

*Little Birds
in
Their Nests*



*A Crochet Pattern by Deborah Ellis of Neatly Tangled
<http://neatlytangled.com>*

Little Birds in Their Nests

Skill Level: Easy

Materials: Worsted weight yarn of your choice, including contrasting scraps of yarn or thread for eyes and beak. For birds, size F (3.75 mm) hook or size needed to produce a tight, stuffable fabric in single crochet. For nests, size I (5.5 mm) hook for double-stranded nest and size K (6.5 mm) hook for triple-stranded nest. Polyester fiberfill or other stuffing material sufficient to stuff bird firmly. Tapestry needle for joining, embroidery, and weaving ends.

Abbreviations:

ch...chain stitch
dc...double crochet
hdc...half double crochet
sc...single crochet
sl st...slip stitch
yo...yarn over

Special stitches:

sc2tog: Insert hook through both loops of next sc, yo and pull through, insert hook through both loops of next sc, yo and pull through, yo and pull through all 3 loops on the hook: 1 sc2tog (counts as 1 sc).

Notes:

You may prefer to start your birds and nests with a method other than the chain four/join to form ring stated. Alternate methods I'm aware of are to start with a chain two and work the first round's single crochets into the second chain from the hook, and the magic ring method described at CrochetMe (<http://crochetme.com/amigurumi-double-ring>). Use whatever technique allows you to have the smallest (or, preferably, non-existent!) hole at the beginning of the work

The birds and nests are worked in spirals. Do not join rounds. Each increasing or decreasing round features 6 repeats of the increase or decrease stitch pattern. You may find it useful to mark the first stitch of each round.

This pattern can be worked with any weight yarn and an appropriate hook...bigger yarn/hook will produce a bigger piece. As written, the finished bird is approximately 2.75 inches (7 cm) tall. The double-stranded nest is 1.75 (4.5 cm) inches across and .75 inch (1.9 cm) tall, and the triple stranded is 4 inches (10.2 cm) by 3.5 inches (8.9 cm) by 1.5 inches (3.8 cm).

You may want to stuff the head after completing a few rounds of the body rather than stuffing the whole piece at once. This makes it easier to stuff evenly.



Bird

Head and Body:

Working from top of head, ch 4, join with sl st to form ring.

Round 1: 6 sc in ring: 6 sc. Do not join.

Round 2: 2 sc in each sc around: 12 sc.

Round 3: [2 sc in next sc, sc in next sc] around: 18 sc.

Round 4-7: Sc in each sc around: 18 sc. (Total of 4 rounds worked even.)

Round 8: [sc2tog over next 2 sc, sc in next sc] around: 12 sc

(end head)

Round 9: [2 sc in next sc, sc in next sc] around: 18 sc.

Round 10: [2 sc in next sc, sc in next 2 sc] around: 24 sc.

Round 11-16: Sc in each sc around: 24 sc. (Total of 6 rounds worked even.)

Round 17: [sc2tog over next 2 sc, sc in next 2 sc] around: 18 sc.

Round 18: [sc2tog over next 2 sc, sc in next sc] around: 12 sc.

Round 19: Sc2tog around: 6 sc.

Round 20: Sl st as needed to close remaining gap and finish off. Weave in end.



Wing (make 2):

Ch 4.

Sc in 2nd ch from hook.

Hdc in next ch.

In last ch, work 6 dc.



Working up the other side of the starting chain, hdc in next ch, sc in last chain. Join with sl st to first ch and finish off, leaving a long end for sewing the wing to the body.

Weave in other end, or pull it through body as well.

Finishing:

Sew wings to body, placing the top of the wing at the first round of the body. Embroider eyes and beak.



Nests

Double-Stranded Nest for Single Bird:

With 2 strands of yarn and an I hook: ch 4, join with sl st to form ring.

Round 1: 6 sc in ring: 6 sc. Do not join.

Round 2: 2 sc in each sc around: 12 sc.

Round 3: [2 sc in next sc, sc in next sc] around: 18 sc.

Round 4-5: Sc in each sc around: 18 sc. At the end of round 5, sl st in next 2 sc, finish off and weave in ends.

Triple-Stranded Nest for Pair of Birds:

With 3 strands of yarn and a K hook: ch 4, join with sl st to form ring.

Round 1: 6 sc in ring: 6 sc. Do not join.

Round 2: 2 sc in each sc around: 12 sc.

Round 3: *[2 sc in next sc] 3 times, then 3 sc,* repeat from * to * twice: 18 sc.

Round 4: *[2 sc in next sc, sc in next sc] 3 times, then 3 sc,* repeat from * to * twice: 24 sc.

Round 5: *[2 sc in next sc, sc in next 2 sc] 3 times, then 3 sc,* repeat from * to * twice: 30 sc

Round 6-7: Sc in each sc around: 30 sc. At the end of round 7, sl st in next sc, finish off and weave in ends.



Your little birds should fit perfectly in their nests! :-D

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