CROCHET DINOSAUR: BABY T-REX AND BRONTOSAURUS

CrochetRooms free printable pattern

Printable pattern, adapted in my own words from the free moee-chan design listed in sources.txt. US crochet terms.

SKILL LEVEL

Beginner. You need a magic ring, single crochet, increases, decreases, and one bobble stitch, which is explained below. If you can count to 36 and follow one round at a time, you can make both dinosaurs.

MATERIALS

- DK / light worsted weight yarn (#3) in green, about 25 g, for the T-Rex.
- DK / light worsted weight yarn (#3) in dusty blue, about 30 g, for the brontosaurus. Mustard works just as well if you prefer it.
- A small amount of black DK yarn, for embroidering the mouth and nostrils, and for embroidered eyes if you choose that option.
- Crochet hook: 3.5 mm
- 8 mm black safety eyes, 2 pairs, one pair for each dinosaur.
- Polyester stuffing
- Yarn needle
- Stitch marker
- Scissors

GAUGE

The source gives no gauge, so no gauge is stated here and none has been invented. Work with a hook and tension that keep the stitches tight enough that the stuffing does not show through. If your stitches are loose, go down to a 3.0 mm hook so the stuffing does not show through.

FINISHED SIZE

- Baby T-Rex: about 9 cm (3.5 inches) tall when sitting. The head is the widest part, at 36 stitches around, and the short tail adds about 2 cm at the back.
- Brontosaurus: about 10 cm (4 inches) long from the tip of its nose to the tip of its tail, and about 9 cm (3.5 inches) tall to the top of its head.
- Sizes are approximate. Your dinosaurs may come out a little smaller or larger depending on your yarn and tension, and that is perfectly fine.

ABBREVIATIONS

MR: magic ring

sc: single crochet

inc: increase (2 single crochet in the same stitch)

dec: decrease (single crochet 2 stitches together; an invisible decrease gives the neatest result)

bo: bobble stitch

st(s): stitch(es)

R: round

BOBBLE STITCH

Yarn over, insert hook in stitch, yarn over, pull up a loop, yarn over, pull through 2 loops; repeat from the start 4 more times in the same stitch (5 incomplete double crochets on the hook), yarn over, pull through all 6 loops on the hook. A bobble counts as 1 stitch. Push it gently to the front of the work with your finger so it pops out.

PATTERN NOTES

- Work in continuous rounds. Do not join rounds and do not turn, unless the pattern says so. Place a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round and move it up as you finish the round.
- The number in brackets at the end of each round is the stitch count you should have. Count your stitches at the end of every increase and decrease round, because catching a mistake one round back takes seconds to fix and ten rounds back takes much longer.
- Stuff as you go. Add the stuffing a little at a time, in thin layers, and push it into the sides so the shape stays smooth. Stuff the head firmly before the rounds start to close, and stuff the brontosaurus neck firmly so it stands upright instead of flopping over.
- Safety note: safety eyes are not suitable for children under 3 years old, because small parts can come loose and be a choking hazard. For a dinosaur a small child will play with, embroider the eyes with black yarn instead, two small vertical ovals in the same positions given below, and check the embroidery is secure before giving the toy to a child.

PATTERN 1: BABY T-REX (green)

Work the head and body as one piece in green yarn. The arms in Round 18 and the feet in Round 22 are bobble stitches worked into the body as you go, so there is no sewing.

Round 1: Work 6 single crochet in a magic ring. (6 stitches)

Round 2: Work 2 single crochet in each stitch around. (12 stitches)

Round 3: Repeat around: work 1 single crochet, then 1 increase. (18 stitches)

Round 4: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet, then 1 increase. (24 stitches)

Round 5: Repeat around: work 3 single crochet, then 1 increase. (30 stitches)

Round 6: Repeat around: work 4 single crochet, then 1 increase. (36 stitches)

Rounds 7 to 11: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (36 stitches in each round)

Round 12: Repeat around: work 4 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (30 stitches)

Round 13: Repeat around: work 3 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (24 stitches)

Round 14: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (18 stitches)

Round 15: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet, then 1 increase. (24 stitches)

Round 16: Repeat around: work 3 single crochet, then 1 increase. (30 stitches)

Round 17: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (30 stitches)

Round 18: Work 1 single crochet in each of the next 8 stitches, work 1 bobble in the next stitch, work 1 single crochet in each of the next 12 stitches, work 1 bobble in the next stitch, work 1 single crochet in each of the next 8 stitches. These are the tiny arms. (30 stitches)

Rounds 19 to 20: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (30 stitches in each round)

Round 21: Repeat around: work 3 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (24 stitches)

Round 22: Work 1 single crochet in each of the next 5 stitches, work 1 bobble in the next stitch, work 1 single crochet in each of the next 11 stitches, work 1 bobble in the next stitch, work 1 single crochet in each of the next 6 stitches. These are the feet. (24 stitches)

Round 23: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (18 stitches)

Round 24: Repeat around: work 1 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (12 stitches)

Round 25: Work 1 decrease in each stitch around, 6 decreases in total. (6 stitches)

Fasten off and close: weave the tail end through the front loops of all 6 stitches, then pull to close. Weave in the tail end and hide it inside the body.

EYES (T-Rex): Attach the 8 mm safety eyes between Rounds 9 and 10, 7 stitches apart, with the gap centered at the front of the face. Put the eyes in after Round 11 and before Round 12, while you can still reach inside the head to press the washers on firmly. Stuff the head firmly before you work Round 12.

