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Love Crochet

23 spring projects to hook today – for your family, your home and for yourself!



January 2020 £9.99

Love Crochet



Adorable animal jumpers!

- Makeup pouch & toy dinosaurs
- Necklace, rainbow baskets & more



♥
Fresh
SPRING
PROJECTS

Strictly cat dancing

Hook our ballerina cats,
sweet puppy & more

New season **patterns you'll love**



Hook a
classic
teddy!



Spring chicks
Pot holders



Perfect pair
Bright cushions



Love hearts
Valentine's ideas

Stay cosy
in a snuggly
poncho



PLUS NEWS, REVIEWS & EXPERT ADVICE





Welcome

It's that time of year when we're thinking about how we can add a little freshness to our lives, our homes and even our hobbies. Spring is all about change, so it's a perfect chance to switch up your decor, or how about learning a new crochet technique? We've got some great projects to get you feeling inspired and welcome the new season...

Our pair of cushions (p40) will add a splash of colour to any room (see right), or try our rainbow baskets (p36) to get organised at home. If a new baby is on the way in 2020, then don't miss our hot air balloon mobile (p14), nursery bunting (p22) and of course, our gorgeous traditional teddy (p18). We also have some stylish patterns to breathe new life into your wardrobe, from a striped poncho (p55) and cosy hat and snood combo (p52) to statement jewellery (p64). Step into the new season with a smile!

Amanda

Amanda Robinson
Editor

**Your
dancing
cat duo**
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PS. If you have any queries about patterns, email patternhelp@immediate.co.uk and we'll be happy to give you a hand!



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In the Loop

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

WE
love



Top of the Blogs!

www.lucyravenscar.blogspot.com



Lucy Collin is the designer behind the recently published *Harry Potter Crochet* book and kit (Thunder Bay Press) – the kit includes a hook shaped like a wand, which we think is the perfect finishing touch. Crocheting creatures is Lucy's thing, and you'll find a tribe of cute and quirky amigurumi characters on her site and in her shop. She says they're inspired by her 'geeky' interests. There are an assortment of free patterns on her site (we're loving the Daleks), plus more to buy from her Etsy site.



Moody hues

Did you know that John Lewis stores around the country host fun, reasonably priced workshops to boost your crafting journey? We're inspired by their Moodboard Workshop, led by a home design stylist who will help you mix and match colours and textures. It costs a mere £5! Go to the What's On section of their website for news of workshops at your local store. www.johnlewis.com

Make and take

How do you fancy making a kit, with the designer on hand to give you advice



and tips if you get stuck? That's what's on offer, among lots of other yarny activities, at Textiles East Fair, which

takes place at Swavesey Village College in Cambridgeshire from 21-22 Feb. Tickets are £6. This fleecy sheep, created by Alison of Sheepy Things, is just one of the tempting kit workshops to choose from.

www.textileseastfair.wordpress.com

Wire Crochet Jewelry



Is crocheting with wire more difficult than crocheting with yarn? Well, maybe a little, but Yael takes you through the process step by step, with detailed explanations and pictures. And, the 17 projects are graded by skill level, so you can start with something easy and work up to a bejewelled masterpiece. *Wire Crochet Jewelry: 17 Elegant Pieces to Stitch* by Yael Falk is out now (Interweave, £19.99).

3D Granny Squares



These are granny squares with a difference – they're embellished with a crocheted motif on top of them! With flora, fauna and edible goodies to choose from the 100 designs, plus 10 projects to make with them, there's no end to the thematic treasures you can make. *3D Granny Squares* by Celine Semaan, Sharna Moore and Caitie Moore is available now (David & Charles, £15.99).

Shopping hooked

Colourful, practical treats for you and your home



* Bunny cushion, www.george.com, **£6**

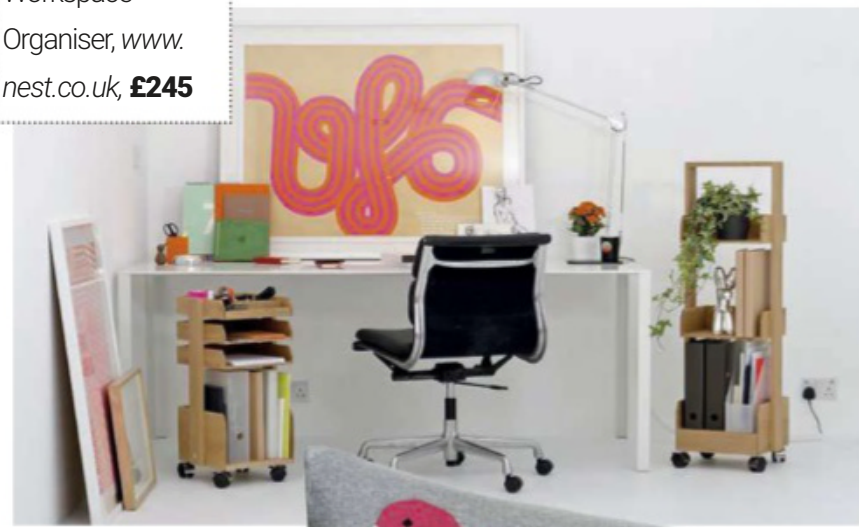


* Tea pot cover in rainbow, www.thedesigngiftshop.com, **£15.76**



* Friendly toadstool rattle, www.bestyours.co.uk, **£6.50 each**

* Casper Roller Workspace Organiser, www.nest.co.uk, **£245**



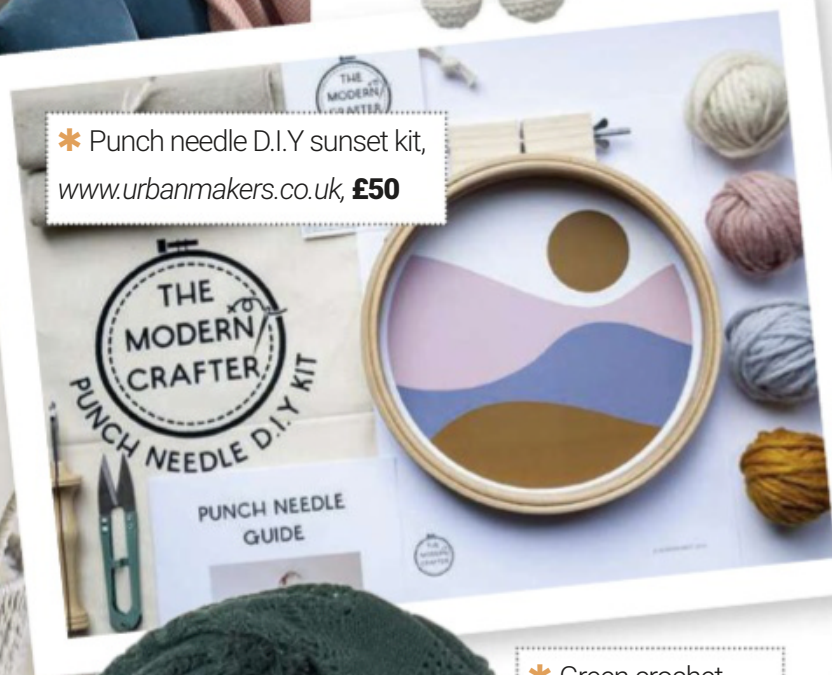
* Luna oval ring marble table lamp, www.cultfurniture.com, **£49**



* Miffy crochet doll in blue floral dress, www.retrokids.com, **£22**

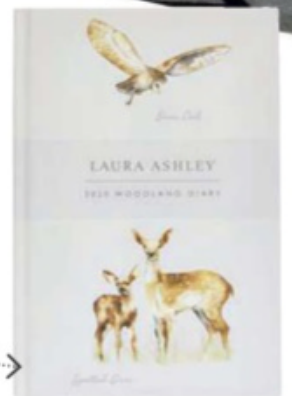


* Flamingo cushion in soft yarn, www.sophieallport.com, **£48**



* Punch needle D.I.Y sunset kit, www.urbanmakers.co.uk, **£50**

* Woodland animals diary, www.lauraashley.com, **£8.40**



* Green crochet snood, www.fatface.com, **£29.50**



* S-Tidy organiser in sky grey, www.vitra.com, **£29**



* Paper woven storage basket, www.dunelm.com, **£8**



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With a gift of £75 you can provide a Winter Survival Kit containing a stove, blankets, warm clothes and a tarpaulin to help a family insulate and heat their home. Please give today – you could save the lives of children like Khitam's.



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Ballet kitties

Hook our cute pair of our fairytale felines
– they'll steal the show and your heart!

By Liz Ward



Top tip

Mix and match
your colours
depending on what
yarns you have in
your stash!

You will need

- DK yarn in yellow, pale pink, black and gold from your stash
- 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) crochet hook
- Six-strand embroidery thread in dark grey or black
- 1m narrow white tulle or ribbon
- Toy stuffing

Measurements

- 15x8cm (6x3¼in)

Tension

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

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

Top Tip

You can substitute the embroidered eyes for toy safety eyes if you have some in your stash

Enjoy a night at the ballet when you stitch these adorable dancing cats! In matching golden outfits, embellished with tulle fabric and sparkly thread, they're all 'kitted' out for a very special performance. We've used yellow and gold for our colour scheme, but you can choose any DK yarn shades you like to ensure this delightful duo steal the limelight and take centre stage – you could even crochet an entire *corps de ballet*! Then simply take a bow and wait for the rave reviews...

Ballerina & Prince

Main instructions are for the Ballerina with instructions for Prince Charming given in the brackets { }.

Head and body

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Round 12 (Dc in the first 16 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (54 sts)

Mark the next round with a stitch marker.

Rounds 13-14 Dc in each st to the end. (54 sts)

Round 15 (Dc2tog, dc in next 7 sts); repeat to end. (48 sts)

Round 16 (Dc2tog, dc in next 6 sts); repeat to end. (42 sts)



Gold yarn gives the headband a fancy feel



Embellish the outfits with delicate tulle

Insert the toy eyes now they go on the marked round, 12 sts apart.

Round 17 (Dc2tog, dc in next 5 sts); repeat to end. (36 sts)

Round 18 (Dc2tog, dc in next 4 sts); repeat to end. (30 sts)

Round 19 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts); repeat to end. (24 sts)

Round 20 (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts); repeat to end. (18 sts)

Dancing cats

Stuff now.

Round 21 (Dc2tog); repeat to end. (9 sts)
{Change to yellow yarn after this round for Prince Charming}

Round 22 (Dc in the first 2 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (12 sts)

Round 23 (Dc in the first 3 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (15 sts)
Change to yellow yarn after this round.

Round 24 (Dc in the first 4 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (18 sts)

Round 25 (Dc in the first 5 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (21 sts)

Round 26 (Dc in the first 6 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (24 sts)

Ballerina only

Rounds 27-35 Dc in each st to end. (24 sts)

Prince Charming only

Round 27 Dc in each st to end. (24 sts)

Round 28 Blo dc in each st to end. (24 sts)

Rounds 29-35 Dc in each st to end. (24 sts)

Both

Fasten off.

Stuff body and sew the bottom seams together to form a flat seam

Legs (make 2)

Using yellow {black}, make a magic ring and work 6dc into the ring. (6 sts)

Round 1 (Dc in the first st, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (9 sts)

Rounds 2-4 2dc in first st, dc in each st to end. (12 sts)

Change to pale pink {yellow} yarn

Rounds 5-20 Dc in each st to end. (12 sts)

Fasten off. Stuff.

Sew to body along bottom seam.

Arms (make 2)

Using pale pink, make a magic ring and

It's in the detail

We've used all six strands of grey embroidery thread to stitch triangle and diamond shapes for the cats' features, with straight stitches to fill in the shapes. Make sure the strands are not twisted for a nice plump look.



work 6dc into the ring. (6 sts)

Round 1 (Dc in the first st, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (9 sts)

Rounds 2-15 Dc in each st to end. (9 sts)
{Change to yellow yarn after Round 3 for Prince Charming}
Fasten off.

Stuff, sew in place at shoulders.

Ears (make 2)

Using pale pink, make a magic ring and work 4dc into the ring. (4 sts)

Round 1 (Dc in the first st, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (6 sts)

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

Round 3 (Dc in the first 3 sts, 2dc in the

Top Tip

If you have enough gold yarn in your stash, you could add some extra sparkle to the ballerina's slippers

Top tip

Use good quality toy filling and make sure you stuff your toys evenly to give a lovely finish

next st); repeat to end. (10 sts)

Round 4 (Dc in the first 4 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (12 sts)

Round 5 (Dc in the first 5 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (14 sts)

Round 6 (Dc in the first 6 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (16 sts)
Fasten off.

Press flat to make a triangle and sew onto the top of the head.

Tail

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

Round 1 (Dc in the first st, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (9 sts)

Rounds 2-20 Dc in each st to end. (9 sts)
Fasten off and sew to back of body.

To make up ballerina

Embroidery

You can mark where you want the face details with a pencil or vanishing marker before you start, to get placement right. The face detail is embroidered using grey embroidery thread. Find the centre point of the face and sew a small triangle for nose, filling it in with long stitches. From the bottom centre point, make a small vertical stitch down, then two diagonal stitches either side of this for the mouth. Sew diamond shapes for the eyes, with long stitches over the top. You can build up the stitches to get a rounder eye.

Headband

Using gold yarn, make a magic ring and work 5dc into the ring. (5 sts)

Round 1 (2tr, ch2, 2tr, ss in each st); repeat to end, ch28.

Fasten off and sew in place around head.



Working into the loops on Round 28 adds extra bulk to Prince Charming's coat

Ballet slippers

Cut a length of yellow yarn 50cm (20in) long. Thread yarn from one side to the other (leaving two loose ends) on the colour change row on the leg. Hold the two ends as you would shoelaces, and wrap around the leg a couple of times, crossing over as you go. Tie with a knot in the back and trim off excess yarn.

Tutu

Sew a running stitch down one long edge of the tulle fabric, (not too close to the edge as it can tear). Gather and tie around ballerina's waist.

To make up Prince Charming

Embroidery

Work as for the ballerina.

Coat

Re-join to the loops created on the body on Round 28 with yellow yarn.

Rounds 1-9 Dc in each st to end. (24 sts)
Fasten off and weave in any loose ends.

Coat detail

Use black yarn to sew four long straight lines across the body. Use gold thread to sew an outline around these lines, adding a decorative 'V' at each side if you have room.

Ruff

You'll need a shorter length of tulle than for the tutu, fold it in half lengthways and sew a running stitch along the folded edge. Gather together and tie around Prince Charming's neck. ♥

Up, up and away!

Take to the skies and enjoy those bright spring days
with **Liz Ward's** colourful hot air balloon

Beautiful
gift for a
new baby's
nursery



You will need

- Rico Creative Cotton Aran, 1 ball each in:
Cardinal (shade 11)
Turquoise (shade 36)
Light Green (shade 40)
Light Yellow (shade 63)
Cherry (shade 65)
Tangerine (shade 76)
White (shade 80)
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook
- Wool needle
- Toy stuffing

Measurements

- 22x28cm (8½x11in)

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

Top tip

Make the stripes different sizes and combine different colours to make this design unique

About this yarn

Rico Creative Cotton Aran

100% cotton

85m per 50g

Machine wash at 30°C

£1.89, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

The sight of a hot air balloon drifting across a blue sky is enough to put a little spring in anyone's step, and this colourful project will have just the same effect!

Get started on the rainbow stripes and contrasting rows of slip stitch, then add a mini basket to hold one of baby's favourite toys – they'll have a great view of the nursery from up there!

HOT AIR BALLOON

Notes The slip stitch pattern is created by working the same row twice. We've added this into the pattern as an uncounted slip stitch row.

This piece is worked in a spiral. Use a contrasting piece of yarn as a row marker so you know when you have got to the end of the row.

Starting in Cherry yarn, make a magic ring and work 6dc into the ring. (6 sts)

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

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

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

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

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

Change to Tangerine at the end of this round.

SS round Using Cardinal yarn, ss in each st to end. Break off Cardinal yarn.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Change to Light Yellow at the end of this round.

SS round Using Turquoise yarn, ss in each st to end. Break off Turquoise yarn.

Round 12 (Dc in the first 16 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (54 sts)

Round 13 (Dc in the first 17 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (57 sts)

Round 14 (Dc in the first 18 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (60 sts)

Rounds 15-18 Dc in each st to end. Change to Light Green.

Round 19 Dc in each st to end.

Round 20 (Dc2tog, dc in next 18 sts); ➔



Simple rounds of slip stitch are used for the stripey details

Hot air balloon

repeat to end. (57 sts)

Round 21 Dc in each st to end. (57 sts)

Round 22 (Dc2tog, dc in next 17 sts); repeat to end. (54 sts)

Round 23 Dc in each st to end. (54 sts)

Round 24 (Dc2tog, dc in next 16 sts); repeat to end. (51 sts)

Change to Turquoise after this round.

SS round Using Cherry yarn, ss in each st to end. Break off Cherry yarn.

Round 25 Dc in each st to end. (51 sts)

Round 26 (Dc2tog, dc in next 15 sts); repeat to end. (48 sts)

Round 27 Dc in each st to end. (48 sts)

Round 28 (Dc2tog, dc in next 14 sts); repeat to end. (45 sts)

Round 29 Dc in each st to end. (45 sts)

Round 30 (Dc2tog, dc in next 13 sts); repeat to end. (42 sts)

Change to Cardinal yarn at end of this round.

SS round Using Tangerine yarn, ss in each st to end. Break off Tangerine yarn.

Round 31 (Dc2tog, dc in next 5 sts); repeat to end. (36 sts)

Now firmly stuff the main body of the balloon.

The next round is worked in the back of the loop only and creates the flat base of the balloon.

Round 32 (Blo dc2tog, blo dc in next 4 sts); repeat to end. (30 sts)

Round 33 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts);



repeat to end. (24 sts)

Round 34 (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts);

repeat to end. (18 sts)

Finish stuffing now.

Round 35 (Dc2tog); repeat to end. (9 sts)

Fasten off and weave in any loose ends.

Basket

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

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

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

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

The next round is worked in the back of the loop only and creates the flat base of the basket.

Round 4 Blo dc in each st to end. (24 sts)

Rounds 5-8 Dc in each st to end.

Fasten off, leaving a 1.5m long tail.

Connecting the basket and balloon

Thread the yarn that is already connected to the basket onto your yarn needle. Sew through any stitch on the blo round of the balloon. Do not put the yarn taut, leave a 3cm (1¼in) length of yarn between the basket and the balloon. Keeping this yarn length in

Top Tip

Add some decoration to the middle section of the balloon with simple zig-zag stitches in contrasting white yarn

place, oversew to secure the stitch. Thread the yarn through the fabric of the balloon to come up on the same round, 4-5 stitches along the round. Then sew through the edge of the basket at the same spot, making sure to leave 3cm (1¼in) of yarn between the basket and balloon again. As before, oversew this stitch to secure. Continue in this way, going from basket to balloon and back again until the basket is secured all around. Fasten off and weave in any loose ends.

Decoration

Using White yarn, sew long zig-zag stitches in the middle section of the balloon, using the picture as a guide. 💙

It's in the detail

The basket is attached to the balloon in six places, at regular intervals around the edge. This gives enough support for a small teddy or other toy to take a trip!



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Bear hugs

You can't beat a traditional teddy for cuddles and companionship
– **Val Pierce's** sweet bear is sure to become a forever friend



Top tip

Use up stash
cotton DK in
different colours
for Yarns B
and C

You will need

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton DK in Apricot (shade 3962) x 3 balls – A
- Rico Ricorumi DK in, 1 ball each in: Nude (shade 023) – B
- Chocolate (shade 057) – C
- 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) hook
- Toy stuffing

Measurements

- 28cm (11in) tall when standing

Tension

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

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Stylecraft Classique Cotton DK

100% cotton

92m per 50g

Machine wash at 40°C

£2.19, call 01484 848 435 or visit

www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

This beautiful bear has all the makings of a classic, with his 'paw-fect' proportions and endearing expression. We love him for his simple pattern and construction, too. Hooked in double crochet throughout, Val has used soft shades of apricot for the bear's body, with dark brown for the details. This makes it extra quick to make as there are no fiddly colour changes. Little ones are sure to be charmed by this beary cute creation!

TEDDY

Note You will stuff each piece as you work, so remember to add small bits of stuffing as you go along. It is possible to finalise stuffing at the end of most pieces by adding tiny bits of stuffing with the blunt end of a crochet hook.

Head

Using A, make 2ch.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc in 2nd ch from hook, ss to first ch to join into a circle.

Round 2 1ch (not counted as a st throughout), 2dc in each dc to end, ss to first dc. (12 sts)

Round 3 1ch, *1dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (18 sts)

Round 4 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Round 5 1ch, *1dc in each of next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (30 sts)

Round 6 1ch, *1dc in each of next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (36 sts)

Round 7 1ch, *1dc into each of next 5 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (42 sts)

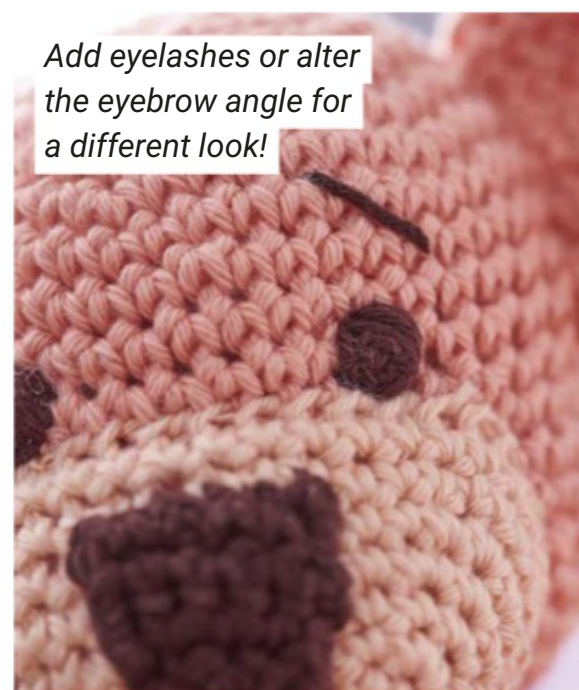
Round 8 1ch, *1dc into each of next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (48 sts)

Work 9 rounds dc.

