



YaraDream

CUDDLY FRIENDS



CROCHET PATTERN · US CROCHET TERMS

Little Whale

A chubby little whale with a tapered tail, for shelves, nurseries and keychains

SKILL

Easy



FINISHED SIZE

9 cm / 3.4 in long

YARN

DK (weight 3)

HOOK

3.0 mm (between US C-2 and D-3)

WELCOME

Hello, maker!

Welcome to Little Whale: a chubby whale with a round head that tapers to a tail with two flukes. Make him in soft blue for a nursery shelf, or in tiny DK as a keychain.

The body is one piece; the flukes and fins are small flat pieces sewn on.

With love, YaraDream



● At a glance

SKILL	Easy
TIME	1 to 2 hours
SIZE	About 9 cm / 3.4 in long and 4 cm / 1.6 in high, with DK yarn and a 3.0 mm hook
YARN	DK (weight 3), about 9 g in 2 colours (amounts per colour on page 3)
HOOK	3.0 mm (between US C-2 and D-3)
PIECES	Body x1, Tail flukes x2, Side fins x2
WORKED	In spiral rounds
TERMS	US crochet terms; abbreviations on page 4

● Inside this pattern

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Tick as you go

Every round has a box. Tick it when it is done, on paper or on a tablet.

Count your stitches

The number at the end of each round is your stitch total.

US crochet terms

Prefer UK terms? The UK-terms files are in your download.

Safety. The face is embroidered, so there are no small parts. If you make this for a baby or a young child, sew every piece on securely and check the seams before each use. Finished toys sold for children must meet your country's toy-safety rules (CPSIA in the US, UKCA / CE in the UK and EU).

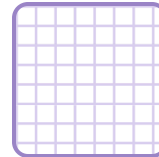
BEFORE YOU START

Materials & tools

One main colour of DK yarn, plus a little black for the eyes.



● Gauge



About 24 sc and 26 rounds = 10 cm (4 in) in single crochet worked in the round. Gauge is not critical for a toy, but the fabric must be tight: if stuffing shows between the stitches, go down a hook size. A thicker yarn or a looser tension makes a bigger piece.

● Yarn

- | | | |
|----------|--|-------------------|
| A |  Whale blue
DK cotton or acrylic | 8 g / 17 m |
| | | |
| B |  Black
Any DK or embroidery floss | 1 g / 2 m |

Amounts come from the stitch totals of this pattern, plus about 25% for tails and tension.

● Tools & notions

- ☐ 3.0 mm (between US C-2 and D-3) crochet hook, or the size that gives a tight fabric
- ☐ Polyester fibrefill, about 10 g
- ☐ Tapestry needle
- ☐ Stitch marker
- ☐ Scissors

● Good to know

- Stuff the head firmly and the tail lightly, so the tail tapers nicely.
- A water spout (optional): a few loops of white yarn sewn on top of the head.

STITCH GUIDE

Stitches & abbreviations

This copy uses US crochet terms. The UK name of each stitch is shown beside it.

US	UK	WHAT IT MEANS
[] n times	[] n times	repeat the stitches inside the brackets n times
ch	ch	chain
dec	dec	invisible decrease: insert the hook into the front loops of the next 2 sts, yarn over, pull through both front loops, yarn over, pull through the 2 loops on the hook
inc	inc	increase: 2 sc in the same stitch
MR	MR	magic ring (also called magic circle)
Rnd	Rnd	round
sc	dc	single crochet
st(s)	st(s)	stitch(es)
Sts	Sts	the stitch total at the end of the round or row

● Magic ring

A closed centre with no hole. Every piece in this pattern starts with one.

1. Wrap the yarn twice around two fingers, crossing it over itself.
2. Insert the hook under both strands, catch the working yarn and pull up a loop.
3. Chain 1 to secure. This chain does not count as a stitch.
4. Work the stitches of round 1 into the ring, over both strands and the tail.
5. Pull the tail firmly to close the centre, then continue with round 2.



● Working in a spiral

Amigurumi rounds are not joined, so there is no seam.

