

Sheep in Wolfscoat



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Materials:

When using the materials suggested below, the finished animal will be approx. 20 cm tall The given wool/yarn examples and hook sizes are, of course, only suggestions. You can use whatever materials and hooks you prefer, however the finished item will then vary in size and appearance.

Yarn, e.g. Schachenmayr Catania (creme - Fb. 130, bast - Fb. 257, zartbitter - Fb. 415, small amounts of black and white), special plush effect yarn for the coat e.g. Schachenmayr Baby Smiles Lenja Soft (grau - Fb. 1090, natur - Fb. 1002)

- Crochet hook in a size according to your yarn (for me 2,0 and 4,0 mm)
- Stuffing
- If desired, fasteners for the coat (e.g. zip, buttons, poppers), this is entirely optional as the coat can also be left open or finished with a crochet border and ties.

Abbreviations (US terms):

MR = magic ring	inc = Increase (work 2 sc in one stitch)
ch = chain	dec = Decrease (work 2 sc together)
slst = slip stitch	() x = repeat inside of the bracket for x number of times
sc = single crochet	
st = stitch	

Choose a crochet hook size that is suitable for your yarn and personal tension.

You are working in continuous rounds, unless otherwise specified.

For help with invisible colour changes, increases and decreases, please visit the „Tipps, Tricks and Tutorials“ section on my website www.zhaya.de.

Now it is time to start with the sheep :o)

Head:

bast (light brown or dark beige)

1. 6 sc in MR (6)
2. Inc x 6 (12)
3. 1sc, inc x 3, 3sc, inc x 3, 2sc (18)
4. 1sc, (sc, inc) x 3, 3sc, (sc, inc) x 3, 2sc (24)
5. 1sc, (2sc, inc) x 3, 3sc, (2sc, inc) x 3, 2sc (30)
6. 1sc, (3sc, inc) x 3, 3sc, (3sc, inc) x 3, 2sc (36)
7. 1sc, (4sc, inc) x 3, 3sc, (4sc, inc) x 3, 2sc (42)
- 8.-15. [8 Rounds] sc in each st (42)
16. (5sc, dec) x 6 (36)
- 17.-18. [2 Rounds] sc in each st (36)
19. (4sc, dec) x 6 (30)
- 20.-22. [3 Rounds] sc in each st (30)

Change colour to creme

23. (4sc, inc) x 6 (36)

Start stuffing head.

24. *Working in Backloop only:* sc in each st (36)
25. sc in each st (36)
26. *Working in Backloop only:* sc in each st (36)
27. sc in each st (36)
28. *Working in Backloop only:* sc in each st (36)
29. (4sc, dec) x 6 (30)
30. *Working in Backloop only:* sc in each st (30)
31. (3sc, dec) x 6 (24)
32. *Working in Backloop only:* (2 sc, skip 1 st, 1 sc) x 6 (18)

Finish stuffing the head.

33. (sc, dec) x 6 (12)

Shape head, add more stuffing if needed.

34. *Working in Backloop only:* (skip 1 st, 1sc) x 6 (6)

Do not fasten off. Continue to crochet into the left over front loops of the previous rounds. Work the following into each stitch of these rounds (1slst, 10 ch, 1slst). Tip: Keeping the loop, worked with the chain stitches, on the hook makes it easier to work the final slip stitch. See photo for guidance. When you reach the end of the round, fasten off and weave in ends.

Using pins, mark out the position for the nose, see photo for guidance. Thread a tapestry needle with head colour yarn and insert this from the bottom of the head, where it will be sewn to the body later. Exit where your first marker pin is located, move your needle to the second marker on this side (the top) and thread your needle through to the bottom. Pull the thread tight until the nostril forms, repeat this for the other side and knot the ends tightly (I recommend a minimum of 3 knots).

Check that both nostrils are the same depth. Hide any ends inside the head.



Eye (2x):

white

You are joining the rounds for the eyes. Start with a chain,, end the round with a slip stitch into the first stitch.

1. 6sc in MR (6)
2. Inc x 6 (12)

Fasten off, leave long tail for sewing.

black

You are joining the rounds for the eyes. Start with a chain, end the round with a slip stitch into the first stitch.

1. 6sc in MR (6)

Fasten off, leave long tail for sewing.

First, sew the black pupil to the white circle, using the tail end you left. Next, use the tail end of the white circle to add some accents to the pupil, then sew the eye to the head. Refer to the photos for guidance on placement. Knot securely and hide any ends in the head.

Ear (2x):

Inner part: *bast (light brown or dark beige shade)*

You can either work in closed or continuous rounds.

1. 6 sc in MR (6)
2. Inc x 6 (12)
3. (sc, inc) x 6 (18)

Fasten off.

Outer part: *bast (light brown or dark beige shade)*

You can either work in closed or continuous rounds.

