

My Dearest
NEIGHBOR

1

BEFORE YOU START...



One hot summer day I visited a lama center with my 8-year-old nephew. As a gift from my girlfriend he received a small lama keychain. I teased him a little bit that even though it looks great, I could make him an even better looking amigurumi lama and that he should trade it with me. He was interested, however, as a huge fan of Miyazaki-san's work, he insisted that the amigurumi should be his favourite hero instead. So we made a deal.

I tried my best and presented my creation to him. He loved it immediately and wanted to trade his lama. Of course I refused and let him keep his keychain as well as a reminder of our great day.

I am glad that I can share my work with you now and I hope it will bring joy to your little loved one as well.

If you are a **beginner** and this will be one of your first projects, prepare all required materials and tools and then start right at the next page. Whenever you come across a new concept, watch tutorial videos I include. Underlined words are clickable or visit <http://www.peme.cz/crochet.php?link=100> and <http://www.peme.cz/crochet.php?link=200> for two YouTube playlists with all videos. You can also find a list of all stitches I use on this page.

If you are an **experienced** crocheter you might want to (after reading this →)

jump straight to the pattern here.

ABBREVIATIONS

- **MR** = [magic ring](#)
- **ch** = [chain](#)
- **sc** = [single crochet](#)
- **sl sc** = [stip stitch](#)
- **dc** = [double crochet](#)
- **tc** = [triple crochet](#)
- **n sc** = single crochet into the next *n* stitches
- **inc** = [two single crochets into the same next stitch \(increase\)](#)
- **dec** = [regular decrease](#)
- **idec** = [invisible decrease](#)
- **midec** = [mixed color invisible decrease; switch to idec color before last pulling through both loops](#)
- **(sc, dec) * n** = repeat inside of the brackets *n* times
- **FO** = finish off; cut the yarn leaving a long end, draw the loose end through the last loop and pull it tightly
- **BLO** = [work into back \(inside\) loops only](#)
- **FLO** = work into front (outside) loops only
- **hdec into BLO** = [half decrease into back loops only; insert hook into the back loop of the first stitch, yarn over, pull through, then insert it into the back loop of the second stitch, yarn over and pull through all three loops](#)
- **CHTO** = [one chain stitch, turn over, skip 1 stitch](#)
- **CO** = [crochet over loose end to catch your float](#)

PLEASE READ THIS

Even though this pattern is pretty straightforward, it has one important requirement. You will crochet several body parts together and therefore, you have to be able to **keep your rounds straight**. It is important that the **first stitch of each round start in the middle of the toy's back**. If your rounds start to twist, your finished toy can end up looking crooked. Please read [chapters 12 and 13](#), where I explain, why this happens, and provide possible solutions.

Choose any type of yarn you like. I prefer a chenille yarn (e.g. Himalaya Dolphin Baby is great), because it is very easy to work with and the end product is soft and plushy. Use the appropriate hook size for the yarn recommended by the manufacturer.

Unfortunately, you have to do a bit of math to determine the resulting dimensions and the amount of yarn you will need. Everything is proportional to the size of the hook, you will use - I denote it with the letter **H**. So for example, if you use a 5 mm hook (as I did), your result will be 27 cm tall (5 * 5,4 cm) and you will need app. 125 meters of gray yarn (5 * 5 * 5 meters).

Totally, you will make 2904 stitches and it will take you about 5 hours.

DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS AND TOOLS

H - Size of the hook you will use in mm

Height - **H** * 5,4 cm

Width - **H** * 3,8 cm

You will need:

- Yarn of four colors (one is optional)
 1. **Darker gray** (e.g. Himalaya 80320, 80367) - **H** * **H** * 5 meters
 2. **Light beige** (e.g. Himalaya 80342, 80365) - **H** * **H** * 3 meters
 3. **Black** (e.g. Himalaya 80311) - **H** * **H** * 0,1 meters
 4. **Warm green** (e.g. Himalaya 80349) - optional color for the leaf, **H** * **H** * 0,2 meters
- **H** * **H** * 25 g of soft stuffing material (e.g. PES fiber ball stuffing)
- Two circles Ø **H** * 0,4 cm cut from white felt or white cardboard coated with clear nail polish
- Two black safety eye pins Ø **H** * 2,4 mm
- Black Ø **H** * 0,2 mm string (nylon, soft wire or thread) for whiskers
- A piece of thin, white string to mark your stitches
- Long embroidery needle, scissors

Thank you

so much for purchasing this pattern. I hope you will enjoy it. If you encounter any problem, something doesn't look right or you have any other question, please don't hesitate to send me a message (peme@peme.cz). I will be happy if you sell finished items you will make (and even more so if you credit me as the designer), but please don't sell or distribute these instructions.

2

HANDS



First we will make two cute hands. Start with the gray color yarn and make a magic ring with five single crochets. In the next 11 rounds, gradually increase the number of stitches in a round up to 20 stitches.

I have recorded the process of me crocheting the whole toy. Hopefully it will help you as a guideline.



MARKING STITCHES

Great practice is to mark your stitches with a thin white string attached to a long needle. To keep track of each round, always mark the last stitch of it. When the next round looks complicated, mark also all important stitches (all increases or decreases). I prefer to mark my stitches backwards to the direction I crochet. This way, I can easily remove my marks during crocheting.

MAKE 2x

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Round 1: 5 sc into MR | (5 stitches in round 1) |
| Round 2: inc * 5 | (10 stitches in round 2) |
| Round 3: sc into each stitch | (10 stitches in round 3) |
| Round 4: (4 sc, inc) * 2 | (12 stitches in round 4) |
| Round 5: sc into each stitch | (12 stitches in round 5) |
| Round 6: (5 sc, inc) * 2 | (14 stitches in round 6) |
| Round 7: sc into each stitch | (14 stitches in round 7) |
| Round 8: (6 sc, inc) * 2 | (16 stitches in round 8) |
| Round 9: sc into each stitch | (16 stitches in round 9) |
| Round 10: (7 sc, inc) * 2 | (18 stitches in round 10) |
| Round 11: sc into each stitch | (18 stitches in round 11) |
| Round 12: (8 sc, inc) * 2 | (20 stitches in round 12) |
| FO | |

NEW TERMS

- **MR** = magic ring
- **sc** = single crochet
- **inc** = two single crochets into the same next stitch (increase)
- **n sc** = single crochet into the next *n* stitches
- **(sc, dec) x n** = repeat inside of the brackets *n* times
- **FO** = finish off; cut the yarn leaving a long end, draw the loose end through the last loop and pull it tightly

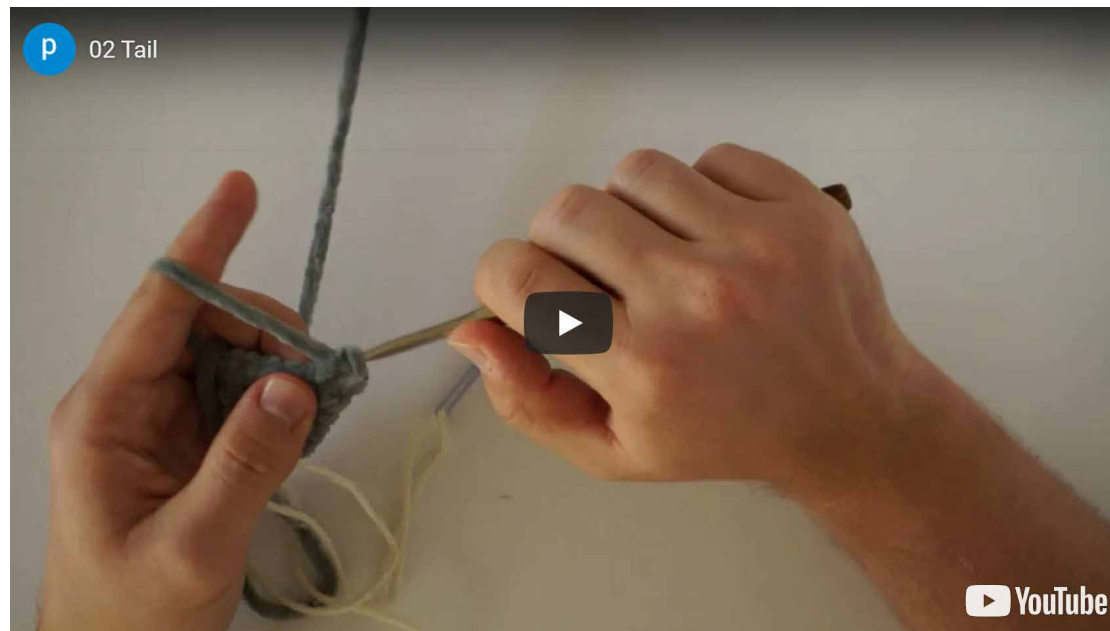


3

TAIL



Next we will crochet tail. It is a process similar to crocheting hands, but we will give the tail a bit of definition by making a few decreases in later rounds.



Round 1: 6 sc into MR
Round 2: inc * 6
Round 3: sc into each stitch
Round 4: (1 sc, inc) * 6
Round 5: sc into each stitch
Round 6: (2 sc, inc) * 6
Round 7: sc into each stitch
Round 8: sc into each stitch
Round 9: 2 sc, idec, 14 sc, idec, 2 sc, idec
Round 10: 1 sc, idec, 13 sc, idec, 1 sc, idec
Round 11: sc into each stitch
Round 12: sc into each stitch
FO

(6 stitches in round 1)
(12 stitches in round 2)
(12 stitches in round 3)
(18 stitches in round 4)
(18 stitches in round 5)
(24 stitches in round 6)
(24 stitches in round 7)
(24 stitches in round 8)
(21 stitches in round 9)
(18 stitches in round 10)
(18 stitches in round 11)
(18 stitches in round 12)

NEW TERMS

- **idec** = invisible decrease



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EARS



Ears are definitely the most difficult part of the whole project and require the most dexterity from you. If you don't have enough experience yet and have a spare grey yarn ball, you can postpone this process until you really need to use the ears. Just skip part and return to it before chapter 38.

I recommend using a smaller hook for this piece. Hook size 3.5 mm (instead of size 5 mm) works great. It will make the process slightly easier and the ears will be smaller.

Fill the top, wider part of the ear with a bit of stuffing.

MAKE 2x

- Round 1:** ch 2 (2 stitches in round 1)
 - Round 2:** 4 sc into 2nd stitch from hook (4 stitches in round 2)
 - Round 3:** (inc, 1 sc) * 2 (6 stitches in round 3)
 - Round 4:** (inc, 2 sc) * 2 (8 stitches in round 4)
 - Round 5:** sc into each stitch (8 stitches in round 5)
 - Round 6:** 4 hdec into BLO (4 stitches in round 6)
 - Round 7:** sc into each stitch (4 stitches in round 7)
- FO**

NEW TERMS

- **ch** = chain
- **BLO** = work into back (inside) loops only
- **hdec into BLO** = half decrease into back loops only; insert hook into the back loop of the first stitch, yarn over, pull through, then insert it into the back loop of the second stitch, yarn over and pull through all three loops



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LEGS



The last side-pieces we will crochet are two legs.

Don't forget to work only into back loops in round 4, so that the edge is sharper. Also don't cut the yarn off the second leg. We will start to assemble all pieces together in the next chapter.



MAKE 2x (DON'T CUT THE YARN OFF THE SECOND LEG)

Round 1: 6 sc into MR

(6 stitches in round 1)

Round 2: inc * 6

(12 stitches in round 2)

Round 3: (1 sc, inc) * 6

(18 stitches in round 3)

Round 4: sc into each stitch BLO

(18 stitches in round 4)

Round 5: sc into each stitch

(18 stitches in round 5)

Round 6: (2 sc, inc) * 6

(24 stitches in round 6)

FO (first leg only)



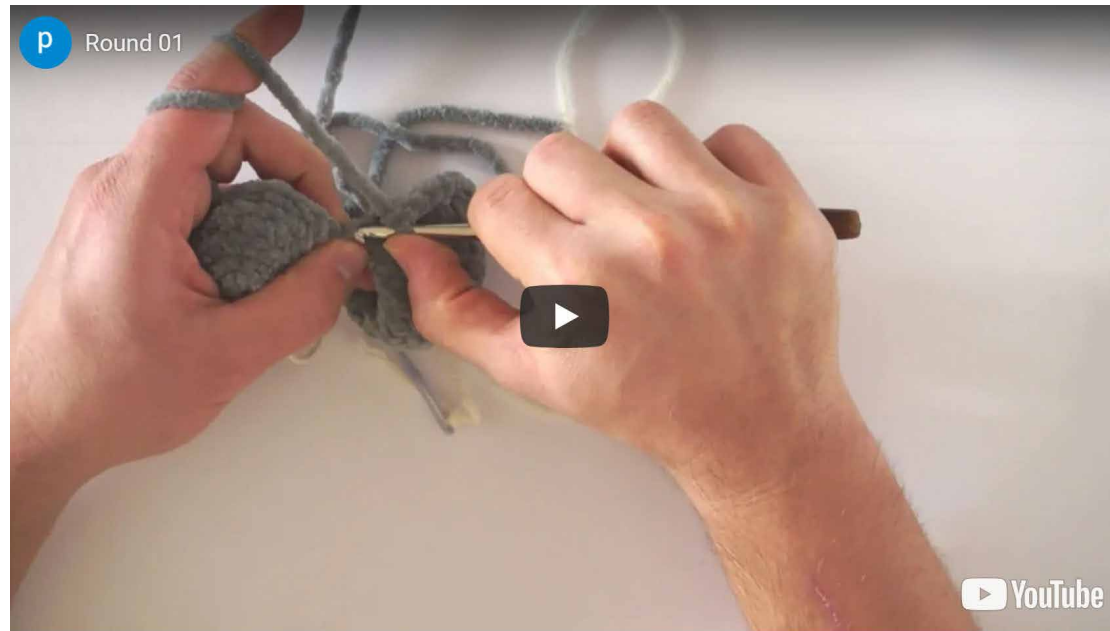
6

ROUND 1 (BODY)



Next we will join both legs together. With hook still inside the loop of the second leg, insert it into the first free stitch of the other leg and make a single crochet. Continue crocheting along the first leg with 23 single crochet stitches.

When you finish all 24 stitches around the first leg, make one extra stitch into the back loop of the first stitch you made this round. Then insert hook into the first free stitch of the second leg and continue with 24 stitches around it. Don't forget to mark the last stitch with a thin white yarn.



Round 1: (start with first free stitch of first leg with hook inside loop of second leg) 24 sc (around first leg), 1 sc (extra stitch into the back loop of the first stitch of this round), 24 sc (around second leg) (49 stitches in round 1)



While still inside the loop of the second leg you made, insert your hook into the first free stitch of the other leg and make a single crochet.



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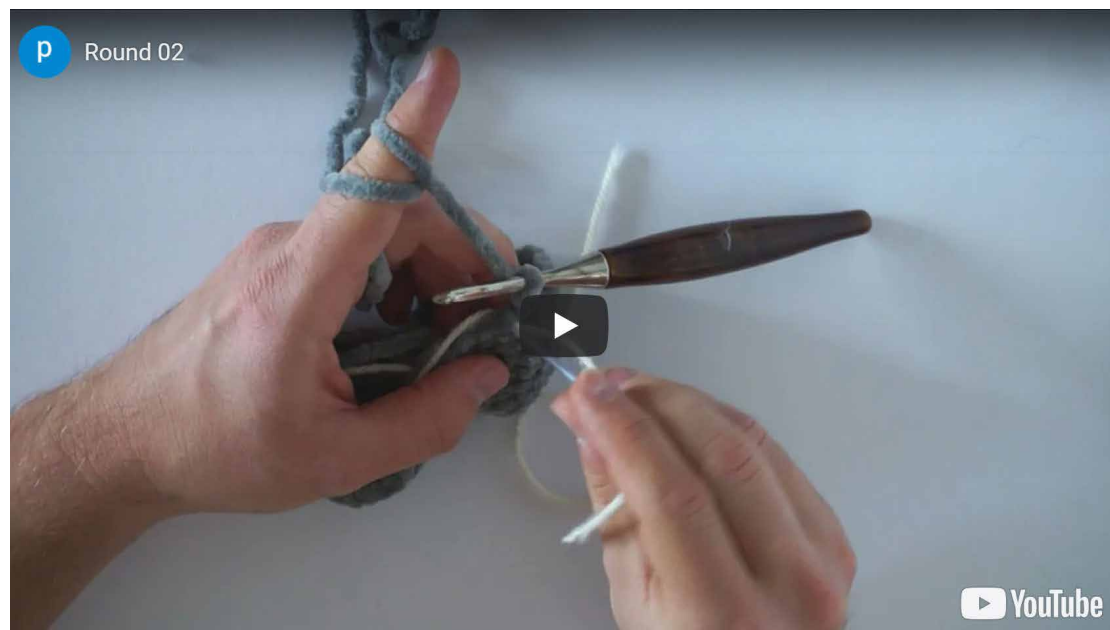
ROUND 2 (BODY)



In this round we will change yarn colors for the first time. If you are not familiar with this process, please read the paragraph on this page or watch video tutorial. Note that the pattern is color coded - stitches are denoted by the color of yarn you should use (i.e. for stitches written in gray color use gray yarn, for stitches in beige color use beige yarn).

