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Inside **crochet**

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Welcome



Unless you're a childcare worker, play is not something we get to do much as adults – the daily routine of work, parenthood or other commitments can prevent us from unleashing our inner child. So this month, we've dedicated this issue to play in all its forms! From fun and classic crocheted toys, to interesting experiments in stitch, colour and texture, the playful projects in this issue are just the thing to welcome in a new season and brighten our days.

I had so much fun choosing the projects for this issue, and can't resist beautiful handmade items for babies – like Sue Rawlinson's gorgeous camera toys, Dawn Curran's amazing romper with its kitten colourwork pocket, and Claire Montgomerie's bonnet and bloomer set – all kindly modelled by her beautiful daughter! The shoot day was of course so much fun and I loved styling up all the gorgeous makes in our JJ Location house, which even had its own baby resident – young Atticus!

For the more 'grown-up' grownups, we have some subtly playful garments, and Linda Skuja's signature texture and eye for colour is given a fun slant with '70s styling, while Cassie Ward's loop stitch jacket gives us permission to play with stitch and fashion with its modern, cropped shape. So if you want some time to escape and experiment with stitch and colour, read on and enjoy this month's makes!

Kath X



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@J13



WIN!
Tickets to
the fabulous
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WIN!
This stunning
Wool and The Gang
bag kit could
be yours!
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Release your inner child with our pick of colourful and playful ideas this month!

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Tennessee-based amigurumi designer and author Lauren Espy, aka A Menagerie of Stitches, shares her love of small-scale crochet and creating her cast of cute characters to brighten the day!

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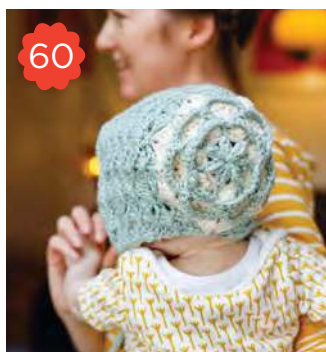
We chat with Vincent Green-Hite of Knot Bad in Portland, Oregon, about cute kawaii amigurumi and edgy metal Yarn Punk! It's all about expressing yourself through yarn and being true to yourself, he says.



CUTE AMI
Be inspired by
Lauren Espy's
adorable
characters!
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Win!



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IN THE LOOP

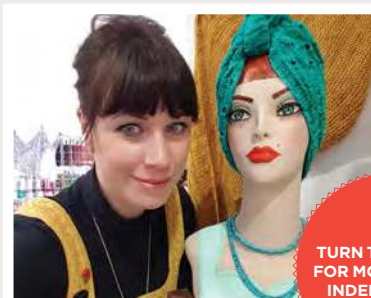
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BEAR HUG

↪ We have it on good authority that the Woodland Friends Bear by Nerissa Muijs is the sort of bear you can trust with your secrets, not to eat your last piece of cake, and let you choose what to watch on TV. Designer Nerissa Muijs stitched him in two balls of Scheepjes Linen Soft so grab a 4mm hook and he'll soon be right at home on your sofa. Of course he'd also make a sweet gift for anyone in need of a cuddle – if you can bear to part with him.

The After Party 37, www.scheepjes.com



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FOR MORE GREAT
INDEPENDENT
YARN SHOPS!

[SHOPS WE LOVE]

Beehive Yarns

↪ Beehive Yarns is a hand-dyed yarn company set up by Beth in June 2017. "We are an online shop and also love vending at yarn festivals. We offer unique, vintage-inspired colourways," says Beth. Beehive Yarns carries a range of yarn bases including sock yarn, DK and luxurious mohair silk. All their yarns are ethically sourced. Find Beth on Facebook and Instagram as [@beehiveyarns](https://www.facebook.com/beehiveyarns).

www.beehiveyarns.co.uk



[RETREATS]

Relax, unwind and stitch

↪ Have you been on a Crochet Sanctuary retreat yet? If not, you're in for an amazing treat! Hosted by the lovely duo, Lisa (theweehouseofcrochet.com) and Lynda-Rose ([@lyndascraftroom](https://www.instagram.com/lyndascraftroom)), enjoy a weekend packed with colour, chat and yarny goodness. The team have just celebrated their first birthday and dates for 2019 have already sold out (psst: the pair also run fun crochet days, places are still remaining on 14 December at the time of writing), but keep an eye on their site for 2020 dates so you can grab your place!

The retreats are based at a beautiful Elizabethan manor hotel with landscaped gardens and a heated indoor pool in the Cheshire countryside. You'll enjoy several projects – their birthday celebration included Stitch & Story Miffy slippers, unicorn cupcakes and a workshop from Lottie & Albert. Rosina Northcott (Zeens and Roger), Emily Platt (Lost in Knit) and Alison Holloway (Petal Crafts) are all guest designers this year.

www.crochetsanctuary.co.uk

MAKING WAVES

↪ We're more than a little obsessed with Wool And The Gang's New Wave Yarn, made of cotton and recycled plastic bottles. As well as doing our bit for the planet, the yarn is soft, breathable and lightweight and comes in 12 awesome shades. We love the accompanying bag pattern too. The Shoreline Bag has an airy open stitch texture, structured square shape and wide delicate handles. With plenty of room for all your essentials, sling it over your shoulder and step outside into the sunshine with a big smile knowing you've saved 15 discarded plastic bottles from the ocean. Conscious crafting at its best. **New Wave Yarn £10.50/100g, Shoreline Bag kit, £63, www.woolandthegang.com**



Win!

WIN!

The fab folk at Wool And The Gang are giving away a Shoreline Bag kit, worth £63, to one lucky reader! Head to www.insidecrochet.co.uk/competitions for your chance to win. Closing date 17 April 2019.

JOIN US NEXT MONTH FOR AN EXCLUSIVE EXTRA PATTERN AND INTERVIEW WITH DESIGNER EMMA VARNAM



[NEW COLLECTION]

Two go off on an adventure

✦ We're big fans of Bo Peep Luxury Baby DK yarn, so were thrilled to see that West Yorkshire Spinners has released 14 fabulous new prints and solids for us to play with. Choose from fresh green Apple, warm orange Pumpkin, bright red Ladybird, aqua print Mermaid and more.

And if that's not exciting enough, don't miss Emma Varnam's Great Adventures collection of 10 fun and beautiful designs for children and their bears! "By creating these matching designs you can sprinkle a little extra magic into playtime," says Emma. We love the traveller rucksack in child and tiny bear size, colourful poncho with pom-poms (giddy up!), and black and cream striped bumblebee top, complete with head boppers! Adventures await...

Bo Peep Luxury Baby DK, £3.95/50g, Great Adventures £12.99, www.wyspinners.com



WE LOVE...

Pin Lana Bou's new "squish more yarn" enamel pin to your bag or jacket – it's definitely a motto close to our heart! Pop over to Kate's fab shop for more pretty, playful gifts for yarn lovers including "yarn is my superpower" mugs and coasters. **£6.50, www.lanaboushop.etsy.com**

BE MERRY AT WOOL@J13

✦ A celebration of all things woolly, Wool@J13 is back on the 18 and 19 May! This vibrant show takes place at Lower Drayton farm just off Junction 13 on the M6, in Penkridge, Staffordshire.

Meet a host of wonderful exhibitors from around the UK who love sharing their skills. Book onto a workshop, from making Dorset buttons to weaving with a peg loom. Enter the gauntlet competition (mittens without fingers). Watch sheep shearing, go to the stash swap and fleece sale, chill out to live music, eat scrummy street food and enjoy the colour, fun and mayhem!

Day tickets £5.50 in advance, £7.50 on the door.

Saturday 10am–5pm, Sunday 10am–4.30pm, www.wool-j13.uk

WIN!

The lovely folk behind Wool@J13 are giving away ten weekend tickets each worth £12! Head to www.insidecrochet.co.uk/competitions for your chance to win. Closing date 17 April 2019.



DIARY

* 1 JUNE

LEEDS WOOL FESTIVAL

This fun festival is at the Leeds Industrial Museum with a lively market offering a range of goods from local traders, as well as workshops and activities, demonstrations of special techniques, tips from professional speakers and children's crafting activities.

@ArmleyMills on Facebook

* 15 & 16 JUNE

THE WOOL MONTY

Big, bright, bold yarn show at the FlyDSA Arena in Sheffield, whether your woolly passion is crochet, knitting, weaving, spinning, dyeing, felting or just curating beautiful yarn and accessories! Advance tickets: day £8, weekend £14. On the door tickets: day £10, weekend £16. Saturday 10am–5pm, Sunday 10am–4pm.

www.thewoolmonty.co.uk

* 28 & 29 JUNE

WOOLFEST

A showcase and celebration of the best of wool and wool crafts, with a huge number of stallholders selling their wares and demonstrating their skills. Also catch the fleece sale, rare breeds parade and sheep shearing demonstration in the main ring, exhibitions in the small ring, and the popular Friday evening Spin In. Friday 10am–6pm, Saturday 10am–5pm, day ticket £10, two days £15.

www.woolfest.co.uk

* 18–31 JANUARY 2020

KNIT FOR PEACE

The celebrated Knit for Peace Mysore holiday in India is back, with acclaimed tutor Jane Crowfoot leading daily crochet and knit workshops. Stay at the beautiful Green Hotel and in the mornings craft under the pergola in the gardens, and in the afternoons sightsee and visit local charitable projects if desired. From £2,750 (excluding flights).

www.knitforpeace.org.uk

WORKSHOPS

* SUNDAY 26 MAY, 2 & 9 JUNE

BEGINNERS' CROCHET

A set of three two-hour classes at Loop London with our very own Kath Webber. Kath introduces beginners to the basic stitches, shaping, colour changing and working in the round, pattern reading with simple granny squares, and basic finishing techniques. £90, 11am–1pm.

www.loopknittingshop.com

* THURSDAY 30 MAY

TUNISIAN CROCHET

Learn the ancient craft of Tunisian crochet (Afghan crochet) with Heike Gittens. Learn some of the stitches during the morning, starting with Tunisian simple stitch. After lunch, start work on a small storage case for your Tunisian hooks, using skills learnt in the morning. £54.95 including yarn, 10am–4pm.

www.blackssheepwools.com

Don't Miss!



[YARN SHOW]

New yarn festival!

✦ We're thrilled to share that the organisers of the brilliant Bakewell Wool Gathering are launching a new sister festival. The Buxton Wool Gathering is on Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 May in the stunning Peak District. Head to the Pavilion Gardens in Buxton and enjoy being with some of the friendliest, craftiest people around! Expect the same fantastic mix of the best of yarn, crochet, knitting, spinning, felting and weaving, with over 50 exhibitors sharing their love of their crafts.

Visit www.buxtonwool.co.uk, and Facebook at [buxtonwoolgathering](https://www.facebook.com/buxtonwoolgathering)

WIN!

In celebration, the lovely folk behind the Buxton Wool Gathering are offering five pairs of day tickets to *Inside Crochet* readers! Email admin@buxtonwool.co.uk before 1 May 2019 with your name and contact details. Winners will be chosen at random and advised by email.



HAND-DYED MAGIC

✦ We're smitten with the stunning hand-dyed yarns from Debbie Dancer (Down Sheepy Lane) whose colours are inspired by nature, family memories and fave TV shows. "I love to see how the colours work together to create something beautiful. Sometimes it's quite unexpected and that's the exciting part!" says Debbie. Pick from pretty florals (Grandma's Garden), to bright aqua and soft blue (think *Game of Thrones*) to warm yellow tones. www.downsheeplane.etsy.com

WIN!

Debbie is giving away two mystery skeins of her gorgeous yarn to one lucky reader! Head to www.insidecrochet.co.uk/competitions for your chance to win. Closing date 17 April 2019.



[CAREERS]

CROCHET ENTREPRENEURS

Ami designer Elif Tekten talks about her kids, crocheting on the go and eating out in Turkey.

@zipzipdreams

Elif designs amigurumi toys for kids. She is Hungarian and has been living in Istanbul with her family for about seven years. "My kids (son, 10, daughter, five) give me the best ideas. Zipzip comes from my son, who was called Zipzip as a toddler. I also have a buddy as crazy about yarn as me – my angora cat!" Elif loves creating animal characters. "But I'm working on a special doll right now. My toys are for playing and loving, each has her or his own story."

Elif's mum taught her the crochet basics when she was a child. "My first project was a blanket using scrap yarn at home. My mum had a big yarn stash and lots of craft supplies. I fell in love with amigurumi after my son was born."

She trained as a maths teacher and also got a degree in tourism and hotel management. "It seems crazy, but all this led to where I am now in my life. Maths is really useful in designing!"

Seeing her creations, her friends

encouraged her to start writing her own patterns. She says her husband is her biggest supporter, "even though sometimes it's hard for him to believe I really need one more basket of yarn!..."

Most of the time, Elif gets ideas for her toys from her kids or friends. "I designed my stork for a friend who was wishing for a baby for a long time. I named him Lucky and shortly after my friend got pregnant with twin girls. I always have a sketchbook with me. When I design a pattern I work from my sketches. It is also useful to make a life-size drawing for a new project."

Elif says her most popular design is her first, called Teddy Bear. "It's a basic pattern for anyone who wants to try amigurumi and make a toy anyone would love. Raindrop the Fox was a hit from the first moment. Sunny the Cat and Cloudy the Elephant are also loved by experienced crocheters. When I started crocheting I was amazed by the





NEW MELLOW YELLOWS

Add a touch of yellow to your makes and evoke warm sunshine days.

Debbie Bliss Toast

65% wool/25% polyamide/10% cashmere • 100g/420m/459yds • £12 from www.lovecrochet.com

This new, gorgeous, luxurious 4ply is a beautifully soft wool and cashmere blend that is perfect for decadent socks (the nylon content makes it machine washable), or would be a great option for next-to-skin accessories. Ten appealing colourways are initially available.

Rowan Moordale

70% wool/30% alpaca • 100g/230m/251yds • £14.36 from www.deramores.com

A surprisingly lightweight blend of British Bluefaced Leicester wool and British alpaca, this new DK is really stunning, giving a delightful depth, drape and sheen to finished makes. It feels robust and is delicious to handle and sniff but the alpaca content makes for an easy to wear and luxurious crochet.

Ella Rae Cashmerino Sport

55% Merino/33% acrylic/12% cashmere • 50g/125m/137yds • £4.99 from www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

New from the Ella Rae Australian brand, known for its durable and washable yarns, is this Merino and cashmere blend of sport/baby weight yarn. Perfect for children's garments, the yarn works up to a soft, light fabric that can be cool washed at 30 degrees. With a range of 30 colours, including traditional baby shades as well as more interesting, modern options such as this Chartreuse, this is a good value ball to sample.

Malabrigo Dos Tierras

50% Merino/50% baby alpaca • 100g/193m/210yds • £14.99 from www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

This shimmering Frank Ochre kettle-dyed semi-solid shade is just one of several new colourways in this beautiful Peruvian DK yarn. The yarn is a lovely soft blend that is a good choice for wearable accessories but it is the multi-tonal dye results that really elevate this yarn, making good stitch definition even more special with a real sense of depth and interest.

Wool Addicts Water by Lang Yarns

100% alpaca • 50g/140m/153yds • £12 approx. For local stockist visit www.langyarns.com

It is worth making the effort to track down the Wool Addicts range from Lang Yarns. Water is a crimped weave 100% baby alpaca that crochets up without the frustrations of many fuzzy yarns, and is gorgeously soft. The colour range has a really lovely collection of greys and naturals, with on-trend pops of colour.

Flower pattern by Tracey Todhunter, issue 104

@claregetscrafty



Insta Winner!

Congratulations to Clare Gordon, who made the Folklore Blanket CAL from issues 99-111.

Claire wins a 12-month digital subscription!

To be in with a chance of winning, share your recent makes from the magazine on Instagram using the hashtag #myinsidecrochet and tag us @insidecrochet



Zoomigurumi books and the designers in them. I never guessed that a few years later I would be one of them!"

Elif admits sometimes it's hard to juggle everything. "Especially if you are away from your home country. I am not a big sleeper. Mostly I work on my patterns at night, and I take my crochet and notes with me everywhere - to the school garden, to a cafe or to watch my son playing basketball. I try not to decrease the time I spend with my kids so I steal time from everything else."

Any advice for an aspiring ami designer? "Learn and get experience in every stitch and method. Use social media, it is not just good for promoting your work but inspiring to see others' work. I think the most important thing is to find your own style. And always make things that make you happy. Oh, and a note to myself: if it's not the way you imagined, frog it and try again!"

In her spare time Elif loves watching comedy movies and eating out. "We have plenty of good restaurants in Turkey. I also love painting, sewing and travelling though I haven't had much chance for those lately."

What's on the horizon for Elif? "I am working on my first crochet kit project. In the past few months I've worked with two yarn producers testing and creating patterns for their beautiful new yarn."



Stylecraft

Moonbeam

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9628



9629

DOUBLE KNITTING



9627





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www.donnawilson.com



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www.hurnandhurn.com



We're egg-static!

£8

What better way to serve your breakfast egg than in this splendid green diplodocus keeping a watchful eye on his cargo?
www.redcandy.co.uk

CHILDHOOD CHARM

Introduce some playful notes into your life this month!



Happy days

£65

This super-fun knitted cushion has WOW on the other side! Double positive vibes.
www.tullibee.co.uk



Believe in unicorns

£14.50

Take a tea break and let those magical, sparkly thoughts flow...
www.sophieallport.com



Colour pop

£34

This bright harlequin bag is ideal for storing your laundry – or yarn.
www.thismodernlife.co.uk



Inspired?

Hook Cassie Ward's cheery Kaleidoscope Cardigan from issue 110.

To order back issues turn to page 63



Rainbow dreams

£35

Perfect for your essentials, this cute bag spreads sunshine wherever it goes.
www.cathkidston.com

→ BOOKS

WE REVIEW NEW AND EXCITING RELEASES



Zoomigurumi 8

Amigurumipatterns.net, £12.95 • US terminology



→ The introduction to this book reads, "You can never have enough amigurumi friends" and we quite agree! This is another great collection from Amigurumipatterns.net, consisting of 15 new designs by 13 designers, including Ilaria Caliri, Kate E Hancock and *Inside Crochet* designer Irene Strange.

Patterns range from the colourful Raindrop the Fox and loopy-maned Sidney the Lion to the simply adorable Weston the Goat (impossible to look at without a smile on your face) and sleepy-eyed Sherman the Sloth. Whether you're after a cute addition to your desk or shelf, a new beloved toy for a child or simply an "I was thinking of you" gift for a special friend, you're sure to find the right project here. All the designs are based around the ami-style in-the-round technique, and cater for a variety of skill levels, from the super-sweet but simple Sammy the Seal to the more complex but utterly adorable Cody the Crocodile. Patterns are written out clearly with step-by-step photos to help with constructions and techniques. A fun collection sure to bring a smile to your face.

WE ARE ALSO READING...

200 More Crochet Stitches

Tracey Todhunter • Search Press, £14.99
UK terminology



→ If you fancy creating your own stunning crochet designs, or simply livening up a pattern with a bit of extra texture or lace, then this is the book for you! Beginning with basic stitches and moving on to shells, puffs, spike stitches, filet, chevrons, colourwork and much more, there's everything you could possibly need to get going. Each stitch is clearly explained, both written out and charted, with full colour swatches and step-by-step photographs, so even the most complex patterns are easy to understand.

Get Knooking

Laura Strutt • CICO Books, £12.99
US and UK terminology



→ Try something new this month with the fun technique of "knooking" – creating a knitted-style fabric using a special crochet hook. This new collection comes with a knooking hook and cord, plus full illustrated instructions. Stitch patterns covered include stocking and garter stitches, rib and moss stitch, which are then put to use in a selection of bright, fun projects. Create a cosy colour-block bobble hat, ombré legwarmers, a tape yarn tote bag and more, with 35 projects in total. They're all simple designs that make good beginner projects.

Crochet In A Day

Salena Baca, with Danyel Pink & Emily Truman
Stackpole Books, £15.95 • US terminology



→ If you've got a crafty itch to scratch but not much time, try this fun collection of 42 quick-make projects. From textured hats (we love the Kaleidoscope Slouch) to lacy cowls and wraps, simple slippers, colourful potholders and more, this would be a great collection to match up with your stash yarns. We particularly like the Nebula Pillow, which overlays a plain fabric with a colourful lace flap, and the Sprightly Boot Cuffs, which combine a tweedy yarn with cosy cables.



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LIGHT-HEARTED TOUCHES

Matt muses on the playful elements in his crochet pieces, and is inspired to create a fun-loving dino bookend for your shelf!



MATT FARCI, DESIGNER

Matt enjoys working on bright crochet projects and nibbling on Jammy Dodgers. Find him over at www.boyandbunting.com or on Instagram @boyandbunting.



I let out a squeal of delight when I heard that this issue was focussed around the theme of playfulness. I mean what's not to like! For me playful conjures up a real feeling of joy, sunshine, happiness and a certain cheekiness, maybe even a flirty little feeling. To me, it's rainbows and unicorns, fluffy clouds and vibrant meadows, it's textures and frills, it's bold and camp and...well, it's so many things, but they all have a certain giddy excitement about them.

Having pondered playfulness in my life (it tends to include a glass of wine and possibly roller skates?!) I got to pondering what my crochet work looks like when approached with a certain playfulness; namely being somewhat experimental with my projects, not afraid to try something new, being bold with my choices and daring to step outside of the box. I realised that there were certain areas where I naturally like to be a little playful (colour and design) and other areas where I'm pretty set in my ways and could do with adding a sprinkle of playful (different stitches, trying new techniques).

Being playful with colour is probably my default when it comes to my projects. On one hand this could mean that I've got playfulness down to a fine art, on the other, maybe I'm not playful at all, as I'm somewhat stuck in my rainbowy ways? What I do know though is that expressing myself with colour is fun and I love to do that with bright, vibrant shades. It's what I enjoy most about the creative process and it's part of the reason I love to crochet. I also like to add a certain mischievousness by challenging my usual perspectives of what

colour objects should be...grass certainly doesn't need to be green when it's been crocheted from my own imagination!

Last month's issue was hugely focussed around texture and so it was interesting to see how playful patterns became, when texture boundaries were pushed. I used pom-poms in my design from last month. Certainly not something I would normally choose to use, but it added a certain flair and no denying it was playful!

A few years ago, I stumbled upon the fabulous designer, Vanessa Mooncie. I just love her crochet work. The reason I enjoy her work so much is that her designs challenge the way I normally look at projects. Her 3D animal heads were a prime example – taxidermy heads were not normally my thing, but a crocheted version was harmless and it was beyond playful. Having these animal heads hanging in my craft room brought me a huge amount of joy, the designs were so clever and they were certainly a talking point when friends and family would come and visit. Her designs shift what crochet should be, challenging perspective in a fun and creative way. Her work screams "playful!" if you ask me!

Pushing boundaries of playfulness is an interesting idea...how does that look for you? Are there certain areas that you feel you are quite playful or areas you wish you were more lively? I urge you to get playful...it's fun!

Inspired by the theme of this issue, I've come up with a little design that is bright and cheery, not the usual material for a bookend and a rather playful character to find hiding on a book shelf!



DINOSAUR BOOK ENDS



MATERIALS

- Scheepjes Catona, 100% cotton, 50g/125m/137yds
- Yarn A:** Apple Granny 513 x 3 balls
- Yarn B:** Apple Green 389 x 1 ball
- Yarn C:** Tulip 222 x 1 ball
- 2.5mm hook
- Toy stuffing
- Two safety eyes, 8mm
- Six cardboard circles, approximately 3mm/1¼in thick, 5cm/2in in diameter
- Yarn needle
- Hot glue gun
- Bookends, or make your own: Two pieces wood, approximately 1.5cm/½in thick, 11.5cm/4½in wide, 25cm/10in long
- Two pieces wood, approximately 1.5cm/½in thick, 11.5cm/4½in wide, 15cm/6in long
- Nails and hammer
- Paint

TENSION

Tension is not important for this project.

PATTERN NOTES

If not using ready-made bookends, make your own as follows:
Using hammer, nail one 25cm/10in length of wood to one 15cm/6in length of wood to form an "L" shape (make two).
Paint your wood in colour of choice.

Pattern is crocheted in continuous rounds (amigurumi method) unless otherwise stated.



FRONT OF BODY HEAD

Using yarn A, make an adjustable ring.

- Rnd 1:** 1ch, 6dc in ring – 6dc.
- Rnd 2:** 2dc in each dc around – 12dc.
- Rnd 3:** [2dc in next dc, 1dc] around – 18dc.
- Rnd 4:** [2dc in next dc, 2dc] around – 24dc.
- Rnd 5:** [2dc in next dc, 3dc] around – 30dc.
- Rnd 6:** [2dc in next dc, 4dc] around – 36dc.

- Rnd 7:** [2dc in next dc, 5dc] around – 42dc.
- Rnd 8:** [2dc in next dc, 6dc] around – 48dc.
- Rnd 9:** [2dc in next dc, 7dc] around – 54dc.
- Rnd 10:** [2dc in next dc, 8dc] around – 60dc.
- Rnd 11:** [2dc in next dc, 9dc] around – 66dc.
- Rnd 12:** [2dc in next dc, 10dc] around – 72dc.
- Rnds 13–22:** 72dc around – 72dc.

DIVIDE HEAD

Rnd 23: 24dc, miss 24 sts, 24dc – 48dc.

Cont working with these 48 sts.

Rnds 24–28: 48dc – 48dc.

Place safety eyes between Rnds 19 & 20, with 20 sts between eyes.

- Rnd 29:** [Dc2tog, 6dc] around – 42dc.
- Rnd 30:** [Dc2tog, 5dc] around – 36dc.

Rnd 31: [Dc2tog, 4dc] around – 30dc.

Start stuffing this section of head and continue until closing.

Rnd 32: [Dc2tog, 3dc] around – 24dc.

Rnd 33: [Dc2tog, 2dc] around – 18dc.

Rnd 34: [Dc2tog, 1dc] around – 12dc.

Rnd 35: Dc2tog around – 6dc.

Fasten off, weaving tail end through remaining 6dc to close.

NECK INTO BODY

Join yarn A and cont working on remaining 24dc from Rnd 23 of Head, stuffing as you go.

Rnds 1–20: 24dc around.

Rnd 21: [2dc in next dc, 3dc] around – 30dc.

Rnds 22 & 23: 30dc around.

Rnd 24: [2dc in next dc, 4dc] around – 36dc.





Rnds 25 & 26: 36dc around.
Rnd 27: [2dc in next dc, 5dc] around – 42dc.
Rnds 28 & 29: 42dc around.
Rnd 30: [2dc in next dc, 6dc] around – 48dc.
Rnds 31–50: 48dc around.

Cont to dc around until the centre of work (directly underneath head of dinosaur).

DIVIDE THE LEGS

FIRST LEG

Rnd 51: 24dc, miss 24 sts – 24dc.
Rnds 52–61: 24dc.
Rnd 62: [2dc in next dc, 3dc] around – 30dc.
Rnd 63: [2dc in next dc, 4dc] around – 36dc.
Rnds 64–66: 36dc around.
Fasten off.

SECOND LEG

Join yarn A and cont with remaining 24 dc from Rnd 51 of First Leg, stuffing as you go.

Rnds 1–11: 24dc.
Rnd 12: [2dc in next dc, 3dc] around – 30dc.
Rnd 13: [2dc in next dc, 4dc] around – 36dc.
Rnds 14–16: 36dc.
Fasten off.

BACK OF BODY TAIL

Using yarn A, make an adjustable ring.

Rnd 1: 1ch, 6dc in ring – 6dc.
Rnd 2: 6dc.
Rnd 3: [2dc in next dc, 1dc] around – 9dc.
Rnd 4: 9dc.
Rnd 5: [2dc in next dc, 2dc] around – 12dc.
Rnds 6 & 7: 12dc around.
Rnd 8: [2dc in next dc, 3dc] around – 15dc.
Rnds 9 & 10: 15dc.
Rnd 11: [2dc in next dc, 4dc] around – 18dc.
Rnds 12 & 13: 18dc.
Rnd 14: [2dc in next dc, 5dc] around – 21dc.
Rnds 15 & 16: 21dc.
Rnd 17: [2dc in next dc, 6dc] around – 24dc.
Rnds 18 & 19: 24dc.
Rnd 20: [2dc in next dc, 7dc] around – 27dc.
Rnds 21 & 22: 27dc.
Rnd 23: [2dc in next dc, 8dc] around – 30dc.
Rnds 24 & 25: 30dc.
Rnd 26: [2dc in next dc, 9dc] around – 33dc.
Rnds 27 & 28: 33dc.
Rnd 29: [2dc in next dc, 10dc] around – 36dc.
Rnds 30 & 31: 36dc.
Rnd 32: [2dc in next dc, 11dc] around – 39dc.
Rnds 33 & 34: 39dc.
Rnd 35: [2dc in next dc, 12dc] around – 42dc.
Rnds 36 & 37: 42dc.
Rnd 38: [2dc in next dc, 13dc] around – 45dc.

Rnds 39 & 40: 45dc.
Rnd 41: [2dc in next dc, 14dc] around – 48dc.
Rnds 42 & 43: 48dc.

THIRD LEG

As Rnds 51–66 of First Leg.
Fasten off.

FOURTH LEG

Join yarn A and continue on remaining dc left over from Rnd 43 of Tail, stuffing as you go. Work as Rnds 1–16 of Second Leg.
Fasten off.

FOOT PADS

Using yarn A, Make an adjustable ring.
Rnd 1: 1ch, 6dc in ring – 6dc.
Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 12dc.
Rnd 3: [2dc in next dc, 1dc] around – 18dc.
Rnd 4: [2dc in next dc, 2dc] around – 24dc.
Rnd 5: [2dc in next dc, 3dc] around – 30dc.
Rnd 6: [2dc in next dc, 4dc] around – 36dc.
Rnd 7: Dc around, passing hook through sts of Rnd 6 and last round of First Leg.
Before closing stuff leg firmly and add circle of cardboard so foot sits flat. Fasten off.

Repeat this process for all remaining Legs.

STOMACH

Using yarn A, make an adjustable ring.
Rnd 1: 1ch, 6dc in ring – 6dc.
Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 12dc.
Rnd 3: [2dc in next dc, 1dc] around – 18dc.
Rnd 4: [2dc in next dc, 2dc] around – 24dc.
Rnd 5: [2dc in next dc, 3dc] around – 30dc.
Rnd 6: [2dc in next dc, 4dc] around – 36dc.
Rnd 7: [2dc in next dc, 5dc] around – 42dc.
Rnd 8: 42dcblo.
Rnds 9–12: 42dc.
Fasten off.

