

# Esther the Elephant

**Height:** 13.5" standing

**Skill Level:** Intermediate

**Ravelry:** Esther the Elephant



Esther the Elephant is certainly adorable, but don't flatter her too much – an elephant never forgets, and she's already got a big head!

## Supplies

- 3.5mm (E) hook
- 15mm safety eyes (buy here)
- Yarn needle
- Fiber fill

## Yarn (acrylic, weight 4)

- Medium Blue (I used I Love This Yarn! – Medium Blue)
- Light Blue (I used I Love This Yarn! – Soft Blue)

## Notes

### Abbreviations

ch: chain

sc: single crochet

inc: 2sc increase

BLO: back loop only

dec: invisible decrease

### The trunk

You may need to twist the trunk a bit to get it straight on the face – this is normal. :)

### Regarding stitch markers

Note: The photos above show a fox, but the technique is the same for all of my patterns.

The pattern indicates to insert 4 different stitch markers in various places besides the one you use to track the beginning/end of each round.

I recommend using strands of yarn in 3 different colors as your stitch markers: Two strands in color 1 (blue) to mark where you will place each eye, Two strands color 2 (pink) to mark where you will start attaching each ear, and one long strand in color 3 (green) to track the beginning/end of each round.

The photos above demonstrate how to mark a stitch while crocheting a round: lay your strand of yarn acting as a marker over your working yarn and the stitch you'll be working into, then complete the stitch as normal.

You'll essentially be weaving the long strand in color 3 through your work with each round. On odd rounds you'll be laying the strand back-to-front, and on even rounds you'll be laying the strand front-to-back.

The advantage of using this technique is you'll have the beginning of every single round marked, which makes it much easier to find your place if you make a mistake. That said, It's perfectly fine to use a regular ol' safety pin-like marker to keep track of your rounds instead. :)

### **How to indent the eyes**

Note: The video above shows a unicorn, but the technique is the same for all of my patterns.

*Step 1* – Cut a strand of yarn approximately 18" long. Tie a large, secure knot in one end and thread the other end through your yarn needle.

*Step 2* – Insert your needle through the back opening of the head and sew between the two spots where you'll be placing your safety eyes (marked with your color 1 stitch markers).

*Step 3* – Pull your strand of yarn taut, which will create indents.

*Step 4* – Fasten off with a knot and hide your yarn tail inside the head.

### **The ears**

Here are the next steps to get your ears to look like the picture at the top of the pattern (click to view images at full size):

*Step 1* – Fold in half and slip stitch closed – your ear will now be shaped like a taco

*Step 2* – Fold the top point of your "taco" to touch the starting magic ring

*Step 3* – Begin securing together by stitching through the magic ring

*Step 4* – stitch all the way up, then tighten up your stitches

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## **Instructions**

Be sure to read the "notes" section before proceeding.

**Trunk & Head**

*With medium blue yarn:*

01. start 6 sc into a magic ring [6]
02. \*sc, inc\* [9]
03. sc, inc, \*sc 2, inc\* 2 times, sc [12]
04. \*sc 3, inc\* [15]
05. sc 2, inc, \*sc 4, inc\* 2 times, sc 2 [18]
06. BLO: sc in each st around [18]
07. sc in each st around [18]
08. \*sc 2, dec\* 3 times, \*sc, inc\* 3 times [18]
09. sc 17, inc [19]
10. \*sc 2, dec\* 3 times, sc, \*sc, inc\* 3 times [19]
11. sc in each st around [19]
12. \*sc 2, dec\* 3 times, sc, \*sc, inc\* 3 times [19]
13. sc 9, inc, sc 9 [20]
14. \*sc 2, dec\* 3 times, sc, \*sc, inc\* 3 times, sc [20]
15. sc 19, inc [21]
16. \*sc 2, dec\* 3 times, inc, \*sc, inc\* 3 times, sc 2 [22]
17. sc 21, inc [23]
18. \*sc 2, dec\* 3 times, \*sc, inc, sc\* 3 times, inc, sc [24]
19. \*sc\* 12 times, \*inc\* 12 times [36]
20. \*sc 5, inc\* [42]
21. sc 3, inc, \*sc 6, inc\* 5 times, sc 3 [48]
22. \*sc 7, inc\* [54]
23. sc 4, inc, \*sc 8, inc\* 5 times, sc 4 [60]
24. sc in each st around [60]
25. sc 26, insert marker color 1 into next sc (27th st from start of round), sc 29, insert marker color 1 into next sc (57th st from start of round), sc 3 [60]
- 26 - 30. sc in each st around [60]
31. sc 35, insert marker color 2 into next sc (36th st from start of round), sc 13, insert marker color 2 into next sc (50th st from start of round), sc 10 [60]
- 32 - 34. sc in each st around [60]
35. sc 4, dec, \*sc 8, dec\* 5 times, sc 4 [54]
36. \*sc 7, dec\* [48]
37. sc 3, dec, \*sc 6, dec\* 5 times, sc 3 [42]
38. \*sc 5, dec\* [36]
39. sc 2, dec, \*sc 4, dec\* 5 times, sc 2 [30]

Push the tip of the trunk inside the rest of the trunk so it's indented like the photos. Stuff head  $\frac{3}{4}$  full. Sew between the two spots marked with your color 1 markers to create indents for the eyes (see instructions at the bottom of the pattern). The markers are where you will place the eyes. Insert eyes and secure backings.

40. \*sc 3, dec\* [24]
41. sc, dec, \*sc 2, dec\* 5 times, sc [18]

42. \*sc, dec\* [12]

Finish stuffing.

