

40
PATTERNS!



MOTHER'S DAY
CARDS

Simply Crochet



Kitsch kitchen

Colourful crochet makes
to whip up tonight



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toasty with stylish
accessories

40 PATTERNS FOR SPRING

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Simply Crochet

It's a hug in a mag this issue, with the best of the cosy and cute snuggled up inside. Get your yarn party started with our fun-loving amigurumi pug, surround yourself with friendly faces (not just cakey ones – don't forget to check out our Amigurumi Collection!), then crash out after-hours on our characterful avocado cushion. You're sorted for Mother's Day gifts too, from a speedy hat to a star-bobble jumper and a soft cowl.
Oh pshaw, it was nothing. You're welcome.



Simply Crochet

ISSUE EIGHTY-ONE

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Turn to page 55 and check out our designer challenge – you could win gorgeous yarn!

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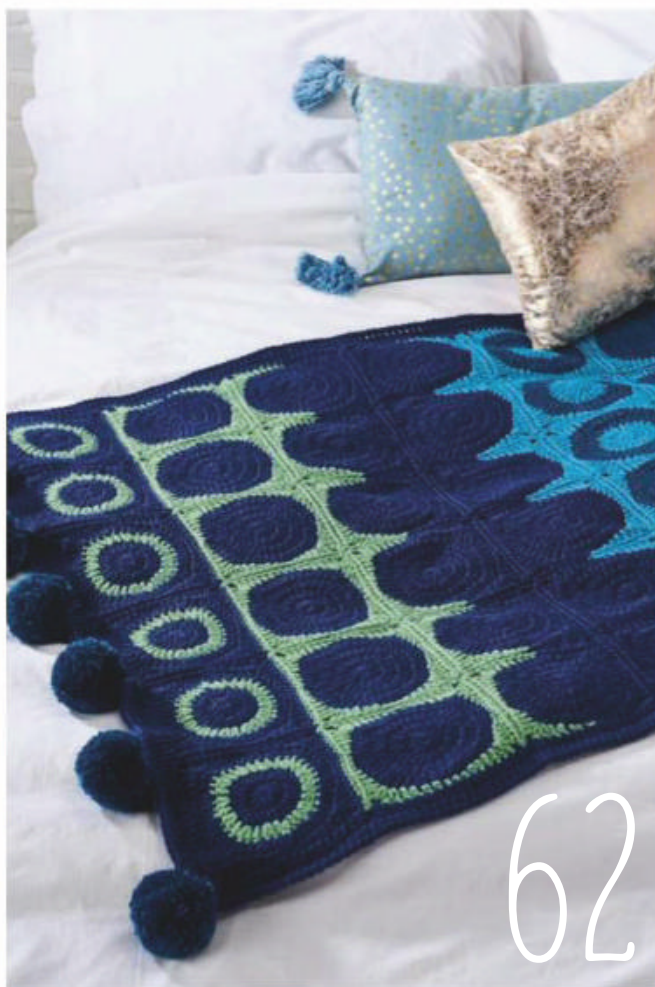
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Chic peek

If you can't stand the kitsch, best get out of the kitchen – we're riding the retro vibe this issue with fun baking-themed makes (p14). From apron to oven mitt, it's a timeless collection. Mother's Day is fast approaching, too – if she's not the baking sort (or even if she is) we have tons of other gifts you can hook for her – or go ahead, spoil yourself and your friends, aunts, grans, sisters... And if you like your crochet served with a side of whimsy, check out our appealing avocado cushion (p96). Practically as irresistible as the real thing, and so much comfier.



Sara

CONTRIBUTORS

Big love for these superstar designers



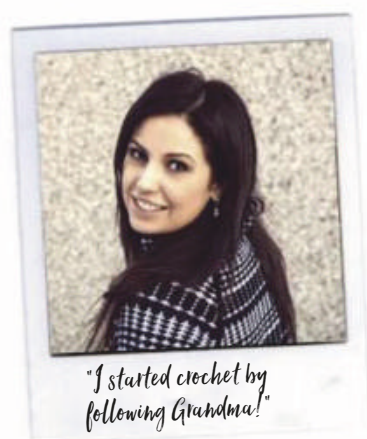
HANNAH CROSS

A *Simply Crochet* regular, when away from the mag Hannah writes about "crochet, life and tea" on her blog, HanJanCrochet.com. Crochet has always been a part of her life.



JENNIFER SANTOS

Jennifer has a huge sweet tooth and is a sucker for colourful stuff, and her designs reflect this with lots of rainbow things with happy faces. Her motto is, "everything gets better with sprinkles!"



SAMANTA FORNINO

Hanging out on Insta as @followthecrochet, Italy-based Samanta enjoys designing cute baby things and home décor. Get a load of her characterful avocado cushion on page 96.



IRENE STRANGE

Crochet toy designer Irene seeks out cute and curious creatures to turn into new amigurumi projects, the more unusual the better! Find her fun-loving party pug on page 44.

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**IMMEDIATE
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1-28 FEBRUARY 2019

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this colourful rainbow shawl.
Hosted in our Facebook group

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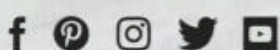


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Hooked

IDEAS ♥ INSPIRATION ♥ ACCESSORIES ♥ WEBSITES ♥ EVENTS ♥ STUFF



Fairy tale romance

New from West Yorkshire Spinners is Bo Peep DK, 14 new shades of fable-inspired yarn, along with two exciting pattern books. The shades include sunshiney Buttercup, bold pink Cheeky Chops and taupe Teddy Bear. Made up of 52% Falkland Wool and 48% Nylon, it's a soft and practical blend that's machine washable at 40°. Sold in 50g balls of 112m, it's the perfect size for hooking up garments, teddies and toys for the little ones in your life.



HIGH BEAMS

Call the *Men in Black*, Lalylala's visiting alien is taking over the world! This unique UFO features a bovine stuck in a tractor beam, which also acts as a pull-cord to a hidden music box that plays *The X-Files* theme! All the adorable right there. Comes as a pattern to buy, or a crochet kit with all you need to hook up this out-of-this-world wonder. Find it at www.etsy.com/uk/shop/lalylaland.

HOOK UP

▼ Tunisian crochet need never be the same again with these brilliant interchangeable hooks from Pony. The kit features a set of soft, pliable cables and a connector to combine cables if needed, plus five 15cm crochet hooks between 6mm and 10mm. The maple hooks are warm and light to the touch to ensure comfort during long crochet sessions. The set also features a pure cotton storage case to keep your set safely together.



PLANET-FRIENDLY YARN

Earth really is acting like a diva right now, what with all its 'don't wipe out all of the other species', and 'stop polluting me so badly my ice caps melt' [end of sarcasm]. In an attempt to placate this font of all life, Wool and the Gang have created New Wave, a new blend made from 47% recycled plastic bottles (and 53% cotton), turning planetary harm into beautiful yarn.

New Wave is made with a cotton casing that's filled with a fibre made from recycled plastic bottles. Each 100g ball contains the equivalent of three plastic bottles, and the resulting yarn is soft, squishy and breathable. Launching alongside the yarn are nine kits and two free patterns – pick up yours from www.woolandthegang.com.

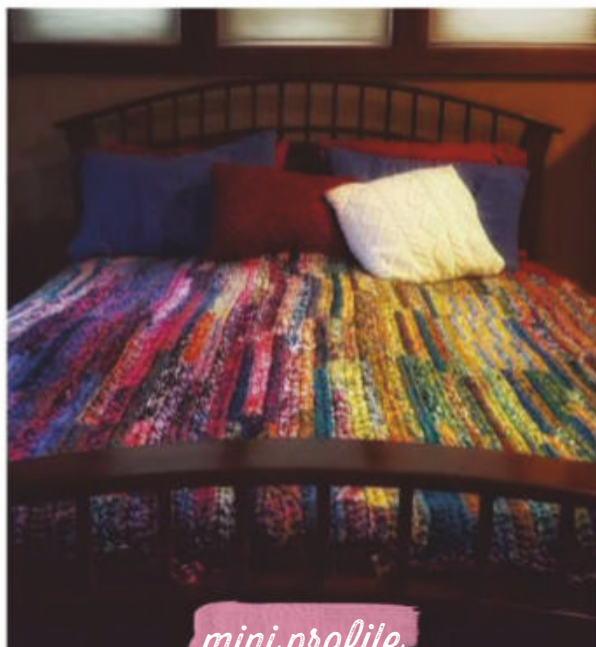
We Love...

What better to accessorise your crochet makes with than a yarn-skein necklace? These colour-popping picks from Max's World are a charming tribute to the craft we love, and are now available in nine colours. The jewellery is made with Travel Knitter's Tanami yarn, hand-dyed and featuring 50% silk, 50% baby camel to ensure it's super-soft and skin-kind.

Creator Max Alexander fell in love with the yarn on sight. "The hand-dyed colours are so rich they look just like jewels," he commented, "so it seemed like the perfect yarn to update this design for 2019."

Twitchy-fingered hooksters will have to hold themselves back from breaking into the necklace for an emergency make! Pick up yours from www.maxsworld.co.uk.





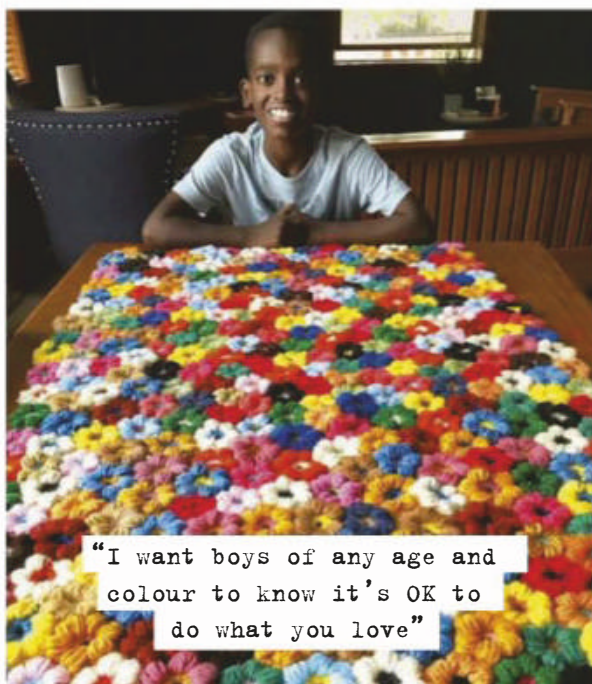
mini profile



JONAH'S HANDS

"It was really on a fluke that I discovered crochet," recounts 11-year-old crocheting Instastar Jonah Larson. "When I was five years old, my aunt gave us kids a bag of craft items she no longer wanted, and when I was looking through it I found a pointy thing. I asked Mom what it was and she told me it was a crochet hook. She didn't know how to crochet so she helped me find a tutorial on YouTube. I made a dishcloth that day and was hooked on it from then on!" It's unlikely Jonah or his mother Jennifer could have anticipated what would come next – a booming business selling custom crochet wares as fast as Jonah can make them, an Instagram account with tens of thousands of followers around the world, various awards, and newspaper articles dubbing him a 'globally renowned crochet prodigy'.

So what's he working on now? "Right now I am working on a braided cowl which some people have nicknamed the 'Jonah Cowl'. I have made 50 cowls for orders this past holiday season and the orders continue. I can make them rather quickly but am picky that they are made perfectly. I am also working on



soap sacks for donation in the community – I make two per day."

Despite his successes, Jonah has his feet firmly on the ground: "My main priority is my education. One day, I hope to be a surgeon and am hoping the dexterity I have gained from crochet helps me with this.

"As far as crochet, I would like to make tutorials for others as I've had hundreds of requests for this. I have also been talking with a publishing company about writing a book for children on how to crochet. Especially so that boys of any age and colour know that it's OK to crochet and do what you love."

Find Jonah on Instagram @jonahhands.

INSPIRING BOOKS



UNICORNS, DRAGONS AND MORE FANTASY AMIGURUMI

AMIGURUMI PATTERNS.NET (£13.95, Meteor Books)

Featuring 14 patterns from various authors all laid out in an easy-to-follow manner, this book brings a practical element to its fantastical designs, which include unicorns, mermaids and nymphs.



CROCHETED WREATHS AND GARLANDS

KATE EASTWOOD (£12.99, CICO Books)

Author Kate proves that wreaths can work year-round with her collection of 35 patterns for every conceivable garland occasion, from a heart garland on Valentine's Day, to an Easter hoop to welcome in spring – plus of course the classic Christmas wreath.



CROCHET CATS

MEGAN KREINER (£9.49, Thunder Bay Press)

The ancient Egyptians would have loved this cat-patterns-only ebook, featuring 10 different projects for crochet-proficient feline fans. The 80-page book features both photos and illustrations to help guide you through each step, ensuring your stitchy kitties look super pretty.



FOLK EMBROIDERED FELT BIRDS

CORINNE LAPIERRE (£9.99, Search Press)

In recent times felt has gained a reputation as the pre-schooler craft fabric of choice, so it's great to see this book showcasing just how exquisite it can be. The 20 folk bird projects include stunning peacocks, proud partridges and elegant swans, along with templates and hand-drawn, step-by-step instructions for each make.



SUBS STARS!

◀ Every month, three subscribers win a prize as a thank you for their loyalty. This month, the winners (below) will each receive a Hoooked Unicorn Kit. Check your issue next month to see if you're a winner!

Kerry Bladen, Cannock
Gonna Gabbitas, Chesterfield
Emily Hayward, St Austell

Immediate Media Company, publishers of *Simply Crochet*, Subs Stars giveaway Terms and Conditions: Prizes were dispatched before the on-sale date of this issue. There are no cash alternatives. Three winning entries will be chosen at random from all current subscribers. The draw is final and no correspondence will be entered into.



KALEIDO-CROCHET

Instagram account @paintboxyarns is challenging the conventional neutral palette of winter with their new Colour Your World campaign. Check into their feed and stories to find new free crochet patterns from @katiejonesknit, @missbananacrafts and @thequeenstitch, as well as a ton of cheer-inducing inspiration. Find out more at www.lovecrochet.com/paintbox.

KISSED BY MAGIC

▼ Italian crochet artist Luisa De Santi is “absolutely excited” to be exhibiting Magical Crochet Spells for the first time in the UK, at The Spring Knitting & Stitching Show from 28 Feb-3 Mar. Known for working her designs without a sketch, her process of design through experimentation results in unique creative worlds. “I hope visitors leave for some moments their reality and visit mine,” she says. “I hope that they can enjoy a little vacation on another planet and come back with a feeling of happiness.”



Workshop

STITCH MASTER

Award-winning crochet designer Jane Crowfoot of Janie Crow is teaching a Crochet Masterclass at Wonderwool this year, the first in the show’s history. The workshop will teach attendees to crochet in a more freeform way as they make a small crochet piece without a pattern. Advanced techniques will also be covered, including bullion stitch, frills and loops. Tempted to visit Wonderwool? We’ll be there – be sure to say hello! Find out more and book into the workshop at www.wonderwoolwales.co.uk.



New arrival

TITCHY STITCHES

We’ve fallen hook, line and sinker for this line of mini hooks, a gorgeous new arrival from DMC. Available in 10 sizes and 10 colours, the hooks range from 0.5mm to a maximum of 3mm, making them ideal for intricate projects. With a soft silicone handle they’re easy to wield for beginners and experts alike, while yarn passes smoothly over the aluminium hook. Check them out online at www.dmc.com.

online campaign

Cool for cats



When 14-year-old Chloe Stott helped rehome three stray kittens through Cats Protection, she discovered a passion for helping cats without a family. As a natural born crafter, her first thought was to use her crafty talents to help them. “I donated a batch of crocheted cat toys and a small knitted blanket for the kittens,” she says. But this was not enough for the ambitious young philanthropist. “I soon realised that with a couple of hundred supporters I’d be able to do a lot more.” To find like-minded charity crafters, in May 2018 Chloe set up Cats Protection Knitters on Ravelry, which now has more than 130 members! The group fundraise and donate cat toys to charities all around the world. If you’d like to take part, join the group on Ravelry at www.ravelry.com.





Includes Everything You Need to Make Twilight Sparkle and Rainbow Dash!

PONY CLUB

What with those dinner plate eyes, distinctive characters and kawaii by the ladleful, My Little Pony might have been made for amigurumi. This brand new book from Thunder Bay Press comes with colour photography and the complete patterns to make 12 of the ponies from Equestria, plus the yarn to make Twilight Sparkle and fan-favourite Rainbow Dash.

Unlock the Magic of Friendship with 12 Pony Patterns

FRESH PRINTS

Want to get a jump on the latest trends? Design company Stof and Stil's hotly anticipated latest collection is out and well worth a squizz, offering an overview of the key styles of 2019. Colours dominating the season include warm caramel brown, rouge and burnt colours, while on-trend prints this year will include tropical themes such as palms, exotic animals and birds, plus more luxurious florals.

Amongst the mammoth Stof and Stil collection are 275 fabrics, 45 sewing patterns and 230 accessories, available to view now at www.stoffstil.co.uk.



out & about

Skills, shows & events

MAR 21-23 Edinburgh Yarn Festival
£15, Edinburgh Corn Exchange,
www.edinyarnfest.com

MAR 31-APR 4 Knitting and Crochet Holiday
£110, Gartmore House, Stirling,
www.gartmoreestate.com

APR 4-6 The Creative Craft Show
£5-£15, ExCel, London,
www.stitchandhobby.co.uk

APR 12 Crochet Finishing Workshop
£29.95, Black Sheep Wools, Culcheth
www.blacksheepwools.com

APR 13-14 Spring Into Wool
£7.50, The Grammar School, Leeds,
www.springintowool.co.uk



5 FAB FINDS

Mother's Day

Say it with crochet with our mum-friendly fancies



PICK YOUR OWN

For a yarn-loving mum, lovecrochet.com offer ecards with values from £5-£200. The voucher can be spent on yarns, patterns, books, or accessories – it's up to her! See www.lovecrochet.com.



FLOWER POWER

Annette Petavy's free pattern for a flower brooch is just right. Hook up the three layers in cotton yarn, add a pin and present in a box. Go visit blog.annetpetavy.com.

BUNNY LOVE
Give Mum a cosy kit to crochet her own bunny! The Luxury Betsy Bunny Rabbit Beginner Kit by Weewoollywonderfuls on Etsy (£20) is the perfect gift for hookster newbies.



HOOK HER UP

If Mum loves to crochet, how about a personalised bamboo hook? Each hook is £8 and you choose the size and message. Visit etsy.com/shop/rockerycottage.

HUGS RULE

Try new stitches with this trio of free mug hug patterns. The wraps make a cuppa even more comforting than usual. Find them at www.simplycrochetmag.com.



TO PROTECT AND TO SERVE

There's nothing trendy about burnt fingers, scorched sideboards, cold tea and stained clothes. There's something *extremely* trendy about our kitschy kitchen collection. That makes this set a win-win!



RETRO KITCHEN IDEAS



Fine vintage

Hark back to the golden age of pinnies and potholders with our kitsch kitchen makes

RETRO KITCHEN IDEAS



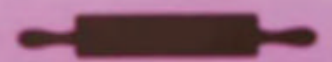
HIT POT-BOTTOM

Take the bite out of burning-hot ovenware with these cheerful pot holders, a merry mix 'n' match of retro-inspired styles. These patterns make perfect one-nighter projects.

FOR RICHER, FOR POURER

The problem-solving powers of a cup of tea are undeniable in Britain, so treat the nation's medicinal elixir with the respect it deserves – with a warming tea cosy and pair of pretty mug hugs.

**JUST
ROLL
WITH
IT**





RETRO KITCHEN IDEAS



PINNY IN THE MIDDLE

Offer your wardrobe refuge from the whisk splash zone with this full-coverage apron. Corner-to-corner crochet is the quick and easy secret behind this pixellated pinny.

A BIT DISHY

Give yourself a huge helping hand with this, er, huge helping hand. Our massive mitt is ideal for unloading ovenware, handling hot lids and setting cakes on cooling racks. Giant high five!

AMIGURUMI CUPCAKE

Give your sweetheart a sweet tart – a cupcake cutie by Jennifer Santos.

- Paintbox Yarns Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/125m) 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn A Coffee Bean (411)
 - Yarn B Tomato Red (413)
 - Yarn C Lime Green (429)
 - Yarn D Mandarin Orange (418)
 - Yarn E Blush Pink (454)
 - Yarn F Slate Green (427)
 - Yarn G Champagne White (403)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- Cardboard, 10x10cm
- Safety eyes, 6mm diameter
- Black thread
- Toy stuffing

TENSION

Tension is not critical but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Cupcake measures 8cm (3¼in) tall without fruit topping

NOTES

The yarn listed is enough to make 8 Cupcakes. Each Cupcake is topped with either a Strawberry or a Fruit Slice. Parts of this pattern are worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to mark the first st of each round, moving the marker up as you work.

CUPCAKE CASE

Using any colour yarn, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

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

Round 5 (Working in bl only) Dc in each st around.

Round 6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]

Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.

Round 10 (Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 11 Dc in each st around, turn.

Round 12 (WS) (Working in bl only) (4htr in next st, skip next st, ss in next st, skip next st) 9 times.

Fasten off.

Attach the safety eyes between Rounds 9-10, approx 5 sts apart.

Use black thread to sew the mouth and either Yarn B or Yarn E for the blush. You can use the image as a guide.

Cut a circle out of the cardboard to fit into the base of the Cupcake Case.

CAKE

Join Yarn A into any unused loop from Round 11 of the Cupcake Case.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in each unused loop around. [36 sts]

Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.

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

Place the cardboard circle into the base and stuff as you work.

Round 5 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 6 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 7 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 8 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off and thread the tail through the last 6 sts, pulling tight to close.

FROSTING

Using Yarn G, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-4 (RS) Repeat Rounds 1-4 of Cupcake Case. [24 sts]

Round 5 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 6 *4tr in next st, skip next st, ss in next st, 4dc in next st, ss in next st; repeat from * 5 times more.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Using the tail sew the Frosting over the Cake; Round 6 of the Frosting should sit over Round 4 of the Cake.

WHIPPED CREAM

Using Yarn G, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-3 Repeat Rounds 1-3 of Cupcake Case. [18 sts]

Round 4 (Working in fl only) 4dc in each st around, ss into next st to join. [72 sts]

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Use the tail to sew the Whipped Cream onto the Frosting; you can use the image as a guide. Weave in any remaining ends.

STRAWBERRY

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch1, 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]

Round 2 Dc in each st around.

Round 3 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Rounds 4-5 Dc in each st around.

Stuff the Strawberry.

Round 6 (Working in bl only) (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off.

STRAWBERRY LEAF

Using Yarn F, make a magic loop.

Round 1 *Ch3, dc into second ch from hook, dc in next ch, ss into loop; repeat from * 4 times more. **Fasten off.**

Sew the Leaf onto the Strawberry, then sew this to the top of the Cupcake.

FRUIT SLICE

Using Yarn G, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-3 (RS) Repeat Rounds 1-3 of Cupcake Case. [18 sts]

Fasten off.

Fold the circle in half with RS facing out, then work the next row into the sts on both sides to make a semi-circle.

Join either Yarn C or Yarn D into the first st on the right.

Row 4 (RS) Ch1, 9dc evenly across to join.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Using the same yarn used for Row 4, sew 5 long sts from the magic loop to the sts of Row 4; you can use the images as a guide. Sew the Fruit Slice to the top of the Cupcake.



POT HOLDERS

It's hip to be kitsch with these classic chintzy table-savers. By Emma Leith.

- Paintbox Yarns Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/125m)
1 ball of each:
Yarn A Coffee Bean (411)
Yarn B Tomato Red (413)
Yarn C Lime Green (429)
Yarn D Mandarin Orange (418)
Yarn E Blush Pink (454)
Yarn F Slate Green (427)
Yarn G Champagne White (403)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Cherry Pie Pot Holder measures 22cm (8¾in) diameter
Block Stitch Daisy Pot Holder measures 20cm (8in) diameter
Granny Square Pot Holder measures 20x20cm (8x8in) across
Popcorn Pot Holder measures 20cm (8in) across
Flower Pot Holder measures 18cm (7in) diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

FPdtr Yrh twice, insert hook around post of st indicated, working from front to back to front around post, yrh and pull up loop, (yrh, pull through 2 loops on hook) 3 times
FPhtr See Teapot Cosy
FPdc Insert hook around post of st indicated from front to back to front and complete a dc stitch
standing BPtr Begin with a slip knot on hook and work BPtr around indicated st to start rather than joining yarn first
popcorn Work 4tr into same st, remove loop from hook, insert hook into top of first st, place loop back on hook and pull through first loop on hook
ss surface crochet Insert hook through crochet fabric, bringing hook down under a st/row and back up, yrh and pull up loop, pull through first loop on hook

For a full list, see page 92

CHERRY PIE POT HOLDER

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 11tr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [12 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn G in any st.

Round 2 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, 2tr into each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [24 sts]

Round 3 Ch1 (doesn't count as st

throughout), dc in first st, dc in next st, change to Yarn A, *FPdtr around next st from Round 1, change to Yarn G, dc in next 2 sts from Round 2; repeat from * around ending last repeat with a FPdtr, change to Yarn G, ss to top of beg dc to join. [36 sts]

Round 4 Ch3, tr in next st, 2tr into next dtr, (tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in next st) around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [48 sts]

Round 5 Ch1, dc in first 4 sts, change to Yarn A, *FPdtr around FPdtr from Round 3, change to Yarn G, dc in next 4 sts from Round 2; repeat from * around, ending last repeat with FPdtr, ss to top of beg dc to join. [60 sts]

Fasten off Yarn G.

Join Yarn E in the top of any FPdtr.

Round 6 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch, tr in next 4 sts, (2tr in top of FPdtr, tr in next 4 sts) around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [72 sts]

Round 7 Ch1, dc in first st, *change to Yarn A, FPdtr in FPdtr from Round 5, change to Yarn E, skip next st, dc in next 5 sts; repeat from * around omitting last dc on final repeat, ss to top of beg dc to join.

Round 8 Ch3, (2tr in FPdtr, tr in next 5 sts) 12 times, omitting last tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [84 sts]

Round 9 Ch1, dc in first 2 sts, *change to Yarn A, FPdtr in FPdtr from Round 7, change to Yarn E, skip next st from Round 8, dc in next 6 sts; repeat from * around omitting last 2 dc on final repeat, ss to top of beg ch-3.

Fasten off Yarn E.

Join Yarn B in any FPdtr.

Round 10 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, (skip next st of Round 9, tr in next 6 sts, 2tr in FPdtr) 12 times omitting last 2tr, ss to top of beg ch-3. [96 sts]

Fasten off Yarn B.

Join Yarn A in first st.

Round 11 Ch1, dc in next 7 sts, FPdtr around FPdtr from Round 9, skip next st from Round 10; repeat from * around, ss to top of beg dc to join. **Fasten off.**

Join Yarn G with a ss to the top of any FPdtr from Round 11.

Round 12 *Skip next dc, 2tr in next 5 sts, skip next st, ss in top of next FPdtr; repeat from * 11 times more. **Fasten off.** [120 tr, 12 ss]

Join Yarn E in the st before the ss of the previous round.

Round 13 Ch1, dc in bl of same st, (FPhtr around next FPdtr, dc in bl of next 10 sts) 12 times omitting last dc on final repeat, ss to top of beg dc to join.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

HANGING LOOP

Join Yarn E 2 sts before any FPhtr from Round 13, ch14, ss into the second st after the FPhtr, ss in the next st from Round 13, turn, dc into each ch across, ss in the next st from Round 13 (the st next to the base of the ch-13).



BLOCK STITCH DAISY POT HOLDER

Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3, 15tr into the loop, ss to top of beg ch-3. **Fasten off.** [16 sts]
Work a standing BPtr with Yarn G around any st.

Round 2 Ch3, (ch1, BPtr around next st) 15 times, ch1, ss to top of beg ch-3. [16 sts, 16 ch-1 sps]

Do not fasten off Yarn G. Place live loop onto a stitch marker.

Join Yarn D in any st from Round 1.

Round 3 Ch1, dc in same st, (ch2, skip next st, dc in next st) 7 times, ch2, skip last st, ss to beg dc to join.

Round 4 Ch1, *FPdc around next dc from Round 1, 4tr in next ch-2 sp; repeat from * 7 times more, ss to top of beg FPdc to join. [40 sts]

Fasten off Yarn D. Place live loop from Round 2 onto your hook.

Round 5 Ss to next ch-1 sp from Round 2, ch3, 2tr in same sp, 3tr in each ch-1 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [16 3-tr groups]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn C between 2 3-tr group.

Round 6 Ch1, (dc, ch2) in sp between each 3-tr group, ss to beg dc. [16 dc, 16 ch-2 sps]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn E in any ch-2 sp.

Round 7 Ch3, 2tr in same sp, 3tr in each ch-2 sp round, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [16 3-tr groups]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn G between 2 3-tr groups.

Round 8 Ch1, dc in same sp, ch4, (dc, ch4) in sp between each 3-tr group around, ss to top of beg dc. [16 dc, 16 ch-4 sps]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn B in any ch-4 sp.

Round 9 Ch3, 3tr in same sp, 4tr in each ch-4 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [16 4-tr groups]

Fasten off.

RETRO KITCHEN IDEAS

Join Yarn E between 2 4-tr groups.

Round 10 Ch1, dc in same sp, ch5, (dc, ch5) in sp between each 4-tr group around, ss to top of beg dc. [16 dc, 16 ch-5 sps]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn C in any ch-5 sp.

Round 11 Ch3, 4tr into same sp, 5tr in each ch-5 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [16 5-tr groups]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn D between 2 5-tr groups.

Round 12 Ch1, dc in same sp, *ch3, skip 2 sts, dc in 3rd st of 5-tr group, ch3, skip 2 sts, dc in space between next 2 groups; repeat from * 15 times more omitting last dc, ss to top of beg dc to join. [32 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn G in any ch-3 sp.

Round 13 Ch3, 3tr in same sp, FPdc around next dc, (4tr in next ch-3 sp, FPdc around next st) around, ss to top of beg dc.

TO FINISH

Weave in any remaining ends.

Join Yarn G in the 3rd st of any 4-tr group from Round 13, ch14, ss into the second st on the next 4-tr group, ss into the next st across, turn, dc into each ch across, ss to next st from Round 13.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

GRANNY SQUARE POT HOLDER

GRANNY SQUARE (MAKE 9)

Using Yarn F, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3, 2tr into loop, ch2, (3tr into loop, ch2) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-3.

[4 3-tr groups]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn G in any ch-2 sp.

Round 2 Ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1) into same sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1) into each ch-2 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [8 3-tr groups]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn C in any ch-2 corner sp.

Round 3 Ch1, *(dc, ch2, dc) in corner sp, skip next st, dc in next 2 sts, dc in ch-1 sp, dc in next 2 sts, skip next st; repeat from * 3 times more, ss to top of beg dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

JOIN SQUARES

Hold 2 Squares with WS together. Join Yarn G in any ch-2 corner sp, working the following through the sts on both Squares:

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in ch-2 sp, dc in each st to next corner, dc in corner. **Fasten off.**

Repeat Row 1 to join a third Square so you have a strip of 3 Granny Squares.

Join the remaining Squares until you have three strips of 3 Granny Squares, then join the 3 strips using the same method. You can use the image as a guide.

BORDER

Join Yarn G in any corner.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, *(dc, ch2, dc) in corner sp, work 22 dc evenly across to next corner; repeat from * 3 times more, ss to top of beg dc. [96 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn F in any ch-2 sp.

Round 2 Ch2 (counts as htr), 2htr in same sp, (htr in each st to next ch-2 sp, 3htr in ch-2 sp) 3 times, htr in each st to end, ss to top of beg ch-2. [108 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn G in second htr from any corner.

Round 3 Ch1, 3dc in same st, (dc in next 26 sts, 3dc in next st) 3 times, dc in each st to end. [116 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn C in any second dc from any corner.

Round 4 Ch1, 3dc in same st, (dc in next 28 sts, 3dc in next st) 3 times, dc in each st to end. [124 sts]

Do not fasten off.

HANGING LOOP

Ss in the next 4 sts, turn, ch15, skip 4 sts from Round 4, ss in next 2 sts, turn, dc in each ch across, ss in next st from Round 4.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

POPCORN HEXI POT HOLDER

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3, 11tr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn G in any st.

Round 2 Ch3 (counts as first tr of popcorn throughout), (popcorn, ch2) in each st around, ss to top of beg popcorn. [12 sts, 12 ch-2 sps]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn B in any ch-2 sp.

Round 3 Ch3, (popcorn, ch3, popcorn) into same ch-2 sp, *ch2, popcorn into next ch-2 sp,

ch2**, (popcorn, ch3, popcorn) in next ch-2 sp; repeat from * 5 times more ending last repeat at **, ss to top of beg popcorn. [18 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn G in any ch-3 corner sp.

Round 4 Ch3, *(popcorn, ch3, popcorn) in ch-3 corner sp, (ch2, popcorn) into each ch-2 sp to next ch-3 corner sp, ch2; repeat from * 5 times more, ss to top of beg popcorn. [24 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn B in any ch-3 corner sp.

Rounds 5-6 As Round 4 using Yarn B for Round 5 and Yarn G for Round 6. [36 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BORDER

Join Yarn A in any ch-3 corner sp.

Round 1 Ch1, *(2dc, ch2, 2dc) in ch-3 corner sp, 3dc in each ch-2 sp to next corner; repeat from * 5 times more, ss to top of beg dc. [114 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn B in any ch-2 corner sp.

Round 2 Ch1, *(dc, ch2, dc) in ch-2 corner sp, skip next st, dc in next 18 sts across; repeat from * 5 times more, ss to top of beg dc. [120 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn A in any ch-2 corner sp.

Round 3 Ch1, *(dc, ch2, dc) in ch-2 corner sp, skip next st, dc in next 19 sts across; repeat from * 5 times more, ss to top of beg dc. [126 sts]

Do not fasten off.

HANGING LOOP

Ss in next 3 sts, turn, ch13, skip 3 sts from Round 3, ss in next 2 sts, turn, dc in each ch across, ss into next st from Round 3.

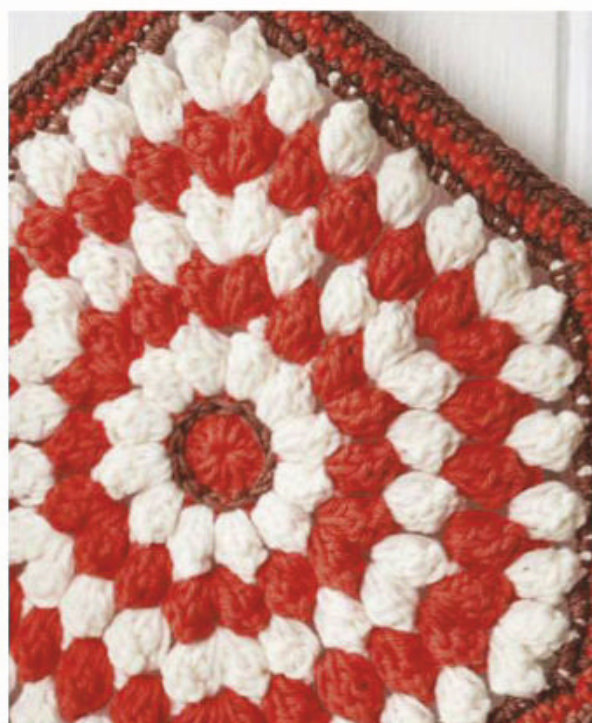
Fasten off and weave in ends.

FLOWER POT HOLDER

FLOWER MOTIF (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3, 11tr in loop, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 tr]



Round 2 Ch3, tr in same st, 2tr into each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [24 tr]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn F in any st.

Round 3 Ch3, tr in same st, (tr in next st, 2tr in next st) 11 times, tr in last st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [36 tr]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn G in any st.

Round 4 Ch2 (counts as htr throughout), htr in next 2 sts, ch1, (htr in next 3 sts, ch1) 11 times, ss to top of beg ch-2.

Fasten off.

Join Yarn D in any ch-1 sp.

Round 5 Ch2, (htr, ch1, 2htr) in same sp, (2htr, ch1, 2htr) in each ch-1 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-2. [48 tr]

Round 6 Ss to ch-1 sp, repeat Round 5.

Round 7 Ss to ch-1 sp, ch2, (2htr, ch1, 3htr) in same sp, (3htr, ch1, 3htr) in each ch-1 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-2. [72 tr]

Round 8 Ss to ch-1 sp, ch2, (3htr, ch1, 4htr) (mark last tr with a st marker) in same sp, (4htr, ch1, 4htr) in each ch-1 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-2. [96 tr]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

JOIN MOTIFS

Place the 2 Motifs WS together. Join Yarn G into the bl of the marked sts from Round 8, working through the sts on both Motifs for the next round.

Round 1 Ch1, dc in bl same st, *work 4 ss surface crochet down between the petals to Round 4 of the Flower Motifs, turn and work 4 ss surface crochet back up the Petal, working the sts alongside the 4 surface sts previously made, dc in bl of next 8 sts from Round 8; repeat from * 11 times more omitting last dc, ss to top of dc. [96 dc]

Round 2 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss to beg dc to join. Do not fasten off.

HANGING LOOP

Ss in next 3 sts, turn, ch13, skip 2 sts from Round 3, ss in next 2 sts, turn, dc in each ch across, ss into next st from Round 3.

Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Join Yarn G around the top of the post of any st from Round 2.

Round 1 Ss surface crochet around the top of each post, ss into first st.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

CUP SLEEVES

Keep drinks hot and hands safe with these sweet mug hugs. Designed by Jennifer May.

■ Paintbox Yarns Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/125m)

1 ball of each:

Yarn A Coffee Bean (411)

Yarn B Tomato Red (413)

Yarn C Lime Green (429)

Yarn D Mandarin Orange (418)

Yarn E Blush Pink (454)

Yarn F Slate Green (427)

Yarn G Champagne White (403)

■ A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook

■ Stitch markers

■ 2 tumblers (available at www.cookwaredesigns.com)

TENSION

19 sts and 24 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over double crochet using a 3mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Cup Sleeves measure 6cm (2¼in) diameter across base and 24cm (9½in) circumference around top

ABBREVIATIONS

ch-4 picot Ch4, ss into last ch from hook

For a full list, see page 92

NOTES

With the yarn listed you should be able to make 10 Cup Sleeves.

Cup Sleeves have been designed to fit the tumblers listed above.

Parts of the pattern are worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss.

