Crochet Popcorn Garland Pattern

Free Step-by-Step Tutorial



Beginner friendly | ~1 evening | 5 ft long (easy to adjust)

Materials

- Cream worsted-weight (#4) yarn, approx. 200 yds
- Cranberry-red worsted-weight (#4) yarn, approx. 80 yds
- 5.0 mm (US H-8) crochet hook
- Yarn needle with a large eye
- Scissors
- Stitch markers

Abbreviations

- ch = chain
- sc = single crochet
- dc = double crochet
- sl st = slip stitch
- st(s) = stitch(es)
- MR = magic ring
- Rnd(s) = round(s)
- popcorn = 5 dc in same st, drop loop, insert hook in first dc, pull loop through
- inc = increase (2 sc in same stitch)
- dec = decrease (sc 2 together)

Step 1: Crochet the First Popcorn Puff



- Popcorn puff, cream yarn. Make a magic ring.
- Rnd 1: Ch 2 (does not count as a st), work 5 dc into the ring, remove the hook from the loop, insert it into the first dc and pull the dropped loop through - 1 popcorn made. Pull the ring closed. [5 dc]
- Rnd 2: Ch 2, work 2 dc in each st around. [10]
- Rnd 3: Ch 2, (1 dc in the next st, 2 dc in the next st) 5 times. [15]
- Fasten off, leaving a 6-inch tail. The puff should feel round and springy, about 2 inches across.

Step 2: Work a Row of Puffs



- Repeat Step 1 until you have 24 cream puffs for a 5-foot garland - about 5 puffs per foot.
- Keep every puff the same: 5 dc in each popcorn, the same hook, the same tension.
- Count the dc in each puff as you work it: a puff with 4 dc looks noticeably flatter than a puff with 5.
- Set the finished puffs aside in a bowl or basket as you go.

Step 3: Crochet the Red Cranberry Beads



- Cranberry bead, make 25, red yarn. Rnd 1: 6 sc in a magic ring. [6]
- Rnd 2: Inc in each st around. [12]
- Rnd 3: (1 sc in the next st, inc) 6 times. [18]
- Rnds 4-5: Sc in each st around (2 rounds). [18]
- Rnd 6: (1 sc in the next st, dec) 6 times. [12]
- Stuff the bead lightly with a pinch of yarn scraps, then Rnd 7: Dec 6 times. [6]
- Fasten off, thread the tail through the last 6 sts and pull to close. Each bead is about 1 inch across.

Step 4: String the Garland Together



- Cut a length of cream yarn about 12 inches longer than your finished garland. Thread the yarn needle and knot one end.
- Lay out the pieces in order: red bead, cream puff, red bead, cream puff, starting and ending with a bead.
- Thread the needle straight through the centre of each piece, pushing it through the middle of the puff or bead.
- Slide each piece along the strand as you add it, leaving about 1 inch of yarn between pieces so the garland drapes in soft swags.
- When every piece is on, knot the far end to stop the last bead sliding off.

Step 5: Add Hanging Loops and a Tassel



- Hanging loop: at each end of the strand, fold the last 6 inches back on itself and tie a firm knot to form a loop about 2 inches across. Trim stray tails and weave in the ends.
- Tassel: wrap cream yarn around your four fingers about 12 times, slide the bundle off and tie one end tightly with a short piece of yarn.
- Fold the bundle in half, wrap another short piece around the neck and trim the bottom even.
- Tie one tassel to each end of the garland, just below the hanging loop.

Step 6: Drape and Style on the Tree



- Start at the top of the tree and work down, letting the garland fall in a gentle wave from branch to branch.
- Tuck the strand behind a branch tip at the top of each swag so it stays put, and let it dip about 6 inches between anchor points.
- Step back after each swag and check the spacing: the red beads should peek out evenly between the cream puffs all the way around.
- On a mantel, drape it the same way between two small hooks. When Christmas is over, coil it loosely into a box - it will be ready to hang again next year.

Tips

- Count five double crochets in every puff so the puffs stay twins. A puff with four stitches looks flat next to a puff with five, and the difference shows once the garland is hanging.

- Measure your tree before you start and add 12 inches to the length. A garland that is too short looks stretched, while a slightly long one drapes in lovely swags - so always err on the long side.

- Block the garland lightly before hanging it by laying it flat and misting it with water, then letting it dry. This evens out the spacing and helps the strand relax into soft, natural curves.