

# Crandall the Cranky Crab

by Carmen Nuland



## Description

Sometimes we all feel a little crabby, so here's a tiny friend that will empathize with you.

This was one of my very first designs, and I am so happy to be able to share him with you!

Crandall the Cranky Crab loves hanging out at the beach or peeking out from house plants. But be warned: These make up so quickly that you will be tempted to make another... or a dozen!

## Design Notes:

This design can be made with any weight of yarn or thread, using one hook size smaller than is typically recommended for that weight of yarn so the stitches remain tight.

To make the legs, you will either need a smaller weight yarn – or the ability to separate the plies of yarn into 1/2 or 1/3 the original. For example, you can make the crab in a 3-ply yarn and then untwist a section of yarn to use just 1-ply for the legs. This is done to prevent the legs from being too large and bulky. However, a word of caution: A single ply is far more likely to break if you pull too hard. If you have difficulty separating the plies or if it breaks too easily, I would recommend finding a similar smaller-weight yarn for the legs.

The crab is made by creating two “shells” (top and bottom). Each set of legs is worked as one long strip to make it easier to attach to the bottom shell before stuffing and seaming the crab together.

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# Crandall the Cranky Crab

## Materials needed

(measurements are approximate)

Yarn	Yarn Amount*	Crochet Hook	Dimensions	Weight	Safety Eyes
Lace	14 yds (13 m)	US B (2.25 mm)	1.5 x 1" (4 x 2.5 cm)	2g	3 or 4 mm
Fingering	16 yds (15 m)	US C (2.75 mm)	2 x 1.25" (5 x 3 cm)	3g	4.5 mm
Sport/DK	18 yds (17 m)	US D (3.25 mm)	2.5 x 1.5" (6.5 x 4 cm)	4g	6 mm
Worsted	20 yds (18 m)	US G (4.00 mm)	3.5 x 2.25 (9 x 6 cm)	7g	7.5 mm
Bulky	24 yds (22 m)	US H (5.0 mm)	3.75 x 2.75" (9.5 x 7 cm)	11g	8mm

## Gauge

Gauge is not critical for this pattern.

## Notions

Stitch marker(s)

Yarn needle

Safety eyes (see above) or small bit of black yarn in same weight (or smaller)

Fiberfill or scraps of yarn

\* Yardage amount will vary depending on how many plies are in the yarn, however I included amounts for stuffing in the estimated yardage/meter amount.

## Stitch Abbreviations (US crochet terminology)

Ch – chain

Rep – repeat

Sc – single crochet

Sl st – slip stitch

St(s) – stitch(es)

Tr – treble crochet

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## Shell Directions – make 2: top and bottom

Ch 2.

**Rnd 1:** Sc in the 2nd st from hook; sc 5x in the same st. (6 sc)

**Rnd 2:** Sc 2 in each sc around the circle. (12 sc)

**Rnd 3:** \*Sc 2, sc 1 in next 5 sts; rep from \* once. (14 sc)

**Rnd 4:** \*Sc 2, sc 1 in next 6 sts; rep from \* once. (16 sc)

Bottom shell: Stop here and fasten off.

**Rnd 5 (Top shell only):** \*Sc 2, sc 1 in next 7 sts; rep from \* once. (18 sc). Cut yam, leaving an 8" tail and fasten off.

Weave in all ends from the bottom shell, pulling the center end tight to close up the starting hole. Weave in only the starting yam tail from the top shell.



## Leg Directions – make 2

Note: the legs are worked back and forth.

Using a smaller weight yam, or half the ply of the shell yam, ch 11. *Note: You may want to switch to a smaller hook for the legs, especially with the heavier yam weights.*

**Row 1:** Sc 1 in 2nd st from hook; sc 1 in remaining sts. (10). This creates the base of sts that will be tucked inside the shell. Turn.

**Row 2:** Tr in 2nd st from hook (claw # 1), sc in next 2 sts, ch 4, tr in 2nd st from hook (claw # 2), sc in next 2 sts, slst into base, \*sc 2, ch 4, sc in 2nd st from hook, sc 2, slst into base (one leg); rep from \* two more times. Cut yam, leaving an 8" tail and fasten off.

Repeat all steps for second leg.

Weave in starting ends from both sets of legs, leaving the longer ending tail for attaching to the shell.

## Finishing

Determine which part of each shell will be the front. There should be a slight oval shape to the shells which will be the sides of the crab.

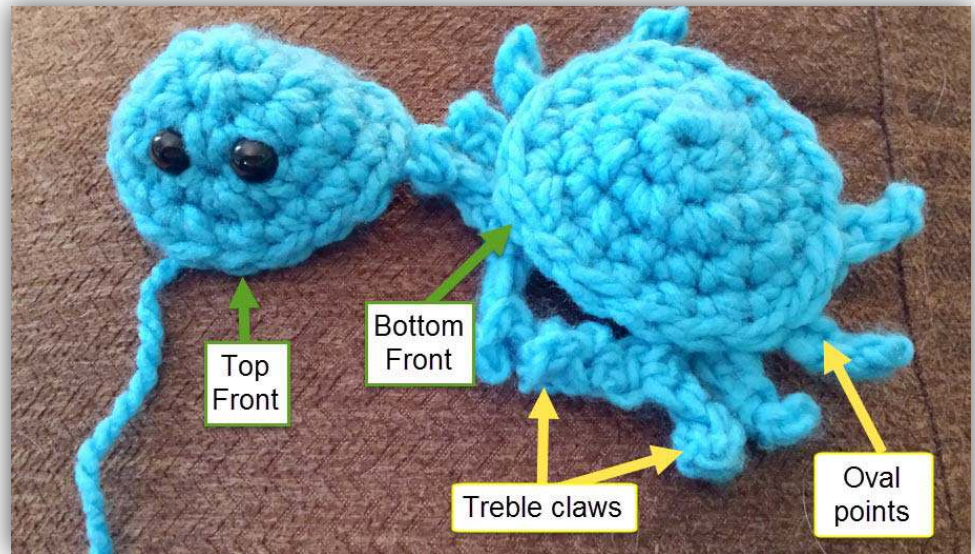
## Crandall the Cranky Crab

Using the long tail from the leg, attach it inside the bottom shell, along the oval “points”. Make sure the entire base of the leg is inside the bottom shell dimensions, and that the claws (treble) are pointing towards the front. You want the legs to mostly flow along the sides of the crab, so if

necessary the base can be scrunched along the edge of the bottom shell. Repeat for the second leg. Either weave in the yarn ends, or gently weave them across the inside of the bottom shell to create natural stuffing.

Add safety eyes (optional), attaching to the front of the top shell.

Place the two shells together, with wrong sides together and the front sections pointing the same direction. Begin to attach the two sides. My method was to pull the yarn down into the bottom shell, over one stitch and then back up the top shell, over one stitch and back to the bottom shell. You could also whip-stitch the two sides together. Keep in mind there are two extra stitches in the top that will need to be stitched together. As you work around, be sure the legs (and only the legs) are sticking out. Seam around until you have 4 sts or so left. Begin stuffing the interior of the crab with spare yarn or fiberfill to give the top shell a rounded look. If you overstuff, the bottom may also round out. Finish seaming by pulling through one last stitch and then weaving in the yarn end.



If safety eyes were not used, French knot eyes are added after seaming. Make sure to secure the yarn so the knots can't be pulled out.