

# Simply Crochet

HOOKED ON HANDMADE



SWAN MOTIFS



LOVE YOUR  
BRITISH WOOL

Supercool stitches &  
our favourite UK yarns



Totally  
TARTAN!

Plaid skirt, elbow patches, bag, mitts & more



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# *Simply* **Crochet**

HOOKED ON HANDMADE

We've got all kinds of hooky Halloween treats in store for you this issue – Day of the Dead amigurumi, spooky accessories and a showstopping wreath. Plus, we're stitching with British wool, celebrating indie yarns and tackling crochet socks.





# Simply Crochet

ISSUE SIXTY-TWO

CONTENTS

Stitch the swan trend, p29



24  
HIGHLAND  
FLING



PSST

Get the plaid look in crochet!



CROCHET  
TARTAN  
P20



## EXCITING CROCHET IDEAS TO INSPIRE YOU

- 14 PLAID AND TARTAN IDEAS
- 24 TARTAN MINI SKIRT
- 29 SWEET SWAN MOTIFS
- 30 AMIGURUMI HALLOWEEN DOLL
- 41 HEART SHOE CLIPS
- 44 COLLARED VEST TOP
- 50 BOHO SILK WRAP

- 54 CHILD'S FOX HOODIE
- 59 HOOK TO HOOK
- 67 CONTRASTING SOCKS
- 73 WOODLAND CUSHIONS
- 83 TABLE COSY
- 95 MAKE A MANDALA



HOOK  
to  
HOOK

Turn to page 59 and check out our designer challenge - you could win Debbie Bliss yarn!

WIN

Spruce up your shoes, p41



20

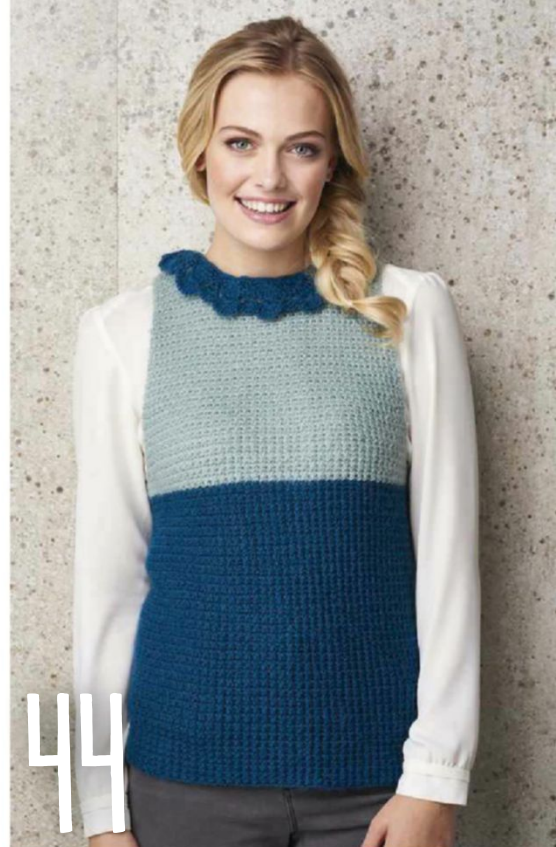




50



67



44



73



30 SUGAR SKULL DOLL



54

## GOOD READS

- 09 HOOKED
- 38 EMMA FRIEDLANDER-COLLINS
- 58 MEET GOLDING YARNS
- 65 10 CROCHET SOCK SECRETS
- 70 WHY WE LOVE INDIE YARNS
- 78 SHOW US YOURS!
- 98 MY HOOKY TREASURE

## HOW TO...

- 76 YARN REVIEWS  
Six fantastic British yarns
- 80 THE WORKSHOP  
Learn about linked double crochet
- 87 THE GUIDE  
Handy step-by-steps for you



Autumn mandala  
p95



83 TABLET COSY



# Great Scot!

As we speak, I'm about to head off on a trip from the Scottish Isles to the Faroes. Of course, I'm packing plenty of crochet! What could be more apt than our stunning tartan and plaid collection? It's spot on for getting to grips with new techniques as our designers have come up with three inventive ways to create plaid effects in crochet. And then Halloween isn't far off either, so you'll find crafty treats and costume ideas in this issue, too. I've got a real soft spot for Ilaria Caliri's Day of the Dead-inspired doll (p30). Happy hooking!

Sara



## CONTRIBUTORS

We couldn't have done it without this creative bunch...



"I'VE BEEN PLAYING AROUND WITH SCALE RECENTLY."

### BRYONY HITCHCOCK

Bryony is super-organised – she's already started planning Christmas makes (should we panic yet?). In fact, her woodland cushions would make amazing gifts for wildlife lovers. P73.



"I TRANSLATED SHERBERT STRAWS INTO A YARN!"

### KIM LAUDAN

Indie dyer Kim is the busy bee behind Golding Yarns. She's also a teacher and is sharing some hand-dyeing wisdom and all the goss on her special *Simply Crochet* sock skein set on p58.



"I LOVE CROCHETING SOCKS, AS GIFTS OR FOR ME!"

### ROHN STRONG

US stitcher Rohn has a thing for crochet socks. This issue, he's designed a stonking neon pair for us (p67), and has 10 top tips to get you hooked on sock making too – see p65.



"MY INTEREST IN CRAFTS COMES FROM MY GREAT-GRANDMA."

### KIRSTEN BALLERING

You'll probably recognise Haakmaarraak blogger Kirsten as the designer of the fabulous Hygge crochet-along. Flip to p98 to get the skinny on her favourite project.

### OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Becky Aldridge, Ilaria Caliri, Esme Crick, Lucy Croft, Hannah Cross, Judy Darley, Miki Hemphill, Elisabeth Davis de Herraiz, Kate Eastwood, Emma Friedlander-Collins, Mariana Guerra, Vicky Guerrero, Sylvia Margaret, Fran Morgan, Sue Pinner, Lynne Rowe, Nadia Seaver, Becky Skuse, Louise Smith, Eleonora Tully

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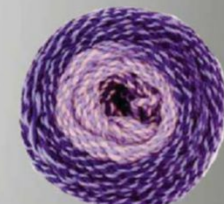
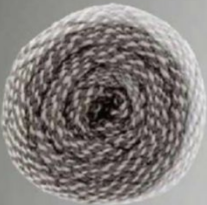
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# Perfect for Crochet



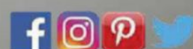
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For your local stockist call: 01756703670

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# Hooked

IDEAS ♥ INSPIRATION ♥ ACCESSORIES ♥ WEBSITES ♥ EVENTS ♥ STUFF

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## *Sita by Debbie Bliss*

Yummy new yarn alert! Debbie Bliss sure knows how to dream up a scrumptious blend. Sita is a strokable mix of mulberry silk, cotton and polyamide that feels so smooth and has a glorious drape and sheen. It's an aran weight yarn with chainette construction (adding to the supple feel) and is available in 12 tempting jewel shades. You'll want to earmark Sita now for making luxe accessories or as an inspiring yarn stash gift for a hooky friend. Find out more and track down your nearest stockist at [www.designeryarns.uk.com](http://www.designeryarns.uk.com)





## OH, HIYA

▼Two words for you – glitter hooks. If that doesn't quicken the heartbeat, we don't know what will. The colourful, sparkly tools by HiyaHiya are available in 12mm and 15mm sizes and are made from smooth, light acrylic with glitter twinkling beneath the surface. They're the bees knees for hooking anything super-chunky. Hunt down stockists at [www.hiyahiya-europe.com](http://www.hiyahiya-europe.com). RRP £2.41.



yarn show

## STITCHFEST SOUTH WEST

Prepare for things to get yarny – Devon's vibrant new yarn festival, Stitch Fest, returns to Totnes for the second time this November. Stand by for top independent makers and suppliers from across the UK, plus yarny talks and workshops galore. The event runs from 4-5 November at Civic Hall and covers spinning, weaving and knitting, as well as crochet. It'll be ideal for stocking up on yarn for your winter makes, and finding unique hand-dyed skeins and crafty gifts in time for Christmas. Visit [www.stitchfest.co.uk](http://www.stitchfest.co.uk) to purchase tickets from £4.50 and sign up to the newsletter for all the gossip on what's on and who'll be there. It's in our diary already.

## OFF TO CHESHIRE

**K**een to pick up new skills? This year's Cheshire Fibre Festival is all about learning. As well as a lunchtime market, there's an amazing schedule of workshops including freeform and hairpin lace crochet, needlefelting and weaving. It takes place 1 October at Marthall Village Hall, Knutsford. Book a place at [www.agrarianartisan.com](http://www.agrarianartisan.com)



### new patterns

## We Love...

US yarnsters Quince & Co have knocked it out of the park with their stunning new *Crochet 2017* collection. It's a PDF crochet pattern book of five beautiful accessories, including shawls, wraps and a cowl. Think drapey, sophisticated shapes, delicate details and clean, earthy colours. As Quince & Co are all about the natural, thoughtfully sourced fibres, the designs are all worked in their American-spun, American wool yarns. The cover design, Lithia Springs (right) – a showstopping lacy blue shawl by Julie Blagojevich, is high on our to-hook list. Check out the whole collection, and purchase either the book or individual crochet patterns as PDFs at [www.quinceandco.com](http://www.quinceandco.com)







## MINI PROFILE



## CURIO CRAFTS

Dutch crochet designer and Scheepjes blogger Christa told us: "When I was a little girl my mother and grandmother

taught me how to crochet. It developed into a passion when I started designing three years ago. I love the entire process from the initial idea I get, to puzzling over stitches, selecting colours and then holding the finished item in my hands.

"I've mainly designed peacock-inspired items like bookmarks, coasters, garlands and stool covers. I'm best known for these. Lately I've been concentrating on larger items like throws and shawls. I'm a slow crocheter so these aren't all finished yet but I do love working on larger projects.

"I find inspiration on my nature walks. It's not just the beautiful shapes and colours that inspire me, but the peace and quiet I find there creates the mental space needed to let ideas float to the surface. Designs, fabrics, and colours from the 1920s and 30s also inspire me. I have surrounded myself with quite a bit of home décor and other objects



from that era. The peacock was a popular motif back then and it influenced my first peacock-inspired crochet design.

"It's difficult to pick a favourite design so I'll mention two: the Peacock Tail Feather Coaster, which was my first design, and the Java Peacock Feather. What I'm most proud of is that my designs led me to become part of the Scheepjes Bloggers' Group, a group of super-talented designers who encourage me to go on new crochet adventures..."

Christa's just designed a new kit for Scheepjes. Find her at [www.thecuriocraftsroom.blogspot.com](http://www.thecuriocraftsroom.blogspot.com) and on Instagram as @thecuriocraftsroom



## SUBS STARS!

Every month, three subscribers win a prize as a thank you for their loyalty. This month, the winners (below) will each receive this Hooooked panda kit worth £24.89!

Ms Karen Wallace, Stockport  
Mr Douglas Seager, Gloucester  
Mrs L Haggett

Immediate Media Company, publishers of *Simply Crochet*, Subs Stars giveaway terms and conditions. Prizes were dispatched before the on sale date of this issue. There are no cash alternatives. Three winning entries will be chosen at random from all current subscribers. The draw is final and no correspondence will be entered into.



## INSPIRING BOOKS



### CROCHETED BABY SHOES

VAL PIERCE

(£4.99, Search Press)

Baby shoes make a great gift for little ones, and this collection of 20 designs will have you oohing and aaahing. Find advice on how to adjust the size to fit baby's toes and have fun creating all the fun details. Our faves include pastel booties, pompom pumps, strawberry shoes and sweet slippers.



### CROCHETED ANIMAL HATS

NICKI TRENCH

(£12.99, CICO Books)

With her trademark gorgeous designs, easy-to-follow patterns and clear photos, Nicki's collection of 35 fun animal hats is a winner. Learn to create whiskers, ears, eyes and noses and keep kids, babies and grown-ups cosy in cute topper designs, including birds, insects, pets, wild animals and even a dinosaur.



### COLORFUL CROCHET

MARIANNE DEKKERS-ROOS (£14.95, Tuva)

Inject some colour into your crochet with these fresh designs.

Choose from bright cushions and blankets, vibrant things to wear and beautiful bags, all hooked in blogger Marianne's signature cheery boho style. Over 20 things to make.



### MEGA MINI CROSS STITCH

MAKOTO OOZU

(£9.99, Pavilion Books)

Tokyo-based cross stitch guru Makoto has packed 900 motifs into his book, which you can use to decorate bags, table linen, T-shirts and more. There's a simple guide to the stitches, charts and how to use waste canvas. The motifs are arranged into shops, plus an alphabet, so get your teddy, robot or aeroplane from the toy shop, ball of wool and hook from haberdashery, and doughnut from the bakery.





## CROCHET-ALONG

**N**ow our Pick 'n' Mix CAL has come to an end, you might be itching to get another longer project on your hook. Enter the Trellis Poncho CAL, The Mercerie's autumn crochet-along which will run for 11 weeks from mid-September. The motif-based boho design is worked in Rowan's Felted Tweed yarn. Snap up the pattern for £7 at [www.themercurie.co.uk](http://www.themercurie.co.uk) and meet the other makers on their Facebook group at <http://bit.ly/sc62cal>

## TONE IT UP

▼Chunky yarns are everywhere right now (look out for our super-chunky yarn review next issue), but this one from King Cole sets itself apart with cool blended colour effects. Big Value Tonal Chunky is available in eight tonally variegated shades that would be spot on for hooking up-to-the-minute garments with a good dose of cosiness. It's 100% acrylic and rrp £4.14 per 100g ball. [www.kingcole.com](http://www.kingcole.com)



## PAWS FOR THOUGHT

Kitschy, cute and totally crocheted, this pampered pooch looks like she's scampered straight out of a children's book. It's an Anne-Claire Petit design, handmade with organic cotton by craftswomen in northern China. Get a load of that puff stitch texture – perfect for creating the look of curly fur. This quirky creation is available from luxe gift and homeware store [www.amara.com](http://www.amara.com) for £42 in either cream, brown or pink (our personal favourite, naturally). If sweet and retro is your vibe, check out our mini swan motif make over on page 29.



BRITISH WOOL

## WOOL WEEK 2017

Wool Week runs from 7-22 October this year! There'll be lots of exciting things going on, but the main event will be the Wool Fusion exhibition at Carousel, London. The inspiring show will cover wool in fashion and interiors. Entry is free and there'll be talks and workshops, too. See [www.campaignforwool.org](http://www.campaignforwool.org)

## RETREAT

## Crochet stayaway

Fancy a break dedicated to crochet? Book now for The BIG Crochet Stayaway. It's hosted by Louisa of Komodo Crafts. She says: "The retreat's held at Anstey Grove Barn, Hertfordshire. Guests immerse themselves in crochet, workshops and crafts. And we're one mile from Yewtree Alpacas! Our next retreat is 8-10 December, with workshops in embroidery, spinning and rag rugging (as well as crochet!). We also have spaces for day guests." See [www.komodokrafts.com](http://www.komodokrafts.com)







## GET ON BOARD

Tilly Flop Designs ([www.tillyflopdesigns.etsy.com](http://www.tillyflopdesigns.etsy.com)) stocks witty craft-themed goodies such as cards, tea towels and temporary tattoos with bags of sassy yarn attitude. We've been loving these yarn ball bumper stickers lately. In fact, we've got four of each of these designs to give away to you guys. To be in with a chance of winning one, head to [http://competition.immediate.co.uk/sc62car](http://http://competition.immediate.co.uk/sc62car)

## HOLY FLUFF

Gilliangladrag ([www.gilliangladrag.co.uk](http://www.gilliangladrag.co.uk)) is our go-to for all things felt, but their new yarn is something of a revelation. Holy Fluff is a super-chunky roving yarn available in six imaginative shades (there's even a George Clooney one – swoon), including Glittery Unicorn (pictured below centre) which is wound with glitter. £18.95 per 200g skein.



## OUT & ABOUT

### Skills, shows & events



**OCT 11-15 The Knitting & Stitching Show**  
£14.50, Alexandra Palace, London,  
[www.theknittingandstitchingshow.com](http://www.theknittingandstitchingshow.com)

**OCT 13-15 Loch Ness Knit Fest, £15,**  
Inverness Ice Centre, [www.lochnessknitfest.com](http://www.lochnessknitfest.com)

**OCT 14 West Wales Wool Show**  
£TBC, Narberth, Pembrokeshire,  
[www.westwaleswoolshow.weebly.com](http://www.westwaleswoolshow.weebly.com)

**OCT 14-15 Bakewell Wool Gathering**  
£5, Bakewell Agricultural Centre, Derbyshire,  
[www.bakewellwool.co.uk](http://www.bakewellwool.co.uk)

**OCT 21 How to Crochet Workshop**  
£50, Baa Ram Ewe, Chapel Allerton, Leeds,  
0113 278 1788 [www.baaramewe.co.uk](http://www.baaramewe.co.uk)

## 5 FAB FINDS

Here for the boos  
Crafty tricks and treats for  
a creative Halloween.



1

### PUMP IT UP

A pumpkin of almost Cinderella-esque proportions that you can sit on? Oh, yes. Visit [www.repeatcrafterme.com](http://www.repeatcrafterme.com) for the Yarnspirations lookbook crochet pattern. We're pretty pumped about this one.

2



### LET'S HANG OUT

Creepy amigurumi gets two thumbs up from us. Lalylala's frightfully cute 4 Seasons Halloween Special pattern trio can be found at [www.lalylala.com](http://www.lalylala.com)

### SUGAR SKULL

This skull brownie cake is just begging to be decorated with sweets. You'll need the nifty Skull Tube Cake Pan from [www.wilton.com](http://www.wilton.com). Bake Off, watch your back.



4



### BERNAT POP

We're loving Bernat Pop's Halloween shades. It's a very yummy gradient cake yarn made from 100% acrylic. Shop at [www.woolwarehouse.co.uk](http://www.woolwarehouse.co.uk)

### GOTTA HAVE GLITZ

Keep things classy and do Halloween the Pinterest-y way with a pumpkin dipped in golden glitter. We found this one at [www.homesense.com](http://www.homesense.com)



5



PLAID IDEAS



# Aim Highlands

Get cosy with tartans, look rad in plaid, with our collection of colourwork accessories stitched in warm wool.







#### MITT LOVE

All tartans are plaid, but not all plaids are tartan. Lost already? Just remember, whatever your clan – prim, punk rock, or actually Scottish, tartan is timeless and anyone can wear it well. Start small with fingerless mitts.

#### ALL WRAPPED UP

Things we like: blankets. Things we don't like: not being in blankets. This wide fringed wrap is your hot ticket to day-long blanket cosiness without looking like a sartorial wrong 'un.









### SKIRTING THE ISSUE

This simple checked mini is just the right balance of 90s and now. It's worn high on the waist and is nipped in with a comfy elasticated waistband. You'll work it in the round without any fiddly fastenings, so it's a breeze.

### GIVE 'EM THE ELBOW

If somebody can't handle you at peak elbow patch jazziness, what sort of friend are they? No one needs that kind of negativity in their life. Ditch the naysayers and turn heads with the ultimate tartan patches.



## PLAID IDEAS



### POM ON TOP

Tam o' shanter this ain't. It's a more up-to-date nod to the traditional Scottish bonnet cap, topped with a pom-pom, of course. Use front post treble stitches for the ribbing, and colour changes for the plaid effect. You've got a bonnie beanie, lassie.

### PLAID, BAD AND DANGEROUS TO KNOW

And the pom-poms don't stop there. Complete the look with a coordinating plaid bag. This drawstring design has a circular base, giving it a spacious bucket shape and a simple structure.







## FINGERLESS MITTS

Practise front post stitches and colour changes on a small scale with this cosy project designed by Hannah Cross.

- Patons Wool Aran, (100% wool, 50g/85m), 1 ball of each: **Yarn A** Mocca (212), **Yarn B** Merlot (232), **Yarn C** Camel (205), **Yarn D** Olive (271), **Yarn E** Cherry (231)
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

### TENSION

18sts and 9 rounds to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over tr using a 4.5mm hook

### MEASUREMENTS

Each mitt measures 9x18cm (3½x7in)  
Stretches to fit an average adult hand

### ABBREVIATIONS

**FPhtr** Yrh, starting at the front, insert hook from front to back to front around the post of the indicated st, complete as for htr

**BPhtr** Yrh, starting at the back, insert hook from back to front to back around the post of the indicated st, complete as for htr

**Reverse dc** Work a dc in each st in the opposite direction from usual, so if right-handed, work from left to right

### MITTS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn C, ch30, ss in first ch to make a loop taking care not to twist the chain.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), htr in each ch around, ss in first htr to join. [30 htr]

**Rounds 2-5** Ch1, \*FPhtr around next st, BPhtr around next st; rep from \* around, ss in first FPhtr to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 6** Join Yarn E in first st, ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn A, tr in next 3 sts, \*change to Yarn E, tr in next 3 sts, change to Yarn A, tr in next 3 sts; rep from \* around, ss in top of beg ch-3 to join, do not fasten off.

**Round 7** With Yarn B, ch3, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn E, tr in next 3 sts, \*change to Yarn B, tr in next 3 sts, change to Yarn E, tr in next 3 sts; rep from \* around, ss in top of beg ch-3 to join. **Fasten off.**

Rounds 6 and 7 set the pattern.

**Rounds 8-11** Rep Rounds 6-7 twice more.

**Round 12** Rep Round 6.

**Round 13** With Yarn B ch3, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn E, tr in next 3 sts, (change to Yarn B, tr in next 3 sts, change to Yarn E, tr in next 3 sts) twice, ch6, skip next 6 sts, change to Yarn B, tr in next 3 sts, change to Yarn E, tr in next 3 sts, ss in top of beg ch-3



to join, do not fasten off.

**Rounds 14-15** Rep Rounds 6-7 once more.

**Round 16** Join Yarn C in first st, ch1 (does not count as st), htr in each around, ss in first htr to join. [30 htr]

**Round 17** Ch1, \*FPhtr around next st, BPhtr around next st; rep from \* around, ss in first FPhtr to join.

### THUMBHOLE

**Round 1** Join Yarn C in any stitch around thumbhole opening, ch1, 16htr evenly around, ss in first htr to join. [16 htr]

**Round 2** Ch1, \*FPhtr around next st, BPhtr around next st; rep from \* around, ss in first FPhtr to join.

### EDGING

Add to top and bottom edge of mitts.

**Round 1** Join Yarn D in first st, ch1, reverse dc in each st around, ss to first dc to join.

**Fasten off.**

## COSY PLAID WRAP

Fringed, fabulous and wider than your average scarf, this classic wrap is big on style and so warm. By Anne Egan.

- Patons Wool Aran, (100% wool, 50g/85m),

3 balls of **Yarn A** Camel (205), 4 balls of **Yarn B** Mocca (212), 2 balls of **Yarn C** Cherry (231), 5 balls of **Yarn D** Merlot (232) and 4 balls of **Yarn E** Olive (271)

- A 6mm (US J/10) and a 5mm (US H/8) hook
- A tapestry needle

### MEASUREMENTS

Finished size (excluding fringe) 190x48cm (75x19in)

### NOTES

The plaid effect is created by working a grid in tr and chain spaces, working a striped pattern repeat in rows. To create the vertical stripes (see image) a separate chain is woven in and out of each chain space column of the treble grid. The same colour repeat is used when weaving the chains.

Care needs to be taken when measuring the length of the chains as it is easy to stretch them too much and at different rates while measuring them and while weaving them in place. Consistency is key!

### TARTAN WRAP GRID

**Row 1 (RS)** With Yarn C and a 6mm hook, ch84, tr in 6th ch from hook, \*ch1, skip next





ch, tr in next ch; repeat from \* across, turn.

**Fasten off.** [41 tr and 40 ch-sps]

**Row 2 (WS)** Join Yarn B in first st, ch3 (counts as tr throughout), \*ch1, skip next ch-1 sp, tr in next tr; rep from \* across, turn.

**Row 3** Ch3, \*ch1, skip next ch-1 sp, tr in next tr; rep from \* across, turn.

**Fasten off.**

**Rows 4-27** Rep Row 3 using the following Yarn sequence: D, E, D, D, D, D, E, D, B, B, C, E, E, A, B, A, A, A, A, B, A, E, E, C.

**Rows 28-131** Rep Rows 2 to 27 four more times.

**Rows 132-144** Rep Rows 2 to 14 once more to finish grid. Weave in all ends.

## CHAINS

Measure the length of your grid – ours measures 190cm long.

Using a 5mm hook make 40 chains of that length in the following colours – leave tails at both ends of about 18cm for the fringe: 6 x A, 10 x B, 4 x C, 12 x D, 8 x E.

Each chain length will be woven along the length of the scarf, in and out of the chain spaces. Start nearest one edge with a chain in Yarn C and follow the same colour sequence as for the Grid.

Take care as you pull through as the chain will stretch, so ease it along the length and tie off at each end leaving the long tail at each end.

## FRINGE

For each chain length, cut a piece of yarn measuring 40cm to match the chain. Fold this piece in half and secure at the end of the chain of the matching colour, so that the tail end of the chain forms part of the same tassel. Knot these three ends together.

Repeat along both short ends of the scarf, matching the fringing lengths to the colour of the chains.

Trim fringe to same length.

## TARTAN MINI SKIRT

Flip to page 24 for a classy skirt with clever colourwork. By Fran Morgan.

## ELBOW PATCHES

The perfect finishing touch for a jacket or jumper. Designed by Bryony Hitchcock.

■ Patons Wool Aran, (100% wool, 50g/85m),

1 ball of each: Yarn A Merlot (232),

Yarn B Mocca (212), Yarn C Olive (271),

Yarn D Camel (205), Yarn E Cherry (231)

■ A 4mm (US G/6) and a 4.5mm (US 7) hook

## TENSION

20 stitches and 20 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over dc using a 4mm hook

## MEASUREMENTS

10x12cm (4x4½in)

## NOTES

To achieve an oval shape, the starting ch is

worked in a separate piece of yarn, which can be curved to meet new rows when an increase is needed.

See Chart on p93, which shows the tartan pattern, worked in rows of dc. Each square on the Chart represents 1dc.

Pick up new colours on the last yrh of the previous st and carry all tail ends on the WS of your work. Where colours are reintroduced after a few sts, yarn can be carried over. For longer stretches, use a new yarn strand.

## ELBOW PATCH (MAKE 2)

With Yarn A and a 4.5mm hook, ch25.

