LET'S GET CRAFTING

KNITTING & CROCHET

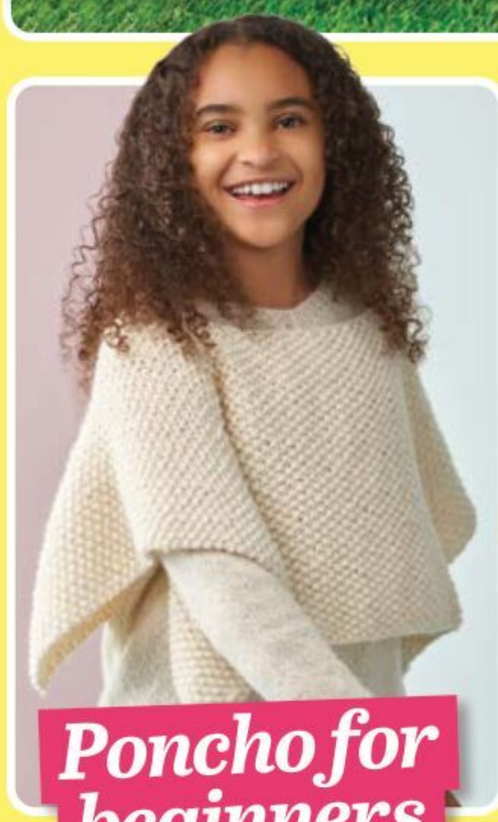
ISSUE 140

THE UK'S FAVOURITE ALL-IN-ONE MAG PACK

137 terrific MAKES

TOYS, SOCKS, BLANKET, GRANNY SQUARES + MORE

AMIGURUMI DOLLS WITH YOUR KIT



Poncho for beginners

Try-it-now textures

LIMITED EDITION

FLUFFY yarn

BIGGEST TOY EVER I'M 28CM TALL!

Crochet A DOG TONIGHT

KNIT YOUR HOUSE: PERSONALISATION IDEAS INSIDE

20 genius ways to knit and save ★ Rainbow bolster cushion

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Royal Guard

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UK HAND KNITTING

Hello!

How to describe this new edition? A whole lotta fun! One minute you're smiling at our **fluffy platypus** on page 8, the next you want to join our dolls in a spot of maypole dancing (p47). And somewhere in between is our amazing cover star teddy bear, Hugo – fun's his middle name.

As always, everything kicks off with your **new yarn kit**. Cuddle comes with five DK yarns, plus one **very special fluffy yarn** destined for huggable toys. You've also got 4.5mm bamboo needles and a 4mm metal hook, so you can start crafting right away. Wonderful!

Along with toybox crafts, we've got plenty more to keep you entertained – slipper socks, a **brilliantly colourful blanket**, handy storage baskets, darling baby blocks, and a **poncho for kids**. Plus, we share a rainbow bolster cushion from Yarn & Colors. Your sofa never looked so good.

Feeling the pinch right now? Flick to page 31 for **money-saving tips** (I need to take heed of number five on the list) and shop our edit of value yarns just after that. If you're in need of a pick-me-up, I urge you to read our **interview with Ellen Siegert** on page 66 – the TikTok sensation crochets famous faces and they are truly epic.

Before I go, I want you to cue the John Williams *Jurassic Park* score. Our **Diddy Dinosaurs crochet-along** concludes on page 20 and the full set is truly outstanding. Missed the beginning? We tell you how to catch up. Until next time, lovely readers.

Rosie

ROSIE SAVAGE, EDITOR

WE BACKED BIPOC in fiber

100 GRANNY SQUARES TO DOWNLOAD ON P23

MEET OUR EXPERTS

SACHIYO ISHII
Knit my cover star teddy (p28)

IRENE STRANGE
Make your final dinos on page 20

HEATHER GIBBS
Crochet a little platypus (p8)

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SEE P24 FOR MORE DETAILS

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LET'S GET CRAFTING

KNITTING & CROCHET

Cover star

P28

P50

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STASH-BUSTING BLANKET

RELAX & READ

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FLUFFY SKEIN = AN ABUNDANCE OF SERIOUSLY CUTE TOY OPTIONS

YOUR Cuddle YARN KIT

You can always rely on us for brilliant yarns

Exclusive FLUFFY YARN

4.5MM BAMBOO NEEDLES

4MM METAL HOOK

SHARE WHAT YOU MAKE WITH YOUR CUDDLE PACK ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

"I'm in love with this kit! We'll ignore the fact that I say that about every Let's Get Crafting gift. But it's just so versatile thanks to a mix of pastels, that bold pink and teddy-tastic browns"

ROSIE SAVAGE, EDITOR

Get in TOUCH

POST YOUR MAKES ON
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Newsflash!

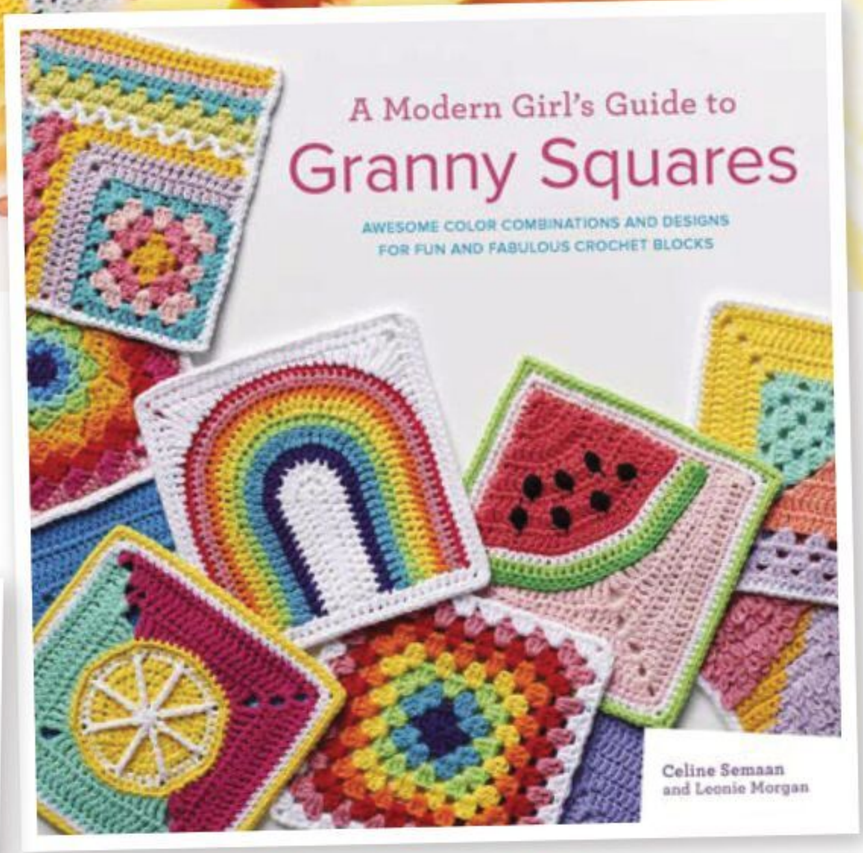
Your go-to crafty inspiration for all seasons

Festival fun!

The latest vibrant pattern collection from Sirdar has us excited for a summer of fun, filled with retro-inspired outfits. Available in 40 stunning shades, Sirdar Stories is a cotton rich blend DK yarn that's ideal for your seventies catwalk-inspired knit and crochet garments – granny square vest, anyone? Visit **sirdar.com** and explore 26 festival designs in an explosion of colour. Now where did we put our flower crowns?

For your mini me

The man who made it even cooler to craft has released his second knit and crochet collection, and we want it all! Brimming with bold colours and chic, straightforward designs, each project is made with 100% Merino wool that's wonderful to work with and super soft to touch. Our highlight is this matching jumper because, as we all know, twinning is winning – who wouldn't want to wear this adorable set with their favourite little person? See the whole collection at **bytomdaley.com**.



Thoroughly modern grannies

No matter how accomplished we become as crocheters, nothing beats coming back to making granny squares. Celine Semaan and Leonie Morgan's latest collection, *A Modern Girl's Guide To Granny Squares* (£10.99, Search Press), is a new take on the traditional square, with 40 contemporary designs all bursting with colour. Learn how to transform your crochet into blankets, cushions, wall hangings and more. Buy your copy at **searchpress.com**.

Mindful making

Relax into the meditative nature of the knitting process with *Conscious Crafts: Knitting* (£12.99, Quarto) by Sicgmone Kludje and Vea Koranteng, co-founders of The Black Girl Knit Club. With patterns for 20 modern makes, ranging from plant pot cosies to throws and snoods, you'll be guided through the basics of knitting including casting on, knit, purl and moss stitch. This book is ideal for beginners or if you're a knitter who likes to stick to core stitches that can be adapted for different projects. **quarto.com**

Holiday ready

Knit this pretty mock Turkish stitch kaftan to take you from water's edge to cafe table before you can say 'piña colada'. It's the perfect cover-up and can be knitted in a choice of soft cotton yarns in a beautiful colour palette that starts at £35. Head over to **stitchkit.co.uk** and search for 'knitted kaftan kit' to bagsy all you need to get making in time for your summer break.

Jubilee knits

In honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this year, the Women's Institute has launched a knitting competition, encouraging crafters to knit and hide a corgi in their local community for others to find. There's even a chance for one lucky treasure hunter to win a seat at the Big Jubilee Lunch in London on Sunday 5th June. It's called 'Where's WInnie?' and if you'd love to get involved, you can find out more at **thewi.org.uk**. If you want to get making, head to **letsknit.co.uk** and search 'corgi' to download Let's Knit Together's adorable pooch.

MAKE A TEDDY WITH...

Stuart Hillard

Our sense of touch is one of five senses, and one that knitters and crocheters often use to choose yarn – it's all about the 'feel'. The fluffy brown skein in your Cuddle pack is one of those yarns... you've just got to touch it! It reminds me of a soft teddy bear so that's what I'll be making with mine. Did you know that the teddy bear toy was invented in 1902 in America by a toymaker called Morris Michtom? When President Theodore Roosevelt refused to shoot a chained bear on a hunt, a newspaper included a cartoon showing the event. Michtom and his wife thought it would make the perfect toy. 'Teddy's Bear' was born and has been a favourite ever since! There are lots of easy teddy bear knitting and crochet patterns available and you've got all the yarn, needles and hook needed to make your own. The fluffy yarn is perfect for the body, arms and legs and I'll use Golden Yellow for the foot pads and Dark Brown for features, maybe mixed with some black from my stash. Light Blue, Lovely Coral and Vibrant Cerise are brilliant for knitting a cute scarf and hat or maybe a smart waistcoat and bow tie. Projects like this are great fun to make with a beginner knitter who can make the simpler elements and see the process for making more complex shapes. When knitting or crocheting a stuffed toy it's a good idea to use a needle or hook size down from the recommended size for the yarn you're using. That way your fabric will be tighter and firmer, and the stuffing won't show through. Have fun with your yarn pack this month. Oh, and don't forget the power of touch and give someone special a cuddle!

Stu x

PLUS
stitch markers, tapestry needle, stuffing, two 8mm black safety eyes

SIZE
Height: 12cm

Pepper Platypus

Make the most of your fluffy yarn with this duck-billed cutie

We never knew we needed a crocheted platypus in our life but now we've met Pepper, we can't imagine being without her! This project by **HEATHER GIBBS** uses four colours from your Cuddle kit to create a cute critter with a pretty pink bow on her head. Don't think she needs the bow? That's fine – just omit that part and skip straight to the making up instructions instead.

Take the next step

"You won't need to stuff the bill, arms, feet or tail – they're perfect just as they are"
HEATHER GIBBS, DESIGNER

PEPPER PLATYPUS head & body

Using 4mm hook and Fluffy Brown make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts
Rnds 3-6: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 7: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 24 sts
Insert safety eyes between Rnds 4-5, approx three sts apart
Rnd 8: (3dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 30 sts
Rnds 9-12: 1dc in each st to end
Note: stuff as you go
Rnd 13: (3dc, dc2tog) to end. 24 sts
Rnd 14: (2dc, dc2tog) to end. 18 sts
Rnd 15: (1dc, dc2tog) to end. 12 sts
Rnd 16: (dc2tog) to end. Six sts
Fasten off

bill

Using 4mm hook and Dark Brown make a magic ring, work 8dc into ring. Eight sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 16 sts
Rnds 2-6: 1dc in each st to end
Fold piece in half and work through sts of both sides as folls:
Row 1: 1dc in each st to end. Eight sts
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

tail

Using 4mm hook and Dark Brown make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts
Rnd 3: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 24 sts
Rnds 4-6: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 7: (4dc, dc2tog) to end. 20 sts
Rnds 8-10: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 11: (3dc, dc2tog) to end. 16 sts
Rnds 12-14: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 15: (2dc, dc2tog) to end. 12 sts
Fold piece in half and work through sts of both sides as folls:
Row 1: 1dc in each st to end. Six sts
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

cheek

Make two
Using 4mm hook and Lovely Coral make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

foot

Make two
Using 4mm hook and Dark Brown make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnds 2-4: 1dc in each st to end
Fold piece in half and work through sts of both sides as folls:
Row 1: 1dc in each st to end. Six sts
The folded section is the front webbed foot.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. The feet should be attached from Row 1-2 – using tapestry needle, thread yarn through to this position

arm

Make two
Using 4mm hook and Dark Brown make a magic ring, work 8dc into ring. Eight sts
Rnds 1-3: 1dc in each st to end
Fold piece in half and work through sts of both sides as folls:
Row 1: 1dc in each st to end. Four sts
Fasten off, leaving a long tail
The folded section is the front webbed arm.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. The feet should be attached from Row 1-2 – using tapestry needle, thread yarn through to this position

bow

Note: 1ch at beg of row does not count as a st
Using 4mm hook and Vibrant Cerise make 16ch
Row 1: starting in second ch from hook, 1dc in each st to end, turn. 15 sts
Row 2-3: 1ch, 1dc in each st to end, turn
Fasten off, leaving a long tail
Sew two short ends tog, then wind small length of Vibrant Cerise around centre of strip for a knot
Secure ends, leaving a long tail

to make up

Using yarn tail, sew Head & Body closed. Attach Bill to front of Head on Rnd 7, below eyes, then attach Row 1 of Bill to Body. Sew Cheeks to Head, approx 5mm away from either side of Bill and below eyes. Attach Arms to Body on Rnd 10. Sew Feet to bottom of Body. Attach Tail on back of Body, then attach Row 1 of Tail to Body. Sew Bow on top of one side of Head. Weave in all ends

GREAT ADVICE

USING FLUFFY YARN

When working with fluffy yarn, you may find you need to crochet more loosely and more slowly than you are used to. This sort of yarn can also make it a little tricky to count stitches; try using more than one stitch marker to help you count rounds. You could also insert your hook between the posts of the stitches instead of inserting your hook into the stitch – as you work along each row, you can feel for the gaps with your finger

USE YOUR Cuddle YARN KIT

PLUS
tapestry needle, stitch holders (optional)

SIZE
Heel to toe: 24cm
Heel to top of ankle: 8cm

Slipper socks

Oh hello warm, snuggly, stylish tootsies!

One of the most satisfying things you can knit is a pair of socks, and we love these ankle slipper socks by **DAWN FINNEY**. Want to ensure a snug fit? Easily scale them up or down a little by using larger or smaller needles. You can also adjust the foot length by working a longer or shorter straight section after turning the heel.

Challenge yourself

SLIPPER SOCKS

Make two

Using 4.5mm needles and Vibrant Cerise cast on 42 sts, leaving a short tail

Row 1 (RS): k1, (k2, p2) to last st, k1

Row 2: p1, (k2, p2) to last st, p1

Rep Rows 1-2 once. To create heel, k31, turn, change to Lovely Coral, leaving medium tails, p20. The heel flap will be worked on these 20 sts. Place rem two sets of sts on st holders

Row 1a: (sl 1 pwise wyib [see Skill Up], k1) across these 20 sts

Row 2a: sl 1 pwise wyif (see Skill Up), p to end

Rep Rows 1a-2a nine times. There will be ten ch selvedge sts on each side of heel flap

Row 21a: k12, ssk, k1, turn

Row 22a: sl 1 pwise, p5, p2tog, p1, turn

Row 23a: sl 1 pwise, k to one st before gap, ssk (one st from each side of gap), k1, turn

Row 24a: sl 1 pwise, p to one st before gap, p2tog (one st from each side of gap), p1, turn

Rep Rows 23a-24a until all heel sts have been worked, ending with a RS row and ssk, followed by a WS row and p2tog. 12 sts

Cut Lovely Coral, leaving a medium tail, turn work to RS, then rejoin Vibrant Cerise at base of heel flap, leaving a medium tail, transfer all sts to LH needle

Row 1b: k, picking up ten sts along each ch edge of heel flap. 54 sts

Row 2b and every even-numbered row: p

Row 3b: k20, ssk, k10, k2tog, k20. 52 sts

Change to Light Blue after Row 3b, leaving short tails

Row 5b: k20, ssk, k8, k2tog, k20. 50 sts

Row 7b: k20, ssk, k6, k2tog, k20. 48 sts

Row 9b: k20, ssk, k4, k2tog, k20. 46 sts

Change to Dark Brown after Row 9b, leaving short tails

Row 11b: k20, ssk, k2, k2tog, k20. 44 sts

Row 13b: k20, ssk, k2tog, k20. 42 sts

Starting with a p row work in st st until work meas 20cm from back of heel as folls:

Dark Brown (one row), Golden Yellow (seven rows), Vibrant Cerise (four rows), Light Blue (five rows), Lovely Coral (seven rows), Dark Brown (five rows), Golden Yellow (six rows), Light Blue (two rows)

Shape toe as folls:

Row 1c: k9, k2tog, ssk, k16, k2tog, ssk, k9. 38 sts

Row 2c and every even-numbered row: p

Row 3c: k8, k2tog, ssk, k14, k2tog, ssk, k8. 34 sts

Change to Vibrant Cerise after Row 3c, leaving short tails

Row 5c: k7, k2tog, ssk, k12, k2tog, ssk, k7. 30 sts

Row 7c: k6, k2tog, ssk, k10, k2tog, ssk, k6. 26 sts

Row 8c: p4, p2tog, p1, p2tog, p7, p2tog, p1, p2tog, p5. 22 sts

Row 9c: k4, k2tog, ssk, k6, k2tog, ssk, k4. 18 sts

Row 10c: p2, p2tog, p1, p2tog, p3, p2tog, p1, p2tog, p3. 14 sts

Row 11c: k2, k2tog, ssk, k2, k2tog, ssk, k2. Ten sts

Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, pull tightly and fasten off

to make up

Dampen sock and press st st section lightly with warm iron on WS. Lie flat and allow to dry thoroughly. Use mattress st to sew sides tog, ensuring rib patt is maintained at ankle. If required, use tails and tapestry needle to close any gaps around heel flap. Weave in all ends

SKILL UP!

sl 1 pwise wyib: slip one purlwise with yarn at back

sl 1 pwise wyif: slip one purlwise with yarn at front

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TOP TIP

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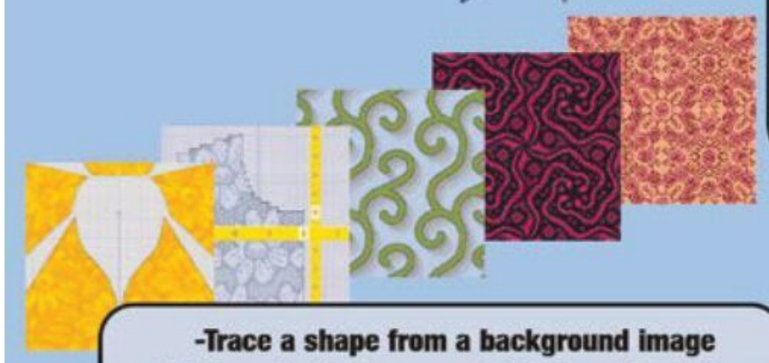

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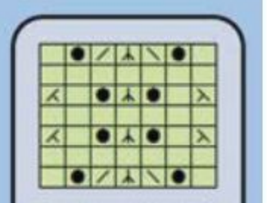

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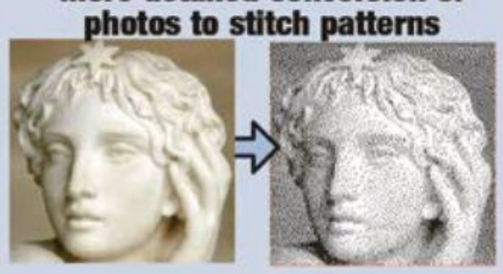

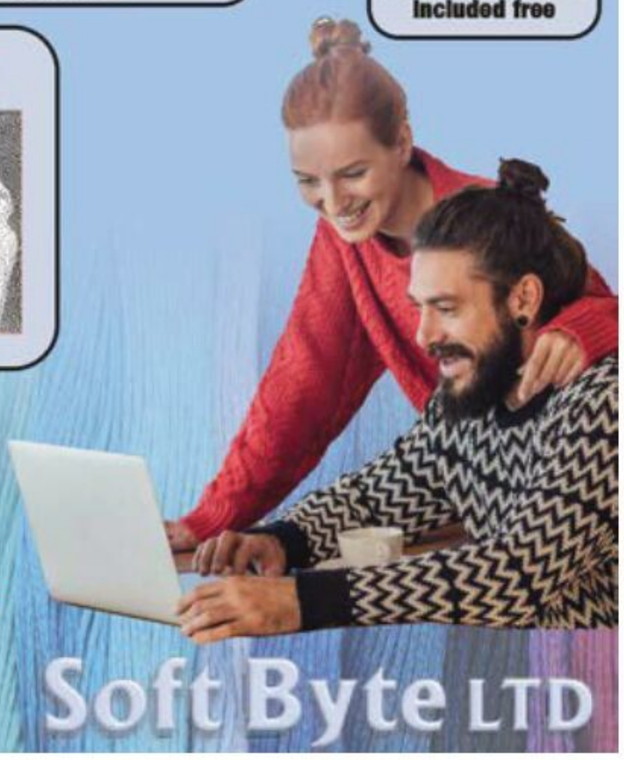

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Maxwell the dog

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USING YOUR Cuddle YARN KIT

PROJECT OVERLEAF

USE YOUR **Cuddle** YARN KIT

PLUS
two 6mm black safety eyes, stuffing, tapestry needle

SIZE
Height (inc ears): 15cm

Take the next step

They say that dogs are man's best friend, and we certainly can't get enough of this furry fella from designer **HANNAH COOPER**. With his super-soft coat and pink paws, ears and nose, he's the ideal snuggling companion – and better yet, he won't bark all night or chew on your furniture! You'll be using intarsia in this pattern, so look out for the colour changes.

