



Simply Crochet

HOOKED ON HANDMADE



**FAB
FRINGE!**

**HELLO
SPRING**
STITCH THE
NEW SEASON

22
PATTERNS
INSIDE

**HOOKING
FOR EASTER**

Basket, bunting, eggs and more



*Put a spring
in your stitch*



LoveCrochet.com

0800 802 1189

15% OFF your next order
with the code **SCMAR16***

*Terms & conditions apply



Simply Crochet

HOOKED ON HANDMADE

Easter treats aren't the only crochet treasures you'll find in this issue – there's a rainbow shawlette, amigurumi caravan and pastel poncho to get your hook into. Not to mention plenty of exciting new techniques to learn. The hunt is on.



Simply Crochet

ISSUE FORTY-TWO

CONTENTS



34
EMBRACE
LACE



**HAPPY
EASTER!**
P16



GREAT PATTERNS FOR YOU

16 EASTER IDEAS

Our collection of egg-citing springtime toys, decorations and accessories in colourful cottons.

31 RAINBOW SHAWLETTE

Cécile Balladino's showstopping multi-coloured accessory.

34 LACY JUMPER

A beautiful garment with eyelet lace details. By Fran Morgan.

44 CROCHET CARAVAN

A whimsical make from Kate Bruning's latest pattern book.

51 BABY BLANKET

Try corner-to-corner crochet and make a snuggly bunny blanket.

56 FRINGED PONCHO

A striking poncho with a clever geometric pattern repeat.

61 JUMPER EMBELLISHMENT

Spruce up a plain top with this rather jazzy crochet trim.

65 BACK LOOP STITCH

Three high-vis makes with simple back loop texture.

73 BUNNY DÉCOR

Adorable bunny tops and tails for your table.

83 LOOPY BRACELET

Why not have a go at broomstick crochet?

95 MAKE A MOTIF

Hook Lucy Croft's colourful hexagon.



← PLUS A
TUNISIAN
CROCHET
BOOK

101



Wherever you see our C icon on pattern pages, that's where to start crocheting.

All our patterns use **UK terms**. If you usually crochet from US patterns, turn to page 92 for a conversion table.

61

STOCKMAN
PARIS
BREVETÉ S.M.D.G.

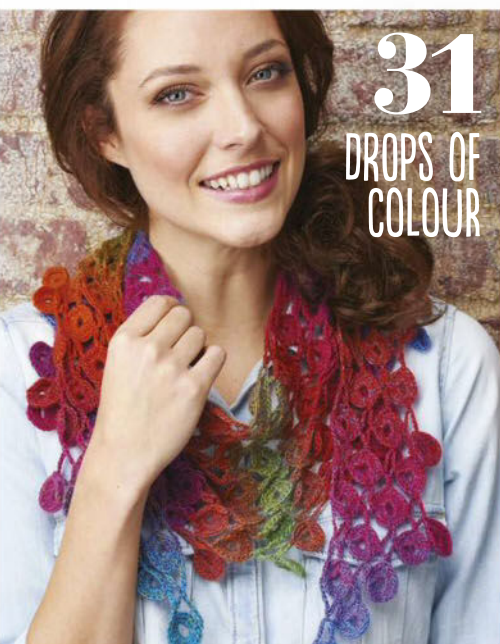




73



56
PASTEL
PRETTY



31
DROPS OF
COLOUR



44



Bright Bunting p20



SPRING FORWARD

At last! Spring has arrived and brought with it a new sense of creativity and anticipation. It's the perfect time to dig those bright colours out of your stash and get your hook into something exciting. Cécile Balladino's rainbow shawlette on p31 is a beauty, and I'm smitten with the clever corner-to-corner blanket on p51 – it's such an effective technique. We're loving Tunisian crochet this month, too – you'll find our bonus pattern collection includes how-to info and tips from top designers. Let's do this!

Sara

Sara Huntington, Editor

GOOD READS

09 HOOKED

Ideas, websites, events, yarn, stuff!

42 PROJECTS ON THE GO

Kat Goldin's makes are multiplying.

50 HOOKING TO HEAL

Kathryn Vercillo shares her story.

54 PROFILE: ANNA WILKINSON

Pompoms and vintage inspiration.

68 CRAFT AS THERAPY

The health benefits of crochet.

76 READERS' PAGE

Showcasing your projects.

78 YARN REVIEWS

New yarns for spring and summer.

97 NEXT MONTH

A little look ahead at issue 43.

98 HOOKY TREASURE

Designer Joanne Scrace tells us about a very special project.

HOW TO...

80 THE WORKSHOP

Improve your skills and learn the basics of broomstick crochet.

87 THE GUIDE

Our handy step-by-steps will help you keep your stitches on track.



51
SLEEPY
BUNNY



66



83

SUBSCRIBE NEVER MISS AN ISSUE! SUBSCRIBE ON P40 OR AT WWW.BUYSUBSCRIPTIONS.COM/SCR2W

CONTRIBUTORS

WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT THIS CREATIVE BUNCH . . .



ANNA WILKINSON

Anna's a talented, Pinterest-loving crochet and knitwear designer. Over on page 54, she's revealing her inspirations, top design secrets and on-the-sofa stitching habits. Get comfy.



JOANNE SCRACE

Shawl enthusiast and technical editor Joanne often designs for The Crochet Project. This issue, she's sharing a very special story behind one of her favourite designs. You'll find it on page 98.



CÉCILE BALLADINO

French designer Cécile has many strings to her bow – she's also an author and a crochet tutor, too. This issue, you'll find her beautiful rainbow shawlette pattern on page 31.



KATHRYN VERCILLO

Crochet Concupiscence blogger Kathryn spills the beans about her latest book on page 50 and discusses the benefits crochet can have on our mental and physical health on page 68.

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Kyle Books, Kate Bruning, Lucy Croft, Hannah Cross, Judy Darley, Anne Egan, Becky Garratt, Kat Goldin, Sara Huntington, Fran Morgan, Becca Parker, Lynne Rowe, Becky Skuse, Louise Smith, Kath Webber

WWW.SIMPLYCROCHETMAG.COM

[facebook.com/simplycrochetmag](https://www.facebook.com/simplycrochetmag) twitter.com/SimplyCrochet [pinterest.com/simpcrochetmag](https://www.pinterest.com/simpcrochetmag) [ravelry.com/groups/simply-crochet](https://www.ravelry.com/groups/simply-crochet)

COMPETITION RULES By Promoter: Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited ("Promoter"). By taking part in one of our Competitions, you agree to be bound by these Competition Rules. Late or incomplete entries will be disqualified. No responsibility accepted for lost, delayed, ineligible or fraudulent entries. Proof of posting (if relevant) shall not be deemed proof of delivery. Entries must be submitted by an individual (not via any agency or similar) and, unless otherwise stated, are limited to one per household. The Promoter reserves the right in its sole discretion to substitute any prize with cash or a prize of comparable value. Unless otherwise stated, the Competition is open to all UK residents of 18 years and over, except employees of the Promoter and any party involved in the competition or their households. By entering a Competition you give permission to use your name, likeness and personal information in connection with the Competition and for promotional purposes. All entries will become the property of the Promoter upon receipt and will not be returned. You warrant that the Competition entry is entirely your own work and not copied or adapted from any other source. If you are a winner, you may have to provide additional information. Details of winners will be available on request within three months of the closing date. If you are a winner, receipt by you of any prize is conditional upon you complying with (among other things) the Competition Rules. You acknowledge and agree that neither the Promoter nor any associated third parties shall have any liability to you in connection with your use and/or possession of your prize. The draw is final and no correspondence will be entered into. If any winner is unable to be contacted within one month of the closing date, the Promoter will offer the prize to a runner-up. Promoter reserves the right to substitute the prize with one of the same or greater value but there is no cash alternative. Competitions in issue 42 are open from 00:01 on 3 March 2016 until 11:59pm on 30 March 2016. For Terms and Conditions of the competition on page 76, see www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk

Simply Crochet

Commissioning Editor Sara Huntington
Art Editor Charlene Lim
Technical Assistant Cara Medus
Production Editor Becca Parker
Deputy Art Editor Kim Saunders
Digital Editor Kate Evans
Cover Photography Phil SOWELS
Photography Philip SOWELS, Jesse Wild, Dave Caudery

Senior Art Editor Louise Day
Editor in Chief Debora Bradley
Group Senior Editor Julie Taylor

ADVERTISING

Call 0117 300 8206
Senior Advertising Manager Penny Stokes
Account Sales Manager Rachael Hawkins
Senior Brand Sales Executive Amanda Harvey

MARKETING & SUBSCRIPTIONS

Direct Marketing Executive Kate Jones

CIRCULATION

Head of Newstrade Marketing Martin Hoskins
Newstrade Marketing Manager Janine Smith

PRODUCTION

Production Controller Stephanie Smith
Production Manager Emma McGuinness / Sian Rodgers
Production Director Sarah Powell

BUYING TEAM

Paul Torre, Karen Flannigan, Corinne Mellerup

LICENSING

Senior Licensing & Syndication Manager Tim Hudson

PUBLISHING

Craft Publishing Director Kerry Lawrence
Managing Director, Bristol Andy Marshall
Chairman Stephen Alexander
Chief Executive Officer Tom Bureau

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Call 0844 576 7871 or subscribe online at
www.buysubscriptions.com/craft

NEED TO GET IN TOUCH?

EDITORIAL TEAM

simplycrochet@immediate.co.uk

SUBSCRIPTIONS TEAM

simplycrochet@servicehelpline.co.uk
01795 419 845

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE
THURSDAY 31 MARCH 2016

No gift included? Ask your newsagent.
Covergift may be unavailable overseas.

IMMEDIATE
MEDIA CO

Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited (company number 05715415) is registered in England and Wales. The registered office of Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited is at Vineyard House, 44 Brook Green, London W6 7BT. All information contained in this magazine is for information only and is, as far as we are aware, correct at the time of going to press. Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited cannot accept any responsibility for errors or inaccuracies in such information. Readers are advised to contact manufacturers and retailers directly with regard to the price of products/services referred to in this magazine. If you submit unsolicited material to us, you automatically grant Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited a licence to publish your submission in whole or in part in all editions of the magazine, including licensed editions worldwide and in any physical or digital format throughout the world. Any material you submit is sent at your risk. Although every care is taken, neither Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited nor its employees agents or subcontractors shall be liable for loss or damage.



kpc
hand knit yarns

20% off
on all yarns

Use code:

MERINO20

from March 1st to 31st 2016

www.kpcyarn.com

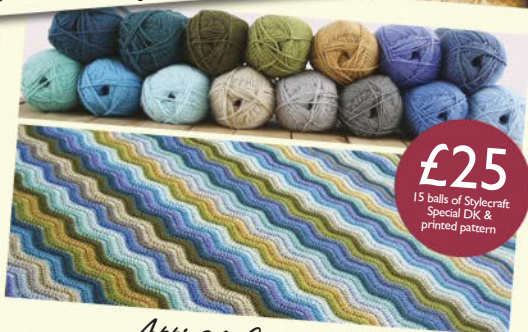
MAKE YOUR OWN ATTIC24 CROCHET PROJECTS!



£28.50

18 balls of Stylecraft Special DK

Attic24 Sunny Pack



£25

15 balls of Stylecraft Special DK & printed pattern

Attic24 Coast Pack



£27

17 balls of Stylecraft Special DK & printed pattern

Attic24 Harmony Pack



£25

15 balls of Stylecraft Special DK & printed pattern

Attic24 Cottage Pack

Take a peek into Lucy from Attic24's colourful world!
www.attic24.typepad.com

All these packs and more available now at
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk/attic24



Order online: www.woolwarehouse.co.uk
Order over the telephone: 01926 882818 or 0800 505 3300
Email us: yarn@woolwarehouse.co.uk

No minimum order. FREE delivery on UK orders over £25.
£2.95 delivery charge for UK orders under £25.

Get Knitted

...for all your knitting & crochet needs



Stockists of
James C Brett,
King Cole, Sirdar,
Rico, Stylecraft,
KnitPro & Clover

Yarns, books,
patterns,
needles, hooks
& more!

In-store loyalty scheme

Open Monday-Friday 9.30-5.00

Saturday 10.00-5.00

39 Brislington Hill, Bristol BS4 5BE

0117 300 5211 www.getknitted.com



zing
ADD Colour TO Life

Gorgeous Light Metal
Needles from
KnitPro™
FOR THOSE WHO LOVE TO KNIT
www.knitpro.eu

HOOKED

IDEAS ♥ INSPIRATION ♥ ACCESSORIES ♥ WEBSITES ♥ EVENTS ♥ STUFF



ALL THE FUN OF THE FAROES

Fancy a fibre-centric holiday in the Faroe Islands? We've put together an inspiring seven-night trip with Arena Travel and our sister mags *Simply Knitting* and *The Knitter*. It runs July 15-22 and includes sightseeing, visits to wool producers Navia and Snældan, meeting local crafters, plus workshops hosted by knitting expert Juliet Bernard. To find out more about the Knitting in the Faroe Islands trip, visit www.arenatravel.com/faroe or call 01473 660800. Turn to page 64 for further details.





BUNNY GIRL

■ Are you using your *Simply Crochet* 2016 calendar? You might have spotted this egg-collecting cutie by Ilaria Caliri gracing the March pages. The pattern first appeared in issue 29. If you missed it at the time, panic not – you can now buy the pattern on Ravelry for £2.75. See <http://bit.lySCravelry>. We think she would make an adorable gift for Easter. Get your amigurumi on.



OH HELLO HIYAMA

Delicate filet crochet and subtle kimono vibes – Lisa Richardson's Hiyama design is a triumph. It's the sole crochet pattern featured in Rowan's latest *Knitting and Crochet* magazine issue 59, but what a design. Hooked in Rowan's Summerlite 4ply yarn, it would make a super-stylish cover-up for warmer days. Filet crochet projects tend to have a more traditional look, but the bold shapes used here and the loose silhouette keep it feeling fresh and modern. Visit www.knitrowan.com or call 01484 681881 to find a stockist.

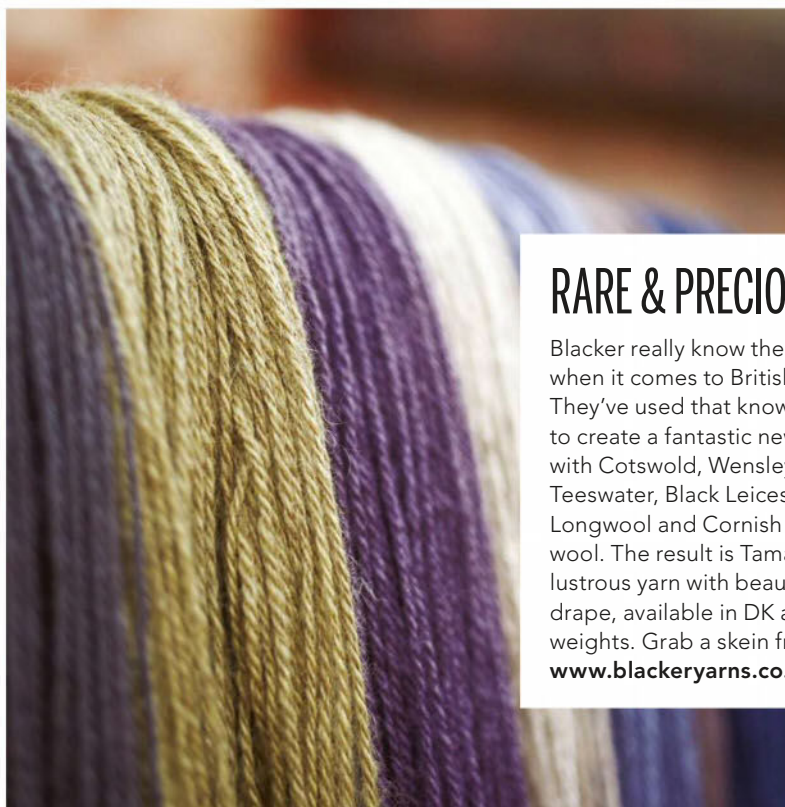


Crafty pro and *A Beautiful Mess* contributor Rachel Denbow has put together an e-course that could be right up your street. She told us: "This course is a giant pep talk in making room for creativity in your life, as well as practical ways to find out what that looks like to you. I talk about my creative process, tools I use to generate new ideas, how to avoid creative burnout, specific exercises to stretch your boundaries, and the value of community, plus I have six artist interviews with some of my favourite boss ladies, and have three exclusive hand-lettered art prints from an artist friend." In need of a boost? Sign up for Cultivate Your Creativity at www.smileandwave.typepad.com

PERFECT FOR PLAY

Toadstool cottages, farm animals and more – the latest toy pattern collection from Peter Pan is brimming with whimsical amigurumi projects. All of the designs in *Crochet Toys Book 371* are suitable for beginners and worked in Peter Pan's DK yarn. There's a sweet Farmhouse Playset and Gnome Home playset to make, plus crochet versions of traditional board games. To track down the booklet and yarn, find your local TB Ramsden stockist at www.tbamsden.co.uk





RARE & PRECIOUS

Blacker really know their stuff when it comes to British wool. They've used that knowledge to create a fantastic new yarn with Cotswold, Wensleydale, Teeswater, Black Leicester Longwool and Cornish Mule wool. The result is Tamar, a lustrous yarn with beautiful drape, available in DK and 4ply weights. Grab a skein from www.blackeryarns.co.uk

MAKE IT SEASONAL

We couldn't be happier that spring is here. Let the new season inspire your makes.

- 1 **CLEAR OUT**
Rid your stash of winter leftovers you won't use.
- 2 **IN WITH THE NEW**
Check out our review of new season yarns on page 78.
- 3 **COLOUR MATCH**
Take snaps of any spring colours you spot, then find yarns to match in your stash.
- 4 **MAKE A START**
Crack on with any garments for the warmer weather.
- 5 **BUDDING ARTIST**
Got a favourite spring bloom? Search Pinterest for a pattern to hook your own.

SUPER SARI

This dinky crocheted pouch bag is made with vibrant sari fabric. You can find it in pink or blue for £25 at www.uk.accessorize.com



INSPIRING BOOKS

ANIMAL HEADS

Vanessa Mooncie

(£14.99, GMC)

Get a faux taxidermy fix with this imaginative crochet trophy head collection. There are 10 striking animal designs to make, from a meek mouse to a ferocious bear, each beautifully photographed and charted. It's perfect if you're after a challenge.



VINTAGE STYLE CROCHET PROJECTS

Agnieszka Strycharska

(£14.95, Tuva)

If granny chic homestyle is your thing, be sure to grab a copy of this gem. Inside are 32 vintage-inspired projects to make, including bags, cushions, blankets, potholders, coasters and more, all in 4ply cotton.



TAKE A BALL OF STRING

Jemima Schlee

(£12.99, GMC)

Go back to basics and draw inspiration from a humble ball of string. You can knit, weave or crochet 16 practical, understated accessories with this book. There are how-tos for all the techniques.



EDGINGS FOR KIDS

Cony Larsen

(£9.99, Leisure Arts)

It's easy to add a sweet, handmade touch to children's garments with fancy crochet edgings. This beginner-friendly guide will teach you how to work and attach exciting trims, and it even comes with a special piercing crochet hook.



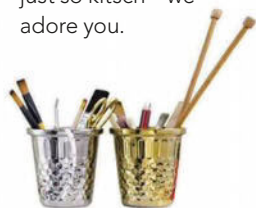


IN POMPOM PARADISE

Love a pom? Strengthen your pompom game with the help of an exciting new book. *Pomponia* (£10) by top crafter Christine Leech features 30 fun and oh-so fluffy projects. There are garlands galore, plus everything you need to know about trimming, shaping and mixing in colours to make pretty patterns. And that's to say nothing of the pompom cacti, ice creams, sushi and Pompomeranian. It's published by Quadrille. Visit www.quadrille.co.uk

THUMBS UP

■ We've always got our eyes peeled for creative new ways to store our crochet hooks and crafty bits (confession: there's a lot). These super-cool, Giant Thimble Tidies are bang on-trend with their metallic shine, and big enough to make you feel like a Borrower. They're ceramic, too, so they won't be tipping over any time soon. Head over to www.berylune.co.uk and you'll find them for just £10.95 a pop. There's gold or silver to choose from. Oh craft-themed craft storage, you're just so kitsch – we adore you.



LEARNING CURVE

Here's a date for your diary – Wonderwool Wales is taking place on April 24-25 this year, at the Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells. One of the best things about this fibre event is the emphasis on learning. There'll be Wool School workshops covering everything from spinning and dyeing to felting and weaving. It's a great opportunity to sharpen your skills and pick up some fantastic yarns and notions, too. Tickets are from £10, workshops are priced individually. Find out more at www.wonderwoolwales.co.uk

Needle-felted fish brooches, photograph by Jenny Barnett

CELEBRATE SPRING



Why do wreaths only come out at Christmas? New seasons are always worth celebrating, especially if they bring sunshine and flowers. If you like it then you should put a ring on it. How about one of these beauties?

1. The Contemporary Home has a lovely range of rustic, egg-laden Easter wreaths if you don't fancy making your own – one of them even has bunny ears. Prices from £7. www.tch.net
2. Adore embellishments? Have a go at craft blogger Bev's pomtastic Spring Bunny Pompom Wreath, complete with mini bunting and a rabbit silhouette. Free tutorial at www.flamingotoes.com
3. Kath Webber's blossom and daffodil wreath from *Simply Crochet* issue 28 is still one of our favourites – what could be better than bright spring blooms? Flip across to page 86 to find out how you can track down our back issues.



HOOK A HOLIDAY

Check it out – there are two copies of designer Kate Bruning's amazing *Let's Go Camping* crochet pattern book up for grabs. To be in with a chance of winning, enter at <http://competition.immediate.co.uk/sc42books>. To make a cute caravan from the book, see page 44.

A GOOD YARN

Lots of my friends are expecting babies this summer and I'd like to make cotton blankets. What should I use?

We would recommend the supremely popular Sugar 'n Cream Solids yarn by Lily. It's a great-value, aran-weight 100% cotton yarn that comes in lots of fantastic colours. You can find the yarn for £2.29 per 70g ball at www.woolwarehouse.co.uk



Time to get out AND ABOUT...

SKILLS, SHOWS & EVENTS

APR 1-3 Spring Quilt Festival, £7, Westpoint Exhibition Centre, Exeter, 01406 372600 www.grosvenorshows.co.uk

APR 3 Top Down Crochet Raglan Workshop, £30, Knit Nottingham, Nottingham, 0115 947 4239 www.knitnottingham.co.uk

APR 9 Lily Pond Bag with Jane Crowfoot, £49.95, Black Sheep Wools, Warrington, 01925 764231 www.blacksheepwools.com

APR 16-17 Introduction to Tapestry Weaving, £125, WASPS Studio, Patriothall, Edinburgh, 07877 457332 www.fionahutchison.co.uk

APR 20 Social Stitching Group, £8, Bee Crafty, Ellington, Hunts, 01480 891746 www.beeincrafty.co.uk

APR 26 Crochet Sampler Blanket Workshop, £35.50, Tea and Crafting, Camden, London, 020 7097 1314 www.teaandcrafting.co.uk

5 FAB FINDS

Easter parade
Crafty treasures and treats for celebrating the season



MAKE A NEST

We adore blogger Carmen's loopy nest and pretty pastel eggs. Find the free patterns at www.craftyqueens.nl



LITTLE LAMB

Use scrummy wool to stitch Simon the Sheep. Amigurumi kits available from www.thetoftalpacashop.co.uk

BUNNY BAG

Silhouettes take rabbits from sweet to chic. This cool oilcloth shopper is from www.annabeljames.co.uk



EGG-CITING DIY

Pick up an egg-painting kit from www.noths.com. Kids will love creating their own bright Easter designs.



CHICKS RULE

CrochetPerfect has some fab amigurumi Easter patterns in her store. See www.en.dawanda.com for cool chicks.





HANG OUT

■ If you've got a bit of a penchant for pendant lamps, you need to get a look at this monochrome shade. Black and white stripes, lacy motifs and a deep fringe – it's like the 1970s called and they want to move in. And we don't mind at all. It's a Yanissa design, available from the aptly-named Out There Interiors for £69. Visit www.outthereinteriors.com



How much are you loving this issue's bonus Tunisian crochet pattern collection? We think it's one of the best yet, with five covetable designs for your home. Plus, all of the detailed how-to info for the various Tunisian techniques used is at the back of the booklet. Feel like you might need an extra helping hand to get your head round those trickier stitches? We've got you covered. Just visit our *Simply Crochet* YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/SimplyCrochetMag and you'll find a special series of video tutorials all about Tunisian crochet. We'll take you through how to do Tunisian Simple Stitch, Tunisian Knit Stitch and Tunisian Purl Stitch. You'll soon get the hang of it.

NEW FROM SUBLIME

A strokably soft, cotton-blend chainette yarn in a palette of delectable pastels and brights? It can only be Sublime's new Evie yarn. The aran-weight offering comes in 10 tempting shades and has a subtle sheen. We've even got a design in Evie this issue – turn to page 51 to hook Kath Webber's sleepy bunny snuggle blanket. So cute. Find out what else is new for spring and summer 2016 in our review on page 78.

THIS MONTH WE LOVE...

Super-creative Instagrammer @alicebyday has a positively swoon-worthy feed. We just can't get enough of her muted colour choices and dreamy crocheted blooms. So inspiring. The lady behind the account is Norwegian crocheter Alice Haugen. She has a passion for both yarn crafts and flowery blankets and seems to have an incredible eye for picking glorious colour palettes. OK, we might be gushing a bit now. Get thee to Instagram and follow along. You'll soon see what we're on about.





Stylecraft

SPRING/SUMMER
CROCHET DESIGNS



Malabar DK
cotton with silk

For your nearest stockist telephone 01535 609798 Stay up-to-date   www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

🥚 HAVE A ★

♥ HAPPY 🥚

EASTER



CUTE CHICK

Despite the warnings, sometimes we are inclined to put all of our eggs in one basket. If you're entertaining the idea, those eggs had better be going in a suitable handmade receptacle. This cute basket's spot on for Easter egg hunts.

EGGS-PRESS YOURSELF

Hand-painted eggs are lovely, but they just don't have that yarny quality we love so much. Get cracking with these not-so-fragile amigurumi versions, and you can have fun playing around with stripes and embroidery. No yoke.



SUNNY SIDE UP

Celebrate spring with our candy-coloured Easter accessories – there's something for everybunny.

EASTER IDEAS



NO BUN INTENDED

Hook a high-fibre Easter treat that will last long after all the eggs have been scooped. The ears on this super-cute bunny headband are made with wire so they're fully posable – just the thing for little rabbits with big personalities.

WONDERFUL EWE

Puddle-splashing prep time – whip up a pair or two of these baa-rilant, lamb-adorned welly boot toppers before the April showers hit. They're sure to put a spring in your step. Read on to find the pattern in child and adult sizes.







EASTER IDEAS



EASTER PARADE

If decorating is your thing, this bunny bunting needs to be top of your to-hook list. The colourful rabbit silhouettes play host to felt letters to spell out your spring salutation. And can we talk about those dinky carrots? Padded for extra cuteness.

TAKE A SHELFIE

This trio of easy-peasy, egg-shaped beanie toys by Hannah Cross is hooked in amigurumi. Working in the back loop only gives a smooth, distinctive finish and the dangly legs are made with chains. Chick, lamb or bunny? You decide.



BASKET & MINI EGGS

Stage your own egg hunt with these handmade goodies by Becky Garratt.

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of each: Ombre (N39), Pistache (N13), Rose Soraya (N32), Safran (N47), Tournesol (N16); 2 balls of Turquoise (N49)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Fabric for lining (optional)
- Small amount of toy stuffing
- Small amount of black felt and glue

MEASUREMENTS

Basket: 13cm (5in) circ x 10cm (4in) height

NOTES

Pieces are worked in a continuous spiral using the amigurumi method (without joining each round with a ss). Use a stitch marker to mark first dc of round and move marker up after every round.

BASKET

Using Turquoise yarn doubled and a 3.5mm hook, make a magic loop.

- Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), 8dc into the ring. [8 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [16 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [24 sts]

Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [32 sts]

Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [40 sts]

Round 6 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [48 sts]

Round 7 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [56 sts]

Round 8 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [64 sts]

Round 9 (Dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [72 sts]

Round 10 Dc in bl of each st around. Cont in the round with no further inc until the sides of the basket measure 10cm from Round 10 to top. **Fasten off.**

HANDLE

Using Turquoise yarn doubled, join in any st along the top of the basket.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in next 5 sts, turn. Rep Row 1 until the handle measures 25cm, or required length.

Fasten off and sew the handle to the opposite side of the basket.

CHICK FACE

Using Tournesol and a 3mm hook, ch6.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each of next 3 sts, 3dc in next st, rotate and work along opposite side of ch, dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in same st as first dc. [12 sts]

Round 2 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc

in each of next 2 sts) twice. [16 sts]

Round 3 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, 2dc in next st) twice. [20 sts]

Round 4 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [24 sts]

Round 5 (Dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [28 sts]

Round 6 (Dc in each of next 8 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [32 sts]

Round 7 (Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [36 sts]

Round 8 (Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [40 sts]

Rounds 9-12 Dc in each stitch around. **Fasten off.**

BEAK

Using Safran and a 3mm hook, ch6.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each of next 3 sts, 3dc in next st, rotate and work along opposite side of ch, dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in same st as first dc. [12 sts]

Round 2 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in each of next 2 sts) twice. [16 sts]

Rounds 3-4 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off. Add stuffing, sew to Face. Cut black felt circles for eyes and sew

EASTER IDEAS

or glue onto Face. Stuff Face and sew to Basket front.

WINGS AND TAIL (MAKE 6)

Using Tournesol and a 3mm hook, ch6.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each of next 4 sts, turn. [5 sts]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, turn. [6 sts]

Row 3 Ch1, dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts, turn. [7 sts]

Row 4 Ch1, dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts, turn. [8 sts]

Row 5 Ch1, dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, turn. [9 sts]

Row 6 Ch1, dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, turn. [10 sts]

Row 7 Ch2, skip st at base of beg ch-2, 6tr in next st, skip next st, dc in next st, skip next st, 6tr in next st, skip next st, dc in next st, skip next st, 6tr in next st, ss in same st as the last 6 tr. **Fasten off.** Sew pairs tog, then sew onto basket at sides for wings and at the back for tail.

FEET (MAKE 2)

Using Safran and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 4 Dc in next st, (ch6, ss in 2nd ch from hook, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, tr in each of next 2 ch, dc in next st along main piece, dc in next st) twice, ch6, ss in 2nd ch from hook, dc in next

ch, htr in next ch, tr in each of next 2 ch, dc in next st on main piece, ss in next st. **Fasten off.** Sew to base of basket.

FLOWER (MAKE 4)

Using either Rose Soraya or Turquoise and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 10dc into the loop, ss to first dc to join. [10 sts]

Round 2 *(Htr, tr, htr) in next st, ss in next st; rep from * another 4 times. [5 petals] **Fasten off.**

LEAF (MAKE 2)

Using Pistache and a 3mm hook, ch8.

Round 1 (RS) Ss in second ch from hook, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, 2tr in next ch, htr in next ch, dc in next ch, ss in last ch, ch1, rotate and work along opposite side of ch, ss in next st; mirror the sts on the other side of the ch, ss to first st. **Fasten off.**

Sew flowers and leaves into bunches and sew onto each side of the handle.

TO FINISH

Weave in remaining ends.

Line basket with fabric (optional).

EGGS (MAKE APPROX 14)

Using Rose Soraya, Pistache, Turquoise or Ombre and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch1 (does not count as st),

4dc into the loop. [4 sts]

Round 2 (2dc in next st, dc in next st) twice. [6 sts]

Round 3 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts) twice. [8 sts]

Round 4 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [10 sts]

Round 5 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [12 sts]

Round 6 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [15 sts]

Round 7 Dc in each st around.

Round 8 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]

Round 9 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [15 sts]

Round 10 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]

Round 11 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]

Stuff. **Fasten off** and sew up the gap.

DECORATED EGGS

Anne Egan's vibrant crocheted eggs make great Easter decorations.

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of each: Ivory (N02), Ombre (N39), Pistache (N13), Rose Soraya (N32), Safran (N47), Tournesol (N16), Turquoise (N49)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- Polystyrene eggs, 9.5cm (3¾in) high
- Stitch marker



EASTER IDEAS



MEASUREMENTS

9.5x15cm (3¾x6in) (at widest point)

ABBREVIATIONS

Double crochet 5 sts together (dc5tog)
(Insert hook into next st, pull up a loop) 5 times, yrh, pull through all loops on hook

NOTES

Eggs are worked in a continuous spiral using the amigurumi method (without joining each round with a ss). Use a stitch marker to mark first dc of round and move marker up after every round. Embroidery is added and a polystyrene egg is placed inside the work before the egg is completed. Always change colour in last yrh of previous st.

VARIATIONS

Egg 1 Use Turquoise throughout, embroider dots in Tournesol.
Egg 2 Use Pistache for Rounds 1-11, then for Rounds 12-16 work 4dc in Rose Soraya and 4dc in Pistache around, then use Rose Soraya for Rounds 17-24.
Egg 3 Use Tournesol for Rounds 1-10, then for Rounds 11-16 work 1 round in each different colour of your choice, then use Tournesol for Rounds 17-24.
Egg 4 Use Pistache for Rounds 1-9 and Ivory for Rounds 10-24, then embroider grass in Pistache and the Rabbit outline in Ombre.
Egg 5 Use Rose Soraya for Rounds 1-13, Ombre for Round 14, Rose Soraya for Rounds 15-16, Turquoise for Round 17, and Rose Soraya for Rounds 18-24.



Egg 6 Use Ombre throughout, then embroider stars in Ivory.

Egg 7 Use Tournesol for Rounds 1-7, Safran for Rounds 8-16, then Ivory for Rounds 17-24, then embroider zigzags in Ivory.

Egg 8 Use Pistache for Rounds 1-11 and Safran for Rounds 12-24.

STANDARD EASTER EGG

Using chosen colour, ch2.

Round 1 (RS) 4dc in second ch from hook.

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [8 sts]

Round 3 (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 4 times. [12 sts]

Round 4 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts) 4 times. [16 sts]

Round 5 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts) 4 times. [20 sts]

Round 6 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts) 4 times. [24 sts]

Round 7 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts) 4 times. [28 sts]

Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.

Round 10 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 13 sts) twice. [30 sts]

Round 11 Dc in each st around.

Round 12 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 14 sts) twice. [32 sts]

Rounds 13-18 Dc in each st around.

Round 19 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 14 sts) twice. [30 sts]

With RS facing outwards, insert polystyrene egg, narrow end first.

