CROCHET AXOLOTL AMIGURUMI

CrochetRooms free printable pattern

Printable pattern, adapted in my own words from the free Loops and Love Crochet design listed in sources.txt. US crochet terms.

SKILL LEVEL

The source does not state a skill level. The pattern uses single crochet, increases, and invisible decreases worked in continuous rounds, so it suits a crocheter who is comfortable with basic amigurumi. A total beginner may prefer a no-sew version first.

MATERIALS

- Worsted weight (4) yarn, about 65 yards in total: about 55 yards in a main color for the tail, body, and head, and about 10 yards in an accent color for the gills and fins. The pictured axolotl uses WeCrochet/Knit Picks Brava Worsted in Cotton Candy (main) and Rouge (accent) for pink, or Clarity (main) and Cornflower (accent) for blue.
- Crochet hook: 3.5 mm, or your preferred hook size for amigurumi
- Safety eyes: 8 mm (or your preferred size)
- Fiber stuffing
- Black embroidery or crochet thread, a small amount, for the eyelashes and mouth
- Yarn needle (a bent yarn needle works well for amigurumi)
- Stitch marker or a scrap of yarn

GAUGE

2 inches by 2 inches equals about 7 rows of 10 single crochet stitches.

FINISHED SIZE

About 5.5 inches tall.

ABBREVIATIONS

ch: chain

sc: single crochet

dc: double crochet

sl st: slip stitch

st: stitch

inv dec: invisible single crochet decrease (insert hook into front loop of next stitch, then into front loop of following stitch, yarn over and draw through 2 loops, yarn over and pull through 2

remaining loops)

2 sc: work 2 single crochet stitches in one stitch (increase)

PATTERN NOTES

- The tail, body, and head are worked in one continuous piece from the bottom up, starting with a magic circle. Rounds are not joined. Use a stitch marker to mark the start of each round.
- Stuff the tail and body as you work, stopping a couple of rounds before the top of each section so you do not catch stuffing in your stitches. Stuff firmly, but not so full that stuffing shows between the stitches.
- The legs, tail fin, and external gills are made separately and sewn on afterwards.

TAIL, BODY, AND HEAD

Work from the bottom up, starting with the tail.

Round 1: Make a magic circle, chain 1, and work 4 single crochet into the ring. (4 stitches)

Round 2: Work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 3 stitches. (5 stitches)

Round 3: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (5 stitches)

Round 4: Work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 4 stitches. (6 stitches)

Round 5: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (6 stitches)

Round 6: Work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 5 stitches. (7 stitches)

Round 7: Work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 6 stitches. (8 stitches)

Round 8: Work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 7 stitches. (9 stitches)

Round 9: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (9 stitches)

Round 10: Work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 8 stitches. (10 stitches)

Round 11: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 4 stitches. (12 stitches)

Round 12: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (12 stitches)

Now the body begins to widen. Add stuffing to the tail, pushing it all the way to the bottom.

Round 13: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in the next stitch. (18 stitches)

Round 14: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 2 stitches. (24 stitches)

Rounds 15-16: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (24 stitches)

Round 17: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 3 stitches. (30 stitches)

Rounds 18-22: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (30 stitches)

Round 23: Repeat around: work 1 invisible decrease, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 3 stitches. (24 stitches)

Round 24: Repeat around: work 1 invisible decrease, then 1 single crochet in the next stitch. (16 stitches)

Round 25: Repeat around: work 1 invisible decrease, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 2 stitches. (12 stitches)

Now the head begins to widen. Stuff the body, stopping a couple of rounds before the top.

Round 26: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in the next stitch. (18 stitches)

Round 27: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 2 stitches. (24 stitches)

Round 28: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 3 stitches. (30 stitches)

Round 29: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 4 stitches. (36 stitches)

Rounds 30-35: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (36 stitches)

Place the safety eyes between rounds 33 and 34, about 7 stitches apart, centered in the middle of the face. If you are adding eyelashes, place the eyes where you want them without securing the backs, take them out, stitch the lashes on with your yarn needle, then put the eyes back in and secure the backs. Sew the mouth at this point too: use your yarn needle to sew a small "v" shape in the center of the face, 1 to 2 rounds below the eyes.

Round 36: Repeat around: work 1 invisible decrease, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 4 stitches. (30 stitches)

Round 37: Repeat around: work 1 invisible decrease, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 3 stitches. (24 stitches)

Stuff the head well over the next few rounds, before the opening gets too small.

Round 38: Repeat around: work 1 invisible decrease, then 1 single crochet in each of the next 2 stitches. (18 stitches)

Round 39: Repeat around: work 1 invisible decrease, then 1 single crochet in the next stitch. (12 stitches)

Round 40: Work 1 invisible decrease in each stitch around. (6 stitches)

Fasten off and weave in all ends.

LEGS (make 4)

Chain 6, slip stitch in the 2nd chain from the hook, then repeat across: work 1 single crochet, 2 double crochet, and 1 single crochet in the next stitch, then slip stitch in the next stitch.

Fasten off and cut the yarn, leaving a long tail to sew the leg closed and attach it to the body.

Fold the leg in half lengthwise, matching the stitches. Using your yarn needle and the yarn tail, sew across both layers along the top of the leg from one end to the other, then sew a couple of stitches along the bottom where the chains are. Set the leg aside.

Repeat until you have 4 legs in total.

TAIL FIN

Chain 12, slip stitch in the 2nd chain from the hook, then repeat across: work 1 single crochet, 1 double crochet, and 1 single crochet in the next stitch, then slip stitch in the next stitch.

Fasten off, leaving one yarn tail for sewing the fin onto the tail.

EXTERNAL GILLS (make 6)

Round 1: Make a magic circle, chain 1, and work 4 single crochet into the ring. (4 stitches)

Round 2: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet in the first stitch, then 1 single crochet in the next stitch. (6 stitches)

Rounds 3-4: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (6 stitches)

Fasten off and cut the yarn, leaving a long enough tail to sew the top of the gill closed and attach it to the head.

Pinch the gill flat and use your yarn needle to whip stitch across both layers to close the top. Set the gill aside.

Repeat until you have 6 gills in total.

ASSEMBLY

Attaching the legs: Sew the top legs on starting one round down from the neck. Sew the bottom legs on starting one round up from the tail, where the body starts. Place the flat side of the leg against the body. Sew in and out of each stitch across the top of the leg, passing through a stitch on the axolotl each time. Weave in ends and cut extra yarn tails.

Sewing on the tail fin: Line up the tail fin so it wraps around the bottom of the tail. Center the fin bumps so there are two on each side of the tail and one centered at the bottom. Sew the fin on by passing through each stitch on the fin and through a stitch around the bottom of the tail. Weave in ends and cut yarn.

Attaching the external gills: Sew the six gill pieces around the sides of the head. Start by lining up one middle gill on the side of the head, centering it with the eyes. Sew in and out of each stitch along the top of the gill, passing through stitches on the head to secure it. Weave in the end and cut the yarn. Then line up and sew on the two remaining gills on the same side, one above the first and one below. Repeat for the three gills on the other side. Weave in all ends and cut all yarn tails.

FINISHING

- Check the face: eyes level and about 7 stitches apart, smile centered below the eyes.
- Check the gills: three on each side, fanned out evenly like a crown.
- Weave in every yarn end neatly and trim close.
- For a toy made for a child under three years old, embroider the eyes with black yarn instead of using safety eyes.

Source credit: adapted from Loops and Love Crochet, Axolotl Amigurumi - Free Crochet Pattern. See sources.txt for the full link.

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