Heroic horse

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Toy meant for individual use. Selling the finished item is prohibited.

Materials

For the horse:
Body colour yarn (I used YarnArt Baby for black and white, and Lotos for the chestnut one
Sonata for the brown one), white for the “socks”
Wire for the body if you wish to use it
Half-beads and pieces of felt for the eyes
Wool to needlefelt the white mark on horse’s face
Yarn, wool, or amigurumi hair for the mane and tail
For the saddle: brown coloured acrylic yarn, a small faux leather strap
For the chest piece – any thin cotton yarn, small beads for decoration

Approximate height 23-25cm. Kamteks (Kamtex?) Sonata worked best for me.
100gr/250m, hook 1,9. I also used YarnArt Baby 150 m/ 50 gr and Lotos acrylic 100gr/300m
1st stage

At first, a few words on the wire frame. It’s not necessary to put the wireframe inside the entire body, you can restrict it to just the body and tail (depending on the type of the tail), but I suggest to put the wireframe inside the whole body.

Translator’s note – I used no wireframe at all and it turned out fine, but I stuffed my horse quite tightly.

Head - neck

1) 6sc in a magic ring (6)
2) inc in every sc (12)
3) (sc, inc) 6 times (18)
4) (2sc, inc) 6times (24)
5) (3sc, inc) 6 times (30)
6) 30 sc (30)
7) 8 sc, inc, 13 sc, (hdc; hdc inc) x 4 (35)
8) 24 sc, (dec; sc) x 3, dec (31)
9) 8 sc, dec, 13 sc, dec x 4 (26)
10) 9 sc, inc, 10 sc, (dec; sc) x 2 (25)
11) (dec; sc) x 1, 22 (24)
12) 24 sc (24)
13) inc x 2, 18 sc, (inc; sc) x 2 (28)
14) (sc; inc) x 2, 18 sc, (sc; inc) x 3 (33)
15) 33 sc (33)
16) (hdc; hdc inc) x 3, 19 sc, (hdc; hdc inc) x 4 (40)
17) 40 sc (40)
18) (sc; dec) x 3, 9 sc, inc x 2, 8 sc, (sc; dec) x 4 (35)
19) (sc; dec) x 2, 23 sc, (sc; dec) x 2 (31)
20) (sc; dec) x 1, 12 sc, dec, 10 sc, dec x 2 (27)
21) 4 ss, 6 sc, (hdc inc) x 9, 4 sc, 4 ss (36)
22) 5 ss, 5 sc, dec x 10, 3 sc, 3 ss (26)
23) 5 ss, 5 sc, (hdc inc) x 9, 4 sc, 3 ss (35)
24) 5 ss, 5 sc, dec x 10, 3 sc, 2 ss (25)
25) inc x 5, 8 sc, dec, 8 sc, inc x 2 (31)
26) (sc; inc) x 4, 7 sc, dec, sc, dec, 8 sc, inc, 2 sc (34)
27) 34 sc (34)
28) dec, 8 sc, dec, 22 sc (32)
29) 32 sc (32)
30) (inc; 2 sc) x 4, 20 sc (36)
31) 36 sc (36)
32) (inc; 2 sc) x 6, 5 sc, (sc; dec) x 3, 4 sc (39)
33) 39 sc (39)
34) 39 sc (39)
35) 22 sc, 17 hdc (39)
36) 39 sc (39)
37) 23 sc, 16 hdc (39)
38) (4 sc; inc) x 7, 4 sc (46)
39) 46 sc (46)

Insert wireframe into the head.
**Ear (2 pieces)**

Make a chain of 4, then follow the graph. Then, crochet 11 stitches around, putting 2 stitches into every corner stitch.

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*Translator’s note: some people can have issues with graph instructions, so I’m including written ones.*

1. chain 4, turn (4)
2. skip 1st chain from the hook, sc 3, turn
3. skip the 1st sc of the row, sc 2, turn
4. skip the 1st sc of the row, sc 1, then follow the instructions above.

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**Wireframe**

If you crochet as tightly as I did, when I was making the very first horse for a competition, you might need to insert the frame after you made and joined the hind legs, finished the butt, and inserted the long wires into the legs (leaving enough wire, so that it can go through the body, and into the front legs) which then you coil around in the butt area, where I also inserted a piece of wire for the tail (marked red on the picture below), and pulled it out at the second-to-last row of the butt. Later on, after the body is almost finished, I added the wire for the head (almost red on the picture), and joined it to the main body frame. Later I stuck the head and front legs onto the wireframe and sewn them on.

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But! Later on I came to a conclusion that it’s not necessary. It’s not obligatory to add a frame for the head and tail, if you leave a half-long piece of wire inside the body, which can be used in the same way. Also, Katyusha Shevchenko (Катя-катерок 72), while testing the frame, only inserted it into the head! She put plastic pieces into the hooves. Here’s her horse (translator’s note: on the next page). As a result, it turns out that the horse stands great even without the frame inside.
I use this type of wire

Она stiff enough so that it can withstand holding the head up.

