

Bitty Baby Bear

by Jennifer Creasey



Materials Needed -

- Size 8 / 1.5mm Steel Crochet Hook
- Size 8 perle cotton crochet thread or Dee Lite Punch Thread
- Embroidery thread for nose, mouth and eyebrows
- Long needle to use when jointing
- 11/0 Black seed beads for the eyes
- Polyester fiberfill
- Dental Floss for joining

Abbreviations -

- sc = single crochet
- hdc = half double crochet
- st = stitch
- ch = chain
- tog = together

Important Note-

- DO NOT join rounds. Mark the beginning of each round with contrasting thread.
- Hide the ends of yarn inside the body.
- Run a small stitch of white embroidery thread under the eyes for added depth..
- If you want to be able to pose your bear's arms then I suggest not to over-stuff them. Stuff the hands until they are firm and very lightly stuff the arms.
- Smaller hook and thread will make a smaller bear.
- Larger hook and thread will make a larger bear.

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-HEAD

Use Dk. Brown

Rnd 1: ch 2, 8 sc in 2nd ch from hook (8 sc)

Rnd 2: 2 sc in each st (16 sc)

Rnd 3: sc in each st (16)

Rnd 4: (sc in next st, 2 sc in next st) around (24 sc)

Rnd 5-6: sc in each st (24 sc)

Rnd 7: (sc in next st, sc next 2 st tog) around (16 sc)

Rnd 8: (sc next 2 st tog) around (8 sc)

-Leave a long thread tail. Stuff head, gather opening with a needle and sew shut. Hide thread inside head.

-Body

Use Pink

Rnd 1: ch 2, 8 sc in 2nd ch from hook (8 sc)

Rnd 2: 2 sc in each st (16 sc)

Rnd 3-9: sc in each st (16 sc)

Rnd 10: (sc next 2 st tog) around (8 sc)

-Leave a long tail. Stuff body, gather opening with a needle and sew shut. Hide thread inside body

-Arms

Use Dk. Brown from Rnd 1 to end of Rnd 6. Change to Pink at beginning of Rnd 7

Rnd 1: ch 2, 6 sc in 2nd ch from hook (6 sc)

Rnd 2: 2 sc in each st (12 sc)

Rnd 3-5: sc in each st (12 sc)

Rnd 6: sc next two st tog (2 times), sc in next 8 st (10 sc)

Rnd 7-10: sc in each st (10 sc)

-Leave a long tail. Stuff arms, gather opening with a needle and sew shut. Hide thread inside arm.

-Legs

Use Pink

Rnd 1: ch 5, sc in 2nd ch from hook [mark ch], sc in next 2 ch, 5 sc in last ch, (working on other side of ch), sc in next 2 ch, 4 sc in last [marked] ch (14 sc)

Rnd 2: sc in each st (14 sc)

Rnd 3: sc in next 10 st, sc next 2 st tog (2 times) (12 sc)

Rnd 4: sc in next 10 st, sc next 2 st tog (11 sc)

Rnd 5: sc in next 9 st, sc next 2 st tog (10 sc)

Rnd 6: skip first st, sc in next 9 st (9 sc)

Rnd 7-9: sc in each st (9)

-Stuff leg, gather opening with a needle and sew shut. Hide thread inside the leg.

-Ears

Use Lt. Brown

Rnd 1: ch 2, 6 sc in 2nd ch from hook (6 sc)

-Leave a long tail to use when attaching the ears to the head.

-Muzzle

Use Lt. Brown

Rnd 1: ch 2, 8 sc in 2nd ch from hook (8 sc), join with sl st to first sc. Fasten off.

-Leave a long tail to use when sewing muzzle to face.



-Embellishing your Bitty Bear

The color changes given at the beginning of each body part are for the bear shown above. For this bear I chose to use brown Dee Lite punch thread for the body, light brown Dee Lite punch thread for the muzzle, and pink size 8 perle cotton thread for the jammies. Once completed I ran a few horizontal stitches across the bottom of her feet with light pink size 8 perle cotton thread. Then with a little faux mohair I added cuffs to her wrists and a small bow at her neck. I also ran a stitch of white embroidery thread under her eyes.



