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9628



9629

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9627



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Simply Crochet

We're not-so-low-key obsessed with this issue's Moomin make – just look at those expressive eyes! Discover this darling on page 33 and stitch him up in front of the new *Moominvalley* series. The Moomins are not the only ones with something to celebrate this year – on the occasion of their 30th anniversary, we've teamed up with Stylecraft to bring you a brilliant pattern book filled with some of their most popular wardrobe and homeware projects. From a crown-topped frog prince to practical craft cases, don't miss these gorgeous must-makes!



Simply Crochet

ISSUE EIGHTY-THREE

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BEACH
DRESS



FILET
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Turn to page 47 and check out our designer challenge – you could win gorgeous yarn!

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50 SAMANTA FORNINO

In with the renew

Our filet crochet feature is one of our favourite collections to date! Our colourful garments give an old technique an on-trend update, with modern shapes and stylish patterns. Be inspired from page 14.

And talking of reboots, just look at the marvellous Moomintroll peeping out from page 33 – he's the perfect pal to accompany you when you're watching the new *Moominvalley* series!

Did you take part in our 'Colour your own Delft blanket competition' from issue 80? Vote for your favourite from our five finalists on page 65.



Sara

CONTRIBUTORS

Here's who's been beavering away behind the scenes this month



JULIETTE BEZOLD

Juliette combines her love of the detailed and intricate, career in interior design, and passion for historical clothing into her work, creating unique fashion pieces like her cardi on p24.



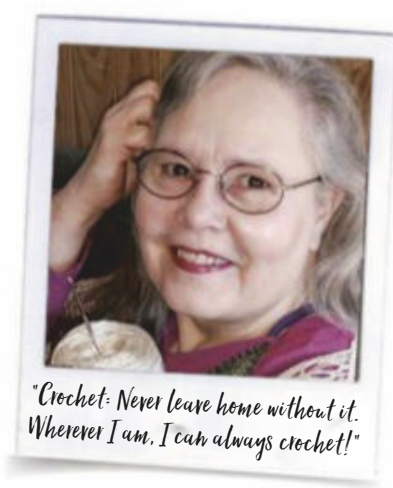
SIMONE FRANCIS

Simone has been hooked on crochet for seven years and loves to design original, wearable garments. Take a look at her fabulous filet skirt over on p20.



JANE CROWFOOT

Jane is renowned for her colourful designs for interiors and imaginative work. Did you take part in the Delft blanket design competition? Discover the five finalists on page 65.



TAMARA SEASHOLTZ

Tamara's 50-plus-year crochet addiction has coloured her life. Her current fixation is wearables that transform a simple dress into delicate elegance – see her shawl on p22.

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Veronika Cromwell, Collette Earley, Lucy Evans, Samanta Fornino, Jenny May Forsyth, Paula Green, Alessandra Hayden, Catherine Hood, Marianne Rawlins, Martine De Regt, Becky Skuse, Susan Walsh, Michelle White, Rosee Woodland

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INTRODUCING TWO NEW YARNS FROM *Scheepjes*

Whirligig and Whirligigette

20% Alpaca
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*“A Whirl for the
serious crocheter”*



Scheepjes Whirligig (20% Alpaca, 80% Virgin Wool; 450g/1000m) RRP £69, €79, US\$90 **Scheepjes Whirligigette** (20% Alpaca, 80% Virgin Wool; 100g/215m) RRP £13, €14,95, US\$17.10

Scheepjes Whirligig is a high-quality yarn made from 20% Alpaca and 80% Virgin Wool.

A *gigantic** 450g of sport weight yarn in a cake. Available in 15 colour combinations.

Scheepjes Whirligigette is a plain coloured yarn designed to match your choice of Whirligig.

The Venice Wrap (pictured), using Scheepjes Whirligig & Scheepjes Whirligigette. Available as a YARN the AFTER PARTY booklet.

WWW.SCHEEPJES.COM

*Whirligig: GIG=Gigantic!

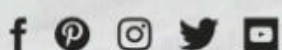


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Hooked

IDEAS ♥ INSPIRATION ♥ ACCESSORIES ♥ WEBSITES ♥ EVENTS ♥ STUFF



You herd it here first

In tribute to the role played by horses in the development of canals, the Coffee and Crochet Group at the National Waterways Museum, Ellesmere Port, have crocheted a life-sized horse! It took the 28-strong group six months and 500 granny squares to transform a huge bag of yarn into a proud life-sized mare, now named Rainbow. www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/nwm.



JUST BECAUSE

Whether you want to give a friend a gift to treasure, or remind yourself daily you have a reason to smile, these personalised 'happy place' hooks from Wood Paper Scissors are just the ticket. Made from bamboo, the 5mm hooks are grippy enough to keep slippery customers like silk or or mercerised cotton yarns steady, and they're eco-friendly, too. Find them at www.notonthehighstreet.com.

FINE AND DANDY

▼ New from Toft is a soft, fine weight 100% wool yarn that crochets to standard 4ply tension. It comes in eight natural shades, perfect for creating the smallest-size birds and animals from the *Edward's Menagerie* books using a 2mm crochet hook. It costs £12 for a 50g/225m ball, or order a fine yarn bundle of five 50g colours of your choice for £50. www.toftuk.com.



A NEWER NUA

Following the success of Fyberspates' Nua yarn comes Nua Worsted, a stunning new yarn designed by Carol Feller. This new release offers the same unusual make up as Nua (60% merino wool, 20% yak, 20% linen), but in a heavy DK weight that's ideal for quicker-to-work projects. The 14 heathered shades are inspired by the landscapes of Carol's home, Ireland. The range uses some of the most popular shades currently within the Nua collection, including Kitten Fluff and Autumn Storms, and also introduces new shades including intense forest greens and delicate blush pinks. The entire range has been designed to work together beautifully, so be as brave as you dare! Discover the range at www.fyberspates.com.



Sweet tribute

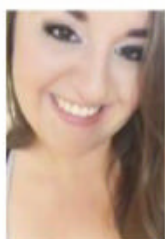
We Love...

When Laura Remblance was forced to give up her job as an autism teacher due to disability, she could never have guessed where her life would lead! Taking up crochet to keep herself busy, she began by creating flowers, but moved on to hooking up her cats in crochet in tribute to them after losing them in traffic accidents. She soon realised there was a wider demand. "I knew other people could get as much comfort as I did from the plushies," recounts Laura. "As they are very time consuming I taught my fiancé Riccardo how to crochet, too, and he makes them with me." Lovingly Handmade Crochet now recreates dogs, cats, horses and even parrot plushies for their customers. Check the hooky lookalikes out at www.lovinglyhandmadecrochet.co.uk.





Mini profile



LITTLE COSY THINGS

Nat is the Australian blogger at Little Cosy Things. "I taught myself to crochet about five years ago using YouTube

tutorials," she says. "I had set out to learn to knit but I couldn't get it to work, so when I stumbled across a video for crochet, I thought I'd give it a try and I was hooked. Crochet then became a form of therapy for me, as I was trying to conceive a baby via IVF and, sadly, I kept miscarrying. It also introduced me to a community of beautiful crafters on Instagram, who encouraged me and made me feel like I could do something, at a time when I felt like I was failing. I am now the very lucky mama of two-year-old fraternal twins, Layla and Wolf, who are my biggest (littlest) crochet fans.

"Colour is my big inspiration! I use a bright rainbow colour palette most often in my crochet makes, but I love colour clashing, and bold neons too. I will almost always have a colour palette chosen first for a project, before I find the pattern.

"I have a lot of crochet patterns! I love supporting other makers and if I see a pattern I like, I tend to buy it straightaway, even if I won't make it for a long time. I am delving

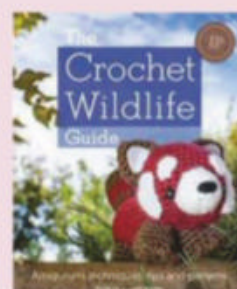


into the world of pattern writing myself now, with a few designs! I have a lot of WIPs too.

"My favourite make is Claude the Octopus, from issue 46 of *Simply Crochet*. The twins love him (the poor thing has his tentacles stretched between them a lot). He is my most intricate amigurumi to date, and he did sit on my shelf for a few months when I got disheartened that my skill just wasn't good enough... But the moment I picked him back up again, I couldn't put him down. He is my proudest amigurumi achievement. And I just love the rainbow tentacles!"

Find Nat on Instagram @littlecosythings, and her blog at www.littlecosythings.com.

INSPIRING BOOKS



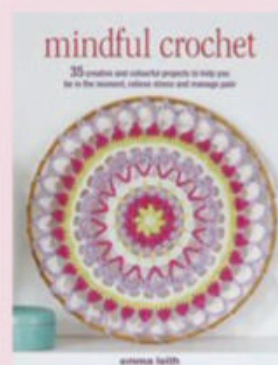
THE CROCHET WILDLIFE GUIDE

PHILLIPHA AND JEFF WIEHLER

(£21, Jeff Wiehler)

Wildlife fans will love the 12 amigurumi creatures in the new Kindle release

of this book, from a three-toed sloth to a flying squirrel. Detailed instructions are included, and there are suggestions for customisation so you can design your own unique animals.



MINDFUL CROCHET

EMMA LEITH

(£12.99, CICO Books)

Harness the benefits of mindfulness as you hook up 35 colourful projects from Emma Leith. Each pattern has been designed

with repetitive elements of colour and stitches to help you relax, be in the moment and even manage pain. They are gorgeous makes in this book, too – also good for our wellbeing!



MARKET BAGS TO CROCHET

ANNIE'S CROCHET

(£7.99, Annie's

Publishing, LLC)

Whether you need a sturdy tote for your weekly shop or a summery number for

your beach holiday, you'll find something in this brilliant bag collection. There are eight stylish designs to hook up – one is even made from strips of plastic bags. Reduce, reuse, recycle!



ART DECO KNITS

JEMIMA BICKNELL

(£25, Crowood Press)

Add a touch of Art Deco glamour to your wardrobe with this fab collection of knits. Nine stylish patterns are included, and the

book also includes beading and embroidery techniques, finishing guides and tips on choosing yarns and adapting patterns to get that vintage 1920s/1930s style. We've got the look, now we just need to learn the Charleston!



SUBS STARS!

◀ Every month, three subscribers win a prize as a thank you for their loyalty. This month, the winners (below) will each receive a Lily Sugar yarn pack and Let's Dish pattern book. Check your issue next month to see if you're a winner!

Laura Healey, Stockport

Christine Acres, Stockton-on-Tees

Sheryl Haigh, Cramlington

Immediate Media Company, publishers of *Simply Crochet*, Subs Stars giveaway T's & C's Prizes were dispatched before the on-sale date of this issue. There are no cash alternatives. Three winning entries will be chosen at random from all current subscribers. The draw is final and no correspondence will be entered into.



MIFFY MAGIC

Stitch and Story's latest collection has seen them team up with Miffy, Dick Bruna's classic children's character, to produce a set of beginner-friendly crochet sets, all hooked up in their super-soft merino yarns. Featuring everything from amigurumi toys to slippers, hats and baby jumpers, it's one of the most adorable ways to indulge your crochet habit this season. www.stitchandstory.com.



METEORIC RISE!

Remember 11-year-old crochet Instagrammer Jonah Larson, who we featured in issue 81? Well, in just two months he's moved from rising star to fully fledged sensation – so it was no surprise to hear the young prodigy has a book coming out! *Hello, Crochet Friends! Making Art, Being Mindful, Giving Back: Do What Makes You Happy* is released July 23 – who knows where Jonah will be by then?!

COLOUR ME CRAFTY

▼ One of any hookster's concerns when starting a project is their colour palette – but how about getting some cheer-inducing colours on your hooks, too? New from Pony is their Flair Collection, a set of silky smooth hooks made from maple wood and finished with hand-applied organic colours to add extra cheer to your crochet. The hooks are 15cm in length and come in sizes from 3 to 10mm. www.ponyneedles-europe.de.



Festival news

CROCHET? OH BOY

The Crochet Man is back at Staffordshire-based festival Wool@J13 for a second year after the massive success of his 2018 appearance! "WoolJ13 has given me a great platform to showcase my work," says Lee, aka The Crochet Man. "There's a great festival feel to the show so there is something for everybody from novices to experienced yarn artists." Other guests include The Sockmation, and a range of indie dyers will be there, too. Grab your tickets online at www.wool-j13.uk.

Cute project

Baby love

Cali Chic Baby, known for original and elegant crochet baby patterns, has introduced a new series of 'hooded' baby blanket patterns. Their debut release is Little Bunny Hooded Blanket #156. Cali Chic Baby owner and designer, Kyoko Frahm commented, "These hooded baby blankets are both adorable and functional, providing head protection and eye cover when your little one is in bright light or during nap time. As with all my patterns, the instructions are uniquely clear and paired with detailed photos to guide you to completing the blanket perfectly." According to Kyoko the 'little hooded' theme will continue with more designs to be released throughout spring. You can find all the Cali Chic Baby patterns at www.calichicbaby.com and on Ravelry at www.ravelry.com/stores/cali-chic-baby.