Round 20 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 13 sts) twice. [28 sts]

Round 21 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts) 4 times. [24 sts]

Round 22 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 23 (Dc2tog, dc in next dc) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 24 (Dc5tog, dc in next dc) twice. [4 sts]

Ss in next st to smooth edge.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BUNNY EARS

Somebunny's got to wear it – a cute fancy dress headband by Anne Egan.

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of Ivory (N02), small amount of Rose Soraya (N32)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- A plastic hair band, 40cm (15¾in) long, 4.2cm (1½in) diameter at widest part
- 4 pipe cleaners, 30cm (12in) long

MEASUREMENTS

Ear height 16cm (40½in)

NOTES

Inside and outside of ears are worked in rows, then the edges are joined while crocheting over pipe cleaners to give structure. Ears bent to shape and attached to Headband Cover, which is stitched tightly over the hair band. Work the Front Ears following the Chart on page 93. Each square represents 1dc stitch. Read all RS rows from right to left and WS rows from left to right. When changing colour mid-row, twist the ends of the two colours together

EASTER IDEAS

(to avoid making a hole). Pick up the new colour in the last yrh of the prev stitch and carry the unused strands of yarn across the WS of the work. For the Headband Cover, increases and decreases should be made in the middle of the row. Increase by working 2dc in one stitch and decrease by working dc2tog.

EAR BACK (MAKE 2)

Using Ivory, ch16.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [15 sts]

Rows 2-19 Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), dc in each st to end, turn. [15 sts]

Row 20 Ch1, skip next dc, dc in each of next 12 dc, dc2tog, turn. [13 sts]

Rows 21-25 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 26 Ch1, skip next dc, dc in each of next 10 dc, dc2tog, turn. [11 sts]

Rows 27-30 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 31 Ch1, skip next dc, dc in each of next 8 dc, dc2tog, turn. [9 sts]

Rows 32-33 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 34 Ch1, skip next dc, dc in each of next 6 dc, dc2tog, turn. [7 sts]

Row 35 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 36 Ch1, skip next dc, dc in each of next 4 dc, dc2tog, turn. [5 sts]

Row 37 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 38 Ch1, skip next dc, dc in each of next 2 dc, dc2tog, turn. [3 sts]

Row 39 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 40 Ch1, skip next dc, dc2tog, turn. [1 st]

Rotate and work a row of dc evenly spaced around the outside of the Ear, ss to first dc. **Fasten off.**

EAR FRONT (MAKE 2)

Work as given for Ear Back, working an oval section in the centre using Rose Soraya (see Chart on page 93). See Notes above for information on how to use the Chart.

MAKING UP THE EARS

Place an Ear Back and an Ear Front together with WS facing and RS outermost. Hold a pipe cleaner against the edge and using Ivory, join the two edges with dc around, working over the pipe cleaner into a dc st from both layers. **Fasten off.**

HEADBAND COVER

Using Ivory, ch8.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [7 sts]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st to end, increasing by 1 st in the middle of the row, turn. [8 sts]

Row 3 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 4 Ch1, dc in each st to end, increasing by 1 st in the middle of the row, turn. [9 sts]

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

Rows 7-36 Rep Rows 2-6 another 6 times. [21 sts]

Rows 37-69 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 70 Ch1, dc in each st to end, decreasing by 1 st in the middle of the row, turn. [20 sts]

Row 71 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 72 Ch1, dc in each st to end, decreasing by 1 st in the middle of the row, turn. [19 sts]

Rows 73-74 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Rows 75-99 Rep Rows 70-74 another 5 times, turn. [9 sts]

Row 100 Ch1, dc in each st to end, decreasing by 1 st in the middle of the row, turn. [8 sts]

Row 101 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 102 Ch1, dc in each st to end, dec by 1 st in middle of the row, turn. [7 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

TO FINISH

Bend the bottom of each ear into a 'U' shape and attach centrally between the long edges on RS of the Headband Cover. Fold Headband Cover over hair band, pull long edges tog under the hair band and st tog so fit is snug.

Fasten off and weave ends into WS.

If hair band is different size than recommended, make sure the Headband Cover is twice the width of the plastic hair band. Start with narrow end and increase until wide enough, then decrease at same rate to opposite narrow end.

LAMB BOOT TOPPERS

Make matching pairs for you and your little one. Designed by Hannah Cross.

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% Cotton, 50g/155m), 2 balls of Safran (N47) for the Adult toppers, 1 ball of Safran (N47) for the Child toppers, 1 ball of each: Ivory (N02), Ombre (N39)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook

TENSION

25 sts and 20 rows measure 10x10cm (4x4in) using 3mm hook

MEASUREMENTS

Adult: to fit 37cm (14½in) circumference wellies. Actual size 33x16cm (13x6¼in)





EASTER IDEAS

Child: to fit 28cm (11in) circumference wellies. Actual size 24x12cm (9½x4¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

3-tr cluster (Yrh, insert hook in space/st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 3 times, inserting the hook in the same space/st each time, yrh and draw through all loops on hook
tr3tog (Yrh, insert hook in next stitch, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 3 times, yrh and draw through all loops on hook

NOTES

Make 2 Cuffs using Safran. For Adult size, work as instructed; for Child size, ch31 and work to Row 48. Make a Right and a Left lamb so that they are both facing forward. Sew the Head and Tail on the other side from the first one you make. Ch1 at the beginning of each row does not count as a st throughout.

CUFF (MAKE 2)

Using Safran, ch41 for Adult size or ch31 for Child size.

Row 1 (RS) Htr in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [40 htr or 30 htr]

Row 2 Ch1, dc in fl of each st, turn.

Row 3 Ch1, htr in bl of each st, turn. Rows 2 and 3 create the pattern.

Rows 4-66 Repeat Rows 2-3 (stop at Row 48 for Child size).

Fold in half, bringing first and last rows together with RS outermost. Join edges with ss to create cuff shape. **Fasten off.**

ADULT LAMB (MAKE 2)

BODY

Using Ivory, ch18.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook

and in each ch to end, turn. [17 sts]

Row 2 Ch1, dc in next st, *3-tr cluster in next st, dc in next st; rep from * to end, turn.

Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each st to last st, 2dc in last st, turn. [19 sts]

Row 4 As Row 2.

Row 5 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 6 Ch1, dc in next st, *dc in next st, 3-tr cluster in next st; rep from * to last 2 sts, dc in each of last 2 sts, turn.

Row 7 As Row 5.

Row 8 As Row 2.

Row 9 As Row 5.

Row 10 As Row 6.

Row 11 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [17 sts]

Row 12 Dc2tog, *3-tr cluster in next st, dc in next st; rep from * to last 3 sts, 3-tr cluster in next st, dc2tog, turn. [15 sts]. Now work a dc border evenly around the edge of the Body, ss in first dc to join. **Fasten off.**

HEAD

Work in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch.

Using Ombre, ch6.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook and in each of next 3 sts, 3dc in last st, rotate to work on other side of ch, dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in last st. [12 sts]

Round 2 *Dc in each of next 5 sts, 3dc in next st; rep from * once more. [16 sts]

Round 3 Htr in each of next 6 sts, 3htr in next st, htr in each of next 7 sts, 3htr in next st, htr in next st, ss to top of first st. [20 htr, 1 ss].

Continue for first Ear:

Ch6.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, htr in each of next 2 sts, dc in each of next 2 sts, ss back into the Head.

Join yarn to other side and repeat ear instruction for second Ear. **Fasten off.**

LEGS (MAKE 4 FOR EACH LAMB)

Using Ombre, ch8.

Row 1 3-tr cluster in second ch from hook. **Fasten off.** Sew into position, using the images as a guide.

CHILD LAMB (MAKE 2)

BODY

Using Ivory, ch14.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [13 sts]

Row 2 Ch1, dc in next st, *3-tr cluster in next st, dc in next st; rep from * to end, turn.

Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in next st, dc in each st to last st, 2dc in last st, turn. [15 sts]

Row 4 As Row 2.

Row 5 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 6 Ch1, dc in next st, *dc in next st, 3-tr cluster in next st; rep from * to last 2 sts, dc in each of last 2 sts, turn.

Row 7 As Row 5.

Row 8 As Row 2.

Row 9 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [13 sts]

Row 10 Dc2tog, *3-tr cluster in next st, dc in next st; rep from * to last 3 sts, 3-tr cluster in next st, dc2tog, turn. [11 sts]

Now work a dc border evenly around the edge of the Body, ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off.**

HEAD

Work in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch.

Using Ombre, ch4.

Round 1 Dc in second ch from hook and in next ch, 3dc in last st, rotate to work on other side of ch, dc in next st, 2dc in last st. [8 sts]

Round 2 *Dc in each of next 3 sts, 3dc in next st; rep from * to end. [12 sts]

Round 3 Htr in each of next 4 sts, 3htr in next st, htr in each of next 5 sts, 3htr in next st, htr in next st, ss to top of first st.

Continue for first Ear:

Ch5.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, htr in next ch, dc in each of next 2 ch, ss back into the Head. Join yarn to other side and rep Ear instruction for second Ear. **Fasten off.**

LEGS (MAKE 4 FOR EACH LAMB)

Using Ombre, ch6.

Row 1 3-tr cluster in second ch from hook. **Fasten off.** Sew into position, using the images as a guide.

TO FINISH

Fold the cuffs in half and sew each lamb body and legs in place. Making sure that you have a lamb on each outside edge of the cuff, sew the Heads in place so that they are facing the front.

Add a tail onto each body as follows:

TAIL

With WS of Body facing, join Ivory to top corner with a ss, ch1, tr3tog over the 3 corner sts. **Fasten off.**

EASTER IDEAS



BUNNY BUNTING

Festoon your walls for the season with bright bunting by Louise Smith.

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of each: Ivory (N02), Ombre (N39), Pistache (N13), Rose Soraya (N32), Safran (N47), Tournesol (N16), Turquoise (N49)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- A small amount of stuffing
- A sharp craft knife
- Piece of white felt (A4)
- Fabric glue

MEASUREMENTS

Rabbit Motif measures 12x8cm (4¾x3in)
Carrot measures 8cm (3in) high

NOTES

The Body, Head and Ears of the rabbit are worked as one piece and edged with a border.

Make 3 Rabbit Motifs in Tournesol and 2 in each of Pistache, Safran, Rose Soraya and Turquoise.

Make 4 carrots, one for each end of each piece of bunting.

RABBIT MOTIF (MAKE 11)

BODY

Using chosen colour, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 6dc into the loop, ss to first dc to join. [6 sts]

Round 2 Ch1, 2dc in each st around, ss to first dc. [12 sts]

Round 3 Ch1, *dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next st**, 2htr in each of next 2 sts, htr in each of next 2 sts, 2htr in each of next 2 sts; rep from * to **, ss to first dc. [10 htr, 8 dc]

Round 4 Ch1, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, *2htr in next st, htr in next st, 2htr in next st**, dc in each of next 4 sts; rep from * to **, dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, ss to first dc. [14 dc, 10 htr]

Round 5 Ch1, dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, *htr in next st, 2htr in next st, htr in next st**, dc in each of next 4 sts; rep from * to **, rep from beg to *, ss to first dc. [22 dc, 8 htr]

Round 6 Ch1, dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, htr in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, htr in each of next 3 sts, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, ss to first dc. [30 dc, 6 htr]

Round 7 Ch1, dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, htr in each



of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, htr in each of next 4 sts, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts, ss to first dc. [34 dc, 8 htr]

Round 8 Ch1, dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, htr in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st, htr in each of next 4 sts, dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts, ss to first dc. [40 dc, 8 htr]

HEAD

Ch2, ss in st at base of ch, turn.

Row 1 Ch1, 6dc in ch-2 sp, ss in same ch-2 sp, ss in next st on Body, turn. [6 sts]

Row 2 2dc in each of next 6 dc, ss in each of next 2 sts on Body, turn. [12 sts]

Row 3 *dc in next dc (skipping slip sts), 2dc in next dc; rep from * another 5 times, ss in each of next 2 sts on Body, turn. [18 sts]

Row 4 *dc in each of next 2 dc (skipping slip sts), 2dc in next dc; rep from * another 5 times, ss in each of next 2 sts on Body, turn. [24 sts]

Row 5 (dc in each of next 3 dc [skipping slip sts], 2dc in next dc) twice, dc in next dc, turn, **ch1, dc in each of next 2 sts, turn, ch1, 2dc in each of next 2 sts, turn, ch1, *dc in each of next 4 sts, turn; rep from * another 4 times, (dc2tog) twice, ss evenly down side of ear***, dc in each of next 2 sts on Head, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, turn; rep from ** to ***, dc in same st as previous dc on Head, (dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st)

EASTER IDEAS

twice, ss in next st on Body.

Fasten off.

Join Ivory with a ss to any st and dc evenly around edge (skipping corners to keep shape correct), ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

To prevent the edges of the bunny motifs from curling, hold a steam iron over the motif and press the steam button 5 or 6 times (do not put the iron directly onto the motif as this may ruin the fabric). Pin each bunny flat and leave to dry completely. Alternatively, spray each motif with cold water or spray starch, pin flat and leave to dry.

CARROT SIDE (MAKE 2 PER CARROT)

Using Safran, ch8.

Row 1 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [8 sts]

Row 2 Ch1, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st, turn. [10 sts]

Row 3 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Rows 4-5 As Row 3.

Row 6 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog, turn. [8 sts]

Rows 7-9 As Row 3.

Row 10 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog, turn. [6 sts]

Rows 11-12 As Row 3.

Row 13 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [4 sts]

Row 14 As Row 3.

Row 15 Ss in first st, dc in each of next 2 sts, ss in next st. [2 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

CARROT TOP (MAKE 1 PER CARROT)

Using Pistache, ch4.

Row 1 Ch1, dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [4 sts]

Row 2 Ch5, dc in second ch from hook and in each of next 3 ch, ss in next st, ch7, dc in second ch from hook and in each of next 5 ch, ss in next st, ch6, dc in second ch from hook and in each of next 4 ch, ss in next st, ch4, dc in second ch from hook and in each of next 2 ch, ss in st at base of ch.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP CARROT

Place 2 pieces of carrot together with WS facing and RS outermost. Sew tog starting at one corner – when you're halfway around, begin stuffing. When you reach the top, join Top of Carrot to

Carrot through the top-middle 4 sts of both pieces.

CORD

Make 2 cords measuring just under 1m. Using Ombre, ch desired amount.

Row 1 Htr in third ch from hook and in each ch to end.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Carefully draw and cut out the words 'HAPPY EASTER' using a craft knife and white felt. Glue these letters to the front stomach of each bunny, using the images as a guide.

Glue each bunny, by its ears, to the cord, approx 2cm (¾in) apart. Glue a carrot at each end of both words. Be sure to leave enough cord at each end to hang your bunting.

SHELF BUDDIES

Adorable beanie chick, lamb and rabbit, designed by Hannah Cross.

■ DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m), 1 ball of each: Ivory (N02), Rose Soraya (N32), Tournesol (N16), plus a small amount of Ombre (N39), Safran (N47)

■ A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook

■ Plastic pellets, 10g per project

MEASUREMENTS

8x6.5cm (3x2½in) without legs or ears

NOTES

Each Body is made using the same pattern, using Ivory for the Lamb, Rose Soraya for the Bunny and Tournesol for the Chick.

Work the Body in a continuous spiral using the amigurumi method (without joining each round with a ss). Work every round in the back loop only of each stitch.

BODY

Using chosen colour, ch2.

Round 1 (RS) 4dc in second ch from hook. [4 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [8 dc]

Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [12 sts]

Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [16 sts]

Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [20 sts]

Round 6 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [24 sts]

Round 7 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [28 sts]

Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.

Round 10 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [32 sts]

Rounds 11-12 Dc in each st around.

Round 13 (Dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [36 sts]



EASTER IDEAS

Rounds 14-19 Dc in each st around.

Round 20 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 21 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Stuff with the pellets before continuing.

Round 22 (Dc2tog) 12 times. [12 sts]

Round 23 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Thread onto tapestry needle and gather the last round to close the hole.

CHICK

Using Tournesol, make Body as given above.

WINGS (MAKE 2)

Using Tournesol, ch2.

Round 1 (RS) 4dc in second ch from hook. [4 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [8 sts]

Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [12 sts]

Round 4 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times, htr in next st, tr in next st, (tr, htr) in next st, ss to first dc. [12 dc, 2 tr, 2 htr]

Fasten off. Sew in place on Body.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using Safran, ch25.

Row 1 Ss in second ch from hook and in each of next 2 ch, *ch4, ss in second ch from hook and in each of next 2 ch, ss back into foundation ch; rep from * once more. **Fasten off**.

Tie the 2 legs tog at the top and sew to the centre front of the Body on the underside.

TUFT

Cut 3 pieces of Safran, approx 2cm long. Tie together and sew to the top centre of Body. Trim to the same length, ruffle and separate the cotton threads to create a tufted look.

EYES AND BEAK

Using the images as a guide, embroider 2 eyes with Ombre and satin stitch, then stitch a V-shaped beak in Safran.

BUNNY

Using Rose Soraya, make Body as given above.

EARS (MAKE 2 OUTER AND 2 INNER)

Using Rose Soraya, make 2 outer ears (work to end of Round 2).

Using Ivory, make 2 inner ears (work to

end of Round 1).

Using chosen colour, ch11.

Round 1 Dc in second ch from hook and in each of next 8 ch, 3dc in last ch, rotate to work along other side of ch, dc in each of next 9 ch, turn. [21 sts]

Round 2 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), htr in each of next 10 sts, 3tr in next st, htr in each of next 10 sts. [20 htr, 3 tr] **Fasten off**. Sew the inner ear on top of the outer. Pinch the ears tog at the bottom and sew in place on Body.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using Rose Soraya, ch22, join Ivory, ch4.

Row 1 Htr in second ch from hook and in each of next 2 ch, ss in next ch.

Fasten off.

Tie the 2 legs tog at the top and sew to the centre front of the Body on the underside.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using Rose Soraya ch5, join Ivory, ch3.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook and in next ch, ss in next ch.

Fasten off. Sew arms in place on Body.

TAIL

Using Ivory, ch2.

Round 1 (RS) 4dc in second ch from hook. [4 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [8 sts]

Round 3 (Dc2tog) 4 times. [4 sts]

Fasten off. Sew in place on Body.

EYES AND NOSE

Using the images as a guide, embroider 2 eyes with Ombre and a nose in Safran, using satin stitch. Embroider the rem facial features using Ombre.

LAMB

Using Ivory, make Body as given above.

EARS (MAKE 2 OUTER AND 2 INNER)

Using Ivory, make 2 outer ears (work to end of Round 2).

Using Rose Soraya, make 2 inner ears (work to end of Round 1).

Using chosen colour, ch8.

Round 1 (RS) Htr in second ch from hook and in each of next 5 ch, 3htr in last ch, rotate to work along opposite side of ch, htr in each of next 6 ch. [15 sts]

Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), htr in each of next 7 sts, 3htr in next st, htr in each of next 7 sts. [17 sts]



Fasten off.

Sew the inner ear on top of the outer ear. Pinch together at bottom and sew in place on Body.

TAIL

Work as given for Bunny.

LEGS

Work as given for Bunny, using Ivory and Ombre.

EYES AND NOSE

Using the images as a guide, embroider 2 eyes with Ombre, using satin stitch. Then add a nose with Ombre and straight stitches.



STOCKISTS

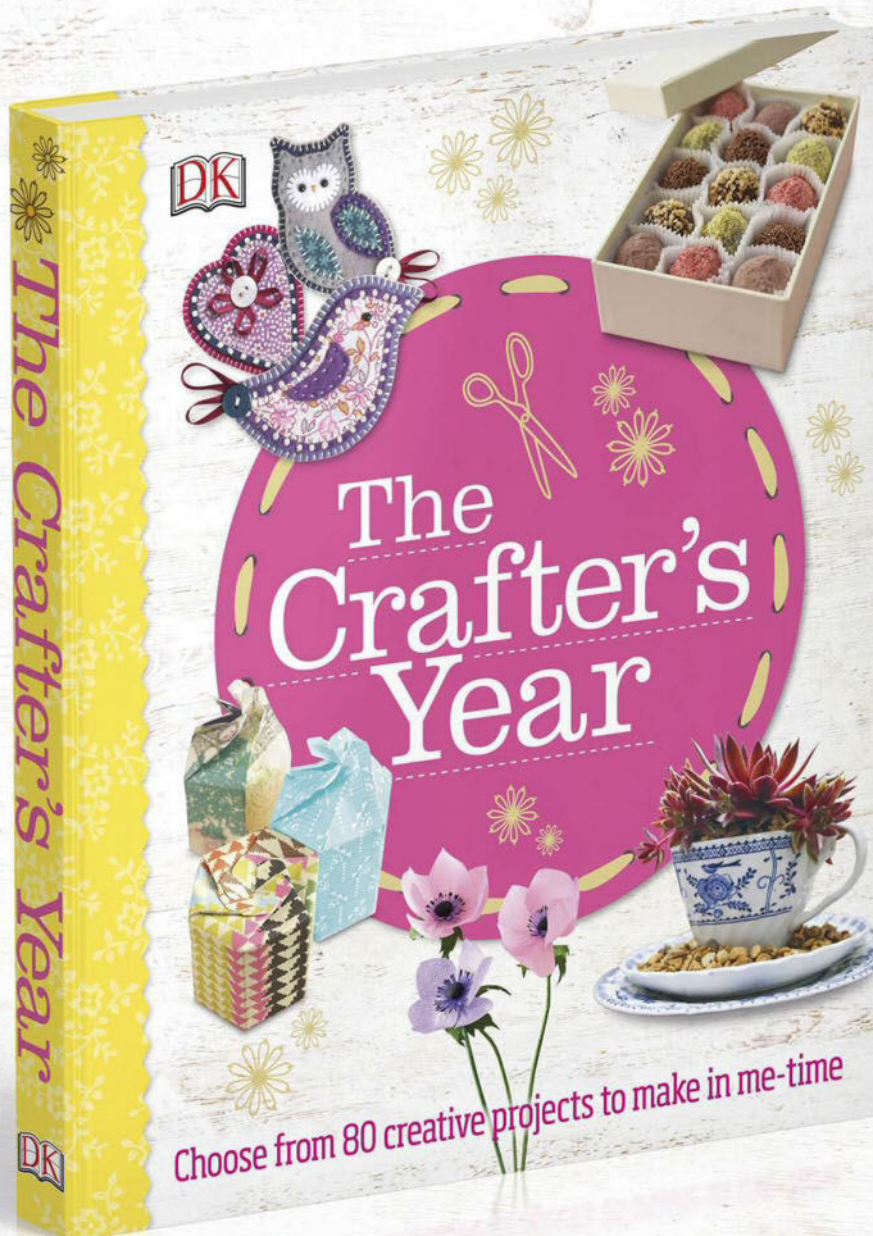
DMC 0116 275 4000

www.dmccreative.co.uk

Craft your way through the year

80

fabulous seasonal
projects



Jewellery Making ✿ Silk Painting ✿ Stencilling ✿ Papercraft



A WORLD OF IDEAS:
SEE ALL THERE IS TO KNOW

www.dk.com



FRUIT LOOPS

A fabulous variegated number,
designed by Cécile Balladino.



Rainbow shawlette



YOU WILL NEED

■ Scheepjeswol Invicta Colour (75% wool, 25% nylon, 100g/420m), 1 ball of Cold Fire (957)

■ A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook

■ Stitch markers

For yarn stockists, contact

Deramores 0845 519 4573

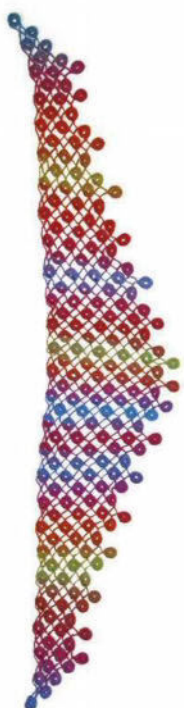
www.deramores.com

MEASUREMENTS

180x32cm (71¼x12½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92



Just one ball of vibrant, variegated yarn is all you need to bring this exciting design to life. Cécile's delicate shawlette is made up of a series of circles and chains. Get hooking.

NOTES

Work with RS always facing. The bottom half of each 'Row' is worked from left to right, then the top half of the Row is worked back along the top of the sts just worked from right to left.

SPECIAL STITCHES

Circle (C) Ch9, ss in 7th ch from hook to form a ring, ss in each of next 2 ch that form the turning ch of the circle, 18tr into ring, ss in top of turning ch to join into a circle.

Half circle (HC) Ch9, ss in 7th ch from hook to form a ring, ss in each of next 2 ch that form the turning ch of the circle, 8tr into ring.

Complete Circle (CC) Ss to top of last tr on HC, 10tr into ring of HC, ss to top of turning ch of HC.

SHAWLETTE

Row 1 Work Circle (C). [1 circle]

Row 2 Ch7 as joining ch between rows, ch4, ss to centre top of first circle (14th tr), ch4, C, ch9, ss to top of beg ch-7. [Joining ch-9 diamond and 1 circle]

Row 3 Ch7, HC, slip stitching to ch diamond of previous row on 5th tr, ch4, ss to centre top of circle on prev row, ch4, C, ch9, CC. [Circle, ch diamond, circle]

Row 4 Ch11 (counts as joining ch and ch4), ss to centre top of first circle on prev row, ch4, HC, slip stitching to ch diamond of prev row on 5th tr, ch4, ss to centre top of second circle on prev row, ch4, C, ch9, CC, ch9, ss to 7th ch of beg ch-11. [2 groups of (ch diamond, circle)]

Row 5 Ch7, *HC, slip stitching to ch diamond of prev row on 5th tr, ch4, ss to centre top of circle on prev row, ch4; rep from *, C, (ch9, CC) rep until last HC is completed. [2 groups of (circle, ch diamond), circle]

Row 6 Work as Row 4, joining the 5th tr of the C to the ch diamond on the prev row. [2 groups of (ch diamond, circle)]

Row 7 As Row 5. [2 groups of (circle, ch diamond), circle]

Row 8 As Row 6. [2 groups of (ch diamond, circle)]



The chains are worked to form diamond shapes, interspersed with circles in a mesh.

Row 9 As Row 5. [2 groups of (circle, ch diamond), circle]

Row 10 Ch11 (counts as joining ch and ch4), ss to centre top of first circle on prev row, *ch4, HC, slip stitching to ch diamond of prev row on 5th tr, ch4, ss to centre top of next circle of prev row; rep from * until ss has been worked in last circle, ch4, C, ch9, (CC, ch9) rep until end of row, ss to 7th ch of beg ch-11. [3 groups of (ch diamond, circle)]

Row 11 Ch7, *HC, slip stitching to ch diamond of prev row on 5th tr, ch4, ss to centre top of circle on prev row, ch4; rep from *, C, slip stitching to ch diamond of prev row on 5th tr, (ch9, CC) rep until last HC is completed. [2 groups of (circle, ch diamond), circle]

Row 12 As Row 10. [3 groups of (ch diamond, circle)]

Continue in the same fashion by following the number of circles in each row and using the Chart on page 93.

Row 13 4 circles.

Row 14 3 circles.

Row 15 4 circles.

Row 16 4 circles.

Row 17 4 circles.

Row 18 4 circles.

Row 19 5 circles.

Row 20 4 circles.

Row 21 5 circles.

Row 22 5 circles.

Row 23 5 circles.

Row 24 5 circles.

Row 25 6 circles.

Row 26 5 circles.

Row 27 6 circles. Row 27 is the central row of the shawl – the rem rows are worked as a mirror of the first half.

Rows 28-53 Mirror the numbers of circles in each row, working in reverse from Row 26 to Row 1.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Block to measurements.



New King Cole Vogue DK
Found in all good wool retailers



For your local stockist, call: 01756 703670
email: enquiries@kingcole.co.uk www.kingcole.com

Join us on Facebook & Twitter



For every King Cole pattern you buy, a donation will be made to the Pink Ribbon Foundation

Patterns featured: 9039



Lacy jumper



AMALFI COAST

Work rows of pretty eyelet lace to make a stylish sweater for spring. Designed by Fran Morgan.

Lacy jumper



YOU WILL NEED

■ Sirdar Amalfi (75% cotton, 25% viscose, 50g/110m), Positano (0751), see table for yarn quantities and measurements

■ A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook

■ Tapestry needle

For yarn stockists, contact

Sirdar 01924 231682

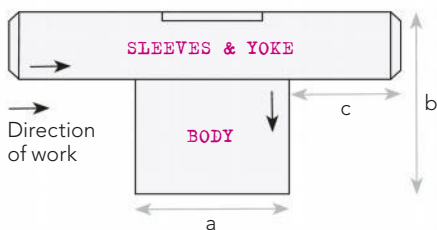
www.sirdar.co.uk

TENSION

17sts and 8 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet using a 3.5mm hook or size required to obtain tension

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92



- a: 46 (51: 56: 61)cm
18 (20: 22: 24)in
b: 57 (58: 60: 61)cm
22½ (23: 23½: 24)in
c: 36cm
14in

This cool, cotton-blend sweater is a real beauty that will see you through spring and summer. The elegant eyelet lace detail is worked on the sleeves and yoke, and subtly echoed around the hem, too. The sleeves themselves are three-quarter length, but have lots of volume and are drawn in at the cuff. We love the speckled effect Sirdar's Amalfi yarn gives the jumper.

NOTES

Sleeves and Yoke are worked in one piece from Cuff to Cuff.

Body is worked in one section in the round down from Yoke.

SLEEVES AND YOKE

Ch76 (80: 84: 88).

Row 1 (RS) 1tr into 4th ch from hook, 1tr into each ch across, turn. [74 (78: 82: 86) sts]

Row 2 Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), skip next tr, 1tr in next tr, *ch1, skip next tr, 1tr in next tr; rep from * to last st, tr into top of beg ch-3, turn.

Row 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), 1tr in next tr, *1tr in next ch-1 sp, 1tr in next tr; rep from * across ending with last tr in top of beg ch-3, turn.

Row 4 Ch3 (counts as tr), 1tr in each of next 2tr, *ch1, skip next tr, 1tr in each of next 3tr; rep from * to last 3tr, ch1, skip next tr, 1tr in next tr, 1tr in top of beg ch-3, turn.

Row 5 Ch3 (counts as tr), 1tr in next tr, *1tr in next ch-1 sp, 1tr in each of next 3tr; rep from * across ending with last tr in top of beg ch-3.

Rep Rows 2-5 for patt.

Rep patt until work measures 48 (51: 54:

56) cm ending with a WS row.

DIVIDE FOR NECK

Keeping patt correct, patt across first 29 (31: 33: 35) sts for Front Yoke, turn.

Work 16 more rows of patt.

Fasten off.

Skip centre 7 sts, rejoin yarn with RS facing and patt across rem 38 (40: 42: 44) sts to end for Back Yoke.

Work 16 more rows of patt.

Next row (WS) Patt across 38 (40: 42: 44) back sts, ch7, patt across 29 (31: 33: 35) front sts to join work together for Left Front and Sleeve, turn.

[74 (78: 82: 86) sts]

Next row Patt across all sts (including 7 ch) to end.

Cont in patt until work measures 48 (51: 54: 56) cm from end of neck.

Fasten off.

CUFFS

With RS facing, join yarn to cuff end of first Sleeve.

Row 1 (RS) Ch2 at top of first st (counts as 1 dc), 1dc in each of next 3 sts, *dc2tog; rep from * to last 4 sts, 1dc in each dc to end. [41 (43: 45: 47) sts]

Work 3 rows in treble crochet without shaping.

Fasten off.

Make second Cuff in same manner on remaining Sleeve.

BODY

Fold each Yoke so long edges of Sleeve meet.

To mark bust width, pm each side of Sleeve for centre 46 (51: 56: 61) cm.

SIZE		8-10	12-14	16-18	20-22
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46
ACTUAL BUST	cm	92	102	112	122
	in	36¼	40	44	48
LENGTH	cm	57	58	60	61
	in	22½	23	23½	24
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	36	36	36	36
	in	14	14	14	14
YARN	50g	10	11	12	13

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

Using a flat seam, sew together each Sleeve between Cuff and markers.

With RS facing, join yarn to top-right edge of Front, work 78 (87: 95: 104) tr evenly across the row between markers (with the first tr as ch3), and continue in the round, working between markers on Back, with the same number of sts as Front. [156 (174: 190: 208) sts]
Ss to top of beg ch-3.

Cont in rounds of treble crochet until work measures 30cm from beg of Yoke.

For sizes 8-10 and 12-14 only

Dec round Ch3 (counts as tr), 6tr, tr2tog, (7tr, tr2tog) to last 3 sts, tr2tog, tr in last st, ss to top of beg ch-3. [138 (154: -: -) sts]

For sizes 16-18 and 20-22 only

Dec round Ch3 (counts as tr), 5tr, tr2tog, (6tr, tr2tog) 7 times, (7tr, tr2tog) to end, ss to top of beg ch-3. [-(-: 168: 184) sts]

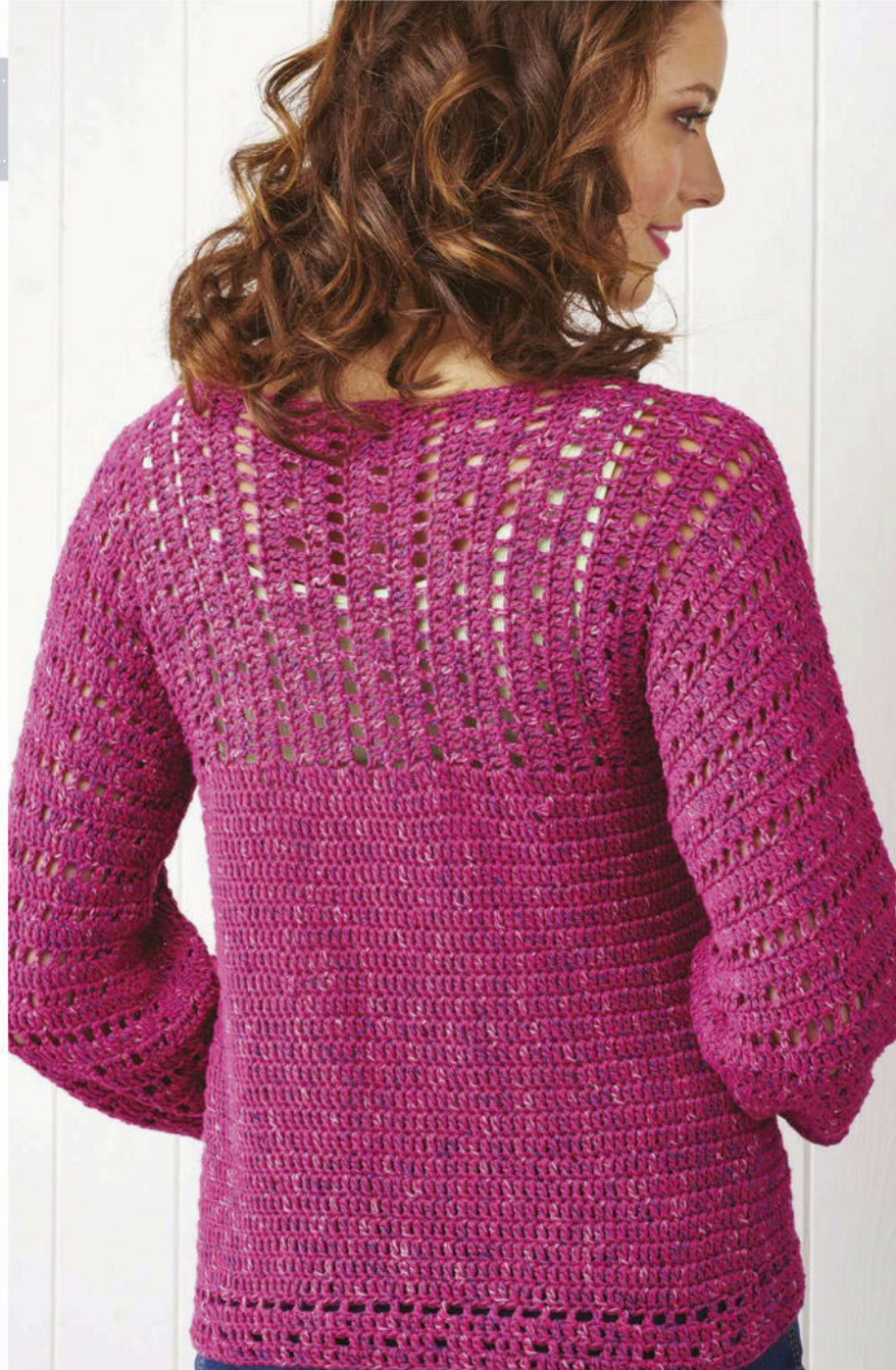
Rep Rows 2-5 as given for Sleeves and Yoke, working in rounds not rows.

