

Crochet Giraffe

{A Little Zoo Animal}

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Size

10 cm high x 13 cm long (4" x 5")

Difficulty

Intermediate to Advanced

Materials

- Worsted weight yarn (#4) in 2 colours – 40 meters in total. I have used Deborah Norville Everyday Worsted Weight Yarn in [Baby Yellow](#) and [Terracotta](#) - available from [Annie's](#).
- A scrap of black worsted weight yarn to embroider eyes with
- 4 mm [Clover Amour Crochet hook](#) (US G/6 UK 8)
- Yarn Needle
- Stuffing

Abbreviations

US Terminology Used. (US/UK Comparison Chart [HERE](#))

- **CC** – Contrasting colour
- **Ch** – Chain
- **Dc** – Double crochet
- **Hdc** – Half-double crochet
- **MC** – Main colour
- **Sc** – Single crochet
- **Sc2tog** – Single crochet 2 together (single crochet decrease)
- **Sc inc** – Single crochet increase (make 2 sc's in the same stitch)
- **Sl st** – Slip stitch
- **St/st's** – Stitch/stitches
- * - Repeat all instructions between asterisks the amount of times specified.

Special Instructions

Changing Colours: When changing colours, do so on the last yarn-over of the last stitch before the colour-change. All Main Colour instructions will be in standard font. All Contrasting Colour instructions will be **bold**.

Carrying Your Yarn: To make the “carried” yarn less visible Anette suggests that you only “catch” it with every third or fourth stitch while working. You are welcome to work over your “carried” yarn with every stitch, but it is not as neat as only catching it occasionally.

RSM: Running stitch marker. Use a piece of scrap yarn to mark the first stitch of every round. To do that, place a piece of scrap yarn over your work before making the first stitch of the round. Flick this piece of yarn backwards/forwards over your work before making the first stitch of each subsequent round.

