

# Pencil/Hook Holder Basket

By: Margaret Nall

## Skill Level:

Beginner

## Materials:

4mm hook

Medium/Worsted/weight 4 yarn; 80yd / 47g (I used Red Heart Super Saver in the color Cherry Speckle)

Scissors

Darning needle

Stitch Markers (marking the first or last stitch of the round can be helpful to keep track of where each round starts)



## Gauge:

9 rounds of the base pattern = 3.5" (Gauge is not super important. Just aim for 3.25-3.75" for your base). You want fairly tight tension to help the basket hold its shape. If you have loose tension, you may need to size down your hook. If your tension is too tight, your base will ripple. Try loosening your tension or size up your hook.

## Finished Dimensions:

3.5" x 4.5"

## Stitches:

sl st = slip stitch

SC = Single Crochet

SC Increase = Single crochet increase.

BLO = Back Loop Only

Invisible Bind-off

## Special Stitches:

- ❖ SC Increase (Single crochet increase) = Two single crochets in the same stitch.
- ❖ BLO (Back Loop Only) = Single crochet into only the back loop of the stitch.
- ❖ Invisible Bind-off = Do not join your last round. Cut your yarn, leaving an approximately 6" tail. With a needle, skip the first stitch of the round and feed the yarn under the SECOND stitch of the round. Then go down through the top of the LAST stitch of the round. Pull the stitch, tightening it until it is the same size as your other stitches and secure by weaving in the end.

Pattern:

Do not join at the end of each round. This pattern is worked in continuous rounds.

R1: SC 6 stitches into a Magic Ring (6)

❖ Alternative: ch4, sl st into first chain to form a ring, SC 6 into center of ch 4 ring (6)

R2: SC Increase in each stitch around (12)

R3: (SC, SC Increase) x 6 (18)

R4: SC, SC Increase (SC 2, SC Increase) x 5, SC (24)

R5: (SC 3, SC Increase) x 6 (30)

R6: SC 2, SC Increase (SC 4, SC Increase) x 5, SC 2 (36)

R7: (SC 5, SC Increase) x 6 (42)

R8: SC 3, SC Increase (SC 6, SC Increase) x 5, SC 3 (48)

R9: (SC 7, SC Increase) x 6 (54)



Figure 1 Finished base should be approx. 3.5".

R10: SC BLO in each stitch around (54)



Figure 2 To turn the base to the sides, crochet into the back loops only.

R11-32: SC in each stitch around (54)

Invisible bind-off.



*Figure 3 Insert needle into second stitch of the round.*



*Figure 4 Insert your needle back down into the top of the last stitch of the round.*



*Figure 5 Tighten the stitch until it's the same size as the other stitches.*

Weave in ends.

## Modifications:

There are many ways to modify these baskets.

- ❖ Try different yarn sizes. I suggest sizing down one full hook size from what is recommended for the yarn you are using.
- ❖ Size up your hook to 5mm – 5.5mm and use two strands of yarn.
- ❖ SC in the BLO on the sides to create a spiral look.
- ❖ Try YU/YO SC to give your stitches a different texture.
- ❖ Add a fancy border to the top of the basket. The crab stitch is a simple, pretty border that works well for any stitch count.
- ❖ Make a larger basket or a smaller trinket tray. Make the base larger or smaller and the sides shorter or taller to fit the size you'd like.

If you would like the base larger, continue adding increase rounds until it is the size you need.

R10: SC 4, SC Increase (SC 8, SC Increase) x 5, SC 4 = (60)

R11: (SC 9, SC Increase) x 6 = (66)

R12: SC 5, SC Increase (SC 10, SC Increase) x 5, SC 5 = (72)

R13: (SC 11, SC Increase) x 6 = (78)

R14: SC 6, SC Increase (SC 12, SC Increase) x 5, SC 6 = (84)

R15: (SC 13, SC Increase) x 6 = (90)



Figure 6 Small trinket tray with crab stitch border.



Figure 7 Yarn Under/Yarn Over.



Figure 8 Two strands of differently colored yarn crocheted in the back loop only.