

Hanging Possum Pod



This pattern has been shared with the designers permission exclusively for the use of members of the Animal Rescue Craft Guild (Australia) to create items for injured, orphaned, displaced, drought and bushfire affected wildlife.

Please do not share this pattern outside the group, Please do not use this pattern for personal profit. Please do not use this pattern as your own. All enquiries on use of pattern should be directed to the designer, details at end.

Key

St = stitch

dc = double crochet (UK terms) in US terms this would refer to a sc

Ch = chain

Dc2tog = double crochet 2 together, otherwise known as a decrease (in US terms this would be sc2tog)

Inv dec = invisible decrease (I explain how to do this below in the fancy stitch guide)

Little advice here, use a stitch marker in the last stitch of each row as this piece is worked in continued spiral so it is easy to lose where you are up to. If you don't have a stitch marker a safety pin or even a bobby pin work just as well.

Fancy stitch guide

Invisible decrease (inv dec):

1. Insert hook through front loop only of next stitch (2 loops on hook)
2. Insert hook through front loop only of next stitch (3 loops on hook)
3. Put your yarn over and pull through 2 loops (2 loops on hook)
4. Yarn over and pull through last 2 loops

Yarn and hook size selection

As all you fabulous crafters are aware the yarn thickness and your hook size will determine how large or small your finished pod will end up.

Basically you need to be able to fit your hand through the opening comfortably (which will give the wonderful carers easy access to the critters)

I used 1 ball of yarn with recommended needle size 10mm hook (Spotlight value ball chunky acrylic) and 1 ball recommended needle size 5mm (Spotlight spot saver USA style) and used a 6.5 mm hook to ensure a tight crochet (very important).

Make sure before you start that your yarn is able to go through the washing machine as the carers will need to be able to stick them in the washer.

R1: Magic circle and make 6 DC into ring
R2: (dc2 into next stitch)x6 (12)
R3: (dc1 into next st, dc2 into next st) x6 (18)
R4: (dc into next 2 sts, dc2 into next st) x6 (24)
R5: (dc into next 3 sts, dc2 into next st) x6 (30)
R6: (dc into next 4 sts, dc2 into next st) x6 (36)
R7: (dc into next 5 sts, dc2 into next st) x6 (42)
R8: (dc into next 6 sts, dc2 into next st) x6 (48)
R9: (dc into next 7 sts, dc2 into next st) x6 (54)



Now we stop increasing and start building up the main body space so take a quick break and stick the kettle on. Your piece should measure at least 7 inches in diameter at this point (this will ensure that the pod will be large enough).



Do not forget to use a stitch marker in the last stitch of each round

R10: dc into each st (54)

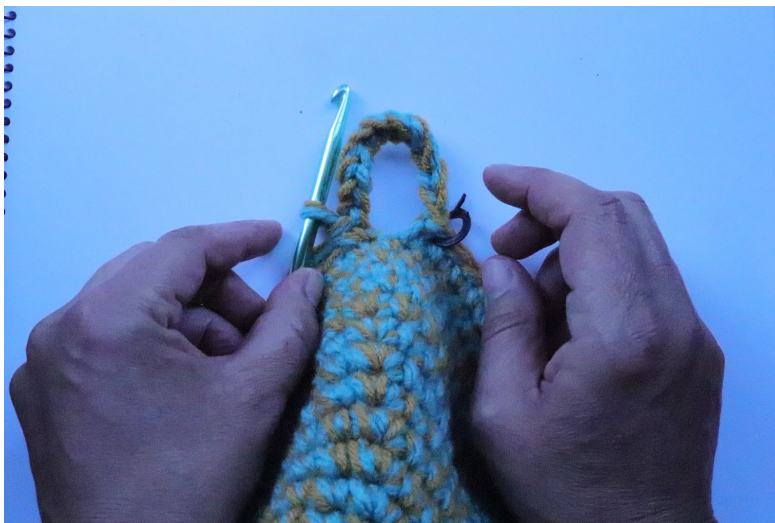
R11: dc into each st (54)

R12: dc into each st (54)

R13: dc into each st (54)

R14: dc into each st (54)

R15: 12 chain, dc into each st (12 ch and 54dc)



R16: 12dc into 12 chain loop, dc into each st (66)

R17: Skip 12 dc, dc into the 13th dc ensuring that you pull the hanging loop towards you, dc into each further st (54) (see attached picture as this might help, otherwise grab a glass of wine)



R18: dc into each st (54)

R19: dc into each st (54)

R20: dc into each st (54)

R21: dc into each st (54)

R22 :dc into each st (54)

Now we are going to start decreasing, I prefer to use the invisible decrease as it ensures that there are no gaps in your work (safer for little possum claws and looks far better overall). To see how to do this check out the invisible decrease on youtube. I will be making a video of how to make this shortly. If you can't figure it out just use normal decrease x

Keep using your stitch marker in each last stitch and until you are confident I advise you to count at the end of each row (makes it easier if you spot a mistake straight away).

R23: (dc2tog (inv dec), dc in each of next 7 st) x6 (48)

R24: (dc2tog (inv dec), dc in each of next 6 st) x6 (42)

R25: (dc2tog (inv dec), dc in each of next 5 st) x6 (36)

R26: (dc2tog (inv dec), dc in each of next 4 st) x6 (30)

Here comes another loop

R27: 12 chain, dc into each st (12 ch and 30 dc)

R28: 12 dc into 12 chain loop, dc into each st (42)

R29: Skip 12 dc, dc into the 13th dc ensuring that you pull the hanging loop towards you, dc into each further st(30)

R30: dc into each st (30)

R31: dc into each st (30)

R32: dc into each st (30)

Finish off and sew in all loose threads

Voila, big glass of wine, you have finished your possum pod

Happy crocheting and thinking of all our weird, wonderful and unique Australian wildlife and the amazing people who give so much to help them when they need it xxxx

Thank you, any suggestions are more than welcome (I am on instagram (mariawawoczny) and will answer anything as I am able)

Love Maria xx