HAZEL THE HEDGEHOG

Complete Digital Crochet Amigurumi Pattern

DIGITAL DOWNLOAD ONLY - NO PHYSICAL ITEM WILL BE SHIPPED



SKILL LEVEL	TERMINOLOGY	METHOD
Confident beginner	US crochet terms	Continuous spiral rounds

2. Digital Download Notice

IMPORTANT

This file is a digital crochet pattern. It is not a finished amigurumi, plushie, or physical toy. No physical item will be shipped. You will crochet, stuff, assemble, and finish Hazel yourself.

Project at a Glance

Item	Plan
Finished style	Round hedgehog with cream face/belly, dense brown looped shell, tan ears, brown paws, pink cheeks, black facial details.
Construction	Cream body/head is one piece. Shell, ears, muzzle, cheeks, arms, and feet are made separately and sewn on.
Skill focus	Magic ring, spiral sc, increases, invisible decreases, simple sewing, embroidery, and a decorative chain-loop shell stitch.
Stuffing	Body firmly but not stretched; muzzle lightly; paws lightly; shell, ears, and cheeks unstuffed.
Assembly order	Body and face -> ears -> shell -> feet -> arms -> final shaping and symmetry check.

Before You Start

Read the whole pattern once before crocheting. Keep one locking marker in the first stitch of each round and a second removable guide thread at centre back. Make all paired pieces before assembly so you can compare size and tension.

DESIGN TARGET

Hazel is designed to look softly rounded and compact rather than tall or narrow. The brown shell should dominate the back and sides while leaving a generous cream face and belly visible from the front.

3. Finished Measurements

Using bulky-weight yarn and a 4.5 mm hook at the target tension below, aim for the following approximate finished dimensions. These are digital design targets and may vary.

Feature	Target cm	Target in
Overall height	17-19 cm	6.75-7.5 in
Overall width including shell loops	18.5-21 cm	7.25-8.25 in
Front-to-back depth	16.5-18 cm	6.5-7 in
Cream body/head height	15-17 cm	6-6.75 in
Cream body/head width	14-15 cm	5.5-6 in
Spiny shell projection	2-3 cm	0.75-1.25 in
Ear diameter	3-3.5 cm	1.25-1.4 in
Muzzle diameter	2.5-3 cm	1-1.2 in
Arm length	3-3.5 cm	1.25-1.4 in
Foot length	3-4 cm	1.25-1.6 in

4. Materials and Tools

Material	Approximate amount	Use
Bulky / #5 yarn - cream	85-100 g / about 95-120 m	Body/head and muzzle
Bulky / #5 yarn - medium brown	120-150 g / about 120-160 m	Spiny shell, arms, feet
Bulky / #5 yarn - tan	10-15 g	Ears
Bulky / #5 yarn - pink	Under 5 g	Cheeks
Black yarn or embroidery floss	1-2 m	Nose and mouth; optional embroidered eyes
Safety eyes	2 x 12 mm	Optional; use matching backs
Polyester fibre filling	About 80-120 g	Body, muzzle, paws
Crochet hook	4.5 mm	Adjust only if needed for dense fabric

Also have: tapestry needle, locking stitch markers, several pins, scissors, flexible measuring tape, and an optional row counter.

SAFETY

Safety eyes, buttons, beads, wire, and other small or rigid components may not be suitable for children under 3 years old. For items intended for young children, omit safety eyes and embroider the eyes securely with black yarn or embroidery floss. Check all seams, embroidered features, and yarn tails carefully before use.

5. Gauge and Tension

Target gauge: approximately 13 sc x 14 rounds = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 in in firm single crochet worked in continuous spiral rounds with a 4.5 mm hook. Measure on the side of a small practice tube, without stretching the fabric.

- The fabric should be dense enough that filling does not show between stitches.
- If gaps appear, use a smaller hook or tighten tension before adding more stuffing.
- Exact gauge is not mandatory, but a different gauge will change finished size and yarn usage.

