NORI THE ONIGIRI

Complete Digital Crochet Amigurumi Pattern



DIGITAL DOWNLOAD ONLY - NO PHYSICAL ITEM WILL BE SHIPPED

Skill level	Confident beginner
Terminology	US crochet terms
Construction	Continuous spiral body + simple flat details
Main hook	3.5 mm / E-4
Target size	About 11.5-12.5 cm / 4.5-5 in tall

2. Digital Download Notice

THIS FILE IS A CROCHET PATTERN - NOT A FINISHED TOY

Project at a Glance

Item	Plan
Main body	1 piece, white, worked from crown to base in continuous spiral rounds; stuffed.
Nori panel	1 piece, black, worked flat in rows; unstuffed.
Cheeks	2 small pink circles; unstuffed.
Face	10 mm safety eyes or embroidered eyes; embroidered smile.
Assembly order	Body -> eyes -> stuffing/closure -> smile -> cheeks -> nori panel -> final shaping.
Right/left convention	Right and left are always from Nori's point of view unless specifically stated otherwise.

3. Finished Measurements

Calculated target measurements when worked close to the stated gauge:

Feature	Target
Overall height / seated height	11.5-12.5 cm / 4.5-5 in
Maximum front width	10.5-11.5 cm / 4.1-4.5 in
Front-to-back depth	7-8 cm / 2.75-3.1 in
Nori panel	about 5 cm wide x 4-4.2 cm high / 2 x 1.6-1.65 in
Cheek diameter	about 1-1.2 cm / 0.4-0.5 in
Eye size	10 mm recommended

4. Materials and Tools

Yarn

Colour / use	Approximate amount
White / rice body	Worsted / medium #4 smooth cotton or cotton-acrylic blend, about 50-60 g / 85-105 m / 93-115 yd
Black / nori + smile	Same weight black yarn, about 8-10 g / 14-18 m / 15-20 yd; a small amount of black embroidery floss may be used for the smile
Pink / cheeks	Same weight pink yarn, less than 2 g / about 3 m / 3 yd

Tools and notions

- 3.5 mm / E-4 crochet hook, or the size needed to make a dense fabric.
- Polyester fibre filling, approximately 25-35 g.
- Two 10 mm black safety eyes. For a slightly bolder look, 12 mm eyes may be used, but recheck spacing before locking the backs.
- Black embroidery floss or black yarn for the embroidered-eye alternative and smile.
- Tapestry needle with a blunt tip.
- Locking stitch marker for the beginning of round and 2-3 spare markers for centre-front guides.
- Straight pins or locking stitch markers for pinning the nori panel and cheeks.
- Scissors and measuring tape.
- Row counter, optional.

> **SAFETY** Safety eyes, buttons, beads, wire, and other small or rigid components may not be suitable for children under three years old. For items intended for young children, omit the safety eyes and embroider the eyes securely with black yarn or embroidery floss. Check all seams, embroidered features, and yarn tails carefully before use. This pattern is not a toy-safety certification.

5. Gauge and Tension

Target gauge: approximately 16 sc x 17 rounds = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 in in firm single crochet, worked in continuous spiral rounds with a 3.5 mm hook.

- Check gauge on the side of a small practice tube worked in continuous rounds rather than on a flat swatch.
- Use firm, even tension so the filling does not show through the stitch gaps.
- If your fabric is loose, use a smaller hook. If it is very stiff and difficult to insert the hook, use a slightly larger hook.
- Exact gauge is not mandatory, but it changes finished size, yarn usage, eye spacing, and the apparent proportions of the nori panel.
- The gauge above is the body gauge and is measured in continuous spiral rounds. The nori panel is worked flat in turned rows, so do not use the 17-round vertical gauge as a flat-row gauge. Measure the completed nori panel directly against its stated target dimensions before sewing it to the body.

6. Crochet Method and Terminology

Method	Instruction
Terminology	US crochet terminology.
Body rounds	Worked in a continuous spiral. Do not join rounds unless instructed.
BOR marker	Place a locking marker in the first stitch of every body round and move it up after each completed round.