CIRCLE FLOWER SLEEVE

BASE

Using Yarn E, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr throughout), 8htr into loop, ss top of beg ch-2 to join. [9 sts]

Round 2 Ch1 (doesn't count as st throughout), 2dc into each st around, ss to first dc to join. [18 sts]

Round 3 Ch1, (dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times, ss to top of beg dc. [24 sts]

Round 4 Ch1, (dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times, ss to top of beg dc. [30 sts]

Round 5 Ch1, (dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times, ss to top of beg dc. [36 sts]

Round 6 Ch1, (dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times, ss to top of beg dc. [42 sts]

Round 7 (Working in bl only) Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to top of beg dc. [42 sts]

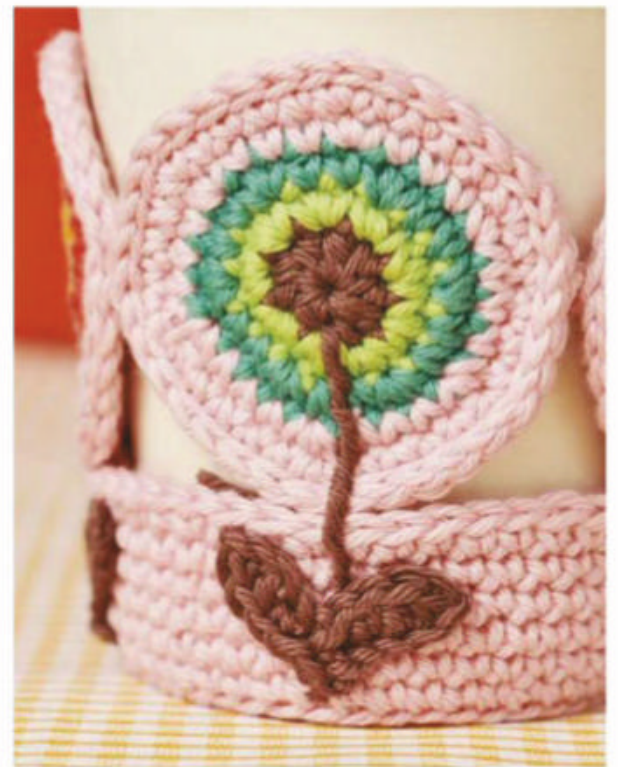
Now work in a continuous spiral.

Rounds 8-12 Dc in each st around. Ss in next st. **Fasten off.**

CIRCLES (MAKE 4)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-5 (RS) Repeat Rounds 1-5 of Base using the following colour combinations:



Make 2 using Yarn D for Round 2, Yarn B for Round 3 and Yarn E for Rounds 4-5.

Make 2 using Yarn C for Round 2, Yarn F for Round 3 and Yarn E for Rounds 4-5.

Round 6 Ss in each st around.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

PAIR OF LEAVES (MAKE 4)

Using Yarn A, ch6.

Row 1 (RS) *Dc in second ch from hook, htr in next ch, dc in next ch, ss in next ch** (leave last ch unworked), ch5; repeat from * to **, ss in last unworked ch from foundation ch.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

TO MAKE UP

Take one Circle and, using the tail, sew this to another circle over 2 sts of Round 5. Continue to join all 4 Circles in the same way so that you have a ring of Circles to fit around the cup. Join the bottom of each Circle to the WS of Round 12 of the Base.

Sew each Pair of Leaves onto the RS of the Base, directly below each Circle. The Leaves should be positioned between Rounds 8-11 of the Base. You can use the images as a guide. Using Yarn A, sew a line from Round 1 of each Circle to the leaves. We've used a backstitch, then worked over this by weaving the yarn through the backstitches.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

GRANNY SQUARE SLEEVE

BASE

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-9 (RS) Repeat Rounds 1-9 of Circle Flower Sleeve Base, ending Round 9 with a ss. [42 sts]

Change to Yarn G.

Round 10 Ch1, dc into each st around, ss to first dc to join.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

GRANNY SQUARES (MAKE 4)

Make 2 using Yarn E for Round 3 and 2 using Yarn B for Round 3.

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2, 7htr into loop, ss to first htr to join. [8 sts]

Round 2 (Ch2, ss in next st) 8 times. [8 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off.

Join either Yarn E or B as described above in any ch-2 sp.

Round 3 *(Ch1, htr, tr, htr, ch1, ss) in ch-2 sp, ch2, skip ch-2 sp, ss in next ch-2 sp; rep from * 3 times more, place stitch marker in last tr. [4 petals, 4 ch-2 sps]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn G in marked st.

Round 4 *Ch3, ss in same st, ch1, (tr in skipped ch-2 sp from Round 2 ensuring the ch-2 from Round 3 is enclosed in the working st, change to Yarn A, tr in same sp, ch-4 picot, change to Yarn G, tr in same ch-2 sp as last 2 sts, ch1, ss into next tr from Round 3; repeat from * 3 times more.

[4 ch-3 sps, 4 ch-4 picot, 12 tr, 8 ch-1 sps]

Fasten off Yarn A, continue with Yarn G.

Round 5 Ss into ch-3 sp, *ch2, (htr, ch2, 2htr) in ch-3 sp, htr in next ch-1 sp**, htr in next tr, ss into ch-4 picot, htr in next tr, htr in next ch-1 sp; rep from * 3 times more replacing beg ch-2 with htr and ending last repeat at **, 2htr in next st, ss in ch-4 sp, 2htr in next st, htr in ch-1 sp, ss to top of beg ch-2.

Fasten off.

Note that the last side of Round 5 includes extra stitches to accommodate the curve at the top of the Sleeve.

TO MAKE UP

Using tails, sew Squares into a ring alternating the Yarn E and Yarn B squares, ensuring the sides with the extra stitches are along the top.



Join Yarn G in any st at the top.

Round 1 Ch1, dc in same st, dc in each st and ch-2 sp around. **Fasten off.**

Repeat Round 1 along the bottom, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Using the long tail, whipstitch the Granny Square ring to the Base with WS together.

TEAPOT COSY

No kitchen is complete without a retro tea cosy for elevenens. By Louise Smith.

■ Paintbox Yarns Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/125m)

2 balls of each:

Yarn A Coffee Bean (411)

Yarn B Tomato Red (413)

Yarn C Lime Green (429)

Yarn D Mandarin Orange (418)

Yarn E Blush Pink (454)

Yarn F Slate Green (427)

Yarn G Champagne White (403)

■ A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook

■ Stitch markers

■ 2 wooden beads, 1.5cm diameter

TENSION

25 sts and 31 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) across ribbed pattern using a 3mm hook, or size needed to obtain the correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Teapot Cosy measures 43cm (17in) around base and 23cm (9in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

puff st (Yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up loop) 3 times, yrh and draw through all loops on hook

BPhtr Yrh, insert hook from back to front to back around post of st indicated and complete a htr st

FPhtr Yrh, insert hook from front to back to front around post of st indicated and complete a htr st

FPdc See Potholders

For a full list, see page 92

NOTES

The Teapot Cosy is made up of 20 Square motifs, which are joined together into 2 panels. A ribbed section is added at the top before the panels are joined to make the Teapot Cosy. You can alter the height of your Teapot Cosy by increasing or decreasing the foundation ch of the Ribbed Top. The Square patterns are labelled with the main colour used.

TOMATO RED SQUARE (MAKE 4)

Using Yarn G, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch1 (doesn't count as st throughout), 6dc into loop. [6 sts]

Change to Yarn B.

Round 2 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 2tr in st at base of ch, ch1, (3tr, ch1) in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [18 sts, 6 ch-sps]
Change to Yarn G.

Round 3 *Ss in each tr to next ch-sp, ss in dc at base of previous tr; repeat from * around, ss in beg ss. [24 ss]
Change to Yarn B.

In the following round, work into the sts of Round 2.

Round 4 Ch1, dc in st at base of ch and next 2 sts, *(htr, 2tr, htr) in next ch-sp, skip next st, dc in next 4 sts, (htr, 2tr, htr) in next st, skip next st, dc in next ch-sp and next 3 sts; repeat from * once more omitting last 3 dc, ss to beg dc. [32 sts]

Round 5 Ch1, dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next 2 sts, (dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in next 2 sts) 3 times, dc in last 2 sts, ss to top of beg dc. [40 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

COFFEE BEAN SQUARE (MAKE 4)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch3, 11tr into ring. [12 sts]

Join Yarn G into space between 2 sts.

Round 2 Ch2, (counts as htr throughout), (tr, dtr, tr, htr) in same sp, ch2, skip 3 sts (mark second skipped st), *(htr, tr, dtr, tr, htr) in sp between next 2 sts, ch2, skip 3 tr; repeat from * 2 times more, ss to top of beg ch-2. [20 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]

Join Yarn A into marked st.

Round 3 Ch2, (tr, 2dtr, tr, htr) in same st, *ch1, skip next 2 sts from Round 2, dc in next dtr, ch1**, skip next 2 sts, (htr, tr, 2dtr, tr, htr) into second skipped st from Round 1; repeat from * three times more ending last repeat at **, ss to top of beg ch-2. [28 sts]

Round 4 Ch1, *dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, dc in next ch-sp, skip next st, dc in next ch-sp; repeat from * 3 times more, ss to top of beg dc. [40 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

SLATE GREEN SQUARE (MAKE 4)

Using Yarn F, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch3, 11tr into ring. [12 tr]

Change to Yarn D.

Round 2 Ch2, htr in same st, 2htr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2. [24 sts]
Change to Yarn F.

Round 3 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, *2tr in next st, htr in next st, dc in next st, spiked dc in st directly below from Round 1, dc in next st, htr in next st**, 2tr in next st; repeat from * 3 times more ending last repeat at **, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [36 sts]

Round 4 Ch1, *dc in next st, 2dc in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, htr in next st, skip spiked st, htr in next st, dc in next st; repeat from *



three times more, ss to beg dc. [40 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

LIME GREEN SQUARE (MAKE 4)

Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch1 (doesn't count as st throughout), 6 puff sts into loop, ss to top of beg puff st. [6 sts]

Join Yarn D in any st.

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

Join Yarn C in between any 2 puff sts.

Round 3 Ch1, 2dc between each puff st around. [24 sts]

Round 4 Ch1, *dc in next 4 sts, (2dc, htr) in next st, (htr, 2dc) in next st; repeat from * around, ss to top of beg dc. [40 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BLUSH PINK SQUARE (MAKE 4)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into loop. [6 sts]

Change to Yarn E.

Round 2 Ch2, 2htr into same st, 3htr into each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2. [18 sts]

Change to Yarn A.

Round 3 Ch1, (FPdc in next st, BPdc in next st) 9 times, ss to top of beg FPdc. [18 sts]

Change to Yarn E.

Round 4 (Working in the bl only) Ch2, htr in next st, (2htr in next st, htr in next 2 sts) 5 times, 2htr in last st, ss to top of beg ch-2. [24 sts]

Round 5 Ch1, *dc in next 4 sts, (2dc, htr) in next st, (htr, 2dc) in next st; repeat from * 3 times more, ss to top of beg dc. [40 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

JOIN SQUARES

Take 1 of each Square and join them together in a strip of 5 as follows:

Place 2 Squares RS together and join Yarn G in a corner on both Squares, ready to work a dc seam:

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in corner on both Squares, work 9 dc evenly up to the next corner. [10 sts]

Fasten off.

Repeat Row 1 until you have a strip of 5 Squares.

Repeat 3 times more. You should now have 4 strips of 5 motifs.

Now repeat Row 1 to join 2 strips across the long edge. Work 10 sts per motif plus an extra st for each seam. [54 sts]

Rejoin Yarn G to work along the top edge of the Motif Panel.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in each of 10 sts for each motif and 1 st for each seam across the top edge, turn. [54 sts]

Row 2 Ch1, BPhtr in each st to end.

Fasten off.

Repeat with remaining Squares to make a second panel.

RIBBED TOP

For the following rows you will be working the rib rows at right angles to the motif panel, and using one st along the top of the panel for each row of rib.

With RS facing, join Yarn B in top-right corner of one of the panels, ch45.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in next 42 ch, dc2tog over next ch and next st across top of Panel, turn. [44 sts]

Row 2 (Working in bl only) Ss in next st on panel, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 3 (Working in bl only) Ch1, dc in each st to last st, dc2tog over last st and next st across panel, turn.

Rows 4-10 Repeat Rows 2-3 ending on a Row 2.

Change to Yarn G.

Row 11 As Row 3.

Change to Yarn E.

Rows 12-21 Repeat Rows 2-3.

Change to Yarn G.

Continue to repeat Rows 2-3 using the following colour sequence: 1 row in Yarn G, 10 rows in Yarn F, 1 row in Yarn G, 10 rows in Yarn A, 1 row in Yarn G, 10 rows in Yarn C. [54 rows]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Repeat Ribbed Top on the second panel.

JOIN SQUARES AND RIBBED TOP

With RS facing, join Yarn G into the bottom corner of a Pink Square on one panel and Red Square on the other panel.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in next 4 sts on both panels, dc in next 28 sts on one panel only (space for teapot handle made), skip 28 sts on second panel, dc in each st to end.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

With RS facing, join Yarn G into the bottom corner of the 2 Squares on the opposite side.

Row 2 Ch1, dc in next 10 sts on both panels, dc in next 12 sts on one panel only (space for spout made), skip 12 sts on second panel, dc in each st to end.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Using Yarn G, join yarn to base of Cosy, dc in each st around, ss to first dc. Ch1, FPhtr in each st around. Repeat for top of Cosy.

Fasten off.

Using Yarn G, dc along any edges of the Cosy that have been missed.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

CORD

Using Yarn G, make a ch measuring approx 53cm long, ss in each ch along.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Sew wooden beads to each end of Cord and tie around top of your Teapot Cosy.

APRON

Swerve those flying splashes and stains with this picture-perfect pinny, designed by Hannah Cross

- Paintbox Yarns Cotton Aran (100% cotton, 50g/85m)
- 5 balls of **Yarn E** Blush Pink (654)
- 2 balls of **Yarn A** Coffee Bean (611)
- 1 ball of each:
- Yarn B** Rose Red (614)
- Yarn C** Lime Green (629)
- Yarn D** Mandarin Orange (618)
- Yarn F** Slate Green (627)
- Yarn G** Champagne White (603)

- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

TENSION

6x6 c2c blocks measure 10x10cm (4x4in)

RETRO KITCHEN IDEAS

MEASUREMENTS

One size fits all, 96cm (37¾in) length, 56cm (22in) at widest point

NOTES

The Apron is made up of 2 panels, which are then joined together. The panels are constructed corner-to-corner, in blocks of (ch3, 3tr).

There are two Charts on page 93, which you will need to refer to for the colour changes. On the Charts, each square represents 1 c2c block. Read the Charts from the bottom right-hand corner, where Row 1 is. Each row is read diagonally, with even-numbered rows read from bottom left to top right and odd-numbered rows read from top right to bottom left. We have written out the first 3 rows with the colour changes for guidance.

Change colour in the yrh of the ss at the beginning of the new block.

APRON

UPPER PANEL

Using Yarn E, ch6.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in fourth ch from hook, tr in next 2 ch, turn. [1 c2c block]

Change to Yarn G.

Row 2 (WS) Ch6, tr in fourth ch from hook, tr in next 2 ch, ss into ch-3 sp on next block, (ch3, 3tr) into same ch-3 sp, turn.

[2 c2c blocks]

Change to Yarn E.

Row 3 Ch6, tr in fourth ch from hook, tr in next 2 ch, change to Yarn G, *ss into ch-3 sp on next block, ch3, 3tr into same sp**, change to Yarn E; repeat from * to **, turn. [3 c2c blocks]

Continue following the pattern using the Upper Panel Chart on page 93.

Rows 4-15 Ch6, tr in fourth ch from hook, tr

in next 2 ch, *ss into ch-3 sp on next block, ch3, 3tr into same ch-3 sp; rep from * across, turn. [15 c2c blocks]

Rows 16-29 Ss into next 3 sts, ss into ch-3 sp on previous block made, *ch3, 3tr into same sp, ss into next ch-3 sp across; repeat from * across to last ch-3 sp, ss into ch-3 sp, turn.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BORDER

With RS facing, join Yarn A into any st.

Round 1 Ch1, *(dc in each st to next ch-3 sp, 3dc in ch-3 sp) across to corner, ch1; repeat from * around ss to first dc to join. [180 sts]

Rounds 2-3 (Working in bl only) Ch1, *dc in each st to ch-1 corner sp, (dc, ch1, dc) in corner sp; repeat from * around, ss to first dc to join. [196 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

LOWER PANEL

Refer to the Lower Panel Chart on page 93 for colour changes.

Using Yarn B, ch6.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in fourth ch from hook, tr in next 2 ch, turn. [1 c2c block]

Rows 2-29 Ch6, tr in fourth ch from hook, tr in next 2 ch, *ss into ch-3 sp on next block, ch3, 3tr into same ch-3 sp; rep from * across, turn. [29 c2c blocks]

Row 30 Ss into next 3 sts, ss into ch-3 sp on previous block made, *ch3, 3tr into same sp, ss into next ch-3 sp across; repeat from * across, turn. [29 c2c blocks]

Rows 31-58 Ss into next 3 sts, ss into ch-3 sp on previous block made, *ch3, 3tr into same sp, ss into next ch-3 sp across; repeat from * across to last ch-3 sp, ss into ch-3 sp, turn.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Repeat Rounds 1-3 of Border on the Lower Panel.

JOIN PANELS

Place the Upper Panel above the Lower Panel and pin together, making sure there are 7 c2c blocks on the Lower Panel each side of the join. With WS facing, whipstitch the panels together using Yarn A.

WAIST STRAPS

With WS facing, join Yarn A into the top right corner of the Lower Panel.

Row 1 (WS) Ch1, dc in corner sp, dc in next 3 sts down side of Lower Panel, turn. [4 sts]

Rows 2 (RS) Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. Repeat Row 2 until the strap measures 50cm.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

With RS facing join Yarn A into the top left-hand corner of the Lower Panel.

Repeat the instructions above to make the second Strap.

SHOULDER STRAPS

With RS facing, join Yarn A into the top right corner of the Upper Panel.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in corner sp, dc in next 3 sts across top of Upper Panel, turn.

Row 2 (WS) Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Repeat Row 2 until the Strap measures 45cm.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Sew the end of the Shoulder Strap to the top right corner of the Lower Panel making sure the Strap doesn't twist. You can use the images as a guide.

With WS facing, join Yarn A into the top left corner of the Upper Panel. Repeat the instructions for the first Shoulder Strap.

OVEN GLOVE

Get your mitts on our oven mitt to keep scalding hot trays at bay! By Matthew Spiers.

■ Paintbox Yarns Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/125m)

1 ball of each:

Yarn A Coffee Bean (411)

Yarn B Tomato Red (413)

Yarn C Lime Green (429)

Yarn D Mandarin Orange (418)

Yarn E Blush Pink (454)

Yarn F Slate Green (427)

Yarn G Champagne White (403)

■ A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

■ Stitch markers

TENSION

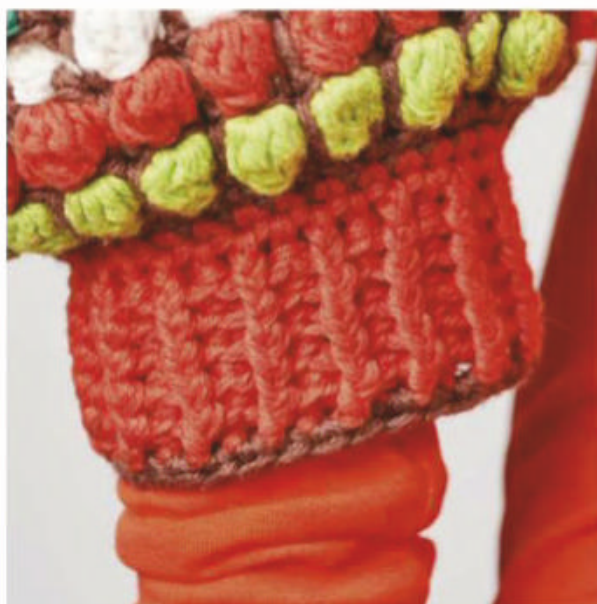
6 bobble sts and 13 rounds to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) with a 4.5mm hook and **yarn held doubled**, or hook size needed to obtain tension

MEASUREMENTS

Oven Glove measures 27cm (10½in) in length, including the cuff



RETRO KITCHEN IDEAS



ABBREVIATIONS

bobble *Yrh, insert into st, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh, pull through two loops; repeat from * 4 times more, yrh, pull through all 5 loops, ch1 to close

FPhtr and **BPhtr** See Teapot Cosy

For a full list, see page 92

NOTES

Two strands of each yarn are worked together throughout. Although the double strands and bobble stitches make the cotton fabric thicker, caution is still advised when handling hot materials.

The Glove has been designed to be big enough for male and female hands. You can make the Glove smaller by reducing the number of repeats on Rounds 10-24 of the Main Body, but to match colours you will have to make the 5-colour sequence of the thumb the same as the last 5 colours of the Main Body.

When working into a bobble st, work into the ch-1 sp at the top of the bobble.

OVEN GLOVE

THUMB

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into loop, ss into first dc to join. [6 dc]

Change to Yarn B.

Round 2 (Working in bl only) Ch1 (doesn't count as st throughout), *(dc, bobble) in next st; repeat from * 5 times more, ss in first dc to join. [12 sts]

Change to Yarn A.

Round 3 Ch1, (tr in next st from Round 1, dc in next bobble) 6 times, ss to top of first tr to join. Change to Yarn C.

Round 4 (Working in bl only) Ch1, (dc in next

tr, bobble in next dc) 6 times, ss to top of first dc to join.

Change to Yarn A.

Round 5 Ch1, (tr in next tr from 2 rounds below, dc in next bobble) 6 times, ss to top of first tr to join.

Change to Yarn D.

Rounds 6-11 Repeat Rounds 4-5, using Yarn D, Yarn E and Yarn F for the Round 4 repeats.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

MAIN BODY

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-2 (RS) Repeat Rounds 1-2 of Thumb. [12 sts]

Change to Yarn A.

Round 3 Ch1, (tr in next st from Round 1, 2dc in next bobble) 6 times, ss to top of first tr to join. [18 sts]

Change to Yarn C.

Round 4 (Working in bl only) Ch1, *dc in next st, bobble in next st, (dc, bobble in next st); repeat from * 5 times more, ss to top of first dc to join. [24 sts]

Change to Yarn A.

Round 5 Ch1, *tr in next tr from 2 rounds below, dc in next bobble, tr in next tr from 2 rounds below, 2dc in next bobble; repeat from * 5 times more, ss to top of first tr to join. [30 sts]

Change to Yarn D.

Round 6 (Working in bl only) Ch1, *(dc in next st, bobble in next st) twice, (dc, bobble) in next st; repeat from * 5 times more, ss to first dc to join. [36 sts]

Change to Yarn A.

Round 7 Ch1, (tr in next tr from 2 prev rounds, dc in next bobble) 18 times, ss to top of first tr to join.

Change to Yarn E.

Round 8 (Working in bl only) Ch1, (dc in next

st, bobble in next st) 18 times, ss to top of first dc to join.

Change to Yarn A.

Rounds 9-23 Repeat Rounds 7-8, working Yarn A for every odd Round and the following sequence for the even rounds: Yarn F, G, B, C, D, E, F. **Fasten off**.

Mark the first st and the 33rd st from Round 22.

JOIN THUMB AND MAIN BODY

Join Yarn G with a ss in any dc from Round 11 of the Thumb and the marked 33rd st from the Main Body.

Round 24 Ch1, dc in next 4 sts across, working through the sts of the Thumb and the Main Body, continue working around the sts of the Main Body only, dc in next marked st (mark st), bobble in next st, (dc in next st, bobble in next st) 15 times, working into the unworked sts from Round 11 of the Thumb, (dc in next st, bobble in next st) 4 times, ss in marked st to join, skipping the 4 joining sts. [44 sts]

Continue to work around the 40 sts of the Oven Glove, skipping the 4 joining sts.

Change to Yarn A.

Rounds 25-29 Repeat Rounds 7-8 of Main Body using the following colour sequence, Yarn A, B, A, C, A. [40 sts]

Round 30 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first st to join.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

CUFF

Join Yarn B in any st from Round 30.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to top of first dc to join. [40 sts]

Round 2 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join.

Rounds 3-7 Ch1, (FPhtr in next st, BPhtr in next st) 20 times, ss to top of first st to join. Change to Yarn A.

Round 8 Ch1, dc in each st around.

Fasten off and weave in ends.



YARN STOCKISTS

Love Crochet 01409 404010
www.lovecrochet.com



LOVECROCHET.COM ARE OFFERING SIMPLY CROCHET READERS THE CHANCE TO WIN ALL THE YARN TO MAKE THE PROJECTS IN OUR COLLECTION – 54 BALLS OF YARN! SEE [HTTP://COMPETITION.IMMEDIATE.CO.UK/SCM81KITSCH](http://competition.immediate.co.uk/scm81kitsch)



YOU WILL NEED

- Schachenmayr Catania Color (100% cotton, 50g/125m)
1 ball of Clown Color (82)
 - A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- For yarn stockists contact
Wool Warehouse 01926 882818
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

21 rows of i-cord measures 10cm (4in)

MEASUREMENTS

Each Lace measures 150cm (59in) in length

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92



True colours

Quick to make and super-strong, Paula Green's colourful shoe ties are not just a pretty lace



I-cord is a technique borrowed from knitting, enabling you to make narrow tubes easily

Go bright or bust with these jazzy laces! Multicoloured yarn maxes out the ombré fade for an on-trend trainer update.

NOTES

The Laces are worked using the i-cord technique. You will be removing loops from the hook and then replacing them one by one as you work. Keep a relaxed tension to prevent you losing sts. This i-cord is worked with 3 sts: at the end of each row you should always have 3 loops on the hook. The loops have been numbered for reference, loop 1 being closest to your hand, loop 2 in the middle and loop 3 closest to the end of hook.

LACES (MAKE 2)

Ch9, leaving a tail of 20cm.

Row 1 Insert hook into second ch from hook, *yrh and pull up a loop, yrh, pull through one loop on the hook**, insert hook into next ch;

repeat from * to **, leave remaining ch-6 unworked. [3 loops on hook]

Row 2 Remove loops 2 and 3 from the hook (be careful not to lose the sts), yrh and pull through loop 1 on the hook, place loop 2 back on the hook, yrh and pull through loop 2, place loop 3 back on the hook, yrh and pull through loop 3.

Repeat Row 2 until your laces are approx 125cm in length.

Row 3 Slip loop 3 through loop 2, removing loop 2 from the hook, yrh, pull through remaining 2 loops on the hook, ch6.

Fasten off leaving a tail of 20cm.

TO FINISH

Weave the tails through the loops of the ch-6 twice, this will make a stronger cord end to thread through your shoe's eyelets.

DESIGN[®]
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FINLAND

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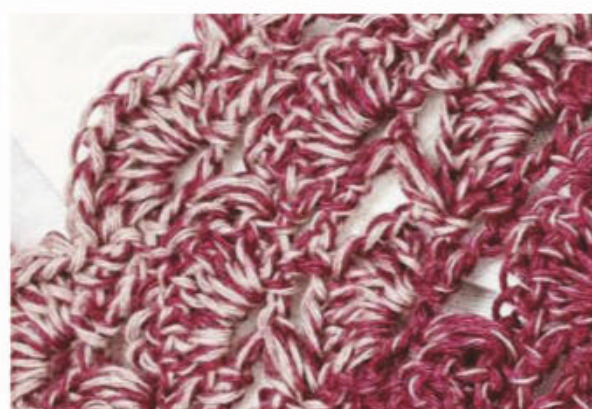
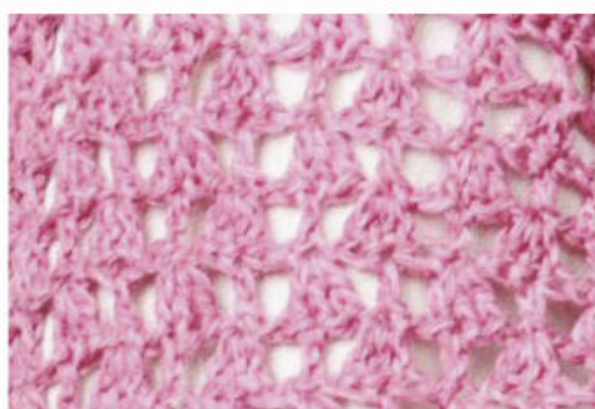
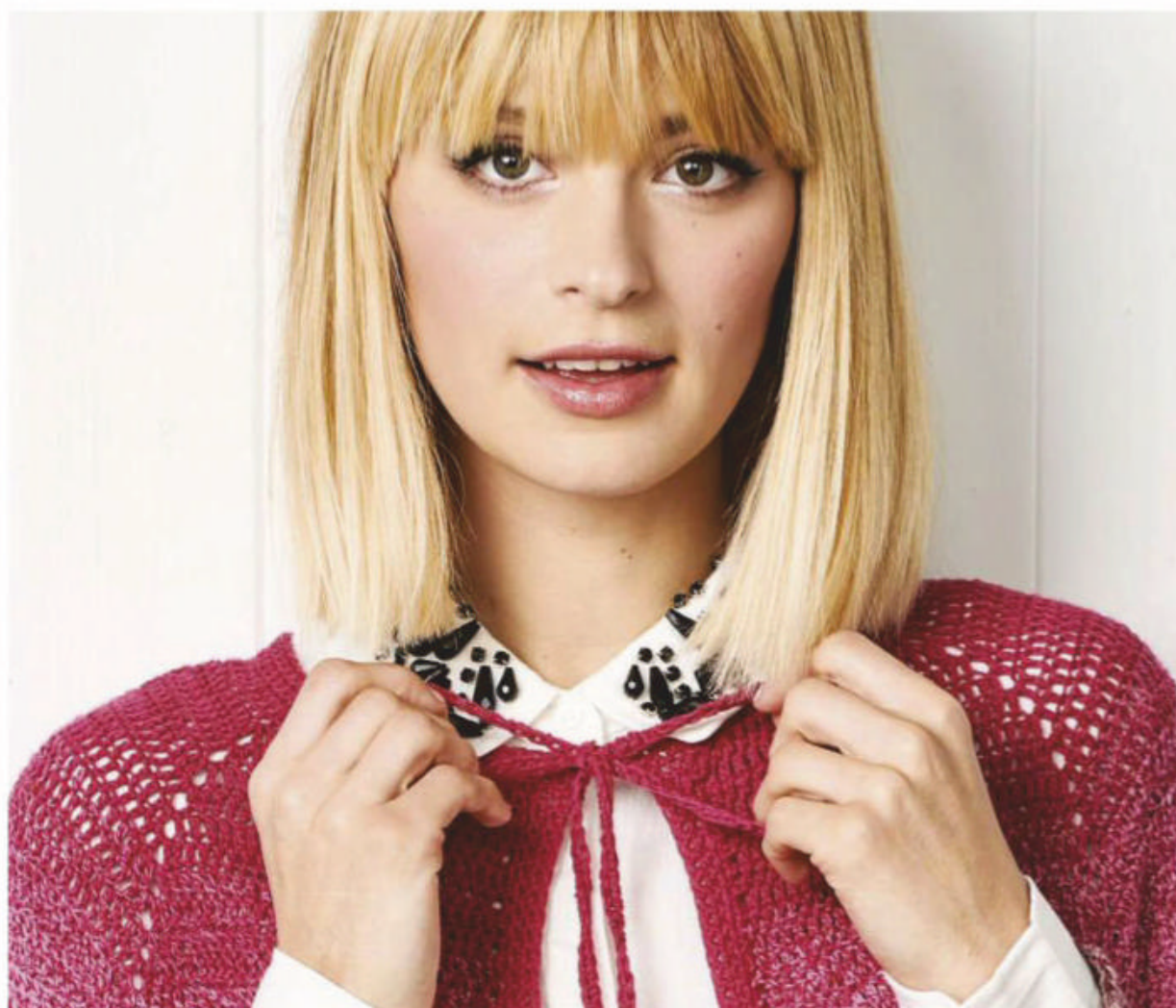


NOVITA

Nordic Yarns and Design since 1928

*"On Wednesdays
we wear pink"*





FADE INTO THE FOREGROUND

Full of intricate hookwork and subtle detail,
Margaret Hubert's cardi is a lace weight work of art

OMBRE CARDIGAN



YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Woolly Whirl, (70% cotton, 30% wool, 220g/1000m) Bubble Lickious (474)
See table for measurements and yarn quantities
 - A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
 - A 3.75mm (US F/5) hook
 - A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- For yarn stockists contact**
Scheepjes
www.scheepjes.com/en

TENSION

23 sts and 12 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet using a 3.5mm hook or size needed to obtain tension
Length of the stitch pattern section is 42cm (16½in) on all sizes

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Comfy cardi meets sophisticated extra layer in this lightweight warmer. We love the subtle fade through from pink to red, but if these are not your colours, there are three other scrumptious choices in the range.

NOTES

The Garment is worked in one piece from the top down, dividing after the Yoke for the Sleeves. The yarn forms its own colour pattern on the Body, and you change the hook size during the Stitch Pattern Section to make the bottom flare out. When starting the Sleeves, pull off some yarn so as to start at the same point in the colour run as the Body. The Sleeves are worked back and forth in rows without changing hooks and then seamed at the underarm.

FIRST STITCH PATTERN (MULTIPLE OF 6 + 1 STS)

Row 1 (RS) Ch3, (counts as first tr throughout), tr in same st, *ch1, skip next 2 sts, tr in next st, ch1, skip next 2 sts, 3tr in next st; rep from * across, ending with 2tr in last st, turn.

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

Row 3 Ch3, tr in same st, *ch1, skip next (ch1, tr), tr in next tr, ch1, skip next (tr, ch1), 3tr in next tr; rep from * across, ending with 2tr in third ch of beg ch-4, turn.
Rep Rows 2-3 for pattern.

SECOND STITCH PATTERN (MULTIPLE OF 6 + 1 STS)

Row 1 (WS) Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), skip next st, tr in next st, *ch1, skip next st, tr in next st; rep from * to end, turn.

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first st, *ch1, skip next ch-1 sp, dc in next st; rep from * across, ending with dc in third ch of beg



The cardigan is worked in a single piece, starting from the top and moving downwards

ch-4, turn.

Row 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), *skip next (ch1, dc), tr in next ch-1 sp, ch3, 3tr around post of last tr made, skip next (dc, ch1), tr in next dc; rep from * to end, turn.

Row 4 Ch5 (counts as tr, ch2), *skip next 3 tr, dc in top of next ch-3, ch2, ** skip next tr, tr in next tr, ch2; rep from * ending last repeat at **, tr in top of beg ch-3, turn.

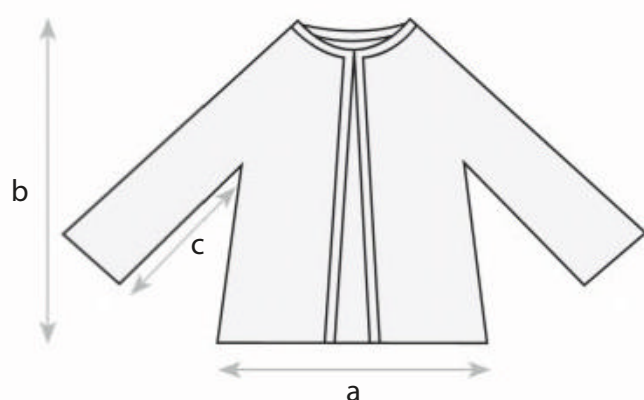
Row 5 Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), *(tr in next ch-sp, ch1) twice **, tr in next tr, ch1; rep from * across, ending last rep at **, tr in top of beg ch-3, turn.

Repeat Rows 2-5 for pattern.

THIRD STITCH PATTERN (MULTIPLE OF 6+1 STS)

Row 1 (RS) Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), skip next st, dc in next st, (ch3, skip next 2 sts, dc in next st) to last 2 sts, ch1, tr in last st, turn.

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in tr, skip



Bust width a: 43.5 (46: 48.5: 51.5: 54: 56.5)cm, 17 (18: 19: 20¼: 21¼: 22¼)in
Length b: 63 (64: 65: 66: 67: 67)cm, 25 (25¼: 25½: 25¾: 26¼: 26½)in
Sleeve Length c: 42cm, 16½in

SIZE		8	10	12	14	16	18
TO FIT BUST	cm	81	86	91	97	102	107
	in	32	34	36	38	40	42
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	87	92	97	103	108	113
	in	34¼	36¼	38¼	40½	42½	44½
LENGTH	cm	63	64	65	66	67	67
	in	25	25¼	25½	25¾	26¼	26½
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	42	42	42	42	42	42
	in	16½	16½	16½	16½	16½	16½
YARN	220g	2	2	2	3	3	3

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

ch-1 sp, (7tr in next ch-3 sp, dc in next ch-3 sp) to end, working last dc in third ch of beg ch-4, turn.

Row 3 Ch6 (counts as tr, ch3), dc in centre tr of 7-tr group, ch3, (Puff Stitch in next dc, ch3, dc in centre tr of 7-tr group, ch3) to end, tr in last dc, turn.

Row 4 Ch3 (counts as htr, ch1), dc in next ch-3 sp, (ch3, dc in next ch-3 sp) to end, ch1, htr in third ch of beg ch-6, turn.

Row 5 Ch3 (counts as tr), 3tr in ch-1 sp, dc in next ch-3 sp, (7tr in next ch-3 sp, dc in next ch-3 sp) to last ch-3 turning sp, 3tr in turning sp, tr in second ch of beg ch-3, turn.

Row 6 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first tr, ch3, Puff Stitch in next dc, (ch3, dc in centre tr of 7-tr group, ch3, Puff Stitch in next dc) to last 4 sts, ch3, dc in top of beg ch-3, turn.

Row 7 Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), dc in next ch-3 sp, (ch-3, dc in next ch-3 sp) to end, ch1, tr in last dc, turn.

Repeat Rows 2-7 for pattern.

CARDIGAN

YOKE

With a 3.5mm hook, ch106 (110: 114: 118: 122: 126).

Row 1 (RS) Tr in fourth ch from hook (skipped ch count as tr), tr in next 15 (16: 17: 18: 19: 20) ch (Right Front), (tr, ch2, tr) in next ch (increase made), tr in next 16 ch (Sleeve), (tr, ch2, tr) in next ch (increase made), tr in next 34 (36: 38: 40: 42: 44) ch (Back), (tr, ch2, tr) in next ch (increase made), tr in next 16 ch (Sleeve), (tr, ch2, tr) in next ch, (increase made) tr in next 17 (18: 19: 20: 21: 22) ch (Left Front), turn. [108 (112: 116: 120: 124: 128) tr, 4 ch-2 spaces]

Row 2 Ch3 (counts as first tr throughout), *tr in each tr to next ch-2 sp, (tr, ch2, tr) in ch-2 sp; rep from * 3 more times, tr in each tr to end. [Increase by 8 tr]

Work 20 (21: 22: 23: 24: 25) more rows as Row 2. [40 (42: 44: 46: 48: 50) tr for each Front, 62 (64: 66: 68: 70: 72) tr for each Sleeve and 80 (84: 88: 92: 96: 100) tr for the Back]

Work 1 more row as Row 2, but on the treble sections for each Sleeve make the following adjustments in the stitch count for each Sleeve:

SIZES 8, 10, 14 AND 16 ONLY

Increase evenly by 1 (3: -: 1: 3: -) tr across each Sleeve. [65 (69: 71: 75) tr on each Sleeve]

SIZES 12 AND 18 ONLY

Decrease (work a tr2tog), once on each Sleeve. [(67: 73) tr on each Sleeve]

The total stitch count should now be

[302 (318: 322: 338: 354: 358) tr, 4 ch-2 sps]

DIVIDING ROW

On this row, count both the tr and the ch as stitches:

Ch3, tr in next 41 (43: 45: 47: 49: 51) sts for

Right Front, skip next 67 (71: 69: 73: 77: 75) sts for first Sleeve, ch12 (14: 16: 18: 20: 22) for underarm, beg in the second ch of the next ch-sp, tr in next 84 (88: 92: 96: 100: 104) sts for Back, ch12 (14: 16: 18: 20: 22) for underarm, skip next 67 (71: 69: 73: 77: 75) sts for second Sleeve, beginning in the second ch of the next ch-sp tr in next 42 (44: 46: 48: 50: 52) sts for Left Front to end.

