Yarnspirations™
spark your inspiration!

RED HEART

CROCHET
SKILL LEVEL
INTERMEDIATE

Designed by Nancy Anderson

What you will need:

RED HEART® Super Saver®:
2 skeins 316 Soft White **A**; 1 skein each 319 Cherry Red **B**, 334 Buff **C**, 368 Paddy Green **D**

Susan Bates® Crochet Hooks:
5.0 mm [US H-8] and 3.75 mm [US F-5]

Stitch markers, tapestry needle, straight pins, two 5/8" (16 mm) black shank buttons, polyester stuffing, 1"(2.5 cm) thick 14" x 10" (35 cm x 25 cm) foam rubber sheet (can substitute quilt batting), drinking straw, empty paper towel tube, sewing needle and thread

GAUGE: 20 sc and 20 rows sc = 4" (10 cm) with larger hook.
CHECK YOUR GAUGE. Use any size hook to obtain the gauge.

4 MEDIUM

RED HEART® Super Saver®, Art. E300 available in solid color 7 oz (198 g), 364 yds (333 m); Stripes, prints, multis and heathers 5 oz (141 g), 236 yds (215 m); flecks 5 oz (141 g), 260 yds (238 m) skeins

Santa Advent Calendar

Crochet this advent calendar and start a fun family tradition! Kiddos will love counting down the days until Santa will be making his rounds. Wreath Marker is moved from pocket to pocket, ending with Christmas Eve.

Finished size approximately 28" (71 cm) long, measured from bottom of Beard to tip of Hat.

Notes
- Work pieces in the order given for best results.
- Leave long yarn ends at the beginning and ends of pieces for sewing sections together later.
- Pieces worked in the round, including the Hat and Head, are crocheted in a continuous spiral without joining slip sts or turning or beginning ch-1 sts. Use stitch marker to keep track of rounds, moving marker up as rounds are completed. Use Invisible decrease for smoother results on Hat (see Special Stitches).
- Beard Front and Back and Beard Pocket Strips are worked flat. The Pocket Strips are attached to the Beard Front as pieces are worked. Individual Pockets are sewn in place using matching yarn.
- For best results use a sheet of foam rubber in the Beard section. Beard Edge is sewn on after stuffing. Use polyester stuffing for the Head and lower Hat. Top of Hat is folded over about 4" (10 cm) before stuffing.
- A drinking straw reinforces the Day Marker Post. The Marker is inserted in the Pocket for the desired day and moved along as the month progresses.

Special Stitches
sc2tog = [draw up a loop in next st] 2 times, yarn over and draw through all 3 loops on hook.

Invisible Decrease: (Optional, use instead of sc2tog) Slip hook through front loop of first st, then through both loops of second st; yarn over, pull yarn through both loops of second st (3 loops on hook), yarn over, pull yarn through all 3 loops on hook.

Small Loop Stitch
Row 1 (Wrong Side): Ch 1 (does not count as a st, now and throughout), slip st in back loop of same st as ch-1, *ch 5, slip st in back loop of next st; repeat from * across; turn.
Row 2 (Right Side): Ch 1, *sc in remaining open loop of each st of Row 1; repeat from * across; turn.
Repeat Rows 1-2 for pattern. Wrong Side of loops is Right Side of pattern.

Large Loop Stitch
Row 1 (Wrong Side): Ch 1 (does not count as a st, now and throughout), slip st in back loop of same st as ch-1, *ch 7, slip st in back loop of next st; repeat from * across; turn.
Row 2 (Right Side): Ch 1, *hdc in remaining open loop of each st of Row 1; repeat from * across; turn.
Repeat Rows 1-2 for pattern. Wrong Side of loops is Right Side of pattern.