1. 6 sc in MR (6)
2. Inc x 6 (12)
3. (sc, inc) x 6 (18)

Do not fasten off. Place both pieces on top of each other, right side up, crème coloured piece should be on top. Pick up the loop through the crème coloured piece and crochet both pieces together. Work a single crochet through both layers, end with a slip stitch. Fasten off, leave long tail for sewing. Using a darning or yarn needle, sew through one stitch at the bottom of the ear and proceed to sew the shaped ear to the left and right side of the head. Refer to the photos for guidance.



Body:

crème

1. 6 sc in MR (6)
2. *Working in Backloop only:* inc x 6 (12)
3. (sc, inc) x 6 (18)
4. *Working in Backloop only:* (2 sc, inc) x 6 (24)
5. (3 sc, inc) x 6 (30)
6. *Working in Backloop only:* (4 sc, inc) x 6 (36)
7. sc in each st (36)
8. *Working in Backloop only:* sc in each st (36)
9. sc in each st (36)
10. *Working in Backloop only:* sc in each st (36)
11. sc in each st (36)
12. *Working in Backloop only:* sc in each st (36)
13. sc in each st (36)
14. *Working in Backloop only:* sc in each st (36)
15. sc in each st (36)
16. *Working in Backloop only:* sc in each st (36)
17. 6sc, (2 sc, dec) x 6, 6sc (30)
18. *Working in Backloop only:* sc in each st (30)
19. 6sc, (4 sc, dec) x 6, 6sc (27)
20. *Working in Backloop only:* sc in each st (27)
21. 6sc, (3 sc, dec) x 3, 6sc (24)
22. *Working in Backloop only:* sc in each st (24) *Start stuffing.*
23. 3sc, (sc, dec) x 6, 3sc (18)
24. *Working in Backloop only:* (1 sc, skip 1 st, 1 sc) x 6 (12)
- 25.-27. [3 Rounds] sc in each st (12)

Finish stuffing the body. Make sure that especially the neck is firmly stuffed to avoid the head wobbling later.

Fasten off, leave long tail for sewing.

Do not sew the head in place yet, you will work on the sheep's fur next. Begin at the bottom of the body, start crocheting in the first round of left over front loops. Follow the same instructions as for the head. [Work (1slst, 10 ch, 1slst) into each stich] repeat this for all remaining front loop rows. When finished, fasten off and weave in end.

Sew the head to the body, I use a blanket stitch but you can use whichever method you prefer. Before closing up, add more stuffing to the neck if needed.



Leg (2x):

zartbitter (dark brown or black)

1. 6 sc in MR (6)
 2. Inc x 6 (12)
 3. (sc, inc) x 6 (18)
 4. (2 sc, inc) x 6 (24)
 - 5.-8. [4 Rounds] sc in each st (24)
 9. (2 sc, dec) x 6 (18)
 10. (4 sc, dec) x 3 (15)
- Change colour to creme/beige/bast.*
- 11.-19. [9 Rounds] sc in each st (15)
 20. (3 sc, dec) x 3 (12)

Stuff the leg

Fold the top edge over and close with a row of single crochet.

Fasten off, leave long tail for sewing.

Next, you will form the hoof. If you prefer, you can do this after you sew the leg to the body, to make sure that the hoof points in the right direction. Use a strong thread in a matching colour, begin from the middle of the magic ring and bring the needle out at the front, top edge of the colour change. Bring your thread down the middle of the foot and repeat this 2 or 3 times, pulling the thread tight. See photos below for guidance. Be sure to knot the end securely, at least three times and hide the knot and any tail end inside the foot (pull the thread back into the foot).

To sew the legs to the body, gently separate the „fur“ on the left and right side and sew the legs to the rounds in between the fur rounds. Refer to photos for help.





Arm (2x):

light brown or dark beige

1. 6 sc in MR (6)
2. Inc x 6 (12)
3. (sc, inc) x 6 (18)
- 4.-6. [3 Rounds] sc in each st (18)
7. (4 sc, dec) x 3 (15)
8. (3 sc, dec) x 3 (12)

Change colour bast/creme.

Stuff hoof.

9.-23. [15 Rounds] sc in each st (12) *You can leave the arm unstuffed, or stuff very lightly. You can also use pipe cleaners or florists' wire in the arm to make it posable. Be sure to fold and secure the ends if using wire to make certain that no sharp ends will poke through the end.*

Fold the upper edge and crochet closed with a row of single crochet. Form the hooves in the same manner as for the feet. Sew arms to the body, directly over the fur.

Tail:

crème

1. 6 sc in MR (6)
2. Inc x 6 (12)
3. (3 sc, inc) x 3 (15)
- 4.-6. [3 Rounds] sc in each st (15)
7. (3 sc, dec) x 3 (12)

Do not stuff, fold along top edge, close with a row of single crochet. Fasten off, leave long tail for sewing.

To sew to the body, part the fur gently and sew the tail directly to the body.