[193 (205: 217: 229: 241: 253) working sts]

BODY

STITCH PATTERN SECTION

Work 14 rows of First Stitch Pattern, counting each ch at underarm as a stitch, and ending on a Row 2.

FIRST DC BAND

Row 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each tr and ch to end, turn.

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

Work 9 rows of Second Stitch Pattern, change to a 3.75mm hook and continue working another 8 rows of Second Stitch Pattern ending with a Row 5, turn.

SECOND DC BAND

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in each st and ch-sp to end, turn.

Rows 2-4 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Change to a 4mm hook.

Work 14 rows of Third Stitch Pattern ending with a Row 2, **fasten off**.

SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

Rejoin the yarn in the centre of the underarm chain, to work into the opposite side of the chain.

With a 3.5mm hook throughout the Sleeve, work the Stitch Pattern Section as for the Body of the Cardigan on the 79 (85: 85: 91: 97: 97) sts of the underarm and Sleeve.

Sew the underarm seams.

FRONT AND NECK BORDER

Before starting border, place markers at each pattern section and from first pattern to neck edge. Make sure that you have same number of stitches between markers on both fronts.

Row 1 (RS) Join yarn with RS facing at bottom of Right Front. Ch1 (does not count as st), dc evenly up Right Front, around Neck and down Left Front, working 3dc at each top corner, turn.

Row 2 Ch1, dc in each st around working 3dc in each top corner st, turn.

Row 3 As Row 2 until corner stitch, ch70 for tie, dc in each ch back to corner, dc in same st, continue around to Left Front corner, ch70 for second tie, 1dc in each ch, dc in same st, continue in dc to bottom of Left Front.

Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Weave in all ends, block to measurements.



Pull some yarn off the skein before working the sleeves to match the colour to the body



Fluted sleeves and scalloped edging add a touch of romance to this elegant garment

EMMA'S JOURNAL

...from the studio

Emma Friedlander-Collins is on a mission to live more sustainably, and she knows just the craft to help her achieve it...



"Crochet and making are genuinely valuable skills"

My friend gave me a mug for Christmas which reads, "Crochet. It's not a hobby, it's a post-apocalyptic life skill". My friend thought it was funny, but for me, it's absolutely true! Most people don't think twice about where their clothes, blankets, scarves, hats, toys or cushion covers come from. They don't have a connection with the processes that go into making stuff. But us, fellow crochet fans, we know. We know how long it takes to make just a small baby blanket. We know that after you've finished the main make that weaving in all those infernal ends can take hours. We are makers, and we are ready for the apocalypse!

Ok, maybe not the apocalypse (although if your husband is like mine, then he'll claim that all the time he spends on his console killing zombies is actually training), but as living sustainability becomes more and more important, and we have to think more carefully about how and what we buy, crochet and making are genuinely valuable skills. There are a whole bunch of reasons for this, but here are some of my favourites...

HEIRLOOM

We have all sorts of blankets around the house, but our favourite and most precious is a crochet blanket made by a

Great-Grandma in the 1960s. We will keep this heirloom forever, mend it when we need to and pass it on to our children. Handmade has an emotional connection that beats shop-bought any day, and because of this, handmade pieces rarely end up in landfill.

BESPOKE

When we need or want something, we have the ability to make it exactly the way we like. We can find a pattern (or just invent one) that we like the look of and make it our own. We can change the colours of a jumper, adjust the size of a hat or create the perfect shape of throw for a chair. Things that are just right are things that we are more likely to keep.

VERSATILE

But what happens when we don't want to keep that stuff any more? We can rip it all up and make something else! The incredible versatility that can come from a hook and some yarn still dazzles me. There are people that use crochet to make bags and baskets, others that create wall art or hangings. Some like to make clothes while others craft homewares, and the combinations of stitches, colours and materials are almost infinite.

"Handmade has an emotional connection that beats shop-bought any day"





"Mend torn things,
recover worn things"

UNDERSTANDING

Making stuff takes time, energy and commitment. Once you experience that with crochet, you gain awareness in all sorts of other things. You understand what it takes to make a fast-fashion T-shirt, because it is all made by someone. Non-makers don't tend to make those sorts of connections.

INTERACTION

The more confident we get when we make stuff with our hands, the more likely we are to start interacting with the existing stuff we have in our lives. Mend torn things, recover worn things, and just get creative with your crafty TLC.

SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW

This year is going to be about exploring what else crochet can do to help me live sustainably. I've got some jeans that have worn through, so the first thing will be to crochet a patch for them, but I'm also thinking about not only making my clothes live longer, but what else I can do to them so that I want to

keep them. An old T-shirt would look amazing with some Fair Isle-style sleeve extensions, and others could be refreshed by chopping out the panels under the arms and down the side seams and crocheting in new ones. Before I buy something new, I'm going to try and transform something old.

This cavalier approach of hacking stuff up and sticking things back together is inspired by the knitting legend that is Elizabeth Zimmermann. Her book, *Knitting Without Tears*, completely changed how I approach crochet and any sort of pattern. She demystified the process of making clothes with the mantra of 'just make some tubes and stick them together' (I'm paraphrasing here, but you get the idea!), so what I'd also like to do this year is put together a foolproof guide of how to crochet almost anything, from tubes to spheres to squares. That way, everyone can be inspired to just start making stuff. Fingers crossed I can get it done before the apocalypse.

Find Emma Friedlander-Collins on Instagram @steelandstitch.

STASH BUSTERS!



I've been loving this season, going for walks around the South Downs and having a big stash busting session at home. I've been planning and making things with all the leftover balls of yarn (and there are a lot!), from my Fair Isle sleeves to gifts for friends to stripy jumpers.



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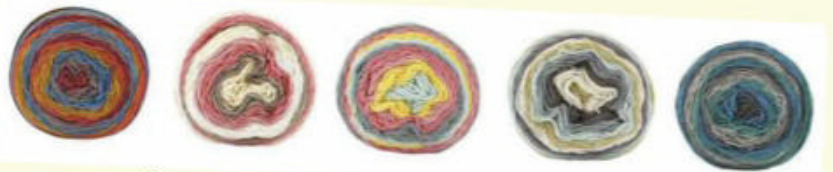
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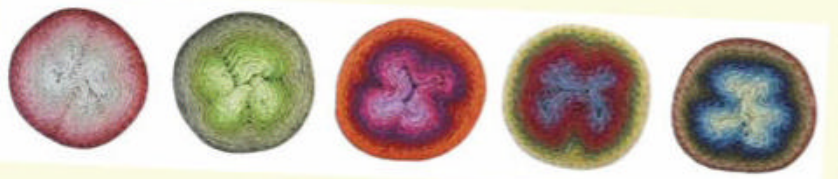
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Mind-bobbling

Hats off to Alessandra Hayden's
pom-pom-topped spring topper!



YOU WILL NEED

- Malabrigo Rios (100% wool, 100g/192m), 1 ball of Anniversario (005)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- Faux fur pompom

For yarn stockists contact
Malabrigo +44 20 3514 1551
www.malabrigoyarn.com

TENSION

16 sts over 13 rounds measure
 10x10cm (4x4in)

MEASUREMENTS

Hat measures approx 58cm (23in) in circumference

ABBREVIATIONS

spiked dc Insert hook into st indicated, yrh and pull up a loop to the height of the current row of sts, yrh and pull through both loops on the hook

For a full list, see page 92

Let your style sing out for spring with this luxurious bobble hat, quickly worked up in super-soft, machine washable wool. Just look at those amazing colours – choose their fave shades for a fabulous quick gift to hook up for Mother's Day.

NOTES

To change the size of the Hat adjust the number of rows worked in the Ribbing, making sure you work a multiple of 3 rows.

RIBBING

Using a 5mm hook, ch9.

Round 1 Ss into second ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [8 ss]

Round 2 Ch1, ss into the bl of each st across, turn.

Repeat Round 2 another 58 times, so you have 60 rows of Ribbing.

BODY OF HAT

Change to a 4mm hook.

Round 1 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in top of each row of Ribbing, ss to first dc to join. [60 dc]

Round 2 Ch3 (counts as first tr throughout), tr in the next st, ch1, skip 1 st, *tr in next 2 sts, ch1, skip 1 st; repeat from * around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [40 sts]

Round 3 Ch1, *dc in the next 2 stitches, spiked dc into the skipped st from previous round working around the ch-1 sp; repeat from * around, ss to first dc to join, ss into next st. [60 sts]

Rounds 4-28 Repeat Rounds 2 and 3.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

TO FINISH

Using the long tail, sew the opening of the hat closed. You can do this by threading the



Variegated wool means that every hat has a slightly different colouration pattern



A ribbed band provides stretch to help your hat stay put on blustery spring walks

tail through all of the sts of the last round and pulling tight to close, then weave the end in onto the WS.

Sew the pompom onto the top of the Hat.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A SPIKED DC



1 Work to the point where you want the spike dc (we worked ch1 and 2 dc).



2 Work the next dc as a spike dc stitch: don't insert your hook into the top of the next stitch or ch-sp, but into the st one row down from here (or further down, as instructed).



3 Work yrh and pull up a loop. Lengthen the loop to bring the st up to the height of the currnt row, making sure the fabric doesn't pucker.



4 Complete the stitch as usual for a double crochet: yrh and pull through 2 loops.

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Party animal

Who's a good boy then? Not this up-all-hours party pug, the brain-puppy of Irene Strange





YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura Just Cotton, (100% cotton, 155m/50g)
1 ball of each:
Yarn A Gardenia (N36)
Yarn B Siena (N41)
Yarn C Blue Jeans (N26)
Yarn D Blé (N83)
 - A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
 - Toy stuffing
 - 2 black safety eyes, 12mm
 - Black stranded cotton
- For stockists contact**
DMC 01924 231669
www.dmc.com

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Pug measures 18cm (7in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

inv dec (invisible decrease) Insert hook into the fl of the next st, insert hook into the fl of the next st, yrh and pull through the 2 sts, yrh and pull through the 2 loops on the hook (alternatively work a standard dc2tog)

bobble (Yrh, insert hook into st specified, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 2 loops on the hook) 4 times working into the same st, yrh and pull through all loops on the hook

For a full list, see page 92

Some dogs fetch sticks and others bury bones, and a few don hats and frequent nightclubs. Party Pug falls into this latter camp. Make sure to keep on top of all his separate pieces to avoid an unpicking atrocity, and remember to stuff as you go.

NOTES

This pattern is worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it useful to mark the first st of the round, moving the marker up as you work. The Head is worked from the top down.

PUG

HEAD

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into loop. [6 sts]

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

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

Round 4 (Dc in next 2 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts) 4 times. [28 sts]

Round 5 (Dc in next 3 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts) 4 times. [36 sts]

Round 6 (Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 7 (Dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [48 sts]

Rounds 8-19 Dc in each st around.

Add safety eyes between Rounds 15-16, 10 sts apart.

Round 20 (Dc in next 4 sts, inv dec) 8 times. [40 sts]

Round 21 (Dc in next 3 sts, inv dec) 8 times. [32 sts]

Round 22 (Dc in next 2 sts, inv dec) 8 times. [24 sts]

Round 23 (Dc in next st, inv dec) 8 times. [16 sts]

Add toy stuffing.

Round 24 (Inv dec) 8 times. [8 sts]

Fasten off, thread the tail through the fl of last 8 sts pulling tight to close.

MUZZLE

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-2 (RS) As Rounds 1-2 of Head. [12 sts]

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

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

Round 5 (Dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times, dc in next 12 sts. [30 sts]

Rounds 6-7 Dc in each st around. **Fasten off**. Using black stranded cotton, sew a nose over Round 4 on the upper side of the Muzzle. We've used multiple whipstitches worked over 4 sts across.

Add some stuffing and sew to the front of the Head below the eyes. You can use the image as a guide.



Add the eyes before stuffing the head, while you can still access the back of the fabric



Line up the ear and inner ear from the bottom edge so your pug doesn't end up cock-eared

MOUTH

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into loop. [6 sts]

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

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

Round 4 Dc in next 4 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in next 9 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, ss in next st. **Fasten off**. [22 sts]

Sew the Mouth to back post of sts on the lower half of the Muzzle so that the top line of the Mouth protrudes slightly. You can use the image as a guide.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-3 (RS) Repeat Rounds 1-3 of Mouth. [18 sts]

Round 4 (Dc in next 2 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts) 3 times [24 sts]

Round 5 (Dc in next 3 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts) 3 times [30 sts]

Round 6 Dc in next 15 sts, ss in next st, leave rem sts unworked. **Fasten off**.

INNER EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-3 (RS) As Rounds 1-3 of Mouth. [18 sts]

Fasten off.

Sew the Inner Ear onto the Ear, lining up at the bottom edge.

Sew the Ears onto the Head using the images as a guide.

COLLAR

Using Yarn C, ch30, ss into last ch from hook to form a loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in each ch around, ss to beg dc. [30 sts]

Rounds 2-3 Ch1, dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Using Yarn D, sew the stud detail by working 2 small straight sts in the same position over Round 2. Repeat around the Collar.

BODY

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 7dc into loop. [7 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [14 sts]

Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 7 times. [21 sts]

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

Round 5 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 7 times. [35 sts]

Rounds 6-8 Dc in each st around.

Round 9 (Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times, dc in next 20 sts. [38 sts]

Round 10 Dc in each st around.

Round 11 (Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times, dc in next 23 sts. [41 sts]

Rounds 12-15 Dc in each st around.

Round 16 Dc in next 30 sts, (inv dec) 3 times, dc last 5 sts. [38 sts]

Round 17 Dc in each st around.

Round 18 Dc in next 30 sts, dc3tog, dc in last 5 sts. [36 sts]

Round 19 Dc in next 29 sts, dc2tog, dc in last 4 sts. [34 sts]

Round 20 (Dc in next 4 sts, inv dec) 3 times, dc in next 10 sts, dc3tog, dc in last 3 sts. [29 sts]

Rounds 21-23 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Stuff the Body and place the Collar over the opening. Sew to the base of the Head. We've turned the Head slightly to give the pug a jaunty look.

FRONT RIGHT LEGS

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-2 (RS) As Rounds 1-2 of Head. [12 sts]

Round 3 (Bobble in next st, dc in next st) 3 times, dc in next 6 sts.

Round 4 Dc in each st around.

Round 5 Dc in next 8 sts, inv dec, dc in last 2 sts. [11 sts]

Rounds 6-8 Dc in each st around.

Round 9 Dc in next 6 sts, ss in bl of next 5 sts.

Round 10 Dc in next 6 sts, ss in next st.

Fasten off.

FRONT LEFT LEG

Rounds 1-8 As Rounds 1-8 of Front Right Leg.

Round 9 Ss in bl of next 2 sts, dc in next 6 sts, ss in bl of next 3 sts.

Round 10 Ss in bl of next 2 sts, dc in next 6 sts, ss into next st. **Fasten off.**

Add stuffing to both the Legs. Position the Legs over Round 12 of the Body so that they can support the weight of the Body.

BACK LEGS

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into 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 each st around, turn.

Round 5 (WS) Ch1, bobble in each of next 3 sts, ch1, ss in next st. **Fasten off.**

Add a small amount of stuffing to Rounds 1-4 and sew to the Body with the bobbles pointing down. You can use the images as a guide.

TAIL

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into loop. [6 sts]

Round 2 3dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts. [8 sts]

Round 3 Dc in each st around.

Round 4 Dc in next st, 3dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts. [10 sts]

Round 5 Dc in next 6 sts, inv dec, dc in last 2 sts. [9 sts]

Round 6 Dc in next 2 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in last 6 sts. [11 sts]

Rounds 7-11 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, shape into a curl and sew to the back of the Body between Rounds 7 and 9.

HAT

Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 Dc in each st around.

Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [9 sts]

Round 4 Dc in each st around.

Round 5 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 3



The diagonal stripes are sewn on Party Pug's hat separately after the hat shape is complete



You might want to add a piece of pipe cleaner inside the tail so that it's fully poseable

times. [12 sts]

Round 6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [15 sts]

Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Sew stripes onto the Hat with Yarn D, then sew to the top of Head.

TO FINISH

Weave in any remaining ends.





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Eclectic stitch

Sarah-Jane Hicks, designer at Flo and Dot, has an 'anything and everything' approach to creating in crochet

When Sarah-Jane Hicks first started her crochet design company in 2014, she didn't have to look far for inspiration on what to name it. "The name Flo and Dot comes from my two nans – Florence and Dorothy. Coming from a generation of makers, they could always be found with needles or hook in hand, knitting, crocheting or sewing."

It was Dorothy who got Sarah-Jane hooked on crochet at an early age, after her mum gave her some initial lessons. "My nan used to make the most beautiful lace doilies and I have lots of her old patterns and hooks. I love the thought of a craft being passed down the generations of a family, though I'm still waiting for my own daughter to want to learn!

"The first things I made were granny squares, I didn't have much interest in

doilies back then. I remember Saturday mornings were spent with my nan making clothes and blankets for my dolls, but my tension was always really tight, and the yarn used to squeak on my hooks."

NEW HORIZONS

A natural-born crafter, like many hooksters Sarah-Jane has a few creative strings to her bow. "I love sewing and embroidery and I used to do lots of cross stitch and have made my own clothes in the past, though I tended to only wear them around the house," she explains. "My knitting is slow and slightly awkward so frustrates me but I've recently taken it up again – I love Sincerely Louise." However, crochet has remained her favourite over the years. "I much prefer crochet because I'm quicker at it, it's easier to pull out and I like the fact there's only one stitch on your hook."

A few years ago her love of crochet blossomed into a business, which started as a bit of fun. "I've always loved making things. Not many of my friends are interested in crafts, but through Instagram and Etsy I discovered there were people out there like me, who love crochet and crafts and actually liked what I made," she says. "I'm a bit of a maths geek at heart and love following a pattern, which is what I think attracted me to writing patterns of my own, and why I enjoy it so much."

Sarah-Jane opened her Etsy shop in 2014 selling some of her handmade items, which at the time consisted centrally of crocheted keyrings and colourful bunting. "Lots of people asked whether patterns were available, so I thought, 'why not write them up?'" she remembers. "Another of my designs were my little folk houses. Rather bravely I wrote to *Simply Crochet* and asked



Sarah's workspace represents her love of comfort and creativity



The original Flo and Dot, Sarah-Jane's nans

if they would be interested, which they were, and that was my first published pattern in 2015. From then on, I was hooked on designing, both selling patterns independently, working with magazines and offering free patterns on Ravelry and my blog."

FEELING INSPIRED

Running the business while also holding down a day job (she works four days a week as a tax advisor), can sometimes be a challenge, but the pros make it worthwhile, says Sarah-Jane, "Seeing something that someone has made from one of my patterns makes me very happy and hopefully makes them happy too. I'm also always pleased when anyone takes the time to leave feedback, it's invaluable. It doesn't have to be much, but positive feedback always makes me smile."

Another joy is the creative process itself, as Sarah-Jane loves to get her colouring pencils out and sketch ideas that come to her, annotating the sketches with the stitches used and the pattern as she comes up with the designs. As for where she gets her ideas – anything goes, with her style notable for its miscellany. "My inspiration comes from everywhere and anything, it's a bit of an eclectic mix really, nature, everyday things, childhood memories. I love looking through vintage patterns and I especially love a novelty item which I think is why I'm drawn to making them most. An idea tends to come to me on the spur of the moment, one day it might be cacti, another cassette tapes. Mostly I just like to have fun with crochet and make people smile."

COLOUR POP

Flo and Dot designs are usually bursting with bright colour and Sarah-Jane admits it's a big focus in her work: "I can spend hours looking at colours, and playing with combinations. It's much easier when you can see the yarn in real life than online – I spend far too long adding yarn to my online basket just so I can work out what goes well together." Her whatever-strikes-me approach to design pairs ideally with the versatility of amigurumi, as Sarah-Jane explains: "I love to crochet anything, which is what drew me to amigurumi, because it means I can. And it's in 3D too, so it really brings your crochet to life."

CRAFTY CORNER

All this creativity takes place in a cosy crafting space at one end of Sarah-Jane's living room. "It's a sunny spot next to the patio doors and has a view of the garden," she says. "My yarn is stored in cupboards under the stairs but I'm gradually running out of room so I'm always having to find

"MOSTLY I JUST LIKE TO HAVE FUN WITH CROCHET AND MAKE PEOPLE SMILE"

somewhere new to put it or hide it! My favourite hooks are Clover Amour with their brightly coloured, soft handles and I love my stork scissors with their crochet caravan scissor keeper where I keep my yarn needle

handy. In the summer my favourite spot to stitch is my swing seat in the garden. I surround myself with everything I might need – tea, yarn and

my dog Rosie for company. If I'm working on a simple project that doesn't require much thought, I love to listen to an audio book – currently it's *Harry Potter*." Despite this idyllic picture, Sarah also has dreams of a crochet getaway, a craft shed in the garden.

While Sarah-Jane's crochet star has ascended rapidly since she first came onto the crochet scene, she's not resting on her laurels, with exciting plans for 2019 and beyond, including new designs and collaborations on the horizon. She hasn't lost sight of her raw passion for craft, either, citing her true aim for the near future as, "Simply doing more of what I love."

Written by Lucy Evans



A few of her favourite things

Sarah-Jane is also hooked on...

"I love gardening, reading and days out at the coast followed by chips and ice cream. We live in Norfolk so it's not far to the seaside." You can find Sarah-Jane's latest makes on Instagram at @flo_and_dot, see her blog at floanddot.blogspot.com and visit her shop at www.etsy.com/uk/shop/floanddotshop

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STAR GAZING

Mix up a star motif with bobbles and hook yourself a magic-kissed casual jumper. By Sara Huntington

BOBBLE JUMPER



YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Life DK (100g/298m, 75% acrylic, 25% wool) Silver Nepp (2499) See table for measurements and yarn quantities
 - A 4.5mm (US 7) hook
 - A 6mm (US H/8) hook
- For yarn stockists contact
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www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

12 sts and 12 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) using a 6mm hook over half treble or size needed to achieve stated tension
14 sts and 13 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) using a 4.5mm hook over Sleeve cuff bobble pattern or size needed to achieve stated tension

ABBREVIATIONS

- MB-5** Make Bobble by working tr5tog into the same stitch
MB-7 Make Bobble by working tr7tog into the same stitch
For a full list, see page 92

This DK yarn whips up lickety-split for a light sweater make. Easily alter the sleeve lengths by adding or removing a bobble row.

NOTES

Jumper is made in separate pieces for Front, Back and Sleeves from the bottom up, and the central star motif is worked from the Chart on page 94. A 4.5mm hook is used for the Sleeve cuffs only. All Bobbles are worked on WS rows and will show through on the RS.

JUMPER

BACK

- Using a 6mm hook, ch68 (74: 80: 86).
Row 1 (WS) Htr in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [67 (73: 79: 85) sts]
Row 2 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr throughout), htr in each st to end, turn.
Row 3 (WS) Ch2, htr in next st, *MB-5, htr in next 2 sts; repeat from * to last 2 sts, htr in last 2 sts, turn. [21 (23: 25: 27) Bobbles]
Row 4 Ch2, htr in each st to end, turn. Repeat Rows 3 and 4 twice more. [3 rows of Bobbles]
Repeat Row 4 until work measures 55 (57: 59: 61)cm, ending with a WS row.

SHAPE BACK NECK

- Next row (RS)** Ch2, 22 (25: 28: 31) htr, turn leaving rem sts unworked.
Next row Ch2, htr in each st to end.
Fasten off.
Next row Skip the next 21 sts, rejoin yarn with RS facing to next st, ch2, htr in each st to end, turn. [23 (26: 29: 32) sts]
Next row Ch2, 22 (25: 28: 31) htr to end.
Fasten off.

FRONT

Work as for Back until work measures 26 (28: 28: 30)cm, ending on a RS row.

STAR MOTIF

Star Motif is worked over next 25 rows and 19 sts shown in the Chart on page 94. Alternatively, if you don't want to make the Star Motif, instead work 25 rows in htr sts.

Next row (WS) Work the next 24 (27: 30: 33) sts and then work the Star pattern over the next 19 sts, continuing with htr and placing MB-7 as shown in the Chart, then working remaining sts in row in established pattern.

When the Star Motif is complete, continue in pattern as set until work measures 52 (54: 56: 58)cm, or the same total number of rows as the Back minus 6, ending on a RS row.

SHAPE FRONT NECK

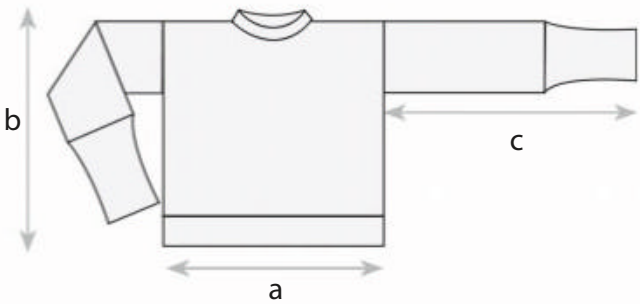
- Row 1 (RS)** Ch2, htr in next 27 (30: 33: 36) sts, turn. [28 (31: 34: 37) sts]
Row 2 Ch2, htr2tog twice, htr in rem sts to end, turn. [26 (29: 32: 35) sts]
Row 3 Ch2, htr in each st to end, turn.
Rows 4-5 Repeat Rows 2 and 3. [24 (27: 30: 33) sts]
Row 6 Ch2, htr2tog, htr in rem sts to end. [23 (26: 29: 32) sts]
Fasten off.

Skip the next 11 unworked sts at the base of the neck and rejoin yarn in the 12th st with RS facing.

- Row 1 (RS)** Ch2, htr in each st to end, turn. [28 (31: 34: 37) sts]
Row 2 Ch2, work in pattern to last 4 sts at neck edge, htr2tog twice, turn. [26 (29: 32: 35) sts]
Row 3 Ch2, htr in each st to end, turn.
Rows 4-5 Repeat Rows 2 and 3. [24 (27: 30: 33) sts]
Row 6 Ch2, work in pattern to last 2 sts, htr2tog. [23 (26: 29: 32) sts]
Fasten off.

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 (APPROX)	cm	111	121	131	141
	in	43¾	47½	51½	55½
LENGTH	cm	58	60	62	64
	in	23	23½	24½	25
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	53	53	53	53
	in	21	21	21	21
SILVER NEPP	100g	5	6	6	7

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



- Bust width a:** 55.5 (60.5: 65.5: 70.5) cm, 22 (23¾: 25¾: 27¾)in
Length b: 58 (60: 62: 64)cm, 23 (23½: 24½: 25)in
Sleeve Length c: 53cm (21in)

SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

Using a 4.5mm hook, ch33 (33: 36: 39).

Row 1 (WS) Htr in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [32 (32: 35: 38) sts]

Row 2 (RS) Ch2, htr in each st to end, turn.

Row 3 (WS) Ch2, htr in next st, *MB-5, htr in next 2 sts; repeat from * to end, turn.

[10 (10: 11: 12) Bobbles]

Row 4 Ch2, htr in each st to end, turn.

Rows 5-14 Repeat Rows 3-4, 5 more times.

[6 rows of Bobbles]

INCREASE ROWS

Change to a 6mm hook.

SIZES 8-10 AND 16-18

Row 15 Ch2, htr in next 1 (0) sts, *htr in next 2 (1) sts, 2htr in next st; repeat from * to end, turn.

[42 (52) sts]

SIZES 12-14 AND 20-22

Row 15 Ch2, 2htr in next st, *htr in next st, 2htr in next st; repeat from * to end, turn.

[48 (57) sts]

ALL SIZES

Row 16 Ch2, htr in next 1 (3: 1: 0) sts, *htr in next 4 (4: 5: 6) sts, 2htr in next st; repeat from * to last 0 (3: 2: 0) sts, htr in each st to end, turn.

[50 (55: 60: 65) sts]

Row 17 Ch2, htr in each st to end, turn.

Repeat Row 17 until work measures 53cm.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Sew Front and Back tog at shoulder seam.

NECKBAND

Using a 6mm hook, work in rounds.

Round 1 (RS) Rejoin yarn with RS facing to the first st along the back neck and dc along the 11 back neck sts, 3dc in shoulder seam, 10dc down front neck, dc along 21 sts at front neck, 9dc along opposite front neck to shoulder seam,

3dc to start of round, ss to first dc, turn. [57 sts]

Round 2 (WS) Ch2, htr in next st, MB-5 in next st, *htr in next 2 sts, MB-5 in next st; repeat from * to end, ss to top of beg ch-2, turn. [19 bobbles]

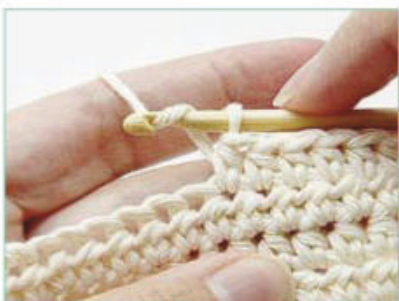
Round 3 (RS) Ch2, htr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

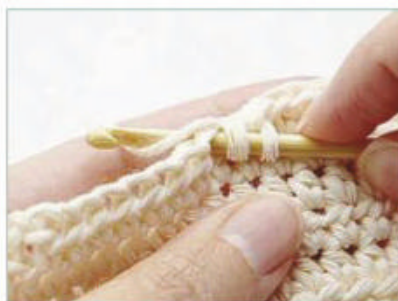
Mark the centre top of the Sleeve, align with the shoulder seam, and sew to the Front and Back.

Repeat with second Sleeve. Sew Sleeve and side seams and weave in all ends.

The multicoloured nepps fleck the jumper with specks of colour

**SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A HALF TREBLE**

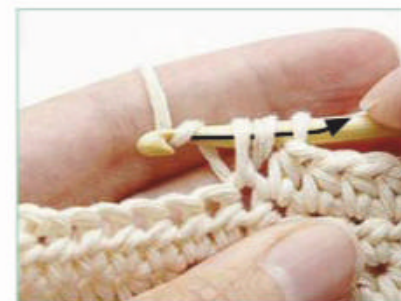
1 To make a half treble crochet stitch, work to where you want the htr and then wind the yarn round the hook (yrh).



2 Insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch in the previous row. Wrap yarn around the hook again (yrh).



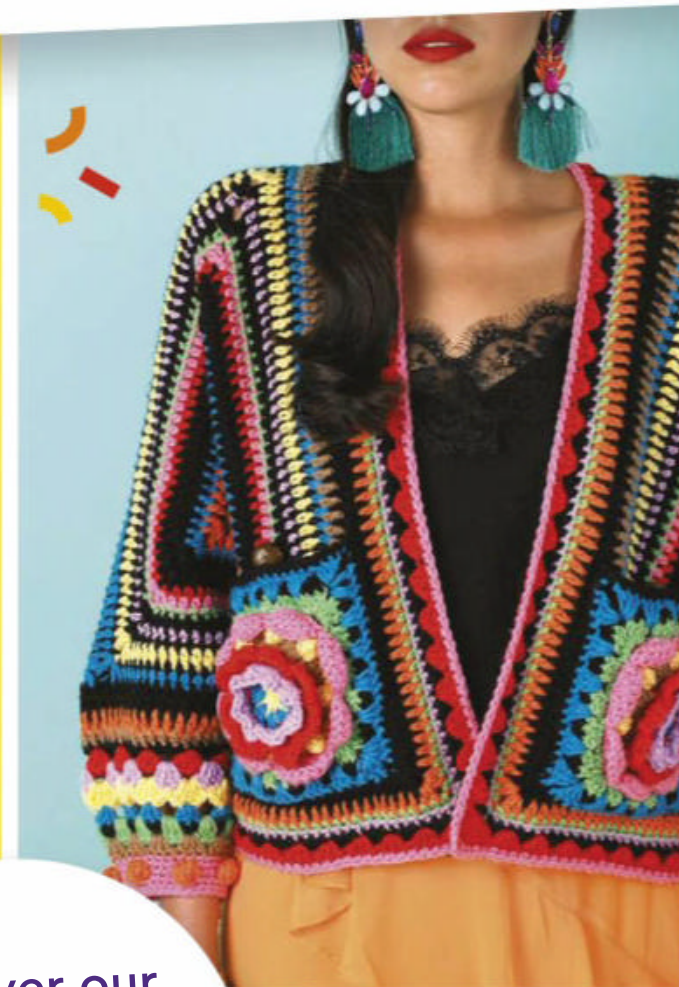
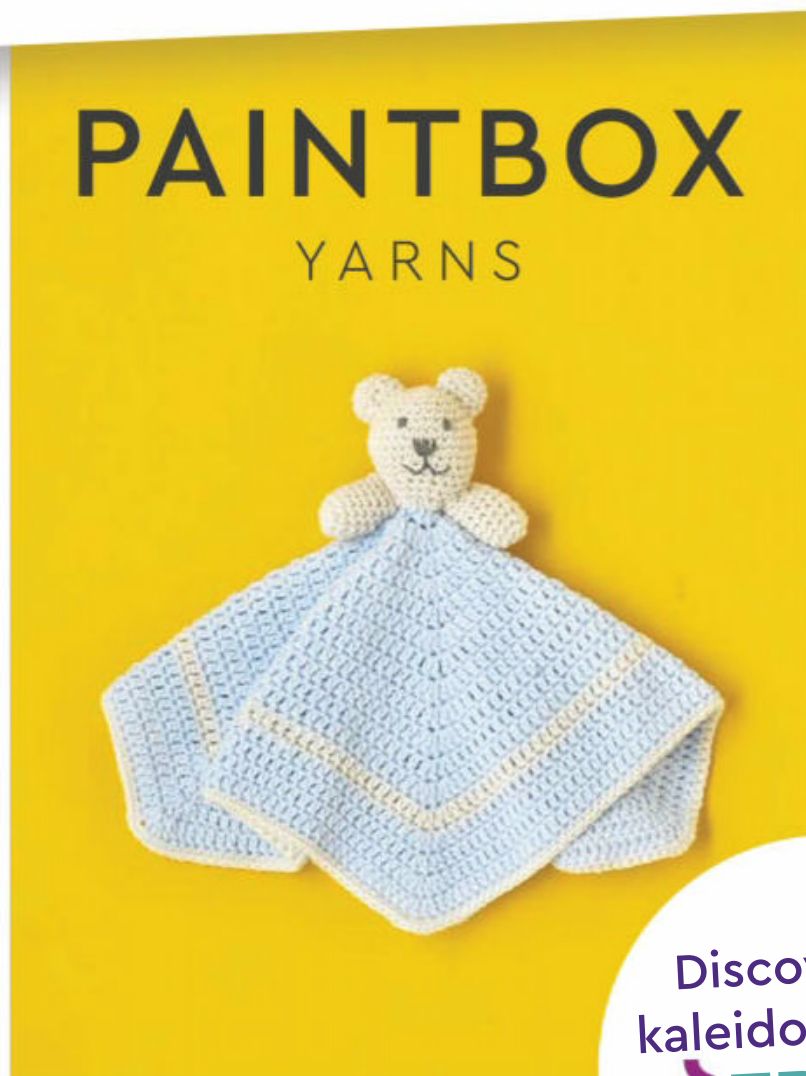
3 Pull the yarn through the stitch only (3 loops on hook).



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.



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HOOK TO HOOK

Mum's the word

We challenged two designers to come up with a fab design, each using the same yarn... which is your fave?

HOOK
— to —
HOOK



Eleonora Tully

"This challenge has been so fun, particularly as I love crocheting with Scheepjes Catona – the colours are just gorgeous! Mother's Day can mean many things to many different people,

so I wanted to create a card that captured the essence of a mother's relationship. My own mother gave me the gift of crochet by providing endless inspiration throughout my childhood." You can find Eleonora and her seaside-inspired makes online at www.coastalcrochet.com, or follow her on Instagram @coastalcrochet.

Heather Gibbs

"What a fantastic challenge this was! I came up with a few ideas for the card, but in the end I chose butterflies because I really love them – in fact my husband and I have often joked about

winning the lottery and setting up a butterfly farm! I enjoyed making the little motifs and loved embroidering onto the card to add an extra handmade twist. As it was my mum that taught me how to crochet, this Mother's Day card is just perfect for her." Find Heather and her work online at www.keepcalmandcrochetonuk.com.





From left: both cats are bordered in double crochet to define their pointed ears and give a neat finish to their bodies and tails; several stitches are worked into each double crochet in Round 1 to create the petals. Keeping a looser tension for this first round will make this easier

KIT' AND CAT

Capture a serene moment between mother and kitten. Designed by Eleonora Tully.

- Scheepjes Catona (100% mercerized cotton, 10g/25m), 1 ball of each: **Yarn A** Tyrian Purple (128), **Yarn B** Icy Pink (246), **Yarn C** Light Coral (264), **Yarn D** Lime Juice (392), **Yarn E** Cherry (413)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- A blank card, 15x21cm
- Glue

For yarn stockists, contact **Scheepjes**
www.scheepjes.com/en

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project

MEASUREMENTS

Flower measures 2.5cm (1in)
Large Cat measures 8x4.5cm (3x1¾in)

NOTES

There are 26 Flower motifs that go around the outer edge of the Card. You can use any yarn to make the Flowers except Yarn A, which is used to make the Cats.

FLOWER MOTIF (MAKE 26)

Make a magic loop.

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

Fasten off, join new colour into any st.

Round 2 (RS) Ch1 (counts as dc), (htr, tr, htr, dc,

ss) in same st, (ss, dc, htr, tr, htr, dc, ss) in each st around, ss to st at base of beg ch-1 to join.

[6 petals]

Fasten off.

LARGE CAT

Using Yarn A, ch11.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [10 sts]

Rows 2-5 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st across, turn.

Row 6 Ch1, skip st at base of ch, dc in in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [8 sts]

Rows 7-9 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Rows 10-12 As Row 6-8. [6 sts]

Rows 13-14 As Row 6-7. [4 sts]

Row 15 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each st to last st, 2dc in last st, turn. [6 sts]

Row 16 As Row 15. [8 sts]

Rows 17-18 As Row 6. [4 sts]

Row 19 Ch1, dc in each st to end, do not turn. Do not fasten off.

BORDER AND TAIL

Continue with Yarn A.

Round 1 Ch1, dc in each row end down side of head, ss to side of neck, dc in each row end down side of body, 2dc in corner, dc evenly across bottom, ch19, dc in second ch from hook, dc in next 2 ch, 2dc in each of next 2 ch, dc in next 9 ch, (dc2tog), dc in next 2 sts, ss to side of body, dc in each row end up side of body, ss to side of neck, dc up side of head, ss to first st to join.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

EARS

Using photo as a guide, join Yarn A in st at side of head.

Row 1 Ch2, tr2tog.

Fasten off. Repeat for the second Ear.

