CROCHET PATTERN

Snawball, the Ringed Seal

Designer: Alexandra Simba
Online store: https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/CrochetPatternGuru
Any questions please ask via private message in the Etsy shop.

Difficulty level - intermediate. The toy is approx. 17 (L) * 14 (H) cm. Pay attention that your toy can be smaller or bigger depending on the materials you use and your manner to crochet.

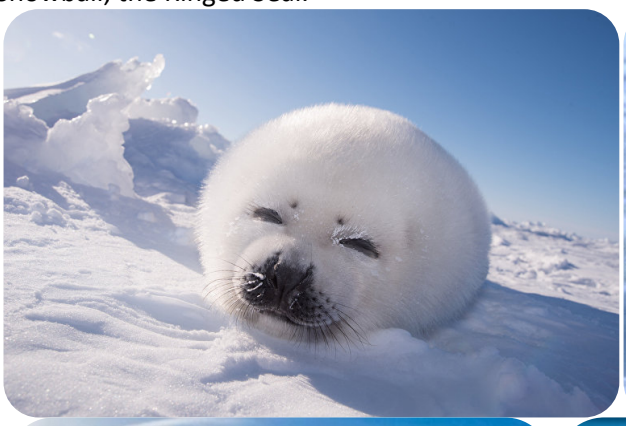
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You can exchange, sell, and put on charity auctions toys made using this pattern.
When showing and/or selling toys made using this pattern online you have to provide the working link to my online store followed by the phrase: “This toy is made using Alexandra Simba’s (Александра Simba) pattern https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/CrochetPatternGuru». Thank you for understanding.



Preface

Firstly, I would like to tell a little about the place where I was born and where I have lived all my life. To be more precise I am going to tell about animals living in this area. Irkutsk is located 60 km away from the most famous lake on our planet - Lake Baikal. This lake is known to be the deepest lake on the Earth. It also has the largest amount of clear drinking water. Lots of endemics (unique creatures living in a specific area) live in the Baikal area. The most famous creature is the ringed seal. It is a very cute and funny creature. Nobody knows when and how it appeared there. However, it feels being at home there. The seal is quite timid, but if you reach it very carefully, you can take funny photos of it. In February and March, these animals have cute cubs. Today I would like to introduce one of these creatures to you. Snowball, the Ringed Seal.








YOU WILL NEED

These materials are necessary:

- fluffy yarn. I used Kamteks Khlopok Travka (65% cotton, 35% polyamide, 220 m/100 g) - white (205). 1 skein. (To be exact, I used only 80 g of yarn, but it is better to have a little more yarn.) You also can use Nako Paris yarn (40% acrylic, 60% polyamide; 245 m/100 g) or any other similar yarn or any mohair yarn (If you use mohair yarn, you will have to trim your toy after brushing it).



TIP: If you need exactly the same yarn you can ask via private message in this shop on Etsy

https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/LittleOwlsHutRUSSIAN

- copper wire to insert into front legs (the wire is necessary to make the toy stable) - 1.5 mm cooper wire - approx. 0.6 m. *You can buy this wire in a craft shop, but I suggest buying it in an electronic goods store. There you can buy a 3*1.5 cord. Before buying the cord, make sure that the wire inside it is whole and does not consist of several thin wires. With a paper knife, remove the insulation.*
- stuffing polyester
- white fabric plaster or insulation tape
- toy eyes or beads or semi beads to make eyes. You will need 2 items. The size of the eyes is 14 mm (depends on the size of your toy).
- transparent glue (if you want to glue the eyes on instead of sewing them on) or sewing thread of the matching color
- strong thread to do sculpting. I use Vita Pelican yarn - I like thus yarn because it is strong enough, doesn't damage the fabric. Some crocheters like using dental floss or thick nylon thread.
- 2.5*28 mm cotter pin - 1 item, M3 washer - 2 items, 55 mm plywood or cardboard disk - 2 items (pay attention that the size of the disk depends on the inner diameter of the neck). You can just sew the head on. In this case, you don't need cotter pins, washer or disks.
- toy plastic nose (looking like a dog's nose). You can also embroider the nose.

Optional materials:

- **dry** pastel colors to tint the toy - dark-gray or black
- black ballpoint pen to tint the eyes.
- any smooth yarn to make the hat. I used Vita Brilliant yarn (45% wool, 55% acrylic; 380 m/100 g) of turquoise, violet and yellow colors. You will need just leftovers of these yarns.
- black fishing line to make whiskers.

If you are not going to use the toy as a Christmas tree decoration, you will need metal granules - approx. 50 g.

