



Designer Becky Skuse says: "Start your broomstick crochet adventure with my simple bowl. Its a simple square with a generous helping of PVA glue to mould it into a shape. You may choose to use the square as a decorative wallhanging or a place mat instead, or make more squares and join them together into a blanket. Let your creativity loose and just see what happens!"

## YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes River Washed XL (70% cotton, 30% acrylic, 50g/75m)  
1 ball of each:  
**Yarn A** Avon (974)  
**Yarn B** Mersey (979)  
**Yarn C** Murray (978)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- Broomstick or dowel, 2cm diameter
- PVA glue and small paintbrush

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

## TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project

## MEASUREMENTS

Square measures 25x25cm (10x10in) before being shaped into a bowl

## ABBREVIATIONS

**Broomstick row** With RS facing and working in the opposite direction (right to left if right-handed), elongate the active loop and insert broomstick, (insert hook in top of next stitch, yrh, pull up a loop and place on broomstick) in each stitch across, do not turn

**Stitch row** With RS facing, insert hook into first 3 loops, yrh and pull up a loop (does not count as st), ch1 (does not count as st), 3dc into same 3-loop group, (3dc into next 3 broomstick loops) rep across to end, turn

For a full list, see page 88 of *Simply Crochet* magazine



## NOTES

Fruit Bowl is made up of a Square moulded into a bowl shape at the end. The Square uses the broomstick lace method, holding elongated loops of yarn on a broomstick or dowel and crocheting the loops together over the next row. Refer to the Abbreviations section when working the broomstick lace rows. All broomstick lace rows and the next row after should be worked with RS facing.

## FRUIT BOWL SQUARE

Using Yarn A, ch37.

**Row 1 (RS)** Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [36 dc]

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

**Row 3** As Row 2, do not turn. [36 dc]

**Row 4** Broomstick row.

[36 loops on broomstick]

**Row 5** Stitch row. [12 groups of 3dc]

**Rows 6-7** Repeat Rows 2-3. [36 dc]

Change to Yarn B.

**Rows 8-9** Repeat Rows 4-5. [12 groups of 3dc]

Change to Yarn A.

**Rows 10-11** Rep Rows 2-3. [36 dc]

Change to Yarn B.

**Rows 12-17** Rep Rows 4-7, then rep Rows 4-5 once more. [12 groups of 3dc]

Change to Yarn C.

**Rows 18-19** Rep Rows 2-3. [36 dc]

Change to Yarn B.

**Rows 20-21** Rep Rows 4-5. [12 groups of 3dc]  
Change to Yarn C.

**Rows 22-28** Rep Rows 2-7, then repeat Row 3. [36 dc]

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

## TO MAKE UP

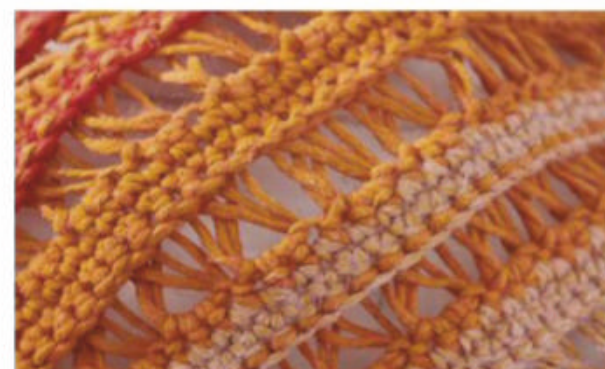
Find a bowl you like the shape of, place it upside down and cover it with nonstick paper.

Make sure you protect your work surface with newspaper or similar.

Brush your square with a generous amount of PVA glue on both sides. Try to push the glue into the stitches to coat as much of the yarn as possible.

Place the square on top of the covered bowl, with wrong side facing up. Stretch the Square over the bowl into the shape desired. Leave to dry for a few days.

Carefully remove your Fruit Bowl from the paper and bowl mould.



The ombre square is made from alternating rows of double crochet and broomstick crochet



TOP TIPS  
HOW TO MAKE  
NEATER STITCHES

GRANNY LOVE  
MINI MANDALA

HOOK A  
HERMIT CRAB

# Simply Crochet

PATTERNS ♥ IDEAS ♥ YARN ♥ INSPIRATION ♥ TECHNIQUES

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# *Simply* Crochet

For now it seems that staying home is the new going out, but for Kermit the hermit crab this has always been the case. He's never far from home so is able to scuttle indoors when someone gets too close – he adheres to social distancing, but always with a smile on his face.





# Simply Crochet

ISSUE NINETY-EIGHT

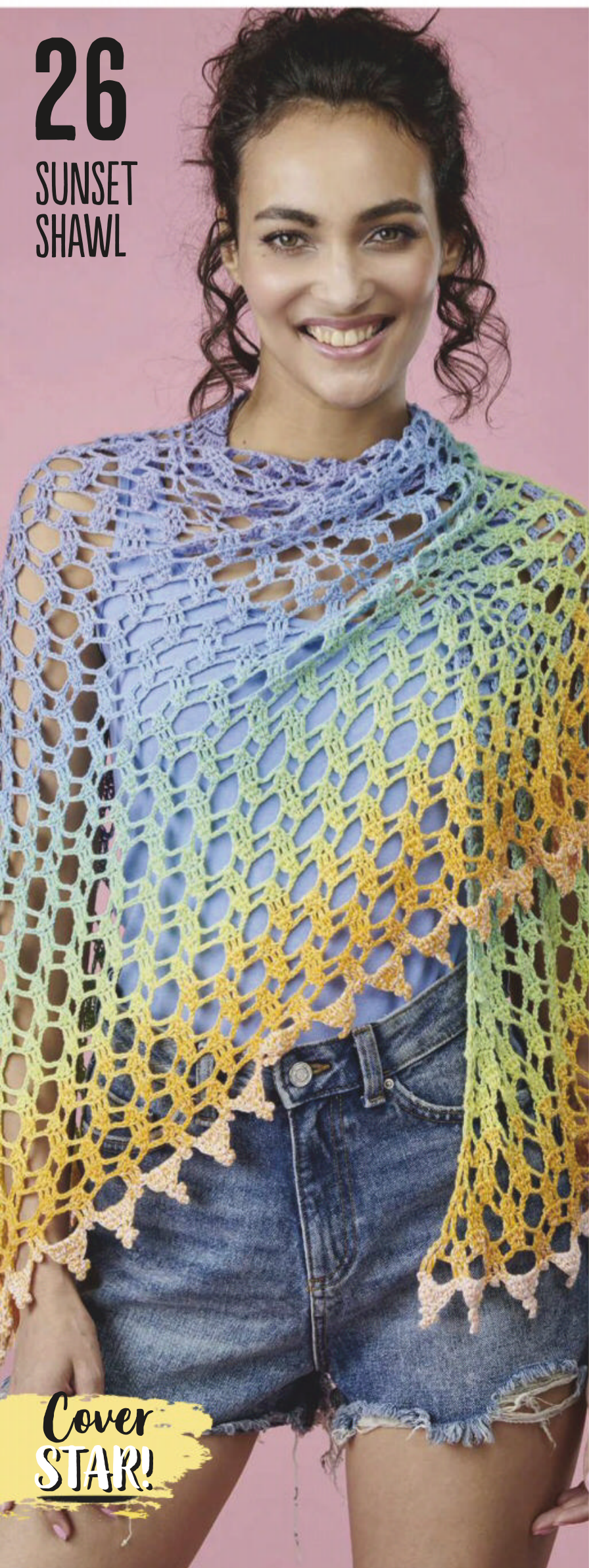
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# Bring the outdoors in!

Hello Hooksters!

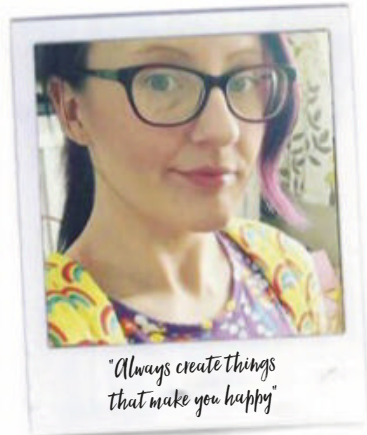
Waking up to sunlight, bees buzzing, the call of ice lollies... summer is here, regardless of the pandemic. Take inspiration from the great outdoors – even if you haven't been outside for months – and choose one of our summery projects. A blooming collection of homely makes includes a floral wallhanging on page 17, or the most chilled lion you'll ever meet on page 16. If a T-shirt refresh is in order, hook up the stunning mandala embellishment on page 41. Whatever you pick, share your pictures on Instagram tagged #settreblemaker, or on our Facebook group Simply Crochet SCtreblemakers, as we really enjoy seeing them!



Sara

## CONTRIBUTORS

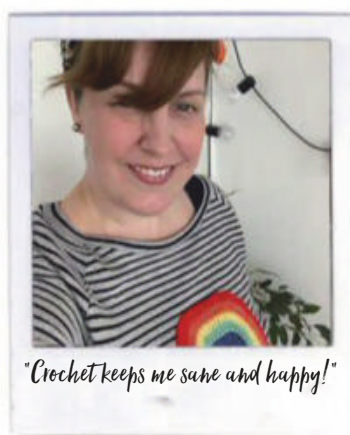
*You make us what we are*



*"Always create things that make you happy"*

### SAMANTHA FLETCHER

Sammyjo specialises in all things rainbow – everything is bright and cheerful. Rainbow projects are the perfect way to pass a rainy day. See her child's tunic on page 55.



*"Crochet keeps me sane and happy!"*

### MARTINE DE REGT

Martine is Dutch, lives in the UK and is mum to two boys. She loves amigurumi and crocheting little projects in bright colours. Find her pen toppers on page 21.



*"Pick up your magic wand and let the stitches reveal the beauty of your colours!"*

### SANITA BRENSONE

Sanita lives in Latvia and is a stay-at-home mom for three rascals. She's a colour-loving blanket designer and crochet is her way to find peace in everyday chaos. Find her blanket on page 67.



*"The yarn inspires me as to what it should be"*

### SHARI WHITE

Shari finds inspiration all around her. She sketches a design when it pops into her head and brings it to life with crochet on her commute to New York City. Check out her sunset shawl on page 26.

### OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Joanne Baird, Natalie Beard, Ilaria Caliri, Esme Crick, Lucy Croft, Hannah Cross, Kate Eastwood, Lucy Evans, Jenny May Forsyth, Steffi Graves, Sarah-Jane Hicks, Tuula Kyrola, Emma Leith, Sue Maton, Cara Medus, Sharna Moore, Marianne Rawlins, Hattie Risdale, Becky Skuse, Irene Strange

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## IMMEDIATE MEDIA<sup>CO</sup>



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ISSUE NO. 2 OUT NOW!

NEW

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PUBLICATION

# PRETTY LITTLE THINGS

Containing one knit, one crochet and one 'craft' project as well as some crafty tips and tricks and the occasional bonus pattern, our newest publication Pretty Little Things offers perfect weekend projects that are fun, affordable and beginner-friendly!

NUMBER 02 | €1/£1/\$1 | ENGLISH EDITION



PRETTY LITTLE THINGS



TOYS

CROCHET, KNIT AND SEW

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There's a special place in all our hearts for those Pretty Little Things that find homes throughout our living spaces. Their delightful size puts a smile on our face, their vibrant colours add sparkle anywhere they're placed! Brought to life for no reason more than the pleasure of making, these handmade treasures are passed on from generation to generation. They don't need to be ginormous or tricky – a Pretty Little Thing can create the most special of memories.

Issue 2 - TOYS, available NOW from your local Scheepjes retailer  
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## Making memories

Hook something they'll treasure forever – a gorgeous blanket using super-soft Rowan Selects Mako Cotton Baby, presented in a beautifully simple keepsake box. Mako Cotton Baby is a very fine cotton spun from extra-long staple Egyptian fibre, which is blended with a natural plant fibre source to create a modern yarn that is very soft on the skin. Available in green, blue or pink.

Find your nearest stockist at [www.knitrowan.com](http://www.knitrowan.com)





## EXTRA SOFT

**Scheepjes Softfun is now available in 32 new colours (there are 89 in total across the range). The colours now included are a selection of pastels, brights, neons and a few shade surprises! Scheepjes Softfun is a marvellous all-rounder yarn made from a super-soft cotton and acrylic blend in DK weight. This makes it suitable for creating a wide range of crocheted items including garments for all ages, accessories in all shapes and sizes, toys for children and items for the home. Visit [www.scheepjes.com/en/](http://www.scheepjes.com/en/) for the full range.**

## FANCY A FAB?

▼ Love lollies? Need a fun activity to occupy the kids? If you are a fan of the retro Fab lolly then this fabulous pompom version is one for you. Christine Leech of @sewyeah has a fantastic and unique pompom tutorial to keep little (and not so little) fingers busy during lockdown. Plus, the end result looks good enough to eat! Find the tutorial at [www.lovecrafts.com/en-gb/c/article/perfect-pompom-popsicles-fab-iceblock](http://www.lovecrafts.com/en-gb/c/article/perfect-pompom-popsicles-fab-iceblock). If you've mastered this, why not try other classics – Twister, anyone?

©instagram.com/sewyeah



*We love!*

## A SHAWL FOR Y'ALL

There's an exciting new collection from We Are Knitters: a sustainable women's collection of kits, including Bonia, a delicate turquoise crochet shawl, perfect for warmer days. It's made from WAK's latest Bamboo yarn, which uses a very low quantity of water for growth, helping conserve natural water resources and making the Bamboo collection an even more eco-friendly option! An easy level accessory, the kit contains three skeins of Bamboo yarn, a crochet hook, pattern, sewing needle and stylish embroidered label. To purchase go to [www.weareknitters.co.uk/knitting-kit/knitting-levels/easy-level/bonia-shawl](http://www.weareknitters.co.uk/knitting-kit/knitting-levels/easy-level/bonia-shawl)

*New release*

## Lazy dayz

Rico Design's new novelty fashion Lazy Hazy Summer Cotton is a special yarn which has a solid core colour wrapped with an additional print coloured thread, which gives it that multi-shaded effect. This twisted thread looks absolutely stunning in crocheted clothes or accessories. Why not hook up a summer top or lightweight shawl for balmy nights? Or a soft blanket for a little one in your life? We just love the subtle shades of the milky white yarn, with it's delicate hints of yellow, pink and blue peeking through, rather like the sun rising on a misty summer's morning. The yarn is 49% cotton, 46% acrylic and 5% polyester, with 150m length and 50g weight per ball. The yarn is available in eight beautiful colours which vary from shades of pastel to bold. Go to [www.rico-design.com](http://www.rico-design.com) for more information.







Mini profile



## ANNEMARIE HUIJSER

It all began with my Instagram account that I set up three years ago. I started with sharing some pictures of my first crochet

designs (I think it was a granny square blanket) and pictures of our colourful home. It turned out lots of people around the globe enjoyed my pictures, probably due to my 'signature style': every image is taken in our home and has the same recognisable fresh and bright colour scheme. I also learned how to write and adjust crochet patterns, but it was difficult to share them on Instagram. At that point I started thinking about writing a book with easy-to-make crochet designs and patterns. I was lucky enough to find a publisher that was immediately interested in creating a crochet book with me, and together we launched *Haken met Studio Hip en Stip* (Crochet with Studio Hip and Dot). I loved creating and writing the designs and patterns and I especially loved the styling and layout of the book. It is very 'me'!

My favourite colour is pink and I always add it in every design I make. I get my inspiration from the streets, Netflix or from magazines. I often start with making a doily (like the Colourful



Doilies in my book) as starting point or base for my designs (for example a blanket). That's how I know if colours look good together.

I really love granny squares in all shapes and forms. Granny squares are really great to mix and match all kinds of colours together, and there are so many possibilities and versions. My favourite is the Confetti Granny Square that I used for the blanket on the cover of my book. That blanket is just one big, fun, bright and colourful party!

For more on Annemarie, follow her on Instagram at @studiohipenstip and visit [www.studiohipenstip.nl](http://www.studiohipenstip.nl)

## INSPIRING BOOKS



### HOW TO CROCHET KRISTI SIMPSON

(£15.95, Search Press)

Babies are adorable, and their crocheted swag should be, too! Blankets, sweaters, booties, hats, toys, and so

much more make this book of 40 easy and oh-so-cute baby essentials the only one you'll need for crocheting for the babies in your life. Sizes from newborn to 12 months will keep baby in style for their first year, and toys and blankets will continue to bring joy for years to come!

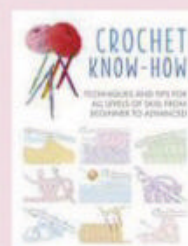


### CROCHET BLANKETS TO SNUGGLE UNDER ANA MORAIS SOARES

(£14.99, Tuva)

Designer Ana Morais Soares has a great passion for colour and blankets. In this

book she presents 15 colourful projects, using different crochet techniques and styles, from simple blankets to more elaborate designs. The blankets are crocheted using gorgeous yarns – linen, wool, cotton, acrylic and a mix of these too – in beautiful bright or soft colours. You can never have enough blankets, right?



### CROCHET KNOW-HOW

(£9.99, CICO Books)

There will always be times in crochet when you need instruction or a reminder, so here is a complete guide to

the stitches, techniques and finishing touches you need to know, for all levels of skill from beginner to advanced. For more experienced makers, useful tips on making raised stitches, creating bobbles and clusters, and creating ribbing in crochet will all help you achieve a perfect finish to your makes.

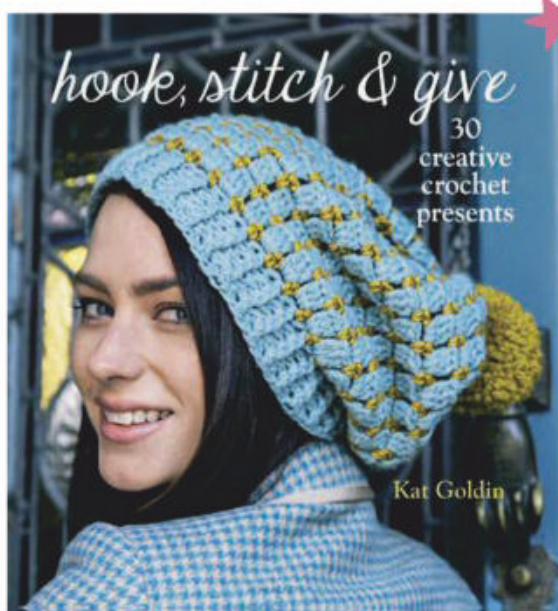


### PORTUGUESE KNITTING ROSA POMAR

(£14.99, Search Press)

More than just a history book or a handicraft manual, *Portuguese Knitting* is

a journey into Portugal's knitting heritage. Portuguese knitting differs from regular knitting in the way the wool is held. Traditional patterns and techniques are brought up to date in the form of beautiful modern pieces such as socks, hats, cowls, pot holders and leggings.



## SUBS STARS!

Every month, three subscribers win a prize as thank you for their loyalty to *Simply Crochet*. This month, the winners (below) will each receive a copy of Kat Goldin's *Hook, Stitch, & Give*, worth £14.99! You'll find the perfect project for every occasion. Check your issue next month to see if you're a winner!

Rachel Mergerum, Norfolk  
Susan Hammond, Yorkshire  
Nicola Crow, Yorkshire

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.

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# REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Here's new planet-friendly worsted pure cotton from Paintbox Yarns, made from 100% recycled materials! Soft and versatile, Paintbox Yarns Recycled Cotton boasts a gorgeous palette of bold and whimsical shades inspired by our beautiful planet, perfect for crocheting (almost!) anything under the sun! Not only is it great for the planet it's really versatile too. Crochet some fabulous homewares, blankets, or some gorgeous eco-friendly clothes. Visit [www.lovecrafts.com](http://www.lovecrafts.com) to buy.

## URUGUAY YARN

▼ Manos del Uruguay Milo is a gorgeous new yarn from Rooster Yarns. It is a blend of wool and linen that's hand dyed by women in Uruguay who are given economical opportunities. The merino wool is soft and smooth, and the linen makes for a delicious drape, as well as adding a gentle sheen. This makes Manos del Uruguay Milo a must have for your special summer crochet projects. If you are craving a virtual squidge of the full range, watch the video at [www.roosteryarns.com/manos-videos](http://www.roosteryarns.com/manos-videos)



## CUSHION CAL

In May West Yorkshire Spinners teamed up with the talented Anna Nikipiowicz to create a three-week crochet along for her stunning ColourLab DK geometric cushion design. Each free pattern offers a detailed step-by-step guide to creating this unique and vibrant crocheted cushion. The different textures of each square give the cushion a luxurious look – it's sure to add a touch of class for your sofa or bedroom. The circles and Xs give it a noughts and crosses vibe, albeit very subtle!

ColourLab DK is 100% British wool and comes in 18 solid and five self-striping shades. Anna's CAL uses yellow or green; to choose your individual colours from the ColourLab DK range go to [www.wyspinners.com](http://www.wyspinners.com). For the CAL patterns visit [westyorkshirespinners](http://westyorkshirespinners) on Facebook or Instagram. Share your progress online using #colourlabcal.



*We love*

## DINO-MITE AMIGURUMI

We're sure you know someone who'd love these radiant reptiles from Sirdar. The squishy prehistoric pals won't be scaring anyone though! Roaring dinosaurs become cute and cuddly when you crochet them in velvety soft Happy Chenille, the perfect yarn to transform any amigurumi character into a velvety soft plushy pal. Hook up one or all five of the toys using the Roarsome Dinosaurs pattern book, and Happy Chenille, available from [www.Sirdar.com](http://www.Sirdar.com)

*Shop of the month*

## Folklore Yarns

Each issue we explore a UK yarn shop!

**Who's in charge?** Karen Gibney and Kirsty Trewellard

**Where can we find you?** We are in Belfast near CS Lewis Square

**What is your shop like?** It is a yarn cafe spread over two floors, specialising in natural yarns. We are also a learning space with lots of classes (sadly not during lockdown).

**What do you stock?** We are the only stockist of Donegal Tweed Aran on the cone and we spool off what you need. We have Northern Irish pure alpaca, and also stock local indie dyers. Other brands include Drops, West Yorkshire Spinners and Scheepjes.

**What can you offer during lockdown?** We do sales online and no-contact deliveries. We have strong social media pages and are hosting Facebook Live sessions to show products and keep in touch with our regulars who we are missing badly. We also have a WhatsApp group to help new learners keep on track – they have been doing really well.

**Unit 5a, 39-52 Bloomfield Avenue, Belfast BT5 5AA**

**Visit [www.folklore yarns.com](http://www.folklore yarns.com), find them on Facebook at Folklore Yarns Belfast and Instagram at @folklore yarns**







## SPECIAL ESPADRILLE

Meet your new summer love, (or maybe your solemate?) – the Paloma espadrille. Hook up a pair with Wool and the Gang's crochet kit. These chic peep-toe sandals are crocheted in ultra light Ra-Ra Raffia, and designed in collaboration with espadrille extraordinaires Soludos. There are 12 colours to choose from, and the kit includes Ra-Ra Raffia, a pair of soles, pattern, mini ball of thread and even a sewing needle. A crochet hook can also be added if you want to send it to a newbie crocheter. This easy kit should take roughly eight hours to complete, so they'll be ready in a jiffy. With this pack, you'll have enough Ra-Ra Raffia left to make a second pair of espadrilles – bonus! Go to [www.woolandthegang.com](http://www.woolandthegang.com) for this style and more.

### Good cause

## LOVE CROCHET, LOVE NHS

Watching the pandemic unfold and the strain it put on the NHS made crocheter Megan want to help. Using her love of crochet, she organised the making of a collaborative blanket to raffle off. Fellow crocheters sent her their granny squares and she joined them together – in fact she had so many squares she made a second blanket! It raised over £1300 for the NHS and Megan said, "I'm pleased I could help even in a small way, and to bring crocheters together made it even better." Find her on Instagram at @meganhmakes



### Online community

## Virtual events

For the foreseeable future we will be listing online spaces that offer crochet inspiration and support.

**Wool on the Exe** shop runs a virtual drop in on Fridays between 2–2.45pm via [www.woolontheexe.com/pages/calendar-of-events](http://www.woolontheexe.com/pages/calendar-of-events)

Visit the **Yarnspirations** calendar for yarn sessions on Facebook and Instagram: [bit.ly/2Wrf1ya](https://bit.ly/2Wrf1ya)

Join USA-based crochet designer, author and teacher **Edie Eckman** for her regular Zoom chats at [www.facebook.com/edieeckman/](https://www.facebook.com/edieeckman/)

Visit [www.hobbycraft.co.uk/get-started/crochet](http://www.hobbycraft.co.uk/get-started/crochet) for help and advice for beginners

Head over to the **LoveCrafts** channel for tutorials, takeovers, and meet the maker videos: [www.instagram.com/lovecraftscom/channel/](https://www.instagram.com/lovecraftscom/channel/)



## 5 FAB FINDS

to embrace summer living  
celebrate the sun,  
whatever your situation



### LIGHTEN UP

Add colour and light to your outdoor space with these stripy lanterns. Include an appliqué alpaca for a bit of fun! Follow the detailed PDF tutorial to make Elealinda Design's pattern – buy on Etsy for £4.36.



### CACTUS COASTERS

Grab your sunglasses, rest your margarita on a cactus coaster and pretend you're in Mexico! Available for £12.52 from Etsy store DaoDazzling Creations.

### WATER FIGHT!

Crocheted water balloons – is there anything we can't hook? £8.00 from BlossomKnitsGB's Etsy store. Use the exclusive code **SIMPLY10** for a 10% discount.