Be careful where the first stitch of this round is. It looks slightly different because we made another stitch into it in the previous round, so you will be inserting your hook into its front loop only. Or if you have a trouble identifying it, just make second single crochet (i.e. an increase) into the last stitch of the previous round.

Also, don't forget to crochet over the loose end of the first leg in first few stitches to lock them in.



CHANGING COLORS

Always start the change before you pull through the last loop of the last stitch of color you are changing from. Hold both yarns under the middle finger of your left hand pushing with your thumb from the other side of the cloth to keep your yarns taut. Yarn over your new yarn and pull it through to finish your stitch. Then you can either

- cut old yarn and [crochet over both loose ends in the next few stitches](#)
- cut old yarn and [join it with new yarn in a knot](#).
- don't cut old yarn (my preferred variant, because I am lazy...). After you finish all rounds with color changes you can easily cut and tie them up all at once ([chapter 30](#)).

Round 2: (CO loose end of the first leg in first four stitches) (9 sc, inc) * 2, 4 sc, (53 stitches in round 2)
1 sc, 4 sc, (inc, 9 sc) * 2



NEW TERMS

- **CO** = **crochet over loose end to catch your float**



8

ROUND 3 (BODY)



This is a simple round with two color changes and one increase. After this round, belly (in beige yarn) is 6 stitches wide.



Round 3: 24 sc, 2 sc, inc, 2 sc, 24 sc

(54 stitches in round 3)



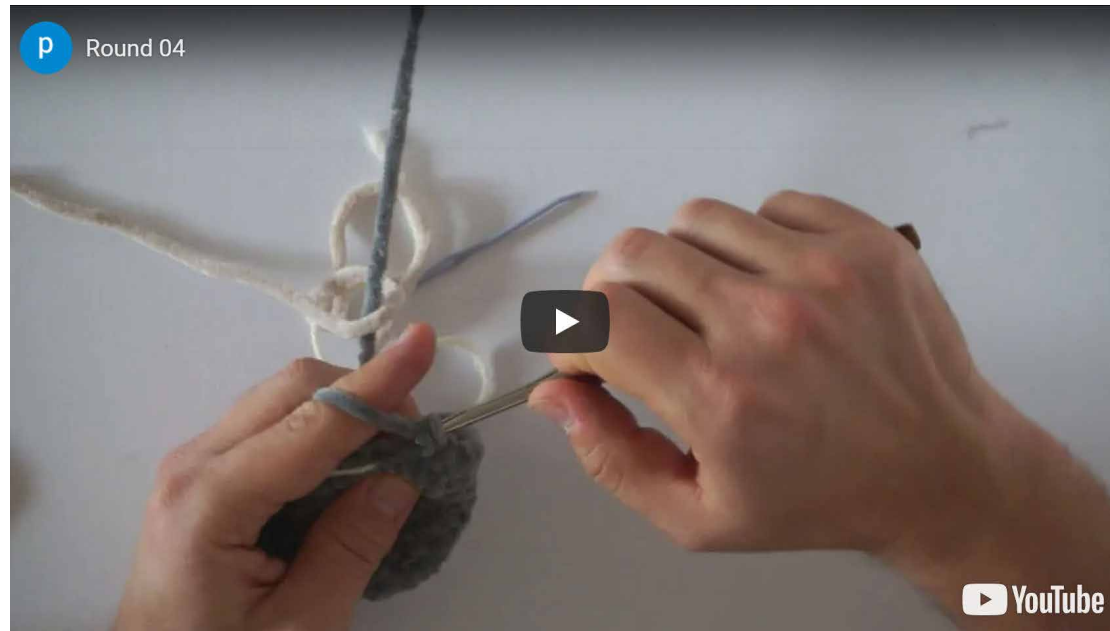
9

ROUND 4 (BODY)



This is a fairly complex round with several increases, so it might be a good idea to first mark all these increases with a thin white yarn before you start this round.

After this round belly is 10 stitches wide.



Round 4: (9 sc, inc) * 2, 3 sc, inc, 6 sc, inc, 3 sc, (inc, 9 sc) * 2

(60 stitches in round 4)

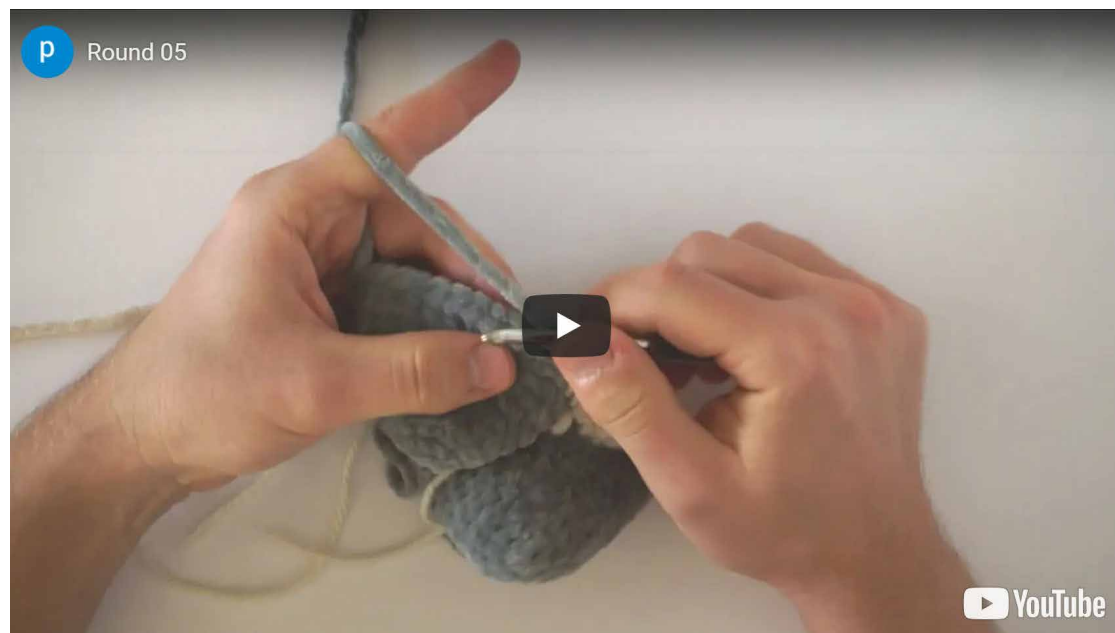


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ROUND 5 (BODY)



Simple round with no increases. After this round belly is 12 stitches wide.



Round 5: 24 sc, 12 sc, 24 sc

(60 stitches in round 5)



11

ROUND 6 (BODY)



This is the final round of increases. After this round body will be 66 stitches and belly 16 stitches wide.



Round 6: (8 sc, inc) * 2, 5 sc, 2 sc, inc, 8 sc, inc, 2 sc, 5 sc, (inc, 8 sc) * 2

(66 stitches in round 6)





Depending on your crochet technique, you may encounter a problem that your stitches don't align above stitches from previous rounds. Normally, this wouldn't be an issue, but when we are changing colors and crocheting several pieces together, it can cause many problems (e.g. the belly can be slanted, one leg extended or head and arms rotated).

To solve this, you can either try to adapt your crochet technique or you can make a separate belly patch that will be sewed onto the finished toy at the end of this project. As you will cover anything unsightly under it, you can now add single crochets freely and correct any unwanted twisting this way (you can find a detailed description of this procedure on the next page).

WHAT IS IT?

Now you have crocheted enough to find out, if you've encountered the most common issue with this pattern - round twisting. Compare the line of stitches on these two images with yours. If it looks like the example on the right, where stitches make a nice straight line, everything is fine and you can skip these two chapters. However, if the line is slanted as in the example on the left, your result might end up looking crooked, so please read carefully the next page.



WHY DOES IT HAPPEN?

In my case, this problem is caused by the way I hold the cloth (not the hook, but the piece itself). I usually hold it firmly between the thumb and the index finger of my left hand and when I work with my hook, I apply force to the cloth in the direction opposite to the direction I am crocheting and so I stretch it a little bit every time I need a tension to pull my hook through. Over time, this adds up and the result is that the stitches in consequent rounds don't align.

WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT IT?

BASIC RULE

The first stitch of each round should start in the center of the toy's back.

ADAPT YOUR CROCHET STYLE

You can try these simple steps that should help alleviate the twisting:

- After each round, **twist the cloth** like a wet towel gently in the desired direction to counter the wrong rotation.
- Try **holding the piece differently**. Instead of pushing the cloth to the right with your thumb, your goal is to push it upwards. Rotate the piece as much as you can clockwise (I rotate it almost 90° clockwise). I also like to lay the piece down and just hold it lightly with the palm of my hand so that I apply as little force as possible. It is a little awkward but it works for me.

CORRECTIONS AND/OR BELLY PATCH

If none of these works and your rounds are still twisting, you can solve this issue by crocheting a separate belly patch that you can sew onto your finished toy. There is no need to modify the pattern, just **add a single crochet each time the start of your round moves more than one stitch** from the center of the back. I recommend you to still continue to switch colors. Even though this will create unsightly steps on the border of the belly, it will make a great guideline for sewing the belly patch (or maybe you won't mind the steps at all and the patch wouldn't be necessary). You can find a detailed example of this procedure on the next page.

ROUND TWISTING - EXAMPLE



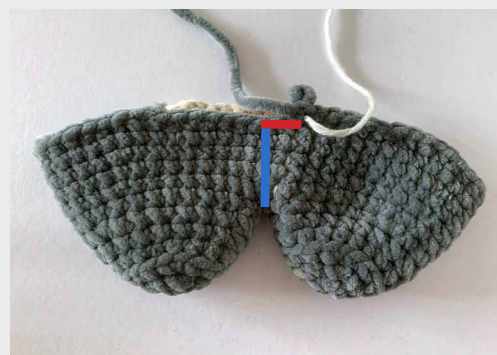
Now I will skip ahead a little bit and show you the finished belly on a toy, for which I tried to get a lot of round twisting (so I intentionally broke every piece of advice from the previous chapter - I held the piece wrong, so that I pushed it to the right, and I held it very firmly, so that I applied a lot of force). However, I added a single crochet after every few rounds and so I always moved the first stitch of a round back to the center when it twisted too far.

As you can see, the result looks nice and straight despite the twisting. It has some unsightly steps on the belly, but I don't mind it. However, if you don't like this look, you can cover the belly by a separate patch that we will create in [chapter 52](#).



The line of stitches (blue line) in the last few rounds is slanted, so I have to deal with the round twisting. I will try to compensate it by adding one single crochet after every few rounds to move the first stitch of a round back to the center of the back.

I have to determine, how much my rounds are twisting. During the last six rounds, the first stitch has moved from the center (blue line) for about one and a half stitches (red line). I divide the number of rounds (6) by the number of twisted stitches (1.5) and I find out that I have to add a single crochet after every four rounds ($6/1.5 = 4$).



When you add a single crochet, it makes an unsightly step on the border of the belly, but it looks better if you are consistent in the number of rounds after which you add this single crochet. It doesn't have to be a single number of rounds as it is in my case, but it should be a regular pattern.

If you are marking the last stitch of each round by a white string (which I highly recommend), don't forget that you added one single crochet, so it should move one stitch to the center relative to the previous round.



After finishing the belly, the line of last stitches marked by the white string has a nice constant rhythm of twisting to the right and me correcting it and moving it back to the center of the back. Since I was consistent in this process and I added a single crochet after every four rounds (but your pattern might differ, based on the amount of your twisting), the finished belly looks nice and clean even with the extra steps on its border. But what is more important, the belly is straight and makes a neat round shape, even though the rounds were twisting heavily.

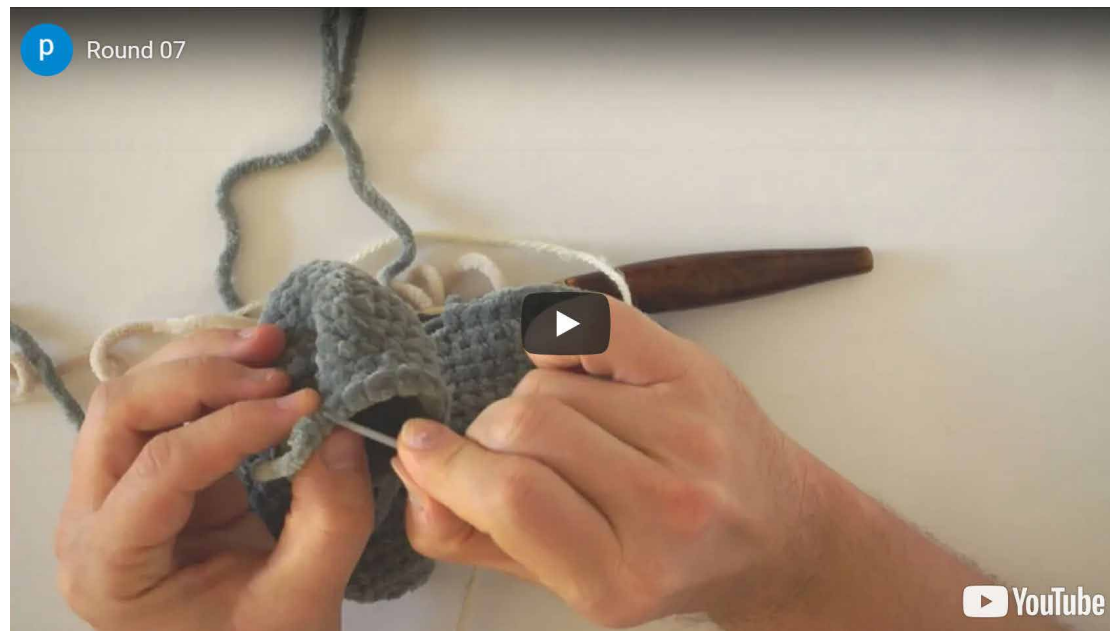


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ROUND 7 (BODY)



It this round we start attaching the tail. After this round the belly is 18 stitches wide.



Round 7: 24 sc, 18 sc, 20 sc, 4 joint stitches with tail (first joint stitch is the 4th free stitch of tail; CO loose end of tail) (66 stitches in round 7)

JOINING BODY WITH TAIL



We will join both parts by joint stitches based on a simple single crochet. The trick is that you insert the hook into stitches of both parts. Start by inserting your hook into the fourth free stitch (4th in the direction of crocheting = 4th in the round) of the tail from the inside out. With the tail on your hook, insert it into the next free stitch of the body. Now, you should have both parts on your hook.



Yarn over. Don't forget to crochet over the loose end of the tail (i.e. put it between the hook and the working yarn and catch it into the stitch).



Pull through both stitches (body and tail).



Finish single crochet by yarning over and pulling through both loops.

15

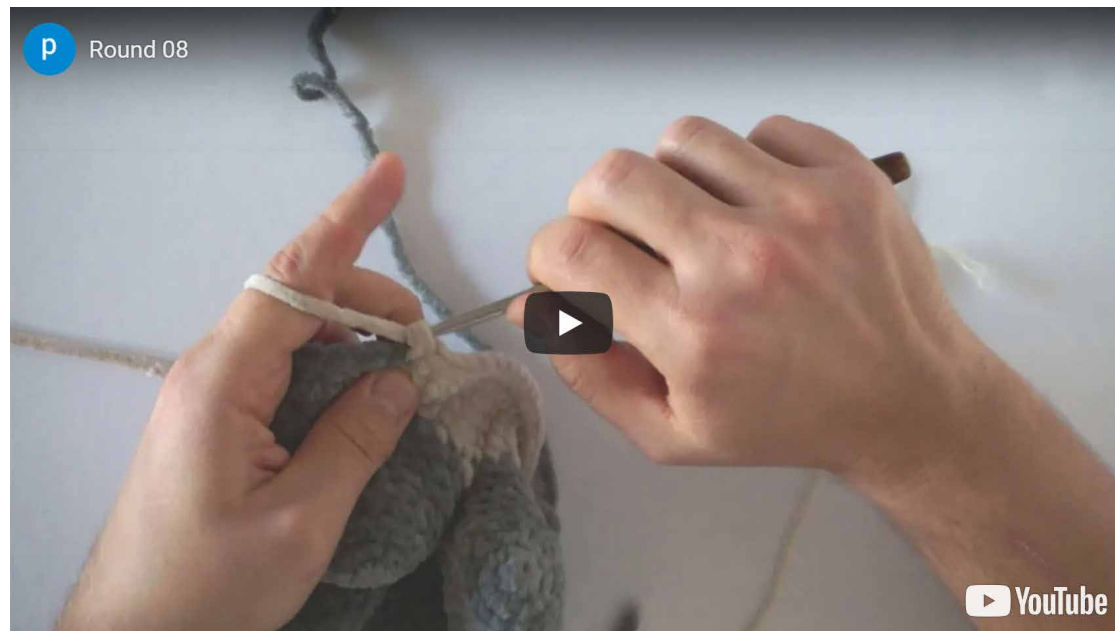
ROUND 8 (BODY)



Start this round with four joint stitches as you've learned them in the previous round. In total you will make 8 joint stitches with the tail.

Beware that the last stitches of this round are made along the tail and not into joint stitches you made in the last round. First make an invisible decrease to connect the last stitch of the body with the first stitch of the tail. Then continue with four stitches along the tail. These four stitches should be made into front loops only to make sharper edge.

After this round the belly is 20 stitches wide.



