

NEW

Simply Crochet

HOOKED ON HANDMADE

ISSUE SEVEN £4.99



MAKE ME
NOW!



HOW D'YA LIKE
THEM APPLES?

Treat yourself to
cute fruit ideas

34 PATTERNS INSIDE

**HOLIDAY
CROCHET**
START TODAY!

**SURFACE
CROCHET**
Try an exciting
new technique

Must-have
FESTIVAL
ACCESSORIES

CREATE A UNIQUE
SUMMER DRESS

THE ESCAPE ISSUE

Cute tunic, daisy hairband, patch pockets & more

**+
BEARS
BUNTING
& BLANKETS**

Future

ISSUE 07

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Simply Crochet

ISSUE SEVEN

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Wherever you see our C icon on pattern pages, that's where to start crocheting.



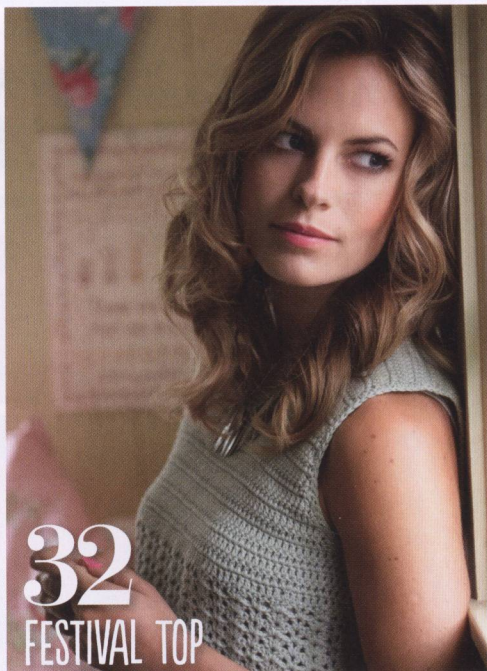
All our patterns use **UK terms**. If you usually crochet from US patterns, turn to page 92 for a conversion table.



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SUBSCRIBE THIS MONTH
GET A FREE PATTERN, YARN AND LOW PRICES WHEN YOU SUBSCRIBE... SEE PAGE 28



HOOKED

IDEAS ♥ INSPIRATION ♥ ACCESSORIES ♥ WEBSITES ♥ EVENTS ♥ STUFF



SUSHI SMILE MEET SPAM MUSUBI

What could be better than sushi? Giant, crocheted sushi with a face, that's what. Lorna Watt is the crafter behind Knits for Life. She's based in California and has just been named artist in residence for the city of San Mateo. We love her gutsy, supersized creations and monster yarn bomb projects. Join in the fun and find her patterns at www.knitsforlife.com





OUT OF THE BLUE

With wild, winding tendrils and incredible colour, we've never seen crochet garments quite like this before. Drawing inspiration from movement and mythology, visual artist Mandy Greer uses fibres galore and discarded materials to create fantastical installations and pieces for performance. We love her freeform style and the way she uses multiple tones of single colours for full impact – so inspiring. Dive in and discover more of Mandy's incredible creations at www.mandygreer.wordpress.com

SWEET & PETITE

Crochet really comes into its own in the summer – we can finally wear all those lovely light and lacy things we've been hooking. There's no need for kids to miss out, either. Bergère de France's 2013 summer pattern booklet for ages 0-10 years is teeming with gorgeous, airy patterns for little ones worked in cool cotton – tops, dresses, hats and the tiniest of booties. Check out Bergère's *Tricot Magazine 167* or visit www.bergeredefrance.com



SEWFIE SHOWS YOU

■ If you're anything like us, you're raring to spread your crochet love. Giving a kit as a gift is a brilliant way to do just that. This cute How To Crochet kit is £11.50 from Sewfie (www.sewfie.com) and comes with all you need to learn the basics and make a simple granny square or scarf. £1 from every kit goes to Love146, a charity against child-trafficking.



Tea pots that don't drip and cups that can't crack? We're game if you are. We love the idea of crochet crockery for playtime and were chuffed to stumble across this quirky tea set by Auntie Mims. It's available in pink or blue and is the perfect play set for a rainy day indoors. We're feeling inspired to get hooking and think beyond tea cosies and mug hugs. Just imagine a whole table set out for afternoon tea, complete with yarn cakes and dainty treble sandwiches. We're off to put the crochet kettle on. To snap up this sweet set for £28, make your way to www.noths.com/auntiemims



CROWNING GLORY

Are you excited about the royal baby? In celebration of the approaching birth of Will and Kate's child, Toft Alpaca have launched a collection of baby patterns with a decidedly regal flavour. Expect jumpers and onesies in organic British alpaca and lambswool, emblazoned with crown emblems and our favourite – adorable crocheted coronets for little ones. Keep your eyes peeled for this pattern in a future issue. Items are available to purchase ready-made or as kits. Head to www.thetoftalpacashop.co.uk

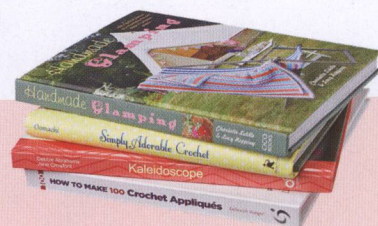
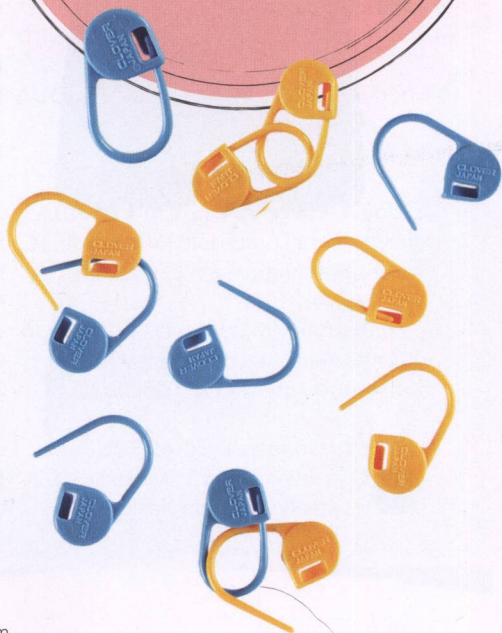
YARN BOMB IT FOR SUMMER

Yarn ends at the ready, leave a colourful bit of love wherever you're travelling.

- 1 **PARK LIFE**
Yarn bomb a bench – it'll brighten up your favourite picnic spot in minutes.
- 2 **LOVE YOUR LUGGAGE**
Spot your suitcase straight away on the carousel.
- 3 **BEACH PEBBLES**
Wrap them with yarn or take time to crochet over them.
- 4 **TENT TRAIL**
Stand out from the crowd at the festival or campsite.
- 5 **PERFECT POM-POMS**
They're fun, easy to make and you can hang them up just about anywhere.

ON YOUR MARKS

No crochet toolkit is complete without a set of locking stitch markers. We're loving these jumbo ones by Clover in deckchair shades. For stockists, see www.viridianyarn.com



INSPIRING BOOKS

KALEIDOSCOPE

Debbie Abrahams and Jane Crowfoot (Inspired Minds, £19.95)

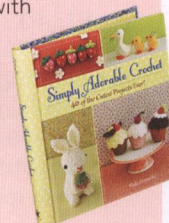
Our crochet expert Jane has teamed up with fellow designer Debbie Abrahams to create a collection of fun, vibrant crochet and knit designs for cushions, throws, runners and bags. Each project is worked in larger-than-life, geometric brights and accompanied by clear charts and photographs.



SIMPLY ADORABLE CROCHET

Maki Oomachi (Race Point, £14.99)

This sweet book by Japanese fibre artist Maki Oomachi is brimming with 40 cute patterns for toys. There are adorable animals, flowers and tasty treats to hook, each with clear step-by-step instructions and detailed diagrams. How can you resist?

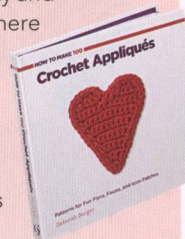


HOW TO MAKE 100 CROCHET APPLIQUÉS

Deborah Burger

(Creative Publishing, £16.99)

Embellish and bust through your stash with this collection of quirky and quick-to-crochet motifs. There are sweet patches of fruit, flowers, insects, objects and a whole menagerie of four-legged critters. They make perfect finishing touches for gifts, tote bags or tees.



HANDMADE GLAMPING

Charlotte Liddle and Lucy Hopping (Cico Books, £14.99)

Choose from 35 vintage-inspired projects to crochet, knit and stitch. Find ideas for storage and al fresco dining, including bunting and placemats. The technical section at the back advises on each craft – ideal for picking up a new skill for the summer.





APPLES AND PEARS

Forget *James and the Giant Peach*, these outsize apples and pears have stolen our hearts. Crocheted with organic cotton and handmade ethically in Asia, these sturdy pouffes are sure to satisfy your appetite for awesome. They're available from Rowen and Wren (www.rowenandwren.co.uk, 01932 847538) for £244. If you're feeling inspired to hook something fruity, skip ahead to page 69 and have a go at our super-sweet apple makes.



SO DOTTY

■ It's all too easy to fall into the habit of stuffing your latest project into your handbag while you're running out the door. Before you know it, hooks and yarn are tangled up with your keys and you have to re-do all the stitches that have come loose. The solution? A practical project bag in the form of a chic tote. This polka-dot beauty from Purl 1 Design (www.purl1design.co.uk) has handy pouches and also comes in taupe. It's yours for £30.



COTTON COQUETTE

Retro stitcher Susan Crawford has just launched a delicious new range of delicate 4ply mercerised cotton in 12 sweet shades – it's ideal to crochet with. Coquette is a smooth, easy-to-work-with yarn and has a delightful sheen. It comes in good old-fashioned, centre-pull balls with vintage-inspired bands. To get your mitts on some of this delightful yarn, call 020 8144 4523 or visit www.knitshop.co.uk

SHORT STORIES

1



2



3



Dare to bare with a pair of cute crochet shorts in on-trend, wearable monochrome tones. Here we've rounded up a few of our favourite styles from the high street.

1. Layered, lacy and ever so dainty, these shorts are just plain lovely. Dress them down for the beach, or team with a blazer to dress them up. They're £16.99 from Internacionale. Find them online at www.internacionale.com
2. What a pretty pair! Marks and Spencer have come up trumps this summer with these chic and flattering high-waisted cotton shorts. They also come in white and are £29.50 from www.marksandspencer.com
3. Bag yourself a crochet bargain – this sporty pair in cream with a comfy drawstring fastening are a steal at just £10 from Primark. To snap them up, head to www.primark.co.uk



HEY, GOOD HOOKIN'

Fabulous tools are a great way to spur on your creativity. What could be more inspiring than a set of bright and bold crochet hooks that are easy to use? These summery ones from Frank & Olive have comfy polymer clay handles and are begging to be hooked with. Pick one hook or a whole zesty bunch of them at www.frankandolivecrochet.etsy.com

A GOOD YARN

I'm looking for a fun, colourful yarn to make some summery bunting. What would you suggest?

Why not try Stylecraft's Summer Breeze DK yarn? It's a light cotton blend that's easy to work with and comes in a choice of eight bright and sugary shades. Each colour is twisted with white to give it a touch of texture. Call 01535 609798 or visit www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk



Time to get out AND ABOUT...

SKILLS, SHOWS & EVENTS

JULY 21 Hyperbolic Crochet, £25, Cakestand and Crumb, 01525 405101 www.hookandscumble.blogspot.co.uk

AUGUST 3 Toft Alpaca Open Day, free, Toft Alpaca Farm, Dunchurch, 01788 810626 www.thetoftalpacashop.co.uk

AUGUST 4 Bavarian Crochet Workshop, £10, Skeins, Glossop, Derbyshire, 07950 957042 www.skeins.co.uk

AUGUST 17 Rug Making with Wool, £30, National Wool Museum, Carmarthenshire, 01974 282530 www.ragartstudios.com

AUGUST 24 Crochet Flowers for Beginners, £49, Hylands House, Chelmsford, 01245 605500 lynnesharpe@gmail.com

AUGUST 24-25 Glastonbury Wool and Alpaca Festival, £5, Somerset, 07951 327754 www.glastonburywoolfestival.co.uk

5 ETSY FINDS

Life's a picnic
Crochet treasures for
al fresco dining



BERRY NICE

No seeds, no mess, just fun. Find summer berries for playtime and much more at Petitacosa's Etsy store.



KEEP COASTING

You'll find plenty of bright crochet cosies, coasters and other fun accessories for outdoor dining at Cozykakes.

BAG IT UP

We're loving this basket-style plarn bag made by CraftyPA – it's just perfect for stashing those picnic treats.



GRANNY CHIC

Check out All Things Granny. You'll be utterly spoilt for choice with pretty picnic blankets and baby blankets.

FRUIT AND FIBRE

Protect your fruit from bumps and bruises when you're out, with these cute, clever cosies from Three Magic Sheep.





MATERKNITTY

No newborn should be without a lovingly handmade, snuggly blanket. If you're expecting or know someone who is, you may already have one on the go or be itching to learn how to crochet or knit. London yarn boutique Mrs Moon have just launched their aptly named 'Materknitty' classes. Co-founder Karen Miller says: "Our new courses give mums-to-be a chance to enjoy a special day, learning a new skill to craft something truly unique for their new baby." For details, visit www.mrsmoon.co.uk

OH, DARN!

■ This month, we joined queen of mending Scrapiana (Eirlys Penn) for her debut darning event at Jumble Jelly in Bradford-on-Avon. If you're keen to mend your ways, Scrapiana hosts a repair workshop each month and runs regular classes at Jumble Jelly (they stock darning threads, too). To find full details of workshops and classes, head to www.scrapiana.com or visit www.jumblejelly.com



What crafternoon would be complete without a hot, steaming cup of tea? A good cuppa is fuel for crochet time and tastes all the better from your favourite mug. Our own mug of the moment has to be this cute, quirky creation from Yas-Ming Ceramics. Take your pick from the front or rear ends of a whole wild, menagerie of creatures in the form of marvellous mugs, bowls and dainty dishes. All the items are hand crafted in Britain. This distinguished-looking Ram Moo mug is £22 and is a fabulous way to show your love of wool to the world. Call 07949037532 to find out more or see the whole herd online at www.yas-ming.co.uk

MADE TO MEASURE

They're a must-have item for any crochet tool kit – the humble tape measure now comes in adorable.

1. Go retro with this traditional Bakelite beauty. £8.95 from www.dotcomgiftshop.com
2. Got a sweet tooth and a soft spot for felt? Say hello to your jammy new tape measure. It's just £5.95 from www.hunkydoryhome.co.uk
3. Don't just watch the birdie, measure with it. This winged cutie is available for £5.80 from www.nellypepper.co.uk



SPORT SUMMER STRIPES...

Hook yourself a halter in swimming pool azure – it will transform even the simplest of dresses. Top off your ensemble with a bold, wide-brimmed wonder. Delicate picot edging balances out the punchy stripes.

...AND PACK UP YOUR TROUBLES

Jetting off in search of sunshine? Turquoise and white are a winning pair for this handy strap and tag for your suitcase – guaranteed to help you spot your luggage straight away, leaving more time for adventure.





SUMMER BREEZE

Cocktail hour's a-comin'. In the meantime, hook up the perfect accessories for lazy days in the sun.

HOLIDAY IDEAS



FRILLS AND SPILLS

Think you're all set for the beach? Think again. Keep essentials sand-free with pretty cases – one for your shades and one for your lippy. Use a flirty, frilly towel edging to mark your place on the beach or lounge.

IN THE BAG

And just where will you stash all of these beach essentials? In a gorgeous matching bag, of course. A sturdy, cross-body strap in azure makes this the perfect bag for when you're out and about on your travels.





LAVISH LACE

A pretty headband in the lightest of laces is just the thing to keep beach hair neat or disguise a less-than-clean festival 'do. It's what glamping's all about. The hairband is worked in crisp, cool cotton for hot days.

PASSPORT TO PARADISE

Tickets? Check. Passport? Check. If you're keen to travel light, this little pouch bag with fabulous floral motifs is perfect for carrying just the bare essentials. Contrasting azure and white bring a pop of colour to a simple outfit.

SUNHAT

In sweet candy stripes with a picot edge, this wide-brimmed beauty by Anne Egan is a summer must-make.

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton (100% cotton, 100g/184m), 2 balls of Yarn A White (3660), 1 ball of each: Yarn B Azure (3671) Yarn C Sunflower (3662) Yarn D Tropical Jade (3673) Yarn E Lavender (3673) Yarn F Hot Pink (3668)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook
- Stiff wire for outside brim

MEASUREMENTS

40cm (15¾in) total diameter
15cm (6in) depth
Circumference of hat around head measures 55cm (21½in)

SIZING VARIATION

For smaller heads, use 4mm hook up to Row 34, or stop short of Round 21 and then go on to Rounds 22 to 34.

TENSION

17 sts and 22 rows measure 10cm (4in) with a 4.5mm hook.

CROWN

Using 4.5mm hook and Yarn A make a magic loop.

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

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

into first dc. [12 sts]

Round 3 Ch1, (dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc) around, ss in top of first dc. [18 sts]

Round 4 Ch1, (dc in next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc) around, ss in first dc. [24 sts]

Round 5 Ch1, (dc in next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc) around, ss in first dc. [30 sts]

Rounds 6-11 Continue working in the same fashion, increasing 6 sts every round. [66 sts]

Round 12 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss in first dc.

Round 13 Ch1, (dc in next 10 dc, 2dc in next dc) around, ss in first dc. [72 sts]

Round 14 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss in first dc.

Round 15 Ch1, (dc in next 11 dc, 2dc in next dc) around, ss in first dc. [78 sts]

Round 16 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss in first dc.

Rounds 17-21 Increase 6 sts in the same fashion on Round 17, and the following 2 alternate rounds. [96 sts]

Rounds 22-34 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss in first dc.

BRIM

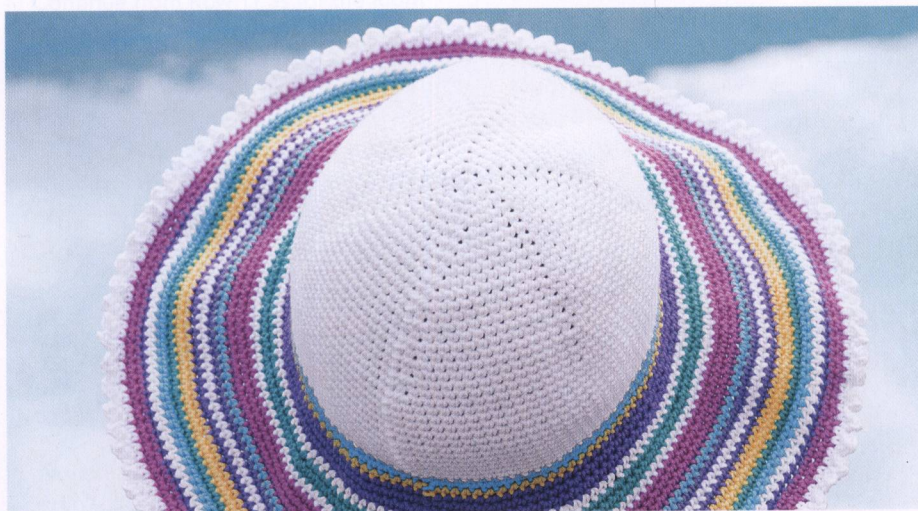
Change to Yarn B and 4mm hook.

Round 35 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss in first dc.

Round 36 Ch1, dc in next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 15 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn C. [102 sts]

Round 37 Ch1, dc in next 7 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 16 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn E. [108 sts]

Round 38 Ch1, dc in next 12 dc, 2dc in



HOLIDAY IDEAS

next dc, (dc in next 17 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. [114 sts]

Round 39 Ch1, dc in next 5 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 18 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. [120 sts].

Round 40 Ch1, dc in next 16 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 19 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn A. [126 sts]

Round 41 Ch1, dc in next 9 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 20 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn D. [132 sts]

Round 42 Ch1, dc in next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 21 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. [138 sts]

Round 43 Ch1, dc in next 16 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 22 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn A. [144 sts]

Round 44 Ch1, dc in next 10 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 23 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn F. [150 sts]

Round 45 Ch1, dc in next 5 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 24 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. [156 sts]

Round 46 Ch1, dc in next 19 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 25 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. [162 sts]

Round 47 Ch1, dc in next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 26 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn B. [168 sts]

Round 48 Ch1, dc in next 13 dc, 2dc in

next dc, (dc in next 27 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn E. [174 sts]

Round 49 Ch1, dc in next 20 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 28 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn A [180 sts]

Round 50 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn E.

Round 51 Ch1, dc in next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 29 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn C. [186 sts]

Round 52 Ch1, dc in next 15 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 30 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. [192 sts]

Round 53 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn D.

Round 54 Ch1, dc in next 9 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 31 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn B and turn. [198 sts]

Round 55 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn A.

Round 56 Ch1, dc in next 14 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 32 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn E and turn. [204 sts]

Round 57 Ch1, (dc in next 33 dc, 2dc in next dc) around, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn F. [210 sts]

Round 58 Ch1, dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc, (dc in next 34 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times, dc to end, ss in first dc. [216 sts]

Round 59 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss in first dc. Change to Yarn A. [222 sts]

Round 60 Ch1, dc in next 2 dc, (ch4, dc in next 2 dc) around, ch4, ss into first

dc. **Fasten off** and weave in ends. If you would like to stiffen the brim, thread wire through the stitches on the WS on the last but one row of the brim.

BEACH BODICE

Anee Egan's halterneck creation, with pretty scallop edging, brings a shot of colour to your classic white dress.

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton (100% cotton, 100g/184m), 1 (1: 2) balls of Yarn B Azure (3671)
- A 4.5mm (US 7 hook)
- Needle and matching thread
- An empire-line beach dress

MEASUREMENTS

Small: 69x22cm (27x8½in)

Medium: 80x25cm (31½x9¾in)

Large: 91x28cm (35¾x11in)

TENSION

4 patt repeats of (dc, ch4) meas 11cm. 8 rows of patt measure 10cm (4in).

NOTES

Bodice is made from the bottom, under the bust line, to the top. A trim is added at the top and bottom (not sides), then the laces. The bodice is tacked on to dress leaving sides free for lacing. Choose the size which most closely fits the bust size of your dress. The lacing at the back makes it adjustable.

BODICE

With Yarn B, ch102 (118: 134).

Row 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook (skipped ch does not count as st), (ch4, skip 3 ch, dc in next ch) repeat to end, turn. [25 (29: 33) pattern repeats]

Row 2 Ch4 (counts as tr and ch1), (3tr in next ch-4 sp, ch3, dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3) repeat to last ch-sp, 3tr in last ch-4 sp, ch1, tr in last dc, turn.

Row 3 Ch1 (does not count as first st throughout), dc in ch-1 sp, (ch4, dc in next ch-3 sp) repeat to last ch-1 sp, dc in last ch-1 sp, turn.