SMALL CAT

Using Yarn A, ch7.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [6 sts]

Rows 2-4 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 5 Ch1, skip st at base of ch, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [4 sts]

Rows 6-7 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 8 As Row 5. [2 sts]

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

Row 10 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in final st, turn. [6 sts]

Rows 11-12 As Row 5. [2 sts]

Row 13 Ch1, dc in each st to end, do not turn.

BORDER

Continue with Yarn A.

Round 1 Ch1, dc in each row end evenly around Cat, working 2dc in bottom corners, ss to first st to join.

EARS

Using the photo as a guide, join Yarn A in st at side of head.

Row 1 Ch1, dc2tog.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Repeat for the second Ear.



From left: sketch the grass and heart-shaped flight path lightly, so pencil marks don't remain on your finished design. The butterflies are glued into position, but they can be stitched or knotted on using the 'antennae' yarn – simply stitch through the card as well as the butterfly body

TO MAKE UP

Using the images as a guide, attach Flowers and Cats to the card. The Flowers can be stitched on by making two small holes through the card with a yarn needle and then securing in place with a knot. The cats have been glued into place.

WINGS OF LOVE

Celebrate someone special with a flight of butterflies. Designed by Heather Gibbs.

■ Scheepjes Catona (100% mercerized cotton, 10g/25m), 1 ball of each: **Yarn A** Tyrian Purple (128), **Yarn B** Icy Pink (246), **Yarn C** Light Coral (264), **Yarn D** Lime Juice (392), **Yarn E** Cherry (413)

■ A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook

■ A blank card, 15x21cm

■ Glue

■ Embroidery needle

For yarn stockists, contact **Scheepjes**

www.scheepjes.com/en

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project

MEASUREMENTS

Small Butterfly measures 2.5cm (1in)

Medium Butterfly measures 3.5cm (1¼in)

Large Butterfly measures 4cm (1½in)

NOTES

The heart and grass details are embroidered onto the card. We recommend using a sturdy card for this project.

SMALL BUTTERFLY (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into the loop, ss to top of first dc to join. [6 sts]

Round 2 *(Ch2, 2htr in same st, ch2, ss in same st) ss into next st; repeat from * once more, ss into next st, (ch1, 2dc in same st, ch1, ss to the same st, ss into next st) twice. [4 wings]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Take a small length of Yarn C and thread through the magic loop, tie in a knot between the 2 larger wings and **fasten off**. The 2 ends form the Butterfly's antennae.

MEDIUM BUTTERFLY (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) As Round 1 of Small Butterfly. [6 sts]

Round 2 *(Ch2, 2htr, ch2, ss) in same st, ss into next st; repeat from * once more, (ss into next st, ch3, 3tr in same st, ch3, ss in same st) twice., ss into last st. [4 wings]

Take a small length of Yarn A and thread through the magic loop, tie in a knot between the 2 larger wings and **fasten off**. The 2 ends form the Butterflies' antennae.

LARGE BUTTERFLY (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) As Round 1 of Small Butterfly. [6 sts]

Round 2 *(Ch3, 2tr, ch3, ss) in same st, ss into next st; repeat from * once more, (ss into next st, ch4, 3dtr, ch4, ss into same st) twice. [4 wings]

Take a small length of Yarn C and thread through the magic loop, tie in a knot between the 2 larger wings and **fasten off**. The 2 ends form the Butterfly's antennae.

TO MAKE UP

In pencil lightly sketch the grass at the bottom of the card, then sketch the heart and add two extra lines for the flight path, as shown – use the image as a guide.

Use a needle to pierce small holes, approx 0.5cm apart, through the card along your pencil lines.

Rub out the pencil before you embroider the design.

Use Yarn D to embroider along the lines of the grass, secure the yarn on the WS of the card with a small knot.

Use Yarn E to embroider along the lines of the heart, again securing with a knot on the WS of the card.

Glue the Butterflies into position on the front of the card.



YEAR OF THE DRAGON

The spectacular success story of Wool Couture



A few of Wool Couture's kits, clockwise from top-left: the three clouds craft kit (above the cot); Lulu big blanket kit; and Jupiter footstool kit. Opposite page: *Dragon's Den's* Touker Suleyman and Tej Lalvani visit the new retail store

As an artisan woolcraft business, Wool Couture has gone from strength to strength over the past few years. After famously grabbing the attention of the Dragons on BBC's hit show *Dragon's Den* for their giant woollen products, doubling their sale numbers and releasing a new baby range, it's safe to say the future's looking extremely bright for the brand. Claire Gelder is the founder and Lead Designer of Wool Couture, which she co-founded with Ali Gelder, who now acts as Operations Director. We caught up with Claire to discover how the brand was born, what keeps her inspired, and what it was really like to stand before the Dragons...

Claire was given her first crochet tool at the tender age of eight, and was hooked from then onwards. "I've pretty much crafted all my life," she explains. "Everything from rag rugging, knitting, macramé, weaving – basically anything that involves fibre!" Born in Wakefield, Claire's initial career started far, far away from the world of crafting. "I went to college, studied business, started my career in a management training scheme for a blue chip company. I then had my two children who both were born with health problems, so I had to give up my job for a few years

– which, in turn, made me decide to go and fix the health industry!" Claire began working for the NHS as a Quality Improvement Manager, before working her way up to being Director of Transformation – which is the role she held until her passions led her to a whole new career.

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

Craft was always a constant in Claire's life, and something that she used not only as a fun pastime, but as a way to ease her anxiety and depression, bringing her to a more positive place. "There was a point when I was having a particularly bad time and I was crocheting a lot to help with this. Every time I went to see my therapist, I'd take what I had made with me. Both my therapist and my partner encouraged me to sell my creations. So, I put one of my scarves on Etsy, and it sold within 24 hours. I couldn't believe it!" The sales soon multiplied, and Claire decided to offer not only products, but

patterns and DIY kits too. And from this, Wool Couture was born. The brand has since gained huge attention from craft lovers for their easy-to-follow DIY kits and patterns for weaving, macramé, knitting and crochet. Their company is famed for its chunky yarn, as well as their metre-long knitting needles,

hand-made in Claire's Yorkshire factory.

"I walked into the den, hands trembling, knees wobbling and so shaky"

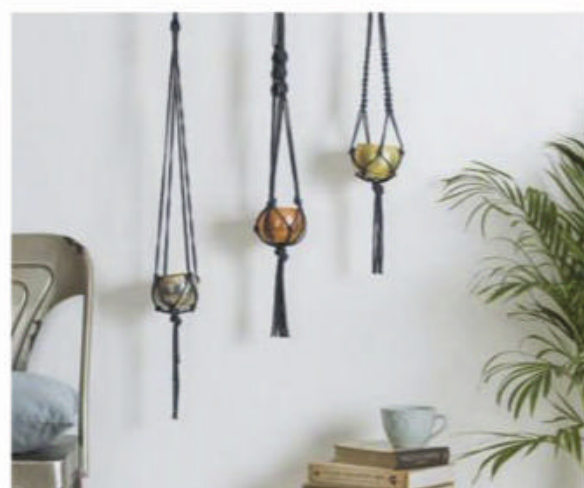
PITCH THIS

It was in 2017 that the brand was really thrown into the spotlight when it appeared on BBC's *Dragon's Den*. "We got a phone call asking if we would be interested in

applying. After much deliberation we decided to – amazingly, we then got offered a date to be in front of the Dragons!" According to Claire, pitching to the Dragons was one of the most intense experiences of her business venture thus far. "I went to the studio at 7am and waited all day and finally got my slot about 3pm. I walked into the den, hands trembling, knees wobbling and



Anti-clockwise from left: Claire works her giant-size yarn, Wool Couture's flagship retail store in Yorkshire; the 3 Sisters macramé decor hanging; the countryside view outside the shop



feeling so shaky. For over an hour and a half, I stood there answering questions. I went in with the intention of securing a Dragon – and I ended up with two [Touker Suleyman and Tej Lalvani]! They are amazing gentlemen and we love working with them.”

Since the show, the Dragons have been busy helping Claire and Ali behind the scenes, maximising the business's online visibility, with Tej focusing on all things digital, improving marketing and web presence for the brand, and Touker supporting the development and distribution of their exciting new baby range, enabling an overall cost reduction of materials by 25 per cent! “*Dragon's Den* brought us so many great opportunities including access to intelligence, buyers, manufacturers... it's like having your very own business encyclopaedia at your fingertips!” Claire says.

TAKING THINGS OFFLINE

As a result of their success, in September of last year, Wool Couture went from being a purely online business to opening their first ever shop in South Yorkshire. But this isn't any old craft store... Claire and Ali have built something much more fun and creative – a

workshop-cum-flagship-retail-store in a converted pub in Barnsley. “We were thinking we would have to move into a warehouse,” Claire tells us. “Then we came across this rundown old pub out in the sticks – but I could see the potential. The walls were a neon colour and we needed gallons of paint to make it look good.” The renovations took 10 weeks, but the team transformed the pub into something amazing. “We have been able to put our manufacturing into one part of the building where we make our knitting needles, crochet hooks, weaving looms, Christmas decorations, and so on. We then have our online packing area, and then our shop area – I'd describe it as Scandi with a twist. We even kept the old bar, painted it white and added loads of pompoms!”

“We also have an amazing balcony that overlooks fields, and in the spring – we are going to make this into a little oasis!” The store offers workshops as well as products, covering everything from knitting and crochet to weaving and macramé, providing eager crafters with a space they can visit and feel inspired to hand-make, hand-weave and hand-craft items from wool with their bespoke designs. Claire emphasises how none of it would be possible without their

customers. “They are amazing. We have regular groups and run training sessions.”

BACK ON SCREEN

To finish off an amazing 2018, the Wool Couture team made another on-screen appearance, this time on BBC Two's *Dragons' Den: Pitches To Riches*, a look back at what happened to some of the most memorable entrepreneurs after their *Den* debut.

With so many exciting things happening, the team couldn't possibly have time for any other new business plans... right? Think again! “We're so excited to be writing a book with Search Press, which is going to be published in September!”

But, as every good business person knows, true success all boils down to passion – and Claire's love for crafting as an art form is evident. “I see something in my mind that I want to make and then I get my tools and I can create it! Some people are good at painting, others are surgeons, but I just like being able to put my hook and yarn together and come up with amazingly unique items.”

Written by Colette Earley

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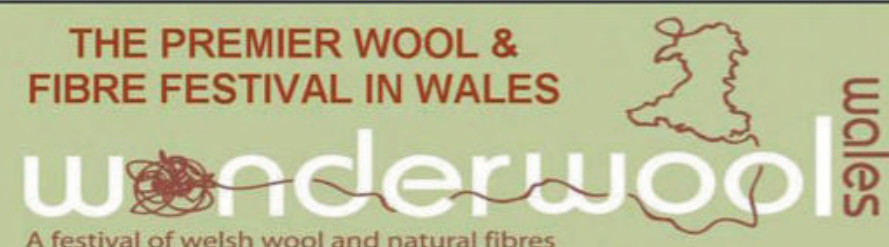


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Spin me round

The circles of Esme Crick's stunning throw create a mesmerising treat for the eyes





YOU WILL NEED

- Caron Simply Soft Aran (100% acrylic 170g/288m), 4 balls of **Yarn A** Dark Country Blue (9711), 2 balls of **Yarn B** Pagoda (0014), 1 ball of each: **Yarn C** Blue Mint (9608), **Yarn D** Sage (9705)
 - A 6mm (US J/10) hook
 - 65mm pompom maker
- For yarn stockists contact**
Wool Warehouse 01926 882818
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

First 3 rounds of each Motif should measure 9cm (3½in) in diameter

MEASUREMENTS

Finished Throw to measure
 150x85cm (59x34in)

ABBREVIATIONS

etr (extended treble) Yrh, insert hook into next ch or st, yrh and draw up loop, yrh, draw hook through first loop on hook, (yrh, draw yarn through 2 loops on hook) twice

For a full list, see page 92

Esme Crick's throw is a fascinating mix of circles and squares that create a dazzling feast for the eyes. Made in contrasting blues and greens, square motifs with a central circle are placed together in rows. The effect is quite stunning.

NOTES

The Blanket is made up of 60 Lunar Motifs, with 8 different colour sequences.

Motif 1 (make 6) Use Yarn A for Rounds 1-2, Yarn D for Round 3, Yarn A for Rounds 4-5.

Motif 2 (make 6) Use Yarn A for Rounds 1-4, Yarn D for Round 5.

Motif 3 (make 12) Use Yarn A for Rounds 1-4, Yarn A for the 1st half of Round 5 and Yarn D for the 2nd half of Round 5.

Motif 4 (make 12) Use Yarn A for Rounds 1-4, Yarn A for the 1st half of Round 5 and Yarn C for the 2nd half of Round 5.

Motif 5 (make 6) Use Yarn C for Rounds 1-2, Yarn B for Rounds 3-4, Yarn C for Round 5.

Motif 6 (make 6) Use Yarn B for Rounds 1-4, Yarn C for Round 5.

Motif 7 (make 6) Use Yarn A for Rounds 1-2, Yarn C for Round 3, Yarn A for Rounds 4-5.

Motif 8 (make 6) Use Yarn A for Rounds 1-4, Yarn C for Round 5.

LUNAR MOTIF (MAKE 60)

Ch4, ss into first ch to join.

Round 1 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 11 tr into ring, ss into top of ch3 to join. [12 tr]

Round 2 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch, 2tr in each st around, ss to ch3 to join. [24 tr]

Round 3 Ch3, tr in same st as ch3, tr in next st, (2tr in next st, tr in next st) 11 times, ss to beg ch-3. [36 tr]

Round 4 Ch3, tr in same st as ch-3, tr in next 2 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 2 sts) 11 times,



The pattern makes this throw look complex, but it's actually as easy as a granny blanket!

ss to beg ch-3. [48 tr]

Round 5 Ch1, dc in first st, htr in next 2 sts, tr in next 2 sts, (2etr, ch3, 2etr) in next st, tr in next 2 sts, htr in next 2 sts, dc in next st; repeat from * 3 times more, change colour after the second repeat if required (see notes), ss to top of beg dc.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Block the Motifs before joining.

Join the Motifs, using the image below as a guide. Using Yarn A, place Motifs WS together and dc the motifs together so the seam is visible on the RS.

BORDER

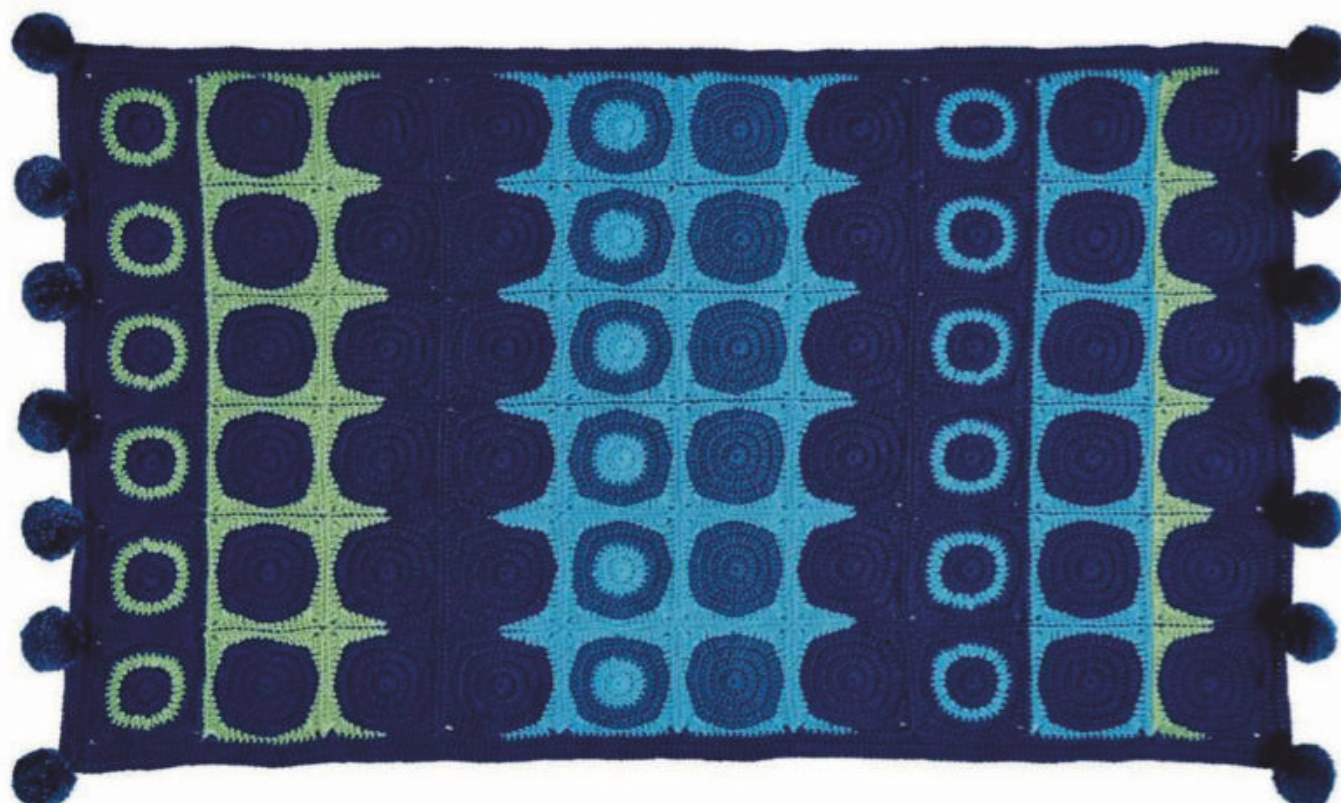
Join Yarn A into any st.

Round 1 Ch3, tr in each st around, with (2tr, ch3, 2tr) in each corner.

Round 2 As Round 1.

POMPOMS

Using Yarn B, make 14 pompoms on a 65mm pompom maker. Attach at regular spaces along the short edges of throw.





GREAT
GIFT

Soft lines

Get hooking Kate Alinari's gorgeous
cowl for Mother's Day moments



YOU WILL NEED

- Katia Merino 100% (100% Merino, 50g/102m)
2 balls of each:
Jeans (58)
Fuchsia (16)

- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

For stockists contact

Katia Yarns

www.katia.com

TENSION

16 sts over 5 rows to measures
10x10cm (4x4in) over BPtr st

MEASUREMENTS

Cowl measures approx. 90cm
(35½in) in circumference and 18cm
(7in) high

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Feel good, look fantastic in this playful two-tone cowl. Treble crocheted triangular shapes create a pretty ribbed-arrow pattern, while the super-soft Merino wool makes it feel extra special. Wrap it up.

NOTES

The Trigonometry Cowl is worked in reversible triangle pieces, which are then joined together to form a cowl.

TRIANGLE (MAKE 2 IN EACH COLOUR)

Make a magic loop.

Row 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as a tr throughout), 8tr into the loop, tighten the magic loop, turn. [9 tr]

Row 2 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 3 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [15 tr]

Row 3 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 6 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [21 tr]

Row 4 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 9 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [27 tr]

Row 5 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 12 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [33 tr]

Row 6 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 15 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [39 tr]

Row 7 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 18 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [45 tr]

Row 8 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 21

sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [51 tr]

Row 9 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 24 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [57 tr]

Row 10 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 27 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [63 tr]

Row 11 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 30 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [69 tr]

Row 12 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 33 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [75 tr]

Row 13 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 36 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [81 tr]

Row 14 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 39 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [86 tr]

Row 15 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 42 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [92 tr]

Row 16 Ch3, 2tr in the same st, (BPtr in next 45 sts, 3tr in next st) 2 times, turn. [98 tr]

Fasten off.

Block triangles before joining.

TO MAKE UP

Place one Turquoise and one Fuchsia triangle next to each other, WS facing up, Fuchsia pointing up and Jeans pointing down. Align them so one of the short triangle sides of each triangle are touching. With Turquoise, join the two short sides by double crocheting through both triangles.

Fasten off.

Join the other two triangles in the same way, to form the cowl.

With RS facing, join Fuchsia to a Fuchsia Triangle edge and work 2dc into the ends of each row around the cowl, ss to join.

Fasten off.

Repeat using Turquoise on the other edge of the cowl. Weave in ends.



SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A BACK POST TREBLE STITCH



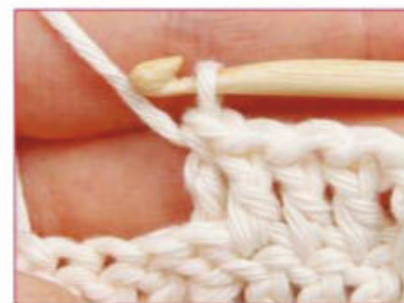
1 Identify the post of the next stitch. Then work yrh (as usual for a treble stitch) and insert hook into the back of the fabric, around the front of the post, and bring out hook on other side of post.



2 Work the rest of the stitch as you usually would for a treble, so yrh and carefully pull the loop of yarn out of the fabric – it should loop around the post of the stitch.



3 Work yrh again and pull the yarn through the first 2 loops. Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops to complete the front post treble stitch.



4 You'll see how the stitch is set back, compared to the rest of the fabric. Work more back post treble stitches in the same way, repeating from Step 1.

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PASTEL HOME PROJECTS

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THE SECRET TO
PERFECT POMPOMS

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NEW
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Love Crochet

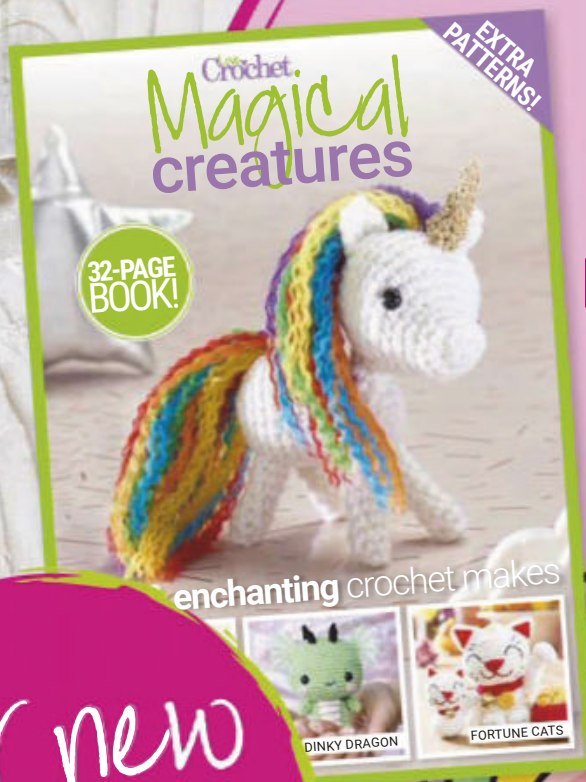
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Contents and pricing subject to change

It's a grey area

In her colour series, Kate Bruning shares her love of monochrome



HUE, SHADE, TONE AND TINT

'Hue' means a colour, and 'shade', 'tone' and 'tint' apply to variations on that colour, adding black, grey or white to achieve specific effects. This info will help you find the right colours and make decisions on choosing colours for projects.

SHADE

Adding black to the original hue will give a rich, intense appearance.

TONE

Add grey to the original hue for subtle, sophisticated results.

TINT

Adding white to the original hue will make a softer, pastel palette.

Going mono



Kate Bruning
aka @greedyforcolour



BLACK, WHITE &
GREY ALL OVER

A visitor to our home might think we had created a sanctuary for those on the run from Cruella De Vil (sans Dalmatians). For us, it wasn't until we adopted our Border Collie Bertie, that we recognised the theme. For a house so completely bursting with colour, our furry companions – from dogs, cats and rabbits, to our Friesian dairy herd – were all a monochrome black, grey and white.

Nature does monochrome so irresistibly well, grading boundless shades and tones from black through to white. A primal stormy sky heavy with an oyster palette, a shingle beach with time-worn pebbles, each one a slightly different tint – five million shades of grey. And, of course, the aforementioned residents of a New Zealand dairy farm.

In my watercolour class, we're taught to paint nature's shadows and depths first, using Payne's Grey to build a monochromatic

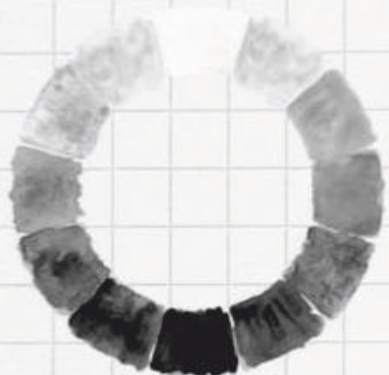
skeleton before adding colour. I am always torn as to whether the layers of colour contribute to or detract from its intensity.

This intensity is why we continue to have a love affair with black and white photography. A moment in time captured and expressed through light and dark, lines and texture. Somehow, with colour stripped away, the essence of a person or element is revealed.

COLOUR FACTS: MONOCHROME

- *The iconic Givenchy 'little black dress' worn by Audrey Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, sold in 2006 at auction for £467,200.
- *While colour photography was introduced in the 1930s, some countries used black and white film until the 1990s due to the high cost of coloured film.
- *Obsidian is a black volcanic glass and has been used throughout history for knives, arrowheads, spears, tools and even mirrors. Obsidian blades are used in heart surgery as they keep a sharper edge than steel.

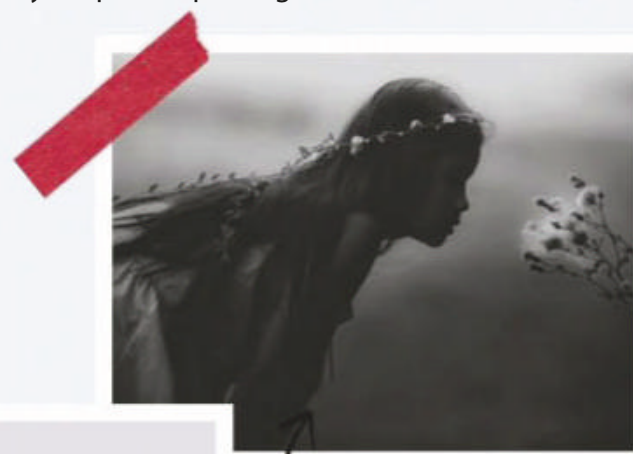
COLOUR THEORY



Monochrome refers to a scheme that uses one colour with variations of shade, tones and intensity. Any colour can be used, but monochrome is traditionally associated with a black through to a white colour scheme. Black, white and grey are achromatic colours which means they are without spectral colour, e.g. red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet. I wanted to include this vital palette from our colour series.



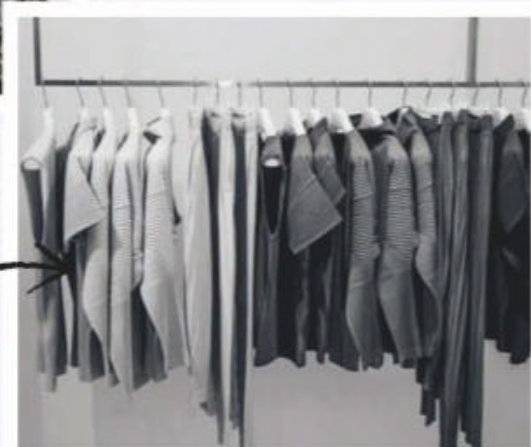
Absence of colour isn't
always a negative



Black and white
photography brings texture
and light to the story



No one does
monochrome like
nature



Fashion favours
the monochrome

MORE COLOUR SCHEMES TO TRY

Add an extra shade while keeping your palette completely cool with Kate's suggestions for alternative colourways

	+		+		=	Jungle steam
Pea Green		Gold Green		Black		
	+		+		=	Jar of mints
White		Graphite		Soft Grey		

Rolling stones

Bring this beautiful pebble bunting into your home for a natural delight





YOU WILL NEED

- Yarn and Colors Must-Have (100% cotton, 50g/125m)
1 ball of each:
Cream (002)
Anthracite (099)
Shark Grey (096)
Graphite (098)
Silver (095)
Shadow (097)

- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook

- Toy stuffing

For stockists contact

Yarn and Colors

www.yarnandcolors.com

TENSION

Tension is not critical but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Pebble 1 measures 8x5cm (3x2in)

Pebble 2 measures 6.5x5cm
(2½x2in)

Pebble 3 measures 5.5x4cm
(2¼x1½in)

Pebble 4 measure 4x3cm (1½x1¼in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

SIMPLY MUST-HAVE YARNS!

All the projects in our new Crochet Colour Class series are made using the Yarn and Colors Must-Have range, one of eight ranges the brand now carries. (We love the matching 10g Must-Have minis!) Owner Koen says, "With lots of love and care we have created a colour range of 100 different shades, forming the foundation of Yarn and Colors. All our ranges are based on this colour palette, creating a mix where colours can not only be easily combined, but the different yarns can be effortlessly mixed, too."



Not quite fifty shades of grey, but certainly a decent selection of monochromes for a charming nod at quaint seaside style.

NOTES

The Pebbles are worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it useful to mark the first st of each round, moving the marker up as you work. Make a variety of Pebbles in all colours except Cream, which is used only for the Granite Seams and to hang the Pebbles.

PEBBLE 1

Make a magic loop.

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

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

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

Round 4 Dc into each st around.

Round 5 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc into next st) 6 times. [24 sts]

Rounds 6-7 As Round 4.

Round 8 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc into next st) 6 times. [30 sts]

Rounds 9-15 As Round 4.

Round 16 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Rounds 17-18 As Round 4.

Round 19 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 20 Repeat Round 4.

Round 21 (Dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Stuff firmly.

Round 22 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off, weave the tail through the last 6 sts, pulling tight to close.

PEBBLE 2

Make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-3 Repeat Rounds 1-3 of Pebble 1. [18 sts]

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

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

Rounds 6-13 Dc into each st around.

Round 14 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 15 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Rounds 16-17 Repeat Rounds 21-22 of Pebble 1.

Fasten off, weave the tail through the last 6 sts pulling tight to close.

PEBBLE 3

Make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-5 Repeat Rounds 1-5 of Pebble 1. [24 sts]

Rounds 6-10 Dc in each st around.

Rounds 11-14 Repeat Rounds 19-22 of



The pebbles are worked in the amigurumi style, where rounds are not closed off

Pebble 1.

Fasten off, weave the tail through the last 6 sts, pulling tight to close.

PEBBLE 4

Make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-2 Repeat Rounds 1-2 of Pebble 1. [12 sts]

Round 3 Dc in each st around.

Round 4 (Dc in next st, 2dc into next st) 6 times. [18 sts]

Rounds 5-10 Dc into each st around.

Round 11 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 12 Dc in each st around.

Round 13 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off, weave the tail through the last 6 sts, pulling tight to close.

GRANITE SEAMS

Press the Pebbles firmly between your palms and rub in a circular motion to flatten. Using Silver on the Anthracite and Graphite Pebbles, and using Cream on the Shark Grey, Silver and Shadow Pebbles, make a few tiny sts into the side of each Pebble. Wrap the yarn around the Pebbles to create a seam-like pattern; you can use the images as a guide. Once happy with the pattern, secure the yarn with a few small sts.

TO FINISH

Using Cream, thread the Pebbles onto the yarn using a large-eyed needle.

**SAVE THE
DATE!**

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New season!

Part one of our guide to the best new yarns for spring

FLOWER MOTIF

Ch4, join with ss in first ch to form a ring.

ROUND 1 *Ch7, dc into 2nd ch from hook, htr, tr in next 2ch, htr, dc, ss into ring; repeat from * 8 times more.

FASTEN OFF and weave in ends.



Time for some
bloomin' lovely
crochet!



SCHEEPJES NAMASTE

WEIGHT Chunky
CONTENT 50% virgin wool,
 50% acrylic
BALL 100g/85m
HOOK 8mm
RRP £6.25



Never mind crocheting with it, we think we might just start using Scheepjes Namaste as a pillow – it really is that soft! There are 34 shades of this incredible chunky yarn to choose from and each colour is named after a yoga pose. You would totally be forgiven for not

believing there's any acrylic in it as this 50-50 blend feels more like merino, and has a very light twist and a huge halo more akin to roving yarn. It's hand wash only, but it's so special you won't mind that! Come on now, everybody say "Om"...
www.scheepjes.com

STYLECRAFT MONET

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 50% acrylic,
 50% cotton
BALL 100g/183m
HOOK 5mm
RRP £5



You don't have to be a famous artist to appreciate the colour effect of this new yarn from Stylecraft! Each of the four individually variegated strands are offset and spun together in a uniform but relaxed twist, which produces a colour effect that mimics the impressionist

painting technique (where many different facets contribute to the overall colour). There are five colours in the range, all taking inspiration from Monet. It's machine washable at 30°, can be ironed and tumble-dried.
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk
 01484 848435

KING COLE TWIRLY TWEED

WEIGHT Chunky
CONTENT 80% acrylic,
 18% wool, 2% viscose
CAKE 150g/203m
HOOK 6mm
RRP £6.74



This new yarn cake from King Cole has so many positive features! With a deliciously soft bouncy feel when hooking it up, the interesting blend of fibres gives the resulting fabric a host of different characteristics – hard-wearing, slightly silky, a natural halo and clearly defined

stitches. It's a great choice for one-ball accessories, although this yarn is also soft and chunky enough to work well for garments too. Available in eight variegated shades and machine washable at 40°.
www.kingcole.com
 01756 703670

ROWAN MOORDALE

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 70% wool,
 30% alpaca
SKEIN 100g/230m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £15.95



If you're all about natural fibres, then you'll love the new Rowan Moordale collection. Using a blend of British Bluefaced Leicester and British Alpaca, it has the hardiness of pure wool but with a subtle silky feel. The yarn is constructed with a 2ply twist that initially feels thinner

than your standard DK yarn, but when worked up it creates a lovely light fabric that drapes beautifully. Available in 14 shades, ranging from natural monochromes to deep rich colours. Hand wash only.
www.knitrowan.com
 01484 668200

RICO DESIGNS CREATIVE ITO IRO

WEIGHT Chunky
CONTENT 80% acrylic, 20% wool
CAKE 150g/270m
HOOK 6mm
RRP £11.90



Ito Iro is a huge yarn cake that is full of variegation and two-tone loveliness! The chunky feel and relaxed twist mean it's a joy to crochet with, while the fibre content means you end up with a strong and sturdy-feeling fabric that also has a surprising level of bounce. The two strands

that make up this yarn switch between similar and contrasting shades, meaning your fabric will have different segments of solid and flecked colours.
 It's available in eight muted shades, all of which are machine washable at 30°.
www.rico-design.co.uk

CARON X PANTONE

WEIGHT Chunky
CONTENT 60% acrylic,
 20% nylon, 20% Merino wool
SKEIN 100g/116m
HOOK 6mm
RRP £8.69



Somebody was certainly wearing their genius hat when they came up with this one! Made up of five mini skeins in Pantone colours which are braided together, it's so visually appealing that it's surely destined for the 'special occasion' yarn shelf. But if you can bring yourself to take it

apart, you'll find the yarn to be super-soft, springy and light. It's perfect for colourwork projects as the yarns in each set have been chosen to complement one other, and there are 20 shade combinations to choose from!
www.readicut.co.uk
 01162 713759

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GREY MATTER

Recent subscriber Jeanette Ruane-Stuart used the leftover yarn from her stash to hook up these princely pot plant covers. The neutral, natural greys match up a treat with the leafy foliage, and the best thing is, no matter how many house plants Jeanette collects, now she can always create a matching pot holder for them! @

ELEPHANTASTIC!

▼ Margaret Pearson took first place at The Heckington Show in Lincolnshire for her ace make – issue 69's elephant head! She then donated it to a local hospice. We always knew this jumbo Dumbo was a prize piece, but we're just thrilled it's helping charities out, too. @



DOUBLE TAP ♥

We've been double tapping on Instagram and admiring your makes. Tag us @simplycrochetmag and use the hashtag #Sctreblemaker



RAINBOW STYLIN'
@booksinmyhallway has a hat in her hand and we're into it. This rainbow-banded beaut harks from issue 78 and has proven a fan fave. Now for the gloves!



SPOT ON
@therealkatewood has switched blues for greys out of issue 77's jumper, and created this corker! We think it's the best adaptation since the BBC's *Les Misérables*.



CHUNK 'N' SOUL
We love how quick a chunky wool works up, and we're not alone! Check out @waltons_woollies' take on issue 79's outsized hat, giant bobble and all!



HEY MISTER
Arms outstretched and asking for a cuddle, who could resist making issue 68's Mr Blue? Not @crochetbyruby – and here is the stitch-perfect result!



SUPER STARS

Using the star cushion pattern from issue 71, @debz_handmade_with_love is well on her way to making herself a sofa-seated constellation! She's switched the yellow yarn to grey to match her furnishings, and altered the lopsided smiles into great big grins. Stellar! @

THE LOWDOWN

It's simple to be in with a chance of winning a great hooky prize in a future issue! Show us your *Simply Crochet* makes on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or via email or post by 9 March 2019.

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FUZZY FEELINGS

It's amazing what an effect a clever yarn switch can have on a project. Anne Novis has swapped the sea-green wool from issue 76's scarf for a bright variegated yarn, and come up with this spellbinding winter warmer. The tasselled scarf pattern is the perfect pairing for the dreamy palette, and well worth braving the cold for! @

WINNER!

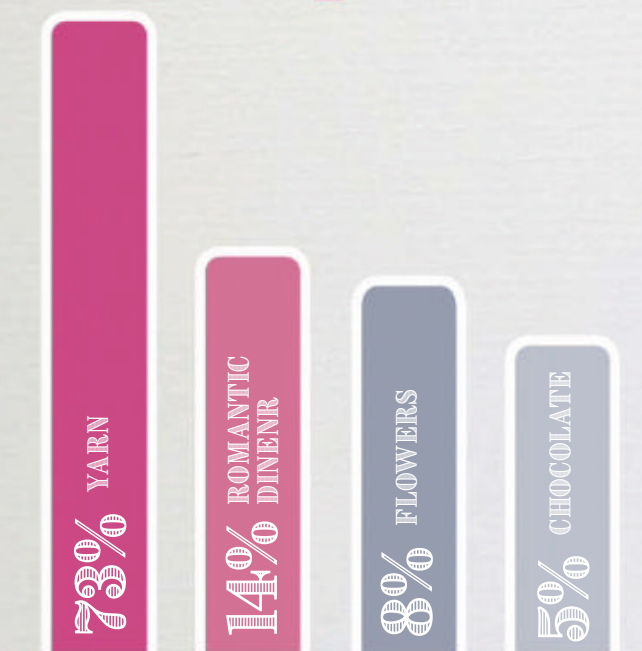
IN A SPIN

Fiona Pawson has recently made the leap from the Other Side (knitting), and crocheted a pair of gorgeous mandala waistcoats for her granddaughters! Good to have you on board Fiona! @



This month we asked you...

What would you like for Valentine's Day?



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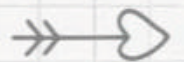


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FREE TRIAL*

Changing colour

MAKE THE MOST OF COLOURWORK TECHNIQUES



NOTEBOOK COVER P83

We love the flexibility of crochet, in part because it means we get to enjoy playing with colour! Some of our favourite colour creations are ones that involve changing yarn shades mid-row, but doing this often creates confusion – which colourwork technique should you use?

