

Crochet Extra

155th Edition- June 2019

Winter arrived with a flourish this week here on the Sunshine Coast—I've had to make a fast dash to my winter woollies. It is nice to layer up with all my crocheted shawls, gloves and scarves for a while each day.



There are some exciting things happening over the next few months. To kick it all off, is world wide knit (and crochet) in public day, which takes place on Saturday 8th June. Crochet Australia will be sponsoring an event in [Yandina](#) for those on the Sunshine Coast—we'd love to see you all there. Or tell us what event you are hosting.

The Sunshine Coast Agricultural show will take place on 14, 15 and 16 June. Due to the closure of many local businesses, including Australia Post, on Friday 14th, we will have limited shipping of orders and will only be open 9am—12pm on that day.

The workshops for [Knitfest](#)—in Maleny on 6 and 7 July—are now open for booking. I will be teaching the African Flower and making a purse. Plus there are many other yarn and fibre workshops. Which will you be doing?



In our workshop this month we will be learning amigurumi and making this patchwork giraffe from the book Patchwork Animals. A great project for using up your leftovers! You can choose as many colours as you like. Tuesdays 9.30—11.30 or Wednesdays 5.30—7.30. Book your spot now.



Have you booked your place at the Sunshine Coast Crochet Retreat? There are still some spots left, don't leave it too late! We've been adding sneak peaks of the stitches you are learning on our facebook [event](#)—don't forget to check them out.

Until next time

Lynda

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Theme – Amigurumi

Amigurumi (pronounced amee-goo-roo-me), refers to the art of crocheting or knitting stuffed animals, people or other 3D objects. It originated in Japan where it traditionally referred to dolls that are knitted or crocheted.



Adorable little dolls and tiny animals are big favourites in this trend – and you can even bring your favourite movie characters to life in amigurumi form! There really are no limits to what can be done. And once you master the basic techniques of heads and arms, you can get really creative with what you make. They make great gifts for any occasion, and can be whimsical and decorative or practical – rattles, pillows, key rings, paper weights or door stops.

While any yarn can be used in making your favourite amigurumi, I find cotton gives you the best results. Cotton gives you better stitch definition, a cleaner look and generally won't stretch. It's also more durable particularly if it's going to be used by small children.

When you make your favourite amigurumi characters, there are a few essentials to have at your finger tips:

- tons of different colours of yarn in the weight you wish to use, enabling you to be creative;
- a selection of hooks as most amigurumi patterns call for small sized hooks to create dense fabrics;
- Stitch markers are super helpful for colour changes and keeping track of where you are;
- small scissors and tapestry needles for sewing up;
- Polyfil stuffing. Or you can buy cheap pillows and pull out the centre stuffing;
- and last but not least, a good selection of different sized amigurumi eyes to bring your creatures to life. Safety eyes are the best to use, or you can embroider them on.

In the following pages we feature our books and other tools to help you get creative. Or try the free introductory pattern for making a cactus from Love Crochet.



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Tip of the Month — Amigurumi 101

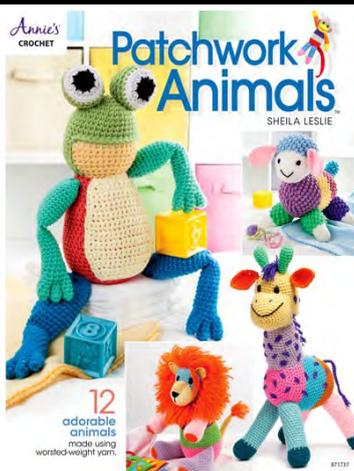


Some people look at small crochet stuffed toys and think 'I could never do that'. If you know how to double crochet and work in a circle you can create beautiful amigurumi. So if you've never done it before, here are some tips and hints that I have picked up.

- When working in the round, work in a spiral - that means you never join each round with a slip stitch. Joining creates a line that is clearly visible. Keep track of your progress using stitch markers.
- Start with the magic circle rather than three or four chain joined with a slip stitch. With the magic circle your beginning can be pulled really tight so that there is no hole for stuffing to fall out of, or fingers to poke through. This will also look much cleaner.
- Use a hook which is at least one size smaller than suggested on the label. This is because your item needs to have tight stitches so that the stuffing will not fall out. Keep your tension quite tight.
- Use the invisible increase and invisible decrease. The invisible increase is achieved by making the first double crochet in the back loop and the second double crochet in the front loop of the same stitch. For invisible decreases check out our tip from [November 2015](#).
- If possible use the invisible join when finishing off your project. This will avoid leaving a knot where you fasten off and it will keep the rows as even as possible.
- Leave long tails for sewing. Often patterns ask you to sew the legs and arms onto the main body and you can use the tail from these pieces to do that.
- Be imaginative with your stuffing. You can use polyfil which you can purchase at craft stores, or use leftover yarns or bits of material from sewing. If you are concerned about stuffing coming out, put it inside some pantyhose. For many projects it is also easy to 'stuff as you go'. Stuff tightly - Particularly the arms and legs.
- When placing the eyes, arms and legs evenly, use the lines from your crocheted circles, and count stitches in between.
- Use safety eyes where possible or embroider the eyes on. If it is to be used by small children do not use buttons or other sew on or stick on eyes as these can be a choking hazard. Before attaching the eyes use tacks to mark where they should go, to ensure you get them in the right place.



