Crochet Bouquet

Printer-friendly pattern

Original pattern wording with compact reference images. UK crochet terms.

Frankie’s Knitted Stuff

Crochet Bouquet

These simple crochet flowers are made up of three layers of petals, sewn together with a few stitches and decorated with a button. Their stalks are wooden skewers slid into the back of the crochet.

I found these compulsive to make and kept trying out new colour combinations until I had a huge pile of flowers. They could be used to decorate bags, made into brooches or how about a garland of blooms?

Facts and Figures

The original flowers measure about 6 cm / 2¼" across although you can also make mini ones with thinner yarn. I’ll give you the details for those later in the pattern.

For the stalks I used thin bamboo skewers. I found two sizes of these, 25 and 15 cm long - that’s about 10" and 6". For the bouquet pictured above I used the longer ones but cut some of them down so that the flowers were different heights.

I used lots of shades of Stylecraft Special DK (295 m / 100g) and a 3.5 mm hook to make my flowers. You’ll also need buttons for the centres; look for ones about 1 cm or ½" in diameter.

This pattern uses British crochet terms throughout:

dc - double crochet / US single crochet htr - half treble / US half double crochet tr - treble / US double crochet

There are three sets of petals per flower: small, medium and big. I’ll start with the smallest and work up as each size is a continuation of the one before.

I tended to use three shades of one colour for each flower, the palest for the small petals and the darkest for the biggest but, of course, you can choose whichever colours take your fancy.

One more thing - the finished diameter of each set of petals is a bit bigger than it will be once they are sewn together. That’s because they curl up a bit during the sewing.

Small Petals` 1½"

Make 4 chain and join with a slip stitch into a ring.

Round 1: 1ch (doesn’t count as a stitch), 6 dc into ring, ss to first dc (6 sts).

Round 2: (htr, tr, htr) in same st, *ss in next st, (htr, tr, htr) in same st, repeat from * until you have six petals, ss to base of first petal and fasten off. Darn in the tails.

Medium Petals 2"

Make 4 chain and join with a slip stitch into a ring.

Round 1: 1ch (doesn’t count as a stitch), 6 dc into ring, ss to first dc (6 sts).

Round 2: 1 ch (again, doesn’t count as a stitch), 2 dc in every st, ss to first dc (12 sts).

Crochet Bouquet

Printer-friendly pattern

Round 3: (htr, 3tr, htr) in next st,

*ss in next st, (htr, 3 tr, htr) in next st, repeat from *, ss to base of first petal and fasten off. Darn in the tails.

Large Petals 2½"

Make 4 chain and join with a slip stitch into a ring.

Round 1: 1ch (doesn't count as a stitch), 6 dc into ring, ss to first dc (6 sts).

Round 2: 1 ch (again, doesn't count as a stitch), 2 dc in every st, ss to first dc (12 sts).

Round 3: 2 ch (counts as htr), 2htr in next st, (htr, 2htr in next st) x 5, ss to top of starting ch (18 sts).

Round 4: *(2 htr, 3 tr, 2 htr) in next st, miss 1, ss in next st, repeat from *. Fasten off, leaving a long tail for joining the petals.



Sewing the Petals Together

This is very quick and easy. Take the yarn tail up through the hole at the centre of one of the outside petals on each piece in turn, big then medium, then small. Then go down through the next set of petals and up through the set after that. Three pairs of stitches will take you back to the start and the petals will be firmly joined. Pull the stitches tight and the petals will curl up just a bit.



I've added black lines to this picture in an attempt to show you where your three stitches should be.

If you are going to sew your button on with yarn you can do that now. If not, darn in the tail.

Crochet Bouquet

Printer-friendly pattern

Adding the Buttons

I raided my box of old mother of pearl buttons for my flowers. These have tiny holes so I used cream sewing thread to attach them.





To add a stalk to your flower, just push the pointed end of your stick through the back, leaving it embedded in the yarn. Obviously, the sticks could be pulled out by an inquisitive child so be aware of that.





As I said, I got completely carried away with making these flowers. I now have a stash of them ready for future projects.

I did, however, put some together into bouquets. If you are doing this, it helps to wrap an elastic band around the sticks. You can then pull the flowers about a bit to arrange them but your arrangement will stay in place.



The stalks for the little bouquet are the 15 cm ones and the vase is an empty spice jar decorated with a bit of fabric and lace.

Crochet Bouquet

Printer-friendly pattern

Tiny Flowers

I thought I'd see how my flowers worked with thinner yarn and these turned out to be my favourites. I used a 2.5 mm hook and some of my 21st Century Yarn's Shetland oddments. The finished flowers measure about 5 cm / 2" across.



This yarn has about 465 m per 100g (although I buy it in smaller skeins) and, as you can see, has a nice subtle variation in all the shades.

I followed the original pattern but, this time, I could use the yarn from the biggest set of petals to sew on the buttons.

Adding Leaves

As I wanted to display the tiny flowers individually, I decided that they needed some leaves. I haven't tried this but I expect you could use these instructions to make leaves for your bigger flowers too.

Both leaves are knitted in one strip.

Begin with 20 ch and, starting in the second chain from the hook, work the following sequence:

2 dc, 2htr, 2tr, 2htr, 3dc, 2htr, 2tr, 2htr, 2 dc

That's one side of both leaves done. Now work the same set of stitches along the other side of the strip to complete the leaves and slip stitch to the end.

Thread the cast off tail through the centre of the first leaf to gather it slightly. At the centre of the strip, join the tops of the leaves for a few stitches to make them point upwards and then thread the yarn back and forth vertically through the centre of the strip to pull it together and firm it up. Darn in that tail and, threading the cast on tail on to your needle, gather the second leaf as you did for the first and darn in the tail.



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Printer-friendly pattern

I found that cotton reels make the perfect pots for these little flowers.



Abbreviations

ch chain ss slip stitch dc double crochet / US single htr half treble / US half double tr treble / US double

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