Crochet Otter Pattern

Free amigurumi pattern — soft brown river otter with a cream belly and muzzle, a long curving tail and a tiny blue fish



Finished otter, about 20 cm tall, worked in worsted-weight yarn with a 3.5 mm hook.

Materials

- Worsted-weight yarn in medium brown (about 90 g); cream (about 35 g); light blue (about 15 g)
- 3.5 mm crochet hook; 10 mm black safety eyes (2); polyester fiberfill stuffing
- Yarn needle, stitch marker, scissors; brown embroidery thread for the smile. US crochet terms throughout. Work in continuous rounds unless stated.

Abbreviations: sc = single crochet, inc = increase (2 sc in one stitch), dec = decrease (single crochet 2 together), hdc = half double crochet, dc = double crochet, st = stitch, Rnd = round.

Head

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring (brown). [6]

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

Rnd 3: (Sc, inc) x 6. [18]

Rnd 4: (2 sc, inc) x 6. [24]

Rnd 5: (3 sc, inc) x 6. [30]

Rnd 6: (4 sc, inc) x 6. [36]

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

Rnd 12: (4 sc, dec) x 6. [30]

Rnd 13: (3 sc, dec) x 6. [24]

Rnd 14: (2 sc, dec) x 6. [18]

Rnd 15: (Sc, dec) x 6. [12]

Rnd 16: Dec x 6. Fasten off, stuff firmly before closing. [6]

Insert the safety eyes between Rnds 9 and 10, about 7 stitches apart, before stuffing firmly.

Muzzle (cream)

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring (cream). [6]

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

Rnd 3: (Sc, inc) x 6. [18]

Rnd 4: Sc in each st around. Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing. [18]

Sew to the lower half of the head, centred between the eyes. Embroider a small brown nose on top of the muzzle, with one short vertical stitch down to a tiny smile.

Body

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring (brown). [6]

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

Rnd 3: (Sc, inc) x 6. [18]

Rnd 4: (2 sc, inc) x 6. [24]

Rnd 5: (3 sc, inc) x 6. [30]

Rnds 6-10: Sc in each st around (5 rounds). [30]

Rnd 11: (3 sc, dec) x 6. [24]

Rnd 12: (2 sc, dec) x 6. [18]

Rnd 13: (Sc, dec) x 6. [12]

Rnd 14: Dec x 6. Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. [6]

Stuff lightly so the body stays plump but still sits flat.

Belly (cream oval)

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

Rnd 2: Inc, sc x 4, inc x 3, sc x 4, inc x 2. [20]

Rnd 3: Sc, inc, sc x 4, (sc, inc) x 3, sc x 4, (sc, inc) x 2. [26]

Rnd 4: Sc in each st around. Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing. [26]

Sew onto the front of the body with a whip stitch.

Ears (make 2, brown)

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring (brown). [6]

Rnd 2: (Sc, inc) x 3. [9]

Rnds 3-4: Sc in each st around (2 rounds). [9]

Rnd 5: (Sc, dec) x 3. Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing. Flatten without stuffing. [6]

Pin the ears on top of the head, slightly to the sides, and check they sit level before sewing them down.

Arms (make 2, brown)

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring (brown). [6]

Rnd 2: (Sc, inc) x 3. [9]

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

Rnd 6: (Sc, dec) x 3. Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing. Stuff lightly. [6]

Sew to the sides of the body, angled slightly forward so the paws can hold the fish.

Legs (make 2, brown)

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring (brown). [6]

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

Rnds 3-4: Sc in each st around (2 rounds). [12]

Rnd 5: (2 sc, dec) x 3. [9]

Rnd 6: Sc in each st around. Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing. Stuff lightly. [9]

Sew to the front of the body, low down, checking from the front that the otter sits level.

Tail (brown)

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring (brown). [6]

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

Rnd 3: (Sc, inc) x 6. [18]

Rnd 4: (5 sc, inc) x 3. [21]

Rnds 5-8: Sc in each st around (4 rounds). [21]

Rnd 9: (5 sc, dec) x 3. [18]

Rnd 10: (4 sc, dec) x 3. [15]

Rnd 11: (3 sc, dec) x 3. [12]

Rnd 12: (2 sc, dec) x 3. [9]

Rnd 13: Sc in each st around. Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing. Stuff lightly. [9]

Sew low on the back of the body, curving it around to the side so the otter sits with its tail curled beside it.

Little fish (light blue)

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring (light blue). [6]

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

Rnd 3: (Sc, inc) x 6. [18]

Rnds 4-5: Sc in each st around (2 rounds). [18]

Rnd 6: (4 sc, dec) x 3. [15]

Rnd 7: (3 sc, dec) x 3. [12]

Rnd 8: (2 sc, dec) x 3. [9]

Rnd 9: (Sc, dec) x 3. Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing. Stuff very lightly. [6]

Tail fin: ch 4, sc in 2nd ch from hook, hdc in next ch, dc in last ch — make 2 and sew together at the narrow end of the body. Top fin: ch 4, sc, hdc, sl st; sew to the top of the fish. Add one tiny black safety eye on each side, or embroider a French knot.

Assembly & Face

Sew the head firmly to the top of the body, then attach the ears, arms, legs and tail, pinning every piece first and checking the otter from the front and the side before you commit a stitch. Place the little blue fish between the front paws and tack it in place with a few stitches. Embroider the nose and smile, weave in all ends, and set your otter upright with its fish.

Tips

- Mark every round. Amigurumi is worked in a spiral, so move your stitch marker up at the start of each round.
- Stuff in small pinches. Add a little fiberfill at a time and shape as you go; gentle layers give a smooth, plump otter.
- Pin before you sew. Check the ears, tail and legs from every angle while they are pinned — once sewn, moving them means unpicking.

Happy crocheting! This pattern is free for personal use.