



Crochet Pattern

By Chirkova Tatiana

Skill level: Experienced



English Cocker Spaniel

About this pattern

Please, read the whole pattern carefully before you start. I've tried to do my best to present you with accurate pictures of how to crochet and decorate the dog. Due to the presence of small parts and wire the dog is not suitable as a toy for little children.

I really hope that detailed step-by-step instructions and pictures will help you to gain experience and provide you with satisfaction from creative work. Everybody works differently. This pattern is just a guideline to help you make your own unique doggie. It is up to you to decide the way your English Cocker Spaniel will look like!

I use USA terminology for my pattern (don't worry if you use UK terms, all the differences are explained in the pattern).

Finished size

20 cm (7.8 inches) tall till the tips of the ears, 24 cm (9.4 inches) long from the tip of the nose to the tips of back legs.

Materials

✓ Main yarn

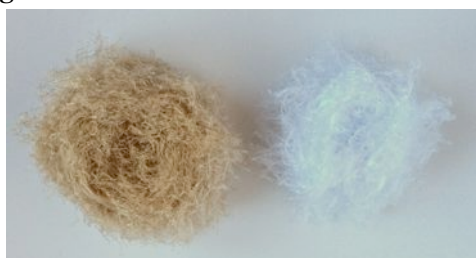
White color – 100 g. I used 'Khlopok Travka' by Camtex (cotton 65%, polyamide 35%, 100g/220 m).

Beige color – 100 g. I used 'Khlopok Travka' by Camtex (cotton 65%, polyamide 35%, 100g/220 m).



Tip: If you want your dog to be one-color, then you will need 200 g of one color yarn only.

- ✓ White and beige fluffy fancy yarn. I used "Swan's Down" by Nazar (100% Nylon (Polyamide), 100g/170m). You need: beige about 50 gr (if you are going to make ears using two threads of yarn instead of one), white about 20 gr.



- ✓ Small amount of dark brown smooth yarn matching the weight of the main yarn (for the inner parts of the jaws).
- ✓ Any thin smooth black thread and matching crochet hook. I used "Iris" by Kirov Yarn Mills (100% cotton, 25g/150m).
- ✓ Steel crochet hook. I used 1.5 mm (US steel hook – 8, UK steel hook - 4 1/2) crochet hook for the yarn mentioned above.
- ✓ Steel crochet hook for making ears. I used 1.75 mm (US steel hook – 6, UK steel hook – 3 1/2).
- ✓ Small amount of dark brown smooth yarn matching the weight of the main yarn (for the inner parts of the jaws).
- ✓ Any thin smooth black thread and matching crochet hook. I used "Iris" by Kirov Yarn Mills (100% cotton, 25g/150m).
- ✓ Wool for felting matching the color of the main yarn (beige in my case) – small amount, just to felt around the eyes.
- ✓ Tapestry needle for tightening.
- ✓ Strong beige thread for tightening.
- ✓ Two black half beads for the eyes (ø 9-10 mm).
- ✓ Ready-made nose 1.6 cm (0.6 inches) wide. You can make the nose using polymer clay as well (instructions are given in the pattern).
- ✓ Single core copper electrical wire for the main parts approximately 60 cm (23.7 inches) long 2.5 mm diameter. Use only copper wire for the frame as copper can better stand bending compared to aluminum. You can buy it at electric supplies stores.
- ✓ Thin firm electrical wire for the lower jaw approximately 15 cm (5.9 inches) long 0.7-0.9 mm diameter.
- ✓ Thin copper PVC electrical wire for the ears – approx. 60 cm (23.7 inches) long. You can find this type of wire winded together inside a cable. You need one of those thin wires (not the whole cable). You can buy it at electric supplies stores.



Wire for making jewelry is also can be used.

- ✓ Plaster - adhesive-backed fabric tape 1 cm wide to

work up the wire (the one you use to cover wounds).

- ✓ Coarse, fine and star shaped felting needles for felting.
- ✓ Fake eyelashes.



- ✓ Brush or Velcro for brushing up.
- ✓ Small and big sharp scissors for finishing up.
- ✓ Stuffing.

