

ONE PATTERN

Three looks

Lucille Randall's *cute cactus designs* – which one will you choose?



1 *Bobbly cactus:
moss stitch texture*

3 *Tall cactus: bright
crochet flower and
fluffy mohair.*

2 *Round cactus:
easy rib pattern*

MATERIALS

YOU WILL NEED

- Rowan, Pure Wool DK (100% wool, 50g/130m) 1 ball of each: Parsley (020) and Pine Needle (050)
 - Rowan, Kidsilk Haze (70% mohair, 30% silk, 25g/210m) 1 ball of: Jelly (597)
 - A set of 3½mm DPNs
 - A 3.5mm crochet hook
 - Toy stuffing
 - Mini flower pots
 - A stitch holder
- For yarn stockists contact Rowan 01484 681881 www.knitrowan.com

TENSION

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 28 sts and 26 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over stitch pattern using 3½mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

ch chain
ktbl knit through back of loop
tr treble

These wonderful woolly cacti will last much longer than the real thing – and they're perfectly prickly-free! Lucille Randall's three cactus designs are fun to knit, and they'll make fantastic gifts – for Christmas, or as a housewarming present to brighten up a room.

"If you're new to knitting in the round, this is a great first project, as it really doesn't matter if your cactus ends up knobbly. It will just add to the charm," says Lucille. "Feel free to try out different shapes. After all, no two cacti are the same – or is that snowflakes?" With little crochet flowers, your cacti will bloom all year round, and you know they'll never die of neglect!

Start knitting here...

SMALL ROUND CACTUS

Cast on 48 stitches using 3½mm DPNs. Divide evenly over 4 DPNs and place a stitch marker at the beginning of the round. Join into a round.

Round 1 (K1tbl, P1); to end of round. Repeat round 1 for 30 rounds

Break off yarn leaving a long tail and thread tail through your darning needle. Pass the needle through all of the stitches on the DPNs, dropping them off as you go. Pull tight to close the hole at the top and fasten off. Weave in loose end. Stuff with fibre fill and sew up the bottom end.

TALL CACTUS

Cast on 30 stitches using 3½mm DPNs. Divide evenly over 4 DPNs and place a stitch marker at the beginning of the round. Join into a round.

Round 1 (K1tbl, P1) to end of round. Repeat round 1 for 30 rounds.

Join in mohair and continue to work with both yarns together for a further 20 rounds.

Break off yarn leaving a long tail and thread tail through your darning needle. Pass the needle through all of the stitches on the DPNs, dropping them off as you go. Pull tight to close the hole at the top and fasten off. Weave in loose end. Stuff with fibre fill and sew up the bottom end. Tease out the fibres of the mohair yarn to create a fluffy cactus.

BOBBLY CACTUS

Each piece is made individually and worked in moss stitch.

LARGE BOBBLE

Cast on 39 stitches using 3½mm DPNs. Divide evenly over 4 DPNs and place a stitch marker at the beginning of the round. Join into a round.

Round 1 (K1, P1); to end of round.

Round 2 (P1, K1); to end of round.

Repeat these 2 rounds to create the moss stitch pattern.

Work 30 rounds in moss stitch.

* Break off yarn leaving a long tail and thread tail through your darning needle. Pass the needle through all of the stitches on the DPNs, dropping them off as you go. Pull tight to close the hole at the top and fasten off. Weave in loose end. Stuff with fibre fill and sew up the bottom end.**

MEDIUM BOBBLE 1

Cast on 27 stitches using 3½mm DPNs. Divide evenly over 4 DPNs and place a stitch marker at the beginning of the round. Join into a round.

Round 1 (K1, P1); to end of round.

Round 2 (P1, K1); to end of round.

Repeat these 2 rounds to create the moss stitch pattern.

Work 20 rounds in moss stitch.

Finish off the same as Large Cactus, * to **.

