



Love Crochet

23 fab projects to hook today – for your home, your kids and for yourself!



September 2019

Love Crochet



Classic Granny Square makes!

- Picnic set & super-easy scarf
- Fox hoodie, craft set & more



23
Beautiful
PATTERNS

Amigurumi and more!

10 cute toys to make



Crochet ideas for **back to school!**



Fall in love with this little cutie



Get snappy

Croc pencil case



Little monster

Handy tote bag



What a hoot!

Wise owl trio



Rainbow toddler top

BE AN **AMIGURUMI** EXPERT WITH OUR GUIDE





Welcome

The end of the summer holidays marks the start of a new season – if you've got kids, it's all about new term excitement after the long break, while chillier autumn nights are gradually drawing in, with the fun of harvest festivals and Halloween on their way too.

With all this in mind, you'll find plenty of projects to choose from in your brand-new issue, whatever level of crochet expertise you have. You'll love our cheerful Jade the Panda cover star (p.9), wise owl trio (p.15) and jolly harvest mice (p.12), as well as our back-to-school special with an adorable doll complete with backpack (p.20), a handy book bag (p.28) and pencil case (p.25)! We also have easy makes for the home and cosy garments for the family, plus how to crochet for charity (p.57) and our brilliant beginners' guide to amigurumi on page 54.

Amanda

Amanda Robinson
Editor

Find this
adorable
panda on
page 9



PS. The next issue of *Love Crochet* is on sale on 24th October 2019. If you have any queries about patterns, email patternhelp@immediate.co.uk and we'll be happy to give you a hand!



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In the Loop

Books, workshops, crafty events,
top of the blogs – we have the latest crochet
lowdown for you here...



Top of the Blogs!

www.makeanddocrew.com



Jess left behind a career in advertising to be creative with yarn instead, and Make & Do Crew was born. Now playing with yarn is her full-time job, and she's even published her own book, *Corner to Corner Crochet: 15 Contemporary Projects*, which you'll find on her website along with free patterns of her designs and tutorials (crocheted lace patches on jeans, anyone?). We're loving her garments and home accessories, and can't wait to hook a pair of her dreamy Dream Catcher Flip Flop Sandals.



Peak-time viewing

Put a trip to the Peak District into your autumn calendar. Bakewell Wool Gathering will host 50 exhibitor stalls, each groaning with goodies for crocheters, knitters, spinners and weavers. Bakewell Wool Gathering, 12-13 October, Bakewell Agricultural Centre, Derbyshire DE45 1AH; day tickets £5, weekend tickets £8.

www.bakewellwool.co.uk



Creepy crochet



Looking for ideas and patterns to vamp up your Halloween this year? You'll find loads of ideas from the artists and makers on Deviantart. Go to the site, key 'halloween crochet' into the search box and have fun browsing. We found creatures and creepies galore, like this black cat and pumpkin necklace by meekssandygirl. www.deviantart.com

Japanese Wonder Crochet



Did you know that Japanese crochet is different from western crochet? This book shows how western crocheters can master Japanese techniques. Featuring an array of stitch patterns, with both homestyle projects and fashion accessories, *Japanese Wonder Crochet: A Creative Approach to Classic Stitches* by Nihon Vogue is available now (Tuttle Publishing, £11.29 pb, £10.73 Kindle).

Dinosaurs to Crochet



Who doesn't love to cuddle dinosaurs? These dinos and their reptile buddies are worked in chunky yarn, so are great for anyone new to amigurumi. Designs include a Tyrannosaurus Rex, a Triceratops and Pterodactyls, among others. *Dinosaurs to Crochet: 15 Fun-to-Make Patterns for Playful Prehistoric Wonders* by Megan Kreiner is available now (Spring House Press, £16.99).

Shopping hooked

Stock up with storage solutions and more for your crafty home

* Crochet pin badge, www.noths.com/colourfun, **£2**



* New BERNAT® Velvet™ yarn, www.hobbycraft.co.uk, **£11 per ball**



* Humpty Dumpty crochet toy (40cm high), www.bestyours.co.uk, **£35**

* Hand-drawn magazine files, www.noths/heartandparcel, **£10.95 each**



* Keep it tidy with Kat the Cat ceramic yarn storer, www.redcandy.co.uk, **£44**



* Crafty storage pouch, www.lauraleedesigns.co.uk, **£12**



* Milkmaid Miffy crochet doll, www.miffyshop.co.uk, **£28**

* Fun personalised crochet hook, www.woodpaperscissors.com, **£6**



* Handy storage bag for your stash, www.kellyconnordesigns.com, **£24.95**



* Simon Pengelly Harp Chair in Oak, www.johnlewis.com, **£1,200**



* New Caron® Simply Soft® yarn, www.deramores.com, **£4.29 per ball**

Jade the panda

Cute, cuddly and soft, this panda will be adored by all ages! Bring her to life using just two colours of DK yarn from your stash. By **Liz Ward**



**MAKES
A GREAT
GIFT!**

Cute panda



Add to your menagerie of amigurumi animals with the latest offering from Liz Ward – Jade the panda! This adorable character is made with just two shades of yarn, making it extra-easy for newbies to pick up their hook and have a go. Start with the head and body, worked in one piece, adding Jade's all-important eye patches with felt, and her nose and mouth with embroidery. Any animal lover will appreciate the charms of this cute little friend, so what are you waiting for!

You will need

- Oddments of DK yarn in black and white
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook
- 15mm safety toy eyes
- Wool needle
- Toy stuffing
- Black felt
- Black embroidery thread

Measurements

- 16x8cm (6¼x3in)

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project but stitches should be tight so that stuffing does not show through

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

PANDA

Note

This pattern is worked using the amigurumi method. Work stitches continuously in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work.

Eye patches

Cut two ovals out of black felt, about 2cm (¾in) long. Fold the oval in half and cut a little way into the centre, fold the other way and repeat to make a cross that you can push the shaft of the toy eyes through.

Head and body

The head and body are worked in one piece.

Using White yarn, make a magic ring and work 6dc into the ring. (6 sts)

Round 1 2dc into each st to the end. (12 sts)

Round 2 (Dc in the first st, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (18 sts)

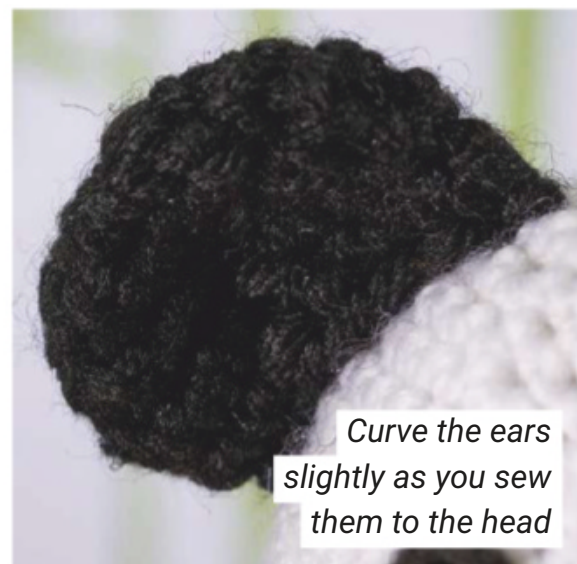
Round 3 (Dc in the first 2 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (24 sts)

Round 4 (Dc in the first 3 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (30 sts)

Round 5 (Dc in the first 9 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (33 sts)

Round 6 (Dc in the first 10 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (36 sts)

Round 7 (Dc in the first 11 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (39 sts)



Top Tip

This is a quick make, and should take around 3-4 hours to complete

Round 8 (Dc in the first 12 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (42 sts)

Round 9 (Dc in the first 13 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (45 sts)

Round 10 (Dc in the first 14 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (48 sts)

Round 11 (Dc in the first 15 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (51 sts)

Place 2 stitch markers on the next row, 12 sts apart, to mark where you will put the toy eyes

Round 12 Dc in each st to the end. (51 sts)

Round 13 (Dc2tog, dc in the next 15 sts); repeat to end. (48 sts)

Round 14 (Dc2tog, dc in next 6 sts); repeat to end. (42 sts)

Round 15 (Dc2tog, dc in next 5 sts); repeat to end. (36 sts)

Round 16 (Dc2tog, dc in next 4 sts); repeat to end. (30 sts)

Round 17 (Dc2tog); repeat to end. (15 sts)

Put your working loop on a stitch holder and attach the toy eyes with their patches to the head, in the places you marked on Round 12.

Stuff the head with toy stuffing.

Put your working loop back on your hook and continue

Round 18 (Dc in the first 4 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (18 sts)

Round 19 Dc in each st to the end. (18 sts)
Change to Black yarn.

Round 20 (Dc in the first 5 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (21 sts)

Round 21 (Dc in the first 6 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (24 sts)

Round 22 (Dc in the first 7 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (27 sts)

Round 23 Dc in each st to the end. (27 sts)
Change back to White yarn.

Round 24 (Dc in the first 8 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (30 sts)

Round 25 (Dc in the first 9 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (33 sts)

Round 26 (Dc in the first 10 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (36 sts)

Rounds 27-29 Dc in each st to the end. (36 sts)

Round 30 (Dc2tog, dc in the next 4 sts); repeat to end. (30 sts)

Round 31 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts); repeat to end. (24 sts)

Round 32 (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts); repeat to end. (18 sts)

Round 33 (Dc2tog, dc in next st); repeat to end. (12 sts)

Stuff now.

Round 34 (Dc2tog); repeat to end. (6 sts)
Fasten off.

Sew closed hole at base.

Arms (make 2)

Using Black yarn, make a magic ring and work 6dc into the ring. (6 sts)

Round 1 2dc into each st to the end. (12 sts)

Round 2 (Dc in the first st, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (18 sts)

Round 3 (Dc2tog, dc in the next 4 sts); repeat to end. (15 sts)

Round 4 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts); repeat to end. (12 sts)

Round 5 (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts); repeat to end. (9 sts)

Rounds 6-12 Dc in each st to end. (9 sts)
Fasten off and stuff.

Sew closed the hole at the top.

Sew arms onto either side of the body.

Legs (make 2)

Using Black yarn, make a magic ring and work 6dc into the ring. (6 sts)

Round 1 2dc into each st to the end. (12 sts)

Round 2 (Dc in the first st, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (18 sts)

Round 3 (Dc in the first 2 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (24 sts)

Round 4 Dc in each st to end

Round 5 (Dc2tog, dc in the next 4 sts); repeat to end. (20 sts)

Round 6 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts); repeat to end. (16 sts)

Round 7 (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts); repeat to end. (12 sts)

Round 8 Dc in each st to end. (12 sts)

Round 9 (Dc2tog, dc in next st); repeat to end. (8 sts)

Rounds 10-13 Dc in each st to end. (8 sts)
Fasten off and stuff.

Sew closed the hole at the top.

Sew lgs in place on the bottom of the bear, using image as a guide.

Ears (make 2)

Using Black yarn, make a magic ring and work 6dc into the ring. (6 sts)

Round 1 2dc into each st to the end. (12 sts)

Round 2 (Dc in the first st, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (18 sts)

Round 3 Dc in each st to end.

Fasten off.

Curve into shape on the head and sew in place

To finish

Use black embroidery thread to sew a 'V' on the face to form the nose. Work over this 'V' with horizontal stitches until it is covered. Then sew an upside-down 'Y' to form the mouth. ♥



Coming next issue!

Don't miss our sparkly ballerina cats, pirouetting onto our pages in the November issue of Love Crochet! On sale from 24th October.



Top tip

With some careful balancing, both mice should stand up by themselves on their sturdy feet

Happy harvest

Stitch these miniature harvest mice by **Becky Skuse** to celebrate the season – what a pair of squeakhearts!

You will need

- DMC Natura Just Cotton, 1 ball each in:
Canelle (shade N37)
Bourgogne (shade N34)
Moss Green (shade N75)
Safran (shade N47)
Orquidea (shade N45)
Gardenia (shade N36)
- Small scraps of DK cotton yarn in black, green and pink
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook

Measurements

- Approx. 7cm (2¾in) tall

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project but stitches should be tight so that stuffing does not show through

Abbreviations

- Invisible dc decrease (inv dec): insert hook in front loop only of the next 2 dc, yrh and pull up a loop (drawing hook back through both sts), yrh and pull through both loops on hook
- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

DMC Natura Just Cotton

100% cotton
155m per 50g
Machine wash at 30°C
£3.99, visit www.dmc.com
or call 01924 231669

Harvest mice may be small in size, but they're big in character! This couple are ready for their harvest festival and have dressed up in their best clothes, made out of autumn's bountiful offerings, including leaves, flowers and fruits. They're only small, which makes them quick to crochet, and then you can enjoy adding the extra details that really bring them to life.

HARVEST MICE

Gent's body

Started from the legs and worked upwards.

Using Bourgogne, ch6.

Round 1 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr into 3rd ch from hook, dc in next ch, ss in each of next 2 ch, dc in next ch, 2htr in next ch. Rotate to work in other side of chain: 2htr into first ch, dc in next ch, ss in each of next 2 ch, dc in next ch, 2htr in next ch, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join into the round. (16 sts)

Round 2 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr into next htr, dc in next dc, ss in each of next 2 ss, dc in next dc, htr in each of next 4 htr, dc in next dc, ss in each of next 2 ss, dc in next dc, htr in each of next 2 htr, ss to top of beg ch-2. (16 sts)

Round 3 Repeat Round 2.

Round 4 Ch1 (does not count as a stitch throughout), dc in each stitch around, ss to first dc.

Round 5 Ch1, dc in each of next 4 dc, inv dec, dc in each of next 6 dc, inv dec, dc in each of next 2 dc, ss to first dc. (14 dc)

Round 6 Repeat Round 4.

Round 7 Ch1, dc in each of next 3 dc, inv dec, dc in each of next 5 dc, inv dec, dc in each of next 2 dc, ss to first dc. (12 dc)

Round 8 Repeat Round 4.

Stuff.

Round 9 Ch1, (dc in next dc, inv dec) 4 times, ss to first dc. (8 dc)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Weave the tail in and out of the last 8 dc and pull lightly to bring closer together.

Lady's body

Using Moss Green, ch8.

Round 1 Dc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch to end. Rotate to work in other

side of chain: 2dc in first ch, dc in each ch across, 2dc in last ch, ss to first dc to join. (16 dc)

Rounds 2-4 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss to first dc.

Round 5 Ch1, dc in each of next 6 dc, inv dec, dc in each of next 6 dc, inv dec, ss to first dc. (14 dc)

Round 6 Repeat Round 2.

Round 7 Ch1, dc in each of next 5 dc, inv dec, dc in each of next 5 dc, inv dec, ss to first dc. (12 dc)

Round 8 Repeat Round 2.

Stuff.

Round 9 Ch1, (dc in next dc, inv dec) 4 times, ss to first dc. (8 dc)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Weave the tail in and out of the last 8 dc and pull lightly to bring closer together.

Arms (make 2)

Using Canelle, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch1, 4dc into loop, ss to first dc. (4 dc)

Fasten off Canelle.

For Gent, join Safran in any stitch.

For Lady, join Moss Green in any stitch.

Rounds 2-3 Ch1, dc in each dc around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Use the long tail to sew the Arms to the Body.

Head

Worked from the back of the head to the snout.

Using Canelle, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch1, 6dc into loop, ss to first dc. (6 dc)

Round 2 Ch1, 2dc in each dc, ss to first dc. (12 dc)

Round 3 Ch1, (dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc) around, ss to first dc. (18 dc)

Rounds 4-6 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss ➡

Harvest mice

to first dc.

Round 7 Ch1, (dc in next dc, inv dec) around, ss to first dc. (12 dc)

Round 8 Ch1, (dc in next dc, inv dec) around, ss to first dc. (8 dc)

Stuff.

Round 9 Ch1, (dc in each of next 2dc, inv dec) twice, ss to first dc. (6 dc)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Weave the tail in and out of the last 6 dc and pull tightly to close the snout. Secure and weave the end inside.

Ears

Make 2 for each mouse.

Using Canelle, make a magic loop.

Row 1 Ch2, working into loop: htr, 2tr, htr, ch2, ss.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Weave the long tail in and out of the sts along the base of the Ear. Pull to cinch together. Use the long tail to attach the Ear to the Head.

Feet

Make 2 for each mouse.

Using Canelle, ch3.

Round 1 Dc in 2nd ch from hook, 3dc in last ch, rotating to work around the other side of the chain: 2dc in last ch, ss to first dc. (6 dc)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Make a second foot half in the same way, but don't fasten off.

Place 2 foot halves together with WS facing. *Insert hook in next st of both layers, work a slip stitch; repeat from * around to join together, working a ss in the first sts again. Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Use the tail to sew the finished foot to the base of the Body.

Face

Use a length of black yarn to sew two eyes and a nose onto the face. If desired, use pink yarn for the nose on the Lady.

Gent's jacket

Started from the collar and worked downwards.

Using Safran, ch13.

Row 1 Dc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. (12 dc)

Row 2 Ch1, dc in each of next 2 dc, ch2, skip 1 dc, dc in each of next 6 dc, ch2, skip

1 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc, turn.

(10 dc, 2 ch-2 sps)

Row 3 Ch1, dc in each of next 2 dc, 2dc in next ch-2 sp, dc in each of next 6 dc, 2dc in next ch-2 sp, dc in each of next 2 dc, turn. (14 dc)

Row 4 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, dc in each of next 12 dc, 2dc in last dc, turn. (16 dc)

Row 5 Ch1, dc in each dc across.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

With the narrower collar at the neck of the Gent, place Jacket on the Gent, carefully pulling the Arms through the gaps in Row 2. If needed, use a length of Bourgogne to add a couple of stitches between the Body and the inside of the Jacket.

Lady's skirt

(Made in 2 tiers)

Using Orquidea, ch19, leaving a long tail.

Round 1 Htr in 3rd ch from hook (skipped 2 ch counts as htr) and in each ch to end, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join into the round. (18 htr)

Weave the starting tail into the base of the beg ch-2 and back into the first chain to join the other edge into the round.

Round 2 *Ch3, dtr2tog across the st at base of ch-3 and the next htr, ch3, ss in same htr as second leg of the dtr2tog, ss in next 2 htr; repeat from * around, omitting the final ss. (6 petals)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Make another tier in the same way.

Carefully pull one tier of the skirt up over the feet and lower body until the starting chain sits at the waist.

Carefully pull the second tier of the skirt up over the feet and lower body and position so it sits underneath the first tier. Use the long tails to stitch each tier in place on the Body.

Tail

Cut a length of Canelle approx 15cm (6in). Secure one end at the centre back, approx 1cm (½in) up from the feet, leaving approx 7cm (2¾in) dangling.

Gent's cravat

Cut a small length of black yarn and wrap it around the Gent's neck. Tie a double knot at the front and trim the ends so they sit just above the Jacket hem.



Lady's hat

Using Gardenia, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch1, 6dc into loop, ss to first dc. (6 dc)

Round 2 Ch1, 2dc in each dc around, ss to first dc. (12 dc)

Round 3 Ch1, dc in each of the next 2 dc, inv dec, dc in each of the next 4 dc, inv dec, dc in each of the next 2 dc, ss to first dc. (10 dc)

Round 4 Ch1, dc in each of the next 2 dc, ch3, dc in each of the next 5 dc, ch3, dc in each of the next 3 dc. (10 dc and 2 ch-3 sps)

Round 5 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr in dc at base of ch-2, 2htr in each dc and 3htr in each ch-3 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-2. (26 htr)

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Hat decorations

Use Bourgogne and Orquidea to make French knots as desired.

Use a small scrap of green yarn to make one chain stitch and create a leaf shape. Repeat as desired.

Large berry

Using Bourgogne, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch1, 3dc into loop, ss to first dc. (3 dc)

Fasten off and use the ends to sew the berry to the hat.

Repeat as desired, using Orquidea for some berries.

Weave in ends under the Hat.

Place the Hat on the Lady's Head, carefully pulling the Ears through the holes in the Hat. Stitch the Hat in place if desired. ♥

Top tip

Use up cotton
DK from your
stash to make the
accessories!

Birds of a feather

Hook this happy family of owls by **Val Pierce** – with a wise old dad, gorgeous mum and cute little baby, they make a perfect trio!