For nose and tongue made of polymer clay:

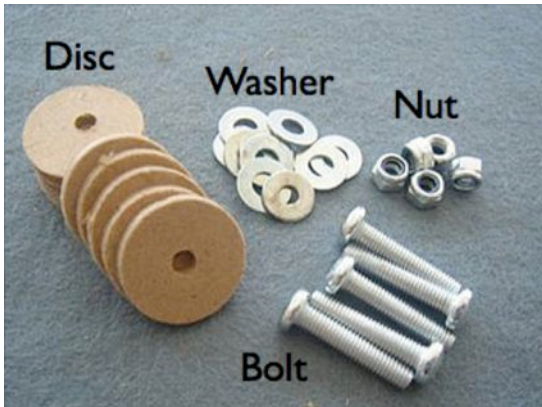
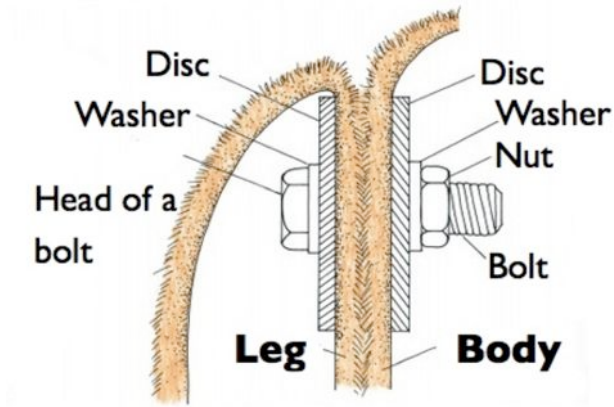
- ✓ Black and light pink polymer clay.
- ✓ Varnish.
- ✓ A loop for fastening the nose if needed.



Nut and bolt joints for the legs:

- ✓ 4 fiberboard discs 18-20 mm diameter (the width of front legs top part).
- ✓ 4 fiberboard discs 22-25 mm diameter (the width of back legs top part).
- ✓ 4 bolts or screws. Length should be about 1.5 - 2 cm. If using thicker yarn - long enough to hold together 2 discs + 2 washers + 1 nut + thickness of 2 layers of crochet parts (body and leg).
- ✓ 4 nuts matching the size of the bolts or screws.
- ✓ 8 washers (make sure their diameter is sufficiently smaller than the diameter of the fiberboard disks).

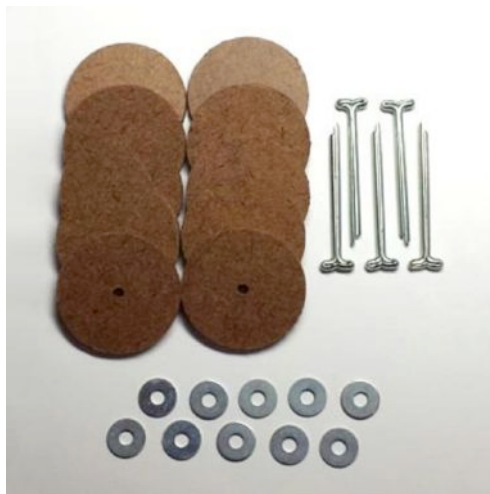




Where to find “Nut & Bolt” joint parts?

1. Individual parts can easily be found at a hardware store.
2. As a set - on the Internet. Search for “Nut & Bolt joints”.

TIP: Instead of “Nut & Bolt” joint you can use Cotter Pin joints.



You will need:

- ✓ 4 fiberboard discs 18-20 mm diameter (the width of front legs top part).
- ✓ 4 fiberboard discs 22-25 mm diameter (the width

of back legs top part).

- ✓ 4 cotter pins with “flat (tee) head” preferably.



Length should be about 3 cm. If using thicker yarn - long enough to hold together 2 discs + 2 washers + thickness of 2 layers of crochet parts (body and leg) + enough length for curling up.

- ✓ 8 washers (make sure their diameter is sufficiently smaller than the diameter of the fiberboard disks).

TIP: get 4 additional small washers if cotter pin has a round head.



You will thread washers onto pin to prevent it from pulling through a joint during tightening.

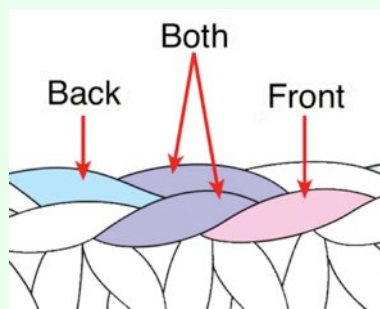


Marker

The toy is crocheted in continuous spirals (unless otherwise stated in the pattern) so you'll need a stitch marker to keep track of where the beginning of each round starts. If you don't have a stitch marker you can always use a scrap of contrasting yarn instead. You can see it in my photos. Put it between the first and the last sts of the rnd leaving the short tail in front of you and the main part behind the work. Work the next rnd to the marked place and put its main part in front of the work. This simple way of putting the thread in front of and behind the work after each rnd will let you know where the beginning of your rnd is. After you finish, it is easy to pull the thread out. It is the quickest and the easiest way to mark rounds.

