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CROCHET
SKILL LEVEL
EASY



Skull Party Sticks & Pompoms

Crocheted sugar skulls and pompoms add festivity and bright colors to Halloween or Day of the Dead décor. Use them creatively in containers on your party table or to decorate your potted plants and cut flowers.

Designed by Jessie Rayot
Adapted by Rebecca Venton

What you will need:

RED HEART® Super Saver®:
1 skein each 311 White **A**, 312 Black **B**, 254 Pumpkin **C**, 324 Bright Yellow **D**, and 722 Pretty 'n Pink **E**

Susan Bates® Crochet Hook:
5.5mm [US I-9]

Sharp-pointed yarn needle, three 6" x 9" (15 x 23 cm) white adhesive back foam sheets, Susan Bates® Easy Wrap Pompon Maker or 2½" (6.5 cm) piece of cardboard, felt pieces in assorted bright colors, 12" lengths of dowel measuring 3/16" (4.76 mm) diameter, hot glue gun

GAUGE: 12 sts = 4" (10 cm); 15 rows = 4" (10 cm) in single crochet. **CHECK YOUR GAUGE.** Use any size hook to obtain the gauge.



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

Skull measures: 4" wide x 5¼" long (10 x 13.5 cm).

Note

An adult should always operate the hot glue gun.

Special Stitch

sc2tog = [Insert hook in next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] twice, yarn over and draw through all 3 loops on hook.

SKULL Top

With **A**, ch 4; join with slip st in first ch to form a ring.

Round 1 (right side): Ch 1, 6 sc in ring; join with slip st in first sc—6 sc.

Round 2: Ch 1, 2 sc in each st around; join with slip st in first sc—12 sc.

Round 3: Ch 1, 2 sc in first st, sc in next st, *2 sc in next st, sc in next st; repeat from * 4 times; join with slip st in first sc—18 sc.

Round 4: Ch 1, sc in first st, *2 sc in next st, sc in next 2 sts; repeat from * 4 times, 2 sc in next st, sc in last st; join with slip st in first sc—24 sc.

Round 5: Ch 1, 2 sc in first st, sc in next 3 sts, *2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts; repeat from * 4 times; join with slip st in first sc—30 sc.

Round 6: Ch 1, sc in first 2 sts, *2 sc in next st, sc in next 4 sts; repeat from * 4 times, 2 sc in next st, sc in last 2 sts; join with slip st in first sc—36 sc. Do not fasten off. Continue in turned rows.

Bottom

Row 1 (right side): Ch 1, sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts, sc2tog; leave remaining sts unworked, turn—8 sc.

Row 2: Ch 1, sc in each st across, turn.

Row 3: Ch 1, sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts, sc2tog, turn—6 sc.

Rows 4 and 5: Repeat Row 2. Do not fasten off. Continue in rounds. Border



Round 1: Ch 1, working in ends of rows, sc in each row across first edge of bottom; working in unworked sts of Round 6, sc in next st, *2 sc in next st, sc in next 5 sts; repeat from * 3 times, 2 sc in next st; working in ends of rows, sc in each row across other edge of bottom, ch 1, sc in each st of Row 5, ch 1; join with slip st in first sc—47 sc. Fasten off.

FINISHING

Print template shown below. For each skull, cut forehead flower, nose, and 2 eyes from felt pieces, changing color pattern for each skull. Apply a small amount of glue on center back of each piece. Referring to photo as a guide, position pieces on skull and, with **B** and straight stitches, sew each piece in place. With **B**, embroider straight stitch teeth.

See template and additional photos on next page...



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Weave in ends. Trace around skulls on adhesive foam pieces. Glue dowel to wrong side of each skull. Cut out foam pieces and adhere to back of skulls, covering dowel.

Pompom

Following pompom maker directions, make 2½" (6.5 cm) pompom or make pompom as follows: Wrap yarn around 2½" (6.5 cm) piece of heavy cardboard (the more wraps, the fuller the pompom). Gently remove wraps from cardboard. Cut a 12" (30.5 cm) length of matching color and tie it tightly around center of wraps. Cut ends of wraps. Fluff and trim pompom. Glue to top of dowel.

