

Crocheted Gecko

designed by Jane Benton Butler

Celebrate Earth Day 2000 by making and wearing this little crocheted gecko. The Kreinik metallic threads and bead embellishments bring the creature to life. It's fun, contemporary wearable art—and quick to crochet. Print out this page for instructions to complete the Crocheted Gecko.



Finished size: 4 inches long

Materials needed:

- two spools of Kreinik Fine (#8) Braid in 070 Mardis Gras
- 12 inches of 22-gauge craft wire
- sew-on pin back
- two #6 beads for eyes (gray or black)
- twelve #6 beads for legs (yellow)
- Eighty #11 beads for toes (green, pearl, gray)
- beading thread and needle
- 2 mm crochet hook
- Tapestry needle
- wire cutters

Instructions:

Body:

Fold wire into thirds so that ends come together and it bulges slightly in the middle (see diagram).

With Fine (#8) Braid 070: ch 3, 5 hdc in third ch from hook, join w sl st.

Rnd 1: Ch 2, hdc in same sp, hdc in each hdc, join w sl st.

Rnd 2-6: Ch 2, hdc in each hdc, join w sl st.

Rnd 7-8: Ch 2, hdc around, incr. 2 sts, join w sl st.

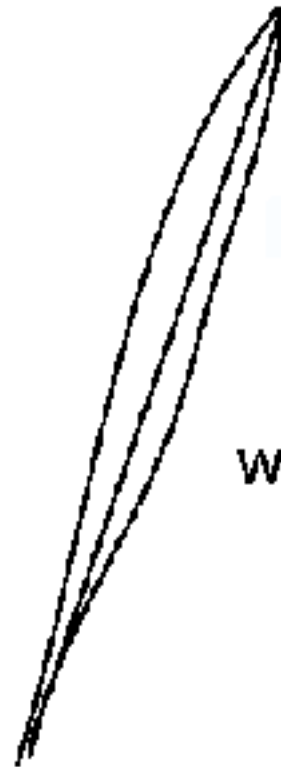
Rnd 9-18: Ch 2, hdc in each hdc, join w sl st.

Rnd 19-20: Ch 2, hdc around, decr. 2 sts, join w sl st.

Continue to work even until crocheted tube is long enough to cover wire. Insert wire into body. Sl st to close end of tube.

Crochet Abbreviations:

ch = chain
hdc = half double crochet
sl st = slip stitch
sp = space
incr = increase
decr = decrease
sts = stitches
sc = single crochet
tr = triple crochet
w = with



Wire Form

Fin:

Sl st along back over 3 rows. Sc in a straight line along back to 1/2-inch from head end.

Turn, sc in next 2 sc, 2 hdc in each of next 2 sc, 2 dc in each of next 2 sc, 2 tr in each of next 4 sc, 2 dc in each of next 2 sc, 2 hdc in each of next 2 sc, sc in each sc to end, fasten off.

Finishing:

Sew pin back on opposite side from fin. Using beading thread and needle, sew on eyes. For legs/toes, 3/4 of an inch from head, attach beading thread, pick up three #6 beads, then make branched fringe: pick up five #11 beads, go around last bead and back through four #11 beads, repeat three times to make four toes per foot. Go back through three #6 beads, through body and repeat on other side. Make another pair of legs about 1-3/4 inches from head. Shape body into curves as desired.

About the designer, Jane Butler

Fiber has fascinated designer Jane Butler since she first learned to sew as a child. Earning a degree in textiles and applied design, she continued to explore the possibilities of threads and fabric. Her skills expanded into pattern design, fabric manipulation, embroidery, beading, crochet and knitting. She combines crochet with beads, for example, or embroidery with clothing design.

“No project is complete unless it incorporates many different techniques,” Jane says. “I am always searching for new ways to shape garments with embellishments or to make three-dimensional objects.”

As you can see in this delightful gecko pin design, this isn't your grandmother's crochet. Jane focuses on designing for contemporary businesswomen and those who love whimsy and a little personality in their accessories. If you crochet, or even if you don't, you'll find her line of crochet pin designs to be fun, funky, classy, and cool.

Many of Jane's crochet and sewing designs have been published in magazines and craft books. Her finished garments, dolls, accessories, and crocheted jewelry are sold through Washington, D.C. area galleries including Diversities and the Torpedo Factory. For more information on this talented and creative designer, visit Jane's web site at www.shorthillstudio.com.