

Helter Skelter Nest Yarn Basket – Suzy McCormac

I created this using one skein of Helter Skelter Chunky, inspired to use some of the attributes of a Helter Skelter in the design.

Having lugged upstairs a handful of my current project of a 4 DPN sock, including tiny markers, several needles and all that was involved, scattering it all as I did so, I thought a yarn basket might be just the thing for this yarn challenge.

There are two baskets, one which can stack inside the other when not in use, and with the smaller one being able to house the tiny bits needed to be kept safe and within reach.

The base of each bowl is worked from the centre as a spiral – just like a Helter Skelter going round and round! I made the outer texture ridged, again echoing a Helter Skelter design and the decorative edge, whilst being similar to the handles you would grip onto on the traditional coir mats to slide down, are useful to thread your yarn through to keep it contained inside the basket as you work, without it rolling away!

It would be simple to add a few more rounds if you wanted a larger basket, and to add a few more rows to the sides to make taller containers – equally as useful as a decorative plant pot holder perhaps. The yarn stood up enough by itself but could also be made more rigid with ModPodge Stiffy or similar if you wanted it to stand alone. I didn't because it was a 'grab and go' which would be comfortable in your arms.

Photographs – showing some close-ups to show the beauty of the yarn and the specifics of my design as I explained above. I thought the yarn was very attractive and only needed a fairly simple design so that it shone in its own right.



Nestled together – you could add rows to make more size options (with more yarn)



Ridges like the Helter Skelter Slide



Round and round and round!



From above



Like the handles on the slide mat!



Yarn bowl function too!

Instructions in UK terms

Stitches used –

Ch – chain

Sl st – slip stitch

Tr – treble

Trbl – treble to back loops only

Crochet hook size 6mm

Yarn – Cygnet Helter Skelter Chunky in Tornado (4033) – 100% acrylic

First Basket : Large size

Foundation - Chain 5, and slip stitch into a loop.

1. Chain 2, then work 12 tr into the centre of the loop, sl stitch to join.
2. Chain 2, then work 2 tr into each stitch to end, sl stitch to join.
3. Chain 2, then work 1 tr into each stitch to end, sl st to join.
4. Chain 2, then work 2 tr into each stitch to end, sl st to join.
5. Work 2 more rounds like row 3.
6. Cast off. This part makes the base.

Join your yarn to the outer row, to make the first upright row – dc in each stitch to end, sl st to join.

1. Chain 2, work 1 trbl into each stitch to end – THIS IS TO BACK LOOPS ONLY in order to make the textured ribbed pattern (see photos). Sl st to join.
2. Chain 2 work 1 trbl into each st to end – sl st to join.
3. Continue working like this until you have completed 5 rows, of trbl on top of the 1 row of dc.
4. Cast off.
5. Join your yarn again at the edge of the top of the last trbl row, you will be making a simple looped 'scallop' edge next.
6. Chain 4, miss a st and dc into the next st. If you look closely at your stitches, you will be coming from your first stitch, missing one and then making a dc in the next so you make a loop which is anchored down by the dc. In the final loop, sl st to the first one.
7. Work in ends.

For the smaller basket, work as before, but working only 4 rounds, after the foundation chain. Join at the side as before, working 4 rows on top of the dc row you will start with. There is no decorative edge to this one.

There you have it! The Helter Skelter Yarn Baskets! I hope you have enjoyed this project.

Suzy McCormac 16/01/18