### SITTING ON SUNSHINE

Careful, you might burn yourself – this seat looks hot! Get the pattern for this double thickness cushion by OlgaAndrew Design on Etsy for £2.40.

### GREEN WITH IVY

A hand-sculpted polymer clay hook to remind you of the great outdoors. Choose your hook size and base from **littlecosythings** on Etsy for £9.70, and make it your own.







### **HOTHOUSE FLOWERS**

Add a touch of texture to your bed or sofa with these extra-floral cushions



## BOTANCIAL BRIGHTS COLLECTION

MIX  
& MATCH  
MAKES!



## *Paradise, petal!*

Go bold at home by hooking colourful treats for the eye,  
inspired by bright blooms



## BOTANCIAL BRIGHTS COLLECTION



### FLOWER KING

A mane of blooms surrounds the head of this majestic feline

### HANGING GARDENS

Perk up a dark corner with a dazzling floral display











## BOTANCIAL BRIGHTS COLLECTION



### **SIMPLY FRILLING**

Bored with your bunting? Swap it for a fun ruffle garland

### **THROW SOME SHADE, GRANNY**

Dinky granny squares turn a lampshade from plain to pleasing



## FLOWER CUSHION

Rest your head on a patchwork of flower motifs. By Emma Leith

- Caron Simply Soft (100% acrylic, 170.1g/288m), 1 ball of each: Chartreuse (9771), Grape (9610), Fuchsia (9764), Blue Mint (9608), Persimmon (9754), Dark Country Blue (9711)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- Cushion pad, 30x30cm

### TENSION

Single Motif measures 6.5cm (2½in) in diameter

### MEASUREMENTS

Cushion cover measures 30x30cm (11¾x11¾in)

### ABBREVIATIONS

**4-dtr cl** \*Yrh twice, insert hook into st indicated, (yrh and pull through 2 loops) twice; rep from \* 3 times more, yrh and pull through all loops on hook, ch1 to close

For a full list, see page 88

### NOTES

Cushion is made up of 60 Motifs, which are joined together at the end. Each Motif is worked in rounds with RS facing throughout. Use any two colours for each Motif.

### FLOWER CUSHION

#### MOTIF (MAKE 60)

Using any colour, make a magic loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch2 (counts as a htr), 11htr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join. [12 htr]

**Fasten off.**

Join any colour into any st.

**Round 2 (RS)** Ch3 (does not count as a st), (4-dtr cl in next st, ch3, ss in next st, ch3) 5 times, 4-dtr cl in next st, ch3, ss in st at base of beg ch-3. [6 4-dtr cl]

### TO MAKE UP

Sew Motifs together into 6 strips of 10 Motifs. Then sew the strips together to form a rectangle panel; join the strips so that the flowers on one strip sit between two flowers on the strip below. Turn so the WS of the panel is facing and fold in half to form a square. Sew three sides together in the same way you joined the Motifs, turn so RS is facing, insert the cushion pad and sew the final side closed.

## CIRCLE CUSHION

Soften a room's sharp edges with curves from a petal-packed circular cushion.

By Marianne Rawlins

- Caron Simply Soft (100% acrylic, 170.1g/288m), 1 ball of each: Blue Mint (9608), Persimmon (9754), Fuchsia (9764), Chartreuse (9771), Grape (9610), Dark Country Blue (9711)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Round cushion pad, 35cm

### TENSION

Rounds 1-4 of Back Panel to measure 11cm (4¼in) in diameter

### MEASUREMENTS

Cushion Cover measures 37cm (14½in) across Back Panel

### NOTES

Cushion is made up of two Panels, which are joined together at the end. Each Panel is worked with RS facing throughout.

### CIRCLE CUSHION

#### BACK PANEL

Using Blue Mint, ch6 and ss to last ch to form a loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), 15dc into loop, ss to beg dc to join. [15 sts]

**Round 2** Ch3 (counts as a tr throughout), 1tr into st at base of beg ch-3, 2tr into each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [30 sts]  
Change to Persimmon.

**Round 3** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next st, (2tr in next st, tr in next st) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [45 sts]

**Round 4** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 2 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 2 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [60 sts]  
Change to Fuchsia.

**Round 5** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 3 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 3 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [75 sts]

**Round 6** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 4 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 4 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [90 sts]  
Change to Chartreuse.

**Round 7** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 5 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 5 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [105 sts]

**Round 8** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 6 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 6 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [120 sts]  
Change to Grape.

**Round 9** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 7 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 7 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [135 sts]

**Round 10** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 8 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 8 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [150 sts]  
Change to Dark Country Blue.

**Round 11** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 9 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 9 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [165 sts]

**Round 12** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 10 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 10 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [180 sts]  
Change to Blue Mint.

**Round 13** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 11 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 11 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [195 sts]

**Round 14** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3,





## BOTANCIAL BRIGHTS COLLECTION

tr in next 12 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 12 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [210 sts]

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

### FRONT PANEL

Using Blue Mint, ch6 and ss to last ch to form a loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), 15dc into loop, ss to beg dc to join. [15 sts]

**Round 2** Ch3 (counts as a tr throughout), 1tr into st at base of beg ch-3, 2tr into each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [30 sts]

**Round 3** (Working in fl only) Ch1, \*dc in first 2 sts, (htr, tr, dtr, tr, htr) into next st, dc in next 2 sts; rep from \* around, ss to beg dc. [54 sts]

**Fasten off.**

Join Persimmon into any unused bl from Round 2.

**Round 4** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next st, (2tr in next st, tr in next st) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [45 sts]

**Round 5** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 2 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 2 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [60 sts]

**Round 6** (Working in fl only) As Round 3. [108 sts]

**Fasten off.**

Join Fuchsia into any unused bl from Round 5.

**Round 7** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 3 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 3 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [75 sts]

**Round 8** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 4 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 4 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [90 sts]

**Round 9** (Working in fl only) As Round 3. [162 sts]

**Fasten off.**

Join Fuchsia into any unused bl from Round 8.

**Round 10** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 5 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 5 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [105 sts]

**Round 11** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 6 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 6 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [120 sts]

**Round 12** (Working in fl only) As Round 3. [216 sts]

**Fasten off.**

Join Grape into any unused bl from Round 11.

**Round 13** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 7 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 7 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [135 sts]

**Round 14** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 8 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 8 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [150 sts]

**Round 15** (Working in fl only) As Round 3. [270 sts]

**Fasten off.**

Join Dark Country Blue into any unused bl from Round 14.

**Round 16** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 9 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 9 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [165 sts]

**Round 17** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 10 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 10 sts)



14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [180 sts]

**Round 18** (Working in fl only) As Round 3. [324 sts]

**Fasten off.**

Join Blue Mint into any unused bl from Round 17.

**Round 19** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 11 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 11 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [195 sts]

**Round 20** Ch3, tr into st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 12 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 12 sts) 14 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [210 sts]

**Round 21** (Working in fl only) As Round 3. [378 sts]

**Fasten off.**

### FRONT PANEL EMBELLISHMENT

Join Dark Country Blue into any fl from Round 4 (these sts have been worked into on Round 5) and dc in each fl around.

**Fasten off.**

Work as above over rounds indicated, using the following colours:

Blue Mint on Round 7.

Persimmon on Round 10.

Fuchsia on Round 13.

Chartreuse on Round 16.

Grape on Round 19.

### TO FINISH

Place Front and Back Panels together with RS facing out.

Join Blue Mint through both loops on final round of Back and through bl only on Round 20 of Front.

Dc evenly around to join, inserting the cushion pad before completing join.

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

## PEN TOPPERS

Add a floral flourish to your prose with Martine de Regt's pen toppers

- Caron Simply Soft (100% acrylic, 170.1g/288m), a small amount of each: Chartreuse (9771), Grape (9610), Fuchsia (9764), Blue Mint (9608), Persimmon (9754), Dark Country Blue (9711)

- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

- Stitch marker

### TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

### MEASUREMENTS

To fit a standard-size pen

### NOTES

Pen Toppers are made up of a Cover and Flower. Each part is made separately and joined together at the end. Parts of this pattern are worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it useful to mark the first st of the round, moving it up as you work.

### PEN TOPPERS

#### COVER

Using Chartreuse, ch2.

**Round 1 (RS)** 5dc into second ch from hook. [5 dc]

**Rounds 2-20** Dc in each st around.

**Fasten off.**

#### FLOWER

Use any three colours for the Flowers.

Using first colour, ch5 and ss to last ch from hook to form a loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** (Ch3, dc into loop) 5 times. [5 dc, 5 ch-3 sps]

**Round 2** Ss into ch-3 sp, ch1, (1dc, 4tr, 1dc) in each ch-3 sp around, ss to beg dc. [5 petals]

**Fasten off.**

Join second colour into any dc from Round 1.

Work the next round behind the petals of Round 2.

**Round 3** Ch1, dc in same st, (ch2, dc in next dc



from Round 1) 4 times, ch2, ss to beg dc.

[5dc, 5 ch-2 sps]

**Round 4** Ss into ch-2 sp, (1dc, 1htr, 1tr, 1htr, 1dc) in each ch-2 sp around, ss to beg dc.

[5 outer leaves]

**Fasten off.**

## CENTRE OF FLOWER

Using third colour, ch2.

**Round 1** 5dc in second ch from hook. [5 dc]

**Round 2** Dc in each st around, ss in next st.

**Fasten off.**

## TO FINISH

Sew the Centre of the Flower over Round 1 of the Flower. To get the best position when joining, place the Cover over a Pen and sew the Flower to the top.

## LION

**This cat is just a big softy! Let it join your pride. By Natalie Beard**

■ Caron Simply Soft (100% acrylic, 170.1g/288m), 1 ball of each: Blue Mint (9608), Persimmon (9754), Fuchsia (9764), Chartreuse (9771), Grape (9610), Dark Country Blue (9711)

■ A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook

■ A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

■ Toy stuffing

■ 2 safety eyes

■ Stitch marker

## TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

## MEASUREMENTS

Lion measures approx 38cm (15in) tall

## NOTES

Parts of the pattern are worked using the amigurumi method, working in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it useful to mark the first st of the round, moving the marker up as you work. The Body is worked up from the Legs, all other parts are made separately and joined together at the end.

## LION

### HEAD

Using a 4.5mm hook and Persimmon, make a magic loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), 6dc into loop. [6 sts]

**Round 2 (RS)** 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Round 9** (Dc in next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [54 sts]

**Round 10** (Dc in next 8 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [60 sts]

**Round 11** (Dc in next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [66 sts]

**Round 12** (Dc in next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [72 sts]

**Rounds 13-22** Dc in each st around.

Position safety eyes between Rounds 17-18, approx 15 sts apart.

**Round 23** (Dc in next 10 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [66 sts]

**Round 24** (Dc in next 9 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [60 sts]

**Round 25** (Dc in next 8 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [54 sts]

**Round 26** (Dc in next 7 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [48 sts]

**Round 27** (Dc in next 6 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]

**Round 28** (Dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]

Stuff the Head and continue to stuff as you go along.

**Round 29** (Dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]

**Round 30** (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

**Round 31** (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

**Round 32** (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]

**Round 33** (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

**Fasten off** and thread the tail through the final 6 sts, pulling tight to close.

### NOSE

Using a 4.5mm hook and Persimmon, ch5.

**Row 1 (RS)** Dc in second ch from hook and next 3 ch, turn. [4 sts]

**Rows 2-10** Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

**Row 11** Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each st to final st, 2dc in final st, turn. [6 sts]

**Rows 12-14** Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

**Row 15** As Row 11. [8 sts]

**Rows 16-17** Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. Change to Dark Country Blue.

**Row 18** Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

**Row 19** Ch1, (dc2tog) first 2 sts, dc in each st to final 2 sts, (dc2tog) final 2 sts, turn. [6 sts]

**Row 20** As Row 19. [4 sts]

**Row 21** Ch1, (dc2tog) twice, turn. [2 sts]

**Row 22** Ch1, dc2tog. [1 st]

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail to sew to Head.



### EARS (MAKE 2)

Using a 4.5mm hook and Persimmon, make a magic loop.

**Rounds 1-2 (RS)** As Rounds 1-2 of Head. [12 sts]

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

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

**Rounds 7-9** Dc in each st around.

**Fasten off.**

Using the tail, fold the opening in half and secure with a few sts to create the shape.

### LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using a 4.5mm hook and Persimmon, make a magic loop.

**Rounds 1-5 (RS)** As Rounds 1-5 of Head. [30 sts]

**Rounds 6-10** Dc in each st around.

Change to Dark Country Blue.

**Round 11** Dc in fl of each st around.

**Fasten off.**

Join Fuchsia into any unused bl from Round 10.

**Round 12** Dc in bl of each st around.

**Rounds 13-17** Dc in each st around.

**Fasten off** first Leg only.

### BODY

Continue on from the second Leg.

**Round 18** Ch3 (space between Legs), dc in each st around first Leg, dc into each ch of ch-3, dc in each st of second Leg, dc into back of each ch between Legs. [66 sts]

**Rounds 19-21** Dc in each st around.



## BOTANCIAL BRIGHTS COLLECTION

**Round 22** (Dc in next 9 sts, dc2tog) 6 times.  
[60 sts]

**Rounds 23-25** Dc in each st around.

**Round 26** (Dc in next 8 sts, dc2tog) 6 times.  
[54 sts]

**Rounds 27-36** Dc in each st around.  
Pm in the fl of 18th st from Round 36 and leave in place until working the Dungarees.  
Change to Persimmon.

**Round 37** Dc in bl of each st around.  
Stuff the Legs and Body, continuing to stuff as you go along.

**Rounds 38-46** Dc in each st around.

**Round 47** (Dc in next 7 sts, dc2tog) 6 times.  
[48 sts]

**Round 48** (Dc in next 6 sts, dc2tog) 6 times.  
[42 sts]

**Round 49** (Dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog) 6 times.  
[36 sts]

**Round 50** (Dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times.  
[30 sts]

**Round 51** (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times.  
[24 sts]

**Round 52** (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times.  
[18 sts]

**Round 53** (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times.  
[12 sts]

**Round 54** (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

**Fasten off** and thread tail through final 6 sts, pulling tight to close.

### DUNGAREES

Using a 4.5mm hook, join Fuchsia into unused fl of marked st from Round 36 of Body.

**Row 1 (WS)** (Working in unused loops from Round 36) Ch1, dc in first st and next 17 sts, turn. [18 sts]

**Rows 2-9** Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

**Row 10** Ch26, dc in second ch from hook and next 24 ch (strap made), dc in next 18 sts from Row 9, ch26, dc in second ch from hook and next 24 ch (strap made). [68 sts]

**Fasten off.**

With RS facing join Dark Country Blue into any unused loop from Round 36 of Body.

**Round 11 (RS)** Ch1, dc in fl of each st to Dungarees, 9dc evenly up the side of Dungarees, dc evenly around strap, dc in each st across top of Dungarees, dc evenly around second strap, 9dc evenly down the side of Dungarees, dc in fl of remaining sts from Round 36 of Body.

**Fasten off.**

### ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using a 4.5mm hook and Persimmon, make a magic loop.

**Rounds 1-4 (RS)** As Rounds 1-4 of Head. [24 sts]

**Rounds 5-9** Dc in each st around.

**Round 10** (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times.  
[18 sts]

Stuff the Arm and continue to stuff as you go along.

**Rounds 11-20** Dc in each st around.

**Round 21** (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times.  
[12 sts]

**Rounds 22-26** Dc in each st around.

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail.

Flatten Round 26 and use the tail to sew the opening closed.

### TAIL

Using a 3.5mm hook and Chartreuse, make a magic loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1, 6dc into loop. [6 sts]

**Rounds 2-28** Dc in each st around.

Do not fasten off.

### LEAF

Continuing on from the end of the Tail, ch12.

**Round 1** Dc in second ch from hook, \*htr in next ch, tr in next 2 ch, dtr in next 3 ch, tr in next 2 ch, htr in next ch\*\*, (dc, ch2, dc) in final ch, turn to work into opposite side of ch-12; rep from \* to \*\*, dc in final ch, ss to top of beg dc. [22 sts]

**Fasten off.**

### FLOWER

Flower is worked in a single strip and sewn together at the end to form the Flower shape.  
Using a 3.5mm hook and Grape, ch30.

**Row 1** Tr in fourth ch from hook, tr in next ch, ch2, ss in next ch, ch3, tr in next 2 ch, ch2, ss in next ch, ch3, dtr in next 4 ch, ch3, ss in next ch, ch4, dtr in next 6 ch, ch4, ss in next ch, ch5, ttr in next 8 ch, ch4, ss in final ch.

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail.

Wrap the strip into the Flower shape and use the tail to secure. Sew into position between the end of the Tail and the Leaf.

### HEAD DECORATION

#### LEAF (MAKE 10)

Using a 4.5mm hook and Chartreuse, ch12.

Work as Leaf of Tail. [22 sts]

**Fasten off.**

#### FLOWERS (MAKE 9)

Make 3 each in Grape, Fuchsia and Blue Mint.

Using a 4.5mm hook, ch30.

Work as Flower of Tail.

**Fasten off.**

### TO MAKE UP

Sew the Head to the Body so the Eyes and Dungarees sit centrally at the front.

Using the image as a guide, pin on the Ears, Arms and Nose; once happy, sew into place.

Sew the straps of the Dungarees to the back over the sts from Round 11. Cross the straps and leave a gap of approx 5 sts.

Pin the Flowers and Leaves around the Head.

Once you are happy with position, use the tails to sew into place.

Sew the Tail to the back of the Lion.

Using Dark Country Blue sew the mouth just below the nose.

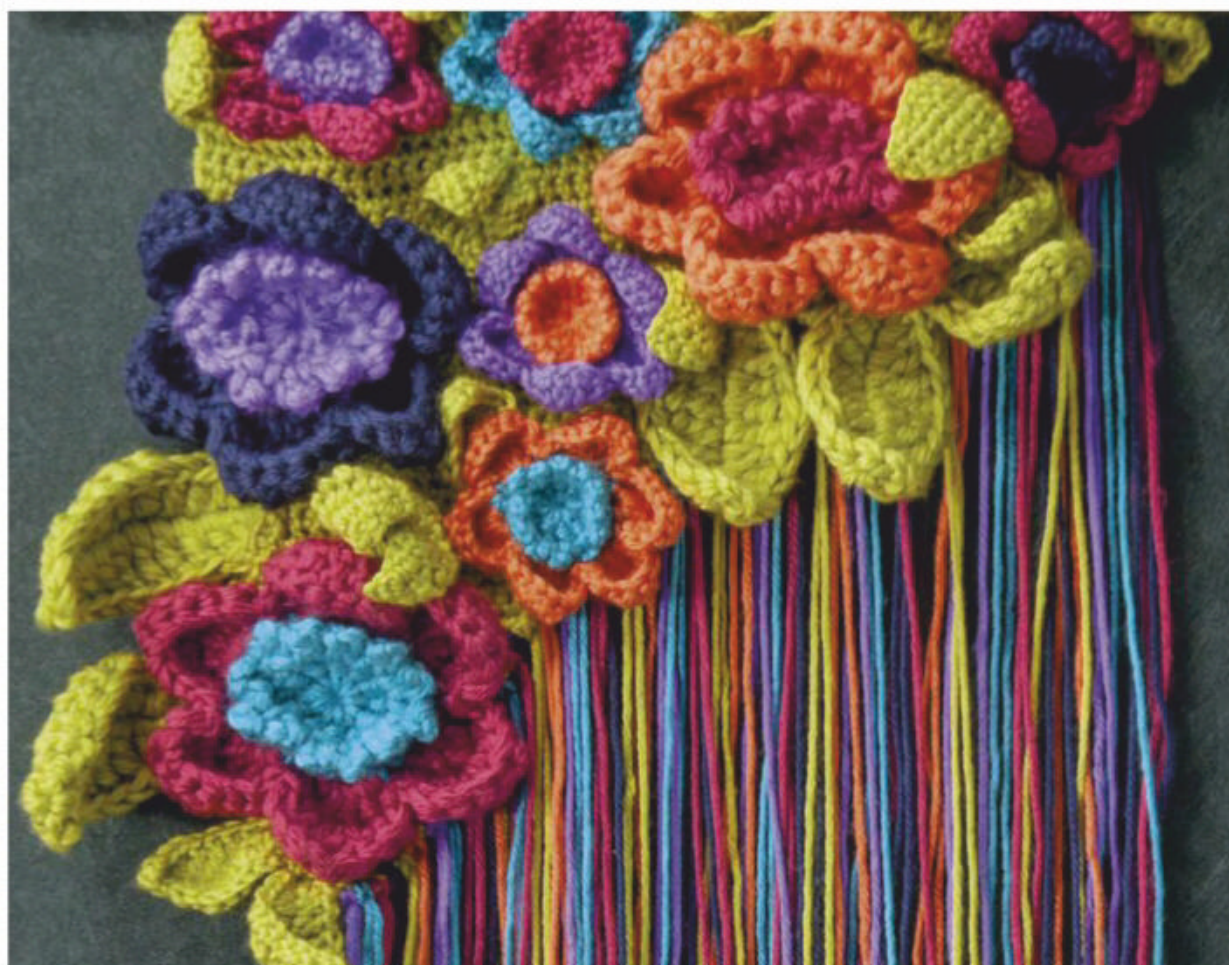
Weave in all remaining ends.

## WALLHANGING

Adorn your wall with bold blooms.

By Natalie Beard

■ Caron Simply Soft (100% acrylic, 170.1g/288m),  
1 ball of each: Blue Mint (9608), Persimmon (9754), Fuchsia (9764), Chartreuse (9771),





## BOTANCIAL BRIGHTS COLLECTION

Grape (9610), Dark Country Blue (9711)

- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- An 8mm (US L/11) hook
- Wooden dowel, 50cm

### TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

### MEASUREMENTS

Wallhanging Base measures 32x32x47cm (12½x12½x18½in)

### NOTES

A Base is made first and attached to the dowel. Leaves and Flowers are worked separately and joined to the Base at the end. The Large Leaf and Large Flowers are worked using three strands of the same colour held together as one. Slip stitches are not included in stitch counts unless otherwise stated.

### WALLHANGING

#### BASE

Using a 4mm hook and Chartreuse, ch3.

**Row 1 (WS)** 2dc in second ch from hook, dc in next ch, turn. [3 sts]

**Row 2 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), dc in each st to final st, 2dc in final st, turn. [4 sts]

**Row 3** Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each st to end, turn. [5 sts]

**Rows 4-50** Repeat Rows 2-3. [52 sts]

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail.

Use the tail to sew Row 50 to the dowel.

#### HANGING LOOP

Using a 4mm hook and Chartreuse, ch50.

**Fasten off.**

Join each end of the ch to the first and last st of Row 50.

#### SMALL LEAF (MAKE 15)

Using a 4mm hook and Chartreuse, ch12.

**Round 1** Dc in second ch from hook, \*htr in next ch, tr in next 2 ch, dtr in next 3 ch, tr in next 2 ch, htr in next ch\*\*, (dc, ch2, dc) in final ch, turn to work into opposite side of ch-12; rep from \* to \*\*, dc in final ch, ss to top of beg dc. [22 sts]

**Fasten off.**

#### LARGE LEAF (MAKE 4)

Wind off three small balls of Chartreuse and work the Large Leaf using the three strands as one.

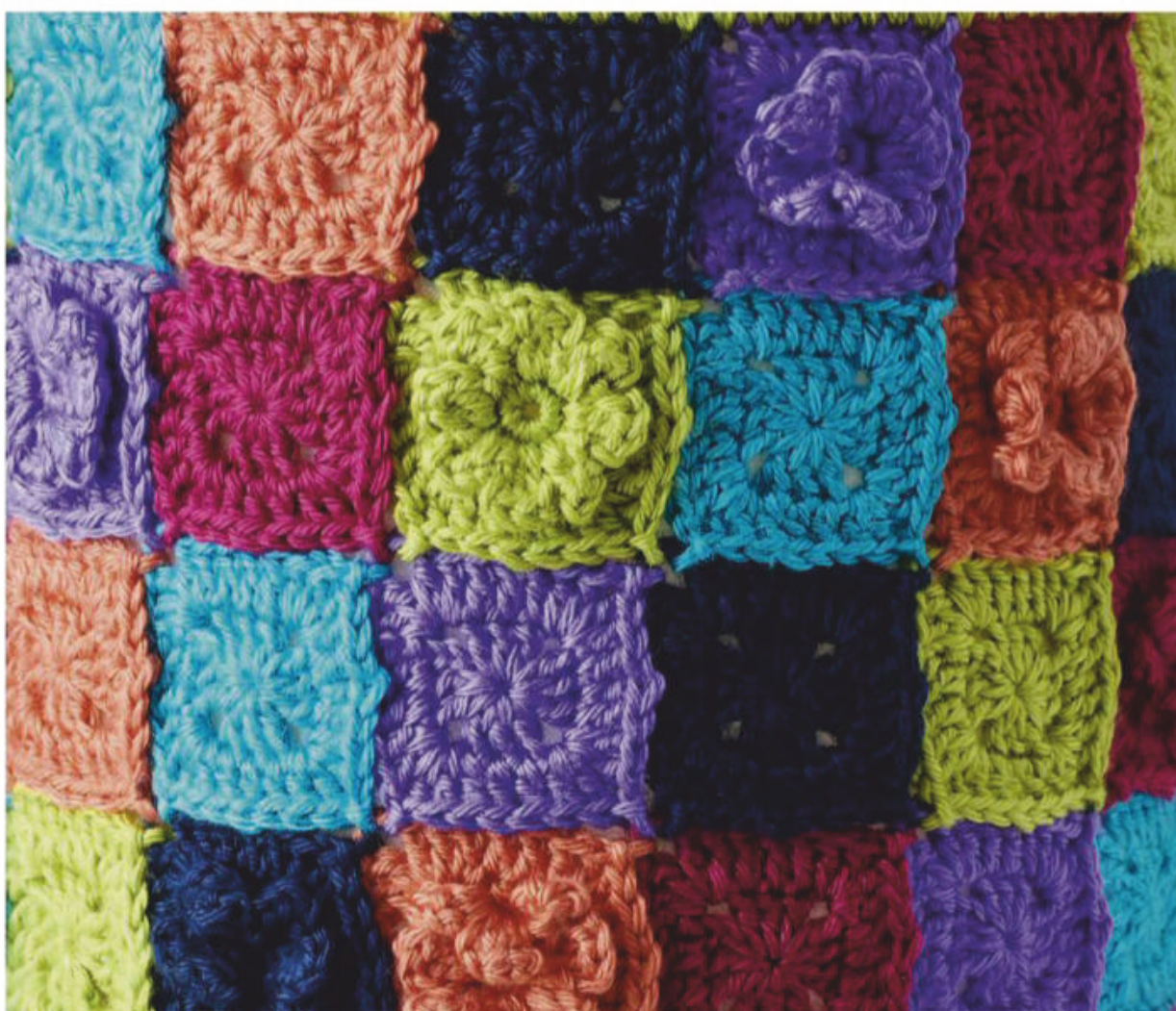
Using an 8mm hook, work as for Small Leaf.

