Crocheted Cacti Cozies with CBTV Live

Chapter 1 - Chapter 1
Crochet egg cozy
(upbeat music) - Hey everybody, welcome to Creativebug Live. I am here with... - Twinkie Chan! - You guys might recognize her from her classes on Creativebug, she's also been on a few live shoots. How have you been since I saw you last? - Good, I'm getting over a cold. So pardon me if I'm a little scratchy today. (laughs) - I feel like that is totally going around. Everyone is being like, sipping tea all day long today. - Yes, for sure. - I know, I'm ready for the spring already. - It is a spring fever. (laughs) - I know. Because this weekend is Easter. Which, it came up so quickly. And you have a really cute project for us, right? - Yeah, when you asked if I would come in and figure out an Easter product, I wanted to do something a little unconventional for you guys, something a little fun. So I was thinking, Easter, Easter egg cozies, and I thought of these really cute baby cactus Easter egg cozies. - They're sorta like the cutest thing ever. You can even keep this warm, like your hard boiled egg warm. - True. - Like on your table, right? - Even non-Easter. It's great, too. - Yeah, I love this. I don't know if you guys can see this, but there are these tiny little eggs, or they're regular shaped eggs, I should say-- - They're extra large eggs. (laughs) - They're extra large eggs, actually. But in very tiny pots. And you have all different kinds of cozies that go on top here, I love that. They're so cute, you even have some near you. - Thank you. Yep. - So you can knit these up and add different things on top. - Crochet. - Sorry, crochet them up. (laughs) And then add different things on top. Are they easy to make? Do you need a pattern? How do you start? - They're super easy. It's basically a rectangle. - Oh, my God, I love this. - And then we turn it into a little hat for your egg. - Okay, that's great. - And you can use like, any weight yarn, since it's a rectangle it's really easily adjustable to your yarn and your hook and the tension that you use. So you can just whip one up in like 10 minutes. - That's awesome. That sounds like the perfect craft for any of you who forgot that Easter is coming this weekend, like I did. - Yeah. Just bust out a bunch of them tonight. - I love it. Okay so, how would someone start? - Well first you need some materials. And you don't need a lot of them, but I just kind of brought a variety of colors just 'cause it's fun and delightful. So you're gonna need about 12 yards of any green yard. I'm using worsted weight, it's the weight I'm most comfortable with. You can use whatever you want. And then an H hook, or whatever hook works with the yarn that you picked. - [Courtney] Gotcha. - [Twinkie Chan] Just your regular scissors and your tapestry needle. Any kind of terra cotta pot. Something supportive that can bear the weight of an egg. I'm using excelsior. It also looks like a nest, Which is, appropriate. - So cute. Excelsior is just wood shred. But you could use like, Easter grass or something. - Yeah, like moss. - Oh, fun. I love that. - Paper towel if you're in a pinch. Anything just to prop up the egg in the pot. - Cool. - Obviously, an egg. - More yarn, you can do more yarn. - And if you wanna decorate with flowers or if you wanna make like, I guess this called a ruby ball cactus, you can have some other extra yarn colors, like pink or red or yellow or orange. You'll need a little bit for this one tiny flower. And maybe like 10 yards if you're making a ball. - That's awesome. And then how do you start knitting the cap part. Or, sorry, crocheting. - It's crocheting, Courtney. - I don't know what my problem is. - It's okay. - Clearly it's been too long since you were here last. - You can knit also, it's just a rectangle. But I'm not a knitter. - That's right, you are a crocheter. - So we will not be demoing the knitting today. So I'm just gonna grab just any green yarn. And I'll show you how this is adjustable to your egg and your yarn. You just use your egg as a model, basically. So the number if stitches isn't super

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important. - Okay. - So just get your slipknot onto your crochet hook. And then the amount of chains you work is going to equal the height of your cozy. So you wanna grab your egg and just say like, oh, I want my egg's hat to be like from here to here. And you wanna make that many chains. - [Courtney] Gotcha. - [Twinkie Chan] For me that's about 10 chains. I'm gonna work 10 here. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, (laughs) eight, nine, ten. And yeah, you can just double check. Measure from the tip of the egg to about where you want it. - [Courtney] Cute. - [Twinkie Chan] Looks pretty good. - [Courtney] It's a little bit more than halfway. It's like two thirds of the way. - [Twinkie Chan] Yeah, you wanna have like a nice fit on the egg. - [Courtney] Great. - [Twinkie Chan] And to start the rectangle you just skip the first chain and you're gonna work single crochets. Just one single crochet in each remaining chain. So that'll be about nine single crochets. - [Courtney] Okay. - [Twinkie Chan] Should we go over single crochet again or just-- - [Courtney] Yeah. Just maybe talk us through one. - [Twinkie Chan] Okay. So for a single crochet you insert your hook into the desired chain or stitch. Yarn over and pull through one loop. Yarn over and pull through two loops. It's really easy. So you just keep going down the line here. - [Courtney] And Ally'll post a link to Twinkie's classes where she gives you a very easy breakdown of how to start crocheting and some formulas. And she's got some amazing fruits that you can do on the site. So, yeah. - [Twinkie Chan] More fun decor. - [Courtney] Yeah, all kinds of fun things. - [Twinkie Chan] So when you're at the end of row one, you're just gonna chain one and turn. And for the rest of this rectangle you're going to work in the back loop only. That creates that ridgy texture for your cactus. So that means instead of working your single crochet in both loops of the stitch, you're only going to insert your hook into the back loop. - [Courtney] Okay. - [Twinkie Chan] And the work the single crochet. And you do that all the way down the row again. And you just keep zipping back and forth. The amount of rows you wanna do will equate to how much of a length you need to wrap around your whole egg. And for me, that's about 20 rows. And it'll look more pretty if it's an even number of rows, rather than odd. It's not a big deal, but if you're kind of obsessive about that like me, then I wanna keep it as cute as possible. So an even number of ridges - Pretty darn cute. - looks better. (chuckles) So yeah, you just keep continuing-- - [Courtney] Until you get this. - [Twinkie Chan] Your back loop single crochet. Mm-hm. And eventually, here, I'll pop that out. Television magic. (laughs) So you can use your egg again as a model and make sure it fits around. And it's okay if there's a little stretch. If there's a little like, more room, yeah. Just because it's a stretchy crocheted piece. - [Courtney] Yeah and it allows those ridges to kinda pop out. - [Twinkie Chan] And so also, your cozy won't just fly off your egg. 'Cause the egg is rely slippery, it'll probably fly off anyway. Okay so how we continue from here is we're going to just make a tube. And you can either just sew these ends together or I just like to slip stich them together, it's just easier and faster for me. So I thought I would show you guys that. So chain one and turn. And you can just insert your hook through both ends like this, and the slip stitch is just drawing over and pull through everything. And I'll just do that for each stitch, through both layers. Just go down the line like this. - Just a reminder for anyone who's watching, we're here with Twinkie Chan, who's crocheting these adorable cactus cozies for your Easter eggs. And you can write in and ask questions if you have any questions for Twinkie. Could even be about questions on her existing classes. This is the cutest project ever (laughs) and you can see how quickly it comes together. - So I'm at the end here. I'm just gonna break off by yarning over and pulling my yarn til all the way through. Give yourself like 12 inches to work with. And I'm gonna use my tapestry needle. And I'm gonna show you how to close up one end of this to make the little hat. And it's super easy. You just take your tapestry needle and weave in and out, about every other row. Oops, sorry, this other yarn tail's being fussy. So you just zip through. - [Courtney] It's going

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from the outside coming from the inside. - [Twinkie Chan] Yeah. Sorry, that one yarn tail is like, I don't wanna be part of this. Okay, so you just go in and out. And we're just going to go all the way around and then pull on the tail and it draws this opening closed. Just pull. Like that. - [Courtney] So cute, looks like a little pouch. (laughs) - [Twinkie Chan] Yeah, it's super cute. Like a little dome. I'm just gonna tie a knot to secure this. And then you just weave in both of these ends. - [Courtney] Now if you wanted to do a flower would you leave these to attach to, or no? - [Twinkie Chan] No, the flower will have it's own yarn tails that I use that makes it really easy to attach. - [Courtney] But you could also glue a pom pom on top if you wanted. - [Twinkie Chan] Yeah, if you're like really short on time, the pom pom is a perfectly cute substitute also. I'm not weaving that in, just for the sake of time. - [Courtney] Yeah. - [Twinkie Chan] So I'm gonna pop this inside out. - [Courtney] I just wanna see what it looks like. (laughs) - [Twinkie Chan] You're all ready to see. - Oh, my God. - Goes right on your little... Oops. - So cute. Sorry, I pushed it off with my fingers. (laughs) That is like the cutest ever. - [Twinkie Chan] The other thing you can