CROCHET PATTERN
Mexican Jerboa and Pokémon Pikachu

Designer: Alexandra Simba
Online store: https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/CrochetPatternGuru
Any questions please ask via private message in the Etsy shop.

Difficulty level - intermediate. The toy is approx. 15*15 cm (without the tail). Pay attention that your toy can be smaller or bigger depending on the materials you use and your manner to crochet.

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You can exchange, sell, and put on charity auctions toys made using this pattern.
When showing and/or selling toys made using this pattern online you have to provide the working link to my online store followed by the phrase: “This toy is made using Alexandra Simba’s (Александра Simba) pattern https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/CrochetPatternGuru». Thank you for understanding.



Preface

"You're kidding," said Ellochka tenderly. "It's Mexican jerboa."
"It can't be.
They made a mistake. You were given a much better fur. It's Shanghai leopard. Yes, leopard. I recognize it by the shade. You see how it reflects the sun. Just like emerald! Just like emerald!
(The Twelve Chairs. Ilf and Petrov)

Among rare exotic animals, Mexican jerboa is probably the most doubtful one. How does it look like? Where does it live? And the most important question: why does everybody speak about its fur with either admiration or sarcasm? The Mexican jerboa is, alas, an imaginary animal. We owe this natural wonder to Ilf and Petrov, Russian writers. Their immortal novel The Twelve Chairs gave us a bunch of witty quotations. The engineer Shukin's wife was given a nickname Ellochka the Cannibal not because of her deep sins. Compared to barbarians from the Mumbo Jumbo tribe whose vocabulary amounts to three hundred words, Ellochka Shukin managed easily and fluently on thirty.

The main focus is on "gloom", "dismal", "ter-r-rific" and "ho-ho" But what about the Mexican Jerboa? Among Ellochka's hobbies, the main one was the fight with the daughter of the American billionaire Vanderbilt. Her husband's salary was scarified at the altar of this fight. To be up on the haughty daughter of Vanderbilt, Ellochka bought two upholstered chairs from the set chased by Comrade Bender. However, Ellochka's clothes aimed to one-up miserable silks and diamonds of the American daughter was made of a remodeled blazer, a dog-trimmed dress and a chinchilla tippet made of "Russian rabbit caught in Tula Province". This rabbit chinchilla was called Mexican jerboa by Ellochka. However, Ostap immediately made an adjustment giving the rabbit the title of Shanghai leopard, which smote the impressionable Ellochka.

But, take a minute and try to imagine this animal as if it did exist in the wild. "Mexican jerboa" means that this animal should look like jerboas - small rodents similar to kangaroos by their arms, but very small with big ears and a switch on the tail. But what about Mexico? When you hear this word, their traditional sombrero and colorful poncho immediately spring into your mind. Let's combine this mixture into one thing - and voilà - our Mexican jerboa is ready!



YOU WILL NEED

These materials are necessary:

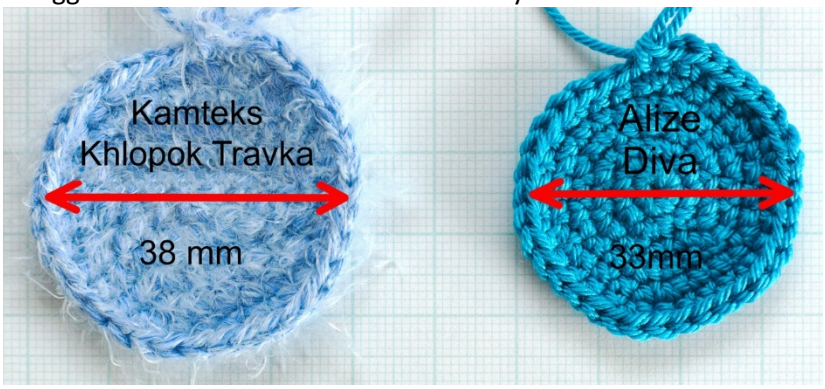
- hairy yarn. I used Kamteks Khlopok Travka (65% cotton, 35% polyamide, 220 m/100 g) - white (205). Main color (beige for the jerboa or yellow for the Pikachu) - 1 skein. Leftovers of white and black yarn to make the switch on the tail and the muzzle. Leftovers of red, brown and black yarn for Pikachu. You can use Nako Paris yarn (40% acrylic, 60% polyamide; 245 m/100 g) or any other similar yarn or any mohair yarn (If you use mohair yarn, you will have to trim your toy after brushing it).

