

FARTHING PATTERNS CROCHET

CROCHET SHOPPING BASKET (1/12th scale)



Abbreviations: Rnd –round; ch – chain; tr – treble crochet; sl –slip; st-stitch; () – repeat instructions between brackets as detailed in instructions; dc- double crochet; sp –space;

Basket

Materials required: Small amount of No 80 crochet cotton or No 70 Tatting thread, 0.75 mm crochet hook. (For stiffening instructions and materials see below)

NOTE: This is worked in rounds apart from the handle

Rnd 1: 4 ch [last 3 ch forms 1st tr of round], 11 tr into 4th ch from hook, join with a sl st to top of 1st tr. [12 tr]

Rnd 2: 3 ch [1st tr], 1 tr into same sp, (2 tr into next tr) around, join with a sl st to top of 1st tr. [24 tr]

Rnd 3: 3 ch [1st tr], 2 tr into next tr, (1 tr into next tr, 2 tr into next tr) around, join with a sl st to top of 1st tr. [36 tr]

Rnd 4-8: 3 ch [1st tr], (1 tr into next tr) around, join with a sl st to top of 1st tr.

Rnd 9: 1 ch [1st dc], (1 dc into next tr) around, join with a sl st to top of 1st dc.

DO NOT FASTEN OFF,

Handle

20 ch, then sl st into 18th dc from start of chain [on opposite side of basket], turn and work 25 dc over the 20 ch of the handle, join with a sl st to same place as start of 20 ch, turn and work 20 dc loosely **over** dc just worked **and** original 20 ch. Join with a sl st to side edge of basket in same place as handle and fasten off.

Sew in all loose ends.

To stiffen basket:

A. Traditional sugar solution method

1. Make a solution of two teaspoons boiling water to one level teaspoon sugar.
2. Stir until sugar is dissolved.
3. Place crochet in the solution until the crochet is completely wet through. Wring out excess solution or sugar crystals will form on the finished work!
4. Pin the crochet out on a piece of corrugated cardboard or polystyrene covered in cling film, using rustproof pins (as normal steel pins will rust and leave unsightly marks). Make a cylinder shape of plasticine or blu tak covered in cling film, with a slightly rounded end (to go inside and shape the basket). If necessary pin around the top edges of the basket to hold in shape. Pull the crochet into shape as you work around, making sure edge of the basket stays flat where the pins are put in. Pull the handle up into shape so it is curved as shown.
5. Leave to dry in a warm place for 24 hours minimum. Do not place anything in the basket until it has dried out completely

B. The item can be starched with laundry starch

Work as above starting at 3

C. PVA Glue

A solution can be made from PVA glue and water, however this will dry clear and slightly shiny. Proceed as from point 3 on sugar starching.



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