

## Heart Strings



These heart strings are quick to make and can be used for lots of craft projects. Mini garlands, gift wrapping, bracelets and even as a fancy edging. I tied some round a jar candle as an easy alternative to making a jar cover!

The best bit is it is just 2 rows of crochet with no joining of motifs, and no cutting and re-joining of the yarn.

You can use any leftover stash yarn and a matching hook size. Mine are made with size 3mm and 4mm hooks.

**Tip:** crochet R1 through both loops of the chain – this keeps the dip in the middle of the heart from stretching upwards.

### US Pattern:

Ch a multiple of 4 +1 (eg for a 5 heart string ch21)

**R1:** In 3<sup>rd</sup> ch from hook, \*(2dc, ch1, sl-st, ch1, 2dc), sk 1 ch, sl-st in next ch, sk1 ch, repeat from \* to end of ch.

Rotate the piece in order to work back along the string making the points of the hearts.

**R2:** (hdc, sc, sc, dc, sc, sc, hdc) into centre ch of heart. Sl-st over the sl-st and ch between this heart and the next (see picture). Repeat from \* to end, and finish with a sl-st into the turning ch of the first heart.

### UK Pattern:

Ch a multiple of 4 +1 (eg for a 5 heart string ch21)

**R1:** In 3<sup>rd</sup> ch from hook, \*(2tr, ch1, sl-st, ch1, 2tr), sk 1 ch, sl-st in next ch, sk1 ch, repeat from \* to end of ch.

Rotate the piece in order to work back along the string making the points of the hearts.

**R2:** (htr, dc, dc, tr, dc, dc, htr) into centre ch of heart. Sl-st over the sl-st and ch between this heart and the next (see picture). Repeat from \* to end, and finish with a sl-st into the turning ch of the first heart.

### Finishing:

Fasten off and weave in ends. Or alternately tie the ends to make hanging loops or use them to tie around a parcel. If you are making a bracelet then sew a button or bead just bigger than the central hole onto the end heart to make a fastening.

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1 – at the end of R1, 2 – rotate work and yarn over for hdc (that is htr if UK), 3 – insert hook into centre of heart, 4 – after working the first heart, 5 & 6 – hook over and under the sl-st and ch between the hearts, 7 – draw up a loop, 8 – complete the sl-st by drawing first loop through second.

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