Method	Instruction
Single crochet style	Standard yarn-over single crochet is intended. Yarn-under single crochet may make a tighter, smaller fabric.
Fabric side	Keep the normal finished side facing outward.
Flat rows	The black nori panel is worked back and forth in rows. Turn after each row.
Cheeks	Worked as one small joined circle each; the joining slip stitch is not counted as a stitch.

7. Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
MR	magic ring
ch	chain
sl st	slip stitch
sc	single crochet
inc	increase: work 2 sc into the same stitch
inv dec	invisible decrease: insert hook through the front loops of the next 2 stitches and complete them together as 1 sc
BLO	back loop only
st / sts	stitch / stitches
rnd / rnds	round / rounds
row / rows	row / rows
FO	fasten off
BOR	beginning of round
CF	centre front
CB	centre back

8. Construction Overview

- The white body is crocheted from the pointed crown downward in one continuous spiral. Three evenly spaced increases per shaping round build the rounded triangular silhouette.
- Rounds 16-19 keep the lower body at its maximum circumference. Round 20 is worked in BLO to form a subtle base-turn ridge; the decrease rounds after it become the underside.
- The body is the only stuffed crocheted piece. The black nori panel and pink cheeks remain unstuffed.
- Safety eyes must be fitted before the underside opening becomes too small. The pattern pauses at the end of Round 20 for eye installation and orientation marking.
- The nori panel and cheeks are sewn onto the completed body. The smile and embroidered-eye alternative are added with a tapestry needle.
- Keep one body opening accessible until the eyes are installed and most stuffing has been added.
- The body can be rotated before facial placement. Choose one subtle increase line as CB; the broad opposite side becomes the face.

> **ORIENTATION** Right and left are described from Nori's point of view. When you look directly at Nori's face, Nori's left is on the viewer's right, and Nori's right is on the viewer's left.

Recommended assembly order

1. Crochet the body through Round 20.
2. Choose the front and back; mark CF and CB.
3. Install safety eyes, or mark the embroidered-eye positions.
4. Finish the underside decrease rounds while stuffing and shaping.
5. Close the underside opening.
6. Add the smile and embroidered eyes if used.
7. Sew on both cheeks.
8. Pin and sew on the black nori panel.
9. Check symmetry, base stability, seam security, and buried yarn tails.

9. Complete Written Crochet Pattern

> **BEFORE YOU BEGIN** Keep the BOR marker in place throughout the body. The three increases in each shaping round are intentionally spaced evenly. Do not add extra stitches at the BOR. Count every round before moving on.

A. Main Body - White - Make 1

Work in continuous spiral rounds. Stuff only when instructed. The body is worked from crown to underside.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
1	6 sc in MR.	6 sts
2	(Sc in next 1 st, inc in next st) 3 times.	9 sts
3	(Sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st) 3 times.	12 sts
4	(Sc in next 3 sts, inc in next st) 3 times.	15 sts
5	(Sc in next 4 sts, inc in next st) 3 times.	18 sts
6	(Sc in next 5 sts, inc in next st) 3 times.	21 sts
7	(Sc in next 6 sts, inc in next st) 3 times.	24 sts
8	(Sc in next 7 sts, inc in next st) 3 times.	27 sts
9	(Sc in next 8 sts, inc in next st) 3 times.	30 sts
10	(Sc in next 9 sts, inc in next st) 3 times.	33 sts
11	(Sc in next 10 sts, inc in next st) 3 times.	36 sts
12	(Sc in next 11 sts, inc in next st) 3 times.	39 sts
13	(Sc in next 12 sts, inc in next st) 3 times.	42 sts
14	(Sc in next 13 sts, inc in next st) 3 times.	45 sts
15	(Sc in next 14 sts, inc in next st) 3 times.	48 sts

Visual check after Round 15: the piece should look like a small rounded cone with three gentle increase lines. If the fabric looks sharply triangular, do not crease the increase lines; the stuffing will soften them.

