



Love Crochet

23 festive projects to hook today – for your family, your friends and for yourself!

Love Crochet

November 2019

Easy gifts & home decor ideas!

- Snuggly bottle cover & toy giraffes
- Baby car set, stocking fillers & more

23
festive
PATTERNS

Happy
Christmas!

Hook our cute holly
fairy, elf trio & more

Merry & bright **patterns for you**



Sweet
angel for
your tree!



Xmas jumper
Novelty Santa trim



Snowy scene
Cosy cushion



Deck the halls
Sweet stocking



Fun gingerbread
house for your table

OUR PICK OF THE BEST **CHRISTMAS KITS**





Welcome

We're all about Christmas in this brand-new issue of *Love Crochet* – after all, it's never too early to start getting ready, especially if you're a crocheter! So we're in full-on festive mode with a tempting line-up of hooky patterns – from gifts large and small for friends and family (including the kids) to fun, colourful projects to decorate your home.

You'll love our sweet Holly Fairy complete with wand (p.12), or our traditional gingerbread house (see left and p.16) perfect for sweet treats. Crochet our Christmas tree angel (p.32), sparkly table setting (p.40) and easy mistletoe wreath (p.26) for your home, while our cool blue and white cushion (p.60) and fun kiddie car set (p.73) make great handmade gifts. We even have a crochet advent calendar (p.20) so you can count down to the big day in fine festive style!

Amanda

Amanda Robinson
Editor



**This
adorable
elf trio!**
Page 8

PS. The next issue of *Love Crochet* is on sale on 19th December 2019. If you have any queries about patterns, email patternhelp@immediate.co.uk and we'll be happy to give you a hand!



Festive little reindeer, p28



Ruby slipper decoration, p38



Winter birdie amigurumi, p66



Cosy hottie cover, p56

Love Crochet Contents

12



8



40

PROJECTS

8 FESTIVE ELF TRIO

Hook Santa's jolly little helpers to make you smile this Christmas

26 MISTLETOE WREATH

Greet guests in style with a beautiful Christmas wreath on the front door

36 FESTIVE GARLAND

Candy canes and sugary doughnuts bring sweetness to this fun bunting

12 HOLLY FAIRY

Our amigurumi cutie is hooked in Christmassy shades for the season

28 LITTLE REINDEER

With his shiny red nose, he'll add colour and cuteness to your tree!

38 MINI SLIPPERS

Sweet miniature Scandi slippers, to hang on the tree for Mrs Claus!

16 GINGERBREAD HOUSE

This is a tasty project in every way, packed full of fun festive details!

32 PINK ANGEL

A heavenly project to hook in a weekend, and a great gift for kids

40 TABLE SETTING

Add sparkle to any occasion with our place mats, coasters and napkin rings

20 ADVENT CALENDAR

Have a December to remember with our whimsical crochet calendar

35 CHRISTMAS CARDS

Make simple festive motifs to adorn your greetings cards this year

50 SANTA JUMPER

You can embellish anything with our Santa motifs– first up, a fab jumper!



60



62



26



73



20



16



64



35



52



50

52 POINSETTIA CORSAGE

Dress up an outfit with this beautiful bloom, hooked in luxurious alpaca

56 HOTTIE COVER

Super snuggly and cosy, it's a must for those chilly winter days

60 WINTER CUSHION

Capture a simple snowy scene in stitches using the intarsia method

62 BAUBLE KEYRINGS

These colourful keyrings make quick and easy gifts for Christmas!

64 MINI STOCKING

A perfect little decoration for the tree, or fill it with sweets as a cute gift!

66 CHRISTMAS BIRDS

Our roly-poly robin and penguin make wonderful winter pals to hook today

70 GIRAFFE TOYS

Meet Gerry and Ginnie, two adorable friends for babies and toddlers

73 TOY CARS

Race ahead with your Christmas gifts when you make these fun little cars

PLUS SOME GREAT READS

7 NEWS, BOOKS AND EVENTS

11 SHOPPING INSPIRATION 31 BACK

ISSUES 43 ASK THE EXPERT 44 KIT

REVIEWS 46 TUTORIAL: WORKING

WITH MULTIPLE YARNS 76 HOW TO

CROCHET 83 NEXT ISSUE



CARON[®]

SIMPLY SOFT[®]

50 COLOURS | 100% ACRYLIC | ARAN WEIGHT | NO DYE LOTS
INCREDIBLY SOFT TO THE TOUCH | PERFECT FOR A VARIETY OF PROJECTS
FROM BABY TO FASHION TO HOME DÉCOR | MACHINE WASH AND DRY

NOW AVAILABLE FROM

HOBBYCRAFT | THE RANGE | WOOL WAREHOUSE | THE SILK ROAD | LOVE KNITTING
WOOLLY GIRAFFE | DERAMORES | SEAN'S WOOL CABIN | PEACH UNICORN | WOOLFULL
READICUT | OH SEW CRAFTY | PLUS MANY MORE

In the Loop

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



Top of the Blogs!

www.yarnoverpullthrough.com



If you're a budding crochet designer, you'll find a wealth of inspiration in Patrice Walker's blog, including advice, designs and ideas. Patrice, who is based in Hawaii, has been crocheting for several decades and is now on a mission to share her design journey with fellow yarn enthusiasts. We're intrigued by her crochet faces: patterns created from photos! If you've ever fancied a jumper emblazoned with the fizzog of a loved one, bespoke patterns are about £20 from her Etsy shop.

Teddy courtesy of Emma Varnam



The gift of giving

Crocheting for charity is always a lovely thing to do, but many of us are busy and we forget to add it to our schedule. Christmas is the best time for making that extra effort. If you'd welcome inspiration about what to crochet and who for, head to UK Handknitting's charity page for links to charities – from people in need to animal welfare – and to download free patterns.

www.ukhandknitting.com/knitting-for-charity/charity-list



Donkey courtesy of Patricio Mena Vasconez to comply with the WikiCommons

Northern lights

The annual Knitting & Stitching Show in Harrogate is on from 28 November to

1 December at the Convention Centre. Yarncrafters will find oodles of demos, inspiration, advice and shopping to indulge in. *Love Crochet* readers can benefit from £2.50 off a tickets (£1 off concessions) using the code LC19, plus five lucky readers will win a pair of tickets each. Find out more at www.facebook.com/lovecrochet

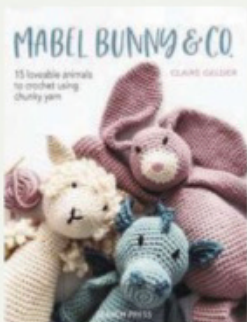


Harry Potter Crochet



The kids (and many grown-ups!) will simply love this! Make Harry, Dobby, and a host of other favourite characters from JK Rowling's beloved wizarding crew. Not just a book of patterns, this pack also comes with yarn, stuffing, safety eyes and even a wand-shaped hook. *Harry Potter Crochet: 14 Magical Projects from the Wizarding World* by Lucy Collin is available now (Thunder Bay Press, £20).

Mabel Bunny & Co.



The latest book from Wool Couture features 15 adorable amigurumi animals as well as three mini versions of Mabel Bunny, Matilda Koala and Oliver Octopus, so you can hook a whole family of cute creatures! The book is ideal for crocheters of any level of expertise, as there is also a handy technique section to get you started. *Mabel Bunny & Co.* by Claire Gelder is available now. (Search Press, £12.99).



Elfing around!

Have yours-elf a merry little Christmas with **Liz Ward's** trio of cute characters. In just three festive colours, you can make them in no time!

Christmas wouldn't be the same without a cheeky elf or three! With their pointy hats, round bodies and big bushy beards, these adorable creations have the look of Scandinavian Tomte – a traditional folklore character that adds a touch of fun to the festive season. Enjoy mixing and matching pompoms and yarn colours to make each elf unique, working both plain and stripey hats to suit your taste.



Top Tip

Add a chain loop at the top of each hat to turn your elves into tree decorations

You will need

- DK yarn in Red, Green, White, Cream and Black from your stash
- Small amount of white fluffy yarn
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook
- Wool needle
- Toy stuffing
- Pompoms (or tiny bells)

Measurements

- Approx. 13cm (5¼in) tall

Tension

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

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see p82

Notes

The elves 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.

The hat, head and body are worked in one piece from the top of the hat, with the arms crocheted separately.

Make three elves, starting in your choice of main colour. If you want to make a stripey hat, change colour every two rounds.

ELF

Hat, head & body

Start with 4dc into magic 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 next st); repeat to end. (10 sts)

Round 4 Dc in each st to end. (10 sts)

Round 5 (Dc in the first 4 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (12 sts)

Round 6 Dc in each st to end. (12 sts)

Round 7 (Dc in the first 5 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (14 sts)

Round 8 Dc in each st to end. (14 sts)

Round 9 (Dc in the first 6 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (16 sts)

Round 10 (Dc in the first 7 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (18 sts)

Elf trio

Round 11 (Dc in the first 8 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (20 sts)

Round 12 (Dc in the first 9 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (22 sts)

Round 13 (Dc in the first 10 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (24 sts)

Round 14 (Dc in the first 11 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (26 sts)
Change to Cream for face.

Round 15 Working in blo throughout, (dc in the first 12 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (28 sts)

Round 16 (Dc in the first 13 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (30 sts)
Change to the colour you want the body to be.

Round 17 (Dc in the first 14 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (32 sts)

Round 18 Dc in each st to end. (32 sts)

Round 19 (Dc in the first 15 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (34 sts)

Round 20 Dc in each st to end. (34 sts)

Round 21 (Dc in the first 16 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (36 sts)

Rounds 22-24 Dc in each st to end. (36 sts)

Stuff now.

Round 25 (Dc2tog, dc in next 4 sts); repeat to end. (30 sts)

Round 26 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts); repeat to end. (24 sts)

Round 27 (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts); repeat to end. (18 sts)

Round 28 (Dc2tog, dc in next st); repeat to end. (12 sts)

Round 29 (Dc2tog) to end. (6 sts)

Fasten off. Sew closed hole at base.

For hat brim, rejoin yarn in your choice of colour to loops created on Round 15.

Round 1 Ch2, (ss in next st, dc in next st, 2htr in next st); repeat to end.

Fasten off and weave in any loose ends.

Arms (make 2)

Using Cream yarn, start with 6dc into magic ring. (6 sts)

Round 1 Dc2tog, dc in each st to end. (5 sts)

Change to body colour now.

Rounds 2-4 Dc in each st to end.

Fasten off.

Cut off any loose ends and sew arms in place on the body.



Belt

Make one each in your choice of colour
Ch30, fasten off.

Sew belt in place and then embroider a square over front to form a buckle.

Nose

Using Cream yarn, start with 6dc into magic ring. (6 sts)

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

Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st to end. (12 sts)

Round 4 (Dc2tog) to end. (6 sts)

Stuff now.

Fasten off.

Add hair before sewing nose in place.

Hair

Wrap all the fluffy yarn around the card in your kit that had the Cream and Black yarn on. Cut down one side to create lots of strands the same length.

Separate fluffy strands into three groups – one for each elf. Take one strand as a wrap, and tie it around the middle of the fluffy strands. Fold the fluffy strands in half and sew onto the face.

To finish

Sew the nose over the hair. Trim the hair and style as required. Sew a pom-pom to the top of the hat, to finish. ♥



Coming next issue

Don't miss our sparkly dancing cats, pirouetting onto our pages in the January issue of *Love Crochet*! On sale from 19th December.

Shopping hooked

Festive ideas for stocking fillers and treats for yourself



* Funny crochet storage bag, www.noths.com, **£12**



* Granny Square Enamel pin, www.noths.com, **£7.50 each**



* Wool Xmas puds, www.gisela-graham.co.uk, **£3.90 each**



* Rattan storage bench, www.oliverbonas.com, **£145**



* Christmas stamp, www.skullandcrossbuns.com, **£15**



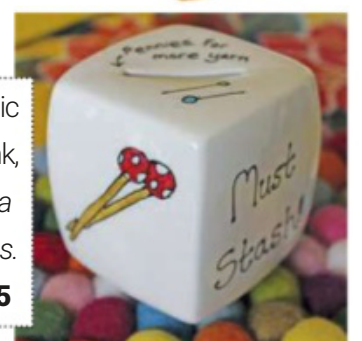
* Crochet lion wall art, www.bobbyrabbit.co.uk, **£69.95**



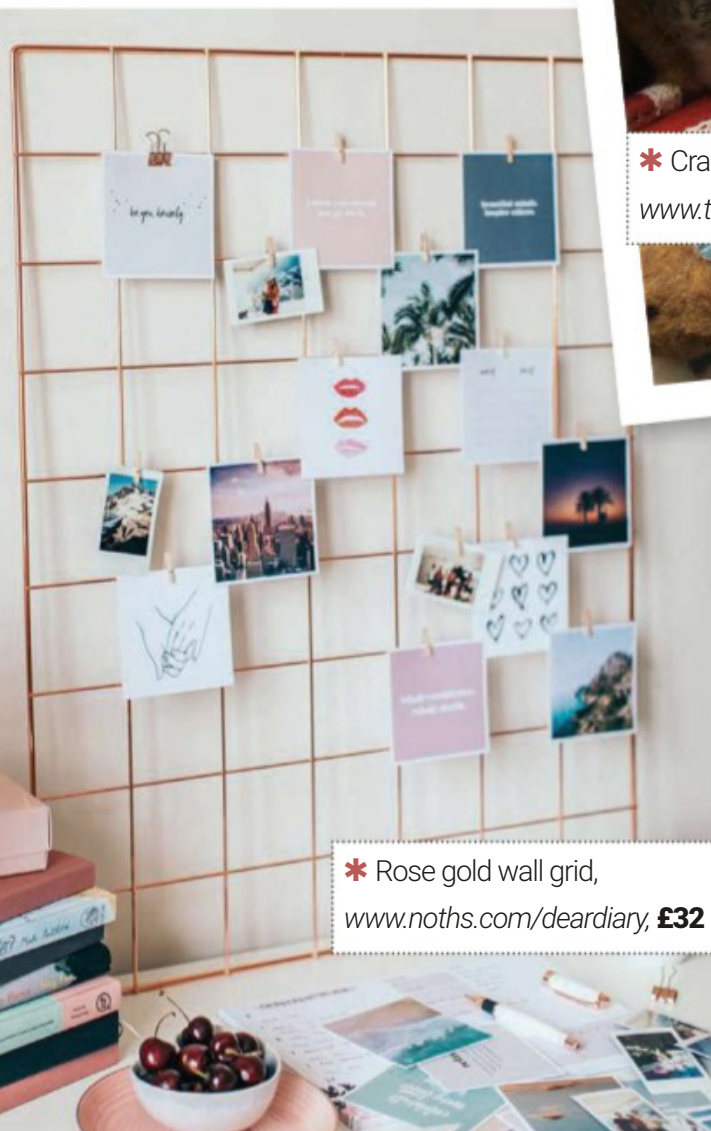
* Crafty decorations, www.tch.net, **£prices vary**



* Squirrel crochet motif hat set, www.marksandspencer.com, **£14**



* Ceramic piggy bank, www.laura-leedesigns.co.uk, **£15**



* Rose gold wall grid, www.noths.com/deardiary, **£32**



* Crochet rattles, www.bestyears.co.uk, **£12.99 each**

Holly days

Meet Holly, the sweetest festive fairy by **Liz Ward**, here to grant all your Christmas wishes with a smile!

Amigurumi
Christmas
cutie!



You will need

- Rico Ricorumi DK, 1 ball each in:
Ecru (shade 54) – A
Fir Green (shade 50) – B
Burgundy (shade 30) – C
Chocolate (shade 57) – D
Silver Grey (shade 58) – E
- 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) hook
- Wool needle
- Two 12mm black safety eyes
- Toy stuffing
- Thin cardboard
- Gold wire
- Glitter
- Glue

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

About this yarn

Rico Ricorumi DK

100% cotton

58m per 25g

Machine wash at 30°C

99p, for stockists visit

www.rico-design.de

You're guaranteed to have a jolly Christmas with Holly the fairy by your side! Worked in a spiral using the amigurumi method, this little beauty makes a great gift for little ones, who will love her cute bunches, berry crown and sparkly wand – a must for any fairy! Liz has used a handful of warm, festive shades from the Ricorumi range, giving a gorgeous seasonal feel to this project. All you need to do now is tell Holly your Christmas wishes (more yarn, anyone?) and let her do her magic!

Holly fairy

Head and body

Using yarn D, 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)

Change to yarn A.

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)

Insert the toy eyes now 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)

Stuff now.

Round 21 (Dc2tog); repeat to end. (9 sts)

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 yarn C.

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)

Rounds 27-28 Dc in each st to end. (24 sts)

Round 29 Blo dc in each st to end. (24 sts)

Rounds 30-35 Dc in each st to end. (24 sts)

Fasten off.

Skirt

Re-join yarn C to loops created on Round 29.

Round 1 (Dc in the first 3 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (30 sts)

Round 2 (Dc in the first 4 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (36 sts)

Rounds 3-8 Dc in each st to end.

Change to yarn E.

Round 9 (Ch3, dc) in each st to end.

Fasten off.

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

Legs (make 2)

Using yarn C, 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)

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

Rounds 3-4 Dc in each st to end. (12 sts)
Change to yarn B.

Round 5 Dc in each st to end. (12 sts)

Round 6 Blo dc in each st to end. (12 sts)
Change to yarn A.

Rounds 7-20 Dc in each st to end. (12 sts)

Rejoin yarn B to the front loops of Round 6 and work a row of dc.

Fasten off. Stuff. Sew legs to body along bottom seam.

Arms (make 2)

Using yarn A, 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 2-15 Dc in each st to end. (9 sts)
Fasten off. Stuff, then sew arms in place at shoulders.

Holly leaves (make 5)

Using yarn B, ch8.

Round 1 Dc in 3rd ch from hook, (ch3, ss) in next 4 sts, turn and work along the back of the foundation chain, (ch3, ss) in next 4 sts.

Fasten off and weave in any loose ends.

Holly berry (make 3)

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

Round 1 Dc in each st to end. (6 sts)
Fasten off.

Cape

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

Row 1 Ch1, turn, 2dc into each st to the end. (8 sts)

Row 2 Ch1, turn, (dc in the first st, 2dc in

It's in the detail

On Round 29 of the body, you will work dc into the back loop only (blo) of each stitch, therefore leaving the front loops on the surface of the fabric. These free loops are then used to reattach the burgundy yarn, so that you can continue to work the fairy's skirt over the top of the body.



Top Tip

You can make the hair longer by cutting longer strands of yarn. This could be left loose or styled in plaits

the next st); repeat to end. (12 sts)

Row 3 Ch1, turn, (dc in the first 2 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (16 sts)

Row 4 Ch1, turn, (dc in the first 3 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (20 sts)

Row 5 Ch1, turn, (dc in the first 4 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (24 sts)

Row 6 Ch1, turn, (dc in the first 5 sts, 2dc in the next st); repeat to end. (28 sts)

Change to yarn E.

Row 7 Ch3, turn, (dc in next st, ch3); repeat to end.

Fasten off and sew around the neck.

Wings (make 2)

Using yarn E, ch6.

Round 1 Ss in 2nd ch from hook, dc in the next st, htr in the next 2 sts, 4tr in last st, turn and work along the back of the foundation ch, htr in next 2 sts, dc in next st, ss in last st.

Fasten off.

Sew in place at back of fairy.

Making up

Use yarn C to sew a V stitch to form the mouth, using picture as a guide.

Add rosy cheeks with a touch of blusher or lipstick.

Cut lots of lengths of yarn D, 35cm (13¾in) long. Lay over the head and sew

a line down the centre of the head with the same yarn, catching in the strands of hair as you go.

Sweep the hair into side bunches and tie to secure.

Use yarn E to sew decorative lines over the bodice on the dress.

Sew the holly leaves over the hair to form a crown. Sew the berries in between the leaves.

If you wish, make a small wand using two star shapes cut from thin cardboard. Glue some glitter to the stars, then sandwich wire in between them and glue in place. Push the other end of the wire into the fairy's arm, to finish. ♥

Peeping out from under her collar are Holly's teeny-tiny wings



Top tip

Keep stitches fairly tight so that the canvas underneath doesn't show through



Home sweet home

Make a traditional baked decoration in crochet – this gingerbread house from **Val Pierce** certainly looks good enough to eat!

You will need

- Scheepjes Catona, 1 ball each in:
 - Topaz (shade 179) – A
 - Hot Red (shade 115) – B
 - Snow White (shade 106) – C
 - Forest Green (shade 412) – D
 - Hazelnut (shade 503) – E
 - Fir (shade 525) – F
- Cygnet Glittery,
 - 1 ball in White – G
- 3.25mm (UK 10, US D/3) hook
- 3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US E/4) hook
- Stiff card or plastic canvas
- Coloured beads
- Tiny red pompom balls
- Display board if desired
- Hot glue gun

Measurements

- Approx. 20cm (7¾in) high x 11cm (4¼in) wide x 20cm (7¾in) deep

Tension

- 20 dc and 26 rows to measure 10cm (4in), using 3.25mm (UK 10, US D/3) crochet hook

Abbreviations

- MB (make bobble): (yo, insert hook into next dc, draw loop through) 4 times, yo and draw through all loops, 1ch to secure.
- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Scheepjes Catona

100% cotton
125m per 50g
Machine wash at 40°C
£1.99, for stockists visit
www.scheepjes.com

Gingerbread houses are wonderful to look at, but they're also so delicious that they don't last long! With this sweet crochet version, you can have your gingerbread and eat it too, because under the removable roof there's plenty of space to store your festive treats. Young and old will love this charming make – display it in your home for everyone to admire, and see how long it takes them to discover the hidden treasures within!

