

Baby Penguin

Materials and equipment:

Crochet hook size 2.00mm
(US B-1, UK 14)
No. 3 crochet cotton – 1 ball of white and 1 ball of black
Small amounts of yellow, blue and silver metallic yarn
Sewing needle and threads to match the yarn
Small amount of stuffing

Measurements:

The penguin is approximately 3in (8.5cm) tall, including his hat.



Instructions:

Using white crochet cotton, make 2 ch, work 6 sc (UKdc) into 2nd ch from hook then join with sl st into a ring.
Round 1: work 2 sc (UKdc) into each sc (UKdc) to end then join with a sl st.
Round 2: *1 sc (UKdc) into next sc (UKdc), 2 sc (UKdc) into next sc (UKdc),* repeat from * to * all around then join with a sl st as before.
Round 3: *1 sc (UKdc) into each of next 2 sc (UKdc), 2 sc (UKdc) into next sc (UKdc),* repeat from * to * all around then join with a sl st as before.
Round 4: *1 sc (UKdc) into each of next 3 sc (UKdc), 2 sc (UKdc) into next sc (UKdc),* repeat from * to * all around then join with a sl st as before.
Round 5: 1 sc (UKdc) into each of next 4 sc (UKdc), 2 sc (UKdc) into next sc (UKdc),* repeat from * to * all around then join with a sl st as before.

Work 4 rounds in sc (UKdc) with no increase.
Change to black and work 4 rounds of sc (UKdc).
Now shape the top, stuffing the penguin as you go.
Next round: *1 sc (UKdc) into each of next 4 sc (UKdc), sc (UKdc) 2 tog,* repeat from * to * all around then join with a sl st as before.
Next round: *1 sc (UKdc) into each of next 3 sc (UKdc), sc (UKdc) 2 tog,* repeat from * to * all around then join with a sl st as before.
Next round: *1 sc (UKdc) into each of next 2 sc (UKdc), sc (UKdc) 2 tog,* repeat from * to * all around then join with a sl st as before.
Next round: *1 sc (UKdc) into next sc (UKdc), sc (UKdc) 2 tog,* repeat from

* to * all around then join with a sl st as before.
Next round: sc (UKdc) 2 tog all around. Fasten off and run thread through the last row of sts; draw up and fasten off.
Feet (make two)
Using yellow, make 7 ch.
Row 1: 1 sc (UKdc) into 2nd ch from hook, 1 sc (UKdc) into each ch to end, turn [6 sts].
Row 2: 1 ch, work 1 sc (UKdc) into each sc (UKdc) to end, turn.
Rows 3–4: work in sc (UKdc), decreasing 1 sc (UKdc) at each end of row.
Rows 5–6: work in sc (UKdc) on these 2 sts.
Rows 7–8: work in sc (UKdc), increasing 1 sc (UKdc) at each end of row.
Work 2 rows in sc (UKdc) on these 6 sts then fasten off.

Beak

Using yellow, make 7 ch.
Row 1: 1 sc (UKdc) into 2nd ch from hook, 1 sc (UKdc) into each ch to end, turn [6 sts].
Rows 2–3: work in sc (UKdc), decreasing 1 sc (UKdc) at each end of row.
Rows 4–5: work in sc (UKdc) on these 2 sts.
Rows 6–7: work in sc (UKdc), increasing 1 sc (UKdc) at each end of row.
Work 1 row in sc (UKdc) on these 6 sts then fasten off.

Wings (make two)

Using black, make 2 ch.
Row 1: 2 sc (UKdc) into 2nd ch from hook, turn.
Row 2: 2 sc (UKdc) into first sc (UKdc), 1 sc (UKdc) into next sc (UKdc), turn.
Row 3: 2 sc (UKdc) into first sc (UKdc), 1 sc (UKdc) into next sc (UKdc), 2 sc (UKdc) into last sc (UKdc).
Rows 4–7: work sc (UKdc) on these 5 sts.
Rows 8–9: work in sc (UKdc), decreasing 1 sc (UKdc) at each end of row. Fasten off.

