Give spike stitch a go by crocheting these colourful brooches and corsages



Karen Wiederhold has been inspired by this issue's kit and the approach of springtime to create an exciting collection of colourful motifs. The pretty designs are really versatile and can be used as both corsages and brooches. If you're looking for a new technique to add to your repertoire, start by making the white flower corsage and give spike stitch a try.

Stitches used:

Chain (ch)
Double crochet (dc)
Treble (tr)
Slip stitch (sl st)
Half treble (htr)
Spike stitch (see Stitch dictionary)

circular brooch

white circle

Using 5.5mm hook and white yarn make 6ch and join into ring with sl st
Rnd 1: 3ch, 11tr, join with sl st to first sp. 12 tr
Rnd 2: 3ch, 1tr into same sp, 2tr into each of remaining sps. 24 tr
Fasten off

inner flower

Using 5.5mm hook and blue yarn make 6ch and join into ring with sl st
Rnd 1: (3ch, dc into loop) six times. **Note:** this forms six petals
Fasten off

to make up

Wrap orange yarn around three fingers, slip off and tie tightly around centre. Sew onto white brooch base. Secure blue flower to brooch by sewing button all the way though to white back layer, tie to front of button, trim and fluff ends. Adhere brooch clip with glue gun



butterfly

body

Using 5.5mm hook and yellow yarn make 10ch, leaving long tail
Row 1: 1dc into third ch from hook, 7tr
Fasten off leaving long tail
These two long tails yarn are feelers, knot them desired distance from head, cut off excess

upper wings

Row 1: join blue yarn to third sp from head end, 3ch, 5tr, sl st into same sp
Fasten off
Attach green yarn to first space of prev row
Row 2: 3ch, 3tr into next three sps
Fasten off

To make second wing, rep as for first wing in the same sp on opposite side of body

lower wings

Using 5.5mm hook and pink yarn attach to sp below upper wings on left side
Row 1: 3ch, 3tr, turn so as to work back along row, 3ch, sl st into same sp
Fasten off
Turn butterfly over so WS is facing
Rep as mirror image to make right side lower wing

to make up

Stitch holes using matching yarn on WS of butterfly. Attach brooch back with glue gun

white flower corsage

Using 5.5mm hook and yellow yarn make 6ch and join into ring with sl st
Rnd 1: 3ch, 11tr, join with sl st to first space. 12 tr
Rnd 2: (3ch, sl st into same space, sl st to next space) 12 times. 12 mini petals formed
Fasten off

Turn piece over, so WS is facing. Work though vertical sts below each mini petal for this rnd. Attach white yarn to first stitch below a petal
Rnd 3: (4ch, skip one petal, sl st into back of next mini petal) six times
Join last loop into starting point (forms six loops)
Turn piece back to RS facing
Rnd 4: sl st into first loop, 2ch, 7tr, work 8tr into next five loops, join with sl st to top of 2ch at start of rnd
Rnd 5: work into spaces between tr for this rnd, (sl st into first sp between first and second tr, 1ch, htr, 3tr, 2htr) six times, sl st into first sp of first petal's starting point to join. **Note:** this makes six petals
Change to pink yarn
Rnd 6: 1ch, 1htr into each st around edge of petal. At space between petals work a spike stitch (see Stitch Dictionary), pulling tight enough to pucker petal, join with sl st
Fasten off

to make up

Sew button in centre of flower using pink yarn, tie to front and feather ends. Adhere brooch back with a glue gun



yellow flower corsage

Using 5.5mm hook and yellow yarn make 6ch and join into ring with sl st
Next rnd: 3ch, 11tr, join with sl st to first space. 12 tr
Note: Next row begins petal
Row 1: 3ch, 5tr into same sp
Row 2: turn to work back along row, sl st into first sp, 2ch, dc into each sp
Row 3: turn, sl st into first sp, tr into next three sps
Row 4: rep Row 3
Row 5: sl st into top of last tr, draw tog
Fasten off and cut, leaving a length of 6cm. Use this length to stitch tip of petal closed to form a folded point
To begin next petal, skip 2tr on circle, join yarn into sp and rep petal Rows 1-5

to make up

Crochet small flower (see circular brooch pattern) and one leaf (see garland pattern on page 20). Attach small flower to centre of corsage by sewing on button. Sew leaf onto back of corsage. Adhere brooch clip with glue gun





MEET OUR DESIGNER

"I really love this issue's kit and I had great fun making these brooches and corsages. Why not mount them onto clasps that include clips so you can wear your new accessory in your hair?"

Karen Wiederhold is a general craft designer who has regularly contributed to our sister title, Crafts Beautiful. Find her blog at www.karenwiederhold.blogspot.com

Stitch Dictionary

spike stitch

Poke the hook through to the bottom of the preceding row and draw the yarn back up to the level of the current row being worked.

hot tip

For a different look, mount the butterfly onto the big white flower. Simply leave off the button in the centre of the flower. To make a bigger butterfly, use your yarn double



LGC says...

"These brooches are fantastic for adding a flash of colour to any outfit"

Gabriella Blake
Editorial Assistant