



Here is a pattern so that you can create your very own little whale at home. Maybe you could create a Seascape of your own!



**AMIGURIMI WHALE**— Pattern kindly donated by designer Val Pierce, [www.crossedneedles.co.uk](http://www.crossedneedles.co.uk)

Amigurumi is the Japanese art of knitting or crocheting small stuffed animals and anthropomorphic creatures. The word is derived from a combination of the Japanese words *ami*, meaning crocheted or knitted, and *nuigurumi*, meaning stuffed doll. Amigurumi are typically cute animals (such as bears, rabbits, cats, dogs, etc.), but can include artistic renderings, and inanimate objects endowed with anthropomorphic features. Amigurumi can be either knitted or crocheted. The simplest designs are worked in spirals. In contrast to typical Western crochet the rounds are not usually joined. They are also worked with a smaller size hook in proportion to the weight of the yarn in order to create a very tight-looking fabric without any gaps through which the stuffing might escape. Amigurumi are usually worked in sections and then joined. As an introduction to this fascinating craft I have designed a baby blue Whale. It's a very easy "first try" project, just a simple shape with the minimum of increasing and decreasing, and he really looks so cute when finished. I find that working these projects is easier if you use a cotton yarn, using a fine hook tends to split wool or wool mixture yarns and makes it more difficult to achieve the neat texture needed. Make a family of whales all in different shades, once "hooked" on this particular craft you will not be able to stop creating !!

\*\*\* Note \*\*\* Always count your sts after each round and mark the beginning of your rounds, it's so easy to lose count and increase or decrease too many sts.

**Difficulty:** Beginner/Intermediate **Key :** Dc= double crochet ( US sc ) Tr = treble crochet ( US dc ) sl st = slip stitch

**You will need:**

- 1 x 100g ball Patons Cotton 4ply in shade Sky (as shown in this picture but you can use any 4ply you wish)
- Steel crochet hook size 1.75mm.
- 2 x 6mm black beads for eyes.
- Small amount of fibrefill safety stuffing.

\*\*\*\*\*Row 1 – Using 1.75mm hook and sky blue yarn make 2 ch,, work 6dc into 2<sup>nd</sup> ch from hook, join with a sl st to form a tight circle

Row 2 - 2 dc in each st around = 12 st

Row 3 - \*dc 1, 2 dc in next st\* all around = 18 st

Row 4 - \*dc 2, 2 dc in next st\* all around = 24 st

Row 5 - \*dc 3, 2 dc in next st\* all around = 30 st

Row 6. . \* dc 4, 2dc in next st\* all around 36st

Row 7. \*dc 5. 2dc in next st\* all around 42st.

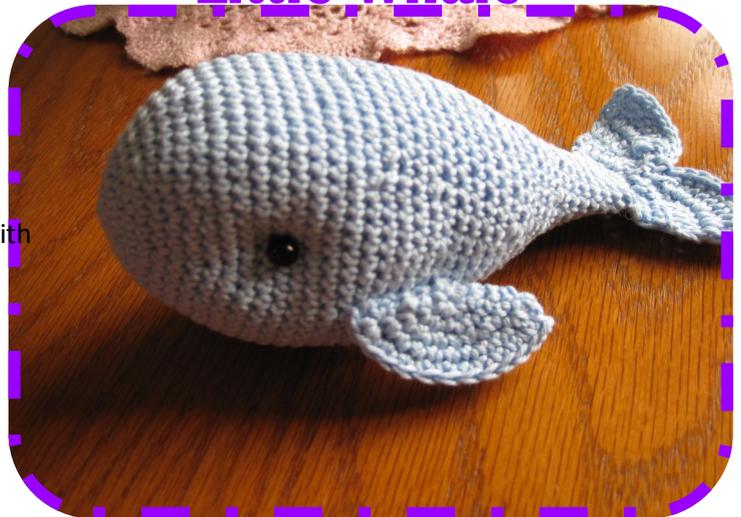
Row 8. \* dc 6,2dc in next st \* all around. 48sts

Row 9. \* dc 7, 2dc in next st.\* all around 54sts \*\*\*\*\*

Row 10 to Row 18 – work in rounds of dc on these 54 st .

At this point you need to begin stuffing the whale, fill the cup shape that you have already made and as you continue to decrease add a little more stuffing as you go.

## Little Whale



**PLEASE TURN OVER THE PAGE FOR THE REST OF THE PATTERN**

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## CONTINUED ....

Row 19 - work in dc **decreasing** 6 sts evenly in round. (To decrease, work 2 dc together.)

Row 20, work in dc.

Continue to decrease as on the last 2 rows until you have 18 dc in round.

Work 4 rounds dc on 18 sts.

Flatten end of body between fingers, and proceed to work tail as follows.

Work through both thickness of body,

Work 8 dc across, turn

Next row. Work 2 tr into each of next 3 dc, 1 dc into next 2 dc, 2tr into each of next 3 dc

Next row. 1 tr into each of next 6 tr, sl st into each of next 2 dc, 1 tr into each of next 6tr.

Next row. \*1 tr into next tr, 2 tr into next tr,\* 3 times, sl st into each of next 2 sts, then repeat from \* to \* 3 times more.

Next row, 1 dc into each tr, 1 sl st into each sl st. 1 dc into each tr. Fasten off

## Fins. (Make 2)

Row 1 – make 2dc, work 6 dc into 2<sup>nd</sup> ch from hook, join with a sl st.

Row 2 - 2 dc in each st around = 12 st

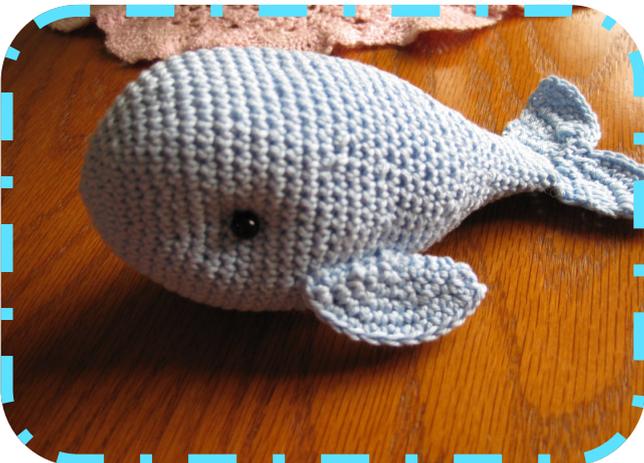
Row 3 - \*dc 1, 2 dc in next st\* = 18 st

Row 4 - \*dc 2, 2 dc in next st\* = 24 st

Row 5 - \*dc 3, 2 dc in next st\* = 30 st Fasten off.

Fold circle in half and working through both thickness of fabric work a row of dc around edge. Fasten off and work in ends. Sew Fins to body and tiny beads in place for eyes.

Mould the whale into a pleasing shape with your hands. Sew on eyes, and then position fins on either side, stitch in place.



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Portsmouth Historic Dockyard,  
National Museum of the Royal Navy,  
HM Naval Base (PP66), Portsmouth,  
Hampshire, UK, PO1 3NH

Email: Jo.Valentine@nmrn.org.uk

www.nmrn.org.uk

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Eastney Community Centre,  
Bransbury Park, Portsmouth,  
PO4 9SU

Email: Katrinahender-  
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