

Stitches:
SC (single crochet)
HDC (half double crochet)
DC (double crochet)
TRC (treble crochet)
INCR (increase)
DCR (decrease)

Materials:
felt, cotton fabric
yarn (1 color, ~25 yds)
yarn (1 color, ~100 yds)
glass or safety eyes
stuffing
hook (size F)
2 buttons

Roman the love bird

Gauge is not crucial with this pattern, however it will impact the size of the eyes you choose. I find that a worsted weight yarn, and a size F hook, gives consistent results for a 6 inch doll that pairs well with 12mm glass or safety eyes. HINT: This doll is assembled from the top down in a continuous spiral, however I like to start with the tail and beak... that way they're ready to attach when the body is done.

Shell stitch: skip next stitch, [5 HDC in next stitch], skip next stitch, slip stitch in next stitch.





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TAIL: (make 1) With color A,

Row 1: The tail starts with a magic circle, into which 6 SC are made. Pull tail to close loop on magic circle. (6 stitches)

Row 2: *2 SC in next stitch*, repeat* 5 more times. (12 stitches)

Row 3: SC across.

Row 4: *SC in next stitch, 2 SC in next stitch*, repeat* 5 more times. (18 stitches)

Row 5: *SC in next 2 stitches, 2 SC in next stitch*, repeat* 5 more times. (24 stitches)

Row 6: SC across.

Bind off.

BEAK:

Row 1: The beak starts with a magic circle (color B), into which 4 SC are made. Pull tail to close loop on magic circle. (4 stitches)

Row 2: *2 SC in next stitch*, repeat* across. (8 stitches)

Row 3: *1 SC in next stitch, 2 SC in next stitch*, repeat* across. (12 stitches)

Row 4: *1 SC each in next 2 stitches, 2 SC in next stitch*, repeat* across. (16 stitches)

Row 5: *1 SC each in next 3 stitches, 2 SC in next stitch*, repeat* across. (20 stitches)

Bind off.

HEAD: Working in a continuous spiral

Row 1: The head starts with a magic circle, into which 6 SC are made. Pull tail to close loop on magic circle. (6 stitches)

Row 2: *2 SC in next stitch*, repeat* 5 more times. (12 stitches)

Row 3: *SC in next stitch, 2 SC in next stitch*, repeat* 5 more times. (18 stitches)

Row 4: *SC in next 2 stitches, 2 SC in next stitch*, repeat* 5 more times. (24 stitches)

Row 5-7: SC across, INCR3 evenly over row. (27,30,33 stitches)

Continue in SC for about 3 inches from row 6.

If you are using safety eyes, it's time to stuff the head, mark the beak placement, and place the eyes. If you are using glass eyes on loops you can place the eyes after the doll is complete. Eye size and placement is personal and can dramatically effect the look of your doll. For the felt eye detail, trace eye detail onto your felt and cut out carefully. I prefer very small spring loaded snips for this job. If using eyes with posts or on loops, make a small slit in your eye details just large enough to fit the post or loop through. Now you can begin positioning your eyes. Once you have chosen the best position, attach firmly. Eyes on loops are best attached by threading a doll needle with yarn (color A) and going through the back of the head at what would be considered the base of the neck, coming out at the spot you want the eye to be. Place the eye loop through the felt detail, and thread the needle through the eye loop. Now pass the needle back through the front of the doll head to the base of the neck (needle entry point) and knot to secure.

BODY: Working in a continuous spiral, continue from last row of the head(at center back).

Row 1: SC, across row.stopping 5 stitches before the end of the row.

Join tail here by aligning next 9 stitches of body and 9 stitches of tail, working first through the tail then the body stitch, SC through both layers(see diagram). Continue SC across the remaining 24 body stitches, and then SC across remaining 15 of tail. Body now has 39 stitches. Begin decrease rows here.

BODY DECREASE:

Row 1-4: SC across DCR 6 evenly over row. (33,27,21,15 stitches)

Row 5-end: Next, *DCR1 over next 2 stitches* repeat until 6 stitches remain.

