

# Peanut's Little Yarn Things

<http://www.planetshoup.com/easy/crochet/yarnthings.shtml>

by Linda

It's almost silly to even put this pattern out there, but I've made a couple dozen of these at this point (they are for the most part, lost in various parts of the house). My cat, Peanut, is absolutely crazy about them. My daughter's cats love them as well. These animals are young, two of them not quite a year old, the third is almost 2 years old. I cannot guess whether an older cat would be as interested.

These are soooo simple and quick. I'm not sure exactly what the appeal is about them; maybe they look like a small mouse to a cat's instincts? We play fetch, catch, baseball and door hockey with them, she chases them around the carpeted, tiled, or wooden floors by herself from time to time. For some reason, Peanut likes them wet -- she'll often take one over and drop it in her water dish, then bring it back out to play with. :)

This all came about when I was starting to try to make a pattern for, gosh, I can't even remember what it was. I took some yarn, started to make some sort of granny square based or circular item, the cat got more interested than usual in what I was doing, and the rest is history. :)

- a couple of yards of yarn, acrylic in sport or worsted seems to do the trick
- crochet hook of pretty much any size
- maybe two minutes of your time, tops

1. Ch 4, slip stitch to form ring.
2. Chain 2 or 3.
3. Work about 13 to 15 double crochets in ring, join to form a round.
4. Break yarn and secure (or hide) end of yarn.
5. Done!

- For variety, you can use treble crochets instead of double.
- Much of the appeal seems to be the yarn itself. The one I used was sport weight acrylic, in dark purple and blue variegations, bought at the clearance bin no less! :)
- You can also vary the number of stitches you make in the ring to make the little disk flatter, more cup shaped, rufflier etc.
- This seems to be the one case where the cat doesn't care if there's a two inch or so length of yarn hanging from the centre or outer edge, they have



no interest in that little piece. They just want to chase the whole thing around!

- I highly suggest making about six of these. They easily disappear under doors, dressers, etc. and if your cat enjoys them, will likely demand another one right away if the original cannot be found. :)
- They do get somewhat ratty looking after a while, having been chewed, clawed, watered... :)

## Peanut's White Mouse

<http://www.planetshoup.com/easy/crochet/mousewht.shtml>

by Linda

She'd misplaced her last little white short-furred mouse with the suede tail, so I thought I'd try to crochet her something similar in size and shape.

- small quantity white worsted yarn
- 3.5 mm hook
- catnip, optional

1. Ch 15 for tail.
2. Sl st in third ch from hk, 5 sc in loop, holding remaining tail chains towards you and working behind them, join w sl st.
3. (Sc, 2 sc in next sc), repeat 3 times altogether, join w sl st behind tail as before.
4. (2sc, 2 sc in next sc), repeat 3 times altogether, join w sl st.
5. (3sc, 2 sc in next sc), repeat 3 times altogether.
6. Work 2 rnds without increasing.
7. (2sc, sc2tog) continuously til only a few sts remain (3 or 4) and you can't decrease comfortably any more.
8. Close off to make nose as pointed as possible and cut yarn. Stick hook into mouse near tail and pull yarn end from "nose" to inside of mouse. Hide yarn end from tail in tail chains.



- You can sprinkle a little catnip inside if you like as soon as you're ready to begin the decrease rounds.
- Alternatively, you can put the mouse in a little plastic bag of catnip and shake it around (just like chicken!) to enhance your cat's play time.

- Stuffing shouldn't be needed if the fabric is worked fairly tight. A hollow mouse is easier for a cat to pick up with the mouth.

## Peanut's Ball Thing

<http://www.planetshoup.com/easy/crochet/ballthing.shtml>

by Linda

A simple, toy ball for our kitten, **Peanut**. Make larger or smaller as you like. Super fast and easy to make.

