Strawberry potholder

US terms



Finished size
About 7¾ in (20 cm) wide and 8¼ in (21 cm) tall, without the stem

Skill
Easy
Shaping at both edges, and single stitches of a second color

Yarn
Medium (4), 3 colors

Hook
4 mm (US G-6)

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

You will need

Yarn A: red, main	**about 100 yd (91 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, stripe	**about 5 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: fern, stripe	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**

Fiber: cotton

Hook: 4 mm (US G-6), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, a tape measure and about 10 pins.

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 of this size at this gauge, with 15 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: insert hook in the place named, yo, pull through it and the loop on hook (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)
sc2tog	single crochet 2 together: [insert hook in next st, yo, pull up a loop] 2 times, yo, pull through all 3 loops (UK dc2tog, double crochet 2 together)
Rnd	round
RS	right side
st	stitch
yo	yarn over (UK yrh, yarn round hook)

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Gauge

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

Check it on the back when row 18 is done: the 29 stitches of that row are about 7¼ in (18 cm) wide, and the 18 rows are about 4 in (10 cm) tall. If it measures more, start again with a smaller hook; if it measures less, with a larger one.

Before you start

- The ch 1 at the start of a row or a round does not count as a stitch.
- The right side of a piece in rounds is the side that faces you as you work; the right side of a piece in rows is the side that faces you in row 1.
- A leaf begins with a chain that is worked on both of its sides. When the last chain is worked, do not turn: go on round the end and work back along the other side of the chain, the first stitch into the same chain as the last one, and the last stitch into the chain where the round began.
- To sew a piece on: lay it where the step says, right side up, and hold it with pins. With the yarn on a yarn needle, come up from below through both loops of a stitch of its edge and go down into the piece underneath, just outside that stitch. Work one sewing stitch for each stitch of the edge that is named. A chain of a foundation edge counts as a stitch, and so does the end of a row. Fasten off where it does not show.
- Backstitch: come up one stitch length ahead on the line, go down again where the last sewing stitch ended, and go on so.
- Use it dry: a wet potholder lets the heat through.
- Leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) when you begin, when you join a yarn and when you fasten off, unless another length is given. The ends that are not sewn with are woven in.
- When a ball runs out, work the last yarn over of a stitch with the new yarn, and leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) on both. In the rows do it in the last stitch of a row; in the round of the edging any stitch will do.
- Magic ring: wind the yarn once round two fingers, put the hook through the ring and pull up a loop of the working yarn. Round 1 begins with this loop on the hook. Work round 1 into the ring, over both strands, then pull the tail to close it.
- In joined rounds, the first stitch of a round goes into the same stitch as the joining sl st. The joining sl st itself is not a stitch and is not worked into.
- To join a yarn with a sl st, make a slip knot of it on the hook, put the hook in the place named, yo, and pull through the place and the loop on the hook.
- Where a row begins or ends with sc2tog or with 2 sc in one stitch, the edge slants: that is the shape of the berry. Where two such steps stand side by side, work one after the other.
- Seeds: in the rows of the front that name B, join B with a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) on the wrong side, just before its first stitch in that row. Make the last yarn over of the stitch before a seed with B, work the one sc of the seed in B, and make its last yarn over with A. Between seeds lay the yarn that is not in use along the top of the row below and work over it. After the last seed cut B, leaving a tail of about 6 in (15 cm). A is never cut.
- Use cotton yarn. Acrylic yarn can melt.

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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 row is done. In UK terms sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet, hdc is half treble, dc is treble, sc2tog is double crochet 2 together and yo is yarn round hook.

Back

Yarn A, red.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 4.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(3 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next st, 2 sc in last st	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, 2 sc in last st	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(11 sc)**
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(13 sc)**
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(15 sc)**
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 13 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(17 sc)**
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(17 sc)**
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 15 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(19 sc)**
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 17 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(21 sc)**
☐ **Row 11**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 19 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(23 sc)**
☐ **Row 12**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(23 sc)**
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 21 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(25 sc)**
☐ **Row 14**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(25 sc)**
☐ **Row 15**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 23 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Rows 16 to 17**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(27 sc)**

A box for each row, 16 to 17: tick them off as you go.

☐ 16 ☐ 17

☐ **Row 18**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 25 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(29 sc)**
☐ **Rows 19 to 27**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(29 sc)**

A box for each row, 19 to 27: tick them off as you go.

☐ 19 ☐ 20 ☐ 21 ☐ 22 ☐ 23 ☐ 24 ☐ 25 ☐ 26 ☐ 27

☐ **Row 28**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 25 sts, sc2tog	**(25 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 29**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Row 30**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 23 sts, sc2tog	**(23 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 31**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 21 sts, sc2tog	**(21 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 32**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 19 sts, sc2tog	**(19 sc, 2 sc2tog)**

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☐ **Row 33**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 17 sts, sc2tog	**(17 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 34**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc2tog, sc in next 11 sts, sc2tog, sc2tog	**(11 sc, 4 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 35**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog, sc2tog	**(7 sc, 4 sc2tog)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Front

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

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 4.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(3 sc)**
☐ **Row 2**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next st, 2 sc in last st	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Row 3**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, 2 sc in next st, sc in next st, 2 sc in next st, 2 sc in last st	**(9 sc)**
☐ **Row 4**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(11 sc)**
☐ **Row 5**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 4 sts, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(13 sc)**
☐ **Row 6**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 11 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(15 sc)**
☐ **Row 7**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 13 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(17 sc)**
☐ **Row 8**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(17 sc)**
☐ **Row 9**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 4 sts, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 5 sts, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(19 sc)**
☐ **Row 10**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 17 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(21 sc)**
☐ **Row 11**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 19 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(23 sc)**
☐ **Row 12**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(23 sc)**
☐ **Row 13**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 4 sts, **[**with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 5 sts**] 2 times**, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(25 sc)**
☐ **Row 14**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(25 sc)**
☐ **Row 15**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 23 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Row 16**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Row 17**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 4 sts, **[**with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 5 sts**] 3 times**, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 4 sts	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Row 18**	Ch 1, turn; 2 sc in first st, sc in next 25 sts, 2 sc in last st	**(29 sc)**
☐ **Rows 19 to 20**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(29 sc)**

A box for each row, 19 to 20: tick them off as you go.