**Fasten off.**

#### SMALL FLOWER (MAKE 4)

Using a 4mm hook and any colour except Chartreuse, make a magic loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch3 (counts as a tr), 11tr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [12 sts]



**Round 2** (Ch3, ss in next st) 11 times, ch3, ss to st at base of beg ch-3. [12 ch-3 sps]

**Round 3** Ss around the post of tr from Round 1, ch4 (counts as BPdc and ch3), (BPdc, ch3) around each tr from Round 1, ss to first ch of beg ch-4. [12 BPdc, 12 ch-3 sps]

**Fasten off.**

Join any colour except Chartreuse into any ch-3 sp from Round 3.

**Round 4** Ch1, (dc, 3tr, dc) into ch-sp, \*ss into next ch-sp, (dc, 3tr, dc) into next ch-sp; rep from \* 4 times more, ss into final ch-sp, ss to beg dc. [30 sts]

**Round 5** Ch1, \*(dc, htr) in dc, 2tr in first tr, 3tr in next tr, 2tr in next tr, (htr, dc) in dc, ss in ss; rep from \* 5 times more, ss to top of beg dc. [66 sts]

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail.

#### LARGE FLOWER (MAKE 3)

Using an 8mm hook and three strands of the same colour held together as one, work as Small Flower.

**Fasten off.**

#### FRINGE EDGING

Using your leftover yarn, cut 50 lengths, 1m long. Fold each length in half and thread the folded end through the row-ends of the Base, pull the two tails through the folded end and pull to secure.

Once you have attached a length of yarn to each row end trim them as desired.

#### TO FINISH

Using the image as a guide, pin all the Flowers

and Leaves to the Base. Once you are happy with the layout, use the tails to sew into place. Weave in any remaining ends.

## LAMPSHADE

**Light up and bright up your room with this unique patchwork shade. By Sarah-Jane Hicks**

■ Caron Simply Soft (100% acrylic, 170.1g/288m), 1 ball of each: Blue Mint (9608), Grape (9610), Dark Country Blue (9711), Persimmon (9754), Fuchsia (9764), Chartreuse (9771)

■ A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

■ Drum lampshade kit, 25cm in diameter and 21cm tall

### TENSION

Each Granny Square to measure 5cmx5cm (2x2in)

### MEASUREMENTS

Lampshade measures 75x21cm (9¾x8¼in)

### ABBREVIATIONS

**2-tr cl** \*Yrh, insert hook into st indicated, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through two loops on hook; rep from \* once more, yrh and pull through all loops on hook

For a full list, see page 88

### NOTES

Lampshade is made up of 60 Granny Squares, which are joined together at the end. There is



a Layout Diagram on page 89, which you should refer to when making up your Lampshade. Each square on the diagram represents a Granny Square in the corresponding colour, each square labelled with an F represents a Flower Granny Square.

## LAMPSHADE COVER

### PLAIN GRANNY SQUARE (MAKE 39)

Make 7 each in Grape, Fuchsia and Chartreuse. Make 6 each in Blue Mint, Dark Country Blue and Persimmon.

Make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch3 (counts as a tr throughout), (2tr, ch2) into loop, (3tr into loop, ch2) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [12 tr, 4 ch-2 sps]

**Round 2** Ch3, \*tr in each st to ch-2 sp, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-sp; rep from \* around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [28 tr, 4 ch-2 sps]

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

### FLOWER GRANNY SQUARE (MAKE 21)

Make 4 each in Blue Mint, Persimmon and Chartreuse.

Make 3 each in Grape, Dark Country Blue and Fuchsia.

Make a magic loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), 8dc into loop, ss to top of beg dc. [8 dc]

**Round 2** (Working in fl only) Ch2 (does not count as a st), 2-tr cl in st at base of beg ch-2, ch2, \*ss in next st, (ch2, 2-tr cl, ch2) in next st; rep from \* twice more, ss in final st, ss in bl of next st (st at base of beg ch-2). [8 2-tr cl]

**Round 3** (Working in unused bl from Round 1) Ch2 (counts as a htr), 2htr in st at base of beg ch-2, ch2, skip 1 st, (3htr in next st, ch2, skip next st) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-2. [12 htr, 4 ch-2 sps]

**Round 4** As Round 2 of Plain Granny Square. [28 tr, 4 ch-2 sps]

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

## TO MAKE UP

Using the Layout Diagram, sew the Squares together to form a tube.

Join Fuchsia into any st across one edge of Lampshade Cover and around bottom of lampshade frame from your kit to join.

**Round 1** Ch1, dc in each st and ch-sp around, joining to the frame as you go, ss to top of beg dc. [135 dc]

**Fasten off.**

Using Chartreuse, rep Round 1 on the opposite edge of the Lampshade Cover, joining to the top of the lampshade frame.

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

Snap back and remove creased edges of self-adhesive PVC panel provided in the kit and carefully stick the panel inside the crochet shade to stiffen, placing the panel in between top and bottom frames.

## GARLAND

**Add a bit of flounce to up the drama in your room. By Tuula Kyrölä**

■ Caron Simply Soft (100% acrylic, 170.1g/288m), 1 ball of each: Chartreuse (9771), Grape (9610), Fuchsia (9764), Blue Mint (9608), Persimmon (9754), Dark Country Blue (9711)

■ A 5mm (US H/8) hook

## TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

## MEASUREMENTS

Garland measures approx 160cm (63in) long

## NOTES

Garland is made up of 7 Ruffled Flags. The Flags are made first and joined together at the end. You can use any colour throughout although we do recommend using the same colour for the final row of Flag throughout (Row 3).

## GARLAND

### RUFFLED FLAG (MAKE 7)

Using any colour, ch68, ss to first ch to make a loop, being careful not to twist.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ss in next 7 ch, ch4, (skip 1 ch, tr in next ch, ch1) 8 times, skip 1 ch, tr in next ch, ch4, skip 1 ch, ss in next 14 ch, ch4, (skip 1 ch, tr in next ch, ch1) 8 times, skip 1 ch, tr in next ch, ch4, skip 1 ch, ss in next 7 ch, ss in first ss of round. [18 tr, 4 ch-4 sps, 16 ch-1 sps]

**Fasten off.**

Join new colour into first ch-4 sp.

Work the following row over half of the sts from Round 1.

**Row 2 (RS)** Ch6 (counts as ttr and ch2), (ttr, ch2, ttr) in same ch-4 sp, (ch2, ttr, ch2, ttr, ch2, ttr) in each of the next 9 ch-sps. [30 ttr, 29 ch-2 sps]

**Fasten off.**

Repeat Row 2 on the unworked ch-sps from Round 1, beginning with the next ch-4 sp after the 14 ss.

**Fasten off.**

Join any colour into ch-6 at beginning of Row 2.

**Row 3** Ch1, dc in same sp, (ch3, dc in next ch-sp) 28 times. [29 dc, 28 ch-3 sps]

**Fasten off.**

Repeat Row 3 on the opposite side of the Flag.

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

## TO MAKE UP

Interlock each Flag together by folding one Flag in half, threading one half through the centre of a second Flag, then fold the second Flag in half, threading one half through the next Flag being joined. Continue until all Flags are joined. You can secure each end with a few small stitches.



## YARN STOCKISTS

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[www.woolwarehouse.co.uk](http://www.woolwarehouse.co.uk)





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# SUNSET BEACH

A stunning cover-up for hot days and sultry nights.  
By Shari White





## YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Whirl (60% cotton, 40% acrylic, 220g/1000m)
- 1 cake of Cotton Candy Man (760)

- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook

For yarn stockists contact

Scheepjes

[www.scheepjes.com/en](http://www.scheepjes.com/en)

## TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

## MEASUREMENTS

Shawl measures approx 153x66cm (60¼x26in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

**v-st** (Tr, ch2, tr) in sp indicated  
**tr3tog** \*Yrh, insert hook into next st, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through two loops on hook; rep from \* twice more, yrh and pull through all loops on hook  
**dtr picot** Dtr, (ch3, ss to third ch) 3 times, dtr

For a full list, see page 88

When the weather starts to sizzle, match your threads to the rays and hook up this hot accessory!

## NOTES

Shawl is worked from the top down in rows.

## SHAWL

Ch4.

**Row 1 (RS)** 6tr in fourth ch from hook, turn. [7 tr]

**Row 2 (WS)** Ch3 (counts as a tr throughout), tr in st at base of beg ch-3, 2tr in next 5 sts, 2tr in final st turn. [14 tr]

**Row 3** Ch4 (counts as tr and ch1), (tr, ch1) in next 12 tr, tr in final st, turn. [14 tr, 13 ch-sps]

**Row 4** Ch5 (counts as tr and ch2 throughout), (tr, ch2) in each tr across to final st, tr in final st, turn.

**Row 5** Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), ss into first ch-2 sp, ch5, tr in same sp, ch3, skip next tr and ch-sp, 3tr in next tr, ch3, skip next ch-sp and tr, v-st in next ch-sp (4th sp across), (ch3, skip next tr and ch-sp, 3tr in next tr, ch3, skip next ch-sp and tr, v-st in next ch-sp) 3 times, turn. [5 v-sts, 4 3-tr groups, 8 ch-3 sps]

**Row 6** Ch1, ss into ch-2 sp, ch5, tr in same sp, \*ch5, tr in next 3 tr, ch5, v-st in next v-st; rep from \* 3 times more, turn. [5 v-sts, 12 tr, 8 ch-5 sps]

**Row 7** Ch1, ss into ch-2 sp, ch5, tr in same sp, \*ch3, 3tr in third ch of ch-5 sp, ch3, tr3tog next 3 tr, ch3, 3tr in third ch of next ch-5 sp, ch3, v-st in next v-st; rep from \* 3 times more, turn. [5 v-sts, 8 3-tr groups, 4 tr3tog, 16 ch-3 sps]

**Row 8** Ch1, ss into ch-2 sp, ch5, tr in same sp, \*ch5, tr in next 3 tr, ch7, skip tr3tog, tr in next 3 tr, ch5, v-st in next v-st; rep from \* 3 times more, turn. [5 v-sts, 24 tr, 8 ch-5 sps, 4 ch-7 sps]

**Row 9** Ch1, ss into ch-2 sp, ch5, tr in same sp, \*ch3, 3tr in third ch of ch-5 sp, ch3, tr3tog next 3 tr, ch3, 3tr in 4th ch of ch-7 sp, ch3, tr3tog next 3 tr, ch3, 3tr in third ch of next ch-5 sp, ch3, v-st in v-st; rep from \* 3 times more, turn. [5 v-sts, 12 3-tr groups, 8 tr3tog, 24 ch-3 sps]



Finish off shawl with an edging worked in half, single and double trebles and picots

**Row 10** Ch1, ss into ch-2 sp, ch5, tr in same sp, \*ch5, tr in next 3 sts, (ch7, skip tr3tog, tr in next 3 sts) rep to end of 3-tr group before v-st, ch5, v-st in v-st; rep from \* 3 times more, turn. [5 v-sts, 36 tr, 8 ch-7 sps, 8 ch-5 sps]

**Row 11** Ch1, ss into ch-2 sp, ch5, tr in same sp, ch3, 3tr in third ch of next ch-5 sp, ch3, tr3tog next 3 tr, ch3, (3tr in 4th of ch of next ch-7 sp, ch3, tr3tog next 3 tr, ch3) rep across to ch-5 sp before next v-st, 3tr in 3rd ch of ch-5 sp, ch3, v-st in v-st; rep from \* 3 times more, turn, do not fasten off. [5 v-sts, 16 3-tr groups, 12 tr3tog, 32 ch-3 sps]

**Rows 12-43** Repeat Rows 10-11. [5 v-sts, 80 3-tr groups, 76 tr3tog, 160 ch-3 sps at the end of Row 43]

## EDGING

**Row 44** Ch1, ss into ch-2 sp, ch5, tr in same sp, (ch7, tr in next 3 tr) rep across to next v-st, v-st in v-st; rep from \* to end, turn.

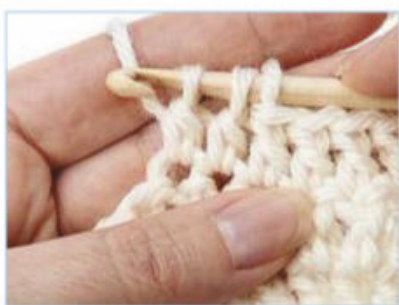
**Row 45** Ch1, dc in v-st, \*(htr, tr, dtr picot, tr, htr) in ch-7 sp, dc in next tr, ch4, skip 1 tr, dc in next tr; rep from \* across to next v-st, (dc, ch3, dc) in v-st\*; rep from \* to \*\* across to end.

**Fasten off.**

## TO FINISH

Weave in ends. For best results, block the Shawl in accordance with the ball band instructions.

## SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO DOUBLE DECREASE IN TREBLE CROCHET (TR3TOG)



**1** Start a treble as usual: yrh, insert hook in next stitch, yrh, pull up loop, yrh, pull through first 2 loops (2 loops on hk). Now start a 2nd tr and work it until you're halfway through, as before (3 loops hook).



**2** Without completing the first or 2nd tr, start a 3rd treble and work it until you're halfway through, as before (4 loops on hook). (If you're instructed to tr4tog, just repeat the process again.)



**3** Now complete all the treble stitches together by working yrh and pull this loop through all the loops on the hook.



**4** This is how your completed tr3tog should look. You will have neatly decreased 2 tr stitches. On subsequent rows, just work into the top of the tr3tog stitch as usual.



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# Shell's belles

Hook up this happy homebody in a pinch.  
Designed by Irene Strange







## YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m)  
1 ball of each:  
**Yarn A** Safran (N47)  
**Yarn B** Nacar (N35)  
**Yarn C** Chartreuse (N48)  
**Yarn D** Ixora (N104)  
**Yarn E** Aquamarina (N25)
- A 2.75mm (US C/2) hook
- 2 black safety eyes, 11mm
- Toy stuffing
- Tapestry needle
- Brown stranded cotton

**For stockists contact**  
**DMC 01924 231669**  
**www.dmc.com**

## TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

## MEASUREMENTS

Crab measures approx 13cm (5in) tall

## ABBREVIATIONS

**inv dec** (invisible decrease) Insert hook through fl of next 2 sts, yrh and pull through the two fl on hook, yrh and pull through two loops on hook (alternatively work standard dc2tog)

**bobble** Worked individually over surface of Shell, join yarn to st on Shell, ch2, tr3tog in same st, ch1, ss into Shell one round below

For a full list, see page 88

Kermit the hermit loves a day at the beach, but won't go without his home comforts – or even his home. We can all relate! This is a great time to master the invisible decrease – a simple adaptation that makes decreases barely detectable on tightly curved shapes.

## NOTES

The Crab is made up of separate pieces, which are joined together at the end. This pattern is 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, moving it up as you work. Work standard decreases on Shell, and invisible decreases (inv dec – see Abbreviations) on all other pieces.

## HERMIT CRAB

### SHELL

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

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

**Round 2** Dc in each st around.

**Round 3** (1dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [9 dc]

**Round 4** Change to Yarn C, (2dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [12 dc]

**Round 5** Change to Yarn D, (3dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [15 dc]

**Round 6** Change to Yarn B, (4dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [18 dc]

**Rounds 7-8** As Round 2.

**Round 9** (5dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [21 dc]

**Round 10** As Round 2.

**Round 11** Change to Yarn C, (6dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [24 dc]

**Round 12** Change to Yarn D, as Round 2.

**Round 13** Change to Yarn B, ss in each st around.

**Round 14** Working into ss, (dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 12 times. [36 dc]

**Round 15** As Round 2.

**Round 16** Change to Yarn C, (5dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 dc]

**Round 17** Change to Yarn D, (6dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [48 dc]

**Rounds 18-21** Change to Yarn B, as Round 2.

**Round 22** Change to Yarn D, (6dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]

**Round 23** Change to Yarn C, (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]

**Round 24** Change to Yarn B, as Round 13.

**Round 25** Working into ss, (2dc, 2dc in next st) 12 times. [48 dc]

**Round 26** Change to Yarn C, (7dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [54 dc]

**Round 27** Change to Yarn D, (8dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [60 dc]

**Rounds 28-32** Change to Yarn B, as Round 2.

**Round 33** Change to Yarn D, (8dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [54 sts]

**Round 34** Change to Yarn C, (7dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [48 sts]



As you add stuffing inside the antennae, gently shape them so they curve upwards



The six back legs are made individually before being stitched to the body at the end

**Round 35** Change to Yarn B, (6dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]

**Fasten off**, leaving a long tail for sewing Shell to Body.

## BOBBLES

Using Yarn E, and using the image as a guide, add bobbles around the surface of the Shell over the Yarn B rounds, evenly spaced.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

## BODY

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1, 7dc into the loop. [7dc]

**Round 2** 2dc in each st around. [14 dc]

**Round 3** (Dc, 2dc in next st) 7 times. [21 dc]

**Round 4** (2dc, 2dc in next st) 7 times. [28 dc]

**Round 5** (3dc, 2dc in next st) 7 times. [35 dc]

**Round 6** (4dc, 2dc in next st) 7 times. [42 dc]

**Rounds 7-9** Dc in each st around.

**Round 10** (4dc, inv dec) 7 times. [35 sts]

**Round 11** (3dc, inv dec) 7 times. [28 sts]

**Round 12** (2dc, inv dec) 7 times. [21 sts]

Stuff firmly.



**Round 13** (Dc, inv dec) 7 times. [14 sts]  
**Round 14** (Inv dec) 7 times. [7 sts]  
**Fasten off**, thread tail through front loop of each st of final round and pull tight to close the hole. Weave in ends.

## EYES (MAKE 2)

With Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

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

**Rounds 3-7** Dc in each st around.

Add a safety eye between Rounds 4-5.

**Rounds 8-11** As Round 3.

**Round 12** 2dc in next 3 sts, dc, (inv dec) 3 times, 2dc. [12 sts]

**Rounds 13-14** As Round 3.

**Fasten off**, leaving a long tail for sewing Eyes to Body.

## CLAWS (MAKE 2)

Snip off a 25cm length of Yarn A; this will be used to sew the Claw into shape before you stuff and finish the Claw.

With Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

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

**Round 3** Dc in each st around.

**Round 4** (Dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 dc]

**Round 5** As Round 3.

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

**Round 7** As Round 3.

**Round 8** (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 dc]

**Rounds 9-13** As Round 3.

**Round 14** (3dc, inv dec) 6 times. [24 sts]

**Round 15** (2dc, inv dec) 6 times. [18 sts]

Fold Claw flat and, using the strand of Yarn A, backstitch a line from Round 1 to Round 14, one-third from side of Claw, to create claw shape. Add stuffing to both sections.

**Round 16** (Dc, inv dec) 6 times. [12 sts]

**Rounds 17-22** As Round 3.

**Fasten off**, leaving a long tail for sewing Claw to Body.



Blue bobbles add colourful texture to the crab's shell

## LEGS (MAKE 6)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1, 7dc into the loop. [7 dc]

**Rounds 2-5** Dc in each st around.

**Round 6** 3dc in first st, 6dc. [9 dc]

**Rounds 7-10** Dc around.

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail for sewing Legs to Body.

## TO MAKE UP

Stuff Shell. Place Shell over Body at an angle so it covers more of one side, then sew in place.

For a tidy seam, sew Shell around the posts, rather than loops, of stitches from final round. Add stuffing to Eyes and sew to front of Body, on opposite side from where Shell is angled. Top up stuffing in Claws and sew them to sides of Body, close to, but behind the Eyes. Add a little stuffing to Legs and sew to Body, 3 per side, behind the Claws. Using Yarn D, embroider 2 cheeks between Eyes and Claws. Using brown stranded cotton, embroider a smile below the Eyes. Weave in all ends.

## SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK DOUBLE CROCHET IN A SPIRAL



**1** Make a magic loop (see page 87) and work the t-ch (ch1 for dc). Now work 6 dc stitches into the loop, but do not join the last stitch and first stitch of this round with a slip stitch.



**2** Instead, work the first dc stitch of the second round into the first stitch of the first round. To do this, insert the hook into the stitch, yrh, pull yarn through, yrh and pull the yarn through both loops.



**3** You'll now be working in a spiral. Continue to work more rounds of dc stitches in a spiral, according to your pattern instructions.



**4** On the last round, after you've worked the last dc stitch, you'll need to finish off the spiral with a slip stitch for a neat edge: insert the hook into the next stitch, yrh and pull through both loops.



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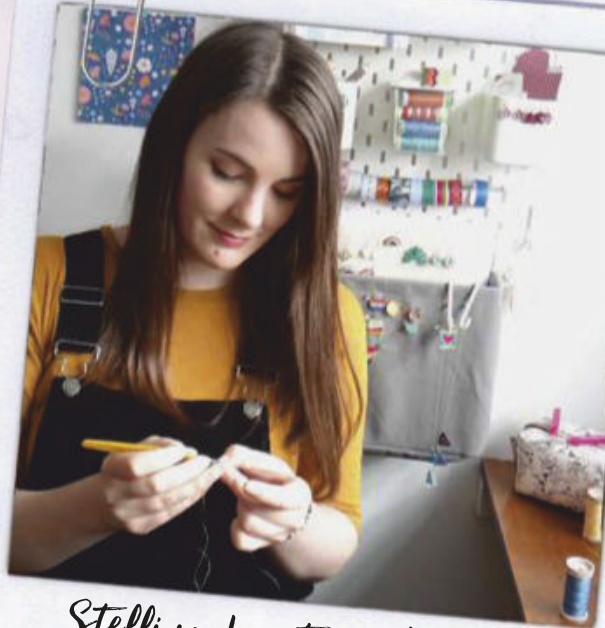
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# STEFFI'S JOURNAL

## ...from the studio

Say it with micro crochet – tiny makes with enormous meaning, from Steffi Graves



*Steffi makes items that are delicate and simply beautiful*

**D**o you ever get so inspired by another crocheter that you absolutely have to try out a new technique? I was lucky to be introduced to Steffi Graves who specialises in designing and making the most exquisite micro crochet jewellery and now I can't wait to have a go! I crocheted some earrings once and they were clumsy and awkward but Steffi has the most amazing way of making items that are delicate, professional and simply beautiful. Travelling meant Steffi needed a much more portable craft than her background in metalwork and enamelling and so she found micro crochet. Alongside her work as a design and technology teacher Steffi has a flourishing business that includes designing for magazines and creating bespoke pieces for customers. She shared with me how much they can mean to those who wear them and also gave me her secrets to achieving these magical little jewels so we can make some too!

Steffi credits her North Yorkshire surroundings as the inspiration for much of her work. Exploring flowers in nature is the perfect way to spark the design process but sometimes it comes from specific requests too. She recently created earrings based on a family heirloom crochet blanket with a beach scene colour palette so there really are no limits to what can offer inspiration. Steffi tells me her favourite projects are

those with symbolic meaning and I see exactly why. Forget-me-nots to remember, granny squares that are sacred to us crocheters, cherry blossoms for spring, rainbows for Pride and more recently to uplift us all, holly leaves for festive times – the list is endless. We all have symbols that mean so much and micro crochet lets you share that with such elegance.

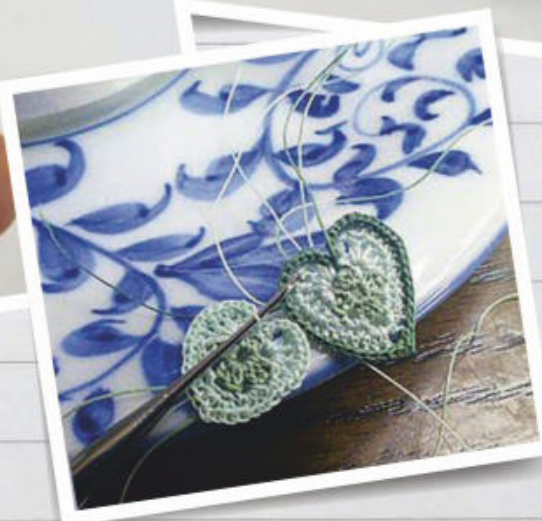
### DESIGNING AND MAKING BESPOKE JEWELLERY

Most of the design process for Steffi is just getting right down to the making. She rarely sketches or plans but experiments with different stitches and colour schemes until she gets it just right. It normally involves some tweaking and then gets added to her record of stitch diagrams so she can recreate the pattern. From there, beads are added if needed and then finally the jewellery findings are attached. People often wonder if the work is stiffened in any way but it's not. Steffi tells me her tight tension and lightly waxed cotton gives just the right stitch definition and the perfect structure to form the intricate fabric with its own unique characteristics that makes it so special.

