



the larger bears in the picture were crocheted with sportweight yarn. The tiny bears are crocheted with size 10 crochet cotton and a size 7 steel hook.

A Better Bear

baw 10/27/1998

Materials:

-worsted weight yarn/ F hook

or

-sport weight yarn/ size 1 steel hook

-fiberfill

-black embroidery floss for eyes of smaller bear and facial features

-6mm or 9mm black animal eyes for larger bear

Gauge: four to five sc = 1 inch with worsted yarn and F hook

six to seven sc = 1 inch with sport yarn and size 1 steel hook

Head and Body (work in continuous rounds, do not join. Work starts at the top of the head)

1: Ch2, eight sc in second ch from hook. 8sc

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2: Two sc in each sc around. 16 sc
3: (Sc in next sc, two sc in next sc) around. 24 sc
4-9: Sc in each sc around. 24 sc
10: (Sc in next sc, sc next two sc tog) around. 16 sc
11: (Sc in next two sc, sc next two sc tog) around. 12 sc. Stuff head firmly, but do not let fiberfill show between the stitches.
12-13: Sc in each sc around. 12 sc
14: Two sc in each sc around. 24 sc
15-22: Sc in each sc around. 24 sc
23: (Sc next two sc tog) around. 12 sc. Stuff body firmly but do not let fiberfill show between the stitches.
24: Sc next two stitches together until the body opening is closed. Fasten off.

Right ear: Leave yarn tails at the beginning and end of the ears to shape them; working toward the neck, join yarn with a sc around post of stitch in second row. Two dc around post of the same stitch, (two dc, sc) around post of sc in third row. Fasten off.

Left ear: Leave yarn tails at the beginning and end of the ears to shape them. Spacing the ears apart and working toward the head, join yarn with sc around post of stitch in the third row. Two dc around the post of the same stitch, (two dc, sc) around post of sc in second row. Fasten off.

Muzzle: Chain three, 10hdc in third ch from hook. Join with sl st to top of beginning ch3. Finish off leaving a tail long enough to sew the muzzle to the face. Center the muzzle in the middle of the face between the ears and sew to head.

For smaller bear from sportweight, with six strands of black embroidery floss make two french knots for eyes to either side of muzzle; with the picture as a guide, embroider nose and mouth on the muzzle.

For larger bear from worsted weight, use 6mm or 9mm black eyes instead of embroidered eyes. Embroider nose and mouth with six strands of black floss.

Arm (make two, work in continuous rounds unless otherwise specified):

1: Leaving a long tail to sew the arm to the body, ch2, six sc in second ch from hook. 6 sc
2: Two sc in each sc around. 12 sc
3-6: Sc in each sc around. 12 sc
---working in rows (skip the sl st's):
7: Sc in first three sc, sl st in the next sc, ch1, turn.
8: Sc in first three sc, sl st in the next sc on the previous round, ch1, turn.
---working in rounds again
9: Sc in first three sc, sc in next sc on round 7, sc in remaining six sc (10 sc)
10-12: Sc in each sc around. 10 sc
13: (Sc next two sc tog) around. Stuff arm. 5 sc
14: Sc next two sc together until arm is closed. Fasten off.

Leg (make two, work in continuous rounds unless otherwise specified)

1: Leaving a long tail to sew the leg to the body, ch2, seven sc in second ch from hook. 7sc

2: Two sc in each sc around. 14 sc

3-7: Sc in each sc around. 14 sc

---working in rows (skip the sl st's):

8: Sc in first four sc, sl st in next sc, ch1, turn.

9: Sc in first four sc, sl st in next sc on previous round, ch1, turn.

---working in rounds again

10: Sc in first four sc, sc in next sc on round 8, sc in remaining seven sc. 12 sc

11-13: Sc in each sc around. 12 sc

14: (Sc in next two sc, sc next two sc tog) around. 9 sc

15: Sc in next two sc, (two dc in next sc) four times, sc in last three sc. 13 sts. Stuff leg firmly.

16: Working in the back loops only, sc in next st, (sc next two sts tog) seven times. Stuff foot firmly.

17: Working in both loops, (skip next sc, sl st in next sc) until the foot opening is closed. Fasten off.

Sew the arms and legs to the body of the bear. Done!