GINGERBREAD HOUSE

Ends (make 2 alike)

To measure approx. 11x18cm

Using 3.25mm hook and A, make 23ch.

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

Row 2 1ch, 1dc into each dc to end, turn. Continue in dc for a further 24 rows

Shape ends

Next row 1ch, 1dc, dc2tog, dc to last 3 sts, dc2tog, 1 dc.

Work 2 rows dc.

Continue to decrease on every third row as set until you have 13 sts.

Then decrease every row to 5 sts.

Fasten off.

Sides (make 2 alike)

To measure approx. 20x10cm

Using 3.25mm hook and A, make 41ch.

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

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

Continue in dc for a further 24 rows. Fasten off.

Roof

To measure approx. approx. 20cm wide x 26cm long

Using 3.25mm hook and A, make 43ch.

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

Next row 1ch (does not count as stitch), *1dc into next st, 1tr into next st; rep from * to end, turn.

Repeat last row until work measures 26cm (10¼in). Fasten off.



Roof edging (make 2)

Using 3.5mm hook and G, make 46ch.

Row 1 Work 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in next ch, *miss 2 ch, 5tr in next ch, miss 2 ch, 1dc in next ch; repeat from * working 1dc in last dc. Fasten off.

Snow strips for roof (make 8)

Using 3.5mm hook and G, make 45ch.

Next row 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, *3dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 2 ch, miss 2 ch, 1dc in each of next 2 ch; ➔

Gingerbread house



repeat from * ending last repeat 1dc in last ch. Fasten off.

Green strips for roof

Make 4 in D and 4 in F, in the same way as for the snow strip.

Wreath (make 8)

Using 3.25mm hook and D, make 8ch, join into a circle with a ss.

Work 12dc into circle and join with a ss to beg of round.

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

Next round Work 1 ss into each dc all around, join as before and fasten off.

Bow

Using 3.25mm hook and B, make 45ch. Fasten off. Work in ends and tie into a tiny bow. Glue bow to base of wreath.

Windows

Centre (make 6)

Using 3.25mm hook and E, make 9ch.

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

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

Work 4 more rows in dc.

Shutters (make 11)

Note Five of the windows have two shutters each, and one window (above

door) has one shutter.

Using 3.25mm hook and D, make 5ch.

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

Row 2 1ch, 1dc into each dc to end, turn. Work 4 more rows in dc.

Snow for windows (make 5)

Using 3.25mm hook and G, make 22ch.

Row 1 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, *3dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 2ch, miss 2ch, 1dc in each of next 2ch; repeat from * ending last repeat 1dc in last ch, fasten off.

Window sills

Using 3.25mm hook and E, make a chain long enough to fit along the bottom edge of each window.

Door

Using 3.25mm hook and E, make 11ch.

Row 1 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end. (10 dc)

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

Work 14 rows more in dc.

Next row Dc2tog, work to last 2 dc, dc2tog.

Repeat last row once more, fasten off.

Snow for top of door

Using 3.5mm hook and G, make 20ch.

Row 1 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, *1dc in next ch, 3dc in next ch, 1dc in each of next 2 ch, miss ch, 1dc in each of next 2 ch; repeat from * ending the last repeat: 3dc in next ch, 1dc in each of next 2 ch.

Christmas tree

Using 3.5mm hook and F, make 110 ch.

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

Next row 1ch, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, MB; rep from * to last 2 dc, 1dc in each dc.

Change to G.

Next row 1dc into each st all across row. Fasten off.

Cut a circle of card measuring 20cm (7¾in) diameter. Make a slit halfway across circle, curl into a cone shape and secure with glue. Wind your strip



Fill your gingerbread house with sweet treats – it is Christmas, after all!

of crochet round the cone, overlapping slightly, and gluing in place as you do. Glue on beads at random intervals.

To assemble

First, cut templates for House. We used both card and plastic canvas to make a rigid house. You may wish just to use very stiff card instead. Lay pieces of house onto card and cut two side pieces and two end pieces. Cut out each piece carefully. For the roof, use just plastic canvas to make it lighter and more flexible. Cut out roof template in the same way. Using the glue gun, glue the sides of the house together to form a firm shape. Let it dry. Stitch the side seams of the house

firmly together. Slip the crochet over the card shape – it should be a snug fit. Using the glue gun, secure the crochet to the card/canvas. Take your time and make sure the crochet covers well, stretching a little to fit if needed. Fold the roof shape in half lengthways, and make a firm crease along the top. Now glue the crochet roof onto the plastic canvas.

To decorate

Using the picture as a guide, glue the green and white strips onto each side of the roof. Now add the little red balls at random places. Glue the edging onto the roof on either end.

For each window, take a brown centre

piece and glue two strands of white yarn in a cross shape on each window. Glue a shutter to either side of the window. Add the snow to the top of the window and the narrow brown window sill to the base. Glue a red ball to each shutter, using picture as a guide. The small window just has one shutter.

To make the door, work in ends and sew a wreath onto the front. Add the snow to the top of the door.

Use the pictures as a guide to glue windows, door and wreaths onto the house. Glue three wreaths on each side of the roof. The roof is left removable. Add a paper doily inside the house and fill with biscuits or sweets if desired. ♥

Top tip

Why not use these ornaments as gift toppers for your Christmas presents?

Christmas is coming

Reveal a soft little surprise every day through December, with **Caron's** whimsical advent calendar



You will need

- Caron Simply Soft:
 - Off White (shade 9702) x 3 balls – A
 - 1 ball each in:
 - Robin's Egg (shade 9780) – B
 - Dark Sage (shade 9707) – C
 - White (shade 9701) – D
 - Black (shade 9727) – E
 - Chocolate (shade 9750) – F
 - Burgundy (shade 9762) – G
 - Harvest Red (shade 9763) – H
 - Pumpkin (shade 9765) – I
 - Gold (shade 9782) – J
 - Chartreuse (shade 9771) – K
 - Cobalt Blue (shade 9784) – L
 - Bone (shade 9703) – M
 - Blackberry (shade 0005) – N
- 5mm (UK 6, US H/8) crochet hook
- Toy stuffing
- 24 x 16mm buttons
- Dowel for hanging

Measurements

- 63.5cm (25in) wide x
- 94cm (37in) long

Tension

- 13 sts and 14 rows to 10cm (4in)
- over double crochet, using a 5mm
- (UK 6, US H/8) hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations
- see page 82

About this yarn

Caron Simply Soft

100% acrylic
 288m per 170g
 Machine wash at 40°C
£5.00, buy instore at Hobbycraft
or visit www.hobbycraft.co.uk

Treasure a new family tradition each Christmas when you bring out this beautiful advent calendar, lovingly crocheted in Caron Simply Soft. Children's faces will light up as each day, as they open a pocket to find a new Christmas ornament to hang on the tree. By the time the big day arrives, the entire tree will be decorated, ready for Santa to admire!

CALENDAR

Background

With A, ch 83.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of ch, turn. (82 dc)

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

Rep Row 2 until work from beg measures 94cm (37in).

Fasten off.

Edging

Round 1 (RS) Join B with ss in any corner, ch1, work 1 round dc evenly around Background, working 3dc in each corner. Join with ss to first dc. Fasten off.

Tabs (make 2)

With B, ch39.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of ch, turn. (38 dc)

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

Rep Row 2 until work from beg measures 6cm (2½in). Fasten off.

Fold Tabs in half.

Beg 2.5cm (1in) in from corner on top edge of Background, sew Tabs evenly across as shown in picture.

Tree

Section One

With C, ch2.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, turn. (1 dc)

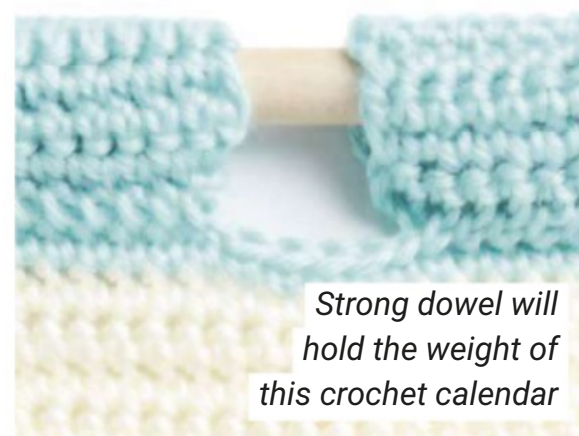
Row 2 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, turn. (2 dc)

Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in each dc to end of row, turn. (4 dc)

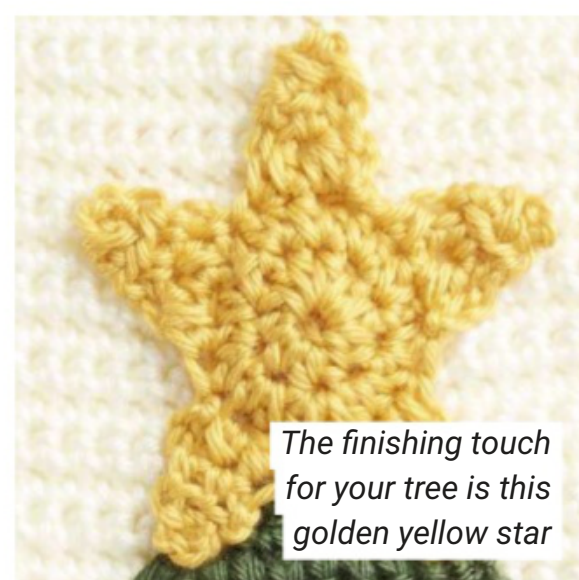
Row 4 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc to last dc, 2dc in last dc, turn.

Rep Row 4 row until 34 sts in row.

Fasten off.



Strong dowel will hold the weight of this crochet calendar



The finishing touch for your tree is this golden yellow star

Section Two

Row 1 (RS) Skip first 7 dc in last row, join C with ss to next dc, ch1, 1dc in same st as last ss, 1dc in each of next 19 dc, turn. Leave rem sts unworked. (20 dc)

Row 2 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, 1dc in each st to last dc, 2dc in last dc, turn.

Rep Row 2 until 54 sts in row. Fasten off.

Section Three

Row 1 (RS) Skip first 7 dc in last row, join C with ss to next dc, ch1, 1dc in same st as last ss, 1dc in each of next 39 dc, turn. Leave rem sts unworked. (40 dc)

Row 2 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, 1dc in each st to last dc, 2dc in last dc, turn.

Rep Row 2 until 74 sts in row.

Fasten off.

Sew Tree to Background 6cm (2½in) from top. Sew 24 buttons to hang ornaments onto Tree through all thicknesses, evenly spaced, as shown in photo.

Star

With J, ch3.

Round 1 10htr in 3rd ch from hook, join with ss to first htr.
Round 2 Ch2, 2htr in first htr, 2htr in each htr around, join with ss to first htr. (20 htr) Fasten off.

Star points

Each point is worked over 4 sts. 5 points total. Join with ss to next htr of last round.
Row 1 Ch2, beg in same htr as last ss, htr2tog twice, turn.
Row 2 Ch2, 1htr in first htr, 1htr in last htr, turn.
Row 3 Ch2, htr2tog. Fasten off.
Rep Star points 4 more times.
Sew Star to top of Tree as shown.

Pockets

(make 4 each in B, I, J, K, L, and N)
Ch9.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of ch, turn. (8 dc)
Row 2 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc to end of row, turn.
Rep Row 2 until work from beg measures 7.5cm (3in). Fasten off.

With A, embroider numbers 1-24 on Pockets according to diagram below. Beg 3cm (1¼in) up from bottom and 2.5cm (1in) from side, sew 3 edges of Pockets onto Background in order according to diagram, leaving 2.5cm (1in) between Pockets.

Wreath (make 2)

Front & Back (make alike)

With C, ch8, join with ss to first ch, making sure not to twist ch.
Round 1 Ch2 (does not count as htr), 2htr in first ch, 2htr in each ch around, join with ss to first htr. (16 htr)
Round 2 Ch1, 2dc in first htr, 2dc in each htr around, join with ss to first dc. (32 dc) Fasten off.
With WS facing, sew centre of Wreath tog. Join D with ss to any dc through both thicknesses.
Work Round 1 through both thicknesses, lightly stuffing as you go.
Round 1 Ch1, 1dc in each of first 2 dc, ch2, *1dc in each of next 2 dc, ch2; rep from * around, join with ss to first dc. Do not fasten off.
Loop Ch6, join with ss to first ss in last round. Fasten off.
Bow With B, ch30. Fasten off. Tie ch into bow and fasten to bottom of Wreath.

Snowman (make 2)

Head

With D, ch2.
Round 1 8dc in 2nd ch from hook, join with ss to first dc. (8 dc)
Round 2 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.
Rep Round 2 twice more.

Body

Round 1 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, 2dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc. (16 dc)
Round 2 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.
Rep Round 2, 3 more times.
Next round Ch1, (dc2tog) 8 times, 8dc. Fasten off, leaving a tail. Lightly stuff Snowman. Using tail, gather bottom of Snowman and fasten securely.

Finishing With E, embroider buttons and eyes as shown in picture.
With I, embroider nose as shown.

Scarf With K, ch20. Fasten off. Tie Scarf around Snowman’s neck as shown.

Loop With D, ch8. Fasten off.
Secure onto top of Snowman’s Head.

Santa (make 2)

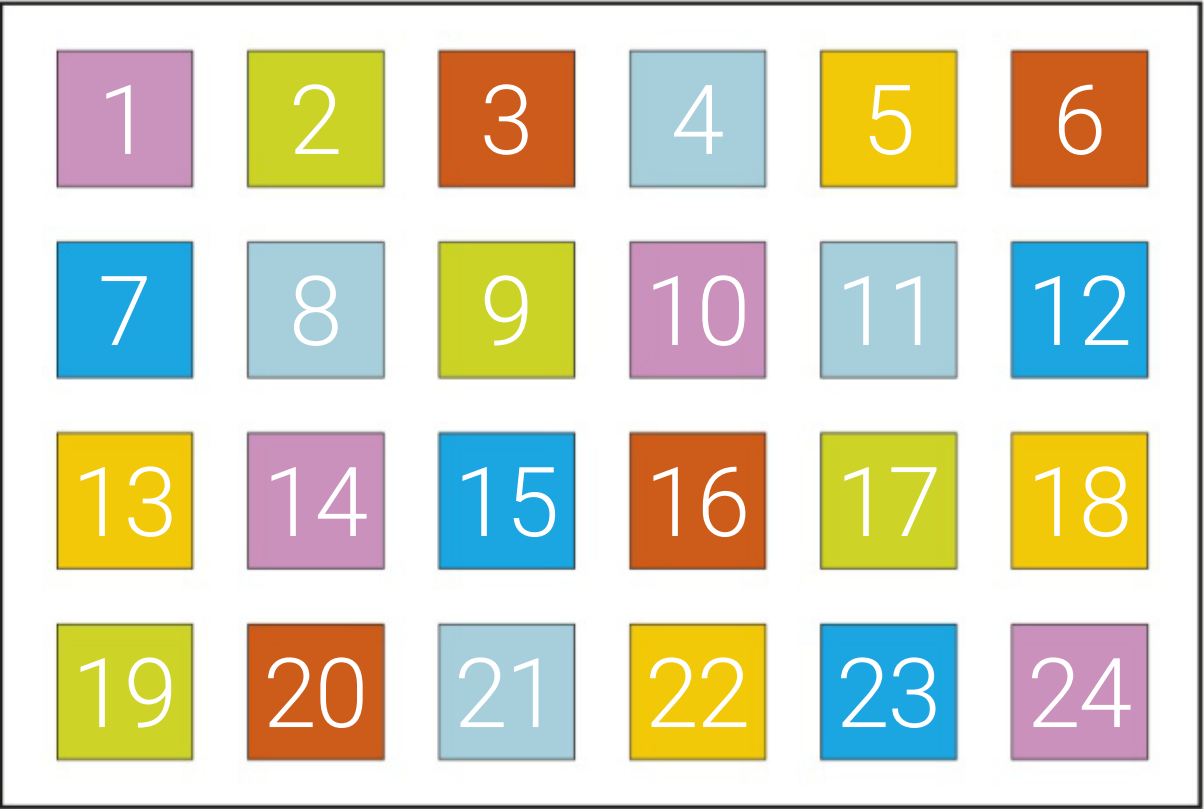
Beard and Face

With D, ch2.
Round 1 6dc in 2nd ch from hook, join with ss to first dc. (6 dc)
Round 2 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.
Round 3 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, 2dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc. (12 dc)
Round 4 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.
Round 5 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 2dc in next dc, *1dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc; rep from * around, join with ss to first dc. (18 dc)
Round 6 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.
Round 7 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in each of next 5 dc. Join M. With M, 1dc in each of next 6 dc. Break M. With D, 1dc in each of last 6 dc, join with ss to first dc.
Rep Round 7 twice more.

Hat

Round 1 Ch1, in front loops only, 1dc in

Pockets diagram



first dc, ch2, *1dc in next dc, ch2; rep from * around, join H with ss to first dc.

Round 2 With H, ch1, in rem back loops only 2 rows below, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc. (18 dc)

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

Round 4 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, dc2tog, *1dc in next dc, dc2tog; rep from * around, join with ss to first dc. (12 dc)

Lightly stuff Santa.

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

Round 6 Ch1, (dc2tog) 6 times, join with ss to first dc. (6 dc)

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

Round 8 Ch1, (dc2tog) 3 times, join with ss to first dc. Fasten off.

Loop With D, ch9. Fasten off. Sew loop to top of Santa's Hat.

Moustache Cut 7.5cm (3in) length of D. Tie knot in centre of strand. Trim to 2cm (¾in) with knot at centre. Sew into place as shown in picture.

Finishing With one ply of E, embroider Eyes as shown in picture.

Hot cocoa

(make 1 each with G as Colour 1 and I as Colour 1)

Front

With Colour 1, ch9.

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

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

Rep Row 2 until work from beg measures 5cm (2in).

Next row Ch1, 1dc in first dc. Join F. With F, 1dc in next dc, 1htr in next dc, 1dc in each of next 2 dc, 1htr in next dc, 1dc in next dc. Break F. With Colour 1, 1dc in last dc, turn.

Next row 1 ss in back loop only in each st to end of row. Fasten off.

With D, embroider 3 French knots for Marshmallows.

Back

With Colour 1, ch9.

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

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

Rep Row 2 until work from beg measures 5cm (2in).

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each of first 2 dc, 1htr in next dc, 1dc in each of next 2 dc, 1htr in next dc, 1dc in each of last 2 dc, turn.

Next row 1 ss in back loop only in each st to end of row. Fasten off.

Handle

With Colour 1, ch7.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 3dc in next ch, 1dc in each of next 2 ch, 3dc in next ch, 1dc in last ch. Fasten off.

Finishing With ss edges facing out and Handle sandwiched between Front and Back on the right of the Hot Cocoa, sew sides, top, and bottom tog.

Loop With Colour 1, ch9. Fasten off. Sew loop to top right corner of Hot Cocoa.

Snowflake (make 2)

With D, ch2.

Round 1 6dc in 2nd ch from hook, join with ss to first dc. (6 dc)

Round 2 Ch2 (does not count as htr), 2htr in first dc, 2htr in each dc around, join with ss to first htr. (12 htr)

Round 3 Ch1, 1dc in each of first 2 htr, ch3, *1dc in each of next 2 htr, ch3; rep from * around, join with ss to first dc.

Round 4 1 ss in each of first 2dc, (ss, ch2, ss) all in next ch-3 sp, *1ss in each of next 2 dc, (ss, ch2, ss) all in next ch-3 sp; rep from * around, join with ss to first ss.

Loop Ch8, join with ss to last ss. Fasten off.

Mitten

(make 1 each with L as Colour 1 and N as Colour 1)

With A, ch14, join with ss to first ch, making sure not to twist.

Round 1 Ch2, 1htr in each ch around, join with ss to first htr, 14htr, join Colour 1. Break A.

Round 2 With Colour 1, ch1, working in back loops only, 1dc in first htr, 1dc in each htr around, join with ss to first dc. ➡



Thumb gusset

Round 1 Ch1, 1dc in each of first 2 dc, 2dc in each of next 2 dc, 1dc in each rem dc around, join with ss to first dc. (16 dc)

Round 2 Ch1, 1dc in each of first 2 dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each rem dc around, join with ss to first dc. (18 dc)

Hand

Round 1 Ch1, 1dc in each of first 2 dc, skip next 4 dc, 1dc in each rem dc around, join with ss to first dc.

