School is about to start soon now. This year, which is so different from the other years, my girl also starts at school. And I am very pleased she wants a crochet piece made by me to take with her in her schoolbag. When I thought about what that might be, I soon thought of a little mouse. A mouse that should accompany and encourage her in the first time. On the belly of the mouse is a small bag for a lucky stone or a dear message or a small photo or, or, or...

Materials:
Schachenmayr Merino Extrafine 170 in 00005 camel, 00035 powder pink and 00067 mint
Rest Schachenmayr Catania 000110 black and 00225 pink

Hook size 3,0 mm
Needle
Fiberfill

Abbreviations (US):

St - Stitch

R - Row

Rd - Round

Sc - single crochet

Sl st - slip stitch

Ch - chain

Hdc - half double crochet

Dc - double crochet

Tch - turning chain

Inc – increase

Dec - decrease

Head:
1. Rd: with camel in Magic Ring 6 sc (=6 sc) 2. Rd: inc 6 x (=12 sc)
3. Rd: 12 sc (=12 sc)
4. Rd: (sc, inc) repeat (=18 sc)
5.-6. Rd: 18 sc (=18 sc)
7. Rd: (2sc, inc) repeat (=24 sc)
8.-10. Rd: 24 sc (=24 sc)
11. Rd: (2sc, dec) repeat (=18 sc) 12. Rd: 18 sc (=18 sc)
13. Rd: (sc, dec) repeat (=12 sc)

Stuff the head.
14. Rd: dec 6 x (=6 sc)

Fasten off, leaving a yarn tail. Weave the tail through last stitches, pull to close and cut off.

Body:
1. Rd: with mint in magic Ring 6 sc (=6 sc)
2. Rd: inc 6 x (=12 sc)
3. Rd: (sc, inc) repeat (=18 sc)
4. Rd: (2sc, inc) repeat (=24 sc)
5.-6. Rd: 24 sc (=24 sc)
7. Rd: (3sc, inc) repeat (=30 sc)
8.-11. Rd: 30 sc (=30 sc)
12. Rd: (3sc, dec) repeat (=24 sc) 13.-14. Rd: 24 sc (=24 sc)
15. Rd: (2sc, dec) repeat (=18 sc) 16.-17. Rd: 18 sc (=18 sc)
18. Rd: (sc, dec) repeat (=12 sc)
19. Rd: 12 sc (=12 sc)

Close Rd with sl st, fasten off leaving a longer yarn tail. Stuff the body.

Legs:(2x):
1. Rd: with camel 8 sc in Magic Ring (=8 sc)
2.-11. Rd: 8 sc (=8 sc)
12. Rd: (dec, sc) 2 x (=6 sc)

Stuff the leg. Fold the leg and crochet together with 3sc. Sew the legs to the body.

Arms (2x):
1. Rd: with camel 6 sc in Magic Ring (=6 sc) 2.-12. Rd: 6 sc (=6 sc)

Fold the arm and crochet together with 3 sc, fasten off and sew the arms to the body.

Belly bag:
1. R: with mint ch 10 Lm. Start in second ch from the hook 9 sc, tch (=9 sc)
2.-6. R: 9 sc, tch (=9 sc)
7. Rd: dec, 5 sc, dec, tch (=7 sc)
8. R: 7 sc, tch (=7sc)
9. R: dec, 3 sc, dec (=5 sc)
10 R: 5 sc (=5 sc)

Fasten off leaving a yarn tail.

Ears (2x):
with powder pink; in Magic Ring ch 3 (=1 dc), 11 dc. Close the Rd with sl st. Fasten off and leave a tail to sew the ears together with a few stitches.

Sew the head to the body; slightly diagonal (see photo).

Sew the bag to the middle of the belly (with R1 up).

Embroider a little nose with pink and eyes with black yarn. Sew the ears to the head.

Tail: (attach yarn to lower back of the mouse) ch20 with powder pink. Start in second ch from the hook; 19sc. Sl st to back and fasten off.

Your mouse is ready! And another idea; a milk tooth fits also in the belly bag; in case you don't need an encourage mouse!

Happy crocheting!

Frau Apfelkern