Crochet Christmas Bauble

Special Stitches Spike stitch or long double crochet : Insert hook between 2tr from round 2, yo, draw up a loop to the same height as the working row, yo and draw through both loops on hook.

Make 2 (For each half)

Using **Red**, make a magic loop.

Round 1 : Ch3 (counts as 1st tr), make 11 tr into loop, sl st to top of beg ch3 to join. Pull tight magic loop to close. Fasten off yarn. (12 tr)

Round 2 : Using **Light green**, join in any st from round 1. Ch3 (counts as 1st tr), 1 tr in same st. Make 2 tr in each st around, sl st to top of beg ch3 to join. Fasten off yarn. (24 tr)

Round 3 : Using **Dark green**, join in space between any of the sets of 2 tr from round 2. Ch3 (counts as 1st tr), 1 tr in same space, ch1, miss next 2 sts * 2 tr in next space, ch1, miss 2 sts; repeat from * around, sl st to top of beg ch3 to join. Fasten off yarn. (24 tr, 12 ch-1)

Round 4 : Using **Purple**, join in top of a first tr from any 2 tr set in round 3, ch1, 1dc in same st, 1dc in next st, 1 spike stitch (see special stitches) in ch-1 space, inserting hook between 2 tr from round 2, * 1dc in next 2 sts, 1 spike stitch; repeat from * 10 more times, sl st to first dc to join. Fasten off yarn. (24dc, 12 spike st)

Rounds 5 - 6 : Using **Purple**, join in any st. Ch1, 1dc in each st around. Sl st to first dc to join. Fasten off yarn. (36dc) Weave in all threads.

Optional Round 7: (If the section is not quite fitting half way across the ball : Using **Red**, Tr or dc in each stitch around

*There is a seam running around the Styrofoam ball which is handy to measure your work against.

Your ball will start to curve slightly after round 5. Fit piece to your Christmas ball to check, it should have some ease to stretch.

Finishing

 Once both sections of your crochet ball are completed, slip both pieces on to your ball, making sure the right side's are facing out. Using a matching yarn colour (or not!) sewing your 2 sides together, gently stretching on to ball as you go. Leave space for the hanging loop. Fasten off and weave in all threads. Make these colourful baubles for gifts, or to decorate your own Christmas tree!

Attach ribbon with a pin or some glue.