# Victorian lace Christmas tree skirt

US terms



Finished size
**About 35¾ in (91 cm) wide and about 5¼ in (13.5 cm) at the opening in the middle**

Skill
**Intermediate**
Rows of double crochet, clusters, chain loops and fans

Yarn
**Medium (4), 2 colors**

Hook
**5.5 mm (US I-9)**

Gauge
**13 stitches and 7 rows to 4 in (10 cm)**
In double crochet (UK treble).

## What you need

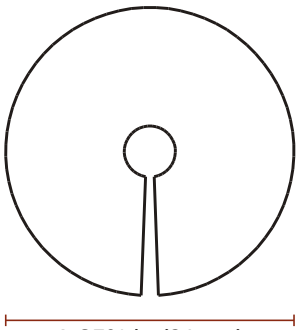
| | |
|---|---|
| Yarn A: cream, main color | **about 400 yd (366 m), an estimate** |
| Yarn B: wine, contrast | **about 225 yd (206 m), an estimate** |

By weight: about 310 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 200 yd (183 m).

Hook: 5.5 mm (US I-9), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: yarn needle, scissors, tape measure and 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.

## Schematic




**Skirt, spread out**
A the whole width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## Gauge

**13 stitches and 7 rows to 4 in (10 cm)** in double crochet.

> **The swatch.** A test piece to measure and pull out. It is not the start of the pattern. Ch 22; begin in the 3rd ch from the hook and work 10 rows of double crochet on 20 sts, about 6¼ in (16 cm) wide and 5¾ in (14.5 cm) high, and measure 4 in (10 cm) in the middle. Use a larger hook if your swatch is small, a smaller one if it is large. Single crochet (UK: double crochet): about 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm). A row of clusters is as tall as a row of double crochet. Nine rows of chain loops are about 4 in (10 cm).

## Notes

- One size.
- Measure the trunk or the stand of the tree: the opening in the middle closes round it, and the slit can be left open a little at the top.
- Row 1 is a right side row. The skirt is worked from the middle outward, back and forth: the beginnings and the ends of the rows make the slit.
- The turning chain (ch 1 for single crochet, ch 2 for double crochet and clusters) never counts as a stitch. Work the first stitch of every row into the first stitch, at the base of the turning chain.
- Where a row of sc follows a row of clusters, "sc in next st" is worked in the top of a cluster.
- To work into a chain space, put the hook under the whole chain. Where the words go from one chain space to the next and nothing is said of a sc between them, pass over that sc.
- In the fans, a sc that stands between two fans is worked in the sc of the row before.
- The decreases in the edging along the opening draw it in, so that the edging lies flat and does not ripple. The opening is measured with its edging, with the two edges of the slit side by side.
- Color changes in rows: work the last yarn over of the last stitch of the row before with the new yarn. Cut the old yarn, leaving an end of about 6 in (15 cm), or, if it is needed again at the same edge after 6 rows or fewer and that edge is straight, carry it loosely up the edge.
- Across 35¾ in (91 cm).
- Opening in the middle, across 5¼ in (13.5 cm).
- Depth of the fans 2 in (5 cm). Measure the trunk or the stand of the tree: the opening in the middle closes round it, and the slit can be left open a little at the top.

## Instructions

US terms.

**ch** chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **st** stitch, **sp** space.
**RS** right side, the one that shows.
**2 dc in next st**: both in one stitch. **dc in next 4 sts**: one in each. **ch-2 sp**: the gap under two chains; the hook goes in the gap.
**[ ] 12 times**: work what is inside 12 times in all. **( )**: all of it goes into the one place.
**(61 sc)**: the stitches you have when the row is done. **How to read a pattern**.

### Special stitches

**sc2tog (single crochet 2 stitches together (UK double crochet 2 together)):** Insert the hook in the next stitch and pull up a loop, insert the hook in the following stitch and pull up a loop (3 loops on the hook); yarn over and pull through all 3 loops.


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**cluster:** [yarn over, insert the hook in the stitch or space named, yarn over and pull up a loop, yarn over and pull through 2 loops] 3 times in the same place (4 loops on the hook); yarn over and pull through all 4 loops.

