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Simply Crochet

HOOKED ON HANDMADE

TOO CUTE

Adorable amigurumi bear

FRESH STITCHES

27 PATTERNS INSIDE

SUPER SHAWL

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Simply Crochet

HOOKED ON HANDMADE

This month, we're loving texture, embellishment and vintage inspiration. Hook retro goodies for your home and learn how to work popcorn stitches and surface crochet. And then there's a certain bear who's here to brighten your day. Cutie.

Simply Crochet

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SUBSCRIBE THIS MONTH, GET KAT GOLDIN'S *HOOK, STITCH & GIVE* BOOK FREE WHEN YOU SUBSCRIBE… **PAGE 30**

Subscribe on page 30 – don't miss out!

CONTRIBUTORS

HIP HIP HOORAY FOR EVERYONE WHO HELPED OUT . . .



CÉCILE BALLADINO

French crafter Cécile is still fascinated by the fact that she can turn yarn into anything she wants. This issue, she's created the thoroughly gorgeous pink lacy shawl for us on page 39.



SALENA BACA

Busy bee Salena is the brains behind the Design Wars challenge. We had a natter with her this month about crafty camaraderie and her personal crochet heros. Have a read on page 58.



ILARIA CALIRI

Ilaria's an Italian crocheter with a real knack for creating adorable amigurumi. If you need convincing, flip to page 35 to find her brilliant bear design. The little fella is rocking those dungarees.



HELEN ARDLEY

This issue, author and textiles designer Helen has hooked up a darling duo of sweet and simple mug hugs – just the thing to jazz up your morning cuppa. Turn to page 65 to make them.

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Lucy Croft, Hannah Cross, Judy Darley, Anne Egan, Simone Francis, Dorien Hollewijn, Cara Medus, Apple Press, Becky Skuse, Kath Webber, Wonky Zebra.

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HOOKED

IDEAS ♡ INSPIRATION ♡ ACCESSORIES ♡ WEBSITES ♡ EVENTS ♡ STUFF



Photo by Rachel Denbow via www.abeautifulmess.com

FULLY FRINGED AND FABULOUS

How lovely is this creative macramé idea for simple garlands, made with chunky yarn? You can drape your walls with glorious colour and bust through your yarn stash in the bargain. We spotted yarn lover Rachel Denbow's brilliant tutorial at www.abeautifulmess.com – it's one of our favourite places to find crafty inspiration right now. And if you haven't tried macramé before, then this is a perfect project to get started with. Stitchers, it's time to get knotted.



CROCHET LOVERS

For hooksters on the hunt for crochet patterns from independent designers, gorgeous yarns and notions, there's a new online shop in town. It's the first online store completely dedicated to crochet. Naturally, we approve. Check out www.lovecrochet.com or give them a ring on 0845 544 2324 to find out what's in store. Psst! Turn to page 76 (our lovely new reader pages) to find out how you could be in with a chance of winning vouchers to spend at LoveCrochet. Bonne chance.

STAMP DUTY

Our true passion may be yarn, but now and then we do go a bit dotty over stationery, too. This personalised yarny stamp takes the biscuit. Making your own tags is the perfect way to add an extra special finishing touch to your crochet makes. Visit www.noths.com to place an order for your own custom rubber stamp from Pretty Rubber Stamps. You can add your own name to this design for £13.50, or choose from their other lovely stamps. It's all about the details.





Zoomigurumi 4 has landed. It's the fourth book in the awesome crochet toy series compiled by www.amigurumipatterns.net. This latest volume features 15 thoroughly adorable amigurumi animal patterns by an assortment of great designers, including Ilaria Caliri, Pepika and Kate Hancock. There are cute makes suitable for beginners and more advanced crocheters, too, as well as clear step-by-steps for all the basic stitches you need to know. Hard copies of *Zoomigurumi* are available from Amazon for £11.50, or you can purchase a PDF of the book from www.amigurumipatterns.net. The giraffe and the toucan are our faves.

HOOKING IN COLOUR

The rainbow-loving folks at Stylecraft have come up trumps with their latest collection of colourful crochet designs for your home. A handful of their brilliantly bright patterns for cushions, throws and more using their Classique Cotton DK are available now. Feast your eyes on these (pictured). We particularly like their clever use of contrasting black and cream to make the vibrant colours sing out. To track down a stockist near you, go to www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk or call 01535 609798.







Michelle and Carle in Carle's yarn studio. Photograph by Carle.

AFRICAN YARNS

Crafters don't often get to see yarns from the other side of the world. But when Michelle (pictured right with maker Carle) found fantastic colours and fibres on her trip to South Africa, she wanted to make them available back home. Her site African Yarns (www.africanyarns.co.uk) was born, stocking Eco Cotton and Eco Bamboo by Nurturing Fibres in a dazzling array of shades.

MAKE IT

SO RETRO

The seventies bug has bitten hard and we're thinking of other ways to embrace the trend.

1 BE THE HOSTESS
Why not hold a seventies-themed crafternoon?

2 WEAR IT OUT
Set yourself the challenge of hooking a vintage garment. See www.wonkyzebra.com

3 FIND A MUSE
Scour charity shops to find vintage patterns to inspire.

4 FESTIVAL VIBES
Don a maxi dress, drag your brightest blankets outside and hook it al fresco.

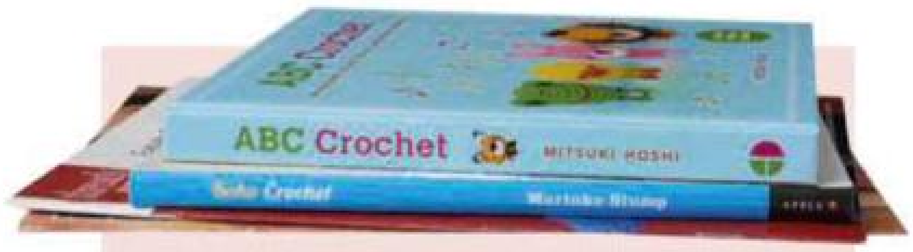
5 SET THE SCENE
Use doilies, mandalas or potholders to create wall art.

Storenvy.com

GO LARGE

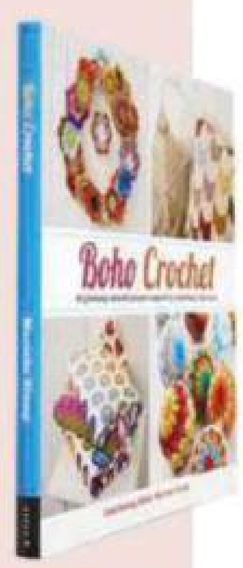
DMC's ever-popular combed cotton yarn Natura now comes in a wonderful chunky weight. To get your hook into Natura XL, visit www.dmccreative.co.uk





INSPIRING BOOKS

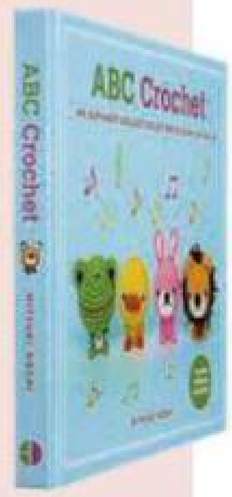
BOHO CROCHET
Marinke Slump
(£12.99, Apple Press)
Top blogger Marinke Slump (aka Wink) has teamed up with her fave designers to produce a collection of 30 bright crochet accessories for you and your home. There are how-tos if you're new, plus plenty of colourful pics. See page 72 to make a gorgeous blanket from this book.



WRAPPED IN LOVE
Vanna White
(£5.99, Sixth&Spring)
Addicted to crochet shawls? If not, you soon will be. Vanna White's 12 shawl and wrap designs are stylish, achievable and oh-so wearable. The patterns are written in US terms and made with Vanna's Choice yarn by Lion Brand.



ABC CROCHET
Mitsuki Hoshi
(£10.99, Harper Design)
The first half of this book is a colourful alphabet picture book featuring 26 adorable crochet critters. The second half of the book has all the amigurumi patterns you'll need to make said cute critters, with stitch charts for each one. This would be a treat for any crafty family.



EASY-TO-SEW TOTE BAGS **Threads Team**
(£5.99, Taunton)
Sewing machines at the ready, it's tote-time. From the editors and contributors of *Threads*, there are six simple and customisable bags to sew. This is a brilliant book if you're a keen novice sewer as the patterns are easy to follow and have clear illustrations.





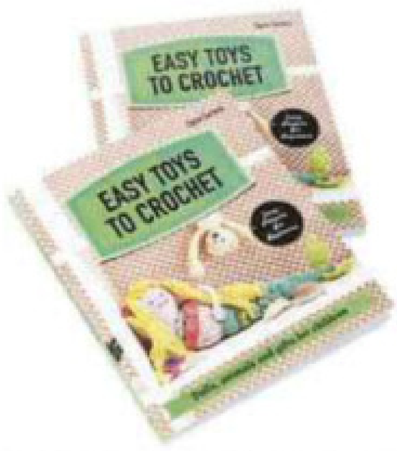
LITTLE NEON NOSES

One of the best things about Warm Pixie's crochet kits is that they're all made with luxuriously soft, 100% lambswool yarn, which pretty much guarantees a gorgeous project. At www.warmpixie.com you'll find a little menagerie of amigurumi critter kits to choose from. This latest design, Luxury Bunny Family Crochet Kit, is £22.50 and is definitely our new favourite. We cannot resist those tiny pink noses and squashy toes. It would make a lovely baby gift.

WIN

TOY-TASTIC

We know you're just as bonkers about adorable amigurumi as we are, so we're giving away two copies of the brilliant *Easy Toys to Crochet* by Claire Garland (published by Pavilion, RRP £6.99) to two lucky readers. Inside the book, you'll find 16 sweet and simple patterns for dinky crochet toys. It's the perfect read if you're fairly new to toy making. For a chance to win, http://competition.immediate.co.uk/toys-simplycrochet is the place to visit.





OFF TO FLORENCE

Fancy accompanying Nicki Trench on a wondrous voyage to Italy and picking up some new crochet skills along the way? Stitchtopia are running an inspiring five-day trip to Florence in November 2015. The creative Tuscany break will include crochet workshops with the top designer, an exclusive project kit, gallery visits and lots of sightseeing, too. If this sounds like it could be your cup of tea, visit www.arenatravel.com for more info, or call 01473 660800.

NEW KIT ON THE BLOCK







Stay ahead of the craft kit game and supplement your stash with the useful and the frivolous alike. Here are our three latest favourites.

1. Can you think of anything that wouldn't look far prettier tucked away in this lacy basket? We'd fill it with yarn or *Simply Crochet* back issues. This practical but highly desirable gem is only £3.99 at **www.lakeland.co.uk**

2. A good pair of scissors is a stash staple. And as ours always seem to be going walkies (it's like they have a life of their own), a spare pair is never a bad thing. Snap up this cast-iron pair for £4.95 at **www.dotcomgiftshop.com**

3. All together now: "Club Tropicana drinks are freeee…" This fetching hot-pink, flamingo-emblazoned ribbon is £2.99 at **www.oakroomshop.co.uk**. Ideal for finishing off summery makes or wrapping up your handmade gifts.

Sewmags.com



IN THE CRAFT BARN

Brace yourself – the annual Black Sheep Wools Craft Barn 10-day Mega Sale is back. The sale runs from May 8-17 and you'll be able to get your crafty mitts on marvellous yarns at up to 70% off. Bargains from Rico, Rowan, Sirdar and more will be up for grabs in the yarn dive (not for the faint-hearted). The sale takes place in store only, so you'll need to make your way to Warrington. For details visit, **www.blacksheepwools.com**

A GOOD YARN

I'd love to make some bootees for my gorgeous baby nephew. Could you recommend a nice yarn that's not too pricey?

Baby DK (£2.99 per 50g) by Deramores is soft on skin and easy to care for. Plus, it comes in a fun range of less traditional shades and is fairly reasonably priced. Visit www.deramores.com or call 0800 488 0708.



Time to get out And About...

SKILLS, SHOWS & EVENTS

MAY 7 Learn to Crochet Next Steps, £30, Guthrie & Ghani, Moseley, Birmingham, 0121 449 8419 www.guthrie-ghani.co.uk

MAY 11 Ripple Effect Crochet Workshop, £10, Knitworking, Gedling, Nottingham, 0115 961 3081 www.knitworking.co.uk

MAY 16-17 John Arbon Textiles Mill Open Weekend, free, South Moulton, Devon, 01598 752490 www.jarbon.com

MAY 22 Tapestry Crochet, £49.95, Black Sheep Wools, Culcheth, Warrington, 01925 764231 www.blacksheepwools.com

MAY 23 Highland Woolfest 2015, Dingwall Mart, Humberston, Dingwall, www.highlandwoolfestival.co.uk

MAY 30-31 Proper Woolly, from £5.50, Holsworthy Livestock Market, Devon 07551 396650 www.properwoolly.co.uk

5 FAB FINDS

Stitch night treats

Gather your fellow hooksters and get a brew on.



TEA TOTAL

We adore Pip Lincoln's sweet and simple granny tea cosy. Find the tutorial on her blog at www.meetmeatmikes.com



TOUGH COOKIE

Add practical bling to your WIP with these tasty stitch markers. Head to www.absoknittinglutely.com

WRAPPED UP

No excuses, hooksters. Get organised with a bright crochet hook roll from www.epidendrondesigns.etsy.com





LOVE WOOL

Show where your true loyalties lie with this fun printed cotton project bag from www.devonsunyarns.co.uk

COOLEST CUPPA

Patterns for Lara Messer's cute crochet mug hugs are free on our blog at www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk





MOROCCAN VIBES

Embrace souk style with a dramatic crocheted lampshade from Hamimi (www.hamimi.com.au). The Aussie company is passionate about Morrocan design and handcrafting techniques. They have just released a beautiful collection of pendant lampshades in a variety of styles and sizes. The crochet lamps are hooked by Morrocan women and the shapes are inspired by everyday objects in Morroco. We're seeing tagines in those lampshades, how about you? Plus, as they're crocheted, the lampshades cast amazing shadows.

MAKERY KITS

The Makery have got it spot on with their range of cute sewing kits. Learn to make polka-dot knickers, a pretty purse, or our personal favourite, rosette brooches (the kit has enough stuff to make five brooches – fab for a crafternoon with the ladies). They're ideal if you're keen to dip your toe into the sewing world, but not sure where to start. The kits have full instructions and all the bits you'll need. £15.75 at www.cotswoldtrading.com





Devon-based yarn store Hulu (they also have an online store, www.hulucrafts.co.uk) turns six this year and is giving their customers a card to celebrate. It's not as topsy-turvy as it sounds. The card is a loyalty card, rewarding the user with a point for every pound they spend. Managing Director Vicky Perry says: "We have many loyal customers and by giving them a Loyalty Card, we can say thank you for supporting us over the past six years and for their continued support in the years to come." Watch your points pile up as you shop and then use them to get money off your future purchases. Sounds good to us. Do you Hulu? Hulu stocks yarn from Debbie Bliss, Rico, Rowan and more. Take a look.

EXOTIC TREASURE

Whether you're planning on jet-setting, festival-going or praying for British sunshine this summer, pick up a few rare treats in preparation.

1. Apricot's Statement Crochet Top packs a punch. £19 at **www.apricotonline.co.uk**
2. Mirrors, bells and really bright yarn is the recipe for a killer keyring, it seems. £7 by Bohemia at **www.noths.com**
3. Bears and bunnies we've seen before, but never a gekko. Fairtrade fun for £19 at **www.justforbaby.co.uk**







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THE FAN CLUB

For curling up, den building, picnics and generally brightening up the place, a crochet blanket is a must-have for any crafty home. Get cracking with our gorgeous, vintage-inspired fan and ripple number. It's a pretty special make.

GETTING COMFY

Not ready to commit to a new blanket project? A bright cushion or two will spruce things up and take a fraction of the time to finish. Whether you make yours plump, perky and round or super-simple with motifs, you'll be onto a retro winner.



RETRO REVIVAL

The seventies was the golden age of crochet. Get into the groove with our collection of vibrant makes.

StoreMags.com



POTHOLDERS APLENTY

Why have one potholder when you could have seven? In the case of this make, more is more. These twisty, textured potholders look utterly fantastic displayed en masse and they're pretty handy in the kitchen, too. Make a start today.

SET A PLACE

It doesn't get much more seventies than this. Hook up a host of lacy floral hexagons and join them together to make sets of coasters and placemats to adorn your table. Boho-fabulous and fairly simple to make. What's not to love?




Dansette





ZIGZAG ZING

Five shades, one chart and one totally awesome cushion. Get your chevron on with this bold geometric design. The cushion is made with crisp aran-weight cotton in complementary hues, forming an eye-catching colour gradient.

MADE WITH MOTIFS

Give your go-to canvas shopping bag a rather magnificent makeover with a handful of floral motifs. It's easy-peasy and we reckon these retro shapes would also make wonderful brooches or embellishments for tops and dresses.

RIPPLE BLANKET

Our glorious, vintage-inspired ripple and fan blanket uses long quadruple treble stitches and grows quickly.

- DROPS Paris (100% cotton, 50g/75m), 2 balls of Yarn B Vanilla (35); 3 balls of each: Yarn C Dusty Orange (45) Yarn D Rust (46) Yarn A Off White (17); 6 balls of Yarn E Brown (44)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook

MEASUREMENTS

Blanket measures 135x97cm (53x38in)

ABBREVIATIONS

Quadruple Treble Stitch (Qtr)
Yrh four times, insert hook in stitch on row below, yrh and pull up loop, (yrh and draw through 2 loops) 5 times.

BLANKET

With Yarn E, ch182.

Row 1 (WS) 2dc in second ch from hook, dc in each of next 4 ch, *dc in each of next 4 ch, 3dc in next ch, dc in each of next 4 ch; rep from * to last 5 ch, dc in each of next 4 ch, 2dc in last ch, turn. [221 dc]

Rows 2-3 Ch1 (does not count as st), 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 4 sts, skip 2 sts, *dc in each of next 4 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, skip 2 sts; rep from * to last 5 sts, dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in last st, turn.

Row 4 Ch6 (counts as qtr), qtr in st at base of ch, qtr in each of next 3 sts, skip 4 sts, *qtr in each of next 3 sts, 3qtr in next st, qtr in each of next 3 sts, skip 4 sts; rep from * to last 4 sts, qtr in each of next 3 sts, 2qtr in last st, turn. [181 qtr]

Row 5 Ch1 (does not count as st), 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 4 sts, *dc in each of next 4 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts; rep from * to last 5 sts, dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in last st, turn.

Rows 2-5 form pattern.



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Repeat pattern a further 12 times, changing colour after each Row 5 and using the following colour sequence: E (Rows 1-5 already worked above), D, C, D, E, A, B, A, E, C, D, C, E.
Work another Row 2 and Row 3 using Yarn E.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

PINWHEEL CUSHION

This deliciously bright and squashy round cushion is by Hannah Cross.

- DROPS Paris (100% cotton, 50g/75m), 2 balls of each:
  Yarn A Off White (17)
  Yarn B Vanilla (35)
  Yarn C Dusty Orange (45)
  Yarn D Rust (46)
  Yarn E Brown (44)
- A 6mm (US J/10) hook
- Round cushion pad 30cm (12in) diam
- 2 buttons, 4cm (1½in) diameter

TENSION
One stitch pattern repeat measures 11cm (4¼in) wide, 9 rows measure 10cm (4in) using a 6mm hook

MEASUREMENTS
30cm (12in) diameter

CUSHION
The cushion is made in rows, then the short edges are sewn to form a tube. The point of each zigzag is gathered in the centre on both sides of the cushion.

Use the following colour order:
Rows 1-4: Yarn A, Rows 5-7: Yarn B, Rows 8-10: Yarn C, Rows 11-13: Yarn D, Rows 14-16: Yarn E, Row 17: Yarn D, Row 18: Yarn C, Row 19: Yarn B, Row 20: Yarn A, Row 21: Yarn B, Row 22: Yarn C, Row 23: Yarn D, Rows 24-26: Yarn E, Rows 27-29: Yarn D, Rows 30-32: Yarn C, Rows 33-35: Yarn B, Rows 36-39: Yarn A.
Ch135.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in next 6 ch, 3dc in next ch, dc in next 7 ch, *skip next 2 ch, dc in next 7 ch, 3dc in next ch, dc in next 7 ch; repeat from * to end, turn. [136 sts]
Rows 2-39 Working in the back loop only: ch1 (does not count as st), dc2tog, dc in next 6 sts, 3dc in next st, *dc in next 7 sts, skip next 2 sts, dc in next 7 sts, 3dc in next st; repeat from * to last 8 sts, dc in next 6 sts, dc2tog, turn.
Fasten off.

TO FINISH
Sew tog row end edges to form a tube. Sew through points of zigzag to join in centre. Stuff cushion, then sew up the other zigzag in the same way.