TAIL (green, crocheted on, not sewn): Join green yarn with a slip stitch at the center back of the body, in a stitch of Round 20. Then work the tail straight out from the body.

Tail Round 1: Work 9 single crochet into the body at the center back, spacing them evenly over about 3 stitches wide and 3 rounds tall (Rounds 19 to 21). (9 stitches)

Tail Round 2: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. Stuff the tail lightly. (9 stitches)

Tail Round 3: Repeat 3 times: work 1 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (6 stitches)

Tail Round 4: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (6 stitches)

Tail Round 5: Work 1 decrease in each stitch around, 3 decreases in total. (3 stitches)

Fasten off and close.

The tail points slightly downward when the T-Rex sits, which is what holds it upright. If your T-Rex tips forward, add a little more stuffing to the base of the body before you close Round 25.

PATTERN 2: BRONTOSAURUS (dusty blue)

Work the whole dinosaur as one continuous piece in dusty blue yarn (or mustard, if you prefer): head, then the long neck, then the body, then the long tail. The four legs in Round 25 are bobble stitches worked into the body as you go, so there is no sewing.

Round 1: Work 6 single crochet in a magic ring. (6 stitches)

Round 2: Work 2 single crochet in each stitch around. (12 stitches)

Round 3: Repeat around: work 1 single crochet, then 1 increase. (18 stitches)

Round 4: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet, then 1 increase. (24 stitches)

Rounds 5 to 7: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (24 stitches in each round)

Round 8: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (18 stitches)

Round 9: Repeat around: work 1 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (12 stitches)

Rounds 10 to 17: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. These 8 rounds are the neck. (12 stitches in each round)

Round 18: Repeat around: work 1 single crochet, then 1 increase. (18 stitches)

Round 19: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet, then 1 increase. (24 stitches)

Round 20: Repeat around: work 3 single crochet, then 1 increase. (30 stitches)

Round 21: Repeat around: work 4 single crochet, then 1 increase. (36 stitches)

Rounds 22 to 24: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (36 stitches in each round)

Round 25: Work 1 single crochet in each of the next 5 stitches, work 1 bobble in the next stitch, work 1 single crochet in each of the next 8 stitches, work 1 bobble in the next stitch, work 1 single crochet in each of the next 8 stitches, work 1 bobble in the next stitch, work 1 single crochet in each of the next 8 stitches, work 1 bobble in the next stitch, work 1 single crochet in each of the next 3 stitches. These are the four legs. (36 stitches)

Round 26: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (36 stitches)

Round 27: Repeat around: work 4 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (30 stitches)

Round 28: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (30 stitches)

Round 29: Repeat around: work 3 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (24 stitches)

Round 30: Repeat around: work 2 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (18 stitches)

Round 31: Repeat around: work 1 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (12 stitches)

Round 32: Repeat 3 times: work 2 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (9 stitches)

Round 33: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (9 stitches)

Round 34: Repeat 3 times: work 1 single crochet, then 1 decrease. (6 stitches)

Round 35: Work 1 single crochet in each stitch around. (6 stitches)

Round 36: Work 1 decrease in each stitch around, 3 decreases in total. (3 stitches)

Fasten off and close.

EYES (brontosaurus): Attach the 8 mm safety eyes between Rounds 5 and 6, 5 stitches apart, centered at the front of the small head. Put the eyes in after Round 7 and before Round 8, while the head is still open enough to press the washers on firmly.

SHAPING THE NECK: The neck is Rounds 10 to 17, a straight tube of 12 stitches. Stuff it firmly, a little at a time, as the body grows. If you wait until the end, you cannot reach up the neck. A firmly stuffed neck holds its gentle curve; a loosely stuffed one flops forward. To set the curve, bend the neck slightly forward once it is stuffed and let it sit that way while you finish the body.

LEGS: The four bobbles in Round 25 sit at the front, back, and sides of the body. Push each bobble outward with your finger as you work the next round, and check from the side that the front and back legs line up. The brontosaurus stands on these four bobbles plus the base of its body, so if it wobbles, add a little more stuffing to the lower body before Round 31.

FINISHING

- There is no sewing in either pattern, so finishing is short. Weave in all loose ends with the yarn needle, hiding them inside the body so they do not show. For the T-Rex, hide the tail join end inside the body as well.
- T-Rex face: with black yarn, embroider a small smile two rounds below the eyes, one short curved line, about 4 stitches wide, centered under the eyes. Add two tiny nostril stitches above the smile, one stitch apart. Keep the embroidery small; a wide smile changes the whole expression.
- Brontosaurus face: with black yarn, embroider the same small smile two rounds below the eyes, and two tiny nostril stitches at the front of the snout. The brontosaurus head is small, so use only two or three stitches for the smile.
- Care: hand wash gently in cool water with mild soap, press out the water in a towel, and leave to air dry. Do not tumble dry, and keep the dinosaurs away from strong heat, which can melt safety eyes and polyester stuffing.
- Check the stitch counts as you work: the T-Rex head is widest at 36 stitches in Rounds 7 to 11, and the body closes to 6 stitches in Round 25. The brontosaurus neck is 12 stitches in Rounds 10 to 17, the body is widest at 36 stitches in Rounds 22 to 26, and the tail closes to 3 stitches in Round 36.

Source credit: adapted from moee-chan, Free Dinosaur Amigurumi Pattern: Cute No-Sew T-Rex (9 cm). See sources.txt for the full link.

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