st, dc in each dc across to end, turn. [12 dc]
Rows 11-12 Ch1, skip the first st, dc in each dc across to end, turn. [10 dc]
Fasten off.



The raccoon's beady safety eyes should sit neatly within the darkest stripe on his face.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn C, ch5.
Row 1 (RS) Dc into the second ch from the hook and in each of the next 3 ch, turn. [4 dc]
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st across, turn. [4 dc]
Rows 3-5 Ch1, skip the first st, dc in each dc across to end, turn. [1 st decreased on each row]
Fasten off.

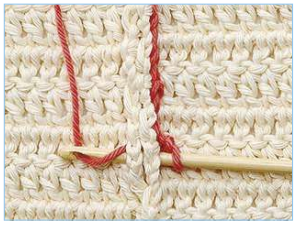
TO MAKE UP

Decide which Face piece is the front and which is the back. Take the back face and sew the brooch back onto one side and sew the Ears onto the other side, using the image as a guide.
Take the front Face piece and attach the safety eyes between Rows 7 and 8.
Using Yarn B, embroider a nose, using the image as a guide.
Sew the front and back pieces together, adding a little toy stuffing as you go.

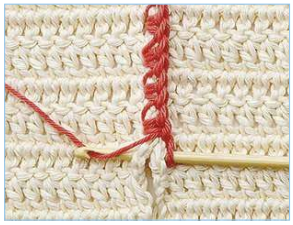
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO SEW SEAMS



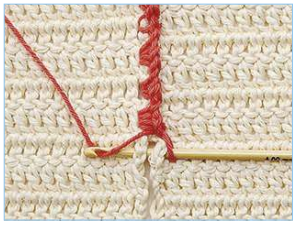
1 Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet wrong sides together and oversew them as shown above, using a tapestry or yarn needle.



2 To slip stitch a seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together. *Insert hk through both edge stitches, yrh, pull through to complete 1 slip stitch; rep from *, keeping your 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 a 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 you need less bulk and/or greater flexibility in your seam. Work as for the dc seam, but work 1 dc and 1 chain alternately.



SLEEPY BUNNY

Work a sweet corner-to-corner snuggle blanket by Kath Webber.

Baby blanket



A BIT TRICKY | ARAN WEIGHT | 5MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Sublime Evie (94% cotton, 6% nylon, 50g/115m), 6 balls of Haze (512) 1 ball of Nougat (508)
- A small amount of black cotton for the bunny's face
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- Toy stuffing
- 65mm pompom maker or two cardboard discs measuring 6.5cm across, with the centres and a notch removed
- Stitch marker

For yarn stockists, contact Sublime 01924 369666 www.sublimeyarns.com

TENSION

A square of 5x5 blocks in diagonal box stitch with a 5mm hook measures 10x10cm (4x4in)

MEASUREMENTS

65cm (25½in) square

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

Designer Kath Webber says: "Using super-soft brushed cotton and a diagonal box stitch, this baby blanket is made all the more special with the addition of a bunny friend!" This is a fun-to-hook project that has all the benefits of a toy and a blanket in one, making it a special gift for a precious new arrival.

If you need a hand getting your head around the diagonal corner-to-corner construction, crafty Bella Coco blogger Sarah-Jayne has a great video tutorial for this at http://bit.ly/SC42corner

NOTES

This blanket is worked using a 'corner to corner' construction in blocks of ch3 and 3 tr. Each 'Row' is made up of a diagonal row of blocks, starting with 1 block in the bottom-left corner, then 2 blocks in the next row, 3 in the next, and so on. When the 2 straight edges of the square are the right size, construction changes slightly to work 1 less block on each row, back towards the top-right corner. You will need to both turn and rotate work at the beginning of each new row of blocks.



The diagonal baby blanket is edged all the way around with half treble stitches.

