

CROCHET SANTA



INTRODUCTION

What do you need:

- *Super fine* yarn (at a recommended hook size of 2.5-3.5 mm). I used different yarn brands in red, white, brown (for the shoes and belt of Santa), beige (for Santa's jute sack) and skin-tone / light rose (for the body). If you do so too, make sure to use brands with the same or close to the same yarn gauge (10 cm = 26 or 27 sts; (*Woll Butt Camilla* by *ButtINETTE*, *Rainbow Cotton 8/4* by *Hobbii*). However, I used a brand with a slightly bigger gauge for the colour white (10 cm = 23 sts; *Cotone Uni* by *Lana Grossa*) to make the white elements on Santa appear slightly bulkier
- I worked with a hook of size 2.50 mm
- Scissors
- Fiberfill
- Darning needle
- Security eyes of 6 mm size

Skill level: easy

Finished size (W x H): appr. (max) 9 x 12.5 cm

The instruction is written in **American English Crochet** terms.

Abbreviations:

sc = single crochet / *hdc* = half-double crochet / *dc* = double crochet / *tc* = treble crochet / *FSC* = foundation single crochet / *inc* = increase (i.e. working 2 sc in same st) / *dec* = decrease (i.e. sc 2 sts together) / *st*, *sts* = stitch, stitches / *sl st* = slip stitch / *ch* = chain / *YO* = yarn over / *rd* = round / *MR* = magic ring / *blo* = back-loop(s) only / *flo* = front-loop(s) only

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How to read the instructions:

Crochet Santa consists of the body, his coat with a belt, the hat, and his famous voluminous beard. Each of these components are described in the pattern. The illustrations of the progress are to be found after each component section.

“inc” means that I work 2 sc in the same st (i.e. I increase a stitch by 1 sc). If I increase a stitch by more than 1 sc, I explicitly write the number of sts to work in the same st, e.g. *inc next st, work 3 sc in next st* translates to *work 2 sc in the next st, then 3 sc in the st thereafter*.

“dec” means that I sc next 2 sts together, reducing the round by 1 sc. If I decrease the round by more sc in a row, I explicitly write the number of stitch-pairs to be worked together in a sc, e.g. *dec next 3 st-pairs* translates to *sc next 2 sts together 3 times in a row*.

I worked in **continuous rounds**.

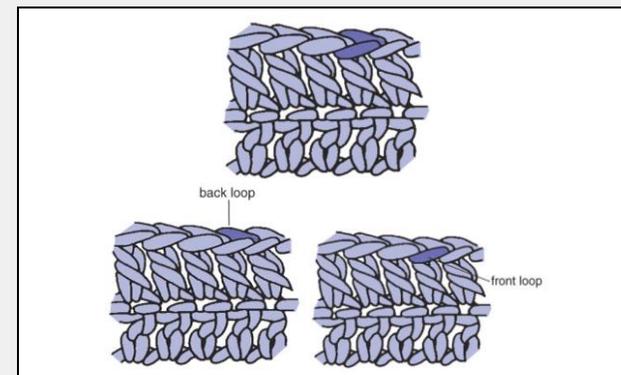
The number in the brackets at each round or row end indicates the new number of stitches.

Working in front-loop only (flo) / in back-loop only (blo):

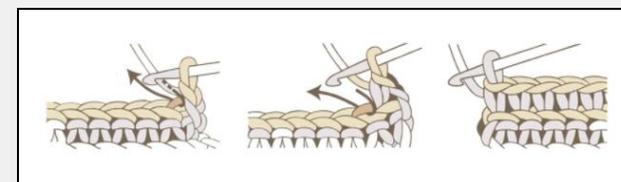
In the usual way of crocheting, you insert the crochet hook from the front of the stitch underneath the “V” and through the center of the “V”. The “V” consists of two loops, one loop facing you (which is called the *front loop*) and one loop at the back of your work (which is referred to as the *back loop*). For 3-dimensional figures (e.g. amigurumis), the front loops are those facing outwards of your work (e.g. outside the filling) and the back loops face inside your work (e.g. where the filling goes).

To create a certain pattern or if you want to crochet two-layered, you work in either the front loop only (flo) or **the back loop only (blo)**. Working in flo is also a way to decrease invisibly by doing the decrease sts in the flo.

