The finished toy size depends on your chosen yarn, hook size, and tension.
In my case, the cat turned out to be about 20 cm tall, with a hip circumference of 50 cm.

Stitch Key:

- **MR** – magic ring

- **ch** – chain

- **sl st** – slip stitch

- **sc** – single crochet

- **inc** – increase (2 sc in one stitch)

- **dec** – decrease (single crochet two stitches together)

- **hdc** – half double crochet

- **sc+hdc** – one sc and one hdc in the same stitch

- **sc+inc** – sc followed by an increase

- **sc into front loops only** – FLO sc

 (Helpful Tips)

Helpful Tips:

1. The toy is crocheted in a spiral – without ch at the beginning of the round. Work through both loops unless otherwise specified. If the instructions say "in back loop only," follow that.

2. Use a stitch marker to track the beginning of the round. Place it before the first stitch of the round. Move it up with each new round.

3. Use a smaller hook size than recommended for your yarn so the fabric stays dense and stuffing does not show through.

4. Invisible decrease: insert hook into the front loops of the next two stitches and crochet them together.

 (Head & Body)

1. Head & Body

The head and body are crocheted as one piece, starting from the top of the head.

If you're using Alize Naturale yarn, you can start with a darker tone for the muzzle if desired.

1st rnd: 6 sc in MR (6)

2nd rnd: inc ×6 (12)

3rd rnd: (sc, inc) ×6 (18)

Place a marker using contrasting yarn about 25 cm long.

⚠️ Marker thread must always go straight! Shift stitches if necessary.

4th rnd: (2 sc, inc) ×6 (24)

5th rnd: (3 sc, inc) ×6 (30)

6th rnd: (4 sc, inc) ×6 (36)

7th rnd: (5 sc, inc) ×6 (42)

8th rnd: (6 sc, inc) ×6 (48)

9th rnd: (7 sc, inc) ×6 (54)

10–11th rnds: sc around (54)

⚠️ In the next round we use slip stitches!

Make slip stitches loose so it's easier to crochet into them later.

(Head & Body Continued)

19th rnd: 12 sc, 36 sl st, 12 sc – place an extra marker for muzzle shaping reference. (60)

20th rnd: (1 sc, inc) ×6, 36 sc, (1 sc, inc) ×6 (72)

21–24th rnds: (4 sc, inc) ×12 (72)

25th rnd: 18 sc, (5 sc, inc) ×6, 18 sc (78)

26–27th rnds: sc around (78)

28th rnd: 18 sc, (13 sc, inc) ×3, 18 sc (81)

29th rnd: sc around (81)

30th rnd: (13 sc, inc) ×6 (84)

31–33rd rnds: sc around (84)

34th rnd: (13 sc, dec) ×6 (78)

35–38th rnds: sc around (78)

40–53rd rnds: (14 rounds) sc around (96)

(Decreases for Head)

⚠️ Now we begin decreasing!

54th rnd: (14 sc, dec) ×6 (90)

55th rnd: (13 sc, dec) ×6 (84)

56th rnd: (13 sc, dec) ×6 (78)

57th rnd: (12 sc, dec) ×6 (72)

⚠️ In the next round, make 12 decreases!

58th rnd: (4 sc, dec) ×12 (60)
59th rnd: (8 sc, dec) ×6 (54)
60th rnd: (7 sc, dec) ×6 (48)

Begin stuffing the body. Stuff firmly so the cat remains firm and not floppy.

61st rnd: (6 sc, dec) ×6 (42)
62nd rnd: (5 sc, dec) ×6 (36)
63rd rnd: (4 sc, dec) ×6 (30)
64th rnd: (3 sc, dec) ×6 (24)
65th rnd: (2 sc, dec) ×6 (18)

Finish stuffing.

66th rnd: (1 sc, dec) ×6 (12)
67th rnd: dec to close

(Tail – Option 1: No Wire)

2. Tail
There are 2 tail options. Choose your favorite.

Option 1: Tail without Wire

You can use contrasting yarn (light/dark) for rounds 11–14 or use the main color throughout.

