

SNOW BABY

Warm hearts with Irene Strange's fluffy crochet penguin, complete with candy cane-striped jumper

COVER
STAR





HOW TO MAKE A CROCHET PENGUIN

MATERIALS

- Drops Lima yarn, 60% wool/35% alpaca, 50g/100m per ball, one ball each in Black (8903) (Yarn A), Pearl Grey (9020) (Yarn B), White (1101) (Yarn C) and Red (3609) (Yarn D) (we got ours from www.woolwarehouse.co.uk)
- 4.5mm (UK 7, US 7) crochet hook
- 3mm (UK 10, US D/3) crochet hook
- Pair of black safety eyes, 9mm (3/8")
- Stitch marker
- Yarn needle
- Soft toy stuffing
- Wire brush

TENSION

Tension is not important for this project – just make sure the stitches are tight enough so the stuffing doesn't show through

ABBREVIATIONS (UK)

st(s) stitch(es)
 ch chain
 ss slip stitch
 dc double crochet
 yrh yarn round hook

inv dc2tog invisible double crochet 2 together – insert hook in front loop of next st, yrh and draw loop through, insert hook in both loops of next st, yrh and draw loop through, yrh and draw loop through all 3 loops on hook decrease
 inv dc3tog invisible double crochet 3 together – (insert hook in front loop of next st, yrh and draw loop through) twice, insert hook in both loops of next st, yrh and draw loop through, yrh and draw loop through all 4 loops on hook decrease
 FPdc front post double crochet – work a double crochet around the front post of the st rather than into the top 2 loops of the st, insert hook from the front of your work to the back, around the back of the indicated st and back through to the front, yrh and draw round the back of the post of the indicated st, yrh and complete double crochet

as normal
 magic ring to make a magic ring, hold the yarn in your hand and wrap the working yarn around your forefinger twice to create a ring, slip the ring off your finger and insert hook to pick up first st, ch1, then work the necessary sts for Round 1 and close the ring tightly by pulling the loose end

FINISHED SIZE

Approx. 23cm (9 1/8") tall

Heartwarming, wholesome and huggable, this penguin chick is the ultimate crochet pick-me-up. Bringing you all the joy in so many ways, he's a must-make for last minute Christmas gifts and winter birthday treats, or just because.

We're sure no one could resist that podgy baby belly wrapped up in a candy cane jumper, but our favourite part has to be the fluffy fur, created by brushing up super-soft alpaca-blend yarn. This project would also work well with faux fur or chenille yarn though – try mixing up the textures for even more squishable goodness.

Instructions

The pattern below is for a penguin with a stripy jumper worked as part of the body. To make a separate jumper, work the rounds in Yarns C and D in Yarn B to crochet the penguin, then work the rounds in Yarns C and D on their own, starting with ch40.

The pattern uses concise crochet terms, for example 6 dc means work 1 dc in each of next 6 sts. Most parts of the pattern are worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off the round with a ss – it helps to use a st



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marker in last the st of each round, moving it up as you work.

Penguin

Work using yarn held double throughout unless stated otherwise

Head and body

Worked from the head downward

Round 1 using Yarn A and 4.5mm hook, start with 6 dc in a magic ring, pull ring tight [6 sts]

Round 2 2 dc in each st around [12 sts]

Round 3 *3 dc, 2 dc in each of next 3 sts; repeat from * to end of round [18 sts]

Round 4 *3 dc, (2 dc in next st, 1 dc) 3 times; repeat from * to end of round [24 sts]

Round 5 *3 dc, (2 dc, 2 dc in next st) 3 times; repeat from * to end of round [30 sts]

Round 6 *3 dc, (2 dc in next st, 3 dc) 3 times; repeat from * to end of round [36 sts]

Rounds 7-12 1 dc in each st around

Round 13 change to Yarn B, 1 dc in each st around

Round 14 12 dc, 2 dc in next st, 17 dc, 2 dc in next st, 5 dc [38 sts]

Round 15 1 dc in each st around

Round 16 12 dc, 2 dc in next st, 18 dc, 2 dc in next st, 6 dc [40 sts]

Round 17 1 dc in each st around

Round 18 change to Yarn C, 1 dc in each st around

Round 19 working in back loops only, 1 dc in each st around

Round 20 12 dc, 2 dc in next st, 19 dc, 2 dc in next st, 7 dc [42 sts]

In Round 21, gaps are created for adding in wings

Round 21 change to Yarn D, 9 dc, ch9, miss 9 sts, 12 dc, ch9, miss 9 sts, 3 dc [42 sts]

Rounds 22-23 1 dc in each st around

Round 24 change to Yarn C, 12 dc, 2 dc in next st, 20 dc, 2 dc in next st, 8 dc [44 sts]

Rounds 25-26 1 dc in each st around

Round 27 change to Yarn D, 12 dc, 2 dc in next st, 21 dc, 2 dc in next st, 9 dc [46 sts]