Figure 1: illustration of the loops in the example of double-crochet stitches



When you crochet the round or row in back-loops only, you insert your hook underneath the back loop of each stitch and then make the stitch as indicated in the pattern. You see the blo often abbreviated in connection to the stitch made in the back loop (single crochet blo, double crochet blo, half-double crochet blo, etc.). At the end of your round or row that was worked in blo (e.g. sc-blo) you get a stair-like pattern:



PATTERN

BODY:

Start with the **skin-coloured / light-rose** yarn.

1. Rd: 6 sc in MR (6)

2. Rd: inc every st (12)

3. Rd: inc every 2nd st (18)

4. Rd: inc every 3rd st (24)

5. – 7. Rd: 1 sc in each st around (24)

8. Rd: in this round we set the **markers for the eyes** which we will insert after the **12. Rd**. Set a marker for the right eye right at the start of the **8. Rd**. Continue 1 sc in the next 4 sts. Now, set a marker for the left eye. Continue 1 sc in the remaining 20 sts until the end of the round (24)

9. – 12. Rd: 1 sc in each st around (24). Now, insert the **security eyes** where the eye-markers have been placed while removing those markers.

13. Rd: dec every st (12). If you want to decrease invisibly, meaning, reduce the bulky look that several dec sts create, dec in the front-loops only (see description on “flo” in the introduction

Stuff the head with fiberfill.

14. Rd: dec every st (6)

15. + 16. Rd: 1 sc in each st around (6)

17. Rd: inc every st (12). Change colour to **white** in the last st.

18. Rd: inc every 2nd st (18)

19. Rd: inc every 3rd st (24)

20. Rd: inc every 4th st (30)

21. Rd: in this round we make the **outlines for the arms** which we will work at the end. Therefore, skip the first 6 sts and work 1 sc in the 7th st (**right arm**). Continue 1 sc in the next 8 sts (this will be the **front** of the body). Then, skip the next 6 sts and work 1 sc in the 7th st thereafter (**left arm**). Work 1 sc in the last 8 sts (this will be the **back** of the body) (18)

22. Rd: [1 sc, inc] repeat 4 times in total, 1 sc in the last 10 sts. Change colour to **red** in the last st (22)

23. Rd: [3 sc, inc] repeat 3 times in total, 1 sc in the last 10 sts (25)

24. Rd: 1 sc in each st around (25)

25. Rd: 1 sc in the first 3 sc, dec next st, [1 sc, dec] repeat 2 times in total, 1 sc in the remaining 14 sc (22)

26. Rd: 1 sc in each st around (22)

27. Rd: in this round we do the **outlines for the legs**. Thereby, we divide the round into two equal parts of each 9 sts for the legs (left leg of 9 sc, space of 2 sc in-between the legs, right leg of 9 sc). 1 sc in the first 6 sc, 1 sc in the 7th + 19th st (skip the sc in between the 7th and 19th st), 1 sc in the 8th + 18th st. Let us call latter 2 sc going through 2 sts at once a **“bridge”**, as I will later refer to it.

Continue the **27. Rd** for the **LEFT LEG** in red by working 1 sc in the last 9 sts. Change colour to **brown** in the last st.

28. Rd: 1 sc in each st around (9)

29. Rd (work this round in back-loops only): 1 sc-blo in each st around (9)

30. Rd (in sc-blo): 1 sc-blo in the first 2 sts, work 3 sc-blo in the next st, inc next st, 1 sc-blo in the remaining 5 sts (12)

31. Rd (back to working in all loops): 1 sc in the first 3 sts, inc next 3 sts, 1 sc in the remaining 6 sts (15)

32. Rd: 1 sc in each st around (15)

Stuff the leg lightly with fiberfill.

33. Rd: dec every st and close the hole. Weave in the yarn tail.

In the **blo rounds** from before, we want to crochet a second layer to make it look like the boots have a rolled-up top. For this, we use the **visible front-loops** of these blo-rounds. Hence, take a new yarn in **brown** and work 1 sc in each of the visible front-loops (in **29. Rd + 30. Rd**).

