

3 ROW CHRISTMAS STAR ORNAMENT

By Criss Wall

I had a huge collection of half balls of yarn. I really wanted to use them instead of throwing them out. So I started crocheting small toys to leave around for people to find. They turned out to be so popular I just can't stop making them!

I wanted a set of small Christmas ornaments to give away as part of my RAOCK (Random Acts of Crochet Kindness) gifts. This is my 3 row puffy star pattern.

NOTES & MATERIALS:

- Yarn of your choice in any ply.
- Scissors, hook, tapestry needle etc.
- Please use your choice of hook size for this pattern based on the yarn thickness. But as a guide – for 8ply/DK I use a 3.5mm or 4mm. For 10ply/Aran I use a 4.5mm or 5mm hook.
- The star measures around 7 cm (2 3/4 inches) tip to tip with 8ply/DK and about 9cm (3 1/2 inches) with 10ply/Aran.
- Yarn required using a 3.5mm hook and 8ply/DK – 9 metres (10 yards), for a 4.5mm hook and 10ply/Aran about 11 metres (12 yards).



STITCHES (US TERMS):

- Chain
- SS – Slip Stitch
- HDC – Half Double Crochet
- DC – Double Crochet
- PUFF - a normal puff crocheted with loose tension. In total you draw up a loop/pull through a loop 5 times before yarning over and pulling through all 11 stitches so there is only one stitch left on the hook. In the pattern we chain twice after the puff.



INSTRUCTIONS:

ROW 1 Create a magic ring. We are going to crochet 5 puffs into the ring. I use a 5 loop puff but you can decrease or increase the size of the puff as you choose. Please refer to the puff stitch description on the first page. Now complete - *PUFF, chain 2* five times for a total of 5 puffs. Close the round with a slip stitch into the space above the first puff.

After you have closed the round and pulled your magic ring tight, you are going to look at it and think 'that row isn't flat!' That is exactly what we want actually.....lol. We want the puffs forced out to the front of the star.

Push on the puffs from behind so that they are puffing to the front and the tighter ring is behind them.

ROW 2 Look at each puff. There is a little space or gap above each one. That is where we will crochet this row into. We miss the chain spaces. Chain 1 (ignore this chain going forward). In the same space/gap work *3 HDC, chain 1, 3 HDC*. You will now have 6 stitches in the space. Miss the 2 chain from the row below and crochet into the next space above the puff. *3 HDC, chain 1, 3 HDC*. Repeat this 4 times around the work. You will finish with 5 sets of shells above each puff. Slip stitch into the top of the first HDC at the beginning of this row.

ROW 3 If you have a look at your star now you can see you have 5 shells consisting of 10 sets of 3 HDC clusters. We will be alternatively working a star tip in between 5 of them and a slip stitch in between the other 5. So star tip, slip stitch, star tip, slip stitch etc. We don't work in any of the HDC's themselves, just between them. You do not chain to start the row just work *in the next chain space (3 HDC, 1 DC, chain 2, 1 DC, 3 HDC) slip stitch in between the next HDC clusters.* Repeat this around 5 times. The last slip stitch goes into the same space as the first slip stitch and is the last stitch of this row.

HANG To add a chain loop to hang the ornament from, slip stitch up the back stitches of the first star tip to the top. Don't SS into the front or back loops of the stitch, use the little loops behind them. When you reach the DC, chain a 25 to 30 chain loop. Slip stitch into the back of the DC on the other side of the star tip to secure. You can either finish here or slip stitch down the other side of the star tip to make it look even.

BIND Bind off and secure the end thread and the magic ring thread. Hide the ends of the yarn in the work.

SHAPE Give the star tips a good tug outwards so that they are pointed.

Done!

