Nordic star ornament

US terms



Finished size
About 4¼ in (11 cm) across from point to point, without its hanging loop

Skill
Easy
Worked in rows, with 8 pieces and color changes.

Yarn
Light (3), 2 colors

Hook
4 mm (US G-6)

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

What you need

Yarn A: Christmas red, some of the pieces **about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, row 1 **about 9 yd (8 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 10 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 250 yd (229 m).

Hook: 4 mm (US G-6), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, pins, a spray bottle and white craft glue, plastic wrap and a small brush, only if you want the star stiff.

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

Gauge

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

Work a piece a little more than 4 in (10 cm) square, lay it flat and count. If you count more stitches than this, use a larger hook; if fewer, a smaller one.

Notes

- Where the row says join B with sc, first fasten off A, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail, which is at the inner tip of the diamond and sews it to its neighbor later. Then make a slip knot of B on the hook and work a sc with it in the chain named: it is the first sc of the cream side.
- Working along the other side of the chain: turn the piece round, not over, so that the same side faces you all the way, and work into the unused loops of the foundation chain, beginning in the chain next to the one just used.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches; slip stitches are not counted.
- The right side of a diamond is the side that faces you while you work Row 1.

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- In this pattern the tip of a diamond where Row 1 begins and ends, at the end of the chain with the skipped chain, is its outer tip. The other tip, where the red side ends and the cream side begins, is its inner tip. The dc on each side is the widest place.
- The red side has nine stitches from tip to tip, the cream side eight: the chain at the inner tip is used by the red side alone.
- Whip stitch: hold the two edges together, put the needle through both from back to front, bring the yarn over the edges and go in again from the back, one stitch along.

Instructions

US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **hdc** half double crochet (UK half treble), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **st** stitch.

(8 sc, 4 hdc, 2 dc): the stitches you have when the row is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Diamond: make 8

Yarns in order of use: A, Christmas red; B, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 10.
☐ **Row 1**	Sl st in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 2 chs, hdc in next ch, dc in next ch, hdc in next ch, sc in next 2 chs, sl st in next ch, working along the other side of the chain, join B with sc in next ch, sc in next ch, hdc in next ch, dc in next ch, hdc in next ch, sc in next 2 chs, sl st in next ch (8 sc, 4 hdc, 2 dc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.

Finishing

- Weave in the ends but the 14 in (36 cm) tails of A. Block: pin out each diamond, right side up, 2 1/8 in (5.4 cm) long from tip to tip and 7/8 in (2.2 cm) wide from one dc to the other, its four edges straight. Spray the diamonds with water and let them dry.
- Lay the eight diamonds right side up in a star, all the inner tips meeting in the middle and all the outer tips pointing out. Turned that way, with its outer tip up, a diamond has its red side on the left, so the red side of each diamond lies against the cream side of the diamond on its left, and red and cream take turns all round.
- Sew each red side to the cream side beside it with the tail of A that hangs at the inner tip of the red side, from the inner tip out to the widest place. Whipstitch (pass the needle through the two edges from the back to the front, once for each stitch): the red sl st to the end of the chain at the inner tip of the cream side, then sc to sc, sc to sc, hdc to hdc and dc to dc. From there to the outer tips the edges stay free. Fasten the tail on the back. Sew the eight seams in this way.
- Thread the needle with a 12 in (30 cm) length of A. On the back, take it through the eight inner tips one after the other, twice round, draw it up until the hole in the middle is closed and fasten it.
- Hanging loop: join A with a slip stitch in the outer tip of one diamond, ch 14 (about 2½ in (6.4 cm) of chain, a loop 1¼ in (3.2 cm) tall), work a slip stitch in the same place and fasten off.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.
- Pin the star out again, right side up, its points straight and evenly spaced, spray it with water and let it dry. If you want it stiff, use a mixture of equal parts white craft glue and water instead, with plastic wrap under the star, and a small brush to spread it.

In all: 8 pieces; 112 stitches.

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