Round 18 1ch, *1dc in each of next 6 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, join with a ss to first dc. (42 sts)

Round 19 1ch, *1dc into each of next 5 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, join with a ss to first dc. (36 sts)

Add eyelashes or alter the eyebrow angle for a different look!



Round 20 1ch, *1dc in each of next 4 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (30 sts)

Round 21 1ch, *1dc into each of next 3 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Round 22 1ch, *1dc into each of next 2 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (18 sts)

Fasten off.

Muzzle

Using B, make 6ch.

Row 1 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each of next ch, 3dc in last ch, work along other side of starting chain, 1dc in each of next 3 ch, 3dc in last ch, join with a ss.

Row 2 1ch, 1dc in each of next 5 dc, 3dc in next dc, 1dc in next 6 dc, 3dc in next dc, 1dc in last dc, join with a ss to first dc.

Continue in rounds of dc, working 3dc into centre dc of each previous 3dc on

Traditional teddy

Top Tip

Bend the ears slightly to create a realistic shape, before sewing them onto Teddy's head

each round for a further 4 rounds.
Work 3 more rounds with no shaping.
Fasten off.

Nose

Using C, make 8ch.

Row 1 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, turn.

Row 2 1ch, 1dc into each dc to end.
Repeat last row twice more.

Row 5 Dc2tog at each end of row.
Repeat last row once more.

Row 7 Dc3tog, fasten off but leave a long tail of yarn.

Arms (make 2)

Using A, make 2ch.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc in 2nd ch from hook, ss to first ch to join into a circle.

Round 2 1ch (not counted as a st throughout), 2dc in each dc to end, ss to first dc. (12 sts)

Round 3 1ch, *1dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (18 sts)

Round 4 1ch, *1dc into each of next 2 dc, 2dc into next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Round 5 1ch, *1dc into each of next 3 dc, 2dc into next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (30 sts)

Work 6 rounds of dc.

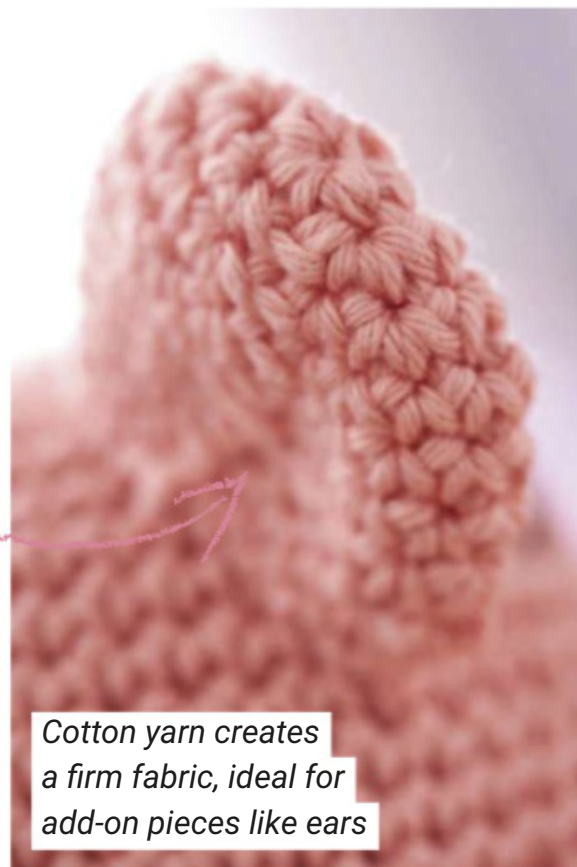
Round 12 1ch, *1dc in each of next 3 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Work 12 rounds of dc.

Round 25 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (18 sts)

Work 2 rounds of dc.

Round 28 1ch, *1dc in next dc, dc2tog;



Cotton yarn creates a firm fabric, ideal for add-on pieces like ears

rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (12 sts)

Round 29 1ch, *dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (6 sts)

Fasten off.

Paw pads (make 2)

Using B, make 2ch.

Round 1 6dc into 2nd ch from hook, join with a ss to form a circle.

Round 2 1ch, 2dc into each dc to end, ss to first dc. (12 sts)

Round 3 1ch, *1dc into next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (18 sts)

Round 4 1ch, *1dc into each of next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Fasten off.

Legs (make 2)

Using A, make 2ch.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc in 2nd ch from hook, ss to first ch to join into a circle.

Round 2 1ch (not counted as a st throughout), 2dc in each dc to end, ss to first dc. (12 sts)

Round 3 1ch, *1dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (18 sts)

Round 4 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Round 5 1ch, *1dc in each of next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to



The paws and feet are firmly stuffed for a nice rounded shape

first dc. (30 sts)

Round 6 1ch, *1dc in each of next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (36 sts)

Work 4 rounds in dc.

Round 11 1ch, *1dc into each of next 4 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (30 sts)

Work 1 round of dc.

Round 13 1ch, *1dc in each of next 3 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Work 8 rounds of dc.

Round 22 1ch, *1dc in each of next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (30 sts)

Work 6 rounds of dc.

Round 29 1ch, *1dc in each of next 3 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Round 30 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (18 sts)

Round 31 1ch, *1dc in next dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (12 sts)

Round 32 1ch, *dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (6 sts)

Fasten off.

Foot pads (make 2)

Using B, make 2ch.

Round 1 6dc into 2nd ch from hook, join with a ss to form a circle.

Round 2 1ch, 2dc into each dc to end,

ss to first dc. (12 sts)

Round 3 1ch, *1dc into next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (18 sts)

Round 4 1ch, *1dc into each of next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Round 5 1ch, *1dc into each of next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (30 sts)
Fasten off.

Body

Using A, make 2ch.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc in 2nd ch from hook, ss to first ch to join into a circle.

Round 2 1ch (not counted as a st throughout), 2dc in each dc to end, ss to first dc. (12 sts)

Round 3 1ch, *1dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (18 sts)

Round 4 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Round 5 1ch, *1dc in each of next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (30 sts)

Round 6 1ch, *1dc in each of next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (36 sts)

Round 7 1ch, *1dc into each of next 5 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (42 sts)

Round 8 1ch, *1dc into each of next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (48 sts)

Round 9 1ch, *1dc into each of next 7 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss

to first dc. (54 sts)

Work 12 rounds of dc.

Round 22 1ch, *1dc into each of next 7 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (48 sts)

Work 3 rounds of dc.

Round 26 1ch, *1dc in each of next 6 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (42 sts)

Work 2 rounds of dc.

Round 29 1ch, *1dc into each of next 5 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (36 sts)

Work 1 round of dc.

Round 31 1ch, *1dc in each of next 4 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (30 sts)

Round 32 1ch, *1dc into each of next 3 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Round 33 1ch, *1dc into each of next 2 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (18 sts)

Fasten off.

Ears (make 2)

Using A, make 2ch.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc in 2nd ch from hook, ss to first ch to join into a circle.

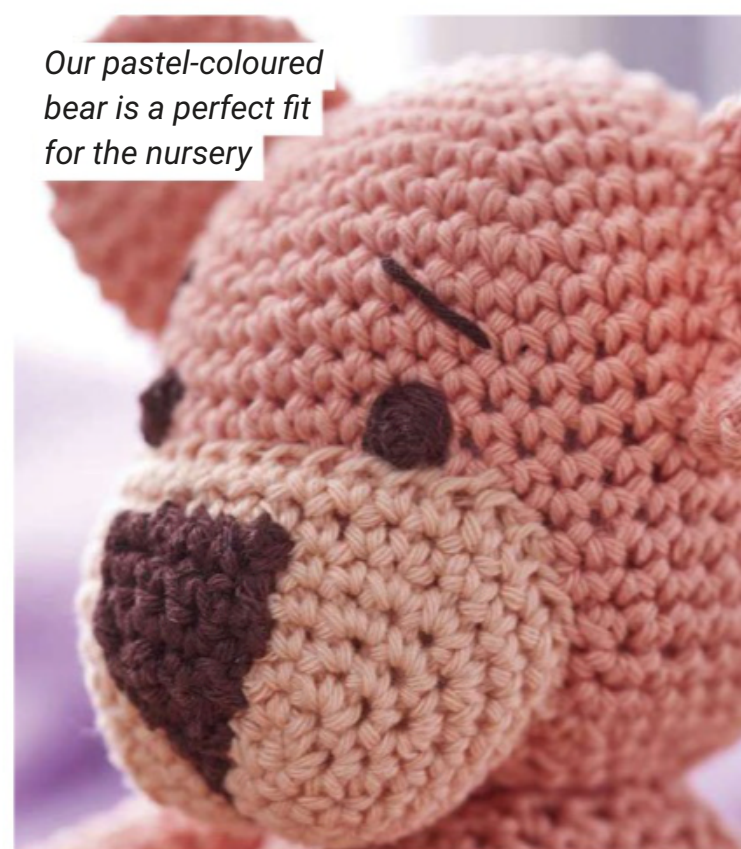
Round 2 1ch (not counted as a st throughout), 2dc in each dc to end, ss to first dc. (12 sts)

Round 3 1ch, *1dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (18 sts)

Round 4 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (24 sts)

Round 5 1ch, *1dc in each of next 3 dc,

Our pastel-coloured bear is a perfect fit for the nursery



2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, ss to first dc. (30 sts)

Work 5 rounds of dc and fasten off.

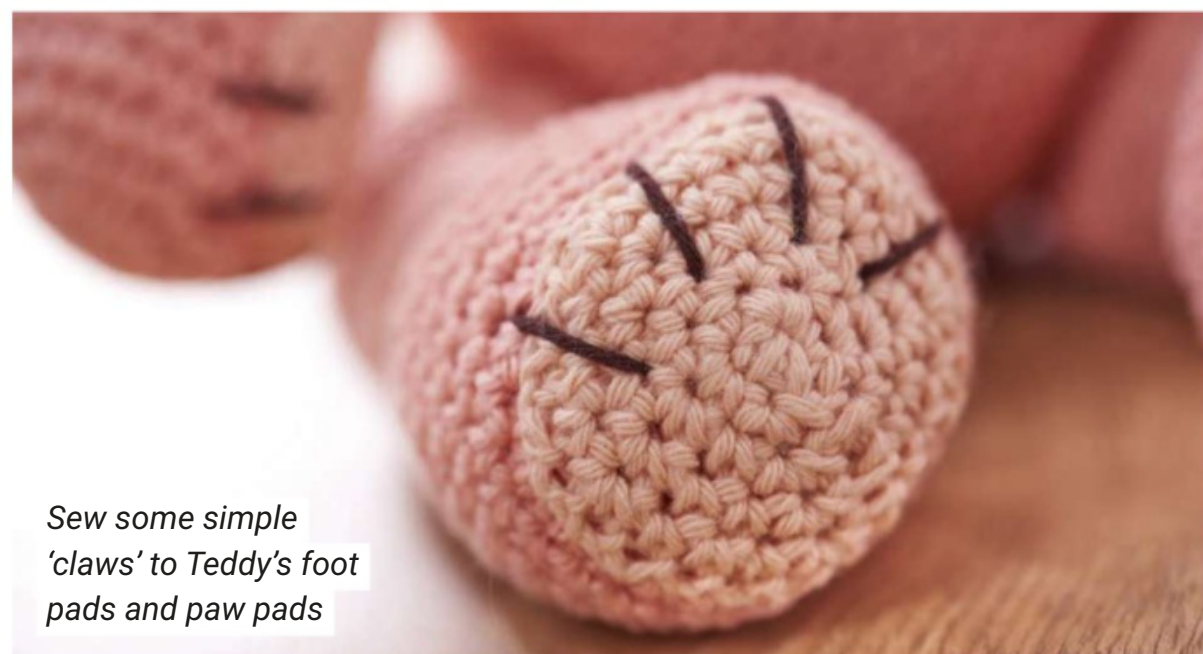
To make up

Complete stuffing on each part if needed. Make sure the head and body are quite firmly stuffed. With the arms and legs, stuff the paw and feet parts well, but leave the tops of the arms and legs quite soft to enable to be sewn onto the body.

Fold ears in half, curl into a semi-circle shape, pin in place on either side of head and then sew firmly to the head. Place muzzle onto the front of the head, using photo as a guide if needed. Pin in place, add stuffing to pad out and give a nice shape. Sew in place, adding extra stuffing if you feel it is needed. Pin nose in centre of muzzle. Add a little stuffing to pad lightly, then sew in place. Use the long tail of yarn and pull to the base of head to define the cheeks of the bear. Secure yarn firmly.

Embroider eyes on either side of muzzle, then add eyebrows. Sew head to body very firmly. Add the paw and feet pads to the arms and legs, sew in place and then using brown yarn, oversew claws onto pads. Use photos as a guide if needed.

Attach arms and legs to body of bear, flattening the top of the limbs so that they sit nicely against the body. 🐻



Sew some simple 'claws' to Teddy's foot pads and paw pads



Baby bunting

Celebrate the birth of a bouncing baby with sweet strings of nappy bunting! **By Lara Messer**

Top tip

If you prefer, sew on cute buttons printed with teddy bears instead of the pins

You will need

- DMC Petra 3, 1 ball each in:
Baby Blue (shade 54518)
Apple Green (shade 5772)
White (shade B5200)
- 2.5mm (UK 12 or 13, US B/1 or C/2)
crochet hook
- Yarn needle
- Scissors
- Spray starch
- Ironing mesh
- Iron
- 10 safety pins

Size

- Each nappy measures approx.
6.5x7cm (2½x2¾in)
- Bunting measures approx. 80cm
(31½in) long

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations
see page 82

About this yarn

DMC Petra 3 Thread

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

There's no better reason to rejoice (or to crochet) than the arrival of a new baby, so reach for your pastel cottons and create this cute and comical gift. Our bunting is a sweet way to decorate a nursery, or use it to set the scene for a baby shower. Five nappy flags will be plenty to create an eye-catching display, but if you have some willing helpers (grannies and aunties are ideal for this), you can hook enough to fill every wall!

NAPPY BUNTING

Make five nappies – three blue and two green.

Row 1 Ch37, 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each of the next 35 sts. (36 sts)

Row 2 Turn, ch1, 36dc.

Row 3 Turn, ch1, 36dc.

Row 4 Turn, ch1, 36dc.

Cut yarn, sew in ends.

Row 5 Turn, ss into 7th st along from right hand side, ch1, 1dc into same st
Work in your tail at this point, 23dc.

(24 sts)

Row 6 Turn, ch1, 24dc.

Row 7 Turn, ch1, 24dc.

Row 8 Turn, ch1, 24dc.

Row 9 Turn, ch1, dc2tog, 20dc, dc2tog.
(22 sts)

Row 10 Turn, ch1, dc2tog, 18dc, dc2tog.
(20 sts)

Row 11 Turn, ch1, dc2tog, 16dc, dc2tog.
(18 sts)

Row 12 Turn, ch1, 18dc. (18 sts)

Row 13 Turn, ch1, 18dc. (18 sts)

Row 14 Turn, ch1, 18dc. (18 sts)

Row 15 Turn, ch1, dc2tog, 14dc, dc2tog.
(16 sts)

Row 16 Turn, ch1, 16dc. (16 sts)

Row 17 Turn, ch1, dc2tog, 12dc, dc2tog.
(14 sts)

Row 18 Turn, ch1, dc2tog, 10dc, dc2tog.
(12 sts)

Row 19 Turn, ch1, 12dc. (12 sts)

Row 20 Turn, ch1, 12dc. (12 sts)

Row 21 Turn, ch1, 2dc into first st, 10dc,
2dc into last st. (14 sts)

Row 22 Turn, ch1, 14dc.

Row 23 Turn, ch1, 14dc.

Row 24 Turn, ch1, 14dc.

Row 25 Turn, ch1, 14dc.

Row 26 Turn, ch1, 14dc.

Row 27 Turn, ch1, 2dc into first st, 12dc,
2dc into last st. (16 sts)

Row 28 Turn, ch1, 16dc.

Row 29 Turn, ch1, 16dc.

Row 30 Turn, ch1, 2dc into first st, 14dc,
2dc into last st. (18 sts)

Row 31 Turn, ch1, 18dc. (18 sts)

Row 32 Turn, ch1, 18dc. (18 sts)

Row 33 Turn, ch1, 2dc into first st, 16dc,
2dc into last st. (20 sts)

Row 34 Turn, ch1, 20dc. (20 sts)

Row 35 Turn, ch1, 20dc. (20 sts)

Row 36 Turn, ch1, 20dc. (20 sts)

Row 37 Turn, ch1, 20dc. (20 sts)

Cut yarn, sew in ends.

Nappy trim

Using white yarn, ss st into bottom right-hand side of front of nappy, 1dc into same st then into each st around the whole nappy, work in your tail at this point. Ch1 to turn corners, join with ss into starting dc. Cut yarn, sew in ends. Attach your nappy pins.

To string into a garland

Work continuously, do not cut yarn until you have hooked up each nappy and have created a loop at each end. Ch20, ss into last st (ch20) to create a loop, ch25, work your tail in at this point. Ss into first corner of nappy, ch12, ss into left-hand corner of nappy. Ch15 between each nappy. Ch25 after final corner of last nappy, ch20, ss into ch1 to create a loop. 🧡

Little baby kisses

Welcome a new baby with showers of kisses, using your one-of-a-kind crochet ribbon.

By Lara Messer

Top tip

Pastel shades of lilac, yellow or green will work equally well with this design

You will need

- DMC Petra 3, 1 ball each in:
Baby Blue (shade 54518)
White (shade B5200)
- 2.5mm (UK 12 or 13, US B/1 or C/2)
crochet hook
- Yarn needle
- Scissors
- Spray starch
- Ironing mesh
- Iron

Measurements

- The ribbon is approx. 1m long

Tension

- Tension is not critical for
this project

Abbreviations

- Ttr – Triple Treble Crochet: (Yo 3 times, insert hook through st, yo and pull through loop, (you now have 5 sts on hook), yo, pull through 2, (4 sts on hook), yo, pull through 2, (3 sts on hook), yo, pull through 2, (2 sts on hook), yo, pull through 2, (1 st on hook))
- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

DMC Petra 3 Thread

100% cotton

280m per 100g

Machine wash at 60°C

£4.95, www.dmccreative.co.uk

Provide any lovingly wrapped baby gift with a gorgeous flourish, using a length of this kiss-embazoned crocheted ribbon. It adds that all-important personal touch, with the added bonus of a delightfully vintage feel. If baby happens to turn out to be a girl, you can easily trade the blue shade for pale pink, or go for a more gender-neutral hue like lemon or lilac – the pastel shades will still shout ‘newborn!’ and make the white kisses stand out crisply in the mercerised cotton.

BABY RIBBON

Foundation row Ch250 plus ch1, (turning chain).

Row 1 Using White yarn, 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch across, turn. (250 sts)

Row 2 Using Blue yarn, work your tail in as you begin this row. Ch1, 1dc into each of the next 8 sts, *ch1, miss 1 stitch, 1dc into each of the next 2 sts, ch1, miss 1 stitch, 1dc into each of the next 6 sts; repeat from * until the last 2 sts, then 1dc into each st to end of row, turn.

These missed sts are where you will hook your ttr stitches in Row 4.

Row 3 Using Blue yarn, ch3 (counts as 1tr), miss first st, 1tr into each st and into each ch1-space to end of row. (You can keep track of your stitches by turning your work to the RS and counting: missed st, 2 sts missed st, 6 sts, missed st, 2 sts, missed st... from Row 2. The stitches are more visible from the front).

Continue to the end of row, turn.

Row 4 Using White yarn, work your tail in as you begin this row. Ch1, 1dc into each of the next 8 sts, *1ttr into the second space made by the missed dc from Row 1 (work your ttr stitch by hooking through the dc space, working this long stitch on the surface of your blue rows), miss 1 stitch (move your work slightly and you will be able to see your sts more easily), 1dc into each of the next 2 sts, 1ttr into the first space made by the missed dc from Row 1

(you are crossing your ttr stitches), miss 1st, 1dc into each of the next 6 sts (you have completed your first kiss!); repeat from * until last 2 sts, then 1dc into these sts to end of row. Cut yarn, sew in ends.

To finish

Spray the ribbon with starch and place an ironing mesh/tea towel on top. Run a warm iron over the ribbon, then leave to dry overnight in a warm place. 🧡



Mercerised cotton has a shiny finish, just like real ribbon

Seaside child

Sail into the new season with **Nicki Trench's**
adorable boat beanie hat for baby



Top tip

Use good-quality yarn for the main hat and scraps of cheaper yarn for the boat motif

You will need

- **Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino**,
1 ball each in:
Ecru (shade 101) – A
Citrus (shade 18) – B
Baby Blue (shade 204) – C
- Scraps of red, white and blue for the boat motif
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook
- 2.5mm (UK 12 or 13, US B/1 or C/2) hook

Measurements

- To fit age 3-6 months
- Circumference: 36cm (14in)

Tension

- 18 sts and 13 rows to 10cm (4in) over htr, using a 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook

Abbreviations

- **Ttr – Triple treble crochet:**
Yo 3 times, insert hook through st, yo and pull through loop, (you now have 5 sts on hook), yo, pull through 2, (4 sts on hook), yo, pull through 2, (3 sts on hook), yo, pull through 2, (2 sts on hook), yo, pull through 2, (1 st on hook)
- **Qtr – Quadruple treble crochet:**
Yo 4 times, insert hook through st, yo and pull through loop, (you now have 6 sts on hook) yo, pull through 2, (5 sts on hook, yo, pull through 2, (4 sts on hook), yo, pull through 2, (3 sts on hook), yo, pull through 2, (2 sts on hook), yo, pull through 2, (1 st on hook)
- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino
55% wool, 33% acrylic, 12% cashmere
125m per 50g
Machine wash at 30°C
£4.99, call 01409 404 010 or visit www.lovecrafts.com

Add a nautical twist to baby's outfit with this sweet and simple beanie hat, worked in the softest yarn to keep little heads warm and happy. It's perfect for windy days at the beach. The boat motif uses scraps of yarn and is made with triple and quadruple trebles – have fun practising these long crochet stitches and creating a stylish effect at the same time.

HAT

Using a 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and A, make 4ch, ss in first ch to make a ring.

