Yir Yirs

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Any fan of late 20th century children's public television will recognize these lovable aliens. Crochet or knit them, use them as holiday stockings, toy storage, kids' laundry, whatever really! Yip yip yip yip uh-huh uh-huh...

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Circumference: 25 inches Height: 14 inches *(excluding tentacles & hanging loop)*

GAUGE

8 sts/8 rows = 4 inches in single crochet 8 sts/16 rows = 4 inches in stockinette stitch

MATERIALS

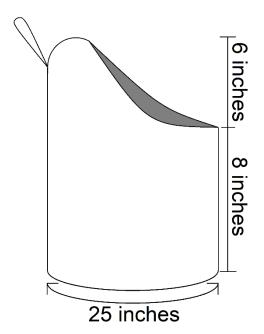
Bernat Blanket/Blanket Brights/Baby Blanket [100% polyester; 220yds/201m per 300g skein]; 1 skein in color of your choice; shown in Royal Blue, Pixie Pink, Pow Purple, Baby Teal, Crimson (crochet), and Baby Lilac (knit) L/8mm crochet hook (also used for attaching tentacles in both crochet and knit versions) US10.5/6.5mm circular needle, 24 inches long Stitch marker Tapestry needle 2 ping pong balls Black paint pen or permanent marker 2 pipe cleaners, 12 inches long Awl, ice pick, corn pick (for poking holes in ping pong balls) Black flannel fabric, 16 inches by 24 inches Scissors Sewing needle Black thread

ABBREVIATIONS

ch = chain
k2tog = knit next 2 stitches together
kfb = knit into front and back of next stitch
RS = right side
sc = single crochet
sc dec = single crochet decrease
sl = slip next stitch as if to purl
sm = slip marker
st(s) = stitch(es)
WS = wrong side
wyib = with yarn in back
wyif = with yarn in front

NOTES

The body begins at the bottom center and is worked in continuous rounds to the base of the mouth opening. The sides of the mouth are worked back and forth in rows. The top of the head is finished in continuous rounds again. Then tentacles, eyes, and antennae are attached afterward, followed by the lining.





INSTRUCTIONS

CROCHET BODY Make a slip knot. Round 1: 6 sc into slip knot. Place stitch marker on first st. Move marker up to first st of each new round as you work. Round 2: 2 sc into each st. – 12 sts Round 3: [Sc in next st, 2 sc in following st] to end. - 18 sts Round 4: [Sc in each of next 2 sts, 2 sc in following st] to end. - 24 sts Round 5: [Sc in each of next 3 sts, 2 sc in following st] to end. -30 sts Round 6: [Sc in each of next 4 sts, 2 sc in following st] to end. - 36 sts Round 7: [Sc in each of next 5 sts, 2 sc in following st] to end. - 42 sts Round 8: [Sc in each of next 6 sts, 2 sc in following st] to end. - 48 sts

Round 9: Sc into back loop of each st. (*The tentacles will be attached to the front loops of this round.*)

Round 10: Sc in each st.

Repeat Round 10 an additional 11 times, or until body measures 8 inches from front loops of Round 9.

Row 22 [RS]: Sc in each of next 16 sts, turn. Row 23 [WS]: Ch1, sc dec in next 2 sts, sc in each of next 27 sts, sc dec in next 2 sts, turn. – 29 sts

Row 24: Ch1, sc dec in next 2 sts, sc in each of next 25 sts, sc dec in next 2 sts, turn. -27 sts

Row 25: Ch1, sc dec in next 2 sts, sc in each of next 23 sts, sc dec in next 2 sts, turn. – 25 sts

Row 26: Ch1, sc dec in next 2 sts, sc in each of next 21 sts, sc dec in next 2 sts, turn. -23 sts

Row 27: Ch1, sc dec in next 2 sts, sc in each of next 19 sts, sc dec in next 2 sts, turn. – 21 sts

Row 28: Ch1, sc dec in next 2 sts, sc in each of next 17 sts, sc dec in next 2 sts, turn. – 19 sts

Row 29: Ch1, sc dec in next 2 sts, sc in each of next 15 sts, sc dec in next 2 sts, turn. – 17 sts



Round 30: Ch1, sc dec in next 2 sts (move marker to this st), sc in each of next 7 sts, ch12 (this will be the hanging loop so feel free to chain more or fewer for your desired loop length), sc in each of next 6 sts, sc dec in next 2 sts, do not turn. – 15 sts (do not count hanging loop chain)

Round 31: Sc in first st of previous round (with the marker in it), [sc dec in next 2 sts, sc in following st] twice, sc dec in next st and first st after hanging loop chain, [sc in next st, sc dec in following 2 sts] twice. -10 sts

Round 32: [Sc dec in next 2 sts] 5 times. – 5 sts

Cut yarn and tie off. Using tapestry needle, thread tail in and out of final sts and cinch closed.

Join yarn at top point of mouth opening. Work 13 sc down first side of mouth, 17 sc along bottom edge of mouth, 12 sc up second side of mouth, slip st in first st of this round. Cut yarn and tie off. Weave in ends.

KNIT BODY

CO 2 sts, slide to opposite end of needle, and place marker for beginning of round. Round 1: Kfb twice. – 4 sts Redistribute sts to use magic loop method until full circumference is achieved. Round 2: Kfb 4 times. – 8 sts Round 3: K to end. Round 4: Kfb 8 times - 16 sts Round 5: K to end. Round 6: [K1, kfb] 8 times – 24 sts Round 7: K to end. Round 8: [K2, kfb] 8 times - 32 sts Round 9: K to end. Round 10: [K3, kfb] 8 times – 40 sts Round 11: K to end. Round 12: [K4, kfb] 8 times - 48 sts Round 13: K to end. Round 14: P to end. (The tentacles will be attached to the purl bumps of this round.)



