

Izzy Dolls by Carol Isfeld

Crocheted Izzy Doll by Carol Isfeld (knit version follows at end)



Izzy Dolls are copyrighted and cannot be bought or sold for financial gains. They can only be given to children for comfort.

"Izzy Doll" - I travel to you in pockets!
I'm just a little soft thing;
Made with love and care.
My home will be a boy or girl
The place is - Everywhere!
I bring a smile and comfort,
When cuddled by a child.
My payment is the feeling
When the giver gets a smile.
That smile is there for all to see,
The feeling lives inside;
A memory of where I came from
Is shared to you with pride.
"To make a memory, you have to be there"

Carol Isfeld 12 Jul 1999

INTRODUCTION TO (Crocheted) "IZZY DOLL" ASSEMBLY

The doll is made up of a series of "Slinky-like" coils crocheted separately, then sewn together solidly to form a body, arms, and legs. A head is crocheted, stuffed with synthetic "Cotton Batting," attached to the main body, then a hat is sewn on; either a UN blue beret for the "Boy doll," or pigtails, braided hair etc., and a bonnet or floppy hat for the "Girl doll." Synthetic materials are used to prevent shrinking if doll gets wet. The overall size is five to six inches in height, and about four inches in width, including the arms.

Want to know how to send out your dolls?:

For information regarding distribution of IZZY DOLLS please contact:

SHIRLEY O'CONNELL at soconn37@gmail.com

or Tel: (613) 267-3145 Cell: (613) 812-8224

They are made small for several reasons:

They must be light in weight so the soldier can carry several in his or her pocket without problem, and is not burdened with extra weight. They are made without any metal, or plastic, or anything sharp or abrasive so as not to injure either the child receiving them, or the person carrying them. By keeping them "on the small side," materials are conserved, enabling production of many more with a given amount of material, saving time and enabling more children to become recipients.

Thus, the basic pattern is a series of coils. Trial and error formulated the original dolls, and trial and error will enable you to quickly arrive at your own method of assembly. I will write down below the general method I use, attempting to explain it the best way I can. By referring to the attached images, which are images of various steps in the assembly, you will be able to make your own "IZZY Doll." Remember that the body, the arms, and the legs are made basically the same way, adjusting only the size and colors to arrive at proportions that will end up as the finished product.

MATERIALS

Assorted scraps of synthetic wool to prevent shrinking in assorted weights (worsted/4-ply, DK/3-ply, and/or sport/2-ply).

Assorted crochet hooks 3.0mm to 5.0mm in size. (US hook sizes D/3 to H/8).

A yarn needle for sewing parts together. The longer the needle is, the easier it will be to go up through the body.

A small amount of stuffing for the head.

NOTE

Remember to leave long tails 12" – 18" at beginning and end of each piece to allow for sewing together after. The longer the needle is, the easier it will be to go up through the body. Please remember: no metal or plastic parts, must be under 6" tall.

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BODY

I like to use variegated synthetic wool to prevent shrinking, using alternate colors for Arms and Legs. All measurements are approximate. The body will be about 1 ¾ inch in width, and will be about 2 ½ inches in height. I use ordinary synthetic white wool as the starting point, or "base" on which to crochet the colored coils.

Shown here Fig01 is the last coil with the white "base" and the blue portion left to enable sewing it to gether. (Leave approx. 12 in)



The first coil has only the white "base" wool extended to facilitate binding together. See Fig02

Use hook# 4.5mm – 5.0mm, & 4 ply wool,
Ch (chain) 50 – 60.
In each Ch, make 3 DC (double crochet) until last Ch.
It will curl as you go, so straighten and flatten curls, and coil to form body.
Curls should be about 1.5 -2 inches across.
When coiled you should have 10 - 12 rings.



Align Ch's, sew up and down to secure and compress body, not too tightly, and secure wool at the top.

ALL pieces have wool left long to enable sewing together, and ALL ends are crocheted into work to maintain neatness.

After sewing the body, Fig03 you will note that the end Fig04 that you start on forms a slight depression, and this is where I attach the head.



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LEGS

"ALWAYS LEAVE WOOL TO SEW WITH AT EACH END OF WORK"

As with the body, but with a different color 4 ply wool, using 4.5mm – 5.0mm hook, Ch 30 - 40.

In each Ch, make 3 HDC (half double crochet) to curl to last Ch. Work should be 10 coils, approx. ¾ inch across. Fig05

Compress and sew as for the body, leaving lots of wool strands at each end to facilitate sewing together to form the doll.

At the point where the "foot" is I put in a little bit of different color wool.

For sewing together, I separate strands of 4ply wool and use it.

Attach one leg at a time to the body securely, sewing up and down through the body, tying tightly at the top. When finished both legs (or arms, depending on size) it looks like this Fig06 .