19 20

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☐ **Row 21**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 2 sts, **[**with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 5 sts**] 4 times**, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 2 sts	**(29 sc)**
☐ **Rows 22 to 24**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(29 sc)**
☐ **Row 25**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next 5 sts, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 17 sts, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 5 sts	**(29 sc)**
☐ **Rows 26 to 27**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(29 sc)**
☐ **Row 28**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 25 sts, sc2tog	**(25 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 29**	Ch 1, turn; sc in next st, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next 23 sts, with B, sc in next st, with A, sc in next st	**(27 sc)**
☐ **Row 30**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 23 sts, sc2tog	**(23 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 31**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 21 sts, sc2tog	**(21 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 32**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 19 sts, sc2tog	**(19 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 33**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc in next 17 sts, sc2tog	**(17 sc, 2 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 34**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc2tog, sc in next 11 sts, sc2tog, sc2tog	**(11 sc, 4 sc2tog)**
☐ **Row 35**	Ch 1, turn; sc2tog, sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog, sc2tog	**(7 sc, 4 sc2tog)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

A box for each row, 22 to 24: tick them off as you go.

22 23 24

A box for each row, 26 to 27: tick them off as you go.

26 27

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Edging

Yarn A, red.

Weave in the ends of the front and the back. Lay them wrong sides together, the front on top, edge to edge. The edging is worked with the front facing you, and every stitch goes through both layers: through a stitch of the front and the stitch of the back behind it, through two row ends, or through two chains. It closes the potholder.

Hold the piece with the right side facing you and the last row at the top; the first st is the one at the right-hand corner.

☐ **Foundation**	Work around the edge of the piece, right side facing: the 11 sts of the last row, the ends of the 35 rows, the 3 chs of the foundation, the ends of the 35 rows.
☐ **Rnd 1**	Join A with sl st in first st, ch 1, 2 sc in first st, sc in next 9 sts, 2 sc in next st, 2 sc in end of each of next 2 rows, sc in end of next row, 2 sc in end of next row, sc in end of each of next 16 rows, 2 sc in end of next row, sc in end of each of next 5 rows, 2 sc in end of next row, sc in end of each of next 3 rows, 2 sc in end of next row, sc in end of next row, 2 sc in end of next row, sc in end of each of next 2 rows, 2 sc in next ch, sc in next ch, 2 sc in next ch, sc in end of each of next 2 rows, 2 sc in end of next row, sc in end of next row, 2 sc in end of next row, sc in end of each of next 3 rows, 2 sc in end of next row, sc in end of each of next 5 rows, 2 sc in end of next row, sc in end of each of next 16 rows, 2 sc in end of next row, sc in end of next row, 2 sc in end of each of next 2 rows; join with sl st in first sc **(102 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.

Leaf: make 5

Yarn C, fern.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 10.
☐ **Rnd 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, hdc in next ch, dc in next 5 chs, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch, working along the other side of the chain, sc in next ch, hdc in next ch, dc in next 5 chs, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch; join with sl st in first sc **(4 sc, 4 hdc, 10 dc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 20 in (51 cm) for sewing.

Cap

Yarn C, fern.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, make a magic ring.
☐ **Rnd 1**	Ch 1, 6 sc in ring; join with sl st in first sc **(6 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, 2 sc in each st around; join with sl st in first sc **(12 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 20 in (51 cm) for sewing.

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Stem

Yarn C, fern.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 25.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(24 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 16 in (41 cm) for sewing.	

Assembly

1. Weave in all the ends but the tails to sew with. In steps 2 to 4 take up only the front layer, so that the back stays clean.

2. Places of the leaves: the point of the berry is at the bottom. The base of a leaf is the end where its round was joined. The bases of all five lie together on the middle stitch of row 34 of the front, which is stitch 8 of the 15.

3. Leaves: the first points straight down, its tip on the middle stitch of row 24. The second and the third lie to the right and the left of it, their tips on row 26, 6 stitches from the middle stitch. The fourth and the fifth lie almost level, their tips on row 32, 9 stitches from the middle stitch. With its tail sew each leaf down along its middle line, where its chain lies: 8 backstitches from the base outward, the last one a chain before the tip. The edges of the leaves stay free.

4. Cap: lay it over the bases of the leaves, its middle on the middle stitch of row 34, and sew it down all round with its tail, to the front layer and, where it reaches that far, to the edging: 12 stitches.

5. Stem: fold it in half to make a loop, its two ends side by side. Turn the potholder over. The upright middle line runs through the middle stitches of the rows. Lay the two ends flat on the back, side by side, one on each side of the upright middle line, so that their short edges lie level with the top of row 32 and the loop stands up above the edge. Sew each end to the back layer by its two long edges, not across its short one: 2 stitches through the last 2 chains along one long edge and 2 through the last 2 sc along the other, 4 in all; then go over the 4 once more. The end with the tail goes first; run the tail under the sewn stitches to the other end for the second. The loop crosses the edging in two places, once with each half: sew each half to the edging there with 2 stitches.

Finishing

- Weave in what is left of the sewing tails between the two layers.

In all: 9 pieces; 1,764 stitches (765 in the back, 765 in the front, 102 in the edging, 18 in each leaf, 18 in the cap, 24 in the stem).

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

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