MAXWELL THE DOG

ear

Make four (two in each colour)
Using 4mm hook and Lovely Coral (Dark Brown) make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring, turn. Six sts
Rnd 1: 1ch, 2dc, (2dc in next st) twice, 2dc, turn
Rnd 2: 1ch, two sl sts, 4dc, one sl st, turn, leave last st unworked
Rnd 3: 1ch, miss sl st, 4dc, turn
Rnd 4: 1ch, 4dc, turn
Rnd 5: 1ch, 1dc, dc2tog, 1dc, turn
Rnd 6: 1ch, dc3tog
Fasten off

body

Using 4mm hook and Dark Brown make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts
Note: colour in brackets foll instruction indicates which yarn to use
Rnd 3: 2dc, 2dc in next st (Dark Brown), (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end (Fluffy Brown). 24 sts
Rnd 4: 3dc, 2dc in next st (Dark Brown), (3dc, 2dc in next st) four times, 4dc (Fluffy Brown), 1dc in same sp as prev st (Dark Brown). 30 sts
Rnd 5: 6dc (Dark Brown), 23dc (Fluffy Brown), 1dc (Dark Brown)
Rnd 6: 7dc (Dark Brown), 22dc (Fluffy Brown), 1dc (Dark Brown)
Rnd 7: 3dc, dc2tog, 2dc (Dark Brown), 1dc, dc2tog, (3dc, dc2tog) three times, 3dc (Fluffy Brown), dc2tog (Dark Brown). 24 sts
Rnd 8: 2dc, dc2tog, 2dc (Dark Brown), dc2tog, (2dc, dc2tog) four times (Fluffy Brown). 18 sts
Rnd 9: 5dc (Dark Brown), 13dc (Fluffy Brown)
Rnd 10: 1dc (Fluffy Brown), 5dc (Dark Brown), 12dc (Fluffy Brown)
Rnd 11: (dc2tog, 1dc) twice (Dark Brown), dc2tog, (1dc, dc2tog) three times, 1dc (Fluffy Brown). 12 sts
Cont in Fluffy Brown
Rnds 12-13: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off

head

Using 4mm hook and Dark Brown make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnd 2: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 3: (3dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 15 sts
Rnds 4-5: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 6: 6dc, (2dc in next st) three times, 6dc. 18 sts
Rnd 7: 3dc, (2dc in next st, 1dc) six times, 3dc. 24 sts
Note: colour in brackets foll instruction indicates which yarn to use
Rnd 8: 7dc (Fluffy Brown), 8dc (Dark Brown), 9dc (Fluffy Brown)
Rnd 9: 8dc (Fluffy Brown), 6dc (Dark Brown), 10dc (Fluffy Brown)
Rnd 10: 10dc (Fluffy Brown), 2dc (Dark Brown), 12dc (Fluffy Brown)
Rnd 11: 8dc (Fluffy Brown), 6dc (Dark Brown), 10dc (Fluffy Brown)
Rnd 12: 6dc (Fluffy Brown), 10dc (Dark Brown), 8dc (Fluffy Brown)
Cont in Fluffy Brown
Rnd 13: (2dc, dc2tog) to end. 18 sts
Insert safety eyes between Rnds 7-8, approx eight sts apart
Stuff
Rnd 14: (1dc, dc2tog) to end. 12 sts
Rnd 15: (dc2tog) to end. Six sts
Fasten off

back leg

Make two
* Using 4mm hook and Lovely Coral make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts
Change to Dark Brown
Rnd 3: 4dc, 1htr, 8tr, 1htr, 4dc
Rnd 4: 3dc, (dc2tog) six times, 3dc. 12 sts *
Rnds 5-12: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off

front leg

Make two
Rep from * to * of Back Leg
Rnds 5-8: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 9: (dc2tog, 4dc) twice. Ten sts
Rnds 10-11: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 12: (dc2tog, 3dc) twice. Eight sts
Fasten off

tail

Using 4mm hook and Dark Brown make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnds 1-2: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 3: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. Nine sts
Rnds 4-10: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off

collar

Using 4mm hook and Light Blue make 26ch, join with a sl st in first ch to make a loop
Rnd 1: 1ch, 25dc, join with a sl st in first dc
Fasten off

name tag

Using 4mm hook and Golden Yellow make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring.

TOP TIP
USE A CHOPSTICK OR PENCIL TO PUSH STUFFING FIRMLY INSIDE MAXWELL'S LEGS

Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Fasten off

to make up

Stuff Body, Legs and Tail. Surface sl st along side of Back Legs using Fluffy Brown: this is done by placing starting loop on hook, inserting hook around post of a st as if working a front post double crochet, yoh, pull yarn back around st and through first loop, rep along side of leg. Using Dark Brown, hold one of each colour Ear tog and dc along one side. Once at top 3ch, sl st in third ch and cont to dc down other side of Ear, ensuring you work through both layers at same time. Sew Ears onto Head. Embroider nose with Lovely Coral. Sew Legs, Tail and Head onto Body. Sew Name Tag onto Collar and slip Collar over dog's Head. Weave in all ends

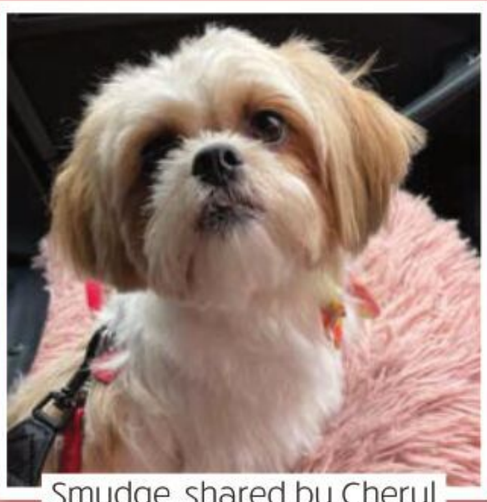
"Take your time when using our fluffy yarn. Struggling to see where your stitches are? Put a stitch marker in each stitch so you know where to work"

HANNAH COOPER, DESIGNER

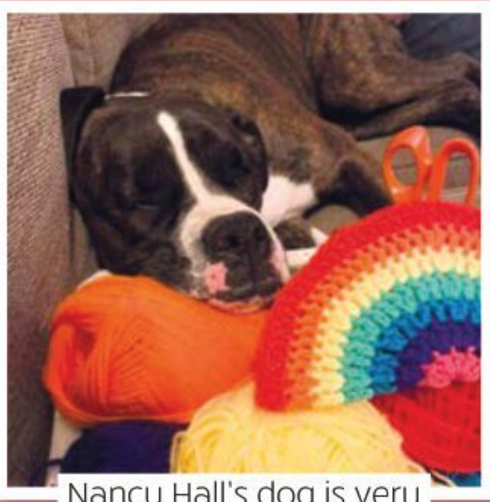
POOCH PARADE

WE ASKED YOU TO SHARE YOUR DOGGY SNAPS, AND BOY DID YOU DELIVER!

Corrie Bishenden's doggies, Fern and Mist



Smudge, shared by Cheryl Matthews



Nancy Hall's dog is very supportive of her crochet

"My beautiful Murray" from Jemima Biddle

USE YOUR Cuddle YARN KIT

PLUS
tapestry needle, stuffing, two pieces of cardboard (10cm x 14cm, plus a trapezoid measuring 14cm at base, 16cm at top and 11cm high)

SIZE
Width: 17cm
Height: 12cm
Depth: 11cm

Take the next step

Our house

...in the middle of our street, our house!

Combine stocking stitch with easy shaping techniques and a little embroidery, and you'll have made your very own knitty home from home. You can easily customise this house by **DAWN FINNEY** to match your own by creating extra windows or embroidering leaves and additional flowers. How about adding a little letterbox, doorknob and house number too? Oh, think of the possibilities!

OUR HOUSE

sides & base

Note: worked from roof apex to roof apex
Using 4.5mm needles and Lovely Coral cast on one st, leaving a short tail
Row 1 (RS): kfbf. Three sts
Row 2 and every even-numbered row: p
Row 3: (kfb) twice, k1. Five sts
Row 5: kfb, k to last two sts, kfb, k1. Seven sts
Row 6: p
Rep Rows 5-6 until there are 21 sts, ending with a Row 6. Work a further 20 rows in st st starting with a k row, then change to Golden Yellow, leaving short tails.
Work 36 rows in st st, then change to Lovely Coral, leaving short tails, and work a further 20 rows in st st, then cont as folls:
Row 1a: k1, k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. 19 sts
Row 2a and every even-numbered row: p
Rep Rows 1a-2a until there are three sts, ending with a Row 1a then work as folls:
Row 1b: p2tog, p1. Two sts
Row 2b: k2tog.
One st
Fasten off

front & back

With RS facing and using Golden Yellow, * pick up and k 36 sts along one side of piece on Golden Yellow section. Work 19 rows in st st, starting with a p row, then cast off kwise, leaving a long tail *, rep from * to * for Back

roof

Using 4.5mm needles and Vibrant Cerise cast on 36 sts, leaving a long tail and start working RS as folls:
Rows 1-5: k
Row 6 (WS): k3, p30, k3
Row 7: k
Rows 6-7 set patt, rep Rows 6-7 until piece meas 15cm, ending with a Row 6 (WS row), then work as folls:
Rows 1a-6a: k
Cast off kwise
Cut yarn, leaving a short tail

window

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Light Blue cast on six sts, leaving a short tail
Rows 1-7: starting with a k (RS) row work in st st
Cast off pwise
Cut yarn, leaving a long tail

door

Using 4.5mm needles and Dark Brown cast on eight sts, leaving a long tail
Rows 1-16: starting with a k (RS) row work in st st
Cast off pwise
Cut yarn, leaving a long tail

to make up

Using tapestry needle, join each side of House to corresponding end section using mattress st. Join Roof to walls,

GREAT ADVICE

FRENCH KNOTS
Use a tapestry needle to pull the desired yarn to the front of the finished house. Hold the tapestry needle perpendicular, close to the knitted surface, and wrap the yarn around the tapestry needle twice. Taking care to hold the yarn taut throughout, pass the tapestry needle through to the back of the piece, slightly away from the original point, to create and secure the knot

starting at peak of Roof and joining relevant edges tog using mattress st, leaving one long edge open. Weave in any ends, then place rectangular cardboard in base of House and partly stuff this 3D shape. Insert trapezoid cardboard, widest edge at the top, and stuff House to hold cardboard vertically to support Roof ridge along centre of House. Close Roof, then secure and weave in any ends. Using tapestry needle and long tail, appliqué Door onto House, tucking one st under all around and using overstitch around edge. Embroider ch st door frame with Light Blue. Embroider French Knot flowerbeds (see Great Advice) below each window on Front of House with Vibrant Cerise and Lovely Coral. Using tapestry needle and long tail, appliqué Windows onto House, tucking under one st all around using overstitch around edge. Embroider backstitch window frames with long sts using Dark Brown. Weave in all ends

SKILL UP!

kfbf: knit into front, back and front of same st, then lift off LH needle

All about you

You wow us yet again with your crafty skills

You're obsessed with... toys!

USE THE FORCE

Grogu was a Christmas gift for my lovely friend, Gayle. It was lots of fun to make with very clear instructions. The pattern is by Mucau Amigurumi on Etsy. Well received it was!

Erika Gunder, Scotland

LOCKDOWN PALS

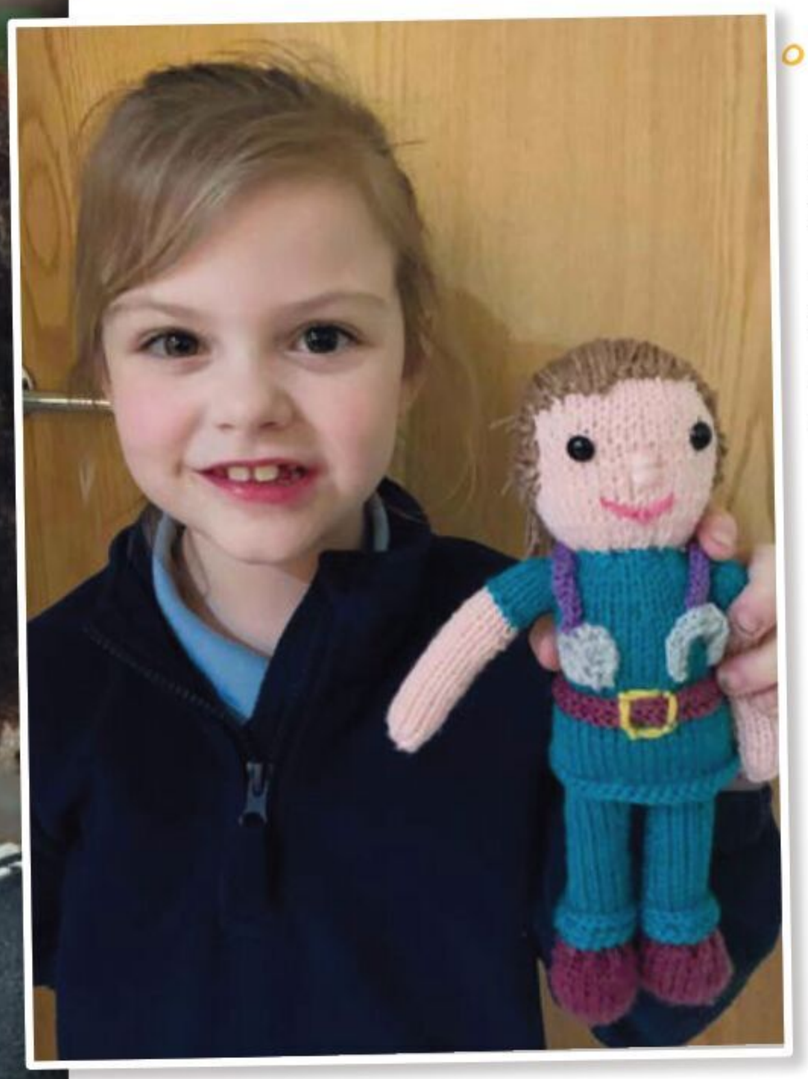
During the pandemic lockdowns when we couldn't see any friends, I decided to crochet my own! I really enjoyed crafting their different outfits and making them unique.

Gillian Braithwaite, Scotland

CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

I was inspired to make this doll as I used to have one similar when I was younger called Jemima, and I wanted to capture something from my childhood.

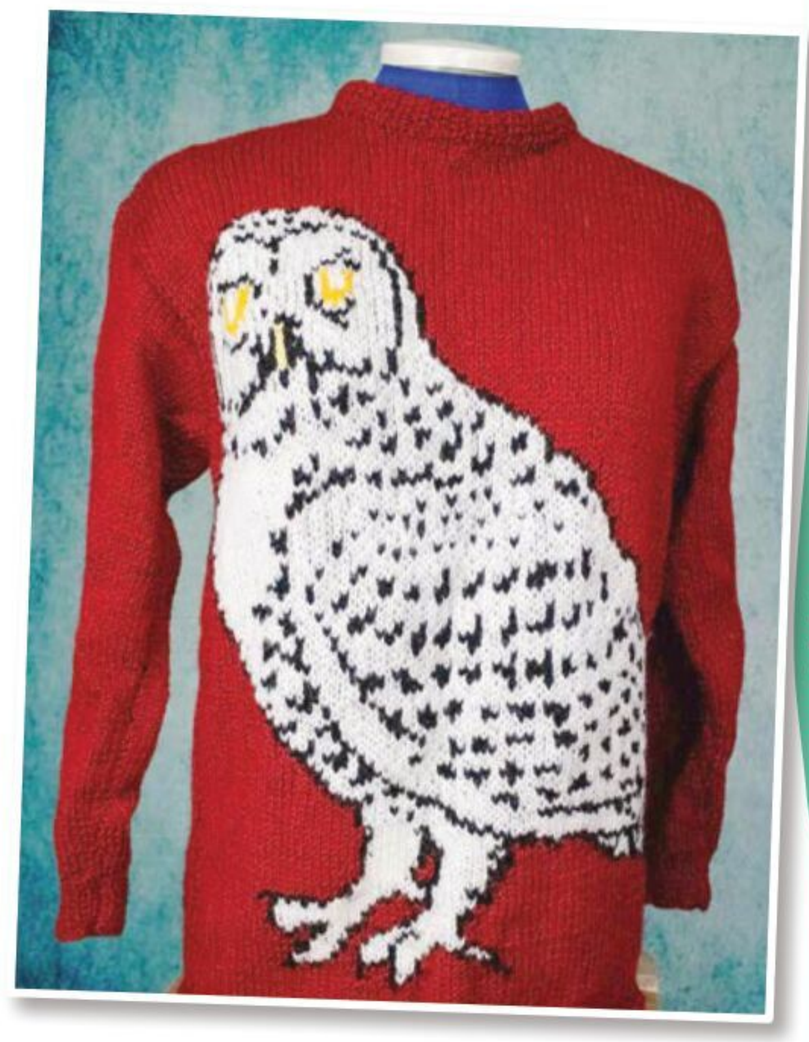
Samantha Drew, Holmfirth



I've been knitting for a few years but really got into it more during lockdown. I buy your magazine religiously; it's my favourite and I now have quite a collection of toys that I've made. I really enjoy creating them and my children love to play with them. This is my daughter, Emilia, she's seven and absolutely adores Beth the vet from issue 138!

Danielle Mills, Essex

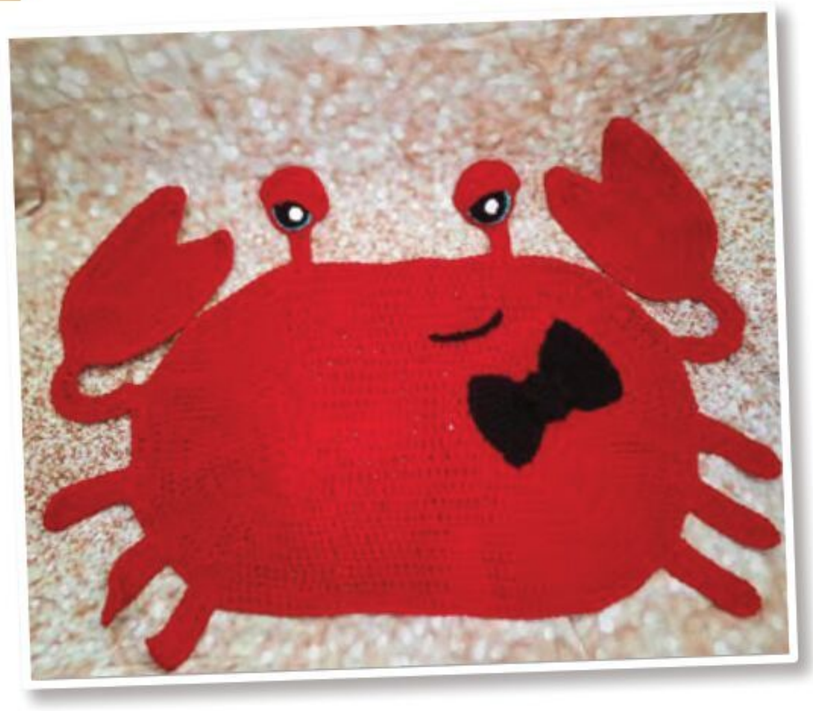
We're so happy you love the magazine and that your children enjoy the toys



This is just one of my recently knitted jumpers. I love to make intarsia designs and have done others featuring Darth Vader, Paddington Bear and more. I knitted a Hedwig sweater for my daughter who is a big Harry Potter fan. I've also made her a Quidditch top and a Gryffindor hat and scarf, so the jumper seemed to finish off the set!

Siobhán Edge, North-West England

We are in awe of your intarsia skills, Siobhán!



I made this crocheted crab rug as part of a customer order using Stylecraft Chunky, which is super soft so the rug will feel cosy underfoot. The shade is Lipstick and I think it's so vibrant and a perfect crab colour. The pattern is from a book that's filled with fun patterns. I've also made a second rug in a giraffe design!

Naomi Cobb, Merseyside

This is such a fun and quirky design, we love it!

"During the lockdowns when we couldn't see any friends, I decided to crochet my own!"

What's your proudest knitting or crochet achievement?

"Learning how to make socks on four needles"

Debra Young

"Crocheting a coral reef for my final year of school. It was major work, the biggest crochet project I've ever undertaken. It took me over three months to make!"

Temeka Clarence

"My proudest moment was finishing a Harry Potter blanket for my daughter. It took me nearly six months to make as I have chronic health conditions called M.E and fibromyalgia so I had to work on it on my good days. It was a true labour of love but worth every second!"

Tracy Louise Roach

"Actually finishing a jumper!"

