

LET'S GET CRAFTING

KNITTING & CROCHET

ISSUE 147

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



TROPICAL
TREE FROG

Knit
Me!

OUR BEST KITS ARE BACK!

GET CRAFTY WITH YOUR
LUCKY DIP PACK



Preemie
projects



Fashion doll



What
will you
make?



CREATE & CELEBRATE!



Speedy
scrunchie



USE ANY
COLOURS!

Ingenius ideas for your bucket list ★ Cosy blanket



Wool

Aran



Flint



Steel



Parsley



Twilight



Mulberry



Raspberry



Cranberry



Gold Spice



Cloud



Oatmeal



Cream

PATTERN: 5960

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Hello!

This issue of Let's Get Crafting is a little bit different to normal, because **each pack is a lucky dip!** We've brought back a host of favourite kits from past issues, from the pretty, pastel Sugarplum to the bold, beautiful Wildflower, and we hope you've enjoyed the surprise of seeing which one is yours.

All the makes in this issue can be made with any of the kits, so don't worry if you don't have the exact colours shown. Let your creativity take over and see what unique projects you can create! Fashion an original outfit for your **Bella Doll** using the pattern on page 8, mix up the colours for your own version of **Jamie the Patchwork Bear** on page 14, and use any combo of shades you like for the **Preemie Hat and Mittens** on page 40. We would love to see the one-of-a-kind items you've created, so be sure to **share them with us** – you'll find details of how at the bottom of the page.

Talking of exciting opportunities, now is the time to make your crafty plans for the coming year! Turn to page 27 where you'll find a great collection of ideas for **Your New Year Bucket List** – the perfect starting point. There's even a cut-out-and-keep form to note down your aspirations so you've got them to hand throughout the year.

From me and the team, we'd like to wish our readers all the best for 2023, and we hope you love this cheery and colourful issue!

Sarah

SARAH NEAL, EDITOR



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THE 2022
AWARD
WINNERS
ON P38



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MEET OUR EXPERTS



SARAH LOUISE READ

Make my cute
dinosaur on page 21



BELLA COCO

Meet me and three more
award winners on page 38



LANA CHOI

Follow my amigurumi
journey on page 66



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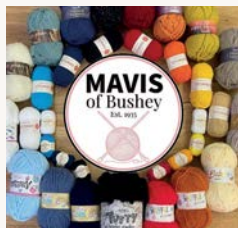


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Jane Allighan

Illustrations
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Fiona Joy Hill

Knitting Pattern
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TROPICAL TREE FROG



P45

Newsflash!

Our round-up of this month's top picks for yarn lovers



Go with the flow

Tailor-made for beginners, the new Knit. Flow. Grow. collection from West Yorkshire Spinners features ten garment, accessory and homeware designs knitted in Retreat Super Chunky. "Each stitch pattern is designed to be relaxing and repetitive, offering you a chance to unwind and find your flow," designer Chloé Elizabeth Birch explains. We particularly love this Lana Longline Cardigan, which costs £3.50 from wyspinners.com



Kit of the month!

Take your crochet back to the Jurassic period with this adorable mini dinosaur amigurumi kit! Each of the eight no-sew patterns inside can be made in less than one hour, and all include a video tutorial, an interactive PDF and all the materials you need! Get yours at ClubCrochet.com/DINOSAUR



Coming soon!

Animal magic

Bring your favourite furry friends to life with this lively new title from Sarah Keen. *Knitted Menagerie* (GMC Publications, £16.99) contains 30 knitting patterns for critters from all walks of life, including colourful sea creatures, woodland wonders, jungle dwellers and more. Look out for it in the new year, and turn to page 45 now for a taster pattern!



Fun of the fair

Knitted up in the new Merry Go Round XL, this super chunky kid's poncho is just the thing for keeping little'uns warm during playtime! Cosy, colourful and machine washable, there's a hooded and unhooded version to make. Patt 9962, RRP: £3.35, visit stylecraft-yarns.co.uk for stockists.

Keep it classic

To celebrate the launch of the brand-new Wool Aran yarn, King Cole has released a collection of patterns for all the family, featuring detailed cable work typical of aran-weight yarns. Explore the collection at kingcole.com



Mindful Knitting by Chloé Elizabeth Birch, published by CICO Books (£14.99)

Calm crafting

Celebrating the wonderful mental health benefits of the craft, Mindful Knitting by Chloé Elizabeth Birch contains 35 soothing projects, all using stitch patterns designed to calm and engage. Split into three chapters, Tranquil Surroundings, Self-Healing, and The Gratification of Giving, you'll find knits for the home, for you and for others in this immersive collection, including a mandala pillow, sundown slippers and a keepsakes holder.



MIX IT UP WITH...

Stuart Hillard

In this issue we are doing something slightly different with our yarn pack... this month it's a lucky dip! I love the thrill of a lucky dip, it reminds me of the sealed brown bags I would occasionally receive as a child from the sweet shop, filled with a delicious but unknown selection of treats. It was always a wonderful opportunity to try something new as well as the familiar and safe. The yarn pack lucky dip is exactly the same – a great opportunity to get some familiar colours into your stash but also possibly some wild cards which might be a little different and a little bit 'out there' for you! Adding a little (or a lot) of a zingy or unexpected colour to a scheme is a little like adding spice, herbs or lemon zest to a dish you're cooking. It might be perfectly lovely without, but with that added extra flavour something simple can be elevated to something really special and memorable!

If you've received our Apricot pack for example, the mix of Lemon Yellow, Pink, Vanilla and Coral is very pleasing, soft and soothing, but add a pop of Top Turquoise and you now have a colour combination that packs a lot more punch. If you have the Gracie kit, the combination of Amazing Red, Lush Pink and Bright Orange is already pretty hot and spicy, but add in some Rich Brown and suddenly the combination is smarter, more sophisticated, richer! Try knitting small swatches, say 30 stitches over 20 or 30 rows, playing with stripes of different widths and proportions or even simple Fair Isle patterns using the colours in different ways. You never know when you are going to discover a new combination that sets your imagination racing. That's the power of a lucky dip!

Stu X



YARN
DK, shades
Pink, Cream,
Green, Orange,
Yellow,
Variegated

PLUS
4mm needles,
stuffing, two
small safety
eyes, tapestry
needle

SIZE
28cm tall

Bella doll

Snug and stylish, this cool character is all set for winter

With her matching cowl and hat, cosy jumper dress and trendy trainers, Bella is the perfect companion for bracing strolls in the park! **NICOLA VALIJI** has even given her a little handbag and a sweet floral detail on the hat for those all-important final touches. Adapt your doll's hair and skin colour and even the clothes using your stash to personalise it!



Perfect for
beginners

BELLA DOLL body and head

Using 4mm
needles and Green
cast on 15 sts

Row 1 (RS): (kfb) in
each st to end.
30 sts

Rows 2-22: beg
with a p (WS) row
work in st st

Row 23: k3,

(k2tog) five times,
k4, (k2tog) five
times, k3. 20 sts

Row 24: p2,
(p2tog) three
times, p4, (p2tog)
three times, p2.
14 sts

Change to
Cream or other
skin colour

Row 25-28: beg
with a k (RS) row
work in st st

Row 29: (kfb) in
each st to end.
28 sts

Rows 30-42: cont
in st st

Change to Yellow
or other hair
colour

Rows 43-46: cont

in st st

Row 47: k2tog to
end. 14 sts

Row 48: p2tog to
end. Seven sts
Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts
and fasten off

shoe and leg

Make two

Using 4mm
needles and
Cream cast
on 21 sts

Rows 1-3: k
Change to Orange

Row 4: k

Row 5: p

Row 6: k7, k2tog,
k3tog, k2tog, k7.
17 sts

Row 7: p

Row 8: k

Row 9: p5, p2tog,
p3tog, p2tog, p5.
13 sts

Row 10: k6, k2tog,
k5. 12 sts

Change to Cream

Rows 11-13: beg
with a p (WS) row
work in st st

Change to Green

Rows 14-16: k

Rows 17-35: beg
with a p (WS) row
work in st st

Cast off

shoe sole

Make two

Using 4mm
needles and
Cream cast on

four sts

Row 1: kfb, k2, kfb.
Six sts

Rows 2-11: k

Row 12: k2tog, k2,
k2tog. Four sts

Row 13: k
Cast off

arm

Make two

Using 4mm
needles and
Cream or other
skin colour cast
on ten sts

Rows 1-21: beg
with a k (RS) row
work in st st

Row 22: (p2tog) to
end. Five sts

Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread

through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off

dress

Using 4mm
needles and Pink
cast on 16 sts

Rows 1-3: k

Change to Orange

Rows 4-34: beg
with a p (WS) row
work in st st

Row 35: cast on 12
sts, k to end. 28 sts

Row 36: cast on 12
sts, p to end.
40 sts

Rows 37-42: beg
with a k (RS) row
work in st st

Row 43: k15, cast
off ten sts, k15.

KNIT INTO FRONT AND BACK OF STITCH (KFB)

This is one of the most commonly used methods of increasing, and is worked into the stitch. It does leave a horizontal strand on the right side of the work, so it's best used close to the edges



Step 1: k into the first stitch on the left-hand needle, but do not slip it off the needle



Step 2: move the right-hand needle around and knit into the back loop of the same stitch



Step 3: drop the stitch from the left-hand needle

Use the
colours in
your kit for
a unique
project



30 sts

Row 44: p15, cast on ten sts, p15.

40 sts

Rows 45-50: beg with a k (RS) row work in st st

Row 51: cast off 12 sts, k to end. 28 sts

Row 52: cast off 12 sts, p to end. 16 sts

Rows 53-83: beg with a k (RS) row work in st st
Change to Pink

Rows 84-86: k
Cast off

cowl

Using 4mm needles and Variegated cast on eight sts
K every row until work meas 20cm
Cast off

hat

Using 4mm needles and Variegated cast on 29 sts

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

Row 2: (p1, k1) to last st, p1

Rows 3-12: beg with a k (RS) row work in st st

Row 13: (k2tog) to last st, k1. 15 sts

Row 14: (p2tog) to last st, p1. Eight sts
Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

flower for hat

Using 4mm needles and Pink cast on six sts

Row 1: k



"I have used blusher on the cheeks for a rosy glow."

NICOLA VALIJI,
DESIGNER

Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight to form a circle and fasten off

bag

Using 4mm needles and Pink cast on ten sts

Rows 1-2: k

Rows 3-21: beg with a p (WS) work in st st

Rows 22-23: k
Cast off

bag strap

Using Pink, wrap two strands around each other to create a 15cm twisted cord

to make up

With Body seam to back, sew cast-on sts of Body tog and sew up row edges on WS, leaving Head open at top. Turn RS out. Secure safety eyes to face. Stuff Body and Head firmly, gather fastened-off end of Head tightly and close gap securely. Cut several 15cm lengths of Yellow. Fold each strand in half and attach to centre top of Head for hair. Use

Pink to embroider mouth and Cream for nose. Use fastened-off yarn tail of Hat to sew row edges to cast-on edge on WS. Secure Hat to Head. Create a leaf by stitching a loop of Green to one side of Flower. Sew Flower to Hat. Use fastened-off yarn tail of each Arm and sew up row edges on WS, turn RS out and stuff. Secure Arms to each side of Body. Sew row edges of each Leg tog on WS with seam at back. Turn RS out and stuff, sew up top of Leg and attach Legs to Body. Place Shoe Sole on bottom of Leg and secure. Use Cream to add laces to Shoes and tie in a bow. Fold Dress in half with RS facing over opening for neck and join side seams and underarms. Turn RS out and place on Doll. Sew short edges of Cowl tog and place on Doll. Fold Bag in half, sew row edges tog, place Strap at top of Bag with 1cm of each end left free to create tassel effect and sew into place. Weave in all ends



SKILL UP!

k3tog: k three sts tog (dec by two sts)

p3tog: p three sts tog (dec by two sts)

Queenie and Ruffles

This exotic pair would look stunning in any combo of colours

Use the colours in your kit for a unique project



PROJECT
OVERLEAF





YARN
DK, shades Red, Teal, Pink, Orange, Sparkly Purple, Brown

PLUS
4mm hook, four 6mm safety eyes, safety stuffing, stitch markers, tapestry needle

SIZE
Queenie: 16cm tall with crest, Ruffles: 12cm tall



Take the next step

BIRD body

Make two (one in each colourway)
Note: worked from the head down
Using 4mm hook and Red (Teal) make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts
Rnds 3-4: 1dc in each st to end
Pm in sixth and 11th sts of Rnd 4 to mark position of eyes
Rnd 5: 1dc in each st to end
Change to Pink (cont in Teal)
Rnds 6-7: 1dc in each st to end
Change to Orange (Red)
Rnd 8: 1dc in each

st to end
Rnd 9: 2dc in next st, 6dc, (2dc in next st) four times, 6dc, 2dc in next st. 24 sts
Rnd 10: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 11: 1dc, 2dc in next st, 6dc, (1dc, 2dc in next st) four times, 6dc, 2dc in next st, 1dc. 30 sts
Insert safety eyes in marked sts from Rnd 4
Change to Sparkly Purple (Orange)
Rnd 12: 1dc in each st to end
Change to Teal (Sparkly Purple)
Rnd 13: 2dc in next st, 1dc, 2dc in next st, 7dc, (2dc, 2dc in next st) three times, 9dc, 2dc in next st, 1dc. 36 sts
Rnd 14: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 15: 2dc in next st, 3dc, 2dc in next st, 27dc, 2dc in next st, 1dc in each st to end. 39 sts
Rnd 16: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 17: 2dc in next st, (1dc, 2dc in next st) twice, 1dc in each st to end. 42 sts
Rnds 18-19: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 20: 14dc, (2dc, dc2tog) three times, (dc2tog, 2dc) three times, 1dc in each st to end. 36 sts
Rnd 21: 14dc, (1dc, dc2tog) three times, (dc2tog, 1dc) three times, 1dc in each st to end. 30 sts
Rnd 22: 14dc, (dc2tog) six times, 1dc in each st to end. 24 sts

Rnd 23: 11dc, (dc2tog) six times, 1dc. 18 sts
Stuff firmly
Rnd 24: (1dc, dc2tog) to end. 12 sts
Rnd 25: (dc2tog) to end. Six sts
Fasten off

leg

Make four
Using 4mm hook and Brown make a magic ring, work 5dc into ring. Five sts
Rnds 1-4: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off



foot

Make four
Using 4mm hook and Brown, make 4ch
Row 1: (beg in second ch from hook, 3dc, 4ch, turn) twice, join with a sl st to first st
Fasten off

beak

Make two
Using 4mm hook and Orange make a magic ring, work 4dc into ring. Four sts
Rnd 1: 1dc in each st to end
Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in

next st) to end. Six sts
Fasten off

right wing

Make two (one in each colour)
Using 4mm hook and Red (Teal) make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring, turn. Six sts
Rnd 1: sl st in next st, (2dc in next st) twice, (1dc, 1ltr) in next st, (1ltr, 1tr) in next st, (1tr, 2dtr) in next st. 11 sts
Fasten off

left wing

Make two (one in each colour)
Using Red (Teal) make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring, turn. Six sts
Rnd 1: 4ch (counts as first dtr), (1dtr, 1tr) in next st, (1tr, 1ltr) in next st, (1ltr, 1dc) in next

These two beautiful birdies by **HANNAH COOPER** are guaranteed to brighten up your day! Their stunning plumage makes them ideal for the colourful yarns in your kit. Since tropical birds come in all manner of glorious hues, even the beak and legs can be in any colour you fancy. Queenie's crest and Ruffles' tail provide the flamboyant finishing touches.

"These birds are so bright and colourful and the perfect addition to any playroom!"

HANNAH COOPER, DESIGNER

st, (2dc in next st) twice, sl st in next st. 11 sts
Fasten off

plume

Make three (one in each size)
Using 4mm hook and Teal make 5ch (8ch, 10ch)

Row 1: beg in second ch from hook, sl st in each st to end
Fasten off

bobble

Make three

Using 4mm hook and Sparkly Purple make a magic ring, work 5dc into ring. Five sts

Rnd 1: (1dc, 2dc in next st) twice, 1dc. Seven sts

Rnd 2: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 3: (1dc, dc2tog) twice, 1dc. Five sts

Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

tail

Using 4mm hook and Sparkly Purple make 10ch

Row 1 (RS): beg in third ch from hook, 1htr in each st to end, turn. Eight sts

Row 2: 2ch (does not count as st throughout), working in FLO 1htr in each st to end, turn

Row 3: 2ch,

working in BLO, 1htr in each st to end, turn

Rows 4-5: rep Rows 2-3

Row 6: 2ch, working in FLO, 1htr, 2htr in next st, 1tr, (1tr, 1dtr) in next st, (1dtr, 1tr) in next st, 1tr, 2htr in next st, 1htr, turn. 12 sts

Row 7: 1ch (does not count as st), working in BLO, 2dc, 2htr, 4tr, 2htr, 2dc
Fasten off

tail frills

Note: each Frill is worked into unworked loops of a Tail row with RS facing

Frill 1: join Teal to first BLO of Row 2, 1ch (does not count as st), 3dc in each st to end. 24 sts

Fasten off

Frill 2: join Red to first FLO of Row 3, 1ch, 3dc in each st to end. 24 sts
Fasten off

Frill 3: join Pink to first BLO of Row 4, 1ch, 3dc in each st to end. 24 sts
Fasten off

Frill 4: join Sparkly Purple to first FLO of Row 5, 1ch, 3dc in each st to end. 24 sts
Fasten off

Frill 5: join Orange

to first BLO of Row 6, 1ch, (3dc in next st) twice, 3htr in next st, (3tr in next st) twice, 3htr in next st, 3dc in next st (twice). 24 sts
Fasten off

Frill 6: join Teal to first FLO of Row 7, 1ch, (3dc in next st) twice, (3htr in next st) twice, (3tr in next st) four times, (3htr in next st)

twice, (3dc in next st) twice. 36 sts
Fasten off

Frill 7: join Red to FLO of end of Tail and work as for Frill 6

to make up

For Queenie's plumes, use yarn tail of each Bobble to attach to a Plume. Sew other end of Plumes to

top of head, with shortest at front. Sew Beak to face. Sew Feet to Legs and Legs to Body. Sew Wings to either side of

Body. Attach Ruffles' Tail to back halfway down Sparkly Purple section of Body. Weave in ends



TOP TIP

IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT ANY STITCH MARKERS TO HAND WHY NOT USE A SCRAP OF YARN OR EVEN A PAPERCLIP



SKILL UP!