BLANKET

Row 1 (RS) With Haze, ch6 (counts as 3 ch and tr), tr in fourth ch from the hook and in each of next 2 ch to end, turn. [Block 1]

Row 2 (WS) Ch6 (counts as 3 ch and tr), tr in fourth ch from the hook and in each of next 2 ch [Block 2], with the WS of Block 1 facing, and the RS of Block 2 facing, line up the post of the treble just worked along the top of the trebles from Block 1 so that the 2 blocks are touching and ss in the sp created by the ch-3 at the top of Block 1. Ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp, turn. [Blocks 2 and 3 complete]

Row 3 (RS) Ch6 (counts as 3 ch and tr), tr in fourth ch from the hook and in each of next 2 ch [Block 4], rotate this block so that you can ss in the ch-3 sp of Block 3 just worked, ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp [Block 5]. Ss in ch-3 sp at top of next block (Block 2), ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp, turn. [Blocks 4, 5 and 6 complete]

Row 4 Ch6 (counts as 3 ch and tr), tr in fourth ch from the hook and in each of next 2 ch, rotate this block so that you can ss in the ch-3 sp of block just worked, *ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp, ss in ch-3 sp at top of next block; repeat from * until you have worked a ss into the ch-3 sp of last block of previous row, ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp, turn. [Increased by 1 Block]

Repeat Row 4 until piece measures 65cm along straight edge, approx 34 rows in total.

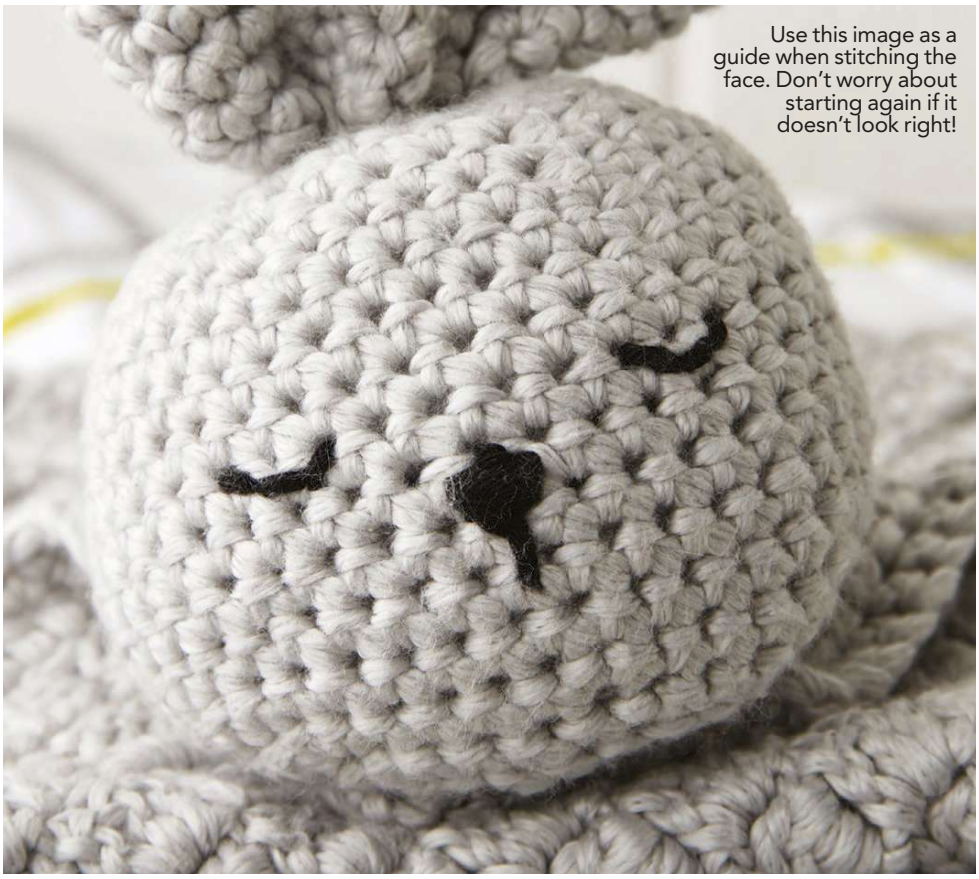
To decrease blocks for the second half of the square:

Next row Ss in each of the last 3 tr, ss in ch-3 sp of block just worked. *Ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp, ss in ch-3 sp of next block; repeat from * until you have worked a ss into the ch-3 sp of the last block of previous row, turn without working into the top of this block. Repeat last row until you have decreased to 1 block in the corner. Do not fasten off.

EDGING

Rotate blanket to work along straight edge.

Round 1 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr evenly



Use this image as a guide when stitching the face. Don't worry about starting again if it doesn't look right!



Pinch and fold both the ears slightly at the bottom before stitching them in place.



