# Colorful Crochet Coleus Tutorial

# 🔌 Materials You'll Need

- Yarn: 3-ply cotton or crochet cotton (such as DMC Petra No. 5) Suggested colors:
  - o Bright pinks and reds for the center
  - o Greens for the edges and veins (Feel free to use yarn from your stash or experiment with colors—chunkier yarn will create larger leaves!)
- **Hook**: 1.5 mm
- Florist Wire: 26 gauge or similar (for leaf shaping)
- **Garden Wire**: 2–3.5 mm (for the plant stem)
- Green Floral Tape
- Styrofoam or Dry Floral Sponge (to anchor the plant in a pot)
- **Pebbles, soil, or moss** (optional for decoration)

# Finished Size

A la la .. a . .! a 4! a ..

With the recommended yarn and hook, your plant will measure approximately:

- **Height**: 7 inches (18 cm)
- Width: 9 inches (23 cm), depending on leaf arrangement

You can make more or fewer leaves to adjust the size.

# **Abbreviations (US Terms)**

Abbreviation	Meaning
ch	chain
sc	single crochet
hdc	half double crochet
dc	double crochet
tc	treble crochet
quad	quadruple crochet
inc	increase (2 stitches in the same space)

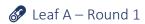
# Abbreviation Meaning dec decrease (2 stitches worked together) sl st slip stitch f/o fasten off rnd round st(s) stitch(es) \* \* repeat sequence

# **Q** Pattern Notes

- The pattern is worked in rounds.
- Stitches in parentheses ( ) are all worked in the same stitch.
  - o Example: (3 sc) means make 3 single crochets in the same stitch.
  - $\circ$  (3 sc) x 2 means repeat 3 sc in each of the next two stitches.
- Long stitches (Long hdc, dc, tc) are explained when introduced.

# Leaf A – Make 4

This leaf is crafted in 7 rounds and includes wire support for shaping. Take your time with each round, especially when working over the wire and using the "long stitches" technique for added texture.



Start by chaining 25.

- Skip the first chain from your hook.
- Work into the next chains:
  - $\circ$  2 sc
  - o 1 hdc
  - o 1 dc
  - $\circ$  (2 dc in next stitch)  $\times$  2
  - o 9 dc
  - o 4 hdc
  - o 3 sc
- In the final chain, work (3 sc).
- Now continue on the opposite side of the chain:
  - $\circ$  3 sc
  - o 4 hdc
  - $\circ$  9 dc
  - $\circ$  (2 dc)  $\times$  2
  - o 1 dc

- o 1 hdc
- $\circ$  2 sc
- In the skipped starting chain, work (3 sc).
- Do **not** fasten off.

- 2 sc
- 2 hdc
- 1 dc
- (2 dc)
- (1 dc, 1 tc)
- 1 tc
- (2 tc)
- Repeat the previous 2 steps one more time
- 3 tc
- 4 dc
- 4 hdc
- 3 sc
- In the center tip: (3 sc)
- Down the other side:
  - $\circ$  3 sc
  - o 4 hdc
  - o 4 dc
  - o 3 tc
  - o (2 tc)
  - o 1 tc
  - o Repeat the previous 2 steps once
  - o (1 tc, 1 dc)
  - o (2 dc)
  - o 1 dc
  - o 2 hdc
  - $\circ$  3 sc
- Slip stitch to join.

# 

Cut a piece of florist wire around 20" (50 cm).

- Thread the wire through the stitch currently on your hook.
- Now begin crocheting *over the wire*:
  - o ch 1
  - $\circ$  8 sc
  - o (2 sc in next st), 1 sc
  - o Repeat that increase + 1sc combo 2 more times
  - o 17 sc

At the center point of the leaf (the tip), work:

(1 hdc, ch 4, skip 1, 1 sc, 1 hdc down the chain, 1 hdc)

- Pull the wire down to shape.
- Continue:
  - o 17 sc
  - o 1 sc, (2 sc in next), repeat that combo 2 more times

  - o Slip stitch to first stitch on opposite side.

Change to your edge color here.



About Long Stitches (used in Round 4 and later)

Long stitches are similar to their normal counterparts (hdc, dc, tc) but are worked 1 round below and slightly back to create a textured ripple. You'll pull the stitch up gently and finish as usual.