### THE CHALLENGES OF MICRO CROCHET – SOUND FAMILIAR?

Funnily enough micro crochet has most of the same challenges as regular crochet! Keeping your tension just right, weaving in

"Tight tension and lightly waxed cotton gives just the right stitch definition"







Anyone can master the technique with a few key materials

those fiddly ends, making sure you work into the right part of the stitch – all the woes of crochet we overcome with every project we make. One of the trickiest things is making identical pieces so that a pair of earrings match. Crocheting multiples of the same piece and then picking out matching pairs from them solves this, but means she has a box of singletons waiting for their partner to be created! People worry that hand dexterity, grip or eye sight might be a challenge but Steffi assures me that this shouldn't be the case, anyone can try their hand (and hook) at it!

#### CAN I REALLY TRY IT?

Absolutely. Steffi promises me that anyone can master the technique. All you need is time and practise, just like any other craft. A great idea of hers is to start your usual yarn and hook to make a piece and then work your way down yarn gauges and hook sizes. You end up with tangible items that show your

progress and size difference isn't so much of a shock this way too! Steffi suggests a few key materials when you start: shop around for the best hook for you in terms of shape and ergonomics; invest in a magnifying glass (she doesn't use one yet but fancies one that goes round your neck and sits on your chest); make sure you have fine but strong needles so they don't disturb your stitches; and experiment with different fine threads to see what your tension and stitch definition looks like. I'd bet that most of us have a set of teeny hooks that we bought for some project years ago and embroidery thread lurking at the bottom of a sewing box so why not get your micro crochet on? Make something tiny, beautiful and full of meaning.

**Written by Hannah Cross**

More of Steffi's patterns and bespoke work can be found at [www.steffiglaves.co.uk](http://www.steffiglaves.co.uk) and SteffiGlaves on Etsy

## STEFFI'S TOP TIPS FOR MICRO CROCHET



1. Good lighting first and foremost, work in daylight if you can!
2. Use a comfy handled hook as working so small is uncomfortable if not.
3. Use lighter coloured thread to see where to place your stitches more easily.
4. Try flat motifs that work between stitches rather than in stitches themselves.
5. Crochet excess thread as you go to save fiddly sewing in at the end.







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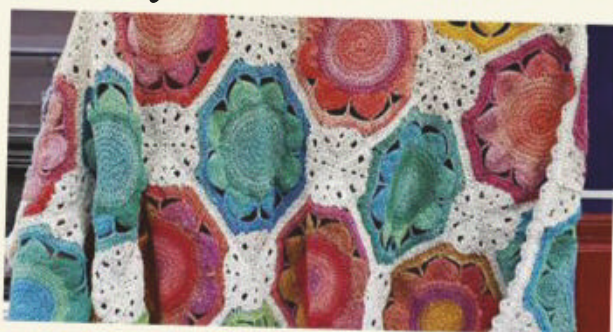
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# Got your back!

Upgrade a summer vest with a mystical mandala design  
by Lucy Croft





## YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Sweet Treat (100% cotton, 140m/25g)  
1 ball of Snow White (106)
- A 2mm (US A/0) hook
- A white vest
- Sewing needle and white thread

For yarn stockists contact

Scheepjes

[www.scheepjes.com/en](http://www.scheepjes.com/en)

## TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

## MEASUREMENTS

Mandala measures approx 22cm (8¾in) across diameter

## ABBREVIATIONS

**fan** (Tr, ch1, tr, ch1, tr, ch1, tr) into st indicated

**beg tr5tog** Ch2, tr4tog over next 4 sts skipping all ch-sps in-between  
**tr5tog** (Yrh, insert hook into next st, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through two loops on hook) 5 times, yrh and pull through all loops on hook

For a full list, see page 88

The front is normally where all the focus is, but the back is where it's at for this embellished vest. The lacy mandala will be the focus of attention as you stride past your neighbours (at a safe distance of course). Just be sure to wear sun protection underneath!

## NOTES

Mandala is worked in rounds with RS facing throughout.

Where a stitch is worked at the end of a round to join to the first st, this counts as a ch-sp in the stitch count. For example, if working a ch2, tr into st at start of round; this would count as 1 ch-5 sp.

## MANDALA

Make a magic loop.

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

**Round 2 (RS)** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at base of ch-3, ch1, (2tr in next dc, ch1) 11 times, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [24 tr, 12 ch-1 sps]

**Round 3** Ch3 (counts as first leg of dtr2tog), dtr in next tr, ch5, skip ch-1 sp, (dtr2tog, ch5, skip ch-1 sp) 10 times, dtr2tog, ch2, skip ch-1 sp, tr into top of first dtr to join (tr counts as ch-3 sp). [12 dtr2tog, 12 ch-5 sps]

**Round 4** (Ch7, ss to third ch of next ch-5 sp) 11 times, ch3, dtr into top of joining tr at end of Round 3 (counts as ch-4 sp). [12 ch-5 sps, 12 ss]

**Round 5** Ch1, (tr, ch1) 3 times in st at base of final dtr of Round 4, ss to fourth ch of next ch-7 sp, \*ch1, (tr, ch1) 3 times into next ss, ss to fourth ch of next ch-7 sp; rep from \* 10 times more, working last ss into top of joining dtr at end of Round 4. [36 tr, 48 ch-1 sps, 12 ss]

**Round 6** Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), \*(tr in next tr, ch1) 3 times, tr in next ss, ch1; repeat from \* 11 times more omitting final (tr, ch1), ss to third ch of beg ch-4. [48 tr, 48 ch-1 sps]

**Round 7** Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), \*(tr in next tr, ch1) 3 times, (tr, ch7, tr) in next tr, ch1; repeat from \* 11 times more omitting final (tr, ch1), ss to third ch of beg ch-4 to join. [60 tr, 36 ch-1 sps, 12 ch-7 sps]

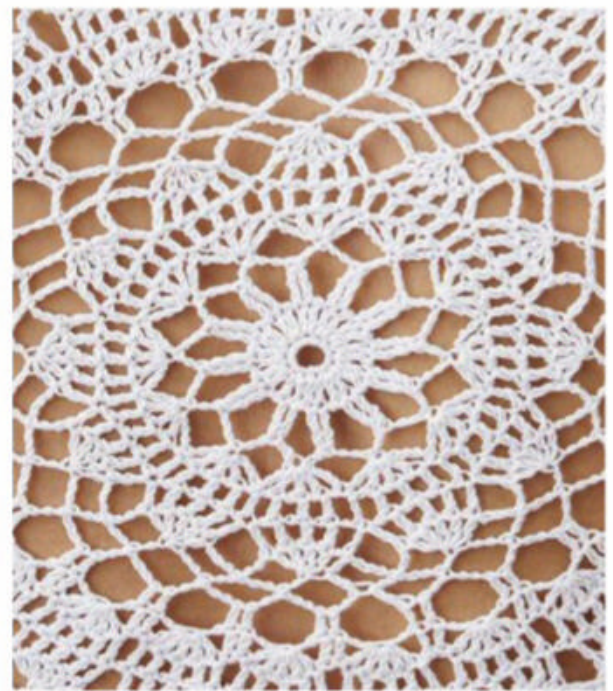
**Round 8** Beg tr5tog, ch5, ss to fourth ch of next ch-7 sp, (ch5, tr5tog over next 5 tr, skipping ch-1 sps, ch5, ss to fourth ch of next ch-7 sp) 11 times, ch2, tr into top of beg tr4tog to join (tr counts as ch3). [12 tr5tog, 24 ch-5 sps, 12 ss]

**Round 9** (Ch6, ss to 3rd ch of next ch-5 sp) 23 times, ch3, tr in top of last tr of Round 8 (counts as ch3). [24 ch-6 sps, 24 ss]

**Round 10** Ch8 (counts as tr, ch5), (tr in third ch of next ch-6 sp, tr in next ch, ch5) 23 times, tr in third ch of last ch-3 sp, ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-8. [48 tr, 24 ch-5 sps]

**Round 11** Ch3 (counts as tr), (fan in third ch of next ch-5 sp, tr in 2 tr) 24 times, omitting final tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [24 fans, 48 tr]

**Round 12** Ss into next tr, ch4 (counts as tr, ch1),



Fine yarn and a slender hook create delicate stitchwork for this lace-patterned mandala

(tr in next tr, ch1) 4 times, skip next 2 tr, \*(tr in next tr, ch1) 5 times, skip next 2 tr; repeat from \* 22 times more, ss to third ch of beg ch-4 to join. [120 tr, 120 ch-1 sps]

**Round 13** Ch3 (counts as tr), (ch1, tr in next tr) 4 times, ch5, \*(tr in next tr, ch1) 4 times, tr in next tr, ch5; rep from \* 22 times more, ss to top of beg ch-3. [120 tr, 96 ch-1 sps, 24 ch-5 sps]

**Round 14** Beg tr5tog, ch5, ss to third ch of next ch-5 sp, (ch5, tr5tog over next 5 tr, skipping ch-1 sps, ch5, ss to third ch of next ch-5 sp) 23 times, ch2, tr in top of first tr4tog (tr counts as ch3). [24 tr5tog, 48 ch-5 sps]

**Round 15** (Ch5, ss to third ch of next ch-5 sp) 23 times, ch5, ss to top of last tr of Round 14.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

## TO MAKE UP

Block Mandala to measurements stated.

Lay the Mandala on the back of the vest and pin in the desired place. Turn the vest inside out and mark a circle approx 0.5cm smaller than the size of the Mandala. Unpin the Mandala and neatly cut out the marked circle. Repin the Mandala to the right side and, using a needle and white thread, backstitch the Mandala neatly to the vest working through all the stitches of the final round.

Turn the vest inside out again and roll back the 0.5cm excess and backstitch around, tucking in the raw edge so that none is visible from the right side.





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*Practise your  
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# Diamond days

Is it a sweater? Is it a poncho? No, it's the best of both – a swancho! Design by Caron



# DIAMOND SWANCHO



## YOU WILL NEED

- Caron Simply Soft Heathers (100% acrylic, 142g/228 m)  
**Yarn A** Gray Heather (H9509)
- Caron Simply Soft Ombre (100% acrylic, 142g/215 m)  
**Yarn B** Teal Zeal (22002)  
**Yarn C** Gold (22008)
- See table for measurements and yarn quantities

- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- Stitch markers

## For yarn contact

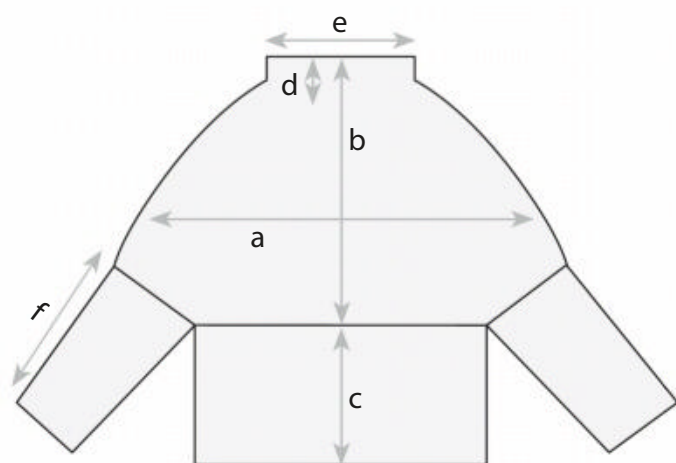
**Wool Warehouse 01926 882818**  
[www.woolwarehouse.co.uk](http://www.woolwarehouse.co.uk)

## TENSION

13 sts and 14 rows to measure  
10x10cm (4x4in) over double  
crochet using a 5mm hook or size  
needed to obtain tension

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 88



**Bust width a:** 50.5 (56: 58.5: 63.5: 71: 80.5)cm,  
20 (22: 23: 25: 28: 31¾)in  
**Yoke depth b:** 37.5 (39: 40.5: 40.5: 42: 42)cm,  
14¾ (15½: 16: 16: 16½: 16½)in  
**Lower body depth c:** 18 (18: 18: 20: 23: 25.5)cm,  
7 (7: 7: 8: 9: 10)in  
**Neckline depth d:** 4cm, 1½in  
**Neckline width e:** 23 (25: 27: 28: 32: 34)cm,  
9 (9¾: 10½: 11: 12½: 13½)in  
**Sleeve length f:** 18cm, 7in

Slip on an easy-to-wear swancho and you'll be away – the wide neck and sleeves coupled with a boxy body mean there's plenty of room for movement.

## NOTES

Yoke is worked in rounds from the top down. Body and Sleeves are worked vertically in rows, then sewn into Yoke between markers. The colourwork for the Yoke is worked using the tapestry crochet method. The colour changes are shown on the Chart on page 89. On the Chart, each square represents 1dc stitch, except for sts marked with 'v' symbol where 2dc are worked in one st. Read all rows from right to left. When changing colour mid-row, twist the ends of the two colours together. Pick up the new colour in the last yrh of the previous stitch. Carry the unused strands of yarn loosely across the top of the sts and enclose it by working sts over it. Ch2 at beg of round/row does not count as st throughout.

## SWANCHO

### YOKE

Beg at neck edge, with Yarn A, ch60 (64: 68: 72: 80: 88) loosely, ss to first ch to join into round, being careful not to twist, pm in first st.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch2, 1htr in each ch around, ss to first st. [60 (64: 68: 72: 80: 88) htr]

**Round 2** Ch2, \*1FPtr around next st, 1htr in next st; rep from \* around, ss to first FPtr. Rep last round twice more.

Work Chart in dc from Rounds 1-51, reading rows of Chart from right to left and noting Chart will be repeated 15 (16: 17: 18: 20: 22) times. [225 (240: 255: 270: 300: 330) dc]

**Next round** With Yarn A, ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each dc to last 1 (0: 1: 0: 0: 0) dc, 2 (0: 2: 0: 0: 0) dc in last 1 (0: 1: 0: 0: 0) dc, ss to first st. [226 (240: 256: 270: 300: 330) sts]

**Next round** With Yarn A, 1dc in each dc



Working the top section and sleeves together means the vibrant colourwork is seamless

around, ss to first st.

Rep last round 0 (2: 4: 4: 6: 6) times more.

**Fasten off.**

## DIVIDE FOR BODY AND SLEEVES

Starting at beg of round, pm at 4 points across last row of Yoke, mark 66th (71st: 75th: 81st: 91st: 103rd) dc for Back, then following 47th (49th: 53rd: 54th: 59th: 62nd) dc for Left Sleeve, then

SIZE		XS	S	M	L	XL	XXL
TO FIT BUST	cm	71-86.5	91.5-96.5	101.5-106.5	112-117	122-137	142-157.5
	in	28-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-54	56-62
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	101.5	112	117	127	142	161.5
	in	40	44	46	50	56	63½
TOTAL LENGTH	cm	59	61	62	65	69	71
	in	23¼	24	24½	25½	27	28
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	18	18	18	18	18	18
	in	7	7	7	7	7	7
YARN A	142g	3	3	4	4	5	6
YARN B	142g	1	1	1	2	2	2
YARN C	142g	1	1	1	2	2	2

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



following 66th (71st: 75th: 81st: 91st: 103rd) dc for Front and leave rem 47 (49: 53: 54: 59: 62) dc for Right Sleeve.

## LOWER BODY

Lower Body is worked vertically in rows, then sewn to Yoke.

With Yarn A, ch25 (25: 25: 28: 32: 34).

**Row 1 (RS)** 1htr in third ch from hook and in each ch to end of chain, turn.

[23 (23: 23: 26: 30: 32) htr]

**Row 2** Ch2, \*work 1htr into horizontal bar created below st in previous row (bar is below loops normally worked – see Diagram below); rep from \* 5 times more, 1htr in each htr to end of row, turn.

**Row 3** Ch2, 1htr in each htr to last 6 htr, \*work 1htr into horizontal bar created below st in previous row; rep from \* 5 times more, 1htr in each of last 6htr, turn.

Rep last 2 rows until work from beg matches length between markers for Front plus Back. Sew in place as you work.

## SLEEVE RIBBING (BOTH ALIKE)

Sleeve Ribbing is worked vertically in rows, then sewn to Yoke.

With Yarn A, ch25.

**Row 1 (RS)** 1htr in third ch from hook and each ch to end of chain, turn. [23 htr]

**Row 2** Ch2, \*work 1htr into horizontal bar created below st in previous row as before; rep from \* to end of row, turn.

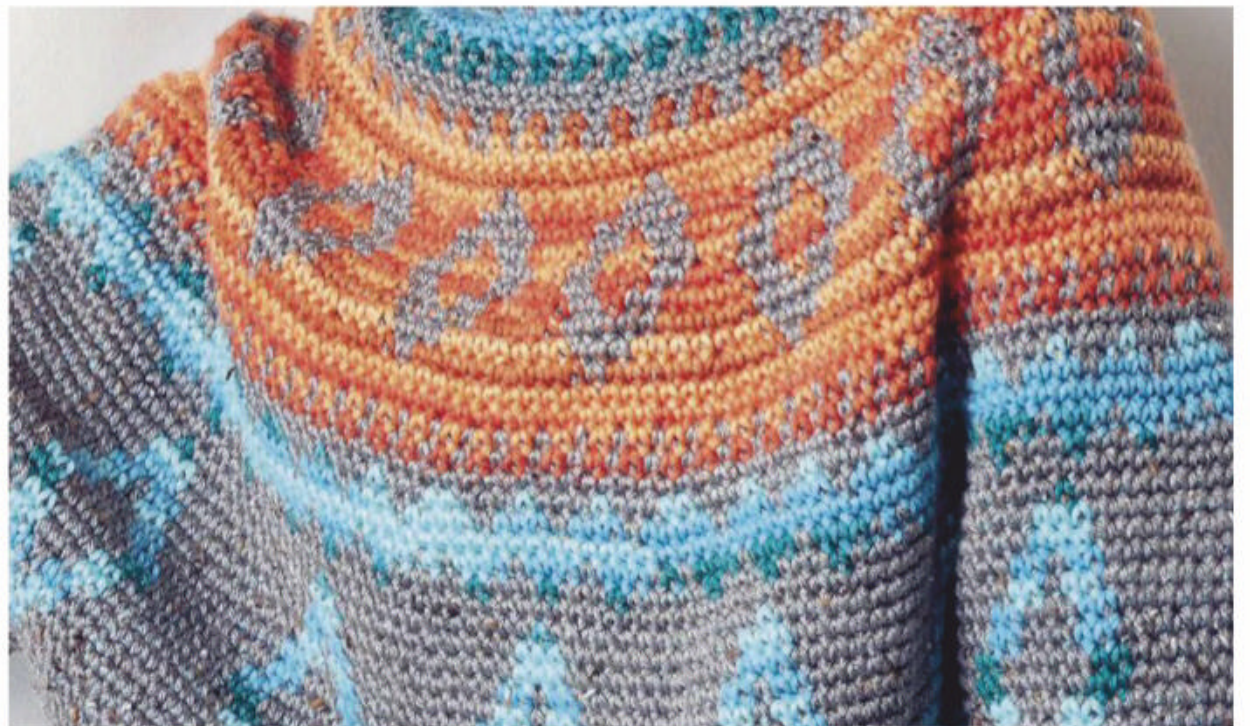
Rep last row until work from beg matches, when slightly stretched, length between markers for Sleeve.

### Fasten off.

Beg at underarm, sew in place as you work.

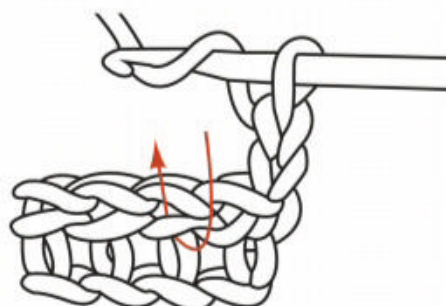
## TO FINISH

Weave in all ends.



The stripy yoke, worked from top down, is made using the tapestry crochet technique

Diagram



Work htr in bar below loops usually worked



Work the sleeve ribbing in vertical rows using Yarn A, then sew the pieces to the yoke, easy!

## SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK TAPESTRY COLOURWORK



**1** Work to the point where you want to change colour and on the last stitch in the first colour, work the final yrh using the second colour.



**2** Work a stitch using the second colour, but hold the working end of the first colour on top of the stitches below and make sure you work your new stitch over the top of it, effectively encasing the first colour.



**3** Continue working in this way, encasing the working end of the first colour. When you want to change colour again, use the same method as before: on the last stitch in the second colour, work the final yrh using the first colour.



**4** It's important at this point not to pull too tightly on the first colour of yarn or it will pucker the fabric. Continue to work stitches using the first colour, over the top of the working end of the second colour.



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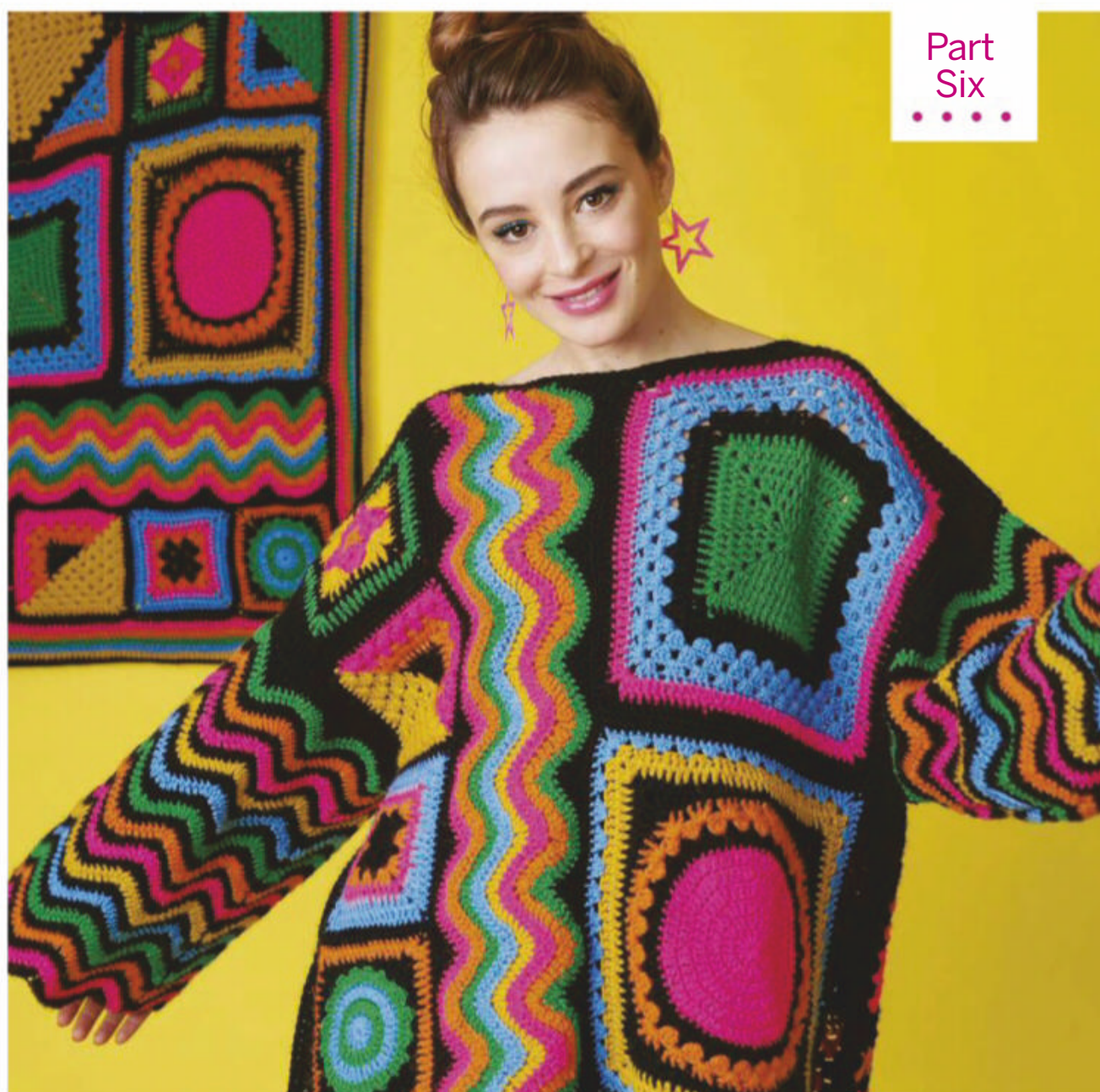
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# 2-IN-1 CARNABY CAL JUMPER OR BLANKET

Inspired by the vibrancy of its famous London street namesake, Katie Jones' brand new 10-part crochet-along is a bright-as-you-like jumper... or blanket. You choose!



KATIE JONES

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## YOU WILL NEED

### For entire CAL (Blanket or Jumper)

- Stylecraft Special DK  
(100% acrylic, 100g/295m)  
3 balls of each:  
Yarn A Black (1002)  
Yarn C Fiesta (1257)  
2 balls of each:  
Yarn B Jaffa (1256)  
Yarn D Kelly Green (1826)  
Yarn E Mustard (1823)  
Yarn F Aster (1003)

- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

- Stitch markers

For your local stockists contact

Stylecraft Yarns 04184 848435

[www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk](http://www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk)

For other stockists, see the page opposite

## CAL TENSION/MEASUREMENTS

Tension is not critical for the Blanket; the finished measurements will be approx 138x138cm (54¼x 54¼in) if you make your motifs to the sizes stated. The fully reversible Jumper is one size only with an actual Bust measurement of approx 120cm (47¼in), although there are guidelines at the end on how to adjust for a larger size. If you want to make sure your Jumper comes out at this size, check that your motifs are the sizes stated, adjusting your hook size if necessary.