Cream is classic for a bunny tail pompom, but you could use anything from your stash.

along each edge with 3htr into each corner, ss to top of beg ch-2.
Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc into each st around, with 3dc into each corner st.
Fasten off.

BUNNY
Work the bunny in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. It may help to mark the first stitch of each round with a stitch marker.

HEAD
With Haze, make a magic loop, leaving a long tail.
Round 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc into each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (1dc into next st, 2dc into next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (1dc into each of next 2 sts, 2dc into next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (1dc into each of next 3 sts, 2dc into next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (1dc into each of next 4 sts, 2dc into next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Rounds 7-14 Dc into each st around. Do not fasten off.

Stitch on the sleepy bunny face using black cotton and a tapestry needle, or add safety eyes if you prefer.

Using a tapestry needle and the long tail of the magic loop, stitch the base of the bunny head to the blanket, folding over the corner of the blanket. Use backstitch to make sure the stitching is secure.

Round 15 (1dc into each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 16 (1dc into each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 17 (1dc into each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Stuff bunny's head.
Round 18 (1dc into next st, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 19 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail of yarn. Using a tapestry needle, run the long tail of yarn through the rem 6 sts to close.
Fasten off securely.

EARS (MAKE 2)
With Haze, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 4dc into loop.
Round 2 Dc into each st around.
Round 3 (1dc into next st, 2dc into next st) twice. [6 sts]
Round 4 Dc into each st around.
Round 5 (2dc into next st, 1dc into next st) 3 times. [9 sts]
Round 6 Dc into each st around.
Round 7 (2dc into next st, 1dc into each of next 2 sts) 3 times. [12 sts]
Rounds 8-14 Dc into each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail of yarn.

Use the long tail of yarn to stitch the ears together, folding slightly in the centre, then stitch to the Head.

TO FINISH
With Nougat, make a 6.5cm pompom and attach it securely to the opposite corner of the blanket. Weave in all ends.

LITTLE MONSTER

Becky Garratt's smiley cushion is made to be squeezed!



Stripy cushion



YOU WILL NEED

- Lion Brand Vanna's Choice (100% acrylic, 100g/156m), 3 balls of each:
  Lime (194)
  Aqua (102)
  1 ball of each:
  Rose (142)
  Black (153)
  White (100)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- A stitch marker
- A 40cm (16in) square cushion pad

For yarn stockists, contact Wool Warehouse 0800 505 3300 www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

13sts and 11 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over htr worked in rows with a 5mm hook

MEASUREMENTS

40x43cm (15¾x17in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

Make a cushion that hugs back. This chap is fun to have around and simple to hook. Use half trebles for the base and limbs, and dc amigurumi spirals for his features.

MAIN CUSHION COVER PIECE

Change colour every four rows, alternating between Aqua and Lime, and carrying the yarn up the sides. These yarn strands can be hidden when you make up the cushion later.

Using Aqua, ch58.
Row 1 (RS) Htr into 3rd st from hook and in each st to end, turn. [57 sts]
Rows 2-112 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr in each st to end, turn. **Fasten off**.

Lay the piece out RS facing up, fold so the last row is matched with Row 72 and sew along the sides. Fold first row to meet Row 80 (over the top of the piece you've already sewn) and sew along the sides. Turn the cushion RS out and the last row should now be on the outside of the cushion opening.

EYES (MAKE 2)

From Round 2 onwards, work in a spiral without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helps to put a stitch marker in the first st of the round, moving it up as you work.
Using White, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 5dc into loop, ss to first dc. [5 sts]
Round 2 2dc into each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 4 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 5 (2dc, 2dc in next st, 1dc) 5 times. [25 sts]
Round 6 (1dc, 2dc in next st, 3dc) 5 times. [30 sts]
Round 7 (4dc, 2dc in next st, 1dc) 5 times. [35 sts]
Round 8 (2dc, 2dc in next st, 4dc) 5 times. [40 sts]
Ss in next 2 sts to even out the edge.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

PUPILS (MAKE 2)

Using Black, work as for the Eyes up to the end of Round 4. Ss in next 2 sts to even out the edge. **Fasten off**, leaving a long tail for sewing later.



For a mischievous face, use our images as your guide when sewing on the features.

