

When Pigs Fly

MARGARET STUMP



Photos by Matt Graves

HANDWOVEN.

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STRUCTURE

Plain weave.

EQUIPMENT

2", 4", and 6" square pin looms (**Note:** Four 4" squares can be substituted for a 6" pin-loom square); 3", 6", and 8" weaving needles (omit 8" if not using a 6" loom); packing comb or fork; tapestry needle; G-6/4 mm and H-8/5 mm crochet hooks.

YARNS

Warp and Weft:

Velvet (100% polyester; 315 yd/10.5 oz; Bernat; Yarnspirations), #13 Quiet Pink, 250 yd.
Alpaca Twist (90% acrylic/10% alpaca, 175 yd/3.5 oz; Yarn Bee), #01 Lace Doilies, 54 yd. Classic Wool Worsted (100% wool; 210 yd/3.5 oz; Patons; Yarnspirations), Sea Glass, 12 yd; Brown, 6 yd; Medium Gray, 1 yd. **Note:** Classic Wool Worsted has been discontinued. Substitute Ella Rae Classic Wool or use another worsted-weight yarn in similar colors for the goggles and pig nostrils.

OTHER SUPPLIES

Two flat ½" black buttons for eyes or ½" safety eyes; polyester stuffing; 5" × 36" white silk or satin-like fabric.

DIMENSIONS

Finished size:
7" × 17" × 6".

A high-flying pig is the epitome of crazy optimism, something we can all use. This precious pin-loom pig named Zoomer has all the necessary attributes. Her softness comes from being woven with a velvet yarn, and she comes with sparkling white wings artfully frayed for a soft, feathered look. Add a flying scarf and goggles and Zoomer is ready to take flight anytime you're willing to provide the propulsion.

Although I was skeptical at first, weaving with a bulky weight velveteen yarn on a pin loom is not only possible but productive. The reward is a thick, luxurious fabric that turns into a soft, velvety pink pig.

Weaving with velveteen yarn on a pin loom takes some practice because the yarn thickness makes it difficult to see where you are weaving. Be sure to tamp down the yarn with your fork or beater between each woven line. Hold the loom up to the light to help determine where to start the weaving line. It is helpful that the yarn's thin core gives your needle very clear feedback so that you can weave over and under with ease.

Create your own Zoomer and let your heart—and your pig—soar high!

1 Following the manufacturer's directions, weave 35 pieces as listed in Figure 1. **Note:** If you do not have a 6" square pin loom, weave eight additional Quiet Pink 4" squares in place of two 6" squares for the head.

2 Head: Turn in the four corners of each 6" square, and with Quiet Pink, single crochet around the edge to create a rounded

shape. Add a second row of single crochet, without increasing, to create more depth to each half-head. Following Figure 2, stitch on the button eyes or safety eyes to one 6" square. **Note:** To use 4" squares, join four 4" squares into a larger 2 × 2 square and fold the corners and edges under to make a 6"-wide rounded shape in place of each 6" square's rounded shape.

3 For the snout, turn in the four corners of one Quiet Pink 4" square and with Quiet Pink, single crochet around the edge to create a round shape. Add two more rows of single crochet to the edge, without increasing, to create more depth for the pig snout. Following Figure 2, whipstitch the crocheted edge of the snout to one of the 6" rounded shapes to create the face, leaving an opening for stuffing. Add a small amount of polyester stuffing to the pig snout and stitch closed.

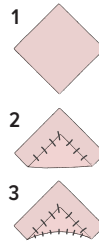
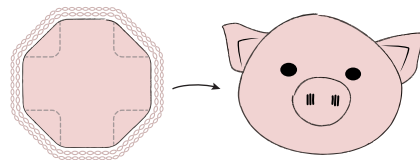
4 Leaving an opening for stuffing, whipstitch the two 6" rounded shapes together

1. PIN-LOOM PIECES

2	23	2	Quiet Pink
6			Lace Doilies
2			Sea Glass

35 pieces total

2. HEAD CONSTRUCTION

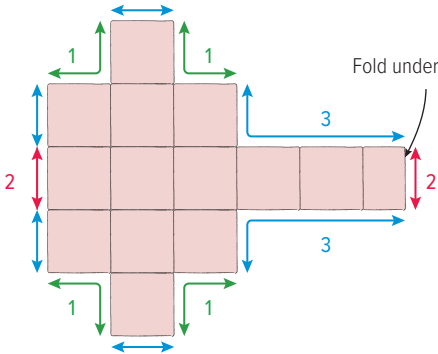


to make the pig head. Stuff, then stitch closed.

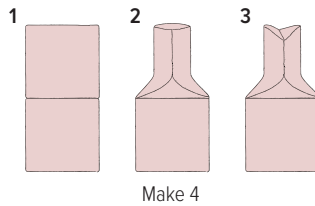
5 Following Figure 2, using Medium Gray yarn, add pig nostrils with satin stitch.

6 Following Figure 2, use the two Quiet Pink 2" squares to make the ears. Fold one corner in and use Quiet Pink to tack that corner to the inside of the ear. Make two. When stitching, bend the ear to create a more cup-like look and attach the ears to the sides of the head on top of the seam line.