6. Crochet Method and Terminology

Method	Instruction
Terminology	US crochet terminology.
Rounds	All crocheted pieces are worked in continuous spiral rounds unless a finishing instruction says otherwise.
BOR marker	Place a locking marker in the first stitch of every round and move it after each completed round.
Centre-back guide	Run a removable contrasting yarn vertically through the body at the back. Use this guide for placement because spiral rounds can drift.
Single crochet style	Standard yarn-over single crochet is intended. Yarn-under single crochet may be substituted, but it can change size and texture.
Finished side	Keep the normal right side of the crochet facing outward.
Turning	No pattern piece is turned during its spiral rounds.

7. Abbreviations and Special Stitch

Abbreviation	Meaning
MR	magic ring
ch	chain
sl st	slip stitch
sc	single crochet
inc	increase: work 2 sc in the same stitch
inv dec	invisible decrease: work the front loops of the next 2 stitches together as 1 sc
st / sts	stitch / stitches
rnd / rnds	round / rounds
FO	fasten off
BOR	beginning of round
CB	centre back
CF	centre front
splp	spine loop; see below

SPINE LOOP (splp)

Work 1 sc in the next stitch. Ch 5, then sl st into the front loop of the sc just made. The ch-5 forms a decorative loop and does not add to the stitch count. On the next round, crochet only into the top of the original sc, not into the decorative chain loop.

8. Construction Overview

Piece	Qty	Colour	Stuffing	Notes
Body / Head	1	Cream	Stuff firmly without stretching	Worked as one closed oval; safety eyes are installed before final stuffing if used.
Spiny Shell	1	Brown	Unstuffed	A separate textured cap sewn over crown, back, sides, and underside edge.
Ears	2	Tan	Unstuffed	Small cupped circles; bases are partly overlapped by shell rim.
Muzzle	1	Cream	Lightly stuffed	Sewn to centre front; nose and smile are embroidered.
Cheeks	2	Pink	Unstuffed	Tiny flat discs sewn just outside the muzzle/eye area.
Arms	2	Brown	Lightly stuffed	Flattened at opening before sewing.
Feet	2	Brown	Lightly stuffed	Flattened at opening; positioned low on front.

Orientation

Right and left are always described from Hazel's point of view. The first stitch of each round is BOR. Keep a removable CB guide on the middle of the back; CF is directly opposite it on the front.

Orientation Guide

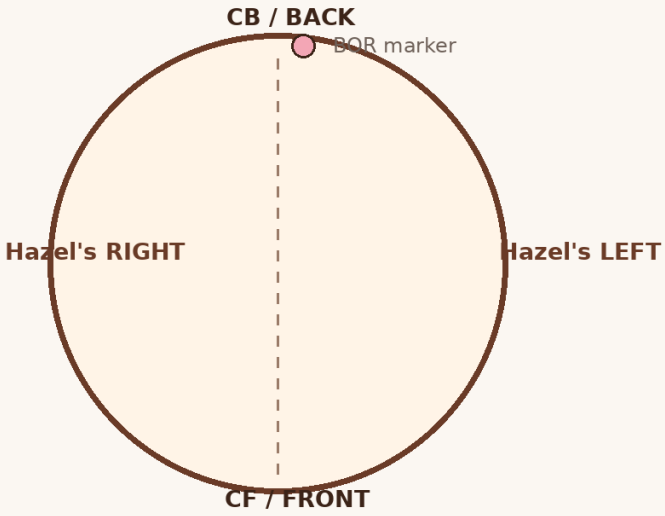
Use a removable vertical centre-back guide because spiral rounds can drift.

BOR
First stitch of each round. Move the marker after every round.

CB
A removable guide thread running vertically down the middle of the back.

CF
Directly opposite the CB guide on the front.

Right / left
Always mean Hazel's own right and left unless stated otherwise.