Row 4 Ch6 (counts as first tr and ch3 throughout), dc in first ch-4 sp, (ch3, 3tr in next ch-4 sp, ch3, dc in next ch-4 sp) repeat to end, ch3, tr in last dc, turn.

Row 5 Ch1, dc in first ch-3 sp, (ch4, dc in next ch-3 sp) repeat to end. turn.

Row 6 As Row 2.



RIGHT SIDE OF BODICE

Row 7 Ch1, dc in ch-1 sp, (ch4, dc in next ch-3 sp) 12 (14:16) times, turn, leaving remaining stitches unworked.

[12 (14: 16) pattern repeats]

Row 8 Ch6, skip first ch-sp, (dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, 3tr in next ch-4 sp, ch3) 5 (6: 7) times, dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, tr in last dc, turn.

Row 9 Ch1, dc in first ch-3 sp, (ch4, dc in next ch-sp) 11 (13: 15) times, turn.

[11 (13: 15) pattern repeats]

Row 10 Ch6, skip first ch-sp, (dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, 3tr in next ch-4 sp, ch3) 2 (3: 4) times, dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, tr in next ch-sp, turn, leaving remaining stitches unworked.

Row 11 Ch1, dc in first ch-sp, (ch4, dc in next ch-3 sp) 5 (7: 9) times, turn.

[5 (7: 9) pattern repeats]

Row 12 Ch6, skip first ch-sp, (dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, 3tr in next ch-4 sp, ch3) 1 (2: 3) times, dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, tr in next ch-sp, turn.

Row 13 Ch1, dc in first ch-3 sp, (ch4, dc in next ch-3 sp) 3 (5: 7) times, turn.

[3 (5: 7) pattern repeats]

Small size only:

Row 14 Ch6, skip first ch-sp, dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, tr in next ch-4 sp, turn.

Row 15 Ch1, dc in first ch-sp, ch4, dc in last ch-6 sp.

Fasten off for Small size.

Medium & Large sizes only:

Row 14 Ch6, skip first ch-sp, (dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, 3tr in next ch-4 sp, ch3) (1: 2) times, dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, tr in next ch-sp, turn.

Row 15 Ch1, dc in first ch-3 sp, (ch4, dc in next ch-3 sp) (3: 5) times, turn. [(3: 5) pattern repeats]

Medium size only:

Row 16 Ch6, skip first ch-sp, dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, tr in next 4-ch sp, turn.

Row 17 Ch1, dc in first ch-sp, ch4, dc in last 6-ch sp.

Fasten off for Medium size.

Large size only:

Row 16 Ch6, Ch6, skip first ch-sp, dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, 3tr in next ch-4 sp, ch3, dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, tr in next ch-sp, turn.

Row 17 Ch1, dc in first ch-3 sp, (ch4, dc in next ch-3 sp) 3 times, turn. [3 pattern repeats]



Row 18 Ch6, skip first ch-sp, dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, tr in next ch-4 sp, turn.

Row 19 Ch1, dc in first ch-sp, ch4, dc in last ch-6 sp. **Fasten off.**

LEFT SIDE OF BODICE

With RS facing, rejoin yarn in the next unworked ch-sp of Row 6.

Row 7 (RS) Ch1, dc in same ch-sp, (ch4, dc in next ch-3 sp) 12 (14:16) times, turn. [12 (14: 16) pattern repeats]

Row 8 Ch6, dc in first ch-sp (ch3, 3tr in next ch-4 sp, ch3, dc in next ch-4 sp) 5 (6: 7) times, ch3, tr in next ch-sp, turn.

Row 9 Ch1, dc in same ch-sp, (ch4, dc in next ch-3 sp) 11 (13: 15) times. [11 (13: 15) pattern repeats] **Fasten off.**

With WS facing, rejoin yarn in 5th (7th: 9th) ch-sp from right.

Row 10 (WS) Ch6, (dc in next ch-4 sp, ch3, 3tr in next ch-4 sp, ch3) 2 (3: 4) times, dc in next ch-sp, ch3, tr in next ch-sp, turn.

Continue from Row 11 as for the Right side of bodice.

EDGING

Turn bodice upside down and with RS facing, rejoin yarn in the first remaining loop of the foundation ch, ready to work across the remaining loops of the ch.

Row 1 Ch1, dc in first st, (ch1, dc in ch-3 sp, ch1, dc in same st as dc of Row 1) repeat to end, turn.

Row 2 Ch1, dc in first dc, ch1, (3tr in next dc, ch1, dc in next dc, ch1) repeat to last dc. **Fasten off.**

Work the edging in the same way evenly along the top edge of the

bodice, using a 5-tr fan instead of a 3-tr fan at the top points. Do not edge the two side edges.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Pin the bodice centrally on the dress and sew in place, leaving the edges free and overlapping the edges of the dress.

TIES

Make 2 neck ties of ch100 each, ss one tie each to top of left and right bodice on WS of the 5-tr fan.

Make a back tie of ch300 and use to lace the back together.

STRAP AND LABEL

You'll spot your luggage on the carousel straight away when it's adorned with Hannah Reed's makes.

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton (100% cotton, 100g/184m), 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn A White (3660)
 - Yarn B Azure (3671)
- A 4mm (US G/6) crochet hook
- 3 x 5cm (2in) azure buttons
- 1 x 3cm (1in) azure button

MEASUREMENTS

Strap: 6cm (2¼in) wide
Alter the length to suit: our strap measured 126cm with a tension of 10 rows to 5cm.
Label: 15x7cm (6x2¾in)

TENSION

5sts measure 3cm



STRAP

Using Yarn A, ch11.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in 2nd ch and each ch to end, turn. [10 sts]

Row 2 Ch1, 1dc in back loop only of each st to end, turn.

Repeat last row until strap measures 10cm less than desired length.

***Buttonhole row** Ch1, 3dc, ch4, skip 4 sts, 3dc, turn.

Work another 5 rows as Row 2.

Repeat from *, then work another Buttonhole row followed by 3 rows as Row 2. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Using Yarn B, work a ss surface crochet border 1 st in from the edge all around. To do this, insert your hook into the strap 1cm from the edge between two of the sts and bring it out again to the front of the work in between stitches. Yr and draw it through the work and the loop on the hook. Space your stitches evenly around.

Measure strap against suitcase and mark positions for buttons corresponding with the buttonholes.

Sew 5cm buttons in place.

DECORATIVE LABEL

Using Yarn A, ch34.

Row 1 (RS) 1dc in 2nd ch and each ch to end, turn. [33 sts]

Rows 2-11 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each st to end.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

DECORATE

Fold in half widthways to make a front and back for the label. You can use any surface crochet pattern to decorate – one side of this has a ss surface crochet working in rectangles from the centre and the other has a ss border 1 st in from the edge. See Strap for instructions for surface crochet. You could embroider your initials or leave it plain if you prefer.

BUTTON STRAP

Work this in 2 parts and then sew into label.

Using Yarn B, ch6.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in 2nd ch and each ch to end, turn. [5 sts]

Rows 2-7 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end, turn. **Fasten off.**

Using Yarn B, ch6.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in 2nd ch and each ch to end, turn. [5 sts]

Rows 2-18 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 19 Ch1, 1dc in first st, ch3, skip 3 sts, 1dc in last st, turn.

Row 20 Ch1, 1dc in each dc and ch to end, turn. [5 sts]

Rows 21-22 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end. **Fasten off.**

TO MAKE UP

Sew the 2 parts of the button strap to WS of the luggage label so that they are in the top centre. Sew the 3cm button onto the smaller part of the button strap.

Using Yarn B, place the label RS together and join around the 3 open edges with a double crochet seam as follows:

Insert the hook through both pieces and complete a double crochet stitch.

When working across the button strap, ss through the label and strap to hold them together and then continue with a dc seam afterwards.

LIPSTICK HOLDER

Keep your lippy sand-free in Hannah Reed's handy keyring pouch.

■ Stylecraft Classique Cotton (100% cotton, 100g/184m), small amounts of:

Yarn A White (3660)

Yarn B Azure (3671)

Yarn C Sunflower (3662)

Yarn D Tropical Jade (3676)

Yarn E Lavender (3673)

Yarn F Hot Pink (3668)

■ A 4mm (US G/6) crochet hook

■ 1cm (¼in) azure button

■ Keyring

MEASUREMENTS

10x3.5cm (4x1¼in)

TENSION

5sts measure 3cm

LIPSTICK HOLDER

Using Yarn A, ch4, ss in first ch to make a ring.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 6dc in ring, ss to first dc. [6 sts]

Round 2 Ch1, (2dc in next st, 1dc in each of next 2 sts) twice, ss to first dc to join. [8 sts]

Round 3 Ch1, (2dc in next st, 3dc) twice, change to Yarn C on ss to first dc. [10 sts]

Round 4 Ch1, (2dc in next st, 4dc) twice, ss to first dc. [12 sts]

Round 5 Ch1, 12dc, change to Yarn B on ss to first dc.

Rounds 6-7 Ch1, 12dc, change to Yarn D on ss to first dc at end of Round 7.

Rounds 8-9 Ch1, 12dc, change to Yarn E on ss to first dc at end of Round 9.

Rounds 10-11 Ch1, 12dc, change to Yarn F on ss to first dc at end of Round 11.

Rounds 12-13 Ch1, 12dc, change to Yarn A on ss to first dc at end of Round 13.

Rounds 14-15 Ch1, 12dc, ss to first dc.

Sew button onto front centre.

HOLIDAY IDEAS

Rounds 16-17 As Rounds 14 and 15.

Fasten off.

With RS back facing, join Yarn A at top RH corner, work 5dc across the back, then turn to work in rows.

Rows 1-4 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end, turn. [5 sts]

Row 5 Ch1, 2dc, ch1, skip 1 st, 2dc, turn.

Row 6 Ch1, 1dc in each st and ch across.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Sew on keyring, inside the flap.

SUNGLASSES COVER

Practise changing colour with this sweet and simple design.

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton (100% cotton, 100g/184m), 1 ball of each: Yarn A White (3660), oddments of each: Yarn B Azure (3671) Yarn C Sunflower (3662) Yarn D Tropical Jade (3676) Yarn E Lavender (3673) Yarn F Hot Pink (3668)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

MEASUREMENTS

8x17cm (3x6¾in)

COVER

Using 4.5mm hook and Yarn A, ch27, ss to first ch to join, being careful not to twist.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each ch around, ss in first dc. [27 sts]

Rounds 2-16 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss in first dc.

Continue working rounds as above, with the following stripe sequence:

1 round Yarn B, 1 round Yarn C, 2 rounds Yarn E, 1 round Yarn A, 2 rounds Yarn F, 1 round Yarn A, 1 round Yarn D, 1 round Yarn C, 1 round Yarn D, 1 round Yarn B, 2 rounds Yarn A, do not fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Flatten the case and work a double crochet seam to close the end by inserting hook into the corresponding stitch of the front and back and completing a dc. **Fasten off.**

Using 3.5mm hook join Yarn A in the remaining loop of the foundation ch of

one of the stitches at the edge, Ch1, dc in each remaining loop, ss into first dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TOWEL EDGING

Rainbow ruffles mark your spot on the beach or at the poolside.

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton (100% cotton, 100g/184m), 1 ball of each: Yarn A White (3660) Yarn B Azure (3671) Yarn C Sunflower (3662) Yarn D Tropical Jade (3676) Yarn E Lavender (3673) Yarn F Hot Pink (3668)
- A 4mm (US G/6) crochet hook
- Sewing thread

MEASUREMENTS

50x5cm (19½x2in)

TENSION

5sts measure 3cm

EDGING

Using Yarn A, ch85.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 1dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch to end, turn. [84 sts]

Row 2 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end,

change to Yarn C, turn.

Row 3 (Ruffle row) Ch2 (counts as htr), working in front loops only: htr in first st, ch1, *htr in next st, ch1; repeat from * to end, do not turn.

Fasten off.

Row 4 (RS) Join Yarn A to first unused back loop of Row 2. Ch1, 1dc in each back loop to end, change to Yarn B.

Rows 5-6 As Rows 3 & 4, change to Yarn D at end of Row 6.

Rows 7-8 As Rows 3 & 4, change to Yarn E at end of Row 8.

Rows 9-10 As Rows 3 & 4, change to Yarn F at end of Row 10.

Rows 11-12 As Rows 3 & 4, change to Yarn A at end of Row 12.

Row 13 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each st to end.

Row 14 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Pin edging evenly to towel, sew in place using sewing thread.

BEACH BAG

Hannah Reed's pretty bag, with flirty frills in bright jewel tones, has room for all your beach essentials.

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton (100% cotton, 100g/184m), 2 balls of





this end of the strap up the other side of the bag. **Fasten off.**

Join the back of the back in a similar way. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

HAIRBAND

Transform beach or festival hair with Anne Egan's wide, lacy band.

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton (100% cotton, 100g/184m), 1 ball each of:
Yarn A White (3660)
Yarn B Azure (3671)
- A 4.5mm (US 7 hook)

MEASUREMENTS

130x10cm (51x4in)

HAIRBAND

Using 4.5mm hook, and Yarn A, ch126.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, *ch5, skip 3 ch, dc in next ch; rep from * to end, ch3, dc in remaining loop of same st on foundation ch, working in remaining loops on other side of foundation ch: **ch5, skip 3 ch, dc in next ch; rep from ** to end, ch3, ss into first dc, turn.

Round 2 Ch3 (counts as tr), 8tr in ch-3 sp at end, ch1, *(dc in next ch-5 sp, ch5) twice, dc in next ch-sp, 7tr in next ch-5 sp; repeat from * 6 times, (dc in next ch-5 sp, ch5) twice, dc in last ch-5 sp, ch1**, 9tr in ch-3 sp, ch1; repeat all from * ending final repeat at **, ss into top of beg ch-3, turn. [7 7-tr fans, 2 9-tr fans]

Round 3 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in top of beg ch-3 of last round, *(ch5, dc in next ch-5 sp) twice, ch5, dc in 4th of 7-tr group; repeat from *, (ch5, dc in next ch-5 sp) twice, **(tr in next tr, ch1) 6 times, tr in next tr, dc in next ch-5 sp, ch5, dc in next ch-5 sp; repeat from ** twice, ***ch5, dc in 4th of 7-tr group, (ch-5, dc in next ch-5 sp) twice; repeat from ***, ch5, dc in first tr of 9-tr fan, ch5, skip 3 tr, dc in next tr, ch5, skip 3 tr, dc in next tr; repeat all from * along the other side omitting final dc, ss into first dc. **Fasten off.**

TAILS

With Yarn A, ch25, ss into dc in the middle of the 9-tr fan at one end of hairband. Working back along the chain, ch1, dc in last ch in tail, (ch5, skip 3 ch, dc in next ch) 6 times, ch1,

Yarn A White (3660), 1 ball of each:

Yarn B Azure (3671)

Yarn C Sunflower (3662)

Yarn D Tropical Jade (3676)

Yarn E Lavender (3673)

Yarn F Hot Pink (3668)

- A 4mm (US G/6) crochet hook

MEASUREMENTS

36x28x6cm (14x11x2¼in)

TENSION

5sts measure 3cm

FRONT AND BACK (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, ch60.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in 4th ch from hook and each ch to end, turn. [58 sts]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each st to end, change to Yarn C, turn.

Row 3 (Ruffle row) Ch2 (counts as htr), working in front loops only: htr in first st, ch1, *htr in next st, ch1; repeat from * to end, do not turn. **Fasten off.**

Row 4 (RS) Join Yarn A to first unused back loop of Row 2. Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each back loop to end, turn.

Row 5 Ch3 (counts as tr), 1tr in each st to end, turn.

Row 6 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each st to end, turn.

Rows 3-6 make up the pattern, repeat the pattern a further 4 times using different colours for the ruffle rows as

follows: Yarns B, D, E, F.

Row 23 Ch3 (counts as tr), 1tr in each st to end, turn.

Row 24 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each st to end, turn.

Rows 25-42 Repeat (Rows 23 and 24) 9 times. **Fasten off.**

STRAP

Using Yarn B, ch12.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in 4th ch from hook and each ch to end, turn. [10 sts]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), 1tr in each st to end, turn.

Rows 4-91 Repeat Rows 2 and 3 (or until strap measures approx 165cm long). **Fasten off.**

TO MAKE UP

Holding the front of the bag with WS facing you and ruffles at top, join Yarn B with ss into what is now the top RH corner. With RS of strap facing you, join front to strap with a dc seam, working 1dc in each st and each row end of dc and 2dc in each row end of a treble row. To work a double crochet seam, insert the hook through both pieces and complete a dc stitch as usual. Continue the seam along the bottom and up the side of the bag. **Fasten off.**

Take the other end of the strap and, being careful not to twist it, join the two ends together with a dc seam. Seam

HOLIDAY IDEAS

working along the other side of this chain in the remaining loops of the stitches, dc in the other side of last dc worked, (ch5, skip 3 ch, dc in next ch) 6 times. **Fasten off.** Repeat for the other end of the hairband.

EDGING

With Yarn B, join at one end of one Tail. Ch1, dc into end of Tail, *(ch2, dc) 5 times in next ch-5 sp; repeat from * a further 14 times, **ch2, dc in next dc, (ch2, 2dc in ch-sp) 6 times, ch2, dc in next dc, (ch2, dc) 5 times in next ch-5 sp; repeat from ** twice more, *** (ch2, dc) 5 times in next ch-5 sp; repeat from *** a further 13 times, dc in end dc, repeat all from *, omitting final dc, ss into first dc.

Fasten off, weave in ends and block.

PASSPORT BAG

Anne Egan's sturdy little bag is worked in trebles and embellished with bold contrasting motifs.

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton (100% cotton, 100g/184m), 1 ball of each:
Yarn A White (3660)
Yarn B Azure (3671)
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook
- A large button, approx 3cm (1in) diam
- 42m (78in) of thick piping cord
- Large-eyed needle

MEASUREMENTS

17x19cm (6½x7½in)

BAG

Using a 4.5mm hook and Yarn B, ch25.

Row 1 (RS) Tr into 4th ch from hook (missed ch count as tr), tr in each ch to end, turn. [23 sts]

Rows 2-37 Ch3 (counts as first tr throughout), tr in each st to end, turn.

Row 38 Ch3, 10 tr, ch1, skip tr, tr in each st to end, turn. [Buttonhole made]

Row 39 Ch3, tr in each st and ch to end, turn.

Rows 40-42 As Row 2.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

WINDMILL MOTIF (MAKE 4)

Each 'arm' of the windmill is made in turn on Round 2, and joined to the previous one as they are worked. The first arm is joined to the last as the last arm is made.

With Yarn A, ch8, ss into first ch to join.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 16dc into ring, ss into first dc. [16 sts]

Round 2 First arm: Ch9, dc in 2nd chain from hook, htr in same ch, (htr, tr) in next ch, (2tr in next ch) twice, tr in each of next 4 ch, skip first dc on centre ring, ss in next dc.

Arms 2-7: Ch7, turn to WS to ss into the previous arm in the 5th tr from the centre ring, turn back to RS. Ch1, (dc, htr) in same st as ss just worked, (htr, tr) in next ch, (2tr in next ch) twice, tr in each of next 4 ch, skip next dc on centre ring, ss in next dc.

Arm 8: Ch7, turn to WS to ss into the previous arm in the 5th tr from centre ring, turn back to RS. Ch1, (dc, htr) in same st as ss just worked, (htr, tr) in next ch, (2tr in next ch) twice, tr in each of next 4 ch, skip next dc on centre ring, ss in dc at base of first arm, turn to WS and ss along tr of 8th arm to the 5th tr from the centre ring, turn to RS to ss to point of 1st arm to complete the motif.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

See diagram A on page 93.

The bag will be folded into three, so that one-third forms the flap and the other two-thirds are sewn along the edges to form the bag.

Before sewing, position the motifs as follows: Align the centre hole of one motif over the buttonhole on the bag and pin in place.

Fold the bag piece into thirds and pin the second motif with the button in the centre to align with the buttonhole. Turn the bag over. Fold one motif in half and pin so that the fold is placed on the fold of the flap. Pin the final motif on the back of the bag. Sew motifs in position.

Tie the 2 ends of the piping cord together. Place the knot of the cord on the inside of the bottom fold and pin the sides together with the rest of the cord on the outside.

Join Yarn A at the bottom fold. Dc up the side of the bag evenly to the opening, making sure you include the cord handle in every stitch.

Fasten off and repeat on the other side.

Attach button to front of bag, lining it up with the buttonhole on front flap.



YARN STOCKISTS

Stylecraft 01535 609798

www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk



Frill corsage



YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Essentials Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/130m), 1 ball of Erica (93)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- Brooch back
- 2 buttons, one slightly larger than the other

For yarn stockists, contact Rico, www.rico-design.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

Brooch meas 6cm (2¼in) diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

NOTES

The hyperbolic method is based on the works of Daina Taimina.

FIND OUT MORE

To find out more about Steph Phillips and her work, visit hookandscumble.blogspot.co.uk Steph runs hyperbolic crochet workshops at Cakestand & Crumb, a vintage tea shop in Amptill, Bedfordshire. For details of her next workshop, see our diary dates on page 13.



LILAC BLOSSOM

Hook a hyperbolic corsage by Steph Phillips and accessorise with purple panache.



Layer up buttons in similar tones for texture for the perfect finish.

C CORSAGE

Make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as first htr), 14htr into the loop, pull loop closed and ss to beg ch-2. [15 sts]

Round 2 Ch2 (counts as first htr), htr into st at the base of ch, 2htr into each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2. [30 sts]

Round 3 Ch2 (counts as first htr), htr into st at the base of ch, 2htr into each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2. [60 sts]

Round 4 Ch2 (counts as first htr), htr into st at the base of ch, 2htr into each

st around, ss to top of beg ch-2. [120 sts]

Round 5 Ch2 (counts as first htr), htr into st at the base of ch, 2htr into each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2. [240 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Place the smaller button on top of the larger one and sew them both in place at the centre front.

Sew brooch back to centre back.



Mint vest top



HAPPY GLAMPER

Make Ruth Maddock's pretty lace camisole
in a sweet, ice cream shade.

Mint vest top



DOUBLE
TREBLE



4PLY
WEIGHT



3.5MM
4MM

YOU WILL NEED

- Debbie Bliss Eco Baby (100% cotton, 50g/125m), yarn quantity and shade shown in table below
 - A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
 - A 4mm (US G/6) hook
 - 2 stitch markers
- For yarn stockists, contact
Designer Yarns 01535 664222
www.designeryarns.uk.com

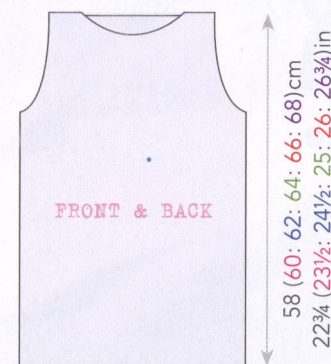
TENSION

18 tr and 10 rows = 10cm (4in)
square over tr on 3.5mm hook.

ABBREVIATIONS

tr2tog (Yrh, insert hook in next stitch, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 2 times, yrh and draw through all loops on hook.

For a full list, see page 92.



