

ZOE THE ZEBRA

PART OF THE LITTLE ZOO SERIES



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Edited by Venetia Smith

Zoe the Zebra is the fourth animal in the Little Zoo series. She is also the second pattern I have done in collaboration with the talented Anette Bak. Anette took the concept of the Little Zoo animals and ran with it. She deserves most of the credit for this gorgeous little zebra.

MATERIALS

- 4 mm hook (US G/6 UK 8)
- Double knit yarn (light worsted weight) or worsted weight yarn in two colours (50 meters/55 yards total)
- Yarn needle
- Stuffing
- **Optional:** 5 mm safety eyes or buttons

SIZE

Using double knit yarn and a 4 mm hook, Zoe will be approximately 9 cm high and 12 cm from nose to tail (3 ½" x 4 ¾").

Using worsted weight yarn, Zoe will be approx. 10 cm high and 13 cm from nose to tail (4" x 5 ¼").

ABBREVIATIONS

CC - Contrasting colour (**black**)

MC – Main colour (**white**)

Ch - Chain

RSM -Running stitch marker (*see below*)

Sc - Single crochet

Sc Inc - Single crochet increase

Sc2tog - Single crochet 2 together (single crochet decrease)

Sl st - Slip stitch

Standing sc – Standing single crochet (see [this tutorial](#))

St/st's - Stitch/stitches

* - Repeat all instructions between asterisks the amount of times specified. *Sc inc, 3 x sc* x 2, for example, will mean "sc inc in the next st, sc in the next 3 st's, sc inc in the next st, sc in the next 3 st's"

() – Numbers in parentheses at the end of each row/round are stitch counts

NOTES

MAGIC RING

If you are not familiar with working into a magic ring, see [this tutorial](#) by Tamara from Moogly.

COLOUR CHANGES

- Change colour on the last yarn over of the last stitch before the colour change.
- Whenever you work in the CC, carry your MC yarn along by crocheting over it.

To make it easier for you to see where the stitches go and which row/round is which, I am using grey for the MC and a whole bunch of colours for the CC parts.

*****PLEASE SEE LAST PAGE for alternative stripes for neck*****

RUNNING STITCH MARKER (RSM)

I use (and advise you to use) a running stitch marker. This is just a piece of scrap yarn that gets flicked backward/forward over your work before making the first stitch of the next round. The scrap yarn will form a running stitch up the side of your work. This will help you keep track of the first stitch of each round, which will fall over the scrap yarn.

When I say “this will bring you to the scrap yarn”, I mean that your next available stitch should be the one over the scrap yarn.

Only use the running stitch marker where indicated in the pattern with **RSM**.

SHORT ROWS

This pattern uses short rows. Short rows are just rows that do not begin or end where rows traditionally begin or end and are used for shaping. Because you will turn at the end of most of the short rows, I have indicated with (Inside) or (Outside) whether a specific short row should be worked around the inside of the head or the outside.

TUTORIALS AND RESOURCES

If you need help with working in a spiral (in other words, in rounds that do not end with a sl st join), you can see [this tutorial](#).

If you need help with any part of this pattern, you can find photo tutorials for each part [here](#).

ZOE THE ZEBRA PATTERN

LEGS

(Make 4)

You will be making the legs in MC, with Rounds 4 and 7 in CC.

1. **With MC**, ch 8. (8)
2. Starting in the stitch farthest away from your hook, sc in the top loop only of each ch. Make sure that you don't twist your chain. (8)
3. Continuing on in a spiral (see **Tutorials and Resources** above), sc x 8. **Change to CC** (see **Notes** above). (8)
4. *Sc inc, 3 x sc* x 2. **Change to MC**. (10)
5. 10 x sc. (10)
6. 10 x sc. **Change to CC**. (10)
7. *Sc inc, 4 x sc* x 2. **Change to MC**. (12)
8. 12 x sc. (12)
9. 12 x sc. Sl st in the next st. Ch 1 and bind off. (12)

FEET

(Make 4 **with CC**)

1. Into a magic ring: ch 1, 6 x sc. (6)
2. 6 x sc inc. Don't bind off. (12)



ATTACHING THE FEET TO THE LEGS

With the right side of the foot facing you, place the foot over the large opening of the leg like a lid. Insert your hook into the next stitch of the foot and from the inside to the outside into any stitch of the last round of the leg. Make a sc through both layers. Make 11 more sc's, working into each st of the foot and each st of the last round of the leg (so both layers). Join to the first joining sc with a sl st and bind off.

