

Crochet a Busy Bee / Angry Wasp

These instructions are in **UK terminology**.



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Getting Started:

Crochet worked in rows (back and forth) starts with a chain, initiated with a slip knot on your hook to form the first loop. This pattern is worked in rounds (around in a circle), and therefore starts with a Magic Circle (see overleaf).

The long end of yarn connected to the ball is known as “the working yarn”. The body of previous stitches is known as “the work”.

You should have 1 loop on your hook before starting any stitch, and also 1 loop on your hook when you finish each stitch, unless instructed otherwise.

Stitches Needed:

Chain (Ch)

Grab the working yarn and pull through the loop which is on your hook.

Double Crochet (DC)

Insert your hook through the work, under both loops of the next stitch of the row or round below. Grab the working yarn and pull it back through the work; you should now have 2 loops on your hook. Grab the working yarn again and pull through both of loops on your hook.

Increase (Inc)

Crochet two DCs into 1 stitch.

Invisible Decrease (InvDec)

Insert your hook under the front loop only of the next stitch of the row or round below, grab the working yarn and pull it through the work; you should now have 2 loops on your hook. Insert your hook into the front loop only of the next stitch of the row or round below, grab the working yarn and pull it through the work again; you should now have 3 loops on your hook. Grab the working yarn and pull it through all 3 loops on your hook.

Slip Stitch (SlSt)

Insert your hook through under both loops of the next stitch of the row or round below. Grab the working yarn and pull it back through the work and through the loop on your hook.

SlSt two together

Insert your hook under one loop of the next stitch of the row or round below, and pull it through; you should now have 2 loops on your hook. Insert your hook under one loop of the next stitch of the row or round below, and pull it through both loops on your hook.

Change colour

Use the new colour for the final grab of the previous stitch and pull through to complete the stitch. Tie the short end of the new colour to the previous working yarn. Continue with the new colour. The original colour can be cut if not needed again in this position.

How to make a Magic Circle.

Images from <https://sarahmaker.com/crochet-magic-ring/>

1. Loop the yarn around your fingers making a cross. Make sure the short end of the yarn is pointing downwards and towards your body, then take the long end and wrap it up, over your top finger, down behind several fingers and in front again, so it ends up crossed over the top of the short end, pointing upwards, as shown.



2. Put your thumb on the cross to hold it in place, as you turn your hand over.



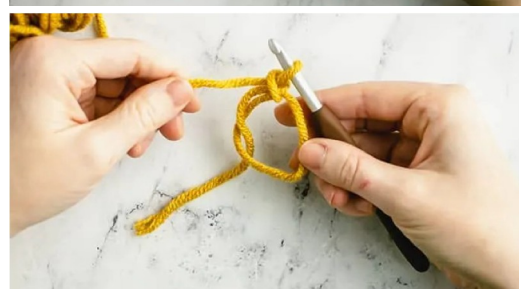
3. You should now see two parallel lines of yarn. Insert your hook under the yarn closest to the end of your fingers.



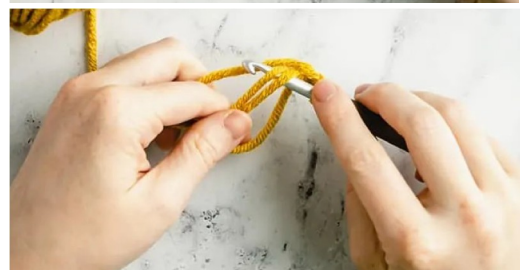
4. Grab the other piece of yarn with your hook and pull a loop under the first piece of yarn. Turn the hook towards you as you do, so this forms a loop over the hook.



5. Grab the long end (working yarn) again with your hook and pull it through the loop you just made. You can then remove your fingers from the magic circle you have made.



6. Your pattern will tell you how many of what sort of stitch to make into your magic circle to make the first round. To make these stitches, when your hook would normally go through an existing stitch, it instead goes through the magic circle, under both the circle of yarn and the short end of yarn.



Once you have made the stitches for the first round as directed by the pattern, pull the short end to close the circle tightly. It may be helpful to use a stitch marker (eg use a piece of contrasting thread) so you know where each round starts and ends, to reduce the amount of counting required.

Busy Bee

(Beginner friendly, UK terminology)

<https://chaicoffeecrochet.com/crochet-bee/>

Supplies:

- 2.5-3mm crochet hook.
- 10g DK yarn in each of yellow/black/white

Begin with yellow

Round 1: 5 DC into a Magic Circle (5)

Round 2: Inc in each stitch around (10)

Round 3: (DC, Inc) five times (15)

Round 4: (2 DC, Inc) five times (20)

Round 5: DC around (20)

Change to black

Round 6-7 (2 rounds): DC around (20)

Change to yellow

Round 8-9 (2 rounds): DC around (20)

Change to black

Round 10-11 (2 rounds): DC around (20)

Change to yellow

Round 12-13 (2 round): DC around (20)

Change to black

Round 14: DC around (20)

Round 15: (2 DC, InvDec) five times (15)

Stuff your bee before the entrance becomes too small – you can add more stuffing over the next few rounds if needed.

