# FreshStitches 

a fresh approach to crochet


## Valentine Hearts, 3 sizes

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Height: 7" (large), 5" (medium), 2.5" (small)
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## Abbreviations

ch: chain
sc: single crochet
sc2tog: single crochet 2 together
st(s): stitch(es)

## Materials

Size H crochet hook
tapestry needle
a few handfuls of stuffing

## Yarn

Less than 220 yards ( 1 skein) of each color is required. For the yarn, I use $100 \%$ wool worsted weight (Ella Rae is the brand used in the sample). However, any worsted weight yarn can be substituted. Since these hearts don't take much yarn, they're a great stash-buster! MC- Pink (Ella Rae Classic color \# 54)

## Directions

## Gauge

This pattern doesn't specify a gauge. It's a stuffed animal, and you don't need to be too picky about exact sizing. The most important thing is that you use a hook size that creates a nice looking fabric for your yarn. If you use the recommended hook size, and your fabric looks very loose (so that stuffing would show through), then you will want to use a smaller hook. Other than that, no measuring required!

## Stitch into the back

All stitches in the round are into the back loop, unless otherwise directed. Look at picture (a), and see how the arrow points to the back loop? You will stitch into this loop, as pictured in (b). Stitching into the back loop creates ridges on the right side of the piece. For rows, you will stitch into the front loop, unless otherwise directed. You can stitch into both loops if you desire, but this will change the look of the final product.

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## Starting out: the sloppy slip knot

Most pieces in this pattern (as they are based on circles) begin with stitching six times into one loop. We recommend the 'slopply slip knot' to avoid creating a hole in the center (a). To do this, twist the yarn around the hook to begin, and crochet as directed. Once you have completed your first round, pull on the tail, while holding the loop you have created (b). The loop will end up tighter, as pictured in (c).


## The Pattern

This pattern contains instructions for 3 different sizes: small, medium and large. They are all made by first making two pieces for the top 'bumps', and then joining to finish the heart. Just follow the instructions for the size you want to complete!

## Top of Heart

Make 2 (for all sizes)

## Small Heart

With MC, ch 2 Round 1: sc 6 times in 2nd ch from hook (6)
Round 2: sc twice in each st (12)
Rounds 3-4: sc in each st (12)
Fasten off.

## Medium Heart

With MC, ch 2 Round 1: sc 6 times in 2nd ch from hook (6)
Round 2: sc twice in each st (12)
Round 3: * sc twice in next st, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (18)
Round 4: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 2 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (24)
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Rounds 5-7: sc in each st (24)
Fasten off.

## Large Heart

With MC, ch 2 Round 1: sc 6 times in 2nd ch from hook (6)
Round 2: sc twice in each st (12)
Round 3: * sc twice in next st, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (18)
Round 4: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 2 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (24)
Round 5: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 3 sts. Repeat from $* 5$ times (30)
Round 6: * sc twice in next st, sc in next 4 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (36)
Rounds 7-11: sc in each st (36)
Fasten off.

You will now have two pieces that look like the photo at right.

## Body of heart

You will join the two pieces that you just crocheted together.
Round 5 (8, 12): Join new strand of MC. Sc in each st of the last round of piece 1. Without cutting or turning, sc in each st of the last round of piece $2 .(24,48,72)$
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You will continue to work in the round on this piece.

## Small Heart

Rounds 6-8: sc in each st (24)
Round 9: * sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts. Repeat from * 5
times (18)
Round 10: * sc2tog, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5
times (12)
Round 11: sc in each st (12)

At this point, stuff the heart.
Round 12: * sc2tog. Repeat from * 5 times (6)
sc next and 4th st together. Fasten off.

## Medium Heart

Rounds 9-10: sc in each st (48)
Round 11: * sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts. Repeat from $* 5$ times (42)
Round 12: * sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts. Repeat from $* 5$ times (36)
Round $13:$ * sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (30)
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Rounds 14-15: sc in each st (30)
Round 16: * sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (24)
Round 17: sc in each st (24)
Round 18: * sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (18)
Round 19: * sc2tog, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (12)
Rounds 20-21: sc in each st (12)

At this point, stuff the heart.


## Large Heart

Rounds 13-14: sc in each st (72)
Round 15: * sc2tog, sc in next 10 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (66)
Round 16: * sc2tog, sc in next 9 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (60)
Round 17: * sc2tog, sc in next 8 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (54)
Rounds 18-19: sc in each st (54)
Round 20: * sc2tog, sc in next 7 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (48)
Round 21: * sc2tog, sc in next 6 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (42)
Round 22: sc in each st (42)
Round 23: * sc2tog, sc in next 5 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (36)
Round 24: * sc2tog, sc in next 4 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (30)
Round 25: sc in each st (30)
Round 26: * sc2tog, sc in next 3 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (24)
Round 27: sc in each st (24)
Round 18: * sc2tog, sc in next 2 sts. Repeat from * 5 times (18)
Round 19: * sc2tog, sc in next st. Repeat from * 5 times (12)
Rounds 20-21: sc in each st (12)
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At this point, stuff the heart.


Round 22: * sc2tog. Repeat from * 5 times (6) sc next and 4th st together. Fasten off.

## At this point, weave in ends!

## Congrats! You now have an awesome Valentine's Day heart!

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