Double treble (dtr): Yoh twice, insert hook in st.

Yoh, pull up a loop, four loops on hook. (Yoh, pull through two loops on hook) twice. Yoh, pull through last two loops on hook



YARN
DK, shades
Grey, Navy,
Red, Pink, Teal,
Sparkly Yellow

PLUS
3mm needles,
stuffing,
tapestry
needle, two
safety eyes,
stitch markers
(or scrap yarn)

SIZE
12cm tall



Take the
next step

PATCH- WORK BEAR

Note: keep
colours correct
throughout and
twist yarns tog on
WS to avoid a gap

body

Using 3mm
needles and Grey
cast on four sts,
using Navy cast
on four sts on
same needle.
Eight sts

Row 1 and every

WS row: p

Row 2 (RS): (kfb)
to end. 16 sts

Row 3: p

Row 4: (k1, kfb) to
end. 24 sts

Row 6: (k2, kfb) to
end. 32 sts

Row 8: (k3, kfb) to
end. 40 sts

Row 10: k

Row 11: p

Cut Grey and
Navy, change
to Pink

Row 12: k20 Pink,

join in Red,
k20 Red

Rows 13-21: cont in
st st

Row 22: (k8,
k2tog) to end.
36 sts

Rows 23-25: cont
in st st

Cut Pink and Red,
change to Teal

Row 26: (k7,
k2tog) twice Teal,
join in Sparkly
Yellow, (k7, k2tog)
twice Sparkly
Yellow. 32 sts

Row 27 and all WS

rows: p

Row 28: (k6,
k2tog) to end.
28 sts

Row 30: (k5,
k2tog) to end.
24 sts

Row 32: (k2tog) to
end. 12 sts

Row 34: (k1, kfb) to
end. 18 sts

Row 36: (kfb) to
end. 36 sts

Row 37-41: beg
with a p row work
in st st

Cut Teal and
Sparkly Yellow,
join in Red

Row 42: k18 Red,
join in Navy,
k18 Navy

Row 43-51: cont in
st st

Row 52: (k1, k2tog)

to end. 24 sts

Row 53: p

Row 54: (k2tog) to
end. 12 sts

Row 55: p

Row 56: (k2tog) to
end. Six sts

Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts
and fasten off

muzzle

Using 3mm
needles and Grey
cast on 20 sts

Rows 1-4: beg with
a k (RS) row work
in st st

Row 5: (k2tog, k1)
to last two sts,
k2tog. 13 sts

Row 6: p

Row 7: k1, (k2tog)
to end. Seven sts

Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts
and fasten off

ear

Make two (one in
each colour)

Using 3mm
needles and
Sparkly Yellow
(Pink) cast on
12 sts

Row 1 (RS): k

Rows 2-5: beg
with a k row work
in st st

Row 6: (k2tog) to

end. Six sts
Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts
and fasten off

right leg

Using 3mm
needles and Red
cast on 17 sts

Row 1: k

Row 2: k4, (kfb)
twice, k6, (kfb)
twice, k3. 21 sts

Rows 3-5: k

Note: wind a
second ball of Teal
or use other yarn
tail, colour foll
instruction shade
Change to Teal

Row 6 (RS): k6

Teal, join in
Sparkly Yellow, k10
Sparkly Yellow,
join in another tail

of Teal, k5 Teal

Row 7: p5 Teal, p10
Sparkly Yellow,
p6 Teal

Row 8: k6 Teal, k10
Sparkly Yellow,
k5 Teal

Row 9: as Row 7

Row 10: ([k1,
k2tog] twice) Teal,
([k2tog] twice, k6)
Sparkly Yellow,
(k2tog, k3) Teal.
16 sts

Row 11: p4 Teal, p6,
p2tog Sparkly
Yellow, p2tog, p2
Teal. 14 sts

Row 12: k3 Teal, k7
Sparkly Yellow,
k4 Teal

Row 13: p4 Teal, p7
Sparkly Yellow,
p3 Teal

Rows 14-17: beg
with a k (RS) row,
work in st st

Row 18: (k2, kfb)
Teal, ([k2, kfb]
twice, k1) Sparkly
Yellow, (k1, kfb, k2)
Teal. 18 sts

Row 19: p5 Teal, p9
Sparkly Yellow,
p4 Teal

Row 20: k4 Teal,
k9 Sparkly Yellow,
k5 Teal

Row 21-23: cont in
st st

Pm at each end
of row
Cont keeping

colours correct
and dec within
same shade to
Row 30

Row 24: k2tog, k
to end. 17 sts

Row 25: p2tog, p
to end. 16 sts

Rows 26-29: rep
Rows 24-25. 12 sts

Row 30: k2tog, k8
Sparkly Yellow, k2
Teal. 11 sts

Row 31: p2tog
Teal, p9 Sparkly
Yellow. Ten sts

Cont in Sparkly
Yellow only

Row 32: (k2tog) to
end. Five sts

Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts
and fasten off

left leg

Using 3mm
needles and Grey
cast on 17 sts

Row 1: k

Row 2: k3, (kfb)
twice, k6, (kfb)
twice, k4. 21 sts

Rows 3-5: k

Note: wind a

Jamie the patchwork bear

This vibrant heirloom knit is a sure-fire hit

Ready, teddy, go! Sweet as honey, this little fella designed by **ÁINE MARRIOTT** is anything but grizzly and won't take long to make. Brush up on your colourwork skills to create Jamie's stunning patchwork fur – you'll be using a handy technique known as intarsia. Just make sure you twist the strands together on the wrong side when changing colour for a seamless switch.

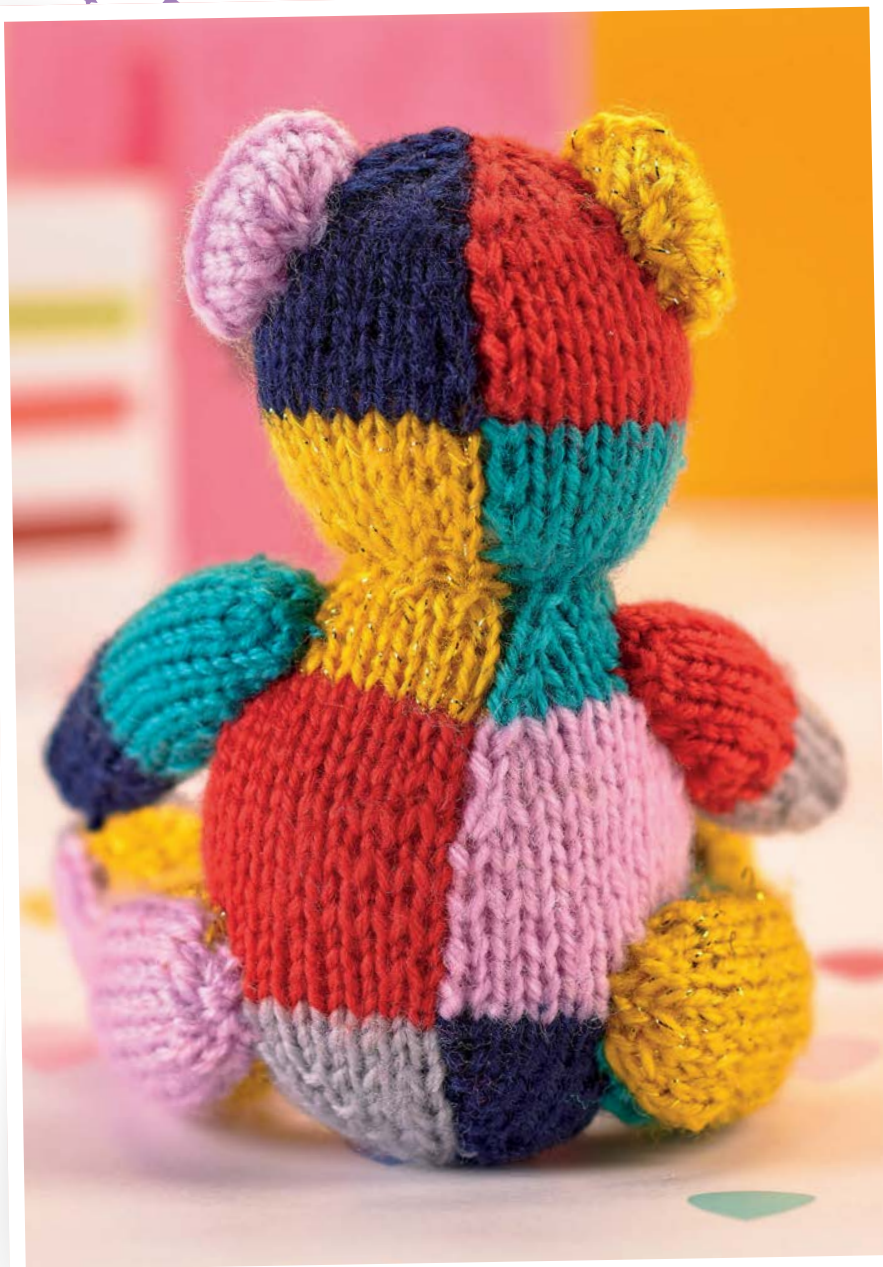


"Mixing up the colours will ensure your bear is unique to you, and this pattern makes a great stash buster to be used again and again!"

ÁINE MARRIOTT, DESIGNER



Use the
colours in
your kit for
a unique
project



second ball of Sparkly Yellow or use other yarn tail, colour foll instruction indicates shade, Change to Sparkly Yellow

Row 6 (RS): k5 Sparkly Yellow, join in Pink, k10 Pink, join in another tail of Sparkly Yellow, k6 Sparkly Yellow
Row 7: p6 Sparkly Yellow, p10 Pink, p5 Sparkly Yellow
Row 8: k5 Sparkly Yellow, k10 Pink, k6 Sparkly Yellow
Row 9: as Row 7

Row 10: (k3, k2tog) Sparkly Yellow, (k6, [k2tog] twice) Pink, ([k2tog] twice, k2) Sparkly Yellow. 16 sts

Row 11: (p2, p2tog) Sparkly Yellow, (p2tog, p6) Pink, p4 Sparkly Yellow. 14 sts

Row 12: p4 Sparkly Yellow, p7 Pink, p3 Sparkly Yellow

Row 13: p3 Sparkly Yellow, p7 Pink, p4 Sparkly Yellow

Rows 14-17: beg with a k (RS) row, work in st st

Row 18: k2, (kfb, k1) Sparkly Yellow,

(k1, [kfb, k2] twice) Pink, (kfb, k2) Sparkly Yellow. 18 sts

Row 19: p4 Sparkly Yellow, p9 Pink, p5 Sparkly Yellow

Row 20: k5 Sparkly Yellow, k9 Pink, k4 Sparkly Yellow

Row 20-23: cont in st st

Pm at each end of row
 Cont keeping colours correct and dec within same shade to Row 30

Row 24: k2tog, k to end. 17 sts

Row 25: p2tog, p to end. 16 sts

Rows 26-29: rep Rows 24-25. 12 sts

Row 30: k2tog Sparkly Yellow, k9 Pink, k1 Sparkly Yellow. 11 sts

Cont in Pink only
Row 31: p2tog, p9. Ten sts

Row 32: (k2tog) to end. Five sts
 Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts and fasten off

arm

Make two (one in each colourway)
 Using 3mm

COMING NEXT ISSUE



IF YOU LOVED THIS PATTERN, DON'T MISS OUR KNITTING VS CROCHET PUPPY IN ISSUE 148, OUT 12TH JANUARY 2023

needles and Teal (Red) cast on four sts

Row 1 (RS): (kfb) to end. Eight sts

Row 2 and every WS row: p

Row 3: kfb, k6, kfb. Ten sts

Row 5: kfb, k8, kfb. 12 sts

Row 7: kfb, k10, kfb. 14 sts

Pm at each end of row

Rows 8-10: beg with a p row work in st st

Row 11: k3, k2tog,

k4, k2tog, k3. 12 sts

Row 12: p

Change to Navy (Grey)

Rows 13-16: beg with a k row work in st st

Row 17: k2, k2tog, k4, k2tog, k2. Ten sts

Rows 18-24: cont in st st

Row 25: (k2tog) to end. Five sts

Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

to make up

Seam row edges of Body and Head leaving a gap. Add safety eyes, stuff well and close gap. Seam row edges of Muzzle, stuff well and secure to Head below eyes. Position row edges of Ears on either side of Head and secure. Seam row edges of Leg from cast-on edge to marker. Oversew cast-on sts with Leg seam to inside of Leg. Stuff well. Position on Body so Bear is in seated position and sew in place. Seam row edges of each Arm from cast off to marker. Stuff well. Sew rem opening to side of Body. Use Sparkly Yellow and Pink to work a few sts on inside of each hand area to create paw pads. Use Pink to embroider a nose on end of Muzzle. Weave in all ends

BONUS PATTERN!



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CROCHET
STITCHES

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Hit the slopes with our sporty penguin, Jack! Despite hailing from snowy Antarctica, even penguins can get a little chilly in the mountains, so **SARAH REED** has given our feathered friend a cosy scarf and warm earmuffs as well as his fabulous skis and poles to ensure he has the best time ever as he goes off piste!



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HERE'S HOW!**

Simply use the camera function on your smartphone to scan this QR code or visit **topcrochetpatterns.com** and search 'Skiing penguin'



You're obsessed with... Christmas!



TREE TOPPER

I wanted to have a small Christmas tree on the table where I sit to plan and crochet my projects and made this Speckled Bird Decoration by Kate McCully to hang on it. I love the colourful folk-art look of it and it was good practice for techniques like colour changes, bobble stitches, and surface embellishments.

Maureen Carter

BAA HUMBUG
Here are my hand-knitted 3D Xmas sheep wrist warmers. The pattern is my own. I wanted to design something sparkly and fun, and I hadn't knitted a Christmas hat (on the sheep) before and was really happy with how it turned out!

Louise Walton



TWINKLE TWINKLE

I wanted to try making a wreath design and liked this one from issue 144. I added some fairy lights by double crocheting along the wire before wrapping it around the wreath. It's in the hall adding some light in the evening. It just might stay there all year!

Val Geary



When the first lockdown started I thought I'd have a go at knitting as my partner had to isolate for three months, and we were unable to see each other so I needed something to occupy my mind. My daughter saw this sloth pattern and asked if I could knit it. Many, many hours later a body appeared, and so on. He now sits in the corner of her bedroom on a piece of bamboo surrounded by artificial leaves.

Hilary Newns

◆ We're so pleased knitting helped you through a difficult time, Hilary.

This seal is the first crochet toy I made. He's from issue 142 and I just started crocheting this year so I'm very pleased with him. Fun fact: my cat Jonathan seems to hate him and always hits him! Right after I took these pictures, Jonathan knocked him off the settee! I think he's telling me he's the only royalty in this house!

Jillian McKechnie

◆ Haha! There's clearly only room for one king in your home, Jillian!



This is my twin sister's doll and gnome from issue 145, and my own version of the carol singer doll. We love your mag and buy it

every month. Me and my twin are 65 years old and always do the toys from the mag each month. Our mum also knits using the kit. We love knitting and crochet – we do it every day!

Marianne Pearson and Sylvia Moore

◆ How lovely to share your hobby with your twin! Fab makes, Marianne and Sylvia!



"My cat seems to hate my seal! I think he's telling me he's the only royalty in this house!"



Which crafty tool could you not live without?

.....

"YouTube, so I can watch people show me how the stitch or pattern should be created.... or to recommend great yarn and patterns."

Kayleigh Skinner



"Graph paper and pencil crayons"

Darlene Krystaf



"A UK to US crochet stitch conversion chart, as I crochet way more UK patterns than American ones!"

Cici Bee



"My book of sticky notes (post-its) to keep my place on patterns and write notes on"

Ann Graham



"My JML magnifying glasses with a light – brilliant when sewing up"

Teresa Barnes



"A good large eye blunt needle"

Liz Walton

Get in TOUCH

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WIN 85 BALLS!

YARN, GLORIOUS YARN

One lucky crafter will be getting their mitts on an enormous bundle of Cygnet Yarns, worth a whopping £190! It contains all the shades pictured here and more, from both the Pure Baby DK and Kiddies Supersoft Chunky ranges. Both yarns are delightfully soft and squishy, easy-care and ideal for making for little ones. Your hooks and needles really are in for a treat – as are any youngsters in your life about to receive a whole new wardrobe!



FOUR TO WIN!

CRAFTY KIDS

Playmonster are offering four lucky readers the chance to win a bundle of three fun kits, which will let the little ones' imaginations run wild! The Empower Flower kit enables kids to create an amazing flower design and personalize it with over 250 words to describe them perfectly. With the Wall Collage kit, youngsters can put their personalities on display by arranging the pictures, letters and inspiring quotes, while unicorn fans will adore the I Love Unicorns kit, which allows kids to create their own rainbow garland, magic necklace, unicorn stuffie, and more.



Worth £350!

TAKE A BREAK

Win a Relaxation Day for two at the award-winning Ragdale Hall Spa! Enjoy a blissful spa day experience with full use of all facilities including six unique pools, a Thermal Spa, fitness classes, plus a delicious three-course lunch and 40-minute treatment. If you're not the lucky winner on this occasion,

Ragdale Hall Spa gift vouchers are the perfect way to give the gift of 'you time', starting at just £25. For more info visit ragdalehall.co.uk or call 01664 433 030.