Recommended Assembly Order

1. Complete, stuff, and close the body/head.
2. Add or confirm the eyes, then sew the muzzle, nose, mouth, and cheeks.
3. Attach both ears and check symmetry.
4. Pin and sew the spiny shell over the back, slightly overlapping the rear edge of each ear base.
5. Attach the feet, then the arms.
6. Pull all shell loops outward, shape the silhouette, remove guide threads, and bury every remaining tail.

9. Complete Written Crochet Pattern

A. Body / Head - make 1 in cream

SETUP

The magic ring begins at the underside centre. Keep the BOR marker in the first stitch of every round. From Rnd 10 onward, keep a second removable guide thread on CB so the front placement remains stable.

Round	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	6 sc in MR.	6
Rnd 2	Inc in each st around.	12
Rnd 3	(Sc in next st, inc in next st) 6 times.	18
Rnd 4	(Sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	24
Rnd 5	(Sc in next 3 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	30
Rnd 6	(Sc in next 4 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	36
Rnd 7	(Sc in next 5 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	42
Rnd 8	(Sc in next 6 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	48
Rnd 9	(Sc in next 7 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	54
Rnd 10	(Sc in next 8 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	60
Rnds 11-17	Sc in each st around.	60 each
Rnd 18	(Sc in next 8 sts, inv dec) 6 times.	54
Rnds 19-20	Sc in each st around.	54 each
Rnd 21	(Sc in next 7 sts, inv dec) 6 times.	48
Rnds 22-23	Sc in each st around.	48 each

EYE PAUSE AFTER RND 23

Mark CF directly opposite the CB guide. If using safety eyes, insert them between Body Rnds 20 and 21, with the centres about 8-9 stitches apart - approximately 4-5 stitches to each side of CF. Check that they are level before attaching the backs. For embroidered eyes, leave this area unworked for now and add the eyes after stuffing.

Round	Instruction	Count
Rnd 24	(Sc in next 6 sts, inv dec) 6 times.	42
Rnd 25	Sc in each st around.	42
Rnd 26	(Sc in next 5 sts, inv dec) 6 times.	36
Rnd 27	(Sc in next 4 sts, inv dec) 6 times.	30
Rnd 28	(Sc in next 3 sts, inv dec) 6 times.	24
Rnd 29	(Sc in next 2 sts, inv dec) 6 times.	18
Rnd 30	(Sc in next st, inv dec) 6 times.	12
Rnd 31	Inv dec 6 times.	6

After Rnd 26, begin adding filling in small pieces, shaping a broad lower body and a slightly narrower crown. Continue stuffing after each decrease round. Before Rnd 31, check that the body is firm but still compressible and that the underside remains reasonably flat. FO after Rnd 31, thread the tail through the front loops of the final 6 sts, pull closed, secure, and bury the tail.

B. Spiny Shell - make 1 in brown

The shell is worked from its closed centre outward as a textured cap. It remains unstuffed. The smooth shaping rounds establish the bowl; the splp rounds create the dense curled-spine surface.

Round	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	6 sc in MR.	6
Rnd 2	Inc in each st around.	12
Rnd 3	(Sc in next st, inc in next st) 6 times.	18
Rnd 4	(Splp in next st, sc in next st) 9 times.	18
Rnd 5	(Sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	24
Rnd 6	(Splp in next st, sc in next st) 12 times.	24
Rnd 7	(Sc in next 3 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	30
Rnd 8	(Splp in next st, sc in next st) 15 times.	30
Rnd 9	(Sc in next 4 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	36
Rnd 10	(Splp in next st, sc in next st) 18 times.	36
Rnd 11	(Sc in next 5 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	42
Rnd 12	(Splp in next st, sc in next st) 21 times.	42
Rnd 13	(Sc in next 6 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	48
Rnd 14	(Splp in next st, sc in next st) 24 times.	48
Rnd 15	(Sc in next 7 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	54
Rnd 16	(Splp in next st, sc in next st) 27 times.	54
Rnd 17	(Sc in next 8 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	60
Rnd 18	(Splp in next st, sc in next st) 30 times.	60
Rnd 19	Sc in each st around.	60
Rnd 20	(Splp in next st, sc in next st) 30 times.	60
Rnd 21	Sc in each st around.	60
Rnd 22	(Splp in next st, sc in next st) 30 times.	60

FO after Rnd 22 and leave a long sewing tail, approximately 100-120 cm / 40-48 in. Do not cut or trim the decorative chain loops. With your fingers, pull each loop to the right side and gently separate neighbouring loops so the surface looks full.