**Fasten off.**

**Row 1 (RS)** With a 4mm hook, join Yarn B in back loop only of 8th ch, ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in same st and back loop only of each of next 10 ch, changing colours according to the Chart and making sure all Yarn tails are held on the WS of your work, ss in each of next 2 ch, turn. [11dc, 2ss]

**Row 2 (WS)** Ch1, dc in first 2 ss, dc in each







of 11 dc, dc in next 2 ch of starting chain, ss in next ch, turn. [15 dc, 1ss]

**Row 3** Ch1, dc in first ss, dc in each of 15 dc, dc in next ch of starting chain, turn. [17 dc]

**Row 4** Ch1, dc in each of 17 dc, skip next ch of starting chain, ss in next ch, turn.

[17 dc, 1 ss]

**Row 5** Ch1, dc in ss, dc in each of 17 dc, skip next ch of starting chain, dc in next ch, turn. [19 dc]

**Row 6** Ch1, dc in each of 19 dc, skip next ch of starting chain, ss in next ch, turn.

[19 dc, 1 ss]

**Row 7** Ch1, dc in ss, dc in each of 19 dc, skip next ch of starting chain, dc in next ch, turn. [21 dc]

**Rows 8-12** Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

**Row 13** Ss in first st, ch1, dc in next 19 dc, turn leaving last st unworked. [19 dc]

**Row 14** Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn.

**Row 15** Ss in first st, ch1, dc in next 17 dc, turn leaving last st unworked. [17 dc]

**Row 16** Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn.

**Row 17** Ss in first st, ch1, dc in next 15 dc, turn leaving last st unworked. [15 dc]

**Row 18** Ss in first st and next st, ch1, dc in next 11 dc, turn leaving last 2 sts unworked. [11 dc]

**Fasten off.**

#### BORDER

**Round 1** With RS facing, rejoin Yarn A in any st, ch1, dc evenly around the edge of the Elbow Patch, ss to first dc to join.

**Fasten off.**

#### SURFACE CROCHET

With Yarn E, work a line of surface crochet to the right of the vertical post of the

burgundy cross, and a further line above the horizontal post, using the image as a guide.

Work a final round of surface crochet at the base of the dc border around the edge of the patch.

## POMPOM BEANIE HAT

A cosy colourwork bobble hat to go with your mitts. Designed by Hannah Cross.

■ Patons Wool Aran, (100% wool, 50g/85m), 1 ball of each: **Yarn A** Mocca (212),

**Yarn B** Merlot (232), **Yarn C** Camel (205),

**Yarn D** Olive (271), **Yarn E** Cherry (231)

■ A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

#### TENSION

18sts and 9 rounds to meas 10x 0cm (4x4in) over tr using a 4.5mm hook

#### MEASUREMENTS

The hat circumference before stretch measures 50cm (19½in)

To fit an average adult head

#### ABBREVIATIONS

See Fingerless Mitts

#### HAT

Using Yarn A, ch78, ss in first ch to make a loop taking care not to twist the chain.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), htr in each ch around, ss in 1st htr to join. [78 htr]

**Rounds 2-5** Ch1, \*FPht around next st, BPht around next st; rep from \* around, ss in first FPht to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 6** Join Yarn B in first st, ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 3 sts, \*change to Yarn B, tr in next 3 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 3 sts; rep from \* around, ss in top of beg ch-3 to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 7** Join Yarn D in first st, ch3, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn B, tr in next 3 sts, \*change to Yarn D, tr in next 3 sts, change to Yarn B, tr in next 3 sts; rep from \* around, ss in top of beg ch-3 to join.

**Fasten off.**

Rounds 6 and 7 set the pattern.

**Rounds 8-19** Rep Rounds 6-7 six more times. Cut a long tail and thread around all sts of Round 19, pull tog to gather top of hat and secure with a knot.

#### EDGING

**Round 1 (RS)** Working in back loops only of starting ch, join Yarn C in first st, ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first dc to join.

**Fasten off.**

**Round 2** Join Yarn E in first st, ch1, reverse dc in each st around, ss to first dc to join.

**Fasten off.**

#### POMPOM

Make a 6cm pompom in Yarn E and secure to the top of the hat to finish.

## DRAWSTRING BAG

Surface crochet comes into play with this stylish design by Fran Morgan.

■ Patons Wool Aran, (100% wool, 50g/85m), 3 balls of each: **Yarn A** Merlot (232),

**Yarn B** Mocca (212) 1 ball of each:

**Yarn C** Cherry (231), **Yarn D** Camel (205),

**Yarn E** Olive (271)

■ A 4mm (US G/6) hook

#### TENSION

21 sts and 17 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over Body pattern using a 4mm hook or size required to obtain tension

#### MEASUREMENTS

Bag measures 32cm (12½in) tall and 54cm (21in) circumference

#### BAG BOTTOM

Using Yarn A, ch3, ss to first ch to join in a ring.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 6dc into ring, ss to first st to join. [6 dc]

**Round 2** Ch1, 2dc in each dc around, ss to



first st to join. [12 dc]

**Round 3** Ch1, (2dc in next dc, dc into next dc), 6 times, ss to first st to join. [18 dc]

**Round 4** Ch1, (2dc into next dc, dc in each of next 2 dc), 6 times, ss to first st to join. [24 dc]

**Round 5** Ch1, (2dc into next dc, dc in each of next 3 dc), 6 times, ss to first st to join. [30 dc]

**Round 6** Ch1, (2dc into next dc, dc in each of next 4 dc), 6 times, ss to first st to join. [36 dc]

**Round 7** Ch1, (2dc into next dc, dc in each of next 5 dc), 6 times, ss to first st to join. [42 dc]

**Round 8** Ch1, (2dc into next dc, dc in each of next 6 dc), 6 times, ss to first st to join. [48 dc]

**Rounds 9-16** Continue in the same fashion, increasing by 6 sts evenly each round, until there are 96 sts.

**Rounds 17-24** Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss to first st to join. [96 dc]

## BAG BODY

Using Yarn B, ch112, ss to first ch to join in a loop, taking care not to twist chain.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in first ch, ch1, skip next ch, \*dc in next ch, ch1, skip next ch; rep from \* around, ss to first st to join. [112 sts]

**Round 2** Ch1, \*dc in next dc, ch1, skip next ch-1 sp; rep from \* around, ss to first st to join. [112 sts]

Round 2 sets pattern.

**Rounds 3-45** Rep Round 2 foll Stripe sequence: B, B, B, E, E, D, B, A, B, B, B, B, E, B, D, D, A, B, B, B, B, E, D, B, A, A, B, B, B, B, E, E, B, D, A, B, B, B, B.

**Round 46** Join Yarn A in first st, Ch1, \*(dc in next dc, dc in next ch-1 sp) 5 times, (dc in next dc, skip next ch-1 sp) twice; rep from \* 7 more times, ss to first dc to join. [96 sts]

**Rounds 47-49** Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss to first st to join.

**Round 50** Ch1, (dc in each of next 10 dc, ch2, skip next 2dc) 8 times, ss to first st to join. [80 dc and 8 ch-2 sps]

**Rounds 51-52** Ch1, dc in each st (including ch) around, ss to first st to join. [96 dc]

## VERTICAL STRIPES

The vertical stripes are made using surface

crochet. These are worked up through the ch space columns. Starting in any column work the following Stripe Sequence 7 times:

E, D, B, A, 4 empty columns (8 stripes)

## DRAWSTRING

Using Yarn B, ch221.

**Row 1** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [220 dc]

**Row 2** Ch1, incorporating all sts of Row 1 into the sts, dc into each ch of starting ch again. **Fasten off.** [220 sts]

## DRAWSTRING TOGGLE

Using Yarn B, ch6.

**Row 1** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [5 dc]

**Rows 2-8** Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. [5 dc] **Fasten off.**

Fold the Toggle in half lengthways, sew the ends tog and then sew a centre seam to create two openings in the Toggle.

## TO FINISH

Sew Bag Bottom to Body of Bag, so that it

overlaps the bottom edge slightly. Thread Drawstring through eyelet holes so that it enters and exits at the back of bag where rounds join.

Thread Toggle onto both ends of Drawstring (one in each opening) and then sew the ends of the Drawstring to the Bag Bottom in Row 16, approx in line with the eyelet holes at the back.



**YARN STOCKISTS**

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**01484 950630**

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# Outlander

Weave a little Scottish-inspired magic with this statement skirt by Fran Morgan.

PSST

*The vertical stripes are woven in afterwards*







## YOU WILL NEED

- Patons Wool Aran, (100% wool, 50g/85m),  
Yarn A Cherry (231)  
Yarn B Merlot (232)  
Yarn C Mocca (212)  
1 ball of each for all sizes:  
Yarn D Camel (205)  
Yarn E Olive (271)  
See table for measurements  
and yarn quantities
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- 2cm (¾in) wide elastic (approx  
20cm longer than waistband)
- Pins

For yarn stockists contact  
MEZ Crafts 01484 950630  
[www.mezcrafts.co.uk](http://www.mezcrafts.co.uk)

## TENSION

22sts and 19 rows to measure  
10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern using  
a 4mm hook or size required to  
obtain tension

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Forgo the complex pleats and hook a tartan mini instead of going full kilt. It's worked in the round so there's no seaming to worry about, and all the vertical stripes are woven in afterwards. No sporran required (but don't let us stop you).

## NOTES

The skirt is worked from the hem up to the waistline using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. Place a marker in the first st of each round and move it up as you work. Each odd Round will begin with a dc and each even Round will begin with a ch.

The waist measurement given in the table is the measurement at the top of the skirt before the elastic has been added. When selecting your size, use the Actual Hip measurements for guidance.

## SKIRT BODY

Using Yarn A, ch197 (209: 219: 229: 241: 251: 263), ss to first ch to join in the round, taking care not to twist ch.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in first ch (place marker in first st of Round), (ch1, skip next ch, dc in next ch) around. [197 (209: 219: 229: 241: 251: 263) sts]

**Round 2** Ch1, skip first st, (dc in next st, ch1, skip next st) around.

**Round 3** Dc in first st, (ch1, skip next st, dc in next st) around.

Rounds 2 and 3 set pattern.

Continue working in stripe sequence until



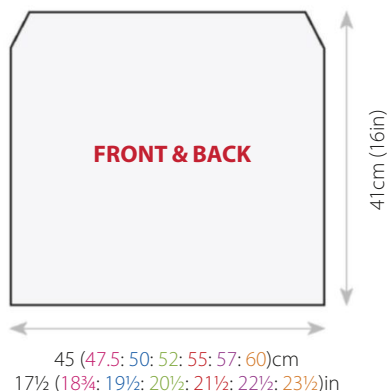
You'll work the horizontal stripes as you go in the round, then weave the others at the end.

work measures 35cm, ending on an even round.

If you want to alter the length of the Skirt, continue working extra rounds here, allowing for an extra 7cm for the waist shaping to follow.

## STRIPE SEQUENCE

\*6 rows Cherry (A)  
4 rows Merlot (B)  
3 rows Mocca (C)  
6 rows Cherry (A)  
1 row Camel (D)  
1 row Cherry (A)  
1 row Camel (D)  
6 rows Cherry (A)  
3 rows Mocca (C)  
4 rows Merlot (B)  
6 rows Cherry (A)  
1 row Olive (E)  
1 row Cherry (A)  
1 row Olive (E)  
Repeat from \*



SIZE		8	10	12	14	16	18	20
TO FIT WAIST	cm	61	66	71	76	81	86	91
	in	24	26	28	30	32	34	36
TO FIT HIP	cm	86	91	97	102	107	112	117
	in	34	36	38	40	42	44	46
ACTUAL WAIST	cm	71	77	79.5	84	88	92	96
	in	28	30¼	31¼	33	34½	36¼	37¾
ACTUAL HIP	cm	89.5	95	99.5	104	109.5	114	119.5
	in	35¼	37½	39	41	43	45	47
LENGTH	cm	41	41	41	41	41	41	41
	in	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
YARN B	50g	1	1	2	2	2	2	2
YARN C	50g	1	1	1	1	1	2	2

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.



# TARTAN SKIRT

## WAIST SHAPING

**Round 1** Dc in first ch, \*ch1, skip next dc, dc2tog over next 2 ch-sps, (ch1, skip next dc, dc in next ch-1 sp) 7 (8: 7: 8: 8: 8) times; repeat from \* 9 (9: 10: 10: 11: 11: 12) more times, cont in patt over last 16 (8: 20: 8: 0: 10: 2) sts. [177 (189: 197: 207: 217: 227: 237) sts]

**Round 2** Ch1, skip first st, (dc in next st, ch1, skip next st) around.

**Round 3** Dc in first st, (ch1, skip next st, dc in next st) around.

**Round 4** Repeat Round 2.

**Round 5** Dc in first ch, \*ch1, skip next dc, dc2tog over next 2 ch-sps, (ch1, skip next dc, dc in next ch-1 sp) 6 (7: 6: 7: 7: 7) times; repeat from \* 9 (9: 10: 10: 11: 11: 12) more times, cont in patt over last 16 (8: 20: 8: 0: 10: 2) sts. [157 (169: 175: 185: 193: 203: 211) sts]

Repeat Rounds 2 and 3 until Skirt measures 41cm, ending on an even row, ss to first ch to join, do not fasten off.

## ELASTIC CASING

**Round 1** Continue with current colour, ch5, skip next dc, (ttr into next ch-sp, skip next st, ch1) repeat around, ss to top of beg ch-5 to join.

**Fasten off.**

## TO MAKE UP

Fold casing row to the WS of the Skirt and pin in place. Using a length of yarn sew top edge of row to the inside of the Skirt, making sure stitches do not show on the RS. Thread elastic through the casing and use to adjust waistband to fit, knot or sew ends together and trim excess.

## VERTICAL STRIPES

Mark the centre and sides of Skirt at the Waistband with pins. Mark the mid-points between these points, giving a total of 8 marked points.

Starting at hem and using yarn doubled, sew up through ch spaces by weaving in and out, to top of skirt, using the image as a guide and the stripe sequence below:

### Sides and Centres

- 1 row Camel (D)
- 2 rows Olive (E)

### Mid-Points

- 2 rows Camel (D)
- 2 row Merlot (B)



No fiddly fastenings here, just a stretchy elastic waistband to slip in and out of.



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## YOU WILL NEED

- King Cole Giza 4ply (100% cotton, 50g/160m), 1 ball of each:  
Yarn A White (2190)  
Yarn B Black (2201)  
Yarn C Amber (2200)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- Embroidery thread in black and red for eyes
- 1 pipe cleaner per swan

For yarn stockists contact

King Cole 01756 703670

[www.kingcole.com](http://www.kingcole.com)

## MEASUREMENTS

8x7cm (3x2¾in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

## NOTES

The swans are simple to make as the body is made from a crochet circle that is folded in half and gathered up to form the body shape. The neck is made separately and worked in a continuous round. A pipe cleaner inserted into the neck allows you to create the distinctive curve. Eyes are sewn on with a needle and thread.

## BODY

The body is made in a continuous round. Using Yarn A or B make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 8dc into the loop.

**Round 2** 2dc in each st around. [16 dc]

**Round 3** (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 8 times. [24 dc]

**Round 4** (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts) 8 times. [32 dc]

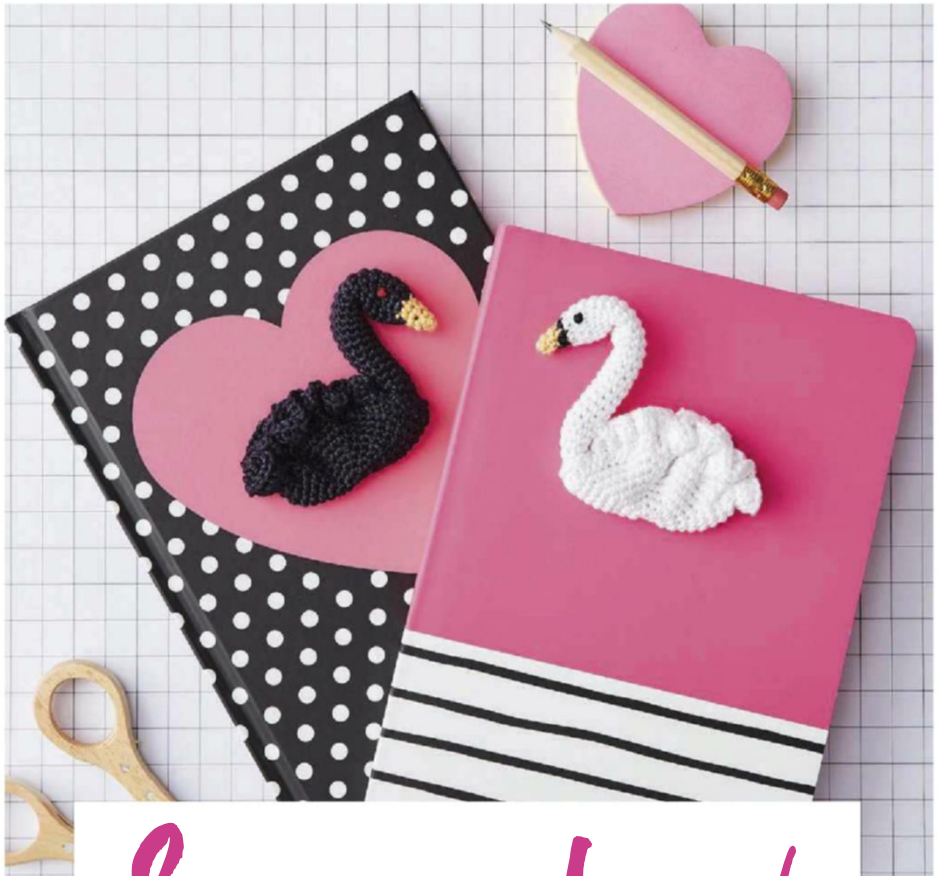
**Round 5** (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts) 8 times. [40 dc]

**Round 6** (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts) 8 times. [48 dc]

**Round 7** (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts) 8 times. [56 dc]

**Round 8** (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts) 8 times, ss to first st to join. [64 dc]

**Round 9** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in each of next 7 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in each of next 7 sts) 7 times, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [72 tr]



# Swan about

Cute and kitschy bird motifs on just the right side of twee. Designed by Kate Eastwood.

**Round 10** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at base of ch-3, 2tr in each st around to last 12 sts.

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail and last 12 sts unworked. [120 tr]

## NECK

Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 4dc into the loop.

**Round 2** Dc in each st around. [4 dc]

**Round 3** (2dc in next st, dc in next st) twice. **Fasten off.** [6 dc]

**Round 4** With Yarn B, dc in each st around. For a Black Swan cont in Yarn B, for the White Swan **fasten off** Yarn B and join Yarn A in first st of next round.

**Round 5** 2dc in each st around. [12 dc]

**Rounds 6-11** Dc in each st around.

**Round 12** (Dc in next 4 dc, dc2tog) twice. [10 sts]

**Rounds 13-34** Dc in each st around.

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail. Fold pipe cleaner into 3 and carefully push up into neck piece. Leave neck straight.

## TO MAKE UP

Lay Body on a flat surface, RS facing down with unfrilled segment facing centre left. Fold bottom half of circle up so that you have a semicircle with a small unfrilled section at the left. Carefully tuck neck into body at unfrilled edge so that end of neck is placed at centre point of circle. Using tail of yarn at end of neck sew a couple of sts to hold neck in position. Using a length of matching yarn, run a gathering thread around upper curved edge of Body. Pull thread to gather Body, creating a feathered effect. Bend Neck so that it is pointing upwards and add curves to create shape of Neck. Push Neck back to edge of Body and stitch in place. Weave in ends.



# Bone idol

Creepy meets cute in this Mexican-inspired amigurumi doll, designed by Ilaria Caliri.







## YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Catona (100% cotton, 50g/130m), 1 ball of each:  
**Yarn A** Jet Black (110)  
**Yarn B** Tyrian Purple (128)
- Scheepjes Catona (100% cotton, 25g/62.5m), 1 ball of each:  
**Yarn C** Bridal White (105)  
**Yarn D** Candy Apple (516)  
**Yarn E** Emerald (515)  
**Yarn F** Tropic (253)  
**Yarn G** Petrol Blue (400)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- Black tulle fabric  
 (2 pieces 48x8cm/19x3in)
- A pair of safety eyes approx 8mm diameter
- 1 small button (10mm)
- Sewing pins
- Tapestry and sewing needle
- Stitch markers
- Toy stuffing
- Adhesive tape

For yarn stockists contact  
 Scheepjes [www.scheepjes.com](http://www.scheepjes.com)

## MEASUREMENTS

Doll measures 27cm (10½in) tall

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

This little lady's all dressed up for Halloween in a spooky outfit inspired by Mexican Day of the Dead celebrations. It's the embroidery that makes it – stitch on delicate skeleton details and face paint.

## NOTES

The Body Parts are worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it helpful to place a marker in the first st of each round and move it up as you work.

## BODY AND HEAD

With Yarn A, make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 dc]

**Round 2** 2dc in each st around. [12 dc]

**Round 3** (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 dc]

**Round 4** (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 dc]

**Round 5** (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 dc]

**Round 6** (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 dc]

**Rounds 7-12** Dc in each dc around.

**Round 13** (Dc2tog, 4dc) 3 times, 18dc. [33 sts]

**Round 14** (Dc2tog, 3dc) 3 times, 18dc. [30 sts]

**Round 15** Dc in each dc around. [30 dc]

**Round 16** (Dc2tog, 3dc) 6 times. [24 sts]

**Round 17** Dc in each dc around.

**Round 18** (Dc2tog, 2dc) 6 times. [18 sts]

**Round 19** Dc in each dc around.

**Fasten off** and stuff the body.

**Round 20** Join Yarn C in first st, working in back loops only, (dc2tog, 1dc) 6 times. [12 sts]

**Round 21** Dc in each dc around.

**Round 22** (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 dc]

**Round 23** (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 dc]

**Round 24** (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 dc]

**Round 25** (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 dc]

**Round 26** (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 dc]

**Round 27** (2dc in next st, 6dc) 6 times. [48 dc]

**Rounds 28-34** Dc in each dc around. [48 dc]

**Round 35** (6dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]  
 Secure the eyes between Rounds 29 and 30 approx 12 sts apart.



As you sew the hair to the hair cap, your line of stitches becomes the centre parting.

Stuff the Head with toy stuffing and continue stuffing as you go.

**Round 36** (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]

**Round 37** (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]

**Round 38** (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

**Round 39** (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

**Round 40** (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]

**Round 41** (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

## ARMS (MAKE 2)

With Yarn C, make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 dc]

**Round 2** 2dc in each st around. [10 dc]

**Rounds 3-5** Dc in each dc around.

**Fasten off.**

**Rounds 6-12** Join Yarn A in first st, dc in each dc around. [10 dc]

**Round 13** Dc2tog, 8dc. [9 dc]

**Round 14** Dc2tog, 7dc. [8 dc]

**Round 15** Dc2tog, 6dc. [7 dc]

Stuff. **Fasten off** leaving a long tail for sewing the Arms to the Body.

## LEGS (MAKE 2)

With Yarn A, make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 dc]

**Round 2** 2dc in each st around. [10 dc]

**Round 3** (2dc in next st, 1dc) 5 times. [15 dc]



**Round 4** (partial round) 1htr, 3tr in each of next 2 sts, 1htr, dc in each of next 2 sts. [19 sts]

Place a stitch marker in the first st of the next round to mark the new start of the round.

**Round 5** 10dc, dc2tog, 2dc, dc2tog, 3dc. [17 sts]

**Round 6** 10dc, (dc2tog) twice, 3dc. [15 sts]

**Round 7** (Dc2tog, 3dc) 3 times. [12 sts]

**Rounds 8-18** Dc in each dc around.

**Round 19** (Dc2tog, 4dc) twice. [10 sts]

**Rounds 20-29** Dc in each dc around. [10 dc]

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail for sewing. Stuff the legs and sew to the bottom of the body.

## SHOES (MAKE 2)

With Yarn D, make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 dc]

**Round 2** 2dc in each st around. [10 dc]

**Round 3** (2dc in next st, 1dc) 5 times. [15 dc]

**Round 4** (partial round) 1htr, 3tr in each of next 2 sts, 1htr, dc in each of next 2 sts, ss in next st [19 sts]

Place marker in the first dc of the next round to mark the new start of the round.

**Round 5** Ch1, dc in back loop only in each st around. [19 dc]

**Round 6** 10dc, dc2tog, 2dc, dc2tog, 3dc (place marker in 16th st of Round). [17 sts]

**Round 7** (partial round) 6dc, ch30.

**Fasten off.**

Join Yarn in marked st of Round 16, ch30.

**Fasten off** and weave in the yarn ends.

## HAIR CAP

With Yarn B, make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 dc]

**Round 2** 2dc in each st around. [12 dc]

**Round 3** (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 dc]

**Round 4** (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 dc]

**Round 5** (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 dc]

**Round 6** (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 dc]

**Round 7** (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 dc]

**Round 8** (2dc in next st, 6dc) 6 times. [48 dc]

**Rounds 9-15** Dc in each dc around.

**Fasten off** leaving a tail for sewing.

The Hair Cap is used as a base for securing the Hair. Sew the Hair Cap onto the Head (place it between Round 35 of the Head at the front and Round 23 at the back).

To make strands of hair cut a long piece of adhesive tape and fix it to a flat work surface, sticky side up.

Cut lengths of Yarn B measuring approx 40cm. Place the midpoint of each length at right angles to the adhesive tape, positioning them close together. Cover 12cm of tape, then remove it from the work surface. Using Yarn D sew along the 12 cm with back stitches, securing all lengths as you go, then remove the tape from the yarn.

Place this piece onto the hair cap with the stitching line in the position of the centre parting. Sew in place with small stitches along the previous stitching line. Plait the hair into 2 plaits and secure at the ends with Yarn F.

## HEADBAND

With Yarn E, ch27, leaving a long starting tail for sewing.

**Row 1** Skip the first ch, 4ss, 3dc, 12htr, 3dc, 4ss, rotate Headband to work along the other side of the starting ch, ch1, 4ss, 3dc, 12htr, 3dc, 4ss.

**Fasten off** leaving a tail for sewing.

Pin the hairband on the head and sew with a single stitch at each end to Hair Cap under the Hair.

## FLOWERS (MAKE 3)

With Yarn D, F or G, ch5, ss to first ch to join in a ring.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the ring. [5 dc]

Join Yarn D, F or G.

**Round 2** (Ch2, 3tr in st at base of ch, ch2, ss into the same st) 5 times.

**Fasten off** leaving a tail for sewing the flowers on to the headband.

## BELT AND SKIRT

With Yarn D, ch40.

**Row 1** Skip 5 ch (for buttonhole), dc in next 35 ch.

**Fasten off** leaving a tail for sewing the button at the opposite side of the buttonhole.

Place the 2 pieces of tulle fabric on top of each other. Fold the tulle fabric in half lengthwise and with a tapestry needle and a tail of Yarn C, make long stitches along the fold. Pull the yarn to gather fabric until



The simplest of stitches can be so effective. Use French knots for the dots above the eyes.



She's got to have a flower crown headband. This one has a trio of bright blooms on it.



Just a few simple stitches embroidered in white cotton give the illusion of a rib cage.

it is the same length as the belt (without the buttonhole).

With the same yarn, sew tulle to the inside of the Belt.

Using Yarn E embroider the edge of the first layer of tulle fabric, make long stitches and a French knot between each one.

Using Yarn C embroider the bones on to the body, legs and arms with long stitches using the images as a guide.

