

## White Sheep Toy in Crochet

MATERIALS: J. & P. COATS KNIT-CRO-SHEEN, 2 balls of White and 1 ball of Black.

Steel Crochet Hook No. 4.

2 black beads for eyes.

Bunch of small flowers.

4 pencils each 51/2 inches long.

Cotton batting.

**GAUGE**: 6 sts make 1 inch; 6 rows make 1 inch. Use a double thread throughout.

TAIL... Starting at tip, with White ch 5. 1st row: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. Ch 1, turn. 2nd row: Sc in next 2 sc, ch 4, sc in next 2 sc. Ch 1, turn. 3rd row: Sc in each sc across. Ch 1, turn.

The 2nd and 3rd rows constitute pattern. Work in pattern, increasing 1 sc at both ends of the 5th row—to inc 1 sc, make 2 sc in 1 sc. Continue in pattern until 8 rows in all are made. Break off.

**BODY**... Starting at lower edge, with White ch 29. 1st row: Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each ch across (this is Tail end—place a marker). Ch 1, turn. 2nd row: 4 sc in 1st sc (3 sc increased). Sc in next 2 sc, \* ch 4, sc in each of next 3 sc. Repeat from \* across, ending with 2 sc in last sc (1 sc increased). Ch 1, turn. 3rd row: 2 sc in 1st sc, sc in each sc across, 4 sc in last sc. Ch 1, turn. Repeat the last 2 rows until there are 48 sc on row.

With wrong side facing, make sc in each sc across, then pick up Tail and, with wrong side facing, make sc in each sc of Tail (Body is joined to Tail). Now work in pattern, increasing 1 sc at front on next 3 rows. Work without increasing until piece measures  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches from tip of Tail.

Dec 2 sc at front edge and 1 sc at Tail end on each of next 4 rows—to dec 2 sc, work off 2 sc as 1 sc twice—to dec 1 sc, work off 2 sc as 1 sc. Then dec 1 sc at both ends of each of next 5 rows. Break off.

Make another piece like this, reversing all shaping. Sew Body pieces together across Back to end of Tail.

BODY GUSSET... With White, ch 3. 1st row: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in next ch. Ch 1, turn. Now inc 1 sc at both ends of each row until there are 6 sc on row. Work straight in loop pattern until piece reaches to back Legs. Then dec 1 sc at both ends of next row. Work over these 4 sc until piece reaches beyond Legs. Then inc back to 6 sc and continue as before until piece reaches front Legs. Work as before until piece reaches

beyond Legs to end of underpart of Body. Sew Gusset in place, leaving openings for Legs. Dec 1 sc at both ends of each row until all sc are worked off. Break off.

LEG (Make 4)... With Black, ch 2. 1st rnd: 5 sc in 2nd ch from hook. 2nd rnd: 2 sc in each sc around. 3rd rnd: Sc in each sc around. Repeat 3rd rnd until Leg measures 3 inches in all.

Cut a piece of cardboard ¾ inch in diameter. Insert it inside Leg at bottom. Wind a sufficient amount of cotton batting around a pencil to stuff Leg. Stuff Leg, insert it in opening and sew Body all around Leg. Finish other Legs in the same way. Stuff Body very firmly.

NECK AND HEAD... With White, ch 15. 1st row: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. Ch 1, turn. Work straight in pattern until piece measures 1 inch, ending with an sc row. On next row, work until loop is made in pattern and continue across remainder of row in sc. Work in this manner, having only 1 loop in each pattern row until piece measures 13/4 inches in all, ending with pattern row. Inc 1 sc at beginning of next row and at end of the following row 3 times in all. Keeping 1 loop in pattern row, work in pattern, decreasing 1 sc at both ends of each of next 6 rows. Break off.

Make another piece like this, reversing all shapings. Sew the front edges of Neck neatly together.

HEAD GUSSET... With White, ch 3. 1st row: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in next ch. Ch 1, turn. 2nd row: 2 sc in each sc. Ch 1, turn. 3rd row: 2 sc in 1st sc, sc in each sc across, 2 sc in last sc. Ch 1, turn. Work until piece measures 1¾ inches. Ch 1, turn. On next row, sc in next 3 sc, ch 4, sc in each of last 3 sc. Ch 1, turn. Work in pattern, having 1 loop in each pattern row until piece reaches from back of Neck across top of Head to ½ inch from tip of Nose. Then dec 1 sc at both ends of each row until 1 sc remains. Break off. Sew Gusset in place. Stuff Head and Neck firmly and sew to Body.

**EAR (Make 2)...** With Black, ch 5. 1st row: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. Ch 1, turn. 2nd row: Sc in each sc across. Ch 1, turn. Now dec 1 sc at one edge only every 3rd row, until 1 sc remains. Break off. Sew Ears to Head.

Sew a bead on each side of Head for eyes. Thread a needle with Black and work outline stitch around each eye. String flowers like a daisy chain and tie around Neck. With scraps of Red embroider nose and mouth in outline stitch.