This minty make is a great way to hone your crochet skills. You'll do shaping and work wide stripes of trebles and lace, as well as delicate shell repeats for the edging. The sleeveless style, gentle scoop neckline and scrumptious cool cotton yarn make it the perfect, relaxed garment for festival-going or a spot of glamping.

NOTES

Pattern is a multiple of 6sts + 5.

BACK

Using a 4mm hook, ch79 (85: 91: 103: 109: 115).

Row 1 (RS) 1tr into 4th ch from hook (missed ch count as tr), 1tr into each ch to end, turn. [77 (83: 89: 101: 107: 113) tr]

Row 2 Ch3 (counts as first tr throughout), 1tr into each tr to end, turn.

Row 3 Ch3, *skip next tr, (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in next tr, skip next 2 tr, (2tr, ch1, 2tr) in next tr, skip next tr; rep from * to last 4 tr, skip next tr, (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in next tr, skip next tr, 1tr in last tr, turn. [12 (13: 14: 16: 17: 18) repeats + 5 sts]

Row 4 Ch3, * (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in next ch-1 sp, (2tr, ch1, 2tr) in next ch-1 sp; rep from * to last ch-1 sp, (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in next ch-1 sp, 1tr in last tr of row, turn.

Rows 5-12 As Row 4.

Row 13 Ch3, *1tr in next tr, skip next ch, 1tr in each of next 3 tr, skip next ch, 1tr in each of next 2 tr; rep from * ending 1tr in next tr, 1tr in next ch, 1tr in each of last 2 tr, turn. [77 (83: 89: 101: 107: 113) tr]

Row 14 As Row 2.

Change to 3.5mm hook and repeat Rows 3-14.

Now work 3 (4: 5: 6: 7: 8) more rows as Row 2.

Place a marker at each end of last row.

SHAPE ARMHOLES

Next row Ss over first 5 (5: 6: 6: 7: 7) tr, ch3 (counts as tr), tr2tog, 1tr in each st to last 8 (8: 9: 9: 10: 10) tr, tr2tog, 1tr in next tr, turn, leaving 5 (5: 6: 6: 7: 7) tr unworked. [65 (71: 75: 87: 91: 97)tr]

Next row Ch3, tr2tog, 1tr in each st to last 3 sts, tr2tog, 1tr in last tr, turn. [63 (69: 73: 85: 89: 95)tr]

Rep this last row three more times.

[57 (63: 67: 79: 83: 89) tr]**

Cont in patt of plain treble rows (as Row 2) until work measures 17 (18: 19: 20: 21: 22) cm from marked row, ending with a WS row.

SHAPE BACK NECK

Next row (RS) Ch3, 1tr in each of next 13 (15: 17: 19: 21: 23) tr, tr2tog, 1tr in next tr, turn, leaving remaining sts unworked. [16 (18: 20: 22: 24: 26) tr]

Next row Ch3, tr2tog, 1tr in each of rem 13 (15: 17: 19: 21: 23) tr.

Fasten off, turn.

Next row (RS) Count 23 (25: 25: 33: 33: 35) tr across centre of work and rejoin with ss to next tr with RS facing. Ch3, tr2tog, 1tr in each of rem 14 (16: 18: 20: 22: 24) tr. [16 (18: 20: 22: 24: 26)tr]

Next row Ch3, 1tr in each of next 12

SIZE		S	M	L	XL	XXL	3XL
TO FIT BUST	cm	81	86	91-101	106	112	117
	in	32	34	36-40	42	44	46
ACTUAL BUST	cm	85.5	92	98.5	112	118.5	125.5
	in	33½	36¼	38¾	44	46½	49½
LENGTH	cm	58	60	62	64	66	68
	in	22¾	23½	24½	25	26	26¾
YARN	Debbie Bliss Eco Baby Mint (020)	7	7	8	9	10	11

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

Mint vest top

(14: 16: 18: 20: 22) tr, tr2tog, 1tr in last tr.

Fasten off.

HEM

With RS facing, rejoin yarn with ss to first ch of foundation chain at lower edge. Now working along the foundation chain, work as follows;

Row 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as first tr), ch3, skip 2 sts, 1dc in next st, *ch3, skip 2 sts, 1tr in next st, ch3, skip 2 sts, 1dc in next st; rep from * to last 2 sts, ch3, skip 1 st, 1tr in last st, turn. [12 (13: 14: 16: 17: 18) repeats + 5 sts]

Row 2 Ch3, *ch1, 1dc in next ch-3 sp, ch3, 1dc in next ch-3 sp, ch1, 1tr in next tr; rep from * to end, turn.

Row 3 Ch3, *7tr in next ch-3 sp (shell made), 1tr in next tr; rep from * to end, turn.

Row 4 Ch3, *ch3, 1dc in 4th tr of 7-tr shell, ch3, 1tr in next tr; rep from * to end, turn.

Rows 5-10 Repeat Rows 2-4 twice.

Rows 11-12 As Rows 2 and 3.

Fasten off.

FRONT

Work as given for the back to **

Then repeat Row 2 another 4 (3: 4: 3: 4: 3) times, so as to end on a WS row.

[57 (63: 67: 79: 83: 89) tr]

SHAPE FRONT NECK

Next row (RS) Ch3, 1tr in each of next 15 (17: 19: 21: 23: 25) tr, tr2tog, 1tr in next tr, turn, leaving remaining sts unworked. [18 (20: 22: 24: 26: 28) tr]

Next row Ch3, tr2tog, 1tr in each of rem 15 (17: 19: 21: 23: 25) tr, turn.

[17 (19: 21: 23: 25: 27) tr]

Next row Ch3, 1tr in each of next 13 (15: 17: 19: 21: 23) tr, tr2tog, 1tr in next tr, turn. [16 (18: 20: 22: 24: 26) tr]

Next row Ch3, tr2tog, 1tr in each of rem 13 (15: 17: 19: 21: 23) tr, turn. Now cont on rem 15 (17: 19: 21: 23: 25) tr until work measures same as Back to shoulder.

Fasten off.

Next row (RS) Count 19 (21: 21: 29: 29: 31) tr across centre of work and rejoin with ss to next st. Ch3 (counts as tr), tr2tog, 1tr in each of rem 16 (18: 20: 22: 24: 26) tr, turn. [18 (20: 22: 24: 26: 28) tr]

Next row Ch3, 1tr in each of next 14 (16: 18: 20: 22: 24) tr, tr2tog, 1tr in last tr, turn. [17 (19: 21: 23: 25: 27) tr]

Next row Ch3, tr2tog, 1tr in each of rem 14 (16: 18: 20: 22: 24) tr, turn. [16 (18: 20: 22: 24: 26) tr]

Next row Ch3, 1tr in each of next 12 (14: 16: 18: 20: 22) tr, tr2tog, 1tr in last tr, turn.

Now cont on rem 15 (17: 19: 21: 23: 25) tr until work measures same as Back to shoulder.

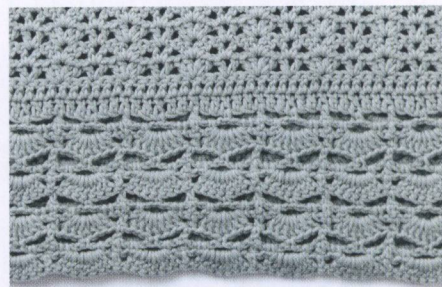
Fasten off.

HEM

Work as for the Back Hem.

TO MAKE UP

Pin out each piece to measurements given and press on WS.



This cotton yarn holds its shape really well – great for showing off those stitches.

With RS together, pin the shoulders and side seams together. Oversew all these seams so that the work lays flat when opened out.

Take care to match the rows of work at side seams.

NECK EDGING

With RS facing and using a 3.5mm hook, rejoin with ss to work at neck edge of left shoulder seam.

Ch1, dc evenly all around neck edge. Ss to first dc.

Fasten off.

ARMHOLE EDGES

Work as for Neck Edging around both armhole edges.

Weave in ends and press edgings.

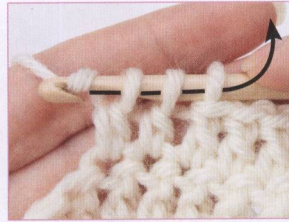
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO TREBLE DECREASE (TR2TOG)



1 Begin working a treble as usual: yrh, insert hook under top two loops of next stitch on prev row, yrh, pull loop through (3 loops on hook), yrh and pull through first 2 loops (2 loops on hook).



2 Without finishing the first tr, begin the next tr, working yrh, insert hook in next stitch on prev row. Again, work yrh and pull loop through, yrh and pull through first 2 loops (3 loops on hook).



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



4 This is how your completed tr2tog should look. You will have neatly decreased one tr stitch. On subsequent rows, you can simply work a stitch into the top of the tr2tog stitch as usual.

NOTEBOOK

By
JANE CROWFOOT

Our columnist shares her views on colour and why Matisse was a genius.

When I was young, my mum was really proactive when it came to making me aware of all the artistic things going on around me. My brother and I were lucky enough to be brought up in London – a city full of exciting ‘arty’ stuff and a wealth of places to visit. We were taken to museums and exhibitions, treated to trips to the theatre and encouraged to read. When I was about 12 years old, I remember being taken to an exhibition that focused on the influences of Picasso and Matisse. Many of the paintings were from the true ‘Impressionist’ era, but towards the end of the exhibition a few of Matisse’s huge paper cuts were displayed.

I remember being bowled over, not just by the size of these pieces, but also by the amazing use of colour – bright blue and green, acid yellow and fuchsia pink screamed from the canvases. The fact that Matisse made many of these pieces from the confines of his sick bed in the last few years of his life proved to me that the guy was a total genius, and from that day forward, I was not only totally in love with him as an artist (there is not a single Matisse painting that I do not like), but I was also totally smitten with colour.

COLOUR CONFIDENCE

I love bright colours and I love designing with them, but many people I meet tell me they are frightened of colour, scared to make decisions about yarns based on colour choice and nervous of deviating from a suggested colour palette. As someone who works with colour all the time, I used to find this quite surprising. I used to ask myself why (even when we are surrounded by so much colour) can’t people decide on a personal colour palette? Why does it frighten people? I used to think that maybe I had an in-built flair for putting colours together, or that perhaps I had a colourful gene! However, over the last ten years or so, I have realised that, rather than being born with a genetically passed-on understanding of colour, what I actually have is a confidence when it comes to

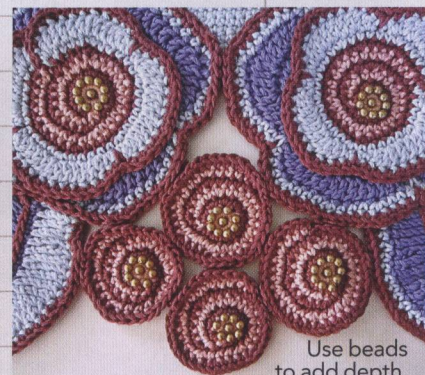


"I REALLY LOVE BRIGHT COLOURS AND I LOVE DESIGNING WITH THEM."



"Crochet allows you to design with very little planning."

Freeform crochet is great for playing with different shades.



Use beads to add depth.

"Only since I've been crocheting have I become colour confident."

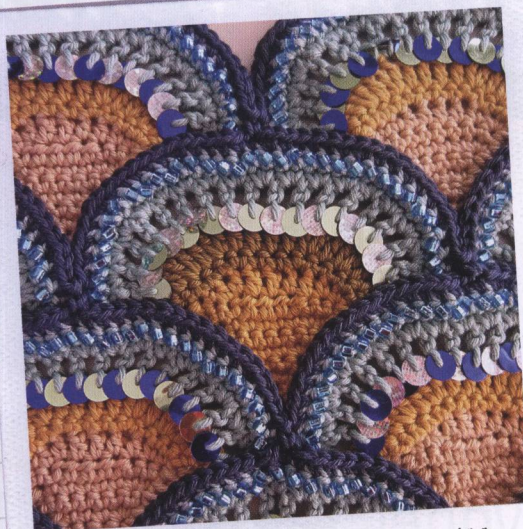
using colour, which is a result of my ability to 'open my mind' to it.

TONING UP

It is my experience that when workshop participants are asked to choose colours, they will choose a tonal palette – pink and purple shades are a common choice, as is a mix of brown, yellow and orange. Rarely do people add an accent colour or make a surprise judgement. This is not a criticism, it's what feels like the right thing to do – we are shown examples of tonal colour ALL the time. If you were to walk outside now, I bet the predominant colours that you would see are green, grey, beige, brown and dull red, possibly against a blue sky, if you're lucky! Colour gets diluted in light and space – it is rare that we take on board how bright a colour can be.

A SURPRISING PALETTE

Crochet gives us the ideal medium to play with colour, and I think it is only since I have been crocheting that I have become totally confident with colour. Crochet allows you the chance to design with very little planning. You can start with just a few stitches and end up with a couple of hundred, playing with colour after colour, row on row. Try starting with a ring of about 5 or 6 chain and, working in rounds of double or treble crochet, start building your crochet piece round



"RIBBONS, BUTTONS AND BEADS ADD AMAZING ACCENTS OF COLOUR."

by round. Surround yourself with lots of yarn, regardless of weight or texture – you could even choose some ribbons, buttons and beads to add accents of amazing colour.

Why not look around your home for something that has a surprising colour palette? It might be a plate or a favourite scarf. Try to analyse which colours are in the piece and in what kind of ratio they are used. Work out which colour is the darkest and which is the lightest – see if you can decide what the accent colour(s) are and then look for tonal shades. See whether you can match these colours to yarns in your stash and try making your own crochet piece, using your plate or scarf as your design source.

JANE'S TECHNIQUE: CHOOSING A COLOUR PALETTE

1



I usually start by choosing two or three mid-tone shades in similar colours. In this instance, I have chosen two shades of pink.

2



I then add in a dark shade and a light shade. I have added a very dark purple and a very light grey.

3



I then add in a couple of accent shades; here it's a bright green and a light mustard yellow.

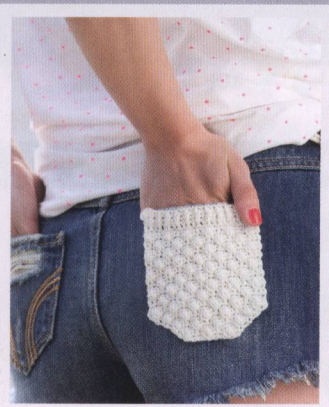
Embellish an outfit



A POCKET OR TWO

Transform your denim for summertime with the perfect little pocket, by Anne Egan.

Embellish an outfit



YOU WILL NEED

- Yeoman Panama 4ply (50% cotton, 50% acrylic, 500g/2000m), 30g of Cream (101) is enough for 2 pockets
 - A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
 - Matching sewing thread
- For yarn stockists, contact
Yeoman Yarns 0116 240 4464
www.yeoman-yarns.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

10x11cm (4x4¼in)

ABBREVIATIONS

Bobble (Yrh, insert hook in stitch indicated, yrh, pull loop through) 4 times inserting hook in same st each time, yrh, pull through all 9 loops on hook.

For a full list, see page 92.

Play with texture and add a new twist to your favourite pair of shorts with this fun-to-crochet bobbly pocket. You could also pop it on jeans or a shirt, or work it in fluoro brights for a statement upcycle.

NOTE

Pocket is worked from bottom to top and finished with ribbing. Bobbles are worked on the WS so that they show on the RS of the work.

POCKET

Ch12.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [11 dc]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 2dc in first st, (bobble in next st, 3dc) twice, bobble, 2dc in last st, turn. [10 dc, 3 bobbles]

Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each st and bobble to last st, 2dc in last st, turn. [15 dc]

Row 4 Ch1, 2dc in first st, (bobble in next st, 3dc) 3 times, bobble in next st, 2dc in last st, turn. [13 dc, 4 bobbles]

Row 5 As Row 3. [19 dc]

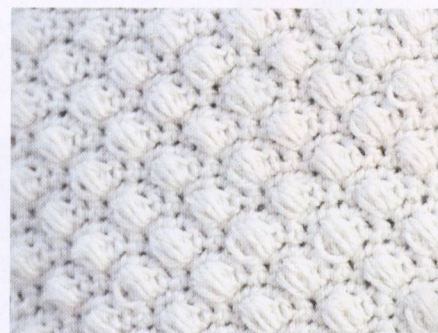
Row 6 Ch1, 2dc in first st, (bobble in next st, 3dc) 4 times, bobble in next st, 2dc in last st, turn. [16 dc, 5 bobbles]

Row 7 As Row 3. [23 dc]

Row 8 Ch1, dc in first st, (bobble, 3dc) 5 times, bobble, dc in last st, turn. [17 dc, 6 bobbles]

Row 9 Ch1, dc in each st and bobble to end, turn. [23 dc]

Row 10 Ch1, 3dc, (bobble, 3dc) 5 times, turn. [18 dc, 5 bobbles]



Bobbles look impressive – a little patience and you'll soon get the hang of doing them.

Row 11 As Row 9.

Rows 12-23 Repeat (Rows 8-11) 3 more times.

Row 24 As Row 8.

Row 25 As Row 9.

RIBBING

Row 26 Ch2 (counts as first htr), htr in each st to end, turn. [23 sts]

Row 27 (RS) Ch1, dc in first htr, (FPhtr, BPhtr) 10 times, FPhtr, dc in last htr, turn.

Row 28 Ch1, dc in dc, (BPhtr, FPhtr) 10 times, BPhtr, dc in last htr, turn.

Row 29 Ch1, dc in dc, (FPhtr, BPhtr) 10 times, FPhtr, dc in last htr, turn.

Fasten off, weave in ends and block.

FINISHING

Pin the pocket in place and sew around the edge using sewing thread.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A DOUBLE CROCHET



1 To make a double crochet stitch, insert the hook under the top two loops of the first stitch on the previous row.



2 Wind the yarn around the hook and pull it through the stitch, giving you two loops on your crochet hook.



3 Yarn round hook again, then pull the yarn through both loops. Your double crochet is made and you'll have one loop on your hook ready to do the next stitch. Continue to end of row.



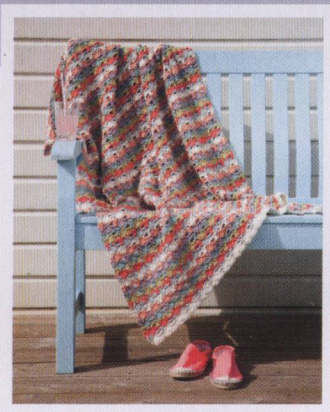
4 For following rows, turn and make 1 turning chain (t-ch). For dc only, the t-ch does not count as a st. Work the first dc in the st at the base of the ch. At the end of the row, do not work into the t-ch.

BY THE SEASIDE

Make Nicki Trench's summertime throw
in trendy shades – perfect for picnics.



Shell blanket



DOUBLE
TREBLE



DK
WEIGHT



5MM
HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Debbie Bliss Cotton DK, (100% cotton, 50g/84m), 4 (5) balls of Ecru (02), 3 (4) balls of each: Duck egg (09), Coral (64), Avocado (20), Aqua (61), Lavender (66), Peach (65)

- A 5mm (US H/8) hook

For yarn stockists, contact
Designer Yarns 01535 664222
www.designeryarns.uk.com

MEASUREMENTS

Medium: 95x140cm (37½x55in)

Large: 113x165cm (45x65in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

Celebrate summer colour in all its glory with this beautiful throw. It's a brilliant project for practising changing yarns, too. Designer Nicki Trench says: "Full of crisp, summer ice cream colours, this blanket is crocheted using a really easy shell stitch with simple trebles and doubles. It's ideal for beginners." Enjoy it as a picnic blanket, or use it on a trip to the beach.

NOTE

Pattern is a multiple of 8 sts + 1.

2 stitch pattern repeats should measure 9cm (3½in).

8 rows should measure 10cm (4in).

COLOUR SEQUENCE

Use yarns in whichever colour sequence you want.

Our throw uses this stripe sequence:

Yarn A Ecru (02)

Yarn B Duck egg (09)

Yarn C Coral (64)

Yarn D Avocado (20)

Yarn E Aqua (61)

Yarn F Lavender (66)

Yarn G Peach (65)

From Row 3 onwards work one row in each colour, using Yarns A through to G as the colour stripe sequence.

THROW

Using Yarn A, ch170 (202) loosely.

Row 1 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end, turn. [169 (201) sts]

Row 2 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in first st, *skip 3 sts, 5tr in next st (shell), skip 3 sts, 1dc in next st; repeat



A colour change for each row makes these beautiful, vibrant waves fun to crochet.

from * to end. [21 (25) pattern repeats]

Fasten off, turn.

Row 3 Join Yarn B in first st, ch3 (counts as tr), 1tr in st at base of ch, *ch2, skip 2 tr, 1dc in next tr (top of shell), ch2, skip 2 tr, 2tr in next dc; repeat from * to end.

Fasten off, turn.

Row 4 Join Yarn C in first st, ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in sp between first 2 tr, *miss next ch-sp, 5tr in next dc, miss next ch-sp, 1dc in sp between next 2 tr; repeat from * to end.

Fasten off, turn.

Repeat Rows 3 and 4 until throw measures approx 140cm (165cm), following colour stripe sequence as indicated and ending with a Row 4 and Yarn A.

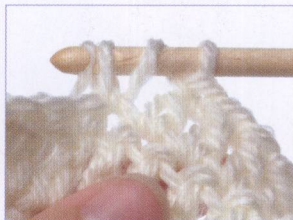
Final row Continue with Yarn A, ch3 (counts as tr), 1tr in st at base of ch, *1dc in each of next 5tr, 1tr in next dc; repeat from * to end.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A TREBLE



1 To work a treble crochet, start by winding yrh and then insert the hook under the top two loops of the stitch on the previous row.



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



3 Pull the yarn through the first 2 loops only (2 loops on hook), yrh. Pull yarn through these 2 loops. You've made a treble crochet. Continue working tr into next and all following sts to end of row.



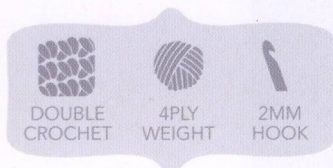
4 At end of row, turn and ch3. This is the turning chain and counts as first tr in new row. Sk the first st at base of t-ch, work 1tr into 2nd st in prev row. Work 1tr in each st to end, including top of t-ch.



TAKO-YAKI

Meet little brothers Tako-chan and Yako-chan, the cutest pair of bears around. By Lee Mei Li.

Amigurumi bears



YOU WILL NEED

- 4ply yarn in dark brown
- A 2mm (US 4 steel) hook
- Tapestry needle
- 4 black round brads, 8mm in diameter
- 1 oval doll's nose, 5mm in diameter
- 1 oval doll's nose, 3mm in diameter
- Polyester toy stuffing
- Small pieces of felt in pink and white for cheeks and eyes
- Craft glue

MEASUREMENTS

Tako-chan: approx 10cm (4in) tall.
Yaki-chan: approx 8cm (3in) tall.

ABBREVIATIONS

Inv dec Insert your hook into the front loop of the first st. Without putting the yarn round the hook, bring the hook to the front of the work and insert the hook into the front loop of the next st (3 loops on hook). Yrh and draw through all 3 loops.