CHEEKS (MAKE 2)

Using Rose, work as for the Eyes up to the end of Round 8.
Round 9 (7dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [45 sts]
Round 10 (5dc, 2dc in next st, 3dc) 5 times. [50 sts]
Ss in next 2 sts to even out the edge.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Change colour every 4 rows alternating between Aqua and Lime. Don't worry about changing colour exactly at beg of every fifth row, but keep all colour changes in line on one side of the arm so there is a clear pattern of 4 rows of alternating stripes on the other side.
Using Aqua, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr), 4htr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-2. [5 sts]
Round 2 2htr in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (1htr, 2htr in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 4 (2htr, 2htr in next st) 5 times, change to Lime. [20 sts]
Htr in each st around, and cont working in same fashion until a total of 64 rounds have been completed, or the piece measures 60cm long.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail of yarn.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Work as for Arms for a total of 44 rounds, or until the piece measures 40cm long.

TO MAKE UP

Use long tails to sew Pupils onto centre of Eyes. Use long tails to sew Eyes and Cheeks onto front of cover, using image as a guide. Add an embroidered mouth with 3 long straight sts in Black.
Use long tails to sew Legs and Arms onto cushion cover.

ROCKET POWER

Stay cool when the weather warms up with an ice lolly brooch by Becky Garratt.



Ice lolly brooch



YOU WILL NEED

- King Cole Merino Blend DK (100% wool, 50g/112m), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Scarlet (009)
  Yarn B Gold (055)
  Yarn C Copper (109)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3 hook)
- Lolly stick
- Brooch back
- Craft glue
- Toy stuffing

For yarn stockists, contact King Cole 01756 703670 www.kingcole.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

12x6cm (4¾x2¼in) including stick

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

Summer nostalgia coming your way, people. The iconic rocket ice lolly is a real classic and with Becky Garratt's sweet and simple pattern you can hook one of your own that won't melt away in the heat of the midday sun. It's made with double and treble crochet stitches and the real lolly stick adds a bit of authenticity. This makes us rocket scientists now, right? Pretty cool.



Super-neat colour changes help create this instantly recognisable summer treat.

LOLLY BROOCH (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn B, ch13.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in the second ch from the hook and in each ch to end, turn. [12 sts]
Rows 2-6 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.
Fasten off.

Join Yarn C to the second st of the next row.
Row 7 Ch1, dc in each st to the last st, turn leaving the last st unworked. [10 sts]
Rows 8-11 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. **Fasten off**.

Join Yarn A to the second st of the next row.
Row 12 Ch1, dc in each st to the last st, turn leaving the last st unworked. [8 sts]
Row 13 Ch1, skip the first st, 5dc, dc2tog, turn. [6 sts]
Row 14 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.
Row 15 Ch1, skip the first st, 3dc, dc2tog, turn. [4 sts]
Row 16 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.
Row 17 Ch1, dc in the next st, tr in each of the next 2 sts, dc in the last st.
Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Sew the brooch back onto the outside of the back piece and glue the wooden lolly stick on the inside of the back piece.

Sew the two pieces together, WS facing, adding a little stuffing as you go and making sure that you sew securely on each side of the stick.



Jazz up a plain beach bag with this no calorie iced treat.

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From the makers of Quilting Sewing Today's Quilter Mollie Makes



Getting started

Here's a bit of beginner's info about making amigurumi so you're equipped with the best knowledge from the start.

THE BASICS

Some essential information to make really great amigurumi.

Where to find the projects on this page: Superhero dog, page 43; Pretzel brooch, page 86; Ballerina, page 78

DENSE FABRIC

Amigurumi toys are usually made using only double crochet stitches. The yarns are usually around DK in weight, with a hook that's smaller than you'd normally use for that weight of yarn. This helps to create a firm, dense fabric that won't allow the stuffing to show through.



SIMPLE TECHNIQUES

Amigurumi patterns may seem daunting, but they usually use simple techniques, most of which are covered here. You'll need to work double crochet stitches in the round (see page 128), but in spirals, which we'll also show you how to do (page 129). You'll also find it helpful to use stitch markers to keep track of each spiral round, which you'll need to move up after each round.

Finally, you'll also need to work double crochet increases and decreases.

SEWING AND STUFFING

Some amigurumi patterns involve crocheting lots of different pieces. It's a good idea to label each piece after you fasten off so it's easier to identify the pieces when you come to sew them together. Some patterns will ask you to stuff the toy while you're sewing the pieces together, or even while you're still crocheting. Always use specialist toy stuffing and insert small amounts at a time, adding more slowly until you achieve the right look. Your stuffing should be firm but not distort the fabric.