FIT CHECK

Before sewing, place the shell against the completed body with the shell MR centred at the back around Body Rnds 17-18. The shell should curve over the crown and back, with the rim able to reach behind both ear and arm positions and down toward the underside without stretching.

C. Ears - make 2 in tan

Round	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	6 sc in MR.	6
Rnd 2	Inc in each st around.	12
Rnd 3	Sc in each st around.	12

FO, leave a 25 cm / 10 in sewing tail, and do not stuff. Press each ear into a shallow cup. Pinch about 3 stitches at the base together before sewing so the ear curves slightly forward.

D. Muzzle - make 1 in cream

Round	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	6 sc in MR.	6
Rnd 2	Inc in each st around.	12
Rnd 3	Sc in each st around.	12

FO with a 35 cm / 14 in tail. Add only a small pinch of filling when sewing so the muzzle stays softly rounded rather than ball-shaped.

E. Cheeks - make 2 in pink

Round	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	6 sc in MR. Join invisibly to the first sc if desired, then FO.	6

Leave a 20 cm / 8 in sewing tail. Keep the cheeks completely flat and unstuffed.

F. Arms - make 2 in brown

Round	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	6 sc in MR.	6
Rnd 2	Inc in each st around.	12
Rnds 3-4	Sc in each st around.	12 each
Rnd 5	(Sc in next st, inv dec) 4 times.	8

Add a small amount of filling to the lower half only. Flatten the 8-st opening so 4 stitches sit against 4 stitches; FO with a 30 cm / 12 in sewing tail.

G. Feet - make 2 in brown

Round	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	6 sc in MR.	6
Rnd 2	Inc in each st around.	12
Rnd 3	(Sc in next st, inc in next st) 6 times.	18
Rnd 4	Sc in each st around.	18
Rnd 5	(Sc in next st, inv dec) 6 times.	12
Rnd 6	Sc in each st around.	12

Lightly stuff each foot, concentrating filling toward the front. Flatten the 12-st opening to 6 stitches against 6 stitches. FO with a 35 cm / 14 in sewing tail.

12. Colour and Surface Details

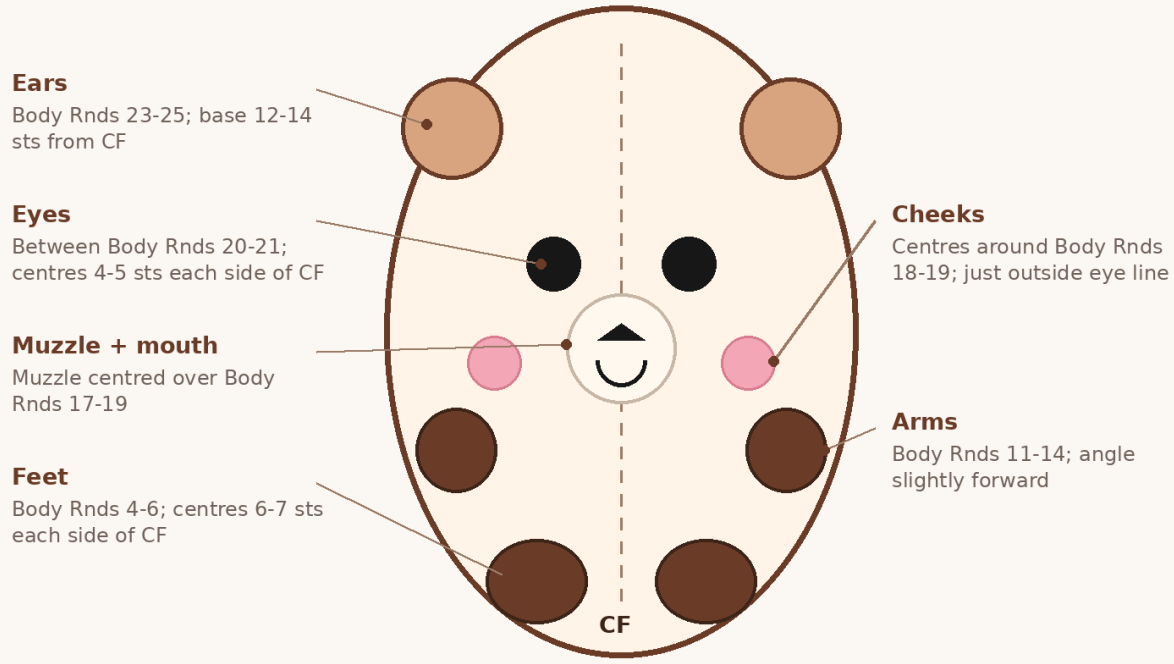
Hazel uses separate-colour pieces rather than in-round colour changes. Do not carry brown, tan, or pink yarn inside the cream body. Cut and secure each colour at FO, then join the next piece separately during assembly. This keeps the body interior clean and prevents dark yarn from showing through the cream fabric.