Now, we do the **RIGHT LEG**:

As we have already crocheted the **27. Rd** completely before the “bridge”, we start straight with the **28. Rd** with a new yarn in **brown**. Make a slip knot, hide the yarn end inside the body and work 1 sc in the 1st st right after the “bridge”.

28. Rd: continue to do 1 sc in each st around (9)

29. Rd (in sc-blo): 1 sc in each st around (9)

30. Rd (in sc-blo): 1 sc in first 6 sts, inc next st, 3 sc in next st, 1 sc (12)

31. Rd: 1 sc in first 7 sts, inc next 3 sts, 1 sc in remaining 2 sts (15)

32. Rd: 1 sc in each st around (15)

Stuff the leg lightly with fiberfill.

33. Rd: dec every st and close the hole. Weave in the yarn tail.

Like for the left leg, take a new yarn in **brown** and work 1 sc in each of the **visible front loops** of the two blo-rounds (in **29. Rd + 30. Rd**).

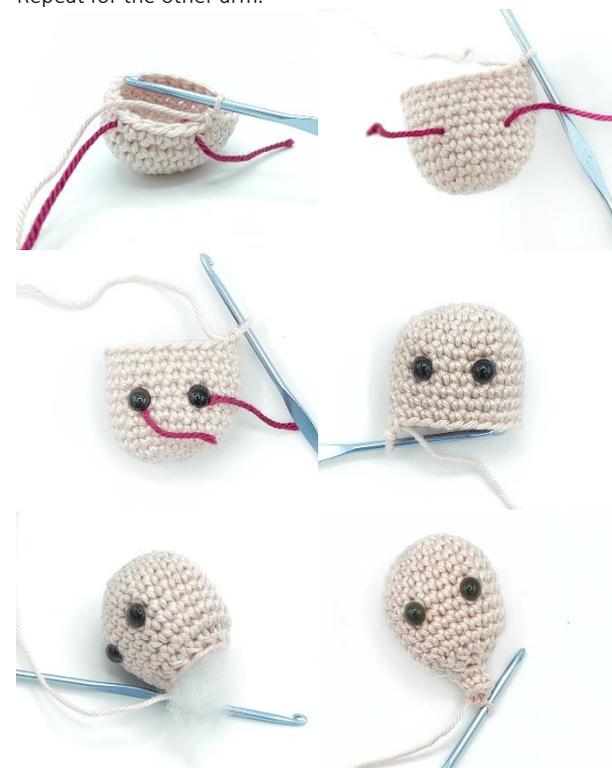
ARMS:

Take a new yarn in **light-rose/ skin-colour**, make a slip knot and do 1 sc in the first st of the arm-outline in the **21. Rd**.

Work 1 sc in each of the 6 sts of the ARM for 6 rounds in total. Weave in the yarn tail.

Tip: as you might not have enough space to easily sc from the **1. Rd** to the **2. Rd**, start the **2. Rd** with a sc-flo. Then continue the **2. Rd** with 1 sc in the remaining 5 sts.

Repeat for the other arm.







COAT:

Start with a **red** yarn.

Make 14 FSC sts, ch 1 and turn your work (I refer to "ch 1 and turn your work as "turning ch st"). How to make a FSC is described in the pattern for the *crochet presents*.

- 1. Row:** inc, 1 sc in the next 12 sts, inc (16), turning ch st
- 2. Row:** inc, [1 sc in next 2 sts, inc next st] repeat 5 times (22), turning ch st
- 3. Row:** inc, [1 sc in next 2 sts, inc next st] repeat 7 times (30), turning ch st
- 4. Row (SLEEVES-OUTLINES):** inc, 1 sc in next 4 sts, ch 2 and work 1 sc in 7th next st (skipping 6 sc), work 1 sc in next 7 sts, ch 2 again and work 1 sc in 7th next st (skipping another 6 sc), 1 sc in next 3 sts, inc last st (24), turning ch st
- 5. Row:** 1 sc in each st around, i.e. 1 sc in first 6 sts, 1 sc in each of the 2 ch sts, continue with working 1 sc in the next 8 sts and for the 2 ch sts, end with 1 sc in the last 6 sts (24), turning ch st
- 6. Row:** 1 sc in each st around (24), turning ch st
- 7. Row:** 1 sc in each st around (24). Ch 1 while changing colour to **white**.