1st rnd: 6 sc in MR (6)
2nd rnd: inc ×6 (12)
3rd rnd: (1 sc, inc) ×6 (18)
4th rnd: (2 sc, inc) ×6 (24)
5th rnd: (3 sc, inc) ×6 (30)
6–11th rnds: sc around (30)
12th rnd: (4 sc, dec) ×6 (30)
13th rnd: (3 sc, dec) ×6 (24)
14th rnd: (2 sc, dec) ×6 (18)
15th rnd: 5 sc, 12 ch, 5 sc – place marker (22)

⚠️ Make sure the marker stays in the center of the tail.

Adjust stitch positions if necessary.

(Tail Continued)

20–21st rnds: sc around (22)
22nd rnd: (9 sc, dec) ×2 (20)
23rd rnd: sc, dec, 5 sc, dec (20)
24–26th rnds: sc around (20)
27th rnd: 5 sc, 10 ch, 5 sc (20)

Stuff as you go.

28–30th rnds: sc around (20)
31st rnd: 15 sc, turn, 10 sc (leave 5 unworked) (15)
32nd rnd: 10 sc, turn (10)
33rd rnd: 10 sc, turn (10)

Leave long tail for sewing the tail to the body. Stuff fully before closing.

(Tail Option 2: With Wire)

Option 2: Tail with Wire Frame

You may use contrasting yarn for rounds 11–14 or keep the same color.

1st rnd: 6 sc in MR (6)
2nd rnd: inc ×6 (12)
3rd rnd: (1 sc, inc) ×6 (18)
4th rnd: (2 sc, inc) ×6 (24)
5th rnd: (3 sc, inc) ×6 (30)
6th rnd: (4 sc, inc) ×6 (36)
7th rnd: (5 sc, inc) ×6 (42)
8–10th rnds: sc around (42)
11th rnd: (6 sc, inc) ×6 (48)
12–14th rnds: sc around (48)
15th rnd: (6 sc, dec) ×6 (42)
16th rnd: (5 sc, dec) ×6 (36)
17th rnd: (4 sc, dec) ×6 (30)
18th rnd: (3 sc, dec) ×6 (24)
19th rnd: (2 sc, dec) ×6 (18)

Stuff as you go.

(Tail with Frame Continued)

20th rnd: (sc, dec) ×6 (12)
21st rnd: dec ×6 (6)

22nd rnd: (sc, inc) ×3 (9)
23rd rnd: (2 sc, inc) ×3 (12)
24–28th rnds: sc around (30)
29th rnd: (4 sc, dec) ×5 (25)

30–35th rnds: sc around (27)
36th rnd: (7 sc, dec) ×3 (24)
37–46th rnds: sc around (24)

Finish stuffing tail. Leave a long thread for sewing to body.

– Ears

3. Ears

Make 2 pieces.

1st rnd: 6 sc in MR (6)
2nd rnd: (2 sc, inc) ×2 (8)
3rd rnd: (3 sc, inc) ×2 (10)
4th rnd: (4 sc, inc) ×2 (12)
5th rnd: (5 sc, inc) ×2 (14)

Finish off.
Leave a long tail for sewing.

– Paws

4. Paws

Make 4 pieces.
You can use light or dark yarn for rounds 1–8. Or use a solid color.

1st rnd: 6 sc in MR (6)
2nd rnd: inc ×6 (12)
3rd rnd: (1 sc, inc) ×6 (18)
4th rnd: (2 sc, inc) ×6 (24)
5–6th rnds: sc around (24)
7th rnd: 4 sc, 16 hdc, 4 sc (24)
8th rnd: 2 sc, 16 hdc, 6 sc (24)
9–14th rnds: sc around (18)

Stuff the paws as you crochet.
Finish off and leave a tail for sewing.
Stuff firmly to shape the paws well.

5. Assembly and Finishing

All crafters know: finishing the toy is one of the most important steps in bringing your creation to life.

That's why I don't give strict rules (placement of parts by exact rounds, etc.). Feel free to adjust for your version of the cat.

5.1 Brushing

⚠️ Before assembling the cat, all parts must be brushed.

Brush all parts of the cat.

I use Alize Mohair Classic or Alize Naturale. If using another yarn, test if brushing works similarly.

Use a small velvet ribbon brush (lint brush) for brushing.
Brush gently in one direction, repeating as needed.
You may also use a pet brush.

Repeat brushing steps 1–2 several times for a fluffy effect.

– Brushing the Tail

Then brush the tail of the cat.
The tail is brushed just as thoroughly as the body.

Paws and ears are gently brushed with a ribbon/lint brush.