If you need exactly the same yarn, please ask via private message in this Etsy shop LittleOwlsHutRUSSIAN
https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/LittleOwlsHutRUSSIAN



- any smooth yarn of cream color to make feet. I used Alize Diva (100% microfiber, 350 m/100 g) - 15 g.

You can use any yarn you like - it's important to keep the proportions - and item made with hairy yarn should be 15% bigger than the item made with smooth yarn.



- Copper wire to insert into front legs (the wire is necessary to make the toy stable) - 1.5 mm cooper wire - approx. 2.5 m. *You can buy this wire in a craft shop, but I suggest buying it in an electronic goods store. There you can buy a 3*1.5 cord. Before buying the cord, make sure that the wire inside it is whole and does not consist of several thin wires. With a paper knife, remove the insulation.*

- Stuffing polyester.

- White fabric plaster or insulation tape.

- Toy eyes / semibeads (plastic or glass) of black color (I recommend using black eyes to make the toy look more natural.) The size of the eyes is 12 mm (depends on the size of your toy).

- transparent glue (if you want to glue the eyes on instead of sewing them on). Make sure the glue doesn't destroy the plastic.

- Strong thread to do sculpting. I use Vita Pelican yarn - I like this yarn because it is strong enough, doesn't damage the fabric. Some crocheters like using dental floss or thick nylon thread.

- To make the front legs movable you will need two cotter pin joints 2.0*20 mm (or 2.0*25 mm), four M3 washers, four 15-mm plywood or cardboard discs (choose the discs according to the hole in the shoulder). However, you can just sew the arms on, then you won't need these joints and discs.

- plastic clue of pink color (for the jerboa) or black color (for Pikachu) to make the nose or you can use a toy nose or you can felt it.

- 0.6-1 mm permanent marker or a ballpoint pen of black color to tint the eyes.

- fishing line to make whiskers.

- **dry** pastel paints of the following colors (to make a beige jerboa):

Dark-brown, brown, pink (to tint inside the ears), orange-red (not necessary). ☺) hard synthetic brushes No 5 (or No 4) and No 9 (or No 8, or No 10)





Optional materials:

- 1 m of 0.3-0.5 mm beadwork wire or 1.00 mm copper wire to reinforce ears

- **To make poncho and sombrero** you can use any smooth cotton yarn. I used Vita Coco (100% mercerized cotton, 240 m/50 g) of red, yellow and green colors. You will need just leftovers of these yarns.

- 0.8 mm button for the poncho.

- for **pokéball** you will need a foam plastic ball 50-60 mm in diameter.

Any smooth sport yarn of white, red and black colors. I used Alize Diva yarn (100% microfiber, 350 m/100 g) - 10 g of each color.

TOOLS:

- 1.75 mm crochet hook to make the toy. Attention: choose the size of the hook according to the yarn you use or your manner to crochet.

- 1.25 mm crochet hook to make poncho and sombrero. Attention: choose the size of the hook according to the yarn you use or your manner to crochet.

- Wire cutter.

- Scissors

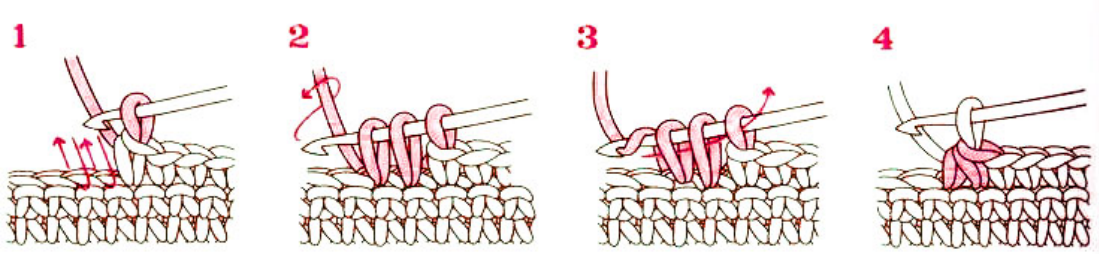
- Round pliers to twist cotter-pins.

- Hard synthetic paint brush to tint the toy.

