

An illuminated bauble crocheted from cotton yarn

This illuminated Christmas bauble is crocheted from cotton yarn using a No. 3 crochet hook. It is dipped in a mixture of water and wood glue. A balloon is inflated inside. When dry, the balloon is burst and removed (cut a hole at the knot to avoid the balloon bursting loudly). Finally, the LED fairy lights are fixed inside the bauble.

The bauble is approx. 14.5 cm in diameter.

Bauble

- 1: Crochet 7 ch and make the stitches into a circle with a sl st.
- 2: 2 ch, 2 tr, 4 ch, *3 tr, 4 ch*. Repeat from * to * 4 times, sl st in the top ch. A total of 6 tr groups.
- 3: sl st in the first stitch, 1 sl st around the ch-sp, 3 ch, 2 tr around the same ch-sp, 4 ch, *3 tr around the next ch-sp, 4 ch*. Repeat from *-* 4 times, sl st in the top ch.
- 4: 3 ch, tr in the same stitch, *tr in the next stitch, 2 tr in the last stitch, 2 ch, sl st around the ch-sp, 2 ch, 2 tr in the first stitch*. Repeat from *-* 5 times, tr in the next stitch, 2 tr in the last stitch, 2 ch, sl st around the ch-sp, 2 ch, sl st in the top ch.
- 5: 3 ch, tr in the same stitch, *3 tr, 2 tr in the last stitch, 4 ch, 2 tr in the first tr*. Repeat from *-* 5 times, 3 tr, 2 tr in the last stitch, 4 ch, sl st in the top ch.
- 6: 3 ch, tr in the same stitch, *5 tr, 2 tr in the last stitch, 2 ch, sl st around the ch-sp, 2 ch, 2 tr in the first stitch*. Repeat from *-* 5 times, 5 tr, 2 tr in the last stitch, 2 ch, sl st around the ch-sp, 2 ch, sl st in the top ch.
- 7: 3 ch, 4 tr, *4 ch, tr in the same stitch, 4 tr, 4 ch, 5 tr*. Repeat from *-* 5 times, 4 ch, tr in the same stitch, 4 tr, 4 ch, sl st in the top ch.
- 8: 3 ch, 4 tr, *4 ch, sl st around the ch-sp, 4 ch, 5 tr, 2 ch, sl st around the ch-sp, 2 ch, 5 tr*. Repeat from *-* 5 times, 4 ch, sl st around the ch-sp, 4 ch, 5 tr, 2 ch, sl st around the ch-sp, 2 ch, sl st in the top ch.
- 9: 2 ch, 4 tr together, *5 ch, sl st around the first ch-sp, 5 ch, sl st around the last ch-sp, 5 ch, 5 tr together, 7 ch, 5 tr together*. Repeat from *-* 5 times, 5 ch, sl st around the first ch-sp, 5 ch, sl st around the last ch-sp, 5 ch, 5 tr together, 7 ch, sl st in the top ch.

Cut the yarn and secure the ends.

Now crochet another one, but don't cut the yarn yet.

Assembling the bauble with zig zag

Crochet sl st alternately on the two circles.

Place the two circles on top of each other (inner side against inner side) staggered by half a pattern.

Join the two circles by crocheting *5 ch, sl st around the last of the 3 small ch-sp on the opposite, 5 ch, sl st on the first of the 3 small ch-sp, 5 ch, sl st on large ch-sp, 5 ch, sl st on the last of the 3 small ch-sp, 5 ch, sl st on the first of the 3 small ch-sp, 5 ch, sl st on large ch-sp*. Repeat from * to * 5 times, 5 ch, sl st around the last of the 3 small ch-sp.

Cut and secure the ends.

Glue mixture

Mix water and wood glue in a 1:1 ratio and place the crocheted bauble into the mixture.

Leave to soak for 2 minutes, wring out and leave to rest for an additional 2 minutes.

Insert a balloon inside the bauble. The neck of the balloon should come out from one of the loops at the top of the crocheted bauble.

Inflate the balloon to expand the bauble.

Leave the glue to dry.

Burst the balloon.

Attach a string for hanging and fix LED fairy lights inside the bauble.



Abbreviations and symbols explanation:

chain stitch = ch

chain space = ch-sp

slip stitch = sl st

basic treble stitch = tr

2 tr together/treble 2 together = *1 tr in the next stitch, but wait with drawing yarn through the loop*. Repeat, yarn over and pull the yarn through the 3 loops on the crochet hook.

3 tr together/treble 3 together = *1 tr in the next stitch, but wait with drawing yarn through the loop*. Repeat

twice, yarn over and pull the yarn through the 4 loops on the crochet hook.

4 tr together/treble 4 together = *1 tr in the next stitch, but wait with drawing yarn through the loop*. Repeat 3 times, yarn over and pull the yarn through the 5 loops on the crochet hook.

5 tr together/treble 5 together = *1 tr in the next stitch, but wait with drawing yarn through the loop*. Repeat 4 times, yarn over and pull the yarn through the 6 loops on the crochet hook.

* = Repeat from * to * till the end of the round.

