

Crochet Pumpkin Pattern: A Step-by-Step Guide

This pattern will guide you through creating a charming crochet pumpkin, perfect for autumn decorations. It's based on a YouTube tutorial and includes detailed instructions, stitch counts, and tips for adjusting the size and shape.

Materials:

- **Yarn:**
 - Orange: Medium weight (worsted) - approx. 50 yards for a medium pumpkin.
 - Brown: Medium weight (worsted) - approx. 10 yards.
 - Green: Medium weight (worsted) - approx. 5 yards.
- **Crochet hook:** Size that works well with your chosen yarn (check yarn label for suggestions). I used a 5mm hook with worsted weight yarn.
- **Yarn needle:** For seaming and attaching the stem.
- **Stuffing:** Polyester fiberfill or similar.
- **Stitch marker (optional):** For keeping track of rounds.

Abbreviations:

- **ch:** Chain
- **sc:** Single crochet
- **hdc:** Half double crochet
- **dc:** Double crochet
- **sl st:** Slip stitch
- **st(s):** Stitch(es)
- **rnd(s):** Round(s)
- **inc:** Increase (two stitches in one stitch)

Gauge: Not critical for this project, but if you want a specific size, you can make a small swatch and adjust hook size as needed. But a general idea is helpful.

- A 4"x4" swatch in single crochet should have about 14 stitches and 18 rows.

Notes:

- This pattern uses US crochet terms.
- The pumpkin body is worked in rows, then seamed together create a 3D shape.
- The stem is worked in spiral rounds (no joining or turning).
- Work in the back loop only (BLO) for all rows of the pumpkin body create the ribbed texture.

Instructions:

Pumpkin Body:

Row 1 (Orange):

1. Make a slip knot.

2. Ch 21.
3. Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook.
4. Sc in each of the next 2 ch (3 sc total).
5. Hdc in each of the next 3 ch (3 hdc total).
6. Dc in each of the next 8 ch (8 dc total).
7. Hdc in each of the next 3 ch (3 hdc total).
8. Sc in each of the remaining 3 ch (3 sc total).

Rows 2-25 (Orange):

1. Ch 1, turn.
2. Working in BLO, repeat the stitch pattern from Row 1: 3 sc, 3 hdc, 8 dc, 3 hdc, 3 sc.

Seaming and Shaping:

1. Ch 1, leave a long tail for seaming. Fasten off the orange yarn.
2. With the yarn needle and long tail, seam the last row the first row, using the front loops of the last row and the single loops of the first row.
3. Seam the top and bottom openings closed using a similar method, gathering the stitches tightly create a pumpkin shape. See the video tutorial for visual guidance on seaming.
4. Stuff the pumpkin firmly with filling.

Stem (Brown):

1. Make a magic ring.
2. Ch 1 (does not count as a st).
3. 6 sc in the magic ring.
4. Sl st the first sc mark the beginning of the rnd.
5. **Rnd 1:** 1 sc in each st around (6 sc).
6. Sl st the first sc mark the beginning of the rnd.
7. **Rnds 2-7:** Repeat Rnd 1 (6 sc per rnd).
8. Sl st the first sc. Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Curly Vine (Green):

1. Join the green yarn with a sl st anywhere on the base of the stem.
2. Ch 15.
3. Starting in the 2nd ch from the hook, 2 sc in each ch across (28 sc).
4. 2 sc in the same st where you joined the green yarn.
5. **Rnd 8:** 2 sc in each st around (12 sc).
6. Sl st the first sc. Ch 1, fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Finishing:

1. Sew the stem the top of the pumpkin using the long tail from the stem.
2. Weave in all loose ends.

Adjusting Size and Shape:

- **Increase the pumpkin size:** Add more chains at the beginning (Row 1) in multiples of 2. Add one stitch each the sc and hdc sections the beginning and end of each row maintain the shape. You may also need add more rows.
- **Decrease the pumpkin size:** Reduce the starting chain (Row 1) in multiples of 2. Decrease one stitch each from the sc and hdc sections the beginning and end of each row. You may also need fewer rows.
- **Make a taller pumpkin:** Add more rows.
- **Make a flatter pumpkin:** Use fewer rows.

Enjoy your crocheted pumpkin! You can experiment with different yarn colors and add embellishments like leaves or felt faces personalize your creations.