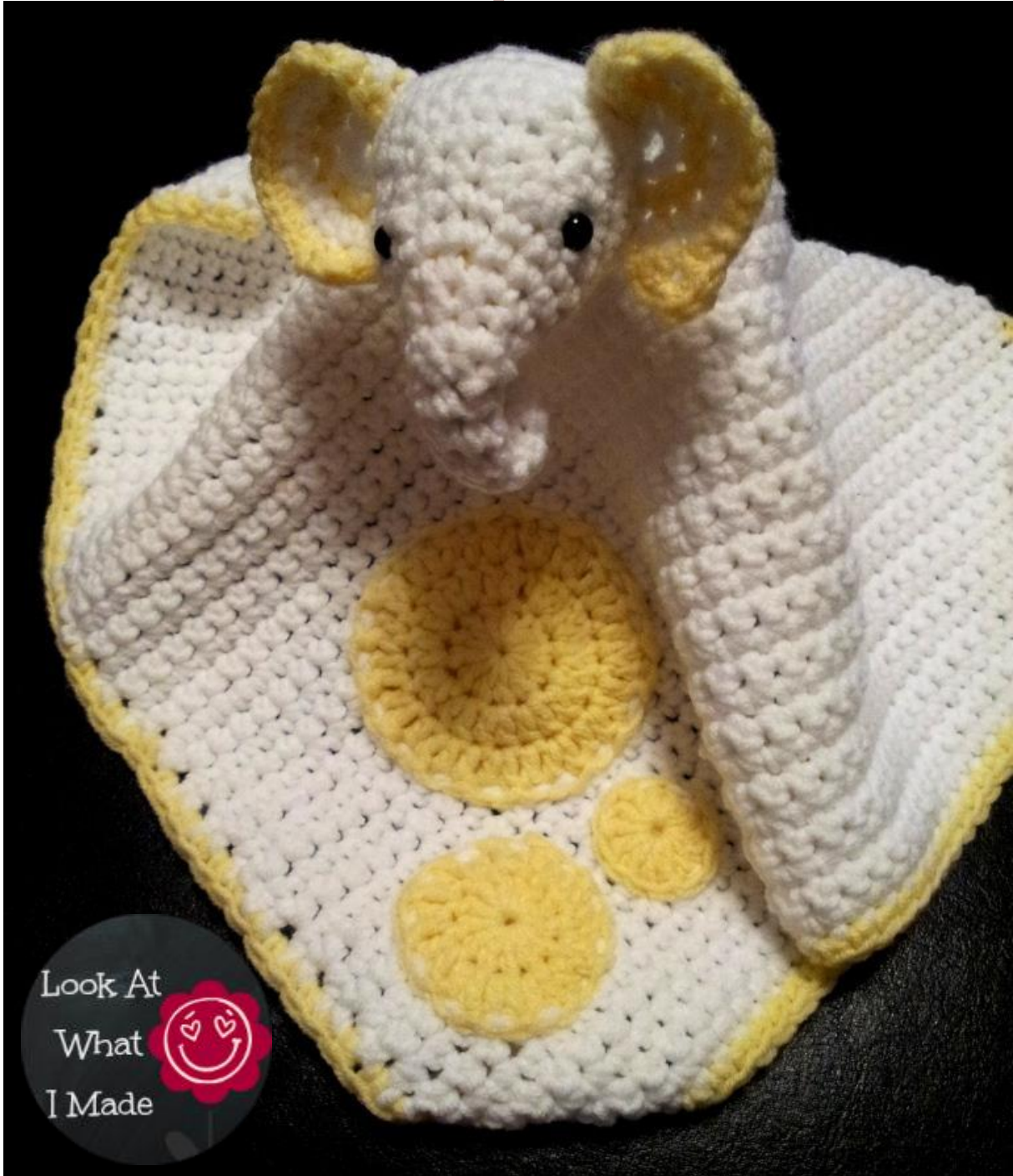


# Grace the Crochet Elephant Comfort Blanket



Look At  
What  
I Made



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**Updated: November 2013**

Edited by Venetia Smith

You may make as many of these little crochet elephant blankets as you like, both for personal use and for small-scale sale. **All I ask is that you credit me as the designer** as and when you make anything using this pattern (even if you alter it).