You will need

- Wendy Supreme Luxury Cotton DK, 1 ball each in:
 - Chai (shade 1973)
 - Driftwood (shade 1950)
 - Cream (shade 1851)
- Very Small amounts in:
 - Asparagus (shade 1970)
 - Flame (shade 1971)
 - Nude (shade 1969)
 - Sorbet (shade 1962)
 - Cyclamen (shade 1967)
 - Apple Blossom (shade 1964)
 - Black (shade 1833)
- Any cotton DK yarn in:
 - Pale Blue and Mid Blue
- 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) hook
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook
- Safety stuffing
- 4 x 10mm safety eyes
- 2 x 7mm safety eyes

Measurements

- Small: 5cm (2½in) tall
- Medium: 11.5cm (4½in) tall
- Large: 14cm (5½in) tall

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project but stitches should be tight so that stuffing does not show through

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Wendy Supreme Luxury Cotton DK

100% cotton

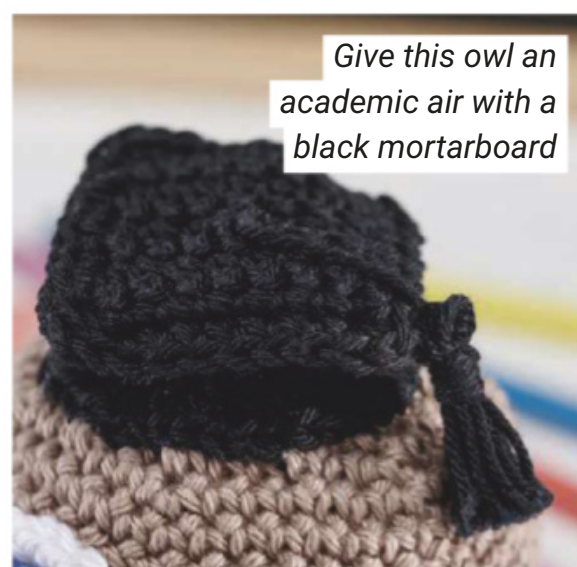
201m per 100g

Machine wash at 30°C

£3.95, for stockists call 01943 872

264 or visit www.tbramsden.co.uk

Too-wit too-woo! This cheerful family of owls will bring a smile to anyone's face with their wide eyes and cute characteristics. The body and head of each owl is worked all in one piece, and then the other parts are made separately and stitched on. You'll need lots of different coloured cotton yarns to create the fun accessories on each bird – check your stash for yarns to use up, and have fun customising your owl family to suit the lucky recipient. They'll make excellent back-to-school gifts!



Give this owl an academic air with a black mortarboard



The wide tail helps to keep the owl steady when sitting

LARGE OWL

Body & head

Using 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) hook and Driftwood, make 2ch, 6dc into 2nd ch from hook, join with a ss.

Next round 1ch, 2dc into each dc to end, join as before. (12 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, join as before. (18 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, join as before. (24 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, join as before. (30 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, join as before. (36 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 5

dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, join as before. (42 sts)

Work 18 rounds in dc.

Shape top

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 5 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, join as before. (36 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 4 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, join as before. (30 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next

3 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, join as before. (24 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, join as before. (18 sts)

Fasten off.

Feet (make 2 pieces alike)

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and Flame, make 4ch, 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, turn.

Next row 1ch, 1dc into each dc to end. (3 sts)

Next row 1ch, 2dc into first dc, 1dc in next dc, 2dc in last dc. (5 sts)

Next row 1ch, 1dc into each dc to end, turn.

Next row 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc to last dc, 2dc in last dc, turn. (7 sts)

Next row 1ch, 1dc in each dc to end, turn.

Next row 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc to last dc, 2dc in last dc, turn. (9 sts)

Next row 1ch, *1dc in each dc to end.

Next row 1ch, *2dc in first st, 1dc in each dc to last dc, 2dc in last dc, turn. (11 sts)

Next row 1ch, *1dc in each dc to end, turn.

Next row 1ch, 1dc in next 2dc, *2tr in next dc, ss in next dc, ss in next dc, 1dc in next dc; rep from * to last dc, 1dc in last dc.

Fasten off.

Beak

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and Chai, make 5ch, 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each dc to end, turn.

Next row 1ch, 1dc into each dc to end, turn.

Rep last row once more.

Next row 1ch, 1dc into 2nd dc, 1dc in each dc to end.

Rep last row to 2dc.

Fasten off.

Tail (make 2 pieces alike)

Worked in dc into the back loop only.

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and Driftwood, make 13ch, work 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end,

turn.

Next row 1ch, 1dc into each dc to end, turn.

Next row 1ch, miss first dc, work to last 2dc, miss 1dc, 1dc in last dc, turn, Repeat last row until 4 dc remain. Work 1 row in dc and fasten off.

Wings (make 2 alike)

Follow number of stitches stated for different sizes: Small (Medium: Large)

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and Chai, make 2ch, work 6dc into 2nd ch from hook, join with a ss.

Work 3 (4: 6) rounds in dc, joining as before.

Next round 1ch, work 2dc into each dc all around, join as before.

Work 1 (3: 3) more rounds in dc.

Next round 1ch, dc2tog all around.

Fasten off.

Eyes

Use Pale blue for Section 1, Mid blue for Section 2 and Cream for Section 3.

Section 1

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook, make 2ch, work 6dc into 2nd ch from hook, join with a ss.

Next round 1ch, 2dc into each dc to end.** Fasten off.

Section 2

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook, work as section 1 to **.

Next round 1ch, *1dc into next dc, 2dc into next dc; rep from * to end. *** Fasten off.

Section 3

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook, work as section 2 to ***.

Next round 1ch, 1dc into each of next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end. Fasten off.

Mortarboard

Top of hat

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and

Black make 9ch, 1dc into each dc to end, turn.

Work 18 rows in dc.

Fasten off.

Base

Make 19ch and join into a circle.

Work 1dc into each ch to end, join.

Work 3 more rounds in dc.

Next round 1ch, work 2dc into each dc to end, join.

Work 1 round in dc.

Fasten off.

To make up

Fold top piece of hat in half. Join Black yarn to side edge, work 1 row of dc all around piece, join with a ss, fasten off.

Wind some shorts lengths of Black yarn around a piece of card, tie together to make a tassel, then thread a piece of yarn through the top of the tassel and attach to the top of the hat.

To assemble

Add any extra stuffing to body if needed.

Make each eye by placing the three sections on top of each other, insert the safety eye through the centre hole. Snap the back onto the eye to hold in place.

Pin eyes to front of body piece and sew in place around outer edge.

Fold beak in from each side to form a little roll, then tuck the base inside to make beak shape. Secure with a few sts and sew to face in between eyes. Flatten wing piece and pin to side of body, then sew in place at each end. Repeat with other wing.

Sew feet together in pairs, adding a tiny bit of stuffing to pad each foot. Using Black yarn, oversew claws onto foot. Sew feet together, then sew to base of owl.

Sew tail pieces together and attach to back of owl.

Using Nude, embroider 'V' shapes onto front of owl body to depict feathers.

Place mortarboard on top of head and sew in place.



Owl family



MEDIUM OWL

Body & head

Using 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) hook and Chai, make 2ch, 6dc into 2nd ch from hook, join with a ss.

Next round 1ch, 2dc into each dc to end, join as before. (12 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, join as before. (18 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, join as before. (24 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, join as before. (30 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, join as before. (36 sts)

Work 14 rounds in dc.

Shape top

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 4 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, join as before. (30 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 3 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, join as before. (24 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, join as before. (18 sts)

Fasten off.

Feet (make 2 pieces alike)

Make as for Large Owl feet using Nude.

Beak

Make as for Large Owl beak using Nude.

Tail (make 2 pieces alike)

Make as for Large Owl tail.

Wings (make 2 alike)

Follow pattern for Large Owl wings, using Driftwood.

Eyes

Make as for Large Owl eyes, using Cyclamen for Section 1, Pale blue for Section 2 and Mid blue for Section 3.

Hat

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and Asparagus, make 2ch, 6dc into 2nd ch from hook, join with a ss.

Next round 2dc in each dc to end. (12 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep to end, join with a ss. (18 sts)

Work 2 rounds in dc.

Next round 2ch, 1tr in first dc, *2tr in each dc to end, join with a ss.

Repeat last round once more.

Fasten off.

Band

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and

Blossom, make 20ch, join into a circle with a ss.

Work 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, join as before.

Next round Ss into each ch to end, join and fasten off.

Flower

Using 3.3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and Blossom, make 5ch, join into ring with a ss.

Next round *5ch, 1dc into ring; rep from * 5 times more, join to beg of round and fasten off.

Make another piece the same.

To make up

Work in any loose ends. Sew the two flowers together, one on top of the other, embroider a French knot into the centre of the flower using Sorbet.

Sew flower onto band, then place band around crown of hat and secure with a few stitches.

To assemble

Assemble as for Large Owl, using Flame for embroidered feathers.

Secure hat to head with a few stitches, turning back brim on one side.



Decorate this summer hat with a pretty pink flower



SMALL OWL

Body & head

Using 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) hook and Cream, make 2ch, 6dc into 2nd ch from hook, join with a ss.

Next round 1ch, 2dc into each dc to end, join as before. (12 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, join as before. (18 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, join as before. (24 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, join as before. (30 sts)
Work 8 rounds in dc.

Shape top

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 3 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, join as before. (24 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, join as before. (18 sts)

Next round 1ch, *1dc in next dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, join as before. (12 sts)
Fasten off.

Feet (make 2 alike)

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and Chai, make 4ch, 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, turn.

Next row 1ch, 1dc into each dc to end. (3 sts)



This sweet little bow can be made in any colour you choose

Next row 1ch, 2dc into first dc, 1dc in next dc, 2dc in last dc. (5 sts)

Next row 1ch, 1dc into each dc to end, turn.

Next row 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc to last dc, 2dc in last dc, turn. (7 sts)
Work 4 rows in dc.

Dec 1 stitch at each end of the next row and every following alt row to 3 dc.
Work 1 row in dc and fasten off.

Beak

Make as for Large Owl beak using Nude.

Tail (make 2 pieces alike)

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and Chai, make 11ch, work 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, turn.

Next row 1ch, 1dc into each dc to end, turn.

Next row 1ch, miss first dc, work to last 2dc, miss 1dc, 1dc in last dc, turn.
Repeat last row until 4 dc remain.
Work 1 row in dc and fasten off.

Wings (make 2 alike)

Follow pattern for Large Owl wings, using Driftwood.

Eyes

Make as for Large Owl eyes, using Pale blue for Section 1 and Mid blue for

Top Tip

Sew on all the accessories very securely so that children can't easily pull them off

Section 2. Do not work Section 3.

Bow

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and Sorbet, make 23ch, work 1dc into second ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, turn.

Work 1ch, 1dc into each dc to end, turn.

Work 2 more rows in dc and fasten off.

Sew short ends of bow together. Fold in half lengthways, placing join at centre back. Gather centre of piece to form bow and secure with a few sts.

To assemble

Assemble as for Large Owl, remembering there are only two eye sections and no embroidery on the front of the body. Sew the bow to the top of the head. 💙



Top tip

For a personalised doll, adapt the hair colour to match your little girl's own hair

Best in class

Lily's ready for school in her fashionable new outfit, crocheted in colourful cotton yarn. By **Lily Sugar'n Cream**

You will need

- Lily Sugar'n Cream, 1 ball each in:
Soft Ecru (shade 01004) – MC
White (shade 00001) – A
Hot Pink (shade 01740) – B
Indigo (shade 01114) – C
Warm Brown (shade 01130) – D
- Lily Sugar'n Cream Ombres, 1 ball in:
Batik (shade 02446) – E
- 3.5mm (UK 9/10, US E/4) crochet hook
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook
- Stuffing
- 2 small black beads for eyes
- Small amounts of red and black embroidery thread
- Button or bead for backpack

Measurements

- Approx 32cm (12½in) long x 12.5cm (5in) wide

Tension

- 16dc and 18 rows to 10cm (4in), using 3.5mm (UK 9/10, US E/4) crochet hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Lily Sugar'n Cream

100% cotton
109m per 71g
Machine wash at 30°C

Lily Sugar'n Cream Ombres

100% cotton
86m per 57g
Machine wash at 30°C

Both £3, buy in store at Hobbycraft or visit www.hobbycraft.co.uk

Shape a back-to-school Lily doll to accompany your little girl on her big day back. With her smart backpack and multicoloured hoodie in gorgeous ombre yarn, Lily is a stylish tot, and guarantees to make starting school (or nursery) a bit more fun! Lily's leggings and T-shirt are made as part of the body, while the skirt, shoes and hoodie are worked separately. Little ones will just love to dress her up, ready for the start of term!

LILY DOLL

Head

With MC and 3.5mm (UK 9/10, US E/4) hook, ch2.

Round 1 8dc in 2nd ch from hook, join with ss to first dc.

Round 2 Ch1, 2dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc. (16 dc)

Round 3 Ch1, *2dc in next dc, 1dc in next dc; rep from * around, join with ss to first dc. (24 dc)

Round 4 Ch1, *2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 2 dc; rep from * around, join with ss to first dc. (32 dc)

Round 5 Ch1, *2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 3 dc; rep from * around, join with ss to first dc. (40 dc)

Round 6 Ch1, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.

Rep last round 10 times more.

Next round Ch1, *draw up a loop in each of next 2 dc, yoh and draw through all loops on hook – dc2tog made, 1dc in each of next 3 dc; rep from * around, join with ss to first dc. (32 sts)

Next round Ch1, *dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 2 dc; rep from * around, join with ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Stuff Head.

Next round Ch1, *dc2tog, 1dc in next dc; rep from * around, join with ss to first dc. (16 sts)

Next round Ch1 *dc2tog; rep from * around, join with ss to first st.

Fasten off.

Stuff Head.

Body

Leggings

With B and 3.5mm (UK 9/10, US E/4)



hook, ch30, join in ring with ss into first ch, taking care not to twist ch.

Round 1 Ch1, 1dc in each ch around, join with ss to first dc. (30 dc)

Round 2 Ch1, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.

Rep last round until work from beg measures 4cm (1½in), join A with ss to first dc. Break B.

T-shirt

With A, rep last round twice more.

Back-to-school doll

Next round Ch1, *dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 3 dc; rep from * around, join with ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Next round Ch1, 1dc in each st around, join with ss to first dc.

Rep last round until work from beg measures 10cm (4in).

Next round Ch1, *dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 2 dc; rep from * around, join with ss to first dc. (18 sts)

Next round Ch1, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.

Rep last round twice more.

Fasten off.

Sew bottom edge of Body closed.

Stuff Body.

Arms (make 2)

With MC and 3.5mm (UK 9/10, US E/4) hook, ch2.

Round 1 5dc in 2nd ch from hook, join with ss to first dc.

Round 2 Ch1, 2dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc. (10 dc)

Round 3 Ch1, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.

Round 4 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 4 dc, 1dtr in next dc (thumb), 1dc in each of last 5 dc, join with ss to first dc.

Round 5 Ch1, 1dc in each st around, join with ss to first dc.

Round 6 Ch1, (dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 3 dc) twice, join with ss to first dc. (8 sts)

Round 7 Ch1, 1dc in each st around, join with ss to first dc.

Rep last round until Arm measures 7.5cm (3in), join A with ss to first dc. Break MC.

T-shirt sleeves

With A, rep last round 4 times more.

Fasten off.

Stuff Arms lightly.

Legs (make 2).

Foot

With MC and 3.5mm (UK 9/10, US E/4) hook, ch5.

****Round 1** 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each of next 2 ch, 3dc in last ch. Do not turn. Working in rem loops of foundation ch, 1dc in each of next 2 ch, 2dc in last ch, join with ss to first dc.

(10 dc)

Round 2 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, 1dc in each



of next 2 dc, 2dc in each of next 3 dc, 1dc in each of next 2 dc, 2dc in each of last 2 dc, join with ss to first sc. (16 dc)

Round 3 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, 1dc in each of next 4 dc, 2dc in each of next 4 dc, 1dc in each of next 4 dc, 2dc in each of next 3 dc, join with ss to first dc. (24 dc)

Round 4 Ch1, working in back loops only, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.**

Round 5 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 7 dc, (dc2tog) 3 times, 1dc in each dc to end of round, join with ss to first dc. Place marker at end of round. (21 sts)

Round 6 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 6 dc, (dc2tog) 3 times, 1dc in each dc to last 2 dc, dc2tog, join with ss to first dc. (17 sts)

Round 7 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 5 dc, (dc2tog) 3 times, 1dc in each dc to end of round, join with ss to first dc. (14 sts)

Round 8 Ch1, 1dc in each st around, join with ss to first dc.

Rep last round until Leg measures 5cm (2in), joining B with ss to first dc at end of last round. Break MC.

Leggings

With B, rep last round until Leg measures 12.5cm (5in). Fasten off.

Stuff Legs.

To finish

Sew top of Legs closed using whip st.

Sew to bottom of Body as shown in picture. Attach Arms to sides of Body. Attach Head to top of Body. With black embroidery thread, embroider eyelashes. Sew beads to front of Head for eyes. With red embroidery thread, embroider mouth. With B, embroider flower on T-shirt front with Lazy Daisy stitch.

Hair fringe

Cut a piece of tape 12.5cm (5in) long and secure onto a flat surface with sticky side up. Cut lengths of D 40.5cm (16in) long and lay them across tape so strip of tape is in centre of yarn. Holding tissue paper over top of yarn and using sewing machine, run a line of stitching along length of tape. Remove tape and tissue paper when hair is secure. Pin fringe to centre of head. Using backstitch and D, sew hair into place along sewn line. Rep previous steps with 5cm (2in) piece of tape and 51cm (20in) lengths of yarn. Pin to front of hair line to create fringe. Secure Hair into place with ribbon with short lengths of B.

HOODIE Back

With E and 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook, ch18.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of chain. Turn. (17 dc)

Rows 2 and 3 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end

of row. Turn.

Row 4 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 7 dc, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 8 dc. Turn. (16 sts)

Rows 5 and 6 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end of row. Turn.

Row 7 Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 12 sc. Sc2tog. Turn. (14 sts)

Rows 8 and 9 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end of row. Turn.

Row 10 Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 10 dc, dc2tog. Turn. (12 sts)

Row 11 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end of row. Turn.

Row 12 Ch1, dc2tog. 1dc in each of next 8 dc, dc2tog. Turn. (10 sts)

Row 13 Ss in each of next 2 sts, ch1, 1dc in same sp as last ss, 1dc in each of next 7 dc. Turn. Leave rem dc unworked. (8 sts)

Row 14 Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 4 dc, dc2tog. Turn. (6 sts)

Rows 15 and 16 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end of row. Turn.

Row 17 (shape neck) Ch2 (counts as htr), 2htr in first dc, 1dc in next dc, ss in each of next 2 dc, 1dc in next dc, 3htr in last dc. Fasten off.

Right and left fronts (both alike)

With E and 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook, ch9.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of chain. Turn. (8 dc)

Rows 2 and 3 Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end

of row. Turn.

Row 4 Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 6 dc. Turn. (7 sts)

Rows 5 and 6 Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Row 7 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 5 dc, dc2tog. Turn. (6 sts)

Rows 8 and 9 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end of row. Turn.

Row 10 Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 4 dc. Turn. (5 sts)

Row 11 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end of row. Turn.

Row 12 Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 3 dc. Turn. (4 sts)

Row 13 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 3 dc. Turn. Leave rem dc unworked.

Row 14 Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Row 15 Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in next dc. Turn.

Row 16 Ch1, dc2tog. Turn.

Row 17 Ch2, 2htr in first st. Fasten off.

Sleeve (make 2)

With E and 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook, ch12.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of chain. Turn. (11 dc)

Rows 2-7 Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Row 8 Ss in each of next 2 dc, ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 5 dc, dc2tog. Turn. Leave rem st unworked. (7 sts)

Row 9 Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 3 dc, dc2tog. Turn. (5 sts)

Row 10 Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Row 11 Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in next dc, dc2tog. Turn. (3 sts)

Row 12 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 2 sts. Leave rem st unworked. Fasten off.

