Napping Kitten



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Untested draft. Finished reference shown. This version has its own stitch counts and assembly.

Materials and sample sizing

Prototype guide, version 1.0. This independently drafted version uses the supplied photos as a pose and colour reference. Exact proportions and assembly differ. Make one sample before preparing a set.

Choose plush yarn you can count reliably, plus a firmer chenille or smooth yarn for the bed, a blunt sewing needle, removable markers, pins, scissors, smooth embroidery yarn and fibre fill. Grey body, white muzzle and inner ears, pink nose and dark eye thread. Use a blue bed wall and pale base. Start with a 4 mm hook if appropriate for the yarn. Swatch and adjust until the animal fabric hides filling without being hard to work. Use a marker at the start of every round. No measured yardage is available. Weigh each finished component and record the amount used before buying yarn for multiples.

Finished length depends on yarn, tension, stuffing and head angle. Record body width, assembled length from rump to paws and maximum width across the thighs after sewing. To change overall scale, resample with a different yarn and hook rather than assuming a linear hook conversion. Size the bed to the finished animal using its separate gauge formula.

Stitch key, head and body

US terms. ch = chain, sc = single crochet, inc = two sc in one stitch, dec = single crochet two together, sl st = slip stitch, BLO = back loop only. In rounds, use a marker in the first sc and move it up each round. Work the animal pieces in continuous rounds. For turned rows, ch 1 and turn before working the next row. The turning chain adds no stitch to the count. For a magic ring, crochet into the adjustable loop, cinch it closed and secure its tail. To dec, insert into each of the next two stitches in turn and draw up a loop, then yarn over and pull through all three loops. Repeats in brackets run the stated number of times.

Head in main colour. R1: 6 sc in a magic ring (6). R2: inc six times (12). R3: [sc, inc] × 6 (18). R4: [2 sc, inc] × 6 (24). R5: [3 sc, inc] × 6 (30). R6: [4 sc, inc] × 6 (36). R7–11: 36 sc each round. R12: [4 sc, dec] × 6 (30). R13: [3 sc, dec] × 6 (24). R14: [2 sc, dec] × 6 (18). Stuff evenly. R15: [sc, dec] × 6 (12). Add small tufts as needed. R16: dec six times (6). Cut yarn, pass tail through the front loops of the last six stitches and draw closed. Secure. Orient the closure down toward the body and the start of the head toward the crown.

Body in main colour. Start at the rump. R1–5: use head R1–5 to reach 30 sc. R6–14: 30 sc each round. R15: [3 sc, dec] × 6 (24). R16: [2 sc, dec] × 6 (18). Fill the rump and middle evenly, easing off at the neck end. R17: [sc, dec] × 6 (12). R18: dec six times (6). Draw closed as for the head and secure. Set the narrow end toward the front. The body lies horizontally.

Paws and sleeping face

Front legs, make two in main colour. R1: 6 sc in a magic ring (6). R2: inc six times (12). R3–5: 12 sc. R6: [2 sc, dec] × 3 (9). R7–9: 9 sc. R10: [sc, dec] × 3 (6). Pad the closed paw end lightly and leave the last rounds flat. Press the six opening stitches together as two layers of three. Work 3 sc through both layers, cut yarn and leave a sewing tail.

Hind thighs, make two in main colour. R1: 6 sc in a magic ring (6). R2: inc six times (12). R3: [sc, inc] × 6 (18). R4–6: 18 sc each round. R7: [sc, dec] × 6 (12). Add a small amount of stuffing and press into a shallow oval. R8: dec six times (6). Draw closed and retain a sewing tail. Position the closed end against the body so the broad side reads as a tucked thigh.

White muzzle. Ch 5. In the second ch work 1 sc, sc in the next 2 ch, then 3 sc in the last ch. Rotate the chain and work 1 sc into each of the next 2 unused underside loops and 2 sc into the underside of the first worked ch (10). R2: 10 sc. Sl st into the following stitch, cut yarn and leave a sewing tail. Use pink smooth yarn to fill a tiny embroidered triangle on the white surface and add one short dark stitch below it. Pad the muzzle lightly while sewing if needed.

Pointed ears, make two. Make two grey panels and two white panels. For each, ch 6. Row 1: sc in the second ch and each remaining ch (5). Row 2: ch 1, turn, dec, sc, dec (3). Row 3: ch 1, turn, sc, dec (2). Row 4: ch 1, turn, dec (1). Cut and secure. Stack a white and grey panel with their rows aligned. Whipstitch both slopes and the foundation edges without gathering. Leave a long grey sewing tail on each ear.

