Crochet Dinosaur

PATTERN

A friendly leaf-green amigurumi dinosaur with a cream belly and muzzle, a row of dark-green spikes, tiny arms and a long curvy tail - a gentle one-evening make for confident beginners.



The finished dinosaur, about 25 cm (10 in) tall sitting, spikes and all.

Finished size	Approx. 25 cm (10 in) tall sitting, not counting the tail	**Skill level**	Confident beginner
Time	About 3 to 4 hours	**Terms**	US crochet terms

This friendly little dinosaur has a soft leaf-green body, a cream belly and muzzle, a row of dark-green spikes down its back, tiny arms and a long curvy tail. The head is a simple round ball and the body a soft egg shape, so the whole dinosaur comes together in one relaxed evening. Work in a continuous spiral unless a section says otherwise, mark the first stitch of every round, and stuff firmly as you go.

Materials

- Worsted-weight (aran / #4) yarn in **leaf green**, approx. 120 g - head, body, legs, arms and tail
- Worsted-weight yarn in **cream**, approx. 40 g - muzzle, belly patch and feet
- Worsted-weight yarn in **dark green**, approx. 20 g - spikes
- Pink embroidery thread - blush cheeks and smile
- 3.5 mm (US E-4) crochet hook
- 2 safety eyes, 12 mm
- Fiberfill stuffing
- Yarn needle, stitch markers, scissors, sewing pins

Abbreviations (US Terms)

MR	magic ring	**ch**	chain
sl st	slip stitch	**sc**	single crochet
inc	increase - 2 sc in one stitch	**dec**	invisible decrease
dc	double crochet	**BLO**	back loop only

FO	fasten off	**st(s)**	stitch(es)
rnd	round		

Size & gauge: Gauge is not critical for amigurumi - work tightly so the stuffing does not show through. Approx. gauge: 10 sc x 10 rounds = 6 x 4.2 cm (2 1/4 x 1 3/4 in). With the yarn and hook listed, the dinosaur sits about 25 cm (10 in) tall.

Head (leaf green)



Step 1 - starting the round dinosaur head in leaf green.

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring. **[6]**
Rnd 2: Inc in each st around. **[12]**
Rnd 3: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) 6 times. **[18]**
Rnd 4: (Sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[24]**
Rnd 5: (Sc in next 3 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[30]**
Rnd 6: (Sc in next 4 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[36]**
Rnd 7: (Sc in next 5 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[42]**
Rnds 8-11: Sc in each st around (4 rounds). **[42]**
Rnd 12: (Sc in next 5 sts, dec) 6 times. **[36]**
Rnd 13: (Sc in next 4 sts, dec) 6 times. **[30]**
Rnd 14: (Sc in next 3 sts, dec) 6 times. **[24]**
Rnd 15: (Sc in next 2 sts, dec) 6 times. **[18]**
Rnd 16: (Sc in next st, dec) 6 times. **[12]**
Rnd 17: Dec 6 times. **[6]**

Stuff the head lightly as you go. Fasten off leaving a long tail for sewing the head to the body later.

Muzzle (cream)



Step 2 - the cream muzzle and the body with its belly patch.

Muzzle (cream):

Rnd 1: Ch 7. Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook, sc in the next 4 ch, 3 sc in the last ch; working down the other side, sc in the next 4 ch, 2 sc in the last ch. **[14]**

Rnd 2: Inc in the first st, sc in the next 5 sts, inc in each of the next 2 sts, sc in the next 5 sts, inc in the last st. **[18]**

Fasten off leaving a long tail. Sew the muzzle low on the face, centred.

Eyes: set the 12 mm safety eyes just above the muzzle, about six stitches apart, before the head is stuffed and closed. For a child-safe toy (under 3), embroider two round eyes instead.

Body & Belly Patch

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring. **[6]**

Rnd 2: Inc in each st around. **[12]**

Rnd 3: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) 6 times. **[18]**

Rnd 4: (Sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[24]**

Rnd 5: (Sc in next 3 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[30]**

Rnd 6: (Sc in next 4 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[36]**

Rnds 7-11: Sc in each st around (5 rounds). **[36]**

Rnd 12: (Sc in next 4 sts, dec) 6 times. **[30]**

Rnd 13: (Sc in next 3 sts, dec) 6 times. **[24]**

Rnd 14: (Sc in next 2 sts, dec) 6 times. **[18]**

Rnd 15: (Sc in next st, dec) 6 times. **[12]**

Rnd 16: Dec 6 times. **[6]**

Stuff the body firmly before the opening narrows. Fasten off, thread the tail through the front loops of the last 6 stitches, pull to close the hole and weave in the end.

