Teardrop lace earrings

US terms



Finished size
About 1 5/8 in wide and 1 7/8 in tall (4.2 by 4.8 cm) each without the bead and the ear wire, or 2 1/8 in (5.5 cm) tall with the bead

Skill
Intermediate
Worked in rounds, with 2 pieces, color changes and 1 special stitch.

Yarn
Lace (0), 2 colors

Hook
1.75 mm (US steel, between 6 and 7)

Gauge
34 stitches and 36 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: old gold, rounds 1 and 4	**about 6 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: plum, rounds 2 and 3	**about 6 yd (5 m), an estimate**

Fiber: cotton crochet thread, size 10

Hook: 1.75 mm (US steel, between 6 and 7), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, pins for blocking, 2 round beads in matte gold of about ¼ in (5 to 6 mm), sewing thread and a thin needle, fabric stiffener, a small brush to spread it, a board covered with plastic wrap or foil, 2 gold-colored ear wires with loops, 2 small jump rings and small pliers.

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)
tr	treble crochet (UK dtr, double treble)
sk	skip (UK miss)
sp	space
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

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Special stitches

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

Gauge

34 stitches and 36 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.

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.
- Rnd 1 begins at the foot of the drop, and every later round begins straight below it. The tr of Rnd 1 is the point; keep it long.
- Rnd 3: the ch 5 stands on the first hdc. The (tr, ch 3, tr) goes in the tr of Rnd 2, with a dc in the dc on each side of it. The last ch 2 passes over the last hdc, and the round is joined in the 3rd chain of the ch 5.
- Rnd 4: join A in that same 3rd chain, which is the first dc of Rnd 3. The 11 picots stand on the sc worked in the 11 dc; the first of them is the foot.
- A plain teardrop: work Rnds 1 and 2 only, in one color or two. In medium yarn (4) with a 5 mm hook it is about 2½ in (6.4 cm) tall and 1 5/8 in (4.1 cm) wide; it needs no stiffener.
- 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.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured from the point to the end of the picot at the foot, without the bead: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 3 in (8 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 3½ in (9 cm); medium yarn (4) and a 5 mm hook, about 4¾ in (12 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, dc is treble and tr is double treble.

Earring: make 2

Yarns in order of use: A, old gold; B, plum.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 5 sc in ring, hdc in ring, dc in ring, tr in ring, dc in ring, hdc in ring, 4 sc in ring, sl st in first sc to join **(9 sc, 2 hdc, 2 dc, 1 tr)**
	Fasten off A.
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join B with sl st in first sc, ch 1, hdc in same st, 2 hdc in each of next 3 sts, hdc in next 3 sts, (dc, tr, dc) in next st, hdc in next 3 sts, 2 hdc in each of next 3 sts, sl st in first hdc to join **(19 hdc, 2 dc, 1 tr)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 5 (counts as dc and ch-2), sk next st, **[**dc in next st, ch 2, sk next st**] 4 times**, dc in next st, ch 2, (tr, ch 3, tr) in next st, ch 2, **[**dc in next st, ch 2, sk next st**] 5 times**, sl st in 3rd ch of ch-5 to join **(11 dc, 12 ch-2 sps, 2 tr, 1 ch-3 sp)**
	Fasten off B.
☐ **Rnd 4**	Join A with sl st in first dc, ch 1, sc in same st, picot, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp, **[**sc in next dc, picot, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp**] 5 times**, sc in next tr, (2 sc, ch 2, 2 sc) in next ch-3 sp, sc in next tr, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp, **[**sc in next dc, picot, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp**] 5 times**, sl st in first sc to join **(41 sc, 11 picots, 1 ch-2 sp)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.

Finishing

- Weave in all the ends with the yarn needle before you stiffen the earrings. Pin them flat on the covered board, right side up: first the point, with its ch-2 space, and the picot at the foot straight below it, 1 7/8 in (4.8 cm) apart when the picot is drawn out; then the other picots straight out from the edge, left and right alike. Brush the thread all over with the fabric stiffener as its label says and let it dry.
- With sewing thread, sew a bead to the middle chain of the picot at the foot of each earring, so that it hangs straight below.
- With the pliers, twist open a jump ring. Put it through the ch-2 space at the point, hang the loop of an ear wire on it and close it. Do the same for the other earring.

In all: 2 pieces; 180 stitches.

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

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