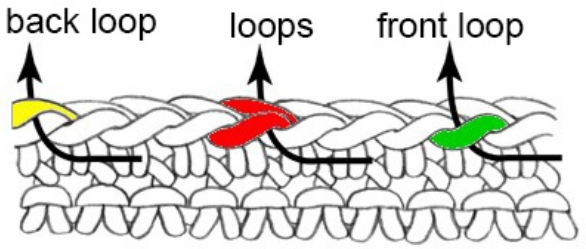
ABBREVIATIONS:

ch – chain
dec – 2 sc together

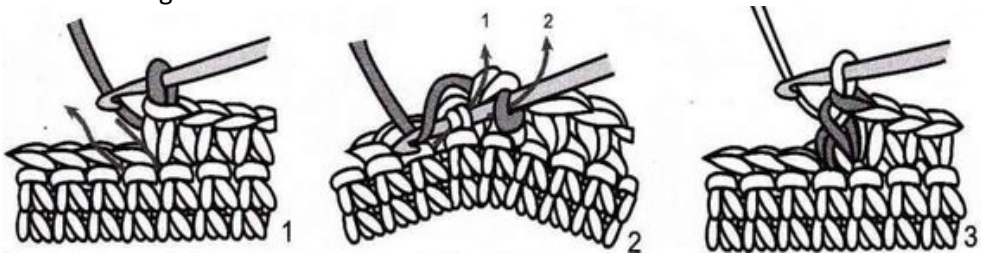
Attention! In order to get thick even fabric without holes make decreases as it is shown in pictures below (and do not just skip on stitch!) **<u>if it is not stated otherwise.</u>**



shift st - shift stitch – an additional sc in next st and only after that change the position of the marker
ss – slip stitch
FO – fasten off and weave in the end
sc – single crochet
sc blo – single crochet through back loop only
sc flo – single crochet through front loop only

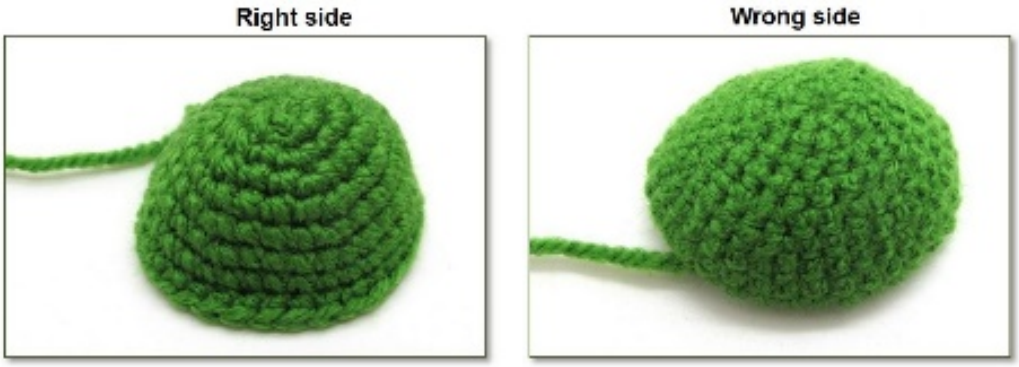


incr – increase: 2 sc in one st
3 sc tog - 3 sc together
3-sc incr – 3 sc in next st
4 sc tog - 4 sc together
4-sc incr – 4 sc in next st
fsc – front single crochet



Attention! In order to avoid injuries, it is necessary to wrap the wire ends with plaster and bend the wire into a ring. Be careful when working with wire.

Attention! The toy is made with RS facing you.



