Crochet Sloth

PATTERN

A sleepy taupe-gray amigurumi sloth with a cream face, dark eye patches and a tiny green branch - a gentle one-evening make for confident beginners.



The finished sloth, about 20 cm (8 in) tall sitting, holding its branch.

Finished size	Approx. 20 cm (8 in) tall sitting, 14 cm wide with the branch	**Skill level**	Confident beginner
Time	About 3 to 4 hours	**Terms**	US crochet terms

This sleepy little sloth has a soft taupe-gray body, a cream face with dark chocolate eye patches, long bendy limbs tipped with cream claws, and a tiny green branch to hold. The head and body are worked as one piece, so the whole sloth 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 **taupe-gray**, approx. 100 g - head, body, arms and legs
- Worsted-weight yarn in **cream**, approx. 35 g - face panel and claws
- Small amounts of worsted-weight yarn in **dark chocolate brown** (eye patches) and **green** (branch)
- Black embroidery thread - nose and sleepy smile
- 4.0 mm (US G-6) crochet hook
- 2 safety eyes, 10 mm
- Fiberfill stuffing
- Yarn needle, stitch markers, scissors, sewing pins
- Optional: a small real twig with leaves, for the branch

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 sloth sits about 20 cm (8 in) tall.

Head & Body - One Piece (taupe-gray)



Step 1 - starting the round head and body in taupe-gray.

Face panel (Rnds 8-10): work the first 18 stitches of each round in taupe-gray (the back of the head), then the next 18 stitches in cream (the front face panel). Carry the unused colour loosely up the inside of the work. Mark the first front stitch with a stitch marker before Rnd 8 so the panel stays centred.

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 each st around. **[36]**

Rnds 8-10: Face rounds - sc in each st around, changing colours for the face panel (see Face Panel below). **[36]**

Rnd 11: (Sc in next 4 sts, dec) 6 times. **[30]**

Rnds 12-13: Sc in each st around (2 rounds). **[30]**

Rnd 14: (Sc in next 4 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[36]**

Rnd 15: (Sc in next 5 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. **[42]**

Rnds 16-20: Sc in each st around (5 rounds). **[42]**

Rnd 21: (Sc in next 5 sts, dec) 6 times. **[36]**

Rnd 22: Sc in each st around. **[36]**

Rnd 23: (Sc in next 4 sts, dec) 6 times. **[30]**

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

Rnd 25: (Sc in next 2 sts, dec) 6 times. **[18]**

Rnd 26: (Sc in next st, dec) 6 times. **[12]**

Rnd 27: 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.

Eye Patches (make 2, dark brown)



Step 2 - the cream face panel with the dark eye patches.

Rnd 1: Ch 8. Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook, sc in the next 5 ch, 3 sc in the last ch; working down the other side, sc in the next 5 ch, 2 sc in the last ch. **[16]**

Rnd 2: Inc in the first st, sc in the next 6 sts, inc in each of the next 2 sts, sc in the next 6 sts, inc in the last st. **[20]**

Fasten off leaving a long tail. Sew each patch onto the cream face, angled slightly downward toward the nose, then set a 10 mm safety eye in the centre of each patch. Keep the patches level with each other - a wonky patch makes the sloth look surprised instead of sleepy.

Arms (make 2) & Legs (make 2)



Step 3 - the long arms and legs, tipped with cream claws.

Arms - work in taupe-gray, changing to cream for the last 2 rounds:

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

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

Rnds 3-12: Sc in each st around (10 rounds). **[9]**

Rnds 13-14: Change to cream. Sc in each st around (2 rounds). **[9]**

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

Legs - same construction, shorter:

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

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

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

Rnds 9-10: Change to cream. Sc in each st around (2 rounds). **[9]**

Stuff the legs only very lightly. Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Claws: at the cream tip of each limb, work 3 tiny claws: ch 3, sl st in the 2nd ch from the hook and in the next ch, sl st into the next stitch of the round. Repeat twice more, spacing the claws evenly around the tip.

Stuffing & Shaping



Step 4 - stuffing the body with fiberfill.

Add the fiberfill in small pinches, shaping as you go, and push a little extra into the cheeks and the bottom so the sloth sits flat without tipping forward. Stuff firmly but not hard: you want a plump, smooth sloth with no lumps showing through the stitches.

Branch (green)



Step 5 - the sloth holding its little green branch.

Branch: Ch 14. Sl st in the 2nd ch from the hook and in each ch across. **[13]** Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Leaves (make 3): Ch 6. Working into the back bumps of the chain: sl st in the 2nd ch from the hook, sc in the next ch, 2 dc in the next ch, sc in the next ch, sl st in the last ch. Fasten off leaving a long tail and sew the leaves along the branch.

Or use a small real twig with leaves instead - just check it is clean and dry first.

Face Details



Step 6 - the finished sloth, face added, branch in hand.

- **Eyes:** 10 mm safety eyes, already set in the centre of each eye patch. For a child-safe toy (under 3), embroider two sleepy curves instead.
- **Nose:** with black embroidery thread, stitch a small horizontal oval centred on the cream face, just below and between the eyes, passing over it 4-5 times until it looks solid.
- **Smile:** from the base of the nose, embroider one gentle curved stitch down and out to each side for the sleepy smile.
- **Cheeks (optional):** a few loose stitches of pale pink yarn below each eye give the sloth a soft blush.

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

Assembly

1. Eye patches: sew one patch to the cream face on each side, angled slightly downward toward the nose, and set the safety eyes in their centres.

2. Arms: sew the arms to the sides of the body, angled forward, then wrap them gently around the branch and tack each paw to the branch with 2-3 stitches.

3. Legs: sew the legs low on the body, splayed slightly outward, so the sloth sits up on its own.

4. Branch: settle the branch across the belly and secure it with a few hidden stitches where the paws meet it.

5. Face: embroider the nose and the sleepy smile, then weave in all remaining ends.

6. Give the sloth a gentle squeeze all over to even out the stuffing - and it is finished!

3 Tips for a Perfect Sloth

1. Mark the front before the colour changes. Put a stitch marker in the first front stitch before the face rounds begin, so the cream panel and the eye patches stay centred. A shifted face is the most common sloth mistake.

2. Keep the limbs soft. Stuff the arms and legs only lightly. Firm limbs look stiff and will not drape around the branch the way a sleepy sloth's should.

3. Embroider the eyes for little ones. Skip the safety eyes and embroider two sleepy curves instead. Embroidered eyes are the safest choice for toys meant for children under three, and they make the sloth look even sleepier.

Happy crocheting! Make one for your favourite plant shelf, gift one to your favourite slow-living friend - and keep this pattern handy so your next sloth is never more than an afternoon away.