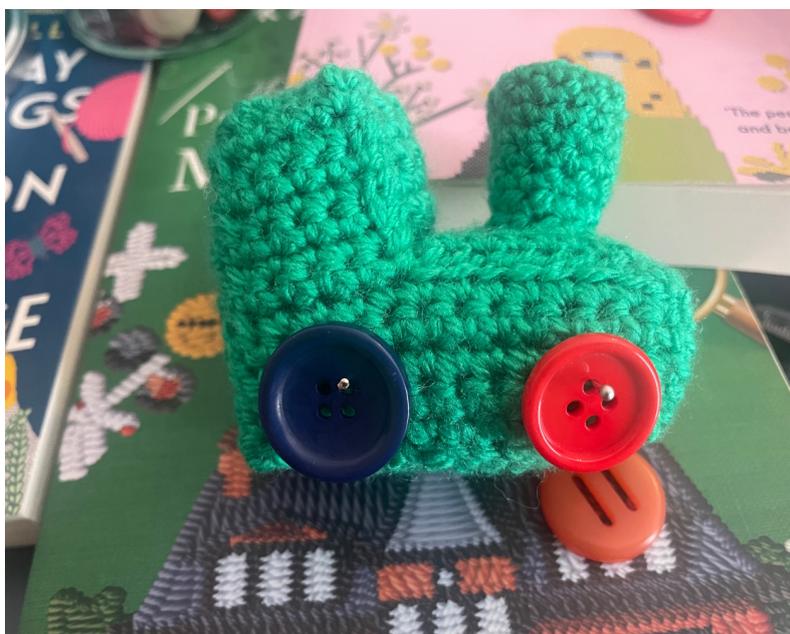


## BETTY THE BASIC ENGINE – CROCHET PATTERN

by Kate Solly, author of *The Paradise Heights Miniature Railway Bust-Up*



## INTRODUCTION

Here is a simple little locomotive. The body is worked in rows using scs. The chimney is slightly trickier, being worked in the round. There is some sewing together required, but this is a suitable pattern for beginners.

Hi, I'm Kate Solly. I write novels about crochet. My latest novel, *The Paradise Heights Miniature Railway Bust-Up*, is about trains and about crafters. I decided to celebrate its publication by designing my very own crocheted locomotive. Then I designed this smaller one for beginners to try. Enjoy!

## MATERIALS

8 ply yarn (I used acrylic DK but you could also use wool, cotton or bamboo)  
3mm crochet hook  
Coloured buttons  
Tapestry needle  
Polyfill stuffing

## STITCHES USED

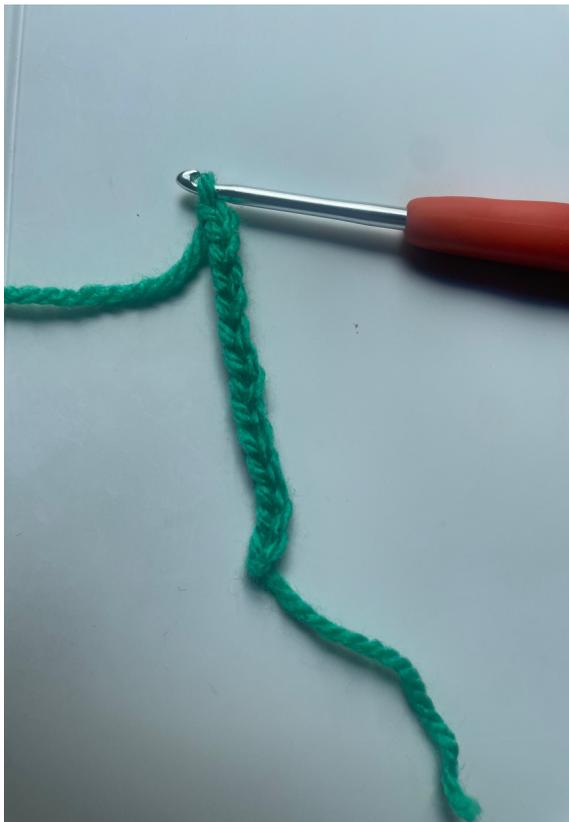
Ch - chain  
Sc - single crochet.

I use US terms throughout.

### L-shaped side (make 2)

Chain 14.