COVERED BUTTONS (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn A and 6mm hook, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) 10dc into loop, ss to first dc to join into the round. [10 sts]
Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 2dc into each dc around, ss to first dc to join. [20 sts]
Round 3 Ch1 (does not count as st), *2dc into next dc, dc into next dc; repeat from * around, ss to first dc to join. [30 sts].
Round 4 Ch1 (does not count as st), *2dc into next dc, dc into each of the next 2 dc; repeat from * around, ss to first dc to join. [40 sts].
Fasten off.
Sew each circle of crochet over each button to cover it.
Sew a button in the centre of the cushion on each side. ☛





FAB FLORAL CUSHION

Designer Hannah Cross has devised a simple but gorgeous way to revamp an old cushion – just add a handful of retro crochet motifs. Such a speedy project. See page 23 for photo.

- DROPS Paris (100% cotton, 50g/75m), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Off White (17)
  Yarn B Vanilla (35)
  Yarn C Dusty Orange (45)
  Yarn D Rust (46)
  Yarn E Brown (44)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- 40cm (16in) square cushion

MEASUREMENTS
Each flower measures 12x9cm (4¾x3½in)

FLOWERS (MAKE 6)
Use a different shade of yarn for each round of the flower, and Yarn E for the stalk and leaves.

FLOWERS
Ch5, ss in the first ch to make a ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 8htr into the ring, ss in top of the first htr. [8 sts]
Now work in the back loops only of each st for the remainder of the flower.
Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 2htr in each st around, ss in the top of the first htr. [16 sts]
Round 3 Ch1 (does not count as st), *2htr in the next st, 1htr in the next st; repeat from * around, ss in the top of the first htr. [24 sts] **Fasten off**.

LEAF
With Yarn E, ch8.
Round 1 (RS) 2tr in the fourth ch from the hook (skipped ch count as tr), tr in the next ch, htr in the next ch, dc in the next ch, ss in the next ch, ch1, working along other side of the foundation chain: ss in next ch, dc in the next ch, htr in next ch, tr in the next ch, 2tr in the next ch, ss in the third of the beg ch-3, do not fasten off. [13 sts]

STALK
Ch8, dc in the second ch and in each ch along, ss in bottom of leaf to join and make stalk stand up. **Fasten off**.

Make a second leaf and sew it to the first leaf and stalk.
Sew stalk section to flower.
Weave in all ends.

TO FINISH
Sew flowers onto your cushion however you would like them.

PERKY POTHOLDERS

Kath Webber's oh-so seventies crochet potholders are simply bursting with colour and texture. We love the impact they make all together and they're so handy, why stop at just making one? The ridged rounds and twisted centre detail will keep things interesting as you're hooking.

- DROPS Paris (100% cotton, 50g/75m), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Off White (17)
  Yarn B Vanilla (35)
  Yarn C Dusty Orange (45)
  Yarn D Rust (46)
  Yarn E Brown (44)
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

MEASUREMENTS
Potholder with 8 petals measures approximately 26cm (10¼in) diameter

NOTES
The potholder is worked in rows, working in the back loops only of the row below to create the ridged effect.

The chevron-patterned piece is then stitched up at the short edges (the rows ends), and gathered and stitched together in the centre to create the starburst effect.

To alter the size of your potholder, add or omit extra rows – or add or omit multiples of 19 to the foundation chain to make more or less petals. The small potholder has six petals (start with ch117) and 9 rows of the pattern. The large potholder has 10 petals (start with ch193) and 14 rows of the pattern. Always work Row 11 as the final row.

Use whatever yarn shades and colour combinations you like, leaving long tails of yarn when you change colour, for sewing up later.

POTHOLDER
Ch155.
Row 1 (RS) 1dc into the third ch from the hook, (1dc into each of the next 8 ch, 3dc into the next ch, 1dc into each of the next 8 ch, skip 2 ch) 7 times, 1dc into each of the next 8 ch, 3dc into the next ch, 1dc into each of the next 8 ch, skip 1 ch, 1dc into the last ch, turn.
[154 sts]
Rows 2-10 Ch1 (does not count as st), working in the back loops only: 1dc into the first dc, skip 1 st, (1dc into the next 8 sts, 3dc into the next st, 1dc into the next 8 sts, skip 2 sts) 7 times, 1dc into the next 8 sts, 3dc into the next st, 1dc into the next 8 sts, skip 1 st, 1dc into the last st, turn.
Row 11 Repeat Row 2, replacing one of the 3dc with (dc, ch8, dc) to make a hanging loop.
Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP
Join the row end edges together, matching up the stripes and using the long tails of yarn to stitch them up.

Gather the inner points together into a circle and use the long tail of the yarn shade at the centre to stitch them together.
Weave in ends.

MATS AND COASTERS

We can't believe these coasters and placemats aren't from the seventies. They're designed by Anne Egan.

- DROPS Safran (100% cotton, 50g/160m), 1 ball of each:
  Strong Yellow (11)
  Off White (18)
  Orange (28)
  Dark Brown (52)
- A 3mm (US C/1 or B/2) hook

MEASUREMENTS
Placemat: 29x20cm (11½x 7¾in)
Coaster: 10cm (4in) diameter

HEXIE MOTIF
For a placemat, make 3 in Dark Brown, 10 in Orange, 16 in Strong Yellow and 22 in Off White.
Join the motifs as you go in Round 2 as explained below and place the ☛



colours as shown in the image.
For a coaster, make 1 in the central colour and 6 in a contrast colour, joining the 6 contrast motifs around the central motif.

Ch3, ss into the first ch to join.
Round 1 (RS) Ch5 (counts as tr and ch2), (tr into ring, ch2) 5 times, ss in third ch of beg ch-5. [6 tr, 6 ch-2 sp]
Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), (2dc, ch2, 2dc) in each ch-2 sp around, ss to first dc.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

Join the subsequent hexagons in Round 2 by replacing one of the chains in the ch-2 sp with a ss into the corresponding ch-sp of the next motif.

CHEVRON CUSHION

Use the chart on page 93 to help you make this bright and beautiful cushion. Designed by Hannah Cross.

- DROPS Paris (100% cotton, 50g/75m), 2 balls of each:
  Yarn A Off White (17)
  Yarn B Vanilla (35)
  Yarn C Dusty Orange (45)
  Yarn D Rust (46)
  Yarn E Brown (44)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- Square cushion pad 40x40cm (16x16in)

TENSION
6 'V-tr' groups meas 6cm (2¼in) wide, 7 rows meas 10cm (4in) using a 5mm hook



MEASUREMENTS
40cm (16in) square

CUSHION FRONT/BACK (MAKE 2)
With Yarn A, ch47 (counts as tr and 44 ch).
Row 1 (RS) 2tr in the fifth ch from the hook, *skip 1 ch, 2tr in the next ch; repeat from * to the last 2 ch, skip 1 ch, tr in the last st, turn.
[21 'V-tr' groups and 2 tr]

CHART
Follow the Chart (see p93) from Rows 2-24, according to the stitch pattern written out below.
On the Chart, each square represents 1 V-tr group, so there are 21 V-tr groups in each row.

Read all RS rows from right to left, and WS rows from left to right.
When changing colour mid-row, twist the ends of the two colours together. Pick up the new colour in the last yrh of the previous stitch.
Carry the unused strands of yarn across the WS of the work.

Rows 2-24 Ch3 (counts as tr), skip 1 st, 2tr in between the next 2 tr, *skip 2 sts, 2tr in between the next 2tr; repeat from * to the last 2 sts, skip 1 st, tr in the last st, turn.
Row 25 Working in Yarn A only, continue in stitch pattern as above.
Do not fasten off.

EDGING
Use Yarn A and start at any corner st.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc evenly around with 3dc in each corner, ss to the first dc to join.
Round 2 Working in the back loops only: ch1 (does not count as st), htr in each st around with 3htr in each corner st, ss in the first htr to join.
Round 3 Working in the back loops only: ch1 (does not count as st), htr in each st around with 2htr in each corner st, ss in the first htr to join.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH
Place Front and Back together with WS facing. Rejoin Yarn A and join pieces with a double crochet seam, working in the back loops only. Insert cushion pad before joining the last edge.

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EMBELLISHED BAG

We love Lucy Croft's Orla-Kiely-esque flowers for sprucing up your shopper.

- DROPS Paris (100% cotton, 50g/75m), 1 ball of each: Vanilla (35), Dusty Orange (45), Rust (46), Brown (44)
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook
- A cotton bag
- Sewing thread



MEASUREMENTS

Each motif meas approx 7x8cm (2¾x3in)

NOTES

Each motif uses 3 shades of Yarn: A, B and C. Use any combination of shades you like. We made 5 of Motif A and 4 of Motif B.

MOTIF A (OVAL-SHAPED FLOWER)

FLOWER

With Yarn A, ch7.

Round 1 (RS) Htr in third ch from hook (skipped ch count as htr), htr in each of next 3 ch, 6htr in next ch, rotate to work on the opposite side of the foundation ch, htr in each of next 3 ch, 4htr in next ch, ss to top of beg ch to join. [18 sts]

Fasten off Yarn A.

Round 2 Join Yarn B in first st of next round. Ch2 (counts as htr), htr in st at base of ch, 2htr in next st, htr in each of next 3 sts, 2htr in each of next 6 sts, htr in each of next 3 sts, 2htr in each of next 4 sts. [30 sts] **Fasten off**.

LEAVES AND STALK

With Yarn C, ch8. Ss in the centre of one side of the flower, ss back into next 3 ch (stalk made), ch5, ss in next ch, dc in next ch, htr in each of next 2 ch, dc in next ch, ss in top of stalk, ch2, ss in each of these 2 ch to extend stalk, ss back into leaf, ss in next ch on other side of stalk, dc in next ch, htr in each of next 2 ch, dc in next ch, ss in last ch. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

MOTIF B (4-PETAL FLOWER)

FLOWER

With Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr), 7htr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join. [8 sts]

Do not fasten off Yarn A, but join Yarn B in first st of next round.

Round 2 Work in the back loops only: ch1 (does not count as st), *dc in next st, 2dc in next st; rep from * around, ss to first dc. [12 sts] **Fasten off** Yarn B.

Round 3 Using Yarn A, working in back loops only: ss in first st, *ch3, tr in st at base of ch, 2tr in next st, tr in next st, ch3, ss in st at base of ch, ss in next st; repeat from * 3 more times. [4 petals] **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

LEAVES AND STALK

With Yarn C, ch8. Ss in the centre side of one petal, ss back into next 3 ch (stalk made), ch5, ss in next ch, dc in next ch, htr in each of next 2 ch, dc in next ch, ss in top of stalk, ss in next ch on other side of stalk, dc in next ch, htr in each of next 2 ch, dc in next ch, ss in last ch. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Pin motifs onto your bag and sew in place using sewing thread.

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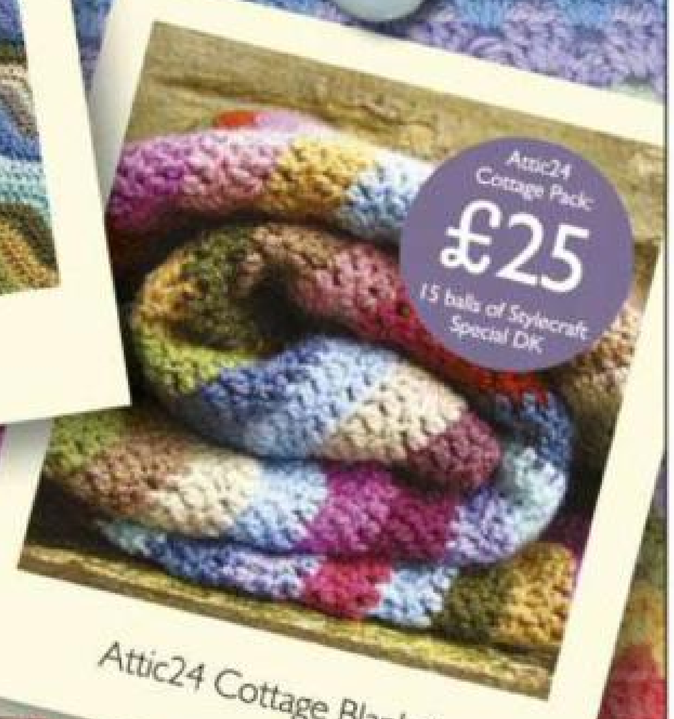
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YOU WILL NEED

- DK cotton in the following shades:
  Yarn A red
  Yarn B claret
  Yarn C pink
  Yarn D pale blue
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

NOTE

See page 93 for chart.

GRANNY BERYL

Combine bold shades and pale pastels for a square that's fearless, floral and lacy, too.

SQUARE

With Yarn A, ch10, ss into the first ch to form a ring.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as first half of tr2tog), tr into the ring, ch2, (tr2tog, ch2) 11 times, ss to the top of the first tr2tog to join.

Fasten off.

Round 2 Join Yarn B in any ch-2 sp, ch2 (counts as part of cluster), 3-tr cluster into the same ch-2 sp, ch3, (4-tr cluster into the next ch-2 sp, ch3) 11 times, ss into top of the first cluster to join.

Fasten off.

Round 3 Join Yarn C in top of any cluster, ch5 (counts as 1htr, ch3), *skip the next ch-3 sp, (3-tr cluster, ch2, 3-tr cluster, ch5, 3-tr cluster, ch2, 3-tr cluster) into the next ch-3 sp, ch3, skip the next ch-3 sp, 1htr into top of next cluster, ch3; repeat from * three times more, omitting the last htr and ch3, ss to the second ch of the beginning ch-5 to join.

Fasten off.

Round 4 Join Yarn D in any htr, ch1 (does not count as st), work 1dc into the top of htr, work dc evenly around with 1dc for every ch in each ch-sp and 1dc in the top of each cluster and each htr, ss to the first dc to join.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

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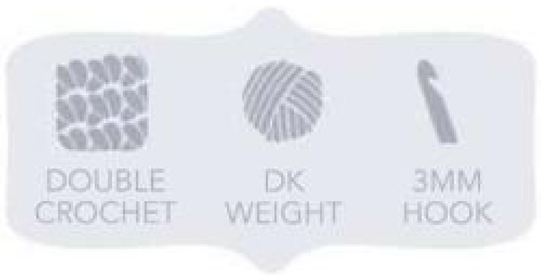
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BERTIE BEAR

Banish bad days with Ilaria Caliri's charming teddy. He's a keeper.

Amigurumi bear



YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Safran (100% cotton, 50g/160m), 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Beige (21)
  Yarn B Turquoise (30)
  Yarn C Dark Brown (52)
  Yarn D Orange (28)
  Yarn E Black (16)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- Safety eyes or black beads (about 5mm/²⁄₁₀in diameter)
- 2 small buttons
- Dark brown waxed cord
- Fine white wire for balloon string, approx 13cm (5in)
- Tapestry needle
- Stitch markers
- Toy stuffing
- Craft glue

For yarn stockists, contact Wool Warehouse 01926 882818 www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

18cm (7in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

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

The pattern is worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off the round with a ss. It may help to use a stitch marker in the stitch of each round, moving it 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, 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]
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 1dc in each dc 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 23 and 24 approximately 14 stitches 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, 1dc) 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 1dc 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 1dc in each dc around.
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, 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]
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]

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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 1dc in back loop only of each dc.
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.

DUNGAREE 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, 1dc in each dc to end, turn. [12 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

DUNGAREE 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 the front loops only of the marked stitches. 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.

DUNGAREE 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 Dungaree 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 1dc in each dc around.
Round 8 Dc2tog, 10dc. [11 sts]
Round 9 1dc in each dc around.
Round 10 Dc2tog, 9dc. [10 sts]
Round 11 1dc in each dc around.
Round 12 Dc2tog, 8dc. [9 sts]
Round 13 1dc in each dc around.
Round 14 Dc2tog, 7dc. [8 sts]
Rounds 15-16 1dc in each dc 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 1dc in each dc 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 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 1dc in back loop only of each dc.
Round 5 1dc in each dc around.
Round 6 4dc, (tr2tog) 3 times, 5dc. [12 sts]
Rounds 7-8 1dc in each dc 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, 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]
Rounds 7-12 1dc in each dc around.
Round 13 (Dc2tog, 4dc) 6 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 14-15 1dc in each dc 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 1dc in each dc around.
Round 20 (Dc2tog, 1dc) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 21 1dc in each dc around.
Stuff with toy stuffing.
Round 22 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Round 23 Ch3 (counts as tr), 1tr in st at base of ch, 2tr in each dc around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 sts]
Fasten off.

Place a blob 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.

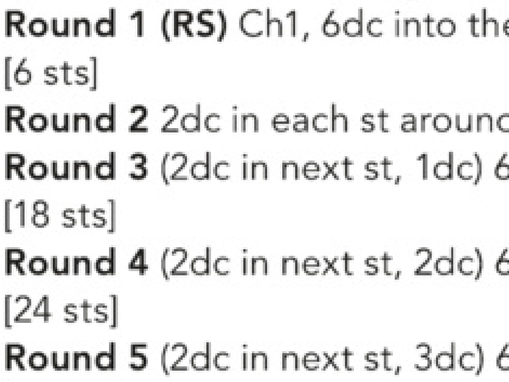


Short lengths of waxed cord make the perfect laces for Bertie's bootees.

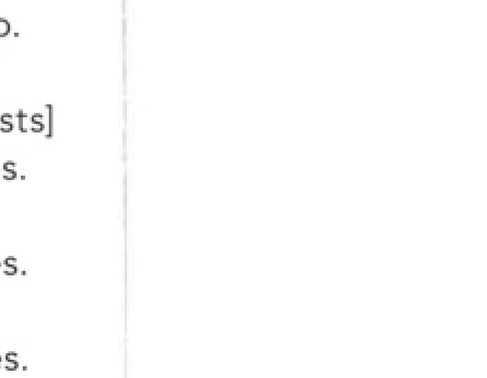


It's all about the details – don't forget Bertie's buttons and patch pocket.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A MAGIC LOOP



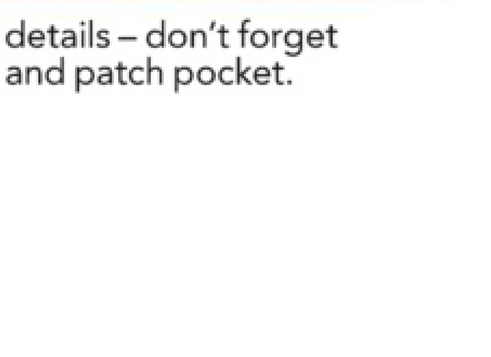
1 To start a Magic Loop, don't make a slipknot. Instead, make a loop with the yarn, leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is under the working yarn.



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. If needed, work a slip stitch to join the first and last stitches and finish Round 1.

PINK CHAMPAGNE

Practice popcorn stitches with
Cécile Balladino's stunner.



Pink shawl



YOU WILL NEED

- The sample uses 150g of Hespa yarn, a suggested alternative is Artesano Silk 4ply (70% alpaca, 30% silk, 50g/200m), 3 skeins of Cyclamen (5225)
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

For yarn stockists, contact Artesano 0118 9503350 www.artesanoyarns.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

170x44cm (67x17in)

ABBREVIATIONS

Make Popcorn on a RS row (MP) Work 4tr in the same st, drop the loop from the hook, insert the hook from **front to back** in the top of first tr worked, put the hook back in the dropped loop and pull through the first tr

Make Popcorn on a WS row (MP) Work 4tr in the same st, drop the loop from the hook, insert the hook from **back to front** in the top of first tr worked, put the hook back in the dropped loop and pull through the first tr

For a full list, see page 92.



Flowing waves of lace and tactile popcorn stitches make this glam shawl by Cécile Balladino a real showstopper. The elegant textured accessory is worked back and forth in rows. Take care to follow the notes and ensure your scrummy popcorn texture always sits on the right side of the shawl.

NOTES

There will be a total of 5 rows of shells. The first row contains 10 shells, the second 9 shells, the third 8 shells, the fourth 7 shells, and the fifth 6 shells. For each row where you work popcorn stitches, check whether you are working a RS row or a WS row and work the correct variation of the popcorn stitch shown in the abbreviations, so that the popcorns always appear on the RS of the work.

SHAWL

FIRST WAVE OF 10 SHELLS

Ch316.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook, *(ch4, skip 3 ch, dc in next ch) 6 times, ch6, skip 4 ch, dc in next ch; repeat from * 9 more times, (ch4, skip 3 ch, dc in next ch) 6 times, turn. [10 ch-6 sp]

Row 2 2ss in first ch-sp, ch1, dc in same ch-sp, *(ch4, dc in next ch-sp) 5 times, 9tr in ch-6 space, dc in next ch-sp; repeat from * 9 more times, (ch4, dc in next ch-sp) 5 times, turn.

