



Pocket Whale Amigurumi with Removable Baby Fish

intermediate · 15.24 cm · low confidence

Reviewed draft — always swatch and check gauge.

Project info

A cute 6" (15 cm) pocket whale amigurumi worked in soft navy with a pastel-teal belly, blush-embroidered cheeks and a tiny gold star appliqué. Includes a removable 1.5" baby fish that snaps into a hidden belly pocket and a small crocheted loop for a keyring or snap.

Difficulty: intermediate

Finished size: 15.24 cm

Estimated time: 3-4 hours

Yarn: DK · Hook: 3.5 mm

Confidence: low (AI-assisted draft — test before selling as verified)

Materials

Yarn: DK weight yarn (approx 231–250 yd / 100 g). Suggested colors and yardage estimates:; A - Soft Navy (main): ~60–80 yd; B - Pastel Teal (belly & baby fish body): ~30 yd; C - Blush (cheeks): ~5 yd; D - Gold (star appliqué): ~3 yd; E - White (baby fish belly / finishing): ~5 yd; F - Black (optional embroidered eyes): ~2 yd

Hook: 3.5 mm

Notions: fiberfill stuffing, yarn needle, stitch marker, small snap or sew-on snap (for baby fish and pocket), small metal keyring or split ring (optional — omit/replace for infant-safe toy), 6–8 mm safety eyes (optional; if toy is for infants, embroider eyes instead), small amount of embroidery floss or yarn for cheeks and facial details

Gauge: Not critical for amigurumi, but use tighter-than-usual gauge (3.0–3.5 mm recommended). Adjust hook to avoid stuffing showing.

Abbreviations (US)

sc — single crochet

ch — chain

sl st — slip stitch

MR — magic ring

inc — increase (2 sc in same stitch)

dec — decrease (sc2tog)

st — stitch

rep — repeat

turn — turn work (used in rows)

Head and Body

Work body in soft navy (color A). The belly pocket is made separately and sewn to the underside so the pocket opening remains accessible. Place safety eyes between rounds 11–12 (approx 16–18 sts apart) if using; otherwise embroider eyes after assembly.

Rnd 1: 6 sc in MR (6) (6)

Rnd 2: inc x6 (12) (12)

Rnd 3: (sc 1, inc) x6 (18) (18)

Rnd 4: (sc 2, inc) x6 (24) (24)

Rnd 5: (sc 3, inc) x6 (30) (30)

Rnd 6: (sc 4, inc) x6 (36) (36)

Rnd 7: (sc 5, inc) x6 (42) (42)

Rnd 8: sc around (42) (42)

Rnd 9: sc around (42) (42)

Rnd 10: sc around (42) (42)

Rnd 11: sc around (42) (42)

Rnd 12: sc around (42) (42)

Rnd 13: sc around (42) — mark this round as belly center if desired (42)

Rnd 14: (sc 5, dec) x6 (36) (36)

Rnd 15: (sc 4, dec) x6 (30) (30)

Rnd 16: (sc 3, dec) x6 (24) (24)

Rnd 17: (sc 2, dec) x6 (18) (18)

Rnd 18: (sc 1, dec) x6 (12) — begin stuffing firmly (12)

Rnd 19: dec x6 (6) — finish stuffing (6)

Rnd 20: sl st 6, fasten off. Leave a long tail for sewing where needed (0)

Belly Pocket (separate)

Work pocket in pastel teal (color B). Sew the pocket to the underside of the finished whale body, aligning the pocket rim with the belly center rows and leaving the top edge open so the baby fish can be inserted. If using a snap, sew one half of a small sew-on snap to the inside top edge of this pocket.

Rnd 1: 6 sc in MR (6) (6)

Rnd 2: inc x6 (12) (12)

Rnd 3: (sc 1, inc) x6 (18) (18)

Rnd 4: sc around (18) (18)

Rnd 5: sc around (18) — fasten off leaving long tail for sewing (18) (18)

Tail (flukes)

Fold rectangle in half centered and seam along base to create two flukes. Attach tail to back end of whale body with mattress stitch. Work tail in soft navy (color A).

Rnd 1: Ch 10, sc in 2nd ch from hook and across (9) (9)

Rnd 2: Turn, sc across (9) (9)

Rnd 3: Turn, dec, sc5, dec (7) (7)

Rnd 4: Turn, sc across (7) (7)

Rnd 5: Turn, sc across (7), fasten off leaving tail for sewing (7) (7)

Side Fins (make 2)

Make 2.

Attach fins to sides of body (rounds ~10–12) using whipstitch; slightly angle them for a cute posture. Work in soft navy (color A).

Rnd 1: 6 sc in MR (6) (6)

Rnd 2: inc x6 (12) (12)

Rnd 3: sc around (12) (12)

Rnd 4: dec x3 (9) (9)

Rnd 5: sc around (9), fasten off leaving tail for sewing (9) (9)

Dorsal Fin

Attach dorsal fin centered on whale back (top) and sew securely. Work in soft navy (color A).

