

Rebeckah's Treasures

# Otis Giraffe

Amigurumi Crochet Pattern

~PART 1: INTRODUCTION~



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This amigurumi Otis Giraffe CAL pattern includes written directions for crocheting a cute, little giraffe in cotton thread, or a larger giraffe with yarn.

You have the option to incorporate the spots, limbs (arms, legs, tail) and facial features (eyes, ears, horns and muzzle) as you crochet the body and head, OR you can sew them on later. ([See pattern notes](#))

Incorporating them as you crochet saves time and is much easier than it looks. Photo tutorials (on the blog) and links to video tutorials are included to show you just how to attach them as you crochet.

Special tip boxes are included for placement, if you prefer the sewing option.

Follow the **TRADITIONAL** pattern versions if sewing the pieces together. OR, the **RECOMMENDED** versions if joining-as-you-go!

## Supplies:

- **TWO choice** colours in **ANY** Yarn Weight – about **180m** (196 yd.) in cotton thread size 10 (Circulo Clea / Aunt Lydia’s / DMC Traditions) – OR **double quantity** if using worsted (WW / 4 : Medium / 10 ply UK) yarn:
  - about **100m** (110yd.) in **MC – yellow**
  - about **80m** (87.5yd.) in **AC – orange or brown**
  - **scraps** of black + eye colour **OR** safety eyes
- 1.50mm (**8** US / **4 ½** UK) hook with thread 10 **OR** 3.75mm (**F/5**) hook with WW **OR** ANY hook that produces tight stitches with chosen yarn.
- stitch markers
- tapestry yarn needle
- scissors
- ruler/measuring tape
- polyester fiberfill

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Visit the blog post for this part of the CAL here:

<http://www.rebeckahstresures.com/blog/amigurumi-otis-giraffe-cal-part-1>

**Unlimited pattern support is available to you!** If you have any questions, or need help with this pattern, [contact me](#) through my website form. I am always happy to help you, and I will respond as quickly as I can!



## Abbreviations: ~US Terminology~

- **\*...\*** – repeat instructions between the asterisks once or as directed ~ *directions highlighted for easy repetition.*
- **(...)** – work **ALL** stitches between **parentheses** into the space or stitch as directed.
- **[...]** – work stitches between **brackets** however many times as directed.
- **AC** – alternate colour
- **avail** – available
- **BL(O)** – back loop(s) only
- **ch** – chain
- **cont** – continue
- **dec** – decrease(s) / decreasing
- **f/o** – fasten off
- **hdc** – half double crochet – **yo 1**
- **inc** – increase(s) / increasing
- **MC** – main colour
- **rem** – remain / remaining
- **rep** – repeat
- **rnd(s)** – round(s)
- **RS** – right side
- **sc** – single crochet
- **sc2tog** – single crochet 2 stitches together <sup>\*1</sup> ([see pattern notes](#))
- **sk** – skip
- **sl st** – slip stitch
- **sp(s)** – space(s)
- **st(s)** – stitch(es)
- **tog** – together
- **WS** – wrong side
- **yo** – yarn over

## Sizing:

Cotton Thread #10 makes a **7” (18cm)** tall giraffe (1.50mm hook is suggested).

Worsted (WW / 4 : Medium / 10 ply UK) yarn makes a **15” (38cm)** tall giraffe (3.75mm hook is suggested).

**\*NOTE:** These giraffe sizes are approximates. Your giraffe sizing may differ depending on your chosen yarn, hook size and tension. Adjust these factors to get desired size.

## Gauge:

Gauge is not important for this pattern. You only need to use a hook size that produces tight stitches with whichever yarn you choose to use.

**TIP:** Thread/Yarn weight and hook size are flexible. Use lace or fine weight yarns for a small, hand-sized animal, or use thicker yarn weights, such as Sport, DK or WW, for a larger, huggable animal!

## Pattern Notes: Important – Please READ!

Throughout the pattern, there are times when the instructions split into two options. **TRADITIONAL** means pieces are sewn together later. **JOIN-AS-YOU-GO** means the smaller body parts / spots are joined to the larger body parts as they are crocheted. Follow whichever option that best suits your needs / skill level.

