Sally's Seahorse

Now I have written this up it seems soooo... complicated. If you use the chart along with the written instructions you may stand a chance of understanding what I did. I have found that it is really hard writing a pattern. If you have any ideas on how to make it more easy to understand please let me know. This is not for the faint-hearted!

US	UK
Single crochet (sc)	Double crochet
Double crochet (dc)	Treble crochet
Half double crochet (hdc)	Half treble crochet (htc)
Treble crochet (tr)	Double treble crochet (dtr)

This pattern is written using American terminology.

I used DK weight (light worsted I think) yarn with a hook size 2.00 mm for the seahorse on the right. It works very well with mercerised cotton because you get great stitch definition. The ribs show up really well. I have used a variegated yarn too though it didn't show the form as well.

The seahorse below was made with Rico Cotton Essentials (DK) and a 4 mm hook.

The seahorses that I make aren't always the same because the picots on its back can be a bit of a moveable feast. I have changed the fin since making this seahorse. The pattern will be for the seahorse above. The fin lies flatter now.

Use the written pattern in conjunction with the chart.

The last page has the abbreviations/ terminology that I have used and links to You-tube sites for more help.

I must give special thanks to **Chinami Horiba,** from *Crochet a little*, who designed the first seahorse pattern that I made. She has acknowledged that this crochet is similar to her design, but is different in how to crochet, so I may publish it as my own work. She has many inspirational designs which you can find on ravelry at this address.
http://www.ravelry.com/designers/chinami-horiba
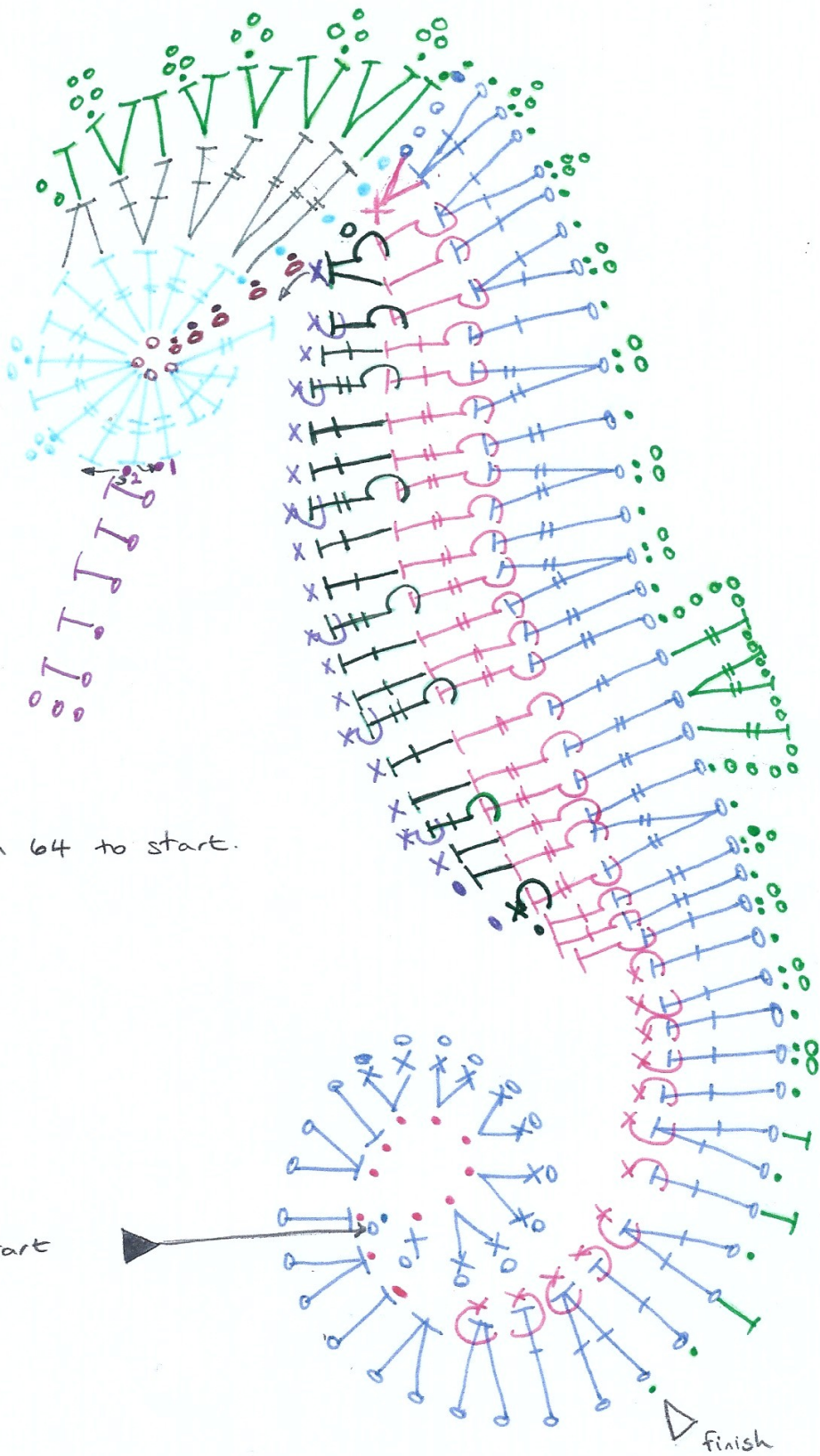
chain 64 to start.