SPOILED FOR CHOICE

You could use the tapestry crochet method, the Fair Isle technique or the intarsia approach, but which one is best and for which projects? In this workshop, we'll explain the

differences between these three key colourwork techniques and how best to use each one.

The main differences between the three techniques are about what you do in between spaced out stitches of the same colour. We'll practise by making some samples of the same checked pattern using each method, so you can learn the pros and cons involved and make an informed choice for your next project.

Then, with your new-found colourwork confidence, you can make our colourful notebook cover project on page 83.

HOW DO I CHANGE COLOUR MID-ROW?

Refresh your colour-changing skills

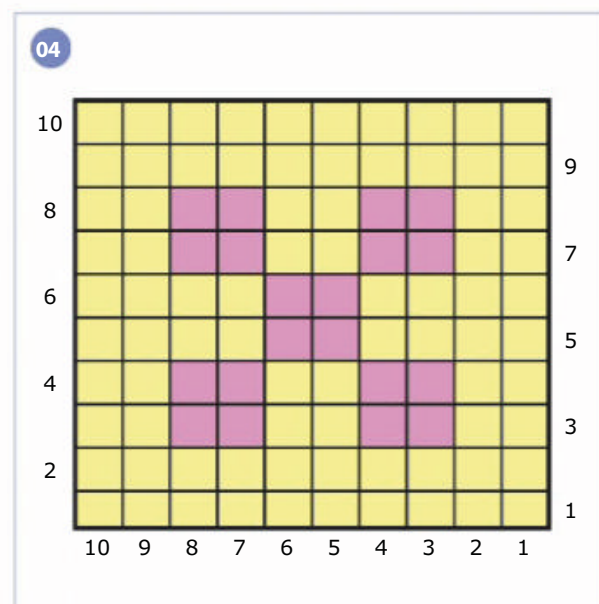
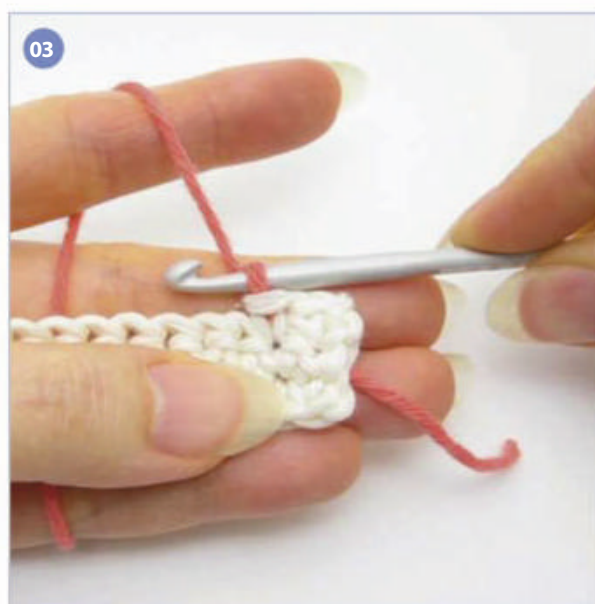
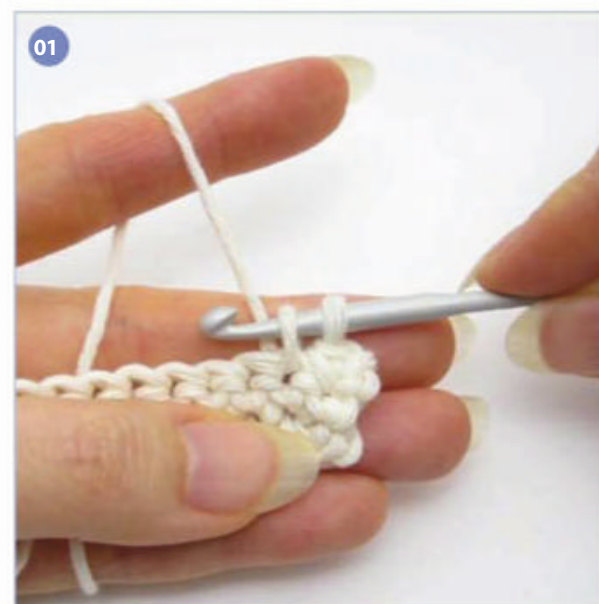
The process for changing colour between stitches is the same for tapestry crochet, Fair Isle and intarsia. To practise this process, you just need two colours of DK yarn (we used cream and pink) and a 4mm hook. Using colour 1 (cream), work 2 rows of 10 dc (ch11, dc in 2nd ch and each ch to end, turn, ch1, dc in each dc across, turn).

Step 1 Start Row 3 (a RS row) with ch1 and then work the first 2 dc in cream – stop before the final yrh of the 2nd dc.

Step 2 Twist together the cream yarn with colour 2 (pink) to make sure there are no holes in the fabric. You can make it loosely and then tighten it up.

Step 3 Work the final yrh using pink. You'll have a loop of the new colour (pink) on the hook, ready to work the next stitch in pink. You'll see that when changing colour between stitches, you need to pay attention to which colour is used for the next stitch as you go – then you need to change colour on the last yrh of the last stitch of the old colour, and you'll be ready to work the next stitch in the new colour.

Step 4 Next, we're going to use the above process of changing colour between stitches, along with one of the three colourwork techniques to hook this chart. So keep hold of this practice piece.



WHAT IS FAIR ISLE?

Learn all about this stranded colourwork technique

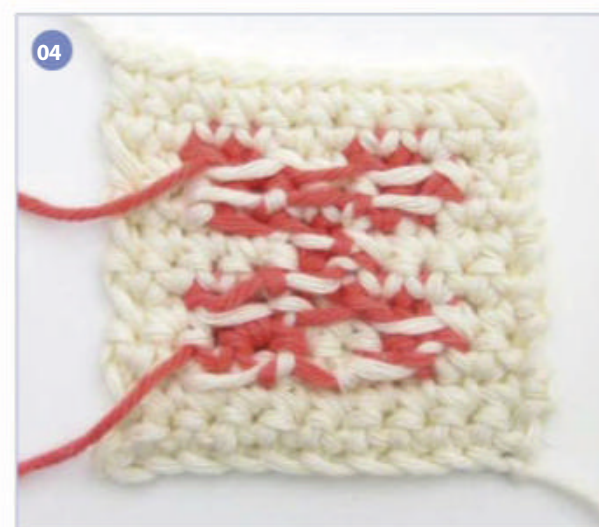
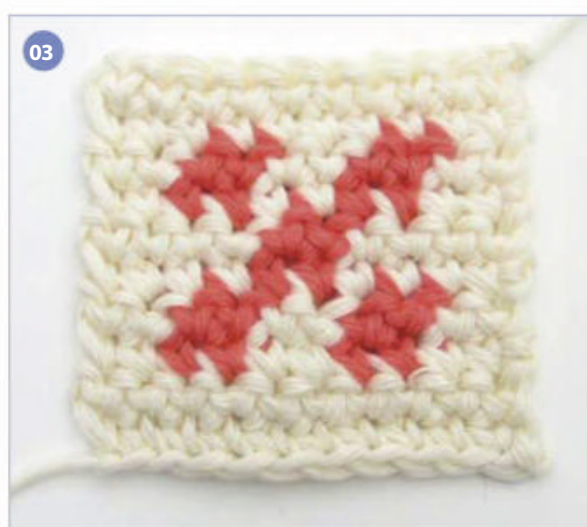
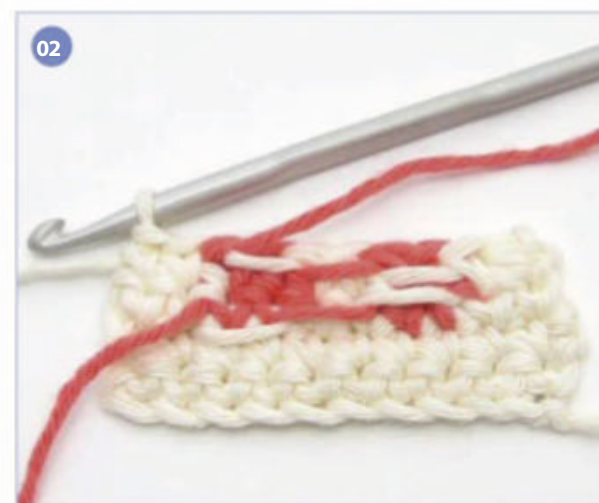
Fair Isle is a classic technique that involves stranding different yarn colours across the wrong side (WS) of the fabric. To try it out, continue with your practice piece:

Step 1 Work Row 4 as *2 dc in cream, 2 dc in pink; repeat from * to end. As you work, let the unused yarn colour dangle free at the back but remember to twist the yarns together when you change colour. On the WS, you'll see that each time you change colour, the yarn travels across the fabric from where you previously used it – this creates a strand or float of coloured yarn across the WS. Don't pull the strand tight because it could pucker the fabric, but don't leave it loose either as the stitches could look baggy. At the end of the row, turn and the fabric should look like this on the WS.

Step 2 Fair Isle strands need to be on the WS, so on a WS row like Row 4, let the unused yarn dangle free at the **front** of the fabric and create strands in **front** of the stitches. Your finished Row 4 should look like this.

Step 3 Turn and continue to follow the chart using the Fair Isle technique. Your finished fabric should look like this on the RS...

Step 4 ...and like this on the WS.



WHAT IS TAPESTRY CROCHET?

Get to grips with encasing colours

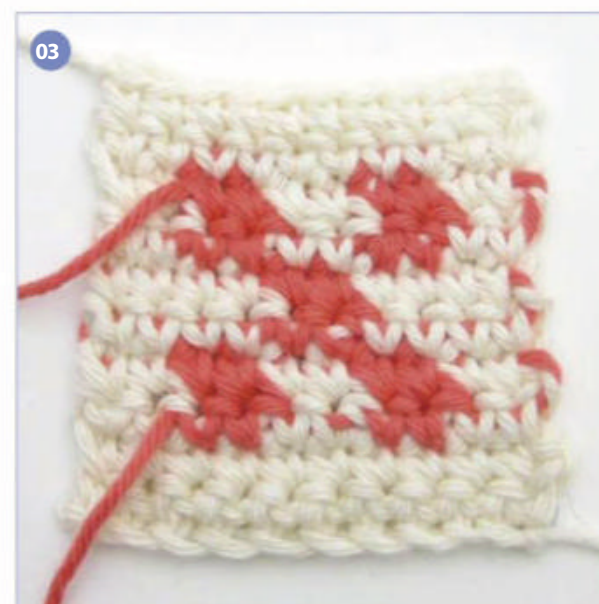
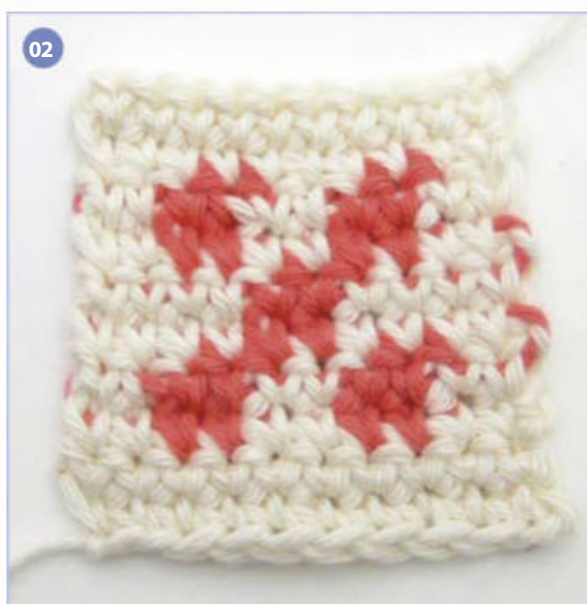
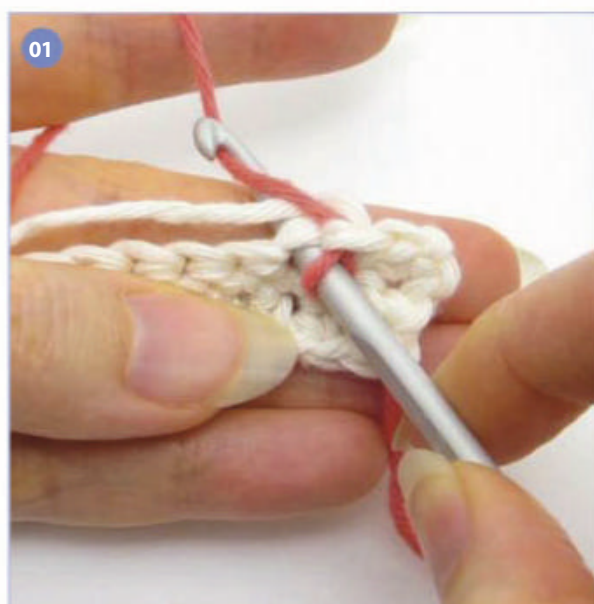
Tapestry crochet is quite similar to Fair Isle – both involve taking different yarn colours across each row as you work. In tapestry crochet, however, you make your new stitches over the spare 'strands' of yarn, encasing them inside the fabric at the back of your work. To try it out, start a new practice piece, as before (2 rows of 10 dc in cream).

Step 1 Work Row 3 as *2 dc in cream, 2 dc in pink; repeat from * to end. As you work, position the unused yarn colour over the dc stitches below and work the next 2 dc in the contrasting yarn colour – you will be effectively weaving the unused colour into the fabric. Remember to twist the yarns together when you change colour, but be gentle – although the yarns are encased,

making it easier to achieve an even tension, they will still pucker the fabric if you pull them too tightly.

Step 2 Turn and continue to follow the chart using the tapestry crochet technique in the same way on subsequent rows. When you've finished, your fabric should look like this on the right side...

Step 3 ... and like this on the wrong side.



WHAT IS INTARSIA?

Wind up some small balls and get hooking

Intarsia is different to both Fair Isle and tapestry crochet, which share similarities. With intarsia you use separate balls of yarn for each colour section. To prepare an intarsia sample, wind two small balls in pink yarn and three small balls in cream yarn. Start a new practice piece, as before (2 rows of 10 dc in cream).

Step 1 Work Row 3 as *2 dc in cream, 2 dc in pink; repeat from * to end. As you work, use a new ball for each colour change and twist the yarns together as before. Let the unused yarns dangle free on the WS. Turn and your work should look like this on the WS.

Step 2 Follow the chart for Row 4, using the relevant ball of yarn for each 2 dc colour section. Since this is a WS row, keep the unused yarn dangling free at the **front** of the fabric. Your finished row should look like this (on the WS).

Step 3 Turn and continue to follow the chart using the intarsia technique. Your finished fabric should look like this on the right side...

Step 4 ... and like this on the wrong side.



WHICH COLOURWORK TECHNIQUE SHOULD I USE?

We weigh up the pros and cons of each technique

Having practised the three main colourwork techniques, you'll realise that each one is more or less suitable for different colourwork patterns.

FAIR ISLE

Fair Isle produces a lot of strands, which can be handy for creating a thick, cosy jumper. But it can be tricky to get your strand tension right, plus they can get easily snagged on toes or fingers (not good for gloves or items meant for babies). Long strands (more than four stitches apart) can be unmanageable, so Fair Isle is best for patterns with colour changes up to four stitches apart.

Fair Isle is also great for anything that will be lined, such as jackets or luxury throws. That way the strands are safely hidden.

TAPESTRY CROCHET

You can use tapestry crochet, which also creates thick fabrics, to encase an unused yarn for as many stitches as you like before using it again. But encasing more than one yarn at a time is tricky, so tapestry is best for two-colour patterns.

However, encasing the yarns creates 'colour bleed' – on our sample, you really

notice the pink yarn through the cream stitches. You can use a smaller hook to reduce the gap between stitches, but this can create tension issues. The best solution is to use two yarns that look good together.

With no obvious right side, tapestry fabric is reversible, which is great for projects like scarves where both sides will be seen.

INTARSIA

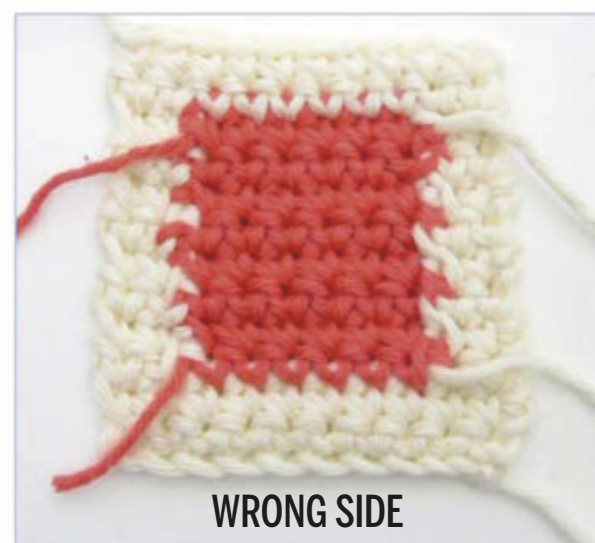
With intarsia, you can use as many colours as you like, but lots of small balls can be tricky to control and creates ends to weave in. You could weave in starting tails as you go or stick to projects where the ends can be left, like a stuffed toy. But generally, intarsia is best for patterns where you have just a few large areas of colour, such as a motif. To show you this, we made a new swatch (right) with one large area of pink (6dc) within a cream fabric. This uses only two balls of cream and one of pink, which are manageable and creates only six ends to weave in.

YOUR TURN!

Now you can make our colourful notebook cover on the following pages, using the best colour technique for each section.



RIGHT SIDE



WRONG SIDE



Dive right in

Test your new skills to hook up this notebook cover using different colourwork techniques. By Becky Skuse



YOU WILL NEED

- Three Bears Yarn Passion DK (100% cotton, 50g/125m)
1 ball of each:
Moss (23)
Cobalt (28)
Pale Sky (25)
Slate Grey (10)
Pale Honey (13)
- A 3mm (US C/2) hook
- A5 notebook
- Lining fabric, 2 pieces each approx 18x25cm
- Sewing clips

For yarn stockists contact

Wool Warehouse 01926 882818

www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

22 sts and 22 rows to measure
10x10cm (4x4in)

MEASUREMENTS

Cover measures 33x22cm (13x8½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Designer Becky Skuse says: “Embrace the joy of crocheted colour with this leaping dolphins notebook cover. It’s the perfect project for flexing your colourwork muscles, with plenty of features to keep you interested but without being too tricky. On each row, there are no more than two colours to keep track of, and each colourful area is ideal for practising one of the three main colourwork techniques: a tapestry crochet sea, intarsia dolphins and Fair Isle sunshine. The cover sits on the outside of the notebook, secured with lining fabric on the inside to reduce bulk and create a better fit. The lining fabric also creates handy pockets at the front and back of the notebook.”

NOTES

The Notebook Cover should be made using the Chart on page 94. On the Chart, each square represents one dc stitch. Work RS rows from right to the left, and WS rows from left to right. To help you, the first two rows are written out in full below.

Change colours on the last yrh on the st before the colour change is indicated.

COLOURWORK NOTES

The Notebook Cover is divided into three sections, each using a different colourwork technique.

Work the wavy sea at the bottom with tapestry crochet, or Fair Isle if you prefer, using Moss and Cobalt.

Work the dolphin motifs with the intarsia technique using Slate Grey and Pale Sky for the background. You’ll need to wind four small balls of Slate Grey and five small balls of Pale Sky. To reduce the number of balls you need to use, you can work some of the stitches in this section using Fair Isle.

Work the sunshine section with Fair Isle, or Tapestry crochet if you prefer, using Pale Honey and Pale Sky.

NOTEBOOK COVER

Using Moss, ch75.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in next ch, *change to Cobalt, dc in next 4 sts, change to Moss, dc in next 2 sts; repeat from * across, turn. [74 sts]

Row 2 (WS) Change to Cobalt, ch1, dc in first 3 sts, *change to Moss, dc in next 2 sts, change to Cobalt, dc in next 4 sts; repeat from * across, turn.

Continue to follow the Chart on page 94 for colour changes.

Rows 3-50 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

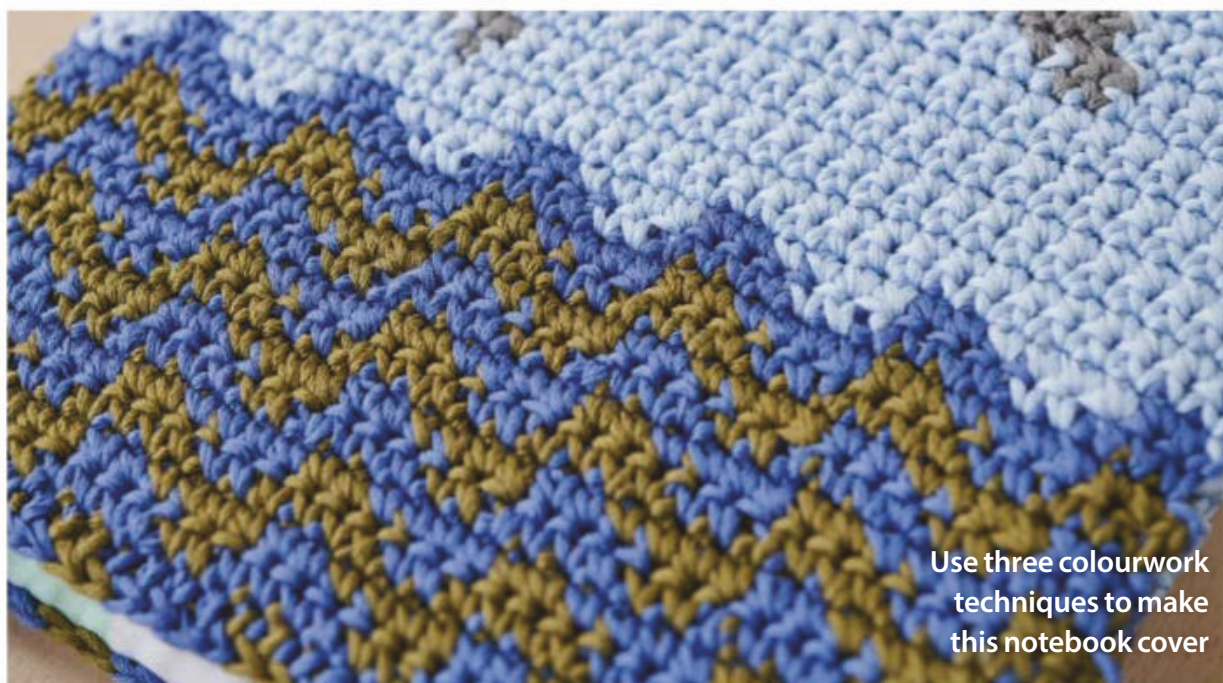
TO MAKE UP

Weave in all ends.

Block the Notebook Cover to measurements given. Once dry, wrap around the closed notebook and clip in place. Using a sewing needle and thread, make approx 10 long stitches from the top of the crochet Cover, over the first page of the A5 notebook, to the bottom of the crochet Cover. Repeat with the last page of the A5 notebook. These stitches will hold the Cover in place while you add the lining fabric.

LINING

Take one piece of lining fabric and press approx 1.5cm to the WS around all four edges. Place on top of the long stitches over the first page of the A5 notebook and adjust the folds in the fabric as necessary to achieve a nice fit (our piece measured 15x22cm). Use sewing clips to hold the fabric in place. Sew the fabric to the WS of the crochet Cover, across the top, down the outside and across the bottom (the open inner edge will form a handy pocket). Make sure your stitches aren’t visible from the front. Repeat this with the other piece of lining fabric on the back page.



Use three colourwork techniques to make this notebook cover

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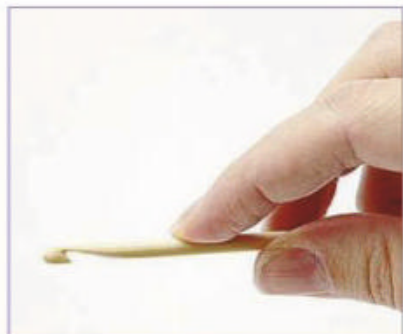
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Crochet essentials

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

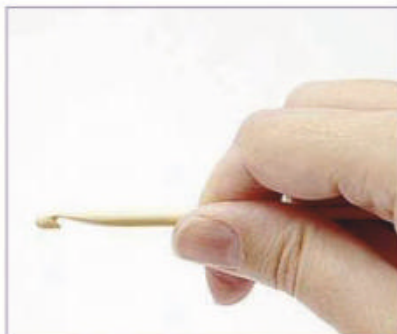
HOLDING THE HOOK

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

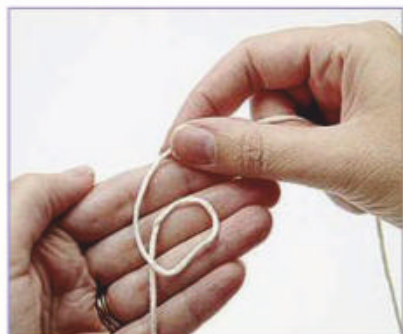
Pass the ball end of the yarn between the little finger and third fingers of your left hand (if you are right-handed), then behind the third and middle fingers, over your index finger.



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



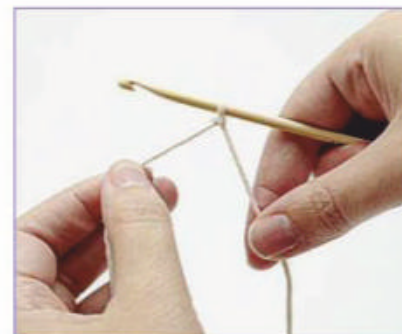
1 Hold the tail of the ball of yarn in your left hand and drape the yarn clockwise over the top of it to form a loose, circular loop.



2 Hold the loop between left thumb and forefinger, then insert the crochet hook through the centre of the loop from front to back.

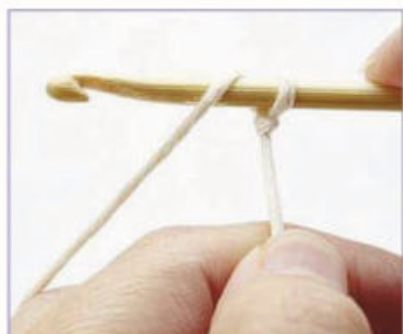


3 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook and pull it back through the centre of the loop, taking the yarn through with it.

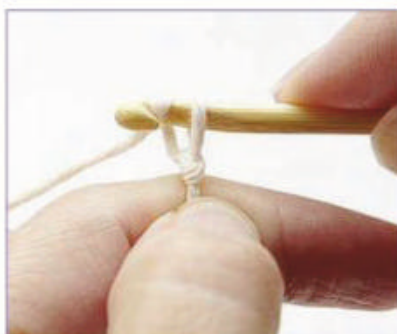


4 Pull both ends of the yarn to tighten the knot, then pull just the ball end to tighten the loop so it's close to the hook, but not touching it.

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 that's 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).



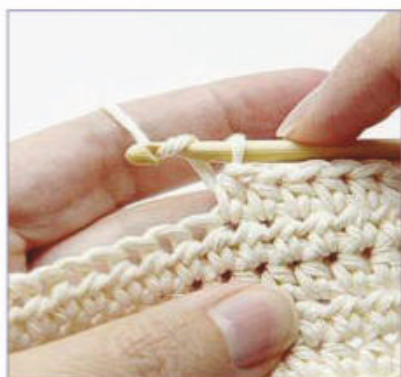
3 Pull the yarn through the stitch, giving you two loops on your crochet hook.



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).



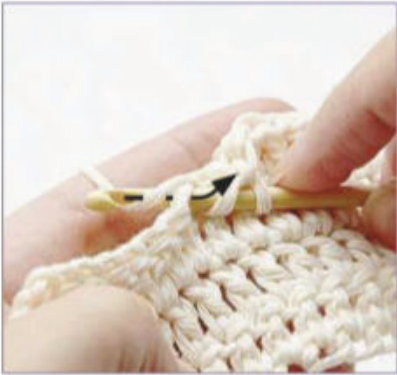
4 Yarn round hook again, pull the yarn through all 3 loops. You've made a half treble crochet. Continue working htr into next and following sts to the end of the row.

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

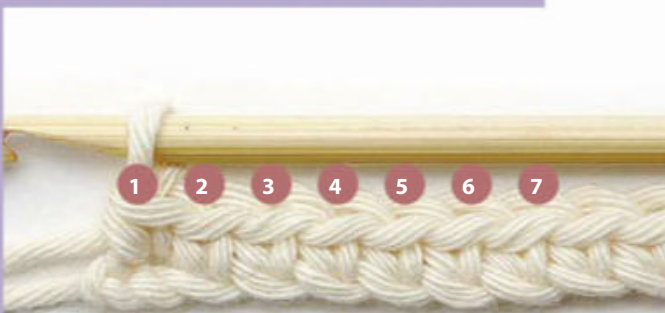
table below tells you how many t-ch sts form the first stitch. *For dc, usually the turning chain does not count as a stitch, and the first stitch of the row is worked into the stitch at the base of the turning chain.

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 then 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.



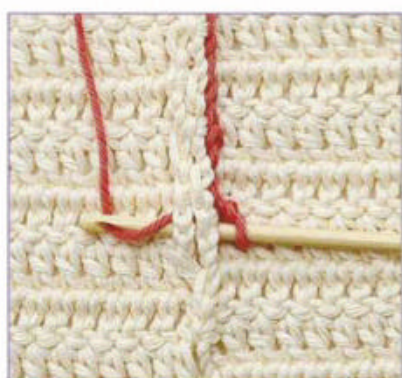
DECREASE For a quick decrease, just skip one stitch. For a neater look, work the first part of one stitch and then begin the next stitch. Finish both together.

SEWING SEAMS

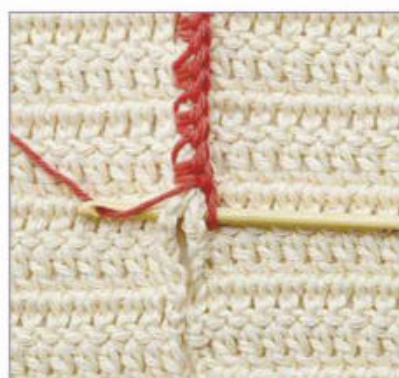
You can join crochet seams by using a tapestry needle or a crochet hook, using one of these four methods



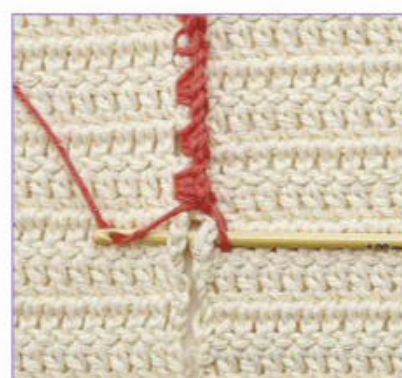
1 Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet right sides together and oversew them as shown above, using a tapestry or yarn needle.



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.

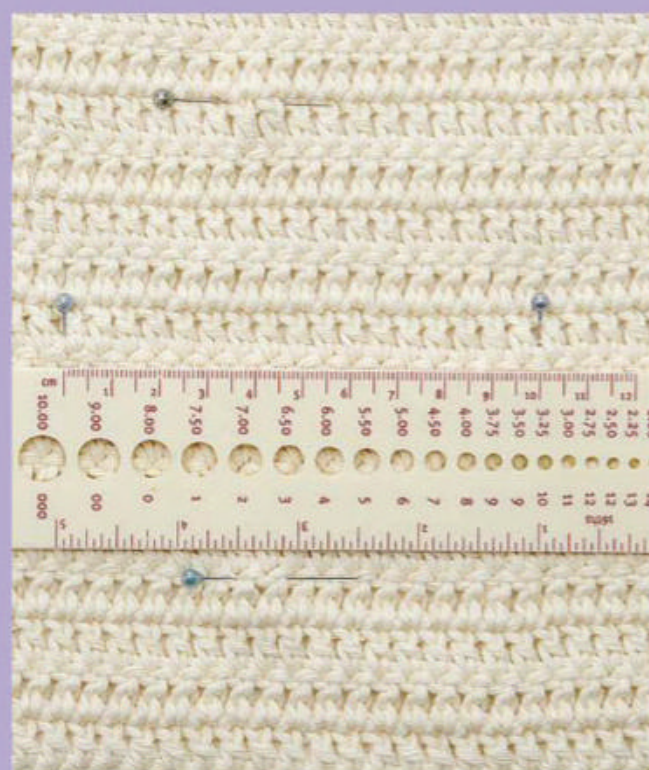
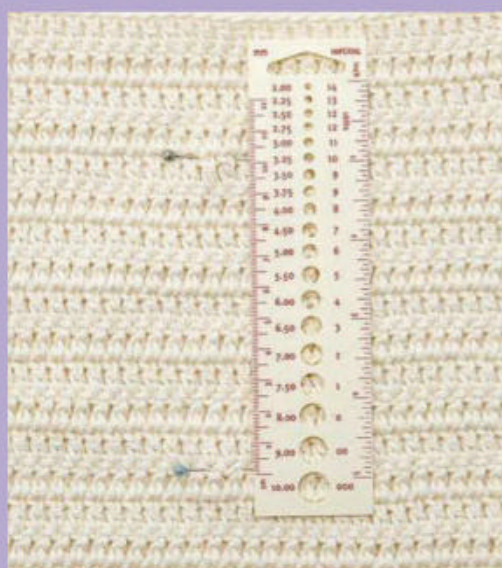


4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

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



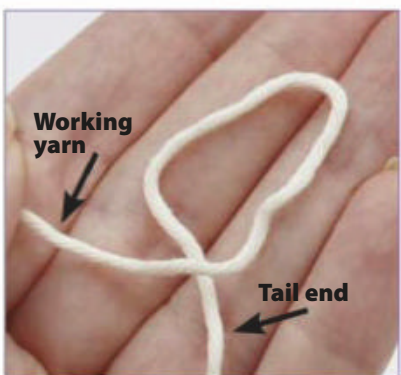
1 Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



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 in the guide below).

JOINING ROUNDS

Finish off each round of crochet stitches nice and neatly by using a slip stitch



1 To close a round of stitches, work a slip stitch into the top of the turning chain. To do this, insert the hook into the top stitch of the turning chain.



2 Then place the yarn round the hook. Pull the yarn through the turning chain stitch and through the original stitch on your hook.



3 You've slip stitched the round together! Before working another round, be sure to make the required turning chain. Always work rounds on the right side, unless your pattern instructs you otherwise.

Rounds or spirals



Check which technique you need 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.allaboutamigurumi.com

Abbreviations

across	to end of the row	htr	half treble
approx	approximate(ly)	htr2tog	work 2htr together
beg	beginning	in next	sts to be worked into
bl	insert hook under back loop only		the same stitch
BPtr	Back Post treble: yrh, starting from the back, insert hook from back to front to back around post of st in row below, complete as treble st	inc	increase
		LH	left hand
ch(s)	chain/chain stitch(es)	lp(s)	loop(s)
ch-sp(s)	chain space(s)	meas	measures
ch-	refers to ch made previously, eg. ch-3	patt(s)	pattern(s)
		pm	place marker
cl(s)	clusters	prev	previous
2-tr cl	(yrh, insert hook in sp/st, yrh & pull up loop, yrh & draw through 2 loops) twice, inserting hook in same sp/st, yrh & draw through all loops on hook	qtr	quadruple treble
		rem	remain(s)/remaining
cont	continue	rep	repeat
dc	double crochet	RH	right hand
dc2tog	(insert hook in next st, yrh and draw a loop through) twice, yrh and draw through all 3 loops on hook	rnd(s)	round(s)
		RS	right side
dec	decrease	sk	skip
dtr	double treble crochet	sp(s)	space(s)
dtr2tog	work 2dtr together	ss	slip stitch
fdc	foundation dc	st(s)	stitch(es)
fttr	foundation tr	tbl	through back loop
fl	insert hook under front loop only	t-ch(s)	turning chain(s)
		tog	together
foll/folls	following/follows	tr	treble crochet
FPtr	Front Post treble: work in opposite way to BPtr	tr2tog	(yrh, insert hook in next st, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice, yrh and draw through all loops on hook
		ttr	triple treble crochet
		WS	wrong side
		yrh	yarn round hook
		*	work instructions immediately foll *, then rep as many more times as directed
		()	work all instructions in the brackets as many times 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

HOW TO GET A PERFECT FINISH

To prevent your hard work unravelling once you’ve finished crocheting, fasten the end off carefully, following our instructions below



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.

