

Pumpkin

© June Gilbank 2008

Crochet yourself a pumpkin - the perfect pattern for autumn! With this one basic pattern, you can create a realistic pumpkin for your Fall table, a cute amigurumi-style pumpkin for the kids, or a spoooooooooooooooooky pumpkin for Halloween.





Terminology

ch	chain
sc	single crochet (double crochet for UK/Aus)
hdc	half double crochet (half treble crochet for UK/Aus)
sl st	slip stitch (single crochet for UK/Aus)
st	stitch

You will need...

- E US/3.5mm crochet hook
- Small amount of worsted weight yarn in orange, plus brown or green for stalk
- Yarn needle

Pumpkin

*Note: The main part of the pumpkin is worked in rows. All stitches are worked in **back loops only**.*

Ch 16.

Row 1: sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 2 ch, hdc in next 9 ch, sc in last 3 ch. (15 st)

Row 2: ch 1, turn, sc in next 5 st, hdc in next 5 st, sc in next 5 st. (15 st)

Row 3: ch 1, turn, sc in next 3 st, hdc in next 9 st, sc in next 3 st. (15 st)

Rows 4-25: repeat Rows 2 and 3 eleven times more. (15 st)

Row 26: Repeat Row 2 once more (15 st).

Fold the rectangle in half so that Row 26 is matched up with the starting chain. Sl st

through both layers (Row 26 and the starting chain) to form a tube. Fasten off, leaving a long yarn end to close the ends of the pumpkin.

To form the bottom of the pumpkin, use a yarn needle and the long yarn end to gather around one of the open edges with running stitch. Draw the stitches tightly together, then knot the yarn to keep the end closed. Note: if you are using animal eyes for your pumpkin, insert them now, about halfway up the pumpkin, and attach the backs.

Make sure the yarn end and needle are on the *outside* of the base of the pumpkin, then stuff the pumpkin through the top opening. Pass the yarn end up through the middle of the pumpkin to the open edge, then use a running stitch around the stitches of the top edge. Draw up the stitches around the top to close it. Knot the yarn in this position.

Shaping (optional)

If the pumpkin is too tall, you can shape it by passing the yarn from the top middle down through the pumpkin to the centre hole at the bottom, then inserting the yarn needle at the bottom, one stitch away from where it exited the pumpkin, and passing the yarn end back up through the pumpkin to the top. Draw the yarn tighter until you like the shape. Knot the yarn in this position (the knot will be covered by the stalk).

Stalk

Make a magic ring, ch 1.

Rnd 1: 5 sc in magic ring. (5 st)

Rnds 2-5: sc in each st around. (5 st)

Rnd 6: (sc in next st, ch 2, sc in same st) four times, sc in next st, ch 2, sl st in same st.

The base of the stalk should flare out into a star/pentagon shape. Fasten off, leaving a long yarn end to attach the stalk to the pumpkin.

Use a yarn needle and the long yarn end from the stalk to sew the base of the stalk to the centre top of the pumpkin.

Embellishment Ideas

Keep your pumpkin realistic, or embellish it with a cute face (round black eyes and an embroidered smiley mouth) or a scary Halloween face (cut eye and mouth shapes from black felt and glue to the pumpkin).