

## Spring Florals



March is a significant month for women with International Women's Day on the 8th and Mother's Day on the 30th. It is also the start of Spring and by now we will be seeing colourful floral displays. One of my favourite sayings is *'if mums/friends/sisters were flowers I'd pick you'* and another is *'mums/friends/sisters are like buttons they hold everything together'*. So this month there is a button and crochet flower button theme with a decorated wooden wreath that can be hung or placed flat with space in the centre to house a tea light or small vase of flowers. There are also pretty crochet hydrangea plant picks, mini crochet flower button plant pots with saying tags, as well as card toppers to add floral button designs. All wonderful ideas to gift or send to those in your 'sisterhood'.

### Materials:

#### Wooden wreath:

- Floral wooden wreath from the Works (£2 great value) or any other you'd like to use
- Green furniture paint (so wreath can go outdoors)
- Large holed buttons to make crochet button flowers from, 4 ply yarn, 3mm crochet hook
- Other floral design buttons
- PVA glue

#### Hydrangea picks:

- Large button
- Crochet hydrangea petals
- Wooden coffee stirrer to use as stem
- Felt to cover and neaten back
- Gel glue

#### Mini crochet button flower plant pots:

- Crochet button flowers
- Mini terracotta plant pots
- Air dry clay to fill plant pots to add weight and place stem into
- Wooden coffee stirrer to use as stem
- Fake moss to cover clay
- Gel glue

### Cards:

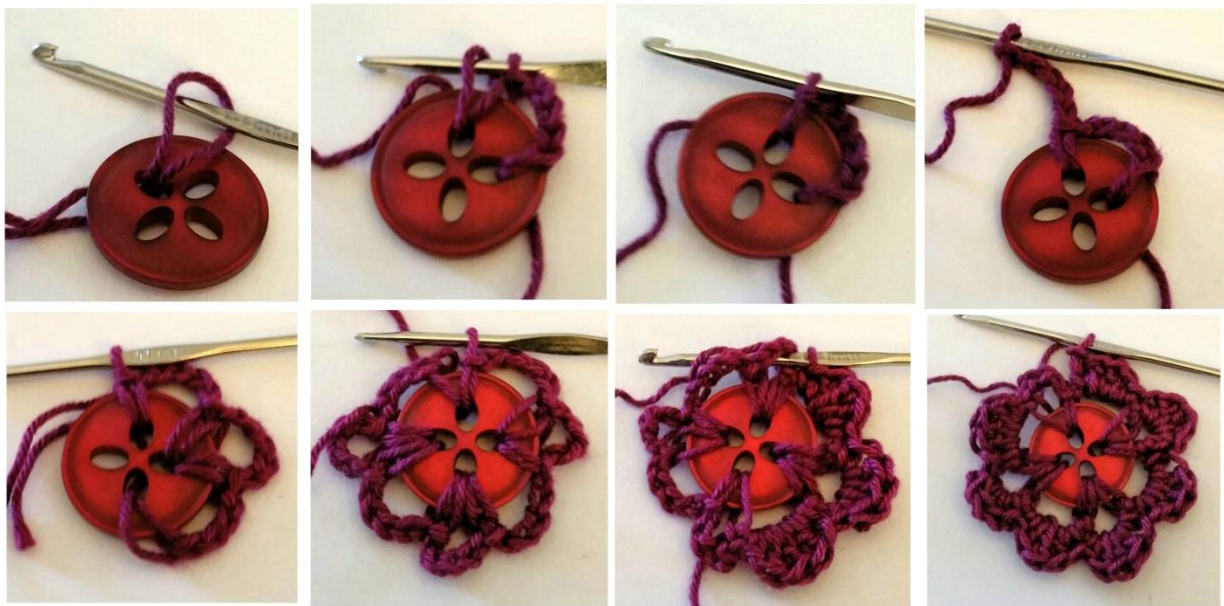
- 6x6 card blanks
- Smooth white card to print toppers onto
- Paper trimmer, scissors to cut toppers to size
- PVA glue
- Buttons or other floral embellishments

### Files to download:

- *Floral Tags*
- *Floral Cards Friend*
- *Floral Cards Mum*

### **Instructions:**

#### Crochet Button Flowers



Using 4ply yarn and a crochet hook that will go through button hole pull a yarn loop through the first button hole  
Work 4 chains then work a yarn loop through the second button hole  
Join together with last chain stitch still on hook  
Work 4 chains  
Work a yarn loop through second button hole again  
Repeat working 4 chains inbetween and two loops into each button hole until you are back to the first button hole  
Work another yarn loop into the first button hole and 4 chains, fasten off  
You will have an eight petal flower with eight loops coming from the button holes as shown on the right



Paint the wooden wreath with green furniture/outdoor paint front and back, or another colour choice, or you can leave as is depending how floral covered it is going to be.

Work out how many of the larger crochet button flowers you need as main elements of your wreath and make in colours of your choice. It's always a good idea to make extra so you can play with the design and layer up/add more if wanted. Glue these down first using PVA glue, press until they hold without sliding. Add other buttons around these and glue every so often as you build up the design.

A good idea if wanted is to place them all without gluing, trying not to move it, and take a photo so you have a reference picture to use.

See the main image for ways in which I have created flowers with different shaped buttons - I am lucky to have an abundance of buttons to pick from. Packs of mixed buttons are available in good craft and haberdashery stores as well as online.



Wooden wreath undecorated



Crochet flower buttons using different styles of buttons

#### Crochet hydrangea petals

Using 4ply yarn and 3mm crochet hook - chain 5, join with a slip stitch to make a ring - \*chain 3, 2 trebles into ring, single crochet into ring - repeat from \* three times, fasten off - finish off with a french knot in the centre

Glue the petals onto a large button, or similar as long as it holds its shape, with a gel type glue to make a flower pick. Glue a wooden painted stem to the back and cover with a circle of felt. Attach one of the small tags to the stem with clear elastic thread. Optional - add a matching leaf.



Below I have glued hydrangea petals to a painted wooden domed top small jar and added LED string lights inside to use up the leftover petals.

To make the mini crochet button flower plant pots. Glue a wooden stirrer to the back of one flower with glue gel, add more glue gel and cover with another flower so the stem is sandwiched in between. Leave glue to set. When it is, you can then fill the plant pot with air dry clay, press down well. Cover the clay with PVA glue and top with fake moss. Add the stirrer 'stem' centrally and push down to the bottom. Leave clay to dry. Optional, add saying tag with clear elastic thread.



Below are cards made using the card toppers download, creating flowers from buttons and other floral embellishments.



Gillian Cain, Bowes Belles WI, Tyne & Wear South Federation  
<https://www.facebook.com/gillcrafts>