Lynda's Book of the Month



871737 Patchwork Animals \$24.50

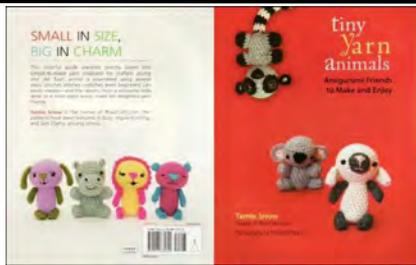
This book contains 12 adorable crocheted animals made from worsted weight yarn (8 Ply). These colourful, patchwork animal designs are an easy skill level. The book has cute and unique patterns for a sheep, pony, teddy, lion, pig, giraffe, cow, elephant, monkey, puppy and a kitty.

A great way to use up all of those leftover bits and bring some joy and fun.

49 Pages, US terminology



Look What We Found



P5302 Tiny Yarn Animals
\$19.95 (Crochet)



LA75429 Farm Animals
\$11.85 (Crochet)



LA6127 Learn to Crochet Toys \$15.50



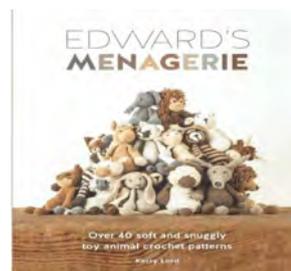
LA5836 Ice Box Crochet
\$34.50 * Heavy



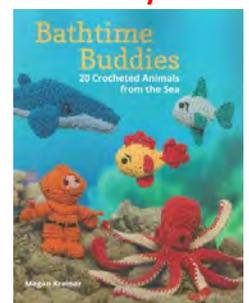
121088 Zoo Animal Friends
\$16.25 (Knit)



LACC0025 Crochet Animals Big & Small \$9.30



DCT3087 Edward's Menagerie \$42.50 **** Very Heavy (Crochet)**



B1250 Bathtime Buddies \$38.50
**** Very Heavy**



LA75266 Easy Crochet Critters \$9.50



A8915 Knitted Noah's Ark \$29.95 **** Very Heavy**



885209 Into the Jungle \$21.50



SM3807 Crochet Animals \$39.95 **** Very Heavy**



871428 Amamani Puzzle Balls \$23.50 *** Heavy**



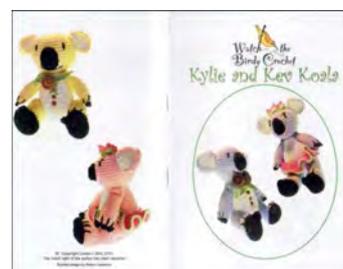
871434 Playtime Stackers \$19.50 (Crochet)



A4233 huggable Crochet \$30.50 **** Very Heavy**



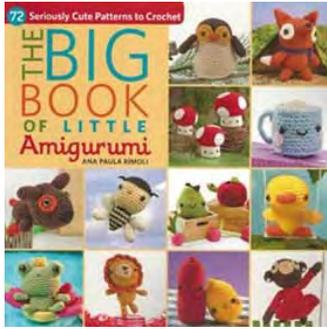
871526 Tunisian Amigurumi \$19.40



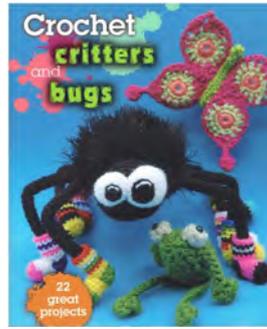
BIRDKKK Kylie & Kev Koala \$10.95



GC35107 Amigurumi Little Friends \$10.00 (Crochet)



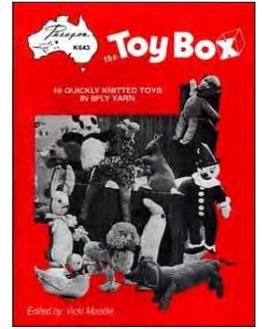
B1308 Big Book of Little Amigurumi \$45.50 ** Very Heavy (Crochet)



Au1252 Crochet Critters & Bugs \$36.50 (Crochet)



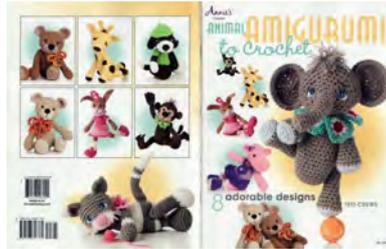
LA4271 Cute Little Animals \$17.80 (Crochet)