Using Yarns A, D and E, embroider the facial features onto the Head.



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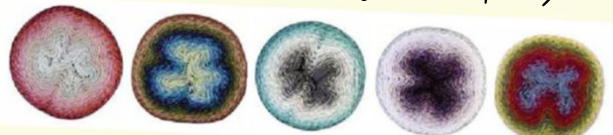


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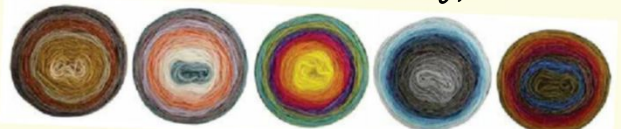
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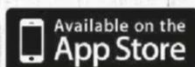
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# EMMA'S JOURNAL



...from the South Downs

Designer Emma Friedlander-Collins is a big Halloween fan – she's not afraid to dress up, decorate her home and rock an epic crown.

*"I have more Halloween costumes on my rail than proper dresses."*



Every household has its favourite time of year. For some, it's the summer with the promise of long hot days, paddling in the sea and picnics in the park. For others it's Christmas, with trees already up and decorated by December 1st, pressies and cards being lovingly made and heaps of cosy nights in. For me, it has to be autumn.

As the end of September creeps around with its final flourish of berries, and the evenings crisp up with frost through the lovely, long October nights, a childlike sense of excitement grips me. I don't know if it's the changing colours of the leaves, exploding with their ruby and gold hues, or if it's the joy of being out as the inky night descends and seeing all the stars filling the sky, hours before you have to be in bed. It might be because this is the time of year that the summer clothes go away, and out comes the trunk stuffed to the gills with all the wondrous woolly wear: hats, scarves, mittens, gloves, legwarmers – you name it, I've got it.

## PARTY TIME IS CROCHET TIME

Whatever it is, this is really the time that crochet comes into its own. A long cosy evening, wool piled up next to me on the sofa and endless opportunities to make wintry wear for my little family and our home and I've found my perfect, happy place. But not only that. Oh no. Then, there is the ridiculous joy of a Halloween party. I'm not kidding when I say I have

more Halloween costumes on my clothes rail than proper dresses. The only party we hold every year is a Halloween party. And we always go all out, decorating the front of the house, but not with polyester spider's webs and dismembered hands, nuh-uh. In our house we go full Martha Stewart, autumnal glory – I collect leaves of all different colours and pile them in swathes around our door, there are mounds of conkers and lovingly carved pumpkins placed on beautiful tree stumps. And every year I crochet a new wreath for the front door, to go with whatever theme our Halloween is taking. Sometimes it's inspired by nature. This year, we're going with Mexican Day of the Dead.

## GET CREATIVE

One of the things I truly love about crochet is how it can be used to create such a wide variety of things. I'm using amigurumi to create candy skulls, and then sewing on a little bit of detail for the faces. There are going to be some brilliant, basic flowers in vibrant colours, with a mix of green leaves to bring that beautiful, floral vibe, all complemented with pompoms and tassels galore! Then there are also all the fun things you can make for your costume. A couple of years ago, I crocheted myself a whole wig of curling black hair just to wear for Halloween. Even though it's since been borrowed and battered by a whole host of people, a quick whizz

"This year I'm using a little amigurumi to create candy skulls."







"Crochet allows  
you to express yourself."

through the washing machine and it's literally as good as new. And to finish it all off, there is my now legendary crocheted floral crown.

#### WEAR YOUR CROWN

Some of you may have seen me trotting around YarnDale in my floral crown last year. It is one of my favourite and most loved crochet makes of all time. It has crocheted roses, azeleas and lilies, leaves, tassels, pompoms, pearls, beads and birds. Originally, I made it just to be part of a Halloween costume, but now every year it gets embellished with another bird, or tweaked to be even taller. That is what makes crochet so precious to me. Crochet can be a beautiful, serious

craft but it also gives you the means of expressing yourself, the confidence to alter, create and adapt things so you can change things as you change as a person. And if that person wants to have the tallest floral crown you've ever seen, and candy skulls on her front door, then so be it.

See what Emma's been hooking lately on her blog over at [www.steelandstitch.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.steelandstitch.blogspot.co.uk) and you can follow her on Instagram – she's @steelandstitch. And don't miss her sugar skull pompom wreath, a bonus pattern with this issue.

## AUTUMN INSPIRATION



I've got a real soft spot for my little pumpkin pom-pom wreath, inspired by autumn colours, but my new candy skull version will get pride of place on the front door this year. In fact, I've been busy sketching out skulls for a bunting idea, too. The pumpkin ball of yarn will be staying though – the best kind of pumpkin!







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# Love your shoes

It's so easy to spruce up a plain pair with two pretty beaded crochet hearts. Designed by Esme Crick.





## YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Catona (100% cotton, 62m/25g), 1 ball of each:  
Yarn A Cherry (413)  
Yarn B Soft Rose (409)  
Yarn C Charcoal (393)  
Yarn D Cyan (397)
  - A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
  - 2 pieces of black felt 10x10cm (4x4in)
  - Small blue seed beads (approx 40: 20 per heart)
  - A pair of DIY shoe clips
  - Needle and thread or glue
- For yarn stockists contact  
Scheepjes [www.scheepjes.com](http://www.scheepjes.com)

## MEASUREMENTS

Finished heart measures 7x7cm (2½x2½in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92



Our photoshoot was styled with the distinctive accessories of Gudrun Sjödén.

You can explore the collection at [www.gudrunsjoden.com](http://www.gudrunsjoden.com)

Go toe to toe with beads and picot stitches hooking a pair of heart-shaped shoe clips. These little wonders will add a good dose of handmade flair to high-tops, pumps, heels and more. Best foot forward.

## HEART (MAKE 2)

**Round 1 (RS)** Using Yarn A, ch4, working all following into 4th ch from hook; 3dtr, 3tr, ch1, tr (bottom point of heart), ch1, 3tr, 3dtr, ch3, ss.

**Round 2** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each of next 2 ch, 2dc in next ch, 2dc in each of next 2 sts, dc in each of next 4 sts, dc in ch-1 sp, ch1, htr in tr, ch1, dc in ch-1 sp, dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next ch, dc in each of final 2 ch, ss into beg ch-1 to join.

**Round 3** Ch1, dc in each of first 2 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 3 times, dc in each of next 5 sts, dc in ch-1 sp, (dc, ch1, dc) in htr, dc in ch-1 sp, dc in each of next 5 sts, (dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 3 times, dc in each of final 2 sts, ss into beg ch-1 to join.

### Fasten off.

**Round 4** Join Yarn B in first st, ch1, dc in each of first 4 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts) twice, dc in each of next 8 sts, (dc, ch2, dc) in ch-1 sp, dc in each of next 8 sts, (dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) twice, dc in each of final 4 sts, ss into beg ch-1 to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 5** Join Yarn C in first st, ch1, (dc in each of next 2 sts, ch2, ss in 2nd ch from hook) 10 times, dc in next st, (dc, ch3, dc) in ch-2 sp, dc in next st, (ch2, ss in 2nd ch from hook, dc in each of next 2 sts) 10 times, ss into beg ch-1 to join.

## Fasten off.

Weave in all ends and block hearts to shape.

## FLOWER (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn D, ch4, ss into first ch to make ring.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 10dc into ring, ss to first dc to join.

**Round 2** (Ch2, skip next st, ss into next st) 5 times.

**Round 3** (Ss, dc, htr, dc, ss) into each ch-2 sp around.

**Fasten off** and weave in all ends.

## TO MAKE UP

Sew a ring of beads around the centre of each flower. Sew or glue each flower to centre of each heart. Cut out 2 hearts in black felt, slightly larger than crocheted hearts. Attach each crochet heart to each felt heart as before, then attach fasteners to back of finished hearts.



## SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A DOUBLE TREBLE



**1** To make a double treble crochet stitch, yrh twice and insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch on the previous row. Yrh and draw through the stitch only (4 loops on hook).



**2** Yrh and pull the yarn through the first 2 loops only (3 loops on hook).



**3** Yrh and pull the yarn through the first 2 loops only (2 loops on hook).



**4** Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops. There's your double treble made and you'll have one loop left on your hook ready to do the next stitch.



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 1X BUTTERNUT  
 SQUISHER  
 1X ONION  
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 1X SLIPPER  
 2X BONES

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# Pop your collar

Colour block boldness and dainty lace make this cute sleeveless top one to beat. Designed by Pat Strong.



# COLLARED VEST



## YOU WILL NEED

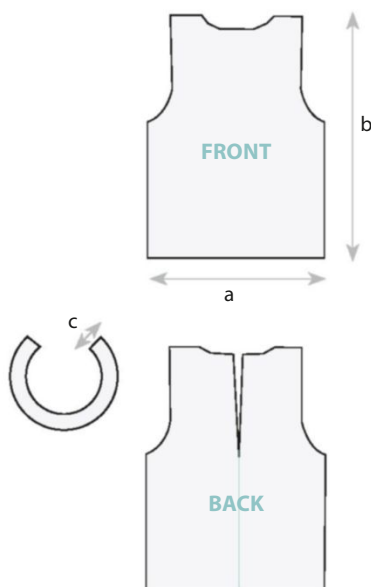
- Baa Ram Ewe Titus 4ply (75% British wool, 25% UK alpaca, 100g/320m), **Yarn A** Eccup (06) **Yarn B** Bramley Baths (12)  
For measurements and yarn quantities see table
  - A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
  - Stitch markers
  - 5 (5: 5: 5: 7: 7) 10/12mm buttons
- For yarn stockists contact**  
**Baa Ram Ewe 0113 278 1788**  
[www.baaramewe.co.uk](http://www.baaramewe.co.uk)

## TENSION

11 dc3tog (pattern repeats) and 24 rows measure 10x10cm (4x4in) square over Trinity Stitch with 3.5mm hook.  
 Please note this is an elastic fabric and tension should be measured on a blocked sample, measured flat.

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92



**Width a:** 43 (45: 47: 51: 53.5: 56)cm  
 17 (17½: 18½: 20: 21: 22)in  
**Length b:** 59 (59: 61: 61: 61: 62)cm  
 23 (23: 23¾: 23¾: 23¾: 24¼)in  
**Collar depth c:** 5.5cm, 2¼in

If you're investing time in stitching something to wear, it should be pretty special, right? Pat Strong's two-tone top ticks all the boxes – stylish, interesting to hook and made with scrummy yarn. Titus is a British wool and alpaca blend 4ply that feels every bit as gorgeous as it sounds.

## NOTES

Worked in one piece in rows from the bottom up, and then divided at the armholes for Front and Back. The seam will lie at the centre back, and will be left open at the top for a back opening fastened with buttons. The collar is added separately afterwards.  
 This garment is designed to be close fitting and this is reflected in the 'ease' added. Select measurements with the finished size in mind.

## TRINITY STITCH PATTERN

The following instructions describe the stitch pattern and relevant notes. For the beginning of the pattern instructions, start at Lower Back and Front.  
 Trinity Stitch is made up of a series of dc3tog sts, with a ch1 in between each. At the beginning and end of the row there is a single dc stitch. Each time a dc3tog is worked, it is worked over the same st as the previous st, and the next 2 sts. The last dc of the row is worked into the same st as the last leg of the final dc3tog.

Worked on a foundation ch of a multiple of 2 plus 1, and one more for a turning ch:  
**Foundation row (RS)** Dc into second ch from hook, ch1, dc3tog in same ch as first dc and next 2 ch, ch1, (dc3tog in same ch as last leg of previous dc3tog and next 2 ch, ch1) repeat to end, dc in same st as last



**Be sure to block your lacy collar carefully before sewing into the neckline of the top.**

leg of final dc3tog, turn.

**Row 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in single dc below, ch1, dc3tog working in same st as dc, in next dc3tog below, and next ch-1 below, ch1, (dc3tog in same ch as last leg of previous dc3tog, next dc3tog below and next ch-1, ch1) repeat to end, dc in final single dc, turn.  
 Row 1 forms pattern.

## LOWER BACK AND FRONT

With Yarn A loosely ch198 (206: 218: 234: 246: 258).  
 Work Foundation Row and Row 1 of Trinity Stitch. [199 (207: 219: 235: 247: 259) sts or 98 (102: 108: 116: 112: 128) dc3tog]  
 Repeat Row 1 until work measures 32 (32: 33: 33: 33: 33)cm ending on a RS row.  
**Fasten off** and change to Yarn B, work 4 more rows of pattern.

## DIVIDE FOR FRONT AND BACK

The divide is measured in dc3tog, or pattern repeats. You may find it helpful to count and mark the divides before working the row to check that you have divided accurately.  
**Next row (WS)** Work in patt as set across

SIZE		8	10	12	14	16	18
TO FIT BUST	cm	81	86	91	97	102	107
	in	32	34	36	38	40	42
ACTUAL BUST	cm	86	90	95	102	107	112
	in	33¾	35¼	37¼	40	42	44
LENGTH	cm	59	59	61	61	61	62
	in	23	23	23¾	23¾	23¾	24¼
YARN A	100g	2	3	3	3	3	3
YARN B	100g	2	2	2	2	2	2

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.



22 (23: 24: 26: 27: 28) patt repeats, ss in each st across 5 (5: 6: 6: 7: 8) patt repeats for armhole, patt across 44 (46: 48: 52: 54: 56) patt repeats for Front, ss in each st across 5 (5: 6: 6: 7: 8) patt repeats for second armhole, patt across rem 22 (23: 24: 26: 27: 28) patt repeats.

## FRONT

Rejoin Yarn B to first of Front sts with RS facing.

**Rows 1-2** Work in pattern as set.

## ARMHOLE DECREASES

**Row 3 (Decrease row)** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), skip first (dc, ch1), dc in first dc3tog, work in patt beg with dc in next ch-1 sp, cont until last dc3tog, dc in same st as last leg of previous dc3tog, dc in last dc3tog, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [Decrease by 2 sts]

**Row 4** Ch1, dc in first dc, work in patt beg with dc in next dc, cont in patt until last 2 dc, dc in each of last 2 dc, turn.

**Row 5 (Decrease row)** Ch1, skip dc at base of ch, work in patt beg with dc in next dc, cont in patt to last 2 dc, dc in next dc, turn leaving rem dc unworked. [Rows 3 and 5 together decrease by 1 patt repeat at each end of the row. [42 (44: 46: 50: 52: 54) patt repeats]

**Row 6** Work in patt as set without shaping.

\*Work a Decrease row as Row 3, followed by 3 (3: 3: 2: 2: 2) rows worked as Row 4 above. Work a Decrease row as Row 5, followed by 3 (3: 3: 2: 2: 2) rows in pattern. [Decrease by 1 patt repeat at each end of the row: 40 (42: 44: 48: 50: 52) patt reps] Repeat from \* a further 3 (3: 3: 5: 5: 5) times. [34 (36: 38: 38: 40: 42) patt reps] Continue in patt without shaping until armhole measures 21 (21: 22: 22: 22: 23)cm ending with a WS row.

## NECKLINE SHAPING

### LEFT FRONT

**Row 1 (RS)** Work in pattern across first 11 (12: 12: 12: 12: 13) patt repeats, ending with a dc in the same st as the last leg of the dc3tog, turn leaving rem sts unworked.

**Row 2** Ch1, skip first dc, dc in next dc3tog, work row of patt in remaining sts beg with dc in next ch-1 sp, turn. [A row of 10 (11: 11: 11: 12) full patt reps plus 1 dc]

**Row 3** Work row of patt to last 2 dc, dc in first dc, skip last dc, turn. [10 (11: 11: 11: 11: 12) patt reps]

**Row 4** Work in pattern.



The top fastens at the back with a row of tiny shell buttons.

**Row 5** Work in patt to last dc3tog, dc in same st as last leg of dc3tog just worked, dc in last dc3tog, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [A row of 9 (10: 10: 10: 10: 11) full patt reps plus 1 dc]

**Row 6** Ch1, dc in first dc, work in patt beg with dc in next dc, turn.

**Row 7** As Row 3. [9 (10: 10: 10: 10: 11) patt reps]

Cont in patt without shaping for a further 3 rows. **Fasten off.**

### RIGHT FRONT

**Row 1** With RS facing, skip central 12 (12: 14: 14: 16: 16) patt repeats and rejoin Yarn B to next unworked st, ch1, work in patt beg with dc in next ch-1 sp across last 11 (12: 12: 12: 12: 13) repeats, turn.

**Row 2** Work as Row 5 of Left Front.

[A row of 10 (11: 11: 11: 11: 12) full patt reps plus 1 dc]

**Row 3** Ch1, skip first dc, work in patt beg

with dc in next dc, turn. [10 (11: 11: 11: 11: 12) patt reps]

**Row 4** Work in pattern.

**Row 5** As Row 2 of Left Front. [A row of 9 (10: 10: 10: 10: 11) full patt reps plus 1 dc]

**Row 6** Work in patt to last 2 dc, dc in each of last 2 dc, turn.

**Row 7** As Row 3. [9 (10: 10: 10: 10: 11) patt reps]

Cont in patt without shaping for a further 3 rows. **Fasten off.**

## BACK

### RIGHT BACK

Rejoin Yarn B with RS facing to first unworked st after divide.

**Rows 1-2** Work in patt as set. [22 (23: 24: 26: 27: 28) repeats]

**Rows 3-5** Work as Rows 5-7 of Neckline Shaping Right Front. [Decrease by 1 patt repeat]

**Row 6** Work in patt as set.



# COLLARED VEST

Repeat the last 4 rows 4 (4: 4: 6: 6: 6) more times. [17 (18: 19: 19: 20: 21) patt repeats] Continue in patt without shaping until armhole measures 21 (21: 22: 22: 22: 23)cm ending with a WS row, and working the same number of rows as the Front to the neckline.

Work 4 more rows in pattern.

## NECKLINE SHAPING

**Row 1 (RS)** Work in pattern over the first 10 (11: 11: 11: 11: 12) patt repeats, ending with a dc as at the end of a row, turn leaving rem sts unworked.

**Row 2** Ch1, skip first dc, dc in next dc3tog, work row of patt in remaining sts beg with dc in next ch-1 sp, turn. [A row of 9 (10: 10: 10: 10: 11) full patt reps plus 1 dc]

**Row 3** Work row of patt to last 2 dc, dc in first dc, skip last dc, turn. [9 (10: 10: 10: 10: 11) patt reps]

Cont in patt without shaping for a further 3 rows. **Fasten off.**

## LEFT BACK

Rejoin Yarn B with RS facing to the next unworked st after the divide.

**Rows 1-2** Work in patt as set. [22 (23: 24: 26: 27: 28) repeats]

**Rows 3-5** Work as Rows 5-7 of Neckline Shaping Left Front. [Decrease by 1 patt repeat]

**Row 6** Work in patt as set.

Repeat the last 4 rows 4 (4: 4: 6: 6: 6) more times. [17 (18: 19: 19: 20: 21) patt repeats]

Continue in patt without shaping until armhole measures 21 (21: 22: 22: 22: 23)cm ending with a WS row, and working the same number of rows as the Front to the neckline.

Work 4 more rows in pattern. **Fasten off.**

## NECKLINE SHAPING

**Row 1 (RS)** Skip the first 7 (7: 8: 8: 9: 9) patt repeats, rejoin yarn to work in patt across the remaining 10 (11: 11: 11: 11: 12) patt repeats, beginning with a dc as at the beginning of a row, turn.

**Row 2** Work in patt to last dc3tog, dc in same st as last leg of dc3tog just worked, dc in last dc3tog, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [A row of 9 (10: 10: 10: 10: 11) full patt reps plus 1 dc]

**Row 3** Ch1, skip first dc, work in patt beg with dc in next dc, turn. [9 (10: 10: 10: 10: 11) patt reps]

Cont in patt without shaping for a further 3 rows. **Fasten off.**

## COLLAR

The collar is sewn to the neck edge, easing to fit with any adjustment made at the back opening.

Pattern is written over a multiple of 10 sts plus 1.

With Yarn A, ch132 (132: 142: 142: 152: 152).

**Row 1 (RS)** Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [131 (131: 141: 141: 151: 151) sts]

**Row 2** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.

**Row 3** Ch1, \*dc in next st, skip 4 sts, 9ttr in next st, skip 4 sts; rep from \* to last st, dc in last st, turn.

**Row 4** Ch7 (counts as ttr and ch2) ttr in st at base of ch, \*ch4, dc into third ttr of the 9-ttr below, ch4, dc into 6th ttr of 9-ttr below, ch4, (ttr, ch2, ttr) into next dc; rep from \* to end, turn.

**Row 5** Ch4 (counts as dtr), 4dtr into next ch-2 sp, \*skip next ch-sp, 9ttr into next ch-sp, skip next ch-sp, 5dtr into next ch-2 sp; rep from \* to end.

**Fasten off.**

## TO FINISH

Please see yarn bands for care.

Block collar and garment, sew shoulder seams.

Ease collar to neckline adjusting fit at the back neck, pin and sew in place.

Sew back seam along the dark tone section leaving the light tone section open.

Attach button loops to Left Back and buttons, corresponding to the loops, on the Right Back.



For a more budget-friendly make, you could use the following yarn: DROPS Alpaca (100% alpaca, 50g/167m), 4: 6: 6: 6: 6 balls of Yarn A and 4 balls of Yarn B

For stockists contact Wool Warehouse  
[www.woolwarehouse.co.uk](http://www.woolwarehouse.co.uk)





# Simply Crochet



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**NEW**

# BERNAT®

## Baby Blanket

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**Plus many more**



# Bohemian silk

Ooze carefree style with a totally unique wrap by Sue Pinner.







## YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Secret Garden (20% silk, 20% cotton, 60% polyester, 93m/50g), 2 balls of each:
    - Yarn A** Herb Garden (702)
    - Yarn B** Secluded Lake (703)
    - Yarn C** Stepping stones (710)
    - 4 balls of **Yarn D** Lily Pond (709)
  - A 4mm (US G/6) hook
  - Stitch markers
  - Tapestry needle
- For yarn stockists contact  
Scheepjes [www.scheepjes.com](http://www.scheepjes.com)

## MEASUREMENTS

235x45cm (92½x17¾in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Designer Sue Pinner says: "This long wrap with it's decorative triangle edging and graduating circles was inspired by **Nettipattam**, the ornaments worn by elephants in Kerala's ceremonies and festivals." It's a statement accessory that would be showstopping in any shades.

## BASIC CIRCLE PATTERN

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop with 8 wraps of the yarn around your finger.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as st), 12dc into loop, ss to first dc to join. [12 dc]

**Round 2** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in dc at base of ch-3, 2tr in each dc around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [24 tr]

**Round 3** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next st, (2tr in next st, tr in next st) 11 times, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [36 tr]

**Round 4** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in each of next 2 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in each of next 2 sts) 11 times, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [48 tr]

**Round 5** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in each of next 3 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in each of next 3 sts) 11 times, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [60 tr]

## CIRCLE B

Make 6 Circles ending with Round 2.

## CIRCLE C

Make 6 Circles ending with Round 3.

## CIRCLE D

Make 6 Circles ending with Round 4.

## CIRCLE E

Make 3 Circles ending with Round 5.

## CIRCLE A (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic Loop with 8 wraps of the yarn around your finger.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as st), 12dc into loop, ss to first dc to join. [12 dc]

**Round 2** Ch1 (does not count as st), 2dc in each dc around, ss to first dc to join. [24 dc]

**Fasten off.**

Arrange circles in a long line in the following order: A; B; B; B; C; C; C; D; D; D; E; E; E; D; D; D; C; C; C; B; B; B; A.

Using a tapestry needle and matching yarn, sew the edges of each circle together, joining 3 sts on the smaller circles and 5 or 6 sts on the larger circles.

## BANDING

The first Round creates an elliptical starting chain, into which the bands are worked. See Chart on p93 for Round 1.



Secret Garden yarn has a thick and thin texture, which gives this make a rustic feel.

**Round 1 (RS)** Join Yarn B in st at furthest point of Circle A, ch3 (counts as tr), (2tr, ch3, 3tr) in st at base of ch-3, \*\*skip next 3 sts, dc in each of next 4 sts on Circle A, (ch3, dc in 4 sts along next Circle B edge) 3 times, (ch3, dtr into seam between Circles, ch3, dc in 5 sts along next Circle C edge) 3 times, (ch4, ttr into seam between Circles, ch4, dc in 7 sts along next Circle D edge) 3 times, \*ch4, skip 3 sts, tr in next st on same Circle, ch2, ttr into seam between Circles, ch2, skip 4 sts on next Circle, tr in next st, ch4, dc in 7 sts along same Circle edge; rep from \* 3 more times, (ch4, ttr into seam between Circles, ch4, dc in 7 sts along next Circle D edge) twice, ch4, ttr into seam between Circles, ch4, (dc in 5 sts along next Circle C edge, ch3, dtr into seam between Circles, ch3) 3 times, (dc in 4 sts along next Circle B edge, ch3) 3 times, dc in 4 sts along last Circle edge, skip next 3 sts, (3tr, ch3, 3tr) in next st at opposite point of the line of Circles; repeat from \*\* omitting last (3tr, ch3, 3tr), ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

**Round 2 (RS)** Ss across to first ch-3 sp, ch3 (counts as tr), (tr, ch3, 2tr) in same ch-3 sp, 2tr in next tr, tr in each tr and ch across to st before ch-3 sp at opposite point of Wrap, 2tr in next tr, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) in ch-3 sp at end of Wrap, 2tr in next tr, tr in each tr and ch across to st before ch-3 sp at opposite point of Wrap, 2tr in next tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

**Round 3** Ss across to first ch-3 sp, ch3



# STATEMENT WRAP

(counts as tr), (tr, ch3, 2tr) in same ch-3 sp, 2tr in next tr, tr in each tr across to st before ch-3 sp at opposite point of Wrap, 2tr in next tr, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) in ch-3 sp at end of Wrap, 2tr in next tr, tr in each tr across to st before ch-3 sp at opposite point of Wrap, 2tr in next tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [630 tr and 2 ch-3 sps]

**Round 4** Ss into next tr, ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), tr in st at base of ch-3, ch1, (tr, ch3, tr) in same ch-3 sp, ch1, (tr, ch1, tr) in next tr, (ch1, skip next tr, tr in next tr) across to st before next ch-3 sp, (tr, ch1, tr) in next tr, ch1, (tr, ch3, tr) in ch-3 sp, ch1, (tr, ch1, tr) in next tr, (ch1, skip next tr, tr in next tr) across to end, omitting last tr, ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-4 to join. [652 sts]

**Round 5** Ch3 (counts as tr), (tr in next ch-1 sp, tr in next tr) twice, (tr, ch3, tr) in ch-3 sp, tr in each tr and ch-1 sp across to next ch-3 sp, (tr, ch3, tr) in ch-3 sp, tr in each tr and ch-1 sp across to end, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [656 sts]

**Round 6** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each tr across to next ch-3 sp, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) in ch-3 sp, tr in each tr across to next ch-3 sp, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) in ch-3 sp, tr in each tr across to end, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

**Fasten off.** [664 sts]

**Round 7** Join Yarn C in first st and repeat Round 6, do not fasten off. [672 sts]

**Round 8** Repeat Round 6.

**Fasten off.**

[674 tr and 2 ch-3 sps]

## TRIANGLE EDGING

### BASIC TRIANGLE

**Row 1 (RS)** Join Yarn D in first st along one long edge, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each of next 7 sts, turn. [8 tr]

**Row 2 (WS)** Ch2, skip st at base of ch and tr in next st (counts as tr2tog throughout), tr in each st across to last 2 sts, tr2tog, turn. [6 sts]

**Row 3** Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in each st across, turn.

**Row 4** Ch2, skip st at base of ch and tr in next st, tr in each st across, turn. [5 tr]

**Row 5** Ch3, tr in next 2 sts, skip next st, tr in last st, turn. [4 tr]

**Row 6** Ch3, tr in next st, skip next st, tr in last st, turn. [3 tr]

**Row 7** Ch3, skip next st, tr in last st, do not fasten off. [2 tr]

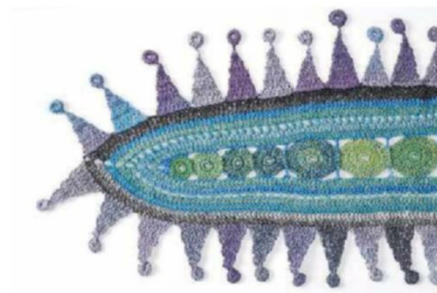
## BOBBLE

Ch5, ss to 5th ch from hook to create a loop, 12 dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

Each long edge of the Wrap has 337 sts. Work 42 Triangles along each edge, starting each Triangle in the next unworked st in Round 8 and leaving the last st unworked.