UK/US conversions

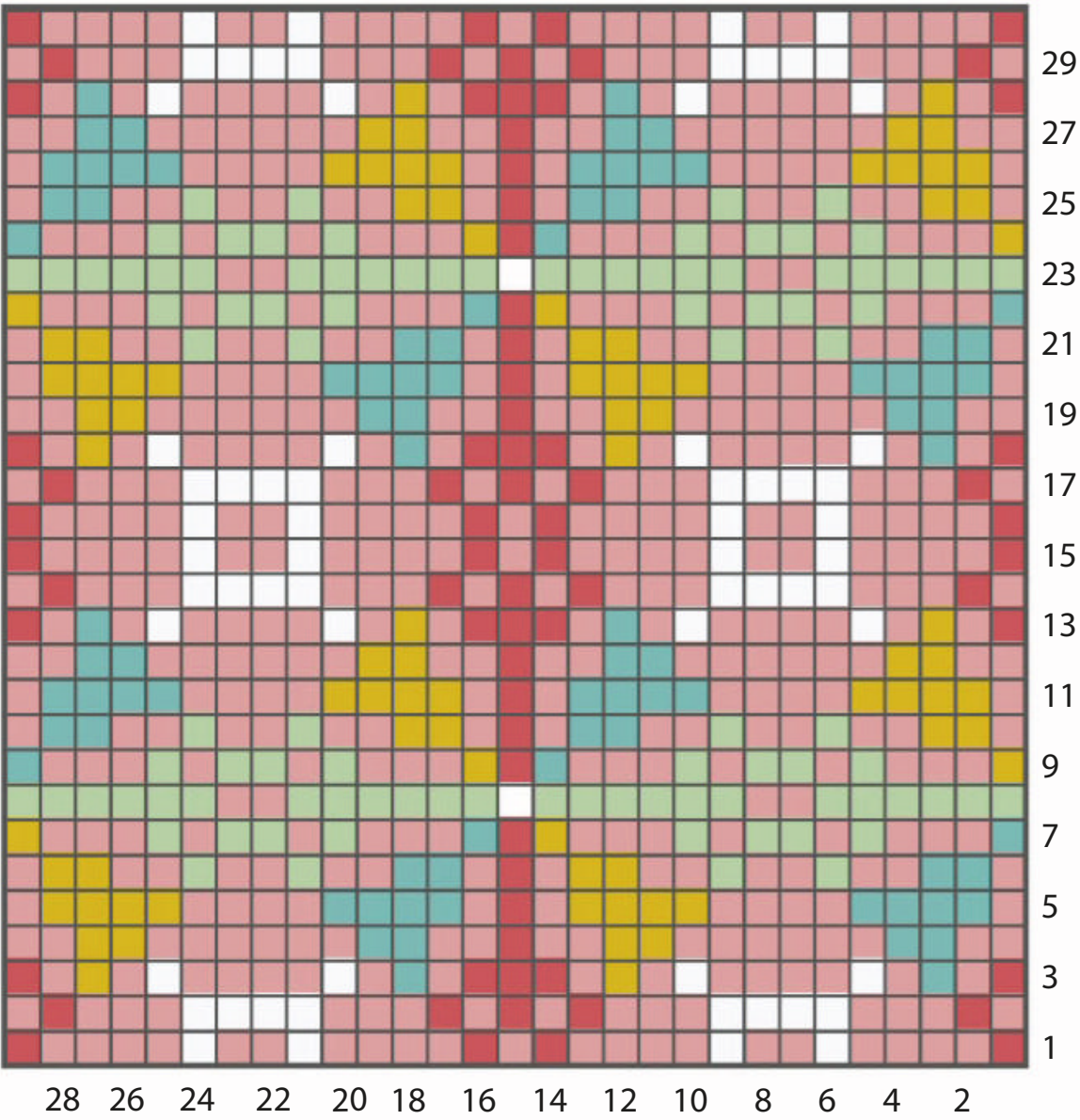
UK		US	
chain	ch	chain	ch
slip stitch	ss	slip stitch	ss
double crochet	dc	single crochet	sc
half treble	htr	half double	hdc
treble	tr	double	dc
double treble	dtr	treble	tr
triple treble	ttr	double treble	dtr

CHARTS & DIAGRAMS

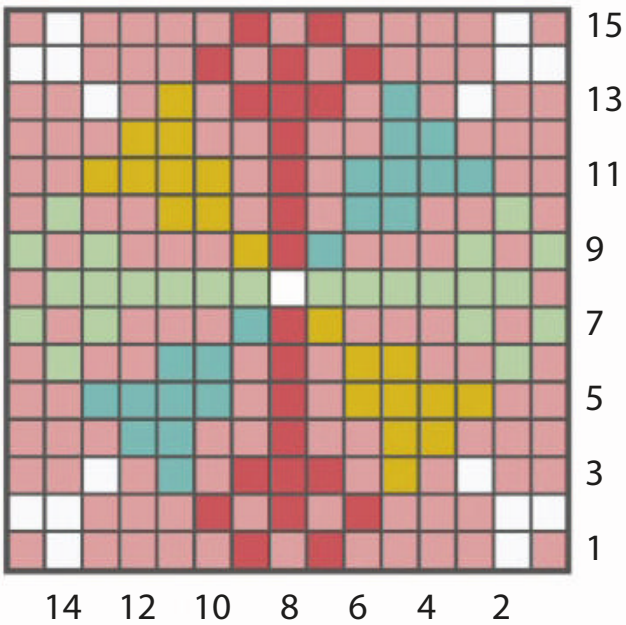
Follow these helpful charts when making the retro apron, bobble jumper and dolphin notebook this issue

Retro apron, page 25

Lower Panel



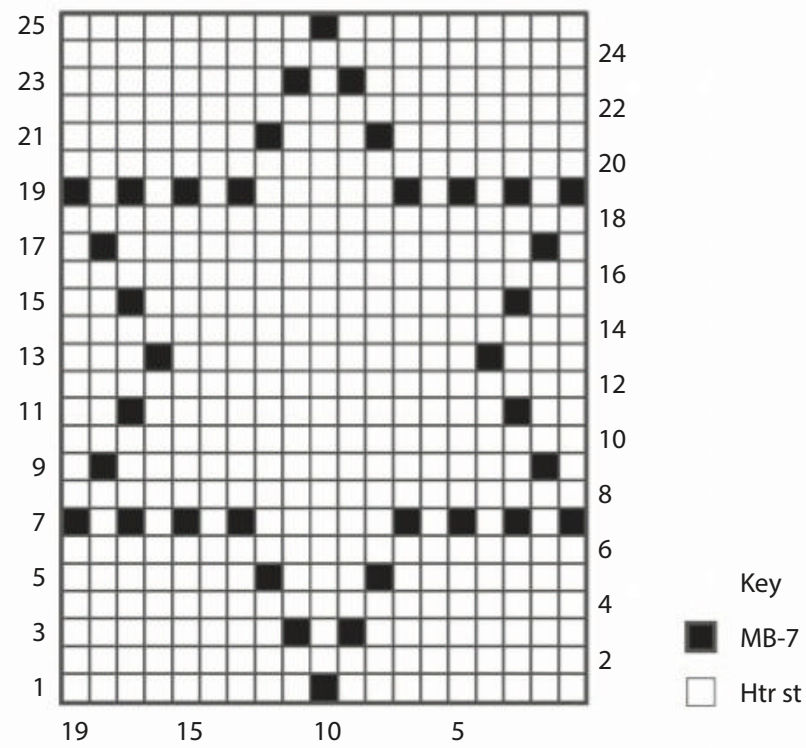
Upper Panel



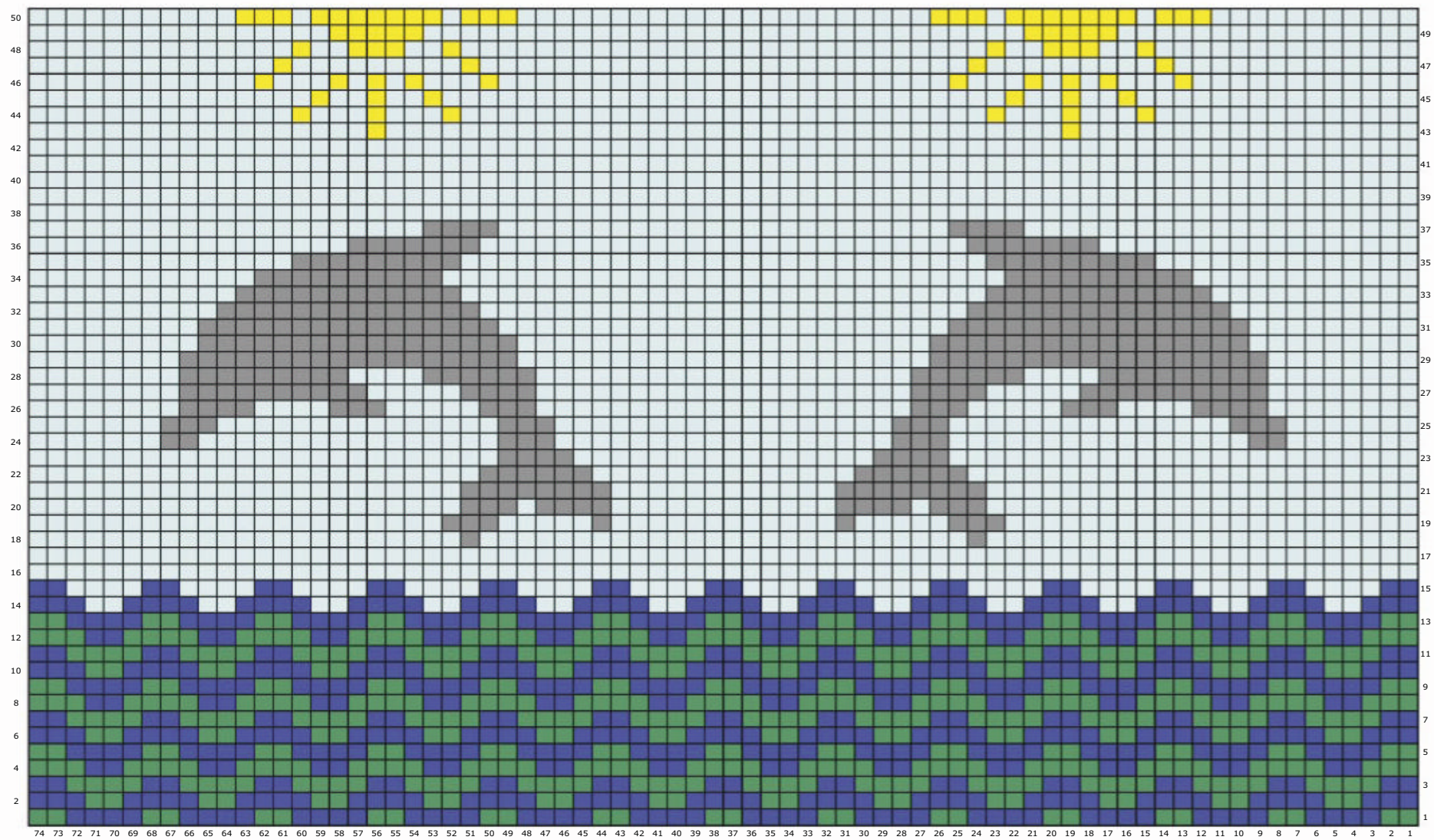
- Key
- Yarn B
 - Yarn C
 - Yarn D
 - Yarn E
 - Yarn F
 - Yarn G

CHARTS

Bobble jumper, page 50



Dolphin notebook, page 83



- Key
- Moss
 - Cobalt
 - Pale Sky
 - Slate Grey
 - Pale Honey



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Smashed hit

This easy super-chunky avocado cushion from Samanta Fornino is just ripe for the hooking!

GREAT
FOR
TEENS





YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura XL (100% cotton, 100g/75m), 2 balls of each:
 - Yarn A** Dark Green (08)
 - Yarn B** Soufre (90)
 - 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn C** Ivory (03)
 - Yarn D** Black (02)
 - Yarn E** Bonbon (40)
 - A 6mm (US J/10) hook
 - Toy stuffing
 - Clover pompom maker in size S
- For stockists contact**
DMC 01924 231669
www.dmc.com

TENSION

Tension is not critical but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Finished Cushion measures
 30x15cm (11¾x6in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92



Using a pompom maker results in incredibly thick and fluffy pompoms – and it's quick!

First avocados wangled their way into our fruit bowls, and now they want a spot on our sofas. But who could deny world dominion to something so delicious? This fellow is not too tricky to make – once you've mastered the front and back pieces, the features are plain sailing. Skip the pompoms if you like.

NOTES

The Avocado Cushion is worked as two separate pieces, Front and Back, which are then sewn together. The two parts are embellished with Eyes, Mouth, Cheeks, Belly and pompoms.

FRONT AND BACK (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A for the Back and Yarn B for the Front, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr), 11htr into the loop, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join. [12 htr]

Round 2 Ch3 (counts as a tr throughout), 2tr in next st, dc in next st, 2htr in next 5 sts, dc in next st, tr in next 3 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3. [18 sts]

Round 3 Ch3, tr in next 2 sts, dc in next st, 2htr in next 10 sts, dc in next st, tr in next 3 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3. [28 sts]

Round 4 Ch3, tr in st at the base of ch-3, 2tr in next 2 sts, dc in next st, *tr in next st, 2tr in next st; repeat from * another 9 times, dc in next st, 2tr in next 3 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3. [44 sts]

Round 5 Ch3, 2tr in next st, (tr in next st, 2tr in next st) 2 times, dc in next st, htr in next 30 sts, dc in next st, (tr in next st, 2tr in next st) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [50 sts]

Round 6 Ch3, tr in next 8 sts, dc in next st, (tr in next st, 2tr in next st) 15 times, dc in next st, tr in next 9 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3. [65 sts]

Round 7 Ch3, tr in next 8 sts, dc in next st, dc in next 45 sts, dc in next st, tr in next 9 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3.

Round 8 Ch3, tr in next 8 sts, dc in next st, htr in next 45 sts, dc in next st, tr in next 9 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3.

Round 9 Ch3, 2tr in next st, (tr in next st, 2tr in next st) 3 times, dc in next 2 sts, tr in next 45 sts, dc in next 2 sts, (tr in next st, 2tr in next st) 4 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [73 sts]

Round 10 Ch3, tr in next 12 sts, dc in next st, tr in next 45 sts, dc in next st, tr in next 13 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3.

Round 11 Ch3, tr in next 12 sts, dc in next 47 sts, tr in next 13 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3.

Round 12 Ch3, tr in next 12 st, dc in next st, (tr in next 2 st, 2tr in next st) 15 times, dc in next st, tr in next 13 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3. [88 sts]

Round 13 Ch3, tr in st at the base of ch-3, 2tr in next 4 sts, tr in next 5 sts, htr in next 10 sts, tr in next 48 sts, htr in next 10 sts, tr in next 5 sts, 2tr in the next 5 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3. [98 sts]

Round 14 Ch3, tr in next 9 sts, htr in next 10 sts, dc in next 5 sts, htr in next 5 sts, tr in next 38 sts, htr in next 5 sts, dc in next 5 sts, htr in next 10 sts, tr in next 10 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3.

Fasten off.

BELLY

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch3, 13tr into the loop, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [14 sts]

Round 2 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, 2tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [28 sts]

Round 3 Ch3, 2tr in next st, (tr in next st, 2tr in next st) 13 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [42 sts]

Round 4 Ch3, tr in next st, 2tr in next st, (tr in next 2 st, 2tr in next st) 13 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [56 sts]

Fasten off.

CHEEKS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn E, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch3, 11tr into the loop, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [12 sts]

Round 2 As Round 2 of Belly. [24 sts]

Fasten off.

MOUTH

Using Yarn D, ch20.

Fasten off.

EYES (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn C, ch9.

Round 1 Working around both sides of the chain, tr in fourth ch from hook, tr in next 4 sts, 3tr in next st, tr in next 4 sts, 2tr in next st, ss to top of beg ch-3. [14 sts]

Round 2 Ch3, tr in next 5 sts, 3tr in next st, tr in next 6 sts, 3tr in next st, ss to top of beg ch-3. [18sts]

Fasten off.

PUPILS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn D, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch3, 11tr into the loop, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 sts]

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Sew the Pupils to the Eyes. With Yarn C, embroider a dash inside the Pupils. Sew the Belly, Cheeks, Eyes and Mouth to the Front, using image as a guide.

Using Clover pompom maker in size S, make 9 pompoms with Yarn C. Attach pompoms to the Back of the cushion.

Place WS of Front and Back together, sew around the cushion. Before closing the cushion completely, fill the inside with toy stuffing.



Prize possession

A spontaneous design entry took Alessandra Hayden's crochet career in a completely new direction

There are so many creations that I treasure or which have special meaning to me, but I would have to say that my favourite piece is this sampler blanket. I created it in July 2016 to enter into the design competition of the Crochet Guild of America, as I was attending the conference that year. It was a spur of the moment design and as such I didn't really have a plan. I had decided that I wanted to use as many colours as the yarn came in, and that I wanted to make a fun, bright, 'something' that would cheer anyone up when they saw it. I sat down with all the colours I had and started pairing them up in a way I thought would look good, then I got my drawing pad out and let my creativity flow. I had no idea the blanket would end up winning first place in its category – I was over the moon!

I am attached to many of my designs but this piece is special because it's the one that really underscored my appreciation of colour and sparked my love for tapestry crochet, and it was that love that eventually led me to write my book *Modern Tapestry Crochet*! So this last-minute blanket was the first step along a new life path for me. Plus, the response I received after I released the pattern was incredible! This is still one of

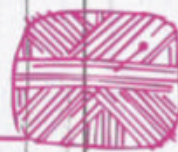
my best sellers and I love to see how other people play with the colours and make it their own.

This is an addictive design to work on. I only use two colours at a time and it is all made in double crochet and aran yarn. I think it's the use of colours that makes the design so interesting and fun. The thought of restricting myself to just a couple of shades didn't even cross my mind – the main reason I made it was to create something really stand-out and vibrant.

While there are a few different versions around, the original is still in my home, used as a throw in my living room or craft room. I simply adore seeing it every day and can't bear to give it away, to my husband's despair – my crochet blanket collection has grown quite large over the years! But while the time will come to say goodbye to some of my throws, I can't see myself ever letting go of my beautiful sampler blanket – it carries so many memories with it now.

If you'd like to make your own version of Alessandra Hayden's sampler blanket, the pattern is available to buy on Ravelry at www.ravelry.com/designers/alessandra-hayden. Turn to page 41 to see Alessandra's delightful bobble hat, or take a look at her website, www.justbehappycrochet.com.

MISSED AN ISSUE?



ISSUE EIGHTY

Use jumbo yarn to hook up home furnishings in minutes! Also this issue, create a cosy wardrobe with our colourful kimono make, sleeveless tunic and mosaic-style cowl. For little ones, get creative with an arigurumi axolotl and hexi-puff baby blanket. Plus, learn the techniques behind felted-look crochet!

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ISSUE SEVENTY-NINE

Animal print makes for the home, rose clutch purse, cute baby booties and amigurumi mouse



ISSUE SEVENTY-EIGHT

Rainbow makes, cute slippers, amigurumi reindeer doll, on-trend cushions and cosy poncho



ISSUE SEVENTY-SEVEN

Party makes, cute elf, festive jumpers, Christmas bunting, The Snowman™ toy and angel wings.



ISSUE SEVENTY-SIX

Nordic style projects, Halloween cushions, super-simple poncho, rose tote bag and quick festive makes.



ISSUE SEVENTY-FIVE

Mini-motif projects, amigurumi badger, diamond blanket, comfy sweaters and a cute sloth brooch.



ISSUE SEVENTY-FOUR

Cosmic crochet homewares, banana earrings, easy tops, and an adorable dachshund keyring.



ISSUE SEVENTY-THREE

Sunny cardigans, picnic projects, fab bags, cactus cushion, beach bear and unicorn baby blanket.



ISSUE SEVENTY-TWO

Lacy top, colourful homewares, teacup pincushion, plus an exclusive TOFT Irish terrier pattern.



ISSUE SEVENTY-ONE

Stylish raglan tee, sporty accessories, diamond blanket and a Jammy Dodger tape measure cover.



ISSUE SEVENTY

Cool blue wedding ideas, stripy chevron cardi, sleeveless top, crochet bunting and a colourful cap.



ISSUE SIXTY-NINE

New colour series, office collection, a show-stopping elephant head and amigurumi peacock.



ISSUE SIXTY-EIGHT

On-trend ruffle accessories, Hook 'n' Learn crochet-along, rainbow table set and fisherman's sweater.



ISSUE SIXTY-SEVEN

Midnight Garden home accessories, an adorable party shark, stripy blankets and super socks.

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Simply Crochet AMIGURUMI

THE CUTEST CROCHET TOYS TO HOOK

18 DELICIOUS
PATTERNS
PLUS HOW-TOs
& TOP TIPS



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otterly
adorable!*

Sweet Favourites

Cute creatures and fun
dress-up dolls to hook!

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Simply Crochet **AMIGURUMI**

THE CUTEST CROCHET TOYS TO HOOK

Making amigurumi characters has to be some of the most fun times you can have while holding hook in hand. Little people, animals of all sorts, even food, with cute details and big eyes, are all things that make us go aah. Everything just looks better given the amigurumi treatment. We hope you enjoy this spring collection of a few of our favourites, some from *Simply Crochet* and a few extra little cuties we found along the way. Oh yes, we are spoiling you.

Making friends

Welcome to our spring favourites amigurumi special! These little designs are absolutely brilliant for weekend makes, quick gifts or simply to hook up while you take some time for yourself. From the sweetest dress-up dolls to a special little blanket for baby complete with a bunny, there's plenty of choice here.

It's hard to resist any of these cute little makes. Plus, hooking designs on such a small scale means you'll be able to use up some of that stash, too! Feel free to adapt our patterns to your own colour choices, and do remember to tag us at #sctreblemaker so we can find your projects. We love to know what you're making and it's wonderful to see the way you bring your own ideas to life with variations on yarn and shade choices. It's great to be part of such an inventive community!

Are you fascinated to know what goes on in the mind of an amigurumi designer? Find out in our chat with designer Yan Schenkel of Pica Pau fame on page 30 (her cute fox pattern is on page 32).

If you haven't crocheted an amigurumi pattern before, we recommend you refer to the guides in your main *Simply Crochet* magazine and on page 50 of this collection. Prefer to watch a video? Our very own Yarniversity videos on YouTube will introduce you to many of the techniques used here.

I hope you have lots of fun on your amigurumi adventure and make some fab new little friends.



SARA HUNTINGTON
EDITOR



Simply Crochet AMIGURUMI



44



41



6



15



24



CUTE PATTERNS & MORE

6 EASTER GIRL

SHE'S ON THE HUNT FOR EGGS

12 OTTER COUPLE

ADORABLE DUO TO LOVE

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Hook this cutie for
springtime fun!





Bunny hopper

Crochet Ilaria Caliri's egg-hunting sweetheart
just in time for Easter... she's the cutest



YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Essentials Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/130m)
1 ball of each:
Yarn A Beige (91)
Yarn B Silver (03)
Yarn C White (80)
Yarn D Red (02)
Yarn E Gold (26)
 - Small amount of aran-weight yarn in colour of your choice for hair
 - A 3mm (US C/2 or D/2) hook
 - 2 safety eyes, approx 8mm diameter
 - 1 small button
 - Toy stuffing
- For yarn stockists contact Rico Design**
www.rico-design.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Doll measures approx 28cm (11in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

3-tr cluster (Yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 3 times, inserting the hook in the same st each time, yrh and draw through all 4 loops on hook

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

This little amigurumi darling is on an Easter egg hunt. She's donned her favourite bunny hat, packed her rucksack and now she's ready for spring adventures. The truth is, she's convinced she's a bunny and we haven't the heart to tell her any different. The whole project is worked using simple double crochet stitches, so while it looks fiddly to make, it's not all that difficult. The head and body are worked as one piece. All the other bits and bobs are made separately and sewn on. This redhead has well and truly stolen our hearts. Stitch your own today.

NOTES

The Body and Head are worked as one piece, starting from the bottom of the Body. The Legs, Arms, Hat and Boots are made separately and sewn onto the Body. Parts of the pattern are worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it useful to mark the first st of each round, moving the marker up as you work.

BODY AND HEAD

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

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

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

Round 3 *2dc in the next st, dc in next st; repeat from * around. [18 dc]

Round 4 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 2 sts; repeat from * around. [24 dc]

Round 5 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 3 sts; repeat from * around. [30 dc]

Round 6 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 4 sts; repeat from * around. [36 dc]

Rounds 7-12 Dc in each dc around.

Round 13 (Dc2tog, dc in the next 4 sts) 3 times, dc in the next 18 dc. [33 dc]

Round 14 (Dc2tog, dc in the next 3 sts) 3 times, dc in the next 18 dc. [30 dc]

Round 15 Dc in each dc around.

Round 16 *Dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts; repeat from * around. [24 dc]

Round 17 Dc in each dc around.

Round 18 *Dc2tog, dc in the next 2 sts; repeat from * around. [18 dc]

Round 19 Dc in each dc around.

Round 20 Change to Yarn A, *dc2tog, dc in next st; repeat from * around. [12 dc]

Round 21 Dc in each dc around.

Stuff the Body.

Round 22 *2dc in next st, dc in the next st; repeat from * around. [18 dc]

Round 23 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 2 sts; repeat from * around. [24 dc]

Round 24 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 3 sts; repeat from * around. [30 dc]

Round 25 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 4 sts; repeat from * around. [36 dc]

Round 26 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 5



The realistic texture of the doll's hair is created by using a thick and thin yarn

sts; repeat from * around. [42 dc]

Round 27 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 6 sts; repeat from * around. [48 dc]

Rounds 28-34 Dc in each dc around.

Round 35 *Dc in the next 6 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. [42 dc]

Round 36 *Dc in the next 5 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. [36 dc]

Round 37 *Dc in the next 4 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. [30 dc]

Round 38 *Dc in the next 3 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. [24 dc]

Secure the eyes between Rounds 29 and 30, approximately 11 sts apart.

Stuff the Head with toy stuffing and continue stuffing as you go.

Round 39 *Dc in the next 2 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. [18 dc]

Round 40 *Dc in the next st, dc2tog; repeat from * around. [12 dc]

Round 41 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 dc]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

HAT

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

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

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

Round 3 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next st;

repeat from * around. [18 dc]

Round 4 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 2 sts; repeat from * around. [24 dc]

Round 5 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 3 sts; repeat from * around. [30 dc]

Round 6 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 4 sts; repeat from * around. [36 dc]

Round 7 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 5 sts; repeat from * around. [42 dc]

Round 8 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 6 sts; repeat from * around. [48 dc]

Round 9 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 7 sts; repeat from * around. [54 dc]

Rounds 10-15 Dc in each dc around.

Round 16 (Dc in the next 16 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [51 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 dc]

Round 2 2dc in the next st, dc in the next 4 sts. [6 dc]

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

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

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

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

Rounds 7-11 Dc in each dc around. [15 dc]

Round 12 Dc2tog, dc in the next 13 sts. [14 sts]

Round 13 Dc2tog, dc in the next 12 sts. [13 sts]

Round 14 Dc2tog, dc in the next 11 sts. [12 sts]

Round 15 (Dc2tog, dc in the next 4 sts) twice. [10 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.



A rucksack is less traditional than a basket, but way more practical for egg collecting

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 dc]

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

Round 3 Dc in the next 4 sts, 3-tr cluster in the next st, dc in the next 5 sts. [10 sts]

Rounds 4-8 Dc in each dc around.

Round 9 Change to Yarn B, ss in the front loop only of each st around.

Round 10 Dc in the back loop only of each st

around.

Rounds 11-13 Dc in each dc around.

Round 14 (Dc2tog, dc in the next 3 sts) twice. [8 dc]

Rounds 15-16 Dc in each dc around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up. Stuff Arms with toy stuffing.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO INCREASE IN DOUBLE CROCHET



1 Work a double crochet stitch as usual: insert hook into next stitch, yrh, pull up loop, yrh, pull yarn through 2 loops on hook.



2 Then work another dc, inserting hook into the same stitch again.



3 Continue the 2nd dc stitch, working yrh and pull up a loop of yarn.



4 Finish the second dc stitch as usual, working yrh and pull yarn through 2 loops on hook. Once you've finished, you'll see how 2 dc stitches are worked into the same stitch.

into the loop. [5 dc]

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

Round 3 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next st; repeat from * around. [15 dc]

Rounds 4-5 Dc in each dc around.

Round 6 (Tr2tog) 3 times, dc in the next 9 sts. [12 sts]

Rounds 7-17 Dc in each dc around.

Round 18 (Dc2tog, dc in the next 4 sts) twice. [10 dc]

Rounds 19-20 Dc in each dc around.

Round 21 Change to Yarn A, dc in the back loop only of each dc. [10 dc]

Rounds 22-27 Dc in each dc around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up. Stuff the Legs with toy stuffing.

BOOTS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn D, make a magic loop.

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

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

Round 3 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next st; repeat from * around. [18 dc]

Round 4 Dc in the bl only of each dc.

Rounds 5-6 Dc in each dc around.

Round 7 Dc in the next 6 sts, (tr2tog) 3 times, dc in the next 6 sts. [15 sts]

Rounds 8-16 Dc in each dc around.

Round 17 Ss in each dc around.

Fasten off.

DRESS

Using Yarn E, ch21.

Row 1 (RS) Skip the first ch, *dc in the next 4 ch, 2dc in the next ch; repeat from * across, turn. [24 dc]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), *dc in the next 5 sts, 2dc in the next st; repeat from * across, ch6, turn. [28 dc and 6 ch]

Row 3 Ss in the sixth ch from the hook (button loop made), dc in the next 3 dc, 2dc in the next st, ch6, skip 6 sts, 2dc in the next st, dc in the next 6 sts, 2dc in the next st, ch6, skip 6 sts, 2dc in the next st, dc in the next 3 sts, turn. [20 dc and 2 ch-6 Armhole sps]

Row 4 Ch1 (does not count as st), *dc in the next 7 sts, 2dc in the next st; repeat from * across, turn. [36 dc]

Row 5 Ch1 (does not count as st), *dc in the next 8 sts, 2dc in the next st; repeat from * across, do not turn, ss to the first dc of row to begin working in the round. [40 dc]

From Round 6, work in the amigurumi method in a continuous spiral.

Round 6 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st around. [40 dc]

Round 7 (RS) *Dc in next 9 sts, 2dc in the next st; repeat from * around. [44 dc]

Rounds 8-15 Dc in each dc around.

Round 16 Dc in the front loop only of each dc around. **Fasten off**.

Round 17 Join Yarn B in the bl only of the

first dc of Round 15, working in the bl only, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in same st as beg ch-3, 2tr into each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. **Fasten off**. [88 dc]

Sew the button to opposite end of Row 3, in line with button loop.

RUCKSACK

Using Yarn D, make a magic loop.

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

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

Round 3 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next st; repeat from * around. [18 dc]

Round 4 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 2 sts; repeat from * around. [24 dc]

Round 5 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 3 sts; repeat from * around. [30 dc]

Round 6 *2dc in the next st, dc in the next 4 sts; repeat from * around. [36 dc]

Rounds 7-9 Dc in each dc around.

Round 10 *Dc in the next 10 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. [33 dc]

Rounds 11-12 Dc in each dc around.

Round 13 *Dc in the next 9 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. [30 dc]

Rounds 14-15 Dc in each dc around.

Round 16 *Dc in the next 8 sts, dc2tog; repeat from * around. [27 dc]

Rounds 17-18 Dc in each dc around. Ss to the next st, turn and work in rows.

LID

Row 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in the front loop only of the next 12 dc, turn, leaving the remaining sts unworked. [12 dc]

Rows 2-3 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each dc across, turn. [12 dc]

Row 4 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc2tog, dc in the next 8 dc, dc2tog, turn. [10 sts]

Row 5 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc2tog, dc in the next 6 dc, dc2tog, turn. [8 sts]

Row 6 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc2tog, dc in the next 4 dc, dc2tog, turn. [6 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

SHOULDER STRAP 1

Row 1 Working into the back loops only of Round 18 of Rucksack, join Yarn D opposite the first st of *Row 1 of Rucksack Lid, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in the next 3 sts, turn.

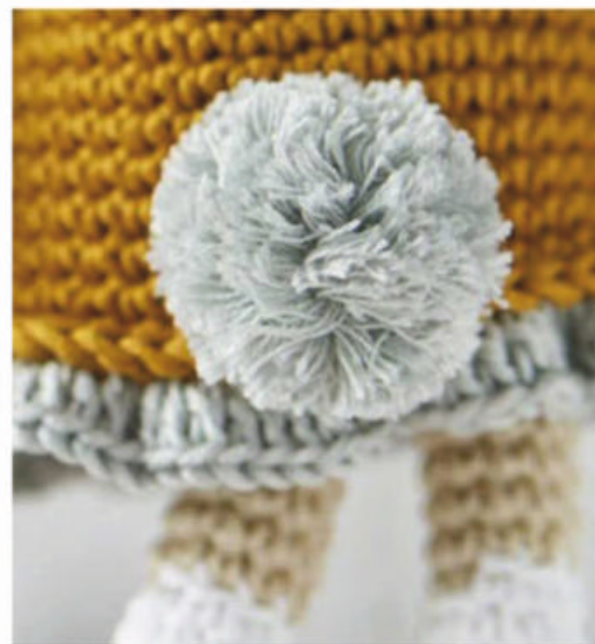
Rows 2- 26 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in the next 3 sts, turn.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

SHOULDER STRAP 2

Row 1 Working into the back loops only of Round 18 of Rucksack, join Yarn D opposite the 10th st of *Row 1 of Rucksack Lid, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in the next 3 sts, turn.

Rows 2-26 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in



No little bunny is properly attired without a suitably fluffy, pompom tail attached!

the next 3 sts, turn.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Sew the ends of the Shoulder Straps between Round 6 and 7 of the Rucksack, using the images as a guide.

TO MAKE UP

For the hair, cut long lengths of Yarn F. Using the images as a guide, sew the hair onto the Head with long stitches.

Sew the Hat to the Head, over the hair, adding a little stuffing between the Head and the Hat.

Sew the Ears to the Hat, placing them between Rounds 8 and 9 of the Hat, approx 6 sts apart.

Sew the Legs and Arms to the Body, using the images as a guide.

Dress the Doll in the Boots and dress, then add the rucksack. Sew into place if you wish.

POMPOM

Using Yarn B, make a 3cm diameter pompom and sew it on the back of the Dress, below the rucksack.

Simply Crochet



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Otterly in love

Does amigurumi get much cuter than this?
Ilaria Caliri's doting otters are simply darling





YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m)
1 ball of each:
Salomé (N80)
Lin (N78)
- A 2.5mm (US C/1 or B/2) hook
- 2 safety eyes, approx 5mm diameter
- Plastic nose, approx 1cm
- Black stranded cotton
- Pipe cleaners
- Stitch markers
- Toy stuffing
- PVA glue

For yarn stockists contact
DMC 01924 231669
www.dmccreative.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Otter measures approx 12cm (4¾in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Confession time: we're a little obsessed with otters here at *Simply Crochet* HQ, and it's not solely due to a certain Mr Cumberbatch. Did you know that pairs or groups of otters hold hands (or paws) so they don't float away from each other while they sleep? It's called rafting. We looked it up. They're pretty much the original romantics. What could be a better gift for your sweetheart, then, than a pair of loved-up amigurumi otters? Otterly adorable.

NOTES

Head and Body are worked as one piece starting from the top of the Head. All the other pieces are sewn to the Body. Choose either shade of yarn for your Otter; each piece for each Otter is made with the same colour.

HEAD AND BODY

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

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

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

Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Rounds 7-12 Dc in each dc around.

Round 13 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 14 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 15 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Secure the eyes between Rounds 9 and 10, approx 9 sts apart.

For the eyes, if you're using embroidery instead of safety eyes, you might like to wait until the Muzzle is attached before you sew them in place.

Stuff the Head with toy stuffing and continue stuffing as you go.

Rounds 16-18 Dc in each st around. [18 sts]

Round 19 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]

Rounds 20-21 Dc in each st around.

Round 22 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]

Rounds 23-24 Dc in each st around.

Round 25 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Rounds 26-28 Dc in each st around.

Round 29 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]

Rounds 30-34 Dc in each st around.

Round 35 (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 36 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 37 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 38 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 39 (Dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 40 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.



Soaking thread in a PVA solution will help you create sturdier whiskers for your couple



Instead of using safety eyes, you could stitch the eyes and make them ultra expressive

Use the long tail to sew the Ears to the Head between Rounds 5 and 6.

MUZZLE

Make a magic loop.

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

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

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

Round 4 Htr, 4tr, htr, 12dc. [18 sts]

Round 5 Htr, 4tr, htr, dc, ss in next st.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Secure the plastic nose between Rounds 3 and 4 (in the middle of the tr sequence).

Embroider the mouth and stuff lightly with toy stuffing.

Use the long tail to sew the Muzzle to the Head, between Rounds 10 and 16.

If using black beads or embroidery for eyes, sew them on now.

WHISKERS

Split a strand of black embroidery thread, cut 3 pieces approx 20cm long for each otter. Wet them in a solution of water and PVA glue. Place the soaked whiskers on a plastic sheet and let them dry. Use these slightly stiffened threads to embroider the whiskers.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc

into the loop. [6 sts]

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

Rounds 3-7 Dc in each st around.

Do not stuff, flatten the piece and start working in rows.

On the next row, work across the open top of the Arm, working each st through both layers to close the top.

Row 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc through both layers in each of 4 sts, turn. [4 sts]

Row 2 (Ch3, skip the first ch from hook, ss in each of next 2 ch, ss in next st, skipping the st at the base of the ch) 4 times to make paws.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Use the long tail to sew the Arms to the Body, between Rounds 20 and 21.

FEET (MAKE 2)

Make a magic loop.

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

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

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

Rounds 4-6 Dc in each st around.

Do not stuff, flatten the piece and start working in rows.

On the next row, work across the open top of the Foot, working each st through both layers to close and make the toes..

Row 7 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc through both layers in each of 5 sts, turn. [5 sts]

Row 8 Ch3, skip the first ch from the hook, dc in each of next 2 ch, ss in next st, skipping the st at base of ch, (ch4, skip the first ch from the hook, dc in each of next 3 ch, ss in the next st, skipping the st at the base of the ch) twice, ch3, skip the first ch from the hook, dc in each of next 2 ch, ss in the last st of the row.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Use the long tail to sew the Feet to the Body, between Rounds 27 and 36.

TAIL

Make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 Dc in each st around. [4 sts]

Round 3 2dc in next st, 3dc. [5 sts]

Rounds 4-5 Dc in each st around.

Round 6 2dc in next st, 4dc. [6 sts]

Rounds 7-8 Dc in each st around.

Round 9 2dc in next st, 5dc. [7 sts]

Rounds 10-11 Dc in each st around.

Round 12 2dc in next st, 6dc. [8 sts]

Rounds 13-14 Dc in each st around.

Round 15 2dc in next st, 7dc. [9 sts]

Rounds 16-17 Dc in each st around.

Round 18 2dc in next st, 8dc. [10 sts]

Rounds 19-20 Dc in each dc around.

Round 21 2dc in next st, 9dc. [11 sts]

Rounds 22-23 Dc in each dc around.

Round 24 2dc in next st, 10dc. [12 sts]

Rounds 25-32 Dc in each dc around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

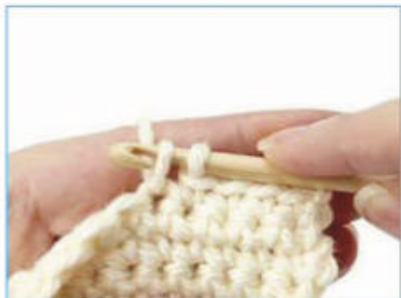
Insert a pipe cleaner into the tail and then stuff with toy stuffing.

Use the long tail of yarn to sew the Tail to the bottom of the Body.

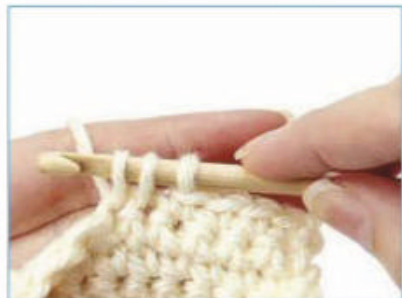


Make sure your amigurumi otters join hands so they don't float apart at naptime

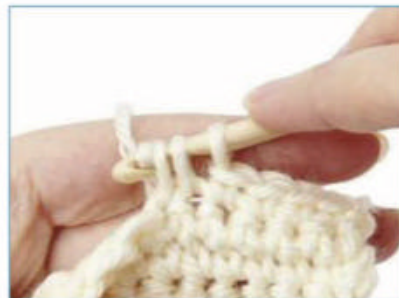
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO DECREASE IN DOUBLE CROCHET (DC2TOG)



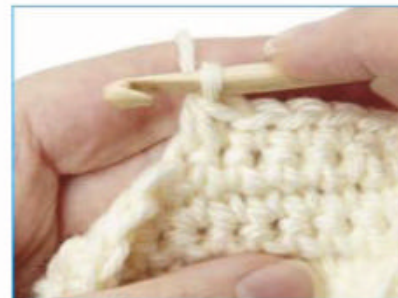
1 Start by inserting the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch on the previous row. Begin to work a double crochet stitch in the usual way, working yrh and pull loop through (2 loops on hook).



2 Without finishing the first dc, begin the next dc by inserting the hook in the next stitch on the previous row. Again, work yrh and pull loop through (3 loops on hook).



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



4 This is how your completed dc2tog should look. You will have neatly decreased one stitch. On subsequent rows, you can simply work a stitch into the top of the dc2tog stitch as usual.