Tip (make it right)

If there are no special notes, the toy is crocheted under both parts of the loop. In some rows, there are special notes: 'into the front loop only' or 'into the back loop only'. In that case, you need to follow these instructions.



Tip (make it right)

When making toys the right side looks like this:



And the backside looks like this:



Abbreviations

- ch(s) = chain(s)
- st(s) = stitch(es)
- inc(s) = increasing(s) (2 sc in 1 st)
- double inc(s) = double increasing(s) (3 sc in 1 st)
- double dec(s) = double decreasing (3 sc together)
- dec(s) = decreasing(s) (sc2tog)
- sc2tog = single crochet two stitches together
- sl st = slip stitch
- sc = single crochet
- hdc = half double crochet
- dc = double crochet
- rnd = round
- bs = bobble stitch (Refer to "Bobble stitch" section for the detailed explanation).

If there is a record in the brackets in the pattern, multiplied by some number, for example (3 sc, 1 inc) x 3, it means you need to repeat this action 3 times, that is 3 sc, 1 inc, 3 sc, 1 inc, 3 sc, 1 inc.

Gauge

Please note that you should use much thinner hook than stated at the yarn label.

USA/UK terminology comparison chart.

| Abbreviations USA | Abbreviations UK |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| ch - chain | ch - chain |
| sc - single crochet | dc - double crochet |
| hdc - half double crochet | htr - half treble |
| dc - double crochet | tr - treble |
| tr - treble (triple crochet) | dtr - double treble |
| dtr - double treble | tr tr - triple treble |
| sl st - slip stitch | sl - slip stitch |

| Terminology USA | Terminology UK |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| fasten off | cast off |
| skip | miss |
| gauge | tension |
| yarn over (yo) | yarn over hook (yoh) |

Skill levels

- BEGINNER** Projects for first-time crocheters using basic stitches. Minimal shaping.
- EASY** Projects using yarn with basic stitches, repetitive stitch patterns, simple color changes, and simple shaping and finishing.
- INTERMEDIATE** Projects using a variety of techniques, such as basic lace patterns or color patterns, mid-level shaping and finishing.
- EXPERIENCED** Projects with intricate stitch patterns, techniques and dimension, such as non-repeating patterns, multi-color techniques, fine threads, small hooks, detailed shaping and refined finishing.



Stitch explanation: Bobble stitch

1. Make 3 unfinished dc in each of the next 2 sts (total 7 loops on hook).



2. Yarn over and pull yarn through all loops on the hook. 1 bobble stitch (bs) is ready.



Changing colors

(A – main color, B – new color)

1. Leave the last stitch unfinished.



2. Grab the color B yarn, leaving a tail, and pool up a loop with the color B through both loops on the hook.



3. Work 3 stitches, inserting the hook in the loop and then under both the color A yarn and the tail you have left when you attached the color B.



4. Cut the color A yarn and continue working with the color B yarn.



5. Leave the last stitch unfinished.



- Grab the color A yarn, leaving a tail, and pool up a loop with the color A through both loops on the hook.



- Work 3 stitches, inserting the hook in the loop and then under both the color B yarn and the tail you have left when you attached the color A.



- Cut the color B yarn and continue working with the color A yarn.



You save yarn working this way, get a nice right side as all tails remain at the back side. Your work is not tightened and deformed.



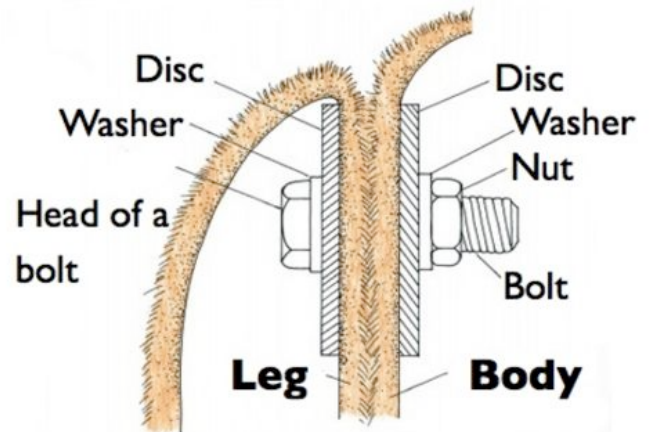
Shift stitch

As work tends to twist to the right you need to adjust position of the marker periodically (beginning of round). If you notice that marker moves right, you have to work one extra stitch in the end of round and move marker for one stitch (now 2nd st of the round becomes 1st). This is shift stitch. Some shift sts will be mentioned in the pattern.

