

CROCHET

ANIMAL RUGS

Over 20 crochet patterns for fun
floor mats and matching accessories



Ira Rott

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INTRODUCTION

Get creative and transform your child's room into a magical modern bedroom inspired by animals!

Crochet rugs are the perfect place for your children to read and play. They make a great conversation piece with a unique style. This collection of animal rugs includes adorable matching pillows and other coordinating accessories that will bring any home to life.

You can decorate your craft room or nursery with items from this book and spend only a few evenings making each piece. So no need to wait, just get your hooks and yarn ready to begin a fun crochet adventure!



HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

SKILL LEVELS

Each pattern in this book has been assigned a skill level, ranging from beginner to challenging. To get comfortable with a project, pick a pattern that suits your skill level, and then move up to the next level as you learn new stitches and techniques.



Beginner – Best choice for novice crocheters. These patterns are written using basic stitches and techniques, with minimal shaping and simple assembly.



Moderate – These patterns include basic and moderate stitches, such as treble crochet (tr), popcorn stitch (PC), reverse single crochet (rsc) and picot. There are simple color changes and shaping with repetitive stitch patterns. Easy assembly might involve hand-sewing and blocking.



Challenging – Be ready for some challenging step-by-step assembly and more complex pattern repeats. These patterns may include basic lace, irregular curves, unique shapes and techniques. Increased level of concentration might be required for some parts of these patterns.

SIZE AND GAUGE

Every pattern specifies the finished size based on the gauge, yarn weight and hook size. The gauge is the number of stitches and rows per 4in x 4in (10cm x 10cm) square. This number might be crucial for some patterns and forgiving for others.

Checking the gauge is always beneficial for the final measurements. For instance, if you are using the suggested yarn weight and hook size but crochet too tight, then the number of stitches and rows per

4in x 4in (10cm x 10cm) square will be greater and your finished item will be smaller. The opposite effect will occur if you crochet too loose. To calibrate the gauge, use a larger or smaller size hook.

If the size is not important, you can use any yarn with any suitable size hook and your finished measurements will vary depending on the gauge. For example, you can make a doily or a wall decoration from a rug pattern by using thin yarn instead of thick yarn (see General Techniques: Wall Decoration).

TIPS

- If you are new to crochet, start with a beginner level pattern. For example, make a beginner level pillow base (see Common Shapes) and then choose a moderate level pillow pattern to finish the remaining parts.
- Try a moderate level rug pattern before attempting to make a challenging rug.
- Ensure that you are familiar with stitches and techniques listed for each pattern before starting (see Useful Information, Crochet Techniques and General Techniques).
- If you are a left-handed crocheter, please refer to the tips in the Crochet Techniques section (see Crochet Techniques: Left-Handed Crochet).

READING PATTERNS

Crochet patterns in this book are written using American (US) terminology. This means that if you follow UK terminology then you need to convert the terms to British (UK) terminology (see Useful Information: Crochet Terminology).

- "Work in rows" means – crochet a row of stitches as indicated in the pattern, then turn your work to begin the next row. The pattern will specify which rows are on right side (RS) and wrong side (WS).
- "Work in the round" means – begin with a magic ring/foundation ring or work along both sides of the foundation chain (see Crochet Techniques). Crochet each round as indicated in the pattern without turning, then join the last stitch to the first stitch. Always work with right side (RS) facing, unless otherwise indicated.

- "Work in spiral rounds" means – begin with a magic ring/foundation ring or work across both sides of the foundation chain (see Crochet Techniques). Crochet the first round as indicated in the pattern without turning and without joining. Work the beginning stitch of each round into first stitch of the previous round; never join rounds. Work spiral rounds with right side (RS) facing, unless otherwise indicated.
- The total stitch count is indicated after the equal sign (=) at the end of each row/round. The beginning chain(s) might be counted as stitch(es) or not, as marked at the beginning of the rows/rounds. Some instructions apply to multiple rows/rounds, for example Ch 1 (does not count as a st now and throughout).

READING CHARTS

A crochet chart is an illustration featuring special symbols to represent stitches. Charts help to visualize patterns before you start crocheting. The beginning of the work is marked with a small black arrow. Different colors indicate each row/round along with the row/round number. If the chart has more than 2 colors, a color key will be provided. To understand a chart, refer to the symbol key (see Useful Information: Abbreviations).

