

## Blooming Flower Cushion



Here is my tutorial showing how to construct this wonderful layered flower and then make it into a Blooming Flower cushion/pillow.

First of all I would like to say that this pattern is *not my own*. I found it via [Two Butterflies](#) blog. In [this blog post](#), Jennifer shows her own creation and gives a link to the original pattern which is actually a vintage potholder design from the 1940's. The original pattern is short and sweet and written in US terms. The directions re how to increase in each round are vague and took me a fair amount of trial and error before I got it sussed. My hope is that by writing a picture-heavy tutorial and explaining precisely how the circle takes shape, you won't have any trouble giving this a whirl.

Before we begin, a little summary of the basic stitches. I'm writing using UK crochet terms ::

**sl st** [slip stitch] :: insert hook, yarn over, pull the loop back through the stitch, then through the loop on your hook.

**dc** [double crochet] :: insert hook, yarn over, pull the loop back through the stitch (two loops on hook), yarn over and pull through both loops on hook (*note :: this is equivalent to the US sc stitch*)

**htr** [half treble]:: yarn over, insert hook, yarn over, pull the loop back through the stitch (three loops on hook), yarn over and pull through *all three* loops on hook (*note :: this is equivalent to the US hdc stitch*)

**tr** [treble] :: yarn over, insert hook, yarn over, pull the loop back through the stitch (three loops on hook), yarn over and pull through *two* loops on hook (two loops left on hook), yarn over and pull through remaining two loops (*note :: this is equivalent to the US dc stitch*)



**To begin** :: ch 6 and join to form a ring.

**Round 1** :: Ch 1, then work 15 dc into the ring. Join with sl st in 1st dc (as above). [15 sts].



**Round 2 ::** Ch 3 (counts as 1 tr), then work 1 tr into the same st (as above)



Work 2tr's into the next st.....



...and continue working 2 tr's into each stitch right the way around. You should end up with [30 sts] in total. Sl st into the 3rd ch of initial ch3 to close the round. Fasten off.



**Round 3 :: NOTE ::** you will be working this round out of the FRONT LOOPS ONLY, as shown above. Change colour by knotting your new yarn close to the stitches, leaving your tail ends to darn in later.



Insert hook through FRONT LOOP of first st. Ch 1, then work 1dc into same st (front loop remember!)



Now work the following :: 1htr into next st, 5tr's into next st (as above)



Work 1 htr into next st, then 1dc into next st. This is your first petal made. It should take up 5 stitches in total (dc, htr, 5tr's, htr, dc). And remember, you are working out of front loops only, ok?



Work your second petal over the next five stitches (dc, htr, 5tr's, htr, dc)



Continue working your petals around the central circle, you'll make six petals altogether, as shown above. Sl st into the ch1 you made at the very beginning to close the round. Fasten off..

Round 4 ::  
NOTE ::  
you will  
be  
working  
this round  
out of the  
remaining  
BACK  
LOOPS of  
round 2, as  
shown  
above.  
You will  
hold your  
work with



right side facing you, working behind the petals you've already made. Pull a new colour through the first st to the front, leaving a tail end to darn in/work over (shown above)

Ch 3  
(counts as  
1 tr), work  
1tr into  
same st.

Work 1 tr  
into next  
st, \*2tr's  
into next  
st, 1tr into  
next st\*





Repeat between \*\* all the way round. Sl st into 3rd ch of initial ch3 to close the round [45 sts]. DO NOT FASTEN OFF!





**Round 5 :: NOTE ::** you will be working this round out of the FRONT LOOPS ONLY, as shown above. Begin by making a sl st into Front Loop of first st.



Ch 1, then work 1dc into same st (as above)



Make your first petal as before...1htr in next st, 5tr's in next st, 1htr in next st, 1dc in next st.



Work your second petal over the next five stitches (dc, htr, 5tr's, htr, dc), remembering Front Loops Only!! Think you've got that bit by now eh?!