Round 8: continue with 4 joint stitches with tail, 19 sc, 20 sc, 18 sc, idec (last free stitch of body + first free stitch of tail), 4 sc FLO (along tail) (66 stitches in round 8)



NEW TERMS

- **FLO** = work into front (outside) loops only



16

ROUND 9 (BODY)



Make four front loops only single crochets along the tail and finish by one last invisible decrease connecting the last stitch of the tail with the first free stitch of the body.



Round 9: 4 sc FLO, idec (last stitch of tail + first free stitch of body), 18 sc, 20 sc, 23 sc (66 stitches in round 9)

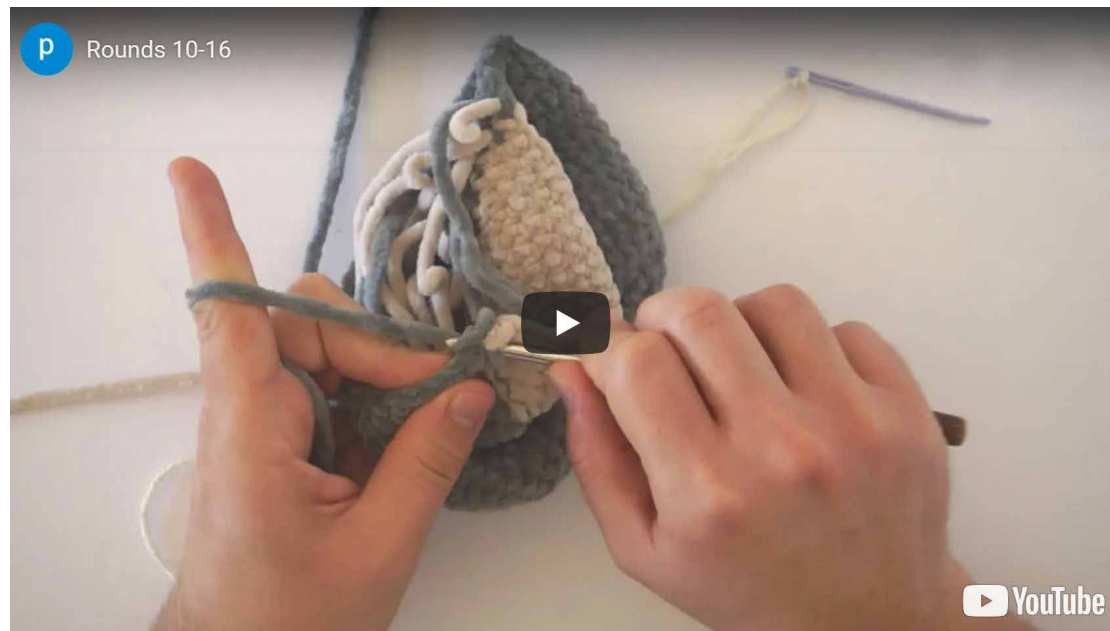


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ROUNDS 10 - 16 (BODY)



The next seven rounds are identical. You will crochet the main bulk of the body during these rounds. It is a little tedious process, but the good news is that you will finish half of all stitches in round 11. You're halfway there. Congrats!



Round 10-16: 22 sc, 22 sc, 22 sc

(66 stitches in rounds 10 - 16)

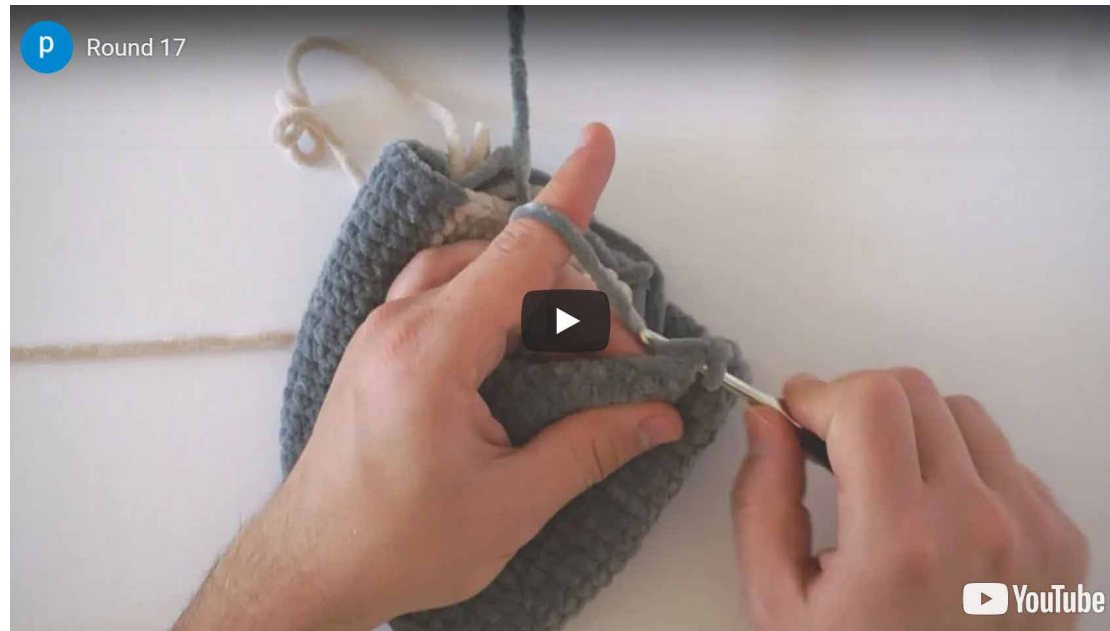


18

ROUND 17 (BODY)



This round is very similar to the previous rounds, but we will start decreasing the number of stitches, which will speed the process up.



Round 17: 10 sc, idec, 10 sc, 22 sc, 10 sc, idec, 10 sc

(64 stitches in round 17)

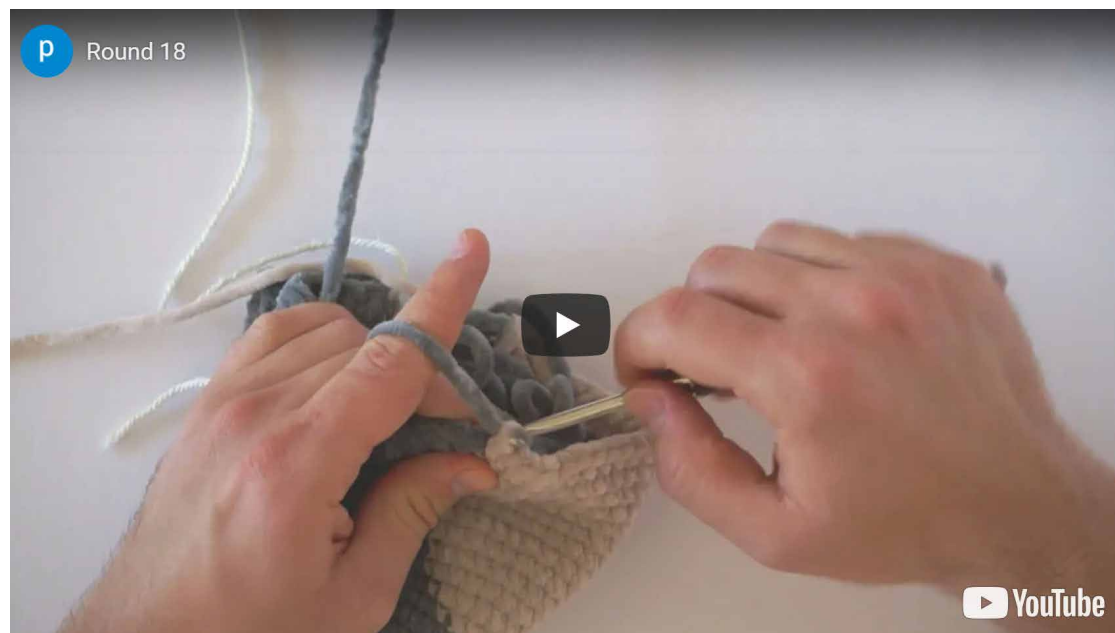


19

ROUND 18 (BODY)



Simple round.



Round 18: 21 sc, 22 sc, 21 sc

(64 stitches in round 18)

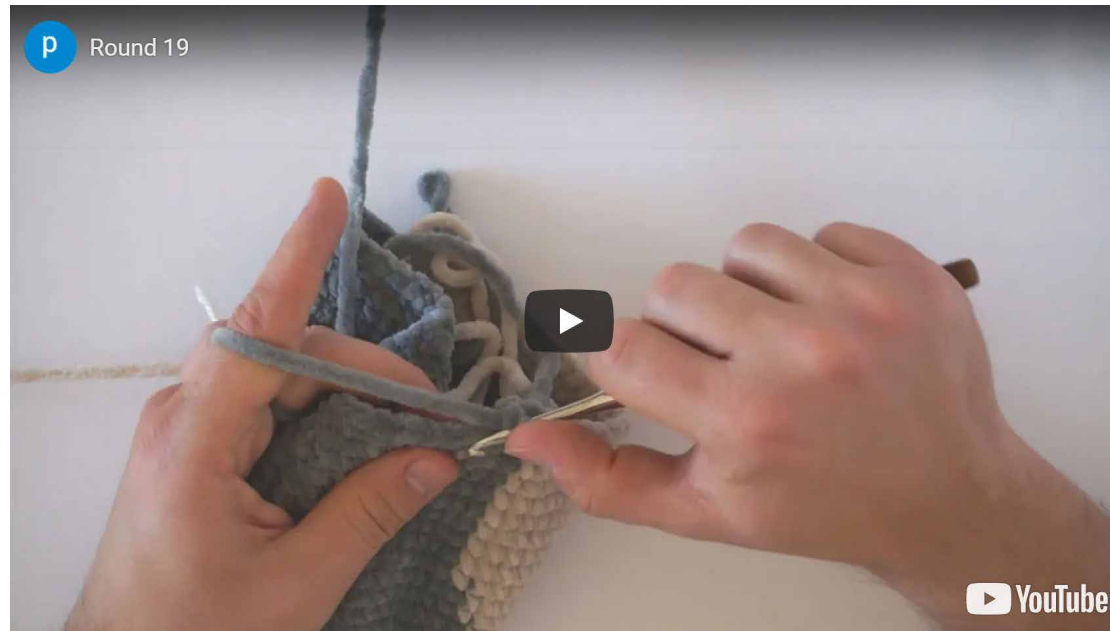


20

ROUND 19 (BODY)



Another simple round. We'll shorten it further by two more decreases.



Round 19: 21 sc, 3 sc, idec, 12 sc, idec, 3 sc, 21 sc

(62 stitches in round 19)



21

ROUND 20 (BODY)



The last of the simple rounds. After this round it will start to get more interesting again.



Round 20: 21 sc, 20 sc, 21 sc

(62 stitches in round 20)



22

ROUND 21 (BODY)



This round is more complex, because we will decrease the number of stitches five more times. We will do this in a somewhat irregular fashion, so it is a good idea to count and mark all decreases before you start crocheting.



Round 21: 9 sc, idec, 10 sc, 1 sc, idec, 6 sc, idec, 6 sc, idec, 1 sc, 10 sc, idec, 9 sc (57 stitches in round 21)



23

ROUND 22 (BODY)



And now the real fun begins - we'll start to attach both hands.

Before this round, it is very important that the first stitch starts exactly in the middle of the back, so if it has moved, now is the right time to add as many single crochets as is necessary to move it back to the center.

The joining of hands with the body is done similarly as we attached the tail. Don't forget to crochet over loose ends of the hands. After you finish all joint stitches, pull the loose ends to tighten the hands up.



Round 22: 9 sc, 8 joint stitches with left hand (first joint stitch is 8th free stitch of the hand; CO loose end in last 4 stitches), 3 sc, 17sc, 3 sc, 8 joint stitches with right hand (first joint stitch is 8th free stitch; CO loose end in last 4 stitches), 9 sc

(58 stitches in round 22, but 63 in total including stitches around hands)



24

ROUND 23 (BODY)



We'll finish attaching the hands. Similarly to how you connected tail to the body by invisible decreases, connect both hands with the body by an invisible decrease on each side.



Round 23: 8 sc, idec (body + first stitch of left hand), 10 sc (along left hand), idec (last stitch of left hand + body), 2sc, 1sc, idec, 11 sc, idec, 1sc, 2sc, idec (body + first stitch of right hand), 10 sc (along right hand), idec (last stitch of right hand + body), 8 sc

(59 stitches in round 23)



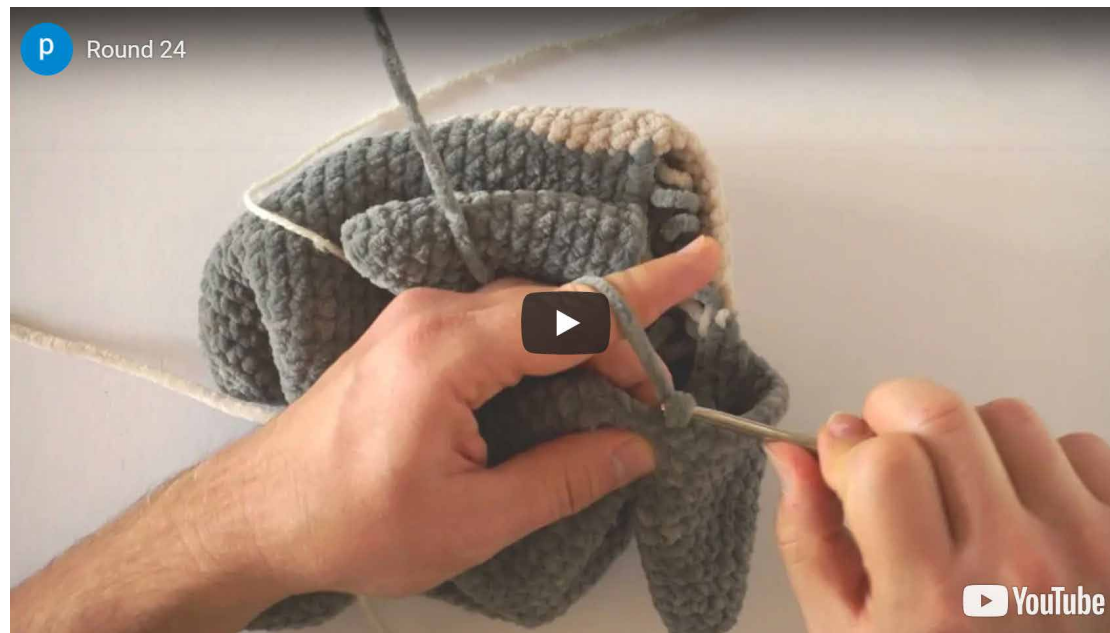
25

ROUND 24 (BODY)



This is the final round of color changes. To make the border as smooth as possible, we will make an exception to the rule that you change yarn color before you pull through the final loop of the last stitch of previous color. So, during the first color change of the round, change yarn after completing the last stitch.

I also introduce a new term *midec*, but it is not new at all. It is the same stitch you would make if you were changing colors. Make *idec* as usual and only change yarn before you pull through both final loops (and then switch back to beige yarn right after).



Round 24: 22 sc, (change color after pulling through both loops, not before) 1sc, (57 stitches in round 24)
idec, 9sc, *midec*, 1sc, 22 sc



NEW TERMS

- **midec** = mixed color invisible decrease; switch to **idec** color before last pulling through both loops



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ROUND 25 (BODY)

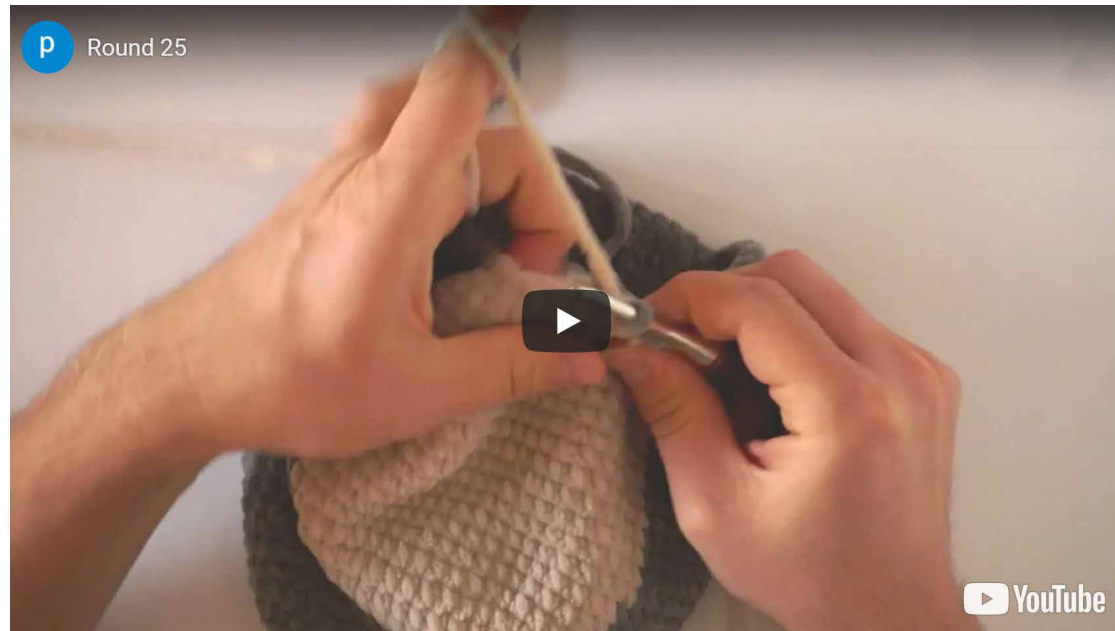


In this round we will finish the belly. To make the top border cleaner, use similar stitch as in the previous round - mixed color single crochet. Start single crochet with beige color - insert hook, yarn over beige, pull through. Then, when you have two loops on your hook, yarn over gray color and pull it through to finish the stitch. Top of the stitch is now gray while bottom of it is still beige.