We now continue to work **across all the four sides of the COAT** with the white yarn as follows:

Inc each turning ch st across the right side (4x) of the COAT and work 3 sc in the ch st of the FSC.

Continue 1 sc in each of the first 13 FSC sts and crochet 3 sc in the last FSC st.

Then inc each turning ch st across the other (left) side (4x), starting in the ch st of the FSC. Work 3 sc in the last turning ch st. Work 1 sc in each of the 24 sts of the **7. Rd**.

Sl st to the start of your white frame and weave in the yarn ends.

Take a new **red** yarn and do the **SLEEVES** as follows:

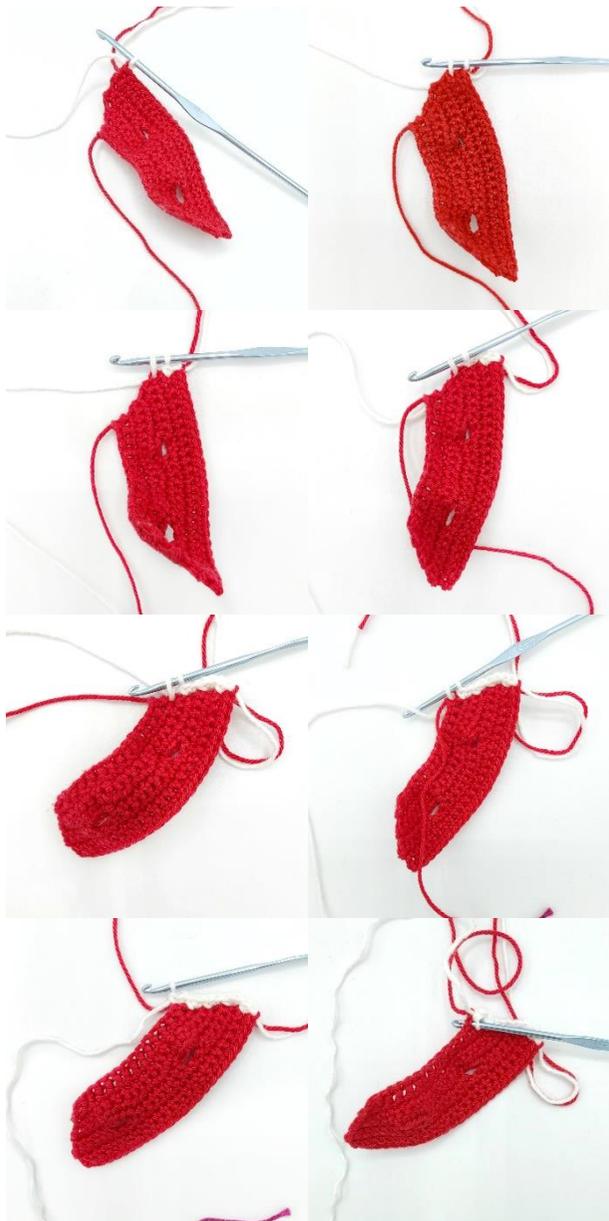
Make a slip knot and work a sc in the 1st st of the SLEEVES-OUTLINE of the COAT (which is 1st free st of the **4. Row**).

- 1. – 4. Rd:** Continue working 1 sc in each of the 6 sts around, then 1 sc in the 2 ch sts (8). Change colour to **white** in the last st of the **4. Rd**.
- 5. Rd:** 1 sc in each st around (8). Sl st in last st.

Repeat for the other SLEEVE.

Now, put the COAT on the BODY of Santa. If you stretch the SLEEVES with a pencil you have it easier to put it on. Alternatively, you can pull the ARMS of Santa through the SLEEVES with the help of your crochet hook.





HAT AND HAIR:

Take a **white** yarn and ch 26. Leave a lot of yarn end that will be used to crochet a second layer of sts in the first 3 rounds (to create the look of a rolled-up HAT).