### Examples:

- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- (1 dc, 1 long dc)
- (1 tc, 1 long tc)

These will be introduced in the next round.



# 🧲 Leaf A – Continued



**8** Round 4: Surface Texture with Long Stitches

Note: In this round, we use long hdc, dc, and tc (treble crochet) to create a raised surface pattern.

### First side:

- ch 1
- 4 sc
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 dc, 1 long dc)
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 tc, 1 long tc)

- sl st
- Repeat the last 3 lines **3 more times**
- 1 dc
- (1 dc, 1 long dc)
- sl st
- Repeat this 1 more time
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- sl st
- Repeat this 1 more time
- 2 sc
- (3 sc) in center stitch (leaf tip)

### **Second side (mirrored):**

- 2 sc
- sl st
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- Repeat above **once more**
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 dc, 1 long dc)
- Repeat above **once more**
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 tc, 1 long tc)
- Repeat above **3 more times**
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 dc, 1 long dc)
- 1 dc
- sl st
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- 1 hdc
- 5 sc
- sl st to first stitch on opposite side

# 

**Note:** This round adds depth by alternating surface stitches and shaping increases.

### First side:

• ch 1

- 4 sc
- sl st (into row below)
- 1 sc
- 1 hdc
- (2 hdc in same st)
- sl st (on side of sl st from previous row)
- Repeat the previous 4 steps **9 more times**
- 3 sc
- In tip: (1 sc, ch 3, skip 1, 1 sc, 1 sc)

### **Second side:**

- 3 sc
- sl st (side of sl st)
- (2 hdc in same st)
- 1 hdc
- 1 sc
- Repeat previous 4 steps **9 more times**
- sl st (into row below)
- 5 sc
- Change color



### First side:

- ch 1
- 4 sc
- 1 dc (worked into side of previous sl st)
- 1 hdc
- (sc dec)
- 1 hdc
- 1 dc (side of sl st)
- Repeat last 4 steps **9 more times**
- 3 hdc
- 2 sc
- (3 sc) in skipped chain (center tip)

- 2 sc
- 3 hdc
- 1 dc (side of sl st)
- 1 hdc
- (sc dec)
- 1 hdc
- 1 dc (side of sl st)
- Repeat previous 4 steps **9 more times**

- 5 sc
- sl st in first stitch
- Do not fasten off yet.

# Round 7: Decorative Edge

- ch 1, 1 sc
- 7 sc
- (sl st, ch 2, 1 dc, ch 1), (1 dc, ch 2, sl st), 2 sl st
- Repeat above group **10 more times**
- At center: (1 dc, 1 tc, ch 1, sl st, 1 dc)
- Down the other side:
  - $\circ$  2 sl st
  - o Repeat decorative group 10 more times
- 8 sc
- Leave a long tail
- Wrap the yarn tightly around the base of the wire to secure it (about 2" or 5 cm)

# **✓** Leaf A is complete!

Next, I'll continue with Leaf B, which is slightly smaller and includes similar techniques but fewer stitches.



# 🥰 Leaf B – Make 2



- ch 20
- Skip 1 chain
- Into next chains:
  - $\circ$  2 sc
  - 1 hdc
  - 1 dc
  - $\circ$  (2 dc)  $\times$  2
  - $\circ$  6 dc
  - o 3 hdc
  - $\circ$  2 sc
- In final chain: (3 sc)

Now down the other side:

- 2 sc
- 3 hdc

- 6 dc
- $(2 dc) \times 2$
- 1 dc
- 1 hdc
- 2 sc
- In skipped starting chain: (3 sc)

# Round 2

- 2 sc
- 2 hdc
- 1 dc
- $(2 dc) \times 2$
- 1 dc
- (2 dc)
- 1 dc
- (2 dc)
- 3 dc
- 3 hdc
- 3 sc
- (3 sc) at tip
- Down the other side:
  - o 3 sc
  - o 3 hdc
  - o 3 dc
  - o (2 dc)
  - o 1 dc
  - o (2 dc)
  - o i dc
  - $\circ$  (2 dc)  $\times$  2
  - o 1 dc
  - o 2 hdc
  - $\circ$  3 sc
- sl st to base chain

# 

Cut florist wire approx. 20" (50 cm) and insert it through the stitch on your hook. Crochet over the wire:

