A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO AMIGURUMI



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INTRODUCTION

Are you in love with all things cute? Like making things yourself? But are maybe a bit nervous about getting started? You've come to the right place!

I'm Stacey, and I'm the crochet designer for FreshStitches Amigurumi and home of the Ami Club. I'm also the instructor of <u>Amigurumi Woodland Animals on Craftsy</u>, a course



that has successfully taught over 10,000 students to get crocheting! I think that everyone in the world should feel the joy of making something cute and adorable all on their own, so I'm here to help you get started!

This e-book is a compilation of blog posts that I've written over the years,

and together, you have everything you need to get started crocheting!

I've added lots of links to tutorials in this book, but **if you're feeling stuck**, **I highly recommend you take my course online.** It's not pricey, and seeing the action on video can make all the difference for visual learners!

And finally, the end of this book includes Howie, a penguin pattern. You can put all of your new skills into action by making your very own amigurumi. Don't worry... you can do it!

So, let's get started!

SELECTING YOUR MATERIALS

CHOOSING YARN FOR YOUR AMIGURUMIS!



If you're new to crocheting or amigurumi, you probably don't want to spend big bucks on yarn.

Especially because you're not sure if it's a hobby you'll stick to or not!

Fortunately, your big box store has lots of affordable yarn options that'll work perfectly well for your cutie. The most common types of yarn used are acrylic or wool, or a blend of the two. Acrylic has a lot of advantages: it's machine washable and people are

rarely allergic to it.

You'll develop your own preferences as you do more crocheting, but basically, if it feels nice in the ball when you pick it up, it's probably something you'll enjoy working with.

There are a few types of yarn I don't recommend that you use. Stay away from cotton (specifically, 'dishcloth cotton', but it's safer to stay away from all cotton until you start to learn your yarns) because it lacks elasticity and will create a stiff finished product. And steer clear of any yarns that feel very slippery to the touch (this is a couple of acrylics, and most bamboo or silk yarns) as they will be difficult to work with.

If you're looking to order yarn online, I recommend checking out <u>Knit Picks</u> for reasonably-priced yarn. I really enjoy Comfy Worsted for Amigurumi!

WHAT HOOK SIZE DO I USE?

Let's start with the basics. The thinner the yarn you use, the smaller hook size you'll need. You'll use a bigger hook to crochet with a thicker yarn.



The main rule of thumb is easy: you want to select a hook that allows you to crochet with the yarn you have and make a fabric that doesn't have holes in it. That's it!

Okay, you want more details? Let's dig a little deeper.

Amigurumi patterns typically recommend that you use a hook smaller than is recommended for the yarn (to create a dense fabric that doesn't allow stuffing to poke through), so to substitute successfully, you'll want to use a hook that's the same amount smaller than is recommended for your yarn. Let's look at an example.

Let's pretend we're looking at a pattern that recommends using a worsted weight yarn



with a size F (3.75mm) hook. A worsted weight yarn usually uses a size H (5.0mm) hook. How do I know that? I peeked at the size hook recommended on the yarn label of a worsted weight yarn!

That means that the pattern recommends that you use a hook that is 1.25mm smaller than what is recommended on the

yarn label.

So, now I have a smaller yarn that I want to make an amigurumi from. The yarn label for my smaller yarn recommends a 3.5mm hook.

To calculate what size hook we need, just subtract 1.25 from 3.5... and we find out that we'll want to use a 2.25mm, which is a size B. So, grab your B hook and start crocheting!





Does it work the same way for bigger yarns? Of course! Let's say we have a bulky yarn.

The bulky yarn label says that we want to use a size 10, which is a 6mm. 6 minus 1.25 is 4.75! Since there isn't a 4.75 mm crochet hook, we'd probably round up to a 5mm (size H) and get started!

2.75mm (c) hook: 1" per stitch fingering 6.0mm (J) hook: 2.5" per stitch bulky 3.5mm (E) hook: 1.5" per stitch dk 5.0mm (H) hook: 1.8" per stitch worsted 8.0mm (L) hook: 2.75" per stitch bulky

A couple of other points to keep in mind:

• If you're using a bigger yarn, you're going to also use slightly more yardage than is called for in the pattern. Smaller yarns will use less yardage.