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 88

## CAL NOTES

There are nine different motifs that make up the CAL, and you can use these motifs to make either a Blanket or a Jumper. In each issue we will give you instructions to make a different motif, along with how many motifs you will need if you are making a Blanket, and how many for a Jumper. You will need twice the number of motifs to make the Blanket. There is one motif each issue for the first nine parts, and the final part will include instructions on how to make up your Blanket or Jumper.



A bonanza of colour and brimful of cheer, our two-in-one crochet-along puts the 'CAL' in 'superCALifragilisticexpialidocious'! Hook up the motifs month by month, and choose to make up a bright jumper or bold blanket.

## SQUARED MEASUREMENTS

15x15cm (6x6in)

## SQUARED NOTES

Worked in the round on RS only.

## SQUARED

Blanket: Make 4

Jumper: Make 2

## MOTIF

With Yarn A, ch4, ss to first ch to join into a ring.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 2tr into ring, ch3, (3tr into ring, ch3) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-3.

[4 3-tr groups, 4 corner ch-3 sps]

**Round 2** Ch3, (3tr, ch3, 3tr) in next 3 ch-sps, (3tr,

ch3, 2tr), in final ch-sp, ss to top of beg ch-3.

[8 3-tr groups, 4 corner ch-3 sps]

### Fasten off.

Join Yarn B in any corner sp.

**Round 3** (Ch3, 2tr, ch3, 3tr) in corner ch-3 sp, \*skip 3 tr, 3tr in sp before next 3-tr group, (3tr, ch3, 3tr) in corner ch-3 sp; rep from \* twice more, skip 3 tr, 3tr in sp before next 3-tr group, ss to top of beg ch-3.

[12 3-tr groups, 4 corner ch-3 sps]

### Fasten off.

Join Yarn C in any corner sp.

**Round 4** Ch3, (1tr, ch3, 2tr) in corner ch-3 sp, \*8tr working in sps between each st to corner, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) in corner ch-3 sp; rep from \* twice more, 8tr working in sps between each st, ss to top of beg ch-3.

[8 2-tr groups, 4 corner ch-3 sps, 32 tr]

### Fasten off.

Join Yarn F in any corner sp.

**Round 5** Ch3, (1tr, ch3, 2tr) in corner ch-3 sp, \*11tr working in sps between each st to corner, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) in corner ch-3 sp; rep from \*



## CARNABY CAL

twice more, 11tr working in sps between each st, ss to top of beg ch-3.

[8 2-tr groups, 4 corner ch-3 sps, 44 tr]

**Round 6** Ch3, tr in sp between next 2 sts, \*(2tr, ch3, 2tr) in corner ch-3 sp, 14tr working in sps between each st to corner; rep from \* twice more, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) in corner ch-3 sp, 12tr working in sps between each st, ss to top of beg ch-3. [8 2-tr groups, 4 corner ch-3 sps, 56 tr]

**Fasten off.**

Join Yarn A in any corner sp.

**Round 7** Ch1, \*(dc, ch1, dc) in corner ch-3 sp, dc in each st to next corner; rep from \* three times more, ss to first dc. [80 dc, 4 ch-1 sps]

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

You'll find a layout diagram in the last part of this CAL to help you put the motifs together



## CARNABY CAL

### SHOW US YOURS!

We want to see how you're getting on!  
Join our group at [www.facebook.com/groups/SCtreblemakers](https://www.facebook.com/groups/SCtreblemakers) and post your pics on Facebook and Instagram  
#carnabyCAL



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[www.woolwarehouse.co.uk](http://www.woolwarehouse.co.uk)





Sue has a real passion for teaching and loves to see the pride students take in their achievements



Boo Marshall

# COLOUR CONNECTION

Designer and owner of The Mercerie, Sue Maton shares her philosophy that crochet is a comfort, teaching tool and an important way to connect with others

**A**s with many craft entrepreneurs, when social distancing measures started several weeks ago, it didn't take Sue Maton too long to find new ways of keeping her crochet ventures going. "Initially, the prospect of lockdown filled me with despair as I make my living teaching classes and helping people to be sociable and support their high street retailers," she recalls.

"However, most self-employed creatives are pretty resourceful and responsive to changing environments. I've migrated most of my courses online now and I'm using a combination of video tutorials and live Q&A sessions on Zoom. It's been a steep learning curve for me, and very time consuming, but it's also pointing me in a new direction."

Sue's classes are a major part of The Mercerie's

mission. "When I started The Mercerie in 2012 I had a vague idea that I'd be an online yarn retailer, and thought it would be good to design some products to help sell the wool," she says. "The reality was that I didn't sell much yarn; I couldn't compete with other retailers and my heart wasn't in selling, it was in designing. So in 2016 I decided to concentrate on designing products that I could genuinely put my heart into. Also, at this time, I began to grow the crochet classes and found that I could successfully combine the two things I love; designing and teaching. This now forms the core of what The Mercerie is all about; good design and bringing people together."

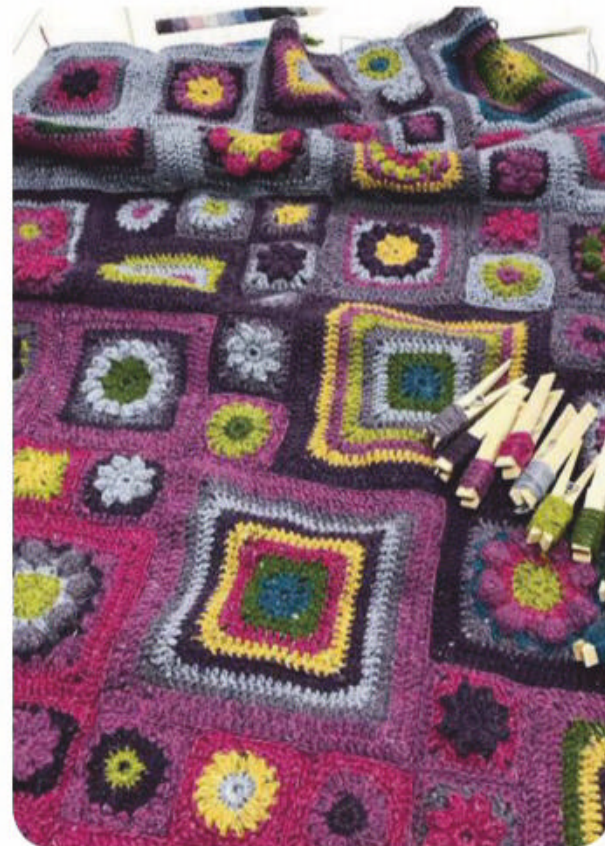
## NEW VOCATION

Teaching is very much in Sue's DNA; she trained as a knitwear designer in the 1980s at

De Montfort University then began teaching at her local college. "Teaching became my vocation for the next 20 years! I enjoyed learning with the students as the subjects I taught included Art and Design, Art History, Textile Design, Fashion and even Graphic Design. I learnt that my interests were broad and I enjoyed the fast pace of project turnover, and after several years stopped thinking of myself as a knitwear designer."

This passion for teaching means Sue's classes always inspire her. "That moment when you can almost hear the penny drop as someone finally 'gets it' with just 15 minutes left of the lesson is a joy! Sometimes people I've taught to crochet will share pictures of their work with me on social media and it's great to see the pleasure their new craft skills brings them."





Sue runs a Working with Colour Harmonies class, a hands-on painting day designed to help people work with colours and gain colour confidence. And recently she's been hosting crochet retreats in rural Norfolk, with plans to run them again in the near future. "My favourite classes are the six month blanket courses that I run; Homage to the (Granny) Square and Wallflowers," she enthuses. "These courses are as much about colour as they are about crochet and it's the most amazing thing to see your own design reflected back at you in multiple different colourways. I can see the pride that everyone takes in their creation and the gradual realisation that they have a creative soul."

"The feedback I get most from my students is 'I never imagined I could make something as beautiful as this' often followed by 'Even my husband is impressed!' I still really value that about crochet – it's easily accessible to anyone. I love the simple economy of one basic tool, and its infinite potential."

#### ONLINE OPPORTUNITY

The popularity of the Wallflowers course has sparked an idea for a new project. "Wallflowers grew as a 'Mystery Blanket' project that I initially ran for a small group of people at Norfolk Yarn, in Norwich," she explains. "I knew it was going to be a lovely blanket but really I had no idea how much impact the finished product would make. It's currently only available as a 'real life' course but I was getting lots of requests to make the pattern available, or to run it as an online course."

"I'd been thinking for some time about offering something to the online community who I think were beginning to feel a bit left out of the party, so when social isolation was introduced I knew immediately that this was my cue to develop an online project. There

wasn't time to design and make a finished project to present to the online community so I just decided to announce that I was designing something new, called Crojo Retro, and if anyone wanted to join in they could."

Crojo Retro is still in its infancy but already proving a success. "It's a huge leap of faith and, if I'm honest, very scary, to be working on a mystery blanket live on social media, but so far the response has been really positive and

"I LOVE THE SIMPLE ECONOMY  
OF ONE BASIC TOOL, AND ITS  
INFINITE POTENTIAL"

I'm enjoying the challenge," confesses Sue. "The design is based on stylised 1960s and 70s surface pattern, a bit Orla Kiely, or Mary Quant, and it's intended to be a little light hearted oasis in these dark times."

#### DESIGNS TO TREASURE

When Sue's not busy teaching she finds time to work on her own designs, and has a strong ethos she likes to stick to. "I made a conscious decision a couple of years ago that I would only design and make products that I genuinely believe deserve a place in the world, and that means I don't design many things – but I do like to take my time and

create products that can be treasured and valued as heirloom pieces."

"Colour and surface pattern really motivate her: "The reason my recent projects have all been blankets is because a simple rectangular format is the perfect shape for exploring pattern and repetition." A current favourite yarn, Rowan Felted Tweed, has been used for all three of Sue's recent blanket designs. "I love the quality of the colours in the range, they have depth of colour that is both subtle and intense; the range of colours is huge and the whole collection just works beautifully." When it comes to techniques Sue has a particular love for working with multiple motifs that are pieced together. "I think there are a couple of reasons for this," she muses. "Firstly, it makes the work much more portable, but also because my work tends to grow and develop organically it's easier to manage if it's made up of lots of small pieces."

Despite having to juggle her own designing with online classes and projects right now, Sue still has plenty more ventures to look forward to, as her quest to connect with others through crochet continues. "I'll be resuming my [offline] crochet classes and working with some new local yarn shops later this year, but I'm also excited about the prospect of offering courses online to a much wider audience."

**Written by Lucy Evans**



#### A few of her favourite things

**When Sue puts down her hook...**

"I love listening to podcasts (I especially like Russell Brand's *Under the Skin*) and audio books. I'm addicted to dystopian novels and box sets, and I'm happiest when I'm camping."

Find out more at [www.themercurie.co.uk](http://www.themercurie.co.uk). You can also follow Sue on Instagram at @themercurie.



# Amigurumi

## COLLECTION



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## Colourful cutie

You'll be forever chasing the rainbow when your little one wears this tunic! Designed by Samantha Fletcher



CHILD'S RAINBOW TUNIC



YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Paris (100% cotton, 50g/75m)  
1 ball of each:  
Red (12)  
Orange (13)  
Strong Yellow (14)  
Opal Green (11)  
Dark Turquoise (10)  
Light Purple (05)

- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- 3 (3: 4: 4) buttons, 14mm

For yarn contact  
Wool Warehouse 01926 882818  
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

11 sts and 7 rows to measure  
10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet  
using a 4mm hook or size needed to  
obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

See table for measurements

ABBREVIATIONS

**V-st** (Tr, ch1, tr) in st indicated, or in  
ch-1 sp of previous V-st  
For a full list, see page 88

It might be possible that getting dressed in the morning will be so much more fun with this outfit to choose – why not sing the rainbow song to get everyone involved off to a bright start?

NOTES

Tunic is made in one piece from top down. Yoke is worked back and forth in rows, then Lower Section is joined into the round and worked in the round until hem. Button bands are added to the centre back Yoke opening. If you wish, you can make the Tunic longer by adding extra rows before the final 3 rows of the Lower Section.  
1 turning ch is used on htr rows and 2 on tr rows; these do not count as sts throughout.

TUNIC  
COLOUR SEQUENCE

The colour sequence to be followed throughout is as follows:  
3 rows Red.  
1 row Orange.  
1 row Red.  
2 (3: 3: 3) rows Orange.  
(1 row Strong Yellow, 1 row Orange, 2 rows Strong Yellow) 1 (1: 2: 2) times.  
1 row Opal Green.  
1 row Strong Yellow.  
2 (2: 3: 3) rows Opal Green.  
1 row Dark Turquoise.  
1 row Opal Green.  
2 (2: 3: 3) rows Dark Turquoise.  
1 row Light Purple.  
1 row Dark Turquoise.  
3 rows Light Purple.  
[8 (9: 10: 11) rows for Yoke and 16 (16: 20: 20) rounds for Lower Section, total of 24 (25: 30: 31) rows/rounds]

YOKE

Ch57 (57: 65: 65).  
**Row 1 (RS)** Htr in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [56 (56: 64: 64) sts]  
**Row 2** Ch2, 7 (7: 8: 8) tr, V-st in next st, 12 (12: 14: 14) tr, V-st in next st, 14 (14: 16: 16) tr, V-st in next st, 7 (7: 8: 8) tr, turn.  
[60 (60: 68: 68) tr and 4 ch-sps]



The cap-style sleeves are worked at the same time as the yoke section, in one piece



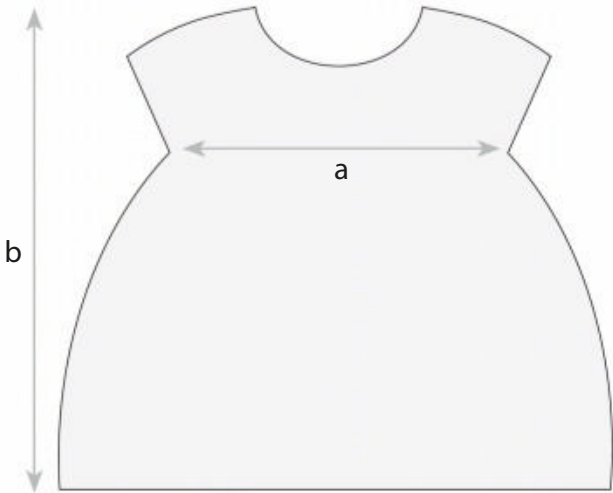
Work the striped lower section straight onto the yoke, and work it in the round

SIZES 6 AND 12 MONTHS ONLY

**Row 3** Ch2, (tr in next st, ch1, skip next st) 4 times, V-st in V-st, ch1, skip next st, (tr in next st, ch1, skip next st) 6 times, tr in next st, V-st in V-st, (tr in next st, ch1, skip next st) 8 times, V-st in V-st, ch1, skip next st, (tr in next st, ch1, skip next st) 6 times, tr in next st, V-st in V-st, (tr in next st, ch1, skip next st) 3 times, tr in last 2 sts, turn. [39 tr and 33 ch-sps]

SIZES 2 AND 4 YEARS ONLY

**Row 3** Ch2, (tr in next st, skip next st) 4 times, tr in next st, V-st in V-st, (tr in next st, ch1, skip



**Chest width a:** 25.5 (27: 31: 34.5)cm,  
10 (10¾: 12: 13½)in  
**Length b:** 33 (34: 41: 42.5)cm,  
13 (13½: 16¼: 16¾)in

SIZE		6 months	12 months	2 years	4 years
TO FIT CHEST	cm	43	46	53	59
	in	17	18	20¾	23
ACTUAL CHEST (APPROX)	cm	51	54.5	62	69
	in	20	21½	24¾	27¼
LENGTH	cm	33	34	41	42.5
	in	13	13½	16¼	16¾

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



next st) 8 times, V-st in V-st, ch1, skip next st, (tr in next st, ch1, skip next st) 8 times, tr in next st, V-st in V-st, (tr in next st, ch1, skip next st) 8 times, V-st in V-st, ch1, skip next st, (tr in next st, ch1, skip next st) 3 times, tr in last 2 sts, turn. [43 tr and 37 ch-sps]

## ALL SIZES

**Row 4** Working in each st and ch, ch2, 9 (9: 10: 10) tr, V-st in V-st, 16 (16: 18: 18) tr, V-st in V-st, 18 (18: 20: 20) tr, V-st in V-st, 16 (16: 18: 18) tr, V-st in V-st, 9 (9: 10: 10) tr, turn. [76 (76: 84: 84) tr and 4 ch-sps]

**Row 5** Ch2, (tr in each st to V-st, V-st in V-st) 4 times, tr in each st to end, turn.

[84 (84: 92: 92) tr and 4 ch-sps]

Repeat Row 5 a further 2 (3: 4: 5) times.

[100 (108: 124: 132) tr and 4 ch-sps]

## DIVIDE FOR BODY AND ARMHOLES

**Next row** Ch2, 13 (14: 16: 17) tr, 1 (1: 1: 2) tr in ch-sp, skip next 24 (26: 30: 32) sts for armhole, 1 (1: 1: 2) tr in ch-sp, 26 (28: 32: 43) tr, 1 (1: 1: 2) tr in ch-sp, skip next 24 (26: 30: 32) sts for armhole, 1 (1: 1: 2) tr in ch-sp, 13 (14: 16: 17) tr, ss to top of first tr to join into the round. [56 (60: 68: 76) sts for Body]

## LOWER SECTION

From now on cont working in the round. If necessary, turn to the RS for the following round, and cont working from RS throughout.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch2, 2tr in each st around, ss to first tr. [112 (120: 136: 152) sts]

**Round 2 (RS)** Ch2, tr in each st around, ss to first tr.

Repeat Round 2 a further 11 (11: 15: 15) times.

**Next round** Ch2, (tr in next st, ch1, skip next st) repeat around, ss to first st.

**Next round** Ch2, tr in each st and ch-sp around, ss to first st.

**Next round** Ch2, htr in each st around, ss to first st.

**Fasten off.**



Button and buttonhole bands are added at the end

## BUTTON BAND

With Red, rejoin at neckline edge of centre back opening with RS facing.

**Row 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 15 (17: 19: 21) dc evenly into row ends, turn. [15 (17: 19: 21) sts]

**Rows 2-3** Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

**Fasten off.**

## BUTTONHOLE BAND

With Red, rejoin at Lower Section edge of

centre back opening with RS facing.

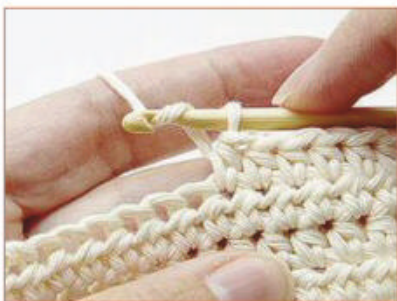
**Row 1 (RS)** Ch1, 15 (17: 19: 21) dc evenly into row ends, turn. [15 (17: 19: 21) sts]

**Row 2** Ch1, 2 (4: 1: 3) dc, ch2, skip next 2 sts, (3dc, ch2, skip 2 sts) 2 (2: 3: 3) times, dc in last st, turn. [3 (3: 4: 4) buttonholes]

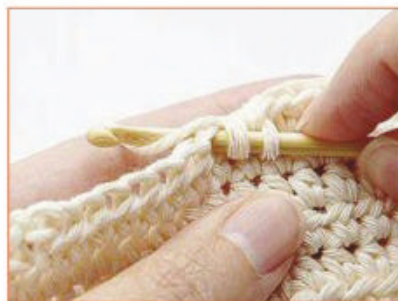
**Row 3** Ch1, dc in each st and 2dc in each ch-2 sp. [15 (17: 19: 21) sts]

**Fasten off** and sew buttons to Button Band, in line with the button holes.

## SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A HALF TREBLE



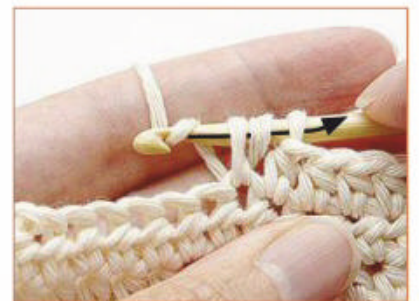
**1** To make a half treble crochet stitch, work to where you want the htr and then wind the yarn round the hook (yrh).



**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.



# Carry with style

Get caught red-handed with this bright bag by Ilaria Caliri

GREAT  
SUMMER  
ACCESSORY







## YOU WILL NEED

- Paintbox Cotton Aran (100% cotton, 50g/85m)  
5 balls of Red Wine (616)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Stitch marker
- 2 D-rings, 25mm (available from [www.terrystfabrics.co.uk](http://www.terrystfabrics.co.uk))
- Brass chain bag strap with lobster clasp ends, 110cm

For yarn stockists contact  
**LoveCrafts 01409 404010**  
[www.lovecrafts.com](http://www.lovecrafts.com)

## TENSION

17 sts and 9 rounds to measure  
10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet  
using a 3.5mm hook, or size needed  
to obtain correct tension

## MEASUREMENTS

Bag measures approx 30cm  
(11¾in) tall

## ABBREVIATIONS

**back two loops** Where directed to work into the back two loops, insert hook into the back loop and the third loop that sits on the WS of the st; this will push the front loop forward to produce a raised chain on the RS

For a full list, see page 88

Effortlessly transport your daily essentials in the most stylish of bags, leaving hands free to grab life (or shopping/dog lead/bicycle) with both hands!

## NOTES

Bucket Bag is worked from the Base up in rounds, with RS facing throughout. The Base is worked around the foundation chain in increasing rounds.

An i-cord Tie and Fastener are made separately.

Slip stitches are not included in st counts unless otherwise stated.

## BUCKET BAG

### BASE

Ch24.

**Round 1 (RS)** Tr in third ch from hook and next 20 ch, 6tr in final ch, turn to work into opposite side of foundation ch, tr in next 20 ch, 5tr in final ch, ss to top of beg tr to join. [52 sts]

**Round 2 (RS)** Ch2 (does not count as a st throughout), (tr in next 20 sts, 2dc in next 6 sts) 2 times, ss to top of beg tr. [64 sts]

**Round 3** Ch2, \*tr in next 20 sts, (tr in next st, 2tr in next st) 6 times; rep from \* once more, ss to top of beg tr. [76 sts]

**Round 4** Ch2, \*tr in next 20 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 2 sts) 6 times; rep from \* once more, ss to top of beg tr. [88 sts]

**Round 5** Ch2, \*tr in next 20 sts, (tr in next 3 sts, 2tr in next st) 6 times; repeat from \* once more, ss to top of beg tr. [100 sts]

**Round 6** Ch2, \*tr in next 20 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 4 sts) 6 times; repeat from \* once more, ss to top of beg tr. [112 sts]

Do not fasten off.

### BODY

**Round 7** (Work in back two loops only; see Abbreviations) Ch2, tr in each st around, ss to top of beg tr. [112 sts]

**Rounds 8-10** Ch2, tr in each st around, ss to top of beg tr.

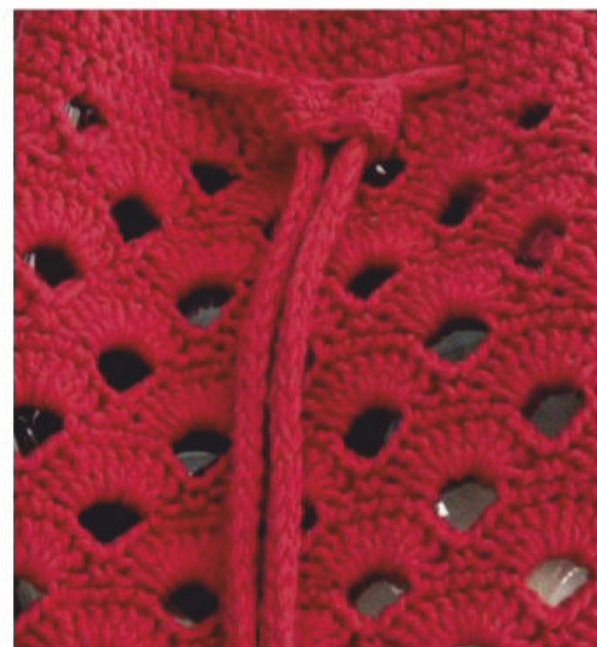
**Round 11** (Work in back two loops) Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), \*dc in next 3 sts, ch3, skip 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts; rep from \* 15 times more, ss to top of beg dc. [80 dc, 16 ch-3 sps]

**Round 12** Ch1, \*dc in next st, skip 2 dc, 9tr in ch-3 sp (pm in third tr of first rep), skip 2 sts; rep from \* 15 times more, ss to top of beg dc, ss to marked st. [16 dc, 144 tr]

**Round 13** Ch1, \*dc in next 5 sts, ch3, skip (2tr, 1dc, 2tr), rep from \* 15 times more, ss to top of beg dc. [80 dc, 16 ch-3 spaces]

**Round 14** Ss in next 2 sts, ch1, dc in same st, \*skip 2 dc, 9tr in ch-3 sp (pm in third tr of first rep), skip 2 dc, dc in next st; rep from \* around, ss to top of beg dc, ss to marked st. [16 dc, 144 tr]

**Rounds 15-32** Repeat Rounds 13-14.



Using aran-weight yarn with a 3.5mm hook creates a sturdy fabric, which is ideal for a bag

**Round 33** As Round 13. [80 dc, 16 ch-3 spaces]

**Round 34** Ch2, (tr in next 5 sts, 2 tr in next ch-3 sp) 16 times, ss in first st. [112 sts]

**Rounds 35-37** Ch2, tr in each st around, ss to top of beg tr.

**Round 38** Ss in each st around.

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

### I-CORD TIE

Make an 80cm long i-cord as follows:

Ch3, insert hook into second ch from hook, yrh and pull up a loop, insert hook into last ch from hook, yrh and pull up a loop (3 loops on hook), \*remove second and third loop from hook and secure them with a stitch marker, yrh and pull through loop on hook, place second loop back on hook, yrh and pull through second loop, place third loop back on hook, yrh and pull through third loop on hook; rep from \* until i-cord measures 80cm, slip the third loop through the second loop and remove second loop from hook, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook.