Using yarn B.
Rnds 13–17: 42dc. Fasten off.

Using yarn A.
Rnds 18–22: 42dc.
Fasten off.

Using yarn B.
Rnds 23–27: 42dc.
Fasten off.

Using yarn A.
Rnd 28: [2dc in next dc, 6dc] around – 48dc.
Rnd 29: [2dc in next dc, 7dc] around – 54dc.
Fasten off.
Add circle of cardboard in piece just made, stuff firmly and sew onto Front of Body section.

Repeat stomach section once more, sewing onto Back of Body section.

SPIKES

Make eight

Using yarn C, make an adjustable ring.
Rnd 1: 1ch, 6dc in ring – 6dc.
Rnd 2: 6dc.
Rnd 3: [2dc in next dc, 1dc] around – 9dc.
Rnd 4: 9dc.
Rnd 5: [2dc in next dc, 2dc] around – 12dc.
Rnds 6–9: 12dc.
Fasten off leaving long tail for sewing.

CHEEKS

Make two

Using yarn C, make an adjustable ring
Rnd 1: 1ch, 6dc in ring, sl st in first dc to join – 6dc.
Rnd 2: 1ch, 2dc in each dc around, sl st in first dc to join – 12dc.
Fasten off, leaving tail for sewing.

MAKING UP

Sew spikes onto the dinosaur (four spikes onto back, four onto front) stuffing with a little filling before attaching.
Sew cheeks to either side of face and embroider zig-zag belly pattern with yarn C.
Using yarn B, embroider toes to each of the feet of the dinosaur.
Using hot glue gun, glue dinosaur to wooden bookends.



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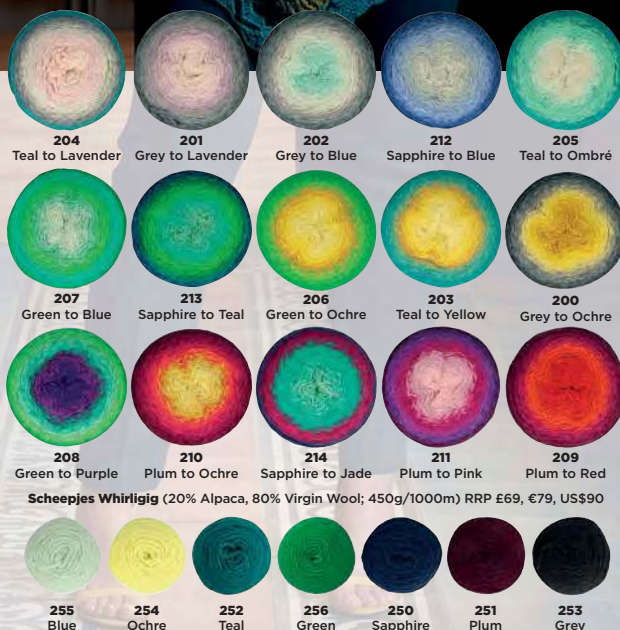


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Mini marvellous

Tennessee-based amigurumi designer and author
Lauren Espy shares her love of small-scale crochet and
creating her cast of cute characters.

By LINDSEY HARRAD



It was an adorable amigurumi chemistry set, of all things, that really kicked off Lauren Espy's crochet design career. Her skill in turning the most unlikely everyday items – from a hairdryer to a traffic cone or a bottle of nail polish – into whimsical characters has attracted well over 40,000 Instagram followers over the last three years.

But she admits she never imagined that receiving a book on the Japanese art of amigurumi from her grandmother in 2009 would eventually lead to a brand new career.

"Inspired by the book I taught myself how to crochet. I had no idea what I was doing so I went to YouTube and taught myself all the basics," she says. "At first it was just something I did in my spare time after work. I don't have any fancy background and I worked in retail so coming home to my

crochet was a life saver! But I had always wanted to open an Etsy shop and finally in 2015 I opened A Menagerie of Stitches. The following year I went full time with my shop and I've been crocheting ever since. I love it and it never feels like a job to me because I enjoy it so much!"

Based in Chattanooga, Tennessee, with her husband Carl and their two cattle dogs Thunder and Storm, Lauren recalls that, like many of us, she started her crochet journey with a simple scarf. However, she couldn't resist having a go at her first amigurumi character, and started off by making a little octopus toy.

"I wanted to try amigurumi because when my grandma bought me the book I was amazed that something so cute could be made out of yarn. I absolutely adore things that have a face added to them so amigurumi was it for me. I just love the playfulness of it!" she laughs.

Lauren admits that she feels a little embarrassed looking at that first octopus now, as it "definitely wasn't the best" but believes it serves as "a good reminder that we all have to start somewhere!" ➡





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LAUREN'S DESIGNS AT
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As Lauren's crochet skills quickly progressed, she started writing her own patterns and discovered she had a real affinity for creating cute characters, with a particular penchant for plants, food and some charming dinosaurs and other creatures too. "My first amigurumi that I designed from my own pattern was a prickly pear cactus," she says. "We were living in a basement apartment at the time so our windows were tiny and I really wanted some plants. I decided to crochet my own since I knew those wouldn't die! I also designed a bunny that was one of the first products I sold in my Etsy shop."

Scrolling through Lauren's Instagram feed is pure joy and her gallery of complete crocheted cuteness is guaranteed to put a smile on your face, but with everything from sweet little ice cream sundaes and doughnuts to perfect little penguins, you'll have a tough time deciding which to make first! But does Lauren have any designs she's particularly fond of?

"It's so hard to choose my favourites, but I would have to say – in no particular order – they would be my daisy, chemistry set, unicorn, tiny peas in a pod, and the succulent planter," she says.

"The daisy I designed for my grandma because it was her favourite flower. She was the one who helped me start crocheting and I owe a lot of what I know to her. She was an amazing lady.

"The chemistry set was the design that gave me my big break and essentially jump-started my career as a full time crochet designer, while the unicorn was my very first pattern I ever released so that will always hold a special place in my heart."

One of her favourite creations has a romantic story behind it too. "The tiny peas in a pod were made for my *100 days of Mini Amigurumi* e-book. My husband and I celebrated our anniversary while I was doing that project so I thought it would be fun to add something a little special that represented us."

However, she says her succulent planter is also very special as "it was one of the first things I designed for my first book and represents my love for crocheted plants."

Given her talent and social media following, Lauren was quickly approached by a publisher with an idea to collaborate on a book, and *Whimsical Stitches* was published last year, although she was initially amazed to discover the book would be entirely devoted to her own designs.

"Writing *Whimsical Stitches* was such a surreal experience," she says. "My wonderful publishers had reached out to me asking if I wanted to work on a project with them and of course I said yes. Little did I know it was going to be a book filled to the brim with my designs! We wanted to offer a variety of projects so the book has everything from plants to animals and my favourite, food! It's definitely a great feeling to know I'm a published author. It's always weird saying that out loud and even seeing my book on the shelf in a store is still crazy unreal to me! Sometimes I can hardly believe that I wrote a book and I would absolutely love to write more in the future."

Since then Lauren has also published her best-selling e-book – *100 Days of Mini Amigurumi* – and she says that





“I KNOW I CAN’T BE UPSET WHEN I SEE A LITTLE STRAWBERRY OR CACTUS SMILING BACK AT ME! I’VE HAD PEOPLE SAY TO ME THAT SEEING MY CREATIONS HAS BRIGHTENED THEIR DAY.”

for beginners looking for a first amigurumi project she recommends starting with the vegetables from *Whimsical Stitches* or any of the makes from *100 Days of Mini Amigurumi* as “those patterns always turn out great”.

“I always recommend starting with any of the food patterns! They’re basic shapes and use a couple of stitch techniques that are easy to learn. The good news is that I don’t use any special techniques, I just crochet like any other person so my techniques are pretty basic. Which makes it so easy for someone to learn using my patterns. They’re very beginner friendly!”

Although she’s made her name in amigurumi, Lauren enjoys working on more practical crochet projects too, from shawls to baskets for stashing knick-knacks around the house, and would love to find time to learn Tunisian crochet. She’s also busy working on a renovation project with her husband, turning an old school bus into a tiny home, perfect for the road trips the couple love to take together when they have time off.

But amigurumi will always be her go-to craft and Lauren says she can understand why people get so hooked on cute, small-scale crochet.

“I think amigurumi appeal to people so much because they always make you smile when you see them,” she says. “I know I can’t be upset when I see a little strawberry or cactus smiling back at me! I’ve had people say to me that seeing my creations has brightened their day and that’s what makes it all worth it.”

“I always want people to feel happy when they see something I make, especially if they’ve had a rough day. I believe that we should have more fun in life and this is just my little part in making that happen!”

Find out more at www.amenagerieofstitches.com and follow on Instagram @amenagerieofstitches.



LAUREN’S TOP TIPS FOR CREATING YOUR OWN CHARACTERS

1. START WITH A BASIC SHAPE AND MASTER THAT FIRST

A simple ball can be made into so many things like a tomato, an orange or snowman to name a few.

2. LEARN HOW TO MAKE A MAGIC RING

This one is a game changer for creating a neat start to your ami!

3. SKETCH OUT YOUR DESIGN

I find it so easy to see what shapes I need to make once the design is on paper!

4. DON’T BE AFRAID TO STEP OUTSIDE THE BOX

Some of the random and crazy ideas I’ve had have been the most popular designs I’ve ever created.

5. STAY TRUE TO YOURSELF!

Always design things that make you happy because at the end of the day that’s all that matters!



PLAYFUL CROCHET

Stylish stitches you'll love to hook!

PHOTOGRAPHS **LEANNE JADE AND KIRSTEN MAVRIC**
STYLING **KATH WEBBER** HAIR AND MAKE-UP **NICKI HENBREY**





Here We Go Loopy
Lou Jacket
by Cassie Ward
Using Drops Cotton
Merino
Pattern page 42



Neon Star Jumper
by Emily Ashbourn
Using Rico Design
Essentials Alpaca Blend
Chunky and Paintbox Yarns
Wool Mix Chunky
Pattern page 38

Leopard Cowl
by Marianne Rawlins
Using Scheepjes Colour Crafter
Pattern page 53



A woman with blonde hair, smiling, is wearing a large, colorful Tunisian Sampler Shawl. The shawl features a variety of colors including teal, yellow, red, and grey, with a textured knit pattern. She is holding a white mug with a floral design. She is wearing a blue dress with a buttoned bodice. The background shows a wooden fence and a building with a red wall.

Tunisian Sampler Shawl
by Hayley Joanne Robinson
Using Blacker Yarns
Lyonesse DK
Pattern page 48



Wilderness Top

by Linda Skuja

Using Alize Bella and
Alize Bella Batik Design

Pattern page 44



ABOVE

Raindrop Bag

by Alessandra Poggiagliolmi

Using The Women's Institute Home Cotton
and Knitcraft Cotton Blend Plain

Pattern page 56



ABOVE RIGHT

Kitten Baby Romper

by Dawn Curran

Using MillaMia Naturally Soft Merino

Pattern page 82

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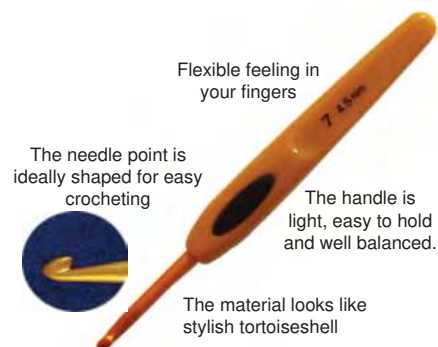
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LET'S PLAY!

Rocket Man Backpack

by Irene Strange

Using Yarn And Colors Epic

Pattern page 68

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STYLING **KATH WEBBER**



➡ LET'S PLAY!



ABOVE

Crochet Camera

by Sue Rawlinson

Using Paintbox Yarns Cotton DK

Pattern page 58



ABOVE RIGHT

Little Mountain Juggling Balls

by Zoe Curtis

Using Drops Paris

Pattern page 79

BELOW

Easter Garland

by Kate Eastwood

Using Rowan Summerlite DK

Pattern page 52

BELOW LEFT

Intarsia Baby Blocks

by Sarah-Jane Hicks

Using Scheepjes Softfun DK

Pattern page 64



RIGHT

Little Dudes

by Annelies Baes & Vic Simons

Using 4ply yarn and sock yarn

Pattern page 72

➡ LET'S PLAY!



ABOVE

Animal Magic Hats

by Tracey Todhunter

Using MillaMia Naturally Soft Aran
and Paintbox Yarns Cotton DK

Pattern page 76



ABOVE RIGHT

Bambi Bonnet & Nappy Cover

by Claire Montgomerie

Using Stylecraft Bambino

Pattern page 60



BELOW
Playroom Cushion
 by Tracey Todhunter
Using King Cole Merino Blend DK
Pattern page 80

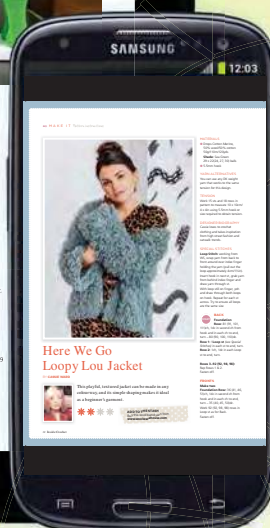
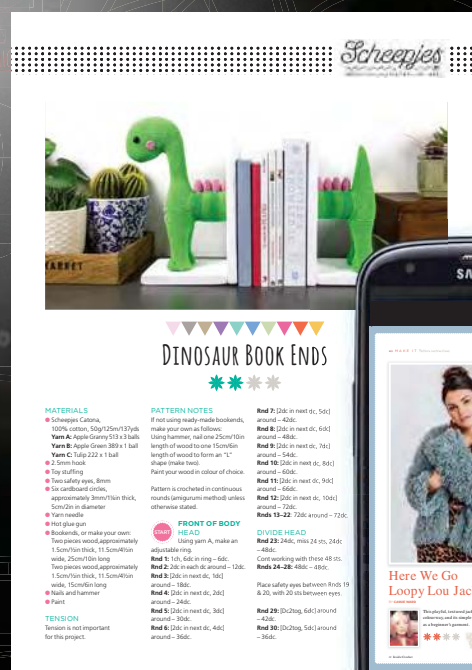


BELOW LEFT
Puppy Power! Pillow
 by Tatsiana Kupryianchyk
Using Scheepjes Stone Washed
 and Scheepjes River Washed
Pattern page 86

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Kitten Baby Romper

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Puppy Power! Pillow

Tatsiana Kupryianchyk
Page 86



Neon Star Jumper

BY EMILY ASHBOURN



A light, comfortable, everyday top, with cropped sleeves perfect for warmer spring days.



ADD TO THE STASH
Buy these wool blend yarns from
www.lovecrochet.com

MATERIALS

- Rico Design Essentials Alpaca Blend Chunky, 50% acrylic/30% wool, 20% alpaca, 50g/90m/98½yds
Yarn A: Light grey 006 x 7 (8, 8) balls
- Paintbox Yarns Wool Mix Chunky, 50% acrylic/50% wool, 100g/100m/109yds
Yarn B: Neon Yellow 1058 x 1 ball
- 5mm & 8mm hooks

YARN ALTERNATIVES

You can use any similar chunky weight yarns for this pattern.

TENSION

Work 9htr and 8 rows to measure 10 x 10cm/4 x 4in using 8mm hook, or size required to obtain tension.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Emily is a crochet addict who loves to design modern crochet inspired by current fashion and trends. Find her on Instagram @make.e, and check out her website for free blog patterns and shop www.makeeshop.com.

PATTERN NOTES

This top is made up of a front and back panel, then the sleeves are worked onto the body.

The front and back are joined together before adding the sleeves.

Ribbed neck line and bottom hem are crocheted directly onto the top after it has been constructed.



BACK

With 8mm hook and yarn A, 52 (56, 62)ch.

Row 1: 1htr in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn – 51 (55, 61)htr.

Row 2: 1ch, htr to end, turn.

Rows 3–40 (43, 46): Rep Row 2.

RIGHT SHOULDER

Row 41 (44, 47): 1ch, 16 (18, 21) htr, turn.

Row 42 (45, 48): 1ch, 16 (18, 21)htr.
Cast off.

LEFT SHOULDER

With RS facing, miss centre 19 sts and re-attach yarn to next st (ie 16th (18th, 21st) st from end), 1ch, htr in same st, htr to end, turn – 16 (18, 21) sts.

Row 42 (45, 48): 1ch, htr to end. Cast off.

FRONT

With 8mm hook and yarn A, 52 (56, 62)ch.

Row 1: 1htr in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn – 51 (55, 61)htr.

Rows 2–8 (11, 14): 1ch, htr to end, turn.

Row 9 (12, 15): 1ch, 12 (14, 17)htr in yarn A, 2htr in yarn B, 23htr in yarn A, change to yarn B, 2htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn – 51 (55, 61)htr.

Row 10 (13, 16): 1ch, 12 (14, 17)htr in yarn A, 3htr in yarn B, 21 htr in yarn A, 3htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 11 (14, 17): 1ch, 12 (14, 17)htr in yarn A, 5htr in yarn B, 17htr in yarn A, 5htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 12 (15, 18): 1ch, 13 (15, 18)htr in yarn A, 6htr in yarn B, 13htr in yarn A, 6htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 13 (16, 19): 1ch, 13 (15, 18)htr in yarn A, 8htr in yarn B, 9htr in yarn A, 8htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 14 (17, 20): 1ch, 14 (16, 19)htr in yarn A, 8htr in yarn B, 7htr in yarn A, 8htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 15 (18, 21): 1ch, 14 (16, 19)htr in yarn A, 10htr in yarn B, 3htr in yarn A, 10htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 16 (19, 22): 1ch, 15 (17, 20)htr in yarn A, 10htr in yarn B, 1htr in yarn A, 10htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 17 (20, 23): 1ch, 15 (17, 20)htr in yarn A, 21htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

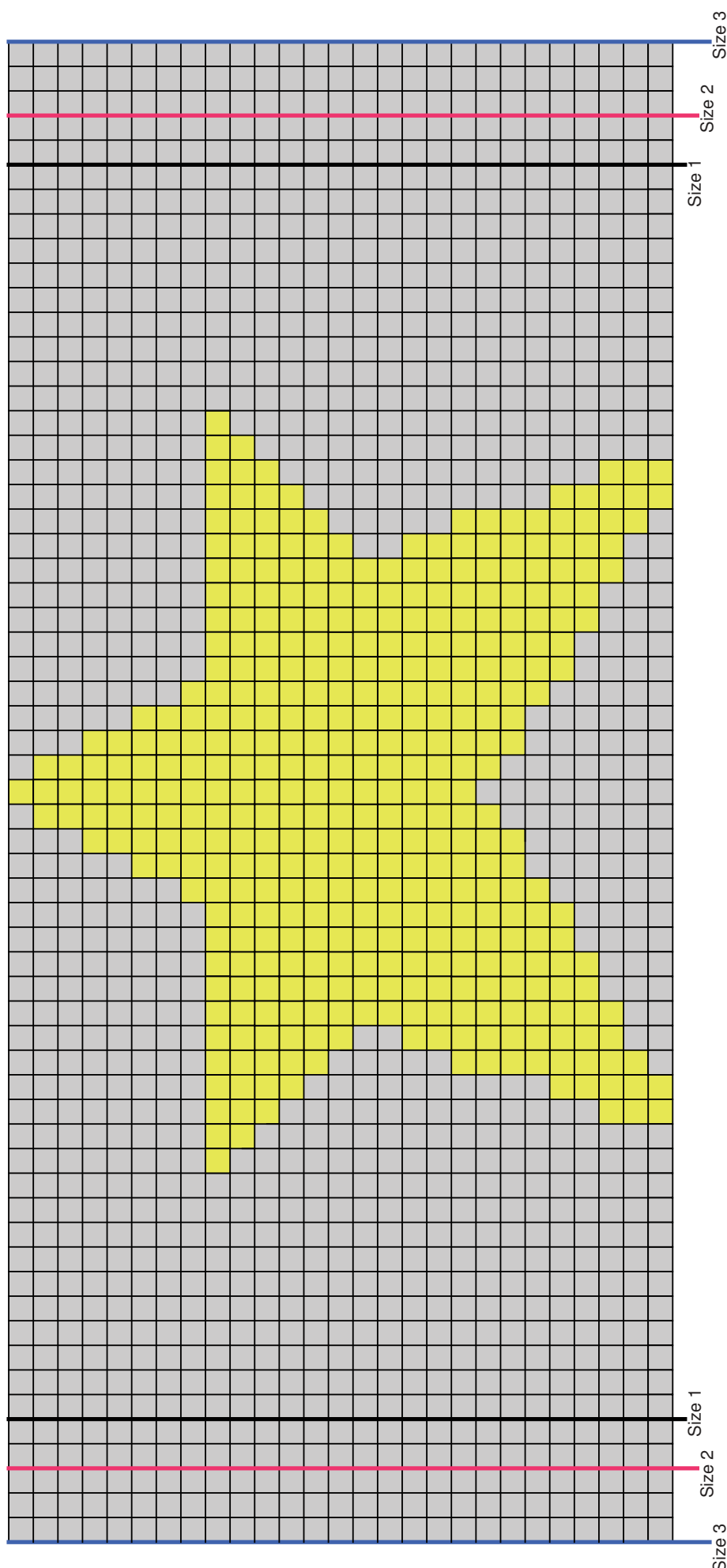
Row 18 (21, 24): 1ch, 16 (18, 21)htr in yarn A, 19htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

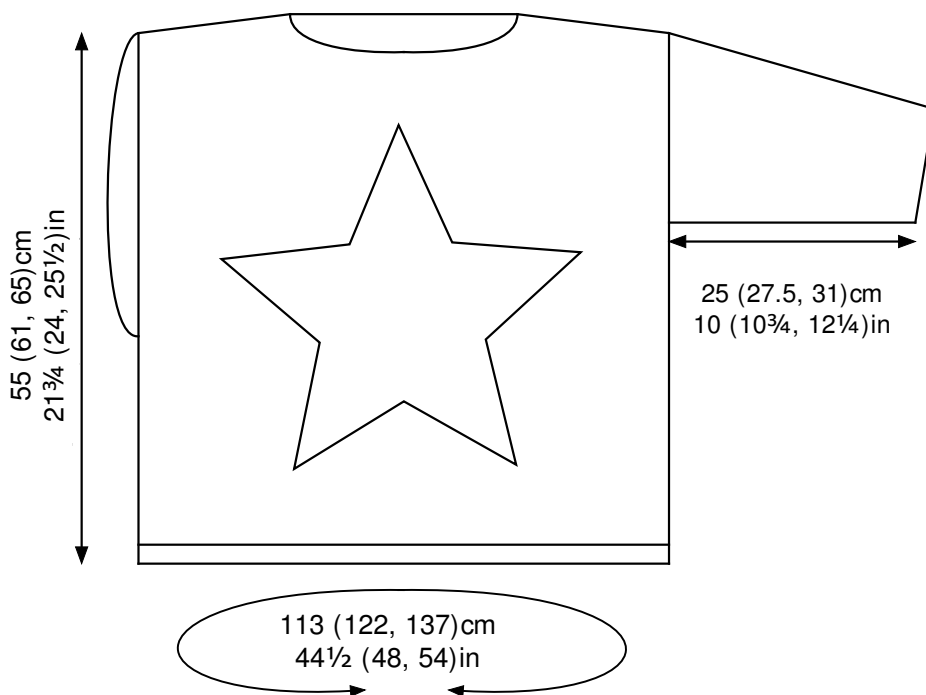
Row 19 (22, 25): 1ch, 16 (18, 21)htr in yarn A, 19htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 20 (23, 26): 1ch, 17 (19, 22)htr in yarn A, 17htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 21 (24, 27): 1ch, 17 (19, 22)htr in yarn A, 17htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

FRONT





Row 22 (25, 28): 1ch, 16 (18, 21)htr in yarn A, 19htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 23 (26, 29): 1ch, 15 (17, 20)htr in yarn A, 21htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 24 (27, 30): 1ch, 14 (16, 19)htr in yarn A, 24htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 25 (28, 31): 1ch, 13 (15, 18)htr in yarn A, 25htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 26 (29, 32): 1ch, 12 (14, 17)htr in yarn A, 27htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 27 (30, 33): 1ch, 11 (13, 16)htr in yarn A, 29htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 28 (31, 34): 1ch, 21 (23, 26)htr in yarn A, 9htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 29 (32, 35): 1ch, 22 (24, 27)htr in yarn A, 7htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 30 (33, 36): 1ch, 22 (24, 27)htr in yarn A, 7htr in yarn B,



htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 31 (34, 37): 1ch, 23 (25, 28)htr in yarn A, 5htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 32 (35, 38): 1ch, 23 (25, 28)htr in yarn A, 5htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 33 (36, 39): 1ch, 24 (26, 29)htr in yarn A, 3htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 34 (37, 40): 1ch, 24 (26, 29)htr in yarn A, 3htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Row 35 (38, 41): 1ch, 25 (27, 30)htr in yarn A, 1htr in yarn B, htr to end in yarn A, turn.

Rows 36 (39, 42)–38 (41, 44): 1ch, htr to end in yarn A, turn. Cont in yarn A only.

LEFT SHOULDER

Row 39 (42, 45): 1ch, 17 (20, 23)htr, turn.

Row 40 (43, 46): 1ch, htr2tog, 15 (18, 21)htr. Fasten off.

RIGHT SHOULDER

With RS facing, miss centre 17 sts, rejoin yarn in next st, 1ch, htr to end, turn – 17 (20, 23)htr

Row 40 (43, 46): 1ch, 15 (18, 21)htr, htr2tog – 19 (19, 22)htr. Fasten off.

JOINING

With right sides tog, line up shoulder sts of Front and Back. Sew together.

As Front panel has two fewer rows than Back panel, position panels so that bottom edges are level, this will pull over the shoulder seam to move neck hole into position.

Once bottom edges are lined up and with RS still tog, sew side seams up to Row 27.

Turn work to RS.

SLEEVES

Both alike

With 8mm hook, rejoin yarn A at underarm seam point.

Rnd 1: 1ch, 30 (33, 36)htr evenly around arm hole, sl st to join, turn – 30 (33, 36)htr.

Rnd 2: 1ch, htr around, sl st to join, turn.

Rnds 3–8: Rep Rnd 2.

Rnd 9: 1ch, [8 (9, 10)htr, htr2tog] around, sl st to join, turn – 27 (30, 33)htr.

Rnds 10–12: 1ch, htr around, sl st to join, turn.



Rnd 13: 1ch, [7 (8, 9)htr, htr2tog] around, sl st to join, turn – 24 (27, 30)htr.

Rnds 14–16 (18, 21): 1ch, htr around, sl st to join, turn. Fasten off.

BOTTOM EDGING

With 5mm hook, attach yarn A to bottom edge, 6ch, 1dc in second ch from hk and in each ch to end (5dc), sl st to next st on bottom edge, turn.

Next Row: 1ch, 1dc blo in each st to end of row, turn.

Next Row: 1ch, 1dc blo in each st to end of row, miss 1 st on edge, sl st in next st, turn. Rep last two rows until entire bottom edge is covered.

Fasten off leaving a long tail to sew the ribbed hem together.

SLEEVE EDGING

Work as for Bottom Edging.

NECK EDGING

Work as for Bottom Edging.

FINISHING

Weave in ends.

END

	S	M	L	
TO FIT BUST	81–86	91–97	102–107	cm
	32–34	36–38	40–42	in
ACTUAL BUST	113	122	137	cm
	44½	48	54	in
SLEEVE SEAM	25	27.5	31	cm
	10	10¾	12¼	in
LENGTH	55	61	65	cm
	21¾	24	25½	in



Here We Go Loopy Lou Jacket

BY CASSIE WARD



This playful, textured jacket can be made in any colourway, and its simple shaping makes it ideal as a beginner's garment.



ADD TO THE STASH

Buy this wool blend yarn from
www.woolwarehouse.com

MATERIALS

- Drops Cotton Merino, 50% wool/50% cotton 50g/110m/120yds
Shade: Sea Green
29 x 22(24, 27, 30) balls
- 5.5mm hook

YARN ALTERNATIVES

You can use any DK weight yarn that works to the same tension for this design.

TENSION

Work 15 sts and 18 rows in pattern to measure 10 x 10cm/ 4 x 4in using 5.5mm hook or size required to obtain tension.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Cassie loves to crochet clothing and takes inspiration from high street fashion and catwalk trends.

SPECIAL STITCHES

Loop Stitch: working from WS, wrap yarn from back to front around over index finger holding the yarn (pull out the loop approximately 4cm/1½in). Insert hook in next st, grab yarn from behind index finger and draw yarn through st. With loop still on finger, yoh and draw through both loops on hook. Repeat for each st across. Try to ensure all loops are the same size

BACK START Foundation

Row: 81 (91, 101, 111)ch, 1dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn – 80 (90, 100, 110)dc.

Row 1: 1Loop st (see *Special Stitches*) in each st to end, turn.

Row 2: 1ch, 1dc in each Loop st to end, turn.

Rows 3–92 (92, 98, 98):

Rep Rows 1 & 2.
Fasten off.

FRONTS

Make two

Foundation Row: 36 (41, 46, 51)ch, 1dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn – 35 (40, 45, 50)dc.

Work 92 (92, 98, 98) rows in Loop st as for Back.
Fasten off.

SLEEVES

Make two

Foundation Row: 36 (41, 46, 51)ch, 1dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn – 35 (40, 46, 50)dc.

Work 60 (60, 67, 67) rows in Loop st as for Back.

Fasten off.

