



**Knitterly Arts**  
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# The Must-make Cupcake

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## Pattern Introduction

A fat-free/sugar free option for celebrating the birthday kid in all of us! You can choose whatever yarns you'd like (a great stash-buster) to create small to "Texas" size cupcakes. They are so fun to give! Little ones love carrying them around by the candle, then holding them up to "foof" out the flame. Adults are just as delighted, though without the "foofing". ☺

The cupcake itself is all crocheted, with a knitted candle. (Every crocheter will benefit from knowing how to knit!!) But for those of you who want a crocheted option, I've got it here for you as well.



### What you need to "whip up a batch"

Worsted Weight or Chunky Weight yarns—small amounts

Colors for base of cupcake  
 Colors for "icing"—vanilla, strawberry, chocolate (For more ideas, see **Other Items of Interest** on page 5)

DK Weight yarn for knitted candle—small amounts  
 Two Colors: one for candle, and yellow or orange for flame

DMC embroidery floss for crocheted candle—small amounts (Two Colors here also)

Split Marker

Yarn needle

Needle and thread

Size G & H hooks (G for Worsted, H for chunky... \*or whatever hook gives you a nice dense stitch. In other words, you will not want loose crochet stitches since the cupcake needs to hold its form fairly well.)

Size F hook for crocheted candle (or size needed, see \* above)

Double pointed needles (dpns)-size 6

Buttons, beads or other embellishments for the sprinkles

Stuffing

### Stitches you need to know

Chain, slip stitch, single crochet, single crochet 2 stitches together (sc2tog), [knit, purl:candle only]

**Gauge** is NOT important in this project!

### **Abbreviations you need to know**

Beg = beginning

BLO = back loop only

Ch = chain

Lp = loop

Sc = single crochet

Sc2tog = sc two sts together

Sl st = slip stitch

Sp = space

Rem = remaining

Rep = repeat

Rnd = round

Sts = stitches

### **Special Stitch**

**Single Crochet 2 Together (sc2tog):** Work 1<sup>st</sup> sc in indicated sp or st ONLY until you have 2 lps on hook. (You are not completing last step of this first sc!) Begin next sc, and work until you have 3 lps on hook. Wrap and pull yarn through all 3 lps on your hook, thus combining 2 sc sts into 1 sc st.

### **Memory Refreshers**

1. “Fasten off” means to draw your yarn through the loop you have on your hook, then cut or break your yarn 3-4 inches away from loop. Now pull the yarn out of the securing loop you made. Give the end on your work a tug for good measure.
2. “Whip stitch” is a sewing term which means to take a designated length of yarn on your yarn needle and draw the needle through two thicknesses from the same direction each time. It will seem like “whipping” as the yarn loops back over each time you make a new stitch securing the two pieces together.
3. When working in **rounds** (instead of rows, back & forth), you do NOT turn your work after each round unless told to do so!

### **Tips & Tricks**

1. If you choose a worsted weight yarn for the bottom of the cupcake, then you will have a small-medium sized cupcake. If you choose a chunky weight yarn, you will have a medium-large (Texas) sized cupcake. You will then make the top part to “fit” the bottom.
2. When working in rnds, place the first sc of each rnd in the same st as the sl st that joined the previous rnd.
3. When pattern says to join, always join with a sl st to the beginning sc of that rnd. (Unless otherwise noted.)
4. !!Watch out when you come around to the first sc of a rnd, that you do NOT work into the sl st or the ch 1 from the previous rnd! The sl st and the ch 1 will look sneakily like a couple of sc stitches! If you use the split marker, placing it in each sl st right after you make it, then you will be able to recognize it and NOT work into it or the ch 1 right after it.
5. When using the funky yarns (fun fur, loopy yarns, etc.) for the cupcake icing, you will notice that most of the fun stuff stays on the outside of your work. I like this side to be the right side, the side that shows. For all other yarns, you choose which side you like the best.

## **Walkthrough**

### **Base of Cupcake**

\*You are starting in the center of the circular base. Each concentric circle you crochet (rnd), increases the size of the base. You decide how large you want this base to be...just stop adding more rnds when it is the size you want. If you are using Chunky yarn, you may only need 3 rnds for a small-medium size cupcake. Add another rnd if you want a Texas size cupcake. If you are using Worsted Weight yarn, work 4 rnds for a medium cupcake, 5 rnds for a Texas cupcake. (Of course, you can easily make a Teensy Weensy cupcake or a Ginormous one...please do, if you fancy!)

**Rnd 1:** Ch 2, work 7 sc in 1<sup>st</sup> ch made; join with a sl st to beg sc. Place marker in this sl st and move it to each sl st on subsequent rnds. (7 sc)

**Rnd 2:** Ch 1, 2 sc in each sc around; join. (14 sc) (See [Tips & Tricks #2-4](#))

**Rnd 3:** Ch 1, 1 sc in same st as sl st, 2 sc in next sc, \*1 sc in next sc, 2 sc in next sc, rep from \* around; join. (21 sc) Fasten off, if the base is desired size. Leave a 2 ft. long tail for sewing. If base needs to be larger, continue to Rnd 4.

**Rnd 4:** Ch 1, 1 sc in same st as sl st & in next sc, 2 sc in next sc, \*1 sc in next 2 sc, 2 sc in next sc, rep from \* around; join. (28 sc) Fasten off, if the base is desired size. Leave a 2 ft. long tail for sewing. If base needs to be larger, continue to Rnd 5.

**Rnd 5:** Ch 1, 1 sc in same st as sl st & in next 2 sc, 2 sc in next sc, \*1 sc in each of next 3 sc, 2 sc in next sc, rep from \* around; join. (35 sc) Fasten off, leaving a 2 ft. long tail for sewing.