Pull your tail of yarn into the leg and use all the tails of yarn to stuff your leg with. Add stuffing until your leg is about 3/4 full, taking special care to push the stuffing all the way down into the leg; otherwise, your foot won't be flat. I use the back of a large crochet hook to push the stuffing into the leg.

EARS

(Make 2 with MC interior and CC rim)

The ear is shaped like a leaf.

1. With MC: ch 7. Work into the top loop only of each ch st. Sc in the second chain from the hook. Hdc in the next ch. Dc in the next 3 ch's. (Hdc, 2 x sc, hdc) in the last ch. Continue around the chain, working into the remaining loops of each ch st and **OVER** the initial tail of yarn. Dc in the next 3 st's, hdc in the next st. Sc in the last st. Join to the first sc with a sl st. Ch 1 and bind off. (14)
2. Turn the ear so that the wrong side is facing you. **Don't crochet over the tails of yarn.** With CC, join your yarn by making a [standing sc](#) in the last sc of the previous round. Sc in the next 5 st's. (Sc, ch 2, sc) in the next st (which should be on the pointy end of the ear). Sc in the next 6 st's. Sl st in the last st, which already contains the sl st join. Ch 1 and bind off. (14 sc's and 1 ch-2 space)



Knot the CC and MC yarn tails of yarn together as in the photo above. These two knots will be inside the head when the ears are attached, so you won't be able to see them on the finished zebra.

HEAD

(Make 1, unless you are making more than one Zebra, of course.)

NOSE

1. With CC and working into a magic ring: ch 1, 6 x sc. Place a piece of scrap yarn over your work before making the first stitch of the next round. Continue on in a spiral, making the first st of the next round in the first st of this round. See **Tutorials and Resources** above if you are not familiar with working in a spiral. (6)
 2. 6 x sc inc. This will bring you back to the piece of scrap yarn (running stitch marker). Flick it back over your work before making the first st of the next round. (12)
 3. 12 x sc. RSM. (12)
 4. 12 x sc. RSM. (12)
 5. 12 x sc. RSM. (12)
- Sl st in the next st. Ch 1 and bind off.



HEAD

1. Join your **MC** yarn by making a [standing sc](#) in the same st as the sl st join on the nose. Make 12 more sc's. The last st should fall in the back of the sl st join from the nose. You are essentially adding a stitch by working into the stitch containing the sl st AND into the back of the sl st. Flick your scrap yarn back over your work (RSM). (13)
2. Sc inc in the standing sc. 5 x sc, sc inc, 6 x sc. RSM. (15)
3. *Sc inc, 4 x sc* x 3. RSM. (18)
4. **Short Row (Outside):** 4 sc, **change to CC**, sl st in the next st and TURN. (4)
5. **Short Row (Inside):** skip the sl st. Sc inc, 4 sc, sc inc, **change to MC**, sl st in the next st and TURN. (8)
6. **(Outside):** skip the sl st. Sc inc, 6 x sc, sc inc. This will bring you to the "step" at the beginning of the previous short row. Starting in the first available st after the "step"¹, 10 x sc into the stitches of Round 3. This will bring you to the "step" at the beginning of Round 6. RSM. (20)
7. Starting in the first st of Round 6 (in other words, the first st after the "step"): 9 x sc, sc2tog, 2 sc. **Change to CC.** 4 x sc. **Change to MC.** 2 x sc, sc2tog. *Note that the sc2tog will fall in the last stitch of the previous round and the first stitch of this round (in other words, on either side of the running stitch marker).* Sl st in the next st and TURN. (19)
8. **Short Row (Inside):** skip the sl st. 2 x sc, sc inc (this sc inc should fall in the last MC st). *Mark the first sc of the sc inc with a stitch marker so that you can find it later when attaching the eyes.* 3 x sc, sc inc. *Mark the last stitch of the sc inc with a stitch marker so that you can find it later when attaching the eyes.* 2 x sc, sl st in next st and TURN. (11)
9. **Short Row (Outside):** skip the sl st. 4 x sc, 3 x sc inc², 4 x sc. This will bring you to the "step" at the beginning of the previous short row. Sl st in the next st of Round 7 and TURN. (14)
10. **Short Row (Inside):** Skip the sl st. 6 x sc, 2 x sc inc, 6 x sc. This will bring you to the "step". Sl st in the next available st of Round 7³ and TURN. (16)
11. **(Outside):** Skip the sl st. 16 x sc. This will bring you to the "step". Sc in the next 5 st' of Round 7. This becomes the new beginning of your rounds. Use a new piece of scrap yarn as a running stitch marker and lay it over your work before making the first st of the next round. (21)
12. **You will be attaching the ears in this round.** Starting in the first st of Round 11: 5 x sc. Attach the first ear to the head by making 2 sc's through the bottom of the ear AND the next 2 st's of the head⁴. Sc into the next 2 st's of the head. Attach the second ear by making 2 sc's through both the ear and the head (*as before*). 5 x sc, skip the next st, 4 x sc. This will bring you to the new running stitch marker. Flick the RSM back over your work. (20)
13. *4 x sc, sc2tog* x 2. 5 x sc, 2 x sc inc. **Change to CC.** Sc in the last st. RSM. (20)
14. **Short Row (Outside):** 6 sc, sc2tog, 6 sc. **Change to MC.** Sl st in the next stitch and TURN. (13)
15. **Short Row (Inside):** skip the sl st. 11 x sc. Sl st in the next st and TURN⁵. (11)
16. **Short Row (Outside):** skip the sl st. 11 x sc. This will bring you to the "step". Sc inc in each of the next 3 available st's of Round 13. Sc in each of the last 2 st's of Round 13. RSM. (19)
17. Sc in the next st (this sc should fall in the unworked CC st before the "step"). Starting in the first st of Short Row 16 (in other words, the first st after the "step"), 11 x sc. Sc inc, 4 x sc, sc inc, 2 x sc. RSM. (22)
18. 2 x sc. **Change to CC.** 9 x sc. **Change to MC.** 11 x sc. RSM (22)
19. 22 x sc. *Don't bind off. You will continue to make the body in the next round.* (22)