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

Next round Ch1, 1dc in first dc, dc2tog, *1dc in next dc, dc2tog; rep from * twice more, 1dc in each of next 2 dc, join with ss to first dc. (10 dc)

Next round Ch1, (dc2tog) 5 times, join with ss to first dc. (5 dc)
Fasten off, leaving tail. Draw tail through rem dc and fasten securely.

Thumb

Join Colour 1 with ss in first skipped st of thumb gusset.

Round 1 Ch1, 1dc in same st as ss, 1dc in each of next 3 dc, join with ss to first dc. (4 dc)

Round 2 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc.
Fasten off, leaving tail. Draw tail through rem dc and fasten securely.

Loop With A, ch9. Fasten off.

Sew loop to Mitten as shown in picture.

Holly

(make 1 with K as Colour 1 and G as Colour 2. Make 1 with C as Colour 1 and H as Colour 2)

Leaf (make 2)

With Colour 1, ch8.

Round 1 Working in top loops only, 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1htr in next ch, (1htr, 1dc, 1htr) all in next ch, 1dc in next ch, (1htr, 1dc, 1htr) all in next ch, 3dc in last ch. Do not turn. Work in rem loops of foundation ch, 1htr in next ch, (1htr, 1dc, 1htr) all in next ch, 1dc in next ch, (1htr, 1dc, 1htr) all in next ch, 2dc in first ch, join with ss to first dc. Fasten off.

Berry With Colour 2, ch2.

Round 1 6dc in 2nd ch from hook, join with ss to first dc. Fasten off.

Finishing Sew 2 Leaves and a Berry tog.

Loop With Colour 1, ch9. Fasten off. Sew to top of Holly.

Candy cane (make 2)

Coil (make 1 each in A and H)

Ch20, 2htr in 3rd ch from hook, 3htr in each ch to end of chain. Fasten off.

Twist Coils around each other to form Candy Cane. Bend slightly, approx 2.5cm (1in) from top. Using H, tack loosely to form curve.

Loop With H, ch9. Fasten off. Sew to top of Candy Cane as shown in picture.

Stocking

(make 1 each with B and K as Colour 1)

With A, ch14.

Row 1 (RS) 1htr in 3rd ch from hook, 1htr in each ch to end of row. Join Colour 1, turn. (12 htr)

Row 2 With Colour 1, ch1. Working in front loops only, 1dc in first htr, 1dc in each htr to end of row, turn.

Leg

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

Rep Row 1 until work from beg measures approx 5cm (2in), ending with RS facing. Fasten off.

Heel

With RS facing, skip first 9 dc, join A with ss in next dc, ch1, 1dc in same dc, 1dc in each of last 2 dc. Bring other side of leg around. 1dc in each of first 3 dc, turn.

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each of first 4 dc, turn.

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each of first 2 dc, turn.

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each of next 2 dc, 1dc in next dc of long row below, turn. (3 sts)

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each of next 3 dc, 1dc in next dc of long row below, turn. (4 sts)

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each of next 4 dc,

1dc in next dc of long row below, turn. (5 sts)

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each of next 5 dc, 1dc in next dc of long row below, turn. (6 sts)

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each of next 6 dc, 1dc in next dc of long row below, turn. (7 sts)

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each of next 7 dc, 1dc in next dc of long row below, turn. (8 sts) Fasten off.

Foot

With RS of work facing, skip first 3 dc of Heel, join Colour 1 with ss in next dc, ch1, 1dc in same dc, 1dc in each of next 2 dc of Heel, skip next dc of Leg, 1dc in each of next 4 dc, skip next dc of Leg, 1dc in each of next 3 dc of Heel, ch1, turn. (10 sts)

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

Next row Ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Join A, turn.

Toe

Next 2 rows With A, ch1, 1dc in each dc to end of row, turn.

Next row Ch1, (dc2tog) 5 times. Fasten off.

Finishing Sew Cuff and Leg back seams. Sew Foot and Toe seams. Sew corners of Heel closed.

Loop With A, ch9. Fasten off. Sew to top corner of Stocking as shown in picture.

Reindeer (make 2)

Snout

With F, ch2.

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

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

Head

Round 1 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, 2dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc. (16 dc)

Round 2 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc around, join with ss to first dc. Rep Round 2, 3 more times.

Next round Ch1, (dc2tog) 8 times. (8 dc)
Fasten off, leaving a tail. Lightly stuff. Using tail, gather top of head and fasten off.

Nose

With H, ch2.

Round 1 6dc in 2nd ch from hook, join with ss to first dc. Fasten off.

Ears (make 2)

With F, ch4.

Row 1 Ss into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in next ch, ss in last ch. Fasten off.

Antlers (make 2)

With M, ch5.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of row, turn. (4 dc)

Row 2 Ss in each of first 3 dc, ch2, ss in same dc as last ss, ss in last dc. Fasten off.

Finishing With E, embroider eyes as shown. Sew on Antlers, Ears, and Nose.

Loop With F, ch9. Fasten off. Sew to top of Reindeer as shown in picture.

Gingerbread man (make 2)

Head

With F, ch3.

Round 1 10htr in 3rd ch from hook, join with ss to first htr. Fasten off.

Arms

Row 1 Ch4, join with ss to any 2 htr in Head, ch5, turn.

Row 2 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each of next 3 ch, 1dc in each of next 2 ss, 1dc in each ch to end of ch, turn. (10 dc)

Row 3 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc to end of row. Fasten off.

Torso

Row 1 Skip first 3 dc, join with ss in next dc, ch1, 1dc in same st as ss, 1dc in each of next 3 dc, turn. (4 dc)

Row 2 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in each of next 3 dc, turn.
Rep Row 2 once more. Do not fasten off.

Legs

Row 1 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in next dc, turn, 2dc, leave rem sts unworked.

Row 2 Ch1, 1dc in each of next 2 dc, turn.
Rep last row twice more. Fasten off.

Join with ss to first unworked st on Torso.

Row 1 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in next dc,

turn. (2 dc)

Rep last row 3 more times. Fasten off.

Icing With A, ss into any edge st and ss evenly around edge. Fasten off.

Loop With F, ch9. Fasten off. Sew to top of Gingerbread Man as shown in picture.

Gift

(make 1 with G as Colour 1 and H as Colour 2 and 1 with B as Colour 1 and J as Colour 2)

Front and Back (make alike)

With Colour 1, ch9.

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

Row 2 Ch1, 1dc in first dc, 1dc in each dc to end of row, turn; rep Row 2 until work from beg meas 5.5cm (2¼in). Fasten off.

Ribbon With Colour 2, ch9.

Row 1 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end of hook. Fasten off.
Sew Ribbon to Front.

Bow

With Colour 2, ch7.

Row 1 1htr in 3rd ch from hook, 1htr in each ch to end of ch, turn. (5 htr)

Row 2 Ch2 (does not count as htr), 1htr in first htr, 1htr in each htr to end of row. Fasten off.

With Colour 2, wrap yarn around Bow to cinch in the middle. Sew onto front of gift. Sew around edges of front & back to join, lightly stuffing gift as you go.

Loop With Colour 1, ch9. Fasten off. Sew onto corner of Gift as shown. 🧡



Mistletoe Kisses

A magical way to welcome guests this season,
Kate Eastwood's frosted mistletoe wreath
can be used year after year

Top tip

Weave sparkly
fairy lights around
your wreath to
help the yarn
twinkle



You will need

- Sirdar Hayfield Bonus Glitter DK, 1 ball each in:
Woodland Wonder (shade 233) – A
Icicle (shade 220) – B
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) crochet hook
- Yarn needle
- 25cm (10in) diameter wicker wreath, sprayed with artificial snow
- Hot glue gun
- Ribbon for a hanging loop

Measurements

- Wreath: 25cm (10in) diameter
- Each mistletoe (beg of stem to tip of leaf): 7cm (2¾in)

Tension

- 15 sts and 15 rows to 7x6.5cm (2¾x2½in) over dc, using a 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) crochet hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

This stylish wreath is so quick and easy to make, you'll find yourself making them for friends and loved ones, too! Each sprig of mistletoe is adorned with a few French knots for 'berries', and arranged on a wicker wreath, sprayed with artificial snow for a simply stunning winter finish. Hooked in yarn with a subtle metallic thread running through it, it's guaranteed to bring a touch of sparkle to your home this festive season.

WREATH

Mistletoe (make 10)

Using A, ch11.

Leaf 1 Ss in 2nd ch from hook, ss in each of next 3 ch, 1dc in each of next 4 ch, 1htr, 2htr in the last ch, do not turn, working back down other side of ch, 1htr in each of first 4 ch, 1dc in each of next 3 ch, ss in each of last 3 ch.

Stalk Ch12, ss in 2nd ch from hook, ss in each of next 10 ch, ending at base of Leaf 1.

Leaf 2 Ch11, 1htr in 2nd ch from hook, 1htr in each of next 4 ch, 1dc in each of next 3 ch, ss in each of last 2 ch, do not turn, ch1, working back down other side of ch, miss first ch, ss in each of next 2 ch, 1dc in each of next 4 ch, 1htr in each of last 3 ch, join with a ss in first st.

Fasten off.

Making up

To complete each mistletoe sprig, embroider two or three French knots in B where the two leaves meet at the bottom. The knots will also serve to hold the leaves together.

Use a hot glue gun to stick the leaves into position. Finish the wreath by adding a hanging loop in coordinating ribbon. ♥

More info

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



About this yarn

Sirdar Hayfield Bonus Glitter DK

95% acrylic, 5% polyester

296m per 100g

Machine wash at 40°C

£2.99, for stockists call 01924 371

501 or visit www.sirdar.co.uk



Add the all-important berries using French knots in white yarn

A close-up photograph of a small, crocheted reindeer hanging from a thin, brown branch. The reindeer is made of light brown yarn and has a large, bright red nose, small black eyes, and a simple black smile. Its antlers are made of dark brown yarn and are covered in a dusting of white faux snow. Two red strings are attached to the top of the reindeer's head, used for hanging. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white, suggesting a snowy or winter setting.

Top tip

To make a mini version of this reindeer, use a lighter weight yarn and matching hook

Little red

Hook up this sweet little red-nosed Rudolph to hang from your Christmas tree

You will need

- DROPS Safran, 1 ball in:
Beige (shade 21)
Small amounts in:
Dark Brown (shade 52)
Black (shade 16)
Off White (shade 18)
Red (shade 19)
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook
- Toy stuffing

Measurements

- 14cm (5½in) high

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

DROPS Safran

100% cotton
160m per 50g
Machine wash at 40°C
£1.15, for stockists visit
www.garnstudio.com

You'll love working the easy rounds of dc to make this cute-as-a-button reindeer. Take a look at the notes below, for help with making a magic circle and working the round in a circle. Once you've made the head, you'll need to tackle the antlers, ears, eyes and most importantly, the red nose, to bring Rudolph to life! He'll look sweet on the tree, or why not make a family of reindeer in different sizes to hang over the mantelpiece?

REINDEER

Pattern notes

Magic circle

When piece is worked in the round, start with this technique to avoid holes in the middle (instead of ch-ring): Hold the yarn end and wind the yarn one time around the index finger to make a loop. Hold the loop with left thumb and middle finger, place the thread over left index finger. Insert hook through the loop, make a yo and pull thread through loop, work 1 ch, then work dc around the loop. When the desired no of dc have been reached, pull the yarn end to tighten the loop. Fasten the yarn end at the back. Continue to work in the round in a circle.

Work the round in a circle

After last dc on the round, continue to next round with 1 dc in next dc (= first dc from previous round). Note: Insert a marker at the beg of round between last dc and first dc on the round, move the marker upwards.

Head

Using a 3mm hook and Beige, make a magic circle.

Round 1 Work 8dc in the magic circle.

Round 2 Work 2dc in every dc (16 dc)

Round 3 *1dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc*; repeat from * to * the entire round. (24 dc)

Round 4 *1dc in each of the next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc*; repeat from * to * the entire round. (32 dc)

Round 5 Work 1dc in every dc. (32 dc)

Round 6 *1dc in each of the next 3 dc,

2dc in next dc*; repeat from * to * the entire round (40 dc)

Round 7 Work 1dc in every dc. (40 dc)

Round 8 *1dc in each of the next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc*; repeat from * to * the entire round. (48 dc)

Rounds 9-15 Work 1dc in every dc. (48 dc)

Round 16 *1dc in each of the next 4 dc, then work the next 2 dc tog*; repeat from * to * the entire round. (40 dc)

Rounds 17-18 Work 1 dc in every dc. (40 dc)

Round 19 *1dc in each of the next 3 dc, then work the next 2 dc tog*; repeat from * to * the rest of the round. (32 dc)

Rounds 20-21 Work 1dc in every dc (32 dc)

Round 22 *1dc in each of the next 7 dc, 2dc in next dc*; repeat from * to * the entire round. (36 dc)

Rounds 23-26 Work 1dc in every dc. (36 dc)

Round 27 *1dc in each of the next 4 dc, then work the next 2 dc tog*; repeat from * to * the entire round. (30 dc)

Round 28 Work 1 dc in every dc. (30 dc)

Round 29 *1dc in each of the next 3 dc, then work the next 2 dc tog*; repeat from * to * the entire round. (24 dc)

Round 30 Work 1dc in every dc. (24 dc)

Round 31 *1dc in each of the next 2 dc, then work the next 2 dc tog*; repeat from * to * the entire round. (18 dc)

Round 32 Work 1dc in every dc. (18 dc)

Round 33 *1dc in next dc, then work the next 2 dc tog*; repeat from * to * the entire round. (12 dc)

Fill the head with some stuffing.

Round 34 Work all dctog 6 times.



Rudolph tree hanging

Cut the thread and baste it up and down the last sts, pull tog and fasten.

Ear (make 2)

Worked back and forth. Beg at the tip of the ear, work 6ch with Beige.

Next row 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in every ch. (5 dc)

Work 3 more rows with 1 dc in every dc (beg every row with 1 ch).

Next row 1ch, work the first 2 dc tog, 1dc, work the last 2 dc tog. (3 dc)

On next row work the 3 dc tog, cut the thread and keep 30cm (12in) for assembly.

Antler (make 2)

Beg at the top of the antler, work 6ch with Brown.

Next row Work 1dc in 1st ch worked, 1dc in every ch. (6 dc)

Then work 1 dc in every dc until piece measures approx 2.5cm (1in).

Then work as follows:

*Work 2ch, skip the next 2 dc (opening for branch), continue with 1dc in every dc.

Next round Work 1dc in each of the 2 ch*.

Next round Inc 1dc. (7 dc)

Continue with 1dc in every dc until piece measures approx. 5cm (2in), then repeat from * to * once (work 2 ch on the other side of the antler).

Next round Inc 1dc. (8 dc)

Then work 1dc in every dc until piece measures approx. 6.5cm (2½in) in total. Cut the thread and keep 30cm (12in) for assembly.

Work around the upper opening as follows:

Work 6dc around the entire opening, continue with 1dc in every dc until branch measures approx. 1.5cm (½in), then dc2tog 3 times.

Cut the thread and baste it up and down the last sts, pull tog and fasten.

Repeat around the lower opening.

Nose

Worked in the round in a circle.

Start by making a magic circle in Red.

Round 1 Work 5dc in the magic circle.

Round 2 Work 2dc in every dc. (10 dc)



Rounds 3-4 Work 1dc in every dc. (10 dc)
Cut the thread and keep 30cm (12in) for assembly.

Eye (make 2)

Worked in the round in a circle.

Start by making a magic circle in Black.

Round 1 Work 4dc in the magic circle.

Switch to Off White in the last dc.

Round 2 Work 2dc in every dc. (8 dc)

Round 3 *2dc in the next 2 dc, 1dc in each of the next 2 dc*; repeat from * to * one more time. (12 dc)

Finish with 1 ss in next dc.

Cut the thread and keep 30cm (12in) for assembly.

To make up

Sew the antlers at the top of the head, fold the ears double and sew one on to each side. Sew the eyes and the nose on the front of the head. Embroider on mouth with Black. Work a ch-row with Red for approx 15cm (6in), fol in half to make a loop and sew onto the middle of the head. ♥

Love Knitting for Baby

Save when you subscribe to the digital edition



***Love Knitting for Baby* magazine is your complete baby wear, gift & toy collection**

Never miss an issue again when you subscribe to the bi-monthly digital edition of *Love Knitting for Baby* magazine! The fantastic range of patterns really pop from the screen in full colour and will inspire you to knit for children, grandchildren, friends and family. Issues are fully searchable too! Order your subscription today and take advantage of a free 14-day trial!

Get *Love Knitting for Baby* delivered direct to your device

▶ TAP HERE ◀
TO SUBSCRIBE & SAVE



Top tip

Stitch a sweet version with grey wings using Patina instead of Coral

Heaven sent

With pretty pink wings and a glittering gold halo, this angel from **Rico** will look simply divine on the top of your tree

You will need

- Rico Ricorumi DK in:
Coral (shade 009) x 2 balls OR
Patina (shade 038) x 2 balls
Rose (shade 008) x 1 ball
Pastel Pink (shade 007) x 1 ball
Small amount of Black (shade 060)
for mouth
- Rico Creative Lame in:
Gold (shade 002) x 1 ball
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook
- Toy stuffing
- Stitch markers
- 2 eye buttons, 8.5mm diameter
- Needle for embroidery
- Wooden ring
- Small amount of blusher for cheeks

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

Rico Ricorumi DK

100% cotton
58m per 25g
Machine wash at 30°C
99p, for stockists visit
www.rico-design.de

Once all the baubles have been hung with care, pop this pretty little thing on the top of your tree for a Christmassy crochet finish! With her cute ringlets, this dinky angel will be adored by little ones, so she'd make a great stocking filler, too. Hooked in double crochet and simple chain stitches throughout, she makes a lovely project for beginners, using small Ricorumi balls that are nice and easy to handle.

ANGEL

Head

Round 1 In Pastel Pink, working into magic ring, 6dc.

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

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

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

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

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

Rounds 7-11 36dc.

Round 12 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. (30 sts)

Round 13 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. (24 sts)

Round 14 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. (18 sts)
Insert eye buttons between Rounds 9 and 10. For this, stab the button between two sts and sew it on firmly at the wrong side.

Round 15 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. (12 sts)
Fill with stuffing.

Round 16 (Dc2tog) 6 times. (6 sts)

Fasten off and break yarn.

Weave yarn through remaining 6 sts and pull tight to close.

Embroider nose in same colour as face, and mouth in Black.

Using blusher and a clean brush or cotton bud, apply lightly to face for cheeks.

Ear (make 2)

Round 1 In Pastel Pink, working into magic ring, 6dc.

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

Fasten off and break yarn. Sew ears onto head.



Sew the golden halo firmly to the angel's head at the back

Hair (make 25)

In Rose, ch21.

Row 1 (1dc, 2dc into next st) 10 times. (30 sts)

Fasten off and break yarn. Pin all onto head and sew in place.

Halo

In Gold, work dc sts around the wooden ring, enough to fully cover the wood. Sew firmly onto back of head.

Body

Round 1 In Pastel Pink, working into magic ring, 6dc.

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

Christmas angel

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

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

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

Rounds 6-9 30dc.

Round 10 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. (24 sts)

Rounds 11-13 24dc.

Round 14 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. (18 sts)

Rounds 15-17 18dc.

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

Leg (make 2)

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

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

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

Rounds 4-8 18dc.

Round 9 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. (12 sts)

Change to Pastel Pink.

Fill foot with stuffing.

Rounds 10-20 In Pastel Pink, 12dc.

Fasten off and break yarn. Fill leg with stuffing and sew onto body.

Dress

Row 1 In Coral (or Patina), ch18 plus 1 for turning, here and throughout.

Row 2 18dc, 1ch.

Row 3 (2dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times, 1ch. (24 sts)

Row 4 24dc, 1ch.

Row 5 (3dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times, 1ch. (30 sts)

Change to Gold yarn.

Row 6 In Gold, (4dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times, 1ch. (36 sts)

Row 7 (5dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times, 1ch. (42 sts)

Row 8 (6dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times, 1ch. (48 sts)

Row 9 (7dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times, 1ch. (54 sts)

Change to Coral (or Patina).

Rows 10-11 In Coral (or Patina), 54dc, 1ch.

Row 12 Ch4, (miss 1 st, 1tr in next st, 1ch) 27 times. (54 sts)

Rows 13-14 Repeat Row 12.

Fasten off and break yarn.

Weave in ends, sew up the seam to join, and sew onto the body around the neck.



Swap the dress colour for this soft grey shade to get a different look!

Arm (make 2)

Round 1 In Pastel Pink, working into magic ring, 6dc.

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

Rounds 3-16 9dc.

Fasten off and sew onto body.

Collar

Row 1 In Coral (or Patina), ch18 plus 1 for turning.

Row 2 18dc, ch3.

Row 3 2tr into each st. (36 sts)

Fasten off and break yarn. Sew around neck onto body.

Wing (make 2)

Round 1 In Coral (or Patina), working into magic circle, 6dc.

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

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

(18 sts)

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

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

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

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

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

Round 9 (7dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times.
(54 sts)

Round 10 (8dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times.
(60 sts)

Change to Gold yarn.