Hood (make 2 pieces alike)

With E and 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook, ch9.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of chain. Turn. (8 dc)

Row 2 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 7 dc, 2dc in next dc. Turn. (9 dc)

Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, 1dc in each of next 8 dc. Turn. (10 dc)

Row 4 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 9 dc, 2dc in next dc. Turn. (11 dc)

Row 5 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 5 dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 5 dc. Turn. (12 dc)

Row 6 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 11 dc, 2dc in next dc. Turn. (13 dc)

Row 7 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 6 dc. Turn. (14 dc)

Row 8 Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Row 9 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 6dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 7 dc. Turn. (15 dc)

Rows 10-12 As Row 8

Row 13 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 7dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 7 dc. Turn. (16 dc)

Row 14 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 14 dc, dc2tog. Turn. (15 sts)

Row 15 Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 13 dc. Turn. (14 sts)

Row 16 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 12 dc, dc2tog. Turn. (13 sts)

Row 17 Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 11 dc. Turn. (12 sts)

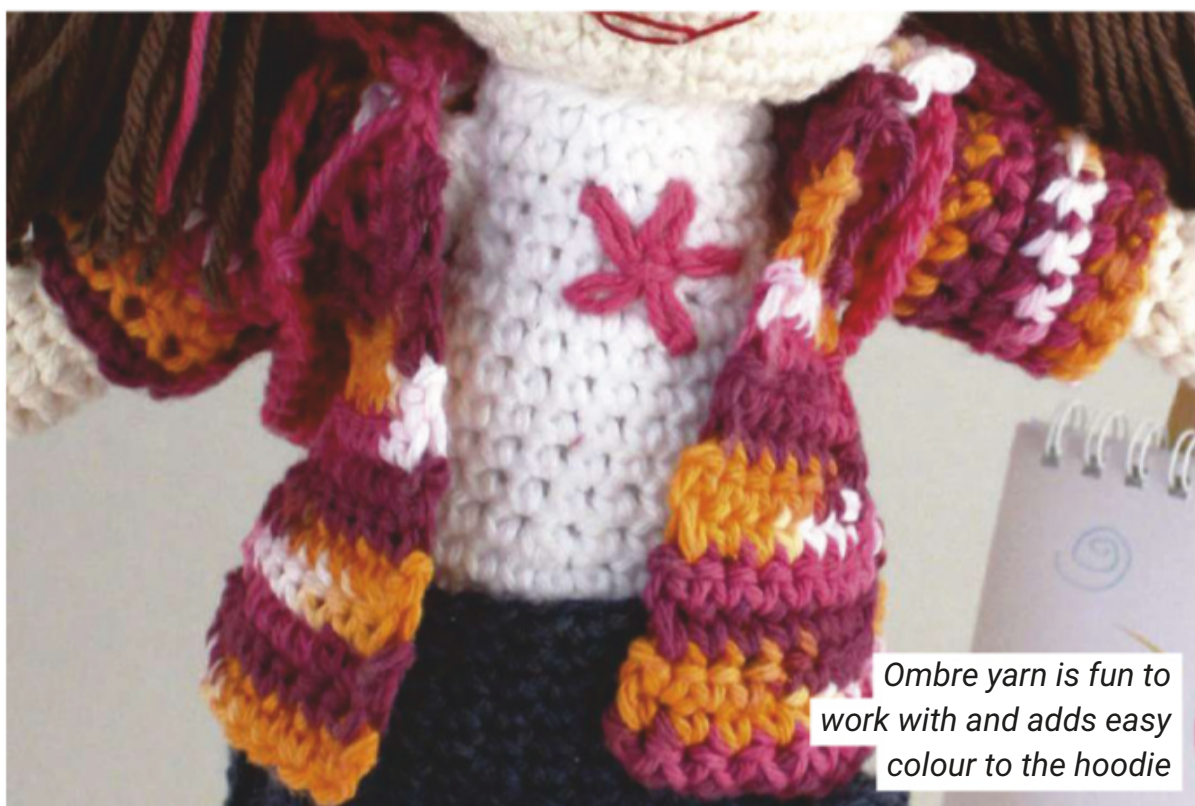
Row 18 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 10 dc. Leave rem st unworked. Fasten off.

To finish

Sew shoulder seams. Sew in sleeves. Sew sleeve and side seams. Sew hood around neck edge. With E, add string detail to hood as shown in photo.

SKIRT

With C and 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook,



Back-to-school doll



ch24, join with ss in first ch to form a ring, taking care not to twist chain.

Round 1 Ch1, 1dc in each ch around, join with ss to first dc. (24 dc)

Round 2 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 11 dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 5 dc, join with ss to first dc. (26 dc)

Rounds 3 and 4 Ch1, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.

Round 5 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 12 dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 6 dc, join with ss to first dc. (28 dc)

Round 6 Ch1, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.

Round 7 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 13 dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 7 dc, join with ss to first dc. (30 dc)

Round 8 Ch1, 1dc in each dc around., join with ss to first dc.

Round 9 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 7dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 14dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 7dc, join with ss to first dc. (32 dc)

Round 10 Ch1, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.

Round 11 Ch2 (counts as htr), 2htr in same sp as last ss, 3htr in each of next 31 dc, join with ss to top of ch 2. Fasten off.

SHOES (MAKE 2)

With A and 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook, ch5.

Work from ** to ** as given for Legs. Join B with ss in first dc. Break A.

Round 5 With B, ch1, 1dc in each of first 7 dc, (dc2tog) 3 times, 1dc in each dc to

Lily carries all her essentials in this backpack, which matches her pink shoes!

end of round, join with ss to first dc. Place marker at end of round. (21 sts)

Round 6 Ch1, 1dc in each of first 6 dc.(dc2tog) 3 times, 1dc in each dc to last 2 dc, dc2tog, join with ss to first dc. (17 sts)

Round 7 Ch1, 1dc in each of first 5 dc, (dc2tog) 3 times, 1dc in next dc, place marker, 1dc in each dc to end of round, join with ss to first dc. Break B. (14 sts)

Begin working in rows:

Next row Join B with ss at marked dc, ch1, 1dc in each of first 11 dc. Turn. Leave rem sts unworked.

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Fasten off.

To finish

With A, add shoelace detail as shown in photo. Tie ends into a bow.

BACKPACK

With B and 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook, ch13.

Round 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each of next 10 ch, 3dc in last ch. Do not turn. Working in rem loops of foundation ch, 1dc in each of next 10 ch, 2dc in last ch, join with ss to first dc. (26 dc)

Round 2 Ch1, working in back loops only, 1 dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.

Rounds 3-5 Ch1, working in both loops, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first

dc.

Round 6 Ch1, (1dc in each of next 11 dc, dc2tog) twice, join with ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Rounds 7-9 Ch1, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.

Round 10 Ch1, (1dc in each of next 10 dc, dc2tog) twice, join with ss to first dc. (22 sts)

Round 11 Ch1, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.

Begin working in rows:

Next row Ss in next dc, ch1, 1dc in same sp as last ss, 1dc in next dc, 1htr in each of next 2 dc, 1tr in each of next 3 dc, 1htr in each of next 2 dc, 1dc in each of next 2 dc. Turn. (11 sts)

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each of first 2 dc, 1htr in each of next 2 htr, 1tr in each of next 3 dc, 1htr in each of next 2 htr, 1dc in each of next 2 dc. Turn.

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each of next 5 dc, ch2, skip 1 dc, 1dc in each of next 5 dc. Fasten off.

Strap (make 2)

With B and 3.5mm (UK 9/10, US E/4) hook, ch20. Fasten off.

To finish

Sew Straps to Bag sides as shown in photo. Sew button or bead to Bag front to correspond with position of ch2-sp. ♥



Top tip

If you don't have black embroidery thread, some black cotton yarn would also work

Teacher's pet

Hook this snappy pencilcase in no time – it's perfect for your back-to-school stationery. By **Lily Sugar'n Cream**

Alligator pencilcase



You will need

- Lily Sugar'n Cream, 1 ball each in:
Hot Green (shade 01712)
White (shade 00001)
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook
- 4 stitch markers
- 18cm (7in) zip
- Small amount of black embroidery thread

Measurements

- Approx. 32cm (12½in) long x
12.5cm (5in) wide

Tension

- 15dc and 16 rows to 10cm (4in),
using 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet
hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations
see page 82

About this yarn

Lily Sugar'n Cream

100% cotton

109m per 71g

Machine wash at 30°C

£3, buy instore at Hobbycraft
or visit www.hobbycraft.co.uk

Crochet the friendliest reptile around! A great gift for kids, this pencilcase pattern is easy to follow and uses mainly double crochet, plus a few half trebles and embroidery for the details. To create a realistic-looking 'gator, this shade of Hot Green is a great choice, but you could also let your imagination wander and create a colourful version that makes you smile! You'll need some basic sewing skills to insert the zip on your sewing machine, or why not snap it shut with poppers instead?

PENCILCASE

Alligator body (make 2)

With MC, ch2.

Row 1 (RS) 3dc in 2nd ch from hook.

Turn. (3 dc)

Row 2 and alt rows Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, 1dc in next dc, 2dc in last dc. Turn. (5 dc)

Rows 5 and 7 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc to last dc, 2dc in last dc. Turn. (9 dc at end of Row 7)

Row 9 Ch1, 1dc in each dc to last dc, 2dc in last dc. Turn. (10 dc)

Row 10 Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Rep last 2 rows 4 times more.

(14 dc at end of last row)

Place marker at beg of last row.

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Rep last row until work from marker meas 10cm (4in), ending on a WS row.

Shape head

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, 1 dc in each dc to last 3 dc, dc3tog. Turn. (12 sts)

Place marker at end of row.

Row 2 Ch1, 1dc in each st to last 2 dc, dc2tog. Turn. (11 sts)

Row 3 Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn. (10 sts)

Row 4 As Row 2. (9 sts)

Row 5 Ch1, 1dc in each st to end of row. Turn.

Rep last row until work from 2nd marked row meas 7.5cm (3in), ending on a RS row.

Next row (WS) Skip first dc, 6tr in next dc, ss in next dc, 1dc in each dc to last 2 dc, dc2tog. Fasten off.

Scales

With RS facing, join MC with ss to top of Head at marker.

Row 1 Ch1, work 29dc evenly along top edge of Alligator to approx 5cm (2in) from end of tail. Turn.

Row 2 Skip first dc, *3htr in next dc, ss in each of next 3dc; rep from * to end of row. Fasten off.

Rep for other side.

Eyes (make 2)

With A, ch3.

Round 1 8htr in 3rd ch from hook, join with ss to first htr. Fasten off.

With black embroidery thread, embroider pupil as shown in photo.

To finish

With WS tog, join MC to Tail with ss where Scales end (5cm/2in) from end of Tail).

Ch1, working through both thicknesses, work 1 row of dc to join pieces along bottom of Alligator, around snout to top of Head at marked row. Fasten off.

With black embroidery floss, embroider mouth using straight st, being careful to not sew through both thicknesses. With A, embroider teeth.

Sew in zip along top opening.

Feet (make 2)

With MC, ch6.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of ch. Turn. (5 dc)

Row 2 Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Rows 3 and 4 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 3 dc. Turn. Fasten off.

Sew Feet to bottom of Body. ♥

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Tote-ally roarsome

The monster ate my homework! This bright bag from **Lily Sugar'n Cream** is a great make for kids

Top tip

Add a cotton lining to your bag to reinforce it and add an extra pop of colour



You will need

- Lily Sugar'n Cream in:
Hot Green (01712) x 1 ball – A
Grape (00071) x 3 balls – B
Red (00095) x 1 ball – C
White (00001) x 1 ball – D
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook
- Small piece of black felt for eyes
- Craft glue

Measurements

- Approx. 30.5cm (12in) square, excluding handles

Tension

- 15 dc and 16 rows to 10cm (4in) using 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Lily Sugar'n Cream

100% cotton
109m per 71g
Machine wash at 30°C
£3, buy instore at Hobbycraft
or visit www.hobbycraft.co.uk

Give kids a monster treat when you make them this colourful tote, with bags of room inside plus three front pockets to hold stationery, toys and more. From his googly eyes to his toothy grin, this crazy character is sure to make little ones laugh. And Lily Sugar'n Cream has all the colours to inspire your imagination on this fun project – ask the recipient to choose the shades they prefer, for a perfectly customised bag.

BAG

(make 2 pieces alike)

Note Ch2 for turning ch does not count as htr.

With A, ch47.

Row 1 1htr in 3rd ch from hook, 1htr in each ch to end of chain. Turn. (45 htr)

Row 2 Ch2, 1htr in each htr to end of row. Turn.

Rep last row until work from beg measures 5cm (2in). Join B.

With B, rep Row 2 until work from beg measures 25.5cm (10in). Join A.

With A, rep Row 2 until work from beg measures 30.5cm (12in). Fasten off.

Mouth pocket

With C, ch18.

Row 1 (RS) 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of chain. Turn. (17 dc)

Rows 2-4 Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Row 5 (folding row) Ch1, working in back loops only, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Rows 6-8 Ch1, working in both loops, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn. Place marker at end of last row.

Row 9 Ch1, fold work along Row 5. Working through both thicknesses, 1dc in each dc and rem loop of foundation ch to end of row. Turn. (First pencil pocket made).

Row 10 Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Rep last row until work from marked row measures 14cm (5½in), ending on a WS row.

Next row (RS) Ch1, working in front loops



only, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn. Place marker at end of row.

Next 3 rows Ch1, working through both loops, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Next row (RS) (folding row) Ch1, working in back loops only, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn.

Next 3 rows Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Turn. Fasten off at end of last row. Fold work along last Folding row worked. Thread yarn through needle and sew edge to rem loops of marked row. (Second pencil pocket made).

Teeth (make 2)

With D, ch26.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of chain. Turn. (25 dc)

First tooth

***Row 1** Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in next dc, dc2tog. Turn. Leave rem sts unworked.

Row 2 Ch1, 1dc in first st, dc2tog. Turn.

Row 3 Ch1, dc2tog. Fasten off.*

Second tooth

**Join D with ss to next unworked dc.

Monster bag

Top Tip

Don't worry about sewing on the eyes perfectly in line – they look even better when wonky!

Work from * to * as given for First Tooth.**

Third, fourth and fifth teeth

Rep from ** to ** 3 times more. 5 teeth made.

Sew Teeth to Mouth Pocket as shown in picture, taking care not to sew side pencil pockets closed.

Eyes

With D, ch2.

Round 1 6dc in 2nd ch from hook. Join with ss to first dc.

Round 2 Ch1, 2dc in each dc around. Join with ss to first dc. (12 dc)
Fasten off.

Handles (make 2)

With B, ch69.

Row 1 1htr in 3rd ch from hook, 1htr in each ch to end of chain. Turn. (67 htr)

Row 2 Ch2, 1htr in each htr to end of row. Turn.

Rep last row 4 times more.

Fold work in half lengthwise.

Working through both thicknesses, 1dc in each htr and rem loop of foundation ch to end of row. Fasten off.

To finish

With WS of Bag pieces tog, join A with ss to top left corner. Ch1. Working through both thicknesses, work 1 round of dc evenly around side edges and bottom, having 3 dc in each bottom corner. Fasten off.

Sew Mouth Pocket onto Front of Bag, leaving top edge open. Cut black felt circles approx. 1.5cm (½in) diameter. Glue black circles to centres of Eyes and sew Eyes to Front of Bag.

Sew on Handles as shown in picture. ♡



In the crisp cotton yarn, you can really see those lovely half trebles

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NB. Contents subject to change

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Top tip

The earphones case could also be used as a reusable soap saver!

Bright idea

Keep your sunglasses and earphones safe and tidy with **Liz Ward's** set of colourful stripey cases!

You will need

- Rico Ricorumi DK, 1 ball each in:
Turquoise (shade 039)
Yellow (shade 006)
Orange (shade 027)
Green (shade 049)
Fuchsia (shade 014)
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook
- 1 metre thin flat elastic

Measurements

- Sunglasses case: 25x10cm (10x4in)
- Earphones case: 12x10cm (4¾x4in)

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

Take one simple pattern and create two fab accessories! Liz's sunglasses case and earphones case are made in the same way using cotton DK, but the stripe repeats on the smaller case are slightly shorter. Play around with your colour combination to create different looks. We've gone for a bright, summery combination of rainbow shades, but you could pick out tones of one colour and make an ombre style, or go for nautical stripes of blue and white. The possibilities are endless!



Weave in any loose ends.

Weave the elastic through the top row of eyelets. Knot the ends together so the elastic gives a bit and you can get your glasses in.

Earphones case

Start in your first colour.

Ch28, ss in last ch from hook to make a loop. Now work in rounds.

Repeat Rounds 1-8 of the sunglasses case pattern.

Change to the second colour and repeat rounds 1-8 again.

Fasten off and finish in the same way as the sunglasses case. ♥



RAINBOW CASES

Sunglasses case

Start in your first colour.

Ch34, ss in last ch from hook to make a loop. Now work in rounds.

Rounds 1-2 Dc in each st to end. (34 sts)

Round 3 (Ch2, skip next st, dc in next st) to end. (17 sts, 17 chains)

Round 4 2dc in each ch to end. (34 sts)

Rounds 5-9 Dc in each st to end.

Change to next colour and repeat Rounds 1-9.

Continue in this way for each colour.

Fasten off.

Sew the base of the case together.

About this yarn

Rico Ricorumi DK

100% cotton

58m per 25g

Machine wash at 30°C

99p, for stockists visit

www.rico-design.de

More info

For more great crochet patterns by Liz Ward (also known as Amigurumi Barmy), visit www.lizwardcrochet.com or take a look at her Etsy shop, www.etsy.com/uk/shop/AmigurumiBarmy

Summer style

Gingham is a classic summer pattern, just perfect for this trio of al fresco accessories by **Val Pierce**

Top tip

This neat bottle bag fits most bottles – a lovely touch if it's a gift for your host



You will need

- DMC Natura Just Cotton in:
Ivory (shade 02) x 1 ball – A
Glacier (shade 87) x 1 ball – B
Aquamarina (shade 25) x 1 ball – C
Prussian (shade 64) x 2 balls – D
- 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) hook

Measurements

- Picnic basket liner: 32x35cm
(12½x13¾in)
- Cutlery pouch: 15cm (6in) high,
10.5cm (4in) diameter
- Bottle cover: 21cm (8¼in) high,
13cm (5in) diameter (fits average
wine bottle)

Tension

- Tension is not critical for
this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations
see page 82

About this yarn

DMC Natura Just Cotton

100% cotton
155m per 50g
Machine wash at 30°C
**£3.99, visit www.dmc.com
or call 01924 231669**

Next time you pack a picnic, make sure you have this set of accessories to brighten up the occasion – the gorgeous gingham pattern is so fun to hook! Line your basket with a pretty cloth that doubles up as a napkin, and keep cutlery tidy with a matching pouch – this size also works for stowing your ipod. And whatever your favourite tippie, keep it out of the sun and looking fancy with our bottle holder. Chin chin!

PICNIC SET

Note Carry the unused yarn colour behind the stitches on the WS of the work.

Picnic basket liner

Using Yarn A, ch62.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in 4th ch from hook and in each of next 2 ch, using Yarn B tr into each of next 3 ch, tr in each ch to end alternating between Yarns A and B every 3 sts, turn. Fasten off Yarn B.

Row 2 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in each st across, working with Yarn A into all the Yarn B sts of the previous row, and Yarn C into all the Yarn A sts. Turn. Fasten off Yarn C.

Row 3 As Row 2, working Yarn A into all the Yarn C sts, and Yarn B into all the Yarn A sts of the previous row, turn. Rows 2 and 3 form the gingham pattern.

Repeat Rows 2 and 3 until piece measures approx 32cm (12½in) from foundation chain, ending with a Row 2. Fasten off and weave in ends.

Edging

With Yarn D, dc evenly around, working 3dc in each corner st. Repeat for a further 4 rounds.

For the final round, turn to the WS and work (tr in next st, ss in next st) around. Fasten off and weave in ends. Block and press.

Cutlery pouch

Using Yarn D, ch44.

Alternate a row of tr with a row of dc for

12 rows.

Fasten off Yarn D.

Join Yarn A.

Set up the gingham pattern by alternating 3 sts of Yarn B and Yarn A on the first row, then repeat Rows 2 and 3 of the Picnic basket liner twice.

Fasten off Yarns A and B.

With Yarn D, work a row of dc.

Fold in half and sew up the base and side seams.

Finish with a round of edging as for the final round of Picnic basket liner.

Bottle cover

Using Yarn D, work a dc circle for the base starting with 6 sts, and increasing evenly by 6 sts each round until you have 54 sts.

Work a round of tr in the back loop only. Work a round of dc and a round of tr, and repeat these 2 rounds a further 4 times.

Fasten off Yarn D.

Set up the gingham pattern by alternating 3 sts of Yarn B and Yarn C on the first round, followed by a round of Yarn C and A, using the image as a guide so that the Yarn C sts form a chequerboard pattern.

Rep these 2 rows twice more, then the first row once again.

Work 9 rounds of dc in Yarn D.

Next round Ch1, 7dc, ch12, skip 12 dc, 15dc, ch12, skip 12 dc, 6dc, ss to first dc to join.