Management of both yarns might get a bit complicated. Please watch this [tutorial](#) with a better technique than I use in my video.

After you finish eleven mixed color stitches, cut the beige yarn. Just make sure that the loose end is long enough (at least 10 cm).

If you are correcting twisting in your project by adding single crochets, I do not recommend to do it before this round (just postpone it to the next round).

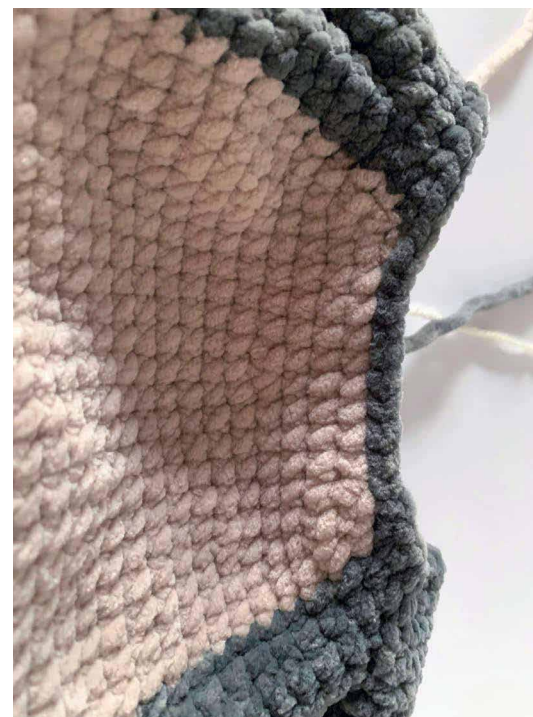


Round 25: 23 sc, 11 msc, 23 sc

(57 stitches in round 25)

NEW TERMS

- **msc** = mixed color single crochet; start with yarn of **m** color and switch to yarn of **sc** color before last pulling through both loops



27

ROUND 26 (BODY)



Simple round with three decreases. The only tricky part is that the mixed color stitches from the previous round can be a little tight. If a hole is too small to insert your hook, try loosening it with scissors (closed! do not cut anything) or you can use a smaller hook for these few stitches.



Round 26: (17 sc, idec) * 3

(54 stitches in round 26)

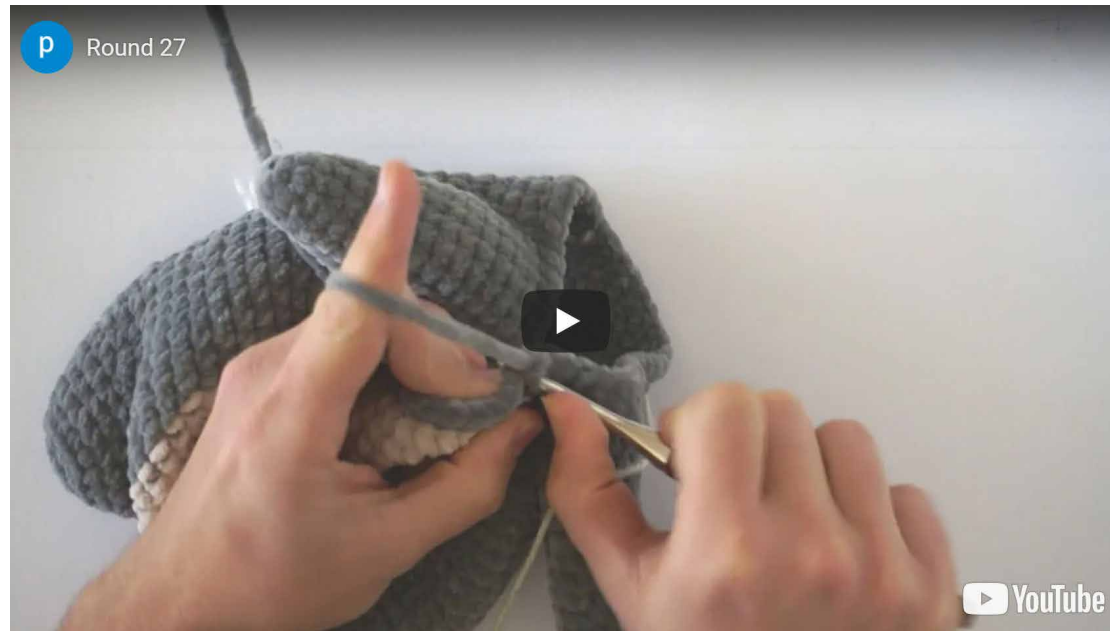


28

ROUND 27 (BODY)



It can't get any simpler than this round - 54 single crochets.



Round 27: 54sc

(54 stitches in round 27)



29

ROUND 28 (BODY)



Another simple round with two decreases.



Round 28: 12 sc, idec, 26 sc, idec, 12 sc

(52 stitches in round 28)



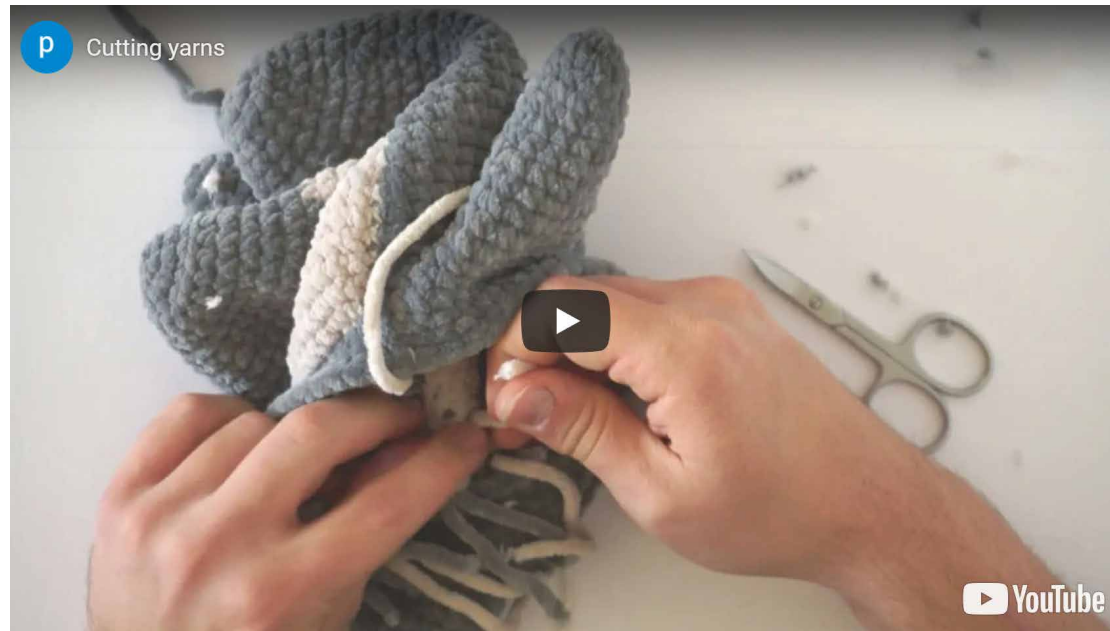
30

CUTTING YARNS (BELLY)



This chapter is completely optional and is relevant only if you weren't tying your loose ends continuously. Even though it might seem unnecessary, I recommend to tie all loose ends up, because the resulting border looks cleaner and you don't have to worry that a strand would be accidentally drawn from the finished toy.

Flip the body inside out and cut all floating yarns connecting both sides of the belly. Work along the belly and tie pairs of adjacent strands up with a simple double knot.



FIRST STUFFING (BODY)



Stuffing is an important part of the process that will determine the final look of your toy, so be really careful about it. Whenever you are unsure, check the pictures for reference (either mine of the finished toy or the actual cartoon).

The first stuffing is pretty easy. Stuff the body to the top of the belly. Your goal is that the belly looks like a nice round ball. Both legs and tail should be stuffed pretty tightly.

Please beware that you should not fill the hands at all. Also check if your toy can stand by its own.



EXTRA STITCH (OPTIONAL)

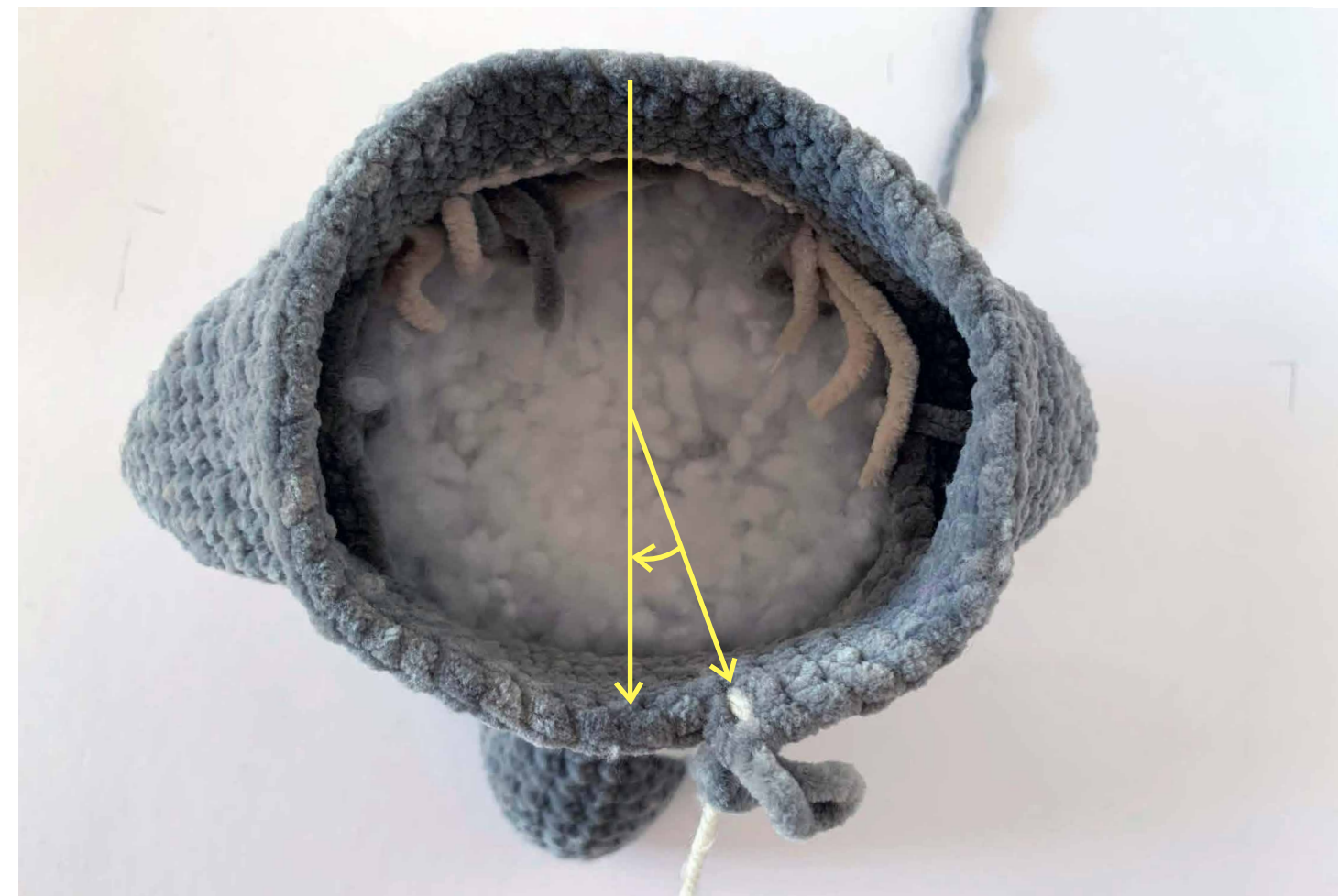


In the next round we'll start to shape the nose. We want it to be in the center of the face pointing forward. Check if the last stitch in round still ends exactly in the middle of the back or if it has moved due to **round twisting**. If it did, you can make one or more adjustment stitches to move it back to the center. Since we no longer change colors, you can do this anytime with no consequences. If you are marking your stitches, don't forget to move your mark to the new round end.



Optional: 1-3 sc

(to move the last stitch back to the center of the back)



In this case, you should make one to two extra stitches to move the start back to the center

33

ROUND 29 (BODY)

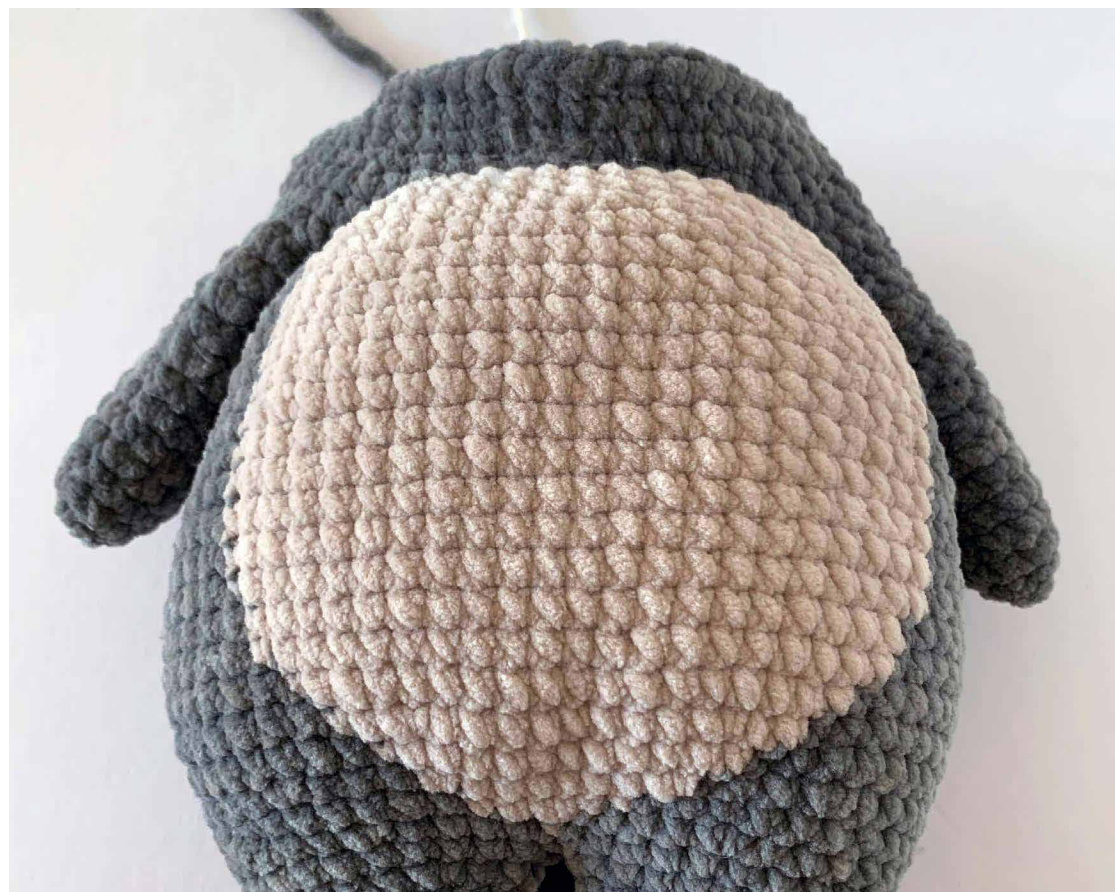


There are two decreases, but also two increases in this round, so the total number of stitches remains the same. However, the two increases will start to shape the nose.



Round 29: idec, 21 sc, inc, 4 sc, inc, 21 sc, idec

(52 stitches in round 29)



34

ROUND 30 (BODY)



Once again, we'll make the same number of decreases and increases and continue to shape the nose.