COSY NIGHT IN!

Click & WIN

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A WINTER'S TALE

What could be better than a new book and luxury chocolates? Five lucky readers will win a Large Chocolate Hamper from Hotel Chocolat worth £42.50 and a copy of Annie Groves' new book, *The Three Sisters of Victory Walk*. A piece of heart-warming historical fiction perfect for winter evenings which tells the story of love, sisterhood and survival at the time of World War Two, this book will keep you hooked until the very last page.

WHO YOU GONNA CALL?

The SUPEReasy is the world's easiest smartphone and we've got one up for grabs courtesy of emporia! The device has been created with a simplified and completely swipe-free user experience without compromising on features or quality. There is an enormous amount of hobby content online that everybody should have access to, however some readers may struggle with using conventional smartphones. By getting online with the SUPEReasy, you can enhance your experience with online tutorials, social media hobby groups, helpful apps and much more.

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Select a giveaway
and enter details

CLOSING DATE: 26TH JANUARY 2023

Darcy the Dinosaur

Use the simplest of crochet stitches to make this prehistoric pal

Use the colours in your kit for a unique project

PROJECT OVERLEAF >>



YARNS

DK, shades
Pink, Cream,
Green, Orange,
Yellow,
Variegated

PLUS

3.75mm hook,
two 10mm
safety eyes,
safety stuffing,
stitch markers,
tapestry
needle, blusher
(optional)

SIZE

Height sitting:
20cm
Height
standing: 26cm



DINOSAUR body

Using 3.75mm
hook and Pink
make a magic ring,
work 6dc into ring.
Six sts

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

Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in
next st) to end.
18 sts

Rnd 3: (2dc, 2dc in
next st) to end.
24 sts

Change to Green
Rnd 4: (3dc, 2dc in
next st) to end.
30 sts

Rnd 5: (4dc, 2dc in
next st) to end.
36 sts

Rnd 6: (5dc, 2dc in
next st) to end.
42 sts

Rnd 7: (6dc, 2dc in
next st) to end.
48 sts

Change to Orange
Rnd 8: (7dc, 2dc in

next st) to end.
54 sts

Rnds 9-11: 1dc in
each st to end
Change to Yellow

Rnds 12-13: 1dc in
each st to end
Rnd 14: (7dc,
dc2tog) to end.
48 sts

Rnd 15: 1dc in each
st to end
Change to Pink

Rnds 16-17: 1dc in
each st to end
Rnd 18: (6dc,
dc2tog) to end.
42 sts

Rnd 19: 1dc in each
st to end
Change to Green

Rnds 20-21: 1dc in
each st to end

each st to end
Rnd 22: (5dc,
dc2tog) to end.
36 sts

Rnd 23: 1dc in each
st to end
Change to Orange

Rnds 24-25: 1dc in
each st to end
Rnd 26: (4dc,
dc2tog) to end.
30 sts

Rnd 27: 1dc in each
st to end
Change to Yellow

Rnd 28: 1dc in each
st to end
Rnd 29: (3dc,
dc2tog) to end.
24 sts

Rnds 30-31: 1dc in
each st to end

Fasten off leaving
a tail

head

Using 3.75mm
hook and Cream
make a magic ring,
work 6dc into ring.
Six sts

Rnds 1-5: work as
Rnds 1-5 of Body.
36 sts

Rnds 6-10: 1dc in
each st to end
Change to Pink

Rnd 11: 15dc, (2dc in
next st) six times,
15dc. 42 sts

Rnd 12: 1dc in each
st to end

Rnd 13: (6dc, 2dc in
next st) to end.

42 sts

Rnd 25: (5dc,
dc2tog) to end.
36 sts

Rnd 26: (4dc,
dc2tog) to end.
30 sts

Change to Pink

Rnd 27: (3dc,
dc2tog) to end.
24 sts

Rnd 28: (2dc,
dc2tog) to end.
18 sts

Rnd 29: (1dc,
dc2tog) to end.
12 sts

Rnd 30: (dc2tog)
to end. Six sts
Fasten off leaving
a tail

arm

Make two

Using 3.75mm
hook and Cream
make a magic ring,
work 6dc into ring.
Six sts

Rnds 1-3: work as
Rnds 1-3 of Body.
24 sts

Rnds 4-5: 1dc in
each st to end

Rnd 6: (2dc,
dc2tog) to end.
18 sts

Rnd 7: 1dc in each
st to end

Rnd 8: (1dc,
dc2tog) to end.
12 sts

Rnd 9: 1dc in each
st to end

Change to Pink
and work in
four-row stripe
sequence of Pink,
Green, Orange
Yellow as folls:

Rnds 10-25: 1dc in
each st to end
Stuff

Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts
and fasten off

leg

Make two

Using 3.75mm
hook and Cream
make a magic ring,
work 6dc into ring.



Dinosaurs aren't usually known for being cute, but Darcy clearly didn't get the memo! This cuddlesome critter by **SARAH LOUISE READ** has movable arms and legs – see our great advice panel for tips on how to achieve this. Any combination of colours will work for Darcy, but try and reserve your lightest shade for the nose, hands and feet.

GREAT ADVICE

To make the limbs jointed so that they move back and forth, use a long tail of yarn threaded onto a tapestry needle and pass it back and forth through the body several times, going in and out of the same hole and catching the same few stitches inside the inner limbs each time to attach them



Six sts

Rnds 1-4: work as Rnds 1-4 of Body. 30 sts

Rnds 5-6: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 7: (3dc, dc2tog) to end. 24 sts

Rnd 8: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 9: (2dc, dc2tog) to end. 18 sts

Rnd 10: (4dc, dc2tog) to end. 15 sts

Rnd 11: 1dc in each st to end
Change to Pink and work in four-row stripe sequence of Pink, Green, Orange Yellow as folls:

Rnds 12-27: 1dc in each st to end
Stuff

Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts and fasten off

tail

Using 3.75mm hook and Cream make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring.



Change to Yellow
Rnds 22-25: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off leaving a tail

spike

Make six

Using 3.75mm hook and Variegated make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring.

Six sts

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

Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts

Rnds 3-7: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off leaving a tail

to make up

Stuff Head, Body and Tail. Position Head and sew onto Body. Attach Arms and Legs by working through Body and attaching limbs on either side (see Great Advice). Sew Tail onto back of Body. Position and sew Spikes in a line along Head, back and Tail. Using a small amount of Cream, embroider highlights at side of eyes and nostrils using pictures as a guide. Add blusher to cheeks. Weave in all ends

Six sts

Rnd 1: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end.

Nine sts

Rnd 3: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 4: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end.

12 sts

Rnd 5: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 6: (3dc, 2dc in

next st) to end.

15 sts

Rnd 7: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 8: (4dc, 2dc in next st) to end.

18 sts

Rnd 9: 1dc in each st to end

Change to Pink

Rnd 10: (5dc, 2dc in next st) to end.

21 sts

Rnd 11: 1dc in each

st to end

Rnd 12: (6dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 24 sts

Rnd 13: 1dc in each st to end
Change to Green

Rnd 14: (7dc, 2dc in next st) to end.

27 sts

Rnd 15: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 16: (8dc, 2dc in next st) to end.

30 sts

Rnd 17: 1dc in each st to end

Change to Orange

Rnd 18: (9dc, 2dc in next st) to end.

33 sts

Rnd 19: 1dc in each st to end

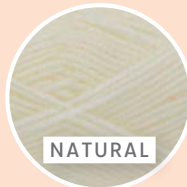
Rnd 20: (10dc, 2dc in next st) to end.

36 sts

Rnd 21: 1dc in each st to end

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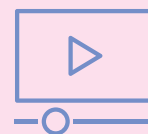
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YOUR NEW YEAR *Bucket List*

Where will 2023 take you?

Hip hip, hooray! It's the start of a brand-new year, and that means 365 golden days of possibility, opportunity and discovery. We crafters like a challenge, and we just know you'll want to get your hooks and needles stuck into some new projects, techniques and activities this year, so we've pulled together some great ideas and inspiration for a craftier 2023. Have a browse and then jot down your aspirations in our cut-out-and-keep Personal Goals panel on page 29 to stick up in your craft corner to help you navigate 2023. Happy New Year, crafters!



@applecrochets on Instagram

Make a temperature blanket

A temperature blanket is a year-long project where you knit or crochet a row every day using a colour that relates to the climate that day. For example, you might use pale blue for temperatures between 0-5°C and orange for days that hit the early 20s. By this time next year, you'll have a beautiful, unique blanket that also acts as a record of your whole year!



Craft in public

If you've been a home-based crafter up until now, we challenge you to take your yarn out into the open. Knit on the bus or crochet on a park bench for all the world to see – you never know, it might spark conversation with a fellow crafter passing by and result in a new friendship!

Stylecraft Head Over Heels Walking in Nature, Long Socks, free from stylecraft-yarns.co.uk



Take a hike in homemade socks

Who doesn't love a wander through nature? We certainly do! Put a crafty twist on your new-year rambles by knitting up your very own walking socks to wear on your adventures. It's super satisfying to be able to put finished projects to good use right away!

Knit to quit

Maybe you aspire to give up smoking, snack less or spend less time on your phone – whatever it is that you want to leave behind in 2022, use your superpower to help you! Whenever you feel a craving coming on, knit a row, crochet a round – we promise you it'll make your New Year's resolutions easier to achieve.

Become a Let's Knit Together member to access the Mystery Blanket Knitalong, at letsknit.co.uk



Learn new skills

Let 2023 be the year that you take on cables, master lace, discover bubble stitch, and more! You'll learn a new stitch with every square of this blanket from Let's Knit Together, and each technique is accompanied by a handy how-to video from the lovely Rosie Fletcher to show you the way. New year, new skills!





Host a stash swap

Are you even a crafter if you don't have an endless supply of yarn, most of which you've forgotten you had? Kick off 2023 with a fresh new stash – at no extra cost – by having a stash swap! Yarn Exchange UK is a great Facebook group you can join to start trading with other crafters!



Make time for making up

We've lost count of how many crafters have told us about their dislike for weaving in ends. This new year, why not commit to weaving them in as you go – it'll save you so much time at the end and let you enjoy your finished projects sooner!



Design your own pattern

If you're an experienced crafter, make 2023 the year you take the leap and become a designer! You could try making your own toys, or even garments using clothes you already own as a reference point. If you're not quite ready to write one from scratch, why not choose a pattern you like, grab some graph paper and make up your own colour chart to use on it – cushion covers are a great project for this.



Share your work

Don't be shy! Your fellow crafters don't bite – promise! – and we'd love to see what you've been making. If you've not done so before, make 2023 the year you share your projects with the world on our social media pages. Tag us in your photos on Instagram @knitcrochet and post on our Facebook page LGC Knit & Crochet.



Do something that scares you

For many knitters, the idea of cutting their work with a pair of scissors is enough to have them breaking out into a cold sweat. If that's you, then we challenge you to try steeking this year! Steeking is a technique that allows you to knit in the round without interruptions before cutting your work to create openings for things like sleeves. Learn all about it by signing up for a workshop, such as the 'Le Steek, C'est Chic – All About Steeking' live online class at obby.co.uk

My personal goals

Every crafter is unique, and we all have different ambitions and aims. Jot down your top three aspirations for the new year below, cut it out and stick it up in your craft corner to motivate you! You could pick from our suggestions here, or come up with your own.

My goals

1.

2.

3.

YOU WILL NEED



YARN

Stylecraft Batik DK, shades (A) 1900 Cream, seven 50g balls for Blanket, three 50g balls for Cushion, (B) 1902 Old Gold, (C) 1903 Coral, (D) 1904 Cherry, (E) 1906 Heather, (F) 1908 Sage, (G) 1910 Pistachio, (H) 1916 Rose, (I) 1918 Mint, (J) Stylecraft Highland Heathers DK, shade 3744 Cairn, one 50g ball of each for Blanket, one 50g ball of each for Cushion

PLUS

3.5mm and 4mm hooks, stitch markers, tapestry needle, 45cm square cushion pad

SIZE

Blanket approx: 115cm square
Cushion approx: 45cm square

TENSION SQUARE

Blanket Solid Block Motif meas 27 cm square using 4mm hook.
Cushion Motif measures 9 cm square using 3.5mm hook



A bit more advanced

Farmhouse favourites

This pretty pair by Sandra Paul are inspired by patchwork quilts

Reminiscent of farmhouse-style quilted 'nine patch' blankets, this crocheted version uses Stylecraft Batik yarn to recreate the vintage look of traditional feedback fabrics, and textured stitches to mimic sewn quilted lines that run diagonal to the patchwork. Patches can be joined as you go for a quicker finish – see our Great Advice panel for a handy how-to. There's a cushion option for those looking for a smaller project.

BLANKET solid block

Make eight

Using 4mm hook and yarn A, make 4ch, sl st into first ch to form a loop, then work as follows:

Rnd 1: 5ch (counts as first tr and 2ch), * 3tr, 2ch, rep from * twice more, 2tr, join with a sl st in third of 5ch

Rnd 2: 3ch (counts as first tr), FPdtr around same st, * 2ch, miss corner-sp, FPdtr around next tr, working behind FPdtr just made: 1tr in same st, (1ch, 1tr in next st) twice, FPdtr around same st; rep from * twice more, 2ch, miss corner-sp, FPdtr around next tr, working behind FPdtr just made, 1tr into same st, 1ch, 1tr in next st, 1ch, join with sl st in third of 3ch

Rnd 3: sl st in FPdtr, 3ch (counts as first tr), FPdtr around same st, * 2ch, miss corner-

sp, FPdtr around next tr, working behind FPdtr just made: 2tr in same st, 1tr in each st or ch-sp up to next FPdtr, 2tr in FPdtr, FPdtr around same st; rep from * twice more, 2ch, miss corner-sp, FPdtr around next tr, working behind FPdtr just made: 2tr in same st, 1tr in each st or ch-sp up to beg ch, 1tr in same place as beg ch, join with sl st in third of 3ch

Rnd 4: sl st in FPdtr, 3ch (counts as first tr), FPdtr around same st, * 2ch, miss corner-sp, FPdtr around next tr, working behind FPdtr just made: 1tr in same st, 1ch, 1tr in next st, (1ch, miss next st, 1tr in next st) up to next FPdtr, 1ch, 1tr in FPdtr, FPdtr around same st; rep from * twice more, 2ch, miss corner-sp, FPdtr around next tr, working behind

FPdtr just made: 1tr in same st, 1ch, 1tr in next st, (1ch, miss next st, 1tr in next st) up to next FPdtr, 1ch, join with sl st in third of 3ch
Rnds 5-12: rep Rnds 3-4 four more times
Fasten off

nine-patch block

Make eight

Note: Each Nine-Patch Block is constructed from four Corner Patches, four Side Patches and one Centre Patch and has an individual colour patt. Refer to Layout Diagram for Blanket on page 32 to see which contrast (CC) yarn to use for each motif and how to arrange them to make up each Nine-Patch Block

corner patch

Using 4mm hook and CC, make 4ch, sl st into first ch to form a loop, then work as follows:

Rnd 1: 5ch (counts as first tr and 2ch), * 3tr, 2ch, rep from * twice more, 2tr, join with a sl st in 3rd of 5ch

Rnd 2: sl st in corner-sp, 5ch (counts as first tr and 2ch), 2tr in same corner-sp, * 1ch, miss next st, 1tr in next st, 1ch, 1tr in next st, FPdtr around same st, 2ch, miss corner-sp, FPdtr around next tr, working behind FPdtr just made: 1tr in same st, 1ch, 1tr in next st, 1ch, miss next st, * (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) in corner-sp; rep from * to * once, 1tr in beg corner-

sp, join with sl st in 3rd of 5ch

Rnd 3: sl st in corner-sp, 5ch (counts as first tr and 2ch), 2tr in same corner-sp, * 1tr in each of next two sts, (1tr in next ch-sp, 1tr in next st) twice, 2tr in next tr, FPdtr around same st, 2ch, miss corner-sp, FPdtr around next tr, working behind FPdtr just made: 2tr in same st, (1tr in next st, 1tr in next ch-sp) twice, 1tr in each of next two sts, * (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) in corner-sp; rep from * to * once, 1tr in beg corner-



SKILL UP!