Row 3 2ss in first ch-sp, ch1, dc in same ch-sp, *(ch4, dc in next ch-sp) 4 times, (tr in next tr, ch1) 8 times, tr in next tr, dc in next ch-sp; repeat from * 9 more times, (ch4, dc in next ch-sp) 4 times, turn.

Row 4 2ss in first ch-sp, ch1, dc in same ch-sp, *(ch4, dc in next ch-sp) 3 times, ch1, (tr in next tr, ch2) 8 times, tr in next tr, ch1, dc in next ch-sp; repeat from * 9 more times, (ch4, dc in next ch-sp) 3 times, turn.

Row 5 2ss in first ch-sp, ch1, dc in same ch-sp, *(ch4, dc in next ch-sp) twice, ch1, (3tr in next ch-2 sp, ch1) 8 times, dc in next ch-sp; repeat from * 9 more times, (ch4, dc in next ch-sp) twice, turn.

Row 6 2ss in first ch-sp, ch1, dc in same ch-sp, *ch4, dc in next ch-sp, ch2, skip next ch-1 sp, (tr in next ch-sp, ch2, tr in same ch-sp) 7 times, ch2, skip next ch-1 sp, dc in next ch-4 sp; repeat from * 9 more times, ch4, dc in next ch-sp, turn.

Row 7 2ss in first ch-sp, ch1, dc in same ch-sp, *ch2, skip next ch-2 sp, (MP in next ch-2 sp, ch3, MP in same ch-2 sp) 7 times, ch2, skip next ch-2 sp, dc in next ch-4 sp; repeat from * 9 more times, turn.

SECOND WAVE OF 9 SHELLS

Row 8 Ss along to first ch-3 sp between popcorns, ch1, dc in same ch-sp, *(ch4, dc in next ch-3 sp) 6 times, ch6, skip (ch-2 sp, dc, ch-2 sp), dc in next ch-3 sp; repeat from * 8 more times, (ch4, dc in next ch-3 sp) 6 times, turn. [8 ch-6 sp]

Repeat Rows 2-7 until the second wave of shells is complete, working the repeat section a total of 9 times for each row.

Note that when you reach the popcorn row, it will be a WS row, so you will need to work the popcorn variation for the WS row.

THIRD WAVE OF 8 SHELLS

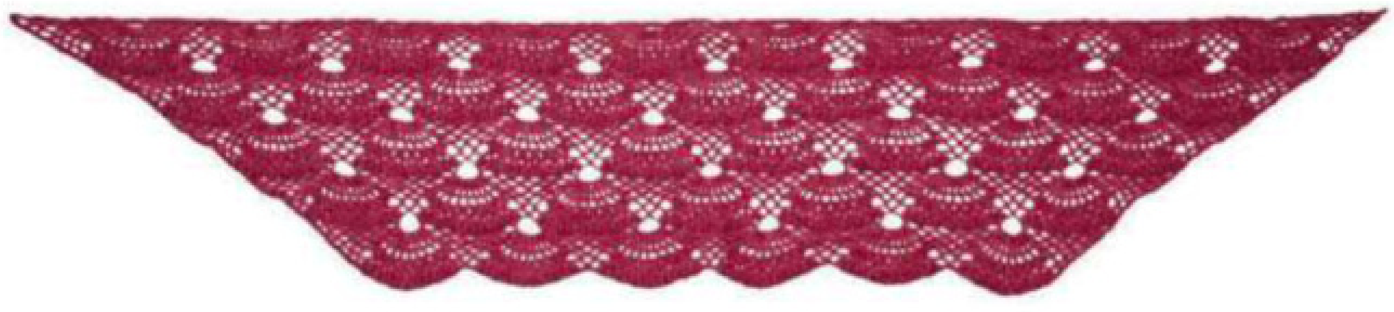
Repeat Row 8, followed by Rows 2-7.

Continue in the same fashion until you have completed the fifth wave of shells.

TO FINISH

Dc evenly around the shawl as follows:
On the sides: 3dc in each space, 2dc between 2 popcorns, 9dc in the corners.
Along the base: 4dc in ch-3 sps, 6dc in ch-4 sps.

Weave in ends.
Handwash the shawl in warm water to allow the yarn to swell slightly.
Block and allow to dry.



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KAT'S JOURNAL

...FROM THE STUDIO

Crochet designer Kat Goldin's notes on failure and her best methods for moving forward and learning more.



"IT'S HOW YOU MOVE ON FROM YOUR CREATIVE MISTAKES THAT COUNTS."

Amazon was where I spotted my first ever review – a horrific one star, completely slating my first book *Crochet at Play*. In the weeks before the book's release, I would lay awake in bed, heart pounding, dreading exactly this moment. I was certain it would be the worst, most heart-breaking moment of my career.

And then my exact fear came true. I can't remember how I found out or why I was even looking, but I clearly remember clicking through to the full review, hand shaking, feeling sick to my stomach. Despite all my worries beforehand, the sky didn't fall, the world didn't end and actually, it wasn't that bad. The review itself was about a technical issue with the cover, nothing more, but that was almost irrelevant. My worst fear had come true and it was actually nowhere near as bad as I'd imagined it would be.

In the following weeks and months, other reviews came in and they were overwhelmingly positive, but it's rarely the positive feedback that sticks. Criticism echoes much louder in the mind than praise. Failures, real or perceived, haunt us long after the event. In retrospect, I am grateful for that review. It prepared me for a future of pattern support, complaints and failures that come with being a creative.

MAKING MISTAKES

And I have had many failures along the way. I took 200 kits to a very well known craft fair and only sold five. I have designs that will never see the light of day because they are such an unresolvable hot mess. I was knitting a cardigan for myself and only realised once I'd done both of the sleeves and the body to the underarm that I'd made it three sizes too small. I burnt my sample of the Twist It cardigan for issue 26 of *SC* on the Aga, after I had previously singed a pair of crochet socks for my book *Hook, Stitch & Give* in the same way.

Each time, I just pick myself up, stuff the offending item in a closet and move forward, climbing the steep, hard climb of learning, improving my technical skills and refining my business strategy.

I was reminded of this particular aspect of my own journey recently when I was teaching a class, Crochet for Knitters. In the room were some incredibly talented knitters who were looking to expand their work into crochet. They grappled with one hook instead of two needles and tried to get their fingers working in the right way. Learning is hard for everyone and much of my work as a teacher is reassuring students that there are few who get it

"The simple act of creation puts a piece of yourself out into the world."





Photograph of Kat Goldin by Xanthe Berkeley.





"Making anything involves some risk."

right from the outset, there are always mistakes and they won't be the first whose initial attempts result in a tangled mess. It's how they move on from those first mistakes that really counts.

WORTH ALL THE RISKS

Being creative is hard work, whether you are a designer, maker, writer or baker – whether you write your own patterns or follow someone else's. The simple act of creation puts a piece of yourself out into the world. That's the nature of it – you make something that wasn't there in that exact form before. You use your time, your money and your skills.

But creation and failure go hand in hand. Sometimes things work and sometimes they really don't. Making anything involves some risk – it may be that the pattern doesn't work or that the skills required are too steep a learning curve, but as makers these are risks that we are not only willingly take, but love – chased by the eternal question: 'How is it going to turn out?'

That is why it's crucial to find other people who get it. Find a sounding board, go to your local craft club, hang out in crochet Facebook groups (I can heartily recommend Crochet Camp www.facebook.com/groups/crochetcamp2013 and *Simply Crochet*'s Facebook page) and find people who will be there cheering you on, through the exhilarating highs of the successes and the inevitable 'throw the crochet across the room' failures. We've been there, too – we get it.

And remember, the failures are worth it – even if they do end up stuffed in the back of a drawer somewhere.

A LOCH AT MY MONTH

"Glorious new yarn colours and some thrifted vintage textile goodies – I was very restrained."







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PRIMARY STYLE

Fall in love with Anna Wilkinson's matching snood and headband set.

storemags

Headband & snood



YOU WILL NEED

- DK yarn, 100g of Yarn A red; 50g of each:
  Yarn B mustard
  Yarn C pale blue
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Tapestry needle

TENSION

7½ 3-tr group repeats and 16 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over stitch pattern using a 4mm hook

MEASUREMENTS

Snood: 27x21cm (10½x8¼in) folded flat
Headband: 50cm (19¾in) circumference x 13cm (5in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

Chic primary shades make Anna Wilkinson's vintage-inspired duo eternally stylish. The three colours are combined in a two-row repeat using only dc and treble stitches. These accessories are beginner-friendly and would make lovely handmade gifts.

SNOOD

Using Yarn A, ch125.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in the second ch from the hook and in each ch to end, turn. [124 sts]

Row 2 Change to Yarn C, ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 1dc, *ch2, skip 2 sts, 1dc in the next st; repeat from * to end of row, turn. [42 dc]

Row 3 Change to Yarn A, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at the base of ch, *skip 2 sts, 3tr in the next st; repeat from * to end of row, ending the last repeat with 2tr in the last st, turn. [40 3-tr groups]

Rows 2 and 3 form pattern.

Row 4 Change to Yarn A, work as given for Row 2.

Row 5 Change to Yarn B, work as given for Row 3.

Row 6 Change to Yarn A, work Row 2.

Row 7 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.

Row 8 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.

Row 9 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.

Row 10 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.

Row 11 Change to Yarn B, work Row 3.

Row 12 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.

Row 13 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.

Row 14 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.

Row 15 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.

Row 16 Change to Yarn A, work Row 2.

Row 17 Change to Yarn B, work Row 3.

Row 18 Change to Yarn A, work Row 2.

Row 19 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.

Row 20 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.

Row 21 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.

Row 22 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.

Row 23 Change to Yarn B, work Row 3.

Row 24 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.

Row 25 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.

Row 26 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.



Headband & snood

Row 27 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.
Row 28 Change to Yarn A, work Row 2.
Row 29 Change to Yarn B, work Row 3.
Row 30 Change to Yarn A, work Row 2.
Row 31 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.
Row 32 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.
Row 33 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

TO FINISH

Sew the two short ends together, using the long tail. Weave in all ends.

HEADBAND

MAIN BAND

Using Yarn A, ch107.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [106 sts]
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 1dc, *ch2, skip 2 sts, dc in next st; rep from * to end, turn. [36 dc]
Row 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at base of ch, *skip 2 sts, 3tr in the next st; repeat from * to end of row, ending the last repeat with 2tr in last st, turn. [34 3-tr groups]
Rows 2 and 3 form pattern.
Row 4 Work as Row 2.
Row 5 Change to Yarn B, work as given for Row 3.
Row 6 Change to Yarn A, work Row 2.
Row 7 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.
Row 8 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.
Row 9 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.
Row 10 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.
Row 11 Change to Yarn B, work Row 3.
Row 12 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.
Row 13 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.
Row 14 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.
Row 15 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.
Row 16 Change to Yarn A, work Row 2.
Row 17 Change to Yarn B, work Row 3.
Row 18 Change to Yarn A, work Row 2.
Row 19 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.
Row 20 Change to Yarn A, work Row 2.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

CENTRAL TIE

Using Yarn A, ch29.
Rows 1-3 Work as Rows 1-3 of Main Band Pattern, using Yarn A.
Continue in pattern using the following colour sequence:
Row 4 Change to Yarn C, work as given for Row 2.
Row 5 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.
Row 6 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.
Row 7 Change to Yarn B, work Row 3.
Row 8 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.
Row 9 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.
Row 10 Change to Yarn C, work Row 2.
Row 11 Change to Yarn A, work Row 3.
Row 12 Change to Yarn A, work Row 2.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

TO FINISH

Weave in all ends.
Lightly steam all the pieces.

Stitch the two short sides of the Main Band together to form a loop.

Place the Central Tie piece over the seam of the Main Band and stitch the two short ends together, encasing the larger Main Band as you sew. Add a few stitches from the Central Tie to the Main Band to secure it in place.



This stylish crochet set is from the book *Learn to Crochet, Love to Crochet* by Anna Wilkinson, published by Quadrille (RRP £14.99). Photography by Laura Edwards. To find out more about the book, see www.quadrille.co.uk

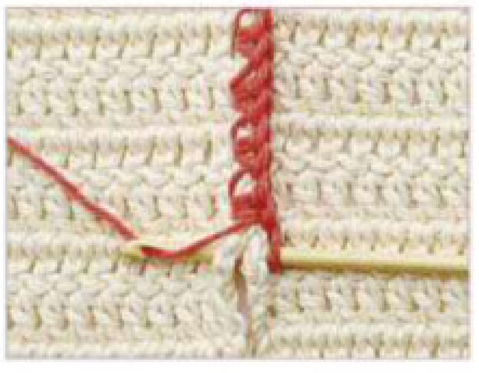
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO SEW SEAMS



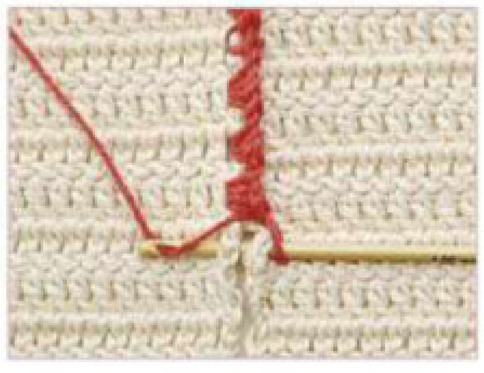
1 Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet wrong sides together and oversew them as shown above, using a tapestry or yarn needle.



2 To slip stitch a seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together. *Insert hk through both edge stitches, yrh, pull through to complete 1 slip stitch; rep from *, keeping your work fairly loose.



3 For a dc seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together, or wrong sides together for a visible seam. Work as for slip stitch seam, using double crochet instead of slip stitch.



4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when you need less bulk and/or greater flexibility in your seam. Work as for the dc seam, but work 1 dc and 1 chain alternately.





BLUE SKIES

Use Tunisian crochet stitches to make a stunning geometric cover-up. Designed by Simone Francis.

Tunisian cardi



TUNISIAN CROCHET | CHUNKY WEIGHT | 9MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Air Mix (70% alpaca, 23% polyamide, 7% wool, 50g/130m)
  Yarn A Fog (10)
  Yarn B Peacock Blue (11)
  Yarn C Off White Uni (01)
  See table for yarn quantities and measurements
- A 9mm (US M/13) Tunisian hook
- Tapestry needle
- Stitch markers

For yarn stockists, contact Wool Warehouse 01926 882818 www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

11sts and 9 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over Tunisian Simple Stitch (Tss) with a 9mm hook

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

Despite its chunkiness, Air Mix by DROPS is very light, resulting in an airy yet cosy cardi. A relaxed fit and wide, three-quarter sleeves make it the perfect cover-up for balmy days. And those unique geometrics? Inspired by the legendary Pendleton blankets woven in the US. To get 10% off this yarn from Wool Warehouse, see page 32.

TUNISIAN CROCHET NOTES

Each Row of Tunisian Crochet is made up of a Forward Pass (FwdP) and Return Pass (RetP). You do not turn the work at all, so you will be working from the RS throughout, as follows.

Return Pass (RetP) The Return Pass is worked in the same way regardless of the stitch you are working:
Yrh and draw through first loop on hook, *yrh and draw through 2 loops on hook; repeat from * until 1 loop remains on hook.

TUNISIAN SIMPLE STITCH (TSS)

Forward Pass (FwdP) Loop on hook counts as first st, do not work into the vertical bar on edge of work. *With yarn at back, insert hook from side to side behind next vertical bar, yrh, pull up loop and leave loop on hook (1 stitch complete); repeat from * until last vertical bar at edge, insert hook under vertical bar and loop on outside edge, yrh, pull up loop and leave on hook.
Return Pass (RetP) Work as for RetP explained above.

TUNISIAN PURL STITCH (TPS)

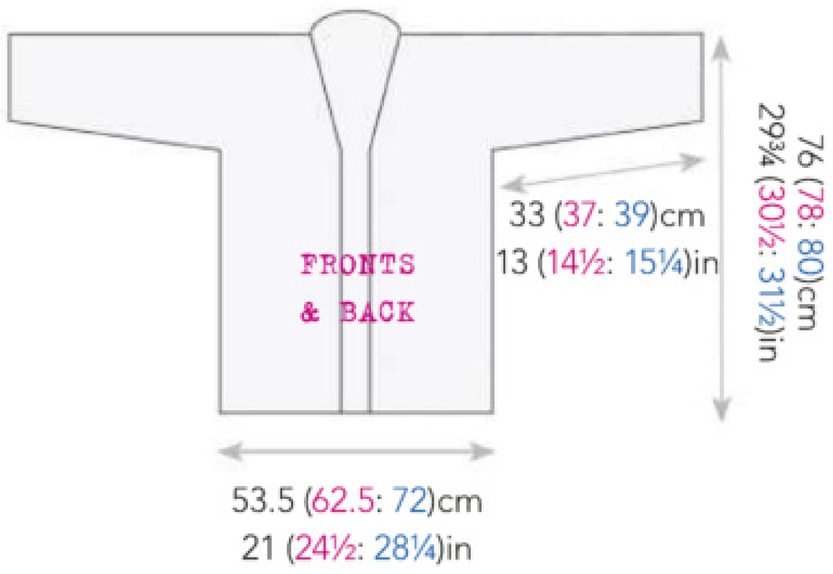
Forward Pass (FwdP) Loop on hook counts as first st, do not work into the vertical bar on edge of work. *With yarn at the front, insert hook from side to side behind next vertical bar, yrh and pull up loop and leave loop on hook (1 stitch complete); repeat from * until last vertical bar at edge, insert hook under vertical bar and loop on outside edge, yrh, pull up loop and leave on hook.
Return Pass (RetP) Work as for RetP explained above.

Tss2tog (Tunisian Simple Stitch 2 sts together) With yarn at back, insert hook from side to side behind next two vertical bars, yrh, pull up loop and leave loop on hook.

Tssinc (Tunisian Simple Stitch increase) in the next st Insert the hook under the horizontal bar before the next st, yrh, pull up a loop and leave it on the hook, insert the hook from side to side behind next vertical bar, pull up a loop and leave it on the hook.

Matching a Return Pass in Tunisian Colourwork
When working Tunisian crochet with

SIZE		S	M	L
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-91	97-107	112-122
	in	30-36	38-42	44-48
ACTUAL BUST	cm	107	125	144
	in	42	49¼	56½
LENGTH	cm	76	78	80
	in	29¾	30½	31½
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	33	37	39
	in	13	14½	15¼
YARN A	50g	6	7	8
YARN B	50g	2	2	2
YARN C	50g	1	2	2



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

more than one shade within a row, you will have already established the pattern of which stitches are worked in which colours on the Forward Pass of that row. Always match the colours on the Return Pass to those of the Forward Pass, unless otherwise stated. To do this, you will need to count the first (yrh and draw yarn through) as the first stitch, and then each (yrh and draw through 2 loops) as each following stitch.

Remember also that the loop on the hook at the beginning of the Forward Pass is counted as a stitch and not worked, so at the end of the Return Pass there will be a (yrh and draw through 2 loops) corresponding to that first stitch. For example, if your colour pattern consisted of (3 loops on the hook in Yarn A, 3 loops on the hook in Yarn B) then on the Forward Pass you would work 2 sts in Yarn A (because the loop on the hook counts as the first stitch) and then 3 sts in Yarn B. On the Return Pass you would work (yrh and draw yarn through) in Yarn B, followed by (yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice in Yarn B to total your 3 Yarn B sts. You would then work (yrh and draw though 2 loops) 3 times with Yarn A.

When changing to a new colour for the next row, pick up the new colour in the last yrh of the previous row. When changing colours mid-row, twist the ends of the two colours together.

Tunisian Colourwork from a Chart
When reading a Chart for Tunisian colourwork, read each row of the Chart from right to left for the Forward Pass, and then read the **same row** of the Chart from left to right for the Return Pass. Each square on the Chart counts as one stitch.

On the Forward Pass, skip the first square on the right of the Chart because the loop on the hook counts as the first st and is not worked. On the Return Pass, the first square on the left of the Chart represents the first (yrh and draw through first loop). After that, each square on the Chart represents one (yrh and draw through 2 loops) of the Return Pass, working in the appropriate colour.



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Pay close attention to the charts as you work to ensure your colourwork is correct.

The garment is worked in separate pieces for the Back, Fronts and Sleeves, from the bottom up. It is an oversized fit with no fastening. An extended Neckband is seamed in the centre and sewn into place around the Back.

BACK

With Yarn A, ch59 (69: 79).
Foundation row Insert hook in 2nd ch from hook, yrh and pull up loop, leaving loop on hook; repeat for each ch across to end, RetP. [59 (69: 79) sts]
Rows 1-2 Tps in each st to last st, Tss in last st, RetP.
Rows 3-5 Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Rows 6-7 With Yarn B, Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Row 8 With Yarn C, Tss in each st to end, RetP, changing to Yarn B in last st so that first loop on hook for next row is Yarn B.
Row 9 1Tss in Yarn B, (2Tss in Yarn C, 2Tss in Yarn B) repeat to last st, 1Tss in Yarn C (B: C), RetP, matching colours of FwdP as explained in note above.
Row 10 With Yarn B, Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Row 11 Repeat Row 9.
Row 12 Repeat Row 8.
Rows 13-14 With Yarn B, Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Rows 15-16 With Yarn A, Tss in each st to end, RetP.

