CROCHET STRAWBERRY: BEAUTIFUL AMIGURUMI IN 23 ROUNDS

CrochetRooms free printable pattern

Free printable pattern

FINISHED SIZE

About 4.5 inches (11 cm) tall, using worsted-weight (#4) yarn and a 4.0 mm hook. Sizes are approximate and will vary a little with your yarn and tension.

SKILL LEVEL

Beginner. You need a magic ring, single crochet, increases, decreases, chain stitches and slip stitches. The designer made this pattern as a core lesson in her amigurumi for beginners course, and there is a video tutorial for every round.

TIME

The source pattern gives no exact time. The designer calls this a quick project, and most crocheters finish one strawberry in one relaxed evening. That time is an estimate, not a source fact.

MATERIALS

- Worsted-weight (#4) yarn, WeCrochet Brava Worsted in pink, 31 yards (28 m): body
- Worsted-weight (#4) yarn, WeCrochet Brava Worsted in green, 5 yards (4.5 m): stem
- Small amounts of black yarn and white yarn for the embroidery
- 4.0 mm (G) crochet hook
- 12 mm safety eyes, 1 pair
- Poly-fil stuffing, a small amount
- Yarn needle (tapestry needle)
- Stitch markers
- Scissors

ABBREVIATIONS (US terms)

MR: magic ring. ch: chain. sc: single crochet. inc: increase (2 sc in the same stitch). dec: invisible decrease (single crochet 2 stitches together). sl st: slip stitch. st(s): stitch(es). Rnd: round. FLO: front loop only. FO: fasten off.

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, so count your stitches at the end of every increase and decrease round. This pattern uses US crochet terms throughout. If you are used to UK terms, remember that a US single crochet is a UK double crochet, so do not convert the stitches in this pattern. Use invisible decreases for a cleaner finish. Gauge is not necessary for this pattern: the designer says so plainly. Use a hook that is smaller than the size recommended for your yarn weight, so the stuffing does not show through the stitches. Stuff the body as you work so it is completely filled. Do not add stuffing to the stem.

STRAWBERRY BODY

Work with color A (pink) and the 4.0 mm hook.

Rnd 1: 6 sc in MR (6)

Rnd 2: inc in each st around (12)

Rnd 3: sc in each st around (12)

Rnd 4: [inc, sc] x 6 (18)

Rnd 5: sc in each st around (18)

Rnd 6: [inc, 2 sc] x 6 (24)

Rnd 7: sc in each st around (24)

Rnd 8: [inc, 3 sc] x 6 (30)

Rnd 9-11: sc in each st around (30), 3 rounds

Rnd 12: [inc, 4 sc] x 6 (36)

Rnd 13-14: sc in each st around (36), 2 rounds. Insert the safety eyes between Rnds 13 and 14, with about 6 stitches showing between them.

Rnd 15: [inc, 5 sc] x 6 (42)

Rnd 16-17: sc in each st around (42), 2 rounds

Rnd 18: [dec, 5 sc] x 6 (36)

Rnd 19: [dec, 4 sc] x 6 (30)

Rnd 20: [dec, 3 sc] x 6 (24)

Rnd 21: [dec, 2 sc] x 6 (18). Fill with stuffing.

Rnd 22: [dec, sc] x 6 (12)

Rnd 23: dec x 6 (6). Cut the yarn, leaving a long tail. Weave the yarn in and out of the remaining stitches, pull tight to close, tie off and weave in the ends.

STEM

Work with color B (green) and the 4.0 mm hook. Do not stuff the stem.

Rnd 1: 4 sc in MR (4)

Rnd 2-4: sc in each st around (4), 3 rounds

Rnd 5: working in FLO, inc in each st around (8)

Rnd 6: [inc, sc] x 4 (12)

Rnd 7: [sc, ch 5, sl st in 2nd ch from the hook, sc in the remaining 3 chs, sl st in the next st] x 6. Join with a sl st to the beginning. (6 leaves)

Cut the yarn, leaving a long tail for sewing. Fasten off.

FACE

Work the face after the body is stuffed and closed.

- Eyes: the 12 mm safety eyes sit between Rnds 13 and 14, with about 6 stitches between them. Check they sit level before you press the washers on firmly.
- Smile: using black yarn, embroider a smile 4 stitches wide and 2 rounds high, over Rnds 8 and 9.
- Eyebrows: using black yarn, embroider eyebrows beginning 2 rounds above the eye on the inside, and crossing over 4 stitches to the outside of the eye and down 1 round.
- Seeds: using white yarn, embroider seeds over a 2 stitch size, sporadically around the strawberry. Keep them random, not in neat rows.

ASSEMBLY

1. Place the eyes. Insert the 12 mm safety eyes between Rnds 13 and 14 of the body, with about 6 stitches between them, before you finish stuffing the body. Press the washers on firmly from the inside. Do not attach the backings until you are happy with the eye position.

2. Attach the stem. Center the stem on the top of the strawberry, over the final round of the body. Sew the stem to the strawberry around Rnd 6 of the stem, leaving the leaves made in Rnd 7 of the stem to remain unattached.

3. Embroider the face. Following the face instructions above, embroider the smile and eyebrows in black yarn and the seeds in white yarn.

4. Finish. Weave in all loose ends with the yarn needle, hiding them inside the body so they do not show.

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 strawberry a small child will play with, embroider the eyes with black yarn instead: stitch two small vertical ovals in the same position, between Rnds 13 and 14, about 6 stitches apart. Check every part is secure before giving the strawberry to a child, and do not add beads or buttons, which can also come loose.

TIPS FOR A NEAT STRAWBERRY

- Count at the end of every increase and decrease round. The body grows by 6 stitches on each increase round and shrinks by 6 on each decrease round. If your count is off by 6, you have missed or added one repeat; if it is off by 1 or 2, check the round you just worked

before going on.

- Stuff in small pinches. Little bits at a time give a smooth, even shape with no lumps. Pull the stuffing apart into thin layers before you add it, and push it into the sides of the body rather than dropping in one big piece.
- Place the eyes early. The eyes go in between Rnds 13 and 14, before the last decrease rounds. Check they sit level, about 6 stitches apart, before you press the washers on.
- Keep the seeds random. Seeds scattered in no pattern look like a real strawberry. Seeds in neat rows look like a chart.
- Trust your marker in the stem leaves. Round 7 of the stem works a leaf in every 2 stitches, so count the leaves as you go: there are 6.

VARIATIONS

- Classic red strawberry: work the body in red worsted yarn instead of the pink of the sample and keep everything else the same. A red body with a green stem and white seeds looks like a ripe berry from the garden.
- A bigger, squishier strawberry: swap the worsted yarn for a chenille or plush yarn and use a hook that fits the thicker yarn. Keep your stitches tight so the stuffing does not show.
- A strawberry keychain: add a keyring to the top of the stem when you finish. The berry is small and light, so it hangs nicely from keys or a bag.
- A fruit basket: make a strawberry, then add our crochet cherry for a little fruit collection. They take an evening each, so a pair is a comfortable project for a gift.

Pattern adapted from the free pattern by Nicole Chase: Free Crochet Strawberry Pattern: Easy Amigurumi for Beginners, https://www.thenicolechase.com/patterns/strawberry

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