Fasten off.

NECK TRIM

Rejoin yarn to neck edge. Ch1 (does not count as st) and work a round of dc around neck edge by working 2dc around each tr post and 1dc into each st, ss to first dc.

Fasten off and weave in all ends.



SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO DECREASE IN TREBLE CROCHET (TR2TOG)



1 Begin working a treble as usual: yrh, insert hook under top two loops of next stitch on prev row, yrh, pull loop through (3 loops on hook), yrh and pull through first 2 loops (2 loops on hook).



2 Without finishing the first tr, begin the next tr, working yrh, insert hook in next stitch on prev row. Again, work yrh and pull loop through, yrh and pull through first 2 loops (3 loops on hook).



3 Now complete both the treble stitches together by working yrh and pull this loop through all 3 loops on the hook.



4 This is how your completed tr2tog should look. You will have neatly decreased one tr stitch. On subsequent rows, you can simply work a stitch into the top of the tr2tog stitch as usual.



WOOL WAREHOUSE



yarn



patterns & books



needles & hook

Get a **FREE** pattern every Friday! Look out for updates on our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/woolwarehouse

DROPS DESIGN



From
£3.10
per 50g ball

DROPS Cotton Merino

Scheepjes



From
£2.99
per 50g ball

Scheepjes Stone Washed XL

**FREE UK
DELIVERY**
on orders
over £25

From
£2.19

From
£3.29

From
£4.99

From
£5.99

From
£0.99

From
£6.49

A huge range of crochet hooks, from just 99p

Look at what I made SHOP



Look At What I Made Scheepjes yarn packs - make the Sophie's Universe blanket and more!



Order online: www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

Order over the telephone: 01926 882818 or 0800 505 3300

Email us: yarn@woolwarehouse.co.uk

All the crochet supplies you'll ever need...all under one roof!

Get
10%
OFF EVERYTHING!*
Discount code:
SC42



Yarn packs to make your own Attic24 projects!



Stylecraft

£1.79
per 100g ball

Stylecraft Special DK



We're proud to stock all these leading brands



tek-tek

From
£3.99

Tek-Tek t-shirt yarn



WOOL
WAREHOUSE

www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

No minimum order. £2.95 delivery charge for UK orders under £25.

* Discount code not valid on yarn packs or sale items.

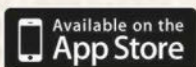
Simply Crochet

SAVE TIME, MONEY AND HASSLE WITH AN ANNUAL SIMPLY CROCHET SUBSCRIPTION



START YOUR FREE TRIAL TODAY*!

- Download the latest issue straightaway, for free
- Your next issue is free too
- Get a further 12 issues in your first year
- All issues download automatically
- Download it once... read it offline forever



iPad is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc.

NOOK is a registered trademark of Barnes & Noble, Inc. NOOK Tablet is a trademark of Barnes & Noble, Inc

*Free trial not available on Zinio



To subscribe simply visit:
www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/digital

* Free trial not available on Zinio.

The digital version of the magazine does not include the cover gift that you would find on newsstand copies, nor does it include access to Craft Circle.

KAT'S JOURNAL

...FROM THE STUDIO

Crochet designer and blogger Kat Goldin extols the virtues of having multiple makes on the go.



However tidy the rest of my house might be, my usual spot on the sofa always looks like some bizarre bird has created an elaborate nest for its equally odd young. Next to the obligatory baskets and piles of wool sit two or three crochet projects in various stages of completion, at least three pairs of half-knitted socks, cookbooks, books about whittling, my five-year-old's latest sewing project and countless empty tea mugs. I sit amongst it all, usually with a dog at my feet, making the day away.

In my experience, it is pretty rare to find a crafter who does just one thing – crocheters also knit, knitters also sew, seamstresses also bake, potters also write, and so on, with endless permutations of creation. The need to make and create is so very rarely about one specific medium and the urge to make becomes the driving force across many different areas of life.

FLITTING ABOUT

For me, crochet is my well-worn path for creativity. It is my go-to method for making something out of something else. It is where I have worked for years to hone my skills to make something that not only pleases me, but also can be packaged up in a way for others to make. It is what I pick up when I am tired or down. It is what I go to when I want to make something for a loved one. It is the craft I come back to again and again.

However, I find that it doesn't satisfy all of my creative cravings. I am often

pulled onto knitting or photography or baking tangents, before I return to the old familiar. Most days involve a lot of flitting about – a few rows of crochet before the kids get up, then starting my daily bread as I make breakfast, after the kids head off to school I sit down and do whatever writing I need to do for the day, then a few rows of whatever personal knitting project I may have on the needles or pottering around with my camera while I make lunch, then an afternoon of deadline crochet with whatever new cookbook I have checked

out from the library bus perched on my knee reading, then cooking the dinner, then homework help with a bit more knitting or crochet in my lap.

SWITCH IT UP

In times of stress or deadlines, it can feel like the other things I am making are pulling me away from the things I should be doing – finishing that deadline cardigan or crocheting the heel on that pair of socks for my friend, but I have come to see that each of these streams of creativity are essential

"It is pretty rare to
find a crafter who
does just one thing."

Photograph of Kat Goldin by Xanthe Berkeley.



GOOD READ



"Each craft teaches
useful skills."

to the whole. Photography has taught me a lot about colour, lines of interest and visual presentation. Baking has taught me about the importance of following directions and learning new things as well as the joy of starting and finishing something within the space of a few hours. Knitting has taught me an awful lot about fabric, yarn and stitch construction – each aspect is an important building block for my work.

Each different creative activity teaches useful skills that can be applied to the others. Everything I've learnt from

these making processes has proven valuable in other creative areas.

Resoundingly though, the other joy of trying new crafts is the act of learning new things. While I would never suggest that I know everything there is to know about crochet, there is no doubt that the more I do it, the further apart the new revelations become. With a new craft, I get the joy of experiencing those exciting, new 'a-ha' moments all over again. I jumped up and down with glee when I finally sussed out brioche knitting recently. And my first successful batch of

sourdough bread was met with equal excitement – though the bread lasted considerably less time than the hat.

For me, the lesson is that the more I make and do and learn and create, the more creativity I then have. Rather than there being a limited well of energy for making things, the truth is that each part feeds the whole. The only real limit is my time, and even then the natural breaks that occur when switching tasks give me a renewed focus to complete whatever I decide to settle down to work on next. It's pretty amazing.

A LOCH AT MY MONTH

"Changeable weather means we spend a lot of time watching for sunshine so we can run out and make the most of it. When it is bad, there's always crochet by the fire."





HAPPY CAMPERS

Glamping gets crafty with this cute caravan project designed by Kate Bruning.



Crochet your own mini camping adventure and then you can answer the call of the wild whenever the whim takes you. Imaginative designer Kate Bruning's adorable caravan opens up to reveal a kitschy wallpapered interior, complete with bunk beds, granny square blankets and even the kitchen sink. You'll find the patterns for the caravan, bench and bunk beds overleaf. It's playtime.



Crochet caravan



YOU WILL NEED

For the caravan:

- DK cotton (50g balls), 3 balls of each: cream, green
- 4ply cotton, 1 ball of each: silver, pale blue and black
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- Cardboard
- Lightweight cotton fabric, approx 44x17cm
- Glue
- 1 button
- 1 red bead
- Duct tape
- Small amount of lace for curtains

For the bunk beds and bench:

- 4ply cotton, 1 ball of teal
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- Cardboard
- Wadding
- Dressmaking pins
- Strong needle
- Thin cord (for jewellery)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92



CARAVAN

FRONT AND BACK PANELS (MAKE 2)

Using cream and 3.5mm hook, ch31.

Row 1 Dc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [30 dc]

Rows 2-3 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 1dc, 2dc into next dc, dc across to last 2 dc, 2dc into next dc, 1dc, turn. [34 dc after Row 3]

Row 4 Ch1, dc in each dc to end, turn.

Row 5 Repeat Row 2. [36 dc]

Rows 6-7 Ch1, dc into each dc, turn.

Row 8 Repeat Row 2. [38 dc]

Rows 9-10 Ch1, dc into each dc, turn.

Change to green yarn.

Rows 11-21 Ch1, dc into each dc, turn.

Row 22 Ch1, 1dc, skip 1 dc, 34dc, skip 1 dc, 1dc, turn. [36 dc]

Row 23 Ch1, dc into each dc, turn.

Rows 24-31 Ch1, 1dc, skip 1 dc, dc to last 2 dc, skip 1 dc, 1dc, turn. [20 dc]

Row 32 Ch1, 1dc, skip 1 dc, dc to last 2 dc, skip 1 dc, 1dc, turn. [18 dc]

Fasten off.

CARDBOARD FRONT/BACK PANELS

Trace around front panel onto cardboard and cut out.

Cut two more: one piece is for the front panel (piece A) and two are for the back panel (pieces B and C).

Take piece A and cut a matching piece of fabric with an extra 1cm seam allowance on all sides. Glue the fabric to piece A. Cut notches into the seam allowance around, then fold and glue the seam allowance to the back of the cardboard piece.

FINISH FRONT PANEL

Return to crocheting the front panel. Using 3.5mm hook and with RS facing, join green yarn to row end at start of green section (Row 11).

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 62dc around panel until you reach the beg of Row 11.

Change to cream yarn and work another 50dc to complete the round, ss back into first dc. [112 dc in total]

Round 2 Change to green, ch1, (2dc, skip 1 dc) 8 times, 14dc, skip 1 dc, (2dc, skip 1 dc) 7 times, 2dc. Change to cream, (2dc, skip 1 dc) 4 times, 26dc, skip 1 dc, (2dc, skip 1 dc) 3 times, 2dc, ss into first dc. [88 dc]

Fasten off.

Insert cardboard piece A, with the fabric facing out, into front panel.

Glue the overlapping crochet border (formed by Round 2) to the front of the fabric-covered cardboard piece.

EXTERNAL SIDES (OUTER WALLS, FLOOR AND ROOF)

This panel is formed by crocheting around the edge of the back panel and is worked in two parts (a and b) for each colour (green and cream).

Row 1a (RS) Using a 3.5mm hook, rejoin green yarn to row end at start of green section (Row 11) on back panel. Ch1, dc around panel to beg of Row 11, turn. [62 dc]

Rows 2a-22a Ch1, dc into each dc, turn. [62 dc]

Fasten off.

Row 1b (RS) Attach cream yarn to row at start of cream section (Row 10) on back panel. Ch1, dc around panel to end of Row 10, turn. [50 dc]

Rows 2b-22b Ch1, dc into each dc, turn. [50 dc]

Fasten off.

Sew the ends of the 2 panels together on both sides to make a continuous

DIAGRAM 1

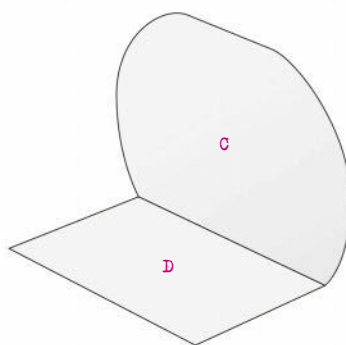
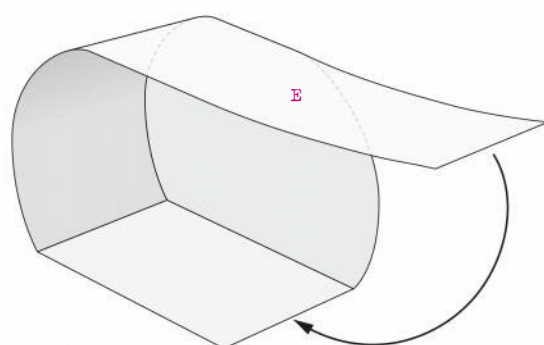


DIAGRAM 2



Crochet caravan

band that runs all the way around the back panel.

CARDBOARD CARAVAN BODY

Measure the straight side of cardboard piece C, then the depth of the crochet external side panel.

Cut a piece of cardboard to match – this forms piece D, caravan floor (see Diagram 1).

Measure the perimeter of piece C from left-hand side of base, around curve to right-hand side of base.

Cut a rectangle of cardboard to this length by the width of piece D, to form piece E. Gently bend piece E to encourage a curve (see Diagram 2).

Using duct tape, attach piece D to the bottom of piece C. Tape piece E around the curved sides of piece C. Make cuts in the tape so it sticks to the curve neatly.

Tape the edges of pieces D and E together.

Insert cardboard caravan body inside crocheted caravan body.

INTERNAL BACK WALL

Take cardboard piece B and reduce its size by cutting away a 3mm border around the edge.

Cut a matching piece of fabric with a 1cm seam allowance on all sides, and glue to the cardboard.

Cut notches in the seam allowance, then fold and glue the seam allowance to the back of the cardboard piece.

INTERNAL SIDES (INNER WALLS, FLOOR AND CEILING)

Using cream yarn and a 3.5mm hook, ch108, ss to first ch to form a long loop, being careful not to twist the chain.

Rounds 1-20 Ch1, dc into each dc around, ss to first dc. [108 dc]

Round 21 Ch1, (5dc, skip 1 dc) to end. [90 dc] **Fasten off.**

Carefully insert this panel inside cardboard caravan body. Stitch the internal and external panels tog around the edges.

Add glue to the back wall of cardboard body, then insert the fabric-covered cardboard back panel (piece B) against the back wall.

This will secure the crocheted internal walls.

SILVER STRIPES

This runs around the outside of the caravan, to cover the join between the cream and green yarns. You will need to make two lengths, one for the external front panel and one for around the sides and back of the caravan.

Using silver yarn and 2.5mm hook, ch a length to fit along the front panel between Rows 10 and 11.

Sew in place. Repeat to fit around the sides and back of the caravan.

BUTTON LOOP

Using green and a 3.5mm hook, ch5.

Row 1 Dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch to end, turn. [4 dc]

Rows 2-5 Ch1, dc in each dc, turn.

Row 6 Ch1, 1dc, skip 2 dc, 1dc. [2 dc] **Fasten off.**

Sew to top of external front panel.

Sew the button onto the caravan roof, making sure they line up.

CARAVAN DOOR

Using cream and a 3.5mm hook, ch12.

Row 1 Dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch to end, turn. [11 dc]

Rows 2-22 Ch1, dc into each dc, turn.

Fasten off.

Using 3.5mm hook, join green at bottom-right of door. Ch1, 21dc up one side of door, (1dc, ch2, 1dc) into corner st, 8dc across top of door, (1dc, ch2, 1dc) into corner st, 21dc down side of door. **Fasten off.**

Using 2.5mm hook and silver yarn, ch a length to fit around door between cream and green sts and sew in place. Sew on red bead for door handle. Glue door to front panel of caravan.

WINDOWS (MAKE 2)

Using pale blue yarn and a 2.5mm hook, ch19.

Row 1 (RS) Starting in 2nd ch from hook, dc in each st to end, turn. [18 dc]

Rows 2-12 Dc into each st to end, turn. **Fasten off.**

Round 13 Using silver yarn and a 2.5mm hook, dc into each st around each side and (dc, ch2, dc) into each corner. **Fasten off.**

Cut a piece of lace to size and then sew to the internal window for a curtain.



The caravan is made up of several panels and is fastened at the top with a button and loop.

Glue the windows into place as shown in the photographs, one internal and one external and line them up so they create the illusion of being the same window.

WHEELS (MAKE 3)

Work in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch.

TYRES

Round 1 (RS) Using black yarn and a 2.5mm hook, ch2, 6dc into the 2nd ch from hook. [6 dc]

Round 2 2dc into each st around. [12 dc]

Round 3 (1dc, 2dc into the next st) 6 times. [18 dc]

Round 4 (2dc, 2dc into the next st) 6 times. [24 dc]

Round 5 (3dc, 2dc into the next st) 6 times. [30 dc]

Round 6 (4dc, skip the next st) 6 times. [24 dc]

Round 7 (3dc, skip the next st) 6 times. [18 dc]

Round 8 (2dc, skip the next st) 6 times. [12 dc]

Round 9 (1dc, skip the next st) 6 times. [6 dc] **Fasten off.**

HUBCAP

Round 1 (RS) Using silver yarn and a 2.5mm hook, ch2, 6dc into the 2nd ch from hook. [6 dc]

Round 2 2dc into each st around. [12 dc]

Sew to the centre of the wheel and then glue into place, one on each side and the spare wheel underneath the back external window.

BUNK BEDS (MAKE 2)

Using teal yarn and 2.5mm hook, ch25.

Crochet caravan

Round 1 Dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch to last ch, 2dc in last ch, rotate to work in other side of the foundation ch, 23dc, ss to first dc. [48 dc]

Rounds 2-12 Ch1, dc into each dc, ss to first dc.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

TO MAKE UP

Trace around bunk bed onto a piece of cardboard and cut out. Repeat with wadding.

Place wadding and cardboard inside bunk bed and sew up the side.

Glue bunks in place on right-hand inner side of caravan and carefully hammer dressmaking pins through caravan and

into cardboard section of bed (see Diagram 3).

Make sure the crochet caravan covers the pinheads.

To form the bunk strings, thread a strong needle with cord.

Insert needle into caravan ceiling, just above far corner of top bunk.

Insert needle through far corners of both bunks, run the thread along the side of the bottom bunk and then insert needle back up through front corners of both bunks (see Diagram 4).

Push needle through roof, then back down through ceiling.

Tie two ends of cord together and trim.

BENCH

Work as for bunk to Round 8.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Make up and attach in same way as the bunks, on the left-hand inner side of caravan. Do not add bunk strings.

DIAGRAM 3

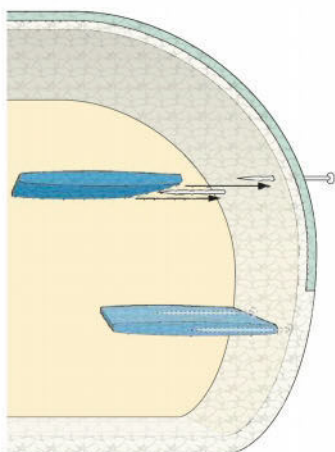
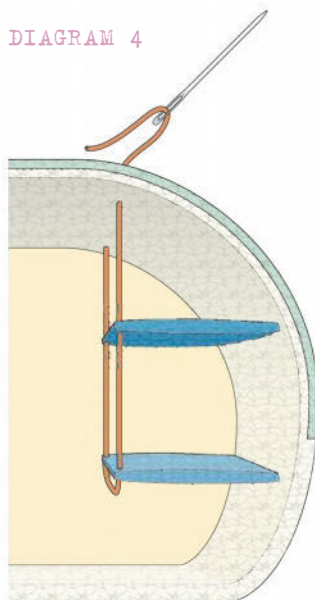


DIAGRAM 4



This cute crochet caravan project is from the book *Let's Go Camping* by Kate Bruning, published by Kyle Books (RRP £9.99). Photography by Keiko Oikawa. Visit www.kylebooks.com or call 020 7692 7215.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO SEW SEAMS



1 Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet wrong 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 hk through both edge stitches, yrh, pull through to complete 1 slip stitch; rep from *, keeping your 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 you need less bulk and/or greater flexibility in your seam. Work as for the dc seam, but work 1 dc and 1 chain alternately.

The & Knitting Stitching Show

The definitive event for anyone with
a love of stitch and creative crafts.
Supplies, workshops and textile art.

Royal Highland Centre
Edinburgh

28th April – 1st May 2016

The Dressmaking Studio

In association with The McCall Pattern Company
and **SEW TODAY**

Over 150 Workshops

The Creative Living Theatre

plus features, demonstrations
and inspirational galleries

Ticket Offer

Quote **EB16SCA** and save up to **£2***

www.theknittingandstitchingshow.com/edinburgh

Products to help you with:

Knitting • Sewing • Dressmaking • Quilting • Crochet
Cross Stitch • Interiors • Textile Art • Embroidery

Unbeatable selection
of yarn suppliers
from across the UK



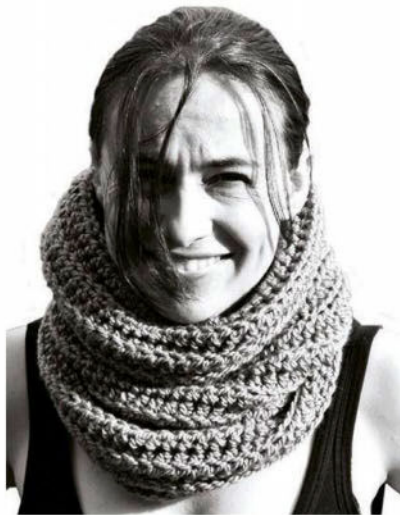
 **twistedthread**

**UPPER
STREET
EVENTS**

*Subject to terms and conditions. A £1.50 booking fee will be applied per transaction.

KATHRYN VERCILLO HOOKING TO HEAL

A thoughtful approach.



For unwinding, I really like to use meditative crochet and I find that the most soothing, healing project for me is always to work on a large granny square blanket without too many colour changes. It's the repetition of the stitching, of working on something that I already know how to do, of working on something that people have been making in crochet for years upon years. It ties me to the generations before and to the crafters of today, while really helping me feel in the moment.

I now have a bunch of one-skein granny squares and am trying to figure out what I want to do with them all. Maybe some clothing. Maybe a large patchwork blanket or maybe some square cushions.

I'm undecided so far, but that's the project currently waiting in the wings.

PUTTING IT INTO WORDS

Hook to Heal is my new book of creativity exercises that all use crochet to help people improve their lives in myriad ways. There are exercises that help with building self-esteem, letting go of negative habits, improving relationships and finding balance. Some of the exercises are tangible, some are abstract, but they are all designed to inspire people to use the art and creativity of crochet to enhance their own quality of life.

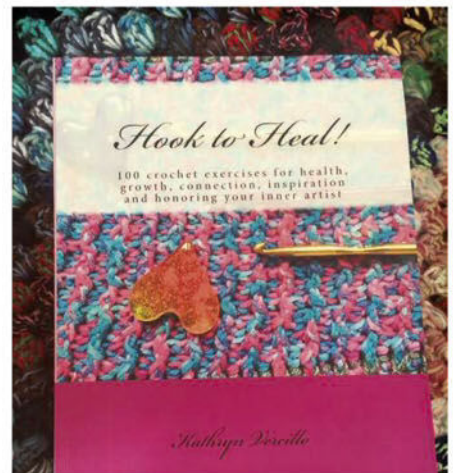
I was motivated to write *Hook to Heal* as an extension of the research that came out of writing *Crochet Saved My*

Life. That first book was about which conditions crochet can help us with (depression, motor skill development, Alzheimer's) and a bit about why it helps. *Hook to Heal* is the work that came out of asking: "HOW does crochet help?" – I looked at all the different ways crochet had helped me, asked people about how it helped them, and developed the exercises to help crocheters implement the 'how' of healing themselves. Both books share portions of my own personal story and they both come directly from the heart of my own experience.

There's no way I could choose a favourite exercise from *Hook to Heal*! Each one is designed to help you work on something different. In fact, some exercises completely contradict each other – one will encourage you to try de-stashing your yarn, another to go buy new yarn. That's because in life, we require different things at different times. I've worked through every single exercise myself, not only when I designed the exercise but again later when I needed to use them for my own creative process, and I fully believe that each exercise can help you at the right time.

Hook to Heal is an independently published labour of love (and hard work). You can find out what else Kathryn has been up to lately on her crochet blog at www.crochetconcupiscence.com

THE BEST PLACE TO PURCHASE THE BOOK IS THROUGH CREATESPACE. FIND IT AT [HTTP://BIT.LY/HOOKHEAL](http://bit.ly/hookheal)



Top left: Patchwork blanket with bold red joins.
Bottom left: Double-stranded scrappy granny blanket.
Centre: Kathryn's crocheted mandala wreath.
Above: *Hook to Heal*, Kathryn's brand new book of crochet exercises for health and wellbeing.
All photographs by Kathryn Vercillo.

SLEEPY BUNNY

Work a sweet corner-to-corner
snuggle blanket by Kath Webber.



Baby blanket



YOU WILL NEED

- Sublime Evie (94% cotton, 6% nylon, 50g/115m), 6 balls of Haze (512)
- 1 ball of Nougat (508)
- A small amount of black cotton for the bunny's face
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- Toy stuffing
- 65mm pompom maker or two cardboard discs measuring 6.5cm across, with the centres and a notch removed.
- Stitch marker

For yarn stockists, contact
Sublime 01924 369666
www.sublimeyarns.com

TENSION

A square of 5x5 blocks in diagonal box stitch with a 5mm hook measures 10x10cm (4x4in)

MEASUREMENTS

65cm (25½in) square

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Designer Kath Webber says: "Using super-soft brushed cotton and a diagonal box stitch, this baby blanket is made all the more special with the addition of a bunny friend!" A fun-to-hook project that has all the benefits of a toy and a blanket in one – what's not to love? And it would make such a special gift for a precious new arrival. Sweet dreams, little one.

If you need a hand getting your head around the diagonal corner-to-corner construction, crafty Bella Coco blogger Sarah-Jayne has a great video tutorial for this at <http://bit.ly/SC42corner>

NOTES

This blanket is worked using a 'corner to corner' construction in blocks of ch3 and 3 tr. Each 'Row' is made up of a diagonal row of blocks, starting with 1 block in the bottom-left corner, then 2 blocks in the next row, 3 in the next, and so on. When the 2 straight edges of the square are the right size, construction changes slightly to work 1 less block on each row, back towards the top-right corner. You will need to both turn and rotate work at the beginning of each new row of blocks.

C BLANKET

Row 1 (RS) With Haze, ch6 (counts as 3 ch and tr), tr in fourth ch from the hook and in each of next 2 ch to end, turn. [Block 1]

Row 2 (WS) Ch6 (counts as 3 ch and tr), tr in fourth ch from the hook and in each of next 2 ch [Block 2], with the WS of Block 1 facing, and the RS of Block 2 facing, line up the post of the treble just worked along the top of the trebles from Block 1 so that the 2 blocks are touching and ss in the sp created by the ch-3 at the top of Block 1. Ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp, turn. [Blocks 2 and 3 complete]

Row 3 (RS) Ch6 (counts as 3 ch and tr), tr in fourth ch from the hook and in each of next 2 ch [Block 4], rotate this block so that you can ss in the ch-3 sp of Block 3 just worked, ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp [Block 5]. Ss in ch-3 sp at top of next block (Block 2), ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp, turn. [Blocks 4, 5 and 6 complete]

Row 4 Ch6 (counts as 3 ch and tr), tr in fourth ch from the hook and in each of next 2 ch, rotate this block so that you



The diagonal baby blanket is edged all the way around with half treble stitches.

can ss in the ch-3 sp of block just worked, *ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp, ss in ch-3 sp at top of next block; repeat from * until you have worked a ss into the ch-3 sp of last block of previous row, ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp, turn. [Increased by 1 Block]
Repeat Row 4 until piece measures 65cm along straight edge, approx 34 rows in total.

To decrease blocks for the second half of the square:

Next row Ss in each of the last 3 tr, ss in ch-3 sp of block just worked. *Ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp, ss in ch-3 sp of next block; repeat from * until you have worked a ss into the ch-3 sp of the last block of previous row, turn without working into the top of this block. Repeat last row until you have decreased to 1 block in the corner. Do not fasten off.

EDGING

Rotate blanket to work along straight edge.

Round 1 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr evenly along each edge with 3htr into each corner, ss to top of beg ch-2.

Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc into each st around, with 3dc into each corner st.

Fasten off.

BUNNY

Work the bunny in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. It may help to mark the first stitch of each round with a stitch marker.

HEAD

With Haze, make a magic loop, leaving a long tail.

Round 1 Ch1 (does not count as st),

Baby blanket

6dc into loop. [6 sts]

Round 2 2dc into each st around.

[12 sts]

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

Round 4 (1dc into each of next 2 sts, 2dc into next st) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 5 (1dc into each of next 3 sts, 2dc into next st) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 6 (1dc into each of next 4 sts, 2dc into next st) 6 times. [36 sts]

Rounds 7-14 Dc into each st around. Do not fasten off.

Stitch on the sleepy bunny face using black cotton and a tapestry needle, or add safety eyes if you prefer.

Using a tapestry needle and the long tail of the magic loop, stitch the base of the bunny head to the blanket, folding over the corner of the blanket. Use backstitch to make sure the stitching is secure.

Round 15 (1dc into each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 16 (1dc into each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 17 (1dc into each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Stuff bunny's head.

Round 18 (1dc into next st, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 19 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail of yarn. Using a tapestry needle, run the long tail of yarn through the rem 6 sts to close. **Fasten off** securely.

EARS (MAKE 2)

With Haze, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 4dc into loop.

Round 2 Dc into each st around.

Round 3 (1dc into next st, 2dc into next st) twice. [6 sts]

Round 4 Dc into each st around.

Round 5 (2dc into next st, 1dc into next st) 3 times. [9 sts]

Round 6 Dc into each st around.

Round 7 (2dc into next st, 1dc into each of next 2 sts) 3 times. [12 sts]

Rounds 8-14 Dc into each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail of yarn.

Use the long tail of yarn to stitch the ears together, folding slightly in the centre, then stitch to the Head.

TO FINISH

With Nougat, make a 6.5cm pompom and attach it securely to the opposite corner of the blanket. Weave in all ends.



Use this image as a guide when stitching on the face – it can make or break your project.

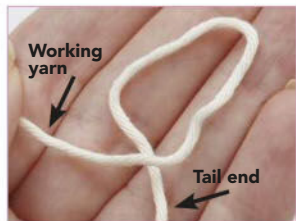


Pinch and fold both the ears slightly at the bottom before stitching them in place.



Cream is classic for a bunny tail pompom, but you could use anything from your stash.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A MAGIC LOOP



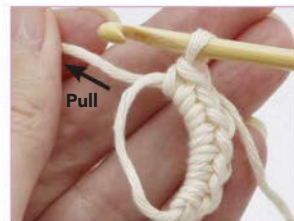
1 To start a Magic Loop, don't make a slipknot. Instead, make a loop with the yarn, leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is under the working yarn.



2 Insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn around the hook anticlockwise 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). Now work your sts into the Magic Loop, making sure you work over both the loop and the tail end (so two yarn strands).



4 Once you've worked the number of stitches you need, simply pull the tail end of the yarn to draw up the ring. Work a slip stitch to join the first and last stitches and finish the first round.

"I'm particularly proud of the Granny Square Sweater."



EXPERIMENTAL STITCHES



We adore Anna Wilkinson's classy crochet garments and couldn't resist finding out what inspires them. The answer seems to be a whole lot of play!

Cute blocky shapes and interesting textured finishes epitomise the crochet designs of Anna Wilkinson. Fresh off the back of her second book, *Learn to Crochet, Love to Crochet*, published by Quadrille, Anna says she's still in the early days of exploring this particular craft.

"I came to crochet as a teenager, a while after I'd begun to knit. I think most people seem to have mastered either knitting or crochet before tackling the other, and for me it was knitting first," she says. "I learnt how to crochet by watching my mother doing it. I liked how easy it was to just experiment and form shapes by increasing and decreasing as you worked

in the round. It's also great because it grows so quickly."

The first challenge, she explains, was getting her head around the differences between her two favourite crafts. "They each form such different fabrics that they lend themselves to different projects," she says. "With crochet, you're generally left with a much firmer fabric that lends itself well to lacy stitches, and also the fabric tends to have less stretch to it. I love that with crochet you can form very clean shapes with great stitch definition."

Anna's explorative approach meant that her early experiences of crochet design happened almost as a by-product of getting to know the techniques she

was keen to master. "I used to just play around with it, not really expecting to make anything remarkable, or I'd use it to create a pretty trim on a knitted garment," she says. "I remember crocheting lots of little bags as a teenager in bright colours with big pompoms on them – I like how a 3D shape can be created so easily using crochet."

HUNTING AND GATHERING

Much of Anna's inspiration is drawn from a passion for vintage garments. "I love the neat little shapes and adore finding unique details on handmade garments that you just wouldn't find in the shops these days as high street fashion is too



fast," she says, adding: "I do like to keep an eye on what's going on the catwalks though. I love Dolce and Gabbana's SS16 collection and everything by Gucci since Alessandro Michele took over as creative director is just exquisite. I like to create garments that are fun and colourful but also stylish and flattering."

The other key ingredient is, of course, the yarn. "It's hard to imagine exactly how a garment or accessory will turn out before you have a good play with the yarn and experiment with stitch techniques,

"IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE HOW A GARMENT WILL TURN OUT BEFORE YOU HAVE A GOOD PLAY WITH THE YARN."

colourways and so on," Anna says. "Sometimes I begin with a rough idea for a garment but until I find the yarn for it, it's impossible to develop the idea. It's easier sometimes to not be too set on an exact idea because the appropriate yarn may never show itself – but something different and better will be available!"