1. Skip 1 chain, sc in every ch (13 sc) turn.
2. Ch 1 sc in each stitch (13 sc) turn.
- 3-5. (Three rows) repeat row 2 (13 sc) turn.





6. Ch 1, sc into the next 5 stitches. STOP. Just abandon the rest of that row. You're going back now! Turn your work.



7. Ch 1, sc in the next 5 stitches to end. Turn. (5 sc)
8. Ch 1, sc to end of row, turn (5 sc)
- 9-13. (Five rows) - repeat row 8. Fasten off.



Now make a second one.



## CONNECTING PANELS

Now we are going to make the six panels that connect these two L-shapes. At first, I designed this to be one long strip that curved all the way around. But I've changed it to be a panel for each face of the prism. This might seem fiddly, but it gives a cleaner edge and is less confusing when putting it together. The sewing part is fun for this, anyway.

### Bottom Panel

Chain 14

1. Skip 1 chain, sc in every ch (13 sc) turn.
2. Ch 1, sc in each stitch (13 sc) turn.
- 3-5. (Three rows) repeat row 2 (13 sc) fasten off.

### Back Panel

Chain 6

1. Skip 1 chain, sc in every chain (5 sc) turn.
2. Ch 1, sc in each stitch (5 sc) turn.
- 3-12. (Ten rows) repeat row 2 (5 sc) fasten off.

### Top Cab panel

Chain 6

1. Skip 1 chain, sc in every chain (5 sc) turn.
2. Ch 1, sc in each stitch (5 sc) turn.
- 3-5. (Three rows) repeat row 2 (5 sc) fasten off.

### Front Cab panel

Chain 8

1. Skip 1 chain, sc in every chain (7 sc) turn.
2. Ch 1, sc in each stitch (7 sc) turn.
- 3-5. (Three rows) repeat row 2 (7 sc) fasten off.

### Top Boiler panel

Chain 9

1. Skip 1 chain, sc in every chain (8 sc) turn.
2. Ch 1, sc in each stitch (8 sc) turn.

3-5. (Three rows) repeat row 2 (8 sc) fasten off.

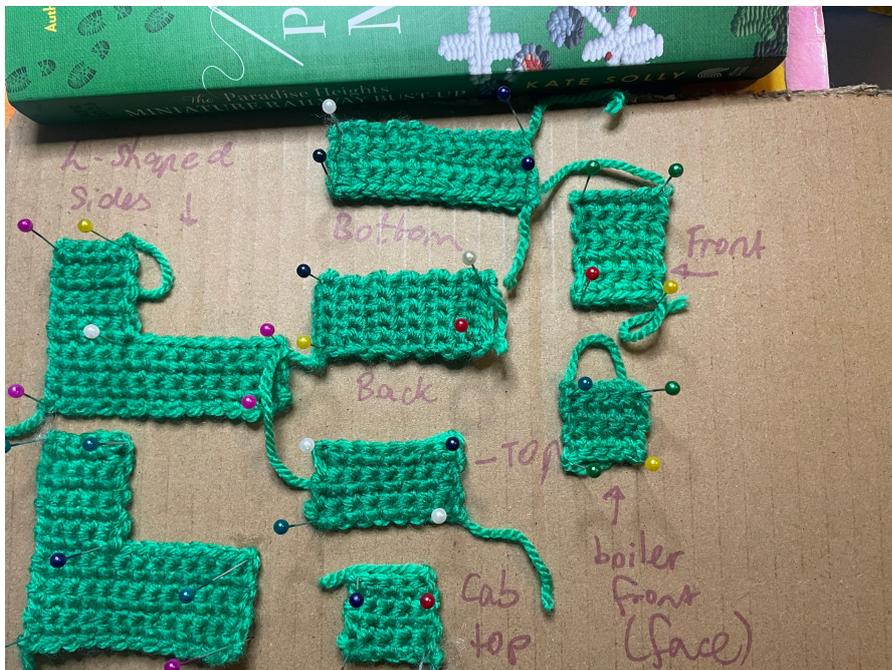
### Front Boiler Panel ('face' of train)

Chain 6

1. Skip 1 chain, sc in every chain (5 sc) turn.
2. Ch 1, sc in each stitch (5 sc) turn.
- 3-5. (Three rows) repeat row 2 (5 sc) fasten off.