IN THE DETAIL

One of the most important parts of toy-making is the finishing detail, especially on the face. Some patterns ask you to add these details with felt, buttons or embroidery. Take your time, and don't be afraid to start again if the expression doesn't look quite right. See our workshop on page 72.



CROCHET SPHERES

Perfect for making heads and rotund bodies.

Most amigurumi creatures involve making a basic sphere, which is perfect for heads and bodies. Making spheres involves increasing the number of stitches on the first few rounds, working straight for a row or two, then decreasing the number of stitches on the last few rounds. If you can make this shape, then you'll be able to make almost any amigurumi toy.

SEAMLESS ROUNDS

To work a sphere, you need to work in the round. Start with a magic loop and work the first round of stitches into the centre. This gives a tight closure at the 'poles' of the spheres and prevents stuffing from poking through. By working in the round, there will be no seams to sew up later – you can crochet the creature three-dimensionally and even stuff it as you go.



CROCHET TUBES

Great for making limbs, fingers and snake-like shapes.

Many amigurumi toys feature basic tube shapes – they're ideal for arms and legs. Making tubes is very simple because they're worked straight. You just work on the same number of stitches around and around in a spiral. If you can make a sphere and this shape, you can make almost any amigurumi toy.

STUFF AS YOU GO

To work a tube like this, you need to work in the round. Start with a magic loop foundation ring and work the first round of stitches into the centre. Continue on these stitches, around and around. By working in the round, there'll be no seams to sew up later – you can crochet the creature three-dimensionally and even stuff it as you go.

USING STITCH MARKERS

With tubes like this, you'll have a small number of stitches and a large number of spiral rounds to cope with. You'll find it helpful to use a stitch marker to mark the start/end of each round and help you keep track of where you are in the pattern.





Crochet basics

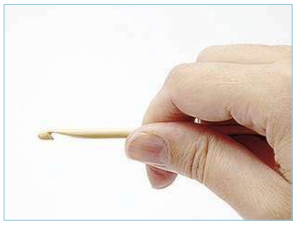
Over the next few pages, you'll find simple step-by-step guides to many useful stitches and techniques that you'll use every time you pick up a hook.

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.

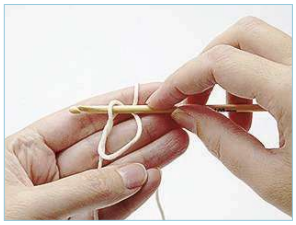
MAKING A SLIPKNOT The first loop on the hook.



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.

How to count

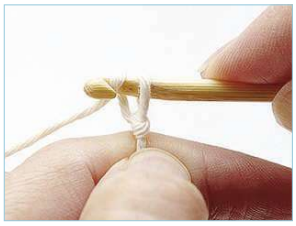


Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Never count your first slipknot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). So that you can be accurate, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.

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.

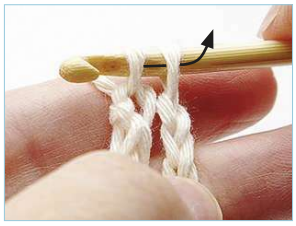
Where to find the project on this page: Cat pair, page 48

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 (see opposite). 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).

If you're left-handed, go to www.simplycrochetmag.com for tutorials



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, and you've made a half treble crochet.

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.



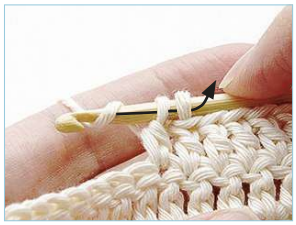
1 To work a treble crochet, start by winding yrh and then insert the hook under the top two loops of the stitch on the previous row.



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.

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.

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 left). For taller stitches, count the upright 'stems' – each 'stem' is counted as a stitch (see left).

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, carefully pin out the item with rust-proof pins, mist with a water spray and leave to dry naturally.

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 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.

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 below.

WORKING STITCHES INTO A RING

Make circles, tubes and other shapes by working simple rounds of crochet stitches.



1 Make a foundation ring (as described above right) and then work the correct number of chains for the t-ch, for example, 3ch for a treble.