2\textsuperscript{nd} Stage

Front legs (2 pieces)

If you intend to make white 'socks', in 12\textsuperscript{th} row you change the colour to white, and in 21\textsuperscript{st} row – to the main body colour yarn

Starting with black yarn (hooves):
1) 6sc in a magic ring (6)
2) inc in every stitch (12)
3) (sc, inc) x 6 (18)
4) (2sc, inc) x 6 (24)
5) (3sc, inc) x 6 (30)
6) (4 sc, inc) x 6 (36)
7) 36 sc (36)
8) (sc; dec) x 8, 12 sc (28)
9) (sc; dec) x 4, 16 sc (24)
10) (2 sc; dec) x 6 (18)
11) 18 sc (18)
12) 18 sc (18) - white
13) 18 sc (18)
14) 12 sc, make a 2dc popcorn in each of the last 6 stitches (18)
15) - 20) 18 sc (18)
21) 18 sc (18) – main body colour
22) (2sc; inc) x 6 (24)
23) 24 sc (24)
24) 24 sc (24)
25) (2 sc; dec) x 6 (18)
26) 18 sc (18)
27) 18 sc (18)
28) (5 sc; inc) x 3 (21)
29) 21 sc (21)
30) (6 sc; inc) x 3 (24)
31) 24 sc (24)
32) (7 sc; inc) x 3 (27)
33) 27 sc (27)
Don’t break the yarn off yet.

**For the left leg:**
1) 12 sc, ch1, turn (12)
2) dec, 8 sc, dec, ch1, turn (10)
3) dec, 6 sc, dec, ch1, turn (8)
4) dec, 4 sc, dec, ch1, turn (6)
5) dec, 2 sc, dec, ch1, turn (4)
6) 2 dec (2)
Break the yarn off.

**For the right leg:**
Make one chain stitch, turn, then proceed the same way you did the left leg.

**An advice for people not using a frame:** I suggest that you make the Row 7 (36) in the back loop and then cut out a piece of plastic to put into the hoof.

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3rd Stage

**Back legs (2 pieces)**

If you want your horse to have white socks, here as well use white colour yarn, starting from row 12, and then main body colour, starting from row 21.

**Those not using a wireframe,** I suggest to do Row 7 in back loops, then insert plastic filling.

Starting with the black yarn:

1) 6sc in magic ring (6)
2) inc in every stitch (12)
3) (sc, inc) x 6 (18)
4) (2sc, inc) x 6 (24)
5) (3sc, inc) x 6 (30)
6) (4 sc, inc) x 6 (36)
7) 36 sc (36)
8) (sc; dec) x 8, 12 sc (28)
9) (sc; dec) x 4, 16 sc (24)
10) (2 sc; dec) x 6 (18)
11) 18 sc (18)
12) 18 sc (18) – using the white colour
13) 18 sc (18)
14) 12 sc, make a 2dc popcorn in each of the last 6 stitches (18)
15) - 20) 18 sc (18)
21) 18 sc (18) – using the main body colour
22) 18 sc (18)
23) 3 hdc, 10 ss, 5 hdc (18)
24) inc hdc x 3, 11 ss, inc hdc x 4 (25)
25) 25 sc (25)
26) 25 sc (25)
27) dec x 2, 17 sc, dec x 2 (21)
28) 5 sc, hdc, (hdc; inc hdc) x 4, hdc, 6 sc (25)
29) 5 sc, hdc, (2 hdc; inc hdc) x 4, 2 hdc, 5 sc (29)
30) 29 sc (29)
31) 8 sc, (sc; inc) x 7, 7 sc (36)
32) - 34) 36 sc (36)
35) 36 sc, mark stitches 6 & 17 on the first leg, and 24 & 35 on the second.
Break off the yarn.

Don’t stuff the legs yet.

4th Stage

Joining the back legs, making the butt.

Fold the back legs flat, with the 12 marked stitches aligned. Careful! Those stitches need to be in the middle of the ’side’, if they aren’t, shift the markers. Sew those stitches together with a body colour yarn (used different colour on the photo, for clarity).

1) Turn the work so that the back is facing you, find the 18th stitch from the seam on the right leg, attach the yarn. Do 18 sc on the right leg, 18 sc on the left leg. (36)
Crochet carefully, don’t put your sc’s into stitches that were joined by sewing. In the picture, you can see The stitches into which you’re going to put stitches 18 and 19 of the first row.
Next part is done in rows; turn after every row.
After making the first row, you should have 6 unused stitches on every leg.