HOOKY HEADSTART

Know someone who marvels at your hooky creations but doesn't know where to begin with crochet themselves? Point them towards Amanda Bloom's beginner's Little Box of Crochet. It's crammed full of goodies to get a novice hookster off to a flying start, including seven balls of pastel yarns, hooks, a project bag, stitch markers, scissors... even a mug for coffee breaks! There's also an instruction book to get them going. £79.50, www.littleboxofcrochet.co.uk.

ALL WRAPPED UP

Each year, the top of Mitchell's Lakeland Livestock Centre in Cumbria is transformed with crochet – a fitting welcome to Woolfest for visitors. This year's June 28–29 event is set to be better than ever for crocheters, with crochet designers Ema Alcock of Hooked in Time and The Wool Clip, plus Kathryn Parry of Gull Skull Designs teaching Tunisian crochet techniques. Tickets cost £10 for a single day and £15 for two days – find out more at www.woolfest.co.uk.



out & about

Skills, shows & events

MAY 25 Watford Festiwool

£5 online/£10, Watford, London
www.festiwool.com/watford

MAY 28 Shipston Wool Fair

Free, Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire
www.shipstonwoolfair.co.uk

MAY 30 Tunisian Crochet Workshop

£55, Black Sheep Wools, Warrington, Cheshire
www.blacksheepwools.com

JUN 1 Leeds Wool Festival

From £3, Leeds Industrial Museum, Leeds
www.leeds.gov.uk

JUN 15-16 The Wool Monty

£10, FlyDSA Arena, Sheffield
www.thewoolmonty.co.uk



5 FAB FINDS

Stitch markers

Never lose your place again with these beauties.

1



CRAZY FOR COLOUR

You're not likely to lose these colourful markers in your stitch bag! Each pack contains eight fun plastic lock rings in assorted bright shades. By Berylune and available at www.noths.com.

2



SUNDAY ROAST

This classic roast beef dinner might just have you drooling as you hook! Order the lobster clasp option for crocheting. From KoPoUK on www.etsy.com.

3



ROW-BOTS!

Program these handy androids to count your rows and you'll never need to reboot your stitching! Set of five from DesignedByEsme on www.etsy.com.

4



PICK 'N' MIX

Keep your crochet sweet with these tasty treats. Each set contains four markers and comes with a kilt pin too. Available from DianaSianCrafts on www.etsy.com.

TOP OF THE POPS

Made from crackle glass beads, these gorgeous Pop Drops look like tiny boiled sweets. They come in packs of 10, 20, 30 or 40 from RosyRetro on www.etsy.com.

5



PLAY IT COOL

Up your style with this sophisticated but simple floral filet wrap. Fling it over any outfit and get yourself some high-end glamour straight off the catwalk.

SKIRTING AROUND

Take your crochet – and your wardrobe – to the next level with this killer flouncy skirt. With a tie and tassels it has just the right amount of boho chic.

FILET CROCHET



*Some like
it hot*

Start now and heat up your summer wardrobe with
our on-trend collection of filet crochet patterns

FILET CROCHET



DRESS TO IMPRESS

Say hello to your new wardrobe staple. This tunic dress is perfect to throw on over jeans, layer over a longer dress or team with shorts on holiday. Hate to say it but you might just need to hook up a few in different colours...

FIESTA FOREVER

Oh yes. Hot summer nights, we are ready for you – with this Spanish señorita-style glam shawl with beaded edging. There's a lot to get your teeth into here with various sections to work – but what an incredible result!







HIP TO BE SQUARE

As we all know, a girl can never have too many cardis – and this one is just begging to be in your life. Be prepared to engage your maths brain to hook up this super-cool number with its modern geometric design.

Our photoshoot has been styled with the distinctive, vibrant clothes of Gudrun Sjödén. Explore the complete collection at www.gudrunsjoden.com

FILET CROCHET

BLUE WRAP

Throw this super-chic shawl over any outfit for instant glamour. By Veronika Cromwell.

- Scheepjes Maxi Sugar Rush (100% mercerised cotton, 50g/280m), 7 balls of Electric Blue (201)
- A 2mm (US 4 steel) hook

TENSION

32sts and 12 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet using a 2mm hook or size needed to obtain tension

MEASUREMENTS

Shawl measures approx 165x60cm (65x24in)

ABBREVIATIONS

filet block Tr in next 2 sts or 2tr in next ch-2 sp, tr in next st

filet space Ch2, skip next 2 sts, tr in next st
ft (foundation treble) Ch4 (counts as first ftr), yrh, insert hook into 4th ch from hook, *yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 1 loop on your hook (sits at base of st), (yrh and pull through 2 loops on the hook) twice**, yrh, insert hook into loop at base of previous st; rep from * required number of times ending last repeat at **

NOTES

The Shawl is worked in rows across the shorter edge.

Please refer to the Chart on page 92. Read all RS rows from right to left, and WS rows from left to right. The black squares represent one filet block and the white squares represent one filet space (see Abbreviations). The beg ch-3 is not shown on the Chart. Row 2 of the Chart has been written out to guide you.

WRAP

Row 1 (RS) Work 226ftr, turn. [226 sts]

Row 2 (WS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 1 filet block, 2 filet spaces, 13 filet blocks, 2 filet spaces, 1 filet block, 6 filet spaces, 1 filet block, 23 filet spaces, 1 filet block, 6 filet spaces, 1 filet block, 2 filet spaces, 13 filet blocks, 2 filet spaces, 1 filet block, turn. [43 filet spaces, 32 filet blocks]

Rows 3-34 Follow the Chart as directed in Notes section.

Repeat Rows 2-34 another 5 times, omitting Rows 33-34 on last repeat.

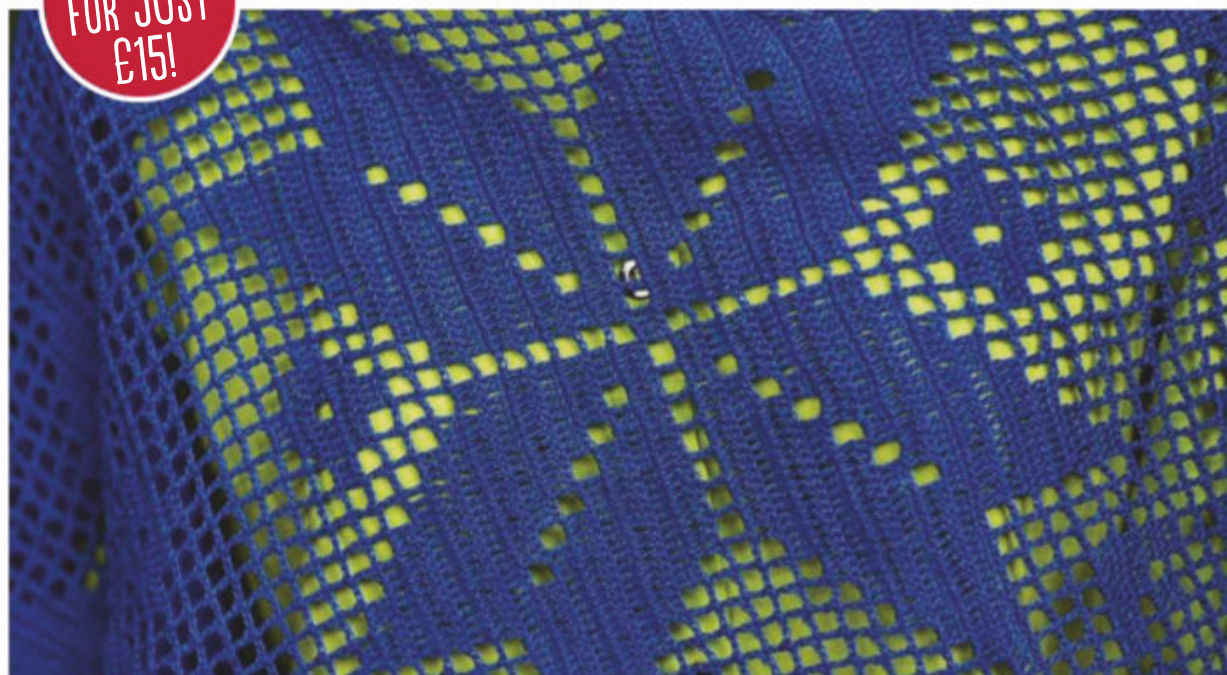
Last row Ch3, tr in each st across, 2tr into each ch-sp across.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Block to measurements given.

HOOK
FOR JUST
£15!



FILET CROCHET

SKIRT

A fab diamond patterned skirt, with just enough swoosh. By Simone Francis.

- Scheepjes Maxi Sugar Rush (100% mercerised cotton, 50g/280m) Sweet Orange (411) See table for measurements and yarn quantities
- A 1.75mm hook (US 4 steel)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- 2 beads for ends of tie
- Stitch markers

TENSION

28 sts and 14 rounds to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet using a 1.75mm hook or size needed to obtain tension

ABBREVIATIONS

4-tr cluster (Yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 4 times, inserting the hook in the same st each time, yrh and draw through all 5 loops on hook

Ftr (foundation treble) See Blue Wrap

NOTES

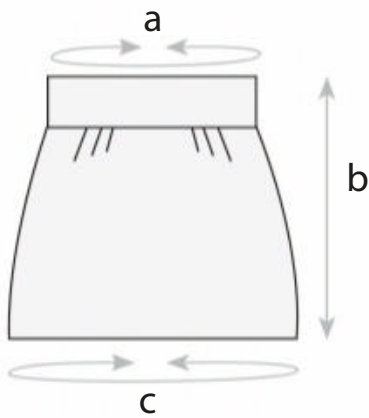
Skirt is worked in one piece from top down, with RS facing at all times. The drop waist section is written out in full and charted in Chart 1 on p95. The lower part of the Skirt is worked from Chart 2 only.

The Skirt is a pull-on, tie string design and you must choose your size accordingly by measuring your widest hip measurement and choosing a size which will fit over your hips. The Waistband is intended to sit low on the Hips.

SKIRT

WAISTBAND

With a 1.75mm hook and a loose tension, work 250 (275: 300: 325: 350: 375) ftr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join round without twisting



Hip circumference a: 89 (98: 107: 116: 125: 134) cm, 35 (38½: 42: 45½: 49: 52½)in

Length b: 60.5 (60.5: 61.5: 61.5: 62: 62)cm, 24 (24: 24¼: 24¼: 24½: 24½)in

Hem circumference c: 181 (177: 193: 209: 225: 241)cm, 71¼ (69¾: 76: 82¼: 88½: 95)in

work. [250 (275: 300: 325: 350: 375) sts]

Eyelet round (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in each of next 2 sts, *ch1, skip next st, tr in each of next 4 sts; repeat from * to last 2 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in last st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 1 Ch3, tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Repeat Round 1 one (one: two: two: three: three) more times.

CHART 1

The following instructions are written out in full but you can also refer to Chart 1 on page 95 for reference. Each square on the Chart represents one stitch. Read the Chart from bottom to top, and each row of the Chart from right to left, remembering to start reading in the place indicated. For Round 1 you will be reading from stitch 15 to the end of the Chart row and then continuing with stitches 1-14. These 25 sts on the Chart are worked 10 (11: 12: 13: 14: 15) times in total to complete the round. On Rounds 3-9 the starting stitch moves one space to the left on the Chart for each round; this is directed in the written pattern.