CHART A BACK

Follow Chart A for the Back for the next 7 rows. Remember that for the Forward Pass the first square on the right of the Chart counts as the first loop on the hook, so is not worked. On the Return Pass, the first square on the left counts as (yrh and pull through 1 loop).

Work each st up to the red repeat line on the Chart, then work the stitches between the red repeat lines, repeating this section until you get to the last 3 sts of the row, then work the last 3 sts after the red repeat line on the Chart. Row 17 is written out in full to help you follow the Chart.

Row 17 FwdP: with Yarn B 2Tss, 3Tss in Yarn A, (7 Tss in Yarn B, 3Tss in Yarn A) repeat to last 3 sts, 3Tss Yarn B.
RetP: with Yarn B yrh and pull through 1 loop, with Yarn B (yrh and pull through 2 loops) twice, *Yarn A (pull through 2 loops) 3 times, Yarn B (pull through 2 loops) 7 times; rep from * to last 6 sts, Yarn A (pull through 2 loops) 3 times, Yarn B (pull through 2 loops) 3 times. Row 17 of the Chart is complete.
Rows 18-23 Continue following each row of Chart A Back.
Rows 24-25 With Yarn C, Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Rows 26-27 With Yarn B, Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Rows 28-40 With Yarn A, Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Place a stitch marker at each end of the last row to mark Armhole placement.
Work 0 (2: 4) more rows in Tss in Yarn A.

CHART B

Mark out the centre 25 sts with stitch markers, remembering to count the vertical bar on the edge of the work as the first st. Chart B is worked for 23 rows over the central 25 sts; in this case you **do** need to work the first st on the right-hand edge of the Chart because this stitch is not the first st of the row.

All stitches up to and after the Chart are worked in Yarn A, except for Rows 10-14, which are written out below. Row 1 is written out in full to help you follow the Chart and place stitch markers.

Row 1 FwdP: With Yarn A 16 (21: 26)Tss, 25Tss in Yarn C from Chart, 17 (22: 27) Tss in Yarn A. RetP: With Yarn A pull through 1 loop, (pull through 2 loops) 16 (21: 26) times, Yarn C (pull through 2 loops) 25 times (from Chart), Yarn A (pull through 2 loops) to end. Row 1 of Chart is complete.
Rows 2-9 Continue following Chart, working in Tss and Yarn A up to and after Chart stitches.
Row 10 FwdP: Tss in Yarn C up to Chart, follow Chart, Tss in Yarn C to end. RetP: Tss in Yarn A up to Chart, follow Chart, Tss in Yarn A to end.
Row 11 Tss in Yarn C for both FwdP and RetP up to and after Chart.
Row 12 FwdP: Tss in Yarn C up to Chart, follow Chart, Tss in Yarn C to end. RetP: Tss in Yarn B up to Chart, follow Chart, Tss in Yarn B to end.
Row 13 As Row 11.
Row 14 As Row 10.
Rows 15-23 Continue following Chart, working in Tss and Yarn A up to and after Chart stitches.
Rows 24-25 With Yarn A, Tss in each st to end, RetP.

SHOULDER SHAPING

Row 1 Ss into the first 4 (5: 6) sts (see Finishing Row below for ss instructions), Tss in each st to last 4 (5: 6) sts, leave these sts unworked and work the RetP from this point. [51 (59: 67)sts]
Rows 2-3 Repeat Row 1. [35 (39: 43)sts]
Finishing row Skip vertical bar on edge of work, (insert hook under next vertical bar, yrh and draw through both loops on hook to make a ss) repeat for each st to end.
Fasten off.

RIGHT FRONT

After the foundation row, the first 3 sts to be worked in every row are always in Yarn A in Tps.
With Yarn A, ch28 (33: 38).
Foundation row Insert hook in 2nd ch from hook, yrh and pull up loop, leaving loop on hook; repeat for each ch across to end, RetP. [28 (33: 38)sts]
Rows 1-2 Tps in each st to last st, Tss in last st, RetP.
Rows 3-5 3Tps, Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Rows 6-7 With Yarn A 3Tps, with Yarn B Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Row 8 With Yarn A 3Tps, with Yarn C Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Row 9 With Yarn A 3Tps, (2Tss Yarn B, 2Tss Yarn C) repeat to end, RetP.
Row 10 With Yarn A 3Tps, with Yarn B Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Row 11 Repeat Row 9.
Row 12 Repeat Row 8.

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Rows 13-14 Repeat Rows 6-7.
Rows 15-16 With Yarn A 3Tps, Tss in each st to end, RetP.

CHART A RIGHT FRONT

Rows 17-23 Follow Chart A Right Front for the size you are working.
Rows 24-25 With Yarn A 3Tps, with Yarn C Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Rows 26-27 With Yarn A 3Tps, with Yarn B Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Rows 28-40 With Yarn A 3Tps, Tss in each st to end, RetP.

Place a stitch marker at end of last row to mark Armhole placement.
Work a further 13 (15: 17) rows in Yarn A in pattern as set.

NECKLINE SHAPING

Row 1 With Yarn A 3Tps, Tss2tog, Tss in each st to end, RetP. [27 (32: 37)sts]
Row 2 3Tps, Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Repeat (Rows 1-2) two more times. [25 (30: 35)sts]
Work 6 more rows in Yarn A in stitch pattern, without shaping.

SHOULDER SHAPING

Row 1 3Tps, Tss in each st to last 4 (5: 6) sts, leave these sts unworked and work the RetP from this point. [21 (25: 29) sts]
Rows 2-3 Repeat Row 1. [13 (15: 17)sts]

EXTENDED NECKBAND

Row 4 3Tps, 1Tss, leave the remaining sts unworked and work the RetP from this point. [5 sts]
Row 5 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP.
Rows 6-13 Repeat Row 5.
Finishing row Skip vertical bar on edge of work, (insert hook under next vertical bar, yrh and draw through both loops on hook to make a ss) repeat for each st to end.
Fasten off.

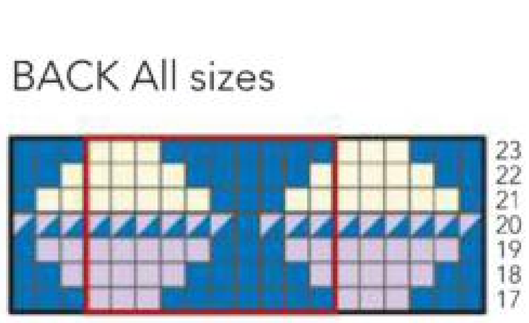
LEFT FRONT

After the foundation row, the last 4 sts to be worked in every row are always 3Tps, 1Tss in Yarn A.
With Yarn A, ch28 (33: 38).
Foundation row Insert hook in 2nd ch from hook, yrh and pull up loop, leaving loop on hook; repeat for each ch across to end, RetP. [28 (33: 38)sts]
Rows 1-2 Tps in each st to last st, 1Tss, RetP.

CARDIGAN CHARTS

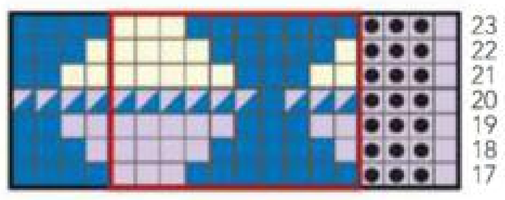
Key
- Tss FwdP and RetP Yarn A (Fog)
- Tss FwdP and RetP Yarn B (Peacock Blue)
- Tss FwdP and RetP Yarn C (Off White Uni)
- Tss FwdP Yarn A (Fog), RetP Yarn B (Peacock Blue)
- Tss FwdP Yarn C (Off White Uni), RetP Yarn A (Fog)
- Tss FwdP Yarn C (Off White Uni), RetP Yarn B (Peacock Blue)
- Tps FwdP and RetP Yarn A (Fog)
- repeat

CHART A

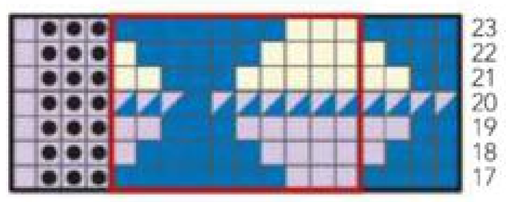


BACK All sizes

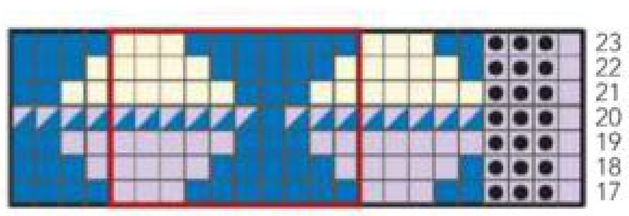
RIGHT FRONT Small and Large sizes



LEFT FRONT Small and Large sizes



RIGHT FRONT Medium size



LEFT FRONT Medium size

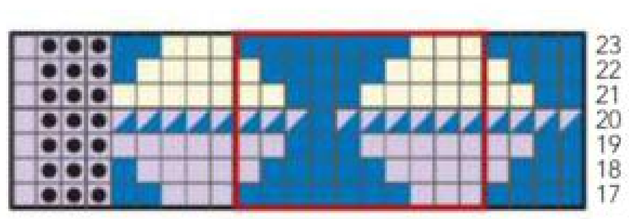
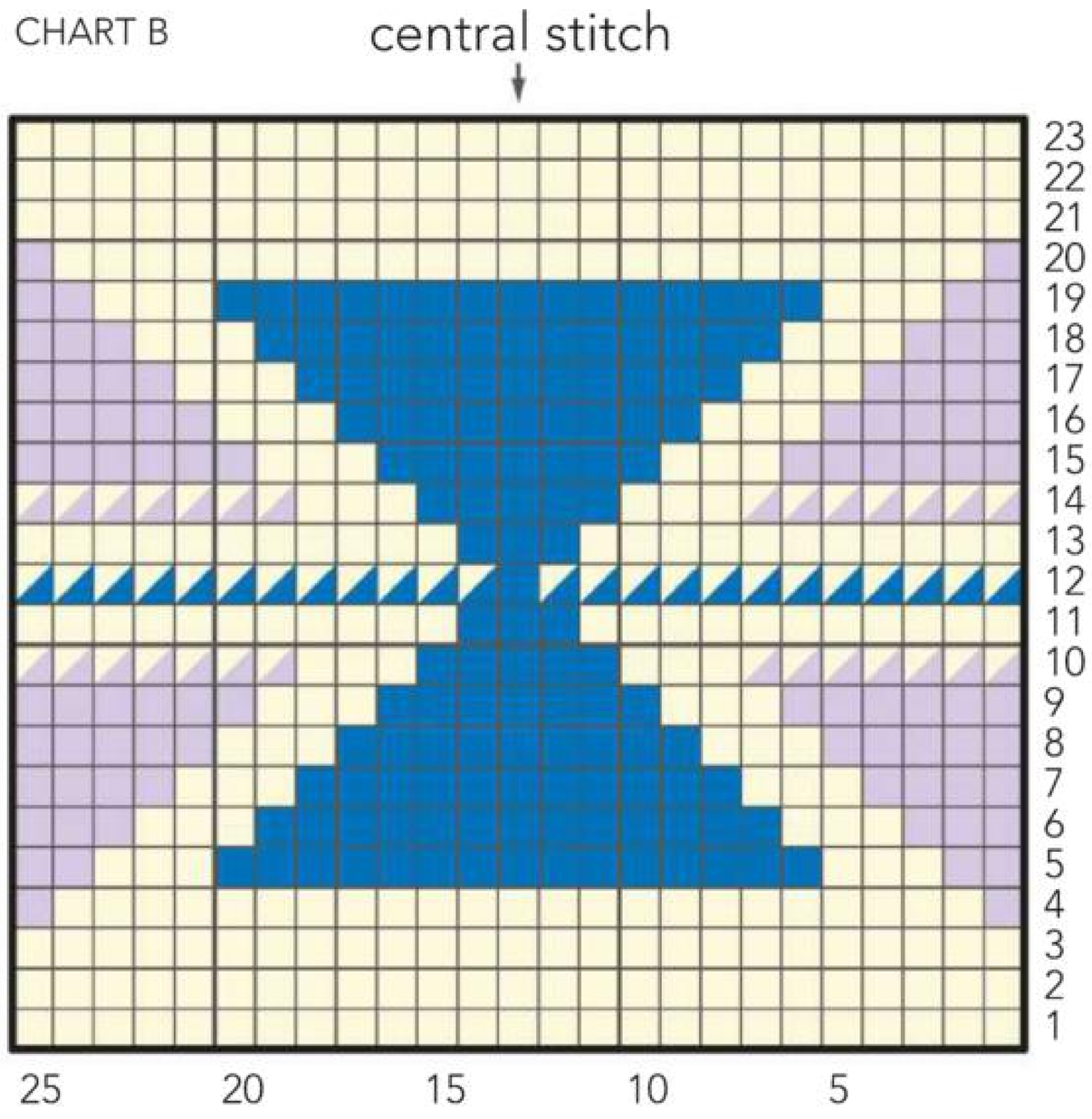


CHART B



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Rows 3-5 Tss in each st to last 4 sts, 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP.
Rows 6-7 With Yarn B, Tss in each st to last 4 sts, with Yarn A 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP.
Row 8 With Yarn C, Tss in each st to last 4 sts, with Yarn A 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP.
Row 9 (2Tss Yarn C, 2Tss Yarn B) repeat to last 4 sts, with Yarn A 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP.
Row 10 With Yarn B, Tss in each st to last 4 sts, with Yarn A 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP.
Row 11 Repeat Row 9.
Row 12 Repeat Row 8.
Rows 13-14 Repeat Rows 6-7.
Rows 15-16 Tss in each st to last 4 sts, 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP.

CHART A LEFT FRONT

Rows 17-23 Follow Chart A Left Front for the size you are working.
Rows 24-25 With Yarn C, Tss in each st to last 4 sts, with Yarn A 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP.
Rows 26-27 With Yarn B, Tss in each st to last 4 sts, with Yarn A 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP.
Rows 28-40 With Yarn A, Tss in each st to last 4 sts, 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP.

Place a stitch marker at beginning of last row to mark Armhole placement.
Work a further 13 (15: 17) rows in Yarn A in pattern as set.

NECKLINE SHAPING

Row 1 With Yarn A, Tss in each st to last 6 sts, Tss2tog, 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP. [27 (32: 37)sts]
Row 2 Tss in each st to last 4 sts, 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP.
Repeat Rows 1-2 two more times. [25 (30: 35)sts]
Work 6 more rows in st pattern, without shaping.

SHOULDER SHAPING

Row 1 Ss in first 4 (5: 6) sts, Tss to last 4 sts, 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP. [21 (25: 29) sts]
Rows 2-3 Repeat Row 1. [13 (15: 17)sts]

EXTENDED NECKBAND

Row 4 Ss in each st to the last 4 sts, 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP. [5 sts]
Row 5 3Tps, 1Tss, RetP.
Rows 6-13 Repeat Row 5. **Fasten off**.

SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

With Yarn A, ch39 (41: 43).
Foundation row Insert hook in 2nd ch from hook, yrh and pull up loop, leaving loop on hook; repeat for each ch across to end, RetP. [39 (41: 43)sts]
Rows 1-2 Tps in each st to last st, 1Tss, RetP.
Row 3 (Inc row) Tssinc in first st, Tss in each st to last st, Tssinc into the last st, RetP. [41 (43: 45)sts]
Row 4 Tss in each st to end, RetP.
Repeat Rows 3-4 until there are 59 (64: 69)sts.
Work 7 (6: 6) rows in Tss without shaping.
Finishing row Working loosely, skip vertical bar on edge of work, (insert hook under next vertical bar, yrh and draw through both loops on hook to make a ss) repeat for each st to end.
Fasten off.



The patterned border runs along the lower part of the cardigan's fronts and back.

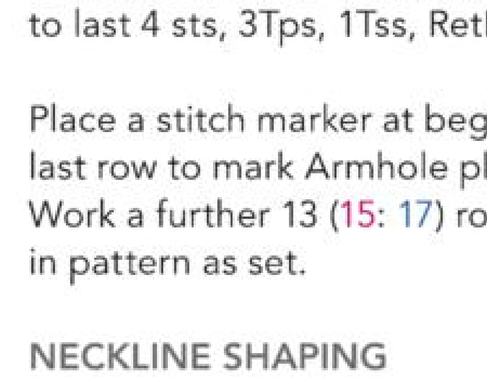
TO FINISH

Sew Shoulder seams of Back to Fronts.
Join short end of extended Neckband and stitch neatly around Back collar.

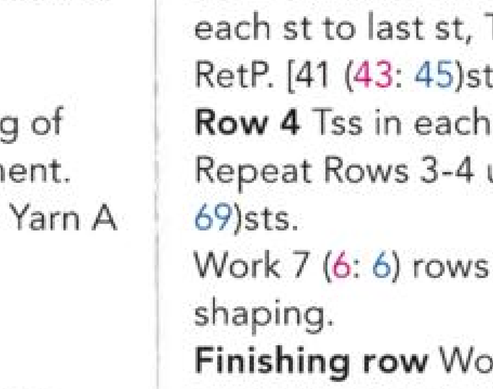
Sew side seams up to the stitch markers (Armholes).
Sew underarm Sleeve seams and set in Sleeves, stitching in place securely.

Weave in all ends and gently block work to measurements.

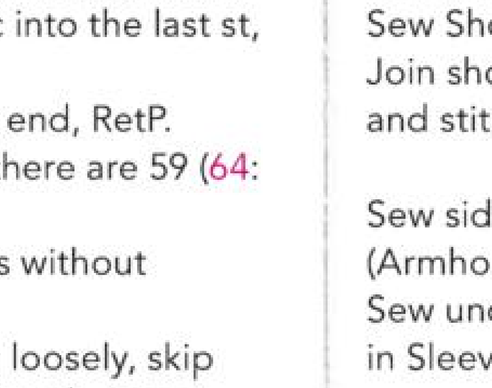
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK TUNISIAN COLOUR EFFECTS



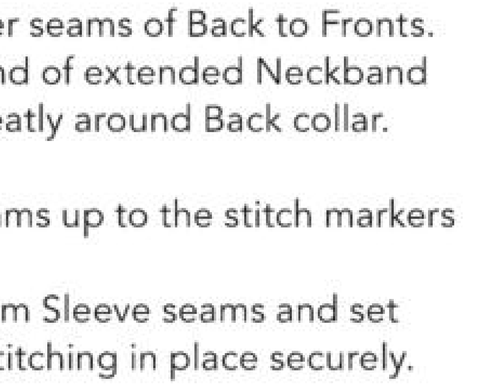
1 You can change colour at either end of the fabric, to create various effects. For solid stripes, change colour for the start of the forward pass, which means picking up the new colour in the last yrh of the return pass.



2 Work in the new colour for the forward and return pass. Pick up the old colour in the last yrh of the return pass, to create a striped effect on the next row.



3 Or try changing colour at the start of the return pass, by picking. To do this, pick up the new colour in the 'ch1' at the start of the return pass. This will avoid a 'jog' in the colour stripes at this end of the row.



4 Work the return pass as usual. This form of striped colourwork brings out the woven look of the fabric, with the vertical strands of the forward pass clearly visible against the contrasting yarn colour of the return pass.

POPCORN STITCH

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



BASIC POPCORN STITCH PATTERN

Make Popcorn (MP) Work 5tr in the same st, drop the loop from the hook, insert the hook from front to back in the top of first tr worked, put the hook back in the dropped loop and pull through the first tr, ch1 to close.

Chain a multiple of 3 plus 2 sts.
We used 23 ch for the sample above.

Row 1 (RS) MP into fourth ch from hook (skipped ch count as tr), 1tr into each of the next 2 ch, *MP in next ch, 1tr into each of the next 2 ch; rep from * to end omitting last tr on final repeat, turn.

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc into each st to end, turn.

Row 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), *MP in next st, 1tr into each of the next 2 sts; rep from * to end, turn.

Row 4 As Row 2.

Row 5 Ch3 (counts as tr), *MP in next st, tr in each of next 2 sts; rep from * to end, omitting last tr on final repeat, turn.

Row 6 As Row 2.

Rows 3-6 set the pattern.

Pattern by Kath Webber.

Turn the page to find more creative ideas using this stitch pattern. ☛

Subscribe at www.simplycrochetmag.com

Perfect your tactile popcorn stitches and craft this playful trio of baby accessories in yummy Cashmerino.



Just a touch of texture – the bootees have a popcorn stitch cuff.



