GNOME COOKING

Deborah Bagley









GNOME COOKING

Deborah Bagley

Whether guarding buried treasure or creating treasured desserts, this little chef is up for the task. The chef gnome is the same size as the Spring Gnomes from *Little Looms*, Spring 2022 and his hat fits those gnomes. Add a towel and an apron, and your clever chef will be ready to dazzle his patrons.

RESOURCES

Bagley, Deborah. "Spring Gnomes." Easy Weaving with Little Looms, Spring 2022, 24; 30–32.

MATERIALS

STRUCTURE Plain weave.

EQUIPMENT Hexagon pin loom, 4" wide; 2" × 6" rectangle pin loom; 4" square pin loom; 2" × 4" rectangle pin loom; 2" square pin loom; 5" weaving needle; packing comb or fork; tapestry needle; crochet hook size G-6/4 mm.

YARNS Soft (100% acrylic; 256 yd/4 oz; Red Heart), #4600 White, 200 yd; #4614 Black, 24 yd; #9274 Biscuit, 8 yd; #9925 Really Red, 5 yd.

OTHER SUPPLIES Stuffing; plastic miniature dessert; small bag of beans or heavy filler to weight the gnome; straight pins; white fabric marker; steamer; pet comb; hot glue.

DIMENSIONS Finished size: (after sewing and wet-finishing) about 5" × 5" × 8".

For crochet abbreviations, visit the glossary at littlelooms.com /crochet-and-knitting-abbreviations.

PROJECT STEPS

Gnome Toque

- **1** Following the manufacturer's directions, plain weave seven hexagons and two 2" × 6" rectangles using White (see Figure 1).
- **2** With wrong sides facing up, place one hexagon as the top center of the hat and place a hexagon on each side of the center hexagon. Whipstitch each hexagon to the central hexagon (see Figure 2 and whipstitch instructions on page 4).
- **3** With wrong sides facing, whipstitch each pair of adjacent hexagons together along the edges where they touch. Fold the outer hexagons in half and whipstitch the touching edges together (see Figure 3). Weave in ends.
- f 4 To make the brim: With wrong sides facing, whipstitch the two 2" × 6" rectangles together along the 2" edge. Fold in half with the wrong side out. Whipstitch the other 2" ends together to make a short cylinder (see Figure 4).
- **5** With right sides facing, pin the lower edge of hexagon hat top to the upper edge of the hat brim (see Figure

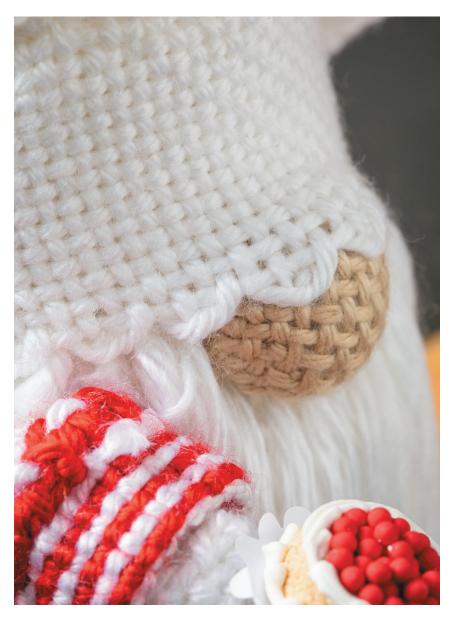


Figure 1. Pin loom pieces

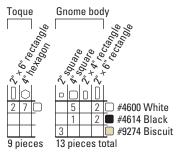
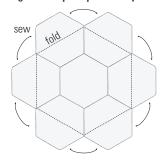


Figure 2. Toque top layout



Figure 3. Toque top assembly



5). Sew together with whipstitch.

Weave in ends. Turn right side out.

6 Wet-finish by handwashing in warm water with mild detergent.

Tumble dry.

Figure 4. Toque brim assembly



Figure 5. Toque assembly



Gnome Body

1 Plain weave 13 pieces following the chart in Figure 1 for the Gnome Body.

2 With wrong sides facing, join three 4" White squares to make a 1×3 rectangle (see Figure 6a).

- **3** With wrong sides facing, join two 2" × 6" White rectangles along the 2" edge (see Figure 6b).
- **4** With wrong sides facing, join two 2" × 6" Black rectangles along the 2" edge (see Figure 6c).
- **5** Sew the White rectangles and squares together along the 12" edge to make one large 6" × 12" rectangle. Sew the Black rectangles to the White rectangles along the 12" edge to make an 8" × 12" rectangle (see Figure 7).
- **6** With wrong side out, fold the body in half aligning the colors. Sew along the 8" edge to make a cylinder (see Figure 8).
- 7 Draw a 4" diameter circle on the 4" Black square (see Figure 9).
- **8** With wrong side out, pin the Black part of the cylinder to the Black square along the line (see Figure 10). Sew together with small whipstitches. Turn right side out. The black end is the bottom of the body.

