Amigurumi Troubleshooting Checklist: 20 Common Problems

Find what you see on your toy, try the fix, and tick it off. Most problems come from a stitch count, the hook size or the stuffing.

Fabric and gaps

#	If you see…	Try this
☐ 1	**Stuffing shows between stitches**	Try a hook about 0.5 mm smaller or a firmer tension; make sure each stitch goes under both top loops.
☐ 2	**Holes appear beside increases**	Pull each increase snug and stagger where increases fall from round to round.
☐ 3	**A step or jog where the colour changes**	Change colour on the last yarn over of the stitch before the new colour.
☐ 4	**Fabric is stiff and hard to work**	The hook may be too small for the yarn; go up a size and swatch again.

Counting and shape

#	If you see…	Try this
☐ 5	**Stitch count is off at the end of a round**	Put a marker in the first stitch of every round and count before moving it.
☐ 6	**A flat circle ruffles**	Too many stitches: check the increase repeat and recount the last two rounds.
☐ 7	**A flat circle cups or curls up**	Too few increases or very tight tension; check the count, then try a larger hook.
☐ 8	**Rounds look like a hexagon with corners**	Increases are stacking; move the increase position a little each round.
☐ 9	**Matching parts (arms, ears) differ in size**	Use the same hook and count rounds; make pairs one after the other.

Stuffing

#	If you see…	Try this
☐ 10	**Toy looks lumpy**	Pull fibrefill into small tufts and add a little at a time, shaping as you go.
☐ 11	**Shape collapses or stitches stretch**	Stuff until the shape holds without the fabric stretching open.
☐ 12	**Head flops on the neck**	Stuff the neck area firmly before closing and sewing the head on.

Face and assembly

#	If you see…	Try this
☐ 13	**Safety eyes look uneven**	Mark both positions with markers and count stitches and rounds between them before inserting.

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#	If you see…	Try this
☐ 14	**Safety eye backs feel loose**	Press the washer firmly down the post until it sits flat against the fabric. For babies and children under 3, embroider eyes instead.
☐ 15	**Parts sit at the wrong angle**	Pin every part and check from the front, side and top before sewing.
☐ 16	**Seams are visible**	Sew through matching loops with the same colour yarn and pull each stitch snug.

Finishing

#	If you see…	Try this
☐ 17	**A hole is left where the piece closes**	Weave the tail through the front loops of the last round and pull it closed.
☐ 18	**Tails work loose**	Weave tails through the stuffed body in several directions before trimming.
☐ 19	**The wrong side is facing out**	The right side shows small “V” shapes; turn the piece before stuffing.
☐ 20	**Finished toy is larger or smaller than expected**	Your gauge differs from the pattern; hook, yarn and tension all change the size.

General amigurumi guidance; your pattern’s instructions take priority. Detailed fixes: www.forfunly.com/guides/fix-amigurumi-mistakes · www.forfunly.com/guides/fix-amigurumi-gaps

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