Special Technique
Adjustable Ring: Wrap yarn into a ring, ensuring that the tail falls behind the working yarn. Grip ring and tail firmly between middle finger and thumb. Insert hook through center of ring, yarn over (with working yarn) and draw up a loop. Work stitches of first round in the ring. After the first round of stitches is worked, pull gently, but firmly, on tail to tighten ring. (Alternately, ch 2, work all stitches in second ch from hook.)

HAT

With larger hook and **B**, ch 67, join with slip st to form ring, being careful not to twist.

Round 1 (Right Side): Ch 1 (does not count as a st now and throughout), sc in back bump of in each ch around; do not turn or slip st, place marker (see Notes)—66 sc.

Rounds 2-9: Sc in each sc around.

Round 10: *Sc in 9 sc, Invisible decrease or sc2tog (see Special Stitches); repeat from * around—60 sts.

Round 11: Sc in each st around—60 sc.

Round 12: *Sc in 8 sc, sc2tog; repeat from * around—54 sts.

Round 13: Sc in each st around—54 sc.

Round 14: *Sc in 7 sc, sc2tog; repeat from * around—48 sts.

Rounds 15-19: Sc in each st around—48 sc.

Round 20: *Sc in 6 sc, sc2tog; repeat from * around—42 sts.

Rounds 21-25: Sc in each st around—42 sc.

Round 26: *Sc in 5 sc, sc2tog; repeat from * around—36 sts.

Rounds 27-31: Sc in each st around—36 sc.

Round 32: *Sc in 4 sc, sc2tog; repeat from * around—30 sts.

Rounds 33-37: Sc in each st around—30 sc.

Round 38: *Sc in 3 sc, sc2tog; repeat from * around—24 sts.

Rounds 39-43: Sc in each st around—24 sc.

Round 44: *Sc in 2 sc, sc2tog; repeat from * around—18 sts.

Rounds 45-49: Sc in each st around—18 sc.

Round 50: *Sc in sc, sc2tog; repeat from * around—12 sts.

Rounds 51-55: Sc in each st around—12 sc.

Round 56: *Sc in sc, sc2tog; repeat from * around—8 sts.

Rounds 57-61: Sc in each st around—8 sc.

Round 62: Sc2tog around—4 sts. Fasten off and weave in ends.

HAT BAND

Round 1 (Right Side): With larger hook and working in opposite side of foundation ch of Round 1 of Hat, attach **A** to any st; ch 1, sc in same st and each st around; do not join; turn—66 sc.

Round 2 (Wrong Side): Ch 1, work Row 1 of Small loop st (see Special Stitches) around; turn—65 Loop sts.

Round 3: Ch 1, work Row 2 of Small loop st around; turn—66 sc.

Rounds 4-9: Repeat Rounds 2-3. Fasten off, leaving long end. Sew edges of Hat Band together with yarn end, weave in ends.

HEAD

Round 1 (Right Side): With larger hook, attach **C** to any st from Round 9 of Hat Band; ch 1, sc in same sc and in each sc around; do not turn or slip st, place marker (see Notes)—66 sc.

Rounds 2-12: Sc in each sc around.

Round 13: Sc in each sc around to last 2 sc; slip st in last 2 sc. Fasten off and weave in ends.

BEARD POCKET STRIP
(make 4)

With larger hook and **A**, ch 37.

Row 1 (Wrong Side): Starting in 2nd ch from hook and working in back bumps, work Row 1 of Small loop st (see Special Stitches); turn upside down—35 Loop sts.

Row 2 (Right Side): Working in opposite side of foundation ch, work Row 2 of Small loop st across; turn—36 sc.

Rows 3-8: Ch 1, sc in each sc across; turn. Fasten off and weave in ends.

BEARD FRONT

With larger hook and **A**, ch 14. (The ch-14 sections at the beginning and end of this row will be sewn to the side of the Face later.)

Row 1 (Right Side): Skip 17 sts from last st of Round 13 of Head; slip st in next 33 sc, ch 15; turn—29 ch, 33 slip sts.

