## **CROCHETED FISH PATTERN (FLAT)**



This fun fish pattern is crocheted flat, so you will need to make two and sew or crochet the sides together for a stuffed fish. Have fun choosing the yarn for your fish! Any weight of yarn is fine, but do remember to use a hook which will result in a nice tight fabric so that the stuffing won't fall out. The fish is crocheted from back to front, so we will start with the tail.

Crochet the two sides the same, and remember to leave a very long tail of yarn at the beginning of one of the sides (the tail end). You will use this to sew the two sides of the fish together.

## You will need:

- -any weight yarn
- -appropriate size crochet hook
- —darning needle
- —length of black thread or yarn for the eyes

## **Abbreviations:**

St = stitch

Ch = chain

SI st = slip stitch

Dc = double crochet

Dc2tog = double crochet two stitches together

**PATTERN:** Turn your work at the end of every row, and chain 1 at the beginning of every row, which counts as the first dc in the row. Some rows won't mention this first chain, stating instead to "Dc to end".

Chain 14 stitches.

**Row 1:** Ch 1, dc 13 st. (14 st)

Row 2: Dc to end.

Row 3: Ch 1, dc2tog, dc to last 3 st, dc2tog, dc 1. (12 st)

Row 4: Dc to end.

**Row 5:** Ch1, dc2tog, dc to last 3 st, dc2tog, dc 1. (10 st)

Row 6: Dc to end.

**Rows 7 to 9:** Continue to decrease on the odd numbered rows and knitting straight on the even numbered row until there are 6 st left.

Rows 10 and 11: Dc to end. (6 st)

Row 12: Ch 1, dc 2 in next st, dc to last two st, 2 dc in next st, dc in last st. (8 st).

Row 13: Dc to end.

Row 14: Ch 1, dc 2 in next st, dc to last two st, 2 dc in next st, dc in last st. (10 st).

Row 15: Dc to end.

**Row 16 to 26:** Continue to increase on the even numbered rows and crocheting straight on the odd numbered rows until you have increased to 22 st.

Rows 27 and 28: Dc to end.

**Rows 29 to 43:** Decrease as above from Row 3 to Row 9, decreasing on all the odd numbered rows and crocheting straight on the even numbered rows until you have decreased to 6 st.

Rows 44 and 45: Dc to end. Row 46: Decrease to 4 st. Row 47: Decrease to 2 st. Row 48: Decrease to 1 st.

You have now finished crocheting the fish's sides!

Hold the two sides of the fish together and, starting at the tail end with the long end of yarn, begin joining the two sides together up the sides to the front of the fish and back down the other side to the bottom of the other side of the tail. Leave the seam of the tail open, as that is where we will insert the toy stuffing. On the fish in the photo I have sewn the two sides together using the whip stitch while holding the wrong sides together (right side out) because the yarn is thick and the stitches are tight, so turning it inside out would have been very difficult, but you can join yours together any way you wish. Crocheting a slip stitch in a constrasting colour to join the sides would be a colourful touch for a monochrome fish, for example.

When your fish is ready to be stuffed use as much or as little toy stuffing as you wish. The fish in the photo is stuffed firmly, but a squishy fish is fine, too. When the fish is stuffed to your liking close the seam on the tail end in the same manner you used for the rest of the fish.

Lastly, use a bit of yarn or thread to embroider the eye. We ask that you do not use sequins or beads for the eyes as we want the fish to be as child safe as possible.

## Behold your lovely fishy creation!:)



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