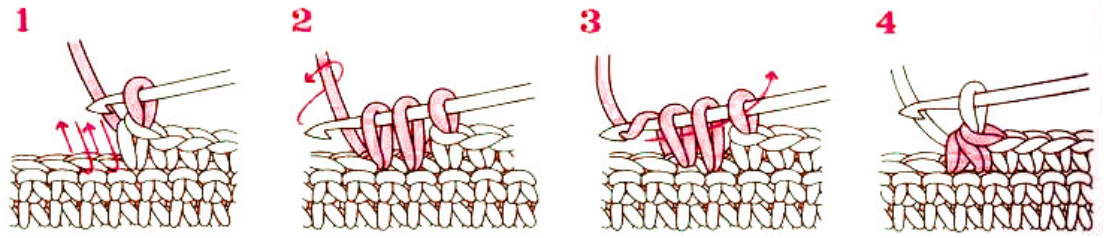
TOOLS:

- 1.75 mm crochet hook. Attention: choose the size of the hook according to the yarn you use or your manner to crochet.
- 2 mm knitting needles to make the hat. Choose the size of the needles depending on the yarn you use and your manner to knit.
- wire cutter
- scissors
- round pliers to twist cotter-pins
- hard synthetic paintbrush to tint the toy

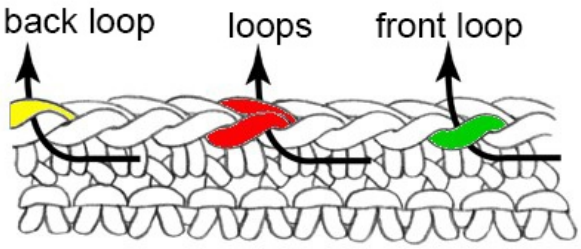


ABBREVIATIONS:

ch - chain
dec - decrease: 2 sts tog
Attention! In order to get thick even fabric without holes make decreases as it is shown in pictures below (and do not just skip on stitch!). If it is not states the other, **<u>if it is not stated otherwise.</u>**



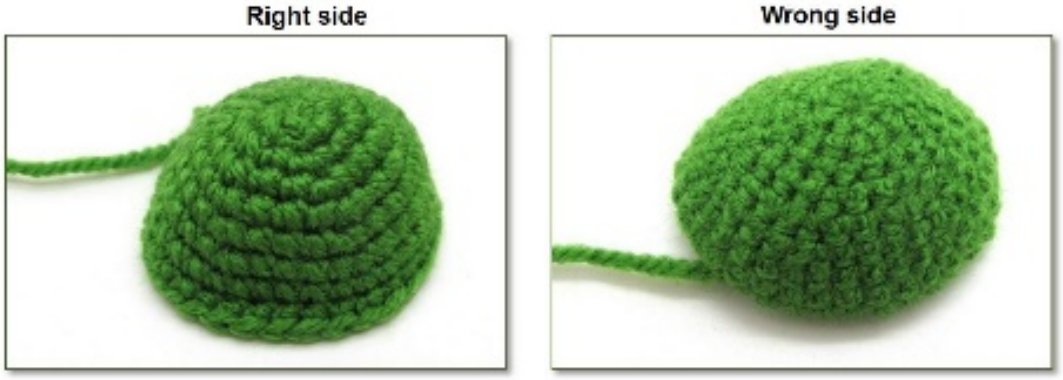
tog - together
shift st - shift stitch – an additional sc in next st and only after that change the position of the marker
FO – fasten off and weave in the end
sc - single crochet



incr - increase: 2 sc in one st
incr-dec - Attention! In order to avoid holes between the items when joining them together you have to do the following: draw up one more loop through the same place where you have just made a sc as you are going to make another sc but do not crochet it. As a result, you have two sts on the hook. Then draw up another loop through the st in the previous rnd of the other ray (the one you are going to join the first ray to). As a result, you have 3 sts on the hook. Now you have to make a sc through the all 3 sts. It looks like you have made increase and decrease at the same time and in the end you have made only one sc.
RS – right side
WS – wrong side

Attention! In order to avoid injuries, it is necessary to make small loops at the wire ends and wrap them with plaster. Be careful when working with wire.

Attention! The toy is made with RS facing you.



How to choose a washer to join the head

In order to choose the correct disc size, it is necessary to make a circle, which will be the base of the head. Work in continuous spiral. Do not shift the marker.

1) make a MR, 7 sc into the ring (7)
2) 2 sc in each st around (14)
3) (sc, 2 sc in next st) * 7 (21)
4) (sc, 2 sc in next st, sc) * 7 (28)
5) (3 sc, 2 sc in next st) * 7 (35)
6) (2 sc, 2 sc in next st, 2 sc) * 7 (42)
7) (3 sc, 2 sc in next st, 3 sc) * 6 (48)
8) (7 sc, 2 sc in next st) * 6 (54)
9) (4 sc, 2 sc in next st, 4 sc) * 6 (60). The disc must fit the circle. You can cut the yarn now and then continue making the head from the last round of the circle.

Front legs

Make two. Work in continuous spiral. The marker goes along the long edge of the leg. Track the position of the marker to make it go straight.

1) make a MR, 6 sc into the ring (6)
2) 2 sc in next st, sc, (2 sc in next st) * 2, sc, 2 sc in next st (10)
3) 2 sc in next st, 3 sc, (2 sc in next st) * 2, 3 sc, 2 sc in next st (14)
4) 6 sc, (3 sc in next st) * 2, 6 sc (18)
5) 8 sc, (3 sc in next st) * 2, 8 sc (22)
6-8) sc in each st around (22)
9) (9 sc, 2 sc tog) * 2 (20)
10-11) sc in each st around (20)
12) (8 sc, 2 sc tog) * 2 (18)
13-14) sc in each st around. (18) Fasten off. Fold the leg in half along the marker. Do not stuff the leg with polyester.



