Desert mandala

US terms



Finished size
About 5¾ in (15 cm) across

Skill
Easy
Worked in rounds, with color changes and 2 special stitches.

Yarn
Light (3), 5 colors

Hook
4 mm (US G-6)

Gauge
18 stitches and 19 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: sand, round 1	**about 2 yd (2 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: terracotta, rounds 2 and 6	**about 7 yd (6 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: rust, rounds 3 and 7	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: sage, round 4	**about 6 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: cream, round 5	**about 4 yd (4 m), an estimate**

Hook: 4 mm (US G-6). Also: a yarn needle, scissors, pins for blocking and a spray bottle.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. The estimate is from the stitches and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

Abbreviations

Written in US terms. Where the UK name differs it is given beside the US one.

ch	chain stitch
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
sk	skip
sp	space
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

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Special stitches

cluster (Cluster): [yarn over, insert the hook in the place named, yarn over and pull up a loop, yarn over and pull through 2 loops] 3 times, all in the same place (4 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 4 loops. It leaves 1 cluster for the next row.

picot (Picot): Ch 3, sl st in the top of the stitch just made. It leaves 1 picot for the next row.

Gauge

18 stitches and 19 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After round 3 the mandala measures about 2¼ in (6 cm) across. If yours is larger, use a smaller hook; if it is smaller, use a larger hook.

Before you start

- Rounds are worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work the first round or row into the loop, then pull the tail until the ring is closed. Four chains joined into a ring with a slip stitch may be used instead.
- A chain that counts as a stitch is marked so in its line and is included in the count.
- A chain 1 at the start of a round does not count as a stitch.
- Fasten off the old color, then join the new one with a slip stitch in the place named; the first stitch or chain of the line is worked in that same place.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches, its picots and the chain spaces between them; slip stitches are not counted.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured straight across: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 5 in (13 cm); medium yarn (4) and a 5 mm hook, about 7½ in (19 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 9½ in (24 cm).

Instructions

Square brackets [ ] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. Round brackets ( ) inside a line hold stitches that all go into one place. The count in round brackets at the end of a line is what that line leaves. Tick the box when a round is done. In UK terms sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet, hdc is half treble and dc is treble.

Yarns in order of use: A, sand; B, terracotta; C, rust; D, sage; E, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), 11 dc in ring, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(12 dc)**
	Fasten off A.	
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join B with sl st in any st, ch 1, sc in same st, ch 2, **[**sc in next st, ch 2**] 11 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(12 sc, 12 ch-2 sps)**
	Fasten off B.	
☐ **Rnd 3**	Join C with sl st in any ch-2 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same sp, 3 dc in each of next 11 ch-2 sps, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(36 dc)**

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Fasten off C.

☐ **Rnd 4**	Join D with sl st in any st, ch 3 (counts as dc), dc in same st, dc in next 2 sts, **[**2 dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts**] 11 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(48 dc)**

Fasten off D.

☐ **Rnd 5**	Join E with sl st in any st, ch 1, sc in each st around, sl st in first sc to join	**(48 sc)**

Fasten off E.

☐ **Rnd 6**	Join B with sl st in any st, ch 2 (does not count as a st), cluster in same st, ch 3, sk next 2 sts, **[**cluster in next st, ch 3, sk next 2 sts**] 15 times**, sl st in first cluster to join	**(16 clusters, 16 ch-3 sps)**

Fasten off B.

☐ **Rnd 7**	Join C with sl st in any ch-3 sp, ch 1, (sc, hdc, dc, picot, dc, hdc, sc) in same sp, **[**(sc, hdc, dc, picot, dc, hdc, sc) in next ch-3 sp**] 15 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(32 sc, 32 hdc, 32 dc, 16 picots)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.	

Finishing

- Block: pin the mandala to shape on a flat surface, spray it with water and let it dry.
- Weave in the ends with the yarn needle.

In all: 7 rounds; 14 ends to weave in.

Found a mistake in this pattern? Tell us at flossfield.com, under Make a request.

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