PARK643 The Toy Box \$10.95 (Knit)



LA5125 More Cute Little Animals to Crochet \$15.95



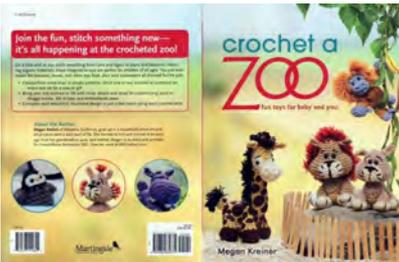
871374 Animal Amigurumi to Crochet \$17.50



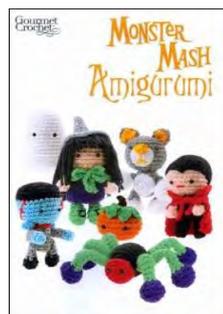
ICM002 Crochet Projects for Little Ones \$26.50



A0937 Crocheted Amigurumi \$20.95



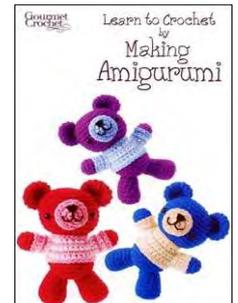
B1185 Crochet a Zoo \$31.95 ** Very Heavy



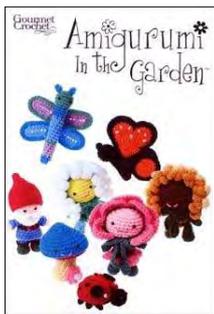
GC70108 Monster Mash Amigurumi \$10.00 (Crochet)



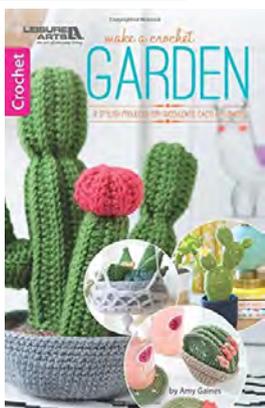
GC23106 Topsy Turvy Doll \$10.00 (Crochet)



GC45107 Learn to Crochet by Amigurumi \$10.00



GC37107 Amigurumi in the Garden \$10.00



LA75669 Make a Crochet Garden \$14.50



Jean Greenhowe Knitted Dolls and toys collection in DK yarn—priced from \$12.95 each to \$17.50 each :

Playful Puppies

Little Dumpling Dolls

Jiffyknits

Trademen Clowns

Dolly Mixtures

Storybook Dolls

Knitted Hedgehogs

Jemima-Jane and Friends

Young Alfs' Pals

Knitted Clowns

Traditional Favourites

Knitted Animals

Toy Collection

Little Gift Dolls

Mascot Dolls

MacScareCrow Clan

Topsy-Turnabout Doll



ACCFINISHNDLS
\$10.50



ACCCE12-3PR 12mm
brown crystal eyes—
3pair \$1.85



Joggle Eyes—Oval

12x15mm stick-on pair —
\$0.20 or pack of 5 pair \$1.00
ACCJOGE015-5PR

15x20mm stick-on pair —
\$0.30 or pack of 5 pair \$1.50
ACCJOGE020-5PR



Joggle Eyes—Round

15mm sew-on pair —\$0.25
or pack of 5 pair \$1.25
ACCJGER15-5PR

12mm sew-on pair —\$0.20
or pack of 5 pair \$1.00
ACCJGER20-5PR



ACCPENDCUTYRN
Clover Pendant Yarn
Cutter—Antique Gold
or Antique Silver \$14.50



ACCSAFETEYESMED
10mm pair eyes \$0.80 Or
pack of 5 pairs \$4.00
5mm pack 5 pair \$3.00



ACCDNOSE15 Dog Nose
15mm (pkt 5) \$1.00



ACCSTMKOP Locking
Stitch Markers Oprey
\$5.20



ACCTHREAD Yarn
Threader Qty 2.
\$1.75



ACCKPAW15 5 PR Koala
Paws 15mm \$1.00



COT8HEIR Heirloom
cotton 8ply, 50gms \$6.05



COT8CAT Catona Cotton
50gm \$4.40 each or bag of 10
mixed colours \$40.00

July we will feature our customer corner—
your masterpieces. Send in a photo of your
creations from yarn and/or patterns
purchased from us and be in the draw for a
\$25 voucher.

COT4ALM—Almina 4ply
cotton \$4.80



Visiting hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 9am—3.00pm
Sat: 1st Saturday of each month 9am—12pm
Wed: Group visits (6 or more) by appointment
Workshops: Tues 9.30am—11.30am, Wed 5.30—7.30
Lessons: Tuesday afternoons—call to arrange

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the next day we ship.