Round 1 2ch, make 8htr into ring, join with ss in first 2-ch. (8 sts)

Round 2 2ch, 1htr in same st, 2htr in each st to end, join with ss in first 2-ch. (16 sts)

Round 3 2ch, 1htr in same st, *1htr in next st, 2htr in next st; rep from * to end, join with ss in first 2-ch. (24 sts)

Round 4 Rep Round 3. (36 sts)

Round 5 2ch, 1htr in same st, *1htr in each of next 2 sts, 2htr in next st; rep from * to last 2 sts, 1htr in last 2 sts, join with ss in first 2-ch. (48 sts)

Round 6 2ch, 1htr in same st, *1htr in each of next 7 sts, 2htr in next st; rep from * to last 7 sts, 1htr in each st to end, join with ss in first 2-ch. (54 sts)

Round 7 2ch, 1htr in same st, *1htr in each of next 8 sts, 2htr in next st; rep from * to last 8 sts, 1htr in each st to end, join with ss in first 2-ch. (60 sts)

Rounds 8-14 2ch, 1htr in each st to end, join with ss in first 2-ch.

Join in B.

Round 15 1ch, 1dc in each st to end, join with ss.

Join in C.

Round 16 1ch, 1dc in each st to end, join with ss.

Fasten off.

Boat motif base

Using a 2.5mm (UK 12 or 13, US B/1 or C/2) hook and Red, make 9ch, 1dc in next ch from hook, 1htr in next ch, 1tr in next ch, 1dtr in next ch, 1tr in next ch, 1htr in next ch, 1dc, ss in first ch. Fasten off.

Boat motif sails

Using a 2.5mm (UK 12 or 13, US B/1 or



Make the sails using triple and quadruple trebles

C/2) hook and White, make 11ch, make 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in next ch, 1htr in next ch, 1tr in each of next 2ch, 1dtr in next ch, 1ttr in next ch, 1qtr in next ch. Fasten off.

Working on other side of ch just worked with WS facing, join Blue in underside of second dc, 1dc in next ch, 1htr in next ch, 1tr in next ch, 1dtr in next ch, 1ttr in next ch 1qtr in next ch, 6ch, join with ss in next ch. Fasten off.

To finish

Sew boat sail onto boat base using yarn needle and attaching to the centre bottom chain of the straighter edge of the bottom of boat. Sew boat motif onto hat. 🧵

More info

This pattern is from **Crochet Stashbusters** by Nicki Trench, published by CICO Books (£9.99)



Photography © CICO Books

A vibrant, multi-colored crocheted blanket made of granny squares is draped over a white wooden chair. The blanket features a variety of colors including red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, and pink, arranged in a pattern of diagonal stripes. The background is a white brick wall, and the floor is made of light-colored wooden planks.

Top tip

Arrange your squares diagonally, in stripes, or in a random manner for a fun finish!

Baby joy

Bring a rainbow to the nursery with **Becky Skuse's** sweet and simple granny square blanket

You will need

- DK yarn, approx 100m/50g each in 10 different colours:
Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Turquoise, Blue, Lilac, Purple, Pink, Magenta
- DK yarn, approx 650m/200g in Cream
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook

Measurements

- Each coloured square measures 7.5x7.5cm (3x3in) before border
- Each square measures 9x9cm (3½x3½in) with border
- Finished blanket measures approx 100x100cm (39½x39½in)

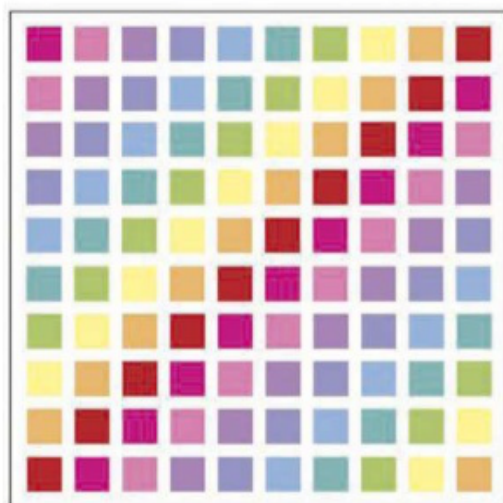
Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

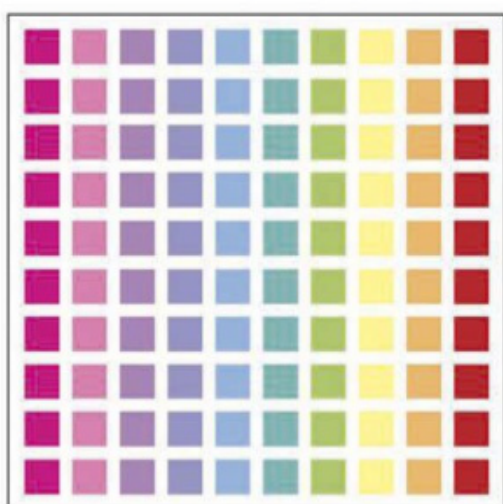
Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

Diagonal layout



Striped layout



We love how a wave of rainbow shades runs diagonally across this beautiful blanket. Designer Becky says: "I've always adored rainbows, so a rainbow blanket had been on my must-make list for ages. I chose granny squares because they allow the colours to stay as the focus of the design, while the cream background keeps the look light. Crocheting with each shade in turn was like a form of colour therapy!"

BLANKET Square

Make 10 squares in each yarn colour except Cream.

Squares are joined when working a border in cream around each one.

Make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr into the ring, *ch3, 3tr into the ring; repeat from * twice more, ch3, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3 to join.
(4 3-tr groups, 4 ch-3 sps)

Round 2 Ss to the next ch-3 sp, ch3 (counts as tr), (2tr, ch3, 3tr) into the same ch-3 sp, *ch1, (3tr, ch3, 3tr) into the next ch-3 sp; repeat from * twice more, ch1, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3 to join.
(8 3-tr groups, 4 ch-3 sps, 4 ch-1 sps)

Round 3 Ss to the next ch-3 sp, ch3 (counts as tr), (2tr, ch3, 3tr) into the same ch-3 sp, *ch1, 3tr into the next ch-1 sp, ch1, (3tr, ch3, 3tr) into the next ch-3 sp; repeat from * twice more, ch1, 3tr into the next ch-1 sp, ch1, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3 to join.
(12 3-tr groups, 4 ch-3 sps, 8 ch-1 sps)
Fasten off and weave in ends.

Square border

Join Cream to any ch-3 sp of the first square, using a ss.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr), (2htr, ch3, 3htr) into the same ch-3 sp, *ch1, (3htr into the next ch-1 sp, ch1) twice, (3htr, ch3, 3htr) into the next ch-3 sp; repeat from * twice more, (ch1, 3htr into next ch-1 sp) twice, ch1, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3 to join.
(16 3-htr groups, 4 ch-3 sps, 12 ch-1 sps)

A wide half treble border over four rounds finishes off the blanket perfectly



Fasten off and weave in ends.

Now join tog the rem squares in a 10x10 grid (see diagrams left) as you work the border around each square. Work Round 1 of Border as above, but on the sides where you have an adjacent square, replace each 'ch1' with 'ss to matching ch-1 sp on adjacent square', and replace each 'ch3' with 'ch1, ss to matching ch-3 sp on adjacent square, ch1'.

Once you've joined the last square, do not fasten off the yarn.

Blanket border

Rotate work to crochet around the outside of the finished blanket.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr), work 1htr into each stitch and ch-sp around, working 3htr into each of the blanket's 4 corner spaces, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3 to join. (178 htr)

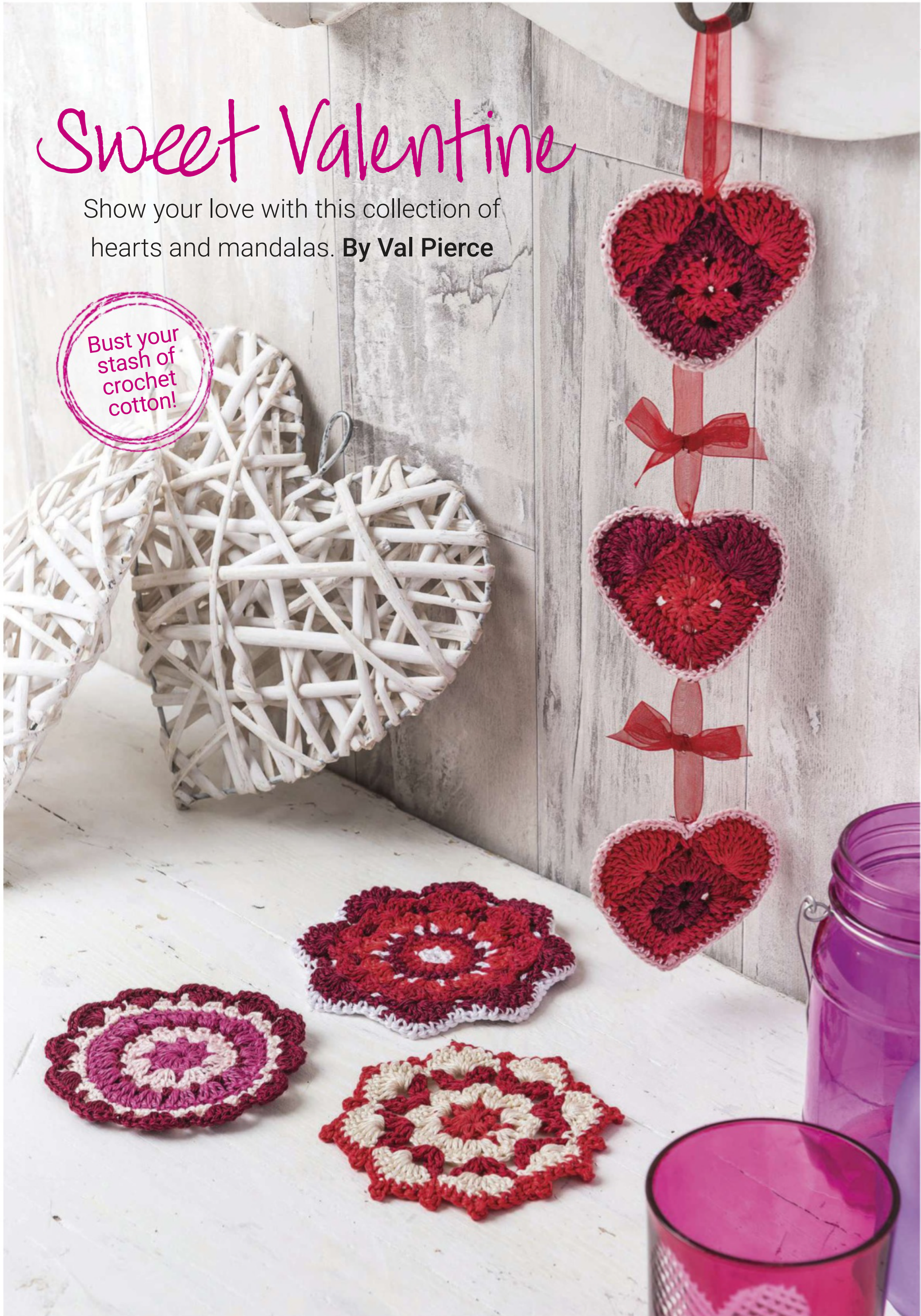
Round 2 Ch2 (counts as htr), work 1htr into each stitch, working 3htr into each corner stitch, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3 to join. (186 htr)

Rounds 3-4 Repeat Round 2. (202 htr)
Fasten off and weave in ends. ●

Sweet Valentine

Show your love with this collection of hearts and mandalas. **By Val Pierce**

Bust your
stash of
crochet
cotton!



You will need

■ DMC Petra 3 Crochet Cotton in:

Mandala 1

Ecru, Bright Red, Dark Red

Mandala 2

Pale Pink, Dark Pink, Medium Pink

Mandala 3

White, Bright Red, Medium Red, Dark Red

Hanging Hearts

Dark Red, Bright Red, Maroon, Pale Pink

■ 1.75mm (UK 2, US 4) steel crochet hook

■ 1 metre of red organza ribbon

Measurements

■ Approx. 6.5cm (2½in) wide x 6cm (2¼in) high

Tension

■ Tension not important

Abbreviations

■ To work tr round post, insert hook from front to back and around the post of the designated stitch, then work tr in usual way. This gives a raised treble

■ For standard abbreviations see page 82

About This yarn

DMC Petra 3

100% cotton

280m per 100g

Machine wash at 60°C

£5.89, www.dmc.com

Valentine's Day is a time to show you care, and it's also the perfect excuse to hook up some gorgeous crochet in rich reds and deep pinks to share with your loved ones and friends. Val has designed three variations of mandalas and a pretty string of hanging hearts for this collection of love-filled designs. Made with a tiny 1.75mm hook and the beautifully-coloured Petra 3 Cotton, these projects are easy to make but will require a little patience, plenty of good light and a careful eye.

Valentines designs

Mandala 1

Using 1.75mm (UK 2, US 4) hook and Bright Red, make 6ch and join into a ring with a ss.

Round 1 5ch (counts as 1tr, 2ch) into ring, *1tr, 2ch, into ring; rep from * 6 times more, join to 3rd ch at beg of round with a ss.

Join in Ecru.

Round 2 Ss into first 2ch space, 3ch 1tr, 2ch, 2tr, all into same sp, *2tr, 2ch, 2tr into next 2ch space; rep from * 6 times more, join with a ss to top of 3ch at beg of round.

Join in Dark Red.

Round 3 Ss to first 2ch sp, 4ch, 1dtr, 3ch, 2dtr into same space, *2dtr, 3ch, 2dtr into next 2ch space; rep from * 6 times more, join to top of 4ch at beg of round.

Join in Ecru.

Round 4 Ss to first 3ch space, 3ch, 7tr into same space, *1dc between next 2 sets of dtr, 8tr into next 3ch space; rep from * 6 times more, 1dc between next 2 sets of dtr, join to base of next tr with a ss.

Join in Bright Red.

Round 5 1ch, *1dc into next 4 tr, 1dc into space before next tr, 4ch, ss into base of 4ch (picot made), 1dc into each of next 4 tr, 1dc into next dc, 4ch, ss into base of dc*; rep from * to * all around, joining with a ss to beg of round.

Fasten off.

Work in any loose ends and press lightly under a damp cloth with a warm iron.

Mandala 2

Using 1.75mm (UK 2, US 4) hook and Medium Pink, make 6ch and join into a ring with a ss.

Round 1 3ch (counts as first tr), 15tr into ring, 16tr in all, ss to top of 3ch. Join in Pale Pink.

Round 2 Ss into space between next 2 tr, 3ch, 3tr into same space, *miss 2 tr, 4tr into next space between next 2 tr*; rep from * to * 6 times more, join with a ss to beg of round.

Join in Dark Pink.

Round 3 *3ch, miss 2 tr, 1dc into space between next 2 tr*; rep from * to * all around, ending last rep ss into ss to beg of round.

Join in Medium Pink.

Round 4 Ss into first 3ch sp, 3ch, 2tr into same space, *3tr into each 3ch space* all around, ss to beg of round. Join in Pale Pink.

Round 5 1ch, 1dc into each tr all the way around, join with a ss. Join in Dark Pink.

Round 6 1ch, *miss 2 dc, 4tr in next dc, miss 2 dc, 1dc into next dc*; rep from * to * all around, join with a ss to beg of round.

Work in all loose ends. Press lightly under a damp cloth using a warm iron.

Mandala 3

Using 1.75mm (UK 2, US 4) hook and White, make 6ch and join into a ring with a ss.

Round 1 Work 8dc into circle, join with a ss to beg of round.

Hearts & mandalas

It's in the detail

Keeping your tension even and blocking when you have finished making your mandalas should ensure you end up with beautifully-shaped designs without the dreaded wonky edge!



Join in Bright Red.

Round 2 1ch, work 2dc into each dc all around, join with a ss.

Join in Medium Red.

Round 3 1ch, *1dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc*; rep from * to * all around, join with a ss to beg of round.

Join in Dark Red.

Round 4 1ch, *1dc into each of next 2 dc, 2dc into next dc*; rep from * to * all around, join to beg of round with a ss.

Join in White.

Round 5 3ch, miss 1 dc, 1dc into next dc, *3ch, miss 1 dc, 1dc into next dc*; rep from * to * all round, join to beg of round with a ss.

Join in Bright Red.

Round 6 Ss to first 3ch space, 3ch, 4tr into same sp, *1dc into next 3ch sp, 5tr into next 3ch sp*; rep from * to * all around, ending with 1dc into last 3ch

space, ss to 3ch at beg of round.

Join in Medium Red.

Round 7 Ss to 3rd tr of 5tr group, 3ch, 6tr into same st, *1tr around post of dc of previous round, 7tr into 3rd tr of next 5tr group*; rep from * to * all around, ending 1tr round post of dc of previous round, ss to top of 3ch at beg of round. Join in Dark Red.

Round 8 Ss to 5th tr of 7tr group, 3ch, 8tr into same st, *1tr around post of tr of previous round, 9tr into 5th tr of next 7tr group*; rep from * to * all around, ending 1tr round post of tr of previous round, ss to top of 3ch at beg of round. Join in White.

Round 9 1ch, *1dc into each of next 4 tr, 3dc into next tr, 1dc into each of next 4 dc, 1tr round post of tr in previous round*; rep from * to * all around, ss to beg of round. Fasten off.

Use the mandalas as a set of coasters, choosing colours to suit your room



Top Tip

Yardage is great for this yarn, so you can make many hearts and mandalas from just one ball in each shade



Top tip

Instead of ribbon, use a simple crochet chain to join your hearts

Tonal shades of red and pink bring depth to these pretty designs

Work in all loose ends. Press lightly under a damp cloth using a warm iron.

Hanging hearts

Use colours of your choice. You will make 2 hearts each in the same colour combinations as they are crocheted together in pairs.

Using 1.75mm (UK 2, US 4) hook and first contrast, make 6ch and join into ring with a ss.

Round 1 3ch (counts as first tr), 2tr into circle, *3ch, 3tr into circle*; rep from * to * twice more, 3ch, ss into top of 3ch at beg of round.

Change colour.

Round 2 3ch (counts as first tr), 1tr into next 2 tr, *3tr, 3ch, 3tr into next 3ch space, 1tr into each of next 3 tr*; rep from * to * twice more, 3tr, 3ch, 3tr into

last 3ch space, join to beg of round with a ss.

Change colour.

Round 3 Join in yarn to any 3ch space with a ss, 1dc into same space, *12dtr into 5th tr from hook, 1dc into next 3ch space*; rep from * to * once more. Fasten off.

Make another heart to match. Work in all ends.

To join hearts

Place hearts back to back, right sides facing out.

Now crochet through both hearts at the same time, stitch for stitch, thus joining them together as you work.

Next round Join in yarn to centre dc of previous round, *1dc into first dtr, 2dc into next dtr*; repeat from * to * 5 times more, now work 1dc into each st and

row end to 3ch space at point of heart, 3dc into this space, 1dc into each st and row end to first dtr; repeat from * to * 6 times, ss into first dc.

Fasten off. Work in any ends.

Make 2 more sets of hearts in the same way using different colour combinations for 3 rounds and using the same colour contrast for the edging.

To make up

Cut a piece of ribbon approx 40cm (16in) long. Thread the ribbon through the back of the hearts, securing with a few stitches at the top and bottom of each heart. Leave enough for a loop at the top, fold this over and tuck into the back of the top heart, then secure to make loop. Make two neat bows and sew onto the ribbon between hearts. ♥

Hot chicks

Spring into the new season with these Easter chick pot holders, hooked in bright cotton. **By Anne Egan**

Top tip

Keep stitches nice and tight to make a firm, stable surface, perfect for hot pots



These eggs-tra special ladies are your new kitchen helpers. Put them to work as potholders, trivets or even place mats – they're just so versatile and a whole lot of fun! Each pot holder is made in two parts, which are crocheted together. The beak, crest and tail are then crocheted to the edging.

You will need

- **Phildar Phil Coton 4 in:**
Ciel (03) or Turquoise (41) x 1 ball – Yarn A
Small amounts of Oiellet (34) and Citron (63)
- **Small amount of black DK cotton**
- **4mm (UK 8, US G/4) hook**
- **Tapestry needle**

Measurements

- **Approx. 16x18cm (6¼x7in)**
excluding beak, crest and tail

Tension

- **Tension is not critical for this project**

Abbreviations

- **For standard abbreviations see page 82**

About this yarn

Phildar Phil Coton 4

100% cotton

85m per 50g

Machine wash at 30°C

£2.78, www.lovecrafts.com

POT HOLDER (MAKE 2)

Row 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch across, turn. (8 dc)

Row 2 Ch3, dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in next ch, dc in each of next 7 dc, 2dc in last dc, dc in turning ch of previous row, turn. (12 dc)

Row 3 Ch3, dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in next ch, dc in each of next 11 dc, 2dc in last dc, dc in turning ch of previous row, turn. (16 dc)

Row 4 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 2dc in first dc, dc in each dc across to last dc, 2dc in last dc, turn. (18 dc)

Rows 5-6 Repeat Row 4. (22 dc)

Row 7 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn.

Row 8 Repeat Row 4. (24 dc)

Rows 9-11 Repeat Row 7.

Row 12 Repeat Row 4. (26 dc)

Rows 13-26 Repeat Row 7.

Row 27 Ch1, skip first dc, dc in each dc across to last 2 dc, dc2tog, turn. (24 sts)

Rows 28-30 Repeat Row 7.

Row 31 Repeat Row 27. (22 dc)

Row 32 Repeat Row 7.

Rows 33-35 Repeat Row 27. (16 dc)

Row 36 Ch1, skip first dc, dc2tog, dc in each dc across to last 4 dc, dc2tog twice, turn. (12 dc)

Row 37 Ch1, skip first dc, dc2tog, dc in each dc across to last 4 dc, dc2tog twice, turn. (8 sts)

Fasten off first piece, do not fasten off second piece but continue with edging.

Edging

Round 1 (RS) Place the 2 pieces WS together and join with a dc st through both layers evenly all around, ss to first dc. Fasten off.

Round 2 (RS) Join Citron to the dc at the right-hand edge of Row 22, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in next 5 sts, change to Yarn A without fastening off Citron, dc around to central 6 sts at top, change to Oiellet, dc in next 6 dc, change back to Yarn A without fastening off Oiellet, dc in each dc to dc at left-hand edge of Row 28, do not fasten off but continue with tail.

Tail

Row 1 Ch8, dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc2tog, htr2tog, htr, dc, dc in next 12 dc of edging, ss in next dc, turn.