Work 3 further rounds of dc.

Turn to the WS and work final round as for Picnic basket liner. ♥

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You will need

- DMC Petra 3, 1 ball each in:
Baby Blue (shade 54518)
Apple Green (shade 5772)
Lemon (shade 53823)
White (shade B5200)
- 2.5mm (UK 13 or 12, US B/1 or C/2)
crochet hook
- Yarn needle
- Scissors
- A6 card blank
- Spotty scrapbook paper
- Roll-on adhesive
- Hot glue gun
- Yellow baker's twine
- Typewriter or computer with
typewriter font
- White card
- Foam adhesive square

Measurements

- Each balloon measures approx.
2x3cm (¾x1¼in)

Tension

- Tension is not critical for
this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see
page 82

About this yarn

DMC Petra 3

100% cotton
280m per 100g
Machine wash at 60°C
£4.95, www.dmccreative.co.uk

Baby balloons

Make a special baby card with a light and airy touch of crochet. By **Lara Messer**

Welcome a new baby with a heartfelt card, adorned with crocheted balloons in pretty pastel shades. It'll add a subtle splash of colour to the nursery, and you can easily use different colours to match the décor. Each balloon will take only moments to make – the central ring of each balloon is the foundation of the rounds that follow, so try to get your stitches as perfect as possible as you work your magic ring.

BALLOONS

Make 5 balloons – 2 blue, 1 white, 1 yellow and 1 green.

Round 1 Magic ring, 6dc into ring.
(6 sts)

Join with ss.

Round 2 Ch1, 2dc into each of the next 6 sts. (12 sts)
Join with ss.

Round 3 Ch1, *2dc into same sp as ch1, 1dc into next st; repeat from * 5 times.
(18 sts)
Ch2, join with ss into 18th st, cut yarn, leaving a long tail.

Using darning needle, go in through next st, go back in through back to front to bring yarn to middle of bottom of balloon. Then go through and come out in between dc st.

To make the card

Cut out a piece of dotted scrapbook paper to 9.5x14cm and adhere to the front of a cream A6 card blank. Arrange your balloons and gather the strings together. Tie a bow with yellow baker's twine around the strings. Using a hot glue gun, stick your balloons in the centre of the card. Be careful when applying the hot glue – you don't want it to seep through any of your sts. Next, type up your sentiment on a



*Any oddments of
mercerised cotton will
work for this project*

vintage typewriter or using a typewriter font and print on white cardstock. Cut it out in a neat rectangle, leaving space at either end to create a banner shape. Snip out two triangles to create your banner. Adhere to your card using foam adhesive squares. ♥

Summer blooms

Bring a shot of summer colour to your home with **Kate Eastwood's** pretty gerbera garland

Top tip

Turn one of the gerberas into a stylish brooch for a denim jacket



You will need

- Katia Merino Baby, 1 ball each in:
Light Green (shade 56) – A
Fuchsia (shade 60) – B
Red (shade 04) – C
Orange (shade 49) – D
- 2.5mm (UK 12 or 13, US B/1 or C/2) crochet hook
- Florist's wire
- 3 lengths of 50g (2oz) raffia
- Pins
- Coordinating ribbon
- Needle and matching thread

Measurements

- Large gerbera: 6.5cm (2½in) wide
- Small gerbera: 5cm (2in) wide
- Garland: approx. 147cm (58in) long

Tension

- 15 sts and 15 rows to 10cm (4in) square over dc, using 2.5mm (UK 12 or 13, US B/1 or C/2) crochet hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Katia Merino Baby

100% merino wool
165m per 50g
Machine wash at 30°C
£4.95, www.katia.com

With its vivid oranges, pinks and reds, this garland will brighten up any room. It's made up of both large and small gerberas, worked in three different colours – they're so easy to hook, you'll have them finished them in no time. The flowers are then sewn onto a base of raffia and florist's wire, ready to wind around the bannister or along the mantelpiece. It would make a perfect decoration for a wedding or summer party!

GARLAND

Large gerbera

(make 8 in B, 7 in C, 6 in D)

Round 1 Using A, make a magic ring, 6dc into the ring.

Work in a continuous spiral, do not join.

Round 2 2dc in each st to end, join with a ss in first st. (12 sts)

Fasten off A.

Round 3 Join in B, C or D with a ss, *ch8, 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1htr in next ch, 1tr in each of next 4 ch, 1htr in last ch, ss in next st of centre; rep from * 10 more times around centre (11 petals), ss in base of first petal. Fasten off.

Small gerbera

(make 8 in B, 7 in C, 7 in D)

Round 1 Using A, make a magic ring, 4dc into the ring.

Work in a continuous spiral, do not join.

Round 2 2dc in each st to end, join with a ss in first st. (8 sts)

Fasten off.

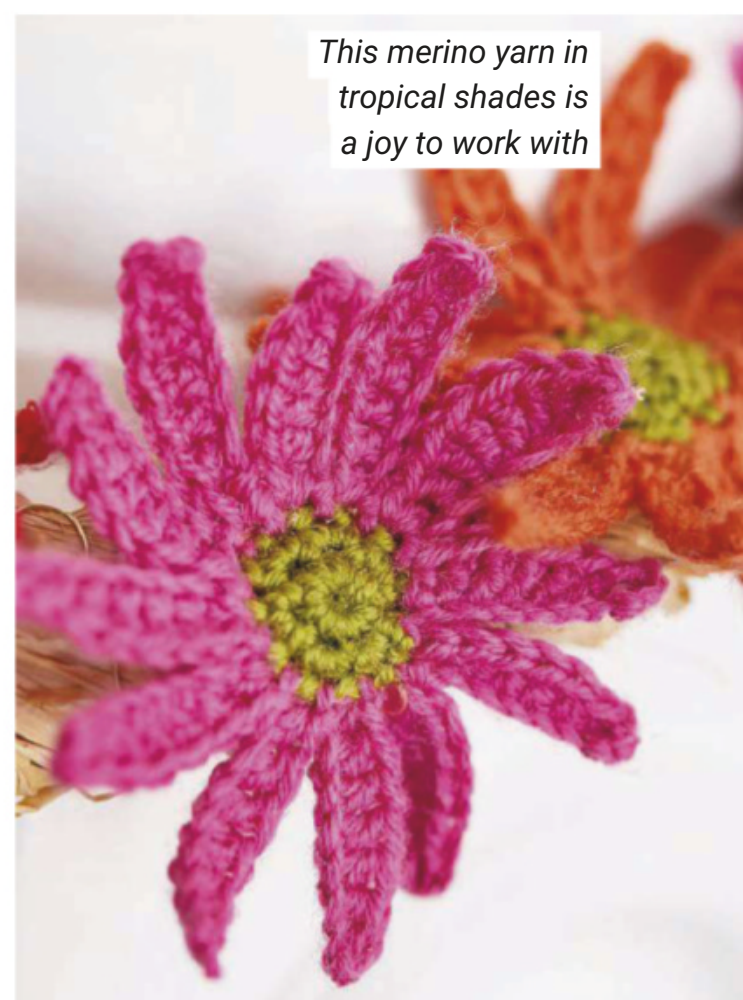
Round 3 Join in B, C or D with a ss, *ch7, 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1htr in each of next 4 ch, 1dc in last ch, ss in next st of centre; rep from * 7 more times around centre (8 petals), ending last petal with ss in base of first petal. Fasten off.

Making up and finishing

Block the flowers.

Make up the garland base with the florist's wire and raffia. Lay your base on a flat surface. Using blocking pins, position and pin your blocked flowers where you want them to be. Stitch the

This merino yarn in tropical shades is a joy to work with



flowers securely in place by sewing them onto the raffia using a needle and thread.

To finish off the garland, add bows in a coordinating colour at each end and in the centre, stitching them in place with a needle and thread. ♥

More info

This pattern is from **Crocheted Wreaths & Garlands** by Kate Eastwood (published by CICO Books, £12.99)

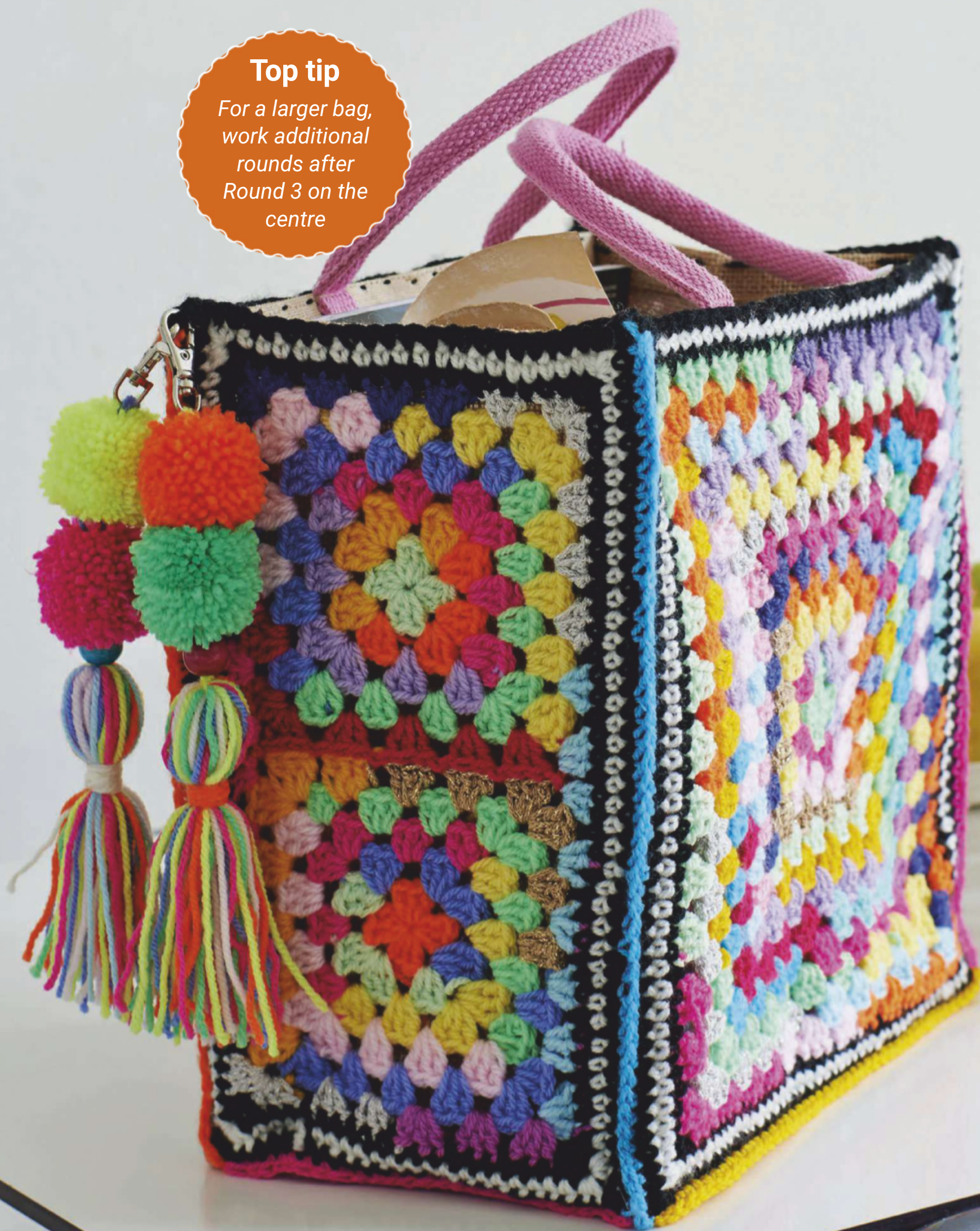


Colour pop!

Try your hand at mindful crochet – the colours in this project are designed to wake up your senses and elevate your playful spirit!

Top tip

*For a larger bag,
work additional
rounds after
Round 3 on the
centre*



You will need

- Stylecraft Special DK, 1 ball each in:
 - Black (shade 1002) – A
 - Cream (shade 1005) – B
 - Bright Green (shade 1259)
 - Sherbet (shade 1034)
 - Aspen (shade 1422)
 - Cloud Blue (shade 1019)
 - Turquoise (shade 1068)
 - Bluebell (shade 1082)
 - Lobelia (shade 1825)
 - Wisteria (shade 1432)
 - Violet (shade 1277)
 - Lipstick (shade 1246)
 - Fiesta (shade 1257)
 - Jaffa (shade 1256)
 - Sunshine (shade 1114)
 - Spring Green (shade 1316)
 - Candyfloss (shade 1130)
 - Saffron (shade 1081)
 - Fondant (shade 1241)
- Rico Fashion Cotton Metallise, 1 ball each in:
 - Gold (shade 003)
 - Silver (shade 004)
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook
- Yarn needle
- Jute bag or similar
- Sewing needle and thread
- 3.5cm (1³/₈in) pompom maker
- 1 large wooden bead per tassel
- 1 key ring hook per tassel

Measurements

- 30x30x18cm (12x12x7¹/₄in)

Tension

- Five 3-tr groups and 9 rows to 10cm (4in) square over patt, using 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Stylecraft Special DK

100% acrylic

295m per 100g

Machine wash at 40°C

£1.85, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

This bag is a great stashbuster project – you can use up all those scraps of yarn left over from other makes. As you work, notice the colours surrounding your stitches and how they are working alongside each other. This will help you consider the next colour to use, whilst also giving you permission to play and experiment. It's all about leaving your comfort zone and trying something new, about approaching things (colour in this instance) differently and seeing what emerges from your hook.

BAG

Square centre (make 2)

Using any colour, ch6 and join with ss in first ch to form a ring.

Round 1 Ch3 (counts as first tr throughout), 2tr into ring, *ch3, 3tr in ring; rep from * twice more, join with ss in 3rd of beg 3-ch.

Fasten off first colour.

Round 2 Join second colour in any corner 3-ch sp, ch3, 2tr in same 3-ch sp (half corner made), *ch1, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next 3-ch sp (corner made); rep from * twice more (changing to third colour halfway through 3rd corner), ch1, 3tr in same sp as beg half corner, ch2, join with ss in 3rd of beg 3-ch.

Fasten off.

Round 3 Join fourth colour in any corner 2-ch sp, ch3, 2tr in same 2-ch sp (half corner made), *ch1, 3tr in next 1-ch sp, ch1, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next 2-ch sp (corner made); rep from * twice more (changing to fifth colour halfway through 3rd corner), ch1, 3tr in next 1-ch sp, ch1, 3tr in same sp as beg half corner, ch2, join with ss in 3rd of beg 3-ch.

Fasten off.

Front and back squares (make 2)

Rounds 4-12 Cont to work patt as in Round 3, changing colour as desired, working 3tr in each 1-ch sp, separated by 1-ch, and (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in each corner 2-ch sp.

Round 13 Join A in any corner 2-ch sp, ch1 (counts as first dc throughout), [1dc

in each st and 1-ch sp to next corner 2-ch sp, (1dc, ch2, 1dc) in corner 2-ch sp] 3 times, 1dc in each st and 1-ch sp to beg corner 2-ch sp, 1dc in corner 2-ch sp, ch2, join with ss in beg 1-ch and change to B.

Round 14 Using B, ch1, [1dc in each st to next corner 2-ch sp, (1dc, ch2, 1dc) in corner 2-ch sp] 3 times, 1dc in each st to beg corner 2-ch sp, 1dc in corner 2-ch sp, ch2, join with ss in beg 1-ch and change to A.

Fasten off B.

Round 15 Using A, rep Row 14.

Fasten off.

Side panels (make 3)

You'll work and join squares for sides and base using join-as-you-go method. Make 1 square (starter square A) by working rounds 1-5 as above.

Make 1 square (side square B) by working rounds 1-4 as above.

Join side square B to the starter square A working join-as-you-go method as follows:

Round 5 Ch3, 2tr in same 2-ch sp (half corner made), ch1, (3tr, ch1) in each 1-ch sp to next corner 2-ch sp, 3tr in corner 2-ch sp. Then, instead of making ch2 for corner sp, insert hook in corner sp of starter square from underneath, 1dc in corner 2-ch sp of starter square (counts as first of 2-ch for corner sp), ch1, 3tr in corner 2-ch sp of second square to complete the corner.

To cont joining squares, instead of ch1 work 1dc in next side sp of starter square, 3tr in next side sp of second



Granny square bag

square. Cont replacing each ch1 at side of second square with 1dc in next side sp of starting square, and replacing first of ch2 at corner sp of current square with 1dc in corner sp of starter square. When second square has been joined to starting square along one side, cont around to finish final round of current square as normal.

Fasten off.

Round 6 Cont to work patt as in Round 3, working around entire edge of side panel and treating the 'corner' spaces on each side of join as 1-ch sps.

Fasten off.

Round 7 Using A, rep Round 13 of front and back squares.

Round 8 Using B, rep Round 14 of front and back squares.

Round 9 Using A, rep Round 15 of front and back squares. This makes one side panel. Make 3 more side panels.

Making up and finishing

Sew in all yarn ends carefully.

Join sides to front and back

Align one large square and one side panel with WS together. Join any colour yarn in corner 2-ch sp of both squares and work a double crochet seam.

Fasten off.

Rep to add the other 2 side panels, then join the ends of the side panels.

Add the other large square on the other edge of the side panels to complete the bag.

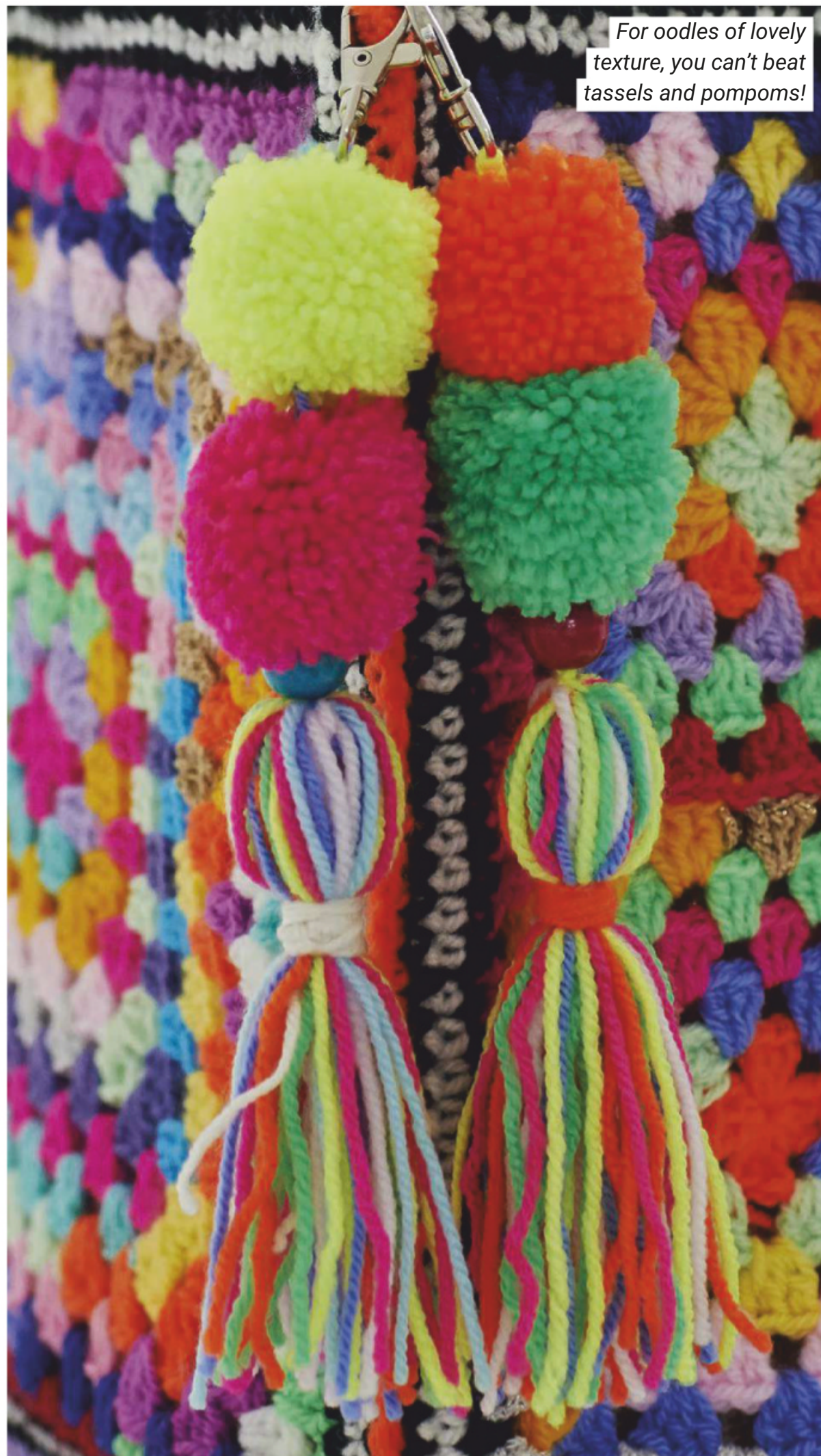
Place the jute bag inside the crochet bag and sew whip-stitch around the top edge to secure in place.