Round 1 Ch3, 22tr, *ch1, skip next st, tr in each of next 24 sts; repeat from * to last 2 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in last st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 2 Ch3, 21tr, *(ch1, skip next st, tr in next st) twice, 21tr; repeat from * to last 3 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in next st, ch1, skip next st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 3 Ss to next st, ch3 (moving first st one place), 19tr, *ch1, skip next st, tr in next 3 sts, ch1, skip next st, 20tr; repeat from * to last 5 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 3 sts, ch1, skip last st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 4 Ss to next st, ch3 (moving first st one place), 17tr, *(ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts), 3 times, 16tr; repeat from * to last 7 sts, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, ch1, skip next st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 5 Ss to next st, ch3, 15tr, *ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next st) twice, tr in next st, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 16 tr; repeat from * to last 9 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next st) twice, tr in next st, ch1, skip next st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 6 Ss to next st, ch3, 13tr, *(ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, tr in next st, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next sts) twice, tr in next 12 sts; repeat from * to last 11 sts, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, tr in next st, ch1, skip next st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 7 Ss to next st, ch3, 11tr, *(ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 3tr, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 10tr; repeat from * to last 13 sts, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 3tr, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts, ch1, skip next st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 8 Ss to next st, ch3, 9tr, *(ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 5tr, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 8tr; repeat from * to last 15 sts, *(ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 5tr, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts, ch1, skip next st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 9 Ss to next st, ch3, tr in next st, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) 4 times, *2tr, 4-tr cluster in next st, 4tr, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) 6 times; repeat from * to last 11 sts, 2tr, 4-tr cluster in next st, 4tr, ch1, skip next st, 2tr, ch1, skip next st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

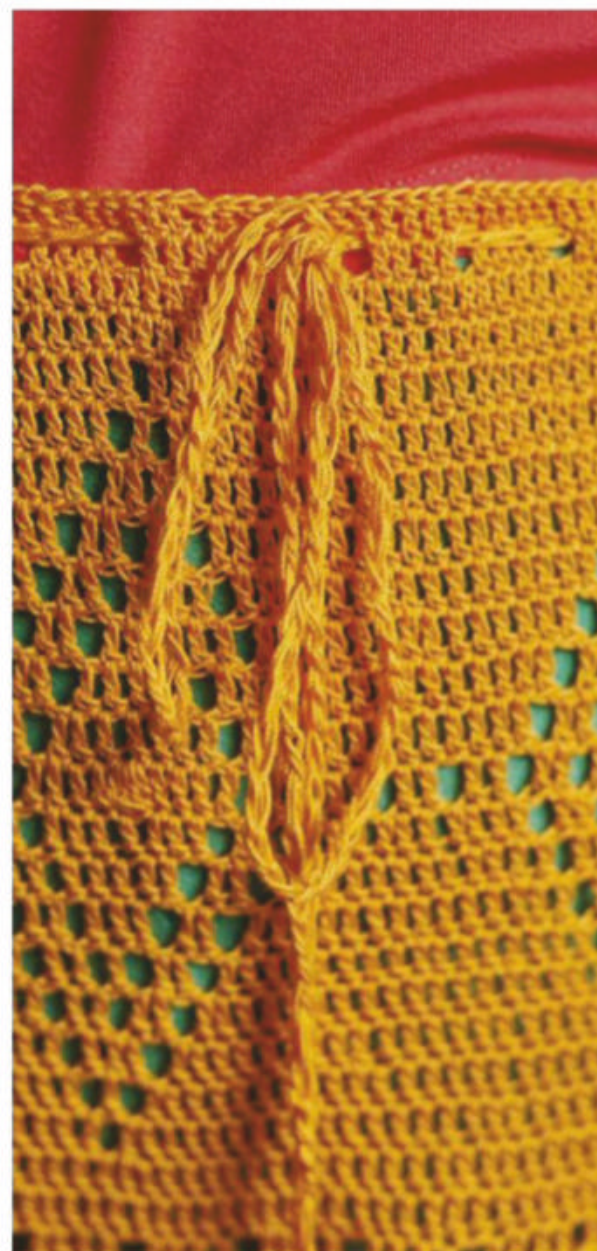
Round 10 Ch3, tr in next 8 sts, *(ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 5tr, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 8tr; repeat from * to last 16 sts, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 5tr, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in last st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 11 Ch3, 9tr, *(ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 3tr, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 10tr; repeat from * to last 15 sts, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice,

SIZE		S	M	L	XL	XXL	XXXL
TO FIT HIPS	cm	81-86	91-96	101-106	112-116	122	132
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48	52
FINISHED HIPS (APPROX)	cm	89	98	107	116	125	134
	in	35	38½	42	45½	49	52½
FINISHED LENGTH	cm	60.5	60.5	61.5	61.5	62	62
	in	24	24	24¼	24¼	24¼	24¼
YARN	100g	7	8	8	9	9	10

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

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3tr, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 12 Ch3, 10tr, *(ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 1tr, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 12tr; repeat from * to last 14 sts, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 1tr, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, tr in last st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 13 Ch3, 11tr, *ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next st) twice, tr in next st, ch1, skip next st, 16tr; repeat from * to last 13 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next st) twice, tr in next st, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 4 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 14 Ch3, 12tr, *(ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) 3 times, 16tr; repeat from * to last 12 sts, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) 3 times, 3tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 15 Ch3, 13tr, *(ch1, skip next st, tr in next 3 sts) twice, 17tr; repeat from * to last 11 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 3 sts) twice, 3tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 16 Ch3, 14tr, *(ch1, skip next st, tr in next st) twice, 21tr; repeat from * to last 10 sts, (ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) twice, 4tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 17 Ch3, 15tr, *ch1, skip next st, tr in next 24 sts; repeat from * to last 9 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 8 sts, ss to top of beg

ch-3 to join.

Rounds 18-19 Ch3, tr in each st around.

Round 20 Ch3, tr in next st, *ch1, skip next st, 4tr; repeat from * to last 3 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

SKIRT

Round 21 Ch3, tr in next t, *5tr in ch-1 sp, tr in next 4 sts; repeat from * to last 3 sts, 5tr in ch-1 sp, tr in next 2 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [450 (495: 540: 585: 630: 675) sts]

Rounds 22-34 Ch3, tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

CHART 2

Rounds 1-47 Follow pattern for Chart 2 on page 97, reading the Chart in the same way as the one for the Waistband. When the beg ch-3 falls on a ch-sp, (ss to next st, ch3) to allow for the creation of the ch-sp at the end of the round. In this case the first stitch on the Chart moves one stitch to the left, as it did for the Waistband. Start reading the Chart at stitch 39 of Round 1. The 45 sts on the Chart are repeated 10 (11: 12: 13: 14: 15) times in total to complete the round.

Round 48 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st around, ss to first dc to join. [450 (495: 540: 585: 630: 675) sts]

Fasten off.

TIE

With a 4mm hook and 2 strands of yarn held together, ch250 (275: 300: 325: 350: 375).

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Weave the Tie into the Eyelet round at the top of the Waistband.

TASSEL (MAKE 2)

Make a Tassel for each end of the Tie as follows:

Using a piece of card (the size of a credit card) wrap yarn 20 times around the short end. Thread a 10cm strand of yarn under the wraps of yarn and tie a tight knot around one end. Remove from the card and straighten Tassel. Wrap a single strand of yarn 6-7 times around the Tassel at approximately 1cm below the knot.

Trim to size. Slot a bead over knot end and secure to tie with a tight knot.

TO FINISH

Steam block work.

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ROSE HEART SHAWL

Glam it up with this showstopping shawl, complete with beads. By Tamara Seasholtz.

- Scheepjes Maxi Sugar Rush (100% mercerised cotton, 50g/280m)
- 6 balls of Poppy Rose (390)
- A 0.9mm (US 13 steel) hook
- A 1.5mm (US 8 steel) hook
- Stitch markers
- 371 beads, 4mm in diameter

TENSION

8 3-tr groups over 9 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) using a 1.5mm hook or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Shawl measures approx 140x56cm (55x22in) across widest points

ABBREVIATIONS

2dtr cluster *Yrh twice, insert hook into st/sp indicated, yrh and pull up a loop, (yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice; repeat from * once more, yrh and pull through all three loops on the hook

b-ch (beaded chain) Pull loop on hook up to 2cm in height, remove loop from hook, place a bead on the end of the 0.9mm hook; using this hook, draw the loop through the bead, place loop back on the 1.5mm hook (ensuring that it is orientated so that thread tightens over hook toward you), ch1

b-dc (beaded double crochet) Insert hook into st specified, yrh and pull up a loop to

2cm in height, remove this loop from hook, place a bead on the end of the 0.9mm hook; using this hook, draw the loop through the bead, place loop back on the 1.5mm hook, (ensuring that it is orientated so that thread tightens over hook toward you), yrh and pull through both loops on the hook

b-cluster (beaded cluster) Yrh, insert hook into sp/st indicated, pull up a loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops on the hook, insert hook into next sp/st indicated, yrh and pull up a loop to 2cm, remove this loop from hook and as before use the 0.9mm hook to add a bead, replace loop on hook (ensuring that it is orientated so that thread tightens over hook toward you), yrh insert hook into next sp, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 2 loops on the hook, yrh and pull through all loops on the hook

ofs (open filet square) Ch1, skip next st/sp, tr in next st

sfs (solid filet square) Tr in next st/sp, tr in next st

2tr dec Tr2tog over 3 sts, first part of tr2tog worked into 1st st, skip 2nd st, finish tr2tog in 3rd st

NOTES

Shawl is worked from the centre top outwards. There is a Chart on page 92, which you will need to refer to when working the Filet Section of the Shawl. Each filled square on the Chart represents a solid filet square and each empty square represents an open filet square (see Abbreviations). All rows are read from right to left.

The Shawl is made using the 1.5mm hook; the 0.9mm hook is used only to add the beads.

Ch-sps are not included in st counts unless otherwise stated.

SHAWL

GRANNY STITCH SECTION

Using a 1.5mm hook, ch4, ss to first ch to form a loop.

Row 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 2tr into loop, ch2, 3tr into loop, turn. [6 sts]

Row 2 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, ch1, skip 2 sts, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp, ch1, 3tr in last st, turn. [12 sts]

Row 3 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, ch1, (3tr, ch1) in each ch-1 sp across to centre ch-2 sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp, ch1, (3tr, ch1) in each ch-1 sp across, 3tr in last st of row, turn. [18 sts]

Rows 4-38 As Row 3. [228 sts]

Do not fasten off.

FILET SECTION

Row 1 (RS) Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, ofs across to ch-2 sp, (ch1, tr, ch2, tr) in ch-2 sp, ofs across working last tr into last st, 2tr into same st, turn. [152 ofs, 6 tr, 1 ch-2 sp]

Row 2 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in each st and ch-sp across to ch-2 sp, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-2 sp, tr in each st across to last st, 3tr in last st, turn. [318 sts]

Row 3 As Row 1. [160 ofs, 6tr, 1 ch-2 sp]

Refer to the Chart on page 92 for Rows 4-13. On each row of Chart, work sts 1-46 across then work sts 1-33 of the repeat section; next work the central space (instructions in each row below), then Chart from sts 1-46 and 1-33 again. The first row is written out to guide you.

Row 4 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, 1ofs, *5ofs, (2sfs, 5ofs) 4 times, 2ofs, 2sfs, 5ofs, 2sfs, 7ofs, (2sfs, 5ofs) 4 times**, 1ofs, (ch1, tr) 3 times in ch-2 sp, ch1, tr in next st, 1ofs; rep from * to **, ch1, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 5 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, 2ofs, work Chart to centre, 6ofs, work Chart as before, 1ofs, ch1, 3tr in last st turn.

Row 6 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, 3ofs, work Chart to centre, 1ofs, (ch1, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, tr in next st) 4 times, 1ofs, work Chart as before, 2ofs, ch1, 3tr in last st turn.

Row 7 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, 4ofs, work Chart to centre, 1ofs, (ch1, tr in next st) 8 times (mark the first and last tr), 1ofs, work Chart as before, 3ofs, ch1, 3tr in last st, turn.

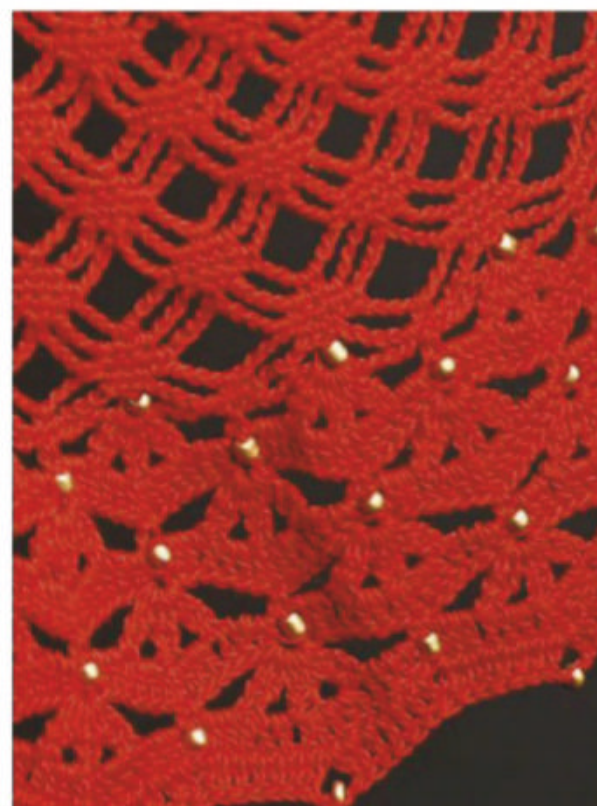
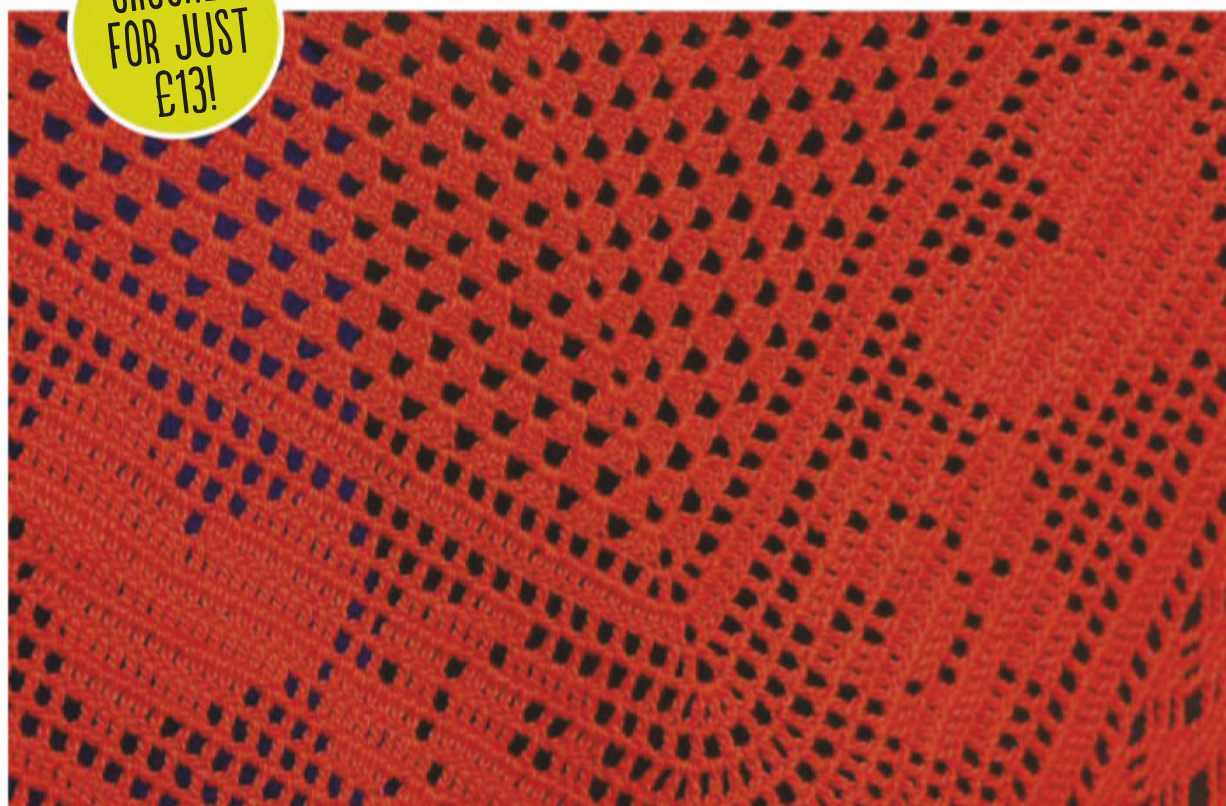
Row 8 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, 5ofs, follow the Chart to the centre, 1ofs, (ch1, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, tr in next st) 3 times, 2ofs, (ch1, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, tr in next tr) 3 times, 1ofs, work from Chart across, 4ofs, ch1, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 9 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, 6ofs, work Chart to centre, 7ofs, (ch1, tr in next



