CROCHET LAVENDER: BEAUTIFUL AMIGURUMI SPRIG IN 3 EASY BUDS

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Free printable pattern

FINISHED SIZE

The source pattern gives no finished measurements, so no finished size is stated here. One sprig is a small flower: a slim stem with two small leaves and three round bud clusters at the top. A bundle of three to five stems tied with ribbon makes a small posy.

SKILL LEVEL

Beginner. You need chains, slip stitches, single crochet, half double crochet, and double crochet, plus increases and decreases in the bud rounds, and basic sewing to join the pieces. There are no safety eyes and no wiring.

TIME

The source pattern gives no exact time for one sprig. It says a bundle of three to five stems takes less than an hour to make. One sprig is a quick project of four small pieces.

MATERIALS

- DK weight or worsted weight yarn, a small amount of purple or lavender yarn for the buds and green yarn of the same weight for the stem and leaves. Acrylic holds its shape well; cotton gives a slightly stiffer finish. A single 100 gram ball of each color will make dozens of sprigs.
- 3.5 mm or 4.0 mm crochet hook, or the size needed for a tight, neat fabric. If your stitches run loose, drop down to a 3.0 mm hook. If they run tight, go up to a 4.5 mm hook.
- Polyester fiberfill, a tiny pinch per bud, optional
- Stitch marker
- Yarn needle
- Scissors
- Brooch pin or hair clip blank, optional, if you want a wearable sprig
- Satin ribbon, optional, for tying a bundle of stems

ABBREVIATIONS (US terms)

blo: back loop only. ch: chain. dc: double crochet. dec: decrease (2 sc worked together). FO: fasten off. hdc: half double crochet. inc: increase (2 sc in the same stitch). MR: magic ring. rnd: round. sc: single crochet. sl st: slip stitch. st(s): stitch(es).

NOTES

This pattern is written in US crochet terms. Work the bud rounds in a continuous spiral unless stated otherwise, and mark the first stitch of each round with a stitch marker. The stem is one row of slip stitches worked back along a chain, which makes a firm, slightly twisted cord. That twist is intentional. The source pattern gives no gauge, so no gauge is stated here: work tightly enough that the fabric is neat and any stuffing stays hidden. Make three bud clusters and two leaves for one sprig.

THE STEM

Foundation: With green yarn, ch 15. This forms the main stem. For a longer stem, add more chains. For a very tiny sprig, ch 10 is proportionate.

Row 1: Starting in the second chain from the hook, sl st in each ch across. (14 sl sts)

Fasten off, but do not cut the yarn yet. Leave a long tail for attaching the bud clusters later.

THE LEAVES (Make Two)

With green yarn, make two identical leaves.

Foundation: Ch 6.

Row 1: Starting in the second ch from the hook: sc in next st, hdc in next st, dc in next st, hdc in next st, sc in next st. (5 sts)

Now work down the other side of the foundation chain: sc in next st, hdc in next st, dc in next st, hdc in next st, sc in first ch. (5 sts) Sl st to join. (10 sts around the leaf)

FO, leaving a tail for sewing.

THE BUD CLUSTERS (Make Three)

Each bud cluster is a small rounded ball made in the round. With purple or lavender yarn:

Rnd 1: Make a magic ring. Ch 1, sc 6 into ring. Pull ring closed tight. (6 sts) Place a stitch marker in the first stitch of this round.

Rnd 2: Inc in each st around. (12 sts)

Rnd 3: Working in back loops only, sc in each st around. (12 sts) This leaves a small ridge around the bud.

Rnd 4: (Sc in next st, dec) rep 4 times. (8 sts)

At this point, if you choose to stuff your bud, add a tiny pinch of fiberfill. Do not overstuff. You want just enough to give the bud a gentle rounded dome.

Rnd 5: Dec 4 times. (4 sts)

FO, leaving a long tail. Thread your yarn needle and weave through the remaining 4 stitches, pulling to close the opening completely. Pull tight and knot securely. Leave a long tail for attaching to the stem.

Repeat this process two more times so you have three bud clusters in total.

ASSEMBLY

Lay your stem flat on a table. The end with the longest yarn tail is the top of the stem, where the buds attach. The other end is the bottom of the stem.

Attaching the buds: Thread your yarn needle with the tail from your first bud cluster. Position it at the very top of the stem and stitch it securely in place by wrapping the tail around the stem several times and then knotting it. Weave in the tail to hide it. Attach the second bud cluster just below the first, leaving approximately 3 to 4 stitches worth of gap between them. Attach the third bud cluster the same way, again leaving a small gap below the second.

Attaching the leaves: Position your two leaves on either side of the stem, roughly in the middle or toward the lower third of the stem length, wherever looks most natural to you. Stitch each leaf securely in place using its yarn tail, wrap a few times around the stem for security, and weave in the end.

Finishing: Weave in all remaining ends very thoroughly. Give the finished sprig a gentle reshape with your fingers, adjusting the buds and leaves until everything sits the way you want it. If the piece feels floppy, a very light application of fabric stiffener spray will firm it up without changing the color or texture of the yarn.

CARE

The source pattern gives no care instructions. Treat the sprig gently: spot clean with a damp cloth and lay flat to dry. Do not bleach. Reshape the buds and leaves while damp.

TIPS FOR A NEAT SPRIG

- Count every round. A single missed stitch in a bud round makes a visible bump in an otherwise smooth ball.
- Keep your tension tight and even. Tight stitches keep the buds from looking lumpy and keep the stuffing hidden.
- Pull the magic ring closed tightly at the start of each bud so no hole shows in the center.
- Space the buds evenly. Leave 3 to 4 stitches worth of gap between buds so the spike steps down the stem instead of bunching into one lump.
- Weave in ends meticulously. Weave each end through at least four or five stitches in different directions, tug gently to check it holds, then trim close to the fabric.
- Work in good light. Lavender yarn can be hard to see in poor light, especially in the darker purple shades.

VARIATIONS

- Make a bouquet: make three to five sprigs and tie them together with a narrow satin ribbon.
- Change the color: try white, pale pink, deep violet, dusty rose, coral, or soft teal buds. Mix two shades of purple in one bundle for a more nuanced look.
- Add scent: tuck a small sachet of dried lavender or a drop of lavender essential oil on a cotton ball inside a stuffed bud before closing it, for a drawer sachet or car freshener.
- Make it wearable: sew a brooch pin or a hair clip blank to the back of a single stem or a small bundle.

- Scale it up or down: use bulky yarn and a larger hook for a statement sprig, or fine thread and a 1.5 mm or 2.0 mm hook for a truly tiny sprig.
- Add sparkle: stitch a few seed beads onto the bud clusters to mimic tiny dewdrops.

Pattern adapted from the free pattern by Easy DIY (bouquet.easydiy.net): Mini Crochet Flowers Pattern PDF, Easy Lavender Amigurumi Flower, http://bouquet.easydiy.net/crochet-bouquet-ideas/mini-crochet-flowers-pattern-pdf-easy-lavender-amigurumi-flowers/

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