



OCTOPUS FOR PREEMIES

With the tentacles falling to the outside (space) of the body, crocheted into the one single
 crocheted stitches that's between the tentacles only
 RND 1: 2 - in each an even - 10 st
 RND 2: 20 - in each an even - 5 st
 Finish - 2 - in each an even - 5 st

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CROCHETED PREMIE OCTOPUSES

Finished Measurements: About 8" tall. Head circumference is about 8". Curled up tentacles are about 4-5" long, fully stretched cannot exceed 8" for safety reasons.

Yarn: Worsted weight 100% cotton yarn.

I would recommend not using mercerized cotton as it is treated with chemicals to make yarn shinier. I would also recommend not using yellow color for preemies (bad juju). I have used Sugar n' Cream which can be purchased at any big box craft store. It's inexpensive, readily available and comes in a lot of colors. It could be a little hard on your hands as it needs to be crocheted at a tight gauge. Another great option that I will mostly be using is Hobby Lobby's I Love This Cotton, very soft, great color selection.

Sample Shown in: Lily Sugar 'n Cream (100% cotton; 120 yds [110 m]/ 2.5 oz [70.9 g]), and I Love This Cotton (100% cotton; 180 yds [165 m]/ 3.5 oz [100 g]).

Hook: US size G/6 (4.25 mm). Or hook necessary to obtain gauge.

Notions: Yarn needle, fiberfill.

Gauge: 8-9 sts and 10-11 rows = 2" in single crochet.

Note on gauge: Gauge is not crucial for this project, stitches should be tight for stuffing not to show through.

BODY

Make an adjustable ring.

RND 1: Make 6 sc into the ring. Pull tail to tighten the ring — 6 sts. OR Chain 3 6 sc in first chain.

RND 2: 2 sc in each st around — 12 sts.

RND 3: (Sc in next st, 2 sc in next st) around — 18 sts.

RND 4: (Sc in next 2 sts, 2 sc in next st) around — 24 sts.

RND 5: (Sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st) around — 30 sts.

6 RND 6-11: Sc in each st around.

RND 12: (Sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog) around — 24 sts.

RND 13: Sc in each st around.

RND 14: (Sc in next 2 sts, sc2tog) around — 18 sts.

RND 15: Sc in each st around.

RND 16: (Sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog) twice — 16 sts.

RND 17: Sc in each st around.

RND 18 (this is where tentacles are created and attached to the body): *Sc in next st, crochet a tentacle (see below) sc in next st of the body; repeat from * 7 more times, making 8 tentacles.

2 (12) Row 2 2 sc in each sc

3 (18) Row 3 2 sc, 1 sc

4 (24) Row 4 2 sc, 1 sc, 1 sc

5 (30) Row 5 2 sc, 1 sc, 1 sc, 1 sc

(30) Rows 6-11 sc in each

4 (24) Row 12 sc2tog, 1 sc, 1 sc

3 (18) Row 13 sc2tog, 1 sc

2 (16) Row 14 sc2tog, 1 sc x 6

TENTACLES

Note on tentacle length: Fully stretched tentacles should not be longer than 8" as they may pose a choking hazard. I usually make a chain 8" long, between 30-40 chains.

Option 1 (shown in the video): Ch 32, 2 sc in 3rd ch from the hook, (3 sc in next ch, 2 sc in next 2 chs) across all chains.

* Option 2: Ch 35, 2 sc in 3rd ch from hook and each ch across.

BOTTOM

With the tentacles falling to the outside (spreading like a flower), crochet into the two single crochet stitches that's between the tentacles only.

RND 19: Sc in each sc around — 16 sts.

RND 20: Sc2tog around — 8 sts.

Fasten off leaving 8" tail.

Finishing

Stuff the body with fiberfill. Using yarn needle, weave the tail through the remaining 8 sts and pull tight to close the opening. Secure the yarn and weave in the ends. Embellish as desired.