Rnd 1: Ch 6, sc in 2nd ch from hook and across (5) (5)

Rnd 2: Turn, sc across (5) (5)

Rnd 3: Turn, dec, sc 1, dec (3) (3)

Rnd 4: Turn, sc across (3), fasten off leaving tail for sewing (3) (3)

Tiny Star Appliqué

Sew the gold star to the whale's head near the eye/cheek area. If you prefer a flat embroidered star, stitch with gold embroidery floss instead of crocheting the second round.

Rnd 1: MR, *(ch 5, sl st to MR) repeat 5 times to create 5 loops; fasten off (5 loops) (5)

Rnd 2: With gold yarn, work 5 petals by inserting hook into each loop: *(sc, hdc, sc) in loop; repeat 5 times. Fasten off and weave ends (5 points) (5)

Embroidered Cheeks

Make 2.

Make cheeks approximately 2 rounds below eyes. Use a few strands of blush DK or embroidery floss for a soft blush. Fasten off and weave tails.

Rnd 1: Using blush yarn, embroider two small circles beneath eyes using satin stitch or a few surface slip stitches; secure and weave ends

Removable Baby Fish Body

Optionally embroider fish belly with white and tiny eye in black. Attach a sew-on snap or small loop-to-loop fastener at the inside top of this fish so it can snap into the belly pocket. If making for infants, sew-on snap only and no metal parts.

Rnd 1: 6 sc in MR (6) — work in pastel teal (color B) (6) (6)

Rnd 2: inc x6 (12) (12) (12)

Rnd 3: (sc 1, inc) x6 (18) (18) (18)

Rnd 4: sc around (18) — stuff lightly (18) (18)

Rnd 5: (sc 1, dec) x6 (12) (12)

Rnd 6: dec x6 (6) — finish stuffing (6)

Rnd 7: sl st 6, fasten off leaving tail for attaching snap/loop (0)

Baby Fish Fins (make 2 side fins + 1 tail)

Make 3.

Sew fins to baby fish body. Work in pastel teal (color B) or white accent as desired.

Rnd 1: Ch 4, sc in 2nd ch from hook and across (3), fasten off leaving tail (3) (3)

Rnd 2: For tail fin: Ch 6, sc in 2nd ch from hook and across (5), fasten off leaving tail (5)

Crocheted Keyring Loop

Fold loop in half and stitch securely into the top seam of whale body before closing final stitches, or sew onto seam after assembly. Attach split ring/keyring here if desired. For infant-safe toy, use this only as a stitched fabric loop and do not attach metal.

Rnd 1: Ch 12, join with sl st into first ch to form loop; fasten off leaving tail for sewing (12) (12)

Assembly

1. 1. Position and sew the belly pocket: Turn the finished whale body inside out (if possible) or work from the opening left when attaching components. Align the pocket rim with the belly center rows (rounds 11–13 area). Using the long tail from the pocket, whipstitch or ladder stitch the pocket rim to the inside of the whale's underside, leaving the top of the pocket open. If using a snap, sew one half of the sew-on snap to the inside top edge of the pocket at this time.
2. 2. Attach the baby fish snap/loop: Sew the matching snap half or loop to the top center of the baby fish using the tail left from finishing the fish. Test the snap closure to ensure the fish secures reliably inside the pocket.
3. 3. Attach tail: Fold the tail rectangle in half so the base edges meet; seam the base edge with whipstitch to create a slight pointed base. Use the long tail to securely sew the tail to the back (rear) of the whale. Stuff slightly into the seam between body rounds for a smooth attachment.
4. 4. Sew on side fins and dorsal fin: Position side fins evenly on either side of the body (around rounds 10–12) and the dorsal fin centered on the top back. Use the long tails to sew securely with invisible mattress stitch; tack down edges so fins sit naturally.
5. 5. Attach star appliqué: Center the gold star near the eye or cheek area. Use a couple of small, tight stitches to sew the star flat to the whale's head so it will not come loose.
6. 6. Add keyring loop: Fold the crocheted loop in half and stitch it into the top seam of the whale (near the head), or attach a split ring to the loop. Make sure it is sewn through several body rounds so it's secure. If including a metal keyring, ensure it is attached away from any small children; otherwise omit metal hardware and only attach a fabric loop for safety.

Finishing

1. 1. Weave in all ends securely with a yarn needle. Use multiple passes to bury tails so they do not work loose.
2. 2. Embroider cheeks and facial details: With blush yarn, embroider two small cheek circles under the eyes. With black yarn or embroidery floss, embroider small eyes if not using safety eyes. Secure knots on the inside and weave ends.
3. 3. Final shaping and trimming: Make any minor adjustments to stuffing to shape the whale. Trim any visible tails. If seams are visible, use matching yarn to tidy them.
4. 4. Install snaps and test: Attach the two halves of the sew-on snap (one inside pocket, one on the baby fish) and test insertion/removal several times to ensure reliable fastening. For infant-safe versions, use sew-on fabric loop or stitched closure only (no snaps).
5. 5. Safety check: If you used safety eyes or metal keyrings, double-check attachment security. For toys intended for children under 3, remove any metal hardware and use all-embroidered features and sewn fabric snaps only.
6. 6. Block lightly if desired: Light steam or pin to shape the whale for a neat finish (avoid direct heat on synthetic yarns).