The use of charts is optional. You can choose to follow a chart or the pattern text, or even use both.

The charts shown in this book are for right-handed crochet and show your work on the right side (RS). If the chart begins on the left, it means the first row is on the wrong side (WS).



TOOLS AND MATERIALS



CROCHET HOOKS

Various sizes of crochet hooks are required for these projects. We have listed the metric and US sizes with the project instructions, but you can use this conversion chart for reference to quickly find the correct size for your region.

Metric	US letter	US number	Canada/UK
3.75mm	F	5	9
4.25mm/4.5mm	G	6/7	8/7
5mm	H	8	6
5.5mm	I	9	5
6mm	J	10	4
6.5mm	K	10.5	3
9mm	M/N	13	00

YARN

All of these projects are made using medium weight yarn (weight 4). However, you will notice instructions for using 1, 2 or 3 strands throughout the book. See Crochet Techniques for tips on how to work with several strands of yarn at once.

If you struggle working with multiple strands, simply substitute 2 strands of medium yarn (weight 4) with 1 strand of bulky yarn (weight 5), or 3 strands of medium yarn (weight 4) with 1 strand of super bulky yarn (weight 6).

US	UK	Australia	Meters per 100g
Medium (4)	Aran	10-ply	150-199
Bulky (5)	Chunky	12-ply	100-149
Super Bulky (6)	Super Chunky	14-ply	60-99

The amount of yarn is given in yards/ meters for each color of medium weight yarn (weight 4). "Small amount" means less than 93yd (85m) of yarn.

Please keep in mind that the finished size and the total yarn length may vary depending on the materials used and the gauge.

Yarn weight is the thickness of yarn, which may vary from country to country. Use the conversion chart provided to find the correct yarn for your region.

OTHER EQUIPMENT

You will also need the following equipment to create the projects in this book:

- Stitch markers – for marking stitches and indicating the start of the round
- Spray bottle – useful for wet blocking
- Tapestry needle(s) or latch hook – for sewing and weaving in ends
- Scissors
- Blocking board or interlocking play mat – for wet blocking
- Polyester stuffing or bed pillow filler
- Clips – for holding pieces in place while sewing

RUG LINING

I recommend adding a non-slip lining to crochet rugs to ensure that they stay in place. To do this, you will require the following additional equipment:

- Basic straight stitch sewing machine
- Non-adhesive shelf liner with grip or rug gripper pad
- Hook and loop tape (strip with hooks only) – 1in (2.5cm) wide
- All-purpose sewing thread

WALL HANGING

To transform your crocheted designs into wall art, you will require the following equipment:

- Size 10 crochet thread – approximately 875yd (800m)
- 1.9mm (US size 5) steel hook
- Wall frame or poster frame at least 3in (7.6cm) larger than the finished wall decoration on each side
- Matboard backing that fits in frame
- Matboard edging that fits in frame
- Chenille needle with sharp point
- Finger guard (thimble)
- Fabric stiffener or corn starch
- Rust-proof straight pins
- Scotch tape or packing tape





ROCK 'N' ROLL PANDA



Rug, Pillow and Toy Bag

Pandas are the cutest bears in the world and they never hibernate, which means they rock all year round! They love rolling in the grass and chewing on bamboo sticks. What a fun way to spend a day.

This pattern collection was created for the love of pandas inspired by our eldest daughter Amanda. Just like pandas, she is cute and cuddly but when agitated, watch out!!

You can make a playful panda with a star patch, or just use oval patches for a classic panda look.



PANDA RUG

SKILL LEVEL



FINISHED SIZE

42in x 32in (106.7cm x 81.3cm)

HOOK

9mm (M/N)

YARN WEIGHT

4

NUMBER OF STRANDS

3

GAUGE WITH 3 STRANDS AND 9MM (M/N) HOOK

9 dc x 4.5 rows = 4in x 4in (10cm x 10cm)

STITCH SUMMARY

Ch, sl st, sc, rsc, hdc, dc, tr,
dc2tog, PC, shell, join

SKILLS

Working in rows and in the round, raw
edge finishing, working across the
bottom of the foundation chain, sewing

LEFT-HANDED CROCHET

Fully compatible



YARN

Abbreviation	Color	Amount
MC	White	1011-1202yd (925-1100m)
CC1	Black	612-656yd (560-600m)
CC2	Lush Green	459-546yd (420-500m)
CC3	Red (optional)	93-109yd (85-100m)

HEAD

HEAD CHART

Make 1. Work in the round with a 9mm (M/N) hook and 3 strands of MC.