Start

finish

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Use the written pattern in conjunction with the chart.

<u>Body</u>

Make a slip knot. Then chain 64.

<u>Row 1</u> Right side (RS), in blue on the chart.

Start by working into the fifth chain from the hook. **When working into a ch st, have two loops on top of the hook and one below.**

Dc2tog, (dc2tog, then dc in next ch) twice , (work 2 tr in next ch then 1 tr in next ch) 3 times, 1 tr in each of next 5 ch [which makes 6 tr next to each other], 2 tr in next ch, 1 tr in each of next 2 ch, 1 dc in each of next 6 ch, (dc2tog, then dc in next ch) 3 times, hdc2tog [mark this stitch with a loop of contrasting spare yarn around the post],

(hdc2tog then hdc in next ch) 3 times, sc2tog 5 times, sc in next ch, ss in next ch, turn.

<u>Row 2</u> Wrong side (WS), in red on the chart.

ss in first sc (this is the second stitch from the hook, not the ss) from row 1, ss in each of next 10 stitches, BPsc around the stitch that you have marked with a loop of yarn [This was a decrease stitch so it is made from two posts being joined into one. Make sure that you go around both posts together], remove the marker.


FPsc around next stitch, BPsc around next dc2tog [go around both posts together], FPsc, BPsc around next dc2tog [go around both posts together],

FPsc, BPsc around next dc2tog [go around both posts together],

FPsc, (Bpsc, FPsc) twice, BPhdc, FPdc for each of next 2 stitches, (BPtr, FPtr, FPtr) 5 times, BPdc, FPdc, BPhdc around next dc2tog [go around both posts together], FPhdc, BPhdc [go around both posts together],

Sc2tog [put hook under the top loops of the final dc2tog from previous row, wrap yarn and pull through, put hook through the top ch of the 4 ch stitches on previous row, wrap yarn and pull through, wrap yarn and pull through all 3 stitches on the hook], ch1, turn.

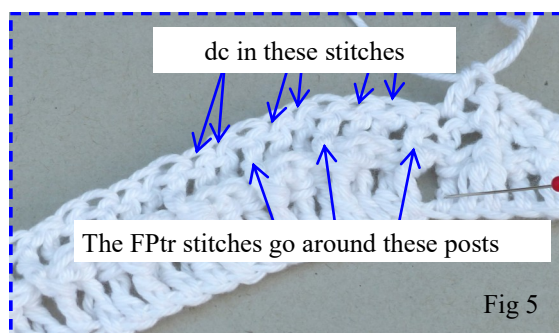## Row 3: RS, in dark green on the chart

Note: the FP stitches go around the BP stitches from the row below. Use this information to keep yourself in the correct position. The FP and BP stitches create the ribs on the seahorse.