Katy Shawcross

"I crocheted a pilot that's 53cm tall! He has a wire skeleton and I changed the colours so that they matched Aer Lingus. All his clothes were made separately and the jacket can be removed"

Kendra Hanna

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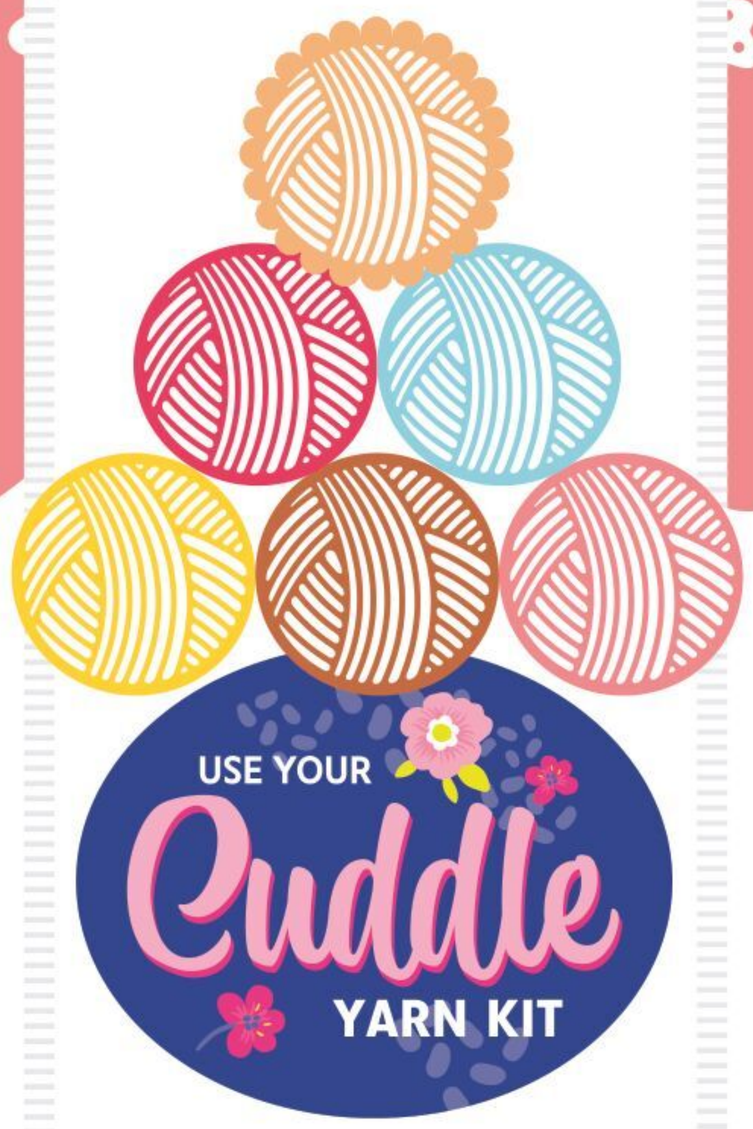
Add the final three to YOUR 3-PART



PLUS: 3mm hook, six 6mm black safety eyes, stuffing, tapestry needle
SIZE: Pterosaur height: 9cm
Parasaurolophus height: 10cm
Triceratops length: 14cm

IRENE STRANGE, DESIGNER

"Today's the day when six becomes nine! Yes, you can now add three more mini dinosaurs to your crochet-along critters and make your Jurassic collection complete. I had to include a flying species in this set and loved using the pastel tones to make it really eye-catching. Why not insert wire to the tops of the wings so your pterosaur can soar through the air? The triceratops is one of my favourite designs, because my version has been made to look extra cuddly by using fluffy yarn. All together now: awww! I hope you've enjoyed making my diddy dinos. Be sure to keep the team updated with your roarsome makes!"

Take the next step

PTERO-SAUR

head

Using 3mm hook and Light Blue make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnd 1: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 2: (2dc in next st, 2dc) to end. Eight sts
Rnd 3: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 4: (2dc in next st, 3dc) to end. Ten sts
Rnd 5: (2dc in next st, 4dc) to end. 12 sts
Rnd 6: (2dc in next st, 5dc) to end. 14 sts
Rnd 7: (2dc in next st, 6dc) to end. 16 sts
Rnd 8-15: 1dc in each st to end
Insert safety eyes between Rnds 6-7
Note: stuff as you go
Rnd 16: (dc2tog, 6dc) twice. 14 sts
Rnd 17: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 18: (dc2tog, 5dc) to end. 12 sts
Rnd 19-21: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off

body

Using 3mm hook and Light Blue make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts
Rnd 3: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 24 sts
Rnd 4: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 5: (dc2tog, 6dc) to end. 21 sts
Work in foll two-row stripe sequence: Lovely Coral, Light Blue
Rnd 6: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 7: (dc2tog, 5dc) to end. 18 sts
Rnd 8: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 9: (dc2tog, 4dc) to end. 15 sts
Rnd 10: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 11: (dc2tog, 3dc) to end. 12 sts
Cont in Light Blue only
Note: stuff as you go
Rnds 12-15: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

wing

Make two
Using 3mm hook and Lovely Coral make a magic ring, work 5dc into ring. Five sts
Rnd 1: 3dc in each st to end. 15 sts
Rnd 2: (1dc, 3dc in next st, 1dc) to end. 25 sts
Rnd 3: (2dc, 3dc in next st, 2dc) to end. 35 sts
Rnd 4: (3dc, 3dc in next st, 3dc) to end. 45 sts
Rnd 5: (4dc, 3dc in next st, 4dc) to end. 55 sts
Note: fold piece in half, with peaks of increases tog, work next row through both layers
Row 6: 5dc, 3dc in next st, 10dc, 3dc in next st, 11dc. 32 sts
Fasten off

claw

Make two
Using 3mm hook and Light Blue attach yarn to pointed tip of each Wing
Row 1: 1ch, 3dc in same tip. Three sts
Fasten off

leg

Make two
Using 3mm hook and Light Blue make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnds 1-3: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

to make up

Pinch top of Head flat and sew up edge. Sew Body and Head tog so flat end of Head is at top. Sew Legs to base of Body making sure dinosaur sits up. Weave back of Wing to start of rnd. Sew Wings either side of Body, two rnds above last stripe. Weave in all ends

PARASAUR-OLOPHUS

head

Using 3mm hook and Golden Yellow make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnd 2: (2dc in next st, 3dc) to end. 15 sts
Rnds 3-8: 1dc in each st to end
Insert safety eyes between Rnds 4-5
Stuff
Rnd 9: (dc2tog, 3dc) to end. 12 sts
Rnd 10: (dc2tog) to end. Six sts
Fasten off

crest

Using 3mm hook and Vibrant Cerise make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnds 2-6: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 7: (dc2tog, 2dc) to end. Nine sts
Rnds 8-9: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 10: (dc2tog, 1dc) to end. Six sts
Rnds 12-13: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off, do not stuff

tail & body

Using 3mm hook and Golden Yellow make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnds 1-3: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 4: (2dc in next st, 1dc) to end. Nine sts
Rnds 5-6: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 7: (2dc in next st, 2dc) to end. 12 sts
Rnds 8-9: 1dc in each st to end

your prehistoric collection

CROCHET-ALONG

DIDDY dinosaurs

Share your progress with us at facebook.com/knitandcrochet

Rnd 10: (2dc in next st, 3dc) to end. 15 sts
Rnds 11-12: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 13: (2dc in next st, 4dc) to end. 18 sts
Note: stuff tip of tail
Rnds 14-15: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 16: (2dc in next st, 1dc) three times, 12dc. 21 sts
Rnd 17: (2dc, 2dc in next st) three times, 12dc. 24 sts
Rnds 18-23: 1dc in each st to end
Note: stuff as you go
Rnd 24: (dc2tog, 4dc) three times, 6dc. 21 sts
Rnd 25: (dc2tog, 3dc) three times, 6dc. 18 sts
Rnd 26: (dc2tog, 2dc) three times, 6dc. 15 sts
Rnd 27: (dc2tog, 1dc) three times, 6dc. 12 sts
Rnds 28-31: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

leg

Make two
Using 3mm hook and Golden Yellow make a magic ring, work 7dc into ring. Seven sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 14 sts
Rnd 2: (2dc in next st, 1dc) to end. 21 sts
Rnds 3-4: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 5: 3dc in next st, 1dc, 3dc in next st, miss rem sts. Seven sts
Rnds 6-8: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 9: 6dc, 2dc in next st. Eight sts
Rnd 10: (2dc in next st, 3dc) to end. Ten sts
Rnds 13-15: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

arm

Make two
Using 3mm hook and Golden Yellow make a magic ring, work 5dc into ring. Five sts
Rnds 1-3: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

to make up

Pick up front loops of Head and Crest with tapestry needle and pull tightly to close. Sew Crest along Head, with pointed section above starting rnd. Sew Body to Head, choosing direction Head is turning. Place

CONTINUE CROCHETING

round section of each Leg onto Body and sew around shape, adding a little stuffing before fully sewn. Sew up ends of Feet, fold so each Foot faces forward, secure fold in place with a few sts. Decorate spine with row of crab stitch (see Skill Up) in Vibrant Cerise, starting at base of neck. Embroider claws onto Feet in Vibrant Cerise. Weave in all ends

TRICERA-TOPS

head

Using 3mm hook and Dark Brown make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnds 2-4: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 5: (2dc in next st, 3dc) to end. 15 sts
Rnd 6: 1dc in each st to end
Insert safety eyes between Rnds 5-6
Rnd 7: (2dc in next st, 4dc) to end. 18 sts
Rnd 8: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 9: (1dc, 3dc in next st) five times, 8dc. 28 sts
Rnd 10: 2dc, (3dc in next st, 3dc) five times, 6dc. 38 sts
Rnd 11: 3dc, (3dc in next st, 1dc, dc3tog, 1dc) four times, 3dc in next st, 10dc. 40 sts
Rnd 12: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 13: 3dc, (dc3tog, 3dc) five times, 7dc. 30 sts
Rnd 14: 3dc, (dc2tog, 2dc) five times, 7dc. 25 sts
Rnd 15: 3dc, (dc2tog, 1dc) five times, 7dc. 20 sts
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

horn

Make three
Using 3mm hook and Light Blue make 4ch
Row 1: starting in second ch from hook, one sl st, 2dc. Three sts
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

body

Using 3mm hook and Fluffy Brown make 2ch
Rnd 1: starting in first ch from hook, 6dc, pull on yarn tail to tighten. Six sts
Rnd 2: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnd 3: (2dc in next st, 1dc) to end. 18 sts
Rnds 4-6: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 7: dc2tog, 16dc. 17 sts
Rnd 8: dc2tog, 15dc. 16 sts
Note: stuff as you go
Rnd 9: dc2tog, 14dc. 15 sts
Rnd 10: dc2tog, 13dc. 14 sts
Rnd 11: dc2tog, 12dc. 13 sts
Rnd 12: dc2tog, 11dc. 12 sts
Rnd 13: dc2tog, 10dc. 11 sts
Rnd 14: dc2tog, 9dc. Ten sts
Rnd 15: dc2tog, 8dc. Nine sts
Rnd 16: dc2tog, 7dc. Eight sts
Rnd 17: dc2tog, 6dc. Seven sts
Rnd 18: dc2tog, 5dc. Six sts
Fasten off

foot

Make four
Using 3mm hook and Dark Brown make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnds 1-3: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

to make up

Sew one Horn to tip of nose and other horns above eyes. Add stuffing to Head and frill. Sew up tip of Body. Sew Head to front of Body, with tail pointing up or down. Sew Feet to base of Body. Use Light Blue to embroider tips of frill and back of Body and tail with short sts. Weave in all ends

SKILL UP!

Crab stitch
Sometimes referred to as reverse double crochet (rev dc). Attach yarn to first st and make 1ch (turning ch). Keep yarn to reverse of work, insert hook from front to back through next st to right. Wrap yarn around hook and draw loop through st so there are two loops on hook. Wrap yarn around hook and draw through loops to complete

MAKE THE ENTIRE SET!

GREAT ADVICE

It can be tricky to see the stitches when using textured yarns with small hooks. Using a stitch marker to mark the first stitch of each round will help keep track of your rounds, plus the fluffy texture will hide any mistakes! Alternatively, the Triceratops' body can be made in Dark Brown or Light Blue

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...is an all-new crochet-along! Get your hands on issue 141 for part one of our Party Animals edition

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Stash-busting blanket

Use leftover yarns and circular needles for this eye-popping make

This 13-colour diagonal design offers the chance to use up those oddments in your stash. The pattern suits any yarn weight, as long as it's all the same – just be sure to switch up your needles accordingly. The border is a neat, rolled edging that not only looks like an i-cord but encloses the many yarns ends too. What's more, if you remember to slip the first stitch of every row, you won't have to worry about a wavy edge.

YOU WILL NEED

YARN
King Cole Big Value DK: (A) 4040 Saxe, (B) 4050 Emerald, (C) 4049 Lime, (D) 4044 Turquoise, (E) 4038 Violet, (F) 4036 Cerise, (G) 4033 Pink, (H) 4046 Jade, (I) 4047 Petrol, (J) 4056 Orchid, (K) 4034 Fuchsia, (L) 4028 Orange, (M) 4029 Red, one 50g ball of each

PLUS
80-100cm 4mm circular needles, medium pom-pom maker, tapestry needle

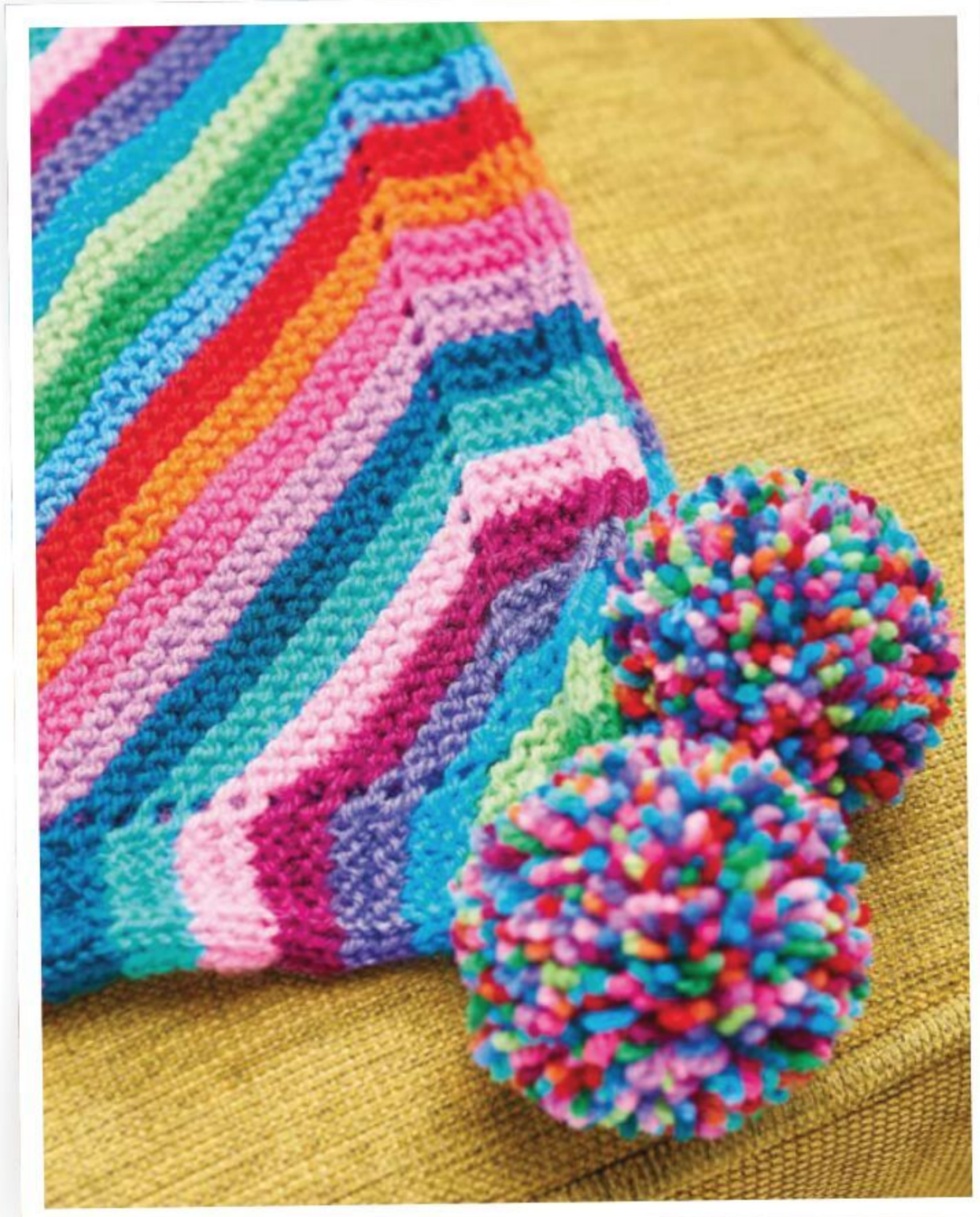
TENSION
19 sts x 38 rows 10cm x 10cm Garter stitch 4mm needles

SIZE
96cm x 96cm

Take the next step

BLANKET

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on four sts
Row 1: k1, (kfb) twice, k1. Six sts
Row 2: p
Row 3: k2, (kfb) twice, k2. Eight sts
Row 4: p
Change to yarn B
Row 5: k3, (kfb) twice, k3. Ten sts
Row 6: p4, k2, p4
Row 7: k4, (kfb) twice, k4. 12 sts
Row 8: p4, k4, p4
Change to yarn C
Row 9: (k3, kfb) twice, k4. 14 sts
Row 10: p4, k6, p4
Row 11: k3, kfb, k5, kfb, k4. 16 sts
Row 12: p4, k8, p4
Change to yarn D
Row 13: k3, kfb, k7, kfb, k4. 18 sts
Row 14: p4, k5, yfwd, k5, p4. 19 sts
Row 15: k9, yfwd, k1, yfwd, k9. 21 sts
Row 16: p4, k13, p4
Change to yarn E
Row 17: k9, yfwd, k3, yfwd, k9. 23 sts
Row 18: p4, k15, p4
Row 19: k9, yfwd, k5, yfwd, k9. 25 sts
Row 20: p4, k17, p4
Change to yarn F
Row 21: k9, yfwd, k7, yfwd, k9. 27 sts
Row 22: p4, k19, p4
Row 23: k9, yfwd, k to last nine sts, yfwd, k9. 29 sts
Row 24: p4, k to last four sts, p4
Change to yarn G
Rep Rows 23-24 twice. 33 sts
Change to yarn H
Rep Rows 23-24 twice. 37 sts
Change to yarn I
Rep Rows 23-24 twice. 41 sts
Change to yarn J
Rep Rows 23-24 twice. 45 sts
Change to yarn K
Rep Rows 23-24 twice. 49 sts
Change to yarn L
Rep Rows 23-24 twice. 53 sts
Change to yarn M
Rep Rows 23-24 twice. 57 sts
These 52 rows set four-row stripe sequence and Rows 23-24 set inc patt
Cont working in stripe sequence and inc patt as set until there are 267 sts and side edges meas 97cm (five reps of stripe sequence A-M plus two rows of yarn A) OR work as set until at least half of each yarn rem
Next row: k4, skpo, k4, yfwd, skpo, k to last 12 sts, k2tog, yfwd, k4, k2tog, k4. 265 sts
Next row: p4, k to last four sts, p4
These last two rows set dec patt
Rep last two rows and cont in stripe sequence as set until 21 sts rem
Keeping stripe sequence as set, cont as folls:
Next row: k4, skpo, k3, skpo, yfwd, k2tog, k2, k2tog, k4. 18 sts
Next row: p4, k10, p4
Next row: k4, skpo, k1, skpo, k2tog, k1, k2tog, k4. 14 sts
Next row: p4, k6, p4
Next row: k4, skpo, k2, k2tog, k4. 12 sts
Next row: p4, k4, p4
Next row: k4, skpo, k2tog, k4. Ten sts
Next row: p4, k2, p4
Next row: k3, skpo, k2tog, k3. Eight sts
P one row
Next row: k2, skpo, k2tog, k2. Six sts
Next row: p1,



Coming next month!

LOVE MAKING BLANKETS? LEARN TO CRAFT THIS MULTI-STRAND C2C THROW FROM *QUICK CROCHET* BY KATE ROWELL IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

p2tog, p2tog tbl, p1. Four sts
Cast off

to make up

Knot yarns at side edge at colour changes and trim to approx 2cm long. Push all ends under rolled edge to hide them. Using a length of any coloured yarn, sew edge of rolled fabric to wrong side forming an i-cord-style edge on all four sides and hiding yarn ends. Make four pom-poms of approximately 6cm in diameter from a mix of colours used and attach one to each corner

GO GO GADGET!

Clever Pom Pom Makers, £12.95, **berylune.co.uk**

PLUS
two 12mm black safety eyes or eye beads, stuffing, safety pin, tapestry needle, 3.5mm needles

SIZE
Height (sitting): 23cm

Happy Hugo

Just look how far you can take your exclusive Cuddle yarn kit

What a make! What a man! Hugo, created by the brilliant **SACHIYO ISHII**, is 23cm tall when sitting. We're pretty sure he's our biggest toy of all time, and he's still incredibly cute to boot. Using leftover yarn, Sachiyo even managed to make him a sunflower brooch. Make sure you don't knit too loosely throughout this pattern, so you've got enough for the accessory too.