1. **Rd:** sc to 1st ch st to close to a circle. Continue 1 sc in the next 25 sts (26)
2. **Rd (in sc-blo):** 1 sc-blo in each st around (26)
3. **Rd (in sc-blo):** dec every 6th st (3x), 1 sc in the last 5 sts (23)
4. **Rd (in sc-blo):** dec every 7th st (2x), 1 sc in the last 7 sts. Change colour to **red** in last st (21)
5. + 6. **Rd (in both loops again):** 1 sc in each st around (21)
7. **Rd:** dec, 1 sc in next 9 sts (this will be the FRONT of the HAT), dec, 1 sc in last 8 sts (19)
8. + 9. **Rd:** 1 sc in each st around (19)
10. **Rd:** dec, 1 sc in next 8 sts, dec, 1 sc in last 7 sts (17)
11. **Rd:** 1 sc in each st around (17)
12. **Rd:** dec, 1 sc in next 7 sts, dec, 1 sc in last 6 sts (15)
13. **Rd:** 1 sc in each st around (15)
14. **Rd:** dec, 1 sc in next 6 sts, dec, 1 sc in last 5 sts (13)
15. **Rd:** 1 sc in each st around (13)
16. **Rd:** dec, 1 sc in next 5 sts, dec, 1 sc in last 4 sts (11)
17. **Rd:** 1 sc in each st around (11)
18. **Rd:** dec, 1 sc in next 4 sts, dec, 1 sc in last 3 sts (9)
19. **Rd:** 1 sc in each st around (9)
20. **Rd:** dec every st and close the hole.

2nd layer:

Use the yarn end from the first Rd to work all the front loops of the sc-blo rounds (2. – 4. Rd) to make the bottom of the HAT appear thicker. Start by working in the ch sts from the start.

Alternatively, you can take a new white yarn, then work 1 sc in each ch st and all the front loops in the 2. – 4. Rd.

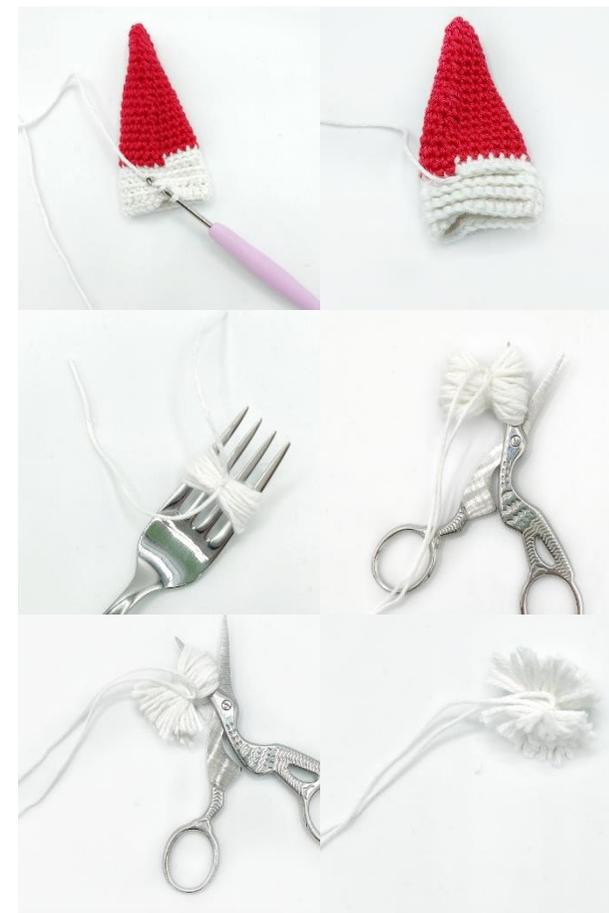
Use the yarn tail to sew a **white** POMPON to the top of the HAT. However, sew the POMPON to the HAT AFTER you have done the HAIR (see next part below), as otherwise the POMPON could be in your way.

POMPON

To make a **POMPON** yourself, wrap white yarn many times around a large fork, then fasten a yarn through the middle with knots and cut the loops at the sides to have only loose yarn ends.

Twitch around all sides to create an even looking ball and cut any excess yarn (except for the two ends from the knot). Use the ends from the knot to sew the POMPON to the HAT.

Before sewing the HAT onto the HEAD of Santa, we want to do the HAIR (on the HAT), see below.