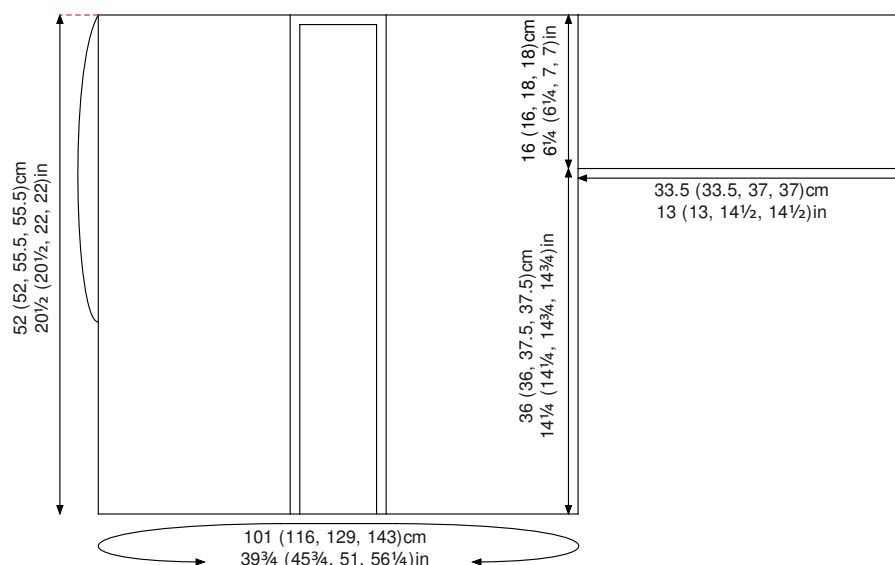
MAKING UP

Join Fronts to Back at shoulder.

Measure 16 (16, 18, 18)cm/ 6¼ (6¼, 7, 7)in down from shoulder for armhole, and mark with a coloured thread.

Join sleeves between markers.

Join side and underarm seams.



EDGING

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to bottom edge of Right Front.

Row 1: 1ch, work in dc around entire front edge ending at bottom of Left Front, turn.

Row 2: 1ch, dc around.

Fasten off.

FINISHING

Weave in loose ends.



	S	M	L	XL	
ACTUAL BUST	101	116	129	143	cm
	39¾	45¾	51	56¼	in
LENGTH TO SHOULDER	52	52	55.5	55.5	cm
	20½	20½	22	22	in
LENGTH TO UNDERARM	36	36	37.5	37.5	cm
	14¼	14¼	14¾	14¾	in
SLEEVE LENGTH	33.5	33.5	37	37	cm
	13	13	14½	14½	in





Wilderness Top

BY LINDA SKUJA



A playful lace top inspired by the equinox and bright spring colours.



MATERIALS

● Alize Bella, 100% cotton, 50g/180m/197yds

Yarn A: 487 x 3 (3, 4, 4, 4, 5) balls

● Alize Bella Batik Design, 100% cotton, 50g/180m/197yds

Yarn B: 4593 x 1 ball

● 4mm hook

● Yarn needle

YARN ALTERNATIVES

You can use any fingering weight cotton yarn to achieve a similar effect.

TENSION

Work 17tr and 12 rows to measure 10 x 10cm/4 x 4in using 4mm hook, or size required to obtain tension.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Linda Skuja is a crochet designer specialising in innovative techniques and fashion forward designs. Look for her as ElevenHandmade on Ravelry and Instagram to find out more about Linda's designs.

SPECIAL STITCHES

Puff stitch: Yoh, insert hk in indicated st, yoh, pull lp through st and make lp same height as previous st in working row, (yoh, insert hk in same st, yoh, pull lp through st and make lp same height as working row) three times, yoh, pull through 8lps on hk (2lps on hk), yoh, pull through 2 rem lps.

PATTERN NOTES

The top is worked from the bottom up, with the front and back worked separately.

The edgings on sleeves are sewn on afterwards.

To make a longer top add more repeats of Rows 15–36 (one repeat measures 7cm/3in). Bear in mind that a longer top will use more yarn.

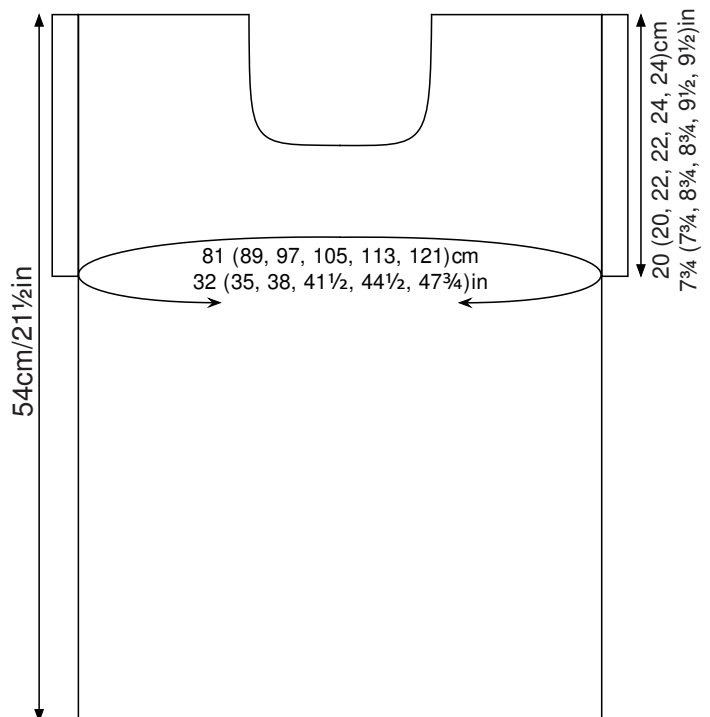


FRONT

Using yarn B, 85 (93, 101, 109, 117, 125)ch.

Row 1: 1tr in fourth ch from hook, 1tr in every ch across, turn – 83 (91, 99, 107, 115, 123) sts.

Row 2: 3ch (counts as 1tr here and throughout), 3 (7, 11, 15, 19, 23)tr, *miss next st, (**puff st** (see



Special Stitches, 1ch, puff st) in next st, miss next st, 3tr; rep from * 12 more times, 1 (5, 9, 13, 17, 21)tr, turn.

Row 3: 3ch, 4 (8, 12, 16, 20, 24) tr, *puff st in next ch-sp, 4tr, [miss next st, (puff st, 1ch, puff st) in next ch-sp, miss next st, 3tr] three times, 1tr; rep from * twice more, puff st in next ch-sp, 5 (9, 13, 17, 21, 25)tr, turn.

Row 4: 3ch, 10 (14, 18, 22, 26, 30)tr, *puff st in next ch-sp, 4tr, miss next st, (puff st, 1ch, puff st) in next st, miss next st, 4tr, puff st in next ch-sp, 11tr; rep from * twice more, 0 (4, 8, 12, 16, 20)tr, turn.

Row 5: 3ch, 10 (14, 18, 22, 26, 30)tr, *puff st in next st, 5tr, puff st in next ch-sp, 5tr, puff st in next st, 11tr; rep from * twice more, 0 (4, 8, 12, 16, 20)tr, turn.

Rows 6 & 7: 3ch, 16 (20, 24, 28, 32, 36)tr, *puff st in next st,

23tr; rep from * once more, puff st in next st, 17 (21, 25, 29, 33, 37)tr, turn.

Change to yarn A.

Row 8: 3ch, tr to end, turn.

Row 9: 4ch (counts as 1tr, 1ch here and throughout), miss next tr, 1tr, [1ch, miss next tr, 1tr] to end, turn.

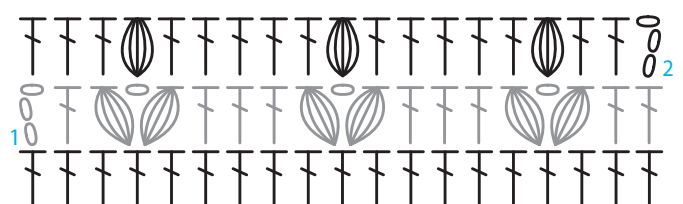
Row 10: 5ch (counts as 1trtr here and throughout), 1trtr in next ch-sp, [1ch, miss next tr, trtr2tog in next ch-sp] to end, ending with 1trtr in last tr, turn.

Row 11: As Row 9.

Row 12: As Row 8.

Row 13: 3ch, *miss next 3tr, (3tr, 2ch, 3tr) in next tr, miss next 3tr, 1tr; rep from * 9 (10, 11, 12, 13, 14) more times, miss next tr, 2tr in next tr, turn.

Row 14: 1ch (does not count as st), 1dc in first tr, 1ch, miss next tr, [1tr, 3ch, miss next 3tr, 1dc in



- chain stitch
- ⦿ puff stitch
- ⋈ treble crochet (tr)

2ch-sp, 3ch, miss next 3tr; rep from * 9 (10, 11, 12, 13, 14) more times, 1tr in next tr, turn.

Rows 15–36: Rep Rows 8–14 three times.

Rows 37–41: Rep Rows 8–12.

FIRST SHOULDER

Row 42: 4ch, miss next st, 1tr, [1ch, miss next st, 1tr] 12 (14, 16, 18, 20, 22) times, 1ch, miss next st, unfinished tr in next st, miss next st, unfinished tr in next st, finish both unfinished tr (counts as dc2tog), turn.

Row 43: 5ch, 1trtr in next ch-sp, [1ch, miss next tr, trtr2tog in next ch-sp] 13 (15, 17, 19, 21, 23) times, 1trtr in next tr, turn.

Row 44: 6ch (counts as 1trtr, 1ch here and throughout), miss next st, [trtr2tog in next ch-sp, 1ch, miss next st] 11 (13, 15, 17, 19, 21) times, trtr2tog in next ch-sp, miss next st, trtr2tog in next 2 sts, turn.

Row 45: 5ch, miss next st, [trtr2tog in next ch-sp, 1ch, miss next st] 11 (13, 15, 17, 19, 21) times, trtr2tog in next ch-sp, trtr in next st, turn.

Row 46: 6ch, miss next st, [trtr2tog in next ch-sp, 1ch, miss next st] 9 (11, 13, 15, 17, 19) times, trtr2tog in next ch-sp, miss next st, trtr2tog in next 2 sts, turn.

Row 47: 5ch, miss next st, [trtr2tog in next ch-sp, 1ch, miss next st] 9 (11, 13, 15, 17, 19) times, trtr2tog in next ch-sp, trtr in next st. Fasten off.

SECOND SHOULDER

Attach yarn with sl st to other end of Row 41.

Rep instructions for First Shoulder.

BACK

Work as for Rows 1–41 of Front.

Row 42: 4ch, miss next st, 1tr, [1ch, miss next st, 1tr] to end, turn.

Row 43: 5ch, 1trtr in next ch-sp, [1ch, miss next tr, trtr2tog in next ch-sp] to last st, 1trtr in next st, turn.

Row 44: 6ch, miss next st, [trtr2tog in next ch-sp, 1ch, miss next st] to end, ending with trtr2tog in last ch-sp, 1trtr in next st, turn.

FIRST SHOULDER

Row 45: 6ch, miss next st, [trtr2tog in next ch-sp, 1ch, miss next st] 11 (13, 15, 17, 19, 21)

times, trtr2tog in next ch-sp, miss next st, 1trtr in next ch-sp, turn.

Row 46: 5ch, miss next st, [trtr2tog in next ch-sp, 1ch, miss next st] 11 (13, 15, 17, 19, 21) times, trtr2tog in next ch-sp, 1trtr in next st, turn.

Row 47: 6ch, miss next st, [trtr2tog in next ch-sp, 1ch, miss next st] 9 (11, 13, 15, 17, 19) times, trtr2tog in next ch-sp, miss next st, unfinished trtr in next ch-sp, unfinished trtr in next st, finish both unfinished trtr.

Fasten off (or cont by crocheting Front shoulder and Back shoulder tog using dc).

SECOND SHOULDER

Attach yarn with sl st to other end of Row 44 (in fifth ch of beg 6ch).

Row 45: 5ch, [trtr2tog in next ch-sp, 1ch, miss next st] 10 (12,

14, 16, 18, 20) times, trtr2tog in next ch-sp, miss next st, 1trtr in next ch-sp, turn.

Row 46: 5ch, miss next st, [trtr2tog in next ch-sp, 1ch, miss next st] 10 (12, 14, 16, 18, 20) times, 1trtr in next st, turn.

Row 47: 5ch, [trtr2tog in next ch-sp, 1ch, miss next st] 9 (11, 13, 15, 17, 19) times, trtr2tog in next ch-sp, miss next st, 1trtr in next ch-sp.

Fasten off (or cont by crocheting Front shoulder and Back shoulder tog using dc).

With WS facing, sew or crochet both shoulder seams.

ARMHOLE EDGING

With RS of work facing, measure 20 (20, 22, 22, 24, 24)cm/7¾ (7¾, 8¾, 8¾, 9½, 9½)in down from each shoulder on Front and Back and place a marker.

Working between these two markers, rejoin yarn B, evenly distribute 72 (72, 78, 78, 84, 84) tr (ie 36 (36, 39, 39, 42, 42)tr from marker to shoulder) working into row ends, turn.

Row 1: 3ch, 1tr, *miss next tr, (puff st, 1ch, puff st) in next tr, miss next tr, 3tr; rep from * 10 (10, 11, 11, 12, 12) more times, miss next tr, (puff st, 1ch, puff st) in next tr, miss next tr, 1tr in next tr, turn.

Row 2: 3ch, 1tr, *1tr in next st, puff st in next ch-sp, 1tr in next st, 3tr; rep from * 10 (10, 11, 11, 12, 12) more times, 1tr in next st, puff st in next ch-sp, 2tr. Fasten off.

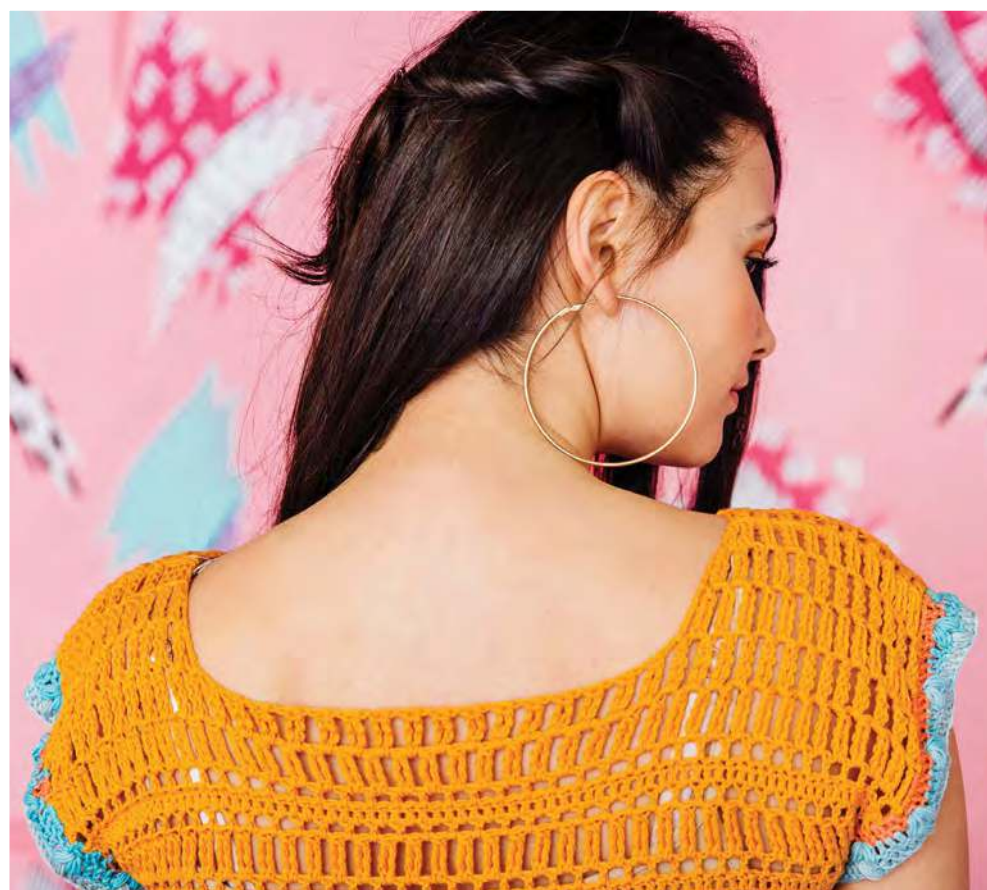
FINISHING

Sew side seams.

Weave in all loose ends.

END

	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	
ACTUAL BUST	81	89	97	105	113	121	cm
	32	35	38	41½	44½	47¾	in
LENGTH	54	54	54	54	54	54	cm
	21½	21½	21½	21½	21½	21½	in





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MATERIALS

- Blacker Yarns Lyonesse DK, 50% linen/50% wool, 50g/110m/120yds
- Yarn A:** Onyx x 2 balls
- Yarn B:** Aquamarine x 1 ball
- Yarn C:** Citrine x 1 ball
- Yarn D:** Emerald x 1 ball
- Yarn E:** Dark Pearl x 2 balls
- Yarn F:** Serpentine x 1 ball
- Yarn G:** Tourmaline x 1 ball
- Yarn H:** Sapphire x 1 ball
- 6mm Tunisian hook
- Stitch marker

TENSION

Work 16Tss and 16 rows to measure 10 x 10cm/4 x 4in using 6mm Tunisian hook or size required to obtain tension.

MEASUREMENTS

Centre Depth: 84cm/33in.

Wingspan: 165cm/65in.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Hayley loves the versatility and originality of Tunisian crochet, and enjoys creating her own practical and beautiful Tunisian patterns. View more of her designs at www.ravelry.com/designers/hayley-joanne-robinson.

SPECIAL STITCHES

Tunisian full stitch (Tfs): Insert hook in space between stitches, underneath the horizontal bar, yrh and pull up a lp (inc 1 st).

Tunisian simple stitch (Tss): Insert hook under next vertical bar from right to left, yrh and pull up a lp.

Tunisian knit stitch (Tks): Insert hook to the right of next vertical bar and push through to back of work, yrh and pull up a lp.

Tunisian purl stitch (Tps): Bring yarn to front, insert hook under next vertical bar, take yarn to back, yrh, pull up lp.

Twisted Tunisian simple stitch (TwTss): Insert hook under next vertical bar from left to right, yrh and pull up a lp.

Tunisian reverse stitch (Trs): Insert hook under back bar of next st, yrh and pull up a lp.

2TssTog: Insert hook under next two vertical bars, yrh and pull up a lp.

Bobble: [Yoh, Tss] three times into same st, yoh, draw through 6 loops.

Return pass (RP): 1ch, [yrh, pull through 2 lps] to end.

Beg inc: Miss first vertical bar, Tfs in first space (inc 1 st).

Centre inc: Tfs in space before marked st to inc, Tks in marked st (move marker up), Tfs in space after marked st to inc.

End inc: Tfs in space before last st (inc 1 st).



SECTION ONE

Easy stripes worked in Tss, using yarns A and B. With yarn A, 3ch.

Foundation Row: Yoh, pull up a lp in back of second ch from hook, yoh, pull up a lp in back of third ch from hook (5 lps on hk), **RP** (see *Special Stitches*).

Set-up Row 1: Miss first vertical bar, **Tfs** (see *Special Stitches*) in first space, **Tss** (see *Special Stitches*) in next st, Tfs in next space, **Tks** (see *Special Stitches*) in next st (PM in this st), Tfs in next space, Tss in next st, Tfs in last space, work last st (9 lps on hk), **RP**.

Set-up Row 2: **Beg inc** (see *Special Stitches*), Tss to marked st, **centre inc** (see *Special Stitches*), Tss to end, **end inc** (see *Special Stitches*) (13 lps on hk), **RP**.

Set-up Row 3: Work as for Set-up Row 2 (17 lps on hk), **RP**, change to yarn B on last pull through.

Work in patt as folls:

Row 1: Beg inc, Tss to marked st, centre inc, Tss to end, end inc (21 lps on hk), **RP**.

Row 2: As Row 1 (25 lps on hk), **RP**.

Row 3: As Row 1 (29 lps on hk), **RP**, change to yarn A on last pull through.

Row 4: As Row 1 (33 lps on hk), **RP**.

Row 5: As Row 1 (37 lps on hk), **RP**.

Row 6: As Row 1 (41 lps on hk), **RP**, change to yarn B on last pull through.

Rep Rows 1–6 twice more, ending with Row 6 (89 sts), change to yarn C at end of the last **RP** instead of yarn B, ready for Section 2.

SECTION TWO

Purely Tps, worked in yarn C.

Transition Row: As Row 1 of Section One (93 lps on hk), **RP**.

Patt Row: Beg inc, **Tps** (see *Special Stitches*) to marked st, centre inc, Tps to end, end inc (97 lps on hk), **RP**.

Work another four rows in patt as set, ending with 113 lps, change to yarn D at end on last pull through.

SECTION THREE

Alternating Tks and Tss to create an appearance of tiny scratches across the surface, worked in yarn D.

Transitional Row: Beg inc, Tss to marked st, centre inc, Tss to end, end inc (117 lps on hk), **RP**.

Patt Row: Beg inc, [1Tks, 1Tss] to marked st, centre inc, [1Tks, 1Tss] to end, end inc (121 lps on hk), **RP**. Rep Patt Row seven more times, ending with 149 lps, change to yarn E on last pull through.

Next Row: Rep Patt Row in yarn E (153 lps on hk), **RP**.

SECTION FOUR

Groups of Tks and Tps are used to create an illusion of a woven basket, worked in yarn E.

Patt Row 1: Beg inc, [3Tps, 3Tks] to marked st, centre inc, [3Tps, 3Tks] to end, end inc (157 lps on hk), **RP**.

Patt Row 2: Beg inc, Tks in next st, [3Tps, 3Tks] to marked st, centre inc, Tks in next st, [3Tps, 3Tks] to end, end inc (161 lps on hk), **RP**.

Patt Row 2: Beg inc, 2Tks, [3Tps, 3Tks] to marked st, centre inc, 2Tks, [3Tps, 3Tks] to end, end inc (165 lps on hk), **RP**.

Rep Patt Rows 1–3 three more times, ending with Patt Row 3 (201 lps on hk), change to yarn F on last pull through of **RP**.

SECTION FIVE

Alternating Tss and TwTss, and using separate colours for Forward Pass and **RP**, creates a similar appearance to brickwork, worked in yarns F and G.

Transitional Row: With yarn F, beg inc, [3Tks, 3Tks] to marked st, centre inc, [3Tks, 3Tss] to end, end inc (205 lps on hk), **RP** in yarn G, change to yarn F on last pull through.

Patt Row: With yarn F, beg inc, [1Tss, 1TwTss (see *Special Stitches*)] to marked st, centre inc, [1TwTss, 1Tss] to end, end inc (209 lps on hk), **RP** in yarn G, change to yarn F on last pull through. Rep Patt Row five more times, ending with 229 lps, change to yarn H on last pull through of **RP**.

Next Row: Work as last row in yarn H only (233 lps on hk), **RP**.

SECTION SIX

A contrasting texture of Trs, worked in yarn H.

Patt Row: Beg inc, **Trs** (see *Special Stitches*) to marked st, centre inc, Trs to end, end inc (237 lps on hk), **RP**. Rep Patt Row again, ending with 241 lps, change to yarn B on last pull through of **RP**.

Next Row: Rep patt row in yarn B (245 lps on hk), **RP**.

SECTION SEVEN

Alternating Tss and Tps to look like honeycomb, worked in yarn B.

Patt Row: Beg inc, [1Tps, 1Tss] to marked st, centre inc, [1Tps, 1Tss] to end, end inc (249 lps on hk), **RP**. Rep Patt Row four more times, ending with 265 lps, change to yarn A on last pull through of **RP**. **Next Row:** Beg inc, Tss to marked st, centre inc, Tss to end, end inc (269 lps on hk), **RP**.

SECTION EIGHT

Using Tks for a section that looks like it was knitted, worked in yarn A.

Patt Row: Beg inc, Tks to marked st, centre inc, Tks to end, end inc (273 lps on hk), **RP**. Rep Patt Row three more times, ending with 285 lps, change to yarn D on last pull through.

SECTION NINE

Worked in yarns D and E, working Tss in two colours and carrying each colour from **RP** of previous row into Forward Pass of next row.

Transitional Row: With yarn D, beg inc, Tks to marked st, centre inc, Tks to end, end inc (289 lps on hk), **RP** in yarn E.

Patt Row 1: With yarn E, beg inc, Tss to marked st, centre inc, Tss to end, end inc (293 lps on hk), **RP** in yarn D.

Patt Row 2: With yarn D, beg inc, Tss to marked st, centre inc, Tss to end, end inc (297 lps on hk), **RP** in yarn E, change to yarn G on last pull through.

Next Row: Rep Patt Row (301 lps on hk), **RP**.

SECTION TEN

A row of bobbles over a background of Tps, worked in yarn G.

Patt Row: Beg inc, [2Tps, **Bobble** (see *Special Stitches*) in next st] to marked st, centre inc, [2Tps, **Bobble** in next st] to end, end inc (305 lps on hk), **RP**, change to yarn F on last pull through.

Next Row: Beg inc, Tss to marked st, Tfs in space before marked st, Tks in marked st (move marker up), Tfs in space after marked st, Tss to end, end inc (309 lps on hk), **RP**.





SECTION 11

Crossing over Tss to create diagonal lines across the surface, worked in yarn F.

Patt Row: Beg inc, Tss in next st, [miss next st, Tss in next st, Tss in missed st] to marked st, centre inc, [miss next st, Tss in next st, Tss in missed st] to last 3 sts, Tps to end, end inc (313 lps on hk), RP.

Rep Patt Row again ending with 317 lps, RP, change to yarn E on last pull through.

Next Row: Rep Patt Row (321 lps on hk), RP.

SECTION 12

A few rows of an eyelet lace



pattern, worked in yarn E.

Patt Row 1: Beg inc, Tks in next st, yoh, **2TssTog** over next 2 sts (see *Special Stitches*), [2Tks, yoh, 2TssTog] 39 times, centre inc, [Tks in next st, yoh, 2TssTog, Tks in next st] 39 times, Tks in next st, yoh, 2TssTog, end inc, work last st (325 lps on hk), RP.

Patt Row 2: Beg inc, yoh, 2TssTog, 2Tks, [yoh, 2TssTog, 2Tks] 39 times, Tks in next st, centre inc, 2Tks, [2Tks, yoh, 2TssTog] 39 times, 2Tks, yoh, miss next st, end inc, work last st (329 lps on hk), RP, change to yarn A on last pull through.

SECTION 13

Alternating whole rows of Tss and Tps, worked in yarn A.

Transitional Row: Beg inc, 3Tks, [yoh, 2TssTog, 2Tks] 40 times, centre inc, Tks in next st, [2Tks, yoh, 2TssTog] 40 times, Tks to end, end inc, work last st (333 lps on hk), RP.

Patt Row 1: Beg inc, Tps to marked st, centre inc, Tps to end, end inc, work last st (337 lps on hk), RP.

Patt Row 2: Beg inc, Tss to marked st, centre inc, Tss to end, end inc, work last st (341 lps on hk), RP.

Patt Row 3: As for Patt Row 1 (345 lps on hk), RP, change to yarn H on last pull through.

SECTION 14

Two different colours are used to emphasise the ribbed effect created by alternating the Tss and TwTss in line with one another, worked in yarns H and C.

Transitional Row: Beg inc, Tss to marked st, centre inc, Tss to end, end inc, work last st (349 lps on hk), RP in yarn C, change to yarn H on last pull through.

Patt Row 1: With yarn H, beg inc, [1Tss, 1TwTss] to marked st, centre inc, [1TwTss, 1Tss] to end, end inc (353 lps on hk), RP in yarn C, change to yarn H on last pull through.

Patt Row 2: With yarn H, beg inc, *[1TwTss, 1Tss] to marked st, centre inc, [1Tss, 1TwTss] to end,

end inc (353 lps on hk), RP in yarn C, change to yarn H on last pull through.

Rep Patt Rows 1 & 2 again, ending with Patt Row 2 (365 lps on hk).

With yarn H, sl st across as for [1Tss, 1TwTss] to marked st, Tks in marked st (remove marker), [1TwTss, 1Tss] to end.

Fasten off.

BORDER

With RS facing, join yarn C into top-right corner of fabric, work 1dc in each row/foundation ch of longest side of Shawl, do not turn at corner, 1ch, work 1 crab st in each dc of row below. Fasten off at end of row.

FINISHING

Weave in all ends.

Cut three lengths of each yarn at least 30.5cm/12in long.

Sort yarn into three groups, each containing one strand of each colour.

With work RS up, insert hook into edge of one corner of Shawl, from beneath the Shawl and out at RS.

Fold one tassel group in half and use hook to pull some of the group through, creating a loop. Pull rest of group through loop just made, and pull to tighten.

Rep for two remaining corners. Trim tassel groups.

END

Yarn Market



KATH WEBBER, COMMISSIONING EDITOR, WRITES:

"I'm a big fan of independent yarn shops – whether it's the local yarn store in town where you can pop in for a browse and some help with your latest project, or an online shop with gorgeously curated wools and accessories, the care and personal service you get is second-to-none. Our favourite independent yarn shops – some local, some online – are all

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MATERIALS

- Rowan Summerlite DK, 100% cotton, 50g/130m/142yds
- Yarn A:** Linen 460 x 1 ball
- Yarn B:** Pear 463 x 1 ball
- Yarn C:** Cantaloupe 456 x 1 ball
- 2.5mm hook
- Stitch marker
- Polyester toy stuffing
- Yarn needle
- 11 short lengths of thin string
- Cord or thin rope, 1.5m/60in
- Six short lengths of green ribbon

TENSION

Work 15dc and 15 rows to measure 6 x 6cm/2¼ x 2¼in, using a 2.5mm hook, or size required to obtain tension.

MEASUREMENTS

Carrot:

Approximately 10cm/4in long.

Egg:

Approximately 5cm/2in high.

Garland: Approximately 130cm/52in long.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Kate lives in the beautiful south west of England, where she enjoys "pootling" and designing and making gorgeous and stylish crocheted items, from homewares to sweet amigurumi. Read her blog at www.justpootling.blogspot.co.uk.

Easter Garland

BY KATE EASTWOOD



This alternative Easter garland is made up of chicken's eggs and fresh spring carrots! Each item is tied onto a rustic piece of rope for a simple, fresh look – perfect for hanging in your kitchen.



This spring design is taken from *Crocheted Wreaths & Garlands* by Kate Eastwood, (CICO Books, £12.99). Photography by Emma Mitchell © CICO Books.



EGG

Make seven

Rnd 1: Using yarn A, make an adjustable ring, 4dc into the ring.

Work in a continuous spiral. PM in last st and move up as each round is finished.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each st to end – 8 sts.

Rnd 3: *1dc, 2dc in next st; rep from * to end – 12 sts.

Rnd 4: *1dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st; rep from * to end – 16 sts.

Rnds 5 & 6: 1dc in each st to end.

Rnd 7: *1dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st; rep from * to end – 20 sts.

Rnd 8: *1dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st; rep from * to end – 24 sts.