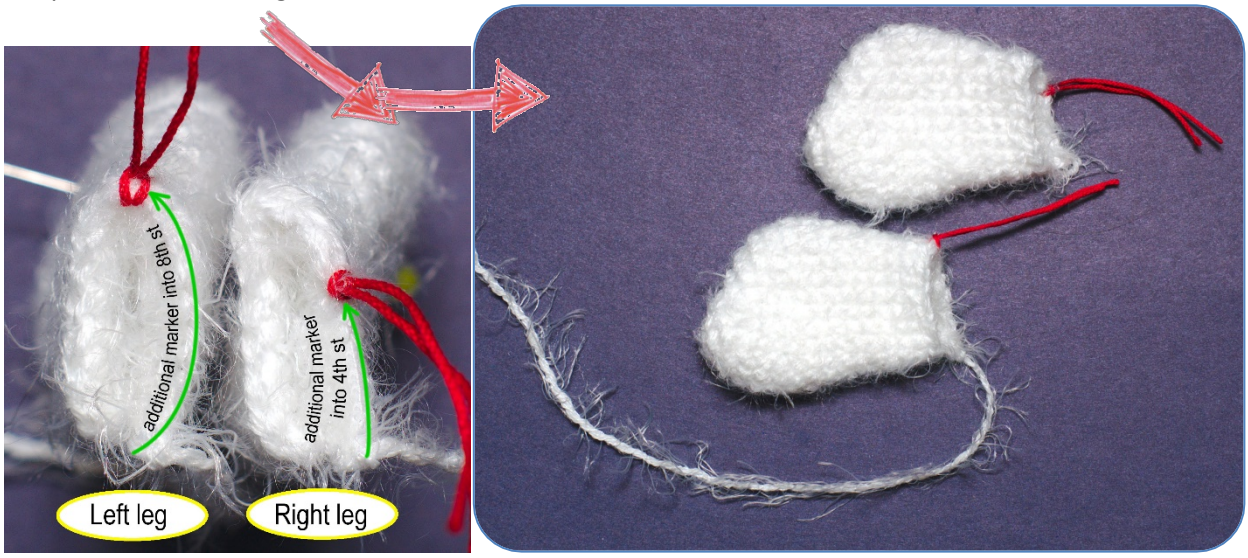
Back legs

Make two. Work in continuous spiral. The marker goes along the long edge of the leg. Track the position of the marker to make it go straight.

1) make a MR, 6 sc into the ring (6)
2) 2 sc in next st, sc, (2 sc in next st) * 2, sc, 2 sc in next st (10)
3) 2 sc in next st, 3 sc, (2 sc in next st) * 2, 3 sc, 2 sc in next st (14)
4) 6 sc, (3 sc in next st) * 2, 6 sc (18)
5) 8 sc, (3 sc in next st) * 2, 8 sc (22)
6-8) sc in each st around (22)
9) (9 sc, 2 sc tog) * 2 (20)
10) 9 sc, 2 sc tog, 9 sc (19)
11) 8 sc, 2 sc tog, 9 sc (18)
12) 8 sc, 2 sc tog, 8 sc (17)
13) 7 sc, 2 sc tog, 8 sc (16)

14-15) sc in each st around (16). Fold the leg in half along the marker. Do not stuff the leg with polyester. Cut the yarn from the right leg. Weave in the end. Cut the yarn from the left leg leaving a 25-cm tail. DO NOT fix the yarn, just draw a loop to prevent unraveling.

Place additional markers on legs (you can use safety pins or waste yarn of different color) using the picture below as a guide.



If you like this pattern and want to finish the project, find full version of the pattern in one of my shops.

Shop on Etsy –
http://bit.ly/EtsyCPG

Shop on Ravelry
http://bit.ly/RavelryCPG

Results of the pattern testing

I am thankful to everybody who helped me to check the pattern.

Toy seal called Busia by **Svetlana Tabunschikova** is mad with Kamteks Khlopok Travka. The toy is approx. 16 cm tall.





Tatiana Chertova made her seal with the same yarn. Her toy is approx. 15 cm tall.



This cute seal called Tatty appeared at **Natalia Berdnikova**. It is made with Super Soft Ball yarn. Natalia divided the yarn and used only two strands of the yarn instead of three and added kid mohair by Ice Yarn. She used approx. 100 g of Super Soft Ball yarn. And 23 g of kid mohair yarn. She worked with 1.75 mm Clover hook. The toy turned out to be very fluffy. It is approx. 23 cm long and 18 cm tall.





The toy seal by **Julia Voitenko** is made with Nazar Nezni (with two strands together) and 1.25 mm Clover crochet hook. 2 skeins. The eyes are made of glass. The eyebrows are felted. The toy is approx. 19 cm long.









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Simba