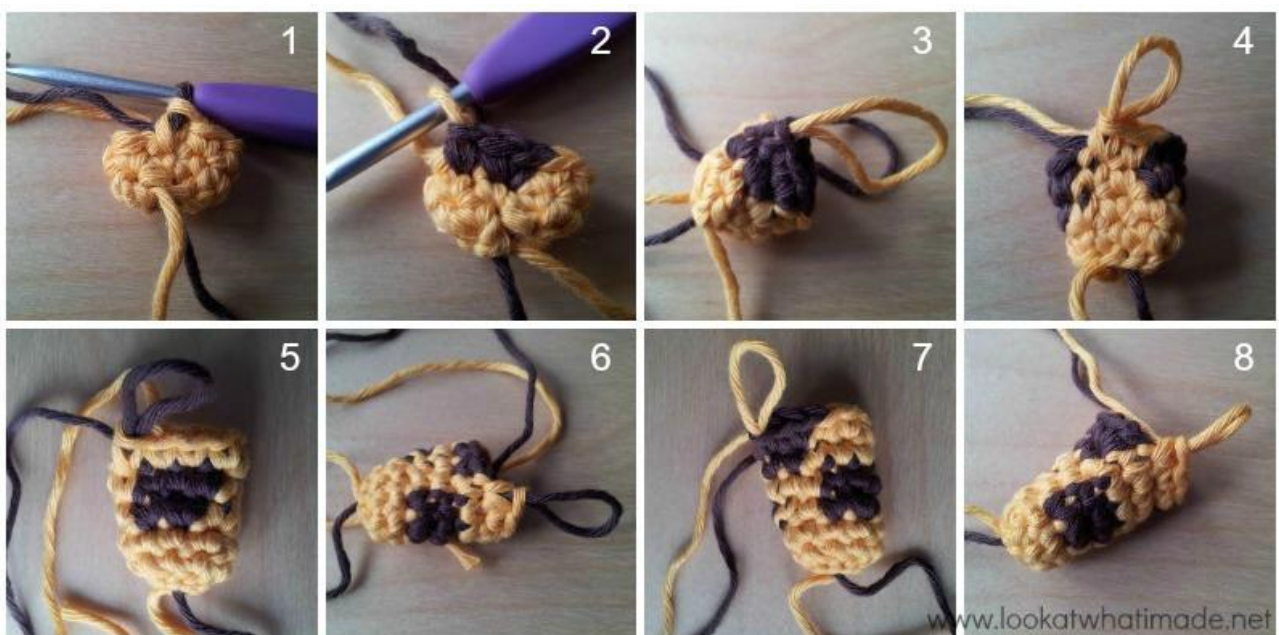


Instructions

Legs

{Make 4}

1. Starting with MC yarn, ch 8. Join into a circle by making a sc in the first chain (in other words, the chain farthest away from your hook). Sc in the remaining 7 st's. (8)
2. Sc in each of the 8 st's around. Change to CC on the last yarn-over of the last stitch (*Photo 1*). (8)
3. **Sc inc in the next st. Sc in the next st.** Change to MC (*Photo 2*). Sc in the next 2 st's. Change to CC. **Sc inc in the next st. Sc in the next st.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 2 st's. Change to CC. (10)
4. **Sc in the next 3 st's.** Change to MC (*Photo 3*). Sc in the next 2 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 3 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 2 st's (*Photo 4*). (10)
5. Sc in each of the first 9 st's around. Change to CC. *Note that this round ends 1 stitch before the actual end of the round. This is to make the colour change instructions in the next 2 rounds easier* (*Photo 5*). (9)
6. **Sc in the next 2 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 3 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 2 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the last 3 st's. Change to CC (*Photo 6*). (10)
7. **Sc inc in the first st. Sc in the next st.** Change to MC (*Photo 7*). Sc in the next 3 st's. Change to CC. **Sc inc in the first st. Sc in the next st.** Change to MC. Sc in the last 3 st's (*Photo 8*). (12)
8. Sc in each of the 12 st's around. (12)
9. Sc in each of the 12 st's around. Sl st in the next st. Ch 1 and bind off. (12)



Feet

{Make 4}

1. **Using CC and working into a magic ring:** Ch 1. Make 6 sc's. Don't turn, just continue around, making the first stitch of the next round in the first stitch of this round. (6)
2. **Sc inc** in each of the 6 st's around. (12)

Place the foot over the opening at the bottom of the leg with the right side of the foot facing you. Insert your hook into the next st of the foot **AND** from the inside to the outside into any stitch in the last round of the leg. Make a sc through both layers. Continue making 11 more sc's

through both layers. Sl st to the top of the first st. Ch 1 and bind off.

Work away your end tail of yarn. Here's the lazy-girl guide to doing it: using a yarn needle, sew around the last stitch 2 times and then pull the yarn into the leg.

Use all your tails of yarn to stuff your legs with and then add enough stuffing to fill the leg 3/4 of the way. I just jab the stuffing in there with the back of a bigger crochet hook. Don't fill the leg all the way, as you will need to be able to flatten the top of the leg during attachment.

If you find stuffing the leg like this too fiddly, consider placing some stuffing into your leg before closing the foot completely.

Make sure that you push the stuffing all the way down into the foot, otherwise your foot won't be flat.



