

# Octopus for a preemie

crochet version



[prawełewe.pl](http://prawełewe.pl)

## Materials

- use 100% anti-allergenic cotton yarn only  
(you may use one or more colours for the body, bottom and tentacles (arms) in whatever combination you like)
- scrap yarn for eyes, lips and (optional) additional attributes, e.g. hat, flower, ribbon
- silicone ball or anti-allergenic pillow filling, washable at 60°C (make sure that the filling does not go through the stitches; if it is too fine, put it in a cotton baby sock first and then stuff the octopus' body with it)

## Tools

- hook 3,25 mm /D / UK 11
- open-type stitch marker or a piece of thread (optional)
- darning needle

## Abbreviations

ch	chain
sc	single crochet (US)
2 sc	two sc in one stitch (US)
dc	double crochet (UK)
2dc	two dc in one stitch (UK)
sc2tog	two sc together (US)
dc2tog	two dc together (UK)
*...*(3)	work instructions given between the asterisks three times
RD	round
[10 sts]	number of stitches after the certain round is finished

## Cooperation

This project originated in Denmark in 2013 (<https://www.spruttegruppen.dk/danish-octo-project-english/>). There is a Polish group on Facebook for everyone interested in supporting the octo project in Poland (<https://www.facebook.com/osmiorniczki dla wczesniakow/>).

If you would like to make some octopuses for premature babies in Wrocław, Poland or Ireland, please write through [prawelewe.pl](mailto:prawelewe.pl) or through [Ravelry](https://www.ravelry.com/). I will pass on your softies to project coordinators in Poland or will contact you with coordinators in Ireland.

## Size of the finished octopus

- head should be 6-9 cm/ 2.5-3.5 in from top to bottom
- arms should not be more than 22 cm/8.5 in when stretched

The crochet octopus has a knitted sister



## Copyright

This pattern was translated and edited by Cathliin from [prawelewe.pl](mailto:prawelewe.pl). Danish original is available at [www.spruttegruppen.dk](https://www.spruttegruppen.dk).

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Wrocław, Poland, June 2016

## INSTRUCTIONS in US crochet terms

### Body and tentacles (arms)

RD 1 6 sc in a magic ring

Mark beginning of the round with an open-type stitch marker or a thread (optional).

RD 2 2 sc in every stitch [12 sts]

RD 3 \*1 sc, 2 sc\*(6) [18 sts]

RD 4 \*1 sc, 1 sc, 2 sc\*(6) [24 sts]

RD 5 \*1 sc, 1 sc, 1 sc, 2 sc\*(6) [30 sts]

RD 6 \*1 sc, 1 sc, 1 sc, 1 sc, 2 sc\*(6) [36 sts]

RD 7 } 1 sc in every stitch [36 sts]

RD 14 }

RD 15 \*4 sc, sc2tog\*(6) [30 sts]

RD 16 } 1 sc in every stitch [30 sts]

RD 17 }

RD 18 \*3 sc, sc2tog\*(6) [24 sts]

RD 19 } 1 sc in every stitch [24 sts]

RD 20 }

RD 21 \*2 sc, sc2tog\*(6) [18 sts]

RD 22 1 sc in every stitch [18 sts]

RD 23 \*7 sc, sc2tog\*(2) [16 sts]

RD 24 1 sc in every stitch [16 sts]

RD 25 Start the arms:

\*1 sc, 50 ch, turn, 2 sc in every chain, when done with the chain- 1 sl st in the next stitch\*(8)  
End with 1 slip stitch in the same stitch where the first arm started. Pull the yarn through.

If the tentacle does not want to twist, try making 3 or 4 sc in every chain. Depending on a yarn, it might be sufficient to work 1 sc in every chain in the return row, too.

If you wish to make your octopus more cheerful, you can use different colours of yarn for tentacles (see an example in the following photo).



### Bottom

RD 1: 5 sc in a magic ring

RD 2: 2 sc in every stitch [10 sts]

RD 3: \*1 sc, 2 sc\*(5) [15 sts]

Finish with a slip stitch. Using the same yarn join the bottom piece with the body piece with sc by pulling up a loop through both the bottom-piece stitch and the body-piece stitch. There should be two sc like that per one tentacle. Weave in the ends.

This is how the bottom should look like when joined to the body:



## **INSTRUCTIONS in UK crochet terms**

### **Body and arms**

RD 1 6 dc in a magic ring  
mark beginning of the round with an open-type stitch marker or a thread (optional)

RD 2 2 dc in every stitch [12 sts]  
RD 3 \*1 dc, 2 dc\*(6) [18 sts]  
RD 4 \*1 dc, 1 dc, 2 dc\*(6) [24 sts]  
RD 5 \*1 dc, 1 dc, 1 dc, 2 dc\*(6) [30 sts]  
RD 6 \*1 dc, 1 dc, 1 dc, 1 dc, 2 dc\*(6) [36 sts]  
RD 7 }  
| } 1 dc in every stitch [36 sts]  
RD 14 }  
RD 15 \*4 dc, dc2tog\*(6) [30 sts]  
RD 16 }  
| } 1 dc in every stitch [30 sts]  
RD 17 }  
RD 18 \*3 dc, dc2tog\*(6) [24 sts]  
RD 19 }  
| } 1 dc in every stitch [24 sts]  
RD 20 }  
RD 21 \*2 dc, dc2tog\*(6) [18 sts]  
RD 22 1 dc in every stitch [18 sts]  
RD 23 \*7 dc, dc2tog\*(2) [16 sts]  
RD 24 1 dc in every stitch [16 sts]  
RD 25 Begin the arms:  
\*1 dc, 50 ch, turn, 2 dc in every chain, when done with the chain- 1 sl st in the next stitch\*(8)  
End with 1 slip stitch in the same stitch where the first arm begun. Pull the yarn through.

If the tentacle does not want to twist, try making 3 or 4 dc in every chain. Depending on a yarn, it might be sufficient to work 1 dc in every chain in the return row, too.

If you wish to make your octopus more cheerful, you can use different colours of yarn for tentacles (see an example in the top photo on the previous page).

Voila! Your lovely octopus is ready. Please make sure to share photos of your finished work with us in [the prawelew group on Ravelry](#) and in [the thread dedicated to this project](#).

### **Bottom**

RD 1: 5 dc in a magic ring  
RD 2: 2 dc in every stitch [10 sts]  
RD 3: \*1 dc, 2 dc\*(5) [15 sts]  
Finish with a sl st and using the same yarn join the bottom piece with the body piece: with dc by pulling up a loop through both the bottom-piece stitch and the body-piece stitch. There should be two dc like that per one tentacle. Weave in the ends.

The joined piece should look like shown in the bottom picture on the previous page.

### **Finishing touches**

Using scrap yarn, embroider eyes and mouth.



### **Preparation of the finished octopus**

Every octopus you create should be washed and (optionally) packed so a child receiving it has a fresh, clean and beautiful octopus friend forever. Also, make sure to not use any hard or small elements that could cause skin irritation or be dangerous for a baby.