Popcorn star

US terms



Finished size
About 6½ in (17 cm) across at the widest, from point to point

Skill
Intermediate
Worked in rounds, with color changes and 4 special stitches.

Yarn
Medium (4), 2 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

Gauge
14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: warm cream, rounds 1 to 4 **about 29 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: gold, round 5 **about 8 yd (7 m), an estimate**
Hook: 5 mm (US H-8), 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)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
sp	space
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

Special stitches

popcorn: Work 5 dc in the place named, take the hook out of the loop, put it through the top of the first of the 5 dc from front to back, pick up the loop again and pull it through. A popcorn is one stitch: where a later round works into it, work into its top, which is the loop pulled through the first dc, and not into the tops of its other dc. It leaves 1 popcorn for the next round.

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sc3tog (UK dc3tog): [insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] 3 times (4 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 4 loops. It leaves 1 sc3tog for the next round.

hdc2tog (UK htr2tog): [yarn over, insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] twice (5 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 5 loops. It leaves 1 hdc2tog for the next round.

hdc3tog (UK htr3tog): [yarn over, insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] 3 times (7 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 7 loops. It leaves 1 hdc3tog for the next round.

Gauge

14 stitches and 15 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 piece measures about 4¼ in (11 cm) across at the widest. 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 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.
- A slip stitch at the start of a round only carries the yarn to the place named; the first stitch of the round is worked in that same place. If stitches lie between the joining and that place, slip stitch across them first.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches and the chain spaces between them; slip stitches are not counted.
- Leave the magic ring open until Rnd 1 is joined: its five popcorns need the room. Then pull it closed.
- In Rnd 2 the popcorns of Rnd 1 are left unworked: the arms grow from the ch-2 spaces between them. From Rnd 2 on, the five popcorns of a round are worked in the middle of the five arms, with ch 1 on each side. The decreases of Rnds 3, 4 and 5 lie at the bottom of the valleys between the arms: the hdc2tog takes in one stitch from each of two groups, and the middle stitch of each hdc3tog and sc3tog is the decrease of the round before.
- Rnd 2 slip stitches into the ch-2 space beside the join; the popcorn that Rnd 1 was joined in stays unworked like the other four. Rnds 3 and 4 slip stitch across the first stitches of the round before to reach the ch-1 space before a popcorn: the hdc that round was joined in and the other hdc you slip stitch across are worked in their turn, as the last stitches of the round you are beginning. Rnd 5 begins with the new color in any popcorn of Rnd 4.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured straight across: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 4¼ in (11 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 5 in (13 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 8¼ in (21 cm).

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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, warm cream; B, gold.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 2 (does not count as a st), **[**popcorn in ring, ch 2**] 5 times**, sl st in first popcorn to join **(5 popcorns, 5 ch-2 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Sl st in next ch-2 sp, ch 1, (2 hdc, ch 1, popcorn, ch 1, 2 hdc) in same sp, **[**(2 hdc, ch 1, popcorn, ch 1, 2 hdc) in next ch-2 sp**] 4 times**, sl st in first hdc to join **(20 hdc, 10 ch-1 sps, 5 popcorns)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sl st in next hdc, sl st in next ch-1 sp, ch 1, 3 hdc in same sp, ch 1, popcorn in next popcorn, ch 1, 3 hdc in next ch-1 sp, hdc in next st, hdc2tog in next 2 sts, hdc in next st, **[**3 hdc in next ch-1 sp, ch 1, popcorn in next popcorn, ch 1, 3 hdc in next ch-1 sp, hdc in next st, hdc2tog in next 2 sts, hdc in next st**] 4 times**, sl st in first hdc to join **(40 hdc, 10 ch-1 sps, 5 popcorns, 5 hdc2tog)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Sl st in next hdc, sl st in next hdc, sl st in next ch-1 sp, ch 1, 3 hdc in same sp, ch 1, popcorn in next popcorn, ch 1, 3 hdc in next ch-1 sp, hdc in next 3 sts, hdc3tog in next 3 sts, hdc in next 3 sts, **[**3 hdc in next ch-1 sp, ch 1, popcorn in next popcorn, ch 1, 3 hdc in next ch-1 sp, hdc in next 3 sts, hdc3tog in next 3 sts, hdc in next 3 sts**] 4 times**, sl st in first hdc to join **(60 hdc, 10 ch-1 sps, 5 popcorns, 5 hdc3tog)**
Fasten off A.	
☐ **Rnd 5**	Join B with sl st in any popcorn, ch 1, (sc, ch 2, sc) in same st, 2 sc in next ch-1 sp, sc in next 5 sts, sc3tog in next 3 sts, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next ch-1 sp, **[**(sc, ch 2, sc) in next popcorn, 2 sc in next ch-1 sp, sc in next 5 sts, sc3tog in next 3 sts, sc in next 5 sts, 2 sc in next ch-1 sp**] 4 times**, sl st in first sc to join **(80 sc, 5 ch-2 sps, 5 sc3tog)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.

Finishing

- Block: pin the star out on a flat surface, right side up, with its five points equally far from the middle and its sides straight, spray it with water and let it dry. Do not press the popcorns flat.
- Weave in the ends with the yarn needle.

In all: 5 rounds; 4 ends to weave in.

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

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