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ch-sp, ch1, tr in next tr) twice, 7ofs, work Chart as before, 5ofs, ch1, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 10 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, 7ofs, work Chart to centre, 1ofs, ch1, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, tr in next tr, 2ofs, ch1, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, tr in next tr, 8ofs, ch1, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, tr in next st, 2ofs, ch1, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, tr in next tr, 1ofs, work Chart as before, 6ofs, ch1, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 11 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, 8ofs, work Chart to the centre, 22ofs, work Chart as before, 7ofs, ch1, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 12 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, 9ofs, work Chart to centre, 4ofs, ch1, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, tr in next tr, 3ofs, ch1, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, tr in next tr, 4ofs, ch1, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, tr in next tr, 3ofs, ch1, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, tr in next tr, 4ofs, work Chart as before, 8ofs, ch1, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 13 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, 10ofs, work Chart to centre, 1ofs, ch1, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, tr in next tr, 22ofs, ch1, tr in next ch-sp, ch1, tr in next tr, 1ofs, work Chart as before, 9ofs, ch1, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 14 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, ofs across, to last st, ch1, 3tr in last st, turn. [206 ofs and 6 tr]

Row 15 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in each st and ch-sp across to last st, 3tr in last st, turn. [422 sts]

Row 16 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, 99ofs, ch1, tr in next st, 6ofs, (ch1, tr in next st) twice, 6ofs, ch1, tr in next st, 98ofs, ch1, 3tr in last st, turn. Do not fasten off. [434 sts]

DIAMOND DRAPE SECTION

Row 1 (RS) Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, ch3, skip next tr, *(dc in next st, dc in next ch-sp) twice, dc in next st, ch5, skip next (ch-sp, dc, ch-sp); repeat from * 52 times more, (dc in next st, dc in next ch-sp) twice, dc in next st,

ch3, 3tr in last st, turn.

[54 diamond repeats and 6tr]

Row 2 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, ch3, dc in ch-sp, ch3, skip next dc, dc in next 3 sts, across,* ch3, skip next dc, dc in ch-5 sp, ch3, skip next dc, dc in next 3 sts; repeat from * across, ch3, dc in ch-sp, ch3, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 3 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, *ch3, dc in next ch-sp, dc in next dc, dc in next ch sp, ch3, skip next st, dc in next st, skip next st; repeat from * across, ch3, dc in next ch-sp, dc in next dc, dc in next ch-sp, ch3, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 4 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, ch3, dc in next ch-sp, dc in next 3 sts, dc in next ch-sp, ch5, dc in next ch-sp, dc in next 3 sts, dc in next ch-sp; repeat from * across, ch3, 3tr in last st, turn.

Rows 5-6 As Rows 2-3.

Row 7 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, ch4, dc in next ch-sp, dc in next 3 sts, dc in next ch-sp, ch6, dc in next ch-sp, dc in next 3 sts, dc in next ch-sp; repeat from * across, ch4, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 8 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, ch4, dc in next ch-sp, ch4, skip next st, dc in next 3 sts, *ch4, dc in ch-6 sp, ch4, skip next dc, dc in next 3 sts; repeat from * to last ch-sp, ch4, dc in ch-sp, ch4, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 9 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, *ch4, dc in next ch-sp, dc in next st, dc in next ch-sp, ch4, skip next st, dc in next st; repeat from * to last st, ch4, 3tr in last st, turn.

Rows 10-12 As Rows 7-9.

Row 13 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, ch7, *dc in next ch-sp, dc in next 3 sts, dc in next ch-sp, ch7; repeat from * to last ch-sp, dc in last ch-sp, ch7, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 14 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, ch5, dc in next ch-sp, ch5, skip next dc, dc in next 3 sts, *ch5, dc in ch-7 sp, ch5, skip next dc, dc in

next 3 sts; repeat from * to last ch-sp, ch5, dc in next ch-sp, ch5, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 15 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, *ch5, dc in next ch-sp, dc in next st, dc in next ch-sp, ch5, skip next st, dc in next st; repeat from * to last ch-sp, ch5, 3tr in last st, turn.

Rows 16-18 As Rows 13-15.

Row 19-20 As Rows 13-14.

Row 21 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, *ch5, dc in next ch-sp, dc in next st, dc in next ch-sp, ch5, skip next st, b-dc in next st; repeat from * to last ch-sp, ch5, 3tr in last st, turn.

[60 b-dc]

Do not fasten off.

BEADED SECTION

Row 1 (WS) Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, ch7, skip next ch-sp, skip next dc, dc in next st, *ch3, 2-dtr cluster in next b-dc, (ch2, 2-dtr cluster in same b-dc) twice, ch3, skip next ch-sp, skip next st, dc in next st; repeat from * to last dc, ch7, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 2 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next 2 sts, 6dc in next ch-sp, *b-cluster with first loop drawn through same ch-sp, next (beaded) loop drawn through next st, and last loop drawn through next ch-sp, 2tr in same ch-sp, tr in next st, 2tr in next ch-sp, 3tr in next st, 2tr in next ch-sp, tr in next st, 2tr in next ch-sp; repeat from * to last ch-sp, 6tr in ch-sp, tr in next 2 sts, 3tr in last st, turn.

[61 b-clusters]

Row 3 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next 4 sts, *ch3, skip next 6 sts, 2-dtr cluster in next b-cluster, ch2, 2-dtr cluster in same b-cluster) twice, ch3, skip next 6 sts, dc in next st (middle st of 3-tr of previous row); repeat from * to last dc, ch3, skip next 6 sts, tr in next 4 sts, 3tr in last st, turn.

Row 4 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next 4 sts, b-cluster over next 2 sts and next ch-sp,

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2tr in same ch-sp, *tr in next st, 2tr in next ch-sp, 3tr in next st, 2tr in next ch-sp, tr in next st, 2tr in next ch-sp, b-cluster over last ch-sp, next st and next ch-sp, 2tr in same ch-sp; repeat from * to last 3 2-dtr cluster, tr in next st, 2tr in next ch-sp, 3tr in next st, 2tr in next ch-sp, tr in next st, 2tr in next ch-sp, b-cluster over same ch-sp and next 2 sts, tr in next 4 sts, 3tr in last st, turn. [62 b-clusters]

Row 5 Ch3, 3tr in st at base of ch-3, *ch3, skip next 6 sts, 2-dtr cluster in next b-cluster, (ch2, 2-dtr cluster in same b-cluster) twice, ch3, skip next 6 sts, dc in next st (middle st of 3-tr in previous row); repeat from * to dc before last b-cluster, ch3, skip next 6 sts, 2-dtr cluster in next b-cluster, (ch2, 2-dtr cluster in same b-cluster) twice, ch3, 4tr in last st, turn.

Row 6 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next st, b-cluster over next 2 sts and ch-sp, 2tr in same ch-sp, tr in next 2-dtr cluster, 2tr in next ch-sp, 3tr in next 2-dtr cluster, 2tr in next ch-sp, tr in next 2-dtr cluster, 2tr in next ch-sp, b-cluster over last ch-sp, next st and next ch-sp, 2tr in same ch-sp; repeat from * to last 3 2-dtr cluster, tr in next 2-dtr cluster, 2tr in next ch-sp, 3tr in next 2-dtr cluster, 2tr in next ch-sp, tr in next 2-dtr cluster, 2tr in next ch-sp, b-cluster over same ch-sp and next two sts, tr in next st, 3tr in last st, turn. [63 b-clusters]

Row 7 Ch3, 3tr in st at base of ch-3, skip next 3 sts, *2-dtr cluster in next b-cluster, (ch2, 2-dtr cluster in same b-cluster) twice, ch-3, skip next 6 sts, dc in next dc (middle st of 3-dc of previous row), ch3, skip next 6 sts; repeat from * to last b-cluster omitting last ch3, 4tr in last st, turn.

Row 8 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next 4 sts, 2tr in ch-sp, *3tr in next 2-dtr cluster, 2tr in next ch-sp, tr in next st, 2tr in next ch-sp, b-cluster, 2tr in same ch-sp, tr in next st, 2tr in next ch-sp; repeat from * to last 2 2-dtr cluster, 3tr in next 2-dtr cluster, 2tr in next ch-sp, tr in next 4 sts, 3tr in last st, turn. [62 b-clusters]

Row 9 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next 10 sts, *ch1, b-ch, ch1, tr in same st as last tr, tr in next 5 sts**, 2tr dec (see abbreviations), tr in next 6 sts; repeat from * ending last repeat at **, tr in next 3 sts, 3tr in last st. [63 b-ch]

Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Hand wash in cool water with mild soap, roll in a towel to press out excess water and lay out on a blocking board. Pull from the beaded section until the Shawl lies flat, pin in place and leave to dry.

CARDI

Perk up your wardrobe with this modern take on the classic cardi. By Juliette Bezold.

- Scheepjes Maxi Sugar Rush (100% mercerised cotton, 50g/280m) Cherry (413)
See table for measurements and yarn quantities
- A 2.25mm (US B/1) crochet hook
- Stitch markers
- Buttons, 5 x 11mm

TENSION

33 sts and 11.5 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in), over treble crochet using a 2.25mm hook after blocking, or size needed to obtain correct tension

ABBREVIATIONS

buttonhole At buttonhole marker, skip (st before marker, marked st, and st after marker), ch3, dc in next st, remove marker
dec sol sq (Decrease solid square) Working into an open space, (yrh, insert hook in sp, yrh, draw up loop, yrh, draw through 2 loops) twice, yrh, insert hook in same sp, yrh, draw up a loop, yrh, insert hook in next st, yrh, draw up a loop, [7 loops on hook], (yrh, draw through 2 loops) 3 times, yrh, draw through 4 loops. [3 sts (one square) dec]
reverse dc Work a row/round of dc as normal, but working from right to left rather than left to right
standing dc With a slip knot on the hook, work a dc stitch in the place indicated to join the yarn

NOTES

Cardi is worked from the bottom up in pieces. Pieces are blocked to schematic measurements and seamed, then borders are worked on.

CHART NOTES

Cardi is worked from the bottom up in filet mesh from the Chart (see page 93). Each square on the Chart is made up of 3 sts: (ch2, skip 2 sts of prev row, tr in next st) for an Open Square, and (tr in next 3 sts) for a solid square. You will need to work a beginning ch-3 at the start of every row, which is not shown on the Chart. When working a solid square into an Open Square on the row below, work tr over the ch, not into it. Follow the lines corresponding to your colour size on the Chart. For Fronts, read all RS rows from right to left, and WS rows from left to right. For Back and Sleeves half of Chart is given – work Chart reading from right to left then back again left to right for all rows. Row numbers on Charts are for reference only and do not refer to the rows given in these

directions.