Row 2 Ch1, skip ss, ss in next 2 dc, dc in next 9 dc, turn, leaving rem sts unworked.

Row 3 Ch8, dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc2tog, htr2tog, htr, dc, dc in next 5 dc of Row 2, ss in next dc, turn, leaving rem sts unworked.

Row 4 Skip ss, ss in next dc, dc in next 4 dc, turn, leaving rem sts unworked.

Row 5 Ch6, dc in 2nd ch from hook, (dc2tog) twice, ss in next dc. Fasten off, leaving rem sts unworked.

Complete edging

Rejoin Yarn A in next unworked st of Round 1 of edging, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st around to first Citron st at beg of round, ss in first dc. Fasten off.

Beak

Row 1 (WS) Pick up Citron, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first 4 dc, ss in next dc, turn, leaving last st unworked.

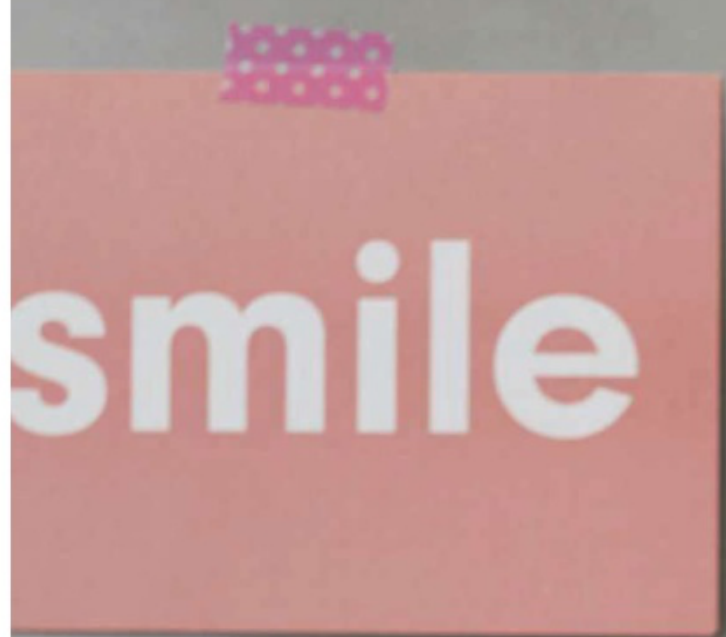
Row 2 (RS) Ch1, skip ss, ss in next dc, dc in next 3 dc, rotate pot holder to work into row ends back towards edging, ch1, dc in end of Row 2, dc in end of Row 1, ss to last dc of Citron in edging round. Fasten off.

Crest

Row 1 (WS) Pick up Oiellet, ch6, ss to first dc, ss in next dc, ch8, ss in same dc, ss in next dc, ch10, ss in same dc, ss in next dc, ch8, ss in same dc, ss in next dc, ch6, ss in same dc. Fasten off.

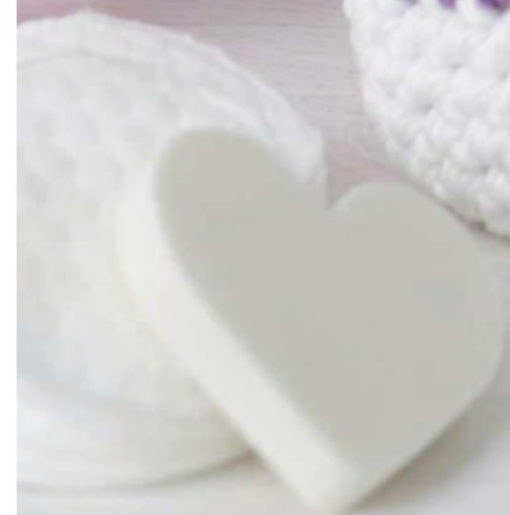
To finish

Weave in all ends. Using a tapestry needle and black DK yarn, over stitch an eye through both layers a couple of times, using the image as a guide. ♥



Over the rainbow

Make tidying up more fun with
Anne Egan's dreamy set of colourful
storage baskets



A CHANG

Top tip

*For a firmer base,
add a circle of
white card to the
bottom of
each pot*



You will need

- **DROPS Muskat in:**
 - White (shade 18) x 3 balls
 - 1 ball each in:
 - Lilac (shade 04)
 - Light Blue (shade 02)
 - Light Mint (shade 20)
 - Light Yellow (shade 07)
 - Peach (shade 10)
- 6mm (UK 4, US J/10) hook
- Stitch marker

Measurements

- **Diameters of pots from Large to Extra Small:** 12cm (4¾in), 10cm (4in), 9cm (3½in), 8cm (3in)
- **Heights of pots from Large to Extra Small:** 12cm (4¾in), 10cm (4in), 9cm (3½in), 8cm (3in)

Tension

- **Tension is not critical for this project**

Abbreviations

- **For standard abbreviations see page 82**

About this yarn

DROPS Muskat

100% cotton
100m per 50g
Machine wash at 40°C
£1.60, for stockists visit
www.garnstudio.com

Channel your inner Cinderella and get busy tidying. With their pastel-rainbow handles, this sweet set of baskets in four different sizes will make the chore more bearable, and will certainly add a fairytale feel to any bedroom or nursery. Use them to organise makeup, toys, baby items or little knick-knacks looking for a home, and simply nest them neatly together when they're empty. Storage has never looked so pretty!

BASKETS

Notes The Pots are worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it helpful to place a marker in the first st of each round and move it up as you work.

All Pots are made using 2 strands of each colour held tog. Change colour in the last yrh of last st of prev round.

Large pot

Using 2 strands of Yarn A held tog, ch2.

Round 1 6dc in 2nd ch from hook.

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

Round 3 (Dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc) around. (18 dc)

Round 4 (Dc in next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc) around. (24 dc)

Round 5 (Dc in next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc) around. (30 dc)

Round 6 (Dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc) around. (36 dc)

Round 7 (Dc in next 5 dc, 2dc in next dc) around. (42 dc)

Round 8 (Dc in next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc) around. (48 dc)

Rounds 9-15 Dc in each dc around.

Round 16 Dc in each dc around, change to Lilac in last yrh of last st of round.

Round 17 (Dc in next 9 dc, ch9, skip 7 dc, dc in next 8 dc) twice, change to Light Blue.

Round 18 *(Dc in next 8 dc, dc2tog (working into next dc and next ch), dc in next ch, 2dc in next ch, dc in next 3 ch, 2dc in next ch, dc in next ch, dc2tog (working into next ch and next dc), dc in next 7 dc; rep from * once more, change to Light Mint.

Round 19 *Dc in next 7 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 6 dc; rep from * once more, change to Light Yellow.

Round 20 *Dc in next 6 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 3 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 5 dc, rep from * once more, change to Peach.

Round 21 *Dc in next 5 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 4 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 4 dc, rep from * once more. Fasten off and weave in all ends.

Handle edge

Join Lilac in first skipped st of Round 16, ss in each of the 7 skipped sts. Fasten off and weave in ends. Rep for other handle.

Medium pot

Work as for Large Pot to end of Round 7. (42 dc)

Rounds 8-14 Dc in each dc around.

Work the following rounds using the same colour sequence as the Large Pot.

Round 15 (Dc in next 8 dc, ch7, skip 5 dc, dc in next 8 dc) twice.

Round 16 *(Dc in next 7 dc, dc2tog (working into next dc and next ch), dc in next ch, 2dc in next ch, dc in next ch, 2dc in next ch, dc in next ch, dc2tog (working into next ch and next dc), dc in next 7 dc; rep from * once more.

Round 17 *Dc in next 6 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 6 dc; rep from * once more.

Round 18 *Dc in next 5 dc, dc2tog, dc in

Rainbow baskets

next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 3 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 5 dc; rep from * once more.

Round 19 *Dc in next 4 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 4 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 4 dc; rep from * once more. Fasten off and weave in all ends.

Handle edge

Join Lilac in first skipped st of Round 14, ss in each of the 5 skipped sts. Fasten off and weave in ends. Rep for other handle.

Small pot

Work as for Large pot to end of Round 6. (36 dc)

Rounds 7-12 Dc in each dc around. Work the following rounds using the same colour sequence as the Large pot.

Round 13 (Dc in next 8 dc, ch5, skip 3 dc, dc in next 7 dc) twice.

Round 14 *(Dc in next 7 dc, dc2tog (working into next dc and next ch), 2dc in next ch, dc in next ch, 2dc in next ch, dc2tog (working into next ch and next dc), dc in next 6 dc; rep from * once more.

Round 15 *Dc in next 6 dc, dc2tog, dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc, dc2tog, dc in next 5 dc; rep from * once more.

Round 16 *Dc in next 5 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 4 dc; rep from * once more.

Keep stitches tight to prevent little items slipping through



Round 17 *Dc in next 4 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 3 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 3 dc, rep from * once more. Fasten off and weave in all ends.

Handle edge

Join Lilac in first skipped st of Round 12, ss in each of the 3 skipped sts. Fasten off and weave in ends. Rep for other handle.

Extra small pot

Work as for Large pot to end of Round 5. (30 dc)

Rounds 6-10 Dc in each dc around. Work the following rounds using the same colour sequence as the Large pot.

Round 11 (Dc in next 6 dc, ch4, skip 2

dc, dc in next 7 dc) twice.

Round 12 *(Dc in next 5 dc, dc2tog (working into next dc and next ch), dc in next ch, 2dc in next ch, dc2tog (working into next ch and next dc), dc in next 6 dc; rep from * once more.

Round 13 *Dc in next 4 dc, dc2tog, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc2tog, dc in next 5 dc; rep from * once more.

Round 14 *Dc in next 3 dc, dc2tog, dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc, dc2tog, dc in next 4 dc; rep from * once more.

Round 15 *Dc in next 2 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 3 dc; rep from * once more. Fasten off and weave in all ends.

Handle edge

Join Lilac in first skipped st of Round 10, ss in each of the 2 skipped sts. Fasten off and weave in ends. Rep for other handle. ♡

Top Tip

Hook a basket, line with tissue paper and fill it with pastel macarons or iced biscuits to make a pretty gift



The handles aren't just rainbow-coloured, but rainbow-shaped, too!

HURRY! LAST FEW LEFT...

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Perfect pair

Hook this pair of co-ordinating pillows to brighten any room. **By Val Pierce**

Bring a
fresh new
look to your
home



You will need

Striped cushion

- DMC Woolly DK in:
White x 4 balls
6 different contrasting shades x
1 ball each
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook
- 3.75mm (UK 9, US F/5) hook
- Cushion pad size 36cm (14in)

Circle cushion

- DMC Woolly DK in:
White x 4 balls
7 different contrasting shades x
1 ball each
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook
- Cushion pad size 36cm (14in)

Measurements

- 36cm (14in) square

Tension

- Tension is not critical for
these projects

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations
see page 82

About this yarn

DMC Woolly DK

- 100% wool
- 125m per 50g
- Machine wash at 30°C
- £6.50, www.dmccreative.co.uk

What a gorgeous set of cushions! The combination of DMC's rich shades and Val's inspiring designs have sent us ga-ga over this matching duo. Scattered against a simple white bedspread or on a pale-coloured sofa, they'll really bring a sprinkle of handmade loveliness to your room. Make sure you buy a white cushion pad in keeping with the white background and to maximise on the colours.

Striped cushion

Front

Note: Work 2 rows A and 2 rows contrasting yarns throughout. Using 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook and A, make 61ch.

Row 1 (RS) Miss 2 ch (counts as 1dc), 1dc into each of next 3 ch, *1tr into each of next 4 ch, 1dc into each of next 4 dc; rep from * to end.

Row 2 1ch (counts as 1dc), miss first st and work 1dc into each of next 3 sts, *1tr into each of next 4 sts, 1dc into each of next 4 sts; rep from * working last st into top of turning ch.

Row 3 3ch (counts as 1tr), miss first st, 1tr into each of next 3 sts, *1dc into each of next 4 sts, 1tr into each of next 4 sts; rep from * to end, working last st

into top of turning ch.

Row 4 As Row 3.

Rows 5 and 6 As Row 2.

Rep rows 3, 4, 5 and 6 for pattern.

Back

Using 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook and White, make 62ch, 1tr into 3rd ch from hook, 1tr into each ch to end, turn.

Row 1 1ch, 1dc into each tr to end, turn.

Row 2 3ch, (counts as first tr), 1tr into each dc to end, turn.

Work as on last 2 rows for 36cm (14in).

To make up

Work in ends neatly, sew back and front pieces together on three sides.

Insert cushion pad, now close final seam. ➡



Cushion duo

The front of this cushion is made up of circular and semi-circular motifs



Circle cushion

Large motif (make 16)

Using 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook and White, make 6ch, join into a circle with a ss.

Next round 3ch, work 15tr into circle, join with a ss.

Join in contrast.

Next round 5ch, *1tr into next tr, 2ch; rep from * to end, join with ss to 3rd of 5ch at beg of round.

Next round Ss to first 2ch-space, dc into space, 4ch, *dc into next space, 4ch; rep from * all round, join to dc at beg of round.

Change to White.

Next round Ss into first 4ch-sp, 3ch, 5tr into space, *1dc into next sp, 6tr in next sp; rep from * ending last rep, 1dc into last space, join to base of 3ch at beg of round.

Fasten off.

Small motifs (make 9)

Using 3.75mm (UK 9, US F/5) hook and contrast, make 5ch, join into a circle.

Next round Work 3ch, 15tr into circle, Join in White.

Next round *1dc into next st, 2dc into next st; rep from * all around, fasten off.

Semi-circle motifs (make 12)

Using 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook and White, make 5ch, join in to a circle with a ss.

Next round 3ch (counts and first tr), 8tr into circle, turn.

Next row *1dc into first dc, 2dc into next dc all around semi-circle.

Fasten off.

Back

Using 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook and White, make 62ch, work 1tr into 3rd ch from hook, 1tr into each ch to end, turn.

Next row 3ch (counts as first tr), work 1tr into each tr to end, turn.

Repeat last row until work measures 36cm (14in).

Fasten off.

To make up

Work in all ends on motifs.

Join larger motifs in 4 strips of 4, matching 2 shells on each motif together. Now join strips together in the same way to form a large square.

Take small circle motifs and stitch one motif inside each space formed where the large motifs are stitched up. Take the semi-circular motifs and sew into each space all around the outer edge of the front piece. Use photograph as a guide if needed.

Sew back and front pieces together neatly on three sides, insert the cushion pad. Now stitch up the final seam. ●

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Get kitted out!



Lovebird

HOOOKED

£9.98

www.hoookedyarn.com

Heralding the imminent arrival of spring, this chirpy amigurumi bird is simply delightful. Hooked in Milano Eco Barbante recycled cotton yarn, the kit includes the yarn, hook, recycled stuffing and pattern. The birdy pictured is made from Lagoon and Mint Pistachio, but the yarn comes in a staggering array of colours for you to choose from if you want to reuse the pattern to hook up a flock of colourful lovebirds.

Velvet Valentine Bear

READICUT

£25

www.readicut.co.uk

Soft and super squidgy, this bear was made for cuddling. And with his giant heart tummy, he makes the perfect Valentine's gift, too. Made with Bernat Velvet, a plush chunky yarn, he stands at approx 28cm (11in) tall. Choose from 22 rich and pastel shades in any combination – this little guy is made in Terracotta Rose and Quiet Pink. Your kit includes the yarn and pattern, but you'll need to add a 5mm hook, toy stuffing, 5mm safety eyes and a safety nose. If making the bear for a baby or tot under 36 months, remember that embroidered facial features are a much safer alternative.



Tape Measure Case

DOROTHY WOOD DESIGNS

£12

www.dorothywood.co.uk

Superlon cord and a Swarovski crystal give this pretty tape measure cover its silky, sparkly pizzaz. This is a great project for beginners wanting to learn how to crochet in the round – but is a quick trinket for more experienced crocheters to hook up in a trice. You'll need a 2mm hook and the finished case will fit a retractable tape measure that's 50mm (2in) in diameter; the case itself is approximately 56mm (2¼in) in diameter.

Choose from a dozen satiny shades.



Isla Cowl

ALL FOR THE LOVE OF ABBIE

£15

www.allforthe loveofabbie.com

Spring might be on the horizon, but we're still not out of the woods when it comes to chilly air blasting across exposed flesh. This cowl by Jodie Rees will keep your neck warm in style. The stitch pattern looks intricate, but it has a short repeat and is intended for a beginner. Available in 22 colours, the kit includes Stylecraft Special Chunky yarn, an illustrated pattern booklet, two needles, plus a Pony hook if you need it for an extra £1.50, all packed in an organza bag. PS: Abbie is Jodie's daughter.





Valentine Owl

VENDULKAM

£9.07

www.etsy.com/uk/shop/Colorfulyarnshop

This hooty little chap has stolen our hearts. Measuring approx 12cm (4¾in), he's ideal as a Valentine's treat. The kit to make him includes cotton/acrylic sportweight yarn in five shades, a 3mm hook, stuffing, tapestry needle and scissors. VendulkaM, the owl's designer, also has an Etsy shop for her fun, quirky and colourful patterns.



Kitchen Sponge

BY GOLDEN BERRY

£6.30

www.etsy.com/uk/shop/byGoldenberry

Who says cleaning items are boring? Wiping up spills will be a lot more fun with Tina Rinaudo's crocheted sponge. The yarn is 100% hemp, so it's organic, hard-wearing, environmentally friendly and naturally antibacterial. The kit includes a step-by-step pattern and enough yarn to make a 8x9cm (3¼x3¾in) sponge. You'll also need a 3mm hook.



Hanging Basket

PIXIE'S MAGIC HOOK

£25

www.etsy.com/uk/shop/Pixiesmagichook

Practical as well as pretty, Tunde Balazs's hanging basket will look divine hanging on the back of your bedroom or bathroom door, for storing essential items. It's made from chunky Bobbiny rope and measures approximately 48x28x10cm (19x11x4in). The kit includes the yarn, a 10mm hook and illustrated pattern booklet. Choose from a dozen lovely shades to hook it in, from neutral to pastel to vivid.



Amigurumi Fox

WEE WOOLLY WONDERFULS

£25

www.weewoollywonderfuls.com

We can't decide whether we love this fox's ears more than his tail, or the other way round, or maybe it's his stripey limbs that have caught our imagination! You can hook him up with soft wool/alpaca yarn in orange, pink or blue. In addition to the yarn, the kit contains a 3.5mm soft-grip hook, fox-shaped stitch marker, toy stuffing, needle and pattern, all packed in a reusable drawstring cotton bag. The foxy fox is around 33cm (13in) standing, 22cm (8¾in) seated, and there's an option to add a baby fox [approx. 20cm (8in) standing, 13cm (5in) seated] for an extra £5.



Working around cords and cables

Use the couching technique to create all kind of items, including pots, baskets and even headphone covers! **Joanne Scrace** shows us how...

Whether you want to make a sturdy basket or protect your headphones from tangling, work around a cable is a great crochet technique to learn – it's fast and it gives amazing results.

Using nothing more than the double crochet stitch, you can create an interesting effect. The crochet stitches are worked around the cable, either instead of working into a chain or, when making pots or baskets, laid over the top of the row of stitches and worked around to create structure and height.

You can vary the effects by playing around with the thickness of the yarn used for the crochet. A thicker yarn will hide the central cord better, while a thinner yarn allows it to peek through more, creating a contrast of colours.

In our sample project on page 48, we've used piping cord and headphone cables to create a neat way to protect your headphones, but you are limited only by your imagination with this technique. Fairy lights or LED cables can be covered for magical, imaginative home lighting solutions. You can even recycle old electrical cables into sturdy pots, or use rushes and twine to make crochet garden sculptures! Get started now, following our steps on the opposite page.

These crochet headphones will be easy to spot at the bottom of your bag!



Top Tip

When working with crochet cotton and a thinner crochet hook, the work can be tiring on your hands, so it's worth investing in an ergonomic crochet hook with a thicker handle

HOW TO GET STARTED

Step 1 Place a slip knot onto your hook.

Step 2 Place cord over the yarn on your hook.

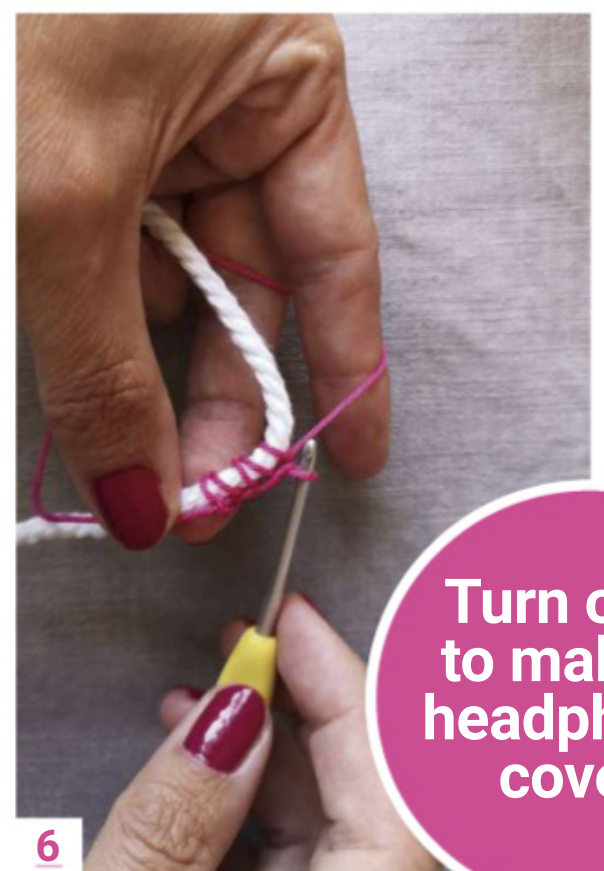
Step 3 Yarn over and pull a loop through the hook. This attaches the yarn to the cord and so is similar to a turning chain.

Step 4 Put the hook underneath the cord.

Step 5 Yarn over hook to bring a loop up, yarn over and draw through both loops, the same as making a double crochet.

Step 6 Repeat steps 4 and 5 for each stitch.

Top tip Make sure that you work in good lighting, and start by using light and bright threads, so the stitches are easier to see.



Turn over
to make a
headphone
cover





Top Tip

Crochet a different colour for each family member so you know whose headphones are whose

Keep headphones safe and tangle-free with a little crochet magic!