Eyes (make two)

Using white, make 2 ch, work 6 sc (UKdc) into 2nd ch from hook then join with a sl st into a ring.
Round 1: 1 ch, work 2 sc (UKdc) into each sc (UKdc) all around, join with a sl st.
Round 2: 1 ch, *1 sc (UKdc) into next sc (UKdc), 2 sc (UKdc) into next sc (UKdc),* repeat from * to * all around, join with a sl st to beg of round. Fasten off.

Pupils (make two)

Using black, make 2 ch. Work 6 sc (UKdc) into 2nd ch from hook then join with sl st into a circle.



Hat

Using blue, make 21 ch loosely.
Row 1: work 1 dc (UKtr) into 3rd ch from hook, 1 dc (UKtr) into each ch to end, turn.
Row 2: 3 ch [counts as 1 dc (UKtr)], 1 dc (UKtr) into each dc (UKtr) to end, turn.
Rows 3–5: 3 ch [counts as 1st dc (UKtr)], dc (UKtr) 2 tog to last st, 1 dc (UKtr) in last st. Fasten off.
Join silver metallic yarn to start of hat and work 1 row of sc (UKdc) all along the starting ch edge, fasten off.

Hat bobble

Using silver metallic yarn, make 3 ch. Work 12 dc (UKtr) into 3rd ch from hook, join with a sl st. Fasten off.
Run thread through row of dc (UKtr) and draw up tightly into a little ball. Fasten off.

To make up

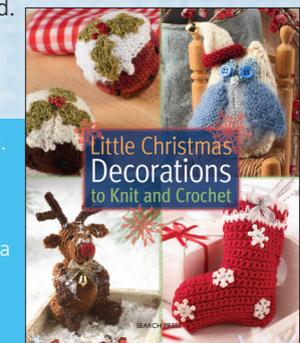
Work in all ends. Fold each foot in half and sew up the sides – the wide end is the front of the foot. Sew the feet to the base of the body, angling them outwards slightly. Sew a pupil to each eye then work a French knot in white in the centre of each eye. Place the eyes on the body, using the photograph as a guide, and sew in place. Fold the beak in half and sew the sides. Add a little stuffing to pad slightly. Sew the wide end of the beak to the head. Sew a wing to each side of the body. Sew the side seam of the hat and turn back a brim. Sew the bobble to the top. Pop a little stuffing in the hat then stitch it on to the penguin's head.

This crochet Baby Penguin project is taken from *Little Christmas Decorations to Knit and Crochet* by Sue Stratford and Val Pierce.

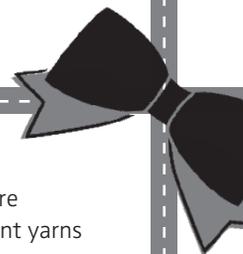
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Hints and tips



American and British crochet terminology

In all the patterns, US terms are given first, followed by the UK terms afterwards in brackets. So US single crochet would be written as sc (*UKdc*) and US double crochet as dc (*UKtr*).

The most frequently used terms are:

American

slip stitch (sl st)
chain stitch (ch)
single crochet (sc)
half double crochet (hdc)
double crochet (dc)
treble crochet (tr)
double treble crochet (dtr)
skip

British

slip stitch (sl st)
chain stitch (ch)
double crochet (dc)
half treble crochet (htr)
treble crochet (tr)
double treble crochet (dtr)
triple treble crochet (trtr)
miss

Materials

All the decorations are made using a size 2.00mm (US B-1, UK 14) crochet hook, though for the Christmas Bear you will also need a 4.00mm (US G-6, UK 8) crochet hook. Either a no. 5 or no. 3 crochet cotton is used throughout, though if you prefer a fine fingering (4-ply) yarn can be used instead. Most of the items use only small amounts of yarn, making them ideal for using up scraps and oddments.

You will also need various embellishments, including bows, stars, ribbons, buttons and beads; a sewing needle and thread; craft glue; and toy stuffing.

Measurements

Approximate measurements of all the pieces are provided, but remember that if you use different yarns from those specified, the finished sizes may vary.

Techniques

Some of the decorations are worked in the round, which is sometimes a little difficult to master, so always place a marker at the beginning of the round so that you know where you started; it is very easy to end up with either too many or too few stitches if you don't know where the row began.

One or two of the designs are stuffed as you make them, and again this is a technique that you will need to get used to. It does make it a little difficult to crochet sometimes, especially when the opening is quite small. The secret is to add only tiny bits of stuffing at a time.