Round 11 In Gold, (9dc, 2dc into next st) 6 times. (66 sts)

Fold the piece in half and work 33dc through all 4 loops to close. Fasten off and break yarn. Sew onto the back of the angel. ♥



Sent with love

Handmade greetings cards are easy with these cute motifs by **Hannah Cross**

Hook up these festive motifs for your handmade cards and say 'Happy Christmas' with crochet. We love the vintage feel of this sweet bauble motif, which is worked using the amigurumi method in a continuous spiral – it would look gorgeous in any colour! Or craft a jolly, stripy tree in four fab shades of your choice to brighten someone's Christmas.

You will need

- Scheepjes Catona, 1 ball each in:
Vivid Blue (146) – A
Apple Green (389) – B
Shocking Pink (114) – C
Ultra Violet (282) – D
- Anchor Artiste Metallic, 1 ball in
Gold (shade 300) – E
- 3.5mm (UK 9/10, US E/4) hook
- Tapestry needle
- 2 x A6 greeting cards, approx.
10.5x15cm (4x6in)
- Craft glue

Measurements

- Tree measures 8.5x6cm (3½x2½in)
- Bauble measures 5x5.5cm (2x2¼in)

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Scheepjes Catona

100% cotton
125m per 50g
Machine wash at 40°C
£1.89, for stockists visit
www.scheepjes.com

FESTIVE CARDS

Tree

Using Yarn B, ch13.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch across, turn. (12 sts)

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st across. Fasten off, turn. (12 sts)

Row 3 Join Yarn C in first st, ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 8 dc, dc2tog, turn. (10 sts)

Row 4 Ch1, dc in each st across. Fasten off, turn.

Row 5 Join Yarn A in first st, ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 6 dc, dc2tog, turn. (8 sts)

Row 6 Ch1, dc in each st across. Fasten off, turn.

Row 7 Join Yarn D in first st, ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 4 dc, dc2tog, turn. (6 sts)

Row 8 Ch1, dc in each st across. Fasten off, turn.

Row 9 Join Yarn B in first st, ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 2 dc, dc2tog, turn. (4 sts)

Row 10 Ch1, dc in each st across. Fasten off, turn.

Row 11 Join Yarn C in first st, ch1, (dc2tog) twice, turn. (2 sts)

Row 12 Ch1, dc in each st across. Fasten off, turn. (2 sts)

Row 13 Join Yarn A in first st, ch1, dc2tog, turn. (1 st)

Row 14 Ch1, 1 dc. Fasten off.

Tree trunk

Rotate to work along opposite side of

starting chain.

Row 1 Join Yarn D in 5th ch, ch1, dc in same ch and next 3 ch, turn. (4 sts)

Rows 2-4 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. Fasten off.

Glue the tree to centre front of card.

Bauble

Using Yarn C, ch7.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in next 4 ch, 2dc in last ch, rotate to work along the other side of chain, dc in next 4 ch, dc in last ch. (12 dc)

Round 2 2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in each of next 2 dc, dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in last dc. (16 dc)

Round 3 2dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in each of next 2 dc, dc in next 6 dc, 2dc in last dc. (20 dc)

Round 4 2dc in next st, dc in next 8 sts, 2dc in each of next 2 dc, dc in next 8 dc, 2dc in last dc. (24 dc) Fasten off.

Join Yarn C in 5th st of Round 4, ch2 (does not count as st), htr in same st and next 2 sts. Fasten off.

Skip next 9 sts of Round 4, join Yarn C in next st with a ss, dc in next st, ss to next st. Fasten off.

Embroidery

Using Yarn E, a tapestry needle and the image as a guide, embroider a star onto centre of bauble and a stripe across top. Glue the motif to centre front of card. ♥

Top tip

*Short of time?
Make individual
decorations
instead of a
garland!*

Sweet Noel

Hook a sugary-themed
garland to hang from
your Christmas tree.

By **Jenny May**



You will need

- Stylecraft Special DK, 1 ball each in:
Matador (shade 1010)
Cloud Blue (shade 1019)
White (shade 1001)
Silver (shade 1203)
Green (shade 1116)
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook
- Toy stuffing
- Stitch markers (optional)

Measurements

- Garland is approx. 1.75m long

Tension

- Tension is not critical
for this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations
see page 82

About this yarn

Stylecraft Special DK

100% acrylic

295m per 100g

Machine wash at 40°C

£1.95, for stockists call 01484 848435
or visit www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

How we love treats that are calorie free! Jenny's designed a Christmas candy cane and a jolly doughnut to hang from a stripy cord and wrap around your tree. Aimed at beginners, this festive bunting is sweet and simple to make.

FESTIVE BUNTING

Candy cane

Note Make in the amigurumi method, in the round, in a spiral (no ss to join rounds).

Round 1 Using White, make a magic loop, ch1, 5dc in loop, ss to beg st. (5 sts)

Round 2 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), dc in same st, 2dc in next 4 sts. (9 sts)

Round 3 Dc in each st.

Tighten magic loop and weave in end.

Turn RS out to continue working.

Rounds 4-28 Dc in back loop of first st, dc in both loops of next 8 sts.

Stuff.

Round 29 Dc in back loop of first st, then work in both loops: dc, htr, 3tr, htr, 2dc.

Rounds 30-37 Dc in back loop of first st, then work in both loops: dc, htr, tr, dtr, tr, htr, 2dc.

Round 38 As Round 29

Rounds 39-41 As Round 4.

Stuff.

Rounds 42 & 43 Dc2tog until hole is closed, finish off and push end in slightly with finger to flatten. Weave in ends.

Stripes

Note You might find it helpful to use stitch markers for the first chain.

Using Matador, join yarn in the exposed front loop of Round 4, ch12, ss to the front loop of Round 9, rep ch12 and ss to Rounds 14, 19, 24 and 29, ch14, ss to Round 34, ch14, ss to Round 39, fasten off yarn.

Using Green, join yarn in the exposed front loop of Round 5, ch12, ss to the front loop of Round 10, rep ch12 and ss to Rounds 15, 20, 25 and 30, ch14, ss to Round 35, ch14, ss to Round 40, fasten off yarn. Weave in ends.

Doughnut

Make 2 in Silver and 2 in Cloud Blue.

Work in the round.

Foundation Round Chain 36, ss to beg st to make a loop. (36 sts)

Round 1 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), dc in same st, 2dc, (2dc in next st, 5dc) 5 times, 2dc in next st, 2dc, ss to beg st. (42 sts)

Round 2 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), dc in same st, dc, (2dc in next st, 6dc) 5 times, 2dc in next st, 4dc, ss to beg st. (48 sts)

Round 3 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), dc in same st, 5dc, (2dc in next st, 7dc) 5 times, 2dc in next st, dc, ss to beg st. (54 sts)

Round 4 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), dc in same st, dc to end.

Round 5 As Round 4.

Round 6 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), dc in same st, 3dc, (dc2tog, 7dc) 5 times, dc2tog, 3dc, ss to beg st. (48 sts)

Round 7 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), dc in same st, 2dc, (dc2tog, 6dc) 5 times, dc2tog, 3dc, ss to beg st. (42 sts)

Round 8 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), dc in same st, dc, (dc2tog, 5dc) 5 times, dc2tog, 3dc, ss to beg st. (36 sts)

Fasten off yarn and weave in ends.

Stripes

Using Green for Blue doughnuts and Red for Silver doughnuts, ch98, wrap around doughnut 6 times anti-clockwise, ss to first ch, fasten off yarn and weave in ends.

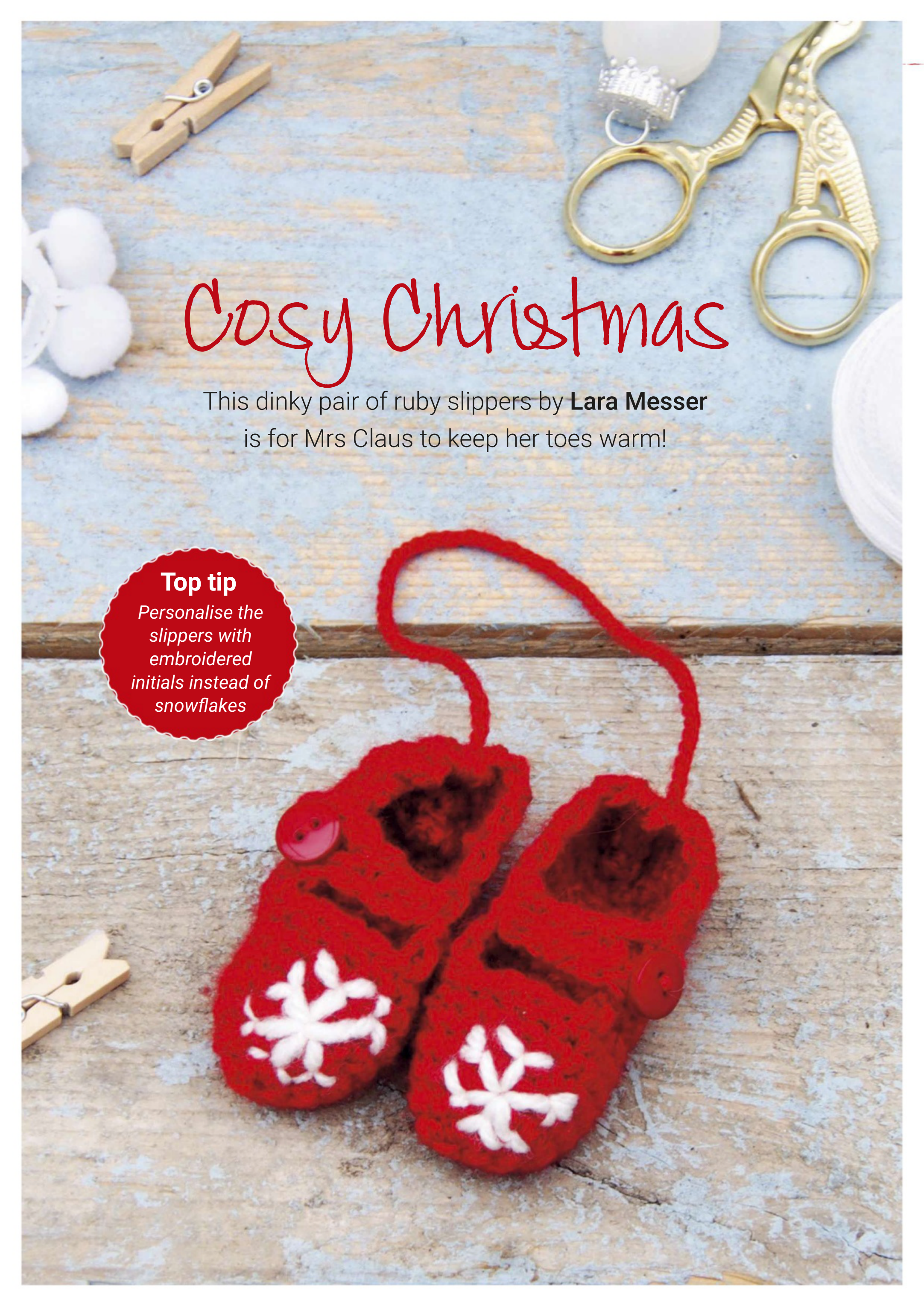
Cord

Foundation Round Using Green, ch300, fasten off yarn.

Round 1 Join Matador at end of chain, ch1, dc in back loop of each st to end, fasten off yarn.

Round 2 Space pieces 30 sts apart using stitch markers or scraps of yarn.

With RS facing and foundation round upwards, join Green at end of foundation round, ss along Round to a stitch marker, ch2, ss to top of piece, ch2, resume ss; rep until all pieces are attached and ss to end. Fasten off yarn and weave in ends. 🍋



Cosy Christmas

This dinky pair of ruby slippers by **Lara Messer** is for Mrs Claus to keep her toes warm!

Top tip

Personalise the slippers with embroidered initials instead of snowflakes

You will need

- Sirdar Hayfield Bonus DK, 1 ball each in:
Cream (shade 0812)
Classic Red (shade 0833)
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook
- A tapestry needle
- Two small buttons

Measurements

- Each slipper measures
7cm (2¾in) long

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

This fabulous festive project has definite Scandi vibes, don't you think? A teeny tiny pair of snuggly slippers is just right for a mini Mrs Claus when she settles down in front of the fire. Use your amigurumi skills to start this speedy make, then finish off with a touch of simple embroidery. These will look absolutely adorable on anybody's Christmas tree.

Notes

The toes 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.

(14 dc)

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Heel

Fold your slipper in half lengthways, and using a tapestry needle and the long tail, backstitch the heel together.

Strap

Using Classic Red, ch7.

Row 1 (RS) 1dc in the 2nd ch from the hook and the next 3 ch, ch2, skip the next ch (buttonhole made), ss to the last ch. Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

To make up

Using a tapestry needle, attach the strap to your slipper using the image as a guide. Sew button to other side of the slipper in line with the strap. Tie a length of Classic Red yarn to the heel of each slipper to form a hanging loop. Using Cream yarn, bring your needle up from inside the slipper at the centre front of the toe. Using the image as a guide, stitch a snowflake to the front of each slipper. ♥

SLIPPER (MAKE 2)

Using Classic Red, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into the loop.

(6 dc)

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

Round 3 (2dc in the next dc, dc in the next dc) 6 times. (18 dc)

Rounds 4-7 Dc in each dc around. (18 dc)

Sole & main part of slipper

Row 1 (RS) Ss to the next st, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in the same st and each of the next 13 sts, turn. (14 dc)

Rows 2-10 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in the same st and each dc across, turn.



About this yarn

Sirdar Hayfield Bonus DK

100% acrylic

280m per 100g

Machine wash at 40°C

£1.85, for stockists call 01924 371

501 or visit www.sirdar.co.uk



Top tip

One ball of each yarn is enough to make all three of these beautiful items

All that glitters

A scattering of sequins adds sublime sparkle to this coordinating Christmas table setting by **Jenny May**

You will need

- Anchor Artiste Metallic, 1 ball in: Gold (shade 300)
- King Cole Cosmos, 1 ball in: Stardust (shade 1099)
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook

Measurements

- Place mat: approx. 25cm (10in) diameter
- Coaster: approx. 10cm (4in) diameter
- Napkin ring: Top approx. 5cm (2in) diameter, Ring approx. 12cm (5in) circumference

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- Picot: Ch3, ss in top of st at base of ch3
- For standard abbreviations see page 82

Aside from the food itself, a beautiful place setting is the perfect way to entice friends and family to your table – and what better way to serve up Christmas dinner than with this sparkling set of designs? Jenny has created a place mat, coaster and napkin ring, each worked using strands of two different yarns together. Both have a glittery gold finish, while one of them also features a strand of coloured sequins for extra glitz!

PLACE SETTING

Notes

Hold one strand of Anchor Artiste Metallic and one strand of King Cole Cosmos together throughout.

Place mat

Ch6, join into ring.

Round 1 Holding tail behind work so it is caught in work, ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), (tr, ch1) into ring 11 times, ss in beg ch1-sp. (12htr, 12 ch-sp)

Round 2 (Ch3, ss) in same ch1-sp, (ch1, ss in next ch1-sp, ch1, (ss, ch3, ss) in next ch1-sp) 5 times, ch1, ss in next ch1-sp*, do not close off round.

Round 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), (ch5, skip over loop created by (ss, ch3, ss) in Round 2, tr in next ch1-sp from Round 1) 5 times, ch5, ss in beg top of beg ch3.

Round 4 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), (2dc,

ch2, 2dc) in ch5-sp, ch2) 6 times, ss in beg ss.

Round 5 Ch3 (counts as tr), picot, ch3, [* (2dc, picot, dc) in next ch2-sp, ch3*, tr in next ch2-sp, picot, ch3] 5 times; rep from * to *, ss in beg picot.

Round 6 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), [(dc, ch2, dc) in picot, ch3, tr in ch3-sp, ch1, tr in next ch3-sp, ch3] 6 times, ss in beg st.

Round 7 Ss in ch2-sp, (replace first st of round with ch2), [(2htr, ch2, 2htr) in ch2-sp, ch1, 2htr in ch3-sp, ch2, tr in ch1-sp, ch2, 2htr in ch3-sp, ch1] 6 times, ss in beg st.

Round 8 Ss in next st, ss in ch2-sp, (replace first st with ch2), [(2htr, ch2, 2htr) in ch2-sp, ch3, 2tr in ch2-sp, 2tr in next ch2-sp, ch3] 6 times, ss to beg st.

Round 9 Ss in next st, ss in ch2-sp, (replace first st with ch2), [(2htr, ch2, 2htr) in ch2-sp, ch2, (2dc, picot, dc) in ch3-sp, ↻

About these yarns

Anchor Artiste Metallic

80% viscose, 20% polyester
100m per 25g
Machine wash at 30°C
£4.79, www.lovecrafts.com

King Cole Cosmos

76% glitter yarn, 24% payette
393m per 25g
Hand wash
£3.39, visit www.kingcole.com or call 01756 703670 for stockists



Table setting



ch4, (2dc, picot, dc) in next ch3-sp, ch2] 6 times, ss in beg st.

Round 10 Ss in next st, ss in ch2-sp, (replace first st with ch2), [(2htr, ch2, 2htr) in ch2-sp, ch2, tr in ch2-sp, ch4, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch4-sp, ch4, tr in ch2-sp, ch2] 6 times, ss in beg st.

Round 11 Ss in next st, ss in ch2-sp, (replace first st with ch2), [(2htr, ch2, 2htr) in ch2-sp, ch2, tr in ch2-sp, ch2, 2tr in ch4-sp, ch2, 2tr in ch2-sp, ch2, 2tr in ch4-sp, ch2, tr in ch2-sp, ch2] 6 times, ss to beg st.

Round 12 Ss in next st, ss in ch2-sp, (replace first st with ch3), [(2tr, ch3, 2tr) in ch2-sp, ch3, (dc in ch2-sp, ch4) 5 times, dc in ch2-sp, ch3] 6 times

Round 13 Ss in next st, ch1 (doesn't count as st), [(3dc, picot, 2dc) in ch3-sp, ch1, 2dc in ch3-sp, (ch2, ((2dc, picot, dc) in ch4-sp))] 5 times, ch2, 2dc in ch3-sp, ch1, ss to beg st.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

Napkin ring

Top

Ch6, join into ring.

Rounds 1-2 As Rounds 1-2 of Place Mat



up to *.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

Ring

Ch25.

Round 1 Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end. (24 sts)

Round 2 Ch1 (doesn't count as st), (work

in fl only) dc in each st to end.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Use tail to sew into ring, then sew Top to Ring.

Coaster

Ch6, join into ring.

Rounds 1-5 As Rounds 1-5 of Place Mat.
Fasten off and weave in ends. ♥

Competitive crochet

Taking part and having fun is a given, says **Joanna Benner**, but to win is nice too!

As I write, I'm gearing up for the imminent Village Show, where residents compete for the various cups and ultimately, the Family Bowl. We've won the Family Bowl before and, although it takes some polishing, it does look fab on the sitting room mantelpiece!

This year I've called in the troops and taught my eldest granddaughter how to crochet so that there are two of us entering for the Crafts Cup. It's nice that I can tell *Love Crochet* readers what we're going to make without fear of fellow contestants knowing, as we won't be on sale until the

a fox, badger and cat. All the clothes fit all the toys, so the combinations are endless.

Then I just had to make the Virus Shawl for the other half of Team Granny! It got its name because the free pattern went viral and I can understand why. After a couple of repeats of the pattern, you don't need to look at the instructions. I used two skeins of Hayfield Spirit DK, a 3.5mm hook and 13 pattern repeats (I finished the last repeat on Row 3) and it was done in under a week. It turned out just the right size and, as it's not too thick, it can also be rolled up and worn as a scarf. Just type 'virus shawl' into Google for instructions.

I've called in the troops and taught my granddaughter how to crochet so that there are two of us entering for the Crafts Cup

show is over! Who knows if we will win anything, but we'll have fun trying.

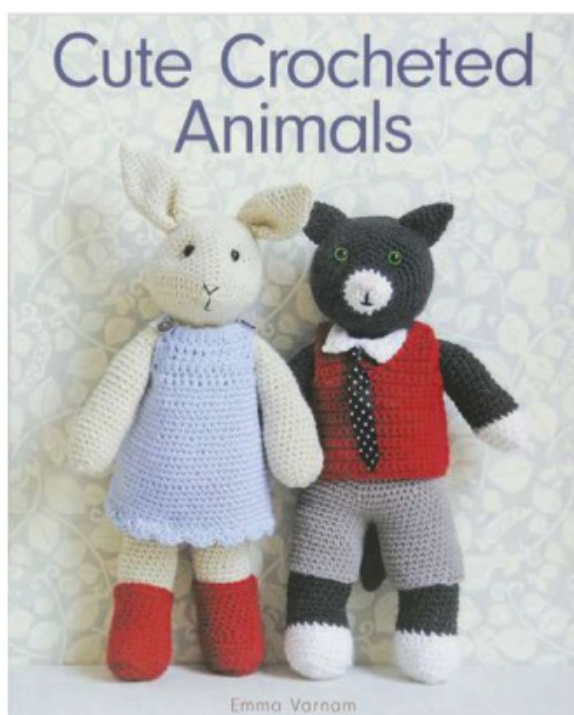
It can be expensive making items, so I always have a recipient in mind. For the toy section I've made Emily Rabbit from *Cute Crocheted Animals* by Emma Varnum. She has been a joy to make and will end up as a present for my youngest granddaughter, aged six. I used a cotton/acrylic yarn that was really easy to use and is extremely washable, which is so important with children's toys. Emily will also have a whole wardrobe of clothes and will be displayed, propped against a vintage suitcase. There are some wonderful animals in the book, including

My granddaughter's contribution is for the toy section again, and she's chosen to crochet a Moomin. She won't be giving it away after the show – she's a big fan! Made throughout in double crochet with increases and decreases, it's easy for a beginner with just a touch of embroidery for the eyes. To find the pattern, look for a back copy of our sister magazine *Simply Crochet* – Issue 83. Or you can buy a digital copy from www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/digitaleditions

So, the competitive crochet is nearly done and I'm looking forward to some relaxed crochet – but fingers crossed I'll be polishing some silver very soon!