***You may in no way reproduce or copy the actual pattern!***

For more free crochet patterns, visit <http://www.lookatwhatimade.net>.

## Size

Using the hook and yarn specified, the resulting lovey (comfort blanket) will be about 24 cm x 24 cm (just over 9.5" x 9.5").

## Difficulty

This pattern is suitable for **Advanced Beginners**.

Short rows are used for shaping; however, don't be daunted, the pattern contains tons of photos and you can also have a look at [this tutorial](#) I did about short rows.

[Read more>>](#)

## Gauge

It doesn't really matter, but if you insist...

10 x 10 cm square = 4" x 4" square = 16.5 st's and 18 rows

## Materials

- 5.5 mm Crochet Hook (US 9/I UK 5) – for the comfort blanket
- 4 mm Crochet Hook (US 6/G UK 8) – for Grace's head and the circles. You can use a smaller hook if you prefer. It's not going to make her all wonky, just smaller.
- Double knit yarn (light worsted weight/#3) in any colour of your choosing (approximately 120 m/131 yards)
- Double knit yarn (light worsted weight/#3) in contrasting colour for the ears, circles and border (approx. 18 m/19.5 yards)
- Yarn needle
- Stuffing
- 2 buttons/safety eyes

## Abbreviations

*US Terminology used – US/UK comparison chart [here](#).*

CC	Contrasting Colour
Ch	Chain
Dc	Double crochet
Dc inc	Double crochet increase—work 2 dc's in the same stitch
MC	Main Colour
Sc	Single crochet
Sc inc	Single crochet increase – work 2 sc's in the same stitch
St (St's)	Stitch/stitches
Sl st	Slip stitch
Sc2tog	Single crochet 2 together (sc decrease)
*	Repeat all instructions between asterisks the amount of times specified.

**For example:** \*Sc inc, 3 x sc\* x 2 will mean sc inc, sc in the next 3 st's, sc inc, sc in the next 3 st's.

# Blanket

You can make the blanket bit as ornate or as plain as you wish. I took the easy route and just worked the whole thing in single crochet. **But I urge you to be expressive with your stitches.** Try bobbles and shell stitches and stripes...the only bit where you HAVE to follow this pattern is when we get to making the elephant's head. Other than that...you have a tabula rasa.

With MC and a 5.5 mm crochet hook: ch 41.

1. Sc in the 2<sup>nd</sup> ch from the hook and each of the remaining 39 ch st's. Ch 1 and turn. (40)
- 2-43. Sc x 40. Ch 1 and turn. (40)
44. Sc x 40. Don't bind off. (40)

## Border

Turn your work 90 degrees and change to CC by chaining one. Starting in the first row, sc into each row down the side of the blanket (43 sc's). (Sc, ch 1 sc) into the last st of the foundation chain. This is your corner. Turn your work 90 degrees.

Sc into the remaining loops of each of the foundation ch st's (38 sc's). (Sc, ch 1 sc) into the first st of the foundation chain. Turn your work 90 degrees.

Sc into each row up the side of the blanket (43 sc's). (Sc, ch 1, sc) into the first stitch of the last row. Turn your work 90 degrees.

Sc into each st of Row 44 (38 sc's). (Sc, ch 1, sc) in the last st of Row 44. Join to the first st with a sl st. Bind off and work away your tails of yarn.

If you want to pretty the border up a bit, have a look at my [tutorial for adding surface slip stitches](#) to the border.

## Circles

### *Optional Embellishment*

(Use a 4 mm crochet hook)

### Small

Into a magic ring: ch 2, dc x 12. Join to the first dc with a sl st. Bind off. (12)

### Medium

1. Into a magic ring: ch 2, dc x 12. Join to the first dc with a sl st. (12)
2. Ch 2. Dc inc x 12. Join to the first dc with a sl st. Bind off. (24)

### Large

1. Into a magic ring: ch 2, dc x 12. Join to the first dc with a sl st. (12)
2. Ch 2. Dc inc x 12. Join to the first dc with a sl st. (24)
3. Ch 2. \*Dc inc, dc\* x 12. Join to the first dc with a sl st. Bind off. (36)



# Grace

## Ears

(Make 2)

1. MC: Ch 2. 5 x sc into the 2nd ch from the hook. Ch 1 and turn. (5)
2. CC: Sc inc in each st. Ch 1 and turn. (10)
3. MC: \*Sc inc, sc\* x 5. Ch 1 and turn. (15)
4. CC: \*Sc inc, 2 x sc\* x 5. Turn. (20)
5. Skip 2 st's. 4 x sc in the third st. Skip 1 stitch and sl st into the next st. Bind off and work away your tails of yarn.