Rnds 9 & 10: 1dc in each st to end.
Stuff top of egg.

Rnd 11: *1dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog; rep from * to end – 20 sts.

Rnd 12: *1dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog; rep from * to end – 16 sts.

Rnd 13: *1dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog; rep from * to end – 12 sts.

Rnd 14: *1dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end – 8 sts.
Finish stuffing egg.

Rnd 15: [Dc2tog] to end.
Fasten off.

CARROT

Make five

Rnd 1: Using yarn C, make an adjustable ring, 4dc into the ring. Work in a continuous spiral. PM in last st and move up as each round is finished.

Rnd 2: *1dc, 2dc in next st; rep from * to end – 6 sts.

Rnd 3: 1dc in each st to end.

Rnd 4: *1dc, 2dc in next st; rep from * to end – 9 sts.

Rnd 5: 1dc in each st to end.

Rnd 6: *1dc, 2dc in next st; rep from * three more times, 1dc – 13 sts.

Rnd 7: 1dc in each st to end.

Rnd 8: *1dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st; rep from * three more times, 2dc in next st – 18 sts.

Rnd 9: 1dc in each st to end.

Rnd 10: *1dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st; rep from * three more times, 1dc in each of next 2 sts – 22 sts.

Rnds 11–18: 1dc in each st to end.

Rnd 19: *2dc, dc2tog; rep from * four more times, 2dc – 17 sts.

Rnd 20: *1dc, dc2tog; rep from * four more times, 2dc – 12 sts.
Stuff carrot.

Rnd 21: [Dc2tog] to end – 6 sts.
Gather up rem hole to close, then fasten off.

To finish the carrot, join yarn B to centre top of carrot with a sl st, *11ch, sl st in each of next 11ch, join with a sl st in centre top of carrot; rep from * four more times.
Fasten off.

FINISHING

Thread a length of thin string into the top of each carrot and egg and hang each item onto the length of rope to form your garland.

Tie a small bow in green ribbon above each egg.

END



Leopard Cowl

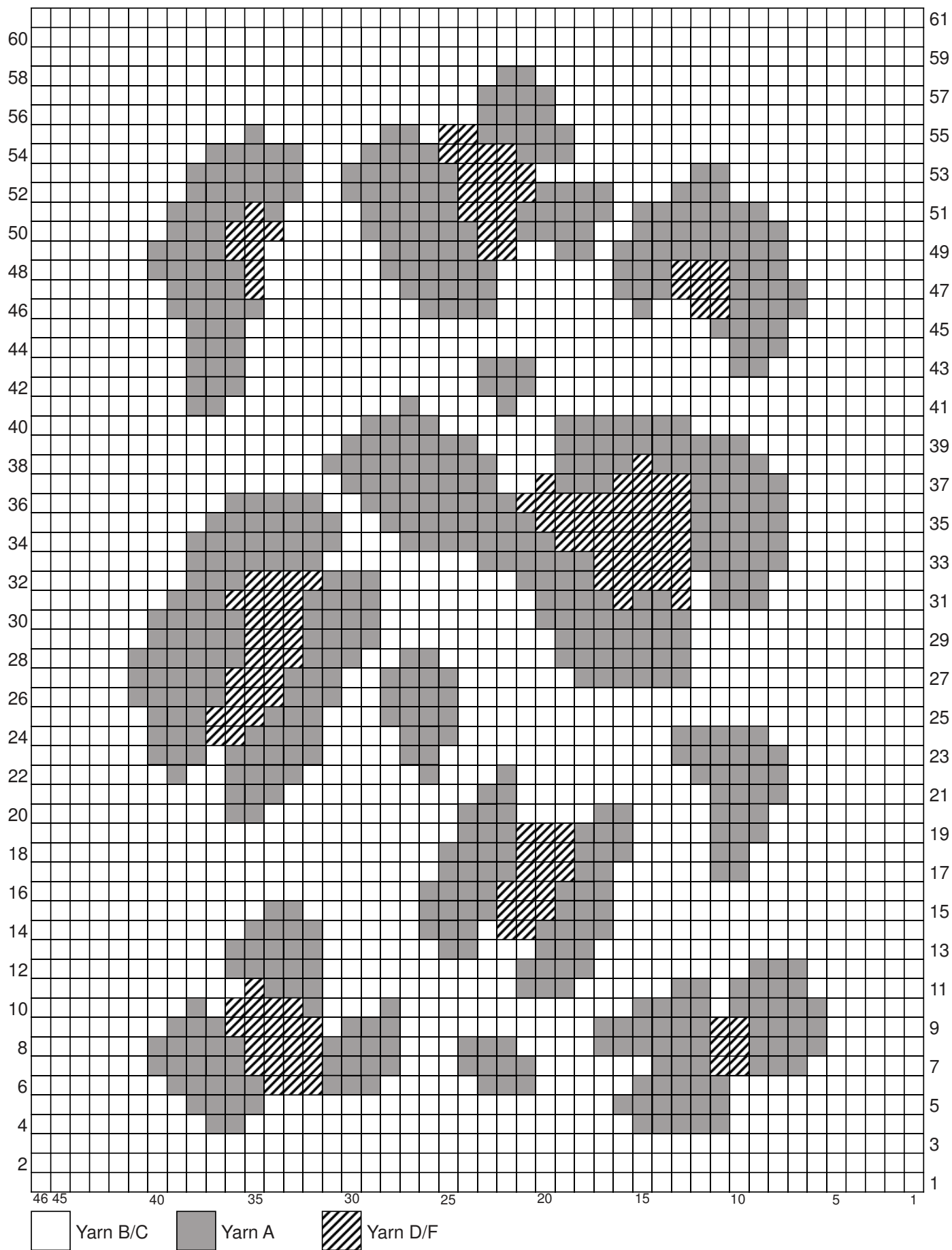
BY MARIANNE RAWLINS



This fun cowl is a great introduction to tapestry crochet and sure to draw attention!



ADD TO THE STASH
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www.deramores.com



MATERIALS

- Scheepjes Colour Crafter, 100% acrylic, 100g/300m/328yds
- Yarn A:** Ede 1002 x 1 ball
- Yarn B:** Leuven 2008 x 1 ball
- Yarn C:** Brugge 2003 x 1 ball
- Yarn D:** The Hague 1256 x 1 ball
- Yarn E:** Hilversum 1257 x 1 ball
- Yarn F:** Knokke 2012 x 1 ball
- 4mm hook

TENSION

Work 20dc and 20 rows to measure 10 x 10cm/4 x 4in using 4mm hook, or size required to obtain tension.

MEASUREMENTS

The cowl is 24cm/9½in deep, and 62cm/24½in in circumference.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Marianne is a Bath-based crochet designer who loves experimenting with intarsia techniques and colour. Follow her on Instagram @mazcrochets.

PATTERN NOTES

Follow the pattern and the chart. Each block in the chart represents 1dc.

The cowl comprises two pieces. When making each piece, the chart is followed twice. The pieces are then crocheted together, wrong sides facing.

To work tapestry crochet, work over the unused yarns and change to the new colour on last pull through of last st in previous colour.

START

PIECE 1

Using 4mm hook and yarn C, 47ch.

Chart Row 1: 1dc in second ch from hook and in each ch across – 46dc.

Now work from Row 2 of chart to end of Row 61, using yarns A and D for leopard spots working in dc as set and working in tapestry crochet.

Read all odd rows from R to L and all even rows from L to R. Now work Chart once more from Row 1, this time reading all odd rows from L to R and even rows from R to L.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

PIECE 2

Using 4mm hook and yarn B, 47ch.

Work as for Piece 1 using yarns A and F for leopard spots and yarn B for main body colour.

FINISHING

Fold Piece 1 in half, end to end. Join ends tog using sl st, picking up back loops only. Fasten off and weave in ends. Rep for Piece 2. Place Piece 2 inside Piece 1, wrong sides facing. Pin in place.

Using yarn E, dc both pieces tog as follows.

Rnd 1: 1ch, dc in each st or row end across – 122dc.

Rnd 2: 1ch, dc to end. Fasten off and weave in ends.

Rep on other side. Weave in ends.

END





Raindrop Bag

BY ALESSANDRA POGGIAGLIOLMI



Crocheted clouds and raindrops are fun to carry along with you, especially in a grey rainy day!



ADD TO THE STASH
Buy these cotton blend yarns from
www.hobbycraft.co.uk

MATERIALS

- The Women's Institute Home Cotton, 85% cotton/15% polyester, 100g/160m/175yds

Yarn A: Blue x 3 balls

Yarn B: Cream x 2 balls

Yarn C: Yellow x 1 ball

Yarn D: Dark Pink x 1 ball

Yarn E: Light Blue x 1 ball

- Knitcraft Cotton Blend Plain, 50% cotton/50% acrylic, 100g/215m/235yds

Yarn F: Red x 1 ball

(Note: Small amounts only needed of yarns C-F)

- 5mm hook
- Yarn needle
- Four stitch markers
- Pins

YARN ALTERNATIVES

You can use any aran weight cotton yarns to achieve a similar effect.

TENSION

Exact tension is not required for this design.

MEASUREMENTS

Base: 45 x 8cm/3in x 17¾in.

Width: 50cm/20in.

Height: 38cm/15in.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Alessandra shares patterns and photo tutorials on her blog www.homemadeatmyplace.blogspot.com and posts frequently on Instagram @homemadeatmyplace. You can also find her on Ravelry as homemadeatmyplace.

SPECIAL STITCHES

3tr bobble (bob): [Yoh, insert hook in st, yoh, pull loop through, yoh, pull through 2 loops] three times (4 loops on hook), yoh, pull through all 4 loops.

PATTERN NOTES

2ch does not count as stitch throughout.

The bottom of the bag is worked in an oval shape.

Work along foundation chain, then turn and work along the

bottom of the chain increasing at each end as instructed. Place stitch markers in first and last sts of both straight edges to mark corners.



BOTTOM

With yarn A make 62ch.

Rnd 1: 1htr in third ch from hook (last st of second corner), 58htr (first straight edge), 3htr in last ch (first end), 58htr (second straight edge), 2htr in last st (second corner), sl st into top of first htr – 122htr.

Rnd 2: 2ch (does not count as htr throughout), 2htr in same st, 58htr, [2htr in next st] three times, 58htr, [2htr in next st] twice, sl st in top of first htr – 128htr.

Rnd 3: 2ch, 1htr, 2htr in same st, 58htr, [1htr, 2htr in next st] three times, 58htr, 1htr, 2htr in next st] twice, sl st in top of first htr – 134htr.

Rnd 4: 2ch, 2htr, 2htr in same st, 58htr, [2htr, 2htr in next st] three times, 58htr, [2htr, 2htr in next st] twice, sl st in top of first htr – 140htr.

Strengthen the base of the bag before working the body of the bag, as it is much easier to crochet the surface stitches without the weight of bag. Do not fasten off but mark working st with SM. Using same hook, pick two contrasting colours, eg yarns C & D.

With yarn C, work surface stitches along foundation ch. With yarn D, crochet one round of colourful stitches between Rnds 2 & 3. Weave in all the ends.

BODY

Put your hook back in working loop.

Rnd 5: 2ch, 140htr blo, sl st in top of first htr – 140htr.

Rnd 6: 2ch, 140htr, sl st in top of first htr.

Rnds 7–24: As Rnd 6.

COLOURWORK

With tapestry crochet the unused colour is carried inside stitches on WS of work, starting with first st of colourwork round even



though not used immediately. Remember to carry yarn B from beginning of Rnd 25. Keep sts tight so colour carried is not seen from the front. During colourwork section, use yarn A for htr and yarn B for bobbles. To change colour, use new yarn to work last pull through of st in previous colour.

Rnd 25: 2ch, 8htr, [3bob (see *Special Stitches*), 4htr, 3bob, 13htr] five times, 3bob, 4htr, 3bob, 7htr, sl st in top of first htr – 104htr, 36bob.

Rnd 26: 2ch, 7htr, [5bob, 2htr, 5bob, 11htr] five times, 5bob, 2htr, 5bob, 6htr, sl st in top of first htr – 80htr, 60bob.

Rnd 27: 2ch, 5htr, [16bob, 7htr] five times, 16bob, 4htr, sl st in top of first htr – 44htr, 96bob.

Rnd 28: 2ch, 4htr, [18bob, 5htr] five times, 18bob, 3htr, sl st in top of first htr – 32htr, 108bob.

Rnd 29: 2ch, 3htr, [20bob, 3htr] five times, 20bob, 2htr, sl st in top of first htr – 20htr, 120bob.

Rnd 30: 2ch, 2htr, [22bob, 1htr] five times, 22bob, 1htr, sl st in top of first htr – 8htr, 132bob.

Rnd 31: As Rnd 29.

Rnd 32: As Rnd 28.

Rnd 33: As Rnd 27.

Rnd 34: As Rnd 26.

Rnd 35: As Rnd 25.

Fasten off yarn B and cont with yarn A.

Rnd 36: 2ch, 140htr, sl st in top of first htr – 140htr.

HANDLES

Rnd 37: 1ch (does not count as st throughout), 140dc, sl st in top of first dc – 140dc.

Rnd 38: 1ch, [8dc, dc2tog] 14 times, sl st in top of first dc – 126dc.

Rnd 39: 1ch, [7dc, dc2tog] 14 times, sl st in top of first dc – 112dc.

Rnd 40: 1ch, [6dc, dc2tog] 14 times, sl st in top of first dc – 98dc.

Rnd 41: 1ch, 98dc, sl st in top of first dc.

Rnd 42: 1ch, 98dc, sl st in top of first dc.

Rnd 43: Sl st in next stitch, 1dc in same stitch, 23dc, 25ch, miss 25dc, sl st in last dc – 48dc, 50ch.

Rnd 44: 1ch, 24dc, 25dc around 25ch, sl st in top of first dc – 98dc.

Rnd 45: 1ch, 98dc, sl st into top

of first dc.

Rnds 46–54: As Rnd 45.

Rnd 55: 1ch, 98dc, sl st in top of first dc.

Fasten off leaving a tail approximately 60cm/24in long. Fold to the front, so that the edge of last round reaches the top of the handles openings. Using pins to keep the folded part in place, sew around this edge using the tail.

Reinforce both handle openings by working slip stitches around. Weave in all ends.

RAINDROPS

Make 13

Using small amounts of yarns C, D, E and F (one colour for each raindrop) make 4ch, sl st in fourth ch from hook to form a ring.

Rnd 1: 2ch, 12tr in ring, sl st in top of first tr – 12tr.

Rnd 2: 1dc in next st, 1htr, [1tr, 1dtr, 1tr] in same st, 1htr, 1dc, 1sl st.

Fasten off.

Each raindrop is sewn on the bag using matching yarn.

Sew some very short straight lines to show the direction of the drops falling from the clouds.

END



Crochet Camera

BY SUE RAWLINSON



This cute camera is great for developing children's imaginations and a fabulous help with your Instagram photo shoots!



ADD TO THE STASH
Buy this pure cotton yarn from
www.lovecrochet.com

MATERIALS

- Paintbox Yarns Cotton DK, 100% cotton, 50g/125m/137yds
- Yarn A:** Stormy Grey 405 x 1 ball
- Yarn B:** Duck Egg Blue 436 x 1 ball
- Yarn C:** Daffodil Yellow 422 x 1 ball (optional)
- 3.5mm & 4mm hooks
- Toy stuffing
- Cotton ribbon/tape, 1cm/½in wide, 1m/40in long
- Yarn needle
- Sewing needle and cotton

YARN ALTERNATIVES

You can use any DK weight cotton to achieve a similar effect.

TENSION

Exact tension is not crucial for this design.

MEASUREMENTS

Height: 7.5cm/3in.
Width: 11.5cm/4½in.
Depth: 3cm/1¼in.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Sue is a crochet designer and lives in the north west of England. Follow her journey on Instagram @sweetpeafamilycrochet and at www.sweetpeafamilyblog.wordpress.com.

PATTERN NOTES

Two cameras can be made from one 50g ball of yarn A. The camera is meant as a toy for children over three years of age with adult supervision. Ensure that all small pieces are sewn securely and that the stuffing is fire retardant and complies with British fire safety regulations.

CAMERA PANELS

START **Make two**
With yarn A and 4mm hook, make 20ch.

Row 1: Change to 3.5mm hook, 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch across, turn – 19 sts

Rows 2–9: 1ch (does not count as st throughout), 1dc in each st across, turn – 19 sts

Row 10: 1ch, 1dc in each st across, change to yarn B on last yrh of dc, turn.

Rows 11–14: Rep Row 2. Fasten off and neaten ends.

SIDE STRIP

With yarn B and 4mm hook, make 6ch.

Row 1: Change to 3.5mm hook, 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch across, turn – 5 sts.

Rows 2–62: 1ch, 1dc in each st across, turn – 5 sts.

On last row check strip is long enough to be attached on all



sides of front panel. Add or subtract rows accordingly, fasten off and neaten tails.

SWITCH

With yarn A and 4mm hook, make 5ch.

Row 1: Change to 3.5mm hook, 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch across, turn – 4 sts.

Rows 2 & 3: 1ch, 1dc in each st across, turn – 4 sts.

Fasten off and neaten ends.

LENS

With yarn B and 3.5mm hook, 2ch.

Rnd 1: 6dc in second ch from hook, or alternatively make an adjustable ring, 6dc in ring.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each st – 12 sts.

Rnd 3: [1dc, 2dc in next st] around – 18 sts.

Rnd 4: [2dc, 2dc in next st] around – 24 sts.

Rnd 5: [3dc, 2dc in next st] around – 30 sts.

Fasten off and neaten ends.

LENS SIDE STRIP

With yarn B and 4mm hook, make 5ch.

Row 1: Change to 3.5mm hook, 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch across, turn – 4 sts.

Rows 2–30: 1ch, 1dc in each st across, turn – 4 sts.

On last row check strip is long

enough to be attached around lens. Add or subtract rows accordingly, fasten off and neaten tails.

MAKING UP FRONT PANEL

With RS facing and starting at the bottom of the front panel midway so that joining seam is in the centre, pin camera side strip in place.

With yarn B and 4mm hook, double crochet both pieces together around, working 2dc in each corner. Sew ends of side strip neatly together with matching yarn.

Attach lens side strip to camera lens in the same way as above.

Stuff lens.

Place lens in the centre of front panel with top of the lens in line

with the second double crochet row of yarn A of the front panel. Neatly stitch in place.

It is much easier to attach at this stage before stuffing the body of the camera.

Attach the back panel of the camera to the side strip in the same way as front panel, leaving an opening to stuff the camera before finishing off with a sl st to join.

Fasten off and neaten ends.

On top right side of camera, stitch switch in place, neaten and sew in ends.

CAMERA STRAP

Use fine sewing needle and matching thread to stitch the camera strap on the side of the camera.

Starting approximately two rows from the base of the camera and with the ends of the tape/ribbon turned under, sew across the bottom of the tape, up the side for approximately 2cm/¾in across the top and back down to the start.

This forms a neat and strong rectangle of stitches to keep the tape/ribbon in place.

Repeat on other side of camera.

The length of the strap depends on age and height of the child, our tape is 94cm/35in long.

END





BAMBI BONNET & NAPPY COVER

BY CLAIRE MONTGOMERIE



An adorable set of bonnet and soaker with cute little details.



ADD TO THE STASH

To find your local Stylecraft yarn stockists visit
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk/stockists

MATERIALS

- Stylecraft Bambino, 100% acrylic, 100g/268m/293yds
- Yarn A:** Sage 7117 x 1 ball
- Yarn B:** Clotted Cream 7112 x 1 ball
- Yarn C:** Mellow Yellow 3942 x 1 ball
- Yarn D:** Vintage Pink 3944 x 1 ball
- 3.5mm, 4mm & 4.5mm hooks
- Two buttons (optional)
- Four large poppers
- Yarn needle

TENSION

Work 2 shells and 8 rows to measure 9 x 9cm/3½ x 3½in over shell pattern using 4.5mm hook, or size required to obtain tension.

MEASUREMENTS

To fit: 0–3 (3–6, 6–12) months.

Nappy cover approximately: 35 (40, 45)cm/13¾ (15¾, 17¾)in long and 21 (30, 39)cm/8¼ (11¾, 15¼)in wide at widest point.

Hat to fit approximately: 40 (43, 46)cm/15¾ (17, 18)in circumference.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Claire Montgomerie is a textiles teacher and designer specialising

in knit and crochet. Find out more at www.montyknits.blogspot.com.

SPECIAL STITCHES

Half cl: (Yoh, insert hook in st, draw loop through, yoh and draw through 2 lps) twice in same stitch, (3 lps on hook), drop contrast yarn and draw main yarn through all 3 lps on hook. Half cl completed.

Cluster (cl): (Yoh, insert hook in st, draw loop through, yoh and draw through 2 lps) three times in same st (4 lps on hook), drop contrast yarn and draw main yarn through all 4 lps on hook. Cl completed.

Raised treble front (rtrf): Yoh, insert hook around stitch from right through to left, inserting from front of fabric to back into space to right of stitch. Pass hook around stitch at the back, then come through to front of fabric again, through the space to the left of stitch being worked, yoh, pull loop through to front, around stitch and out to the right of it. Now complete treble stitch as normal. Raised treble front completed, making the stitch protrude at front of fabric. Rtrf stitches in this pattern are worked into rows further down the fabric



than the last row, so watch for the instructions on where to create the raised stitch.

Raised treble front two together (rtrf2tog): Yoh, insert hook around stitch from right through to left, as with a raised st, where indicated, yoh, draw lp through as for raised st (3lps on hook), yoh, draw through 2 lps, leaving rem 2 lps on hook, yoh, insert hook around next indicated stitch as for a raised st, yoh, draw lp through as for raised st, 5lps on hook, yoh, draw through 2 lps, leaving 3 lps on hook, yoh, draw through all rem sts to create the decrease.

Picot: 3ch, sl st in bottom of ch.

BONNET

With 4.5mm hook and yarn A, 4ch, join with sl st to form ring.

Rnd 1: 3ch, **half cl** (see *Special Stitches*) in ring, 2ch, (**cl** (see *Special Stitches*), 2ch) five (six, seven) times in ring, join rnd with sl st – 6 (7, 8) cl.

Change to yarn B.

Rnd 2: 1ch, (3dc, 1ch) in each ch-sp around, join rnd with sl st – 18 (21, 24)dc.

Rnd 3: 1ch, [miss 1 dc, 5tr in next dc, miss next dc, 1dc in 1ch-sp] around join rnd with sl st – 6 (7, 8) shells.

Change to yarn A in first tr of any shell.

Rnd 4: 1ch, *1dcflo in each of 5tr, **1rtrf** (see *Special Stitches*) into cl from Rnd 1, inserting hook into space at right of cl, around back of cl and out to left of cl; rep from * six (seven, eight) times in total – 30 (35, 40)dc, 6 (7, 8)rtrf.

Change to yarn B, joining yarn in any central tr from Rnd 3.

Rnd 5: 1ch, 1dcblo in same st, 5tr in dc from Rnd 3, *1dcblo in third tr of shell from Rnd 3, 5tr in blo of dc from Rnd 3; rep from * to end, join rnd – 6 (7, 8) shells.

Rnd 6: 1ch, *working across shell, 2htr in next tr, 1htr in next tr, (1htr, 1ch, 1htr) in next st, 1htr in next st, 2htr in next tr, 1dc in dcblo; rep from * to end, join rnd.

Change to yarn A in first st of rnd.

Rnd 7: 1ch, 1dcflo in each of next 8 htr, **rtrf2tog** (see *Special Stitches*), inserting hook first into first rtrf from Rnd 4, then into second rtrf of Rnd 4, 1dcflo in each of next 8 htr, rtrf2tog, inserting hook first into second rtrf from Rnd 4, then into third rtrf of Rnd 4, 1dcflo in each of next 8 htr, rtrf2tog, inserting hook first into third rtrf from Rnd 4, then into fourth rtrf of rnd, 1dcflo in each of next 8 htr, cont in this way to last st, rtrf2tog, inserting hook first into last rtrf of Rnd 4,

then first rtrf of Rnd 4.

Change to yarn B, joining in any 1ch-sp from Rnd 6.

Rnd 8: 1ch, 1dc in same st, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in blo of next dc from Rnd 6, * 1dc in next ch-sp from Rnd 6, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in blo of next dc from Rnd 6; rep from * to end, join rnd.

Change to yarn A, joining to any 1ch-sp of Rnd 8.

Rnd 9: 1ch, 1dc in same st, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next dc, *1dc in next 1ch-sp, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next dc; rep from * around, join rnd, turn.

Now begin working in rows:

Row 1: 3ch, *(3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next 1ch-sp, (1tr, 2ch, 1tr) in next dc; rep from * to last shell, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in last shell, 1tr in same dc as first st of row, turn.

Row 2: 3ch, 2tr in same st, 1dc in next 1ch-sp, *(3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next 2ch-sp, 1dc in next 1ch-sp; rep from * to end, 3tr in top of last ch, turn.

Row 3: 1ch, 1dc in same st, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next dc, *1dc in next 1ch-sp, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next dc; rep from * to end, 1dc in last tr, turn.

Row 4: 3ch, 2tr in same st, 1dc in next 1ch-sp, *(3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next dc, 1dc in next 1ch-sp; rep from * to end, 3tr in top of last ch, turn.

Rep last two rows until 10 (12, 14) rows have been worked or bonnet is desired length.

Do not fasten off.

TIES

Make a chain of approximately 30cm/12in in length, turn and work back along this chain, working 1dc in back bump of each ch to end, sl st to main body of hat. Fasten off yarn. Rejoin yarn with sl st to opposite corner of hat and repeat to match first tie.

EARS

Make two pieces in yarn A and two pieces in yarn B

With 4mm hook and yarn A or B, 6ch.

Row 1: 1htr in third ch from hook and each ch to end, turn – 4htr.

Row 2: 2ch (counts as 1htr here and throughout), htr to end, turn.

Row 3: 2ch, 1htr in same st, htr to last, 2htr in last st, turn – 6htr.

Row 4: 2ch, htr to end, turn.

Row 5: 2ch, 1htr in same st, htr to last, 2htr in last st, turn – 8htr.

Row 6: 2ch, htr to end, turn.

Row 7: 2ch, htr2tog, 2htr, htr2tog, 1htr – 6htr.

Row 8: 2ch, htr2tog, htr2tog, 1htr – 4htr. Fasten off yarn.

Join a yarn A ear piece to yarn B ear piece by laying yarn B piece on top of yarn A piece, joining yarn A



to bottom edge with 4mm hook and working sl st through both layers, then work in dc evenly all round edge of ear, working through both pieces each time. Join rnd and fasten off yarn. Rep for second ear, leaving long tail for sewing onto hat.

FLOWERS

Make as many as desired to decorate top of hat!

With 3.5mm hook and yarn C, 2ch.

Rnd 1: Work 12dc in second ch from hook, join rnd with sl st in first st – 12dc.

Change to yarn B or D.

Rnd 2: 1ch (does not count as st here and throughout), 1dc in first st, 1dc in next st, **picot** (see *Special Stitches*), [1dc in each of next 2 sts, picot] around, sl st to join – 6 picots, 12dc.

Rnd 3: [6ch, miss picot, 1dc in next dc] around – 6 x 6ch-sps. Fasten off here for smaller flowers, or continue for one more round.

Rnd 4: *(2dc, 3htr, 2dc) all in next ch-sp, sl st in next dc; rep from * around.

Fasten off yarn, leaving long tail for sewing onto hat.

LEAF

Make as many as desired to decorate top of hat!

With yarn C and 3.5mm hook, make an adjustable ring.

Rnd 1: 6dc in ring, pull up to tighten ring, do not join rnd but PM for work in spirals, moving up every rnd.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each st around – 12dc.

Rnd 3: 1dc in each of next 2 sts, picot, 1dc, 1htr in next st, picot,

1htr in next st, (1tr, picot, 1tr) in next st, (1tr, picot, 1dtr, 1tr, picot) in next st, 2tr in next st, picot, 2htr in next st, picot, 2dc, picot, 2dc, 4ch, sl st in back bump of each ch, sl st back into last dc. Fasten off yarn, leaving long tail for sewing onto hat.

NAPPY COVER

With 4.5mm hook and yarn A, 26 (32, 38)ch.

Row 1: 1dc in second ch from hook, *miss next 2 ch, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next ch, miss 2 ch, 1dc in next ch; rep from * to end, turn – 4 (5, 6) shells.

Row 2: 3ch, 2tr in same st, 1dc in next ch-sp, *(3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next dc, 1dc in next ch-sp; rep from * to last dc, 3tr in last dc, turn.

Row 3: 1ch, 1dc in first st, *(3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next dc, 1dc in next ch-sp; rep from * to end.

Rows 4–7 (9, 11): Rep Rows 2 & 3.

Row 8 (10, 12): As Row 2.

Row 9 (11, 13): Sl st along to first ch-sp, 1dc in ch-sp, *(3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next dc, 1dc in next ch-sp; rep from * to last ch-sp, 1dc in last ch-sp, turn, leaving rem sts unworked – 1 (3, 5) shells. Rep Rows 2 & 3 six times, then make 4ch.

Row 22 (24, 26): 1dc in second ch from hook, miss next 2 ch, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in last dc of last row, 1dc in next ch-sp, *(3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next dc, 1dc in next ch-sp; rep from * to last dc, (3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in last dc, 1dtr in same st, turn – 2 (4, 6) shells.

Row 23 (25, 27): 3ch, 2tr in same st, 1dc in next ch-sp, *(3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next dc, 1dc in next ch-sp; rep from * to last dc, 3tr in last dc, turn.

Row 24 (26, 28): 1ch, 1dc in first st, *(3tr, 1ch, 3tr) in next dc, 1dc in next ch-sp; rep from * to end. Rep last two rows one (two, three) time(s) more.

Last Row: 3ch, 2tr in same st, 1dc in next ch-sp, *3ch, tr7tog, 3ch, 1dc in next ch-sp; rep from * to last dc, 3tr in last dc. Do not fasten off.

EDGING

Rnd 1: Work one round of dc evenly around entire edge of piece, working 3dc in first st of rnd (corner 1), 3dc in corner 2, dc3tog around concave corner 3 and 4, 3dc in corners 5, 6, 7 and 8,

dc3tog around concave corners 9 and 10, then 3dc in each of corners 11 and 12, join rnd with sl st.

Rnd 2: Work evenly in dc blo, working 3dc blo in central st of corners 1, 6, 7 & 12 only, and don't work any dc3tog, join rnd with sl st.