For a full list, see page 92.



This is an original pattern by Lee Mei Li of AmigurumiMEI (www.amigurumimei.com). You may not claim it as your own, reprint it, sell or distribute it, or sell items made from it.

Who can resist an amigurumi cutie? There's double the sweetness with this project.

Take on a new toy challenge and hook cookie-coloured bear cub brothers Tako-chan and Yaki-chan.

NOTE

Pattern is worked using the amigurumi method, where rounds are worked in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it helpful to mark the first stitch of the round with a stitch marker, and move it up to the next round as you work.

TAKO-CHAN

HEAD

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. [6 sts]

Round 1 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 2 *2dc in next st, 1dc; rep from * another 5 times. [18 sts]

Round 3 *2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [24 sts]

Round 4 *2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [30 sts]

Round 5 *2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [36 sts]

Round 6 *2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [42 sts]

Round 7 *2dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [48 sts]

Rounds 8-14 Dc in each st around. [48 sts]

Round 15 *Inv dec, dc in next 6 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [42 sts]

Round 16 *Inv dec, dc in next 5 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [36 sts]

Round 17 *Inv dec, dc in next 4 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [30 sts]

Round 18 *Inv dec, dc in next 3 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [24 sts]

Round 19 *Inv dec, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [18 sts]
Stuff head.

Round 20 *Inv dec, dc in next st; rep from * another 5 times. [12 sts]

Round 21 Inv dec all around. [6 sts]

Fasten off and thread tail of yarn through remaining stitches to close. Do not cut off the yarn.

EYE INDENTATIONS 01

With tapestry needle, bring rem yarn out to a stitch on left side of head, positioning it at the bottom of Round 11. Make one horizontal stitch and bring thread back down to bottom of

head. Gently tug on yarn to create a slight indentation. Now repeat with the right side of the head – there should be 8 stitches in between the indentations. **Fasten off** ends at bottom of the head.

FACIAL FEATURES 02

Cut out two small half-moons of white felt – they should match the size of the black brads. Glue them near the indentations. Add glue onto the black brads and pop each of them into the st with the indentation. Centre the oval doll's nose between the eyes and glue on. Cut out two small circles of pink felt and glue them onto the cheeks.

BODY

Make a magic loop, ch 1, 6dc in loop. [6sts]

Round 1 Ch1, 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 2 *2dc in next st, 1dc; rep from * another 5 times. [18 sts]

Round 3 *2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [24 sts]

Rounds 4-8 Dc in each st around. [24 sts]

Round 9 *Inv dec, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [18 sts]

Fasten off and leave a long tail end for sewing up. Stuff body.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. [6 sts]

Rounds 1-5 Dc in each st around. [6 sts]

Fasten off and leave a long tail end for sewing up.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. [6 sts]

Round 1 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 4 Inv dec all around. [6 sts]

Rounds 5-6 Dc in each st around. [6 sts]

Fasten off and leave a long tail end for sewing up.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. [6 sts]

Round 1 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 2 Dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Fasten off and leave a long tail end for

Amigurumi bears

sewing up.

TAIL

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. [6 sts]

Round 1 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 2 Dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 3 *Inv dec all around. [6 sts]

Fasten off and leave a long tail end for sewing up.

TO FINISH

Pin pieces in place to gauge where each part should go. Sew body onto the head, sew on the ears and arms.

03 Make moveable legs as follows: Thread long yarn end from one of the legs through a darning needle. Pierce body where this leg will be attached and bring it out on the other side where the other leg will go. Make a horizontal st and go back to the other leg. Remember not to tug too tightly. Do this one more time. Bring the needle out through the body and trim excess. Rep entire process with long yarn end from the other leg.

Position tail at a spot that will help Tako-chan sit on his own. Sew in place.

YAKI-CHAN

HEAD

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. [6 sts]

Round 1 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 2 *2dc in next st, 1dc; rep from * another 5 times. [18 sts]

Round 3 *2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [24 sts]

Round 4 *2dc in next st, dc in next 3

sts; rep from * another 5 times. [30 sts]

Round 5 *2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [36 sts]

Rounds 6-11 Dc in each st around. [36 sts]

Round 12 *Inv dec, dc in next 4 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [30 sts]

Round 13 *Inv dec, dc in next 3 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [24 sts]

Round 14 *Inv dec, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 5 times. [18 sts]

Stuff head.

Round 15 *Inv dec, dc in next st; rep from * another 5 times. [12 sts]

Round 16 Inv dec all around. [6 sts]

Fasten off and thread tail of yarn through rem stitches to close. Do not cut off yarn.

EYE INDENTATIONS

Follow instructions on Tako-chan, but position them below Round 8, with 6 sts between each indentation.

FACIAL FEATURES

Follow instructions on Tako-chan, glueing on brads, nose and felt pieces.

BODY

Make a magic loop, ch1, 5dc in loop. [5 sts]

Round 1 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]

Round 2 *2dc in next st, 1dc; rep from * another 4 times. [15 sts]

Round 3 *2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 4 times. [20 sts]

Rounds 4-7 Dc in each st around. [20 sts]

Round 8 *Inv dec, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * another 4 times. [15 sts]

Fasten off and leave a long tail end for sewing up.

Stuff body.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Make a magic loop, ch1, 6dc in loop. [6 sts]

Rounds 1-4 Dc in each st around. [6 sts]

Fasten off and leave a long tail end for sewing up.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Make a magic loop, ch1, 5dc in loop. [5 sts]

Round 1 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]

Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around. [10 sts]

Round 4 (Inv dec) 4 times, dc in next 2 sts. [6 sts]

Round 5 Dc in each st around. [6 sts]

Fasten off and leave a long tail end for sewing up.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Make a magic loop, ch1, 5dc in loop. [5 sts]

Round 1 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]

Round 2 Dc in each st around. [10 sts]

Fasten off and leave a long tail end for sewing up.

TAIL

Make a magic loop, ch1, 5dc in loop. [5 sts]

Round 1 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]

Round 2 Dc in each st around. [10 sts]

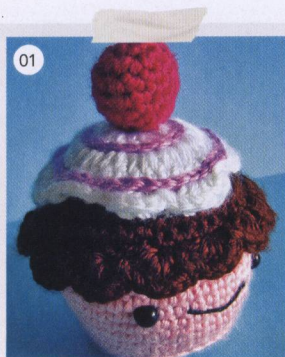
Round 3 *Inv dec all around. [5 sts]

Fasten off and leave a long tail end for sewing up.

TO FINISH

Follow the assembly instructions given for Tako-chan.





what is... SURFACE CROCHET?

Give your crochet an extra blast of colour and texture, using this method of adding slip stitches as decoration.

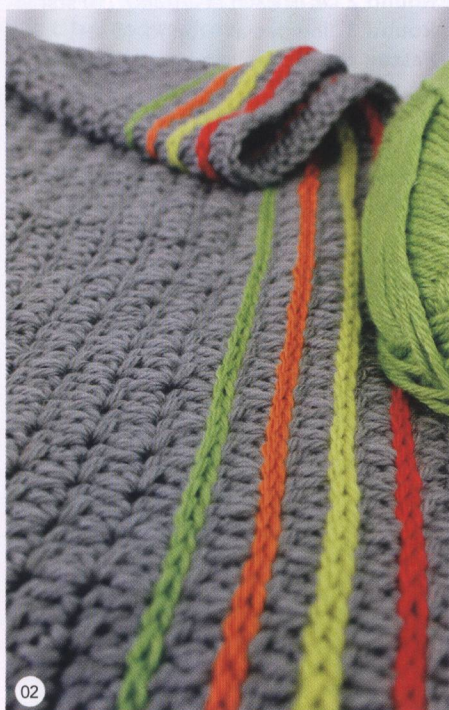
Surface crochet does exactly what you'd expect it to – it embellishes existing crocheted pieces with colour and texture. It's described by crocheters as being a bit like doodling with a yarn and hook!

The technique works best on a dense, predominantly double-crocheted fabric and involves slip stitching onto the front of existing designs. You simply attach a slipknot at the back and make a slip stitch into an existing stitch. Next you move your hook to the front and pull through the working loop. Then you can start making slip stitches following your chosen design. You need to keep the yarn length at the back. It's important to keep the tension loose so that the stitches don't distort the base fabric. When finishing off, you need to weave the ends in securely so that they look neat at the back.

This is a really accessible technique. If you're a beginner then all you need to do is get used to holding the yarn length underneath the work, and then it's a breeze to add another dimension to simple double-crocheted designs. If you're an experienced crocheter you'll pick it up in an instant and it'll give you a valuable new way of enhancing your work. Many crafters use it to add definition, with strokes, outlines and drop shadows, as well as simply to build up new colours. It can also be used for adding lettering, perhaps to a crocheted baby blanket or bag. Freeform crocheters often adopt the technique because it can be used very organically – it's easy to start and stop wherever you like. Don't delay – get crochet sketching!

Written by Emma Clegg

See opposite page for Nicky Hale's iPhone cover using surface crochet.

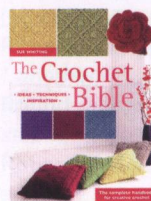


Find out more

THE BOOK

Crochet Bible by Sue Whiting
(David & Charles £14.99)

What A thorough and helpful guide full of stitch patterns and projects that covers the crochet basics and a selection of fabulous decorative techniques.



Why Experiment with colour, texture, picots and Solomon's knots. The book has a chapter on relief crochet and is great for anyone looking for a new crochet challenge.

THE WEBSITE

What Excited about embellishing with slip stitches but not sure where to start? Head to www.thepurseworkshop.com – it's full of ideas for making beautiful bags.

Why All the tutorials on the site are free and include knitting, felting and crochet techniques. Their step-by-step guide for surface slip stitch is fantastic.

THE BLOG

What Have a read of designer Shelby Allaho's fabulous crochet blog over a cuppa at www.stitch-story.com

Why Join Shelby as she crafts – you'll find her own patterns available on there, some with beautiful surface crochet details.

01 Amigurumi lover Holly shares a surface crochet how-to on her blog www.berrysprite.blogspot.co.uk

02 The bright surface stripes bring Susan Carlson's grey crochet cowl to life. You can read more about her projects at www.feltedbutton.com

03 Find Natasja King's brilliant crocheted clocks at www.crochettime.etsy.com

04 Spot the surface crochet stripe on blogger Wink's colourful mandala from *Simply Crochet* issue 5.



SHIPSHAPE

Stash your phone in style with Nicky Hale's striped cover, featuring a cute anchor detail.

Surface crochet



YOU WILL NEED

- Rowan Cotton Glace (100% cotton, 50g/115m)
1 ball of each: Twilight (829), Ecru (725) and Poppy (741)
- A 4mm (US G/6) crochet hook
- Tapestry needle

For yarn stockists, contact
Rowan 01484 681881
www.knitrowan.com

MEASUREMENTS

7.5x13cm (3x5¼in)

TENSION

20dc and 22 rows to measure
10x10cm (4x4in) using a 4mm
hook.

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

You can't go wrong with chic, nautical stripes for summer. Designer Nicky says: "Fed up with the usual plastic covers, I wanted a quirky pocket to store my beloved phone in. This little project, worked with a seaside colour scheme and finished with a surface crochet anchor, is just right to slip in your handbag."

NOTE

Pattern is worked in both directions from starting ch and then seamed up the sides.

PHONE COVER

FRONT

Using Twilight and 4mm hook, ch15.

Row 1 (RS) 1dc into second ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, turn. [14 dc]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc into each st to end, turn.

Row 3 Repeat Row 2, joining Ecru on final st, turn.

Rows 4-6 Repeat Row 2 using Ecru, joining Twilight on final st of Row 6, turn.

Rows 7-9 Repeat Row 2 using Twilight, joining Ecru on final st of Row 9, turn.

Rows 10-27 (Repeat Rows 4 to 9) 3 times.

Rows 28-30 Repeat Rows 4 to 6 in Ecru, do not join Twilight at end of Row 30.

Fasten off.

BACK

Rotate work, join Twilight in remaining loop of edge of beg ch, work 1dc into each ch to the end, turn. [14 dc]
Repeat Rows 2 to 30.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Lay out flat and block cover to size. You will be adding the anchor before you sew the cover up.

SURFACE CROCHET ANCHOR

Using the diagram as a guide, surface crochet in Poppy yarn onto the RS of one side of the cover. If you want, trace the anchor and cut out to give you a guide as to where to place it. You will be inserting the hook in between the double crochet stitches on the cover, so the stitches will act as a guide for spacing your surface crochet stitches evenly.

Starting with yarn on WS of work, insert hook into required space, pick up yarn and draw through, holding on to the tail on the reverse so that it doesn't slip through. *Insert hook into next space and draw yarn through (2 loops on hook), draw 2nd loop through 1st loop to create the slip stitch; repeat from * until you have created your anchor.

When complete, cut yarn and draw yarn through to RS. Using a tapestry needle sew over the first ss worked for a seamless finish.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

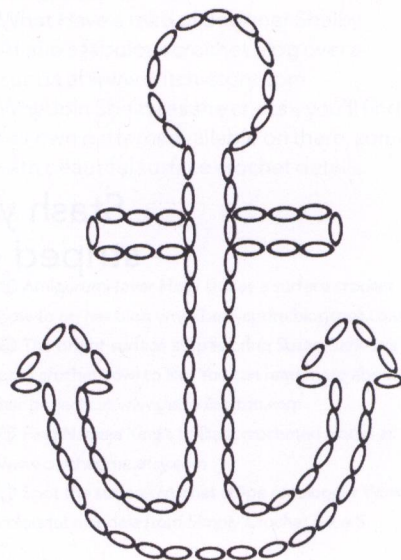
SURFACE CROCHET EDGING

Now work a row of surface crochet around the top opening of the phone pocket on both opening edges about 1 row down, leaving tails so that you can neaten up when sides are stitched together.

MAKING UP

Gently steam over the piece, do not put iron onto the fabric as it will flatten the stitches too much. With RS together, use mattress stitch to sew up sides for a neat finish. Weave in ends, including the surface crochet at the top of the pocket. Turn the cover the right side out and using a hook or knitting needle, gently push out the corners so they sit neatly. Gently steam over again.

STITCH DIAGRAM



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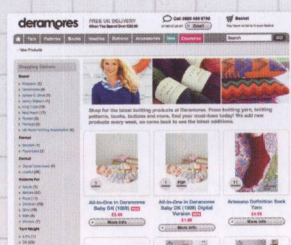
BEST OF THE WEB

Check out these websites for fantastic offers on yarns, patterns and accessories.

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SIMPLY KNITTING

Crafters who knit should make a beeline for this blog. You can keep up to date with the latest news, events, giveaways and all things yarn with our sister magazine *Simply Knitting's* site. You'll find fabulous free patterns on there, great competitions and sneak peeks at upcoming issues, too. We love the Tuesday Teatime Treats feature – they regularly post pretty teacosity patterns for free. Keep your eyes peeled for crochet gems too.

www.simplyknitting.co.uk



RETRO STYLE

Make Nicki Trench's hook roll with sunny crochet waves and ditsy prints.



Crochet hook roll



YOU WILL NEED

- Rooster Almerino DK (50% baby alpaca, 50% merino wool, 50g/112.5m), 1 ball of each:
Yarn A Cornish (201)
Yarn B Sandcastle (219)
Yarn C Orange (218)
 - 1 fat quarter of fabric for main lining (we used Blue Hill Fabrics Feedsacks, 7467-3)
 - 1 fat quarter of fabric for inner lining and flap (we used Blue Hill Fabrics Feedsacks, 7476-9)
 - 1m (39¼in) of ribbon
 - 4mm (US G/6) hook
- For yarn stockists, contact
Laughing Hens 01829 740903
www.laughinghens.com

MEASUREMENTS

31x23cm (12¼x9in) opened flat

TENSION

21sts x 8 rows using wave stitch over 10cm (4in) square

ABBREVIATIONS

tr3tog (Yrh, insert hook in next stitch, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 3 times, yrh and draw through all loops on hook.

For a full list, see page 92.



Pretty inside and out, plus there's space for all of your hooks and pins and needles, too.

Kee your hooks and stitchy bits together in one place and be ready for all crochet eventualities. We love this pretty wave stitch, and it's surprisingly simple to do.

ROLL

Using Yarn A, ch43.

Row 1 (RS) 1tr in 3rd ch from hook (counts as 2tr in one st), 1tr in each of next 3 ch, tr3tog over next 3 ch, 1tr in each of next 3 ch, *3tr in next ch, 1tr in each of next 3 ch, tr3tog over next 3 ch, 1tr in each of next 3 ch; rep from * to last ch, 2tr in last ch, turn. [41 sts]

Fasten off.

Row 2 Join Yarn B in first st, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at base of ch, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, tr3tog over next 3 sts, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, *3tr in next st, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, tr3tog over next 3 sts, 1tr in each of next 3 sts; rep from * to beg ch-3, 2tr in top of beg ch-3, turn. **Fasten off.**

Rep Row 2, alternating between Yarns A and B for each row, until work meas 25cm and ending with a WS row.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

EDGING

ROUND 1 (RS)

Side 1 With RS facing, join Yarn C in st just worked to work across the first short side. Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc in each of next 2 sts, *1htr in each of next 2 sts, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, 1htr in each of next 2 sts, 1dc in each of next 3 sts; rep from * another 3 times, omitting last dc on final rep. [41sts]

Side 2 1dc in same st, 43dc evenly along side to next corner, 1htr in the rem loop of the first st of the foundation ch (corner stitch). [45 sts]

Side 3 (working in rem loops of foundation ch) 1tr in corner stitch, 1tr in next st, *1htr in each of next 2 sts, 1dc in each of next 3 sts, 1htr in each of next 2 sts, 1tr in each of next 3 sts; rep from * another 3 times, omitting last tr on final rep. [41 sts]

Side 4 1htr in same st, 43dc evenly along side to end, 1dc in same st as first dc, ss in first dc. [45 sts]

ROUND 2

Ch1 (does not count as st), *1dc in next st, skip 1 st, 5tr in next st, skip 1 st; rep from * to end. Join with a ss in first dc.

Fasten off, weave in ends and block.

When working on the crochet piece from here, longest side is the width and shortest side is the height of the roll.

LINING

Measure crochet piece, cut main lining to same size adding 1.5cm on each side for hem allowances. Fold under, pin and press a 1.5cm hem along each side. Cut pocket (inner) lining piece the same width as main lining, but approx 9cm shorter in height. Fold under, pin and press a 1.5cm hem along each side. Sew along top hem of pocket using a zigzag stitch. Sew a 6x6.5cm piece of cotton wadding onto the end of the pocket lining along all four sides using a zigzag stitch. Pin inner lining to main lining, matching bottom edges and leaving a 9cm gap at the top. Machine sew inner lining to main lining along all three sides of inner lining only (sides and bottom edges) using a straight stitch close to the edge and leaving top edge of pocket lining open.

SEWING POCKETS

Make pockets by machine stitching vertical lines at intervals large enough to hold a pair of scissors, tape measure and crochet hooks.

TOP FLAP

Measure and cut a piece of inner lining fabric 9x32cm. Pin and press a 1.5cm hem along each side ensuring all raw edges are folded inside. Sew along three edges only (sides and one width) using a zigzag stitch. Sew wrong side of unstitched edge of flap to right side top edge of main lining using a straight stitch. Pin the whole fabric lining piece onto the crochet piece with WS of lining to WS of crocheted piece.

FINISHING

Cut ribbon length in half. Insert approx 2.5cm of one end between the lining and crocheted piece, in centre of left-hand side (lining facing). Hand sew lining onto crochet, using whipping stitch, securing the end of the ribbon. Starting from the opposite end to the ribbon, roll up the hook holder. Pin and sew other ribbon end onto the crochet piece to correspond with first end. Insert hooks, scissors, tape measure, pins and needles into case. Trim ribbon to suitable length and tie in a bow.



A FAMILY AFFAIR

Simply
INSPIRING

Growing up immersed in crafts led to a working life filled with yarn and creativity for Susan Ritchie and Karen Miller, the duo behind Mrs Moon.

Perhaps it was inevitable that sisters Susan Ritchie and Karen Miller would end up turning their love of yarn crafts into a career. Both girls picked up the crafting bug early on from their mother Anne, who ran her own fabric and wool shop in Oxfordshire, and their great aunt, who had a wool shop on the Isle of Wight. Fast forward 30 years and the sisters were living in southwest London, crafting for their children and seeking a way to go into business together.

"We were taught to crochet by our Great-Auntie Doris when we visited her aged seven and five," Susan remembers. "Between the two of us, we made an

enormous, garishly coloured granny square in horrible yarn!"

Their interest in crochet rekindled when they went for a refresher lesson around five years ago: "We started making granny squares and ripple stitch, but now love looking for crocheted garments – there are fabulous ones from some of the top clothes designers!"

Then, in 2009, they opened Mrs Moon Yarn & Haberdashery, which is both a physical store in Twickenham, and a website with the tagline: 'Your local yarn store online.'

This warm and friendly ethos comes in part from the fact they are fitting their working lives around their busy families.

"Karen and I have four children each and so that takes up a lot of time. We live about two minutes from each other and our kids are roughly the same age, which makes life easier because we can help each other out," Susan explains. "We tend to mix and match the kids most nights, and they muck in together well most of the time, but I'm constantly running around like a headless chicken," Susan confesses. "Karen is more organised and will remind me about things I should have done."

FROM DAWN TILL DUSK

A typical day is jam-packed. "The older three take themselves off to school, then



Karen and I meet up on the school run, go straight to the shop, cash up and then take our dogs for a quick walk, getting back to the shop for when it opens at 10," says Susan. "Karen and I leave again at 3pm for the school run, and get back home at about 4pm. We may then do some work if there's something urgent, but generally we just go do stuff with the kids and the house. I find myself squeezing crochet time into a very busy day – I can often be found with crochet hook and yarn in hand while cooking supper! But at the end of the day, while catching a quick hour of TV, is my best time for crochet. I keep my crochet stash behind the sofa!"

"KAREN AND I BOTH ENJOY BEING ADVENTUROUS WITH COLOUR. I LOVE MAKING GARMENTS IN LACY DESIGNS."

FASHION FINDS

Susan and Karen share a passion for creating crocheted garments. "I love making garments, particularly those in one piece and in lacy designs – two of my favourites are by Doris Chan: the Pineapple Lace Skirt and a lacy tank top," says Susan. "They are beautiful and surprisingly quick to make. Doris uses foundation single crochet (US) which gives a sturdy but elastic foundation chain, good for waistbands on skirts and necklines. I also love Kristin Omdahl's designs. I try to avoid anything small and fiddly like motifs that need sewing together – I have quite a short attention span."

Karen and Susan love drawing inspiration from catwalks and the latest trends. "We are always clipping pictures from magazines – there is so much knit and crochet in fashion at the

moment. We try to emulate styles, patterns and colours as well as coming up with our own designs. We're using a lot of metallic yarns right now to give our patterns a bit of bling!"

