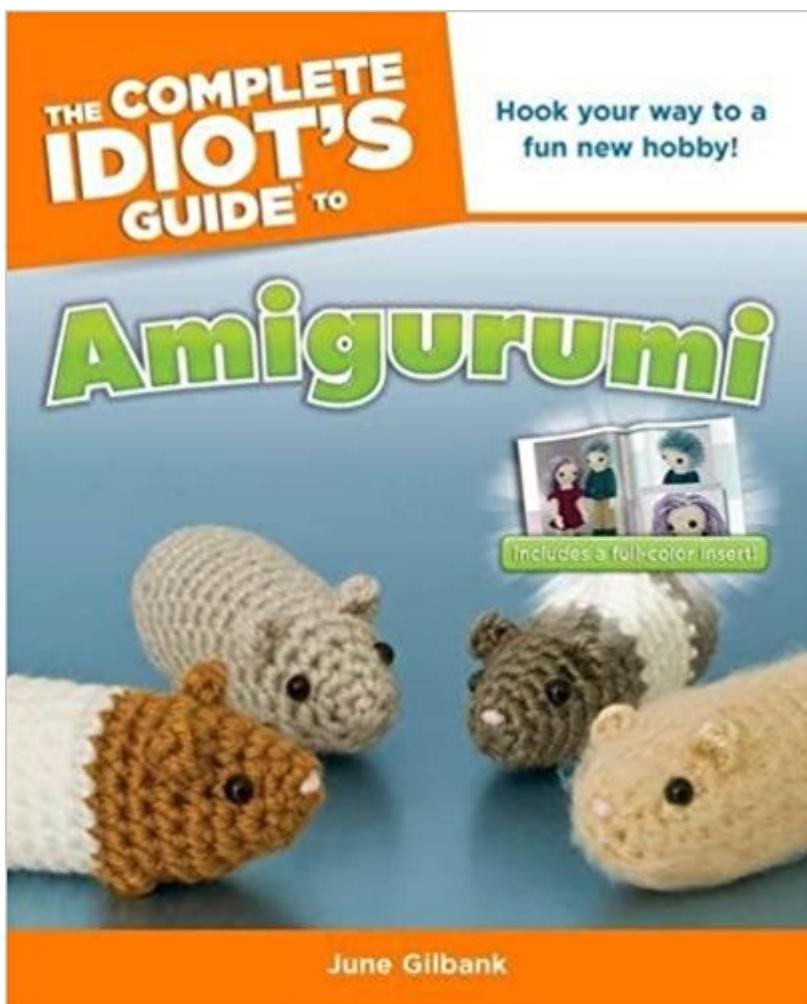


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# The Complete Idiot's Guide To Amigurumi (Complete Idiot's Guides (Lifestyle Paperback))



## Synopsis

Amigurumi (pronounced ah-mee-goo-roo-mee) is Japanese for "crochet (or knit) stuffed toy." Although the concept originated in Japan, the amigurumi craze is taking over the world in waves of crocheted cuteness! From adorable fuzzy critters, to sweet-looking fruits and vegetables, to quirky comic book and cartoon characters--if you can imagine it, you can crochet it! Whether you're an experienced crocheter or have never taken hook to yarn, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Amigurumi* shows you everything you need to know to hook your own delightful amigurumi. This helpful guide includes: A primer on the yarn, hooks, and stitches best for amigurumi, plus fun embellishments you can use to personalize your ami. Easy-to-follow tutorials for getting started, increasing and decreasing, working in the round, changing colors, and more. Expert advice on adding eyes, hair, jointed limbs, clothes, and other fun accessories to your ami. Tips for following an amigurumi pattern, plus four start-to-finish patterns to give you a head-start on designing your own. A full-color insert with inspirational photos of the finished ami patterns featured in the book--and more!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

June Gilbank is a crochet pattern designer, writer, blogger, and multi-crafter. She runs the PlanetJune craft blog and pattern store ([planetjune.com](http://planetjune.com)) and has designed and self-published over 100 Amigurumi-style crochet patterns.