Rnd 3: Work evenly in dc blo, working 3dc blo in central st of corners 1, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 12 only, and dc3tog around concave corners 4 and 9 only, join rnd with sl st.

Rnds 4 & 5: Work evenly in dc blo, working 3dc blo in central st of corners 1, 6, 7 & 12 only, and don't work any dc3tog, join rnd with sl st. Fasten off yarn.

TAIL

With yarn B and 4mm hook, make 6ch and join into a ring.

Rnd 1: 1ch, 1dc in each st around, do not join but begin to work in spirals.

Work in dc until tail is approximately 5cm/2in long.

Next Rnd: 2dc in each st around – 12dc.

Fasten off yarn and sew up hole.

You can use a mohair brush to make the tail fluffy if desired!

FINISHING

Block all pieces to shape lightly.

Attach ears to either side of head on hat as pictures and attach flowers around one ear, both ears or on top of head between ears as desired and weave in all ends.

Brush up ears to make fluffy if desired.

Never leave babies unsupervised with a hat with ties on it.

Attach tail to bottom of nappy cover.

Attach four poppers to the cover – fold piece in half widthways and add the poppers to each inside corner of larger, back part of nappy cover, then the other half of each popper to corresponding position on front RS of cover. If making larger nappy covers it is possible to adjust the fastening/poppers to fit baby for longer.

Add buttons or flowers to top RS corners of cover for decoration if desired. Weave in all ends neatly.



END

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Intarsia Baby Blocks

BY SARAH-JANE HICKS



Fun, playful and colourful baby blocks worked in intarsia crochet are sure to be a hit!



ADD TO THE STASH

Buy this cotton blend yarn from
www.blacksheepwools.com

MATERIALS

- Scheepjes Softfun DK, 60% cotton/40% acrylic, 50g/140m/153yds
- Yarn A:** Light Blue 2423 x 1 ball
- Yarn B:** Light Yellow 2611 x 1 ball
- Yarn C:** Light Green 2516 x 1 ball
- Yarn D:** White 2412 x 1 ball
- Yarn E:** Brown 2470 x 1 ball
- Yarn F:** Pink 2514 x 1 ball
- Yarn G:** Green 2605 x 1 ball
- Yarn H:** Red 2410 x 1 ball
- Yarn I:** Yellow 2518 x 1 ball
- Yarn J:** Blue 2512 x 1 ball
- 4mm hook
- Yarn needle
- Polyester stuffing
- Rattle or bell

YARN ALTERNATIVES

You can use any DK weight cotton or cotton blend yarn to achieve a similar effect.

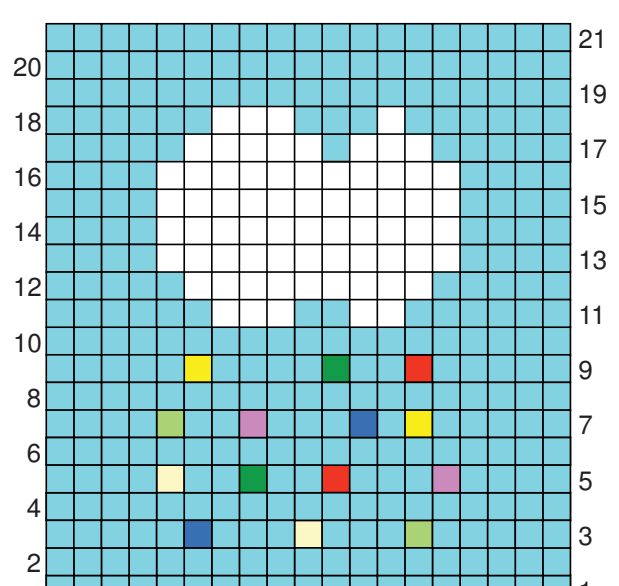
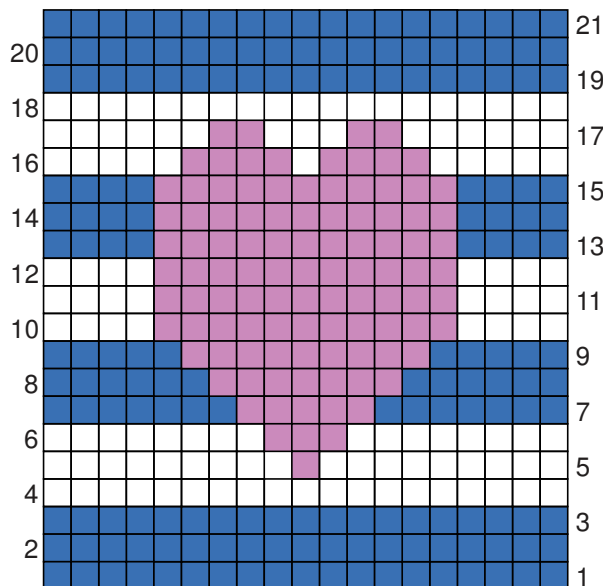
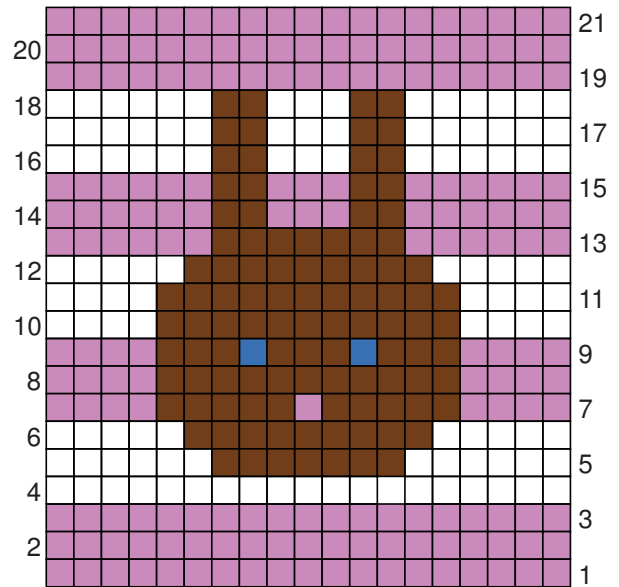
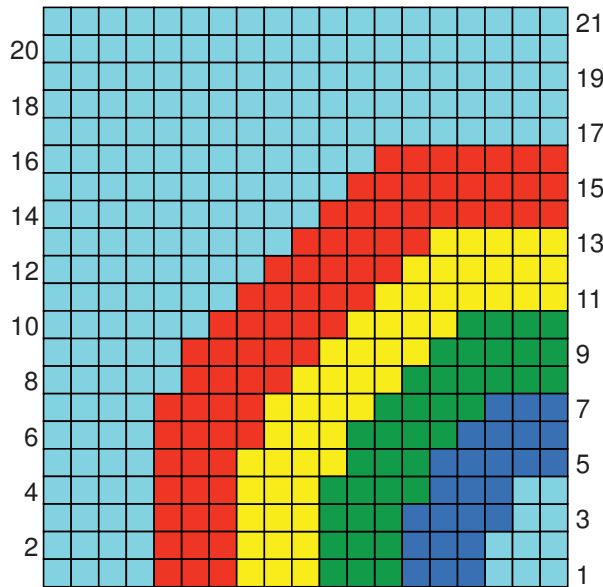
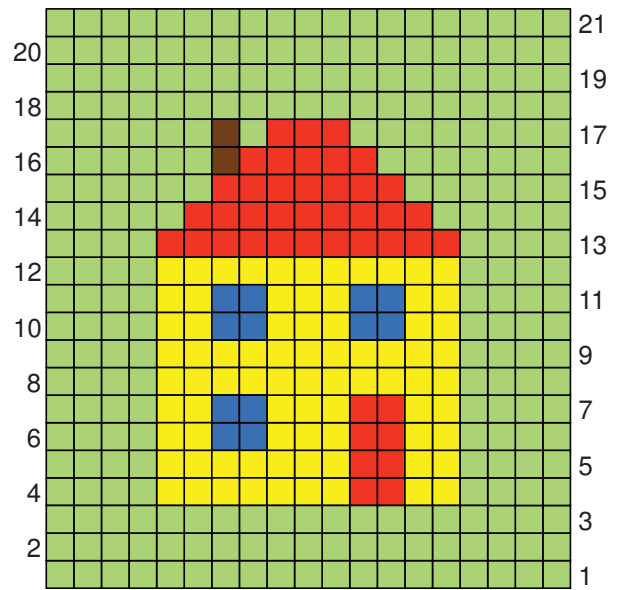
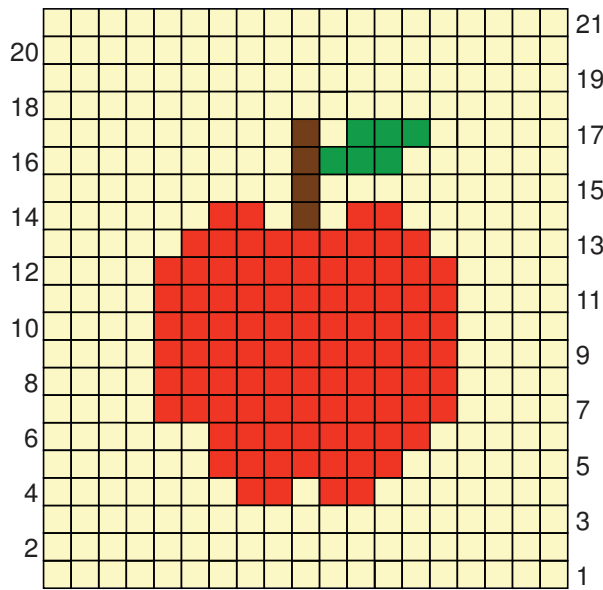
TENSION

Work 17dc and 19 rows to measure 10 x 10cm/4 x 4in using 4mm hook, or size required to obtain tension.

MEASUREMENTS

Finished blocks are 12.5 x 12.5cm/ 5 x 5in.

BLOCK ONE





DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Sarah-Jane enjoys designing in her spare time. She loves being inventive with crochet and likes her designs to be simple, fun and quirky and most of all make people smile. Find her on Instagram @flo_and_dot.

SPECIAL STITCHES

Reverse dc (crab stitch) is worked as for regular dc except instead of working from right to left, work from left to right. This creates a slightly twisted, rounded edge.

Reverse dc: With RS facing, insert hook into next st to right, from front to back, yrh, pull through loop, yrh, draw through 2 lps on hook.

PATTERN NOTES

The pattern uses dc throughout.

The panels are worked in intarsia crochet using pattern charts, with each square representing one stitch.

Read charts from bottom upwards, odd rows from right to left and even rows from left to right.

Carry the colour not being used along WS. When changing colour, use new colour for last yrh of previous stitch. At the end of each row turn and work a turning chain. Make sure you untangle the yarn as you go.



BASIC PANEL

Make six for each block

Using main colour of block and 4mm hook, 20ch.

Row 1: 1dc in second ch from hook, 18dc, turn – 19dc. Continue working from chart until end of Row 21.

Rows 2–21: 1ch, 19dc, turn. Fasten off and weave in ends.

JOINING

Using matching or contrasting colours join panels together, using **reverse dc** (see *Special Stitches*) and 4mm hook. Join along two edges in each colour.

Join four panels together along



sides to form a tube. Do not fasten off but leave yarn to attach bottom panel in same way.

Note: When joining a top or bottom edge to a side you will need to work two sts into one st at start or end of top or bottom edge in order to match 19 sts to 21 rows.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

FINISHING

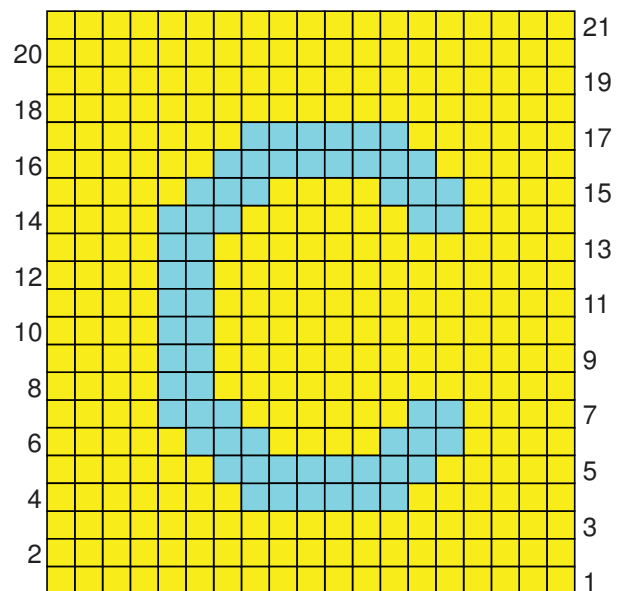
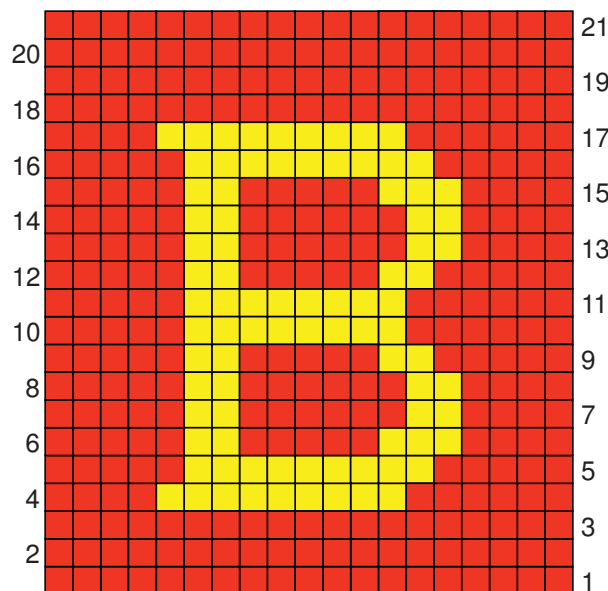
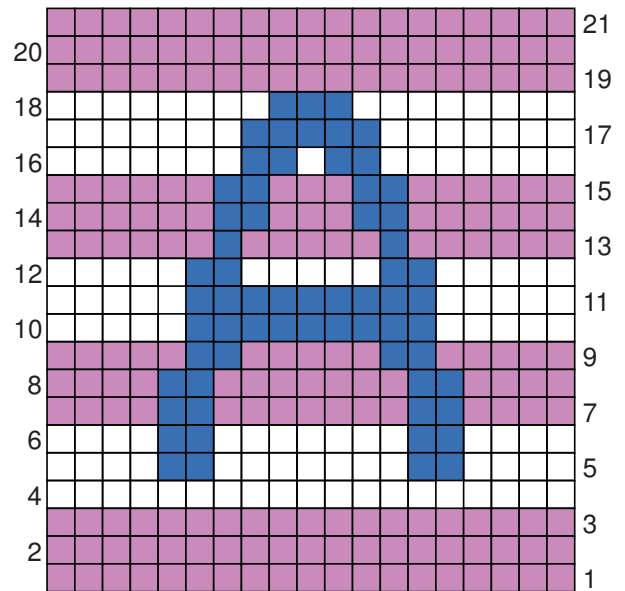
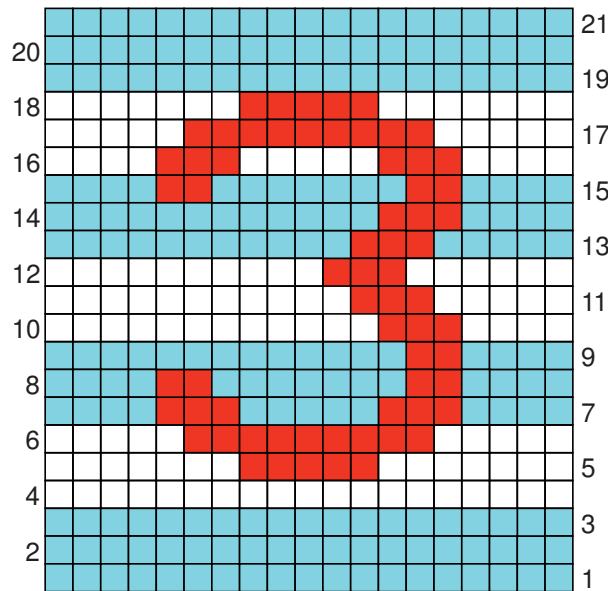
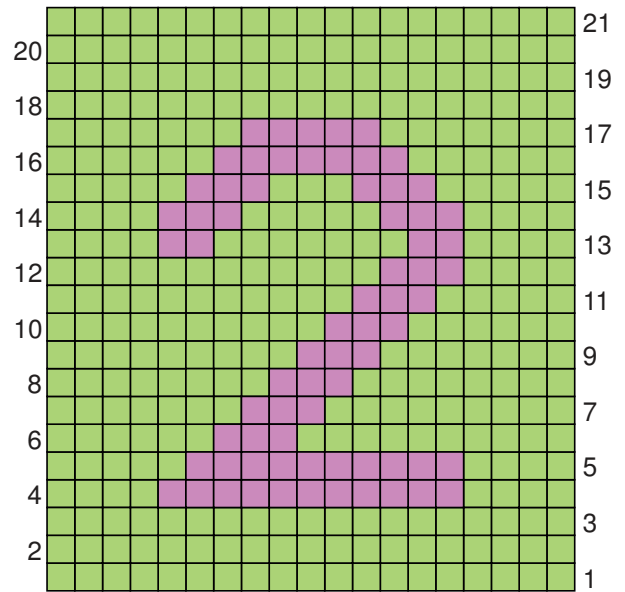
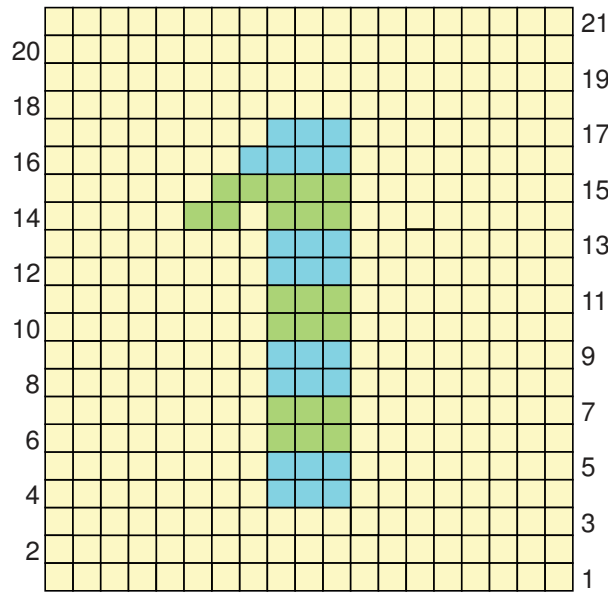
Stuff block, place rattle or bell in centre.

Attach top panel using two different colours.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

END

BLOCK TWO





Rocket Man Backpack

BY IRENE STRANGE



Zoom off to wild adventures with a favourite toy for company!



ADD TO THE STASH

Buy these pure cotton yarns from www.lovecrochet.com

MATERIALS

- Yarn And Colors Epic, 100% cotton, 50g/75m/82yds
- Yarn A:** Brick x 4 balls
- Yarn B:** Shark Grey x 1 ball
- Yarn C:** Cream x 1 ball
- 4.5mm hook
- Yarn needle
- Pair metal D-ring buckles, for straps
- Clear PVC, small piece for window
- Sewing needle and thread

YARN ALTERNATIVES

You can use any aran-weight cotton to achieve a similar effect.

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project.

MEASUREMENTS

Finished backpack is 20cm/8in wide by approximately 30cm/11¾in tall.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

A crochet addict, Irene loves experimenting with characters, shapes and textures. Visit www.irenestrange.etsy.com for more of Irene's patterns or see what she's making next on Instagram @irenestrange.

SPECIAL STITCHES

Foundation dc (fdc):

Start with 1 st on hk, 2ch, insert hook under top 2 strands (or "v") of first ch, yrh, pull through, yrh, pull through 1 lp, yrh, pull through both lps, *insert hook into ch at base of st just made, yrh, pull through, yrh, pull through 1 lp, yrh pull through both lps; rep from * to required no of sts.

Inv dc2tog: (Insert hook under front loop only of next st) twice, (yrh, pull through 2 lps) twice.



BACKPACK

With yarn A and 4.5mm hook, make an adjustable ring.

Rnd 1: 8dc in ring – 8dc.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each st around – 16dc.

Rnd 3: [1dc, 2dc in next st] around – 24dc.

Rnd 4: [2dc, 2dc in next st] around – 32dc.

Rnd 5: [3dc, 2dc in next st] around – 40dc.

Rnd 6: [4dc, 2dc in next st] around – 48dc.
Rnd 7: [5dc, 2dc in next st] around – 56dc.
Rnd 8: [6dc, 2dc in next st] around – 64dc.
Rnd 9: [7dc, 2dc in next st] around – 72dc.
Rnd 10: [8dc, 2dc in next st] around – 80dc.
Rnd 11: [9dc, 2dc in next st] around – 88dc.
Rnd 12: [10dc, 2dc in next st] around – 96dc.
Rnd 13: 1dc in each st around, sl st in first st.
Rnd 14: 2ch (does not count as st throughout), [10htr, htr2tog] around, sl st in first st, turn – 88htr.
Rnds 15–23: 2ch, 1htr in each st, sl st in first st, turn.

The next section shapes window opening. Work in rows, turning at end of each row.

Row 24: 1ch, 3dc, 76htr, 3dc, turn – 82 sts.
Row 25: 1ch, miss 1 st, 3dc, htr in each st until last 4 sts, 3dc, miss last st, turn – 80 sts.
Row 26: 1ch, miss 1 st, 3dc, htr in each st until last 4 sts, 3dc, miss last st, turn – 78 sts.
Row 27: 2ch, miss 1 st, 1htr in each st to last 2 sts, htr2tog, turn – 76 sts.
Rows 28–30: 2ch, 1htr in each st, turn.
Row 31: 2ch, 2htr in first st, 1htr in each st to last st, 2htr in last st, turn – 78 sts.
Row 32: 2ch, 3htr in first st, 1htr in each st to last st, 2htr in last st, 6ch, sl st in first st, turn – 88 sts. Carry on working in rnds, turning at end of each rnd.

Rnds 33–41: 1ch, htr around, sl st in first st, turn.
Rnd 42: Dc around, invisible join to close.
 Fasten off and weave in ends.

FINS

Make two

With yarn B and 4.5mm hook, make an adjustable ring.
Rnd 1: 5dc in ring – 5dc.
Rnd 2: 2dc, 3dc in next st, 2dc – 7dc.
Rnd 3: Dc around.
Rnd 4: 3dc, 3dc in next st, 3dc – 9dc.



Rnd 5: Dc around.
Rnd 6: 4dc, 3dc in next st, 4dc – 11dc.
Rnd 7: Dc around.
Rnd 8: 5dc, 3dc in next st, 5dc – 13dc.
Rnd 9: Dc around.
Rnd 10: 6dc, 3dc in next st, 6dc – 15dc.
Rnd 11: Dc around.
Rnd 12: 7dc, 3dc in next st, 7dc – 17dc.
Rnd 13: 8dc, 3dc in next st, 8dc – 19dc.
Rnd 14: 9dc, 3dc in next st, 9dc – 21dc.
Rnd 15: 10dc, 3dc in next st, 10dc – 23dc.
Rnd 16: 11dc, 3dc in next st, 11dc – 25dc.
Rnds 17–21: Dc around.

Rnd 22: 7dc, [inv dc2tog (see *Special Stitches*), 1dc] five times, 3dc – 20dc.
Rnd 23: Dc around.
Rnd 24: 7dc, [inv dc2tog] five times, 3dc – 15dc.
Rnd 25: Dc around.
Rnd 26: 5dc, [inv dc2tog] five times – 10dc.
Rnd 27: 5dc, [inv dc5tog] – 6dc.

Fasten off, pick up all six front loops of last round and pull tight to close, leaving a tail for sewing.

DRAWSTRING

Make in yarn B with 4.5mm hook, work 120fdc (see *Special Stitches*).
 Fasten off and weave in ends. Alternatively use a length of cord instead.

HANDLE

With yarn A and 4.5mm hook, 21ch.
Row 1: 1ch in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn.
Row 2: 1ch, 20dc, turn.
 Fasten off, leave a tail for sewing.

DECORATIVE SIDE STRIPS

Make two

With yarn B and 4.5mm hook, make 40 foundation dc.
 Fasten off leaving a long tail for sewing.

SIDE STRAPS

Make two

With yarn A and 4.5mm hook, 3ch.
Row 1: Miss first ch, 1dc in each

of next 2 ch, turn – 2dc.
Rows 2–5: 1ch, 2dc, turn – 2dc.
 Fasten off, leave a tail for sewing.

STRAPS

Make two

With yarns B and C and 4.5mm hook, 4ch.
Row 1: 1dc in second ch from hook and in each of next 2ch, turn – 3dc.
Rows 2–47: 1ch, 3dc, turn – 3dc.
Row 48: 1ch, 2dc in first st, 1dc, 2dc in last st, turn – 5dc.
Rows 49–73: 1ch, 5dc, turn – 5dc.
 Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing.

WINDOW TRIM

With yarn C and 4.5mm hook, 50ch, join to work in rnds.
Rnds 1 & 2: 1dc in each st around – 50dc.
Rnd 3: [8dc blo, dc2tog blo] around – 45dc.
 Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing.

ASSEMBLY

Cut a circle out of clear PVC to same size as window opening. Using sewing needle and thread, stitch PVC underneath last round of window trim.

Place window trim over window opening and sew together around edge.

Fold bag flat so window opening is central.
 Sew cord to back 14 sts, weave through spaces between posts of third rnd from top from back to front, about 8 sts apart.

Sew fins to either side of rocket, using photos as guides.

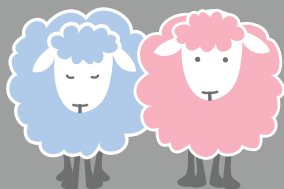
Sew decorative strips to sides of rocket.

Add D-ring buckles to side straps and sew to back of rocket on sides – this is where strap ends will feed through.

Sew wide edges of straps to top centre of back, tie ends through D-ring buckles at desired length.

Sew bag handle to top of back to finish and weave in any loose ends.

END



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Little Dudes

BY ANNELIES BAES & VIC SIMONS



Inspired by Vic's drawings of himself, a curly-haired boy fond of bright colours, and his brother, addicted to fancy suits and ties.



MATERIALS

- 4ply yarn, 100% cotton, approximately 50g/125m/137yds
- Yarn A:** Black x 1 ball
- Yarn B:** Cobalt Blue x 1 ball
- Yarn C:** Dark Grey x 1 ball
- Yarn D:** Light Grey x 1 ball
- Yarn E:** Navy Blue x 1 ball
- Yarn F:** Plum x 1 ball
- Yarn G:** Red x 1 ball
- Yarn H:** Skin Tone x 1 ball
- Yarn I:** Turquoise x 1 ball
- 4 ply sock yarn for hair
- Yarn J:** Almond Brown x 25g
- Yarn K:** Mustang Brown x 25g
- 2.75mm & 3mm hooks
- Soft toy stuffing, pellets, skin tone pop socks
- Four safety eyes
- Four pipe cleaners, 15cm/6in long
- Four mini buttons
- Stitch markers

YARN ALTERNATIVES

You can use any 4ply cotton yarn and 4ply sock yarn to achieve a similar effect. Suggestions include Durable Coral, Schachenmayr Catania,

Phildar Cotton 3, Yarn and Colors Must-Have or Scheepjes Catona for the cotton, and Durable Soqs, Lanagrossa Meilenweit or Lang Yarns Jawoll for the sock yarn.

TENSION

Exact tension is not critical for this design. Work tightly to avoid stuffing showing through.

MEASUREMENTS

Mr Wiseguy: 19cm/7½in long.

My Brother Is An Alien: 25cm/10in long.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Annelies Baes and her son Vic teamed up for the Little Dudes design. They love combining colours, playing with yarn and being creative! View more of Annelies's designs at www.ravelry.com/designers/annelies-baes-vicarno.

SPECIAL STITCHES

Astrakhan stitch (twisted loop stitch): This textured st is worked on htr rows or rnds. Rejoin yarn with sl st around post of first htr,

[5ch, sl st around post of next htr] rep across rnd, end with 5ch, close rnd with sl st around post of first htr. To go to next rnd work 2ch, sl st around post of first htr of next rnd.

PATTERN NOTES

Important: If you are making these for small children, do not use pellets and pipe cleaners, as they are not suitable for children under three years. Omit all other small parts, such as buttons.

For legs, arms, body, head, always work on RS.
Work in continual spirals.

To make invisible colour changes in continuous spiral rnds work last dc st of rnd using yarn A, sl st in next st using yarn A, sl st in next st using yarn B, cont working in dc using yarn B, sl st count as dc.

Use skin tone pop socks to stuff the body. To make a soft toy, only use soft stuffing. For older children also use pellets for a firmer stuffing. Insert sock in body, stuff it, when body is firmly stuffed, make a strong knot in stocking and put it in the neck. Ensure upper part of stocking can be used to stuff head as well.

Arms and legs are crocheted on to body by working dc sts through both arm (or leg) and through body dc sts by inserting hook first in first dc of arm (or leg) and next to next dc st of body (insert hook through 4 lps) yrh, pull through.
Continue for all next sts.



MY BROTHER IS AN ALIEN LEG

Make two FOOT

Using yarn D and 2.75mm hook, make an adjustable ring.

Rnd 1: 5dc in ring – 5dc.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 10dc.

Rnd 3: [4dc, 2dc in next dc] twice – 12dc.

Rnd 4: Dc around.

Rnd 5: 3dc, dc2tog, 2dc, dc2tog, 3dc – 10dc.

Rnd 6: [2dc, dc2tog] twice, 2dc – 8dc.

Stuff foot.

LEG

Change to yarn E and 3mm hook.

Rnd 7: Dc around – 8dc.

Rnds 8–23: Rep Rnd 7.

Foot and leg now measure approximately 10cm/4in.

Do not stuff leg.

Put 8dc sts flat, with 4dc at front and 4dc at back, 1ch, 1dc in next st on front and on back, by inserting hook through 4 lps, rep for next 3 sts.

Cut yarn, fasten off.

Weave in ends.

ARMS

Make two HAND

Using yarn H and 2.75mm hook, make an adjustable ring.

Rnd 1: 5dc in ring – 5dc.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 10dc.

Rnd 3: [3dc, dc2tog] twice – 8dc.