Round 30: 10 sc, idec, 11 sc, inc, 4 sc, inc, 11 sc, idec, 10 sc

(52 stitches in round 30)

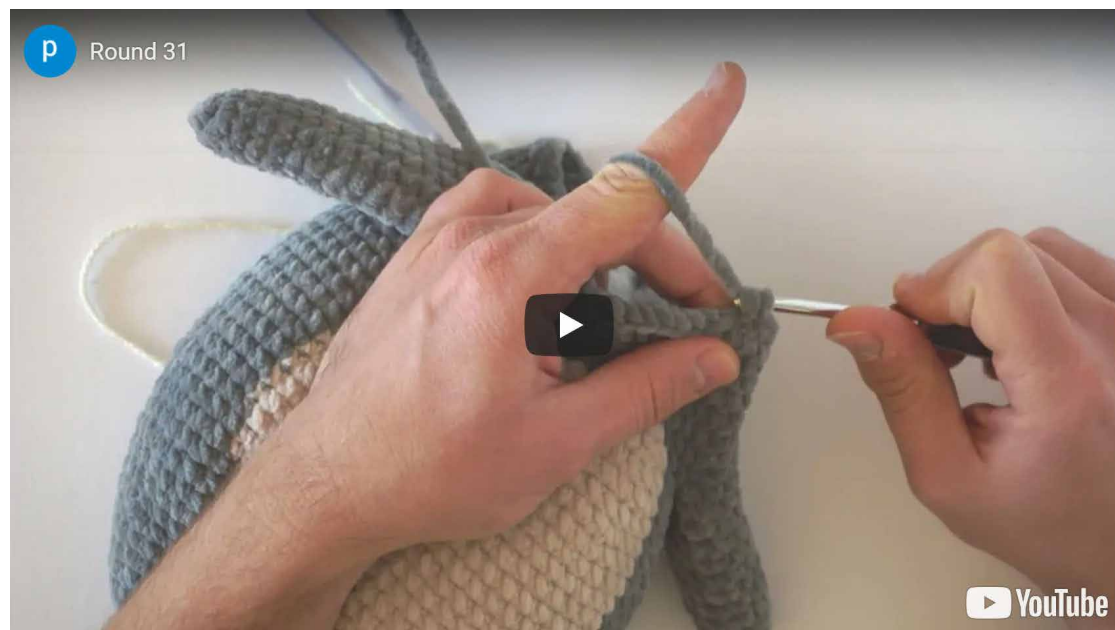


35

ROUND 31 (BODY)



A simple round with two decreases. We are nearly done.



Round 31: 12 sc, idec, 24 sc, idec, 12 sc

(50 stitches in round 31)

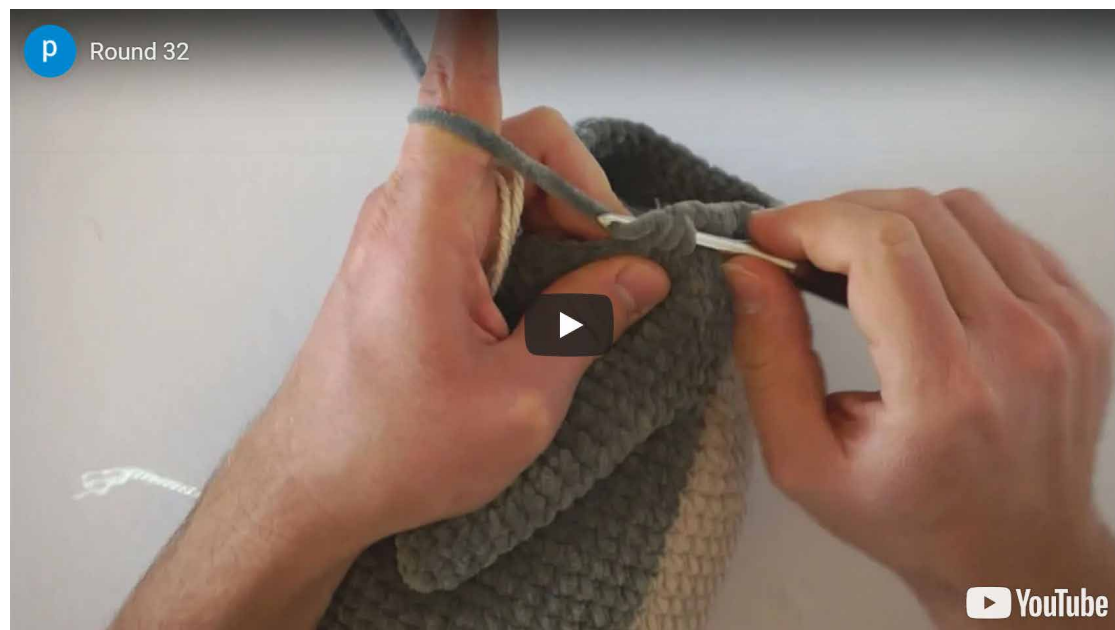


36

ROUND 32 (BODY)



We'll make several invisible decreases to shape the top side of the nose.



Round 32: (8 sc, idec) * 2, (1 sc, idec) * 3, (8 sc, idec) * 2, 1 sc

(43 stitches in round 32)

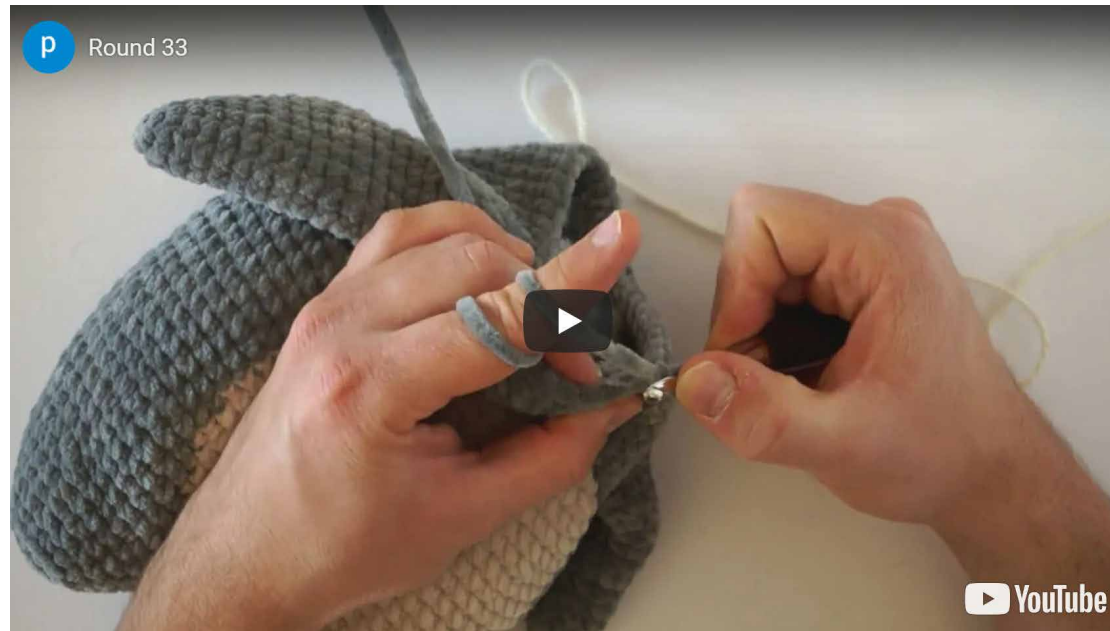


37

ROUND 33 (BODY)



Another round of decreases finishes the nose.



Round 33: (8 sc, idec) * 2, 1 sc, idec, (idec, 8 sc) * 2

(38 stitches in round 33)

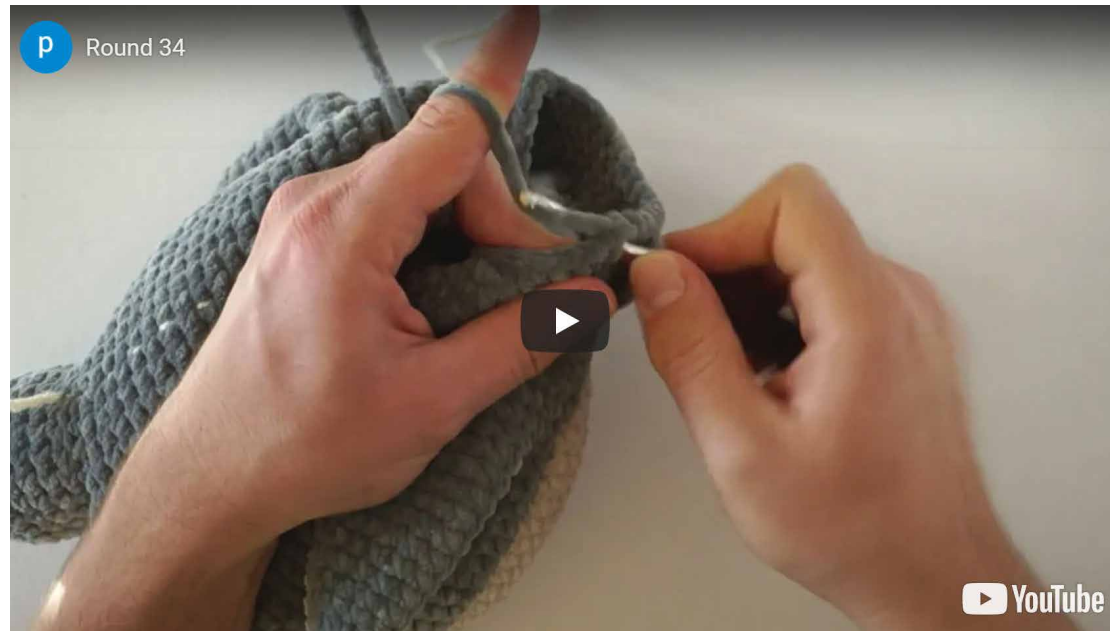


38

ROUND 34 (BODY)

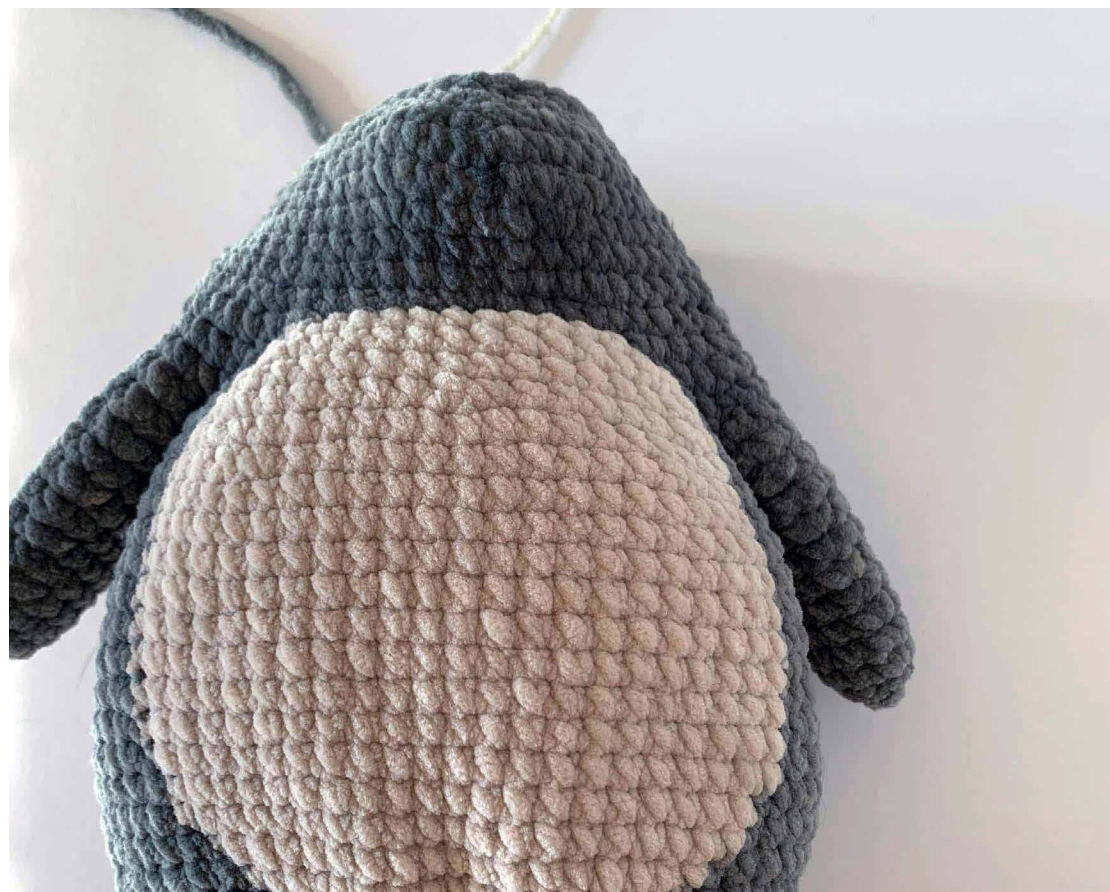


The next two rounds are straightforward with two decreases in each.



Round 34: 8 sc, idec, 18 sc, idec, 8 sc

(36 stitches in round 34)

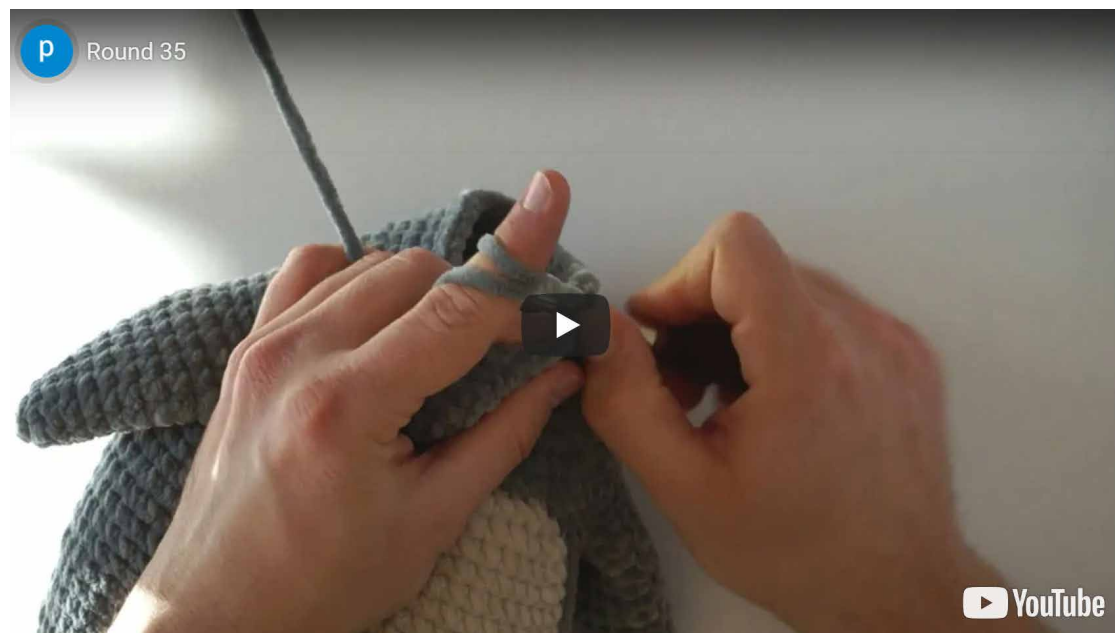


39

ROUND 35 (BODY)

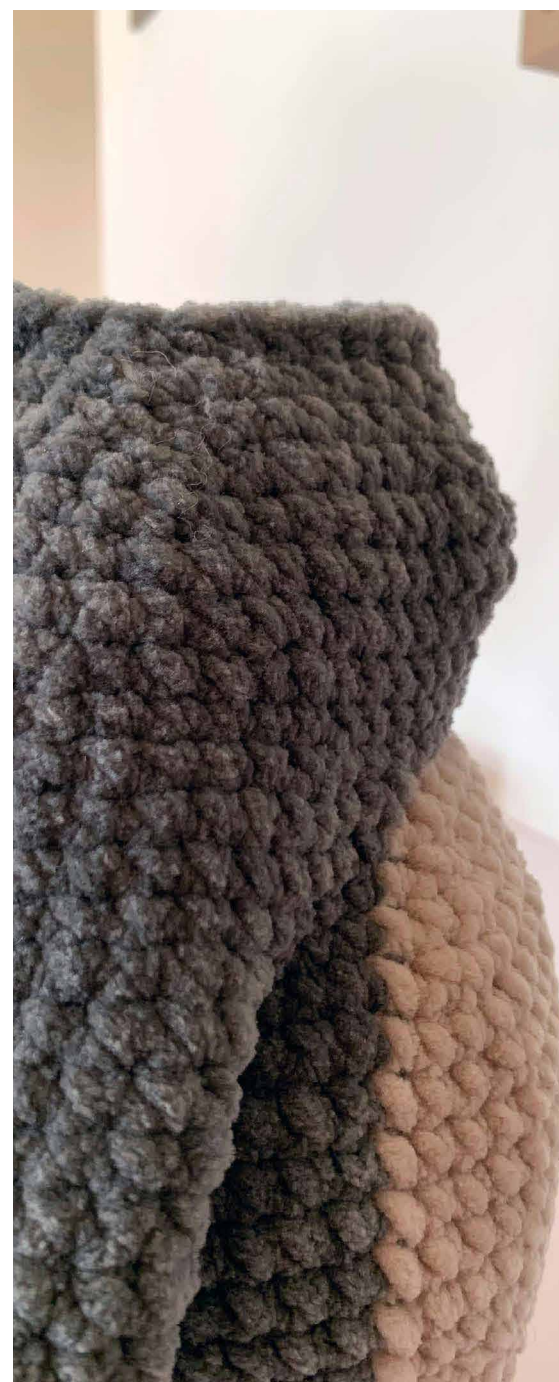


This round completes the forehead.



Round 35: 8 sc, idec, 16 sc, idec, 8 sc

(34 stitches in round 35)



ROUND 36 (BODY)



In this round we will join ears with the rest of the body. If you haven't made them yet, now is the time to return to [chapter 4](#).