Pattern instructions follow after the shaping pattern instructions.

FILET SHAPING

Decreases at the front V-neck and increases at Sleeves are worked following the Chart. It takes 3 rows to increase/decrease one square. The increase/decrease patterns for these 3 row repeats are as follows: on the Front V-neck the decrease takes place at the neckline edge, which will be either the beg or the end of the row; on the Sleeves, the increase takes place at the beg and end of each row, so you will be increasing by 2 spaces every 3 rows. At the beg of the row, work beg ch-3 first, before following these instructions, unless stated otherwise:

V-NECK OPEN SQUARE DECREASES

Replace standard Open Square (ch2, skip 2 sts of prev row, tr in next st) with:

Row 1 At beg or end of row, ch1, skip 2 sts of prev row, tr in next st. [1 st dec]

Row 2 At beg or end of row, skip ch-1 of prev row, tr in next st. [1 st dec]

Row 3 If at beg of row, replace beg ch-3 before first square with ch2 (counts as side of first square and first leg of tr2tog), tr in next st. If at end of row, work last tr of prev square as first leg of tr2tog, work second leg in next st, complete tr2tog. [1 st dec. A total of 3 sts dec over 3 rows = 1 square dec]

V-NECK SOLID SQUARE DECREASES

Replace standard solid square (tr in next 3 sts) with:

Row 1 If at beg of row, replace beg ch-3 before first square with ch2 (counts as side of first square and first leg of tr2tog), tr in next st (second leg of tr2tog), tr in next 2 sts. If at end of row, tr in next st, tr2tog over next 2 sts. [1 st dec]

Row 2 If at beg of row, replace beg ch-3 before first square with ch2 (counts as side of first square and first leg of tr2tog), tr in next st (second leg of tr2tog), tr in next st. If at end of row, tr2tog over next 2 sts. [1 st dec]

Row 3 As for Open Square. [1 st dec. A total of 3 sts dec over 3 rows = 1 square dec]

SLEEVE OPEN SQUARE INCREASES

Row 1 At beg of row tr in st at base of beg ch-3, at end of row 2tr in last st. [2 sts inc]

Row 2 At beg of row (ch1, tr in next st), at end of row (ch1, tr in last st). [2 sts inc]

Row 3 At beg of row (ch2, skip next st, tr in next tr), at end of row (ch2, skip next st, tr in last st). [2 sts inc. A total of 6 sts inc over 3 rows = 2 squares inc]

FILET CROCHET



SLEEVE SOLID SQUARE INCREASES

Row 1 As for Sleeve Open Square. [2 sts inc]
Row 2 At beg of row (tr in st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next st), at end of row, 2tr in last tr. [2 sts inc]
Row 3 At beg of row (tr in st at base of beg ch-3, tr in next 2 sts), at end of row (tr in next st, 2tr in last tr). [2 sts inc. A total of 6 sts inc over 3 rows = 2 squares inc]

CARDI
BACK

Ch156 (174: 192: 210: 228).
Work in patt from Chart as follows, beginning with the bottom row corresponding to your colour size. Read each row of Chart from left to right, then back from right to left to

complete row.
Row 1 (RS for all sizes except largest size; WS for largest size) Ch3 (to form side tr of first square), work (ch2, skip 2 ch, tr in next ch) for each Open Square and (tr in next 3 ch) for each solid square across, turn.
[52 (58: 64: 70: 76) squares]
Row 2 Ch3 (to form side tr of first square), work (tr into next 3 sts) for each solid square and (ch, skip 2 sts, tr in next tr) for each Open Square across, turn.
Rows 3-64 (3-66: 3-66: 3-68: 3-69) Cont in patt from Chart.

SHAPE FIRST SHOULDER

Decreases at the Back neck decrease an entire square in one row.

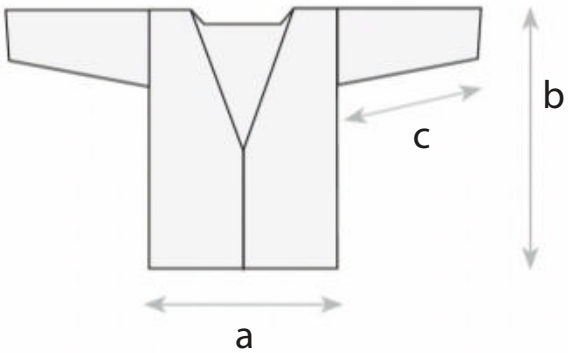
Row 65 (67: 67: 69: 70) (RS) Work Chart Row 70, ending with dec sol sq in next square, turn, leaving remaining squares unworked.
[14 (17: 20: 23: 26 squares and one dec sol sq)]
Row 66 (68: 68: 70: 71) Ch4, skip 2 sts, tr in next st (counts as dec square),work Chart Row 71.
[13 (16: 19: 22: 25) squares and one dec square]
Fasten off.

SHAPE SECOND SHOULDER

Rejoin yarn at armhole edge with WS facing and repeat instructions for First Shoulder.

FRONTS (MAKE 2)

Ch78 (87: 96: 105: 114).



Bust width a: 47 (52.5: 58: 63.5: 69) cm, 18½ (20½: 22: 25: 26)in
Length b: 60 (62: 62: 63.5: 64.5)cm, 23½ (24½: 24½: 25: 25½)in
Sleeve length c: 35.5 (35.5: 35.5: 36.5: 36.5)cm, 14 (14: 14: 14¼: 14¼)in

SIZE		8-10	12-14	16-18	20-22	24-26
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50
ACTUAL BUST	cm	94	105	116	127	138
	in	37	41¼	45½	50	53¼
TOTAL LENGTH	cm	60	62	62	63.5	64.5
	in	23½	24½	24½	25	25½
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	35.5	35.5	35.5	36.5	36.5
	in	14	14	14	14¼	14¼
YARN	100g	6	6	7	7	8

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

FILET CROCHET

Work in patt from Chart as follows, beginning with the bottom row corresponding to your colour size. For the first Front, read the Chart row from right to left, and for the second Front, read the Chart from left to right:

Row 1 (RS) Ch3 (to form side tr of first square), work (ch2, skip 2 ch, tr in next ch) for each Open Square and (tr into each of next two ch, tr in next ch) for each solid square across, turn. [26 (29: 32: 35: 38) squares]

Row 2 Ch3 (to form side tr of first square), work (tr into next 3 sts) for each solid square and (ch, skip 2 sts, tr in next tr) for each Open Square across, turn.

Rows 3-27 (3-29: 3-29: 3-31: 3-32) Cont in patt from Chart.

Rows 28-66 (30-68: 30-68: 32-70: 33-71) Cont in patt from Chart, working the 3-row pattern for either V-neck Open or Solid Square decreases according to Chart, 13 times. [13 (16: 19: 22: 25) squares]

Fasten off.

SLEEVE (MAKE 2)

Ch90 (96: 102: 108: 120).

Work in patt from Chart as follows, beginning with the bottom row corresponding to your colour size. Read each row of the Chart from right to left, then back from left to right to complete the row:

Row 1 (RS) Ch3 (to form side tr of first square), work (ch2, skip 2 ch, tr in next ch) for each Open Square and (tr into each of next two ch, tr in next ch) for each solid square across, turn. [30 (32: 34: 36: 40) squares]

Row 2 Ch3 (to form side tr of first square), work (tr into next 3 sts) for each solid square and (ch, skip 2 sts, tr in next tr) for each Open Square across, turn.

SIZES 20-22 & 24-26 ONLY

Row 3 Cont in patt from Chart.

ALL SIZES

Rows 3-29 (3-29: 3-29: 4-30: 4-30) Work either an Open or Solid Square increase (according to Chart) at the beg and end of the next 3 rows, to increase by 1 square at each end over the 3 rows. Work 3 rows without increasing in patt from Chart. Repeat the patt of (3 increase rows, 3 plain rows) 3 more times, then work 3 more increase rows. [10 squares increased: 40 (42: 44: 46: 50) squares]

Rows 30-39 (30-39: 30-39: 31-40: 31-40) Cont in patt from Chart. **Fasten off.**

TO MAKE UP

Sew Fronts to Backs at shoulder seams. Matching centre top of Sleeve to shoulder seam, and matching up mesh pattern, sew top of Sleeve to sides of Fronts and Backs at arm opening.

Sew side/underarm seam, matching up mesh pattern of Front to Back, and Sleeve at underarm.

BORDER

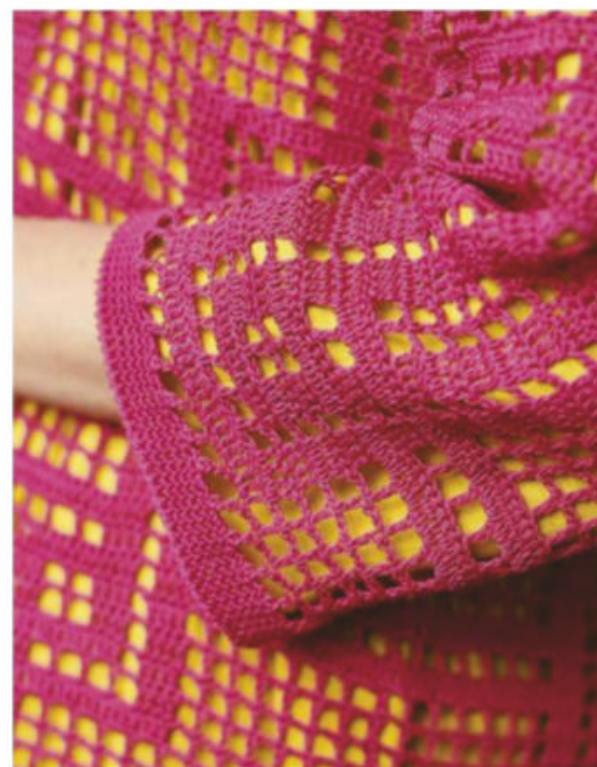
Round 1 (RS) Join yarn with a standing dc in tr at base of left Back shoulder shaping, PM in st just made, 4dc in each diagonal edge of shoulder shaping decrease Squares, dc in shoulder seam, PM in st just made, 3dc in each row end down V-neck, dc at corner, PM in st just made, 3dc in each row end down left Front, 3dc at corner, PM in centre of these 3 sts, (2dc in each sp, dc in each tr) across bottom edge, 3dc at corner, PM in centre st, 3dc in each row end up right Front, dc at corner, PM in st just made, 3dc in each row end up V-neck, dc in shoulder seam, PM in st just made, 4dc in each diagonal edge of Back neck shaping, dc in next tr, PM in st just made, (2dc in each sp, dc in each tr) across, join with ss to first dc. [8 markers]

Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), (dc2tog over marked st & st following, move marker up, dc to next marker) twice, 2dc in next marked st, move marker to second dc made, dc to next marker, (3dc in marked st, move marker to centre dc, dc to next marker) twice, 2dc in marked st, move marker to first st made, dc to next marker, (dc2tog over marked st & st following, move marker up, dc to next marker) twice, join.

Round 3 Rep Round 2.

Place 5 buttonhole markers as follows: on right Front, counting down from marked st at corner of right Front edge and V-neck shaping, skip next st, PM in next st, (skip 19 (20: 20: 22: 23) sts, PM in next st) 4 times.

Round 4 Ch1, (dc2tog over marked st and st following, move marker up, dc to next marker) twice, (2dc in next marked st, move marker to second dc made, dc to next marker) three times, dc up right Front, making buttonholes as per Note at each marker, 2dc in marked st, move marker to first st made, dc to next marker, (dc2tog over marked st & st following, move marker up, dc to next marker) twice, ss to first dc.



Round 5 Ch1, (dc2tog over marked st & st following, remove marker, dc to next marker) twice, dc in next marked st, move marker up, (dc to next marker, 3dc in marked st, move marker to centre dc) twice, dc up right Front, placing 3dc in each buttonhole ch-3 sp, dc in marked st, move marker up, dc to next marker, (dc2tog over marked st & st following, remove marker, dc to next marker) twice, ss to first dc.

Round 6 Ch1, dc to next marker, 2dc in marked st, remove marker, dc to next marker, (3dc in marked st, move marker to centre dc, dc to next marker) twice, 2dc in marked st, remove marker, dc around, ss to first dc.

Round 7 Ch1, dc to next marker, (3dc in marked st, remove marker, dc to next marker) twice, dc around, ss to first st.

Round 8 Ch1, reverse dc around, ss to first dc. **Fasten off.**

SLEEVE CUFF

Round 1 (RS) Join yarn with a standing dc in Sleeve seam, dc around, placing 1dc in each tr and 2dc in each sp, join with ss to first dc.

Round 2 Ch1 (doesn't count as st throughout), dc in each st around, ss to first dc.

Rounds 3-5 Rep Round 2.

Round 6 Ch1, reverse dc around, ss to first dc. **Fasten off.**



YARN STOCKISTS

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The colours of the Moomin x Novita yarns are inspired by Tove Jansson's classic Moomin books.