Belly patch (cream):

Rnd 1: Ch 9. Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook, sc in the next 6 ch, 3 sc in the last ch; working down the other side, sc in the next 6 ch, 2 sc in the last ch. **[18]**

Rnd 2: Inc in the first st, sc in the next 7 sts, inc in each of the next 2 sts, sc in the next 7 sts, inc in the last st. **[22]**

Fasten off leaving a long tail. Sew the patch onto the front of the body, centred and low, before stuffing the body.

Legs (make 2)



Step 3 - the two stubby legs with cream feet.

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring (leaf green). **[6]**

Rnd 2: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) 3 times. **[9]**

Rnds 3-5: Sc in each st around (3 rounds, leaf green). **[9]**

Rnds 6-8: Change to cream. Sc in each st around (3 rounds). **[9]**

Stuff the legs firmly so they hold the body up. Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Arms (make 2) & Tail



Step 4 - the tiny arms and the long tapering tail.

Arms - work in leaf green:

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring. **[6]**

Rnd 2: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) 3 times. **[9]**

Rnds 3-6: Sc in each st around (4 rounds). **[9]**

Stuff the arms only very lightly so they stay soft. Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Tail - work in leaf green:

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring. **[6]**

Rnd 2: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) 3 times. **[9]**

Rnd 3: (Sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st) 3 times. **[12]**

Rnds 4-6: Sc in each st around (3 rounds). **[12]**

Rnd 7: (Sc in next 2 sts, dec) 3 times. **[9]**

Rnds 8-14: Sc in each st around (7 rounds). **[9]**

Stuff the tail lightly so it keeps a soft curl. Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Spikes (make 8, dark green)



Step 5 - the row of small dark-green spikes.

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring. **[6]**

Rnd 2: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) 3 times. **[9]**

Rnd 3: (Sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st) 3 times. **[12]**

Rnd 4: Sc in each st around. **[12]**

Make eight spikes in total, all the same size. Fasten off leaving a long tail on each one for sewing.

Face Details



Step 6 - the finished dinosaur, spikes on, face added.

- **Eyes:** 12 mm safety eyes, already set just above the muzzle. For a child-safe toy (under 3), embroider two round eyes instead.

- **Blush cheeks:** with pink embroidery thread, work two small clusters of straight stitches on the cheeks, below the eyes.

- **Smile:** with pink embroidery thread, embroider one gentle curved stitch under the muzzle, from cheek to cheek.

Finish the whole face before the spikes go on - it is far easier to place everything while you can still check it from a distance.

Assembly

1. **Head:** sew the head onto the body, centred, with the muzzle facing forward.
2. **Legs:** sew the legs low on the body, splayed slightly outward, so the dinosaur sits up on its own.
3. **Arms:** sew the arms to the sides of the body, angled forward.
4. **Tail:** sew the tail to the back of the body, curving it gently to one side.
5. **Spikes:** space the eight spikes evenly down the back, from the top of the head to the tip of the tail, and sew each one on firmly.
6. **Face:** embroider the blush cheeks and the smile, then weave in all remaining ends.
7. Give the dinosaur a gentle squeeze all over to even out the stuffing - and it is finished!

3 Tips for a Perfect Dinosaur

1. Place the eyes before you stuff the head. Set the safety eyes while the head is still open - once the head is stuffed and closed, moving them is a fiddly job.

2. Stuff the body firmly, the tail lightly. A firm body lets the dino sit upright on its own, while a lightly stuffed tail keeps its soft curl instead of sticking out straight.

3. Space the spikes before you sew. Lay all eight spikes along the back first and pin them in place - an even row is what makes this dinosaur look like a dinosaur.

Happy crocheting! Make one for a nursery shelf, gift one to your favourite little dinosaur fan - and keep this pattern handy so your next dino is never more than an afternoon away.