At the ends of paws, ears, and tail, where the parts will be sewn on, avoid brushing so the stitches remain visible for sewing.

Ears are brushed more on the outside, less on the inside.

After final assembly, brush again where you sewed the parts.

– Sewing the Ears

5.2 Sewing the Ears

⚠️ For clarity, the photo shows part placement *before brushing*.

Experiment with your cat's look!
Try positioning the ears closer to the center, farther back, etc.

You can also sew the ears asymmetrically to give your cat a quirky expression.

For example, I often do this for expression:
Eyes and nose are placed, then I decide where the ears look best.

The ears are typically sewn between rounds 12–14.

Before sewing, pin your preferred ear placement.
Use pins or needles to hold the ears in place.

– Ear Placement

One way to place the ears is shown in the photo.
The distance between them is about 13–15 cm.

In the example, one ear is placed straight between rounds 10–12,
and the other is placed diagonally between rounds 12–14.

Often I place them so they "look outward" slightly.

Again, you may choose another placement based on your own preference.

– Embroidering the Paws

5.3 Paw Embroidery

Before sewing the paws, embroider "claws" using brown yarn.
I use Alize Cotton Gold or YarnArt Jeans – in dark brown or black.

Follow the pin guides shown in the photo:

Pin placement:

- T1 – MR

- T4, T2, T6 – between rounds 7 & 8

- Distance between points: 2 sc

- T5, T3, T7 – between rounds 3 & 4

- Distance between points: 2 sc

⚠️ Always insert and pull the needle **between stitches**.

– Embroidery Instructions

1. Thread a needle, tying a knot at the end.

2. Insert the needle at MR (T1), bring out at T2. Pull gently.

3. Insert at T2, bring out at T3 (top thread). Pull gently.

4. Insert at T3, bring out at T4 (inside). Pull gently.

5. Insert at T4, bring out at T5 (top thread). Pull gently.

6. Insert at T5, bring out at T6 (inside). Pull gently.

7. Insert at T6, bring out at T7 (top thread). Pull gently.

8. Secure the thread and hide the knot inside the paw.

– Sewing the Paws

5.4 Sewing the Paws

For best results, use short double-pointed needles instead of pins.

Start with the **front paws**.

Find the ideal position on the cat's body.
Insert needles to check the look and adjust.

I place the front paws between rounds 23–25.
Use 23–25 as a reference, adjusting for your yarn and tension.

Mark the position with needles or contrasting thread.
The final sewn placement is usually between 25–29.

– Sewing the Front Paws (continued)

It's recommended to secure the paw additionally using short double-pointed needles along the circumference, slightly stretching the final round of the paw.

Start sewing the paw.

When there's about 1 cm left, continue stuffing the paw through the opening using a wooden stick, filling the upper part tightly.

Measure the distance from the guideline (marked thread) to the top of the paw and sew the second paw symmetrically.

The recommended distance between the inner edges of the front paws is approximately **10–12 cm**.

Note:

Depending on your yarn, hook size, and tension, the exact placement of the paws may vary.

– Sewing the Front and Back Paws

Front paws should be sewn with the tips slightly angled inward, giving the cat a cute "pigeon-toed" look.

Back paws are easier to sew – their position is guided by the placement of the front paws.

First, find the ideal spot on the cat's body, fix in place with needles, and then sew just as you did with the front ones.

In my case, the back paws were sewn around rounds **38–42**.

You can reduce the space between the back paws by 3–6 stitches if needed.

Important: Keep symmetry. Measure the distance again if necessary – from the guide thread to the paw attachment point.

– 5.5 Attaching the Tail

Option 1: Tail Without Wire Frame

Use the contrast thread as a guide for symmetrical placement.
I attach the tail around **rounds 50–54** of the cat's body.

Secure the tail by stitching it through the body.

Insert the tail so part of it is hidden inside the body, and the sewn edge is pulled slightly inward.

Sew around the tail using short needles or a wooden stick, tightening the edge as you go.

Finish off and hide the yarn tail inside the cat's body.

– Option 2: Tail With Wire Frame

Use the contrast thread to find symmetrical tail placement.
I attach the tail around **rounds 50–54**.