Ears

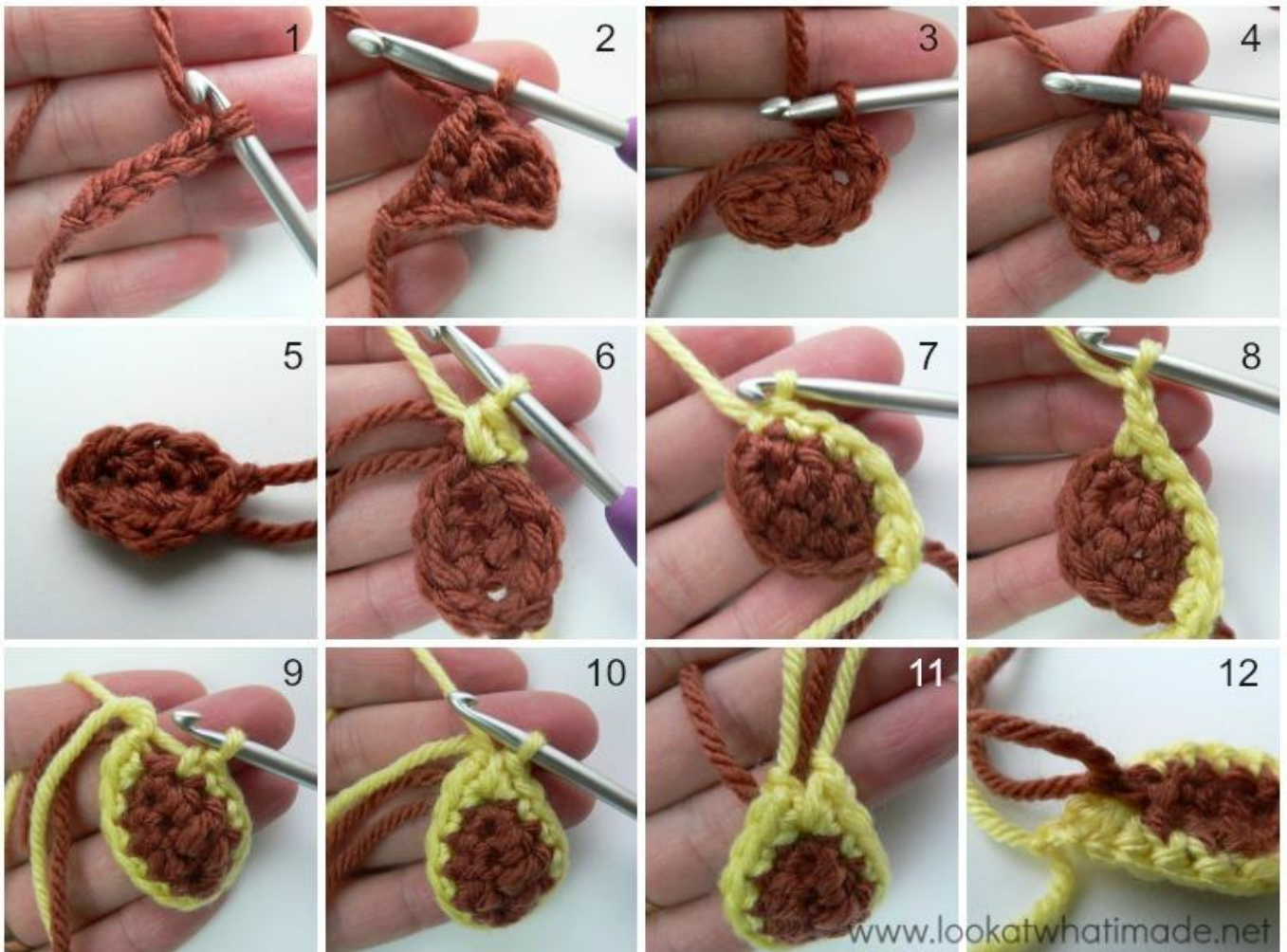
{Make 2}

The ears are shaped like leaves.

With CC: Ch 5 (*Photo 1*). Sc in the second ch from the hook. Hdc in the next st. Dc in the next st (*Photo 2*). **Sc inc** in the last st. Working down the other side of the initial ch-5, and OVER the initial tail of yarn, **sc inc** in the other side of the same (last) chain (*Photo 3*). Dc in the next st. Hdc in the next st. Sc in the last st (*Photo 4*). Join to the first sc with a sl st. Ch 1 and bind off (*Photo 5*).

Rim

Using MC, join your yarn by making a standing single crochet in the sl st join (yes, in the actual sl st). Sc in the same stitch (*Photo 6*). Sc in the next 5 st's. *The last sc should fall in the second sc made into the last chain* (*Photo 7*). Ch 2 (*Photo 8*). Sc in the next 5 st's (*Photo 9*). **Sc inc** in the sl st, which will already contain 2 sc's (*Photo 10*). Ch 1 and bind off (*Photo 11*). Knot the tails of yarn (*Photo 12*).



Horns

{Make 2}

With CC: Ch 5. Sl st in the second chain from the hook and each of the remaining 3 chains. Ch 1 and bind off.

When you crochet the horns on the head, use the second to last stitch to make them more securely fastened.



Note

Before starting on the head, make sure you have horns, ears, legs and feet all done.