**Fasten off** and weave in all ends. Block to finish.



Those central circles look a bit like peas in a pod. Add mirrored beads for full boho charm.



The triangle edging goes around the whole wrap and adds lots of movement.





# Unravel your creativity

Rico Creative Cotton aran





# Outside the fox

So cute. Your little mischief-maker will go nuts for this animal jumper. Designed by Louise Smith.







## YOU WILL NEED

- King Cole Bamboo Cotton (50% bamboo viscose, 50% cotton, 100g/230m),  
Yarn A Jaffa (3049)  
Yarn B Earth (626)  
Yarn C White (530)  
See table for yarn quantities and measurements
  - A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
  - 6 medium wooden buttons
  - A small amount of toy stuffing (for the tail)
  - Tapestry needle
- For yarn stockists contact  
King Cole 01756 703670  
[www.kingcole.com](http://www.kingcole.com)

## TENSION

20 sts and 24 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over double crochet using a 3mm hook or size required to obtain tension

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Make woodland walks (or just nipping to the shops) way more whimsical with the cutest of hooded cardigans. This foxy project even has a tail and is sized for ages two to six years. Is it bad that we kinda want an adult-sized one now, too?

## NOTES

The actual chest measurements (finished garment) are given for a garment joined with a slip stitch seam as instructed in the pattern. If joined with a sewn seam the actual chest measurement would be approx 64 (67: 71)cm.

Please bear this in mind if you choose to make up the pieces with a method other than that given.

## BACK

Using Yarn A, ch65 (68: 72).

**Row 1 (WS)** Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [64 (67: 71) dc]

**Row 2** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.

**Rows 3-52** Repeat Row 2.

## SHAPE ARMHOLES

**Next row (RS)** Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [62 (65: 69) dc]

Repeat last row 3 (4: 5) more times.

[56 (57: 59) dc]

**Next row** Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Repeat last row 17 (20: 25) more times.

## SHAPE NECK

**Next row (RS)** Ch1, dc in each of next 18 sts, turn leaving rem sts unworked.

**Next row** Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to end,



The ears are worked as two pieces, then joined with Yarn B to highlight the shape.

turn. [17 dc]

**Next row** Ch1, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [16 dc]

**Next row** Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to end, turn. [15 dc]

**Fasten off.**

Skip central 26 (27: 29) sts and rejoin in next st with RS facing, ch1, dc in each of next 18 sts. Work another 3 rows, decreasing by 1 st at neckline edge on each row as for first side. [15 dc]

**Fasten off.**

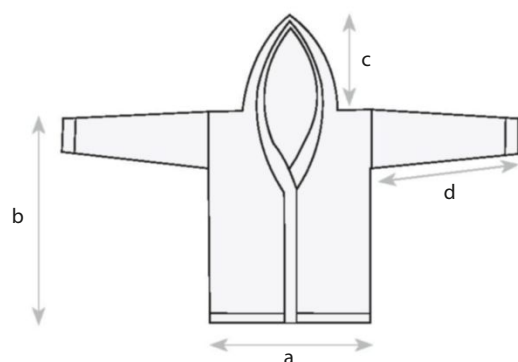
## RIGHT FRONT

Using Yarn A, ch30 (32: 34).

**Row 1 (RS)** Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [29 (31: 33) dc]

**Row 2** Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

**Rows 3-52** Repeat Row 2.



Width a: 30 (31.5: 33.5)cm  
11¾ (12½: 13)in

Length b: 35 (37: 39)cm  
13¾ (14½: 15½)in

Hood Height c: 17.5 (19: 20)cm  
6¾ (7½: 7¾)in

Sleeve Length d: 24.5 (25.5: 30.5)cm  
9½ (10: 12)in

SIZE IN YEARS		2	4	6
TO FIT CHEST	cm	54	57	61
	in	21	22	24
ACTUAL CHEST	cm	60	63	67
	in	23½	24¾	26½
LENGTH	cm	35	37	39
	in	13¾	14½	15½
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	24.5	25.5	30.5
	in	9½	10	12
YARN A	100g	3	3	4
YARN B	100g	1	1	2
YARN C	100g	1	1	1

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.



**SHAPE ARMHOLE**

**Next row (RS)** Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to end, turn. [28 (30: 32) dc]

**Next row** Ch1, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [27 (29: 31) dc]

Work 2 (3: 4) more rows, decreasing 1 st at armhole edge on each row as before. [25 (26: 27) dc]

**Next row** Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. Repeat last row 1 (0: 1) more time.

**SHAPE NECK**

**Next row (RS)** Ch1, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [24 (25: 26) dc]

**Next row** Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to end, turn. [23 (24: 25) dc]

Work 8 (9: 10) more rows, decreasing 1 st at neckline edge on each row as before. [15 (15: 15) dc]

**Next row** Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. Repeat last row 9 (12: 15) more times.

**Fasten off.**

**LEFT FRONT**

Work as for Right Front to the end of Row 52.

**SHAPE ARMHOLE**

**Next row (RS)** Ch1, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [28 (30: 32) dc]

**Next row** Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to end, turn. [27 (29: 31) dc]

Work 2 (3: 4) more rows, decreasing 1 st at armhole edge on each row as before. [25 (26: 27) dc]

**Next row** Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. Repeat last row 1 (0: 1) more time.

**SHAPE NECK**

**Next row (RS)** Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to end, turn. [24 (25: 26) dc]

**Next row** Ch1, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [23 (24: 25) dc]

Work 8 (9: 10) more rows, decreasing 1 st at neckline edge on each row as before. [15 (15: 15) dc]

**Next row** Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. Repeat last row 9 (12: 15) more times.

**Fasten off.**

**TO MAKE UP**

Join shoulder and side seams with RS together, using a ss seam (see Notes). Turn work right way out.

**SLEEVES (MAKE 2)**

Join Yarn A at bottom of Armhole, where side seams meet.

**Foundation row (RS)** Ch1, 52 (58: 64) dc

evenly around Armhole, turn.

Work 8 (6: 8) more rows of plain dc, turning at the end of each round.

**Next row (Dec row)** Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each of next 22 (25: 28) sts, (dc2tog) twice, placing a marker in first dc2tog, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog. [48 (54: 60) dc]

\*Work 9 (7: 9) rows of plain dc, moving marker up and turning at the end of each round.

**Next row (Dec row)** Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to marker, (dc2tog) twice, marking first dc2tog, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog. [44 (50: 56) dc]

Repeat from \* 2 (3: 3) more times. [36 (38: 44) sts]

Work 10 more rows of plain dc, turning at the end of each round. **Fasten off.**

With Sleeves inside out, join seams tog using a ss seam.

**HOOD**

With RS facing, join Yarn A in beginning of Front Neck on right side, ch1, 9 (10: 11) dc over shaping rows at neckline, dc in each row end of 10 (13: 16) rows to shoulder, 5 sts to end of Back Neck Shaping, dc in each of 26 (27: 29) sts at Back Neck, continue around neckline mirroring the same numbers of sts for each section, finishing row at beginning of Front Neck (on left side), turn. [74 (83: 93) dc]

Work a further 42 (45: 48) rows on these stitches.

Turn Hood inside out and fold in half lengthways.

Join top of Hood together using a ss seam, leaving a gap of 1 st at Hood Point to allow fabric to turn.

**Fasten off.**

**SLEEVE RIBS (MAKE 2)**

Join Yarn B to edge of Sleeve at seam using ss, ch7.

**Row 1** Dc in second ch from hook and each ch to last ch, dc in last ch joining st to sleeve edge with ss in last step of dc. [6 dc]

**Row 2** Ss in next st of Sleeve edge, working in back loops only: dc in each st to end, turn.

**Row 3** Ch1, working in back loops only: dc in each st to last dc, dc in last dc joining st to sleeve edge with ss in last step of dc. Repeat Rows 2 & 3 around Sleeve edge.

Turn Rib inside out and join edges together using a ss seam. **Fasten off.**

Repeat for other Sleeve.

**RIB BOTTOM**

Join Yarn B to bottom of Left Front using ss, with RS facing, ch7.

**Row 1** Dc in second ch from hook and each ch to last ch, dc in last ch joining st to bottom of jacket with ss in last step of dc. [6 dc]

**Row 2** Ss in next st of jacket bottom, working in back loops only: dc in each st to end, turn.

**Row 3** Ch1, working in back loops only: dc in each st to last dc, dc in last dc joining st to jacket bottom with ss in last step of dc. Repeat Rows 2 & 3 around jacket bottom. Break off yarn.

**RIB BAND (INCLUDING BUTTONHOLES)**

Join Yarn B to first dc in Rib Bottom using ss, with right side facing, ch7.

**Row 1** Dc in second ch from hook and each ch to last ch, dc in last ch joining st to jacket edge with ss in last step of dc. [6 dc]

**Row 2** Ss in next st of jacket edge, working in back loops only: dc in each st to end, turn.

**Row 3** Ch1, working in back loops only: dc in each st to last dc, dc in last dc joining st to next row end of jacket edge with ss in last step of dc.

Repeat (Rows 2 & 3) three more times, omitting last Row 3 repeat.

**Buttonhole row** Ch1, working in back loops only: dc in each of next 2 sts, skip next 2 dc, ch2, dc in next st, dc in last dc joining st to jacket edge with ss in last step of dc.

\*Repeat Rows 2 & 3 five more times, omitting last Row 3 repeat. Repeat Buttonhole row.

Repeat from \* four more times.

Continue working Rib around jacket edge, including Hood edge, without working Buttonhole rows.

**Fasten off** yarn when you have reached other end of Bottom Rib.

**EARS (MAKE 2)****FRONT**

Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1, 6dc into the loop, ss in first dc. [6 dc]

**Round 2** Ch1, (1dc, 3dc in next st) around, ss in first dc. [12 dc]

**Round 3** Ch1, (3dc, 3dc in next st) around, ss in first dc. [18 dc]

**Round 4** Ch1, (5dc, 3dc in next st) around, ss in first dc. [24 dc]

**Round 5** Ch1, (7dc, 3dc in next st) around,



ss in first dc. [30 dc]

**Round 6** Ch1, (9dc, 3dc in next st) around, ss in first dc. [36 dc]

**Round 7** Ch1, (11dc, 3dc in next st) around, ss in first dc. [42 dc]

Change to Yarn A.

**Round 8** Ch1, (13dc, 3dc in next st) around, ss in first dc. [48 dc]

**Fasten off** yarn.

## BACK

Work as given for Front of Ears, starting with Yarn A for Rounds 1-7 and changing to Yarn B for Round 8.

## TO MAKE UP

With WS together and Front of Ear facing, join Yarn B in any corner of both pieces at the same time.

Ss evenly around two edges of Ear, working through the back loops of the Front piece and the front loops of the Back piece to join.

**Fasten off** and hide ends inside the Ears.

Using Yarn A, sew Ear to Hood approx 7 rows from Hood seam and 13 sts from where Hood meets Rib.

Sew through back loops of Front piece and front loops of Back piece only. Repeat for other Ear on opposite side of Hood.

## TAIL

Using Yarn A, ch14 and ss in first ch to form a ring, being careful not to twist.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1, dc in each ch around, ss in first dc. [14 dc]

**Round 2** Ch1, dc in each st around, ss in first dc.

**Round 3** (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 6 dc) twice, ss in first dc. [16 dc]

**Round 4** Ch1, dc in each st around, ss in first dc.

**Round 5** (2dc in each of next 2 dc, dc in each of next 6 dc) twice, ss in first dc. [20 dc]

**Round 6** Ch1, dc in each st around, ss in first dc.

**Round 7** (2dc in each of next 4 dc, dc in each of next 6 dc) twice, ss in first dc. [28 dc]

**Rounds 8-10** Ch1, dc in each st around, ss in first dc.

**Round 11** (2dc in each of next 2 dc, dc in each of next 12 dc) twice, ss in first dc. [32 dc]

**Rounds 12-20** Ch1, dc in each st around, ss in first dc.

The stuffed tail is worked using double crochet in the round.



**Round 21** (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 14 dc) twice, ss in first dc. [30 dc]

Change to Yarn C.

**Round 22** Ch1, dc in each st around, ss in first dc.

**Round 23** Ch1, (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 13 dc) twice, ss in first dc. [28 dc]

**Round 24** Ch1, (Dc2tog, dc2tog, dc in each of next 10 dc) twice, ss in first dc. [24 dc]

**Round 25** Ch1, (Dc2tog, dc2tog, dc in each of next 8 dc) twice, ss in first dc. [20 dc]

**Round 26** Ch1, (Dc2tog, dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 dc) twice, ss in first dc. [16 dc]

**Round 27** Ch1, (Dc2tog, dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 dc) twice, ss in first dc. [12 dc]

**Round 28** Ch1, (Dc2tog, dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 dc) twice, ss in first dc. [8 dc]

**Round 29** Ch1, (Dc2tog) four times, ss in first dc. [4 dc]

**Round 30** Ch1, (Dc2tog) twice, ss in first dc. [2 dc]

**Round 31** Ch1, dc2tog. [1 dc]

**Fasten off** yarn.

## TO MAKE UP

Stuff tail lightly.

Using Yarn A, lay tail flat against back of jacket in the middle. Sew tail to point where jacket meets Rib, sewing through 2 sts at a time. Using Yarn A, secure top of tail to jacket with a couple sts just below white tip.

## TO FINISH

Using Yarn C, sew buttons onto rib band, matching buttonholes.

Weave in any ends.





Faithful assistant Peggy-Sue, Sherbet Fizz yarn, Kim busy in the studio.

# GOLDING YARNS

Indie dyer Kim Laudan gives us the goss on Sherbet Fizz.



For our 2017 limited edition *Simply Crochet* colourway, we asked Kim from Golding Yarns to dream up something special. She did not disappoint! Her Sherbet Fizz sock set includes an eye-popping skein of hand-dyed 4ply and a neon mini skein to go with it. Perfect for our contrasting crochet socks on p67.

## Can you tell us a bit about you and your yarns?

I'm a part-time dyer, full-time teacher and deputy head, living and working in Norwich. I work out of my studio shed in the back garden, often accompanied by Peggy-Sue the basset hound X beagle and my two cats, Wilson and Warrick. I love to dye brightly-coloured, speckled skeins of yarn inspired by TV, film and pop culture.

## What's your workspace like?

The studio is full of inspirational bits and bobs, prints and stickers as well as pegboards housing all of my tools. All of the furniture is vintage, too! I have an old kitchen cupboard which was in my parents' house and two Formica tables which I rescued from my school. My desk and sideboard were both thrifted bargains! The studio gets pretty messy when I'm working in there, but you can't get creative without a little mess, right?

## How do you create your colour effects?

I use a wide range of techniques and tricks to create different colourways and effects. I like to use a pepper shaker to add speckles to yarn that has already been submerged in a dye bath. I also utilise a number of different twists and knots to help layer colours. I'm always learning new ways to create interesting colour combinations.

## What inspired this skein and mini set?

I was thinking nostalgically about what made me happy as a kid. The village shop used to have a penny sweet counter which I just loved. Some of my favourites were fruit salad chews and those neon straws filled with sherbet – I headed down to the shop, grabbed myself a bag of sherbet straws and translated that into a yarn colourway!

## What's it made of?

The Soft & Strong base is a 75% superwash merino, 25% nylon blend. The name explains it well, really – the yarn is very soft and squishy, but durable enough for making socks, or crochet garments that will get a good amount of wear. I source all of my yarn from a mill here in the UK.

## How can we keep hand-dyed yarns tip-top?

It's always recommended to hand wash your handmade items using cool water and lay flat to dry. If this yarn makes its way into the washing machine it shouldn't do it too much harm; I've got hand knit socks that have ended up in the wash with everything else more than once!

## Any tips for budding dyers?

Have a go! Buy yourself some bare yarn (I would recommend starting off with superwash to avoid a felted mess) and get your hands on some Kool Aid. You can use your normal kitchen utensils and you don't have to worry about setting with acid so you can concentrate on having some fun. There are lots of guides and tutorials on Pinterest and Youtube. Just don't forget your gloves!

Visit [www.goldingyarns.etsy.com](http://www.goldingyarns.etsy.com) to get your hands on a Sherbet Fizz set (there's a discount code on p69). Kim's on Instagram as [@goldingyarns](https://www.instagram.com/goldingyarns)



Win the yarn to make the winning project! Enter by voting for your favourite on Instagram #hooktohook

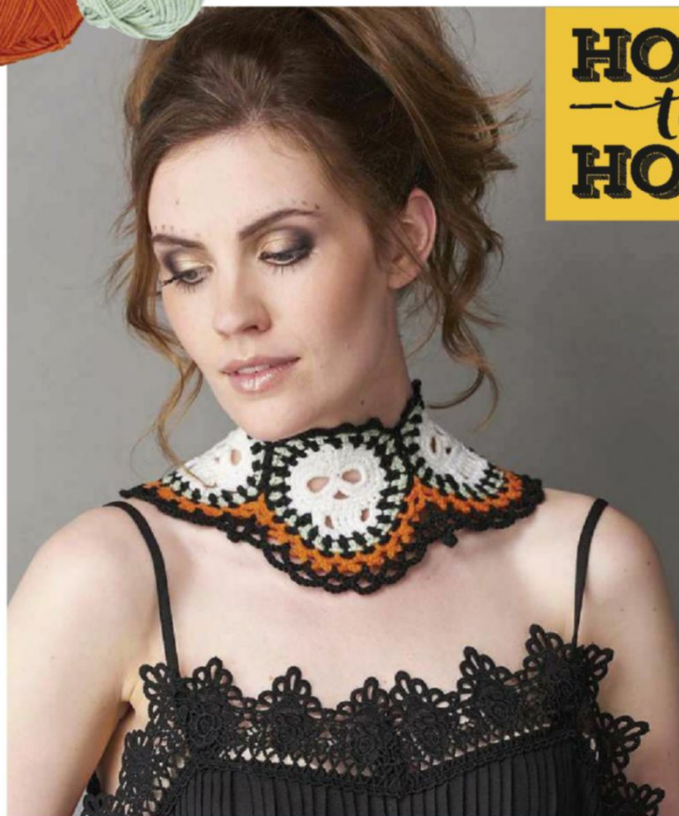
HOOK TO HOOK

# Creep it real

We challenged two designers to come up with a fab design, each using the same yarn... which is your fave?



HOOK  
— to —  
HOOK



## Sylvia Margaret

"Elaborate collars are my crochet trademark. I wanted to keep it classy and with the time invested in making, I wanted it to be something that could be worn more than once.

So, thinking 'Halloween party', I thought 'what would Morticia Addams wear?' This led to me create a Victorian Gothic-style high neck piece. At first glance it just looks like a fancy collar, but look again and you can see the skulls – a real talking piece that would transform any little black dress." See [www.sylviamargaret.co.uk](http://www.sylviamargaret.co.uk)

## Miki Hemphill

Miki is a self-confessed crochet addict, yarn hoarder and crazy cat lady. She loves bright colours and modern boho vibes, sharing her makes and patterns on her Set Free My

Gypsy Soul blog at [www.sfmgs.co.uk](http://www.sfmgs.co.uk). She says: "For this project, I wanted to create something that was fun to make and fun to wear. I love that Halloween fancy dress spans across all the genres, from gory and scary to cute and pretty, with a bit of everything in between. This fun tiara headdress combines a little of all of that!"







Clockwise from above left: a look inside Sylvia's sketchbook at her concept for this fancy skull collar design; look closer and you'll see a trio of pale skull motifs, worked from the eyes outwards; the collar fastens at the back with two chain lengths, or you could add chain or ribbon instead.

## GOTHIC SKULL COLLAR

Sylvia Margaret's Victorian-inspired necklace is just the right balance of fancy and freaky, don't you think? The cashmere blend is super soft on the neck.

- Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino (55% wool, 12% cashmere, 33% acrylic, 50g/120m), 1 ball of each:
  - Yarn A White (100)
  - Yarn B Black (300)
  - Yarn C Mint (003)
  - Yarn D Orange (092)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- Stitch markers

### MEASUREMENTS

Approx 32x12.5cm (12½x5in) without ties

### ABBREVIATIONS

**Picot** Ch3, ss in 3rd ch from hook

### SKULL MOTIF (MAKE 3)

The Skull motif is worked in rounds around the Eyes and then the Jaw is added in rows working back and forth.

### EYES

Using Yarn A, ch10, ss to 10th ch from hook, ch10, ss to 10th ch from hook, this will create 2 loops in a figure of 8.

**Round 1** Ss into first loop of figure of 8 (does not count as st), 16dc in loop, ss into

next loop, 16dc in second loop, ss to first dc to join.

**Round 2** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in next st, htr in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts) twice, ch3, skip 5 sts, dc in each of next 3 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts) twice, htr in next st, tr in next st, ss to 3rd ch of beginning ch-3 to join.

**Round 3** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, dc in each of next 7 sts, 3htr in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, place marker in last st made, htr in each of next 2 sts, 3htr in ch-3 sp, htr in each of next 4 sts, 3htr in next st, dc in each of next 7 sts, htr in each of next 2 sts, tr in last st, ss to 3rd ch of beginning ch-3 to join.

**Fasten off.**

### JAW

**Row 1** Join yarn in the first stitch after marker (do not remove marker), ch5, skip next st, dtr in each of next 4 sts, ch5, skip next st, ss in next st, turn.

**Row 2 (WS)** Ch1 (does not count as st), 5 dc in ch-5 sp, dc in each of next 4 dtr, 5dc in next ch-5 sp, ss back into same dc in Round 3. **Fasten off.**

### BORDER

**Round 1** With RS facing, join Yarn B in marked st, leaving marker in place for joining rounds, ch1 (does not count as st

throughout), dc in same st, ch3, skip next st, (dc in next st, ch3, skip next st) 21 times, ss to first dc to join.

**Fasten off.** [22 dc and 22 ch-3 sps]

**Round 2** Join Yarn C in any ch-3 space, ch1, dc in same sp, ch3, (dc in next ch-3 sp, ch3) 21 times, ss to first dc to join.

**Fasten off.** [22 dc and 22 ch-3 sps]

### JOINING MOTIFS

#### FIRST MOTIF

**Round 1 (RS)** Join Yarn B with a ss to the ch-3 sp in Round 2 of Border directly above st marker, (ch3, ss in next ch-3 sp) 12 times, (ch2, picot, ch2, ss in next ch-3 sp) 3 times, (ch3, ss in next ch-3 sp) 7 times, working last ss into first ss.

#### SECOND MOTIF

**Round 1 (RS)** Join Yarn B with a ss to the ch-3 sp in Round 2 of Border directly above the st marker, (ch3, ss in next ch-3 sp) 12 times, (ch2, picot, ch2, ss in next ch-3 sp) 4 times, ch1, ss to ch-3 sp before picot on first motif, ch1, ss in the next ch-3 sp on second motif, (ch1, ss to adjacent ch-3 sp on first motif, ch1, ss in next ch-3 sp on second motif) 3 times, (ch3, ss in next ch-3 sp) twice, working the last ss into the first ss.

#### THIRD MOTIF

**Round 1 (RS)** Join Yarn B with a ss to the ch-3 sp in Round 2 of Border directly above





Clockwise from left: Jack-o'-lantern pompoms, bulging eyeballs and even a spider – this delightfully bonkers Halloween crown has it all; a work-in-progress shot of the Band section of the design, photograph by Miki Hemphill; when working the eyeballs, leave a long tail for sewing.

st marker, (ch3, ss in next ch-3 sp) 12 times, (ch2, picot, ch2, ss in next ch-3 sp) 3 times, ch1, ss to ch-3 sp before picot on first motif, ch1, ss in next ch-3 sp on second motif, (ch1, ss to adjacent ch-3 sp on first motif, ch1, ss in next ch-3 sp on second motif) 3 times, (ch3, ss in next ch-3 sp) 3 times, working last ss into first ss.

## BORDER

**Row 1** With RS facing join Yarn D in first ss after picot at outer edge of motifs to work around the bottom edge of the motifs, ch3, ss in next ch-3 sp, (ch4, ss into next ch-3 sp) 14 times, ch3, dc into sp below ss join, ch3, ss into next ch-3 sp on next motif, (ch4, ss into next ch-3 sp) 9 times, ch3, dc into sp below ss join, ch3, ss into next ch-3 sp on next motif, (ch4, ss into next ch-3 sp) 14 times, ch3, ss into next ss, turn.

**Row 2 (WS)** Ch5, skip ch-3 sp, ss in next ch-4 sp, (ch5, ss into next ch-4 sp) 13 times, ch2, skip ch-3 sp, tr in next dc between motifs, ch2, skip ch-3 sp, ss into next ch-4 sp, (ch5, ss into next ch-4 sp) 8 times, ch2, skip ch-3 sp, tr in next dc between motifs, ch2, skip ch-3 sp, ss into next ch-4 sp, (ch5, ss into next ch-4 sp) 13 times, ch5, ss into last ss. **Fasten off.**

**Row 3** With WS facing join Yarn B in first ch-sp of Row 2, (ch6, ss into next ch-sp) 13 times, ch3, skip ch-2 sp, tr in tr between motifs, ch3, skip ch-2 sp, ss into next ch-5 sp, (ch6, ss into next ch-sp) 7 times, ch3,

skip ch-2 sp, tr in tr between motifs, ch3, skip ch-2 sp, ss into next ch-5 sp, (ch6, ss into next ch-sp) 13 times, turn.