Rnd 4: 3dc, dc2tog, 3dc – 7dc. Stuff hand.

FOREARM

Change to yarn D and 3mm hook.

Rnd 5: Dc around.

Rnds 6–25: Rep Rnd 5.

Hand and arm now measure approximately 11cm/4½in.

Put a pipe cleaner in arm, folding part of pipe cleaner that is too long double.

Close arm with dc join as for leg, but now only work 3dc sts, missing last st.

BODY

Using yarn D and 3mm hook, make an adjustable ring.

Rnd 1: 6dc in ring – 6dc.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 12dc.

Rnd 3: [1dc, 2dc in next dc] six times – 18dc.

Rnd 4: [2dc, 2dc in next dc] six times – 24dc.

Rnd 5: [3dc, 2dc in next dc] six times – 30dc.

Rnd 6: [4dc, 2dc in next dc] six times – 36dc.

Attach legs to body as follows:

Rnd 7: With 5dc sts of legs held to body work 1dc in each of next 5 sts of leg and body, 1dc in each of next 9dc of body, attach second leg with 5dc sts to body,

1dc in each of next 17dc of body.

Rnd 8: Dc around – 36dc.

Rnds 9–20: Rep Rnd 8.

Attach arms to body as follows:

Rnd 21: With 5dc sts of arm held to body, work 1dc in each of next 5 sts of arm and body, 1dc in each of next 12dc of body, attach second arm with 5dc sts to body, 1dc in each of next 13dc of body.

Rnd 22: Dc around – 36dc.

Rnds 23 & 24: Rep Rnd 22.

Work another 1dc in each of next 7dc, to change end of rnd point.

Rnd 25: [4dc, dc2tog] six times – 30dc.

Rnd 26: Dc around.

Sew three small buttons on body.

Rnd 27: [3dc, dc2tog] six times – 24dc.

Rnd 28: Dc around.

Rnd 29: [2dc, dc2tog] six times – 18dc.

Rnd 30: Dc around.

Sew on fourth small button at upper side of body.

Stuff body firmly.

Rnd 31: [1dc, dc2tog] six times – 12dc.

Add more stuffing if necessary.

Change to yarn H, and work head straight on to the body as below.

HEAD

Using yarn H and 3mm hook.

Rnd 1: 1dc blo in every dc around – 12dc blo (rem front lps will be used to make collar later).

Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 24dc.

Rnd 3: [1dc, 2dc in next dc] 12 times – 36dc.

Rnd 4: 7dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc, 2dc in next dc, 15dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc, 2dc in next dc, 8dc – 40dc.

Rnd 5: Dc around.

Rnd 6: 9dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc, 2dc in next dc, 17dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc, 2dc in next dc, 8dc – 44dc.

Rnd 7: Dc around.

Work collar at upper side of body – beg of head, while leaving head to rest.

COLLAR

Work from top of body downwards, using yarn D and 2.75mm hook.

Row 1: (RS) Rejoin yarn with sl st

in flo of centre st of upper last row of body, 1ch, 1dc in each of next 12 flo across, turn – 12dc.

Row 2: (WS) 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 10dc, 2dc in last dc, turn – 14dc.

Row 3: (RS) 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 12dc, 2dc in last dc – 16dc.

Cut yarn at 10cm/4in and fasten off.

Do not weave in yarn ends of collar yet. Use these later to attach collar to vest and body.

Cont with Head using yarn H and 3mm hook.

Rnds 8–16: Rep Rnd 6.

Rnd 17: 14dc, dc2tog, 1dc, dc2tog, 17dc, dc2tog, 1dc, dc2tog, 3dc – 40dc.

Rnd 18: Dc around.

Rnd 19: 13dc, dc2tog, 1dc, dc2tog, 15dc, dc2tog, 1dc, dc2tog, 2dc – 36dc.

Rnd 20: [4dc, dc2tog] six times – 30dc.

Rnd 21: Dc around.

Embroider eyes and eyebrows. Embroider nose and mouth. Partly stuff head.

Rnd 22: [3dc, dc2tog] six times – 24dc.

Rnd 23: [2dc, dc2tog] six times – 18dc.

Rnd 24: [1dc, dc2tog] six times – 12dc.

Stuff head firmly.

Rnd 25: Dc2tog around – 6dc.

Cut yarn, fasten off, sew last 6 sts tog, weave in ends.

HAIR

Using yarn K, cut threads of about 10cm/4in long by wrapping yarn around cardboard and cutting.

Attach threads on to head using the crochet hook.

Cut hair.

TIE

Using yarn B, and 2.75mm hook, 12ch, sl st in second ch from hook, sl st in each of next 9ch, 1ch, 1dc in last ch, work along other side of base ch, working 1ch, sl st in each of next 10ch. Insert hook in first sl st, 9ch (to attach around neck), cut yarn at about 10cm/4in long.

Take a new thread of yarn, leaving 15cm/6in tail, insert hook



in last sl st worked, work 9ch to other side, cut yarn at about 10cm/4in long. Using 15cm/6in long end, wrap it around top of tie several times firmly making tie knot, leaving both 9ch parts unwrapped. Weave in end.

Weave in beginning end.

Attach tie using both 9ch "cords" at both sides of neck, tie tog at back, putting ch under collar.

Using starting and end threads of collar, secure collar and tie with a few invisible sts on body.

VEST BACK

Using yarn F, and 3mm hook, 8ch.

Row 1: 1dc in second ch, 1dc in every next ch, turn – 7dc.

Row 2: 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 5dc, 2dc in last dc, turn – 9dc.

Row 3: 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 7dc, 2dc in last dc, turn – 11dc.

Row 4: 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 9dc, 2dc in last dc, turn – 13dc.

Row 5: 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 11dc, 2dc in last dc, turn – 15dc.

Row 6: 1ch, dc to end, turn.

Row 7: 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 13dc, 2dc in last dc, turn – 17dc.

Row 8: 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 15dc, 2dc in last dc, turn – 19dc.

Rows 19–14: 1ch, dc to end, turn.

Cut yarn and fasten off.

FIRST FRONT

Row 1: 3ch, 1dc in second ch, 1dc in last ch, turn – 2dc.

Row 2: 1ch, 1dc, 2dc in last dc, turn – 3dc.

Row 3: 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 12dc, turn – 4dc.

Row 4: 1ch, 3dc, 2dc in last dc, turn – 5dc.

Row 5: 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 4dc, turn – 6dc.

Rows 6–12: 1ch, dc to end, turn.

Row 13: 1ch, 5dc, 2dc in last dc, turn – 7dc.

Row 14: 1ch, dc to end, turn. Cut yarn and fasten off.

SECOND FRONT

Row 1: 3ch, 1dc in second ch, 1dc in last ch, turn – 2dc.

Row 2: 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 1dc, turn – 3dc.

Row 3: 1ch, 2dc, 2dc in last dc, turn – 4dc.

Row 4: 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 3dc, turn – 5dc.

Row 5: 1ch, 4dc, 2dc in last dc, turn – 6dc.

Rows 6–12: 1ch, dc to end, turn.

Row 13: 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 5dc, turn – 7dc.

Row 14: 1ch, dc to end, turn.

Do not cut yarn.

Sew both slanted shoulders of front parts on to slanted sides of back (first five rows), using starting tails of front parts.

Next work over both front and back parts.

Row 15: (Work over second front part) 1ch, 2dc in first dc, 6dc, 5ch (arm opening), 19dc over back, 5ch (second arm opening), 6dc over first front, 2dc in last dc, turn – 45 sts.

Row 16: 1ch, dc to end, turn.

Row 17: 1ch, dc to end, 6ch (buttonhole), turn work a quarter turn and work upwards along front parts and neck using sl st as foll: sl st in every row along first front part, sl st in each of next 7ch of neck part, sl st in every row downwards along second front part, 6ch (second buttonhole), close rnd with sl st in first st.

Cut yarn and fasten off.

Put on vest, attach both buttonholes to a corresponding button on body.

END

MR WISE GUY LEG Make two

FOOT

Using yarn A and 2.75mm hook, make an adjustable ring.

Rnd 1: 5dc in ring – 5dc.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 10dc.

Rnd 3: Dc around.

Rnd 4: [Dc2tog, 3dc] twice – 8dc.

Rnd 5: Dc2tog, 6dc – 7dc.

Stuff foot.

LEG

Change to yarn I and 3mm hook.

Rnd 6: 7dc – 7dc.

Rnd 7: 2dc in next dc, 6dc – 8dc.

Rnds 8–17: Dc around.

Foot and leg now measure approximately 7.5–8cm/3in long. Do not stuff leg.

Close leg as for legs of My Brother Is An Alien.

ARMS

Make two

Work as for My Brother Is An Alien using yarn G and working a total of 17 rnds.

BODY

Using yarn G and 3mm hook, make an adjustable ring.

Rnd 1: 6dc in ring – 6dc.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 12dc.

Rnd 3: [1dc, 2dc in next dc] six times – 18dc.



Rnd 4: [2dc, 2dc in next dc] six times – 24dc.

Rnd 5: Dc around.

Attach legs to body as follows:

Rnd 6: Attach leg with 3dc next to body, dc2tog in next 2 sts of leg and body, 1dc in next st of leg and body, dc2tog in next 2 sts of leg and body, 1dc in each of next 6dc of body, attach second leg with 3dc sts held to body as for first leg, 2dc in next dc of body, 5dc, 2dc in next dc, 4dc, 2dc in next dc – 27dc.

Rnd 7: 2dc, 2dc in next dc, 3dc, 2dc in next dc, 3dc, 2dc in next dc, 16dc – 30dc.

Rnd 8: Dc around.

Rnds 9–15: Rep Rnd 8.

Attach arms to body as follows:

Rnd 16: 2dc, attach arm with 3dc to body, 11dc of body, attach second arm with 3dc sts to body, 11dc of body – 30dc.

Rnd 17: Dc around.

Embroider the words “Wise Guy” on belly using yarn A.

Rnd 18: [3dc, dc2tog] six times – 24dc.

Rnd 19: Dc around.

Rnd 20: [2dc, dc2tog] six times – 18dc.

Rnd 21: Dc around.

Stuff body firmly.

Rnd 22: [1dc, dc2tog] six times – 12dc.

Add more stuffing if necessary. Change to yarn H and work head straight on to body.

HEAD

Using yarn H and 3mm hook.

Rnd 1: 2dc in each dc around – 24dc.

Rnd 2: [1dc, 2dc in next dc] 12 times – 36dc.

Rnd 3: 7dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc, 2dc in next dc, 15dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc, 2dc in next dc, 8dc – 40dc.

Rnd 4: Dc around.

Rnd 5: 9dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc, 2dc in next dc, 17dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc, 2dc in next dc, 8dc – 44dc.

Rnd 6: Dc around.

Rnds 7–15: Rep Rnd 6.

Rnd 16: 12dc, dc2tog, 1dc, dc2tog, 17dc, dc2tog, 1dc, dc2tog, 5dc – 40dc.

Rnd 17: Dc around.

Rnd 18: 12dc, dc2tog, 1dc, dc2tog, 15dc, dc2tog, 1dc,

dc2tog, 3dc – 36dc.

Rnd 19: Dc around.

Rnd 20: [4dc, dc2tog] six times – 30dc.

Rnd 21: Dc around.

Attach eyes.

Embroider eyes and eyebrows

using yarn K.

Embroider mouth, nose

and freckles.

Partly stuff head.

Rnd 22: [3dc, dc2tog] six times – 24dc.

Rnd 23: [2dc, dc2tog] six times – 18dc.

Rnd 24: [1dc, dc2tog] six times – 12dc.

Stuff head further, firmly.

Rnd 25: Dc2tog six times – 6dc.

Cut yarn, fasten off, sew last 6 sts tog and weave in end.

HAIR

Using yarn J and 3mm hook, make an adjustable ring.

Rnd 1: (RS) 2ch (counts as 1htr throughout), 7htr, sl st in second ch, do not turn – 8htr.

Rnd 2: (RS) (2ch, 1htr) in first htr,

2htr in every htr, sl st in second ch – 16htr.

Rnd 3: 2ch, 2htr in next htr, [1htr, 2htr in next htr] seven times, sl st in second ch – 24htr.

Rnd 4: 2ch, 1htr, 2htr in next htr, [2htr, 2htr in next htr] seven times, sl st in second ch – 32htr.

Rnd 5: 2ch, 2htr, 2htr in next htr, [3htr, 2htr in next htr] seven times, sl st in second ch – 40htr.

Rnd 6: 2ch, 3htr, 2htr in next htr, [4htr, 2htr in next htr] seven times, sl st in second ch – 48htr.

Rnd 7: 2ch, htr around, sl st in second ch – 48htr.

Rnd 8: 2ch, 10htr, 2htr in next htr, [11htr, 2htr in next htr] three times, sl st in second ch – 52htr.

Rnd 9: 2ch, htr around, sl st in second ch – 52htr.

Cut yarn and fasten off.

Turn work with WS facing.

Rejoin yarn with sl st around post of any htr of Rnd 1, work **Astrakhan st** (see *Special Stitches*) in every st of every round across. Cut yarn and fasten off.

FINISHING

Sew hair on to head with invisible sts.

Weave in all ends.

END



Animal Magic Hats

BY TRACEY TODHUNTER



One basic template can be used to make a whole dressing up box full of hats to fire your kids' imagination.



ADD TO THE STASH
Buy these colourful yarns from
www.lovecrochet.com

MATERIALS

- MillaMia Naturally Soft Aran, 100% Merino wool, 50g/80m/87yds
- Yarn A:** Cherry Red 242 x 2 balls
- Yarn B:** Emerald 241 x 2 balls
- Yarn C:** Ochre 240 x 2 balls
- Yarn D:** Slate 200 x 2 balls
- Yarn E:** Ivory 221 x 1 ball
- Paintbox Yarns Cotton DK 100% cotton, 50g/125m/137yds
- Yarn F:** Pure Black 402 x 1 ball
- 3mm & 4.5mm hooks
- Two pairs of safety eyes
- Toy stuffing
- Locking stitch marker

YARN ALTERNATIVES

You can use any aran weight Merino wool to achieve a similar effect. Use any DK weight black cotton yarn for embellishments as specified in pattern.

TENSION

Work 16dc and 18 rounds to measure 10 x 10cm/4 x 4in using 4.5mm hook, or size required to obtain tension.

MEASUREMENTS

Hat will stretch to fit 46–52cm/18–20½in head circumference.

Height: 18cm/7in.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Tracey is a crochet designer specialising in homewares and small accessories. She shares the inspiration behind her designs and free patterns on her website www.grannycrochet.com. You can also find her on Instagram @traceytodhunter.

PATTERN NOTES

Each hat uses the same basic template, with variations. If you prefer, the eyes can be embroidered using black cotton yarn.

Basic hat pattern is worked in spirals, without joining or turning at the end of each round. A stitch marker can be used to mark the last stitch of each round.



BASIC HAT

With aran weight yarn and 4.5mm hook, make 6ch, join with a sl st to make a ring.



Rnd 1: 6dc in ring – 6dc.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 12dc.

Rnd 3: [1dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 18dc.

Rnd 4: [2dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 24dc.

Rnd 5: [3dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 30dc.

Rnd 6: [4dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 36dc.

Rnd 7: [5dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 42dc.

Rnd 8: [6dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 48dc.

Rnd 9: [7dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 54dc.

Rnd 10: [8dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 60dc.

Rnd 11: [9dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 66dc.

Rnd 12: [9dc, dc2tog] six times – 60dc.

Rnds 13–28: 1dc in each dc around.

Rnds 29–32: 1dc blo in each dc around.

Fasten off yarn and weave in ends.

END

LADYBIRD

START Using 4.5mm hook, work basic pattern using colours as follows:

Rnds 1–28: Yarn A.

Rnds 29–32: Yarn D.
Fasten off yarns and weave in ends.

LADYBIRD ANTENNAE

Make two

Using yarn F and 3mm hook, make 6ch, sl st to first ch to form a ring.

Rnd 1: 6dc in ring – 6dc.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 12dc.

Rnds 3 & 4: 1dc in each dc around.

Rnd 5: [1dc, dc2tog] four times – 8dc.

Rnds 6–9: 1dc in each dc around.
Fasten off yarn leaving a long tail.

LADYBIRD SPOTS

Using yarn F and 3mm hook, make 6ch, sl st to first ch to form a ring.

Rnd 1: 6dc in ring – 6dc.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 12dc.

Rnd 3: [1dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 18dc.

Rnd 4: [2dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 24dc.

Fasten off yarn leaving a long tail.

MAKING UP

Sew spots to hat using long tail. Stitch antenna to top of hat using photo as a guide.

END

FROG

START Using yarn B and 4.5mm hook, work Rnds 1–32 of basic hat pattern.



Fasten off yarn and weave in ends.

FROG EYES

Make two

With yarn B and 4.5mm hook, make 6ch, sl st to first ch to form a ring.

Rnd 1: 6dc in ring – 6dc.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 12dc.

Rnd 3: [1dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 18dc.

Rnd 4: [2dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 24dc.

Rnd 5 & 6: 1dc in each dc around.

Rnd 7: [2dc, dc2tog] six times – 18dc.

Rnd 8: [1dc, dc2tog] six times – 12dc.

Fasten off yarn leaving a long tail.

FROG EYE CENTRES

Make two

With yarn E and 4.5mm hook, make 6ch, sl st to first ch to form a ring.

Rnd 1: 6dc in ring – 6dc.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 12dc.

Fasten off yarn leaving a long tail.

MAKING UP

Attach plastic eyes to eye, pushing them through centre ring of eye centre and front of eye piece. Secure washer.

Sew eye centre to frog eye using long tail.

Sew eyes to hat using photo as a guide.



PIRATE

Using 4.5mm hook, work basic pattern using colours as follows:

Rnds 1–12: yarn A.

Rnds 13–16: yarn D.

Rnds 17–20: yarn A.

Rnds 21–24: yarn D.

Rnds 25–28: yarn A.

Rnd 29: With yarn D, 1dc in each dc around, make 21ch, turn and cont in rows.

Row 1: 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch, 1dc in each dc, make 21ch, turn.

Row 2: 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch and in each dc across, turn.

Row 3: 1ch, 1dc in each dc across.

Fasten off yarn and weave in ends. Tie knot in ribbon to secure.

EYE PATCH

Using yarn F and 3mm hook, make 13ch.

Row 1: 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch across, turn – 12dc.

Row 2: 1ch, 1dc in each dc across, turn.

Row 3: 1ch, dc2tog, dc across to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn – 10dc.



Row 4: 1ch, 1dc in each dc across, turn.
Row 5: As Row 3 – 8dc.
Row 6: As Row 4.
Row 7: As Row 3 – 6dc.
Row 8: As Row 4, do not turn.

Edging: Work 1sl st in each st around edge of patch.
 Fasten off yarn leaving a long tail.

Using same hook and yarn make 61ch (or length to fit around child's head).

Row 1: 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch across, turn.
Row 2: 1ch, 1dc in each dc across.
 Fasten off yarn.

MAKING UP

Sew eye strap to patch, weave in any remaining ends.

END

DINOSAUR

Using yarn C and 4.5mm hook, work Rnds 1–28 of basic pattern.
Rnds 29–31: 1dc in each dc around.

NECK

Rnd 32: 1dc in each dc around. Do not turn or cut yarn.

Cont in rows as folls:

Row 1: 1dc in each of next 6dc, turn.
Row 2: 1ch, 1dc in each of next 12dc, turn – 12dc.
 Cont on these 12 sts only.

Row 3: 1ch, dc2tog, dc to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn – 10dc.

Row 4: 1ch, 1dc in each dc across, turn.

Row 5: As Row 3 – 8dc.

Row 6: As Row 4.

Row 7: As Row 3 – 6dc.

Row 8: As Row 4.

Row 9: As Row 3 – 4dc.

Row 10: [Dc2tog] twice – 2dc.

Row 11: Dc2tog.

Fasten off yarn.

EDGING

Join yarn C to any dc on hat brim, 1ch, 1dc in same place as join. Working around hat brim and neck, 1dc in each st and evenly around edge of neck.
 Fasten off yarn.



DINOSAUR SPINES

Make three large & six small

Using yarn C and 4.5mm hook, make 4ch, sl st to first ch to form a ring.

Rnd 1: 4dc in ring – 4dc.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 8dc.

Rnd 3: [3dc, 2dc in next st] twice – 10dc.

Rnd 4: [4dc, 2dc in next st] twice – 12dc.

Size S only

Fasten off yarn, leaving a long tail.

Size L only

Rnd 5: [5dc, 2dc in next st] twice – 14dc.

Rnd 6: [6dc, 2dc in next st] twice – 16dc.

Fasten off yarn, leaving a long tail.

DINOSAUR EYE

Make two

With yarn B and 4.5mm hook, make 6ch, sl st to first ch to form a ring.

Rnd 1: 6dc in ring – 6dc.

Rnd 2: 2dc in each dc around – 12dc.

Cut yarn and change to yarn C.

Rnd 3: [1dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 18dc.

Rnd 4: [2dc, 2dc in next st] six times – 24dc.

Rnd 5: [2dc, dc2tog] six times – 18dc.

Fasten off yarn leaving a long tail.

MAKING UP

Starting at base of neck, sew large spine to tip of neck.

Stitch one small spine to top of hat covering initial centre ring.

Sew remaining spines in a line from top to base, starting with small spines and ending with larger spines. If necessary, make an extra small spine if there is a gap.

Insert plastic eyes at centre of eye.

Sew eyes to sides of hat, using photo as guide, leave small gap to stuff eyes and then close gap.

Weave in remaining ends.

END



Little Mountain Juggling Balls

BY ZOE CURTIS



These tactile little mountains are perfect for small hands to throw and catch.



ADD TO THE STASH

Buy this pure cotton yarn from www.purplesheepyrns.co.uk



MATERIALS

- Drops Paris, 100% cotton, 50g/75m/82yds
- Yarn A:** Off White 51 x 1 ball
- Yarn B:** Light Grey 23 x 1 ball
- Yarn C:** Petrol 48 x 1 ball
- Yarn D:** Powder Pink 58 x 1 ball
- Yarn E:** Mustard 41 x 1 ball
- 4mm hook
- Rice or lentils/dried pulses (see *Pattern Notes*)
- Stitch marker

YARN ALTERNATIVES

You can use any aran weight cotton to achieve a similar effect.

TENSION

Exact tension is not crucial for this design but you do need to create a dense fabric. Try using a 3.5mm hook if you find your tension is too loose.

MEASUREMENTS

Finished tube before seaming is approximately 17.5cm/7in in diameter and 7.5cm/3in high.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Zoe is a crochet designer living in North Devon who loves natural yarns and fibres. Follow her adventures in modern crochet on Instagram [@zoecurtiscrochet](https://www.instagram.com/zoecurtiscrochet).

PATTERN NOTES

Try not to make foundation chain too tight.

To change colour start previous dc as normal, by inserting hook into st, yrh with current yarn, pull through work, yrh with yarn A and pull through both lps on hk. Continue with yarn A.

This project is recommended as a gift for older children. If making it for younger children, you could use toy stuffing instead of rice/lentils to avoid the risk of the contents escaping.

JUGGLING BALL

START With yarn B, 25ch leaving a long tail at start of chain, sl st to join to a rnd.

Rnd 1: 1dc in each foundation ch around, PM to denote start of rnd – 25dc.

Rnds 2–6: Dc around.

Rnd 7: 24dc, change to yarn A on last dc of rnd (see *Pattern Notes*).

Rnd 8–12: Dc around.

Rnd 13: 4dc, sl st to join, do not cut yarn.

FINISHING

Flatten work to a purse shape with RS facing.

Yarn B should be at top with tail at top right hand corner. Either sl st crochet through front and back to join or sew together with a yarn needle and sew in end. To sl st front and back together, insert hook into front and back of parts to be joined, yrh and pull through both front and back and then pull yarn through rem st on hook.

Inside juggling ball there will be loose ends from yarns A and B, tie these together in a double knot.

Turn so opening is at the top, with RS facing, fill juggling ball as much as possible with rice or lentils.

Yarn A will now be at the top. Push opening of juggling ball together starting from where Row 13 ends. The tail of yarn A should be at top right corner. This will create a different angle to the first closure, giving the ball its mountain triangular shape. Either sl st crochet front to back or sew together with a yarn needle, then sew in end.

END



Playroom Cushion

BY TRACEY TODHUNTER



Made in primary colours, this cushion would brighten up any kid's room or playroom.



ADD TO THE STASH
Buy this pure wool yarn from
www.wool4less.co.uk

MATERIALS

- King Cole Merino Blend DK, 100% wool, 50g/104m/115yds
- Yarn A:** Slate Blue 96 x 1 ball
- Yarn B:** Scarlet 09 x 1 ball
- Yarn C:** Gold 55 x 1 ball
- Yarn D:** White 01 x 2 balls
- 4mm hook
- Cushion pad, 40 x 40cm/ 16 x 16in

YARN ALTERNATIVES

Any DK weight wool can be substituted to achieve a similar finish.

TENSION

Exact tension is not critical for this design, but each square must be the same size.

MEASUREMENTS

To fit 40 x 40cm/16 x 16in square cushion pad.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Tracey Todhunter is a knitwear designer and author. Her latest book *200 More Crochet Stitches* is reviewed on page 12. Tracey shares free patterns and news about workshops at www.grannycrochet.com.

PATTERN NOTES

Front and Back of the cushion are made up of 18 motifs in total.

Each motif is made in joined rounds, with right side facing.



CIRCLE IN A SQUARE MOTIF

Make eight

Four using yarns A & B and four using yarns C & A (instructions are using yarns A & B).

With yarn A, make 4ch, join with sl st to form a ring.

Rnd 1: 3ch (counts as 1tr), 11tr in ring, join with sl st to top of 3ch – 12tr.

Rnd 2: 3ch (counts as 1tr), 1tr in same place as join, 2tr in each tr around, join with sl st to top of 3ch – 24tr.

Rnd 3: 1ch (does not count as st), 1dc in each st around, sl st in top of first dc – 24dc.

Fasten off yarn A.

Rnd 4: Join yarn B to any dc, [4ch (counts as 1dtr), 1dtr, 2ch, 2dtr] in same place as join, 1tr,



1htr, 1dc, 1htr, 1tr, [(2dtr, 2ch, 2dtr) in next dc, 1tr, 1htr, 1dc, 1htr, 1tr] three times, sl st in top of 4ch – 36 sts, 4 2ch-sps.

Rnd 5: 1ch (does not count as st), 1dc in each st and 3dc in each 2ch-sp around – 48dc. Fasten off yarn B.

Rnd 6: Join yarn E to any st, 1ch (does not count as st), 1dc in each dc around, sl st in top of first dc – 48 dc. Fasten off yarn E.

SQUARE IN A SQUARE MOTIF

Make ten

Six using yarns B & C, two using yarns A & B and two using yarns C & A (instructions are using yarns B & C).

With yarn B make 4ch, join with sl st to form a ring.

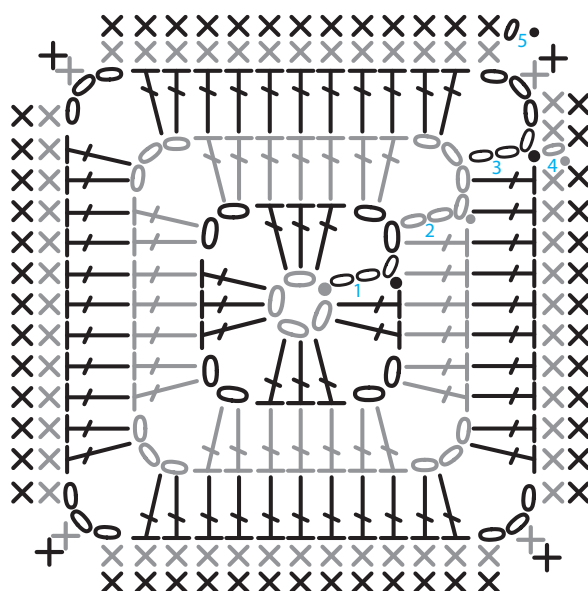
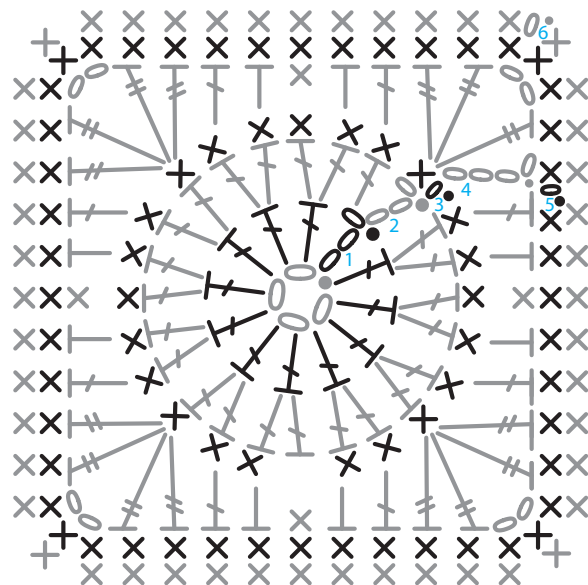
Rnd 1: 5ch (counts as 1tr, 2ch), [3tr in ring, 2ch] three times, 2tr in ring, join with sl st to third of

5ch – 2dc, 4 2ch-sp.

Rnd 2: Sl st in first corner 2ch-sp, 6ch (counts as 1tr, 3ch), 2tr in same 2ch-sp, *1tr in each of next 3 tr, (2tr, 3ch, 2tr) in next 2ch-sp; repeat from * twice, 1tr in each of next 2 tr, 1tr in third of beg 3ch from prev rnd, 1tr in next 2ch-sp, join with sl st to third of 6ch – 28dc, 4 2ch-sps. Fasten off yarn B.

Rnd 3: Join yarn A to any corner 3ch-sp, 6ch (counts as 1tr, 3ch), 2tr in same place, *1tr in each of next 7 tr, [2tr, 3ch, 2tr] in 3ch-sp; repeat from * twice, 1tr in each of next 6 tr along fourth side, 1tr in third of beg 6ch of previous round, 1tr in next 3ch-sp, join with sl st to third of beg 6ch – 44dc, 4 3ch-sps.

Rnd 4: 1ch (does not count as a stitch), 1dc in each st and 1dc in each 3ch-sp around, join with sl st to first dc – 48dc.



Fasten off yarn A.

Rnd 5: Join yarn E to top of any dc, 1ch (does not count as st), 1dc in each dc around, sl st in first dc – 48dc.