Figure 6. Gnome body layout

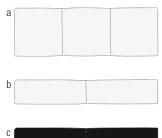


Figure 7. Gnome body assembly

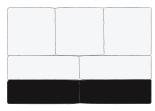


Figure 8. Body cylinder assembly



Figure 9. Base



Figure 10. Base assembly



Figure 11. Body closure



Figure 12. Arm assembly



Figure 13. Hands and nose



Figure 14. Lark's head knot



9 Fill the bottom of the body with a small bag of beans or something heavy. Finish filling the body with stuffing.

10 Using White, cinch the top of the gnome closed by pulling the tapestry needle through every loop along the opening. Pull tightly to close and secure with a knot (see Figure 11).

11 For each arm, fold a White 4" square in half and sew the 4" sides together to make a cylinder (see Figure 12). Turn right side out.

12 Optional: Using White, sc in each loop around one end of the arm (16 sc). Join with a sl st. This is the cuff end.

13 Fold the cuff end (with or without the optional crochet) up about ½" to the outside to make a cuff (see Figure 12). Stuff arm lightly.

14 For each hand and the nose, draw a 2" circle on each of the three Biscuit 2" squares. With needle and Biscuit, sew a running stitch along that circle. Gently cinch and stuff lightly to make a puff (see Figure 13). Tuck in the corners and sew closed. (You can also stuff with buttons and sew closed.)

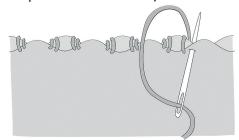
15 Sew a hand on the cuff end of each arm. Sew the nose to the front of the gnome (opposite the back seam) centered and about $4\frac{1}{2}$ " from the bottom

16 Sew an arm to each side of the gnome with one arm hanging down and one sticking out to hold a dessert about 3½" from the bottom (see photo).

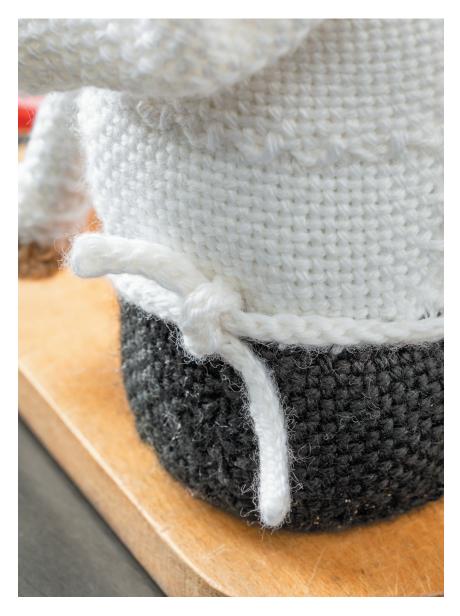
17 Use a tapestry needle to weave in loose ends.

18 Cut 50 pieces (or as many as desired) of White yarn about 4" long. Use the crochet hook to make lark's head knots to attach the strands to the gnome below and beside the nose (see Figure 14). Carefully brush out the strands of the beard using a stiff comb such as a pet comb. Use a steamer and comb to straighten the strands. Trim to desired length (see photo).

Whipstitch and double-overcast joins



The double-overcast join is shown here. For whipstitch, wrap around each group of loops once instead of twice.





Apron and Dish Towel

- **1** For the apron, plain weave one 2" × 4" rectangle in White.
- **2** Make a crocheted strap for the apron using White. Ch 38, sc 1 in each loop along a 4" edge of the rectangle, ch 39. Turn, sc in second ch from hook and in each loop across (92 sc). Finish off. Weave in ends. Tie around the gnome where the Black and White parts of the body meet.
- $\bf 3$ For the striped towel, weave a Really Red and White towel on a 2" × 6" pin loom, warping the first 2 layers in Really Red and using White for the last 2 layers. Weave in ends.
- **4** Fold the towel in half lengthwise and tack to the arm that is sticking out.
- 5 Attach a miniature dessert to the gnome's hand with hot glue. ★

DEBORAH BAGLEY has been a crochet and weaving designer and instructor since 2011. A former elementary school teacher, she enjoys teaching her sons and mountain biking with her family.