FPdtr (front post double treble):

(yoh) twice, insert hook from front to back to front around post of tr as indicated in patt, yoh, pull through loop, (yoh, pull through two loops on hook) three times

rdc (reverse double crochet): 1ch, working from left to right miss one st, insert hook in next st from front to back, yoh, pull through loop, yoh, pull through two loops on hook



GREAT ADVICE

To use the **Join-As-You-Go technique** you will need to substitute chain stitches on the last round of the square motifs as necessary with joining slip stitches into the corresponding chain spaces of the squares that you wish to join to. See the Layout Diagram for more details on how to arrange the blocks correctly



sp, join with sl st in third of 5ch

Rnd 4: sl st in corner-sp, 5ch (counts as first tr and 2ch), 2tr in same corner-sp, * (1ch, miss next st, 1tr in next st) five times, 1ch, 1tr in next st, FPdtr around same st, 2ch, FPdtr around next tr, working behind FPdtr just made: 1tr in same st, 1ch, 1tr in next st, (1ch, miss next st, 1tr in next st) four times, 1ch, miss next st, * (2tr, ch, 2tr) in corner-sp; rep from * to * once, 1tr in beg corner-sp, join with sl st in third of 5ch

side patch

Using 4mm hook and CC, make 4ch, sl st into first ch to form a loop, then work as follows:

Rnd 1: 5ch (counts as first tr and 2ch), * 3tr, 2ch; rep from

TOP TIP

IF YOU DON'T WISH TO USE THE JOIN-AS-YOU-GO TECHNIQUE, MAKE UP THE SQUARES AS REQUIRED AND THEN SEW THE SEAMS USING WHIP STITCH

* twice more, 2tr, join with a sl st in third of 5ch

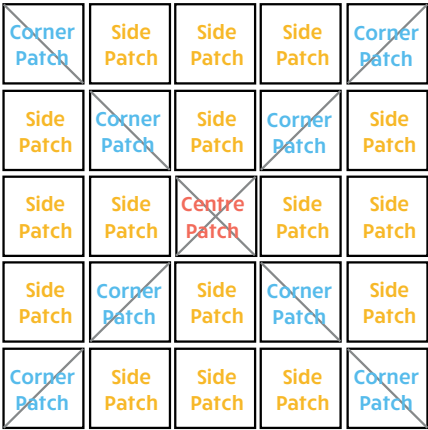
Rnd 2: sl st in corner-sp, 5ch (counts as first tr and 2ch), 2tr in same corner-sp, * 1ch, miss next st, 1tr in next st, 1ch, miss next st, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) in corner-sp; rep from * twice more, 1ch, miss next st, 1tr in next st, 1ch, miss next st, 1tr in beg corner-sp, join with sl st in third of 5ch

Rnd 3: sl st in corner-sp, 5ch (counts as first tr and 2ch), 2tr in same corner-sp, * 1tr in each of next two sts, 1tr in next ch-sp, 1tr in next st, 1tr in next ch-sp, 1tr in each of next two sts, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) in corner-sp; rep from * twice more, 1tr in each of next two sts, 1tr in next ch-sp, 1tr in each of next two sts, 1tr in beg corner-sp, join with sl st in third of 5ch

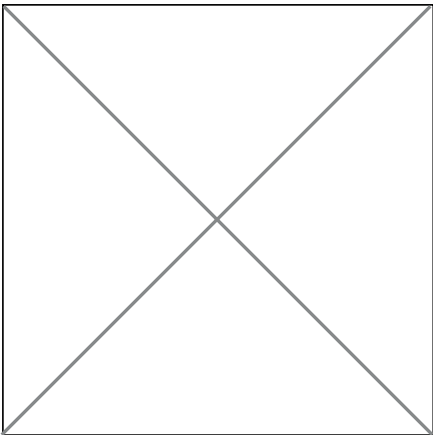
Rnd 4: sl st in corner-sp, 5ch (counts as first tr and 2ch), 2tr in same corner-sp, * (1ch, miss next st, 1tr in next st) five times, 1ch, miss next st, (2tr, 2ch,



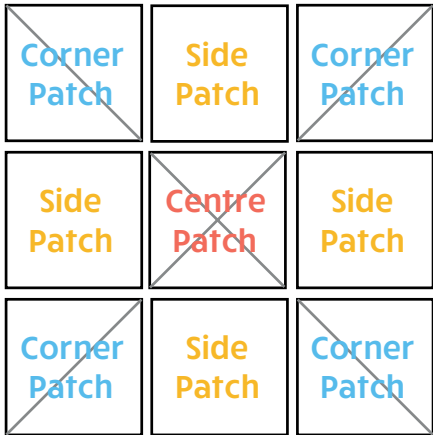
Patched block - cushion



Solid block

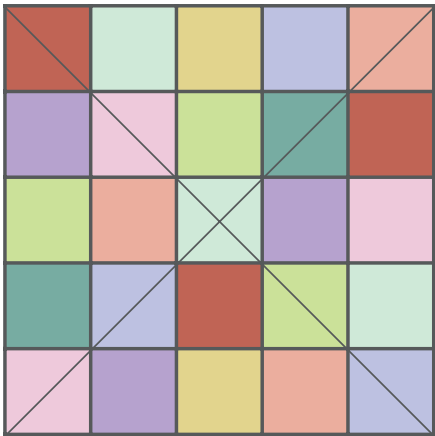


9 patch block - blanket

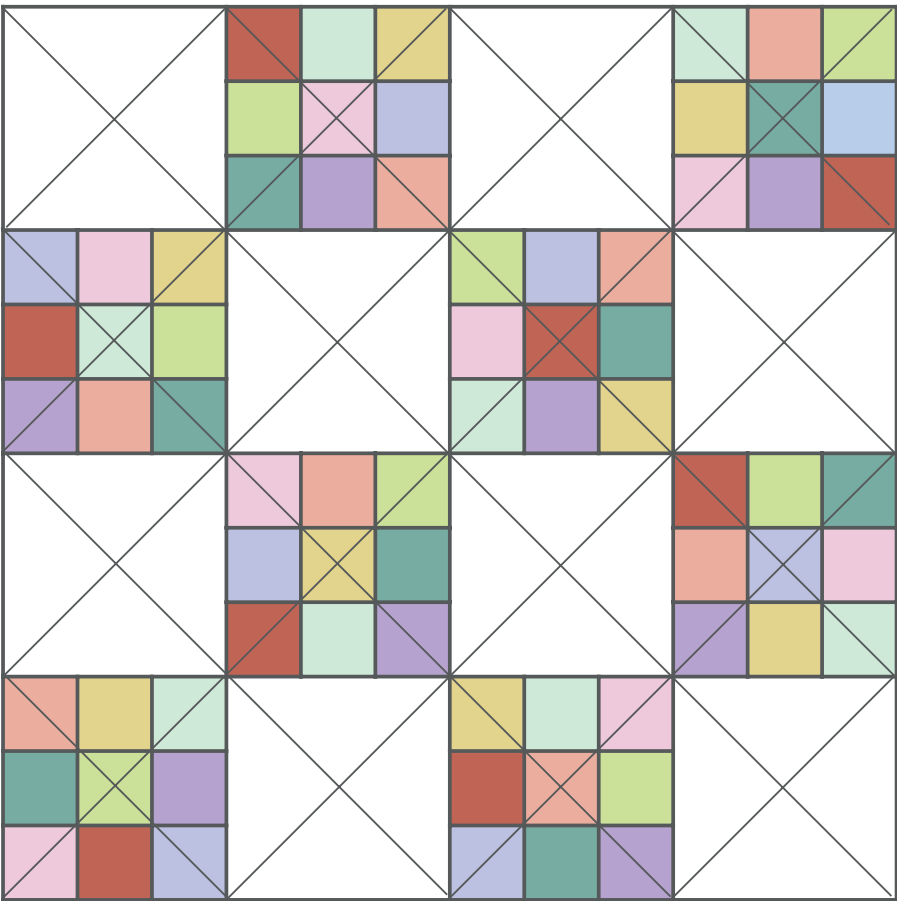


Cushion Layout Diagram

Patched block - front



Blanket Layout Diagram



Colours

- MC (A) 1900 Cream
- CC1 (B) 1902 Old Gold
- CC2 (C) 1903 Coral
- CC3 (D) 1904 Cherry
- CC4 (E) 1906 Heather
- CC5 (F) 1908 Sage
- CC6 (G) 1910 Pistachio
- CC7 (H) 1916 Rose
- CC8 (I) 1918 Mint
- CC9 (J) 3744 Cairn

Patch block pattern

- Side patch
- Corner patch*
- Centre patch

* Turn square to fit layout

2tr in corner-sp, rep from * twice more, (1ch, miss next st, 1tr in next st) five times, 1ch, miss next st, 1tr in beg corner-sp, join with sl st in third of 5ch
Fasten off

centre patch
Using 4mm hook and CC, make 4ch,

sl st into first ch to form a loop
Rnds 1-4: work as for Rnds 1-4 of Solid Block
Fasten off

border
Using 4mm hook and yarn A, join yarn to corner-sp of any Corner Patch, then work as follows:

Rnd 1: 3ch (counts as first tr), (1tr, 2ch, 2tr) in corner-sp, * 1tr in each st, ch-sp or join between squares to next corner-sp, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) in corner-sp, rep from * twice more, 1tr in each st, ch-sp or join between squares to next corner-sp, 1tr in

TOP TIP

WHEN JOINING THE CUSHION SIDES YOU MAY FIND IT USEFUL TO USE STITCH MARKERS TO HOLD THE TWO SIDES TOGETHER AND ENSURE THAT THE STITCHES ARE SPACED EVENLY ALONG EACH EDGE

beg corner-sp, join with sl st in third of 3ch

Rnd 2: sl st in corner-sp, 1ch, (1dc, 2ch, 1dc) in same corner-sp, * 1ch, skip 1, (1dc in next st, 1ch, skip 1) up to corner-sp, (1dc, 2ch, 1dc) in corner-sp, rep from * twice more, 1ch, skip 1, (1dc in next st, 1ch, skip 1) up to corner-sp, join with sl st in first dc

Rnd 3: (worked in opposite direction around Blanket) 1ch, * 1rdc in each previous ch-sp and st to next corner-sp, 3rdc in corner-sp, rep from * a further three times, join with sl st in first rdc

Weave in any loose ends and block gently if required

CUSHION

Note: constructed with a multiple patched block on one side and a single solid block on other side, these are then held tog and joined with crochet

solid block

Using 3.5mm hook and yarn A, make 4ch, sl st into first

ch to form a loop, then work as folls:

Rnds 1-4: work as for Blanket Solid Block

Rnd 5-20: rep Rnds 3-4 eight times more

Rnd 21: 1ch, 1dc in same st, 1dc in next st, 3dc in corner-sp, * 1dc in each st or ch-sp to corner-sp, 3dc in corner-sp, rep from * twice more, 1dc in each st or ch-sp to start of the rnd, join with sl st in first dc
Fasten off and weave in ends

patched block

Using 3.5mm hook, make eight Corner Patches, 16 Side Patches and one Centre Patch, referring to Layout Diagram for Cushion for which CC yarn to use for each motif and how to arrange them
Once Patched Block is completed, using a 3.5mm hook join yarn A to corner-sp of any corner motif and work as folls:
Rnd 1: 1ch, 3dc in

same corner-sp, * 1dc in each st, ch-sp or join between squares to corner-sp, 3dc in corner-sp, rep from * twice more, 1dc in each st, ch-sp or join between squares to start of the round, join with sl st in first dc
Do NOT cut yarn
Weave in all other ends

to make up

With yarn A still attached to work, hold two sides of

Cushion WS facing and join by working a rnd of dc through both sets of sts on final rnd of each block as folls:

Rnd 1: sl st in middle dc of three corner dcs, 1ch, 3dc in same st, * 1dc in each st up to middle dc of next three corner dcs, 3dc in middle dc, rep from * twice more, stop at this point to insert cushion pad in through last

open side, then secure in place by working along last edge as folls: 1dc in each st to start of rnd, join with sl st in first dc

Rnd 2: (worked in opposite direction around Cushion) 1ch, * 1rdc in each st up to middle dc of next three corner dcs, 3rdc in middle dc, rep from * three more times, join with sl st in first rdc
Fasten off and weave in last end





YARN

DK, shades Pale Pink, Dark Pink, Yellow, Light Blue, Dark Brown

PLUS

4.5mm needles, tapestry needle, stitch holder, stitch markers

SIZE

Boots: 6cm tall
Trousers: 15cm long
Headband: 21cm circumference
Jumper: 14cm long



Take the next step

Winter wardrobe

Playing dress-up just got even better

Delight a fashion-loving youngster in your life with a brand-new wardrobe for their favourite doll! This runway-worthy collection of mini garments and accessories were designed by the wonderful **AINE MARRIOTT** and we're just obsessed with the colourblock jumper in particular. Complete the look with cosy trousers and boots, plus a stylish headband to set it all off.

DOLL'S OUTFIT

boot

Make two
Using 4.5mm needles and Dark Pink cast on 14 sts
Row 1 (RS): (kfb) to end. 28 sts
Rows 2-4: k
Change to Dark Brown
Rows 5-8: beg with a k row work in st st
Work in short rows

as follows:

Row 9: k16, turn

Row 10: p4, turn

Row 11: k3, k2tog, turn

Row 12: p3, p2tog, turn

Rows 13-18: rep Rows 11-12

Row 19: k3, k2tog, k to end. 19 sts

Row 20: p10, p2tog, p to end. 18 sts

Rows 21-24: beg with a k row work in st st

Row 25: kfb, k15, kfb, k1. 20 sts

Row 26: p

Row 27: kfb, k17, kfb, k1. 22 sts

Rows 28-30: k

Cast off

trouser leg

Make two

Using 4.5mm needles and Light Blue cast on 20 sts

Row 1: (k1, p1) to end

Last row sets rib

Rows 2-18: work in rib

Rows 19-20: kfb, rib to last st, kfb. 24 sts

Rows 21-22: cast on two sts, rib to end. 28 sts

Pm at each end of Row 22

Rows 23-30: work in rib

Row 31: p2tog, rib to last two sts, k2tog. 26 sts

Rows 32-41: cont in rib

Cast off in rib

headband

Using 4.5mm needles and Dark Pink cast on six sts

Rows 1-2: beg with a k (RS) row work in st st

Row 3: (kfb) to end. 12 sts

Row 4: (k1, p1) to end

Rows 5-48: rep Row 4

Row 49: (k2tog) to end. Six sts

Row 50: p

Cast off

contrast band

Using 4.5mm needles and Light Blue cast on six sts

Rows 1-12: beg with a k (RS) row work in st st

Cast off

jumper body

Note: beg at bottom front of main body piece
Using 4.5mm needles and Dark Brown cast on 26 sts

Row 1-2: k



Use the
colours in
your kit for
a unique
project

OUR
DOLL IS
36CM TALL

TOP TIP

USE A SPARE
NEEDLE IF YOU
DON'T HAVE A
STITCH HOLDER
TO HAND, AND
SOME CONTRAST
YARN IN PLACE
OF STITCH
MARKERS



Change to Dark Pink, shade foll instruction indicates yarn to use, join in Yellow where specified
Row 3: k13 Dark Pink, k13 Yellow Keeping colours correct, twist yarns tog on WS to avoid a gap
Row 4: k13 Yellow, k13 Pink
Rows 5-36: rep Rows 3-4
 Cut Yellow and

Dark Pink, change to Pale Pink
Rows 37-38: k
Row 39: k9, turn
 Cont on these nine sts for left front, placing rem 17 sts on holder
Rows 40-60: k
 Place sts on holder
 Return rem 17 sts to needle, rejoin Pale Pink and cont as folls:
Row 39: cast off eight sts (front neck), k to end.

Nine sts
 Cont on these nine sts for right front
Rows 40-60: k
 Place sts on holder
 Change to Yellow
Row 61: k9 sts from holder for left front, cast on eight sts (back neck), k9 sts from holder for right front. 26 sts
Rows 62-72: k
 * Change to Pale Pink
Rows 73-74: k

Change to Dark Brown
Rows 75-80: k six rows *
Rows 81-120: rep from * to * five times
 Cast off

first sleeve

Using 4.5mm needles and Yellow cast on 30 sts
Rows 1-4: k
Row 5: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog.

JOINING IN A NEW BALL OF YARN

Insert your needle into the next stitch, then lay the tail of the new yarn over the top of the old one and knit the stitch. As a rule you should join in a new ball at the start of a row, but if changing colours mid row be sure to twist the two yarns together on the wrong side of the work to tighten the gap.



28 sts

Rows 6-8: k

Rows 9-20: rep Rows 5-8. 22 sts
 Change to Dark Brown

Rows 21-24: k
 Cast off

second sleeve

Using 4.5mm needles and Dark Pink cast on 30 sts
 Work as for First Sleeve in foll six-row stripe sequence: Dark Pink, Pale Pink

collar

Using 4.5mm needles and Pale Pink cast on 44 sts
Rows 1-9: (k2, p2) to end
 Cast off loosely in rib

to make up

Seam row edges of each Boot and oversew cast-on edge. Place Trouser pieces RS tog and seam row edges from cast-on edge to

marked row.

Divide each Trouser Leg and seam row edges. Seam short edges of Headband. Place Contrast Band around join, seam short edges, and attach with a few discreet sts. Pin cast-on edge of Collar along left front edge, back neck cast-on sts and right front edge. Sew in place, stretching a little as you sew so it doesn't become too tight. Cross over row edges at centre front and sew to cast-off sts on front chest. Sew cast-on edge of Sleeves to row edges of Jumper Body, matching centre point on Sleeve to shoulder colour change on Jumper. Seam sides and underarms. Weave in all ends

AWARD-WINNING YARNS

The results are in! We totted up all your votes and are thrilled to announce this year's British Knitting and Crochet Award winners – see page 34 for the full list. In honour of the results, we've decided to shine a spotlight on yarns from a few of your 2022 champions. A big congratulations to Sirdar, King Cole, Rowan, For the Love of Yarn, Stylecraft and West Yorkshire Spinners for their awards!



Star
Baby Yarn
Brand
winner

FACT FILE

NAME: Sirdar Snuggly Replay
SHADE: Good as Gold
YARN WEIGHT: DK
FIBRE CONTENT: 50% cotton, 50% acrylic
SHADE COUNT: 30
PRICE: £2.80 per 50g (150m) ball, sirdar.com



Best
Overall
Yarn Brand
winner

FACT FILE

NAME: Stylecraft Special Aran
SHADE: Gold
YARN WEIGHT: Aran
FIBRE CONTENT: 100% acrylic
SHADE COUNT: 50
PRICE: £1.95 per 100g (196m) ball, lincolnwoolpack.co.uk



Most
Luxurious
winner

FACT FILE

NAME: Rowan Cashmere Tweed
SHADE: Mustard
YARN WEIGHT: DK
FIBRE CONTENT: 80% virgin wool, 20% cashmere
SHADE COUNT: 8
PRICE: £7.50 per 25g (88m) ball, knitrowan.com

FACT FILE

NAME: King Cole Big Value Chunky
SHADE: Yellow
YARN WEIGHT: Chunky
FIBRE CONTENT: 100% acrylic
SHADE COUNT: 39
PRICE: £2.59 per 100g (152m) ball, woolwarehouse.co.uk



Best Indie
Hand Dyer
winner

FACT FILE

NAME: For the Love of Yarn Gwen Frigging Awesome
SHADE: Gwen Gold
YARN WEIGHT: 4ply
FIBRE CONTENT: 80% merino, 20% nylon
PRICE: £20 per 100g (400m) skein, fortheloveofyarn.co.uk



Best
Brand for
British Yarn
winner

FACT FILE

NAME: West Yorkshire Spinners The Croft DK
SHADE: Harkland
YARN WEIGHT: DK
FIBRE CONTENT: 100% Shetland Islands wool
SHADE COUNT: 22
PRICE: £9.95 per 100g (225m) ball, wyspinners.com



Best
Value
winner

BRITISHTM KNITTING & CROCHET AWARDS

2022



LUCY FISHER



GEORGIA FARRELL



LISA HARLAND



BELLA COCO

AND THE WINNER IS...

