CROCHET EASTER BASKET: BEAUTIFUL 34-ROUND STRIPED BASKET

CrochetRooms free printable pattern

Free printable pattern

FINISHED SIZE

Finished size | About 5.7 in (14 cm) wide and 4.9 in (12 cm) tall

The source pattern gives the width and height only. The handle is not counted in the height. No other finished measurements are given, so none are listed here. The handle, worked separately, is about 11 in (28 cm) long.

SKILL LEVEL

Beginner. You need a magic ring, chains, single crochet, increases, working in the back loop only, working in continuous rounds, color changes, a crab stitch (reverse single crochet) rim, and basic sewing with a tapestry needle. The stitches are simple; the basket skills are keeping a firm fabric, keeping the base flat, and sewing the handle on strongly.

TIME

About 4 hours, per the source pattern. A confident maker may finish it in one afternoon; a first timer should allow a relaxed weekend afternoon.

MATERIALS

- Worsted weight (#4) cotton yarn. The source names no brand.
- Cream: about 71 yds (65 m)
- Mint: about 6 yds (5.5 m)
- Pink: about 6 yds (5.5 m)
- Yellow: about 6 yds (5.5 m)
- Total yarn: about 89 yds (81 m)
- 5 mm (US H-8) crochet hook

- Stitch marker
- Tapestry needle
- Scissors

ABBREVIATIONS (US terms)

BLO: back loop only. ch: chain. crab st: crab stitch, reverse single crochet, worked from left to right. inc: increase (2 sc in the same st). rep: repeat. rnd(s): round(s). sc: single crochet. sl st: slip stitch. st(s): stitch(es).

NOTES

This pattern uses US crochet terms. The basket is worked in continuous spiral rounds: do not join rounds with a slip stitch unless the instructions say so. Keep a stitch marker in the first stitch of every round so you do not lose your place. When the pattern says a number followed by a stitch (for example "3 sc"), work one sc in each of the next 3 stitches, not 3 sc in one stitch. Repeats are shown in parentheses: work everything inside the parentheses, then repeat it. When you change color, finish the last step of the stitch before the change with the new color: the source says to change color on the last stitch of the round before. Yarn, hook size, and gauge are only a guide: this basket works in any worsted yarn if you keep a firm fabric, but your yarn amounts and finished size will change. Gauge: 4 sc and 4.5 rounds = 1 in (2.5 cm). Crochet a little tighter than usual: firm fabric is what makes the basket stand up on its own, with no stiffener. Cotton keeps the basket firm and washable.

BASE

Work with cream. Make a magic ring.

Rnd 1: 6 sc in the ring. (6 sts)

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

Rnd 3: (Sc in the next 1 st, inc) 6 times. (18 sts)

Rnd 4: (Sc in the next 2 sts, inc) 6 times. (24 sts)

Rnd 5: (Sc in the next 3 sts, inc) 6 times. (30 sts)

Rnd 6: (Sc in the next 4 sts, inc) 6 times. (36 sts)

Rnd 7: (Sc in the next 5 sts, inc) 6 times. (42 sts)

Rnd 8: (Sc in the next 6 sts, inc) 6 times. (48 sts)

Rnd 9: (Sc in the next 7 sts, inc) 6 times. (54 sts)

Rnd 10: (Sc in the next 8 sts, inc) 6 times. (60 sts)

Rnd 11: (Sc in the next 9 sts, inc) 6 times. (66 sts)

Rnd 12: (Sc in the next 10 sts, inc) 6 times. (72 sts)

WALLS

Rnd 13: Sc in the BLO of each st around. This turns the edge up into a wall. (72 sts)

Rnds 14-17: With cream: sc in each st around. (72 sts)

Rnds 18-19: With mint: sc in each st around. Change color on the last st of the round before. (72 sts)

Rnds 20-21: With cream: sc in each st around. Change color on the last st of the round before. (72 sts)

Rnds 22-23: With pink: sc in each st around. Change color on the last st of the round before. (72 sts)

Rnds 24-25: With cream: sc in each st around. Change color on the last st of the round before. (72 sts)

Rnds 26-27: With yellow: sc in each st around. Change color on the last st of the round before. (72 sts)

Rnds 28-33: With cream: sc in each st around. Change color on the last st of the round before. (72 sts)

RIM

Rnd 34: Sl st in the next st to even out the spiral, ch 1, then work crab st (reverse sc) in each st around, from left to right. Join and fasten off. (72 sts)

HANDLE

Work with cream. The handle is worked in rows, not rounds.

Row 1: Ch 7. Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook and in each ch across. Turn. (6 sts)

Rows 2 on: Ch 1, sc in each st across. Turn. Repeat until the handle is 11 in (28 cm) long (about 50 rows). Fasten off with a long tail. (6 sts)

ATTACHING THE HANDLE

Sew each end inside the wall, centered over opposite sides: the ends sit 36 sts apart. Sew through 3 rounds for strength.

FINISHING

Weave in all loose ends with the tapestry needle, hiding them on the inside of the basket so they do not show. Check that both handle ends are sewn firmly through 3 rounds, and that the stripe joins sit neatly at the back of the basket.

CARE

The source pattern gives no care instructions. As general guidance for worsted cotton: hand wash gently in cold water and lay flat to dry. Do not bleach. Reshape while damp. Cotton is washable, which is one reason it is a good choice for an Easter basket.

TIPS FOR A NEAT EASTER BASKET

- Work tightly. Use a hook smaller than the yarn label suggests, and check your gauge: 4 sc and 4.5 rounds = 1 in (2.5 cm). If the basket sags, go down a hook size.
- Mark every round. Work in a spiral with no joins, so a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round is the only way to know where a round ends.
- Keep the base flat. The base grows by 6 stitches in every round. If it curls up, work a little looser; if it ruffles, work a little tighter.
- Change color on the last stitch of the round before. That keeps the stripe joins neat and puts them at the back of the basket.
- Practice the crab stitch rim first. The rim is reverse single crochet, worked from left to right. Try a few stitches on a spare swatch before you work round 34.
- Sew the handle through 3 rounds. The handle ends sit 36 stitches apart, centered over opposite sides, and the extra rounds of sewing are what let the handle hold a full basket.

VARIATIONS

- Classic pastel stripes: work the basket exactly as written, cream with mint, pink, and yellow stripes, the look in the source photos.
- Solid color basket: work the whole basket in one color, cream or a soft sage green, and skip the stripes. The single crochet texture shows beautifully in one color.
- A bigger basket: keep increasing the base by 6 stitches per round, then work the walls on your new count. The handle ends are always half the stitch count apart.
- A stiffer basket: spray the finished basket with fabric stiffener for extra hold. The source suggests this for extra stiffness.

Pattern adapted from the free pattern by CozyMakery: Crochet Easter Basket Pattern (Free, Beginner-Friendly), https://cozymakery.com/crochet-easter-basket-pattern/

CrochetRooms - for personal use. Do not copy, redistribute, or sell this pattern as your own.