- ch 1
- 5 sc
- Alternate (2 sc in next st) and 1 sc, repeat 3 times
- 15 sc
- At the tip: (1 hdc, ch 4, skip 1, 1 sc, 1 hdc, 1 hdc)
- Continue:

- o 15 sc
- o 1 sc, (2 sc), repeat 3 times
- $\circ$  5 sc
- sl st to opposite side
- Change color

### First side:

- ch 1
- 4 sc
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 dc, 1 long dc)
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 tc, 1 long tc)
- sl st
- Repeat above **2 more times**
- 1 dc
- (1 dc, 1 long dc)
- sl st
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- sl st
- 3 sc
- (3 sc) at tip

- 3 sc
- sl st
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 dc, 1 long dc)
- Repeat once more
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 tc, 1 long tc)
- Repeat 2 more times
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 dc, 1 long dc)

- sl st
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- 1 hdc
- 5 sc
- sl st to starting point



### First side:

- ch 1
- 4 sc
- sl st (in row below)
- 1 sc
- 1 hdc
- (2 hdc)
- sl st (on side of previous sl st)
- Repeat above steps 7 more times
- 4 sc
- (1 sc, ch 3, skip 1, 1 sc, 1 sc) at tip

### **Second side:**

- 4 sc
- sl st (side of sl st)
- (2 hdc)
- 1 hdc
- Repeat above steps **7 more times**
- sl st (row below)
- 5 sc
- sl st to finish
- Change color



### 

### First side:

- ch 1
- 4 sc
- 1 dc (into side of previous sl st)
- 1 hdc
- (sc dec)
- 1 hdc
- 1 dc (side of sl st)

- Repeat 7 more times
- 4 hdc
- 2 sc
- (3 sc) at tip

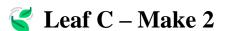
### **Second side:**

- 2 sc
- 4 hdc
- 1 dc (side of sl st)
- 1 hdc
- (sc dec)
- 1 hdc
- 1 dc (side of sl st)
- Repeat 7 more times
- 5 sc
- sl st to close

# 

- ch 1, 1 sc
- 7 sc
- (sl st, ch 2, 1 dc, ch 1), (1 dc, ch 2, sl st), 2 sl st
- Repeat group **8 more times**
- At center: (1 dc, 1 tc, ch 1, sl st, 1 dc)
- Down other side:
  - $\circ$  2 sl st
  - o Repeat decorative group 8 more times
- 8 sc
- sl st to first stitch
- Wrap tail around wire base

# **☑** Leaf B complete!





- ch 15
- Skip 1 chain
- Into next chains:
  - $\circ$  2 sc
  - o (1 hdc, 1 dc)

- (1 dc, 1 tc)
  (1 tc, 1 dc)
  2 dc
  2 hdc
  3 sc
- In the final chain: (3 sc)

Now down the other side:

- 3 sc
- 2 hdc
- 2 dc
- (1 dc, 1 tc)
- (1 tc, 1 dc)
- (1 dc, 1 hdc)
- 2 sc
- In skipped base chain: (3 sc)

# Round 2

- 2 sc
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 dc)
- 1 dc
- (2 dc)
- 5 dc
- 2 hdc
- 3 sc
- In tip: (3 sc)
- Down the other side:
  - o 3 sc
  - o 2 hdc
  - o 5 dc
  - o (2 dc)
  - o 1 dc
  - o (1 dc, 1 hdc)
  - o 1 hdc
  - o 3 sc
- sl st to base

# Ø Round 3 − Wire Setup

Cut a piece of wire approx. 15" (42 cm) and thread it through the loop on your hook. Work over the wire:

• ch 1

- 5 sc
- Alternate (2 sc in next st) and 1 sc, repeat 3 times
- In center tip: (1 hdc, ch 4, skip 1, 1 sc, 1 hdc)
- Alternate 1 sc and (2 sc) three times
- 5 sc
- sl st to opposite side
- Change color



### First side:

- ch 1
- 4 sc
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 dc, 1 long dc)
- Repeat last two lines **3 more times**
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- sl st
- 3 sc
- (3 sc) in center tip

- 3 sc
- sl st
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 dc, 1 long dc)
- Repeat above 3 more times
- sl st
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- 5 sc
- sl st to first st

