

FAVORITE IRISH CROCHET DESIGNS

Edited by Rita Weiss

Create airy and delicate lace designs for table, bed, and wardrobe using the time-honored technique of Irish Crochet. This handsome handicraft, known for its raised floral motifs and intricate background patterns, probably originated in the convents of Ireland, where diligent nuns prepared beautiful ornaments for use in church services. Today, this stunning form of lace-making has been adapted and simplified for dozens of day-to-day uses: decorating curtains, tablecloths, pillows, bedspreads, lingerie, collars, children's clothing, doilies and more.

Rita Weiss, a noted needlework designer and best-selling author, has collected the finest, easily workable examples of Irish crochet from rare American thread company booklets of more than fifty years ago. Step-by-step instructions, stitch and hook charts, metric conversion charts, and forty clear illustrations allow you to make magnificent accessories in these lovely patterns: My Wild Irish Rose, Popcorn, Rose of Sharon, Cinderella, More Than a Touch of Blarney, Beauty Rose, "Smilin' Through," Tournament of Roses, Wedding Ring, Dublin Beauty, Irish Springtime, and others. No skills beyond a familiarity with ordinary crochet techniques are needed to create these beautiful patterns. In addition, expert tips on blocking and finishing make it certain that your final product will be nothing short of a work of art.

With this versatile, inexpensive guide, the beauty of Irish Crochet—once thought too difficult to achieve by any but the most experienced needleworkers—is now within reach of even beginning crocheters.

Irish Crochet Doily



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MATERIALS:

CLARK'S O.N.T. or J. & P. COATS BEST SIX CORD MERCERIZED CROCHET,
size 50:

CLARK'S O.N.T.—4 balls of White or
Ecreu, or 5 balls of
color,

OR

J. & P. COATS —2 balls of White or
Ecreu.

Steel crochet hook No. 12.

Completed doily measures about 11
inches in diameter.

LARGE FLOWER . . . Ch 20. **1st row:**
Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each ch
across, 3 sc in end ch, sc in each ch along
other side of foundation ch. Ch 1, turn.
Hereafter pick up back loop only of each
sc. **2nd row:** Sc in each sc to within 3 sc
at tip, 2 sc in each of 3 tip sts, sc in each
sc to end of row. Ch 4, turn. **3rd row:**
Skip the sc at base of ch and next 3 sc,
sc in next sc, (ch 4, skip 3 sc, sc in next
sc) 3 times; (ch 4, skip 2 sc, sc in next
sc) 3 times; (ch 4, skip 3 sc, sc in next
sc) 4 times. Fasten off. This completes
one petal. Work 1st 2 rows of a 2nd petal

as for 1st petal, ending with ch 2, turn.
3rd row: Sl st in end loop of 1st petal,
ch 2, skip 3 sc on 2nd petal, sc in next
sc, ch 2, sl st in corresponding loop of 1st
petal, ch 2, skip 3 sc, sc in next sc, ch 4
and complete this petal same as 1st petal
(no more joinings). Make 10 more
petals, joining 2 loops of adjacent petals
as before (join last 2 loops of last petal
to 1st 2 loops of 1st petal). Fasten off.
Attach thread to base of any petal and
working toward center make 2 sc-rnds,
one dc-rnd and 1 sc-rnd, decreasing as
necessary to keep work flat by working
off 2 sts as one.

ROSETTE . . . Ch 10, join. **1st rnd:**
* In ring make sc, h dc, 5 dc, h dc and
sc. Repeat from * 4 more times (5 petals).
2nd rnd: * Ch 6, then inserting hook
from behind petals, work sc in ring be-
tween next 2 sc. Repeat from * around
(5 loops). **3rd rnd:** In each loop make
sc, h dc, dc, 8 tr, dc, h dc and sc. Sl st in
1st sc made. Fasten off. Sew this rosette
to center of Flower.

LEAF . . . Starting at tip, ch 15. **1st row:**
Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each ch to
within last ch, 3 sc in last ch, sc in each

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ch along opposite side of foundation ch, sc in same place as last sc. Mark last sc for base of leaf. Hereafter pick up only the back loop of each sc. Do not turn, but work sc in each sc to within 3 sc from center sc at tip of leaf. Ch 1, turn. **2nd row:** Sc in each sc to marked sc, 3 sc in marked sc, sc in each sc on other side to within 3 sc from center sc at tip of leaf. Ch 1, turn. **3rd and 4th rows:** Sc in each sc to within center sc of 3-sc group, 3 sc in next sc, sc in each sc on other side to within last 3 sts. Ch 1, turn. **5th row:** Same as 3rd row but making sc, ch 7 and sc in center sc of sc-group at base of leaf. **6th row:** Sc in each sc to within ch-7 loop; 2 sc in loop, then pick up Flower and holding Flower away from you, join leaf between 2 petals as follows: Ch 2, sl st in 1st loop to left of loop at tip of a petal, ch 2, 3 sc in ch-7 loop, ch 5, 3 sc in same loop, ch 2, sl st in corresponding loop of next petal, ch 2, 2 sc in ch-7 loop, sc in back loop of each sc across to within last 3 sts. Fasten off. Make 11 more leaves, joining each leaf between 2 petals of Flower as 1st leaf was joined. Attach thread to loop at tip of a petal, * ch 7, sc in 1st corner st of adjacent leaf, (ch 7, sc in next corner st of same leaf)

twice; ch 7, at tip of leaf make sc, ch 7 and sc; (ch 7, sc in next corner st of leaf) 3 times; ch 7, sc in loop at tip of next petal. Repeat from * around. Join and fasten off.

