

Blue Lobster



Armed with impressive claws, wiggly legs and long antennae, lobsters are rather iconic sea dwellers. These amazing crustaceans are thought to never stop growing – just imagine a metre-long giant crawling along among the ancient shipwrecks! When we think of lobsters we tend to think of red, but they can be many different colours, from muddy brown to cerulean blue and even multicoloured. Contrary to the popular line from one well-known '90s sitcom, they do not actually mate for life ... never mind, plenty more fish in the sea!

DIFFICULTY



Dimensions

30cm (12in) long

Yarns

Paintbox Yarns Cotton DK (100% cotton), 125m (137yds) per 50g (1¾oz) ball:

- **Dark Blue:** 1 x 50g (1¾oz) ball in Sailor Blue (shade 440)
- **Blue:** 1 x 50g (1¾oz) ball in Dolphin Blue (shade 437)
- **Light Blue:** 1 x 50g (1¾oz) ball in Duck Egg Blue (shade 436)

Hooks

3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook

Other tools and materials

- Pair 10.5mm black safety eyes
- Toy stuffing
- Sewing pins

- Tapestry needle

FUN FACT

Lobsters have long lifespans, which allows them to reach impressive sizes. The largest lobster ever caught is thought to have weighed over 20kg (44lb)!

Tension (gauge)

Tension is not critical for this project, but if you want to match the pattern shown here, make a small circular swatch using the chosen yarn and hook (see [Tools and materials: Tension swatch](#) for the swatch pattern).

When made in DK weight cotton with a 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook the swatch should measure 3.5cm (1³/₈in) across.

Project notes

The body is worked in one piece, from the nose down to the tail edge. The claws, antennae and legs are made separately and sewn to the body at the end. Using a range of tones of one colour creates a nice ombre effect – you could experiment with other shades for a more striking palette, perhaps a rainbow?

Body

Make 1, start in **Dark Blue** yarn.

Round 1: 6sc in a magic ring. [6]

Round 2: (1sc, inc in next st) 3 times. [9]

Round 3: (2sc, inc in next st) 3 times. [12]

Round 4: (3sc, inc in next st) 3 times. [15]

Round 5: (4sc, inc in next st) 3 times. [18]

Round 6: (5sc, inc in next st) 3 times. [21]

Round 7: (6sc, inc in next st) 3 times. [24]

Round 8: Sc in all 24 sts. [24]

Round 9: (7sc, inc in next st) 3 times. [27]

Round 10: Sc in all 27 sts. [27]

Round 11: (8sc, inc in next st) 3 times. [30]

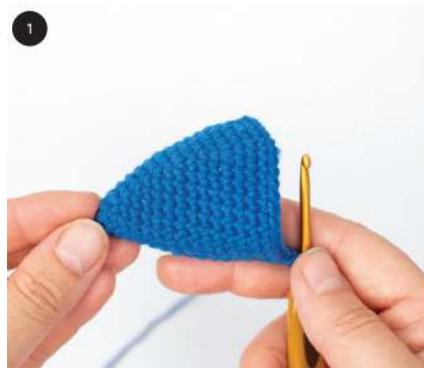
Round 12: Sc in all 30 sts. [30]

Round 13: (9sc, inc in next st) 3 times. [33]

Round 14: Sc in all 33 sts. [33]

Round 15: (10sc, inc in next st) 3 times. [36]

Round 16: Sc in all 36 sts. [36] (**photo 1**)



The next round marks the positions of the eyes.

Round 17: (11sc, 3sc in next st) 2 times, 12sc. [40]

Round 18: 12sc, inc in next st, 13sc, inc in next st, 13sc. [42] (**photo 2**)



Rounds 19–22: Sc in all 42 sts. [4 rounds]

Round 23: Slst in all 42 sts. [42]

Round 24: (5sc, inc in next st) 7 times. [49]

Rounds 25–38: Sc in all 49 sts. [14 rounds]

Round 39: (inv dec, 5sc) 7 times. [42]

Round 40: (inv dec, 4sc) 7 times. [35]

Round 41: Slst in all 35 sts. [35]

Add the safety eyes between **Rounds 17 and 18**, where the increases are. The eyes now indicate the top side of the body.
([photo 3](#))



Round 42: (4sc, inc in next st) 7 times. [42]

Rounds 43–45: Sc in all 42 sts. [3 rounds]

Round 46: (inv dec, 5sc) 6 times. [36]

Round 47: Slst in all 36 sts. [36]

Round 48: (5sc, inc in next st) 6 times. [42]

Rounds 49–51: Sc in all 42 sts. [3 rounds]

Round 52: (inv dec, 5sc) 6 times. [36]

Round 53: S1st in all 36 sts. [36] (**photo 4**)



Fasten off the **Dark Blue** yarn and join **Blue** to any slip stitch on the underside of the body.

Round 54: (5sc, inc in next st) 6 times. [42]

Rounds 55–56: Sc in all 42 sts. [2 rounds]

Round 57: (inv dec, 5sc) 6 times. [36]

Round 58: (inv dec, 10sc) 3 times. [33]

Round 59: S1st in all 33 sts. [33]

Round 60: (10sc, inc in next st) 3 times. [36]

Rounds 61–63: Sc in all 36 sts. [3 rounds]

Round 64: (inv dec, 4sc) 6 times. [30]

Round 65: S1st in all 30 sts. [30] (**photo 5**)



Fasten off the **Blue** yarn and join **Light Blue** to any slip stitch on the underside of the body.

Round 66: (9sc, inc in next st) 3 times. [33]

Rounds 67–68: Sc in all 33 sts. [2 rounds]

Round 69: (inv dec, 9sc) 3 times. [30]

Round 70: (inv dec, 3sc) 6 times. [24] (**photo 6**)



Add lots of toy stuffing. Pinch the end flat so that the eyes are on the top half of the body.

