Easy Crochet Gifts - Striped Bookmark Pattern

Free Step-by-Step Tutorial



Beginner-friendly | ~1-2 hours | Finished size about 5.5 x 21 cm

Materials

- Deep teal DK (light worsted, #3) yarn, approx. 25 g
- Cream DK (light worsted, #3) yarn, approx. 15 g
- Gold DK yarn, approx. 10 g (for the tassel)
- 4 mm (US G-6) crochet hook
- Yarn needle
- Scissors
- Small piece of cardboard about 8 cm (3 in) wide
- Stitch marker (optional)

Abbreviations

- ch = chain
- sc = single crochet
- hdc = half double crochet
- dc = double crochet
- hdc2tog = half double crochet 2 together (decrease)
- hdc3tog = half double crochet 3 together (decrease)
- sl st = slip stitch
- st(s) = stitch(es)
- rep = repeat

Step 1: Chain the Foundation



- With deep teal yarn, ch 11. Keep the chains relaxed - tight chains make a stiff edge that will not lie flat in a book.
- Row 1: Hdc in the 3rd ch from the hook and in each ch across. [9 hdc - the ch-2 counts as the first st]
- Mark the first stitch of the row if you tend to lose track of it. Count 9 stitches at the end of Rows 1 and 2: a narrow piece shows every added or missed stitch.

Step 2: Work the Striped Body



- Rows 2-22: Ch 2, turn, hdc in each st across. [9 sts in every row]
- Work the stripes in a simple repeat: 3 rows of deep teal, then 2 rows of cream, repeating to the end of Row 22. (Rows 1-3 teal, 4-5 cream, 6-8 teal, 9-10 cream, 11-13 teal, 14-15 cream, 16-18 teal, 19-20 cream, 21-22 teal.)
- Carry the unused colour loosely up the side of the work instead of fastening off every stripe - the border in Step 4 hides the carried strands completely.
- Count your stitches at the end of Rows 8 and 15. At the end of Row 22 the bookmark measures about 18 cm (7 in) long and 5.5 cm wide.

Step 3: Shape the Pointed Tip



- Stay with deep teal yarn.
- Row 23: Ch 2, hdc2tog, hdc in each st to the last 2 sts, hdc2tog. [7 hdc]
- Row 24: Ch 2, hdc2tog, hdc in each st to the last 2 sts, hdc2tog. [5 hdc]
- Row 25: Ch 2, hdc2tog, hdc in each st to the last 2 sts, hdc2tog. [3 hdc]
- Row 26: Ch 2, hdc3tog. [1 st] Fasten off, leaving a 15 cm (6 in) tail to weave in.
- Work the decreases loosely: pulled-tight decreases pucker the tip, while relaxed decreases give a smooth, flat point.

Step 4: Add the Cream Border



- Join cream yarn at the top edge of the bookmark.
- Round 1: Ch 1, sc in each st across the top (9), sc in each row-end down one long side (26), 3 sc in the very point of the tip, sc in each row-end up the other side (26), join with a sl st. [about 64 sc]
- Work 3 sc in each top corner as well if your corners pull in.
- Fasten off and weave in every end with the yarn needle, hiding the tails inside the stitches on the wrong side.

Step 5: Make the Gold Tassel



- Wrap the gold yarn around the 8 cm piece of cardboard about 25 times, keeping the wraps snug and even.
- Cut a 20 cm (8 in) length of gold yarn and slide it under the wraps at the top of the cardboard; tie it tightly in a knot - this is the loop that attaches the tassel to the bookmark.
- Slide the wraps off the cardboard and cut through the bottom loops.
- Wrap another short length of gold yarn tightly around the tassel about 1 cm (1/2 in) below the top knot, tie it off, and trim the tassel ends straight.
- Thread the top loop through the middle stitch at the top edge of the bookmark and pull the tassel through the loop to secure it.

Step 6: Crochet the Star Applique and Finish



- With cream yarn, make a magic ring.
- Round 1: 10 sc into the ring, join with a sl st. [10 sc]
- Round 2: *(Sl st in the next st, ch 2, dc in the same st, ch 2, sl st in the next st)* - repeat from * to * 5 times around to form 5 points. Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
- Sew the star to the front of the bookmark near the top, just below the tassel, using the tail and the yarn needle.
- Weave in the last ends, give the bookmark a gentle press with your hands so it lies flat, and it is ready to gift!

Tips

- Keep the foundation chain loose. If your chain is tight, go up to a 4.5 mm hook just for the chain row, then switch back to 4 mm.

- Carry the stripe yarn up the side. Fastening off and rejoining every two rows leaves a dozen ends to weave in; carrying the yarn leaves two, and the border covers the carried strands.

- Block it flat before gifting: a quick press under a heavy book overnight straightens any curl and makes the bookmark look store-bought.