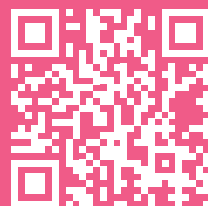
LET'S HEAR IT FOR OUR
2022 BRITISH KNITTING AND
CROCHET AWARD CHAMPIONS!

We're rolling out the red carpet and putting on our finery here at LGC HQ, as we congratulate this year's cohort of worthy award-winners. We caught up with a few of them to get to know them better and see how they feel about their achievements – enormously proud, we should hope! Meet Lucy Fisher, winner of the Rising Star award, and Georgia Farrell, Highly Commended in the same category, plus Bella Coco, your 2022 Social Media Superstar, and Lisa Harland, your most loved Indie Hand Dyer. A huge congrats!

In the Rising Star category, it was Lucy Fisher, founder of Knit It, who took the crown. "I didn't even know I was nominated so it's a lovely surprise! It's fantastic to be recognised for what we are trying to do, and I hope we can achieve our potential!" Lucy says. Like many of us, Lucy was taught to knit by her grandma, and she started her business during lockdown with the aim of inspiring youngsters to start knitting. "I created a knitting kit called the KnitPic Kit which turns people's photos into knitting patterns. I'm currently exploring other fun ideas to revolutionise knitting and have some exciting plans in the pipeline. Watch this space!" Right now,

Lucy is working on a top-secret project and she's looking for indie pattern designers to help. "We are launching a Pattern Partnership so if any designers out there have patterns they'd like featured, visit knit-it.co.uk and follow the link!" Lucy says.

Highly commended in the Rising Star category was the lovely Georgia Farrell, a British designer with a passion for creating architecturally inspired designs. "My practice combines a methodical approach to



For the full list of winners head to letsknit.co.uk/awards, or scan this QR code using your smartphone camera



The KnitPic Kit
by Lucy Fisher

visual research with a more organic approach to creative exploration,” Georgia explains. “I take the visual language of architecture and build knitted fabrics, garments and collections around it.” Georgia has taken the knitting world by storm with her recent releases with Rowan, and it’s no surprise to see her getting recognised in this year’s awards. “I’m thrilled to be highly commended, and to be nominated alongside such a fantastic group of designers is just wonderful!” she says. “At the moment I’m working on a collection of home accessories, large scale intarsia architectural landscapes on blankets and cushions, alongside graphic textured pieces, all about line, form and colour. I’m also really looking forward to exhibiting at my local yarn show, Waltham Abbey Wool Show, in January.”

Yet again, it was Lisa Harland of For the Love of Yarn who was victorious in the Best Indie Hand Dyer category, making Lisa a five-time winner of the award! “The award means so much to me because it comes directly from our customers and that is something we don’t take for granted,” Lisa says. Lisa discovered crochet and hand-dyeing after becoming a mum, and since those humble beginnings dyeing yarn in her kitchen, the business has gone from strength to strength. “It’s become a family-centred passion allowing me to care for my children with additional



Chalk by Georgia Farrell, Soft Structures collection

needs using yarn dyeing as a form of therapy,” Lisa says. “It’s very much a family-run business with all three children having their own yarn collections where the proceeds are donated to charity. We are advocates for mental health and want to encourage all ages young and old to find therapy in their hobby.” In fact, Lisa has recently been focusing on turning her popular Intro to Dyeing Workshop into a digital format so that everyone can access it and learn a new skill. “We are so excited to launch our first digital course very soon!”

We also caught up with Sarah-Jayne Fragola, aka Bella Coco, your 2022 Social Media Superstar. A mum of two little girls living in the East Midlands, Sarah-Jayne started her career as a beauty therapist. “I could never have



Bella Coco, Mood Blanket

imagined that I’d be doing what I do now. It’s honestly a dream job I never knew I wanted!” she says. Her business Bella Coco, which delivers inspiring content, crochet patterns and video tutorials for all skills levels, grew via social media, so “it feels like the icing on the cake to get an award for it,” she says. “It’s such an honour. I can’t thank everyone who voted for me enough.” As well as getting ready to launch a new crochet community membership in the new year, Sarah-Jayne also released her book, *You Can Crochet with Bella Coco*, recently. “I’m still on a high about that!” she says.



For the Love of Yarn, shade Isabella’s Tutu

ALSO ON THE PODIUM...

As well as our rising stars, social media influencers and hand dyers, you also voted for your favourite brands, designers, yarn shops and products. Here’s how the rest of the awards panned out...

A big well done to Stylecraft who not only won Best Overall Yarn Brand in both the knitting and crochet categories, but also topped it off with a third accolade, Best Toy Yarn Brand, too! Marriner Yarns also had a fantastic year, claiming the awards for Number One Independent Yarn Brand and Best Sock Yarn Brand, and they were highly commended in a further seven categories! Sirdar swept up a pair of awards as your Favourite Pattern House and the Star Baby Yarn Brand, and they were also highly commended in the Best Overall Yarn Brand for Knitting category. Meanwhile Best Value went to King Cole, and you chose West Yorkshire Spinners as your

winner for Best for British Yarn.

Debbie Bliss took the crown for Most Loved Knitting Designer, and Most Iconic Crochet Designer went to Lucy @ Attic 24. You showed KnitPro some love, choosing it as your winner for both Star Crochet Accessories Range and Ultimate Knitting Needle Range, while Rowan is officially your Most Luxurious Yarn Brand, and Wool Warehouse took the trophy for Best Online Store. We all know how important our local yarn shops are, and you’ve shown your favourites from all across the country some support, with regional independent store winners including The Yarn Dispensary in Faversham, Black Sheep Wool in Warrington, and The Woolly Sheep in Inverness.



YARN

DK, shades
Lilac, Pink,
Ombre, Red,
Blue, Grey

PLUS

3.5mm hook,
stitch markers,
tapestry
needle

SIZE

Small (4-5lb)
Hat: 30cm
circumference,
11cm height
Mitts: 12cm
circumference,
6cm length
Medium
(5.5-6lb)
Hat: 33cm
circumference,
12.7cm height,
Mitts: 12cm
circumference,
6.5cm length



Perfect for
beginners

SMALL HAT

Using 3.5mm hook and Lilac make a magic ring, 2ch, 8htr into ring, join with a sl st to first st. Eight sts

Rnd 1: 2ch (does not count as st throughout), 2htr in each st to end, join with a sl st to first st. 16 sts

Rnd 2: 2ch, (1htr, 2htr in next st) to end, join with a sl st to first st. 24 sts

Rnd 3: 2ch, (2htr, 2htr in next st) to end, join with a sl st to first st. 32 sts

Rnd 4: 2ch, (3htr, 2htr in next st) to end, join with a sl st to first st. 40 sts

Rnd 5: 2ch, (19htr, 2htr in next st) to end, join with a sl st to first st. 42 sts

Note: width of Hat laid flat should meas approx 9cm at this point

Change to Pink
Rnds 6-9: 2ch, 1htr in each st to end, join with a sl st to first st

Change to Ombre
Rnds 10-13: 2ch, 1htr in each st to end, join with a sl st to first st

Fasten off
heart motif
Using 3.5mm hook and Red make a magic ring, 2ch, 13tr into ring, join with a sl st to first st. 13 sts

Rnd 1: 2ch, 1tr, 4tr in next st, 2htr in next st, 1htr, 2dc, 1tr, 1dc on post of previous tr, 2dc, 1htr, 2htr in next st, 4tr in the next st, (1tr, 2ch, sl st) in last st

Fasten off, leaving a long tail
SMALL MITTS
cuff

Using 3.5mm hook and Lilac make 6ch
Row 1: beg in

second ch from hook, 1dc in each st to end, turn. Five sts
Rows 2-15: 1ch (does not count as st throughout), working in BLO, 1dc in each st to end, turn

hand section

Join Pink to any row end of Cuff and work first rnd into row ends

Rnd 1: 2ch (does not count as st throughout), 2htr in first st, 7htr, 2htr in next st, 7htr, join with a sl st to first st. 18 sts

Rnds 2-5: 2ch, 1htr in each st to end, join with a sl st to first st

Rnd 6: 2ch, htr2tog, 7htr, htr2tog, 7htr, join with a sl st to first st. 16 sts

Rnd 7: 2ch, (htr2tog) eight times. Eight sts

Fasten off, leaving a long tail
MEDIUM HAT
Using 3.5mm hook and Blue make a

magic ring, 2ch, 8htr into ring, join with a sl st to first st. Eight sts

Rnds 1-4: work as for Small Hat. 40 sts

Rnd 5: 2ch (does not count as st throughout), (4htr, 2htr in next st) to end, join with a sl st to first st. 48 sts

Rnd 6: 2ch, 1htr in each st to end, join with a sl st to first st

Note: width of Hat laid flat should meas approx 10.5cm at this point

Rnds 7-9: 2ch, 1htr in each st to end, join with a sl st to first st

Change to Grey
Rnds 10-16: 2ch, 1htr in each st to end, join with a sl st to first st

Fasten off
star motif

Using 3.5mm hook and Red make a magic ring, work 5dc into ring. Five sts

Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. Ten sts

Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 15 sts

Note: from this point you will

work in rows to create each point of Star

Rows 1-2: 1ch (does not count as st throughout), 3dc, turn. Three sts

Row 3: 1ch, dc2tog, 2dc, turn. Two sts

Row 4: 1ch, dc2tog, turn. One st

Fasten off
Rep Rows 1-4 for each Star point, beg in next st from where you turned for Row 1, leaving a long yarn tail after last point for attaching the motif to Hat

MEDIUM MITTS

cuff
Using 3.5mm hook and Grey make 6ch

Rows 1-15: work as Rows 1-15 of Small Mitts Cuff

Fasten off, leaving a long tail

Sew short edges tog

hand section
Join Blue to any row end of Cuff and work first rnd into row ends

Rnds 1-5: work as Rnds 1-5 of Small Mitts. 18 sts

Rnd 6: 2ch, 1htr in each st to end, join

with a sl st to first st
Rnd 7: 2ch, htr2tog, 7htr, htr2tog, 7htr, join with a sl st to first st. 16 sts

Rnd 8: 2ch, (htr2tog) eight times. Eight sts

Fasten off leaving a tail
to make up
Sew Heart Motif to Small Hat and Star Motif to Medium Hat. Turn each Mitt inside out, sew up last eight sts and fasten off. Weave in all ends

GREAT ADVICE

Avoid uneven seams or gaping holes by skipping over your chain stitches at the beginning of the round and joining instead to the first stitch. Start your next round in the same stitch as your chains, which allows the chains to become fillers and keeps your seam from having large holes.



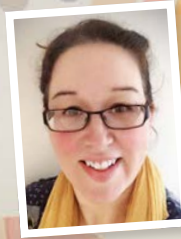
Preemie pairs

Keep premature babies snug with a teeny hat and mittens set

These baby makes by **HEATHER GIBBS** have an important practical purpose, as well as looking very cute. Premature babies need to be kept warm, and heat can easily be lost through little heads and hands.

There are two sizes available, and the medium size would also be suitable for a full-term newborn who was on the small side. The set would look great in whatever colour kit you have.





“Work in rows to make the mitt cuff, then work on top of the row ends of the cuff in rounds to work the hand section of the mitts.”

HEATHER GIBBS, DESIGNER

Use the colours in your kit for a unique project





YARN

DK, shades Red,
Dark Blue,
Yellow,
Turquoise,
Orange, Pale
Pink, Light Blue,
Lime Green

PLUS

3.5mm needles,
stitch markers,
tapestry
needle

SIZE

13cm x 15cm

Sensory baby book

Create a learning tool for a little one
that's full of exciting textures

Use your
kit and your
stash for
a unique
project





Touch and feel are crucial to a young child's development, and this colourful crocheted book by **HEATHER GIBBS** will keep a curious youngster engaged for hours. Discover fun stitches like popcorn and loop stitch which help to add interesting textures to the pages. This project can be made with any kit as the colours are not important, just be sure to go for maximum contrast on pages with more than one colour.



Take the next step

SENSORY BABY BOOK popcorn page

Note: 3ch at start

of row counts as st throughout Using 3.5mm hook and Purple make 26ch

Row 1: starting in fourth ch from hook, 1tr in each st to end, turn. 24 sts

Row 2: 3ch, 1tr in each st across, turn

Note: colour in

brackets foll instruction indicates which yarn to use

Row 3: 3ch, 3tr (Purple), PC (see Skill Up) (Dark Blue), (4tr [Purple], PC [Dark Blue]) three times, 4tr (Purple), turn

Rows 4-11: rep Rows 2-3 four times

Rows 12-13: rep Row 2 twice Fasten off

waffle stitch page

Using 3.5mm hook and Yellow make 26ch

Row 1: starting in fourth ch from hook, 1tr in each st to end, turn. 24 sts

Row 2: 2ch, 3tr, 1fptr (see Skill Up), (4tr, 1fptr) three

times, 4tr, turn

Row 3: 2ch, 3fptr, 1bptr (see Skill Up), (4fptr, 1bptr) three times, 3fptr, 1tr, turn

Row 4: 2ch, 3tr, 1fptr, (4tr, 1fptr) three times, 4tr, turn

Rows 5-16: rep Rows 3-4 six times Fasten off

loop stitch page

Note: 1ch at start of row does not count as st throughout

Using 3.5mm hook and Lime Green make 25ch

Row 1: starting in second ch from hook, 1dc in each st to end, turn. 24 sts

Rows 2-7: 1ch, 1dc in each st to

end, turn

Row 8: 1ch, 4dc, 16 loop sts (see Skill Up), 4dc, turn

Row 9: 1ch, 1dc in each st to end, turn

Rows 10-21: rep Rows 8-9 six times

Rows 22-27: rep Row 9 six times Fasten off

basketweave page

Using 3.5mm hook and Orange make 26ch

Row 1: starting in fourth ch from hook, 1tr in each st to end, turn. 24 sts

Rows 2-4: 3ch, 3fptr, (4bptr, 4fptr) twice, 3bptr, 1tr in last st, turn

Rows 5-7: 3ch, 3bptr, (4fptr, 4bptr) twice, 3fptr, 1tr in last st, turn

Rows 8-13: rep Rows 2-7 Change to



GREAT ADVICE

BLOCKING

Before adding your pages to the book, block them to make sure they are all the same size. Completely soak each page in cold water, then gently squeeze (without wringing it) out some of the excess water.

Using a tape measure and pins, carefully pin each page on a blocking board. Leave to dry completely for at least 24 hours





Dark Blue

Rows 14-16: rep
Rows 2-4
Fasten off

book cover

Note: 1ch at start of row does not count as st throughout
Using 3.5mm hook and Red make 29ch

Row 1: starting in second ch from hook, 1dc in each st to end, turn.
28 sts
Work in foll stripe sequence: 22 rows Red, 17 rows Turquoise, 24 rows Red

Rows 2-64: 1ch, 1dc in each st to end, turn
Fasten off

book tie

On either end of Book Cover, attach Turquoise to centre of vertical edge and make 51ch

Row 1: starting in second ch from hook, sl st in each st to end
Fasten off

hand motif

Note: 1ch at start of row does not count as st throughout

Using 3.5mm hook and Pale Pink make 8ch

Row 1: 2dc in second ch from hook, 4dc, 2dc in last st, turn.
Eight sts

Row 2: 1ch, 2dc in next st, 6dc, 2dc in last st, turn.
Ten sts

Rows 3-11: 1ch, 1dc in each st to end, turn

Note: now working fingers from little finger to thumb (8ch, 1htr in third ch from hook, 5htr, sl st in next st on Hand, sl st in next

st) three times, 8ch, 1htr in third ch from hook, 5htr, sl st in next st on Hand and down row ends five times. 8ch, 1tr in fourth ch from hook, 1tr in next five sts, miss row end, sl st in next st
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

to make up

Attach Hand Motif to front of book. Embroider or surface crochet the word 'feel' underneath Hand with Turquoise. Whipstitch Pages tog with Turquoise, then attach Pages to spine of Book Cover. Tie Book Ties in a bow to keep book tog. Weave in all ends



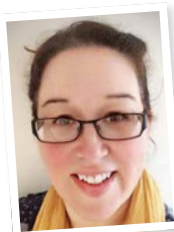
SKILL UP!

Loop stitch: Insert hook in next st, wrap yarn around index finger of your non-hook-holding-hand. Wyif, catch yarn furthest away from you with hook to create loop around index finger, pull both strands through until you have three loops on hook. Yoh and pull yarn through all loops on hook

Popcorn stitch (PC): Work 5tr in indicated st, remove hook completely, insert hook in first tr (of the five), insert hook in loop you just removed hook from (fifth of the five), yoh, pull through both loops on hook

Front post treble (fp3tr): Yoh, insert hook from front to back to front around post of indicated st below (your hook should now be positioned horizontally behind st you're working around), yoh, pull up a loop, yoh, pull through two loops on hook (two loops on hook), yoh, pull through rem loops on hook

Back post treble (bp3tr): Yoh, insert hook from back to front to back around post of indicated st below (your hook should now be positioned horizontally in front of the st that you're working around), yoh, pull up a loop, yoh, pull through two loops on hook (two loops on hook), yoh, pull through rem loops on hook



"When changing to a different colour, pull the new colour through the last loops of the previous stitch to complete that stitch. Change colours in this manner whenever indicated on the pattern."