They remind us of the warmth of the Moominhouse and of the sea breeze in Moominvalley.



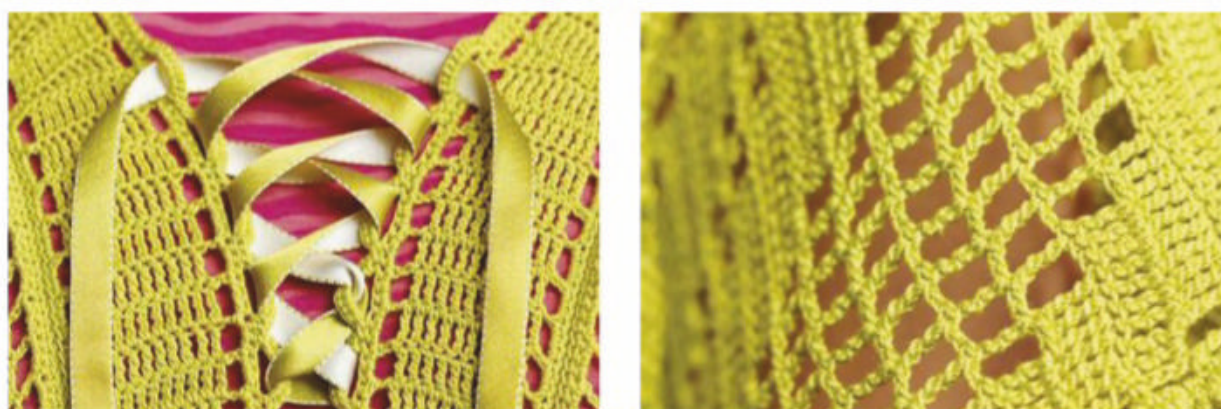
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Bring on
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Go with the flow

An eye-catching lace tunic is the perfect candidate for colour-clash layers. Designed by Susan Walsh

FILET TUNIC DRESS



YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Maxi Sugar Rush (100% mercerised cotton, 50g/280m) Green-Yellow (245)
See table for measurements and yarn quantities
- A 2mm (US 4 steel) hook
- Numerous stitch markers
- Ribbon, approx 6mm wide x 1.2m length

For yarn stockists contact
Scheepjes www.scheepjes.com

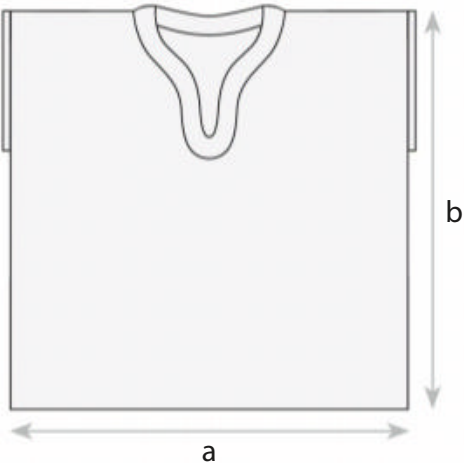
TENSION

10 rows x 13 filet squares to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over filet lace grid using a 2mm hook or size needed to obtain correct tension

ABBREVIATIONS

- ch-3 picot** Ch3, ss in st at base of ch
- filet block** 3dtr worked into next filet unit (dtr in each st or ch-sp as appropriate)
- filet space** (Dtr, ch2, miss next 2 sts) into next filet unit
- secret sew finish** Cut yarn with 20 cm tail; gently pull yarn through top of last st made at end of round; thread yarn into tapestry needle, sew front to back under top 2 loops of second stitch of the round and sew back into top of last stitch made at end of round or row; sew in loose end securely

For a full list, see page 90



Bust width (not including side seams) a: 55.5 (61.5: 64.5: 68: 71)cm
21¾ (24¼: 25½: 26¾: 28)in
Length b: 76 (80: 84: 88: 92)cm
30 (31½: 33: 34½: 36¼)in

‘Fortune favours the bold’, cries the common adage, probably-not-but-maybe referring to those who dare to wear this amazing, showstopping filet crochet number! Its catwalk-esque style, however, is not reflected in the price – the Scheepjes Sugar Rush yarn used here is amazing value – you can hook this tunic up for under £24.

NOTES

This is an oversized tunic designed to be 20-30cm larger than your actual bust measurement. An extra 1cm is included in the actual bust measurement for each side seam, and 4cm is included in the total length for the hem rows.
Construction starts with the Back piece. This is worked top down, starting with separate Left then Right shoulders that unite below the head/neck opening. The Front piece has similar construction, then shoulder and side seams assemble the garment. A neckline placket is made separately, finished with placket loops, then seamed to the neck opening of the tunic. The hem is lengthened by 4 rows of dtr with increases to encourage hem to splay, then hem and sleeves are finished with picot detailing.
The filet lace grid is a mesh made up of filet units that can be either blocks or spaces where the first post stitch of each unit lines up to form a grid. The filet space Unit used for this garment is (dtr, ch2), and a filet block Unit for this garment is 3dtr. Each row ends with a dtr stitch to frame the other end of the last filet unit.
See Charts on page 96-97 for the filet pattern.

TUNIC DRESS

BACK

BACK LEFT SHOULDER

Ch62 (74: 80: 86: 92).
Row 1 (WS) Dtr into sixth ch from hook (skipped ch counts as first dtr and its foundation ch), dtr in next ch (first filet unit competed as a block as shown by arrow on Chart), (dtr, ch2) in next ch, skip 2 ch (second filet unit completed as a space), continue as per

Chart with 3spaces, (2blocks, 1space) 3 times, 3spaces, 2blocks (3blocks, 2spaces, 1block: 3blocks, 2spaces, 3blocks: 3blocks, 2spaces, 3blocks, 2spaces: 3blocks, 2spaces, 3blocks, 4spaces), dtr in last ch, turn.
[19 (23: 25: 27: 29) filet units]
Rows 2-5 Work 19 (23: 25: 27: 29) filet units as per Chart, starting with ch4 (counts as first dtr of first filet unit) and ending with dtr in last st, turn.

INCREASE PATTERN

Row 6 (inc at end of row) Work 19 (23: 25: 27: 29) filet units as per Chart, starting with ch4 (counts as first dtr of first filet unit) and ending with (dtr, ch2, 1ttr) in last st which makes inc of 1 filet unit, turn. [20 (24: 26: 28: 30) filet units]
Row 7 (inc at beg of row) Ch7 (counts as ttr, 2 ch and makes increase of 1 filet unit), (dtr, ch2) in st at base beg ch (counts as next filet unit), continue with rem 19 (23: 25: 27: 29) filet units as per Chart, ending with dtr in last st, turn. [21 (25: 27: 29: 31) filet units]
Cont established inc pattern at neckline as described in prev 2 rows for 3 more rows, ending with 24 (28: 30: 32: 34) filet units at end of Row 10, cont with ch72 as extension across back of neck. **Fasten off.**

BACK RIGHT SHOULDER

Ch62 (74: 80: 86: 92).

SIZES S, M, L ONLY

Row 1 (WS) Dtr in 6th ch from hook (skipped ch count as first dtr), dtr in next ch (first filet unit completed as a block), continue with rem of 18 (22: 24) filet units as per Chart, ending with dtr in last st, turn.

SIZES XL, XXL ONLY

Row 1 (WS) Ch2, (dtr, ch2) into 10th ch from hook (first 2 filet units completed as spaces), cont with rem 25 (27) filet units as per Chart, turn. [27 (29) filet units]

ALL SIZES

Rows 2-5 Work 19 (23: 25: 27: 29) filet units as per Chart, starting with ch4 (counts as first dtr

SIZE		S	M	L	XL	XXL
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	113	125	131	137.5	143.5
	in	44½	49¼	51½	54	56½
LENGTH	cm	76	80	84	88	92
	in	30	31½	33	34½	36¼
YARN	100g	7	8	9	10	11

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

of first filet unit) and ending with dtr in last st, turn.

Cont established inc pattern at neckline every row for 5 more rows, ending with 24 (28: 30: 32: 34) filet units at end of Row 10.

Row 11 (joins Back Left and Back Right shoulder pieces) Work 24 (28: 30: 32: 34) filet units as per Chart, work the first dtr of next filet unit into both the last dtr of the Back Right shoulder piece and the last extension chain of Row 10 of the Back Left shoulder piece as you work rem 48 (52: 54: 56: 58) filet units to end, turn. [72 (80: 84: 88: 92) filet units]

Row 12 Work 72 (80: 84: 88: 92) filet units as per Chart, turn.

Cont following Chart, working 72 (80: 84: 88: 92) filet units in each row for 60 (64: 68: 72: 76) more rows. **Fasten off.**

FRONT

FRONT RIGHT SHOULDER

As Back Left shoulder to end Row 10, turn.

Cont inc pattern at neckline every row for 6 more rows, ending with 30 (34: 36: 38: 40) filet units at end of Row 16.

Rows 17-29 Work 30 (34: 36: 38: 40) filet units as per Chart, turn.

Row 30 (inc at end of row) Work 30 (34: 36: 38: 40) filet units as per Chart, working (3dtr, ttr) in last dtr to make the inc of 1 filet unit as a block, turn. [31 (35: 37: 39: 41) filet units]

Cont inc pattern at neckline every row for 2 more rows, ending with 33 (37: 39: 41: 43) filet units at end of Row 32, cont with ch18 as extension across front of neck. **Fasten off.**

FRONT LEFT SHOULDER

As Back Right shoulder to end of Row 10, turn.

Cont inc pattern at neckline every row for 6 more rows, ending with 30 (34: 36: 38: 40) filet units at end of Row 16.

Rows 17-29 Work 30 (34: 36: 38: 40) filet units as per Chart, turn.

Row 30 (inc at beg of row) Ch5 (counts as ttr), 3dtr in st at base beg ch, dtr in next 2 dtr (inc of 1 filet unit as a block, second filet unit completed as a block), cont with rem 29 (33: 35: 37: 39) filet units as per Chart, turn. [31 (35: 37: 39: 41) filet units]

Cont inc pattern at neckline every row for 2 more rows, ending with 33 (37: 39: 41: 43) filet units at end of Row 32, turn.

Row 33 (joins Front Left and Front Right shoulder pieces) Work 33 (37: 39: 41: 43) filet units as per Chart, work the first dtr of next filet unit into both the last dtr of the Front Left shoulder piece and the last extension chain of Row 10 of the Front Right shoulder piece as you work rem 39 (43: 45: 47: 49) filet units to end, turn. [72 (80: 84: 88: 92) filet units]

Cont following Chart, working 72 (80: 84: 88: 92) filet units in each row for 39 (43: 47: 51: 55) more rows. **Fasten off.**

SHOULDER SEAMS

Instructions follow for an edging row worked continuously across the foundation ch of the Front and Back shoulder pieces on one side, which is then turned to work the joining row. The Front and Back are joined with a ss seam for the first 8 and last 8 sts only, leaving an open shoulder. See the Variation below if you don't want an open shoulder:

LEFT SHOULDER SEAM

Edging row 1 (RS) Dc in unworked loop of foundation ch at base of each dtr, and 3dc in each ch-sp across Back Left shoulder from neckline to armhole (68 (82: 88: 96: 104) dc), ch1, cont edging patt across RS Front Left shoulder from armhole to neckline, (68 (82: 88: 96: 104) dc), turn.

Seaming row (WS) (neckline to armhole) With RS of shoulder edges tog, ch1 (does not count as st), ss in outer loops of first 8 aligned sts, cont with a ss in each dc across front piece of fabric only (Front Left shoulder) to last 8 sts, ss in outer loops of last 8 aligned sts, turn, [68 (82: 88: 96: 104) ss], cont across Back Left shoulder (WS; armhole to neckline): ch1 (counts as ss), ss bl in next 7 sts, ch1 (does not count as st), ss in each dc across front piece of fabric only (Back Left shoulder) to last 8 sts, ch1 (does not count as st), ss in each of last 8 ss. [68 (82: 88: 96: 104) ss]

Fasten off.

Repeat seam technique for Right shoulder seam.

Variation: If you do not wish to have a hole in the shoulder seam, in place of seaming row, complete as follows: ss in outer loops of each aligned st across. [68 (82: 88: 96: 104) ss]

Fasten off.

LEFT SIDE SEAM

Instructions follow for an edging row worked along the Left edge of Front and Back pieces, followed by a joining row worked to join Front and Back pieces from hem to armhole.

