



By Brigitte Read

Practical Pudding

This little pud contains something better than a sixpence – it's a basket for your knitting notions!



Pattern info

You will need...

Aran-weight yarn

75g of brown, 25g each of white, dark green and dark red

3.5mm crochet hook

8 x ¼in (20cm x 12mm) green velvet ribbon

Five buttons

For where to buy, turn to page 90

Abbreviations

ch chain	inc increasing
cont continue	rep repeat
cluster work the required number of sts leaving the last loop of each on hook, yrh, draw the yarn through all the loops.	rem remain(ing)
dc double crochet	R(W)SF right (wrong) side facing
dtr double treble	st(s) stitch(es)
dec decreasing	ss slip stitch
fol follow(ing)	tr treble
	t-ch turning chain
	yrh yarn round hook

Practical Pudding

Even your knitting and crocheting can have a bit of Christmas spirit if you make this cute workbasket to store all your notions in.

You could also use the basket as an alternative to a traditional stocking, filling it with little gifts and hanging it at the foot of a child's bed, or you could fill it with wrapped chocolates as a more seasonal alternative to handing around a tin. "By using lighter weight yarn and a smaller hook, you could make this pud any size – even small enough for a Christmas tree decoration," says designer Brigitte Read.

Quicker than the real thing

"This project uses simple stitches but may prove a little challenging for a complete newcomer. However, it would be easy for anyone with even a very basic working knowledge of crochet," Brigitte says.

With all the increasing and decreasing, if you've ever longed to make an amigurumi, one of those cute Japanese-style crocheted animals that are currently popular, the skills are the same, so making the pudding is good practice.

 Start crocheting here...

PUDDING BOTTOM

BASE

Foundation loop Using brown yarn, make 6 ch and join with a ss to form a ring.

Round 1 Crochet 8 dc around the ring.

Round 2 Inc 8 sts evenly; 2 dc in each st to end. [16 sts]

Round 3 Inc 8 sts evenly; (1 dc, then 2 dc in next st) to end. [24 sts]

Round 4 Inc 8 sts evenly; (2 dc, then 2 dc in next st) to end. [32 sts]

Round 5 Inc 8 sts evenly; (3 dc, then 2 dc in next st) to end. [40 sts]

Round 6 Inc 5 sts evenly; (7 dc, then 2 dc in next st) to end. [45 sts]

Round 7 Inc 5 sts evenly; (8 dc, then 2 dc in next st) to end. [50 sts]

Round 8 Work without increase.

Round 9 Inc 2 sts evenly; (24 dc, then 2 dc in next st) to end. [52 sts]

SIDES

Round 10 Inc 4 sts evenly; (12 dc, then 2 dc in next st) to end. [56 sts]

Round 11 Inc 4 sts evenly; (13 dc, then 2 dc in next st) to end. [60 sts]



The loop is useful for carrying the basket.

Round 12 Inc 6 sts evenly; (9 dc, then 2 dc in next st) to end. [66 sts]

Rounds 13 & 14 Work without increase.

Round 15 Inc 6 sts evenly; (10 dc, then 2 dc in next st) to end. [72 sts]

Round 16 Work without increase.

Round 17 Inc 6 sts evenly; (11 dc, then 2 dc in next st) to end. [78 sts]

Rounds 18-23 Work without increase.

Round 24 Dec 2 sts evenly; (37 dc, then skip 1) to end. [76 sts]

Round 25 Dec 4 sts evenly; (17 dc, then skip 1) to end. [72 sts]

Round 26 Work without decrease.

The leaves are mainly done in double crochet.





"I wanted something a little more fun to use throughout the festive period."

Brigitte Read, *crochet designer*

Round 27 Dec 4 sts evenly; (16 dc, then skip 1) to end. [68 sts]

Round 28 Work without decrease.

Round 29 Dec 2 sts evenly; (32 dc, then skip 1) to end. [66 sts]

Round 30 Work without decrease.

Round 31 Dec 2 sts evenly; (31 dc, then skip 1) to end. [64 sts]

Round 32 Dec 4 sts evenly; (14 dc, then skip 1) to end. [60 sts]

Round 33 Dec 4 sts evenly; (13 dc, then skip 1) to end and cast off. [56 sts]

PUDDING TOP

Foundation Loop Using White yarn, make 6 ch and join with a ss to form a ring.