Hind legs

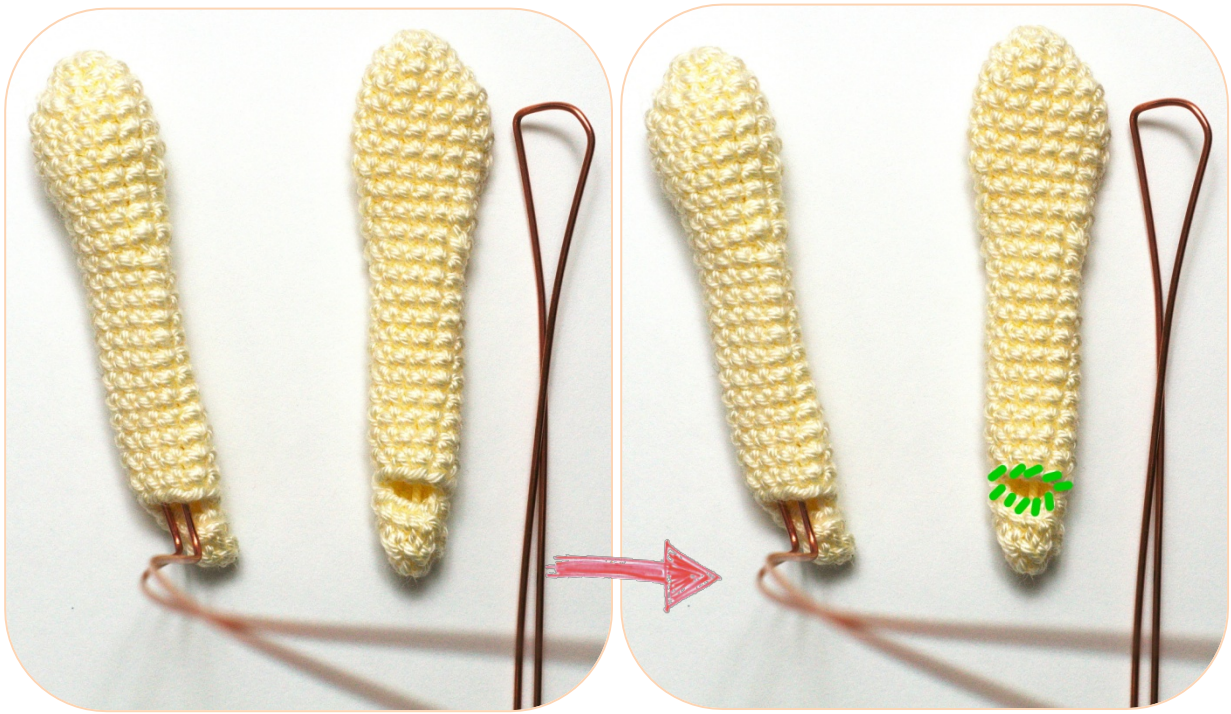
Work in continuous spiral. Start work with smooth yarn. Marker goes along the inner side of the foot. Shift the position of the marker when necessary.

Feet

1) make a MR, 6 sc into the ring (6)
2) 2 sc in next st, sc, (2 sc in next st) * 2, sc, 2 sc in next st (10)
3) 4 sc, (3 sc in next st) * 2, 4 sc (14)
4-6) sc in each st around (14)
7) (5 sc, 2 sc tog) * 2 (12)
8-10) sc in each st around (12)
11) (4 sc, 2 sc tog) * 2 (10)
12-22) sc in each st around (10) Shift the marker if necessary.
23-right foot) ch 5, skip 5 sts, sc in next st, 4 sc (10)
23-left leg) 5 sc, ch 5, skip 5 sts (10)
24-right foot) 5 sc inserting the hook under 5-ch, 5 sc (10)
24-left foot) 5 sc, 5 sc inserting the hook under 5-ch (10)
25) (2 sc tog) * 5 (5) Thread the end into a tapestry needle, bring it through the sts and pull up to close the hole. Fasten off.



Make a wire frame. Cut off 1 m of wire for each foot. Fold the wire in half making a loop in the middle to fit into the foot. Insert the wire into the foot through the hole in Rnds 22 and 23. Bend the wire at 90 where it comes out. Stuff the foot with polyester. Do not stuff too tightly.



Go on with **shin and leg**. The position of the marker is not important.

1) Come back to Rnd 22 and continue with smooth yarn **first inserting the hook under front loops of the next 5 sts**, then go along 5-ch of Rnd 23 - make 5 sc (marked with green in the picture above) (10)

2-3) sc in each st around (10)

To make the shift to hairy yarn on the inner side of the leg, make the next rnd differently for the right and left legs:

4-right leg) change to hairy yarn and make 10 sc (10)

4-left leg) 5 sc, change to hairy yarn and make 5 sc (10)

5) 2 sc, (2 sc in next st) * 2, 6 sc (12)

6) 3 sc, (2 sc in next st) * 2, shift the marker to the center of the back pf the leg. Shift the position of the marker when necessary. The next rnd is not complete. If the rnd were complete, you would make 14 sts.