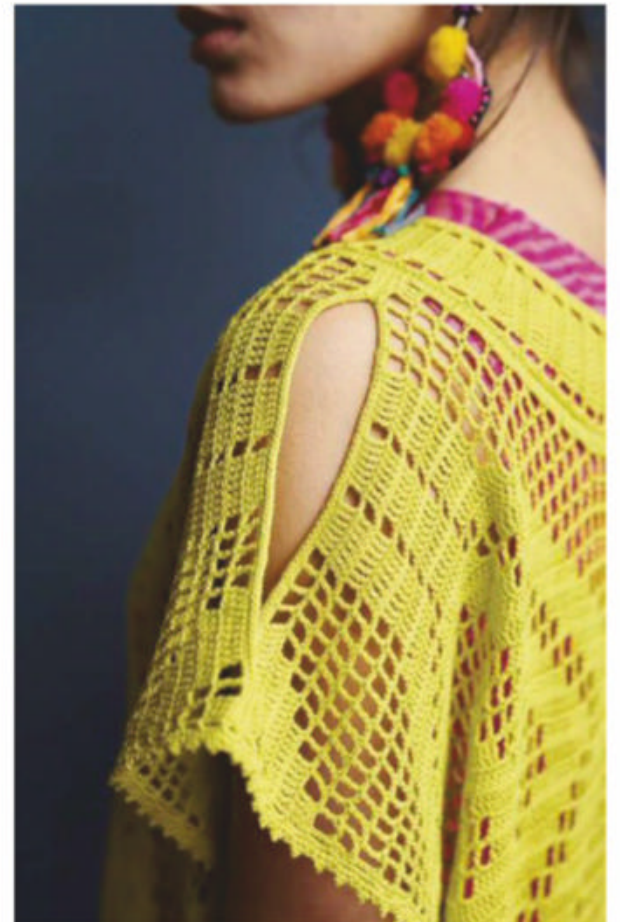
Row 1 (RS) Starting at Front Left hemline, (dc, ch3) in top of dtr at end of each row from hemline to shoulder seam, (dc, ch3) in end dc of shoulder seam edging Row 1 Front piece, (dc, ch3) in end dc of shoulder seam edging Row 1 Back piece, (dc, ch3) in top of dtr at end of each row to Back Left hemline, 1dc in top of last dtr at hemline, turn.

[145 (153: 161: 169: 177) patt reps of (1 dc, 3 ch), + 1 dc]

Row 2 (WS) Fold in half at shoulder seam with RS tog, (ss, ch3) in outer loops of each aligned dc st across 49 (51: 53: 55: 57) blocks from hem to armhole, ss in outer loops of next aligned dc sts, cont up RS Front to edge armhole, do not fasten off.

ARMHOLE EDGING

Row 1 (RS) 4Dc in each ch-3 sp around, ss to



The tunic pattern comes with a choice of having either open or closed shoulders

beg dc. [188 (204: 220: 236: 252) dc]

Row 2 (RS) Ch1 (counts as dc), dc2tog, dc in next st, ch-3 picot, (dc in next st, dc2tog, dc in next st, ch-3 picot) around, secret sew finish. [47 (51: 55: 59: 63) patt reps of (1 dc, 1 dc2tog, 1 dc, ch-3 picot)]

Rep side seam and armhole edging technique for Right side of garment.

HEM ROWS

Round 1 (RS) Join at hemline Left Back piece with a dtr, (dtr in each st, 2dtr in each ch-2 sp and 2dtr across end of each side seam) around, ss to beg dtr, turn. [438 (486: 510: 534: 558) dtr]

Round 2 (WS) (inc row) Ch4 (counts as dtr), dtr in st at base beg ch, dtr in next 3 sts, (2dtr in next st, dtr in next 3 sts) around, ss to beg dtr, turn. [109.5 (121.5: 127.5: 133.5: 139.5) patt reps of ((2dtr), 3 dtr)] or [548 (608: 638: 668: 698) dtr]

Round 3 (RS) Ch4 (count as dtr), dtr in each st around, including 0 (0: 2: 0: 2) dtr2tog to make final stitch count divisible by 4, ss to beg dtr, turn. [548 (608: 636: 668: 696) dtr]

Round 4 (WS) Ch4 (counts as dtr), dtr in st at base beg ch, dtr in next st, (dtr, ch-3 picot, dtr) in next st, dtr in next st, *2dtr in next st, dtr in next st, (dtr, ch-3 picot, dtr) in next st, dtr in next st; rep from * around.

[137 (152: 159: 167: 174) patt reps of (2dtr, 1 dtr, (dtr, ch-3 picot, dtr), 1 dtr]

Secret sew finish.

MAKE PLACKET AND INSERT INTO BODICE NECKLINE

Short rows are worked from centre back neckline to centre back neckline, using wedged

rows for shaping along its path. Stitch count is consistent, but stitch heights vary to achieve the wedged shapes. Note turning chain variations in this section. Read instructions carefully. It's recommended to use numerous stitch markers to mark shaping rows. Centre seam is sewn at back of strip to form placket neckline piece, then inner placket neckline is edged in dc rows with ch-sp to form placket Loops, then a ss row for reinforcement. The bodice neckline is edged in rows of dc, then the outer placket is edged in matching stitch counts of dc before they are ss seamed together. Take care with your ss tension. (Whip stitch seam through aligned stitches is an alternative method.)

Ch18.

Row 1 (WS) Dtr in seventh ch from hook, (6 skipped ch count as 2 skipped foundation ch, dtr, ch1), 9dtr, ch1, 1dtr in last ch, turn. [12 dtr, 2ch-1 sps]

Row 2 (RS) Ch4 (counts as dtr, ch1), skip next st, 10dtr, ch1, dtr in last st (which is the second last of the beg ch), turn. [14 sts]

Rows 3-49 As Row 2. [14 sts] EXCEPT shaping rows as follows:

Rows 11, 13, 17, 19, 27, 29, 38, 40 (narrow-to-wide wedge) Ch1 (counts as dc) 4dc, 3htr, 2tr, 2dtr, ch1, dtr in last st. [14 sts]

U-TURN AT BOTTOM FRONT PLACKET

Rows 50, 52, 54, 56, 58 Ch5 (counts as stretched dtr, ch1), skip next st, 10dtr, ch1, tr in last st, turn. [14 sts]

Rows 51, 53, 55, 57 (narrow-to-wide wedge) As Row 11.

Rows 59, 61, 63, 65, 67 Ch3 (counts as shortened dtr, ch1), skip next st, 10dtr, ch1, dtr in last st, turn. [14 sts]

Rows 60, 62, 64, 66 (stretched wide-to-narrow wedge) Ch5 (counts as stretched dtr, ch1), skip next st, 2dtr, 2tr, 3htr, 5dc, turn. [14 sts]

REMAINDER OF NECKLINE PLACKET TO CENTRE BACK

Rows 68-116 As Row 2. [14 sts] EXCEPT shaping rows as follows:

Rows 77, 79, 88, 90, 98, 100, 104, 106 (wide to narrow wedge) Ch4 (counts as dtr, ch1), skip next st, 2dtr, 2tr, 3htr, 5dc, turn. [14 sts]

Except at the narrow end of a wedged row, end of each row has a space that will be crocheted into for both the inner and outer neckline placket edging.

At end of Row 116, rotate piece to cont to crochet inner neckline placket edging.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 3dc in (each of) next 9 spaces, 2dc in next 3 spaces, 3dc in next space, 2dc in next 3 spaces, 3dc in next 5 spaces, 2dc in next 3 spaces, 3dc in next 6 spaces, 4dc in next 4 spaces, 3dc in next 9 spaces, 2dc in next 10 spaces, 3dc in next 9

spaces, 4dc in next 4 spaces, 3dc in next 6 spaces, 2dc in next 3 spaces, 3dc in next 5 spaces, 2dc in next 3 spaces, 3dc in next space, 2dc in next 3 spaces, 3dc in next 9 spaces, ss to beg dc, turn. [268 dc]

PM at end spaces of placket Rows 41 and 76.

Row 2 (WS) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st around to first M, (ch5, skip 3 dc, dc in next 3 sts) 4 times, ch5, skip 3 dc, dc2tog, (dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times, (ch5, skip 3 dc, dc in next 3 sts) 4 times, ch5, skip 3 dc (this should be at second M), dc in each st around, ss to beg dc, turn.

Note: you should now have 5 ch-5 sp loops that symmetrically line up on either side of Front placket.

Row 3 (RS) (ss in each dc to next ch-5 sp, 9dc in ch-5 sp) 10 times, ss in each dc around. Secret sew finish. Use tail to sew centre back seam of neckline placket.

BODICE NECKLINE EDGING, OUTER NECKLINE PLACKET EDGING AND SLIP STITCH SEAM

Row 1 (WS of bodice neckline) Starting at centre back, dc in unworked loop of foundation ch at base of each dtr and 2dc in each ch-sp across the 12 filet units to first diagonal filet unit at Back Right neckline [36 dc], cont around to end of last diagonal unit at Back Left neckline working 4dc in each space (or around end post if it's a filet block) of every diagonal filet unit, 3dc in each space (or around end post if it's a filet block) of every vertical/horizontal filet unit, 3dc across each shoulder seam, dc in unworked loop of foundation ch at base of each dtr and 2dc in each ch-sp across the rem 12 filet unit to centre back, ss to beg dc, turn. [386 dc]

Row 2 (RS of bodice neckline) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st around, do NOT join to beg dc, ch1, cont with outer neckline placket edging. [386 dc]

Row 3 (RS of outer neckline placket) Beg at centre back working towards right-hand side of neckline with 4dc in next 6 spaces, 3dc in next 4 spaces, 4dc in next 5 spaces, 3dc in next 11 spaces, 4dc in next 11 spaces, 3dc in next 13 spaces, 4dc in next 3 spaces, 3dc in next 6 spaces, 4dc in next 3 spaces, 3dc in next 13 spaces, 4dc in next 11 spaces, 3dc in next 11 spaces, 4dc in next 5 spaces, 3dc in next 4 spaces, 4dc in last 6 spaces, do NOT join to beg dc, ch1, cont with Seam. [386 dc]

SEAM OUTER PLACKET NECKLINE TO BODICE NECKLINE

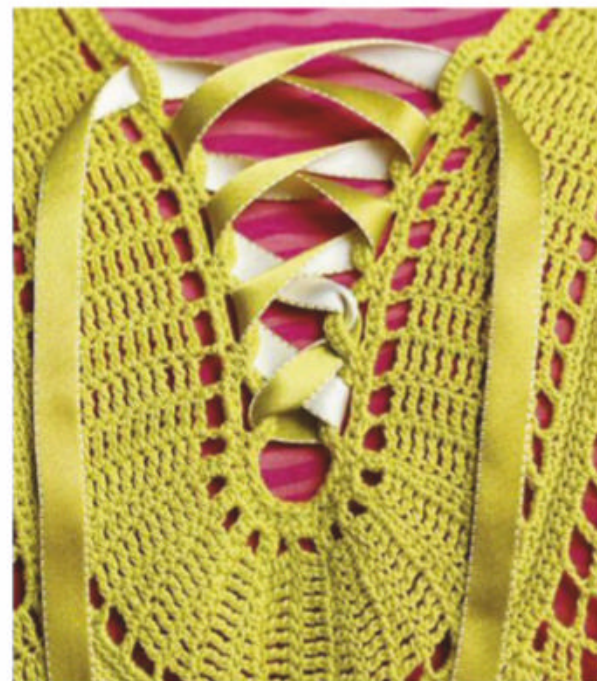
With RS together, ss in outer loops of each aligned 386 sts. **Fasten off.**

TO FINISH

Weave in all ends securely. Wet block; once dry, steam block to further improve drape, encouraging the fabric to stretch vertically and



Construction begins with the back panel and works top down, ending in a picot hem



The ribbon lace tie detail adds gentle shaping around the bust of the tunic

for the skirt to be stretched wider. Never touch the fabric with the iron direct or it will scald the colour. (Use a pressing cloth if you wish to iron the fabric).

Lace 1.2m of 6mm wide ribbon of choice through the aligned loops at Front placket and double knot the ribbon ends.



Moomin over you

Return to Tove Jansson's Finnish dreamland with this
amigurumi Moomin, designed by Sisko Sälpäkivi



YOU WILL NEED

- Novita Muumit (55% merino, 45% cotton, 50g/112m)
- 2 balls of Moomintroll (007)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Toy stuffing
- Stitch markers
- Black stranded cotton

For stockists contact

Love Crochet 01409 404010

www.lovecrochet.com

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Moomin measures approx 27cm (10½in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 90

Intrepid Moomintroll is awaiting his latest adventure – transforming into amigurumi. Will you help him? Take your time with his eyes as they're the key to his expression.

NOTES

Moomin is worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it useful to mark the first st of a round, moving the marker up as you work. The Ears and Arms are worked first and joined to the Head and Body as you work. Alternatively, you can sew the opening of the Arms and Ears closed and sew them into place at the end using the images as a guide.

MOOMIN

EARS (MAKE 2)

Make a magic loop.

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

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

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

Round 4 Dc in each st around.

Round 5 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) twice, ss into next st to close. [8 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-2 (RS) As Rounds 1-2 of Ears. [8 sts]

Round 3 Dc in each st around.

Round 4 Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next 2 sts, dc in last 3 sts. [10 sts]

Round 5 Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next 2 sts, dc in last 4 sts. [12 sts]

Round 6 Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next 2 sts, dc in last 5 sts. [14 sts]

Round 7 2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts, (dc2tog) twice, dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in last st.

Round 8 As Round 7.

Rounds 9-18 Dc in each st around, ss into next st and **fasten off**.

