CROCHET OTTER: BEAUTIFUL LITTLE OTTER IN 7 SWEET INCHES

CrochetRooms free printable pattern

Free printable pattern

FINISHED SIZE

About 7 in (18 cm) tall to the tip of the tail. The body and head are made as one piece.

SKILL LEVEL

Easy. The pattern uses only single crochet stitches, worked in the round. You also need a magic circle, single crochet increase, and invisible decrease, plus basic sewing to join the pieces.

TIME

The source pattern gives no exact time. It is a small amigurumi worked in single crochet only, so most crocheters finish it in a few relaxed evenings.

MATERIALS

- Size 4 worsted weight yarn: 40 yd dark brown, plus a small amount of light brown, cream, and pink. The source pattern used WeCrochet Comfy Worsted in the shades Thicket, Cream, and Parchment.
- 3.5 mm crochet hook.
- 12 mm safety eyes.
- 15 mm safety nose.
- Black crochet thread for eyelashes and eyebrows.
- Scissors.
- Tapestry needle. Bent tips work well for amigurumi.
- Stuffing.
- Stitch markers.

ABBREVIATIONS (US terms)

ch: chain. inc: increase, 2 single crochet in one stitch. inv dec: invisible decrease. MC: magic circle. rep: repeat. sc: single crochet. st(s): stitch(es).

NOTES

This pattern is written in US crochet terms. Work in the round and use a stitch marker at the beginning of each round. Stuff slowly as you go. You want the otter firm but not stretched. The

body and head are made as one piece. The source pattern gives no gauge, so no gauge is stated here.

MOUTHPIECE

Work with light brown yarn.

Round 1: Create a magic circle with 6 sc. (6 sts)

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

Round 3: Sc in the first st, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (18 sts)

Rounds 4-5: Sc around. (18 sts)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Secure your safety nose centered between Round 2 and Round 3.

BODY

Work with dark brown yarn.

Round 1: Create a magic circle with 6 sc. (6 sts)

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

Round 3: Sc in the first st, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (18 sts)

Round 4: Sc in the first 2 sts, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (24 sts)

Round 5: Sc in the first 3 sts, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (30 sts)

Round 6: Sc in the first 4 sts, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (36 sts)

Round 7: Sc in the first 5 sts, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (42 sts)

Rounds 8-10: Sc around. (42 sts)

Round 11: Sc in the first 5 sts, inv dec in the next st, repeat around. (36 sts)

Rounds 12-14: Sc around. (36 sts)

Round 15: Sc in the first 4 sts, inv dec in the next st, repeat around. (30 sts)

Rounds 16-18: Sc around. (30 sts)

Round 19: Sc in the first 3 sts, inv dec in the next st, repeat around. (24 sts)

Round 20: Sc around. (24 sts)

Round 21: Sc in the first 2 sts, inv dec in the next st, repeat around. (18 sts)

Round 22: Sc in the first st, inv dec in the next st, repeat around. (12 sts)

Change to cream yarn. The head starts here. Round count continues from the body.

HEAD

Work in cream yarn.

Round 23: Sc in the first st, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (18 sts)

Round 24: Sc in the first 2 sts, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (24 sts)

Round 25: Sc in the first 3 sts, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (30 sts)

Round 26: Sc in the first 4 sts, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (36 sts)

Round 27: Sc in the first 5 sts, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (42 sts)

Rounds 28-35: Sc around. (42 sts)

Attach the facial features here, before the head closes.

Place the safety eyes 7 sts apart between Rounds 31 and 32. Add eyebrows and eyelashes to your liking before securing the backs of your safety eyes.

Sew the mouthpiece centered between the eyes, adding stuffing as you go.

Add your cheeks by passing through one stitch just below each eye.

Round 36: Sc in the first 5 sts, inv dec in the next st, repeat around. (36 sts)

Round 37: Sc in the first 4 sts, inv dec in the next st, repeat around. (30 sts)

Round 38: Sc in the first 3 sts, inv dec in the next st, repeat around. (24 sts)

Continue to stuff the head firmly.

Round 39: Sc in the first 2 sts, inv dec in the next st, repeat around. (18 sts)

Round 40: Sc in the first st, inv dec in the next st, repeat around. (12 sts)

Round 41: Inv dec around. (6 sts)

Fasten off and sew the remaining part closed. Weave in your end.

ARMS (make 2, unstuffed)

Work with dark brown yarn.

Round 1: Create a magic circle with 6 sc. (6 sts)

Round 2: Sc in the first st, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (9 sts)

Rounds 3-11: Sc around. (9 sts)

At the end of Round 11, pinch the arm flat and make 4 sc across the top to close. Fasten off and leave a long tail to sew onto the body.

FEET (make 2, unstuffed)

Work with dark brown yarn.

Round 1: Create a magic circle with 6 sc. (6 sts)

Round 2: Sc in the first st, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (9 sts)

Round 3: Sc in the first 2 sts, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (12 sts)

Rounds 4-5: Sc around. (12 sts)

Fasten off and leave a long tail to sew onto the body.

EARS (make 2)

Work with light brown yarn.

Round 1: Create a magic circle with 6 sc. (6 sts)

Round 2: Sc in the first st, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (9 sts)

Round 3: Sc around. (9 sts)

Fasten off and leave a long tail to sew onto the body.

TAIL

Work with dark brown yarn.

Round 1: Create a magic circle with 6 sc. (6 sts)

Rounds 2-3: Sc around. (6 sts)

Round 4: Sc in the first st, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (9 sts)

Rounds 5-6: Sc around. (9 sts)

Round 7: Sc in the first 2 sts, sc inc in the next st, repeat around. (12 sts)

Rounds 8-10: Sc around. (12 sts)

Fasten off and leave a long tail to sew onto the body.

ASSEMBLY

1. Sew the ears onto each side of the head, starting at the 7th round and ending at the 9th round from the top.

2. Next, sew the arms onto each side, angled forward. Counting from the bottom of your otter, attach to Rounds 18-22. Sew the palms to the stomach to hold them in place.

3. Lay the feet flat about a round below the arms and palms. Sew into place, making sure to work around the entire foot.

4. Lastly, lightly stuff the tail and sew it onto the bottom of your otter.

CARE

The source pattern gives no care instructions. Treat the otter gently: spot clean with a damp cloth and mild soap, and let it air dry. Do not bleach. Reshape while damp.

TIPS FOR A NEAT OTTER

- Mark the start of every round. The body and head run as one piece for 41 rounds, so a stitch marker keeps the round counts true.
- Stuff slowly as you go. You want the otter firm but not stretched, and the head needs firm stuffing before Round 39.
- Attach the face before the head closes. Place the eyes 7 sts apart between Rounds 31 and 32, add the eyebrows and eyelashes, and sew the mouthpiece centered between the eyes.
- Sew the palms to the stomach. That holds the arms angled forward and gives the otter its sweet, hugging look.
- Keep the arms and feet unstuffed. They lie flat and sew on neatly, and the tail is only lightly stuffed.

VARIATIONS

- Change the colors: a lighter brown body with a cream belly still reads as an otter, and a soft grey body suits a sea otter look.
- Embroider the eyes and nose instead of safety eyes if the otter is for a very small child.
- Add a tiny fish for the otter to hold, sewn firmly to the palms, for a gift with a little story in it.

Pattern adapted from the free pattern by Grace and Yarn: Free Crochet Otter Pattern, Olive the Otter, https://www.graceandyarn.com/2024/02/free-crochet-otter-pattern-easy.html

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