To beg: Ch 3, sl st in third ch from hook to form a ring (or start with a magic ring)

Rnd 1: Ch 2 (does not count as a st now and throughout), 12 dc in ring; join = 12 sts

Rnd 2: Ch 2, 2 dc in same st as join, 2 dc in next 11 sts; join = 24 sts

Rnd 3: Ch 2, dc in same st as join, 2 dc in next st, [dc in next st, 2 dc in next st] 11 times; join = 36 sts

Rnd 4: Ch 2, 2 dc in same st as join, dc in next 2 sts, [2 dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts] 11 times; join = 48 sts

Rnd 5: Ch 2, dc in same st as join, dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next st, [dc in next 3 sts, 2 dc in next st] 11 times; join = 60 sts

Rnd 6: Ch 2, 2 dc in same st as join, dc in next 4 sts, [2 dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts] 11 times; join = 72 sts

Rnd 7: Ch 2, dc in same st as join, dc in next 4 sts, 2 dc in next st, [dc in next 5 sts, 2 dc in next st] 11 times; join = 84 sts

Rnd 8: Ch 2, 2 dc in same st as join, dc in next 6 sts, [2 dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts] 11 times; join = 96 sts

Rnd 9: Ch 2, dc in same st as join, dc in next 6 sts, 2 dc in next st, [dc in next 7 sts, 2 dc in next st] 11 times; join = 108 sts

Rnd 10: Ch 2, 2 dc in same st as join, dc in next 8 sts, [2 dc in next st, dc in next 8 sts] 11 times; join = 120 sts

Rnd 11: Ch 2, dc in same st as join, dc in next 8 sts, 2 dc in next st, [dc in next 9 sts, 2 dc in next st] 11 times; join = 132 sts

Rnd 12: Ch 2, 2 dc in same st as join, dc in next 10 sts, [2 dc in next st, dc in next 10 sts] 11 times; join = 144 sts

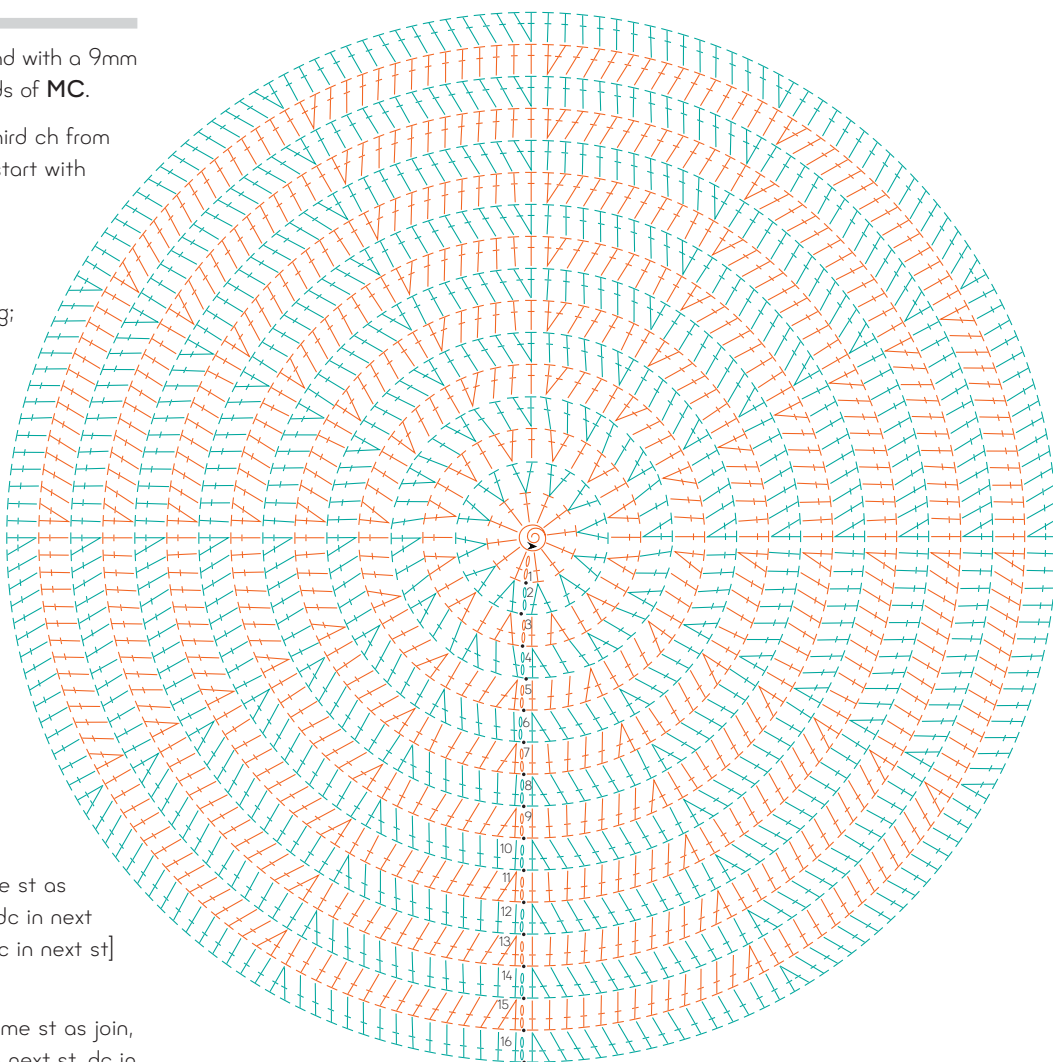
Rnd 13: Ch 2, dc in same st as join, dc in next 10 sts, 2 dc in next st, [dc in next 11 sts, 2 dc in next st] 11 times; join = 156 sts