## BLOCKING

I know what you're going to say. Blocking is boring, and it is a bit. But if you take each piece and dampen it a little bit (spray with water or even run under the tap) and then pin it out neatly onto a bit of cardboard it will give everything a sharper edge. And if you label each piece as you go, it will save you so many headaches later on. When the pieces are dry, it will be easier to sew them together. In the meantime, let's make the chimney.



## CHIMNEY

I've introduced some product placement to this section because I'm sneaky. Don't those books look AWESOME!

The chimney is worked in the round, unlike the rest of the pattern which is in rows. I don't join my rounds but instead work in a kind of spiral. Let's start.

Chain 2. We will be working in the second chain from your hook (so the first one you made. Think of how you skip the first stitch and crochet to the end of the row. It's like that, except it's a really short 'row' and all your stitches go in the one place.)



1. Work 6 scs into the second chain from your hook. These will curl around and form a circle.



2. Continuing in the same direction, work 2 sc into each of the 6 sc you made (12 sc)



You've made the top of the chimney! Now we will work the sides.

3. Working in the back loops only, work 1 sc into each stitch around (12 sc)
4. Work 1 sc into each st around (12 sc)



5-12. (Seven rounds) Repeat round 4 (12 sc). Fasten off.



## SEWING TOGETHER

I'm not really sure how to describe this part to you. It really is a journey of discovery. Do it one piece at a time using yarn and a tapestry needle. I whipstitched the panels together. Here are some photos of the process.







Stuff with polyfill.



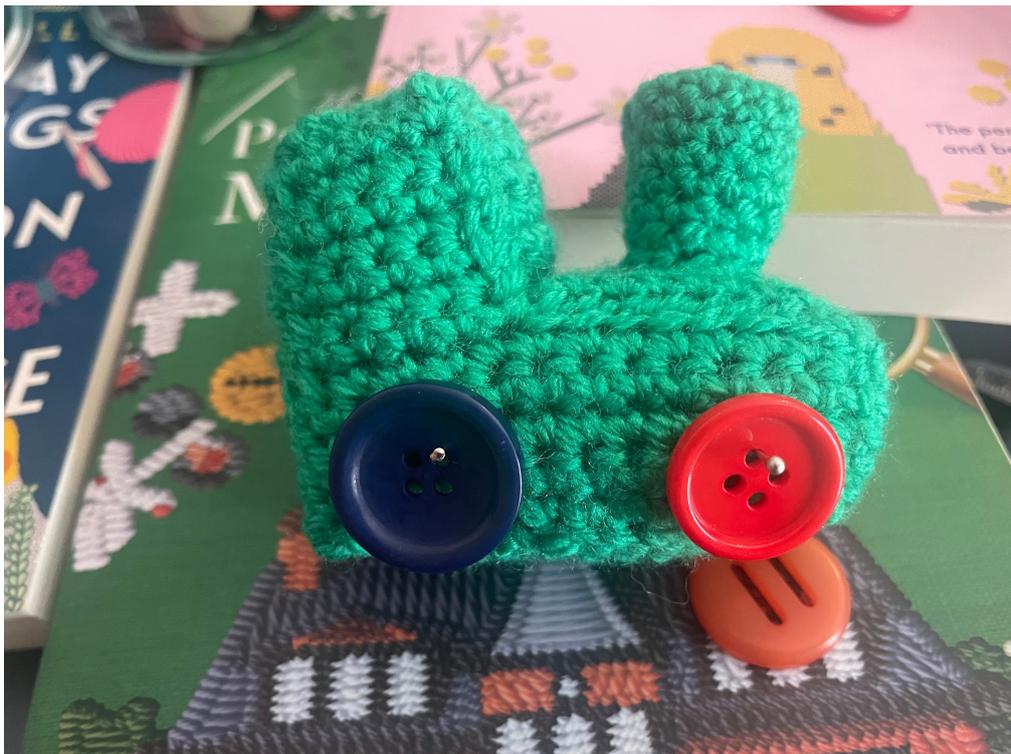
I used the tail of the crochet to tie off at the end. Then I tucked the tails inside the engine. I didn't manage it as one great seam but fastened off and reattached a few times.

Next, stuff sew on the chimney. You don't need to overstuff.





And finally, attach the buttons. You could use glue or sew them on. If making this for a small child, don't add buttons, as they are a choking hazard. Instead, you could crochet four 'chimney tops' in a contrasting colour and sew those on.



And you're done! All aboard!