

ECHINOCEREUS SCHERERI

You will need:

- 3mm (US C/2, UK 11 or 12) crochet hook (for the cactus); 2.5mm (B/1, UK 12) crochet hook for the flower
- Wool yarn (50g/142–164yd/130–150m) in dark green
- Cotton yarn (50g/174–185yd/160–170m) in pink and yellow
- Medium soil base (4½in/11cm), see page 12
- Small white glass beads (2mm)
- Overall height: 9½in (24cm)



CACTUS

Work from the top down.

Round 1: using 3mm (US C/2, UK 11 or 12) hook and dark green yarn, 6 sc (UK dc) in a mr (6 sts).

Round 2: 2 sc (UK dc) in each st (12 sts).

Round 3: *2 sc (UK dc) in next st, 1 sc (UK dc)* six times (18 sts).

Round 4: *2 sc (UK dc) in next st, 2 sc (UK dc)* six times (24 sts).

Round 5: *2 sc (UK dc) in next st, 3 sc (UK dc)* six times (30 sts).

Round 6: *2 sc (UK dc) in next st, 4 sc (UK dc)* six times (36 sts).

Rounds 7 and 8: 1 sc (UK dc) in each st (36 sts).

Round 9: *2 sc (UK dc) in next st, 5 sc (UK dc)* six times (42 sts).

Round 10: 1 sc (UK dc) in each st (42 sts).

Round 11: *2 sc (UK dc) in next st, 6 sc (UK dc)* six times (48 sts).

Rounds 12–15: 1 sc (UK dc) in each st (48 sts).

Rounds 16–23: dec 2 sc (UK dc) over the round, 1 sc (UK dc) in the remaining sts (46–32 sts).

Round 24: 1 sc (UK dc) in each st (32 sts).

Round 25: dec 2 sc (UK dc) over the round, 1 sc (UK dc) in the remaining sts (30 sts).

Rounds 26 and 27: 1 sc (UK dc) in each st (30 sts).

Round 28: dec 2 sc (UK dc) over the round, 1 sc (UK dc) in the remaining sts (28 sts).

Round 29: 1 sc (UK dc) in each st (28 sts).

Fasten off and stuff the cactus. Mount it on the soil base.

BALL

Work from the top down.

Round 1: using dark green yarn, 6 sc (UK dc) in a mr (6 sts).

Round 2: 2 sc (UK dc) in each st (12 sts).

Round 3: *2 sc (UK dc) in next st, 1 sc (UK dc)* six times (18 sts).

Round 4: *2 sc (UK dc) in next st, 2 sc (UK dc)* six times (24 sts).

Round 5: 1 sc (UK dc) in each st (24 sts).

Round 6: *2 sc (UK dc) in next st, 3 sc (UK dc)* six times (30 sts).

Rounds 7–10: 1 sc (UK dc) in each st (30 sts).

Round 11: *dec 1 sc (UK dc), 3 sc (UK dc)* six times (24 sts).

Rounds 12 and 13: 1 sc (UK dc) in each st (24 sts).

Round 14: *dec 1 sc (UK dc), 2 sc (UK dc)* six times (18 sts).

Round 15: *dec 1 sc (UK dc), 1 sc (UK dc)* six times (12 sts). Fasten off and stuff the ball. Then sew it onto the cactus.

FLOWER (OUTSIDE)

Change to 2.5mm (B/1, UK 12) hook.

Round 1: using pink yarn, 6 sc (UK dc) in a mr (6 sts).

Round 2: 2 sc (UK dc) in each st (12 sts).

Rounds 3 and 4: 1 sc (UK dc) in each st (12 sts).

Round 5: *8 ch, starting in second st from the hook, 7 sc (UK dc), 1 sl st in last sc (UK dc)* twelve times (12 petals).

Fasten off, leaving an end of yarn for sewing up.

FLOWER (INSIDE)

Round 1: using pink yarn, 5 sc (UK dc) in a mr (5 sts).

Round 2: 2 sc (UK dc) in each st (10 sts).

Rounds 3 and 4: 1 sc (UK dc) in each st (10 sts).

Round 5: *8 ch, starting in second st from hook, 7 sc (UK dc), 1 sl st in last sc (UK dc)* 10 times (10 petals).

Fasten off, leaving an end of yarn for sewing up.

Sew the two parts of the flower together. Cut four strands of yellow yarn and sew them in the centre of the flower. Then sew the flower onto the top of the cactus.

Using a green sewing thread, sew on lots of white glass beads, spaced out evenly.