**Row 4 (RS)** Ch1, ss into first ch-6 sp, (ch6, ss into next ch-sp) 12 times, \*ch3, tr in next ch-3 sp, ch5, ss into 5th ch from hook, skip tr, tr into next ch-3 sp, ch3, ss into next ch-6 sp, (ch6, ss into next ch-sp) 6 times; repeat from \* once more, (ch6, ss into next ch-sp) 6 times.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

## TIES

You can now add a necklace chain or ribbon to complete; alternatively, you can make crochet ties as follows:

Join Yarn B in the ch-3 sp at the start of Row 1, dc in same sp, ch60 (make as long as you wish to alter size/fit), ss into second ch from hook and each ch across back to dc. **Fasten off.**

Repeat same process in the ch-3 sp at other end of Row 1.

## BLOCKING

Lay the collar out flat and pin into shape, dampen and/or steam and allow to dry.

## ALL EYES ON YOU TIARA

Be the queen of Halloween with Miki Hemphill's eye-popping pompom tiara, brimming with groovy gruesome details.

■ Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino (55% wool, 12% cashmere, 33% acrylic, 50g/120m), 1 ball of each:

Yarn A Black (300)

Yarn B Mint (003)

Yarn C Orange (092)

Yarn D White (100)

■ A 2mm (US 4 steel) hook

■ A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook

■ A 4mm (US G/6) hook

■ Stitch markers

■ 1cm wide head band

■ 35mm (1½in) pompom maker

■ Pins

## MEASUREMENTS

32cm (12½in) around band, 6cm (2¼in) deep at widest point

## ABBREVIATIONS

**Puff Stitch** (Yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up loop) 4 times, yrh and draw through all loops on hook

## NOTES

The crown motif and band are worked using 2 strands of yarn together to create a denser fabric.

## CROWN MOTIF

Wind Yarn A into 2 balls of 25g each.

**Row 1 (RS)** With a 4mm hook and 2 strands of Yarn A, (ch3, tr into 3rd ch from hook) 8 times, turn.



**Round 2 (WS)** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), (3dc in next ch-3 sp) 8 times, rotate to work along opposite side of Row 1, (3dc into sp created by tr) 8 times, ss to first dc to join, turn. [48 sts]

**Row 3 (RS)** Ch1, dc in first st, htr in next st, puff st in each of next 20 sts, htr in next st, dc in last st, turn leaving remaining sts of Round 2 unworked. [24 sts]

**Row 4 (WS)** Ch1, dc in first st, htr in each of next 2 sts, 2tr in next st, ch2, 2tr in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, dc in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, 2tr in next st, 2dtr in next st, ch2, 2dtr in next st, 2tr in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, dc in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, 2tr in next st, ch2, 2tr in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, dc in last st, turn. [32 sts and 3 ch-2 sps]

**Row 5 (RS)** Ch1, dc in each of first 4 sts, skip next st, (2htr, ch3, 2htr) in ch-2 sp, dc in each of next 10 sts, skip next st, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) in ch-2 sp, dc in each of next 10 sts, (2htr, ch3, 2htr) in ch-2 sp, skip next st, dc in last 4 sts.

**Fasten off.** [40 sts]

**Row 6 (RS)** With RS facing, join Yarn B in end of Row 1 to work into row ends, using a 3mm hook, ch1, dc in each row end, (3dc, ch3, 3dc) in corner st, working along Row 5, \*dc in each st across to ch-3 sp, (3dc, ch3, 3dc) in ch-3 sp; rep from \* twice more, dc in each st across to corner st, (3dc, ch3, 3dc) in corner st, rotate to work into row ends, dc in each row end.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

## BAND

With a 4mm hook and 2 strands of Yarn A, ch141.

**Row 1 (RS)** Htr into 3rd ch from hook (skipped ch count as st), htr in each of next 69 ch, place marker in sp between last 2 sts made, htr in each of ch across to end.

**Fasten off.** [140 htr]

Fold Band in half at the marker. The next row is worked through both sides of the Band to join them together.

**Row 2 (RS)** With RS facing, join Yarn B in st after marker, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each htr across to end, working through both layers of fabric to seam them together, turn. [70 dc]

**Row 3 (WS)** Ch1, dc in first st, \*(dc, ch3, dc) in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts; rep from \* to end. **Fasten off.** [93 dc and 23 ch-sp]

Rotate Band to work along opposite side of starting ch. Rejoin Yarn with RS facing and

repeat Rows 2-3.

Slide Band onto Headband and sew open end closed using Yarn A.

Pin Crown to top of Headband in a central position so that the Crown stands up from the Band.

Sew securely into place using Yarn A and a tapestry needle.

## SPIDER'S WEB (MAKE 4)

With a 2mm hook and Yarn D, make a magic loop.

**Row 1** Ch5 (counts as tr and ch2), (tr, ch2) 3 times into the loop, tr into loop, turn.

**Row 2** Ch7 (counts as tr, ch4), (tr in next tr, ch4) 3 times, tr in 3rd ch of beg ch-5, turn.

**Row 3** Ch9 (counts as tr, ch6), (tr in next tr, ch6) 3 times, tr in 3rd ch of beg ch-7, turn.

**Row 4** Ch10 (counts as dtr, ch6), ss in 6th ch from hook, ch8, (dtr in next tr, ch6, ss in 6th ch from hook, ch8) 3 times, dtr in last tr, ch6, ss to 6th ch from hook.

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail.

## SPIDER

With a 3mm hook and Yarn A, make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch2 (counts as htr), 15htr into the loop, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join. [16 htr]

**Round 2** Ch1 (does not count as st), (dc, htr, dc) in same st, ss in next st, \*(ch10, ss in next st) twice, ss in next st, (ch10, ss in next st) twice, dc in each of next 2 sts, ss in next st, (ch10, ss in next st) twice, ss in next st, (ch10, ss in next st) twice, ss in next st, ss to first dc to join.

**Round 3** Ch1, 2dc in each of first 3 sts.

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail for sewing.

Use Yarns C and D and a tapestry needle to sew on eyes and fangs.

## EYEBALL

(Make 4 using Yarn B and 3 using Yarn C in Rounds 3 and 4)

With a 3mm hook and Yarn A, make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 6dc into the loop, ss to first dc to join. [6 sts]

**Round 2** Ch1, 2dc in each st around, ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off.** [12 dc]

**Round 3** Join Yarn B or C in any st, ch1, (dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times, ss to first dc to join. [18 sts]

**Round 4** Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off.** [18 sts]

**Round 5** Join Yarn D in any st, ch1, dc in each dc around, ss to first dc to join.

**Fasten off.** [18 sts]

**Round 6** Repeat Round 4.

**Round 7** Ch1, (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times, ss to first dc to join. [12 sts]

Stuff all tail ends inside eyeball.

**Round 8** Ch1, (dc2tog) 6 times, ss to first dc to join.

**Fasten off**, leaving a long tail for sewing. [6 sts]

With a needle and Yarn D, sew flash into the iris.

With contrasting Yarn B or C, sew on vein detail to underside of eyeball.

## WORM (MAKE 2 IN YARN B, 2 IN YARN C)

With a 3mm hook, and Yarn B or C, make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch2 (counts as htr), 5htr into the loop, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join, ch14.

**Round 2** Htr into 3rd ch from hook, 9htr, 2dc, ss to next st to join.

**Fasten off**, leaving long tail for sewing.

## TO MAKE UP

With remaining yarn and a 35mm pompom maker, make 4 small pompoms; 2 using Yarn A and C, and 2 using Yarns B, C and D.

With yarn needle, sew on all motifs to headband using the image as a guide.

**For stockist details contact Designer Yarns [www.designeryarns.uk.com](http://www.designeryarns.uk.com) or call 01535 664222.**

## DEBBIE BLISS BABY CASHMERINO

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blend. As it's gentle and machine washable, this yarn is a top choice for baby projects.

It was the palette that stopped us in our tracks. With 60 hues, Baby Cashmerino is also fab for decorative makes.





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This 2 for 1 ticket offer closes at 5pm on 23 October 2017 and must be booked in advance and online.





# 10 SOCK SECRETS

Designer Rohn Strong shares hot tips for hooking socks.



When we think of crochet we rarely think about socks, but crochet socks are one of the most comfortable and quick projects that you can whip up with your hook. No matter what the season, I love crocheting socks whether as gifts or for myself. I've compiled a quick list for you of 10 of my secrets to sock success that'll soon have you crocheting pair after pair of them.

**1** Row gauge doesn't really matter a whole lot, to be honest. You can always add and subtract rows as you see fit. You'll absolutely need to get stitch gauge down, however. Without that, you'll have a sock that's ill-fitting and unwearable.

**2** When picking up stitches between the heel flap and gusset, do so evenly spaced in the row ends. An easy method I use is one stitch for every dc row, three stitches for every two htr rows, and two stitches for every tr row.

**3** For a nice, dense sock that will last longer, crochet the sock with a hook one size smaller than the pattern calls for.

**4** If you're not getting gauge and having a tough time, try using a hook made of a different material (wood or plastic or metal) or a hook with a different size shaft. These elements can actually affect your stitch gauge a great deal.

**5** Choose the right yarn for the right sock. No, before you ask, 100% cotton yarn will not work for socks. They'll lose shape and have little stretch. A little wool never hurt anyone and is fab for socks.

**6** The cuff of the socks needs to be just right. Too tight and they'll fall down. Too loose and they'll fall down. If you're a tight crocheter try a hook size larger. A loose crocheter, try a hook size smaller.

**7** If you love crocheting toe-up socks, learn how to work a square toe. It's easy and amazing. It looks great and it's incredibly comfortable.

**8** If you tend to wear out the heels and toes of your socks, try using a strand of nylon thread with the yarn when working the heel flap, the heel turn, and toe shaping.

**9** When washing your socks, soak them in warm, not hot, water and lay flat to dry. Dryers will break down the fibres and hot water can felt even the most super of superwash wool.

**10** Try working both socks at the same time. By working a few rows of one and then a few rows of another, it allows you to avoid the dreaded second sock syndrome and it ensures that both of your socks are exactly the same.

See more from Rohn (and check out his new crochet sock book) at [www.rohnstrong.com](http://www.rohnstrong.com) and turn to p67 for his amazing neon sock pattern.



**NEW  
ISSUE!**



GRANNY CUSHION



AUTUMNAL WREATH



FAB BAG FOR LIFE



**BEAUTIFUL  
BERET**

# Love Crochet

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# Sherbet fizz

Brighter-than-bright statement socks, hooked in scrummy hand-dyed 4ply. By Rohn Strong.



# CONTRAST SOCKS



## YOU WILL NEED

- Golding Yarns Sherbert Fizz Sock Set (75% superwash merino, 25% nylon, 100g/425m), 1 skein of **Yarn A** Sherbert Fizz plus a 20g mini skein of **Yarn B**
  - A 3.25mm (US D/3) hook or size needed to obtain gauge
  - Tapestry needle
- For yarn stockists contact **Golding Yarns** [www.goldingyarns.etsy.com](http://www.goldingyarns.etsy.com)

## TENSION

25 htr and 16 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over htr pattern

## MEASUREMENTS

See table. The pattern is written in 3 width fittings and 3 sizes. Establish the width fitting required and work this size. The length of the sock (size) is adjusted in the Foot section.

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

**Wowzers.** Top sock designer Rohn Strong used Golding Yarns' limited edition 2017 *Simply Crochet* colourway, Sherbet Fizz, to hook this super-bright pair. He says: "Easy to stitch and ideal for variegated yarns, these socks are perfect for the beginner and intermediate crocheter alike. A contrasting heel and toe make for a fun pop of colour." Find more sock tips from Rohn on p65 and flip across to p58 to get all the goss on this incredible indie yarn, hand dyed especially for this project.

## NOTES

The Sock is worked in Joined Rounds making a noticeable seam.  
The Sock is worked in the main colour and the heel and toe worked in the mini skein.

## SOCKS

### CUFF (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, ch11.

**Row 1** Dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [10 dc]

**Row 2** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in back loops only of each dc across, turn. [10 dc]

Repeat (Row 2) 42 (48: 54) more times. [44 (50: 56) Rows]

Fold Cuff so that first and last rows meet, work a ss seam to join the rows together, do not fasten off.  
Rotate Cuff to work into row ends.

## LEG

The Leg is worked in rounds.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1, dc in each row end around, ss to first dc to join. [44 (50: 56) dc]



The ribbing on the cuff is created by working dc stitches in the back loops in rows.



The toes of the socks are worked last in double crochet rounds with decreases.

**Round 2** Ch2 (does not count as st), \*2htr in next dc, skip next dc; repeat from \* around, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join. [44 (50: 56) htr]

**Round 3** Ch2 (does not count as st), \*2htr in next htr, skip next htr; repeat from \* around, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join.

**Rounds 4-20** Repeat Round 3.  
**Fasten off.**



SIZE (UK SHOE SIZE)			Small (3½-5)	Medium (5-6½)	Large (7-9)
TO FIT	Length	cm	22-23	23-24.5	25-26.5
		in	8½-9	9-9½	9¾-10½
TO FIT	Circumference at widest point of foot	cm	18	20.5	23
		in	7	8	9
ACTUAL	Length	cm	23	24	26
		in	9	9½	10¼
ACTUAL	Circumference at widest point of foot	cm	17.5	20	22.5
		in	6¾	7¾	8¾

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.



## HEEL

The Heel is worked back and forth in rows.

**Row 1 (RS)** Join Yarn B in first st, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first st and each of next 21 (24: 27) htr, turn. [22 (25: 28) dc]

**Row 2 (WS)** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each dc across, turn.

**Rows 3-12** Ch1, dc in each st across to last st, turn, leaving last st unworked.

[12 (15: 18) dc]

**Row 13** Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn.

**Row 14** Ch1, dc in each dc across, dc in next unworked st in Row 11 below, ss in end of same row, turn.

[13 (16: 19) dc and 1 ss]

**Rows 15-23** Skip ss, dc in next dc and each dc across, dc in next unworked st in next row below, ss in end of same row, turn.

[22 (25: 28) dc]

**Fasten off.**

## FOOT

The Leg is worked in rounds.

Join Yarn A with RS facing in first unworked Yarn A st of Round 20, ready to work across the unworked sts of the last round of the Leg and into Row 23 of the Heel.

**Round 1** Ch2 (does not count as st), \*2htr in next st, skip next st; repeat from \* around, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join.

[44 (50: 56) htr]

Repeat Round 1 until the length of the foot measured from the back of the heel measures 17.5 (18: 19)cm.

You can alter the length of the sock by changing the number of rounds here, bearing in mind that the length of the toe section will be an additional 5.5 (6: 7)cm. Do not fasten off.

## TOE

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st around, ss to first dc to join. [44 (50: 56) dc]

**Rounds 2-3** Repeat Round 1.

### MEDIUM SIZE ONLY

**Round 4** Ch1, (dc2tog, dc in next 23 sts) twice, ss to first dc to join. [- (48: -) dc]

### SMALL AND LARGE SIZES ONLY

**Round 4** Repeat Round 1.



The heels and toes of these socks are hooked with a mini skein in punchy neon.

[44 (-: 56) dc]

**Fasten off.**

**Round 5** Join Yarn B in first st, ch1, (dc2tog, dc in next 9 (10: 12) sts) 4 times, ss to first dc to join. [40 (44: 52) dc]

**Round 6** Repeat Round 1.

**Round 7** Ch1, (dc2tog, dc in next 8 (9: 11) sts) 4 times, ss to first dc to join.

[36 (40: 48) dc]

**Round 8** Repeat Round 1.

**Round 9** Working in dc as before, decrease 4 sts evenly around in same fashion, ss to first dc. [32 (36: 44) dc]

**Round 10** Repeat Round 1.

Repeat the last 2 rounds a further 3 (4: 6) times. [20 dc]

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail.

Flatten opening at toe so that it is in line with the heel and sew seam using whipstitch.

Weave in all ends.



GOLDING YARNS ARE OFFERING *SIMPLY CROCHET* READERS 20% OFF THIS SHERBET FIZZ HAND-DYED SOCK SET YARN WITH THE DISCOUNT CODE SIMPLYCROCHET. OFFER VALID UNTIL 14 OCTOBER 2017. HEAD TO [WWW.GOLDINGYARNS.ETSY.COM](http://WWW.GOLDINGYARNS.ETSY.COM)



A close-up, slightly blurred photograph of numerous skeins of hand-dyed yarn hanging vertically from a wooden rack. The yarns are in various vibrant colors including pinks, purples, blues, and oranges, with some showing intricate patterns and textures from the dyeing process. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white.

# Luxury GOODS

Creative blogger Nadia Seaver explores why we can't get enough of indie yarns right now and what makes them so perfect for one-of-a-kind projects.

Beautifully vibrant  
Hedgehog Fibres  
hand-dyed skeins  
hanging out to dry.



## GOOD READ



Clockwise from top left: seahorse-inspired yarn from The Wool Kitchen; sherbert-inspired sock yarn by Golding Yarns; indie yarn makes a unique project, photo by Hedgehog Fibres.

**"M**akers want something that will stand the test of time, that they will enjoy both the process of making and the wearing afterwards. After all, this is something that we do for ourselves in our downtime; if we don't enjoy the feeling of that beautiful yarn between our fingers, then it can become a bit of a chore," according to dyer Kim Laudan at Golding Yarns ([www.goldingyarns.etsy.com](http://www.goldingyarns.etsy.com)).

It was this statement by Kim that made me think about the rise of independent yarns. My first thought when I come to a new project is always that I want it to be unique. I want it to catch the eye of passers-by and for them to ask me where I got it, so I can utter the phrase, "oh, this? I made this myself!", which is always accompanied by that smile.

### ONE OF A KIND

One of the reasons a project grows into a true one-of-a-kind piece is down to the yarn chosen. From the bold colours of The Wool Kitchen to the speckled yarns of Hedgehog

Fibres, each artisan dyer is unique, lending different variations of colour on yarn.

Beata Jezek of Hedgehog Fibres ([www.shop.hedgehogfibres.com](http://www.shop.hedgehogfibres.com)) is known for her inspirational colour choices and bold

*"Gorgeous materials and colours make all the difference."*

combinations and these are just some of the reasons her yarn stands out. When I asked Beata why she thinks artisan yarns are gaining in popularity she replied: "Working with beautiful yarn is what keeps us makers engaged. Gorgeous materials and beautiful colours make

all the difference. The attention paid to every skein and the uniqueness that comes with hand-dyed yarn sets Hedgehog Fibres apart from commercially produced yarn. Most knitters desire a luxurious experience, since one project can take months to complete."

### AFFORDABLE LUXURY

I found myself nodding along in agreement. I feel like my own projects are more luxurious when I use hand-dyed yarns.

When I chatted to Jenny of Townhouse Yarns ([www.townhouseyarns.com](http://www.townhouseyarns.com)), she





Clockwise from left: glorious brights by Townhouse Yarns; speckled skeins by Hedgehog fibres; Helen at The Wool Kitchen gets creative with colour.



agreed: "It's true that when you sit down to crochet a large piece or a smaller accessory, that it makes sense that crafters want to match the time dedicated to making the piece with that of the yarn they choose, they want to know, to feel the quality and dedication it has taken to produce the skein of yarn that they are lovingly going to use." It isn't hard to see that Jenny believes deeply in this when you look at her choice in bases and dedication to colour in her yarn range.

Not only do we like to produce a striking piece, but we like to share it too. More and more projects are filling timelines on social media, allowing these artists to build a community and grow a following that, in turn, helps growth.

Kim recognises this sentiment: "I can honestly say that the community that's grown through Instagram has been instrumental in the success of Golding Yarns. The support from friends across the country and internationally has been amazing. It's let me find 'my people', because in reality not everyone we are friends with in the real world can discuss the difference between a

high-twist Blue Faced Leicester 4ply and a Merino Nylon Sport weight!"

#### BACKING LOCAL ARTISANS

By building this online community, it isn't just about yarn choice, it has come to be more about the people behind the yarn and supporting a local artist, so I asked Helen Reed of The Wool Kitchen ([www.thewoolkitchen.etsy.com](http://www.thewoolkitchen.etsy.com)) if she could describe how her life has changed since she started selling her hand-dyed yarn. "I feel independent, and that I've found my career. I've met incredible people to work with and have made friends all over the world because of working with yarn. I'm so grateful to my customers for their support."

If you were ever in doubt about the difference your choice of using independent yarn can make, Beata of Hedgehog Fibres described her journey to me: "I started

dyeing from my kitchen at home. Soon my friends started liking my yarns and I thought, I'd give it a go. I set up an Etsy store and it all went from there." That was 2008 and "now Hedgehog Fibres has over 200 retailers worldwide and I love my job! Things can get very hectic at times, but I employ a wonderful

team of passionate people and I think it shows in our yarn that we all love what we do."

Reflecting on my earlier conversations, I sat and turned a hand-dyed skein over in my hand. These talented artists add a vast array of choice to our craft community and I, for

one, want to see it grow and flourish; to be nurtured and respected for the dedication that goes into producing each skein and to be realised for the valuable commodity it is. From now on I will be putting more thought into my yarn purchases. Will you?

**Written by Nadia Seaver**

*"I think it shows in our yarn that we all love what we do."*



# *In the woods*

A pair of colourwork cushions with woodland cuties is the perfect autumn project. By Bryony Hitchcock.







## YOU WILL NEED

- Adriafile Mirage (55% wool, 45% acrylic, 50g/125m), 7 balls of **Yarn A** Medium Melange Beige (93)
- 1 ball of each:
- Yarn B** Dark Rust (23)
- Yarn C** Melange Hazelnut (91),
- Yarn D** Melange Anthracite Grey (54)
- Yarn E** Cream (11)
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook
- A 30x40cm (12x16in) cushion pad for each cushion
- Tapestry needle
- For yarn stockists contact**  
**LoveCrochet 0845 544 2196**  
**www.lovecrochet.com**

## TENSION

22sts and 25 rows to measure 10x10cm over dc using a 4.5mm hook or size needed to obtain tension

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Embrace vintage vibes with this sweet woodland creatures cushion duo. The hare and badger look like they're worked in cross stitch or needlepoint, but it's all just double crochet stitches with charts.

## NOTES

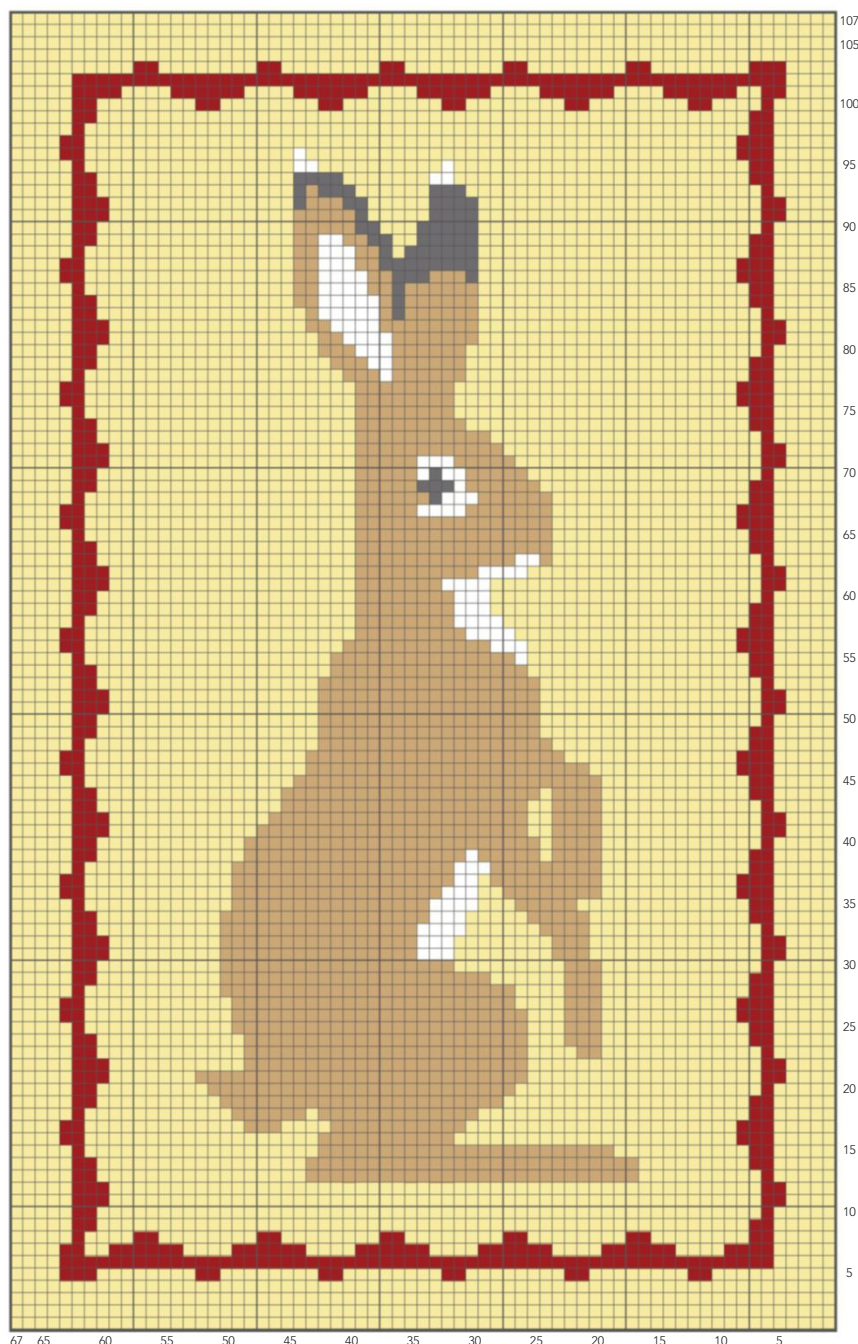
Yarn quantities given are sufficient to make both cushions.

The cushions are worked in the round using dc in the front loop only of each stitch, following the pattern shown in the

Chart for the front. The back is worked in dc in Yarn A throughout.

Each square on the Chart represents 1 dc worked in the front loop. Working in the front loop keeps the cushion straighter preventing the natural spiralling effect when crocheting in the round.

When changing colour, twist the ends of the two colours together. Pick up new colour in last yrh of previous stitch and carry the unused strands of yarn across the WS of the work. Where the previous yarn



### Key

- Medium Melange Beige
- Dark Rust
- Melange Hazelnut
- Melange Anthracite Grey
- White



colour is reintroduced within a few stitches, it can be carried over (as in the border). However, for larger gaps, cut the yarn and rejoin when required.

## HARE CUSHION

With Yarn A, ch68.

**Round 1** Dc in front loop only of second ch from hook and in each ch across to end, turn and work a further row of dc in the back loops of the starting chain (now the front loop), ss to first dc to join in the round. [134 dc]

**Rounds 2-107** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in fl of each st around referring to the Chart over the first 67 sts for colour changes, ss to first dc to join. [134 dc]

**Fasten off.**

Weave in all ends and using Yarn D, embroider Nose onto the Hare's face using a tapestry needle and the image as a guide. Block Cover to size. Insert cushion pad and using Yarn A sew the open end closed using a whipstitch seam.