### Changing Colours

There are plenty of ways to change colours. My favourite method is to change colours on the last yarn over of the last st on the row before the colour change.

So, for instance, for the last sc of Row 1: still using main colour (MC), insert hook into stitch and pull up a loop. Change to Contrasting Colour (CC). Yarn over and pull through both loops on hook. Ch 1 and turn as normal. Work the next row in CC and repeat the procedure for the last st of the round.

I tend to carry the colour I am not using instead of joining it for every second row. All this means is that you crochet over the yarn until you get to the end of the row. The yarn will then run "underneath" the stitches and be hidden from view. [Dropsdesign](#) has one of many YouTube tutorials that shows you how to carry the yarn.



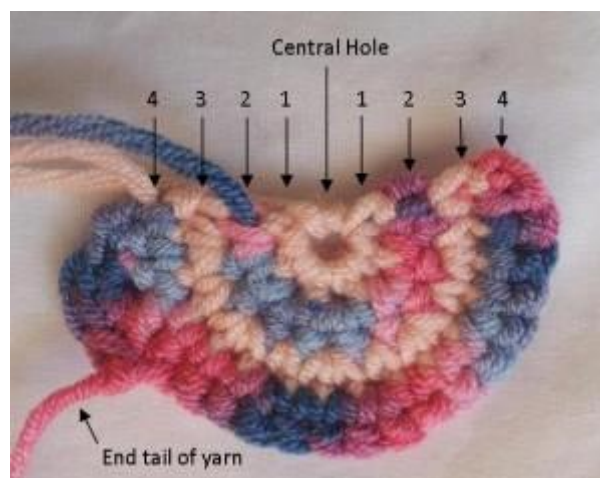
### Attaching the Ears

This photo shows you the end of each row. You will be working into these rows to attach the ear to the head. If you get stuck during the attachment of the ear, please refer back to this diagram.

**Please bear in mind that this diagram shows the right side of the ear.**

If you are **right-handed**, you will need to make sure that your end tail of yarn is to the right when you start attaching the ears, not to the left as in this photo.

If you are **left-handed**, your **end tail of yarn** should be to the **left**, as in the photo below. This is the only thing you need to change if you are left-handed. Follow the rest of the instructions as written. It will work out. Trust me.





## Elephant Head

(Make 1)

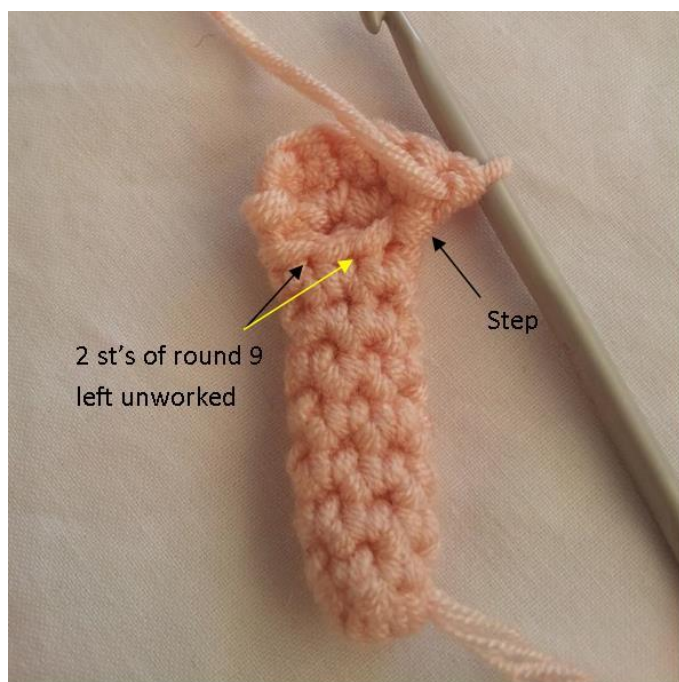
**Note:** When working the short rows, you will notice a “**step**” where the previous short row ended. I refer to these as a visual reminder that you are still on the right track. I also advise you to use a piece of **scrap yarn** as a **running st marker** to mark the beginning of each round.

