



Christmas Bird Decoration

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Abbreviations:

st/sts = stitch/stitches
ch = chain
dc = double crochet
dc2tog: decrease by one stitch
tr = treble crochet
ss = slip stitch
foll = following
nxt = next
st = stitch
rep = repeat
ss = slip stitch

Materials:

Rowan Cotton Glace:	Other Equipment:
Approx 10g x 726 Bleached	Small amount x Pink Lurex
Approx 10g x 723 Ecru	2 Silver sequins
	80cm craft wire
Rowan Shimmer:	Medium size marble
Small amount x 092 Silver	Toy stuffing
	Old knitting needle (4mm approx)
Beads: (Debbie Abrahams)	Stopper from drinks bottle
Approx 80 matt silver knitting beads	80cm craft wire
Approx 100 white knitting beads	Wire Cutters
Approx 30 clear silver knitting beads	Medium size marble
2 metallic blue beads	Sewing thread
	3mm crochet hook

Crochet Tips:

Joining in a new colour:

Always start a new colour independently of the last, working over the cut ends in order to weave them in as you work wherever possible so that you don't have to sew at the end. (This is done on the wrong side of the work.)

To place a bead using double crochet:

This is referred to as 'beaded dc' in the pattern.

To place a bead (on a wrong side row) work to where the bead is required. Bring a bead up to the top of the yarn then work a dc into the next stitch, catching the yarn with the hook beyond the bead so as to trap it within the stitch.

Tail:

Cut 3 lengths of wire to approx 25cm. Thread alternating white and matt silver beads onto the wire using wire grips/cutters to secure both ends. Bend into shape and join the 3 pieces together by twisting the wire together.

Body:

You may find that your stitch count varies to mine at the end of each round. This may be because we work our slip stitches at the end of the round into different stitches.

Try to reach a stitch count similar to mine. Where a stitch count is in **bold** it is essential that you achieve the same stitch count as me in order to make the pattern work. If you find you are gaining too many stitches you will need to increase less often.

You may also find that your medallion becomes a bit 'frilly' at certain points in the pattern.

This is to achieve the bird's body shape, however if you find that your piece is too misshapen you may want to try a smaller crochet hook.

Method:

Using 3mm crochet hook throughout:

Using 726 Bleached:

2ch, work 7dc into first ch to form ring. ss to join.

Row 1: 1ch, work 1dc into st at base of ch, 2dc into every st of previous round. ss to join. (15sts)

Rows 2 & 3: 1ch, work 1dc into st at base of 1ch. Work 2dc into every st of previous round. ss to join. (**30sts**) Fasten Off

Thread 15 white beads onto 723 Ecu:

Using 723 Ecu:

With wrong side facing rejoin yarn and work *1dc into nxt st, 1 beaded dc into foll st to end of round. Rep from * to end of round. ss to join. 1ch, turn.

Next Row: work 1dc into st at base of ch, * 1dc into nxt st, 2 dc into foll st. Rep from * to end of round. (44sts) Fasten Off.

Using Pink Lurex:

With right side facing rejoin yarn and work 1dc into every st to end of round. ss to join.

Fasten Off. (44sts)

Thread 28 clear silver beads onto 726 Bleached:

Using 726 Bleached:

With right side facing rejoin yarn and work *1dc into nxt 2sts, 2dc into foll st. rep from * to end of round. ss to join. (**56sts**) 1ch, turn

Next Row: *1dc into nxt st, 1 beaded dc into foll st to end of round. Rep from * to end of round. ss to join. 1ch, turn.

Next Row: *1dc into nxt 2sts, 2dc into foll st. rep from * to end of round. ss to join. (74sts) Fasten Off

Using Shimmer (double throughout):

With right side facing rejoin yarn. 3ch (counts as tr) work 1tr into st at base of 3 ch, work 1 tr into nxt 2 sts, 2tr into foll st. Rep from * to end of round. ss to join. (98 sts) Fasten Off.