MEDIUM BOBBLE 2

Cast on 21 stitches using 3½mm DPNs. Divide evenly over 4 DPNs and place a stitch marker at the beginning of the round. Join into a round.

Round 1 (K1, P1); to end of round.

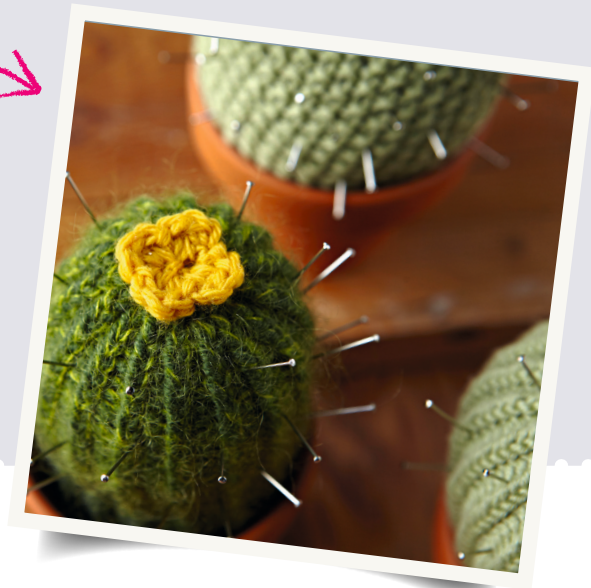
Round 2 (P1, K1); to end of round.

Repeat these 2 rounds to create the moss



You can add more bobble shapes to make an even larger cactus!

"Crochet flowers add a splash of colour, and are great for using up scraps of yarn. Use the yarn tails to sew them in place"



stitch pattern.
Work 20 rounds in moss stitch.

Finish off the same as Large Cactus, * to **.

SMALL BOBBLE

Cast on 15 stitches using 3½mm DPNs. Divide evenly over 4 DPNs and place a stitch marker at the beginning of the round. Join into a round.

Round 1 (K1, P1); to end of round.

Round 2 (P1, K1); to end of round.

Repeat these 2 rounds to create the moss stitch pattern.

Work 16 rounds in moss stitch.

Finish off the same as Large Cactus, * to **.

MAKING UP

Using a matching thread, sew the 2 medium and small bobbles to the large

bobble. Use the main picture as reference.

CROCHET FLOWERS

Using a 3.5mm crochet hook, ch4 and join with a ss to form a ring. Into the centre hole: (tr3, ss) 4 times into the ring.

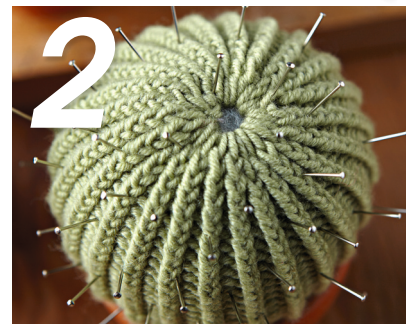
On last ss break off yarn and pull through ss loop.

Fasten off and weave in loose end. Thread the other tail through your needle and sew flower onto your cactus.

Tip

To make a mega-sized cactus, use some super chunky yarn and 8mm needles.

Now you're ready to pop your cactus into its plant pot. A strip of double-sided tape on the inside of the rim will help to secure it in place. 🌵



Thread yarn through your stitches and pull together to close the shape.



Gently tease out the mohair yarn to give a fluffy look to the tall cactus.

STEP-BY-STEP HOW TO DO TREBLE CROCHET



1 Wrap the yarn round the hook, from back to front of the hook once. Now insert the hook into the top of the next stitch.



2 Wrap yarn round the hook (back to front) and bring the yarn through the stitch. Wrap yarn round the hook; you will now have 4 stitches on the hook.



3 Pull the yarn through the middle 2 stitches on the hook, leaving 2 stitches on the hook. Wrap yarn round the hook (from back to front).



4 Bring the yarn through both stitches; this will leave you with 1 stitch on the hook. Repeat these steps into the top of the next and following stitches.