Please see [this tutorial](#) if you are at all confused about short rows or running stitch markers. For a more specific look at **running stitch markers** and working in a spiral, see [this tutorial](#).

The sl st’s at the end of the **short rows** are not included in the st counts in parentheses.

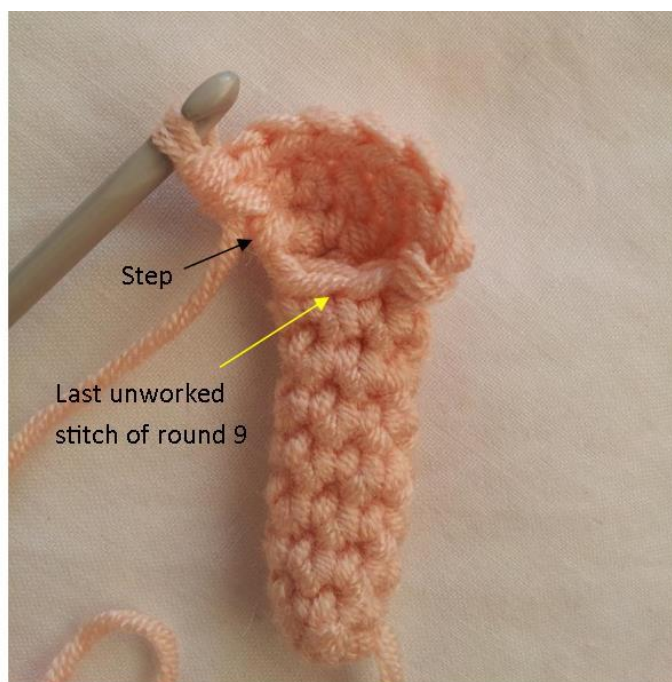
To make it easier for you to keep track of your rows/rounds/turns, I will indicate with (inside) or (outside) whether a specific short row should be worked with the outside of the head facing you or the inside.

1. Into a magic ring: ch 1, 6 x sc. Continue around, making the first st of each round in the first stitch of the previous round. Use a piece of scrap yarn as a running stitch marker to mark the beginning of each round. (6)
- 2-8. 6 x sc. (6)
9. 5 x sc. Sl st in the next st and **TURN**. (5)
10. **Short Row (inside)** : Skip the sl st. Sc inc in the next 2 st’s. Sl st in the next st and **TURN**. (4)
11. **Short Row (outside)**: Skip the sl st. **Sc inc** in the next st. 2 x sc, sc inc. This will bring you to the “step” at the beginning of Short Row 10 (see photo below). Sl st in the next available st of round 9 and **TURN**. Please note that you should skip the stitch at the base of the step as it already contains a sl st. (6)
12. **Short Row (inside)**: Skip the sl st. **Sc inc** in the next st. 4 x sc, sc inc. This will bring you to the “step” at the beginning of Short Row 11 (see photo below). Sl st in the next st of Round 9 (so the last remaining st of Round 9) and **TURN**. (8)



Short Row 11 up to the “Step”.

Notice that there are 2 st’s of round 9 left unworked. Sl st into the next st of round 9 (yellow arrow) and turn.



Short Row 12 up to the “Step”.

There is now only one stitch left unworked in round 9. Sl st into this stitch and turn.

13. The next 3 rounds are worked around the outside. Place a piece of scrap yarn over your work to mark the beginning of this round (see photo below). Skip the sl st. \*Sc inc, sc\* x 4. **DO NOT TURN.** (12)



#### Beginning of Short Row 13

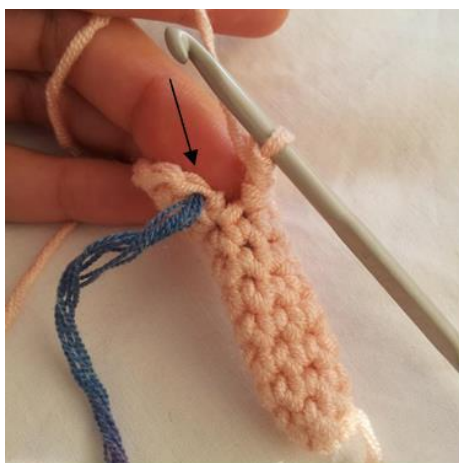
Place a piece of scrap yarn over your work before making the first st of Short Row 13.