You will need

- Size 5 crochet cotton
- 2.5mm (UK 12 or 13, US C/2 or B/1) crochet hook
- 2m piping cord
- A pair of headphones
- Stitch marker

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82



Headphones

Get creative with a simple length of piping cord, come crochet cotton and a pair of headphones. This makes a great gift (and a perfect project) for tech-loving teens.

HEADPHONES

Instructions Start by covering the headphone cord from plug towards where the earphones split, continue up after the wire splits and towards one ear bud. Fasten off. Re-attach and cover other single wire from split to the earbud, missing any volume controls/microphones. Fasten off and weave ends back into the sts.

Headphone holder

- Round 1** Work 7dc around the cord, place marker in the last stitch. (7 sts)
Round 2 Coil cord around so that you can begin to work in a spiral, working around the cord, 2dc in each st around, move marker up. (14 sts)
Round 3 Continuing in a spiral around the cord, *1dc, 2dc in next st; rep from * to marker, move marker up. (21 sts)

Round 4 *2dc, 2dc in next st; rep from * to marker, move marker up. (28 sts)

Round 5 *3dc, 2dc in next st; rep from * to marker, move marker up. (35 sts)

Round 5 1dc in each st around, move marker up.

Round 6 (create opening) Working around the cord only (not into previous stitches) 14dc, miss 14 dc on previous round, working over cord in a spiral work 21dc, move marker up.

Round 7 Continuing to work in a spiral around the cord, *3dc, dc2tog; rep from * to marker, move marker up. (28 sts)

Round 8 *2dc, dc2tog; rep from * to marker, move marker up. (21 sts)

Round 9 *1dc, dc2tog; rep from * to marker, move marker up. (14 sts)

Round 10 Dc2tog around, remove marker, ss into next st, fasten off. (7 sts)
Trim cord, tuck inside case. Weave in end. ♥

A helping hand

The crochet market is flooded with gadgets and gizmos, but are they worth the money, asks **Joanna Benner**



We all love an excuse to buy a gadget, and there are so many on the market for yarn crafts that it's difficult to choose! Some crocheters like to work minimally with only the yarn and a hook, but there's a lot of useful helpers that are worth having – and some that aren't.

We all need to start with a hook. When I started there was only the typical grey metal hook, which must have seemed like the height of modernity after the hooks made of bone that my granny used. Now, though, you can buy metal, bamboo, hooks with ergonomic handles, and even hooks that light up. You're probably

and so on. When I stop, I pop a locking marker or a safety pin into my working stitch (to prevent my work unravelling) and make a cup of tea! You can buy a pack of 30 Knit Pro split ring markers from www.lovecrafts.com for £2.75.

When teaching my granddaughter how to crochet, I realised she was having trouble getting the tension right, so I looked around for something that might help and found this nifty tension ring. Priced just £1.78 from www.amazon.co.uk, the adjustable MagiDeal Nickle Plated ring goes on your left forefinger, then simply wind the yarn through and pull it down with each stitch. Using this ring means

When I stop, I pop a locking marker into my working stitch and make a cup of tea!

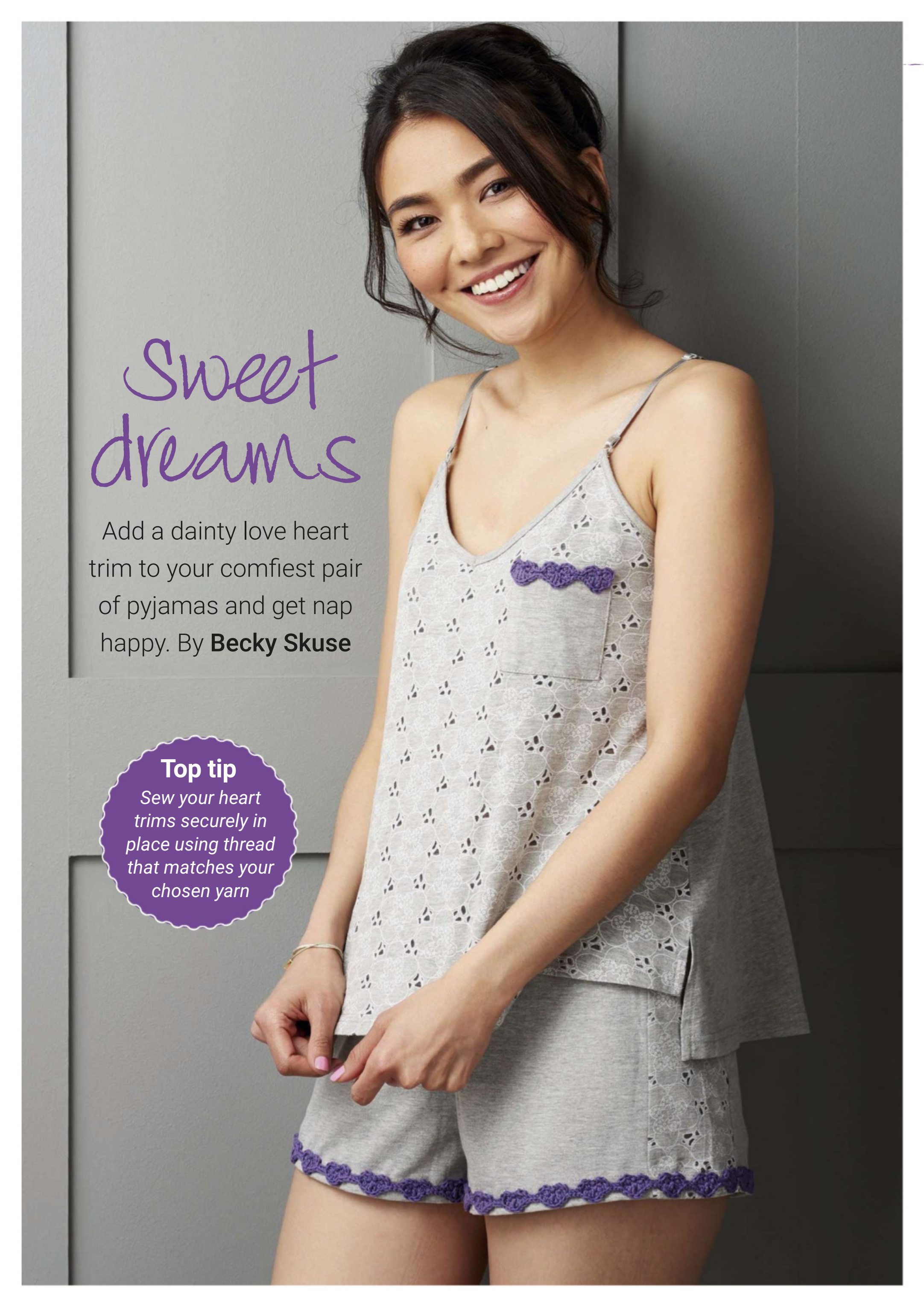
thinking that you don't need them, but you could easily persuade yourself! If you find it difficult to see the pesky V to put your hook in (usually when working with dark yarn on gloomy nights) then these should really help. A set of eight light-up hooks ranging from 2.5mm to 6mm costs £11.69 from www.amazon.co.uk

If you make a lot of amigurumi, you will already know that stitch markers are a must. You will need the hooky kind to pop into the beginning of the round so you know when to stop. I know a pen and paper aren't gadgets but they're a go-to when I'm making amigurumi. If I'm crocheting 10 rounds of 30 sts, I make 10 marks (half a cross) and, every time I finish a round, I make it into a full cross. Then I just have to count to 30 then 30 again

you can concentrate on holding your work, not the yarn. Having extolled the virtue of the tension ring, you can actually make one if you have a crochet hook and some spare yarn. There's a great video for how to make one by Leslie Stahlhut on Youtube. When you finish crocheting for the day just take it off your finger and it will stay on the yarn until you need it. The handmade tension ring is great, but, if you have more than one project on the go or you're doing colourwork, then I would certainly go for the adjustable ring.

Before buying gadgets for any craft, whether it's baking, sewing or crochet, stand and ask yourself if it will really help. Do you need to spend the money? Have you managed for all these years without it? Now, I'm just off to dust the yarn bowl before I take it down to the charity shop!

From top: The MagiDeal Nickle Plated adjustable tension ring is great for beginners; stitch markers are essential for amigurumi fans; illuminate your stitches with light-up crochet hooks in various sizes

A woman with dark hair tied back, smiling at the camera. She is wearing a grey tank top with a delicate lace pattern and a small purple crocheted heart trim on the chest. She is also wearing matching grey shorts with a purple crocheted heart trim along the hem. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Sweet dreams

Add a dainty love heart trim to your comfiest pair of pyjamas and get nap happy. By **Becky Skuse**

Top tip

Sew your heart trims securely in place using thread that matches your chosen yarn

You will need

- DMC Natura Just Cotton, 1 ball in Orleans (shade 88)
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook
- Sewing needle and thread

Measurements

- Pattern can be used to create a trim to the length you require. See notes for more details

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

DMC Natura Just Cotton

100% cotton

155m per 50g

Machine wash at 30°C

£3.99, visit www.dmc.com

or call 01924 231669

How do you make a cute pair of pyjamas even cuter? With an adorable heart trim! The pattern is quick and simple to work, and you can use it to embellish lots of different edges. Hook it with any colour of yarn you like and, as the pattern is adjustable, you can make the trim as long or short as you need. Try using it to make pocket trims, a chunky belt, shelf edgings, heart bunting – the creative possibilities are endless.

HEART TRIM

Notes

Pattern repeat is a multiple of 9 ch:

7 ch for each heart and 2 ch for each gap (you can adjust the ch gap to suit you, if desired).

Trim is made by working a chain length the size you need, then working the top half of each heart along the chain, then working the lower half of each heart along the other side of the chain.

How to use this pattern

Make a small sample using the pattern below – we chained 27 to make a length of 3 hearts.

Then measure the circumference of one leg hem on your shorts – ours was 70cm. Then measure the central repeat (one heart and the gap next to it) in your sample – ours measured 3.3cm.

Take the first number (70) and divide by the second number (3.3) – we got 21. Multiply this number (21) by 9 (the chain multiple for this pattern) – we got 189. This is the number of chains (189) you need to make for your initial foundation chain.

If desired, use this sample strip of 3 hearts to embellish a pocket on your pyjama top.

Trim (make 2)

Using a 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook, ch a multiple of 9.

Row 1 2tr in the 3rd ch from the hook, *ch1, ss in next ch, ch1, 2tr in next ch, skip 1 ch, ss in next 4 ch, skip 1 ch, 2tr in next ch; repeat from * to last 6 ch, ch1, ss in next ch, ch1, 2tr in next ch, skip 1 ch, ss in



This heart trio would also look sweet on a T-shirt



Edgings are a quick and easy way to customise clothing

next 3 ch.

Rotate piece to work into the other side of the foundation chain.

Row 2 Ch1, ss in next 3 ch of foundation chain, *skip 1 ch, 2htr in next ch (this is same ch you worked 2tr into on the other side), 2dtr in next ch, 2htr in next ch, skip 1 ch, ss in next 4 ch; repeat from * to last 6 ch, skip 1 ch, 2htr into next ch, 2dtr into next ch, 2htr into next ch, skip 1 ch, ss in next ch.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Attaching trims

Pin the trims in place around the hem of each leg, placing the heart points at the edge of the fabric.

Sew in place along the top and lower edges of the trim using matching thread. ♥

Top tip

Choose from 20 fantastic printed colours in the Big Delight range of yarns

Berry beauty

Snow days just got a whole lot cosier! Hook this hat and cowl from **DROPS** in sumptuous wool with a self-stripping finish

You will need

- DROPS Big Delight in Berry Muffin (shade 11)
x 1 ball for hat (both sizes)
x 2 balls for cowl (both sizes)
- 7mm (UK 2, US 10.75) hook

Measurements

- Hat: S/M – M/L
Head circumference: 54-56 (56-58)cm, 21¼-22in (22-22¾in)
- Cowl: S/M – M/L
Circumference: 60 (63)cm, 23½ (24¾in)

Tension

- 11tr and 6 rows to 10cm (4in) using 7mm (UK 2, US 10.75) hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

DROPS Big Delight

100% wool
190m per 100g
Hand wash at max 30°C
£3.67, for stockists visit
www.garnstudio.com

Winter warmers don't get much better than this slouchy hat and cosy cowl! Hooked in groups of trebles and worked in the round, both accessories are super snugly thanks to the 100% wool yarn from DROPS. From nutty brown to bright teal and candy pink, you'll love the mix of colours in this particular shade – watch as the long colour repetitions create unique patterns, making each item extra special.

HAT & COWL

Hat

Worked top-down in the round.

Tip Beg every round with dc with 1 ch and finish with 1 ss in first ch at beg of round.

Beg every round with tr with 3 ch and finish with 1 ss in third ch at beg of round. Using 7mm (UK 2, US 10.75) hook, work pattern according to diagram A.1a, then work A.1b 4 times on round, finish with A.1c.

When entire diagram has been worked vertically, piece measures approx. 13cm (5¼in) from the top down.

Continue by repeating the 2 last rounds in diagram until piece measures 20cm (7¾in) – adjust to finish after last round in diagram.

Edging

Work 1 dc in every tr and 1 dc around every ch. (81 sts incl 1 ch at beg of round)

Next round Dec 27 (25) sts evenly across round by working dc2tog. (54: 56 dc).

Tip To calculate how often to decrease, use the total no of sts on round (= 81 dc) and divide these sts by no of dec to be done (e.g. 27 dc) = 3. ie. in this example work approx. every 2nd and 3rd dc tog.

Continue in the round with 1 dc in every dc until piece measures 24 (25)cm, 9½ (9¾in) in total.
Fasten off.



The edging of the hat is worked in double crochet



Looser treble stitches create the slouchy effect

Cowl

Worked bottom-up in the round.

Using 7mm (UK 2, US 10.75) hook, work 85 (90)ch and form a ring with 1 ss in first ch.

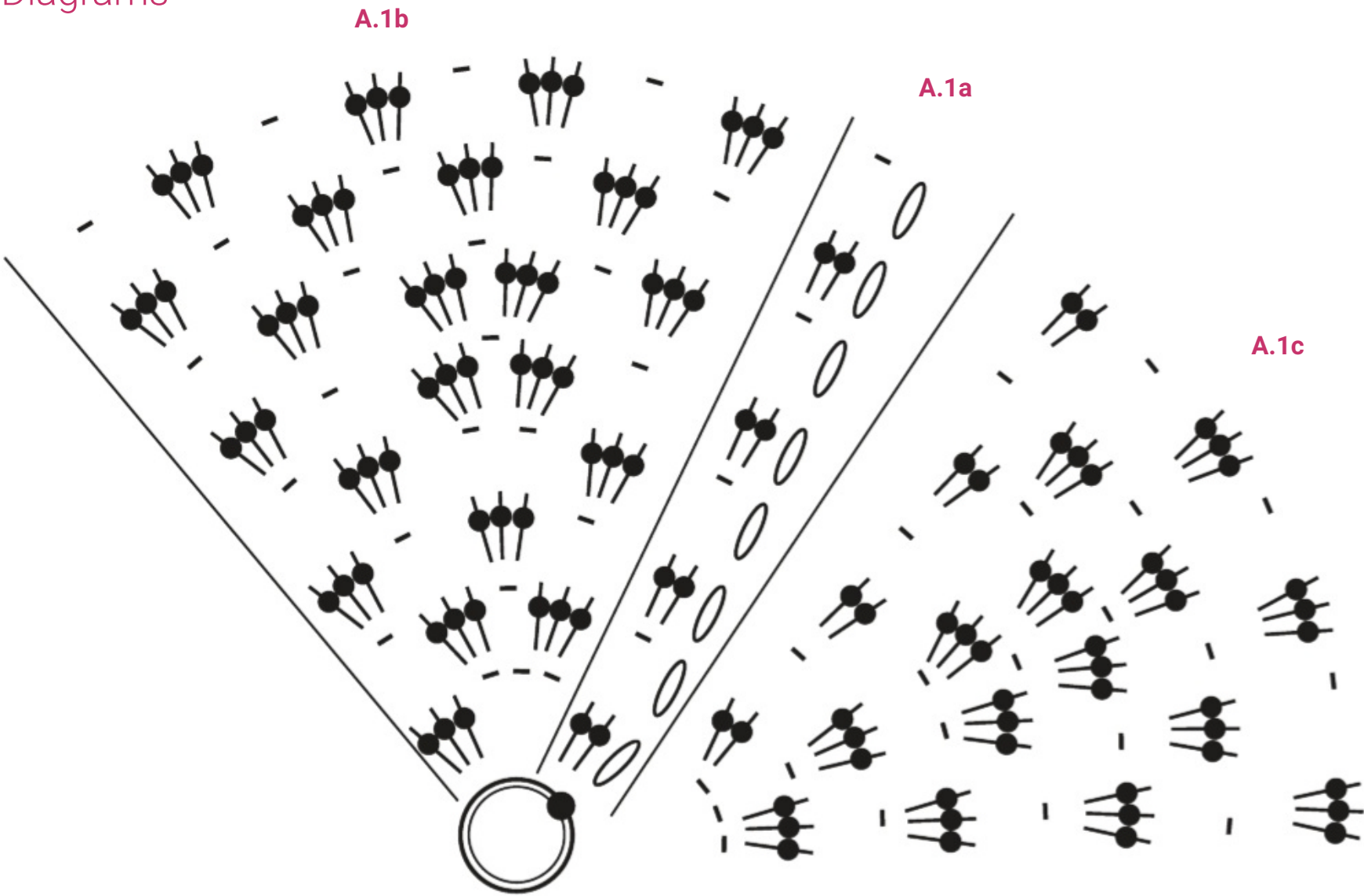
Round 1 Work 3 ch, work 1tr in each of the next 2 ch, *work 1ch, skip 2 ch, work 1tr in each of the next 3 ch*; repeat from * to * the entire round until 2 ch remain, work 1ch and finish with 1 ss in 3rd ch at beg of round. (68: 72) sts

Now work pattern, beg on round with



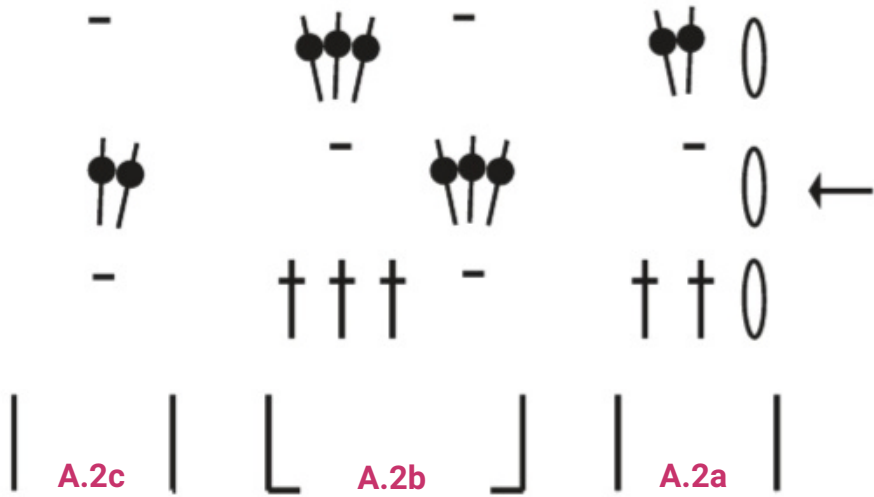
Hat & cowl

Diagrams



Key

- = work 5 ch and form a ring with 1 ss. Black dot is beg of round
- = 1 tr around ch/ch-ring
- = 1 tr in ch
- = 3 ch at beg of round. Finish round with 1 ss in 3rd ch at beg of round.
- = 1 ch
- = beg here



Top Tip

For a richer colour spectrum, work every other round with a strand from inside and outside of the ball

arrow in diagram as follows:
Work A.2a, A.2b 16-17 times on round, A.2c.
Repeat 2nd and 3rd round in diagram A.2a to A.2c until piece measures 34 (36)cm, finishing after a 3rd round.

Edging
Work 5ch, 1dc in next ch, *3ch, 1dc in next ch*; repeat from *to * the entire round and finish with 1 ss in 1 ch at beg

of round. Fasten off.
Work 1 edge along ch-row worked at beg of piece as follows:
Work 1dc around a ch-space with 2 ch, 4ch, *work 1dc around next ch-space, 4ch*; repeat from * to * the entire round and finish with 1 ss in first dc on round. Fasten off. ♥



Country style

Bernat's gorgeous poncho will be a treat to wear on crisp country walks this spring

Top tip

Choose colours to suit your style – this yarn comes in 26 self-striping shades

Striped poncho

You will need

- Bernat Pop! in Birch, Bark and Blue (shade 84016) x 6 (7: 8) balls
- 6.5mm (UK 3, US K/10½) hook
- Stitch markers
- 4 buttons, 2.5cm (1in) diameter

Tension

- 10 dc and 11 rows to 10cm (4in) over patt using 6.5mm (UK 3, US K/10½) crochet hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

Spring weather can be changeable, so swap your heavy winter coat for this fabulous poncho, which won't weigh you down. This design is easy to crochet with Bernat's Pop! self-stripping yarn – the five distinct colours in each ball create a bold striped effect, without having to weave in any ends. We've chosen neutrals and blues for a fresh, springtime feel.

Sizing guide

Sizes & measurements		Small/Medium	Large	Extra-Large
To fit bust	cm	71-91.5	96.5-117	122-157.5
	in	28-36	38-46	48-62

PONCHO

Front

Ribbing

**Ch14 (14: 14).

Row 1 (RS) 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of chain, turn. [13 (13: 13) sts]

Row 2 Ch1, working in back loops only, 1dc in each dc to end of row, turn. Rep last row until work from beg (when slightly stretched) measures 71 (78.5: 89)cm, 26 (31: 35)in, ending on a WS row.

Do not fasten off.

Turn work sideways and proceed as follows:

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, work 73 (81: 89) dc evenly across side of ribbing, turn.

Row 2 Ch1, *1dc in next dc, 1tr in next dc; rep from * to last dc, 1dc in last dc, turn.

Row 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), *1dc in next tr, 1tr in next dc; rep from * to end of row, turn.

Row 4 Ch1, *1dc in next tr, 1tr in next dc; rep from * to last dc, turn.

Last 2 rows form patt.**

Cont in patt until work from lower edge measures 61 (63.5: 68.5)cm, 24 (25: 27) in, ending on a WS row.