Work additional sc until you reach a corner, then turn and work through both layers of the tail to close the gap.

Row 71: 12sc across the closed edge. [12] (**photos 7 and 8**)





Fasten off.

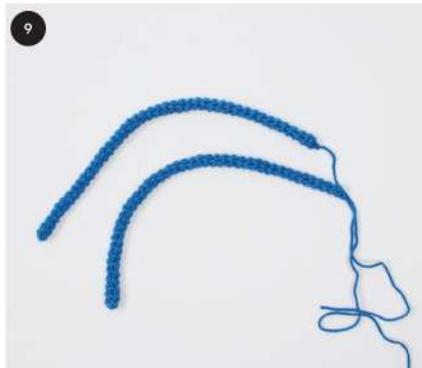
Antennae

Make 2 in **Dark Blue** yarn.

Round 1: 5sc in a magic ring. [5]

Rounds 2–42: Sc in all 5 sts. [41 rounds]

Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing. ([photo 9](#))



Claws

Make 2, start in **Light Blue** yarn.

Round 1: 5sc in a magic ring. [5]

Round 2: 2sc, 3sc in next st, 2sc. [7]

Round 3: 3sc, 3sc in next st, 3sc. [9]

Round 4: 4sc, 3sc in next st, 4sc. [11]

Round 5: 5sc, 3sc in next st, 5sc. [13]

Round 6: 6sc, 3sc in next st, 6sc. [15]

Round 7: 7sc, 3sc in next st, 7sc. [17]

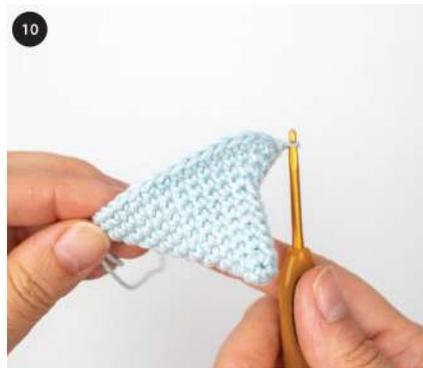
Round 8: 8sc, 3sc in next st, 8sc. [19]

Round 9: Inc in next st, 8sc, 3sc in next st, 8sc, inc in next st. [23]

Round 10: Inc in next st, 10sc, 3sc in next st, 10sc, inc in next st. [27]

Round 11: Inc in next st, 12sc, 3sc in next st, 12sc, inc in next st. [31]

Round 12: Inc in next st, 29sc, inc in next st. [33] (**photo 10**)



Rounds 13–32: Sc in all 33 sts. [20 rounds]

Round 33: (inv dec, 9sc) 3 times. [30]

Round 34: (3sc, inv dec) 6 times. [24]

Round 35: (2sc, inv dec) 6 times. [18]

Add toy stuffing.

Round 36: (1sc, inv dec) 6 times. [12]

Round 37: Slst in all 12 sts. [12] (**photo 11**)



Fasten off **Light Blue** and join **Blue** to any slip stitch. ([photo 12](#))



Rounds 38–52: Sc in all 12 sts. [15 rounds] ([photo 13](#))



Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing.

Using a tapestry needle and the **Light Blue** yarn, stitch a line down each claw, dividing them into two. Use the increases from the start of **Round 9** as the starting point and sew up to **Round 20**. ([photo 14](#))



Legs

Make 8, start in **Light Blue** yarn.

Round 1: 5sc in a magic ring. [5]

Rounds 2–5: Sc in all 5 sts. [4 rounds]

Round 6: 2sc, 3sc in next st, 2sc. [7]

Round 7: Change to **Blue** yarn, sc in all 7 sts. [7]

Round 8: 2sc, inv dec, 3sc. [6]

Rounds 9–11: Sc in all 6 sts. [3 rounds]

Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing. (**photo 15**)



Tail

Make 1 in **Light Blue** yarn.

Round 1: 6sc in a magic ring. [6]

Round 2: (1sc, 3sc in next st, 1sc) 2 times. [10]

Round 3: (2sc, 3sc in next st, 2sc) 2 times. [14]

Round 4: Sc in all 14 sts. [14]

Round 5: (3sc, 5sc in next st, 3sc) 2 times. [22]

Round 6: (5sc, 3sc in next st, 5sc) 2 times. [26]

Round 7: (6sc, 3sc in next st, 6sc) 2 times. [30]

Rounds 8–9: Sc in all 30 sts. [2 rounds]

Round 10: (7sc, 5sc in next st, 7sc) 2 times. [38]

Round 11: (9sc, inc in next st, 9sc) 2 times. [40]

Rounds 12–14: Sc in all 40 sts. [3 rounds]

Round 15: (inv dec, 8sc) 4 times. [36]

Round 16: (inv dec, 7sc) 4 times. [32]

Round 17: (inv dec, 6sc) 4 times. [28]

Round 18: (inv dec, 5sc) 4 times. [24]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing and shaping. Add a little bit of stuffing.

Assembly

Place the tail over the flat end of the body and sew it into place using the posts of the stitches on either side of the flat end. **(photo 16)**



Using the **Light Blue** yarn, divide the tail into five segments with stitched seams, going from the body end of the tail to the tip, at the points where 5sc are worked into one stitch – these mark the segment tips for the tail. **(photos 17 and 18)**





Next, sew the claws to the sides of the body. **(photo 19)**



Sew the antennae to the tip of the nose. **(photo 20)**



Sew the legs to the underbelly to finish. **(photo 21)**

