CROCHET POLAR BEAR: PADDY THE BABY POLAR BEAR

CrochetRooms free printable pattern

Printable pattern, adapted in my own words from the free Storyland Amis design listed in sources.txt. US crochet terms.

SKILL LEVEL

Easy

MATERIALS

- Worsted weight (4 ply) yarn in white, plus a second color for the scarf. The source used Hobby Lobby I Love This Yarn in White, with Rosy Cheeks for the scarf.
- Crochet hook: F (3.75 mm)
- 9 mm black safety eyes (2)
- Fiberfill stuffing
- Bent tip tapestry needle
- Scissors
- Stitch marker
- Straight pins
- Black embroidery thread and a sharp sewing needle, for the nose

GAUGE

Not stated by the source. No gauge figure is given here and none has been invented. Work with tight, even stitches so no stuffing shows through, and keep your tension steady from piece to piece.

FINISHED SIZE

Approximately 4.5 inches (11.5 cm) tall. Your own gauge, tension, hook, and yarn brand will change the finished size a little.

ABBREVIATIONS

BLO: back loops only

ch: chain

dec: decrease (join the next 2 stitches together)

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

rep: repeat

R: round

sc: single crochet

sl st: slip stitch

st: stitch

PATTERN NOTES

- All rounds are worked in continuous spirals, without joining, unless a step says otherwise. Mark the first stitch of each round with a stitch marker.
- Start each round piece with the chain 2 method or a magic ring, whichever you prefer. With the chain 2 method, work the first round stitches into the second chain from the hook.
- The source works with yarn under for amigurumi. If you work with yarn over, your bear may come out a little larger.
- Sew pieces together with the whipstitch unless a step says otherwise.
- Leave a long tail for sewing wherever a step says to do so.

HEAD (White Yarn)

R1: ch 2, sc 6 in the 2nd ch from the hook (6 sts)

R2: inc in each st (12 sts)

R3: sc 1, inc, rep 6 times (18 sts)

R4: sc 2, inc, rep 6 times (24 sts)

R5: sc 3, inc, rep 6 times (30 sts)

R6: sc 4, inc, rep 6 times (36 sts)

R7-12: sc in each st (6 rounds at 36 sts)

R13: inc 6 times, sc 12, inc 6 times, sc 12 (48 sts)

R14: sc 2, inc, rep 4 times, sc 12, sc 2, inc, rep 4 times, sc 12 (56 sts)

R15: sc in each st (56 sts)

R16: sc 2, dec, rep 4 times, sc 12, sc 2, dec, rep 4 times, sc 12 (48 sts)

R17: dec 6 times, sc 12, dec 6 times, sc 12 (36 sts)

R18: sc 4, dec, rep 6 times (30 sts)

R19: sc 3, dec, rep 6 times (24 sts)

R20: sc 2, dec, rep 6 times (18 sts)

Fasten off, leaving a short tail.

EYES AND STUFFING

Put the 9 mm safety eyes in place between R13 and R14 of the head, 9 stitches apart. Count 9 stitches from the first eye to place the second eye, so 7 stitches show between the two eyes. Check that the eyes sit evenly centered above the cheeks.

Stuff the head firmly, taking extra care to shape the cheeks well. Do not close the opening of the head yet. Set the head aside while you make the muzzle.

MUZZLE (White Yarn)

R1: ch 5. Starting in the 2nd ch from the hook, sc in each of the next 4 chs. Turn the work 180 degrees and work into the front loops on the other side of the chain: inc 1, sc 2, inc 1 (10 sts). This chain start gives the muzzle its oval shape.

R2: sc 1, inc, rep 5 times (15 sts)

R3-4: sc in each st (2 rounds at 15 sts)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

EMBROIDERING THE NOSE

Thread a long piece of black embroidery thread on a sharp sewing needle. On the front of the muzzle, make a top stitch between R1 and R2, 3 to 4 stitches wide, keeping it centered and straight. Add the two side stitches to form a triangle, then fill the triangle in with horizontal stitches. If white yarn shows at the sides, add one or two vertical stitches to cover it. Finish with one small straight stitch just below the bottom of the nose, about one stitch long. Knot the thread on the back of the muzzle and cut it.

Pin the muzzle to the front of the head, centered between the eyes. Sew it on with the whipstitch, using the long tail and a tapestry needle. Check often that the muzzle stays straight and the nose stays centered. Near the end of sewing, add a little stuffing inside the muzzle. Knot to secure and weave the tail into the head.