### **Side of Cupcake**

\*You will be using the Rib Stitch to make the sides of the cupcake so as to give it those cool looking ridges the paper liners have. Decide how high you want the sides of the cupcake to be. Using the same yarn and hook as the base, ch however many will give you this height, then make one more ch. For small cupcakes in worsted weight this will be either 6 or 7. For small cupcakes in chunky weight this will be either 4 or 5. For Texas cupcakes in worsted weight this will be either 8 or 9. For Texas cupcakes in chunky weight this will be either 6 or 7. Don't forget to add the 1 extra chain to allow for the height of the sc sts you'll be making.

**Row 1:** With desired number of chains, sc in 2<sup>nd</sup> ch from hook and in each ch across.

**Row 2:** Ch 1, turn, sc in BLO of each sc across.

**Row 3:** Rep Row 2 until you have approx. enough to go around diameter of cupcake base. Do not fasten off!

\*Using the 2 ft. long end from the base of cupcake and a yarn needle, whip stitch Side of cupcake to the Base all the way around. Add more rows to Side of cupcake if needed to make it all the way around (that's why you were not to fasten off) or pull out a row or 2 if needed.

\*Once you have the right amount of rows, sc first and last row of sides together. Fasten off. Secure all ends and pull them through to the inside of the cupcake. Weave in ends if desired. (Not necessary since you will not see the insides!)

## Cupcake Top (Icing)

\*You will be making the top of the cupcake just like the base of the cupcake, with a few differences. (See Tips & Tricks #5) Now turn back to **Base of Cupcake** and work the Rnds as given changing the “7 sc in 1<sup>st</sup> ch made” to “6 sc in 1<sup>st</sup> ch made”. This will create a bit of a dome-look for the Icing Top.

\*To create more of a dome, insert a plain rnd of sc after 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> rnds, if you even need that many rnds for the top. All of this varies with the type of yarns you are using for icing. Be creative and flexible! Do not fasten off at the end since you will continue using this yarn to sc the two pieces of the cupcake together.

\*Once you have desired size and shape of Top you are ready to sc the top to the bottom portion of the cupcake. Hold edges of top & bottom together, with top towards you and bottom away from you. Insert hook through sts on both edges and sc around. Stop a couple of inches from the beginning to stuff your cupcake. Then continue to sc the pieces together. Fasten off. Weave in end. Optional edgings: Work picot st instead of sc, or shell st after sc row!

Picot = \*3 sc, ch 3, sl st in 1<sup>st</sup> ch made, 3 sc, rep from \* around.

Shell = \*skip 2 sc, 5 dc in next sc, skip 2 sc, sc in next sc, rep from \* around.

## Candle and Flame

### Knitted Version:

\*You will be making the candle from the bottom up to the top of the flame all in one fell-swoop. Using 3 of your size 6 dpns, cast on 6 sts for small candle, 8 sts for larger candle. (Place half the sts on one needle, half on the other. Use third dpn to knit with)

\*Leaving a long length of yarn for sewing, work in rnds with knit st only. Work candle to desired height (8-11 rnds) and switch to yellow for flame. Work flame for 4 rnds (or desired height) and then begin decrease as follows: Knit 2tog somewhere on first needle, then in same spot on second needle. Do the same thing on next and following rnds until you only have 2 sts left. Pull one st through the other and fasten off. Weave in ends.

\*Stuff candle lightly, if desired. (I use a pencil to gently push the stuffing into the candle)

\*With needle and thread, sew around base of Flame to cinch it in for better candle shape.

\*Using yarn needle, sew the candle to top of Cupcake. Weave in end.

\*Embellish the top of Cupcake if desired with buttons or beads to suggest sprinkles. ☺

### Crocheted Version:

\*You are starting at the base of the candle and working in rnds up to the flame. Choose a color to make the candle that compliments your icing and cupcake bottom. Leave a long length of floss at the beginning for sewing the candle onto the top of your cupcake.

**Rnd 1:** Using B hook and DMC floss, ch 8 or 10 depending on how wide a candle you'd like. Join with sl st to first ch. Ch 1, sc in each ch around; join. (See Helpful Tips 2-4)  
[8 (10) sc]

**Rnd 2:** Ch 1, sc in each sc around; join. [8(10) sc]

Repeat Rnd 2 until you have desired height of candle.

\*Attach yellow (orange) floss and continue 3 more rnds.

**Next Rnd:** Ch 1, sc in next 2(3) sc, sc2tog, sc in next 2(3) sc, sc2tog; join. [6(8)sc]

**Next Rnd:** Ch 1, sc in next sc, sc2tog, sc in next 2(3) sc, sc2tog, sc in remaining sc; join. [4(6)sc]

**Final Rnd:** Ch 1, sc2tog around; join. [2(3)sc]

Pull remaining stitches through each other and fasten off. Weave in ends.

\*Stuff candle lightly, if desired. (I use a pencil to gently push the stuffing into the candle)

\*With needle and thread, sew around base of Flame to cinch it in for better candle shape.

\*Using yarn needle, sew the candle to top of Cupcake. Weave in end.

\*Embellish the top of Cupcake if desired with buttons or beads to suggest sprinkles. ☺

### **Other Items of Interest**

\*You might like to know **which yarns I've used**...I will only mention a few for suggestions. Really, the sky is the limit, so experiment and have fun!

**For the bottom part of the cupcake:** Apart from a variety of others, I've used a lot of Brown Sheep's Lamb's Pride Wool in both worsted and chunky...love crocheting with that stuff!

**For the candle and flame knitted version:** I've only used Cotton Classic...terrific for this!

**And for the icing tops:** here are just a few I've found fun: Fun Fur; Bernat *Soft Boucle*; Filatura Di Crosa "Baby" *Pom Pom*; GGH *Carneval*...the possibilities are endless!