Here is an approximate guide for how much yarn you'll need (available at:

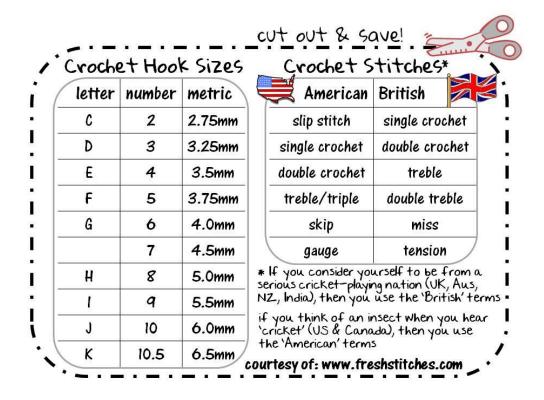
http://www.freshstitches.com/how-much-yarn-do-i-need/)

• Scale your eyes accordingly! Many amigurumi use a 12mm craft eye, but you'll want to select a smaller or larger size to suit your animal.



A HUGE selection of eyes is available at: http://www.freshstitches.com/product-category/craft-animal-eyes/

• Are you confused about what size in millimeters your crochet hook is? You might want to check out a conversion chart (handy dandy example, below!).



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And remember, **amigurumi are about having fun**... so don't worry too much about the exact hook size! If the little animal you're making looks good in the yarn that you chose, then go with it!

SELECTING STUFFING

Picking a stuffing is a personal-preference issue, but here's my opinion if you want it!

Fiberfill is the generic name for polyester stuffing, and you may have heard of 'Poly-Fil', a brand of fiberfill. Poly-Fil's claim to fame is that it is much fluffier than other brands of fiberfill. That is, if you take an ounce of Poly-Fil, and an ounce of some other brand of fiberfill, the Polyfill will take up more volume. According to their website, this is because the fibers in Poly-Fil are specially manufactured to sit in a 'random' arrangement, creating more fluff.

I will attest that Poly-Fil is fluffier than other brands. However, I don't think that makes it better! That's right- I'm going against the grain here. In my opinion, Polyfill is *too* fluffy. Let me explain why. All stuffings, no matter how their fibers are arranged, smoosh over time. If you give a child a stuffed animal, and let them hug it and squeeze it, some of the fiberfill is going to get compressed.

My preferred solution is to stuff your animal with generic fiberfill stuffing (yeah, the cheap stuff) and stuff the animal with a decent amount of stuffing, but not so much stuffing that your stitches stretch out. Because your animal starts with a more densely-packed stuffing, it will compress less over time.

I'm often asked about alternatives to stuffing. In general, fabric bits and yarn end up being fairly dense and lumpy to use as a stuffing. Feel free to experiment, but when you're getting started, it's usually easiest to go buy a small bag of the intended stuff.

GETTING STARTED CROCHETING

Okay, you have your yarn, hook and stuffing... now you're ready to crochet! Even if you're a crocheting novice, fear not! This section contains all the info you'll need to get started! The typical way of starting to work in the round is less than ideal for amigurumi.



The standard way is to make a slip knot, chain 2, and then single crochet six times into the first stitch.

Why isn't this the best? It leaves an icky hole that lets stuffing poke through, as shown in the photo at left. Not so good.

I'll show you two alternative ways of starting that get rid of that hole!

BEGINNING TO WORK IN THE ROUND: SLOPPY SLIP KNOT

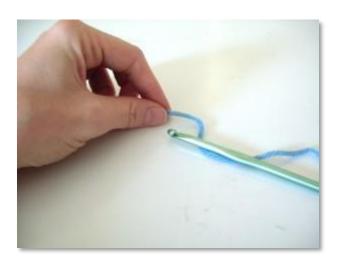
To make a sloppy slip knot, twist the yarn around the hook to begin (a), and crochet as directed. Once you have completed your first round (b), pull on the tail, while holding the work you have created (c). The center hole will close right up!



Want to see the sloppy slip knot in action? Watch my video on this page: http://freshstitches.com/crochet-help-tutorial-video/

BEGINNING TO WORK IN THE ROUND: SUPER EASY MAGIC RING!

Maybe you've heard of magic (adjustable ring), but it got you all tied up in knots... the classic technique can be a bit complicated. That's why I came up with this super-easy way of doing magic ring.



In this technique, you begin by making a slip knot, then creating the adjustable loop. With this method, there are less loops flying around, so it's more accessible to beginners. Who knows, it may become your favorite!



Step one: make a slip knot

Start off by getting the hook and yarn called for in your pattern.

Then, make a slip knot with about 6 inches remaining at the tail, and insert the hook into the slip knot.