SILLY SAUSAGE

Meet Frank, the most adorable rainbow pooch the world has ever seen, designed by Becky Garratt



YOU WILL NEED

- Robin DK
(100% acrylic, 100g/300m)
1 ball of each:
Silver (27)
Red (42)
Bright Turquoise (281)
Fiesta (64)
Sweet Pea (147)
Purple (17)
Sunflower (75)
Jaffa (63)
Cordial (162)
OR oddments of DK yarn from
your stash
 - An oddment of black DK yarn
 - A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
 - Toy stuffing
- For yarn stockists contact**
TB Ramsden 01943 872264
www.tbramsden.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect
yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Dog measures approx 33cm (13in)
long x 14cm (5½in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of
Simply Crochet magazine

Amigurumi that's so cute it hurts? We're not even sorry. Look at his sweet puppy face. His name is Frank (short for Frankfurter), and he's one fine stash-busting, Technicolor dream dog. How could anyone resist that pointy snout and those stubby little legs? Simply gather together all of your DK-weight yarn leftovers, or pick some new colours that you love to match our design here, and work double crochet stitches in a spiral to make Becky Garratt's rainbow Dachshund. The best thing about using up odd yarns is that your colourful hound will be totally unique. Of course, you could hook him in just one colour, but we don't think he'd look quite so adorable without his multicoloured dream coat...

NOTES

The Dog is worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to mark the first st of each round, moving the marker up as you work. Silver is used for the pads of the feet, and a dark colour is used for the nose. All the remaining colours are used at random for the rest of the Dog.

HEAD

Using a dark colour or black for the first 2 rounds to make a nose.

Make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 4dc into the ring, ss to the first dc to join. [4 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each stitch. [8 sts]

Round 3 Dc in each st around.

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

Round 5 As Round 3.

Round 6 2dc, 2dc in each of next 5 sts, 3dc. [15 sts]

Round 7 As Round 3.

Round 8 4dc, 2dc in each of next 8 sts, 3dc. [23 sts]

Round 9 As Round 3.

Round 10 7dc, 2dc in each of next 12 sts, 4dc. [35 sts]

Rounds 11-17 As Round 3.

Round 18 (5dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [30 sts]

Round 19 (4dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [25 sts]

Round 20 (3dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [20 sts]

Round 21 (2dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [15 sts]

Stuff the Head.

Round 22 (Dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]

Round 23 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]

Fasten off.

NECK

Ch31, ss to the first ch to join, being careful not to twist.

Rounds 1-4 Dc in each st around. **Fasten off.** [33 sts]



Use colours in the order of your choice so the stripe pattern is a one-off masterpiece

BODY

Make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 5dc into the ring. [5 sts]

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

Round 3 (Dc, 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]

Rounds 8-52 Dc in each st around.

Round 53 (5dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [30 sts]

Round 54 (4dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [25 sts]

Round 55 (3dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [20 sts]

Round 56 (2dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [15 sts]

Stuff the Body.

Round 57 (Dc, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]

Round 58 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]

Fasten off.

LEGS (MAKE 4)

Work Rounds 1-4 in Silver, then change to random colours as before.

Ch4.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in next ch, 3dc in the last ch, turn to work along other side of the foundation chain, dc in next ch, 2dc in the last ch. [8 sts]

Round 2 2dc in the first st, dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in the last st. [12 sts]

Round 3 2dc in the first st, dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in the next st, dc in next st, 2dc in the next st, dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in the last st. [16 sts]

Round 4 Dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in the next st, dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in the next st, dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in last st. [20 sts]

Round 5 Dc in bl only of each st around.

Round 6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 Dc in next 5 sts, (dc2tog) 5 times, dc in next 5 sts. [15 sts]

Rounds 8-12 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

For 2 of the Legs, rejoin the yarn into the front centre stitch.

For the other 2 Legs, rejoin the yarn into the back centre stitch.

Continue working back and forth in rows:

Rows 13-15 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 8dc, turn. [8 sts]

Row 16 Ch1, skip first st, 7dc, turn. [7 sts]

Row 17 Ch1, skip first st, 6dc, turn. [6 sts]

Row 18 Ch1, skip first st, 5dc, turn. [5 sts]

Fasten off.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Ch11.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in the second ch from hook and in each following ch to end, turn. [10 sts]

Rows 2-3 Ch1, 10dc, turn.

Row 4 2dc in each of the first 2 sts, 6dc, 2dc in each of the last 2 sts, turn. [14 sts]

Rows 5-6 Ch1, 14dc, turn.

Row 7 Ch1, skip the first st, dc in each st to end, turn. [13 sts]

Repeat the last row a further 10 times. [3 sts]

Fasten off.

TAIL

Ch2.

Round 1 (RS) 3dc in second ch from hook and continue to work in the round. [3 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each st. [6 sts]

Rounds 3-4 Dc in each st.

Round 5 2dc, 2dc in the next st, 3dc. [7 sts]

Round 6 3dc, 2dc in the next st, 3dc. [8 sts]

Round 7 3dc, 2dc in the next st, 4dc. [9 sts]

Round 8 4dc, 2dc in the next st, 4dc. [10 sts]

Round 9 Dc in each st.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Stuff the Legs and pin to the Body to make sure the Dog stands correctly, positioning the 'flaps' at the top of the Legs on the outside of the Body. Sew in place.

Stuff the Tail and sew to the Body.

Use black yarn to sew the eyes onto the Head, using the photo above as a guide. Sew the Ears to the Head.

Position the Head inside the neck 'ring', so that it will be at the correct angle once the base of the neck is sewn to the Body.

Sew the Head to the neck at the top, then stuff the neck and sew it to the Body.



Use Silver for the pads of the feet; the legs are wider at the base so the dog can stand



It's a good idea to use a darker shade for the tip of the snout

Coy koi

Hook this fishy friend by Hannah Cross
as the perfect lifeguard for your keys





YOU WILL NEED

- King Cole Cottonsoft DK (100% cotton, 100g/210m)
1 ball of each:
Coral (1574)
Black (746)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- A plastic ring, 3cm diameter
- Toy stuffing
- A key ring and clip

For yarn stockists contact
King Cole 01756 703670
www.kingcole.com

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Fish measures approx 12cm (4¾in) long

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Go underwater for your next project with this dinky keyring. It's a great stashbuster, too, as you only need small amounts of yarn.

NOTES

The Fish is worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it useful to mark the first st of the round, moving the marker up as you work.

FISH BODY

Using Coral, ch8, ss to first ch to form a ring.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each ch around. [8 sts]

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

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

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

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

Round 6 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 7 sts) twice. [18 sts]

Round 7 (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 8 sts) twice. [20 sts]

Rounds 8-10 Dc in each st around.

Round 11 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [16 sts]

Round 12 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [12 sts]

Rounds 13-16 Dc in each st around.

Round 17 (Dc2tog) around. [6 sts]

Round 18 Dc in each st around.

Round 19 (Dc2tog) around. [3 sts]

Fasten off, leaving long tail. Use tail to sew up end of Round 19.

Stuff the Body through the mouth.

EYES (MAKE 2)

Using Coral, ch2.

Round 1 (RS) 4dc in second ch from hook, ss to first dc. **Fasten off** and add a French knot in Black in the centre of each Eye.

Sew each Eye in place on the Body.

SIDE FINS (MAKE 2)

Using Coral, ch2.

Row 1 (2tr, 2dtr, ttr, 2dtr, 2tr) in second ch from hook. **Fasten off**.

Sew in place on sides of Body.

TOP FIN

Using Coral, ch6.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, dc in next ch, ss in next ch.

Fasten off, leaving long tail. Use tail to sew in place on top of Body.

MAIN TAIL

Using Coral, ch12.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in fourth ch from hook, dc in each of next 6 ch, ss in each of last 2 ch, turn.



Attach the fish to a key ring, or a bag zip and take this cute little koi wherever you go

[7 dc, 2 ss].

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), skip each of next 2 ss, dc in each of next 4 sts, ss in next st, turn, leaving rem sts unworked. [4 dc, 1 ss]

Row 3 Skip ss, dc in each of next 3 sts, ss in next st, turn. [3 dc, 1 ss]

Row 4 Skip ss, dc in each of next 2 sts, ss in next st. **Fasten off**. [2 dc, 1 ss]

With RS facing, rotate work so that foundation ch is at the top. Rejoin Coral to opposite side of foundation ch (top right corner), to work mirror image:

Row 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), skip both ss, dc in each of next 4 sts, ss in next st, turn. [4 dc, 1 ss]

Row 2 Skip ss, dc in each of 3 sts, ss in next st, turn. [3 dc, 1 ss]

Row 3 Skip ss, dc in each of next 2 sts, ss in next st. **Fasten off**. [2 dc, 1 ss]

Sew in place at centre back of Body.

SIDE TAILS (MAKE 2)

Using Coral, ch7.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in fourth ch from hook, dc in each of next 2 ch, ss in last ch, turn. [3 dc, 1 ss]

Row 2 Skip ss, dc in each of next 2 sts, ss in next st, turn. [2 dc, 1 ss]

Row 3 Skip ss, dc in next st, ss in next st. [1 dc, 1 ss]

Fasten off.

With RS facing, rotate work so that foundation ch is at the top. Rejoin Coral to opposite side of foundation ch (top-right corner), to work mirror image:

Row 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each of next 2 sts, ss in next st, turn. [2 dc, 1 ss]

Row 2 Skip ss, dc in next st, ss in next st. [1 dc, 1 ss]

Fasten off, leaving long tail. Use tail to sew in place at sides of Main Tail.

TO FINISH

Using Black, place a slipknot on crochet hook and join to plastic ring with ss, ch1 (does not count as st), 22dc around the plastic ring, ss to first dc to join.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Sew yarn end into mouth and back to ring again.

Gelato girl

Ilaria Caliri's super-sweet ice cream cutie will melt your hooky heart





YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Essentials Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/130m)
1 ball of each:
Yarn A Beige (91)
Yarn B Jade Green (47)
Yarn C White (80)
Yarn D Lotus (57)
Yarn E Fuchsia (14)
Yarn F Gold (26)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- White tulle fabric, 7x50cm
- 2 safety eyes, approx 8mm diameter
- 2 small buttons
- Sewing pins
- Brown seed beads
- Tapestry needle
- Stitch markers
- Toy stuffing

For yarn stockists contact
Rico Design
www.rico-design.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Doll measures approx 27cm (10½in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

reverse dc Work a dc in each st, moving in the opposite direction, so that if you are right-handed each st will be on the right of prev st

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

With her minty choc chip frills, candy pink hair and adorable cone hat, Ilaria's summer doll is already a fave. She's all set to join your beach party and help you and your friends polish off a feast of ice cream treats!

NOTES

The Body and Head are worked as one piece starting from the bottom of the Body. All the other pieces are sewn to the Body.

BODY AND HEAD

With Yarn A, 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 (2dc in next st, dc) 6 times. [18 sts]

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

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

Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Rounds 7-12 Dc in each dc around.

Round 13 (Dc2tog, 4dc) 3 times, 18dc. [33 sts]

Round 14 (Dc2tog, 3dc) 3 times, 18dc. [30 sts]

Round 15 Dc in each dc around.

Round 16 (Dc2tog, 3dc) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 17 Dc in each dc around.

Round 18 (Dc2tog, 2dc) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 19 Dc in each dc around.

Round 20 (Dc2tog, dc) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 21 Dc in each dc around, do not fasten off.

Stuff the Body.

HEAD

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

Round 23 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 24 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 25 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 26 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 27 (2dc in next st, 6dc) 6 times. [48 sts]

Rounds 28-34 Dc in each dc around.

Round 35 (6dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 36 (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 37 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 38 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Secure eyes between Rounds 29 and 30, approx 11 sts apart.

Stuff Head with toy stuffing and continue stuffing as you go.

Round 39 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 40 (Dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 41 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

With Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 sts]

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

Rounds 3-12 Dc in each dc around.

Round 13 Dc2tog, 8dc. [9 sts]

Round 14 Dc2tog, 7dc. [8 sts]

Round 15 Dc2tog, 6dc. [7 sts]



The doll's flouncy dress fastens neatly at the back with two tiny cherry-red buttons

Stuff the Arms.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing and sew the Arms to the Body.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

With Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 sts]

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

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

Rounds 4-5 Dc in each dc.

Round 6 (Tr2tog) 3 times to shape the foot, 9dc. [12 sts]

Rounds 7-17 Dc in each dc around.

Round 18 (Dc2tog, 4dc) twice. [10 sts]

Rounds 19-27 Dc in each dc around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Stuff. Sew the Legs to the bottom of the Body.

HAIR CAP

With Yarn D, 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 (2dc in next st, dc) 6 times. [18 sts]

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

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

Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 7 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]

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

Rounds 9-15 Dc in each dc around. [48]

Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing.

HAIR

The Hair Cap is used as a base for securing the Hair. To make strands of Hair, cut a 20cm piece of adhesive tape and fix it to your work surface sticky side up. Using equal amounts of Yarns D and E, cut lengths measuring approx 30cm. Place the centre of each yarn piece at right angles to the adhesive tape, positioning them close tog and alternating randomly Yarns D and E. Cover 14cm of the tape, then remove it from the work surface. Split a strand of Yarn D, taking 1 fine strand to use as sewing thread. With a needle and this thread, sew along the 14cm with

backstitches, then remove the tape from the yarn. Repeat this process once more so you have 2 pieces of Hair. Use sewing pins to fix these two Hair pieces to the Hair Cap. Place the first one at the front with the stitching line in the position of the centre parting. Place the second one to cover the back of the Head. Sew each piece in place with small sts along the previous stitching line. Divide Hair into two ponytails and tie each with Yarn C. Then sew the Hair Cap onto the Head.

HAIRBAND

With Yarn C, ch27, leaving a long starting tail for sewing.

Row 1 (RS) Skip the first ch, 4ss, 3dc, 12htr, 3dc, 4ss, cont on the other side of foundation ch to match the existing sts: 4ss, 3dc, 12htr, 3dc, 4ss.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Pin the Hairband on the Head and sew with a single st at each end.

CONE HAT

With Yarn F, make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 2dc in next st, 3dc. [5 sts]

Round 3 2dc in next st, 4dc. [6 sts]

Round 4 2dc in next st, 5dc. [7 sts]

Round 5 2dc in next st, 6dc. [8 sts]

Round 6 (2dc in next st, 3dc) twice. [10 sts]

Round 7 (2dc in next st, 4dc) twice. [12 sts]

Round 8 (2dc in next st, 5dc) twice. [14 sts]

Round 9 (2dc in next st, 6dc) twice. [16 sts]

Round 10 (2dc in next st, 7dc) twice. [18 sts]

Round 11 (2dc in next st, 8dc) twice. [20 sts]

Round 12 (2dc in next st, 9dc) twice. [22 sts]

Round 13 (2dc in next st, 10dc) twice. [24 sts]

Round 14 Reverse dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Stuff and sew the Hat to Head.

SANDALS (MAKE 2)

SOLE

With Yarn F, 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 (2dc in next st, dc) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 4 Ss in each dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

UPPER

With Yarn B, ch28.

Take the Sole with WS facing and cont working in the front loops only of the ss from the last round: dc, 1htr, 3tr2tog, 1htr, dc. Leave the rem sts unworked and ch28.

Fasten off and put the Sandals on the Doll, crossing the shoelaces behind the heels and making a bow at the front.



Sew beads to the doll's dress to make the bodice extra special

DRESS

With Yarn B, ch25.

Row 1 (RS) Skip first ch, 8dc, ch8, count back 5 dc and ss in fifth dc to create a strap for the Dress, ss back along each ch of the strap, cont on foundation ch with 13dc, ch8, ss in fifth dc back to make second strap, ss back along each ch of the strap, cont on foundation ch with 3dc, ch6, ss into the side of last dc worked (the row end – this ch forms first buttonhole loop).

[24 dc, 2 straps and a ch-6 buttonhole loop] Rotate the piece and cont to work on the other side of the ch.

Row 2 (RS) Ch3 (counts as an increase st, so work next st in st at base of this ch), (3tr, 2tr in the next st) 5 times, 4tr, turn. [30 sts]

Row 3 (WS) Ch3 (counts as an increase st), (4tr, 2tr in the next st) 5 times, 5tr, ch6, ss into the side of the last tr worked (this is the second buttonhole), turn. [36 sts]

Row 4 Ch3 (counts as an increase st), (5tr, 2tr in the next st) 5 times, 6tr, turn. [42 sts]

Row 5 Ch3 (counts as st), working in front loops only: 2tr in st at base of ch, 3tr in each st across. **Fasten off.**

Row 6 Turn and join Yarn C with RS facing in first st, ready to work in rem back loops of Row 4. Ch3 (counts as an increase st), (6tr, 2tr in the next st) 5 times, 7tr, turn. [48 sts]

Row 7 Ch3 (counts as st), 2tr in st at base of ch, 3tr in each st across.

Fasten off, leaving an extra-long tail for gathering the tulle and sewing to the Dress. Sew the buttons to the opposite row end from the buttonholes.

TO FINISH DRESS

Fold tulle fabric in half lengthwise and with a tapestry needle and tail of Yarn C, make long sts all along the fold. Pull yarn to gather fabric until it is the same size as the edge of the Dress (approx 25cm). With the same yarn, sew tulle to inside of Dress along hem, level with top of the white rows, so that it shows approx 1cm below bottom of the Dress. Sew approx 30 seed beads to the Dress front, splitting a strand of Yarn B to use as sewing thread, and using the image as a guide. Put the Dress on the Doll.

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LITTLE RASCAL

With his lopsided ears and cheery smile,
Liz Ward's pooch is seriously cute

FLOPPY-EARED PUPPY



YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Cahlista (100% cotton, 50g/85m)
- 2 balls of **Yarn A** Ginger Gold (383)
- 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn B** English Tea (404)
 - Yarn C** Snow White (106)
 - Yarn D** Petrol Blue (400)
- A 3.5mm (US F/5) hook
- 2 safety eyes, approx 15mm diameter
- Toy stuffing
- Brown and black stranded cotton
- Felt in blue, brown and yellow
- Fabric glue
- Red ribbon
- For yarn stockists contact **Scheepjes**
www.scheepjes.com/en

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Dog measures approx 20x18x15cm (8x7x6in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Designer Liz Ward says the inspiration for this toy came from her sister's dog. "I wanted my amigurumi puppy to have the same big paws, big eyes and floppy ears," she says. You can personalise your pup with different collar colours, or embroider his name on his dog tag for an extra-special bit of detail.

NOTES

The Head and Body are worked together as one piece. The Bone is made by making two circles and joining them to create each half of the finished Bone shape. Parts of this pattern are worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to mark the first st of the round, moving the marker up as you work.

LEGS (MAKE 4)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

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

Round 3 Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, 3htr in next st, htr in next 2 sts, 3htr in next st, dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in last st. [18 sts]

Round 4 Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts, htr in next st, 2htr in next st, htr in each of next 4 sts, 2htr in next st, htr in next st, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts. [22 sts]

Round 5 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 8 sts, 3htr in next st, htr in each of next 5 sts, 3htr in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts. [27 sts]

Round 6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 Dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in each of next 8 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts. [24 sts]

Round 8 Dc in each of next 11 sts, htr3tog, htr in each of next 3 sts, htr3tog, dc in each of last 4 sts. [20 sts]

Round 9 Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog, dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts. [16 sts]

Round 10 Dc in each of next 8 sts, dc2tog, dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts. [14 sts]

Round 11 Dc in each st around.

Round 12 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st. [13 sts]

Rounds 13-23 Rep Rounds 11-12 another 5 times. [8 sts after Round 23]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Stuff firmly with toy filling. Use the yarn tail to close the hole at the top of the Leg.

Using the image as a guide, cut paw pads out of brown felt and stick in place onto the base of the foot. Use brown stranded cotton to sew the detail on the paws. Anchor the thread to the base of the foot by sewing a few small stitches. Use the image as a guide to work long stitches, 1cm apart, 3 times over the paw to create the pads (pull the thread



Finish off the puppy's little bone with a short length of brightly coloured ribbon

really tight as you do this, so it shapes the paw). Secure thread as before to keep paw shape in place, then weave in and cut off any loose ends.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 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 each st around.

Round 5 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]

Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.

Rounds 10-27 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st. [12 sts at end of Round 27]

Fasten off and leave to one side until the Head and Body have been made.

EYE PATCH

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 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 each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, 2htr in next st, tr in each of next 2 sts, 2htr in next st, htr in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, ss to first dc to join. [22 sts]

Fasten off. Insert a toy safety eye through the centre (do not fix washer yet) and leave to one side until the Head and Body have been created.

MUZZLE

Using Yarn A, ch5.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each of next 2 ch, 3dc in last ch, turn and work along the opposite side of ch, dc in each of next 2 ch, 2dc in last ch. [10 sts]

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

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

Round 4 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [25 sts]

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

Rounds 6-9 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off and leave to one side until the Head and Body have been created.

HEAD AND BODY

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop

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

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

Round 6 (Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [33 sts]

Round 7 (Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]

Round 8 (Dc in each of next 11 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [39 sts]

Round 9 (Dc in each of next 12 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [42 sts]

Round 10 (Dc in each of next 13 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [45 sts]

Round 11 (Dc in each of next 14 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [48 sts]

Round 12 (Dc in each of next 15 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [51 sts]

Round 13 (Dc in each of next 16 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [54 sts]

Place 2 stitch markers on the next row, 15 sts apart, to mark where you will put the toy eyes.

Rounds 14-15 Dc in each st around.

Round 16 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 7 sts) 6 times. [48 sts]

Round 17 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 18 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 19 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 20 (Dc2tog) 15 times. [15 sts]

Put your working loop on a stitch holder and fix the toy safety eyes to your Head in the sts marked on Round 14 (one of the eyes will have the Eye Patch on it).

Stuff the Head. Put your working loop back onto your hook and continue:

Round 21 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in the next st) 3 times. [18 sts]

Round 22 Dc in each st around.

Round 23 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in the next st) 3 times. [21 sts]

Round 24 Dc in each st around.

Round 25 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in the next st) 3 times. [24 sts]

Round 26 Dc in each st around.

Round 27 (Dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in the

next st) 3 times. [27 sts]

Round 28 Dc in each st around.

Round 29 (Dc in each of next 8 sts, 2dc in the next st) 3 times. [30 sts]

Round 30 Dc in each st around.

Round 31 (Dc in next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [33 sts]

Round 32 Dc in each st around.

Round 33 (Dc in next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]

Round 34 Dc in each st around.

Round 35 (Dc2tog, dc in next 10 sts) 3 times. [33 sts]

Round 36 (Dc2tog, dc in next 9 sts) 3 times. [30 sts]

Round 37 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 38 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 2 sts) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 39 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]

Stuff firmly.

Round 40 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Sew the hole closed at base of Body.

Use the image as a guide to sew the Muzzle in place between the eyes, stuffing the Muzzle as you go. Weave in ends and trim.

TAIL

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]

Round 2 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [9 sts]

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

Rounds 4-6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 Dc2tog, dc in each remaining st. [11 sts]

Round 8 Dc in each st around.

Rounds 9-14 Rep Rounds 7-8 another 3 times. [8 sts after Round 14]

Rounds 15-21 Dc in each st around.

Stuff firmly and sew onto back of Body.

COLLAR

Using Yarn D, ch5.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [4 sts]

Rows 2-16 Ch1, dc in each stitch to end, ch42. [4 sts and 42 ch]

Fasten off and sew in place round the neck.

TO FINISH

Pin Legs in place so the Puppy is in a sitting position. When you are happy with the arrangement sew firmly in place. Sew Ears onto Head using the image as a guide for positioning. Sew the Eye Patch down onto the Head. Weave in ends and trim. Using the image as a guide, cut a nose out of brown felt and glue in place. Use black stranded cotton and long stitches to create the mouth. Using



Arrange the legs so that the puppy sits up, then sew them securely in position

the image as a guide, cut the collar tag out of felt and glue in place.

BONE (MAKE 2)

CIRCLE 1

Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.

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

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

Rounds 3-5 Dc in each st around. [12 sts] Ss in next st. **Fasten off**.

CIRCLE 2

Work as given for Circle 1 to the end of Round 5. Do not ss in next st or fasten off.

JOIN CIRCLES

Round 1 (RS) Dc in each of 12 sts of Circle 2, then dc in each of 12 sts of Circle 1. [24 sts]

Round 2 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 6 sts) 3 times. [21 sts]

Round 3 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts) 3 times. [18 sts]

Round 4 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts) 3 times. [15 sts]

Round 5 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts) 3 times. [12 sts]

Rounds 6-16 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off and stuff firmly.

Make second half of Bone then sew each end of Bone together to create the full Bone. Tie a piece of red ribbon around the join.



BEST OF BESTIES

Make Becky Garratt's menagerie of super-cute customisable critters



YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Paris
(100% cotton, 50g/75m)
1 ball of each:
Yarn A Light Pink (57)
Yarn B Light Ice Blue (29)
Yarn C Light Mint Green (21)
2 balls of each:
Yarn D Light Grey (23)
Yarn E Dark Beige (26)
3 balls of **Yarn F** Off White (17)
- Small amount of black DK cotton
- Toy stuffing
- Buttons
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- For yarn stockists contact**
Wool Warehouse 01926 882818
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Each Doll measures approx 32cm (12½in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Make all three of these utterly charming amigos, or mix and match the dress and features that you like best to create a lovable cat, bunny or bear with the prettiest pastels in a soft cotton yarn.

NOTES

The Body Front is worked directly onto the Head in rows and then the Legs are worked directly onto the Body. The process is repeated for the Back of the Doll and the 2 pieces are stuffed and sewn together.

DOLL BACK/FRONT (MAKE 2 PER DOLL) HEAD

Using a 4mm hook and Yarn D, E or F, ch7.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook and next 4 ch, 3dc in last ch, turn to work along the other side of the ch, dc in next 4 ch, 2dc in last ch. [14 sts]

Round 2 Dc in next 5 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc. [17 sts]

Round 3 2dc in next dc, dc in next 5 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next dc. [21 sts]

Round 4 *2dc in next dc, dc in next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 3 dc; rep from * omitting last dc. [25 sts]

Round 5 Dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 7 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 7 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc. [29 sts]

Round 6 Dc in next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 8 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 5 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 8 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc. [33 sts]

Round 7 Dc in next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 9 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 9 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc. [37 sts]

Round 8 Dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 10 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 7 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 10 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc. [41 sts]

Round 9 Dc in next 5 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 11 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 8 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 11 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc. [45 sts]

Round 10 Dc in next 6 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 12 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 9 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 12 dc, 2dc in next dc, dc in next 2 dc. [49 sts]

BODY

The Body is worked directly onto the Head working in rows.

Row 1 (RS) Ss to next 12 dc, ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in next 4 dc, turn. [4 sts]

Row 2 (WS) Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn. [4 sts]

Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, dc in next 2 dc,



Made in toning pastel shades, these three look like they belong together forever

2dc in last dc, turn. [6 sts]

Row 4 Ch1, 2dc in first 2 dc, dc in next 2 dc, 2dc into last 2 dc, turn. [10 sts]

Rows 5 and 6 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn. [10 sts]

Row 7 Ch1, 2dc in first dc, dc in next 8 dc, 2dc into last dc, turn. [12 sts]

Rows 8-22 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn, do not fasten off. [12 sts]

FIRST LEG

Both Legs are worked directly onto the Body working in rows.

Row 1 Ss to first 3 dc, ch1, dc in same dc and each of next 2 dc, turn. [3 sts]

Rows 2-20 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn. [3 sts]

Row 21 Ch1, dc in first dc, tr in next dc, dc in last dc. **Fasten off.** [3 sts]

SECOND LEG

Row 1 Skip next 3 dc of Row 22 of Body, join yarn in next dc with a ss, ch1, dc in same dc and each of next 2 dc, turn. [3 sts]

Rows 2-21 Rep Rows 2-21 of first Leg. **Fasten off.**

ARMS (MAKE 4 PER DOLL)

Using a 4mm hook and Yarn D, E or F, ch4.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook and next 2 ch, turn. [3 sts]

Rows 2-15 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn. [3 sts]

Row 16 Ch1, dc in first dc, tr in next dc, dc in last dc. **Fasten off.** [3 sts]

Seam two pieces together for each Arm and add Doll stuffing.

CAT EARS (MAKE 4)

Using a 4mm hook and Yarn D, ch5.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook and next 3 ch, turn [4 sts]

Rows 2-3 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn. [4 sts]

Rows 4-6 Ch1, skip first dc, dc in each dc across, turn. [1 st at end of Row 6]

Fasten off.

Seam two pieces together for each Ear.

BUNNY EARS (MAKE 2)

Using a 4mm hook and Yarn F, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch1, 4dc in loop, turn. [4 sts]

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

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

Rounds 4-10 Dc in each dc around. [12 sts]

Round 11 (Dc in next dc, dc2tog) 4 times. [8 sts]

Round 12 Dc in each dc around. [8 sts]

Fasten off.

Pinch together the base of the Ears to create a crease and use the tail end of yarn to stitch into place.

BEAR EARS (MAKE 2)

Using a 4mm hook and Yarn E, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch1, 5dc in loop, turn. [5 sts]

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

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

Round 4 (1dc in next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc) 5 times. **Fasten off.** [20 sts]

CHEEKS (MAKE 2 PER DOLL)

Using a 5mm hook and Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch1, 4dc in loop, turn. [4 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each dc around, ss to next st. [8 sts]

Fasten off.

TO FINISH DOLL

Using the image as a guide, embroider a face onto the Doll using black cotton. Sew the Cheeks onto the face using Yarn A. Sew the two Body pieces together using matching yarn, placing the Ears and Arms in as you go round and adding a little stuffing.

DRESS BACK/FRONT (MAKE 2 PER DOLL)

For a striped Dress, start with Yarn A and alternate between Yarns A and F every 2 rows. Using a 4mm hook and Yarn B, C or A, ch17.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and each ch across, turn [16 sts]

Rows 2-18 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn. [16 sts]

If adding pocket, replace Row 9 with the following row, then continue with Rows 10-18.

Row 9 for pocket Ch1, dc in first 5 dc, dc in back loop only of next 6 dc, dc in next 5 dc, turn. [16 sts]

Row 19 Ch1, skip first dc, dc in next 13 dc,

dc2tog, turn. [14 sts]

Row 20 Ch1, skip first dc, dc in next 5 dc, dc2tog, dc in next 4 dc, dc2tog, turn. [11 sts]

Rows 21 and 22 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn, do not fasten off. [11 sts]

STRAPS (MAKE 2)

Work Straps on just the Front or Back piece of Dress. If working striped Dress, use Yarn A only.

Rows 1-6 Ch1, dc in next 2 dc, turn. [2 sts]

Fasten off.

Rejoin yarn with RS facing to work in last 2 sts at top of Dress and repeat Rows 1-6 for the other Strap. **Fasten off.**

TOP FRILL

Using a 4mm hook and Yarn F, ch13.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [12 sts]

Row 2 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch, ss to next dc, (3tr in next dc, ss in next dc) 5 times.

Fasten off.

Pin onto neckline of Dress and sew to secure.

BOTTOM FRILL (MAKE 2)

Using a 4mm hook and Yarn F, ch17.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and each ch across, turn [16 sts]

Row 2 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch, ss to next dc, (3tr in next dc, ss in next dc) 7 times.

Fasten off.

Pin onto hemline of Front and Back of Dress and sew to secure.

POCKET

With RS of Dress facing, join Yarn F with a ss in first free front loop of Row 8 of Dress.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in same loop, dc in each of next 5 front loops, turn. [6 sts]

Rows 2-6 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn.

Fasten off.

Sew sides of the pocket to the Dress evenly.

TO FINISH DRESS

Sew the side seams of the Front and Back Dress pieces together, leaving Armholes on the decrease rows.

Sew the Straps to the corresponding sts on the opposite side.

Add buttons to the Dress using the photo as a guide. Place the finished Dress onto Doll. Using image as a guide, add frills and pocket.



The legs are worked directly onto the body in rows, then seamed together later



Add a bit of personality to your dolls with blushing cheeks and oh-so sleepy eyes

"I began to make more toys, first for my son, then as gifts, and then I was selling them"



LIVING CROCHET

Yan Schenkel has a penchant for creating the most characterful quirky creatures

Crochet has always been part of Yan Schenkel's landscape, although it's only been part of her own arsenal since her oldest child started kindergarten a few years ago. "Here in Argentina we have a week for 'adaptation', while the children get used to attending school and the mothers wait outside," Yan explains. "While I was waiting I tried reading, but the other mothers interrupted me. Crochet seemed like the best alternative – portable, easy to put away when someone wanted to chat."

Crochet had been a familiar sight through Yan's childhood, "my mother used to crochet edgings for towels. I didn't like it so much then – for me, it looked like old lady stuff!"

Happily, Yan has since rediscovered the craft and realised the possibilities it has for creating original and wonderful mini works of art. "Soon I was crocheting every day!"

Then one afternoon, Yan was making a scarf for her son and realised she was about to run out of yarn. "He doesn't like cowls so I had a think about how to make this tiny scarf wearable. I crocheted a little bear with some leftover yarn and I used it as a button to fasten the scarf." What an ingenious idea!

"It was a really ugly-looking bear," Yan exclaims, "but everyone loved it, and I loved it, too! So I started looking online for advice on making three-dimensional crochet toys and I found amigurumi. I was so excited!"

A love of crocheting in the round meant that Yan soon had her basic template sorted. "I began to make more and more of these toys, first for my son, then for gifts, and in less than a year I was selling my toys at some nice design stores in Buenos Aires."

A NEW VENTURE

Before long, Yan had launched the website Pica Pau to showcase her menagerie, and was gaining a loyal following of fans. The decision to start selling the patterns for her crochet creations came about almost by accident. "When I started Pica Pau, I never thought crochet could become a way to make a living," she says.



At that time she was an Arts student and worked as a Portuguese teacher. "I had already published some free patterns on my blog, but never thought that I could sell them. Once that changed and Pica Pau turned into my full-time job, besides selling the finished toys, I discovered platforms like Etsy and Ravelry where a lot of people were selling their patterns, so I started publishing my own crochet patterns on Etsy."

It's unsurprising Yan's creations garnered affection so fast. There's something about their long limbs and spherical heads that gives them a bit of a vintage vibe. Ranging from bears to rabbits to monkeys and more, they're endearingly personality-packed, too.

CHARACTERS COMING TO LIFE

As she designs and crochets, Yan thinks hard about the character she is creating, and writes bios for many of them, which fuels the impression of them being independent creatures with lives, and dreams, of their own. For instance, Henry J. Fox (you'll find him over on page 32), is a professor of Medieval Literature at Oxford University, who loves walks in the park, reading *The Canterbury Tales* and going on adventures!

"I realised the design looked a lot like Henry Jones Sr, Sean Connery's character in the *Indiana Jones* movies," Yan explains. "Also, the character is a fox and any time I think of a fox I think of Michael J. Fox and the *Back to the Future* films. His bio turned out to be a crazy mixture of some of my favourite movie characters and actors!"

This kind of blended creation comes naturally to Yan, who says she's influenced by a wide range of cultural genres. Her first book, *El Mundo de Pica Pau* (Pica Pau World), came out in 2015, and includes design ideas sparked by a wide range of influences.

"I seek inspiration in my favourite movies, music, illustration, my daily activities as a mother and even my own family," she comments. "Federico bear, one of the

characters in Pica Pau World, is based on my grandfather. He was a German descendant, a reserved guy who loved classical music and sailing boats. Once I've decided on the personality, it's easy to write the bio."

AN EXPRESSIVE TOUCH

Now that creating and crocheting toys is a full-time job, Yan opts for other types of crochet to relax with, including "blankets and baskets."

Yan relishes the whole process of crocheting, "from shopping for yarns, choosing colours, textures, trying all sorts of different combinations and stitches, to writing new patterns and even teaching people how to crochet – now another big part of my job! For me, it's like I'm drawing my creatures with my hook, bringing them to life."

She admits to having needed to rethink a few creature designs over the time she's been making them. "Sometimes – more than I would like – ideas in my head are not so great when I try to crochet them, but I always learn something," she says. "I try not to throw them away and I write everything down because you never know when a mistake could help you to solve another crochet design problem."

"FOR ME, IT'S LIKE I'M DRAWING MY CREATURES WITH MY HOOK, BRINGING THEM TO LIFE"

When it comes to makers of her creations, she recommends, "Patience, as with any project! I don't think my patterns are too difficult (perhaps only the four-legged ones) because I make them as simple as I can."

The most important thing when it comes to giving your creatures life, she says, is to "dedicate some time to the face. Some

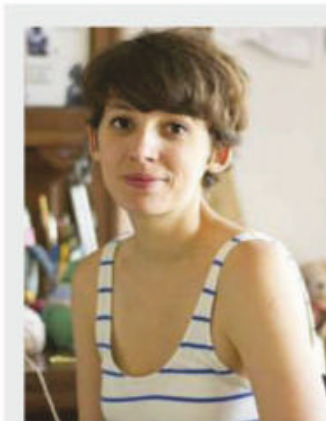
crocheters are so eager to finish the toy they forget to spend time making a nice expression on the creature – and that's crucial to the appeal of the finished toy."

Sewing up is another challenge that needs patience. "I think no one likes to sew little parts, but if you spend so much time crocheting, why not give the same effort to sewing the parts together?" Yan points out wisely.

Crocheting takes up the majority of Yan's time. "I'd love to write another book, so I'm designing new patterns and reworking some old ones. I enjoy collaborating with other artists and fortunately I have a few projects with some great people this year. I've also been working on the idea of setting up a craft store here in Argentina."

With so many ideas, such enthusiasm, and so much to plan and do, we think that Yan will forever keep us inspired.

Written by Judy Darley



A few of her favourite things

When Yan puts down her hook...

"On the rare occasions when I'm not crocheting, I love to knit. I don't have much free time and when I have, I try to be with my kids, although they are always around me when I'm crocheting. I also try to dedicate time to drawing, go out for walks or read one of the many books I have on my bucket list."

Find Yan Schenkel and her incredible crocheted creatures online at www.elmundodepicapau.com

Henry J. Fox

Yan Schenkel's distinguished gent is ready for a globe-trotting adventure





YOU WILL NEED

- Patons Diploma Gold DK (55% wool, 25% acrylic, 20% nylon, 50g/120m)
 - 2 balls of **Yarn A** Seville (6201)
 - 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn B** Cream (6142)
 - Yarn C** Apple Green (6125)
 - Yarn D** Gold (6200)
 - Yarn E** Black (6183)
 - A 2.75mm (US C/2) hook
 - Toy stuffing
 - 2 safety eyes, approx 8mm diameter
 - Stitch markers
 - Tapestry or yarn needle
- For yarn stockists contact**
Patons 01484 668200
www.knitpatons.com

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENT

Fox measures approx 27cm (10½in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

bobble stitch Tr5tog in the same st as follows: (Yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 5 times, inserting the hook in the same st each time, yrh and draw through all loops on hook

jacquard Working with 2 colours, work 1 st in first colour and the next st in second colour and continue alternating colours with each st

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

“Meet Henry J. Fox: Professor of Medieval Literature at Oxford University,” says designer Yan Schenkel. “He loves walks in the park, reading *The Canterbury Tales* and going on adventures.” We’d certainly sign up for an expedition with the Prof, with his shrewd but friendly demeanour! He’s crocheted almost in a single piece from head to toe and would make a perfect present for a well-travelled friend.