©Moomin Characters™



Emma Varnum



From top: This sweet Moomin is easy enough for beginners; mix and match with *Cute Crocheted Animals*, £12.99 from www.amazon.uk; Hayfield Spirit DK in Zest, £4.19, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

Get kitted out!



Snowflakes with Swarovski Crystals

DOROTHY WOOD

£10.50

www.dorothywood.co.uk

Twinkle, twinkle, little snowflake... these pretty decorations are a delight and will add sparkly elegance to your tree as the fairy lights flicker. Or, why not buy several kits and make a string of bunting for above the mantelpiece? The kit includes enough S-Lon cord and Swarovski crystals to make a pair of snowflakes (a large and a small), and the colour choice is nicely varied – choose from rose gold, vibrant red, snow white, regal purple and icy blue. You'll need a 2mm hook to work the flakes. The large snowflake is approx 9cm (3½in) and the small is approx 7.5cm (3in).

Santa Basket

THE CRAFTY CROCHET CORNER

£10

www.etsy.com/shop/CraftyCrochetCorner1

Practical and festive, this Santa-themed basket has a charming face that will delight everyone who visits your home this yuletide season. Fill him with treats and goodies for all to dip their hands in. We think he'd also make a perfect pot cover for a small tree. Made with red, white and beige T-shirt yarn, the kit comes with all the yarn you need to make him. If you haven't got a 9mm hook, you can add one to the order for £2. All you'll then require to complete your Santa basket is a couple of small buttons for his coal-like eyes. The finished size is approx 14cm tall by 16.5cm diameter (5½x 6½in).



Grey Kitten

SOLID AND MARL

£19

www.solidandmarl.co.uk

The ideal gift for someone who's new to crochet, this cute kitty comes as a complete kit from the Solid and Marl range. With everything you need, including supersoft grey and white lambswool, easy-to-follow instructions, stuffing, safety eyes, extra yarn to add the nose and mouth detail, as well as a stitch marker and darning needle.

Miffy Cushion

STITCH & STORY

£57

www.stitchandstory.com

Dick Bruna's beloved children's character, Miffy, can come to life in your child's bedroom with Stitch & Story's fabulous cushion cover kit. Made entirely with double crochet stitches from their own brand of chunky yarn, 100% Chunky Merino, the kit is perfect for crochet beginners. Anyone who's struggling, though, can get help from Stitch & Story's online tutorial. The necessary 30cm round cushion insert isn't included, but everything else is: four 100g balls of yarn, plus yarn for embroidering Miffy's facial features, 8mm bamboo hook, toy stuffing, a woven label, needle and pattern. We think she'll make a wonderful Christmas gift for a new baby's nursery.





Christmas Mice

WEE WOOLLY WONDERFULS

£28

www.weewoollywonderfuls.com

No one will mind mice scampering around the house when they're as cute as these! Complete with Crimbo dress, jumper, hat and scarf, this pair of pals come packed in their own mouse-themed reusable cotton project bag. That'll keep them warm on chilly winter evenings! The kit to make the pair includes a soft, luxurious 65% wool, 35% alpaca yarn, yarn scraps for the facial features, a 3.5mm soft-grip hook, stuffing, two stitch markers, tapestry needle and the pattern in illustrated booklet form. Each mouse is 21cm (8¼in) tall.

Wreath, Star or Heart

FIONA MEADE CROCHET

£20 each

www.etsy.com/uk/shop/FionaMeadeCrochet

For rustic Christmas charm we can't do better than crocheted tree decorations, can we? Each of these red-and-white motifs, made with aran-weight cottony yarn, are ideal for a country-cottage or Scandi theme. In addition to the yarn and candy-stripe string for hanging your decoration, the kits come with all you need, besides a 3mm hook and tapestry needle. Stuffing is included with the heart, and the wreath comes with a 5.5cm (2in) wooden ring and a felt holly decoration. If you'd like all three, designer Fiona is offering a £2.50 discount off the total order.



Giant Stocking

WOOL COUTURE

£49.99

www.woolcouturecompany.com

Expecting big Christmas presents this year? Then you'll need a stocking that's big enough to hold them all! Wool Couture's giant stocking measures 50cm (19¾in) tall and 36cm (14in) from heel to foot, and is guaranteed to swallow a decent-sized hoard. The kit comes with 750g of their own-brand, super-soft and extra cuddly, Gentle Giant 100% merino yarn for the main colour and 250g for the secondary colour. Choose from any combination of 11 shades, and add a 25mm hook for £5 if you need one.



Christmas Baubles

DERAMORES

£5.95

www.deramores.com

These beautiful baubles have been designed by Carmen Heffernan and come in a choice of six themes. Christmas Frost is shown, but there's also multi-coloured Jewel, Scandinavian Hygge, Modern, and two kinds of Vintage. Each kit includes six 25g balls of Scheepjes Catona in a range of colours to suit the theme. The baubles can either be wrapped around shop-bought baubles, or stuffed. We like the idea of adding cloves to stuffing to create wafts of festive aroma as admirers brush past the tree.

Using multiple strands

Many patterns require you to work with multiple strands of yarn. Here, **Joanne Scrace** gives her top tips for success



Whether it is holding 10 strands of chunky together for some arm knitting, changing two strands to create a fade or using a strand of mohair with a strand of 4ply for an ethereal effect – working with multiple yarns is all over the knitting and crochet world at the moment.

Why should you give it a go?

It's a great technique to use for lots of reasons, as it allows you to play with colour and texture, you can combine different fibres and weights to create a bespoke yarn, and it's an excellent way of eating into large amounts of stash!

At the chunkier end of the yarn market, there is considerably less choice than at the finer end, so combining finer yarns to make your own chunky and super chunky blends gives you more control. Holding multiple yarns together instead of using a spun super chunky yarn also increases the drape – this is because the yarns can move more independently within the stitch, so it makes it better for garments and accessories that you don't want to be stiff.

Yarn weights

For successful multi-stranding, you need to understand yarn weights. In this case, weight doesn't mean how many grammes are in the ball, but how fine or chunky the yarn is: essentially the thickness of the yarn.

By assigning a value to each type of yarn, you can then add them together in a variety of ways to create different new weights. For example, from the table below you can see that one strand of DK (8) held with one strand of 4ply (4) would

add up to the same as three strands of 4ply held together (4+4+4), and both these combinations could be used in place of a chunky yarn (12).

Be aware, though, that as you get into chunky and super chunky weights there is less industry standardisation and thicknesses can vary more widely. As with anything, you should always swatch carefully if you are using multiple strands, to check that you can achieve the pattern tension and that you like the resulting fabric.

Yarn name	Alternate names	Weight
Value	Lace	2
4ply	fingering, sock yarn	4
Sport	5ply	5
DK	Light worsted, 8ply	8
Aran	Worsted	10
Chunky	Bulky	12
Super chunky	Super bulky	14

HOW TO COMBINE MULTIPLE YARNS

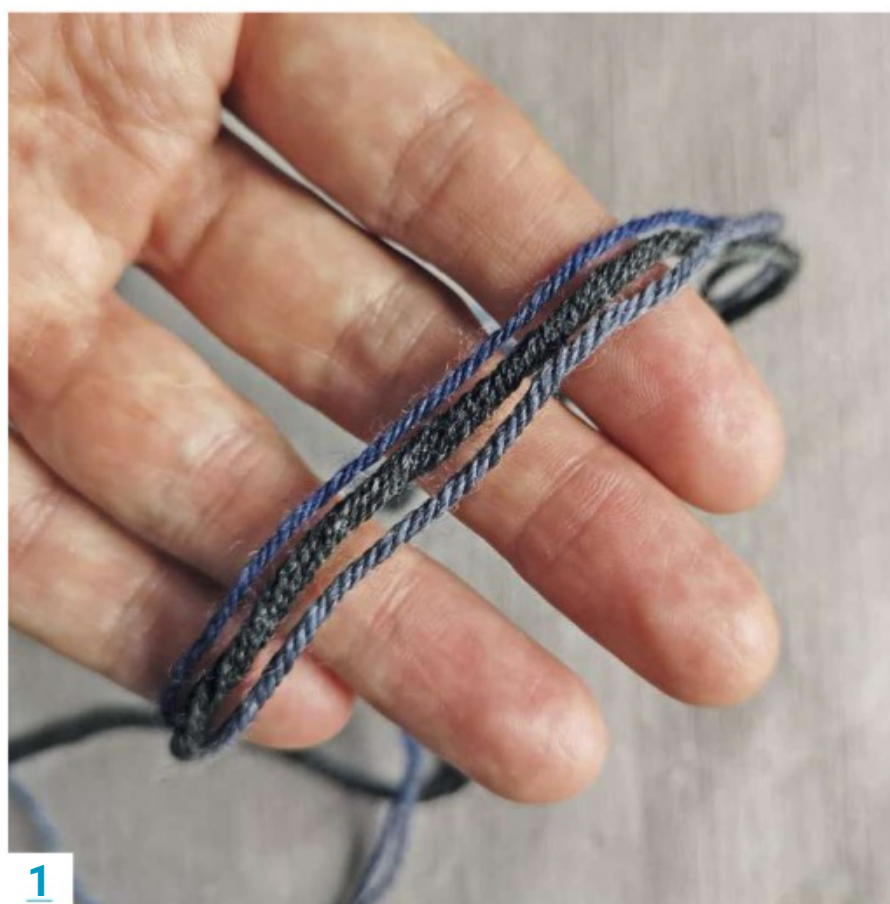
The more strands of yarn you are holding at once, the more tricky it will be to work, so start off with two or three yarns if this is your first multi-strand project. **1**

Hold them all together in your hand and make the slipknot as you normally would – you will then work as you normally would with one strand. **2**

Pull through all threads with each yarn over, as leaving threads behind creates messy looking plucks in the fabric. **3**

Use the angle of the hook to help you pull through all the threads. Angle the hook down and around to help keep them under the lip of the hook as you pull through. **4**

Top tip Working from centre-pull balls can stop you getting in a tangle – but if you are working from balls, try popping them into bowls next to you to keep them feeding smoothly without rolling around and getting into an almighty tangle.


1

2

3

4

**Turn
over to
make
a bath
mat**



Top Tip

Work a swatch (see below) to check your tension. If your square is larger than 10cm, go down a hook size. If it is smaller, go up a hook size

Joanne Scrace's easy bath mat uses multiple yarns for a beautiful watery effect

You will need

- A selection of yarns in a variety of DK and 4ply totalling about 275g
- 9mm (UK 00, US M/13) hook

Measurements

- Finished mat measures 60x50cm (20x24in)

Tension

- 9 sts and 5 rows to 10cm (4in) over treble crochet using 9mm hook (or size needed to obtain tension)

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

Bath mat

This colourful, soft bath mat will bust through a large amount of stashed yarn very quickly. Wools, acrylics and cottons are all suitable for this project – try and use up part balls where possible, as this will mean there are more colour changes. This design looks great in bold blue shades, but you can match it to your bathroom using any colour palette.

BATH MAT

Note

You will hold together two strands of DK and one strand of 4ply (or the equivalent amount made up of different weights.) As one ball runs out, change in for another of the same weight.

Pattern

Round 1 Ch17, 2tr in 4th ch from the hook, ch3, 1tr in each ch to last ch, ch3, 3tr in last ch, ch3, rotate to work into other side of foundation ch, 1tr in each

ch to last ch, ch3, ss to join, do not turn. (30 sts) (3tr at each end and 12 down each side)

Round 2 Ch3, [1tr in each tr to ch-sp, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) in ch-sp] 4 times, ss to join, do not turn. (46 sts)

Rounds 3-13 Ch3, [1tr in each tr to ch-sp, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) in ch-sp] 4 times, 1tr in each tr to ss to join, do not turn. (222 sts) Fasten off.

To finish

Weave in ends, wash and dry flat. 💙

ON SALE
NOW!

SIMPLY CHRISTMAS

Everything you need for your perfect Christmas!



From cooking to crafting, decorating to gift buying, *Simply Christmas* is packed with ideas and inspiration to make sure you have a very happy holiday season!



Use these moulds in 14 different ways!



Free!
52-page festive food mag & moulds for cooking & crafts

GET YOUR COPY TODAY!

Only £5.99 (plus p&p)

CALL 03330 162 138 and quote 'SIMPLY XMAS 19 PRINT1'

ONLINE www.buysubscriptions.com/SimplyChristmas19

UK calls will cost the same as other standard fixed line numbers (starting 01 or 02) and are included as part of any inclusive or free minutes allowances (if offered by your phone tariff). Outside of free call packages call charges from mobile phones will cost between 3p and 55p per minute. Lines are open Mon to Fri 8am-6pm and Sat 9am-1pm. Overseas please call +44 (0)1604 973 746. *Prices including postage are £6.99 for UK residents, £7.99 for Europe and £8.99 for Rest of World. Please allow up to 28 days for delivery.

f www.facebook.com/simplychristmasmag

Ho ho ho!

Embellish a plain jumper with
these jolly Santa motifs by

Sara Huntington

Top tip

*A bamboo hook
gives better grip
when working with
cotton yarn*



You will need

- **Yarn and Colors Must-Have,**
1 ball each in:
White (shade 001)
Peach (shade 042)
Cardinal (shade 031)
Soil (shade 028)
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook
- Tapestry needle

Measurements

- Each motif measures 5.5x9cm
(2¼x3½in)

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- **4-tr cluster:** (yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 4 times, inserting the hook in the same st each time, yrh and draw through all 5 loops on hook
- For standard abbreviations see page 82

Get on board with the Christmas jumper action and show some serious love for our favourite bearded man in a red suit. The Santa motif on Sara's customisation project works like a dream, emblazoning a plain top with a row of jolly festive faces! You could hook just one motif if you're short on time, and there's no need to stop at jumpers – use our festive friend to embellish cards, bags, garlands and more!

SANTA MOTIF

Face

Using White, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch4 (counts as dtr), 15dtr into loop, change to Peach, 8dtr into loop, change to White, ss into top of beg ch-4 to join. (24 dtr)

Fasten off Peach.

Round 2 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), (ch3, dc into next st) 16 times, dc in last 7 sts, ss in first dc to join, turn.

Row 3 (WS) Ch1, dc in each of next 6 sts, ss in next st, fasten off leaving remaining sts unworked, turn.
Fasten off.

Hat

Row 4 (RS) Join Cardinal in first dc, ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in next st, 2tr in next st, tr in each of last 3 sts, turn. (7 tr)

Row 5 (WS) Ch3, tr2tog, tr in next st, tr2tog, tr in last st, turn. (5 sts)

Row 6 (RS) Ch3, tr3tog, tr in last st.
Fasten off.

Bobble

With RS facing, join White to the last st of Row 6 at top of Hat, ch3, 4-tr cluster into same st.
Fasten off.

To finish

Using a tapestry needle and Soil, embroider eyes and eyebrows onto the face just underneath the Hat. Using Cardinal, embroider a nose slightly above the centre point of the magic loop on the face. Weave in all ends.
Block each motif before sewing to your chosen garment. 🧵

About this yarn

Yarn and Colors Must-Have

100% cotton
125m per 50g
Machine wash at 40°C
£2.50, call 01409 404 010 or visit www.lovecrafts.com



Top tip

Use a bead nabber tool to help you pick up the beads with your needle

Love from
Jane Crowfoot

Floral cheer

Jazz up the traditional poinsettia motif with sparkles to make a perfect party accessory.

By **Jane Crowfoot**

You will need

- Debbie Bliss Aymara, 1 ball each in:
Gold (shade 09) – Yarn A
Amethyst (shade 13) – Yarn B
Ruby (shade 12) – Yarn C
Moss (shade 08) – Yarn D
- Debbie Abrahams Size 6 seed beads
in Gold (31), 90 beads required
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook
- Stitch markers
- Brooch pin

Measurements

- Approx. 20cm (8in) at widest point;
flower centre up to end of Round 4
measures 5cm (2in) across

Tension

- Tension is not critical for this project

Abbreviations

- **bdc3** (Beaded dc with 3 beads to each stitch): Bring a group of 3 beads up to the top of the yarn so that they are sitting as close to the hook as possible, insert hook into the next st, yrh beyond the group of beads and pull through the stitch making sure no beads are drawn through at the same time, yrh and draw through both yarn loops on hook
- **Tall picot**: Ch3, dc in 2nd ch from hook and next ch
- **For standard abbreviations** see page 82

About this yarn

Debbie Bliss Aymara

100% baby alpaca

100m per 50g

Hand wash

£6.99, www.stashfineyarns.co.uk

Transform a party outfit from ‘meh’ to ‘wow’ with this beautiful statement corsage – it would look stunning on a winter coat, too. Hooked in the softest baby alpaca with a cluster of sparkly seed beads at the centre, it’s a great gift idea for those who love their luxury. And we’re head over heels for the rich jewel shades – just perfect for brightening up the coldest months.

CORSAGE

Note

Beads will come out on reverse of work, so the first 3 rounds are worked with WS facing; make sure you turn at the end of Round 3.

Front piece

Thread 90 beads onto Yarn A.

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (WS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 5dc into loop, ss to first dc to join.

Round 2 (WS) Ch1, 2bdc3 in each st around, ss to first dc to join. (10 sts)

Round 3 (WS) Repeat Round 2, turn, fasten off. (20 sts)

Round 4 (RS) Join Yarn B in any st, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in same st, *tr in each next 3 sts, 2tr in next st; repeat from * around, omitting last 2tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 join, fasten off. (25 sts)

Round 5 (RS) Join Yarn C in any st, ch1, dc into same st, *ch8, working back along ch-8, dc in 2nd ch from hook and each of next 6 ch, dc in next st on Round 4, ch3, skip 3 sts, dc into next st; repeat from * around, omitting last dc, ss to first dc to join. (5 petals)

Round 6 (RS) Ch1, *working along unworked side of starting ch of next petal, dc into next ch, htr in next ch, tr in each next 2 ch, dtr in next ch, 2tr in each of next 2 ch, (tr, tall picot, tr) in last ch at end of petal, working along opposite side of petal, 2tr in each of next 2 sts, dtr in next st, tr in each next 2 sts, htr in next st, dc into next st, ch1, skip next dc at base of petal, working in front of ch-3 sp, dc in each of next 2 skipped sts in Round 4, ch8, working back along ch-8, dc in 2nd ch from hook and each of next 6 ch, dc



into same st at base of petal, dc into next skipped st in Round 4, ch1, skip next dc in Round 5; repeat from * around, omitting last ch-1, ss to first dc to join.

Round 7 *Working behind next petal, ch5, working along unworked side of starting ch of next petal, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, tr in each next 2 ch, dtr in next ch, 2tr in each next 2 ch, (tr, tall picot, tr) in last ch at end of petal, working along opposite side of petal, 2tr in each next 2 sts, dtr in next st, tr in each of next 2 sts, htr in next st, dc in next st, working behind next petal; repeat from * around, ss to first ch of first ch-5 sp to join. Fasten off. (10 petals)

Round 8 Join Yarn A in any ch-5 sp behind petals, ch1, dc into same ch-sp, *working back along ch-8, dc in 2nd ch from hook and each of next 6 ch, dc into same ch-sp, working behind next petal, ch7, 1dc into next ch-5 sp; repeat from * around, omitting last dc ss to first dc to join. Fasten off. (5 leaves)

Round 9 Working behind Petals, join Yarn D in any ch-7 sp, ch1, dc into same ch-sp, *ch8, working back along ch-8, dc in 2nd

Poinsettia corsage

A back piece finishes off the flower and gives a flat surface for your brooch pin



ch from hook and each of next 6 ch, dc into same ch-sp, ch3, working along unworked side of starting ch of next leaf, dc into next ch, htr in next ch, tr in each next 2 ch, dtr in next ch, 2tr in each of next 2 ch, (tr, tall picot, tr) in last ch at end of petal, working along opposite side of petal, 2tr in each of next 2 sts, dtr in next st, tr in each next 2 sts, htr in next st, dc into next st, ch3, dc in next ch-7 sp; repeat from * around, omitting last dc, ss to first to join. Fasten off.

