

# Tips to Mastering The Art of Crochet Stuffed Toys







Jetting Started

Try these Amigurumi techinques to get your next project off on the right foot...or paw! These amigurumi 'musts' will soon be second nature and you'll wonder how you lived your crochet life without them!



#### **The Magic Ring**

A magic ring (also known as an adjustable ring) allows the crochet to be pulled tight without the inevitable hole of other methods. This makes a very tight start and is an amigurumi must! <u>Complete Magic Ring</u> <u>Tutorial Here.</u>

#### Work in Rounds

Working in the round means crocheting a continuous spiral without stopping at the end of the round to join to the top of the first stitch nor chaining up for a new row. This creates a seamless, continuous piece. Working in rounds helps form amigurumi shapes.





#### **Use Stitch Markers**

Stitch markers just might be your new best friend! When working in the round, it is really easy to lose your place. I use stitch markers to mark the last stitch in each round. If you don't want to buy stitch markers, try using a scrap piece of yarn, a paper clip or a bobby pin.





Perfect Shaping

As your little amigurumi starts to take shape, up your game to make it your best work with neat and tidy stitches with no stuffing poking through. Here's my best tips for a perfect amigurumi shape:



#### **Consistent Tension**

Nice even stitches makes for a perfect amigurumi. Use a smaller than normal hook size and take your time while crocheting. Try making both arms (or both legs) in one sitting. That way any normal crochet stress variations won't result in one arm bigger than the other!

#### **Invisible Decrease**

Nothing ruins the look of an amigurumi more than bits of stuffing poking out between normal decrease stitches. The Invisible Decrease saves the day! Just insert your hook into the front loops of each of the next 2 stitches and yarn over. Then make a normal single crochet! <u>Complete photo tutorial here!</u>





#### **Perfect Stripes**

Changing colors in the round can mean a visible step effect and who wants that, right? Here's the best kept secret: jogless color joins! Pull the new color through on the last stitch, then start the next row with a slip stitch. It is that easy. <u>Step by Step tutorial right here.</u>





Expert Finishes

As you cross the finish line and your amigurumi is almost complete, these extra touches take your amigurumi from good to great!. Finishing is exciting but be sure to take the time to make your amigurumi perfect!



#### **Invisible Seamless Finish**

You've crocheted the perfect circle and now it's time to finish but you've got a little step. Ugh! Did you know you can make your circle look perfect with no discernable stopping and starting point? So easy. Read these <u>3 simple</u> <u>steps here and you'll never have this happen again!</u>

## Safety Eyes

I love the nice, clean look of safety eyes on an amigurumi. It consists of two parts. the eye on a 'stem' and a washer. To use, push the eye through the crochet and fasten the washer on the inside! Safety eyes are not intended for babies or young children. Embroider eyes instead if making for little ones.





# Fastening Off Properly

Fasten off with a long tail. to sew pieces together. Then hide the end by burying it in your work. Just come up in an inconspicuous location, tie a knot, go right back into the same spot, exiting in a different spot. Pull tight to pop the knot inside your work, then cut yarn close.







#### **Stuffing Secrets**

Stuffing your amigurumi to perfection might seem daunting. Here are my best tips:

- Pull out stuffing to fluff, then insert
- Stuff a little at a time
- Stuff as you crochet along
- Stuff limbs simultaneously, if possible, so they are the same
- Only stuff lower parts of limbs to allow movement
- Take your time and don't be afraid to re-do until it's perfect

Ready to Learn More?

I poured all my amigurumi knowledge into one massive 165 page ebook jam packed with every technique you need to master amigurumi including:

- Perfect Finishes
- Facial Features & Placement
- Hair Techniques

• Crocheting Shapes

Following Patterns

Detailed Stitch Tutorials

- Joining Pieces
- And much, much more!

# Click Here To Get All The Details: Amigurumi, A Beginner's Guide

## About Me

I'm Cheryl Bennett. I teach and inspire other crocheters to achieve their crochet dreams and goals! I run the popular blog www.Crochet365KnitToo.com where I offer free patterns, tips and tutorials on all kinds of crochet techniques. I also design premium patterns and amigurumi.