Round 1 Crochet 10 dc around the ring.

Round 2 Inc 9 sts; 1 tr, then 2 tr in each st to end, ss to first tr. [19 sts]

Round 3 Inc 9 sts evenly; (1 tr, then 2 tr in next st) to end, ss to first tr. [28 sts]

Round 4 Inc 9 sts evenly; (2 tr, then 2 tr in next st) to end, ss to first tr. [37 sts]

Round 5 Inc 9 sts evenly; (3 tr, then 2 tr in next st) to end, ss to first tr. [46 sts]

Round 6 Inc 9 sts evenly; (4 tr, then 2 tr in next st) to end, ss to first tr. [55 sts]

Round 7 Make large fan (yrh three times, skip 2 ch,

finish dtr and put further 7 dtrs in same st), skip 2ch, dc into next ch, then make small fan (yrh, skip 1 ch, finish dtr and put further 7 dtrs in same st, skip 1) dc into next chain. Rep to end; you should have 5 large fans interspersed with 5 small fans.

Fasten off.

LEAVES (MAKE 2)

Row 1 Using green yarn, chain 3. (+ 1 t-ch)

Row 2 1 dc in each st to end. [3 sts] (+ 1 t-ch)

Inc row 3 1dc, 2 dc in next st, then 1 dc. [4 sts] (+1 t-ch)

Inc row 4 2 dc, then 2 dc into next st, 1 dc. [5 sts] (+1 t-ch)

Inc row 5 2 dc, then 2 dc into next st, 1 dc. [6 sts] (+1 t-ch)

Rows 6-10 Work without increase, using a turning chain.

Rows 11-16 Work without a turning chain, leaf will naturally decrease to just one stitch.

Round 17 Dc around the leaf to create a smooth edge.

Round 18 Create picot edge around the edge of the leaf by ch 3, dc in next st to end.

BERRIES

Row 1 Using red yarn, chain 30.

Row 2 (+3 t-ch) 5 tr cluster in the same stitch, ss in the next 2 sts) repeat to end.

FINISHING

Sew 5 buttons on the pudding body corresponding to the large fans.

Chain button holes onto the base of the large fans, with a 5-stitch chain.

Arrange leaves and berries on top of pudding and stitch on.

Secure ribbon through hole in top of pudding and stitch or tie in knot.

You can make an inside cover to hide the ribbon and stitching by following round 1 to 5 of the pudding base.

Turn to page 45 to knit and felt a sturdy Christmas stocking – it's just perfect for filling with little gifts.

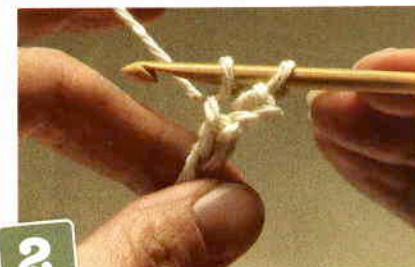
How to...

Double crochet

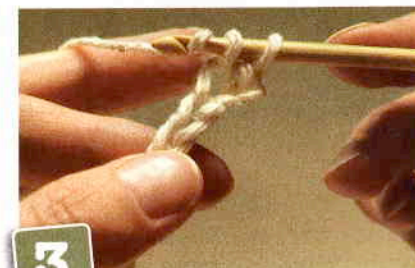
Here's how to make one of the basic stitches (dc) in this pattern.



1 Skip 2 ch and insert the hook under the top loop of the 3rd ch.



2 Wind the yarn around the hook and pull it through the chain loop, leaving two loops on your crochet hook.



3 Yrh again, then pull the yarn through both loops. There's your double crochet (dc) made and you'll have one loop left on your hook ready to do the next stitch. To do a row of dc, continue to end of chain sts.



4 For the following rows of dc, turn work and ch1. This is the turning chain (t-ch) and counts as the first dc. Skip the stitch at the base of the t-ch, then work 1dc under the top 2 loops of each stitch to the end, including top of t-ch on following rows.

