Poinsettia coaster

US terms



Finished size
About 4¾ in (12 cm) across

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

Yarn
Light (3), 4 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: gold, round 1	**about 2 yd (2 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: Christmas red, rounds 2 and 3	**about 7 yd (6 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: holly green, rounds 4 and 6	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: cream, rounds 5 and 7	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**

Hook: 4 mm (US G-6), or the size that gives you the gauge. 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. Buy them from one dye lot. 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)
tr	treble crochet (UK dtr, double treble)
sp	space
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

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Special stitches

dc4tog (UK tr4tog): [yarn over, insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop, yarn over and pull through 2 loops] 4 times (5 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 5 loops. It leaves 1 dc4tog for the next round.

picot: Ch 3, sl st in the top of the stitch just made.

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 2 the coaster measures about 1¾ in (4.5 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.
- In Rnd 3 the first dc4tog begins in the st Rnd 2 was joined in; each dc4tog draws the 4 tr of one petal together at its tip.
- In Rnd 4 work the 6 tr into the ch-1 sp of Rnd 2 between two petals, under the ch-5 sp of Rnd 3 that lies above it: each tr is worked round the ch-5, which ends up hidden inside the 6 tr.
- Same st is the stitch the new color was joined in.
- For a blush coaster to go with the red one, use blush yarn for B.
- Use cotton yarn: it takes up drips and stays flat under a warm cup.
- The distances under FINISHING are for the yarn and gauge above; in another yarn make them larger or smaller in the same proportion as the size.
- French knot (sewn): bring the yarn needle up from the back, wrap the yarn twice round the needle close to the surface, hold the wraps and put the needle down beside the place where it came up. For a large knot use the yarn double and wrap it three times.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured straight across: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 4 in (10 cm); medium yarn (4) and a 5 mm hook, about 6¼ in (16 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 7¾ in (20 cm).

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Instructions

Square brackets [ ] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. 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 tr is double treble.

Yarns in order of use: A, gold; B, Christmas red; C, holly green; D, cream.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 6 sc in ring, sl st in first sc to join	**(6 sc)**
	Fasten off A.	
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join B with sl st in any st, ch 4 (counts as tr), 3 tr in same st, ch 1, **[**4 tr in next st, ch 1**] 5 times**, sl st in top of ch-4 to join	**(24 tr, 6 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 2 (does not count as a st), **[**dc4tog in next 4 sts, ch 5**] 6 times**, sl st in first dc4tog to join	**(6 dc4tog, 6 ch-5 sps)**
	Fasten off B.	
☐ **Rnd 4**	Join C with sl st in any dc4tog, ch 1, sc in same st, working over the ch-5 sps, 6 tr in next ch-1 sp of Rnd 2, **[**sc in next dc4tog, 6 tr in next ch-1 sp of Rnd 2**] 5 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(6 sc, 36 tr)**
	Fasten off C.	
☐ **Rnd 5**	Join D with sl st in any sc, ch 1, 2 hdc in same st, hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts**] 5 times**, sl st in first hdc to join	**(54 hdc)**
	Fasten off D.	
☐ **Rnd 6**	Join C with sl st in any st, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 8 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(60 sc)**
	Fasten off C.	
☐ **Rnd 7**	Join D with sl st in any st, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 2 sts, picot, **[**sc in next 3 sts, picot**] 19 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(60 sc, 20 picots)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.	

Finishing

- Block: pin the coaster to a circle on a flat surface, each picot pulled straight out. Spray it with water and let it dry.
- With A, work six French knots on Rnd 1: one over the closed ring and the other five evenly spaced in a circle round it, each ¼ in (0.6 cm) from the first.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 7 rounds.

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