Recent successes have included Susan's wrap and snood pattern inspired by a Marc Jacobs wrap, and a striped T-shirt based on an image in *Stella* magazine. "In the latest Boden catalogue, there's a beautiful crochet jacket and dress that have

given us some ideas. I've also found a 1970s pattern for a chevron dress that I think could be adapted to make something lovely."

Japanese patterns provide lots of creative fuel, too. "The designs are stunning and take crochet away from the traditional granny square patterns. They're beautifully photographed and styled, and are totally charted."

HOME FROM HOME

Working in the shop is a huge source of pleasure for both sisters. "Karen and I

both enjoy being adventurous with colour and Mrs Moon showcases a magnificent palette of shades," Susan says. "Our customers often like help with choosing colours or substituting yarns, which can be great fun. We both also teach in the shop, Karen knitting and me crochet. It's very rewarding, particularly when people bring their work in to show you what they've achieved. I recently taught a builder to crochet – he's since made scarves and blankets and is now making a skirt!"

When it comes down to it, the sisters' greatest love (other than their children) is experimenting with crochet and knitting, and their website abounds with gorgeous designs. They also have plans to bring out two printed guides. "We have just finished 'A Beginner's Guide to Crochet' and 'A Beginner's Guide to Knitting,'" says Susan excitedly. "We did this in record time, with each of us taking photos of the other one crocheting or knitting – it will be very interesting to see the finished result. There's always something new happening at Mrs Moon!"

Susan and Karen were interviewed by Judy Darley.



A FEW OF SUSAN'S FAVOURITE THINGS...

"I love to crochet while watching TV, but we're currently watching 'The Killing' and I can't crochet with subtitles!"

Besides crocheting, both Karen and I are classically trained musicians: I play the cello and Karen plays violin and viola.

We have five brilliant women who work in the shop – Lynn, Jenny, Kate, Penny and Nathalie. We all adore fashion and are always inspired by the catwalks – there's an exquisite crochet dress by Oscar de la Renta that we've pinned on our Pinterest board."

HIPPIE CHIC

Make Nicky Hale's simple flower coronet with its dainty daisies.



Daisy chain



DOUBLE,
TREBLE



4PLY
WEIGHT



3MM
HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of each Gauguin (N21), Lima (N15), Ibiza (N01)
 - A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
 - Tapestry needle
- For yarn stockists, contact
DMC 0116 275 4000
www.dmcreative.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

Chain meas 85cm (33½in) long

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.



This pretty project has got us dreaming of long, lazy summer days, picnics and festivals. Hook yourself a botanical beauty to wear in your hair, as a necklace or to wind around your wrist. For a garland, repeat the pattern until it's as long as you need.

CHAIN AND LEAVES

FIRST PAIR OF LEAVES

With Gauguin and a 3mm hook, *ch6, 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, working into next 4 ch: 1htr, 1tr, 1htr, 1dc. Ch1, rotate and work in the remaining loop of the ch of the next 5 sts: 1dc, 1htr, 1tr, 1htr, 1dc, ss into beginning st to join**, ch7; repeat from * to **. [2 leaves made]

Fasten off.

MIDDLE SECTION OF LEAVES

Join Gauguin where leaves join at base. Ch23, work one leaf as above, omitting the first ch6.

Fasten off.

*With previous leaf sitting to the left, and with RS of chain facing, join Gauguin where leaf meets ch. Ch23 and work one leaf as above.

Fasten off.

Repeat from * another 8 times, alternating between the leaf sitting to the right and left. [10 single leaves made]

FINAL PAIR OF LEAVES

Join Gauguin where last leaf meets ch. Ch23, and work as for First Pair of Leaves, omitting first ch6.



Extra length is a good thing – it means your make can be adjusted to fit and then tied.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

DAISY (MAKE 11)

This is worked so the flower sits on top of the chain.

Join Lima into 9th chain from first pair of leaves.

Round 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), 4dc into same ch, rotate and work a further 4dc into remaining loop of same ch, ss into first dc. [8 sts]

Fasten off.

Round 2 Join Ibiza into any st, (ch5, ss into st at base of ch, ss into next st) repeat around.

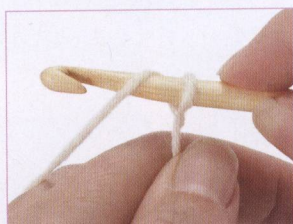
Fasten off and weave in ends.

Repeat Rounds 1 and 2 for each daisy, working in the centre ch of the joining chains between leaves each time.

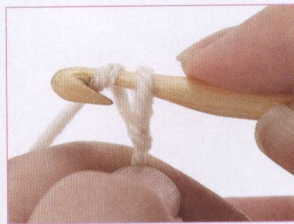
TO FINISH

Steam block each daisy and leaf to flatten.

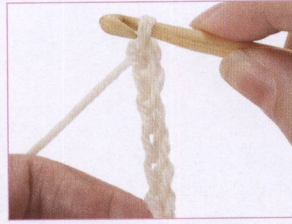
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK CHAINS



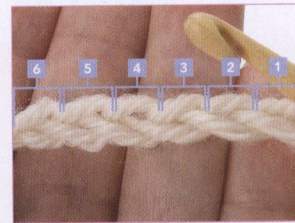
1 Hold the hook and yarn end in your right hand, and the working yarn in your left hand. Move the hook under and over the yarn to wrap it around anti-clockwise.



2 Pull the hook towards the slip knot, catching the yarn in the hook, and pulling it through the slip knot loop. This forms your first chain (ch) stitch. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to form a chain.



3 This is what your row of chains will look like. Hold the chain with your right hand near the hook, to keep the tension. Keep going until you have the number of chains stated on your pattern.



4 Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Do not count your slip knot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). For accuracy, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.

SUMMER BLOOMS

Hook Jenny Phin's cheery bunting to adorn your home with colour.



Flower bunting



DOUBLE,
TREBLE



DK
WEIGHT



4MM
HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton (100% cotton, 100g/184m), 1 ball of each:
Yarn A White (3660)
Yarn B Azure (3671)
Yarn C Sunflower (3662)
Yarn D Tropical Jade (3676),
Yarn E Lavender (3673)
Yarn F Hot Pink (3668)

- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn stockists, contact
Stylecraft 01535 609798
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

One motif measures 12cm (4½in)
in diameter.

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

Team cleanest white with bursting jewel tones for a length of truly gorgeous bunting to brighten any space. These bold, eight-petal blooms would also make cute coasters.

C FLOWERS

Make as many as you like in your choice of colours. See page 93 for chart.

Ch6, ss to join into a ring.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), 15tr into ring, ss to top of beg ch-3. [16 tr]

Round 2 Ch5 (count as tr and ch2), 1tr into st at base of ch, *ch1, skip 1 tr, (1tr, ch2, 1tr) into next tr; rep from * 6 more times, ch1, ss to third ch of beg ch-5. [8 groups of (1tr, ch2, 1tr), 8 ch-1 sp]

Round 3 Ss into first ch-2 sp, ch3 (counts as tr), (1tr, ch2, 2tr) into same ch-2 sp, *ch1, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) into next ch-2 sp; rep from * 6 more times, ch1, ss to top of beg ch-3. [8 groups of (2tr, ch2, 2tr), 8 ch-1 sp]

Round 4 Ss into next tr and first ch-2 sp, ch3 (counts as tr), 6tr into same ch-sp, 1dc into next ch-1 sp, (7tr into next ch-2 sp, dc into next ch-1 sp) 7 times, ss to top of beg ch-3.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

STRING

With Yarn A, make a ch of the desired length, then ss in each st back along the ch.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

FINISHING

Thread the motifs onto the string through one of the ch-sps you made on Round 3.



Rainbow garlands – guaranteed to bring summer sunshine indoors for you.



Chains and trebles are worked together in the round to make a lacy centre.

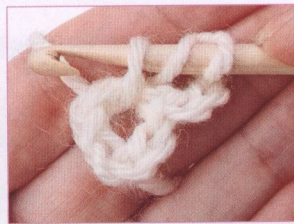


Six treble stitches worked into the same space form a pretty petal shape.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK TREBLES INTO A RING



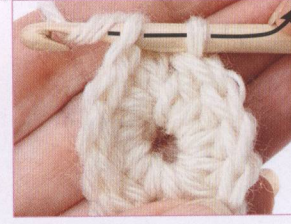
1 Make a foundation ring, as instructed in the pattern (see page 91 for more). Work the turning chain for the stitches you're going to work (3ch for tr). Yrh and insert hook into the centre of the ring.



2 Yrh and pull yarn through the centre of the ring (3 loops on hook).



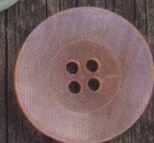
3 Finish the treble in the usual way (yrh, pull through first 2 loops, yrh, pull through rem 2 loops). Work all the trebles of the first round in this way, inserting hook into centre of ring.



4 Complete all the treble stitches of the first round as instructed in your pattern, pushing the stitches closer if you need to. Use a slip stitch to join the last stitch to the top of turning chain.

MAKE A MANDALA

Practise your petals and picots with blogger Wink's new mandala design.





YOU WILL NEED

■ Drops Paris (100% cotton, 50g/75m), 1 ball of each: White (16), Light Yellow (19), Vanilla (35), Light Mint Green (21), Light Pink (20), Shocking Pink (06), Light Light Pink (57) or 7 colours of your choice.

■ A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn stockists, contact Drops www.garnstudio.com

MEASUREMENTS

23cm (9in) diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

tr4tog (Yrh, insert hook in next stitch, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 4 times, yrh and draw through all loops on hook.

tr5tog As tr4tog, but work () 5 times in total.

For a full list, see page 92.



Wink shares a new mandala pattern every week on her blog, drawing colour inspiration from unexpected places. Visit www.acreativebeing.com

Although the Hindu word mandala translates simply as 'circle', the shapes are often seen as symbols of wholeness. This stunning design with a pretty picot edging is the second mandala in our occasional series by top crocheter Wink. Every few months, we'll bring you a vibrant new mandala pattern to hook. They're great for trying out new stitches and playing with colour.

PICOT MANDALA

Make a magic loop with Light Yellow.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), tr into the loop, ch1, (2tr into the loop, ch1) 7

times, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3. [16 tr, 8 ch-1 sp]

Fasten off. 01

Round 2 Join Vanilla into a ch-1 sp. Ch3, tr4tog in same ch-1 sp (counts as tr5tog), ch3, *(tr5tog, ch3) in next ch-sp; repeat from * around, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3. [8 tr5tog, 8 ch-3 sp]

Fasten off. 02

Round 3 Join Light Mint Green into a ch-3 sp. Ch1 (does not count as st), (5dc in ch-3 sp, 2dc in tr5tog) around, ss to first dc. [56 sts] 03

Round 4 Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), skip 1 st, (tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st) around,



Colourful mandala

ss to the third of beginning ch-4. **04**

Round 5 Ch1 (does not count as st), (dc in next tr, 2dc in ch-sp) around, ss to first dc. [84 sts]

Fasten off. **05**

Round 6 Join White in first st. Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at the base of ch, ch1, skip 2 sts, (2tr in next st, ch1, skip 2 sts) around, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3.

Fasten off. **06**

Round 7 Join Light Pink into a ch-1 sp. Ch3 (counts as tr), (tr, ch3, 2tr) in same ch-1 sp, skip ch-1 sp, *(2tr, ch3, 2tr) in next ch-1 sp, skip ch-1 sp; repeat from * around, ss to the top of the beginning

ch-3. [14 groups of (2tr, ch-3 sp, 2tr)]

07 & 08

Round 8 Ss into next tr and ch-1 sp.

Ch3 (counts as tr), 7tr in same ch-3 sp, (8tr in next ch-3 sp) around, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3. [14 8-tr fans]

Fasten off. **09**

Round 9 Join Light Light Pink in first st. Ch1 (does not count as st), *dc in each of next 8 tr, tr by inserting hook in space between fans on Round 7; repeat from * around, ss to first dc. [126 sts]

Fasten off. **10 & 11**

Round 10 Join White in first st. Ch3 (counts as tr) tr in each of next 3 sts, ch1, tr in each of next 4 sts, skip 1 tr.

(4tr, ch1, 4tr, skip 1 tr) around, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3.

Fasten off. **12 & 13**

Round 11 Join Shocking Pink into a ch-1 sp. Ch1 (does not count as st), *(dc, ch3, dc) in ch-1 sp, skip 1 st, 2dc, skip 1 st, (dc, ch3, dc) in gap before next tr from Round 10, skip 1 st, 2dc, skip 1 st; repeat from * around, ss to first dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends. **14 & 15**

Depending on your tension, this mandala might benefit from a light wet pressing/blocking to help it lie flat.



COVER COUTURE

Add touchable texture to a notebook with Helen Ardley's beautiful colours.



Book cover



DOUBLE,
TREBLE



DK
WEIGHT



4MM
HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Sublime Egyptian Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/105m), 2 balls of Cornelia (329) and 1 ball each of Alessandra (325), Freya (328) and Peony (326)

- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

- Beads for ends of tassels

- An A5 hardback notebook

- Double-sided tape (optional)

For yarn stockists, contact

Sublime 01942 369666

www.sublimeyarns.com

MEASUREMENTS

17x22cm (6½x8¾in)

TENSION

Yarn used crochets to this tension: 17dc and 24 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) using a 4mm hook.

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

Customise your sketchbook, scrapbook, photo album or diary with a pretty, crocheted cover embellished with dots and flowers.

FRONT COVER

With Cornelia, ch61.

Row 1 (RS) 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, turn. [60 dc]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc into each dc to end, turn.

Rep Row 2 until work meas 21cm.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

INSIDE COVER (MAKE 2)

With Cornelia, ch15.

Row 1 (RS) 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, turn. [14 dc]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc into each dc to end, turn.

Rep Row 2 until work meas 21cm.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BASIC FLOWER

Make 1 flower in each of Alessandra, Freya and Peony.

Ch5, ss into first ch to form a ring.

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

Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), *(1dc, 1htr, 1tr) into next dc, (1tr, 1htr, 1dc) into next dc, (petal made); repeat from * 4 more times, ss into first dc. [5 petals]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BASIC RING

Make 2 in Alessandra, 3 in Freya and 4 in Peony.

Ch5, ss to first ch to form ring.

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

Fasten off and weave in ends.

LONG TIES

Make 1 in each of Alessandra, Freya and Peony. Leaving a long tail, ch150.

Fasten off leaving long tails to attach to book and beads.

TO MAKE UP

With WS facing, place inside covers at opposite edges of the front cover like a hardback book cover.

Join Cornelia in bottom right corner of the front cover. Picking up sts from both the front and inside covers, work dc evenly around side and top to join edges, cont in dc along to top edge of front cover to the other inside cover, pick up sts from both covers and work 3 edges before continuing back along bottom edge of the front cover to meet the inner cover. Ss to join the round.

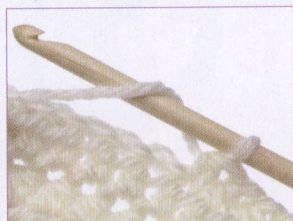
Fasten off and weave in ends.

Sew the long ties to the WS of a flower and then thread the ties through the middle of the flower to the RS. Attach the flower to the front cover so it is central to the front of the notebook. Sew the remaining flowers and rings to the front cover.

Attach beads to the ends of the long ties and secure them in place.

To secure the inside covers, you can put a small amount of double-sided tape under the cover.

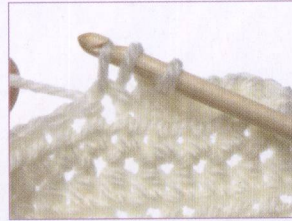
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A HALF TREBLE



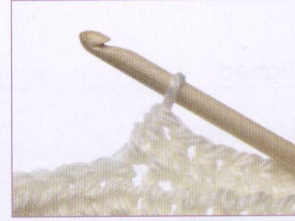
1 To make a half treble crochet stitch, work to where you want the htr and then wrap the yarn round the hook (yrh).



2 Insert the hook under the two loops of the next stitch in the previous row.



3 Pull the yarn through the stitch (3 loops on hook), yrh. Pull the yarn through all 3 loops. You've made a half treble crochet. Continue working htr into next and foll sts to end of the row.



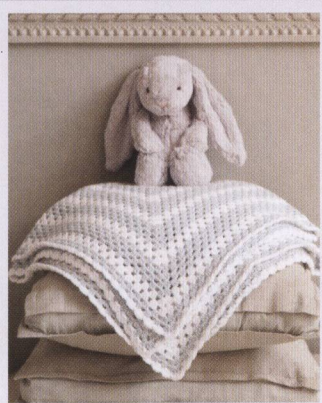
4 At end of row, turn and 2 ch. This is the turning ch and counts as the first htr in new row. Skip the first st at base of t-ch, work 1htr into 2nd st in prev row and in each st to end, including in top of t-ch.

POWDER BLUE

Hook Lucille Randall's simple and snuggly little blanket for baby.



Baby blanket



Work multiple stripes with just two gentle shades and trim with a pretty shell edging.



GRANNY
TREBLES



DK
WEIGHT



4MM
HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Baby Classic DK (50% acrylic, 50% polyamide, 50g/165m), 4 balls each of White (001) and Ice Blue (23)
 - A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- For yarn stockists, contact Rico 020 30244 9009
www.rico-design.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

74cm (29in) square

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

Granny squares reign supreme for baby blankets, and this snugly creation is made of one great big one. What could be simpler than that? If pastels aren't your thing, swap the blue for pink, green or purple.

NOTE

The blanket uses a colour repeat of (4 rounds of Ice Blue, 2 rounds of White) throughout.

BLANKET

Ch4, ss in first ch to form a ring.

Round 1 Ch5 (counts as tr and ch2), working into ring, (3tr, ch2) 3 times, 2tr, ss in third ch of ch-5. [4 3-tr groups, 4 corner ch-2 sp]

Round 2 Ss into first corner ch-sp, ch5 (counts as tr and ch2), 3tr in same place as ss, *(ch1, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next corner ch-sp; rep from * twice more, ch1, 2tr in same place as first ss, ss in third ch of ch-5. [8 3-tr groups, 4 corner ch-2 sp, 4 side ch-1 sp]

Round 3 Ss into first corner ch-sp, ch5 (counts as tr and ch2), 3tr in same place as ss, *(ch1, 3tr in next side ch-sp, ch1, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in corner ch-sp; rep from * twice more, ch1, 3tr in next side ch-sp, ch1, 2tr in corner ch-sp, ss in third ch of ch-5. [12 3-tr groups, 4 corner ch-2 sp, 8 side ch-1 sp]

Round 4 Ss into first corner ch-sp, ch5 (counts as tr and ch2), 3tr in same place as ss, *(ch1, 3tr in next side ch-sp) twice, ch1, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in corner ch-sp; rep from * twice more, (ch1, 3tr in next side ch-sp) twice, ch1, 2tr in corner

ch-sp, ss in third ch of ch-5. [16 3-tr groups, 4 corner ch-2 sp, 12 side ch-1 sp]

Round 5 Ss into first corner ch-sp, ch5 (counts as tr and ch2), 3tr in same place as ss, *(ch1, 3tr in next side ch-sp) 3 times, ch1, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in corner ch-sp; rep from * twice more, (ch1, 3tr in next side ch-sp) 3 times, ch1, 2tr in corner ch-sp, ss in third ch of ch-5. [20 3-tr groups, 4 corner ch-2 sp, 16 side ch-1 sp]

Continue working in pattern as set, with (ch1, 3tr) in every side ch-sp and (ch1, 3tr, ch2, 3tr) in every corner ch-sp. Work until yarn runs out, leaving enough White to work the edging as follows:

SHELL EDGING

Join white yarn in a corner ch-sp. 4tr in the middle tr of each 3-tr group and 6tr in each corner sp. Ss to top of first tr to join.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

SIMPLE STEPS JOINING ROUNDS

In this pattern, you'll work the treble stitches in the round. If you've never done this before, don't worry, it's easy! At the end of each round, you'll need to join together the first and last stitches, using a slip stitch, for a neat finish. Our step-by-step guide (right) will show you how to do this. For more details on how to change colour in the round, see our Workshop guide on page 82.



1 To close a round of stitches, work a slip stitch into the top of the turning chain. To do this, insert the hook into the top stitch of the turning chain.



2 Then place the yarn round the hook. Pull the yarn through the turning chain stitch and through the original stitch on your hook.



3 You've slip stitched the round together! Before working another round, be sure to make the required turning chain. Always work rounds on the right side.



AN APPLE A DAY



Give someone special a sweet treat with our cute apple ideas.



BASIC APPLE PATTERN

Make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr), 7htr into loop, ss in top of beg ch-2 to join. [8 sts]

Round 2 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr in st at base of ch, (2htr in next st) 7 times, ss in top of beg ch-2. [16 sts]

Round 3 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr in st at base of ch, htr (2htr in next st, htr) 7 times, ss in top of beg ch-2 (centre top of apple). [24 sts]

Round 4 Ch1 (does not count as first st throughout), skip beg ch-2, 1dc in next st, (2htr in next st, 2htr) 3 times, 2htr in next st, htr (last st worked is centre bottom), (2htr in next st, 2htr) 3 times, 2htr in next st, dc, ss into centre top. [31 sts]

Round 5 Ch1, 1dc in dc, htr, (2tr in next st, tr) twice, 2htr in next st, 6htr, 2tr in next st, htr, ss in centre bottom st, htr, 2tr in next st, 6htr, 2htr in next st, (tr, 2tr in next st) twice, htr, dc, ss into centre top. [39 sts including bottom ss]

Round 6 Ch1, dc, (dc, htr) in next st, (htr, tr) in next st, (2tr in next st, tr) twice, (tr, htr) in next st, htr, 2htr in next st, 5htr, (2htr in next st) twice, 2tr in next st, htr, ss in centre bottom st, htr, 2tr in next st, (2htr in next st) twice, 5htr, 2htr in next st, htr, (htr, tr) in next st, (tr, 2tr in next st) twice, (tr, htr) in next st, (htr, dc) in next st, dc, ss into centre top. [57 sts including bottom ss]

Round 7 Ch1, 7dc, (2dc) in next st, dc, (2dc in next st) twice, 13dc, (2dc in next st) twice, 2dc, dc in centre bottom st, 2dc, (2dc in next st) twice, 13dc, (2dc in next st) twice, dc, 2dc in next st, 7dc, ss into centre top. [67 sts]
Fasten off.

[NB: If you are using a contrast colour for Round 7, dc into the last st].

STALK PATTERN

Join yarn at apple centre top, ch10, tr in 4th ch from hook, htr, dc, 4ss, ss into st where yarn was joined. **Fasten off.**

WORM PATTERN

With cream yarn, make a magic loop leaving a long tail.

Round 1 (RS) (Head) Ch1, 8dc into loop, ss to first dc to join. [8 sts]
Fasten off.

Round 2 Change to brown yarn, leaving a long tail. Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at base of ch, (2tr in next st) 3 times, 2htr in next st, (2dc in next st) twice, 2htr in next st, ss to top of beg ch-3. [16 sts]

Round 3 (Tail) Ch20, dc in 2nd ch from hook, 17dc, leave last ch unworked, skip first 2 sts of Round 2, ss in next st. **Fasten off.**

To create face, pull tail of brown yarn to centre front and make a pupil with a French knot. Pull through tail of cream yarn to front and embroider a smile.