Rnd 14: Ch 2, 2 dc in same st as join, dc in next 12 sts, [2 dc in next st, dc in next 12 sts] 11 times; join = 168 sts

Rnd 15: Ch 2, dc in same st as join, dc in next 12 sts, 2 dc in next st, [dc in next 13 sts, 2 dc in next st] 11 times; join = 180 sts

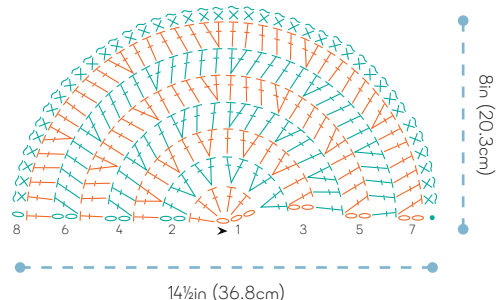
Rnd 16: Ch 2, 2 dc in same st as join, dc in next 14 sts, [2 dc in next st, dc in next 14 sts] 11 times; join = 192 sts

Fasten off and weave in the ends.

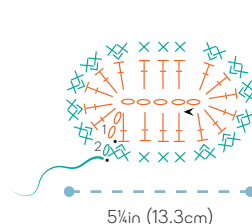


29in (73.6cm)

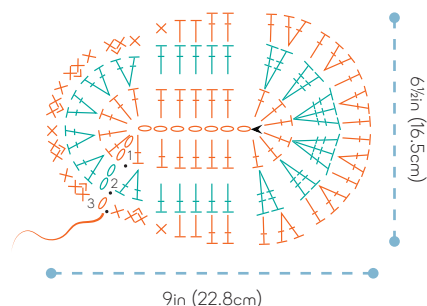
EAR CHART



NOSE CHART



OVAL PATCH CHART



EARS

Make 2. Work in rows with a 9mm (M/N) hook and 3 strands of **CC1**.

To beg: Ch 3

Row 1: (RS) 5 dc in third ch from hook (2 skipped chs count as first dc); turn = 6 sts

Row 2: (WS) Ch 2 (counts as first dc now and throughout), dc in first st, 2 dc in next 5 sts; turn = 12 sts

Row 3: (RS) Ch 2, dc in first st, dc in next st, [2 dc in next st, dc in next st] 5 times; turn = 18 sts

Row 4: (WS) Ch 2, dc in first st, dc in next 2 sts, [2 dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts] 5 times; turn = 24 sts

Row 5: (RS) Ch 2, dc in first st, dc in next 3 sts, [2 dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts] 5 times; turn = 30 sts

Row 6: (WS) Ch 2, dc in first st, dc in next 4 sts, [2 dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts] 5 times; turn = 36 sts

Row 7: (RS) Ch 2, dc in first st, dc in next 5 sts, [2 dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts] 5 times; do not turn = 42 sts

Row 8: (RS) Ch 1 (does not count as a st), skip first st, rsc in next 40 sts, sl st in last st = 41 sts

Fasten off and weave in the ends.