A. Main Body - continued

Rnd	Instruction	Count
16	Sc in each st around.	48 sts
17	Sc in each st around.	48 sts

Rnd	Instruction	Count
18	Sc in each st around.	48 sts
19	Sc in each st around.	48 sts
20	Working in BLO, sc in each st around.	48 sts
21	(Sc in next 6 sts, inv dec over next 2 sts) 6 times.	42 sts
22	(Sc in next 5 sts, inv dec over next 2 sts) 6 times.	36 sts
23	(Sc in next 4 sts, inv dec over next 2 sts) 6 times.	30 sts
24	(Sc in next 3 sts, inv dec over next 2 sts) 6 times.	24 sts
25	(Sc in next 2 sts, inv dec over next 2 sts) 6 times.	18 sts
26	(Sc in next 1 st, inv dec over next 2 sts) 6 times.	12 sts
27	Inv dec over the next 2 sts 6 times.	6 sts

Pause after Round 20 - install eyes and set orientation. Hold the body upright. Choose one subtle increase line as CB and mark it. The broad side opposite that line is the front; place a temporary vertical guide at CF. Install the safety eyes between Rounds 10 and 11, with the eye centres about 3 stitch columns to each side of CF. Check from the front and both sides before attaching the backs. If embroidering the eyes, do not insert safety eyes; keep the CF guide in place and add embroidered eyes after the body is closed.

Stuffing schedule. After Round 23, begin adding small tufts of filling. Keep the crown rounded, the front broad, and the back softly curved. Continue filling after Rounds 24 and 25. Before Round 27, add the final small amount near the base, but do not pack the last rounds so tightly that the base bulges.

Close. After Round 27, FO leaving a 20 cm / 8 in tail. Thread the tail through the front loops of the remaining 6 stitches, pull closed, secure with a small hidden knot, then bury the tail through the body.

B. Black Nori Panel - Make 1

Worked flat in rows with black yarn. The turning chain does not count as a stitch.

Row	Instruction	Count
Foundation	Ch 9.	-
Row 1	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. Ch 1, turn.	8 sts
Row 2	Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn.	8 sts
Row 3	Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn.	8 sts
Row 4	Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn.	8 sts
Row 5	Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn.	8 sts
Row 6	Sc in each st across. Ch 1, turn.	8 sts
Row 7	Sc in each st across. Do not ch 1.	8 sts

FO leaving a 45 cm / 18 in sewing tail. Gently shape the panel into a neat rectangle about 5 x 4-4.2 cm / 2 x 1.6-1.65 in. Do not stretch it wider than the body front.

C. Pink Cheeks - Make 2

Rnd	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	Work 6 sc in MR. Sl st to the first sc to close the circle.	6 sts

FO each cheek leaving a 20 cm / 8 in sewing tail. Flatten gently. The joining slip stitch is not counted as a stitch.

D. Smile - Embroidery

1. Thread black embroidery floss or a split strand of black yarn onto a tapestry needle.
2. With the CF guide still in place, mark two endpoints on about Round 11, approximately 1 stitch column to each side of CF.

3. Mark the lowest point of the smile at CF about one round lower, around Round 12.
4. Use 3-4 short backstitches to form a shallow U-shaped smile from one endpoint to the other. Keep the curve smooth and do not pull tightly enough to dent the face.
5. After the final smile stitch, pass the needle under 2-3 nearby surface loops beside the embroidery to anchor the thread. Then send the needle through the stuffed body and bring it out several centimetres away. Pull gently and trim so the end retracts inside. Secure and bury the starting end in the same manner if needed.

E. Embroidered-Eye Alternative

1. After the body is stuffed and closed, mark the same two eye centres used for safety eyes: between Rounds 10 and 11, about 3 stitch columns each side of CF.
2. With black embroidery floss or split black yarn, build a small rounded oval about 8-10 mm wide using closely packed satin stitches or short vertical stitches.
3. Match the second eye to the first before adding extra passes. Keep both top edges level.
4. Secure the embroidery tails by passing them through nearby crochet stitches, then bury the tails deeply through the stuffed body.

10. Stitch-Count Validation

> **DIGITAL CHECK COMPLETE** Every shaped body round was checked so that the repeat consumes the complete starting round and produces the stated final count. The body increases by 3 stitches per shaping round from 6 to 48 stitches, remains at 48 stitches through the lower body, then decreases by 6 stitches per underside round from 48 to 6. No joined-round slip stitch or turning chain is counted as a body stitch.