Fasten off yarn E.

MAKING UP

Block squares by spraying with tepid water and pinning to a flat surface to ensure all squares are the same size.

For Front, with RS facing and using a dc seam (or backstitch if preferred) join squares in strips of three, using photo as a guide. Join strips together to form a square.

Repeat for Back.

O chain stitch

• slip stitch

X double crochet (dc)

T half treble crochet (htr)

F treble crochet (tr)

dtr double treble crochet (dtr)

With WS facing and working in dc, join front and back around three sides, place cushion pad in cover and close remaining side.

EDGING

With yarn B, make 1dc in each dc around cushion, working one extra dc in the first and last dc of each side to prevent puckering.

END



Kitten Baby Romper

BY DAWN CURRAN



A cute romper is the perfect outfit for playtime! This one is quick to make and includes a fun motif which is easy to make.



ADD TO THE STASH
Buy this super soft yarn from
www.lovecrochet.com

MATERIALS

- MillaMia Naturally Soft Merino, 100% Merino wool, 50g/125m/136yds
- Yarn A:** Plum 162 x 2 (3, 3) balls
- Yarn B:** Putty Grey 121 x 1 ball
- Yarn C:** Fuchsia 143 x 1 ball
- Yarn D:** Ice 125 x 1 ball
- Yarn E:** Pitch Black 100 x 1 ball
(Note: Only small amounts of yarns B–E are required)
- 2.75mm & 3.75mm hooks
- Two buttons, 2cm/¾in
- Three buttons, 1cm/½in

YARN ALTERNATIVES

You can use any similar DK yarn to achieve a similar effect.

TENSION

Work 19htr and 14 rows to measure 10 x 10cm/4 x 4in using 3.75mm hook, or size required to obtain tension.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

Dawn hopes to help makers create items they love while developing their crochet skills. She loves interacting with makers on Instagram @thealmondsnug.

PATTERN NOTES

The romper is constructed from the bottom up, with the opening lower section worked in rows and the main body in rounds, turning at the end of each row or round.

The bib motif is worked on the front piece and then edged. Straps are added to the back. The lower leg openings are edged with a rib st.

The kitten motif uses the intarsia method. A3dc means 3dc in yarn A and so on.

When referring to the chart read all odd (RS) rows from right to left and all even (WS) rows from left to right.

Start new length of yarn for each colour change and keep all strands on WS of work.

To change yarn, work last pull through of st in previous colour in new yarn and continue as normal.



BACK

With 3.75mm hook and yarn A, 22 (24, 26)ch.

Row 1: (RS) 1dc in second ch from hook, 20 (22, 24)dc, turn – 21 (23, 25)dc.

Row 2: (WS) 1ch (does not count as st throughout), 21 (23, 25)dc, turn – 21 (23, 25)dc.

Row 3: (Buttonhole) 1ch, 3 (3, 4)dc, [1ch, miss 1dc, 6 (7, 7)dc] twice, 1ch, miss 1dc, 3 (3, 4)dc, turn – 18 (20, 22)dc, 3 1ch-sps.

Row 4: 1ch, 21 (23, 25)dc, turn.

Size 0–3mths only

Row 5: 3ch, 1htr in third ch from hook (counts as first 2htr), [2htr in next st, miss next st] across to last st, 2htr in last st, turn – 24htr.

Row 6: 3ch, 1htr in third ch from hook (counts as first 2htr), [2htr in next st, miss next st] across to end, turn – 26htr.

Rows 7–10: As Row 6 four more times – 34htr.

Sizes 3–6mths & 6–9mths only

Row 5: 2ch, 1htr in first st, (counts as first 2htr), miss next st, [2htr in next st, miss next st] across to last st, 2htr in last st, turn – (24, 26)htr.

Row 6: 2ch (counts as first st), 1htr in first st, miss next st, [2htr in next st, miss next st] across to end, turn – (24, 26)htr.

Row 7: 3ch, 1htr in third ch from hook (counts as first 2htr), [2htr in next st, miss next st] across to end, turn – (26, 28)htr.

Rep Row 7 - (five, seven) times more – (36, 42)htr.

All sizes

Next Row: 5ch, 1htr in third ch from hook (counts as first 2htr), miss next ch, 2htr in fifth ch, [2htr in next st, miss next st] across to end, turn – 38 (40, 46)htr.

Rep last row three more times – 50 (52, 58)htr.

Fasten off.

FRONT

With 3.75mm hook and yarn A, 22 (24, 26)ch.

Rows 1 & 2: Rep Rows 1 & 2 as for Back.

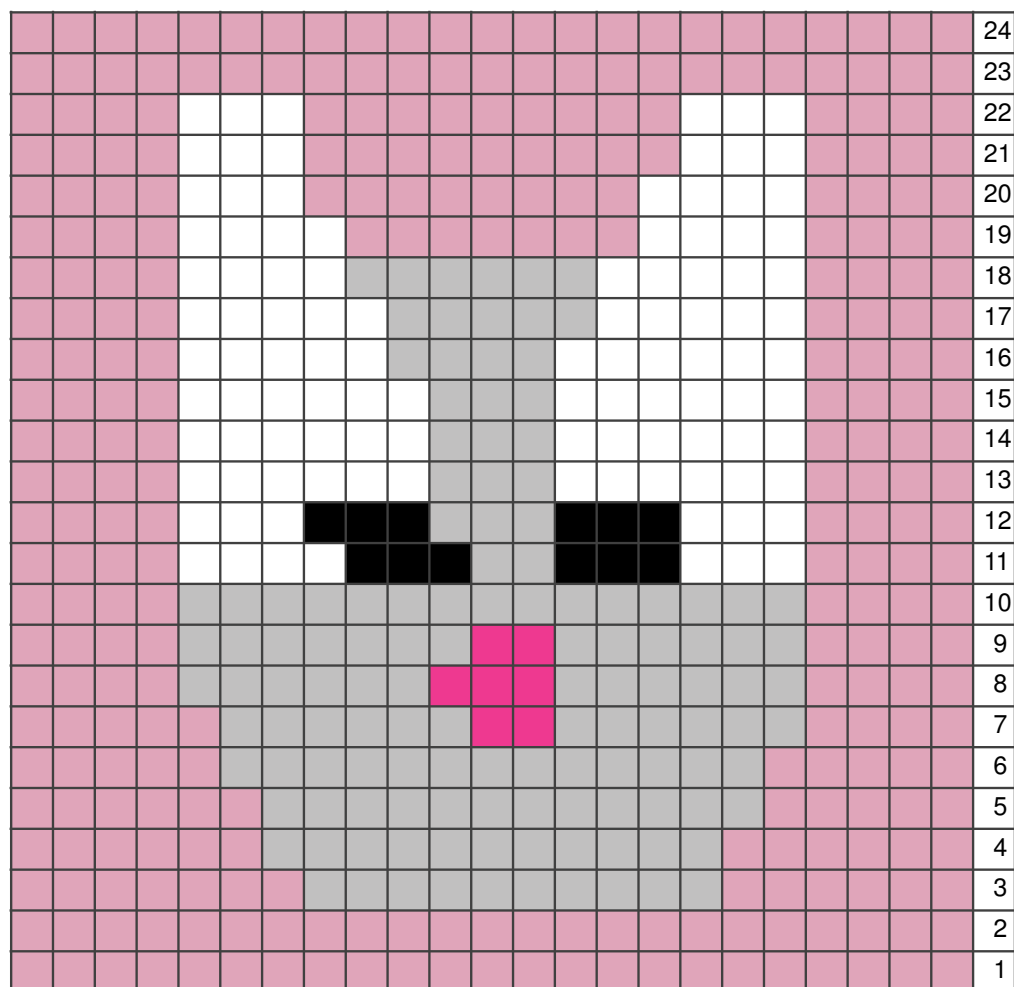
Row 3: As Row 2.

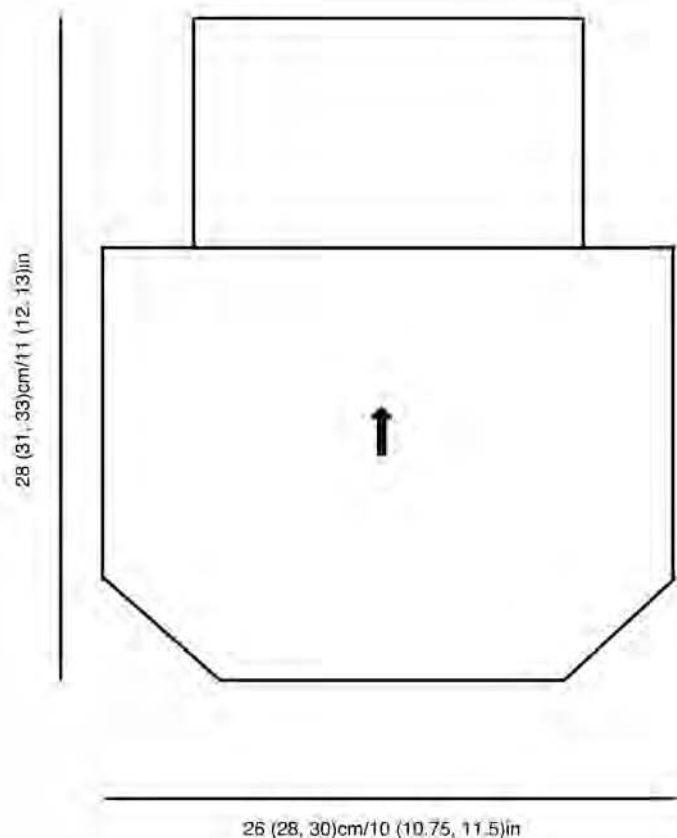
Row 4: 1ch, 2 (1, 1)dc in first st, 1dc in each st to last st, 2(1,1) dc in last st, turn – 23 (23, 25)dc.

Sizes 0–3mths & 3–6mths only

Row 5: 3ch, 1htr in third ch from hook (counts as first 2htr), [2htr in next st, miss next st] rep to last st, 2htr in last st, turn – 26htr.

Row 6: 3ch, 1htr in third ch from





hook (counts as first 2htr), [2htr in next st, miss next st] rep to end, turn – 28htr.

Rep previous row two (four, -) more times – 32 (36, -)htr.

Size 6–9mths only

Row 5: 2ch, 1htr in first st (counts as first 2htr), miss next st, [2htr in next st, miss next st] rep to last st, 2htr in last st, turn – 26htr.

Row 6: 2ch, 1htr in first st (counts as first 2htr), miss next st, [2htr in next st, miss next st] rep to end, turn.

Row 7: 3ch, 1htr in third ch from hook (counts as first 2htr), [2htr in next st, miss next st] rep to end, turn – 28htr.

Rep previous row five more times – 38htr.

All sizes

Next Row: 5ch, 1htr in third ch from hook (counts as first 2htr), miss 1ch, 2htr in next ch, [2htr in next st, miss next st] rep to end, turn – 36 (40, 42)htr.

Rep previous row three more times – 48 (52, 54)htr.

MAIN BODY

Rnd 1: 2ch, 1htr in first st (counts as first 2htr), [miss next st, 2htr in next st] rep to last st, miss

last st, with RS facing continue across front piece, [2htr in next st, miss next st] rep to end, join in top of 2ch at start of rnd, turn – 98 (104, 112)htr.

Rnd 2: 2ch (counts as a htr), 2htr in first st, [miss next st, 2htr in next st] rep to last st, 1htr in last st, join in top of 2ch at start of rnd, turn. Rep Rnds 1 & 2, 14 (16, 18) times, joining and turning at the end of each rnd. Fasten off.

BIB MOTIF

Change to 2.75mm hook, with RS facing rejoin yarn at front in 15th (16th, 18th) htr from the end of previous rnd.

Row 1: 1ch, 2dc in first st, [5dc, 2dc in next st] three times, turn – 23 sts.

Row 2: 1ch, 23dc, turn.

Now begin the colourwork.

Row 3: 1ch, A6dc, B10dc, A7dc, turn.

Row 4: 1ch, A6dc, B11dc, A6dc, turn.

Row 5: 1ch, A5dc, B12dc, A6dc, turn.

Row 6: 1ch, A5dc, B13dc, A5dc, turn.

Row 7: 1ch, A4dc, B6dc, C2dc, B6dc, A5dc, turn.

Row 8: 1ch, A4dc, B6dc, C3dc, B6dc, A4dc, turn.
Row 9: 1ch, A4dc, B6dc, C2dc, B7dc, A4dc, turn.
Row 10: 1ch, A4dc, B15dc, A4dc, turn.
Row 11: 1ch, A4dc, D3dc, E3dc, B2dc, E3dc, D4dc, A4dc, turn.
Row 12: 1ch, A4dc, D3dc, E3dc, B3dc, E3dc, D3dc, A4dc, turn.
Rows 13–15: 1ch, A4dc, D6dc, B3dc, D6dc, A4dc, turn.
Row 16: 1ch, A4dc, D5dc, B4dc, D6dc, A4dc, turn.
Row 17: 1ch, A4dc, D5dc, B5dc, D5dc, A4dc, turn.
Row 18: 1ch, A4dc, D4dc, B6dc, D5dc, A4dc, turn.
Row 19: 1ch, A4dc, D4dc, A7dc, D4dc, A4dc, turn.
Row 20: 1ch, A4dc, D3dc, A8dc, D4dc, A4dc, turn.
Row 21: 1ch, A4dc, D3dc, A9dc, D3dc, A4dc, turn.
Row 22: 1ch, A4dc, D3dc, A9dc, D3dc, A4dc, turn.
 Continue in yarn A only.

Rows 23 & 24: 1ch, 23dc, turn.
 Do not fasten off.

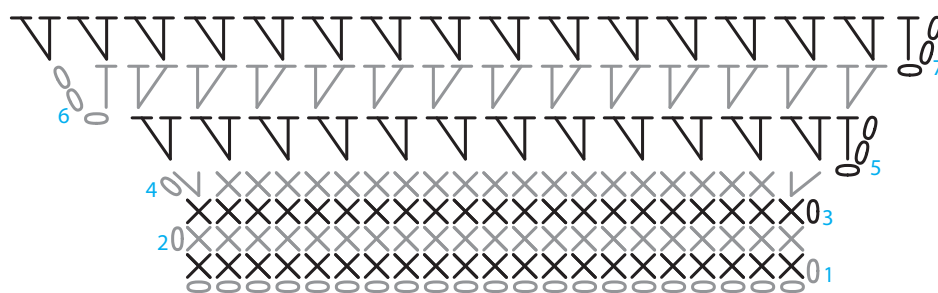
LEFT SIDE OF BIB

Row 1: Change to 3.75mm hook and work along side edge working in alt row ends only 2ch, 1htr in first row end (counts as first 2htr), [1htr in next row end, 2htr in next row end] five times, 1htr in last row end, join with sl st in main body 2htr to the left of last 2dc on Row 1 of bib, sl st in each of next 2htr, turn – 18htr.
Row 2: 16tr, 1ch, miss next st (buttonhole), 1tr, turn.
Row 3: 2ch (counts as first tr), tr2tog, 15tr, join with sl st, 1htr to the left of last sl st of Row 1, sl st in each of next 2htr, turn – 17htr.
Row 4: 15tr, tr2tog, turn – 16htr. Fasten off.

RIGHT SIDE OF BIB

Row 1: Join yarn in main body 2 sts to the right of where you joined for the bib motif and work along left side edge of bib, 2htr in end of Row 2 of bib working in alt row ends only [1htr in next row end, 2htr in next row end] five times, 1htr in last row end, turn – 18htr.

Row 2: 3ch (counts as first tr and buttonhole), miss next st, 16tr, join with sl st, 1htr to the right of



where joined for Row 1, sl st in each of next 2htr, turn.

Row 3: 16tr, tr2tog, turn – 17htr.

Row 4: 2ch (counts as first tr), tr2tog, 14tr, join with sl st, 1htr to the right of last sl st of Row 2, sl st in each of next 2htr, turn – 16htr.

Do not fasten off.

EDGE BIB

Row 1: 2htr in first st, [miss next st, 2htr in next st] seven times, miss next st, continue across the top edge of bib [2htr in next row end] four times, [miss next st, 2htr in next st] 11 times, miss next st, [2htr in next row end] four times, continue down left side of bib, [miss next st, 2htr in next st] eight times, join with sl st, 1htr to the left of last sl st of Row 4 for left side of bib – 70htr. Fasten off.

Using yarn E, a yarn needle and long stitch add whiskers to the kitten's face.

STRAPS

Make two

With yarn A and 3.75mm hook, 7ch.

Row 1: 1htr in third ch from hook, [miss next ch, 2htr in next st] to end, turn – 6htr.

Row 2: 2ch, 1htr in first st (counts as first 2htr), miss next st, [2htr in next st, miss next st] rep to end, turn – 6htr.

Rep last row 38 (40, 44) times.

Join straps to main body 6cm/2¼in from side edge.

EDGE LEG OPENINGS

With yarn A, 3.75mm hook and RS facing join yarn at lower edge of romper

Row 1: 2ch (counts as first tr), 45 (53, 61)tr evenly along row ends, turn – 46 (54, 62)tr.

Row 2: 2ch (counts as first htr),

- O chain stitch
- X double crochet (dc)
- T half treble crochet (htr)

2htr, [1trrb, 1trrf] 20 (24, 28) times, 3htr, turn.
 Rep Row 2 once more. Fasten off.
 Rep edging on opposite side.

FINISHING

Position 2cm/¾in button on RS of both straps in the centre of Row 5 and 1cm/½in buttons on lower front opening opposite buttonholes on back. Firmly attach using a yarn needle and strong thread. Weave in all ends and wet block to correct dimensions.



	0–3mths	3–6mths	6–9mths	
ACTUAL WAIST	52	56	60	cm
	20½	22	23½	in



Puppy Power! Pillow

BY TATSIANA KUPRYIANCHYK



Create an adorable cushion cover for your home and finish it with your pet's name.



ADD TO THE STASH

By these cotton blend yarns from www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

MATERIALS

- Scheepjes Stone Washed, 78% cotton/22% acrylic, 50g/130m/142yds
Yarn A: Obsidian 829 x 3 balls
- Scheepjes River Washed yarn, 78% cotton/22% acrylic, 50g/130m/142yds
Yarn B: Narmada 962 x 1 ball
Yarn C: Mersey 961 x 1 ball
Yarn D: Ural 959 x 1 ball
Yarn E: Rhine 952 x 1 ball
Yarn F: Murray 960 x 1 ball
- 4mm hook
- Yarn needle
- Cushion pad, 50 x 50cm/20 x 20in
- Three wooden buttons, 3cm/1½in

YARN ALTERNATIVES

You can use any light DK yarn to achieve a similar effect.

TENSION

Work 19dc and 20 rows to measure 10 x 10cm/4 x 4in using 4mm hook, or size required to obtain tension.

MEASUREMENTS

Finished cover measures 50 x 50cm/20 x 20in.

DESIGNER BIOGRAPHY

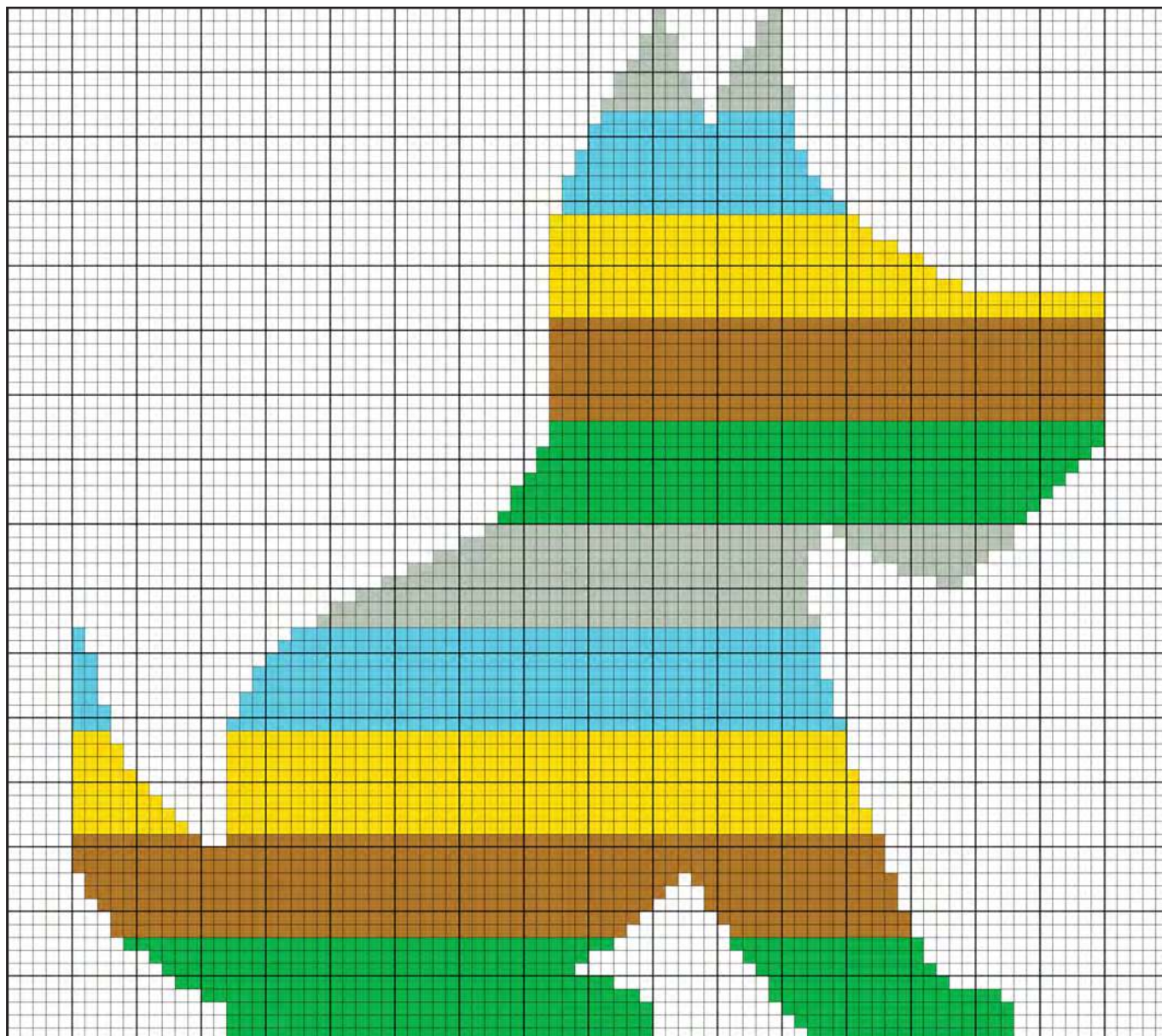
Tatsiana is the designer behind Lilla Björn Crochet. She enjoys playing with colours and creating intricate patterns and spends long hours learning new techniques. Take a look at Tatsiana's work, designs, and free patterns on her blog, www.lillabjorncrochet.com.

PATTERN NOTES

The front panel is worked in tapestry crochet following the pattern chart, with each square representing one dc stitch. Read the chart from bottom upwards, odd rows from right to left and even rows from left to right. Each row begins with yarn A.

Change yarn on the last yarn over when there are still two loops on the hook and place previous yarn on the top of stitches and work with new colour over it.

Tip: Beginning and end of each row are made using yarn A. Drop the contrast colour at the end of the colourwork on the WS and grab it again on the way back. Make sure floats of yarn stay on the WS.



FRONT

With yarn A and 4mm hook, 91ch.

Row 1: 1dc in second ch from the hook, 1dc in each ch to end, turn – 90dc.

Rows 2–8: 1ch (does not count as a st throughout), 90dc, turn – 90dc.

Rows 9–88: Follow chart.

Cut contrasting yarn and cont with yarn A only.

Rows 89–104: 1ch, 90dc, turn.

Row 105: 1ch, 15dc, 3ch, miss 3 sts, 25dc, 4ch, miss 4 sts, 25dc, 3ch, miss 3 sts, 15dc, turn.

Row 106: 1ch, 15dc, 3dc in next 3ch-sp, 25dc, 4dc in next 4ch-sp, 25dc, 3dc in next 3ch-sp, 15dc, turn – 90dc.

Rows 108–110: 1ch, 90dc, turn.

Row 111: 1ch, *miss 2 sts, 5tr in next st, miss 2 sts, sl st in next st; repeat from * to end – 15 “petals”.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BACK

With yarn F and 4mm hook, 91ch.

Row 1: 1dc in second ch from the hook, 1dc in each ch to end, turn – 90dc.

Rows 2–8: 1ch, 1dc in each st to end, turn – 90dc.

Repeat Row 2 for pattern working in stripes as follows:

Eight rows with yarn B.

Eight rows with yarn C.

Eight rows with yarn D.

Eight rows with yarn E.

Eight rows with yarn F.

Eight rows with yarn B.

Eight rows with yarn C.



Eight rows with yarn D.
Eight rows with yarn E.
Seven rows with yarn F.
Six rows with yarn A.
Three rows with yarn E.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

FINISHING

Embroider your pet's name on the cushion front using leftovers of

contrast yarn (optional).
Place front and back with WS facing each other, align the bottom and join them together along three sides (leaving top open) using contrast yarn and slip stitches.
Sew three buttons on the back panel aligning them with the buttonholes.

END

ISSUE 113
on sale
18 APRIL 2019

Inside **crochet** NEXT MONTH

CANDY CRUSH

Spring pastels given a
mouthwatering makeover!

RETRO FUN

Pick 'n' mix your favourite projects
with fun candy-themed crochet

SWEET SHOP SHADES

Gorgeous colourful accessories
to satisfy every sugar addict!



PLUS!
EXCLUSIVE
PATCHWORK
BLANKET PATTERN
BY MILLIE ROSE
& CUTE ALLSORTS
STITCH MARKERS!

**NEVER
MISS AN
ISSUE!**

**TURN TO PAGE 47
TO SUBSCRIBE**

How to Crochet

♥
The Midnight Moonstone Top by Sue Maton (issue 107) is created using small motifs made in a stunning Merino and silk blend yarn.



I have always believed that anyone can learn to crochet, so long as you follow one simple rule: don't try to run before you can chain! The chain is the most simple of stitches and therefore ideal for

practising the all-important hold, which helps create the perfect tension for forming all the following stitches. When my mother taught me to crochet, she followed her grandmother's lead and helped me to hook metre upon metre of chain before I was shown any further stitches. It was a fantastic foundation for learning the more difficult techniques. Once your chains are looking even and feel comfortable to create, then progressing on to the stitches becomes much easier.

If at any point you feel as if you have lost your hold, simply go back to those comforting lengths of chain until your confidence returns. My biggest tip is to remember that this wonderful craft is well known for being relaxing and fun, so find a comfy chair, some free time and just enjoy it!

Happy crocheting...

Claire x

TEACH YOURSELF

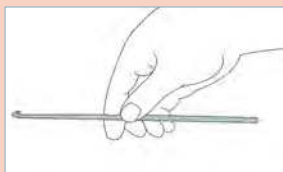
How to hold the work, chains, double & treble crochet, slip stitch

TURN THE PAGE FOR ALL YOU NEED TO GET STARTED

THE BASICS

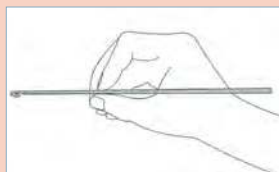
To crochet smoothly and efficiently, you must hold the hook and yarn in a relaxed, comfortable and consistent fashion. This will also ensure that your tension is even and accurate. There are two main ways of holding the hook and two main ways to tension the yarn. You can choose whichever combination feels more natural for you, or a variation on these.

HOLDING THE HOOK



KNIFE GRIP

Hold the hook in your dominant hand as you would a knife.



PENCIL GRIP

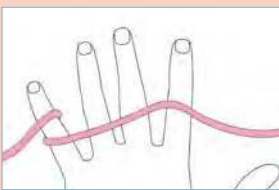
Hold the hook in your dominant hand as you would a pencil.

HOLDING THE YARN



FOREFINGER METHOD

Wrap the ball end of the yarn around the little finger of your opposite hand, under the next two fingers and over the forefinger. Hold the work steady with your middle finger and thumb, then raise your forefinger when working to create tension.



MIDDLE-FINGER METHOD

Wrap the ball end of the yarn around the little finger of your opposite hand and over the other fingers. Hold the work steady with your forefinger and thumb, then raise your middle finger while you are crocheting to create tension.

Working left-handed

To crochet left-handed, simply do the opposite to the right-handed holds. Hold a mirror up to any picture in this guide to see how to work.

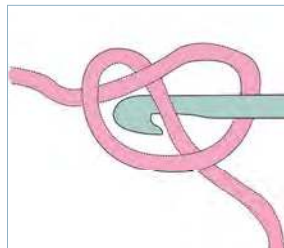
TOPTIP

It doesn't matter if your stitches tend towards being slightly tight or even a little loose; you are aiming for an even tension throughout to achieve a professional finish.

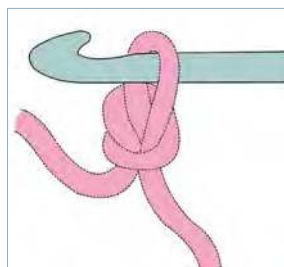
GETTING STARTED

SLIPKNOT

A slipknot creates the first loop on the hook.



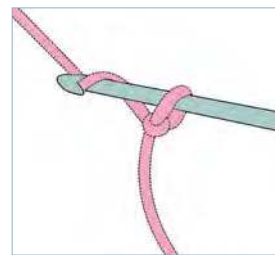
1 Make a loop in the yarn around 10–20cm/4–8in from the end. Insert hook through loop, catch the back strand of yarn and pull it through to the front.



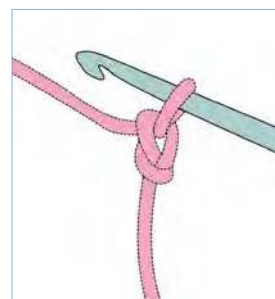
2 Pull the ends of the yarn to secure the knot around the hook, but not too tightly or it will be hard to pull the first loop of chain through.

CHAIN

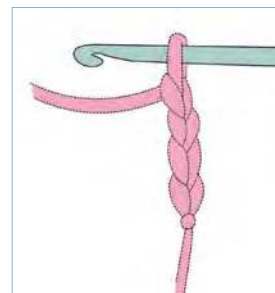
Most crochet projects begin with a length of chain. This is the perfect stitch to practise your hold and tension with.