Step two: make a loop

With the 6 inches you have left in the tail, make a loop, as pictured at left.

Step three: crochet into the loop

Pretend that GIANT loop is just one crochet stitch. Crochet into it six times (or do however many stitches called for in your pattern).



To single crochet one stitch into the loop: insert your hook into the loop, wrap your yarn over the hook and pull through the loop, then wrap your yarn over your hook again and pull through the two loops on your hook! Repeat this until you've crocheted all of your stitches! Your piece will look as pictured at left.



Step four: pull, and you're done!

To close up the hole, pull on the tail!



You're done! Hooray!

Want to see a video? Go to this post: http://freshstitches.com/crochet-help-tutorial-video/

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CROCHETING THROUGH THE BACK OR BOTH LOOPS

When you're crocheting, you have the option of crocheting through the front, back or both loops.

If the pattern doesn't specify, **crocheting through both loops is the default.** I prefer to crochet through the back loop, as it leaves a little ridge behind that makes attaching easier. Have a look at both and pick which you like!

Which one is the back loop? Each crochet stitch is like a little V on its side. When you crochet through both loops, you insert your hook under the entire V. Look at picture below, and see how one loop is highlighted in black? This is the back loop, and it's what you'll stitch into when you are crocheting into the back loop, only.







The above photo shows an example of working **through both loops**. Doing so creates a fabric that is slightly thicker than working through one loop alone, with no notable

'ridges' on the work. The fabric also contains noticeable little holes, so when this technique is used in making amigurumi, one usually uses a smaller hook size than is required for the yarn so that the stuffing does not show.

BACK LOOP





The above photo shows an example of working **through the back loop only**. Doing so creates a thinner fabric than working through both loops. It also creates little 'ridges' on the front of the work that I really like. (you'll notice that almost all FreshStitches patterns are worked through the back loops only). This technique does not leave very noticeable holes in the fabric, meaning that amigurumi can be made without a very small hook size. You will notice that the back of the fabric looks identical to the back of the sample that is worked through both loops.

HOW TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR STITCHES: MARK THE END OF YOUR ROUND!

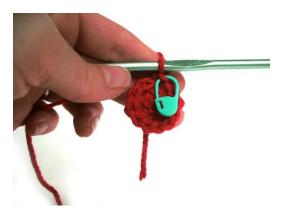


The most common problem crocheters have in making amigurumi is losing track of where the round starts and ends... which leads to an incorrect stitch count and mayhem! So, I'll show you how to use a locking stitch marker!

Notice that crocheters use **locking stitch markers** (you can substitute a safety pin). It needs to open and close!



Since I crochet through the <u>back loop only</u> the front loop is available to hold a locking stitch marker, as pictured at left.



Close the locking stitch marker, and keep crocheting!



I know I'm finished with my next round when I'm just above the stitch marker, just like the picture at left.

Then I can move the marker and start my next round. No confusion!

For more tips about how to use a stitch marker to help you count your rounds, visit http://www.freshstitches.com/stitch-marker/ It has some great tips, but I don't want to overwhelm you when you're just getting started!

HELPFUL CROCHET STITCH VIDEOS

Are you feeling a little shaky on your crochet stitches? No problem!

I've made a page with videos of all of your basic crochet stitches, including:

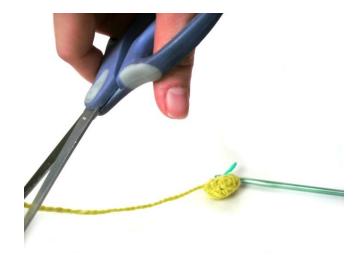
- Single crochet
- Single crochet increase
- Single crochet decrease

Visit: http://freshstitches.com/crochet-help-tutorial-video/ for a full page of videos!

ASSEMBLING YOUR AMIGURUMI

FASTEN OFF WITH LONG TAIL

What does this mean? It just means that when you are ending a piece, leave a length (about 6-9 inches) of extra yarn, as pictured. This will be used to attach this piece to another piece. To attach your piece to another, just thread the long tail through a tapestry needle, and stitch to the second piece.



USE STITCH MARKERS WHEN ASSEMBLING

I'm going to share a little tip that helps me when I'm assembling tricky amigurumi pieces (although, you could use this when you're seaming anything small)!



I use **locking stitch markers** to hold my pieces in place!