- Body increase sequence: 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39, 42, 45, 48.
- Straight lower body: 48 stitches for Rounds 16-20; Round 20 changes loop only, not stitch count.
- Underside decrease sequence: 42, 36, 30, 24, 18, 12, 6.
- Nori panel: 8 stitches in every row; 7 rows total.
- Cheeks: 6 stitches each; 2 pieces made and 2 pieces attached.

This is a digital arithmetic and construction check only. No physical sample or test crochet was used.

11. Shaping and Proportions

- Crown: keep the first 6-9 rounds softly rounded rather than sharply pointed.
- Front silhouette: after orientation is chosen, gently flatten the front with your palm so the face reads as a broad rounded triangle.
- Back: keep the CB increase line softly rounded; do not pinch it into a hard ridge.
- Lower body: Rounds 16-20 should remain the widest area. The nori panel sits on this lower front section.
- Base: the BLO ridge at Round 20 is the visual turning line. Keep most underside decreases below it and distribute stuffing so the base rests flat.
- Do not overstuff. Excess filling will turn the triangular body into a sphere and can force the nori panel outward.

12. Colour Changes and Surface Details

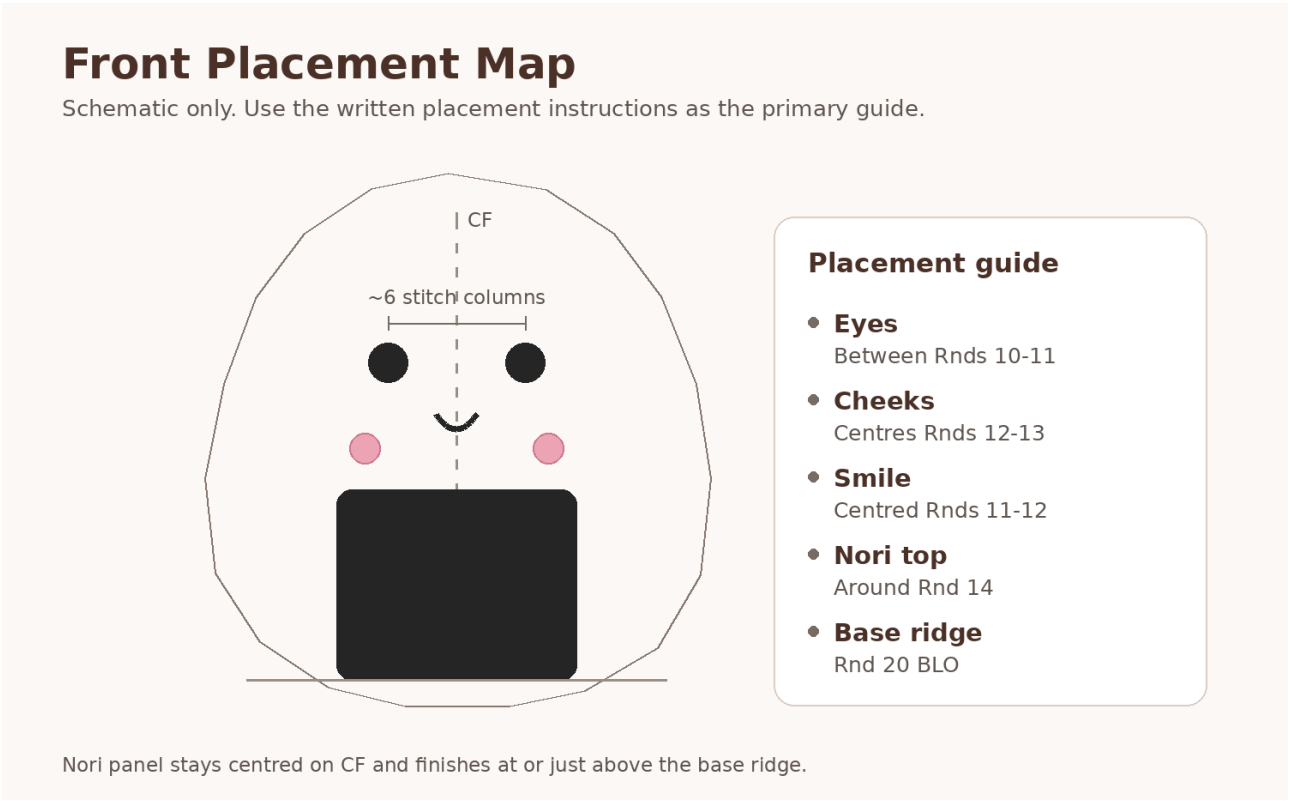
This design uses separate-colour pieces instead of in-round colour changes, so no carried yarn or jog correction is required.

