Crochet
Christmas Decor Lantern

Free Step-by-Step Tutorial



Beginner-friendly | ~2 hours | Fits a 500 ml mason jar

Materials

- Worsted-weight (#4) cotton yarn in deep red, approx. 30 g (base and red stripes)
- Worsted-weight (#4) cotton yarn in cream, approx. 20 g (cream stripes and scalloped edge)
- Worsted-weight (#4) cotton yarn in white, approx. 10 g (snowflake appliqué)
- Gold ribbon, approx. 60 cm (24 in), for the bow
- 500 ml mason jar
- LED tea light
- 4.0 mm (US G-6) crochet hook
- Yarn needle and scissors
- Stitch marker

Abbreviations

- ch = chain
- sc = single crochet
- hdc = half double crochet
- dc = double crochet
- inc = increase (2 sc in one st)
- dec = decrease (sc 2 sts together)
- sl st = slip stitch
- st(s) = stitch(es)
- rep = repeat

Step 1: Crochet the Round Base



- With deep red yarn, make a magic ring.
- Rnd 1: 6 sc into the ring. Pull tight. [6]
- Rnd 2: 2 sc in every st around. [12]
- Rnd 3: (sc, inc) x6. [18]
- Rnd 4: (2 sc, inc) x6. [24]
- Rnd 5: (3 sc, inc) x6. [30]
- Rnd 6: (4 sc, inc) x6. [36]
- Check the flat disc against the jar bottom - it should match the jar diameter.
- Wider jar? Add Rnd 7: (5 sc, inc) x6 [42]. Narrower jar? Stop after Rnd 5 [30].

Step 2: Work the Striped Body



- Work in sc rounds of 36 sts around, changing colour every 2 rounds.
- Rnds 7-8: Red - sc in every st around. [36]
- Rnds 9-10: Cream - sc in every st around. [36]
- Rnds 11-12: Red - sc in every st around. [36]
- Rnds 13-14: Cream - sc in every st around. [36]
- Rnds 15-16: Red - sc in every st around. [36]
- Rnds 17-18: Cream - sc in every st around. [36]
- 12 body rounds in total - 3 repeats of 2 red + 2 cream - about 9 cm tall.
- Carry the unused colour up the inside of the work between stripes.

Step 3: Crochet the Snowflake Appliqué



- With white yarn, make a magic ring.
- Rnd 1: 12 sc into the ring. Join with a sl st. [12]
- Rnd 2: (ch 5, skip 1 st, sl st in next st) x6. [6 ch-5 loops]
- Rnd 3: In each ch-5 loop work: (sc, hdc, dc, ch 2, dc, hdc, sc).
- The ch 2 in the middle of each point forms a tiny picot tip.
- Repeat in all 6 loops - 6 points, about 6 cm across.
- Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Step 4: Sew the Snowflake onto the Front



- Lay the cover flat with the stripes horizontal and find the centre of the front.
- Pin the snowflake in place, top point facing straight up.
- Sew around the snowflake with the white tail, catching the back of each point.
- Work through the cover sts only - do not sew through to the inside.
- Knot the tail on the inside of the cover and weave in the end.
- Sew the snowflake on BEFORE adding the scalloped edge so it sits flat.

Step 5: Scalloped Edge & Ribbon Casing



- Join cream yarn at the top rim of the cover.
- Casing round: (hdc in next st, ch 1, skip 1 st) x18 around. [18 hdc + 18 ch-1 sps]
- These little gaps are the casing the gold ribbon threads through.
- Scallop round: (sc in next hdc, skip ch-1 sp, 5 dc in next hdc, skip ch-1 sp) x9. [9 shells]
- Each shell uses 2 hdc, so the 18 casing sts divide neatly into 9 scallops.
- Fasten off and weave in the ends on the inside of the cover.

Step 6: Ribbon, Tea Light & Finishing



- Thread the gold ribbon in and out of the ch-1 spaces of the casing round.
- Pull both ends even at the front and tie a firm bow.
- Trim the ribbon ends at an angle so they do not fray.
- Slip the cover over the mason jar and smooth the stripes down the glass.
- Set the LED tea light inside the jar and switch it on.
- Your crochet Christmas decor lantern is ready to glow!

Tips

- Measure your jar first. The base must match the jar diameter - add or remove an increase round to fit: one extra round of (5 sc, inc) x6 [42] fits a wider jar, stopping after Rnd 5 [30] fits a narrower one.

- Use cotton, not acrylic. Cotton holds the cover's shape and never melts near heat - and always use an LED tea light, never a real candle, inside a crochet cover.

- Sew the snowflake on before adding the scalloped edge. With the top rim still straight, the appliqué sits flat and centred.