

CROCHETED ARTIFICIAL BIRD NEST

NOTES: These small nests are used in rehabilitation for baby birds at the Rescue Center. Acrylic yarn is best vs. paper nests because they can stand up to multiple washings. Any color is fine, but pastels or lighter colors are best (think baby birds!). Also, avoid yarn that is really fuzzy, as birds can get caught in the fibers.

USE A WORSTED WEIGHT YARN. HOLD 2-3 STRANDS TOGETHER FOR A TIGHT STITCH. IF YOU CAN HANDLE 3 STRANDS, IT MAKES FOR A MUCH TIGHTER, STURDIER NEST. THE RESCUE CENTER SAID THAT WHEN THE NESTS ARE LOOSE, THEY TEND TO COLLAPSE OR TIP TO THE SIDE.

Starting Ring:

Chain 3 using 3 strands of yarn held together, and slip stitch into last chain to make a loop or ring.

Round 1:

Chain 2 (this counts as your first “stitch”). Work between 10-15 single crochets into the ring depending on what thickness of yarn you are using. Slip stitch the last single crochet to top stitch in the chain 2 that started this round.

Round 2:

Chain 2. Single crochet into each of the next 2 stitches, then do 2 single crochets into next stitch, single crochet in the next 2 stitches, and so on until you reach the top of the chain 2 that started this round. Then, 2 single crochet into the top of the chain.

Round 3, 4 5...:

Repeat round 2 until your circle is at least 3” across (one pattern says you can go up to 6”; however, when I showed samples to Rescue Center, they said that by the time the birds would be large enough for that size, they are being trained to be on perches, and out of the nests.

Once you have made bottom, continue rounds thereafter with 1 single crochet into each stitch. You will see your “sides” begin to form. Crochet until the sides are about 2-3” high. It is nice to allow enough to be able to roll the top edge over a bit to make a nice rim on which the birds can perch as they get stronger.

Bind off and weave in the loose ends.

Many Chirps...

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