### First side:

- ch 1
- 4 sc
- sl st (into previous row)
- 1 sc
- 1 hdc
- (2 hdc in same st)
- sl st (on side of sl st)
- Repeat the last 4 steps **5 more times**
- 4 sc
- In center: (1 sc, ch 3, skip 1, 1 sc, 1 sc)

### **Second side:**

- 4 sc
- sl st (on side of sl st)
- (2 hdc), 1 hdc, 1 sc
- Repeat previous 4 steps **5 more times**
- sl st (row below)
- 5 sc
- Change color



### First side:

- ch 1
- 4 sc
- 1 dc (into side of sl st)
- 1 hdc
- (sc dec)
- 1 hdc
- 1 dc (side of sl st)
- Repeat last 4 steps **5 more times**
- 4 hdc
- 2 sc
- In center tip: (3 sc)

- 2 sc
- 4 hdc
- 1 dc (side of sl st)
- 1 hdc
- (sc dec)

- 1 hdc
- 1 dc (side of sl st)
- Repeat previous 4 steps **5 more times**
- 5 sc
- sl st to opposite side

- ch 1, 1 sc
- 7 sc
- (sl st, ch 2, 1 dc, ch 1), (1 dc, ch 2, sl st), 2 sl st
- Repeat group **6 more times**
- Center tip: (1 dc, 1 tc, ch 1, sl st, 1 dc)
- Down the other side:
  - $\circ$  2 sl st
  - Repeat decorative group **6 more times**
- 8 sc
- sl st to close
- Wrap remaining yarn tail around wire base

# **☑** Leaf C is complete!

Next, I'll continue with **Leaf D**, the second smallest leaf in the design.



# Round 1

- ch 12
- Skip 1 chain
- Work the following into the chain:
  - $\circ$  1 sc
  - o (1 hdc, 1 dc)
  - o (2 dc)
  - $\circ$  2 dc
  - o 2 hdc
  - $\circ$  2 sc
- In the last chain: (3 sc)

### Now down the other side:

- 2 sc
- 2 hdc
- 2 dc

- (2 dc)
- (1 dc, 1 hdc)
- 1 sc
- sl st into skipped base chain

## Round 2

- ch 1
- 2 sc
- $(2 \text{ sc}) \times 3$
- 7 sc
- In center: (1 sc, ch 3, skip 1, 1 sc, 1 sc)

### Now down the other side:

- 7 sc
- $(2 \text{ sc}) \times 3$
- 2 sc
- sl st to opposite side
- Change color
- Insert florist wire approx. 12" (25 cm)

# 

### First side:

- ch 1
- 2 sc
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 dc, 1 long dc)
- sl st
- Repeat once
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- sl st
- 2 sc
- (3 sc) at tip

- 2 sc
- sl st
- 1 hdc

- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- sl st
- 1 dc
- (1 dc, 1 long dc)
- Repeat once
- sl st
- 1 hdc
- (1 hdc, 1 long hdc)
- 3 sc
- sl st to close



### First side:

- ch 1
- 2 sc
- sl st (into row below)
- 1 sc
- 1 sc
- (2 sc)
- sl st (side of sl st)
- Repeat **3 more times**
- 3 sc
- Tip: (1 sc, ch 3, skip 1, 1 sc, 1 sc)

### **Second side:**

- 3 sc
- sl st (side of sl st)
- (2 sc), 1 sc, 1 sc
- Repeat 3 more times
- sl st (row below)
- 3 sc
- Change color



## 

### First side:

- ch 1
- 2 sc
- 1 dc (side of sl st)
- 1 hdc
- (sc dec)
- 1 hdc

- 1 dc (side of sl st)
- Repeat 3 more times
- 2 hdc
- 2 sc
- (3 sc) in skipped chain (tip)

### Second side:

- 2 sc
- 2 hdc
- 1 dc (side of sl st)
- 1 hdc
- (sc dec)
- 1 hdc
- 1 dc (side of sl st)
- Repeat 3 more times
- 3 sc
- sl st to close

# Ø Round 6 − Final Border

- ch 1, 1 sc
- 4 sc
- (sl st, ch 1, 1 hdc, ch 1), (1 hdc, ch 1, sl st), 2 sl st
- Repeat group 4 more times
- Tip: (1 hdc, 1 dc, ch 1, sl st, 1 hdc)
- Down other side:
  - $\circ$  2 sl st
  - o Repeat decorative group 4 more times
- 5 sc
- sl st to close
- Wrap yarn tail around wire base

## **✓** Leaf D is finished!

Only **Leaf E** remains — the smallest and simplest leaf in this pattern.





