

Bitsy Bear

Materials

B crochet hook
1 ounce fingering weight yarn in your favorite bear color
Tapestry needles to weave in ends
1 yard contrasting color embroidery floss for facial features
Embroidery needle
Small amount of polyester stuffing

Abbreviations

MC = Main Color
CCA = Contrasting Color A
CCB = Contrasting Color B
ch(s) = chain(s)
sl st = slip stitch
sc(s) = single crochet(s)
hdc(s) = half double crochet(s)
dc(s) = double crochet(s)
dec = decrease
inc = inc
sts(s) = stitch (es)

Notes

- 1) Since the Bear is going to be stuffed you can knot threads together on inside of Bear rather than sewing in the ends.
- 2) The Bear is worked in a spiral. It's a good idea to mark the first st of each round with a safety pin. If you find it difficult to maintain the correct number of sts, mark the half way point as well.

Leg 1

Round 1 - Ch2, 6sc into 1st ch (6sts)
Round 2 - 2sc into each st (12)
Round 3 - Sc into back loop of each st (12)
Rounds 4 – 9 – Sc into both loops of stitches around (12)
SL st in next st. Pull yarn through and cut, leaving a 6" tail

Leg 2

Repeat Leg 1 but don't sl st or cut yarn

Body

Round 1 - Continuing on Leg 2, sc in next 6 sts (it's a very good idea to mark the first st), sc in 6 sts on front of Leg 1 (a marker here doesn't hurt), sc in remaining sts on Leg 1, sc in remaining sts on Leg 2. The legs are now joined (24)
Round 2 - * 2scs in first st, sc in next 3 sts. Repeat from * around (30)
Round 3 – 7 - Sc in each st around (30)

Stuff legs and lower body firmly using the eraser end of a pencil if the legs are small. Polyester stuffing tends to soften with time. Don't stuff up to the row you're working on because the polyester fibers get caught in your yarn and make it difficult to take out stitches. As you continue to work, add more stuffing every three or four rows.

Round 8 - * Dec over next 2 sc, sc5, dec, sc6, repeat from * for back of Bear (26)

Round 9 - * Dec over next 2 sc, sc2, dec, sc8. Repeat from * for back of Bear (22)

Round 10 - * Dec over next 2 sc, sc6, dec, sc1, repeat from * for back of Bear (18)

Round 11 - *Dec over next 2 sc, work 7 sts even, repeat from * for back of Bear (16)

Round 13 - Sc in each st around (16)

Head

Round 14 - Inc in each st around (32)

Round 15- Sc in each st around (32)

Round 16 – Front of head

Start nose:

- Sc in next 12 sts,
- *Turn work* so you're working with the inside of Bear facing you, skip 1st sc, sc in next 7 sc
- *Turn work* to outside, skip 1st sc, sc in next 6 sc
- *Turn work* to inside, skip 1st sc, sc in next 5 sc,
- *Turn to outside*, skip 1st sc, sc in next 4 sc, dec by picking up 2 loops on side of nose and a loop in the next sc, yarn around hook and pull through all 3 loops, sc in next 3 sts (12)

Back of head

- Sc in next 16 sts for the back of the head (16)

Round 17 – Front of head:

- Dec, sc, dec by pulling up a loop in the next sc pull up 2 loops from side of nose, yarn around hook and pull through all 3 loops sc6, dec (10)

Nose finished

Back of head:

- Dec, sc in next 5 sts, dec over next 2 sts, sc 5, dec (13)

Round 18 – Front of head:

- Sc in next 2 sts, dec, sc in next 3 sts, dec, sc1 (8)

Back of head:

- Sc 2, dec, sc2, dec, sc1, dec, sc2 (10)

Round 19 – *Dec, Sc, repeat from * around (12)

Round 20 –Dec, around (6)

Finishing Round –Cut yarn, leaving a tail of 6 inches, finish stuffing, thread needle, pick up a loop from each remaining sc, pull tight and fasten off.

Arms (make 2)

Round 1 - Ch2, 6sc into 1st ch (6sts)

Round 2 - 2sc into each st (12)

Round 3 - 7 – Sc around (12)

Sl st in next st. Pull yarn through and cut, leaving a 6" tail, stuff

Ears (make 2)

Round 1 - Ch2, 6sc into 1st ch (6sts)

Round 2 - 2sc into next 5 sts (you don't finish round) (10)

Finishing

1. Sew arms to body,
2. Sew ears to sides of head,
3. Embroider eyes and nose (using satin stitch)