Rounds 28-29 1 dc in each st around

Rounds 30-32 change to Yarn C, 1 dc in each st around

Rounds 33-35 change to Yarn D, 1 dc in each st around

Rounds 36-38 change to Yarn C, 1 dc in each st around

Round 39 change to Yarn B, working in back loops only, 1 dc in each st around

In Round 40, the pattern starts increasing for the tail. Check the placement of the increase is at

the centre back – if not, move the beginning of the round by working a few extra sts

Round 40 7 dc, 3 dc in next st, 38 dc [48 sts]

Round 41 8 dc, 3 dc in next st, 39 dc [50 sts]

Round 42 9 dc, 3 dc in next st, 40 dc [52 sts]

Rounds 43-45 1 dc in each st around

Round 46 7 dc, inv dc2tog 4 times, 37 dc [48 sts]

Round 47 (6 dc, inv dc2tog) 6 times [42 sts]

Round 48 (4 dc, inv dc2tog) 7 times [35 sts]

Round 49 (3 dc, inv dc2tog) 7 times [28 sts]

Round 50 (2 dc, inv dc2tog) 7 times [21 sts]

Round 51 (1 dc, inv dc2tog) 7 times [14 sts]

Round 52 inv dc2tog 7 times [7 sts]

Fasten off, thread tail through all front loops and pull tight to close

Wings (make two)

These are worked from the body in the gaps left on Round 21

Round 1 using Yarn D and 4.5mm hook, attach yarn to middle st of the underarm, 1 dc in each st around [18 sts]

Rounds 2-3 1 dc in each st around



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Rounds 4-6 change to Yarn C, 1 dc in each st around

Rounds 7-9 change to Yarn D, 1 dc in each st around

Rounds 10-12 change to Yarn C, 1 dc in each st around

Round 13 change to Yarn B, working in back loops only, 1 dc in each st around

Round 14 1 dc in each st around

Round 15 (inv dc2tog, 4 dc) 3 times [15 sts]

Round 16 1 dc in each st around

Round 17 (inv dc2tog, 3 dc) 3 times [12 sts]

Round 18 1 dc in each st around

Round 19 (inv dc2tog, 2 dc) 3 times [9 sts]

Round 20 1 dc in each st around

Round 21 (inv dc2tog, 1 dc) 3 times [6 sts]

Fasten off, then thread the tail up through all the front loops and pull tight to close

Stuff the body after making the first wing, stuffing the wing section lightly, then stuff the second wing as you go

Beak

Round 1 using Yarn A and 4.5mm hook, start with 5 dc in a magic ring, pull ring tight [5 sts]

Round 2 1 dc in each st around

Round 3 2 dc in next st, 4 dc [6 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing

Cheeks (make two)

Worked in rows, turning at the end of each row

Row 1 using a single strand of Yarn C and 3mm hook, start with 5 dc in a magic ring, pull ring tight, turn [5 sts]

Row 2 ch1 (does not count as st here and throughout), 1 dc, 2 dc in each of next 3 sts, 1 dc, turn [8 sts]

Row 3 ch1, 1 dc, (2 dc in next st, 1 dc) 3 times, 1 dc, turn [11 sts]

Row 4 ch1, 1 dc, (2 dc in next st, 2 dc) 3 times, 1 dc, turn [14 sts]

Row 5 ch1, 1 dc, (2 dc in next st, 3 dc) 3 times, 1 dc [17 sts]

Row 6 turn sideways and work along the long edge, ch1, 10 dc [10 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing

Cuffs and ribbing

Work in front loops on the sleeve cuffs, neck and bottom edge of jumper

Round 1 using a single strand of Yarn D and 4.5mm hook, attach yarn to any st, 1 dc in each st around

Round 2 (1 FPdc, 1 dc) repeat around

Round 3 (1 FPdc, 1 dc) repeat around until last st, 1 ss in last st

Fasten off, sewing the last st join to close, weave in loose ends

Feet (make two)

Round 1 using Yarn A and 4.5mm hook, start with 6 dc in a magic ring, pull ring tight [6 sts]

Round 2 (2 dc in next st) 6 times [12 sts]

Round 3 (2 dc in next st, 1 dc) 6 times [18 sts]

Round 4 6 dc, (3 dc in next st, 1 dc) 3 times, 6 dc [24 sts]

Round 5 7 dc, (3 dc in next st, 3 dc) 3 times, 5 dc [30 sts]

Round 6 7 dc, (inv dc3tog, 3 dc) 3 times, 5 dc [24 sts]

Round 7 6 ss, (inv dc3tog, 1 ss) 3 times, 6 ss [18 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing

Finishing

Brush out all the grey sections with a wire brush to create a fluffy coat. Place safety eyes through the cheeks, between Rows 2-3, off to the sides. Sew the cheeks onto the body, then sew the beak in the middle of the cheeks.

For the feet, poke out each toe from the inside to encourage the shape. Sew the feet to the base of the body, stuffing each foot.

Re-brush the grey sections to hide the seams, then weave in all ends.

MEET THE MAKER IRENE STRANGE



Irina, AKA Irene Strange, is a crochet designer with a sketchbook full of characters waiting to come to life. She loves experimenting with shapes and textures, and when Irina's not making amigurumi she likes to potter around the allotment or curl up with a book. Keep up with her on Instagram @ireneStrange. www.ireneStrange.co.uk

