



# Deer

Crochet pattern by Kristi Tullus

## Size

27cm (10 2/3") from head to toe, with DK weight alpaca wool and a 2,50mm hook.

## Skills required

Crocheting in spiral, slip stitch, single crochet stitch, increasing and decreasing.

## Difficulty

3. Intermediate – includes some less common crochet techniques and color changes.

## Contact Info

Pattern includes unlimited support from me over email or Skype. Crochet photo and video tutorials and helpful tips are available on my website.

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**Tip!** You can use the same pattern to make larger or smaller toys by using finer or bulkier yarn. Make sure to pick a crochet hook at least a size smaller than suggested on the yarn label and crochet tightly enough to achieve a tight gauge that will not allow the stuffing to show through the fabric. You may also need to adjust the size of the safety eyes, nose and joints.

### Materials & Tools

- Yarn. I used DK weight alpaca wool, 100 m=50 g (109 yd=50 g) / 8 ply / 11 wpi / 3: light. You will need about 42 g of beige, 10 g of brown and 8 g of white yarn.
- 2,50 - 3,50 mm crochet hook (US size 2/C - 4/E) or according to the yarn.
- Polyester fiberfill, wool, wadding for stuffing.
- 12 mm (1/2") safety eyes or buttons, beads, felt etc.
- Two 20 mm (3/4") and two 15 mm (3/5") doll joints or safety eyes or buttons and thread.
- Embroidery floss.
- Yarn needle, scissors, stitch marker.

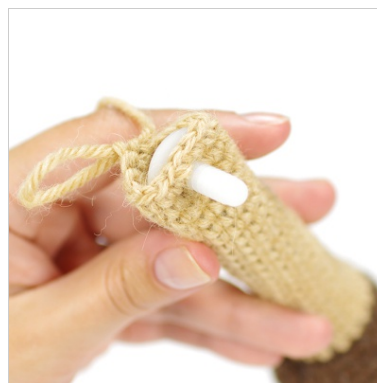
### Choosing joints

**Tip!** You can use plastic doll joints, cotter pin joints, buttons and thread or even just thread to attach the arms and legs. My favorite are plastic doll joints - they are easy to install, durable and washable. Buttons and thread will work great as well, if you can't get your hands on any joints.

### Plastic doll joints



1. Plastic doll joints come in three pieces - disk with a stem, washer and a fastener.



2. Disk with a stem is placed inside the limbs, pushing the stem through the fabric.



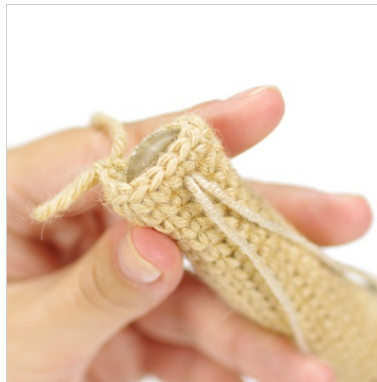
3. And then locked to place inside the body.

## Button and thread joints

**Tip!** Make sure you use a very strong thread to attach the limbs – it will have to endure quite a bit of tension and can be a bit difficult to mend, should it break. I have found cotton embroidery floss, nylon sewing thread (doubled or tripled) or fishing line work really well.



1. Cut a length of yarn and draw it through the holes in the button.



2. Place the button inside a limb, drawing the yarn tails through the fabric.



3. Place the other button inside the body, draw the yarn tails through the holes and knot them together.

## Abbreviations

- **st(s)** = stitch(es).
- **mr, sc  $n$**  = crochet  $n$  (number) single crochet stitches in to the adjustable loop (see page 14).
- **ch** = chain stitch.
- **sl st** = slip stitch (single crochet stitch in UK and Australia).
- **sc** = single crochet stitch (double crochet stitch in UK and Australia).
- **sc (or sl st, ch, hdc etc.)  $n$**  = make  $n$  single crochet stitches (or sl st, ch, hdc etc.), one in each stitch.
- **inc** = increase – crochet two single crochet stitches in the same stitch.
- **dec** = decrease – crochet two stitches together using the invisible decrease method (see page 15).
- **(sc 4, inc) x  $n$**  = repeat the pattern between parentheses  $n$  times.
- **(36)** = number of stitches in a round after finishing round.

## Notes

- Work in a continuous spiral, do not join rounds or turn your work, unless instructed otherwise in the pattern.
- Work all stitches in both loops, unless instructed otherwise in the pattern.
- Make sure to crochet tightly enough to achieve a tight gauge that will not allow the stuffing to show through the fabric.
- Use a stitch marker or a piece of yarn to mark the end or the beginning of a round. Move the marker up after completing each round.

## Head

With beige yarn:

- 1: mr, sc 6 (6)
- 2: inc x 6 (12)
- 3: (sc, inc) x 6 (18)
- 4: (inc, sc 2) x 6 (24)
- 5: (sc 7, inc) x 3 (27)
- 6: sc in each st (27)