EARS (Make 2, White Yarn)

R1: ch 2, sc 6 in the 2nd ch from the hook (6 sts)

R2: sc 1, inc, rep 3 times (9 sts)

R3: sc 2, inc, rep 3 times (12 sts)

R4: sc in each st (12 sts)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Do not stuff the ears. Flatten each ear, then sew its open edge closed with the whipstitch to make a flat edge for sewing. Place the ears on either side of the head, over R6 to R12, evenly centered, and pin them in place. Sew each ear to the head with the whipstitch, all the way around. Knot to secure and weave the tail into the head.

BODY (White Yarn)

R1: ch 2, sc 6 in the 2nd ch from the hook (6 sts)

R2: inc in each st (12 sts)

R3: sc 1, inc, rep 6 times (18 sts)

R4: sc 2, inc, rep 6 times (24 sts)

R5-9: sc in each st (5 rounds at 24 sts)

R10: sc 2, dec, rep 6 times (18 sts)

R11: sc in each st (18 sts)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Stuff the body firmly. The last round of the head and the last round of the body both have 18 stitches, so the two pieces line up evenly. Sew the head to the body with the whipstitch. When you are about three fourths of the way around, add a little more stuffing at the neck to make it sturdy. Knot the head tail and the body tail together to secure the join, then weave both tails into the body.

LEGS (Make 2, White Yarn)

R1: ch 2, sc 6 in the 2nd ch from the hook (6 sts)

R2: sc 1, inc, rep 3 times (9 sts)

R3: sc in each st (9 sts)

R4: sc 1, dec, rep 3 times (6 sts)

R5: sc in each st (6 sts)

R6: inc in each st (12 sts)

R7-8: sc in each st (2 rounds at 12 sts)

R9: sc 2, dec, rep 3 times (9 sts)

R10: sc 1, dec, rep 3 times (6 sts)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Add a little stuffing to the foot only, and leave the rest of the leg unstuffed. Flatten the open end and sew it closed to make a flat edge for sewing, as you did for the ears.

Place the legs at the sides of the body so the bear can sit up on its own on a flat surface. In the source, the back of each leg was sewn to R6 to R8 of the body. Test the sitting position first, since your placement may differ a little. Pin the legs in place, then sew the flat back edge of each leg to the body, starting where the finishing tail sits at the bottom of the leg. Sew down 3 to 4 stitches from the top of the thigh to the body, then weave the tail down to the bottom of the leg and sew down 3 to 4 stitches on the bottom side to secure it. Repeat for the second leg. Weave both leg tails through to the back of the body, knot them together, and weave the ends into the body.

ARMS (Make 2, White Yarn)

R1: ch 2, sc 6 in the 2nd ch from the hook (6 sts)

R2-5: sc in each st (4 rounds at 6 sts)

R6: sc 1, inc, rep 3 times (9 sts)

R7-8: sc in each st (2 rounds at 9 sts)

R9: sc 1, dec, rep 3 times (6 sts)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Do not stuff the arms. Flatten the open end and sew it closed to make a flat edge for sewing, as you did for the legs.

Place the arms at either side of the body, with the back edge of each arm lined up evenly with the back edge of the legs. Sew the flat edge of each arm to R9 to R11 of the body. After sewing the back of an arm to the body, weave the tail through the body to under the arm, pick up a few

stitches from the underside of the arm, and sew it to the body. Repeat for the second arm. Weave both arm tails through to the back of the body, knot them together, and weave the ends into the body.

TAIL (White Yarn)

Ch 2, sc 5 in the 2nd ch from the hook (5 sts). Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing.

Sew the tail to the back of the body over R5 of the body. Weave the starting tail down to the sewing tail, knot the two ends together, and weave the tails into the body.

SCARF (Any Color)

Work the scarf in rows, not rounds. Chain 1 and turn at the end of each row. Work in the back loops only to give the scarf its texture. Start with a long tail to use for sewing later. You can make the scarf as long or short as you like, and you can make it thinner by starting with 3 chains instead of 4. Wrap it around the bear's neck from time to time to check the length.

R1: ch 4. Starting in the 2nd ch from the hook, sc in each of the next 3 chs (3 sts), ch 1, turn.

R2-54: in the BLO, sc in each st (53 rows at 3 sts), ch 1, turn.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Wrap the scarf around the bear's neck like a cowl, then sew both scarf edges down with the tails. Knot to secure and weave the tails into the scarf.

FINISHING

- Check the face from the front and both sides: eyes level, muzzle centered, ears even.
- Check that the bear sits up on its own and that every piece is sewn on firmly.
- Weave in all remaining yarn ends and hide them inside the body.
- If the bear is for a very young child, embroider the eyes instead of using safety eyes, so there are no hard parts. This is general safety guidance, not a step from the source.

Source credit: adapted from Storyland Amis, Free Mini Polar Bear Amigurumi Pattern, Paddy the Baby Polar Bear, by Holly Lanier. See sources.txt for the full link.

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