I've already talked about using locking stitch markers to help you keep track of rounds while crocheting (see 'how to keep track of your stitches', above), but they're great for holding two pieces of fabric together, as well!

Just place a couple around the piece that

you're attaching, and it'll be held in place- making your sewing even easier. Yay!

TIPS FOR STUFFING LARGE AMIGURUMI

You probably wouldn't be too surprised if I told you that how you stuff your amigurumi is important. After all, you spend lots of time crocheting... you want to end up with an animal that looks great! And stuffing is crucial to obtaining a great final look.

You may be surprised, though, that stuffing large amigurumi requires slightly different techniques than stuffing tiny amigurumi. For small amigurumi, it's important to stuff firmly, and the main trick is getting the stuffing into all the tiny parts. However, with large amigurumi, while it's true that you need to stuff your animal firmly, but there are a couple more tricks I'd like to share.



The first thing to note is you need a fair bit of stuffing for large animals! And because crochet stretches, the amount of stuffing used determines the size of the finished product. So, if you're stuffing body parts like legs, you want them to be the same size, meaning you need to stuff them with the same amount of stuffing! Before I stuff, I set out equal amounts of stuffing for each leg (or arm, or whatever you want to be of equal size).

Another tip is that you want to stuff your amigurumi part with one big ball of stuffing, instead of continually putting in little bits of stuffing. If you fill the part with little balls, the finished product will look lumpy. So, try stuffing your amigurumi using one big ball of stuffing.



If, at this point, you realize that you haven't added enough stuffing, you can add more to the center. The stuffing you added earlier will press out to the sides, keeping a smooth look, and you can add more to the center. If you have too much, just rip off what's hanging off the top!

Now, you have two stuffed parts of equal size! Of course, these stuffing tips apply to all

amigurumi parts- even if you don't need to have pieces match in size. For large amigurumi, the key is firm, even, non-lumpy stuffing!

HOW TO PLACE YOUR LIMBS

A common problem in making amigurumi is placing the arms and legs evenly. But, it's not too hard... you just need to do a little planning!



At left is a body, and we'll need to attach two legs. Since we've crocheted through the back loop, our body has a great grid that we can use to place our legs!

Even if you haven't crocheted through the back loop (and don't have those little ridge stitches), you can still count the stitches to get an even placement of limbs on your piece.



At left, I've highlighted some of the stitches in blue. In this case, the legs that we need to attach have a circumference of 18 stitches (which is to say that the last round has 18 stitches in it!)

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So, all you need to do is select a round to attach the bottom of the leg (in our case, round 10 of the body), and stitch 5 stitches along the bottom of the leg to this round (18 divided by 4 sides = about 4 or 5 stitches per side of the leg). Continue along all sides of the leg, until it is fully attached. Now, to attach the second leg, just attach the bottom of the leg along the same round... and attach along the same number of stitches on each side.



You've planned out where your limb should be attached... don't forget to use stitch markers to keep your positioning in place if you need to!

With this tip, your arms and legs will be attached evenly, and you'll get a symmetrical amigurumi!

NOW LET'S BEGIN THE SEWING



To begin: thread a tapestry needle with the long tail of a leg. As the first step, I like to hide the knot... so I run my needle through the first stitch on the leg.



Keep going (one stitch on leg, one stitch on the body), until you have stitches all the way around

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the leg. When you are done, tie a knot to fasten off.

Read <u>www.freshstitches.com/hate-attaching-limbs-to-amigurumi-not-after-reading-this-post/</u> for more tips (and a video!) on attaching limbs!

READING CROCHET PATTERNS, STEP BY STEP

Do you know what I love about amigurumi? They're quick and fun crochet projects that can be suitable for beginners! But, it can be a little daunting to read a crochet patterneven if you know how to crochet! So, let's talk about the **basics of reading a crochet pattern**!

Below, I've snipped a little piece of pattern from Howie the penguin, a free pattern available at the end of this e-book!

The chosen snippet is from the wing- and I'm going to go through, line by line, and decode the tricky bits.

Wings

- 1 Make 2.
- 2 With MC, ch 2
- 3 Round 1: sc 6 times in 2nd ch from hook (6)
- 4 Round 2: sc twice in each st (12)
- **5** Rounds 3-4: sc in each st (12)
- 6 Round 5: * sc twice in next st, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (18)
- **7** Rounds 6-9: sc in each st (18)
- 8 Round 10: * sc2tog, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (12)
- **9** Fasten off with long tail.