¹ The first available stitch after the "step" is NOT the stitch that already contains the sl st. The stitch that contains the sl st should be skipped as it already contains a sl st. The next available stitch will be the first "open" or unworked stitch.

² Mark the first sc of the second sc increase with a st marker. **You will begin adding the mane to this stitch later on.**

³ Remember that the stitch at the base of the "step", which contains the sl st, should be skipped as it already contains a sl st and is not the next available stitch.

⁴ With one of the ears upside down and the wrong side facing you, place the ear in front of the head. Insert your hook into the stitch on the ear that contains the CC standing sc and into the next st of the head and make a sc through both layers. Then, insert your hook into the st on the ear containing the CC sl st and into the next st of the head and make a sc through both layers. Make sure to pull the tails of yarn from the ears INTO the head as you work. Knot the tails from each ear on the inside of the head.

⁵ At this point there should be 2 CC st's from Short Row 14 left unworked.

STUFFING THE HEAD AND ADDING THE EYES

This is a good time to stuff your zebra's head, making sure that you push the stuffing all the way into the nose.

If you are using safety eyes, this is a good time to attach them. If you are going to embroider your eyes, feel free to do this once you have completed your zebra. See **Eye Placement** below.

EYE PLACEMENT

Insert/embroider your eyes over stitch containing the stitch markers from Short Row 8.

“Aw, shucks, I didn't bother marking those stitches!”

There is a CC band across the zebra's nose. In the first and last CC stitches, right above the CC band, you will find two single crochet increases (one on either side). Insert your eyes in the outermost stitch of each increase.

BODY

1. Bridge Row: 11 x sc. **Change to CC.** This will become the new start of your rounds. Place a piece of scrap yarn over your work as before and continue with the next round. (11)
2. *Sc inc, sc* x 7. Sc inc. **Change to MC.** 7 x sc. RSM. (30)
3. **You will be attaching the front legs in this round.** 7 x sc. Attach the first leg with the next 3 sc's⁶. 2 x sc into Round 2 of the body. Attach the second leg with the next 3 sc's (*as before*). 15 x sc. RSM. (30)
4. 15 x sc. **Change to CC.** The last st should fall in the last stitch of the second leg attachment. 15 x sc. RSM. (30)
5. 8 x sc. **Change to MC.** The last st should fall in the first st of the first leg attachment. 22 x sc. RSM. (30)
6. 30 x sc. RSM. (30)
7. **You will be attaching the back legs in this round.** 8 x sc. Attach the third leg with the next 3 sc's (*as before*). 2 x sc into Round 6 of the body. Attach the fourth leg with the next 3 sc's (*as before*). **Change to CC.** 14 x sc. RSM. (30)
8. Sc2tog, 3 x sc, sc2tog, sc. **Change to MC.** 2 x sc. *Sc2tog, 3 x sc* x 4. RSM. (24)
9. *Sc2tog, 2 x sc* x 6. RSM. (18)
10. *Sc2tog, sc* x 6. (12) This is a good time to stuff your zebra.
11. 6 x sc2tog. (6)