Grey tail. R1: 6 sc in a magic ring. R2–13: 6 sc each round. Leave unfilled so it bends, flatten the last round and close with 3 sc through both layers. Leave a sewing tail.

Assemble the napping pose

Lay the body horizontally with the narrow end to the right. Pin the front legs beside that end with the padded tips directed forward. Place one tucked thigh on each side near the rump. Try the pose on a table before sewing. Sew front-leg seams through the three closure stitches and several body stitch backs. Sew each thigh around its contact area so it cannot pivot away. Attach the tail at the rump and tack its curve against one flank at two points.

With the head still separate, baste the muzzle below the midline, check symmetry, then sew around its perimeter. Embroider closed eyes with two short dark backstitch arcs above and outside the muzzle. Anchor thread inside the piece or hide the ends under the seam. Attach the ears symmetrically and check the silhouette from the front.

Rest the chin across the front paws. Angle the face gently toward the front of the display bed. Pin the lower back of the head to the narrow end of the body and sew around the full contact area through several stitch backs on each part. Add two hidden tacking stitches between the chin and the nearer paw if needed to keep the pose. Remove every pin and check that the head, ears and tail stay put when lifted.

For the kitten, sew across each ear foundation at the top of the head so the point rises. For the puppy, anchor each ear along its foundation and tack its upper outer corner once so it drapes beside the cheek. Use the included reference photos for silhouette and colours. For the component counts and joining sequence, follow this guide.

Crochet the miniature bed

Sample the bed after assembling the animal. Measure its length and width in the napping pose, including the paws and tail. Allow roughly 1–2 cm of total clearance in each direction as a starting point. Work a flat single crochet swatch in the bed yarn. Multiply target length by stitches per cm and target width by rows per cm, rounding up. Check the actual inside fit before adding the walls. The example uses 24 stitches and 17 rows. Change those counts to suit your sample.

Base in light lining colour. Ch 25. Row 1: sc in second ch and each remaining ch (24). Rows 2–17: ch 1, turn, 24 sc. Cut yarn. With the wall colour and the top face toward you, join in the first stitch of the last row. Ch 1, sc in all 24 tops. Work 1 sc into each of the 15 interior row ends on the side. Work 24 sc into the underside of the foundation edge, one per base stitch. Work 1 sc into each of the 15 interior row ends on the other side. Sl st to the first sc (78). Skip the row ends of the first and last rows on both sides because those corners are already counted. For a base of S stitches and R rows this gives 2S + 2(R – 2) stitches. Mark the two long edges.

Wall round 1: Ch 1, sc BLO in each perimeter stitch, sl st to first sc (78). Wall rounds 2–3: ch 1, sc in both loops around and join (78 each). This is the low wall. Choose the middle 8 stitches of the front long edge for the low opening. Fasten off and rejoin at the first stitch after that opening in working direction. Ch 1 and sc along the other 70 stitches. Stop before entering the opening. Ch 1, turn and sc back across those 70 stitches. Fasten off. Leave the opening at three rounds high. The two extra rows make the back and sides higher. If resizing, subtract the chosen opening width in stitches from your own perimeter count.

Weave ends into the walls and rest the bed on a level shelf. Check the interior fits without forcing the plushie inside. This bed uses a single wall with a contrast base and a dropped front. It has a different rim and lining construction from the reference.

Finish and check your sample

Use the plushie and miniature bed as display pieces. Keep yarn, stuffing and the finished pieces out of reach of animals that chew textiles. Embroidered features keep the appearance soft. The pattern has no independent toy or care testing.

If stuffing shows, rework the piece with a firmer gauge or remove excess fill. If the face tilts too far, unpick the basting and pin a wider head contact before final sewing. If the bed flares or buckles, count the perimeter and check that the side pickups are evenly spaced. Wash and dry a separate yarn and embroidery sample according to its labels before choosing how to clean the finished piece.

Record animal yarn and hook, flat bed gauge, assembled length and width, interior bed dimensions, and any pose or seam changes. Check that the bed base sits flat, the animal fits loosely, and the head stays in its chosen position.

Construction references

These photos show details from the supplied pattern. They illustrate the parts and silhouette. Use the written instructions for this version’s stitch counts and seams.



Original front-paw construction reference



Original kitten ear construction reference



Original finished miniature bed