Head

{Make 1}

1. With MC: Ch 3. Sc in the second chain from the hook. Sc in the next chain. Working into the other side of the foundation chain, sc in the same chain. Sc in the next ch. Each of the 2 ch st's should now contain 2 sc's – one on each side of chain. (4)
2. **Sc inc** in each of the 4 st's around. RSM. (8)
3. Sc in each of the 8 st's around. RSM. (8)
4. Sc in the first 7 st's. **Sc inc** in the last st. RSM. (9)
5. Sc in the next 3 st's. **Sc inc** in the next st. Sc in the last 5 st's. RSM. (10)
6. Sc in each of the 10 st's around. RSM. (10)
7. (**Sc inc** in the next st. Sc in the next st) 5 times. RSM. (15)
8. **Sc inc** in the first st. Sc in the next 6 st's. **Sc inc** in the next st. Sc in the next 7 st's. RSM. (17)
9. **Short Row (Outside):** Sc in the first 8 st's. Sl st in the next st and turn, leaving the remaining st's of Round 8 unworked. (8)
10. **Short Row (Inside):** Skip the sl st. Sc in the next 2 st's. **Sc inc** in each of the next 2 st's. Sc in the next 2 st's. Sl st in the next st and turn, leaving the remaining st of Short Row 9 unworked. (8)
11. **Short Row (Outside):** Skip the sl st. **Sc inc** in the next st. Sc in the next 6 st's. **Sc inc** in the next st, which will be the last st before the “step”. Skip the st at the base of the “step”, which already contains a sl st. Sc in the next 8 st's of Round 8. *This will bring you to the RSM.* (18)
12. Sc in the next st of Short Row 9 (in other words, the stitch after the RSM and before the “step”). Sc in the next 9 st's of Short Row 11 (after the “step”). Skip the next st. Sc in the last 8 st's before the RSM. RSM. (18)
13. *You will be attaching the ears and horns in this round.* Sc in the next 2 st's. Attach the ear with the next 2 st's (see *Attaching the Ears below*). Sc in the next st. Attach the first horn with the next sc (see *Attaching the Horns below*). Attach the second horn with the next sc. Sc in the next st. Attach the second ear with the next 2 sc's (as before). Sc in the next st. **Sc2tog**. Sc in the next 3 st's. **Sc2tog**. RSM. (16)
14. Sc in the next 11 st's. **Sc2tog** twice. Sc in the next 2 st's, **changing to CC** on the last yarn-over of the last st. Please note that the last stitch should fall in the stitch AFTER the RSM. RSM. (15)

Attaching the Ears

When you attach the ears, you will only be working through 2 st's of each ear: the second sc of the rim, and the second to last sc of the rim (see *adjacent photo, which shows the hook inserted into those 2 st's to make it easier for you to see them*).

Hold the ear against the head with the right side facing you and the top of the ear pointing towards the giraffe's nose.



Insert your hook into the second to last sc on the rim of the ear, and through the next st of the head, and complete a sc through both layers (*Photo 1*).

Insert your hook into the second sc on the other side of the ear and through the next st of the head (*Photo 2*). Complete a sc through both layers.

Attaching the Horns

The horns are attached with only 1 sc each – through the sl st next to the last st of the horn AND the next st of the head (*Photo 3*).

As the horns are a bit curvy, it looks best to turn one of them so that the wrong side faces the front (*Photo 4*).



Neck

The neck is worked in rows until the neck meets the body. The neck opening will be used to make a mane later and to stuff the head. Forget about the running stitch marker for now.

15. **Short Row (Outside):** With CC, Sc2tog. Sc in the next 3 st's. Change to MC. Sc in the next st. Ch 1 and turn. (5)
16. **Short Row (Inside):** Sc in the next (MC) sc. Change to CC and don't carry the MC yarn. Sc in the next 3 st's. Sl st in the next (CC) st. Turn. (4)
17. **Short Row (Outside):** Skip the sl st. Sc in the next 3 st's. Change to MC and bind off CC. Sc in the next st. Ch 1 and turn. (4)

First Spot Finished – Top Left on Neck (Right if you are left-handed)



18. **(Inside):** Sc in the next 4 st's. This will bring you to the "step". Skip the CC stitch at the base of the step (which already contains a sl st). **Sc inc** in each of the next 3 st's. Change to CC. **Sc2tog. Sc in the next 3 st's.**

Change to MC. Sc in the next st. Ch 1 and turn. *The last sc will fall in the stitch between the horns that already contains a sc from the other side of the neck.* (15)

19. **Short Row (Outside):** Sc in the next sc. Change to CC and don't carry the MC yarn. **Sc in the next 3 st's. Sl st in the next st, which will be the last CC stitch. Turn.** (4)
20. **Short Row (Inside):** Skip the sl st. **Sc in the next 3 st's.** Change to MC and bind off CC. Sc in the next st. Ch 1 and turn. (4)

Second Spot Finished – Top Right on Neck (Left if you are left-handed)