7) 6 sc, (2 sc in next st) * 2, 5 sc, 3 sc in next st (18)

8) 3 sc in next st, 7 sc, (3 sc in next st) * 2, 7 sc, 3 sc in next st (26)

9) 3 sc in next st, 11 sc, (2 sc in next st) * 2, 11 sc, 3 sc in next st (32)

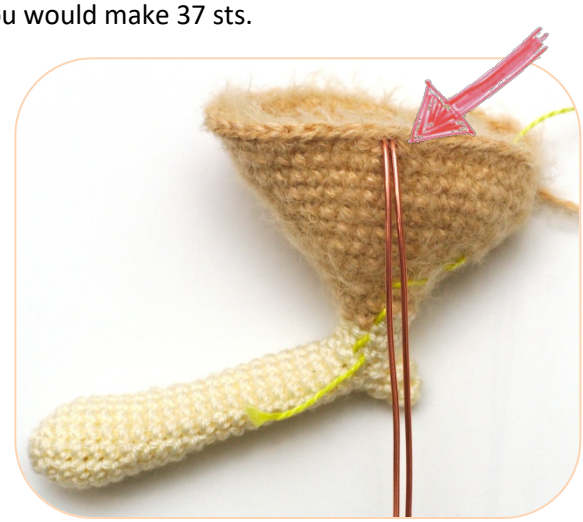
10) 15 sc, (2 sc in next st) * 2, 14 sc, 2 sc in next st (35)

11) 16 sc, (2 sc in next st) * 2, make as many sc as necessary to shift the marker to the center. The rnd is not complete. I made 15 sc. If the rnd were complete, you would make 37 sts.

12) 17 sc, (2 sc in next st) * 2, 17 sc, 2 sc in next st (40)

13) 19 sc, (2 sc in next st) * 2, 19 sc (42)

14) 20 sc, 2 sc in next st, 19 sc, 2 sc tog (42)



15-right leg) 10 sc, ch 1, skip 1 st, sc in next st, take the wire out through the hole, 8 sc, 2 sc in next st, 19 sc, 2 sc tog (42)

15-left leg) 20 sc, 2 skip next st, 9 sc, ch 1, skip 1 st, sc in next st, take the wire out through the hole, 8 sc, 2 sc tog (42)

16) sc in each st around (42)

17) 2 sc tog, 38 sc, 2 sc tog (40)

18) 19 sc, 2 sc tog, 19 sc (39)

19) 2 sc tog, 16 sc, 2 sc tog, 17 sc, 2 sc tog (36)

20) 2 sc tog, 14 sc, (2 sc tog) * 2, 14 sc, 2 sc tog (32)

21) 2 sc tog, 12 sc, (2 sc tog) * 2, 12 sc, 2 sc tog (28)

22) 2 sc tog, 10 sc, (2 sc tog) * 2, 10 sc, 2 sc tog (24)

23) 3 sc tog, 6 sc, (3 sc tog) * 2, 6 sc, 3 sc tog (16) Fold the leg in half along the marker. Stuff the leg with polyester. Make sure the tights are not too round.

24) 3 sc tog, 2 sc, (3 sc tog) * 2, 2 sc, 3 sc tog (8) Thread the end into a tapestry needle, bring it through the sts and pull up to close the hole. Fasten off.

Make sure the knee and the tight are in the right place. The tight is below the knee.



If you like this pattern and want to finish the project, find full version of the pattern in one of my shops.

Shop on Etsy –
http://bit.ly/EtsyCPG

Shop on Ravelry
http://bit.ly/RavelryCPG

Results of the pattern testing

I would say many great thanks to my helpers who helped me prepare the pattern for online crocheting and who made their cute toys.

Mexican Jerboa by **Irina Gorelova** is made using recommended yarn. Irina decided to make a thicker switch on the tail and felted blue wool to it.





Here are the cute toys by **Natalia Roshchina**.







Some details about the jerboa: Yarn: Alize Angora Real 40 (approx. 40 g) + Sable by Chinese Royal Yarns to make the hairy part (approx. 35 g) + Alize Kid Royal to make the smooth part (leftover), leftovers of Alize Angora Real 40 of white and black colors to make the muzzle and tail. Crochet hook: 1.5 mm Clover Soft. 1.5 mm copper wire. 15-mm discs, cotter pin joints 2*2.5 mm. Tinting: oil paints, dry pastel paints. 14-mm toy eyes. The toy is 18 cm long (without tail) and 19 cm tall.