The brown shell texture comes from the splp rounds. If a chain loop becomes trapped on the inside, use the blunt end of the tapestry needle or your fingers to pull it back through before sewing the shell to the body.

13. Placement Maps

Front Placement Map

Right and left are from Hazel's point of view.

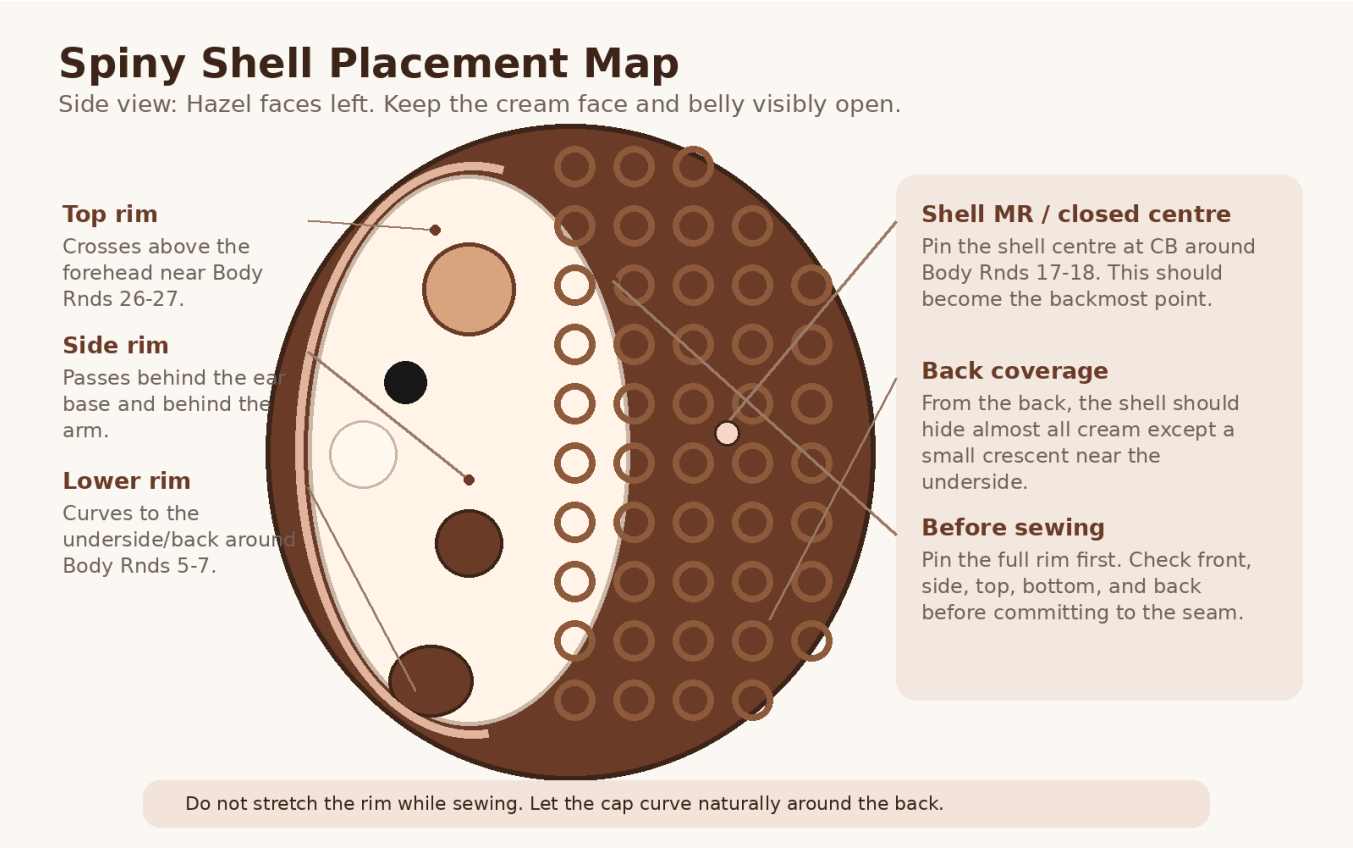


Check placements after stuffing. Pin first, compare both sides, then sew.

Front placement summary

Feature	Round range	Horizontal placement	Direction
Eyes	Between Body Rnds 20-21	Centres 4-5 sts each side of CF; about 8-9 sts between centres	Level and symmetric
Muzzle	Body Rnds 17-19	Centred on CF	Top edge just below eye line
Cheeks	Body Rnds 18-19	Centres about 7-8 sts each side of CF	Just outside muzzle; keep level
Ears	Body Rnds 23-25	Bases about 12-14 sts each side of CF	Tilt slightly outward and forward
Arms	Body Rnds 11-14	Bases about 11-12 sts each side of CF	Angle slightly forward
Feet	Body Rnds 4-6	Centres about 6-7 sts each side of CF	Front edge points slightly outward

Shell placement



- Place the shell MR at CB around Body Rnds 17-18. This becomes the centre of the back.
- At the top, the shell rim should cross the crown/forehead around Body Rnds 26-27, leaving a clean cream forehead above the eyes.
- At the sides, route the rim behind the ear bases and behind the arms rather than across them.
- At the lower edge, let the rim curve toward the underside/back around Body Rnds 5-7. Do not drag the rim across the cream belly.
