CROCHET PATTERN

Whale

Easy / No sewn pieces / US crochet terms

Make a small blue whale with a broad forehead, a narrowing tail stock and two flukes crocheted from the closing seam.

The body narrows slowly at first, then contracts to eight stitches at the tail. A four-stitch seam gives each fluke a separate anchor.

Materials

Smooth #4 worsted yarn in the listed colors, a 3.5 mm starting hook, stitch marker, washable stuffing, blunt tapestry needle and scissors. Adjust hook size if stuffing shows through a gently stretched swatch. Use blue for body and flukes, charcoal for eyes and ivory for a short smile.

Colors

ocean blue, charcoal, ivory

How To Read This Pattern

Use US terms. Sc = single crochet, inc = 2 sc in one stitch, dec = single crochet 2 together across the next two stitches. A number before an operation tells how many times to work it. Brackets or parentheses followed by × repeat the whole sequence. Work in continuous rounds through both loops unless directed otherwise. Place a marker in the first stitch and move it up each round. Begin at the nose. Ch = chain, sl st = slip stitch, hdc = half double crochet. Decide which side will be the belly before adding the side eyes. The tail seam runs left to right when the whale rests on its belly.

Body And Tail Stock / Make 1

	ROUND / STEP	INSTRUCTION	START	END
☐	**R1**	Make a magic ring, work 6 sc into the ring and pull the tail to close. Use blue.	**0**	**6**
☐	**R2**	(inc) × 6.	**6**	**12**
☐	**R3**	(sc, inc) × 6.	**12**	**18**
☐	**R4**	(2 sc, inc) × 6.	**18**	**24**
☐	**R5**	(3 sc, inc) × 6.	**24**	**30**
☐	**R6-9**	30 sc.	**30**	**30**

Body And Tail Stock (continued)

	ROUND / STEP	INSTRUCTION	START	END
☐	**R10**	(3 sc, dec) × 6.	**30**	**24**
☐	**R11-12**	24 sc.	**24**	**24**
☐	**R13**	(2 sc, dec) × 6. Stuff the forehead and middle. Keep the tail relatively flat.	**24**	**18**
☐	**R14**	(sc, dec) × 6.	**18**	**12**
☐	**R15**	(sc, dec) × 4.	**12**	**8**
☐	**R16**	8 sc.	**8**	**8**

Finish Leave the working loop attached. Flatten the eight-stitch opening into four opposing pairs. Insert the hook through both layers at the first pair and work one sc. Repeat across all four pairs; leave the working loop at the outer edge.

Assembly

1. From the outer seam stitch, ch 6. Start in the second chain from the hook and work sl st, sc, hdc, hdc, sc down the five chains. Slip stitch into the second seam stitch, counting from your starting edge.
2. Slip stitch into the third seam stitch. Ch 6, repeat the same five return stitches, then slip stitch into the fourth seam stitch. Cut, secure and bury the end. Fan the two tips apart.
3. Place a charcoal eye on each side between R5 and R6. Set the model down before stitching to check both eyes sit at the same height. Add a short ivory smile below each eye, slanting toward the underside of the nose.

Checkpoint

The last decrease consumes 12 stitches as four groups of three and leaves eight. Fold those eight into four pairs. At 5 sc per inch, the widest 30-stitch round measures about 6 inches around.