2 Now work the stitch as you would on a row, but insert the hook into the centre of the ring rather than each chain loop. For a treble, yrh, insert into the ring.



3 Continue with the treble stitch, working in the same way as you would on a row. So yrh and pull yarn through the loop. Then yrh and pull yarn through first 2 loops.



4 Finish off the treble stitch by working yrh and pull yarn through 2 loops. Continue making stitches into the ring as instructed in your pattern.

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.

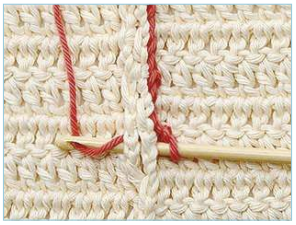
Little Lilly, page 70

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.

Using stitch markers

How to keep track of spiral rounds…

With any crochet pattern, it's vital that you can count your stitches. One way to make that easier is to use stitch markers. The picture (right) shows a simple row of double crochet stitches, with stitch markers in the second and fourth stitches. The numbers show how to count the stitches in the row.

Stitch markers are also helpful when you're working spirals of stitches in amigurumi. Place a stitch marker in the first stitch of the round to make it clear when you finish a round of the pattern you're using. Move the marker up after every round to help you keep track of each round.

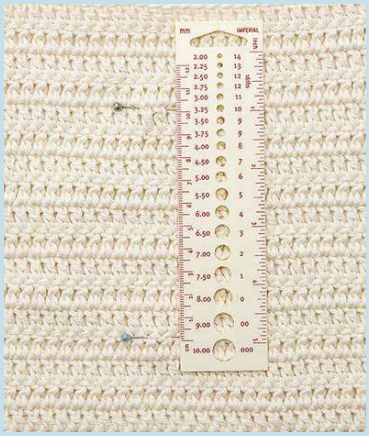
Another great way to use stitch markers is to mark stitches where you need to make increases or decreases. Try using one colour of marker for working increases and another for decreases.

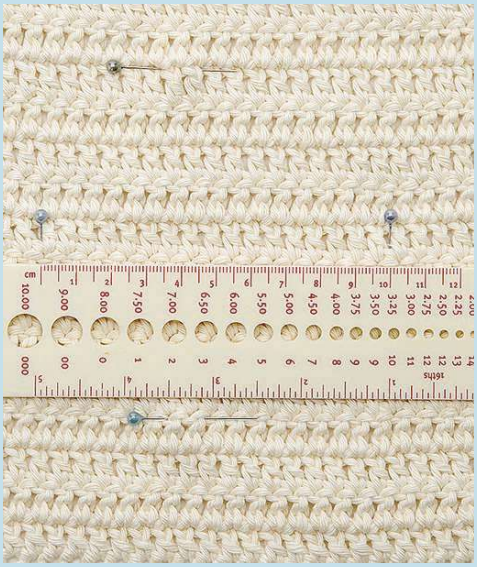


How to check your tension

Make and measure a swatch to check your tension.

Some 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 often work more or fewer rows.







Magic loop

This is a popular method to start working in the round.

The magic loop method is a common way to start working in the round. It's particularly popular for making toys – we'll show you how to do it below. You might need to practise it a few times in order to get the hang of it, but you'll definitely soon learn to love it!

The magic loop method (also called the drawstring loop) involves making a simple loop of yarn and then working your first round of stitches into that loop. You don't need to make a slipknot with this method and you can work as many stitches into the ring on the first round as you need to. You can even start with larger stitches than double crochet, such as half trebles or trebles, which can be worked into the centre.



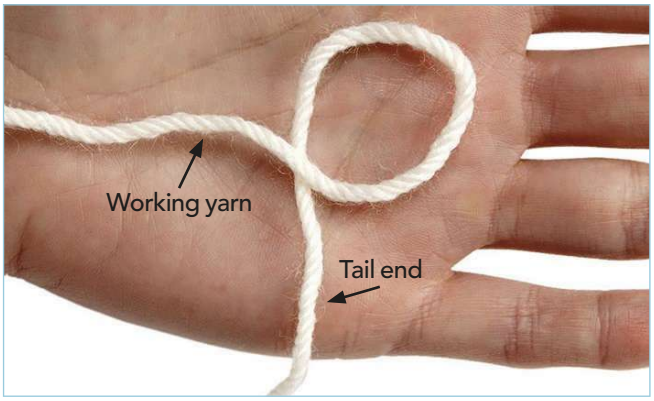


After working the last stitch of the first round, all you have to do is simply pull on the tail end of the yarn to tighten the loop, as if by magic!