Row 2 (Wrong Side): Working in second ch from hook and back loops of ch and sc, work Row 1 of Large loop st (see Special Stitches) across; turn—60 Loop sts.

Row 3: Work Row 2 of Large loop st across; turn—61 hdc.

Row 4: Work Row 1 of Large loop st across; turn—60 Loop sts.

Row 5: Ch 1, working in back loops only, sc in 14 sts, *hdc in 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st; repeat from * 10 times, sc in back loops of remaining 14 sts—72 sts. Fasten off, leaving long end.

Row 6 (Wrong Side): Turn work; skip first 14 sc, attach **A** to back loop of next st; work Row 1 of Large loop st in next 44 sts; skip last 14 sc; turn—43 Loop sts.

Row 7: Ch 1, working in back loops only, hdc in each st across—44 hdc. Do not fasten off.

Sew side whiskers of Beard to Face. Sew one side of Strip to Right Side of Face, working through back of sts of Row 5. Tack random loops down as needed for fluffy, full Beard effect. Repeat for other side.

Row 8: (Wrong Side) Ch 1 sc in each st across; turn—44 sc.

Rows 9-14: Repeat Row 8.

Row 15 (Right Side): Attach Pocket Strip to Beard Front as follows: Ch 1, sc in first 4 sc of Beard Front; hold Row 8 of Pocket Strip together with Beard Front so that Wrong Side of Pocket Strip is next to Right Side of Beard Front and both pieces have Right Sides facing; sc in next 36 sts, working through both thicknesses; sc in last 4 sts of Beard Front only; turn—44 sc.

Rows 16-24: Ch 1, sc in each sc across; turn.

Row 25: Repeat Row 15.

Rows 26-34: Repeat Rows 16-24.

Rows 35-44: Repeat Rows 15-24.

Row 45: Repeat Row 15.

Row 46: Ch 1, sc in each sc across. Fasten off and weave in ends.

Divide Pocket Strips into 6 Pockets per row. Beginning at left edge of Strip, smooth Pocket Strip down and pin using a straight pin. Sew left edge of Pocket Strip to Beard Front. Repeat with right edge of Strip. Using contrasting yarn scraps, count 6 stitches from left edge of Strip and weave yarn through horizontally to mark stitching line. Repeat across row until there are 6 Pockets that are 6 stitches wide each. Using **A**, sew the Pockets in place for each row. There should be 24 Pockets.

MUSTACHE **(make 2)**

Round 1 (Right Side): With larger hook and **A**, 6 sc in Adjustable ring (see Special Techniques); do not turn or slip st—6 sc.

Round 2: 2 sc in each sc around—12 sc.

Rounds 3-7: Sc in each sc around.

Round 8: 2 sc in sc, sc in next 4 sc, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sc, 2 sc in last sc—13 sts.

Round 9: 2 sc in sc, sc in next 5 sc, sc2tog 2 times, sc in last 3 sc—12 sts.
Round 10: Sc in each st around—12 sc.
Round 11: Sc in 5 sc, sc2tog, sc in last 5 sc—11 sts.
Round 12: 2 sc in sc, sc in next 3 sc, sc2tog 2 times, sc in last 3 sc—10 sts.
Round 13: 2 sc in sc, sc in next 2 sc, sc2tog 2 times, sc in last 3 sts—9 sts.
Round 14: 2 sc in sc, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sc, sc2tog, sc in last 2 sc—8 sts.
Round 15: Sc in 2 sc, sc2tog 2 times, sc in last 2 sc—6 sts. Fasten off, leaving long end for sewing. Weave yarn end through all stitches of Round 15 and pull taut.

EYEBROW (make 2)
With larger hook and **A**, ch 8; turn.
Row 1 (Right Side): Working in back bumps, slip st in second ch from hook, sc in next ch, hdc in next ch, dc in next ch, hdc in next ch, sc in next ch, slip st in last ch. Fasten off, leaving long end for sewing.