Take the next step

HAPPY HUGO

head

Note: starting with muzzle and finishing at back of Head
Using 4.5mm needles and Fluffy Brown cast on 12 sts
Row 1 (WS): p
Row 2: (k1, kfb) three times, (kfb, k1) to end. 18 sts
Rows 3-5: starting with a p row work in st st
Row 6: k6, (kfb) six times, k6. 24 sts
Row 7: p
Row 8: (k3, kfb) three times, (kfb, k3) to end. 30 sts
Rows 9-15: starting with a p row work in st st
Row 16: (k3, k2tog) three times, (k2tog, k3) to end. 24 sts
Row 17: p
Row 18: (k2, k2tog) three times, (k2tog, k2) to end. 18 sts
Row 19: p
Row 20: (k1, k2tog) three times, (k2tog, k1) to end. 12 sts
Row 21: (p2tog) to end. Six sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

ear

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Fluffy Brown cast on 12 sts
Row 1 (WS): p2, p2tog, p4, p2tog, p2. Ten sts
Row 2: k
Row 3: (p2tog) to end. Five sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off
Sew both ends tog to make semicircle

nose

Using 4.5mm needles and Dark Brown cast on six sts
Row 1 (WS): p
Row 2: (kfb) to end. 12 sts
Row 3: p
Row 4: (k2tog) to end. Six sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

body

Using 4.5mm needles and Golden Yellow cast on 12 sts
Row 1 (WS): p
Row 2: (k1, kfb) three times, (kfb, k1) to end. 18 sts
Row 3 and every odd-numbered row: p
Row 4: (k2, kfb) three times, (kfb, k2) to end. 24 sts
Row 6: (k3, kfb) three times, (kfb, k3) to end. 30 sts
Row 8: (k4, kfb) three times, (kfb, k4) to end. 36 sts
Row 10: (k5, kfb) three times, (kfb, k5) to end. 42 sts
Row 12: (k6, kfb) three times, (kfb, k6) to end. 48 sts
Rows 13-19: starting with a p row work in st st
Change to Vibrant Cerise
Rows 20-24: k
Row 25: p
Change to Lovely Coral
Rows 26-31: starting with a k row work in st st
Change to Light Blue
Rows 32-35: starting with a k row work in st st
Row 36: (k6, k2tog) to end. 42 sts
Row 37: p
Change to Vibrant Cerise
Rows 38-41: starting with a k row work in st st
Change to Lovely Coral
Row 42: k
Row 43: p
Row 44: (k5, k2tog) to end. 36 sts
Rows 45-47: starting with a p row work in st st
Change to Light Blue
Row 48: k
Row 49: p
Row 50: (k4, k2tog) to end. 30 sts
Rows 51-53: starting with a p row work in st st
Cast off

collar

Using 4.5mm needles and Light Blue cast on 36 sts
Rows 1-7: starting with a p (RS) row work in st st
Cast off

leg

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Dark Brown cast on 18 sts
Row 1 (WS): p
Row 2: (k2, kfb) three times, (kfb, k2) to end. 24 sts
Row 3: p
Change to Fluffy Brown
Rows 4-6: starting with a k row work in st st
Row 7: p8, (p2tog) four times, p8. 20 sts
Change to Golden Yellow
Rows 8-11: k
Rows 12-24: starting with a k row work in st st
Cast off

arm

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Lovely Coral cast on 16 sts
Rows 1-6: starting with a p (WS) row work in st st
Change to Vibrant Cerise
Rows 7-10: starting with a p row work in st st
Change to Light Blue
Rows 11-16: starting with a p row work in st st
Change to Lovely

GREAT ADVICE

ADDING THE SUNFLOWER BROOCH

Secure the safety pin to the back of the sunflower with the seam at the bottom. Oversewing the non-opening shaft slightly above the centre of the flower will prevent it from falling forwards

USE ALL **SIX** YARN COLOURS!

TOP TIP

WHEN SEWING UP YOUR LOVELY TED, USE JUST ONE STRAND OF THE FLUFFY YARN – SEW WITH THE RIGHT SIDES FACING USING MATTRESS STITCH

CONTINUE KNITTING

SACHIYO ISHII'S TOYMAKING TIP OF THE MONTH

"I believe the eyes are the most important part of the face – their size and positioning are crucial points. Depending on what you use, the impression can be very different. Placing large eyes on the lower half of the face can create a young child-like cuteness. The far distance between the eyes makes it look quirky and bold, while small eyes in the centre of the face make it look quiet and docile. They are more than just two little dots – you may want to try out a few different versions"

Coral
Rows 17-20: starting with a p row work in st st
Rows 21-23: k
Change to Fluffy Brown
Row 24: k1, k2tog, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1. 14 sts
Row 25: p
Row 26: k2, (k2tog, k2) to end. 11 sts
Row 27: p1, (p2tog) to end. Six sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

tail

Using 4.5mm needles and Golden Yellow cast on 12 sts
Row 1 (WS): p
Row 2: (k1, kfb) three times, (kfb, k1) to end. 18 sts
Rows 3-9: starting with a p row work in st st
Row 10: (k2tog) to end. Six sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

to make up

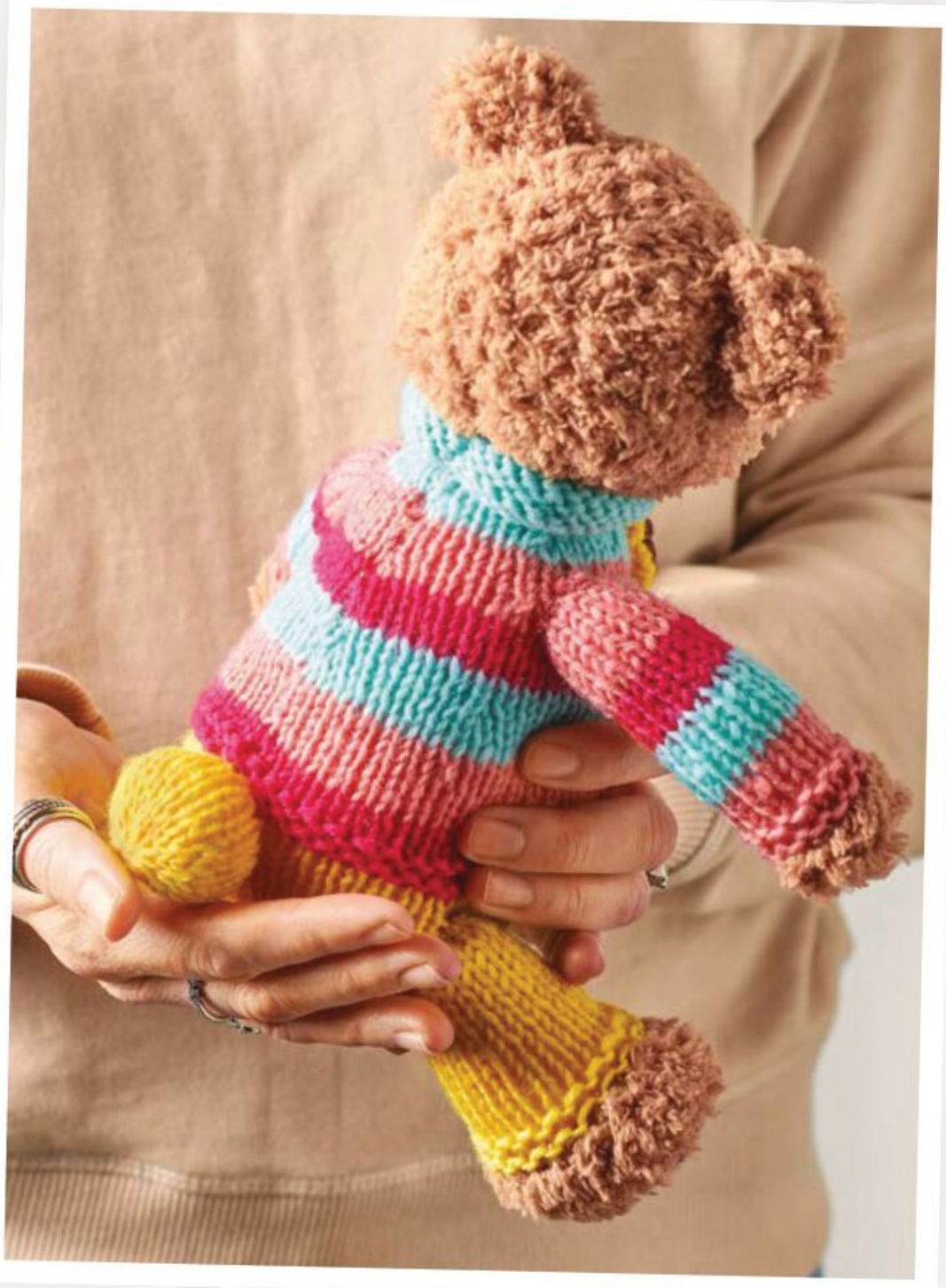
With fastened-off yarn end of Head, sew seam halfway. With cast-on yarn end, work gathering thread along cast-on edge and draw tightly. Sew seam up a little further. Attach safety eyes. Stuff and close seam. Sew Ears to Head. Seam and stuff Nose. Attach Nose to Head. With Dark Brown, embroider mouth. With cast-on yarn end of Body, work gathering thread along cast-on edge and draw tightly. Sew Body seam to cast-off edge and stuff. Fold Leg in half longways and sew sole. Seam Leg to cast-off edge and stuff. Sew Leg to Body. Rep for other Leg. Seam and stuff Arms. Attach Arms to Body. Sew Head to Body. Wrap neck with Collar and sew short edges tog at back. Weave in all ends

FLOWER PIN

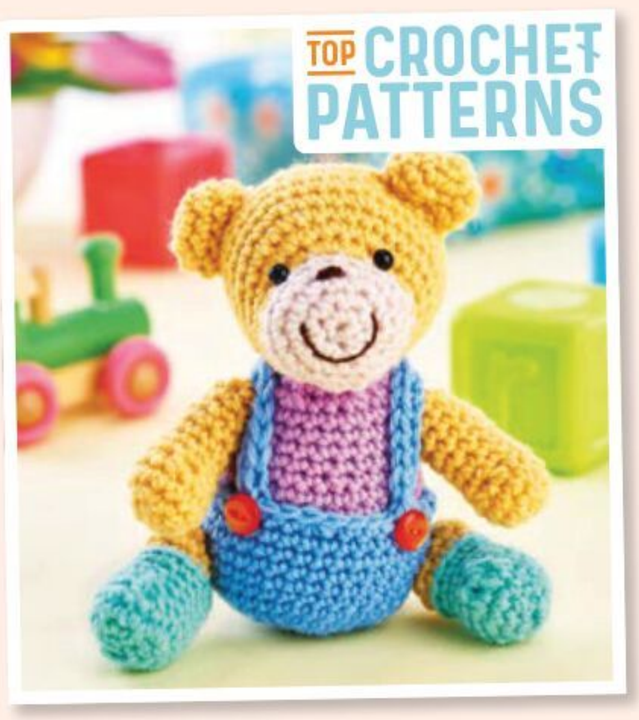
Using 3.5mm needles and Dark Brown cast on 12 sts
Row 1 (WS): p
Row 2: (kfb) to end. 24 sts
Rows 3-5: starting with a p row work in st st
Change to Golden Yellow
Row 6: (k2tog) to end. 12 sts
Row 7: (pfb) to end. 24 sts
Row 8: k
Row 9: p
Row 10: k1, (yfwd, k2tog) to last st, k1. 25 sts
Rows 11-13: starting with a p row work in st st
Row 14: (k3, k2tog) to end. 20 sts
Row 15: p
Row 16: (k2tog) to end. Ten sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

to make up

With fastened-off yarn end, sew seam to edge of petals. With cast-on yarn end, work gathering thread along cast-on edge and draw tightly. Sew seam a little further, stuff, and close seam. With Golden Yellow, pierce two layers of petals at edge of colour change and work running st close to centre to flatten and form picot petal edge. Weave in all ends. Sew safety pin to back



Love THIS PATTERN?



SACHIYO CROCHETS TOO! FIND HER AMIGURUMI BEAR AT **TOPCROCHETPATTERNS.COM**

20 Ways To Knit & SAVE

TAKE PITY ON YOUR PURSE STRINGS WITH OUR BRILLIANT IDEAS!

It's safe to say that many of us are feeling the pinch right now... more like a punch actually! Yet we'll always find a way to enjoy our crafting, because you can't put a price on happiness. That's why we've put together these inspirational tips for how you can make the most of your favourite hobby without tipping your bank balance. Enjoy!

1 CHANGE FOR A POUND

These little balls of yarn will set you back less than £1 of your hard-earned cash. They're ideal for quick knits, toys and adding contrasting details to your projects. Check out these Must-Have Minis at **yarnandcolors.com**

3 SPEND TO SAVE

Invest in one set of needles that will work for all your project needs. Interchangeable needle sets, like this gorgeous Self Love collection from KnitPro, come with an assortment of tips and different length cables. They even have end-stops so you can turn your circular needles into straights. For stockists, visit **knitpro.eu**

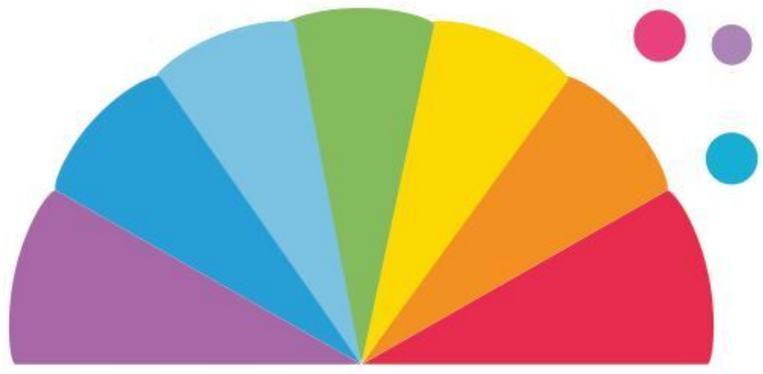
DON'T BE A SNOB!

Yarn manufacturing has come a long way over the decades and acrylic yarn is just as well suited to adult patterns as it is for baby knits. The fact that it is super easy to care for is an added bonus. This stunning sweater (pattern 9874) is knitted in Stylecraft Heathers Aran, which is made from 100% acrylic. Find out more at **stylecraft-yarns.co.uk**

2

4 GO THE DISTANCE

Value isn't always about price. A yarn with a long meterage might cost a few extra pounds but you'll get more for your money. For example, a laceweight yarn like these sumptuous hand-dyed skeins from FelinFach have 800m per 100g which is enough to make a beautiful shawl. See the range at **felinfach.com**



5

Rather than buying lots of different shades to introduce colour into your project, choose a yarn that does it for you!

More ideas over the page

ONE-SKEIN WONDERS

You don't need to spend a lot to get wonderful returns. Look at the gorgeous things you can make with just one ball of yarn!

Caron Cakes are cleverly wound chunky yarns that feature gorgeous colourways and you can knit this Cozy Rib Cowl with just one of them! Find the free pattern at **yarnspirations.com** and buy the yarn at **woolwarehouse.co.uk**

7

A 100g ball of sock yarn is enough to knit a pair. We love Zandra Rhodes' new shades for West Yorkshire Spinners. See them at **wyspinners.com**

© Janina Kallio/Woolenberry

Janina Kallio's Woolenberry collection features an array of stunning shawls, including this exquisite Sky of Diamonds pattern made from just one skein. Buy the pattern at **ravelry.com**

BUY IN BULK!

Whether it's snacks or yarn, you often make a saving by buying a lot in one go (sorry, waistline!). This is particularly handy if you're making a large project like a sweater or blanket. Many yarn stores sell yarn by the pack, so pop to your LYS to see what gems you can find.

10

SEEK OUT THE SALES

Be a savvy shopper by looking out for reduced products and money-off vouchers. In fact, we've got a reader offer on page 56 that we think you'll enjoy!

11

SUBSCRIBE TO YOUR FAVOURITE MAG!

Did you know you can save money on the cover price with a subscription to Let's Get Crafting? You'll also get it delivered to your door, plus be treated to special discounts and a welcome gift – hurrah! Find out more at **topcrochetpatterns.com/subscribe**

12

SELECT YOUR STITCH

If looking to save on yarn, choose your stitch pattern carefully. Cables, for example, pull in your work and make it narrower. Generally, you require more yarn for a cable pattern. On the other hand, lace knitting can often use less yarn. The fabric created is open and stretchy and can be blocked to increase its size.

Quick tip: using larger needles can automatically create an openwork look!

SORT THAT STASH!

Mix and match your yarns in one glorious technicoloured creation. Whether you opt for stripes in several shades or more of a patchwork look, there's no better way to use up your scraps and make something lovely from your leftovers. We like to think of it as free yarn – win!

13

Use up your colourful cottons in Jacinta Bowie's Striped Oversize Jumper

14 Learn new techniques with Lucinda Ganderton's Patchwork Slip Stitch Sampler Cushion

Both of these patterns are available at letsknit.co.uk

15 Fallen out of love with some of your yarns? Get together with your knitting buddies and hold a yarn swap. One knitter's 'never' yarn is another's 'forever' yarn!

16

READY, STEADY, KNIT

Pre-packed kits usually come with everything you need to make the item, which is not only very useful but means there's no wastage. You'll have all the exact quantities of yarn so you won't be left with odd amounts, plus you get a pattern and notions too. We love this rainbow blanket kit from **woolcouturecompany.com**

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR YARN

17

UNRAVEL YOUR TENSION SQUARE

Once you've knitted your tension square, don't cut the yarn. Record the information then unravel your work. This will give you extra yarn that might be needed for those final few rows.

18

STORE YOUR YARN SAFELY

Yarn, particularly part-used balls, has a habit of getting tangled, even when you don't touch it (we suspect gremlins). Store your yarn in neat, ordered containers and wind leftovers tightly and securely. No one wants to throw out yarn just because it's become so knotted you can't find the end!

19

MAKE TIME FOR TLC

Diligently follow the care instructions of any knitted project. You won't need to keep reknitting it because it won't wear out; that's a definite money-saver! Use a delicate, no-suds wool wash like Soak (**soak.com**) and give your knits an airing rather than washing when you can.

20

LET GO OF UFOS

If you're anything like us, you've got a huge collection of unfinished makes. So, be honest with yourself. After seven years are you really going to finish it? If not, rescue your yarn and repurpose it for something new.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION AND SHARE YOUR TIPS ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Let's knit together

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Join the UK's friendliest online knitting club today and explore our collection of exclusive knitalongs from designers including Lynne Rowe, Debbie Bliss and Stuart Hillard.

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JOIN NOW: LETSKNIT.CO.UK/KNITALONGS

Best VALUE BUYS

Whether you're creating mini amigurumis, large blankets, chic homewares or trendy garments, keeping an eye on what you're spending on yarn is always important. There are some brilliant, quality fibres out there that feel soft and cosy, wash well and won't cost you a fortune. Here are our top recommendations for best value yarn that looks incredible and won't break the bank.

James C. Brett Baby Supersoft 4-ply, shade BY6, £2 per 100g (439m) ball, **lovethatwool.co.uk**

Lily Sugar 'n Cream, shade Hot Pink, £3.30 per 70g (109m) ball, **hobbycraft.co.uk**

Rico Design Creative Cotton Aran, shade 64 Candy Pink, £2.19 per 50g (85m) ball, **lovecrafts.com**

Stylecraft Sweet Dreams DK, shade 7021 Rosy, £3.75 per 100g (275m) ball, **blacksheepwools.com**

King Cole Island Beaches DK, shade 4527 Pink Coral, £3.99 per 100g (255m) ball, **knittingwool.com**

Cygnet 100% Cotton, shade 6724 Peach Sorbet, £2.49 per 100g (200m) ball, **woolwarehouse.com**

PLUS
stitch markers, tapestry needle

SIZE
Small: 6cm high x 10cm diameter
Large: 6cm high x 12cm diameter

Geo bowls

Finished spring cleaning? Keep things organised with our storage solutions

Follow **HEATHER GIBBS'** changing colour method to create the striking triangles on these geometric storage tubs. Aren't they fantastic? If you'd prefer to simplify the pattern, it's an easy fix – just ignore the colour changes and you'll still achieve a fantastic end result. Oh, by the way... you'll have enough yarn left in your Cuddle kit to make Heather's dinky platypus on page 8 too. Yes!

Take the next step

LARGE BOWL

Using 4mm hook and Light Blue make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring.
Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts
Rnd 3: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 24 sts
Rnd 4: (3dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 30 sts
Rnd 5: (4dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 36 sts
Rnd 6: (5dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 42 sts
Rnd 7: (6dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 48 sts
Rnd 8: 3dc, 2dc in next st, (7dc, 2dc in next st) to last four sts, 1dc in each st to end. 54 sts
Rnd 9: (8dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 60 sts
Rnd 10: 4dc, 2dc in next st, (9dc, 2dc in next st) to last five sts, 1dc in each st to end. 66 sts
Rnd 11: (10dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 72 sts
Rnd 12: working in BLO, 1dc in each st to end
Rnds 13-16: 1dc in each st to end
Change to Dark Brown
Rnd 17: 1dc in each st to end
Change to Lovely Coral
Rnd 18: (5dc, cc to Vibrant Cerise [see Great Advice], 1dc, cc to Lovely Coral) to end, but do not cc on last st
Rnd 19: 1dc, (cc to Lovely Coral, 4dc, cc to Vibrant Cerise, 2dc) to last five sts, cc to Lovely Coral, 4dc, cc to Vibrant Cerise, 1dc
Rnd 20: 2dc, (cc to Lovely Coral, 3dc, cc to Vibrant Cerise, 3dc) to last four sts, cc to Lovely Coral, 3dc, cc to Vibrant Cerise, 1dc
Rnd 21: 3dc, (cc to Lovely Coral, 2dc, cc to Vibrant Cerise, 4dc) to last three sts, cc to Lovely Coral, 2dc, cc to Vibrant Cerise, 1dc
Rnd 22: 4dc, (cc to Lovely Coral, 1dc, cc to Vibrant Cerise, 5dc) to last two sts, cc to Lovely Coral, 1dc, fasten off Lovely Coral, cc to Vibrant Cerise, 1dc
Rnd 23: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off

SMALL BOWL

Using 4mm hook and Golden Yellow make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring.
Six sts
Rnds 1-9: rep Rnds 1-9 of Large Bowl. 60 sts
Rnds 10-21: rep Rnds 12-23 of Large Bowl
Fasten off

to make up

Weave in all ends

"We've used these brilliant bowls to store bathroom bits and bobs – but you could use them in the kitchen, at your craft table... anywhere that needs a bit of organisation!"