Anna's book *Learn to Crochet, Love to Crochet* came out in May 2015. It contains 20 patterns for garments and accessories to suit a variety of skills levels, and is the culmination of years of experimenting with different colours, stitches and shapes. "My aim is that a beginner crocheter can learn the basic techniques and start with very basic projects, and then move onto larger and more complicated projects," Anna says. "Some of the designs have a fun, retro feel to them with lots of bright colours, and other projects are more intricate and feminine."

Several of the designs in the book are among Anna's favourite creations to date. "In particular, I'm really proud of the oversized Granny Square Sweater – I love how retro and fun it looks," she says. "It

was also quite a tricky pattern to work out – crocheting to fit the body but working in different directions at the same time – so it was quite an achievement to complete.

INTUITIVE MAKES

"The thing I love about crochet is how easy it is to start doing without having any initial idea of what you're making," Anna comments. "I like crocheting in the round

and making vases and baskets in bright colours, and then embroidering them. I think simple accessories, like clutch bags, work

really well in crochet and are really quick and easy to make and look quite striking in chunky yarns. It's nice to pick up some yarn and a hook and just see where it takes you while watching TV."

Crocheting while cosied up on the sofa is an especially pleasurable part of Anna's work life. "It's pretty excellent to be able to do that and say you're working!" she exclaims. "You can get through quite a few boxsets all in the name of hard graft."

With a young son also demanding lots of her time, it makes sense for Anna to

work from home as much as possible.

"I have a little studio space at the back of my house so I can go in there and get all my yarns and coloured pencils and pens out and lose myself in my work for a while. I love to listen to music and the radio, but if I'm having to write a pattern I need to do that in silence so I can concentrate!"

Anna naturally gravitates towards the work of adventurous crocheters. "I love Phil Ferguson, aka ChiliPhilly on Instagram – he shows how you can make anything with crochet. I love his bonkers original designs! I also lose many an hour on Pinterest – it's so easy to be taken on a journey and then stumble across something inspiring and unexpected."

Anna recently launched her own website, www.annaknits.com. "I'm currently working on new designs for it – I have some based around shirting and tuxedos, but in a lovely feminine way," she says. "I'm just hoping to work on designs whenever I have an idea and then will develop and size up the patterns, which will be available to buy online."

It's clear that creative freedom brings out the best in Anna, so we'll be keeping an eye on what she dreams up next.

Interview by Judy Darley



A FEW OF HER FAVOURITE THINGS

"I don't have a vast amount of spare time outside of knitting and crocheting, and being a mum, but I love music, I like baking bread and I've recently taken a tentative step into keeping a couple of house plants – it's a big responsibility!" See more at www.annaknits.com

Simply Crochet readers can purchase a copy of *Learn to Crochet, Love to Crochet* by Anna Wilkinson for the special price of £9.99 (RRP £14.99, published by Quadrille) including free p&p. To order your copy of the book, call 01256 302699 and quote the code DE4.



Fringed poncho



MAKE A SWISH

Stitch a striking poncho using a clever geometric pattern repeat. Designed by Sara Huntington.

Fringed poncho



YOU WILL NEED

- Bergère de France Magic + (50% combed wool, 50% acrylic, 50g/80m), Bleu Gris (34725), see table for yarn quantities and measurements
 - A 6.5mm (US K/10½) hook
- For yarn stockists, contact
Bergère de France
www.bergeredefrance.co.uk

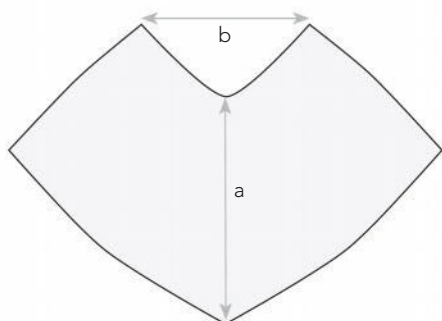
TENSION

9 sts and 8 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over patt using a 6.5mm hook or size required to achieve tension

ABBREVIATIONS

5-tr cluster (5-tr cl) (Yrh, insert hook in space/st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 5 times, inserting the hook in the same space/st each time, yrh and draw through all loops on hook

For a full list, see page 92



a: 54 (61)cm, 21½ (24)in
b: 28 (32)cm, 11 (12½)in

There's something special about ponchos, isn't there? Trickier than a shawl but not as complicated as a cardigan, it's an achievable garment that's so easy to wear. For a handy extra diagram to help with this project, log on to our blog at simplycrochetmag.co.uk

NOTES

Poncho is worked in the round over a 6-round patt repeat. Markers indicate where the front and back increases should take place and should be moved as instructed in each round. Ch3 counts as 1tr throughout.

STITCH PATTERN

Round 1 (1tr in each of next 5 sts, ch1, skip 1 st) repeat around.

Round 2 (1tr in each of next 5 tr, 5-tr cl in ch-1 sp) repeat around.

Round 3 As Round 1.

Round 4 As Round 2.

Round 5 (1tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st) repeat around.

Round 6 (1tr in next st, 5-tr cl in ch-1 sp) repeat around.

PONCHO

(Begins at neck edge.)

Ch84 (96), ss into first ch to join into round, taking care not to twist sts.

Foundation round 3dc in first st, 1dc in each of next 41 (47) sts, 3dc in next st, 1dc in each of next 41 (47) sts, ss to first st to join. [88 (100) sts]

Round 1 Ss to central st of 3dc, (ch4, 1tr) in central st, ch1, skip 1 st, pm, work in patt Round 1 to central st of next 3dc group from previous round, pm, (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in central st, ch1, skip 1 st, pm, work as for patt Round 1 to end, pm, ss to third of ch-4 to join. [4 markers]

SIZE		S/M	L/XL
TO FIT BUST (APPROX)	cm	75-90	95-110
	in	30-36	38-43
LENGTH EXCLUDING FRINGE	cm	54	61
	in	21½	24
NECK WIDTH	cm	28	32
	in	11	12½
YARN	50g	12	15

To make this pattern easier to follow, we have colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.



The fringe is made with dc stitches worked around a cylinder, such as a plastic bottle.

Round 2 Ch3, (5-tr cl, ch1, 5-tr cl) in ch-1 sp, 1tr in next st, 5-tr cl in next ch-1 sp, pm, work as for patt Round 2 to next marker, pm, tr in next st, (5-tr cl, ch1, 5-tr cl) in ch-1 sp, tr in next st, 5-tr cl in next ch-1 sp, pm, cont in patt Round 2 to end of round, pm, ss to top of ch-3 to join.

Round 3 Ch3, tr in top of 5-tr cl from previous round, (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in next ch-1 sp, 1tr in top of 5-tr cl from previous round, 1tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st, pm, work as for patt Round 3 to next marker, pm, 1tr in next st, 1tr in top of 5-tr cl from previous round, (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in next ch-1 sp, 1tr in top of 5-tr cl from previous round, 1tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st, pm, cont in patt Round 3 to next marker, pm, ss to top of ch-3 to join.

Round 4 Ch3, 1tr in each of next 2 sts, (5-tr cl, ch1, 5-tr cl) in next ch-1 sp, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, 5-tr cl in next ch-1 sp, pm, work as for patt Round 4 to next marker, pm, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, (5-tr cl, ch1, 5-tr cl) in next ch-1 sp, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, 5-tr cl in next ch-1 sp, pm, cont in patt Round 4 to next marker, pm, ss in top of ch-3 to join.

Round 5 Ch4, skip 1 st, 1tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st, (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in next ch-1 sp, ch1, skip 1 st, 1tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st, pm, work as for patt Round 5 to next marker, pm, 1tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st, 1tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st, (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in next ch-1 sp, ch1, skip 1 st, 1tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st, 1tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st, pm, cont in patt Round 5 to next marker, pm, ss to third of ch-4 to join.

Round 6 Ch3, (5-tr cl in next ch-1 sp, tr in next st) twice, (5-tr cl, ch1, 5-tr cl) in next ch-1 sp, (1tr in next st, 5-tr cl in next ch-1 sp) three times, pm, cont in

patt Round 6 to next marker, (1tr in next st, 5-tr cl in next ch-1 sp) twice, 1tr in next st, (5-tr cl, ch1, 5-tr cl) in next ch-1 sp, (1tr in next st, 5-tr cl in next ch-1 sp) three times, pm, cont in patt Round 6 to next marker, pm, ss to top of ch-3 to join.

In the following rounds, the beg ch-3 counts as the first tr of the round pattern. For example, in Round 7 below, you will work ch3, 4tr, ch1, skip 1 st, and then continue in the Round 1 pattern as written.

Round 7 Ch3 and work in patt Round 1 to next ch-1 sp, pm, (1tr, ch-1, 1tr) in ch-1 sp, ch1, skip 1 st, pm, work as for patt Round 1 to the next ch-1 sp, pm (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in ch-1 sp, ch1, skip 1 st, pm, work as for patt Round 1 to end, ss to top of ch-3 to join.

Round 8 Ch3 and work in patt Round 2 to next marker, pm, 1tr in next st, (5-tr cl, ch1, 5-tr cl) in next ch-1 sp, 1tr in next st, 5-tr cl in next ch-1 sp, pm, cont in patt Round 2 to next marker, pm, 1tr in next st, (5-tr cl, ch1, 5-tr cl) in next ch-1 sp, 1tr in next st, 5-tr cl in next ch-1 sp, pm, cont in patt Round 2 to end, ss to top of ch-3 to join.

Round 9 Ch3 and work in patt Round 3 to next marker, pm, 1tr in next st, 1tr in top of 5-tr cl from previous round, (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in next ch-1 sp, 1tr in top of 5-tr cl from previous round, 1tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st, pm, work as for patt Round 3 to next marker, pm, 1tr in next st, 1tr in top of 5-tr cl from previous round, (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in next ch-1 sp, 1tr in top of 5-tr cl from previous round, 1tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st, pm, cont in patt Round 3 to end, ss to top of ch-3 to join.

Round 10 Ch3 and work in patt Round 4 to next marker, pm, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, (5-tr cl, ch1, 5-tr cl) in next ch-1 sp, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, 5-tr cl in next ch-1 sp, pm, work as for patt Round 4 to next marker, pm, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, (5-tr cl, ch1, 5-tr cl) in next ch-1 sp, 1tr in each of next 3 sts, 5-tr cl in next ch-1 sp, pm, cont in patt Round 4 to end, pm, ss in top of ch-3 to join.

Round 11 Ch3 and work in patt Round 5 to next marker, pm, (1tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st) twice, (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in next ch-1 sp, ch1, skip 1 st, (1tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st) twice, pm, cont in patt Round 5 to next marker, pm, (1tr in next



st, ch1, skip 1 st) twice, (1tr, ch1, 1tr) in next ch-1 sp, (ch1, skip 1 st, 1tr in next st) twice, pm, cont in patt Round 5, to end, ss to top of ch-3 to join.

Round 12 Ch3 and work in patt Round 6 to next marker, pm, (1tr in next st, 5-tr cl in ch-1 sp) twice, 1tr in next st, (5-tr cl, ch1, 5-tr cl) in next ch-1 sp, (1tr in next st, 5-tr cl in ch-1sp) three times, pm, cont in patt Round 6 to next marker, pm, (1tr in next st, 5-tr cl in ch-1sp) twice, 1tr in next st, (5-tr cl, ch1, 5-tr cl) in next ch-1 sp, (1tr in next st, 5-tr cl in ch-1 sp) three times, pm, cont in patt Round 6 to end, ss to top of ch-3 to join.

Repeat Rounds 7-12 until Poncho measures approx 53 (60) cm.

Next round Ch1 (does not count as st), work in dc around working 1dc in each

st and 3dc in sts at the front and back points of the Poncho. **Fasten off.**

TO FINISH

Block and press Poncho with points together before adding Fringe.

FRINGE

Create length for Fringe by working a standard dc stitch, wrapping yarn around a cylinder of approx 35cm in circumference, such as a large plastic bottle as follows:

With RS facing, insert the hook into the st, wrap the yarn around bottle, yarn round hook and pull through, complete dc in the usual way.

Cont working as above into each st all around. **Fasten off.**

For best results, block and press the Poncho again.

 **Sew2go®**

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO
KNIT, SEW & CROCHET!**

WWW.SEW2GO.CO.UK
FOR ALL ENQUIRIES
SALES@SEW2GO.CO.UK
01484 888888





Yarnspire

**Great yarn
Always low prices
Wellbeing optional - Fun always**

Free UK Delivery over £25

www.yarnspire.co.uk

 **Knitnats Top Yarn**
 **Red Heart
Boutique Unforgettable**




Recycle your magazine and seven days later
it could come back as your newspaper.

www.recyclenow.com

 **recycle**
The possibilities are endless.

The ultimate stitching, knitting & crafting shows!



THE QUILTING SHOW // HOBBYCRAFTS // THE STITCHING & SEWING SHOW
SECC, GLASGOW // 3-6 MARCH

SEWING FOR PLEASURE // HOBBYCRAFTS // FASHION & EMBROIDERY
NEC, BIRMINGHAM // 17-20 MARCH

STITCHING, SEWING & HOBBYCRAFTS
EXCEL, LONDON // 7-9 APRIL

STITCHING, SEWING & HOBBYCRAFTS
NEC, BIRMINGHAM // 1-3 JULY








Buy tickets on-line **www.ichfevents.co.uk** or phone Ticket Hotline **01425 277988**

Knitting • Sewing • Papercrafts • Art Supplies • Patchwork • Dressmaking • Jewellery • Quilting

ICHF Events **SAVE UP TO £2 OFF!** EACH ADULT & SENIOR TICKET IF ORDERED AT LEAST ONE WEEK BEFORE THE SHOW.



JUST A TRIM

Take an unremarkable top from drab to fab with a simple adornment. Designed by Becca Parker.

Embellish an outfit



YOU WILL NEED

- Rowan Wool Cotton DK (50% cotton, 50% merino wool, 50g/113m), 1 ball of Misty (903)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Sewing needle and matching thread
- Plain jumper
- Stitch marker

For yarn stockists, contact
Rowan 01484 681881
www.knitrowan.com

MEASUREMENTS

Trim measures 5cm (2in) deep.
Length made to fit.

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Nothing in the wardrobe is beyond the reach of our trusty crochet hooks. In fact, it's amazing the difference a simple bit of hookery can make to a plain garment. Use a contrasting shade to work this subtle jumper trim. The 'V' shape adds a western vibe. This ain't our first rodeo.

NOTES

Make 1 piece of trim for each of the front and back of the jumper, and 1 piece for each shoulder. Measure the length you need from your jumper.

Our shoulder piece measured 30cm, and our front/back piece measured 46cm.

TRIM

Ch of a multiple of 3 + 1 sts, which measures approximately the required length when stretched. To make sure that the lengths are equal, note the number of ch used for the first shoulder and the first front/back piece, and make the second one of each using the same number of ch.

Count the ch and mark the central ch with a stitch marker.

Row 1 (RS) Ch2, tr in fourth ch from hook (skipped ch count as tr), tr in each ch to marked st, 3tr in marked st, tr in each ch to end, turn.

Row 2 (WS) Ch1 (does not count as st), ss into first st, *ch10, skip next st, ss



A longer length of trim will result in a deeper 'V' shape. Adjust yours to fit your jumper.

into next 2 sts; rep from * to end omitting final ss on last repeat, turn.

Row 3 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first ss, *(5dc, ch5, ss into st at base of ch, 4dc) into ch-10 space, dc into each of next 2 ss; rep from * to end omitting final dc on last repeat.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Block the trims evenly to flatten them out and keep the shape.

Using a sewing needle and thread, sew the trims securely onto your jumper, using the image as a guide.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO BLOCK YOUR CROCHET PIECES



1 Check your yarn's ball band for advice on whether to dry, wet or steam block your item. To wet block, wash the item before pinning. For dry and steam blocking, pin out when dry. To pin out, lay the item flat on a towel over a blanket.



2 Using long, rust-proof pins or blocking wires, pin out to the measurements in your pattern (check the schematic for garments). Start at the corners, then move evenly around the edges. You can reposition pins if needed.



3 Place pins inside the last row or round of stitches, not in the actual stitches or you risk distorting them. Insert the pin's point towards the centre of the fabric, away from the edge, to balance out the forces involved.



4 For wet blocking, just leave to dry. To dry block, spritz with cold water and leave to dry. To steam block, hover a steaming iron over the fabric (don't touch it) until damp, then leave to dry. Once dry, you can remove the pins.

READER PROMOTION



JOIN US ON OUR FIRST HOLIDAY... COME KNITTING IN THE FAROE ISLANDS



Yes, we know it's not crochet – but our sister titles *Simply Knitting* and *The Knitter* are teaming up with Arena Travel for the holiday of a lifetime.

If you're a knitter, indulge your love of knitting in beautiful surroundings!

A TRIP OF A LIFETIME

On this trip, you'll visit the Guðrun & Guðrun shop, the Snældan wool producers, the fjords and the isolated villages keeping Faroese knitting traditions alive. This is a unique opportunity to experience the natural beauty of the Faroe Islands, meet other knitters and get your hands on some amazing yarn.

LEARN AS YOU RELAX

Your tutor for the trip, Juliet Bernard, used to be the editor of *The Knitter*, and now works with many brands such as KnitPro, Stylecraft and the UK Hand Knitting Association. She writes for many magazines including *The Knitter* and *Debbie Bliss Magazine*. An experienced tutor, Juliet loves to teach continental and Fair Isle knitting. Come and join us – book your place now!

Sara

Editor, *Simply Crochet*

OUR FANTASTIC TRIP INCLUDES:

- Return flights Edinburgh – Vágar Airport (Faroe Islands)
- The company and expertise of tutor, Juliet Bernard
- Knitting workshops with Juliet, your lovely knit kit is included!
- 7 nights at the Hotel Føroyar on a bed and breakfast basis
- Lunch on Day 5
- Dinner on Days 1 and 7
- All visits as detailed in the itinerary
- Coach transfers throughout
- The services of an experienced Arena Travel tour manager

YOU'LL GET ALL THIS FROM JUST £1,899 PER PERSON*
TRAVEL DATES 15-22 JULY 2016



Juliet Bernard will be your expert tutor



This holiday will be operated in partnership with Arena travel.
To book or for more details, go to

WWW.ARENATRAVEL.COM/FAROE
OR CALL 01473 660800

*Find full payment details and options on the website above



**NEW
ISSUE!**



SPRING BUNTING



PROM WRISTBAND



3 BUTTON BEAUTY!



Love Crochet

**CUTE IDEAS
FOR KIDS**



DON'T MISS IT!

We're celebrating the arrival of a new season in this issue of *Love Crochet* with a collection of bright and beautiful spring accessories from bags to scarves and shawls to jewellery. Plus, our resident tutor shows you how to hook a puff stitch hexie necklace and we've got expert advice, news and reviews.

Only
£4.99
including
p&p

**AT JUST £4.99
THIS ISSUE INCLUDES:**

- ✿ Flower power beanie!
- ✿ A bag for every occasion
- ✿ Quick and easy projects

Plus, meet the wonderful sister duo, yarn suppliers and haberdashery, Mrs Moon and we review the best spring yarns.

**ORDER
YOUR COPY
TODAY!**

ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY!

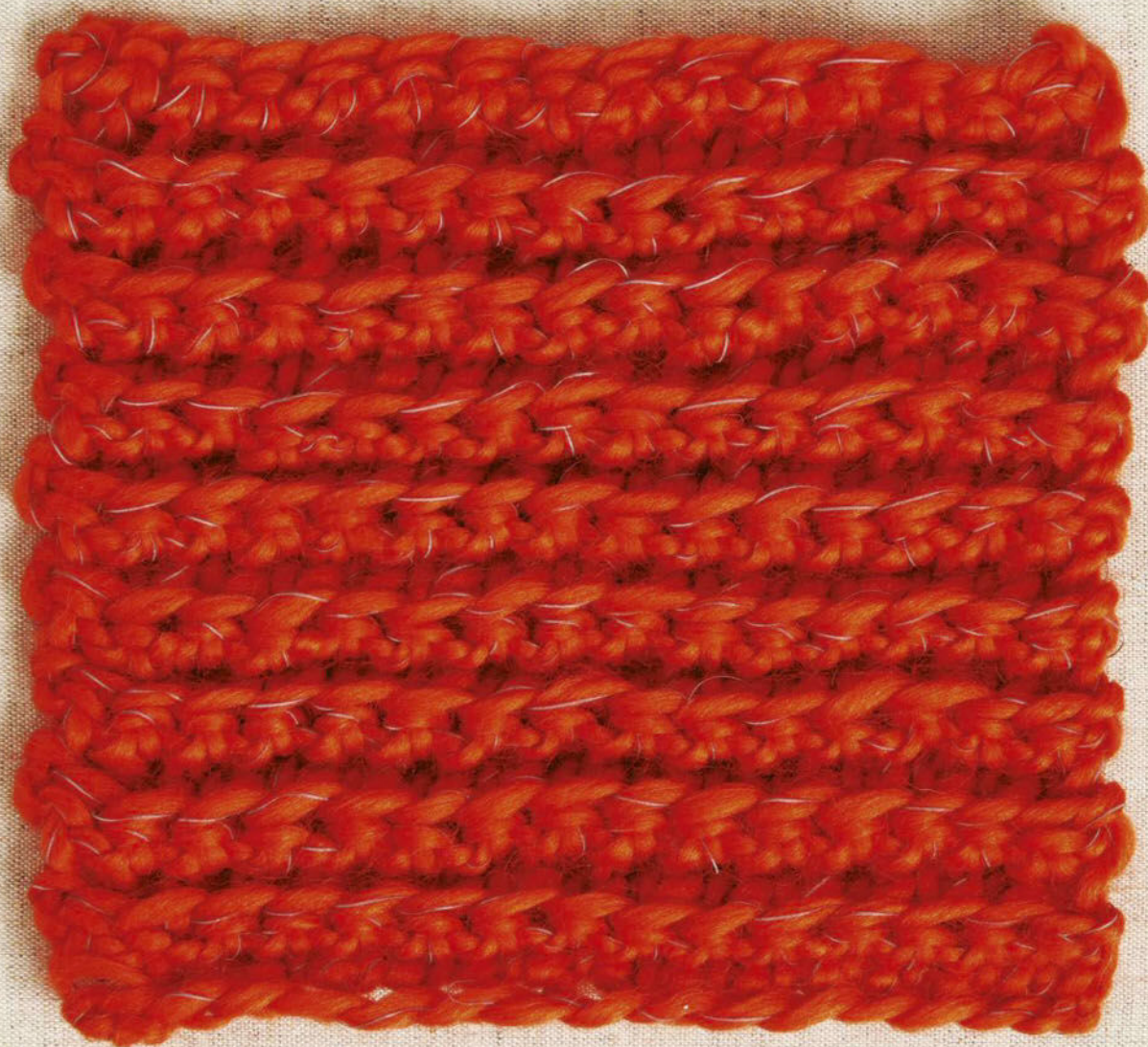
CALL 0844 844 0388 and quote 'Love Crochet Spring 2016'

ONLINE www.buysubscriptions.com/craftspecial

Lines open weekdays 8am to 8pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm. Overseas please call +44 (0) 1795 414 676.
EUR price £6.99, ROW price £7.99. All prices include p&p. Please allow up to 14 days for delivery.

BACK LOOP STITCH

Discover a new stitch and how to use it in every issue.



BASIC BACK LOOP STITCH PATTERN

Ch15 or number stated in pattern.

Row 1 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in second ch from hook and each ch across, turn.

Row 2 Working in back loops only: ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Repeat Row 2 the number of times stated in pattern.

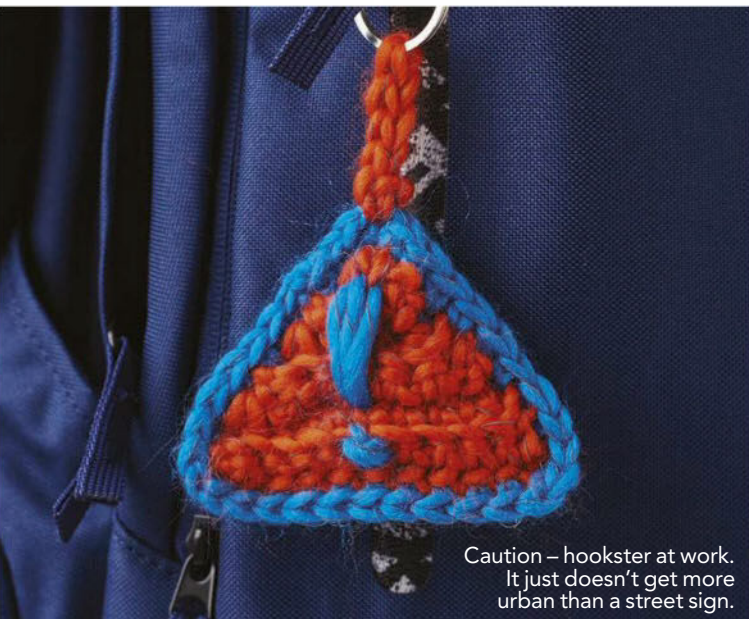
Fasten off.

Patterns by Louise Smith.

Turn the page for more creative ideas using this stitch pattern.



Use reflective yarn to make high-vis active accessories. Back loop crochet adds scrummy texture.



Caution – hookster at work. It just doesn't get more urban than a street sign.



Wear your crochet heart on your sleeve and be shamelessly visible.

BRIGHT ON BEANIE

This chunky beanie hat is worked flat without shaping and pulled together at the top afterwards. And no hat is complete without a fluffy pompom.

- Rico Design Creative Glowworm (54% acrylic, 30% wool, 16% glass fibre, 100g/110m), 2 balls of Coral (004), 1 ball of Azure (006)
- A 8mm (US L/11) hook
- A large pompom maker (optional)

TENSION

9sts and 6 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over back loop stitch using 2 strands of yarn and an 8mm hook or size needed to achieve stated tension

MEASUREMENTS

24cm (9½in) deep without pompom, approx 48cm (19in) circumference (will stretch to fit larger head circumference)

HAT

With Coral and Azure held together, ch20.

Rows 1-36 Work Back Loop stitch pattern. [20 dc]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up. Using the long tail, join together the ends of the work to form a tube. Then weave yarn through each st around top of tube and pull tightly. Weave in all ends and attach a large pompom in Coral, if desired.

NOTICE ME KEY RING

Clip this bold, reflective dangler to your bag when you're out running or cycling to make sure you're seen.

- Rico Design Creative Glowworm (54% acrylic, 30% wool, 16% glass fibre, 100g/110m), 1 ball of each: Coral (004) Azure (006)
- A 6mm (US J/10) hook
- A key ring loop

MEASUREMENTS

10x11cm (4x4¼in) without key ring loop

KEYRING PIECE (MAKE 2)

With Coral, ch10.

Row 1 As Row 1 of Basic Patt. [10 dc]

Row 2 Working in back loops only: dc2tog, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog. [8 dc]

Repeat Row 2 until you have 2 sts remaining, dc2tog. **Fasten off**.

With Azure, embroider an exclamation mark onto the RS of both pieces.

Join pieces with WS together using Azure and a dc seam (work 3 dc into each corner).

Join Coral in top stitch of key ring and ch5. Hold the key ring loop in place, just below the first ch on the hook and ss in second ch from hook and in each ch to end. Make sure you trap the key ring loop in the first ss.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

OUT THERE ARM BAND

A single stripe helps this arm band stand out. Be sure to make yours big enough to fit on your upper arm over a jacket or jumper, then let it shine.

- Rico Design Creative Glowworm (54% acrylic, 30% wool, 16% glass fibre, 100g/110m), 1 ball of each: Coral (004) Azure (006)
- For yarn stockists, contact Rico www.rico-design.co.uk
- A 6mm (US J/10) hook

MEASUREMENTS

7cm (2¾in) wide and approx 26cm (10¼in) circumference

ARM BAND

With Coral, ch22.

Rows 1-4 Work Back Loop stitch pattern, ending with a RS row. [22 dc] Break off yarn and do not turn work.

Join Azure in opposite end of work.

Row 5 (RS) Continue in Back Loop stitch pattern. Break yarn and do not turn.

Rejoin Coral in opposite end of work to work a RS row on the next row.

Rows 6-9 Continue in Back Loop stitch pattern.

Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing up.

Join sides of Armband to form a tube.

Weave in ends.

"Crafts can alleviate symptoms of stress, pain and anxiety."



HOOKED ON WELLBEING

We've long suspected that crochet is good for us – satisfying and stress-relieving, not to mention smile-inducing. And now we finally have the hard evidence to back us up.

For many of us, retreating into a quiet corner with our latest crochet project can be wonderfully restorative. And, according to special research from Betsan Corkhill of Stitchlinks (www.stitchlinks.com), that's no surprise. "I launched Stitchlinks in 2005 because I'd stumbled across something important," she says, "something that had the potential to change the way we view wellbeing and treat long-term medical conditions."

Betsan had realised that yarn crafts such as knitting and crochet can alleviate symptoms of conditions such as chronic pain, stress, depression, panic and anxiety.

Today, Stitchlinks provides a forum where people can chat to others around the world and know they're not alone in seeking out crafts to improve their health. "Stitchlinks also gives information to clinicians, teachers and others, as well as acting as a hub for research into the benefits of craft."

EASING THE PAIN

Designer and author Kathryn Vercillo (www.kathrynvercillo.com) discovered the therapeutic merits of crochet during a bout of depression. "It was the culmination of a 15-year, undiagnosed battle with the illness," she says. "I was nearly immobilised

and on the brink of suicide, but I kept pulling my energy up as much as I could in the hopes of finding an answer."

The breakthrough came when Kathryn read a tip suggesting a return to what you loved as a child. "From somewhere in the depths of my memory, I recalled learning to crochet from my mother when I was little," she says. "I decided to learn again and it provided so many benefits to me that I didn't even fully realise at the time. I've been a huge proponent of crochet for healing ever since then."

Ali Brown (www.iamalibrown.com) is Artist in Residence at Southmead Hospital

in Bristol and has worked with Milestones Trust, an organisation supporting people with learning disabilities, mental health needs and dementia. "I saw the potential of crochet and knitting to bring people together, to create common ground and a space to connect and share stories and experiences," Ali comments. She particularly believes in the benefits of having a collaborative goal to work towards. "Some people contribute from home, but are still just as much a part of the project. This way of working really unifies us – it demonstrates what's possible when many people work together."

Ali's pilot project at Southmead Hospital was an immense, colourful jumper that welcomed participation from anyone who was interested. The jumper, made from patchworked sections of knitting and crochet, hung ahead of the hospital's main entrance, arms outstretched as though ready to give a hug. "The jumper's success paved the way for my residency," Ali

explains. "People really loved the project – the feedback we had from participants and passersby was great. I remember seeing people approaching the hospital with huge smiles on their faces."

The impact of participation was just as apparent. "I noticed people building confidence, sharing new ideas, and beginning to flourish creatively."

In her role as Artist in Residence, Ali takes crafts onto the hospital's wards. "I'm at Southmead a couple of days a week and I travel the wards with my suitcase full of yarn, needles and crochet hooks, inviting patients, staff and visitors to contribute to installations around the hospital site. I also hold regular drop-in craft sessions."

Recent projects have included 'The Knit Stop', a vibrant cover for the hospital bus

stop with a ceiling full of pompoms. "The sections were handmade by patients, staff and visitors to the hospital, as well as local community groups," she says.

For a time, the installation featured 'The World's First Knitted Wisdom Dispensing Machine', which dispensed tickets printed

with encouraging notes created during craft sessions. The positive messages were then also incorporated into knitted banners installed around the hospital site. "The

idea was that you could collect a wisdom ticket while waiting for your bus. The machine proved to be popular, with 1,500 tickets being dispensed in one month!"

NOT YOUR AVERAGE CRAFTS

Betsan points out that there's a significant difference between your usual crocheting

"I NOTICED PEOPLE BUILDING CONFIDENCE, SHARING NEW IDEAS AND FLOURISHING."



Opposite: 'The World's First Knitted Wisdom Dispensing Machine', photograph by Ali Brown.

This page, clockwise from left: Printed cards from the wisdom machine; Ali's bus stop project; Southmead's collaborative giant jumper. All photos by Ali Brown.



LOVE SAVES THE DAY

or knitting and the therapeutic versions of these crafts. "Therapeutic crochet and knitting deliberately enhance the benefits of these crafts to improve wellbeing," she says. "I've been researching the meditative, creative and social benefits of knitting since 2005 and the most mind-blowing fact I've come across is that we all have the power to change ourselves, neurologically, biologically, behaviourally, socially – even the way our brain is wired – and that therapeutic crochet and knitting can be used to facilitate these positive changes. Crafts empower you to

change your personal story and the context of your life, and we can use this to facilitate powerful positive change. Their

portability means you have a powerful tool at your fingertips any time, anywhere."

Vitally, she explains, crochet and knitting enable us to "switch off from the problems of the world, from our 24/7 screen-based worlds. It gives us permission to stop. This brings down stress levels and tunes up the body's healing system. It replenishes and restores balance, stimulates creativity (which is essential for wellbeing) and teaches valuable life skills like patience and perseverance in a world increasingly

focused on instant gratification." Who knew taking it slow had so many benefits?

In the same way that long-term medical conditions can close down your world, Betsan explains, "thinking creatively can open it up and give you more options."

Furthermore, the rhythmic movements required by crochet and knitting can prompt a meditative-like state. "Bilateral patterns of movement that cross the midline of the body make your brain work hard so act as a powerful distraction from symptoms. Plus, repetitive movement

enhances the release of calming serotonin, which acts to lift your mood naturally."

After turning to crochet during her own struggles with depression, Kathryn launched her

Crochet Concupiscence blog (www.crochetconcupiscence.com) in 2011. "I was blogging about how crochet helped me and suddenly lots of people were sharing their stories," she says. "I hadn't realised how much it could help others, but the floodgates opened and the research began." Her first book, *Crochet Saved My Life*, was published the following year.

Kathryn's a fervent believer in the therapeutic benefits of crochet. "It can be utilised for meditation, relaxation, focus,

distraction from a ruminating mind, self-esteem building, managing chronic pain conditions and so much more," she enthuses. "At a basic level, crochet is a soothing, rhythmic craft that slows you down and gets your mind in tune with your body. This allows us to de-stress, providing us with countless health benefits."

CRUCIAL 'ME TIME'

Taking time for ourselves to do something we love, Kathryn comments, is hugely healing. "I also believe in the research that indicates the craft releases feel-good chemicals like serotonin, provides an outlet for creative energy and the desire to be productive, and offers colour therapy and the benefits of tactile sensation."

Like Betsan, Kathryn sees crochet as a tool for self-management of long-term conditions. "It makes sense to incorporate crochet into a daily wellness plan for both mental and physical health conditions," she says. "Physically, it's used in therapy for finger, arm and hand conditions, and it is also used to reduce stress-related conditions like heart disease. Mentally, it provides a meditative benefit that can be harnessed to reduce the symptoms of depression, anxiety and other conditions."