Detail	Placement / handling
White	Main body, Rounds 1-27.
Black	Separate nori panel; smile embroidery; safety eyes or embroidered-eye alternative.
Pink	Two separate cheek circles.

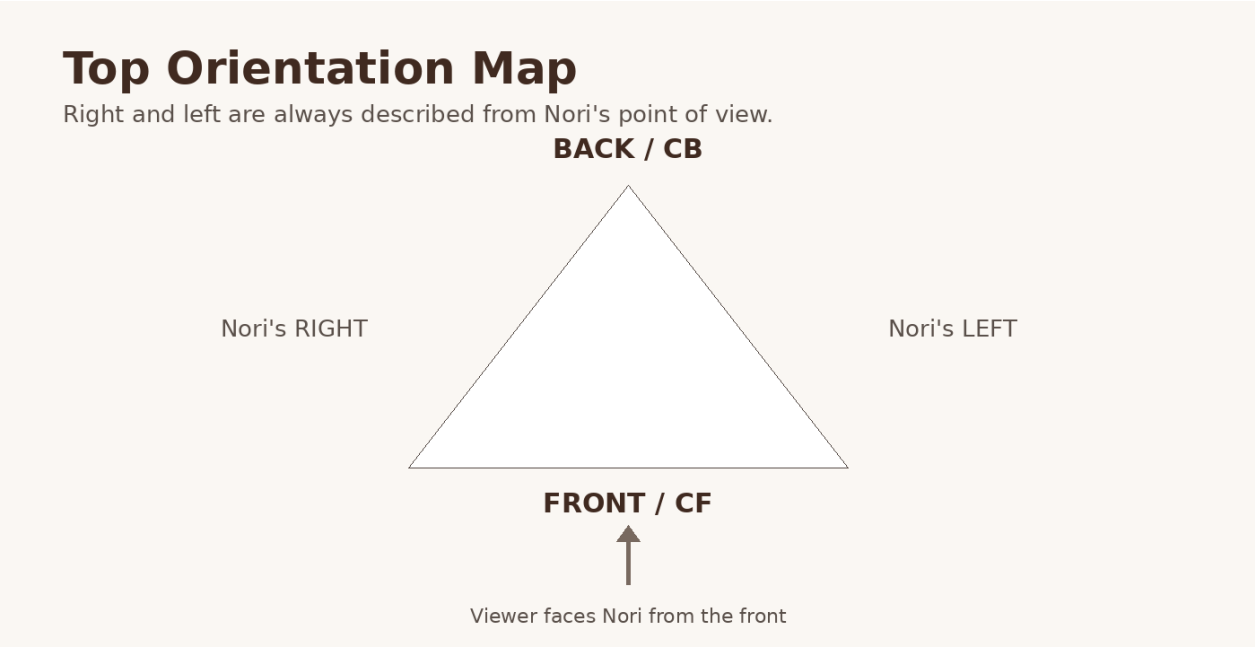
Detail	Placement / handling
Nori placement	Panel is centred on CF; its upper edge sits around Round 14 and its lower edge finishes at or just above the Round 20 base-turn ridge.
Cheek placement	Centres around Rounds 12-13, approximately 4 stitch columns to each side of CF.
Smile placement	Centred between the eyes; endpoints around Round 11 and lowest point around Round 12.

13. Placement Maps

Use the diagrams as visual aids only. The written placement instructions remain the primary guide because individual stitch shape and stuffing can move the apparent centre by part of a stitch.



Front map: the nori panel is intentionally centred beneath the smile and does not wrap onto the underside.