Shape neck

Row 1 (RS) Patt across 29 (32: 36) sts,



htr2tog over next 2 sts, turn.

Leave rem sts unworked.

Row 2 Ch2 (does not count as st), htr2tog, patt to end of row, turn.

Row 3 Patt to last 2 sts, htr2tog, turn.

Row 4 As Row 2. [27 (30: 34) sts]

Cont even in patt until work from lower edge measures 68.5 (71: 76)cm, 27 (28: 30)in, ending on a WS row.

Fasten off.

Row 1 (RS) Skip next 11 (13: 13) sts, join yarn with ss to next st, ch2 (does not count as st), htr2tog, patt to end of row, turn.

Row 2 Patt to last 2 sts, htr2tog, turn.

Row 3 Ch2 (does not count as st),

About this yarn

Bernat Pop!

100% acrylic

256m per 140g

Machine wash at 30°C

£5.99, available from

www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

htr2tog, patt to end of row, turn.

Row 4 As Row 2. [27 (30: 34) sts]

Cont even in patt until work from lower edge measures 68.5 (71: 76)cm, 27 (28: 30)in, ending on a WS row.

Back

Rep from ** to ** as given for Front.

Cont in patt until work from lower edge measures same length as Front to shoulder, ending on a WS row.

Fasten off.

Collar

Sew right shoulder seam.

Ch30 (30: 30).

Row 1 (RS) 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of chain, turn. [29 (29: 29) sts]

Row 2 Ch1, working in back loops only, 1dc in each dc to end of row, turn. Rep Row 2 until work from beg measures length to fit loosely around neck edge, ending on a WS row and sewing in position with ease as you work. Fasten off. Sew left shoulder and Collar seam.

Side ribbing

Ch10 (10: 10).

Row 1 (RS) 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of chain, turn. [9 (9: 9) sts]

Row 2 Ch1, working in back loops only, 1dc in each dc to end of row, turn. Rep Row 2 until work from beg measures length to fit along side edge of Poncho, ending on a WS row and sewing in position as you work. Fasten off.

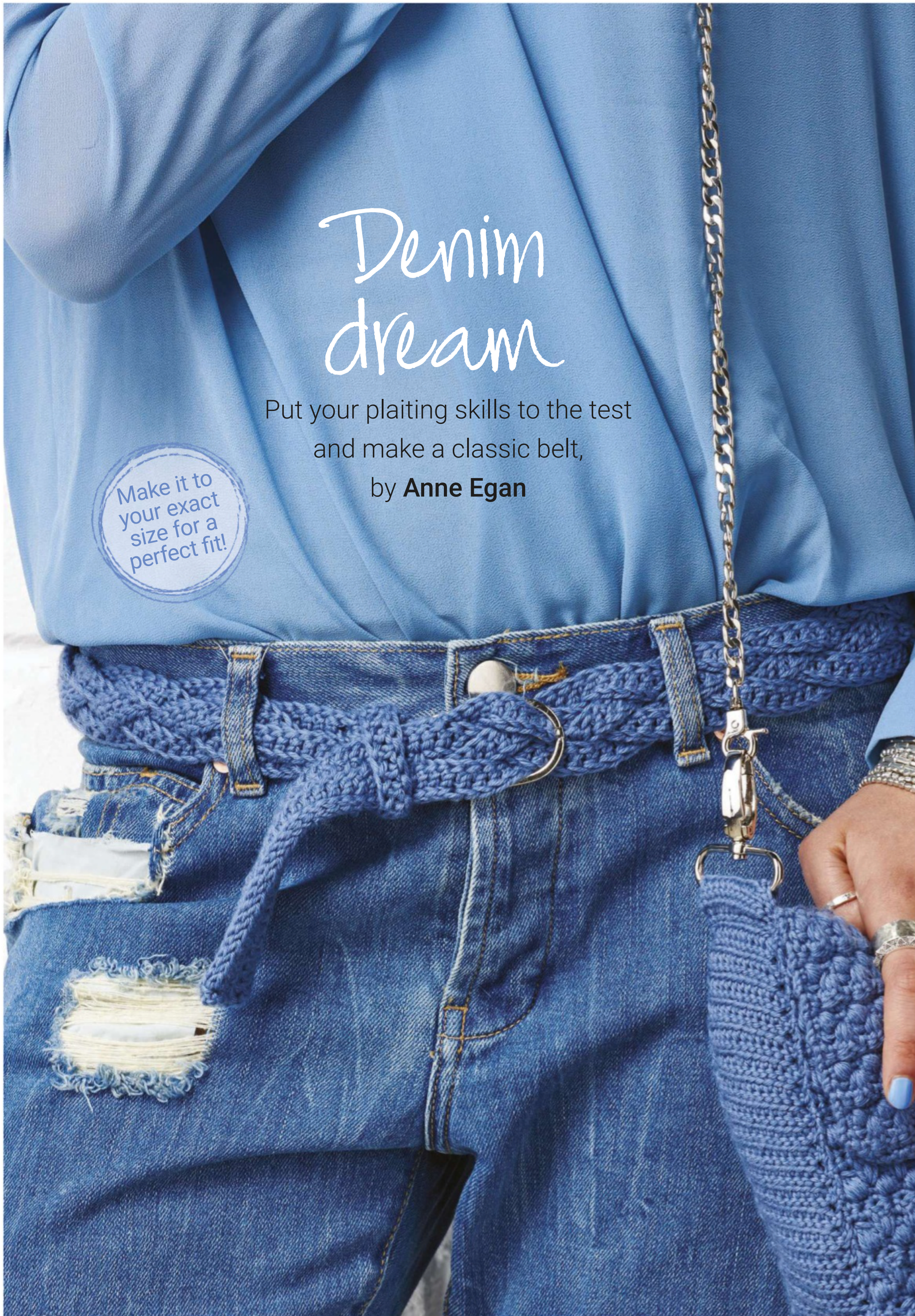
Rep for opposite side. Sew 2 buttons on each side through all thicknesses. ♥



Chunky ribbing provides contrasting texture and a nice stretchy edge

Denim dream

Put your plaiting skills to the test
and make a classic belt,
by **Anne Egan**



You will need

- Stylecraft Life DK, 1 ball in Cascade (shade 2308)
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook
- 4 stitch markers
- Belt buckle, 3cm (1¼in)
- Large-eyed wool needle

Measurements

- Make the belt to the size you require, for example, a belt approx. 36cm (14in) long (with 29cm/11½in plaited section) will fit waist 29-32cm (11½-12¾in)

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- **Ftr** – Foundation treble crochet:
Yrh, insert hook in ch specified, yrh and pull up a loop (3 loops on hook), yrh and draw through the first loop on hook to make 1 ch (this is the starting ch for the next ftr), yrh, draw through first 2 loops on hook, yrh, draw through last 2 loops on hook
- For standard abbreviations see page 82

Top Tip

You could use this clever plaited technique to make bag or dress straps, too

About this yarn

Stylecraft Life DK

25% wool, 75% acrylic
298m per 100g

Machine wash at 40°C

£3.19, for stockists call 01484 848435
or visit www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

Use wool-blend DK yarn to make this beautiful braided accessory in denim blue – it looks amazing with jeans if you're a fan of the double-denim look! Made from four metre-long crochet ribbons plaited together, this fully functioning woven belt uses proper metal fastenings for style and durability.

BELT

Notes

The belt is made of 4 ribbons of crochet joined at each end. The ribbons of crochet are made lengthwise, one stitch at a time, using a foundation tr stitch. If you do not want to work foundation trebles, simply make a chain that is approx. 100cm (39in) long and work a treble into each ch. When making the ch1 of the ftr, hold the work at the ch1, so that when working next ftr, the ch1 is easy to find and quicker than using a stitch marker.

The crocheted ribbons are made longer than the plait. The reduction in length will depend on how tightly you plait. The ribbons can be lengthened or shortened to bring the ends together after the plait has been started and measured to fit.

Crochet ribbon (make 4)

Ch4.

Row 1 (RS) Ftr in fourth ch from hook, and continue to work ftr until ribbon is around 100cm (39in) long. Cut yarn, leaving a long tail, but do not fasten off. Place stitch marker in final working loop.

Buckle end of belt

Line up the 4 ribbons next to each other with RS uppermost and each one overlapping slightly. Make sure that the start of each ribbon is at this buckle end – you will be working across these ends to make a length to fasten to the buckle, leaving the ends with the stitch markers free to adjust later.

Row 1 (RS) Join yarn into end of first ribbon, ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc 9 sts evenly across ends, turn.

Rows 2-3 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. (9 dc)

Row 4 Ch1, skip next st, dc in each of next

5 sts, dc2tog, turn. (7 dc)

Rows 5-6 As Rows 2-3.

Row 7 Ch1, skip next st, dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog, turn. (5 dc)

Rows 8-11 Rep Rows 2-3 twice more. Fasten off and weave in ends.

With RS facing out, fold end of belt around buckle at Row 7, pushing spike of buckle through the middle of row, and sew in place firmly.

Belt loop

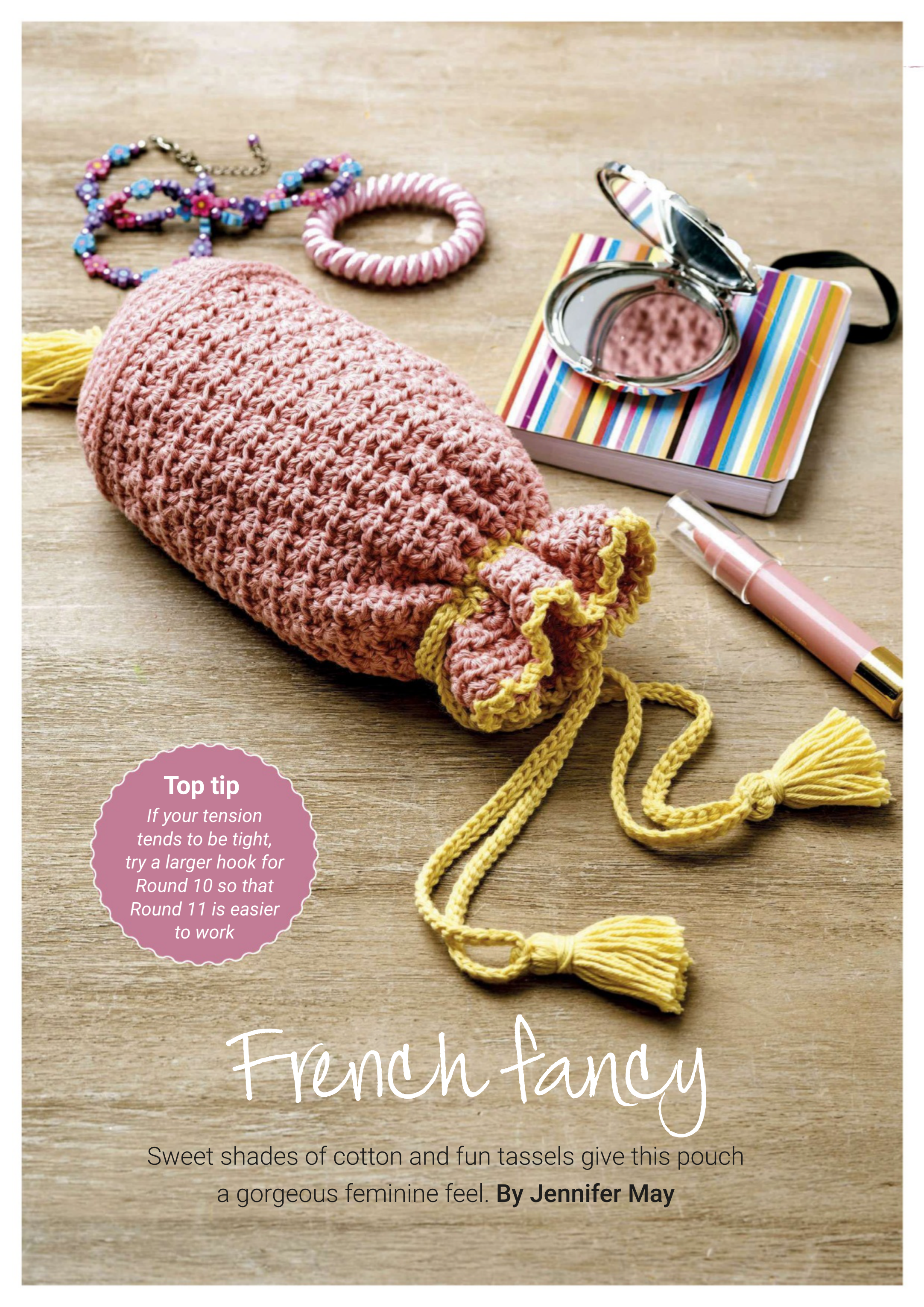
Make another crocheted ribbon 10cm (4in) long. Wrap around belt, where Row 1 of buckle end of belt joins the plait, and stitch in place at the back.

Plait

When plaiting, be careful not to twist the ribbons and always keep the RS uppermost. To plait, number crocheted ribbons 1 to 4, left to right. Weave 4th crocheted ribbon under 3rd, over 2nd and under 1st. Re-number from left to right and repeat, tightening up plait as you go. Of Dreams and Seams has a helpful video for this technique, see <http://bit.ly/SC41braid>

Make plaited section long enough to go around your waist, minus buckle. Add or remove ftr from each crocheted ribbon to allow approx 20cm (8in) in addition to the plait (to go through the buckle). The long edges of these strands will be joined to make a straight strip of double thickness for passing through the buckle.

With the remaining loose crocheted ribbons numbered 1 to 4 left to right, place 2 on top of 1 and 3 on top of 4. Ss the outside of each pair together, then sew the centres together, working through both layers of crocheted ribbons. Weave in ends to finish. ♥



The image features a pink crocheted pouch with yellow tassels as the central focus. It is surrounded by various accessories: a colorful beaded necklace, a pink and white striped bracelet, a compact mirror with a colorful striped case, and a pink lip gloss. The entire scene is set on a light-colored wooden surface.

Top tip

If your tension tends to be tight, try a larger hook for Round 10 so that Round 11 is easier to work

French fancy

Sweet shades of cotton and fun tassels give this pouch a gorgeous feminine feel. **By Jennifer May**

You will need

- Rico Baby Cotton Soft DK, 1 ball each in:
Salmon (shade 054) – A
Saffron (shade 059) – B
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook
- Stitch marker
- Scrap of cardboard

Measurements

- Approx. 18cm (7in) tall excluding base, 4cm (1½in) deep, 30cm (12in) diameter

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

This pretty pouch is a perfect size for makeup, toiletries or other items that tend to go astray at the bottom of a bigger bag. Hooked in soft pink, with yellow for the drawstring and edgings, it stitches up quickly – you'll work in a spiral for the base, then continue in rounds, using double crochet and half treble clusters for the textured pattern. Share the love by making it as a gift, filled to the brim with smellies or sweet treats!

BAG

Base

Work in rounds with WS facing. Work in the amigurumi method.

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop with a ch-1.

Round 1 (WS) 4dc in ring. (4 sts)

Round 2 2dc in each st all round. (8 sts)

Round 3 2dc in each st all round. (16 sts)

Round 4 (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 8 times. (24 sts)

Round 5 (2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts) 8 times. (32 sts)

Round 6 (2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts) 8 times. (40 sts)

Round 7 (2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts) 8 times. (48 sts)

Round 8 (2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts)

8 times. (56 sts)

Round 9 (2dc in next st, dc in next 13 sts) 4 times. (60 sts)

Round 10 Keeping tension loose, ss in each st all round, ss in beg st. (60 sts) This ends working in amigurumi method.

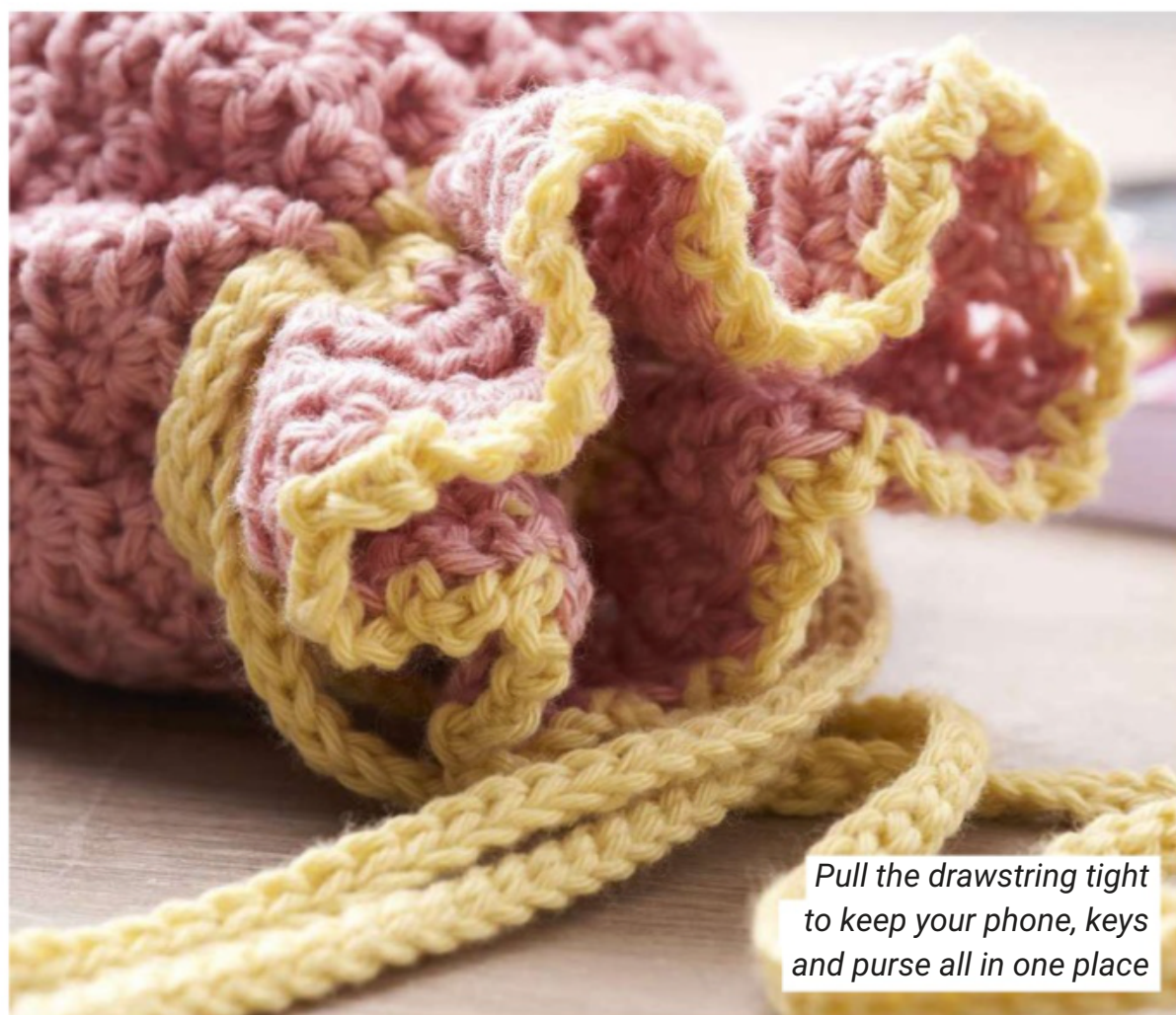
Side

Continue to work in rounds (but not in amigurumi method).

Round 11 (WS) Ch1 (doesn't count as st), dc in same st, dc in each st all round, ss in beg st. (60 sts)

Round 12 (WS) Ch2 (counts as htr), 2htr in same st, sk 2 sts, (3htr in next st, sk 2 sts) to end, ss in beg st, turn. (20 3htr clusters)

Round 13 (RS) As Round 11, turn. ➔



About this yarn

Rico Baby Cotton Soft DK

50% cotton, 50% acrylic
125m per 50g

Machine wash at 30°C

£2.59, for stockists visit

www.rico-design.co.uk

Drawstring bag



Top tip
Trim the ends of the tassels with sharp scissors to get a nice clean cut

Cut a piece of card 5cm tall (the width is immaterial). Wrap the yarn around it 30 times and fasten off. Cut a strand of yarn approx 30cm long and use it to tightly tie the yarn bundle at the fold at one end. Leave the tails of the tie loose. Cut the yarn bundle at the opposite fold. Cut a second piece of yarn approx 30cm and wrap it around the tassel several times about 1cm from the tied top. Using a tapestry needle, hide the yarn ends of the wraparound inside the tassel.

Using the long tails from tying the top, attach a tassel to the bottom of the bag and each tie at the join. Thread loose threads through the centre of each tassel and trim. ♥

(60 sts)

Round 14 (WS) Ss to next st (above the st above the middle htr 2 rows below), ch2 (counts as htr), 2htr in same st, sk 2 sts, (3htr in next st, sk 2 sts) to end, ss in beg st, turn. (20 3htr clusters)

Rounds 15-33 (Repeat Rounds 13 and 14) 9 times, then Round 13 once more. (60 sts)

Fasten off Yarn A. Change to Yarn B.

Round 34 With RS facing, join yarn in any st, ch3 (counts as tr), (ch1, sk st, tr in next st) all round, ss in top of beg ch3. (30 tr, 30 ch-1 sps)

Fasten off Yarn B. Change to Yarn A.

Round 35 (RS) With RS facing, join yarn in any st, ch1 (doesn't count as st), dc in same st, dc in each st all round, ss to beg st, turn. (60 sts)

Round 36 (WS) As Round 12.

Round 37 (RS) As Round 11.

Round 38 (WS) As Round 14.

Fasten off Yarn A. Change to Yarn B.

Round 39 Join yarn in any st above a htr from Round 38, (ch3, sk st, ss in next st) all round, ss in beg st.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Cord (make 2)

Using Yarn B and leaving long tail, ch121, ss in top loop of second ch from hook and each ch to end.

Fasten off, leaving long tail.

Thread one cord through Round 34, going over and under the tr sts

alternately. Thread the second tie starting on the opposite side of the bag, either above or below the first tie, weaving under/over the tr sts in the opposite way to the first tie to create a woven effect.

Use the long tails to attach the ends of the ties to each other, but do not fasten off tails (they'll be hidden in the tassels).

Tassels (make 3)

Make all three using Yarn B.