- From the back, the shell should cover nearly all cream except a small crescent near the underside. From the front, the cream face and belly should remain dominant.

PIN BEFORE SEWING

Use at least 10-12 pins around the shell rim. Check the front, back, both sides, top, and underside. Adjust the cap until the loop density looks balanced before sewing any section longer than 2-3 cm.

14. Stuffing and Shaping

Body / Head

- Begin stuffing after Body Rnd 26, while the opening is still wide enough to reach the lower body.
- Use small tufts of filling. Pack the lower body firmly enough to hold a rounded seated shape, but do not stretch the stitches.
- Keep the crown slightly softer than the lower body so the shell can sit smoothly over it.
- Before closing, press the underside gently on a flat surface and redistribute filling so Hazel does not rock excessively.

Muzzle, Arms, and Feet

- Muzzle: only a pinch of filling; the face should remain soft and compact.
- Arms: lightly fill the lower half and keep the flattened sewing edge empty.
- Feet: lightly fill the front half; keep the back edge flatter for a clean seam.

Shell, Ears, and Cheeks

Leave these pieces unstuffed. The shell gains volume from the decorative loops. Ears should remain flexible, and cheeks should lie flat against the face.

15. Assembly Instructions

1. Check the stuffed body from the front and locate CF opposite the CB guide. If embroidered eyes are being used, stitch two compact rounded eyes between Body Rnds 20-21, approximately 4-5 stitches each side of CF. Secure both yarn ends inside the fabric path and bury them completely.