## BADGER CUSHION

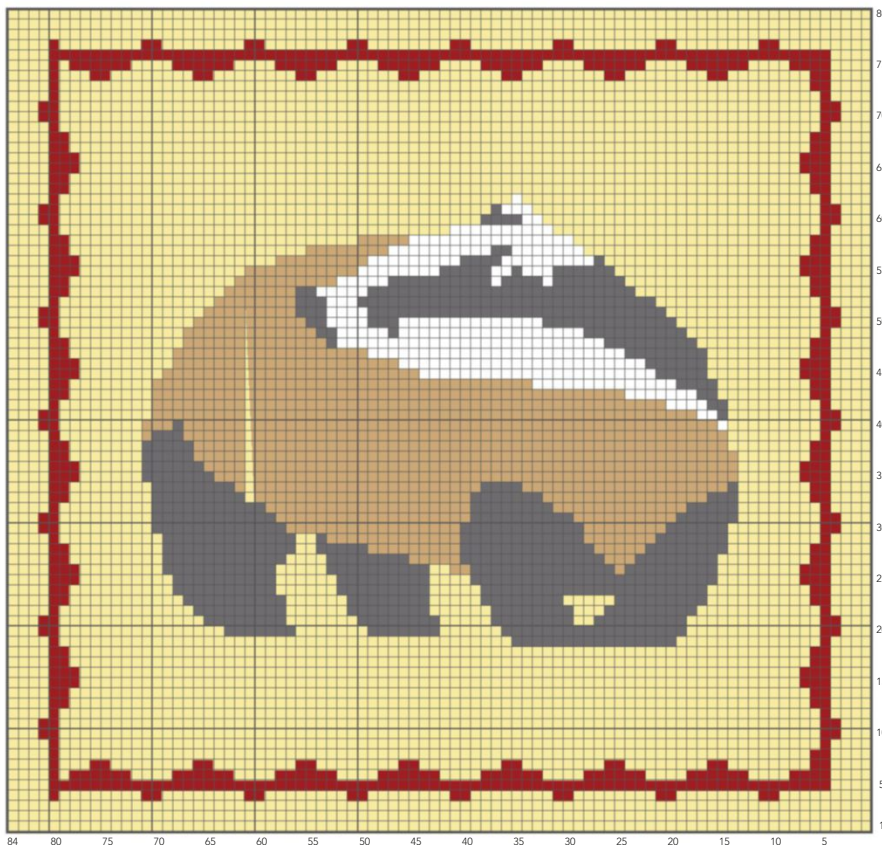
With Yarn A, ch85.

**Rounds 1-80** Work as for Hare Cushion following Chart over first 84 sts of round for Front. [168 dc]

**Fasten off,** block and finish as for Hare Cushion.

### Key

- Medium Melange Beige
- Dark Rust
- Melange Hazelnut
- Melange Anthracite Grey
- White



The rust-coloured border is the same on both cushion designs, adding a matching element.



Use this image as a guide when you come to stitch on the hare's nose at the end.



Pay close attention to the charts to make sure your colourwork is neat and accurate.



# British yarns

Six fantastic blends and fibres from good old Blighty.

## GRANNY CIRCLE

Ch5, ss to first ch to join into a ring.

**ROUND 1** Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr into ring, ch1, (2tr into ring, ch1) 5 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [6 ch-sps]

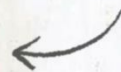
**ROUND 2** Ss into next ch-sp, (ch3, tr, ch1, 2tr, ch1) in same ch-sp, (2tr, ch1, 2tr, ch1) in each rem ch-sp, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 ch-sps]

**ROUND 3** Ss along to next ch-sp, ch3, 2tr in same ch-sp, ch1, (3tr, ch1) in each rem ch-sp around, ss to top of beg ch-3.

**FASTEN OFF** and weave in ends.



Easy-peasy coasters!





## DI GILPIN LALLAND

**WEIGHT** DK  
**CONTENT** 100% lambswool,  
**BALL** 50g/175m  
**HOOK** 3.75mm  
**RRP** £7.95



Get the vintage look with this 100% Scottish lambswool yarn that's made in Scotland, too. It's a light DK weight with a special double twist which gives great stitch definition and a lovely old-fashioned appeal. It's beautifully soft to work with and a great choice for those

really special garments you want to take your time working. Lalland is available in a range of beautiful colours inspired by the natural world including coral, silver birch and haar (pictured). Hand wash only. [www.digilpin.com](http://www.digilpin.com) 0797 997437

## BAA BAA BRIGHOUSE MARBLE 4PLY

**WEIGHT** 4ply  
**CONTENT** 100% wool  
**SKEIN** 100g/400m  
**HOOK** 3.25mm  
**RRP** £16



The Baa Baa Brew Marble 4ply is a wonderfully soft mix of 75% British Bluefaced Leicester and 25% Masham yarn, spun and hand-dyed in Yorkshire. Known as the Mulier Fortis Collection (Latin for strong woman), the yarn celebrates the Global Women's March of 2017. There

are eight semi-solid colours in the range, each named after inspirational women, including Emmeline Pankhurst, Marie Curie and Malala Yousafzai (the coral Malala shade is shown above). Inspiring stuff! [www.baabaabrighthouse.co.uk](http://www.baabaabrighthouse.co.uk) 01484 722662

## JOHN ARBON DEVONIA

**WEIGHT** 4ply  
**CONTENT** 100% wool  
**SKEIN** 100g/388m  
**HOOK** 3mm  
**RRP** £15



John Arbon's Devonia is an original blend of three Devon fibres – 50% Exmoor Blueface for its wonderful springy nature, 30% Devon Bluefaced Leicester for its soft handle, and 20% Devon Wensleydale for its lovely sheen. It's easy to work with and great for making soft

shawls and garments with an elegant halo. It comes in 14 mouth-watering mottled hues, each inspired by the work of French tapestry artist Jean Lurcat. This Devonia yarn is also available in a DK weight. [www.jarbon.com](http://www.jarbon.com) 01598 752490

## BLACKER ST KILDA

**WEIGHT** Lace  
**CONTENT** 100% wool  
**SKEIN** 50g/350m  
**HOOK** 2.25mm  
**RRP** £18



A beautiful blend of Boreray, Soay and Shetland, St Kilda is a fabulous tightly-twisted yarn with a soft halo, perfect for hooking lacy, textured shawls. In a collaboration with British indie dyer The Knitting Goddess, the yarn has been hand-dyed in 20 wonderful

jewel-like colours in small batches so each skein is unique. Blacker have added two natural undyed shades to the range. There's fantastic meterage per skein, and it's machine washable on a cool wash. [www.blackeryarns.co.uk](http://www.blackeryarns.co.uk) 01566 777635

## WEST YORKSHIRE SPINNERS THE CROFT

**WEIGHT** Aran  
**CONTENT** 100% wool  
**SKEIN** 100g/166m  
**HOOK** 5mm  
**RRP** £8.50



Get ready for winter with West Yorkshire Spinners' new The Croft Shetland Tweed – an aran weight yarn perfect for chunky sweaters and cardis. Made from 100% Shetland Island wool, it's soft and silky yet retains a lot of durability, making it a great practical yarn suitable for

outdoor garments. It's also machine washable, so great for hats, mittens and other winter woollies for the kids. The Croft comes in eight fab speckled shades, each named after a different area of Shetland. [www.wyspinners.com](http://www.wyspinners.com) 01535 664500

## UK ALPACA BABY

**WEIGHT** DK  
**CONTENT** 80% baby alpaca,  
 20% silk  
**BALL** 50g/112m  
**HOOK** 4mm  
**RRP** £9.30



Wonderfully soft, this yarn is a gorgeous blend of British baby grade alpaca fibre and Tussah silk – a mix which helps prevent shedding and pilling. It is just begging to be worked up as a divine pair of supersoft mitts or a glorious beret. As it feels so luxurious, it would be

fantastic for hooking gifts (it's never too early to start Christmas projects). It comes in a range of six muted pastel colours including China Blue, shown above. Baby is machine washable on a wool wash cycle. [www.ukalpaca.com](http://www.ukalpaca.com) 01884 243579



# Show us yours

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## BEACH, PLEASE

▼ We may be coming into autumn now, but we couldn't resist sharing this fantastic filet crochet beach bag. Resourceful maker Vicky Lea stitched it using cotton yarns from her stash. We are loving the colour gradient effect. Find this pattern in issue 59.

## HELLO PEDRO

**H**ow cute is this guy? The delightful details in this toy design are what brings it to life. Amigurumi lover @Toz106 has worked wonders with the Pedro the Donkey pattern from issue 59. Get a load of that fuzzy mane and those bright embroidered reins. Pedro looks all set for a trip to the seaside.



## DOUBLE TAP ♡

We've been double tapping on Instagram and admiring your makes.

Tag us @simplycrochetmag and use the hashtag #SCTreblemaker.



### HOLIDAY HOOKY

@airyfairycari finished hooking this top for her daughter while she was on holiday in the Brecon Beacons – dreamy! She used Rico cotton and the pattern from issue 60.



### FILET STITCHES

Ooh, we do love a work-in-progress shot! @little.kelly.crochets is busy hooking the filet crochet skull jumper from issue 59 – so far so good. That's some very neat ribbing right there.

## AMAZING AMIGURUMI

Squee! The blushing cheeks, the eyelashes, the little toes – we've fallen hook, line and sinker for this adorable otter toy, lovingly stitched by Norwegian hookster and crochet blogger @knittycatcrochet. She used Stylecraft Special DK yarn to hook her version of Ilaria Caliri's amigurumi pattern from issue 40, and has achieved such a neat finish with it. If you missed out on this issue the first time around, flip across to page 94 to find all the details on how you can get hold of print or digital copies of our *Simply Crochet* back issues.



### CUTE CACTUS

American artist @saruwarui got her head around UK abbreviations to create her smiling cactus pin cushion – we love it! Have you used your free issue 59 amigurumi cactus kit yet? Designed by Ilaria Caliri.



## THE LOWDOWN

It's easy to be in with a chance of winning a fab yarn pack from Cygnet! Three winners will each receive two balls of Babycakes Blanket in a Ball. Just show us your *Simply Crochet* makes on social media or via email or post by 5 October 2017. For all terms and conditions, visit [www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/competitionrules](http://www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/competitionrules)



WIN





## PRETTY PASTELS

Colour-loving maker [@miss\\_bs\\_emporium](#) is using cheery pastel shades to prolong the summer vibes in her home! Not a bad idea, actually. The palette she's picked for this sweet little crochet dress is divine. Recognise the pattern? It's a fabulously stripy version of the Frank&Olive watermelon dress from issue 47. [👉](#)

## BEADS AND TASSELS

Reader **Kate Lee** has done a lovely job on the issue 58 halter top for her daughter, switching the sequins for pretty glass beads. Via email.



## THIS MONTH we asked you

What's your go-to type of crochet hook?



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# Linked double crochet

A DENSE STITCH THAT'S EASY TO WORK AND HAS FAB TEXTURE

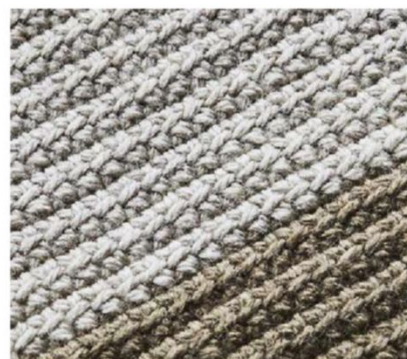


TABLET CASE P83

If you like learning new stitches then linked double crochet is a fantastic one to have in your hooking library. Each easy-to-work stitch is the same height as a treble crochet stitch, but there's an extra link at the centre, which makes the stitch less lacy and more dense. The finished stitches actually look like you've made two double crochet stitches, with one sitting on top of the other.

Linked double crochet is great to use instead of treble crochet, but it's also brilliant for using instead of double crochet – you can create a fabric with the same qualities as double crochet but in double-quick time. Read on and we'll

show you just what to do to create these special stitches and how to best use this technique for your makes.

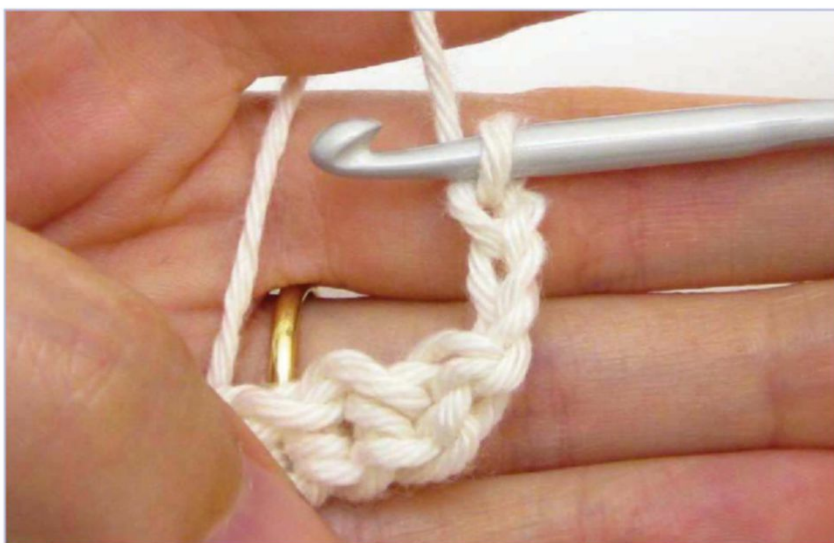


## HOW DO I START OFF?

Where to begin with linked double crochet.

**You can use any yarn and hook to work linked double crochet, but we recommend you start with a DK yarn and 4mm hook. The easiest way to get started with linked double crochet is to work a row of double crochet first.**

So make a chain length as long as you like, we would recommend a length of around 10-12 chains. Turn and dc in the second chain from the hook, then dc in each chain to the end. To start a row of linked double crochet, you need to turn and chain 3 – this is your turning chain and it doesn't count as a stitch throughout.



## LOST IN TRANSLATION

Something to bear in mind with this stitch.

A quick warning to help you avoid getting confused over the names of stitches: as you may know, the stitch called 'double crochet' by crocheters in the UK is called 'single crochet' by crocheters in the USA. To confuse things a bit more, the stitch called 'treble crochet' in the UK is called 'double crochet' in the USA.

In the USA, linked double crochet is so named because it's the same height as the US double crochet stitch, but there's an extra

link at the centre. To avoid confusion, we're also going to refer to this stitch as linked double crochet, but from the point of view that the stitch creates the illusion of two double crochet stitches linked together. If you're following a pattern, always check how the linked stitch is constructed to make sure you use the right technique.



PSST

Take your double crochet to the next level!

## HOW DO I WORK THE FIRST LINKED DC?

The next step after hooking your initial dc row.



The next stitch is sometimes referred to as a **beginning linked double crochet stitch** – it's made just like a standard linked dc but it's worked into the previous ch3 and the first stitch on the row below. It's simpler than it sounds – here's how:

**Step 1** Insert the hook into the second chain from the hook, work yrh and pull up the loop. You should now have 2 loops on the hook.

**Step 2** Next insert the hook into the top of

the first dc stitch on the row below – this is the stitch at the base of the ch3. Yrh and pull up a loop. You should now have 3 loops on the hook.

**Step 3** That's the tricky bit done, now you just need to finish the stitch in the same way as you would do with a double crochet – work yrh and pull through 2 loops (2 loops remaining on hook). You can see how the stitch you've just made looks like a double

crochet stitch.

**Step 4** Now work yrh and pull through the remaining 2 loops. You've finished the stitch and you should have one loop on the hook ready to work the next stitch. Have a look at the stitch and you'll see how it looks like two double crochet stitches sitting on top of each other, divided by a horizontal strand.

## HOW DO I WORK A STANDARD LINKED DC?

Getting into the rhythm of this technique .



To make the next stitch, we'll work a **standard linked dc**. The stitch is made in the same way as the starting linked dc, but it's worked into the previous linked dc and the stitch on the row below.

**Step 1** Insert the hook under the horizontal strand at the front of the previous linked dc, from top to bottom.

**Step 2** Work yrh and pull up the loop. You should have 2 loops on the hook.

**Step 3** Next insert the hook into the top of the next stitch on the row below (at this point, you can choose to insert the hook under the back or front loop only of the stitch below). Yrh and pull up a loop. You should now have 3 loops on the hook.

**Step 4** Now you just need to finish the stitch in the same way as a double crochet – work yrh and pull through 2 loops (2 loops remaining on hook).

**Step 5** Now work yrh and pull through the remaining 2 loops. You've finished the stitch and you should have one loop on the hook ready to work the next stitch.

**Step 6** To work the next stitch, repeat Steps 1-4. Repeat this across to the end of the row.



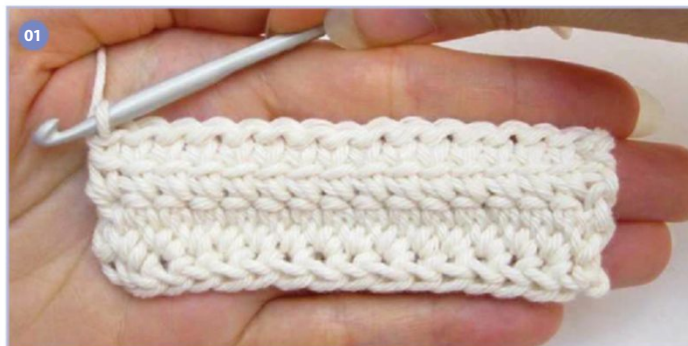
# WHAT COMES NEXT WITH THIS STITCH?

Keep on hooking with the stitch you've learnt.

**Once you've worked one row of linked double crochet, it's easy to work more rows and create a lovely textured fabric.**

**Step 1** To continue the fabric, just turn your work and repeat the previous process: make the ch3 turning chain, work the starting linked dc and then make standard linked dc stitches to the end of the row. Now you've done two rows, you'll notice that the stitches look slightly different on the right side compared to the wrong side – this is perfectly normal and just like how rows of double crochet stitches look slightly different on the front compared to the back.

**Step 2** Just repeat Step 1 to work more rows and you'll end up with a lovely linked dc fabric.



# HOW DO I WORK IN THE ROUND?

Another way to use linked double crochet.



**To work linked double crochet in the round, the process is exactly the same – just remember not to turn your work at the end of each row.**

Instead, at the end of each round, you need to slip stitch to the top of the first linked dc stitch (not the top of the beginning ch-3). The resulting fabric will look slightly more

consistent than flat fabric worked in rows because the front of the stitch is facing throughout.

If you like, you can also vary the look of the fabric when working in the round. You can try working the linked dc stitches into the back loop only of the stitch on the row below. Have a look at one linked dc stitch

and you'll see how the horizontal strand that divides the two 'stitches' makes it look like the top dc is worked into the back loop of the bottom dc. You can echo this look within fabric made in the round by working all your linked dc stitches into just the back loop of the stitch on the row below.

# HOW DO I WORK LINKED DC INTO A CHAIN?

Bypass that dc row and get straight to it.

It's simple to work linked dc stitches into your foundation chain instead of starting with a row of plain double crochet. Just make a chain length, add an extra ch3 for the turning chain, then work the beginning linked dc by pulling up a loop in the 2nd and 4th chain from the hook. Now you can work standard linked dc stitches as before, pulling up a loop in the horizontal strand of the previous linked dc and the next chain.







# Grey matter

Understated cool is the order of the day with this gradient colour tech case by Becky Skuse.





## YOU WILL NEED

- Caron Cakes (80% acrylic, 20% wool, 200g/350m), 1 ball of Cookies & Cream (17001)

- A 5mm (US H/8) hook

- Button 2.5cm (1in) diameter

For yarn stockists contact

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## MEASUREMENTS

Approx 18x24cm (7x9½in)

(should fit most iPad models)

## ABBREVIATIONS

Linked double crochet (ldc)

For a full list, see page 92

Designer Becky Skuse says: "Treat a pal to a simple striped tablet cosy, using speedy linked double crochet. These unusual stitches create a firm, thick fabric that will keep your tablet safe and sound, as well as giving the cosy a lovely texture. We used a self-striping yarn cake to create the chunky stripes, for a simple yet stylish look." Pick the recipient's fave shades and you've got a brilliant handmade gift.

## NOTES

If you're using Caron Cakes, you can start from any colour point you like. For our cosy, we wound up the yarn to the end of the dark grey colour. Then we used this wound ball to hook the cosy, starting from the dark grey end.

## TABLET COSY

Ch30.

**Round 1** Ch3 (this counts as the t-ch and is not treated as a stitch throughout); insert hook in 2nd ch from hook, yrh and pull up a loop, insert hook in 4th ch from hook, yrh and pull up a loop, (yrh and pull through 2 loops) twice; \*insert hook in horizontal



The case fastens with a co-ordinating button and a button loop that's easy to make.

strand of stitch just worked, yrh and pull up a loop, insert hook in next empty ch below, yrh and pull up a loop, (yrh and pull through 2 loops) twice; repeat from \* to last ch. [30 ldc]

Rotate work and repeat from \* working stitches into the other side of each chain until you have 60 ldc. Ss to top of first ldc st to join.

**Round 2** Ch3 (t-ch does not count as stitch); insert hook in 2nd ch from hook, yrh and pull up a loop, insert hook in stitch at base of ch3, yrh and pull up a loop, (yrh and pull through 2 loops) twice; \*insert hook in horizontal strand of stitch just worked, yrh and pull up a loop, insert hook in top of next ldc below, yrh and pull up a loop, (yrh and pull through 2 loops) twice; repeat from \* around, ss to top of first ldc st. [60 ldc]

Repeat Round 2 to desired length (we worked a total of 24 rounds, 8 rounds in each of three shades).

On the final round, add a button loop if desired. Work this final round as follows:

**Round 24** Work as given for Round 2 until you have 46ldc, ch15, ss to stitch at base of ch15, turn and work 25dc into chain loop, ss to stitch at base of ch15, ldc in next st and continue to ldc to end of round, ss to top of first ldc st.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

Sew button in place on front of the cosy. If desired, use a tapestry needle and spare yarn to sew up the gaps along the side of the cosy.



The stripes will vary depending on the kind of gradient yarn cake you choose to use.



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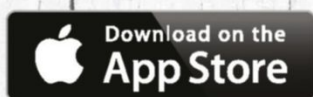
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# Crochet essentials

Over the next few pages, you'll find simple step-by-step guides to many useful stitches and techniques that you'll use every time you pick up a hook.

## HOLDING THE HOOK

Try these methods and see which works best.



### PENCIL METHOD

Hold the hook like a pencil, in your right hand (if you're right-handed), about 3-5cm from the hooked end. If your hook has a flat area, you'll find it comfortable to hold it here.



### KNIFE METHOD

Hold the hook between your thumb and forefinger, about 3-5cm from the hooked end, resting the end of the hook against your palm. This will give you lots of control.

## HOLDING THE YARN

Even tension results in even stitches.



### METHOD ONE

Pass the ball end of the yarn between the little finger and third fingers of your left hand (if you are right-handed), then behind the third and middle fingers, over your index finger.



### METHOD TWO

Loop the ball end of the yarn loosely around the little finger of your left hand, then take it over the third finger, behind the middle finger and over your index finger.

## MAKING A SLIPKNOT The first loop on the hook.



**1** Hold the tail of the ball of yarn in your left hand and drape the yarn clockwise over the top of it to form a circular loop.



**2** Hold the loop between left thumb and forefinger, then insert the crochet hook through the centre of the loop from front to back.



**3** Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook and pull it back through the centre of the loop, taking the yarn through with it.



**4** Pull both ends of the yarn to tighten the knot, then pull just the ball end to tighten the loop so it's close to the hook, but not touching it.

## CHAIN STITCH Use this stitch to make your foundation chain.



**1** Hold the hook in your right hand, and both the yarn end and the working yarn in your left hand. Move the hook under and over the yarn to wrap it around anticlockwise.



**2** Pull the hook towards the slipknot, catching the yarn in the hook, and pulling it through the slipknot loop. This forms your first chain (ch) stitch. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to form a chain length.



**3** This is what your row of chains will look like. Hold the chain with your left hand near the hook, to keep the tension. Keep going until you have the number of chains that's stated in your pattern.

## How to count chains



Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Never count your first slipknot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). So that you can be accurate, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.



## SLIP STITCH (ss)

This stitch has no height – often used to join rounds.



**1** The slip stitch is used to join a length of chain into the round. Insert the hook from front to back into the first chain you worked. Wrap yarn round the hook (yrh) in an anticlockwise direction.



**2** Pull the yarn through the chain stitch (as shown) and then the loop already on the hook to make a slip stitch. You can also work this stitch into each stitch along a row to form a neat edging.

## WORKING IN ROWS

Follow these simple rules to construct crochet fabric.



**1** The first row is made by working across the foundation chain from right to left. At the end of the chain or row, turn the work so that the yarn is behind the hook.



**2** For the next row, first make the turning chain for the stitch you're about to work (see opposite). Now work the next stitch into the top of the stitches on your first row, missing the first stitch.

## DOUBLE CROCHET (dc) US term: single crochet

One of the key stitches in crochet, doubles are simple, compact stitches that form a dense fabric.



**1** To make a double crochet stitch, insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch on the previous row.



**2** Wind the yarn around the hook (yrh).



**3** Pull the yarn through the stitch, giving you two loops on your crochet hook.



**4** Yarn round hook again, then pull the yarn through both loops. There's your double crochet made and you'll have one loop left on the hook, ready to do the next stitch.

## HALF TREBLE CROCHET (htr) US term: half double crochet

A handy stitch that's between double and treble crochet in size, and it looks slightly looser than double crochet.



**1** To make a half treble crochet stitch, work to where you want the htr and then wind the yarn round the hook (yrh).



**2** Insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch in the previous row. Wrap yarn around the hook again (yrh).



**3** Pull the yarn through the stitch only (3 loops on hook).



**4** Yarn round hook again, pull the yarn through all 3 loops. You've made a half treble crochet. Continue working htr into next and following sts to the end of the row.



## TREBLE CROCHET (tr) US term: double crochet

One of the most popular stitches in crochet, this simple stitch is twice as high as a double crochet stitch.



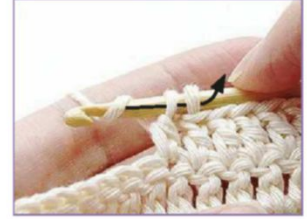
**1** To work a treble crochet, start by winding yrh and then insert the hook under the top two loops of the stitch on the previous row.



**2** Wrap the yarn around the hook (yrh) and pull the yarn through the stitch only.



**3** You will now have 3 loops on the hook. Yrh again, and draw the yarn through just the first 2 loops on the hook.



**4** You will now have 2 loops on the hook. Yrh again and draw the yarn through the remaining loops on the hook. Your treble crochet is complete.

