

CACTUS PINCUSHION

This prickly character doesn't mind taking the sharp end of storing pins – a super idea for a sewing friend

Designed by **Hugh Metcalf**

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Yarn used

Patons Extrafine Merino Cotton
1 ball each in Honey (A) & Light Olive Green (B)

About the yarn

DK; 120m per 50g ball; 50% cotton, 50% wool

Tension

5 sts x 6 rows = 2.5cm measured over dc

Hook used

3mm

Finished size

Circumference after blocking: 81cm.
Height after blocking: 28cm

Start crocheting

This project is worked in both rounds and an amigurumi style, so look out for instructions on when to work which.

Pot

Rnd 1: With A, 6 dc in magic ring, sl st in first st to join into the rnd.
Rnd 2: 1 ch, 2 dc in each st around, sl st in first

st to join. 12 dc
Rnd 3: 1 ch, *2 dc in next st, 1 dc; rep from * around, sl st in first st to join. 18 dc
Rnd 4: 1 ch, *2 dc in next st, 2 dc; rep from * around, sl st in first st to join. 24 dc
Rnd 5: 1 ch, *2 dc in next st, 3 dc; rep from * around, sl st in first st to join. 30 dc
Rnd 6: 1 ch, dc around in BLO.
Continue to work in spirals, without sl st to join each rnd and without turning chain.
Rnds 7-9: 1 ch, dc around.
Rnd 10: *2 dc in next st, 4 dc; rep from * around. 36 dc
Rnd 11: Dc around.
Rnd 12: *2 dc in next st, 5 dc; rep from * around. 42 dc
Rnds 13-22: Dc around.

Cactus

Work in spirals, without sl st to join each rnd and without turning chain.
Rnd 1: With B, 6 dc in magic ring.
Rnd 2: 2 dc in each st around. 12 dc
Rnd 3: Dc around.
Rnd 4: *2 dc in next st, 1 dc; rep from * around. 18 dc
Rnd 5: Dc around.
Rnd 6: *2 dc in next st, 2 dc; rep from * around. 24 dc
Rnd 7: Dc around.
Rnd 8: *2 dc in next st, 3 dc; rep from * around. 30 dc
Rnds 9-21: Dc around.
Rnd 22: *dc2tog, 3 dc; rep from * around, sl st in first st to join. 24 dc
Fasten off B. Join in A in any stitch. This

portion is no longer worked in spirals.
Rnd 23: 1 ch, *2 dc in next st, 3 dc; rep from * around, sl st in first st to join. 30 dc
Rnd 24: 1 ch, *2 dc in next st, 4 dc; rep from * around, sl st in first st to join. 36 dc
Fasten off A leaving a long tail.

Cactus arm

This portion is worked in spirals until Rnd 7's short row portion.
Rnd 1: Using B, 5 dc into a magic ring.
Rnd 2: 2 dc in each st around. 10 dc
Rnds 3-6: Dc around.
Rnd 7: 1 ch, 4 dc. Turn.
Rnd 8: 1 ch, 4 dc, work 1 dc into next st on Rnd 7. Turn.
Rnd 9: 1 ch, 5 dc, work 1 dc into next st on Rnd 7. Turn.
Rnd 10: 1 ch, 6 dc, starting in the next st on Rnd 7, work 3 dc. Continue to work in spirals into the first st of Rnd 10.
Rnds 11-13: Dc around. Fasten off B, leaving a 10cm tail.

Finishing

Put safety eyes in place on the cactus. Fold the top of the pot down to create a lip all around the edge. Using the long tail of A from the cactus and a tapestry needle, sew around the edge of the pot from the inside, ensuring the needle passes through both sides of the pot, as well as the base of the cactus, leaving a small gap through which to stuff. Sew up gap and fasten off.
Stuff the cactus arm and, using the 10cm tail, sew piece to side of the cactus. 🧶