Crochet Christmas Dove Ornament Pattern

A free peace dove for the Christmas tree — soft white body, grey-tipped wings, a tiny gold beak and an olive branch



Finished size: about 10 cm tall (excluding the hanging loop), with DK yarn and a 3.5 mm hook.

Materials

- DK or worsted-weight cotton yarn: white (about 30 g), light grey (small amount, wing edges), gold or mustard yellow (small amount, beak), sage green (small amount, olive branch)
- 3.5 mm crochet hook
- Two 6 mm black safety eyes
- Small amount of toy stuffing
- Gold metallic thread or thin gold cord, for the hanging loop
- 3 tiny green beads (optional, for the olives)
- Yarn needle, scissors, stitch marker

Abbreviations: MR = magic ring, ch = chain, sc = single crochet, sl st = slip stitch, inc = increase (2 sc in one stitch), dec = decrease (sc 2 sts together), st(s) = stitch(es). Work the body in continuous rounds unless stated otherwise; do not join rounds. US crochet terms throughout.

Body and Head, in One Piece (white yarn)

Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring. [6]

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

Rnd 3: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) 6 times. [18]

Rnd 4: (Sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. [24]

Rnd 5: (Sc in next 3 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. [30]

Rnds 6-10: Sc in each st around (5 rounds). [30]

Rnd 11: (Sc in next 3 sts, dec) 6 times. [24]

Rnd 12: (Sc in next 2 sts, dec) 6 times. [18]

Rnd 13: (Sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. [24]

Rnd 14: (Sc in next 3 sts, inc in next st) 6 times. [30]

Rnds 15-17: Sc in each st around (3 rounds). [30]

Rnd 18: (Sc in next 3 sts, dec) 6 times. [24]

Rnd 19: (Sc in next 2 sts, dec) 6 times. [18]

Rnd 20: (Sc in next st, dec) 6 times. [12]

Rnd 21: Dec 6 times. Fasten off and close the opening. [6]

Stuff the body firmly but gently before you close the head: the dove should feel plump and springy, not hard. Push a little extra stuffing into the chest so the front curves out softly, and keep the head round. If stuffing shows through the stitches, take a little out and smooth the surface with your fingers.

Wings (white yarn, make 2)

- **Row 1:** Ch 8. Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. [7]
- **Rows 2-3:** Ch 1, turn. Sc in each st across. [7]
- **Row 4:** Ch 1, turn. Dec, sc in next 3 sts, dec. [5]
- **Row 5:** Ch 1, turn. Sc in each st across. [5]
- **Row 6:** Ch 1, turn. Dec, sc in next st, dec. Fasten off, leaving a long tail. [3]

With light grey yarn, single crochet all the way around the outer edge of each wing. This grey border gives the dove its soft grey-tipped wings and makes the white body look even brighter by contrast.

Beak (gold yarn)

Rnd 1: 4 sc in a magic ring. [4]

Rnd 2: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) 2 times. [6]

Rnd 3: Sc in each st around. [6]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Flatten the little cone and sew it to the front of the head.

Olive Branch (sage green yarn)

- **Stem:** Ch 10.
- **Leaves:** In every 2nd ch, work a leaf: ch 3, sl st back into the same ch. Make 5 leaves along the stem, then fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing.

Sew the stem to the tip of the gold beak so the branch sits sideways across the dove's face. Add three tiny green beads along it as olives if you like. Keep the branch small — a delicate sprig, not a bouquet.

Assembly and Finishing

- **Eyes:** Fix the two 6 mm safety eyes on either side of the beak, about five stitches apart and slightly high on the face, for a sweet, gentle expression. Check the face from the front before you weave in the ends.
- **Wings:** Pin the wings to the sides of the body, angled slightly upward like a dove at rest, and sew them on with the white yarn tails.
- **Hanging loop:** Thread gold metallic thread through the top of the head and knot it into a loop about 8 cm long.
- **Make a flock:** Crochet two or three doves in white, soft grey and cream and hang them at different heights for a peaceful little flock.



The finished dove ornament, ready to hang.

Tips: keep your tension even — this dove is worked in continuous rounds, so uneven tension shows as lumps. Count your stitches at the end of every increase round; one missed stitch changes the whole shape. Happy crocheting!