HEIDI WILKINS, DEPUTY EDITOR

GREAT ADVICE

Changing colour (cc)
In this pattern you'll see the abbreviation 'cc', which means to change colour. When changing, pull the new colour through the last two loops of the previous stitch to complete that stitch. Continue in the new colour, following the pattern. When changing to and from a colour, carry the unused yarn along the wrong side of the work loosely so the work doesn't gather. Crochet over the unused yarn as they are carried along; this will hide the strands of yarn invisibly and eliminate long, unused strands carried across the back of the work

Run out of yarn?

TRY PAINTBOX YARNS SIMPLY DK, £2.25 PER 100G (276M) BALL, **LOVECRAFTS.COM**

USE YOUR Cuddle YARN KIT

PLUS small amount of black yarn, stuffing, tapestry needle, stitch holder, stiff card (optional)

SIZE 10cm x 10cm x 10cm

Perfect for beginners

Baby blocks

Make different textures and plenty of cuteness with these playtime cubes

The lovely **NICOLA VALIJI** has created three building blocks, each featuring a different character: a bunny, teddy and dog. There are also plain, striped and moss stitch squares to mix things up and keep a little one entertained. Happy days! If you're a little intimidated by fluffy yarn, this is the ideal starting project because it's been used with beginners in mind.

BUNNY BLOCK

plain side

Using 4.5mm needles and Golden Yellow cast on 20 sts
Rows 1-26: starting with a k (RS) row work in st st
Cast off

bunny

Using 4.5mm needles and Fluffy Brown cast on four sts
Row 1: k1, (kfb) twice, k1. Six sts
Rows 2-7: starting with a p (WS) row work in st st
Row 8: p2tog, p2, p2tog. Four sts
Cast off

bunny ear

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Fluffy Brown cast on six sts
Cast off

moss stitch side

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Dark Brown (Light Blue) cast on 20 sts
Row 1: (k1, p1) to end
Row 2: (p1, k1) to end
Rows 3-32: rep Rows 1-2 15 times
Cast off kwise

two-stripe side

Make two (work in two-row stripe sequence, one in Vibrant Cerise and Soft Coral, the other in Golden Yellow and Dark Brown)
Using 4.5mm needles and chosen colour cast on 20 sts
Rows 1-26: starting with a k (RS) row work in st st
Cast off

multicoloured side

Using 4.5mm needles and Light Blue cast on 20 sts
Work in foll two-row stripe sequence: Light Blue, Lovely Coral, Golden Yellow, Dark Brown, Vibrant Cerise
Rows 1-26: starting with a k (RS) row work in st st
Cast off

TEDDY BLOCK

plain side

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Soft Coral (Dark Brown) cast on 20 sts
Rows 1-26: starting with a k (RS) row work in st st
Cast off

teddy

Work as for Bunny Block Bunny

teddy ear

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Fluffy Brown cast on

three sts
Row 1: k
Row 2: sl 1, p2tog, psso. One st
Fasten off

bow

Using 4.5mm needles and Vibrant Cerise cast on 35 sts
Cast off

moss stitch side

Make two
Work as for Bunny Block Moss Stitch Side, using Vibrant Cerise and Golden Yellow

multicoloured side

Work as for Bunny Block Multicoloured Stripe Side

fluffy side

Using 4.5mm needles and Fluffy Brown cast on 12 sts
Rows 1-20: starting with a k (RS) row work in st st
Cast off

DOG BLOCK

plain side

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Light Blue (Vibrant Cerise) cast on 20 sts
Rows 1-26: starting with a k (RS) row work in st st
Cast off

dog

Work as for Bunny Block Bunny

dog ear

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Fluffy Brown cast on

USE ALL SIX YARN COLOURS!

TOP TIP
IF YOU DON'T HAVE A STITCH HOLDER, YOU CAN USE A SAFETY PIN INSTEAD

CONTINUE KNITTING

four sts
Cast off

heart

Using 4.5mm needles and Lovely Coral cast on two sts
Row 1: kfb, k1. Three sts
Row 2: kfb, k1, kfb. Five sts
Row 3: kfb, k3, kfb. Seven sts
Row 4: kfb, k5, kfb. Nine sts
Rows 5-8: k
Row 9: k5, turn, place four sts on st holder
Row 10: cast off one st, k to end
Row 11: k
Row 12: (k2tog) twice. Two sts
Cast off
Rejoin yarn to sts on st holder
Next three rows: k
Dec row: (k2tog) twice. Two sts
Cast off

two-stripe side

Work as for Bunny Block Two-Stripe Side in Dark Brown and Light Blue

multicoloured side

Work as for Bunny Block Multicoloured Side

moss stitch side

Work as for Bunny Block Moss Stitch Side using Lovely Coral

fluffy side

Work as for Teddy Block Fluffy Side

to make up

Sew Bunny Ears to Bunny. Using black yarn, embroider eyes and whiskers. With Soft Coral, embroider nose and mouth. Sew Bunny to Golden Yellow Plain Side. Sew Teddy Ears to Teddy. Using black yarn, embroider eyes, nose and mouth. Sew Dog to Light Blue Plain Side. Sew each set of squares tog to form a cube leaving three sides of last square open, inserting stiff card on four sides for stability if desired. Stuff firmly and sew closed. Weave in all ends

"My baby blocks have different textures on each side to keep baby amused – and they'll keep you amused making them!"

NICOLA VALIJI, DESIGNER

BE THERE OR BE SQUARE

If you want more squares, more textures and a whole lot of crochet, you'll love our four-part Baby Playmat Crochet-Along by Jackie Carreira. Use the camera function on your smartphone to scan our QR code or search 'baby playmat' at **topcrochetpatterns.com** to download the patterns

❖ PRIZES WORTH £1,000+ ❖ PRIZES WORTH £1,000+ ❖

TEN pairs to WIN

SHOW TIME!

The Creative Craft Show is offering ten lucky readers a pair of tickets to their choice of either the Glasgow or Birmingham show, which will feature a wide range of exhibitors offering the latest craft inspiration and advice – a real crafter's paradise! The former takes place at SEC, Glasgow from 13th-16th October 2022 and the latter is at NEC, Birmingham from 3rd-6th November 2022. As well as stocking up the craft cupboard, all visitors will enjoy a free programme of workshops and talks. Find out more at creativecraftshow.co.uk.

UP YOUR SKILLS

BRAND NEW BOOKS!

Whether you're a knitter, crocheter or you love to have a spotless home while taking care of your wellbeing, this selection of titles from David & Charles will hit every spot. One winner will receive *The Sock Knitting Bible* by Lynn Rowe, *Crochet Donut Buddies* by Rachel Zain, *The Anti-Burnout Journal* by Bex Spiller and home bible, *Nifty: Clean & Organised*. This bundle also includes the opportunity to take part in an online embroidery tutorial by the Royal School of Needlework, worth over £100! Visit rsnonlinecourses.com.

WORTH £248

LUXURY DINING

Burleigh is offering one lucky reader the chance to win a hand-crafted set of dining essentials from the stunning Green Regal Peacock collection, perfect for hosting an intimate lunch. Dine using four 22cm plates, four pudding bowls and four pasta bowls. Each one features an intricate bottle green design, adorned with delicate birds and flowers. These stunning pieces are made in England using traditional printing methods. To see more of these fine ceramics, visit burleigh.co.uk.

Click & WIN

Enter online for free at

TOPCROCHETPATTERNS.COM

5 WINNERS

QUIET NIGHT IN

What could be better than a new book, chocolates, and a glass of fizz? Five lucky readers have the chance to win Hotel Chocolat's The Chocolate and Fizz Collection and a copy of Sunday Times bestseller *A Time To Remember* by Josephine Cox. A moving tale of friendship, memories, and the ways in which things are not always as they seem, this gripping new drama promises to have you glued to the book until the very last page. Visit josephinecox.com for more information.

ACCIO PRIZES!

Win a share of £270 worth of Harry Potter craft bundles! A2V is giving seven lucky winners a mix of six Harry Potter craft kits and fat quarters. Kits for crochet, embroidery, knitting and cross-stitch are up for grabs, all featuring beloved characters and accessories from the wizarding world. Make something magical with these fabulous kits and fat quarters and display your creations with pride. Fly over to a2v.com to see the full range.

HARRY POTTER PRIZE

ENTERING IS EASY!

1 Visit our website **topcrochetpatterns.com**

2 Hover over 'More', then click **'Giveaways'**

3 Select a giveaway and **enter details**

CLOSING DATE: 17TH JUNE 2022

The Creative Book Awards

DISCOVER WHO HAS TAKEN THE TOP SPOT IN OUR

Creative Book Awards 2022

It's time to reveal the top picks on the crafty bookshelf as voted for by our star-studded panel of judges in our **Creative Book Awards**. Congratulations go to our winners and runners-up, and special thanks to our judges: *Escape to the Chateau*'s **Angel Strawbridge**; author and broadcaster **Gyles Brandreth**; colour expert **Annie Sloan**; designer **Wayne Hemingway;** TV presenter and fabric designer **Stuart Hillard**; **Lisa Smosarski**, editor-in-chief at *Stylist* magazine; and **Kirstie Phipps** from The Women's Institute.

"The designs in Knitted Shawls are truly beautiful"

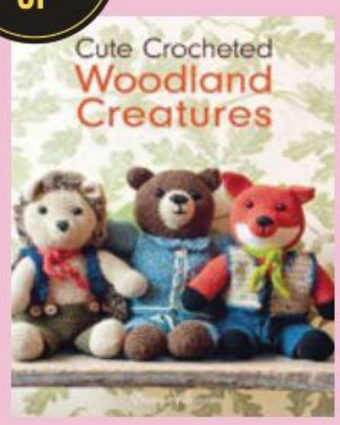
Gyles Brandreth, author and broadcaster

Best Crochet
JUDGE: STUART HILLARD

Crochet at Work by Kate McCully

This book has 20 different 'career dolls' and a whopping 100,000 combinations. It is beautifully conceived with a strong message.

RUNNER UP



Cute Crocheted Woodland Creatures by Emma Varnam

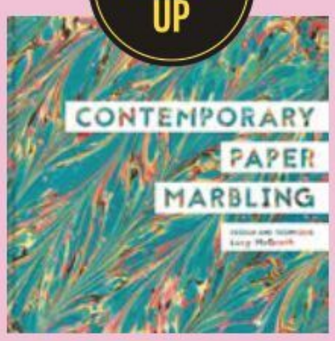
A great value book including cute animal characters with a mix-and-match wardrobe. It will provide endless fun and opportunities.

Best Papercraft
JUDGE: STUART HILLARD

Flowersmith by Jennifer Tran

This book is a thing of utter beauty! Every technique is explained in beautiful detail and the photography is exquisite.

RUNNER UP



Contemporary Paper Marbling by Lucy McGrath

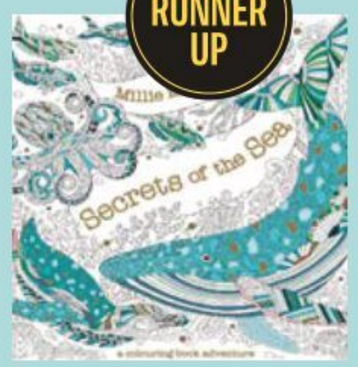
I love this book and its alchemic quality. The techniques are ancient; the projects modern. It's beautifully produced.

Best Colouring
JUDGE: LISA SMOSARSKI

Beano Colouring Book

A book that packs in all the charm and appeal of a Beano Annual with lots to read and images to get creative with and colour.

RUNNER UP



Millie Marotta's Secrets of the Sea

Another magical book of pictures for colouring-in fans from a much-loved series; guaranteed to keep hands busy and minds relaxed.

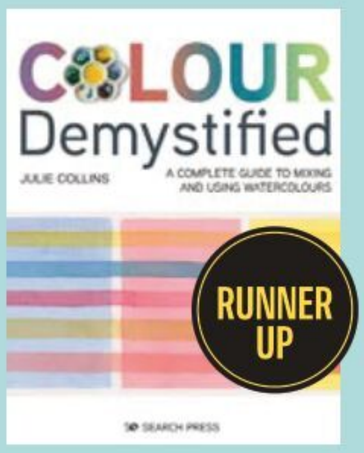
"Beano Colouring Book will appeal to both boys and girls"

Lisa Smosarski, Editor-in-Chief at Stylist magazine

Best Drawing & Painting
JUDGE: ANNIE SLOAN

The Art of Marbling by Rene Eisenbart

This book is my undoubted winner. It has stunning photographs of the finished projects and clear step-by-step images.



Colour Demystified by Julie Collins

I'm hugely interested in colour, so this was my runner-up. A pretty book with terrific images and lots of information.

Best Knitting
JUDGE: GYLES BRANDRETH

Knitted Shawls by Christine Boggis

Put simply: a class act that works on all sorts of levels. The designs are beautiful and the techniques are varied.

Knitted Space by Sarah Keen

Fresh, original, quirky, and fun. The patterns are clear and accessible. This is a book that can work for new knitters as well as seasoned hands.

Best Sewing
JUDGE: WAYNE HEMINGWAY

Bags for Life by Stuart Hillard

This is a professionally put together book with clear and easy-to-follow instructions.

WINNER

RUNNER UP

Luna Lapin by Sarah Peel

A book with nice intricate detail, which is well-illustrated and explained. It includes pattern templates and is good value for money.

"There are not many books to compete with Bags for Life"

Wayne Hemingway, designer

Best Children's Craft
JUDGE: KIRSTIE PHIPPS

theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

How Winston Came Home For Christmas by Alex T Smith

Follow Winston the mouse on his festive adventures. Each chapter includes an activity for the family to enjoy. A lovely idea.

WINNER

RUNNER UP

Mr Shaha's Marvellous Machines by Alom Shaha and Emily Robertson

A clear and informative book of projects for children to create their own marvellous machines, developing their craft and engineering skills.

"The author and team really have elevated Flowersmith to art"

Stuart Hillard, author and presenter

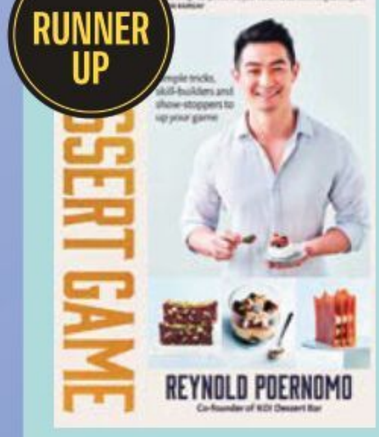
Best Baking & Decorating
JUDGE: KIRSTIE PHIPPS

The Sweet Roasting Tin by Rukmini Iyer

A delicious collection of sweet and savoury treats. Many recipes also explain how to tweak the recipes for dietary requirements.

WINNER

RUNNER UP



The Dessert Game by Reynold Poernomo

With three different levels of complexity, the book offers a selection of classic recipes along with some beautiful showstoppers for the more adventurous cook.

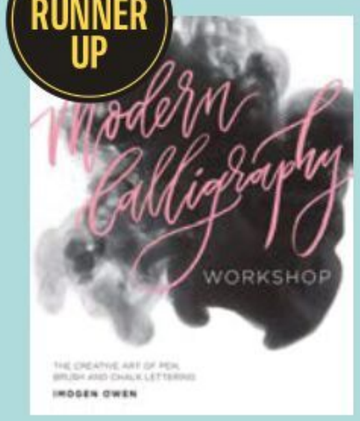
Best Lettering & Calligraphy
JUDGE: LISA SMOSARSKI

Brush Lettering by Rebecca Cahill-Roots

A fresh and exciting book in a competitive category. It is a thorough and inspiring introduction to brush lettering, with excellent step-by-step instructions.

WINNER

RUNNER UP



Modern Calligraphy Workshop by Imogen Owen

A fantastic guide to calligraphy and brush lettering for beginners and practising amateurs. A value-packed intro to hand lettering.

"Making Mobiles is perfect for crafting with the kids on a Sunday afternoon"

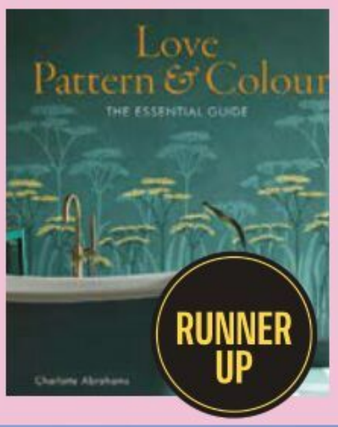
Angel Strawbridge, TV personality

Best Home & Garden
JUDGE: ANGEL STRAWBRIDGE

Making Mobiles by Karolina Merska

This whimsical book is full of stunning photography and achievable steps. It is multi-layered, with a heart-warming story, which is a lovely touch.

WINNER



RUNNER UP

Love Pattern & Colour by Charlotte Abrahams

Seeing someone else's take on colour and pattern is fascinating and this will encourage you to experiment, try something new, and be brave.

"Colour and design in The Art of Paint Marbling is eye-catching"

Annie Sloan, colour expert

CRAFTS-BEAUTIFUL.COM/CREATIVE-BOOK-AWARDS

USE YOUR **Cuddle** YARN KIT

PLUS
tapestry needle, stuffing, two 10mm black safety eyes, black thread, sewing needle

SIZE
Height: 28cm

Fur-licity

Our fluffy (and completely huggable) cat would make a great gift

Use your exclusive fluffy yarn and the brightest colours from your kit to make this cute kitty by **ÁINE MARRIOTT**. The details are charming – that bobbly collar, the frilly skirt, those darling Mary Janes. But don't get het up on details when it comes to the special yarn. Made a little mistake? The great thing about fluffy yarn is that no one will ever know. Shh!

Take the next step

FUR-LICITY body & head

Note: starting at base of Body
Using 4.5mm needles and Light Blue cast on 12 sts
Row 1 (WS): p
Row 2: (kfb) to end. 24 sts
Row 3: p
Row 4: (k1, kfb) to end. 36 sts
Rows 5-13: starting with a p row work in st st
Change to Golden Yellow
Rows 14-19: starting with a k row work in st st
Row 20: (k4, k2tog) to end. 30 sts
Rows 21-25: starting with a p row work in st st
Row 26: (k3, k2tog) to end. 24 sts
Change to Fluffy Brown
Row 27: p
Row 28: (k1, kfb) to end. 36 sts
Rows 29-39: starting with a p row work in st st, mark centre of sixth row with piece of coloured yarn for position of nose
Row 40: (k4, k2tog) to end. 30 sts
Row 41 and every odd-numbered row: p
Row 42: (k3, k2tog) to end. 24 sts
Row 44: (k2, k2tog) to end. 18 sts
Row 46: (k1, k2tog) to end. 12 sts
Row 48: (k2tog) to end. Six sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

skirt

Using 4.5mm needles and Vibrant Cerise cast on 80 sts
Rows 1-3: k
Change to Lovely Coral
Rows 4-7: starting with a k (RS) row work in st st
Change to Golden Yellow
Rows 8-15: starting with a k row work in st st
Row 16: (k2tog) to end. 40 sts
Cast off

ear

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Fluffy Brown cast on eight sts
Row 1: k
Row 2 and every even-numbered row: p
Row 3: k2tog, k4, k2tog. Six sts
Row 5: k2tog, k2, k2tog. Four sts
Row 7: (k2tog) twice. Two sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

leg

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Vibrant Cerise cast on 18 sts
Row 1 (RS): k
Row 2: (kfb) to end. 36 sts
Rows 3-9: k
Row 10: k12, (k2tog) six times, k12. 30 sts
Change to Light Blue
Row 11: k8, (k3tog) twice, k2tog, (k3tog) twice, k8. 21 sts
Rows 12-14: starting with a p row work in st st
Row 15: k6, (k3tog) three times, k6. 15 sts
Rows 16-30: starting with a p row work in st st
Cast off

shoe strap

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Vibrant Cerise cast on 22 sts
Row 1: k
Cast off

shoe bow

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Lovely Coral cast on 14 sts
Rows 1-3: k
Cast off

arm

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Golden Yellow cast on 11 sts
Row 1: p
Row 2: (kfb) to end. 22 sts
Rows 3-9: starting with a p row work in st st
Row 10: (k2tog) to end. 11 sts
Rows 11-13: k
Change to Fluffy Brown
Row 14: (k2, k2tog) twice, k3. Nine sts
Rows 15-23: starting with a p row work in st st
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

collar

Using 4.5mm needles and Light Blue cast on 24 sts
Row 1 and every odd-numbered row: p
Row 2: (kfb) to end. 48 sts
Row 4: k1, (yfwd, k2tog) to last st, k1
Row 6: (k2tog) to end. 24 sts
Row 7: p
Cast off

necktie

Using 4.5mm needles and Vibrant Cerise cast on 17 sts
Cast off

flower

Make four
Using 4.5mm needles and Vibrant Cerise (Golden Yellow, Light Blue, Lovely Coral) cast on seven sts
Row 1: p
Row 2: (kfb) to end. 14 sts
Rows 3-4: rep Rows 1-2. 28 sts
Cast off

to make up

Insert safety eyes in Head, approx 2cm either side

"Love the flowers in Fur-licity's hair? Knit more and add them to the base of her dress too"

ÁINE MARRIOTT, DESIGNER

CONTINUE KNITTING

and 1cm above marked point for nose. Seam row edges of Body and Head, leaving a gap for stuffing. Using Light Blue, thread yarn through cast-on edge, pull tightly to close, fasten off. Stuff with seam at centre back, close gap. Use length of Golden Yellow to gather around neck to further define shape. Use Lovely Coral to embroider close parallel sts over marked point on Head for nose.