Crochet also, Kathryn says, provides the opportunity to feel connected to others. "I feel connected to others every time I make a stitch," she says. "It connects me to

"CRAFT BRINGS DOWN STRESS LEVELS AND TUNES UP THE BODY'S HEALING SYSTEM."

the generations before me who crafted this way, the generations after me who can experience what I have created and the generation that I'm living in through the sharing of our work."

Interaction is a big part of the attraction for Ali. "For me, it is about bringing people together and sharing a space to create and connect," she says. "I think it's something to do with eye contact, and being in a place where people feel able to share worries and experiences that they might not otherwise do in another group environment."

In addition, it can act as a means of self-expression – a crucial part of healing. "In the midst of chronic conditions such as depression, it can feel impossible to draw creatively when facing a blank page," says

Kathryn. "Crochet allows you to choose from patterns and make adaptations in a way that feels manageable, doable, and allows you to express yourself. I believe that when someone crafts, it's an expression of their unique experience in the world and their true selves."

Kathryn recently finished her second book, *Hook to Heal*, which encompasses a set of creativity exercises using crochet. "As a result

of that work, I believe that there are many actions we can take to improve our health through crafting," she says. "However, I think the biggest thing is to give yourself permission to explore and enjoy the craft without any judgement and to try to stay in tune with what aspects of crochet can help you personally." Let's get hooking...

Written by Judy Darley

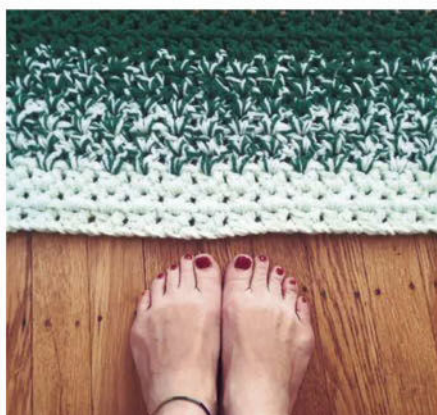
"IT'S ABOUT BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER AND SHARING A SPACE TO CREATE."

YOUR CRAFT PRESCRIPTION

Betsan's recommendations:

- Use a daily dose of crafting to bring down your stress levels, lowering the detrimental high levels of chemicals associated with long-term stress from your body.
- Think about the colours and textures you choose, and use these as a mood-boosting tool.
- Select your project to tackle or achieve different mind states. Challenging yourself with something advanced but achievable will give you a lift, while easier pieces promote relaxation.
- Carry a project with you wherever you go, ready to dip into.
- Pace your activities. Sitting for long periods is detrimental to your health so get up, move around and stretch every 30 minutes.

Opposite: An inspiring banner, photo by Ali Brown.
Clockwise from below left: Crochet mandala for the Mandalas for Marinke project; Stashbusting granny blanket, made with two yarns held together; Chunky V-stitch ombré blanket. All photos by Kathryn Vercillo.



Jewellery Maker

Switch on your TV and discover
a dazzling new hobby!



SAVE
20%
ON YOUR
FIRST ORDER!*

GET
STARTED
TODAY...

- ★ Order your **beginner's jewellery kit & tool kit**
- ★ **Be inspired** by our exclusive designs
- ★ **Incredible prices**
– great deals you won't find anywhere else

We show you how to make simple yet
stunning pieces of jewellery using
our TV tutorials

Go to www.jewellerymaker.com/getting-started and get
20% off your first order* using the code **CrochetJM1**

* 20% discount is available for new customers only and excludes 'show products'. Please note this offer is not valid in conjunction with any other promotion. Offer ends 30th April.

Watch the Jewellery Maker channel daily on
Freeview 76 (from 8am-12pm) Sky 665 Virgin 756 Freesat 807
or watch online at www.jewellerymaker.com



HOPPY EASTER

Stitch adorable bunny tops and tails for your table. By Becky Garratt.



Bunny decorations



YOU WILL NEED

- Sirdar Cotton DK (100% cotton, 100g/212m), 1 ball of each: Cottonfield (517) Hot Pink (511) Honeysuckle (508) Sapling (529) Bluebird (515) Light Taupe (504) Toasted (505) Mill White (501)

- Black cotton yarn or embroidery thread for face details
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Safety eyes (5mm)
- Toy stuffing
- Pink felt
- Craft glue

For yarn stockists, contact
Sirdar 01924 231682
www.sirdar.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

Each piece measures 15cm (6in) in diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

We're digging Becky Garratt's super-cute Easter bunny decorations (and love any excuse to make bun puns). One half is popping up to say hello while the other is busy burrowing away. The rabbit bits and bobs themselves are worked in amigurumi style – that's double crochet stitches in spirals – then embellished with felt and flowers. Won't they look adorable on your table or in the middle of a bright spring wreath? Hop to it.

NOTES

All pieces except the Grass and Flowers are worked in a spiral, without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it helpful to use a stitch marker in the first st of the round, moving it up as you work. Leave long tails of yarn at the start and end of all pieces, in case they are needed for sewing up later.

C GRASS (MAKE 2)

Using Cottonfield and a 4mm hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as first st throughout), 6htr into loop, ss to top of first st.

Round 2 Ch1, 2htr in each st around, ss to top of first st. [12 sts]

Round 3 Ch1, (1htr, 2htr in next st) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [18 sts]

Round 4 Ch1, (2htr, 2htr in next st) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [24 sts]

Round 5 Ch1, (1htr, 2htr in next st, 2htr) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [30 sts]

Round 6 Ch1, (4htr, 2htr in next st) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [36 sts]

Round 7 Ch1, (2htr, 2htr in next st, 3htr) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [42 sts]

Round 8 Ch1, (6htr, 2htr in next st) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [48 sts]

Round 9 Ch1, (3htr, 2htr in next st, 4htr) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [54 sts]

Round 10 Ch1, (8htr, 2htr in next st) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [60 sts]

Round 11 Ch1, (5htr, 2htr in next st, 4htr) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [66 sts]

Round 12 Ch1, (10htr, 2htr in next st) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [72 sts]

Round 13 Ch1, (5htr, 2htr in next, 6htr) 6 times, ss to top of first st. [78 sts]

Fasten off.

BUNNY HEAD

Using Light Taupe and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.



Pinch each ear together at the base before sewing in place to create a curved shape.



Use this image as a guide for placement of the safety eyes and sewing on facial features.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc into magic loop, ss to top of first st.

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]

Rounds 5-6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 6dc, (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times, 6dc. [30 sts]

Round 8 8dc, (1dc, 2dc in next st) 7 times, 8dc. [37 sts]

Rounds 9-12 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Stitch face details using black and position safety eyes, using the image as a guide. Stuff then sew to the centre of the first piece of Grass.

BUNNY EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Light Taupe and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc into magic loop, ss to top of first st.

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]

Rounds 4-14 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Press the Ear flat, pinch the bottom

Bunny decorations

edge in half and sew to secure the shape. Sew onto the Head.

FRONT PAWS (MAKE 2)

Using Light Taupe and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 4dc into magic loop and ss to top of first st.

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [8 sts]

Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [12 sts]

Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [16 sts]

Rounds 5-7 Dc in each st around.

Round 8 (2dc, dc2tog) 4 times. [12 sts]

Rounds 9-10 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Add a little stuffing and sew on in front of the Bunny, at the join of the Head and Grass.

BUNNY TAIL

Using Mill White and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 5dc into magic loop.

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]

Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]

Rounds 4-5 Dc in each st around.

Round 6 (1dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]

Round 7 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]

Fasten off.

BUNNY BOTTOM

Using Toasted and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 5dc into magic loop.

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]

Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]

Round 4 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]

Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [25 sts]

Round 6 (4dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [30 sts]

Round 7 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [35 sts]

Round 8 10dc, (1dc, 2dc in next st) 7 times, 11dc. [42 sts]

Rounds 9-13 Dc in each st around.

Round 14 16dc, (2dc in next st, 1dc) 10 times, 6dc. [52 sts]

Rounds 15-17 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Sew the Tail in place onto the Bottom. Stuff the Bottom and then sew to the centre of the second piece of Grass.

BUNNY FEET (MAKE 2)

Using Toasted and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 5dc into loop.

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]

Round 3 (4dc, 2dc in next st) twice. [12 sts]

Round 4 (5dc, 2dc in next st) twice. [14 sts]

Round 5 (6dc, 2dc in next st) twice. [16 sts]

Rounds 6-7 Dc in each st around.

Round 8 (2dc, dc2tog) 4 times. [12 sts]

Round 9 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 4 times. [16 sts]

Round 10 (7dc, 2dc in next st) twice. [18 sts]

Round 11 (8dc, 2dc in next st) twice. [20 sts]

Rounds 12-13 Dc in each st around.

Round 14 (8dc, dc2tog) twice. [18 sts]

Round 15 (7dc, dc2tog) twice. [16 sts]

Round 16 (6dc, dc2tog) twice. [14 sts]

Round 17 (5dc, dc2tog) twice. [12 sts]

Fasten off.

Fold the Foot flat and sew closed.

Sew to the Bunny Bottom, underneath the Tail.

Cut out 1 pink felt circle approx 2cm in diameter, and 3 felt circles approx 1cm diameter. Glue them onto the Foot.

Sew Feet onto the Bunny Bottom underneath the Tail, using the images as a guide.

FLOWERS (MAKE 9)

Using either Hot Pink, Honeysuckle or Bluebird and a 3mm hook, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 10dc into the loop and ss to top of first st.

Round 2 *(Htr, tr, htr) in next st, ss in next st; rep from * 4 more times.

Fasten off.

LEAVES (MAKE 9)

Using Sapling and a 3mm hook, ch8.

Round 1 (RS) Ss in second ch from hook, dc in next st, htr in next st, 2tr in next st, htr in next st, dc in next st, ss in next st, ch1, rotate and mirror these sts on the other side of the ch, ss into first st. **Fasten off.**

Sew the Leaves and Flowers to both pieces of Grass, using the images as a guide for placement.



Felt circles finish off the feet. These could be embroidered if you're handy with a needle.



A crocheted rabbit tail looks very neat, but you could easily swap it for a pom-pom.



Choose the brightest shades of cotton to make your decorative spring flowers.

FREE TRIAL*

TAKE 1,000s
OF PATTERNS
WHEREVER
YOU GO!



*Search for Simply
Crochet on your
chosen app store
Available on Apple,
Google Play and Nook

iPad is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc. NOOK is a registered trademark of Barnes & Noble, Inc. NOOK Tablet is a trademark of Barnes & Noble, Inc. 30 day free trial is for new users only. Cancel at any point during to avoid being charged. *Free trial not available on Zinio.



SHOW US YOURS!

Join our gang of Treble Makers and share your thoughts and makes with us, for a chance to be featured here.



IN THE FRAME

Crocheter Andrea Garden has been busy making the full set of winter lace pictures from *Simply Crochet* issue 39. They look incredible together, don't you think? Via email.

This month we asked you...

What stashbusting
tips can you
share for using
up odds and ends
of yarn?

"I'm making a couple of blankets for winter and am gonna start making hats for my local hospital."

Rebecca Heenan via Facebook

POM ON TOP

▼ Talented stitcher Ailís Ní Chofaigh only learnt how to read patterns in the summer, but now there's no stopping her. We love her bold, stripy hat from issue 37. Shared with us via Facebook.



▲ Keen reader Catherine Lloyd posted us some lovely photographs of her Fair Isle Vest, made using the pattern from issue 36. She told us: "I added some extra length in the body but I think it turned out great!" We think so, too – it looks like a perfect fit. Well done.

THE LOWDOWN

It's simple to be in with a chance of winning one of three great prizes next issue! Show us your *Simply Crochet* makes on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or via email or post by 28 April 2016. For all terms and conditions, and more information, visit www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/competitionrules





LOOMING LARGE

The loom band craze may have died down a bit now, but that doesn't mean you can't still do creative things with them. We were amazed by resourceful stitcher Helen Cassie's Triforce Baskets, hooked with her daughter's unwanted loom bands. She told us they're great for tapestry crochet. What a fantastic idea! She used the subscriber pattern from issue 39. Shared with us via email.

OTTERLY ADORABLE

Laura Gatrad gave her otter a stripy jumper – what a brill idea for stashbusting! Via Facebook.



DOUBLE TAP ♥

We've been double tapping on Instagram and admiring your makes. Tag us @simplycrochetmag and use the hashtag #SCtreblemaker.



DO THE TWIST
Look at the stitch definition on that! And it matches the bag – amazing. It's the cabled headband from issue 40, made by @woollymiller.



SO SQUARE
Savvy stitcher @willandtheo is making issue 39's starry block blanket for Mother's Day. It looks fantastic in pinky-purple.



CAT APPROVED
@peacockaren used a Debbie Bliss yarn to hook issue 35's treble jumper. It's lovely, but we can't take our eyes off her cute kitty Mao.

TALK TO US!

- Post a pic on our Facebook page facebook.com/simplycrochetmag
- Tweet us @SimplyCrochet_ twitter.com/SimplyCrochet_
- Add to our Finished Projects board ravelry.com/groups/simply-crochet
- Use the hashtag #SCtreblemaker instagram.com/simplycrochetmag

Write to us at: Simply Crochet, Immediate Media Co, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN

Email us at: simplycrochet@immediate.co.uk



TAKE 1,000s OF PATTERNS WHEREVER YOU GO!

* Search for Simply Crochet on your chosen app store
Available on Apple, Google Play and Nook

iPad is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc. NOOK is a registered trademark of Barnes & Noble, Inc. NOOK Tablet is a trademark of Barnes & Noble, Inc 30 day free trial is for new users only. Cancel at any point during to avoid being charged. *Free trial not available on Zinio.



NEW SEASON YARNS

Fresh shades and blends for spring and summer.

EGG MOTIF

Ch5, ss to first ch to form a ring.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), 11tr into ring, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 tr]

Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc, 2htr in next st, 3tr in next st, 2htr in next st, 3dc, ss to top of first dc. [10 dc, 4 htr, 3 tr]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

MAKE AN EASTER GARLAND
with your eggs



LOUISA HARDING CASSIA PRINTS

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 75% wool, 25% nylon
BALL 50g/133m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £4.95



For spring/summer 2016, Louisa Harding has released a variegated print version of their scrummy Cassia DK. The yarn is the springy, super-soft wool blend you'd expect, but with startling colour effects. There are 10 exciting shade variations to

try, each with a punchy handful of different tones. One of the best things about this yarn (aside from the glorious colours) is the superwash quality, making it ideal for a fancy garment. www.designeryarns.uk.com
01535 664222

LOTUS YARNS CATHAY 4

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 50% silk, 50% Tibetan yak
SKEIN 50g/165m
HOOK 3.5mm
RRP £15.95



This luxurious silk and yak blend drapes beautifully and is strokably soft. The yarn has a heathered appearance and a subtle sheen, which is perfect for the colour palette of 12 pretty, nature-inspired shades. While it falls at the lighter end of the DK scale,

the yak fibres ensure it's fairly warm. Cathay 4 is ideal if you're looking for an extra-special yarn to make a gift with. A crochet cowl or pair of fingerless mitts in this yarn would be simply gorgeous. www.intercontinentalyarns.co.uk
01535 664222

PATONS SUMMER COTTON

WEIGHT Chunky
CONTENT 44% cotton, 36% acrylic, 20% polyamide
BALL 100g/183m
HOOK 6mm
RRP £3.48



This new chunky offering from Patons is a filled cotton tape yarn. It has a rounded finish that provides fantastic stitch definition and a very squashy feel that makes it fun to hook with. It may seem unusual to release a chunky

yarn for the warmer weather, but the practical cotton blend is light and has jersey-like qualities. We reckon Summer Cotton would make a fab shopper. www.makeitcoats.com
01484 681881

ROWAN SUMMERLITE DK

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% cotton
BALL 50g/130m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £3.75



Previously a 4ply, Rowan's Summerlite is now also available in a DK weight. It's a high-quality yarn, made with Egyptian cotton. While it's not mercerised, the yarn does have a slight sheen to it and the plies are very tightly twisted, resulting in an

incredibly smooth finish and excellent stitch definition. We think Summerlite DK would be a brilliant choice for a lacy spring top. Take your pick from 16 elegant shades, both bright tones and neutrals. www.knitrowan.com
01484 681881

KING COLE VOGUE

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% cotton
BALL 50g/140m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £2.05



King Cole's new cotton yarn is like nothing we've seen before. All 12 shades of Vogue are formed of a clean white base printed with a single vibrant colour in a splashy, splattered effect. When worked up flat, the print then forms pleasing

tonal stripes. With this yarn, even the simplest of makes will be much more exciting. We'd hook a bright baby blanket with Vogue, or a pair of booties. It's machine washable and can be ironed. www.kingcole.com
01756 703670

SIRDAR AMALFI

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 75% cotton, 25% viscose
BALL 50g/110m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £2.99



Sirdar's new Amalfi yarn is no ordinary cotton-blend DK. Each of the eight solid shades is twisted together with a variegated strand that really pops. It's also cool to wear and machine washable, making it perfect for hooking

up light, summery garments with an unexpected twist of colour. If you're curious to see how this yarn works up, turn to page 34 to see Fran Morgan's jumper in Amalfi. www.sirdar.co.uk
01924 231682



BROOMSTICK CROCHET

Supersize your crochet with a great big broomstick and learn a historic form of crochet that's fast and fun.

WHAT WILL I NEED TO WORK BROOMSTICK CROCHET?

Here are the three vital materials you'll need to work the technique.

Broomstick lace is a simple and versatile form of crochet that's quick to learn yet has infinite possibilities for creating light, open fabrics with great drape. The technique is traditionally worked using a crochet hook and a broomstick handle (hence the name), although nowadays most crocheters use a large knitting needle instead. We'll show you just how to do it and then you can try making our pretty bracelet on page 83.



SMOOTH DK YARN AND HOOK

You can use any yarn to work broomstick crochet, but when you're learning it's best to use a smooth DK yarn that won't split when you work with it. To go with it, you'll need a standard crochet hook in a size to suit the yarn you're using – check the yarn's ball band for the recommended hook size.



BROOMSTICK

You'll also need a 'broomstick' – this could be a crafting dowel, an actual broomstick handle, a large knitting needle or even a marker pen. The diameter of the 'broomstick' can be any size, but 10mm to 25mm are the most popular sizes for creating the characteristic broomstick lace look.

HOW DO I START MAKING BROOMSTICK LOOPS?

Start by pulling up long loops onto your broomstick.

There are various ways to start off your first broomstick crochet piece. You could make a foundation chain, work a row of crochet stitches into the chain and then work a row of broomstick stitches. Or you could start off by making a foundation chain and then work a row of broomstick stitches straight away – this is the method we'll show you how to do because it means you can get stuck in straight away. To start, chain 20 (or the number of stitches you want – we're going to work 4 groups of 5 broomstick loops, so $4 \times 5 = 20$).

Step 1 Remove the hook from the last chain and lengthen it to form a large loop. Place this loop onto your 'broomstick'.

Steps 2 & 3 *Insert your crochet hook into the next



01



02



03



04

chain, yrh and pull up a loop. Lengthen this loop and place it onto the broomstick.

Step 4 Keeping tension on the working yarn, repeat from * until all the chains have been

worked into. You should have 20 loops on the broomstick. To work the next row, there's no need to turn – you'll be working from the front of the fabric at all times.

HOW DO I WORK STITCHES INTO THE LOOPS?

Master broomstick crochet with these simple steps.

Next you need to work standard crochet stitches into the long loops you've pulled up. This is where the magic of broomstick crochet happens. First, you need to drop the working yarn to avoid pulling out the final broomstick loop.

Steps 1 & 2 Now we're going to ask you to take all the loops off the broomstick – take a deep breath, it's okay, the loops won't unravel, as long as you don't pull on the working yarn. (If you'd prefer, you can just slide off five loops at a time instead.) So when you're ready, gently remove the loops from the broomstick.

Step 3 Insert your crochet hook from right to left into the first 5 broomstick loops. Make sure that all the loops are the same height, pulling back on the working yarn if you need to shorten the final loop.

Step 4 Take up the working yarn again and work yrh.

Step 5 Pull the yarn through all 5 loops.

Step 6 Work yrh and pull through (this is chain 1) – this will secure the group of broomstick loops and act as the turning chain for your row of stitches. If you're planning to work stitches taller than double crochet, you'll need to work more chains here, as appropriate.

Step 7 Now work your stitches into the first group of broomstick loops – you need to make one stitch for every loop in the group. In our example, we have 5 broomstick loops in each group so work 5 dc stitches into the first group of loops. If you were working groups of 4 broomstick loops, you would work 4 stitches here instead.

Step 8 *Insert your hook from right to left into the next 5 broomstick loops and work 5dc sts into this group. Repeat from * across the row until you have 4 groups of 5 sts.



HOW DO I CONTINUE THE BROOMSTICK FABRIC?

Alternate rows of broomstick loops and crochet stitches.

You will now have 20 dc stitches and you'll be ready to make the next row of broomstick loops.

Step 1 There will be one loop remaining on your hook after working the final dc. Pull gently to lengthen this loop and place it on your broomstick.

Step 2 Now pull up loops in each stitch and place them onto the broomstick in the same way as before – to do this, *insert the hook in the next st, yrh and pull up a loop, then lengthen it and place it on the broomstick. Repeat from * across the row, in

each dc stitch, to complete the broomstick loop row.

Now you can work crochet stitches into the broomstick loops as before, making 4 groups of 5 broomstick loops (also called a 5-loop cluster). You'll soon see how the fabric is

made up of a row of broomstick loops and a row of plain crochet stitches. Continue as set, alternating these two rows, until your fabric is the desired length. To finish your work, simply fasten off in the usual way at the end of a stitch row.



WHAT ELSE CAN I TRY?

Have fun experimenting with the technique.

Once you can work straight pieces of fabric and you've gotten to grips with the technique, you can experiment. On the stitch row, try varying the stitch you work, such as triple trebles for a lacy look.

Or you could try using different broomstick sizes on different rows to create different effects – **Sample 1** alternates using a 15mm and a 20mm broomstick.

You could also try working samples using different sizes of broomstick and different weights of yarn – you'll see that these

changes will alter the size and quality of the broomstick fabric.

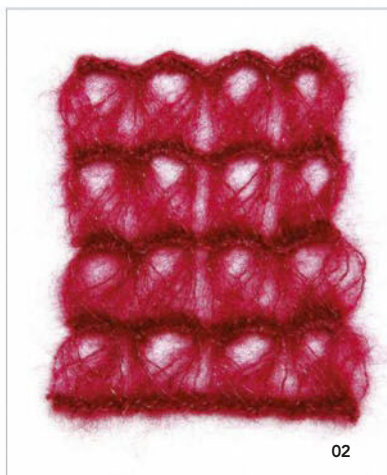
Sample 2 uses a laceweight yarn and a 20mm broomstick, so the resulting fabric is open, airy, light and lacy.

Sample 3 also uses a 20mm broomstick, but with a heavier, chunky yarn to create a thick, dense fabric that's perfect for cosy blankets or oversized garments.

These two samples both use the same 20mm broomstick, so they are the same height but they vary in width and density.

These are two very different effects, but you'll find that making small changes can make a big difference.

You could also try working a different number of stitches and various groups of loops – we'll have more on this next issue, but for now try working 1dc stitch into each individual broomstick loop instead of groups of loops to create a 'dropped stitch' effect in the fabric. The possibilities of broomstick crochet are huge so the sky's the limit for your creativity.



Written by Zoe Clements and Becky Skuse

Broomstick bracelet

YOUR NEXT STEPS!

Put your broomstick
crochet skills to the
test and conjure up
a pretty bracelet.



POSITIVELY LOOPY

Make Becky Skuse's oh-so impressive buttoned
cuff with this special crochet technique.

Broomstick bracelet



YOU WILL NEED

- Bergère de France Reflet (61% organic cotton, 39% polyester, 100g/300m), 1 ball of Ocean (50284) (bracelet uses 5g of this yarn)
 - A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
 - One 12mm knitting needle (or other 'broomstick' of the same diameter, such as a marker pen)
 - 3 small buttons
- For yarn stockists, contact
Bergère de France
www.bergeredefrance.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

Finished bracelet measures 4.5cm wide and 17cm long, or length to suit you

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Designer Becky Skuse says: "When you're learning a new technique, it's always best to start off small. This little bracelet is the perfect first project for using your new broomstick crochet skills. There are only 12 stitches to worry about and each broomstick row is so tall that you'll make progress really quickly. The Reflet yarn gives a very pretty finish, with sparkly strands woven in with the soft organic cotton to give your wrist a real treat. With a bit of practice, you'll soon be whipping up these bracelets in a flash for friends and family."



No need to work fiddly buttonholes – these fellas fasten through the final pattern repeat.

NOTES

Bracelet will stretch to fit most wrists, or follow the instructions in the pattern to make it longer or shorter to suit you. The final pattern repeat forms the buttonholes while the first 3 rows of double crochet form the button placket, so remember that these rows will overlap when worn.

BRACELET

Ch13.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in the second ch from the hook and in each ch to end, turn. [12 dc]

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

Row 3 Ch1, dc in each dc to end, do not turn.

Row 4 Lengthen the working loop and place on the 12mm broomstick, *insert hook into the next dc, pull up a loop and place on needle; repeat from * to end, do not turn. [12 broomstick loops]

Row 5 Insert hook into first 4 loops from right to left and remove the loops from the broomstick (don't pull on the working yarn), yrh and pull a loop through the 4 broomstick loops, ch1, 4dc into same 4-loop group, *4dc into the next 4-loop group; repeat from * once more, do not turn. [12 dc]
Rows 4 and 5 form pattern.

Repeat Rows 4 and 5 another 10 times or until bracelet is desired length (remember the two ends will overlap when worn).

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Fold the bracelet around so that the two ends meet and the right side is facing outward.

Sew 3 buttons onto the first 3 rows of dc stitches, lining them up with the buttonholes at the other end.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO SEW ON A BUTTON



1 Use a pin to mark position of your button, lining up with the buttonhole. Secure yarn on wrong side of fabric and thread onto tapestry needle. Bring needle out at pin mark and through button.



2 Push the needle back through the button and the fabric, pulling the yarn firmly. Bring the needle out through the fabric and button, and back down again.



3 Take yarn to the front of the fabric, but under button and NOT through button. Wrap yarn around twice, pull yarn tight (to create a shank and prevent fraying).



4 Take the yarn to the back of the fabric and weave in the end to secure.



KENT

AvicraftWool

We stock Sirdar, Rico, King Cole, Woolcraft, James C Brett, and Louisa Harding

Now open from 6pm-9pm every Wednesday

Lots of discounts, special offers and free gifts. See our website for details

15 Chatterton Road, Bromley, Kent. BR2 9QW

020 8290 1238

www.avicraftwool.com

email: sharonthesheep@gmail.com



LIVERPOOL



Now open on Merseyside for all your crochet needs!

Yarn for all tastes and budgets. Natural fibres, crochet cottons and British wool.

Haberdashery essentials

Hooks and notions for crochet and knitting

Magazines, books, pattern leaflets and internet search service

Friendly crochet and knitting groups and classes

- Anchor
- Peter Pan
- UK Alpaca
- Robin
- Blacker Yarns
- Rowan
- Erika Knight
- Woollyknit
- Patons
- Wendy

1ST BIRTHDAY OFFER!

10% off with this ad during March



The Good Wool Shop at Derbyshire's, 22 - 24 Chapel Lane, Formby L37 4DU
01704 830465 | www.thegoodwoolshop.co.uk



OXFORDSHIRE

Oxford Yarn Store



www.oxfordyarnstore.co.uk
info@oxfordyarnstore.co.uk

Exquisite yarns and patterns for all crochet lovers:

Rowan, Debbie Bliss, Noro, Manos del Uruguay, Colinette, Louisa Harding, Jamiesons, Araucania, Jarol, Mirasol, Isager, Malabrigo, SweetGeorgia Yarns, Ella Rae, Juniper Moon Farm, West Yorkshire Spinners, AdriaFil and more!

3 North Parade Ave, Oxford OX2 6LX

Simply Crochet
SHOW US YOUR MAKES!



facebook.com/simplycrochetmag
twitter.com/SimplyCrochet

instagram.com/simplycrochetmag
ravelry.com/groups/simply-crochet

SCOTLAND



Wool for Two

Yarns for every budget and patterns for every style at Scotland's Best Independent Yarn Store

Keep up to date with us on:



83-85 Rosemount Place
Aberdeen, AB25 2YE
01224 643738

info@woolforewe.com

www.woolforewe.com

STAFFORDSHIRE



Stockists of Sirdar, Hayfield, Wendy, Peter Pan and Robin yarns, patterns, books, knitting and crochet accessories.

Heart of the Country Shopping Village, Swinfen, Just off the A38 Near Lichfield,
Staffordshire, WS14 9QR | Tel: 01543 480979

www.knitiqueonline.com



WEST SUSSEX

Simply Crochet

To advertise with us in this section please call

0117 314 7398



Tabatha Thomas

Tabatha Thomas offers a range of exciting and inspiring knitting and crocheting workshops plus knit and natter sessions in lovely Sussex by the Sea.

Come along and try out a new skill or brush up on an old one.

All levels welcome from beginners to experienced.

I am also happy to do one to one sessions and knitting or crocheting parties.

www.tabathathomas.co.uk



THE YARN LOOP

WWW.THEYARNLOOP.COM

INTRODUCING THE NEW ONLINE HOME OF...



Our brand new website TheYarnLoop brings together all these gorgeous magazines in one place. You'll find the latest knitting news and reviews, free patterns to download, exciting competitions, and how-to guides and videos from our knitting experts. Visit us on your computer, tablet, or smartphone!

KNIT *today* Simply knitting The Knitter



HANG OUT
WITH US



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 fingers 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 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 (see opposite). 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. There's your double crochet made and you'll 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 it 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.

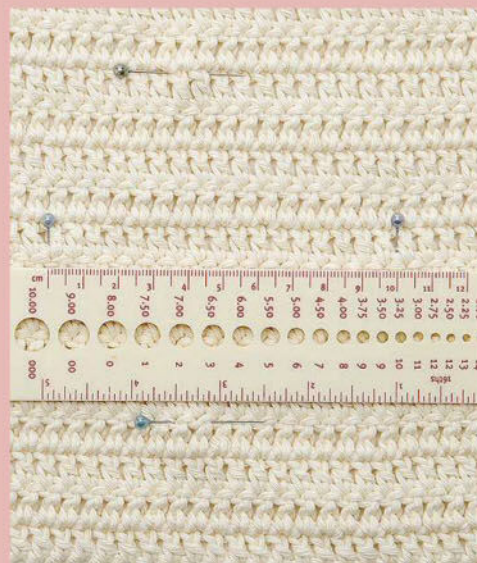


4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

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.



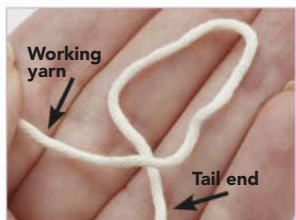
1 Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



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.

MAGIC LOOP

An alternative foundation ring for working in the round.



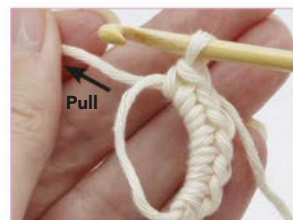
1 To start a Magic Loop, don't make a slipknot. Instead, make a loop with the yarn, leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is under the working yarn.



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 you 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.

©Stephanie Lau, www.allaboutami.com

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
beg	beginning		the same stitch
bl	insert hook under	inc	increase
	back loop only	LH	left hand
BPtr	Back Post treble:	lp(s)	loop(s)
	yrh, starting from the	meas	measures
	back, insert hook	p or pc	picot
	from back to front to	patt(s)	pattern(s)
	back around post of	pm	place marker
	st in row below,	prev	previous
	complete as treble st	rem	remain(s)/remaining
ch(s)	chain/chain stitch(es)	rep	repeat
ch-sp(s)	chain space(s)	RH	right hand
ch-	refers to ch made	rnd(s)	round(s)
	previously, eg. ch-3	RS	right side
cl(s)	clusters	sk	skip
4-tr cl	(yrh, insert hook in	sp(s)	space(s)
	sp/st, yrh & pull up	ss	slip stitch
	loop, yrh & draw	st(s)	stitch(es)
	through 2 loops) 4	tbl	through back loop
	times, inserting hook	t-ch(s)	turning chain(s)
	in same sp/st, yrh &	tog	together
	draw through all	tr	treble crochet
	loops on hook	tr2tog	(yrh, insert hook in
cont	continue		next st, yrh and pull
dc	double crochet		up loop, yrh and
dc2tog	(insert hook in next		draw through 2
	st, yrh and draw a		loops) twice, yrh and
	loop through) twice,		draw through all
	yrh and draw through		loops on hook
	all 3 loops on hook	ttr	triple treble crochet
dec	decrease	WS	wrong side
dtr	double treble crochet	yoh	yarn over hook
dtr2tog	work 2dtr together	yrh	yarn round hook
fl	insert hook under	*	work instructions
	front loop only		immediately foll *,
foll/folls	following/follows		then rep as directed
FPtr	Front Post treble:	[] or ()	work or repeat all
	work in opposite way		instructions in the
	to BPtr		brackets as directed

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

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

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

HOW TO GET A PERFECT FINISH

To prevent your hard work unravelling once you've finished crocheting, fasten the end off carefully.

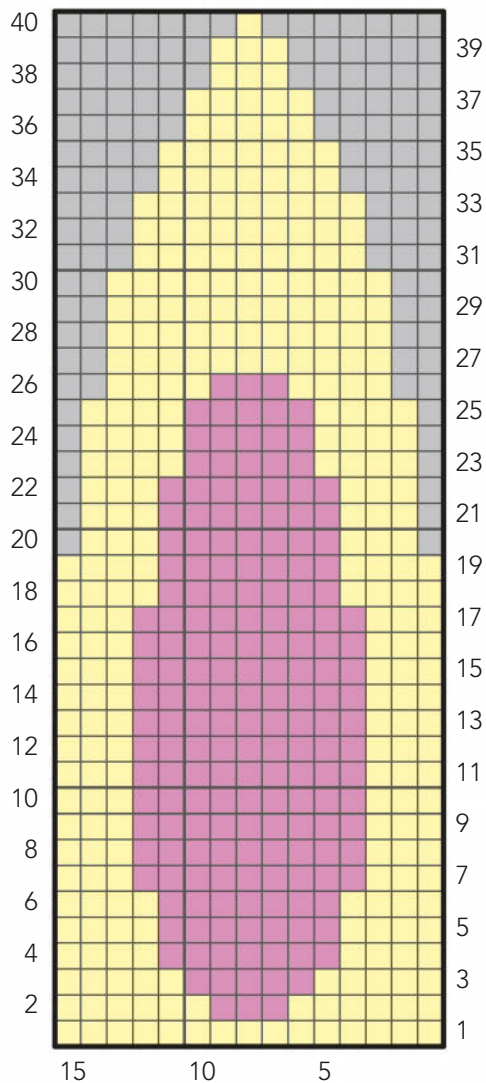


Complete the final stitch, then cut the yarn about 15cm from the work. Pull it through the last loop on the hook and pull to close the loop. Thread the yarn tail onto a tapestry needle and weave into the back of the work. Most crochet items don't need a lot of blocking, but cotton lace work usually does. To do this, carefully pin out the item with rust-proof pins, mist with a water spray and leave to dry naturally.