NOSE

Make 1. Work in the round with a 9mm (M/N) hook and 3 strands of **CC1**.

To beg: Ch 7

Rnd 1: Dc in third ch from hook (2 skipped chs do not count as a st), dc in next 3 chs, 6 dc in last ch, continue working across the bottom of the foundation ch, dc in next 3 chs, 5 dc in last ch; join = 18 sts

Rnd 2: Ch 1 (does not count as a st), 2 sc in same st as join, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next 6 sts, sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next 5 sts; join = 30 sts

Fasten off, leaving a long single strand of **CC1** for sewing. Weave in the other ends.

EYE PATCHES

Make 1 oval patch and 1 star patch or 2 oval patches for a classic panda look. Work in the round with a 9mm (M/N) hook and 3 strands of **CC1**.

OVAL PATCH

To beg: Ch 9

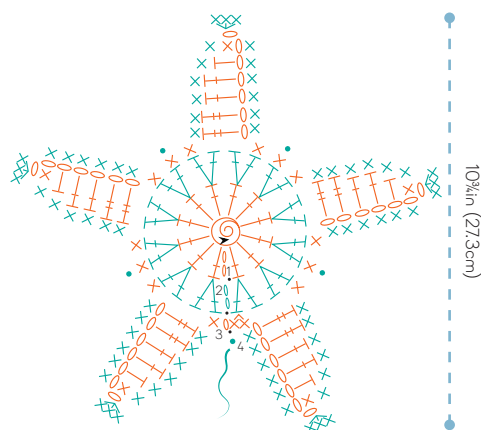
Rnd 1: Dc in third ch from hook (2 skipped chs do not count as a st), dc in next 5 chs, 6 dc in last ch, continue working across the bottom of the foundation ch, dc in next 5 chs, 5 dc in last ch; join = 22 sts

Rnd 2: Ch 2 (does not count as a st), 2 dc in same st as join, dc in next 5 sts, 2 tr in next 2 sts, 3 tr in next 2 sts, 2 tr in next 2 sts, dc in next 5 sts, 2 dc in next 5 sts; join = 36 sts

Rnd 3: Ch 1 (does not count as a st), sc in same st as join, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next 3 sts, [2 dc in next st, dc in next st] 3 times, [dc in next st, 2 dc in next st] 3 times, dc in next 3 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, sc in next st, [sc in next st, 2 sc in next st] 5 times; join = 48 sts

Fasten off, leaving a long single strand of **CC1** for sewing. Weave in the other ends.

STAR PATCH CHART



Make 2
matching
oval patches
for a classic
panda look.

STAR PATCH

To beg: Ch 3, sl st in third ch from hook to form a ring (or start with a magic ring)

Rnd 1: Ch 2 (does not count as a st now and throughout), 12 dc in ring; join = 12 sts

Rnd 2: Ch 2, 2 dc in same st as join, 2 dc in next 11 sts; join = 24 sts

Rnd 3: Ch 1 (does not count as a st), 2 sc in same st as join, ch 7, sc in second ch from hook, hdc in next ch, dc in next 2 chs, tr in next 2 chs (first point made), *skip 2 sts of previous rnd, sc in next 3 sts, ch 7, sc in second ch from hook, hdc in next ch, dc in next 2 chs, tr in next 2 chs (next point made)**; repeat 3 more times from * to **, skip 2 sts of previous rnd, sc in next st; join = 5 points and 15 sc

Rnd 4: Skip st with join, *skip next st, sc across next 6 foundation sts of the point, 3 sc in last ch of the point, sc in next 6 sts of the point, skip next st, sl st in next st**, repeat 4 more times from * to ** = 80 sts

Fasten off, leaving a long single strand of **CC1** for sewing. Weave in the other ends.