NOSE
Round 1 (Right Side): With smaller hook and **C**, 6 sc in Adjustable ring (see Special Techniques); do not turn or slip st—6 sc.
Round 2: 2 sc in each sc around—12 sc.
Round 3: *Sc in next sc, 2 sc in next sc; repeat from * around—18 sc.
Rounds 4-5: Sc in each sc around.
Round 6: [Sc in next 7 sc, sc2tog] 2 times—16 sts. Fasten off, leaving long end for sewing.
Attach facial features before making Beard Edge. Referring to photo for placement, sew Mustache pieces to Face. Attach the wider sections only and tack down the tips to achieve 3-D effect. Sew Nose to middle of Mustache, stuffing lightly. Sew buttons in place as Eyes, and add slightly arched Eyebrows above Eyes.

BEARD EDGE
Row 1 (Right Side): With larger hook and **A**, ch 34; sc in first sc of Row 46 of Beard and in next 43 sc, ch 34; turn—68 ch, 44 sc.
Row 2 (Wrong Side): Work Row 1 of Small loop st (see Special Stitches) across; turn—111 Loop sts.
Row 3: Work Row 2 of Small loop st across; turn—112 sc.
Row 4: Repeat Row 2; turn.
Row 5: Repeat Row 3. Fasten off, leaving long end for sewing.
Sew Beard Edge to Beard. Beginning with the left side, hold Beard Edge together with the row edge of the Beard (with loops facing inwards towards the Beard), and sew edges together. Repeat for other side.

BEARD BACK
Row 1 (Right Side): With larger hook, attach **A** to first sc of the remaining sts from Row 13 of Head, ch 1, sc in same space and in next 31 sts across; turn—32 sc.
Rows 2-6: Ch 1, sc in each sc across; turn.
Row 7: Ch 1, *sc in 2 sc, 2 sc in next sc; repeat from * 9 times, sc in last 2 sc; turn—42 sc.
Rows 8-45: Ch 1, sc in each sc across. Do not fasten off.

Stuff the lower half of the Hat and Face with polyester stuffing (see Notes). Insert foam sheet, cut to fit length and width of Beard Front, from Face to lowest row of Beard (see Notes).

Row 46: Holding bottom edges of Beard Front and Beard Back together, sc across, working through both thicknesses. Fasten off, leaving long ends for sewing. Sew Beard sides together, being careful not to catch loops in the seam.

HAT WREATH
With smaller hook and **D**, ch 7, join with slip st to form ring.
Round 1 (Right Side): Ch 2 (counts as hdc), 17 hdc in ring, join with slip st in top of ch-2—18 hdc. Fasten off and weave in ends. Cut a small strand of **B**, thread through top of Wreath and tie in a bow.

DAY MARKER POST
Round 1 (Right Side): With smaller hook and **A**, 6 sc in Adjustable ring (see Special Techniques); do not turn or slip st—6 sc.
Rounds 2-8: Sc in each sc around.
Round 9: Cut piece of straw to fit and insert it into Post; sc in each sc around. Fasten off, leaving long end for sewing. Weave yarn end through all stitches of Round 9, pull taut and knot. Fasten off and weave in end.

DAY MARKER WREATH
Round 1 (Right Side): With smaller hook and **A**, ch 2 (counts as hdc), 26 hdc in Adjustable ring (see Special Techniques), join with slip st in top of ch-2—27 hdc. Pull yarn end to adjust Wreath opening as desired. Fasten off, leaving long end for sewing.

Bow: With smaller hook and **B**, ch 5; working in back bumps, sc in second ch from hook and each bump across—4 sc. Fasten off and weave in ends. Referring to photo for placement, tie a piece of **B** tightly around middle of Bow, gather and knot securely. Sew Bow to Wreath, and sew Wreath to Day Marker Post.

TETHER
With smaller hook and **A**, make a ch 16″ (40.5 cm) long. Fasten off, leaving long end for sewing. Sew Day Marker Post to one end of Tether.

