

Make a caterpillar

Making bugs or beasties is great fun because their shapes are perfect for characterisation.

Finished size

Length: approximately 12cm

You will need:

- Approximately 10g of DK-weight cotton yarn.
- 22 beads for the body
- 4mm crochet hook
- A pair or 7.5mm safety eyes or a selection of sequins and beads
- 2 beads for the mouth parts
- Scraps of yarn and thread for embroidery

Work the body (make 2)

Thread 11 beads onto the yarn or use one of the beaded yarn lengths supplied.

Make a slip knot in the yarn about 10cm from the end.



TO MAKE A SLIP KNOT: wrap the yarn around your index finger, draw a strand of yarn through the loop to make a second loop. Insert the hook through the loop.

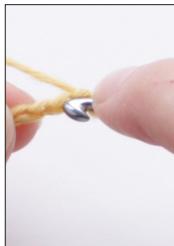
Make a **foundation or base chain** 23 chain stitches long then work a **turning chain** of 1 chain stitch.

A turning chain positions the hook level with the top of the stitches to come.



TO MAKE A CHAIN STITCH: wrap the yarn around the hook from back to front and draw the yarn through the loop already on the hook. This creates one chain stitch.

ROUND 1: Insert the hook into the 2nd chain from the hook. Work a **double crochet (dc) stitch**.



TO MAKE A DOUBLE CROCHET STITCH: insert the hook into the directed space or stitch, wrap the yarn around the hook from back to front and draw the yarn through the fabric; two loops on the hook.



Wrap the yarn around the hook, draw the yarn through both loops on the hook. This creates one double crochet stitch.

* 4-treble-bobble (4tr-bobble) into the next chain,



TO MAKE A 4-TREBLE-BOBBLE:

* wrap the yarn around the hook, insert the hook into the directed space or stitch, wrap the yarn around the hook from back to front and draw the yarn through the fabric; three loops on the hook.



Wrap the yarn around the hook, draw the yarn through two loops on the hook; rep from * into the same chain 3 more times; five loops on the hook.

Wrap the yarn around the hook, draw the yarn through all the loops on the hook.



Make a picot as follows: chain 3 stitches, slide a bead along the yarn to the base of the hook, chain 2 stitches, slip stitch into the first chain of the picot,



TO MAKE A SLIP STITCH: insert the hook into the directed space or chain, wrap the yarn around the hook from back to front and draw the yarn through the fabric and the loop on the hook.

Double crochet into the next chain; rep from * to the end of the foundation chain.

Fasten off by cutting the yarn 10cm from the last stitch and using the hook to draw the tail through the last loop, draw loop tight.

Make one more body piece but do not fasten off.



Position the two body pieces so that they are side by side, with the chain edge uppermost and the starting tails are at the same end. Then, either thread a needle and whip stitch the pieces together along the chain edges or join the pieces

together by inserting the hook through one chain loop from each piece and slip stitching through both chain loops.

Work the head

If working with yarn supplied, use one of the yarn lengths without beads. Make a slip knot in the yarn about 10cm from the end.

Make a **foundation or base chain** 2 chain stitches long.

Work 6dc stitches into the slip knot.

[Work 2dc stitches into the next stitch, 1 dc stitch into the following stitch] 9 times (15sts)

To make the head bigger, work more repeats.

Work 1dc stitch into each of the following 15 stitches.

To make the head rounder, work more repeats.

[dc2tog into the following 2sts] 9 times or until 6 stitches remain.

TO WORK A DC2TOG: insert the hook into the first directed space or stitch, * wrap the yarn around the hook from back to front and draw the yarn through the fabric; two loops on the hook.* Insert the hook into the second directed space or stitch, and repeat from * to *.

Wrap the yarn around the hook, draw the yarn through all the loops on the hook. This creates one double crochet two stitches together, decrease.

Fasten off by cutting the yarn 10cm from the last stitch and using the hook to draw the tail through the last loop, draw loop tight.

Secure the head to the body.

Weave in ends.

Embellish the caterpillar with beads and embroidery.

Use the photograph below as reference or look for images of living bugs and caterpillars. Life is often stranger than fiction.



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