Top Tip

Use a stitch marker to mark the start of each round when working the base in amigurumi



The third tassel at the base of the bag creates a bolster cushion effect



So sweet

This mini make is perfect for stashing stitch markers, buttons or coins. **By Sara Huntington**

You will need

- Small amount of DK yarn in colour of your choice
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook
- Small button

Measurements

- Purse measures 6.5cm (2½in) wide by 7cm (2¾in) high when closed

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

Top Tip

Line the purse with fabric for a pretty finish – and to prevent items slipping through the gaps

Buttons and stitch markers do seem to have a habit of getting themselves lost in project bags – well, not any more. This little handmade pouch will keep crafty notions safe and tidy while you're on the go. Quick to make and a great stashbuster, too, it'll look fabulous in all kind of colours!

PURSE

Notes: The Purse is worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it helpful to place a marker in the first st of each round and move it up as you work.

The flap is worked in rows.

Purse

Ch14.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and each of next 11 ch, 2dc in last ch, rotate to work along opposite side of starting ch, dc in each of next 12 ch. (26 dc)

Round 2 Dc in each st around.

Round 3 *Skip next st, tr in next st, tr in skipped st; repeat from * around. (13 crossed tr pairs)

Rounds 4-5 Repeat Round 2.

Rounds 6-8 Repeat Rounds 3- 5 once more.

Round 9 Repeat Round 3.

Round 10 Dc in each st around. Do not fasten off.

Lay Purse flat to identify the central 11 sts on the back.

Mark the outermost of these 11 sts.

Round 11 Continue working in dc to the st before first marker. Do not fasten off.

Flap

Row 1 (RS) Dc in next 11 marked sts, turn. (11 sts)

Rows 2-6 Dc in each st across, turn. (11 sts)

Row 7 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts, ch2, skip 1 dc, dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog, turn. (9 sts and ch-2 sp)

Row 8 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts, dc in ch-2 sp, dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog. Fasten off.

With the flap extended and the RS facing, rejoin yarn to the bottom corner and ss evenly around the side and top edges of the flap. Fasten off and weave in ends. Block gently. Sew the button to top centre of purse to correspond with the buttonhole. ♥

Beady necklace



Bold & beautiful

Make **Sara Huntington's** simple crochet beads in a single round

You will need

- Stylecraft Life DK in:
Cascade (shade 2308) x 2 balls
Clover (shade 2358) x 1 ball
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook
- Beads with large holes (15 for
Necklace 1 and 7 for Necklace 2)
- Necklace cord (1.6m/5ft 3in)
- Jewellery wire or fabric glue
- Rings and fasteners

Tension

- Each basic circle measures 2cm
($\frac{3}{4}$ in) in diameter

Measurements

- Necklace 1 measures approx 80cm
(31 $\frac{1}{2}$ in) long
- Necklace 2 measures approx 65cm
(25 $\frac{1}{2}$ in) long

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations
see page 82

About this yarn

Stylecraft Life DK

25% wool, 75% acrylic

298m per 100g

Machine wash at 40°C

**£3.19, for stockists call 01484 848435
or visit www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk**

Seeking an easy, on-the-go project, fit for a fashionista? These statement necklaces are each made with stacks of speedy, single-round circles in denim blue and soft pink. Need we say they're nifty stashbusters? Have fun experimenting with different sequences to create a look that's unique to you.

NECKLACES

Notes

The necklaces are made up of small circles of crochet, worked in the round.

Basic circle

Ch3, ss into first ch to join into a ring.

Ch2 (counts as htr), 11htr into the ring, ss to top of beg ch2 to join.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Necklace 1

Make 120 basic circles in Cascade and 15 in Clover.

Thread them onto approx 90cm (35 $\frac{1}{2}$ in) of cord in the following sequence:

*12 Cascade, 3 Clover, 12 Cascade, 3 beads; rep from * another 4 times.

Trim the ends and overlap them, secure with fabric glue or jewellery wire

Necklace 2

Make 24 basic circles in each of Cascade and Clover. (48 circles in total)

Thread them onto approx 70cm (27 $\frac{1}{2}$ in)

of cord in the following sequence:

2 beads, *1 Cascade, 1 Clover; rep from * another 5 times, 1 bead, 4 Cascade, 4 Clover, 4 Cascade, 1 bead, **1 Clover, 1 Cascade; rep from ** another 5 times, 1 bead, 4 Clover, 4 Cascade, 4 Clover, 2 beads.

Using jewellery wire or fabric glue, secure a ring to both ends of the cord, then secure a fastener to one of the rings. ♡



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Creature comforts

Stitch up some fun with a cat or bear character design on a comfy jumper **by Bernat**

Top tip

For extra detail, add some whiskers to the cute kitty jumper

You will need

- Bernat Softee Baby in:
 - Kitty Version
 - Mauve (shade 30310) x 1 (2: 2: 3) ball(s) – A
 - Pink (shade 02001) x 1 (1: 1: 1) ball – B
 - Bear Version
 - Blue Jeans (shade 30111) x 1 (2: 2: 3) ball(s) – A
 - Mint (shade 02004) x 1 (1: 1: 1) ball – B
- 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) hook
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hooks
- 2 buttons for each jumper
- Kitty Version only: Small amount of dark pink aran-weight yarn for nose and mouth embroidery

Measurements

- See sizing guide

Tension

- 16 sts and 19 rows to 10cm (4in) over double crochet using 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook

Abbreviations

- Bptr (back post treble): Yo and draw up a loop around post of indicated stitch, inserting hook from back to front to back, (yo and draw through 2 loops on hook) twice
- Fptr (Front post treble): Yo and draw up a loop around post of indicated stitch, inserting hook from front to back to front, (yo and draw through 2 loops on hook) twice
- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Bernat Softee Baby

100% acrylic
331m per 140g
Machine wash at 30°C
£3.99, www.readicut.co.uk

These crocheted sweaters are furry sweet, with simple blocks of colour and a cute kitty or bear face embroidered on the front! The pattern works up quickly using treble crochet and half treble crochet stitches, in a simple top-down construction, meaning there are no seams to sew and fewer ends to weave in. To highlight the stitches, we've used Bernat Softee Baby, which comes in pastel colours and has a lovely light sheen.

Sizing guide

Sizes & measurements		6 mths	12 mths	18 mths	24 mths
To fit chest	cm	43	45	48	51
	in	17	18	19	20
Actual measurements	cm	49.5	54.5	39.5	65
	in	19½	21½	23½	25½

JUMPER

Note Sweater is worked in one piece from neck edge down.

Ch3 at beg of round counts as tr. Ch2 at beg of round counts as htr. To change colours, work to last loops on hook of stitch. Draw new colour through last loops and proceed with new colour.

Body

Using 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook and A, beg at neck edge, ch56 (60: 64: 68) loosely (foundation ch needs to pull over baby's head). Join with ss to first ch, taking care not to twist ch.

Round 1 Ch3, 1tr in each of next 7 (8: 9: 10) ch, (1tr, ch1, 1tr – V-st made) in next ch, 1tr in each of next 10 ch, V-st in next ch, 1tr in each of next 16 (18: 20: 22) ch, V-st in next ch, 1tr in each of next 10 ch, V-st in next ch, 1tr in each of last 8 (9: 10: 11) ch, join with ss to top of ch3.

Rows 2-9 (10: 11: 12) Ch3, *1tr in each tr to ch-1 sp of next V-st, V-st in ch-1 sp of next V-st; rep from * 3 times more, 1tr in each tr to end of round, join.

[124 (136: 148: 160) tr and 4 ch-1 sps at end of Round 9 (10: 11: 12)]

Divide sleeves and body

Round 1 Ch3, 1tr in each of next 16 (18:

20: 22) tr, 1tr in ch-1 sp of next V-st, ch3 for underarm, skip next 28 (30: 32: 34) tr, 1tr in ch-1 sp of next V-st, 1tr in each of next 34 (38: 42: 46) tr, 1tr in ch-1 sp of next V-st, ch3 for underarm, skip next 28 (30: 32: 34) tr, 1tr in ch-1 sp of next V-st, 1tr in each of last 17 (19: 21: 23) tr, join with ss to top of ch3.

Round 2 Ch3, 1tr in each tr or ch around, break A, join B with ss to top of ch3. [78 (86: 94: 102) tr]

Round 3 With B, ch2 (counts as htr here and throughout), 1htr in each tr around, join with ss to top of ch2.

Round 4 Ch2, 1htr in each htr around, join with ss to top of ch2; rep last round until section worked in B measures 6 (7.5: 7.5: 10)cm, 2½ (3: 3: 4)in. Break B, join A.

Next round With A, ch3, 1tr in each htr around, join with ss to top of ch3.

Next round Ch3, 1tr in each tr around, join with ss to top of ch3; rep last round until work from underarm measures 11.5 (14: 14: 15)cm, 4½ (5½: 5½: 6)in.

Ribbing

Round 1 Ch2, *bptr around post of next st, fptr around post of next st; rep from * to last st, bptr around post of last st, join with ss to top of ch2; rep last round 4 (5: ➔

Animal jumpers

Combine your favourite pastel shades in these colour-block sweaters

Top tip

If you're worried about buttons and young babies, you can embroider the eyes instead



It's in the detail

When you alternate front post and back post stitches across the row (as for the cuffs and hem of this jumper), you create a fabric with thick vertical ribbing. This is a two-sided fabric with ribs on both sides, so it is richly textured and cushioned – just perfect for a cosy jumper.



5: 6) times more.
Fasten off at end of last round.

Sleeves

Round 1 (RS) Using mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook, join A with ss to centre of underarm ch, ch3, 1tr in each ch or tr around, join with ss to top of ch3. [31 (33: 35: 37) tr]

Round 2 Ch3, 1tr in each tr around. Break A, join B with ss to top of ch3.

Round 3 With B, ch2, 1htr in each tr around, join with ss to top of ch2.

Round 4 Ch2, 1htr in each htr around, join with ss to top of ch2; rep last round until section worked in B measures 6 (7.5: 7.5: 10)cm, 2½ (3: 3: 4)in. Break B, join A with ss to top of ch 2.

Next round With A, ch3, 1tr in each htr around, join with ss to top of ch3.

Next round Ch3, 1tr in each tr around, join with ss to top of ch3; rep last round until work from underarm chain measures 10 (12.5: 14: 15)cm, 4 (5: 5½: 6)in.

Next round Ch3, 1tr in each of next 15 tr, tr2tog, 1tr in each tr to end of round. Break A, join B with ss to top of ch3. [31 (33: 34: 36) tr]

Sleeve ribbing

Round 1 With B, ch2 (counts as first st), *bptr around post of next st, fptr around post of next st; rep from * to last st, bptr around post of last st, join with ss to top of ch2; rep last round 4 (5: 5: 6) times more. Fasten off at end of last round.

Neck edging

Round 1 Join B with ss in centre back rem ch of foundation ch, ch1, work 1dc in each rem ch around, join with ss to first dc.

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

Kitty version

Ears (make 2)

Using 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4)

Top Tip

Babies will love to give a little tug on the ears of their new jumper, so make sure they are sewn on extra-securely!

crochet hook and B, ch8.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of ch, turn. (7 dc)

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

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

Row 4 Ch1, dc2tog, 1dc in next dc, dc2tog, turn. (3 sts)

Row 5 Ch1, dc3tog, do not turn, ch1, work 1 round of dc evenly around edges of Ear, working 3dc in each corner, join with ss to first dc.

Fasten off.

Bear version

Ears (make 2)

Using 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) crochet hook and B, ch4.

Row 1 7tr in 4th ch from hook (ch3 counts as tr). (8 tr)

Row 2 Ch2 (counts as htr), 1htr in first tr, 2htr in each tr to end of row.

Fasten off. (16 htr)

Both versions

Attach Ears along top edge of contrast band of B on Front of sweater, making sure they are evenly spaced on each side edge.

Sew buttons for eyes as shown in picture. Using A for Bear Version or dark pink aran-weight yarn for Kitty Version, embroider nose and mouth as shown in picture. 🐾



They'll be lovely and cosy in this jumper, hooked in washable acrylic yarn

Pickle the puppy

This lovable toy from **Nicki Trench** can be made in any cotton DK. Use up your stash and create pups in every colour!

Top tip

Keep your stitches on the tight side to prevent stuffing from poking through



You will need

- Any cotton DK, 1 ball in: Yellow (A)
- Small amounts of Black and Pink cotton DK
- Pair of safety eyes
- Toy stuffing
- Small piece of fabric for the scarf
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook
- Yarn needle
- Sewing needle and thread to match fabric

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project, just adjust the hook size if necessary to achieve a firm fabric

Finished measurements

- Approx. 10cm (4in.) tall

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Rico Essentials Cotton DK

100% cotton

130m per 50g

Machine wash at 30°C

£2.89, www.lovecrafts.com

You won't get into a pickle with this sweet and simple pattern, worked in double crochet throughout. Hooked in cotton for a sturdy, solid feel, Nicki's puppy is stuffed firmly so he can stand on his own. For the finishing touch, add safety eyes, embroidered details and a scarf in any scrap fabric.

PICKLE THE PUPPY Head

Using A, make 2ch.

Round 1 6dc in second ch from hook.

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

Round 3 *1dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st; rep from * to end. (16 sts)

Round 4 *1dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st; rep from * to end. (20 sts)

Round 5 *1dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st; rep from * to end. (24 sts)

Rounds 6-8 1dc in each st.

Round 9 *1dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog; rep from * to end. (18 sts)

Round 10 *1dc in next st, dc2tog; rep from * to end. (12 sts)

Insert eyes and secure. Stuff head.

Round 11 *Dc2tog; rep from * until opening is closed.

Fasten off.

Muzzle

Using A, make 2ch.

Round 1 6dc in second ch from hook.

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

Rounds 3-4 1dc in each st.

Fasten off.

Stuff muzzle lightly. Pin and sew to face. Embroider nose and mouth details using the black and pink yarn.

Ears (make 2)

Using A, make 2ch.

Round 1 6dc in second ch from hook.

Round 2 1dc in each st.

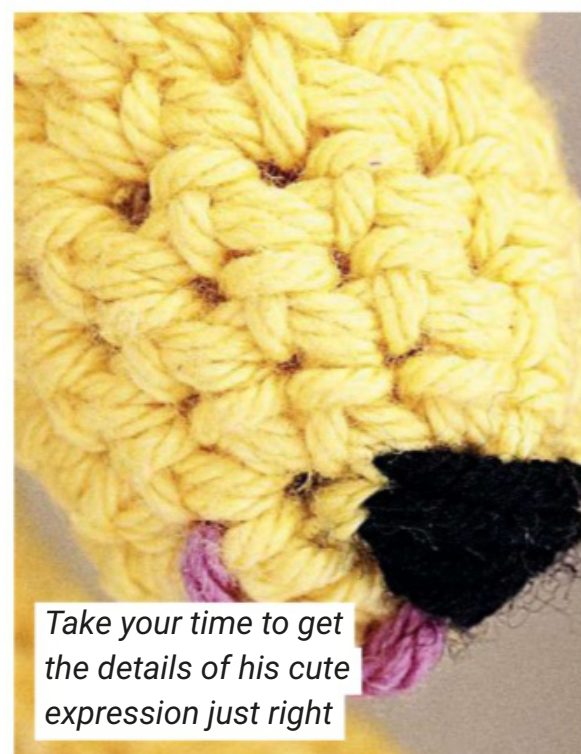
Round 3 2dc in each st. (12 sts)

Rounds 4-5 1dc in each st.

Round 6 *Dc2tog, 1dc in each of next 4 sts; rep from * once. (10 sts)

Fasten off.

Work running stitch around inside edge of ears, up 3 sides only, leaving base open. This defines the shape of the



ears. Gently push finger up through opening to open the ears and shape. Pin and sew to head.

Body

Using A, make 2ch.

Round 1 6dc in second ch from hook.

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

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

Round 4 *1dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st; rep from * to end. (24 sts)

Round 5 *1dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st; rep from * to end. (30 sts)

Rounds 6-15 1dc in each st.

Round 16 *1dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog; rep from * to end. (24 sts)

Round 17 *1dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog; rep from * to end. (18 sts)

Stuff firmly.

Round 18 *1dc in next st, dc2tog; rep from * to end. (12 sts)

Round 19 *Miss 1 st, 1dc in next st; rep from * until opening is closed.

Fasten off, sew in ends.

Pin and sew to head.



Legs (make 4)

Using A, make 2ch.
Round 1 5dc in second ch from hook.
Round 2 2dc in each st. (10 sts)
Round 3 1dc in each st.
Round 4 *1dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog; rep from * once. (8 sts)
Round 5 1dc in each st until work measures 7cm (2¾in).
Fasten off .
Stuff. Pin in position and sew to body.

Tail

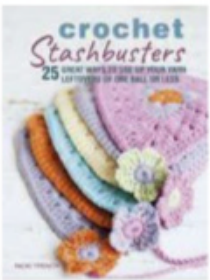
Using A, make 2ch.
Round 1 4dc in second ch from hook.
Round 2 2dc in next st, 1dc in each st to last st, 2dc in last st. (6 sts)
Round 3 *1dc in next st, 2dc in next st; rep from * to end. (9 sts)
Rounds 4-6 1dc in each st.
Round 7 *Dc2tog, 1dc in next st; rep

from * to end. (6 sts)
Rounds 8-9 1dc in each st.
Fasten off.
Stuff lightly. Pin and sew to body.

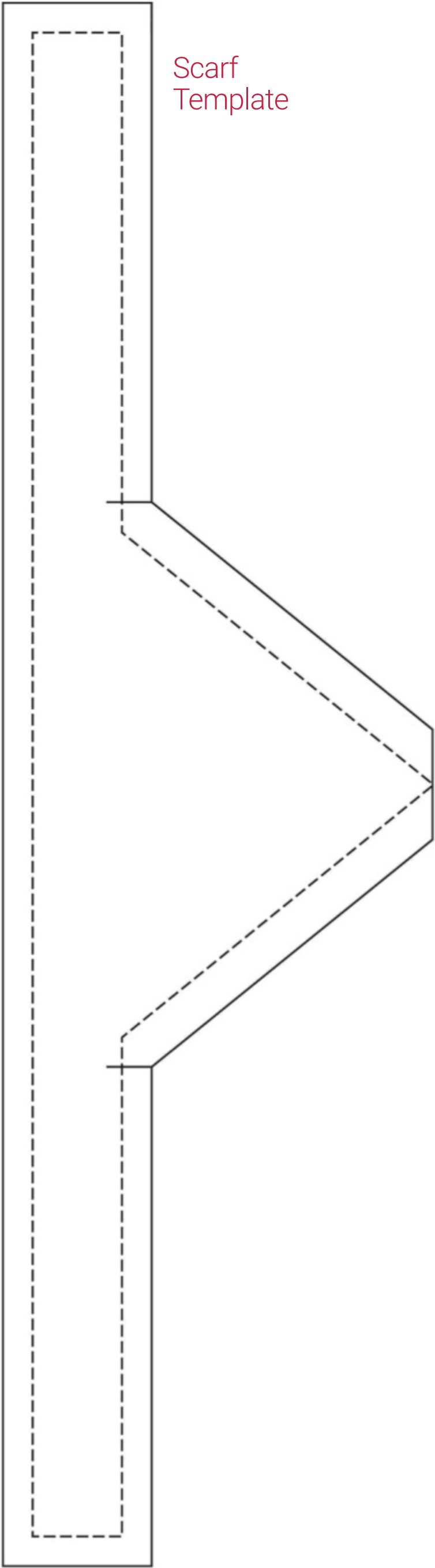
Scarf

Use the template to cut out scarf.
Hem the edges using matching thread. Tie the scarf around Pickle's neck. 🧡

More info
This project is from **Crochet Stashbusters** by **Nicki Trench**, published by **CICO Books (£9.99)**



Scarf Template



Dinky dino

Hooked in cotton, this diplodocus softie makes a 'roar-some' addition to a little one's toybox. **By DROPS**



Great value
and super-
quick to
make!

You will need

Small dinosaur

- DROPS Safran, 1 ball each in:
 - Army Green (shade 14)
 - Lime (shade 31)
- Small amount of black yarn
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) crochet hook
- Toy stuffing

Large dinosaur

- DROPS Paris, 1 ball each in:
 - Light Purple (shade 05)
 - Powder Pink (shade 58)
- Small amount of black yarn
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook
- Toy stuffing

Measurements

- Small: approx. 10cm (4in) high x 14cm (5½in) long
- Large: approx. 14cm (5½in) high x 20cm (8in) long

Tension

- Small: 24dc to 10cm (4in) using a 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook
- Large: 17dc to 10cm (4in) using a 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About these yarns

DROPS Safran

100% cotton
160m per 50g
Machine wash at 40°C
99p, for stockists visit
www.garnstudio.com

DROPS Paris

100% cotton
75m per 50g
Machine wash at 40°C
85p, for stockists visit
www.garnstudio.com

Dinosaurs, from the cute to the ferocious, are a source of fascination for young children. We prefer ours on the cute side, just like this adorable dinky dino from DROPS Design. He's a quick and simple make in two shades of yarn, with embroidered features to add character. To make a larger dino (for an older child, perhaps) simply follow the same pattern, but switch to DROPS Paris yarn and increase your hook size accordingly.

SMALL DINOSAUR

Note Worked from the top of head, down the neck, along the body and out to the tail. Work the legs separately and fasten. Work spikes at the end. Gradually fill the body of the dinosaur with toy stuffing as you work

Crochet tip Beg every dc round with 1ch (this does not replace first dc) and finish with 1 ss in first dc from beg of round. Turn every dc row with 1ch (this ch does not replace first dc on row).

Head, body and tail

Using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and Army Green, work 4ch and form a ring with 1 ss in first ch.

Round 1 Work 6 dc in ch-ring.

Round 2 *Work 1dc in first dc, 2dc in next dc*; repeat from * to * the entire round. (9 dc)

Round 3 *Work 1dc in each of the first 2 dc, 2dc in next dc*; repeat from * to * the entire round. (12 dc)

Turn piece and work back from WS.

Rows 4-6 Work 3 rows with 1 dc in every dc back and forth (= opening for snout, which is worked later).

Round 7 Now work in the round again (insert 1 marker at beg of round). Dc2tog, 1dc in each of the next 8 dc, dc2tog. (10 dc)

Rounds 8-14 Work 1dc in every dc in the round without finishing every round, then work 1dc in each of the first 5 sts to end up mid on top of neck – now rounds beg here.