Work a rosette as for center, but do not break off. Work sl st in next 4 sts, sc in next st, ch 7, skip 3 sts, sc in next st, then pick up doily and join rosette between 2 leaves as follows: Ch 3, tr in loop at tip of leaf, ch 3, sc in 5th st of next petal of rosette, ch 3, skip next loop on leaf, sl st in next loop, ch 3, skip 3 sts on rosette, sc in next st, ch 3, then holding back on hook the last loop of each tr make tr in next loop on leaf and in corresponding loop on next leaf, thread over and draw through all loops on hook; ch 3, sc in the 5th st of next petal, ch 3, sl st in next loop on leaf, ch 3, skip 3 sts on petal, sc in next st, ch 3, tr in loop at tip of leaf, ch 3, sc in 5th st of next petal, * ch 7, skip 3 sts, sc in next st, ch 7, sc in 5th st of next petal. Repeat from * once more. Join and fasten off. Make and join 11 more rosettes in same way. Now work a rnd of loops as follows: Attach thread to tr-bar at right of loop which is at tip of leaf, ch 4, tr under next tr (at left of leaf), ** ch 3, sc in 3rd st from hook (p made), ch 2, sc in next free loop on

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rosette, * ch 2, p, ch 2, p, ch 2, sc in next loop. Repeat from * 3 more times; ch 2, p, then holding back on hook the last loop of each tr make tr under next 2 tr, thread over and draw through all loops on hook. Repeat from ** around. Join last p with sl st to 4th st of ch-4. Fasten off. Work a leaf as before until the 5th row is completed. **6th row:** Sc in each sc to within ch-7 loop; 2 sc in loop, then pick up doily and join as follows: Ch 2, sl st in 2nd p preceding joined tr's between rosettes, ch 2, 3 sc in ch-7 loop of leaf, ch 5, 3 sc in same loop, ch 2, sl st in 2nd p after same joined tr's, ch 2, 2 sc in ch-7 loop and complete leaf as before. Make and join 11 more leaves in this manner. Make another leaf until the 5th row is completed. **6th row:** Sc in each sc to within ch-7 loop, in loop work 2 sc, ch 5, and 3 sc. Ch 2, sl st in sc above center petal of rosette, ch 2, 3 sc in ch-7 loop, ch 5, 2 sc in same loop, and complete leaf as before. Make and join 11 more leaves in this manner.

Now work 3 rnds of loops as follows: **1st rnd:** Attach thread to tip of a leaf which is joined between rosettes, ch 7, sc in same place, * (ch 7, sc in next corner st) 3 times; tr in next free loop of rosette, tr in free loop of next leaf, (ch

7, sc in next corner st) 3 times; ch 7, in tip of leaf make sc, ch 7 and sc; (ch 7, sc in next corner st) 3 times; ch 7, tr in free loop of leaf, tr in next free loop of rosette, sc in next corner st of next leaf, (ch 7, sc in next corner st) twice; ch 7, in tip of leaf make sc, ch 7 and sc. Repeat from * around, ending with ch 7, sl st where thread was attached. **2nd rnd:** Sl st in next 3 ch, sc in loop, (ch 2, p, ch 2, p, ch 2, sc in next loop) twice; * ch 2, p, holding back on hook the last loop of each tr make tr in each of next 2 ch-7 loops, thread over and draw through all loops on hook, p, ch 2, sc in next ch-7 loop, (ch 2, p, ch 2, p, ch 2, sc in next loop) 6 times; ch 2, p, then holding back on hook the last loop of each tr, work tr in next 2 ch-7 loops, thread over and draw through all loops on hook; p, ch 2, sc in next loop, (ch 2, p, ch 2, p, ch 2, sc in next loop) 4 times. Repeat from * around. Join last loop with sl st to 1st sc made. **3rd rnd:** Sl st to center of next loop, sc in loop, ch 2, p, ch 2, p and ch 2; sc in next loop, * ch 3, sc between p's of next free loop, (ch 2, p, ch 2, p and ch 2, sc in next loop) 5 times; ch 3, sc between p's of next free loop, (ch 2, p, ch 2, p, ch 2, sc in next loop) 3 times. Repeat from * around. Join and fasten off.

Irish Crochet Trim

Materials suggested: American Thread Company "Silkine" or "Star" Mercerized 6 Cord Crochet Cotton sizes 30 to 70 or "Silkine" Tatting Cotton, White or Colors.

Ch 6, join to form a ring, * ch 5, d c in ring, ch 3, d c in ring, repeat from * 6 times and work 1 s c, 4 d c, 1 s c in each loop. Carry thread in back of petal and join to d c of 1st row, ch 8, d c in next d c, ch 4, d c in next d c, repeat all around and work 1 s c, 5 d c, 1 s c in each loop. Sl st to center of petal, ch 6, sl st in 4th st for picot, ch 3, s c in center of next petal, repeat picot loops all around. Sl st to center of ch, * work a picot loop, s c in ch on other side of picot, picot loop, s c in next ch, ch 6, turn, s c in next s c, ch 3, 7 d c over loop, picot loop, s c in next ch, picot loop, s c in next ch, repeat from * all around and work another row of picot loops. Work as many motifs as required joining them at picots as illustrated.

SCALLOP. Begin between scallops, ch 4, sl st in next picot, repeat across row, turn, 5 s c over 6 loops, turn, * ch 6, sl st in s c over picot, repeat from * 3 times, turn and work 9 s c over each loop, 5 s c over last 2 loops and repeat from beginning for entire length. Straight edge of lace: D tr c between scallops, ch 3 * sl st in picot, ch 3, repeat from * 5 times and from beginning for entire length. Finish with one row of s c.