Pompom tassel

Make 4 pompoms, leaving 30cm (12in) ends.

Using any combination of yarn colours, wrap yarn thickly around a 10cm (4in) piece of card. Cut a 25cm (10in) length of yarn, slide it under the strands and tie in a knot at the top.

Remove the tassel from the card, and bind it securely just below the top, using

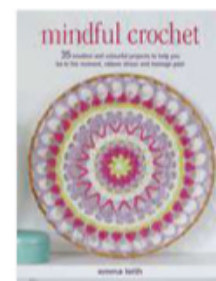


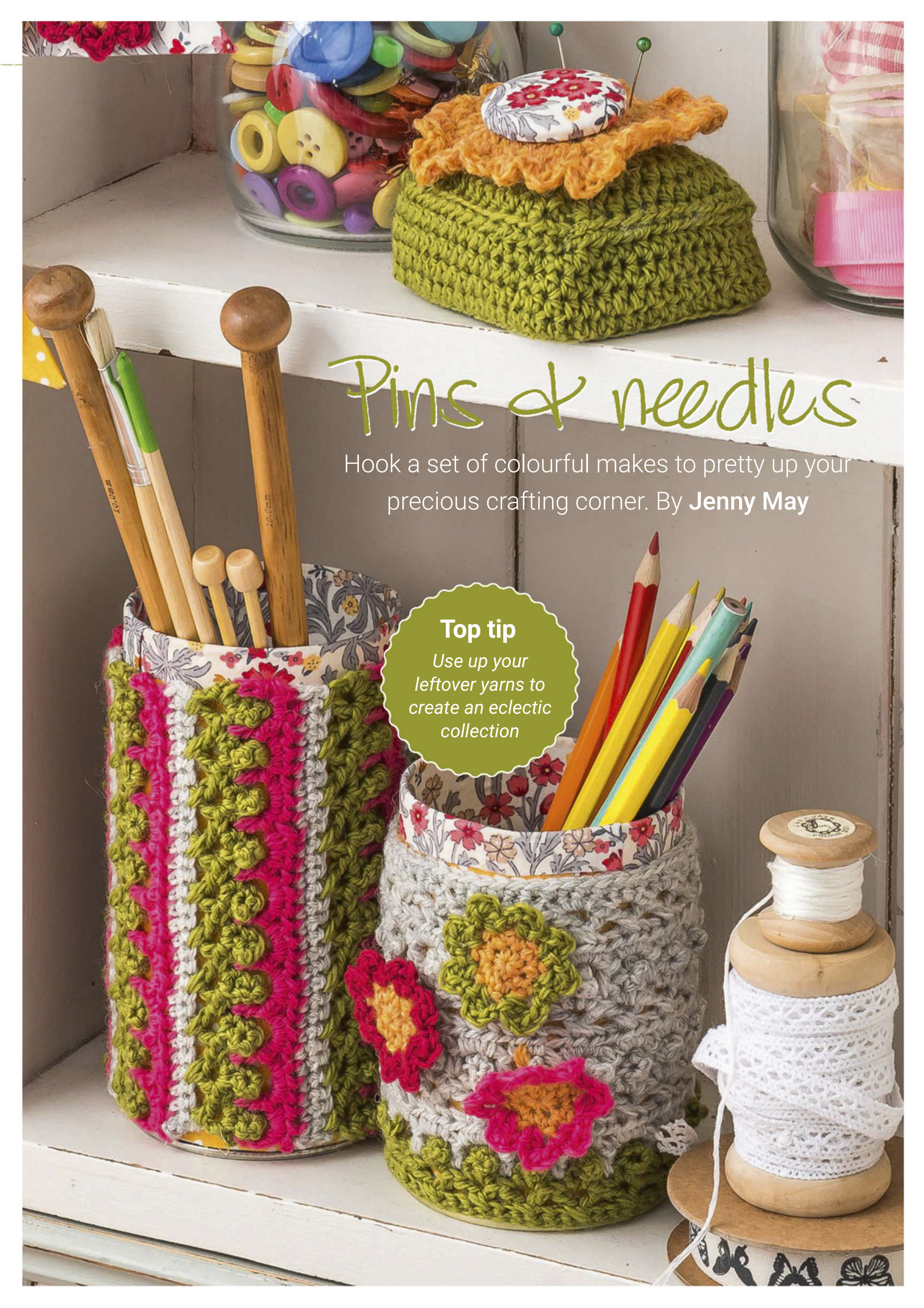
a contrasting colour of yarn.

Thread beads onto the end at the top of a tassel, add the first pompom, thread on more beads, then add the second pompom. Secure the yarn end to a keyring hook. Repeat for the second tassel, then clip both to one side of the bag. 🍷

More info

This pattern was taken from **Mindful Crochet** by Emma Leith (published by CICO Books, £12.99).





Pins & needles

Hook a set of colourful makes to pretty up your precious crafting corner. By **Jenny May**

Top tip

Use up your leftover yarns to create an eclectic collection



Inspired by Liberty fabrics, designer Jenny May has created a trio of handy items that will make your craft corner truly special. We particularly love the lacy stitch pattern on the pots, which allows the fabric colours to show through. Jenny says: “To accent the colours in the fabric I chose vibrant petal colours, a rich grass green and a neutral that not only reflected the silvery-grey foliage in the fabric, but reminded me of misty spring mornings.”

You will need

- Knit Picks Palette, 1 ball each in:
 - Finnley Heather (26043) – A
 - Golden Heather (24005) – B
 - Lipstick (24245) – C
 - Tarragon (25099) – D
 - Rouge (24567) – E
- 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) hook
- Card (about the thickness of a cereal box)
- 3.5cm self-cover button
- 2 pots: each 7.5cm diameter; short pot 11cm high; tall pot 14.5cm high
- Fabric: fat quarter
- PVA glue
- Toy stuffing

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- Popcorn: Ch2, 3dc in hump of 2nd ch from hook, ss through both loops of base st
- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Knit Picks Palette

100% Peruvian Highland wool
211m per 50g
Hand wash only

£3.60, buy from www.greatbritishyarns.co.uk

CRAFTY POTS

Lace pattern

Row 1 (RS) when working in same colour as previous row Ss to 2nd st, *ch5 (counts as tr, ch2), tr in 1st st of row to create an X, (sk 2 sts, tr, ch2, tr in st immediately before tr just worked to create an X) to end*.

Row 1 (RS) when joining new yarn

Join yarn in 2nd st, cont from * to * as described above.

Row 2 Ss into ch2-sp, ch1 (doesn't counts as st), (2dc, popcorn, dc) in each ch2-sp to end.

Row 3 Ch2 (counts as htr), (ch3, sk popcorn, htr in dc immediately after popcorn) to end.

Row 4 Ss into ch3-sp, ch2 (counts as htr), htr in same sp, 3htr in each ch3-sp to end.

Tall pot

Foundation row Using 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) hook and A, ch30.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc to end. Fasten off yarn. (29 sts)

Row 2 Ch1 (doesn't count as stitch), dc in every st to end. (29 sts)
Change to D.

Lace pattern begins.

Rows 3-4 Work rows 1-2 of lace pattern. Fasten off yarn. (10 popcorns)
Change to E.

Rows 5-6 Work rows 3-4 of lace pattern. Fasten off yarn.
Lace pattern ends.

Change to A.

Rows 7-8 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), dc in each st to end. Fasten off yarn.



(29 sts)

Rows 9-38 Repeat Rows 3-8 five times.

Rows 39-42 Repeat Rows 3-6 once more. Fasten off yarn and weave in ends.

To make up

Cut 1 piece of fabric 26x15.5cm for inside the pot (includes 1cm to fold in and wrap over the cut edge and 1.5cm to wrap over the top to the outside).

Cut 1 piece of fabric 26x14cm for outside the pot (includes 1cm to fold in and wrap over the cut edge).

Glue the WS of the inner fabric to the pot, turning 1cm over to front. When dry, glue the outer fabric over it. Allow to dry.

Stitch the seam of the crocheted piece together and place over the pot.

Short pot

Foundation row Using 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) hook and D, ch54.

Row 1 (WS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc to end. (53 sts)

Lace pattern begins.

Rows 2 (RS) - 3 Work rows 1-2 of lace pattern. Fasten off yarn. (18 popcorns)
Change to A.

Rows 4-5 Work rows 3-4 of lace pattern.

Rows 6-13 Work rows 1-4 of lace pattern twice.

Row 14 Work row 1 of lace pattern.

Row 15 Ch1, 2dc in ch2-sp, 3dc in next ch2-sp to end. Fasten off yarn and weave in ends.

Flowers

Using colours of your choice (we used B for the first colour and C, D and E for the second colour), make 3 flowers as follows:

Round 1 Using first yarn colour and 3.5mm hook, make a magic loop with 1ch (doesn't count as st), 8dc, ss to beg st. (8 sts)

Round 2 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), 2dc in each st. Fasten off yarn. (16 sts)
Change to second colour.

Round 3 Join yarn in any st, (ss, ch2, tr, ch2) in same st, (sk st, (ss, ch2, tr, ch2) in next st) 7 times, sk st, ss to beg st. Fasten off yarn.

To make up

Sew flowers to crocheted piece.

Cut 1 piece of fabric 26x12cm for inside the pot (includes 1cm to fold in and wrap over the cut edge and 1.5cm to wrap over the top to the outside).

Cut 1 piece of fabric 26x10.5cm for outside the pot (includes 1cm to fold in and wrap over the cut edge).

Glue the WS of the inner fabric to the pot, turning 1cm over to front. When dry, glue the outer fabric over it. Allow to dry. Stitch the seam of the crocheted piece together and place over the pot.

Pincushion

Note the Base and Sides are worked as one piece and the Top is worked as a separate piece and the two are then



stitched together.

Base

Round 1 Using 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) hook and D, make a magic loop with 2ch (counts as htr), htr, ch1, (2htr, ch1) 3 times, ss to beg st. (8 sts)

Rounds 2-5 Ss into ch1-sp (just before ss just worked), ch2 (counts as htr), turn work back to RS, htr in each htr at sides, (htr, ch1, htr) in corners, except last corner: htr, ch1, ss to top of beg ch2.

Round 6 Ss into ch1-sp (just before ss just worked), ch3 (counts as tr), turn work back to RS, htr in each htr at sides, (tr, ch1, tr) in corners, except last corner: tr, ch1, ss to top of beg ch2. Fasten off yarn. (12 sts each side after row 6)

Row 7 Ch1 (counts as st), dc each st along sides, 3dc in corners, inc last corner, ss to back loop of beg st. (60 sts all round)

Side

Row 8 Work through backs of loops, ch2 (counts as htr), htr in each st all round. (60 sts)

Rows 9-11 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr in each st all round. (60 sts)

Fasten off yarn, leaving a long tail for making up.

Green top

Using D, work rounds 1-7 of Base.

Yellow top

Using B, work rounds 1-5 of Base. (10 sts each side)

Row 6 Ss back into ch1-sp, ch2 (counts as st and ch1), htr in same st, ch1, (sk st, (ss, ch1, htr, ch1) in next st) all round to last st, sk st, ss to beg st. (5 petals each side and 1 in each corner). Fasten off yarn.

To make up

Make the self-cover button with main fabric, stitch it to the centre of the Yellow top, then stitch the Yellow top to the Green top at a 45° angle.

Place a card square measuring 7cm (2¾in) each side (with corners trimmed off slightly) in the bottom of the Base, then begin to stitch the top to the sides – stitch through both loops of the sides and the back loop only of the Top piece. About ¾ of the way round, stuff the pincushion and finish stitching. ♥

Top tip

Always buy enough yarn for the whole project and ensure it's from the same dye lot

Apple of my eye

Hook this bright and sturdy basket by **Hannah Cross** to store your homegrown harvest pickings

You will need

- DROPS Karisma DK in:
Light Beige Brown Mix (shade 55)
x 7 balls – Yarn A
Red (shade 18) x 1 ball – Yarn B
- 5mm (UK 6, US H/8) hook

Measurements

- 18x14cm (7¼x5½in)

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

DROPS Karisma DK

100% wool
100m per 50g
Machine wash at 40°C
£2.20, for stockists visit
www.garnstudio.com

A crochet basket is brilliant for extra storage, and makes a great gift that hooks up in no time. Check out this gorgeous little make – inspired by autumn colours and seasonal produce, it's getting us in the mood for homemade apple pie and custard.! Why not gift it to a friend, filled with some hand-picked apples from your garden? Or, if you fancy it for yourself, pop it on the kitchen counter as an alternative to a fruit bowl.

APPLE BASKET

Note

The basket is made in the round with the handles worked into the sides and stiffened with slip stitches.

Base

Using Yarn A, ch6, ss in first ch to form ring.

Round 1 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 11tr into ring, ss to third ch of beg ch3 to join. (12 tr)

Round 2 Ch3, tr in same tr, 2tr in each tr around, ss to top of beg ch3. (24 tr)

Round 3 Ch3, tr in same tr, tr in next tr, (2tr in next tr, tr in next tr) around, ss to top of beg ch3. (36 tr)

Round 4 Ch3, tr in same tr, tr in next 2 tr, (2tr in next tr, tr in each of next 2 tr) around, ss to top of beg ch3. (48 tr)

Round 5 Ch3, tr in same tr, tr in next 3 tr, (2tr in next tr, tr in each of next 3 tr) around, ss to top of beg ch3. (60 tr)

Round 6 Ch1 (does not count as st), 2dc in same tr, dc in each of next 4 tr, (2dc in next tr, dc in each of next 4tr) around, ss to top of beg ch3. (72 dc)
Fasten off and weave in ends.

Sides

Using Yarn A, ch73.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in fl of 2nd ch and fl of each ch across. (72 sts)

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in fl of each st in current and previous row to end. (72 sts) (This folds the work together and makes it really sturdy.)

Rows 3-9 Repeat Row 2.

Change to Yarn B.

Rows 10-12 Repeat Row 2.



Half trebles in red yarn add a contrast edge



DROPS Karisma is so warm and just perfect for autumnal projects

Change to Yarn A.

Rows 13-23 Repeat Row 2.

Change to Yarn B.

Rows 24-28 Ch1 (does not count as st), htr in fl of each st in current and previous row to end.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

To finish

Sew the short ends of the Sides piece together to create a cylinder, with RS facing out.

Join the Base to Sides using a slip stitch seam. ♥

Hubble bubble

Wave your magic wand
(or crochet hook) over this
spellbinding duo from

Rico Design

Top tip

*If you don't have
any safety eyes,
work French knots
using black yarn
instead*



You will need

■ Rico Ricorumi DK, 1 ball each in:

For Pumpkin

Version 1 (Pink)

Pink (shade 011) – A

Light Green (shade 046) – B

Black (shade 060) – C

Version 2 (Orange)

Smokey Orange (shade 024) – A

Ivy (shade 043) – B

Black (shade 060) – C

For Witch

Black (shade 060)

Orange (shade 027)

Light Green (shade 046)

Ivy (shade 043)

■ 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook

■ 4 x 8.5mm safety eyes

■ Toy stuffing

Tension

■ Tension is not critical for this project but stitches should be tight so that stuffing does not show through

Abbreviations

■ For standard abbreviations see page 82

Set the scene for a spooky Halloween when you hook these little characters, which are admittedly more sweet than scary! If carving a real pumpkin isn't your forte, then make one with cotton yarn instead, following the simple pattern below. Our gloriously green-faced witch makes the perfect creepy companion – just add some eerie lighting and put them both on display in your window for all the trick-or-treaters to admire!



PUMPKIN

Round 1 In A, ch60.

Row 2 Starting in 4th ch from hook, 57tr. (58 sts)

Row 3 Turn. Ch3, (FPTr, BPTr) 28 times, FPTr. (57 sts)

Rows 4-12 Repeat Row 3.

Fasten off and break yarn.

Sew up the short sides of the piece, to make a cylinder. Weave thread through all the stitches on one side, and pull tight to close. Insert eyes.

Fill with stuffing. Weave through stitches at the top to close.

Embroider mouth using Black yarn.

Stalk

Round 1 In B, working into MC, 6dc.

Round 2 (1dc, 2dc into next st) 3 times. (9 sts)

Rounds 3-6 9dc.

Round 7 (2dc, 2dc into next st) 3 times. (12 sts)

Round 8 (1dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times. (18 sts)

Round 9 (2dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times. (24 sts)

Round 10 (3dc, 2dc into next st). (30 sts)

Fasten off and break yarn. Fill with stuffing and sew onto top of pumpkin. ➔

About this yarn

Rico Ricorumi DK

100% cotton

58m per 25g

Machine wash at 30°C

99p, for stockists visit

www.rico-design.de

WITCH

Head

Round 1 In Light Green, working into MC, 6dc.

Round 2 2dc into next st, 6 times.
(12 sts)

Round 3 (1dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times.
(18 sts)

Round 4 (2dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times.
(24 sts)

Round 5 (3dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times.
(30 sts)

Round 6 (4dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times.
(36 sts)

Rounds 7-11 36dc.

Insert eyes between Rounds 10 and 11.

Round 12 (4dc, dec2tog) 6 times.
(30 sts)

Round 13 (3dc, dec2tog) 6 times.
(24 sts)

Round 14 (2dc, dec2tog) 6 times.
(18 sts)

Round 15 (1dc, dec2tog) 6 times.
(12 sts)

Fill with stuffing.

Round 16 (Dec2tog) 6 times. (6 sts)
Fasten off and break yarn. Weave yarn through rem 6 sts and pull tight to close.

Hat

Round 1 In Black, working into MC, 6dc.

Round 2 2dc into next st, 6 times.
(12 sts)

Rounds 3-5 12dc.

Round 6 (1dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times.
(18 sts)

Rounds 7-9 18dc.

Round 10 (2dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times. (24 sts)

Rounds 11-12 24dc.

Round 13 (3dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times. (30 sts)

Rounds 14-15 30dc.

Round 16 (4dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times. (36 sts)

Rounds 17-18 36dc.

Round 19 (5dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times. (42 sts)

Round 20 (6dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times. (48 sts)

Round 21 (7dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times. (54 sts)

Fasten off and break yarn. Fill hat with stuffing and sew onto head.

There's be no toil or trouble with this easy pattern for a Halloween witch!



Hat band

In Ivy, ch31.

Row 1 30dc.

Fasten off and break yarn.

Sew hat band onto hat.

Hair

In Orange, ch26.

Row 1 25dc, turn.

Row 2 (Ch5, sst back down ch, ss into next st) 25 times.

Fasten off and break yarn.

Sew on the head around the hat.

Body

Round 1 In Black, working into magic ring, 6dc.

Round 2 (2dc into next st) 6 times.
(12 sts)

Round 3 (1dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times.
(18 sts)

Round 4 (2dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times.
(24 sts)

Round 5 (3dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times.
(30 sts)

Round 6 (4dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times.

(36 sts)

Round 7 (5dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times.
(42 sts)

Round 8 In BLO, 42dc.

Rounds 9-10 42dc.

Round 11 (5dc, dec2tog) 6 times.
(36 sts)

Rounds 12-13 36dc.

Round 14 (4dc, dec2tog) 6 times.
(30 sts)

Rounds 15-16 30dc.

Round 17 (3dc, dec2tog) 6 times.
(24 sts)

Rounds 18-19 24dc.

Fasten off and break yarn.

Fill with stuffing and sew onto head.

Arm (make 2)

Round 1 In Ivy, working into MC, 6dc.

Round 2 (1dc, 2dc into next st) 3 times.
(9 sts)

Rounds 3-5 9dc.

Change to Black.

Rounds 6-10 9dc.

Fasten off and break yarn.

Sew arms onto body. ♥

Puppy love

Get comfy and enjoy some canine cuddles with this beautiful dog blanket by **Tina Budd and Becky Skuse**

Top tip

Choose five of your favourite colours to make this blanket your own!