#### Short Row 13 Complete

Notice that the piece of scrap yarn is trapped underneath the first st of this row.

14. Make the first st of Round 14 in the first st of Round 13, which you marked with a st marker.

\*Sc inc, sc\* x 6. See photos below. **DO NOT TURN.** (18)



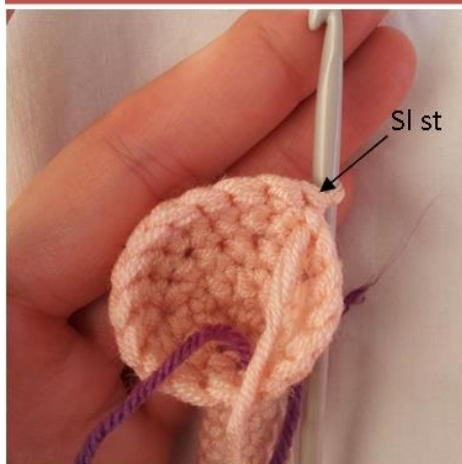
Beginning of Round 14 - Continuing around, make the first st of round 14 in the first st of Round 13 (marked with the piece of scrap yarn).

This picture shows the sc inc completed.

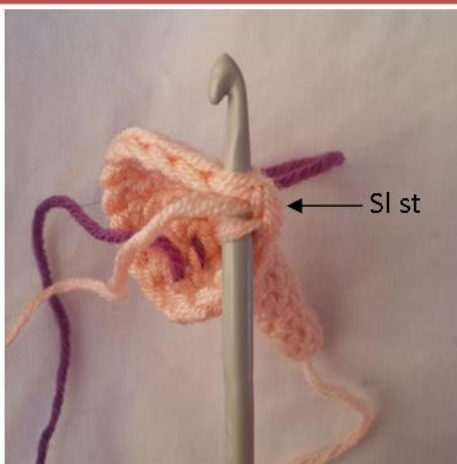


15. **Short Row (outside):** 11 x sc, sl st in the next st and **TURN** (see photo below). (11)
16. **Short Row (inside):** Skip the sl st. Sc in the next st, 2 x **sc inc**, sc in the next st, sl st in the next st. **TURN** (6)

### Short Row 16



This is the end of Short Row 15 after turning.

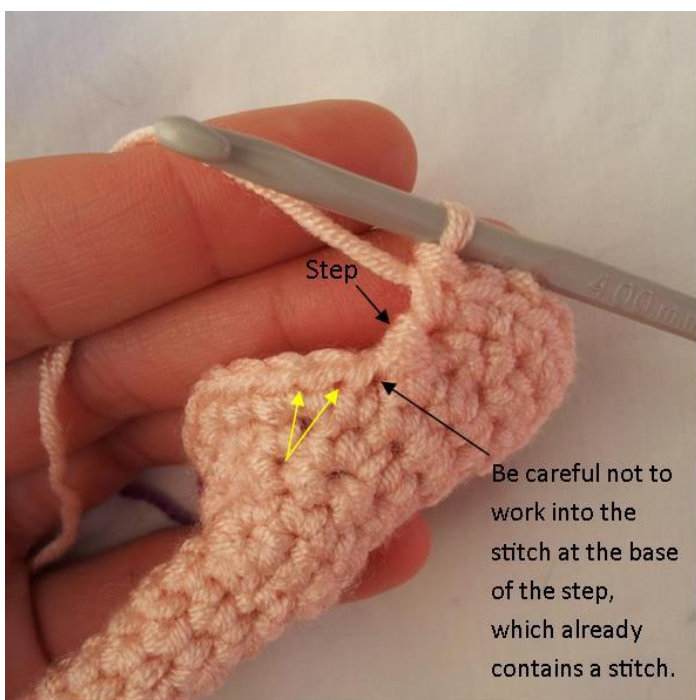


At the beginning of Short Row 16 you will skip the slip stitch.



Short Row 16 completed. You will now TURN again.

