

## Crochet Turkey Coaster Pattern: Step-by-Step Instructions

### Overview

- **Skill Level:** Beginner-friendly with a few intermediate techniques (like the magic ring and fan stitch).
  - **Estimated Time:** 1.5 to 2 hours per coaster.
  - **Purpose:** Perfect for decorating your kitchen, gifting, or adding a festive touch to your Thanksgiving table.
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### Materials

- Medium-weight yarn in **brown** (body), **orange, yellow, red, white,** and **black** (feathers and details).
  - Crochet Hook: Size 3.5 mm (E).
  - Scissors.
  - Tapestry Needle for weaving in ends.
  - Optional: Safety eyes or black yarn for the turkey's pupils.
  - Pins: To align and secure the layers during assembly.
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### Gauge

- Gauge is not critical, but aim for tight and even stitches to ensure the coaster lays flat and holds its shape.
  - If your stitches are loose, the coaster may be floppy. Switch to a smaller hook if needed.
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### Pattern Instructions

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#### Turkey Body (Front Circle)

1. **Start the Base:**  
Create a **magic ring**: Wrap the yarn around two fingers to form a loop. Insert your hook through the loop, yarn over, pull up a loop, and chain 1 to secure the circle.
  2. Chain 3 (this counts as your first double crochet). Make 13 **double crochet (dc)** stitches into the magic ring. Pull the ring tight to close the circle.
  3. Slip stitch (sl st) into the top of the chain 3 to join the round. You should have 14 stitches in total.
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#### Row 2: Increase Round

1. Chain 2 (this does not count as a stitch in this round). Work 2 double crochet stitches into each stitch around.
2. At the end of the round, you will have 28 stitches. Slip stitch into the first stitch to close the round.

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### Row 3: Adding the Next Color

1. If changing colors, fasten off the first color and join the second color to any stitch. Chain 2.
2. Work 1 double crochet in the first stitch, then work 2 double crochets in the next stitch.
3. Repeat: 1 double crochet in one stitch, then 2 double crochets in the next stitch all the way around.
4. Slip stitch to join. You should have 42 stitches in total.

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### Row 4: Single Crochet Border

1. Change to a new color (e.g., yellow). Chain 1 and work 1 **single crochet (sc)** in each stitch around.
2. Slip stitch to join. Fasten off and weave in the ends.

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### Back Circle

1. Repeat the same steps as the front circle (Rows 1 through 4). Use a single color for simplicity or match the front's colors.
2. Fasten off and weave in ends. This will form the sturdy back layer.

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### Turkey Feathers

1. Join a new color (e.g., white) at any stitch along the edge of the front circle.
2. Chain 3. In the same stitch, work 2 double crochets, chain 1, and 3 double crochets (this creates the first fan or scallop).
3. Skip 2 stitches, then repeat the fan pattern: 3 double crochets, chain 1, 3 double crochets, all in the same stitch.
4. Continue around until you have 10 fans. Slip stitch to join.
5. For a layered look, repeat this row using a different color. Align the new feather row slightly higher on the back circle.

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### Turkey Face

1. **Eyes:**
  - Use white yarn to create a magic ring. Work 8 single crochet stitches into the ring. Pull it tight and slip stitch to close. Repeat for the second eye. Use black yarn or safety eyes for the pupils.
2. **Beak:**
  - With yellow yarn, chain 5. Work a slip stitch in the second chain from the hook, 1 single crochet in the next chain, and 2 double crochets in the last two chains. Fasten off.
3. **Wattle (Red Dangly Part):**
  - With red yarn, chain 6. Slip stitch into the third chain from the hook. Chain 3 more and slip stitch into the base. Fasten off.

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## Assembly

1. Lay the front and back circles together, aligning the edges. Use pins to keep them in place.
2. Join the two pieces by working **single crochet stitches** through both layers using a contrasting color. This creates a sturdy edge.
3. When you reach the top of the turkey, chain 15 to form a loop for hanging. Slip stitch into the starting point to close the loop and continue crocheting around.
4. Fasten off and weave in the ends.

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## Turkey Feet

1. With orange yarn, chain 6.
2. Starting in the second chain from the hook, slip stitch into the next 3 stitches. Chain 3, slip stitch into the same stitch to create a toe. Repeat two more times.
3. Slip stitch back to the base and fasten off. Attach the feet to the bottom of the turkey.

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## Finishing Touches

1. **Optional Stiffening:** To make the coaster rigid, lightly spray it with starch or use a mixture of equal parts white glue and water. Shape it and let it dry flat.
2. **Decorative Ideas:** Add glitter yarn, buttons, or a small bow for extra flair.
3. **Final Steps:** Sew the eyes, beak, and wattle onto the front. Weave in any remaining ends.

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## Creative Variations

- **Make It a Potholder:** Use heat-resistant fabric between the front and back circles for a functional potholder.
- **Festive Centerpiece:** Use the coaster as part of a Thanksgiving table centerpiece with candles or small pumpkins.

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## Encouragement

"If this is your first crochet project, remember to take it one step at a time. Every stitch is a success! By the end, you'll have a festive turkey coaster you made all by yourself."

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