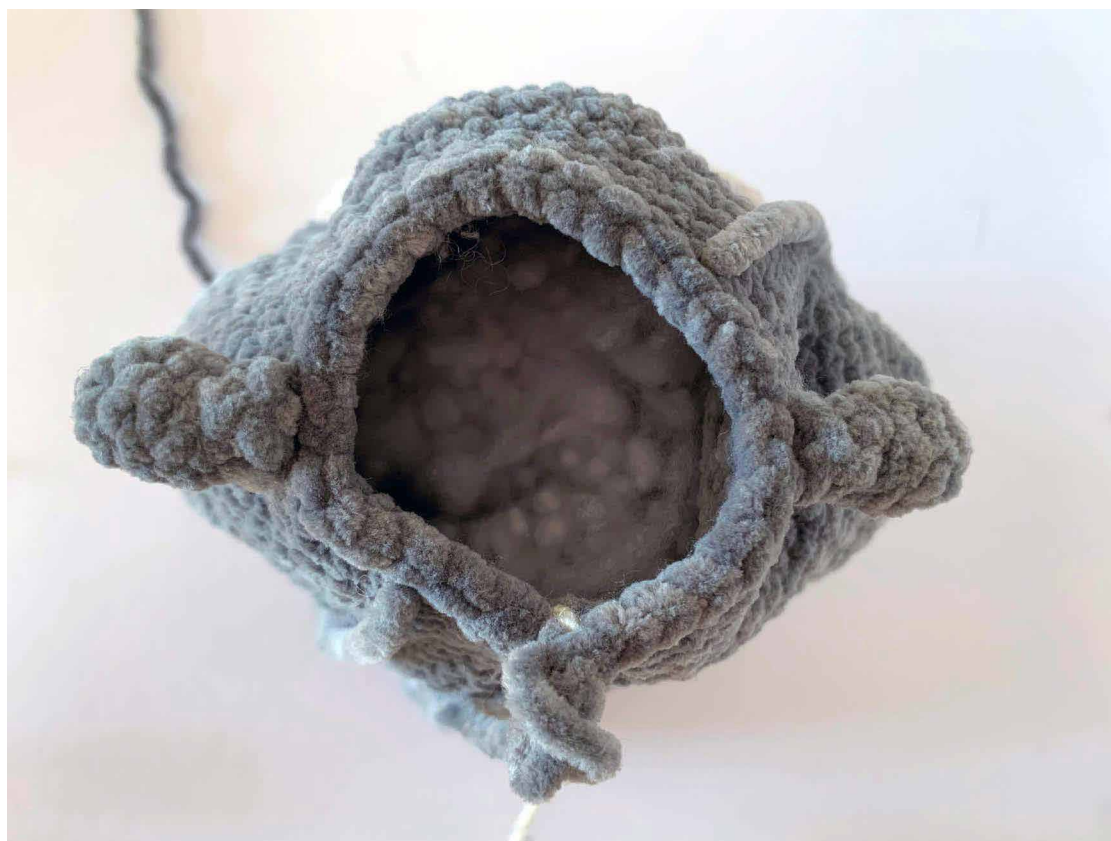
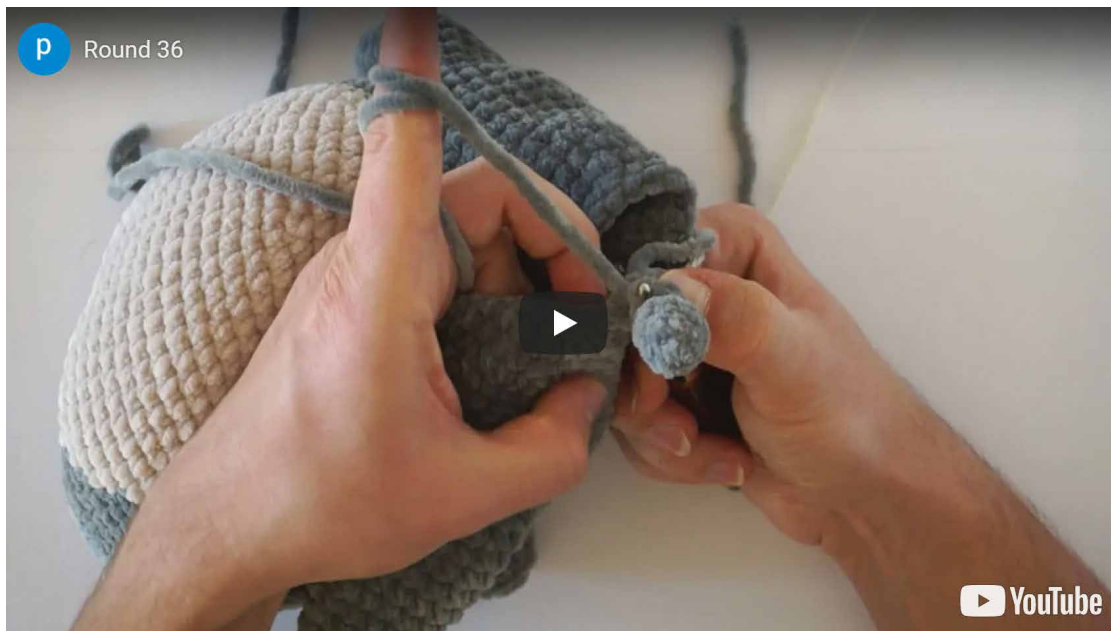
Ears should be straight on both sides of the head. So, you should check if the first stitch is centered in the back once again. Insert needle into the 9th stitch from the last stitch clockwise and counter-clockwise (including the last stitch) and check if the needle is oriented sideways. If it is not, determine the number of stitches to add for it to be oriented straight from the left to the right side.

Don't forget to crochet over loose ends of both ears to secure them into a few stitches.

To join ears with body use the joint stitches we used to attach tail and hands:

- insert hook into the last stitch of an ear from inside out
- insert hook into the next free stitch of the body
- yarn over
- pull through both stitches
- yarn over and pull through both loops

After you finish this round, use embroidery needle to pull loose ear ends through the closest stitch. You want them to be on the front side of the head.



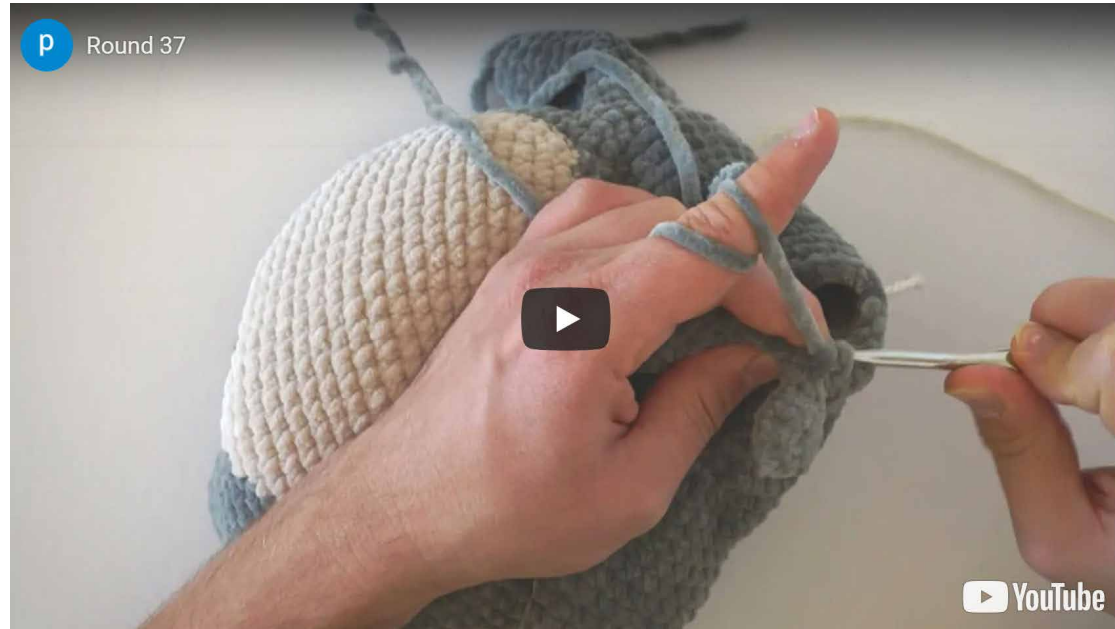
Round 36: 5 sc (CO loose end of left ear in last 3 stitches), idec, 2 joint stitches with left ear (first joint stitch is last stitch of left ear), (4 sc, idec) * 2, 4 sc (CO loose end of right ear in all 4 stitches), 2 joint stitches with right ear (first joint stitch is last stitch of right ear), 5 sc, idec (30 stitches in round 36)



ROUND 37 (BODY)



Join the top of ears with the body using two regular decreases (instead of invisible decreases as you did with tail and hands).



Round 37: 5 sc, dec * 2 (left ear with body), 2 sc, (idec, 3 sc) * 2, dec * 2 (right ear with body), 5 sc (24 stitches in round 37)

NEW TERMS

- **dec** = regular decrease



42

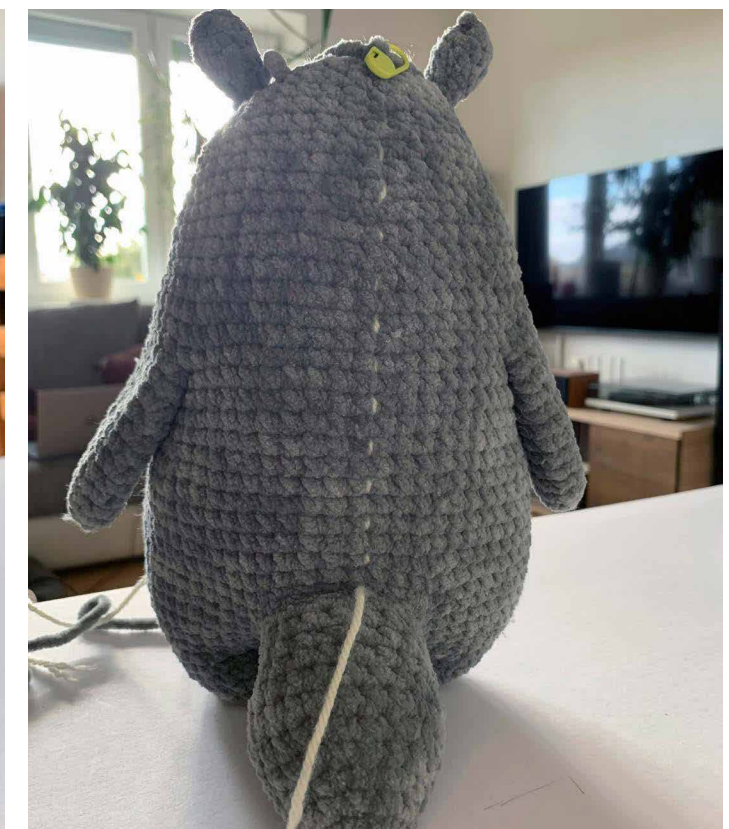
SECOND STUFFING



Stuff the rest of the body up to the top of the head.

Use your fingers to shape the body. You want to have a nice pear-like shape. I give some tips for the shaping of the toy in the next chapter.

Stuff the toy firmly, but don't overstuff it too much. The toy should be soft to push and plushy, but also not empty.

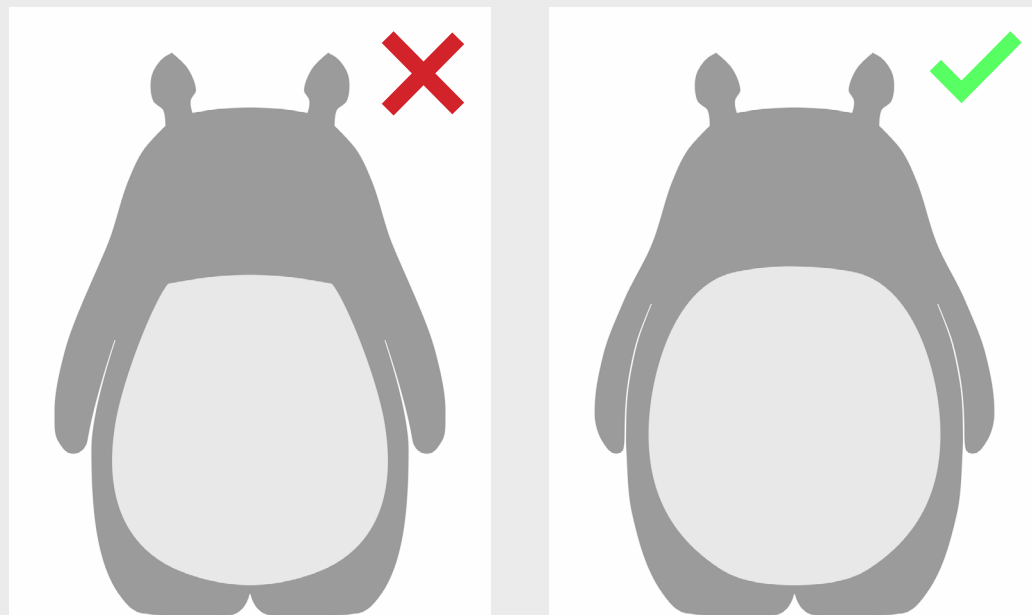


STUFFING TIPS

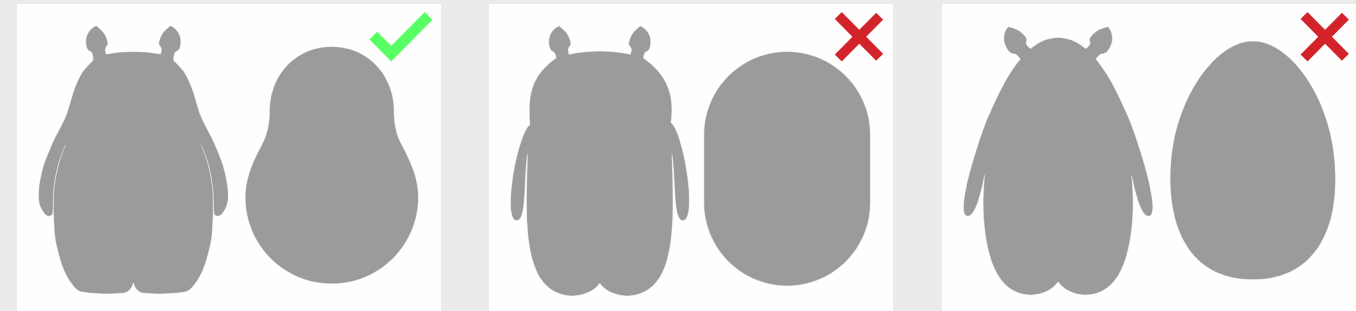
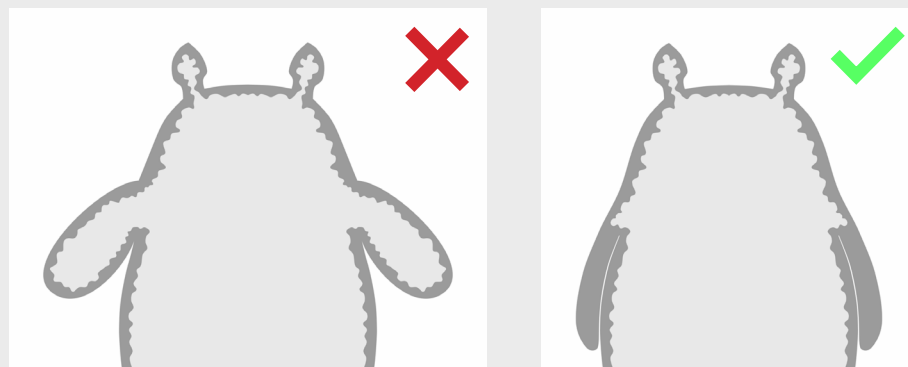


In this chapter, I will try to show you, what I think are the defining features of the shape. Even though I present this as a series of right/wrong images, please do not consider these as hard facts. There is no right or wrong way to do this and if you like your toy to look any other way, please ignore this chapter. But if you want your result to look similar to mine, these are the features that I think are important to focus on during stuffing.

If your belly forms a straight line at its top, stuff the belly a little bit more to make it nice and round.

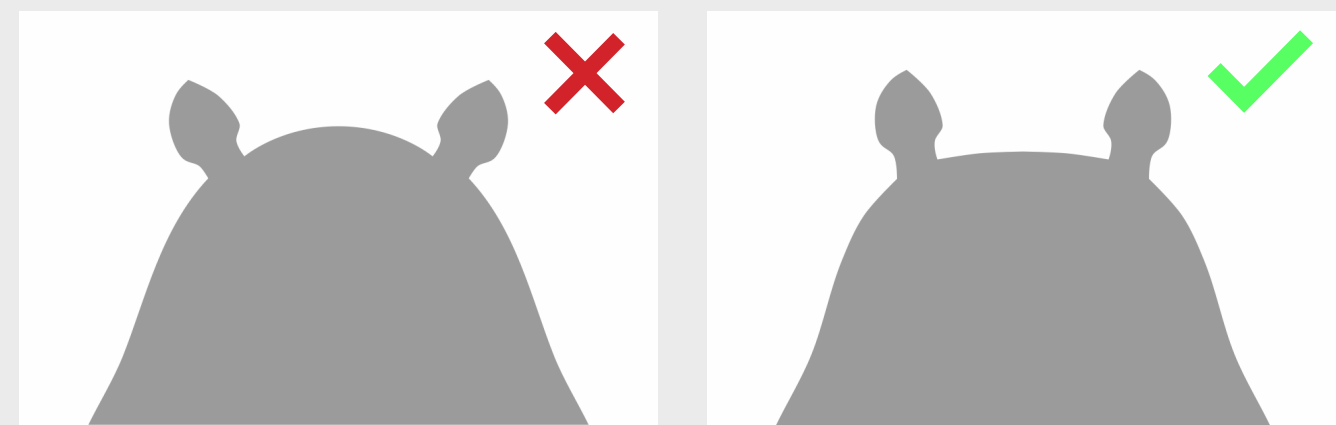


Do not stuff the hands. Leave them empty and stuff only their top part, so that the hands are connected with the head in a nice curve.



