

Crocheted Ball Jointed Arms or Legs

Materials – nylon or quilting thread, 9mm doll eye, tiny buttons for jointing, yarn and hook of your choice and size.
Polyfill

Read the notes section before starting. This tutorial is for a sample arm or leg joint only, not the entire doll. It can be easily adapted to any arm or leg pattern you may have on-hand.

Arm (make 2)

Arms are worked in a continuous spiral. Do not join rounds. Use marker to indicate the beginning of the round.

Upper Arm

Lightly stuff as you go . Do not fill to opening cavity.

- 1 Ch 2, 7 sc in 2nd ch from hook. 7sc
- 2 2 sc in each sc around. 14 sc
- 3 2 sc in next st, sc in next 6, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 6. 16 sc
- 4-10 Sc in each st . 16 sc
- 11 (ch 3, dc, ch 3 slip st in next st), sc in next 7 sts, (sl st ch 3, dc, ch 3 slip st in next st), sc in next 7, sl st in base of beginning ch 3. Fasten off. Joint tabs made.



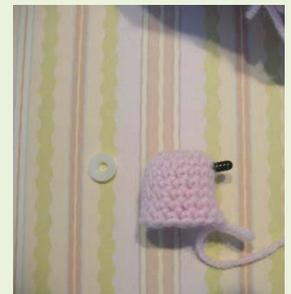
To make a shoulder joint, put a 9mm eye inside each arm with the shaft sticking out in the 2nd row down from the top. Line up your thumbs the same as your own hand would.

Lower Arm

Stuff arm **firmly** as you go.

Starting at finger tips.

- 1 Ch 2, 6 sc in 2nd ch. 6 sc
- 2 2 sc in each sc around. 12 sc
- 3 2 sc in next sc, sc in next sc around. 18 sc
- 5 Sc in next 16 sc, dec over last 2 sc. 17 sc
- 6 Sc in next 7 sts, dec over next 2 sts, sc in next 7 sts, make bobble in next st. 16 sts



(BOBBLE: 1. YO hook and insert the hook into the indicated stitch. 2. Yo and pull up a loop. 3. Yo and pull the yarn through 2 loops. 4. Repeat steps 1-3 five more times. You will have 7 loops on the hook. 5. Yo and pull the yarn through all of the loops on the hook. You have completed the bobble when only one loop remains on the hook.

7-12 Dec 1 sc in each round. 10 sc at end of round 12. (Make sure you do not put your dec on top of each other)

13-22 Sc in each st around. 10 sts

23 Dec over next 2 sts around. 5 sts

FINISH OFF. Sew hole shut

Joining Upper and Lower Arm



Place lower arm into the upper arm socket. When jointing with a button, put the button over the little tab you created. Pass your threaded needle through the button to the other side and back again through both portions of the lower and upper arm. You will be pulling the thread very tightly so silk or heavy quilting thread is a must here. Tie off the thread with a square knot and clip.

Congratulations, you have just created a ball jointed crochet doll. Enjoy!

Notes:

This jointing method will work with any type of arm or leg instructions you may have. You are taking your pattern and splitting the arm and leg into two parts to create a ball joint at the elbow and knee.

It is easier if the upper arm or leg tab joint is divisible by 2 (an even number of stitches). Don't stuff the upper arm or leg too full so that the lower part will fit and move freely. Also note that the upper arm or leg needs to be 2 to 4 stitches larger than the lower portion so that the bottom part (where they are joined) fit together like a socket.

Crocheted Ball Jointed Legs

Materials – nylon or quilting thread, 9mm doll eye, tiny buttons for jointing, yarn and hook of your choice and size.
Polyfill

Read the notes section before starting. This tutorial is for a sample leg joint only. It can be easily adapted to make an arm joint.

Leg (make 2)

Upper Leg

Legs are worked in a continuous spiral. Do not join rounds. Use marker to indicate the beginning of the round.

- 1 Ch 2, 7 sc in 2nd ch. 7 sc
- 2 2 sc in each sc around. 14 sc
- 3-10 Sc in each sc around. 14sc
- 11 (ch 3, dc, ch 3 slip st in next st), sc in next 4 sts, (Sl st ch 3, dc, ch 3 slip st in next st), sc in next 4, sl st in base of beginning ch 3. Fasten off. Joint tabs made.



Lower Leg

Starting at foot. Stuff as you go.

- 1 Ch 2, 6 sc in 2nd ch from hook. 6 sc
- 2 2 sc in each st around. 12 sc
- 3 sc in next st, 2 sc in next st around. 18 sc
- 4 Working in BLO. Sc in each st around. 18 sc
- 5 Sc in next 6 sts, (sc next 2 sts tog) 3 times, sc in next 6 sts. 15 sc
- 6 Sc in next 3 sts (sc next 2 sts tog) 2 times, sc in next st, (sc next 2 sts tog) 2 times, sc in next 3 sts. 11 sc
- 7-13 Sc in each sc around.
- 14 Dec in next 2 sts around. 5 sc



FASTEN OFF. Sew hole shut.

Joining Upper and Lower Leg

Place lower leg into the upper leg socket. When jointing with a button, put the button over the little tab you created. Pass your threaded needle through the button to the other side and back again through both portions of the lower and upper leg. You will be pulling the thread very tightly so silk or heavy quilting thread is a must here. Tie off the thread with a square knot and clip.

Congratulations, you have just created a ball jointed crochet doll. Enjoy!

Notes:

This jointing method will work with any type of arm or leg instructions you may have. You are taking your pattern and splitting the arm and leg into two parts to create a ball joint at the elbow and knee.

It is easier if the tab joint is divisible by 2 (an even number of stitches). Don't stuff the upper arm or leg too full so that the lower part will fit and move freely. Also note that the upper arm or leg needs to be 2 to 4 stitches larger than the lower portion so that the bottom part (where they are joined) fit together like a socket.

Melanie