Written placement reference

Feature	Placement
Centre front (CF)	The midpoint of the broad face, directly opposite the chosen CB increase line.
Centre back (CB)	Choose one subtle body increase line after Round 20 and mark it as the back.
Eyes	Between Rounds 10-11; centres about 3 stitch columns left and right of CF; approximately 6 stitch columns centre-to-centre.
Smile	Centred on CF. Endpoints around Round 11 about 1 stitch column each side of CF; lowest point around Round 12.
Cheeks	Centres around Rounds 12-13; about 4 stitch columns each side of CF; place slightly below and outside the eyes.
Nori panel	Centre on CF. Top edge around Round 14; bottom edge at or just above the Round 20 BLO ridge.
Viewing check	After pinning each paired feature, compare front, both sides, top, and base before sewing or locking eye backs.

14. Stuffing and Shaping

- Begin stuffing after Round 23, when the underside opening has narrowed to 30 stitches.
- Use small tufts of filling rather than one large wad. Push filling into the crown first so it stays rounded.
- Stuff the central body moderately to firmly without stretching the stitch gaps.
- Use slightly less filling directly behind the broad front than at the side corners; this helps maintain the onigiri profile instead of making a ball.
- Keep the final underside rounds lightly stuffed so the decrease closure stays flat and does not form a bump.
- Before working Round 27, set the piece upright on a flat surface. Make the final filling adjustment through the 12-stitch opening left after Round 26, keeping the underside lightly stuffed. Then work Round 27 and close the remaining 6 stitches as instructed.
- After closure, massage the sides gently toward the front and back to create a plump triangular wedge. Avoid hard creases.

15. Assembly Instructions

1. Complete the body through Round 20 and set the front/back orientation. Keep CF and CB guide markers in place.
2. Install the safety eyes at the marked positions, then check that they are level from the front and symmetrical from both sides. Attach the safety-eye backs only after you are satisfied. If using embroidered eyes, skip the safety eyes and keep the positions marked.
3. Crochet Rounds 21-27, stuffing according to Section 14. Close the final 6-stitch opening and bury the closure tail.
4. Add the embroidered eyes now if you are using the yarn alternative. Secure and bury both eye-embroidery tails.
5. Embroider the smile. Check that the lowest point lies on CF and that the smile is not tilted. Secure and bury the embroidery tails.
6. Pin the two cheeks around Rounds 12-13, keeping them at equal height and equal distance from CF. Sew each cheek around its outer edge with small whip stitches, secure the sewing yarn, and bury the tail.
7. Pin the black nori panel to the lower front. Centre it on CF; keep its top edge around Round 14 and its lower edge at or just above the Round 20 base-turn ridge. Check that a visible band of white body remains between the smile and the panel, that both side edges rise vertically, and that the panel does not wrap onto the underside.
8. Sew the nori panel in place around all four edges using small whip stitches. Catch only the surface loops of the white body so the black seam remains neat. Do not pull hard enough to pucker the body.
9. Remove all temporary guide markers. View Nori from the front, back, top, base, and both sides. Make any final stuffing massage adjustments.
10. Secure and bury every remaining yarn tail deeply through the stuffed body.

> **PIN BEFORE SEWING** The nori panel strongly controls the finished expression. If it is even one stitch-column off-centre, the face can look tilted. Pin the top centre and bottom centre first, then pin the four corners before sewing.

16. Sewing Methods

Join / method	How to sew it
Cheeks - whip stitch	Pass the needle through the outer edge of the cheek and then under one or two surface loops of the body. Work around the circle with evenly spaced stitches. Tighten only until the cheek lies flat.
Nori - surface whip stitch	Pass through the edge loop of the black panel and under a shallow surface loop of the white body. Keep the needle in the outer crochet layer so the seam does not tunnel deeply through the stuffing.
Embroidery	Use short stitches for smooth curves and small ovals. Avoid long floating strands that can snag.
Closing the body	Thread the final tail through the front loops of the last 6 stitches, draw closed, secure, then bury the tail.
Burying tails	Run the needle through the stuffed body for several centimetres, exit at a distant point, pull gently, and trim close so the end retracts inside.

17. Final Visual Checklist

- Body has a rounded triangular onigiri silhouette rather than a sphere or a sharp cone.
- Crown is smooth and softly rounded.

