

Crochet Cute Lion Doily Tutorial

This adorable crochet lion doily combines amigurumi-style features with a decorative lace doily. The design features a round lion face, textured mane petals, cute paws, curled tail, leafy branches, and a scalloped border. The finished piece makes a wonderful nursery decoration, table centerpiece, wall hanging, or baby room accent.

Finished Size: Approximately 14–16 inches (35–40 cm) in diameter

Skill Level: Intermediate

Materials Needed

Yarn Colors

- Golden Yellow (lion body and border)
- Light Cream (muzzle, paws, inner border)
- Brown (mane and nose)
- Green (leaves)
- Black (eyes, whiskers, facial details)

Hook

- 3.5 mm crochet hook

Additional Supplies

- Yarn needle
- Stitch markers
- Scissors
- Fiberfill (small amount for muzzle)
- Safety eyes (optional)
- Blocking board



CROCHET LION MANDALA

COMPLETE STEP-BY-STEP TUTORIAL

FINISHED SIZE

Approx. 30 cm (11.8 in)
diameter



30 cm (11.8 in)

MATERIALS

- Worsted weight (4) yarn
 - Mustard Yellow – 120 g (4.2 oz)
 - Dark Brown – 60 g (2.1 oz)
 - Light Beige/Cream – 80 g (2.8 oz)
 - Green (Leaves) – 20 g (0.7 oz)
- 2.5 mm (US C/2) crochet hook
- Yarn needle
- Fiberfill stuffing (for head)
- Scissors
- Stitch markers
- Hot glue (optional)
- Blocking mat (optional)

YARN COLORS (EXAMPLE)



GAUGE (TENSION)

18 sc x 18 rows = 10 cm x 10 cm
(4 in x 4 in)

Gauge is not critical, but
consistent tension will ensure
proper size and shape.



ABBREVIATIONS (US TERMS)

ch = chain
sl st = slip stitch
sc = single crochet
hdc = half double crochet
dc = double crochet
tr = treble crochet
inc = increase (2 sc in next st)
dec = decrease (invisible sc dec)
(...) = repeat instructions
FO = fasten off

MAIN STITCHES USED

- Magic Ring
- Chain (ch)
- Single Crochet (sc)
- Half Double Crochet (hdc)
- Double Crochet (dc)
- Treble Crochet (tr)
- Slip Stitch (sl st)
- Invisible Decrease (dec)

TOOLS

- 2.5 mm (C/2) crochet hook
- Yarn needle
- Scissors
- Stitch markers
- Hot glue (optional)
- Blocking mat (optional)

WHAT IS THIS?

This is a lion mandala wall
decor. The lion and mandala
are crocheted separately
and then assembled.
Perfect for nursery decor,
kids' rooms, or as
a thoughtful handmade gift!



PARTS OVERVIEW (ALL PARTS ARE WORKED SEPARATELY)



STEP-BY-STEP TUTORIAL OVERVIEW

1. HEAD

Work in continuous rounds
with magic ring.
Increase to shape the head,
then add safety eyes between
rounds 10-11.
Embroider eyebrows, nose,
mouth, and whiskers.



2. EARS (MAKE 2)

Make inner ear with cream
yarn and outer ear with
yellow. Sew together.



3. MANE (3 LAYERS)

Crochet three layers of
petals using dark brown,
medium brown, and
yellow. Each layer has
12 petals.
Attach layers from back
to front.



4. MUZZLE

Make with cream yarn.
Attach brown nose
and embroider
mouth.



5. BODY

Crochet a teardrop
shape. Stuff firmly.



6. PAWS (MAKE 2)

Make with yellow
and cream yarn.
Embroider toes
with brown.



7. TAIL

Make a long chain,
work around.
Attach brown tuff
at the end.



8. LEAVES (MAKE 2)

Crochet leaf sprigs
with green yarn
(6 leaves each).



