PRACTISE YOUR MAGIC RING WITH THE THE PROVIDENT OF FUNCTION OF FUN

If you're looking to embark on a project that you can start and finish within an afternoon, Irene Strange's terrific trio will tickle your crafty senses. Named by *Make it Today* reader Lesley Bambridge, meet Dandelion the bear, Sasparilla the pig and Burdock the frog, who are begging to be made up and will reward you with their happy and infectious smiles. The projects are a fantastic chance to master your magic ring technique and once you whip them up, you'll discover that amigurumi is very much a form of sorcery! With one basic pattern for the head, body, arms and legs, the possibilities are endless with just a simple colour swap, a few nifty modifications and some clever embroidery.

ESSENTIAL KIT

DANCER, DIZZY, MELLOW, GALLOP, WURLITZER,

4MM HOOK

FROM YOUR **Make it Today!** CAROUSEL KIT

PLUS: STUFFING BLACK SAFETY EYES, 9MM TAPESTRY NEEDLE 2 BUTTONS, 1CM DIAMETER

MEASUREMENTS: APPROX 13CM HEIGHT

STITCHES: CHAIN (CH) DOUBLE CROCHET (DC) DOUBLE CROCHET TWO TOGETHER (DC2TOG) SLIP STITCH (SL ST)



THE THREE AMIGURIMOS Head

Make three

Using 4mm hook and Wurlitzer Jade (Dizzy Pink, Dancer Beige) make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts **Rnd 1:** 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts **Rnd 2:** (2dc in next st, 1dc) to end. 18 sts **Rnd 3:** (2dc in next st, 2dc) to end. 24 sts **Rnd 4:** (2dc in next st, 3dc) to end. 30 sts **Rnd 5:** (2dc in next st, 4dc) to end. 36 sts



Rnds 6-9: 1dc in each st to end Rnd 10: (dc2tog, 4dc) to end. 30 sts Rnd 11: (dc2tog, 3dc) to end. 24 sts Rnd 12: (dc2tog, 2dc) to end. 18 sts Rnd 13: (dc2tog, 1dc) to end, join with a sl st to first st. 12 sts Fasten off

Body

Make three

Using 4mm hook and Wurlitzer Jade (Dizzy Pink, Dancer Beige) make a magic ring, work 5dc into ring. Five sts **Rnd 1:** 2dc in each st to end. Ten sts **Rnd 2:** (2dc in next st, 1dc) to end. 15 sts **Rnd 3:** (2dc in next st, 2dc) to end. 20 sts

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"To give your toys an even bigger sense of character, you could try embroidering different styles of eyes or using buttons instead"



IRENE STRANGE, DESIGNER

Rnd 4: (2dc in next st, 3dc) to end. 25 sts Rnd 5: (2dc in next st, 4dc) to end. 30 sts Rnd 6: 1dc in each st to end Change to Mellow Yellow Rnds 7-9: 1dc in each st to end Rnd 10: (dc2tog, 13dc) to end. 28 sts Change to Gallop Blue Rnd 11: (dc2tog, 12dc) to end. 26 sts Rnd 12: (dc2tog, 11dc) to end. 24 sts Change to Mellow Yellow Rnd 13: (dc2tog, 10dc) to end. 22 sts Rnd 14: (dc2tog, 9dc) to end. 20 sts Change to Gallop Blue Rnd 15: (dc2tog, 8dc) to end. 18 sts



Rnd 16: (dc2tog, 7dc) to end. 16 sts Change to Mellow Yellow Rnd 17: (dc2tog, 6dc) to end. 14 sts Rnd 18: (dc2tog, 5dc) to end, join with a sl st to first st. 12 sts Fasten off

Leg

Make six (two in each colour) Using 4mm hook and Wurlitzer Jade (Jumper Red, Dancer Beige) make a magic ring, work 8dc into ring. Eight sts Rnds 1-7: 1dc in each st to end Fasten off

Arm

Make six (two in each colour) Using 4mm hook and Wurlitzer Jade (Jumper Red, Dancer Beige) make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts Rnd 1: (2dc in next st, 2dc) to end. Eight sts

Rnds 2-3: 1dc in each st to end Change to Mellow Yellow Rnds 4-6: 1dc in each st to end Change to Gallop Blue Rnds 7-8: 1dc in each st to end Change to Mellow Yellow **Rnds 9-10:** ldc in each st to end Change to Gallop Blue **Rnds 11-12:** ldc in each st to end Change to Mellow Yellow **Rnd 13:** ldc in each st to end, join with a sl st to first st Fasten off

Frog eye

Make two

Using 4mm hook and Wurlitzer Jade make a magic ring, work 5dc into ring. Five sts **Rnd 1:** 2dc in each st to end. Ten sts