HEATHER GIBBS, DESIGNER

YOU WILL NEED



YARN

DK, shades
(A) Green (10g),
(B) Cream (5g),
(C) Red (10g),
(D) Petrol Blue
(5g), (E) Yellow
(5g), oddments
of black and
grey DK

PLUS

3.25mm needles,
pins, tapestry
needle, toy
stuffing, four
pipe cleaners

SIZE

15cm across

TENSION

26 sts x 34 rows
10cm x 10cm
Stocking stitch
3.25mm needles



TROPICAL TREE FROG

Note: use long tail thumb method (see panel) for all cast ons

underside of body

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A cast on six sts

Row 1: p

Row 2: (k1, m1, k1, m1, k1) twice.

Ten sts

Rows 3-5: work three rows in st st

Row 6: k1, m1, k3, m1, k2, m1, k3, m1, k1. 14 sts

Rows 7-9: work three rows in st st

Row 10: k1, m1, k3, m1, k6, m1, k3, m1, k1. 18 sts

Rows 11-13: work three rows in st st

Row 14: k1, m1, k3, m1, k10, m1, k3, m1, k1. 22 sts

Rows 15-31: work 17 rows in st st

Row 32: k4, (k2tog) seven times, k4. 15 sts

Row 33: p

Change to yarn B
Row 34: k3, (m1, k1) ten times, k2.

25 sts

Rows 35-41: work seven rows in st st

Row 42: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. 23 sts

Row 43: p

Rows 44-45: rep Rows 42-43 once. 21 sts

Row 46: k2tog, k2, k2tog, k9, k2tog, k2, k2tog. 17 sts

Row 47: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. 15 sts

Row 48: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. 13 sts

Row 49: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. 11 sts

Cast off

Row 50: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. 11 sts

Cast off

Cast off

Cast off

as for Underside of Body

hind leg

Make two

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn C cast on nine sts

Rows 1-7: beg with a p row work seven rows in st st

Change to yarn D
Rows 8-15: work eight rows in st st

Row 16: (k2tog, k1) to end. Six sts

Row 17: p

Row 18: k1, (m1, k1)

to end. 11 sts

Rows 19-33: work 15 rows in st st

Row 34: k2tog, (k1, k2tog) to end.

Seven sts

Row 35: p

Row 36: k1, (m1, k1) to end. 13 sts

Rows 37-45: work nine rows in st st

Row 46: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. 11 sts

Row 47: p

Rows 48-53: rep Rows 46-47 three times more.

Five sts

Row 54: k2tog, k1, k2tog. Three sts

Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread

through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

forearm

Make two

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn C cast on nine sts

Rows 1-5: beg with a p row

work five rows in

st st

Change to yarn E
Rows 6-13: work eight rows in st st

Row 14: (k2tog, k1) to end. Six sts

Row 15: p

Row 16: k1, (m1, k1) to end. 11 sts

Rows 17-25: work nine rows in st st

Row 26: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. Nine sts

Row 27: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. Seven sts

Row 28: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. Nine sts

Row 29: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. Seven sts

Row 30: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. Nine sts

Row 31: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. Seven sts

Row 32: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. Nine sts

Row 33: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. Seven sts

Row 34: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. Nine sts

Row 35: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. Seven sts

Row 36: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. Nine sts

Row 37: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. Seven sts

Row 38: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. Nine sts

Row 39: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. Seven sts

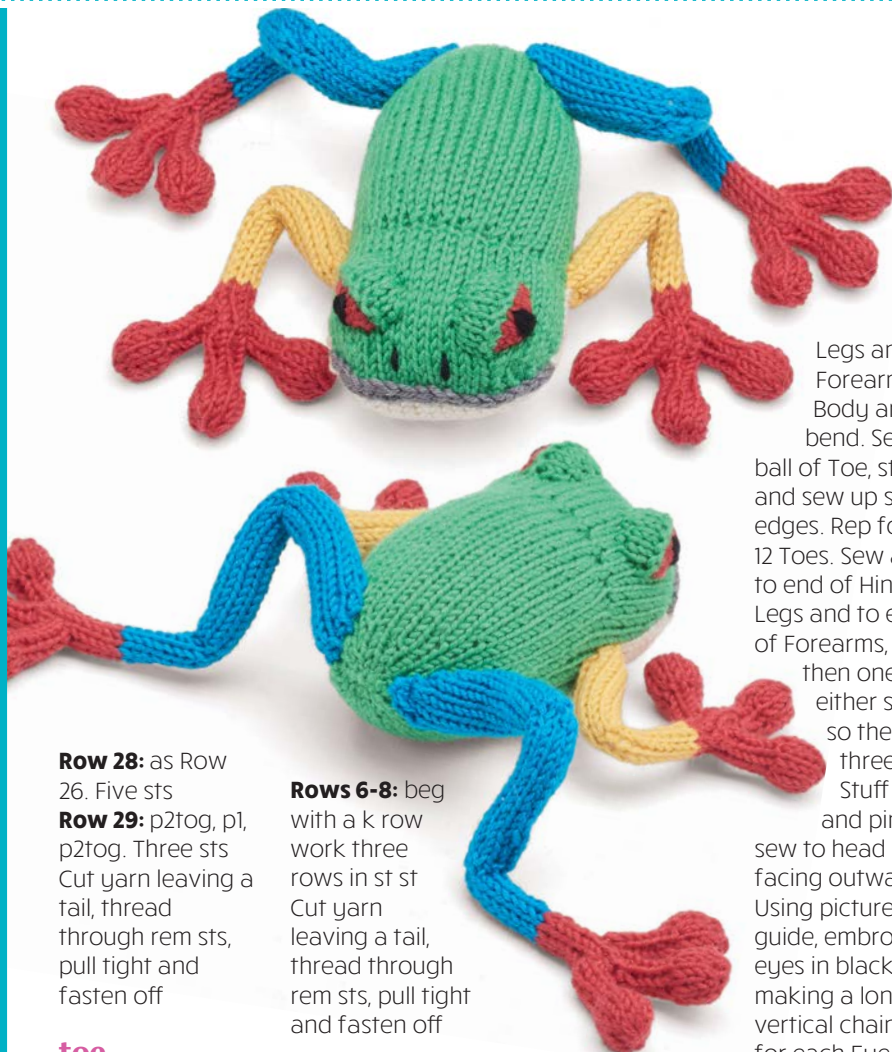
Row 40: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. Nine sts

Row 41: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. Seven sts



TOP TIP

WHEN MAKING UP, USE TWEEZERS OR THE END OF YOUR SCISSORS TO PUSH THE STUFFING IN



Row 28: as Row 26. Five sts
Row 29: p2tog, p1, p2tog. Three sts
 Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

toe

Make 12

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn C cast on seven sts
Rows 1-7: beg with a p row work seven rows in st st
Row 8: k1, (m1, k1) to end. 13 sts
Rows 9-11: work three rows in st st
Row 12: k1, (k2tog, k1) to end. Nine sts
 Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

eye

Make two

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A cast on five sts
Row 1 and foll alt row: p
Row 2: k1, (m1, k1) to end. Nine sts
Rows 4-5: k
 Change to yarn C

Rows 6-8:

beg with a k row work three rows in st st
 Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

to make up

Note: sew up all row-end seams on RS using mattress st one st in from edge, unless otherwise stated. A one-st seam allowance has been allowed for this
 Place WS of Top and Underside of Body tog matching all edges and sew around outside edge leaving a gap, stuff and sew up gap. Fold a pipe cleaner in half and place on WS of Hind Leg and sew up narrow end of Hind Leg enclosing pipe cleaner. Sew up middle of Hind Leg enclosing stuffing. Sew up to dec sts

and stuff. Cut pipe cleaner to length of Hind Leg. Rep for second Hind Leg. Make up Forearms in same way, sewing up straight edges of Forearm. Sew Hind

Legs and Forearms to Body and bend. Sew up

ball of Toe, stuff and sew up side edges. Rep for all 12 Toes. Sew a Toe to end of Hind Legs and to end of Forearms, and then one on either side so there are three.

Stuff Eyes and pin and sew to head facing outwards. Using picture as a guide, embroider eyes in black making a long vertical chain st for each Eye, then a second chain st on top of first. Embroider two nostrils using straight sts. Embroider mouth in grey making two chain st rows close tog



Love this?

Discover 29 more adorable creatures to make in *Knitted Menagerie* by Sarah Keen (GMC Publications, RRP £16.99), available in the new year online and from all good bookshops.

LONG-TAIL THUMB METHOD

This is a quick method and gives a firm, yet slightly stretchy cast-on edge. Leaving a long yarn tail about four times the width of your project, make a slip knot and place it on the needle.



Step 1: Wrap the yarn tail around your thumb.



Step 2: Insert the needle underneath the strand coming in front of your thumb to make a loop on the needle, then wrap the working yarn from left to right around the needle.



Step 3: Transfer the rest of the loop from your thumb to the end of the needle, remove your thumb and pull tight. Repeat Steps 1-3 until all stitches are cast on, remembering your slip knot will count as the first stitch.



Wind spinners

Crochet some delightful decorations
for your outdoor space

Use the
colours in
your kit for
a unique
project



PROJECT
OVERLEAF >>



YARNS

DK, shades
Green, Blue,
Purple, Orange,
Yellow

PLUS

4mm hook, one
large glass
bead per
spinner,
tapestry
needle

SIZE

Approx 30cm
long



Perfect for
beginners



TOP TIP

FOR DIFFERENT
LENGTH SPINNERS
CAST ON MORE
OR FEWER
STITCHES

the
CRAFTS
CHANNEL

WIND SPINNER

Note: three
colourways given
Using 4mm hook
and Green (Yellow,
Purple) make 51ch
Row 1: 2ch (counts
as 1tr throughout),
1tr in third ch from
hook, 2tr in each
st to end, turn
Change to Yellow
(Green, Green)
Row 2: (2ch, 1tr) in
first st, 2tr in next

Be warned – making these colourful spirals soon becomes addictive! **CORINNE BRADD** has fashioned this set of three spinners using treble crochet stitches and five colours. Use the shades from your kit in whatever order you like and have fun making your own unique versions. Watch Corinne demonstrate how these are made in a special Crafts Channel video – simply visit youtube.com/thecraftschannel



“There’s a video of me making these spinners - plus tons more brilliant tutorials - at youtube.com/thecraftschannel. See you there!”

CORINNE BRADD, DESIGNER



st, 3tr in next st, *
(2tr in next st)
twice, 3tr in next
st), rep from * to
end, turn
Change to Purple

(Orange, Blue)
Row 3: as Row 1
Change to
Orange (Blue,
Yellow)
Row 4: 1ch, 1dc in

each to end
Fasten off

to make up

Using 4mm hook
and Yellow (Green,

Purple) make
25ch and secure
in a loop to top
centre of
Spinner. Attach a
heavy glass bead

to bottom centre
of Spinner to
allow it to stretch
out when hung
up. Weave in
all ends

TOP CROCHET PATTERNS

LOVE DECORATIVE CROCHET?

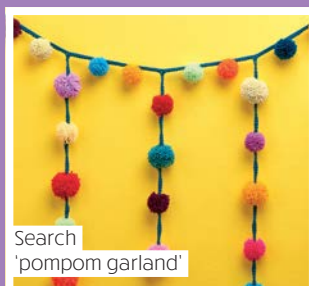
FOR PLenty MORE MAKES TO ADORN YOUR HOME VISIT TOPCROCHETPATTERNS.COM



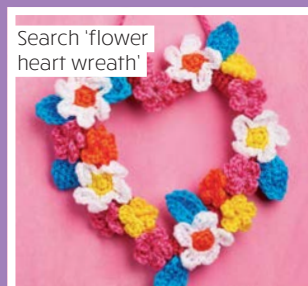
Search 'mandala
dreamcatcher'



Search 'jellyfish
friends'



Search
'pom-pom garland'



Search 'flower
heart wreath'

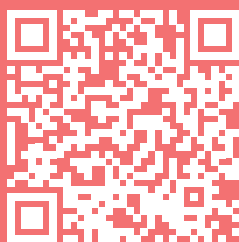


31 FREE FOOD CROCHET PATTERNS



Feast your eyes on this yarny banquet!

We've got scrumptious crochet patterns galore just a click away – simply scan the QR code to unlock the ultimate spread of tasty treats. From a brioche burger and colourful milkshakes to cute peas in a pod and a nice cup of tea, there's so much in store! You've got all the ingredients – yarn, hook and patterns – so what are you waiting for? Let's cook up a storm!



Scan the QR code using the camera on your smartphone



Or visit topcrochetpatterns.com and select the 'Food' category



Download the pattern, save it somewhere safe and start crocheting!



YARN

DK, shades Red, Pink, Sparkly Purple, Orange, Beige, Green

PLUS

4mm needles, toy stuffing, four large safety toy eyes, small amount of black DK, four 11cm diameter cardboard circles, small amount of floristry wire, tapestry needle

SIZE

9cm tall (excl Candle) x 13.5cm diameter



Perfect for beginners

BASIC CAKE

Using 4mm needles and Orange cast on eight sts

Row 1 (RS): (kfb) to end. 16 sts

Row 2 and all foll WS rows: p

Row 3: (k1, kfb) to end. 24 sts

Row 5: (k2, kfb) to end. 32 sts

Row 7: (k3, kfb) to end. 40 sts

Row 9: (k4, kfb) to end. 48 sts

Row 11: (k5, kfb) to end. 56 sts

Row 13: (k6, kfb) to end. 64 sts

Row 15: (k7, kfb) to end. 72 sts

Row 16: p

Piece of cake

Bake it 'til you make it with these sweet treats

This colourful pair of puds by **NICOLA VALIJI** is a batch made in heaven! Keep it classic with cake number one, then add some fruity fun with the strawberry topping on the second cake. Full of character, these cheerful creations are the perfect way to celebrate a special occasion, and they can be brought out again and again – and we can guarantee the candles won't go out!

Change to Pink

Rows 17-20: k

Rows 21-40: beg with a k row, work in st st in foll four-row colour sequence: Sparkly Purple, Orange, Green, Sparkly Purple, Orange Change to Pink **Rows 41-44:** k Change to Sparkly Purple

Row 45: (k7, k2tog) to end. 64 sts

Row 46 and all foll WS rows: p

Row 47: (k6, k2tog) to end. 56 sts

Row 49: (k5, k2tog) to end. 48 sts

Row 51: (k4, k2tog) to end. 40 sts

Row 53: (k3, k2tog) to end. 32 sts

Row 55: (k2, k2tog) to end. 24 sts

Row 57: (k1, k2tog) to end. 16 sts

Row 59: (k2tog) to end. Eight sts

Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

icing

Make two

Using 4mm needles and Pink cast on three sts **Row 1:** k

Row 2: p

Row 3: (kfb) to end. Six sts

Rows 4-6: beg with a p (WS) row work in st st

Row 7: (k2tog) to end. Three sts

Row 8: p Rep Rows 1-8 15 times more Cast off

candle

Using 4mm needles and Beige cast on 13 sts **Row 1 (RS):** k **Row 2:** p Cast off

candle base

Using 4mm needles and Pink cast on five sts **Row 1:** cast off three sts, sl st on RH needle back to LH needle. Two sts **Row 2:** cast on three sts Rep Rows 1-2 until there are seven points **Next row:** k Cast off

cheek

Make two

Using 4mm needles and Pink cast on eight sts **Row 1:** k Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

STRAWBERRY CAKE

Work as for Basic Cake, using foll yarns

Rows 1-16: Green

Rows 17-20: Red

Rows 21-40: beg with a k row work in st st in foll two-row colour sequence: Beige, Green, Pink, Sparkly Purple, Orange

Rows 41-44: Red

Rows 45-59: Beige Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

candle

Work as for Basic Cake, using Sparkly Purple

candle base

Work as for Basic Cake, using Red

cheek

Work as for Basic Cake

strawberry

Make five

Using 4mm needles and Red cast on two sts

Row 1 (RS): (kfb) to end. Four sts

Row 2 and all foll WS rows: p

Row 3: as Row 1. Eight sts

Row 5: (kfb, k2)

twice, kfb, k1. 11 sts

Row 7: (kfb, k3)

twice, kfb, k2. 14 sts

Row 8: p

Row 9: k

Join in Green, do not cut Red, carry both strands across row, colour foll instruction indicates shade

Row 10: (p1 Green, p3 Red) three times, p1 Green, p1 Red

Row 11: (k3 Green, k1 Red) three times, k2 Green

Cont in Green only

Row 12: p

Row 13: (k2tog) to end. Seven sts

Row 14: p1, (p2tog) to end. Four sts

Row 15: k1, k2tog, k1. Three sts

Row 16: p

Row 17: k

Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

leaf

Make five

Using 4mm needles and Green cast on six sts

Row 1: k4, turn

Row 2: p

Cast off all sts

to make up

For each Cake, pull fastened-off tail tight and sew down row edges to middle on WS. Gather cast-on sts to form a circle and sew to middle leaving a gap. Turn RS out and place cardboard circles at top and bottom. Fix safety eyes to front of Cake, stuff Cake and close gap. Place Icing around top and bottom edges and stitch in place. Sew long edges of Candle tog. Place floristry wire inside so Candle stands upright. Using Orange, oversew top of Candle with loose sts creating loops to make flame. Attach Candle to middle of Cake. Place Candle Base around Candle and sew into place. Using black DK, embroider smile. Make Cheeks by pulling fastened-off end tight and sewing to make a circle. Sew Cheeks to front of Cake. Pull fastened-off end of each Strawberry tight and sew to cast-on edge, stuffing as you go. Place Leaf on top of each Strawberry and st in place. Arrange on top of Strawberry Cake and sew into place. Weave in all ends

Love

THIS PATTERN?

