WILLENDORF VENUS
FOR THE AMIGURUMI

What do you need:

- a fine to super fine yarn (at a recommended hook size of 2-2.5 mm; I used a 2.0 mm hook); to resemble the original, I suggest to use a lime-paint styled colour; beige or a light brown would fit too
- additional homespun or bouclé yarn for the headgear/hair. I used a beige coloured twisted yarn at a recommended hook size of 6-7 (e.g. Woll Butt Adela)
- (an up to 1.0 mm wire for the legs and arms)
- some wadding
- darning needle
- scissors

Skill level: easy

Finished Size of the doll: 11 cm

Abbreviations:

* rd = round / sc = single crochet / inc = increase / dec = decrease / st, sts = stitch, stitches / sl st = slip stitch / ch = chain

The body of the Venus is crocheted in one piece; for the arms, a new round is started. The breasts and headgear are added at the end.

How to read the instructions:

To facilitate the reading, I abbreviate working several consecutive stitches as the number to be crocheted:

- e.g. “5 sc, inc” means that you work 1 sc in each of the next 5 sts and 2 sc in the 6th stitch, getting a round of 7 sts.
- “4 sc, dec” means, likewise, working 1 sc in each of the next 4 sts and, then, crocheting the 5th and 6th st in a sc together, reducing the round from 6 to 5 sts

For the increase and decrease stitches, I abbreviate several consecutive increases/ decreases as y-times inc or y-times dec (i.e. yx inc or yx dec)

- e.g. “2x inc” means that you have to increase the next 2 sts, that is, working 2 sc in each of the next 2 sts and your round increases by 2 stitches.
- “3x dec” means, likewise, that you have to sc each of the next 3 2-sts together, that is, sc the 1st and 2nd sc together, then the 3rd and 4th, and then the 5th and 6th, to get a round that is 3 sts lower than before.

Brackets at the end of each round indicate the number of sts obtained.
1. **Rd (right leg)**: make 5 sc in a magic ring (5)
2. **Rd**: inc every 2nd st, starting with the inc (8)
3. **Rd**: sc in each st around (8)
4. **Rd**: inc every 4th st (10)
5. **Rd**: 3 sc, inc, 1 sc, inc, 1 sc, inc, 2 sc (13)
6. **Rd**: sc in each st around (13)
7. **Rd**: inc, 11 sc, inc (15)
8. **Rd**: inc, 13 sc, inc (17)
9. **Rd**: 1 sc, inc, 1, inc, 13 sc (19)
10. **Rd**: sc in each st around; sl st last st (19)

Repeat for the 2nd leg (left leg). To then connect both legs, work as follows:

Finish the last Rd of the left leg with a sc instead of a sl st. Then, put the legs together and continue with a sc through the 13th-last st of the 1st (right) leg (i.e. from the sl st of the 1st leg counting 13 sts incl. the sl st backwards against the stitch direction) to connect both legs in a way that the Venus’s knees are about symmetrical. Then, ch 1 and work a sc in each of the next 3 sts going through both legs to “sew” them together (“bottom”), thereby stitching backwards against the stitch direction of the 2nd leg resp. in the st direction of the 1st leg. In the illustrations, the knees are facing you and you sc the connection sts towards you (i.e. from the derriere away towards the knees) (getting 30 sc excl. the bottom-sc on each side (2)). **Count anew** (I used a brown marker in the illustrations to mark the beginning of a new round).

See the illustrations 1-6 for the legs-connection. Figure 1 shows the stitching for Rd 10 to Rd 12.

11. **Rd**: inc every 2nd st across the 1st leg, starting with the inc st (sidenote: at the level of the sl st you’d inc), work 1 sc in the bottom; then inc every 2nd st across the 2nd leg, starting again with the inc, and work again 1 sc in the bottom on the other side (48)

12. **Rd**: inc every 4th st (60)

Figure 1: Illustration of the stitching for the 10th-12th Rd. The left circle is the right leg of the Venus resp. the 1st leg (her knees are in the illustration facing downwards); the right circle is the Venus’s left leg resp. the 2nd leg. You start the connection stitches (bright green) from the 2nd leg (at the connect point).

After the 10th Rd each leg counts 19 sc (black). After the connection, only 15 sc remain per leg, excl. the connection sts (30). In the 11th Rd (blue), add 8 increase sts per leg (15+8=23); additionally, to have a smooth transition between the legs, add 1 sc at each end of the connection sts (“bottom”) (+2). Thus, at the end of Rd 11, you have 48 sts (2x23 + 2)

13. **Rd**: 27 sc, dec, 1 sc, dec, 28 sc (58)

14. **Rd**: 25 sc, dec, 3 sc, dec, 26 sc (56)

15. **Rd**: 12 sc, dec, 3 sc, dec, 8 sc, 2x dec, 8 sc, dec, 3 sc, dec, 10 sc (50)

16. **Rd**: 11 sc, dec, *4 sc, dec* (repeat 2x in total), 1 sc, dec, *4 sc, dec* (2x), 10 sc (44)

17. **Rd**: sc in each st around (44)

18. **Rd**: dec every 5th st (7 times), 1 sc in last 2 sts (37)

19. **Rd**: sc in each st around (37)
20. Rd: dec every 3rd st (9 times), 1 sc (28)
21. + 22. Rd: sc in each st around (28)
23. Rd: 8 sc, inc, 13 sc, inc, 5 sc (30)
24. Rd: 8 sc, inc, 13 sc, inc, 7 sc (32)
25. Rd: sc in each st around (32)

Now, insert a folded wire of appr. 20 cm total length into the body so that each wire-end goes into a leg and stuff your current process properly with some wadding.