The finished magic loop ring will have no hole at the centre, which is useful for projects like stuffed toys where you don't want stuffing to poke out of any gaps.

MAKING A MAGIC LOOP

Follow these steps to master the magic loop.



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 of yarn lies underneath the strand of working yarn.

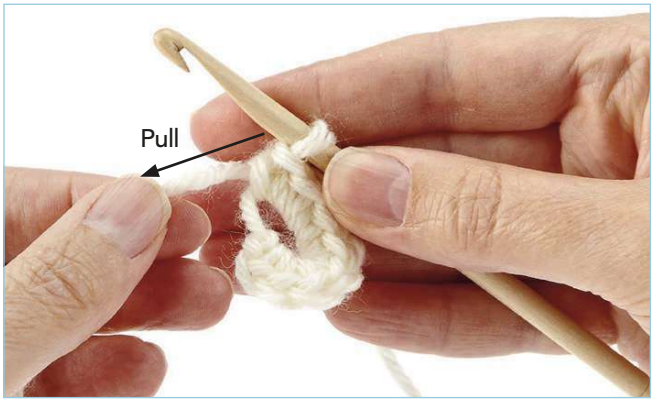


If you're left-handed go to www.simplycrochetmag.com for tutorials

2 Now insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn around the hook anticlockwise and pull the yarn through the magic loop.



3 Make the turning chain (above, we made one turning chain, ready for dc stitches). Work the stitches into the loop, making sure they are all worked over both the loop itself and the tail end (so two strands of yarn).



4 Once you've worked the number of stitches you need, pull on the tail end of the yarn to draw up the ring – magic! Close the round with a slip stitch or work a dc in the first dc to work in spiral rounds.

Where to find the projects on this page: Fox, page 17; Ice lolly, page 118, Robot, page 88



Double crochet rounds

How to work the first round in double crochet.

Once you have a foundation ring, you can make the first round of stitches. We'll show you how to work the first round in double crochet below.

The rules for working in the round are simple, although some patterns differ, so always follow the instructions in the pattern you're using.



Whichever stitch you're using, you'll need to make a turning chain at the start of each round (see page 124 for number of chains per stitch type). Then you can work the stitches of that round. At the end of every round, join the last stitch to the first stitch using a slip stitch (see below).

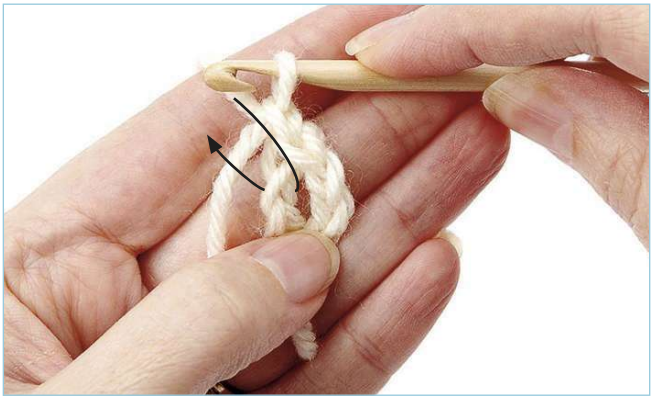


On the first round of a long foundation ring, you will need to work each stitch into each chain as usual, starting from the second chain from the hook.

On the first round of a small ring, you will need to insert the hook into the gap that's at the centre of the ring and work your stitches here instead of into each chain (and also remembering to do a turning chain first).

WORKING IN THE ROUND

Follow these steps to work the first round of double crochet.



1 Make a basic foundation ring and don't turn the work. Make one turning chain for double crochet (does not count as stitch). To start your first double crochet stitch, insert the hook into the centre of the ring.



2 Work yarn round hook and pull yarn through the centre of the foundation ring (two loops on hook). Finish the stitch as usual (yarn round hook again, pull yarn through remaining two loops on hook).



3 Work more double crochet stitches in the same way (inserting hook into the centre of the ring), as instructed in your pattern, pushing the stitches closer if you need to.



4 After the last stitch, insert hook under the top two loops of the first double crochet stitch (not the turning chain). Work a slip stitch (yrh, pull through both loops).