2. Pin the muzzle over Body Rnds 17-19, centred on CF. Sew around most of the edge with small whip stitches through the muzzle edge and surface loops of the body. Add a tiny pinch of filling, finish the seam, secure, and bury the tail.

3. With black yarn or embroidery floss, embroider a small rounded triangle or oval nose at the upper centre of the muzzle. Bring a short line down from the nose, then form a gentle smile to each side. Use 2-3 passes only, secure the ends, and bury them.

4. Pin the two pink cheeks around Body Rnds 18-19, just outside the muzzle and below the outer half of each eye. Sew each flat disc around its edge. Recheck that the cheek centres are level before burying the tails.

5. Pin the ears at Body Rnds 23-25, with each base about 12-14 stitches from CF. Tilt them slightly outward and forward. Sew the pinched base of each ear firmly to the body, leaving the upper edge free and cupped.

6. Place the shell over the back with its MR at CB around Body Rnds 17-18. Pin the full rim using the Shell Placement Map. The rim should pass behind the ear bases, behind the arm positions, and down toward the underside/back without crossing the cream belly.

7. Using the long shell tail, whip stitch the final shell round to the body. Pass the needle under surface loops of the cream fabric rather than through the entire stuffed body. Work 2-3 cm at a time, remove pins gradually, and keep the rim relaxed so the body does not pucker. Secure and bury the tail.

8. Pin the feet over Body Rnds 4-6, with centres about 6-7 stitches each side of CF. The flattened opening should lie horizontally against the body. Sew the opening edge first, then add one or two small side stitches if needed to keep each foot facing slightly outward.

9. Pin the arms over Body Rnds 11-14, roughly 11-12 stitches each side of CF. Angle the paws slightly forward. Sew along the flattened opening, then add one small stabilising stitch at the upper inside edge if an arm swings too far outward.

10. Stand Hazel upright and compare the face, ears, arms, feet, and shell from all sides. Correct any obvious lean while seams are still accessible. Pull every shell loop outward, remove all temporary markers and guide yarns, secure all remaining ends, and bury every tail.

16. Sewing Methods

Join	Recommended method	How to sew
Muzzle / cheeks	Small whip stitch	Pass through the outer edge of the small piece and one or two surface loops of the body. Tighten only until the edge sits flat.
Ears	Whip stitch through pinched base	Catch the pinched ear base and body surface loops. Do not stitch across the open cupped top.
Shell	Relaxed whip stitch	Catch the shell rim stitch and body surface loops. Do not pull hard enough to sink the rim or flatten the chain loops.
Arms / feet	Whip stitch through flattened opening	Sew the paired opening edges to the body. Add only minimal side stitches so the paws remain rounded.
Embroidery	Back-and-forth surface passes	Use short passes for nose, mouth, and optional eyes. Secure with a small hidden knot or woven tail and bury it fully inside the crochet fabric.

17. Final Visual Checklist

- ☐ Face is centred on CF and visually balanced.
- ☐ Eyes are level, evenly spaced, and firmly secured or embroidered.
- ☐ Muzzle sits straight and the nose/mouth are centred.
- ☐ Cheeks are level and equally spaced from the muzzle.
- ☐ Ears are similar in height, angle, and forward tilt.
- ☐ Arms are aligned and face slightly forward.
- ☐ Feet are level, equally spaced, and point slightly outward.
- ☐ Shell MR sits at centre back and the shell covers crown, back, and sides evenly.
- ☐ Shell rim frames the cream face without crossing the belly.
- ☐ Decorative shell loops point outward and no loops are trapped under the seam.

☐ Hazel sits upright without a severe lean or rounded rolling base.
☐ No filling shows through the body, muzzle, arms, or feet.
☐ No large holes appear around invisible decreases.
☐ No loose seams, exposed rigid components, temporary markers, or unsecured yarn tails remain.