Round 10 Join Yarn A in last ch-3 sp made, ch1, dc into same ch sp, *ch1, working along unworked side of starting ch of next petal, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, tr in each next 2 ch, dtr in next ch, 2tr in each next 2 ch, (tr, tall picot, tr) in last ch at end of petal, working along opposite side of petal, 2tr in each next 2 sts, dtr in

next st, tr in each of next 2 sts, htr in next st, dc in next st, ch1, dc into next ch-3 sp, working behind next leaf, ch3, dc into next ch-3 sp; repeat from * around, omitting last dc, ss to first to join. Fasten off, weave in ends and block to size.

Back piece

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch3 (counts as a tr throughout) 14tr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-3 join. (15 sts)

Round 2 Ch3, tr into st at base of ch-3, 2tr into each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3 join. (30 sts)

Round 3 Ch3, tr into st at base of ch-3, tr into next st, *2tr into next st, tr into next st; repeat from * around, ss to top of beg ch-3 join. (45 sts)

Round 4 Ch1 (does not count as a st), dc

into each st around, ss to first dc to join. Fasten off.

To finish

Oversew Back Piece to reverse of corsage. Sew brooch pin in place. ♥



If you love purple, swap shades to make this bloom in Amethyst

Craft your way to a handmade Christmas with our ultimate collection of festive makes. Inside you'll find easy-to-follow tutorials showing you how to crochet, papercut, knit, bake and sew over 50 decorations, homewares and gifts.



ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY!

ORDER ONLINE www.buysubscriptions.com/craftforxmas
OR CALL 03330 162 138 and quote 'Craft for Christmas print 1'

*UK calls will cost the same as other standard fixed line numbers (starting 01 or 02) and are included as part of any inclusive or free minutes allowances (if offered by your phone tariff). Outside of free call packages call charges from mobile phones will cost between 3p and 55p per minute. Lines are open Mon – Fri 8am-6pm and Saturday 9am-1pm for orders only. Overseas please call +44 (0) 3330 162 138. Price applies to UK orders only. EUR price £11.99, ROW price £12.99. All prices include P&P. Please allow up to 28 days for delivery.

Top tip

*Classic colours
make this a great
gift for both men
and women!*

Cosy mornings

Emma Escott's collared hottie cover has a gorgeous tweedy texture. Why curl up with anything else?

You will need

- Debbie Bliss Donegal Luxury Tweed Aran in:
Silver (shade 010) x 2 balls – Yarn A
Oatmeal (shade 007) x 1 ball – Yarn B
- 5.5mm (UK 5, US I/9) hook
- 4.5cm (1¾in) diameter pompom maker (optional)
- A hot water bottle

Measurements

- 22x32cm (8½x12½in) to fit a standard 2-litre hot water bottle

Tension

- 13 sts and 11 rows to 10cm (4in) over patt, using a 5.5mm (UK 5, US I/9) hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Debbie Bliss Donegal Luxury Tweed Aran

90% wool, 10% angora

88m per 50g

Hand wash

£4.86, for stockists call 01409 404

010 or visit www.lovecrafts.com

Other than a roaring fire, a toasty hot water bottle is our favourite simple winter luxury, and this snug design is just perfect with its cute collar and bouncy pompoms.

The gorgeous tweed yarn is sprinkled with multi-coloured flecks and it's pretty quick to knit up, too. We've used two shades – silvery grey for the main cover, and cosy oatmeal for the contrast details. Snuggle up with a cuppa and start hooking it today.

HOTTIE COVER

Notes

The texture in this cosy is created by working a dc into each tr from the previous round/row and a tr into each dc. Each row should begin and end with the same stitch. If a row ends with a dc, then the turning ch-3 counts as a tr. If the row ends with a treble then the turning ch-1 is not counted as a stitch and a double crochet is worked into the last treble of the previous row.

Front and back (make 2)

With Yarn A, ch20.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, (tr, dc); repeat across ending with a dc, turn. (19 sts)

Row 2 Ch3 (counts as tr), (dc, tr) into same st as ch-3 (2 st increase made), (dc into next tr, tr into next dc); repeat across until final st, (tr, dc, tr) into last st (2 st increase made), turn. (23 sts)

Row 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), dc into same st as ch-3 (increase made), (tr into next dc, dc into next tr) across until final st, (dc, tr) into last st (increase made), turn. (25 sts)

Row 4 Ch1 (does not count as st) (dc into next tr, tr into next dc) across, turn.

Row 5 Ch3 (counts as tr), (dc into next tr, tr into next dc) across, turn.

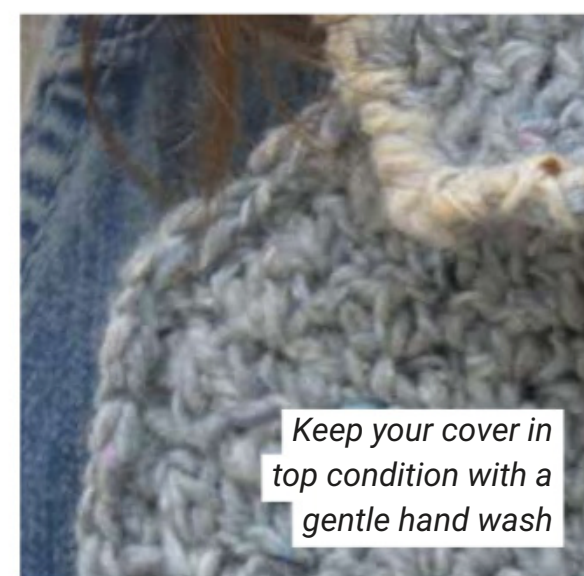
Rows 6-27 Repeat Rows 4 and 5.

Row 28 As Row 4.

Row 29 Ch1 (does not count as st), skip first st, dc into next (decrease made), (tr into next dc, dc into next tr); repeat across, skip last st (decrease made), turn. (23 sts)

Rows 30-32 As Row 29, decreasing 2 sts each row. (17 sts)

Row 33 Ch3 (counts as tr), (dc into next tr,



Keep your cover in top condition with a gentle hand wash



Squishy pompoms are easy to make and add a fun touch

tr into next dc); repeat across, turn.

Row 34 Ch1 (does not count as st), (dc into next tr, tr into next dc) repeat across, turn.

Row 35 As Row 33.

Row 36 Repeat Row 34, ending with a dc in final st.

Fasten off, weave in ends.

To join

Place both pieces WS together and working from the top of cover, through



both layers, rejoin Yarn A around the side (post) of the last stitch. Dc evenly through both layers around sides of the cover, joining as you go (work through the loops of the foundation chain around the bottom). Leave the top unworked to create an opening.

Collar

To create the collar you will be working in rounds and rows around the top opening of cover.

Continuing with Yarn A, rejoin into the top front of cover in the ninth st (centre stitch) from Row 36.

Round 37 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in same st, dc into each st around Front and Back to create a round. Join with a ss into first dc. (34 sts)

Now working back and forth in rows:

Row 38 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), (dc into next st, tr into next); repeat around ending with a tr into the same st as the beginning ch-3, turn and do not join to the beginning of the row. (35 sts)

Row 39 Ch1 (does not count as st), (dc into tr, tr into next dc); repeat across, ending with a dc in ch-3 from previous round, turn.

Row 40 Ch3 (counts as tr), (dc into next tr, tr into next dc); repeat across, turn.

Row 41 As Row 39.

Row 42 As Row 40.

Row 43 As Row 39, ending with a dc in the final st.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Edging

With Yarn B and working from the inside of the collar, join yarn to the centre split

of the collar (Row 38 between the two trebles), ch1, work crab stitch evenly along side of collar and into each st around, working two stitches in the points of the collar if needed. Join with a ss. Fasten off and weave in ends.

Pompom ties

With Yarn B, ch100.

Fasten off, leaving a 6cm (2¼in) tail.

Thread the tail of the chain through a needle and weave in and out of every 3 or 4 stitches of Row 36, pull chain tie through cover. Weave ends back up through chain.

Create 2 small pompoms approx 4.5cm (1¾in) in diameter, leaving approx 7cm (2¾in) tails when you knot them around the middle. Attach each pompom to the ends of the chain using the tails of yarn. ♥

GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM ONLY **£34.99**



13 ISSUES FOR £44.99
SAVE 42%



13 ISSUES FOR £44.99
SAVE 42%



13 ISSUES FOR £40.99
SAVE 40%



13 ISSUES FOR £53.99
SAVE 46%



13 ISSUES FOR £45.99
SAVE 44%



13 ISSUES FOR £45.99
SAVE 45%



13 ISSUES FOR £45.99
SAVE 44%



13 ISSUES FOR £49.99
SAVE 47%



13 ISSUES FOR £45.99
SAVE 44%



13 ISSUES FOR £49.99
SAVE 45%



13 ISSUES FOR £45.99
SAVE 45%



13 ISSUES FOR £40.99
SAVE 40%



9 ISSUES FOR £34.99
SAVE 35%

**TAKE THE HASSLE OUT OF YOUR
CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AND GIVE
A GIFT THAT LASTS ALL YEAR**

Remember ordering online is safe and secure,
choose from any of these payment options



**SEE OUR
FULL RANGE
OF MAGAZINES
ONLINE**

ORDER NOW!



Subscribing online is quick and easy. Visit

buy [subscriptions.com/XM19CRAFT](https://www.buysubscriptions.com/XM19CRAFT)

✓ mobile-friendly site ✓ safe and secure ✓ easy search



or call our hotline **0330 053 8660**[†] **QUOTE CODE: XM19CRAFT**

This offer closes on the 31st December 2019 and is valid for UK delivery addresses only. The discounts shown are savings calculated as a percentage of the full shop price. For overseas rates visit www.buysubscriptions.com. All Christmas gift subscriptions will start with the first issue available in January 2020. Should the magazine change in frequency, we will honour the number of issues and not the term of the subscription. [†]UK calls will cost the same as other standard fixed line numbers (starting 01 or 02) and are included as part of any inclusive or free minutes allowances (if offered by your phone tariff). Outside of free call packages call charges from mobile phones will cost between 3p and 55p per minute. Lines are open Mon to Fri 8am - 6pm and Sat 9am - 1pm.

Silent night

Capture a still winter's evening on this cosy cushion, designed by **Simone Francis**



Top tip

Turn to page 79
for how to work
a double crochet
seam

You will need

- Rowan Pure Wool Worsted in:
Electric (shade 143) x 2 balls – A
Ivory (shade 101) x 1 ball – B
- 4.5mm (UK 7, US 7) hook
- Square cushion pad, 40x40cm (16x16in)

Measurements

- 40x40cm (16x16in)

Tension

- 14 sts and 18 rows to 10cm (4in)
over double crochet using a 4.5mm (UK 7, US 7) hook

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations
see page 82

About this yarn

Rowan Pure Wool Worsted

100% wool
200m per 100g
Machine wash at 40°C
£8.25, for stockists call 01484 668 200 or visit www.knitrowan.com

Cushion chart



Are you an intarsia novice? This cushion project is a great one to start with if you're a little nervous of colour changes, as the snowy silhouette uses just two shades of yarn and comes with a helpful chart. Hooked in aran-weight wool, it's perfect for cosying up with as the nights turn chilly.

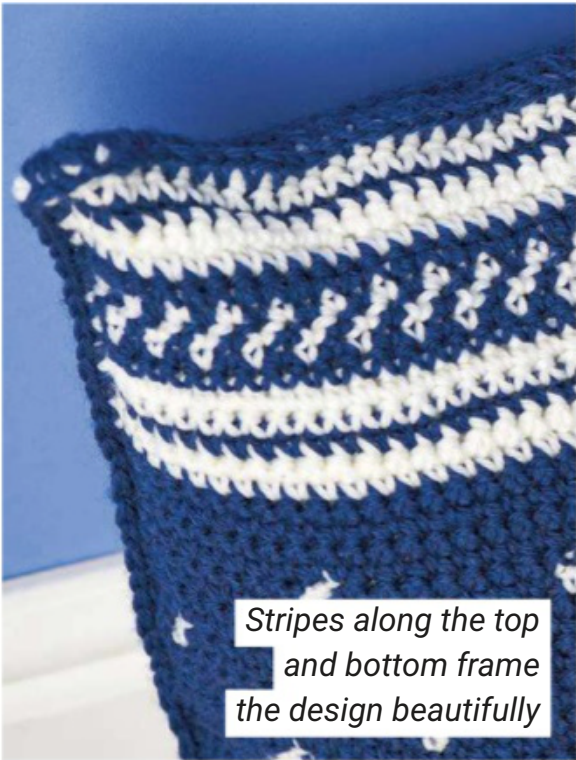
CUSHION

Notes

Cushion Front is worked in intarsia. You may find it helpful to carry yarn across back of work in floats, or to wind off small balls of yarn for larger areas. When changing colour mid-row, twist ends of the two yarns tog and change to new colour in last yrh of the prev st. Cushion Back is worked in Yarn A only. Once both pieces have been worked and blocked, they can be crocheted or sewn tog over the cushion pad.

Front

With Yarn B, ch57.
Foundation row (WS) Dc into the 2nd ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. (56 sts)
Foll Chart below, from Rows 1-52, working each row as Row 1 below with



colour changes indicated on Chart. On Chart, each square represents 1 dc st. RS rows are read from right to left, and WS rows from left to right.

Rows 1-52 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st to end, turn.

Rows 53-66 Rep Rows 1-14. Fasten off.

Back

With Yarn A, ch57.
Foundation row Dc into 2nd ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. (56 sts)
Rows 1-66 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st to end, turn. Fasten off.

To finish

Block both pieces carefully and weave in ends. Place WS tog and, with Yarn A, work a dc seam through both layers evenly around three edges. Insert the cushion pad and crochet final edge. Alternatively, use a blanket st and sew edges together. 🧡

Top tip

Keep Christmas gifts small, so you're not feeling stressed as the big day approaches!

Bright baubles

We love the vibrant colours of **Emma Leith's** bauble-style keyrings, embellished with tassels and pompoms for a fun finish!



You will need

- Rico Ricorumi DK, 1 ball each in:
 White (shade 001)
 Raspberry (shade 013)
 Orange (shade 027)
 Lilac (shade 017)
 Purple (shade 020)
 Yellow (shade 006)
 Tangerine (shade 026)
 Blue (shade 032)
 Sky Blue (shade 031)
 Grass Green (shade 044)
 Light Green (shade 046)
 Emerald (shade 042)
- 3.75mm (UK 9, US size F/5) hook
- Toy stuffing
- Yarn needle
- Keyring or bag charm fixing
- 10cm (4in) wide piece of card
- Assorted beads

Measurements

- 7.5cm (3in) diameter, not including tassel

Tension

- Tension is not important for this project

Abbreviations

- **edc (elongated double crochet):**
 insert hook in st two rounds below current round, yrh, pull yarn up level to current round, yrh, pull through both loops on hook to complete edc
- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

Rico Ricorumi DK

100% cotton
 58m per 25g
 Machine wash at 30°C
99p, for stockists visit
www.rico-design.de

Create a colourful array of pocket-size bauble keyrings for your loved ones this Christmas. They'll also look great tied onto a bag! Anything goes when choosing the colour combinations of your little crochet circles, so have fun and be playful, using up oddments of cotton from your stash where you can. Simply fill them with stuffing to make them nice and squishy, then finish with a tassel, pompom or some colourful beads.

KEYRING

Bauble circle (make 2 alike)

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

Round 1 Ch3 (counts as first tr), 11tr into the ring, join with ss into 3rd of beg 3-ch. (12 sts)

Fasten off first colour.

Round 2 Join second colour in any st, ch2 (counts as htr), 1htr in same st, 2htr in each st to end, join with ss in 2nd of beg 2-ch. (24 sts)

Fasten off second colour.

Round 3 Join third colour in any st from Round 1 and pull yarn up level to current round, ch1 (counts as first edc), 1dc in next st, *1edc in next st, 1dc in next st; rep from * to end, join with ss in beg 1-ch.

Fasten off third colour.

Round 4 Join fourth colour in any st, ch1 (counts as first dc), 1dc in same st (inc), 1dc in each of next 2 sts, *2dc in next st, 1 dc in each of next 2 sts; rep from * to end, join with ss in beg 1-ch. Fasten off fourth colour.

Making up & finishing

Using any colour, work surface crochet around Rounds 1 and 3 of each circle. Fasten off and sew in yarn ends.

Join the circles

Hold two circles with WS tog, matching the corresponding edge stitches. Using any colour, work a double crochet seam to join, working 2dc in every fourth st. Stuff with polyester toy filling when about three-quarters of the way around, then complete the seam and join with a

ss in the 1-ch.

Fasten off, leaving a 25cm (10in) end.

Repeat to make the other three baubles.

Add the keyring/bag charm

Using the 25cm (10in) end, ch2, remove the hook from the loop and push the loop through the keyring eyelet, replace the loop on the hook, ch2, join with a ss in the base of the ch.

Fasten off. Sew in yarn ends carefully.

Add a tassel or pompom

Using any combination of yarn colours, wrap yarn thickly around a 10cm (4in) piece of card. Cut a 25cm (10in) length of yarn, slide it under the strands and tie in a knot at the top. Remove the tassel from the card, and bind it securely just below the top, using a contrasting colour yarn. Thread some beads onto the ends at the top, then use remaining yarn end to sew tassel onto the bauble.

Alternatively make a small pompom using any combination of yarn colours. Leave a 20cm (8in) end at the top, thread on some beads then use to sew the pompom onto the bauble directly opposite and central to the keyring fixing. ♥

More info

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



Tiny treats

Stitch a sweet embellished stocking decoration
perfect for your tree by **Val Pierce**

Top tip

*Stuff with tissue
paper or cotton
wool to give your
decoration a nice
full shape*



You will need

- DMC Petra No.3 crochet cotton,
1 ball each in:
Red (shade 5321)
White (shade B5200)
- 2mm (US 4 steel) hook
- 4 snowflake buttons or similar for
each side
- Silver ribbon bow
- Narrow silver ribbon, 0.5m (20in)
- Sewing needle and silver thread
- Stitch marker

Measurements

- Stocking measures approx 10cm
(4in) high

Tension

- Tension is not critical for
this project

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations
see page 82

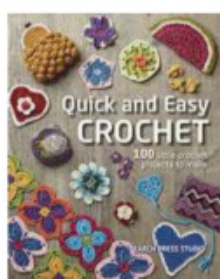
About this yarn

DMC Petra No.3

100% cotton
280m per 100g
Machine wash at 60°C
**£5.89, visit www.dmc.com or
call 01924 231669**

More info

This pattern is from
**Quick and Easy
Crochet: 100 Little
Crochet Projects
to Make** (ISBN
9781782218036) by Search Press
Studio, RRP £9.99. Publisher Search
Press, www.searchpress.com.



You're not really ready for Christmas unless you've got a stocking or two to hand. Traditionally, Christmas stockings are hung up by the fireplace ready to be filled, but this rather charming design by Val Pierce and Sue Stratford – embellished with buttons and ribbon – is small enough to hang on your Christmas tree. It may be little, but it still has plenty of space for stashing away a few sweet festive treats!

Notes

The stocking is worked from top down.

STOCKING

Leg

Using White yarn, ch29.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in the second ch from the hook and each ch across, turn. (28 sts)

Rows 2-3 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc into each dc to end, turn. Fasten off.

Row 4 Join Red yarn in the first st, ch1, dc in the same st, dc in st 2 rows below the next st, pulling st up to the height of the current row, *dc in the next st, dc in st 2 rows below the next st, pulling st up to the height of the current row; repeat from * across, turn.

Rows 5-6 Ch1, dc into each dc to end, turn.

Fasten off.

Rows 7-9 Repeat Rows 4-6 with White yarn.

Fasten off.

Rows 10-20 Rejoin Red yarn in first st, ch1, dc into each dc to end, turn. (28 sts)

Top of foot

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc into the first 18 dc, turn, leaving the remaining sts unworked. (18 sts)

Row 2 Ch1, dc into the first 8 dc, place marker in the next st, turn, leaving the remaining sts unworked. (8 sts)

Rows 3-10 Ch1, dc into each dc to end, turn. (8 sts)
Fasten off.

Foot

Row 1 (RS) With RS facing, rejoin yarn in the marked st, ch1, work 10dc evenly into the row ends down the side of the Top of foot, rotate work and dc in each of the 8 dc across the end of the Top of foot, rotate work and work 10dc evenly into the row ends down the other side of the Top of foot, dc in the next 10 dc of Row 20 of Leg, turn. (38 sts)

Row 2 Ch1, dc into each dc of Row 1, dc in the next 10 dc across to end, turn. (48 sts)

Rows 3-7 Ch1, dc into each dc to end, turn. (48 sts)

Row 8 Ch1, dc2tog, dc into the next 20 dc, dc2tog twice, dc in the next 20 dc, dc2tog, turn. (44 sts)

Row 9 Ch1, dc2tog, dc into the next 18 dc, dc2tog twice, dc in the next 18 dc, dc2tog, turn. (40 sts)

Row 10 Ch1, dc2tog, dc into the next 16 dc, dc2tog twice, dc in the next 16 dc, dc2tog, turn. (36 sts)

Row 11 Ch1, dc2tog, dc into the next 14 dc, dc2tog twice, dc in the next 14 dc, dc2tog, turn. (32 sts)

Row 12 Ch1, dc2tog, dc into each dc across to the last 2 dc, dc2tog, turn. (30 sts)

Fasten off.