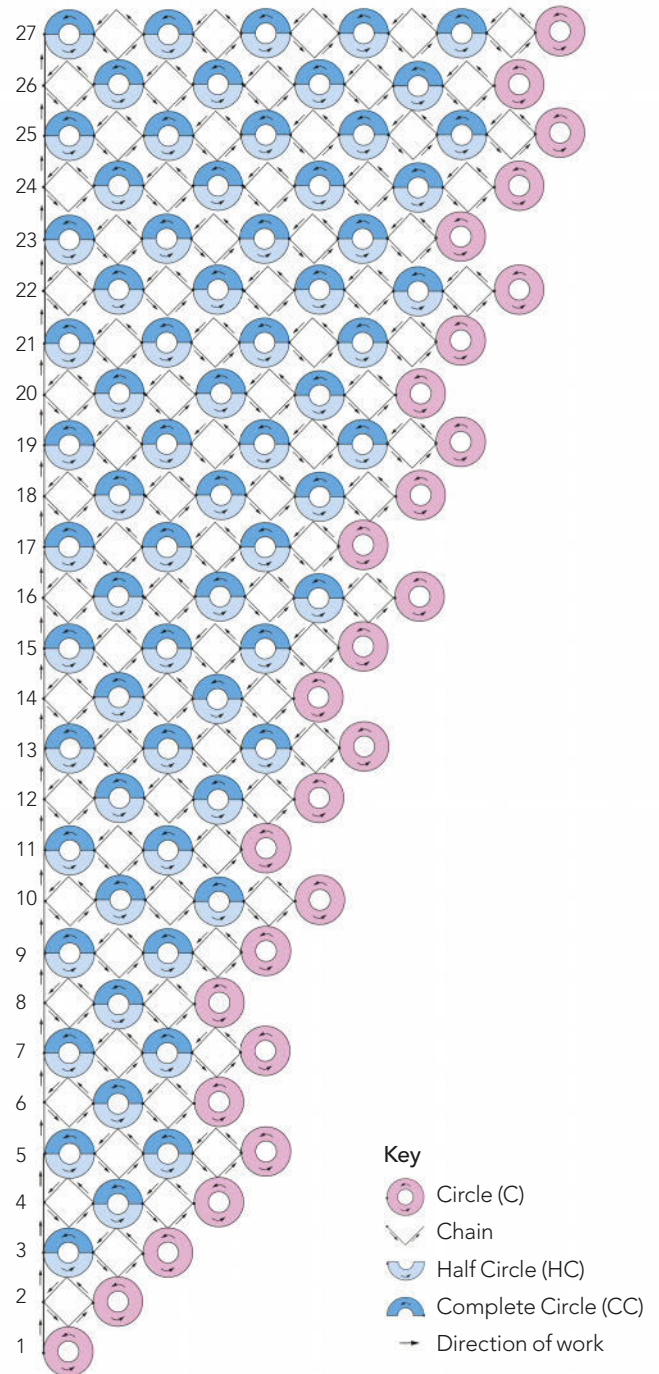
CHARTS & DIAGRAMS

Here are the extra bits you'll need to make the bunny ears headband and the rainbow shawlette this month.

BUNNY EARS, PAGE 24



FRUIT LOOPS, PAGE 31



Simply Crochet

DOWNLOAD SIMPLY CROCHET NOW!

You can buy a digital edition of *Simply Crochet*, ready to read whenever you want. Single issues and subscriptions are available and every issue you purchase is stored in your magazine library permanently. Once your magazine has downloaded, an internet connection is not required so you can take your magazine with you, wherever you go.

START
YOUR FREE
TRIAL TODAY!*



To buy your digital copy of Simply Crochet visit
www.simplycrochetmag.com/digital

On Android or PC/Mac? Find us on
www.zinio.com/simplycrochet



iPad is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc.

NOOK is a registered trademark of Barnes & Noble, Inc. NOOK Tablet is a trademark of Barnes & Noble, Inc.

*Free trial not available on Zinio

MAKE A MOTIF

BULL'S EYE

Try Lucy Croft's chequered hexagon shape.



join your hexies
to make a
BOLD BLANKET

MAKE A MOTIF



YOU WILL NEED

- Sirdar Harrap Tweed (40% nylon, 30% wool, 24% acrylic, 6% viscose, 50g/155m), Yarn A Gallop (101)
- Yarn B Shelley (107)
- Yarn C Purdey (104)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn stockists, contact
Sirdar 01924 231682
www.sirdar.co.uk

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Aim for the bull's eye with Lucy Croft's dartboard-inspired hexagon. The colour changes will keep you on your toes but in four rounds, your motif is complete. Ta-dah!

NOTES

Change colour in the last step of the previous st and run the unused colour along the top of the round below, incorporating it into the stitches.

HEXAGON MOTIF

Using Yarn A make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), 11tr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [12 tr]

Round 2 Join Yarn B in first st, ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in st at base of ch-3, change to Yarn C, 3tr in next st, *change to Yarn B, 3tr in next st, change to Yarn C, 3tr in next st; repeat from * 4 more times, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [36 tr] **Fasten off** Yarn B.

Round 3 With Yarn C, ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in next st, tr in next st, change to Yarn A, tr in next st, 2tr in next st, tr in next st, *change to Yarn C, tr in next st, 2tr in next st, tr in next st, change to Yarn A, tr in next st, 2tr in next st, tr in next st; repeat from * 4 more times, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [48 tr]

Fasten off Yarn C.

Round 4 With Yarn A, ch4 (counts as dtr), dtr in next st, 2tr in next st, tr in next st, change to Yarn B, tr in next st, 2tr in next st, dtr in next 2 sts, *change to Yarn A, dtr in next 2 sts, 2tr in next st, tr in next st, change to Yarn B, tr in next st, 2tr in next st, dtr in next 2 sts; repeat from * 4 more times, change to Yarn A, ss to top of beg ch-4 to join. **Fasten off**.

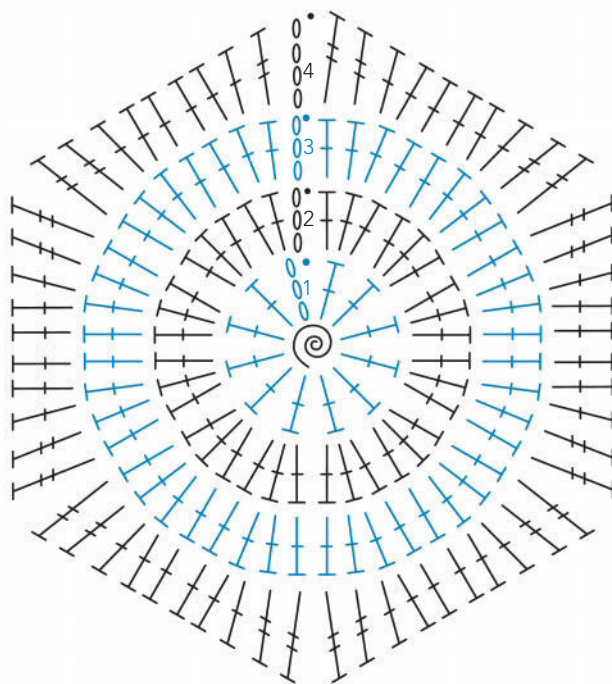
TO JOIN

Join the motifs by sewing them together with a whipstitch.

Key

- Slip st (ss)
- Chain (ch)
- ┼ Treble crochet (tr)
- ┼ Double treble crochet (dtr)
- ⌀ Magic loop

On the chart, all rounds are read in an anti-clockwise direction.



Simply Crochet

HOOKED ON HANDMADE



NEXT ISSUE

60s-style dress

Monochrome makes

Amigurumi dinosaur

Learn puff stitch

Stripy shawl

And more...

gorgeous
lacy shawl!



ON SALE THURS 31 MARCH

* Contents subject to change



CHERRY PI

Designer Joanne Scrace shares a special story about one of her favourite crochet makes.

Picking favourites is hard, but I'm going to tell you about my Cherry Pi Shawl. It's beautiful, was a real challenge, and taught me an important lesson. It's a reminder to have faith in myself and my abilities. When I'm feeling unsure, I often pop it over my shoulders to remind myself that I can do it!

The yarn is Darling by Sweet Clement – a beautiful silk/merino blend. I used two lace patterns that had a circular look to suggest plump cherries and I had to calculate how to move between them. I hadn't designed a semi-circular shawl before and I hadn't experimented with a pi expansion, so I made a huge swatch.

I'd finished the shawl within a week but was having doubts and thought about ripping it out and starting again. It wasn't sitting quite right. When it was finished, it looked like a dish rag, all misshapen and very ordinary. I was scared I hadn't done

the yarn justice, but I kept saying to myself: "All the calculations work, it will be fine once it's been blocked." So, I soaked it for a while and pinned it out. The next morning, it was dry. Wow, it was like a butterfly emerging from a chrysalis! It was everything I hoped it would be – the drape was perfect, the lace patterns and transitions were beautiful. Cherry Pi is a real stunner and that is why it's on the cover of *The Shawl Project: Book One*.

A pupil of mine made the most stunning white version of it in silk for her daughter's wedding. Davina has been coming to lessons with me for a couple of years and I so enjoy teaching her. I helped her get started on the shawl in class and she brought it in to show me once she had finished. I am not ashamed to say that it made me cry – to have my design made for someone's special day is just amazing! It's the most beautiful thing ever.

Visit www.thecrochetproject.com

Purplelinda Crafts

love to Crochet

Beautiful projects in Sirdar DK & 4 Ply Cotton

COTTON DK

7740
81/86 - 132/137cm
32/34 - 52/54in



Includes larger sizes

Crochet

SIRDAR

COTTON DK

7739
81/86 - 132/137cm
32/34 - 52/54in



Includes larger sizes

Crochet

SIRDAR

COTTON 4 PLY

7747
81/86 - 132/137cm
32/34 - 52/54in



Crochet

Includes larger sizes

SIRDAR

COTTON DK

7737
81/86 - 132/137cm
32/34 - 52/54in



Includes larger sizes

Crochet

SIRDAR

Visit us online for a Huge range of Cottons for Knitting and Crocheting at:

www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk

deramores

BEST ONLINE STORE
2015 - WINNER



Free
Delivery! **

15% OFF YOUR NEXT ORDER *

ENTER THE COUPON CODE **7258** ON THE SHOPPING BASKET PAGE

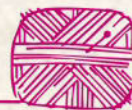
*One use per customer. Terms and conditions apply.

**On orders over £25. Image from the Stylecraft Pattern 9255.

www.deramores.com ORDER LINE ☎ **0845 519 4573**

Yarn • Patterns • Books • Hooks • Buttons • Accessories

MISSED AN ISSUE?



ISSUE FORTY-ONE

Make a beautiful blanket wrap, have a go at spike stitch and hook Monty the woolly mammoth. Plus, we chat to Kate Bruning about her favourite project and learn all about the Craftivist Collective. There's a fab lacy shawl to crochet, too.

SEE OUR BACK
ISSUE PROJECTS IN
DETAIL ON RAVELRY
[HTTP://BIT.LY/
RAVSIMPLYC](http://bit.ly/RAVSIMPLYC)



RETURN TO THE APP TO BUY YOUR BACK ISSUES

All issues of Simply Crochet are available as digital editions, ready to read whenever you want. Every purchase is permanently stored in your magazine library. Once your magazine has downloaded, an internet connection is not required, so you can take your magazine with you wherever you go.

EVERY ISSUE IS AVAILABLE DIGITALLY, STARTING FROM ISSUE ONE!



ISSUE FORTY

Retro rainbow makes, a bobble jumper, amigurumi otters and clever crochet cables.



ISSUE THIRTY-NINE

Marvellous mesh stitch, modern lace projects for your bedroom and a sweet crafty doll.



ISSUE THIRTY-EIGHT

Festive Scandi makes, a stunning red cardigan and a cute amigurumi nutcracker bear.



ISSUE THIRTY-SEVEN

Super-chunky gift ideas, yummy textured stitches, an amigurumi fox, and British wool.



ISSUE THIRTY-SIX

Fabulous Fair Isle vest, cosy tweed, long wave stitch, a lacy top, and a Halloween kitty.



ISSUE THIRTY-FIVE

Chunky cotton makes, back to school projects, fruity bags and an amigurumi fox.



ISSUE THIRTY-FOUR

Crochet beach essentials, a bright mandala to wear, an ice-cream doll, and a lacy shawl.



ISSUE THIRTY-THREE

Modern doilies, filet crochet, a sweet girls' dress, a lacy cardi, cat, and neon brights.



ISSUE THIRTY-TWO

Wedding ideas, Granny Square top, girls' cardi, sweet socks, cushion, and cute mermaid toy.



ISSUE THIRTY-ONE

Retro-style makes for your home, popcorn stitch and a shawl. Hook lacy fairy wings, too.



ISSUE THIRTY

Granny treble top, a silky shawl, baby blanket, backpack, two cushions, and amigurumi whale.



ISSUE TWENTY-NINE

Lacy linen top, blanket, bag, and shawl, plus a cotton vest, silk shawl, and a shell stitch beret.



ISSUE TWENTY-EIGHT

Tunisian crochet top, beret, tapestry crochet mittens, amigurumi frog, and a frilled scarf.



SIGN UP FOR A
DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION
AND YOU'LL NEVER MISS
ANOTHER ISSUE

Simply Crochet edits

THE VERY BEST OF THIS SEASON'S STYLE

TUNISIAN CROCHET

5 DESIGNS FOR
YOUR HOME

PLUS!
How-tos &
top tips





Welcome

edits CONTENTS



4
COLOUR
ME HAPPY



16



30



20
GEOMETRY STYLE

Find our
Tunisian crochet
videos at
[YOUTUBE.COM/USER/SIMPLYCROCHETMAG](https://www.youtube.com/user/simplycrochetmag)



24

GREAT PATTERNS FOR YOU

04 COLOUR BLOCK SET
Michelle Robinson's wonderfully vibrant cushion and blanket set.

15 PROFILE: POPPY & BLISS
Designer Michelle Robinson shares her passion for Tunisian.

16 ENTRELAC CUSHION
Use variegated yarn to create a mesmerising effect with Anne Egan's clever cushion design.

20 LOG CABIN BLANKET
Traditional quilts inspired this project by Simone Francis.

24 ROUND CUSHION
Pastel hues make this cushion a beauty. By Simone Francis.

27 PROFILE: SIMONE FRANCIS
The designer shares her top Tunisian crochet tips and tricks.

30 THE WORKSHOP
Our bumper how-to section covers all the Tunisian stitches you'll need for these makes.

Printed in the UK.
Presented with issue 42 of
Simply Crochet magazine.



Wherever you see our C icon on pattern pages, that's where to start crocheting.





HARLEQUIN HAPPY

Indulge your geometric side with a colourful blanket and cushion set by Michelle Robinson.

Colour block set



YOU WILL NEED

■ King Cole Cotton Soft DK
(100% cotton, 100g/210m)

For the cushion:

2 balls of Yarn A Mint (715)
1 ball of each: Yarn B Coral
(1574), Yarn C Buttercup (1600),
Yarn D Rose (712)

For the blanket:

2 balls of each: Yarn A Ecru
(711), Yarn B Mint (715),
Yarn E Coral (1574)
1 ball of each: Yarn C Rose
(712), Yarn D Jade (781), Yarn F
Buttercup (1600)

■ A 6mm (US J/10) Tunisian hook
■ A 4mm (US G/6) standard hook
■ Square cushion pad, 40cm
(16in)

■ 4 stitch holders (for blanket)

For yarn stockists, contact
King Cole 01756 703670
www.kingcole.com

TENSION

For the cushion: 14 sts and 16 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over Tss using a 6mm hook or size required to achieve stated tension.

For the blanket: 17sts and 16 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over Tss using a 6mm hook or size required to achieve stated tension.

Exact tension is not critical but will affect yarn quantities and finished measurements.

MEASUREMENTS

Finished Cushion measures approx 45cm (17¾in) square
Finished Blanket measures approx 96x100cm (37¾x39¼in)

ABBREVIATIONS

Reverse dc Work each dc st in the st to right of the previous one (or to the left if left handed)

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet*

There's no better way to brighten up a space than with bold, geometric shapes in cheerful colours – handmade in Tunisian crochet, of course. Imaginative crochet designer Michelle Robinson has created a blanket and cushion set that's a veritable carnival of Tunisian colourwork, with diamonds and triangles worked from charts. The blanket is worked in four strips, so you always have a manageable number of stitches on your hook. The cushion is made more interesting by combining Tunisian Simple Stitch with Tunisian Purl Stitch, to create an oh-so touchable moss stitch texture. If you've not tried Tunisian colourwork before, just be sure to read through the pattern notes carefully, take it steady and it'll soon feel like second nature.

TUNISIAN CROCHET

Each row of Tunisian Crochet is made up of a Forward Pass (FwdP) and Return Pass (RetP). You do not turn the work at all, so you will be working from the RS throughout.

TUNISIAN SIMPLE STITCH (TSS)

Forward Pass (FwdP) Loop on hook counts as first st, do not work into the vertical bar on edge of work. *With yarn at back, insert hook from side to side behind next vertical bar, yrh and pull up loop and leave loop on hook (1 stitch complete); repeat from * until last vertical bar at edge, insert hook



The cushion is joined with a contrasting dc seam in Yarn D – a pretty rose pink shade.

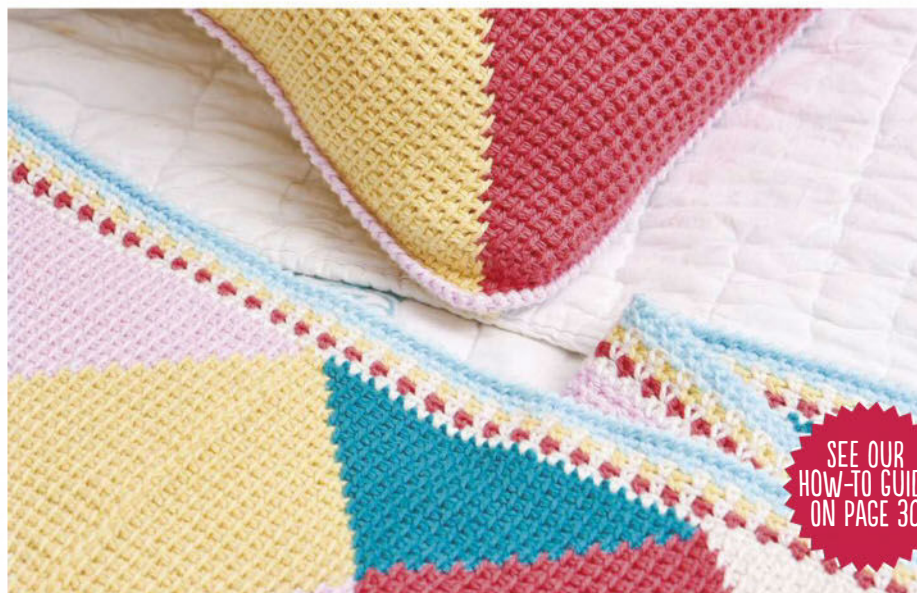
under vertical bar and loop on outside edge, pull up loop.

Return Pass (RetP) Yrh and draw through first loop on hook, *yrh and draw through 2 loops on hook; repeat from * until 1 loop remains on hook. The Return Pass remains the same regardless of which stitch you are working.

TUNISIAN PURL STITCH (TPS)

Forward Pass (FwdP) Loop on hook counts as first st, do not work into the vertical bar on edge of work. *With yarn at the front, insert hook from side to side behind next vertical bar, yrh and pull up loop and leave loop on hook (1 stitch complete); repeat from * until last vertical bar at edge, insert hook under vertical bar and loop on outside edge, pull up loop.

Return Pass (RetP) Work as for RetP explained above.



SEE OUR
HOW-TO GUIDE
ON PAGE 30

Colour block set

TUNISIAN MOSS STITCH (TMS)

Row 1 FwdP: (Tps in next st, Tss in next st) repeat to end; RetP.

Row 2 FwdP: Work a Tps into each Tss and a Tss into each Tps of the previous row; RetP.

Rows 1 and 2 set pattern.

Changing colour on a Forward Pass

Insert the hook in the stitch where you want to change colour, yrh in the new colour, twisting the ends of the yarn together to avoid a hole in the work. Try to keep the tension consistent and pull the yarn a bit tighter at the change.

Changing colour on a Return Pass

When working Tunisian crochet with more than one shade within a row, you will have already established the pattern of which stitches are worked in which shades on the Forward Pass of that row. Always match the colours on the Return Pass to those of the Forward Pass, unless otherwise stated. To do this, work the Return Pass as usual until you have one loop on the hook of the old colour. The next yrh will be in the new colour. If only the first loop on the hook is in the old colour, use that colour to do the (yrh and draw through first loop) at the beginning of the Return Pass, then change to the new colour thereafter. If you need to change colour for the first stitch on the Forward Pass of the next row, the pick up the new colour on the last yrh of the Return Pass. Always twist the ends of the yarn together at each colour change.

TUNISIAN COLOUR CHARTS

When reading a Chart for Tunisian colourwork, read each row of the Chart from right to left for the Forward Pass – then read the same row of the Chart from left to right for the Return Pass. Each square on the Chart counts as one stitch, and each line as one row.

On the Forward Pass, skip the first square on the right of the Chart because the loop on the hook counts as the first st and is not worked.

On the Return Pass, the first square on the left of the Chart represents the first (yrh and draw through first loop). After that, each square on the Chart represents one (yrh and draw through 2 loops) of the Return Pass, working in the appropriate colour.

CUSHION

NOTES

Front and Back of the cushion are identical, and worked in a combination of Tunisian Moss Stitch (Tms) and Tunisian Simple Stitch (Tss). The Yarn A sections are worked in Moss Stitch, while the Yarn B and C sections are worked in Simple Stitch. A border is added in standard crochet.

BACK/FRONT (MAKE 2)

With Yarn A and a 6mm Tunisian hook, ch63 loosely.

Row 1 (Foundation Row) Insert hook in 2nd ch from hook, yrh and pull up loop, leaving loop on hook; repeat for each ch across to end, RetP.

[63 loops on hook]

Row 1 of the Chart on page 9 is now complete.

From now on, you will follow the Chart for colour and stitch changes. See notes above for how to follow a Tunisian colourwork chart.

The next 2 rows of the pattern are written out in full below to help you follow the Chart.

Row 2 FwdP: Tms FwdP in each st to end, changing to Yarn B for the last st; RetP: yrh with Yarn B and draw through first loop, change to Yarn A, (yrh and draw through 2 loops) repeat to end.

Row 3 FwdP: Tms FwdP in Yarn A to last 2 sts, Tss in Yarn B in last 2 sts; RetP: yrh with Yarn B and draw through first loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops, change to Yarn A, (yrh and draw through 2 loops) repeat to end.

Rows 4-63 Continue following the Chart for colour changes, remembering that Yarn A is always in Tms and Yarns B and C are in Tss.

Finishing Row With Yarn C, skip vertical bar on edge of work, (insert hook under next vertical bar, yrh and draw through both loops on hook to make a ss) repeat for each st to end.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Change to 4mm standard crochet hook.

Round 1 Align Front and Back with WS together. Using Yarn D, join first three sides with a dc seam, working each dc stitch through both layers. Place



The minty Yarn A parts of the cushion are worked in textured Tunisian Moss Stitch.

cushion pad inside cover and continue to join pieces together with dc, ss to first dc.

Round 2 Reverse dc in each stitch around, ss to first dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BLANKET

NOTES

The blanket is made in Tss with 4 separate strips of Tunisian Crochet, each with a different colour pattern. The strip on the left side of the blanket is worked first, then as each following strip is worked it is joined to the right-hand edge of the previous strip at the end of each Forward Pass. A border is worked in standard crochet around the entire blanket afterwards.

Yarn A is used for the foundation ch of each strip. Thereafter, follow the Charts on pages 10-13 for each strip for the colour changes. See notes above for how to follow a Tunisian colourwork chart.

The first 2 rows of the pattern are written out in full below to help you follow the Chart.

STRIP 1

Using Yarn A and a 6mm Tunisian hook, ch40 loosely.

Row 1 (Foundation Row) Insert hook in 2nd ch from hook (first square of Row 1 in the Chart counts as the first loop on the hook), yrh in Yarn B and pull up loop, leaving loop on hook, *insert hook in next ch, yrh with Yarn B and pull up loop, leaving loop on hook; repeat from * a further 23 times with Yarn B, once with Yarn C, and 13 times with Yarn D. [1 loop on hook in Yarn A,

Colour block set

25 in Yarn B, 1 in Yarn C, 13 in Yarn D] RetP, matching the colours of the FwdP as explained above, so that you change to the next colour when there is only 1 loop on the hook of the old colour.

Row 2 Tss FwdP, following the colour changes on Row 2 of the Chart as follows:

Skip square at right of Row 2 on Chart, insert hook in next st and yrh with Yarn A and pull through to correspond to second square on Chart. *Insert hook, yrh with Yarn B and pull through, repeat from * a further 22 times with Yarn B, 3 times with Yarn C and 12 times with Yarn D. [2 loops in Yarn A, 23 loops in Yarn B, 3 loops in Yarn C, 12 loops in Yarn D]

RetP, matching the colours of the FwdP.

Rows 3-156 Tss FwdP; RetP, following the colour changes in the Chart. Place the loop on the hook onto a stitch holder and cut the yarn.

STRIP 2

Join Yarn A to bottom-right corner of the previous strip with a ss.
With a 6mm Tunisian hook, ch39 loosely, working last ch in the colour of

the first st of Row 1 (Yarn F for Strip 2).

Row 1 (Foundation Row) The loop on the hook counts as the first square on the Chart of Row 1. Work a foundation row by inserting the hook into each ch and pulling up a loop, following the colour changes on the Chart. [13 loops in Yarn F, 1 loop in Yarn B, 25 loops in Yarn C].

Now join to the right-hand edge of Row 1 of the previous strip by inserting the hook into the 'V' edge stitch of Row 1 and the loop behind it. Begin the RetP with yrh and draw through the loop just made. This loop for the joining stitch is not counted as a stitch in the pattern and is not included on the Chart, so the next (yrh and pull through 2 loops) will correspond to the first square on the left-hand side of Row 1 on the Chart. Complete the RetP, following the rule of working until you have one loop of the old colour on the hook before changing colour.

Rows 2-156 Tss FwdP, join to edge of previous strip as in Row 1; RetP, following the colour changes in the Chart. Place the loop on the hook onto a

stitch holder and cut the yarn.

STRIPS 3 AND 4

Work as for Strip 2, following the appropriate Chart.

Finishing Row With Yarn A, skip vertical bar on edge of work, (insert hook under next vertical bar, yrh and draw through both loops on hook to make a ss) repeat for each st across all 4 strips to end.

Fasten off.

Fasten off the ends of each strip.

BORDER

The border is worked in the round in standard crochet around the edge of the entire blanket.

When working into the row ends, insert the hook as you did for joining the strips, inserting the hook under two strands each time to avoid holes at the edge.

Change to a 4mm standard hook.

Round 1 (RS) With Yarn A, dc in each st and row end around, working 3dc in each corner st, ss to first dc.

Fasten off.

Round 2 Join Yarn E into first dc of corner sts, ch1 (does not count as st), dc into same st, ch2, skip next st, dc into next st (corner made), ch1, skip next st, *dc into next st, ch1, skip next st; repeat from * around working (dc in next st, ch2, skip 1 st, dc into next st) at each corner, ss to first dc.

Fasten off.

Round 3 Join Yarn A into first ch-2 corner sp, (dc, ch2, dc, ch1) into same sp, (dc into next ch-sp, ch1) around with (dc, ch2, dc, ch1) in each corner sp, ss to first dc.

Fasten off.

Round 4 Work as Round 3 with Yarn F.

Round 5 Work as Round 3 with Yarn A.

Round 6 Work as Round 3 with Yarn B, do not fasten off.

Round 7 Dc in each st and sp around, with 3dc in each corner sp, ss to first dc.

Round 8 Ch1 (does not count as st), reverse dc in each st around, ss to first dc.

Fasten off.

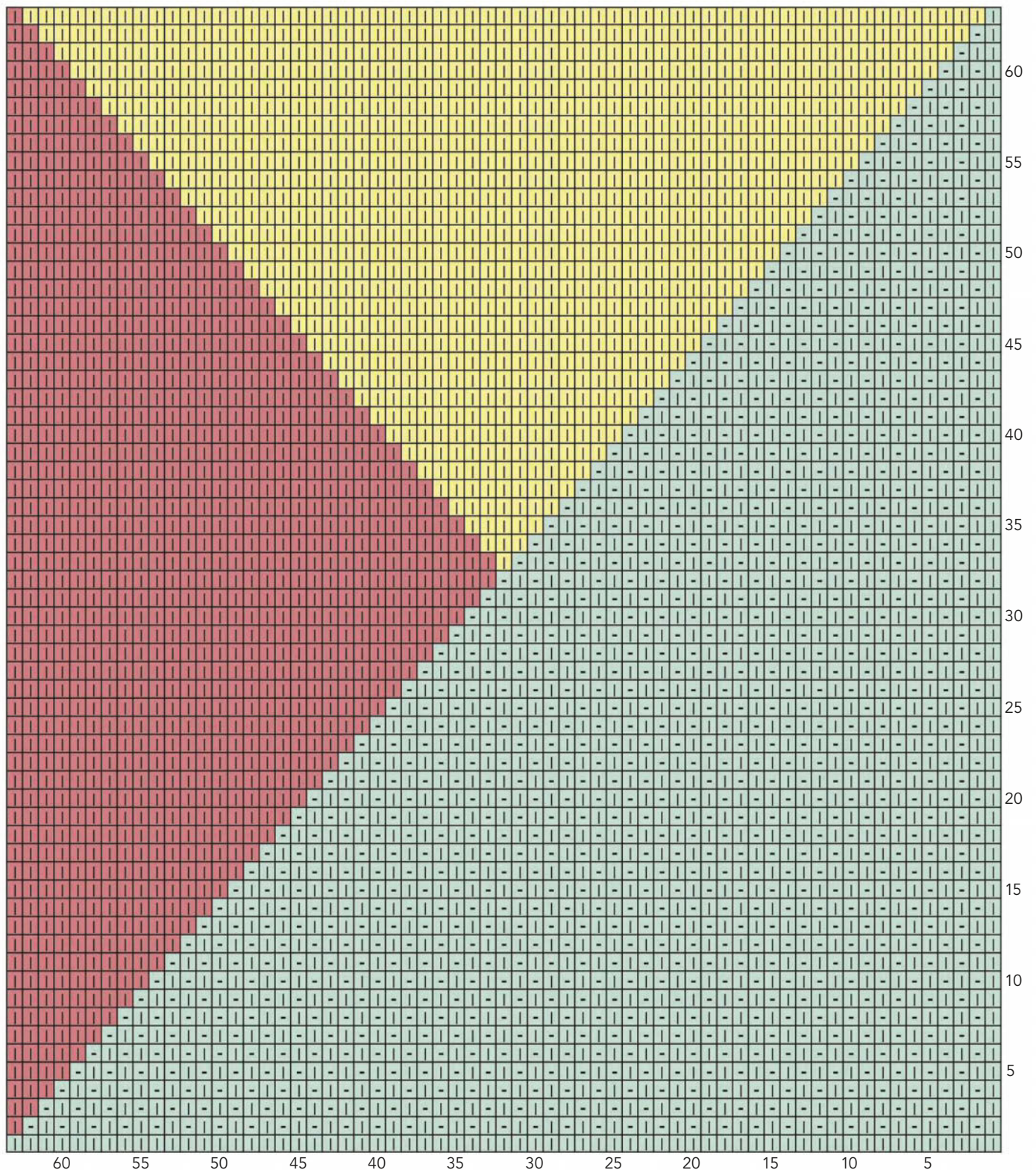
TO MAKE UP

Weave in ends and block if desired.