Dog blanket



Looking for your next granny square project? Look no further than this delightful doggy banket (which is also suitable for humans, too!). Tina says: "I love making granny squares – the rhythm of the hook is so relaxing. I'm a '70s girl at heart so I wanted my blanket to have a retro colour scheme of browns and beiges. You could use any acrylic DK yarn in any colour combination you like, and if you want a bigger blanket, just make more squares – but remember you will need more yarn!"

You will need

- Marriner DK, 1 ball each in:
 - Oatmeal – Yarn A
 - Latte – Yarn B
 - Chocolate – Yarn C
- Stylecraft Special DK, 1 ball in:
 - Camel (1420) – Yarn D
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook

Measurements

- Blanket: approx. 75x75cm (29½x29½in)
- Each square: approx. 12x12cm (4¾x4¾in)

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Marriner DK

100% acrylic
300m per 100g
Machine wash at 40°C
£1.00, www.marrineryarns.com

Stylecraft Special DK

100% acrylic
295m per 100g
Machine wash at 40°C
£1.85, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

DOG BLANKET

Granny square

These instructions are for Colourway 1. Using Yarn A, ch8, ss to first ch to form a loop.

Round 1 Ch3 (counts as first tr), 2tr into loop, ch3 (corner formed), *3tr into loop, ch3; rep from * twice more, ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-3.

(4 groups of 3tr, 4 corners of ch-3)

Fasten off Yarn A.

Join Yarn B in any corner ch-3 sp.

Round 2 Ch3 (counts as first tr), 2tr into ch-3 sp, ch3, 3tr into same ch-3 sp, ch1 (side space formed), *3tr in next corner ch-3 sp, ch3, 3tr in same corner ch-3 sp, ch1; rep from * twice more, ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-3. (8 groups of 3tr, 4 corners of ch-3, 4 side spaces of ch-1)

Fasten off Yarn B.

Join Yarn C in any corner ch-3 sp.

Round 3 Ch3 (counts as first tr), 2tr into ch-3 sp, ch3, (3tr into same ch-3 sp, ch1) twice, *3tr in next corner ch-3 sp, ch3, 3tr in same corner ch-3 sp, ch1, 3tr into next side ch-1 sp, ch1; rep from * twice more, ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-3. (12 groups of 3tr, 4 corners of ch-3, 6 side spaces of ch-1)

Fasten off Yarn C.

Join Yarn A in any corner ch-3 sp.

Round 4 Ch3 (counts as first tr), 2tr into ch-3 sp, ch3, (3tr into same ch-3 sp, ch1) 3 times, *3tr in next corner ch-3 sp, ch3, 3tr in same corner ch-3 sp, ch1, (3tr into next side ch-1 sp, ch1) twice; rep from * twice more, ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-3.



Acrylic DK is a perfect choice for a blanket that will be washed often



Edge the blanket with a border in Camel and Chocolate

(16 groups of 3tr, 4 corners of ch-3, 8 side spaces of ch-1)

Fasten off Yarn A.

Square colourways

Make 36 squares in total, varying the use of Yarns A, B and C as follows:

Colourway 1 (make 6 squares)

Round 1 Yarn A

Top Tip

Lay your squares out as you wish in a six by six grid (see right) to determine the order in which to join them

Round 2 Yarn B

Round 3 Yarn C

Round 4 Yarn A

Colourway 2 (make 6 squares)

Round 1 Yarn A

Round 2 Yarn C

Round 3 Yarn B

Round 4 Yarn A

Colourway 3 (make 6 squares)

Round 1 Yarn B

Round 2 Yarn A

Round 3 Yarn C

Round 4 Yarn B

Colourway 4 (make 6 squares)

Round 1 Yarn B

Round 2 Yarn C

Round 3 Yarn A

Round 4 Yarn B

Colourway 5 (make 6 squares)

Round 1 Yarn C

Round 2 Yarn A

Round 3 Yarn B

Round 4 Yarn C

Colourway 6 (make 6 squares)

Round 1 Yarn C

Round 2 Yarn B

Round 3 Yarn A

Round 4 Yarn C

Joining squares

Arrange your squares as desired.

Take the top-left square and join Yarn D in any corner ch-3 sp.



Round 5 Ch3 (counts as first tr), 2tr into ch-3 sp, ch3, (3tr into same ch-3 sp, ch1) 4 times, *3tr in next corner ch-3 sp, ch3, 3tr in same corner ch-3 sp, ch1, (3tr into next side ch-1 sp, ch1) 3 times; rep from * twice more, ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-3.

(20 groups of 3tr, 4 corners of ch-3, 12 side spaces of ch-1)

Fasten off Yarn D.

Take the next square and work Round 5, but join it to the adjacent square(s) by replacing each ch3 at the corner to be joined with: Ch1, ss to ch-3 sp on adjacent square, ch1.

Plus replace each ch1 along the edge(s) to be joined with: Ss to ch-2 sp on adjacent square.

Border

Once all the squares are joined, join Yarn D in any outer corner ch-3 sp.

Round 1 Ch3 (counts as first tr), 2tr into ch-3 sp, ch3, 3tr into same ch-3 sp, ch1, continue by working (3tr, ch1) into each side ch-1 sp, working (3tr, ch1)

into each ss space at the corner of 2 joined squares, and working (3tr, ch3, 3tr) in each corner ch-3 sp; ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-3. (4 sides of 31 groups of 3tr, 4 corners of ch-3, 4 sides of 30 side spaces of ch-1)

Fasten off Yarn D.

Join Yarn C in any outer corner ch-3 sp.

Round 2 Ch3 (counts as first tr), 2tr into ch-3 sp, ch1, 3tr into same ch-3 sp, continue by working 3tr into each side ch-1 sp and working (3tr, ch1, 3tr) in each corner ch-3 sp; ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-3. (4 sides of 32 groups of 3tr, 4 corners of ch-1)

Fasten off Yarn C.

Join Yarn D in any outer corner ch-3 sp.

Border Round 3 Ch1 (does not count as a st), *3dc into ch-2 sp, dc in each gap between tr across; repeat from * around, ss to first dc. (4 sides of 95 dc, 4 corners of 3 dc)

Fasten off Yarn D.

To make up

Weave in ends and block if necessary. ♥

The basics of amigurumi

Want to give amigurumi a try, but don't know where to start? **Joanne Scrace** demystifies this great crochet technique



What is amigurumi?

Amigurumi (said a-me-gurr-oomi) is a Japanese term for small knitted or crocheted stuffed toys. It's a blend of two words: ami, meaning crocheted or knitted, andigurumi, meaning stuffed doll. The word has been coopted in the west to mean small crochet toys and there is a specific technique associated with it. A piece worked in the amigurumi style is worked in a spiral, with right side always facing, no joining stitches and no chains at the start of the row.

Choosing a hook

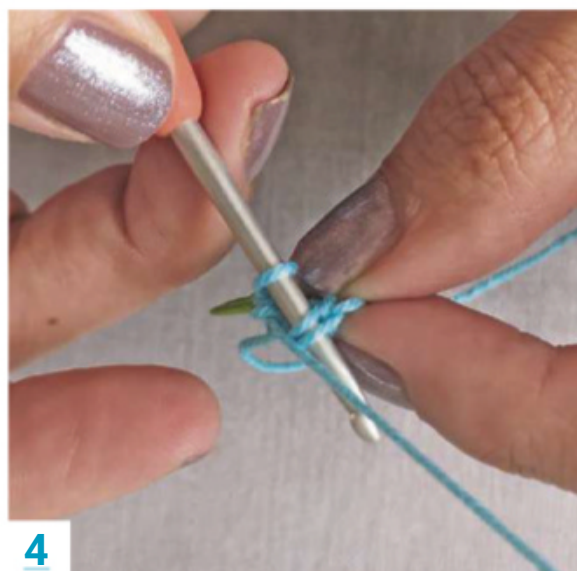
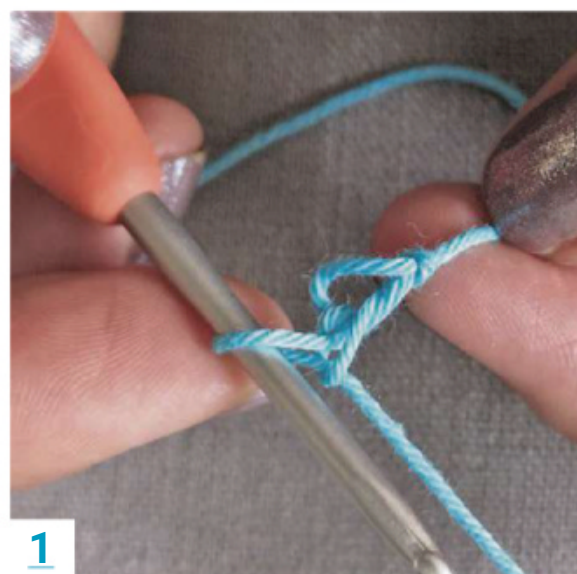
To achieve a tight finish that doesn't allow the stuffing to poke out, use a hook that is smaller than you would normally choose. If you find it difficult to work at such a tight tension, then you can either work into the back loops only, which can help close the holes, or you can place stockings or tights inside the finished item to contain the stuffing.

Starting the pattern

Because you want the hole in the first round to close, you will need to start with a magic loop (magic ring) or an alternative. Magic loops can be a little bit fiddly, so an easier alternative is to chain two and work the round into the first chain (the one nearest the slipknot.) **1**

Using a stitch marker

Because Amigurumi is worked in a smooth spiral it can be hard – actually,



make that almost impossible – to see where the round ends and starts. It is crucial to mark the end of each round with a removable stitch marker (or safety pin) **2**, and move it up each time you complete a round. Before you start the second round, pull the tail tightly to close the hole at the bottom of your stitches **3**. Now work into the first stitch of the second round **4** and work up to the stitch marker **5**. When you have finished the increases,

you can leave the stitch marker in place and work in a continual spiral over and past it **6**. This allows you to count the number of rows you have worked even. Don't forget to reinsert the stitch marker before you start decreasing! **7**



Increasing and decreasing

Increasing is simply done by working two stitches into the same stitch. Decreases are made by working two stitches together, a dc2tog. To make this stitch, insert the hook into the stitch, yarn over,



pull the yarn through the stitch, (2 loops left on the hook) **8**. Insert hook into next stitch, yarn over and pull the yarn through the stitch, yarn over and pull through all 3 loops. **9** Two stitches become one.



Adding features

Features are most easily added before you begin to decrease. If you are using safety eyes, you will need to push the backs on. If you are embroidering, you can do it at this point, or after stuffing – whichever you find easiest **10**.

Stuffing

Stuffing the piece before you start the last round gives you more room to get the stuffing in **11**. Now thread the tail end through the final round of stitches and pull tight to close, **12**, before making any extra items, such as ears, as instructed **13**.

Top Tip

Keep stitches nice and tight so that the stuffing doesn't poke through any gaps or holes

Turn over to try your first amigurumi... ➔



Top Tip

Never attempt amigurumi without a stitch marker!

You will need it to distinguish between each round of stitches

Joanne Scrace's amigurumi teddy bear chain is easy to hook in crochet cotton

You will need

- Adriafile Uno A Ritorto 5, 1 ball in Turquoise (shade 73)
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook
- Small amount of toy stuffing
- Stitch marker
- Small safety eyes and nose OR black embroidery thread

Measurements

- Approx. 4cm (1½in)

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project but stitches should be tight so that stuffing does not show through

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Adriafile Uno A Ritorto 5

100% cotton

200m per 50g

Machine wash at 60°C

£3.50, www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk

Bear chain

This simple novelty bear key chain is a great way to try out some amigurumi techniques. Stitch him in a range of colours to make cute birthday gifts or party favours!

BEAR Head

Round 1 Ch2, working into first ch, 6 dc. (6 sts)

Rnd 2 2dc in each st around. (12 sts)

Round 3 *1dc, 2dc in next st; rep from * around. (18 sts)

Round 4 *2dc, 2dc in next st; rep from * around. (24 sts)

Rounds 5-11 24dc.

Pause to embroider the face or to insert safety eyes or nose.

Round 12 *2dc, dc2tog; rep from * around. (18 sts)

Round 13 *1dc, dc2tog; rep from * around. (12 sts)

Pause to stuff the head firmly.

Round 14 (Dc2tog) 6 times. (6 sts)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Thread tail onto a needle and run through each stitch, pulling firmly to close gap. Make a loop, then chain the rest of the tail to form a hanging loop.

Ears (make 2)

Round 1 Ch2, working into first ch, 6dc. (6 sts)

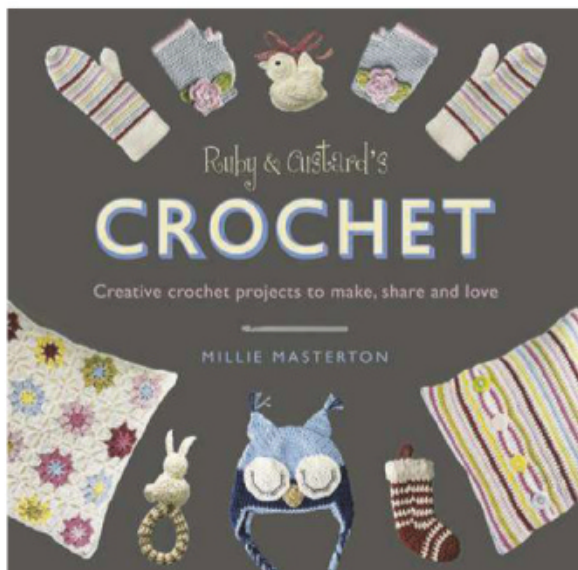
Round 2 2dc in each st around. (12 sts)

Rounds 3-5 12dc.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail to attach them to the head.

To finish

Flatten ears and sew to head. Thread hanging loop onto keyring. 🐻



Crochet to share

If your home is full of crochet, share the love with others, says **Joanna Benner**



There gets to a point with any crafter when the house is crammed with your favourite hobby. If you're a crocheter you've probably crocheted everything; but you still want to carry on. If you're hooked (groan!), why not give things away!

Plan your year and think of the friends and family who would love a handmade present from you. Then plan how long it will take you. If a birthday is imminent you would choose a cowl or a hat – if it's a long way off, you may have time for a blanket. Think hard about the person you will be crocheting for – the colours

blanket across the bottom, and they can also recognise their particular blanket. Blankets should be made out of new, preferably superwash yarn (not cotton as it's a bit heavy). Always ask if there is a desired size before you start work.

Selling your crochet (on Etsy, Ebay or at craft fairs) is another option, but your pattern should always be original or copyright-free. With toys, make them with safety eyes, stuffing, and baby yarn so they conform to the CE safety mark. There are no forms to fill in, but you have to be sure that they are completely safe for children. The Ricorumi range of 25gm

Think hard about the person you will be crocheting for – the colours they like, their hobbies and personality

they like, their hobbies and personality. If they like cooking, a simple pot holder will delight them. If your husband likes Harley Davidson motorbikes, don't even attempt to make a crocheted copy – only the real thing will do! If you need inspiration, *Ruby and Custard's Crochet: Creative crochet projects to make, share and love* available from Amazon is packed with ideas.

If your friends and family are already inundated with your crochet projects, why not crochet for charity? Ask your local hospital or care home if they need lap blankets for the elderly. Patients with dementia can see the edge of their bed more easily when there is a colourful

balls of yarn are perfect for toys in 60 gorgeous shades and only cost £1 a ball from www.deramores.com.

Whenever you're making items to sell, make sure the yarn is clean, bright and suitable for the project. Superwash, acrylic, cotton or cotton/acrylic yarns are the best to use as they're less likely to shrink. Include washing instructions and the type of yarn (if it's a pure wool superwash, remind recipients not to use fabric softener, as it is detrimental to the superwash treatment).

Whatever you choose to give or sell, it is guaranteed to thrill them – so long as it's not a Harley Davidson!



From top: *Ruby and Custard's Crochet* book of 30 patterns to make and share (£8.57); people love practical items like our craft room set (p43); in 60 shades, the Ricorumi range is ideal for toymaking

Get kitted out!



Diamond Shawl Summer

IT'S ALL IN A NUTSHELL

£20.98

www.itsallinanutshell.com

Shawls are year-round must-have accessories, as they're equally wonderful for keeping our shoulders warm on summer nights as well as all day long in winter. This eye-catching diamond-pattern shawl, designed by Esther Dijkstra of It's All in a Nutshell, is

made with just one ball of Scheepjes Whirl in Fruity O'Tutty (shade 763). We adore the summery colours that emerge as you stitch. The pattern is free from her website (so you can choose your own yarn), or you can buy a kit from Deramores. The shawl measures 50x250cm (20x98in) and you'll need a 4mm hook to make it. There's also an autumnal version, which combines a mohair yarn with the Whirl for a soft, fuzzy look and feel. That kit, which is £51.44 from Deramores, comes with one ball of Scheepjes Whirl in Blackcurrant Squeeze Me and five balls of Mohair Rhythm in Hip Hop.

Beanie Hat

MYBOSHI

£16.49

www.knituk.com

Whether you're hiking Highland trails or popping to town for a coffee, a beanie hat will keep your noggin warm. Myboshi has come out with a range of beanie kits in a sassy colour range, suitable for women, men and children, and they're all made in their own branded merino/polyacryl yarn. Our eyes fell on this green and brown one made in myboshi no.1 wool in Lime, Emerald and Ochre. The kit comes with three balls of yarn, a 6mm crochet hook, an iron-on label and the pattern. Get hooking and add this natty number to your autumn wardrobe.



Halloween Ripple Towels

HERRSCHNERS

£15

www.herrschners.com

Time to get your kitchen ready for Halloween! These zigzag towels are made in bright Halloween colours, but you could just as easily make them from other festival holiday colours and switch as the festivities change. They're made in Herrschners own-brand Heritage Cotton yarn, which is a DK, and there's enough in the kit



to make three towels. Herrschners is based in America, so there will be shipping to add to the order, but luckily you can download the pattern for free and use your own yarn – this project is a great stashbuster. The size of each towel is 30x43cm (12x17in).

Elephant Flat Toy

PATONS

£5.37

www.deramores.com

It's always cuddle time with sweet toys like this hanging around the home, and who can resist an adorable elephant? Made in Patons' machine-washable 100% acrylic Fab DK, this is a toy that can be used daily and easily cleaned! He has very characterful features and a cute triangular body, as do the other animals in Patons' flat toy range – a cat, a teddy, a bunny and a monkey, who are all equally adorable. You can download the pattern for free and use your own yarn, or alternatively buy the kit from Deramores. The kit contains the yarn and pattern – you will just need to supply a 4mm hook.





Cat, Dog and Bunny

MISS GREGORY'S

£15 each

www.missgregorysgorgeousgifts.co.uk

These might be the cutest amigurumi critters you see today. Miss Gregory's little animal kits come in a variety of colours – 14 in all – and stand at 10cm (4in). Each is packaged in a sturdy box, making it an ideal gift (easy to wrap!). Inside the box is a ball of chunky yarn, a 4mm hook, toy filling, safety eyes, stitch marker, yarn needle and a pattern booklet. They're ideal to give to budding crocheters.



Beaded Bracelet

BEAD CROCHET KIT

£22.91

www.etsy.com/uk/shop/BeadCrochetKit

If you can crochet with yarn, you can crochet with beads. But if you're nervous, there are detailed instructions included with the pattern. Plus, the beads arrive already threaded onto the cotton yarn – in the correct order – so it's all ready to go. It's so much easier than it might look! There are loads of beaded jewellery designs in this Etsy shop, but we really like this plaid-style one, so reminiscent of Burberry. The kit contains a ball of cotton yarn threaded with Japanese toho seed beads, two end caps, a clasp and five double rings.



Wild Baskets

DERAMORES

£22.68

www.deramores.com

Perfect for plants and storing nik-naks, these baskets will add a splash of colour to your decor. Made in Cygnet Yarns' Seriously Chunky Prints, they're a breeze to hook and can be adorning your shelves in super-quick time. This kit includes the yarn and pattern for two baskets: a small at 20x20cm (8x8in) and a large at 28x20cm (11x8in). Shades included are Hummingbird (four balls) and Nightjar (one ball). You'll need a 12mm hook, but if you don't have that in your kit, Deramores has a range from £2.



Supersize Pumpkin

HOOOKED

£8.99

www.hoooked.co.uk

Halloween is around the corner, so hook up a pumpkin that can be used year after year! This chunky gourd is made with Hoooked's Zpagetti, their popular jumbo yarn made from T-shirt waste recycled from the fashion industry. The pumpkin is worked in the amigurumi style and the kit comes with all the yarn you need, plus the pattern. You will need a 12mm crochet hook to make it, which isn't included in the kit, but you can add one to your order for £3.59.