**Fasten off.**

### FASTENER

Ch10, ss to last ch from hook to form a loop.

**Rounds 1-3** Ch1, dc in each st around. [10 sts]

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail.

Flatten the Fastener and sew the centre together to form two sections for the String Tie to pass through.

### TO FINISH

Weave in all ends.

Thread the i-cord Tie through the sts of Round 35, starting from the front-centre of the Bag and ending 7 sts from the where you began.

Thread the i-cord tie through the Fastener.

Sew the D-rings either side of the Bag over Round 33 and attach the bag straps.



# We heart crochet!

Bring a little love to your home  
with this versatile mandala.

By Sharna Moore

PERFECT  
STASH  
BUSTER







## YOU WILL NEED

■ Paintbox Cotton DK  
(100% cotton, 50g/125m)  
1 ball of each:  
Bubblegum Pink (451)  
Vanilla Cream (408)  
Soft Fudge (410)  
Peach Orange (455)  
Lipstick Pink (452)  
■ A 4mm (US G/6) hook  
For yarn contact  
LoveCrafts 01409 404010  
www.lovecrafts.com

## TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

## MEASUREMENTS

Mandala measures approx 28cm (11in) in diameter

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 88

They say home is where the heart is so why not choose colours to complement your room decor for this little make. Hook up a matching set and spread the love...

## NOTES

Mandala is worked in rounds with RS facing throughout.

Where using more than one colour in a round, change colour on the final yrh of st before colour change is indicated and carry the unused colours across the top of the sts, enclosing the strand as you work. Where changing colour at the end of the round, fasten off the previous colour.

Join the new colour with a slip stitch.

Slip stitches are not included in stitch counts, unless otherwise stated.

## MANDALA

Using Bubblegum Pink, make a magic loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch3 (counts as a tr throughout), 2tr, ch2, (3tr, ch2) 3 times, ss to first tr to join, ss into first ch-2 sp. [4 3-tr groups, 4 ch-2 sps]

**Round 2 (RS)** Ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same ch-sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in each ch-2 sp around, ss to first tr, ss into ch-2 sp. [8 3-tr groups, 4 ch-2 sps]

**Round 3** Ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same ch-sp, change to Vanilla Cream, 3tr in sp between next two 3-tr groups, change to Bubblegum Pink, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch-2 sp, 3tr in sp between next two 3-tr groups, change to Vanilla Cream, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch-2 sp, change to Bubblegum Pink, 3tr in sp between next two 3-tr groups, change to Vanilla Cream, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch-2 sp, change to Bubblegum Pink, 3tr in sp between next two 3-tr groups, ss to top of beg tr. [12 3-tr groups, 4 ch-2 sps]

### Fasten off.

Join Vanilla Cream into first ch-2 corner sp.

**Round 4** Ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in each sp between 3-tr groups and each ch-2 sp around, ss to top of beg tr.

[24 3-tr groups, 12 ch-2 sps]

### Fasten off.

Join Soft Fudge into any ch-2 sp.

**Round 5** Ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same sp, \*3tr in sp between next two 3-tr groups, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch-2 sp; rep from \* ten times more, 3tr in sp between next two 3-tr groups, ss to top of beg tr. [36 3-tr groups, 12 ch-2 sps]

### Fasten off.

Join Vanilla Cream into any ch-2 sp.

**Round 6** Ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1) in same ch-sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1) in each ch-2 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-3.

[24 3-tr groups, 12 ch-2 sps, 12 ch-1 sps]

### Fasten off.

Join Peach Orange into any ch-1 sp.

**Round 7** Ch3, (2tr, ch1) in same sp, \*(3tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1) in next ch-2 sp, (3tr, ch1) in next ch-1 sp; rep from \* 10 times more, (3tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1) in final ch-2 sp, ss to top of beg ch-3.



Create the heart by working Bubblegum Pink and Vanilla Cream in Round 3



A final round of Bubblegum Pink is a perfect finish and complements the central heart

[36 3-tr groups, 12 ch-2 sps, 24 ch-1 sps]

### Fasten off.

Join Vanilla Cream into any ch-2 sp.

**Round 8** Ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same ch-2 sp, \*3tr in each ch-1 sp to next ch-2 sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp; rep from \* ten times more, 3tr in each ch-1 sp to end, ss to top of beg ch-3.

[48 3-tr groups, 12 ch-2 sps]

### Fasten off.

Join Lipstick Pink into any ch-2 sp.

**Round 9** Ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same ch-2, sp, \*3tr in sp between next two 3-tr groups, skip next sp, 3tr in sp between next two 3-tr groups, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch-2 sp; rep from \* ten times more, 3tr in sp between next two 3-tr groups, skip next sp, 3tr in sp between next two 3-tr groups, ss to top of beg ch-3.

[48 3-tr group, 12 ch-2 sps]

### Fasten off.

Join Vanilla Cream into any ch-2 sp.

**Round 10** As Round 8.

[60 3-tr groups, 12 ch-2 sps]

### Fasten off.

Join Bubblegum Pink into any ch-2 sp.

**Round 11** Ch1, \*(dc, ch1, dc) in ch-2 sp, dc in each st to next ch-2 sp; rep from \* eleven times more, ss to top of beg dc. [204 dc]

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





# HOOKSTER HAVEN

We've never spent so much time behind closed doors as we are now, and crafting for our homes is providing comfort for so many in these challenging times





Clockwise from top: Hannah wearing her Seaglass Bandana scarf; Hannah's squares blanket; Hattie's bright mandalas  
Opposite: Emma's lantern and lockdown blanket complete her crochet nook



**O**ur homes have been our absolute world these last few months, and some of us have found that added time has sparked creativity, inspiring crafty projects. Read on to discover what our homebody hooksters have been up to, and hopefully be inspired to make your own versions at home.

#### HATTIE'S COLOURFUL KEEPSAKES

My girls and I have painted rainbow pebbles to say a huge 'thank you' the NHS and all the other frontline workers, which we're displaying in the front garden. We're also quite into tie-dye too. It has become a very colourful house!

Getting crafty is an excellent way to unwind and feel like you're achieving something at the same time: it is the perfect activity to create a sense of wellbeing. My patterns for the Togetherness Mandala and Square and Pretty Petals Mandala are available for free. I hope they will bring a touch of happy to your home and make you smile.

We're spending so much time in our garden. My Happy Flower & Dreamcatcher pattern (available on [www.thepetalshed.uk](http://www.thepetalshed.uk)) is perfect as a coaster for your garden table.

They also look lovely made into a garland.

My ultimate 'lockdown recommendation' though is a blanket. There is something magical about choosing colours, ordering yarn (or making a dent in your stash), starting and watching it grow. Feeling like you've achieved something at the end and as you use and enjoy it is the best. When it comes to crafting, a sense of accomplishment is important – especially now.

#### EMMA'S LOCKDOWN LANTERNS

I love seeing how the crochet community have been keeping it all together at this time with their hooky creations. I have had a lot of ideas that have been bubbling under the surface. The other day I woke up and immediately started to crochet a lantern for no particular reason other than it just needed to happen! And several hours, (and cups of tea) later it was finished!

Lantern patterns are super-simple and can be worked around any hoop size – an old

tapestry hoop is perfect. Any yarn can be used so it is a great stash buster too. Mine looks lovely in my bedroom. [Turn to page 65 for the pattern.]

**“ IN TIMES OF STRESS  
PEOPLE GRAVITATE  
TO THEIR HAPPY AND  
SAFE PLACE ”**

I've also just finished a baby blanket using 20 balls of Ricorumi that I call 'the Lockdown Blanket'. My daughter and I have been trying our hand at freestyle embroidery and punch needle and we

are loving it! I'll always look back at these pieces and remember this time in which we were all in it together.

#### HANNAH'S BLISSFUL BLANKETS

In times of stress I think people always gravitate to their happy and safe place. For lots of people, including me, this is craft. Crafting has always been important for my wellbeing and now it is even more so. When there are lots of things you can't control, it's comforting to find something that you can.

I've been sharing as many patterns as possible on my blog for the crochet community, and have had so many messages





Clockwise from top:  
Sarah-Jane's cute  
couch potato,  
Kate's heartfelt  
tribute to the NHS,  
Sarah-Jane's Swirly  
Squares Blanket,  
Kate's rainbows for  
her window



from people saying that they are crocheting at the moment to help them through it all.

I'm full of crochet design ideas right now! Blankets are the perfect way to pass the time for me. I would encourage everyone to learn a new stitch and use up some of your stash to make a blanket that you can get lost in creating, and then admire for years to come as a reflection of this time. I always look back at projects and remember what else I was doing when I made them. It might be being pregnant, or a hot summer, or a house move, or travelling: everything I make has a memory and a story for me – and this particular time in lockdown will certainly be one to remember.

#### **SARAH-JANE'S CUTE COUCH POTATOES AND SWIRLY SQUARES**

It helps to have something to aim for no matter how small. To remind me of this I've made an amigurumi Couch Potato to keep me motivated. I've been sharing crochet patterns online – such as a rainbow to make for a window, and a larger project: the Swirly Squares Blanket. Blankets are the perfect lockdown project.

A lot of what I make I can often remember what was happening at the time, how I was

feeling or even what I might have been listening to or watching on TV. I like that crochet provokes memories. My Swirly Squares Blanket will of course remind me of my life during lockdown.

#### **KATE'S POSITIVE PANTS**

One of the first things I crocheted when it looked as though lockdown was imminent was a teeny, tiny pair of 'Positive Pants' – completely useless and of no practical help whatsoever but, having had a very stressful day working out what we were going to have to do in the weeks to come, it allowed me to pass a couple of hours, with nothing else in my head but just some yarn and a hook.

Yarn rainbows are the perfect project for our windows and to let frontline staff know we are thinking of them – including my daughter, who works for the NHS. I spent a lovely evening putting together a simple pattern. Rainbows became rainbows hearts and then rainbow bunting. All of the free patterns can be found on my blog page for everyone to enjoy and make for their own windows.

I am not normally a bright colour person so it completely took me by surprise how much I loved working with such a bright palette

and in years to come they will definitely take me right back to this time.

At the back of my mind I have often thought about filming short crochet tutorials and so my new lockdown project has been exactly that: I now have my very own YouTube channel. It's been a giant learning curve, with much to still be learnt, but it's a start!

We hope you've been inspired by our hooksters to create extra-comforting crochet for a happy home – be sure to check out their Instagram feeds and websites to find out how to create these pieces for yourself.

**Written by Joanne Baird**

*Find our hooksters here:*

*Hattie: [www.thepetalshed.uk](http://www.thepetalshed.uk)*

*@petalshed*

*Emma: [www.emmaleith.co.uk](http://www.emmaleith.co.uk)*

*@Emmaleithatelier*

*Hannah: [www.hanjanecrochet.com](http://www.hanjanecrochet.com)*

*@hanjanecrochet*

*Sarah-Jane: [www.floanddot.blogspot.com](http://www.floanddot.blogspot.com)*

*@flo\_and\_dot*

*Kate: [www.justpootling.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.justpootling.blogspot.co.uk)*

*[www.youtube.com/c/kateeastwood](http://www.youtube.com/c/kateeastwood)*

*@just\_pootling*





# Magic lantern

Put the light back in delightful with this irresistible make. By Emma Leith





## YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Ricorumi (100% cotton, 25g/58m)  
1 ball of each:  
Turquoise (039)  
Blue (032)  
Fuchsia (014)  
Pink (011)  
Tangerine (026)  
Yellow (006)  
Cream (002)  
Lilac (017)  
Emerald (042)  
Light Blue (033)  
Orange (027)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A 1mm (US 12/6) hook
- 12 wooden beads, 15mm
- Metal craft loop, 15cm diameter

For yarn stockists contact  
**Rico Design**  
[www.rico-design.co.uk](http://www.rico-design.co.uk)

## TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

## MEASUREMENTS

Lantern measures approx 24cm (9½in) tall and 15cm (6in) diameter

## ABBREVIATIONS

**tr3tog** \*Yrh, insert hook into st indicated, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook; rep from \* twice more, yrh and pull through all loops on hook

**beg tr3tog** Ch2 (counts as first leg of tr3tog), \*yrh, insert hook into st indicated, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook; rep from \* once more, yrh and pull through all loops on hook

**FPdc** Insert hook around post of st indicated, working front to back to front, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook

**PB (place bead)** Place bead on 1mm hook, remove live loop from 3.5mm hook and place on the 1mm hook, pull loop through bead, place live loop back onto the 3.5mm hook

For a full list, see page 88

Light up your life with this fun lantern, guaranteed to shine in your indoor or outdoor space. One for the summer to-do list!

## NOTES

Lantern is worked in rounds, with RS facing throughout. Round 1 is worked around the metal loop.

You can use any colour in any order throughout the pattern, changing colour at the end of each round.

## LANTERN

### BODY

Using a 4mm hook and any colour, join yarn to metal loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (counts as a dc), 71dc evenly around metal loop, ss to beg ch-1 to join.

[72 dc]

### Fasten off.

Change to a 3.5mm hook and join any colour into any st.

**Round 2 (RS)** Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 2tr in same st, (skip 2 sts, 3tr in next st) 23 times, skip 2 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3. [24 3-tr groups]

**Fasten off** and join any colour into first tr on any 3-tr group.

**Round 3** Beg tr3tog over first 3 sts, (ch3, tr3tog next 3 sts) 23 times, ch3, ss to top of beg tr3tog. [24 tr3tog, 24 ch-3 sps]

**Fasten off** and join any colour into any ch-3 sp.

**Round 4** Ch1 (counts as a dc), dc in same sp, (FPdc around tr3tog, 2dc in next ch-3 sp) 23 times, FPdc around final tr3tog, ss to beg ch-1. [48 dc, 24 FPdc]

**Fasten off** and join any colour into any st.

**Round 5** Ch4 (counts as tr and ch1), skip next st, (tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st) 35 times, ss to third ch of beg ch-4. [36 tr, 36 ch-1 sps]

**Fasten off** and join any colour into any ch-1 sp.

**Round 6** Ch1 (counts as a dc), dc in same sp, 2dc in each ch-1 sp around, ss to beg ch-1. [72 dc]

Repeat Rounds 2-6 until Lantern measures 22cm. You can use any colour for each round.

### Fasten off.

## BEADED BORDER

Using a 3.5mm hook, join any colour into any st.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (counts as a dc throughout), dc in each st around, ss to beg ch-1. [72 dc]

**Fasten off** and join any colour into any st.

**Round 2** Ch1, (ch9, skip 5 sts, dc in next st) 11 times, ch9, skip final 5 sts, ss to beg ch-1. [12 dc, 12 ch-9 sps]

**Round 3** Ss into ch-9 sp, ch1, (3dc, PB, 4dc) in same sp, (4dc, PB, 4dc) in each ch-9 sp around, ss to beg ch-1.

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

## HANGING LOOP

Using a 3.5mm hook, join any colour into the base of any st from Round 1, \*ch30.



For the charming stripy pattern, use the shades in an order of your choice for a unique result



Place the beads while working the final round by changing to a smaller hook for each bead

**Fasten off** leaving a long tail.\*\*

Skip 23 sts from Round 1, join same colour yarn into base of next st; rep from \* twice more ending final rep at \*\*.

Tie the three chain lengths together, taking the longest tail, ch12, ss to last ch from hook to form a loop.

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





MADE  
WITH  
MOTIFS

## SPINNING AROUND

A mesmerising pattern of figure-of-eight hexagons creates an impressive blanket by Sanita Brensone



# HEXAGON BLANKET



## YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Colour Crafter (100% acrylic, 100g/300m)  
2 balls of each:  
Barneveld (1005)  
Brussel (2004)  
Eindhoven (1114)  
Emmen (1116)  
Franeke (1826)  
Leuven (2008)  
Terneuzen (1821)  
1 ball of Malmedy (2014)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- Stitch markers

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

## TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

## MEASUREMENTS

Blanket measures approx  
125x154cm (49½x60½in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

**tr3tog** \*Yrh, insert hook into next st, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook; rep from \* twice more, yrh and pull through all loops on hook

For a full list, see page 88

Lose yourself in the pleasing geometry of this cleverly constructed blanket. The double hexagon motifs create an intricate, interlocking pattern that is soothingly hypnotic. Sleep well!

## NOTES

Blanket is made up of 140 Spinning Hexagon Motifs and 28 Half Hexagon Motifs. The Spinning Hexagons are made up of two Hexagon shapes, which are sewn together using the tails.

Each Spinning Hexagon Motif uses four colours. You can use any colours in any order for each Motif; they will be referred to as Yarn A, Yarn B, Yarn C and Yarn D. The joining and Edging are all worked in Emmen, so use less of this shade when working the Motifs to ensure you have enough left at the end.

There is a Stitch Chart for the Spinning Hexagon Motif and a Layout Chart for joining; both Charts can be found on the opposite page.

## BLANKET

### SPINNING HEXAGON MOTIF (MAKE 140)

Refer to the Stitch Chart on the opposite page for Rows 1-8.

Using a 4mm hook and Yarn A, make a magic loop.

**Row 1 (RS)** Ch3 (counts as a tr throughout), tr into loop, (ch1, 2tr) 5 times, dc into top of beg ch-3, place live loop on a stitch marker. [12 tr, 5 ch-1 sps, 1 dc]

Join Yarn B into first ch-1 sp.

**Row 2 (RS)** Ch3, tr in same sp, \*tr in next 2 sts, (tr, ch1, tr) in next ch-1 sp; rep from \* three times more, place live loop on a stitch marker. [18 tr, 4 ch-1 sps]

Join Yarn C into top of beg ch-3 of Round 2.

**Row 3** Ch3, tr in same st, \*tr in next 4 tr, (tr, ch1, tr) in ch-1 sp; rep from \* three times more, place live loop on a stitch marker. [26 tr, 4 ch-1 sps]

Join Yarn C into top of beg ch-3 of Round 3.

**Row 4** Ch3, tr in same st, \*tr in next 6 tr, (tr, ch1, tr) in ch-1 sp; rep from \* three times more, place live loop on a stitch marker. [34 tr, 4 ch-1 sps]

Pick up the live loop of Yarn A.

**Row 5** Tr in first ch-1 sp from Row 1, 2tr in beg ch-3 from Row 2, 1tr in beg ch-3 from Row 3, tr3tog evenly over top of beg ch-3 from Row 3 and beg ch-3 from Row 4. [4 tr, 1 tr3tog]

**Fasten off** and pick up the live loop of Yarn B.

**Row 6** Tr in next 2 tr, tr in next dc, tr in next 3 tr, tr2tog final 2 sts of Row 5. [6 tr, 1 tr2tog]

**Fasten off** and pick up the live loop of Yarn C.

**Row 7** Tr in next 6 sts, tr2tog final 2 sts.

**Fasten off** and pick up the live loop of Yarn D.

**Row 8** As Row 7.

**Fasten off.**

Repeat Rows 1-8 using the following colour sequence: Row 1 in Yarn D, Row 2 in Yarn C,



Two hexagon motifs, when joined together, make an intriguing figure-of-eight shape



After all the motifs are joined together, work an edging all the way around in treble stitch

Row 3 in Yarn B, Row 4 in Yarn A, Row 5 in Yarn D, Row 6 in Yarn C, Row 7 in Yarn B, Row 8 in Yarn A.

With the WS facing you, line up the ends of Rows 5-8 on both hexagons. Using the tails, sew them together to form the Spinning Hexagon Motif.

### HALF HEXAGON MOTIF (MAKE 28)

Using a 4mm hook and any colour, make a magic loop.

**Row 1 (RS)** Ch3, (2tr, ch1) twice, 3tr into loop. [8 tr, 2 ch-1 sps]

**Fasten off** and join new colour into top of beg ch-3 from Row 1.

**Row 2 (RS)** Ch3, tr in same st, \*tr in next 2 sts, (tr, ch1, tr) in ch-1 sp, rep from \* once more, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in final st. [14 tr, 2 ch-1 sps]

**Fasten off** and join new colour into top of beg ch-3 from Row 2.

**Row 3 (RS)** Ch3, tr in same st, \*tr in each st to ch-1 sp, (tr, ch1, tr) in ch-1 sp, rep from \* once more, tr in each st across to final st, 2tr in final st. [20 tr, 2 ch-1 sps]



**Fasten off** and join new colour into top of beg ch-3 from Row 3.

**Row 4 (RS)** As Row 3. [26 tr, 2 ch-1 sps]

**Fasten off.**

**TO JOIN**

Use the Layout Chart when joining the Motifs of the Blanket. The Chart shows the first 2 rows of Motifs; repeat these rows until you have joined all the Motifs and have a total of 14 rows. Using a 5mm hook and Emmen, join using your preferred method. We have worked with RS facing and slip stitched the Motifs together through the back loops only.

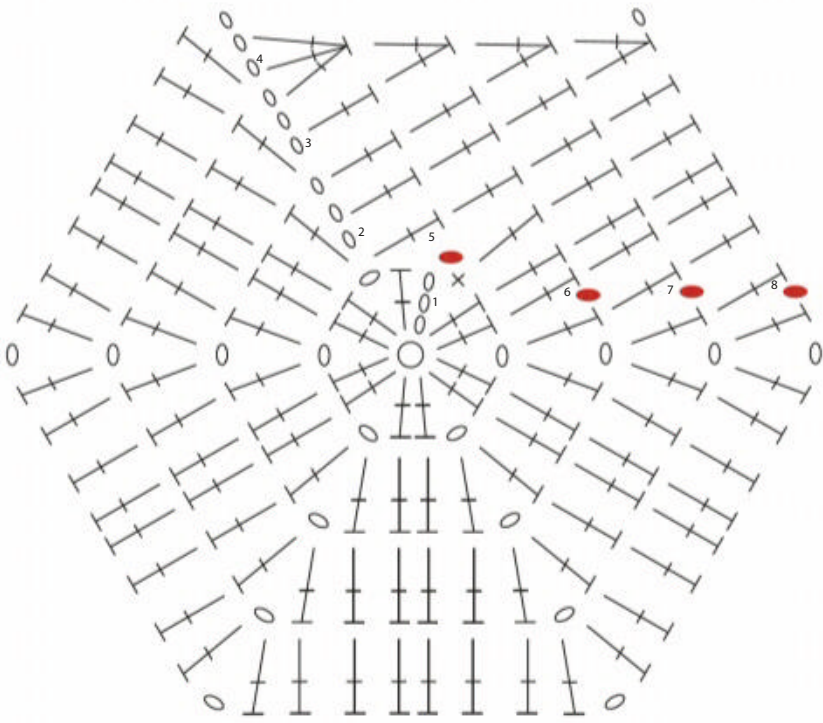
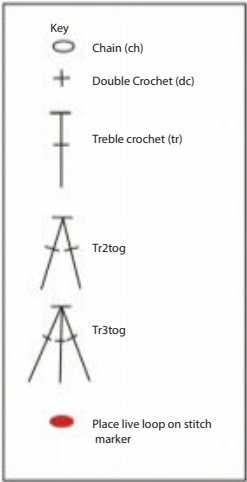
**EDGING**

Place stitch markers according to the Layout Chart.

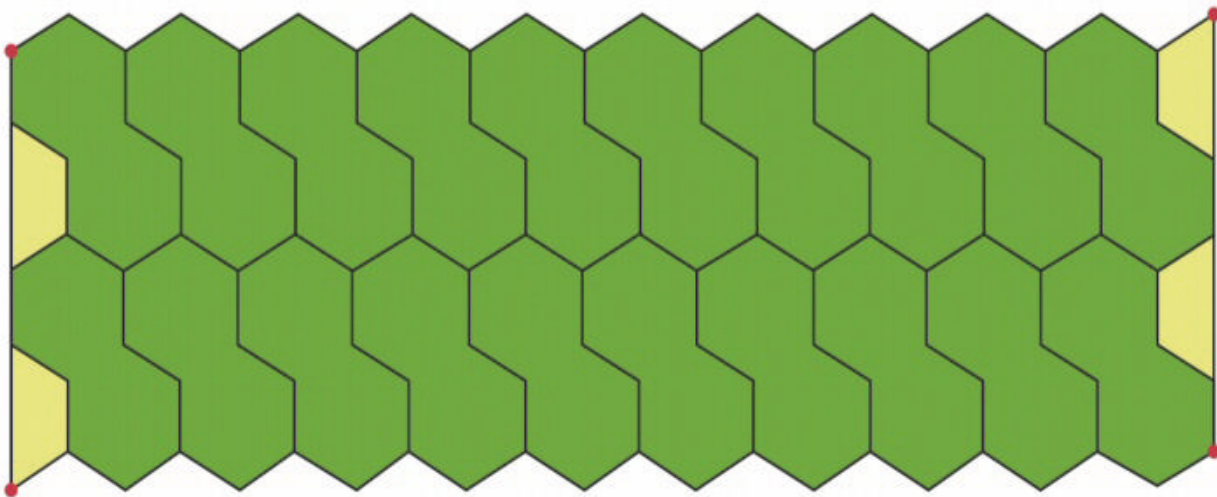
Using a 4mm hook and Emmen, join yarn into a corner before a straight edge of the Blanket.