Colour block set

CUSHION CHART

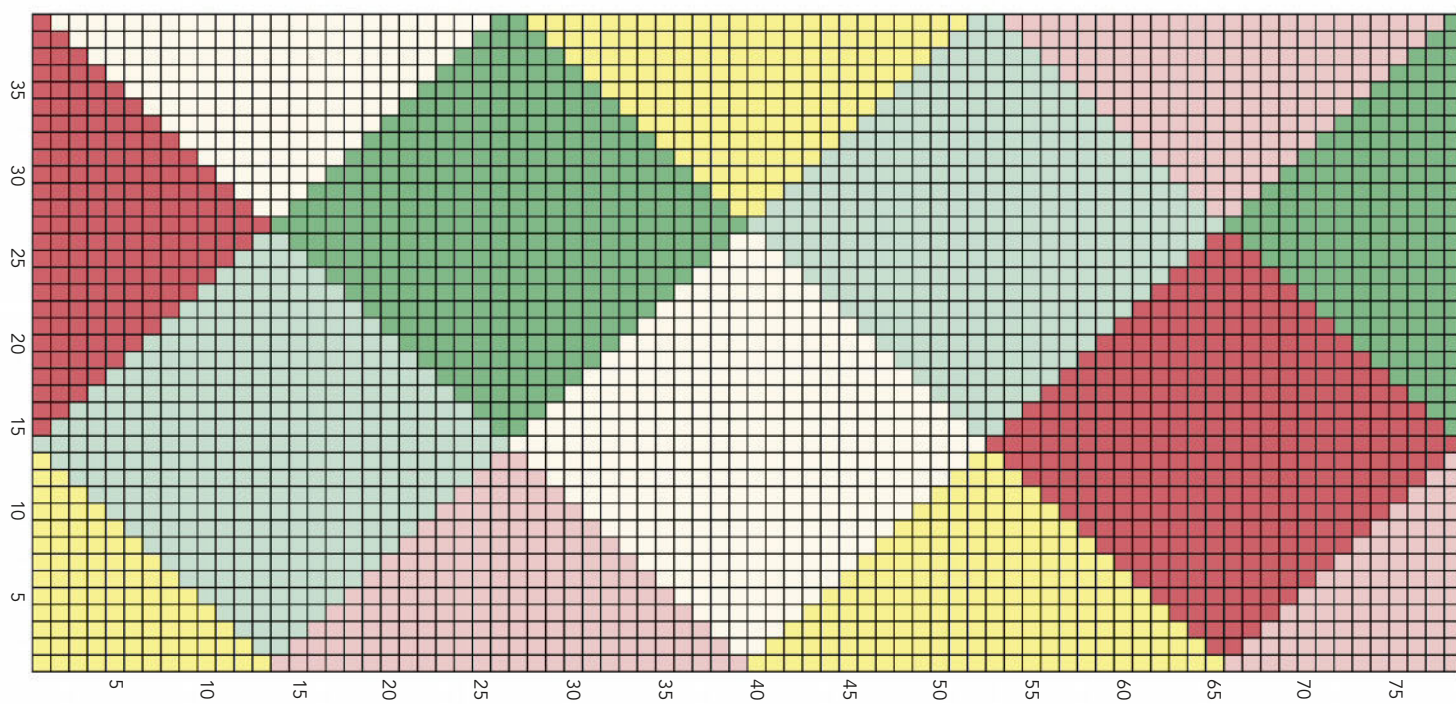
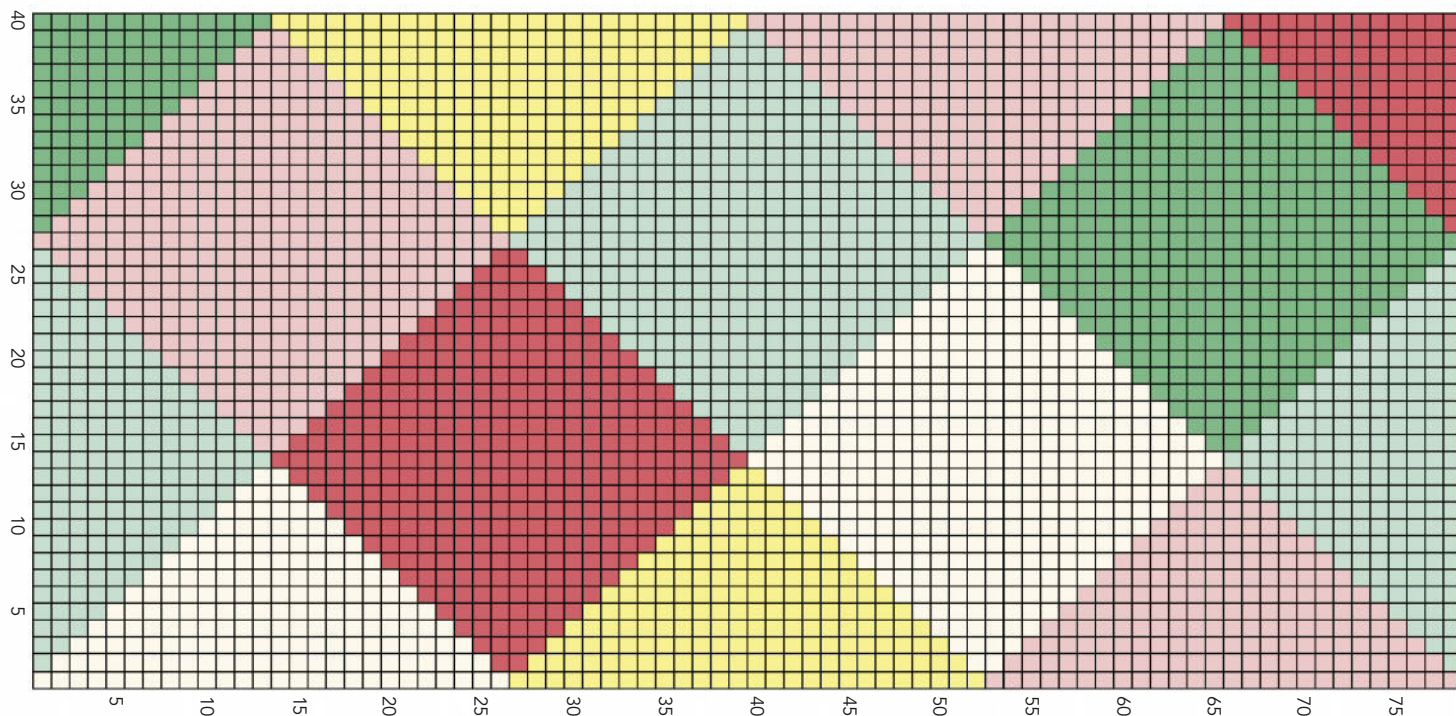


Key

- | Tunisian Simple Stitch (Tss)
- Tunisian Purl Stitch (Tps)

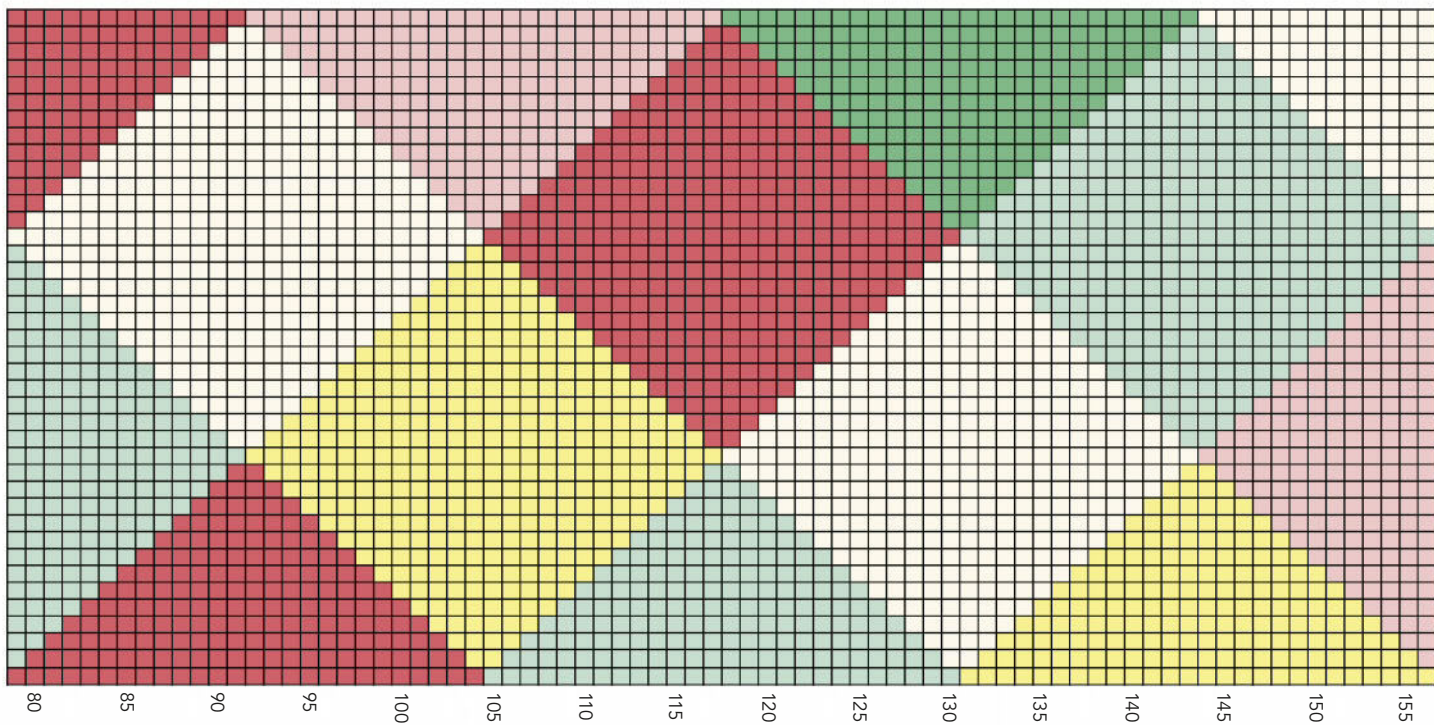
Colour block set

BLANKET CHART - PLEASE TURN PAGE 90 DEGREES

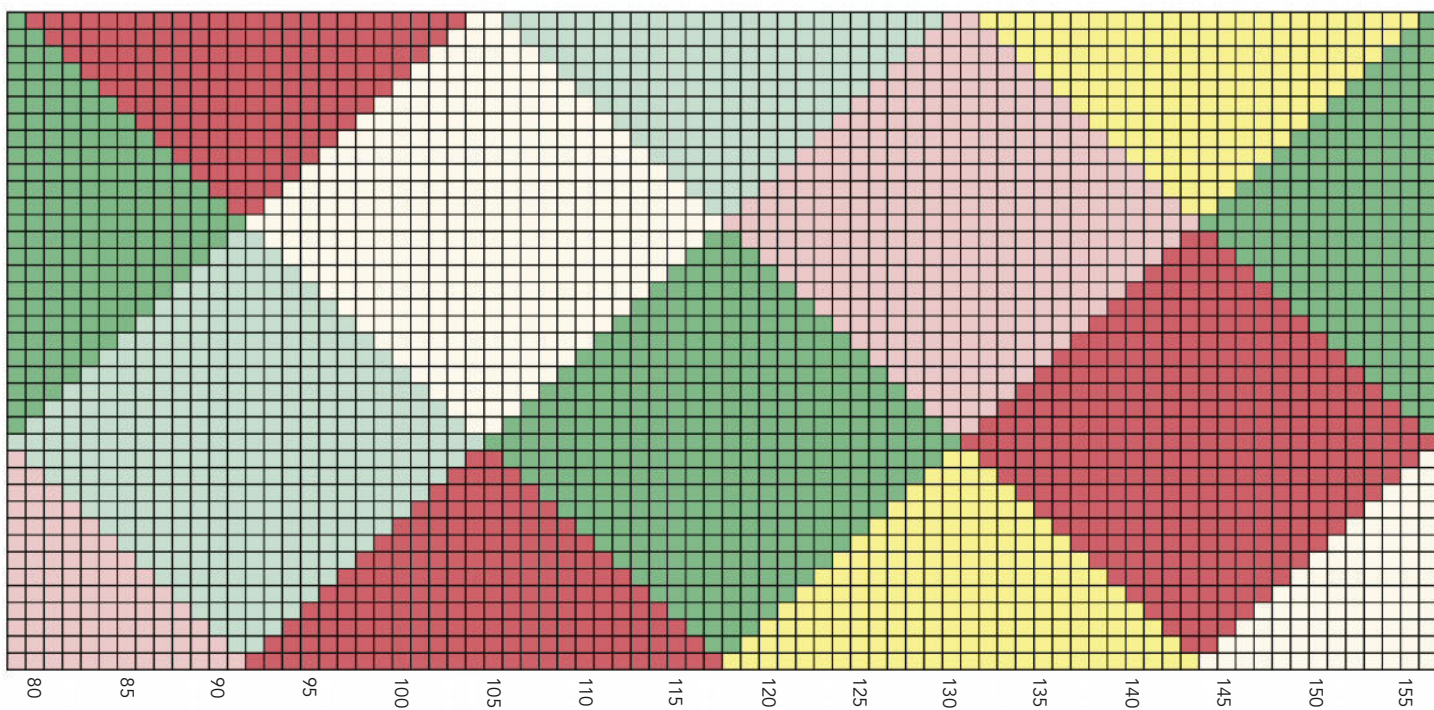


Colour block set

STRIP 1 CHART



STRIP 2 CHART

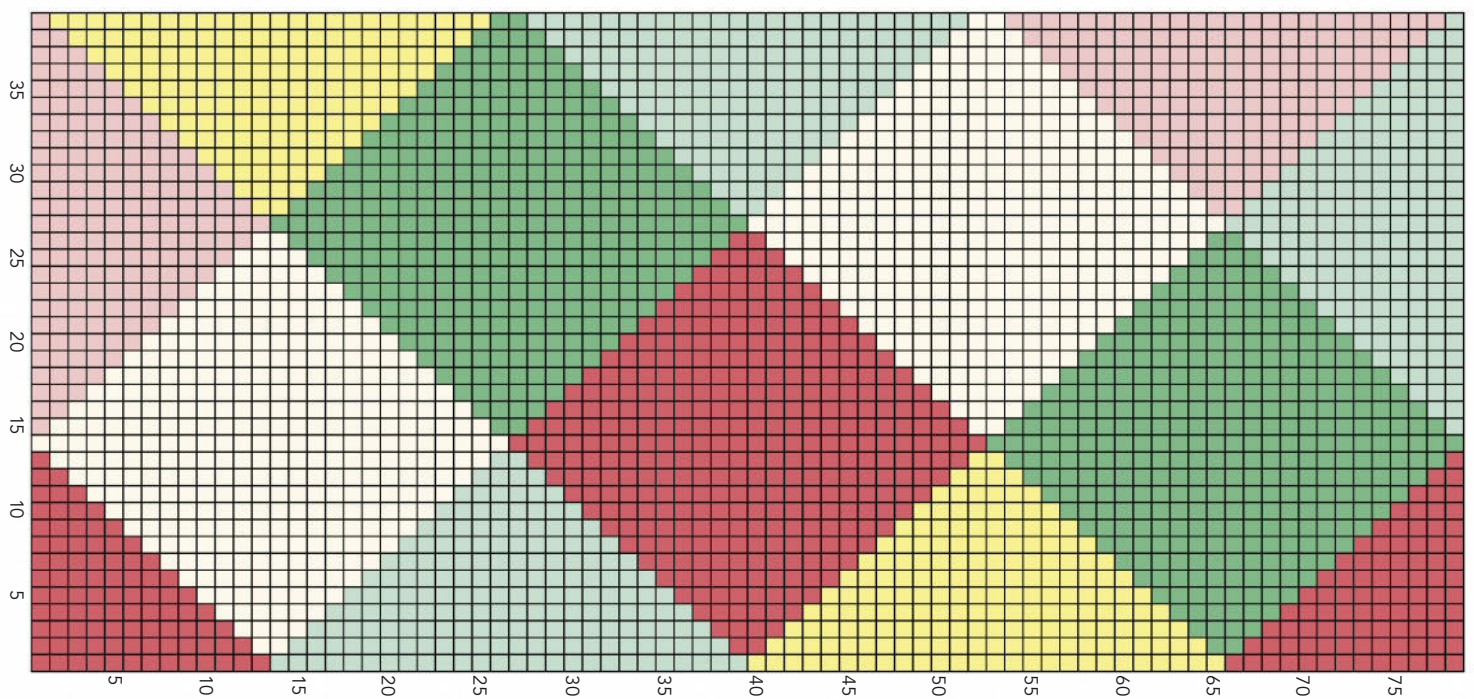
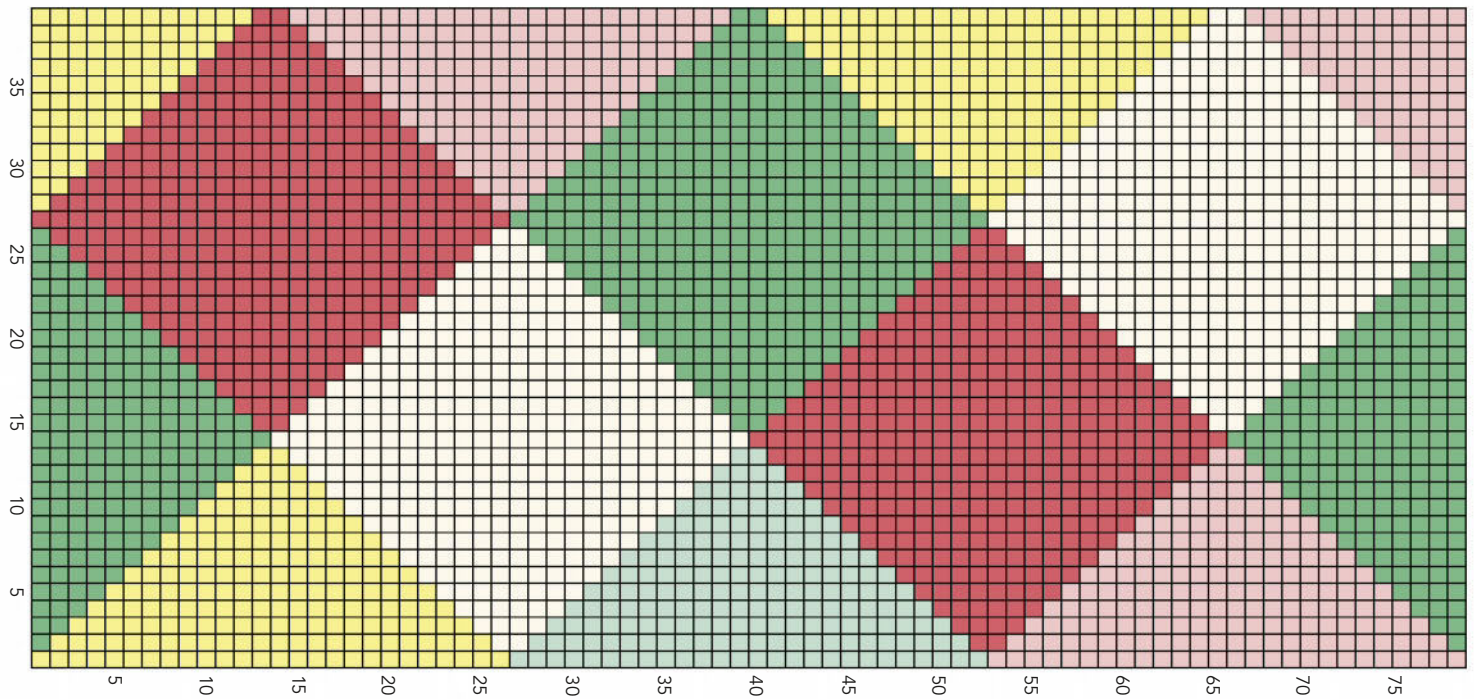


Key

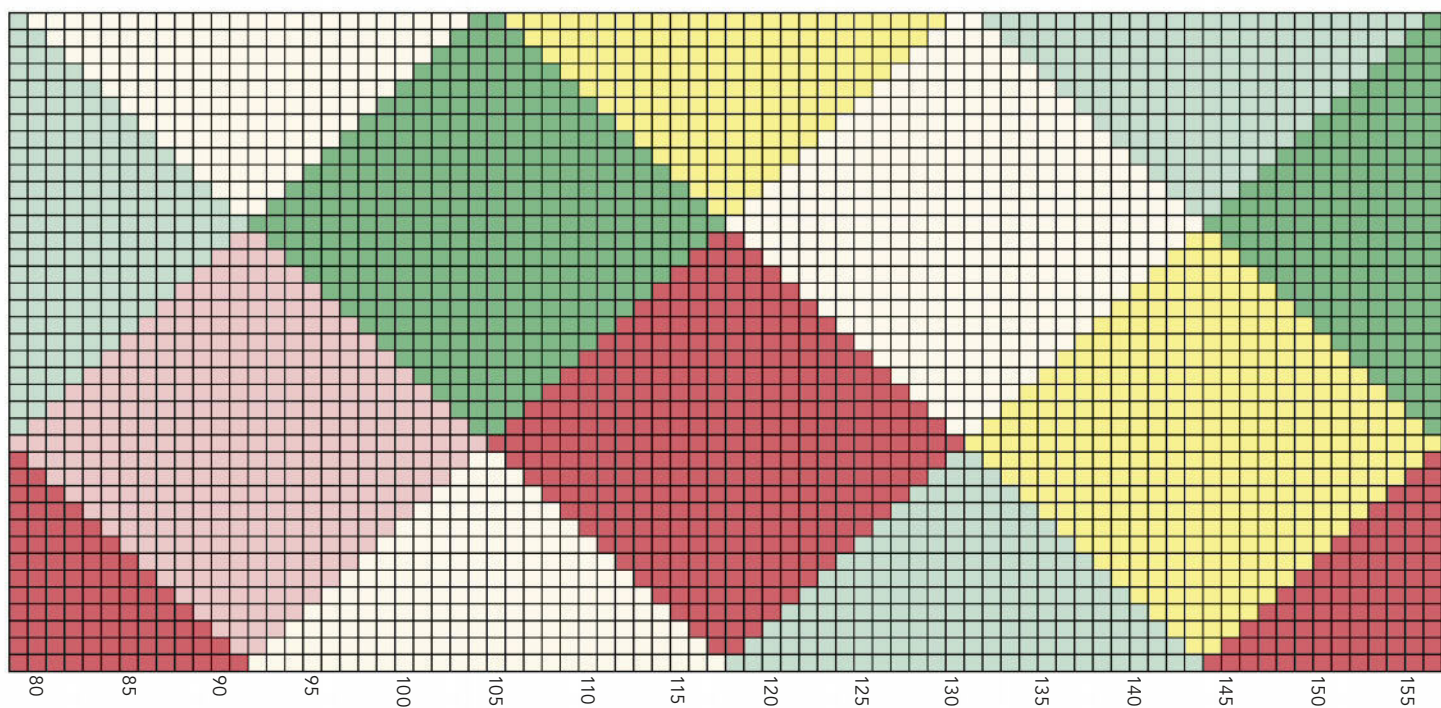
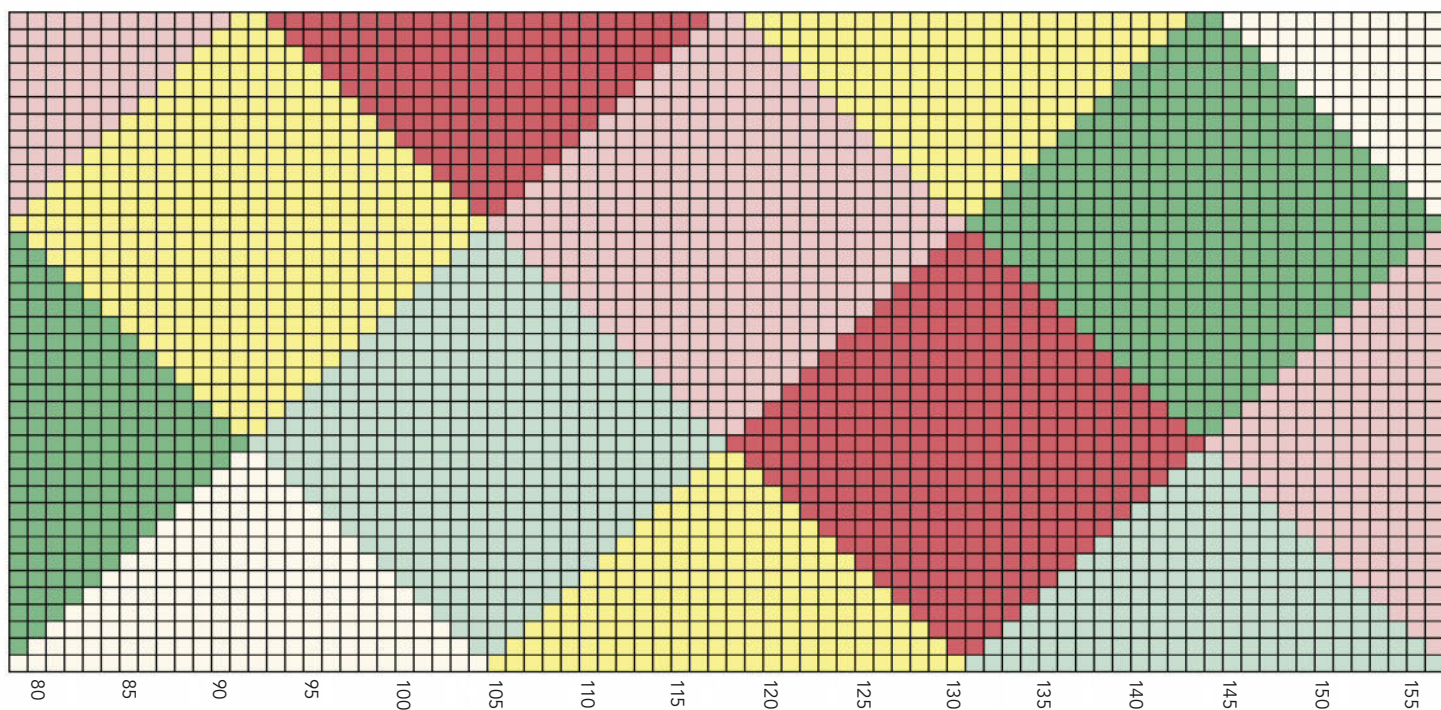
- Yarn A
- Yarn B
- Yarn C
- Yarn D
- Yarn E
- Yarn F

Colour block set

BLANKET CHARTS CONTINUED



Colour block set



Key

- Yarn A
- Yarn B
- Yarn C
- Yarn D
- Yarn E
- Yarn F

FREE TRIAL*

TAKE 1,000s OF PATTERNS WHEREVER YOU GO!



* Search for Simply
Crochet on your
chosen app store
Available on Apple, Google
Play and Nook

iPad is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc. NOOK is a registered trademark of Barnes & Noble, Inc. NOOK Tablet is a trademark of Barnes & Noble, Inc. 30 day free trial is for new users only. Cancel at any point during to avoid being charged. *Free trial not available on Zinio.





POPPY & BLISS GOES TUNISIAN

Melbourne-based designer Michelle Robinson is the talented lady behind Poppy & Bliss. She spilt the beans about her passion for Tunisian crochet.

Bold geometrics and vibrant colour palettes are designer and crochet tutor Michelle Robinson's speciality. We're absolutely head-over-heels for the bright cushion and blanket set she designed for this collection (on page 4), so we caught up with her to find out how Tunisian crochet stole her heart.

How did you discover Tunisian crochet?
Looking back, I can remember seeing a blanket made from Tunisian crochet way back in the 1970s when I was only little, but since all things yarny weren't yet my passion then, it didn't make much of an impression on me. Fast forward to about four or five years ago and I spotted the most magnificent Tunisian crochet coat in a magazine and my interest was piqued!

What do you like most about it?
Tunisian crochet ticks lots of boxes for me,

but mainly I like it because it gives me the best of both worlds, indulging my love for crochet and knitting. Tunisian also allows for design possibilities that don't usually translate as well into crochet.

Can you tell us about your favourite Tunisian crochet project?

My most current Tunisian crochet project is usually my favourite one. At the moment, I'm playing around with ripple effects and zigzag designs, and can't seem to get enough of them. I've just started working on a colourful zigzag blanket that will probably take me a while to finish, but I'm already falling in love with it!

That sounds fantastic! Do you have any special advice for crocheters who might be trying Tunisian for the first time?
There are a few things that I always tell my students before we start: use a crochet

hook that's a few sizes up from what you would normally use for your yarn. Try to keep your tension even but on the looser side – tight tension will just end up in frustration and tears! And also, don't worry about the curl – it's normal and it can easily be fixed with blocking or a border. The most important thing to remember is to just relax and enjoy the ride.

What's your top Tunisian tip?

Remember to take regular breaks to stretch your hands and shoulders.



You can find more of Michelle Robinson's creative crochet patterns, tutorials and further details of her Tunisian workshops online at www.poppyandbliss.com

SQUARE AFFAIR

Fall in love with entrelac as you make Anne Egan's mesmerising cushion.



Entrelac cushion



YOU WILL NEED

- King Cole Riot Chunky (70% acrylic, 30% wool, 100g/134m), 2 balls of Rainbow (623)
- A 6mm (US J/10) Tunisian hook
- A 7mm (US K/10½ or L/11) standard hook
- Square cushion pad, 40cm (16in)
- Fabric for backing and zip (if desired)

For yarn stockists, contact
King Cole 01756 703670
www.kingcole.com

TENSION

18 sts and 16 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) in Tss using a 6mm hook. Tension is not critical but will affect yarn quantities and finished measurements.

MEASUREMENTS

Finished cushion measures approx 40x44cm (15¾x17¼in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet*

Here's one for your crochet bucket list: an entrelac-style cushion worked in Tunisian crochet. The combination of the two techniques is actually much easier than it sounds, but no one else needs to know that. The entrelac element simply involves working the squares on their sides, picking up stitches to work the next square along the sides of the previous square. There's also a bit of simple increasing involved, but this is easy in Tunisian Simple Stitch. The finished fabric has a lovely raised effect – and if you use a vibrant variegated yarn, the effect is even more eye-catching.

NOTES

The pattern is worked in several Levels and each Level of the pattern is made up of short rows of Tss.

Each Level is worked without turning, then you will fasten off and rejoin at the other side to work the next Level from the same side.

Level 1 of the pattern is the set-up Level; Levels 2 and 3 form the pattern repeat.

Refer to the Diagram (below) that shows each of these Levels. The numbers on the diagram refer to the order in which you work the blocks.

TUNISIAN CROCHET

See page 6 for Tunisian stitch details.



Working the squares on their sides in this way results in an almost woven appearance.

CUSHION FRONT

LEVEL 1

(Comprises 3 base triangles worked into the foundation ch)
With 7mm hook, ch46 loosely.

Base Triangle:

Change to a 6mm Tunisian hook.

Row 1 (Foundation Row) Starting in second ch from hook, insert hook, yrh and pull up loop [2 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 2 Tssinc in last st of previous row (this is the stitch on the edge of the work), insert hook in next ch, yrh and pull up loop [4 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 3 Tss in each of next 3 sts, insert hook in next ch, yrh and pull up loop [5 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 4 Tss in each st including last st on edge of work, insert hook in next ch,



Read through the notes and pay close attention to the chart overleaf.

Entrelac cushion

yrh and pull up loop [6 loops on hook], RetP.

Rows 5-14 Repeat Row 4, increasing by 1 st on each row, until there are 16 loops on the hook before the RetP.

Row 15 Dc in each st of previous row (do not work in first vertical bar on edge of work) by inserting hook under each vertical bar, skip last st, ss in same ch as last st of Row 14. [14dc, 1ss]

Row 16 Insert hook in next unworked ch, pull up loop [2 loops on hook], RetP. Repeat Rows 2-16 once more, then Rows 2-15 once again.

Fasten off.

LEVEL 2

(Comprises start triangle, 2 squares, end triangle)

Start triangle: Join yarn in bottom corner of first base triangle with RS facing.

Row 1 Ch2, pull up loop in second ch from hook, pull up loop in same stitch as join [3 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 2 Tssinc in next st, skip last st of previous row, insert hook in edge of Row 2 of base triangle and pull up a loop [4 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 3 Tssinc in next st, Tss in next st, skip last st of previous row, insert hook in edge of Row 3 of base triangle and pull up a loop [5 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 4 Tssinc in next st, Tss in next 2 sts, skip last st of previous row, insert hook in edge of Row 4 of base triangle and pull up a loop [6 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 5 Tssinc in next st, Tss in each st to last st, skip last st of previous row, insert hook in edge of base triangle and pull up a loop [7 loops on hook], RetP.

Rows 6 to 14 Repeat Row 5.

Row 15 Dc in each st of previous row

(do not work in first vertical bar on edge of work) by inserting hook under each vertical bar, skip last st, ss in point of base triangle. [14dc, 1ss]

Square:

Row 1 (Foundation Row) Pull up a loop in each of the 14dc along the side of the base triangle, pull up a loop in the end of Row 1 of the next base triangle [16 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 2 Tss in each st across to last st, skip last st, pull up loop in end of next row of base triangle [16 loops on hook], RetP.

Rows 3 to 14 As Row 2.

Row 15 Dc in each st of previous row (do not work in first vertical bar on edge of work), by inserting hook under each vertical bar, skip last st, ss in point of base triangle. [14dc, 1ss]

Repeat Square once more.

End triangle:

Row 1 (Foundation Row) Pull up a loop in each of the 14dc along the side of the base triangle, and in the last st of the base triangle [16 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 2 Tss in each st to last st, skip last st [15 loops on hook], RetP.

Rows 3 to 14 Repeat Row 2. [3 loops on hook before RetP of Row 14]

Row 15 Dc in next st, skip last st.

Fasten off.

LEVEL 3

(Comprises 3 squares)

Join yarn in first stitch of Row 15 of start triangle of previous level.

Work 3 squares as given in Level 2, working into previous level rather than base triangles.

LEVELS 4-6

Repeat Levels 2 and 3, then Level 2 once more.

LEVEL 7

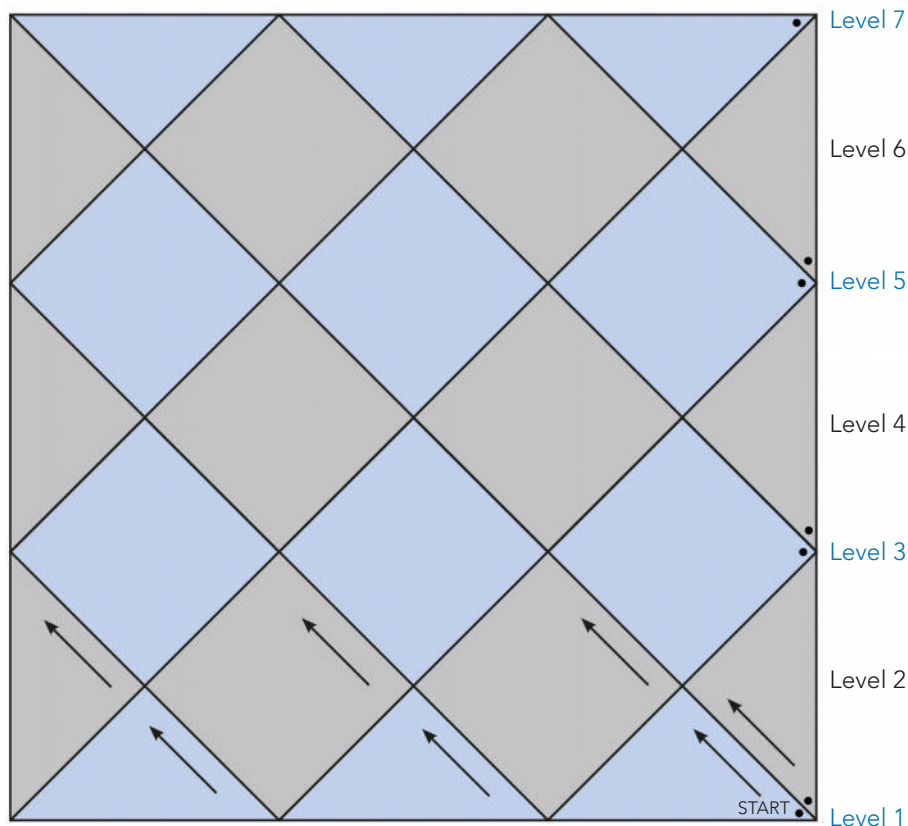
(Comprises 3 final triangles)

Final triangle:

Join yarn in first st of Row 15 of start triangle of previous level.

Row 1 (Foundation Row) Pull up a loop in each of the 14dc along the side of the triangle of the previous level, pull up a loop in the end of Row 1 of the

CUSHION DIAGRAM



← Direction of work
• Start of each Level



Pick fabric in a complementary shade for the back of your cushion.

next square [16 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 2 Skip next st, Tss in each st to last st, skip last st, pull up loop in next row end of square [15 loops on hook], RetP.