2) 36 sc (36)
3) (4 sc; inc) x 3, 6 sc, (inc; 4 sc) x 3 (42)
4) (5 sc; inc) x 7 (49)
5) – 12) 49 sc (49)
13) (5 sc; dec) x 7 (42)
14) 42 sc (42)
15) (4 sc; dec) x 7 (35)
16) 35 sc (35)
17) (3 sc; dec) x 7 (28)
18) 28 sc (28)
19) (2 sc; dec) x 7 (21)
20) 21 sc (21)
21) (sc; dec) x 7 (14)
22) 14 sc (14)
23) dec x 7 (7)
24) 7 sc (7)

Break off the yarn, leaving a long tail for sewing.
Sew the remaining 7 sc with this yarn.
After joining the 12 stitches, make sure that the legs are properly aligned. The hooves should be facing forward, not to the sides.

5th Stage

Body

Now we’re going to work in rounds. Attach yarn in the same place, where you’ve attached it for the butt rows. Stuff and insert the wireframe (if you’re using it) as you progress.

1) Work 56 sc onto the hind legs & butt (make 44 stitches on the “butt” and 12 unused leg stitches.

2) 56 sc (56)
3) (6 sc; dec) x 7 (49)
4) – 10) 49 sc (49)
11) (6 sc; inc) x 7 (56)
12) – 18) 56 sc (56)
19) 5 sc, dec, 40 sc, dec, 5 sc, dec (53)
20) – 25) 53 sc (53)
26) (11 sc; dec) x 4, 1 sc (49)
27) (5 sc; dec) x 7 (42)
28) (4 sc; dec) x 7 (35)
29) (3 sc; dec) x 7 (28)
30) (2 sc; dec) x 7 (21)
31) (sc; dec) x 7 (14)
32) уб до конца, отверстие закрыть

**Assembly.**

Sew the head to the body, sew the ears onto the head, sew the front legs to the body.

![Image of assembled toy](image1)

**6th Stage**

**Sculpting the nose.**

Insert the yarn at point 1, pull it out at point 2, return to point 1, pull the yarn, secure the end.

![Images of sculpting the nose](image2)

**Sculpting the mouth.**

Insert yarn at the point A (nostrils), pull it out at the point B, insert at the point C (nostrils), pull it out at the point D, now do it all in the reverse order. Repeat if necessary. Pull tightly, tie the end, hide the knot. If you didn’t manage to pull it sufficiently, you can additionally sew between the upper and lower lip.

![Images of sculpting the mouth](image3)
Sculpting the face.

Attach yarn. Insert at point A, pull out at point B, insert at point C, pull out at point D, insert at point E, pull out at point F. Pull lightly, tie the end, hide the knot. Between points B and C, D and E should be a space of 1 mm.

Forming the butt.

Insert the needle into spot shown on photo 1, pull out – photo 2
Do not pull the yarn too tightly!! Otherwise a bump is going to show up on the back.
If you couldn’t form a rounded butt, you can skip this stage.

Eyes

Pick the half-beads (safety eyes) of appropriate size. Cut the eye whites out of felt, sew/attach to the head.

Mane and tail.

1) Mane and tail made with YarnArt Tango.
For the mane, make a row of chain stitches, the length of which should reach between horse’s ears to the end of horse’s neck. Sc in every chain. For the tail, make a chain of any length desired, stitch 2 rows of sc. Then cut a few strands of yarn of desired length, fold them in half, making a pile of sorts. Sew/knot onto the horse.
2) Mane and tail made with wool for needlefelting.
Pleat strands of varied thickness, similar length together. Soak them in soap water. Dry off, un-braid the pleated strands. Needlefelt the resulting strands onto the horse.
3) You can make mane and tail of any yarn.
4) Mane and tail made with amigurumi hair.
Attach strips of hair of any desired length along the neck, attach a number of strips for the tail.

Methods 2, 3 и 4 require a base for the tail:

1) 6 sc in magic ring
2- 7) 6 sc.
Stick the element onto wireframe (if you’re using one). Sew to the body.

7th stage.

Bridle.
Bridle made with chain stitches, in one go.
Make a loop of chain stitches around the mouth (points 1 - 2), close with a slip stitch, make a rein of any length desired (blue arrow), attach on the other side of the loop with a ss (point 3), starting at point 3. Make a loop going behind the ears, attach with a ss to point 1 and 2. Break off yarn.
Attach yarn at point 4, make a loop around the head as shown on the picture.

Saddle.
Make an oval, starting with 17 chain stitches. The number of rows depends on your preferences.

Sew the faux leather strap to the saddle, so that the piece is removable.

Breast piece.
Make a chain, going from one end of the saddle to the other, make a row of sc's along the chain, sew hooks on both ends, so you can attach piece to saddle. Find the central point, attach yarn and crochet. Crochet a chain long enough to reach the strap of the saddle.