17. **Short Row (outside):** Skip the sl st. Sc, 4 x sc inc, sc. This brings you to the “step” at the beginning of Short Row 16. Sc in the next st of Round 14. Remember to skip the stitch at the base of the “step”, which already contains a stitch (see photo below). Sl st in the next st and **TURN**. (11)
18. **Short Row (inside):** Skip the sl st. Sc, 2 x sc inc, 5 x sc, 2 x sc inc, sc. This brings you to the “step” at the beginning of Short Row 17. Sc in the next st of Short Row 15. Sl st in the next st and **TURN**. (16)



### Short Row 17 up to the “Step”

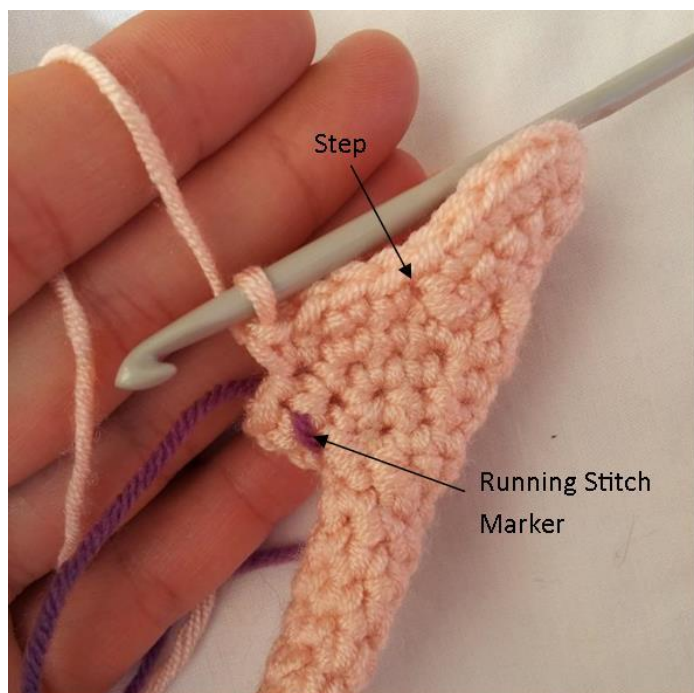
Notice that the stitch at the base of the step already contains a sl st. Sc in the next st of Round 14, and sl st in the next. **TURN**



### Short Row 18 Completed.

Now you will need to TURN for the last time.

19. **Short Row (outside):** Skip the sl st. 3 x sc, 2 x sc inc, 6 x sc, 2 x sc inc, 3 x sc. This will bring you to the “step” at the beginning of Short Row 18. 4 x sc in Round 14. **DO NOT TURN.** The rest of the pattern is worked around the outside. (24)
20. Sc x 4. This should bring you to the “step” at the beginning of Round 19. 20 x sc. Skip 1. Sc, sc2tog. (26)



End of Short Row 19  
Notice the 4 sc's after the "Step".

Row 20 after the first 4 sc's.  
Notice the "Step" at the beginning of Short Row 19.

21. Sc, sc 2tog, 2 x sc. Sc through the first ear x 6 (**see Note 1 on the next page**). Sc in the next 6 st's of the head only. Sc through the second ear x 6 (**see Note 2 on the page after Note 1**). Sc, sc2tog. (24)
22. 9 x sc, sc2tog, 4 x sc, sc2tog, 7 x sc. (22)
23. 22 x sc. (22)
24. 22 x sc. (22)

*If you are going to use safety eyes, you should place them now, before working the last round of the head. Remember to place your eyes far apart, so that they fall on the sides of her head when it's stuffed. If you're not sure, stuff the head a bit before attaching the eyes and see if you like the look.*

25. 11 x sc2tog. (11)

Ch 1 and bind off, leaving a long tail of yarn. You will use this tail of yarn to sew the head to the blanket when it is nicely stuffed and ready to go.



