Leaf lei

US terms



Finished size
About 42¼ in (107 cm) long, measured along the cord; the tips of the lowest leaves reach about ½ in (1.3 cm) past each end of the cord, and the tassels about 3¼ in (8 cm) past it

Skill
Easy
Worked in rows and rounds, with 62 pieces and color changes.

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

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

What you need

Yarn A: deep green, the cord and the leaves	**about 125 yd (114 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: fern green, some of the leaves	**about 85 yd (78 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: orchid pink, round 2 of the blossoms	**about 35 yd (32 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: golden yellow, round 1 of the blossoms	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 130 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

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.

Gauge

14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet. Along a row, count every stitch and every chain between stitches as one.

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

- 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 or a row does not count as a stitch.

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- 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.
- Working along the other side of the chain: turn the piece round, not over, 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.
- A leaf is one round worked along both sides of its chain. Its base is the end where the round begins and is joined; its tip is the hdc at the other end. The side that faces you as you work the round is its right side.
- Each blossom has five petals; a petal is the 6 stitches worked into 2 stitches of round 1. The first half of the first petal is worked in the stitch C was joined in.
- For a lei about 30¼ in (77 cm) long: ch 107 for the cord (106 sc, the middle between the 53rd and the 54th), 9 pairs of leaves in each half (20 leaves with A and 16 with B), 5 blossoms (the middle, and the 3rd and the 6th pair of each half), about a third less yarn.
- For a lei about 54¼ in (138 cm) long: ch 191 for the cord (190 sc, the middle between the 95th and the 96th), 17 pairs of leaves in each half (36 leaves with A and 32 with B), 11 blossoms (the middle, and the 3rd, 6th, 9th, 12th and 15th pair of each half), about a third more yarn. In both lengths the spaces between the pairs stay the same.
- 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 along the cord, without the tassels: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 28¼ in (72 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 33 in (84 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 53¾ in (137 cm).

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), **rem** remaining, **st** stitch, **rnd** round.

RS right side, the one that shows.

[ ] 4 times: work what is inside 4 times in all. **( )**: all of it goes into the one place.

(148 sc): the stitches you have when the row is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Cord

Yarn A, deep green.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 149.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each rem ch across	(148 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.	

Leaf: make 52

Yarn A, deep green.

Make 28 with A and 24 with B. The lines say A.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 13.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, hdc in next ch, dc in next 6 chs, hdc in next ch, sc in next 2 chs, (sc, hdc, sc) in next ch, working along the other side of the chain, sc in next 2 chs, hdc in next ch, dc in next 6 chs, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch, sl st in first sc to join	(8 sc, 5 hdc, 12 dc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 10 in (25 cm) tail for sewing.	

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Blossom: make 9

Yarns in order of use: D, golden yellow; C, orchid pink.

☐ **Foundation**	With D, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 10 sc in ring, pull the tail to close the ring, sl st in first sc to join	(10 sc)
	Fasten off D.	
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join C with sl st in any st, ch 1, (sc, hdc, dc) in same st, (dc, hdc, sc) in next st, **[**(sc, hdc, dc) in next st, (dc, hdc, sc) in next st**] 4 times**, sl st in first sc to join	(10 sc, 10 hdc, 10 dc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.	

Finishing

- Block: pin the leaves and the blossoms to shape on a flat surface, spray them with water and let them dry.
- Lay the cord flat and mark its middle, between the 74th and the 75th sc, with a pin. The two halves are alike; work each from its end toward the middle. All the leaves point away from the middle, right sides up.
- The leaves are sewn on in pairs, 13 pairs to each half, one leaf to the left and one to the right of the cord: a pair in A first, then pairs in B and A by turns, so that the pair at the middle is in A again. The bases of a pair meet on the cord and their tips lie 3 5/8 in (9.2 cm) apart; the tip of each leaf points out and toward the end of the cord.
- The bases of the first pair lie 2 3/8 in (6 cm) from the end of the cord. The bases of every pair after it lie 1½ in (3.8 cm) nearer the middle, so that the two leaves lie over the inner parts of the pair before and the bases of that pair show only in the V between them; the bases of the last pair are ¾ in (1.9 cm) from the middle. With its tail, sew each leaf to the cord and to the leaves under it along the half that is nearest its base; leave the tip free.
- Blossoms: sew one, right side up, on the middle of the cord, between the two last pairs. In each half, sew a blossom on the bases of the 3rd, the 6th, the 9th and the 12th pair, counted from the middle, its magic ring over the cord. Sew each of these eight down with its tail, round the golden heart and once at the tip of every petal that lies on a leaf. The middle blossom is wider than the cord: lay its magic ring on the cord and turn it so that one petal points straight along the cord. With its tail, sew it to the cord with stitches through the ring and through both edges of the heart where the cord passes under them, and catch the tips of the petals that lie on the bases of the two last pairs; its other petals lie on nothing and stay free.
- Tassels: for each, cut 16 lengths of A, each 7½ in (19 cm) long, and two more of 10 in (25 cm). Hold the 16 together, tie them tightly in their middle with one of the two, and sew the tie to the end of the cord. Fold all the ends down, away from the cord, and wind the other length 4 times round the tassel ½ in (1.3 cm) below the fold; knot it and hide its ends inside. Trim the tassel to 3¼ in (8 cm).
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 62 pieces; 1,808 stitches (148 in the cord, 25 in each leaf, 40 in each blossom).

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