

Simple Crochet Camellia

Copyright 2011©Robin J. Edmundson



Hook size: F, G or H

Yarn: DK or Worsted

Tapestry needle

Options: This pattern will work with smaller yarns. Use a hook size that will give you the look you want for the yarn you are using. The green flower above was done on a size H hook and the gold one with size F with DK/worsted weight bamboo cotton yarn.

Notes: This flower is made by using a long string of progressively larger shell stitches, which are then curled around and tacked down in place. Leave a generous tail as you start and you can use that to tack things down with at the end.

Leave a 12 inch tail as you start.

Foundation chain: Ch 67.

Small shells:

Starting in the 2nd ch from the hook, dc 5, sk 1, slip stitch to attach edge of shell in next ch, sk 1. [5 dc, sk 1, sl, sk1] 3 more times. You should have 4 shells total of this size.

Medium shells:

[5 tc, sk 2, sl, sk2] 4 times. You should have 4 shells of this size and 8 shells total.

Large shells:

[7tc, sk2, sl, sk2] 5 times. You will have 5 large shells and 13 shells total.

Joining:

Make a circle with the 5 large shells and use a slip stitch to join them together. The rest of the shells will be hanging in a long tail. You'll curl those up later. The shells should be facing out like the petals of a flower. Notice the bottom centers and edges of the shells. You'll be stitching into those. Turn the whole thing upside down so you're looking at the back of the flower. Turn it so your last stitch and hook are at the bottom of the circle.

Backing – This will look like the spokes of a wheel and is enough structure for you to tack the flower together once you curl the center around inside.

Ch 2, dc in bottom center of next shell, dc at edge of shell. Repeat all the way around the 'wheel'. End in center of last shell. You'll have 10 stitches total, including the ch 2 at the beginning. Join with slip stitch. Cut leaving 8 inch end tail.

Gathering the center of the flower:

Turn the flower over to the front. Use the tapestry needle and the beginning tail (start from where the tail is and pull it through the center if you need to to keep it neat). Going from the base toward the smallest shells at the beginning, run a row of stitches in and out the rest of the shells, gathering the bottom centers and edges of each shell.

Finishing the Center:

Pull to gather and at the same time arrange in a spiral curl in the center of the flower. When the center is arranged as you like, tack it down (using the gathering tail) in several places on the spokes in the backing. Use the end tail as well if you need to. Tie tails together securely.