## DOUBLE TREBLE CROCHET (dtr) US term: treble crochet

This is a stitch regularly used as an elongated version of the treble (described above). It's worked in a very similar way to the treble, as follows:

- 1** Make a foundation chain. Skip 4ch, \*yrh twice, and insert the hook under the top loop of the next ch.
- 2** Yrh, pull the yarn through the ch loop only (4 loops on hook).
- 3** Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (3 loops on hook).

Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (2 loops on hook).

- 4** Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops. Repeat from \* to make more dtr sts.

- 5** To make the next row of dtr, turn work and ch4. This turning chain counts as the first dtr in a new row. Skip first st at the base of the t-ch, work 1dtr under the top two loops of the 2nd stitch in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

## TRIPLE TREBLE CROCHET (ttr) US term: double treble crochet

This is one of the longest standard crochet stitches and is mainly used in fancy stitch patterns. It's taller than a double treble crochet stitch (described left) and is worked in a very similar way, as follows:

- 1** Make a foundation ch. Skip 5 ch, \*yrh 3 times, insert hook under top loop of next ch.
- 2** Yrh, pull yarn through ch loop only (5 loops on hook).
- 3** † Yrh, draw loop through 2

loops only. Repeat from † 3 times more and your triple treble will be finished. Repeat from \* to make more ttr sts.

- 4** To make the next row, turn work and ch5. This turning chain counts as the first triple treble in a new row. Skip first st at base of the t-ch. Work 1 triple treble, inserting hook under the top 2 loops of the 2nd st in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

## TURNING CHAIN (t-ch)

For an even finish, start each row with a turning chain.

In crochet, you need to add turning chains (t-chs) to the beginning of rows. The reason for this is to bring the hook up to the height of the stitches you're crocheting. Each basic stitch has its own number of chains. The

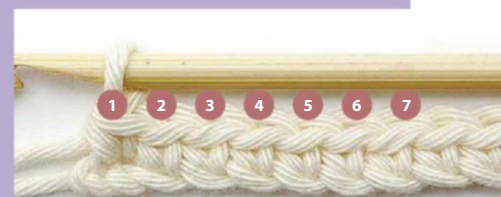
table below tells you how many t-ch sts form the first stitch. \*For dc, usually the turning chain does not count as a stitch, and the first stitch of the row is worked into the stitch at the base of the turning chain.

STITCH	Add to foundation chain before starting row	Skip at start of foundation row (counts as first st)	For turning chain (counts as first st)
Double crochet	1 ch	1 ch*	1 ch*
Half treble	1 ch	2 ch	2 ch
Treble	2 ch	3 ch	3 ch
Double treble	3 ch	4 ch	4 ch
Triple treble	4 ch	5 ch	5 ch

## How to count stitches

Check your work is correct.

Being able to count your stitches is very important and helps you to ensure that you're following a pattern correctly. It's a good idea to count your stitches at the end of every row. To count short stitches such as double crochet, look at the plaited tops (see above right). For taller stitches, count the upright 'stems' – each 'stem' is counted as a stitch (see right).





## HOW TO CHANGE COLOUR

Create stripes and other colour effects.



**1** Before you work the final yrh (yarn round hook) on the last stitch of a row in the old colour, drop the old yarn and then pick up the new one with your hook.



**2** Pull through a loop of the new yarn to finish the old stitch. The working loop will be in the new colour. Continue, keeping the old yarn at the wrong side.

## INCREASING AND DECREASING

Shaping stitches are vital for making garments.



**INCREASE** To increase one stitch is very simple – work one stitch into the next stitch on the row below. When you've finished, work another stitch into the same stitch.



**DECREASE** For a quick decrease, just skip one stitch. For a neater look, work the first part of one stitch and then begin the next stitch. Finish both together.

## SEWING SEAMS

You can join crochet seams by using a tapestry needle or a crochet hook, using one of these four methods.



**1** Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet right sides together and oversew them as shown above, using a tapestry or yarn needle.



**2** To slip stitch a seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together. \*Insert hook into both edge stitches, yrh and pull through to complete 1 slip stitch; rep from \* working into the next edge stitches, keeping work fairly loose.



**3** For a dc seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together, or wrong sides together for a visible seam. Work as for slip stitch seam, using double crochet instead of slip stitch.

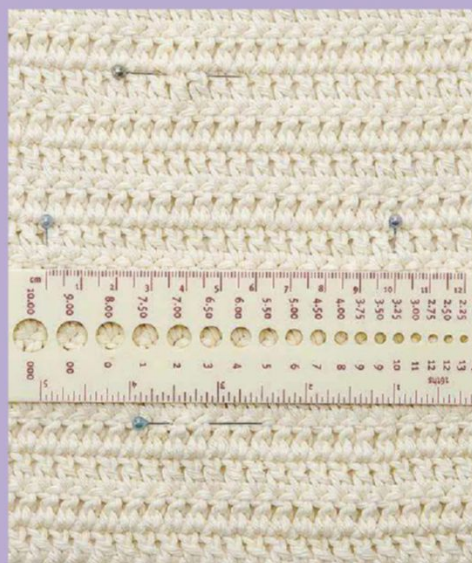
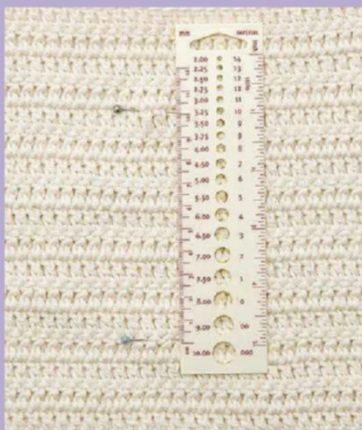


**4** A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

## How to check your tension

Make and measure a swatch to check your tension.

Most crochet patterns state the tension required, in rows and stitches of a specific type. Make a swatch at least 15cm square and check that your tension matches. Place a ruler across the swatch and insert two pins, 10cm apart. Then place the ruler along a column of stitches and insert two pins 10cm apart. Count the stitches and rows between the pins – if you have less than the pattern, your tension is too loose so you need to use a smaller hook, but if you have too many, use a larger hook. It's usually better to match the stitches than rows, because you can always work more or fewer rows.





## FOUNDATION RING

Create a foundation ring for working in the round.



**1** Make a chain the length stated in the pattern instructions. Next, insert the crochet hook into the first chain. Close the ring with a slip stitch, working yrh...



**2** ...and pull yarn through 2 loops on hook. Now you're ready to start crocheting in the round, following the instructions given right.

## WORKING STITCHES INTO A RING

To make circles, tubes and other shapes.



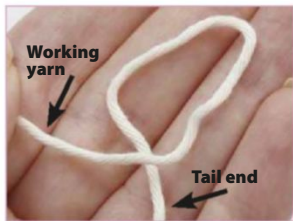
**1** Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



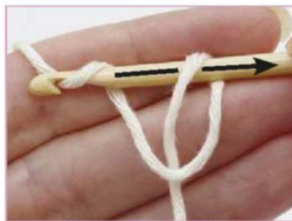
**2** Finish the treble as usual (yrh, pull yarn through ring, yrh, pull yarn through first 2 loops, yrh, pull yarn through 2 loops). Work more sts into the ring as needed.

## MAGIC LOOP

An alternative foundation ring for working in the round.



**1** To start a Magic Loop, don't make a slipknot. Instead, make a loop with the yarn, leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is under the working yarn.



**2** Now insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn around the hook and pull the yarn through the loop.



**3** Make a t-ch for the sts you want to work (above, we made 1 t-ch for dc). Work your sts into the Magic Loop, over both the loop and the tail end (so two yarn strands).



**4** Once you've worked the first round of stitches, simply pull the tail end of yarn to draw up the ring. Work a slip stitch to join the last and first sts to finish the first round (as instructed in the guide below).

## JOINING ROUNDS

Finish off each round of crochet stitches nice and neatly by using a slip stitch.



**1** To close a round of stitches, work a slip stitch into the top of the turning chain. To do this, insert the hook into the top stitch of the turning chain.



**2** Then place the yarn round the hook. Pull the yarn through the turning chain stitch and through the original stitch on your hook.



**3** You've slip stitched the round together! Before working another round, be sure to make the required turning chain. Always work rounds on the right side, unless you pattern instructs you otherwise.

## Rounds or spirals



Check which technique you need to use.

Some patterns are worked in rounds that are joined together at the end of each round (see left). Other patterns are worked in a spiral so you don't need to join the rounds at the end, just keep going, working into the next stitch on the previous row. Amigurumi toys are often worked in a spiral like this.



## Abbreviations

across	to end of the row	htr	half treble
approx	approximate(ly)	htr2tog	work 2htr together
beg	beginning	in next	sts to be worked into the same stitch
bl	insert hook under back loop only	inc	increase
BPtr	Back Post treble: yrh, starting from the back, insert hook from back to front to back around post of st in row below, complete as treble st	LH	left hand
ch(s)	chain/chain stitch(es)	lp(s)	loop(s)
ch-sp(s)	chain space(s)	meas	measures
ch-	refers to ch made previously, eg. ch-3	patt(s)	pattern(s)
cl(s)	clusters	pm	place marker
2-tr cl	(yrh, insert hook in sp/st, yrh & pull up loop, yrh & draw through 2 loops) twice, inserting hook in same sp/st, yrh & draw through all loops on hook	prev	previous
cont	continue	qtr	quadruple treble
dc	double crochet	rem	remain(s)/remaining
dc2tog	(insert hook in next st, yrh and draw a loop through) twice, yrh and draw through all 3 loops on hook	rep	repeat
dec	decrease	RH	right hand
dtr	double treble crochet	rnd(s)	round(s)
dtr2tog	work 2dtr together	RS	right side
fdc	foundation dc	sk	skip
ftr	foundation tr	sp(s)	space(s)
fl	insert hook under front loop only	ss	slip stitch
folll/folls	following/follows	st(s)	stitch(es)
FPtr	Front Post treble: work in opposite way to BPtr	tbl	through back loop
		t-ch(s)	turning chain(s)
		tog	together
		tr	treble crochet
		tr2tog	(yrh, insert hook in next st, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice, yrh and draw through all loops on hook
		ttr	triple treble crochet
		WS	wrong side
		yrh	yarn round hook
		*	work instructions immediately foll *, then rep as many more times as directed
		()	work all instructions in the brackets as many times as directed

## Crochet hook conversions

UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	–
13	2.25mm	B/1
12	2.5mm	–
–	2.75mm	C/2
11	3mm	–
10	3.25mm	D/3
9	3.5mm	E/4
–	3.75mm	F/5
8	4mm	G/6
7	4.5mm	7
6	5mm	H/8
5	5.5mm	I/9
4	6mm	J/10
3	6.5mm	K/10½
2	7mm	–
0	8mm	L/11
00	9mm	M/13
000	10mm	N/15

## Which hook do I use?

Hook size	UK yarn weight
2.5-3.5mm hook	4ply yarn
3.5-4.5mm hook	double knitting yarn
5-6mm hook	aran yarn
7mm and bigger	chunky yarn

## UK/US conversions

UK		US	
chain	ch	chain	ch
slip stitch	ss	slip stitch	ss
double crochet	dc	single crochet	sc
half treble	htr	half double	hdc
treble	tr	double	dc
double treble	dtr	treble	tr
triple treble	ttr	double treble	dtr

## HOW TO GET A PERFECT FINISH

To prevent your hard work unravelling once you've finished crocheting, fasten the end off carefully.



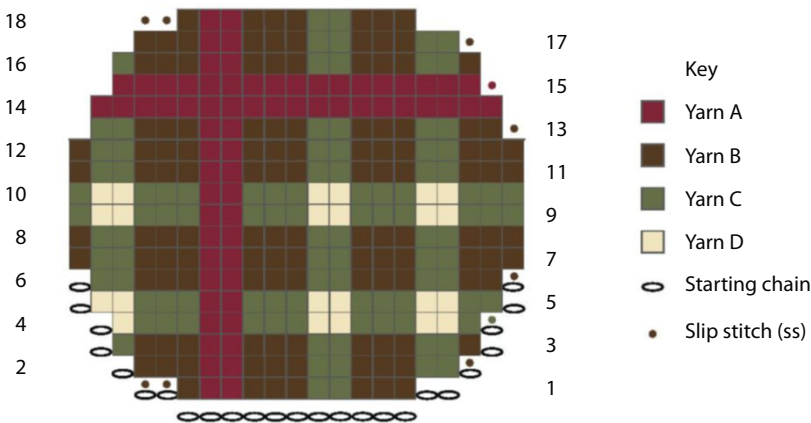
Complete the final stitch, then cut the yarn about 15cm from the work. Pull it through the last loop on the hook and pull to close the loop. Thread the yarn tail onto a tapestry needle and weave into the back of the work. Most crochet items don't need a lot of blocking, but cotton lace work usually does. To do this, carefully pin out the item with rust-proof pins, mist with a water spray and leave to dry naturally.



# CHARTS & DIAGRAMS

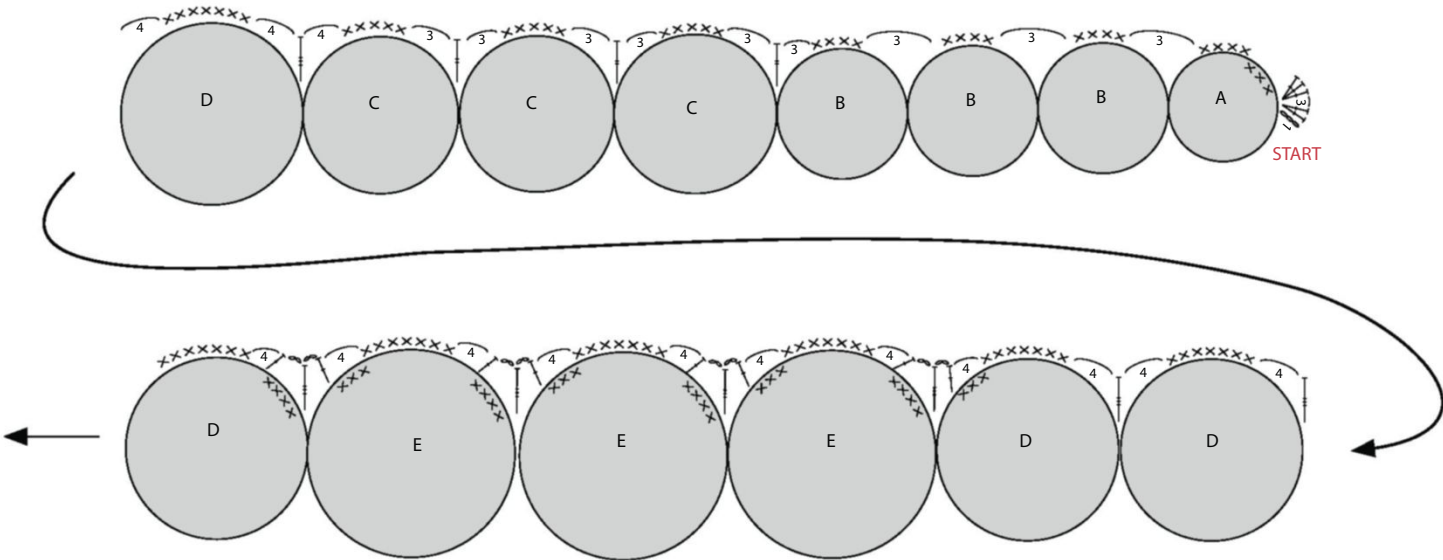
Here are the extra bits and pieces you'll need to make the tartan elbow patches and boho wrap this issue.

## Elbow patches, page 21

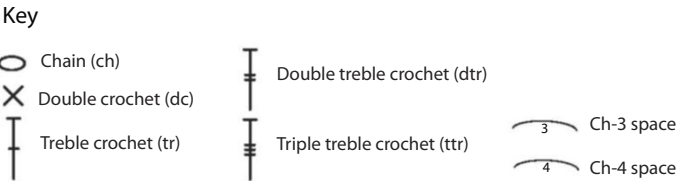


## Boho wrap, page 50

### First part of Round 1 of Banding



Continue mirroring the pattern to the other end of the wrap, and on the opposite side of the circles back to the start of Round 1





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## ISSUE 56 APRIL

Catwalk-inspired accessories, granny cardi, Tunisian crochet and a cute kangaroo.



## ISSUE 57 MAY

Bobble stitch makes, pineapple lace top, vintage jumper and amigurumi pups.



## ISSUE 58 JUNE

Festival makes, gradient yarns, summer amigurumi and filet crochet.



## ISSUE 59 JULY

Beach ideas, cute amigurumi, vintage dungarees and a filet crochet jumper.



## ISSUE 60 AUGUST

Garden makes, easy jumper, summer tops and sugar mice. Plus, an Attic24 mandala.



## ISSUE 61 SEPTEMBER

Pop art ideas, easy blankets, playful ponchos and a cosy British wool cardi.

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MANDALA

# On the web

Spot turning leaves and a spider web in Lucy Croft's autumn make.



PSST  
Win the yarn  
to make this!





## YOU WILL NEED

■ King Cole Giza Cotton 4ply (100% cotton, 50g/158m), 1 ball of each: Brown (2205), Yellow (2206), Grey (2207), Silver (2193), Green (2203), Argent (2249)

■ A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook

For yarn stockists, contact  
King Cole 01756 703670  
[www.kingcole.com](http://www.kingcole.com)

## MEASUREMENTS

17cm (6¾in) diameter

## ABBREVIATIONS

**2-tr cluster** (yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice, inserting the hook in the same st each time, yrh and draw through all 3 loops on hook

**3-tr cluster** (yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 3 times, inserting the hook in the same st each time, yrh and draw through all 4 loops on hook

For a full list, see page 92



Missed our 2017 colour-in mandala calendar with issue 51? See page 94 for back issues.

This design is number 10 in our series of mandalas for 2017, hooked with King Cole's Giza Cotton 4ply yarn. The pattern matches the September illustration in your *Simply Crochet* calendar – now you can make the real deal. Share your creation on social media using the hashtag #SCmandalas – we absolutely love to see your colourful makes.

## MANDALA

Using Silver, ch1.

**Round 1** Ch4 (counts as htr, ch2), (htr into first ch-1, ch2) 7 times, ss to 2nd ch of beg ch-4 to join. [8 htr, 8 ch-2 sps]

**Round 2** Ch5 (counts as htr, ch3), (htr in next htr, ch3) 7 times, ss to 2nd ch of beg ch-5 to join. [8 htr, 8 ch-3 sps]

**Round 3** Ch6 (counts as htr, ch4), (htr in next htr, ch4) 7 times, ss to 2nd ch of beg ch-6 to join. [8 tr, 8 ch-4 sps]

**Round 4** Ss to first ch of ch-4 sp, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in same ch, \*dc in each of next 3 ch, ch2, skip htr, dc in first ch of next ch-4 sp; repeat from \* 7 more times, omitting last dc, ss to first dc to join.

**Fasten off.** [32 dc, 8 ch-2 sps]

**Round 5** Join Grey in first dc, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in same st, tr in each of next 2 dc, 2tr in next dc, ch1, skip ch-2 sp, 2tr in next dc; repeat from \* 7 more times omitting last 2 tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

**Fasten off.** [48 tr, 6 ch-1 sps]

**Round 6** Working in front of Round 5, join Green in first skipped ch-2 sp of Round 4, ch2, 2-tr cluster in same ch-2 sp, ch7, \*skip next 6 tr of Round 5, working in front of ch-1 sp of Round 5, 3-tr cluster in next skipped ch-2 sp of Round 4, ch7; repeat from \* 6 more times, ss to top of first cluster to join. **Fasten off.**

[8 clusters, 8 ch-7 sps]

**Round 7** Working in front of ch-7 sp of Round 6, join Grey in first skipped tr of Round 5, ch3 (counts as tr), \*tr in each of next 5 tr of Round 5, ch3, skip cluster in Round 6, working in front of next ch-7 sp

of Round 6, tr in next tr of Round 5; repeat from \* 7 more times omitting last tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [48 tr, 8 ch-3 sps]

**Round 8** Ch4 (counts as dtr), \*dtr in next tr, tr in each of next 2 tr, dtr in each of next 2 tr, ch2, (dtr, tr, dtr) in 2nd ch of next ch-3 sp, ch2, dtr in next tr; repeat from \* 7 more times omitting last dtr, ss to top of beg ch-4 to join. **Fasten off.** [72 sts, 16 ch-2 sps]

**Round 9** Join Yellow in first tr, ch3 (counts as htr, ch1), htr in same st, htr in next tr, 2tr in first skipped cluster of Round 6, ch4, \*2tr in next skipped cluster of Round 6, identify the next (dtr, tr, dtr) group of the previous round and work htr in dtr, (htr, ch1, htr) in tr, \*\*htr in dtr, 2tr in same cluster from Round 6 as the one just worked, ch4; repeat from \* 7 more times ending final repeat at \*\*, ss to second ch of beg ch-3. **Fasten off.**

**Round 10** Skip (htr, ch-1), join Brown in back loop only of next htr, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in back loop only of same st, \*htr in back loop only of next st, tr in back loop only of each of next 2 tr, working in front of ch-4 sp; skip next dtr of Round 8, dtr in next dtr of Round 8, dtr in each of next 2 tr of Round 8, dtr in next dtr of Round 8, skip next dtr of Round 8, tr in back loop only of each of next 2 tr in Round 9, htr bl in next htr, dc bl in next htr, ch1, skip ch-1 sp, dc bl in next htr; repeat from \* 7 more times, omitting last dc, ss to top of first dc to join.

**Round 11** Ch1 (does not count as st), working in back loops only, dc in same st, htr in next st, tr in each of next 2 sts, dtr in each of next 4 sts, tr in each of next 2 sts, htr in next st, dc in next st, ch1, skip ch-1 sp, dc in next st; repeat from \* 7 more times, omitting last dc, ss to top of first dc to join. **Fasten off.** [96 sts, 8 ch-1 sps]

**Round 12** Join Green in first dc, \*ch2, tr in each of next 2 sts, htr in next st, tr in next st, 2tr in next st, ch2, 2tr in next st, tr in next st, htr in next st, tr in each of next 2 sts, ch2, ss in next st, ch1, skip ch-1 sp, ss in next st; repeat from \* 7 more times.

**Fasten off.**

**Round 13** Join Argent in first htr, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in same st, \*ch3, skip next tr, dc in next tr, ch4, skip (tr, ch2, tr), dc in next tr, ch3, skip next tr, dc in next htr, ch1, working in front of Rounds 11 and 12; (2tr, ch2, tr, ch4, tr, ch2, 2tr) in next ch-1 sp of Round 10, ch1, dc in next htr of Round 12; repeat from \* 7 more times, omitting last dc. **Fasten off.**



## IT'S THE YEAR OF THE GIZA MANDALA

All 12 mandalas in our 2017 calendar series are hooked in Giza, King Cole's 100% cotton 4ply. The mercerised Egyptian cotton is fine, has a brilliant sheen and a luxurious feel. The cotton is grown in its namesake city, Giza. The purity of the soil there results in fantastic clarity and depth in each of the 20 colourways. For the chance to win six balls of Giza yarn to hook this design, head to [www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/win-king-cole-giza-yarn](http://www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/win-king-cole-giza-yarn)







# NEXT ISSUE

COSY BLANKETS

LACY MAKES  
FOR CHRISTMAS

CUTE TUTU

FESTIVE  
AMIGURUMI

LACY SHAWL

AND MORE...



*Sparkly  
Pony McTate  
jumper!*

ON SALE THURS 12 OCT







# Add a little spice

Top blogger and designer Kirsten Ballering shares a fabulous diamond blanket that she hooked on holiday in Spain.

Right now, my Spicy Diamond blanket is my favourite crochet make. There are a lot of happy memories attached to this blanket. It's also special as it is out of my normal palette. Usually I gravitate towards projects with lots of colour. For this one I chose a more muted palette – way out of my comfort zone but I'm so happy with it!

I made this blanket on holiday in Spain. The first 'real' holiday I took with my then-boyfriend, now husband. We just got in the car and drove all the way down to Spain with me crocheting the motifs. I was working on joining this blanket on the beach there. It was hot and I was just buried in heaps of blanket, joining. People must have thought I was crazy! Little did they know it was a linen blend so I was pretty comfortable.

The yarn is Scheepjes Linen Soft. It had the perfect shade of mustard yellow to match my idea. Yellow is hard to get right, so I built the other colours around it. And it has a nice texture – a bit coarse at first, but it softens over time and drapes beautifully. Almost rustic!

I chose the colours based on a picture of baskets full of spices in Mumbai. Think earthy, rich tones. The yellow was a perfect fit for mustard seeds. The red resembled hot peppers. Pistachio green, well that one

speaks for itself. I limited myself to a small number of colours. That's so much harder to get right!

On holiday I had plenty of time, so the joining was finished by the time we arrived home. But I started making motifs long before that. It's a fair sized blanket, 1.20 by 1.80m, so it took me two or three months.

The stitches are trebles and half trebles. What makes this blanket different is the lace motif in the centre of each diamond. The joining enhances the airy feel but trust me, it's warm enough in the winter too!

I've seen gorgeous Spicy Diamonds made by crafters, some with the original palette, others incorporated more colours. People tell me it's a nice project to take with you, as it's made of motifs. It's easier to carry just a few balls at a time!

I have a box of heirloom crochet pieces made by my great-grandma. She was the creative one in the family, always thrifty. I never got to see her crochet as she passed away while I was young, but I'm sure that's where my interest in crafts originated. I've overloaded my family with handmade items, so I'll keep this one to myself. That's allowed every once in a while, right?

Find Kirsten's blanket pattern on her blog at [www.haakmaarraak.nl/spicy-diamond-blanket](http://www.haakmaarraak.nl/spicy-diamond-blanket)



# HAND-CRAFTED

*by Gudrun*

## SWEDISH DESIGN WITH A GREEN SOUL

A pattern mix of simple stripes, big roses and Portuguese tilework is this autumn's inspiration. All in nature's own materials. For women of all shapes and ages, all around the world. This has been my vision since 1976.

Autumn greetings, Gudrun

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# MISSED AN ISSUE?

## ISSUE SIXTY-ONE

Be your own crochet superhero and hook something astounding. You could challenge yourself to pop art colourwork, waffle stitch or your first garment, or use your powers for good and stitch an amigurumi sloth or cosy blanket for someone special. Wonder Woman who?

SEE OUR BACK  
ISSUE PROJECTS IN  
DETAIL ON RAVELRY  
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## ISSUE SIXTY

Yarnbombing makes, easy-peasy jumper, pretty summer tops, amigurumi ladybird and a crochet teepee.



## ISSUE FIFTY-NINE

Beach ideas, cute amigurumi donkey, vintage dungaree shorts and a filet crochet skull jumper.



## ISSUE FIFTY-EIGHT

Festival makes, a doughnut dress for kids, gradient yarn, summer amigurumi and filet crochet.



## ISSUE FIFTY-SEVEN

Bobble stitch makes, pineapple lace top, vintage jumper, rainbows and Tunisian crochet.