HANGER
With smaller hook and **B**, ch 15. Fasten off, leaving long end for sewing. Sew to upper area of back of Hat.

POMPOM
Cut empty paper towel roll in half, and hold the 2 pieces together. Wrap **A** around both rolls about 130-160 times; cut yarn. Tie an 18″ (45 cm) length of **A**, folded in half, around the middle of the wraps between the 2 rolls. Carefully remove the rolls and knot the tie securely. Cut loops and trim Pompom, leaving long ends for sewing. Shake to fluff out, and sew to tip of Hat.

FINISHING
Referring to photo for placement, embroider numbers on Pockets. Using a length of **B**, split the yarn into two plies. With large needle and two plies of yarn, follow the number chart to embroider the numbers, centering them on each Pocket.
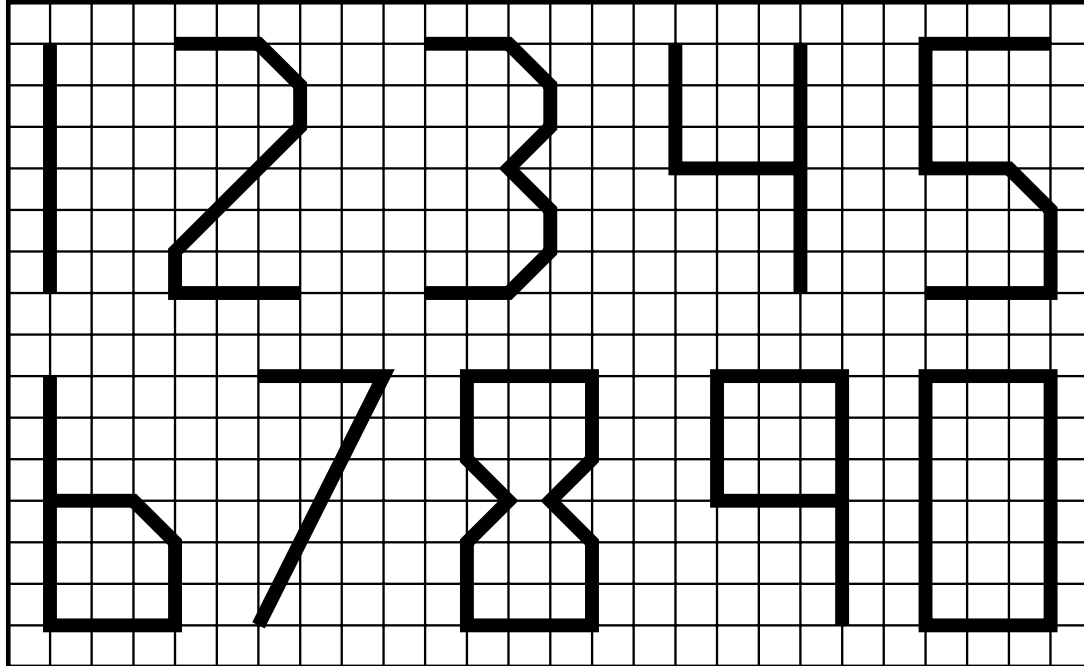
Sew Tether to upper side of Beard using yarn end. (Make certain that Marker reaches all Pockets before securing to Beard.)

ABBREVIATIONS

A, B, C = Color A, Color B, Color C, etc.; **ch** = chain(s); **cm** = centimeters; **dc** = double crochet(s); **g** = grams; **hdc** = half double crochet(s); **m** = meters; **mm** = millimeters; **oz** = ounces; **sc** = single crochet(s); **st(s)** = stitch(es); **yd** = yards; **( )** = work all directions in parentheses in the indicated stitch or space; **[ ]** = work directions in brackets the number of times specified; *** or **** = repeat whatever follows the * or ** as indicated.

Front

Back