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Skill Level: Intermediate

Language: US Crochet Terms

Finished Size: Approximately 7–8 inches dragon body with adjustable cord closure

## Materials Needed

- Lightweight cotton crochet thread or lace-weight yarn
- Crochet hook size 1.75 mm–2.25 mm
- 14 small decorative beads
- 2 wooden closure beads
- 2 safety eyes or sewn eyes
- Tapestry needle
- Stitch markers
- Scissors
- Optional jewelry glue

## US Crochet Abbreviations

- ch = chain
- sc = single crochet
- sl st = slip stitch
- inc = increase (2 sc in same stitch)
- dec = decrease (single crochet two stitches together)
- dc = double crochet
- tr = treble crochet
- picot = ch 3, sl st into first ch
- cluster = multiple stitches worked together into one space

## Design Overview

The bracelet is worked from the tail upward toward the dragon head. The body is crocheted in continuous rounds with decorative scales and picot spines added as you go.

Features included:

- Textured dragon scales
- Curved tail
- Raised spine ridges
- Snout shaping
- Ears and horns
- Bead embellishments
- Adjustable braided closure

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## Color Suggestions

Classic Dragon:

- Emerald green body
- Gold beads
- Black eyes

Ice Dragon:

- White body
- Silver beads
- Blue eyes

Fire Dragon:

- Red body
- Bronze beads
- Amber eyes

Forest Dragon:

- Olive body
- Wooden beads
- Brown eyes

## Step 1: Make the Adjustable Closure Cord

Begin with the closure before crocheting the dragon.

### Braided Cord

Cut 3 long strands approximately 24 inches each.

Tie them together at one end and braid tightly until the cord measures about 10–12 inches.

Thread one wooden closure bead onto the end and knot securely.

Repeat for the opposite side later after attaching the dragon body.

Set aside.

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## Step 2: Crochet the Tail Base

### Round 1

Magic ring, 6 sc into ring.

Pull tight.

### Round 2

Inc in each stitch around. (12 sts)

### Round 3

Sc around. (12 sts)

### Round 4

Sc, *inc* repeat around. (18 sts)

The tail should begin tapering naturally.

## Step 3: Shape the Tail Length

Continue working in spiral rounds.

### Round 5–12

Sc around evenly.

Every 2 rounds:

- Add one decorative scale section on the outer edge.
- Add beads where desired.

### How to Make Scales

In one stitch work:

- dc
- tr
- dc
- sl st into next stitch

Skip one stitch and repeat.

This creates rounded dragon scales similar to the chart.

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## Step 4: Add Spine Picots

Along the upper center line of the dragon:

- ch 3
- sl st into first ch

This creates one picot spine.

Repeat every few stitches along the back ridge.

The chart shows spine picots extending from tail to neck.

## Step 5: Increase for the Body

### Round 13

2 *sc, inc* repeat around.

### Round 14

Sc around.

### Round 15

3 *sc, inc* repeat around.

The body should now become wider and flatter.

## Step 6: Add Decorative Beads

The original chart includes 14 bead placements.

### Bead Placement Tips

Pre-string beads onto yarn before beginning OR sew them afterward.

Place beads:

- Along the side scales
- Near the neck
- Around the body ridge

Space them evenly for balance.

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## Step 7: Create the Side Scale Panels

The bracelet uses layered scales along the outer body.

### Scale Row Pattern

Into one stitch:

- dc
- tr
- dc

Sl st into next stitch.

Repeat along selected body sections.

Alternate scale sizes:

- Smaller scales near tail
- Larger scales near center body

This matches the gradual shaping in the chart.

## Step 8: Shape the Neck

### Round 16

Sc around with slight decreases:

- *4 sc, dec*

Repeat around.

### Round 17

Sc around.

The neck should narrow slightly before the head.

## Step 9: Crochet the Head Base

### Round 18

Increase evenly around.

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## Round 19

Sc around.

## Round 20

2 sc, *inc* repeat around.

The dragon face should now widen.

## Step 10: Form the Snout

The chart shows a pointed front snout.

### Snout Section

Work short rows:

- ch 1, turn
- sc across front stitches only
- dec at both edges

Repeat 2–3 rows until pointed.

Fasten off neatly.

## Step 11: Add the Eyes 🙄🙄

Attach eyes symmetrically on both sides of the head.

Position:

- Slightly below the horn line
- Centered near the snout

If using safety eyes:

- Install before fully closing head.

If embroidered:

- Use black and gold thread.

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## Step 12: Crochet the Ears

Make 2.

### Ear Pattern

ch 6

Row 1:

sc in second chain from hook and across.

Row 2:

dec, sc, dec.

Fasten off leaving long tail.

Sew to each side of the head angled outward.

## Step 13: Crochet the Horns

Make 2.

### Horn Pattern

Magic ring, 4 sc.

Round 2:

sc around.

Round 3:

inc in 2 stitches.

Round 4:

sc around.

Fasten off.

The chart suggests textured horns using:

- sc
- chain clusters

You may add tiny picots for extra texture.

Sew horns to top of head.

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## Step 14: Add Facial Details

Optional embroidery:

- Nostrils
- Mouth line
- Brow accents

Use darker thread for definition.

## Step 15: Attach Remaining Closure Cord

Secure the dragon body to the braided closure.

### Method

Thread the tail-end opening onto the braid or sew directly.

Add second wooden closure bead.

Tie secure stopper knots.

The bracelet should now adjust easily around the wrist.

## Step 16: Final Shaping

Use fingers to gently shape:

- Curved tail
- Raised scales
- Head angle
- Ear position

Light steaming is optional for cotton thread.

Do not overheat acrylic yarn.

## How to Wear the Bracelet

Wrap the dragon around the wrist.

Use the braided cord and wooden beads to tighten comfortably.

The dragon should appear wrapped around the arm like a guardian creature 🐉

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## Beginner Tips

- Use stitch markers every round.
- Count stitches often.
- Work tightly for cleaner shaping.
- Add stuffing lightly if you want a raised head.
- Smaller hooks create cleaner scale texture.

## Advanced Customization Ideas

### Add Wings

Create tiny wings using:

- chains
- dc fans
- picot edging

### Metallic Dragon

Use metallic embroidery thread mixed with cotton yarn.

### Glow Dragon

Add glow-in-the-dark beads.

### Gemstone Eyes

Replace standard eyes with crystal beads.

## Troubleshooting

### Scales Curl Too Much

Use looser tension or fewer treble stitches.

### Bracelet Too Tight

Add longer braided closure cords.

### Head Looks Flat

Add one extra increase round before shaping the snout.

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## Body Twists

Ensure scale placement stays symmetrical.

## Care Instructions

- Hand wash gently
- Lay flat to dry
- Avoid soaking wooden beads
- Store flat to preserve shaping

## Finished Result ✨

You will have a beautifully textured crochet dragon bracelet featuring:

- Sculpted dragon head
- Decorative horns and ears
- Raised scale texture
- Spine picots
- Bead embellishments
- Adjustable braided closure

Perfect as:

- Fantasy jewelry
- Renaissance fair accessory
- Handmade gift
- Cosplay piece
- Collectible wearable art 🐉