CROCHET
SKILL LEVEL
EASY

Designed by Nancy Anderson

What you will need:

RED HEART® Soft®: 2 balls 9274 Biscuit **A**, 1 ball 4601 Off White **B**

Susan Bates® Crochet Hook: 5mm [US H-8] and 6.5mm [US K-10½]

Stitch marker, yarn needle, 18" [46 cm] x 18" [46 cm] pillow form

GAUGE: Gauge is not critical for this project.

4 MEDIUM **RED HEART® Soft®,** Art. E728 available in solid color 5 oz (141 g), 256 yd (234 m), print 4 oz (113 g), 204 yd (187 m), and heather 4 oz (113 g), 212 yd (194 m) balls

Crochet Starfish Pillow

This wonderfully designed starfish is sewn onto the crocheted pillow cover for cool beachy style. It's the ideal accent for a sofa or comfy chair.

Pillow measures 18″ [46 cm] x 18″ [46 cm].

NOTES

Pillow cover is constructed in 2 parts and is seamed together using a slip stitch. Additional single crochet rounds are completed after seaming to add accent edging. These rounds are designed to curl upwards in order to simulate piping.

Keep pillow form handy for fitting, as cover pieces are worked, to insure a tight, proper fit. Adjust row and stitch numbers up or down as needed. A somewhat open fabric is achieved when cover is worked as directed, allowing the pillow form fabric to show through, (use a pillow insert in a coordinating color for custom layered look). If a more solid, dense fabric is desired, use smaller hook with increased number of rows and stitches.

Starfish motif is worked with yarn held doubled using larger hook. Each of the 5 arms of the starfish are worked separately and seamed together after all are completed. For ease in seaming, weave and trim all ends as arms are completed.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS
Picot stitch: Slip stitch in next stitch, chain 3, slip stitch in same space.

PILLOW COVER (make 2)
With **A** and smaller hook, ch 54 loosely.
Row 1: Working in back bumps of foundation ch, hdc in 3rd ch from hook, hdc in each ch across – 52 sts.
Row 2: Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across.
Row 3: Ch 1, turn, hdc in each st across.
Rows 4-49: Repeat Rows 2-3.
Fasten off after Row 49 and set aside. Repeat for 2nd piece but do not fasten off.

Joining Round 50: Holding two pieces with wrong sides together and sts aligned, working through both layers along side edges, slip st 62 sts evenly spaced across, turn and working through both layers of foundation ch, slip st in each ch across, turn to work along opposite side edge, work 62 slip sts evenly spaced along row edges, insert pillow form and slip st in each st across last edge to close, slip st in first st.

Rounds 51-52: Ch 1, sc in each slip st around, working 3 sc in each corner st, slip st in first sc. Fasten off. Weave in ends.

STARFISH
ARMS (make 5)
With larger hook and holding 2 strands of **B** together, ch 14.
Round 1: Sc in first ch, place marker, sc in next 11 ch, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in last ch, turn to work along opposite edge of foundation ch, sc in next 12 ch, slip st in first sc – 28 sts.
Round 2: Working in back loops only, ch 1, sc in same space, slip marker, sc in next st, hdc in next 4 sts, dc in next 5 sts, 4 dc in next st, ch 1, skip next 2 dc from previous round, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next ch-2 space, skip next 2 dc, ch 1, 4 dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts, hdc in next 4 sts, sc in last 2 sts, slip st in first sc. Mark ch-2 space with yarn scrap for seaming. Fasten off. Weave in ends.

FINISHING

Hold 2 arms with wrong sides together at the marked ch-2 spaces.

Working through both layers, join doubled yarn with slip stitch to ch-2 spaces, ch 1, sc in same space, working in the back loops of top arm sts and front loops of bottom arm sts, sc in next 7 dc.

Fasten off. Weave in ends. Repeat to join remaining arms. Do not fasten off after joining last 2 arms,

Edging

Slip st in next 2 sts from the arm sts, *ch 3, slip st in same space, slip st in next 2 sts; repeat from * around, slip st in first st. Fasten off.

There should be a picot in every other st around entire motif. Do not picot in row ends created from arm joins.

Center

With right side facing, join 2 strands of **B** in any ch-2 space in center of motif, ch 1, 2 sc in same space, 2 sc in each ch-2 space around, slip st in first sc to join. Weave in ends.

Pin starfish to center of pillow. Smooth arms out towards edges and pin in place.

Using 1 strand of **B** and yarn needle, join motif with small whipstitches. Do not pull yarn too tightly in order to avoid puckers. Knot yarn securely. Weave in ends.

ABBREVIATIONS

A, B, C = Color **A**, **B**, **C**; **ch** = chain; **cm** = centimeters; **dc** = double crochet; **hdc** = half double crochet; **mm** = millimeters; **sc** = single crochet; **st(s)** = stitch(es); ***or**** = repeat whatever follows the * or ** as indicated.