To make up

Weave in all ends. Fold stocking and sew up underside of foot and back seam. Attach the snowflake buttons and the ribbon bow, using the image as a guide. Fold the silver ribbon in half to make a hanging loop, trimming it to the required length, and attach it to the stocking. ♥

Feathered friends

Snuggled up together for warmth, these winter birds from **Val Pierce** make an adorable duo!

Top tip

There is no sewing up needed on the head and body, so remember to stuff as you work



You will need

■ DMC Natura Just Cotton,
For Penguin

Aquamarina (N25) x 1 ball

Ibiza (N01) x 1 ball

Small amounts of Blé (N83) and
Passion (N23)

For Robin

Ombre (N39) x 1 ball

Passion (N23) x 1 ball

Small amounts of Blé (N83),
Aquamarina (N25) and Ibiza (N01)

■ 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) crochet hook

■ Small amount of toy stuffing

■ Two small black beads

■ Tiny white bobble for Robin's hat

Measurements

■ Approx. 10cm (4in) tall

Tension

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

Abbreviations

■ For standard abbreviations
see page 82

About this yarn

DMC Natura Just Cotton

100% cotton

155m per 50g

Machine wash at 30°C

£3.99, www.dmc.com

These sweet Christmas birds from Val Pierce are ready for the cold winds of winter – the robin decked out with a cosy bobble hat and the penguin wrapped up in a warm stripey scarf. It's these little details that give them such character! They would look lovely sitting on a mantelpiece over the festive period, or attach a small loop of thread to the top of the toys to turn them into cute decorations for the Christmas tree.

PENGUIN

Head & body

Using 3mm hook and Blue, make 2ch, 6dc into 2nd ch, join into a circle with a ss. (6 sts)

Next round 1ch, work 2dc into each dc all around, join as before. (12 sts)

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

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

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

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

Work 10 rows in dc with no increase. Begin to stuff the body at this point.

Shape top

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

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

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

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

Next round 1ch, *dc2tog; rep from * to end. (6 sts)

Fasten off.

The head and body should resemble a sausage shape when stuffed.



White bib

Using 3mm hook and White, make 8ch, work 1 dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, turn. (7 sts)

Work 2 rows in dc.

Next row Work 2dc into first dc, dc to last stitch, 2dc into last dc. (9 sts)

Work last row one more time. (11 sts)

Work 1 row in dc.

Next row Dc2tog, work to last 2 sts, dc2tog. (9 sts)

Repeat last row once more. (7 sts)

Work 1 row in dc and fasten off.

Sew bib to front of penguin, using picture as a guide.

Beak

Using 3mm hook and Yellow, make 7ch, 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, turn. (6 sts)

Next row Dc2tog, work to last 2 sts, dc2tog. (4 sts)

Repeat last row once more. (2 sts)

Work 2 rows dc on remaining 2 sts.

Next row Inc in first and last dc. (4 sts)

Repeat last row once more. (6 sts)

Robin & penguin

Work 1 row in dc and fasten off.

Fold the beak in half and stitch sides, add a tiny bit of stuffing to pad out.

Sew to front of body just above white bib. Sew a bead to each side of beak to form eyes.

Feet (make 2)

Using 3mm hook and Yellow, make 9ch.

Next row 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end, turn. (8 sts)

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

Next row Dc2tog, work to last 2 sts, dc2tog. (6 sts)

Repeat last row once more. (4 sts)

Work 2 rows without decrease on these stitches.

Now increase 1dc at each end of next and following row. (8 sts)

Work 2 rows in dc and fasten off.

Fold feet in half and sew side seams.

Add a tiny bit of stuffing to pad, then sew to base of body, angling them outwards slightly.

Wings (make 2)

Using 3mm hook and Blue, make 2ch, work 3dc into 2nd ch from hook, turn.

Next row 2dc into first dc, 1dc into next

dc, 2dc into next dc. (5 sts)

Work 4 rows dc on these sts.

Next row Dc2tog, 1dc, dc2tog. (3 sts)

Next row Dc3tog.

Fasten off.

Sew a wing to each side of body.

Scarf

Using 3mm hook and White, make 60ch.

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

Join in Red and work 2 rows in dc.

Break Red and join in White.

Work 1 row in White dc and fasten off.

Work in ends and then wrap scarf around penguin, securing with a few stitches.

ROBIN

Head & body

Using 3mm hook and Brown, make 2ch, 6dc into 2nd ch, join into a circle with a ss. (6 sts)

Next round 1ch, work 2dc into each dc all around, join as before. (12 sts)

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

Next round 1ch, *1dc into next 2 dc, 2dc into next dc; rep from * to end, join as

before. (24 sts)

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

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

Next round 1ch, *1dc into next 5 dc, 2dc into next dc; rep from * to end, join as before. (42 sts)

Work 7 rows in dc with no increase.

Begin to stuff the body at this point.

Shape top

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

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

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

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

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

Next round 1ch, *dc2tog; rep to end, fasten off. (6 sts)

Tail

Using 3mm hook and Brown, make 8ch, 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each ch to end. (7 sts)

Work 3 rows in dc.

Next row Dc2tog at each end of row. (5 sts)
Repeat last row once more. (3 sts)

Work 1 row dc.

Now increase 1 dc at each end of next and following row. (7 sts)

Work 4 rows dc and fasten off.

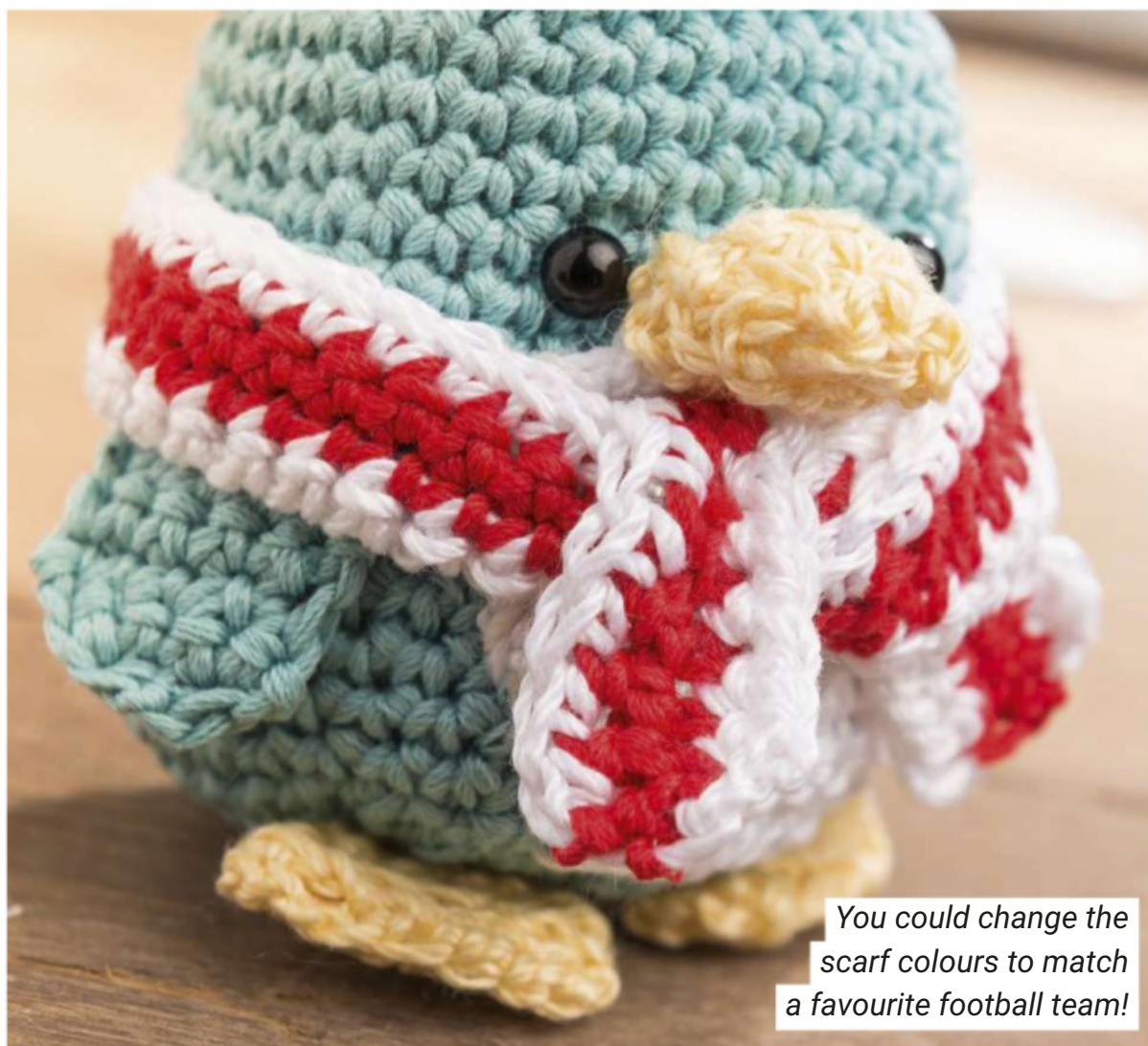
Fold in half and sew the side seams. Pad lightly with a tiny bit of stuffing. Sew to the base of the body.

Red breast

Using 3mm hook and Red, make 2ch, work 6dc into 2nd ch from hook, join into a circle with a ss.

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

Next round 1ch *1dc into next dc, 2dc



into next dc; rep to end, join as before. (18 sts)

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

Next round 1ch, *1dc into each of next 3 dc, 2dc into next dc; rep to end, join as before and fasten off. (30 sts)
Pin in place on front of body, using picture as a guide, then sew in place.

Feet (make 2)

Using 3mm hook and Yellow, make 4ch, 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1dc into each dc to end. (3 sts)

Next row 1dc into each dc to end.

Next row Inc 1 dc at each end of row. (5 sts)
Work 2 rows in dc.

Next row *5ch, ss into same st; rep from * 4 times more. Fasten off.

Carefully sew the loops together to form the tiny toes on each foot. Sew feet to base, angling them outwards slightly.

Beak

Using 3mm hook and Yellow, beg with 2ch, 3dc into 2nd ch. (3 sts)

Next row 1dc into ch to end, turn.

Next row Inc in first and last dc. (5 sts)
Work 4 rows in dc.

Next row Dc2tog at each end of row. (3 sts)

Next row Dc3tog and fasten off.

Fold beak into a diamond shape, sew to front of body above red breast. Sew an eye on either side of beak.

Wings (make 2)

Using 3mm hook and Brown, make 2ch, work 3dc into 2nd ch from hook, turn. (3 sts)

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

Work 4 rows dc on these sts.

Next row Dc2tog, work in dc to last 2 sts, dc2tog. (3 sts)

Dc3tog. Fasten off.

Sew a wing to either side of the body.

Hat

Using 3mm hook and Blue, make 2ch, 6dc into 2nd ch from hook, join with a ss.

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

Join in White.



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

Join in Blue.

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

Join in White.

Next round Work 1dc into each dc to end, join as before.

Join in Blue.

Next round Work 1 row dc in Blue, turn and work from other side.

Next round *1dc in next dc, 2dc into next dc; rep from * around, join as before. (36 sts)

Next round 1dc into each dc to end, join and fasten off.

Glue a tiny white bobble to the top of the hat. Sew hat onto Robin's head. 💙

Gerry & Ginnie

We're just dotty for these adorable giraffes from **DROPS**

Top tip

Make a Christmassy pair of giraffes in shades of red and cream!



You will need

For small giraffe

- DROPS Safran, 1 ball each in:
Strong Yellow (shade 11)
Light Brown (shade 22)
Small amount of Black for eyes
and horns
- 3mm (UK 11, US C/2) hook
- Toy stuffing

For large giraffe

- DROPS Paris, 1 ball each in:
Peach (shade 27)
Medium Pink (shade 33)
Small amount of Black for eyes
and horns
- 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) hook
- Toy stuffing

Measurements

- Small: approx. 15cm (6in) high x 9cm (3½in) long
- Large: approx. 21cm (8¼in) high x 13cm (5in) long

Tension

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

Abbreviations

- For standard abbreviations see page 82

About this yarn

DROPS Safran

100% cotton
160m per 50g
Machine wash at 40°C
£1.15

DROPS Paris

100% cotton
75m per 50g
Machine wash at 40°C
95p, for stockists visit
www.garnstudio.com

Fill those stockings with toys galore to wake up to on Christmas morning! This little giraffe is a cute size for babies, while the bigger one would be ideal for an older child. We love their cottony softness and simple embroidery detail, which is easy to recreate. If you want to make the pair, start with the smaller giraffe – to make the larger one, follow the same pattern but simply switch yarns and increase your hook size.

SMALL GIRAFFE

Worked from the top of head, down the neck and along the body. Legs, tail, ears, horn and spots are worked separately and sew on at the end.

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

Head, neck & body

Using Strong Yellow and a 3mm hook, ch4, join with a ss in first ch to make a ring.

Round 1 Work 5dc in ch-ring.

Round 2 Work 2dc in each dc. (10 dc)
Turn with 1ch, then work back and forth in one.

Rows 3-7 Work 1dc in every dc back and forth (= opening for snout, which is worked later).

Rounds 8-20 Work 1dc in each dc in a spiral without joining with a ss, up to the middle on top of neck.

Round 21 Work 1dc in each of the first 4 dc, 2dc in each of the next 2 dc, and 1dc in each of the last 4 dc. (12 dc)

Round 22 Work 1dc in each of the first 5 dc, 2dc in each of the next 2 dc, and 1dc in each of the last 5 dc. (14 dc)

Row 23 Work 1dc in each of the first 12 dc, turn piece with 1ch, now work back and forth in one for chest.

Row 24 (WS) Skip the first dc, 1dc in each of the next 10 dc, turn with 1ch.

Row 25 (RS) Skip the first dc, 1dc in each of the next 8 dc, turn with 1ch.

Row 26 (WS) Skip the first dc, 1dc in each

of the next 6 dc, turn with 1ch.

Row 27 (RS) Skip the first dc, 1dc in each of the next 4 dc, turn with 1ch.

Row 28 (WS) Skip the first dc, 1dc in each of the next 2 dc, turn with 1ch.

Row 29 (RS) Skip first dc, then work 4dc, turn with 1ch.

Row 30 (WS) Skip first dc, then work 6dc, turn with 1ch.

Row 31 (RS) Skip first dc, then work 8dc, turn with 1ch.

Row 32 (WS) Skip first dc, then work 10dc, turn with 1ch.

Row 33 (RS) Skip first dc, then work 12dc, turn with 1ch.

Row 34 (WS) Skip first dc, then work 14dc, turn with 1ch.

Now continue in the round again.

Round 35 Work dc around the entire opening, inc evenly so that there are 22 dc in total.

Rounds 36-45 Continue in the round with 10 rounds dc.

Round 46 Work dc, at the same time dec 4 dc evenly by working 2 dc tog. (18 dc)

Round 47 Work dc, at the same time dec 4 dc evenly by working 2 dc tog. (14 dc)

Round 48 Work dc, at the same time dec 4 dc evenly by working 2 dc tog. (10 dc)

Round 49 (Dc2tog) 5 times. (5 dc)

Cut the yarn, baste it around the opening, tighten tog and fasten off.

Snout

Using Strong Yellow, work 14dc around the opening at the front of head. Insert 1 marker mid-top of head.

Work 3 rounds, with 1dc in every dc while at the same time working the 2 middle dc at top of head tog. (11 dc)

Giraffe duo

Top Tip

Gradually fill the giraffes with small pieces of toy stuffing as you work

Switch to Light Brown.

Continue with 1 round dc while at the same time working the 2 middle dc on top of head tog on every round. (10 dc)

Next round (Dc2tog) 5 times. (5 dc)

Fasten off with a long tail.

Put some stuffing in snout, baste the yarn end around the opening, tighten tog and fasten off.

Leg (make 4)

Using Light Brown, ch4, join with a ss in first ch to make a ring.

Round 1 6dc in ch-ring.

Round 2 *1dc in first dc, 2dc in next dc; repeat from *. (9 dc)

Fasten off.

Rounds 3-8 Switch to Strong Yellow and work 1dc in every dc in the round.

Fasten off.

Stuff legs and sew them to the underside of body.

Tail

Using Light Brown, ch7 then work 3htr in 2nd ch from hook, then 1 ss in each of the last 5 ch.

Fasten off and sew the tail to the back of body so that it stands up.

Ear (make 2)

Using Light Brown, ch4, then work 1dtr in first ch, 3ch and 1 ss at the bottom of dtr, fasten off.

Sew ears to top of head.

Horn (make 2)

Using Black, ch5, then work 1htr in 2nd ch from hook, then work 1dc in each of the last 3 ch, fasten off.

Sew horns to top of head, on the inside of ears.



This cutie is worked in classic giraffe shades for a realistic finish

Spot (work 5)

Using Light Brown, ch4, join with a ss in first ch to make a ring.

Then work 6dc in ch-ring, and finish with 1 ss in first dc, fasten off.

Sew on spots. Embroider eyes with Black.

LARGE GIRAFFE

Work as Small giraffe, but using a 4mm hook and Paris yarn.

Replace Strong Yellow with Peach and replace Light Brown with Medium Pink. ♥



Top tip

Working with cotton yarn can be hard on the hands, so take regular breaks



Beep beep!

These little cars from **DROPS** are wheely cute, and make lovely stocking fillers for car-crazy kids!



Small but perfectly formed, these mini motors are a great way to use up balls of cotton yarn from your stash, in all the colours of the rainbow. Make sure you keep your stitches nice and tight throughout, and stuff the cars evenly – without overstuffing – to get the perfect shape. They're so much fun to hook, why not create a whole garage-full to delight a little one on Christmas Day? Unlike many toys, these cars don't need batteries, so the imaginative play can start straightaway!

You will need

- **DROPS Paris, 1 ball each in:**
 - Grey Blue (shade 30)
 - Coral (shade 38)
 - Off White (shade 17)
 - Black (shade 15)
 - Strong Yellow (shade 14)
- **4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook**
- **Toy stuffing**

Measurements

- **Approx. 12cm (4¾in) long x 8cm (3¼in) high**

Tension

- **17 sts and 20 rows to 10cm (4in) over dc, using a 4mm (UK 8, US G/6) crochet hook**

Abbreviations

- **For standard abbreviations see page 82**

About this yarn

DROPS Paris

100% cotton

75m per 50g

Machine wash at 40°C

95p, for stockists visit

www.garnstudio.com

CAR

Wheel (make 4)

Using car colour of your choice and a 4mm hook, ch4, ss to first ch to make a ring.

Work A.1 in the round. (9 dc)

Fasten off, fill the wheel with stuffing and put aside.

Car body

Work A.2 back and forth (= car roof and flaps down over the windows) with the colour of the car.

When A.2 has been worked, work A.3 in the round over sts/rows in A.2 (= the windows).

Section marked with grey = A.2, section has already been worked, it only shows how next round should be worked in sts.

Work first round in A.3 with the colour of the car, then work with Off White until 1 round remains.

On last round place flaps down over windows and work together with corners in A.3 with the colour of the car (see the squares in A.2). (32 dc)

Fasten off the Off White strand.

Work the rest of car in the colour of the car.

Work A.4 back and forth over the first 8 sts (= front of car).

Increase 1 dc in each side on first round. (10 dc)

When A.4 has been worked, work A.5 in the round over all sts/rounds in A.4 and the remaining stitches in A.3 (= the sides, mid front and mid back on car).

On 4th round in A.5 work the wheels on car as follows:

Fold last round on wheel double and work 1 dc through both layers of wheels and 4th row in A.5, work 2 dc in total through all 3 layers (= the wheel is now fastened with 2 dc to the car), work all 4 wheels to the car the same way. (54 dc)

Fasten off.

Light (make 2)

Work A.6 with Strong Yellow. Cut the thread and tie ends together.