**Round 1** Ch3, \*tr in each row-end of Half Hexagon, tr in centre of magic loop of Half Hexagon, tr in each row-end, tr in slip stitch join, tr in each st and slip stitch join to next Half Hexagon; rep from \* to stitch marker, (tr, ch1, tr) in ch-sp, tr in each st to next marker, \*\*(tr, ch1, tr) in ch-sp, tr in next 7 sts, tr3tog, next st slip stitch join and next st on next Motif, tr in each st to ch-1 sp; rep from \*\* across to next marked st; (2tr, ch1, 3tr) in marked st, rep from \* once more, ss to top of beg ch-3.

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



Spinning Hexagon Layout Chart



- Key
- Spinning Hexagon Motif
  - Half Hexagon Motif
  - Position stitch markers at each corner of the Blanket once all Motifs have been joined

**SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A SLIP STITCH SEAM**



**1** Place pieces together, insert hook into the first stitch on both pieces. Make a slip knot (we've used a contrasting colour to make it easier to see) and place it onto the hook.



**2** Pull the slip knot through both stitches to bring it to the front. Now insert hook into the 2nd stitch of both layers and work a slip stitch. Work a slip stitch in the 3rd stitches of both layers.



**3** Continue working slip sts along the edge, as far as you need to. Fasten off, weave in ends, open out the seam and lightly press from the wrong side.



**4** From the right side, the slip stitch seam forms an 'invisible' join (see above). It forms a firm, flat seam that won't give much stretch. It's best to use a matching yarn.





## WHY DOES MY EDGE LOOK UNEVEN?

Brush up on your technique with our simple guide...

Last issue, I showed you the basics of working double crochet stitches into a foundation chain. Now that you've had chance to practise, you might find you're encountering a few problems – don't worry! In this issue I'll show you how to overcome the most common problems

with working stitches into a foundation chain. I'll also show you an alternative method for working into the foundation chain – the 'back bumps' technique, which is my personal preference because it creates a neater finish at the bottom edge of your crochet fabric.

## WHY DOES MY FIRST ROW OF STITCHES LOOK WRONG?

How to tackle common problems...

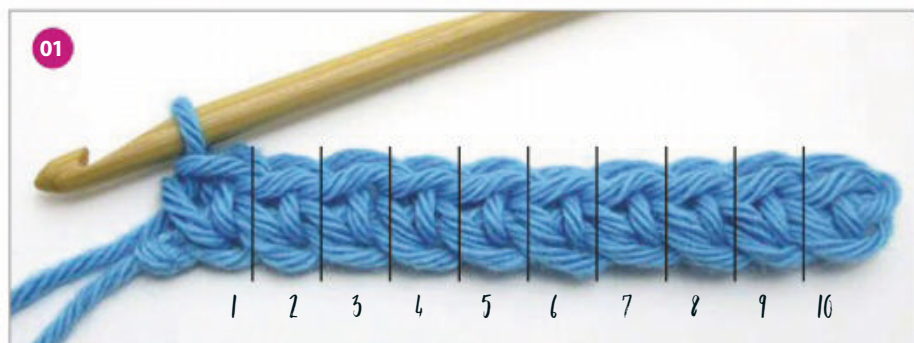
**Step 1** Last issue, we made a practice row of double crochet (dc) stitches, which should have looked like this. In brief, we made 11 chains, skipped the first chain and worked a dc in the second chain and in each chain across. At the end of the row, you should have 10 dc. You can check by counting each little 'v' shape along the side of the fabric or count each plaited chain-like shape along the top.

**Step 2** The most common problem you may encounter when making the above practice row is to accidentally skip a chain. It's easily done and here, I've missed a chain so I've only got 9 dc. There's only one solution – you'll have to remove the hook and pull on the yarn to undo your work, until you reach the skipped chain. This shows why it's so important to count your stitches at the end of each row – if you don't discover the error until the next row, you'll have more to undo!

**Step 3** Another common issue is working tight stitches, which will

pucker the chain, creating baggy-looking loops at the bottom edge, as shown here. Tight stitches will also be shorter than they should be, causing sizing problems – for example, 5 standard rows might usually measure 5cm, but 5 tight rows might only measure 3cm. To solve this problem, try to relax your tension – unwrap the working yarn from some of your fingers and make sure you make the loops at the shank of the hook, not the neck.

**Step 4** Crocheting with a consistent tension is vital for creating a neat fabric, so get this right early on so that it doesn't hold you back. An inconsistent tension means uneven stitches, like here – some are tight and short, others are looser and taller. If your first row looks like this, don't worry – the fact is that every new crocheter's first row looks like this! The key to getting things looking neater is PRACTISE, until hooking stitches feels comfortable, familiar and consistent.





## HOW DO I MAKE MY FOUNDATION ROW NEATER?

Try working into the 'back bump' of each chain instead...

Last issue, we showed you the standard method of working stitches into a foundation chain, which involves inserting the hook under the top two strands of each chain. In this alternative, you work into just the 'back bump' of each chain, to create a neater look along the bottom edge of your fabric – and you might even find it easier.

**Step 1** To start, make 10 chains (remember not to count the active loop on the hook). Place this length so the plaited side is facing away from you – this is the 'wrong' side of the chain. Examine one chain and you'll see that it's made up of a top strand, a bottom strand and a central horizontal strand – this centre strand is the 'back bump' of the chain. Now insert a stitch marker under the back bump of the 10th chain, which is the

horizontal strand closest to the hook.

**Step 2** Turn the chain over so the plaited 'right' side is facing you. Work one extra chain (this counts as the turning chain, we'll explain more about this in a future workshop). To start the first dc, we're going to skip the first chain (the turning chain) and insert the hook into the back bump of the second chain from the hook – this is the chain with the stitch marker.

**Step 3** You need to insert the hook under the back bump of the chain, which is where the stitch marker is placed, so let it guide you. Your inserted hook should look like this.

**Step 4** Now work yrh and pull the new loop of yarn through the chain (two loops on hook). Use the hook to pull the loop up so it's fairly loose and sits slightly away from the

chain – if the loop is too tight then your dc stitch will be too tight.

**Step 5** Work yrh and you're going to pull this new loop through the two existing loops on the hook...

**Step 6** Like this. Your first dc is finished!

**Step 7** To work the next dc, tilt the chain towards you so you can see the back bumps. Insert your hook into the next empty bump.

**Step 8** Work the dc stitch as before, repeating Steps 4-6.

**Step 9** Continue to work a dc into each chain across the row, by repeating Steps 7-8. Take care not to twist the chain as you work. You should have 10 dc stitches, so count them to make sure. Once you reach the end, you can remove the stitch marker. I'll explain the next steps in the next issue.



### Let Becky solve your hooky conundrums!

Crochet Unravelled aims to deep-dive into the techniques, tutorials and terminology that will make you a better hookster. Have you got a question you want Becky to unravel? Send it in to us at [simplycrochet@immediate.co.uk](mailto:simplycrochet@immediate.co.uk)

### NEXT ISSUE

Don't miss the next workshop... I'll show you how to work your next rows of double crochet





# SWEET SMILE

Get your creative juices flowing and hook up a refreshing slice of watermelon. Design by Sirdar



# AMIGURUMI WATERMELON



## YOU WILL NEED

- Sirdar Happy Chenille (100% polyester, 15g/38m)  
1 ball of each:  
**Yarn A** Fizzy (29)  
**Yarn B** Picnic (27)  
**Yarn C** Snowflake (20)  
**Yarn D** Tutti Frutti (32)  
**Yarn E** Ink Spot (22)  
**Yarn F** Fuzzy (13)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- 2 safety eyes, 6mm
- Toy stuffing
- Stitch marker

For yarn stockists contact  
**Sirdar 01924 231682**  
[www.sirdar.com](http://www.sirdar.com)

## TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

## MEASUREMENTS

Watermelon measures approx  
20x11cm (8x4¼in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 88

Grab a slice of the amigurumi action with a mouth-watering piece of watermelon. The colours are so inviting you'd be forgiven for trying to take a bite!

## NOTES

The Body of the Watermelon is made using the amigurumi method, working in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it useful to mark the first st of the round, moving the marker up as you go.

The Shell is worked in rows and joined to the Body at the end.

## WATERMELON

### BODY

Using Yarn D, make a magic loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1, 6dc into loop. [6 dc]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Round 9** (Dc in next 7 dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. [54 dc]

**Round 10** (Dc in next 8 dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. [60 dc]

**Round 11** (Dc in next 9 dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. [66 dc]

Change to Yarn C.

**Round 12** (Dc in next 10 dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. [72 dc]

Change to Yarn A.

**Round 13** (Dc in next 11 dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. [78 dc]

**Round 14** Dc in next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 12 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc in next 6 dc. [84 dc]

Change to Yarn B.

**Round 15** (Dc in next 13 dc, 2dc in next dc) 6 times. [90 dc]

**Round 16** Dc in next 7 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 14 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc in next 7 dc. [96 dc]

Ss in next dc and **fasten off**.

### SHELL

Using Yarn B, ch3.

**Row 1 (RS)** Dc in second ch from hook and next ch across, turn. [2 dc]

**Rows 2-3** Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

**Row 4** Ch1, 2dc in each dc across, turn. [4 dc]

**Rows 5-9** As Row 2.

**Row 10** Ch1, 2dc in first dc, dc in each st to final



Finish the watermelon slice by embroidering straight stitches for pips and blushing cheeks

dc, 2dc in final dc, turn. [6 dc]

**Rows 11-15** As Row 2.

**Row 16** As Row 10. [8 dc]

**Rows 17-19** As Row 2.

**Row 20** As Row 10. [10 dc]

**Rows 21-28** As Row 2.

**Row 29** Ch1, (dc2tog) first 2 dc, dc in each st to final 2 sts, (dc2tog) final sts, turn. [8 dc]

**Row 30** As Row 2.

**Row 31** As Row 29. [6 dc]

**Rows 32-36** As Row 2.

**Row 37** As Row 29. [4 dc]

**Rows 38-42** As Row 2.

**Row 43** Ch1, (dc2tog) twice. [2 dc]

**Rows 44-45** As Row 2.

**Fasten off.**

### TO FINISH

Insert the eyes between the Rounds 7-8 of Body, 8 sts apart.

Using Yarn E, embroider small straight stitches for the pips over Rounds 1-11 of Body.

Using Yarn E, sew a V shape for the mouth over Rounds 8-9 of Body.

Using Yarn F, embroider two small straight stitches beneath each eye for the cheeks.

Fold the Body in half and position the Shell along the open edge and, using Yarn B, work a round of dc to join the Shell and Body, stuffing as you go.

Weave in all ends.



# perfect prints

Six fab print yarns to jazz up your summer projects with colour

## RAINBOW MOTIF

Ch7.

**ROUND 1** 2dc in second ch from hook, 2dc in next 5 ch, turn. [12 dc]

**ROUND 2** Ch3 (counts as tr), (tr in next st, 2tr in next st) twice, tr in next 2 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next st) twice, tr in last st, turn. [16 tr]

**ROUND 3** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first st, (2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts) twice, 2dc in next 2 sts, (dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) twice, dc in last st. [22 dc]

FASTEN OFF AND WEAVE IN ENDS.



Say hello to summer  
with these cute  
rainbow motifs





## SIRDAR CROFTER DK

**WEIGHT** DK  
**CONTENT** 60% acrylic,  
 25% cotton, 15% wool  
**BALL** 50g/170m  
**HOOK** 4mm  
**RRP** £3.29



Describing itself as a 'Fair Isle effect' yarn is pretty accurate, thanks to the spray-dying technique for colouring. It features long sections of colour changes in the variegation, and with a delightful DK weight it's a great all-rounder for your everyday crochet projects. The

blend of fibres creates an interesting yarn to work with – the acrylic and cotton content give a strong and stable yarn, while the 15% of wool gives it a nice natural feel. It's available in 18 shade combinations and is machine washable at 40°C.  
[www.sirdar.com](http://www.sirdar.com)

## KING COLE SUMMER

**WEIGHT** 4ply  
**CONTENT** 55% bamboo,  
 37% cotton, 8% PBT  
**BALL** 100g/450m  
**HOOK** 3.25mm  
**RRP** £6.49



As the name suggests, King Cole's new yarn is the perfect choice for summer projects. The combination of bamboo, cotton and PBT (that's polybutylene terephthalate to you and me – a polymer with stretchy qualities) hooks into a lightweight fabric with a soft drape and a silky feel.

The yarn features a distinctive crimp that adds a nice detail to your fabric and it's available in six variegated shades. King Cole recommends Summer as a sock yarn, but it will work equally brilliantly with any of their 4ply patterns. Machine wash at 40°C.  
[www.kingcole.com](http://www.kingcole.com)

## SCHEEPJES WANDERLUST

**WEIGHT** DK  
**CONTENT** 100% acrylic  
**SKEIN** 100g/232m  
**HOOK** 4mm  
**RRP** £3.99



There are many reasons to love Wanderlust yarn... but the thing that took us by surprise is the 100% acrylic content. You won't believe that this is a completely synthetic yarn, it's amazingly soft, features an incredibly natural halo and a lovely loose twist that's more like one you'd

expect from a handspun yarn. The colours are rich and deep, with nice long gradual colour changes. There are 19 fabulous colour combinations, ranging from neon brights to subtle shades. The yarn is machine washable at 30°C.  
[www.scheepjes.com](http://www.scheepjes.com)

## LION BRAND REBOUND

**WEIGHT** Aran  
**CONTENT** 100% nylon  
**BALL** 100g/160m  
**HOOK** 6mm  
**RRP** £4.89



If you've ever wondered what it's like to crochet with something that has almost as much bounce and stretch as elastic, then Lion Brand's Rebound yarn is definitely one for you to try. It feels strange at first, being super-silky as well as stretchy, but once you get the

hang of it, it's actually quite fun, and means your stitches bounce back into place if you give them a pull (great for projects that would normally stretch out over time). It's available in 10 bright multi-coloured shades and can be machine washed and dried.  
[www.lionbrand.com](http://www.lionbrand.com)

## CASCADE YARNS HERITAGE PRINTS

**WEIGHT** 4ply  
**CONTENT** 75% superwash merino,  
 25% nylon  
**SKEIN** 100g/400m  
**HOOK** 3mm  
**RRP** £8.99



The Heritage Prints range from Cascade Yarns offers a grand selection of lovely self-striping yarns. They've got a really beautiful feel to them that's gentle to the skin thanks to the gorgeous blend of superwash merino and nylon. The different stripes within a ball include

some really interesting colour effects, from solid shades to subtle blends to some really funky spotty parts. There are 26 colour combinations to choose from in a range of shades and it can be machine washed and tumble dried on a cool setting.  
[www.cascadeyarns.com](http://www.cascadeyarns.com)

## RICO DESIGN CREATIVE COTTON COLOUR COATED

**WEIGHT** Aran  
**CONTENT** 50% cotton, 50% acrylic  
**BALL** 50g/125m  
**HOOK** 5mm  
**RRP** £3



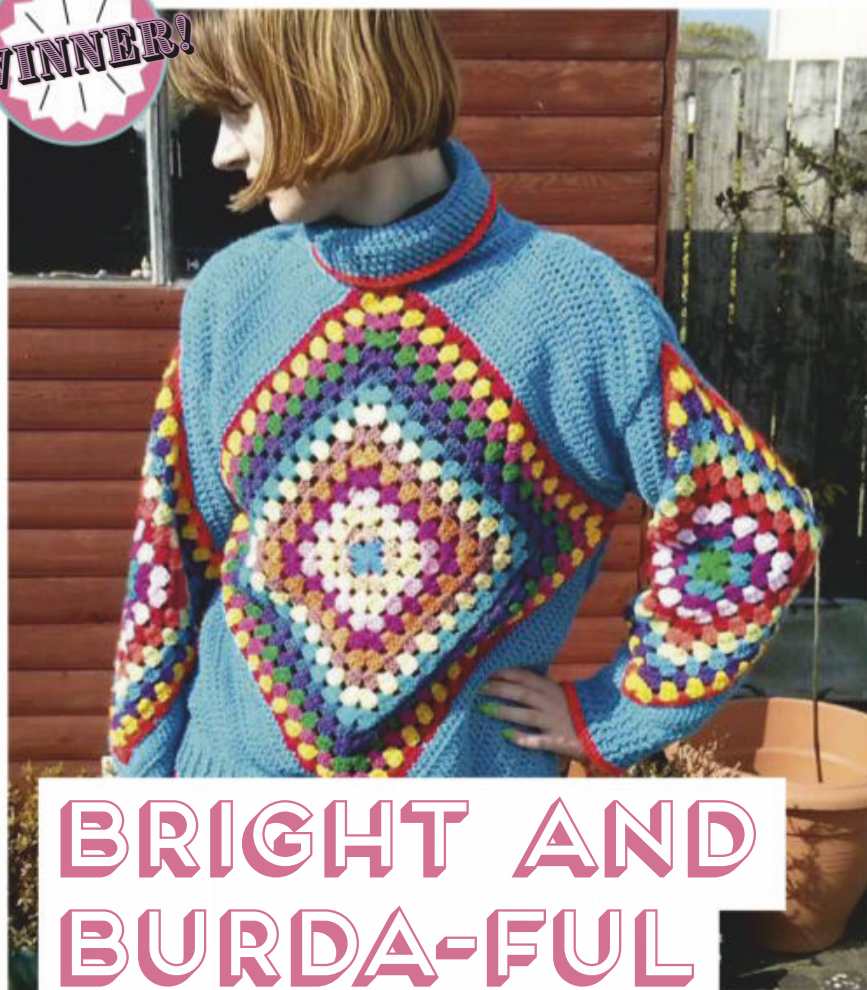
New to Rico Design's popular Creative Cotton ranges, Colour Coated features some lovely colour mixes that almost have a washy handy-dyed look to them. It's a chainette style yarn that's nice and smooth and hooks up with ease, and you can see all of the subtle colour

effects with every stitch. It's available in 10 beautiful colour combinations ranging from pretty pastels to grey mixes, all featuring the same lovely colour splash effect. The yarn is machine washable at 30°C and can ironed on a cool setting.  
[www.rico-design.de/en](http://www.rico-design.de/en)



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## BRIGHT AND BURDA-FUL

Here is Maureen Willis' daughter, who is modelling her mum's first attempt at a jumper. Maureen's crocheted for years, but never managed to make something to wear – until issue 96, with the bonus Burda garment patterns, came along! They are both well-chuffed with the outcome, and so you should be! [f](#)

## HEDGEHOG HIGHWAY

▼ Issue 95 has certainly sent @petra.bela on an imaginative journey. This lovely amigurumi pal of Peter Rabbit, Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle, is scurrying through an atmospheric forest. It is a very evocative scene; we can picture another one of Beatrix Potter's characters, maybe Benjamin Bunny, popping out from round the next toadstool! [ig](#)



## DOUBLE TAP ♥

We've been double tapping on Instagram and admiring your makes. Tag us @simplycrochetmag and use the hashtag #Sctreblemaker [ig](#)



**FORGET ME NOT**  
This stunning floral fade wrap from issue 95 is by @cao1960 who says she will always remember it as her lockdown project! We hope the special day it deserves comes soon.



**CHIRPY CHAPS**  
@handknitbyyvonne loved making the birds from issue 94 during the lockdown. She has hung them on her indoor tree, which has cheered her up, as well as the room.



**SOFT FRUIT**  
Now seems a good time to get some projects finished, said @Bluehens12 (and many others!) so here we have their cher-iffic cushion from issue 87. Sweet!



**BLANKIE FOR BABY**  
What a lovely gift, @hooked4ubycg. She really enjoyed making this blanket from issue 93 and a lovely matching toy for her cousin's newest arrival.



## PINING FOR PINEAPPLE

Barbara Bell has hooked up not one but four mighty fine-apple cushions from issue 86. They're the perfect accessory for her conservatory! The tropical-coloured crocodile stitches can hold their own in all that light, and we're sure the fruits of Barbara's labour are enjoying basking in the warm rays. [f](#)

## THE LOWDOWN

It's simple to be in with a chance of winning a great hooky prize in a future issue!  
Show us your *Simply Crochet* makes on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or via email by 4th June 2020.  
For all terms and conditions, and more information, visit [www.gathered.how/simplycrochetcomps](http://www.gathered.how/simplycrochetcomps)

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@SIMPLYCROCHET



## GRINNY PIGS

Like us, @catscreations crochet absolutely fell in love with the guinea pig from issue 96. And as soon as she saw the pattern was by one of her fave designers @littleaquagirl she couldn't wait to get started! The fluffy yarn meant it took her a few attempts but it was worth it – she hooked up four of them! 📷

## LOVE YOUR TIGER FEET

Here is a tiger trophy of the good kind – Kate Kimber's crochet rug from issue 79. She always wanted to make one and is quite pleased with how he turned out! We hope he's proudly on show. 📷



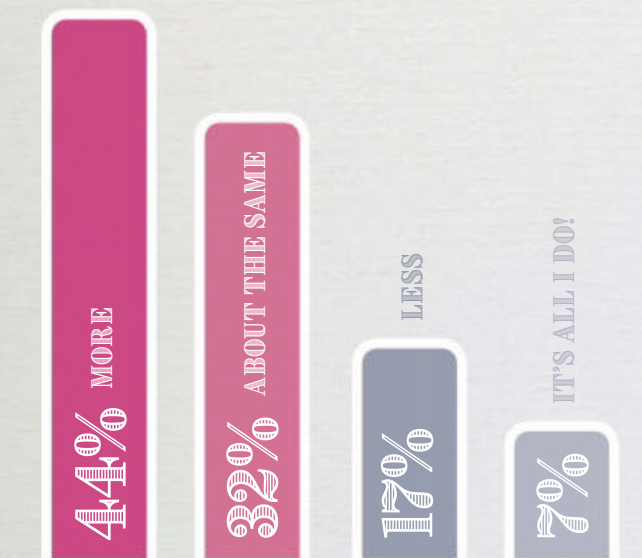
## Simply Crochet SCTREBLEMAKERS

### JOIN US ONLINE!

If you're looking to socialise with like-minded crocheters, then make sure you join our SCTreblemakers Facebook group – the place to share pictures of your makes, get pattern advice and recommendations, and generally talk about how much you love *Simply Crochet* magazine. With over 3.9K members, it's a bustling crochet forum full of friendly members. We look forward to chatting with you on there!

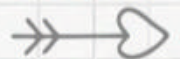
*This month we asked you...*

*How much are you crocheting during lockdown compared with before?*



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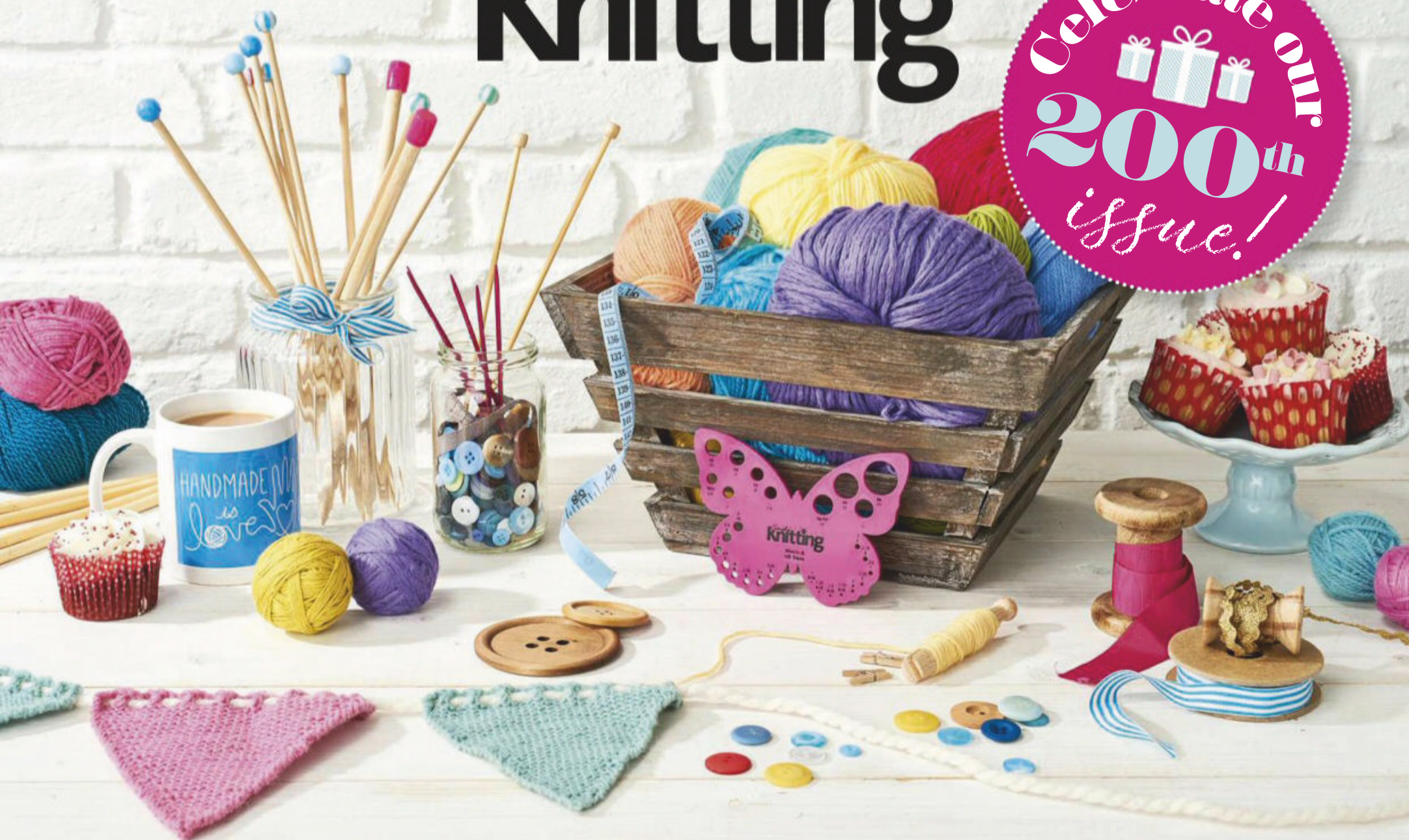


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### YOU WILL NEED

- Hooooked Spesso Eco Barbante  
Chunky Cotton (100% cotton,  
500g/127m)  
1 ball of each:  
Pine  
Lagoon  
Spring
  - A 10mm (US N/15) hook
- For yarn stockists contact**  
**Hooooked**  
**0031 7033 51886**  
**[www.hooookedyarn.com](http://www.hooookedyarn.com)**

### TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project

### MEASUREMENTS

Table Mat measures approx 32cm  
(12½in) in diameter

### ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 88



# Table matters

Hook up a pair of practical place mats, ready for dinner.

