

# THE ITSY BITSY SPIDER



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## MATERIALS

- Small amounts of purple wool yarn (see pattern notes for specific yarns used)
- Fiber fill
- 2 12mm plastic doll eyes (optional)
- Size E crochet hook (or size needed to obtain gauge)
- Yarn needle
- Stitch marker
- Pet slicker brush (see pattern notes)

## PATTERN NOTES

Stitches and abbreviations used in this pattern:

CH	chain stitch
SC	single crochet
DECR	single crochet decrease
ST	stitch
STS	stitches
MM	move marker
FO	finish off

For the project shown in the photographs, I used Patons Classic Wool in Royal Purple.

To get the "hairy" look, I used a pet slicker brush on the body and legs. Pet slicker brushes are available at most pet stores. For best results, purchase a brush with fine wire pins that is designed to remove hair from the undercoat. The brush used on my spider was manufactured by JW Pet Company, but almost any type of pet slicker brush will work.

Note: When determining whether to use buttons or other small embellishments, keep in mind the age of the intended recipient. Doll eyes and other decorations may pose a choking hazard for children under three. A safer alternative for the very young is to sew eyes and any other decorations using embroidery thread or yarn.

## PART 1: BODY



The spider's body is a simple, round sphere

**Round 1:** CH 2. 6 SC in second CH from hook. Place a stitch marker in the last SC to designate the end of the round.

**Round 2:** 2 SC in each SC around. MM to last ST. (12 SC)

**Round 3:** \*2 SC in first SC, SC in next. Repeat around from \* and MM to last ST. (18 SC)

**Round 4:** \*2 SC in first SC, SC in next two STS. Repeat around from \* and MM to last ST. (24 SC)

**Round 5:** \*2 SC in first SC, SC in next three STS. Repeat around from \* and MM to last ST. (30 SC)

**Round 6:** \*2 SC in first SC, SC in next four STS. Repeat around from \* and MM to last ST. (36 SC)

**Round 7:** \*2 SC in first SC, SC in next five STS. Repeat around from \* and MM to last ST. (42 SC)

**Rounds 8-12:** SC in each SC around. MM (42 SC)

**Round 13:** \*DECR over first two STS, SC in next five STS. Repeat around from \* and MM to last ST. (36 SC)

**Round 14:** \*DECR over first two STS, SC in next four STS. Repeat around from \* and MM to last ST. (30 SC)

**Round 15:** \*DECR over first two STS, SC in next three STS. Repeat around from \* and MM to last ST. (24 SC)

**Round 16:** \*DECR over first two STS, SC in next two STS. Repeat around from \* and MM to last ST. (18 SC)

**Round 17:** \*DECR over first two STS, SC in next ST. Repeat around from \* (12 SC). FO, leaving a long tail to sew shut.

## PART 2: LEGS (MAKE 8)



To form a leg, you will make three rows of single crochet stitches. On the fourth row, fold over the piece so that you can crochet rows 1 and 3 together.

**Row 1:** CH 28. SC in second CH from hook and in each ST across (27 SC). CH 1 and turn.

**Row 2:** SC in each ST across (27 SC). CH 1 and turn.

**Row 3:** SC in each ST across (27 SC). CH 1 and turn.

\* To make row 4, fold the piece in half lengthwise so that the STS from the foundation chain match up with the STS in row 3.

**Row 4:** SC the together the first 12 STS from rows 1 and 3. DECR over two STS on both rows for ST 13. SC remaining STS together (26 SC). FO and weave in ends.

## PART 3: ASSEMBLY



**Step 1:** Use a pet slicker brush to brush the body and legs with short, sharp strokes. Work in many directions, turning the piece as you go. Continue until you the body and legs get a even fuzzy texture.

**Step 2:** Attach eyes and stuff the body firmly. Using tail from round 17 of body, gather the 12 remaining STS and sew shut.

**Step 3:** Attach legs in two groups of 4 on either side.