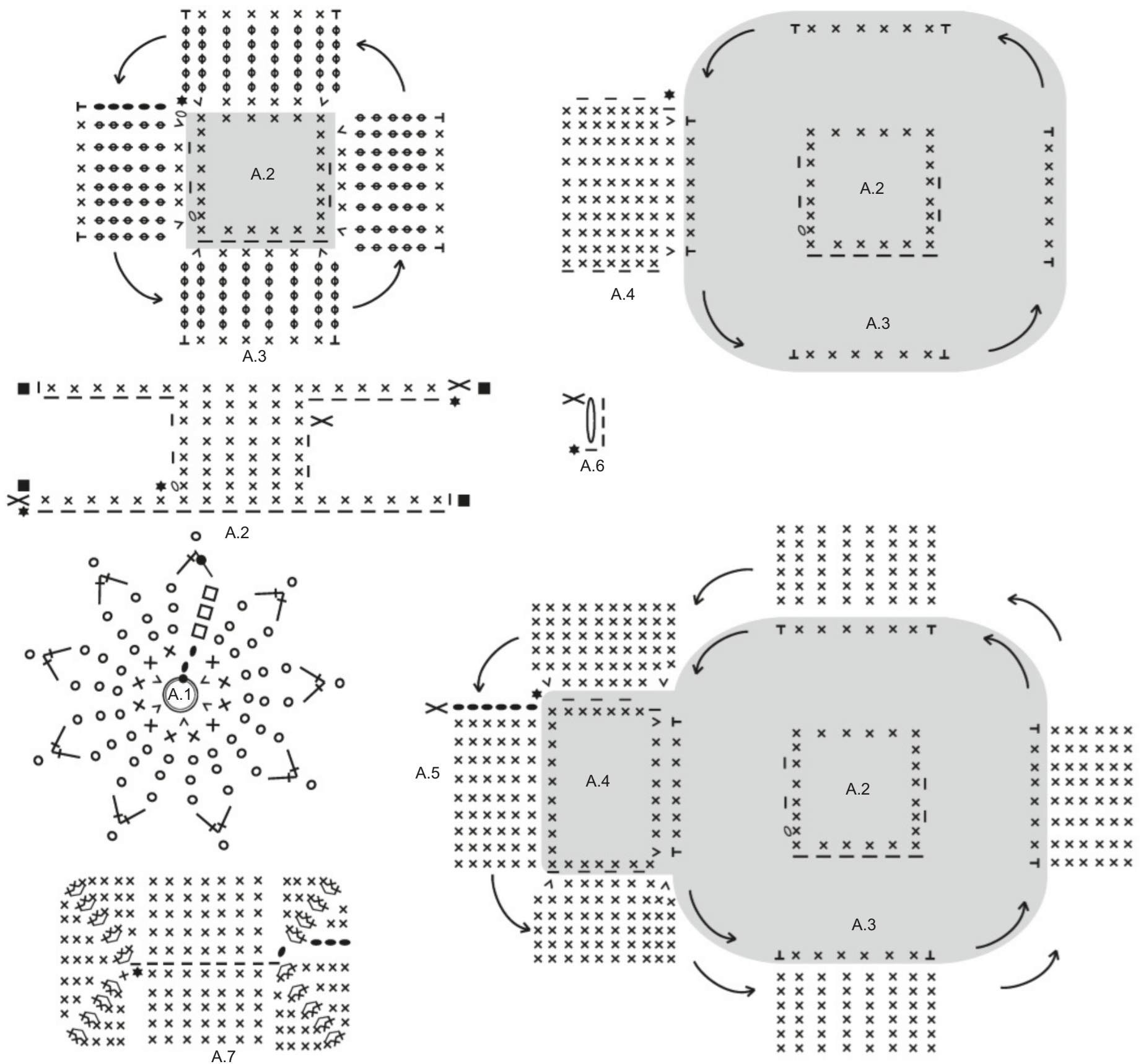
Sew light to the front of car. Fill the car with some stuffing. Then work the bottom loosely in the round before working it together with the car.

Bottom

Using car colour and 4mm hook, ch9 and work A.7, work on both sides of chain stitch row. (54 dc)

Work the bottom to car with 1 dc through both layers in the round, over all sts.

Fasten off. ♥



Key

- × Dc in stitch/row with the colour of the car
- chain stitch with the colour of the car
- 0 1 ss and 1 chain stitch with the colour of the car
- ∨ 2 dc in same stitch/row with the colour of the car
- T In car colour: 1 dc but work this stitch tog with flaps on roof, see square in A.2, i.e. work through both layers, first time this is worked (= at beginning of round) work 1 chain stitch, 1 dc through both layers (i.e. in the middle of flap), finish round with 1 ss in first dc
- ★ Begin row/round here
- ✂ Fasten off
- Work flaps together with last round in A.3 later
- ⊕ Double crochet with Off White
- work 1 chain stitch, 1 dc in next st / around chain stitch ring, finish round with 1 ss in first dc (work with same colour as next stitch)
- In Black: dc in st, first time this is worked (= at beginning of round) work 1 chain stitch, 1 dc in first stitch
- In Black: 1 chain stitch, 1 dc in stitch, finish round with 1 ss in first dc
- ⌵ In Black: work 2 tr together
- ⌵ In Black: 3 chain stitch (replace first tr), skip 1 stitch, 1 tr in next stitch, finish round with 1 ss in first tr at beginning of round
- In car colour: 4 chain stitches and form a ring with 1 ss in first chain stitch
- In Strong Yellow: Work 3 tr together in same chain stitch as follows: Work 1 tr in chain stitch, but wait with last pull through (= 2 loops on hook), work 2 tr more in same stitch, but on last pull through pull yarn through all 4 loops on hook
- ⌵ In car colour: Work 3 dc in same stitch, when this is worked at the beg of a round, begin with 1 chain stitch, then work 3 dc in first stitch on previous round, finish round with 1 ss in first dc

Crochet essentials

Over the next few pages, you'll find simple step-by-step guides to many useful stitches and techniques that you'll use every time you pick up a hook.

Holding the hook

■ TRY THESE METHODS AND SEE WHICH WORKS BEST



PENCIL METHOD
Hold the hook like a pencil, in your right hand (if you're right-handed), about 3-5cm from the hooked end. If your hook has a flat area, you'll find it comfortable to hold it here.



KNIFE METHOD
Hold the hook between your thumb and forefinger, about 3-5cm from the hooked end, resting the end of the hook against your palm. This will give you lots of control.

Holding the yarn

■ EVEN TENSION RESULTS IN EVEN STITCHES



METHOD ONE
Pass the ball end of the yarn between the little finger and third finger of your left hand (if you are right-handed), then behind the third and middle fingers, over your index finger.



METHOD TWO
Loop the ball end of the yarn loosely around the little finger of your left hand, then take it over the third finger, behind the middle finger and over your index finger.

Making a slipknot ■ THE FIRST LOOP ON THE HOOK



1 Hold the tail of the ball of yarn in your left hand and drape the yarn clockwise over the top of it to form a circular loop.



2 Hold the loop between your left thumb and forefinger, then insert the crochet hook through the centre of the loop from front to back.



3 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook and pull it back through the centre of the loop, taking the yarn through with it.



4 Pull both ends of the yarn to tighten the knot, then pull just the ball end to tighten the loop so it's close to the hook, but not touching it.

Chain stitch ■ USE THIS STITCH TO MAKE YOUR FOUNDATION CHAIN



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



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



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

How to count chains



Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Never count your first slipknot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). So that you can be accurate, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.

Slip stitch (ss)

■ THIS STITCH HAS NO HEIGHT – OFTEN USED TO JOIN ROUNDS



1 The slip stitch is used to join a length of chain into the round. Insert the hook from front to back into the first chain you worked. Wrap yarn round the hook (yrh) in an anticlockwise direction.



2 Pull the yarn through the chain stitch (as shown) and then the loop already on the hook to make a slip stitch. You can also work this stitch into each stitch along a row to form a neat edging.

Working in rows

■ FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE RULES TO CONSTRUCT CROCHET FABRIC



1 The first row is made by working across the foundation chain from right to left. At the end of the chain or row, turn the work so that the yarn is behind the hook.



2 For the next row, first make the turning chain for the stitch you're about to work. Now work the next stitch into the top of the stitches on your first row, missing the first stitch.

Double crochet (dc) US term: single crochet

■ ONE OF THE KEY STITCHES IN CROCHET, DOUBLES ARE SIMPLE, COMPACT STITCHES THAT FORM A DENSE FABRIC



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



2 Wind the yarn around the hook (yrh).



3 Pull the yarn through the stitch, giving you two loops on your crochet hook.



4 Yarn round hook again, then pull the yarn through both loops. You have made a double crochet stitch and will have one loop left on the hook, ready to do the next stitch.

Half treble crochet (htr) US term: half double crochet

■ A HANDY STITCH THAT'S BETWEEN DOUBLE AND TREBLE CROCHET IN SIZE, AND LOOKS SLIGHTLY LOOSER THAN DOUBLE CROCHET



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



2 Insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch in the previous row. Wrap yarn around the hook again (yrh).



3 Pull the yarn through the stitch only (3 loops on hook).



4 Yarn round hook again, pull the yarn through all 3 loops. You've made a half treble crochet. Continue working htr into next and following sts to the end of the row.

Treble crochet (tr) US term: double crochet

ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR STITCHES IN CROCHET, THIS SIMPLE STITCH IS TWICE AS HIGH AS A DOUBLE CROCHET STITCH



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



2 Wrap the yarn around the hook (yrh) and pull the yarn through the stitch only.



3 You will now have 3 loops on the hook. Yrh again, and draw the yarn through just the first 2 loops on the hook.



4 You will now have 2 loops on the hook. Yrh again and draw the yarn through the remaining loops on the hook. Your treble crochet is complete.

Double Treble crochet (dtr) US term: treble crochet

This is a stitch regularly used as an elongated version of the treble (described above). It's worked in a very similar way to the treble, as follows:

- 1 Make a foundation chain. Skip 4ch, *yrh twice, and insert the hook under the top loop of the next ch.
- 2 Yrh, pull the yarn through the ch loop only (4 loops on hook).
- 3 Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (3 loops on hook). Yrh

- and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (2 loops on hook).
- 4 Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops. Repeat from * to make more dtr sts.
- 5 To make the next row of dtr, turn work and ch4. This turning chain counts as the first dtr in a new row. Skip first st at the base of the t-ch, work 1dtr under the top two loops of the 2nd stitch in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

Triple Treble crochet (ttr) US term: double treble crochet

This is one of the longest standard crochet stitches and is mainly used in fancy stitch patterns. It's taller than a double treble crochet stitch (described left) and is worked in a very similar way, as follows:

- 1 Make a foundation ch. Skip 5 ch, *yrh 3 times, insert hook under top loop of next ch.
- 2 Yrh, pull yarn through ch loop only (5 loops on hook).

- 3 + Yrh, draw loop through 2 loops only. Repeat from + 3 times more and your triple treble will be finished. Repeat from * to make more ttr sts.
- 4 To make the next row, turn work and ch5. This turning chain counts as the first triple treble in a new row. Skip first st at base of the t-ch. Work 1 triple treble, inserting hook under the top 2 loops of the 2nd st in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

Turning Chain (t-ch)

FOR AN EVEN FINISH, START EACH ROW WITH A TURNING CHAIN

In crochet, you need to add turning chains (t-chs) to the beginning of rows. The reason for this is to bring the hook up to the height of the stitches you're crocheting. Each basic stitch has its own number of chains. The

table below tells you how many t-ch sts form the first stitch. *For dc, usually the turning chain does not count as a stitch and the first stitch of the row is worked into the stitch at the base of the turning chain.

STITCH	Add to foundation chain before starting row	Skip at start of foundation row (counts as first st)	For turning chain (counts as first st)
Double crochet	1 ch	1 ch*	1 ch*
Half treble	1 ch	2 ch	2 ch
Treble	2 ch	3 ch	3 ch
Double treble	3 ch	4 ch	4 ch
Triple treble	4 ch	5 ch	5 ch

How to count stitches

CHECK YOUR WORK IS CORRECT

Being able to count your stitches is very important and helps you to ensure that you're following a pattern correctly. It's a good idea to count your stitches at the end of every row. To count short stitches such as double crochet, look at the plaited tops (see above right). For taller stitches, count the upright 'stems' – each 'stem' is counted as a stitch (see right).



How to change colour

■ CREATE STRIPES AND OTHER COLOUR EFFECTS



1 Before you work the final yrh (yarn round hook) on the last stitch of a row in the old colour, drop the old yarn and pick up the new one with your hook.



2 Pull through a loop of the new yarn to finish the old stitch. The working loop will be in the new colour. Continue, keeping the old yarn at the wrong side.

Increasing and decreasing

■ SHAPING STITCHES ARE VITAL FOR MAKING GARMENTS



INCREASE To increase one stitch is very simple – work one stitch into the next stitch on the row below. When you've finished, work another stitch into the same stitch.



DECREASE For a quick decrease, just skip one stitch. For a neater look, work the first part of one stitch and then begin the next stitch. Finish both together.

Sewing seams

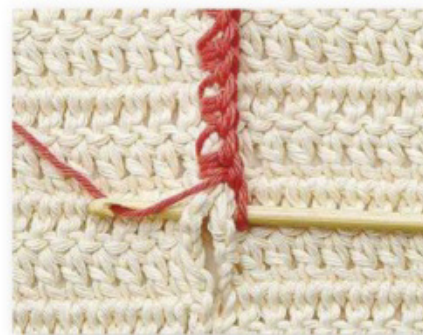
■ YOU CAN JOIN CROCHET SEAMS BY USING A TAPESTRY NEEDLE OR A CROCHET HOOK, USING ONE OF THESE FOUR METHODS.



1 Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet right sides together and oversew them as shown above, using a tapestry or yarn needle.



2 To slip stitch a seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together. *Insert hook into both edge stitches, yrh and pull through to complete 1 slip stitch; rep from * working into the next edge stitches, keeping work fairly loose.



3 For a dc seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together, or wrong sides together for a visible seam. Work as for slip stitch seam, using double crochet instead of slip stitch.

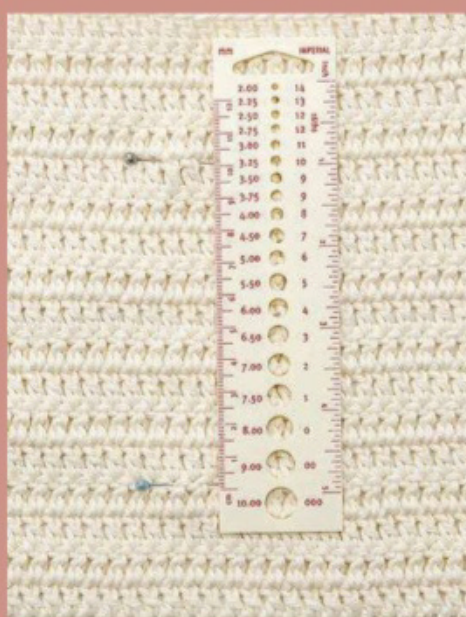


4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

How to check your tension

■ MAKE AND MEASURE A SWATCH TO CHECK YOUR TENSION

Most crochet patterns state the tension required, in rows and stitches of a specific type. Make a swatch at least 15cm square and check that your tension matches. Place a ruler across the swatch and insert two pins, 10cm apart. Then place the ruler along a column of stitches and insert two pins 10cm apart. Count the stitches and rows between the pins – if you have less than the pattern, your tension is too loose so you need to use a smaller hook, but if you have too many, use a larger hook. It's usually better to match the stitches than rows, because you can always work more or fewer rows.



Foundation ring

■ CREATE A FOUNDATION RING FOR WORKING IN THE ROUND



1 Make a chain the length stated in the pattern instructions. Next, insert the crochet hook into the first chain. Close the ring with a slip stitch, working yrh...



2 ...and pull yarn through 2 loops on hook. Now you're ready to start crocheting in the round, following the instructions given right.

Working stitches into a ring

■ TO MAKE CIRCLES, TUBES AND OTHER SHAPES



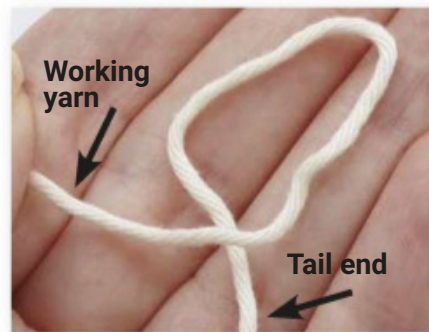
1 Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



2 Finish the treble as usual (yrh, pull yarn through ring, yrh, pull yarn through first 2 loops, yrh, pull yarn through 2 loops). Work more sts into the ring as needed.

Working a magic loop

■ AN ALTERNATIVE FOUNDATION RING FOR WORKING IN THE ROUND



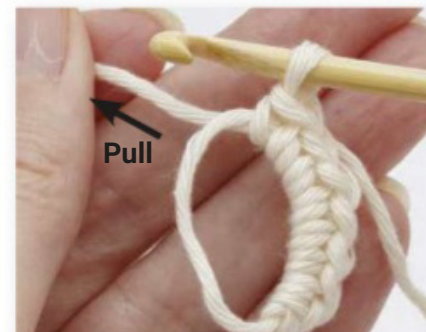
1 To start a magic loop, don't make a slipknot. Instead, make a loop with the yarn, leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is under the working yarn.



2 Now insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn around the hook and pull the yarn through the loop.



3 Make a t-ch for the sts you want to work (above, we made 1 t-ch for dc). Work your sts into the Magic Loop, over both the loop and the tail end (so two yarn strands).



4 Once you've worked the first round of stitches, simply pull the tail end of yarn to draw up the ring. Work a slip stitch to join the last and first sts to finish the first round (as instructed below).

Joining rounds

■ FINISH OFF EACH ROUND OF CROCHET STITCHES NICE AND NEATLY BY USING A SLIP STITCH



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



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



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

Rounds or spirals

■ CHECK WHICH TECHNIQUE TO USE

Some patterns are worked in rounds that are joined together at the end of each round (see left). Other patterns are worked in a spiral so you don't need to join the rounds at the end, just keep going, working into the next stitch on the previous row. Amigurumi toys are often worked in a spiral like this.

How to follow a crochet pattern

USE OUR HANDY GUIDE BELOW IF YOU'RE NEW TO CROCHET

Top tips

You'll find expert's top tips and ideas throughout *Love Crochet*, to help you add to your skills.

Top tip

One ball of each yarn is enough to make all three of these beautiful items

About this yarn

Details about the weight, cost and length of yarn.

You will need

Our shopping list tells you what hooks to use, how much yarn to buy and whether you need any extra items such as buttons or embroidery thread.

Tension

The tension tells you how many rows and stitches you need to crochet to the correct size. Make a tension square to ensure you're getting it right before you start to crochet.

Crochet chart key

Some of the patterns in this issue feature a crochet chart. Here's a guide to the symbols featured.

-  Chain
-  Slip stitch
-  Double Crochet (DC)
-  Half treble crochet (htr)
-  Treble crochet (tr)
-  Double treble crochet (dtr)
-  Triple treble crochet (trtr)
-  Double crochet (dc2tog)
-  Double crochet 3tog (dc3tog)
-  Treble crochet 2tog (tr2tog)
-  Treble crochet 3tog (tc3tog)
-  3 treble crochet cluster
-  3htr cluster
-  5tr popcorn
-  5tr shell
-  Chain 3 picot
-  Front post treble (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...

- Managing Director, Craft **Kerry Lawrence**
- Associate Publisher **Debora Bradley**
- Editor **Amanda Robinson**
- Art Editor **Tricia Ball**
- Publishing Director **Cath Potter**
- Group Managing Director **Andy Marshall**
- Brand Sales Executive **Alexandra Johnson**
- Production Director **Sarah Powell**
- Production Manager **Sarah Greenhalgh**
- Subscriptions Director **Jacky Perales-Morris**
- Direct Sales Manager **Kevin Slaughter**
- Reprographics **Tony Hunt, Chris Sutch**
- Photography **Steve Sayers, Philip Sowels**
- Distribution **Frontline**
- Printed in the UK by **William Gibbons**
- A special thank you to contributors:
Jo Benner, Poppy Benner, Jenny May, Val Pierce, Joanne Scrace, Liz Ward
- Pattern checker & technical editor
Jo Benner patternhelp@immediate.co.uk

Order hotline and customer enquiries

To order a single copy of *Love Crochet* or any of our wonderful sewing, baking or craft magazines, please call the order hotline on 0844 844 0388. The line is open on weekdays from 8am-8pm and on Saturday from 9am-1pm.

Copyright guidelines

Unauthorised reproduction of this magazine, in whole or part, is prohibited without written permission of the publisher. This magazine is not to be resold, lent or hired out for more than the recommended retail price or in part.

Immediate Media is working to ensure that all of its paper is sourced from well-managed forests. This magazine can be recycled, for use in newspapers and packaging. Please remove any gifts, samples or wrapping and dispose of it at your local collection point.

We abide by IPSO’s rules and regulations. To give feedback about our magazines, please visit www.immediate.co.uk, email editorialcomplaints@immediate.co.uk or write to the Editor at the address below.



Love Crochet is published by:
Immediate Media Limited,
9th Floor, Tower House,
Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN.
Tel: 0117 927 9009
Fax: 0117 934 9008

Immediate Media is a company dedicated to producing the very best consumer specialist magazines. Magazines are edited and designed to inform our readers, enhance their lives and give them the best value for money possible.
© Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited 2019

We take great care to ensure all elements of *Love Crochet* are accurate. However, we accept no liability for any misprints or mistakes that appear in this magazine.

Love Crochet

Save when you subscribe to the digital edition



Have your hooks at the ready with *Love Crochet's* amazing collection of sweet and small projects

You'll never miss an issue of your favourite magazine when you subscribe to the bi-monthly digital edition of *Love Crochet*!

The gorgeous range of patterns, designed to suit every skill level, look stunning on the screen in full colour and will inspire you to crochet for everyone – family, friends and yourself! In every issue, there's also news, best buys, reviews and an easy-to-follow beginner's tutorial. With so much amazing crochet inspiration, your biggest problem will be where to get started!

Subscribe today!

Get Love Crochet delivered direct to your device

**SIMPLY TAP HERE TO
SUBSCRIBE AND SAVE**