**Please Note:** *If you are at all concerned about using safety eyes, try embroidering some eyes with black yarn instead. I always apply some superglue to the back of my safety eyes for extra reassurance. And if these eyes are going anywhere, it's into the head, not out of it!*



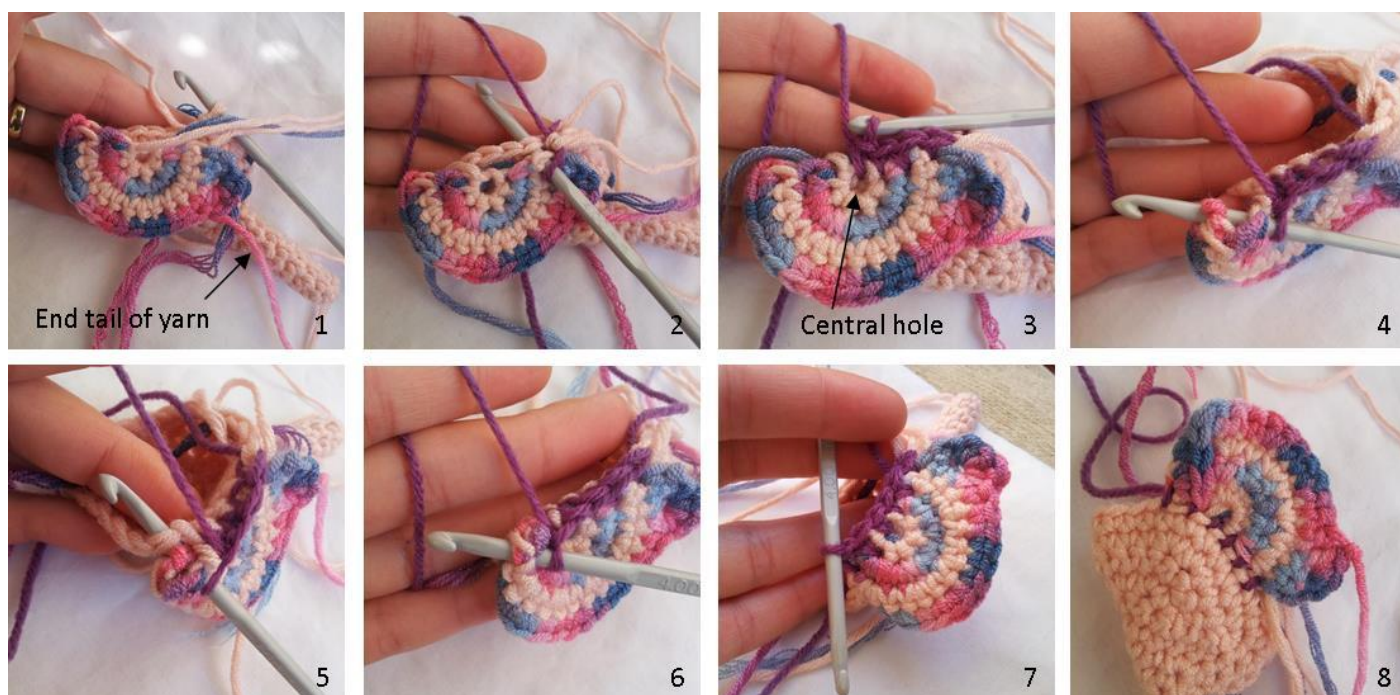
## Note 1 – To Attach the First Ear:

**Please Note:** I have used contrasting yarn to better illustrate the attachment. I have supplied stitch counts in parentheses after each step to help you keep track of the stitches.

- Hold the ear in front of the head and upside down, with the end tail of yarn to the right as in Photo 1 below. (If you are **left-handed**, remember to flip the ear so that the end tail of yarn is to your left.) You will work the **6 sc's** attaching the ear through both the head and the ear.
- Insert your hook into the beginning of Row 3 of the ear AND the next st of the head (*Photo 2*). Make a sc. Sc through Rows 2 and 1 in the same fashion, remembering to insert your hook through both the ear AND the next st of the head. Sc through the central hole of the ear AND the next st of the head (*Photo 3*). (**4 sc's through both the ear and the head**)
- Now insert your hook from **front to back** into the the next row (this will be the other end of Row 1) and then from **back to front** into the first st of Row 4 of the ear. This will pull the ear flat (*Photo 4*). Now Insert your hook into the next st of the head and work one sc through all 3 layers (*Photo 5*). (**1 sc through all 3 layers**)
- Insert your hook through Rows 2 and 3 (*see Photo 6*) AND the next st of the head. Sc through all 3 layers (*Photo 7*). (**1 sc through all 3 layers**)

Please note that your ear should have a little fold at the top where it is attached to the head (*Photo 8*).

Photo 8 illustrates what the ear will look like from the front, obviously NOT with ugly purple stitches showing. The purple stitches are PURELY for illustration. You should end up with a neat little fold at the top of the ear.



