Foxy Friend
3 ¼ inches tall

Materials:
-Worsted weight wool yarn in reddish orange, white, and tiny amount of black. The model uses Knit Picks Wool of the Andes in Pumpkin, Black, and White
-Size D (3mm) crochet hook
-Black fingering weight yarn
-Tapestry needle
-Wool stuffing

Gauge: not important, but work tightly so the stuffing doesn't show

BLO = back loops only

Work in rounds using a stitch marker to mark the end of each round.

Finished head, front and back

Head: Starts at the nose

1: With black, ch2, four sc in the second ch from the hook. Change to orange yarn in the last st
2: (Sc in the first st, 2sc in the next st) twice. 6 sc
3: (Sc in the first st, 2sc in the next st) around. 9 sc
4: (Sc in the first two sts, 2sc in the next st) around. 12 sc
5: (Sc in the first st, 2sc in the next st) around. 18 sc
6: Sc in each sc around. 18 sc
7: Sc in the next seven sc, ch4, skip the next four sc, sc in the last seven sc. 14 sc, 4ch.
8: Sc in each sc and ch around. 18 sc. The opening for stuffing and inserting the neck stub has now been made.
9-10: Sc in each sc around. 18 sc.
11: Sc in the next 15 sc. Move the stitch marker to this point for the end of round 11. This position change is necessary to place the opening of the head at the center back.
12: Hdc in the first three sc, sc in the next three sc, hdc in the next six sc, sc in the next three sc, hdc in th last three sc. Ch1, flatten round 12 and sl sl the opening at the top of the head closed with 8 sl st. Leave a long tail at the end.

Stuff the head through the opening in the back. With black fingering weight yarn embroider eyes on the front of the head; either French knots or straight stitches between rounds five and six. Use the long yarn tail to define the ears on either side of the head and make eyebrows, if desired, above each eye with a straight stitch.

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Body and tail

Body:

1: Ch2, eight sc in the second ch from the hook. 8 sc
2: 2sc in each sc around. 16Sc
3: (Sc in the first st, 2sc in the next st) around. 24 sc
4: BLO sc in each sc around. 24 sc
5-7: Sc in each sc around. 24 sc
8: (Sc in the next four sc, sc next two sc tog) around. 20 sc
9: Sc in each sc around. 20 sc
10: (Sc in the next three sc sc next two sc tog) around. 16 sc
11-12: Sc in each sc around. 16 sc
13: (Sc in the next two sc, sc next two sc tog) around. 12 sc. Stuff the body firmly.
14: Sc in each sc around. 12Sc
15: (Sc in the next sc, sc next two sc tog) around. 8Sc
16-18: Sc in each sc around. Stuff the rest of the body and the neck stub firmly.
19: (Sc next two sc tog) around, finish off, leaving a long tail.

Attaching the head to the body

Thread the long tail into a tapestry needle and insert it into the head at the neck opening and out the top of the head behind the sl sts that closed the top of the head. Pull the neck stub up into the opening in the head. Take two tacking stitches at the top of the head to secure the head on the body, then use the rest of the tail length to neaten the opening around the head where the neck fit into, if necessary.

Tail:

1: Leave a length of white yarn outside the tail at the beginning. With white, ch2, 6hdc in the second ch from the hook. Join to the top of the first hdc, ch1, do not turn. 6 hdc

2: (hdc in the first hdc, two hdc in the next hdc) around, join orange in the last st of this round. Join, ch1, do not turn.   9hdc

3: (hdc in the first two hdc, two hdc in the next hdc) around, join, ch1, do not turn. 12hdc

4: (hdc in the first two hdc, two hdc in the next hdc) around, join, ch1, do not turn. 16 hdc

5-7: hdc in each hdc around, join, ch1, do not turn. 16 hdc

8: (dc next two hdc tog) around, join. Stuff the tail very lightly, then close the opening with three sl sts. Leave a long yarn tail to sew the tail to the body.

Attaching the tail to the body

Sew the tail to the body between rows 4 and 6, then wrap the tail around the body and tack the point of the tail to the front of the body. See the image to clarify. Your fox should be free standing.

Done!!