EYES

Make 2 outer eyes with a 9mm (M/N) hook and 3 strands of **MC**, following the instructions for pupils (see Common Shapes: Basic Eyes). Make 2 pupils with a 9mm (M/N) hook and 3 strands of **CC1**, following the instructions for highlights, then assemble the eyes (see Common Shapes: Basic Eyes) (1).

BAMBOO

Make 1. Work in rows with a 9mm (M/N) hook and 3 strands of **CC2**.

To beg: Ch 15

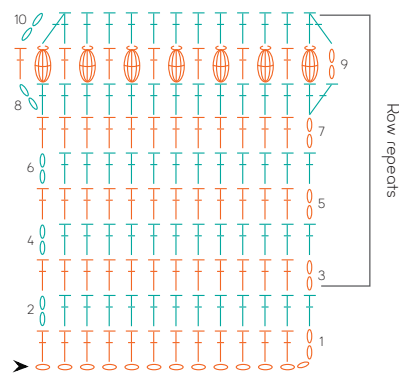
Row 1: (RS) Dc in fourth ch from hook (3 skipped chs count as first dc), dc in next 11 chs; turn = 13 sts

Rows 2-7: Ch 2 (counts as first dc now and throughout), skip first st, dc in next 12 sts; turn = 13 sts

Row 8: (WS) Ch 2, dc in first st, dc in next 11 sts, 2 dc in last st; turn = 15 sts

Row 9: (RS) Ch 2, skip first st, [PC in next st, dc in next st] 7 times; turn = 15 sts

BAMBOO CHART



Row 10: (WS) Ch 2, skip first st, dc2tog, dc in next 10 sts, dc2tog; turn = 13 sts

Rows 11-34: Repeat Rows 3-10 in established pattern, ending on WS

Rows 35-41: Ch 2, skip first st, dc in next 12 sts; turn = 13 sts

Edge: (RS) Ch 1, sc evenly around entire edge, placing 3 sc in each corner for increasing; join

Fasten off and weave in ends.

PAWS

Make 2. Follow the instructions for the paws in the Kitty Rug (see Kitty Rug: Paws). Work with a 9mm (M/N) hook and 3 strands of **CC1**.

BOW (OPTIONAL)

Make 1. Follow the instructions for the big bow using **CC3** (see Common Shapes: Big Bow).

ASSEMBLING RUG

With RS facing, position the nose 4 rounds below the center of the head. Position the oval patch 4 rounds away from the center of the head. Position the star patch 5 rounds away from the center of the head. Place the bamboo to cover 5-7 bottom rounds of the head (2).

Using the corresponding colors of yarn, backstitch around the eyes, around the nose and across the overlapped edge of the bamboo.

With RS facing, place the ears slightly under the head edge, positioning them symmetrically on each side of the head with approximately 38 stitches between the ears (3).

Backstitch across the overlapped edge of the head using **MC**.

Position the paws diagonally on each side of the head, covering the edges of the head and the bamboo (3).

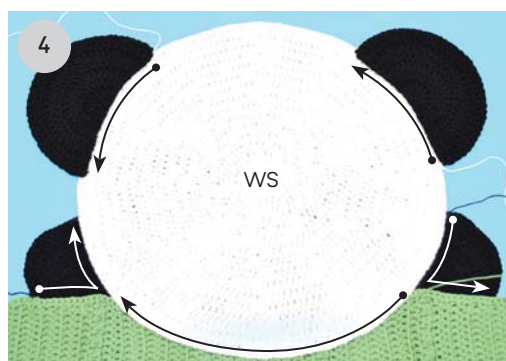
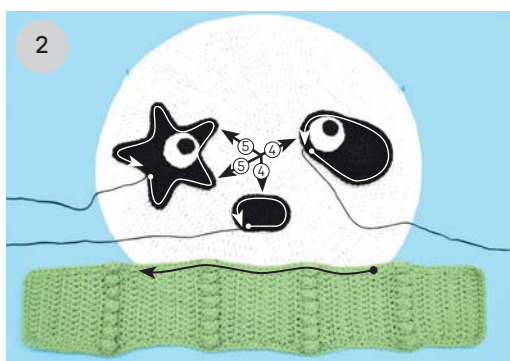
Backstitch across the overlapped edges of the paws using **CC1** (3).