9. MANDALA BACKGROUND

Create the mandala using
rounds of shells, petals,
and scallops in cream
and yellow. Finish with
a small heart at the
bottom.



10. ASSEMBLY

Sew all parts onto
the mandala as
shown. Use hot glue
for extra security.



MANDALA BACKGROUND CHART (WRITTEN)

Rnd 1: Magic ring. 12 sc in ring. (12)
Rnd 2: Inc in each st around. (24)
Rnd 3: (Sc, inc) x 12. (36)
Rnd 4: (2 sc, inc) x 12. (48)
Rnd 5: (3 sc, inc) x 12. (60)
Rnd 6: (4 sc, inc) x 12. (72)
Rnd 7: *Sc in next 4, 5 dc in next st (shell),
sc in next 4; rep from * around. (72)
Rnd 8: *Sc in next 3, hdc in next, (dc, tr, dc)
in next, hdc in next, sc in next 3; rep around. (72)
Rnd 9: Work scallops: * (Sc, hdc, dc, hdc, sc)
in next st, sl st in next st; rep around.
Add heart at bottom center. FO.



STITCH GUIDE (US TERMS)

- = magic ring
- = slip stitch (sl st)
- x = single crochet (sc)
- † = half double crochet (hdc)
- ‡ = double crochet (dc)
- ‡ = treble crochet (tr)
- ▲ = shell (5 dc in same st)
- △ = increase (2 sc in same st)
- ∇ = invisible decrease (dec)

TIPS & CARE

- ♥ Stuff the head firmly for a nice shape.
- ♥ Use stitch markers to keep track of rounds.
- ♥ Weave in all ends securely.
- ♥ Block the mandala gently for a flatter,
beautiful finish.
- ♥ Dust with a soft brush or lint roller
to keep it clean.



YARN USAGE (APPROX.)

- Mustard Yellow – 120 g
- Dark Brown – 60 g
- Light Beige/Cream – 80 g
- Green – 20 g

(Amounts may vary depending
on tension and yarn brand.)



♥ HANDMADE WITH LOVE

♥ ENJOY YOUR CROCHET!

♥ HAPPY HOOKING!

Crochet Abbreviations

- MR = Magic Ring
- ch = chain
- sl st = slip stitch
- sc = single crochet
- hdc = half double crochet
- dc = double crochet
- tr = treble crochet
- inc = increase
- st = stitch
- sp = space

Step 1: Crochet the Lion Face Center

Using golden yellow yarn.

Round 1

Create a magic ring.

Work 12 dc into the ring.

Join with sl st.

Round 2

Ch 2.

Work 2 dc in each stitch around.

24 dc.

Join.

Round 3

1 dc, increase.

Repeat around.

36 dc.



Round 4

2 dc, increase.

Repeat around.

48 dc.

Round 5

3 dc, increase.

Repeat around.

60 dc.

Rounds 6–8

Dc evenly around.

The face circle should measure approximately:

- 5 inches (13 cm)

Fasten off.

Step 2: Crochet the Muzzle

Using cream yarn.

Round 1

MR.

6 sc.

Round 2

Increase around.

12 sc.

Round 3

1 sc, inc.

18 sc.

Round 4

Sc around.

Make 2 identical ovals.

Sew side-by-side.

Lightly stuff.

Attach to lower center of face.

Finished muzzle width:

- 2½ inches (6 cm)

Step 3: Create the Nose

Using brown yarn.

Round 1

MR.

6 sc.

Round 2

Increase around.

12 sc.

Shape slightly into a triangle while sewing.

Attach above the muzzle center.

Using black yarn:

Embroider the mouth beneath the nose.

Step 4: Add the Eyes and Whiskers

Eyes

Option 1:

Attach 12 mm safety eyes.

Option 2:

Embroider large eyes using black and white yarn.

Place eyes approximately:

- 1½ inches apart

Eyebrows

Using black yarn:

Create two curved eyebrows.

