Row 5: Ch 3. Dc in next 3 dc. 2 dc in next dc. *Dc in next 4 dc. 2 dc in next dc. Rep from * around. Change colors. (72 dc)

Row 6 and following: Work next and following rows in like manner as above, increasing the "Dc in next __dc. by 1 each row. Continue working until you have the desired length for your tree skirt. I worked mine for 17 rows from beg to end.

Final Round: Choosing a color to trim the edge of your tree skirt, attach new color where you ended the last row. Begin working sc stitches all around your tree skirt like this:

Work a sc into tops of all dc on outer edge as well as the ch sts at the beg of your work. Work 2 sc into the dc and ch-3 sts that line the edge opening of the skirt. Whenever you get to a corner, work 3 sc to round the corners nicely. Once you return to the beg, sl st into the first sc. Fasten Off. Weave in all ends.

Buttons

Sew buttons evenly down opening edge of tree skirt, beg at the very center and ending with a button at the very outer edge. There is no need for button holes since the dc serve as perfect button holes.

Variations on a Theme

- *Use a variety of textures as well as color! I love using fluffy yarns, sparkly yarns, textured yarns mixed in with my smooth yarns. Just try to keep to worsted weight as best you can. If you have two very thin yarns, you can use them together to make a worsted weight yarn.
- *Of course, you could simply stripe this with only two colors, or three, creating a repetitive pattern as you go. Or, as I did, work the colors in a random pattern!

 *Choose colors according to the "theme" of your tree. If your tree is decidedly greens and reds, go with those colors. But if you have pinks and greens, or blues and silvers, choose in those color palettes. Or just create a hodge-podge look...it will all be lovely.
- *Have fun choosing the buttons to go with it!