This blanket rules, but we can't guarantee against escaping toes.

POMPOM BONNET

Keep your little pixie cosy in a snug and super-bobbly bonnet. The ties make sure the hat stays in place.

- Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino (55% wool, 33% microfibre, 12% cashmere, 50g/125m), 1 ball of Mist (0057)
- DK yarn in another shade for pompom
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook

TENSION

18 sts and 16 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) in stitch patt with a 3mm hook

MEASUREMENTS

To fit 0-3 months

Flat piece measures 25x13cm (10x4¾in) before joining the back seam

BONNET

Ch50.

Work as given for Basic Popcorn Stitch Pattern for 20 rows, do not fasten off.

Fold piece in half lengthwise, WS tog.

Matching up the stitches, work a dc seam down one side of the folded piece.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Rejoin yarn to dc around the rem edge; when you reach each of the front corners, ch31 for a tie and dc back along the chain before continuing around the edge.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Make 2 pompoms with DK yarn in another shade and attach one to the end of each tie.

WRAPOVER BOOTEES

Tiny toes deserve beautiful bootees. This clever wrapover pair fit the bill.

- Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino (55% wool, 33% microfibre, 12% cashmere, 50g/125m), 1 ball of Mist (0057)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- Stitch markers

MEASUREMENTS

To fit 0-3 months; sole length 7cm (2¾in)

BOOTEES (MAKE 2)

Ch35.

Row 1 (RS) Dc into 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across, turn. [34 sts]

Work a further 6 rows of dc on these sts.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing up. Rejoin yarn with WS facing in 14th st from edge ready to work piece that will form sole, worked from heel to toe.

Rows 8-22 Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc into next 8 sts, turn. [8 sts] **Fasten off**, leaving a long tail for sewing up. To sew up, overlap each row end of first piece and stitch across toe seam, ensuring that you cross over the pieces in opposite directions on each boot. Sew up sides.

CUFF

Mark out central 14 sts around opening and rejoin yarn with WS facing in first of those sts. Work as given for Basic Pattern across 14 sts for 4 rows. **Fasten off** and weave in ends. Fold over Cuff.

BOBBLE BLANKET

Wrap up a little one in a gorgeously squashy textured blanket. It's the perfect gift for a precious new arrival and it's so much fun to hook up. Got a craving for a little more colour? Since the blanket is worked in rows, you could easily raid your stash for a similar DK yarn and make your baby blanket in bright popcorn stripes instead. It's a really simple make but the luxurious yarn and playful texture make it extra special. Get hooking.

- Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino (55% wool, 33% microfibre, 12% cashmere, 50g/125m), 6 balls of Mint (003)
  For yarn stockists, contact Designer Yarns 01535 664222 www.designeryarns.uk.com
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

MEASUREMENTS

Finished blanket measures approx 50x50cm (20x20in)

BABY BLANKET

Ch71.

Work Rows 1-6 of the Basic Popcorn Stitch Pattern.

Repeat Rows 2-6 until the piece measures 50cm.

Fasten off.

Weave in all ends.



Simply INSPIRING

MEET THE CAREER CROCHETER

Launching just one crochet career can be a challenge. We have a chat with designer Salena Baca, who is currently balancing four with ease.

Enterprising crocheters who turn their favourite hobby into a thriving business always have our admiration. Oregon-resident Salena Baca designed her very first crochet pattern – the Amelia hat – in 2009, and she has barely stopped to take a breath since.

"I now have four jobs," Salena exclaims. "I design under my own private label as Salena Baca Crochet, I'm the founder and host of the Design Wars Challenge, and I'm the Partnership Developments Manager for Happily Hooked eMagazine (www.happilyhooked.com) and The Pattern Pack (www.thepatternpack.com)! My passion for crochet led me to these positions and they take up nearly half of my time at least six days a week. My life is a constant battle of time management, but when you thoroughly enjoy something you'll find ways to accommodate it."

FASHIONABLE AND FUNCTIONAL

Part of Salena's success is down to her unfussy design style. "I strive to design patterns that are clean and fluid," she says. "My style is appreciated mostly because I work to promote all these qualities while providing designs that are both fashionable and functional."

Salena relishes designs for items that are: "Quick to make, with a polished and seamless look. From those criteria, I find that certain types of items consume me for periods of time. Lately, I've been excited about blankets and cowls, so I've worked a lot on those in a variety of sizes, styles and colour combinations."

Salena instigated Design Wars in 2012 as a means of connecting with other crochet designers, and spreading her love of cunning crochet a little further. "Working in the global market through Ravelry, Etsy, Facebook and others, I felt that I and my fellow crochet designers could do more to promote one another and the crochet market in general," she says. "I compiled a rough outline for a challenge and reached out to a few







independent designers I admired. I asked whether they'd be interested in designing something in secret using only one type of yarn, before unveiling their designs to be voted on by the public." The designers required very little convincing: "They were immediately hooked by the idea!"

Design Wars was born in December 2012 and is now a quarterly crochet challenge. "Design Wars is a very fun and engaging competition that has flourished into a meaningful networking opportunity – it's a wonderful representation of camaraderie," Salena says. "I love that we're sharing a hobby we love, while keeping the crochet community alive and interesting. I'm really proud to be part of that."

> "WHEN YOU THOROUGHLY ENJOY SOMETHING, YOU'LL FIND WAYS TO ACCOMMODATE IT."

YEAR-ROUND CROCHET

Before making her home in Oregon, Salena lived all over the world, including Hawaii, Okinawa, England and New Mexico, each of which impacted on her development as a designer in different ways. "The climates and customers for each are drastically different, which has been influential in the designs I make," she says. "The warmer climate in New Mexico inspired my non-wearables, like my Christmas Stockings, Market Tote, Modern Ornaments and my Motif Banner. In England, my customer base was almost entirely geared toward newborn photography props – that's when I designed my Mermaid Tail, Snail Prop and newborn bowls and sacks."

Other inspirations include "fashion, function, yarn, colour and pure ingenuity!" Salena enthuses. "As corny as it sounds, I think being happy is my best inspiration – when you're happy, you tend to be more inventive and influenced by senses and surroundings in even the slightest of ways."

Salena has plenty of crochet designers motivating her efforts, too. "I have a very, very long list of crochet heroes, which includes every single artist in Design Wars," she comments. "I also admire anyone with the guts and innovation to turn passion into skill, and skill into a valuable and marketable idea!"

When pressed, Salena manages to whittle it down to just three crochet heroes that she urges us to follow via Facebook, firstly listing Mamachee (www.facebook.com/mamachee). "While Tara's been a friend for years, I was one of her customers first! I've followed Tara since she had just a handful of patterns in her Etsy shop and now she has nearly 200k Facebook fans.

Next comes one of our own crochet favourites, Wink at A Creative Being (www.facebook.com/acreativebeing). "Wink is an absolute gem! She is creative in every sense of the word and I'm in awe of her work – the colour, style, design and presentation. Check out her crochet stuff and I promise you'll be inspired."

Finally, she flags up Rohn (www.facebook.com/rohnstrong). "To say that I'm a fan of Rohn's work is a vast understatement. He's one of the most innovative designers in the market today – we all have a lot to learn from him."

When working on projects, Salena has a passion for "sturdy yarns with great texture and vivid colours that pair together nicely," she says. "One of my current favourites is Debbie Bliss Cashmerino because it's so luxuriously soft, comes in shades that pair together exquisitely and it has a lovely drape. I also adore Cascade 220 Superwash because it's a great aran-weight yarn (my all-time favourite yarn weight!), comes in all of my favourite colours and it's machine washable, too!"

We can't resist Salena's way of bringing together her artistic and pragmatic sides – we're certain that unique blend must be one of the secrets of her success.

Interview by Judy Darley



A FEW OF HER FAVOURITE THINGS

Super-busy crochet designer Salena confesses: "I love to eat, travel and spend time with my family. Actually, the only thing that would get me to step away from my yarn and crochet hook would be a long family vacation, preferably eating my way across Europe. Yum!" Sounds heavenly to us, although we'd have to pack our hooks.

You can find out what Salena's up to now on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Baca.Creations. Wanna get making? You'll find her wonderful crochet designs on Ravelry at www.ravelry.com/people/SalenaBaca

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storemags

FAIRY DUST

Make believe with magical trimmings
by Emma Friedlander-Collins.

Fancy-dress set



YOU WILL NEED

- Small quantities DK yarn in
  Yarn A Bright Green
  Yarn B Dark Green
  Yarn C Light Green
  Yarn D Yellow
  Yarn E Pink
  Yarn F Peach
  Yarn G White
- For the wings, small quantities of white yarn in various weights including novelty yarns, and metallic thread
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A 5.5mm (US I/9) hook (for frame of wings only)
- Two wire coat hangers
- Wire cutters
- Duct tape or similar strong tape
- Tapestry needle
- 2m (2½yds) white ribbon

TENSION

Tension is not critical but adjust the hook size to produce a firm fabric

MEASUREMENTS

Garland: To fit 4-7 years, 45cm (18in) circumference, but can be made to fit
Corsage: 13cm (5¼in) circumference
Wings: To fit 4 years and upward
Each wing measures 14x38cm (5½x15in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

Designer Emma confesses: "Neither the flower garland nor the wings were made for anyone but myself! Every year, we go to a spring festival where everyone wears flower garlands in their hair. I wanted something pretty that wouldn't get damaged and that I could use year after year. Crochet seemed to be the perfect solution. The wings followed on from the garland and they are just beautiful."

NOTES

The garland and corsage can be made to fit anyone, just ensure the starting chain for the band is long enough to go comfortably around their head or wrist. Use the yarns held together for a more organic look.

Play with colour and make the flowers and leaves whatever colours you like! Tonal versions would be pretty or go wild using odds and ends from your stash for a technicolour look.

The pattern for the wings is more of a guide rather than specific instructions, because stitch numbers and motif quantities will vary according to the size and shape you make for the wire frames. This is also a great pattern for using up leftovers from your stash, so you can play with what you have and adjust the size accordingly.

GARLAND

BAND

Using Yarns A and B held together and leaving a long tail, ch70.
Row 1 (RS) 1dc in the second ch from the hook and in each st to end.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

FLOWERS

Make 10 in the following colour combinations:
4 using Yarn D at the centre and Yarn E for the petals
3 using Yarn D at the centre and Yarn F for the petals
3 using Yarn G at the centre and Yarn D for the petals

Using centre colour, ch5, ss to first ch to join into a ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 10dc into the ring.
Fasten off.



The forest fairy garland could be worn as a flower crown or as a leafy necklace.



The fairy corsage is a simple cuff embellished with three blooms and a single leaf.

Round 2 Join petal colour, *(1dc, 1tr, 1dc) in the next st, ss in the next st; repeat from * four more times.
Fasten off.

LEAVES

Make 50 in the following colours:
14 using Yarn A
26 using Yarn B
10 using Yarn C

Ch7.
Round 1 (RS) 1dc in the second ch from the hook, 1htr in the next ch, 1tr in the next ch, 1dtr in the next 2 ch, 5tr in the next ch, turn to work down the opposite side of the foundation chain: 1dtr in the next 2 ch, 1tr in the next ch, 1htr in the next ch, 1dc in the next ch.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing together later.

TO FINISH

Using at least two leaves in Yarn B to give the flowers a dark background, take five leaves and lay them in a star

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shape so the tips/edges are all touching and sew them together. Place a flower at the centre and stitch it securely in place.

Make a total of ten flower and leaf clusters and sew them to the band. Tie the ends of the band together and weave in all loose ends.

CORSAGE

BAND

Using Yarn A, ch25.
Row 1 (RS) 1dc in the second ch from the hook and in each ch to end, turn. [24 sts]
Rows 2-6 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st to end, turn.
Fasten off.

FLOWERS AND LEAVES

Using the pattern for the Garland, make 3 flowers and 1 leaf in colours of your choice.

TO FINISH

Attach leaf to Band and then sew the flowers on top of it.
Sew together the short ends of the Band and weave in ends.

FAIRY WINGS

FRAME (MAKE 2)

Using the wire cutters, clip the hook off the coat hanger at the shoulder curve. Using duct tape, overlap and bind the ends together to create the frame for the wings. It can be bent and stretched into whatever shape you like.

Using chunky yarn and the larger hook, work double crochet stitches around the frame, hooking around the wire to cover it.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

MOTIFS

This is where you can get creative and play around creating various motifs to fill the inside of the wing frame.

Mix different yarn weights, colours, textures and motifs for a shabby-chic look, or keep everything uniform by duplicating the same motif – it's entirely up to you!

We used three motifs in each wing: Motifs 1-3 in Wing One and Motifs 2, 3, and 4 in Wing Two.

MOTIF 1

Ch6, ss to the first ch to join into a ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), 11tr into the ring, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3. [12 sts]
Round 2 Ch4 (counts as tr and ch1), (tr, ch1) in each st around, ss in the third ch of the beginning ch-4.
[12 tr, 12 ch-1 sps]
Round 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in st at the base of ch, 3tr in each st around, ss in the top of the beginning ch-3. [36 tr]
Round 4 *Ch5, skip 2 sts, ss in the next st; repeat from * 11 more times.
[12 ch-5 sps]
Round 5 Ss in ch-5 sp, ch3 (counts as tr), 4tr in the same ch-sp, ch3, (5tr, ch3) in each remaining ch-sp around, ss in the top of the beginning ch-3.
[12 5-tr shells]
Round 6 *Ch5, ss in the third tr of 5-tr shell, ch5, ss to the next ch-3 sp; repeat from * around. **Fasten off**.

MOTIF 2

Ch5, ss to the first ch to join into a ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 10dc into the ring.
Round 2 *Ch3, skip 1 st, ss in the next st; repeat from * 4 more times.
[5 ch-3 sps]



These three accessories are all you need to make an ordinary outfit worthy of a fairy.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A TRIPLE TREBLE



1 To make a triple treble stitch, yrh three times and insert the hook into the next stitch on the previous row, or into the 6th chain from the hook if you're working into the foundation chain. Yrh.



2 Pull the yarn through the chain loop (5 loops on hook). *Yrh and pull the yarn through the first two loops on the hook (4 loops on hook). Repeat from * (3 loops on hook). Yrh again.



3 Pull the yarn through the first two loops on the hook only (2 loops on hook). Yrh and gently pull the yarn through the 2 remaining loops on the hook to finish the stitch.



4 Your finished triple treble stitch should look like this. You can see how it sits neatly next to the 5-chain turning chain. You'll have one loop left on your hook ready to work the next stitch.

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Round 3 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in the same ch-sp, ch1, (3tr, ch1) in each remaining ch-3 sp around, ss in the top of the beginning ch-3. [15 tr and 5 ch-1 sps]
Round 4 Ch3 (counts as tr), counting the ch-sps as sts, work as follows: *2tr in the next st, 1tr in the next st; repeat from * to the last ch-sp, 2tr in ch-sp, ss in the top of the beginning ch-3. [30 tr]
Round 5 *Ch5, skip 1 st, ss in the next st; repeat from * around. **Fasten off**.

MOTIF 3

Ch5, ss to the first ch to join into a ring.
Round 1 (RS) (Ch5, ss into the ring) 4 times, ch3, 1ttr into the ring (counts as ch-5 sp). [5 ch-5 sp]
Round 2 (Ch3, ss in ch-5 sp) 5 times.
Round 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in the same ch-sp, ch2, *3tr in the next ch-sp, ch2; repeat from * around, ss in the top of the beginning ch-3. [15 tr, 5 ch-2 sps]
Round 4 Ch1 (does not count as st), work 1dc in each st and 2dc in each ch-sp around, ss to the first dc to join. [25 dc]
Round 5 *Ch5, skip 1 st, ss in the next st; repeat from * to the last 3 sts, ch5, ss in the base of the beginning ch-5. **Fasten off**.

MOTIF 4

Ch5, ss to the first ch to join into a ring.
Round 1 (RS) (Ch5, ss into ring) 4 times, ch3, 1ttr into the ring (counts as ch-5 sp). [5 ch-5 sp]
Round 2 *Ch7, ss in the third ch of the next ch-5 sp; repeat from * 3 more times, ch5, 1ttr in the third ch of ch-5 sp (at the base of the beginning ch-7). [5 ch-7 sp]
Round 3 *Ch5, ss in the fourth ch of the next ch-7 sp; repeat from * 3 more times, ch3, 1ttr in the fourth ch of ch-5 sp (at the base of the beginning ch-5). **Fasten off**.

TO FINISH

We made three motifs per wing, but you can work as many or as few as you like.

For one wing, lay Motifs 1, 2 and 3 inside your wing frame – the largest in the centre and the smaller two at either end.
Using the tapestry needle and a length of yarn, stitch the motif edges touching the frame to the frame covering.


Using a mixture of motifs gives a more organic, freeform look.

Repeat for the other wing using Motifs 2, 3 and 4.

Using scraps of yarn, stitch in the gaps between the circle motifs, starting at the frame edge.

STRAPS

To make loops for the ribbon straps, work as follows:
For the right-hand wing only, join yarn at the top of the outside edge of the frame, (ch3, ss in the next st) 10 times. [10 loops made]
Repeat for left-hand wing, lining up the loops to match the right-hand wing.

Cut your piece of ribbon in half and lace the two lengths between the wings into the loops, as though you are lacing up a shoe.



This cute crochet set is from the book *Crochet Dress-up* by Emma Friedlander-Collins, published by Cico Books (RRP £12.99). To find out more about this book or to buy a copy, visit www.rylandpeters.com

Mug hug



Simply PERFECT

EARL GREY

Keep your cuppa snug with Helen Ardley's cute mug cosy. Milk and two sugars, please.

Mug hug



DOUBLE, TREBLE | DK WEIGHT | 3MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Rowan Cotton Glacé (100% cotton, 50g/115m), 1 ball of Winsor (849) or Shoot (814)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- 4 buttons for each mug hug

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

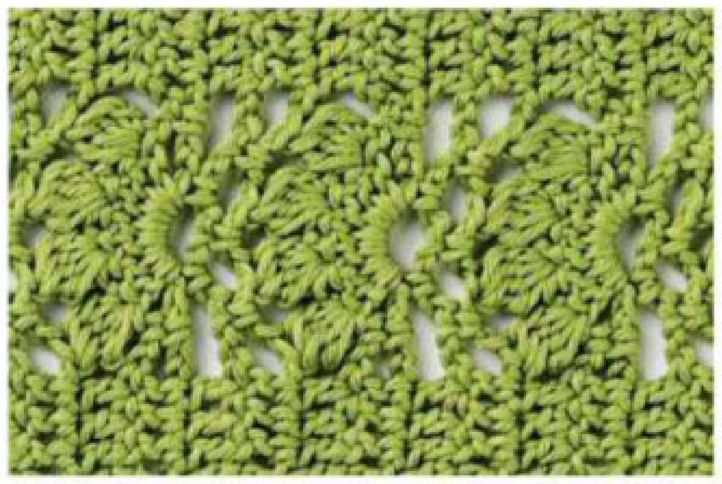
MEASUREMENTS

Finished cosy meas 8x26cm (3x10in) without button loops, fits mug 27cm (10½in) circumference

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

Milky, black or super-sweet, however you take your tea, we're pretty sure you don't fancy a cold cuppa. Keep yours cosy with Helen Ardley's lovely lace creation. The pattern looks complicated, but is fairly easy to whip up – treble clusters are worked side by side to make fan shapes inside a solid border. Cotton Glacé is smooth with a subtle sheen, giving great definition to your stitches. Finish off with mother-of-pearl buttons – tea breaks have never been so stylish.



Wrap your mug cosy around a contrasting cup to see your stitches in their full glory.

MUG HUG

Using either Winsor or Shoot, ch20.

Foundation row Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc into each dc to end, turn.

Rep last row twice.

Work in patt as folls:

Row 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as first tr throughout), 1tr into each of next 3dc, ch4, skip 4 dc, 1dc into next dc, ch3, skip 1 dc, 1dc into next dc, ch4, skip 4 dc, 1tr into each of next 4 dc, turn.

Row 2 Ch3, 1tr in each of next 3 tr, ch2, (1dc, ch1) into next ch-4 sp, (7tr, ch1) into next ch-3 sp, (1dc, ch2) into next ch-4 sp, 1tr into each of next 4tr, turn.

Row 3 Ch3, 1tr in each of next 3 tr, ch1, *4-tr cluster into next tr, ch3, skip 1 tr; rep from * twice more, 4-tr cluster into last tr, ch1, 1tr in each of next 4 tr, turn.

Row 4 Ch3, 1tr into each of next 3 tr, ch2, (1dc into next ch-3 sp, ch3) twice, 1dc into next ch-3 sp, ch2, 1tr into each of next 4 tr, turn.

Row 5 Ch3, 1tr into each of next 3 tr, ch4, skip ch-2 sp, 1dc into first ch-3 sp, ch3, 1dc into next ch-3 sp, ch4, skip ch-2 sp, 1tr into each of next 4 tr, turn.