18. Troubleshooting

Problem	Practical fix
Stuffing shows through	Switch to a smaller hook or firmer tension. Remove excess filling rather than forcing more between loose stitches.
Hazel is too large or too small	Use a smaller/larger hook or yarn, then keep the same stitch counts. A gauge change affects all finished dimensions.
Spiral rounds twist	Keep the BOR marker in the first stitch and use the separate CB guide for placement rather than following the visual slant of the round.
Visible colour step	This design avoids in-round colour changes. If a join between separate pieces looks abrupt, use smaller sewing stitches and bury the seam under the piece edge.
Eyes are uneven	Before securing safety-eye backs, view the body from arm's length and compare the eye line with CF. For embroidered eyes, remove and restitch before burying tails.
Muzzle is off-centre	Unpin or unpick only the muzzle edge, realign its centre with CF, then resew before redoing nose/mouth embroidery if needed.
Head/body leans	Massage and redistribute the lower-body filling through the fabric from the outside, then check that both feet contact the surface evenly. If the lean cannot be corrected externally, carefully reopen the Rnd 31 closure, adjust the filling, then reclose and secure it before rechecking the feet.
One limb or ear sits higher	Count the stated round range again from the underside and compare both sides from CF before adding stabilising stitches.
Shell points or loops twist inward	Pull each splp chain loop to the outside with the blunt needle tip and separate loops with your fingers.
Gaps around a sewn piece	Add one or two small whip stitches only in the gapped area; do not cinch the entire seam tighter.
Flat base becomes rounded	Massage the filling outward from the centre bottom through the fabric and press the underside flat. If filling must be removed, carefully reopen the Rnd 31 closure, remove a small amount, redistribute the remaining filling toward the side walls, then reclose and secure the opening.
Visible holes after decreases	Use invisible decreases through front loops only and avoid overstuffing the final decrease rounds.

19. Printing and Customer Notes

- DIGITAL DOWNLOAD ONLY - NO PHYSICAL ITEM WILL BE SHIPPED.
- This pattern uses US crochet terminology and continuous spiral rounds.
- For printing, use US Letter at 100% / Actual Size. The page layout also fits A4 when printed with Fit to Printable Area. Do not enlarge the pattern to interpret finished dimensions.
- Finished measurements are design targets only and can vary with yarn, hook size, tension, stuffing, and technique.
- This pattern was digitally drafted and internally stitch-count checked. It was not physically prototyped or test crocheted.
- You may use the pattern for personal handmade projects and may sell finished handmade Hazel items in small quantities.
- You may not redistribute, resell, copy, upload, share, translate, or republish the pattern itself, in whole or in part, without permission.

Quick Finish Reference

Piece	Colour	Length	Maximum	Placement / finish
Body / head	Cream	31 rnds	60 sts max	Stuff firmly; safety eyes at Rnds 20-21
Shell	Brown	22 rnds	60 sts max	Unstuffed; MR at CB around Body Rnds 17-18
Ears x2	Tan	3 rnds	12 sts	Body Rnds 23-25
Muzzle	Cream	3 rnds	12 sts	Body Rnds 17-19; light stuffing
Cheeks x2	Pink	1 rnd	6 sts	Body Rnds 18-19
Arms x2	Brown	5 rnds	12 sts max	Body Rnds 11-14
Feet x2	Brown	6 rnds	18 sts max	Body Rnds 4-6

FINAL DIGITAL CHECK

All listed pieces are used in assembly. Body and shell shaping counts progress without unexplained jumps. Repeats consume the stated stitch counts. The shell splp chain loops are decorative and do not change the base stitch count. No physical test crochet was performed.

Pattern Use Note

Please keep this PDF with your project while crocheting so the placement maps, stitch counts, and assembly order remain together. When substituting yarn, make a small practice tube first and choose the hook that gives a dense, comfortable amigurumi fabric.

Reference Silhouette Check

Use these supplied digital reference views only as a visual proportion check for shell coverage and overall silhouette. They are not photographs of a physically tested sample.



Thank you for supporting independent digital craft design.