Round 15 1dc in each of the first 3 dc,

2dc in each of the next 4 dc, 1dc in each of the last 3 dc. (14 dc)

Round 16 Dc2tog, 1dc in each of the next 3 sts, 2dc in each of the next 4 sts, 1dc in each of the next 3 sts, dc2tog. (16 dc)

Round 17 Work 1dc in each of the first 14 dc, turn with 1ch. Then work back and forth for chest.

Row 18 (WS) Skip the first 2 dc, 1dc in each of the next 11 dc, turn with 1ch.

Row 19 (RS) Skip the first 2 dc, 1dc in each of the next 8 dc, turn with 1ch.

Row 20 (WS) Skip the first 2 dc, 1dc in each of the next 5 dc, turn with 1ch.

Round 21 Now work in the round again – work dc around the entire opening, inc evenly so that there are 20 dc in total, then work until mid under belly.

Round 22 Work 1dc in every dc but in 2 dc mid on top of back work 2dc. (22 dc) – insert 1 marker in the middle of these dc.

Rounds 23-25 Work 1dc in every dc.

Round 26-29 Work 1dc in every dc but dec 1 st on each side of marker mid on top of back (i.e. dec 2 sts on every round). (14 dc after Round 29)

Rounds 30-33 Work 1dc in every st but dec 1 st mid on top of back (dec alternately before and after marker). (10 dc after Round 33)

Rounds 34-36 Work 1dc in every dc.

Rounds 37-42 Work 1dc in every dc but dec 1dc mid under tail on all rounds. (4 sts after Round 42).

Cut the thread, baste the yarn end around the opening, tighten tog and fasten.



Add simple spikes to your dino using 3ch loops, attached with a double crochet every 1cm down the back

Top tip

Use a blunt tapestry needle for the facial features as it's less likely to split the yarn

Snout

Work 10dc with Army Green around the opening at the front of head. Work 1 round with 1dc in every dc, then 1 round of dc2tog.

Cut the thread, put some stuffing in snout, baste the yarn end around the opening, tighten tog and fasten.

Leg (make 4)

Using Army Green, work 4ch and form a ring with 1 ss in first ch.

Round 1 Work 5dc in ch-ring.

Round 2 Work 2dc in every dc (10 dc)

Rounds 3-6 Work 1dc in every dc.

Fasten off.

Fill legs with stuffing and sew them to the underside of body.

Spikes

Work spikes on the back using 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook and Lime as follows:

Work 1 ss at the tip of tail, *work 3ch, in the first ch work 1tr, skip approx. 1cm and work 1dc*; repeat from * to * until where tail begins.

Continue to work as follows: *3ch, skip approx. 1cm and work 1dc*; repeat until mid back of head and finish with 1 ss. Fasten off.

Embroider eyes and mouth using black.

LARGE DINOSAUR

Work as for small dinosaur, but using 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook and Paris yarn. The head, body and tail are worked with Light Purple. The snout, legs and spikes are worked with Powder Pink. ♥

Crochet essentials

Over the next few pages, you'll find simple step-by-step guides to many useful stitches and techniques that you'll use every time you pick up a hook.

Holding the hook

■ TRY THESE METHODS AND SEE WHICH WORKS BEST



PENCIL METHOD
Hold the hook like a pencil, in your right hand (if you're right-handed), about 3-5cm from the hooked end. If your hook has a flat area, you'll find it comfortable to hold it here.



KNIFE METHOD
Hold the hook between your thumb and forefinger, about 3-5cm from the hooked end, resting the end of the hook against your palm. This will give you lots of control.

Holding the yarn

■ EVEN TENSION RESULTS IN EVEN STITCHES



METHOD ONE
Pass the ball end of the yarn between the little finger and third finger of your left hand (if you are right-handed), then behind the third and middle fingers, over your index finger.



METHOD TWO
Loop the ball end of the yarn loosely around the little finger of your left hand, then take it over the third finger, behind the middle finger and over your index finger.

Making a slipknot ■ THE FIRST LOOP ON THE HOOK



1 Hold the tail of the ball of yarn in your left hand and drape the yarn clockwise over the top of it to form a circular loop.



2 Hold the loop between your left thumb and forefinger, then insert the crochet hook through the centre of the loop from front to back.



3 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook and pull it back through the centre of the loop, taking the yarn through with it.

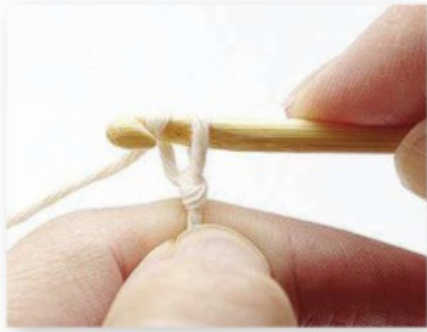


4 Pull both ends of the yarn to tighten the knot, then pull just the ball end to tighten the loop so it's close to the hook, but not touching it.

Chain stitch ■ USE THIS STITCH TO MAKE YOUR FOUNDATION CHAIN



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



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



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

How to count chains



Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Never count your first slipknot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). So that you can be accurate, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.

Slip stitch (ss)

■ THIS STITCH HAS NO HEIGHT – OFTEN USED TO JOIN ROUNDS



1 The slip stitch is used to join a length of chain into the round. Insert the hook from front to back into the first chain you worked. Wrap yarn round the hook (yrh) in an anticlockwise direction.



2 Pull the yarn through the chain stitch (as shown) and then the loop already on the hook to make a slip stitch. You can also work this stitch into each stitch along a row to form a neat edging.

Working in rows

■ FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE RULES TO CONSTRUCT CROCHET FABRIC



1 The first row is made by working across the foundation chain from right to left. At the end of the chain or row, turn the work so that the yarn is behind the hook.



2 For the next row, first make the turning chain for the stitch you're about to work. Now work the next stitch into the top of the stitches on your first row, missing the first stitch.

Double crochet (dc) US term: single crochet

■ ONE OF THE KEY STITCHES IN CROCHET, DOUBLES ARE SIMPLE, COMPACT STITCHES THAT FORM A DENSE FABRIC



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



2 Wind the yarn around the hook (yrh).



3 Pull the yarn through the stitch, giving you two loops on your crochet hook.



4 Yarn round hook again, then pull the yarn through both loops. You have made a double crochet stitch and will have one loop left on the hook, ready to do the next stitch.

Half treble crochet (htr) US term: half double crochet

■ A HANDY STITCH THAT'S BETWEEN DOUBLE AND TREBLE CROCHET IN SIZE, AND LOOKS SLIGHTLY LOOSER THAN DOUBLE CROCHET



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



2 Insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch in the previous row. Wrap yarn around the hook again (yrh).



3 Pull the yarn through the stitch only (3 loops on hook).



4 Yarn round hook again, pull the yarn through all 3 loops. You've made a half treble crochet. Continue working htr into next and following sts to the end of the row.

Treble crochet (tr) US term: double crochet

ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR STITCHES IN CROCHET, THIS SIMPLE STITCH IS TWICE AS HIGH AS A DOUBLE CROCHET STITCH



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



2 Wrap the yarn around the hook (yrh) and pull the yarn through the stitch only.



3 You will now have 3 loops on the hook. Yrh again, and draw the yarn through just the first 2 loops on the hook.



4 You will now have 2 loops on the hook. Yrh again and draw the yarn through the remaining loops on the hook. Your treble crochet is complete.

Double Treble crochet (dtr) US term: treble crochet

This is a stitch regularly used as an elongated version of the treble (described above). It's worked in a very similar way to the treble, as follows:

- 1 Make a foundation chain. Skip 4ch, *yrh twice, and insert the hook under the top loop of the next ch.
- 2 Yrh, pull the yarn through the ch loop only (4 loops on hook).
- 3 Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (3 loops on hook). Yrh

- and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (2 loops on hook).
- 4 Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops. Repeat from * to make more dtr sts.
- 5 To make the next row of dtr, turn work and ch4. This turning chain counts as the first dtr in a new row. Skip first st at the base of the t-ch, work 1dtr under the top two loops of the 2nd stitch in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

Triple Treble crochet (ttr) US term: double treble crochet

This is one of the longest standard crochet stitches and is mainly used in fancy stitch patterns. It's taller than a double treble crochet stitch (described left) and is worked in a very similar way, as follows:

- 1 Make a foundation ch. Skip 5 ch, *yrh 3 times, insert hook under top loop of next ch.
- 2 Yrh, pull yarn through ch loop only (5 loops on hook).

- 3 † Yrh, draw loop through 2 loops only. Repeat from † 3 times more and your triple treble will be finished. Repeat from * to make more ttr sts.
- 4 To make the next row, turn work and ch5. This turning chain counts as the first triple treble in a new row. Skip first st at base of the t-ch. Work 1 triple treble, inserting hook under the top 2 loops of the 2nd st in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

Turning Chain (t-ch)

FOR AN EVEN FINISH, START EACH ROW WITH A TURNING CHAIN

In crochet, you need to add turning chains (t-chs) to the beginning of rows. The reason for this is to bring the hook up to the height of the stitches you're crocheting. Each basic stitch has its own number of chains. The

table below tells you how many t-ch sts form the first stitch. *For dc, usually the turning chain does not count as a stitch and the first stitch of the row is worked into the stitch at the base of the turning chain.

STITCH	Add to foundation chain before starting row	Skip at start of foundation row (counts as first st)	For turning chain (counts as first st)
Double crochet	1 ch	1 ch*	1 ch*
Half treble	1 ch	2 ch	2 ch
Treble	2 ch	3 ch	3 ch
Double treble	3 ch	4 ch	4 ch
Triple treble	4 ch	5 ch	5 ch

How to count stitches

CHECK YOUR WORK IS CORRECT

Being able to count your stitches is very important and helps you to ensure that you're following a pattern correctly. It's a good idea to count your stitches at the end of every row. To count short stitches such as double crochet, look at the plaited tops (see above right). For taller stitches, count the upright 'stems' – each 'stem' is counted as a stitch (see right).



How to change colour

■ CREATE STRIPES AND OTHER COLOUR EFFECTS



1 Before you work the final yrh (yarn round hook) on the last stitch of a row in the old colour, drop the old yarn and pick up the new one with your hook.



2 Pull through a loop of the new yarn to finish the old stitch. The working loop will be in the new colour. Continue, keeping the old yarn at the wrong side.

Increasing and decreasing

■ SHAPING STITCHES ARE VITAL FOR MAKING GARMENTS



INCREASE To increase one stitch is very simple – work one stitch into the next stitch on the row below. When you've finished, work another stitch into the same stitch.



DECREASE For a quick decrease, just skip one stitch. For a neater look, work the first part of one stitch and then begin the next stitch. Finish both together.

Sewing seams

■ YOU CAN JOIN CROCHET SEAMS BY USING A TAPESTRY NEEDLE OR A CROCHET HOOK, USING ONE OF THESE FOUR METHODS.



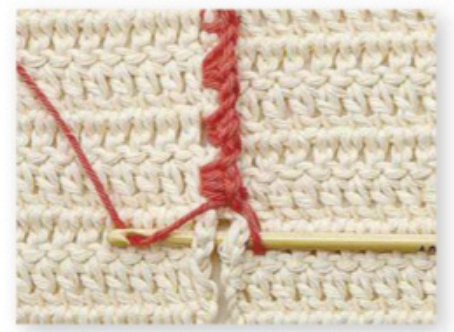
1 Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet right sides together and oversew them as shown above, using a tapestry or yarn needle.



2 To slip stitch a seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together. *Insert hook into both edge stitches, yrh and pull through to complete 1 slip stitch; rep from * working into the next edge stitches, keeping work fairly loose.



3 For a dc seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together, or wrong sides together for a visible seam. Work as for slip stitch seam, using double crochet instead of slip stitch.

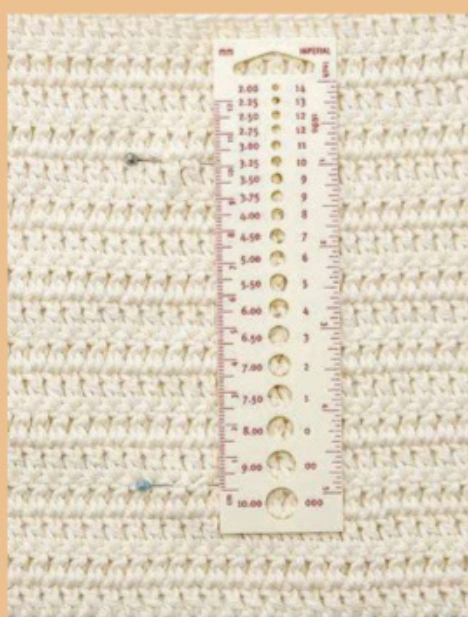


4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

How to check your tension

■ MAKE AND MEASURE A SWATCH TO CHECK YOUR TENSION

Most crochet patterns state the tension required, in rows and stitches of a specific type. Make a swatch at least 15cm square and check that your tension matches. Place a ruler across the swatch and insert two pins, 10cm apart. Then place the ruler along a column of stitches and insert two pins 10cm apart. Count the stitches and rows between the pins – if you have less than the pattern, your tension is too loose so you need to use a smaller hook, but if you have too many, use a larger hook. It's usually better to match the stitches than rows, because you can always work more or fewer rows.



Foundation ring

■ CREATE A FOUNDATION RING FOR WORKING IN THE ROUND



1 Make a chain the length stated in the pattern instructions. Next, insert the crochet hook into the first chain. Close the ring with a slip stitch, working yrh...



2 ...and pull yarn through 2 loops on hook. Now you're ready to start crocheting in the round, following the instructions given right.

Working stitches into a ring

■ TO MAKE CIRCLES, TUBES AND OTHER SHAPES



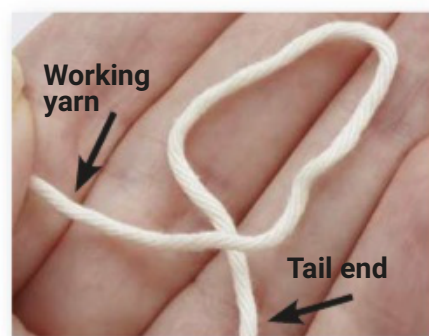
1 Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



2 Finish the treble as usual (yrh, pull yarn through ring, yrh, pull yarn through first 2 loops, yrh, pull yarn through 2 loops). Work more sts into the ring as needed.

Working a magic loop

■ AN ALTERNATIVE FOUNDATION RING FOR WORKING IN THE ROUND



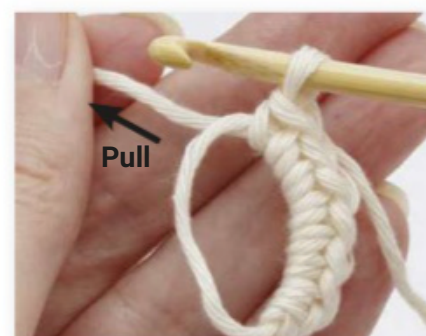
1 To start a magic loop, don't make a slipknot. Instead, make a loop with the yarn, leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is under the working yarn.



2 Now insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn around the hook and pull the yarn through the loop.



3 Make a t-ch for the sts you want to work (above, we made 1 t-ch for dc). Work your sts into the Magic Loop, over both the loop and the tail end (so two yarn strands).



4 Once you've worked the first round of stitches, simply pull the tail end of yarn to draw up the ring. Work a slip stitch to join the last and first sts to finish the first round (as instructed below).

Joining rounds

■ FINISH OFF EACH ROUND OF CROCHET STITCHES NICE AND NEATLY BY USING A SLIP STITCH



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



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



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

Rounds or spirals

■ CHECK WHICH TECHNIQUE TO USE

Some patterns are worked in rounds that are joined together at the end of each round (see left). Other patterns are worked in a spiral so you don't need to join the rounds at the end, just keep going, working into the next stitch on the previous row. Amigurumi toys are often worked in a spiral like this.

How to follow a crochet pattern

USE OUR HANDY GUIDE BELOW IF YOU'RE NEW TO CROCHET

Bear hugs

You can't beat a traditional teddy for cuddles and companionship – Val Pierce's sweet bear is sure to become a forever friend.



Top tips
You'll find expert's top tips and ideas throughout *Love Crochet*, to help you add to your skills.

Top tip
Use up stash cotton DK in different colours for Yarns B and C.

About this yarn
Details about the weight, cost and length of yarn.

You will need

Stylecraft Classique Cotton DK in Apricot (shade 3952) x 3 balls – A
Rico Rico yarn DK in 1 ball each in: Nude (shade 023) – B
Chocolate (shade 057) – C
3 Sewas (UK 9 or 10, US 2/4) hook
Toy stuffing

Measurements
28cm (11in) tall when standing

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

Abbreviations
For standard abbreviations see page 82.

About this yarn
Stylecraft Classique Cotton DK
100% cotton
92m per 50g
Machine wash at 40°C
£2.19, call 01484 848 435 or visit www.stylecraftyarns.co.uk

TEDDY
Note: You will stuff each piece as you work, so remember to add small bits of stuffing as you go along. It is possible to finish stuffing at the end of most pieces by adding tiny bits of stuffing with the blunt end of a crochet hook.

Head
Using A, make 2ch.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc in 2nd ch from hook, as to first ch to join into a circle.
Round 2 1ch (not counted as a st throughout), 2dc in each dc to end, as to first dc. (12 sts)
Round 3 1ch, *1dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, as to first dc. (18 sts)
Round 4 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * to end, as to first dc. (24 sts)
Round 5 1ch, *1dc into each of next 3 dc, 2dc into next dc; rep from * to end, as to first dc. (30 sts)

Add eyelashes or alter the eyebrow angle for a different look!

Round 20 1ch, *1dc in each of next 4 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, as to first dc. (20 sts)
Round 21 1ch, *1dc into each of next 3 dc, dc2tog; rep from * to end, as to first dc. (16 sts)

You will need

Our shopping list tells you what hooks to use, how much yarn to buy and whether you need any extra items such as buttons or embroidery thread.

Crochet chart key

Some of the patterns in this issue feature a crochet chart. Here's a guide to the symbols featured.

-  Chain
-  Slip stitch
-  Double Crochet (DC)
-  Half treble crochet (htr)
-  Treble crochet (tr)
-  Double treble crochet (dtr)
-  Triple treble crochet (trtr)
-  Double crochet (dc2tog)
-  Double crochet 3tog (dc3tog)
-  Treble crochet 2tog (tr2tog)
-  Treble crochet 3tog (tc3tog)
-  3 treble crochet cluster
-  3htr cluster
-  5tr popcorn
-  5tr shell
-  Chain 3 picot
-  Front post treble (fp tr)
-  Back post treble (bp tr)
-  Worked in back loop only
-  Worked in front loop only

Crochet hook conversions

UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	–
13	2.25mm	B/1
12	2.5mm	–
–	2.75mm	C/2
11	3mm	–
10	3.25mm	D/3
9	3.5mm	E/4
–	3.75mm	F/5
8	4mm	G/6
7	4.5mm	7
6	5mm	H/8
5	5.5mm	I/9
4	6mm	J/10
3	6.5mm	K/10½
2	7mm	–
0	8mm	L/11
00	9mm	M/13
000	10mm	N/15

UK/US conversions

UK		US	
chain	ch	chain	ch
slip stitch	ss	slip stitch	ss
double crochet	dc	single crochet	sc
half treble	htr	half double	hdc
treble	tr	double	dc
double treble	dtr	treble	tr
triple treble	ttr	double treble	dtr

Which hook do I use?

Hook size	UK yarn weight
2.5-3.5mm hook	4ply yarn
3.5-4.5mm hook	double knitting yarn
5-6mm hook	aran yarn
7mm and bigger	chunky yarn

Abbreviations

across	to end of the row	htr	half treble
alt	alternate/alternating	htr2tog	work 2htr together
approx	approximate(ly)	in next	sts to be worked into the same stitch
beg	beginning	inc	increase
bl	insert hook under back loop only	LH	left hand
BPtr	Back Post treble: yrh, starting from the back, insert hook from back to front to back around post of st in row below, complete as treble st	lp(s)	loop(s)
ch(s)	chain/chain stitch(es)	meas	measures
ch-sp(s)	chain space(s)	p or pc	picot
ch-	refers to ch made previously, eg. ch-3	patt(s)	pattern(s)
cl(s)	clusters	pm	place marker
4-tr cl	(yrh, insert hook in sp/st, yrh & pull up loop, yrh & draw through 2 loops) 4 times, inserting hook in same sp/st, yrh & draw through all loops on hook	prev	previous
cont	continue	rem	remain(s)/remaining
dc	double crochet	rep	repeat
dc2tog	(insert hook in next st, yrh and draw a loop through) twice, yrh and draw through all 3 loops on hook	RH	right hand
dec	decrease	rnd(s)	round(s)
dtr	double treble crochet	RS	right side
dtr2tog	work 2dtr together	sk	skip
fl	insert hook under front loop only	sp(s)	space(s)
foll/folls	following/follows	ss	slip stitch
FPtr	Front Post treble: work in opposite way to BPtr	st(s)	stitch(es)
		tbl	through back loop
		t-ch(s)	turning chain(s)
		tog	together
		tr	treble crochet
		tr2tog	(yrh, insert hook in next st, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice, yrh and draw through all loops on hook
		ttr	triple treble crochet
		WS	wrong side
		yoh	yarn over hook
		yrh	yarn round hook
		*	work instructions immediately foll *, then rep as directed
		[] or ()	work or repeat all instructions in the brackets as directed

HOW TO GET A PERFECT FINISH

■ TO PREVENT YOUR HARD WORK UNRAVELLING ONCE YOU’VE FINISHED CROCHETING, FASTEN THE END OFF CAREFULLY



Complete the final stitch, then cut the yarn about 15cm from the work. Pull it through the last loop on the hook and pull to close the loop. Thread the yarn tail onto a tapestry needle and weave into the back of the work. Most crochet items don’t need a lot of blocking, but cotton lace work usually does. To do this, very carefully pin out the item with rust-proof pins, mist with a water spray and leave to dry naturally.

Love Crochet Meet the team...

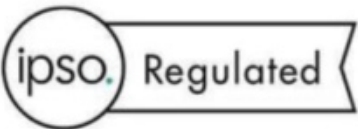
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