Rows 2-5 form patt.

Cont in pattern until work meas approx 25.5cm (7 repeats of patt) ending on Row 4.

Next row Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc into each of next 4 tr, 2dc into next ch-2 sp, 1dc into next dc, (2dc into next ch-3 sp, 1dc into next dc) twice, 2dc into next ch-2 sp, 1dc into each of next 4 tr, turn. [19 sts]

Next row Ch1 (does not count as st), 1dc into each dc to end, turn.

Next row Ch1, 1dc into first dc, ch10, 1dc into each of next 6 dc, ch10, 1dc into each of next 5 dc, ch10, 1dc into each of next 6 dc, ch10, 1dc into last dc. [4 button loops formed]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Sew on buttons to correspond with chain button loops.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A CLUSTER STITCH



1 Start a treble in the next stitch or space in the usual way: yrh, insert hook, yrh, pull loop through (3 loops on hook), yrh, pull through first 2 loops (2 loops on hook). Stop here, without finishing.



2 Start a 2nd treble in the same stitch/space: yrh, insert hook in the same stitch again, yrh, pull loop through (4 loops on hook), yrh and pull through first 2 loops (3 loops on hook). Stop here.



3 Start a 3rd treble in the same way as before (4 loops on hook). For a 4-tr cluster, start a 4th treble (5 loops on hook). Now finish all the tr sts together: yrh, pull loop through all loops on hook.



4 This is how a completed 3-tr cluster will look. A 4-tr cluster will be slightly wider. On the next row, just work a stitch into the top of the cluster as usual. Your stitch count should stay the same.

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Simply INSPIRING

CROCHET IT GREENER

With spring in full swing, now is the perfect time to think a little greener and turn your attention to making this year's crochet projects eco-friendly and stashbusting beautiful.

Perhaps you've already read our thrifty crafting feature in issue 29. Recently we've been looking at ways to make our crafting as environmentally sound as possible, without losing points on style. Jessica Chong of www.crochetnature.com has plenty of ideas to help our planet and your stash.

"Lately, I've been using a lot of organic cotton like Lion Brand Nature's Choice, recycled yarn such as Lang Recycled Denim Cotton, and upcycled textile yarn like Boodles or homemade from T-shirts," she says. "Recently, I've also started to pay close attention to whether or not the yarn is ethically sourced or Fair Trade. I've made it my goal to buy more yarn that comes from freedom as opposed to oppression."

NEAR AND FAR

Tif Fussell describes herself as "a Brit misplaced abroad" (she lives in the US state of Washington) and blogs at www.dottieangel.blogspot.com. "Look for yarns local to your area via your neighbourhood yarn store," she suggests. "It's incredible how many small yarn companies there are. It may appear to be expensive compared to mass-produced yarn but think about where it is coming from and the folks that have been part of the process to get that wool from the sheep onto your hook. You can surely feel the love involved when you pick up the skein and hold it in your mitts!"

We all know the 'source locally' mantra, and by doing this you can support local businesses. If you happen to be visiting other cities, countries or yarn fairs, keep an eye open for smaller yarn companies. "It's an exciting way to find beautiful, unique yarns that you might not otherwise discover," advises Jessica. "I always try to pick up skeins of new yarn."

But don't be afraid to buy yarns sourced from further afield, where your purchase

ECO YARNS

may have even more positive impact. Ethnic Crafts (www.ethniccrafts.co.uk) is a great UK-based stockist of eco-friendly yarns, with products ranging from banana yarn to T-shirt ribbon. "The fibres that we use are reclaimed from garment factories in India and turned into yarns by women's cooperatives there," says Anees, the company's owner. "It offers these women the chance to work in their own homes in their spare time, providing their families with a vital income. Inspirational people keep us going – both the people who make the yarn and the people who use it in their craft projects to make something new. We have loyal customers who appreciate the fact that by buying our yarns ,they are preventing the fibres going to landfill while helping women in India earn some extra cash. Through their buying power, they help the environment and cooperatives."

May Linn Bang runs Knit with Attitude (www.knitwithattitude.com) and is dedicated to sourcing and selling eco-friendly yarns. "I come from a background of activism and taking the step to open the yarn shop was an extension of my attitudes towards environmental and ethical issues, hence the name Knit with Attitude," May explains. "I firmly believe that nothing beats the lush tactility of working with natural fibres, and the quality of these fibres is unquestionable – if you take proper care of a handmade garment made in natural fibres, you will have an item that will last for generations. Also, there's the connection and awareness it gives you to the supply chain, including where the fibre is made and how it's processed. And at the end, this yarn is running over your fingers to become something you've made."

> "NOTHING BEATS THE LUSH TACTILITY OF WORKING WITH NATURAL FIBRES."

And then, of course, there's the internet to roam in search of guilt-free yarns. "When I know exactly what I need for a specific pattern, I'll browse Ravelry, eBay, Amazon, Loop, Wool Warehouse and anywhere else that pops up on my Google searches," says Jessica. "I always look for deals on the best yarn."

For Jessica, the main aim is to support businesses with good intentions at their heart. "The yarn needs to be made with the environment in mind and it needs to be made with people in mind as well," she says. "I specifically look for yarn that is organic, recycled, upcycled and sustainably and ethically sourced."

ORGANIC BEAUTIES

There are many yarns available that have a lower impact on the environment, from those made using alternative materials





Soil Association
Certification Limited

Opposite: Beautiful recycled sari yarn by Ethnic Crafts. **This page, clockwise from top left:** A peek at Jessica Chong's eco-friendly yarn stash, photograph by Jessica Chong; Jessica Chong of Crochet Nature, photograph by Jessica Chong; The Soil Association logo – look out for this on organic yarns.



This page, clockwise from left: Organic wool, photograph by the Soil Association; The colourful shelves of Knit With Attitude, photograph by Knit With Attitude; Soak Wash, an eco-friendly detergent for delicates, photograph by Knit With Attitude.





such as soy and corn silk, to yarns composed of organic or recycled content such as vintage sari ribbon. The benefit of the latter is that two balls will rarely be identical – but equally, this can be a downside. Whether you prefer to seek out the yarn to suit your project or decide on your project depending on the yarn, it's worth swatching first as the yarn may behave differently to how you expect.

With green concerns high on the agenda, you can seek out yarn stamped with the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) symbol, the Soil Association logo or the Textile Exchange (previously called Organic Exchange) symbol. In the UK, material carrying the GOTS or the Soil Association symbol has been both grown and processed organically, meaning that in addition to a base material such as cotton or wool, the dyes and inks have met strict biodegradability and toxicity rules. Equally crucially, the waste water produced by these processes is treated before being released into nearby rivers, ensuring minimal impact on local ecosystems and communities. "Organic yarn is wonderful because it is free of synthetic fertilisers or toxic pesticides," says Jessica. "Besides being healthier for the environment, it is often much softer than other yarns. Recycled and upcycled yarn is great because it involves taking a material that would otherwise be disposed of and making it into something beautiful."

> "BESIDES BEING WONDERFUL FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, ORGANIC YARN IS OFTEN MUCH SOFTER."

Don't expect to find everything you need overnight – rather, think of this as a journey into a new kind of crafting. "Discovering yarn that meets my criteria is an ongoing and evolving process," says Jessica. "The more I learn, the stricter my criteria becomes, but it's also so fulfilling to find there is yarn out there to meet it."

SAVVY STASHBUSTING

To make the most of your yarn stash and use up all those pesky lone and partial balls of yarn, stashbuster projects are a fab, fun and speedy idea. "I've designed a few small, quick and easy stashbuster projects, including my organic mug cosy, coffee cup sleeves and chunky coasters," says Jessica. "Crocheting with stripes is also a great way to use up scraps, which was one thing that inspired me to create my stripes slouchy hat pattern – the other being that I needed a really warm hat!"

Crocheted edgings and amigurumi are also great ways to turns leftover yarn into something pretty or cute! Jessica began coming up with her nifty patterns to deal with her own brimful stash. "I had literally run out of places to store my yarn," she admits. "So I made a goal to not buy new yarn until I'd used up or given away the majority of my stash. I began to create new patterns with what I had left. I must say, it felt amazing to slowly clear away the clutter of overflowing yarn!"

Jessica has a strong belief that as crafters, we have an appreciation for nature that can be safeguarded through our choices. "Wouldn't it be amazing for us, as crocheters, to not just create beauty in our crafts, but to preserve the beauty in our environment?" she suggests. "If we craft responsibly, we can have a positive

ECO YARNS

impact that will trickle through to the future." She adds: "Crocheting in an eco-friendly manner feels good and it does good. I truly believe that the natural beauty around us is a gift, one that we need to cherish, love and protect."

THE NEXT STEP

You can also make a positive impact by choosing your crochet projects and yarns based on charitable activities. Jessica donates 10% of all profits from her pattern sales to human rights organisation International Justice Mission UK (www.ijmuk.org). "The issue of slavery is in my heart and has been for years," she says. "It took me a while to figure out what I could do to help lessen the immense injustice of modern slavery. When I started selling my crochet patterns and creations, I realised that it was the perfect way to use my talents to help a cause that pulls at my heart. Along with donating 10% of my sales to International Justice Mission, I've created my Freecember infinity scarf, from which 100% of pattern sales and 50% of the scarf sales are donated to Freecember (www.crowdrise.com/freecember). The money is distributed to a variety of anti-slavery organisations including Amok, Free The Slaves, International Sanctuary and more."

> "I BELIEVE THE BEAUTY AROUND US IS A GIFT, ONE WE NEED TO CHERISH, LOVE AND RESPECT."

You can also put your crochet skills to good use for ventures raising awareness and funds for a variety of causes, from the Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef movement we featured in issue 13 (find details at www.crochetcoralreef.org), to Project Linus (www.projectlinusuk.org.uk), which seeks handmade blankets to give to children. And of course, crocheting your own project bag or tote for carrying the weekly shop in, to reduce the usage of plastic bags, will benefit the environment, too. And if you still end up with too many plastic bags to handle, you can always snip them up and wind them into plarn.

Best of all though, when you've fallen out of love with a crocheted garment or accessory, you don't need to cast it aside – just make yourself comfortable and set about frogging the yarn, all ready for your next yarn adventure.

Written by Judy Darley

TOP LINKS FOR GOING GREEN

www.global-standard.org/information-centre/gots-simple-show-clip.html
www.soilassociation.org
www.textileexchange.org
www.crochetconcupiscence.com/2011/06/top-10-ideas-for-eco-friendly-crochet/



Left: Freecember Infinity Scarf, by Jessica Chong.
Below: Stripes Slouchy Hat; Chunky Mug Cosy.
Photographs by Jessica Chong of Crochet Nature.







COLOUR WHEEL

Stitch a rainbow work of art for your bed or sofa. By Dorien Hollewijn.

Creative crochet blogger and *Boho Crochet* editor Marinke Slump (otherwise known as Wink) is a big fan of Dorien Hollewijn's bright blanket design. She says: "Pinwheeling hexagons are an interesting spin on classic granny squares. But it's the colour placement, based on the colour wheel, that makes this blanket so eye-catchingly special." What a beauty. We can't take our eyes off it.

Hexi blanket



YOU WILL NEED

- Heavyweight 4ply (US sport weight) cotton yarn, 50g balls. 16 balls of white as Yarn A, 1 ball each of 24 additional colours as Yarn B (see Notes)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

TENSION

One hexagon measures 8.5cm (3¼in) wide

MEASUREMENTS

Finished blanket measures 148x142cm (58x52in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

NOTES

The blanket is made with hexagons that gradually change in colour from pale colours in the centre, to darker colours around the outsides.

Each hexagon is made with 3 rounds of Yarn B, and 2 rounds of white.
When choosing yarn shades for Yarn B, group the shades according to tones of the same colour.

Start the first hexagon using the same shade of Yarn B for the first three rounds and white for the last two rounds.
For the second hexagon, add a lighter tone of Yarn B for the first round, then complete as for the first hexagon.
For the third hexagon, work the first two rounds using the lighter tone of Yarn B and complete as for the first hexagon.
For the fourth hexagon, work the first round in the lightest tone of Yarn B, the second round in the next lightest tone of Yarn B and the third round in the original shade of Yarn B and complete as for the first hexagon.

HEXAGON MOTIF (MAKE 252)

The instructions for Rounds 1-3 are written as if you are continuing with the same Yarn B throughout; if you are using several shades of Yarn B then you will need to fasten off and rejoin in the appropriate ch-sp of the next round.

Using Yarn B of choice, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch2, tr2tog into the loop (counts as tr3tog throughout), ch3, (tr3tog into the loop, ch3) 5 times, ss into the top of the beginning ch-2. [6 clusters]
Round 2 Ss into the next ch-3 sp, (ch2, tr2tog, ch3, tr3tog) into the same ch-3 sp, ch1, *(tr3tog, ch3, tr3tog, ch1) into each remaining ch-sp around, ss into the top of the beginning ch-2. [12 clusters]
Round 3 Ss into the next ch-3 sp, (ch2, tr2tog, ch3, tr3tog) into the same ch-3 sp, ch1, tr3tog into the next ch-1 sp, *ch1, (tr3tog, ch3, tr3tog) into the next ch-3 sp, ch1, tr3tog into the next ch-1 sp, ch1; repeat from * to end, ss in the top of the beginning ch-2.
Fasten off. [18 clusters]



Your bright crochet hexagons can be joined with crochet stitches or sewn together.

Round 4 Join white in the next ch-3 sp, ch3 (counts as first tr), (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in the same ch-3 sp, (3tr into the next ch-1 sp) twice, *(3tr, ch2, 3tr) into the next ch-3 sp, (3tr into the next ch-1 sp) twice; repeat from * to end, ss to the top of the beginning ch-3. [24 3-tr groups]
Round 5 Ch1 (counts as first dc), work 1dc into each stitch and 2dc into each ch-2 sp to end, ss into the first dc. [84 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

Using picture as guide, keep making hexagons, using the colour wheel as a guide.

TO FINISH

Once the hexagons are completed, sew or crochet them together in 18 rows of 14 hexagons, working through the back loops only of the stitches at the outer edge.



This beautiful blanket is from *Boho Crochet: 30 Gloriously Colourful Projects Inspired by Traditional Folk Style* by Marinke Slump, with photography by Simon Pask. It's published by Apple Press, £12.99.

Simply Crochet

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Crochet Giraffe pattern by KornflakeStew

SHOW US YOURS!

Join our gang of Treble Makers and share your thoughts and makes with us for a chance to be featured here.



GIRL POWER

We're very impressed with Leonie Atherton's trio of amigurumi dolls. The pattern was in issue 29, but Leonie has added plaits, cute fringes and adorable coordinating outfits to her little crochet ladies. We like. Via Facebook.

This month you sent us...

A yarny poem

"**Crochet a Blanket of Hope**
Nanny first showed me and
I continue as I was taught
Into each line of crochet I crochet
a nice thought
I leave little holes for the bad
to go away
While occasionally winding my stitches
I quietly pray
(This does not replace kneeling down,
closed hands, bowed head)
As hope for good in this world works
its way into my thread."

Eunice P England via post

IN BLOOM

▼ We're big fans of **Evelien Breeman's** wreath from issue 28. Crocheting around the ring adds texture and the cheeky blue tit is a fab finishing touch. Via Facebook.





▲ Lady in red **Susie Parry** is fairly new to crochet, but she's done an incredible job making her Ruby Red shawl from *Simply Crochet* issue 29 with Women's Institute Acrylic 4ply. She shared this make with us on Facebook.

THE LOWDOWN **To be in with a chance of winning one of three £30 vouchers to spend at LoveCrochet (www.lovecrochet.com), show us your *Simply Crochet* makes on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or via email or post by 10 June 2015. For all terms and conditions, and more information, visit www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/competitionrules**

WIN

@SIMPLY CROCHET Storemags



FAIRYTALE ENDING

Wow. Super-creative stitcher **Linda Templeton** has used the *Little Red & the Wolf* amigurumi patterns from *Simply Crochet* issue 10 to make a gorgeous and oh-so unique baby mobile. Her design includes grandma, a squirrel and lots of hoops and twisting vines. And how sweet is that basket? She shared this creation with us on Facebook. The attention to detail is simply amazing.

GET CRACKING

Monica van Leusen-Pendavingh shared her egg-cellent issue 28 potholders with us on Facebook this month..



TALK TO US!

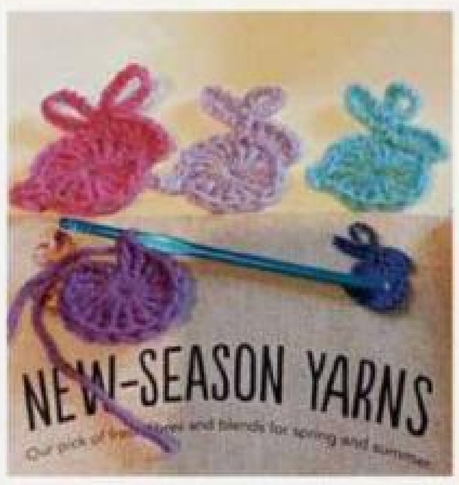
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Write to us at: Simply Crochet, Immediate Media Co, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN

Email us at: simplycrochet@immediate.co.uk

DOUBLE TAP

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



RABBIT RABBIT @ashleybee666 made these super-cute bunnies for a friend's mum over Easter. They ended up being a rabbit garland. Lovely!



LOVE BIRDS @thegreenhaired lady hooked up Kat Goldin's Winging It cardi from issue 27. We really like the selection of blue tones she's used to make it.



SO BRIGHT @baerenart's bright spring mandala from issue 28 is just stunning. Those colours really pop and the hearts look so neat. Great job.



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Crochet Giraffe pattern by KomflakeStew







SHAWL SUPERSTARS

Beautiful yarns fit for glorious crochet shawls and wraps.

CLUB MOTIF

Make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), 8tr into the ring, ss into top of beg ch-3. [9 tr]

Round 2 *Ch7, skip 2 tr, ss into next tr; rep from * twice. [3 ch-7 sp]

Round 3 Ch1, dc into ss, *ch4, 3tr into fourth ch of ch-7, ch4, dc into ss; rep from * twice more with last ss in first dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Pattern by Becca Parker







join the shapes to make a speedy shawl

storemags

YARN REVIEWS

DMC NATURA YUMMY

WEIGHT 4ply
CONTENT 100% cotton
BALL 50g/85m
HOOK 3mm
RRP £3.50



DMC have released a limited-edition run of scrumptious shades in their ever-popular Natura Just Cotton yarn. Take your pick from 16 tasty colours: eight ice cream pastels and eight eye-popping neons. It's the same smooth and supple combed cotton yarn we know and love, but in brighter colours. This 4ply would be great if you'd like a shawl with a sheen but don't want to splash out on silk. It provides brilliant stitch definition, too.
www.dmccreative.co.uk
0116 275 4000

SUBLIME SUPERFINE ALPACA DK

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% alpaca
BALL 50g/120m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £6.30



If it's high-quality, natural fibre with a luxurious feel that you're after, you won't go far wrong with Sublime's Superfine Alpaca DK. The glorious yarn is made in Peru with 100% alpaca and is fantastically soft. It has a fine halo and is pleasant to work with. Choose from their chic palette of six subtle solid shades, all of which work well together. Superfine Alpaca DK would be marvellous for making an extra special, cosy wrap. Wash by hand only.
www.sublimeyarns.com
01924 369666

EDEN COTTAGE YARNS MILBURN 4PLY

WEIGHT 4ply
CONTENT 85% Bluefaced Leicester wool, 15% silk
BALL 50g/200m
HOOK 3mm
RRP £8



Lovers of British wool will be keen to get their mitts on Milburn. The superwash Bluefaced Leicester wool is blended with sumptuous silk, resulting in a thoroughly gorgeous (and conveniently machine washable) 4ply. Take your pick from seven elegant jewel shades, each one with a gentle sheen. Be sure to check out Eden Cottage's Bletchley pattern collection – the collaboration with designer Joanne Scrace includes two crochet projects in Milburn 4ply. **www.edencottageyarns.co.uk**

DROPS ALPACA SILK BRUSHED

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 77% alpaca, 23% silk
BALL 25g/140m
HOOK 5mm
RRP £2.20



For a truly luxurious feel without the hefty price tag, Alpaca Silk Brushed is your go-to yarn. It's an extremely fuzzy, cloud-like yarn with a gleam of mulberry silk running through it. As it's an aran weight, it will work up fairly quickly into a heavenly, halo-tastic shawl that's warm to wear and wonderfully soft. Despite its aran label, this yarn is extremely light. Alpaca Silk Brushed is available in 14 solid shades and is great value for money.
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk
01926 882818

CLASSIC ELITE YARNS SOFT LINEN

WEIGHT 4ply
CONTENT 35% wool, 35% linen, 30% baby alpaca
BALL 50g/125m
HOOK 3.5mm
RRP £7.50



This US yarn brand is fairly new on our radar, but we were really impressed with the quality of Soft Linen by Classic Elite Yarns. It's a heavy 4ply that leans more towards a DK weight. The unusual blend provides fantastically crisp stitch definition and a soft drape. These qualities make it a top choice for a lacier crochet shawl design. Faint fibrous wisps from both the linen and alpaca add character and texture to the yarn.
www.loveknitting.com
0845 544 2196

LOUISA HARDING ANISE

WEIGHT Chunky
CONTENT 45% cotton, 45% polyacrylic, 10% nylon
BALL 50g/70m
HOOK 6mm
RRP £4.95



Louisa Harding's new Anise is a pretty unique yarn. The printed cotton blend is a loopy, variegated tape yarn in a chunky weight. But don't let that chunky label fool you, the yarn feels surprising light and airy, and drapes very well. This would be a brilliant option if you're keen to whip up a breezy crochet shawl before the hotter days begin in earnest. The 10 peppy, variegated colourways for Anise are all inspired by different spices and flavours.
www.designeryarns.uk.com
01535 664222

SheMags.com

SURFACE CROCHET

Embellish your crochet fabrics with an extra layer of colour, texture or pattern. Grab your hook and yarn…

WHAT CAN I CREATE?