Whiskers

Add three whiskers on each side using black embroidery thread.

Step 5: Crochet the Lion Ears

Using golden yellow yarn.

Make 2.

Round 1

MR.

6 sc.

Round 2

Increase around.

12 sc.

Round 3

Sc around.

Fold in half.

Sew the straight edge closed.

Attach to top of head.

Position slightly behind the mane.

Step 6: Create the Mane Petals

The mane consists of multiple textured petals surrounding the face.

Using brown yarn.

Petal Pattern

Ch 10.

Row 1:

Sc in second chain.

Hdc in next 2 stitches.

Dc in next 4 stitches.

Hdc in next stitch.

Sc in final stitch.

Turn.

Row 2

Work sc around entire petal edge.

Fasten off.

Finished petal:

- Approximately 2 inches long

Make 32–36 petals.

Arrange evenly around the lion face.

Overlap slightly.

Sew securely.

This creates the rich textured mane shown in the diagram.

Step 7: Create the Inner Lace Ring

Attach cream yarn behind the mane.

Round 1

Ch 5, sc between petals.

Repeat around.

Round 2

Work:

Sc

3 dc

Sc

inside each chain space.

This creates the decorative lace layer surrounding the mane.

Step 8: Create the Main Doily Body

Continue with cream yarn.

Round 3

Ch 6.

Sc into next space.

Repeat around.

Round 4

Work:

Sc

Ch 3

Sc

inside each arch.

Round 5

Repeat around.

The doily should begin expanding evenly.

Continue adding rounds until the total diameter reaches approximately:

12 inches (30 cm).

Step 9: Crochet the Lion Body

Using yellow yarn.

Foundation

Ch 22.

Row 1

Dc across.

Rows 2–12

Dc across.

Shape the sides slightly inward toward the neck.

Finished body:

- Height: 4 inches
- Width: 3 inches

Sew beneath the face.

Step 10: Crochet the Paws

Using cream yarn.

Round 1

MR.

8 sc.

Round 2

Increase around.

16 sc.

Round 3

Sc around.

Make 4 paws.

Attach two front paws and two lower paws.

Using brown yarn:

Embroider claw details.

Step 11: Crochet the Tail

Using yellow yarn.

Tail Cord

Ch 25.

Sl st back across chain.

Tail Tip

MR.

8 sc.

Round 2:

Increase around.

16 sc.

Attach to tail end.

Sew tail to body.

Shape into a gentle curl.

Step 12: Create the Leaf Branches

Using green yarn.

Make 2 branches.

Stem

Ch 35.

Sl st back.

Leaves

For each leaf:

Ch 8.

Work:

Sc

Hdc

Dc

Dc

Hdc

Sc

along chain.

Attach leaves directly onto stem.

Create:

- 6–8 leaves per branch

Attach branches to both sides of the lion.

Step 13: Crochet the Heart Motif

Using cream yarn.

Round 1

MR.

Work:

3 dc

3 tr

Ch 1

3 tr

3 dc

Join.

Shape into a heart.

Attach at bottom center.

Step 14: Create the Outer Scalloped Border

Using golden yellow yarn.

Border Round

Skip 2 stitches, 9 dc in next stitch, skip 2 stitches, sc in next stitch.

Repeat around entire edge.

Each shell creates a rounded scallop.

Continue until the border is complete.

Step 15: Blocking and Finishing

Weave in all yarn ends.

Pin the doily onto a blocking board.

Shape:

- Mane petals
- Leaves
- Scalloped border
- Tail curl

Lightly steam block.

Allow to dry completely.

Finished Measurements

Your completed lion doily should measure approximately:

- Diameter: 14–16 inches (35–40 cm)

The finished project features a smiling lion face, dimensional mane, decorative lace background, leafy accents, paws, curled tail, and a beautiful scalloped border, making it a delightful crochet piece for children's rooms, safari-themed décor, or handmade gifts.