Crochet Mexican Doll

PATTERN

A China Poblana amigurumi doll with braided black hair, three little flowers, an embroidered white blouse and a swirling striped skirt.



The finished Mexican doll, about 28 cm (11 in) tall.

Finished size	Approx. 28 cm (11 in) tall	**Skill level**	Confident beginner
Time	About 6 to 8 hours	**Terms**	US crochet terms

This festive doll wears the traditional China Poblana dress of Puebla: a white off-shoulder blouse with colorful embroidery, a bright red waistband and a wide black skirt striped with the colors of the flag. Every part is worked in simple single crochet in a continuous spiral - mark the first stitch of every

round and stuff firmly as you go. Safety eyes make her unsuitable for children under 3; embroider the eyes instead for a baby-safe version.

Materials

- DK / light-worsted yarn in **beige** (skin tone), approx. 60 g - head, body, arms and legs
- DK yarn in **black**, approx. 50 g - hair and skirt
- DK yarn in **white**, approx. 30 g - blouse and lace hem
- Small amounts of DK yarn in **red, green, pink and orange** - stripes, waistband, trim and flowers
- Small amount of **brown** yarn - sandals
- 3 mm crochet hook
- 2 safety eyes, 12 mm (brown or black)
- Fiberfill stuffing
- Tapestry needle, stitch markers, scissors
- Small ribbons in green, white and red - braid bows
- Tiny gold hoop earrings (jewelry findings) or gold yarn
- Black embroidery thread - lashes and smile; pink yarn - blush

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
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 with DK yarn and a 3 mm hook: 10 sc x 10 rounds = 4.5 x 3.5 cm (1 3/4 x 1 3/8 in).

Head (beige)



Step 1 - crocheting the round beige head.

Insert the 12 mm safety eyes between Rnds 12 and 13, about 8 stitches apart, before the decreases begin. Embroider a small smile and two or three lashes at the outer corner of each eye with black thread. Stuff the head firmly as the opening narrows.

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]**

Rnd 8: (Sc in next 6 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[48]**

Rnds 9-16: Sc in each st around (8 rounds). **[48]**

Rnd 17: (Sc in next 6 sts, dec) 6 times. **[42]**

Rnd 18: (Sc in next 5 sts, dec) 6 times. **[36]**

Rnd 19: (Sc in next 4 sts, dec) 6 times. **[30]**

Rnd 20: (Sc in next 3 sts, dec) 6 times. **[24]**

Rnd 21: (Sc in next 2 sts, dec) 6 times. **[18]**

Rnd 22: (Sc in next st, dec) 6 times. **[12]**

Rnd 23: Dec 6 times. **[6]**

Fasten off, thread the tail through the front loops of the last 6 stitches, pull to close and weave in the end.

Legs (make 2, beige) and Body



Step 2 - body and legs, with the sandals started.

Legs

Work the first leg and fasten off. Work the second leg the same way but do NOT fasten off - the body continues from it. Stuff both legs lightly before joining.

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

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

Rnds 3-10: Sc in each st around (8 rounds). **[12]**

Body (beige)

Rnd 1: With the second leg still on the hook, sc in each st of the second leg, then sc in each st of the first leg (joining the two legs into one round). **[24]**

Rnd 2: (Sc in next 3 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[30]**

Rnds 3-8: Sc in each st around (6 rounds). **[30]**

Rnd 9: (Sc in next 3 sts, dec) 6 times. **[24]**

Rnds 10-11: Sc in each st around (2 rounds). **[24]**

Rnd 12: (Sc in next 2 sts, dec) 6 times. **[18]**

Rnd 13: Sc in each st around. **[18]**

Rnd 14: (Sc in next st, dec) 6 times. **[12]**

Stuff the body firmly, packing extra stuffing into the neck opening - the head is large and a solid neck keeps it upright. Fasten off leaving a long tail for sewing the head on.

Sandals (make 2, brown)

Sole: Ch 6. Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook, sc in the next 3 ch, 3 sc in the last ch; working along the opposite side of the chain: sc in the next 3 ch, 2 sc in the last ch. **[12]**

Rnd 2: Sc in the BLO of each st around. **[12]** Slip the sole onto the foot, then for the strap: join brown yarn at one side, ch 6, sl st into the stitch directly across the top of the foot, fasten off and weave in the ends.

Arms (make 2, beige)

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

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

Rnds 3-11: Sc in each st around (9 rounds). **[9]**

Stuff only the hand end lightly. Flatten the open end and fasten off leaving a long tail. Sew one arm to each side of the body, just below the neck, angled slightly forward.

Hair Cap, Braids and Flowers (black)



Step 4 - adding the black hair and braiding it.

Hair cap

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]**

Rnd 8: (Sc in next 6 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[48]**

Rnds 9-11: Sc in each st around (3 rounds). **[48]**

Fasten off leaving a long tail. Pin the cap onto the head with the edge sitting just above the eyebrows and sew it in place.