About joints

Nut and bolt joint

Each joint consists of two fiberboard discs, two washers and one nut and a bolt (screw).



Working "Nut and bolt" joint

Take a bolt (screw), put on washer, and then disk (4 fiberboard discs 22-25 mm in diameter are for the back legs):





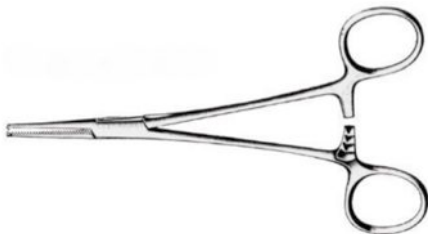
Crochet till the word 'screw', put prepared part of the joint inside the limb and continue crocheting.



Do not finish the limb. Leave 1 Rnd unworked to be able to use tools for fastening (finish the limb after joining it to the body).

To attach leg to the body: insert the bolt (screw) between sts marked with an additional marker. Put on the second fiberboard disc then the washer and the nut. Use tools to tighten the joint.

TIP: To help secure joints tightly I use medical forceps for holding washers.



Add some glue to the end of the bolt (screw), take some sewing thread and wrap it up around the bolt (screw) to make sure the nut will stay in place.

TIP: You may use bolt cutters to trim bolts so they cannot get unscrewed accidentally.

Cotter Pin joints

If cotter pin has "flat (tee) head"

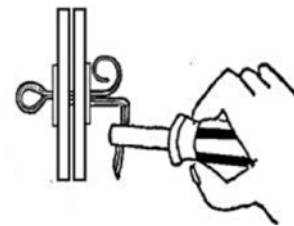


Each joint consists of two fiberboard discs, 2 washers and one cotter pin.

Take a cotter pin, put on a washer, and then a disk (4 fiberboard discs 22-25 mm in diameter are for back legs):



** Crochet till the word 'screw', put prepared part of the joint inside the limb and continue crocheting. You can **finish off the limb completely**, with just the cotter pin poking out. To attach leg to the body: insert the poking cotter pin between sts marked with an additional marker. Put on the second disc, followed by the washer. Curl each part of the cotter pin with pliers or a special tool to tighten the joint.

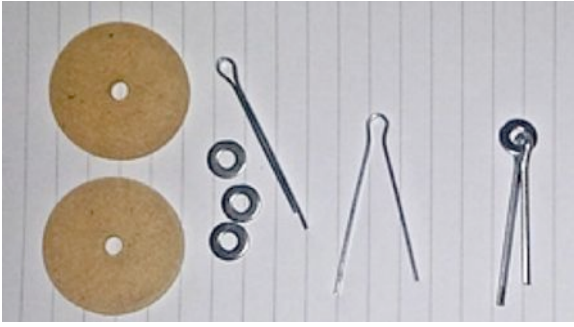


If cotter pin has "round head"

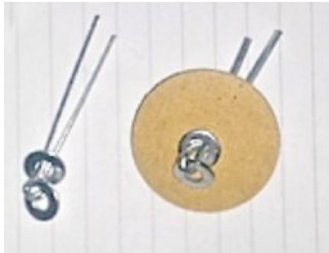


Each joint consists of two fiberboard discs, 3 washers and one cotter pin.

Open the cotter pin slightly (you may need pliers) and put one washer into the loop at the top. It prevents the top of the cotter pin from flattening and pulling through the joint during tightening.



Press cotter pin closed and put on a washer, then a disc (4 fiberboard discs 22-25 mm diameter are for back legs).



The rest is the same as for a cotter pin with tee head
See ** in the section "***If cotter pin has "flat (tee) head"***".

NOTE: on some photos in the pattern dog's parts are made using different yarn than suggested in the pattern. It is made on purpose so you can see stitches better.

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and want to finish this
project, find full version
of the pattern on my site**

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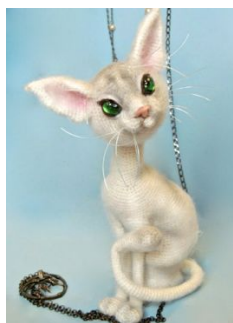
if purchased within a few days of the release date.



Dog



Rat Serafima



Kitty



Robot



Three friends



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Contacts: I'd love to see the results of your hard work! Please share photos of your finished creation directly on our Facebook page, add project to the pattern on Ravelry and Craftsy, email me, and/or find me on other sites. Just search "Little Owl's Hut".

Tell me about your crocheting adventures, I would love to hear it.

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