Miss the first st, then **(FPhdc, hdc)tog** - see the photos and explanation on the last page on how to do this.

Then FPhdc, dc [see Fig. 4],

dc into here

FPhdc here

Fig. 4
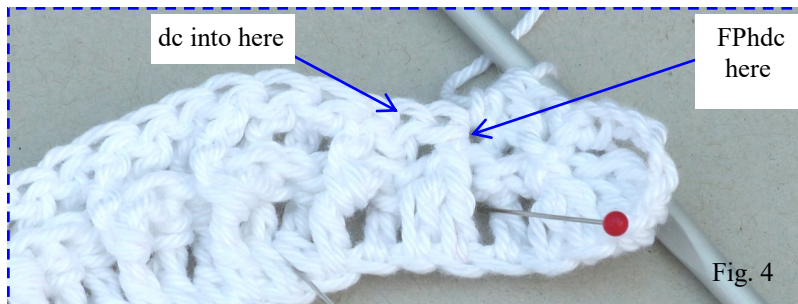
(FPtr, dc, dc) 3 times [see Fig. 5],

dc in these stitches

The FPtr stitches go around these posts

Fig 5

FPtr, dc, hdc, FPdc, then hdc in each of next 2 stitches, FPsc, ss, turn.

Row 4 WS, in purple on the chart.

Note: the BP stitches go around the **FP stitches from the row below** to form the ribs. Use this   information to keep yourself in the correct position.
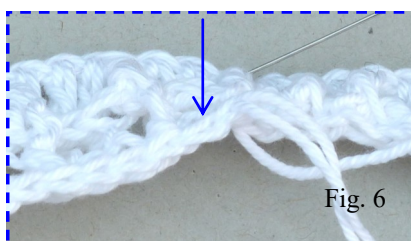
Fig. 6

Ss in second st from the hook [see Fig 6 and Fig 7, it is the top of the FPsc from the previous row], then ss in next stitch, then sc.

Fig. 7
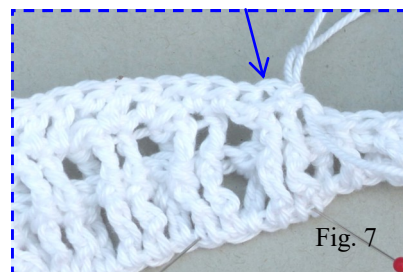
Fig. 8

BPsc around FPdc from the previous row

[see Fig 8, the red pin is in the BPsc],

BPsc

sc, sc

Fig. 9
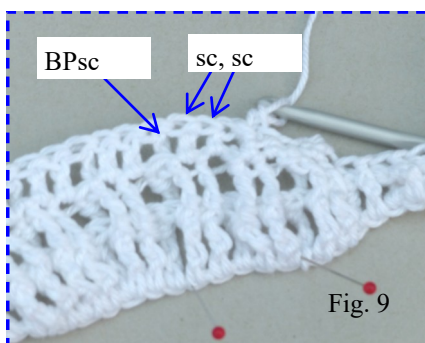
(sc, sc, BPsc) 4 times, then sc, BPsc, then sc into the top of the final stitch in row 3.

That completes the body but do not finish off, leave the loop on the hook. Now for the head...

Head Row 1 (RS), in brown on the chart

Ch 9, ss into the 5th ch from the hook {the loop makes the eye for the seahorse}, ss into each of 4 ch working back to the body.

Fig. 10

Head Row 2, (WS) in turquoise on the chart (working clockwise)

Into the loop forming the eye work tr, dc 3 times, tr twice [see Fig. 10]. Turn the work.