You'll need:

- very small amount of worsted yarn (or use dk or sport if you like)
- crochet hook of suitable size, I used a G hook
- gauge is not crucial, but make it fairly tight to avoid the filling leaking out
- filling material, such as strips of pantihose or broadcloth (don't use fibrefill or yarn)

1. Chain 2, make 6 sc in 2nd ch from hk, sl st to join rnd.
2. 2 sc in each sc around - 12 sc.

**Note:** From this point on, do not sl st to join rounds, just keep going.

3. Next round, (2 sc in next sc, sc in next sc), repeat around - 18 sc.
4. Work next two rounds even (no increases or decreases).
5. Next round, (sc in next sc, sc 2 tog), repeat to end - 12 sts.
6. At this point, stuff the ball thing with your preferred filling.
7. Next round, sc 2 together all around - 6 sts.
8. Break yarn, close end tightly, and securely work in and hide the ends of your yarn. Swallowing yarn can be very dangerous to animals!

- Finished size varies based on yarn used, but generally, about golf ball size when using worsted.
- Another option for stuffing is to place a jingle bell inside. Be especially careful about closing up the end securely to avoid a trip to the vet!
- It's important to get all yarn ends hidden away securely, and not to use yarn or fibrefill for stuffing. When ingested, yarn and similar materials can get entangled in the intestines and become a life threatening emergency. Also, please take the time make sure your stash is tucked away safely from your little friends.

# CROCHETED KITTY BALL

<http://www.pleasebekind.com/ccp.html>

Use 4-ply yarn. You can use any size hook – the smaller the hook the smaller the ball. The "I" hook works well. You will be working in rounds. You can count as you crochet, or you can mark the beginning of each round with a piece of different colored yarn.

Round 1 – Chain 2

Round 2 – Work 6 single crochets (sc) in the second chain from the hook.

Round 3 – Work 2 sc in each sc around for a total of 12 sc.

Round 4 - \* Work one sc in next sc, 2 sc in the following sc\* Repeat in that manner all the way around for a total of 18 sc.

Round 5 - \* Work two sc in each of the next 2 sc's, then 2 sc's in the following sc\* Repeat in that manner all the way around for a total of 24 sc.

Rounds 6, 7 and 8 – Work even on the 24 sc.

Round 9 - \* Work one sc in each of the next 2 sc's, then decrease in the following stitch.\* A decrease is made by putting the hook in the next sc and drawing up a loop, putting the hook in the sc after that and pulling through another loop and then wrapping the yarn around the hook and pulling all three loops off the hook. Continue around in this manner for a total of 18 scs.

Round 10 - Work one sc in next sc then decrease in the following sc.\* Repeat in that manner all the way around for a total of 12 sc.

Round 11 – Decrease in each sc around for a total of 6 sc.

Stuff the ball with polyester fiberfill, batting scraps, fabric scraps, etc.

Continue to decrease as long as you can and then finish off leaving a 4" strand of yarn. Weave the yarn through the sc in the final round and pull tight like a drawstring and then finish off with an additional chain. Pull the leftover yarn into the ball so no strings are loose.

The balls don't have to be exactly to these directions – if you lose count, don't worry. Just work your way around. If you add or decrease stitches, the ball will be a little bigger or a little smaller or a little out of shape, but the kitties won't mind. After you've done a few, you'll get the hang of it.

**Fun Crocheted Ball Pattern**  
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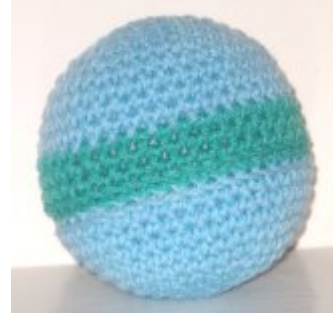
**SIZE:** 4-1/2 inches diameter (or any size you want to make it!)

**MATERIALS:**

\*Use whatever type of yarn and hook you would like.  
Model used 4-ply yarn in blue and green and H hook.

\*Tapestry Needle (to weave in ends)

\*Fiberfill stuffing



**INSTRUCTIONS:**

With main color yarn, ch 2.

