

Ella rae



Mixtro, the monster

designed by: Stacey Trock



Height: 8 inches

Abbreviations

ch: chain
sc: single crochet
sc2tog: single crochet 2 together
st(s): stitch(es)

Materials

Size H (5.0mm) crochet hook
Pair of 12mm black animal eyes
Tapestry needle
A few handfuls of stuffing
Locking stitch marker

Yarn

Ella Rae Classic Wool (100% wool, Worsted Weight, 220 yds/3.5oz) is the yarn used in this sample. To complete this adorable monster, you'll need:

MC- Coral (color #69), 75 yards
CC- Yellow (color #338), 75 yards
AC1- White (color #01), 5 yards
AC2- Black (color #32), 5 yards

Directions

Gauge Notes

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

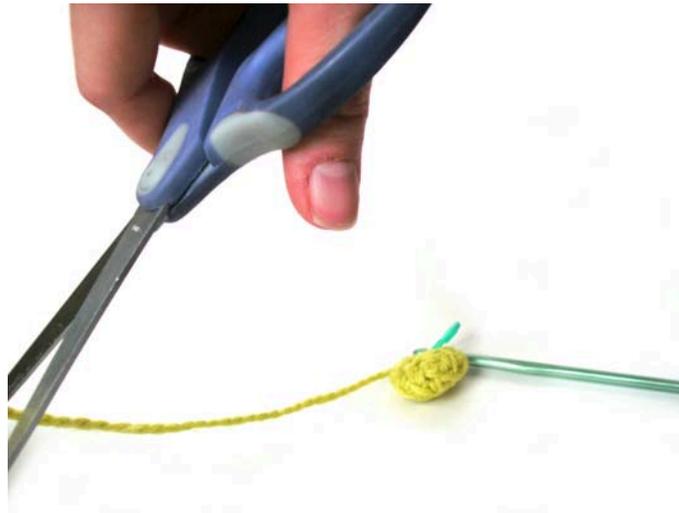
All stitches in this pattern (that are worked in the round) are worked through the back loop only, unless otherwise directed. Look at picture below, and see how one loop is highlighted in black? This is the back loop, and it's what you'll stitch into. Stitching into the back loop creates ridges on the right side of the piece. For pieces worked in rows, you will stitch into the front loop only, unless otherwise directed. You can stitch into both loops if you desire, but this will change the look of the final product.



Want to see crocheting through the back loop in action?
Watch my video on **crocheting through the back loop!**

Fasten off with long tail

What does this mean? It just means that when you are ending a piece, to leave a lot (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.



Color Changes

This pattern calls for switching from one color to another, but there is a trick to doing it so the change in color is very clean. Stitch up to 2 stitches before you are supposed to change colors (I'm demonstrating here with the single crochet). In the next stitch (the last one of your current color), do not pull the final loop through, leaving it as pictured in (a). Instead, loop the new color around your needle (b), and pull the loop through (c). Now, just stitch as normal. This technique leaves you with a clean color change! Since you're making a stuffed animal, tie a knot on the back with the tails of each color... that'll keep your join secure!



Want to see changing colors in action?
Watch my video on **changing colors in crochet!**

Attaching Parts Together

In this pattern, you will be instructed to attach two pieces together, usually attaching a smaller part (such as a leg) onto a larger part (like a body). The small part will have a

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row of stitches at the opening, and a long tail. Thread a tapestry needle with the long tail. Put the small part where it should go along the body, and pick up a stitch on the body. Keep going (one stitch on small part, one stitch on the body), until you have fully attached the part. When you are done, tie a knot to fasten off. Use the tapestry needle to pull the knot inside, so you don't have any loose ends sticking out. Read **this blog post** for more tips on attaching limbs easily!

The Pattern

Eyes

Make 2.

With AC1, 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)

Fasten off with long tail.

Head/Body

For the head/body, you'll be changing colors every 5 rows. For this, you can 'strand' (i.e. carry the yarn along) on the inside of the work, meaning you don't need to cut the yarn at every color change.

With MC, ch 31.

Round 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook, *sc twice in next st, sc in next 26 sts, sc twice in next st, sc in next st. Rotate your piece to work the bottom of the foundation chain. Sc in the next st, repeat from * once. (64)

Round 2: *Sc in next st, sc twice in next st, sc in next 28 sts, sc twice in next st, sc in next st. Repeat from * once. (68)

Round 3: *Sc in next st, sc twice in next st, sc in next 30 sts, sc twice in next st, sc in next st. Repeat from * once. (72)

Rounds 4-7: Sc in each st. (72)

Rounds 8-12: With CC, sc in each st. (72)

Rounds 13-17: With MC, sc in each st. (72)

Rounds 18-22: With CC, sc in each st. (72)

Rounds 23-27: With MC, sc in each st. (72)

Your piece should look as pictured. Notice that the end of the round (where your hook is) is on the right.

Next, we're going to add the monster's ears. You'll only be working a portion of the round... it may seem tricky, but just follow the instructions!



Round 28: With CC, sc in next 12 sts. Now, skip a whole lot of stitches, and sc the **last 12 sts of the round**. This will leave 48 stitches unworked, and creates a new, smaller round (the right ear) of 24 sts. Your piece should look as pictured.

You will continue to work only these stitches.



Rounds 29-32: Sc in each st. (24)

Rounds 33-37: With MC, sc in each st. (24)

Round 38: With CC, sc in each st. (24)

Round 39: * Sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts. Repeat from * 5 times. (18)

Round 40: * Sc2tog, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times. (12)

Round 41: * Sc2tog. Repeat from * 5 times. (6)

Round 42: Sc next and fourth st together. (1)
Fasten off, pulling knot towards center.

You've finished one ear!

Place your locking stitch marker on the opposite side of the last round of the body (leaving 24 sts in between the marker and the ear), as pictured.



Now it's time to make a second ear. Make a slip knot, and join a new strand of CC at the stitch marker with a sc (this is your first st). Follow the instructions for rounds 28-42 to make the second ear.

Your piece should look as pictured.



Attach eyes to head. Mine are attached at rounds 16-21, and spaced about 5 sts apart.



Fasten eyes onto the head. To do so, insert post between desired stitches, and press washer onto back post to secure. . The eyes should be placed in the center of the crocheted eyes.





With AC2 and a tapestry needle, embroider a mouth. I like the straight-mouth look for this guy, but feel free to use your imagination!

Stuff the body and ears.

With a scrap of MC and a tapestry needle, whipstitch the top opening of the head closed, and hide ends.

Congrats! You now have an adorable monster!



Congrats on finishing an awesome monster! Now it's time

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