ARMS

For the arms use a 3.0mm hook and 2ply wool, Ch 20 – 30.

Make 3 SC (single crochet) in each Ch to curl till the last stitch.

Sew up and down to compress and form the arm.

Arms measure about 1 ¼ to 1 ½ inch in length and ½ to ¾ inch in width after compressed and sewn tight. Fig06a

Attach each arm to the body side, and sew up and through the body, securing at the top. Fig07



You now have a partly completed doll looking like this Fig08



HEAD

Basically you make a sphere in which to pack compressed synthetic "cotton batting".

Using 2 ply flesh colored wool and 3.0mm hook, Ch 5 and join to first Ch to make a circle.

Make 2SC in each Ch. Repeat increases until flat work measures about 1 inch (3 or 4 rounds).

Continue working straight 1 SC in each SC until work

measures 2 inches across, keeping it flat, like a little rug.

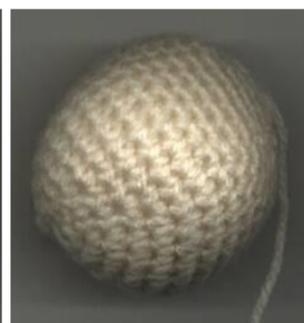
Start to decrease (SC2 together) every 4th or 5th stitch slowly.

As work curls down, form a circle, decrease until you have a small hole, stuff with synthetic batting then sew closed leaving

wool ends to attach to body. Fig09

Head should be about 2 inches in diameter. Fig09a

Attach the stuffed head to the body top, sewing in and out through the top, hiding the stitches and securing tightly. It now looks like this: Fig10.

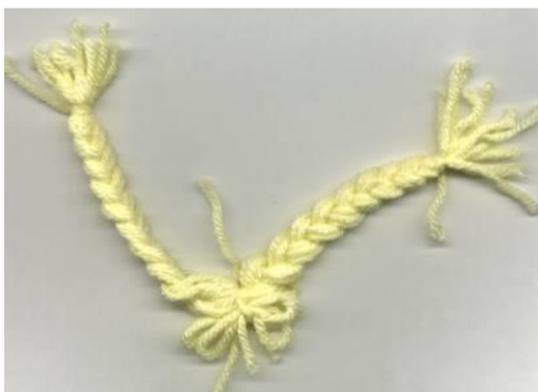


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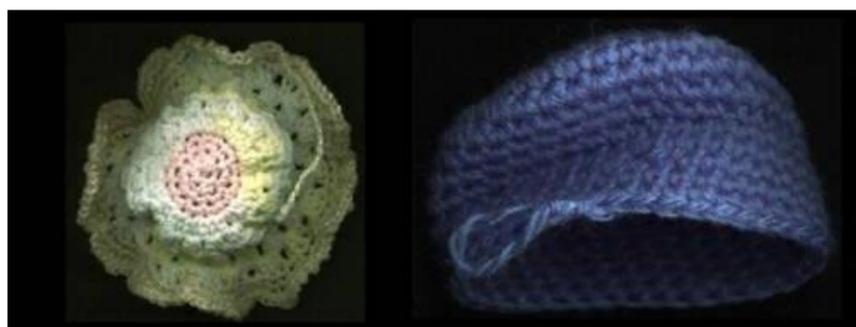
GIRL'S HAIR

For the girl dolls, using 4 ply wool, make braids by assembling from 7" lengths of wool (12 in all) and make three strands using four lengths in each. Fig11

Gather at the center, leaving lengths of wool to attach to head, braid down each side, add little pieces to make bangs or curls, and attach to the side of the head forming the pigtail, or braids. Your finished braids will look like this Fig11a, Fig11b



HATS



PEACEKEEPERS HAT:

A basic half sphere is formed sort of like a "tam o'shanter". Fig12

Using 2 ply med. blue wool and 3.0mm hook Ch 5 and join to first Ch to make a circle. Make 2SC in each Ch as you did for the head, increasing until it measures about 2 1/2 inches. It will start to curl down.

About 12 rounds from the start and 1 inch deep, continue Sc in each Sc until work is about 1 1/2 inches deep, and you have decreased enough to fit the head.

Now change to black wool for the band, leaving ample wool tail to sew the hat to the head.

Fig12a



Using gold wool, embroider a small circle to simulate the UN hat badge as per this image. Fig12b

Now attach to head, Pull the right side down and secure to the side of the head. Fig12c



GIRL'S HAT

Can be made as per image here, Fig13 or get any small hat pattern from a craft book, or make up your own! Use gaily colored wool, and attach with experimentation - you can make a bonnet, or a floppy hat or anything!

Attach this over the head and the braids, sew securely to the head, and you have a completed doll like these: Fig14, Fig15 (next page)



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