**Rnd 1:** 8 sc in 2nd ch from hook.

**Rnd 2:** (sc in next sc, 2 sc in next sc) around (12 sc)

**Rnd 3:** Repeat Rnd 2 (18 sc)

**Rnd 4:** (sc in next 2 sc, 2 sc in next sc) around (24 sc)

**Rnd 5:** Repeat Rnd 4 (32 sc)

**Rnd 6:** (sc in next 3 sc, 2 sc in next sc) around (40 sc)

**Rnds 7-9:** Sc in each sc around (40 sc)

Switch to band color.

**Rnds 10-12:** Sc in each sc around, finish off leaving long tail.

Make the second half of ball:

Repeat Rnds 1-9 in main color. Finish off.

With tail left from band color of first half of ball, join both halves of the ball together with a whipstitch around, stuffing ball with fiberfill before completely closing.

**CURLY CAT TOY**

<http://web.archive.org/web/20011230155705/pages.ivillage.com/debbilynn/animalitems/id1.html>

Small amount of worsted weight yarn

Size H hook

Leave long end

Row 1: Ch 36, dc in 4th ch from hook, \*3 dc in next ch, 4 dc in next ch, rep from \* across, 5 dc in last ch, ch 2, sl st in same ch leaving long end, fasten off. Add long ends to same end for more fun.

# Fish Cat Toys

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<http://www.crochetville.org/forum/showthread.php?t=12224>



## **Fish Cat Toy**

### **MATERIALS:**

Scraps of Yarn, worsted weight

G Hook

Large Eye sewing needle

Stuffing: fiberfill, mylar (I got some from the windows of the envelopes I get in the mail) makes a great krinkly sound, catnip, scraps of yarn, etc.

**SIZE:** approx. 3.5x2

### **ABBREVIATIONS:**

sc: single crochet

st(s): stitch(s)

sc2tog: sc nxt two sts together, pull up a loop from next two stitches, yarn over and draw through all three loops on hook. Also know as decrease (dec).

nxt: next

ea: each

rep: repeat

(#): number of stitches when rnd completed

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

Do NOT join, mark rnds

Start with an adjustable loop, 6 sc in loop

Rnd 1: \*2sc in nxt st, sc in nxt st\* rep around (9)

Rnd 2: \*2 sc in nxt st, sc in nxt 2 sts\* rep around (12)

Rnd 3: \*2 sc in nxt st, sc in nxt 3 sts\* rep around (15)

Rnd 4: sc around (15)

Rnd 5: \*2 sc in nxt st, sc in nxt 4 sts\* rep around (18)

Rnd 6-8: sc around (18)

Rnd 9: \*sc2tog, sc nxt 3 sts \* to last 3 sts, sc2tog, sc in last st (14) STUFF  
Rnd 10: \*sc2tog, sc nxt st\* to last st, sc in last st (10)  
Rnd 11: sc2tog around (5)  
Rnd 12: 2 sc in ea st (10)  
Rnd 13: 2 sc in ea st (20)  
Rnd 14: sc in ea st (20) STUFF TAIL  
Row 15: flatten rnds and hold together, sc in black loops to join rnds. Fasten off and weave in ends. Embellish as desired.

## Pet Blanket

<http://www.bevscountrycottage.com/petblanket.html>



These little blankets are perfect to donate to animal shelters or to make for your own pet to snooze on.

My cats love the softer yarn.

This one is approximately 18" square and is the perfect size for my cats.

Soft worsted weight yarn 4 ply yarn -doubled makes it even more comfy (I used that Super soft stuff)

Size J crochet hook

Ch 68 (or desired width)

**Row 1:** Dc in the 3rd ch from the hook and in every ch across, Ch 3 and turn. (about 18" across)

**Row 2:** Dc in each Dc across, ch 3, turn

Keep repeating this 2nd row, back and forth, till it is desired length. Finish off and add new contrasting color in a corner.

**Finishing around:** DC in each 'stitch/hole' around. At the corners do (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc).