Crochet Bulb Garland



Edition and sample status

Version 1.0 | October 19, 2026. The complete new reading route below uses US crochet terms. The relevant unchanged reference pages at the end use UK terms. Editorial count corrections, translations, joining interpretations and finishing alternatives are prototype-ready drafts until physically crocheted, finished and checked. No new physical sample, wash, hanging, load or stability test has been made. Existing photographs do not prove these additions have been tested.

Finished-size approach

Reference length approximately 127 cm. Twelve bulbs are made as two in each of six colours. Measure the actual 260-stitch tape and finished hanging length; no numerical gauge supplied.

Materials and starting hook

Rico Essentials Cotton DK, 100% cotton, 50 g / 130 m: red 2, fuchsia 14, turquoise 33, blue 36, emerald 45, banana 63. Grey Rico Baby Cotton Soft DK, 50% cotton / 50% acrylic, 50 g / 125 m. 3.5 mm hook, stuffing, needle, markers. One ball per shade is a purchase allowance, not measured consumption. Also use scissors, a tape measure, removable stitch markers and a blunt yarn needle. Check current yarn labels rather than assuming an old colour or yarn remains available. No substitute is claimed equivalent without a sample.

Gauge, measurements and resizing

No numerical gauge is supplied for this project. Work a generous swatch in the named main stitch with the stated yarn and hook, allow it to rest, and measure the central 10 cm in both directions: stitches/10 cm = ___; rows/10 cm = ___. For spiral pieces, make a small stuffed trial and check that the filling is contained without gaps. For open motifs, make and measure one whole motif; a plain swatch alone will not predict its finished outline.

Record yarn, fibre, hook, actual dimensions, yarn used and care result. Changing yarn or hook changes size and stiffness, not just appearance. For the same stitch construction, new width is approximately old width x old stitch gauge / new stitch gauge; this is a planning estimate, not a verified size. Keep the written counts for shaped figures and trial the entire set of components together. Do not enlarge just the body and expect the old hat or limbs to fit. For motifs, use whole repeated motifs to enlarge a joined piece rather than interrupting the stitch repeat.

US terminology and working rules

The new route uses US terms. The unchanged reference pages use UK terms: UK dc = US sc; UK htr = US hdc; UK tr = US dc; UK dtr = US tr; UK ttr = US double treble. UK FPtr = US fpdc, but UK FPdc = US fpsc. Do not mix the two systems within a round.

MR: adjustable magic ring; ch: chain; sl st: slip stitch; st: stitch; sc: single crochet; hdc: half double crochet; dc: double crochet; tr: treble crochet; BLO: back loop only. Inc means 2 sc in one stitch unless a different stitch is named. Dec means sc2tog over the next two stitches. For sc2tog, insert and draw up a loop in each of two stitches, yarn over and draw through all 3 loops. A repeat in parentheses is worked the stated number of times; the count at its end is the new working count.

For fpdc, yarn over, insert from front to back to front around the next post, draw up a loop, then complete a dc. For fpsc, insert around the post without the initial yarn over and complete a sc. Double treble: yarn over 3 times, insert and draw up a loop, then yarn over and draw through 2 loops four times. Picot, unless otherwise stated: ch2, sl st into the second chain from the hook.

Continuous-round pieces: mark the first real stitch, move the marker every round and do not join or turn. Joined rounds: join to the first actual stitch, except where an initial counted tall chain explicitly replaces that stitch. Flat sc rows: ch1 and turn; the chain never counts. Change colour on the last pull-through of the preceding stitch and weave ends securely into the fabric. An uncounted turning chain does not create another stitch.

1. Make twelve non-electric bulbs

Make two bulbs in each of six colours. Begin each with grey at the cap. Setup MR6. R1: (sc1, inc) x3 =9. R2: (sc2, inc) x3 =12. Change to the bulb colour. R3: (sc1, inc) x6 =18. R4 sc18. R5: (sc2, inc) x6 =24. R6-8 sc24.

R9: (dec, sc10) x2 =22. R10: (dec, sc9) x2 =20. R11: (dec, sc8) x2 =18. R12: (dec, sc7) x2 =16. R13: (dec, sc6) x2 =14. R14: (dec, sc5) x2 =12. R15: (dec, sc4) x2 =10. R16: (dec, sc3) x2 =8. Stuff lightly and check no filling shows through. R17: (dec, sc2) x2 =6. Fasten with a tail, draw through the final front loops and close

neatly at the point. Weave ends without flattening the cap.

2. Crochet the tape and attach the bulbs

In grey, ch261. Sc in the second chain from the hook =tape stitch1. Continue sc in the next20 chains, then sl st into the top of the first grey bulb cap to attach it. The joining sl st is not a foundation-chain stitch and does not raise the tape count.

Repeat for the remaining11 bulbs: sc in the next20 foundation chains, sl st into the next bulb cap. Bulbs attach after tape stitches21,41,61,81,101,121,141,161,181,201,221,241. After the twelfth attachment, sc in the remaining19 chains. Count260 tape sc total. Fasten and weave both ends into the tape. Check each cap connection, secure any weak joining area with matching yarn on the reverse, and record the result. The attachment numbering is an editorial clarification to the printed repeated spacing.

3. Size, display and care checks

The reference finished garland is about127 cm long. Use the actual tape gauge for a more useful plan:260 divided by stitches/cm estimates straight tape length in centimetres, before drape and attachments. Make all12 bulbs to check spacing and fullness before installing it. Length can be proposed by adding/removing full20-stitch intervals and one bulb per interval, keeping21 stitches before the first attachment and19 after the last. For B bulbs the corresponding tape has20B+20 sc and a foundation of20B+21 chains; at B=12 this is260 sc/ch261. This resizing formula is untested.

These are stuffed crocheted bulb shapes. Do not insert electrical lamps, wiring, batteries, fairy lights or heat sources. Hang from secure indoor supports out of pet reach, and keep the tape and bulbs away from flames and warm fixtures. Inspect both tape ends, every cap join and all stuffing seams before use. Remove the garland if a pet can reach or pull it. Follow the labels for both cotton bulbs and mixed-fibre grey tape; trial care on the swatches first.

Technical points to check on the sample

Attachment points are clarified as after tape stitches 21,41,...,241, leaving 19 stitches. This is a stuffed non-electric decoration; no light fittings belong inside it. Record the actual stitch counts after each shaping round, measure the finished piece, and check every join. If the fabric or count does not agree, stop and resolve it before continuing. Retain your yarn and gauge record; arithmetic agreement is not a physical test.

Care and intended use

Finish every join and bury the tails. Inspect seams, exposed loops, attached parts and hanging points before use and after care. Follow the actual yarn and trim labels; mixed components may need the gentlest compatible care. First test cleaning on the swatch. No new wash, colourfastness, shrinkage, heat, load or stability test has been performed.

These are indoor gifts and decorative objects, not pet toys. Keep strings, garlands, stuffing, small fittings and gift sweets away from chewing or swallowing. Place decorations where pets cannot reach or pull them down. Remove damaged items promptly. Never use a crochet garland as a collar, tether or restraint. The weighted cats are doorstops for adult-managed display, not stuffed playthings.

Finished-detail reference views

The following are finished photographs, not a step-by-step making sequence. They are alternate views of this same idea. Their props, small fittings and styling are not additional patterns. Use the written route for construction and the unchanged pages for the original chart/layout.



Finished turquoise and blue crochet bulbs attached to the grey garland tape.

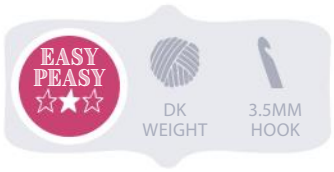
Unchanged reference pages

The next 2 pages preserve the relevant supplied instruction/photo pages in their original numbering: 112, 113. The new route above contains its own making steps and term definitions. Read the original UK chart keys as UK terms; do not apply US meanings to those labels. Other magazine projects are outside this eight-idea selection.



Shine bright

Bring a warm glow to any room this Christmas with a string of vintage fairy lights! By Liz Ward.



YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Essentials Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/130m), 1 ball of each:
  Red (002)
  Fuchsia (014)
  Turquoise (33)
  Royal Blue (36)
  Emerald (45)
  Banana (63)
- Rico Baby Cotton Soft DK (50% cotton, 50% acrylic, 50g/125m), 1 ball of Mouse Grey (26)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Tapestry needle
- Toy stuffing

For yarn stockists contact Rico www.rico-design.de

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project

MEASUREMENTS

Garland is approx 127cm (50in) long

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 130

To see more of Liz's designs, visit www.lizwardcrochet.com

This jolly string of fairy lights will bring plenty of festive cheer to your home. We love the array of bold colours designer Liz has chosen: red, fuchsia, turquoise, blue and yellow – just gorgeous! These lights are easy to make and perfect for beginners to show off their skills, while more experienced crocheters will whip them up in an evening.

BULBS (MAKE 12)

Make two in each colour; start each one in grey yarn.
Start with 6dc into magic ring. [6 sts]
Round 1 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next), repeat to end. [9 sts]
Round 2 (Dc into each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next), repeat to end. [12 st]
Change to bulb colour after Round 2.
Round 3 (Dc into next st, 2dc in next st), repeat to the end. [18 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each st to the end. [18 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in the first 2 sts, 2dc in the next st), repeat to end. [24 sts]
Rounds 6-8 Dc in each st to the end. [24 sts]
Round 9 (Dc2tog, dc in next 10 sts), repeat to end. [22 sts]
Round 10 (Dc2tog, dc in next 9 sts), repeat to end. [20 sts]
Round 11 (Dc2tog, dc in next 8 sts), repeat to end. [18 sts]
Round 12 (Dc2tog, dc in next 7 sts), repeat to end. [16 sts]
Round 13 (Dc2tog, dc in next 6 sts), repeat to end. [14 sts]
Round 14 (Dc2tog, dc in next 5 sts), repeat to end. [12 sts]
Round 15 (Dc2tog, dc in next 4 sts), repeat to end. [10 sts]
Round 16 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts), repeat to end. [8 sts]
Fill with stuffing.
Round 17 (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts), repeat to end. [6 sts]
Cut the yarn, leaving a long tail and pull through the loop to secure.
Using a tapestry needle, weave the yarn through the last 6 sts and pull tight to close. Weave in the yarn ends and cut off the remaining yarn.

TAPE

With grey yarn, ch 261.
Dc in second ch from hook, (dc in next 20 ch sts, slip stitch in the top of a bulb to attach it to the tape), repeat until you have connected all the bulbs along the tape, evenly spaced, dc in the remaining ch sts.
Fasten off and weave in any loose ends.



Hook the hanging tape separately, attaching the bulbs as you go along.