## Note 2 – To Attach the Second Ear:

- Hold the ear in front of the head and upside down, with the end tail of yarn to the right as in Photo 1 below. (If you are **left-handed**, remember to flip the ear so that your end tail of yarn is pointing to the left.) You will work the **6 sc's** attaching the ear through both the head and the ear.
- Insert your hook from **back to front** into the end of **Row 2** of the ear (to the LEFT of the central hole {to the right if you are **left-handed**} - see Photo 2) and from **front to back** into the end of **Row 3** (Photo 3). Now, insert your hook into the next stitch of the head and make a sc through all 3 layers. This will fold the ear AND flip it (Photo 4). (**1 sc through all 3 layers**)
- Insert your hook into the end of **Row 1** AND through the **first st of Row 4** of the ear (which will be sandwiched between the ear and the head at this point). Insert your hook into the next st of the head and sc through all 3 layers. (**1 sc through all 3 layers**)
- Sc through the big central hole and the next st of the head. Sc through the next 3 rows of the ear AND the next 3 st's on the head (Photo 5). (**4 sc's through both the ear and the head**)



## Assembly

Now you can sew the 3 circles to one corner of the blanket. I did this by using a running stitch and the same colour yarn as the blanket. That way, your stitches won't be visible on the reverse (well, not to the untrained eye anyway).

Play around a little bit with the placement before sewing them on, just to be sure that you like the way you have arranged them. You can also add stars, hearts...anything that takes your fancy, really!

My good friend Beth suggested attaching them to the blanket by working surface slip stitches through both layers.

Lastly, you will need to sew the head to the blanket. I have sewn it to the centre of the blanket, but you can also sew it to one of the corners or even top centre.



Make sure that you have enough stuffing in your elephant head. It should be packed in nicely with a little bit bulging



out the back. . If you are at all concerned about stuffing poking out, feel free to make one of the medium circles and sew (or crochet) it to the back of the head before sewing the head to the blanket.

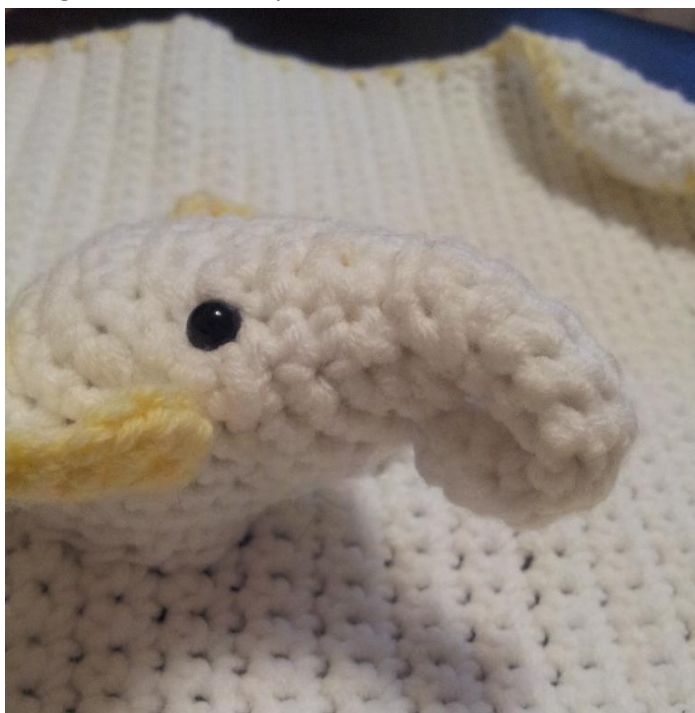
If you want to attach the head to the centre of the blanket, fold the blanket into quarters. The “closed point” (see *photo below*) is where you want to attach the head as this is the centre of the blanket.

Using the long tail of yarn from the head, sew the head to the blanket (wherever you choose to place it), making sure that you sew it on securely.



You can leave the trunk sticking out if you want, in which case you should now just work away the tail of yarn at the beginning of the trunk.

OR you can curl the trunk up and secure it to the head using the initial tail of yarn at the end of the trunk.



I hope you enjoy making your comfort blanket and that the little prince/princess (monster or monstress) you make it for LOVES IT! Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions!

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