

Crochet Instructions for an Octopus

Materials

- Please use 100% anti-allergenic cotton yarn only - We recommend 4 ply (you may use one or more colours for the body, bottom and tentacles in whatever combination you like)
- Scrap cotton yard or embroidery thread for eyes, lips and (optional) additional attributes, e.g. hat, flower, ribbon
- Anti-allergenic toy filling/stuffing preferably washable at 60°C (it is important to make sure that the filling does not go through the stitches)

Tools

- Hook 2.5/2mm and 3.25mm / D / UK 11

Size of the finished octopus

- Darning needle
- Open-type stitch marker or a piece of thread (optional) head should be 6-9cm / 2.5 - 3.5 in from top to bottom
- Tentacles should not be more than 22 cm / 8.5 in when stretched

Abbreviations

- Ch - Chain
- Dc - Double crochet
- 2dc - Two double Dc in one stitch
- dc2tog - Two dc together
- *...*(3) - Work instructions given between the asterisks three times
- RD - Round
- [10sts] - Number of stitches after the certain round is finished.

Instructions

Body and Tentacles

It is recommended to use a 2.5/2mm hook size for the body and a 3.25mm hook size for the tentacles.

- RD 1 - 6 Dc in a magic ring mark beginning of the round with an open-type stitch marker or a thread (optional)
- RD 2 - 2 Dc in every stitch [12sts]
- RD 3 - *1 Dc, 2 Dc,*(6) [18 sts]
- RD 4 - *1 Dc, 1Dc, 2 Dc*(6) [24 sts]
- RD 5 - *1 Dc, 1Dc, 1Dc, 2Dc*(6) [30 sts]
- RD 6 - *1 Dc, 1Dc, 1Dc, 1Dc, 2Dc*(6) [36 sts]
- RD 7
- | } 1Dc in every stitch [36 sts]
- RD 14
- RD 15 - *4 Dc, Dc2tog*(6) [30sts]
- RD 16
- | } 1Dc in every stitch [30 sts]
- RD 17
- RD 18 - *3 Dc, Dc2tog*(6) [24 sts]
- RD 19
- | } 1Dc in every stitch [24 sts]
- RD 20
- RD 21 - *2 Dc, dc2tog*(6) [18 sts]
- RD 22 - 1 Dc in every stitch [18 sts]
- RD 23 - *7 Dc, dc2tog*(2) [16 sts]
- RD 24 - 1 Dc in every stitch [16 sts]

RD 25 - Begin the arms

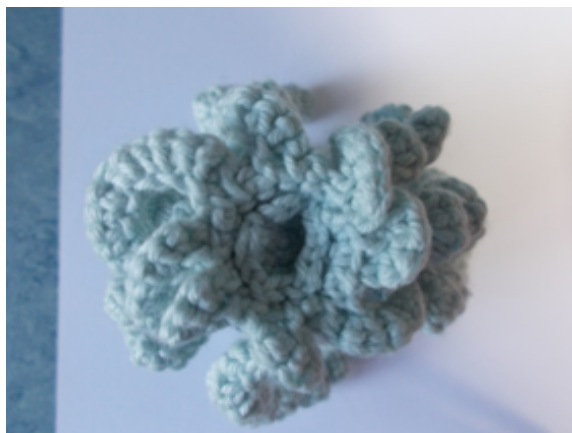
- *1Dc, 50ch, turn, 2Dc in every chain, when done with the chain - 1sl st in the next stitch*(8)
- End with 1 slip stitch in the same stitch where the first arm began. Pull the yarn through
- If the tentacle does not want to twist, try making 3 or 4 Dc in every chain. Depending on the yarn, it might be sufficient to work 1Dc in every chain in the return row too.

If you wish to make your octopus more colourful, you can use different colours of yarn for its tentacles.



Bottom

- RD 1 - 5Dc in a magic ring
- RD 2 - 2Dc in every stitch [10sts]
- RD 3 - *1Dc, 2Dc*(5) [15 sts]
- Finish with a sl st and using the same yarn join the bottom piece with the body piece: with Dc by pulling up a loop through both the bottom piece and the body piece stitch. There should be two Dc like that per one tentacle. Weave in the ends.



Finishing Touches

- Using scrap yarn, embroider eyes and mouth



Please send all finished Octopi to:

Sheffield Hospitals Charity
Wycliffe House
Northern General Hospital
Herries Road
Sheffield
S5 7AT