Top tip

Add 3D fabric paint to the soles of the slippers to make them non-slip

Blue babe

These two-tone slippers by **Joanna Benner** are soft, comfortable and gorgeous to boot

You will need

- Rico Creative Cotton Aran,
1 ball each in:
Sky Blue (shade 37)
Natural (shade 60)
- 5mm (UK 6, US H/8) crochet hook

Measurements

- To fit adult size 5-6

Tension

- Tension is not critical for
this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations
see page 82

Worked in every crocheter's starter stitch – double crochet – these slippers are a breeze to make. Each slipper is worked as a single piece and sewn at the back with a slip stitch, so they're ideal for beginners, and a great way to learn how to work with two colours. Why not pair Natural with another shade from this yarn range? From bright jewels to muted pastels, you'll find every modern colour you could wish for!

SLIPPERS

Using Sky Blue yarn:

Round 1 Make a magic ring, ch1 (does not count as stitch) and work 5dc into ring. Join with a slip stitch.

Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as stitch) and work 2dc in each stitch around. (10 sts). Join with a slip stitch.

Round 3 Ch1 (does not count as stitch) and work 2dc in each stitch around. (20 sts). Join with a slip stitch.

Round 4 Ch1 (does not count as stitch) and work *2dc in the next stitch and 1dc in the next stitch; repeat from * to end. (30 sts). Join with a slip stitch.

Rounds 5-11 Ch1 (does not count as stitch) and dc in each stitch around. On the final round, join with a slip stitch and finish off.

Join Natural yarn and work Rounds 1-5 as before. (You can make the shoe shorter by working fewer rounds here or

longer by working more rounds, but you may have to work extra coloured stripes as the Natural yarn is just enough for the size stated).

Join with a slip stitch and finish off.

With RS facing and Natural, rejoin yarn 11 sts to the right of where you have finished off.

Next row Ch1 (does not count as stitch) and work a dc in next 22 sts, turn.

Next row Ch1 (does not count as stitch), work 1dc in each st to end, turn. Repeat the last row for another 19 rows or until the shoe fits the length of your foot – you will need it shorter rather than longer, as the shoe needs to stretch to fit.

Sew or slip-stitch the back seam.

Work one row of double crochet all around the edge, making sure the stitches are tight rather than loose.

Finish off and darn in any loose ends. 💙

About this yarn

Rico Creative Cotton Aran

100% cotton

85m per 50g

Machine wash at 30°C

£1.89, for stockists visit

www.rico-design.de



Slip into something stylish with these colour-block beauties

Top tip

Cut each yarn end to about 15cm (6in) and weave in three times in opposing directions

Three scoops

Colour-blocking is as easy as one, two, three. Pick a trio of complementary colours for this textured scarf by **Emma Potter**

You will need

- Yarn Stories Fine Merino DK in:
Raspberry x 2 balls
Cream x 3 balls
Taupe x 4 balls
- 5mm (UK 6, US H/8) hook

Measurements

- 21x165cm (8¼x65in)

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

Designer Emma Potter describes this project as: “A super-easy, ice-lolly-inspired, colour-block long scarf in a pretty sedge stitch.” We’re definitely seeing those creamy Neapolitan colours in there, and the woven-looking sedge stitch is just a simple one-row repeat that provides lovely squishy texture. This is a great make if you’re new to crochet or fancy hooking something that’s not too taxing. Just pick three shades you love!

SCARF

With Yarn A, ch42.

Row 1 (RS) 2tr in the third ch from the hook (skipped ch count as dc), *skip the next 2 ch, (dc, 2tr) in the next ch; repeat from * across to the last 3 ch, skip the next 2 ch, dc in the last ch, turn.
(26 tr, 13 dc)

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 2tr in the first dc, *skip the next 2tr, (1dc, 2tr) in the next dc; repeat from * to end, finishing with 1dc in the turning chain, turn.

Repeat Row 2 for pattern, changing colour as follows:

Yarn A for 20cm (7¾in).

Yarn B for 33cm (13in).

Yarn C for 58cm (22¾in).

Yarn B for 33cm (13in).

Yarn A for 20cm (7¾in).

Fasten off and weave in ends. 🧶

Top Tip

A good rule of thumb for scarf length is that it should be about as long as the wearer is tall

About this yarn

Yarn Stories Fine Merino DK

100% fine merino

120m per 50g

Machine wash at 30°C

£5.75, call 01484 847784 or visit

www.yarnstories.com



Stay cosy this autumn
with our easy scarf
project for beginners

Mr. Fox

Your little mischief-maker will go nuts for this animal jumper by **Louise Smith**, complete with a cute tail and ears!

Top tip

Wooden buttons fit with the theme, but toggles would also look cute



You will need

- King Cole Bamboo Cotton DK in: Jaffa (3049) x 3 (3: 4) balls – A Earth (626) x 1 (1: 2) balls – B White (530) x 1 (1: 1) ball – C
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook
- 6 medium wooden buttons
- A small amount of toy stuffing (for the tail)
- Tapestry needle

Measurements

- See sizing guide

Tension

- 20 sts and 24 rows to 10cm (4in) over dc, using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) crochet hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

Make woodland walks (or just nipping to the shops) way more whimsical with the cutest of hooded cardigans. Sized for ages two to six years, this foxy project even has adorable ears on the hood, and a tail on the back. With details like this, it's too bad it doesn't come in adult sizes, too! Hook this cosy jumper today, ready for all your autumn adventures.

Sizing guide

Sizes & measurements		2 years	4 years	6 years
To fit chest	cm	54	57	61
	in	21	22	24
Actual chest	cm	60	63	67
	in	23½	24¾	26½
Length	cm	35	37	39
	in	13¾	14½	15½
Sleeve length	cm	24.5	25.5	30.5
	in	9½	10	12

FOX HOODIE

Notes

The actual chest measurements (finished garment) are given for a garment joined with a slip stitch seam as instructed in the pattern. If joined with a sewn seam, the actual chest measurement would be approx 64 (67: 71)cm. Please bear this in mind if you choose to make up the pieces with a method other than that given.

Back

Using Yarn A, ch65 (68: 72).

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

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

Rows 3-52 Repeat Row 2.

Shape armhole

Next row (RS) Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn.

[62 (65: 69) dc]

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

[56 (57: 59) dc]

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

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

Shape neck

Next row (RS) Ch1, dc in each of next 15 sts, turn leaving rem sts unworked.

Next row Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to end, turn. (17 dc)

Next row Ch1, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. (16 dc)

Next row Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to end, turn. (15 dc)

Fasten off.

Skip central 26 (27: 29) sts and rejoin in next st with RS facing, ch1, dc in each of next 18 sts.

Work another 3 rows, decreasing by 1 st at neckline edge on each row as for first side. (15 dc)

Fasten off.

Left front

Using Yarn A, ch30 (32: 34).

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn.

[29 (31: 33) dc]

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

Rows 3-52 Repeat Row 2.

Shape armhole

Next row (RS) Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st

About this yarn

King Cole Bamboo Cotton DK

50% bamboo, 50% cotton

230m per 100g

Machine wash at 30°C

£4.49, for stockists call 01756 703

670 or visit www.kingcole.com

to end, turn. [28 (30: 32) dc]

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

Work 2 (3: 4) more rows, decreasing 1 st at armhole edge on each row as before.

[25 (26: 27) dc]

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

Repeat last row 1 (0: 1) more time.

Shape neck

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

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

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

[15 (15: 15) dc]

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

Repeat last row 9 (12: 15) more times.

Fasten off.

Right front

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

Shape armhole

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

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

Work 2 (3: 4) more rows, decreasing 1 st at armhole edge on each row as before.

[25 (26: 27) dc]

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

Repeat last row 1 (0: 1) more time.

Shape neck

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

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

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

[15 (15: 15) dc]

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

Repeat last row 9 (12: 15) more times.

Fasten off.

To make up

Join shoulder and side seams with RS together, using a ss seam (see Notes).

Turn work right way out.

Sleeves (make 2)

Join Yarn A at bottom of Armhole, where

side seams meet.

Foundation row (RS) Ch1, 52 (58: 64) dc evenly around Armhole, turn.

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

Next row (dec row) Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each of next 22 (25: 28) sts, (dc2tog) twice, placing a marker in first dc2tog, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog.

[48 (54: 60) dc]

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

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

Repeat from * 2 (3: 3) more times.

[36 (38: 44) sts]

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

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

Hood

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

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

Turn Hood inside out and fold in half lengthways.

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

Fasten off.

Sleeve ribs (make 2)

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

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

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

Row 3 Ch1, working in back loops only: dc in each st to last dc, dc in last dc joining st to sleeve edge with ss in last step of dc. Repeat Rows 2 & 3 around Sleeve edge. Turn Rib inside out and join edges together using a ss seam.

Fasten off.

Repeat for other Sleeve.

Rib bottom

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

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

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

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

Rib band (inc buttonholes)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Repeat Buttonhole row.

Repeat from * four more times.



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

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

Ears (make 2)

Front

Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

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

Round 5 Ch1, (7dc, 3dc in next st) around, ss in first dc. (30 dc)

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

Round 7 Ch1, (11dc, 3dc in next st) around, ss in first dc. (42 dc)
Change to Yarn A.

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

Fasten off yarn.

Back

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

To make up

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

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

Fasten off and hide ends inside Ears.

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

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

Tail

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Round 21 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 14 dc) twice, ss in first dc. (30 dc)
Change to Yarn C.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Round 31 Ch1, dc2tog. (1 dc)
Fasten off yarn.

To make up

Stuff tail lightly.

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

To finish

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

Weave in any ends. ♥

Little stripes

Treat a precious new arrival to this sweet blanket by **Emma Potter**, worked in the gentlest yarn for delicate baby skin

Top tip

When changing colour, work the final part of the last dc in the new colour



You will need

- Sublime Baby Cashmere Merino Silk DK in:
Vanilla (shade 003) x 5 balls – A
Buttercream (shade 437) x 1 ball – B
Little Duck Egg (shade 436) x 1 ball – C
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook

Measurements

- 60x45cm (23½x17¾in)

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Sublime Baby Cashmere Merino Silk DK

75% wool, 20% silk, 5% cashmere
116m per 50g

Machine wash at 30°C

£4.99, for stockists call 01924 369

666 or visit www.sublimeyarns.com

This heirloom baby blanket is made using a stretchy, staggered shell stitch and super-soft luxury yarn for a happy, snuggly baby. What more could you want in a baby blanket? Tuck it round to keep them cosy in the pushchair, or lay baby down on it for playtime. The simple stitch pattern repeat makes it ideal for beginners, or if you need to whip something up quickly for a new arrival. Get stitching this charming project today.

BLANKET

Using a 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook and Yarn A, ch98.

Row 1 (RS) (Dc, ch2, 4tr) in the second ch from the hook, *skip next 3 ch, (dc, ch2, 4tr) in the next ch; repeat from * across to the last 4 ch, skip next 3 ch, dc in the last ch, turn.

Row 2 Ch3, 2tr in st at the base of ch-3, *skip the next 4 tr, (dc, ch2, 4tr) in the next ch-2 sp, skip 1 dc; repeat from * across to the last 4 tr, skip 4 tr, dc in ch-2 sp, turn.

Repeat Row 2, changing colour as follows:

Row 3 Use Yarn A.

Rows 4-5 Use Yarn B.

Rows 6-25 Use Yarn A.

Rows 26-29 Use Yarn B.

Rows 30-31 Use Yarn A.

Rows 32-35 Use Yarn C.

Rows 36-37 Use Yarn A.



Rows 38-41 Use Yarn B.

Rows 42-67 Use Yarn A.

Fasten off and weave in ends. ♥

Simple steps How to change colour in rows



1 Start working the last stitch of the last row of the old colour, but stop before you work the final yrh of the stitch. Cut off the old yarn, leaving a tail about 7cm (2¾in) long



2 Now loop your new yarn colour around the hook, leaving a long tail of yarn (about 7cm or 2¾in long).



3 Pull the new yarn loop through the remaining two loops to finish off the stitch. Pull the old and new yarn ends to tighten the loop on the hook.



4 Now you can work the turning chain of the new row in the new colour, for example, ch3. Then work the stitches of the new row in the new yarn colour.

Double denim

Part trouser, part skirt, these adorable baby culottes by **Jennifer May** are sure to make a style statement!

Top tip

To make a skirt, omit the button and buttonhole stages (ie make two identical Inner Panels)



You will need

- DROPS Belle in:
Dark Jeans Blue (shade 13) x 2 (3: 3: 3) balls – Yarn A
Jeans Blue (shade 15) x 1 (1: 1: 1) ball – Yarn B
Light Blue (shade 14) x 1 (1: 1: 1) ball – Yarn C
- 5mm (UK 6, US H/8) hook
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook
- Shank button, domed, 1.5cm diameter
- Elastic, 2.5cm wide, approx 60cm (23½in) long

Measurements

- See sizing guide

Tension

- 16 sts and 17 rows to 10cm (4in) over st pattern, using 5mm (UK 6, US H/8) hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

DROPS Belle

53% cotton, 33% viscose, 14% linen
120m per 50g
Machine wash at 30°C
£1.10, for stockists visit
www.garnstudio.com

Baby will stand out from the crowd in this cute pair of culottes – such a clever design, using skirt panels and a single button to fasten the back and front to create ‘legs’. Worked in a cotton/viscose/linen blend, they’re light enough to be worn over bare legs in summer, or over tights for a cosy autumn outfit! The recommended hook for the yarn is 4mm, but a larger 5mm hook creates more open stitchwork and a softer drape.

Sizing guide

Sizes & measurements		3 months	6 months	9 months	12 months
Waist	cm	46	48	50	52
	in	18¼	19	19¾	20½
Length (excl waistband)	cm	20	23.5	26	29.5
	in	8	9¼	10¼	11½

CULOTTES

Stitch pattern

Row 1 (WS) Ch1 (doesn’t count as st), dc in fl of each ch to end.

Row 2 (RS) Ch1 (doesn’t count as st), dc in both loops of each ch to end.
Rows 1 and 2 form stitch pattern.

Stripe pattern

4 rows Yarn B.
2 rows Yarn C.
2 rows Yarn A.
2 rows Yarn C.

Outer panels (both alike)

Worked from the waist to the hem.
Using 5mm (UK 6, US H/8) hook and Yarn A, ch38 (39: 41: 43).

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second chain from hook, dc in each ch to end.
[37 (38: 40: 42) sts]
Work stitch patt 17 (20: 22: 25) times.
[35 (41: 45: 51) rows worked]

Back inner panel

Worked from the waist to the hem.
Using 5mm (UK 6, US H/8) hook and Yarn B, ch38 (39: 41: 43).

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second chain from hook, dc in each ch to end.
[37 (38: 40: 42) sts]

Work stitch patt 17 (20: 22: 25) times
AT THE SAME TIME as following stripe patt. [35 (41: 45: 51) rows worked]

Note Sizes 6 months and 12 months will finish with Yarn C as pictured; sizes 3 months and 9 months will finish with Yarn B.

Front inner panel

Using 5mm (UK 6, US H/8) hook and Yarn B, ch38 (39: 41: 43).

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second chain from hook, dc in each ch to end.
[37 (38: 40: 42) sts]

Work stitch patt 13 (16: 18: 21) times
AT THE SAME TIME as following stripe patt.

Buttonhole row (WS) Ch1 (doesn’t count as st), dc in fl of next 18 (18: 19: 20) sts, ch2, sk 2 sts, dc in fl of each st to end.

Next row (RS) Ch1 (doesn’t count as st), dc in both loops of each st and ch to end.

Work stitch patt and stripe patt a further 3 (3: 3: 3) times.
[35 (41: 45: 51) rows worked]

Waistband

Work Waistband in the amigurumi method, in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a ss. You

Top Tip

After washing on a cool cycle, dry the culottes by laying them out flat on a fluffy towel

may find it helpful to mark the first st of each round, moving the marker up as you work.

Using 5mm (UK 6, US H/8) hook and Yarn A, ch75 (77: 81: 85).

Round 1 (RS) Dc in second chain from hook, dc in each ch to end.

[74 (76: 80: 84) sts]

Round 2 Dc in bl of first st worked in Round 1 to form a ring, dc in bl of each st all round.

Round 3 Dc in bl of each st all round.

Repeat Round 3 another 7 times.

(10 rows worked)

Ss in next ss and fasten off.

Using starting tail, stitch the ends of Round 1 together to close.

Button

Work Button in the amigurumi method as for waistband.

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and any yarn colour, make a magic loop.

Row 1 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), 4dc in loop. (4 sts)

Row 2 2dc in each st. (8 sts)

Row 3 (Dc, 2dc in next st) 4 times. (12 sts)

Row 4 Dc in each st. (12 sts)

Row 5 As Row 4.

Ss in next stitch, fasten off yarn, leaving long tail. Insert button, thread tail through each stitch, pull tight and secure. Do not cut off remaining tail as it will be needed to sew on button.

To make up

Waistband

Cut a length of elastic to loosely fit the baby's waist, plus 2cm ($\frac{3}{4}$ in). Join into a ring with an overlap of 2cm ($\frac{3}{4}$ in). Stitch overlap securely.

Waistband row Fold Waistband piece over elastic with RS facing outwards.

Pair your culottes with a plain T-shirt or body suit to make a sweet outfit



Working through bl of final row, join to foundation chain row with a dc seam. Fasten off and weave in ends.

Panels

Take one Outer Panel and One Inner Panel. With WS facing each other and RS of Outer Panel facing you, join with a dc seam using Yarn A.

Repeat with the second pair of Outer and Inner Panels, then sew the Panel pairs together in the same way to complete all four seams (2 worked from waist to hem and 2 worked from hem to waist).

Fold pleats into the Inner Panels as follows: remembering that Row 1 of each panel is the top/waistline, fold each Inner Panel in half to find the centre,

then fold the Panel seams on either side to this centre point. Pin in place.

Waistband row Working through the base of each stitch instead of the foundation chain loops (for stability) and working through all 3 layers of the pleated areas and using Yarn A, dc all round, ss to beg st.

Turn Panels outside-in and insert waistband with its Waistband seam at the top. Using Yarn A, sew the two Waistband rows with overstitches, taking care not to pull stitches too tight to allow for stretch as baby grows.

Turn culottes right-side out.

Sew button to inside of Back Inner Panel to correspond with buttonhole position.

Weave in all ends. 💙

Top tip

Use the rainbow motif on a bag, for a baby's mobile or turn it into wall art!

Rainbow bright

Stitch this colourful skirt for a little one and a matching rainbow motif to complete the look.

By **Lucy Croft**



Rainbow skirt



Step away from the pastels and play with a fun rainbow palette instead, to create this cute skirt and matching motif. Designed for ages 18 months to five years, the skirt features a fabulous wave stitch pattern, which will soon have you working those treble decreases like a pro. And just wait until you see the yarn – with subtle, faded sections reminiscent of dappled sunshine, it's the perfect choice for this rainbow set!

You will need

- Scheepjes Sunkissed, 1 ball each in:
Poolside (shade 04) – A
Lavender Ice (shade 10) – B
Beach Hut Pink (shade 20) – C
Beach Hut Orange (shade 12) – D
Noonday Sun (shade 15) – E
Spearmint Green (shade 14) – F
- Small amount of off-white DK cotton yarn
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook
- 1.5cm diameter blue button

Measurements

- Skirt: see sizing guide
- Rainbow and Cloud Motif measures 13x8cm (5x3in)

Tension

- 2¼ pattern repeats and 11 rows to 10cm (4in) using a 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook

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
- Tr4tog: As above, working () 4 times
- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Scheepjes Sunkissed

100% cotton
170m per 50g
Machine wash at 40°C
£2.49, for stockists visit
www.scheepjes.com

Sizing guide

Sizes & measurements		1½-2 yrs	2-3 yrs	3-4 yrs	4-5 yrs
To fit waist	cm	50.5	52.5	54.5	55.5
	in	20	20½	21½	22
Actual waist	cm	49	49	52.5	52.5
	in	19¼	19¼	20½	20½
Length including waistband	cm	16.5	18	20	21.5
	in	6½	7	8	8½

RAINBOW SKIRT

Notes

The waistband is worked in ss, working into the back loops only to create a ribbed effect. Every 2 rows of ss creates 1 rib. This is useful to recognise when working the first row of dc into the row ends. Be aware the waistband takes a long time to make, but the rest of the skirt is simple and crochets up quickly. The main skirt is worked in rows to begin with, then joined in the round and turned to work back and forth to maintain the pattern.