The outline of the body looks like a pear, i.e. the belly and the head are spheres, but the head is smaller. It does not look like a capsule or an egg.

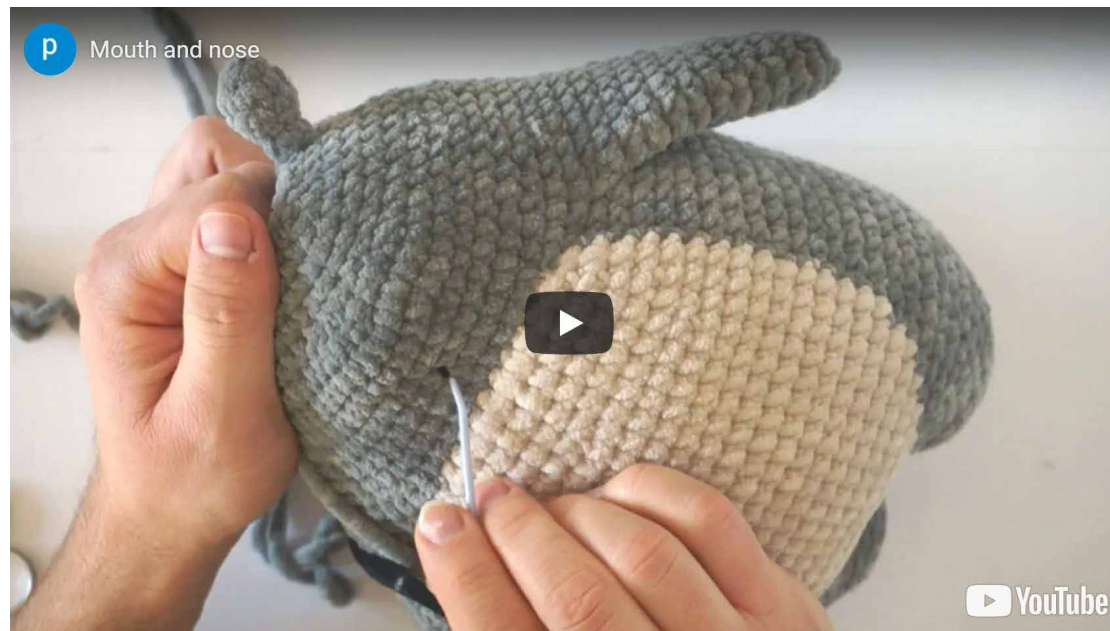
Notice that the head is not completely round, but it is slightly flat at the top.



MOUTH AND NOSE



Embroid mouth and nose.



Insert needle with a black yarn into the second hole (1) above the center of the belly. Pull the needle through the whole body to the back. Leave enough yarn, cut it and attach needle to the other end (on the front). Insert needle into the hole above (2) (3 rows above belly) and once again pull it through the whole body. The mouth should be slightly retracted. Insert needle into the same hole in the back you pulled it from (so that the black is not visible).



Count three holes above the mouth (1) (6 rows above belly) and three holes to the left (2). Your needle (which is still at the back) should pull out from this hole.



Count six holes to the right and insert needle into this hole (1). Now pull it out back from the hole on the left (2). Insert it into the right hole (1), pull it out from the left hole (2) and insert it into the right one (1). Nose should have three strings at the front. Weave both loose ends into the body or pull them through the same stitch, tie them up together and hide the knot into the body.



The right eye size is your choice. For a 27 cm tall toy, movie accurate eyes would be 1.6-2 cm large felt with 6-8 mm safety pins. However, I prefer the cuter look of large 2 cm eyes with 12 mm safety pins.

Insert eyes into the fourth stitch from the left and right side of the nose. Lock them with a washer on the other side of the cloth.

If the pins are too short and don't lock into the washer, you can cut the washer a little bit with scissors. You don't have to worry about safety, because the stitches are tight. The worst case scenario is that the eye would fall off. Since there is a large white felt between the washer and the pin, there are no small parts that could be dangerous to swallow.



Movie accurate eyes (1.6 cm felt, 6 mm pins)



1.6 cm felt, 8 mm pins



Cute kawaii eyes (1.6 cm felt, 12 mm pins)



My favorite (2 cm felt, 12 mm pins)



We will make whiskers. The best material for whiskers is 1mm thick black nylon string. It should be soft but also stiff to hold its shape. You can also use a leather string or a soft wire (recommended only for display pieces, children can get hurt).



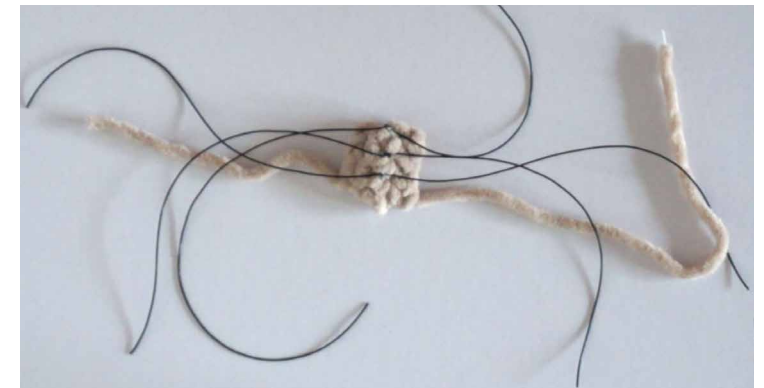
WHISKERS PLUG

First make a little square, which will act as plug securing whiskers inside the head. Start with a foundation chain with three stitches and then make three rows of single crochets:

1. ch 3
 2. 3 sc
 3. ch 1
 4. turn over and make sc into second stitch from hook
 5. 2 sc
 6. ch 1
 7. turn over and make sc into second stitch from hook
 8. 2 sc
- FO**



Attach three black strings to the plug. Make sure that they are long enough.



Hide the plug inside the head. Put each strand on a needle and pull it out of these holes. When you are sure that the plug is secure inside the head, cut the whiskers to the desired length. Be careful, because moving the plug might pull the whiskers back into the head (especially if they are short).



If you don't want to hassle with the whiskers or the toy will be played with by children, you can just embroider the whiskers by a thin black string.



47

ROUND 38 (BODY)



In the remaining three rounds we will complete the body and close the gap on top of the head.



Round 38: (2 sc, idec) * 6

(18 stitches in round 38)



48

ROUND 39 (BODY)



The second to last round. The space is limited and stitches are tighter, so if you prefer, switch to regular decreases instead of invisible ones.



Round 39: (1 sc, idec) * 6

(12 stitches in round 39)



49

ROUND 40 (BODY)



Final round with six decreases (again you can use regular decreases).



Round 40: idec * 6

(6 stitches in round 40)



FINISHING TOUCHES



Before you close the gap stuff the body one last time.

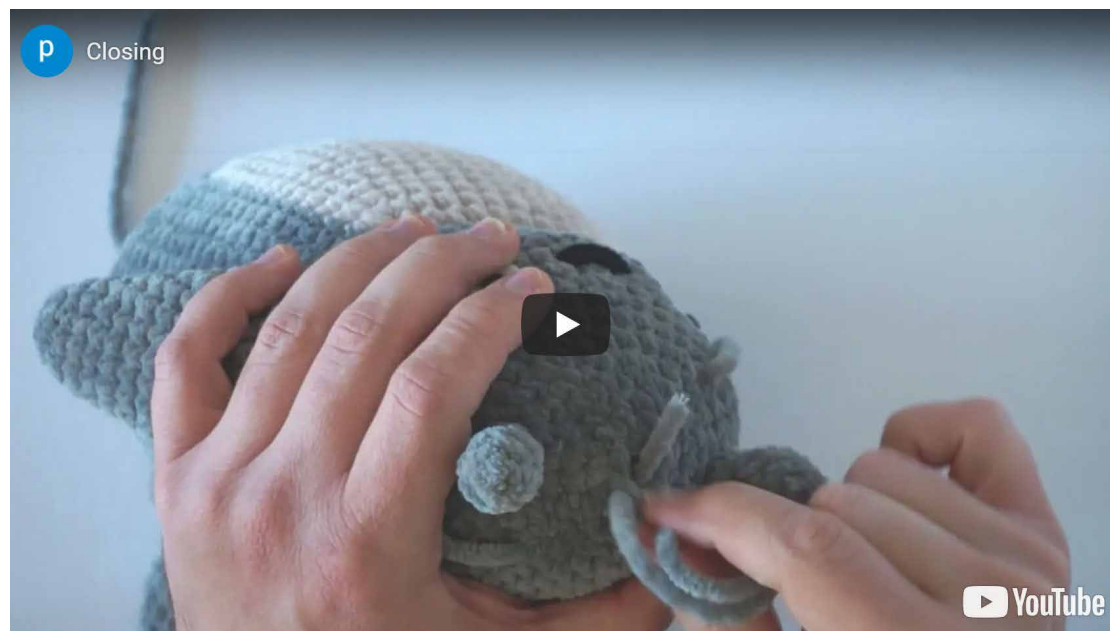
To close off the body, pull yarn through each of the 6 stitches from the inside out and tighten up after each stitch.

Then secure ears by sewing their loose ends through them. If these ends are long enough (if not, attach a new string of yarn), use them to make indentations in legs to make the toy more stable when standing.

You can also consider, if you want the hands to be free or if you want to sew them to the body (one stitch through the palm is enough). The former is better for play, the latter looks better when displayed.



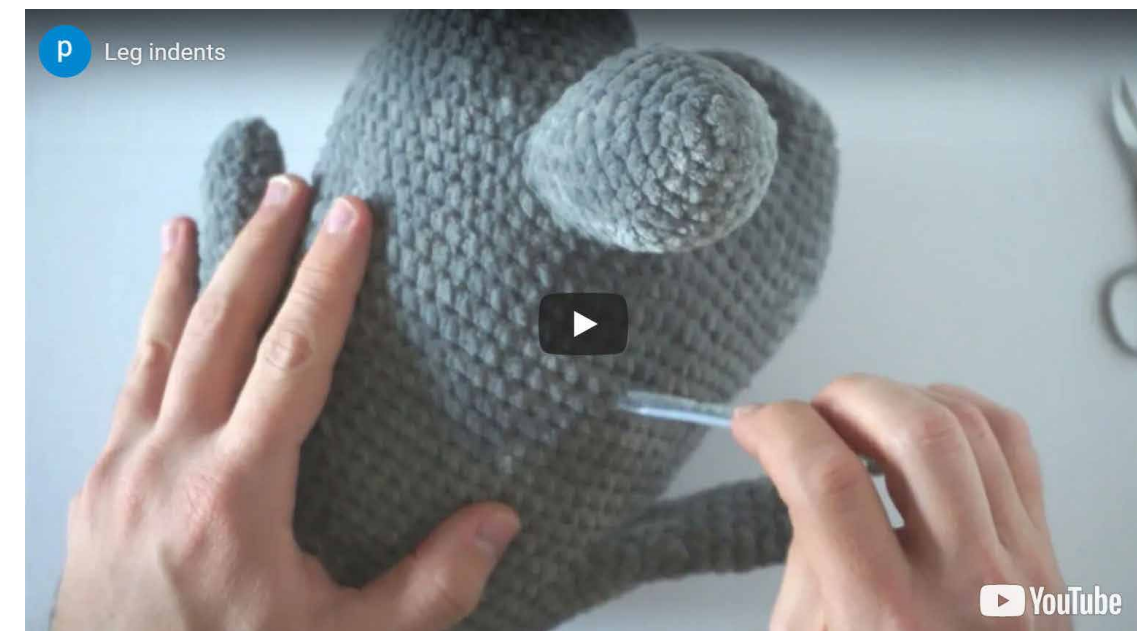
1. Stuff the body one last time.



2. Close the gap - cut the yarn, pull the loose end through the loop and tighten up. Put the loose end on a needle and make a stitch into each of the last six stitches from the inside out. Tighten up after each stitch.



3. Secure ears by sewing their loose ends through them.



4. Take a yarn (either a loose end of an ear if it is long enough or a new string) and put it on a needle. Pull the needle from the bottom of leg. Make a stitch into another hole and push the needle through the whole body. This should create a small indentation in the leg. Weave loose ends into the body and repeat the same process for the other leg.

51

EMBROID BELLY



In this chapter we will embroider gray arrows onto the chest.



1. Find the middle hole in the third beige row from the top (there should be 7 beige holes both to left and right next to it)



2. Attach gray yarn to a needle and insert it into the next hole to the left. Pull the needle out of the back.



3. Attach needle to the other end of the yarn (hanging from the belly) and insert it into the hole one row above one to the left.



4. Pull the needle out the hole one row below, one to the left



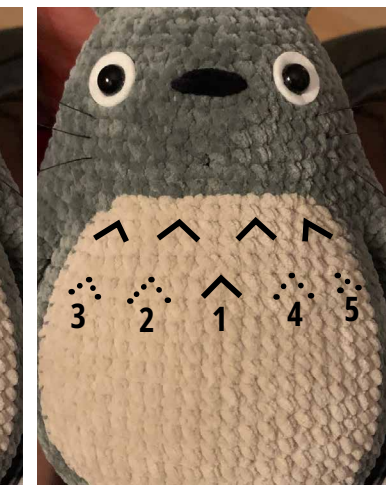
5. Insert the needle into the hole one row above, one to the right (the same hole as in step 3) and complete the first arrow.



6. Make the other arrows the same way. I did it in this order. There is always a one hole gap between two arrows.



7. The first arrow of the second row is exactly in the middle with one row of holes skipped.



8. Make the rest of arrows. The last arrow (5) is a little different - holes in its bottom row are next to each other (there is an even number of stitches in this row).

BELLY PATCH - ROWS 01 - 06



If you've been correcting round twisting and don't like how the belly looks, you can cover it by this patch that can be sewed onto the finished toy. But if you like the belly as it is now, please ignore the next five chapters.

For this belly patch, we will work in rows instead of rounds. Therefore, each row begins with a slightly confusing term CTS. This means, that you will start each row with one chain stitch - C. Then, you will take out your hook from the loop, insert it back again from the other side and turn the piece around, so that now you will crochet in the opposite direction - T. And finally, for the next stitch in the pattern, you will skip the chain stitch, you have just made - S.

Otherwise, the pattern is simple and mostly copies the belly you have already made when you crocheted the body. The difference is that you will crochet the patch from the top to the bottom.



Step 1:	ch 12	
Row 1:	skip 1 stitch, 11 sc	(11 stitches in row 1)
Row 2:	CTS, 1 sc, inc, 7 sc, inc, 1 sc	(13 stitches in row 2)
Row 3:	CTS, 1 sc, inc, 9 sc, inc, 1 sc	(15 stitches in row 3)
Row 4:	CTS, 1 sc, inc, 11 sc, inc, 1 sc	(17 stitches in row 4)
Row 5:	CTS, 2 sc, inc, 11 sc, inc, 2 sc	(19 stitches in row 5)
Row 6:	CTS, 9 sc, inc, 9 sc	(20 stitches in row 6)

NEW TERMS

- **CHTO** = one chain stitch, turn over, skip 1 stitch



BELLY PATCH - ROWS 07 - 14



This next eight rows are all the same - 20 single crochets in each row.



Row 7-14: CTS, 20 sc

(20 stitches in rows 7-14)



BELLY PATCH - ROWS 15 - 22



The last eight rows will finish the bottom half of the belly.

Do not cut the yarn at the end, because we will continue to crochet along the edge in the next chapter.