Where to find the projects on this page: Camel, page 52; Bunny tops and tails, page 91; Seahorse, page 37



Work in spirals

How to work in the round using the amigurumi method.

When you work amigurumi toys, most patterns ask you to work your stitches in the round, but in a spiral shape rather than individual circles (with the spiral method it's a good idea to mark each round with stitch markers).

To start off, you'll still need to make a foundation ring – the magic loop is best because it leaves no hole at the centre (see page 127 for how to make a magic loop).



If you prefer, you could work a different type of foundation ring, such as a basic ring (see page 125), but you may need to sew up the hole at the centre before stuffing.

Once you have your foundation ring, make a turning chain (t-ch) and work your first round of dc into the ring.



To practise the spiral technique, try working 12 or so double crochet stitches. Stop after you've worked the last stitch of the first round. If you've worked a magic loop, tighten it up. Then follow our instructions below to practise working in a spiral.

WORKING IN SPIRALS

Follow these steps to work stitches in a spiral.

If you're left-handed, go to www.simplycrochetmag.com for tutorials



1 After working the last stitch of the first round, don't join it to the first stitch with a slip stitch, like you usually do when working in the round. Instead, work the next double crochet stitch into the first stitch you made.



2 To do this, insert the hook under the top two loops of the first stitch of the first round. Yrh, pull yarn through, yrh, pull yarn through two loops. That's your dc stitch made and you'll now be working in a spiral.



3 Continue to work more rounds of double crochet stitches in a spiral, according to your pattern instructions. On the last round, you need to finish off the spiral neatly.



4 To do this, after you've worked the last dc stitch of the last round, insert hook into the next stitch and work a slip stitch (yrh and pull through all loops). (There's no need to do this if you're just changing colour.)

Where to find the projects on this page: Deer duo, page 58; Mermaid, page 81; Raccoon, page 40

Abbreviations

across	to end of the row
alt	alternate/alternating
approx	approximate(ly)
beg	beginning
bl	insert hook under back loop only
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
ch(s)	chain/chain stitch(es)
ch-sp(s)	chain space(s)
ch-	refers to ch made previously eg ch-3
cl(s)	clusters
cont	continue
dc	double crochet
dc2tog	(insert hook in next st, yrh and draw a loop through) twice, yrh and draw through all 3 loops on hook
dec	decrease
dtr	double treble crochet
dtr2tog	work 2dtr together
fl	insert hook under front loop only
foll/folls	following/follows
FPtr	Front Post treble: work in opposite way to BPtr
htr	half treble
htr2tog	work 2htr together
in next	sts to be worked into the same stitch
inc	increase
LH	left hand
lp(s)	loop(s)
meas	measures
p or pc	picot
patt(s)	pattern(s)
pm	place marker
prev	previous
rem	remains or remaining
rep	repeat
RH	right hand
rnd(s)	round(s)
RS	right side
sk	skip
sp(s)	space(s)
ss	slip stitch
st(s)	stitch(es)
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) 2 times, 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

Crochet abbreviations conversions

Use this handy table to convert UK crochet terms to US crochet terms, or vice versa. Also see individual stitch explanations on previous pages.

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

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**

Which hook do I use?

Choosing the right size hook for the yarn you're crocheting is important.

Hook size	UK yarn weight
2.5-3.5mm hook	4ply yarn
3.5-4.5mm hook	double knitting (DK)
5-6mm hook	aran yarn
7mm and bigger	chunky yarn

Crochet naturally

Work crochet stitches your own way.

Everyone has their own style when crocheting, so if you find any of our instructions hard to follow, just practise with a hook and some yarn to find a style you're comfortable with. Most people crochet with the hook in one hand and the working yarn in the other hand, but you don't have to. To get some ideas, look at how other crocheters work, or watch some videos on the internet. As long as you have some tension between the working yarn and your work, your crochet results should work out fine.



CUTE CREATURES TO CROCHET

Amigurumi COLLECTION



CUTE CREATURES TO CROCHET

Amigurumi COLLECTION

54 projects to make today!

Grab your hook and create a yarn menagerie with this cute collection of amigurumi patterns from *Simply Crochet* magazine. Discover dozens of new friends, including cats, dogs, dinosaurs and dancers. Plus lots of yummy yarn food! There's a full 'how to' guide to get you started, too.