NOTES

Head, Body and Legs are worked in a single piece, in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to mark the first st of the round, moving the marker up as you work. Carry unused yarns across the WS. There are images to guide you on the following pages. Each image is marked in the pattern by a corresponding number.

SNOUT

Using Yarn E, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 8dc in to loop. [8 sts]

Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarns B and A. Change colour during the round. When you change, make sure you twist the working ends around one another to avoid a hole in the fabric. **01**

Round 4 4dc in Yarn B, 4dc in Yarn A.

Round 5 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn B, repeat () twice in Yarn A. [12 sts]

Round 6 6dc in Yarn B, 6dc in Yarn A.

Round 7 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 3 times in Yarn B, 3 times in Yarn A. [18 sts]

Round 8 9dc in Yarn B, 9dc in Yarn A.

Round 9 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times in Yarn B, 3 times in Yarn A. [24 sts]

Round 10 12dc in Yarn B, 12dc in Yarn A.

Round 11 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times in Yarn B, 3 times in Yarn A. [30 sts]

Round 12 15dc in Yarn B, 15dc in Yarn A.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Embroider the mouth with Yarn E using the images as a guide. Stuff the Snout.

HEAD

Head is worked from top down.

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc in 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 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 5 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 6 (Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 7 (Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6



Gather the bow tie across its middle and wrap yarn around tightly to pinch it in

times. [42 sts]

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

Round 9 (Dc in next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [54 sts]

Rounds 10-17 Dc in each st around. Change to Yarn B.

Rounds 18-20 Dc in each st around.

Round 21 (Dc in next 7 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [48 sts]

Round 22 (Dc in next 6 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 23 (Dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 24 (Dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]

Sew the Snout to the Head **02** and insert eyes, using the image as a guide.

Round 25 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 26 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 27 Dc in each st around. Stuff the Head firmly.

VEST

Change to Yarn C.

Round 28 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]

Change to Yarns B and C.

In the following row work in jacquard (see abbreviations) alternating colours with each st **03**:

Round 29 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 30 In Yarn C, dc in each st around.

Round 31 In jacquard, dc in each st around.

Rounds 32-35 Repeat the last 2 rows twice more.

Round 36 In Yarn C, dc in each st around.

Stuff the Body.

Change to Yarn A.

Round 37 Working in bl of each st only, dc in each st around.

Rounds 38-39 Dc in each st around.

DIVIDE THE LEGS

FIRST LEG

To divide the work to make two Legs, identify

the central stitch at the back of the Fox and place a stitch marker. **04** Dc in each st up to and including that marked st. There will be 15 sts on each Leg, and this marked st will be the 15th st of the First Leg. To join to first st of the Leg, count back from 15th st to find the first st which will be in the centre front. Now work a dc in first st, so that the sts of the First Leg are joined in the round.

Continue working the First Leg:

Rounds 40-62 Dc in each st around.

Stuff the Body and Leg firmly.

Round 63 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]

Round 64 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Using a tapestry needle, weave the yarn tail through the front loop of each rem st and pull tight to close.

SECOND LEG

Rejoin Yarn A to the next unworked st of Round 39, which will be the first st of the

Second Leg. **05**

Round 40 Dc in each st of the Second Leg, and when you reach the 15th st of the Leg, dc in first st to join into the round.

Rounds 41-62 Repeat Rounds 41-62 of First Leg.

Stuff the Leg firmly.

Rounds 63-64 Repeat Rounds 63-64 of First Leg.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail. Using a tapestry needle, weave the yarn tail through the front loop of each rem st and pull tight to close.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn E, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into loop. [5 sts]

Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn A.

Round 4 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]

Rounds 5-6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 5

times. [15 sts]

Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.

Round 10 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]

Rounds 11-12 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Do not stuff the Ears.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into loop. [5 sts]

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

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

Round 4 Dc in each st around.

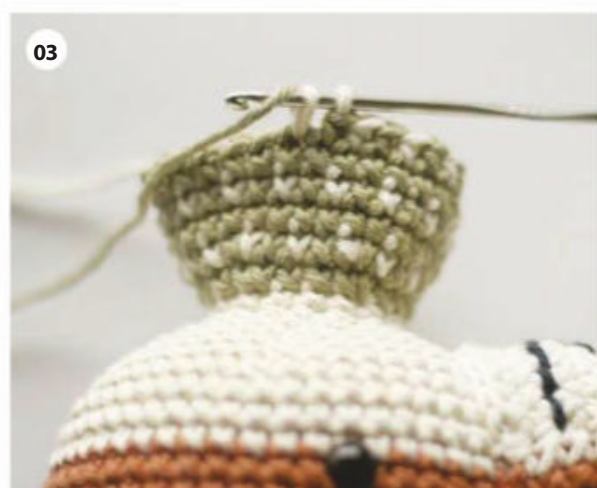
Round 5 Dc in next st, bobble st in next st, dc in next 13 sts. **06**

Round 6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]

Rounds 8-20 Dc in each st around.

Round 21 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 3 times, dc





Colour changes worked in a spiral will result in a jog; these jogs are hidden at the back

in last st. [7 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Stuff the Arm firmly.

TAIL

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into loop. [5 sts]

Round 2 Dc in each st around.

Round 3 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]

Round 4 Dc in each st around.

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

Round 6 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]

Round 7 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [25 sts]

Round 8 (Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [30 sts]

Round 9 (Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [35 sts]

Change to Yarn A.

Rounds 10-16 Dc in each st around.

Round 17 (Dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [30 sts]

Rounds 18-19 Dc in each st around.

Round 20 (Dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [25 sts]

Rounds 21-22 Dc in each st around.

Round 23 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [20 sts]

Rounds 24-25 Dc in each st around.

Round 26 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 5 times. [15 sts]

Rounds 27-28 Dc in each st around.

Round 29 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 5 times. [10 sts]

Round 30 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Stuff the Tail. **07**

BOW TIE

Using Yarn D, ch6.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc

When adding facial features and the bow tie, refer to the images for accuracy



in each ch to last ch, 3dc in the last ch, rotate to work on the other side of the foundation ch, dc in each st to last st, 2dc in last st.

[12 sts]

Rounds 2-5 Dc in each st around.

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

Round 7 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 8-12 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing. Do not stuff the Bowtie.

Using a tapestry needle, close the open end of the Bow Tie and wrap yarn around the centre of the tie to pinch it in the middle. **08**

Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Sew the Tail and the Arms to the Body. Sew the Ears to the Head. **09**

Position the Bow Tie and sew it to the front of the Body.

Perfect pretzel

Whip up Twinkie Chan's scrumptious salted snack using amigurumi spirals... it's a tasty accessory!



PRETZEL BROOCH



YOU WILL NEED

- Aran weight yarn in brown, approx 25m
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- White 5mm pompoms (you could also use white beads or small pieces of white felt)
- Fabric glue
- A brooch back
- 4-5 straight pins (optional)
- Stitch marker
- Sewing needle and thread

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Pretzel measures approx 12x8cm (4¾x3in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Crochet designer Twinkie Chan says:

“Looking for a quick, easy project to add some fun to your wardrobe? This pretzel brooch is great for crochet beginners as well as lovers of whimsical fashion. All you need is a little bit of yarn and some mini pompoms!” Getting the perfect salted pretzel twist is easy – just refer to the images at the bottom of the page. We love this delectable, calorie-free creation and are hankering to hook up a whole batch. All the beauty of a fresh bake and not a single soggy bottom in sight. Result!

NOTES

This pattern is worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to mark the first st of the round, moving the marker up as you work.

PRETZEL

Make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 dc]

Round 2 Dc in each dc around.

Repeat Round 2 until you have a tube that measures approx 43cm long, ss to the next st to join.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Using a tapestry needle and yarn tail, weave the tail through the remaining 5 sts and pull

to close the hole.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Fold each end of the tube toward the tube's centre to form a basic pretzel shape. **01**

Give the ends a twist and pin down to secure. **02**

Keep adjusting the shape with the pins until it's perfectly pretzel-y.

Using a sewing needle and thread, sew the Pretzel ends into place, as well as the twist at the centre.

Arrange the pompoms, beads or felt for your 'salt' and then glue them on firmly. **03**

When the fabric glue is dry, glue the brooch back onto the back of the Pretzel.



Robbie the robot

Sally Shepherd's cute and cuddly little robot is a wonderful retro toy





YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Special DK (100% acrylic, 100g/295m)
1 ball of each:
Turquoise (1068)
Stone (1710)
- A small amount of yellow and white DK yarn
- Brown DK yarn or stranded cotton
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- 2 safety eyes, 6mm diameter
- Toy stuffing

For yarn stockists contact
Stylecraft 01484 848435
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Robot measures approx 23cm (9in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Why not crochet a robot for a budding young engineer or mechanic? With a nod to the design of an old-fashioned petrol pump, our charming Robbie Robot character will quickly become a firm favourite with both boys and girls. Robbie is made using just double crochet stitches, so this is a great project for a confident beginner to attempt. Many of the pieces of the robot are made separately and joined together with a row of double crochet making a ridge between the panels, but if you prefer to sew the panels together you can simply overstretch them using a tapestry needle.

NOTES

The Robot is made in separate pieces and joined at the end. Parts of this pattern are worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to mark the first st of the round, moving the marker up as you work.

LARGE RECTANGLE (MAKE 4)

Make 3 for Head and 1 for base of Body.
Using Turquoise, ch14, turn.

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

Rows 2-8 Ch1 (does not count s st throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.
Fasten off.

NECK RECTANGLE

Using Turquoise, ch15, turn.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [14 sts]

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

Row 4 Ch1, dc in each of next 5 sts, ch4, skip next 4 sts, dc in each of next 5 sts, turn. [10 sts, 4 ch]

Row 5 Ch1, dc in each of next 5 sts, 4dc in



The ridged seams used to join the robot together give the impression of welded metal

ch-4 sp, dc in each of next 5 sts, turn. [14 sts]

Rows 6-7 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Fasten off.

HEAD SQUARE (MAKE 2)

Using Turquoise, ch8.

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

Rows 2-8 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.
Fasten off.

EYES (MAKE 2)

Using White, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each st around, ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off.** [12 sts]

BODY (MAKE 2)

Using Turquoise, ch15.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [14 sts]

Rows 2-24 Ch1 (not counted as st here and throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 25 Ch1, dc in next st, (dc2tog) twice, dc in each of next 4 sts, (dc2tog) twice, dc in next st. [10 sts]

Row 26 Ch1, dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts dc2tog, dc in next st. [8 sts]

Row 27 Ch1, dc in next st, (dc2tog) 3 times, dc in next st. **Fasten off.** [5 sts]

BODY SIDE STRIP

Using Turquoise, ch8.

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

Rows 2-58 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.
Fasten off.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using Turquoise, make a magic loop.

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

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

Rounds 3-4 Dc in each st around, changing to Stone on last yrh of last dc of Round 4.

Rounds 5-29 Dc into each st around.
Fasten off.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using Turquoise, make a magic loop.



Embroidery stitches add little details to the body

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 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 each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 5 Working in bl only, dc in each st around.

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

Round 7 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [18 sts]

Round 8 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [15 sts]

Round 9 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [12 sts]

Round 10 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. **Fasten off.** [9 sts]

PIPE

Using Stone, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 4dc into the loop. [4 sts]

Rounds 2-20 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

FRONT PLATE

Using Stone, ch12.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc into each ch to end, turn. (11 sts)

Rows 2-9 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. [11 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Yellow and work around the outside of the square as follows:

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc into each st around and in each corner work (dc, ch1, dc), ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off.**

GAUGE FOR FRONT PLATE

Using White, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc into the loop, turn. [6 sts]

Round 2 Ch1 (not counted as st here and throughout) dc in next st, 2dc in each of next 4 sts, dc in last st, turn. [10 sts]

Round 3 Ch1, (dc in next st, 2dc in next st) twice, dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next st. [14 sts]

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

For all seams, unless otherwise specified, place the two pieces with WS together and work a row of dc along the edge, working through both layers at the same time.

MAKE UP HEAD

Take one Large Rectangle Head piece and position Eyes onto it. Put the toy safety eyes through the centre of the Eyes and then through the blue Head Rectangle and fasten them on the WS of the blue Rectangle Head. Stitch the white Eyes in place.

Take another Large Rectangle Head and

place it behind the piece with the Eyes attached, with WS together. Join Turquoise yarn and work a row of dc along the top edge, working through both Rectangles. You will have a ridge of sts visible on the RS.

Take the Neck Rectangle and join it onto the other long edge of the Eye Piece in the same way. Take another Large Rectangle Head and join it to the other long edge of the Neck piece in the same way.

Attach the two Head Squares to the short edges of the Eye Piece in the same way as before. Work around the Head Squares, joining them to the short edges of the larger Rectangles to make an elongated cube shape. Use the Neck hole to stuff the Head.

Join the Stone yarn to the Neck gap and work 10 dc around the hole, working 6 rows of dc in a spiral then **fasten off.** Stuff the Neck.

MAKE UP BODY

Place the last Large Rectangle against the bottom of the front Body piece and crochet together. Attach the back Body piece.

Join the short edge of the Side Strip to one short edge of the Body base and, using dc, join it up and around the edge of the front Body piece. Stuff the Body firmly, then join to the other short edge of the Body base using dc. Sew the Neck to the top of the Body.

Sew the white Gauge centrally onto the Front Plate and sew it onto the front piece of the Robot. Using a scrap of brown yarn, embroider the front with some detail, using the image as a guide.

JOIN ARMS AND LEGS

Stuff the Arms lightly and sew to the sides of the Robot. Stuff the Legs and sew them to the bottom of the Robot.

Sew one end of the Pipe to the front of the Robot, below the Base Plate, and the other end to the side of the Robot.



Sew the gauge onto the front plate and embroider on some simple measurement marks



BERTIE BEAR

Take off for adventures in storyland with
Ilaria Caliri's adorable tubby teddy



YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Safran
(100% cotton, 50g/160m)
1 ball of each:
Yarn A Beige (21)
Yarn B Turquoise (30)
Yarn C Brown (23)
Yarn D Orange (28)
Yarn E Black (16)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- 2 safety eyes or black beads,
approx 5mm diameter
- 2 small buttons
- Dark brown waxed cord
- Fine white wire for balloon string,
approx 13cm (5in)
- Stitch markers
- Toy stuffing
- Craft glue

For yarn stockists contact
Wool Warehouse 01926 882818
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect
yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Bear measures approx 18cm (7in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of
Simply Crochet magazine

Bertie is a tubby teddy, whichever way you look at it, but give him a balloon and he's away. And he's got a taste for adventure, so you'll have to make sure you hold on to him tightly. This dungaree-clad cutie is worked in the round in simple dc stitches and is really brought to life by the tiny extra details, such as his buttons and laces. Stitch on a smile and he's yours forever.

NOTES

This pattern is worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it useful to mark the first st of each round, moving the marker up as you work.

HEAD

With Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

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

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

Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 7 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]

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

Round 9 (2dc in next st, 7dc) 6 times. [54 sts]

Round 10 (2dc in next st, 8dc) 6 times. [60 sts]

Rounds 11-18 Dc in each st around.

Round 19 (Dc2tog, 8dc) 6 times. [54 sts]

Round 20 (Dc2tog, 7dc) 6 times. [48 sts]

Round 21 (Dc2tog, 6dc) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 22 (Dc2tog, 5dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 23 (Dc2tog, 4dc) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 24 (Dc2tog, 3dc) 6 times. [24 sts]

Place the eyes between Rounds 9 and 10
approx 14 sts apart.

Stuff the Head with toy stuffing.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

MUZZLE

With Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

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

Round 5 4dc, 4htr, 8tr (these 8 sts form the
centre top of the Muzzle), 4htr, 4dc. [24 sts]

Round 6 Dc in each dc around. [24 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Embroider the nose with black yarn, making
long stitches to create a triangle between
Rounds 3 and 5, using the image as a guide.
Sew the Muzzle to the Head, with the top
between the eyes, adding toy stuffing while
you sew.

EARS (MAKE 2)

With Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

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

Rounds 3-5 Dc in each st around.



Suspend Bertie with a length of invisible
thread so it looks like he's floating!

Do not stuff.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.
Sew on the Ears symmetrically, between
Rounds 7 and 11 of the Head.

BODY

With Yarn B, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

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

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

Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 7 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]

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

Round 9 (2dc in next st, 7dc) 6 times. [54 sts]

Rounds 10-17 1dc in each dc around.

Round 18 (Dc2tog, 7dc) 6 times. [48 sts]

Rounds 19-20 1dc in each dc around.

Round 21 (Dc2tog, 6dc) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 22 1dc in each dc around.

Change to Yarn A.

Round 23 Dc in bl only of each st around.

Round 24 (Dc2tog, 5dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Rounds 25-26 1dc in each dc around.

Round 27 (Dc2tog, 4dc) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 28 1dc in each dc around.

Round 29 (Dc2tog, 3dc) 6 times. [24 sts]

Stuff with toy stuffing.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Sew the Head to the top of the Body.

DUNGAREES

BIB

Using stitch markers, mark out the 12 central

sts on the front of the Body in the remaining front loops of Round 23, placing the seam of the Body piece at the back.

Rejoin Yarn B in the first of these marked sts, ready to work in the remaining front loops of this row.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, 12dc in the remaining front loops, turn.

Rows 2-3 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. [12 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BRACES

Mark 10 sts centrally at the back of the Body in the remaining front loops of Round 23.

With Yarn B, ch15, 10dc in fl only of the marked sts, ch16, turn, 1dc in the second ch from the hook, ch2, skip 2 sts (to create button loop), 12dc, work 10dc across the 10 sts from the previous row, 12dc in the chain on the other side, ch2, skip 2 sts (to create button loop), dc in the last ch.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Sew two little buttons onto the corners of the front of the Bib.

POCKET

With Yarn B, ch11.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to the end, turn. [10 sts]

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

Row 4 Ch1, dc2tog, 6dc, dc2tog. [8 sts]

Row 5 Ch1, dc2tog, 4dc, dc2tog. [6 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Sew the Pocket onto the Body, under the Bib.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

With Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

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

Rounds 3-7 Dc in each st around.

Round 8 Dc2tog, 10dc. [11 sts]

Round 9 Dc in each st around.

Round 10 Dc2tog, 9dc. [10 sts]

Round 11 1dc in each dc around.

Round 12 Dc2tog, 8dc. [9 sts]

Round 13 Dc in each st around.

Round 14 Dc2tog, 7dc. [8 sts]

Rounds 15-16 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Stuff each Arm, sew closed along the top and sew to the Body.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

With Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

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

Rounds 3-11 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Stuff each Leg with toy stuffing and sew to the bottom of the Body.

TROUSER LEGS (MAKE 2)

With Yarn B, ch18, ss in the first ch to join into a ring.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 1dc in each ch. [18 sts]

Rounds 2-3 1dc in each dc around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Put each Trouser Leg over each Body Leg and sew to the bottom of the Body.

SHOES (MAKE 2)

With Yarn C, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 5dc into the loop. [5 sts]

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

Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [15 sts]

Round 4 Dc in bl only of each st around.

Round 5 Dc in each st around.

Round 6 4dc, (tr2tog) 3 times, 5dc. [12 sts]

Rounds 7-8 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Put each Shoe on the bottom of each Leg and sew with a few stitches to secure.

Tie a bow for each Shoe with waxed cord and sew or glue to each Shoe.

BALLOON

With Yarn D, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

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

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

Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Rounds 7-12 Dc in each st around.

Round 13 (Dc2tog, 4dc) 6 times. [30 sts]

Rounds 14-15 Dc in each st around.

Round 16 (Dc2tog, 3dc) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 17 1dc in each dc around.

Round 18 (Dc2tog, 2dc) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 19 Dc in each st around.

Round 20 (Dc2tog, dc) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 21 Dc in each st around.

Stuff with toy stuffing.

Round 22 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Round 23 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at base of ch, 2tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3. **Fasten off**. [12 sts]

TO FINISH

Weave in any remaining ends.

Place a small amount of craft glue on the end of the piece of wire and insert into the bottom of the Balloon. Leave to dry. Bend the wire to shape, using the images as a guide.



Waxed cord in a matching colour make the perfect laces for Bertie's little bootees



It's all about the details – Bertie's buttons and patch pocket are great finishing touches

Sleepy bunny

Hook this sweet corner-to-corner snuggle blanket by Kath Webber, and cuddle up all cosy and warm





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 cream yarn
- A small amount of black cotton
- 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

Blanket measures approx 65x65cm
(25½x25½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of
Simply Crochet magazine

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!” This is a fun-to-hook project that has all the benefits of a toy and a blanket in one, making it a special gift for a precious new arrival. 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

Sublime Evie has been discontinued, but is still available at some retailers. Alternatively, you could use any aran yarn in suitable colours; however, this will affect the tension and yarn quantities required. The 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, the construction changes slightly to work 1 block fewer 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.

The Bunny is worked in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it useful to mark the first st of the round, moving the marker up as you work.

BLANKET

Using Haze, ch6.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in fourth ch from hook, tr in next 2 ch, turn. [1 Block]

Row 2 (WS) Ch6 (counts as ch3, tr throughout), tr in fourth ch from the hook and in next 2 ch, ss in the ch-3 sp from Row 1, ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp, turn. [2 Blocks]

Row 3 (RS) Ch6, tr in fourth ch from the hook and in each of next 2 ch, rotate this block so that you can ss in the ch-3 sp of last Block from last row, ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp, ss in ch-3 sp at top of next block, ch3, 3tr in same ch-3 sp, turn. [3 Blocks]

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 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. [4 Blocks]

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:



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

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** and weave in ends.

BUNNY HEAD

Using Haze, make a magic loop.

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

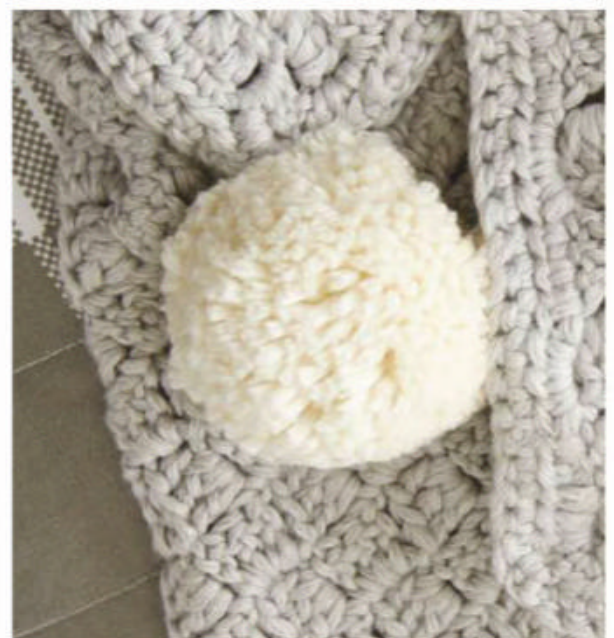
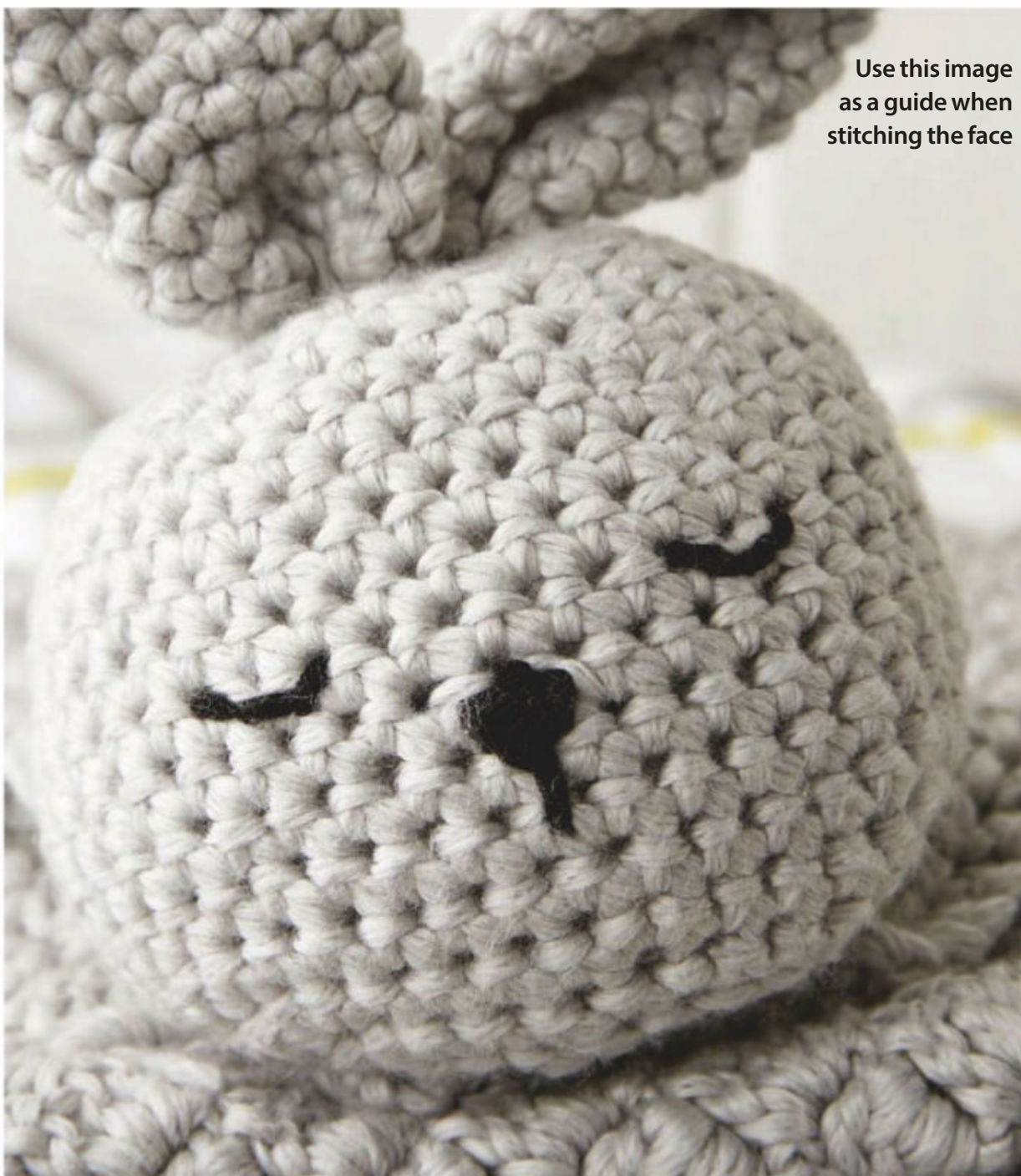
Round 2 2dc into each st around. [12 sts]

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

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

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

Round 6 (Dc 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 for older children.

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

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

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

Stuff Bunny Head.

Round 18 (Dc 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 last 6 sts and pull tight to close. Weave in ends.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Haze, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 4dc into loop.

Round 2 Dc into each st around.

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

Round 4 Dc into each st around.

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

Round 6 Dc into each st around.

Round 7 (2dc into next st, dc 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. Weave in ends.

POMPOM

Using Nougat or any cream yarn, make a 6.5cm pom-pom and attach it securely to the opposite corner of the Blanket to the Bunny Head.



Splish splash girl

Fall hook, line and sinker for this darling little mermaid, designed by Ilaria Caliri



YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m)
1 ball of each:
 - Yarn A** Rose Soraya (N32)
 - Yarn B** Gardenia (N36)
 - Yarn C** Amaranto (N33)
 - Yarn D** Aquamarina (N25)
 - Yarn E** Turquoise (N49)
 - Yarn F** Prussian (N64)
 - A 3mm (US C/2 or D/2) hook
 - Safety eyes, approx 8mm diameter
 - Sequins
 - Toy stuffing
 - Adhesive tape
- For yarn stockists contact**
DMC 01924231669
www.dmccreative.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Mermaid measures approx 25cm (10in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

With her sequinned tail and blue fishtail braid, Ilaria Caliri's adorable mermaid doll is sure to become a firm favourite. She's hooked using simple dc stitches in a spiral and her hair is made with two pretty ocean shades. Can you resist?

NOTES

The Tail, Body and Head are worked as one piece, starting from the Tail.
The Fins, Arms and Bikini are made separately and sewn onto the Body. Strands of Hair are sewn onto a Hair Cap, which is then sewn to the Head.
Parts of this pattern are worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to mark the first st of the round, moving the marker up as you work.

TAIL, BODY AND HEAD

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 2dc in next st, 3dc. [5 sts]

Round 3 1dc in each dc around.

Round 4 2dc in next st, 4dc. [6 sts]

Round 5 2dc in next st, 5dc. [7 sts]

Round 6 2dc in next st, 6dc. [8 sts]

Round 7 1dc in each dc around.

Round 8 2dc in next st, 7dc. [9 sts]

Round 9 2dc in next st, 8dc. [10 sts]

Round 10 (2dc in next st, 4dc) twice. [12 sts]

Round 11 1dc in each dc around.

Round 12 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 4 times. [16 sts]

Round 13 1dc in each dc around.

Round 14 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 4 times. [20 sts]

Round 15 1dc in each dc around.

Round 16 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 4 times. [24 sts]

Round 17 1dc in each dc around.

Round 18 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 19 1dc in each dc around.

Round 20 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Rounds 21-22 1dc in each dc around.

Round 23 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]

Rounds 24-25 1dc in each dc around.

Round 26 (2dc in next st, 6dc) 6 times. [48 sts]

Rounds 27-35 1dc in each dc around.

Round 36 (Dc2tog, 10dc) 4 times. [44 sts]

Change to Yarn B.

Round 37 Working in bl only, 1dc in each dc around.

Round 38 (Dc2tog, 9dc) 4 times. [40 sts]

Rounds 39-40 1dc in each dc around.

Round 41 (Dc2tog, 8dc) 4 times. [36 sts]

Rounds 42-43 1dc in each dc around.

Round 44 (Dc2tog, 4dc) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 45 1dc in each dc around.

Round 46 (Dc2tog, 3dc) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 47 (Dc2tog, 2dc) 6 times. [18 sts]

Stuff the Body.

Round 48 (Dc2tog, 1dc) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 49 1dc in each dc around.



For a smooth, clean line where the body joins the tail, work in the back loops only

Round 50 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 51 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 52 (2dc in next st, 3dc) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 53 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 54 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 55 (2dc in next st, 6dc) 6 times. [48 sts]

Rounds 56-62 1dc in each dc around.

Round 63 (6dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 64 (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 65 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 66 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Secure the safety eyes between Rounds 57 and 58, approximately 11 sts apart.

Stuff the Head with toy stuffing and continue stuffing as you go.

Round 67 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 68 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 69 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

FINS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn C, ch16.

Row 1 (RS) Skip the first ch, 2ss, 3dc, 5htr, 3dc, 2ss, turn. [15 sts]

Rows 2-6 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in bl only, 2ss, 3dc, 5htr, 3dc, 2ss, turn.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

Pinch one end of each Fin and secure with a stitch. Sew the Fins on either side of the Tail, placing the pinched end at the top.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 sts]

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

Rounds 3-12 1dc in each dc around.

Round 13 Dc2tog, 8dc. [9 sts]

Round 14 Dc2tog, 7dc. [8 sts]

Round 15 Dc2tog, 6dc. [7 sts]

Stuff and **fasten off**, leaving a long tail for sewing up. Sew the Arms to the Body.

BIKINI

FIRST CUP

Using Yarn F, ch6.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, 2dc, 2ss, turn. [5 sts]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in bl only, 2ss, 3dc, turn.

Row 3 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in bl only, 3dc, 2ss, turn.

Row 4 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in bl only, 2ss, 3dc, turn.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

SECOND CUP

Using Yarn F, ch6.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, 2ss, 3dc, turn. [5 sts]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in bl only, 3dc, 2ss, turn.

Row 3 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in bl only, 2ss, 3dc, turn.

Row 4 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in bl only, 3dc, 2ss, turn.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up. Sew both Bikini Cups to the Body.

HAIR CAP

Using Yarn D, 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 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]

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

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

Round 6 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 7 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]

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

Rounds 9-15 Dc in each dc around.

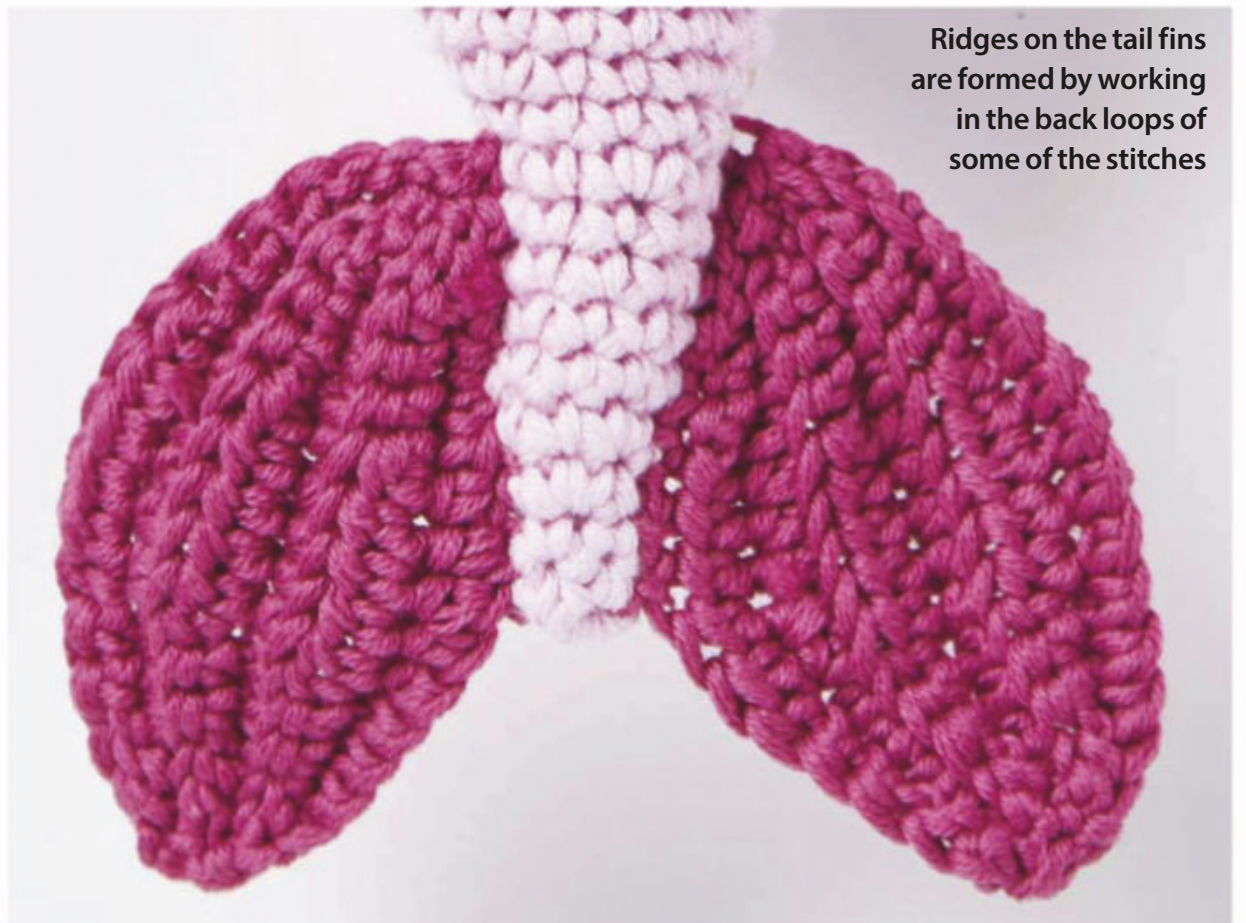
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

HAIR

The Hair Cap is used as a base for securing the Hair.

To make the strands of Hair, cut a 10cm piece of adhesive tape and fix it to your work surface sticky side up. Using equal amounts of Yarns D and E, cut lengths measuring approx 45cm. Place the centre of each yarn piece at right angles to the adhesive tape, putting them close together and alternating randomly Yarns D and E. Cover 6cm of the tape, then remove it from the work surface. With a needle and sewing thread, sew along the 6cm with backstitch before removing the tape.

Repeat this process once more so that you have 2 pieces of Hair.



Ridges on the tail fins are formed by working in the back loops of some of the stitches

With sewing pins, fix these two Hair pieces to the Hair Cap. Place the first one at the front with the stitching line in the position of the side parting and the second one to cover the back side of the head.

Sew each piece in place with small stitches along the previous stitching line.

Sew the Hair Cap onto the Head, comb the Hair to the side and make a fishtail braid, or a classic braid.

TO FINISH

Sew the sequins to the Tail, using the image as a guide.

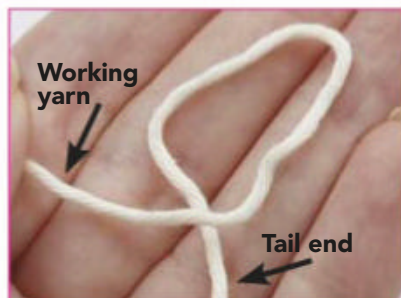


The mermaid's fishtail braid shows off her blue locks; fasten with yarn to match her tail

Amigurumi essentials

If you're new to the wonders of making amigurumi, follow our step-by-step guides to the basic techniques you'll need to hook the patterns in this collection

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A MAGIC LOOP



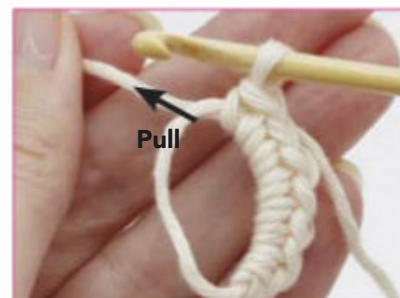
1 To start a magic loop, don't make a slipknot. Instead, make a loop with the yarn, leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is under the working yarn.



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.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK DOUBLE CROCHET IN A SPIRAL



1 Make a magic loop and work the t-ch (1ch for dc). Now work 12 dc stitches into the loop, but do not join the last stitch and first stitch of this first round with a slip stitch.



2 Instead, work the first dc stitch of the second round into the first stitch of the first round. To do this, insert the hook into the stitch, yrh, pull yarn through, yrh and pull the yarn through both loops.



3 You'll now be working in a spiral. Continue to work more rounds of dc stitches in a spiral, according to your pattern instructions.



4 On the last round, after you've worked the last dc stitch, you'll need to finish off the spiral with a slip stitch for a neat edge: insert the hook into the next stitch, yrh and pull through both loops.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO CHANGE COLOUR IN A SPIRAL



1 If you need to work stripes in a spiral, your pattern will ask you to change colour. Always do this on the last yrh of the last stitch of the round in the previous colour.



2 Work the first stitch of the new round in the new colour and place a stitch marker in this first stitch.



3 Work a round of double crochet stitches until you've worked the last stitch of the round. The next stitch you'll want to work into will have the stitch marker in it.



4 You'll need to remove the marker, work the first stitch of the new round and then replace the stitch marker in this first stitch, to mark the start of the round again.

Simply
Crochet
AMIGURUMI
THE CUTEST CROCHET TOYS TO HOOK

*Thanks for
visiting, you foxy
hooksters!*