Here's the lowdown on what you need to know…

Surface crochet is exactly what it sounds like – it's a way of creating crochet pattern on the surface of your crochet fabrics. You can use it to create motifs, such as flowers on a bag, or lettering, such as a name on a baby blanket. It's sometimes described by crocheters as being a bit like doodling with your yarn and hook! We'll show you just how to work the technique and then you can use your new skills to make our flower-adorned tablet cosy on page 83.



LINES

Surface crochet involves making lines of slip stitches on the front of an existing piece. Double crochet fabric works best and you'll need to get used to holding the yarn at the back of the fabric.



CIRCLES

You can use surface crochet to add definition and outlines or simply to build up extra colour effects. And your lines don't have to be straight – they can be wavy or form circles and outlined motifs.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

It's easy to get started working surface crochet…



01



02

First, you need a piece of crochet fabric to practise with. Surface crochet works best on a piece of double crochet fabric, which is dense and the stitches form a natural grid of holes for you to work into.

Then you need to attach your yarn to the back of the fabric – you can do this with a knot or a slipknot and weave in the tail end afterwards. Make sure you attach the yarn at the point where you want to begin your surface crochet design.

Try this method to attach the yarn: make a slipknot and place it on your hook. Insert the hook into part of a stitch on the reverse of the fabric 01. Yrh and pull the yarn through the stitch and the slipknot 02. Tighten the slipknot. You will have attached the yarn to the reverse of your fabric.

Alternatively, if you're knotting the yarn, make sure you create a working loop for your hook on the back of the work.

HOW DO I WORK LINES?

Master surface crochet with these four simple steps.

Once the yarn is attached, you can remove the hook from the working loop at the back, bring the hook to the front of the fabric and insert it where you want to work your first surface crochet stitch. Use the hook to pull the working loop through to the front of the fabric 01.

Now you can start making slip stitches on the fabric. To do this, *insert the hook into the next hole in your fabric, from front to back, and work yrh. Pull a loop of yarn through to the front of your fabric (2 loops on hook) 02. Draw the new loop through the first loop (first slip stitch formed) 03. Make sure this first surface crochet slip stitch lies neat and flat against the surface of the fabric. Repeat from * to create more slip stitches in a line 04.









HOW DO I FINISH OFF A LINE?

Here's how easy it is to fasten off your lines.

Continue working slip stitches as explained above until your line is as long as you desire 01.

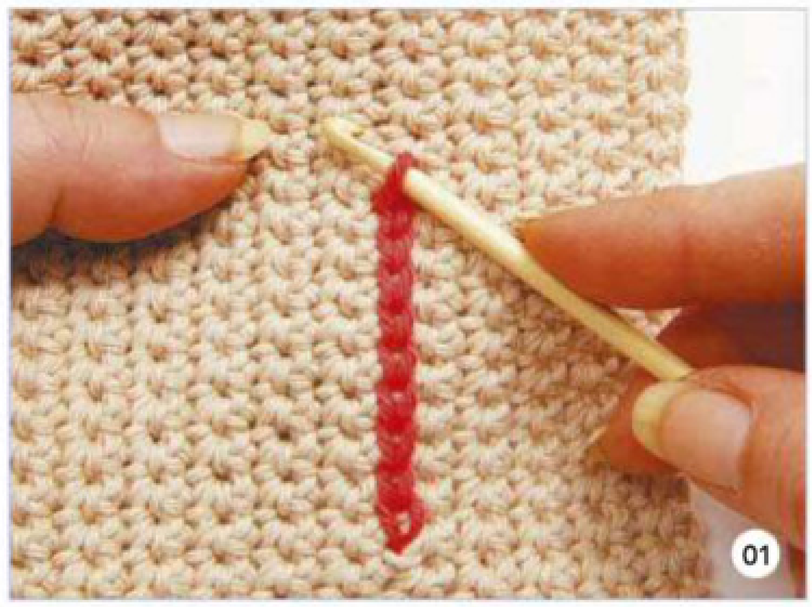
When you've finished your line, cut your yarn at the back of your fabric, leaving a tail around 15cm long.

Thread the tail onto a tapestry needle and bring the needle and yarn up to the front of the fabric, at the point where you want your last stitch to end.

Pass the needle and yarn through the final loop and remove the hook 02.

Then insert the needle back down into the fabric to take the yarn back down at the same point as it came out 03. This forms a small loop that will hold your final slip stitch in place.

Pull gently on the yarn to make sure the final loop lies flat 04. Securely and neatly weave in this tail end, and the starting tail, on the back of your fabric.









Subscribe on page 30 – don't miss out!

HOW DO I WORK CIRCLES?

Use your new skills to create circular lines.

If you're working a circle or any outlined design that ends in the same place as it begins, the technique is the same, but you'll need to finish off your line in a different way to create a neater look.

So start off your line in the same way as before 01, then work your stitches diagonally, horizontally and vertically to create your design.

Work your design up until the penultimate stitch (the one before the last stitch). Cut the yarn, leaving a tail around 15cm long. Thread the tail onto a tapestry needle and bring the needle up to the front of the fabric at the point where you want your last stitch to start. Pass the needle and yarn through the penultimate loop and remove it from the hook as you do so.

Now insert the needle underneath the first stitch of the design, from right to left 02. Then push the needle back into the penultimate loop and into the fabric at the same point as the yarn came out 03. Pull gently to make sure the final loop lies neat and flat 04. Securely and neatly weave in this tail end, and the starting tail, on the back of the fabric. You'll be left with a circle or other design that has no obvious start or end point. Magic!









WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

Here's some essential know-how you need for success…

Doodling with your yarn is fun, but there are a few things you need to remember! When you're working surface crochet slip stitches, you always keep the yarn at the back of the fabric. This can seem a little odd because you won't be able to see your yarn wrapping around the hook – you'll need to feel your way with your fingers.

It's also important to keep your tension fairly loose so that your slip stitches don't pull on the base fabric and distort it. The stitches should sit neatly on the surface of the fabric.

When you insert the hook to make the stitches, you will usually insert it into the gap between double crochet stitches. The benefit of using a double crochet fabric is that each stitch acts as a guide for spacing out your surface crochet stitches evenly. Occasionally, you might need to work a surface crochet stitch into the centre of the dc stitch itself. If you need to do this, try inserting a tapestry needle into the stitch first to form a guide hole – this will make it easier to insert your hook.

Once you're confident working surface slip stitch motifs or lettering on double crochet fabrics, you can try working them on other fabrics, such as treble crochet.

When creating surface crochet patterns, you can follow a specific design or work on a freeform basis, starting and stopping wherever you like to create shapes as you go. If you're following a design, it can help to trace it onto a piece of paper, then cut it out and place it over your crochet fabric to give you a guide as to where to place your surface crochet stitches. If you want to, you could use a water-soluble pen to mark out the lines of your design and then slip stitch over them.

Written by Becky Skuse.



DIGITAL DAISIES

Go wild with hooky floral embellishment to make Becky Skuse's pretty case for your tablet.

Subscribe on page 30 – don't miss out!

Tablet cosy



DOUBLE CROCHET | DK WEIGHT | 4MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Phildar Phil Coton 4 (100% cotton, 50g/85m), 1 ball of each:
  Ciel (03)
  Mercure (08)
- Any DK yarn from your stash, in your choice of colours, for the flowers
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A button, 2.5cm (1in) in diameter
- Stitch markers

For yarn stockists, contact Deramores 0800 488 0708 www.deramores.com

MEASUREMENTS

Finished cosy measures 18x28cm (7x11in), but it stretches to fit an iPad

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

Gadgets and gizmos needn't be devoid of colour and yarny goodness. Spruce up your tablet with a decorative crochet cosy. It'll brighten it up and keep it safe and scratch-free. The surface crochet detail with help you learn the technique while the little rainbow flowers will have you blazing through your yarn stash.

NOTES

We actually worked our cosy in the round, but this makes it very difficult to add the surface crochet design. So our instructions involve making separate Front and Back pieces, then seaming them together.

COSY FRONT/BACK (MAKE 2)

With Ciel, ch51.
Row 1 (RS) (Dc in the second ch from hook and each ch to end, turn. [50 dc]
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each dc to end.
Repeat Row 2 until cosy is desired length. We worked 50 rows.
Next row Ss in each st to end, turn.
Repeat above row until ss section measures 3cm.
Next row (Front only) Ss in each st to the centre, ch13, ss to next ss to form button loop, ss to end of row.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

DAISY

Make as many daisies as you like in your choice of colours.
We made one in blue, three in orange and yellow, and two of each in red, turquoise, purple, lilac and pink.

Make a magic loop, leaving a long tail (approx 20cm).
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as stitch), 10dc into the loop, ss to first dc.
Round 2 (Ch2, htr into st at base of ch2, ch2, ss to each of the next 2 sts) 5 times.
Fasten off and weave in end.

FRONT EMBELLISHMENT

You can arrange your flowers and surface crochet your vine in any way you like on the Front piece.
Arrange your flowers, with some overlapping, and pin them in place.

Then surface crochet your vine using Mercure yarn, following the instructions in the guide on page 81.
Start at the bottom edge, working your way up.
Crochet the main 'trunk' line first, then work each branch line separately to each flower group.

Once your vine line is finished, you can sew your flowers into place.
Use the long tail from the magic loop to secure each flower at the centre, then sew down each flower near the edge. This will make sure the flowers are secure but still have a 3D feel and can overlap each other.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

BACK EMBELLISHMENT

Take the Back piece and position your button just under the slip stitch edging.
Use stitch markers to mark the upper, lower, left and right edges of the button.
Use these markers as a guide to work a circle of surface crochet in one of the flower shades.
Once complete, sew the button on top of the circle, evenly positioned.

TO MAKE UP

Place the Front and Back cosy pieces together, right sides facing.
Rejoin the pale blue yarn at one edge and work a slip stitch seam to join the two pieces along the bottom and both sides.
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Turn right sides out.



The button on the back of the tablet cosy sits inside a little ring of surface crochet.

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FASHION ♥ HOME ♥ BLOGGERS ♥ TUTORIALS



The spring issue is filled with exciting ideas to transform your look for the new season. From accessories to jewellery and wardrobe essentials we have ***60 inspiring patterns*** to help you hook your way to a brand new you.

With mini makes, ***step-by-step tutorials*** and gorgeous photography, beginners will find plenty of ***easy crochet treats*** to help get them started. Plus, discover the latest news and titbits, the best from bloggers and read reviews of the best online designer-makers.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- ★ 60 gorgeous patterns to inspire you
- ★ Get glamorous with a sexy sleeves shrug
- ★ Bag it! Must-make handbags, purses and gadget cosies and covers
- ★ Accessorise in style with statement jewellery
- ★ Revealed! Crochet art bears all



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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.

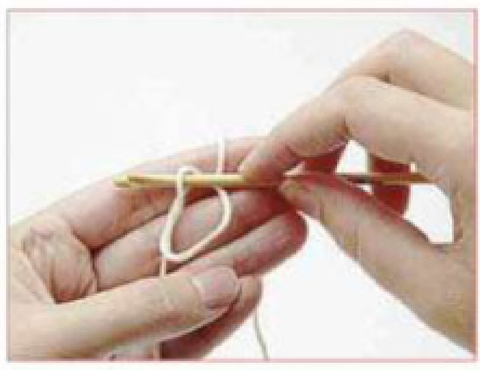
MAKING A SLIPKNOT The first loop on the hook.



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 circular loop.



2 Hold the loop between left thumb and forefinger, then insert the crochet hook through the centre of the loop from front to back.



3 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook and pull it back through the centre of the loop, taking the yarn through with it.



4 Pull both ends of the yarn to tighten the knot, then pull just the ball end to tighten the loop so it's close to the hook, but not touching it.

CHAIN STITCH Use this stitch to make your foundation chain.



1 Hold the hook in your right hand, and both the yarn end and the working yarn in your left hand. Move the hook under and over the yarn to wrap it around anticlockwise.



2 Pull the hook towards the slipknot, catching the yarn in the hook, and pulling it through the slipknot loop. This forms your first chain (ch) stitch. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to form a chain length.



3 This is what your row of chains will look like. Hold the chain with your left hand near the hook, to keep the tension. Keep going until you have the number of chains stated in your pattern.

How to count



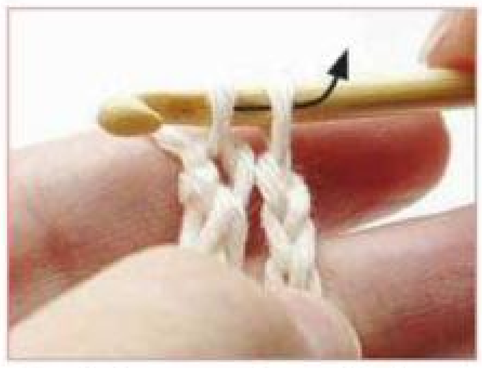
Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Never count your first slipknot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). So that you can be accurate, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.

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).



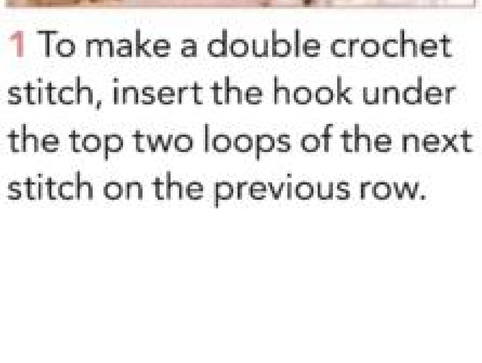
3 Pull the yarn through the stitch, giving you two loops on your crochet hook.



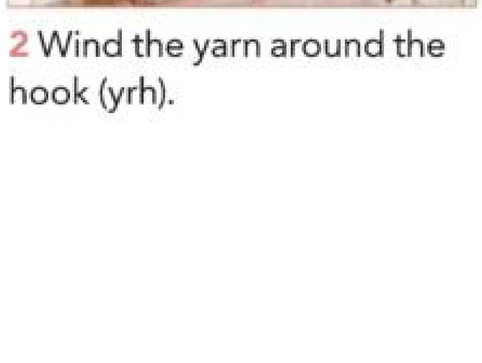
4 Yarn round hook again, then pull the yarn through both loops. There's your double crochet made and you'll have one loop left on the hook, ready to do the next stitch.

HALF TREBLE CROCHET (htr) US term: half double crochet

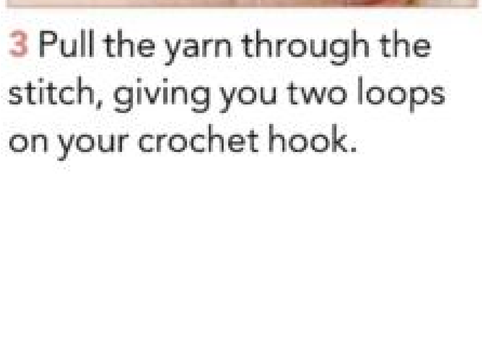
A handy stitch that's between double and treble crochet in size, and it looks slightly looser than double crochet.



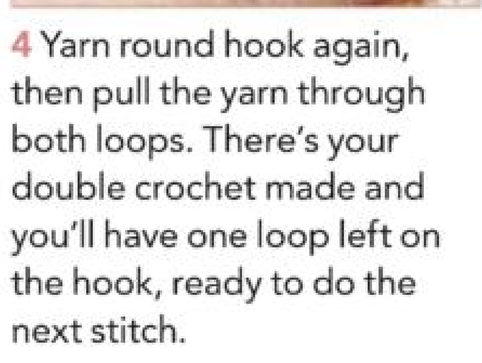
1 To make a half treble crochet stitch, work to where you want the htr and then wind the yarn round the hook (yrh).



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.

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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).



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HOW TO GET A PERFECT FINISH

To prevent your hard work unravelling once you've finished crocheting, fasten the end off carefully.



Complete the final stitch, then cut the yarn about 15cm from the work. Pull it through the last loop on the hook and pull to close the loop. Thread the yarn tail onto a tapestry needle and weave into the back of the work. Most crochet items don't need a lot of blocking, but cotton lace work usually does. To do this, carefully pin out the item with rust-proof pins, mist with a water spray and leave to dry naturally.

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.



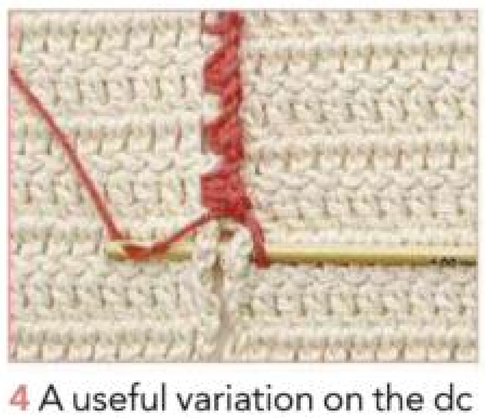
1 Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet right sides together and oversew them as shown above, using a tapestry or yarn needle.



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.

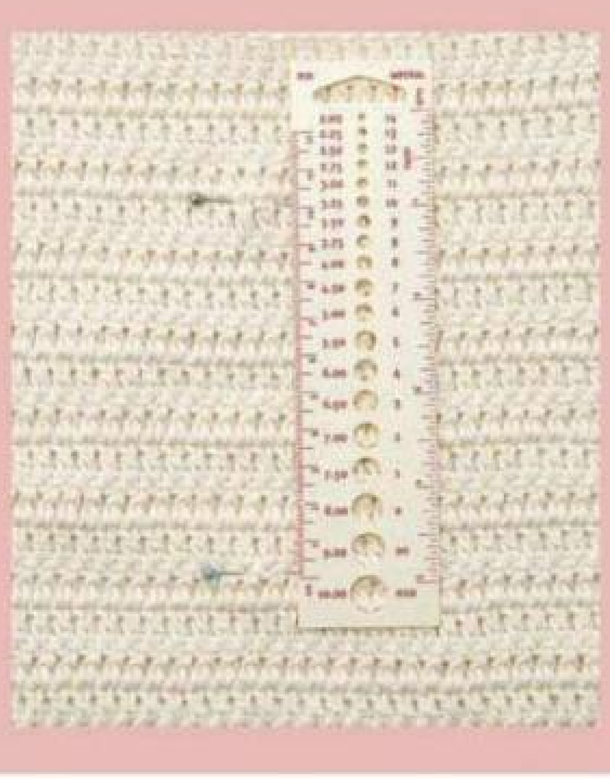


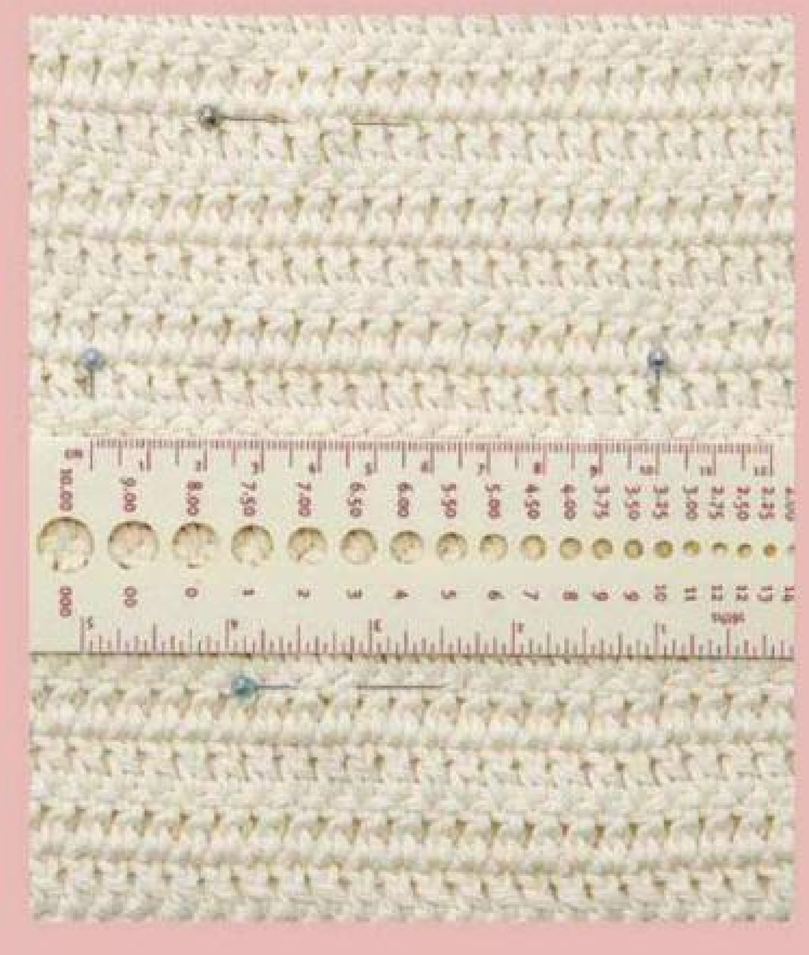
4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

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.