When you get all the way round, you should have 9 petals. Sl st into initial ch1 to close the round. Fasten off.

Round  
6 ::  
NOTE  
:: you  
will be



working this round out of the remaining BACK LOOPS of round 4, as shown above. You will hold your work with right side facing you, working behind the petals you made in the previous round. Pull a new colour through the first st to the front, leaving a tail end to darn in/work over.



Ch 1 (counts as 1tr), then work 1t into each st [45 st's].

Sl st into 3rd ch of initial ch3 to close the round. DON'T FASTEN OFF!



**Round 7** :: yes, you got it, FRONT LOOPS ONLY for this round.

sl st into front loop of first st, ch1, then 1dc into same st.

Htr into next st, 5tr's into next st, htr into next st, dc into next st. First petal made.



Continue making your petals as in round 5, you'll have 9 altogether. Sl st into first ch1 to close the round. Fasten off.

So that's the basic principal of this pattern, you need to think in multiples of 5 OK? Each petal takes 5 stitches, so in this last round you've worked 9 petals over 45 stitches. That's the basic maths of this pattern sorted :: when you make each circle, it must end up as a multiple of 5.

This is the pattern so far then...

round 1 :: [15 st]

round 2 :: [30 st]

round 3 :: petal round (6 petals)

round 4 :: increase round [45 st]

round 5 :: petal round (9 petals)

round 6 :: no increase [45 st]

round 7 :: petal round (9 petals)

Make sense? GOOD!!!!



So how to continue?? Well.....you will be increasing in every alternate circle, as follows ::

**round 8** :: join in a new colour (red in the above pic), **back loops only**. Ch3 (counts as 1 tr), 1tr into same st. Then work 1 tr into next **2 sts**. \*2tr's into next st, 1 tr into next **2 sts**\*. Repeat between \*\* until you come to the end, join with a sl st into 3rd ch of initial ch 3 [60sts]

**round 9** :: same colour, **front loops only**. You'll be making 12 petals (the red round in the picture above)

**round 10** :: join in a new colour (pink in the pic above), **back loops only**. Ch3 (counts as 1tr), then work 1 tr into each stitch around, join with a sl st into 3rd ch of initial ch 3 [60sts].

**round 11** :: same colour, **front loops only**. You'll be making 12 petals (the pink petals in the picture above)

**round 12** :: join in a new colour (turquoise in the above pic), **back loops only**. Ch3 (counts as 1 tr), 1tr into same st. Then work 1 tr into next **3 sts**. \*2tr's into next st, 1 tr into next **3 sts**\*. Repeat between \*\* until you come to the end, join with a sl st into 3rd ch of initial ch 3 [75sts]

**round 13** :: same colour, **front loops only**. You'll be making 15 petals (the turquoise round in the picture above)

etc etc etc etc .....



I hope this makes clear sense. To summarize....

Petals are worked over 5 stitches.

With the circle rounds, you increase every alternate row.

You add an extra 15 stitches into every increase row.

You do this by increasing the single tr's worked between the increase tr's.

So in round 4 you only put 1tr in between the increase tr's.

In round 8 you put 2 tr's in between the increase tr's.

In round 12 you put 3 tr's in between. I've highlighted these in red to help show how it works out.



The backside of my cushion was made following the circle pattern as outlined above, only minus the petals. I worked the rounds in both loops. Increasing on alternate rows. It curls a little as it grows, it probably won't want to lie completely flat until you give it a light press at the end.



The very last round of the backside is a petal row, worked in front loops only.





I joined the two sides by placing wrong sides together and working slip stitches through the inner/back loops remaining after the petal round has been formed. I hope this makes sense! You could always stitch them together if you prefer using a simple whip stitch through the inner/back loops.



And there you have it :: one perfectly marvelous Blooming Flower cushion! My blog post about this cushion can be found [here](#).

Have some fun with this beauty won't you?



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*xx Thank you so much, and happy hooking! Xx*

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