Crochet Balloon Dog

A lot of people love balloon animals! But they always have an unfortunate tendency to pop or deflate over time. So why not make a more long-lasting version? This cuddly plush has a beginner-friendly pattern, and makes a perfect companion for any dog and/or balloon lover.

Materials:

- 5mm crochet hook
- Worsted weight yarn (about 200g)
- Polyester fiberfill
- Yarn needle

(You can use whatever yarn and hook size you'd like, just be aware that it will change the size of the finished product. I used the materials above, and my plush measures 8 ½ inches long and 8 inches tall.)

Abbreviations:

Sc = single crochet Inc = increase stitch Dec = decrease stitch

(Pictures of the finished product can be found at the bottom of page 3.)

<u>Tail</u>

Make a magic ring with 6 sc.

Rows 1-4: sc around (6)

This is the "uninflated" part at the tip of the tail, inc or dec number of rows to your preference.

Row 5: inc around (12) **Row 6**: repeat **Row 5** (24)

Pull yarn end from the magic ring tight and weave in before continuing.

Rows 7-16: sc around (24) **Row 17:** dec around (12)

Stuff segment to preferred firmness.

Row 18: dec around (6) **Rows 19-22:** sc around (6)

Legs

Row 23: inc around (12) Row 24: repeat Row 23 (24) Rows 25-38: sc around (24) Rows 39: dec around (12) Stuff segment to preferred firmness.

Row 40: dec around (6) **Rows 41-44:** sc around (6)

Repeat to make the second hind leg, ending on Row 66.

Body

Row 67: inc around (12) Row 68: repeat Row 67 (24) Rows 69-78: sc around (24) Row 79: dec around (12)

Stuff segment to preferred firmness.

Row 80: dec around (6) **Rows 81-84:** sc around (6)

Repeat <u>Legs</u> Pattern **2 more times** to make the front legs. Ending on **Row 128** with a total of **6 segments** so far.

Neck

Row 129: inc around (12) Row 130: repeat Row 129 (24) Rows 131-138: sc around (24) Row 139: dec around (12)

Stuff segment to preferred firmness.

Row 140: dec around (6) Rows 141-144: sc around (6)

Ears

Row 145: inc around (12) Row 146: repeat Row 145 (24) Rows 147-156: sc around (24) Row 157: dec around (12)

Stuff segment to preferred firmness.

Row 158: dec around (6) Rows 159-162: sc around (6)

Repeat for the second ear, ending on Row 180.

<u>Head</u>

Row 181: inc around (12) Row 182: repeat Row 181 (24) Rows 183-190: sc around (24) Row 191: dec around (12) Stuff segment to preferred firmness.

Row 192: dec around (6) Row 193: sc around (6) Row 194: inc around (12)

Secure yarn end and cut tail long enough to weave in.

Twist to form a dog shape as one would with a balloon (**Ohana Craft Amigurumi** has a good visual guide for this here: https://youtu.be/HdbpN5B3a20) Once twisted, you can sew the joints for extra stability if you want.

Enjoy your new plush pet, or gift it to a friend or loved one. Happy crocheting!



I can even stand up on my own!

My first attempt at making this pattern. There are a few differences in proportion between this and the pattern above, as I was figuring it out as I went.

Once completed your dog should look somewhat like this, but it won't be exactly the same, and that's ok. It's the little differences that make our projects unique:)