Snout in mauve on the chart

Fig 11

ss into second stitch from hook [marked 1 on the pattern diagram]. Ch 8, hdc in 4th ch from hook, hdc in each of next 4 ch, ss [marked 2 on the pattern diagram] in top of last tr MADE ON ROW 2 OF THE HEAD to anchor the snout [see Fig. 11]

Head Row 2 (continued in turquoise) (WS)

*Please read the comment about picots on the last page ***

Fig 12

Work into the loop forming the eye:
tr twice then make a 3 ch picot,
tr twice then make a 2 ch picot,
tr 6 times, ss to ch closest to the body [Fig. 12]
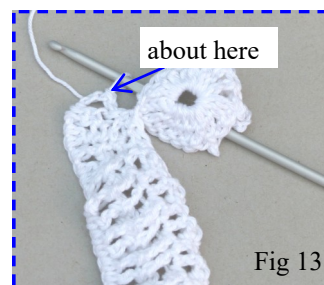
about here
Fig 13

Ss up the edge of the body to get to the middle of the 4 ch in row 1 [marked on Fig. 13]. It really doesn't matter whether it is the 2nd or 3rd ch, you need to be at a suitable height for making treble stitches in the next row of the head, turn.

Row 3, (RS) in dark green on the chart

Fig. 14

Tr into ss that joined the head to the body [marked by the red pin in Fig. 14], 2 tr into next st, (tr, dc) into next st, 2 dc in next st, then hdc2tog, 2 ch, turn.
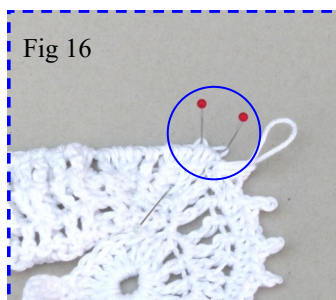
Row 4, (WS) in green on the chart

Hdc into the top of the hdc2tog, in next st (hdc, 4ch picot, hdc), hdc in next st, in next stitch (hdc, 3ch picot, hdc), in next stitch (hdc, 3ch picot, hdc), in next stitch (hdc, hdc, 3 ch picot), in next stitch (hdc, hdc, 3 ch picot) hdc, ss to bottom of 4 ch on body so that the head forms a smooth curve with the body.
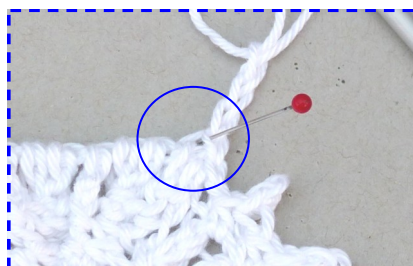
Spiny bits, (WS) in green on the chart

Fig 16

Notes
For the sticky out bit down the spine you will need to work into the loop left after working into the chains for Row 1. You can see them in Fig. 16 inside the circle.

When working the picots down the spine I get a neater finish if the ss at the end of the picot is worked into the ss at the bottom of the ch and through the loop at the bottom of the st on Row 1.

Ss into the first loop at the bottom of the tr, [(ss, 3 ch picot) in next st, ss in next st] twice, ss in next st, [(ss, 2 ch picot) in next st, ss in next st] 4 times.

Fin, (WS) in green on the chart
Ss in next st, 5 ch, tr in next st, 2 ch, then (tr, 2 ch, tr) in next st, 2 ch, tr in next st, 5 ch, ss in next st on body to complete the fin.

More spiny bits (WS) in green on chart
Ss in each of next two st, 3 ch picot, (ss, ss, 2 ch picot) 3 times, ss in next st, [(hdc in next st, ss in next st] 3 times, ss, finish off.

Sew in the ends. I like to block the seahorse so that it lays properly and to make the tummy as rounded as possible.

Well done!