Bind off, leaving a 50 cm (20") tail of yarn. This is overly generous, just so you know that I know this, but I would rather you waste 10" than be 1" short. Thread the yarn through the last 6 st's to close the hole. Then use the yarn to make your tail.

TAIL

Insert your hook around the "hole" by poking it into the animal on one side of the closed hole and out the other side. Yarn over with the long tail of yarn and pull up a loop.

Ch 8. Working into the back bump of the chain stitches, sl st in the second ch from the hook and the remaining 6 ch st's. Bind off and work away your tail of yarn by sewing around the base of the tail.



⁶ Fold your leg flat so that the visible steps in the colour changes are pointing towards you. Place the leg in front of the body so that the foot is pointing towards the nose. Insert your hook through both layers of the first round of the leg. Then insert your hook into the next st of the body and make a sc through all 3 layers. Make 2 more sc's through all 3 layers. You want to end up with 3 sc's worked through all 3 layers.

TASSEL

Cut 3 or 4 pieces of CC yarn roughly 15 cm (6") long. Why so long for such a tiny tassel? Because it is easier to work with.

Jab your hook through the end of the tail⁷. Fold the pieces of yarn in half and grab them with your hook. Pull up a loop with all the pieces of yarn. Yarn over again (with ALL the pieces of yarn) and pull them all the way through the loop. Trim your tassel.

MANE

You are going to make the mane by working into the rows up the center of the head, starting in the marked stitch from Short Row 9.

So, with a CC slip knot already on your hook, insert your hook into the marked stitch and out through the stitch above it in the next round. Make a sc. Ch 8. *Insert your hook into the same st and out through the stitch above that one in the next row. Make another sc. Ch 8.* Repeat this 4 more times, so that you end up with 6 ch-8 loops. Finish the last ch-8 loop by making a sc over the next row. Ch 1 and bind off.



Work away your tail of yarn by threading it in and out of you work along the bottom of the mane. You don't HAVE to work it away this way, but it gives the mane a cleaner appearance where it meets the head.

And that is it!

I hope you enjoy making, and playing with, your little zebra! If you find any errors, or struggle to understand anything in this pattern, please do not hesitate to [contact me](#).

THIS PATTERN HAS BEEN TESTED BY THE FOLLOWING LOVELY LADIES:

Amy Affleck ♥ Venetia Smith ♥ Beth Spaulding ♥ San B from [Loopsan](#) ♥ Lesley Lord
Lisa Robson ♥ Connie Gerbrandt ♥ Pam Perkins ♥ Gail Griffis-Ross ♥ Tess McDonald

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⁷ When adding the tassel to the tail, insert your hook from the bottom (back) of the tail to the top (front) so that the little band formed by the knot is to the front. If, however, you prefer to have the band to the back, insert your hook from the top of the tail to the bottom.

ALTERNATIVE STRIPES FOR NECK AND BODY

After making the Zebra numerous times, Anette has changed the placement of the stripes on the neck and the start of the body so that they are more symmetrical. You can apply these changes by following the following instructions instead of the ones supplied in the pattern.

HEAD

18. 22 x sc. RSM (22)
19. 21 x sc. **Change to CC.** Sc. *Don't bind off. You will continue to make the body in the next round.* (22)

BODY

1. Bridge Row: 7 x sc. (Ch 3 if you want to make a flower string to attach the Zebra to a mobile). 4 x sc. This will become the new start of your rounds. Place a piece of scrap yarn over your work as before and continue with the next round. (11)
2. *Sc inc, sc* x 2. **Change to MC.** *Sc inc, sc* x 5. Sc inc. 7 x sc. RSM. (30)