

FARTHING PATTERNS

TREE SHAPED CROCHET ORNAMENT (1/12th scale)



Abbreviations:

ch-chain; dc- double crochet; tr-treble crochet; htr half treble crochet; st-stitch; sl-slip; () repeat instructions between brackets.

American readers please note:

dc=single crochet, tr=double crochet; htr=half double crochet

Materials required: 0.60 mm crochet hook (US size 14 steel), No 80 or 100 crochet cotton, if this is not available use a good quality sewing thread. The finer the cotton the smaller the finished items.

To make ornament:

Foundation round: 24 ch, join with a sl st to form a loop.

Round 1: 12 ch, miss 1 ch on foundation loop, sl st into next ch to join, 10 ch, miss 1 ch on foundation loop, sl st into next ch to join, 8 ch, miss 1 ch on foundation loop, sl st into next ch to join, 6 ch, miss 1 ch on foundation loop, sl st into next ch to join, 6 ch, sl st into next ch to join, 6 ch, miss 1 ch on foundation loop, sl st into next ch to join, 8 ch, miss 1 ch on foundation loop, sl st into next ch to join, 10 ch, miss 1 ch on foundation loop, sl st into next ch to join, 12 ch, miss 1 ch on foundation loop, sl st into next ch to join and fasten off. Sew in all loose ends.

To stiffen ornament:

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). Only pin around the edges of the decoration, making sure all the details are pinned out to form points. Pull the crochet into shape as you work around, making sure the tree decoration stays flat.
5. Leave to dry in a warm place for 24 hours minimum.

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, this will dry clear and slightly shiny. Proceed as from point 3 on sugar starching.

To finish:

When the decorations are completely dry remove the pins carefully and thread a small piece of cotton or transparent thread through one of the holes left by a pin on the points of the tree. Hang on tree.



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