Mouse in the moon

Materials:

When using the suggested materials, the moon will be about 20 cm tall.

- Wool - for the moon: Gründl Funny (super bulky Chenille yarn) yellow, for the mouse: ICE Yarns Cotton Chenille Fine (Sport weight Chenille Garn) grey and beige or skin color, some pink and black or dark brown for nose and eyes
- Crochet hook in suitable size (with me: 1.5 mm and 4 mm)
- Stuffing
- Music box for putting in a toy (don't know if this term is correct) - I used a washable one

Abbreviations (US Terms):

MR = magic ring	inc = increase
sc = single crochet	dec = decrease
ch = chain	BLO = back loop only
slst = slip stitch	FLO = front loop only
st = stitch	
(-) x = repeat inside of () for x nr of times	

The listed wool and hook sizes are only suggestions. It is, of course, entirely your personal choice, which yarn you use.

Please keep in mind that different yarn may result in a bigger or smaller piece. Make sure to adapt your hook size according to your yarn and personal tension. When crocheting Amigurumis you should use a much smaller needle size than indicated on the label or you would use it for other crochet projects so that no holes are made when the piece is stuffed.

Crochet in continuous rounds (spirals), unless otherwise stated.

For help with invisible color changes, increases and decreases, please visit the „Tipps, Tricks and Tutorials"section on my website www.zhaya.de.

The size of the moon can be adapted without any problems. I recommend crocheting the mouse first, then you can adapt the size of the moon better to the size of the mouse.

*When using **chenille yarn**, it is better not to start with a magic ring, as it is difficult or impossible to tighten. Better here: ch 2 and then the corresponding number of sts in the 2nd stitch from the hook. Since chenille yarn is so fluffy, there is no hole in the middle, so this is a good alternative.*

Mouse:

Head:
Grey
1.   sc 6 in MR (6) < - *for chenille yarn, see the hint above*
2.   sc in each st around (6)
3.   (sc 1, inc) x3 (9)
4.   (sc 2, inc) x3 (12)
5.   (sc 3, inc) x3 (15)
6.   (sc 4, inc) x3 (18)
7.   (sc 5, inc) x3 (21)
8.   (sc 6, inc) x3 (24)
9.   (sc 7, inc) x3 (27)
10. (sc 8, inc) x3 (30)
11.-15. (5 Rounds) sc in each st around (30)
16. (sc 3, dec) x6 (24)
17. sc in each st around (24)
Stuff and shape the head.
18. (sc 2, dec) x6 (18)
19. (sc 1, dec) x6 (12)
Finish stuffing.
20. (sc 2, dec) x3 (9)
Fasten off, close, weave in loose ends.

Inner ear (make 2):
Beige or skin color
1.   sc 7 in MR (7) < - *for chenille yarn, see the hint above*
2.   inc x7 (14)
3.   sc in each st around (14)
Fasten off, weave in loose ends.

Outer ear (make 2):
Grey
1. sc 7 in MR (7) < - *for chenille yarn, see the hint above*
2. inc x7 (14)

Now place the inner and outer ear on top of each other with the back facing inwards, the grey one facing backwards. Insert hook through a loop of the inner ear and pull the loop of the outer ear through, ch 1, insert into the same stitch again:
3. sc in each st around, join round with a slst in 1ˢᵗ stitch (14)
Fasten off, weave in loose ends.

Body:
Grey
1. sc 6 in MR (6) < - *for chenille yarn, see the hint above*
2. inc x6 (12)
3. (sc 1, inc) x6 (18)
4. (sc 2, inc) x6 (24)
5. (sc 3, inc) x6 (30)
6. (sc 4, inc) x6 (36)
7. (sc 5, inc) x6 (42)
8.-15. (7 Rounds) sc in each st around (42)
16. sc 10, dec, (sc 2, dec) x5, sc 10 (36)
17. sc in each st around (36)
18. sc 7, dec, (sc 2, dec) x5, sc 7 (36)
19. sc in each st around (30)
20. sc 6, (sc 1, dec) x6, sc 6 (24)
21. sc in each st around (24)
22. sc 6, dec x6, sc 6 (18)
23. sc in each st around (18)
Fasten off, don't close, weave in loose ends.
Stuff and shape the body.

Tail:
Beige or skin colored
1. ch 3, join round with a slst, inc, sc 2 (4)
2.-6. (5 Rounds) sc in each st around (4)
7. inc, sc 3 (5)
8.-32. (25 Rounds) sc in each st around (5)
Fasten off, don't close, don't stuff, weave in loose ends.

Leg (make 4):

Beige or skin colored
1. sc 7 in MR (7) *< - for chenille yarn, see the hint above*
Color change to grey.
2.-9. (8 Rounds) sc in each st around (7)
Fasten off, don't close, don't stuff, weave in loose ends.

Do not assemble the mouse for now. You can place all pieces much better when the moon is finished.