**picot:** Ch 3, sl st in the first of the 3 chains. A picot is not a stitch and is not counted.

## Skirt

**Yarn A, cream.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Foundation** | With yarn A, ch 62. Colors: rows 1 to 4 yarn A; rows 5 to 7 yarn B; rows 8 to 13 yarn A; rows 14 to 16 yarn B; rows 17 to 21 yarn A; rows 22 to 24 yarn B; rows 25 to 30 yarn A; row 31 yarn B. | |
| ☐ **Row 1 (RS)** | Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across | (61 sc) |
| ☐ **Row 2** | Ch 2, turn; **[**dc in next 4 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 12 times**, dc in next st | (73 dc) |
| ☐ **Row 3** | Ch 2, turn; dc in next 2 sts, **[**2 dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts**] 11 times**, 2 dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts | (85 dc) |
| ☐ **Row 4** | Ch 2, turn; dc in next 4 sts, **[**2 dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts**] 11 times**, 2 dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts | (97 dc) |
| ☐ **Row 5** | Ch 1, turn; sc in next 3 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts**] 11 times**, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts | (109 sc) |
| ☐ **Row 6** | Ch 2, turn; **[**cluster in next st, ch 2, skip next 2 sts**] 36 times**, cluster in next st | (37 clusters, 36 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 7** | Ch 1, turn;<br>**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp, sc in next st, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp, sc in next st, 3 sc in next ch-2 sp**] 12 times**,<br>sc in next st | (121 sc) |
| ☐ **Row 8** | Ch 2, turn;<br>**[**(dc, ch 1, dc) in next st, ch 1, skip next st,<br>**[**dc in next st, ch 1, skip next st**] 4 times] 12 times**,<br>dc in next st | (73 dc, 72 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 9** | Ch 2, turn; **[**dc in next st, ch 1, skip next ch-1 sp**] 72 times**, dc in next st | (73 dc, 72 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 10** | Ch 2, turn;<br>**[**(dc, ch 1, dc) in next st, ch 1, skip next ch-1 sp,<br>**[**dc in next st, ch 1, skip next ch-1 sp**] 5 times] 12 times**,<br>dc in next st | (85 dc, 84 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 11** | Ch 2, turn; **[**dc in next st, ch 1, skip next ch-1 sp**] 84 times**, dc in next st | (85 dc, 84 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 12** | Ch 2, turn;<br>**[**(dc, ch 1, dc) in next st, ch 1, skip next ch-1 sp,<br>**[**dc in next st, ch 1, skip next ch-1 sp**] 6 times] 12 times**,<br>dc in next st | (97 dc, 96 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 13** | Ch 2, turn; **[**dc in next st, ch 1, skip next ch-1 sp**] 96 times**, dc in next st | (97 dc, 96 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 14** | Ch 1, turn; sc in next st, **[**sc in next ch-1 sp, sc in next st**] 96 times** | (193 sc) |