This seahorse is not yet blocked. I made it looser than normal in the hope that you could see the stitches more clearly.

I prefer to use a hook slightly too small for the yarn.

Abbreviations/Terminology (American used in the pattern - see first page for UK equivalents)

ch = chain

sc = single crochet

sc2tog = single crochet 2 together   or
Insert hook in st, wrap yarn around hook and pull back through st. Insert hook in next st wrap yarn around hook and pull back through st. Wrap yarn around hook and pull through all 3 loops on the hook.

dc = double crochet

dc2tog = double crochet 2 together. This is a decrease.
Wrap the yarn around the hook, insert in st, wrap yarn around hook and pull back through st. Wrap yarn around hook and pull through 2 loops on the hook. Wrap the yarn around the hook, insert in next st, wrap yarn around hook and pull back through st. Wrap yarn around hook and pull through 2 loops on the hook. Wrap yarn around hook and pull through the remaining 3 loops on the hook.

hdc = half double crochet

hdc2tog = half double crochet 2 together. This is a decrease.
Wrap the yarn around the hook, insert in st, wrap yarn around hook and pull back through st. Wrap the yarn around the hook, insert in next st, wrap yarn around hook and pull back through st. Wrap yarn around hook and pull through all 5 loops on the hook.

tr = treble

ss = slip stitch

*3 ch picot = 3 chain picot
Work 3 ch, then ss into the top of the st at the bottom of the 3 ch. **If the pattern says 3 ch picot it includes doing the ss at the end in the same st. If the pattern goes on to say ss again, it will want another one in the next st.**

BPsc = Back Post single crochet   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YRkB2JaTBBg

FPsc = Front Post single crochet   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VULKRfejLDU

BPhdc = Back Post half double crochet   **FPhdc** = Front Post half double crochet

**BPdc** = Back Post double crochet   **FPdc** = Front post double crochet

BPtr = Back Post treble crochet   **FPtr** = Front Post treble crochet

This is what you need to do for **(FPhdc, hdc)tog** . It is a bit awkward so I hope the pictures help you. Also look at the chart.

- Wrap yarn around hook, insert to right of post and poke the hook out to the left {see Fig. 1 and Fig.2},

Hook comes out here

Hook goes in here

Fig. 1

Fig. 2
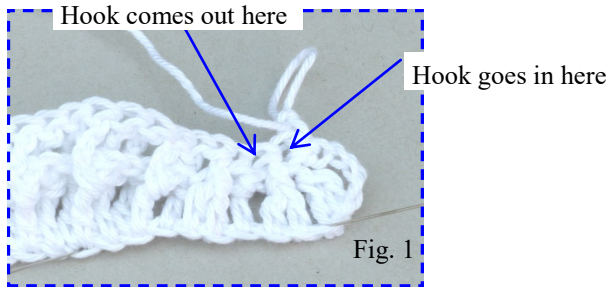
- wrap yarn around hook and pull back through,

- wrap the yarn around the hook, insert into the top of the next st {see Fig. 3}

This is the top of the next stitch

Fig. 3
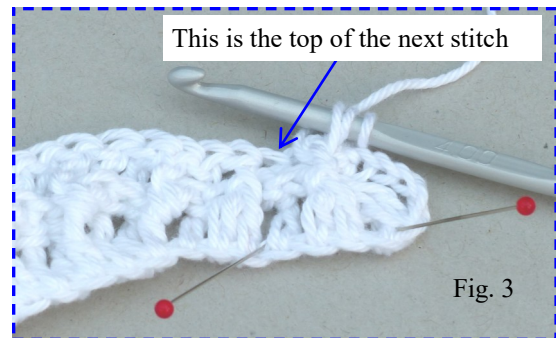
- wrap yarn around hook and pull back through, wrap yarn around hook and pull through all 5 loops on the hook.

You can find, my very basic, blog at

https://lizzielockyer.wordpress.com/2015/04/20/crochet-seahorse/