Line 1: Make 2

This instruction tells you that you are going to make 2 items (in this case, wings). So, you'll complete this entire set of directions once, and end up with one wing. Then, you'll do it all over again for your second wing!

Don't forget the video page I recommended to you earlier... it'll show you how to single crochet, increase and decrease!

Line 2: With MC, ch 2

For decoding this line, you'll want to flip to the front of the pattern, where the abbreviations live. 'MC' stands for 'main color', and in the front of the penguin pattern, you'll find that the main color is a black yarn. 'ch' stands for 'chain', and 'ch 2' is instructing you to 'chain 2 stitches'. Before you can do this, you'll need to begin with a slip knot (that part usually doesn't get mentioned in the pattern!).

Line 3: Round 1: Sc 6 times in 2nd ch from hook (6)

Again, you'll need to consult the abbreviation! 'Sc' stands for 'single crochet'. So, in words, this line instructs you to 'single crochet six times in the second chain from the hook'. What's the 'second chain from hook'? Look at the two chains you completed on the last line. It's telling you to work NOT in the one right next to your hook... but one further away from that! (it's the first chain that you crocheted!).

What does that (6) mean? It means that at the completion of this round, you should have 6 stitches! It's very helpful to count your stitches!

Line 4: Round 2: Sc twice in each st (12)

This instruction is instructing you to single crochet twice (do an increase) in each of the next 6 stitches, and that you should have 12 stitches at the completion of this round.

Line 5: Rounds 3-4: Sc in each st (12)

This instruction is saying that for round 3, you should single crochet in each stitch. Then, you should single crochet in each stitch for round 4, as well. You should have 12 stitches in each round. (I'll bet you're getting the hang of pattern reading, now!)

Line 6: Round 5: *Sc twice in next st, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (18)

Just when you thought you were getting it... a crazy asterisk crept in! So, here's what this one is saying. It's telling you to single crochet twice in the next stitch, and then single crochet in the stitch after that. Now, do that 5 more times. So, by the end, you will have done:

sc twice, sc, and you'll have have 18 stitches. (now, you see why we don't write out patterns that way... it gets really long!

Line 7: Rounds 6-9: Sc in each st (18)

You've seen this before! For round 6, 7, 8 and 9, single crochet in each stitch there is!

Line 8: *Sc2tog, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (12)

Sc2tog means to 'single crochet 2 stitches together', also known as a decrease. So, this line is instructing you to single crochet the next 2 stitches together, then single crochet in the next stitch. Now, do that 5 more times. You'll have 12 stitches when you're done!

Line 9: Fasten off with long tail

You're almost done! Simply cut your yarn about 6 inches away from your last stitch, and pull the tail through the stitch to tie a knot. Yay!

Congrats! You've read your first pattern... now you're ready to crochet the entire penguin!

GET STARTED WITH HOWIE THE PENGUIN!



Abbreviations

ch: chain

sc: single crochet

sc2tog: single crochet 2 stitches together

st(s): stitch(es)

Materials

Size H (5.0mm) crochet hook tapestry needle two 12mm black animal eyes (available at freshstitches.com) a few handfuls of stuffing

Yarn

Less than 220 yards (1 skein) is required of each color. For the yarn, I use 100% wool worsted weight (Ella Rae Classic the brand used in the sample). However, any worsted weight yarn can be substituted.

MC- Black (Plymouth Galway Worsted color # 154)

SC- White (Ella Rae Classic color #01)

AC1- Yellow (Ella Rae Classic color #44)

AC2- Blue (Ella Rae Classic color #83)

Gauge

This pattern doesn't specify a gauge. It's a stuffed animal, and you don't need to be too picky about exact sizing. The most important thing is that you use a hook size that creates a nice looking fabric for your yarn. If you use the recommended hook size, and your fabric looks very loose (so that stuffing would show through), then you will want to use a smaller hook. Other than that, no measuring required!

Stitch into the back

All stitches in the round are into the back loop, unless otherwise directed. You can stitch into both loops if you desire, but this will change the look of the final product.

Fasten off with long tail

What does this mean? It just means that when you are ending a piece, to leave about 6-9 inches of extra yarn. This will be used to attach this piece to another piece. To attach your piece to another, just thread the long tail through a tapestry needle, and stitch to the second piece.

THE PATTERN

Eye Circles

Make 2.

With AC2, ch 2

Round 1: sc 6 in 2nd ch from hook (6)

Round 2: sc twice in each st (12)

Round 3: * sc twice in next st, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (18)

Round 4: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 2 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (24)

Fasten off with long tail.