do-- - [Courtney] I just wanna draw a face on it. - [Twinkie Chan] Well, but then you have to cover the face with the hat. - [Courtney] I know, I know. - [Twinkie Chan] It will be a little slippery. If you wanna use glue dots to help secure the crocheted piece to the egg that can be cool, too. - [Courtney] Cool. So if you wanted to do a flower how would we do that? - [Twinkie Chan] So one tiny flower just takes a little bit of yarn. Do you wanna pick a color? (chuckles) - [Courtney] I want pink, I want pink. - Okay. You picked the fussiest one, 'cause I actually didn't roll this into a ball yet. But it's okay. (gasps) - Do you want me to do it? - No, you can't roll a ball on camera in like two seconds. - Oh yeah, that would take forever. - Yeah. - Do you want me to help you in some way? - I just need to find the end of it. - You knew I was gonna pick the pink one, didn't you? - I didn't! I did not, actually. - Do you wanna do a different color? - Yeah. You wanna do yellow? - I'm vetoing your choice here just because I didn't prepare. - You can tell that I don't have to do anything right now, (laughs) which is why I'm giving her the hardest task possible. I know. - You're a difficult boss today, Courtney. - I am. (laughs) - So just take a little bit of, this is a light worsted weight yarn. It's a little lighter than the yard I'd been using for the cactus. Just so the flower is a little bot smaller. - Yeah, it's like a little bit daintier. - Yeah. So this is gonna be really fast also. So get your slipknot onto your hook. And I'm going to chain eight. One, two, three four, five, six, seven, eight. I'm going to skip the first chain and just work single crochet evenly down the chains. So that's a total of seven single crochet. This is the bottom of your flower, it's the base of it. Oops. And then for the petals, we're just going to use chains. So I'm gonna turn my piece. And I'm going to chain six. One, two, three, four, five, six. And then slip stitch into the first single crochet. And you're just repeating that six more times. So one, two, three, four, five, six. And then slip stitch into the next stitch. - [Courtney] So cute. - [Twinkie Chan] So those are all your tiny little petals. - [Courtney] So I think we have a question. - [Woman] Breann. - [Courtney] Hi Breann. Thanks for joining us. - [Woman] Has a general crochet question. She's asking how is the weight of yarn measured? - Oh. Like, what does it mean it's worsted weight? - I don't know who created the standard for that-- - I think it's the Craft and Yarn Council, actually. - Perhaps. Yeah, they have grades from like, I think worsted weight is like a four and then like bulky or chunky's a five. They have like a numbered rating system and it's usually on the yarn label. - Mm-hm. Yeah, check your label, there's always some good information for the yarn that you're working with. You always wanna do a gauge swatch so that you can know your gauge before you start your project. We might have Faith jump in and answer a question like that, too, 'cause she's our resident yarn expert. - Ooh. - So she might have some really fun historical fact about the weight yarn, so we'll get answer to you Breann, thanks. - That's a good question. - Yeah. - And so I finished making all my petals. -

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[Courtney] Oh, my God, it's like a little rough collar, it's so cute. - [Twinkie Chan] It's like a little crown. - [Courtney] Yeah. - [Twinkie Chan] And I'm going to break off, leaving myself about inches of yarn again. And then I'll show you how to roll a flower. Actually, if you have crocheted roses before this is a really common technique for that. Where you crochet like, a strip, and then you roll it up into a flower. - [Courtney] Oh, cute. - [Twinkie Chan] So if you'd never done that before this is kind of a quick and dirty introduction to that. So all you're going to do, this was kinda small and curly and weird, is you're going to roll this up and sew the rolled up portion only at the base. 'Cause you wanna leave the petals free. So I'm gonna roll a little. - [Courtney] It's like a real flower, almost. - [Twinkie Chan] Kinda. - [Courtney] I mean, it's how you make paper flowers, potentially you could, in some ways. - [Twinkie Chan] Oh, I've never made a paper flower before. I'll have to watch that class. - [Courtney] We should try it out. - [Twinkie Chan] Yeah. (laughs) So keep rolling. And then keep just poking my needle through here to secure the base. And it'll be really quick since this is so small - [Courtney] So cute. - [Twinkie Chan] Like one more stitch through here. And I don't know if you can see, but this outer petal can be kinda flappy, so I just try for a couple stitches to sew that down a little bit. - [Courtney] Yeah so just go up the length of that petal just a bit. - [Twinkie Chan] Yeah, maybe like, half way. Oops, I just lost my needle there. - [Courtney] It's so little. - [Twinkie Chan] I know, it gets really fussy