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Use the
colours in
your kit for
a unique
project



TOP TIP

IF YOU DON'T HAVE
FLORISTRY WIRE, YOU
COULD ALSO USE A
TOOTHPICK CUT TO
THE CORRECT LENGTH
TO HELP THE CANDLES
STAND UPRIGHT



YARNS

DK, shades
Dark Brown,
Dark Pink, Pale
Pink, Yellow
and Light Blue

PLUS

4.5mm needles,
tapestry
needle, 25cm
length of
elastic cord

SIZE

Diameter: 13cm



Perfect for
beginners

SCRUNCHIE

Using 4.5mm
needles and Dark
Brown cast on
38 sts

Row 1 (RS): k1, (kfb,
k2) 12 times, k1.

50 sts

Row 2: p

Row 3: k1, (kfb, k3)
12 times, k1. 62 sts

Row 4: p

Row 5: k1, (kfb, k4)
12 times, k1. 74 sts

Change to
Dark Pink

Row 6: p

Row 7: k1, (kfb, k5)
12 times, k1. 86 sts

Change to
Pale Pink

Row 8: p

Row 9: k1, (kfb, k6)
12 times, k1. 98 sts

Change to Yellow

Row 10: p

Row 11: k1, (kfb, k7)
12 times, k1. 110 sts

Change to
Light Blue

Rows 12-23: beg
with a p row work
in st st

Change to Yellow

Row 24: p

Row 25: k1, (k7,
k2tog) 12 times, k1.
98 sts
Change to
Pale Pink

Row 26: p

Row 27: k1, (k6,
k2tog) 12 times, k1.
86 sts
Change to
Dark Pink

Row 28: p

Row 29: k1, (k5,
k2tog) 12 times, k1.
74 sts
Change to Dark
Brown

Row 30 and every

WS row: p

Row 31: k1, (k4,
k2tog) 12 times, k1.
62 sts

Row 33: k1, (k3,
k2tog) 12 times, k1.
50 sts

Row 35: k1, (k2,
k2tog) 12 times, k1.
38 sts

Cast off pwise,
leaving a tail
approx 30cm long

to make up

Use long cast-off
tail to graft
cast-on and
cast-off edges
tog. Pass length of
elastic through

joined piece (see
Great Advice) and,
ensuring elastic is
appropriately
tight, knot
securely twice.
Join row edges
tog using mattress
st, beg from seam
and checking
elastic halfway.
Adjust elastic if
necessary and
knot twice more
to secure, then
close gap
securely. Weave in
all ends



GREAT ADVICE

To easily pass the
elastic cord
through the
scrunchie, simply
knot one end of
the length of
elastic to the end
of a knitting
needle and pass
the needle
through the tube
created by your
joined piece.
Voilà!



Speedy scrunchie

Turn some heads with this colourful hair tie

There's nothing more satisfying than a quick knit that you can put to use right away, and this fab scrunchie by **DAWN FINNEY** lets you do just that! Using only simple stitches and easy colour changes, this straightforward design is achievable for even the newest of crafters. It's an excellent stash buster too, but just be sure to use yarns of a similar weight to get an even tension.



Last-minute make!



"This pattern is great for using up odds and ends from your yarn stash. Why not use it to create scrunchies for party bags or to make a set of unique hair accessories as a very special birthday gift?"

DAWN FINNEY, DESIGNER

Use the
colours in
your kit for
a unique
project



YARNS

DK, shades
Pink, White,
Blue, Green,
Yellow, Peach
and Ecru

PLUS

5.5mm hook

SIZE

Small Mandala:
11cm diameter
Large Mandala:
16cm diameter



Take the
next step

MANDALA COLLECTION small pinwheel mandala

Using 5.5mm hook and Peach make a magic ring, work 8dc into ring. Eight sts

Note: 3ch at beg of each rnd does not count as a st

Rnd 1: 3ch, (1tr, 1ch) in each st to end, join with a sl st to third of first 3ch. Fasten off Peach, join Blue to any 1ch sp

Rnd 2: 3ch, 3tr in each 1ch sp to end, join with a sl st to third of first 3ch. 24 sts. Fasten off Blue, join White to

centre tr of any 3tr group

Rnd 3: 3ch, (1tr in centre tr of 3tr group, 3tr in next sp between 3tr group) to end, join with a sl st to third of first 3ch. 32 sts. Fasten off White, join Peach to first tr of any 3tr group

Rnd 4: 3ch, (3tr, 2tr in next st) to end, join with a sl st to third of first 3ch. 40 sts. Change to Blue

Rnd 5: 1ch, one rdc in each st to end, join with a sl st to first ch. Fasten off

small star mandala

Make two

Using 5.5mm hook and Green (Ecru) make a magic ring,

work 8dc into ring. Eight sts

Turn work over, change to Pink (Green)

Note: 3ch at beg of each rnd does not count as a st

Rnd 1: 3ch, (1ps, 1ch) to end, join with a sl st to third of first 3ch. Eight sts

Fasten off Pink (Green), turn work over, join Green (Ecru) to any 1ch sp

Rnd 2: 3ch, (3tr in 1ch sp, 1ch) to end, join with a sl st to third of first 3ch. 24 sts

Fasten off Green (Ecru), turn work over, join White (Yellow) to any 1ch sp

Rnd 3: 3ch, (1ps in 1ch sp, 1ch, 1ps in centre tr of next 3tr group, 1ch) to end, join with a sl st to third of first 3ch. 16 sts. Fasten off White (Yellow), turn work over, join Green (Ecru) to any

1ch sp

Rnd 4: (2tr in 1ch sp, 1ch) to end, join with a sl st to first st. 32 sts

Change to Pink (Green)

Rnd 5: 1ch, one rdc in each st to end, join with a sl st to first ch. Fasten off

small flower mandala

Using 5.5mm hook and Blue make a magic ring, work 8dc into ring. Eight sts

Change to Yellow

Rnd 1: working in FLO (3ch, 2tr in next st, 3ch, one sl st into ring) to end. Eight petals made

Note: 3ch at beg of each rnd does not count as st

Rnd 2: working behind petals in BLO, 3ch, (1tr, 1ch) to end, join with a sl st to third of first 3ch. Eight sts. Fasten off Yellow, join Blue to any 1ch sp

Rnd 3: 3ch, (3tr in 1ch sp, 1ch) to end, join with a sl st to third of first 3ch. 24 sts

Fasten off Blue, join Ecru to any 1ch sp

Rnd 4: rep Rnd 3. Fasten off Ecru, join Yellow to first tr of any 3tr group

Rnd 5: 3ch (does not count as st), (3tr, 2tr in next 1ch sp) to end, join with a sl st to third of first 3ch. 40 sts

Change to Blue

Rnd 6: 1ch, one rdc in each st to end, join with a sl st to first ch. Fasten off

large stripy mandala

Make two

Using 5.5mm hook and Pink (Peach) make a magic ring, work 8dc into ring. Eight sts

Note: 3ch at beg of each rnd does not count as a st

Rnd 1: 3ch, 2tr in each st to end, join with a sl st to third

of first 3ch. 16 sts. Change to Blue (Yellow)

Rnd 2: 3ch, (2tr in next st, 1tr) to end, join with a sl st to third of first 3ch. 24 sts

Change to Peach (Pink)

Rnd 3: 1ch, (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end, join with a sl st to first ch. 32 sts

Change to Pink (Peach)

Rnd 4: 3ch, (2tr in next st, 3tr) to end, join with a sl st to

GREAT ADVICE

To work reverse double crochet (rdc), work double crochet stitches as you normally would but work along the edge from left to right, rather than from right to left. This creates an attractive rope-like finish



Create a colourful crocheted collection to adorn your walls and tabletops

The word mandala is Sanskrit for circle, and the colourful motifs are used in Eastern religions to represent the spiritual journey, starting from the outside to the inner core. These stunning crochet versions are worked from the inside out, and make for lovely home decorations, whether used as coasters, doilies or just to hang up and admire. They can be worked in any colour combination you like!

Use the
colours in
your kit for
a unique
project



SKILL UP!

Ps (puff stitch): (Yoh, insert hook into st, draw yarn through st, yoh, draw through two loops on hook) three times into same st. Four loops on hook. Yoh, draw through all loops on hook

third of first 3ch.
40 sts
Change to White
(White)
Rnd 5: 1ch, (4dc,
2dc in next st) to
end, join with a sl
st to first ch. 48 sts
Change to Blue
(Yellow)
Rnd 6: 3ch, (2tr in
next st, 5tr) to end,
join with a sl st to
third of first 3ch.
56 sts
Change to Peach
(Pink)
Rnd 7: 1ch, one rdc
in each st to end,
join with a sl st to
first ch
Fasten off

large flower mandala

Using 5.5mm hook
and Peach make
8ch, join with a sl
st into a ring

Rnd 1: 1ch, 16dc
into ring. 16 sts
Change to White
Rnd 2: (4ch, miss
next st, one sl st in
next st) to end.
Eight 4ch
loops made
Fasten off White,
join Green to any
missed st from
Rnd 2

Note: 3ch at beg
of each rnd does
not count as st

Rnd 3: 3ch, (3tr in
missed st, 1ch) to
end, join with a sl
st to third of first
3ch. 24 sts
Fasten off Green,
join White to any
1ch sp

Rnd 4: 3ch, (1ps
into 1ch sp, 1ch, 1ps
into centre tr of
next 3tr group,
1ch) to end, join
with a sl st to third
of first 3ch. 16 sts
Fasten off White,
join Green to any
1ch sp
Rnd 5: 3ch, 3tr in
each 1ch sp to end,

join with a sl st to
third of first 3ch.
48 sts
Fasten off Green,
join White to any
sp between 3tr
groups
Rnd 6: 3ch, (2tr in
sp between 3tr

groups, 3tr) to
end, join with a
sl st to third of
first 3ch. 80 sts
Change to
Peach
Rnd 7: 1ch, 1dc in
each st to end,
join with a sl st

to first ch
Rnd 8: (4ch, miss
two sts, one sl st
in next st) to end
Fasten off

to make up

Sew in ends,
block if desired

Small
pinwheel

Large stripy

Small
flower

Small
star

Large
flower

TOP TIP

PUFF STITCH
LOOKS BETTER ON
THE REVERSE
THAN IT DOES ON
THE FRONT SO
FLIP THE STAR
MANDALA OVER
BETWEEN ROUNDS
TO ACHIEVE THE
BEST EFFECT



*"Play around with
different colour
combinations, the
brighter the better!"*

IRENE STRANGE,
DESIGNER



YARNS

DK, shades
Cream, Dark
Blue, Light Blue,
Lavender, Pink,
Two-tone Pink

PLUS

four 6mm
black safety
eyes, small
amount of
dark brown
4ply, stuffing,
pink pastel,
tapestry
needle

SIZE

Height: 16.5cm



MARINA & NIXIE torso & head

Make two

Using 3.75mm
needles and
Cream cast on
12 sts

Row 1 (WS): p

Row 2: (k1, kfb)
three times, (kfb,
k1) to end. 18 sts

Row 3: p

Row 4: (k2, kfb)
three times, (kfb,
k2) to end. 24 sts

Rows 5-11: beg
with a p row work
in st st

Row 12: (k2, k2tog)
to end. 18 sts

Rows 13-19: cont
in st st

Row 20: (k1, k2tog)
to end. 12 sts

Rows 21-23: cont
in st st

Row 24: (kfb) to
end. 24 sts

Rows 25-31: cont

in st st

Row 32 (eyeline):
k8, (k2tog, k1)
twice, k2tog, k to
end. 21 sts

Rows 33-39: cont
in st st

Row 40: (k1, k2tog)
to end. 14 sts

Cut yarn leaving a
long tail, thread
through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off

tail

Make two

Using 3.75mm
needles and Dark
Blue (Lavender)
cast on 30 sts

Rows 1-9: beg with
a p (WS) row work
in st st

Row 10: (k3, k2tog)
to end. 24 sts

Rows 11-13: cont in
st st

Row 14: (k2, k2tog)
to end. 18 sts

Rows 15-17: cont in
st st

Row 18: (k1, k2tog)
to end. 12 sts

Rows 19-23: cont
in st st

Note: now
working first half
of fin

Row 24: (kfb) six
times, turn. 12 sts
Work on this set
of sts

Row 25: p

Row 26: (k1, kfb)
to end. 18 sts

Row 27: p

Cast off
Join yarn to rem
sts and rep Rows
24-27 for second
half of fin
Cast off

bra

Make two

Using 3.75mm
needles and
Two-Tone Pink
cast on 24 sts

Rows 1-3: beg with
a p (WS) row work
in st st
Cast off

arm

Make four

Using 3.75mm
needles and
Cream cast on
eight sts

Rows 1-12: beg
with a p (WS) row
work in st st
Cut yarn leaving a
long tail, thread
through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off

ringlet

Make eight (four
in each colour)

Using 3.75mm
hook and Pink
(Light Blue)

make 31ch

Row 1: beg in
second ch from
hook, 1dc in each
st to end
Fasten off

flower

Make two

Using 3.75mm
hook and Two-
tone Pink (make
4ch, insert hook in
first ch, yoh and
pull through both
loops) five times
Fasten off

to make up

With fastened-off
yarn end of Torso
& Head, sew seam
to neck. With
cast-on yarn end,
work gathering
thread along
cast-on edge and
draw tightly. Sew
Torso seam
halfway, insert
safety eyes, stuff,
and close seam.
With Cream work
gathering thread
along neck. With
cast-on yarn end
of Tail, sew seam
to beg of fin. With
each fastened-off
yarn end, sew
edge of fin, stuff
Tail, insert Torso in
Tail, and secure

Tail to Torso with
sts around waist.
Wrap chest with
Bra and sew seam
at back. With
same yarn end,
pierce Torso and
bring yarn end to
front of Torso,
wrap around Bra
with yarn to
create centre
knot. Hide yarn
end. Seam Arm
and attach to
Torso. With Cream,

make French knot
nose. With dark
brown 4ply,
embroider mouth.
With Pink/Light
Blue, make
backstitches to
Head. Attach
Ringlets. Attach
Flower to Tail. With
Light Blue, make
French knot in
centre. Colour
cheeks with pink
pastel. Weave in
all ends

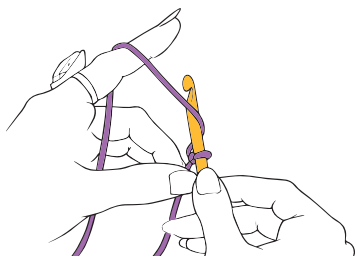
Love
THIS PATTERN?



CROCHET A COUPLE OF SEAFARING
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Mythical
make!



CROCHET SCHOOL

SLIP KNOT & CHAIN (CH)

YOU'LL USE CROCHET SKILLS
TO MAKE THE RINGLETS AND
FLOWERS – TURN TO PAGE 64
FOR OUR VISUAL GUIDES

Use the
colours in
your kit for
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needles

Variegated
Yarn

3.75mm
metal
hook



PURRFECT DOORSTOP

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- Take an inspiring **four of Iceland** and its gorgeous knits
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Christmas trees... *with a twist*

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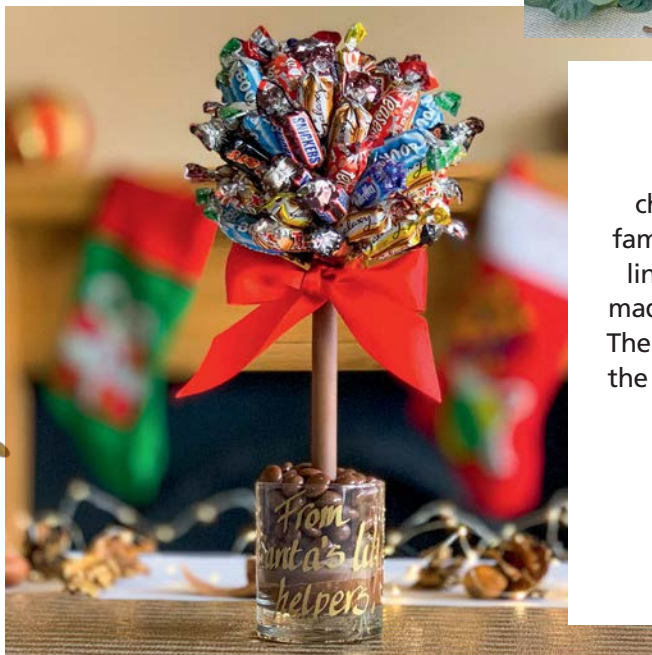


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STITCH SCHOOL

New to knitting or crochet? You'll get the hang of it in no time with our at-a-glance guides

TOOLKIT ESSENTIALS

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

Stitch marker Used to identify an important place in your knitting or crochet to help guide you – there are ring markers and locking stitch markers available

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

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

Stitch holder Used by knitters to hold live stitches when not being worked on the needles



BEGINNER BUY

This fabulous new Carnival Crochet Baby Blanket kit is a great way to practise and hone your crochet skills.

Designed by Jenny Watson, the blanket is made from West Yorkshire Spinners Bo Peep Luxury Baby DK and the kit contains all the yarn you need plus the pattern. Just add a 4mm crochet hook. The kit costs £42.95 from wyspinners.com

CROCHET A CIRCLE

Here's how to create a ring with a hole in the centre.



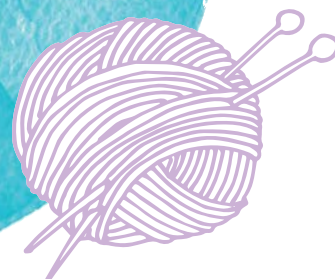
Step 1: Work a number of chain stitches then a slip stitch in the first chain to make a ring.

Step 2: Work into the centre of the ring on your next round. On all following rounds, work into the top of the stitch as normal.