Patterns by Jennifer May.

Turn over for more great apple ideas and patterns



A bushel of fun, fruity projects
worked in fresh, crisp cottons.
Which one will you choose
to be the apple of your eye?



PIPPIN PATCH

No bad apples here, just a cute appliqué patch, complete with friendly worm. Adorable on dresses, tees and dungarees. What a corker.

- Wendy, Supreme 100% Luxury Cotton DK (100% cotton, 100g/201m), Yarn A Cream (1851), Yarn B Poppy Red (1949)
- Patons, 100% Cotton 4ply (100% cotton, 100g/330m), Yarn C Cream (1692)
- Debbie Bliss, Baby Cashmerino (55% Merino, 33% microfiber, 12% cashmere, 50g/125m), Yarn D Chocolate (011)
- A 2mm (US B/1) & 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Tapestry needle

MEASUREMENTS

Patch measures 12x11cm (4¾x4¼in)

APPLE (MAKE 1)

Using a 4mm hook, work basic pattern as follows: work Rounds 1-6 in Yarn A, then work Round 7 in Yarn B.

WORM (MAKE 1)

Using a 2mm hook, work basic worm pattern as follows: Work Round 1 in Yarn C, then work Rounds 2-3 in Yarn D. Embroider face as in basic pattern.

TO MAKE UP

Using Yarn C, add pips in centre front. Sew patch and worm onto garment.

BRAMLEY BAG

It's almost good enough to eat.

- Wendy, Supreme 100% Luxury Cotton Chunky (100% cotton, 100g/83m), Yarn A Cream (1421), Yarn B Pear (1430)
- Debbie Bliss, Baby Cashmerino (55% Merino, 33% microfiber, 12% cashmere, 50g/125m), Yarn C Chocolate (011)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A 6.5mm (US K/10½) hook
- Button and tapestry needle

MEASUREMENTS

Apple measures 18x20cm (7x7¾in)

APPLES (MAKE 2)

Using 6.5mm hook, work basic pattern as follows: for front, work Rounds 1-6 in Yarn A, then work Round 7 in Yarn B. For back, work Rounds 1-7 in Yarn B.

TO MAKE UP

Embroider pips in Yarn C at centre front. With WS tog, sew side seams using Yarn B, leave top open. Sew button on back. Make stalk using 4mm hook and Yarn C doubled. Do not fasten off, ch1, ss into back of stalk at base, ch12, ss into beg ss. **Fasten off.** (Button loop made) Join Yarn B at top of side seam. With 6.5mm hook, ch100, ss to side seam on other side, turn, ss into each ch, ss to side seam at base of beg ch. **Fasten off.**

DELICIOUS NECKLACE

Make a statement with our pretty fruit pendant. We love the delicate chain, but you could go bolder with a length of red ribbon.

- DMC Stranded Cotton (100% cotton), Yarn A Cream (3865), Yarn B Red (309), Yarn C Brown (938)
- A 1.5mm (US 8 steel) hook
- Tapestry needle
- Metal chain

MEASUREMENTS

Finished necklace measures 5x5.5cm (2x2¼in)

APPLE (MAKE 1)

Using a 1.5mm hook and 2 strands of the stranded cotton, work basic pattern as follows:

Rounds 1-6 Yarn A.

Round 7 Yarn B.

TO MAKE UP

Using Yarn C, embroider pips in the centre front of the apple. These are simple straight lines, made over a few stitches between the first and second rounds. Use the photos as a guide. Make stalk using 1.5mm hook and 2 strands of Yarn C, following instructions in basic pattern. Attach metal chain.



All change please – the cutest way to stash your cash.



Where else would you put a glass of cloudy apple juice?

COIN PURSE

Two simple apple shapes and a handy zip fastening keep coins safe.

- Wendy, Supreme 100% Luxury Cotton DK (100% mercerised cotton, 100g/201m), Yarn A Cream (1851), Yarn B Poppy Red (1949)
- Debbie Bliss, Baby Cashmerino (55% Merino wool, 33% microfiber, 12% cashmere, 50g/125m), Yarn C Chocolate (011)
- A 2mm (US B/1) hook
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- 10cm (4in) zip and tapestry needle

MEASUREMENTS

Purse measures 11x12cm (4¼x4¾in)

APPLES (MAKE 2)

Using a 4mm hook, work basic pattern as follows: For front, work Rounds 1-6 in Yarn A, then work Round 7 in Yarn B. For back, work Rounds 1-7 in Yarn B.

TO MAKE UP

Using Yarn C, embroider pips in centre of front.

Make stalk using 2mm hook and 1 strand of Yarn C split into 3.

With WS together, sew zip at sides.

With zip undone and RS together, sew rest of side seams using Yarn B.

Weave in ends. Turn RS out.

JUICY COASTERS

Work a stack of these sweet little slices in red or green to get your table all set for summertime.

- Wendy, Supreme 100% Luxury Cotton DK (100% mercerised cotton, 100g/201m), Yarn A Cream (1851), Yarn B Poppy Red (1949), Yarn C Fern (1954)
- Debbie Bliss, Baby Cashmerino (55% Merino wool, 33% microfiber, 12% cashmere, 50g/125m), Yarn D Chocolate (011)
- A 2mm (US B/1) hook
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- Tapestry needle

MEASUREMENTS

Each coaster meas 9.5x10cm (3¾x4in)

APPLES

Crochet as many apples as you like, using a 3mm hook and working basic pattern as follows:

Make whole apples by working Rounds 1-7 in Yarn B or C.

Make sliced apples by working Rounds 1-6 in Yarn A, then work Round 7 in Yarn B or C. With Yarn D, embroider pips in centre front.

Make stalks for each apple using 2mm hook and Yarn D split into 3 strands.

BRAEBURN BROOCH

On a colourful cardigan or favourite jacket, this darling brooch cuts a dash. It's one of our five-a-day, right?

- Patons, 100% Cotton 4ply (100% mercerised cotton, 100g/330m), Yarn A Cream (1692), Yarn B Red (1115)
- Debbie Bliss, Baby Cashmerino (55% Merino wool, 33% microfiber, 12% cashmere, 50g/125m), Yarn C Chocolate (011)
- A 2mm (US B/1) hook
- Tapestry needle
- Metal brooch pin

MEASUREMENTS

Finished brooch measures 7.5x8cm (3x3¼in)

APPLE (MAKE 1)

Using a 2mm hook, work basic apple pattern as follows: Rounds 1-6 Yarn A. Round 7 Yarn B.

TO MAKE UP

Using Yarn C and a tapestry needle, embroider pips in the centre front of the apple.

Make stalk using 2mm hook and Yarn C split into 3 strands, following the instructions in basic pattern. Attach brooch pin.



Our apples look delicious as a brooch or pockets. Use the Juicy Coasters pattern to make a pair of cute pockets (just swap to a 4mm hook instead). Sweet!



THREADS OF SPLENDOUR

The debate about what separates craft and fine art is an ongoing and a hotly-argued one. Some of the world's finest crochet artists share their side of the story here.

There are so many great crocheters producing gorgeous creations at the moment – from jaw-droppingly vibrant blankets to intricate shawls that seem to be made from gossamer and mist. But relatively few of these creators confidently wear the label of 'artist', and even when they do, they may find themselves having to defend their status against art world snobs who believe anything made using yarn belongs purely in the craft category.

To try to get our heads around the difference between art and craft – and even whether such a separation exists – we've been talking to a selection of highly talented crocheters whose creations can all rightly be considered magnificent works of

art, including Joana Vasconcelos, Olek, and Jo Hamilton.

ART OR SCIENCE?

Crocheter Irene Lundgaard's work took a leap towards art when she discovered hyperbolic crochet via Margaret and Christine Wertheim's 'Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef' display. "When the exhibition came to the Science Gallery in Dublin, I immersed myself in the project," she explains. Irene became one of the crocheters who was pivotal in contributing the 'Irish Satellite Reef' to the exhibition.

Irene comments that hyperbolic crochet "is first and foremost geometry," but agrees that the vivid results go beyond the craft label. "They become expressive,

fantastic art. I think it's the fact that hyperbolic crochet results in shapes completely outside the box, rather than something concrete like a garment or a soft toy, that makes it transcend into art."

Irene admits to being "a little obsessed with crocheting hyperboles in the finest of crochet thread on a tiny hook. I'm hoping to incorporate an element of lace work based on my great-granny's late 19th-century crochet sampler book in these hyperboles. I'm not sure where it will lead to, or what the final product will be, but I find it deeply inspiring to experiment and allow the crochet to find its own way forward. I love when I can allow the creative process to happen without my brain interfering too much, as it were."

CROCHET AS ART

Experimentation is certainly a key ingredient in lifting a piece of crochet into the artistic realm, as Steph Phillips of Hook and Scumble agrees. Steph makes 3D sculptural crochet inspired by Britain's seashores, and has exhibited across the world. "I first explored crochet in this way while studying A-level Art," she says. "I was given the brief 'interwoven' and decided to experiment with wire and recycled materials – but it wasn't until I combined my love of crochet and 3D art & design that my work progressed."

Margaret Oomen of Resurrection Fern engaged with crochet as part of her artistic repertoire as a practical choice when she was attempting a particular project. "I was trying to cover smooth sea stones with fisherman's net, without great success," she explains. "I wasn't happy with my results so decided to try to crochet a net instead. The result was really interesting."

When Margaret began experimenting with crochet, she had no background

knowledge of the craft, but she feels that this worked to her advantage. "I had absolutely no idea how to read or to write a pattern, and I think this allowed me the freedom to develop on my own terms and in my own way," she says. "I'm inspired by patterns in nature, such as sea life, mushrooms, snowflakes, flowers... to name but a few. I love making collections of crochet-covered stones and found natural materials, and photographing them with a fresh perspective."

"I'M NOT SURE WHERE IT WILL LEAD TO, BUT I FIND IT DEEPLY INSPIRING TO EXPERIMENT."

CONCEPTUAL COMBINATION

For portrait crocheter Jo Hamilton, the initial challenge was to recognise crochet as a viable medium

for her art. "I went to the Glasgow School of Art straight from school at 17," she says. "At that time, it never occurred to me that I could use craft techniques in my art practice. Art and craft were so separated in my mind, conceptually and culturally, that I wasn't able to visualise what I really needed to do – to make fine

art using the craft techniques I had already learned at home. For years, I felt as if I still hadn't found the right medium for my work until I finally tried, for want of a better expression, to crochet my first painting."

Jo made this breakthrough in 2006, when she began work on a patchwork of six city blocks that would become a giant 'I Crochet Portland' cityscape. After being teased by friends and co-workers for being "a bit nuts", she jokingly threatened to crochet them.

"As soon as I said it, I realised I had to try – I was curious to see if I could capture a good likeness of someone in yarn," she says. "The very first one is a little wonky – his nose particularly so – but as I went along, I discovered what did and didn't work. I learn something new with every piece I make."

Jo believes that public response to her crochet portraits is in part due to the use of the crochet itself. "The medium is so unexpected for portraiture. You see the person represented at the same time as noticing the substance and the textures of the yarn, with the ends hanging down," she comments. "It's still surprising to me,



Opposite: Mary Poppins by Joana Vasconcelos.

This page, clockwise from top left: Simple Hyperbolic Sphere By The Sea by Irene Lundgaard; Norfolk Crochet Graffiti by Steph Phillips; Brighton Ray Bradbury commissioned for Paddy Considine by Jo Hamilton; I Crochet Portland by Jo Hamilton.





with every portrait, that I can achieve a likeness and capture a person's character just by tying knots in yarn."

ROOM FOR CHANGE

The views of the art establishment can make it challenging for crochet to transcend the craft label, however skilled or beautiful, as Jo discovered with regards to a crocheted portrait she completed for English actor and director Paddy Considine.

"Paddy wanted to submit the commission to the National Portrait Gallery's portrait competition this year, but when I looked up the rules, it turned out they only accept work that is painted or drawn, so textiles are excluded. So there's still room for attitudes towards craft to change."

She adds: "I don't know why craft now sits below fine art in the creative hierarchy. Craft takes as much skill, hard work, creativity and intelligence as fine art, but doesn't always get the same admiration or attention. Crochet is traditionally seen as a prosaic domestic activity, but it can be transformed into a far more challenging and thought-

provoking process, with surprising results. Yet there has been a huge surge of interest in craft worldwide in the last few years; more and more galleries and museums are showing both craft objects and art made using craft techniques. This is really encouraging!"

Portuguese artist Joana Vasconcelos has never been questioned about whether she is an artist or a crafter, perhaps because her works have used so very many different materials, from stainless steel saucepan lids (Marilyn, 2009) to around 25,000 tampons for her

2001 chandelier sculpture 'A Noiva' (The Bride). Yet traditional crafts, including crochet, knitting and embroidery, are the core of her work.

"CRAFT TAKES AS MUCH SKILL, HARD WORK, CREATIVITY AND INTELLIGENCE AS FINE ART."

In 2010, Joana took over London's Haunch of Venison gallery with her 'I Will Survive' Exhibition, the entrance piece of which, Mary Poppins, was a hanging sculpture made up of crocheted, knitted, beaded, embroidered, patched and tasselled fabrics from around the world. Joana's pair of 'Gardes' lions and exquisite 'Piano Dentelle' are meticulously covered with handmade Portuguese crochet and are captivating.

Joana's sculptures challenge viewers to question what they are seeing in the context of contemporary society and in their own behaviour. So her pieces aren't simply beautiful objects, but deeply and vastly conceptual.

As Kat Goldin – crocheter, designer and photographer – puts it: "I think it is up to the individual designer or artist to define their art and it is likewise up to the audience to interpret it as art, craft or some combination of the two. It is about how you relate to the work as the maker and as the consumer."

In other words, if Joana sees herself as an artist, then that's what she is.

TAKING CONTROL

Regarding yourself as an artist isn't easy though, as Steph Phillips found when she first exhibited her work in 2009. "This exhibition was the platform that launched my artistic career – I was well received and sold quite a few pieces and felt encouraged," she says. "I feel that crochet becomes art when it breaks the boundaries of the concept of traditional – art and crochet are both integral to who I am and how I express myself, yet I've never felt quite confident enough to call myself an artist."

Irene Lundgaard sees herself as "a crafter with an artistic streak", using

whatever medium or material best serves the piece she's working on. "If this happens to involve a crochet hook, then that's a wonderful bonus as crochet is my all-time go-to technique – and I admit, I have a tendency to try to make crochet work for any artistic expression I undertake," she says.

For Margaret Oomen, crochet is just one of the craft-rooted art forms. "I am very immersed in natural dyeing and feel that this adds an amazing extra dimension to my fibre art in general and to my crocheting specifically. It brings me joy to cover the stone of the earth and sea with coats of many colours, all derived from nature itself. It just makes sense."

And then there's Olek, a one-person phenomenon who is known for crocheting glorious coverings for everything from London taxis to the Wall Street Charging Bull, Washington DC's Einstein memorial to Fernando Botero's Cat in Barcelona. Most striking perhaps, for a performance called 'Working Woman in White: A Portrait', she crocheted herself into the art – sitting naked on a very tall chair at BWA Sanok Gallery in Poland and spending hours crocheting herself a covering, then unravelling it and beginning again. Olek isn't just a crochet artist – she is crochet art incarnate!

"My philosophy is summed up in the 'Working Woman in White' performance," she says. "I am crocheting and making the sculpture for my body, in which my body becomes the ready-made. The 'cover' redefines my movement and my identity – sexual, personal and cultural.

By ripping it apart, I start remaking it. When the 'new' suit of armour is ready, I am exposed as an object. Then I put this hand-crocheted, wearable sculpture onto my body and take the end of the twine and undo the 'cover' again and again. I crochet and crochet onto my body, even if I feel like I cannot continue any longer – until I have reached a point where I know I could go on forever."

Surely no one could – or would dare to – argue that that is not art.

CULTURAL ELITISM

Kat Goldin, on the other hand, is adamant about not calling herself an artist. "I think there is still a sense of cultural elitism out there where the crafter is the poor second cousin to the fine artist and, to be truthful, I am more concerned with being commercially successful than having my work recognised within a contemporary arts world."

Kat believes her gut response to this is "just a personality thing. I am a practical person. I enjoy the process of constructing something real from the image I have in my head. The creative element is strong, but technical skills and a deep understanding of the materials are equally important to build a design from the stitch up."

Ultimately, Kat explains, she wants her creations "to be worn, and played with and to have holes in from use and love. I want to design things that are beautiful and functional from start to finish."

And perhaps that's the key difference between most crochet we see, and the

rare pieces that are perceived as art. We don't want our art to be particularly wearable or functional – its purpose should be primarily to engage our eyes and our minds. Art is more than creativity and, even, beauty.

So if your creations are art, wonderful. And if they're craft, that's great, too. As Kat says: "I am all for recognising the artist in the crochet designer and I do think that the boundaries are blurring and being crossed, but I prefer, at this stage of my career, for my crochet to be worn rather than sitting in a white space."

The definition of art according to the Oxford Dictionary is: 'The expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, typically in a visual form such as painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power.'

To clarify: art is not primarily produced for any practical benefit, such as to keep us warm or prevent us from being naked. So, no matter how exquisite, that rules out whole swathes of the crocheted creations we admire on a daily basis.

It does, however, leave a whole section of the crochet world still firmly rooted – in our opinion – in the world of art.

Written by Judy Darley.

Find out more about our crochet artists:

www.hookandscumble.co.uk

www.joanavasconcelos.com

www.johamiltonart.com

www.oleknyc.com

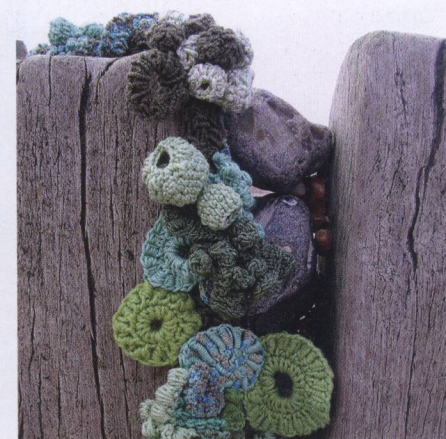
www.resurrectionfern.ca

www.slugsontherefrigerator.com

www.yarnclasses.com



Opposite page, clockwise from top left: Gardes by Joana Vasconcelos; Crocheted pebbles by Margaret Oomen; Shaggy Lion hat by Kat Goldin.
This page, left to right: Gato Negro Gato Blanco by Olek; Freeform crochet by Steph Phillips.



THE BAG LADY

Go green and stash your groceries
in Kirstie MacLeod's handy shopper.



Mesh shopper



HALF
TREBLE



DK
WEIGHT



4MM
HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

■ Yeoman Soft Cotton DK
(100% cotton, 450g/900m),
150g of Green (18)

■ A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn stockists, contact

Yeoman 0116 240 4464

www.yeoman-yarns.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

37x40cm (14½x15¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

htr2tog (Yrh, insert hook in next stitch, yrh and pull up loop) 2 times, yrh and draw through all loops on hook.

For a full list, see page 92.

Save the planet while you shop? Sounds like a good idea to us. This simple mesh shopper is an eco-friendly and super-stylish alternative to a plastic bag. Handy to slip in a handbag or pocket, it's sturdy enough for bulky groceries, while the pretty, lacy stitch pattern will still keep your purchases safe. Worked in a washable cotton DK yarn, the bag is an ideal weekend make and perfect for practising half trebles. Bring on the guilt-free shopping.

C HANDLES

Ch140, ss to first ch to join, being careful not to twist the chain.

Round 1 Ch2 (counts as htr throughout), htr in each ch around, ss to top of beginning ch-2 to join. [140 sts]

Rounds 2-5 Ch2, htr in each st around, ss to top of the beginning ch-2. For the following round, insert the hook into the next st and also the remaining loop of the foundation chain of the corresponding st, and complete a dc as normal. This will join the work into a tube of double thickness to form the handle.

Round 6 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st around, joining each st to the foundation ch, ss into the top of the beginning ch-2, inserting hook into st at base of turning ch on foundation round at the same time.

Round 7 Ch2, 14htr, ch40, skip 40 sts, 30htr, ch40, skip 40 sts, 15htr, ss to top of the beginning ch-2 (2 handles made).

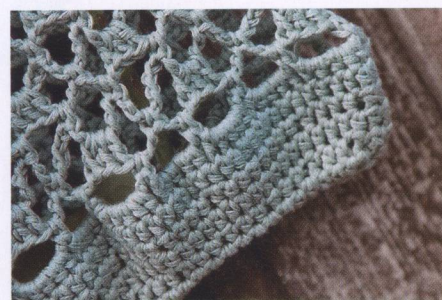
Round 8 Ch2, htr in each st and each ch around (working into the ch rather than the ch-sp), ss to the top of the beginning ch-2.

Rounds 9-10 As Round 2.

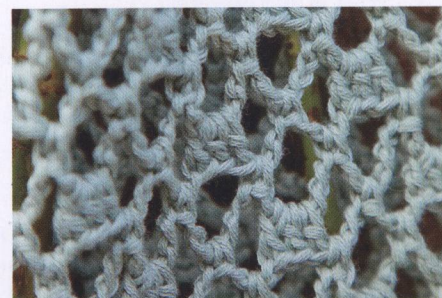
BAG

Round 11 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc, *ch5, skip 4 sts, 1dc in next st; repeat from * around, omitting the dc on the last repeat, ss to top of first dc. [28 repeats of (dc, ch-5 sp)]

Round 12 Ss into each of the first 2 ch, ch1 (does not count as st), dc into same ch-5 sp, *ch3, 3tr into the next ch-5 sp, ch3, dc into the next ch-5 sp; repeat from * around, omitting the dc on the last repeat, ss to the top of the first dc. [14 repeats of (dc, ch-3 sp, 3-tr, ch-3 sp)]



Densely packed half treble stitches form a sturdy base. It looks delicate but it's strong!



Light and lacy – the pattern creates a pretty mesh with plenty of stretch for practicality.

Round 13 Ss into each of the first 2 ch, ch1 (does not count as st), dc into the same ch-3 sp, *ch5, dc in next ch-3 sp; repeat from * around, omitting dc on the last repeat, ss to the top of the first dc. [28 repeats of (dc, ch-5 sp)] Repeat last 2 rows another 12 times.

BASE

Round 38 Ss into the first ch-sp, ch2 (counts as htr), 4htr into the same ch-sp, *5htr into the next ch-sp; repeat from * around, ss to the top of the beginning ch-2. [140 sts]

Round 39 Ch2, htr in each st around, ss to the top of the beginning ch-2.

Round 40 Ch2, 4htr, htr2tog, (5htr, htr2tog) 19 times, ss to the top of the beginning ch-2. [120 sts]

Round 41 Ch2, 3htr, htr2tog, (4htr, htr2tog) 19 times, ss to the top of the beginning ch-2. [100 sts]

Round 42 Ch2, 2htr, htr2tog, (3htr, htr2tog) 19 times, ss to the top of the beginning ch-2. [80 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for seaming the base.