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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Row 15** | Ch 2, turn; **[**cluster in next st, ch 2, skip next 2 sts**] 64 times**, cluster in next st | (65 clusters, 64 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 16** | Ch 1, turn;<br>**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp, sc in next st, 3 sc in next ch-2 sp**] 32 times**,<br>sc in next st | (225 sc) |
| ☐ **Row 17** | Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**ch 5, skip next 3 sts, sc in next st**] 56 times** | (57 sc, 56 ch-5 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 18** | Ch 2, turn; dc in first st, ch 2, sc in next ch-5 sp,<br>**[**ch 5, sc in next ch-5 sp**] 55 times**, ch 2, dc in last st | (2 dc, 2 ch-2 sps, 56 sc, 55 ch-5 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 19** | Ch 1, turn; sc in first st, **[**ch 5, sc in next ch-5 sp**] 55 times**, ch 5, sc in last st | (57 sc, 56 ch-5 sps) |
| ☐ **Rows 20 to 21**<br>20 21 | Repeat Rows 18 and 19, once more | (57 sc, 56 ch-5 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 22** | Ch 1, turn;<br>**[**sc in next st, 4 sc in next ch-5 sp, sc in next st, 3 sc in next ch-5 sp**] 28 times**,<br>sc in next st | (253 sc) |
| ☐ **Row 23** | Ch 2, turn; **[**cluster in next st, ch 2, skip next 2 sts**] 84 times**, cluster in next st | (85 clusters, 84 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 24** | Ch 1, turn; **[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp**] 84 times**, sc in next st | (253 sc) |
| ☐ **Row 25** | Ch 2, turn; **[**dc in next 6 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 36 times**, dc in next st | (289 dc) |
| ☐ **Row 26** | Ch 2, turn; dc in each st across | (289 dc) |
| ☐ **Row 27** | Ch 2, turn; dc in next 5 sts, **[**2 dc in next st, dc in next 11 sts**] 23 times**,<br>2 dc in next st, dc in next 7 sts | (313 dc) |
| ☐ **Row 28** | Ch 1, turn; sc in first st,<br>**[**ch 2, skip next 5 sts, 7 dc in next st, ch 2, skip next 5 sts, sc in next st**] 26 times** | (27 sc, 52 ch-2 sps, 182 dc) |
| ☐ **Row 29** | Ch 1, turn; sc in first st,<br>**[**skip next ch-2 sp, **[**dc in next st, ch 1**] 6 times**, dc in next st, skip next ch-2 sp,<br>sc in next st**] 26 times** | (27 sc, 182 dc, 156 ch-1 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 30** | Ch 1, turn; sc in first st,<br>**[[**dc in next st, ch 2, skip next ch-1 sp**] 6 times**, dc in next st, sc in next st**] 26 times** | (27 sc, 182 dc, 156 ch-2 sps) |
| ☐ **Row 31** | Ch 1, turn; sc in first st,<br>**[**sc in next st, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp,<br>**[**sc in next st, picot, 2 sc in next ch-2 sp**] 5 times**, sc in next 2 sts**] 26 times** | (521 sc) |
| ☐ **End** | Fasten off. | |


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### Slit edging

**Yarn A, cream.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Foundation** | With the right side of the skirt facing and the slit toward you, join yarn A at the outer corner of the left-hand edge of the slit, in the end of row 31. Ch 1; working up that edge to the opening in the middle, 2 sc in the end of every row that begins with a dc or a cluster (17 rows) and sc in the end of every row that begins with a sc (14 rows), 48 sc in all; round the opening, along the free side of the foundation chain, 2 sc in the first ch, sc in each of the next 59 chs, 2 sc in the last ch; down the right-hand edge of the slit to its outer corner, again 48 sc, the same number in the end of each row as before (159 sc). This is row 1. | |
| ☐ **Row 2** | Ch 1, turn; sc in next 56 sts, **[**sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts**] 9 times**, sc2tog, sc in next 56 sts | (149 sc) |
| ☐ **End** | Fasten off. | |

### Tie: make 6

**Yarn B, wine.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ **Foundation** | With yarn B, ch 35. | |
| ☐ **Row 1** | Sl st in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across | (34 sl sts) |
| ☐ **End** | Each tie is about 9 in (23 cm) long (the slip stitches draw the chain in). Fasten off, leaving an end of about 8 in (20 cm) for sewing. | |

### Assembly

**1.** Lay the skirt right side up and pin it out flat, a pin in the middle of every fan, so that it is round and the fans are open. Wash or dampen as the yarn label allows and let it dry.

**2.** Ties: sew three ties to each edge of the slit, on row 2 of the slit edging. Sew each tie on by the end that has the long yarn end, and with that yarn end; the rest of the tie hangs free. Counted along row 2 from the opening in the middle toward the outer edge (st 1 is the first of the 48 sts of that edge; the 2 sts at the corner of the opening are not counted), a tie goes to st 3, to st 24 and to st 45 of each edge, so that the ties of the two edges lie across from each other. Close the skirt round the tree with three bows.

## Finishing

- Weave in all the ends.

In all: 7 pieces.

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