Crochet Angel

PATTERN

A classic white Christmas tree topper with a lacy shell-stitch dress, golden hair and a gold halo - a one-evening make for confident beginners.



The finished angel, about 20 cm (8 in) tall.

Finished size	About 20 cm (8 in) tall, 11 cm (4 1/4 in) wide at the hem	**Skill level**	Confident beginner
Time	About 2-3 hours	**Terms**	US crochet terms

This angel is six small pieces - a round head, a cone-shaped lacy dress, two wings, two arms and a gold halo - sewn together into a classic tree topper. Work in joined rounds unless a step says otherwise, slip stitch to join at the end of every dress round, and check your stitch counts against the bracketed totals as you go: counting now saves unpicking later.

Materials

- White DK/light worsted (#3) cotton yarn, approx. 50 g - dress, wings and arms
- Cream DK yarn, approx. 20 g - head
- Gold metallic DK yarn, approx. 10 g - hair cap, halo and hem trim
- 3.5 mm (US E/4) crochet hook
- Polyester toy stuffing - a small handful (head only)
- Yarn needle, scissors, stitch marker
- 20 cm thin gold craft wire (for the halo) or a 5 cm metal ring
- Small cardboard cone, about 10 cm tall (optional - tree topper stiffener)

Abbreviations (US Terms)

ch	chain	**sl st**	slip stitch
sc	single crochet	**dc**	double crochet
inc	increase - 2 sts in one stitch	**dec**	decrease - sc 2 together
MR	magic ring	**FO**	fasten off
st(s)	stitch(es)	**rnd**	round

Size & gauge: 20 sc and 24 rows = 10 cm (4 in) with a 3.5 mm hook. This pattern makes an angel about 20 cm (8 in) tall. For a smaller branch ornament, use a 3 mm hook and finer yarn; for a larger tree topper, use worsted yarn and a 4 mm hook.

Step 1: Crochet the Head (cream)



Step 1 - the round cream head with its golden hair cap.

Work the head in a continuous spiral - place a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round and move it up as you go. Increase steadily for three rounds, work four plain rounds, then decrease back down, stuffing firmly before the final decreases.

Rnd 1: MR, 6 sc into the ring, pull closed. **[6]**

Rnd 2: Inc in each st around. **[12]**

Rnd 3: (Sc, inc) x6. **[18]**

Rnd 4: (Sc 2, inc) x6. **[24]**

Rnds 5-8: Sc in each st around (4 rounds). **[24]**

Rnd 9: (Sc 2, dec) x6. **[18]**

Rnd 10: (Sc, dec) x6 - stuff the head firmly before this round. **[12]**

Rnd 11: Dec x6, FO and close the hole with the yarn tail. **[6]**

Golden hair cap (gold yarn):

Rnd 1: MR, 6 sc into the ring. **[6]**

Rnd 2: Inc in each st around. **[12]**

Rnd 3: (Sc, inc) x6. **[18]**

Rnd 4: (Sc 2, inc) x6. **[24]**

Rnd 5: Sc in each st around, FO leaving a long tail. **[24]**

Sew the cap onto the top half of the head, then add three short chain strands on each side for soft curls. Keep the cap centred so the hair frames the face evenly.

Step 2: Crochet the Lacy Dress (white)



Step 2 - the cone-shaped dress with shell stitches and gold trim.

The dress is worked top-down as a cone. Increase rounds add 6 stitches; shell rounds keep the count - each 6-stitch repeat makes 5 dc plus 1 sc. A shell is: skip 2 sts, 5 dc in the next st, skip 2 sts, sc in the next st. Keep your tension relaxed so the lace stays open and airy.