That's it, your little sheep is now done. If you are happy with an innocent little sheep, you can stop now. For those of you, who want to dress the sheep in the wolf's pelt, carry on below. :o)

Working with chenille or textured yarn can be a bit challenging. The magic trick to working with this kind of yarn is simple: Make sure you use a big enough crochet hook, a half size bigger is easier to work with and the holes are hidden through the fibres. And LIGHT! Lots and lots of bright light. You can also use a second strand of yarn, in a matching colour to run alongside the special effect yarn.

Wolfspelt:

You can use any chenille or fluffy effect yarn, i used Schachenmayr Baby Smiles Lenja soft. As different yarns and hook sizes will give you widely varying results, I suggest that you measure and adjust the stitch count accordingly as you work.

You are working in rows. Each row begins with a chain and you turn your work at the end of each row.

- Chain as many as needed to fit comfortably around the thickest part of sheep's belly (for me 40ch + 1ch for turning)
- Work as many rows as needed, taking care not to increase or decrease the stitch count.
- Next you will work the armholes. Measure your coat against your sheep and mark the places with stitch markers. See photo for guidance. Work single crochet stitches, placing equal amounts of stitches on both sides. In my example I worked:
8sc, 7ch
(skip 7 st), 10sc, 7ch (skip st), 8sc
- Work 1 sc into each stitch for the next 3 rounds





For the sleeves, attach new yarn in the middle of the bottom of the armhole. I worked the sleeves in spiral rounds, you can of course also work in continuous rounds. Work single crochet all around the armhole, work 2 or 3 sc in the edge if needed. In my example, the sleeve had a stitch count of 18 single crochet.

Continue working the sleeves, taking care not to increase or decrease the stitch count. Measure against your sheep for the right length. ...

You can now add closures to the coat, if desired. You can work a simple button hole by working a short row of chains into the edge, use a zipper or poppers. Alternatively, you could border the coat and use a length of chains for ties.



Next up is the hood for the coat. You will reattach your yarn in the top row of the coat. To find the correct starting point, dress your sheep in the coat and use stitch markers to mark the beginning and end (see photo). In my example, I left 5 stitches to the right and left unworked, with 30 st left over for the hood.

You are working in rows, place 1 single crochet into each stitch to the end, chain 1 and turn your work.

Continue until the hood is long enough to fit loosely over the sheep's head. Fasten off, leave long tail for closing.



Close the hood by working a row of single crochet along the edge, through both layers.

Should the hood be a little short when you try it on your sheep, simply cast on a new row and add a few rows around the outer rim.

Ear (2x):

Part 1 – beige or crème

You are working in rows, begin each row with a chain, turn your work at the end of the row.

1. 2 ch, 1sc in 2nd ch from hook (1)
2. Inc (2)
3. Sc in each st (2)
4. Inc x 2 (4)
5. Sc in each st (4)
6. inc, 2sc, inc (6)
7. Sc in each st (6)
8. inc, 4sc, inc (8)

Fasten off, secure tail, this can be hidden inside the ear later.

Part 2 - gray

You are working in rows, begin each row with a chain, turn your work at the end of the row.

1. 2 ch, 1sc in 2nd ch from hook (1)
2. Inc (2)
3. Sc in each st (2)
4. Inc x 2 (4)
5. Sc in each st (4)
6. inc, 2sc, inc (6)
7. Sc in each st (6)
8. inc, 4sc, inc (8)

Do not fasten off, Place both pieces together, crème/beige coloured part on top. Join the parts by working a row of single crochet along the side edges. Work 3 sc into the top of the ear. Leave the short bottom edge open. Fasten off, leave a long tail for sewing. Hide all loose ends inside the ear. Make the second ear in the same way. To find the correct place for the ears, dress the sheep in the coat and mark where you want to sew the ears.



Tail:

*Crème/beige (If you prefer, you can work the tail all in gray) **Tip: For chenille or textured yarn, work with less tension than you normally do. Holes will be hidden by the texture, but you will find it easier to close and work into the first few stitches if these are not too tight.***

1. 6 sc in MR (6)
2. Inc x 6 (12)
3. Sc in each st (12)
4. (sc, inc) x 6 (18)
- 5.-6. [2 Rounds] Sc in each st (18)

Change colour to gray if you are working with two colours.

- 7.-11. [5 Rounds] Sc in each st (18)
12. (4 sc, dec) x 3 (15)
- 13.-14. [2 Rounds] Sc in each st (15)

Stuff lightly.

15. (3 sc, dec) x 3 (12)

16. -17. [2 Rounds] Sc in each st (12)

Finish stuffing, but make sure it is only very lightly stuffed.

Fold along the top edge and join with a row of single crochet.

Fasten off, leave long tail for sewing.

Sew the tail to the back of the coat, place it in the middle, 2-3 rows from the top of the coat. All done!

