

FARTHING PATTERNS

CROCHET

EASTER EGG BASKET (1/12th Scale)



Abbreviations: ch – chain; () – repeat instructions between brackets as detailed in text; tr – treble crochet (US double crochet); st – stitch; sl – slip; dc – double crochet (US single crochet); yoh – yarn over hook;

Materials required: 0.75 mm (US – steel size 12) crochet hook, small amount No 80 crochet thread or No70 tatting thread, eggs to place in basket.

Note this basket is worked in rounds.

Round 1: 11 ch [last 3 ch counts as 1st tr], 1 tr into 4th ch from hook, 1 tr into each of next 5 ch, 3 tr into next ch, turn work and continue but working into back of ch sts at base of each tr as follows: 1 tr into each of next 5 ch, 2 tr into base of 1st tr, join with a sl st into top of 1st tr. [16 tr]

Round 2: 3 ch [1st tr], 1 tr into same space, (1 tr into next tr) five times, (2 tr into next tr) three times, (1 tr into next tr) five times, (2 tr into next tr) twice, join with a sl st to top of 1st tr. [28 tr]

Round 3: 3 ch [1st tr], (1 tr into each tr) around, join with a sl st to top of 1st tr.

Round 4: 3 ch [1st tr], 1 tr into same place, 1 tr into each of next six tr, (2 tr into next tr) five times, 1 tr into each of next six tr, (2 tr into next tr) four times, join with a sl st to top of 1st tr. [32 tr]

Round 5: 3 ch [1st tr], 1 tr into same place, 1 tr into each of next six tr, (2 tr into next tr) ten times, 1 tr into each of next six tr, (2 tr into next tr) eight times, join with a sl st to top of 1st tr. [52 tr]

Round 6: 1 ch [1st dc], (1 dc into each tr) around, join with a sl st to top of 1st dc.
DO NOT FASTEN OFF.



Basket before stiffening, to show the basket will keep its shape if you do not wish to stiffen it.

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Handle

Sl st into next 3 dc, 3 ch, (1 tr into next dc, but leave last loop on hook) twice, yoh and pull thread through all loops on hook (cluster made), 15 ch, count round 24 dc on rim of basket, (1 tr into next dc, but leave last loop on hook) three times, yoh and pull thread through all loops on hook (cluster made),, turn and work 15 dc over 15 ch of handle. Join with a sl st to top of 1st cluster.

Fasten off and sew in all loose ends.

To stiffen basket:

A. Traditional sugar solution method

1. Make a solution of two teaspoons boiling water to one level teaspoon sugar.
2. Stir until sugar is dissolved.
3. Place crochet in the solution until the crochet is completely wet through. Wring out excess solution or sugar crystals will form on the finished work!



Basket being stiffened

4. Pin the crochet out on a piece of corrugated cardboard or polystyrene covered in cling film, using rustproof pins (as normal steel pins will rust and leave unsightly marks). Make an oval shape of plasticine or blu tak covered in cling film, with a slightly wider top than base (to go inside and shape the basket -see photos). If necessary pin around the top edges of the basket, as shown in photo. Pull the crochet into shape as you work around, making sure edge of the basket stays flat where the pins are put in. Pull the handle up into shape so it is curved as shown. This may be supported by another cylinder of plasticine or blu tak.
5. Leave to dry in a warm place for 24 hours minimum.
6. When the crochet is completely dry remove the pins and plasticine or blu tak.
7. Leave to dry for a further 6 hours before placing eggs inside the basket.

B. The item can be starched with laundry starch

Work as above starting at 3

C. PVA Glue

A solution can be made from PVA glue and water, however this will dry clear and slightly shiny. Proceed as from point 3 on sugar starching.



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