Parent & Child Crochet Christmas Craft Project

Crocheted Christmas Tree Garland

Skill level:

Parents with basic crochet skills can make the trees which are reasonably quick to make once you get the hang of them. This is a good opportunity to introduce your child to crochet by teaching them to hook a simple chain for the garland and is also an excellent way to develop their fine motor skills. Then you and the kids can have lots of fun decorating the trees however you like.

Materials:	Key:
Any DK yarn in various colours (I've used green, brown, white and red)	beg – beginning
4mm crochet hook	ch – chain
Tapestry or wool needle	dc- double crochet (US single)
Scissors	htr – half treble crochet (US half double)
Scrap yarn, felt, sequins etc for decorating your trees	rnd(s) – round(s)
Fabric glue (if you are using sequins or felt to decorate)	sl st – slip stitch
	sp(s) – space(s)
	st(s) – stitche(s)

Instructions (this pattern uses British crochet terms)

Main body of tree in green yarn

Ch 4 & join to make a ring

Rnd1: Ch2 (counts as htr in this & following rnds), work the following sts into the ring - 3 htr, ch1, 4htr, ch1, 3htr, ch1; join with sl st in 2nd ch of beg ch2 – **triangle with 2 long sides of 4htr, a short side of 3htr, ch1 sps for the corners**

Rnd2: Ch2, htr in next 3 sts, in ch1 spc, 2htr, ch1, 2htr, htr in next 3 sts; in ch1 spc, 2htr, ch1, 2htr, htr in next 2 sts; in last in ch1 spc, 2htr, ch1, 1htr; join with sl st in 2nd ch of beg ch2 - **triangle with 2 long sides of 7htr, a short side of 6htr, ch1 sps for the corners.**

Rnd3: Ch2, htr in next 5 sts; in ch1 spc -2htr, ch1, 2htr; htr in next 6 sts; in ch1 spc, 2htr, ch1, 2htr; htr in next 5 sts; in last in ch1 spc, 2htr, ch1, 2htr; join with sl st in 2nd ch of beg ch2 - **triangle with 2 long sides of 10htr, a short side of 9htr, ch1 sps for the corners.**

Rnd4: Ch2, htr in next 7 sts; in ch1 spc, 5htr, place a marker in 3rd htr to mark corner; htr in next9 sts; in ch1 spc, 5htr, place a marker as for prev corner; htr in next 8 sts; in ch1 spc, 5htr, place a marker as for 1st corner; htr in next sts; join with sl st in 2nd ch of beg ch2 - **triangle with 2 long sides of 13htr, a short side of 10htr, 1htr at each corner.**

Tree trunk in brown yarn

Turn your tree upside down with the shortest side at the top.

Row 1: Join yarn with a sl st in 5th st from the right corner, dc in same sp; dc in next 3 sts; ch1 and turn work.
Row2: dc in next 4 sts; ch1 and turn work.
Row3: dc in next 4 sts; fasten off.

Border and hanging loop in white yarn

Make a dc border all around the tree, making a ch7 loop at the top of the tree. Weave in all ends. You can press the trees with a warm iron and damp cloth to make them perfectly flat.

Make 6 trees… or more if you're planning a longer garland.

Decorate your trees

Using fabric glue, adorn the trees with sequins, felt shapes, buttons or use scrap yarn/embroidery thread to sew on designs and elements. You can really get creative with this! I've used cheap craft buttons.

Garland chain in red yarn

Your child can try making the chain – you might want to start it off for them. Make a chain approx. 2 metres long is good for 6 trees.

Finishing off

Making sure any glue has dried, thread all your trees onto the chain and hang as desired.

About the author:
Merrian Holland is a mother of three and a jewellery product developer by profession but loves all forms of crafting including crochet which she teaches at the Riverhouse Barn Arts Centre in Walton-on-Thames. Students of all levels are catered for from complete beginners to more advanced crafters. So if you fancy learning to crochet or would like to meet up with fellow hookers, please visit www.mezzacraft.com for more details.