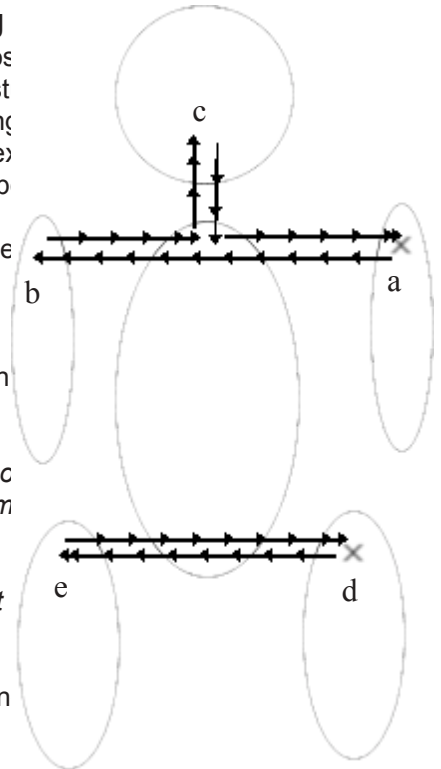
-Embellishing your Bitty Bear

I kept this bear simple. I used size 8 perle cotton thread in dark brown and cream. For the first round of her legs I used cream thread, then changed to dark brown. Her muzzle is made with the same cream thread. Her little, pink dress is 1/4". I cut a piece of ribbon about 4 inches long. Then ran a loose stitch across one edge of it, laid the ribbon over the bears belly and tied a strong knot. Then I just pinched the dress ruffles into place until it was nice and frilly. Finished this little lady off with a matching bow on her head.

- Thread Joining

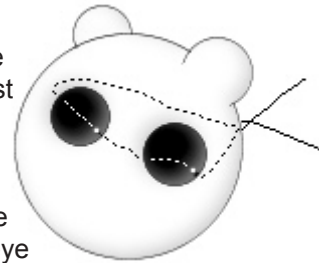
Use strong Dental floss threaded on a long, st needle. Leaving a long insert needle at "a", e) go back through the b you entered and out through "the top of the neck, take a deep stitch through the base of the head ("c"), go back through the neck in the same hole and exit at "a".

Notice that you are not going through the arm completely. Just through the insides where the arms meet the body. That way your joints will not show. Tie a very strong knot. Use at least 3 tight knots. Hide the dental floss in the body. Cut off excess thread. The legs are done in the same way. Your bear is now posable! If the knots are too loose then your bear will not be able to hold position. Dental floss is highly recommended.



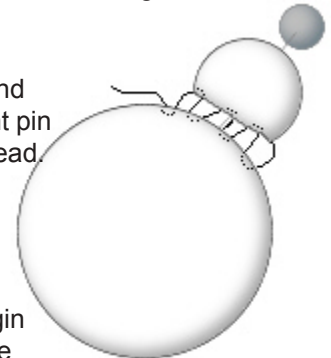
- Placing the Eyes

Insert the needle into the back of the head and exit the front where the first eye will be placed. Pick up the eye (bead, glass eye, etc.) and go back into the head just 1 stitch away from where you exited and back out of the head in the spot where the second eye will be placed. Pick up the eye and go back into the head, one stitch away from where you exited, and exit the back of right where you first entered. Tie a strong knot and hide the thread inside of the head.



- Attaching the Ears

After firmly stuffing the head and placing the eyes, use a straight pin and position the ears on the head. Using the thread tail from the ear sew the ear in place.



- Embroidering

Using embroidery thread in the color of your choice, begin by entering the front of the face where the bottom of the nose will be. Leave a long tail. Start with an outline of about 5 stitches Then begin to fill in the gaps. Try your best to keep your tension even.

Never pick at stray thread, always work the stitches vertically and not horizontally.