TO FINISH

Flatten the bag with the handles aligned and sew the bag together along the base. Weave in ends.



PLANT YARNS

Try something new with our pick of fabulous natural fibres.

MOTIF PATTERN

Ch6 and join with ss to form a ring.

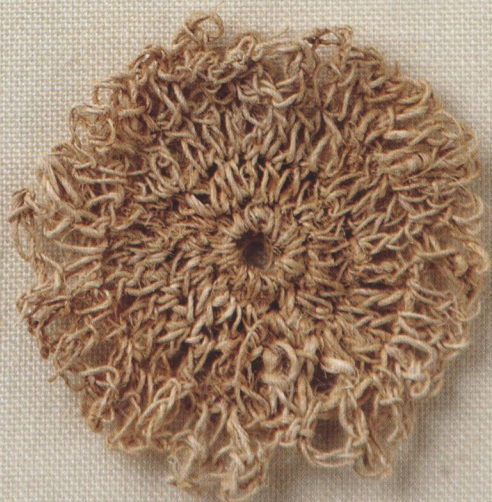
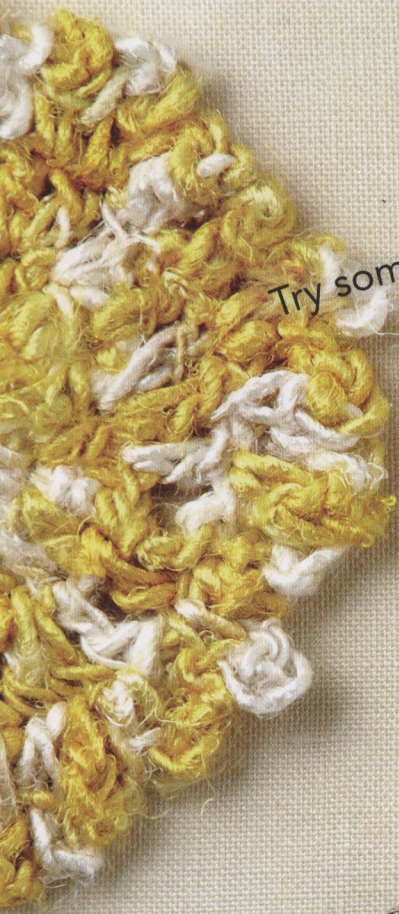
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 12dc into the ring. Join with a ss into first dc. [12 sts]

Round 2 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr into st at base of ch, (2htr into next dc) around, ss to top of beg ch-2. [24 sts]

Round 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), 1tr, 2tr into next htr, *2tr, 2tr into next htr; rep from * to end, ss to top of beg ch-3. [32 sts]

Round 4 (Forms picot edge) (Ch4, dc into next st) repeat around.

Fasten off.



Join these pretty
picot circles to
make a set of
quirky placemats

LANG LINO

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% linen
BALL 50g/110m
HOOK 4.5mm
RRP £5.95



Lino is a fantastically lightweight yarn. It's made with a chainette construction, giving a more breathable yarn. The cool linen fibre is hard-wearing, drapes gently and is easy to wear – it's the ultimate yarn for summer cardigans, scarves and

cover-ups. Take your pick from 19 different colours: there are zesty brights, muted shades and pretty, jewel tones, too. The yarn is smooth and has a delightfully subtle sheen.
www.art yarn.co.uk
01529 240510

HABU LACE BAMBOO

WEIGHT Lace
CONTENT 100% bamboo
BALL 48g/513m
HOOK 2mm
RRP £12.60



If you are in the market for an extra-special yarn, this stunning, high-quality yarn with its beautiful sheen could be just the thing. It's delicate, extremely fine and comes in nine solid, subtle shades. Naturally anti-bacterial and cool against the skin, soft

bamboo is a smart fibre choice for summer. It has great stitch definition and is perfect for showing off your stitches in a lacy shawl. It is also available undyed if you're keen to experiment.
www.loopknitting.com
020 7288 1160

SWTC PURE

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% Soy Silk
BALL 50g/150m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £6.30



Pure is a lustrous, silky yarn from the South West Trading Company, that drapes beautifully. It has a fine halo and is easy to work with as it's so smooth. Although it feels warm, this soy fibre wicks moisture away from the skin and so it's well-suited to

hotter weather. There are 20 solid shades and six variegated shades available: vivid reds, blues, purples and neutrals, too. This pretty, Northern Lights colourway would make a lovely cowl.
www.soy silk.com
01535 650230

HOUSE OF HEMP NATURAL

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% hemp
BALL 50g/85m
HOOK 3mm
RRP £4.50



This undyed, natural DK yarn produces a fabric with an elegant drape, and is also available in fine or 4ply weights in a variety of colours. It's made up of four fine strands twisted lightly together and has a string-like appearance. Hemp is similar

to linen in many ways – it's a strong fibre with very little elasticity. This yarn can be machine washed prior to use to make it softer. Natural would be a brilliant choice for garlands in neutral tones.
www.houseofhemp.co.uk
01288 381638

ETHNIC CRAFTS BANANA

WEIGHT Chunky
CONTENT 100% banana fibre
BALL 100g/66m
HOOK 6.5mm
RRP £3.99



This unusual yarn will make you see fruit and fibre in a very different way! We love this sunshiny, yellow shade, but there are a number of other vibrant, variegated tones to choose from. This fibrous, chunky yarn works up fairly quickly and has a quirky

halo that's both fuzzy and a little bit wiry. A tightly spun yarn, it has very little give, but it's strong and features a beautiful, pearly sheen. Why not use it make a colourful beach bag?
www.ethniccrafts.co.uk
01383 223008

TEXART NATURAL NETTLE YARN

WEIGHT 4ply
CONTENT 100% nettle
BALL 100g/136m
HOOK 3.5mm
RRP £3.50



Crocheters looking for a new challenge should think about experimenting with nettle yarn. While the fibre isn't very stretchy, when crocheted it does work up to create a solid, robust fabric. The beautiful, raw colour and texture of this yarn make it

ideal for hooking rustic mats, coasters or baskets for the summer. It's only available in its natural colour, a soft brown. The yarn is very strong, it won't split and there's not a prickle in sight.
www.texartcreative.com
01516 788424

CHANGING COLOUR

Grab a hook and two yarn colours – here's our in-depth guide to changing colour in crochet.

WHAT SORT OF COLOUR EFFECTS CAN I CREATE?

It's easy to create colour effects when you're crocheting.

Last month, we showed you how to shape treble crochet, but this workshop is all about colour. If you know how to change yarn colour, you can create all sorts of colourful looks, from stripes and waves to blocks and tie-dye effects. Here, we'll show you how to change colour in rows and in rounds, as well as between stitches in the same row. Then you can try out your new skills by making our pretty cool boho-chic barefoot sandals on page 85.



ROWS

ROWS

Working rows of different colours will create simple stripe effects – a classic look. You always switch yarn at the end of a row (see right). You can also use the same technique to join a new ball of the same yarn colour, once one ball runs out.



ROUNDS

ROUNDS

Working colour changes in the round can create some gorgeous, eye-popping effects. You can either change colour when you slip stitch the round closed, or fasten off each round and start again with a new colour (see both methods on page 84).

HOW DO I CHANGE YARN COLOUR?

Here's how to work a simple colour change anywhere along a row.

The basic technique of changing colour in crochet is the same whether you're working in rows or rounds, double or treble. You need to think ahead to where you want your colour change, then change yarn just before.

Make a small swatch and then practise the technique by following our step-by-step guide (right). You can use this method to change colour in the middle of a row or round, or at the end of a row, to create all sorts of colour effects.

We've stated where to cut the yarn, but you might like to wait until you're sure it's right. You'll find that changing colour creates lots of yarn ends – you can weave these in afterwards, or work the next few stitches over them (we'll show you how in a forthcoming workshop).



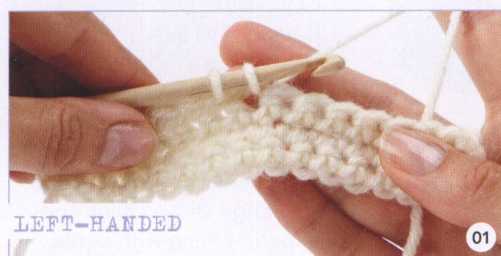
RIGHT-HANDED

01



RIGHT-HANDED

02



LEFT-HANDED

01



LEFT-HANDED

02

STEP 1

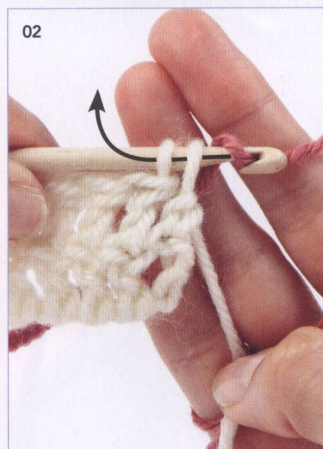
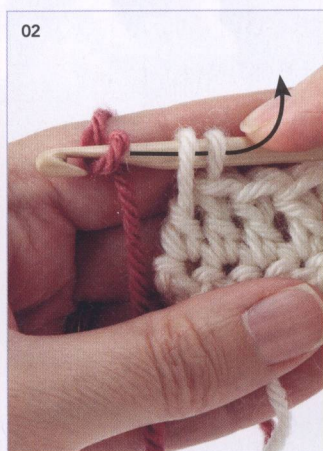
Work on the final stitch before you want the colour change, but stop before working the final yrh – for double crochet (above), insert hook, yrh, pull loop through and stop. Cut old yarn leaving a long tail.

STEP 2

Loop your new yarn colour around hook (leaving a long tail of the new yarn) and pull it through the remaining loops to finish the stitch. Pull the old and new yarn ends to tighten the loop on the hook.

HOW DO I CHANGE COLOUR IN ROWS?

Here's how to work a simple colour change for rows of different colours.



IF YOU'RE RIGHT-HANDED...

One of the most popular colour effects you can create with crochet is stripes and we'll show you how easy it is to work rows in different colours. You simply need to use the same sort of colour-changing technique we've shown you already (left), but on the last stitch of a row, as follows:

Step 1 Start working the final stitch in the row, but stop before you work the final yarn round hook (yrh). For treble crochet (above), you would work yrh, insert hook, yrh, pull loop through, yrh, pull through first two loops, then stop. For half treble crochet, you would work yrh, insert hook, yrh, pull loop through, then stop. Cut the old yarn, leaving a long tail (about 7cm long).

Step 2 Now loop your new yarn colour around the hook, leaving a long tail of yarn (about 7cm long).

Step 3 Pull the new yarn loop through the remaining two loops to finish the stitch. Pull the old and new yarn ends to tighten the loop on the hook.

Step 4 Now you can work the turning chain of the new row in the new colour (3ch for treble, or 2ch for half treble). Then work the stitches of the new row in the new yarn colour.

IF YOU'RE LEFT-HANDED...

One of the most popular colour effects you can create with crochet is stripes and we'll show you how easy it is to work rows in different colours. You simply need to use the same sort of colour-changing technique we've shown you already (left), but on the last stitch of a row, as follows:

Step 1 Start working the final stitch in the row, but stop before you work the final yarn round hook (yrh). For treble crochet (above), you would work yrh, insert hook, yrh, pull loop through, yrh, pull through first two loops, then stop. For half treble crochet, you would work yrh, insert hook, yrh, pull loop through, then stop. Cut the old yarn, leaving a long tail (about 7cm long).

Step 2 Now loop your new yarn colour around the hook, leaving a long tail of yarn (about 7cm long).

Step 3 Pull the new yarn loop through the remaining two loops to finish the stitch. Pull the old and new yarn ends to tighten the loop on the hook.

Step 4 Now you can work the turning chain of the new row in the new colour (3ch for treble, or 2ch for half treble). Then work the stitches of the new row in the new yarn colour.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT!

Practise the techniques until you can do them without looking at the pictures for every stage. You'll find your own way of holding the hook and yarn comfortably.

HOW DO I CHANGE COLOUR IN THE ROUND?

Follow our simple guide to create colourful rounds.

There are many ways to change yarn colour when working in the round. We'll show you two here, the slip stitch technique (right) and the slipknot technique (below). You can practise these two methods (and find others online and in books), then choose the one you like.

The slip stitch technique is good for dense motifs. At the end of the round, work the last

stitch as usual. Cut the old yarn, leaving a long tail. Now join the round tog with a slip stitch in the new yarn, as follows:

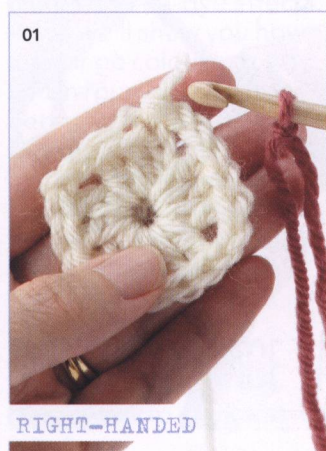
Step 1 Insert hook into top of turning chain at start of round. Loop the new yarn around the hook, leaving a long tail.

Step 2 Pull through both the t-ch and the loop of old yarn. Now use the new yarn to work the t-ch and the new round.



HOW ELSE CAN I CHANGE COLOUR IN THE ROUND?

Here's another way to change colour when you're working in the round.



RIGHT-HANDED



LEFT-HANDED



For lacy motifs and granny squares, it can be easier for you to fasten off each round and join the new yarn colour with the slipknot technique, as follows:

Step 1 Once you've fastened off the previous round, make a slipknot in the new yarn colour and place on your hook.

Step 2 With the slipknot on the hook, insert the hook into the chain space where you want to join the yarn. Hold the working yarn and the tail end at the back of the work (this helps to make sure that your slipknot is not visible from the front).

Step 3 Now work a slip stitch, placing yrh...

Step 4 ...and pull the yarn through the chain space and through the slipknot. Tighten the slipknot if necessary. Make the turning chain for the new round in the correct length for your stitch (see page 89), and work the stitches in the new colour for the new round.

Barefoot sandals

NEW TO CROCHET?

You can make this using just chains, trebles and double crochet stitches.



NATURE'S CHILD

Experiment with colour and make Cara Medus's gorgeous on trend footwear for summer.

Barefoot sandals



DOUBLE
TREBLE



4PLY
WEIGHT



2.5MM
3.5MM

YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura Just Cotton
100% cotton, 50g/155m
1 ball of each: Nacar (N35),
Aguamarina (N25), Tournesol
(N16), Topaze (N19)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- PVA glue

For yarn stockists, contact
DMC 0116 275 4000
www.dmccreative.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

Central motif measures 8x8cm
(3x3in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

Feminine and elegant, these colourful barefoot sandals are the height of summer chic. They're also a great project for beginners to practise double and treble stitches, and changing colour in the round.

CENTRAL MOTIF (MAKE 2)

With a 2.5mm hook and Nacar, ch6, ss to first ch to join into a ring.

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

Fasten off and join in Aguamarina.

Round 2 Ch3 (counts as first tr), 2tr into first dc, (ch2, skip 1 dc, 3tr into next dc) repeat around, ss to top of beg ch-3. 0[6 3-tr groups]

Fasten off and join in Tournesol.

Round 3 *Ch3, dc into next ch-2 sp, ch5, skip next tr, tr into middle tr of 3-tr group, ch5, skip next tr, dc into next ch-2 sp; rep from * twice more, ss to first ch. [6 dc, 3 tr, 6 ch-5 sp, 3 ch-3 sp]

Round 4 Ch1 (does not count as st), *3dc into ch-3 sp, 4dc into ch-5 sp, ch5 (corner), 4dc into next ch-5 sp; rep from * twice more, ss to first dc. [33dc, 3 corner ch-5 sp]

Fasten off and join in Topaze.

Round 5 *Ch3 (counts as first tr), tr in each of next 2 dc, ch1, skip 1 dc, tr in each of next 3 dc, ch1, (3tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1) in corner ch-5 sp, tr in each of next 3 dc (make sure you don't miss the first of these dc - it can be hidden underneath

the previous tr), ch1, skip 1 dc; rep from * twice more replacing beg ch-3 with tr, ss to top of beg ch-3. [15 3-tr groups]

Fasten off and join in Nacar.

Round 6 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st and ch to first corner ch-sp, dc in corner ch-sp, ch30 (toe loop made), dc in corner ch-sp. *Dc in each st and ch to next corner ch-sp, dc in corner ch-sp, ch20 (top loop made), dc in corner ch-sp; rep from *, dc in each st and ch to end, ss to first dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TIES (MAKE 4)

With a 2.5mm hook, work Rounds 1 and 2 of the Central Motif without fastening off either yarn. On the final joining ss, pick up both Nacar and Aguamarina on the final yrh and pull them both through the stitch, do not fasten off.

Change to the 3.5mm hook.

With Nacar and Aguamarina held together, make a ch measuring 80cm long, remove loop from hook, pass the end of the ch through one of the top loops of the central motif, put the loop back on the hook and ss in the 14th and 15th ch from the hook to join.

Fasten off and weave ends back into the chain.

Put a small blob of PVA on the fastened off end to stop it fraying.

Repeat another 3 times, so that you have a tie joined to each of the top loops of the Central Motifs.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A TREBLE



1 To work a treble crochet, start by winding yrh and then insert the hook under the top two loops of the stitch on the previous row.



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



3 Pull the yarn through the first 2 loops only (2 loops on hook), yrh. Pull yarn through these 2 loops. You've made a treble crochet. Continue working tr into next and all following sts to end of row.



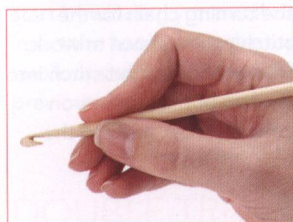
4 At end of row, turn and ch3. This is the turning chain and counts as first tr in new row. Sk the first st at base of t-ch, work 1tr into 2nd st in prev row. Work 1tr in each st to end, including top of t-ch.

Crochet essentials

Over the next few pages, you'll find simple step-by-step guides to many useful stitches and techniques that you'll use every time you pick up a hook.

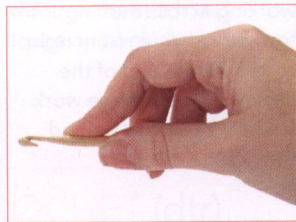
HOLDING THE HOOK

Try these methods and see which works best.



PENCIL METHOD

Hold the hook like a pencil, in your right hand (if you're right-handed), about 3-5cm from the hooked end. If your hook has a flat area, you'll find it comfortable to hold it here.

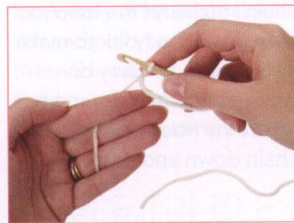


KNIFE METHOD

Hold the hook between your thumb and forefinger, about 3-5cm from the hooked end, resting the end of the hook against your palm. This will give you lots of control.

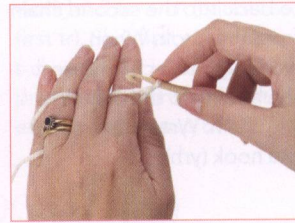
HOLDING THE YARN

Even tension results in even stitches.



METHOD ONE

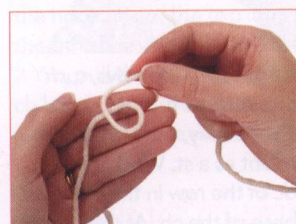
Pass the ball end of the yarn between the little finger and third fingers of your left hand (if you are right-handed), then behind the third and middle fingers, over your index finger.



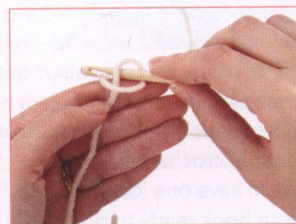
METHOD TWO

Loop the ball end of the yarn loosely around the little finger of your left hand, then take it over the third finger, behind the middle finger and over your index finger.

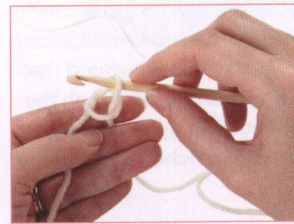
MAKING A SLIP KNOT The first loop on the hook.



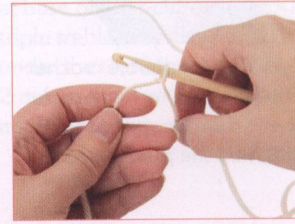
1 Hold the tail of the ball of yarn in your left hand and drape the yarn clockwise over the top of it to form a circular loop.



2 Hold the loop between left thumb and forefinger, then insert the crochet hook through the centre of the loop from front to back.

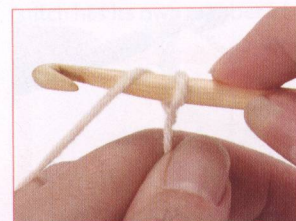


3 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook and pull it back through the centre of the loop, taking the yarn through with it.

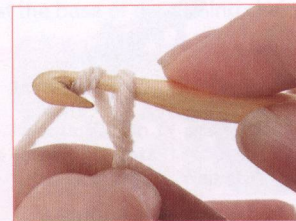


4 Pull both ends of the yarn to tighten the knot, then pull just the ball end to tighten the loop so it's close to the hook, but not touching it.

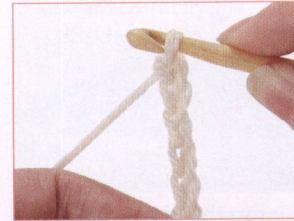
CHAIN STITCH Use this stitch to make your foundation chain.



1 Hold the hook and yarn end in your right hand, and the working yarn in your left hand. Move the hook under and over the yarn to wrap it around anti-clockwise.



2 Pull the hook towards the slip knot, catching the yarn in the hook, and pulling it through the slip knot loop. This forms your first chain (ch) stitch. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to form a chain.



3 This is what your row of chains will look like. Hold the chain with your right hand near the hook, to keep the tension. Keep going until you have the number of chains stated on your pattern.

How to count chains



Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Never count your first slip knot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). So that you can be accurate, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.

SLIP STITCH (ss)

This stitch has no height – often used to join rounds.



1 Insert the hook from front to back into the second chain from the hook. When working into a chain, insert the hook into the centre of the chain. Wrap yarn round the hook (yrh).



2 Pull the yarn through the chain stitch and the loop already on the hook to make a slip stitch. To carry on working a row of slip stitches, insert the hook into the next chain down and so on.

WORKING IN ROWS

Follow these simple rules to construct crochet fabric.



The first row is made by working across the foundation chain from right to left. At the end of the chain or row, turn the work so that the yarn is behind the hook.



For the next row, first make the turning chain for the stitch you're about to work. Now work the next stitch into the top of the stitches on your first row, missing the first stitch.

DOUBLE CROCHET (dc) US term: single crochet

One of the key stitches in crochet, doubles are simple, compact stitches that form a dense fabric.



1 To make a double crochet stitch, insert the hook under the top two loops of the first stitch on the previous row.



2 Wind the yarn around the hook and pull it through the two loops, giving you two loops on your crochet hook.



3 Yarn round hook again, then pull the yarn through both loops. There's your double crochet made and you'll have one loop left on your hook ready to do the next stitch. Continue to the end of the row.