1. After the last stitch of a round, go straight on into the first stitch of the next round.
2. Put a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round and move it up as you go.
3. Count the stitches at the end of every round. The number in the pill is the total you need.

● Invisible decrease (dec)

The neatest way to decrease in amigurumi: it leaves no gap.

1. Insert the hook into the front loop only of the next stitch, then the front loop only of the stitch after it.
2. Yarn over and pull through both front loops (2 loops left on the hook).
3. Yarn over and pull through both loops. One stitch made from two.

● Stuffing

Firm, even stuffing gives a smooth, round shape.

1. Use small tufts of polyester fibrefill, not one big lump.
2. Fill the far end first and work towards the opening, shaping with your fingers.
3. Stuff firmly: the piece should hold its shape but not stretch the stitches open.

● Closing the last round

Pieces that end with 6 stitches are closed like a drawstring.

1. Fasten off, leaving a 15 cm tail.
2. Thread the tail on a tapestry needle and pass it through the front loop of each remaining stitch.
3. Pull tight to close the hole, then push the needle through the piece and out the other side.
4. Squeeze the piece, trim the tail close and let it disappear inside.



● French knot

A small raised dot for eyes, berries and ornaments.

1. Bring the needle up where the knot will sit.
2. Hold the yarn taut and wrap it twice around the needle.
3. Keeping the wraps snug, push the needle back down right beside where it came up.
4. Pull through slowly, holding the wraps with your thumb until the knot forms.

● Sewing pieces together (whipstitch)

A neat, strong seam for ears, arms and heads.

1. Pin the piece in place first and check it from every side.
2. With the long tail on a tapestry needle, go under one stitch of the piece, then under the stitch beside it on the body.
3. Repeat all around, pulling each stitch snug so the seam hides.
4. Knot the tail, push it into the body and trim.



READ THIS FIRST

Pattern notes

● Before you start

- Rounds are worked in a continuous spiral unless the round says to join. Mark the first stitch of each round.
- The number in the pill at the end of a round is the stitch total for that round. Count before you move on.
- Work into both loops of each stitch unless the round says back loop (BLO) or front loop (FLO) only.
- Brackets [] are repeated the number of times shown after them.
- Leave a long tail (about 30 cm) when you fasten off a piece that will be sewn on.
- From Rnd 12 the body has 3 stitches fewer each round: that tapers it to the tail.
- The fins start with 4 stitches in the magic ring.

● Construction at a glance

1

Body

Make 1 · 19 rounds · colour A

2

Tail flukes

Make 2 · 4 rounds · colour A

3

Side fins

Make 2 · 3 rounds · colour A



LET'S MAKE IT

The pattern

Three kinds of pieces. Embroider the face while you can still reach inside.

1 Body One piece from the nose to the tail.			A · Whale blue	Make 1
RND	INSTRUCTIONS	STS		
☐ Rnd 1	6 sc in a magic ring.	6		
	Tip. The whale is worked from the nose to the tail.			
☐ Rnd 2	Inc in each st around.	12		
☐ Rnd 3	[sc in next st, inc] 6 times.	18		
☐ Rnd 4	[sc in next 2 sts, inc] 6 times.	24		
☐ Rnd 5	[sc in next st, inc, sc in next 2 sts] 6 times.	30		
☐ Rnds 6–11	Sc in each st around.	30		
☐ Rnd 12	[sc in next 8 sts, dec] 3 times.	27		
☐ Rnd 13	[sc in next 3 sts, dec, sc in next 4 sts] 3 times.	24		
☐ Rnd 14	[sc in next 6 sts, dec] 3 times.	21		
	Tip. Embroider the eyes and smile now, then stuff firmly as you go.			
☐ Rnd 15	[sc in next 2 sts, dec, sc in next 3 sts] 3 times.	18		
☐ Rnd 16	[sc in next 4 sts, dec] 3 times.	15		
☐ Rnd 17	[sc in next st, dec, sc in next 2 sts] 3 times.	12		
☐ Rnd 18	[sc in next 2 sts, dec] 3 times.	9		
☐ Rnd 19	[sc in next st, dec] 3 times. <i>Fasten off and close the hole. The flukes are sewn over it.</i>	6		

2

Tail flukes

Two flat teardrops. Make two.