Use double length of black sewing thread to embroider three whiskers either side of nose, then an upside-down Y below nose for a little mouth. Seam row edges of Skirt. Place on Body and sew in place over colour change. Sew cast-on edge of each Ear to Head. Use Lovely Coral to embroider a few sts for inner ear. Seam row edges of each Leg. Oversew across cast-on edge with seam to centre back. Stuff shoe well, and Leg more lightly. Oversew across cast-off sts, and sew Legs to Body. Place Shoe Strap around Leg and seam row edges. Sew Strap to Leg so back seam touches shoe. Seam row edges of Shoe Bow. Wrap length of yarn around centre to make bow shape. Sew to front of Shoe Strap. Seam row edges of Arms. Stuff lightly. Oversew across cast-off sts, then sew to Body. Fold Collar in half so that cast-on and cast-off edge meet, and sew tog. Place around neck and seam row edges. Sew to neck. Fold Necktie in half and sew to underside of Collar below chin. Roll up Flower around cast-on edge to form shape. Catch in place with a few sts through Flower. Sew Flowers to top of Head between Ears. Weave in all ends

CASTING OFF

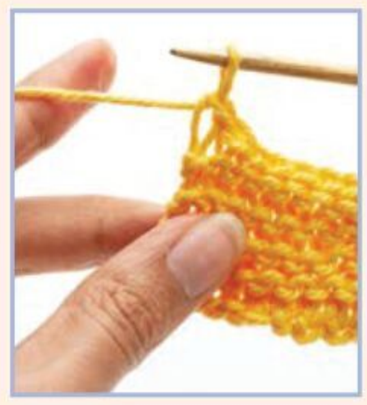
The cast-off row is the final row of your project and is usually worked in consistency with the stitch pattern

KNITWISE:

Step 1: knit two stitches, * insert the tip of the LH needle into the second stitch from the tip of the RH needle

Step 2: use the LH needle to lift this stitch over the one nearest the end of the RH needle and drop it off the needle. One stitch has been cast off.

Step 3: knit one stitch *, repeat from * (in Step 1) to * until one stitch remains on the RH needle



Step 4: cut the yarn leaving a tail, then insert this tail through the remaining loop on the needle. Pull it tight to secure your stitch

PURLWISE:

When casting off on a purl row, purl two stitches, then move the yarn to the back of the work before passing the stitch over and off the needle

IN PATTERN:

This example is for 2x2 rib. Work the stitches in accordance with the stitch pattern, but remember to move the yarn to the back of the work before passing the stitch over

Maypole dolls

Celebrate a new season with our happy trio

USING YOUR Cuddle YARN KIT

PROJECT OVERLEAF

PLUS
light beige, beige and black yarns, six 6mm black safety eyes, stuffing, tapestry needle

SIZE
Height: 17cm

Take the next step

Did you know? The May Day tradition of Maypole dancing is believed to have started in Roman Britain around 2,000 years ago – soldiers celebrated the arrival of spring by dancing around decorated trees, thanking their goddess Flora. We wanted to celebrate the custom with these cutie patootie dolls by **SARAH-JANE HICKS**. Featuring varied outfits and hairstyles, these mix-and-match characters are a joy to crochet.

MAYPOLE DOLLS

leg

Make six (two in each colour)
Using 4mm hook and Golden Yellow (Light Blue, Vibrant Cerise) make 5ch
Rnd 1: starting in second ch from hook, 3dc, 3dc in last ch, work along underside of ch as folls: 2dc, 2dc in same st as first dc. Ten sts
Rnd 2: 2dc in next st, 2dc, (2dc in next st) three times, 2dc, (2dc in next st) twice. 16 sts
Rnd 3: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 4: 4dc, (dc2tog) three times, 6dc. 13 sts
Rnd 5: 4dc, dc3tog, 6dc. 11 sts
Change to Light Blue (Vibrant Cerise, Golden Yellow)
Rnds 6-11: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off
Stuff

body

Make three
Using 4mm hook and Light Blue (Vibrant Cerise, Golden Yellow) join legs with a sl st in centre, work around Legs starting at back of one Leg to form Body
Rnd 12: 11dc around first Leg, 11dc around second Leg. 22 sts
Rnd 13: (10dc, 2dc in next st) twice. 24 sts
Rnds 14-16: 1dc in each st to end
Change to Lovely Coral (Golden Yellow, Light Blue)
Rnd 17: working in BLO, 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 18: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 19: (6dc, dc2tog) to end. 21 sts
Rnd 20: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 21: (5dc, dc2tog) to end. 18 sts
Rnd 22: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 23: (4dc, dc2tog) to end. 15 sts
Rnd 24: (3dc, dc2tog) to end. 12 sts
Rnd 25: (dc2tog) to end. Six sts
Stuff and cont to Head

head

Make three
Using 4mm hook and Light Beige (Dark Brown, Beige) make 2ch
Rnd 1: 6dc in second ch from hook. Six sts
Rnd 2: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnd 3: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts
Rnd 4: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 24 sts
Rnds 5-9: 1dc in each st to end
Insert safety eyes between Rnds 7-8, approx four sts apart
Rnd 10: (2dc, dc2tog) to end. 18 sts
Rnd 11: (1dc, dc2tog) to end. 12 sts
Stuff
Rnd 11: (dc2tog) to end. Six sts
Fasten off

arm

Make six (two in each colour)
Using 4mm hook and Light Beige (Dark Brown, Beige) make 2ch
Rnd 1: 7dc in second ch from hook. Seven sts
Rnd 2: 1dc in each st to end
Change to Lovely Coral (Golden Yellow, Light Blue)
Rnds 3-11: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

jumper trim

Using 4mm hook and Golden Yellow join with a sl st to unworked st between Rnds 16-17 at back of Golden Yellow Body
Rnd 1: 1dc in each st to end. 24 sts
Rnd 2: (3dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 30 sts
Fasten off

skirt

Using 4mm hook and Light Blue join with a sl st to unworked st between Rnds 16-17 at back of Light Blue Body
Rnds 1-2: rep Rnds

Run out of yarn?

TRY MARRINER YARNS DK, £1.25 PER 100G (300M) BALL,
MARRINERYARNS.COM

1-2 of Jumper Trim. 30 sts
Rnds 3-5: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off

hairstyle 1

Using 4mm hook and Dark Brown make 2ch
Rnd 1: 6dc in second ch from hook. Six sts
Rnd 2: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnd 3: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts
Rnd 4: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 24 sts
Rnds 5-7: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 8: 10dc, 3ch, miss one st, 2dtr in next st, 2tr in next st, 2htr, 10dc
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

hairstyle 2

Using 4mm hook and Black make 2ch
Rnds 1-7: rep Rnds 1-7 of Hairstyle 1. 24 sts
Rnd 8: 8dc, miss one st, 5tr in next st, miss one st, sl st in next st, miss one st, 5tr in next st, miss one st, 9dc
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

hair bun

Make two
Using 4mm hook and Black make 2ch
Rnd 1: 6dc in second ch from hook. Six sts
Rnd 2: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnds 3-4: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 5: (dc2tog) to end. Six sts
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

hairstyle 3

Using 4mm hook and Dark Brown make 2ch
Rnds 1-7: rep Rnds 1-7 of Hairstyle 1. 24 sts
Rnd 8: 8dc, 2ch, 16tr, 2ch, join with a sl st to last st
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

collar

Make three
Using 4mm hook and Vibrant Cerise (Lovely Coral, Golden Yellow) make 5ch
Rnd 1: 1tr in fourth ch from hook, 3ch, sl st in same ch, sl st in first ch, 3ch, 2tr in first ch, 6ch, join with a sl st around doll's neck to top of first 5ch
Fasten off

to make up

Sew Arms to Body. Sew Hair in place, so flick, parting and fringe are positioned at front of Heads. Stuff Hair Buns and attach to Black hair. For Doll with Dark Brown fringe, make 10cm long tassel and sew to Hair on one side to create side ponytail. Using Black, embroider small v for mouth. Using Vibrant Cerise or Lovely Coral, embroider three French knots for buttons. Weave in all ends

"For these patterns, work in continuous rounds throughout unless stated. When changing colour, use the new colour for the last yarn over hook of the previous stitch"

SARAH-JANE HICKS, DESIGNER

Love THIS PATTERN?

DO YOU ENJOY MAKING DOLLS AS MUCH AS US? YOU'LL FIND LOTS MORE AT **TOPCROCHETPATTERNS.COM**, INCLUDING THIS CURLY-HAIRED CUTIE

USE YOUR **Cuddle** YARN KIT

PLUS
tapestry needle

SIZE
Small length: 16cm
Large length: 19cm

Perfect for beginners

Feather bookmarks

Trebles are the talk of the town with our book accessories

These feathers by **JACKIE CARREIRA** are the perfect first-timer crochet project. Start with the little design, then work your way up to the larger colour-changing version. The latter also features front raised and back raised double treble stitches – try saying that five times fast! We're using our feathers as unique bookmarks... what will you do with yours?

SMALL FEATHER

Make two

Using 4mm hook and Vibrant Cerise (Golden Yellow) make 32ch

Row 1 (RS): starting in second ch from hook, six sl sts, 1htr, 2tr, 1dtr in each ch to last four ch, 1tr, 1htr, 1dc, sl st in last ch, do not turn

Row 2: now work across base of starting ch as folls: one sl st, 1dc, 1htr, 1tr, 1dtr in each ch to last three ch, 2tr, 1htr, join with a sl st to first sl st of Row 1

Fasten off

LARGE FEATHER

Make two

Using 4mm hook and Dark Brown (Light Blue) make 15ch

Foundation row: starting in second ch from hook, eight sl sts, 9ch

Row 1: 2tr in fourth ch from hook, 2tr, tr3tog, 1dtr (st at top of feather shaft), tr3tog, 2tr, 3tr in last ch, turn

Row 2: 3ch, 2tr in first tr (at base of 3ch), 2tr, tr3tog, 1BRDTR (see Skill Up) around stem of dtr, tr3tog, 2tr, 3tr in third of 3ch, turn

Row 3: 3ch, 2tr in first tr (at base of 3ch), 2tr, tr3tog, 1FRDTR (see Skill Up) around stem of dtr, tr3tog, 2tr, 3tr in third of 3ch, turn

Row 4: rep Row 2
Change to Golden Yellow (Dark Brown)

Row 5: rep Row 3
Change to Vibrant Cerise (Lovely Coral)

Rows 6-9: rep Rows 2-3 twice

Row 10: rep Row 2

Row 11: 3ch, miss first tr (at base of 3ch), 2tr, tr3tog, 1FRDTR around stem of dtr, tr3tog, 2tr, 1tr in third of 3ch, turn

Row 12: 3ch, miss first tr, tr3tog, 1BRDTR around stem of dtr, tr3tog, 1tr in third of 3ch, turn

Row 13: 3ch, work next four sts tog by leaving last part of each st unworked, then pulling through all five loops left on hook at the end: 1tr, 1FRDTR around stem of dtr, 1tr, 1tr in third of 3ch

Fasten off

to make up

Weave in all ends

SKILL UP!

Front raised double treble (FRDTR): yoh twice, insert hook from front around stem of st below from right to left, complete double treble as normal

Back raised double treble (BRDTR): yoh twice, insert hook from back around stem of st below from right to left, complete double treble as normal

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Sign up to Let's Knit Together and learn to make these dinky heart bookmarks instead. Plus, you'll uncover a whopping 2,500+ patterns! Find out more at **letsknit.co.uk/together** or scan our QR code with the camera function on your smartphone

New to crochet?
FIND OUR VISUAL STITCH GUIDES ON PAGE 64

USE YOUR **Cuddle** YARN KIT

PLUS
two 8mm black safety eyes or eye beads, two 6mm black safety eyes or eye beads, small amount of white DK, stuffing, stitch holder, tapestry needle

SIZE
Height (inc antennae): 15cm

Gigi & Lola

Their UFO crash-landed at Let's Get Crafting HQ... and we're thrilled!

OK, are these aliens cute or what? They're made in mostly the same way, apart from the decorative elements such as the antennae, mouths and eyes. We love the characterisation – thanks **SACHIYO ISHII**, you've done it again! When you make yours, why not get creative and come up with your own faces? And as always, we love to see your creations so do get in touch with your snaps.

Take the next step

BOTH ALIENS

right leg

Make two

* Using 4.5mm needles and Light Blue (Soft Coral) cast on ten sts
Row 1 (WS): p
Row 2: (k1, kfb) to end. 15 sts
Row 3: p
Row 4 (edge): p
Rows 5-9: starting with a p row work in st st *
Cut yarn, keep sts on holder

left leg & body

Make two

Work as for Right Leg from * to *, cont to Body as folls:
Row 10: k15 (Leg sts from needle), k15 (Leg sts from holder), connecting both legs. 30 sts
Row 11: p
Row 12: (k4, kfb) three times, (kfb, k4) to end. 36 sts
Rows 13-25: starting with a p row work in st st
Row 26: (k7, k2tog) to end. 32 sts
Rows 27-31: starting with a p row work in st st
Row 32: (k6, k2tog) to end. 28 sts
Rows 33-37: starting with a p row work in st st
Row 38: (k5, k2tog) to end. 24 sts
Rows 39-41: starting with a p row work in st st
Row 42: (k2, k2tog) to end. 18 sts
Row 43: p
Row 44: (k1, k2tog) to end. 12 sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

arm

Make four (two in each colour)
Using 4.5mm needles and Light Blue (Lovely Coral) cast on six sts
Row 1 (WS): p
Row 2: (kfb) to end. 12 sts
Rows 3-9: starting with a p row work in st st
Row 10: k1, k2tog, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1. Ten sts
Rows 11-16: starting with a p row work in st st
Cast off

GIGI ONLY

eye

Using 4.5mm needles and White cast on 24 sts
Row 1 (WS): (p2, p2tog) three times, (p2tog, p2) to end. 18 sts
Change to Lovely Coral
Row 2: k
Row 3: (p1, p2tog) three times, (p2tog, p1) to end. 12 sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

mouth

Using 4.5mm needles and Vibrant Cerise cast on ten sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, sew cast-off edge tog to make semicircle, fasten off

antenna

Make two

Using 4.5mm needles and Golden Yellow cast on eight sts
Rows 1-5: starting with a p (WS) row work in st st
Row 6: k1, k2tog, k2, k2tog, k1. Six sts
Row 7: p
Row 8: (kfb) to end. 12 sts
Row 9: p
Row 10: k
Row 11: (k2tog) to end. Six sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

LOLA ONLY

central eye

Using 4.5mm needles and White cast on 20 sts
Row 1 (WS): (p2, p2tog) to end. 15 sts
Change to Light Blue
Row 2: (k3, k2tog) to end. 12 sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

side eye

Make two

Using 4.5mm needles and White cast on 16 sts
Change to Light Blue
Row 1 (WS): (p2, p2tog) twice, (p2tog, p2) twice. 12 sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

mouth

Using 4.5mm needles and Vibrant Cerise cast on 12 sts
Row 1 (WS): casting off RH st each time as you work, (p1, p2tog) twice. Three sts
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

antenna

Make three

Using 4.5mm needles and Golden Yellow cast on six sts
Rows 1-5: starting with a p (WS) row work in st st
Row 6: k1, (k2tog) twice, k1. Four sts
Row 7: p
Row 8: (kfb) to end. Eight sts
Row 9: p
Row 10: k
Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

to make up

With fastened-off yarn end of Body, sew seam halfway. With each cast-on yarn end, sew Leg as far as crotch. Insert threaded needle from inside of Body, take needle out from sole and rep. Pull thread to flatten sole. Rep for other Leg. Sew Body seam halfway. Seam each Eye and attach to face, with 8mm safety eye for Gigi and Lola's Central Eye, then 6mm safety eyes for Side Eyes. Stuff Body and close seam. Attach Mouth. Seam Arms, stuff, and attach to Body. With fastened-off yarn end of Antenna, sew seam, stuff top bobble, and work gathering thread over decreased row. Sew Antennae to top of head. Weave in all ends

TOP TIP

NEW TO KNITTING? FIND HELPFUL STITCH ILLUSTRATIONS ON PAGE 62

ISSUE 141

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much joy? Nope, didn't think so!

WOAH! Variegated yarn

3.75mm bamboo needles

3.75mm metal hook

2-IN-1: BLANKET AND PONCHO!

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- Kids will love our ice cream game and **Jubilee crown**
- **Knit mini flowers** and frame them to make bespoke, crafty art

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CATCH UP ON EVERYTHING YOU'VE MISSED!

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Moon poncho

Get into moss stitch mode with this versatile kid's garm

MODE Mini Knits is a lovely book, home to 15 seriously cute designs for children aged 3-12. We're showcasing the Moon Poncho by **LISA RICHARDSON**. It's a great pattern for first-time garment makers – no sleeves, little shaping, barely any sewing up... woohoo! Plus, it's a brilliant throw-on for youngsters on those slightly nippier spring days.

YOU WILL NEED

YARN
(A) Rowan Alpaca Soft DK, Simply White 201, 3 (4, 5) 50g balls; (B) Rowan Alpaca Classic, Snowflake White 115, 3, (4, 5) 25g balls

PLUS
7mm needles

TENSION
13 sts x 25 rows
10cm x 10cm
Moss stitch
7mm needles

SIZE
To fit age: 3-6 (7-9, 10-12) years
To fit chest: 53-61 (64-69, 74-79) cm
Actual chest measurement of garment: 64 (73, 82.5) cm

MODE Mini Knits by Quail Studio (£11.99) is available online and from all good bookshops

Perfect for beginners

MOON PONCHO

Using 7mm needles and one strand each of Yarns A and B held tog cast on 83 (95, 107) sts
Row 1 (RS): k1, (p1, k1) to end
Row 2: rep Row 1
These two rows form moss st
Cont in moss st until work meas 30 (34, 38) cm, ending with RS facing for next row
Shape neck opening
Next row (RS): moss st 27 (32, 37) sts, cast off next 29 (31, 33) sts in moss st, moss st to end
Next row: moss st 27 (32, 37) sts, turn and cast on 29 (31, 33) sts, turn, moss st to end
Cont straight until work meas 30 (34, 38) cm from neck opening, ending with RS facing for next row
Cast off in moss st

to make up

Block and foll instructions on ball band to press garment. Weave in all ends

YOU WILL NEED

YARN
Yarn and Colors Epic: 002 Cream, five balls; 032 Pepper, 020 Orange, 013 Sunglow, 082 Grass, 062 Larimar, 058 Amethyst, 055 Lilac, one ball of each

PLUS
3.5mm hook, inner cushion, tapestry needle

SIZE
17cm x 46cm

Rainbow cushion

Cuddle up with all the colours!

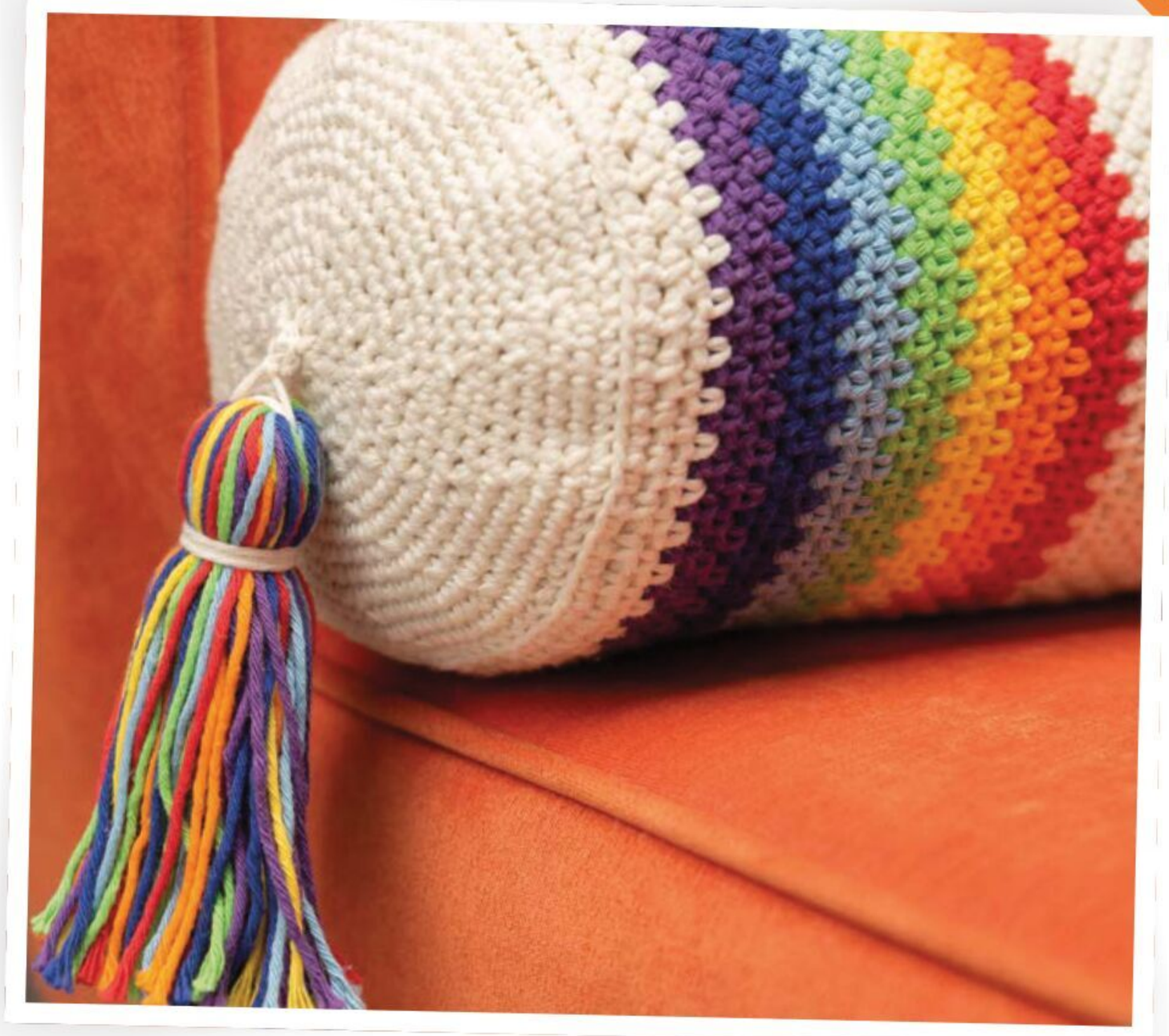
Made in soft cotton yarn, this contemporary bolster cushion is a delightful way to add something cosy and chic to your favourite seat. Designed by **YARN AND COLORS** and crocheted in Aran weight fibres, this relaxing project will work up quickly. We love the colourful tassels at each end – they're a lovely finishing touch!