Waistband

Using Yarn A, ch7.

Row 1 (RS) Working in back loops only, ch1 (counts as ss), ssbl in 3rd ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. (7 sts)

Row 2 Ch1 (counts as first ss), working in back loops only, skip st at base of ch-1, ssbl in each of next 5 sts, ssbl in turning ch-1. (7 sts)

Repeat Row 2 another 228 (228: 244: 244) times.

Next row (buttonhole) Ch1 (counts as

first ss), working in back loops only, skip st at base of ch-1, ssbl in next st, ch3, skip next 3 ss, ssbl in next st, ssbl in turning ch-1. (7 sts)
Repeat Row 2 another 5 times. [236 (236: 252: 252) rows]
Do not fasten off.

Skirt

Row 1 (WS) Rotate to work into row ends, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in 2nd row end along, *skip next row end, dc in next row end; rep from * to end, turn. [118 (118:



The ripple pattern is joined in the round and worked back and forth

126: 126) dc]

Row 2 (RS) Ch1 (counts as ss), skip st at base of ch-1, ss in next dc, *skip next 2 dc, 5tr in next dc (shell made), skip next 2 dc, ss in each of next 3 dc; rep from * another 13 (13: 14: 14) times omitting last ss, turn leaving last 5 dc unworked. Fasten off.

[14 (14: 15: 15) shells]

Leave first 5 sts of next row unworked for waistband overlap. Join Yarn B in next st.

Row 3 (WS) Ch2, tr in next st (counts as tr2tog), *tr in each of next 2 tr, 3tr in next tr, tr in each of next 2 tr, tr3tog over next 3 sts; rep from * across omitting last tr3tog, tr2tog over last 2 sts, turn. Fasten off.

Row 4 (RS) Join Yarn C in first st and work as Row 3.

The next row is joined to work back and forth in the round.

Row 5 (WS) Skip first 2 sts, Join Yarn D in next st, ch3 (counts as tr), *tr in next tr, 3tr in next tr, tr in each of next 2 tr, tr3tog over next 3 sts, tr in next tr; rep from * across omitting last (tr3tog and tr), tr4tog over last 2 sts and first 2 sts of row, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join in the round, turn. Fasten off.

Row 6 Skip tr4tog and next tr, join Yarn E in next st, ch3 (counts as tr), *2tr in next tr, 3tr in next tr, 2tr in next tr, tr in next tr, tr3tog over next 3 sts, tr in next tr; rep from * around omitting last tr, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. Fasten off.

Row 7 Skip tr3tog and next tr, join Yarn F in next st, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each of next 2tr, 3tr in next tr, tr in each of next 3 tr, tr3tog over next 3 sts, *tr in next 3 tr, 3tr in next tr, tr in each of next 3 tr, tr3tog over next 3 sts; rep from * around, ss to top of first tr to join, turn. Fasten off.

Rows 8-19 Rep Row 7, changing colour each row through Yarns A-F twice.

Size 2-3 only

Rows 20-21 Rep Row 7, changing colour each row through Yarns A-B.

Size 3-4 only

Rows 20-23 Rep Row 7, changing colour each row through Yarns A-D.

Size 4-5 only

Rows 20-25 Rep Row 7, changing colour each row through Yarns A-F.

To finish

Weave in all ends, align buttonhole in the centre of the back of the skirt, sew button to opposite side of button band.

RAINBOW MOTIF

Rainbow

Using Yarn B, ch15.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, (2dc in next ch, dc in each of next 2 ch) twice, (dc in each of next 2 ch, 2dc in next ch) twice, dc in last ch, turn. 18 sts)

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each of first 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts) twice, turn. Fasten off. (22 sts)

Row 3 Join Yarn A in first st, ch1, dc in each of first 7 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 7 sts, turn. (24 sts)

Row 4 Ch1, dc in each of first 6 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts, turn. Fasten off. (28 sts)

Row 5 Join Yarn F in first st, ch1, dc in each of first 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts) twice, turn. (32 sts)

Row 6 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. Fasten off.

Row 7 Join Yarn E in first st, ch1, dc in each of first 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 8 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts) twice, turn. (36 sts)

Row 8 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. Fasten off.

Row 9 Join Yarn D in first st, ch1, dc in each of first 7 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 8 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 7 sts, turn. Fasten off. (40 sts)

Row 10 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. Fasten off.

Row 11 Join Yarn C in first st, ch1, dc in each of first 10 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in



Make a bright and beautiful top to wear every day!

each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 10 sts, turn. Fasten off. (44 sts)

Row 10 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. Fasten off.

Cloud

Using off-white, ch10.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr), 2htr in third ch from hook, htr in each of next 8 ch, 5htr in last ch, rotate to work along opposite side of starting ch, htr in each of next 8 ch, 2htr in next ch, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join. (26 sts)

Round 2 Ch2 (counts as htr), 2htr in st at base of ch-2, 2htr in each of next 2 htr, htr in next htr, ss in next htr, skip next 2 htr, 4dtr in each of next 2 htr, skip next 2 htr, ss in next htr, 2htr in each of next 4 htr, htr in each of next 4 htr, ss in next htr, htr in each of next 2 htr, 2tr in next htr, tr in next htr, 2tr in next htr, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Sew the Rainbow in position with the Cloud on top. ♥

Crochet essentials

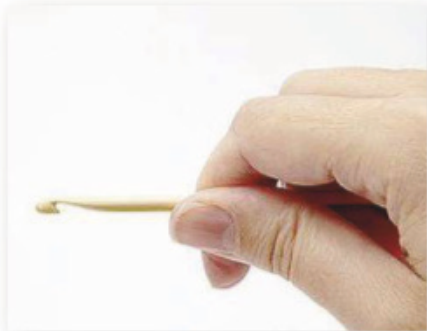
Over the next few pages, you'll find simple step-by-step guides to many useful stitches and techniques that you'll use every time you pick up a hook.

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 finger of your left hand (if you are right-handed), then behind the third and middle fingers, over your index finger.



METHOD TWO
Loop the ball end of the yarn loosely around the little finger of your left hand, then take it over the third finger, behind the middle finger and over your index finger.

Making a slipknot ■ THE FIRST LOOP ON THE HOOK



1 Hold the tail of the ball of yarn in your left hand and drape the yarn clockwise over the top of it to form a circular loop.



2 Hold the loop between your left thumb and forefinger, then insert the crochet hook through the centre of the loop from front to back.



3 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook and pull it back through the centre of the loop, taking the yarn through with it.



4 Pull both ends of the yarn to tighten the knot, then pull just the ball end to tighten the loop so it's close to the hook, but not touching it.

Chain stitch ■ USE THIS STITCH TO MAKE YOUR FOUNDATION CHAIN



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



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



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

How to count chains



Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Never count your first slipknot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). So that you can be accurate, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.

Slip stitch (ss)

■ THIS STITCH HAS NO HEIGHT – OFTEN USED TO JOIN ROUNDS



1 The slip stitch is used to join a length of chain into the round. Insert the hook from front to back into the first chain you worked. Wrap yarn round the hook (yrh) in an anticlockwise direction.



2 Pull the yarn through the chain stitch (as shown) and then the loop already on the hook to make a slip stitch. You can also work this stitch into each stitch along a row to form a neat edging.

Working in rows

■ FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE RULES TO CONSTRUCT CROCHET FABRIC



1 The first row is made by working across the foundation chain from right to left. At the end of the chain or row, turn the work so that the yarn is behind the hook.



2 For the next row, first make the turning chain for the stitch you're about to work. Now work the next stitch into the top of the stitches on your first row, missing the first stitch.

Double crochet (dc) US term: single crochet

■ ONE OF THE KEY STITCHES IN CROCHET, DOUBLES ARE SIMPLE, COMPACT STITCHES THAT FORM A DENSE FABRIC



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



2 Wind the yarn around the hook (yrh).



3 Pull the yarn through the stitch, giving you two loops on your crochet hook.



4 Yarn round hook again, then pull the yarn through both loops. You have made a double crochet stitch and will have one loop left on the hook, ready to do the next stitch.

Half treble crochet (htr) US term: half double crochet

■ A HANDY STITCH THAT'S BETWEEN DOUBLE AND TREBLE CROCHET IN SIZE, AND LOOKS SLIGHTLY LOOSER THAN DOUBLE CROCHET



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



2 Insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch in the previous row. Wrap yarn around the hook again (yrh).



3 Pull the yarn through the stitch only (3 loops on hook).



4 Yarn round hook again, pull the yarn through all 3 loops. You've made a half treble crochet. Continue working htr into next and following sts to the end of the row.

Treble crochet (tr) US term: double crochet

■ ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR STITCHES IN CROCHET, THIS SIMPLE STITCH IS TWICE AS HIGH AS A DOUBLE CROCHET STITCH



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



2 Wrap the yarn around the hook (yrh) and pull the yarn through the stitch only.



3 You will now have 3 loops on the hook. Yrh again, and draw the yarn through just the first 2 loops on the hook.



4 You will now have 2 loops on the hook. Yrh again and draw the yarn through the remaining loops on the hook. Your treble crochet is complete.

Double Treble crochet (dtr) US term: treble crochet

This is a stitch regularly used as an elongated version of the treble (described above). It's worked in a very similar way to the treble, as follows:

- 1 Make a foundation chain. Skip 4ch, *yrh twice, and insert the hook under the top loop of the next ch.
- 2 Yrh, pull the yarn through the ch loop only (4 loops on hook).
- 3 Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (3 loops on hook). Yrh

- and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (2 loops on hook).
- 4 Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops. Repeat from * to make more dtr sts.
- 5 To make the next row of dtr, turn work and ch4. This turning chain counts as the first dtr in a new row. Skip first st at the base of the t-ch, work 1dtr under the top two loops of the 2nd stitch in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

Triple Treble crochet (ttr) US term: double treble crochet

This is one of the longest standard crochet stitches and is mainly used in fancy stitch patterns. It's taller than a double treble crochet stitch (described left) and is worked in a very similar way, as follows:

- 1 Make a foundation ch. Skip 5 ch, *yrh 3 times, insert hook under top loop of next ch.
- 2 Yrh, pull yarn through ch loop only (5 loops on hook).

- 3 + Yrh, draw loop through 2 loops only. Repeat from + 3 times more and your triple treble will be finished. Repeat from * to make more ttr sts.
- 4 To make the next row, turn work and ch5. This turning chain counts as the first triple treble in a new row. Skip first st at base of the t-ch. Work 1 triple treble, inserting hook under the top 2 loops of the 2nd st in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

Turning Chain (t-ch)

■ FOR AN EVEN FINISH, START EACH ROW WITH A TURNING CHAIN

In crochet, you need to add turning chains (t-chs) to the beginning of rows. The reason for this is to bring the hook up to the height of the stitches you're crocheting. Each basic stitch has its own number of chains. The

table below tells you how many t-ch sts form the first stitch. *For dc, usually the turning chain does not count as a stitch and the first stitch of the row is worked into the stitch at the base of the turning chain.

STITCH	Add to foundation chain before starting row	Skip at start of foundation row (counts as first st)	For turning chain (counts as first st)
Double crochet	1 ch	1 ch*	1 ch*
Half treble	1 ch	2 ch	2 ch
Treble	2 ch	3 ch	3 ch
Double treble	3 ch	4 ch	4 ch
Triple treble	4 ch	5 ch	5 ch

How to count stitches

■ CHECK YOUR WORK IS CORRECT

Being able to count your stitches is very important and helps you to ensure that you're following a pattern correctly. It's a good idea to count your stitches at the end of every row. To count short stitches such as double crochet, look at the plaited tops (see above right). For taller stitches, count the upright 'stems' – each 'stem' is counted as a stitch (see right).



How to change colour

■ CREATE STRIPES AND OTHER COLOUR EFFECTS



1 Before you work the final yrh (yarn round hook) on the last stitch of a row in the old colour, drop the old yarn and pick up the new one with your hook.



2 Pull through a loop of the new yarn to finish the old stitch. The working loop will be in the new colour. Continue, keeping the old yarn at the wrong side.

Increasing and decreasing

■ SHAPING STITCHES ARE VITAL FOR MAKING GARMENTS



INCREASE To increase one stitch is very simple – work one stitch into the next stitch on the row below. When you've finished, work another stitch into the same stitch.



DECREASE For a quick decrease, just skip one stitch. For a neater look, work the first part of one stitch and then begin the next stitch. Finish both together.

Sewing seams

■ YOU CAN JOIN CROCHET SEAMS BY USING A TAPESTRY NEEDLE OR A CROCHET HOOK, USING ONE OF THESE FOUR METHODS.



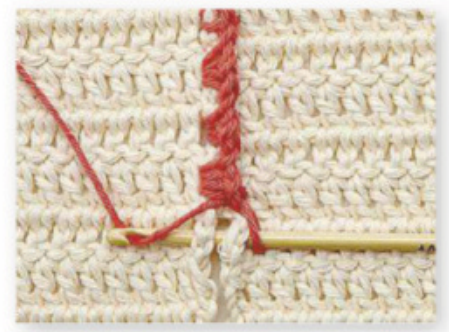
1 Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet right sides together and oversew them as shown above, using a tapestry or yarn needle.



2 To slip stitch a seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together. *Insert hook into both edge stitches, yrh and pull through to complete 1 slip stitch; rep from * working into the next edge stitches, keeping work fairly loose.



3 For a dc seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together, or wrong sides together for a visible seam. Work as for slip stitch seam, using double crochet instead of slip stitch.



4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

How to check your tension

■ MAKE AND MEASURE A SWATCH TO CHECK YOUR TENSION

Most crochet patterns state the tension required, in rows and stitches of a specific type. Make a swatch at least 15cm square and check that your tension matches. Place a ruler across the swatch and insert two pins, 10cm apart. Then place the ruler along a column of stitches and insert two pins 10cm apart. Count the stitches and rows between the pins – if you have less than the pattern, your tension is too loose so you need to use a smaller hook, but if you have too many, use a larger hook. It's usually better to match the stitches than rows, because you can always work more or fewer rows.



Foundation ring

■ CREATE A FOUNDATION RING FOR WORKING IN THE ROUND



1 Make a chain the length stated in the pattern instructions. Next, insert the crochet hook into the first chain. Close the ring with a slip stitch, working yrh...



2 ...and pull yarn through 2 loops on hook. Now you're ready to start crocheting in the round, following the instructions given right.

Working stitches into a ring

■ TO MAKE CIRCLES, TUBES AND OTHER SHAPES



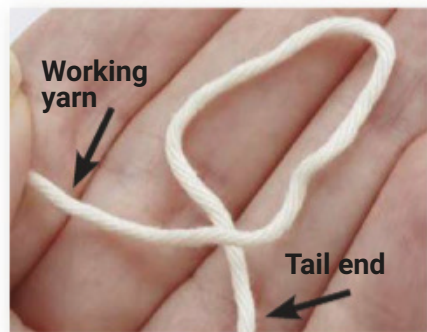
1 Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



2 Finish the treble as usual (yrh, pull yarn through ring, yrh, pull yarn through first 2 loops, yrh, pull yarn through 2 loops). Work more sts into the ring as needed.

Working a magic loop

■ AN ALTERNATIVE FOUNDATION RING FOR WORKING IN THE ROUND



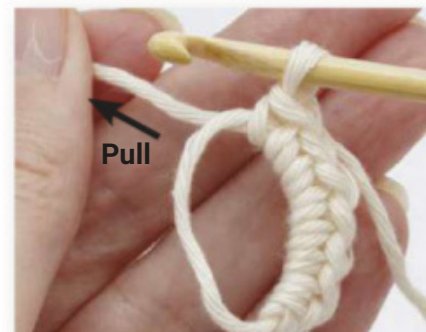
1 To start a magic loop, don't make a slipknot. Instead, make a loop with the yarn, leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is under the working yarn.



2 Now insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn around the hook and pull the yarn through the loop.



3 Make a t-ch for the sts you want to work (above, we made 1 t-ch for dc). Work your sts into the Magic Loop, over both the loop and the tail end (so two yarn strands).



4 Once you've worked the first round of stitches, simply pull the tail end of yarn to draw up the ring. Work a slip stitch to join the last and first sts to finish the first round (as instructed below).

Joining rounds

■ FINISH OFF EACH ROUND OF CROCHET STITCHES NICE AND NEATLY BY USING A SLIP STITCH



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



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



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

Rounds or spirals

■ CHECK WHICH TECHNIQUE TO USE

Some patterns are worked in rounds that are joined together at the end of each round (see left). Other patterns are worked in a spiral so you don't need to join the rounds at the end, just keep going, working into the next stitch on the previous row. Amigurumi toys are often worked in a spiral like this.

How to follow a crochet pattern

USE OUR HANDY GUIDE BELOW IF YOU'RE NEW TO CROCHET

Top tips

You'll find expert's top tips and ideas throughout *Love Crochet*, to help you add to your skills.

Top tip

With some careful balancing, both mice should stand up by themselves on their sturdy feet

About this yarn

Details about the weight, cost and length of yarn.

You will need

Our shopping list tells you what hooks to use, how much yarn to buy and whether you need any extra items such as buttons or embroidery thread.

Tension

The tension tells you how many rows and stitches you need to crochet to the correct size. Make a tension square to ensure you're getting it right before you start to crochet.

Crochet chart key

Some of the patterns in this issue feature a crochet chart. Here's a guide to the symbols featured.

- Chain
- Slip stitch
- Double Crochet (DC)
- Half treble crochet (htr)
- Treble crochet (tr)
- Double treble crochet (dtr)
- Triple treble crochet (trtr)
- Double crochet (dc2tog)
- Double crochet 3tog (dc3tog)
- Treble crochet 2tog (tr2tog)
- Treble crochet 3tog (tc3tog)
- 3 treble crochet cluster
- 3htr cluster
- 5tr popcorn
- 5tr shell
- Chain 3 picot
- Front post treble (fptr)
- Back post treble (bptr)
- Worked in back loop only
- Worked in front loop only

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

UK/US conversions

UK		US	
chain	ch	chain	ch
slip stitch	ss	slip stitch	ss
double crochet	dc	single crochet	sc
half treble	htr	half double	hdc
treble	tr	double	dc
double treble	dtr	treble	tr
triple treble	ttr	double treble	dtr

Which hook do I use?

Hook size	UK yarn weight
2.5-3.5mm hook	4ply yarn
3.5-4.5mm hook	double knitting yarn
5-6mm hook	aran yarn
7mm and bigger	chunky yarn

Abbreviations

across	to end of the row	htr	half treble
alt	alternate/alternating	htr2tog	work 2htr together
approx	approximate(ly)	in next	sts to be worked into the same stitch
beg	beginning	inc	increase
bl	insert hook under back loop only	LH	left hand
BPtr	Back Post treble: yrh, starting from the back, insert hook from back to front to back around post of st in row below, complete as treble st	lp(s)	loop(s)
ch(s)	chain/chain stitch(es)	meas	measures
ch-sp(s)	chain space(s)	p or pc	picot
ch-	refers to ch made previously, eg. ch-3	patt(s)	pattern(s)
cl(s)	clusters	pm	place marker
4-tr cl	(yrh, insert hook in sp/st, yrh & pull up loop, yrh & draw through 2 loops) 4 times, inserting hook in same sp/st, yrh & draw through all loops on hook	prev	previous
cont	continue	rem	remain(s)/remaining
dc	double crochet	rep	repeat
dc2tog	(insert hook in next st, yrh and draw a loop through) twice, yrh and draw through all 3 loops on hook	RH	right hand
dec	decrease	rnd(s)	round(s)
dtr	double treble crochet	RS	right side
dtr2tog	work 2dtr together	sk	skip
fl	insert hook under front loop only	sp(s)	space(s)
foll/folls	following/follows	ss	slip stitch
FPtr	Front Post treble: work in opposite way to BPtr	st(s)	stitch(es)
		tbl	through back loop
		t-ch(s)	turning chain(s)
		tog	together
		tr	treble crochet
		tr2tog	(yrh, insert hook in next st, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice, yrh and draw through all loops on hook
		ttr	triple treble crochet
		WS	wrong side
		yoh	yarn over hook
		yrh	yarn round hook
		*	work instructions immediately foll *, then rep as directed
		[] or ()	work or repeat all instructions in the brackets as directed

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, very carefully pin out the item with rust-proof pins, mist with a water spray and leave to dry naturally.

Love Crochet

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