## Earring Holder " Mother Nature"

by Meike Reichle meike@alphascorpii.net

This is not so much a pattern, as more an idea, but I thought it was worth sharing. The pattern's name, mother nature, stems from the holders natural look using warm colours and natural wood.

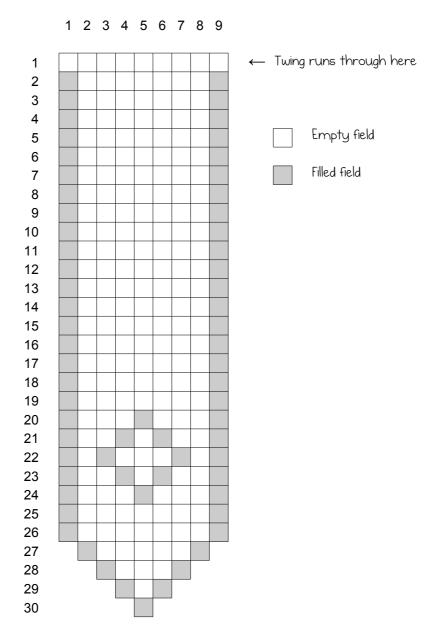
I have a large number of long, dangly silver earrings and used to keep them in a box where they'd always get mixed up and tangled. So I thought I'd come up with something to mount them on. Since I am not so much the frilly type I chose a rather large needle and some colourful sock yarn. For mounting I used a nice-looking twig from the nearby park.

The actual holder is very simple filet crochet, the only exception being that I don't use standard double crochet for the "columns" but something called "Patentstaebchen". I've found that these come out a bit straighter than standard double crochets. If you want to give it a try, here's how to do a "Patentstaebchen"\*

- Yarn over -> you now have two loops on the needle
- Insert hook into chain
- Yarn over and pull yarn through -> you now have three loops on the needle
- Grab yarn with needle and pull the yarn <u>only through the first loop</u> (This is the difference from usual double crochet!) -> you still have three loops on the needle
- Grab yarn with needle and pull the yarn through two loops -> you now have two loops on the needle
- Grab yarn with needle and pull the yarn through two loops -> you now have one loop on the needle

The pattern is flexible, I chose to do 30 rows times 9 columns, since that seemed large enough to accommodate all my earrings and have some very basic design elements. The outer blocks are filled in order to give the whole thing a bit more stability. Remember to leave the top blocks empty so you can thread the twig through them.

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