Row 15:	CTS, 2 sc, idec, 12 sc, idec, 2 sc	(18 stitches in row 15)
Row 16:	CTS, 18 sc	(18 stitches in row 16)
Row 17:	CTS, 2 sc, idec, 10 sc, idec, 2 sc	(16 stitches in row 17)
Row 18:	CTS, 2 sc, idec, 8 sc, idec, 2 sc	(14 stitches in row 18)
Row 19:	CTS, 1 sc, idec, 1 sc, idec, 2 sc, idec, 1 sc, idec, 1 sc	(10 stitches in row 19)
Row 20:	CTS, 1 sc, idec, 4 sc, idec, 1 sc	(8 stitches in row 20)
Row 21:	CTS, idec * 4	(4 stitches in row 21)
Row 22:	CTS, idec * 2	(2 stitches in row 22)



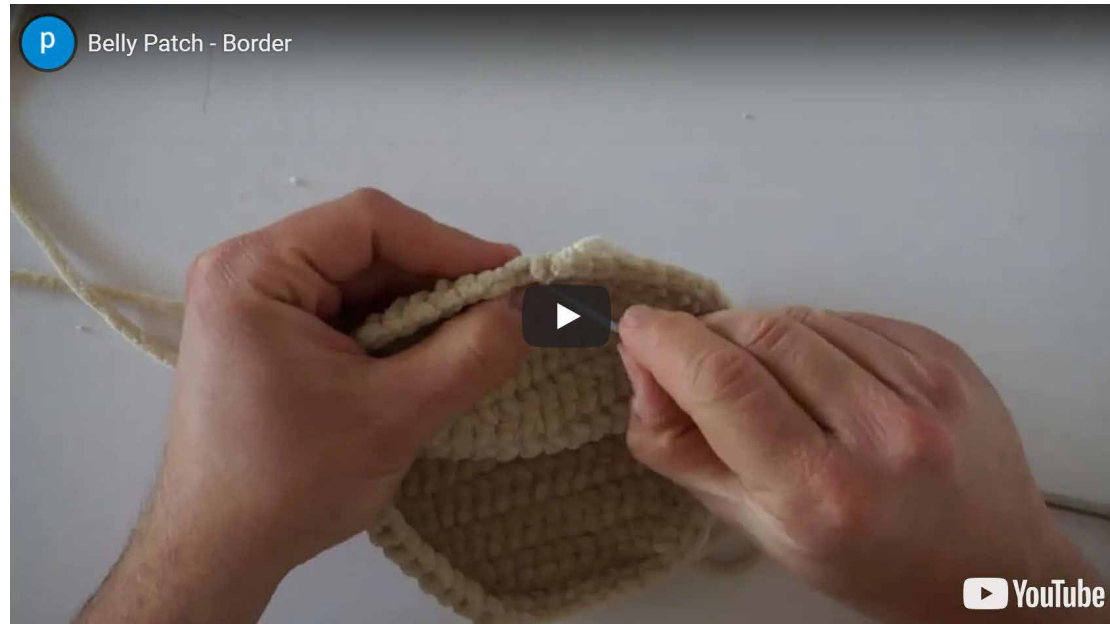
BELLY PATCH - BORDER



Now look carefully at the border of the belly patch. Each row ends either with a chain stitch or a single crochet. You will crochet along these stitches at the border.

Start by inserting your hook into the first stitch from row 21 and make another 20 single crochets along the right side. Continue with 11 single crochets along the foundation chain and finish with 22 single crochets along the left edge.

Finish off by pulling the yarn through the loop and tightening it up.



- Step 1:** 21 sc along the right edge
 - Step 2:** 11 sc along the top
 - Step 3:** 22 sc along the left edge
- FO**

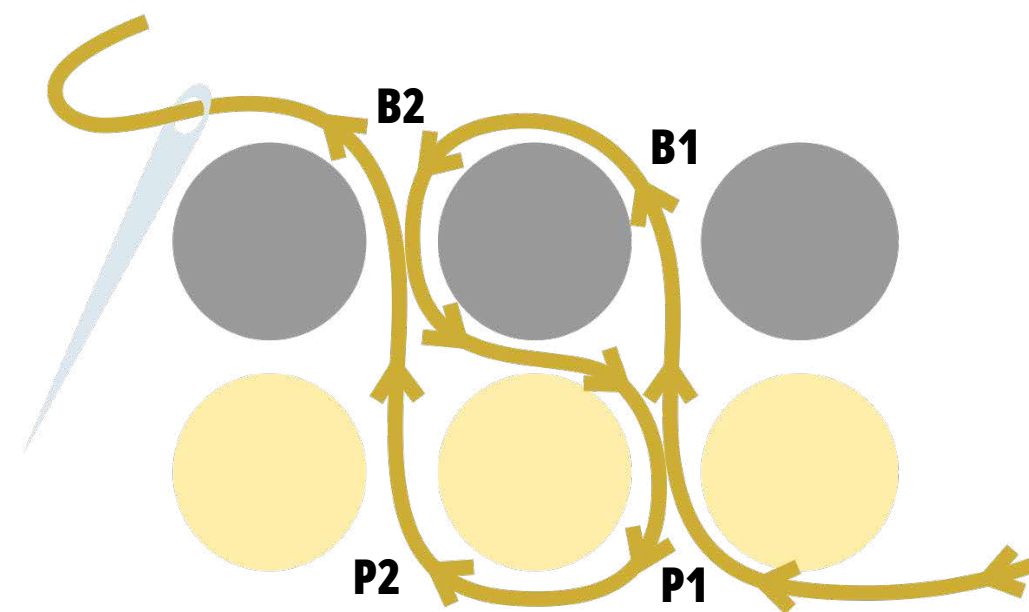


BELLY PATCH - ARROWS AND SEWING



Embroid arrows the same way as is described in **chapter 51** (only the position of arrows is slightly different).

Finally, sew the patch onto the body. Sew only along the edge of the patch through the stitches you made in the last chapter and follow the outline of the belly on the body. I recommend to start sewing from the middle of the top edge and then sew the left and right side separately.



- Thread the needle with a beige yarn attached through a stitch on the border of the patch (P1).
- Pass it through the nearest stitch of the body (B1).
- Pull it out of the next stitch in the direction you are sewing (B2).
- Put it back through the same stitch of the patch (P1).
- Continue with the next stitch (P2) and thread it through the same stitch of the belly (B2).

LEAF - PART 1



If you want to give your toy more character, you can crochet his typical leaf protecting him from rain.

Start by making a foundation chain with 10 stitches (image 1). Next, skip the last chain stitch you have made and make a slip stitch (images 2 and 3). Finish the stalk with three slip stitches, one into each chain stitch, so five chain stitches will be left in the foundation chain (image 4).

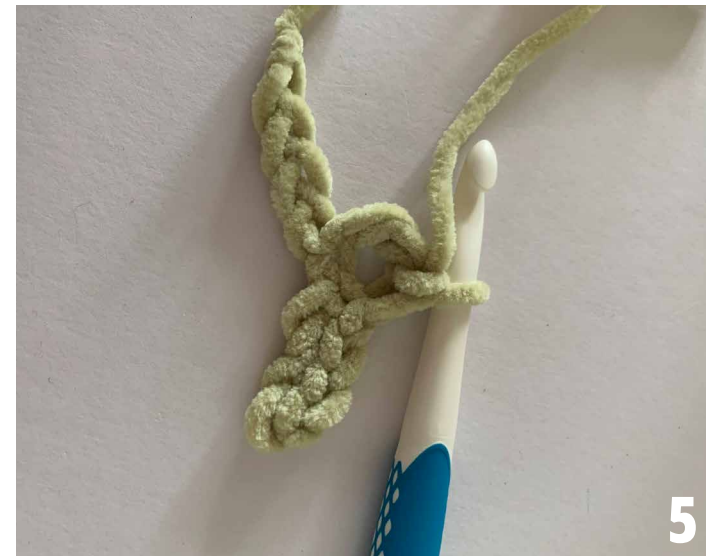
The blade is started by a triple crochet into the next chain stitch (image 5). Make another two triple crochets into the same chain stitch (image 6). This will make a nice rounded edge. There are four chain stitches left, so finish the right side of the leaf with two triple crochets (image 7) and two double crochets (image 8), one crochet into each of the left chain stitches.



- Step 1:** ch 10
Step 2: sl sc into 2nd stitch from hook
Step 3: 3 sl sc
Step 4: 3 tc into the same 1 sc (double increase)
Step 5: 2 tc
Step 6: 2 dc

NEW TERMS

- **sl sc** = slip stitch
- **dc** = double crochet
- **tc** = triple crochet



LEAF - PART 2



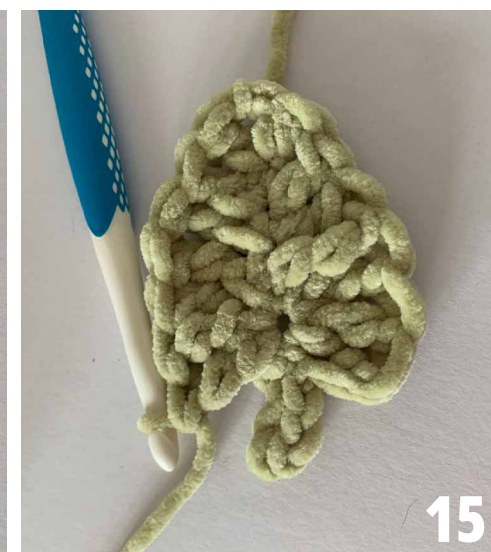
The tip of the leaf is done by making one chain stitch (image 9). Turn the leaf over and slip stitch into this same chain stitch (image 10 - notice the leaf is turned over).

Turn the leaf back to the front side and crochet the left side of the blade. It is identical to the right side, but in reversed order (images 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15). Make the stitches into the same holes in the foundation chain as you did on the right side (in image 11, you can see the hook inserted into the first chain stitch of the foundation chain for the first double crochet of step 9). It might be less obvious where they are, so if you are not sure, try to count the holes from the stalk. And if this doesn't help, don't worry, leaves are not perfectly symmetrical anyway.

Finish by one last slip stitch into the chain stitch with six triple crochet at the base of the stalk. Cut the yarn (leave long end) and pull it through the loop (image 16). Finish by sewing the leaf onto the head. Make stitches along the outer side of the leaf.



- Step 7:** 1 ch
Step 8: turn around, sl sc into ch you just made
Step 9: 2 dc
Step 10: 2 tc
Step 11: 3 tc into 1 sc
Step 12: sl sc into the same stitch
FO



PATTERN



HANDS (MAKE 2x)

Rnd 1: 5 sc into MR (5 sts in rnd 1)
Rnd 2: inc * 5 (10 sts in rnd 2)
Rnd 3: sc into each stitch (10 sts in rnd 3)
Rnd 4: (4 sc, inc) * 2 (12 sts in rnd 4)
Rnd 5: sc into each stitch (12 sts in rnd 5)
Rnd 6: (5 sc, inc) * 2 (14 sts in rnd 6)
Rnd 7: sc into each stitch (14 sts in rnd 7)
Rnd 8: (6 sc, inc) * 2 (16 sts in rnd 8)
Rnd 9: sc into each stitch (16 sts in rnd 9)
Rnd 10: (7 sc, inc) * 2 (18 sts in rnd 10)
Rnd 11: sc into each stitch (18 sts in rnd 11)
Rnd 12: (8 sc, inc) * 2 (20 sts in rnd 12)
FO

EARS (MAKE 2x)

Rnd 1: ch 2 (2 sts in rnd 1)
Rnd 2: 4 sc into 2nd stitch from hook (4 sts in rnd 2)
Rnd 3: (inc, 1 sc) * 2 (6 sts in rnd 3)
Rnd 4: (inc, 2 sc) * 2 (8 sts in rnd 4)
Rnd 5: sc into each stitch (8 sts in rnd 5)
Rnd 6: 4 hdec into BLO (4 sts in rnd 6)
Rnd 7: sc into each stitch (4 sts in rnd 7)
FO

BODY

Rnd 1: (start with first free stitch of first leg with hook on loop of second leg) 24 sc (around first leg), 1 sc (extra stitch into first stitch of this round), 24 sc (around second leg) (49 sts in rnd 1)
Rnd 2: (CO loose end of the first leg in first four stitches) (9 sc, inc) * 2, 4 sc, 1 sc, 4 sc, (inc, 9 sc) * 2 (53 sts in rnd 2)
Rnd 3: 24 sc, 2 sc, inc, 2 sc, 24 sc (54 sts in rnd 3)
Rnd 4: (9 sc, inc) * 2, 3 sc, inc, 6 sc, inc, 3 sc, (inc, 9 sc) * 2 (60 sts in rnd 4)
Rnd 5: 24 sc, 12 sc, 24 sc (60 sts in rnd 5)
Rnd 6: (8 sc, inc) * 2, 5 sc, 2 sc, inc, 8 sc, inc, 2 sc, 5 sc, (inc, 8 sc) * 2 (66 sts in rnd 6)
Rnd 7: 24 sc, 18 sc, 20 sc, 4 joint stitches with tail (first joint stitch is the 4th free stitch of tail; CO loose end of tail) (66 sts in rnd 7)
Rnd 8: continue with 4 joint stitches with tail, 19 sc, 20 sc, 18 sc, idec (last free stitch of body + first free stitch of tail), 4 sc FLO (along tail) (66 sts in rnd 8)
Rnd 9: 4 sc FLO (last stitch of tail + first free stitch of body), idec, 18 sc, 20 sc, 23 sc (66 sts in rnd 9)

TAIL

Rnd 1: 6 sc into MR (6 sts in rnd 1)
Rnd 2: inc * 6 (12 sts in rnd 2)
Rnd 3: sc into each stitch (12 sts in rnd 3)
Rnd 4: (1 sc, inc) * 6 (18 sts in rnd 4)
Rnd 5: sc into each stitch (18 sts in rnd 5)
Rnd 6: (2 sc, inc) * 6 (24 sts in rnd 6)
Rnd 7: sc into each stitch (24 sts in rnd 7)
Rnd 8: sc into each stitch (24 sts in rnd 8)
Rnd 9: 2 sc, idec, 14 sc, idec, 2 sc, idec (21 sts in rnd 9)
Rnd 10: 1 sc, idec, 13 sc, idec, 1 sc, idec (18 sts in rnd 10)
Rnd 11: sc into each stitch (18 sts in rnd 11)
Rnd 12: sc into each stitch (18 sts in rnd 12)
FO

LEGS (MAKE 2x)

Rnd 1: 6 sc into MR (6 sts in rnd 1)
Rnd 2: inc * 6 (12 sts in rnd 2)
Rnd 3: (1 sc, inc) * 6 (18 sts in rnd 3)
Rnd 4: sc into each stitch BLO (18 sts in rnd 4)
Rnd 5: sc into each stitch (18 sts in rnd 5)
Rnd 6: (2 sc, inc) * 6 (24 sts in rnd 6)
FO (first leg only)

Rnd 10-16: 22 sc, 22 sc, 22 sc (66 sts in rnd 10-16)
Rnd 17: 10 sc, idec, 10 sc, 22 sc, 10 sc, idec, 10 sc (64 sts in rnd 17)
Rnd 18: 21 sc, 22 sc, 21 sc (64 sts in rnd 18)
Rnd 19: 21 sc, 3 sc, idec, 12 sc, idec, 3 sc, 21 sc (62 sts in rnd 19)
Rnd 20: 21 sc, 20 sc, 21 sc (62 sts in rnd 20)
Rnd 21: 9 sc, idec, 10 sc, 1 sc, idec, 6 sc, idec, 6 sc, idec, 1 sc, 10 sc, idec, 9 sc (57 sts in rnd 21)
Rnd 22: 9 sc, 8 joint stitches with left hand (first joint stitch is 8th free stitch of the hand; CO loose end in last 4 stitches), 3 sc, 17sc, 3 sc, 8 joint stitches with right hand (first joint stitch is 8th free stitch, CO loose end in last 4 stitches), 9 sc (58 sts in rnd 22, but 63 sts including sts around hands)
Rnd 23: 8 sc, idec (body + first stitch of left hand), 10 sc (along left hand), idec (last stitch of left hand + body), 2 sc, 1 sc, idec, 11 sc, idec, 1 sc, 2 sc, idec (body + first stitch of right hand), 10 sc (along right hand), idec (last stitch of right hand + body), 8 sc (59 sts in rnd 23)
Rnd 24: 22 sc, (change color after pulling through final loops) 1sc, idec, 9sc, ridec, 1sc, 22 sc (57 sts in rnd 24)
Rnd 25: 23 sc, 11 msc, 23 sc (57 sts in rnd 25)
Rnd 26: (17 sc, idec) * 3 (54 sts in rnd 26)
Rnd 27: 54sc (54 sts in rnd 27)
Rnd 28: 12 sc, idec, 26 sc, idec, 12 sc (52 sts in rnd 28)

Stuff to the top of belly (should look like a ball).

Rnd 29: idec, 21 sc, inc, 4 sc, inc, 21 sc, idec (52 sts in rnd 29)
Rnd 30: 10 sc, idec, 11 sc, inc, 4 sc, inc, 11 sc, idec, 10 sc (52 sts in rnd 30)
Rnd 31: 12 sc, idec, 24 sc, idec, 12 sc (50 sts in rnd 31)
Rnd 32: (8 sc, idec) * 2, (1 sc, idec) * 3, (8 sc, idec) * 2, 1 sc (43 sts in rnd 32)
Rnd 33: (8 sc, idec) * 2, 1 sc, idec, (idec, 8 sc) * 2 (38 sts in rnd 33)
Rnd 34: 8 sc, idec, 18 sc, idec, 8 sc (36 sts in rnd 34)
Rnd 35: 8 sc, idec, 16 sc, idec, 8 sc (34 sts in rnd 35)
Rnd 36: 5 sc (CO loose end of left ear in last 3 stitches), idec, 2 joint stitches with left ear (first joint stitch is last stitch of left ear), (4 sc, idec) * 2, 4 sc (CO loose end of right ear in all 4 stitches), 2 joint stitches with right ear (first joint stitch is last stitch of right ear), 5 sc, idec (30 sts in rnd 36)
Rnd 37: 5 sc, dec * 2 (left ear with body), 2 sc, (idec, 3 sc) * 2, dec * 2 (right ear with body), 5 sc (24 sts in rnd 37)

Stuff to the top of head (hands should be empty), embroid mouth and nose, add eyes, make whiskers.

Rnd 38: (2 sc, idec) * 6 (18 sts in rnd 38)
Rnd 39: (1 sc, idec) * 6 (12 sts in rnd 39)
Rnd 40: idec * 6 (6 sts in rnd 40)

Stuff rest, pull through each stitch and tighten up after each stitch, weave in loose ends, embroid belly, crochet leaf.