Turn over for our classic stitch illustrations

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Let's knit together

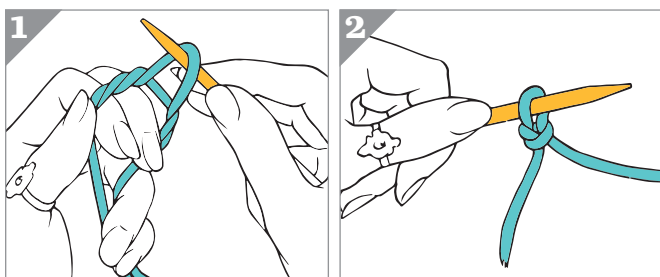
This month's highlights:

- ▶ Woodland Tree Decorations
- ▶ Quick Christmas Stocking Bunting
- ▶ Join the Gonkalong

START HERE

slip knot

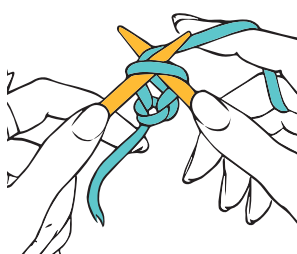
You need to make a slip knot on your needle before casting on. It counts as your first cast-on stitch



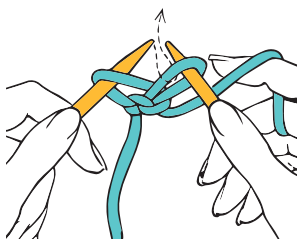
- 1** Hold the yarn under your left thumb, wrap it twice around your left index and middle fingers, with the second loop closer to the base of the fingers. With the backs of the fingers uppermost, insert the tip of the needle beneath the first loop and over the second, then pull the second loop under the first.
- 2** Remove your two fingers and gently tug on both ends of yarn to tighten the slip knot around the needle.

cast on

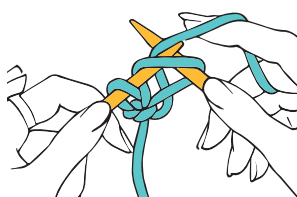
This method, also called the 'two-needle method', is great for beginners



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



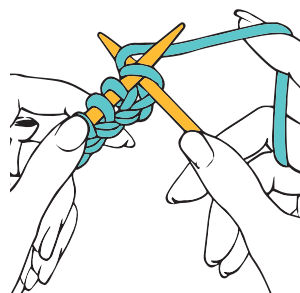
- 2** Pull the loop that forms back through the original stitch and insert the tip of the LH needle into the new stitch from underneath to transfer from the RH to LH needle. There should now be two stitches on the LH needle.



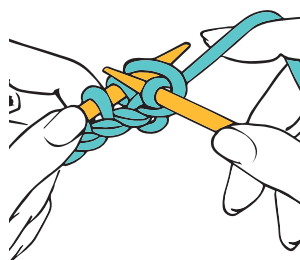
- 3** Repeat the above steps, knitting into the top stitch on the LH needle and returning the new stitches from the RH to the LH needle until you have the required number of stitches.

knit stitch (k)

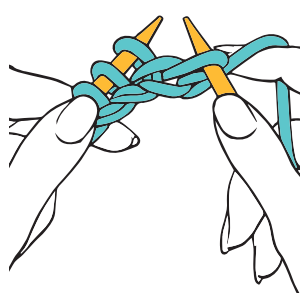
Also known as garter stitch, the knit stitch is the foundation of knitting



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



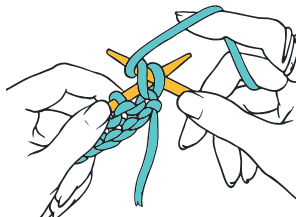
- 2** Using the RH needle, pull a loop of the wrapped yarn through the original stitch to create a new one on the RH needle.



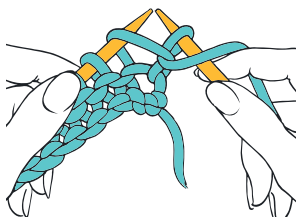
- 3** Slide the original stitch off the LH needle. Repeat from step 1.

purl stitch (p)

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



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



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



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

INCREASING & DECREASING

knit two together (k2tog)

Decrease two stitches to one by knitting them together



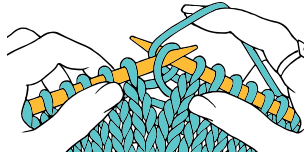
Insert the RH needle into the front loops of the next two stitches on the LH needle. Then wrap the yarn anti-clockwise around the tip and knit both stitches at the same time.

make one (m1)

Form a new stitch and increase your stitch count by one



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

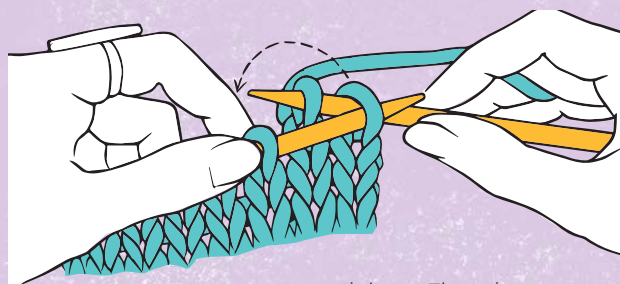


2 Push the RH needle into the back part of the loop that now lies over the LH needle and knit this stitch. You will now have an additional stitch on the RH needle.

FINISH HERE

cast off

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



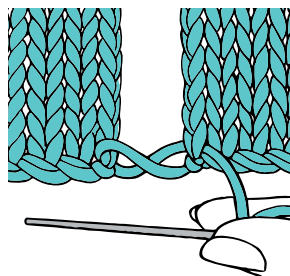
1 Knit two stitches as normal. Insert the tip of the LH needle into the second stitch on the RH needle (the stitch closest to you). Carefully lift it up and over the top stitch, dropping it off the tip of the RH needle and pulling the yarn to

tighten. There is now one stitch on the RH needle.

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

beginning a seam

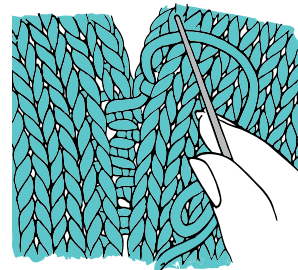
How to start sewing up your project



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

mattress stitch

Join knitted pieces together with this invisible method



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

ABBREVIATIONS

Here's a handy list of the most common abbreviations

alt: alternate
approx: approximately
beg: beginning
BLO: back loops only
ch: chain
ch sp: chain space
cn: cable needle
cont: continue
dc: double crochet

dec: decrease
dtr: double treble
FLO: front loops only
fol: following
htr: half treble
inc: increase
k: knit
kfb: knit into front and back of next stitch
kwise: knitwise
k2tog: knit two together
LH: left-hand

m1: make one stitch by picking up horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into back of it
meas: measures
p: purl
pfb: purl into front and back of next stitch
pm: place stitch marker
psso: pass slipped stitch over
pwise: purlwise

p2tog: purl two together
rem: remaining
rep: repeat
rev: reverse
RH: right-hand
RS: right side
skpo: slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over
sl 1: slip one stitch
sl st: slip stitch
sm: slip stitch marker
sp(s): space(s)
ssk: one by one, slip next two stitches

knitwise, put left-hand needle through front loops of both slipped stitches and knit them together
st(s): stitch(es)
st st: stocking stitch (knit one row, purl one row)
tbl: through back loop
tog: together
tr: treble
WS: wrong side
wyib: with yarn

in back
wyif: with yarn in front
yb: yarn back
yfwd: yarn forward (between knit stitches)
yoh: yarn over hook
yon: yarn over needle (between a purl and a knit stitch)
ym: yarn round needle (between purl stitches and between a knit and a purl stitch)

LEARN TO CROCHET

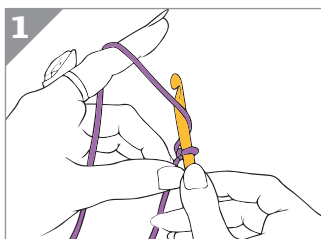


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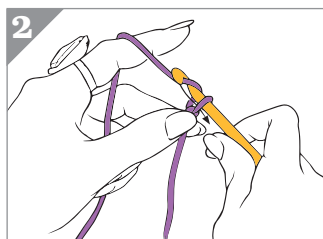
START HERE

slip knot & chain (ch)

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



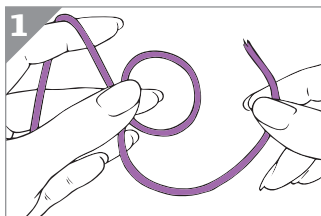
1 Make a slip knot and put it on the neck of the hook – don't pull it too tight or it will be difficult to stitch with. Coming from behind, wrap the yarn around the hook from right to left, across the 'neck'.



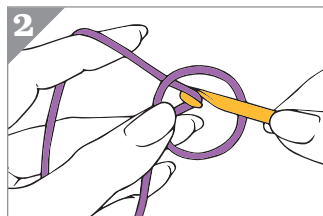
2 Catch the yarn and use the hook to pull it down through the slip knot. You have now made one chain (ch). Continue to make more chains, as directed in the pattern.

magic ring

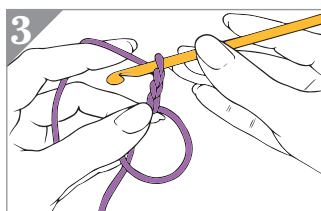
The magic ring is an easy way of beginning to work in the round. It is often used when making amigurumi toys



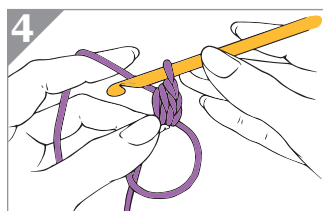
1 Make a large loop by putting the yarn tail behind the working yarn.



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



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

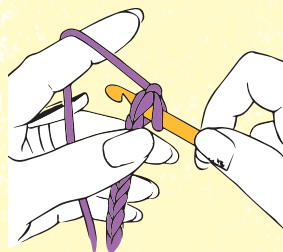


4 Continue to work as many stitches as needed into the loop. Once finished, untwist the tail if necessary and then pull to close the loop.

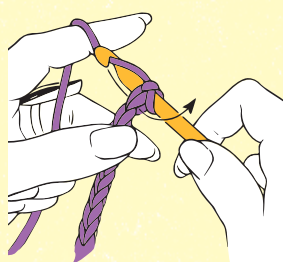
THE BASIC STITCHES

double crochet (dc)

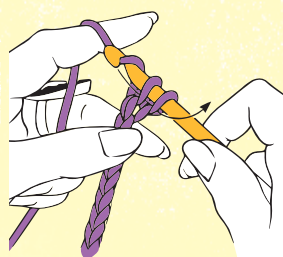
Double crochet is the shortest and most commonly-used crochet stitch



1 Insert hook through both strands of the next stitch.



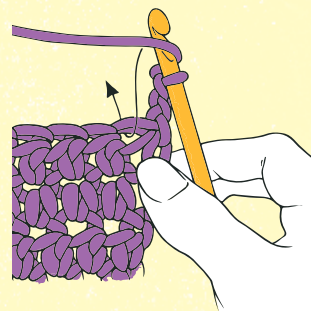
2 Yarn over the hook and draw back through the work. There will be two loops of yarn on the hook.



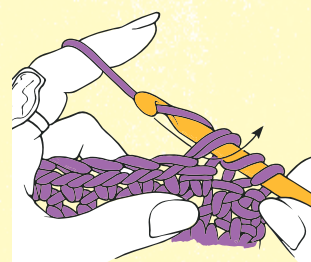
3 Yarn over the hook again and draw through both loops.

half treble (htr)

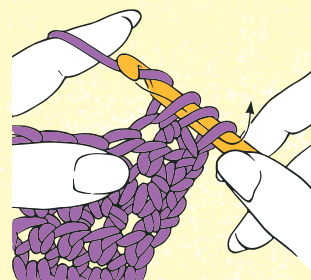
This stitch is longer than a double crochet and involves one extra step



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



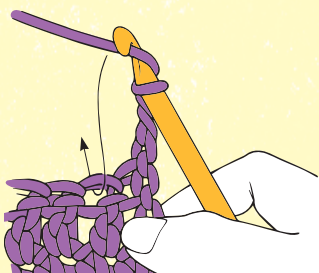
2 Yarn over the hook and draw back through the work. There will be three loops of yarn on the hook.



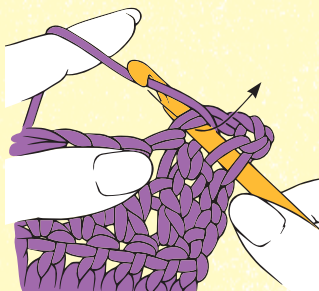
3 Yarn over the hook and draw through all three loops.

treble (tr)

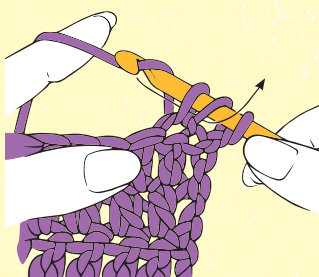
Treble crochet is slightly taller than half treble crochet but is made in a similar way



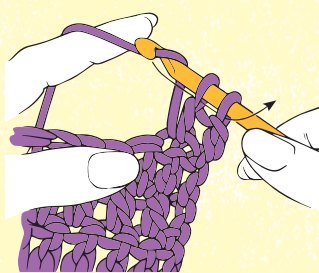
1 (You will need a turning chain of three stitches). Yarn over the hook. Insert the hook through the stitch.



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



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

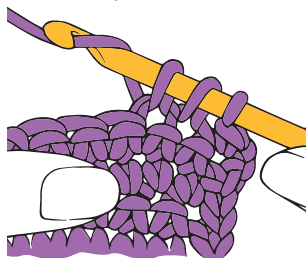


4 Yarn over the hook and draw through all the loops. This will leave one loop on the hook.

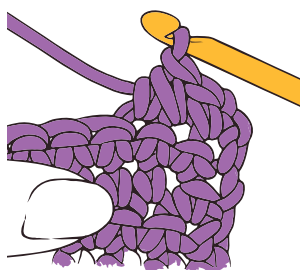
DECREASING

double crochet two together (dc2tog)

Turn two crochet stitches into one with this simple method



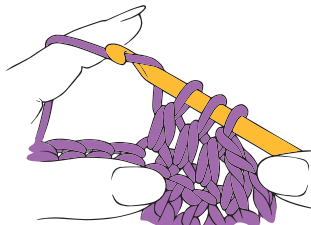
1 Insert hook through next stitch, yarn over hook, draw back through work. Two loops on hook. Insert hook into next stitch, yarn over hook, draw back through. Three loops on hook.



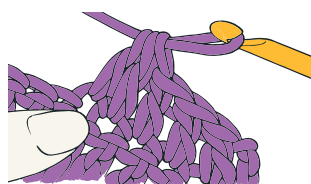
2 Yarn over hook, draw through all three loops. One loop on hook.

treble two together (tr2tog)

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



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



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

VIDEO OF THE MONTH



CROCHET WIND SPINNERS

[YOUTUBE.COM/THETCRAFTSCHANNEL](https://www.youtube.com/thecraftschannel)

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TEA AND A CHAT WITH...

Lana Choi

This optician turned amigurumi designer makes the cutest creations!

From Incheon, Korea, Lana Choi is an optician by profession, who has been running a practice in Seoul with her husband for 12 years. It was here that Lana first discovered the world of amigurumi. "One day, a customer who visited the opticians brought her own amineko," she recalls. 'Amineko' is a contraction of 'amigurumi' and 'neko', meaning cat. "Before I discovered the amineko in 2013, I didn't have much interest in knitting and crochet," Lana says. But once she discovered that she could create such adorable toys with crochet, she fell in love with the craft. "When I first made my own amineko, I carried it with me every day because it was so cute and I was so proud of it," she smiles.

A REAL SPECTACLE

For Lana, being an optician means working long 11-hour days, from 10am to 9pm. "About half of that time is spent

waiting for customers," she explains. "I could use most of my visitor-free time for amigurumi. Crochet doesn't need a lot of space, and it's easy to make anywhere." Lana loved creating amigurumi so much, she began making a toy every single day. Of course, a doll a day is an awful lot of dolls, and before long, Lana's desk couldn't possibly hold them all. "So my husband gave me a part of the glasses display case and I displayed them there! Regular customers were happy to see the dolls increase every time they visited, and some joked that the opticians would disappear," she chuckles. "The area occupied by my dolls has increased little by little every year, and now about half of the shop is used entirely as my studio." This sounds like our kind of opticians! When can we book an appointment?!

TOY STORIES

It didn't take long for Lana to master the craft of amigurumi and begin to bring her own ideas to life. "I was able to actually make what I imagined in my head," she says, "and I started writing patterns for people who wanted to make my dolls, and eventually it became a book." Lana's first book *Amigurumi Toy Box* was a big success, and now she has brought out another, called *My Amigurumi Toys*, which we just adore. The designs, which

include a loved-up pair of wedding bears, a happy pup, and dolls galore, are handpicked from Lana's impressive collection, with some modified or redesigned for the book. Lana highlights the carrot and broccoli characters as special favourites. "These friends seem to hug me with their arms open wide, like they want to comfort people," she says.

FIBRE FRIENDS

While she has many local admirers who visit the opticians to see her amigurumi, Lana has also developed an international following online. "When I first made amigurumi, I started blogging and using Instagram to record it. As pictures piled up on Instagram little by little, I began to connect with people around the world," she explains. "They are the hidden supporters who encourage me to continue, without getting tired of making amigurumi," she says fondly. As fellow amigurumi lovers who will surely never tire of it, we asked Lana if she had any tips for us. First of all, she encourages crafters to "record what you make every day. If you take it out a few years later and look at it again, you can develop a better design," she says. "And just enjoy it! Nothing improves me more than having fun."



My Amigurumi Toys by Lana Choi, Tuva Publications, RRP £14.99, available online and from all good bookshops

THIS OR THAT

Horror movies or comedies?

Horror

Cooking or being cooked for?

Cooking

Crafting outside or inside?

Inside

Giving gifts or receiving them?

Giving gifts

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