Round 16: (DC, InvDec) five times (10)

Round 17: InvDec five times (5)

Round 18: DC around (5)

Fasten off. Insert the needle in front loop of each stitch and pull tight to close. Weave in the ends.

Antennae (make 2)

Using black

Insert your hook at the top of the head of your bee, between Rounds 5 and 6, and SlSt to attach.

Ch 4. Starting from the second stitch from your hook, SlSt in each of the next three chains. SlSt into the same stitch on the head of your bee where you started. Fasten off and weave in the ends.

Eyes: Use black yarn to embroider or slip stitch 2 eyes between Rounds 4 and 5 on either side of your bee's head, and a smile below them.

Bee Wings (make 2)

Using white

Round 1: 6 DC into a magic circle (6)

Round 2: Inc in each stitch around (12)

Round 3-4 (2 rounds): DC around (12)

Round 5: (2 DC, InvDec) three times (9)

Round 6: DC around (9)

Round 7: (DC, InvDec) three times (6)

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing. Sew the wings on the top of your bee, centred to the top, between Rounds 8 and 10.



Angry Wasp (Intermediate, UK terminology)

Supplies:

- 2.5-3mm crochet hook.
- 10g DK yarn in each of yellow/black/white

Begin with yellow

Round 1: 5 DC into a Magic Circle (5)

Round 2: Inc in each stitch around (10)

Round 3: (DC, Inc) five times (15)

Round 4: (2 DC, Inc) five times (20)

Round 5: DC around (20)

Round 6: (2 DC, InvDec) five times (15)

Round 7: (DC, InvDec) five times (10)

Stuff your wasp head

Round 8: InvDec five times (5), Change to black

Round 9: Inc in each stitch around (10)

Round 10: (DC, Inc) five times (15)

Round 11: (2 DC, Inc) five times (20)

Round 12: DC around (20), Change to yellow

Round 13-14 (2 rounds): 4 SlSt, 12 DC, 4 SlSt (20), Change to black

Round 15-16 (2 rounds): 4 SlSt, 12 DC, 4 SlSt (20), Change to yellow

Round 17-18 (2 round): 4 SlSt, 12 DC, 4 SlSt (20), Change to black

Round 19-20 (2 rounds): 4 SlSt, 12 DC, 4 SlSt (20), Change to yellow

Round 21-22 (2 round): 4 SlSt, 12 DC, 4 SlSt (20), Change to black, cut yellow yarn

Round 23: DC around (20)

Round 24: (2 DC, InvDec) five times (15)

Round 27: (DC, InvDec) five times (10), Stuff your wasp body

Round 28: InvDec five times (5)

Stinger: InvDec 1-2 more times if needed to bring to a point, then Ch4. Starting from the second stitch from your hook, SlSt in each of the next three chains. SlSt into the wasp body where it meets the stinger. Fasten off and weave in the ends.

Antennae (make 2)

Using black Insert your hook at the top of the head of your wasp, between Rounds 5 and 6, and SlSt to attach. Ch 5. Starting from the second stitch from your hook, SlSt in each of the next three chains. SlSt into the same stitch on the head of your wasp where you started. Fasten off and weave in the ends.



Eyes: Use black yarn to embroider or slip stitch 2 eyes between Rounds 4 and 5 on either side of your wasp's head.

Mandibles (make 2)

Using yellow. Insert your hook at the front of the head of your wasp, between Rounds 1 and 2, and SlSt to attach. Ch 4. Starting from the second stitch from your hook, SlSt in each of the next three chains. SlSt into the same stitch on the head of your wasp where you started. Fasten off and weave in the ends. When making the second mandible, work the 4th chain into the last chain of the first mandible to connect them, or alternatively, once the second mandible is complete, use a small amount of yellow yarn to tie the two mandibles together & weave in the ends.

Wasp Wings (make 2)

Using white

Round 1: 6 DC into a magic circle (6)

Round 2: Inc in each stitch around (12)

Round 3-4 (2 rounds): DC around (12)

Round 5: (2 DC, InvDec) three times (9)

Round 6-7 (2 rounds): DC around (9)

Round 8: (DC, InvDec) three times (6)

Round 9: DC around (6)

Round 10: InvDec three times (3)

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing. Sew the wings on the top of your wasp, starting just in front of the first yellow stripe.

Legs (make 6)

Insert your hook on the bottom side of the body of your wasp, just in front of each yellow stripe, and SlSt to attach. Ch 8. Starting from the second stitch from your hook, SlSt in the next 2 chains. SlSt two chains together. SlSt in the next 3 chains. SlSt into the same stitch on the body of your wasp where you started. Weave in the ends.