Hair strands and braids

Cut about 44 strands of black yarn, each approx. 30 cm (12 in) long. Fold each strand in half and latch-hook it through a stitch around the edge of the cap and along the centre parting line, until the head is thickly covered. Divide the hair into two equal bunches, one on each side, braid each bunch tightly and secure the ends with small bows made from the green, white and red ribbons.

Flowers (make 3 - red, orange and pink)

Rnd 1: 5 sc in a magic ring. **[5]**

Rnd 2: In each st around work a petal: (sl st, ch 2, 2 dc, ch 2, sl st) - 5 petals. Fasten off leaving a tail for sewing. For each leaf (green): ch 5, then sl st in the 2nd ch from the hook, sc in the next ch, hdc in the next ch, sl st in the last ch. Sew the three flowers in a cluster above the doll's left braid, with a leaf

tucked behind each.

Blouse (white) and Waistband



Step 5 - the blouse and striped skirt, worked separately.

Rnd 1: Ch 30, join with a sl st to form a ring (take care not to twist). Sc in each ch around. **[30]**

Rnds 2-5: Sc in each st around (4 rounds). **[30]**

Rnd 6: Inc in each st around - the off-shoulder ruffle begins. **[60]**

Rnd 7: Sc in each st around. **[60]**

Rnd 8: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) 30 times. **[90]**

Rnd 9: Sc in each st around. **[90]**

Fasten off and weave in the ends. With green yarn, embroider a zigzag line of backstitch around the ruffle, one round above the edge; repeat with red yarn one round above the green. The red waistband is worked as Rnds 1-3 of the skirt below.

Skirt (red waistband, black body)

Work the skirt in the round from the waistband down. Carry the unused stripe colors up inside the skirt instead of cutting them - there will be almost no ends to weave in.

Rnd 1 (red): Ch 30, join with a sl st to form a ring. Sc in each ch around - waistband. **[30]**

Rnds 2-3 (red): Sc in each st around (2 rounds). **[30]**

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

Rnd 5: Sc in each st around. **[36]**

Rnd 6: (Sc in next 5 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[42]**

Rnd 7: Sc in each st around. **[42]**

Rnd 8: (Sc in next 6 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[48]**

Rnds 9-12: Sc in each st around (4 rounds). **[48]**

Rnd 13: (Sc in next 7 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[54]**

Rnds 14-16: Sc in each st around (3 rounds). **[54]**

Rnd 17 (green): Sc in each st around. **[54]**

Rnd 18 (white): Sc in each st around. **[54]**

Rnd 19 (red): Sc in each st around. **[54]**

Rnd 20 (white): Sc in each st around. **[54]**

Rnd 21 (pink): Sc in each st around. **[54]**

Rnd 22 (orange): Sc in each st around. **[54]**

Rnd 23 (black): Sc in each st around. **[54]**

Rnd 24 (white): Lace hem: (sc in next st, ch 3, skip next 2 sts) 18 times around; join with a sl st to the first sc. **[54]**

Fasten off and weave in the ends. Block the lace hem gently with your fingers so the scallops open up.

Face, Assembly and Finishing



Step 3 - sewing the head and arms to the body.



Step 6 - dressed and finished, ready to display.

1. Head to body: pin the head over the body's 12-stitch neck opening, centred over the face. Sew with a double ring of stitches using the body's long tail, adding a final pinch of stuffing just before closing.

2. Arms: sew one arm to each side of the body just below the neck seam, angled slightly forward so one hand can rest on the skirt.

3. Dress her: slip the blouse over the head and settle the ruffle on the shoulders. Ease the skirt up over the legs and hips until the red waistband sits at her natural waist, over the blouse's lower edge.

4. Earrings: thread a tiny gold hoop through a stitch at each side of the head at eye level. For a child-safe doll, embroider small gold rings with yarn instead.

5. Blush: add two or three short horizontal stitches in pink yarn on each cheek, just below and outside the eyes - or brush on a little soft pastel.

6. Arrange the braids over her shoulders, fluff the flower cluster, and lift one edge of the skirt into her hand for the classic dancer pose.

3 Tips for a Perfect Mexican Doll

1. Stuff the neck firmly. The head is the biggest part of this doll, so pack the neck opening extra firmly - or slip in a short dowel or folded pipe cleaner - before sewing the head on, so she holds her head high instead of nodding.

2. Add the hair before sewing the head. Latch-hooking the strands and braiding them while the head is still separate gives a much cleaner hairline and is far easier on your hands.

3. Carry the stripe yarn. Work the skirt stripes in the round and carry each color up inside the skirt as you change rounds. The floats hide inside the flare and you avoid a dozen loose ends at the hem.

Happy crocheting! Make her for a Cinco de Mayo mantel, a classroom display or your favourite doll collector - and keep this pattern handy for the next fiesta.