43. dec in each st around [6]

Close with an ultimate finish.

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### **Ears (make 2)**

*With medium blue yarn:*

01. start 6 sc into a magic ring [6]
02. inc in each st around [12]
03. \*sc, inc\* [18]
04. sc, inc, \*sc 2, inc\* 5 times, sc [24]
05. \*sc 3, inc\* [30]
06. sc 2, inc, \*sc 4, inc\* 5 times, sc 2 [36]
07. \*sc 5, inc\* [42]
08. sc 3, inc, \*sc 6, inc\* 5 times, sc 3 [48]
09. \*sc 7, inc\* [54]
10. sc 4, inc, \*sc 8, inc\* 5 times, sc 4 [60]
11. \*sc 9, inc\* [66]
12. sc 5, inc, \*sc 10, inc\* 5 times, sc 5 [72]
13. \*sc 11, inc\* [78]
14. sc 6, inc, \*sc 12, inc\* 5 times, sc 6 [84]

Fasten off and leave a very long tail for sewing (I'd recommend about 5 feet for the yarn tail, or about the length of your arm span). See "notes" section for instructions on how to fold and secure the ears.

Attach the left ear starting in the left stitch marked with color 2, and each of the next 14 stitches down the round (down the left side of the head).

Attach the right ear starting in the right stitch marked with color 2, and each of the next 14 stitches up the round (down the right side of the head).

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### **Body**

*With medium blue yarn:*

01. start 6 sc into a magic ring [6]
02. inc in each st around [12]
03. \*sc, inc\* [18]
04. sc, inc, \*sc 2, inc\* 5 times, sc [24]
05. \*sc 3, inc\* [30]

06. sc 2, inc, \*sc 4, inc\* 5 times, sc 2 [36]
07. \*sc 5, inc\* [42]
08. sc 3, inc, \*sc 6, inc\* 5 times, sc 3 [48]
09. \*sc 7, inc\* [54]
10. sc 4, inc, \*sc 8, inc\* 5 times, sc 4 [60]
- 11 - 17. sc in each st around [60]
18. sc 4, dec, \*sc 8, dec\* 5 times, sc 4 [54]
19. sc in each st around [54]
20. \*sc 7, dec\* [48]
21. sc in each st around [48]
22. sc 3, dec, \*sc 6, dec\* 5 times, sc 3 [42]
- 23 - 24. sc in each st around [42]
25. \*sc 5, dec\* [36]
- 26 - 27. sc in each st around [36]
28. sc 2, dec, \*sc 4, dec\* 5 times, sc 2 [30]
- 29 - 30. sc in each st around [30]
31. \*sc 3, dec\* [24]

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing. Stuff firmly with fiber fill.

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### **Arms (make 2)**

*With medium blue yarn:*

01. start 6 sc into a magic ring [6]
02. inc in each st around [12]
03. \*sc, inc\* [18]
04. sc, inc, \*sc 2, inc\* 5 times, sc [24]
05. BLO: sc in each st around [24]
- 06 - 08. sc in each st around [24]
09. sc 11, dec, sc 11 [23]
10. sc in each st around [23]
11. sc 21, dec [22]
12. sc in each st around [22]
13. sc 10, dec, sc 10 [21]
14. sc in each st around [21]
15. sc 19, dec [20]
16. sc in each st around [20]
17. sc 9, dec, sc 9 [19]
18. sc in each st around [19]
19. sc 17, dec [18]
20. sc in each st around [18]
21. sc 8, dec, sc 8 [17]
22. sc in each st around [17]
23. sc 15, dec [16]
- 24 - 25. sc in each st around [16]
26. \*sc 2, dec\* [12]

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing. Stuff firmly with fiber fill. Fold the top opening in half and slip stitch closed.

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### **Arm Pads (make 2)**

*With light blue yarn:*

01. start 6 sc into a magic ring [6]
02. inc in each st around [12]
03. \*sc, inc\* [18]

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing.

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### **Legs (make 2)**

*With medium blue yarn:*

01. start 6 sc into a magic ring [6]
02. inc in each st around [12]
03. \*sc, inc\* [18]
04. sc, inc, \*sc 2, inc\* 5 times, sc [24]
05. \*sc 3, inc\* [30]
06. BLO: sc in each st around [30]
- 07 - 09. sc in each st around [30]
10. sc 14, dec, sc 14 [29]
11. sc 27, dec [28]
12. sc 13, dec, sc 13 [27]
13. sc 25, dec [26]
14. sc 12, dec, sc 12 [25]
15. sc 23, dec [24]
16. sc 11, dec, sc 11 [23]
17. sc 21, dec [22]
18. sc 10, dec, sc 10 [21]
19. sc 19, dec [20]
20. sc 9, dec, sc 9 [19]
21. sc 17, dec [18]
22. \*sc 7, dec\* [16]
23. \*sc 2, dec\* [12]

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing. Stuff firmly with fiber fill. Fold the top opening in half and slip stitch closed.

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### **Leg Pads (make 2)**

*With light blue yarn:*

01. start 6 sc into a magic ring [6]

02. inc in each st around [12]

03. \*sc, inc\* [18]

04. \*sc 2, inc\* [24]

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing.

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### **Tail**

Cut 12 strands of medium blue yarn, approx. 10" long

*With medium blue yarn:*

01. start 6 sc into a magic ring [6]

02 - 08. sc around [6]

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing. Fold the top opening in half and slip stitch closed. Root in strands of medium blue yarn to flat end, secure and trim as desired.

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Pattern by Jess Huff | [jesshuff.com](http://jesshuff.com)