Rows 4-14 As Row 2. [3 loops on hook before RetP of Row 14]

Row 15 Skip next st, ss in next st of last level.

Repeat Final Triangle twice more, do not fasten off.

EDGING

Rotate work and dc evenly around edges, working 43dc along each side and 3dc in each corner.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Make back of cushion cover using complementary fabric, inserting zip part way down.

With zip closed and RS together, pin and tack around the outside of cover.

Machine stitch in place.

Undo zip and turn right side out, insert cushion pad and zip up.



CHOCK A BLOCK

Channel your inner quilter with this beauty by Simone Francis.



Log cabin blanket



YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Merino Soft DK (50% merino wool, 25% microfibre, 25% acrylic, 50g/105m)
- 7 balls of Yarn A Malevich (600)
- 3 balls of each: Yarn B Giotto (613), Yarn C Braque (607)
- 4 balls of each: Yarn D Klimt (616), Yarn E Vermeer (612)

- A 6mm (US J/10) Tunisian hook

For yarn stockists, contact
Deramores 0800 488 0708
www.deramores.com

TENSION

18 sts and 16 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) in Tss using a 6mm hook. Tension is not critical but will affect yarn quantities and finished measurements.

MEASUREMENTS

Finished blanket measures approx 96x138cm (38x54in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet*

Key

- Yarn A
- Yarn B
- Yarn C
- Yarn D
- Yarn E

Why should quilters have all the fun? This striking blanket uses a classic log cabin patchwork design to create a stylish, colourful effect. We love the look in yarn rather than fabric, with the Tunisian stitches adding elements of texture and depth for a three-dimensional look. The white, blue and brown colour scheme will cheer up any space, although you can crochet it with any five colours you like. The patchwork-style construction means it's portable and breaks the blanket down into manageable chunks. If you're new to Tunisian crochet, this is a great simple project to start with.

NOTES

The blanket is worked in 6 large squares, which are sewn together and a border added. Each square is worked in blocks, which are cast off before joining in the next colour.

TUNISIAN CROCHET

See page 6 for Tunisian stitch details.



The six separate squares are sewn or slip stitched together after they've been blocked.

LOG CABIN SQUARE (MAKE 6)

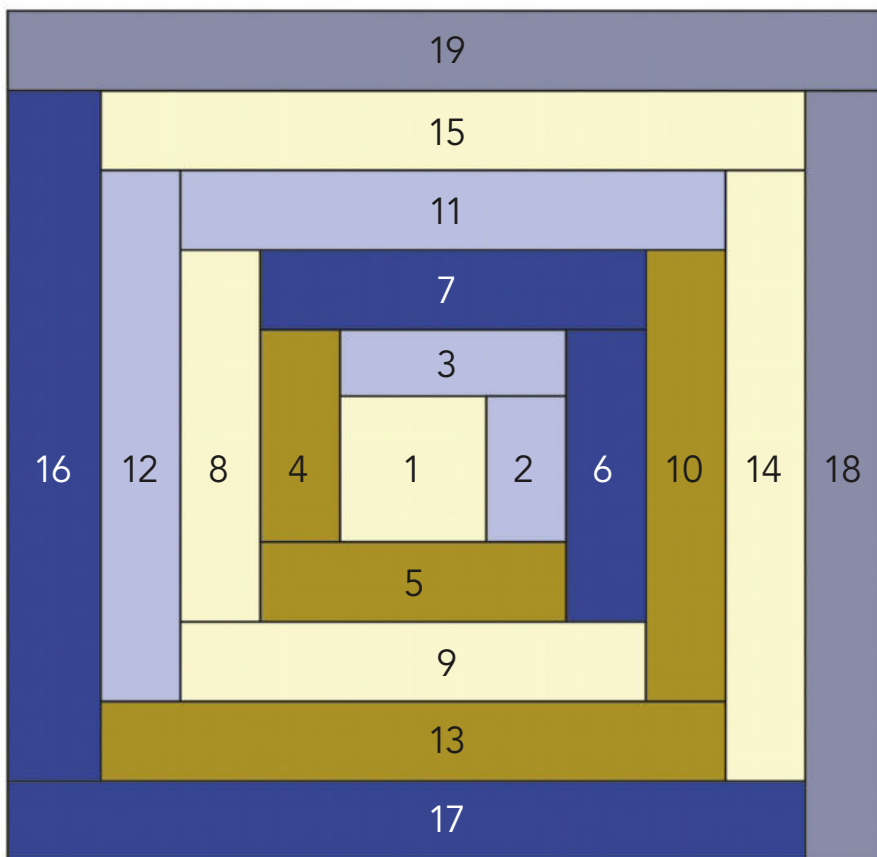
Refer to the Block Diagram (below) for a guide to how the different blocks fit together. The blocks are worked in the order numbered on the Diagram.

BLOCK 1

Using Yarn A, ch12.

Foundation Row Insert hook in 2nd ch from hook, yrh and pull up loop, leaving loop on hook; repeat for each ch across to end [12 loops on hook], RetP.

BLOCK DIAGRAM



Log cabin blanket

Work 9 rows in Tss.

Finishing Row Skip vertical bar on edge of work, (insert hook under next vertical bar, yrh and draw through both loops on hook to make a ss) repeat for each st to last st, working loosely and evenly, change to Yarn B on yrh of last st. **Fasten off** Yarn A. Turn work 90 degrees and work Block 2 as follows.

BLOCK 2

Using Yarn B, ch1 (counts as first st throughout pattern), pull up 11 loops along side edge of Block 1 [12 loops on hook], RetP.

Work 5 rows in Tss.

Finishing Row Skip vertical bar on edge of work, (insert hook under next vertical bar, yrh and draw through both loops on hook to make a ss) repeat for each st to end. Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 3

Using Yarn B, ch1, pick up 6 loops along edge of Block 2, 11 loops from Block 1 [18 loops on hook], RetP.

Work 5 rows in Tss.

Work the Finishing Row, changing to Yarn C in the last st.

Fasten off Yarn B.

Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 4

Using Yarn C, ch1, pull up 6 loops along edge of Block 3, 11 loops from Block 1

[18 loops on hook], RetP.

Work 5 rows in Tss.

Work the Finishing Row.

Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 5

Using Yarn C, ch1, pull up 6 loops from edge of Block 4, 11 loops from Block 1, 7 loops from Block 2 (the 7th loop is picked up from the very top corner st throughout pattern) [25 loops on hook], RetP.

Work 5 rows in Tss.

Work the Finishing Row, changing to Yarn D in the last st.

Fasten off Yarn C. Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 6

Using Yarn D, ch1, pull up 6 loops from edge of Block 5, 11 loops from Block 2, 7 loops from Block 3 [25 loops on hook], RetP.

Work 5 rows in Tss.

Work the Finishing Row.

Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 7

Using Yarn D, ch1, pull up 6 loops from Block 6, 18 loops from Block 3, 7 loops from Block 4 [32 loops on hook], RetP.

Work 5 rows in Tss.

Work the Finishing Row, changing to Yarn A in the last st.

Fasten off Yarn D.

Turn work 90 degrees.



The six log cabin squares are each made up of 18 different Tunisian Simple Stitch blocks.



Each of the 18 blocks are worked straight into loops from the previous block.

BLOCK 8

Using Yarn A, ch1, pull up 6 loops from Block 7, 18 loops from Block 4, 7 loops from Block 5 [32 loops on hook], RetP.

Work 5 rows in Tss.

Work the Finishing Row.

Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 9

Using Yarn A, ch1, pull up 6 loops from Block 8, 25 loops from Block 5, 7 loops from Block 6 [39 loops on hook], RetP.

Work 5 rows in Tss.

Work the Finishing Row, changing to Yarn C in the last st.

Fasten off Yarn A.

Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 10

Using Yarn C, ch1, pull up 6 loops from Block 9, 25 loops from Block 6, 7 loops from Block 7 [39 loops on hook], RetP.

Work 5 rows in Tss.

Work the Finishing Row, changing to Yarn B in the last st.

Fasten off Yarn C.

Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 11

Using Yarn B, ch1, pull up 6 loops from Block 10, 32 loops from Block 7, 7 loops from Block 8 [46 loops on hook], RetP.

Work 5 rows in Tss.

Work the Finishing Row.



Log cabin blanket

Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 12

Using Yarn B, ch1, pull up 6 loops from Block 11, 32 loops from Block 8, 7 loops from Block 9 [46 loops on hook], RetP. Work 5 rows in Tss. Work the Finishing Row, changing to Yarn B in the last st.
Fasten off Yarn B.
Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 13

Using Yarn C, ch1, pull up 6 loops from Block 12, 38 loops only from Block 9, 7 loops from Block 10 [52 loops on hook], RetP. Work 5 rows in Tss. Work the Finishing Row, changing to Yarn A in the last st.
Fasten off Yarn C.
Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 14

Using Yarn A, ch1, pull up 6 loops from Block 13, 38 loops from Block 10, 7 loops from Block 11 [52 loops on hook], RetP. Work 5 rows in Tss. Work the Finishing Row. Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 15

Using Yarn A, ch1, pull up 6 loops from block 14, 46 loops from Block 11, 7 loops from Block 12 [60 loops on hook], RetP. Work 5 rows in Tss. Work the Finishing Row, changing to Yarn D in the last st.
Fasten off Yarn A.
Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 16

Using Yarn D, ch1, pull up 6 loops from Block 15, 46 loops from Block 12, 7 loops from Block 13 [60 loops on hook], RetP. Work 5 rows in Tss. Work the Finishing Row. Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 17

Using Yarn D, ch1, pull up 6 loops from Block 16, 52 loops from Block 13, 7 loops from Block 14 [66 loops on hook], RetP. Work 5 rows in Tss. Work the Finishing Row, changing to

After the squares are joined, a border is worked all the way around the blanket.



Yarn E in the last st.
Fasten off Yarn D.
Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 18

Using Yarn E, ch1, pull up 6 loops from Block 17, 52 loops from Block 14, 7 loops from Block 15 [66 loops on hook], RetP. Work 5 rows in Tss. Work the Finishing Row. Turn work 90 degrees.

BLOCK 19

Using Yarn E, ch1, pull up 6 loops from Block 18, 60 loops from Block 15, 7 loops from Block 16 [74 loops on hook], RetP. Work 5 rows in Tss. Work the Finishing Row. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Gently block squares and sew or slip stitch together, using image as a guide.

EDGING

SHORT EDGE BORDER (BOTH ALIKE)

Using Yarn A, join yarn to top corner st with a ss, ch6.

Foundation Row Insert hook in 2nd ch

from hook, yrh and pull up loop, leaving loop on hook; rep for each ch across to end [6 loops on hook], RetP.
Row 1 Tss FwdP, ss into the next st on blanket edge [7 loops on hook], RetP. Repeat Row 1 along short edge of blanket, then work Finishing Row.
Fasten off.

LONG EDGE BORDER (BOTH ALIKE)

Rep instructions for Short Edge Border, working first 5 rows along Short Edge Border, approx 221 rows along main blanket edge and the final 5 rows along the opposite Short Edge Border. (Approx 231 rows worked)

TO FINISH

Weave in all ends. Block gently.



YARN OFFER

Deramores 0800 488 0708
www.deramores.com

Deramores are offering *Simply Crochet* readers 15% off Scheepjes Merino Soft DK yarn with the discount code SCMS. Offer valid until May 6 2016.

PERFECT PINWHEEL

Bring spring pastels into your home with this colour burst cushion by Simone Francis.



Round cushion



YOU WILL NEED

- Debbie Bliss Mia DK (50% wool, 50% cotton 50g/100m), 2 balls of each:
 - Yarn A Mauve (07)
 - Yarn B Stone (21)
 - Yarn C Light Pink (11)
 - Yarn D Robin Egg (05)
 - A 6mm (US J/10) Tunisian hook
 - 2 buttons, 3.5cm (1½in) in diameter
 - Round cushion pad, 41cm (16in) in diameter
- For yarn stockists, contact
Designer yarns 01535 664222
www.designeryarns.uk.com

TENSION

14 sts and 14 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) using a 6mm Tunisian hook or size required to achieve stated tension. Exact tension is not critical but will affect yarn quantities and finished measurements.

MEASUREMENTS

Finished cushion measures approx 41cm (16in) in diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet*

Love vintage style? Grab your Tunisian hook and get going with this boudoir-glam cushion. It's another glorious, patchwork-inspired design by Simone Francis. Those sweet pastel segments are created by working short rows, which are actually much more straightforward than you might imagine. The front and back of the cushion are identical, each made up of 20 dazzling segments. The Tunisian stitches also create the effect of concentric circles, which draws your eye to the covered button at the centre.

NOTES

The cushion is worked in two pieces, using short rows to make segments that will form a circle. The circle is joined with a seam and a covered button is added to the centre. The cushion is sewn onto the cushion pad, pulling the buttons together to create a pouffe look.

TUNISIAN CROCHET

See page 6 for Tunisian stitch details.

C FRONT/BACK (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn D, ch30.

Row 1 (Foundation Row) *Insert hook in 2nd ch from hook, yrh and pull up loop, leaving loop on hook; repeat from * for each ch across to end [30 loops on hook], RetP, changing to Yarn A on the last yrh of the RetP.
Fasten off Yarn D.

SEGMENT 1

Using Yarn A, work as follows:

Row 2 Tss FwdP to last 2 sts [28 loops on hook], leave last 2 sts unworked, RetP.

Row 3 Tss FwdP to last 2 sts [26 loops on hook], leave last 2 sts unworked, RetP.

Row 4 Tss FwdP to last 4 sts [22 loops on hook], leave last 4 sts unworked, RetP.

Rows 5-8 Repeat Row 4, working 4 sts fewer on each row. [6 loops on hook before RetP of Row 8]

Row 9 Tss FwdP in each st of Row 8, Tss in each of 4 skipped sts from Rows 8, 7, 6, 5 and 4, Tss in each of 2 skipped sts from Rows 3 and 2 [30 loops on hook], RetP, changing to Yarn B on the last yrh of the RetP.

Fasten off Yarn A.



Tunisian crochet covered buttons are the finishing touches on the front and back.

SEGMENT 2

Using Yarn B, repeat Rows 2-9 of Segment 1, changing to Yarn C on the last yrh of the RetP of Row 9.

Fasten off Yarn B.

SEGMENT 3

Using Yarn C, repeat Rows 2-9 of Segment 1, changing to Yarn D on the last yrh of the RetP of Row 9.

Fasten off Yarn C.

SEGMENT 4

Using Yarn D, repeat Rows 2-9 of Segment 1, changing to Yarn A on the last yrh of the RetP of Row 9.

Fasten off Yarn D.

SEGMENTS 5-19

Work 15 more Segments, following the colour sequence as set above.

SEGMENT 20

Using Yarn D, repeat Rows 2-8 of Segment 1.

Finishing Row Skip vertical bar on edge of work, (insert hook under next vertical bar, yrh and draw through both loops on hook to make a ss) repeat for each st of previous row and each skipped st to end of segment.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Sew last row to first row using even whip stitches through vertical bars of each st.

Using Yarn A, join yarn to centre with a ss, (dc2tog) 10 times around centre firmly, to close.

Fasten off.

BUTTON COVER

Make 1 in Yarn A and 1 in Yarn B.
Ch4.

Round cushion

Row 1 (Foundation Row) *Insert hook in 2nd ch from hook, yrh and pull up loop, leaving loop on hook; repeat from * for each ch across to end [4 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 2 Tssinc in next st, Tss in next st, Tssinc in next st [6 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 3 Tssinc in next st, Tss in each st to last 2 sts, Tssinc in next st, Tss in last st [8 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 4 Tssinc in next st, Tss in each st to last 2 sts, Tssinc in next st, Tss in last st [10 loops on hook], RetP.

Row 5 Tss FwdP; RetP.

Row 6 Tss2tog, Tss to last 2 sts, Tss2tog [8 loops on hook], RetP. Repeat Row 6, two more times [4 loops on hook before RetP].

Finishing Row Skip vertical bar on edge of work, (insert hook under next vertical bar, yrh and draw through both loops on hook to make a ss) repeat for each st to end.

Fasten off, leaving a long end for sewing.

Thread the long end onto a tapestry needle, make running sts around the edge of the Button Cover, pull tight around button and secure.

Sew each button onto the centre of each cushion piece.

TO FINISH

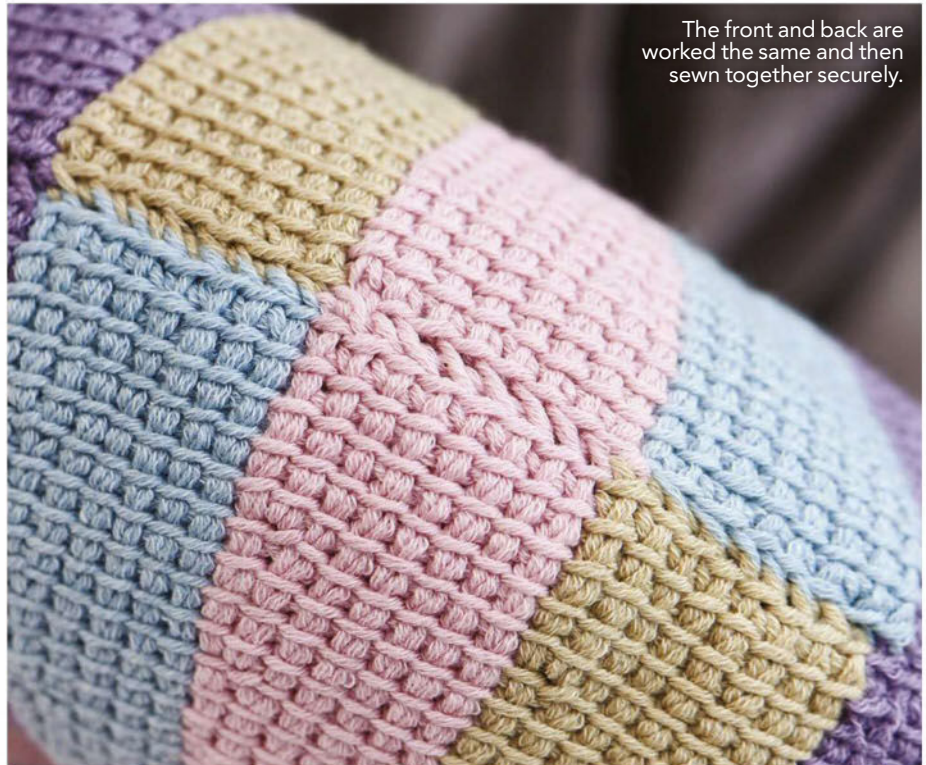
Block both pieces carefully.

Weave in all ends.

Place cushion pad inside and sew outer edges together, using the picture as a guide.

Thread yarn under button and pull through to the opposite side of cushion; repeat twice and pull tight. Secure ends with a knot and weave through cushion pad.

The front and back are worked the same and then sewn together securely.





AMAZING COLOURWORK



Regular *Simply Crochet* contributor Simone Francis has a real knack for dreaming up beautiful Tunisian crochet creations. We found out more...

Recognise some of these beauties? Talented crochet designer Simone is responsible for a lot of the gorgeous Tunisian projects featured in *Simply Crochet*, particularly those with fab colourwork, but how does she do it? We had a old good natter with Simone to get the lowdown on her best tips, tools and techniques for Tunisian crocheting.

How did you discover Tunisian crochet?
I first saw it in a magazine – the pattern was for a sweater that looked knitted. The fabric produced with the Tunisian stitch was so neat and smooth, I thought it would be something I'd love to try because I enjoy knitting as well as crochet.

Why is it such a winner for you?
I like the fact that the stitches are neat and uniform, and colourwork looks amazing in Tunisian crochet. I also like the fact that all

the loops are kept on the hook, so it's quite easy to keep a check on your stitch count!

Do you have a favourite project?
I take intervals between each Tunisian project, even though I love it, because I hold the hook a little differently when doing Tunisian and I tend to get Tunisian elbow! The work can get quite heavy on the hook (unlike crochet) so I like to take regular breaks, especially if it's a large item. I think my favourite Tunisian projects always include lots of interesting colour changes and working from colour charts.

Any helpful hints for Tunisian novices?
Try holding the hook in a few different ways because it can seem awkward at first with a long, straight hook. You may also need to change the way you hold your hook as your work grows – I use about three different ways of holding the hook

throughout each project. I was recently given a set of interchangeable short hooks with extension cords and I absolutely love them because I can crochet a lot faster and easier with the cords attached!

What's your top Tunisian tip?
Enjoy learning a new crochet skill and experimenting with different tensions that different hook sizes can give. Tunisian Simple Stitch can be very addictive – it's the basic stitch but the addition of one or two more colours can create a really lovely effect and transform a simple project.



Lots of Simone's designs are on Ravelry. See what she's been making lately at <http://bit.ly/SC42Simone>

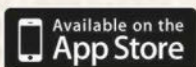
Simply Crochet

SAVE TIME, MONEY AND HASSLE WITH AN ANNUAL SIMPLY CROCHET SUBSCRIPTION



START YOUR FREE TRIAL TODAY*!

- Download the latest issue straightaway, for free
- Your next issue is free too
- Get a further 12 issues in your first year
- All issues download automatically
- Download it once... read it offline forever



iPad is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc.

NOOK is a registered trademark of Barnes & Noble, Inc. NOOK Tablet is a trademark of Barnes & Noble, Inc

*Free trial not available on Zinio



To subscribe simply visit:
www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/digital

* Free trial not available on Zinio.

The digital version of the magazine does not include the cover gift that you would find on newsstand copies, nor does it include access to Craft Circle.



WHAT'S TUNISIAN CROCHET?

Whether you knit as well as crochet or not, you'll love Tunisian crochet – learn how to do it with our guide...

WHY SHOULD I LEARN?

Here's the basic lowdown on this fab technique...

Tunisian crochet combines the best of knitting and crochet – it's got a hook like crochet, but it also keeps several stitches on the hook, like knitting. You can achieve many different stitches and effects, and even combine it with regular crochet. To make room for all those stitches, most Tunisian crochet is done with a special, long hook or a small hook on a cable. If you'd like to try the technique with just a few stitches, you can use a standard crochet hook

with a straight shaft. The key difference with Tunisian crochet is that one row is made up of two parts: a 'forward pass' (where you pick up the stitches onto the hook) and a 'reverse pass' (where you work them off the hook again). This means there's usually no need to turn your work – keep the right side facing you. Patterns usually write the two passes as one row, but they can be written in different ways, so always check before you start.



SIMPLE STITCH

Rows of traditional Tunisian crochet have a woven look on the right side and a wavy-looking wrong side. The fabric is quite dense, which makes it great for warm garments and blankets.



STRIPES

Once you know the basics, you can work all sorts of different Tunisian stitches and achieve a variety of colour effects. Stripes like these are the simplest, but there are many more possibilities.

HOW DO I START?

It's easy to get started working Tunisian crochet...

Just like when you're working regular crochet, you need to work a foundation chain first. In Tunisian crochet, you also need to work a whole foundation row made up of a forward and return pass. This foundation row nearly always remains the same, regardless of the type of Tunisian stitch you are using. Work the foundation chain and foundation row (forward pass) as follows:

Make a chain of the same length as the number of stitches you want to work. For a practice swatch, ch15. Keep the tension loose, but not so loose that it distorts the edge of your fabric.

To begin the 'forward pass' of your foundation row, *insert the hook into the second chain from the hook 01 & 02, yrh and pull the yarn through the chain and onto the hook 03. You will now have 2 loops on your hook. Repeat the same action from * for the next chain along.

Continue working in the same way for each chain, putting one stitch onto the hook for each chain, until you have worked into the



last chain 04 – do not work into the slipknot at the end. When you've finished the forward pass, you should have one loop on

the hook for each chain you started with – for a chain of 15, there should be 15 loops on the hook.

HOW DO I WORK THE RETURN PASS?

This is the standard or basic return pass.

To complete your foundation row, you now need to work the 'return pass', which works the loops back off the hook. This return pass is also used as the return part of the row for many basic Tunisian stitches, and you will see it referred to as the 'Standard' or 'Basic' return pass. You will have your stitches on the hook with the right side of the work facing you. Do not turn – you will be working back along the row from left to right.

01 Yrh and pull the hook through the first loop on the

hook only **02**. In patterns, this is sometimes called 'ch1', because the action is exactly the same as making 1 chain stitch.

03 *Yrh and draw the yarn through the next 2 loops on the hook **04**.

Repeat the process from * across the row, working yrh and pull through 2 loops at a time, until there is one loop remaining on the hook. You will have completed the return pass, and the loop left on your hook will make the first stitch of the next row.



HOW DO I WORK TUNISIAN SIMPLE STITCH?

Here's how easy it is to work the basic Tunisian stitch.

After working the foundation row (forward and return pass), you can choose which Tunisian stitches to work next. We'll show you how to work the basic Tunisian Simple Stitch.

With the right side of the work facing you, identify the vertical strands of yarn that were created in the forward pass of the foundation row. Skip the strand on the outside edge of the work and *insert the hook from right to left underneath the next vertical strand **01**.

02 Yrh and draw the yarn through the vertical strand of yarn. You will now have 2 loops on the hook **03**.

Repeat the process from * by inserting the hook underneath the next vertical strand, yrh and draw through in the same way.

Keep going until you have worked into all the strands

across the row, except for the last strand on the outside edge of the work. Up to this point, you have been inserting the hook into the front of the vertical loops that were created on the previous row, but there is also a corresponding strand at the back for each loop. For the last stitch of the row, insert your hook underneath the front and back of the loop on the outside edge, so there are two strands on the hook **04**. Yrh and pull through as before. This creates a firm edge, which mirrors the appearance of the edge on the other side.

With the forward pass complete, you can work the standard return pass (as explained left), without turning the work. See overleaf for what to do next to create Tunisian crochet fabric.

WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

Now you can create Tunisian fabric and finish off with a neat edge.

Your work should now look like **01** after one foundation row and one row of Tunisian Simple Stitch (forward and return pass). Work in Tunisian Simple Stitch for as many rows as you need to create your fabric **02**.

When you want to finish your work, complete the return pass of the final row. You could just fasten off at this point, or create a neater edge with a final forward pass of slip stitches. To do this, insert your hook under the next vertical strand, skipping the one on the outside edge as before. **03** Yrh and pull the yarn through both loops on the hook. Repeat across the row to form a neat slip stitch edge **04**.

You may notice that Tunisian fabric tends to curl more than regular crochet. Here are a few ideas to get a flatter fabric:

1 Use a hook larger than you usually would for the yarn you're using, such as 5mm instead of 4mm for DK-weight yarn.

2 Work into the 'back bumps' of the foundation chain, to help the foundation row to lie flatter.

3 It's a good idea to tighten up the first stitch of the forward pass because the tension



01



03



02



04

tends to be looser on that side of the row.

4 A firm wet blocking (where your yarn allows) will help to smooth out the fabric.

5 Work an edging of double crochet stitches all the way around your finished fabric to help stabilise it and make it lie flat.

HOW DO I CHANGE COLOUR?

Once you've mastered the basics, get creative with colour...

One of the easiest ways to add interest to Tunisian Simple Stitch is to try a little colourwork. You can change colour at either end of the row, to create stripes and other colour effects.

To create solid stripes, you'll need to change colour for the start of the forward pass, which means picking up the new colour in the last yrh of the reverse pass **01**. Work in the new colour for the forward and return pass **02**. Pick up the old colour in the last yrh of the reverse pass, to create a striped effect on the next row.

A more interesting effect is to change colour at the beginning of the reverse pass. To do this, work the whole forward pass in the old colour, then pick up the new colour in the 'ch1' at the beginning of the reverse pass **03**. This will avoid a 'jog' in the colour stripes at this end of the row. Continue the reverse pass in the usual way to the end of the row **04**. You can either switch back to the old colour on the last yrh of the reverse pass, or continue in the new colour for the following forward pass.



01



03



02



04

You could change back to the old colour at the start of the next reverse pass. This form of striped colourwork brings out the woven look

of the fabric, with the vertical strands of the forward pass clearly visible against the contrasting colour of the reverse pass.

HOW DO I WORK TUNISIAN KNIT STITCH?

Here's how easy it is to work this basic Tunisian stitch.

After working the foundation row (forward and return pass), you can choose which Tunisian stitches to work next. Here, we'll show you how to work Tunisian Knit Stitch.

If you examine the strands of yarn in the foundation row you've just worked, you will see that it is made up of vertical strands of yarn (created when you pick up stitches in the forward pass) and horizontal strands (formed when you work the return pass). You work different Tunisian stitches by varying the way that you insert the hook into the fabric on the forward pass.

With the right side of the work facing you, identify the vertical strands of yarn that were created in the forward pass of the foundation row. Skip the strand on the outside edge of



the work and *insert the hook through the work from front to back, placing your hook between the front and the back of the vertical strand **01** and underneath the horizontal strands of yarn.

Yrh, draw yarn through to the front of the work and leave on the hook. You will now have 2 loops on the hook **02**. Repeat from * by inserting the

hook into the next vertical strand, yrh and draw up a loop onto the hook as before. Keep going until you have worked in all strands across the row **03**.

With the forward pass complete, you can work the standard return pass (as explained above), without turning the work. You will have completed one row of Tunisian Knit Stitch.

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

A bit of background about Tunisian crochet tools and techniques...

At first glance, Tunisian crochet appears to be a cross between knitting and crochet. It's got a hook like crochet, but it also keeps several stitches on the hook, like knitting. There isn't much evidence to suggest that it came from Tunisia, but instructions for the technique can be found in European publications from the mid-19th century, at about the same time that regular crochet appears. At this time, it wasn't known as Tunisian crochet, and over the course of its history, it has gone by various names, including 'Tricot Ecosais', 'Shepherd's Knitting' and 'Afghan Crochet'.

One of the attractions of the Tunisian techniques for a crocheter is that you can create a fabric that looks a lot like knitting, but there are many

more effects made possible by different stitches and variations on the standard technique.

Rows of traditional Tunisian crochet have a unique woven appearance on the right side and a different wrong side. Tunisian crochet is quite dense, which makes it suited to warm garments and cosy blanket and cushion projects. The various stitches can be combined very successfully with regular crochet, so it gives you plenty of scope for creating exciting textures and types of fabric.

There are specialist hooks for Tunisian crochet, which are longer like knitting needles to make room for all those stitches on the hook, and that have a 'stopper' of some kind on the end to stop the stitches falling off. If you'd like to try out the

technique with just a few stitches to start with, you can use a standard hook with an improvised stopper like a cork or elastic band. In this case, it's best to use a crochet hook with a straight shaft and no finger grip, so that the tension of your stitches remains even all along the length of the hook.

Once you've mastered Tunisian Simple Stitch, Tunisian Knit Stitch and Tunisian Purl Stitch, there are plenty of other stitches and techniques to get your teeth (or your hook) into! You can work different Tunisian stitches across one row, working into the loops in various ways during the forward pass, to create a different effect when you work the loops off the hook in the reverse pass. Looser, lacy fabric can be made by including

chains in the reverse pass. Plus, there are multiple stitch variations to extend the basic stitches and make them taller, just as there are with regular crochet stitches.

Working Tunisian crochet in the round is also possible – one of the ways to do this is to work with a double-ended crochet hook and two balls of yarn. Using a double-ended hook is sometimes referred to as 'CroKnit', 'CroHook' or even 'Crochetnit', and is derived from Tunisian crochet but produces a slightly different and reversible fabric. Of course, any of these Tunisian techniques will work beautifully with regular crochet, so it's a wonderful way to extend your crochet repertoire and experiment with creating different crochet fabrics.

HOW DO I WORK TUNISIAN PURL STITCH?

Master this stitch to create lovely, wavy fabrics.

After working the foundation row (forward and return pass), you could choose to work Tunisian Purl Stitch instead.

With the right side of the work facing you, identify the vertical strands of yarn that were created in the forward pass of the foundation row. Now bring the yarn to the front of the work, before you insert your hook.

Skip the strand on the outside edge of the work and *insert the hook from right to left underneath the next vertical strand **01**. Work yrh **02** and then draw the yarn through the vertical strand and onto the hook. You will now have 2 loops on the hook **03**. Repeat the process from * by inserting the hook under the next vertical strand,

yrh, draw through and onto the hook in the same way. Keep going until you have worked in all strands across the row, except for the last strand on the outside edge of the work.

For the last stitch of the row, insert your hook underneath the front and the back of the loop on the outside edge, so that there are two strands on the hook **04**. Yrh and draw through as before. This creates a firm edge that mirrors the appearance of the edge on the other side. The forward pass will be complete **05**.

Now you can work the standard return pass (as explained previously), without turning the work. You will have completed one row of Tunisian Purl Stitch.



TOP TUNISIAN CROCHET RESOURCES

Where to go to find out more...

Struggling with some of the Tunisian techniques or itching to learn more? Youtube ought to be your first port of call. Video tutorials can be a fantastic tool for learning – you can really see for yourself exactly what's going on and pause whenever necessary as you figure it out. Get online and pay a visit to www.youtube.com/user/SimplyCrochetMag to find our special set of video crochet tutorials for Tunisian Simple Stitch,

Tunisian Knit Stitch and Tunisian Purl Stitch.

For the readers among you, we'd recommend Kim Guzman's *Tunisian Crochet Stitch Guide*, published by Leisure Arts (rrp £6.88). It's a brilliant reference guide that covers the basic Tunisian crochet stitches, as well as colourwork and lacy variations. There's also a pretty scarf project and the book is small enough to fit in your project bag for on-the-go hooking.



Written by Cara Medius, Becky Skuse and Becca Parker.

All the crochet supplies you'll ever need!
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

GET 10% OFF EVERYTHING!*

DISCOUNT CODE: SCTUN

yarn
 patterns & books
 needles & hooks
 accessories
 buttons
 ribbons

DROPS DESIGN



£2.00
per 50g ball

DROPS Lima



*A huge selection of crochet hooks,
from just 99p*

Stylecraft



£1.79
per 100g ball

Stylecraft Special DK

Debbie Bliss



£4.49
per 50g ball

Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino

Scheepjes



£1.99
per 50g ball

Scheepjes Cotton 8

CARON



£3.99
per 170g ball

Caron Simply Soft



From
£0.05

A big range of buttons



We're proud stockists of all these leading brands!

order online: www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

call us: 01926 882818 or 0800 505 3300

email us: yarn@woolwarehouse.co.uk

FREE UK DELIVERY ON ORDERS OVER £25!

No minimum order. FREE delivery on UK orders over £25. £2.95 delivery charge for UK orders under £25. *Discount code not valid on yarn packs or sale items.

Get your
hooks into
**TUNISIAN
CROCHET**

Printed in the UK.
Presented with issue 42 of *Simply Crochet* magazine.

Simply
Crochet