Some details about the mouse: Yarn: Alize Angora Real 40 (approx. 40 g) + Sable by Chinese Royal Yarns (approx. 35 g) to make the hairy part + Alize Kid Royal to make the smooth part. 1.5 mm crochet hook. 1.5-mm copper wire. 15-mm discs, cotter pin joints 2*2.5 mm. Tinting: oil paints, dry pastel paints. 14-mm toy eyes. The toy is 18 cm long (without tail0.

How to make the mouse (tutorial by Natalia Roshchina)

EXPLAINED IN THE FULL VERSION OF THE PATTERN

A funny rodent, a Pokémon mouse Pikachu. It is made with Angora Ram + BCL, 1.5 mm crochet hook. It is 17 cm long.





A turquoise wonder by **Julia Voitenko**. Julia also made some cacti for this photoshoot. The Good Soul is made with German Mohair yarn, the white part is made with Kid Mohair yarn. It is 11.5 cm tall (without ears) and 14 cm long (without tail).





Fairy pink wonder. Mythological animal from South American Indians. Before meeting **Svetlana Tabunshchikova** this creature only existed on stone panels found on the ruins of ancient towns. It is probably an ancient god who decided to appear in front of people in the image of an unknown animal. Who knows? Might it be a pet called Rosalie?





Yarn: Nako Delicate (half a skein) + Alize Kid Mohair. Angora Ram to make legs (use a smaller crochet hook, otherwise the legs will be too big); Angora Real 40 to make the muzzle. The toy is 14 cm tall (without ears) and 17 cm tall (with ears). It is 14 cm long.

A very talented crocheter **Kate Vinogradova** introduced a crazy couple to us. Kate made different eyes and ears. The second toy is completely Kate's improvisation with completely different ears, eyes, tail and muzzle. This animal is absolutely incredible. It is difficult to understand whether it is an animal, a bird or something else.

Here is a Mexican Jerboa, which made a sun umbrella of cacti. O.o




Finished size. The toy is 13 cm (without ears), 10 cm long (without tail), and 22 cm long (with tail).

Yarn: Color City Letto (350 m/ 50 g) to make the feet, ears and smooth part of the tail; Color City Letto + Koala yarn (divided in two) to make all the other parts. 12 mm cotter pin joints (inside legs) and 15 mm cotter pin joints (inside the body). Glass toy eyes 10 mm in diameter.

How to make ears by Kate Vinogradova:

EXPLAINED IN THE FULL VERSION OF THE PATTERN

Another unusual animal is a Mexican Squirrel. This animal is rather reserved. According to an ancient legend, only if you drink traditional Mexican drinks, you can see this animal.





Yarn: Nazar Tenderness (approx. 15 g) + Kid Mohair yarn of light-blue color. Nazar Tenderness of white color (half a skein) + Kid Mohair yarn of white color. YarnArt Ice Sale Eyelash + Kid Mohair yarn of white color. 14 mm cotter pin joints (inside legs) and 18 mm cotter pin joints (inside the body). 12-mm glass toy eyes.

Modifications to make a squirrel

EXPLAINED IN THE FULL VERSION OF THE PATTERN

Here is an agile rabbit. It is a completely new type. Kate is now studying it!




That is what Kate is writing about it: “I made it with Koala yarn of mustard color divided into four strands and A-Elita by Moscow Yarn Company (color # 772). To make the feet and muzzle I used the same yarns of white color. Used: Leftover of Koala yarn, 20 g of A-Elita yarn. To make ears I used Color City Letto yarn of beige color (leftover). I also added kid mohair yarn to make the end of the tail. The toy is 16 cm tall (without ears).”

How to make a rabbit.

EXPLAINED IN THE FULL VERSION OF THE PATTERN

Pikachu, the girl. A little plump girl is made with Kamteks Travka divided into three strands (you will need only one strand). You will need just a leftover of the yarn. The toy is 10.5 cm tall (without ears).




Appendix

How to make noses with polymeric clay

Tutorial by **Kate Vinogradova**.

EXPLAINED IN THE FULL VERSION OF THE PATTERN

Cactus umbrella by Kate Vinogradova

EXPLAINED IN THE FULL VERSION OF THE PATTERN