Round 15: K to end.

Repeat Round 15 an additional 33 times, or until body measures 8 inches from purl ridge of Round 14.

Short-row 49 [RS]: K16, turn. Short-row 50 [WS]: Sl1 wyif, p15, sm, p16, turn. Short-row 51: SI1 wyib, k15, sm, k15, turn. **Short-row 52:** SI1 wyif, p14, sm, p15, turn. Short-row 53: SI1 wyib, k14, sm k14, turn. Short-row 54: SI1 wyif, p13, sm, p14, turn. Short-row 55: Sl1 wyib, k13, sm, k13, turn. Short-row 56: SI1 wyif, p12, sm, p13, turn. Short-row 57: SI1 wyib, k12, sm k12, turn. Short-row 58: Sl1 wyif, p11, sm p12, turn. Short-row 59: SI1 wyib, k11, sm, k11, turn. Short-row 60: Sl1 wyif, p10, sm, p11, turn. Short-row 61: Sl1 wyib, k10, sm, k10, turn. Short-row 62: Sl1 wyif, p9, sm, p10, turn. Short-row 63: SI1 wyib, k9, sm, k9, turn. Short-row 64: Sl1 wyif, p8, sm, p9, turn.

Short-row 65: SI1 wyib, k8, [place last st back on left-hand needle, k1] 12 times *(this will be the hanging loop so feel free to repeat more or fewer times for your desired loop length)*, do not turn.

You should now be back to the stitch marker for the beginning of round.

Round 66: K9, [k1, pass previous st over] 32 times (*32 sts bound off*), k7. – 16 sts

Round 67: K8, k8 from other side of bind off to close gap. Round 68: K7, k2tog, k7. – 15 sts Round 69: K to end. Round 70: [K3, k2tog] 3 times. – 12 sts Round 71: K to end. Round 72: [K2, k2tog] 3 times. – 9 sts Round 73: K to end. Round 74: [K1, k2tog] 3 times. – 6 sts

Cut yarn, leaving a 6-inch tail. Using tapestry needle, thread tail through final sts, cinch closed, and tie off. Weave in ends.

TENTACLES

Step 1: Cut 48 strands of yarn roughly 8-12 inches long. There's no need to be precise. In fact, variable length for the tentacles is better.



Step 2: Insert crochet hook upward through one of the front loops not used in Round 9 *(crochet version)* or the purl bumps of Round 14 *(knit version)*.



Step 5: Gently pull to tighten.

Repeat Steps 2-5 with each strand and each front loop or purl bump around the body.



Step 3: Fold a strand in half roughly *(again, no need to be precise)*. Grab the middle with your hook and pull it through.





Step 4: Grab both

tails with hook and

EYES & ANTENNAE

Step 1: Using a sharp implement, carefully poke a small hole in a ping pong ball. Wiggle it around to widen the hole a bit.



Step 2: Poke a second hole about 1/2 inch away from the first. Widen this hole as well until you can stick the tool in one hole and out the other.

Step 3: Feed one end of a pipe cleaner through the holes. You may have to bend the end slightly.





Step 4: Pull about an inch of pipe cleaner out the other side.

Step 5: Repeat Steps 1-4 with a second ping pong ball and pipe cleaner.

Step 6: Poke the short end of both pipe cleaners through the fabric on either side of the top of the head.





Step 7: Twist the ends of the pipe cleaners together on the underside of the fabric.

Step 8: Feed the long end of both pipe cleaners through the fabric near where you poked through the short ends in Step 6, but not in the exact same place.





Step 9: Twist the ends of the pipe cleaners together a couple times on the underside of the fabric. Then feed them back up through the same holes as in Step 8.

Step 10: Bend antennae into desired shape.

Step 11: Using a paint pen or permanent marker, draw pupils on each ping pong ball. Once again, there

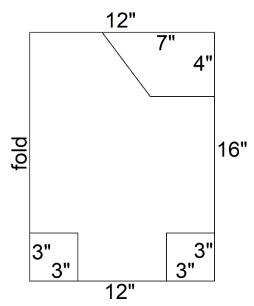


is no need to be precise as a little asymmetry will give your Yip Yip that delightfully wacky expression.

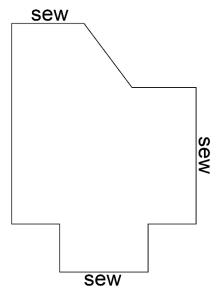
<u>LINING</u>

Step 1: Fold lining fabric in half widthwise.

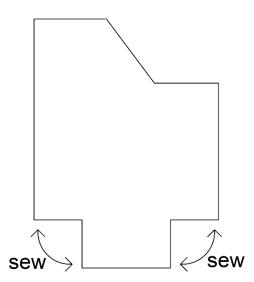
Step 2: With the folded edge to the left, cut a 3-inch square from each of the bottom corners, cutting through both layers of fabric.



Step 3: Measure 4 inches down from the top right corner and cut inward 4 inches through both layers. Then measure 7 inches across from the top right corner and cut downward at an angle to meet the stopping point of your previous cut.



Step 5: Pinch the fabric of each bottom corner so that the bottom seam meets the side seam on the right side and the bottom seam meets the original fold on the left side. Sew both corners closed.



Step 6: Insert the lining, with seams facing outward, into the body. There is no need to fold over the top edge of the lining fabric if you used flannel or another non-fraying fabric. Hand-sew around the mouth opening using short, straight stitches. The black thread should not be visible from the outside if you used a fluffy yarn like the original sample.



Step 7: Hang your finished Yip Yip in a place of honor for all to admire.

Step 4: Either by hand or with a sewing machine, sew across the top flat edge, the right edge, and the bottom edge.

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