Flip the rug to WS and whipstitch across the overlapped edges using the corresponding colors of yarn (4).

If using, place the bow onto the head and backstitch around the center with **CC3** (5).

Keep the side edges of the bow unattached or whipstitch the corners if you would like to keep them in place.

If desired, make a removable non-slip lining (see General Techniques: Non-Slip Lining).



PANDA PILLOW

SKILL LEVEL



FINISHED SIZE

17in x 14½in (43.2cm x 36.8cm)

HOOKS

4.25mm (G), 5.5mm (I), 9mm (M/N)

YARN WEIGHT

4

NUMBER OF STRANDS

1 and 3

GAUGE WITH 1 STRAND AND 5.5MM (I) HOOK

14 sc x 16 rows = 4in x 4in (10cm x 10cm)

STITCH SUMMARY

Ch, sl st, sc, rsc, hdc, dc, tr, join

SKILLS

Working in rows and in the round, working across the bottom of the foundation chain, sewing

LEFT-HANDED CROCHET

Fully compatible



HEAD PILLOW BASE

Make 1 front using 1 strand of **MC** and 1 back using 1 strand of **CC3** with a 5.5mm (I) hook. Follow the instructions for the round pillow base (see Common Shapes: Round Pillow Base). Fasten off after finishing the back piece, but do not break off yarn after finishing the front piece.

Holding the front and the back pieces together with WS facing each other, work the joining round through both pieces of fabric at the same time, using the working yarn from the front piece.

Rnd 26: Ch 1 (does not count as a st), sc in same st as previous sl st, sc in next 140 sts, stuff the pillow, sc in next 15 sts; join = 156 sts

Fasten off and weave in the ends.

YARN

Abbreviation	Color	Amount
MC	White	120-164yd (110-150m)
CC1	Black	109-120yd (100-110m)
CC2	Red (optional)	93-109yd (85-100m)
CC3	Variegated Red	120-164yd (110-150m)

LEFT-HANDED CROCHET

Left-handed crocheters need not be discouraged by these patterns. Simply follow the same instructions, but work in the opposite direction. Work clockwise when crocheting in the round or from left to right when crocheting in rows. Here are a few minor notes for individual projects.

REVERSE SINGLE CROCHET

Work in the same manner as for right-handed crochet but insert the hook in the stitch to the left rather than in the stitch to the right.

GIRAFFE RUG & PILLOW

Head edge – Work sc from the left to the right corner and work rsc from the right to the left corner.

ELEPHANT RUG

Head – The trunk will be curved to the left instead of right (18).

Big circles for both ears – In Rnd 9 place **Marker A** in 14th st to the left (instead of right) and place **Marker B** in 14th st to the right (instead of left).

Small circles for both ears – After Row 6 place **Marker C** in 7th st to the left (instead of right). In Row 7 place **Marker D** in 7th st to the right (instead of left).

Assembling circles – Follow the right ear instructions for assembling the left ear circles and the left ear instructions for assembling the right ear circles. Remember, the left-handed ears and markers will be mirror images of the right-handed ears and markers (19).

Edging – Follow the right ear instructions for finishing the edge of the left ear and the left ear instructions for the edge of the right ear.

KITTY RUG

Tail – Place the tail under the left edge of the heart instead of the right edge as it will be curved in the opposite direction (20).