RAINBOW CUSHION

Row 1: 6dc into magic ring (6 st)
Row 2: 2dc into each st (12 st)
Row 3: *1dc, 2dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 6 times (18 st)
Row 4: *2dc, 2dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 6 times (24 st)
Row 5: *3dc, 2dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 6 times (30 st)
Row 6: 2dc, 2dc into 1 st, *4dc, 2dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 5 times, 2dc (36 st)
Row 7: *5dc, 2dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 6 times (42 st)
Row 8: 3dc, 2dc into 1 st, *6dc, 2dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 5 times, 3dc (48 st)
Row 9: *7dc, 2dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 6 times (54 st)
Row 10: 4dc, 2dc into 1 st, *8dc, 2dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 5 times, 4dc (60 st)
Row 11: *9dc, 2dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 6 times (66 st)
Row 12: 5dc, 2dc into 1 st, *10dc, 2dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 5 times, 5dc (72 st)

ADVERTORIAL

Row 13: *11dc, 2dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 6 times (78 st)
Row 14: 6dc, 2dc into 1 st, *12 dc, 2 dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 5 times, 6dc (84 st)
Row 15: *13dc, 2dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 6 times (90 st)
Row 16: 7dc, 2dc into 1 st, *14dc, 2dc into 1 st*, work * to * a total of 5 times, 6dc, 2dc into 1 st, close row with a ss (97 st)
Row 17: 1 ch, 97 dc into back loop, close with ss (97 st)
Rows 18-103: *1 dc, 1 ch, skip 1 dc*, repeat * to * in spiral. From this point, always work a dc around each ch and a ch above each dc. From row 80, change colour every 3 rows
Row 80-82: 032 Pepper
Row 83-85: 020 Orange
Row 86-88: 013 Sunglow
Row 89-91: 082 Grass
Row 92-94: 062 Larimar
Row 95-97: 058 Amethyst
Row 98-100: colour 055 Lilac
From row 101-103, continue working the cushion cover in the same stitch in 002 Cream
Row 104: 1dc in each st (97 st)
Row 105: dc2tog, 13dc, *dc2tog, 14dc*, work * to * a total of 5 times, dc2tog into back loop. (90 st)
Insert the cushion inner into the cover. From here on it will get harder to crochet. Experiment with finding a comfortable position to continue.
Row 106: 6dc, dc2tog, *13dc, dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 5 times, 7dc (84 st)
Row 107: *12dc, dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 6 times (78 st)
Row 108: 5dc, dc2tog, *11dc, dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 5 times, 6dc (72 st)
Row 109: *10dc, dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 6 times (66 st)
Row 110: 4dc, dc2tog, *9dc, dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 5 times, 5dc (60 st)
Row 111: *8dc, dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 6 times (54 st)
Row 112: 3dc, dc2tog, *7 dc, dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 5 times, 4dc (48 st)
Row 113: *6dc, dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 6 times (42 st)
Row 114: 2dc, dc2tog, *5dc, dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 5 times, 3dc (36 st)
Row 115: *4dc, dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 6 times (30 st)
Row 116: *3dc, dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 6 times (24 st)



Row 117: *2dc, dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 6 times (18 st)
Row 118: *1dc, dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 6 times (12 st)
Row 119: *dc2tog*, work * to * a total of 6 times (6 st)
Close the 6 st using a tapestry needle

tassel

Make two

Cut 11 x 30cm lengths of yarn in each of the colours. For each tassel, cut 1 x 30cm length of yarn in 002 Cream to fold around the tassel and attach to the cushion cover. For each tassel, cut 1 x 30cm length of yarn in 002 Cream to wrap around the tassel. Make sure the colours are well mixed up and fold the bundle around 1 length of yarn in 002 Cream, and make a knot in this thread on top of the tassel. Wrap both ends of this thread around the tassel once more and make another knot on top of the tassel. Wrap the other 30cm length of yarn in 002 Cream around the bundle at 3cm below the top of the tassel, and fasten it with a knot. Weave in the two ends into the middle of the tassel using a tapestry needle. Using a tapestry needle, knot or sew the tassel with the upper thread to the magic ring on one side of the cushion, and to the last 6 chains in the centre of the other side of the cushion

to make up

Weave in all ends

ADD TO BASKET!

Sometimes it's evident how to name a yarn. For this one, Yarn and Colors chose Epic. Why? Firstly, it's made of 100% cotton, offering a natural look that feels soft. Secondly, you can choose from an astonishing 102 colours. But best of all is the price – selling for just £1.75 per 50g ball at LoveCrafts, even larger projects remain budget-friendly. Visit **yarnandcolors.com** for stockists.

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STITCH SCHOOL

New to knitting or crochet? You'll get the hang of it in no time with our certified visual guides

TOOLKIT ESSENTIALS

Tapestry needle A blunt needle with a large eye, perfect for threading with yarn, that's used for weaving in ends, sewing seams and embroidery – a must-have!

Stitch marker Used to identify an important place in your knitting or crochet so you don't forget – there are ring stitch and locking stitch markers available

Stuffing We're all about the toys, so you'll need stuffing to turn them from 2D to 3D

Safety eyes Bring your toys to life with a pair of eyes, but don't let the name fool you – they're not suitable for youngsters

Stitch holder Used by knitters to hold open stitches when not being used by the needles

BEGINNER BUY

Overflowing with colourful, creative projects that can be done in a day, it's your next book purchase: *Quick Crochet* by Kate Rowell. And Tom Daley agrees! "It's perfect for making last-minute gifts and quick and easy projects for beginners, and the designs are just beautiful! I can't wait to get stitching."

pagestreetpublishing.com

MOSS STITCH

You'll be working moss stitch for this issue's baby blocks and poncho. Make sure you move the yarn between the needles when changing from knit and purl stitches

Over odd-number of sts, it's worked as folls:

Row 1: (k1, p1) to last st, k1

This row is repeated throughout

Over even-number of sts, it's worked as folls:

Row 1: (k1, p1) to end

Row 2: (p1, k1) to end

These two rows are repeated throughout

Turn over for our classic stitch illustrations

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This month's video course highlights:

- How to knit a chunky jumper
- How to work crossed stitches
- How to insert a lifeline

Let's knit together

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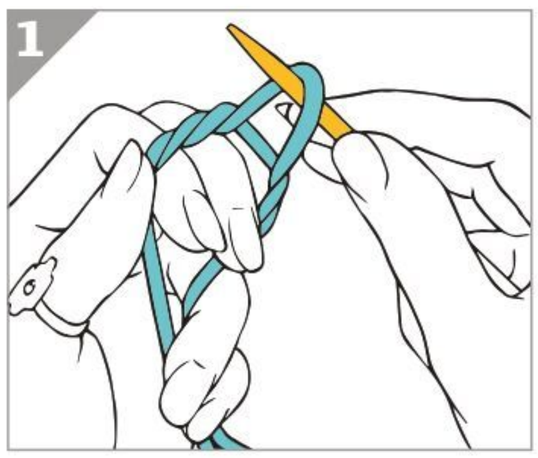
START HERE

slip knot

You need to make a slip knot on your needle before casting on. It counts as your first cast-on stitch

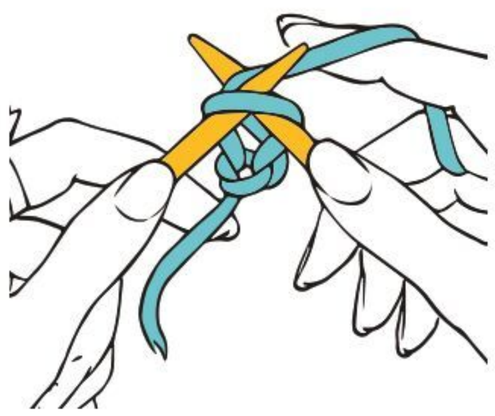


1 Hold the yarn under your left thumb, wrap it twice around your left index and middle fingers, with the second loop closer to the base of the fingers. With the backs of the fingers uppermost, insert the tip of the needle beneath the first loop and over the second, then pull the second loop under the first.

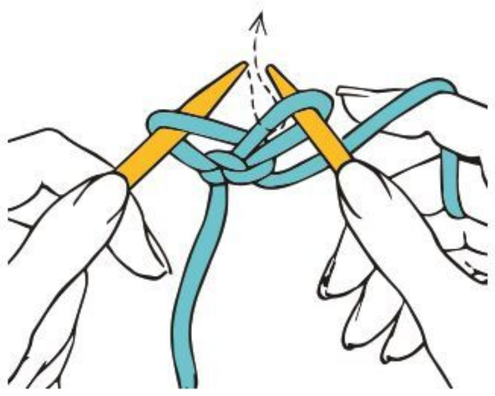
2 Remove your two fingers and gently tug on both ends of yarn to tighten the slip knot around the needle.

cast on

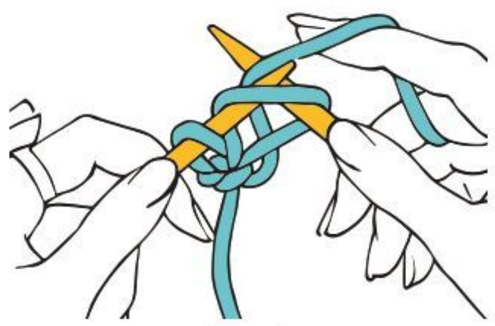
This method, also called the 'two-needle method', is great for beginners



1 Make a slip knot on the LH needle and pull it taut. Insert the RH needle into the knot from front to back, passing under the LH needle. Wrap the ball end of yarn anti-clockwise around the point of the RH needle.



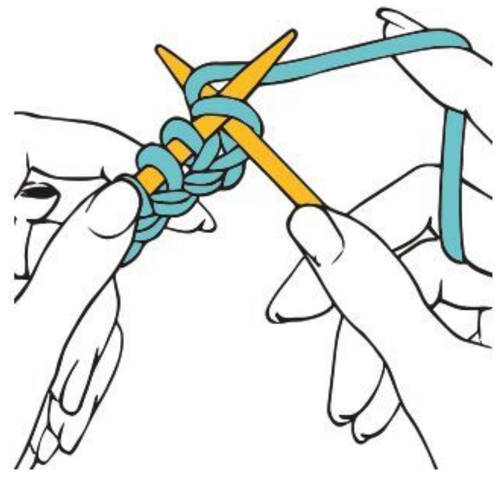
2 Pull the loop that forms back through the original stitch and insert the tip of the LH needle into the new stitch from underneath to transfer from the RH to LH needle. There should now be two stitches on the LH needle.



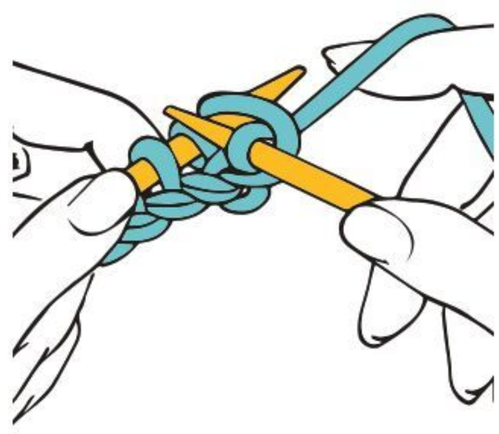
3 Repeat the above steps, knitting into the top stitch on the LH needle and returning the new stitches from the RH to the LH needle until you have the required number of stitches.

knit stitch (k)

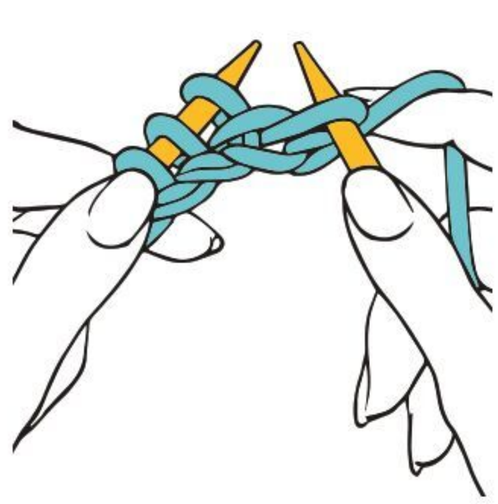
Also known as garter stitch, the knit stitch is the foundation of knitting



1 Once cast on, insert the tip of the RH needle upwards and from front to back into the top stitch on the LH needle. The RH needle should sit behind the LH one. Wrap the ball end of yarn anti-clockwise around the tip of the RH needle.



2 Using the RH needle, pull a loop of the wrapped yarn through the original stitch to create a new one on the RH needle.

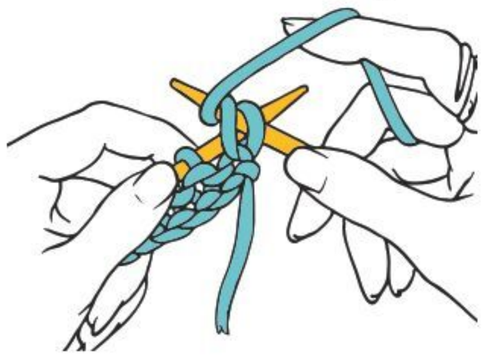


3 Slide the original stitch off the LH needle. Repeat from step 1.

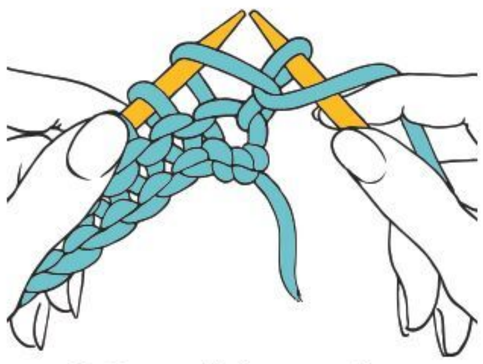
INCREASING & DECREASING

purl stitch (p)

Most frequently seen paired with the knit stitch to create different stitch patterns like stocking stitch and ribbing



1 With the ball-end of the yarn at the front (towards you), insert the tip of the RH needle into the front loop of the first stitch from right to left, with the RH needle in front of the LH one. Wrap the ball end of the yarn anti-clockwise around the RH needle.



2 Draw this needle backwards and upwards, forming a new stitch on the RH needle.

3 Once the new stitch has been formed on the RH needle you can let the loop from the LH needle slide off the end. Repeat until all the stitches have been purled and you have completed the row.

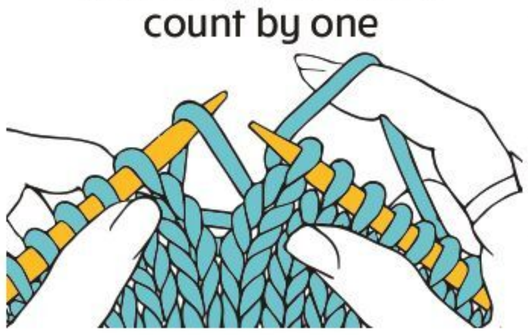
knit two together (k2tog)

Decrease two stitches to one by knitting them together

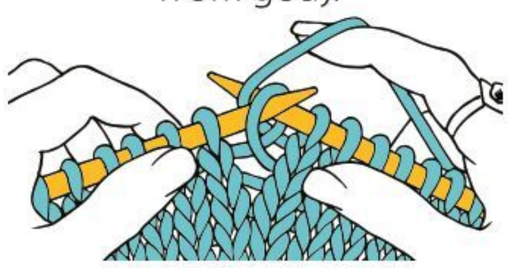
Insert the RH needle into the front loops of the next two stitches on the LH needle. Then wrap the yarn anti-clockwise around the tip and knit both stitches at the same time.

make one (m1)

Form a new stitch and increase your stitch count by one



1 Insert the LH needle into the horizontal bar of yarn lying between the stitch just knitted and the next stitch to be knitted. Hook and lift it with the needle tip in a backwards direction (away from you).

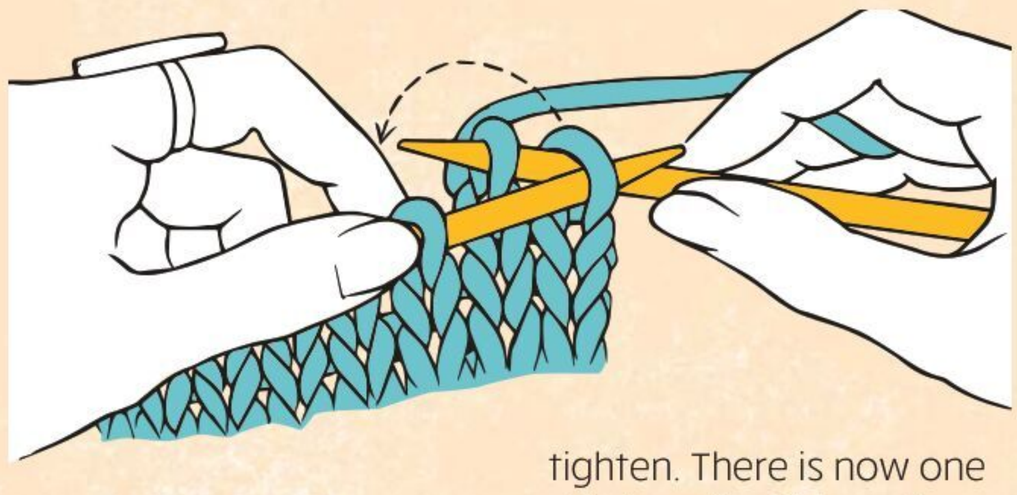


2 Push the RH needle into the back part of the loop that now lies over the LH needle and knit this stitch. You will now have an additional stitch on the RH needle.

FINISH HERE

cast off

Once you have completed the number of rows needed for your project, you'll need to cast off. This fastens the work and keeps it from unravelling



1 Knit two stitches as normal. Insert the tip of the LH needle into the second stitch on the RH needle (the stitch closest to you). Carefully lift it up and over the top stitch, dropping it off the tip of the RH needle and pulling the yarn to tighten. There is now one stitch on the RH needle.

2 Knit one more stitch and repeat the process in step one. Continue until there is one stitch remaining. Cut the yarn, leaving a long tail. Slip the loop off the needle and pull the tail through, pulling it tight.

beginning a seam

How to start sewing up your project

Place the pieces next to each other RS up, push a threaded tapestry needle through the fabric after the first stitch, moving from front to back. Push through after the first stitch on the second piece, moving from back to front.

mattress stitch

Join knitted pieces together with this invisible method

With the two pieces next to each other, hook the horizontal bar of the first stitch with a needle. Move to the other piece and hook the first horizontal bar of the stitch on that side. Repeat, moving from one piece to the next.