HAIR:

The HAIR is worked in the **back-loops** of the first Rd from the 2nd layer. We want to stitch through the blo in order for the roots of the HAIR (their knots) to not be visible.

The HAIR consists of white yarn strands which are inserted in 19 sc at the bottom of the HAT and tied together with a knot (leave 7 sc sts empty for the front). To create a twirly and voluminous look, we undo the fibres of the yarn (with the use of a darning needle) after attaching the HAIR strand on the HAT. Rub the HAIR lightly with your fingers.

Then, put the HAT onto the HEAD and attach it by sewing around them lightly. You can easily put the HAT on by, first, folding the HAT outwards and folding it back while on the HEAD. Cut the HAIR strands to your preferred length after the HAT was attached onto the head.

Don't forget to bend the HAT slightly to the side and fix its position to create the typical casual look of Santa's HAT. Now, you can also sew the POMPON to the top of the HAT.



BELT:

Make 25 FSC sts with a **brown** yarn, wrap it around the waist over the COAT and sew the ends together at the front of the COAT. You can additionally embroider a clasp at the front to hide the sewed part.



NOSE:

Take a skin-coloured / light-rose yarn and stitch from the back of the HEAD to the front of the face, one row below the eyes in one of the two middle sts in-between the eyes. Sew a horizontal line in the two middle sts several times, before stitching back to the back of the head and fastening the yarn ends in a slip knot together. Hide the yarn ends inside the head.



BEARD:

The beard is worked similarly to Santa's HAIR.

The BEARD consists of white yarn strands going through 3 (parallel) rows, starting in the **row directly below the NOSE** and going down in the direction of the "chin".

Insert the strands, stitch post after stitch post, **in three rows from one side of the face to the other side**. Go until **1-2 sts past the eyes** to really fill the entire "face" of Santa. Do not skip any stitch posts which means that you get 2 yarn strands for each st except for the outer sts. Fasten the yarn ends of each strand with one knot together and loose the fibre of the yarn ends with the darning needle to create a soft, voluminous look.

To make the BEARD more realistic (i.e. to make it appear rounder), I also worked a strand in the 2nd st to the right resp. the left next to the bottom of the eye.

To make the BEARD appear "fluffier", rub the "roots" of the BEARD with your finger.

Cut the BEARD in your preferred shape. I made an "U" form which means shorter sides, long tip.





JUTE SACK:

Take a beige yarn and ch 9 (incl. 1 turning ch st).

1. **Rd:** 1 sc in the first 7 ch sts across, 5 sc in the last ch st. Turn your work and continue on the other side of the chain with 1 sc in the next 6 ch sts and 5 sc in the last ch st (23)
2. **Rd:** inc every st (46)
3. – 7. **Rd:** 1 sc in each st around (46)
8. **Rd:** dec every 4th st (9x), 1 sc (37)
9. **Rd:** 1 sc in each st around (37)
10. **Rd:** dec every 3rd st (9x), 1 sc (28)
11. **Rd:** 1 sc in each st around (28)
12. **Rd:** dec every 2nd st (9x), 1 sc (19)
13. **Rd:** 1 sc in each st around (19)
14. **Rd:** dec every st (9x), 1 sc (10)
15. **Rd:** inc every 2nd st (15)
16. **Rd:** inc every st (30)
17. **Rd:** 1 sc in each st around (30)
18. **Rd:** [1 hdc, 1 dc, 1 tc, 1 dc, 1 hdc, 1 sl st] repeat (5x) until round end

Weave in the yarn ends.

We now want to add a ribbon with a bow:

Take a red yarn and ch 15 (ribbon). Wrap the chain around the **14. Rd** of the sack and work 1 sl st into the 1st ch st to close to a circle (let's call this st **connection st**) while it's on the sack. For the first loop of the bow ch 10 anew and do 1 sl st back to the **connection st**. Repeat (ch 10, 1 sl st to **connection st**). For the ends of the bow ch 6 and slip knot right after the last ch st to secure the sts. Cut the rest and unravel the fibre in the yarn end. Repeat this with the yarn end from the beginning of the wrapped-around chain at the other end of the ribbon.





Congrats, your Crochet Santa is finished!