



CrochetRooms

Striped Ball Ornament: Free Crochet Pattern

Finished Size & Skill Level

- **One size:** approximately 3 in (7.5 cm) across
- **Skill level:** Easy - single crochet in continuous rounds, simple increases and decreases, and clean two-round color changes
- **Time:** about 1 hour per ornament

Materials

- **Worsted-weight (#4) acrylic yarn** - red (about 18 yds / 16 m) and cream (about 15 yds / 14 m)
- **US G-6 (4.0 mm) crochet hook** - slightly smaller than the yarn label suggests, so the stitches stay tight
- **Small amount of gold yarn** for the cap (or use your main color)
- Polyester fiberfill stuffing, yarn needle, scissors, stitch marker

Abbreviations (US Terms)

- **ch** = chain | **st(s)** = stitch(es) | **sc** = single crochet (UK: double crochet)
- **sl st** = slip stitch
- **inc** = increase (2 sc in same st) | **dec** = decrease (sc2tog)
- **MR** = magic ring

Gauge

Worked in the round, gauge is not critical, but your fabric should be firm enough that stuffing does not show through. The ball should measure about 3 in (7.5 cm) across after Round 10; if yours is larger, try a smaller hook.

Pattern Notes

- This is an original CrochetRooms pattern. The ball is worked in continuous spiral rounds; do not join rounds. Place a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round and move it up as you go.
- The stripes change color every two rounds. Change color on the last yarn-over of the final stitch before the change, so the new color lands cleanly on the next round.
- Because the rounds are worked in a spiral, each stripe edge steps up by one row at the start of the round. Before you sew on the cap, rotate the ball so this step sits at the back of the ornament, where it never shows.

- Stuff firmly as you go, shaping the ball round, before the opening gets small.
- All stitch counts are given in parentheses at the end of each round.

Ball

With cream, start with a magic ring.

Round 1: 6 sc in MR. (6 sc)

Round 2: Inc in each st around. (12 sc)

Round 3: With red, *sc in next st, inc in next st; repeat from * around. (18 sc)

Round 4: *Sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st; repeat from * around. (24 sc)

Round 5: With cream, *sc in next 3 sts, inc in next st; repeat from * around. (30 sc)

Round 6: *Sc in next 4 sts, inc in next st; repeat from * around. (36 sc)

Rounds 7-8: With red, sc in each st around. (36 sc)

Rounds 9-10: With cream, sc in each st around. (36 sc)

Round 11: With red, *sc in next 4 sts, dec; repeat from * around. (30 sc)

Round 12: *Sc in next 3 sts, dec; repeat from * around. (24 sc)

Round 13: With cream, *sc in next 2 sts, dec; repeat from * around. (18 sc)

Round 14: *Sc in next st, dec; repeat from * around. (12 sc)

Stuff the ball firmly, shaping it round as you go.

Round 15: With red, dec around. (6 sc)

Fasten off, leaving a tail. Thread the tail through the front loops of the remaining stitches, pull to close, and weave in the end.

Cap

With gold, start with a magic ring.

Round 1: 6 sc in MR. (6 sc)

Round 2: Sc in each st around. (6 sc)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Sew the cap over the gathered closing stitches at the top of the ball, keeping the stripe step at the back.

Hanging Loop

With gold, chain 20 and join with a sl st to the first chain to form a ring, being careful not to twist.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Sew the ring firmly through the cap and into the top of the ball, so the loop is anchored into the stuffing and can take years of hanging and unhooking.

Finishing

Weave in all remaining ends. Fluff the stuffing with your fingers to even out the shape, and hang your striped ball ornament on the tree.

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