MONKEY RUG

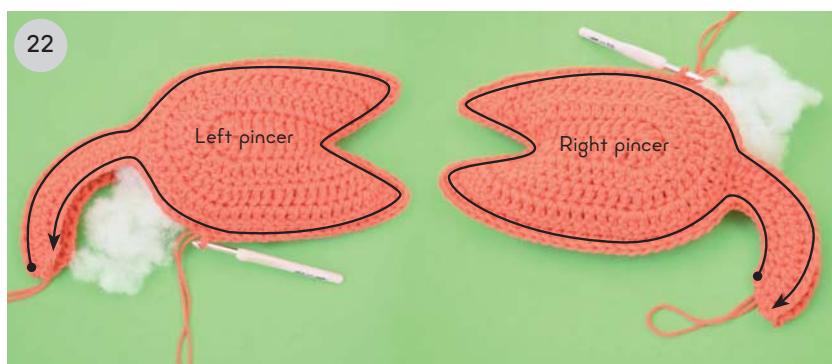
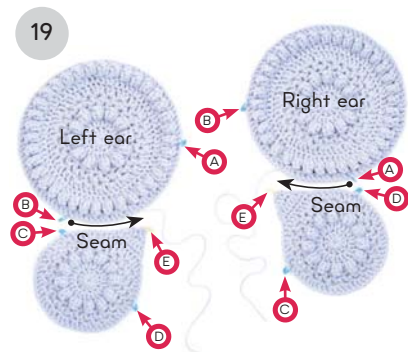
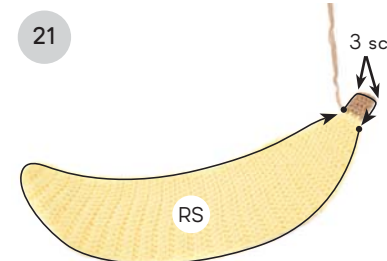
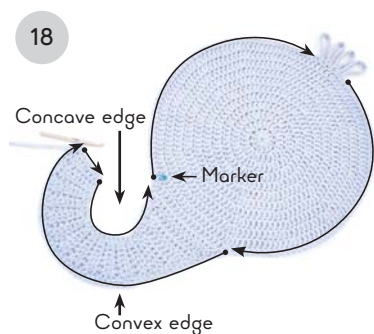
Banana – Place the banana with the stem facing to the right instead of to the left as it will be curved in the opposite direction (21).

CRAB RUG

Pincers – Follow the right pincer instructions for making the left pincer and the left pincer instructions for making the right pincer.

CRAB PILLOW

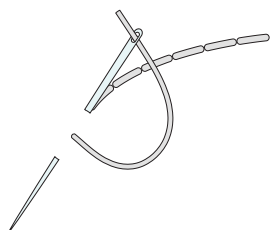
Assembling pincers – Join the front and back pieces of both pincers by working sc around the edge from left to right (22).



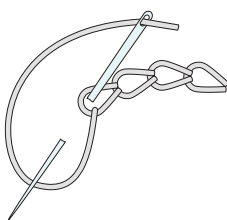
SEWING STITCHES



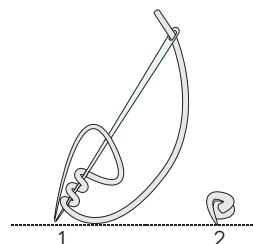
BACKSTITCH



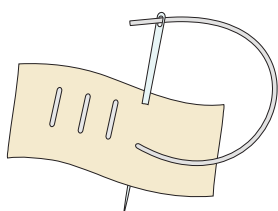
CHAIN STITCH



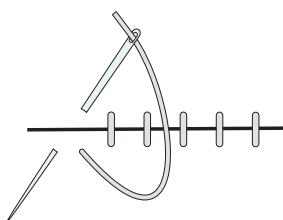
FRENCH KNOT



STRAIGHT STITCH



WHIPSTITCH



SEWING TIPS

Always use 1 strand of yarn and a tapestry needle for sewing (unless otherwise stated).

Take extra care to pull the needle along the top layer of the fabric (not all the way through) to prevent contrasting color yarn from showing on the back of the work (1).



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Coming from a family of textile engineers, I was surrounded by fabrics and yarn from the time I was born. Thus working with yarn has always felt natural to me.

I learned to knit and crochet at a very young age by watching my mom, grandma and great-grandma. Crocheting along with my grandma was the happiest time of my childhood. My dad has taught me the basics of machine knitting, he could patiently answer all of my childish questions.

Over the years I learned new techniques and I developed some of my own. My earlier designs include lace dresses, skirts, tops and cardigans. Many of them were inspired by spectacular Irish crochet.

After the big transatlantic move to Canada in 2008, my design aesthetic has been transformed into a new style that I can describe as "fun creations inspired by animals".

Find Ira on Facebook: IraRott Designs

www.irarott.com

THANKS

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SUPPLIERS

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Red Heart Super Saver Yarn

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USA: www.joann.com

UK: www.sewandso.co.uk

Worldwide: www.loveknitting.com

Stuffing and Shelf Liner

Canada: www.walmart.ca

USA: www.walmart.com

Australia and New Zealand:
www.spotlightstores.com

Worldwide: www.amazon.com



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