By Esme Crick



The mats, made of five rounds, are quickly worked with Hooooked's chunky Spesso yarn

**Add colour to your meal times and protect your table with contrasting mats.**

### NOTES

Table Mats are worked in rounds with RS facing throughout.  
Each Table Mat uses two colours of yarn.

### TABLE MATS

Using any colour, ch8 and ss to last ch to from hook to form a loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1, 12dc into loop, ss to top of beg dc. [12 dc]

**Round 2** Ch3 (counts as a tr throughout), tr in st

at base of beg ch-3, 2tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [24 tr]

**Round 3** Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, (ch1, skip 1 st, 2tr in next st) 11 times, ch1, skip final st, ss to top of beg ch-3. [24 tr, 12 ch-1 sps]

**Fasten off** and join any colour into a tr.

**Round 4** Ch1, \*dc in each tr to next ch-1 sp, dtr into skipped st from Round 2 working in front of the ch-1 sp from Round 3; rep from \* around, ss to top of beg dc. [24 dc, 12 dtr]

**Round 5** Ch2 (counts as a htr), htr in each dc and (htr, ch2, htr) in each dtr around, ss to top of beg htr. [48 htr, 12 ch-2 sps]

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



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# NEXT ISSUE



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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 loose, 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.

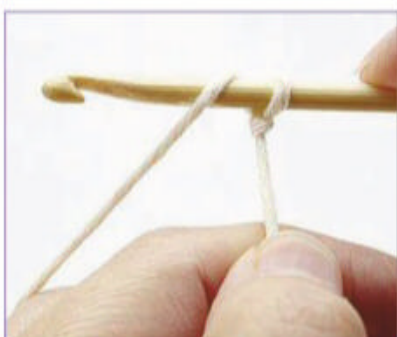


**3** Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook and pull it back through the centre of the loop, taking the yarn through with it.



**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).



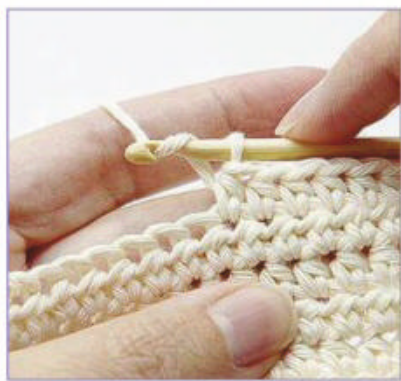
**3** Pull the yarn through the stitch, giving you two loops on your crochet hook.



**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



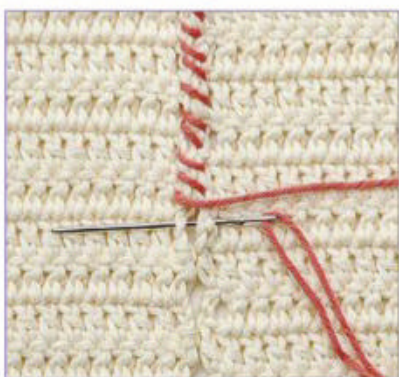
**INCREASE** To increase one stitch is very simple – work one stitch into the next stitch on the row below. When you've finished, work another stitch into the same stitch.



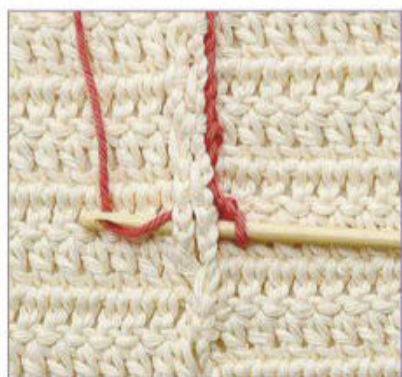
**DECREASE** For a quick decrease, just skip one stitch. For a neater look, work the first part of one stitch and then begin the next stitch. Finish both together.

## SEWING SEAMS

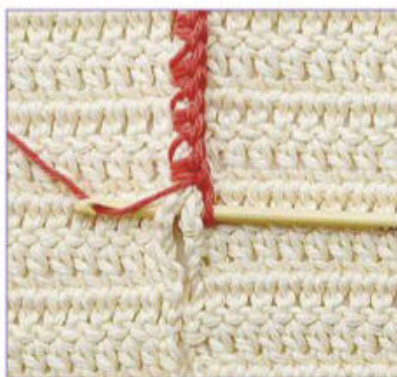
You can join crochet seams by using a tapestry needle or a crochet hook, using one of these four methods



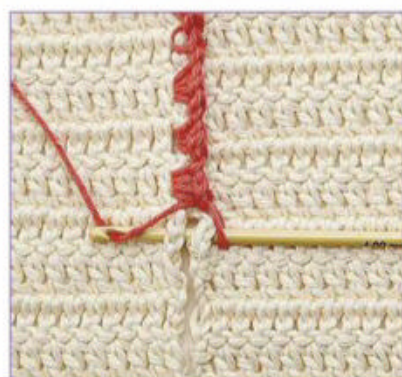
**1** Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet right sides together and oversew them as shown above, using a tapestry or yarn needle.



**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.

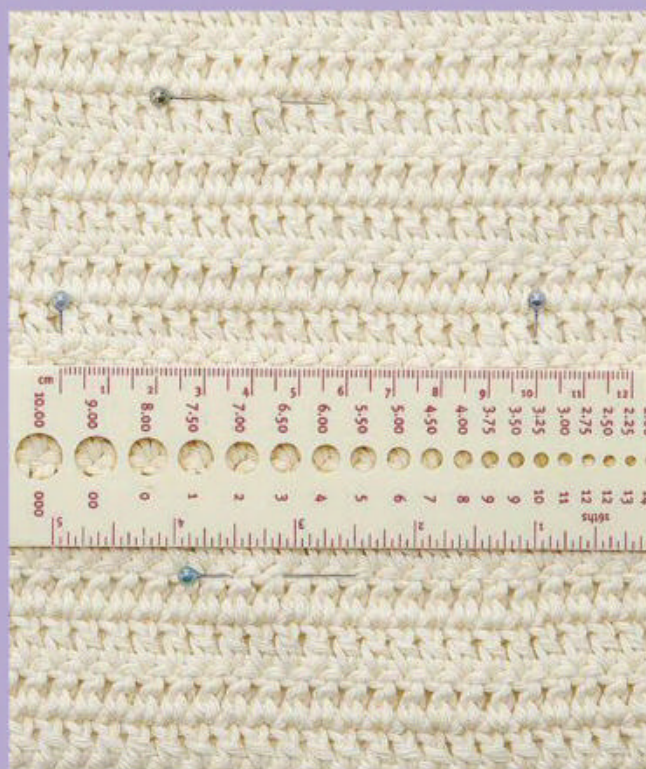
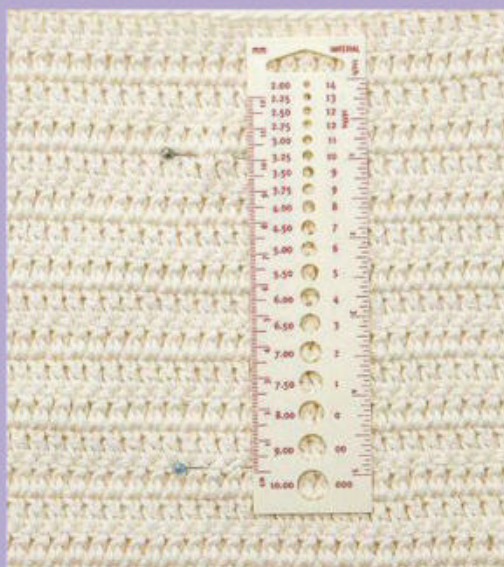


**4** A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

## 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



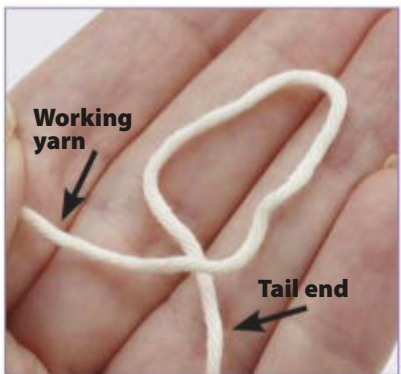
**1** Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



**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, 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 your 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
fttr	foundation tr	sp(s)	space(s)
fl	insert hook under front loop only	ss	slip stitch
foll/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

# HOW TO GET A PERFECT FINISH

To prevent your hard work unravelling once you’ve finished crocheting, fasten the end off carefully, following our instructions below



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.

# UK/US conversions

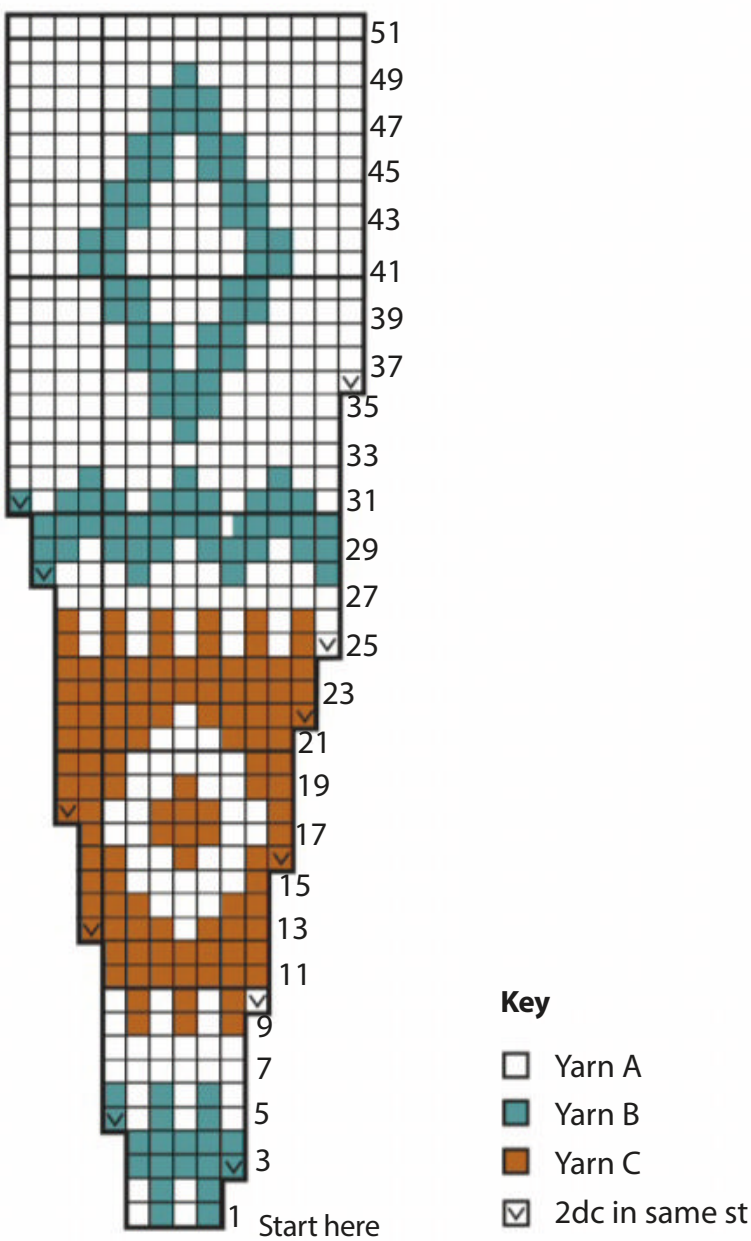
UK		US	
chain	ch	chain	ch
slip stitch	ss	slip stitch	ss
double crochet	dc	single crochet	sc
half treble	htr	half double	hdc
treble	tr	double	dc
double treble	dtr	treble	tr
triple treble	ttr	double treble	dtr



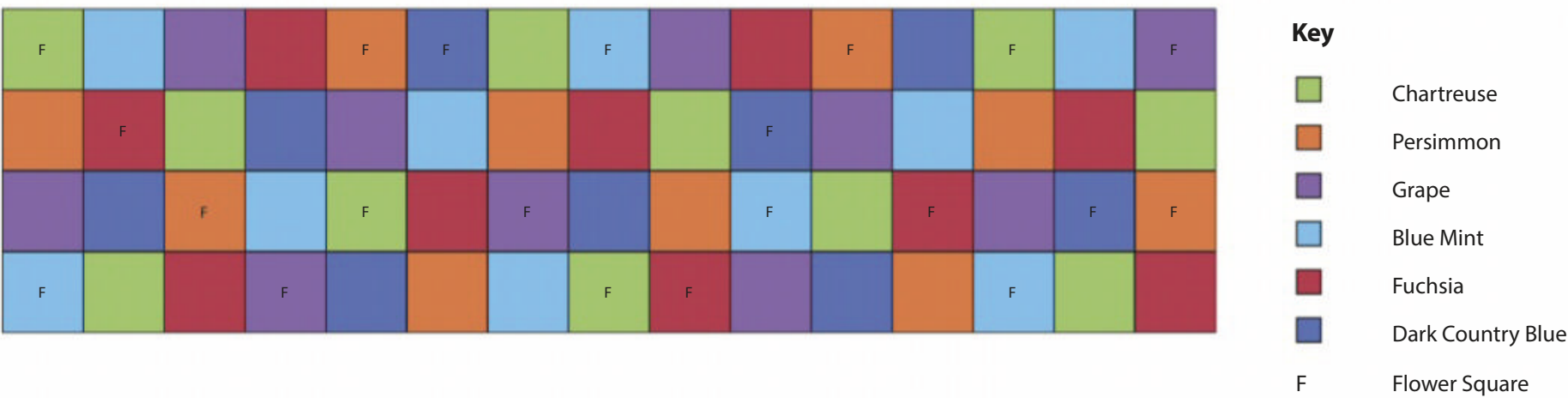
# CHARTS & DIAGRAMS

Follow these helpful charts when making the swancho and lampshade

Swancho chart, page 44



Lampshade chart, page 24







## Reliable sidekick

A versatile jute bag has carried Sharna Moore's essentials on many an outing, and reminds her of a favourite holiday

**M**y current favourite crochet project would have to be the summer bag that I made last year. I made a bag out of a massive ball of jute twine yarn and two wooden handles. It has been on many amazing journeys, met some lovely people and carried my well-loved essentials over the last year. The bag endured some damage when my husband accidentally stepped on it! He snapped one of the wooden handles, so I had to carefully replace them.

I've received many lovely comments on the design of the bag when I've been out and about and received a lot of publicity over Instagram. This encourages my motivation to keep creating. I used Nutscene Natural Jute Twine yarn and a 7mm hook to create the summer bag. The wooden handles were purchased online. The jute may feel a little hard going on your hands when you're working with it; however the texture and strength it gives the bag is totally worth it. I made the bag starting from the top, going down to the bottom, in basic double crochet stitches, working every other row into backloops only to give it some added texture.

My inspiration behind the design of the bag comes from recent fashion trends. If you step into any boutique or clothing shop, or happen to be strolling through the lanes in Old Town Rhodes, Greece, you would come across many bags designed with a jute style yarn. I've loved every single design I've seen of the bag so I decided to make my own unique version.

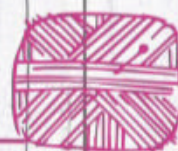
Like I said, this bag has been on some cool adventures, one of them being last year when I visited the Greek island of Corfu for the first time. The bag was pretty much on my hand the whole time from collecting beautiful shells from sandy beaches to carrying my sunglasses and holiday novels. The crochet project will always replay memories for me every time I pick it up.

It's also the perfect bag to accompany you to that brilliant summer party we are all longing for at the moment during lockdown; it will match perfectly with any romantic sundress and being such a strong bag it can hold a few bottles of fizz!

You can find the pattern for this bag on Sharna's blog [www.sharnamoore123.wixsire.com](http://www.sharnamoore123.wixsire.com)



# MISSED AN ISSUE?



## ISSUE 97

Check out this issue for cool blue accessories, such as an earphone tidy and circle bag; the funky boho cardi will keep you on-trend, and the lacy shawl is a stunning addition to your wardrobe. There's also a mermaid for ami' fans, adorable baby T-shirt, and perfect gift in the daisy bouquet.



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# EVERY ISSUE IS AVAILABLE DIGITALLY, STARTING FROM ISSUE ONE!



## ISSUE NINETY-SIX

Craft room collection, spring cardigan, guinea pig toy, baby blanket, floor cushion, sunny grey shawl.



## ISSUE NINETY-FIVE

Mosaic collection, ami' Peter Rabbit and friends, hexagon blanket, cowl neck jumper, hooded scarf, baby jacket.



## ISSUE NINETY-FOUR

Geometric collection, motif cardigan, rhino toy, cars baby blanket, flower art, schnauzer cushion, floral display.



## ISSUE NINETY-THREE

Katie Jones' CAL launch, big blooms homeware, ami' deer, baby beanie, cushion duo, turtleneck.



## ISSUE NINETY-TWO

Granny square makes, puppy blanket, wall hanging, amigurumi monsters, bohemian necklace, geo scarf.



## ISSUE NINETY-ONE

Quick hook gifts, bottle holder, ice fade tablecloth, Tunisian entrelac dog coat, 'scarfdigan' upcycle.



## ISSUE NINETY

Bright Christmas decorations, motif cardigan, chunky jumper, beanie hats, mobius cowl, doll.



## ISSUE EIGHTY-NINE

Winter accessories, squish bears, country cardigan, mermaid angels, legwarmers, needlefelting.



## ISSUE EIGHTY-EIGHT

Upcycled kitchen accessories, festive CAL, jumbo lion, baby blanket, leaf motif top, floral drop earrings.



## ISSUE EIGHTY-SEVEN

Cool linen holiday accessories, shark pouffe, sleep mask, embellished jacket, watermelon handbag.



## ISSUE EIGHTY-SIX

Sun and shade homewares, pet blanket, basket embellishment, fantasy creatures.



## ISSUE EIGHTY-FIVE

Spots and stripes accessories, hand puppets, blossom shawl, garden rug, neon napkin rings.



## ISSUE EIGHTY-FOUR

Tropical home makes, raffia hat, arrowhead shawl, cherry motif, hedgehog toy, craft room organisers.

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# Chase the Rainbow

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- WE RECCOMEND KING COLE BIG VALUE CHUNKY

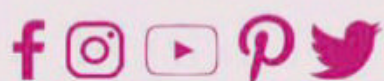
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# Flowers

## IN THE GARDEN

This gorgeous blanket has been designed by **Cassie Ward** using the yarn **Deramores Studio Baby Soft DK**. Full of colour and flowers this blanket will brighten anyone's room up. The yarn is a wonderfully soft acrylic yarn which has been developed with anti-pilling technology.

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# LOVE Broomstick lace

Teach yourself a quick, fun technique  
with this simple step-by-step guide



PLUS!  
HOW-TO'S &  
TOP TIPS



↗  
Create stunning  
lace with ease

Simply  
**Crochet**



# GETTING STARTED!

## What will I need to do broomstick crochet?

**Step 1** You can use any yarn for broomstick crochet, but when you're first learning, it's best to use a smooth yarn that won't split when you work with it. Grab a standard hook to go with it, in a suitable size for the yarn (check the yarn's ball band). We're using a DK yarn and a 4mm hook.



**Step 2** You also need a large 'broomstick' – you could use a crafting dowel, large knitting needle, ruler, marker pen, cardboard tube or an actual broomstick. Most patterns will quote the diameter of the 'broomstick' but if you use a ruler, measure the circumference and divide by pi (3.14) to get the diameter equivalent.



**Step 3** In order to work broomstick crochet rows, you'll need a foundation chain or a foundation row (or rows) of stitches. To start our fabric, we've worked a foundation row of 10 dc stitches (to do this, ch11, dc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch to end), but you could work any number of stitches you like.



Easy to learn but packed with creative potential, broomstick crochet is a great way to create light, open fabrics with fantastic drape. The technique was traditionally worked using a crochet hook and a broomstick handle (hence the name), but you can use all sorts of sticks (see below). We'll show you just what to do and then you can use your new skills to hook our colourful bowl.

## BROOMSTICK ROW

### How do I start making broomstick loops?

**Step 1** Once you have a foundation chain or row(s) of stitches, you can begin your first 'broomstick row', which involves placing long loops onto your broomstick. At the start of a broomstick row, don't turn your work. Instead, use the hook to elongate the active loop.

**Step 2** Insert the broomstick into this large loop. You'll find it easier if you keep a fairly loose tension at this stage. Remove the hook from the loop and restore your tension on the yarn to make sure the loop sits fairly snugly on the broomstick. Try to make sure the loop isn't too tight, but also not too loose.

**Step 3** Insert your crochet hook into the top of the next stitch (or into the next chain if you've started with a foundation chain instead). Work yrh. At this stage, you might find that the broomstick gets in the way, so feel free to tilt the fabric in order to see what you're doing.

**Step 4** Pull up a loop as usual at the front of the

fabric. The most comfortable way to hold your broomstick is to stabilise it with your non-hook hand, while also holding the fabric you've made.

**Step 5** Use the hook to lengthen this new loop and guide it onto your broomstick. Be careful not to twist the loop. Keep your tension loose at this stage. If you're using a large knitting needle, make sure you use the hook to take the loop right up to the straight section of the needle.

**Step 6** Remove the hook from the loop and restore your tension to make sure the loop sits fairly snugly on the broomstick. Remember to keep your loop tension consistently quite snug – not too tight and not too loose.

**Step 7** Repeat Steps 3-6 to pull up a loop in all the stitches (or chains) from the row below. At the end of a broomstick row, your work should look something like this. If you had 10 stitches in your foundation row (or chain) then you should now have 10 loops on the broomstick.







## STITCH ROW

### How do I work stitches into the loops?

**Step 1** Now you can begin your first 'stitch row', which involves working stitches into the broomstick loops to secure them. At the start of a stitch row, don't turn your work. Instead, insert the hook into the first two loops, as shown. Be careful not to pull on the working yarn, which will shorten the final loop – instead, try to keep the two loops at the same height.

**Step 2** Work yrh and pull up a loop. This process brings the yarn up to the height of the loops, a bit like a turning chain.

**Step 3** Now you need to work an actual turning chain for the stitches you want to work on this row. We're going to work a row of dc stitches, which is standard for most broomstick

fabrics, but you could use any crochet stitch you like. So for dc, ch1. If you plan to work taller stitches, work more chains at this stage.

**Step 4** The first two broomstick loops will now be secure, so you can either take them off the broomstick or just slide them a little further down it. Use your fingers to angle the loops so they form an 'O' shape, to make the next stages easier. Next we're going to work 2dc into the first two broomstick loops. To do this, insert your hook into the first two loops as before.

**Step 5** Work a dc as usual – yrh, pull up a loop, yrh and pull through two loops.

**Step 6** Work a second dc in the same place,

as shown here. You should now have 2dc worked into the first two broomstick loops.

**Step 7** To continue, you need to work 2dc into the next two broomstick loops. To do this, insert the hook into the next two broomstick loops as before.

**Step 8** Now make a dc as usual – yrh, pull up a loop, yrh and pull through two loops on hook. Work a second dc in the same place. You should now have 2dc in the next two broomstick loops.

**Step 9** Repeat Steps 7-8 to work 2dc into each pair of broomstick loops across the row. You should have created five broomstick 'O' shapes, with 10 dc at the end of the stitch row.

## NEXT STEPS

### How do I grow my work?

At the end of the first few rows you will have a foundation row of dc, a broomstick row of elongated loops and a stitch row of dc to secure the long loops. To continue your fabric, you could work some plain rows of standard crochet, such as dc or treble. Or work another broomstick row, followed by another stitch row. When your fabric is the desired size, just fasten off as usual at the end of a stitch row.

On the stitch row, we worked into pairs of broomstick loops, but you can make your groups as small or large as you like. For example, you could work 1dc into each individual broomstick loop, or work 3dc

into a group of three broomstick loops. The effects vary depending on your broomstick size and yarn.

To keep your fabric the same width, make sure that on the standard stitch rows you work the same number of stitches as there are broomstick loops – so work a total of 20 dc for 20 broomstick loops. However, with a bit of maths know-how, you can choose the format of the broomstick loop groups. For example, for 20 broomstick loops, you could have five groups of four loops (also called a 4-loop cluster), each with 4 dc – or you could have four groups of five loops, each with 5 dc.