Moon:

Yellow
1. sc 12 in MR (12) *< - for chenille yarn, see the hint above*
2. inc x12 (24)
3. (sc 1, inc) x12 (36)
4. (sc 2, inc) x12 (48)
5. (sc 3, inc) x12 (60)
6. (sc 4, inc) x12 (72)
7. (sc 5, inc) x12 (84)
8. (sc 6, inc) x12 (96)
9. (sc 7, inc) x12 (108)
10. (sc 8, inc) x12 (120)
11. (sc 9, inc) x12 (132)
12. (sc 10, inc) x12 (144)
13. (sc 11, inc) x12 (156)

I stopped at this point because my moon had the right size. Just fold it flat and see how the mouse looks on it. If it is still too small, simply continue crocheting in the same way, i.e. increase x12 in each round.
When the moon is big enough:
Fasten off, weave in loose ends.
Now fold the moon flat again, the pretty side points outwards. With sewing thread (chenille yarn is not good for sewing) sew the outer edge together - best with the mattress stitch, this results in a beautiful, invisible seam. As shown in the photos, always first stitch around one stitch at the top and then around the one directly below.
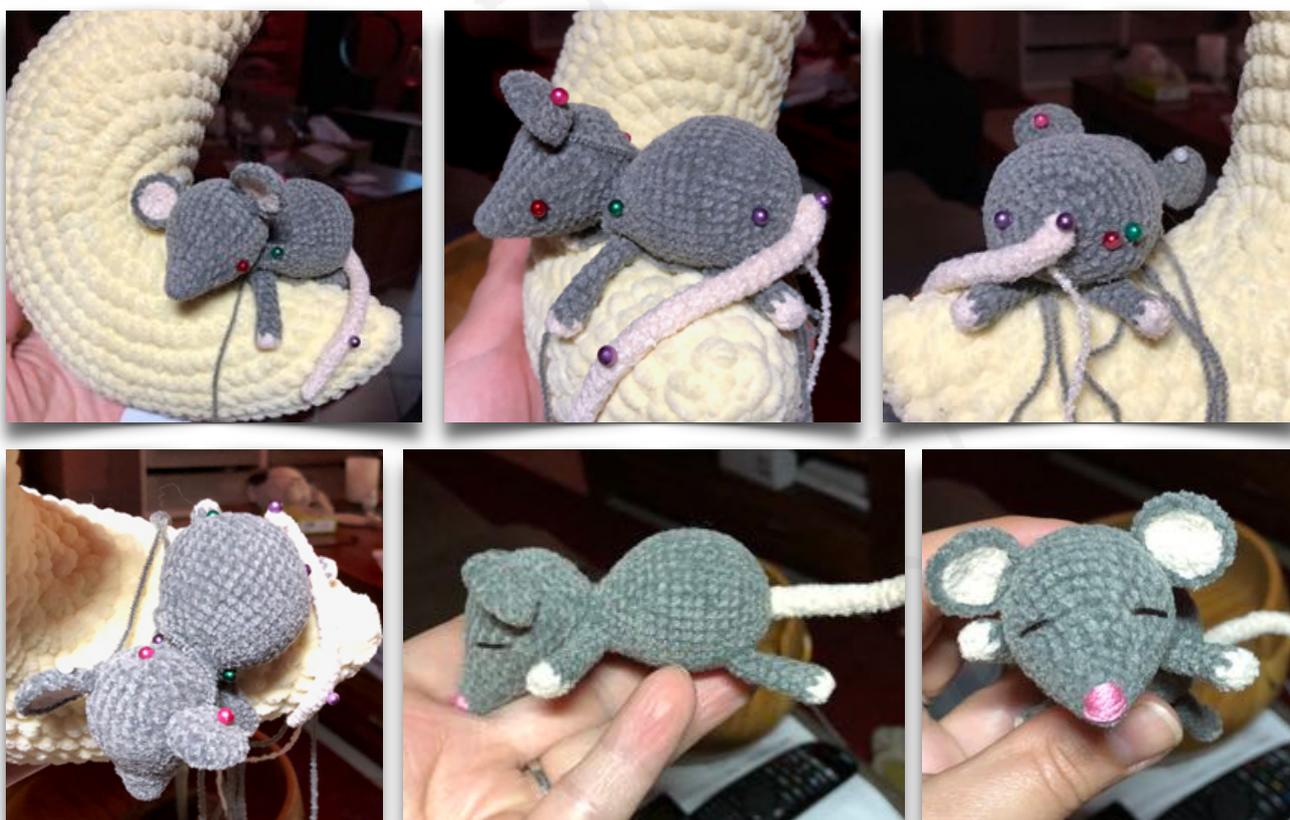
Do not forget to sew the music box in a suitable place, simply insert it and run the pulling thread between two stitches. Stuff and shape the moon before closing.

Now still assemble the mouse :o)
To do this, first pin all parts of the mouse to the moon and to each other and if everything looks good for you, sew the single pieces together with sewing thread (also here because chenille thread is not suitable for sewing). Then embroider nose and eyes.

Last but not least, sew the mouse to the moon. I have kept the moon deliberately very simple so as not to steal the show from the mouse, but of course you can also embroider a face on the moon or make other decorations.

If you want the moon to hang up, you can crochet a loop. I crocheted my favourite cord from _PlanetJune_ again. Alternatively, a chain is of course also possible. Sew the cord to the (stable) seam.