

Our colourful stripe pattern is easy and gives a cheery effect to this caterpillar rattle

This cute and colourful rattle is the perfect size for small hands to grab and shake and will encourage babies to look, listen and touch. It's great for using up your oddments of yarn, and of course you can mix and match shades to suit.

Stitches used:

- Magic ring**
- Double crochet (dc)**
- Double crochet two together (dc2tog)**

Rattle head

Round 1: Using the magic ring method and white yarn, form a loop and work 6 dc into the ring. (6 sts).

Round 2: 2 dc into every st. (12 sts).

Round 3: [1 dc into next st, 2 dc into next st] six times. (18 sts)

Round 4: [1 dc into next two sts, 2 dc into next st] six times. (24 sts).

Round 5: [1 dc into next three sts, 2 dc into next st] six times. (30 sts).

Rounds 6-10: 1 dc into every st.

Round 11: [1 dc into next three sts, dc2tog] six times. (24 sts).

Round 12: [1 dc into next two sts, dc2tog] six times. (18 sts).

Round 13: [1 dc into next st, dc2tog] six times. (12 sts).

If you wish to add a bell, attach it securely with matching yarn to the inside of the head at Round 1.

If you choose to use toy safety eyes, attach them now along Round 7 approx 2cm

apart. Alternatively, hand sew eyes using contrast yarn. Stitch a smiley mouth in contrast yarn. Fill head firmly with toy filling until it is a nice round shape.

Round 14: [dc2tog] six times. (6 sts). Cut white yarn, change to orange.

body

Rep instructions as provided for the head, for Rounds 2-14, using the foll colour sequence:

Rounds 2-5: Work in orange.

Rounds 6-9: Work in yellow.

Rounds 10-14: Work in orange. Fill body firmly with toy filling after Round 13. Cut orange yarn, join in blue and continue to work the tail.

Rounds 11-12: 1 dc into every st. (24 sts).

tail

Round 1: 2 dc into every st. (12 sts).

Round 2: [1 dc into next st, 2 dc into next st] six times. (18 sts).

Round 3: [1 dc into next two sts, 2 dc into next st] six times. (24 sts).

Round 4: [1 dc into next three sts, 2 dc into next st] six times. (30 sts).

Round 5: 1 dc into every st. Cut blue yarn, change to white.

Round 6: 1 dc into every st.

Round 7: [1 dc into



next three sts, dc2tog] six times. (24 sts).

Rounds 8-9: 1 dc into every st.

Round 10: [1 dc into next two sts, dc2tog] six times. (18 sts). Cut white yarn, change to blue.

Rounds 11-12: 1 dc into every st.

Tie off loose yarn ends (from colour change), and pad tail firmly with toy filling, then continue:

Round 13: [1 dc into next st, dc2tog] six times. (12 sts).

Rounds 14-15: 1 dc

into every st. (12 sts). Fill tail a little more, using blunt end of crochet hook to push stuffing down.

Round 16: [dc2tog] six times. (6 sts).

Round 17: 1 dc into every st.

Sl st into next st. Cut yarn leaving 15cm tail, pull through st on hook and pull tight. Use blunt end of hook to push a little more toy filling into the tail end.

Thread yarn end onto darning needle and gather Round 17 sts. Pull tight to close the

hole, tie off yarn end and weave into tail.

antenna make 2

With blue yarn, make a chain of 10 sts. Turn and work back along sts just made, as folls: miss last st just made, 1 dc into each of the next nine sts.

Cut yarn leaving 20cm tail, thread through st on hook and pull tight. Sew the two antennae together at one end, for approximately 1cm, then sew to top centre of head. Tie off yarn

end and weave into head. Tie off and trim all other yarn ends.

hot tip

We have used toy safety eyes for photographic purposes only. These are not recommended for under threes. Instead, hand stitch eyes using contrast yarns.