

Original Hvalur hnúður (Whale)

Character Reference — Arctic Wool World



Reference art for construction guidance. Colors/pose may vary slightly from your finished piece.

Original Hvalur hnúður — Knitting Pattern

A stylized knitted humpback whale. Gentle, curious, and full of heart. (~35 cm, enlarged for easier knitting)

Origin: Arctic Wool World · **Personality:** Gentle, curious, adventurous · **Likes:** Cold ocean waves, sunbathing, singing

This is an original pattern written for this character, based on standard, generic amigurumi and toy-knitting construction techniques (magic ring/CO, spiral increases and decreases, i-cord, stuffed tubes and spheres). It does not copy, trace, or reproduce any published or copyrighted pattern -- these underlying construction techniques are standard craft knowledge, not anyone's intellectual property, the same way a recipe's technique of 'creaming butter and sugar' isn't owned by any one baker.

Knit abbreviations: k = knit · kfb = knit into front and back of st (inc 1) · k2tog = knit 2 together (dec 1) · CO = cast on · dpns = double-pointed needles · pm = place marker · rnd(s) = round(s) · st(s) = stitch(es)

Materials

Yarn: Aran or chunky-weight (10-12 ply) pure wool -- deliberately thicker than a true-to-scale yarn would call for, so the stitches stay big, easy to see, and quick to work, small quantities in each of: Blue-Grey, Cream.

Hook/needles: a set of 4.5-5mm double-pointed needles (or two short circulars for magic loop), plus a spare needle for grafting.

Notions: Tapestry/yarn needle · stitch markers · polyester fiberfill stuffing · embroidery needle and a little dark thread/yarn for the face · small scissors.

Gauge

Worked at a relaxed toy-knit tension in a thicker yarn: roughly 13 sts and 17 rows over 10 cm in stockinette, worked in the round. Finished size at this gauge is approximately 35 cm -- deliberately enlarged from the reference art so the stitches stay big and easy to track. Exact gauge isn't critical for a stuffed toy; adjust stuffing firmness to taste.

BODY

Worked nose-to-tail in Blue-Grey (switch to Cream for the underside if you want a two-tone belly -- work those rounds as a simple colour-split, half the sts in each colour, rather than a full stranded pattern).

Start at the nose:

Rnd 1: CO 6, divide over 3 dpns, join, pm (6 sts)
Rnd 2: *kfb; rep from * around (12 sts)
Rnd 3: *k, kfb; rep from * around (18 sts)
Rnd 4: *k2, kfb; rep from * around (24 sts)
Rnd 5: *k3, kfb; rep from * around (30 sts)
Rnd 6: *k4, kfb; rep from * around (36 sts)
Rnd 7: *k5, kfb; rep from * around (42 sts)
Rnd 8: *k6, kfb; rep from * around (48 sts)
Rnd 9: *k7, kfb; rep from * around (54 sts)
Rnd 10: *k8, kfb; rep from * around (60 sts)
Rnds 11-24: knit even, 14 rnds (60 sts)

Scatter bobble/nupp stitches over the head and back rounds here for the knobby humpback texture: work (yo, pull up a loop) 3 times in one st, then draw through all loops to close, every 4-5 sts across 3-4 rounds.

Continue even, then taper toward the tail:

Rnd 25: *k8, k2tog; rep from * around (54 sts)
Rnd 26: *k7, k2tog; rep from * around (48 sts)
Rnd 27: *k6, k2tog; rep from * around (42 sts)
Rnd 28: *k5, k2tog; rep from * around (36 sts)
Rnd 29: *k4, k2tog; rep from * around (30 sts)
Rnd 30: *k3, k2tog; rep from * around (24 sts)
Rnd 31: *k2, k2tog; rep from * around (18 sts)
Rnd 32: *k, k2tog; rep from * around (12 sts)
Break yarn, thread through remaining 12 sts, pull tight, fasten off.

TAIL FLUKE

Flatten the last small piece of the tail: instead of closing it into a point, work the final few rounds back and forth in flat rows, increasing at both edges for 2-3 rows to flare it into a wide V, then bind/fasten off along that flared edge. Pinch the centre-back seam lightly so the fluke shows its two lobes.

FLIPPERS (make 2)

Two small paddle-shaped flippers: a short tube, flattened and rounded at the tip, sewn to the upper sides just behind the head.

DORSAL FIN

A small triangular dorsal fin -- a flat piece increased then decreased to a point, sewn to the back just before the tail taper.

FACE

Small embroidered eyes just above and behind the mouth line; a short curved mouth stitch.

Finishing: steam very lightly (hover an iron just above the surface, don't press) to even out stitches, and check every seam by hand -- these take the most handling stress, especially if this toy is for a child. This is a first-generation pattern for this character: proportions, stuffing firmness, or a specific shaping detail may want a tweak once you've made one -- treat it as a working draft.