26. Rd (arms’ outline): 9 sc, ch 5 and sc in the next 2nd st, 14 sc, ch 5 and sc in next 2nd st, 5 sc (38)

27. Rd: 9 sc, 5 sc along the ch sts, 1 sc in the transition st (that is, where chain-5 goes back to the body) and continue with another 14 sc, 5 sc along the ch sts on other side, 1 sc in the transition st and further 5 sc (40)

28. Rd: 11 sc, dec, 8 sc, dec, 8 sc, dec, 7 sc (37)
29. Rd: dec every 4th st (7x), 1 sc in remaining 2 sts (30)
30. Rd: dec every 3rd st (7x), 1 sc in remaining 2 sts (23)

Now, take a new yarn and work the arms. Make 12 rounds of 6 sc in the arm’s outline; thereby, sc in the sts of the chain-5 (from the 26th Rd) and the st that was left out in the 26th Rd, skipping the transition st of where the chain starts and where it goes back to the body. After finishing the arms, weave in the yarn end and insert a wire (~12 cm total length), so that both arms are connected through one wire:

31. Rd: dec every 2nd st (7x), 1 sc in remaining 2 sts (16)
32. Rd: sc in each st around (16)
33. Rd (head): inc every 2nd st, starting with inc (24)
34. Rd: inc every 3rd st (32)
35. Rd: inc every 4th st (40)
36.–40. Rd: sc in each st around (40)

Stuff the upper body.
41. Rd: dec every 4th st (8x) (32)
42. Rd: dec every 4th st (6x), 1 sc in remaining 2 sts (26)
43. Rd: dec every 3rd st (6x), 1 sc in remaining 2 sts (20)

Stuff the head.
44. Rd: dec every 2nd st (6x), 2 sc (14)
45. Rd: dec every st (7)
46. Rd: dec every st and close the head
Breasts:
The breasts are worked mirrored to each other. Make sure to leave enough yarn end after the 6th Rd for sewing the parts to the body.

Venus’ left breast:
1. Rd: 6 sc in magic ring (6)
2. Rd: inc each st (12)
3. Rd: inc every 2nd st (18)
4. Rd: 4x inc [i.e. inc, inc, inc, inc], 4 sc, 2x dec, 6 sc (20)
5. Rd: 2 sc, 2x inc, 8 sc, 2x dec, 4 sc (20)
6. Rd: 3 sc, 2x inc, 15 sc (22)

Venus’ right breast:
1. Rd: 6 sc in magic ring (6)
2. Rd: inc each st (12)
3. Rd: inc every 2nd st (18)
4. Rd: 6 sc, 2x dec, 4 sc, 4x inc (20)
5. Rd: 4 sc, 2x dec, 8 sc, 2x inc, 2 sc (20)
6. Rd: 15 sc, 2x inc, 3 sc (22)

Now, sew the breasts to the body. For orientation: start the sewing in the region of the Venus’ armpit.

You can additionally stuff the breasts lightly with some wadding to make them appear firmer.

Headgear:
Depending on the yarn weight you use, you might have to work more or less inc rounds and, thus, work with more sts for the neck area (after the 6.Rd).

1. Rd: 5 sc in magic ring (5)
2. Rd: inc each st (10)
3. Rd: inc every 3rd st (15)
4. Rd: inc every 3rd st (20)
5.+6. Rd: sc in each st around (20); after the 6.Rd you ch 1 and turn your work. Continue doing so after each of the next rounds
7.+8. Rd: 10 sc, ch 1 turn (10)
9. Rd: 1 sc, dec, 4 sc, dec, 1 sc, ch 1 turn (8)
10. Rd: 1 sc, dec, 2 sc, dec, 1 sc, ch 1 turn (6)
11. Rd: 2 sc, dec, 2 sc (5)

Weave in both yarn ends and sew the headgear onto the head.

Belly Button:
With a new body-coloured yarn and a darning needle, stitch [on the finished body] from in-between the Venus’ butt cheeks through to the level of where you want the belly button to be (I stitched through to between the 5th and 6th row above the legs end resp. up to the 15th -16th Rd). Then, insert the needle 1 stitch away back to the body and through to in-between her butt cheeks, about 1 st apart from where you started. Repeat the sewing from between the butt cheeks to the belly button and back for adding on shape. Finally, tie both yarn ends tightly together and hide the yarn ends in the body.

To make her resemble even more the original Willendorf Venus, I additionally tried to emphasis her hip fat and knees by sewing around to obtain unsteady spots on those parts of her body.