- ch 10
- Skip 1 chain
- Work into the next chains:

- o 1 sc
- o 1 hdc
- o (2 dc)
- o 2 hdc
- $\circ$  2 sc
- In the final chain: (3 sc)

### Now down the other side:

- 2 sc
- 2 hdc
- (2 dc)
- 1 hdc
- 1 sc
- sl st into skipped starting chain
- Insert wire approx. 12" (25 cm)

# Round 2

- ch 1
- 2 sc
- $(2 \text{ sc}) \times 2$
- 5 sc
- In tip: (1 sc, ch 3, skip 1, 1 sc, 1 sc)
- Down the other side:
  - $\circ$  5 sc
  - $\circ$  (2 sc)  $\times$  2
  - $\circ$  2 sc
- sl st to opposite side
- Change color

# 

### First side:

- ch 1
- 2 sc
- 1 sc
- (1 sc, 1 long sc)
- sl st
- Repeat 2 more times
- 1 sc
- In tip: (1 sc, ch 3, skip 1, 1 sc, 1 sc)

- 1 sc
- sl st
- 1 sc
- (1 sc, 1 long sc)
- Repeat 2 more times
- 3 sc
- sl st to opposite side
- Change color



### First side:

- ch 1
- 2 sc
- (sl st, ch 3, 1 sc)
- Repeat the decorative group 3 more times
- In center tip: (1 sc, ch 3, skip 1, 1 sc, 1 sc)

### **Second side:**

- 2 sc
- (sl st, ch 3, 1 sc)
- Repeat 3 more times
- 3 sc
- sl st to close
- Wrap the remaining yarn around the base of the wire

# **✓** Leaf E is complete!

All **five leaf shapes (A–E)** are now done! 🞉



Next, we'll move on to assembly instructions — how to shape, structure, and arrange your crochet coleus plant into a stunning realistic form.



# Assembling Your Colorful Crochet Coleus

Once all leaves (A to E) are crocheted and wired, you'll move on to shaping, arranging, and anchoring your plant.



### Step 1: Shape the Leaves

To give your leaves a polished, realistic look:

- 1. **Stretch each leaf gently** to shape the curves.
- 2. **Spray the green edges lightly with hairspray** (optional) to stiffen them slightly.
- 3. Press the leaves between two flat surfaces (like placemats or cutting boards) with something heavy on top for about **10 minutes**.
- 4. After flattening, bend the wire at the base of each leaf to prepare them for arrangement.

# Step 2: Preparing the Stem

- Cut a main garden wire approx. 12" (30 cm) long.
- This will serve as the central stem.

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Start with the smallest leaves and work your way out.

- 1. Attach the **two Leaf E pieces** at the top. Place them opposite each other.
  - o Wrap their wires to the main stem using **green floral tape**.
- 2. Just below, attach the **two Leaf D pieces**, in between the Leaf E pieces.
- 3. Continue layering downward:
  - o Add **two Leaf C pieces**, opposite each other.
  - o Then **two Leaf B pieces**, staggered below and between the previous pair.
  - o Finally, attach the **four Leaf A pieces**, two by two, at the base to give fullness.
- **(6)** Wrap the stem tightly with floral tape after each pair to **build thickness** and hold everything securely.

# Step 4: Mounting in a Pot or Vase

- Cut a **piece of dry floral foam** or **styrofoam** to fit your pot.
- Insert the stem securely into the foam.
- Cover the top with **decorative moss**, **pebbles**, **soil**, **or even yarn** to hide the foam.

**Alternative Idea:** Place the arrangement in a small **vase** or **glass bottle** for a minimalist look.

# Step 5: Final Touches

• Gently adjust the angle of each leaf using the flexible wire.

- Spray a final layer of hairspray if needed for hold.
- Fluff, bend, and admire your creation!



# 👺 You Did It!

You've just created a realistic, colorful crochet coleus plant from yarn and imagination. Perfect as a table centerpiece, handmade gift, or decorative accent.

**Share your finished plant** on social media and tag your post with #CrochetColeus or your blog name to inspire others!