- Front is broad; back is plump but not wider than the front.
- Eyes are level and approximately 6 stitch columns apart centre-to-centre.
- Smile is centred on CF and curves evenly.
- Cheeks are the same size, at the same height, and equally spaced from CF.
- Nori panel is centred, straight, and does not wrap under the base.
- Nori top edge sits below the mouth with a visible band of white body between them.
- Base sits flat without a hard lump at the closure.
- No stuffing is visible through the stitches.
- No large holes appear around the invisible decreases.
- No safety-eye backs, knots, or yarn tails are exposed.
- All sewn edges are secure and do not pucker the surrounding fabric.
- All temporary CF, CB, and BOR guide markers have been removed.

18. Troubleshooting

Problem	Practical fix
Stuffing shows through	Use a smaller hook or firmer tension, and add filling in smaller tufts. Do not stretch the body wider with overstuffing.
Nori is too large or too small	Check the finished flat nori panel directly against its stated target dimensions rather than using the body-tube round gauge as a row-gauge measurement. If necessary, adjust your flat-row tension or hook size and remake the panel before sewing.
Body is too large or too small	Compare your in-the-round gauge with the target. A different yarn thickness or hook size changes every finished measurement.
Body looks round instead of triangular	Massage the two front side corners outward and the centre front slightly flatter. Reduce stuffing if the body is overfilled.
Crown looks too pointed	Push a small amount of filling into the upper side areas and gently round the first several rounds with your fingertips.
Continuous rounds twist	Keep the BOR marker in the first stitch and count every round. A small spiral shift is normal; do not force stitch columns to be perfectly vertical.
Eyes are uneven	Do not attach safety-eye backs until both eye posts have been compared from the front, top, and sides. For embroidery, remove the uneven stitches before securing the tails.
Smile is off-centre	Re-mark CF and place the lowest point of the smile on that guide. Use short backstitches rather than one long strand.
One cheek sits higher	Pin both cheeks before sewing. Compare their centres against the same round and count equal stitch columns from CF.
Nori panel tilts	Remove the pins, mark its top and bottom centres, and align both centres directly on CF before repinning the corners.
Gaps around sewn pieces	Use smaller, more frequent whip stitches and catch consistent surface loops. Do not pull so hard that the body dents.
Base becomes rounded	Move a little filling upward, flatten the BLO ridge with your fingers, and massage the underside closure inward.
Visible holes after decreases	Use invisible decreases through the front loops only and keep tension firm. If holes remain, lightly redistribute the stuffing away from the underside.
Attachment feels loose	Add a second pass of small surface stitches in the loose area, secure the yarn, and bury the tail deeply.

19. Printing and Customer Notes

- This product is a digital crochet pattern only. No physical item will be shipped.
- The pattern uses US crochet terminology.
- For home printing, use A4 or US Letter paper and print at 100% / Actual Size. The placement diagrams are guides and do not need to print at a measured scale.
- Finished measurements are calculated design targets. Yarn, hook size, tension, stuffing, and personal technique can change the result.
- No physical prototype or test crochet was used in the creation or verification of this pattern.
- You may use this pattern for personal handmade projects.
- You may sell finished handmade Nori amigurumi made individually or in small handmade quantities. Please do not use the pattern file, pattern text, charts, diagrams, or reference artwork as part of another product.
- Do not redistribute, resell, copy, translate, upload, publish, or share this pattern in full or in part without written authorization.
- If you modify yarn weight or hook size, recheck safety-eye proportions and all feature placement before permanently attaching components.

> **CUSTOMER REMINDER** The pattern tells you how to crochet the character; it does not include a finished plushie. Keep your original digital file for your own records and print only the pages you need.

Quick Finish Reference

Part	Final reference
Body	White, Rnds 1-27; max 48 sts; BLO base ridge on Rnd 20.
Eyes	10 mm safety eyes between Rnds 10-11, 3 columns each side of CF; or embroider after closure.
Smile	Black, centred around Rnds 11-12.
Cheeks	2 pink 6-sc circles, centred around Rnds 12-13.
Nori	Black rectangle, 8 sts x 7 rows; top around Rnd 14; bottom at Rnd 20 ridge.
Stuffing	Begin after Rnd 23; keep crown rounded, front broad, base flat.
Final shape	Rounded triangular front; plump side/back; stable flat base.

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