21. Sc in the next 4 st's. This will bring you to the "step". Skip the CC stitch at the base of the "step", which already contains a sl st. Sc in the next (MC) st. **Sc inc** in the next 3 st's. Sc in the next 4 st's. Sc2tog. Ch 1 and turn. (16)
22. **Short Row (Inside):** Sc in the first st. Change to CC and don't carry MC yarn. **Sc in the next 4 st's. Sl st in the next st and turn.** (5)
23. **Short Row (Outside):** Skip the sl st. **Sc in the next 3 st's.** Change to MC. Sc2tog. Ch 1 and turn. (4)
24. **(Inside):** Sc in the next st. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 3 st's.** Change to MC and fasten off CC. This will bring you to the "step". Skip the stitch at the base of the "step" that already contains a sl st. **Sc inc** in each of the next 3 st's. Sc in the next 5 st's. Sc2tog. Ch 1 and turn. (16)

Third Spot Finished – Lower Left Side of Neck (Right if you are left-handed)



25. **Short Row (Outside):** Sc in the first st. Change to CC and don't carry MC yarn. **Sc in the next 4 st's. Sl st in the next st and turn. (5)**
26. **Short Row (Inside):** Skip the sl st. **Sc in the next 3 st's.** Change to MC. Sc2tog. Ch 1 and turn. (4)
27. **Short Row(Outside):** Sc in the next st. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 3 st's.** Change to MC and fasten off CC. This will bring you to the "step". Skip the stitch at the base of the "step" that already contains a sl st. Sc in the next 2 st's. **Sc inc** in each of the next 2 st's. Sl st in the next st, which should be the second-last MC st (Photo 1 below). Turn, leaving the remaining stitches unworked. (10)

Fourth Spot Finished – Lower Right Side of Neck (Left if you are left-handed)

28. **Short Row (Inside):** Skip the sl st. Sc in the next st. **Sc inc** in the next st. Sc in the next st. Sl st in the next st and turn (Photo 2 below), leaving the remaining stitches unworked. *There should be 2 unworked MC st's left before the CC spot.* (4)
29. **Short Row (Outside):** Skip the sl st. **Sc inc** in the next st. Sc in the next 2 st's. **Sc inc** in the next st. This will bring you to the "step". Sc in the next 5 st's, *which will be MC, 3 CC, MC.* Ch 1 (Photo 3 below) and turn. (11)
30. **(Inside):** Sc in the first 6 st's. **Sc inc** in the next st. Sc in the next 3 st's. **Sc inc** in the next st. This will bring you to the "step". Skip the stitch at the base of the "step", which already contains a sl st. Sc in the next 6 st's (which will be 2 MC, 3 CC, 1 MC). Ch 1 and turn (Photo 4 below). (19)



31. Sc in the first 9 st's. **Sc inc** in the next st. Sc in the next 4 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 3 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 2 st's. DO NOT TURN! (20)

Body

The body is worked in a spiral. Start using your RSM again.

32. Join to the opposite side of the neck by making a sc in the first st of the opposite side (*see photo below*). Sc in the next st. Change to CC. **Make 3 sc's.** Change to MC. **Sc inc** in each of the next 9 st's. Change to CC. **Sc inc** in the next st, which will be the last MC st. **Sc in the next 3 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the last 2 st's.

RSM. (30)



33. Sc in the next 2 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 5 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 15 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 7 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the last st, which will be MC. RSM. (30)

34. *You will be attaching the front legs in this round.* Sc in the next 2 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 7 st's.** Change to MC. Make 3 sc's. Attach the first leg with the next 3 sc's. *To do this, place the leg on top of the body with the foot pointing towards the head and the flattened "opening" of the leg lined up with the last round of the body. Insert your hook through both layers of the first st of the leg, AND into the next st of the body, and make a sc through all 3 layers. Sc through both layers of the leg and the next st of the body two more times. Sc in the next 2 st's of the body only (between the legs).* Attach the second leg with the next 3 sc's (*as before*). Sc in the next 4 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 4 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the last 2 st's. RSM. (30)

If you need visual help attaching the legs, see [THIS TUTORIAL](#).