You should be familiar with basic crochet stitches (ch, sl st, sc, hdc), working in rows, rounds, magic circles and back loops, and how to do increases and decreases.

When the **number comes after** the stitch, crochet across the stitches. However, when the **number comes first**, this is indicative of an increase, so work them into the same stitch or space as directed.

Special techniques used are the invisible decrease ([see note \\*1](#)) and mirror crochet ([see note \\*2](#)).

<sup>\*1</sup> Decreases or **tog** (sc2tog) sts are best worked by using the invisible decrease technique, where you only work into either the front or back loops of the stitches as if they were the 2 loops of one stitch. In this pattern, it will **ALWAYS** be the BACK LOOPS of the stitches. *If you are unfamiliar with this technique, [see my video tutorial here](#)...*

<sup>\*2</sup> Mirror crochet is used to give the ears a smoother look and a distinctive **RS**. Mirror crochet is worked by inserting hook into the stitch from **back to front**, rather than from front to back like normal stitches are worked. *If you are unfamiliar with this technique, [see Sad Days Crochet's video tutorial here](#)...*

Side facing you = **WS** for all body parts with the exception of the eyes (**RS faces**) and ears (**ODD row = RS**).

Crochet in continuous rnds and **do not turn** at the end of them unless directed to do otherwise.

**MC** used here is yellow. **AC** used here is orange. Use whichever two colours of the rainbow you prefer.

The arms, legs and horns all start with the **AC** and switch to the **MC** on the **last sc2tog**.

It may be easier to stuff the giraffe pieces little by little as they are worked. Otherwise, stuff the pieces at the end, and remember to stuff them more than you think is needed because the fiberfill will condense over time.

When a long ending tail is suggested, simply fasten off where the wrapped thread reaches the side of your palm, or double this length if using a thicker yarn weight instead. ***\*You can make it a bit longer if you like.***

You should be familiar with hand sewing on crochet pieces by means of the whip and running stitches.

Additional notes are included as needed...

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### Pattern Notes EXCLUSIVE to Option 1 – Traditional Method:

The **skill level** for this option is rated **EASY** since only basic stitches and techniques are used.

If you are new to crochet and still figuring out basic stitches or if you would prefer to work the traditional route, I recommend **Option 1**. This option is just like all other amigurumi patterns out there.

For the body and head, you'll find special **TIP BOXES** next to the instructions. These are used as a guide for marking the placement of the limbs and facial features to make it easy to sew them into place later.

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### Pattern Notes EXCLUSIVE to Option 2 – Join-As-You-Go (Recommended) Method:

The **skill level** for this option is rated **INTERMEDIATE** due to the joining-pieces technique used.

If you are very familiar with the basic crochet stitches and would like to avoid sewing all the pieces together later, I encourage you to try **Option 2 – you'll be so glad you did!**

For this option, an additional special technique you should know is how to crochet through two or three layers.

When crocheting the respective pieces (spots, limbs, facial features) onto the body or head, always insert the hook into the body or head stitch(es) first, AND THEN into the respective pieces.

Whenever you see “**creating an inc**” or “**creating a dec**” at the end of section of instructions, this means that the increase or decrease was made on the current body part being worked. These phrases are used when the body part's increase or decrease falls where another body part or spot is being attached.

In the case of an **increase**, work into the same body part stitch again, **either** as it is joined to another body part, **or** after it has already been joined to a body part or spot.

In the case of a **decrease**, work an invisible sc2tog decrease on the body part as it is joined to the spot or another body part. This means that you will put the **BL** of the **next 2 body part stitches** onto the hook **FIRST**.

For the body and head, you'll find special **TIP BOXES** before the start of attachment rounds, where the limbs and facial features will be worked. **Please read them** as they contain important useful information to help you!

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## Share YOUR Otis Giraffe CAL Progress!

Share your giraffe progress with us! Hashtag **#OtisGiraffeCAL**, Tag **@beckastreasures** via Instagram or Twitter; or **JOIN** one of my [Crocheting Treasures](#) groups/communities on Facebook, Ravelry or Google+, or **JOIN** the [CAL – Crochet A Long Facebook Group](#).