I feel like the complete idiot now. I have read the complete book and have learned stitches and read suggestions but this book assumes you can then use these stitches to shape an animal. I still have no concept of how to come up with the intricate designs to actually create something. There are no real guidelines. You have to start out as an artist with a vision of what you want and then somehow use the stitches she shows you to make your vision come into being. I am the complete idiot who would love to create but do not have that talent. This book was not written for me.

I'm entirely new to crocheting and, like an uneducated novice, I decided I want to skip scarves and blankets and start out with amigurumi. I like to collect small plush toys to display on my shelves and in my car, so I thought it would be fantastic if I could also make my own out some \$3 yarn rather than buying a \$20 factory made toy. Granted, I was smart enough to at least start out with basic techniques like chaining, making a square, and crocheting a round before I jumped into amigurumi. I was having trouble finding some good tutorials and instructions, book or online, on where to start. Even basic guides were proving complicated. It turns out it was little things, the basics of basics, that I wasn't getting. To my defense, I wasn't getting it because they weren't being explained. Things like looping, you can loop through the front or through the back, but no one ever mentioned that it is standard to loop through both the front and back together unless otherwise stated. This book fixed that. The book breaks down the basics of the basics, clearing up much of my confusion. The writer keeps the instructions simple and easy to follow, even using layman's terms so that an unfamiliar novice like me can keep up without having to reread the chapter 20 times and still not get it. The chapters are short and no paragraph is too long, so you won't run into the problem of being overloaded with too much information at once. Little helpful hints and tips are also provided throughout without being distracting. This book was a great help, it's a decent size and not terribly expensive. The author is thorough but clear and concise, true to the style of the Idiot's Guide. I definitely think it's worth the buy if you are starting out point blank like me or know someone who is.

This is a wonderful reference book for amigurumi. The book is indexed in a way to instantly go to the section ones needs. The pictures are excellent and the tips throughout the book are wonderful guides to making the best creations possible. If you love making this type of project, do yourself a favor and purchase this book.

I got several books from the public library on amigurumi. This was the ONLY useful one. So much

so that I returned it and bought one of my own for reference. I'm not a do it once and remember forever kind of person. Pros:- simple, easy-to-understand, illustrated instructions- covers a lot of ground with adequate detail- easy patterns that give an opportunity to learn skills in application, that tie into the instructions- gives conceptual ideas, not just instructions (this KEY for me, I need to know how to make closed form dome, any height I want, before I can successfully make a doll. I'm a macro learner that way)- stresses skills to follow patterns AND how to make your own designs. Cons:- the patterns given are not my aesthetic...at all...I think the boy and girl dolls are kind of creepy, but not in the good way. And the main project is hamsters, which are only good for making cat toys (boooooored already).- very few color pictures- very few ideas for other projects (well, that I liked that is) Conclusion: The BEST instruction manual for beginners that I've seen. NOT for experienced people looking for ideas. NOT for beginners to crochet (at least not as a primary guide to learn crochet) But, um, it says the Complete Idiots Guide to Amigurumi right there in the title. So beginners of amigurumi are the target audience. I really hate it when people who are looking for one thing, then bash a decent book for providing something else. I've found cute ideas everywhere, internet, books, magazines, etc. Everyone with a cute doll wants to sell the pattern. And by learning how to make A doll, I can now make ANY doll. And I end up modifying all patterns any way (sometimes even on purpose). If you want a coffee-table-style-book, with patterns and beautiful pictures...buy one of those instead. If you want to learn how to make amigurumi, buy this one.

This book is so amazing! I bought another book before I bought this one because I didn't think this one was really as amazing as everyone was making it out to be. Well the book I bought didn't even touch the basics of amigurumi that I was hoping it would. So two weeks later I purchased this amazing book. I am not one to actually sit down and read a book about crochet. I normally skip all the chatter and jump straight into the action. But I was curious what all the hype was about, so I started reading. And reading. AND READING! I learned SO much from just reading the FIRST part! which I thought I didn't even need to read because I knew it all. WHICH I DIDNT! I am in love with this book. It is amazing. It actually does everything it says it does AND MORE. Whether you are a beginner or a pro at crocheting, and you want to make amazing amigurumi dolls AND learn to make your own AND add your own touches in so MANY different ways, I would IMPORE you to purchase this book. BE AN IDIOT AND BUY THIS!!!!

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