Bind off, weaving tail through last 6 stitches to close. Remember to finish stuffing tail and body before closing.



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Additional details:

BEAK ATTACHMENT: Attach the beak at the center front of the head using a whip stitch or ladder stitch and a length of color B yarn. Begin attaching at the center bottom of beak and work around top of beak, stop to stuff the beak just before finishing the round. Careful not to over stuff here, use just enough to get the shape you want.

FEATURES: Facial features really make the personality of your doll. With coordinating colors, using embroidery floss or heedle point yarn, try a chain or running stitch to add definition and details to the face such as beak seperation line or eyelashes. Freckles can be added with french knots.

WINGS & ATTACHMENT: Cut out wings shape (found on page 5) from multiple pieces of fabric. I used a combination of felt and cotton fabric. Next is where your creativitiy takes over! Starting from the basic wing shape, take each wing piece and fold in half at indicated line. Then take your scissors and freehand a wing shape for each layer. Layer the fabric as you like and attach the wings to the body using buttons at each shoulder as shown in the photos.



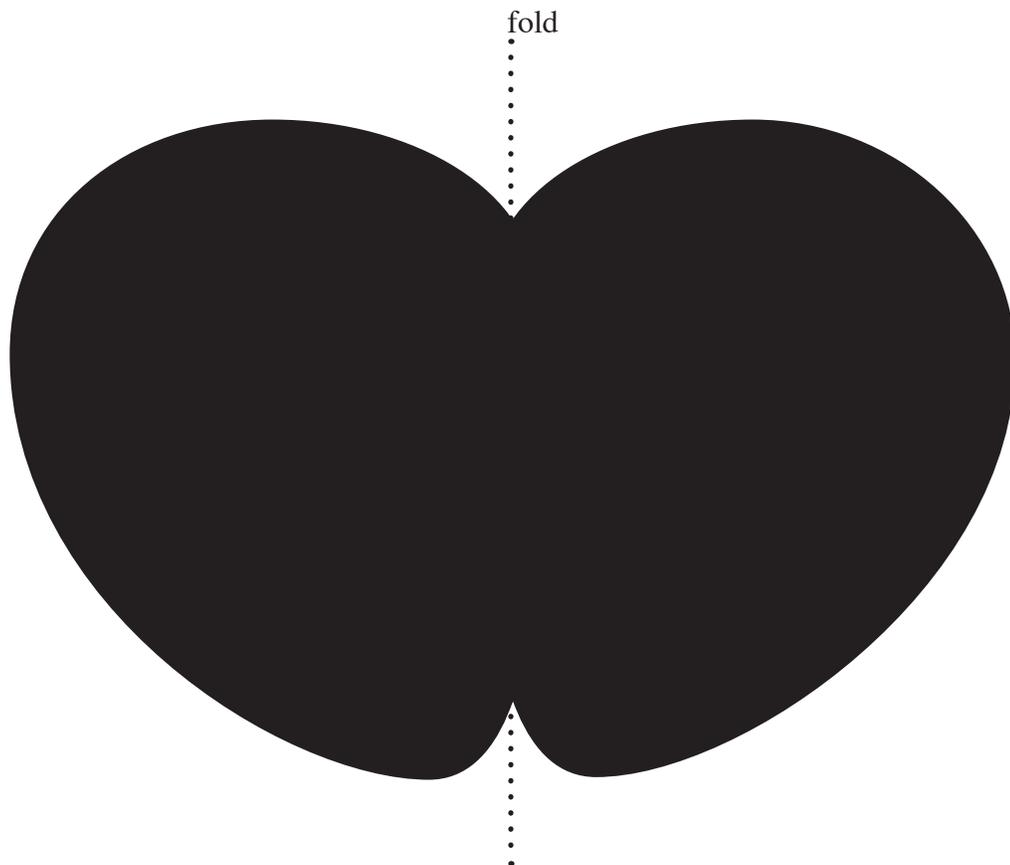




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Wing diagram



Eye detail



Tail attachment