4 For following rows, turn and make 1 turning chain. For dc only, the t-ch does not count as a st. Work the first dc of the row in the st at the base of the ch. At the end of the row, do not work into the top of the t-ch.

HALF TREBLE CROCHET (htr) US term: half double crochet

A handy stitch that's between double and treble crochet in size, and that looks slightly looser than double crochet.



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



2 Insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch in the previous row. Wrap yarn around the hook again (yrh).



3 Pull the yarn through the stitch only (3 loops on hook), yrh. Pull the yarn through all 3 loops. You've made a half treble crochet. Continue working htr into next and foll sts to end of the row.



4 At the end of the row, turn work and ch2. This is the t-ch and counts as the first htr in a new row. Skip the first st at the base of the t-ch, work 1htr into 2nd st in prev row and in each st to end, including into top of t-ch.

TREBLE CROCHET (tr) US term: double crochet

One of the most popular stitches in crochet, this simple stitch is twice as high as a double crochet stitch.



1 To work a treble crochet, start by winding yrh and then insert the hook under the top two loops of the stitch on the previous row.



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



3 Pull yarn through the first 2 loops only (2 loops on hook). Yrh and pull yarn through these 2 loops. That's it! Continue in each stitch to end of row, including t-ch.



4 At the end of a tr row, turn work, ch3 for t-ch (counts as first tr). Skip first st at base of t-ch, work 1tr into 2nd st in prev row, and into each st to end, including top of t-ch.

DOUBLE TREBLE CROCHET (dtr)

US term: treble crochet

This is a stitch regularly used as an elongated version of the treble crochet stitch (described above). It's taller than a treble stitch and is worked in a very similar way, as follows:

1 Make a foundation chain. Skip 4ch, yrh twice, and insert the hook under the top loop of the 5th ch.

2 Yrh, pull the yarn through the ch loop only (4 loops on hook).

3 Yrh and pull the yarn through

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

4 Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops.

5 To make the next row of dtr, turn work and ch4. This t-ch counts as the first dtr in a new row. Skip first st at the base of the t-ch, work 1dtr under the top two loops of the 2nd stitch in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

TRIPLE TREBLE CROCHET (ttr)

US term: double treble crochet

This is one of the longest standard crochet stitches and is mainly used in fancy stitch patterns. It's taller than a double treble crochet stitch (described left) and is worked in a very similar way, as follows:

1 First, make a foundation chain. Skip 5 ch, yrh three times, insert hook under top loop of 6th ch.

2 Yrh, pull yarn through ch loop only (5 loops on hook).

3 *Yrh, draw loop through 2 loops only. Repeat from * 3 times more and your triple treble will be complete.

4 To make the next row, turn work and ch5. This turning chain counts as the first triple treble in a new row. Skip first st at base of the t-ch. Work 1 triple treble, inserting hook under the top 2 loops of the 2nd st in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

TURNING CHAIN (t-ch)

For an even finish, start each row with a turning chain.

In crochet, you need to add turning chains (t-chs) to the beginning of rows. The reason for this is to bring the hook up to the height of the stitches you're crocheting. Each basic stitch has its own number of

chains. This table tells you how many turning-chain sts form the first stitch. *For dc, usually the turning chain does not count as a stitch, and the first stitch of the row is worked in the stitch at the base of the turning chain.

STITCH	Add to foundation chain before starting row	Skip at start of foundation row (counts as first st)	For turning chain (counts as first st)
Double crochet	1 ch	1 ch*	1 ch*
Half treble	1 ch	2 ch	2 ch
Treble	2 ch	3 ch	3 ch
Double treble	3 ch	4 ch	4 ch
Triple treble	4 ch	5 ch	5 ch

How to count stitches

Check your work is correct.

Being able to count your stitches is very important and helps you to ensure that you're following a pattern correctly. It's a good idea to count your stitches at the end of every row. To count short stitches such as double crochet, look at the plaited tops (see above right). For taller stitches, count the upright 'stems' – each 'stem' is counted as a stitch (see right).



HOW TO GET A PERFECT FINISH

To prevent your hard work unravelling once you've finished crocheting, fasten the end off carefully.



Complete the final stitch, then cut the yarn about 15cm from the work. Pull it through the last loop on the hook and pull to close the loop. Thread the yarn tail onto a tapestry needle and weave into the back of the work. Most crochet items don't need a lot of blocking, but cotton lace

work usually does. To do this, carefully pin out the item with rust-proof pins, mist with a water spray and leave to dry naturally.

INCREASING AND DECREASING

Shaping stitches are vital for making garments.



INCREASE To increase one stitch, work two stitches into one stitch. Find out more about increasing and decreasing in our shaping workshop on page 82.



DECREASE For a quick decrease, just skip one stitch. For a neater look, work the first part of one stitch and then begin the next stitch. Finish both together.

SEWING SEAMS

You can join crochet seams by using a tapestry needle or a crochet hook, using one of these four methods.



1 Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet wrong sides together and oversew them as shown above, using a tapestry or yarn needle.



2 To slip stitch a seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together. *Insert hook through both edge stitches, yrh and pull through to complete 1 slip stitch; rep from *, keeping your work fairly loose.



3 For a dc seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together, or wrong sides together for a visible seam. Work as for slip stitch seam, using double crochet instead of slip stitch.



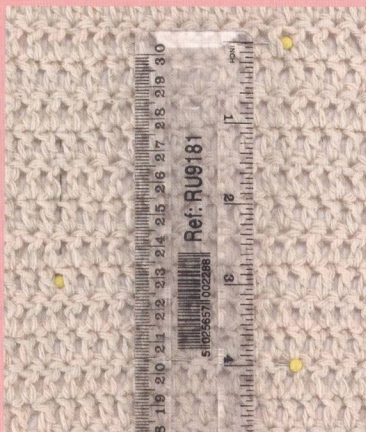
4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

How to check your tension

Make and measure a swatch to check your tension.

Most crochet patterns state the tension required, in rows and stitches of a specific type. Make a swatch at least 15cm square and check that your tension matches.

Place a ruler across the swatch and insert two pins, 10cm apart. Then place the ruler along a column of stitches and insert two pins 10cm apart. Count the stitches and rows between the pins – if you have less than the pattern, your tension is too loose so you need to use a smaller hook, but if you have too many, use a larger hook. It's usually better to match the stitches than rows, because you can always work more or fewer rows.

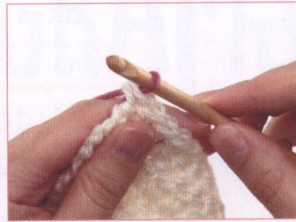


HOW TO CHANGE COLOUR

Create stripes and other colour effects.



1 Before you pick up the yarn for the last time on the last stitch of a row in the old colour, drop the old yarn and pick up the new one with your hook.



2 Pull the new yarn through to finish the old stitch. The working loop is now in the new colour. Continue working, keeping the old yarn at the wrong side.

FOUNDATION RING

Create a foundation ring for working in the round.



1 Make a chain the length stated in the pattern instructions. Next, insert the crochet hook into the first chain.



2 Close the ring with a slip stitch (yrh and pull through). Now you are ready to start crocheting in the round, following the instructions given below.

WORKING STITCHES INTO A RING

Make circles, tubes and other shapes by working simple rounds of crochet stitches.



1 Make a foundation ring (as described above right) and then work the correct number of chains for the t-ch, for example, 3ch for a treble.



2 Now work the stitch as you would on a row, but insert the hook into the centre of the ring rather than each chain loop. For a treble, yrh, insert into the ring, yrh and pull yarn through the loop.



3 Continue with the treble stitch, working in just the same way as you would on a row. So yrh, pull yarn through first 2 loops.



4 Finish off the treble stitch by working yrh, pull yarn through 2 loops. Continue making stitches into the ring as instructed.

JOINING ROUNDS

Finish off each round of crochet stitches nice and neatly, by using a slip stitch.



1 To close a round of stitches, work a slip stitch into the top of the turning chain. To do this, insert the hook into the top stitch of the turning chain.



2 Then place the yarn round the hook. Pull the yarn through the turning chain stitch and through the original stitch on your hook.



3 You've slip stitched the round together! Before working another round, be sure to make the required turning chain. Always work rounds on the right side.

Rounds or spirals



Check which technique to use.

Some patterns are worked in rounds, which are joined together at the end of the round. Other patterns are worked in a spiral so you don't need to join the rounds at the end, just keep going, working into the next stitch on the previous row. Amigurumi toys are often worked in a spiral like this.

Abbreviations

across	to end of the row	in next	sts to be worked into
alt	alternate/alternating		same stitch
approx	approximate(ly)	inc	increase
beg	beginning	LH	left hand
bl	insert hook under back loop only	lp(s)	loop(s)
BPhtr	Back Post half treble: Yrh, starting from the back, insert hook from back to front to back around post of st in row below, complete as a half treble st	meas	measures
		p or pc	picot
		patt(s)	pattern(s)
		pm	place marker
		prev	previous
		rem	remains or remaining
		rep	repeat
		RH	right hand
		rnd(s)	round(s)
ch(s)	chain/chain stitch(es)	RS	right side
ch-sp(s)	chain space(s)	sk	skip
ch-	refers to ch made previously, eg ch-3	sp(s)	space(s)
cl(s)	clusters	ss	slip stitch
cont	continue	st(s)	stitch(es)
dc	double crochet	tbl	through back loop
dc2tog	work 2dc together	t-ch(s)	turning chain(s)
dec	decrease	tog	together
dtr	double treble crochet	tr	treble crochet
dtr2tog	work 2dtr together	tr2tog	work 2tr together
fl	insert hook under front loop only	ttr	triple treble crochet
foll/folls	following/follows	WS	wrong side
FPhtr	Front Post half treble: Yrh, starting from the front, insert hook from front to back to front around post of st in row below, complete as a half treble st	yoh	yarn over hook
htr	half treble crochet	yrh	yarn round hook
htr2tog	work 2htr together	*	work instructions immediately following *, then repeat as directed work or repeat all instructions enclosed in brackets as directed immediately after
		[] or ()	

Crochet hook conversions

UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	-
13	2.25mm	B/1
12	2.5mm	-
-	2.75mm	C/2
11	3mm	-
10	3.25mm	D/3
9	3.5mm	E/4
-	3.75mm	F/5
8	4mm	G/6
7	4.5mm	7
6	5mm	H/8
5	5.5mm	I/9
4	6mm	J/10
3	6.5mm	K/10½
2	7mm	-
0	8mm	L/11
00	9mm	M/13
000	10mm	N/15

Crochet abbreviations conversions

Use this handy table to convert UK crochet terms to US crochet terms, or vice versa. Also see individual stitch explanations on previous pages.

UK		US	
chain	ch	chain	ch
slip stitch	ss	slip stitch	ss
double crochet	dc	single crochet	sc
half treble	htr	half double	hdc
treble	tr	double	dc
double treble	dtr	treble	tr
triple treble	ttr	double treble	dtr

Which hook do I use?

Choosing the right size hook for the yarn you're crocheting is important.

Hook size	UK yarn weight
2.5-3.5mm hook	4ply yarn
3.5-4.5mm hook	double knitting yarn
5-6mm hook	aran yarn
7mm and bigger	chunky yarn

Crochet naturally

Work crochet stitches your own way.

Everyone has their own style when crocheting, so if you find any of our instructions hard to follow, just practise with a hook and some yarn to find a style you're comfortable with. Most people crochet with the hook in one hand and the working yarn in the other hand, but you don't have to. To get some ideas, look at how other crocheters work, or watch some videos on the internet. As long as you have some tension between the working yarn and your work, your crochet results should work out fine.

DIAGRAMS & CHARTS

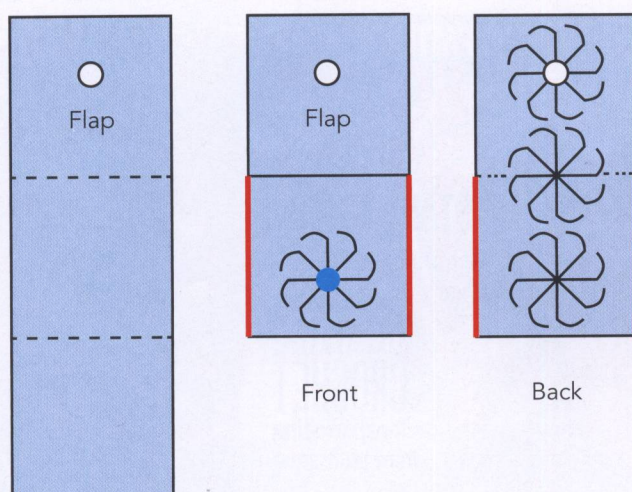
Here what you'll need to create your summer holiday passport bag and flower bunting this issue.

SUMMER HOLIDAY
Passport bag, page 27

Key

- — Fold line
- Double
crochet seam
- Button
- Button hole
- Motif

Diagram A

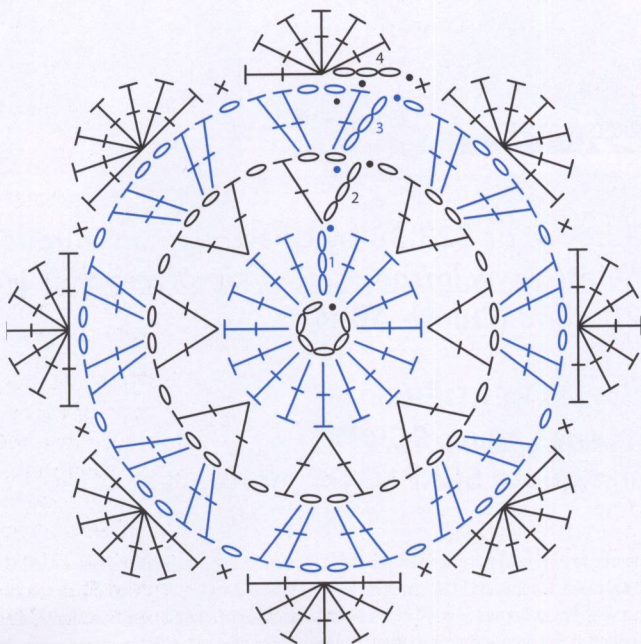


SUMMER BLOOMS BUNTING
Flower motif, page 59

Key

- Slip Stitch (ss)
- Chain (ch)
- × Double crochet (dc)
- T Treble crochet (tr)

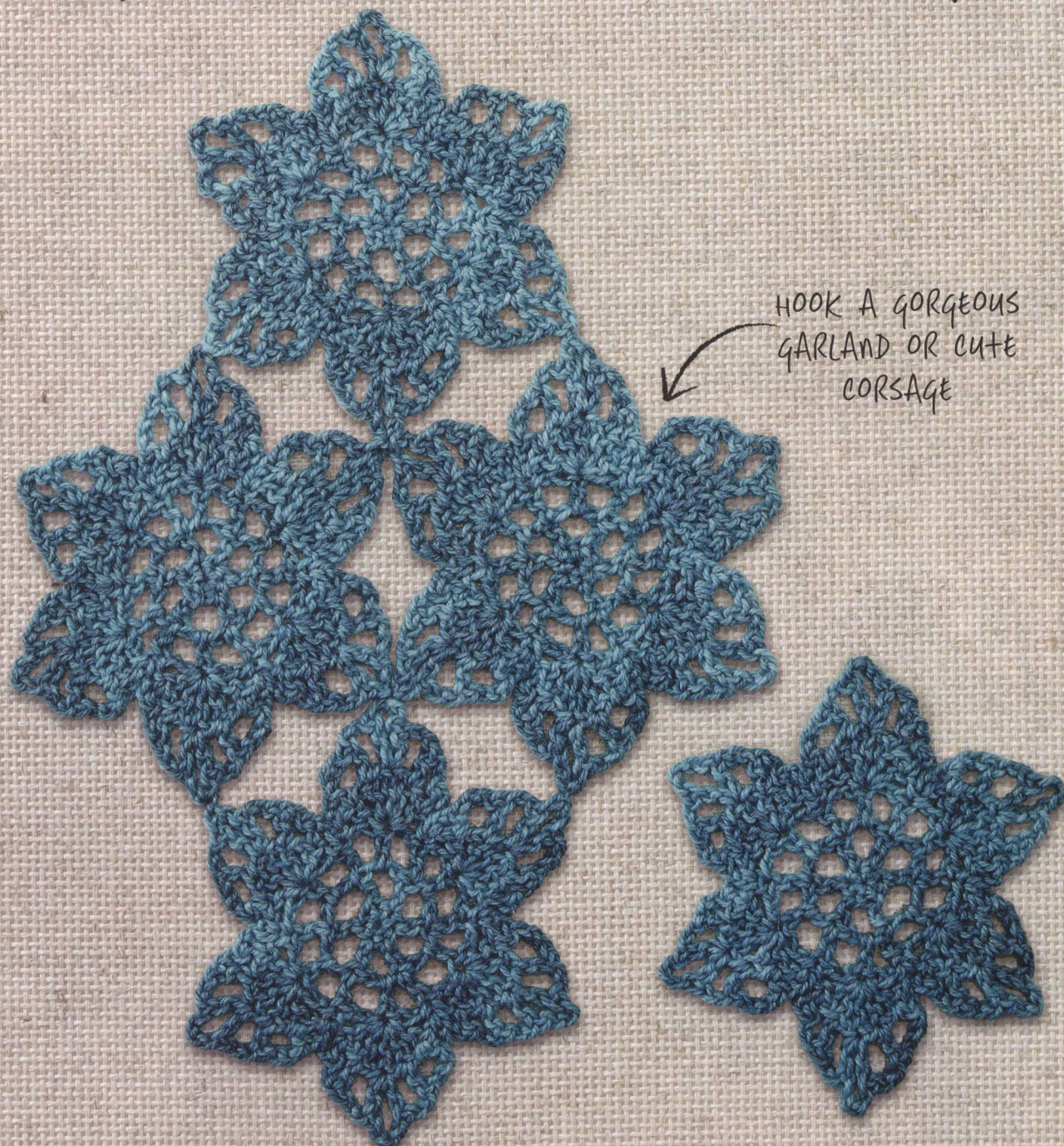
On the chart, all rounds are read in an anti-clockwise direction.



MAKE A MOTIF

★ COOL CLEMATIS ★

Experiment with Lucy Croft's sweet six-petal motif.



MAKE A MOTIF



TREBLE,
HALF TR



4PLY
WEIGHT



3MM
HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

■ Manos del Uruguay, Serena (60% alpaca, 40% cotton, 50g/155m), Dancing Jewel (5004)

■ A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook

For yarn stockists, contact Artesano 0118 950 3350 www.artesanoyarns.co.uk

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

This issue, our motif comes from designer Lucy Croft. This pretty, six-petal flower shape is light and lacy, making it perfect for summer accessories. Hook a single bloom and add ribbon for a statement corsage, or make a whole bunch and join them to form a stunning floral shawl. Dancing Jewel is a beautiful shade in this fine yarn. The cotton in the mix helps the motif keep its shape, while the alpaca makes it strokably soft.

FLOWER MOTIF

Make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into loop, ss to the top of the beginning dc to join. [6 dc]

Round 2 Ch5 (counts as tr, ch2), (tr into the next st, ch2) 5 times, ss to third ch of the beginning ch-5 to join. [6 tr, 6 ch-2 sp]

Round 3 Ch5 (counts as tr, ch2), tr into the next ch-2 sp, ch2, (tr into the next tr, ch2, tr into the next ch-2 sp, ch2) 5 times, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3 to join. [12 tr, 12 ch-2 sp]

Round 4 To create petal: *ch1, into the next tr (tr, ch1) 5 times, ss into the next tr; repeat from * 5 more times. [6 petals]

Round 5 *Ch2, htr into the first tr of

petal, ch2, tr into the next tr, ch2, (tr, ch3, tr) into the next tr, ch2, tr into the next tr, ch2, htr into the next tr, ch2, ss into ss; repeat from * 5 more times.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

JOINING MOTIFS

Join the motifs while working Round 5, replacing 2 of the ch in the ch-sp marked on the chart with (ch1, ss to the corresponding ch-sp on the other motif).

Key



Magic loop



Slip st (ss)



Chain (ch)



Double crochet (dc)



Half treble crochet (htr)

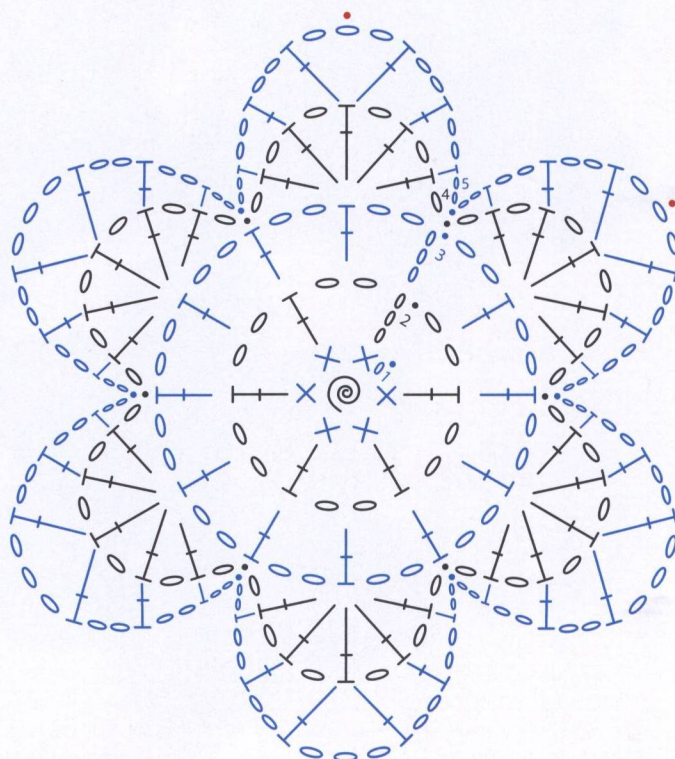


Treble crochet (tr)



Joining slip stitch

On the chart, all rounds are read in an anti-clockwise direction.





HOOK A QUIRKY CLUTCH
in SUMMERY BRIGHTS



Simply Crochet

HOOKED ON HANDMADE

NEXT ISSUE

Romantic garden ideas

Cable crochet

Pretty poncho

Covered buttons

Statement necklace

Cute mug hugs

And more...

ON SALE THURSDAY 25 JULY



FREE!

**SUMMER
PATTERN BOOK**





STYLE
ICONS

DOUBLE TROUBLE

Wardrobes get synchronised with stripes, lace and picots – who wore it better?

There's no need to be green with envy when you're wearing identical dresses, that's for sure. This 1960s gem was part of designer Barbara Warner's Couture Crochet collection and would have set you back the princely sum of sixpence. Would you step out with your little one in matching garb? We do like the idea of a solid striped panel on a lacy garment, but reckon this design works much better as a tiny tunic than an adult dress. We're itching to swap that grass green for navy blue and let the pretty picot edging do the talking. What do you think – groovy or grotesque? Is this pattern a Vintage Vogue or Fashion Rogue? Get in touch to let us know. You could see your very own vintage treasures featured on this page; simply scan your patterns and send them along to us at simplycrochet@futurenet.com