Rnds 2-4: 1dc in each st to end Fasten off

Pig nose

Using 4mm hook and Jumper Red make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts **Rnd 1:** 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts **Rnd 2:** (2dc in next st, 1dc) to end. 18 sts **Rnd 3:** working in back loops only (dc2tog, 1dc) to end. 12 sts Fasten off

POM-POM PERFECTION



1 Wrap yarn around the prongs of a fork approximately 60 times.



2 Cut a length of yarn and tie it tightly around the wrapped yarn, between the middle prongs.



3 Slip the yarn off the fork and snip through all the loops.



4 Fluff up the pom-pom and trim off any uneven strands.

We asked you to help name our mascots and loved reading your suggestions! Join in on the fun over at facebook.com/makeittoday

"I chose the three amigurimos' names: Dandelion, Sasparilla and Burdock, because they are new, fresh and irresistible spring projects that are next on my make list!"

LESLEY BAMBRIDGE, MAKE IT TODAY READER



THE THREE AMIGURIMOS



Pig tail

Using 4mm hook and Jumper Red make 20ch **Row 1:** starting second ch from hook work one sl st in each st to end. 19 sts Fasten off

Pig ear

Make two Using 4mm hook and Jumper Red make 2ch Row 1: starting second ch from hook 2dc, turn. Two sts Row 2: 1ch. 2dc in each st to end. turn Four sts Row 3: 1ch, 2dc in next st, 2dc, 2dc in next st. turn. Six sts. Row 4: 1ch. 2dc in next st. 4dc. 2dc in next st, turn. Eight sts Row 5: 1ch, 2dc in next st, 6dc, 2dc in next st. turn. Ten sts Row 6: 1ch. 1dc in each st to end. turn Row 7: 1ch, 1dc in each st to end Row 8: working along other edge of ear work 14dc evenly across edge. 14 sts Fasten off

Teddy ear

Make two Using 4mm hook and Dancer Beige make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts Rnd 2: (2dc in next st, 1dc) to end. 18 sts Rnd 3: 1dc in each st to end Rnd 4: (dc2tog, 1dc) to end. 12 sts Fasten off

Teddy nose

Using 4mm hook and Dancer Beige make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts **Rnds 1-3:** rep Rnds 1-3 of Teddy Ear. 18 sts Fasten off

Teddy tail

Using 4mm hook and Dancer Beige make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts **Rnd 1:** 1dc in each st to end Fasten off

Backpack

Using 4mm hook and Gallop Blue make 10ch

Row 1: starting second ch from hook 1dc in each st to end, turn. Nine sts Rows 2-4: 1ch, 1dc in each st to end, turn Row 5: 1ch, 1dc in each st to end

Row 6: working along outer edge 2ch, 4tr evenly along short side, 9tr evenly along long side, 4tr evenly along other short side, 9tr in each st to end, join with a sl st to first st. 26 sts

Rows 7-9: 2ch, 1tr in each st to end, join with a sl st to first st Fasten off

Backpack top flap

Using 4mm hook and Mellow Yellow attach yarn to top edge of Backpack **Row 1:** 1ch, 6dc, turn. Six sts **Rows 2-4:** 1ch, 1dc in each st to end, turn **Row 5:** 1ch, dc2tog, 2dc, dc2tog. Four sts Fasten off

Backpack strap

Make two Using 4mm hook and Mellow Yellow attach yarn to top of Backpack Top Flap, make 21ch Starting second ch from hook work 1dc in each st to end Fasten off

Frog scarf

Using 4mm hook and Mellow Yellow make 51ch

Row 1: starting third ch from hook ldc in each ch to last ch, 3dc in next ch, work along opposite side of ch as folls: ldc in each st to end, join with a sl st to first st Fasten off

To make up

Insert safety eyes along middle of Pig and Teddy Heads. Stuff Head, Body, Legs and Arms. Sew each Head and Body piece tog, matching sts of last rnds tog. Sew Legs and Arms to Body. **Frog:** insert safety eye into Eye. Stuff. Sew Eyes to top of Head. Make a pom-pom in Jumper Red and Dizzy Pink (see Crochet Clever) and sew to either end of Scarf. **Pig:** stuff Nose and sew to front of Head between eyes. Sew Tail to back of Body, curling it to shape. Sew Ears to Head



behind eyes. **Teddy:** sew Ears to top of Head. Stuff Nose and sew to front of Head. Using Gallop Blue embroider nose and mouth. Sew Tail to back of Body. Use spare yarn to gather top of Backpack tog. Fold Backpack Top Flap and secure with yarn or a button. Weave tip of strap through base of Backpack to secure. Sew Backpack Straps to Backpack

Make it Today!