1. Cut a piece of wire 6–8 cm longer than the tail.

2. Wrap the end of the wire (2 cm) with masking tape or medical tape.

3. Use a thick knitting needle or similar tool to widen the hole in the body.

4. Insert a small amount of "Moment Crystal" glue into the hole.

5. Insert the taped wire about 3–4 cm into the hole.

– Securing the Wire Inside

6. Wrap the part of the wire that will stay inside the body with tape (2–3 cm).

Wrap several layers to keep the tail's wire frame from slipping inside the body.

Let the glue grab hold slightly, then check the wire's firmness.

Push the wire so it stays inside firmly but doesn't move around.

The tail should not tilt or lean – it should stand upright.

– Strengthening the Wire Base

For extra stability, wrap the lower part of the tail wire (the section that goes inside the body) with yarn.

You can add a bit of glue or masking tape.

Wind several turns of yarn and secure the end with glue.

Thread any yarn into a needle and sew a few stitches around the wrapped section to fix it in place.

To make it more visible in the photo, I used a bright yarn.

At the very top of the wire, make a loop and wrap it with tape or yarn to avoid poking through the body.

– 6. Embroidering the Muzzle

Before adding eyes and nose, embroider a guide line on the face.

1. Insert a pin (T1) at the middle of the face (where the marker was placed).

2. From the starting round, count **12 rounds up** – this is the center of the muzzle – and insert pin T2.
(This may differ slightly depending on your version.)

3. Insert another pin **4–6 rounds above** T2 – this is T3.

4. Thread a long needle with black yarn. Insert it at T1 and bring it out at T2. Leave a tail. Bring it back in at T2.

– Embroidering the Muzzle (continued)

5. Then insert the needle with thread into the nose point (T3) and bring it out at point T1.

   ⚠️ **Important:** Pull the needle out exactly at the exit point between the stitches **without splitting the yarn**, to avoid lumps.

6. Gently pull the thread, keeping an eye on the tension – do not pull too tightly on the muzzle.

Then tie two knots at the back of the head and hide them inside the cat's body.

Optionally, you can embroider eyebrows using light yarn (I used Alize Real 40) with just a few stitches.

– 7. Shading

Before attaching the eyes and nose, shade the places where they'll be added.

⚠️ Before shading a toy made from brushed or fluffy yarn, trim any fuzz in the shaded area with small scissors to avoid damaging the surface.

First, mark the eye placement using pins.
You can experiment with different distances between the eyes and nose.

I shade the toy using **dry pastels**.
Apply the pastel with a brush. (Some artists use eyeshadow or special textile pigments.)

Apply gently in layers, especially on light yarn. You can always repeat or darken the shading later.

– Shading Tips

Maintain a **light-to-dark gradient** when shading.

⚠️ Be careful when shading **light-colored yarn** like white or cream.

Choose light pastel tones like pale beige or dusty rose.

Shade:

- inside the ears,

- around the nose and mouth,

- and lightly around the eyes.

After applying pastel, blend with a dry brush.

You can use shading to give your cat **tabby stripes**:

- On the back, head, and tail.

- Start by lightly drawing lines with a dry brush.

For tabby effects:

- Apply one or two darker lines, then blend with a soft brush or sponge.

- Repeat in layers if you want stronger stripes.

You choose the amount, shape, and tone of shading!

– 8. Final Touches

Finishing the amigurumi is one of the most important steps!

I don't give strict instructions, but encourage **your creativity** in final decoration!

In my own process, choosing details like eyes, nose, and their placement can take a long time.

If you are unsure how to finish your toy, consider:

- Trying different eye types (glass, plastic)

- Playing with brow shape or color

- Changing nose placement, etc.

Affordable options:
Even budget-friendly accessories can look great!

You can buy beautiful glass eyes on AliExpress or at craft stores. Prices can range from 20–60 rubles ($0.25–0.75 USD) a pair.

I personally like eyes from the VK master here:
https://vk.com/id278158673

– 8.1 Attaching the Eyes

I use **glass eyes**, 10mm–12mm in diameter.
Often, I mount them on **polymer clay bases**.

The base is a round piece of clay slightly larger than the eye (2–4 mm thickness).

Make your own base or use pre-made ones.

Before attaching the eyes:

- Shade the area

- Check placement with pins again

If you're happy with it, glue the eyes in place.

Use **Moment Crystal glue**, applying just a bit under the base.

– 8.2 Embroidering Eyebrows (Optional)

You choose the eyebrow placement, length, and color.

I usually use light yarn (Alize Real 40).
But if the yarn is too light in that area, use a darker yarn.