

freshstitches

animals made to be cuddled



Vanburn, the bee

designed by: Stacey Trock

Size: 3.5 inches tall x 5.5 inches long

DOB: June, 2011

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Abbreviations

ch: chain

sc: single crochet

sc2tog: single crochet 2 together

st(s): stitch(es)

Materials

Size H crochet hook

two 12mm black animal eyes

tapestry needle

a few handfuls of stuffing

Yarn

For the yarn, I use 100% wool worsted weight (Ella Rae is the brand used in the sample). However, any worsted weight yarn can be substituted.

MC- Yellow (Ella Rae Classic color # 44), 30 yards

SC- Black (Ella Rae Classic color # 32), 30 yards

AC- White (Ella Rae Classic color # 01), 15 yards

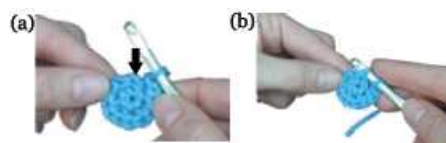
Directions

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. Look at picture (a), and see how the arrow points to the back loop? You will stitch into this loop, as pictured in (b). Stitching into the back loop creates ridges on the right side of the piece. For rows, you will stitch into the front loop, unless otherwise directed. You can stitch into both loops if you desire, but this will change the look of the final product.



Starting out: the sloppy slip knot

Most pieces in this pattern (as they are based on circles) begin with stitching six times into one loop. We recommend the 'sloppy slip knot' to avoid creating a hole in the center (a). To do this, twist the yarn around the hook to begin, and crochet as directed. Once you have completed your first round, pull on the tail, while holding the loop you have created (b). The loop will end up tighter, as pictured in (c).



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.



Attaching parts

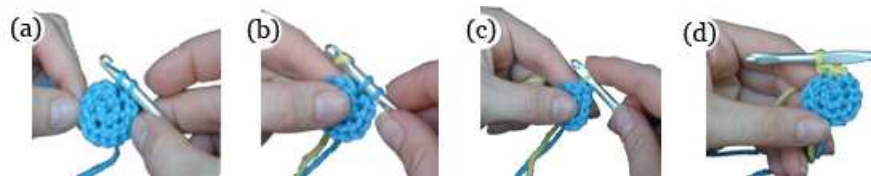
In this pattern, you will be instructed to attach two pieces together, either attaching a leg to the body, or attaching the head and body together.

First, let's see how to attach the head to the body. This is the easiest type of attachment, because the last row of the head and the last row of the body have the same number of stitches. You left a long tail on one of the parts (right?), so thread a tapestry needle with the long tail. This serves to have already anchor your stitches. Now, loop the embroidery needle through each st on the head and body, going all the way around. When you are done, tug the string a little bit to tighten (so the guy has a neck) and tie a knot to fasten off. Use the tapestry needle to pull the knot inside of the head, so you don't have any loose ends sticking out.

Attaching a smaller part (such as a leg) onto a larger part (like a body) is similar. The small part (in this case, the leg) will have a row of stitches at the opening, and a long tail. Thread a tapestry needle with the long tail. Put the leg where it should go along the body, and pick up a stitch on the body. Keep going (one stitch on leg, one stitch on the body), until you have stitches all the way around the leg. When you are done, tie a knot to fasten off.

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 (we are 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 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, as shown in (d).



The Pattern

Body

With SC, ch 2

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

Rounds 2-3: sc in each st (6)

Round 4: sc twice in each st (12)

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

Round 6: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 2 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (24)

Round 7: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 3 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (30)

Rounds 8-11: With MC, sc in each st (30)

Round 12: With SC, sc in each st (30)

Round 13: * sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (24)

Round 14: * sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (18)

Fasten off with long tail.

Wings

Make 2.

With AC, 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)

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

Round 6: * sc2tog, sc next st. Repeat from * 5 times (12)

Fasten off with long tail.



*Flatten wing in half, and attach
one wing to each side of body.*

Head

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)

Rounds 6-9: With SC, sc in each st (30)

Round 10: With MC, sc in each st (30)

Round 13: * sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (24)

Round 14: * sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (18)

Fasten off with long tail.

Antennae

Make 2.

With SC, ch 2

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

Rounds 2-6: sc in each st (6)

Fasten off with long tail.

Eyes

Make 2.

With AC, ch 2

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

Round 2: sc twice in each st (12)

Round 3: sc in each st (12)

Fasten off with long tail.

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

Slightly stuff eyes and attach to head.

Attach antennae to top of head, as pictured.



At this point, stuff head and body and attach!

Congrats! You now have an adorable bee! (and don't worry... he doesn't sting!)



Congrats on finishing an awesome stuffed animal! Now it's time to show it off... share your photos on our Facebook Page!