

Crochet Octopus For Preemies Pattern

Materials Needed & Measurements:

- **Suggest Yarn:** Baby Yarn(soft and safe for preemies).
- **Crochet Hook:** Size E (3.50 mm).
- **Hypoallergenic Fiberfill** (for stuffing).
- **Stitch Marker** (to mark the first stitch of each round).
- **Yarn Needle** (for weaving in ends).

Stitches Used:

- **Ch:** Chain
- **Sc:** Single Crochet
- **Slst:** Slip Stitch
- **St(s):** Stitch(es)
- **Sc2tog:** Single Crochet Two Together (decrease)

Stitching Instructions for Making Crochet Octopus For Preemies Pattern:

Body of the Octopus

- **Create a Magic Ring:**
 - Wrap the yarn around your fingers to form a loop.
 - Insert the hook into the loop, pull up a loop, and chain (ch) 1 to secure.
 - Work **6 single crochets (sc)** into the magic ring. *(6 stitches total)*
 - Pull the tail of the yarn to tighten the ring.
- **Round 2 (Increase):**
 - Work **2 sc** into each stitch around. *(12 stitches total)*
- **Round 3 (Increase):**

- Alternate: **1 sc** in the first stitch, then **2 sc** in the next stitch.
- Repeat this pattern around. *(18 stitches total)*
- **Round 4 (Increase):**
 - Alternate: **1 sc** in each of the next 2 stitches, then **2 sc** in the next stitch.
 - Repeat this pattern around. *(24 stitches total)*
- **Round 5 (Increase):**
 - Alternate: **1 sc** in each of the next 3 stitches, then **2 sc** in the next stitch.
 - Repeat this pattern around. *(30 stitches total)*
- **Rounds 6-10 (Build Height):**
 - Work **1 sc** in each stitch around for 5 rounds. *(30 stitches per round)*
- **Shape the Bottom:**
 - Begin gradual decreases to form the rounded base.
 - **Round 11:** Alternate **1 sc** in each of the next 3 stitches, then **sc2tog** (single crochet two together). *(24 stitches total)*
 - **Round 12:** Alternate **1 sc** in each of the next 2 stitches, then **sc2tog**. *(18 stitches total)*

Tentacles of the Octopus

- **Attach Yarn to the Base:** With the body upside down, attach yarn to the bottom edge using a slip stitch (slst).
- **Create Tentacles:**
 - **Chain (ch) 40** for the first tentacle.
 - Starting in the second chain from the hook, work **2 sc** into each chain stitch back toward the body. This creates a spiral effect.
- **Secure Tentacle:** Slip stitch into the next stitch on the base of the body to secure the tentacle.
- **Repeat for Additional Tentacles:** Continue creating 8 tentacles around the base. Space them evenly to ensure a balanced look.

Stuffing and Closing the Body

- **Stuff the Body:** Fill the octopus body with hypoallergenic fiberfill. Use small amounts at a time to avoid lumps. The body should be firm but not overly packed.
- **Close the Body:**
 - Continue decreasing the stitch count:
 - **Round 13:** Alternate **1 sc** in the next stitch, then **sc2tog**. *(12 stitches total)*
 - **Round 14:** Work **sc2tog** around. *(6 stitches total)*
- **Finish Closing:** Use a yarn needle to thread the tail through the remaining stitches. Pull tight to close and secure.

Optional Face Embroidery

- Use embroidery thread or a contrasting yarn color to stitch simple eyes and a mouth.
- Avoid using beads, buttons, or small parts for safety.

Safety Checks and Finishing Touches

- **Secure Ends:** Ensure all loose yarn ends are tightly woven in and trimmed.
- **Double-Check Materials:** Verify that all materials used are hypoallergenic and safe for babies.
- **Wash Before Use:** Handwash the octopus with baby-safe detergent and allow it to air dry.