THE GUIDE

HOW TO CHANGE COLOUR

Create stripes and other colour effects.



1 Before you work the final yrh (yarn round hook) on the last stitch of a row in the old colour, drop the old yarn and pick up the new one with your hook.



2 Pull through a loop of the new yarn to finish the old stitch. The working loop will be in the new colour. Continue, keeping the old yarn at the wrong side.

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 below.

WORKING STITCHES INTO A RING

Make circles, tubes and other shapes by working simple rounds of crochet stitches.



1 Make a foundation ring (as described above right) and then work the correct number of chains for the t-ch, for example, 3ch for a treble.



2 Now work the stitch as you would on a row, but insert the hook into the centre of the ring rather than each chain loop. For a treble, yrh, insert into the ring.



3 Continue with the treble stitch, working in the same way as you would on a row. So yrh and pull yarn through the loop. Then yrh and pull yarn through first 2 loops.



4 Finish off the treble stitch by working yrh and pull yarn through 2 loops. Continue making stitches into the ring as instructed in your pattern.

JOINING ROUNDS

Finish off each round of crochet stitches nice and neatly by using a slip stitch.



1 To close a round of stitches, work a slip stitch into the top of the turning chain. To do this, insert the hook into the top stitch of the turning chain.



2 Then place the yarn round the hook. Pull the yarn through the turning chain stitch and through the original stitch on your hook.



3 You've slip stitched the round together! Before working another round, be sure to make the required turning chain. Always work rounds on the right side, unless you pattern instructs you otherwise.

Rounds or spirals



Check which technique to use.

Some patterns are worked in rounds that are joined together at the end of each round (see left). Other patterns are worked in a spiral so you don't need to join the rounds at the end, just keep going, working into the next stitch on the previous row. Amigurumi toys are often worked in a spiral like this.

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Abbreviations

across	to end of the row
alt	alternate/alternating
approx	approximate(ly)
beg	beginning
bl	insert hook under back loop only
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
ch(s)	chain/chain stitch(es)
ch-sp(s)	chain space(s)
ch-	refers to ch made previously, eg. ch-3
cl(s)	clusters
4-tr cl	(yrh, insert hook in sp/st, yrh & pull up loop, yrh & draw through 2 loops) 4 times, inserting hook in same sp/st, yrh & draw through all loops on hook
cont	continue
dc	double crochet
dc2tog	(insert hook in next st, yrh and draw a loop through) twice, yrh and draw through all 3 loops on hook
dec	decrease
dtr	double treble crochet
dtr2tog	work 2dtr together
fl	insert hook under front loop only
foll/folls	following/follows
FPtr	Front Post treble: work in opposite way to BPtr
htr	half treble
htr2tog	work 2htr together
in next	sts to be worked into the same stitch
inc	increase
LH	left hand
lp(s)	loop(s)
meas	measures
p or pc	picot
patt(s)	pattern(s)
pm	place marker
prev	previous
rem	remain(s)/remaining
rep	repeat
RH	right hand
rnd(s)	round(s)
RS	right side
sk	skip
sp(s)	space(s)
ss	slip stitch
st(s)	stitch(es)
tbl	through back loop
t-ch(s)	turning chain(s)
tog	together
tr	treble crochet
tr2tog	(yrh, insert hook in next st, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice, yrh and draw through all loops on hook
ttr	triple treble crochet
WS	wrong side
yoh	yarn over hook
yrh	yarn round hook
*	work instructions immediately foll *, then rep as directed
[] or ()	work or repeat all instructions in the brackets as directed

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

Which hook do I use?

Hook size	UK yarn weight
2.5-3.5mm hook	4ply yarn
3.5-4.5mm hook	double knitting yarn
5-6mm hook	aran yarn
7mm and bigger	chunky yarn

UK/US conversions

UK		US	
chain	ch	chain	ch
slip stitch	ss	slip stitch	ss
double crochet	dc	single crochet	sc
half treble	htr	half double	hdc
treble	tr	double	dc
double treble	dtr	treble	tr
triple treble	ttr	double treble	dtr

storemags

Getting all kitted out

We're huge fans of KnitPro's wide range of comfy and easy-to-use crochet hooks. Be sure to check out their brand new Waves crochet hooks, made from light aluminium with rainbow handles. The 13 colourful, vibrant and trendy soft-feel grips are each unique to its size. The range extends from 2mm-12mm.

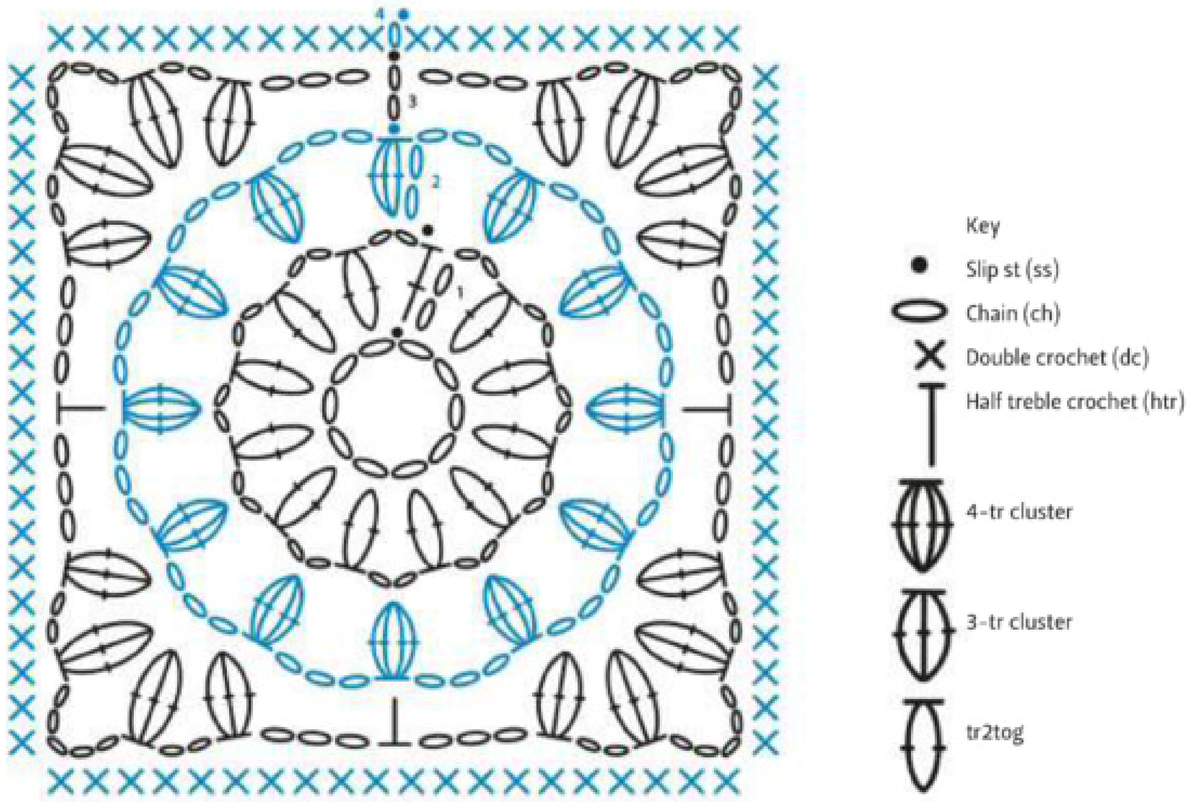


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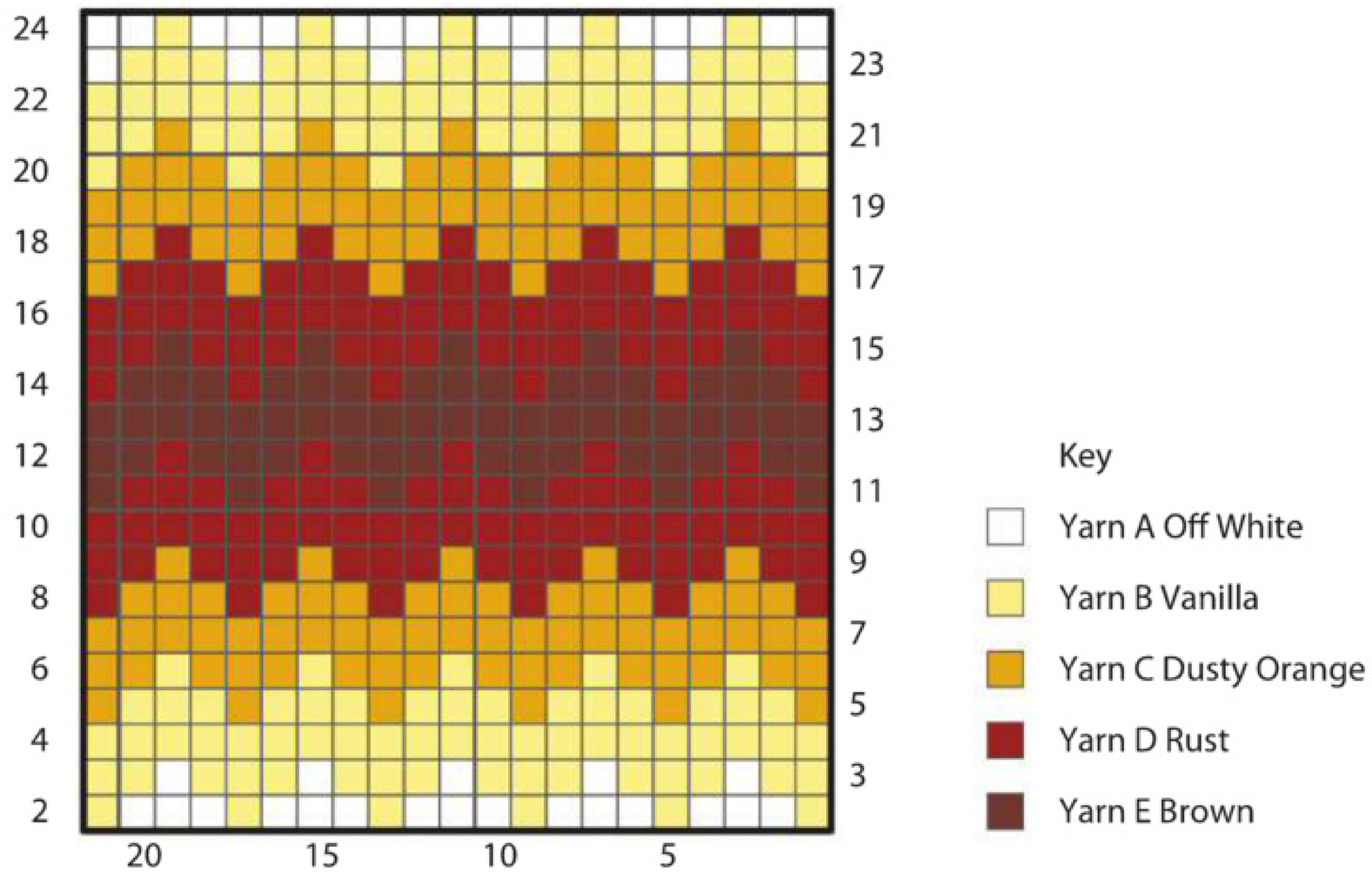
CHARTS & DIAGRAMS

Here are the extras you'll need to make the bright zigzag cushion and Granny Square of the month.

GRANNY SQUARE OF THE MONTH (PAGE 29)



CHEVRON CUSHION (PAGE 26)



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MAKE A MOTIF

LUCKY CLOVER

Try Lucy Croft's four-leaf clover motif design.





TREBLE CROCHET | ARAN WEIGHT | 4MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Creative Cotton Aran (100% cotton, 50g/85m), Light Pistachio (44)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn stockists, contact Rico www.rico-design.co.uk

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92.

MAKE A MOTIF

Creating a mesh to fill in large areas is a fantastic way of making your crochet shapes much lighter and lacier. Lucy Croft's clever clover shape uses this idea perfectly, resulting in an elegant, summery motif that would be brilliant stitched on as an appliqué embellishment or joined together en masse to make a bright table covering or to decorate a lampshade. Just think of the beautiful shadows it would cast.

CLOVER MOTIF

Ch3, ss to the first ch to join into a ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), 11tr into the ring, ss into the top of the beginning ch-3 to join. [12 tr]
Round 2 *Ch8, tr in the fifth ch from the hook, ch1, skip 1 ch, tr in the next ch, ch1, ss to the next tr of Round 1, dc in the next tr, ss to the next tr; repeat from * 3 more times omitting the last ss. [4 petals]
Round 3 *Ch2, skip ss and the first ch, tr in the remaining loop of the next ch, ch1, skip the next ch, tr in the remaining loop of the next ch, (ch3, tr in ch-4 sp) twice, ch3, tr in the next tr, ch1, skip ch-1 sp, tr in the next tr, ch2, skip the next ch and ss, ss to dc; repeat from * 3 more times.
Fasten off.

JOINING MOTIFS

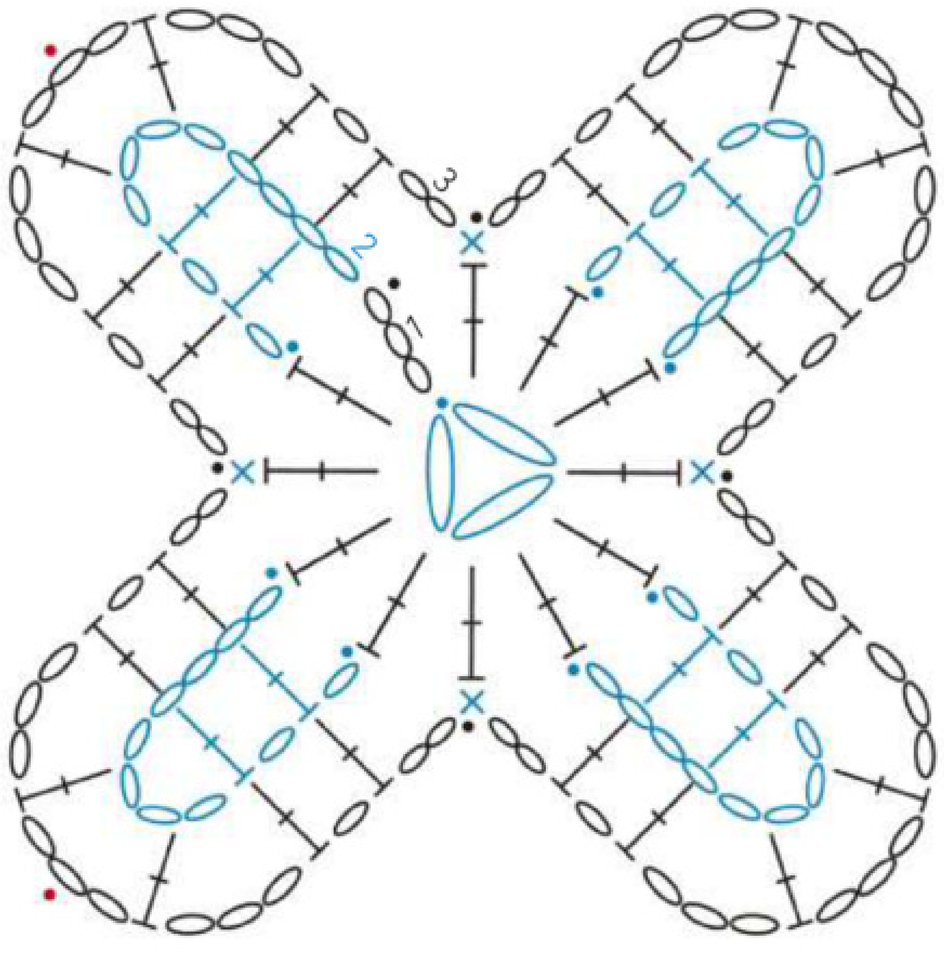
Join motifs while working Round 3, by replacing the central ch of the second ch-3 sp of each petal with a ss to the corresponding ch-sp on another motif.

Key

- Slip stitch (ss)
- Chain (ch)
- Double crochet (dc
- Treble crochet (tr)
- Joining slip stitch (ss)

On the chart, all rounds are read in an anti-clockwise direction.





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Simply Crochet

HOOKED ON HANDMADE

NEXT ISSUE

Wildflower party
Amigurumi mermaid
Japanese flower shawl
Mary Jane socks
Wedding ideas
And more...

BRIGHT YOKE CARDIGAN

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STITCH MARKER BRACELET KIT



ON SALE THURSDAY 28 MAY

* Contents subject to change

STYLE ICONS



SALSA VERDE

Go full matchy-matchy with a shamelessly bright crochet ensemble for summer.

This jewel of a pattern is from a 1973 Golden Hands *All You Can Knit and Crochet for Under 20s* booklet featuring a whopping 50 patterns for only 50p (they don't make 'em like that anymore). The matching top and skirt are pretty much what we'd imagine if salsa could somehow become an outfit. Those brave lime and tomato granny stitches are sure to get you noticed, provided you accessorise with shoes, bag, belt and brooches in the exact same shades. Then and only then can you conquer the world in handmade fiesta fabulousness. We particularly love the flattering A-line skirt with its bold stripes and diamonds. Worked in a more muted palette, it could be really wearable. Would you rock this look? Let us know. You can find this crochet pattern at www.wonkyzebra.etsy.com. If you'd like to see your own vintage gems featured, scan them in and send them to simplycrochet@immediate.co.uk

Courtesy of www.wonkyzebra.etsy.com

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MISSED AN ISSUE?

ISSUE THIRTY

A granny treble top, and our chunky collection of home textiles, plus a silky shawl, and a colourful backpack. A pretzel brooch, rainbow baby blanket, an amigurumi whale, and two butterfly cushions: one in reversible Tunisian crochet, and another in textured Tunisian.

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ISSUE TWENTY-NINE

Lacy linen top, blanket, bag, and shawl, plus a cotton vest, silk shawl, and a shell stitch beret.



ISSUE TWENTY-EIGHT

Tunisian crochet top, beret, tapestry crochet mittens, amigurumi frog, and a frilled scarf.



ISSUE TWENTY-SEVEN

Beaded shawl, bag, alpaca baby hat, Shaun the Sheep, bird detail cardi, and a waffle cowl.



ISSUE TWENTY-SIX

Slouchy beanie, bag and skirt, plus a baby blanket, cabled cardi, and amigurumi dogs.



ISSUE TWENTY-FIVE

Amigurumi elf, cowl-neck poncho, sawtooth-edge shawl, and kids' cable sweater vest.



ISSUE TWENTY-FOUR

Fair Isle jumper, home accessories, Tunisian crochet men's cardi, and a MyBoshi beanie.



ISSUE TWENTY-THREE

A statement swing coat, and hats, mitts and scarves for the whole family. Plus a colourful throw.



ISSUE TWENTY-TWO

Hook a jumper with bobbles and a lacy vest top, a trio of cacti, cute puppy, and a lace shawl.



ISSUE TWENTY-ONE

Moroccan garden projects, owl key ring, vintage cardi, plus baby sandals and cute dinosaurs!



ISSUE TWENTY

Kitten travel makes, crochet sun hat, beautiful cardi and floral blanket, and a retro-style bikini.



ISSUE NINETEEN

For festivals: a bag, waistcoat, shawl and purse. Football boot slippers, and amigurumi butterfly.



ISSUE EIGHTEEN

Gingham granny squares and kitchen accessories, plus an amigurumi unicorn and blue lacy scarf.



ISSUE SEVENTEEN

Bicycle projects in ice-cream shades, a cool cowl, rainbow sausage dog, and a mandala vest top.



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