Rnd 1: Ch 18, join into a ring with a sl st. **[18]**

Rnd 2: (Sc 2, inc) x6. **[24]**

Rnd 3: Sc in each st around. **[24]**

Rnd 4: (Sc 3, inc) x6. **[30]**

Rnd 5: Sc in each st around. **[30]**

Rnd 6: (Sc 4, inc) x6. **[36]**

Rnd 7: Shell round: (skip 2 sts, 5 dc in the next st, skip 2 sts, sc in the next st) x6. **[36]**

Rnd 8: Sc in each st around. **[36]**

Rnd 9: (Sc 5, inc) x6. **[42]**

Rnd 10: Shell round: (skip 2 sts, 5 dc in the next st, skip 2 sts, sc in the next st) x7. **[42]**

Rnd 11: Sc in each st around. **[42]**

Rnd 12: (Sc 6, inc) x6. **[48]**

Rnd 13: Shell round: (skip 2 sts, 5 dc in the next st, skip 2 sts, sc in the next st) x8. **[48]**

Rnd 14: Sc in each st around. **[48]**

Rnd 15: With gold yarn, sc in each st around for the hem, sl st to join, FO. **[48]**

Lay the dress flat: it should be a smooth cone with no ripples or curling edges.

Step 3: Crochet the Wings (white, make 2)



Step 3 - the two small lacy wings.

The wings are worked flat in rows, using the same shell idea as the dress so they match.

Row 1: Ch 11.

Row 2: Sc in the 2nd ch from the hook and in each ch across. **[10]**

Row 3: Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across. **[10]**

Row 4: Ch 3 (counts as a dc), turn, dc in the same st, skip 2 sts, sc in the next st, skip 2 sts, 5 dc in the next st, skip 2 sts, sc in the last st. **[2 scallops]**

Row 5: Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across the scalloped edge to neaten it, FO, leaving a long tail for sewing. **[10]**

Make a second wing exactly the same way. Hold the two wings together: the scalloped edges should mirror each other. If one wing looks bigger, count its stitches - a missed stitch in Row 2 is the usual culprit.

Step 4: Crochet the Arms and the Halo



Step 4 - the slim white arms and the gold halo ring.

Work the arms in a continuous spiral and do not stuff them: flat arms sit neatly against the dress, while stuffed arms stick out at odd angles.

Arms (make 2, white):

Rnd 1: MR, 6 sc into the ring. **[6]**

Rnds 2-7: Sc in each st around (6 rounds), FO leaving a long tail. **[6]**

Halo (gold):

Rnd 1: Ch 24, join into a ring with a sl st. **[24]**

Rnd 2: Sc in each ch around, sl st to join, FO. **[24]**

Thread a short length of gold craft wire through the ring and bend it into a neat circle about 5 cm across, twisting the wire ends together at the back. The wire keeps the halo perfectly round, even after years in the Christmas box.

Step 5: Assemble the Angel



Step 5 - sewing the wings onto the back of the dress.

Work on a flat surface and pin everything in place before you sew - it is much easier to move a pin than to unpick a seam. Sew the head to the top of the dress first, using the cream tail, with small neat stitches hidden under the chin. Then sew the two wings to the upper back of the dress, scalloped edges pointing outward and slightly upward, and one arm to each side just below the head, angled gently downward. Finally, push the short wire stem of the halo into the top of the head and stitch the ring in place so it sits about 2 cm above the golden hair. Check the angel from the front and the side: the wings should be level, the halo centred, and the head straight.

Step 6: Finish and Place Her on the Tree



Step 6 - the finished angel on top of the Christmas tree.

For a tree topper, slip the cardboard cone inside the dress first - it holds the cone shape and stops the angel from tipping. For a hanging ornament instead, chain 20 with gold yarn, join it into a loop at the top of the head, and hang her from a branch. Set the angel on the very top of your tree, turning her so the wings catch the light. She should sit upright and steady; if she leans, push the cone a little deeper into the dress.

3 Tips for a Perfect Angel

1. Keep the lace open. Shell stitches look best worked loosely. If your shells pull tight, go up to a 4 mm hook for the dress rounds - the angel will look softer and more delicate.

2. Stiffen the dress if you like. A light spray of fabric stiffener (or a 50/50 mix of white glue and water, brushed on and left to dry over a cone) keeps the skirt flared and the lace crisp for years.

3. Make a matching set. Work the same angel in cream, pale gold or soft pink for a garland, or shrink her with a 3 mm hook and finer yarn for a delicate branch ornament.

Happy crocheting! Make one angel in white like ours, then try cream, pale gold or soft pink - or make a few now and have your handmade Christmas gifts ready early.