3. BODY ASSEMBLY



4. LEGS



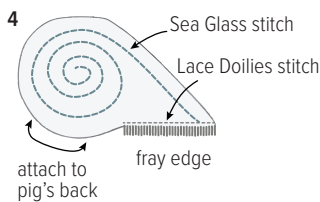
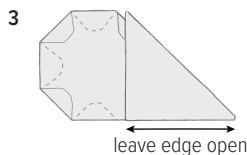
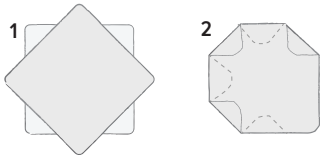
Make 4

7 Body: Following Figure 3, join 14 Quiet Pink 4" squares to create the pig body. With right sides together, use double-overcast stitch to join the squares. Join the squares flat, then fold and join the corners and sides in the order shown. Overlap the squares on the long sides to create a slightly oval, not round, body. Stuff the body before closing the last seam.

8 Stitch the head onto one end of the oval body.

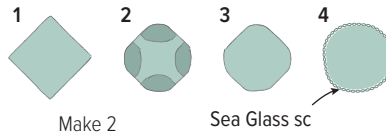
9 Legs: With right sides together, use double-overcast stitch to join two Quiet Pink 4" squares. Fold one square to create a 3" tube at one end. Close the end of the tube, folding two sides of the tube to the inside to create a cloven hoof. Add some stuffing to the leg/foot section. Set aside. Make four legs, using two squares for each leg (see Figure 4).

5. WINGS



Make 2

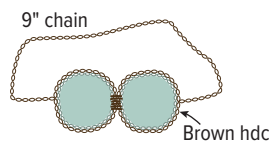
6. LENS



Make 2

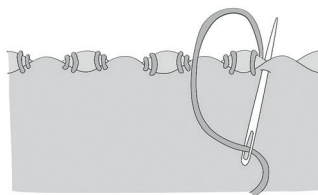
Sea Glass sc

7. GOGGLES



Whipstitch and Double-overcast Joins

Whipstitch and double overcast are the two most common methods for joining pin-loom squares. The two methods are similar; double overcast is simply a doubled-up version of whipstitch. To stitch either of these seams, start by placing the two edges you want joined, right sides together. The loops will probably be staggered—this is good. Starting at one end on the bottom layer, pull your threaded tapestry needle up through the first pair of loops. If you're doing whipstitch, move to the next pair of loops; for double overcast, repeat this move in the same pair of loops. Continue to the next pair of loops and bring the needle back through that pair from the bottom to the top; repeat until you reach the end.



This shows the double-overcast join. For whipstitch, wrap around each group of loops once instead of twice.

10 Place the pig legs on the body so that they suggest a flying posture with the front legs extended toward the front and the back legs toward the rear. Place the open side of the tube against the body and stitch around the open edges to attach the leg to the body. Before closing the end of the leg farthest from the feet, add more stuffing to create a rounded look for each upper leg.

11 Tail: Using a doubled length of Quiet Pink and a size H-8/5 mm crochet hook, chain about 4". Turn and single crochet back along the length of the chain to create a curly tail. Use the yarn end to pull the tail into the body of the pig, leaving about 3" of tail showing, and stitch the base of the tail to the body to hold it in place.

12 Wings: Make two. Stack two Lace Doilies 4" squares right sides together as shown in Figure 5. Fold each corner down to meet the middle of the other side and tack that corner to the middle of the other square. Double-overcast stitch three sides of the two squares together so that the corner of each square is stitched to the middle of the other square. This will create a soft octagon shape with one side left open. Fold a third Lace Doilies square on the diagonal. Place it against the open side of the rounded shape and double-overcast stitch the two separate layers to join. Leave the bottom side of the wing piece open (see Figure 5).




13 Turn the wing right side out. Quilt the two sides of the wing fabric together by stitching through the layers with Sea Glass, as shown in Figure 5. With Lace Doilies, stitch through both layers of the lower edge of the wing, one row in from the edge. Clip the loops at the bottom of the back of the wing and allow it to fray.

14 Whipstitch the wings to the pig's back. **Note:** When Margaret attached the wings, she laid each one flat on the back, draped it to the opposite side during stitching, then lifted the wing and folded it to the correct side so that it would stand up a little and not lie flat on the back.

15 Goggles: Following Figure 6, slightly tuck under the corners of a Sea Glass 2" square. With Sea Glass, single crochet around the edge to create a round lens. Make two.

16 As shown in Figure 7, half double crochet in Brown around each lens. Whipstitch the two lenses together using about four stitches. Crochet a 9" Brown chain for a strap and attach it to each side of the goggles. The pig's flying goggles can be worn on top of the head or over the eyes.

17 Flying scarf: Cut a 5" × 36" piece of white silk or satin-like fabric. Sew a ¼" hem around all sides. Tie the scarf loosely around the pig's neck. 

RESOURCES

Stump, Margaret. *Adorable Beasts: 30 Pin Loom Animals + 4 Playscapes*. Guilford, CT: Stackpole Books, 2019.

MARGARET STUMP *is passionate about all things pin loom and is regularly surprised and delighted by its varied creations. She hangs out at pinloomweaving.com.*