## ISSUE FIFTY-SIX

Catwalk-inspired accessories, granny square cardigan, Tunisian crochet and a cute kangaroo toy.



## ISSUE FIFTY-FIVE

Easter amigurumi, colourwork, retro tunic top, tribal home makes and planned colour pooling.



## ISSUE FIFTY-FOUR

Dreamy pastel projects, amigurumi unicorn, rainbow blanket and a granny stripe cardigan.



## ISSUE FIFTY-THREE

Mohair accessories, cosy blankets, a new designer challenge and the first in our mandala series.



## ISSUE FIFTY-TWO

Granny treble ideas, an amigurumi alpaca, sparkly crochet and a scarf for him. Plus, try Bavarian crochet.



## ISSUE FIFTY-ONE

Hook stocking fillers by top designers, amazing Rudolph wall art, filet crochet and an ombre shawl.



## ISSUE FIFTY

Christmas makes, corner-to-corner blanket, ripple coat and amigurumi reindeer to hook.



## ISSUE FORTY-NINE

Crocodile stitch, neon colourwork, Tunisian crochet jacket and four cute amigurumi toys to crochet.



## ISSUE FORTY-EIGHT

Try crochet cables, cosy rainbow pet accessories, our cute amigurumi fox and a stripy baby jumper.





# Simply Crochet edits

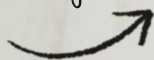
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techniques  
to try!



TAPESTRY  
CROCHET



POPCORN  
DIAMONDS



MONOCHROME DOTS



# Back to it

Brush up on your tapestry crochet with a cool cat backpack by Mariana Guerra.



PSST

100% cotton  
gives a crisp,  
clean finish





## YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Creative Cotton Aran (100% cotton, 50g/85m), 6 balls of **Yarn A** Black (90) 3 balls of **Yarn B** White (80) 1 ball of **Yarn C** Light Pistachio (44)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Stitch markers
- 1 bag handle

**For yarn stockists contact**  
**Deramores 0845 519 4573**  
**www.deramores.com**

## MEASUREMENTS

Approx 31x37cm (12¼x14½in)  
 excluding handle

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet*



Deramores are offering *Simply Crochet* readers 10% off Rico yarn from [www.deramores.com](http://www.deramores.com) using the code: SCRICO.

Offer valid from 14 September to 11 October 2017.

**Monochrome kitties with glowing green eyes?**  
 Oh yeah. Get in on the rucksack trend by hooking this beauty. The striking pattern and shape is a nod to woven Colombian Mochila bags and is achieved with tapestry crochet.

## NOTE

From Round 2, work in the round without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it helpful to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work.

## BASE

With Yarn A, ch21.

**Round 1 (RS)** Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to last ch, 3dc in last ch, turn to work in opposite side of foundation ch, dc in each st of foundation ch to last ch, 2dc in last ch, ss into each of next 2 dc to make the second of these dc the new start of the round, ch1 and work the first st of the next round in the same st as the last ss. [42 sts]

**Round 2** \*Dc in next 18 dc, 2dc in each of next 3 dc; repeat from \*. [48 sts]

**Round 3** \*Dc in next 18 dc, 2dc in each of next 6 dc; repeat from \*. [60 sts]

**Round 4** \*Dc in next 18 dc, (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times; repeat from \*. [72 sts]

**Round 5** Dc in each st around.

**Round 6** \*Dc in next 18 dc, (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times; repeat from \*. [84 sts]

**Round 7** Dc in each st around.

**Round 8** \*Dc in next 18 dc, (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times; repeat from \*. [96 sts]

**Round 9** Dc in each st around.

**Round 10** \*Dc in next 18 dc, (4dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times; repeat from \*. [108 sts]

**Round 11** Dc in each st around.

**Round 12** \*Dc in next 18 dc, (5dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times; repeat from \*. [120 sts]

**Round 13** Dc in each st around.

**Round 14** \*Dc in next 18 dc, (6dc, 2dc in next st)



# GEOMETRIC BAGS

6 times; repeat from \*. [132 sts]

**Round 15** Dc in each st around, do not fasten off.

## BAG SIDES

**Round 1** With Yarn A, dc in back loop of each st around.

**Round 2** Dc in each st around, do not fasten off Yarn A.

**Rounds 3-4** With Yarn B, dc in each st around, do not fasten off Yarn B.

**Rounds 5-6** With Yarn A, dc in each st around, do not fasten off.

**Round 7** With Yarn B, dc in each st around, do not fasten off.

## PLACE CHART

On the Chart on p5, each square represents 1dc stitch. Read every row from right to left, and repeat the 12 stitches of the Chart 11 times in each round. When you change colours, pick up the new colour in the last yrh of the previous st, and work over the strands of yarn you are not using to enclose them within the stitches. Do not fasten off Yarns A and B, but carry them up the work as you use them. Join in Yarn C for the round with the eyes and fasten off again when that round is complete.

**Fasten off.**

**Rounds 8-18** Dc in each st around, following the Chart for the colour changes and repeating the Chart a total of 11 times in each round.

**Rounds 19-26** Working in dc as before, work 1 round in Yarn B, 2 rounds in Yarn A, 2 rounds in Yarn B, 2 rounds in Yarn A, 1 round in Yarn B. Repeat Rounds 8-26 once more. Repeat Rounds 8-22 once more.

**Next round** (drawstring holes) With Yarn B, dc in next 7 dc, ch2, skip 2 dc, \*dc in next 15 dc, ch2, skip 2 dc\*\*, dc in next 14 dc, ch2, skip 2 dc; rep from \* 3 more times ending last repeat at \*\*, dc in each st to end.



Drawstring holes are worked in one of the final rounds of the Bag Sides to allow for fastening.

**Next round** With Yarn A, dc in each st and ch around.

**Next round** With Yarn A, dc in each st around. **Fasten off.**

## FLAP (MAKE 2)

With Yarn A, ch11.

**Row 1** Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to last ch, 3dc in last ch, rotate to work in the opposite side of the foundation ch, dc in each st to end, turn. [21 sts]

**Row 2** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 9dc, placing marker in the last of these sts, 2dc in each of next 3 dc, dc in next st, placing a marker in this st, dc in each st to end, turn. [24 sts]

In the following rows, ch1, dc in each st up to and including first marked st, moving marker up, then follow the instructions given in each row below for the stitches between the markers, dc in the second marked st, moving marker up and







# Rough diamonds

Play with shape and texture to create  
this tote by Eleonora Tully.







## YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Creative Cotton Aran (100% cotton, 50g/85m), 3 balls of **Yarn A** Light Pistachio (44) 2 balls of **Yarn B** Black (90) and 1 ball of **Yarn C** White (80)
  - A 4mm (US G/6) hook
  - Bag handles
  - Black fabric for lining, approx 35x75cm (14x30in) (optional – see notes)
- For yarn stockists contact  
**Deramores 0845 519 4573**  
[www.deramores.com](http://www.deramores.com)

## TENSION

A single diamond motif measures 13cm (5in) across at widest point and 21cm (8¼in) in height using a 4mm hook

## MEASUREMENTS

28x32cm (11x12½in) excluding handles

## ABBREVIATIONS

**Popcorn St** 5tr in the next st, drop the loop from the hook, insert hook in first tr of 5-tr group, pick up dropped loop and pull through the first tr

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet*

### Key

— — — Leave these edges open for top opening

● Attach handles

Match letters to join edges for seaming: A to A, B to B etc.

If you're looking for a rhythmic project, this popcorn diamond pattern in a striking green and black combo will hit all the right notes.

## NOTE

The bag is made up of 10 diamonds in total (6 textured diamonds in Light Pistachio and 4 plain diamonds in Black). They are joined at the end using White. Lining is optional.

## TEXTURED DIAMOND IN YARN A (MAKE 6)

**Row 1 (RS)** Using Yarn A, ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in 3rd ch from hook, turn. [3 sts]

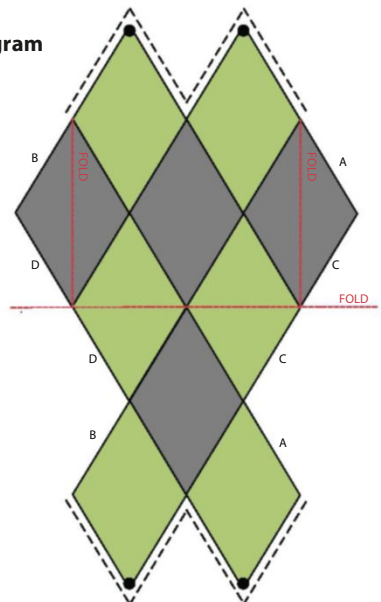
**Row 2** Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next st, 2tr in last st, turn. [5 sts]

**Row 3** Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next st, Popcorn st in next st, tr in next st, 2tr in last st, turn. [7 sts]

**Row 4** Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in each st across to last st, 2tr in last st, turn. [9 sts]

**Row 5** Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next st,

Diagram





Popcorn st in next st, tr in next 3 sts, Popcorn st in next st, tr in next st, 2tr in last st, turn. [11 sts]

**Row 6** Repeat Row 4. [13 sts]

**Row 7** Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next st, Popcorn st in next st, tr in next 3 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 3 sts, Popcorn st in next st, tr in next st, 2tr in last st, turn. [15 sts]

**Row 8** Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next 5 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in ch-sp, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 5 sts, 2tr in final st, turn. [17 sts]

**Row 9** Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next st, Popcorn st in next st, tr in next 3 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in ch-sp, tr in next st, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 3 sts, Popcorn st in next st, tr in next st, 2tr in last st, turn. [19 sts]

**Row 10** Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next 5 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in ch-sp, tr in next 3 sts, tr in ch-sp, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 5 sts, 2tr in last st, turn. [21 sts]

**Row 11** Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next st, Popcorn st in next st, tr in next 3 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in ch-sp, tr in next 5 sts, tr in ch-sp, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 3 sts, Popcorn st in next st, tr in next st, 2tr in final st, turn. [23 sts]

**Row 12** Ch2 (does not count as st), tr in next 6 sts, tr in ch-sp, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 5 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in ch-sp, tr in next 5 sts, tr2tog, turn. [21 sts]

**Row 13** Ch2 (does not count as st), tr in next 3 sts, Popcorn st in next st, tr in next 2 sts, tr in ch-sp, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 3 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in ch-sp and next 2 sts, Popcorn st in next st, tr in next 2 sts, tr2tog, turn. [19 sts]

**Row 14** Ch2 (does not count as st), tr in next 6 sts, tr in ch-sp, ch1, skip next st, tr in next st, ch1, skip next st, tr in ch-sp and next 5 sts, tr2tog, turn. [17 sts]

**Row 15** Ch2 (does not count as st), tr in next 3 sts, Popcorn st in next st, tr in next 2 sts, tr in ch-sp, ch1, skip next st, tr in ch-sp and next 2 sts, Popcorn st in next st, tr in next 2 sts, tr2tog, turn. [15 sts]

**Row 16** Ch2 (does not count as st), tr in next st

and each st across to last 2 sts, tr2tog, turn. [13 sts]

**Row 17** Ch2 (does not count as st), (tr in next 3 sts, Popcorn st in next st) twice, tr in next 2 sts, tr2tog, turn. [11 sts]

**Row 18** Repeat Row 16. [9 sts]

**Row 19** Ch2 (does not count as st), tr in next 3 sts, Popcorn st in next st, tr in next 2 sts, tr2tog, turn. [7 sts]

**Row 20** Repeat Row 16. [5 sts]

**Row 21** Ch2 (does not count as st), tr in next 2 sts, tr2tog, turn. [3 sts]

**Row 22** Ch2 (does not count as st), tr2tog over next 2 sts. **Fasten off** and weave in all ends.

## PLAIN DIAMOND IN YARN B (MAKE 4)

**Row 1 (RS)** Using Yarn B, ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in 3rd ch from hook, turn. [3 sts]

**Row 2** Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next st, 2tr in last st, turn. [5 sts]

**Row 3** Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in each st across to last st, 2tr in last st, turn. [7 sts]

**Rows 4-11** Repeat Row 3. [23 sts]

**Row 12** Ch2 (does not count as st), tr in each st across to last 2 sts, tr2tog, turn. [21 sts]

**Rows 13-20** Repeat Row 12. [5 sts]

**Row 21** Ch2 (does not count as st), tr in next 2 sts, tr2tog, turn. [3 sts]

**Row 22** Ch2 (does not count as st), tr2tog over next 2 sts. **Fasten off** and weave in all ends.

## TO MAKE UP

Lay out diamonds as shown on p7, ensuring they are all RS up. Using Yarn C, seam tog diamonds by holding 2 motifs WS tog working (dc, ch1) in each row end through both layers, adding an extra ch at each point on sides of diamonds and working an extra (dc, ch1) in each point at ends of diamond. Fold bag in half lengthways and join rem seams. Cont to work in same style around outer edges of diamonds which are not to be seamed. Insert lining if desired and attach handle to inner corners of top diamonds.



PSST

Our charts will  
help you tackle  
tapestry crochet



## On the dot

A bold colourwork handbag that's no wallflower.  
Designed by Becky Aldridge.



# GEOMETRIC BAGS



## YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Creative Cotton Aran (100% cotton, 50g/85m),  
2 balls of each: **Yarn A** White (80)  
**Yarn B** Black (90)  
1 ball of **Yarn C** Light Pistachio (44)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- 2 bag handles

For yarn stockists contact

Deramores 0845 519 4573

[www.deramores.com](http://www.deramores.com)

## MEASUREMENTS

27x21cm (10½x8¼in) excluding handles

Panel before seaming measures 40x40.5cm  
(15¾x16in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet*

Add some serious chic to your wardrobe with this striking black and white accessory with contrasting trim. The circle design looks really impressive but is easy to achieve with some clever colour changes and simple stitches.

## NOTE

The Bag is made as one flat panel, and then folded and seamed to make the Bag.

## BAG

With Yarn A, ch67.

**Row 1 (RS)** Tr in fourth ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [65 sts]

**Row 2** Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in each st to end, turn.

## PLACE CHART

On the Chart on p11, each rectangle represents 1 tr stitch. Follow the Chart for the colour changes between Yarns A and B. Read RS rows from right to left, and WS rows from left to right. When you change colours, pick up the new colour in the last yrh of the previous st, and work over the strands of yarn you are not using to enclose them within the stitches.

**Rows 3-36** Work as Row 2, following the colour



A final double crochet row of neon green on the upper edge of the bag adds a bright accent.



With some careful folding and seaming (see diagram on p12), a flat rectangle becomes a bag.



changes on the Chart.

**Rows 37-38** Repeat Row 2 with Yarn A only.

**Fasten off.**

## TO MAKE UP

Fold along the centre at the line marked Fold 1 on Diagram 1.

With Yarn A, seam the two short edges together. Now fold along Fold Line 2 on both sides, so that the side seam is inside the bag, and a pleat is formed of the fabric. See also Diagram 2 for the top opening of the bag,

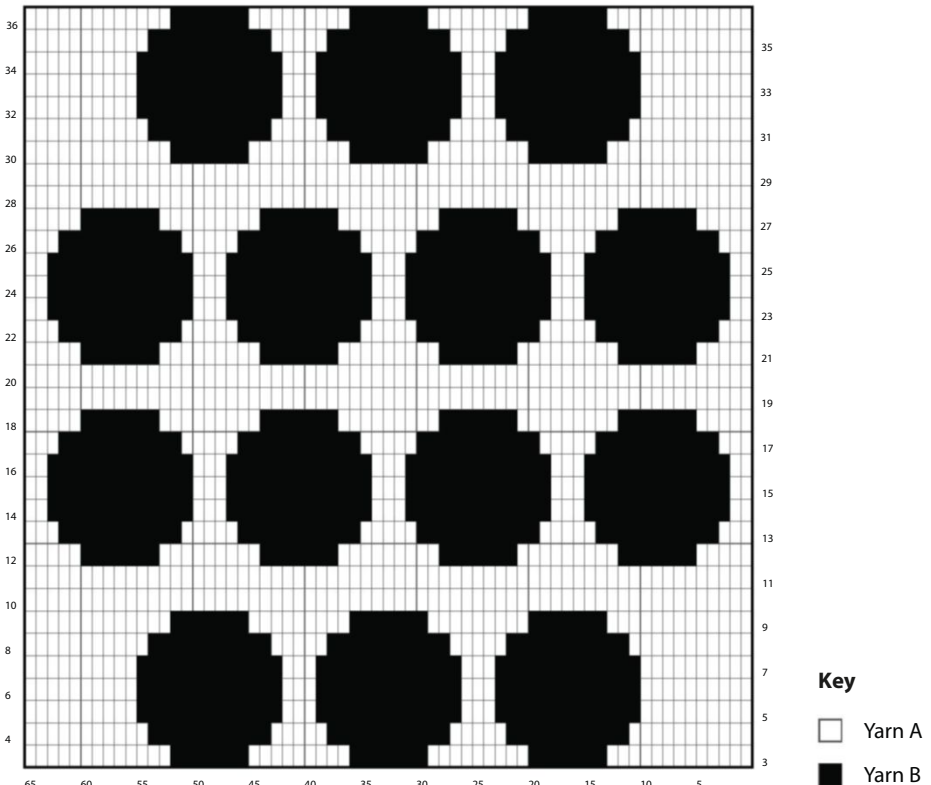
which shows the top of the pleat on each side of the bag. Sew the edges marked A together, leaving the outside opening of the bag free. Repeat for the edges marked B. You can also tack down each point at the bottom from the inside of the bag, to prevent the pleat from unfolding.

With Yarn C and the RS of the bag facing, dc evenly around the top opening edge of the bag.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

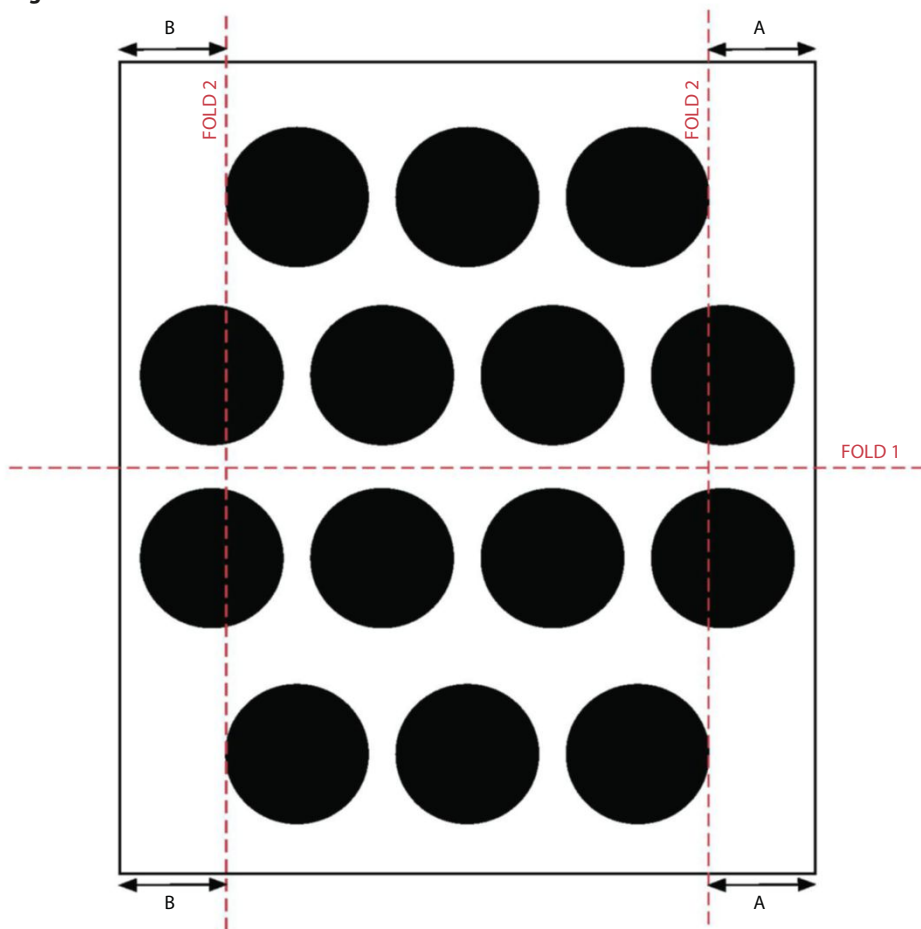
Sew the handles in position.

**Chart**

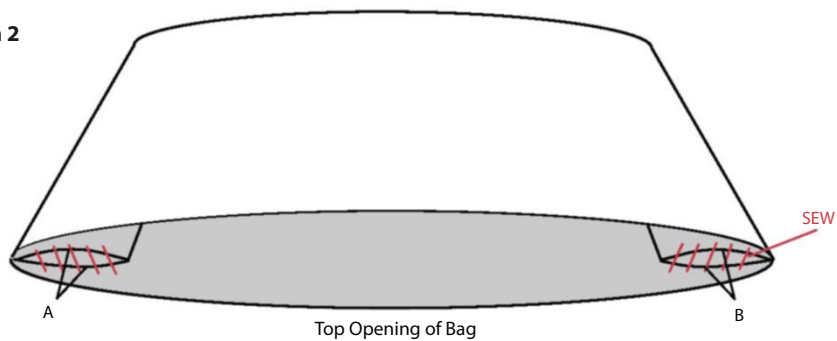




**Diagram 1**



**Diagram 2**





# Pied-de-poule

Get your hound's tooth on with this roomy tote bag, designed by Mariana Guerra.





# GEOMETRIC BAGS



## YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Creative Cotton Aran (100% cotton, 50g/85m),  
4 balls of **Yarn A** Black (90)  
3 balls of **Yarn B** White (80)  
1 ball of **Yarn C** Light Pistachio (44)

- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook

- 2 bag handles

For yarn stockists contact

**Deramores 0845 519 4573**

[www.deramores.com](http://www.deramores.com)

## MEASUREMENTS

43x31cm (17x12¼in) excluding handles

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet*

## SPECIAL STITCHES

### Extended double crochet (edc)

Insert hook in st, yrh and pull yarn through, yrh and pull through loop on hook, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook

We reckon this brilliant bag will become the most reached-for accessory in your wardrobe. Cool classic hound's tooth pattern? Check. Roomy enough for all your essentials (and at least three WIPS)? Check. And that's the tooth.

## NOTE

For the Base and Bag Sides, work in the round without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it helpful to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work.

## BASE

With Yarn A, make a magic loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 6dc into loop. [6 sts]

**Round 2** 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

**Round 3** 2dc in each st around. [24 sts]

**Round 4** Dc in each st around.

**Round 5** (1dc, 2dc in next st) 12 times. [36 sts]

**Round 6** Dc in each st around.

**Round 7** (2dc, 2dc in next st) 12 times. [48 sts]

**Round 8** Dc in each st around.

**Round 9** (3dc, 2dc in next st) 12 times. [60 sts]

**Round 10** Dc in each st around.

**Round 11** Increase 12 sts evenly in the same fashion. [72 sts]

**Round 12** Dc in each st around.

**Rounds 13-24** Repeat the last 2 rows 6 more times, do not fasten off. [144 sts]

## BAG SIDES

**Round 1 (RS)** Working in back loop only, dc in each st around.

## PLACE CHART

On the Chart on p14, each square represents 1dc stitch. Follow the Chart for the colour changes between Yarns A and B. Read every row from right to left, and repeat the 4 stitches of the Chart 36 times in each round. When you change

## Chart



4

## Key



Yarn A



colours, pick up the new colour in the last yrh of the previous st, and work over the strands of yarn you are not using to enclose them within the stitches.

**Round 2** Edc in each st around, following Row 1 of the Chart.

**Rounds 3-39** Continue working as Round 2, working Rows 2-4 of the Chart, then repeating Rows 1-4 of the Chart 8 times, and finishing with Rows 1-3 of the Chart.

**Round 40** With Yarn A, edc in each st around to last st, ss in last st.

**Fasten off.**

## BORDER

**Round 41** With Yarn C, working in back loops only, ch2 (counts as first edc), edc in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2.

**Rounds 42-48** Ch2, edc in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2.

**Round 49** Ss in each st around.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

Fold the Border over the top of the patterned section so that the WS of the border is facing and there is a double thickness of fabric around the top edge. Sew in place around the edge of the Border.

Sew the handles centrally on the inside top edges of the bag at the join between the pattern and the Border.



This bag has a large round base, which gives it a better shape and keeps it sitting upright.



A double crochet brim in bright green gives a neat finish and a striking flash of colour.

*Simply*  
**Crochet**

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with issue 62 of *Simply Crochet*.





# Día de los Muertos

Celebrate the season with a pompom wreath by Emma Friedlander-Collins.



# POMPOM WREATH



## YOU WILL NEED

- Paintbox Yarns Simply Aran (100% acrylic, 100g/184m), 1 ball of each: Buttercup Yellow (222), Tomato Red (212), Mandarin Orange (217), Neon Pink (256), Rich Mauve (244), Grass Green (229), Evergreen (230), Spearmint Green (225) Paper White (200)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- A small amount of dark 4ply cotton yarn for features
- Toy stuffing for skulls
- Wreath base (internal diameter 20cm/7¾in)

## MEASUREMENTS

Finished wreath approx 35cm (13¾in) diameter  
Tassel 15cm (6in) long  
Flowers 5cm (2in) diameter  
Leaves 5cm (2in) long  
Skulls 6cm (2½in) tall

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet*

## NOTES

The skulls are worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to place a marker in first st of each round and move it up as you work.

## FLOWERS (MAKE 8)

Using Buttercup Yellow, ch4, ss to first ch to join in a loop.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout),

10dc into loop, ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 2** Join your choice of yarn in first st, ch1, dc in first st, (2tr in next st, dc in next st) 4 times, 2tr in next st, ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off.**

## LEAVES (MAKE 40)

Using your choice of Green, ch8, ss in 2nd ch from hook, dc in each of next 2 ch, htr in next ch, tr in each of next 2 ch, 5htr in last ch, working up other side of starting ch, tr in each of next 2 ch, htr in next ch, dc in each of next 2 ch, ss in next ch. **Fasten off.**

## CANDY SKULLS (MAKE 3)

Using Paper White, make a magic ring.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into ring, do not join.

**Round 2** 2dc in each st around. [12 dc]

**Round 3** 2dc in next st, dc in next st) 6 times. [18 dc]

**Round 4-9** Dc in each st around.

**Round 10** (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts] Stuff the skulls.

**Round 11** (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

**Fasten off** and weave tail through all sts in Round 11. Using image as a guide, embroider facial features onto skulls using 4ply cotton yarn.

## POMPOMS

Make 4 pompoms 7cm in diam and 3 pompoms 5cm in diam in your choice of colours.

## TASSEL

Cut approx 80 strands 30cm long in a variety of colours. Hold tog and fold in half lengthways and secure at top to make a tassel.

## TO MAKE UP

Using the image as a guide and lengths of matching yarn, attach flowers, leaves, pompoms and skulls to wreath, tying them at the back. Add tassel so that the top hangs approx 10cm below the wreath.