## Yarnspirations"

ORED
HEART

CROCHET SKILL LEVEL EASY

Designed by Jessie Rayot

## What you will need:

RED HEART ${ }^{\star}$ Amigurumi: 1 ball 9521 Sugar Skull

Susan Bates ${ }^{\circledR}$ Crochet Hook 3.5 mm [US E-4]

Stitch marker, stuffing, yarn needle.

Optional: Knee high stocking and plastic pellets for weighted stuffing.

GAUGE: 21 sts = about 4" [10 cm]; 25 rounds = about $4^{\prime \prime}$ [10 cm ] in single crochet (sc). EXACT GAUGE IS NOT CRITICAL TO THIS PROJECT. Use any size hook to obtain the gauge

${ }_{\text {FINE }}^{1}$RED HEART ${ }^{*}$ Amigurumi, Art E885 available in 3.5 oz ( 100 g ) 239 yds ( 219 m ) cakes


## Sweet Crochet Sugar Skulls

Take the time to sit down with these skulls and reminisce about days gone by. They're always ready to listen to new stories.

## Skull measures about 3½" [9 cm] tall.

## Special Stitch

## sc2tog (single crochet 2 stitches

together) $=$ [Insert hook in next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] twice, yarn over and draw through all 3 loops on hook.

## Notes

1. Before beginning, separate the different color sections of the yarn as follows: Pop the center color out by pushing gently on the center of the ball so that it comes out intact. Find the point where the color changes and cut the yarn. Repeat this process for the remaining yarn colors by carefully pushing the rings of color out of the larger ring and cutting. Wind each color into a separate ball to prevent tangling. You may find that one color appears both in the center, and on the outside of the ball, wind together or separately. In the pattern instructions, the white color is referred to as $\mathbf{A}$, the purple as $\mathbf{B}$, the orange as C, and the green as $\mathbf{D}$.
2. Skull is made in 6 pieces: Skull, 2 flower eyes, and 3 head flowers.
3. Pieces are sewn together using yarn tails or yarn scraps.
4. Facial features are embroidered onto finished skull.

## SKULL

Beginning at top of skull, with A or B, ch 3; slip st in first ch to form a ring.

## Round 1 (right side): Ch 1, work 6 sc

in ring; do not join, work in continuous rounds (spiral)-6 sc.
Place a marker in the last sc worked to indicate end of round. Move marker up as each round is completed.

Round 2: Work 2 sc in each st around-12 sc.
Round 3: [2 sc in next st, sc in next st] 6 times-18 sc.
Round 4: Sc in next st, [2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts] 5 times, 2 sc in next st, sc in last st-24 sc.
Round 5: [2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts] 6 times-30 sc.
Round 6: Sc in next 2 sts, $[2 \mathrm{sc}$ in next st sc in next 4 sts] 5 times, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts -36 sc .
Round 7: [2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts] 6 times-42 sc.
Round 8: Sc in next 3 sts, $[2 \mathrm{sc}$ in next st, sc in next 6 sts] 5 times, 2 sc in next st, sc in next $3 \mathrm{sts}-48 \mathrm{sc}$.
Rounds 9-17: Sc in each st around. Begin stuffing piece with fiberfill or place optional knee high, filled with plastic pellets, into place. Continue stuffing piece with fiberfill as work progresses.
Round 18: Sc in next 3 sts, [sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts] 5 times, sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts-42 sc.
Round 19: [Sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts] 6 times-36 sc.
Round 20: Sc in next 2 sts, [sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts] 5 times, sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts-30 sc.
Rounds 21-26: Sc in each st around.
Round 27: [Sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts] 6
times-24 sc.
Stuff piece.
Round 28: Sc in next st, [sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts] 5 times, sc2tog, sc in next st-18 sc.
continued..


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Round 29: [Sc2tog] 9 times-9 sc.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Thread tail through stitches of last round and pull to close opening. Secure tail and weave to inside of skull.

## FLOWER EYES

## (make 2 for each skull)

Note: If you are making A-colored skull, work Round 1 with $\mathbf{C}$ and Round 2 with D. If you are making B-colored skull, work Round 1 with $\mathbf{D}$ and Round 2 with C.

Ch 3; slip st in first ch to form a ring. Round 1 (right side): Ch 1, work 10 sc in ring; join with slip st in first sc-10 sc. Fasten off.
Round 2: With right side facing, draw up a loop of next color in same sc as joining slip st, [ch 2, 2 dc in next st, ch 2, slip st in next st] 5 times-5 petals. Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing flower eye to skull. Weave in beginning tail.

## HEAD FLOWERS

## (make 3 for each skull)

Note: If you are making A-colored skull, make 1 flower each with $\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}$ and $\mathbf{D}$. If you are making B-colored skull, make 1 flower each with $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{C}$ and $\mathbf{D}$.

Ch 3; slip st in first ch to form a ring.
Round 1 (right side): Ch 1, work 10 sc in ring; join with slip st in first sc-10 sc. Round 2: Ch 2, 2 dc in same st as joining slip st, ch 2, slip st in next st, [ch 2, 2 dc in next st, ch 2 , slip st in next st] 4 times-5 petals.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing flower to skull. Weave in beginning tail.

## FINISHING

Referring to photograph as a guide to placement, use yarn tails or yarn scraps to sew the following pieces together.

1. Sew flower eyes to front of skull.
2. Sew head flowers to top of skull, positioned as desired. Use contrasting color yarn to embroider a star stitch through the center of flowers and to top of head, leaving petals free.

## Facial Features

Note: If you are making A-colored skull, embroider features with $\mathbf{B}$. If you are making B-colored skull, embroider features with $\mathbf{A}$.

Mouth: Using photograph as a guide, embroider straight stitch mouth. Embroider a long horizontal line then embroider short vertical lines evenly spaced over the top of the horizontal line.

Nose: Using photograph as a guide, embroider two chain stitches for nostrils. Position the narrow ends of the chain stitches together at top and between eyes for top of nose. Position the wide ends of the chain stitches about two rounds below and side by side.

Weave in and trim any remaining ends.

## ABBREVIATIONS

A, B, C, and D = Color A, Color B, Color C, and Color D; $\mathbf{c h}=$ chain; $\mathbf{d c}=$ double crochet; sc = single crochet; st(s) = stitch(es); [ ] = work directions in brackets the number of times specified.