Using 726 Bleached:

With right side facing rejoin yarn and work a row of dc increasing evenly to (**104sts**). ss to join. Fasten Off.

Underside of Body:

Using 3mm crochet hook throughout and 726 Bleached:

2ch, work 2dc into first ch. 1 ch turn (2 sts)

Rows 1 & 2: work 1dc into each st. 1ch, turn

Row 3: work 1dc into nxt st. 2dc into foll st. 1ch, turn (3 sts)

Rows 4, 5 & 6: work 1dc into each st. 1ch, turn

Row 7: work 1dc into nxt st. 2dc into foll st. 1dc into nxt st. 1ch, turn (4 sts)

Rows 8, 9 & 10: work 1dc into each st. 1ch, turn

Row 11: work 1dc into nxt 2sts. 2dc into foll st. 1dc into nxt st. 1ch, turn (5 sts)

Rows 12 – 33: work 1dc into each st. 1ch, turn

Row 34: work 1dc into nxt st, dc2tog, 1 dc into foll 2 sts. 1ch, turn (4sts)

Rows 35, 36 & 37: work 1dc into each st. 1ch, turn

Row 38: work 1dc into nxt st, dc2tog, 1dc into foll st. 1ch, turn (3sts)

Rows 39, 40 & 41: work 1dc into each st. 1ch, turn
Row 42: work 1dc into nxt st, dc2tog. 1ch, turn (2sts)
Rows 43, 44, 45: work 1dc into each st. 1ch, turn
Row 46: dc2tog. 1ch, **do not turn**.
With the right side facing work 104dc around side edges of underside of body. Fasten Off.

Making up:

Starting at one end and with the right sides facing you, join the two body pieces by working a row of dc through a st on the underside of the body and the corresponding stitch on the upper side of the body, inserting the tail into place and securing with tight stitches as you do so. Leave a small gap and stuff tightly with toy stuffing. Complete the seam and fasten off.

Head:

Using 3mm crochet hook throughout:

Using 723 Ecru:

2ch, work 6dc into first ch to form ring. ss to join.

Row 1: 1ch, work 1dc into st at base of ch, 2dc into every st of previous round. ss to join. (13sts)

Rows 2 & 3: 1ch, work 1dc into st at base of 1ch. Work 2dc into every st of previous round. ss to join. (27sts)

Rows 4- 10: work 1dc into each st. ss to join. 1ch.

Row 11: * work 1dc into nxt 7dc, dc2tog. Rep from * twice more. ss to join. 1ch. (24sts)

Row 12: work 1dc into each st. ss to join. 1ch.

Row 13: * work 1dc into nxt 6dc, dc2tog. Rep from * twice more. ss to join (21sts) Fasten Off.

Using Pink Lurex:

With right side facing rejoin yarn and work 1dc into every st to end of round. ss to join. Fasten Off.

Making up:

Stuff the head, placing the marble at the centre and packing the stuffing around it (the marble is to counter balance the weight of the tail). Sew the head into place.

Sew sequins and blue beads to either side of the head to make eyes.

Sew small groups of beads to the top of the head to create crest.

Beak:

Using 3mm crochet hook and Shimmer (used single) throughout:

5ch, work 1dc into each st to end of row. 1ch, turn. (4sts)

Next Row: work 1dc into nxt 2sts, 1tr into foll 2sts. 3ch, turn

Next Row: work 1tr into nxt 2 sts, 1dc into foll 2 sts. Fasten off.

Sew together to form beak and stuff lightly. Sew to front of bird's head.

Finishing Off:



Cut the top off an old knitting needle using a hacksaw.
Remove the white plastic cap from a drinks bottle using a sharp knife. (I used the cap from a sports water bottle) Insert the knitting needle through the bird.
Thread the stopper onto the knitting needle and push up to hold the bird in place. You may want to put a little glue on the end of the needle to secure into place within the bird.