ABBREVIATIONS

Here's a handy list of the most common abbreviations

alt: alternate
approx: approximately
beg: beginning
BLO: back loops only
ch: chain
ch sp: chain space
cn: cable needle
cont: continue
dc: double crochet
dec: decrease
dtr: double treble
FLO: front loops only
foll: following
htr: half treble
inc: increase
k: knit
kfb: knit into front and back of next stitch
kwise: knitwise
k2tog: knit two together
LH: left-hand
m1: make one stitch by picking up horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into back of it
meas: measures
p: purl
pfb: purl into front and back of next stitch
pm: place stitch marker
psso: pass slipped stitch over
pwise: purlwise
p2tog: purl two together
rem: remaining
rep: repeat
rev: reverse
RH: right-hand
RS: right side
skpo: slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over
sl 1: slip one stitch
sl st: slip stitch
sm: slip stitch marker
sp(s): space(s)
ssk: one by one, slip next two stitches knitwise, put left-hand needle through front loops of both slipped stitches and knit them together
st(s): stitch(es)
st st: stocking stitch (knit one row, purl one row)
tbl: through back loop
tog: together
tr: treble
WS: wrong side
wyib: with yarn in back
wyif: with yarn in front
yb: yarn back
yfwd: yarn forward (between knit stitches)
yoh: yarn over hook
yon: yarn over needle (between a purl and a knit stitch)
yrn: yarn round needle (between purl stitches and between a knit and a purl stitch)

LEARN TO CROCHET

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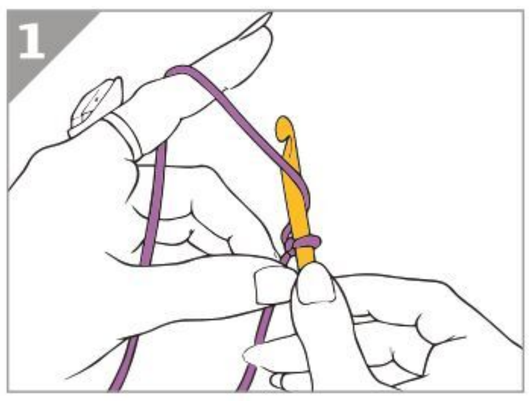
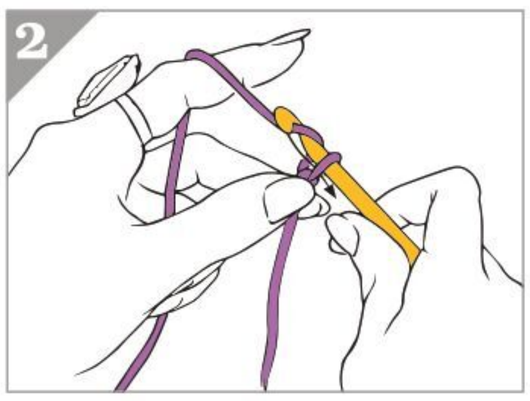
START HERE

slip knot & chain (ch)

Many projects start with a series of chain stitches. To begin you need to make a slip knot on your hook (see page 62)



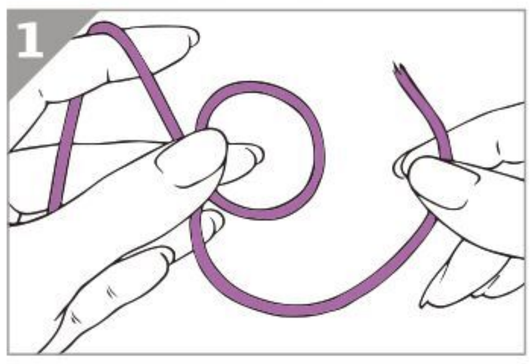
1 Make a slip knot and put it on the neck of the hook – don't pull it too tight or it will be difficult to stitch with. Coming from behind, wrap the yarn around the hook from right to left, across the 'neck'.



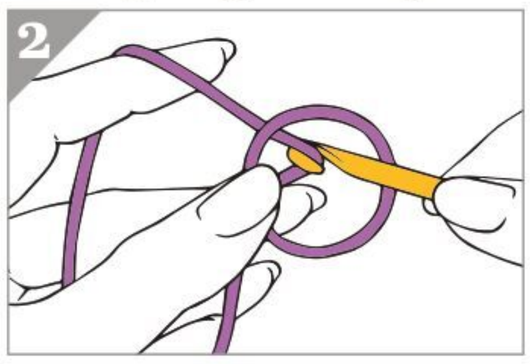
2 Catch the yarn and use the hook to pull it down through the slip knot. You have now made one chain (ch). Continue to make more chains, as directed in the pattern.

magic ring

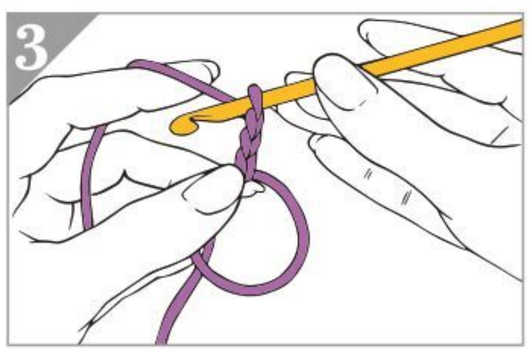
The magic ring is an easy way of beginning to work in the round. It is often used when making amigurumi toys



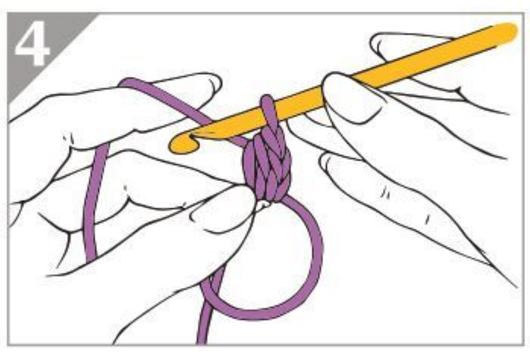
1 Make a large loop by putting the yarn tail behind the working yarn.



2 With your hook, draw the working yarn through the loop, so you have one loop on the hook.



3 Make three chain stitches (counts as first treble), work a treble into the loop, crocheting over the tail.

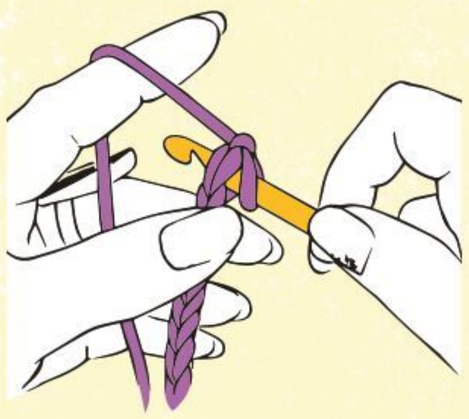


4 Continue to work as many stitches as needed into the loop. Once finished, untwist the tail if necessary and then pull to close the loop.

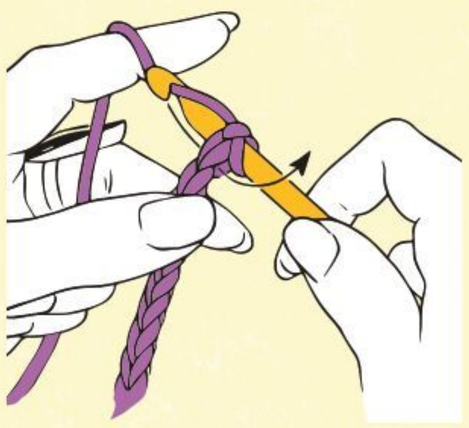
THE BASIC STITCHES

double crochet (dc)

Double crochet is the shortest and most commonly-used crochet stitch



1 Insert hook through both strands of the next stitch.

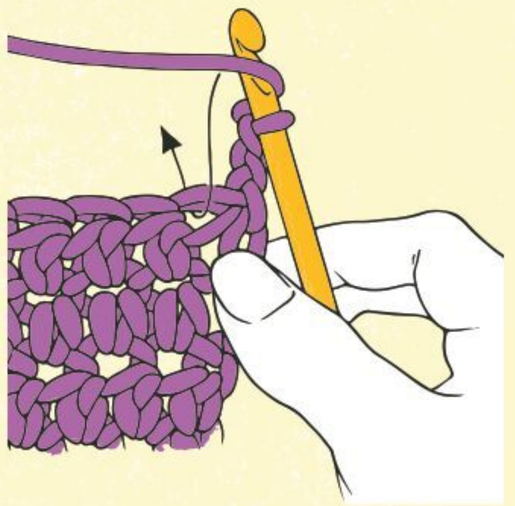


2 Yarn over the hook and draw back through the work. There will be two loops of yarn on the hook.

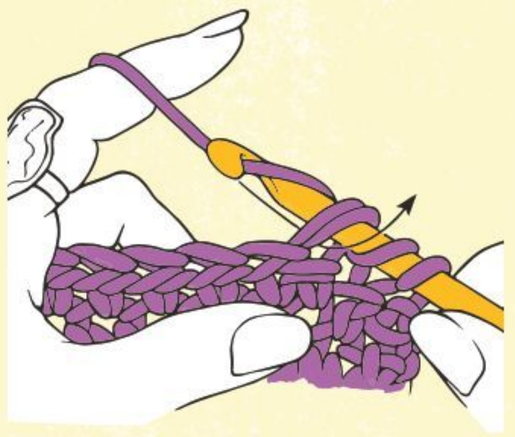
3 Yarn over the hook again and draw through both loops.

half treble (htr)

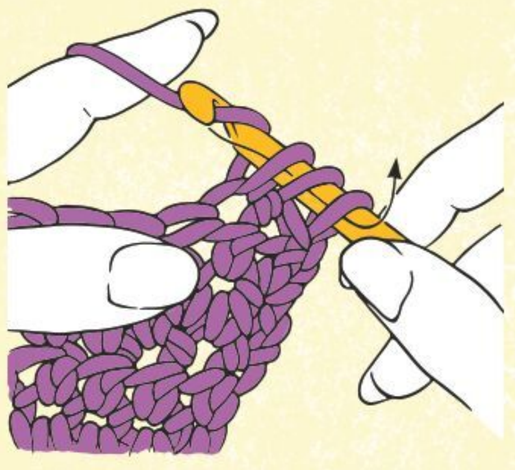
This stitch is longer than a double crochet and involves one extra step



1 (You will need a turning chain of two stitches.) Yarn over the hook and insert though the stitch.



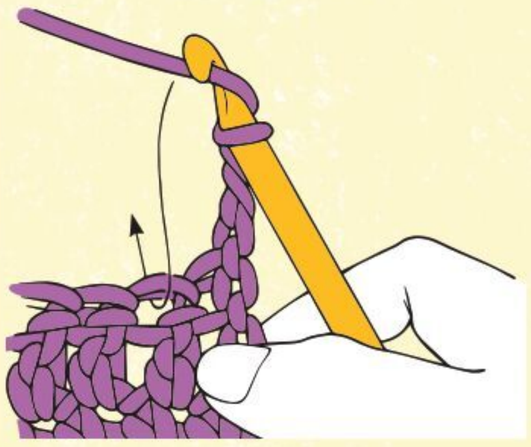
2 Yarn over the hook and draw back though the work. There will be three loops of yarn on the hook.



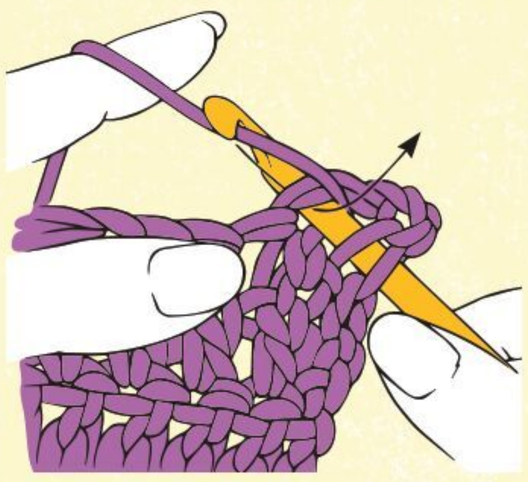
3 Yarn over the hook and draw through all three loops.

treble (tr)

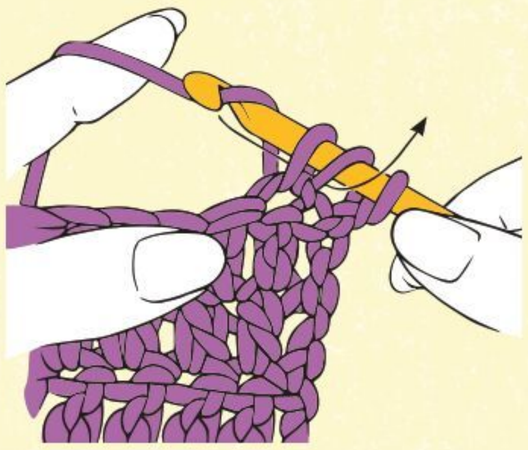
Treble crochet is slightly taller than half treble crochet but is made in a similar way



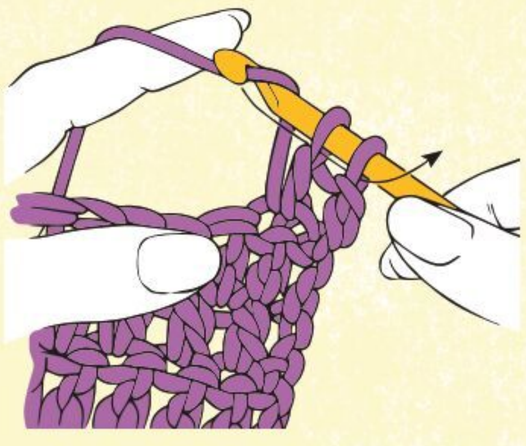
1 (You will need a turning chain of three stitches). Yarn over the hook. Insert the hook through the stitch.



2 Yarn over the hook and draw back through the work, there will be three loops of yarn on the hook.



3 Yarn over the hook and draw through the first two loops. This will leave two loops on the hook.

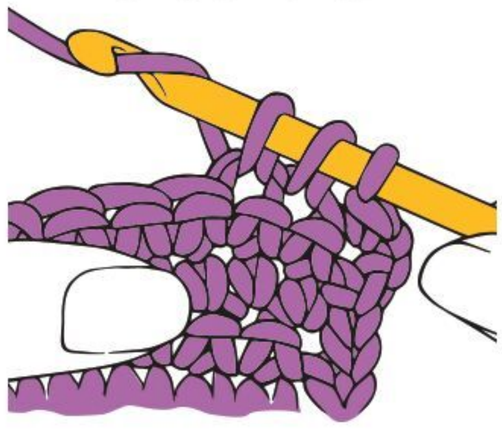


4 Yarn over the hook and draw through all the loops. This will leave one loop on the hook.

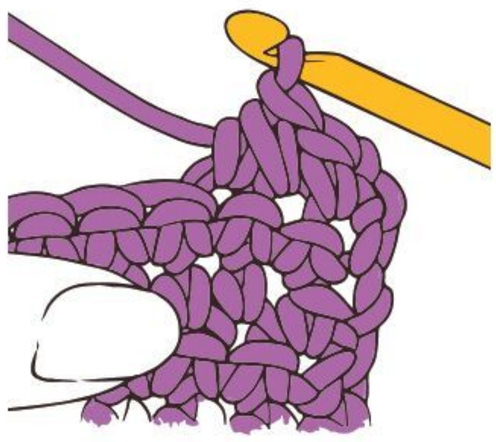
DECREASING

double crochet two together (dc2tog)

Turn two crochet stitches into one with this simple method



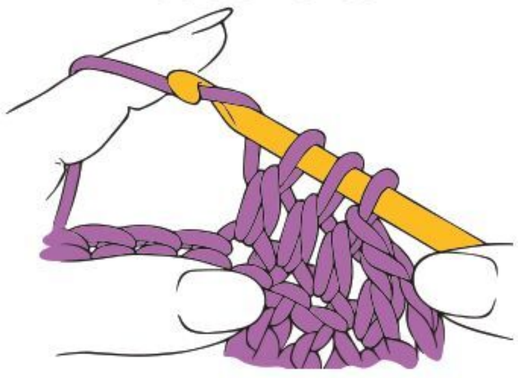
1 Insert hook through next stitch, yarn over hook, draw back through work. Two loops on hook. Insert hook into next stitch, yarn over hook, draw back through. Three loops on hook.



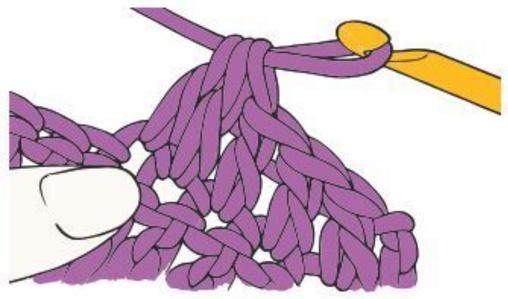
2 Yarn over hook, draw through all three loops. One loop on hook.

treble two together (tr2tog)

This is similar to 'dc2tog' but is worked with treble stitches

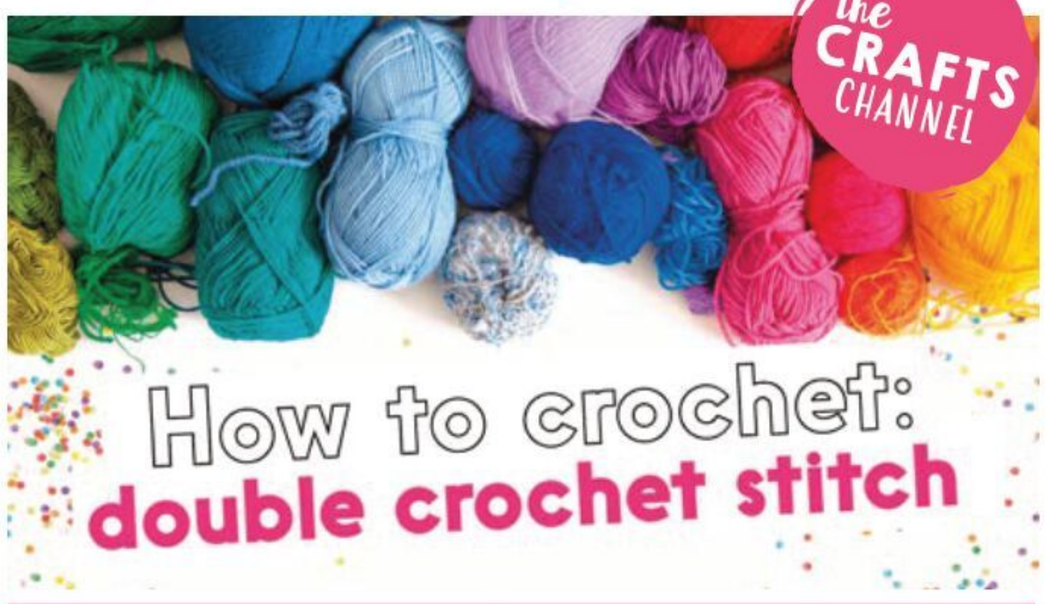


1 Yarn over the hook. Insert the hook through the stitch. Yarn over the hook and draw back through the work. There will be three loops of yarn on the hook. Yarn over the hook and draw through the first two loops. This will leave two loops on the hook. Yarn over the hook and insert through the next stitch, yarn over the hook and draw through the work. There will be four loops of yarn on the hook. Yarn over hook and draw through two loops. This will leave three loops on the hook.



2 Yarn over hook and draw through all three loops on the hook. This will leave one loop on the hook.

VIDEO OF THE MONTH



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LET'S GET CRAFTING

KNITTING & CROCHET

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TOY SAFETY

Ensure all elements included in the soft toymaking process are sewn on securely, including eyes, buttons and embellishments. If in doubt, please omit them. Toys with small parts are not suitable for children under three years of age. If making a toy for a very young child, omit fastenings and embroider the details instead. Never leave your child unattended with toys. The publishers are not responsible for any safety issues arising from any items made using the patterns and instructions contained within Let's Get Crafting.

"Adding the details is my absolute favourite part of dollmaking"

Ellen auctions one mini Taylor Swift doll every month with one reaching £186!

She presented comedian Michael McIntyre with a doll of himself when she saw him live

TEA AND A CHAT WITH...

Ellen Siegert

Meet the 17 year-old crafter who's blowing up on Instagram and TikTok

When Ellen Siegert first started creating miniature versions of Ed Sheeran, Harry Styles and her ultimate icon Taylor Swift, she had no idea where it would take her. In 2020 she made five amigurumi dolls of the cast of TV programme *Ugly Betty* and tagged the actors on Instagram. "At that point I had 19 followers as I'd just set up my account, then Becki Newton who plays Amanda on the show saw them," says Ellen. "I woke up one morning and she'd commented and liked my post. I was so excited and after that my followers just grew and grew. Michael Uri from *Ugly Betty* even ordered two dolls for himself!" She now has over 10,000 Instagram followers, and 40,000 on TikTok with an incredible 1.5 million likes. Then came the Taylor Swift dolls. "When I made my first Taylor doll, people absolutely loved it, and that's now become my niche," explains Ellen. "So far, I've made 16 different Taylor designs, and my followers go mad for them! They're sometimes quite crazy and will do anything to have the dolls!" she laughs. Being a busy, full-time Fashion, Textiles and 3D Design student, Ellen has to keep strict limits on orders, opening her books once every few months until she's filled her slots, which always happens in a matter of minutes and tends to be mainly Taylor Swift requests. The dolls have enjoyed worldwide success with orders frequently posted to the US and across Europe. "I get a lot of orders from Spanish customers who don't speak much English, and I only did a bit of Spanish in high school," she tells us. "Luckily the lady at my local wool shop used to live in Spain so she's been helping me make sure my messages make sense!"

CROCHET AS THERAPY

In 2018, Ellen was diagnosed with chronic fatigue syndrome. Crochet is a therapeutic way to keep her mind and hands occupied when she feels exhausted. "Some days I can be really tired and feel awful, but I can still just lay there and crochet. It's something I do on my own terms; there's no pressure and I can take as long as I want to get something right. It's been really good to have this to keep me going. I don't know what I'd do without it now," she admits. Ellen first picked up a crochet hook when she'd been taught to knit in her school textiles class. "But I'm a horrible knitter!" she laughs. "I'd made a scarf for my dog and when I'd finished, I thought, it needs a flower on it, or just something a bit decorative. But because I can't knit too well, I thought, what about crochet? So, I learnt to crochet a flower to add to the scarf. That was how I started, and I haven't really stopped."

WATCH OUT, STRICTLY!

So, what does Ellen fancy doing once she's finished her course? "I adore all the outfits on *Strictly Come Dancing*, mainly because of the sparkles! I'd absolutely love to go into costume design or something similar, because I'm just obsessed with crystals," she giggles. "It's all about the bling!" We wholeheartedly agree. Her latest crochet project is not without a touch of glam; she's created the entire cast of *Downton Abbey*. All your favourite characters are there, from the lords, ladies and dowager, plus Mrs Patmore, Daisy and the rest of the staff. And they've already been spotted on Instagram by stars of the show, Hugh Bonneville and Kevin Doyle. We'll certainly be keeping an eye on this talented young crafter, Ellen Siegert is going places!

FIND ELLEN ON INSTAGRAM **@CRAZY_HIPPO_CROCHET** AND WATCH HER FANTASTIC VIDEOS ON TIKTOK

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