35. Sc in the next 4 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 4 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 22 st's. RSM. (30)
36. Sc in the next 29 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the last st.** RSM. (30)
37. **Sc in the next 5 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 16 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 4 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 3 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the last 2 st's.** RSM. (30)
38. **Sc in the next 6 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 2 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 4 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 10 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 4 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 2 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the last 2 st's.** RSM. (30)
39. *You will be attaching the back legs in this round.* **Sc in the next 6 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 2 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 4 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the next st. Attach the third leg with the next 3 sc's (*as before*). Sc in the next 2 st's. Attach the last leg with the next 3 sc's (*as before*). Sc in the next st. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 4 st's.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 2 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the last 2 st's.** RSM. (30)
40. **Sc2tog.** **Sc in the next 3 st's.** Change to MC. **Sc2tog.** Sc in the next st. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 2 st's.** **Sc2tog.** Change to MC. (Sc in the next 3 st's, **sc2tog**) twice. Sc in the next st. Change to CC. **Sc in the next 2 st's.** **Sc2tog.** Change to MC. Sc in the next 2 st's. Change to CC. **Sc in the last st.** RSM. (24)
41. **Sc2tog.** **Sc in the next 2 st's.** Change to MC. **Sc2tog.** Sc in the next st. Change to CC. **Sc in the next st.** **Sc2tog.** Change to MC. (Sc in the next 2 st's, **sc2tog**) three times. Sc in the last 2 st's. Change to CC. RSM. (18)
42. **Sc2tog.** **Sc in the next st.** Change to MC and bind off CC. (**Sc2tog**, sc in the next st) five times. RSM. (12)
43. **Sc2tog** six times. Sl st in the next st and bind off, leaving a 50 cm (20") tail of yarn. (6)

Take a moment to look at your work. In the photos below, you can clearly see where the spots should fall in relation to the RSM.



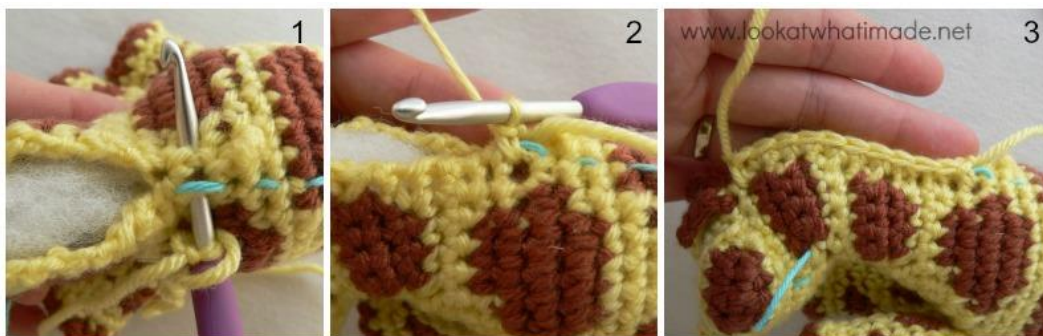
Stuffing the Giraffe

Stuff the giraffe through the opening in the neck, making sure that you have enough stuffing to fill out the neck once closed.



Close the Neck

With MC: Make a standing single crochet around the post of the stitch 2 rows below the opening of the neck and in line with it (*Photos 1 and 2 below*). Sc2tog, inserting your hook around the post of the stitch in the last row before the opening, and into the first row of the opening (through both sides). Sc2tog, working into the next 2 rows of the neck (through both sides). Sc the next 7 rows (through both layers). Make a sc around the post of the stitch right above the opening of the neck (between the horns). Ch 1 and bind off (*Photo 3 below*). Work away your tails of yarn. (11)



Adding the Mane

Join your **CC yarn** by making a standing single crochet in the standing single crochet that you used to close the neck (at the lower end of the neck). Make 3 sc's in the same stitch. (Sl st in the next st, make 4 sc's in the next st) **five** times. Ch 1 and bind off. Work away your tails of yarn. (24)



Adding the Eyes

Use black yarn to embroider the eyes. Choose a pleasing spot. Anette likes them like this (in Round 8):



Tail

If you need some visual help making the Tail and Tassel, please see [THIS TUTORIAL](#).

Take the 50 cm/20" tail of yarn from the end of Round 43 and weave it through the last 6 stitches. Pull them tight to close the hole.

Insert your hook around the "hole" by poking it into the giraffe 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. This will make the tail a little bit more secure.

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 tail. 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.



"Thank You" to our Brilliant Testers

- Lesley Lord
- Tess McDonald
- Jill Delorey Constantine
- Brittany Umbaugh
- Shireen Ng (from Buddy Companions)
- Kiley Jones
- Pam Perkins

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