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Knitting Mochimochi: 20 Super-Cute Strange Designs For Knitted Amigurumi



Synopsis

Toys, people! Who doesn't love toys? They make you smile, give you something to squeeze and hug, and can even sit on the couch and watch TV with you. But could the toy be a couch, or an old-fashioned television? Is that too weird? Not if the toy is mochimochi, the super-cute and strange knitted toys author Anna Hrachovec created after falling in love with the bizarre character designs that are popular in Japan. A mochimochi can be anything, from fearsome baby gators to pigs with beehive hairdos, from the toe-nibbling monster slippers to an assortment of itty-bitty hamsters, micro mountains, and human beans complete with comb-overs! And what knitter doesn't need a diversion from the usual socks, hats, and scarves? Many of these toys take less than an hour to make. Don't worry, even a beginner can learn to knit mochimochi. If your toy comes out a little lumpy, it'll only add to its personality! Whether it's a bite-free bed bug, a smiling smokestack, or a grouchy couch--these 20 toys are quirkier than teddy bears but every bit as adorable.

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Customer Reviews

"Hrachovec takes the art of knitted toys in an unusual and unexpected direction in her first pattern collection. She includes the standard tiny, cute animals but also knitted mountains, UFOs, pencils, a pocket protector that is, literally, a pocket protector monster, and a creation she calls the 'Grouchy Couch.'" --Library Journal

Anna Hrachovec launched her knitted toy patterns in 2007. Her creations have been featured on

"The Martha Stewart Show" and exhibited in galleries worldwide.

I've been a fan of Hrachovec's knits probably almost from the beginning of when she started her blog, and knew I'd purchase her book when she announced it was in the works. Her toys are amigurumi-style, though they utilize knitted stitches in the round, rather than the more commonly done crocheted toys. Many of them are really clever and even humorous, with an extra sprinkling of "cute." The book begins with practical information, such as tools needed and how to seam toys together. One thing missing is information on mild machine felting. Many of the earlier patterns from her website utilize this method, and I personally like the results of using wool yarn and then lightly felting it. These toys, conversely, can be made with any type of yarn. Most of the knits are "just for fun," although a few double as being practical, like a muff and slippers. "For fun" designs include a moose covered in little birds, bed bugs with knitted night caps, and a TV. My favorite is a couch. A few of the knits have urban themes: baby alligators (to fit in with the urban legend of them coming up from the sewer), a cityscape, and a smokestack complete with pollution emitting from it (complete with eyes, of course). If you follow the author's blog, you know she has lately started knitting the tiniest of things. In that vein, this book includes five "nano knits"--human beans, mountains, mushrooms, hamsters, and a little pencil. I uploaded an image of one of the "human beans" I made from the pattern. He's only a little over an inch tall! It looks as though the author's next book will be exclusively on the mini-knit subject. To be honest, every time I knit one of these toys I ask myself, "What am I going to do with this now?" But they're so cute . . . it's hard to resist making more. I don't plan to make all the knits from this book (out of 20 patterns, I'm interested in possibly making and/or have made nine), but just in general appreciate having a full-color, glossy edition of some of this author's unique patterns. Why should crocheters have all the fun?

I wanted to review this book as it appears on a Kindle for those wondering how it looks. I have been a knitter for over 40 years and am new to books on Kindle so I was a bit nervous about trying an instruction type book on Kindle. I have to say, I am so happy I chose to download this book! It took less than 30 seconds and is beautiful. I am off to knit my first little character. Go ahead! buy this.

This book is full of great patterns for people who want to knit cute little critters for gifts (or for themselves). I love the color images inside, and the instructions are all clear and useful, and easy to follow. I could have done with more pictures occasionally, but it offers enough detail to let you make all the patterns without any problems at all. I highly recommend this book.

I am a big fan of making gifts that are "practically impractical," so this seemed right up my alley. I purchased this to make some Christmas presents and other gifts and while I have not yet finished my first project from the book, it does seem to be coming along nicely. I was initially concerned about purchasing a knitting pattern book for my Kindle Fire, but it looks great and is super easy to use.

I met Ms. Hrachovec on Ravelry. I began to purchase her tiny designs one-by-one. When she told me her first book was coming out, I didn't immediately jump on it--it was her first. What a huge mistake that was! When I realized my error, I jumped to rectify that and she even autographed her book for me. I'm thrilled with my purchase. I couldn't wait for the next and now I have both. I'm a happy camper now.

I came across this book in my institute's library and I thought the projects were so adorable, I couldn't resist getting one! The book does cover techniques for sewing and weaving in ends with very clear diagrams and instructions and the patterns are generally easy to follow. Some patterns on the other hand do require more patience and time to knit though. I wouldn't recommend this to an impatient knitter or someone who hates seaming, and especially if you really hate double-pointed needles, give this book a miss.

This book is a keeper!!! Too fun! Have made a couple gifts from this book which were so very well received! Very unique and nicely put together. Projects are easy to follow and turn out great every time! :))))))

Have made a few of these, but most aren't what I was looking for.

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