Feet

Make 2.

With AC1, ch 2

Round 1: sc 6 in 2nd ch from hook (6)

Round 2: sc twice in each st (12)

Round 3: * sc twice in next st, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (18)

Rounds 4-5: sc in each st (18)

Fasten off with long tail.

Wings

Make 2.

With MC, ch 2

Round 1: sc 6 times in 2nd ch from hook (6)

Round 2: sc twice in each st (12)

Rounds 3-4: sc in each st (12)

Round 5: * sc twice in next st, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (18)

Rounds 6-9: sc in each st (18)

Round 10: * sc2tog, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (12)

Fasten off with long tail.

Beak

With AC1, ch 2

Round 1: sc 6 times in 2nd ch from hook (6)

Round 2: sc twice in each st (12)

Rounds 3-5: sc in each st (12)

Fasten off with long tail.

Tummy Circle

With SC, ch 2

Round 1: sc 6 times in 2nd ch from hook (6)

Round 2: sc twice in each st (12)

Round 3: * sc twice in next st, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (18)

Round 4: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 2 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (24)

Round 5: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 3 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (30)

Round 6: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 4 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (36)

Round 7: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 5 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (42)

Round 8: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 6 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (48)

Fasten off with long tail.

Body

With MC, ch 2

Round 1: sc 6 times in 2nd ch from hook (6)

Round 2: sc twice in each st (12)

Round 3: * sc twice in next st, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (18)

Round 4: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 2 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (24)

Round 5: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 3 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (30)

Round 6: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 4 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (36)

Round 7: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 5 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (42)

Round 8: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 6 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (48)

Round 9: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 7 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (54)

Round 10: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 8 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (60)

Rounds 11-21: sc in each st (60)

Round 22: * sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (54)

Round 23: sc in each st (54)

Round 24: * sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (48)

Round 25: sc in each st (48)

Round 26: * sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (42)

Round 27: sc in each st (42)

Round 28: * sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (36)

Round 29: sc in each st (36)

Round 30: * sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (30)

Round 31: sc in each st (30)

remove hook, but do not fasten off!

Flatten feet, and attach to round 7 of body.



Flatten wings, and attach to each side of body, at approximately round 22.



Attach eye circles to body. The bottom of the eye circles should be attached to round 21, and the top of the eye circles will reach round 27. Be sure that the two eye circles touch in the center.



Attach tummy circle to body. The bottom should be attached at round 9 (two rounds above the feet), and slightly overlap the bottom of the eye circles at the top.



Fasten eyes onto the head. To do so, insert post between desired stitches, and press washer onto back post to secure. . Plastic eyes should be positioned in the center of the eye circles.

Stuff beak slightly, and attach over the point where the eye circles and tummy circle meet.



Stuff penguin body.

Continue crocheting...

Round 32: * sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (24)

Round 33: * sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (18)

Round 34: * sc2tog, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (12)

Round 35: * sc2tog. Repeat from * 5 times (6)

Round 36: sc2tog next and fourth sts, pulling knot to center. (1)

Fasten off.



TA DA! YOU HAVE A BEAUTIFUL PENGUIN!

AREN'T YOU PROUD? SHARE YOUR FINISHED CUTIE WITH US!

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INSTAGRAM: @AMI.CLUB OR #FRESHSTITCHES

DID YOU HAVE FUN? JOIN THE CLUB!



You'll want to join <u>Ami Club</u>, an amazing community with oodles of benefits!

When you're a member, you get:

- A new, exclusive amigurumi pattern each month
- Access to the fabulous Ami Club forums, where you can ask all your crochet questions
- To participate in monthly swaps, crochet-a-longs and other events
 - Access to members-only e-books and video tutorials
 - 10% off all craft eyes

It's so much fun!



ABOUT STACEY AND FRESHSTITCHES

Hi! I'm Stacey and I live my fantasy life designing cute & cuddly amigurumi!

I'm passionate about helping everyone out there have that priceless, oh-so-yummy satisfaction that only comes with making something yourself... so I'm dedicated to writing patterns and providing tutorials that

help you crochet your own adorable creations!

My patterns all come with progress photos, so that you can see what your piece should look like along the way. I also enthusiastically write a blog, dedicated to providing helpful tips for my customers.

I LOVE CROCHETING ALONG WITH YOU... SO I HOPE YOU JOIN ME!