A · Whale blue

Make 2

RND	INSTRUCTIONS	STS
☐ Rnd 1	6 sc in a magic ring.	6
☐ Rnd 2	[sc in next st, inc] 3 times.	9
☐ Rnds 3–4	Sc in each st around. <i>Fasten off and leave a 25 cm tail. Do not stuff. Flatten. Make 2.</i>	9

3

Side fins

Two small flat fins. Rnd 1 has 4 stitches. Make two.

A · Whale blue

Make 2

RND	INSTRUCTIONS	STS
☐ Rnd 1	4 sc in a magic ring.	4
☐ Rnd 2	[sc in next st, inc] 2 times.	6
☐ Rnd 3	Sc in each st around. <i>Fasten off and leave a 20 cm tail. Do not stuff. Flatten. Make 2.</i>	6

PUTTING IT TOGETHER

Putting your whale together

● Placement guide

● Eyes: French knots in colour B on Rnd 7, one on each side, 9 stitches from the centre front.

● Smile: a small curved stitch in colour B on Rnd 8, centred at the front, 4 stitches wide.

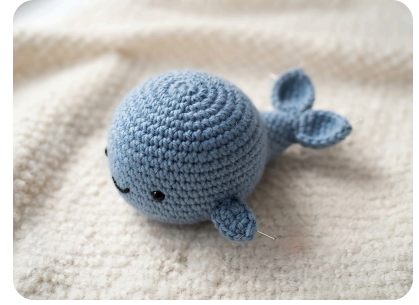
● Fins: one on each side on Rnd 11, pointing back and down.

● Flukes: over the closed tail end, side by side in a V, sewn along their open edge.

☐ 1 Face. Embroider the eyes and the smile before you finish stuffing.



- **2 Fins and flukes.** Pin the fins and the two flukes, check the whale from above, and sew them on.



- **Finishing & care**
- Weave in all ends inside the body.

HELP IS HERE

Troubleshooting

The questions makers ask most, answered before you need to ask.

The tail is lumpy.

Stuff the tail with small tufts and lightly; firm stuffing is for the head.

The flukes droop.

Sew them along the whole open edge and add one stitch where they meet.

The body is not round at the front.

Check the increase rounds: 6, 12, 18, 24, 30.

The eyes look uneven.

Count 9 stitches from the centre front on each side before you sew them.

I can see stuffing.

Use a smaller hook or a tighter tension.

My stitch count is off.

From Rnd 12, each round has 3 fewer stitches: 27, 24, 21, 18, 15, 12, 9, then 6.

PRINT ME

Project tracker

Keep this page next to your work. Tick off each piece and round.

YARN USED

HOOK SIZE

STARTED

FINISHED

MADE FOR

FINISHED SIZE

Pieces

1	Body	Make 1	☐
2	Tail flukes	Make 2	☐ ☐
3	Side fins	Make 2	☐ ☐

Round counter

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

My notes



Thank you for making with us!

We hope you enjoyed making Little Whale as much as we enjoyed designing it.

We are here to help

Stuck on a round, or something does not look right? Message us where you bought this pattern, with the pattern name and the round number. We reply fast and stay with you until your piece is finished.

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As a thank-you for your order, message us with the YaraDream pattern you would like next and we will send it to you free.

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Your colours, a different size, a name on it? Ask us anything, any time. We love making custom pieces and patterns.

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Make it again in new colours



Ocean blue

Classic blue whale.



Baby pink

A sweet pink whale for a nursery.



Lilac

Soft lilac with a white spout: in white, make 3 strands of ch 6 with a sl st back along each (5 sl st), and sew them together on the top of the head at Rnd 6.

More from YaraDream

[Little Frog](#)
[Sleepy Bunny](#)
[Soft Play Balls](#)

THE SMALL PRINT

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