1 Holding just the hook with point up in your dominant hand, and the yarn in the other, grip the slipknot with the yarn holding hand. Work a yarn round hook (yrh or yoh) by passing the hook in front of the yarn, under and around it.



2 Roll the hook round in your fingers towards you to catch the yarn and pull through loop on hook. One chain made.



3 Ensuring the stitches are even – not too loose or tight – repeat to make a length of chain.

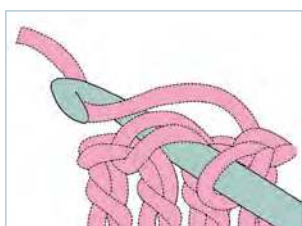
TOPTIP

The action of working stitches causes a constant rolling of the hook in your fingers; hold the hook pointing up when performing the yrh, then roll it round towards you to point down when pulling through the loops so that you don't catch the hook in the stitches.

THE MAIN STITCHES

SLIP STITCH (sl st)

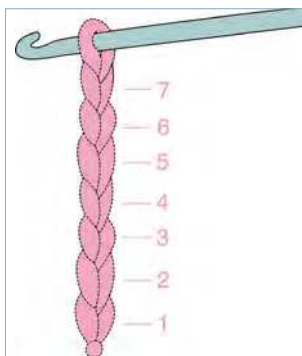
A slip stitch is usually used to join one stitch to another, or to join a stitch to another point. It is generally made by picking up two strands of a stitch but when used all over, you usually only pick up the back loop.



1 Insert hook into st or chain required. Yarn over hook, as when you make a chain. Pull a loop through all stitches/ loops/work on hook to finish slip stitch.

COUNTING A CHAIN

The right side of your chain is the one that looks like a little plait of “v” shapes. Each “v” is a stitch and must be counted. When you are working the chain, you do not count the slipknot, but begin to count your chain when you pull through the first loop. To count the chain afterwards you count the slipknot as the first stitch, but not the loop on the hook, or “working” loop.



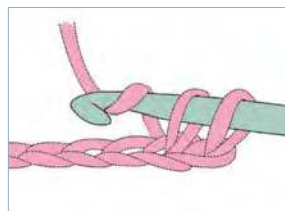
Double crochet stitches are perfect for making amigurumi, while treble crochets are used to create the classic granny square design

♥
This adorable Cupcake Ella amigurumi by Lydia Tresselt (issue 100) uses simple dc stitches for a sweet finish!

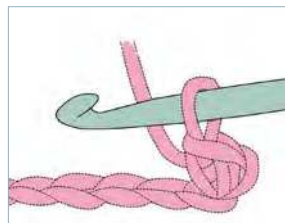


DOUBLE CROCHET (dc)

The smallest stitch, creating a dense fabric perfect for amigurumi.



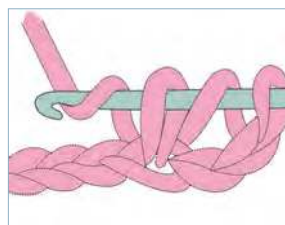
1 Insert hook into chain or stitch, front to back. Yarn over hook and draw through stitch to front, leaving you with two loops on the hook. Yarn round hook.



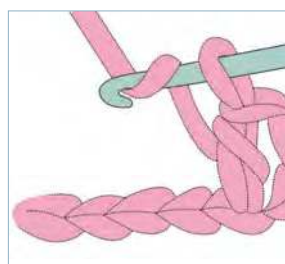
2 Draw through both loops to finish the stitch. Double crochet completed.

HALF TREBLE CROCHET (htr)

Slightly taller than a double crochet stitch, with a softer drape to the resulting fabric.



1 Yarn over hook, insert hook into st from front to back and draw loop through stitch only. This gives you three loops on the hook. Yarn round hook.



2 Draw yarn through three remaining loops on the hook together to complete half treble.

Top crochet websites



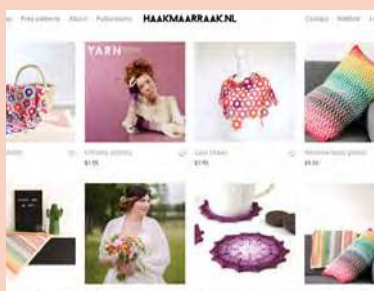
www.thepetalshed.uk

➔ Hattie Risdale's beautiful site is a riot of gorgeous colour combinations, floral mandalas and on-trend homewares. Uplifting, inspiring and fun!



www.lookatwhatimade.net

➔ Dedri Uys sets out to inspire with her colourful website of tutorials, free patterns and crochet-along information.



www.haakmaarraak.nl

➔ Scheepjes blogger Kirsten Ballering's website offers lots of bright homewares inspiration with plenty of free patterns.

www.lovecrochet.com

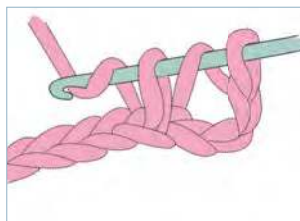
➔ Love Crochet isn't just a great value shop for yarn, hooks and patterns, it also has a thriving Community section where you can share projects and a blog full of tutorials.

www.ravelry.com

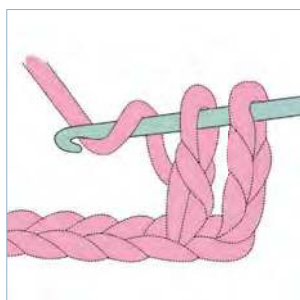
➔ A crochet and knitting community site with almost seven million members, Ravelry is your one-stop site for indie patterns, yarn information, forums and project galleries.

TREBLE CROCHET (tr)

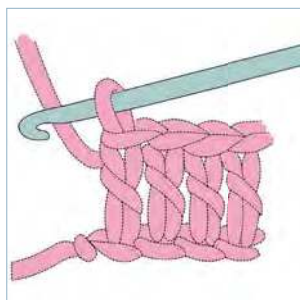
The tallest of the basic stitches, great for using within more complex patterns.



1 Yarn round hook, insert hook into stitch from front to back and draw loop through stitch only. This gives you three loops on the hook. Yarn round hook.



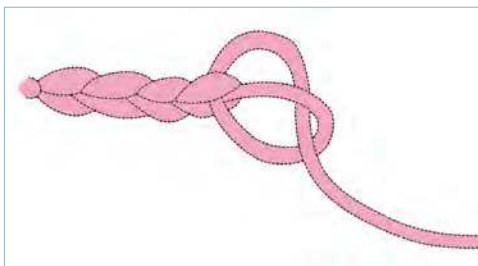
2 Pull loop through two loops. Two loops on hook. Yarn round hook.



3 Pull loop through the remaining two loops to complete treble, repeat to end of row.

FASTEN OFF

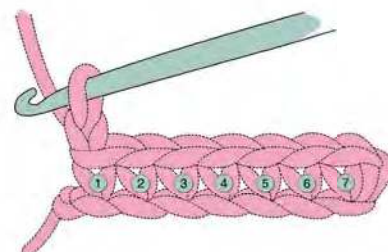
Pull up final loop of last stitch to make it bigger and cut the yarn, leaving enough of an end to weave in. Pull end through loop, and pull up tightly to secure.



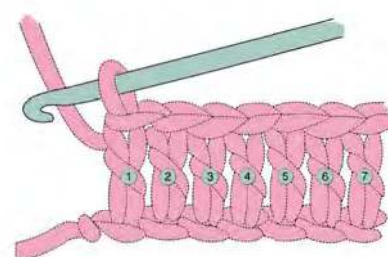
COUNTING STITCHES

Count the post or "stem" of each stitch from the side of your work. Each post counts as one stitch.

Double crochet



Treble crochet



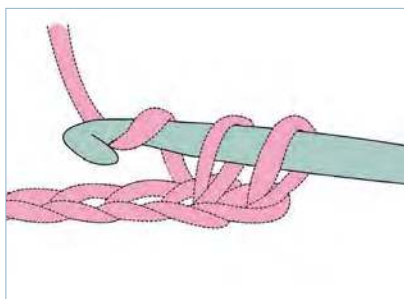
TOP TIP

Try to count your stitches at regular intervals, usually at the end of every, or every other, row and especially after an increase or decrease row. It is best to try to catch any mistakes as quickly as possible, as this will make them much easier to rectify!

USING THE STITCHES

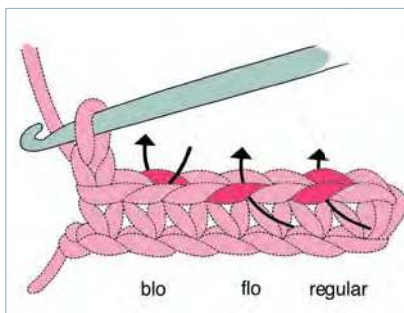
WORKING INTO A CHAIN

When working into a chain, you need to miss out the appropriate number of chain stitches called for with your particular stitch (see the information on turning chains, to the right). Now insert the hook from front to back into the next chain, under the top loop of the chain. Yarn over and draw a loop through to the front of the chain.



WORKING INTO WHICH LOOP?

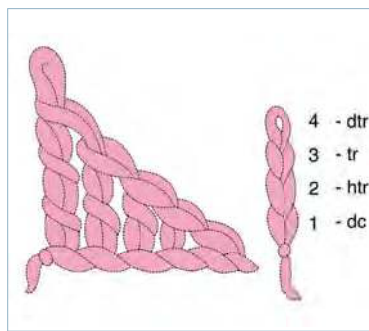
Crochet stitches are always worked through both loops of the next stitch (this looks like a “v” on top of the stitch), unless the pattern tells you otherwise.



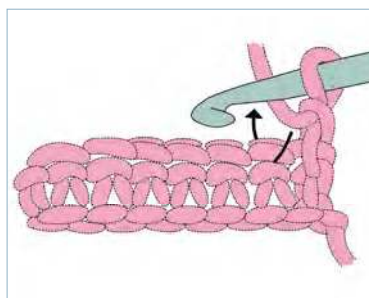
Sometimes a pattern will ask you to work only through one loop of the stitch. To work through the front loop only (flo), insert your hook under the front loop of the next stitch, then bring it out at the centre of the stitch, then complete. To work through the back loop only (blo), insert your hook through the centre of the stitch, then under the back loop to the back, then complete the stitch. Sometimes you are even asked to work in between the stitches. In this case, ignore the top loops of the stitch and insert your hook between the posts of adjoining stitches.

WORKING STRAIGHT

When working straight, you need to turn your work at the end of a row and then work a turning chain (t-ch) to the height of your intended stitch so that you can continue working along the next row. This chain often counts as the first stitch of the row and each type of stitch uses a different number of chain stitches for the turning chain.



With htr and taller stitches, you now miss out the first stitch of the row, then work into every following stitch. This is because the turning chain is tall enough to count as the first stitch itself, so is counted as the first stitch of the row. This also means that you must remember to work the last stitch of a row into the top of the previous row's turning chain.



WORKING INTO A SPACE

Sometimes you are asked to work into a space or a chain space. To do this simply insert your hook into the hole underneath the chain, then complete your stitch normally.

This is similar to working into a ring, as shown on page 94.

The Iced Gem Shawl by Helda Panagary (issue 110) is a pretty montage of motifs, mostly made by working stitches into chain spaces.



Sometimes you are asked to work into a space or chain space.

To do this, simply insert your hook into the hole underneath the chain and complete the stitch normally

KEEPING STRAIGHT EDGES

Knowing which stitch to work into when working straight can be a problem for beginners, because the turning chain has such a role to play. If you don't know which stitch to work into after making your turning chain, simply unravel back to the last stitch from previous row and insert a thread or stitch marker into that stitch. Make your desired turning chain then miss out the stitch with the thread in (except with dc stitches), as your turning chain now counts as the first stitch of the row. Once you have worked across all stitches in the row, you must remember to put a stitch into the top of the previous row's turning chain, as this also counts as a stitch.

Beginner books we recommend



CROCHET WORKSHOP

Erika Knight
(Quadrille, £14.99)

Perfect for the beginner, Erika guides the reader through 20 beautiful projects that quickly increase knowledge and skill level.



BETLES, BUGS AND BUTTERFLIES

Lydia Tresselt
(SewandSo, £16.99)

A lovely introduction to amigurumi crochet, Lydia takes the crocheter into the tiny world of insects all with meticulous instructions.



ROUND AND ROUND THE CROCHET HOOK

Emily Littlefair
(Tuva, £14.95)

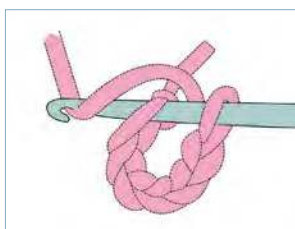
Emily from The Loopy Stitch shares a whole host of colourful in-the-round projects, starting with simple, beginner level ideas.

WORKING IN THE ROUND

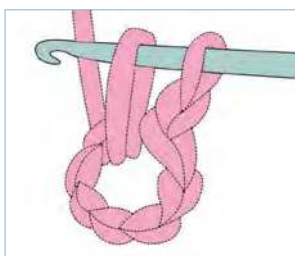
When working in the round, instead of working backwards and forwards along the work, turning at the end of each round, you simply work with the right side facing you at all times and you do not turn. When working in the round, you generally begin one of three ways:

WORKING AROUND A RING

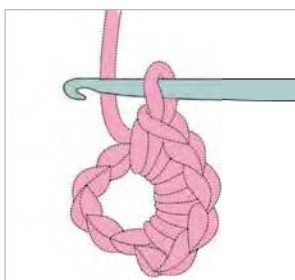
This method of working in the round creates a large hole at the centre of your work. Its size is dependent on the length of chain used.



Make a length of chain as required, then insert your hook into the first chain stitch you made. Yarn round hook.



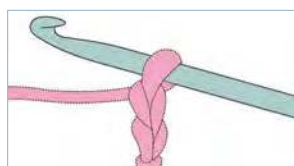
Work a slip stitch to join, creating a ring, and then work your turning chain dependent on which stitch you will be working into the ring. Insert hook into the centre of the ring and work the first stitch into this ring.



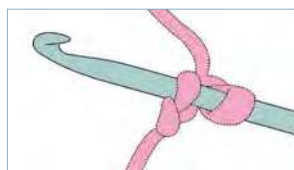
Work required number of stitches into the centre of the ring and join round with a slip stitch. Do not turn, but continue the next row around the last.

WORKING INTO A SHORT CHAIN

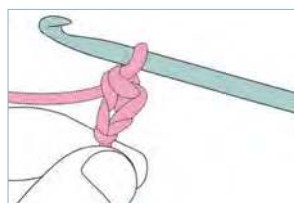
You can create a smaller hole in the centre of your work by working into a chain as short as 2ch long.



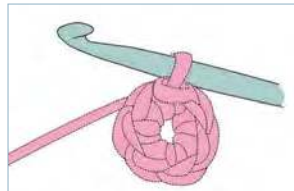
For double crochets, as in this example, work 2ch. For htr you would work 3ch and for trebles, 4ch.



Insert hook into the top loop of the first chain as shown. Yarn round hook.



Complete the first stitch in the chain as shown (illustrations show dc, but can be any stitch).



Now work the required amount of stitches into the same chain.

The sheer amount of stitches worked into one place will cause them to fan out into a round. Now join this round with a slip stitch and continue with the pattern.

ADJUSTABLE RING

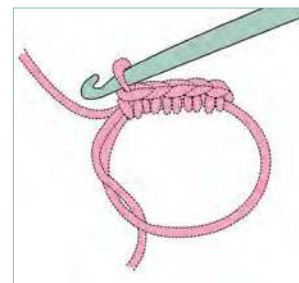
This method is also referred to as the magic loop or ring, as it creates a round with no hole at the centre. Here it is demonstrated with double crochet.



Make a loop in your yarn, at least 15cm/6in from the tail end. Insert hook through the loop from front to back.



Pull yarn though to front of loop and complete the stitch around the loop and the tail end of yarn held double.

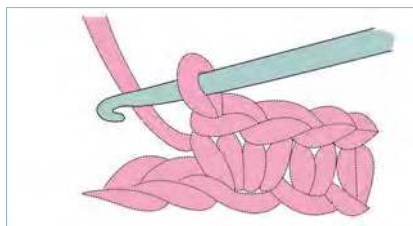


Work all the following stitches into the ring in the same way, over the two strands of yarn in the loop. Once all stitches have been worked, pull the loose tail end of the yarn to close the ring and join the round with a slip stitch.

SHAPING, COLOURWORK & TENSION

Once you've learned simple shaping stitches, you can create almost any garment – and add in different colours as you go with our simple technique. Make sure to check your tension first though, or your finished piece could be completely the wrong size!

INCREASING



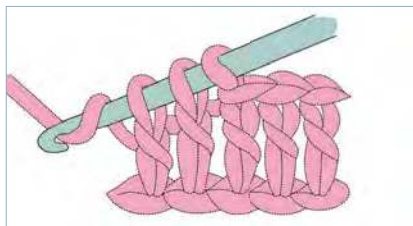
To work an extra stitch, you simply need to work into the same stitch more than once. Work one stitch as normal. Insert hook into same stitch you've just worked and complete another stitch. One stitch increased.

DECREASING

To decrease a stitch, you need to work into two stitches without finishing them, then work them together.



For a double crochet (above), insert hook into next st, yarn over hook and draw a loop through the stitch, but do not finish the double crochet stitch as usual. Insert hook into following st, yarn over hook and draw a loop through the next st, so there are three loops on the hook in total. Yarn over hook and draw the loop through all loops on hook, drawing two stitches together. One stitch decreased.



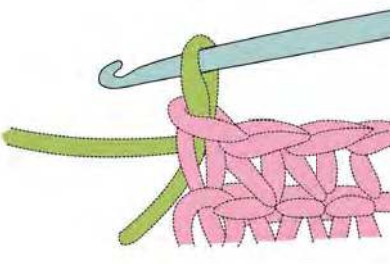
For a treble crochet, work a treble into the next stitch until the last step of the stitch, two loops on hook. Do the same into the following stitch, three loops on hook. Draw through all three loops on hook to draw the two trebles together. One stitch decreased.

JOINING IN A NEW COLOUR

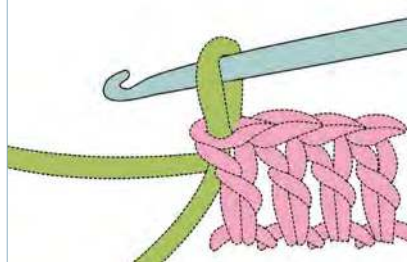
To join in a new colour (or a new ball of the same colour), you can simply fasten off the old yarn and then attach the new colour with a slip stitch into the top of the last stitch made. However, for a neater join, you can also work the colour change as follows:

Work the last stitch in the colour you are using first, up to the final step, so that the stitch is unfinished. Pull the new colour through the loops on your hook, completing the stitch and joining the new colour at the same time.

Working a new colour over double crochet

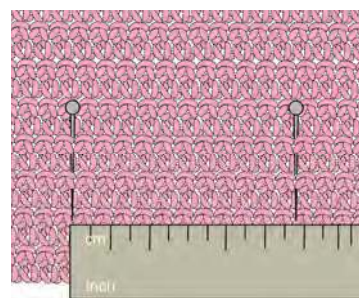


Working a new colour over treble crochet



Once you have joined in the new yarn, you can weave in the ends of both yarns as you go, by holding them on top of your stitches and working round them as you work into the following stitches. Do this for at least 5cm/2in then cut the remaining ends.

TENSION/GAUGE



A tension swatch is used to ensure that you are working at the tension called for in the pattern. It is essential to check this, otherwise your finished garment is likely to be the wrong size! Crochet a small square of just over 10 x 10cm/4 x 4in in the main yarn and stitch used in the pattern, then count and calculate the average amount of stitches per cm.

Chain a few more stitches and work more rows than the tension in the pattern suggests you'll need for this size. Once you have completed the swatch, use a measuring tape or ruler, place some pins at 0 and 10 and take some average measurements – count how many stitches and rows to 10cm at different points over the swatch.

If you find you have more stitches per cm than indicated in the pattern, then your tension is too tight and you need to work more loosely. The best way to do this is to increase the size of hook you're using by a quarter or half millimetre until the tension is as close as you can get it. If there are fewer stitches than required, then you are crocheting too loosely, and you need to decrease the size of hook used in the same way.

TURN THE PAGE FOR CLUSTER STITCHES, TIPS AND A FULL GLOSSARY OF CROCHET ABBREVIATIONS, UK VS US TERMS AND HOOK SIZES

CLUSTERS

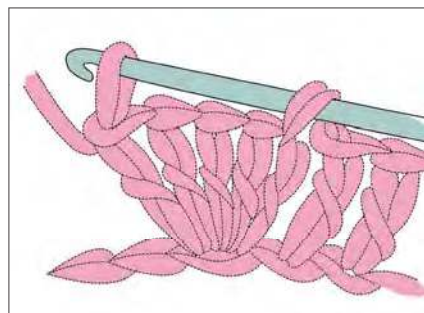
Clusters are groups of stitches worked into the same stitch, but rather than an increase, they still only equate to one stitch overall. Clusters can be confusing to work, so here are the details of some of the main cluster stitches.

BOBBLE

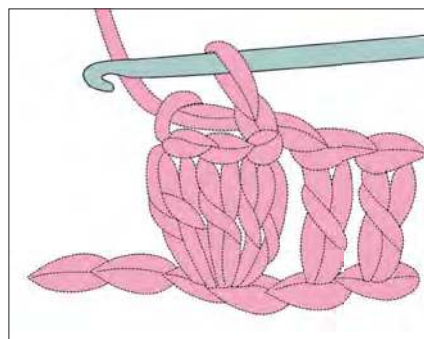
A bobble is a number of stitches (generally trebles), half finished and all worked into the same stitch. Work each stitch until the last step, omitting this final step. Once the desired number of half finished trebles have been completed, you will have one more loop on your hook than you have half finished trebles. Yarn round hook, then pull through all loops on hook to complete the bobble.

POPCORNS

Popcorns are a number of complete stitches worked into one stitch.



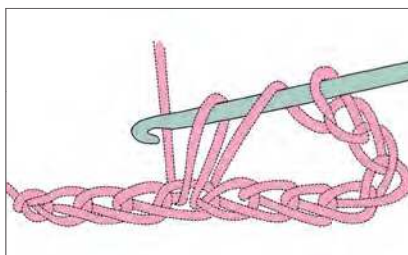
1 Once the sts are completed, remove your hook and insert back into the first stitch worked, then through the final loop.



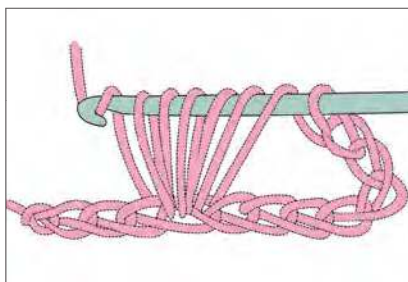
2 Yarn round hook and pull through everything on the hook. Popcorn complete.

PUFFS

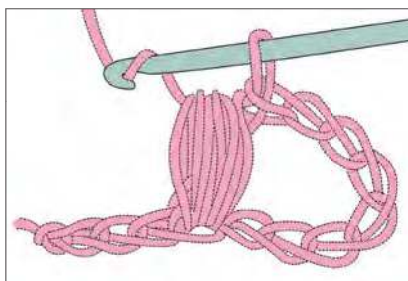
A puff is a number of elongated half trebles worked into the same stitch and then finished together, as follows:



1 Yarn round hook, insert into next stitch, pull a loop through the stitch and then pull it up to the height of all other stitches in the row.



2 Yarn round hook, insert into same stitch, pull a loop through stitch and pull it up to the height of all other stitches in the row. Repeat this step the desired number of times.



3 Yarn round hook and pull through all loops on hook. Puff made.

Choose light-coloured yarn for your first few projects to make sure that you can see all of your stitches easily – this helps prevent mistakes occurring

TIPS AND TRICKS

Working from a pattern

Once you have “cracked the code” and understand the stitches’ abbreviations, a pattern becomes much easier to read. Don’t read a pattern fully before starting it as it may make it seem more complex, but do take a brief look through to check if there any abbreviations you are unfamiliar with. Consult the abbreviations tables opposite before beginning.

Purchase yarn with the same dye lot number on the balls to avoid unwanted colour changes and choose light coloured yarn for your first projects to make sure that you can see your stitches easily – this helps prevent mistakes occurring.

If you are attempting a project with multiple size options, circle or highlight the instructions for the size you are making throughout the pattern to avoid confusion. The smallest size is listed first, then all following ones inside brackets, increasing in size and separated by commas.

Where a pattern has an accompanying chart, use this for reference, as it shows the formation of the stitches as they will be worked and can help with tricky instructions.

Finally, and most importantly, for projects that need to have a good fit, always check your tension by swatching before you begin.

ABBREVIATIONS

Note: *Inside Crochet* uses UK terms throughout

alt · alternate	etr · extended treble	prev · previous
bef · before	est · established	rem · remain(s); remaining
beg · begin(s); beginning	fdc · foundation double crochet	rep(s) · repeat(s)
bet · between	flo · front loop only	rev dc · reverse double crochet
blo · back loop only	foll · follows; following	rnd(s) · round(s)
ch(s) · chain(s)	fttr · foundation treble crochet	RS · right side
ch-sp(s) · chain space(s)	g · gram(s)	rtrf · raised treble front
cl(s) · cluster(s)	gp(s) · group(s)	rtrb · raised treble back
cm · centimetre(s)	hk · hook	sl · slip
cont · continue(s); continuing	htr · half treble crochet	sl st · slip stitch
dc · double crochet	htr2tog · work two htr together	sp(s) · space(s)
dc2tog · work two dc together	inc(s) · increase(s); increasing; increased	st(s) · stitch(es)
dec(s) · decrease(s); decreasing; decreased	in · inch(es)	t-ch(s) · turning chain(s)
dtr · double treble crochet	lp(s) · loop(s)	tog · together
dtr2tog · work two dtr together	m · stitch marker	tr · treble crochet
ea · each	mm · millimetre(s)	trtr · triple treble
ech · extended chain	nc · not closed	tr2tog · work two trebles together
edc · extended double crochet	patt · pattern	WS · wrong side
	pm · place marker	yd(s) · yard(s)
		yoh · yarn over hook
		yrh · yarn round hook

BREAKING THE LANGUAGE BARRIER

UK and US terms have differing meanings which can create difficulty for the crocheter. Here's a handy reference guide to overcome any misunderstandings.

UK TERMS

Chain
Miss
Slip stitch
Double crochet
Half treble crochet
Treble crochet
Double treble crochet
Triple treble crochet
Raised treble back/front

US TERMS

Chain
Skip
Slip stitch
Single crochet
Half double crochet
Double crochet
Treble crochet
Double treble crochet
Back/front post dc



Hook sizes

➔ Hook sizes and their designations vary from country to country. When following the recommendations in a pattern or on a ball band, make sure to check which size convention is being used.

CROCHET HOOK SIZES

Metric (mm)	UK	US
0.60		14
0.75		12
1		11
1.25		7
1.50		6
1.75		5
2	14	
2.25		B/1
2.5	12	
2.75		C/2
3	10	
3.25		D/3
3.5	9	E/4
3.75		F/5
4	8	G/6
4.5	7	7
5	6	H/8
5.5	5	I/9
6	4	J/10
6.5	3	K-/101/2
7	2	
8	0	L/11
9	00	M/13
10	000	N/15
11.5		O
12		P
15		Q
20		S

CHARTS KEY

adjustable ring	fl only	tr	rtrf	tr2tog	3-tr cl
sl st	dc	dtr	rtrb	tr3tog	popcorn
ch	fdc	trtr	dc2tog	puff	linked tr
bl only	htr				

"I LIKE THAT CROCHET HAS NO RULES OF WHAT IT HAS TO BE, AND I THINK THAT'S HOW WE SHOULD VIEW OURSELVES."



Above: Vincent learnt to crochet in 2015 from YouTube videos.

Below: Vincent is inspired by video games, anime and Japanese fashion. He creates cute and kawaii characters, and edgy punk fashion.

VINCENT GREEN-HITE YARN PUNK

We chat to Vincent of Knot Bad crochet about amigurumi, edgy crochet and being true to yourself.

Tell us about your life...

I am 24 years old and living in Portland, Oregon. I have grown up here my entire life and am currently trying to find a new city to try out!

How did you learn to crochet?

After making the decision to stop going to college and leaving my job at the time, I figured crochet was the next step! I spent many hours in front of YouTube one warm August evening in the summer of 2015 and have been hooking ever since!

How did you begin designing crochet?

I started my crochet journey by following other free patterns on the internet, just to learn the basics and how the shapes all worked together. After about four months of that process, I decided I was ready to work without any directions and come up with my own designs! I started by recreating Pokémon designs and other animals/food items and have been slowly working my way into the realm of fashion and accessories.

How would you describe your crochet style?

To me, every person has their own variation of Yarn Punk – mine would be kawaii metal! Finding a balance between cute and metal has been my goal.

What does crochet mean to you?

Crochet to me means going against the linear progression that is so ingrained in my head. I like that crochet has no rules of what it has to be, and I think that's how we should view ourselves; being different and true to yourself shouldn't be shocking, but rather, celebrated.

Could you tell us about "yarn punk"?

Yarn Punk is a new genre I created in the yarn world, and it applies to anyone that expresses themselves through yarn! Being a young male, I have been looked at with many different lenses. It's not just grandmas playing with yarn any more – this new genre allows any race, gender, or age to feel like themselves with their yarn crafts.

What inspires you?

For a lot of my projects, most of my inspiration comes from video games, anime and Japanese



fashion. It really depends on the mindset I'm going into a project with. For my Knot Bad side, things are generally cute and kawaii. When I'm doing something for Yarn Punk, I try to go for more of a metal/ edgy look!

Which other designers do you admire?

I am inspired by countless artists – every single one that I see sparks a desire for me to be better. However, one that comes to mind is Jessica Carey from The Hook Nook (www.thehooknooklife.com). I have had the honour of being able to watch her journey from a fan's perspective but also as her friend. She has helped and motivated me for years now and I really don't think I would be the artist or person I am today without her relentless belief in me.

What are your plans for the future?

I have so many! As Knot Bad, I want to keep pushing the envelope of what art means to me. For Yarn Punk, I want to create something bigger than life, something that others can resonate with. I want people to know they're not alone. I one day hope to have my own storefront to create a space for other Yarn Punks! That's just one, I have a mountain of a list that I'll keep to myself for now

Find Vincent on Instagram @knot.bad, and visit his website to learn more about Yarn Punk and browse his patterns at www.knotbadami.com.



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