and tiny. But I think ' worth it. - It's so cute, though. - I have to stick my yarn back on the tapestry needle. - [Courtney] I love your nail polish, by the way. - [Twinkie Chan] Thank you. - [Courtney] It's really cute. Galaxy - [Twinkie Chan] Yes. - [Woman] For those joining us, could you tell the folks at home what you ant Twinkie are doing? - Hey everybody, welcome to Creativebug Live. Which means you can write in and ask us questions as we're crafting. And I'm here with Twinkie Chan. - Hi. - Who's one of our local artists and Creativebug instructors. She's an author, a workshops coordinator, all kinds of things for crochet. You're like the crochet maven. Do you have like, an official title? - No. - No? We should come up with one. - We should. (laughs) - I love it. She makes everything really cute and adorable. You're known for your like, junk food crochet. - Yeah, food themed crochet. - Yeah, you can see she's got these cute little strawberries. Those are actually not crochet, but she's definitely exuding all of the cuteness that anyone possibly could. - Why, thank you. - As always. (chuckles) And she's here showing us how to make these really cute little crocheted cacti that you can place onto your Easter egg or any egg for all year long. And right now she's actually just finishing up a flower that you can add to the top. - Yep. - Yeah. Thanks for joining us. - Thanks for having me. - Yeah. - We're basically done with the flower. The only thing I would say is to make sure your yarn tail is coming back out the bottom of the flower on the opposite side of your other tail. Because this way you can really easily just tie this onto your cactus. - [Courtney] Smart. - [Twinkie Chan] So, I don't know if we need to show that, but just wherever you wanna place your flower, just poke through one of the tails and then thread the other tail through and just poke it somewhere close by. Then all you have to do is pop this inside out and tie a knot. - [Courtney] That's so simple, I love that. - [Twinkie Chan] Yeah. - [Courtney] It's really cute. - [Twinkie Chan] Have you heard of a surgeons knot? (laughs) - [Courtney] No, show me. - [Twinkie Chan] So it creates more friction in the knot so theoretically it will stay more tightly. So you just start like, a normal knot, and you just give it more pass. - [Courtney] Oh, an extra wrap. - [Twinkie Chan] That's it. That's a surgeons knot, 'cause I think they actually use it in surgery. - [Courtney] Wow. - [Twinkie Chan] Yeah. So you's experiment with that. - [Courtney] I love it. - [Twinkie Chan] And normally if were good, you weave through, but I'm not gonna do that. - [Courtney] That's fine. - [Twinkie Chan] Today, yeah. And then-- - [Courtney] That is the cutest ever. - [Twinkie Chan] Yay! (laughs) - [Courtney] Put it here. - [Twinkie Chan] Yep, so all you need

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to do is put your stuffing in your terra cotta pot and then place your cozy on and you're done. - Just the cutest, I love it! I don't know if you guys can also see some pom pom variations. So these ones are made out of yarn, but you could also use like the felty ones. What did you say this was called, a ruby ball? - [Twinkie Chan] I think it's called ruby ball cactus. Oh, we should talk about that for a second. - [Courtney] Sure. - It's the same pattern. It's the same pattern as the cactus except it's a little shorter and a little bit longer, and then you draw up the other end, too. - That's awesome. - So it's the same thing. - You can also fill this with catnip and give it to your cat. - Sure. (laughs) So cute. - I love it. And this one has little pom poms. You just used a fabric glue for those? - Mmhm. And then this one, - I love that. - This is embroidery thread. And to make it stiff and to make it not unravel, I used a little Fray Check. So just kind of loop all of those on and just dab some Fray Check on. - It really is like the little pokeys on the cactus, that's pretty cute, the needles. - Yeah, it gets a little stiff. - Love that. - Yeah, it's so super cute, I think. - So is this like a new Easter tradition for you? - Maybe. Yeah. - It's really cute. - I'm kind of obsessed with making them now. - They're so great. When we were talking about what she would come and show you guys live, she's like, I wanna do this. And now, just a few weeks later, she has many, many of them. Which is the cutest. I love it. - It's fun. - We could paint the pots. Next time I'll paint the pots. - Yeah, that's your job. - Are you doing anything for Easter this weekend? - I don't know yet. - Hanging out with family? - We'll see. Maybe a picnic. - Picnic. Sounds like a great idea. - Be fun. If the whether holds up. - Yeah, we'll see. We're wishing you all a great and happy weekend. You can check out Twinkie's other classes on Creativebug, Alley will be posting that for you. And thanks for tuning in. - Thank you. (upbeat music)

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