Stuff each Arm lightly.

HEAD

Make a magic loop.

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

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

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

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

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

Round 6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 (4dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 7 times. [42 sts]

Rounds 8-10 Dc in each st around.

Round 11 Dc in next 7 sts, (dc2tog) 4 times, dc in next 15 sts, 2dc in next 4 sts, dc in last 8 sts.

Rounds 12-14 Dc in each st around.



Make a tassel with eight strands of yarn and attach it to the tail, then trim it to length



Use black stranded cotton to embroider Moomin's enchanting wide-eyed look

Round 15 Dc in next 9 sts, (dc2tog) twice, dc in next 18 sts, 2dc in next 2 sts, dc in last 9 sts.

Rounds 16-19 As Rounds 12-15.

Round 20 Dc in each st around.

Round 21 Dc in next 26 sts, ch30, skip 10 sts, dc in last 6 sts. [32 sts, 1 ch-30 sp]

Round 22 Dc in next 26 sts, dc into back of next 30 ch, dc in next 6 dc. [62 sts]

Round 23 Dc in next 9 sts, 2dc in next 3 sts, dc in next 8 sts, (dc2tog) 5 times, dc in next 7 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next st) 3 times, dc in next 6 sts, (dc2tog) 5 times. [52 sts]

Round 24 Dc in each st around.

Round 25 Dc in next 24 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next st) 3 times, (dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) twice, dc in next 2 sts, (dc in next st, dc2tog) 3 times. [44 sts]

Round 26 Dc in each st around.

Round 27 Dc in next 24 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next st) twice, dc in next 8 sts, (dc in next st, dc2tog) twice. [40 sts]

Round 28 (Dc2tog), dc in next 20 sts, (dc2tog), dc in next 16 sts. [38 sts]

Round 29 (Dc2tog), dc in next 18 sts, (dc2tog), dc in next 16 sts. [36 sts]

Round 30 (Dc2tog, dc in next 16 sts) twice.

[34 sts]

Round 31 Dc in next 18 sts, (dc2tog), dc in next 12 sts, (dc2tog). [32 sts]

Round 32 Dc in next 18 sts, (dc2tog), dc in next 10 sts, (dc2tog). [30 sts]

In the next round you will join the Ears. Flatten each Ear and, where indicated, work the sts through both sides of the Ear as well as into the next st from Round 32.

Round 33 Dc in next 5 sts, *place Ear against next 4 sts, dc in next 4 sts working through Ear to join, dc in next 3 sts; rep from * once more, dc in next 2 sts, (dc in next st, dc2tog) 3 times. [27 sts]

Round 34 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times, dc in next 3 sts. [21 sts]

Round 35 (Dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [18 sts]

Round 36 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 37 (Dc2tog) 6 times.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BODY

Place the Head upside down, snout facing you, join yarn into the right hand side of the 10 skipped sts from Round 22 of the Head.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc into 10 sts at front of Head, 30 dc into the back of the ch-30 from Round 22 of Head. [40 sts]

Round 2 Dc in next 3 sts, (dc in next st, 2dc in next 2 sts) twice, dc in next 3 sts, (dc2tog) twice, dc in next 20 sts, (dc2tog) twice.

Round 3 Dc in each st around.

Round 4 Dc in next 3 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next st) twice, (dc in next st, 2dc into next st) twice, dc into next 13 sts, 2dc into next st, dc into next 4 sts, 2dc into next st, dc into next 10 sts. [46 sts]

Round 5 Dc in each st around.

Round 6 (Dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times, dc in last 4 sts. [52 sts]

Round 7 Dc in each st around.

In the next round you will join the Arms. Flatten each Arm and, when indicated, work the sts through both sides of the Arm as well as into the next st from Round 7.

Round 8 Dc in next 18 sts, join Arm over next 7 sts in same way as Ears (keep thumb pointing up), dc in next 20 sts, join 2nd Arm over last 7 sts. [52 sts]

Rounds 9-10 Dc in each st around.

Round 11 Dc in next 4 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts) 3 times, 2dc into next st, dc in next 38 sts. [56 sts]

Round 12 Dc in each st around.

Round 13 (Dc in next 8 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times, dc in next 2 sts. [62 sts]

Rounds 14-15 Dc in each st around.

Round 16 Dc in next 2 sts (2dc in next st, dc in next 9 sts) 6 times. [68 sts]

Rounds 17-18 Dc in each st around.

Round 19 (2dc in next st, dc in next 10 sts) 6

times, dc in next 2 sts. [74 sts]

Rounds 20-24 Dc in each st around.

Round 25 Dc in next 4 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next 8 sts) 7 times. [67 sts]

Round 26 Dc in each st around.

Round 27 (Dc in next 7 sts, dc2tog) 7 times, dc in next 4 sts. [60 sts]

Round 28 Dc in each st around.

Round 29 (Dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog) 10 times. [50 sts]

Rounds 30-31 Dc in each st around.

Round 32 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 10 times. [40 sts]

Rounds 33-34 Dc in each st around.

Round 35 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 10 times. [30 sts]

Rounds 36-37 Dc in each st around.

Round 38 (Dc, dc2tog) 10 times. [20 dc]

Round 39 Dc in each st around.

Round 40 (Dc2tog) 10 times. [10 sts]

Round 41 (Dc2tog) 5 times. [5 sts]

Fasten off.

Thread the tail through last 5 sts, pulling tight to close. Weave in ends.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 4dc into loop. [4 sts]

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

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

Round 4 Dc in next 3 sts, (2dc in next st, dc) twice, 2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts. [15 sts]

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

Round 6 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times, 2dc in next 2 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts) 3 times. [28 sts]

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

Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.

Round 10 Dc in next 14 sts, (dc2tog) 4 times, dc in next 13 sts. [31 sts]

Round 11 Dc in next 11 sts, (dc2tog) 4 times, dc in next 12 sts. [27 sts]

Round 12 Dc in each st around.

Round 13 Dc in next 12 sts, (dc2tog) twice, dc in next 11 sts. [25 sts]



When sewing the legs to the body, make sure to leave a 1cm gap between each leg

Round 14 Dc in each st around.

Round 15 Dc in next 11 sts, (dc2tog), dc in next 12 sts. [24 sts]

Rounds 16-17 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving long tail to sew Leg to Body. Stuff each Leg and whipstitch to the Body, leaving a 1cm gap between each Leg.

TAIL

Ch23.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in each ch across, turn. [22 sts]

Rows 2-4 Ch1, dc into each st across, turn.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Fold the Tail in half so the top of Row 4 meets the back of the foundation ch, using the tail sew across these sts to close. There is no need to stuff the Tail.

Sew the Tail to the back of the Moomin between Rounds 28-29 of the Body.

TASSEL

Cut 8 strands of yarn approx 12cm in length, fold strands in half and secure with a small length of yarn approx 1cm from the fold. Thread another length of yarn through the fold and secure with a knot. Using the tails from the knot, sew the Tassel to the bottom of the Tail and trim the Tassel to your desired length.

TO FINISH

Using black stranded cotton, sew the eyes and eyebrows with short chain stitches.

MOOMIN x NOVITA

Moomin x Novita is a new, soft DK weight yarn available in six colours, inspired by Tove Jansson's Moomin books. A blend of 55% merino wool, 45% cotton, the machine-washable yarns are soft enough for use in making both adults' and children's clothing and accessories. Knitters can purchase Moomin knitting patterns online at www.novitaknits.com.





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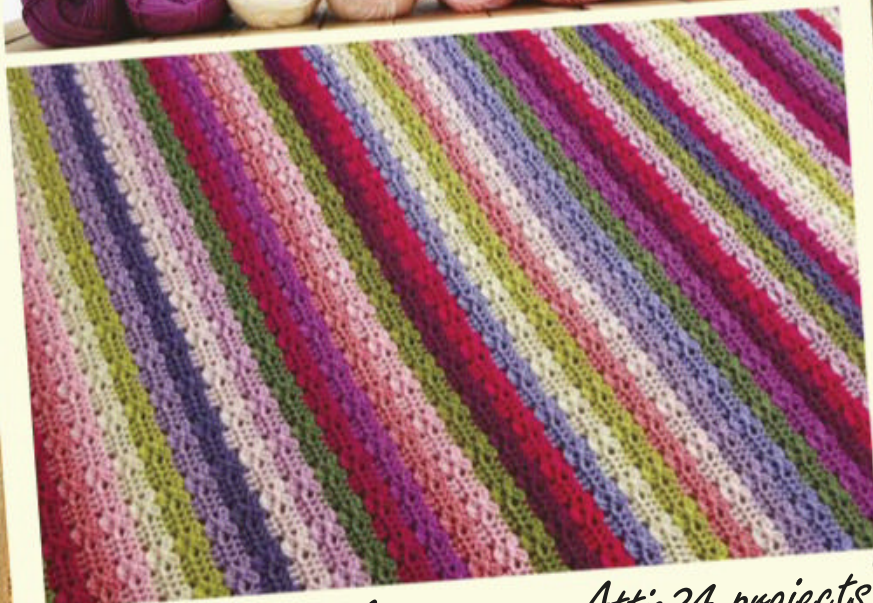
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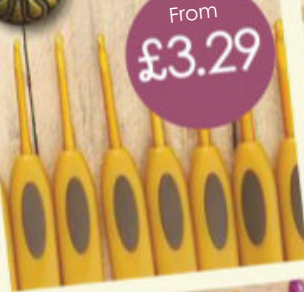
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PONY'S JOURNAL

...from the studio

Spring has sprung and Pony McTate has been hit by the urge to organise her stash – stand back, she's going in!

"I have a black hole for WIPs that I call my Crate of Shame"

Once again, it's that time of the year – it's a bit warmer, a bit lighter and you've been struck by that annual desire to spring-clean your home. But hoovering the drapes can wait. Spend your tidying time where you'd rather be anyway – deep in the crochet zone.

SORT YOUR STASH

A good place to start is with your stash. Do you keep your yarn in various plastic bags around the house? Shoved under the bed? Are your hand-dyes cohabiting with your acrylic bargain balls? Do you fear to even look?

There is something to be said for a well-ordered collection of yarn. It is a thing of beauty. You can see what you've got at a moment's notice and it makes selecting yarn for a new project easy and exciting. You know what you need to acquire and what you really, really shouldn't.

I like to sort my yarn by fibre. I have a cotton box, a merino box and an acrylic box. I also have a place on display for Gorgeous Stuff I'm Saving for Special Occasions and Occasional Squishing. You may prefer to arrange your yarn by gauge or colour; whatever works for you and the way you play with yarn. Despite my best (read: laziest) intentions, my cotton box was getting out of hand. Big tangled masses were

escaping over the side and would make a grab for my ankles every time I walked past. It was time to intervene.

First up I fished out any intact balls I could. Then I tackled the snarled mess of yarn. I must confess, once I get into it I quite enjoy winding yarn balls. There's a therapeutic quality to finding orderly calm amid abject woolly chaos. After four hours of yarn wrangling I ended up with dozens of little yarn balls; all the leftovers from projects past and snippets I'd collected. You could happily pop such balls in a jar for a jumbly jolly display, but – feeling functional – I wanted to make something useful with them – and let's be honest, any excuse to crochet.

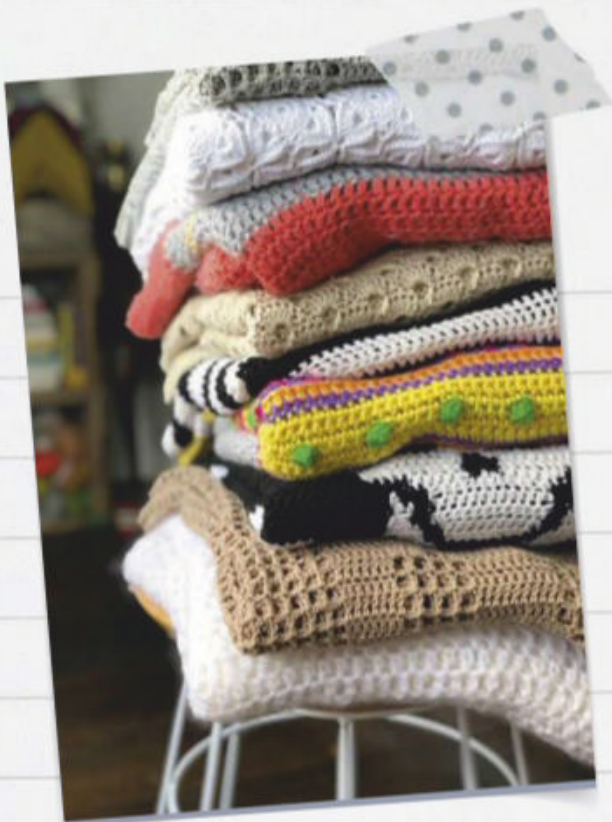
So I made some pretty face scrubbies using a free pattern I found online by Amy Ramnarine (@thestitchinmommy). At a mere four rounds each, you can whip them up quick as a wink. A stack tied up with string would make a lovely gift, don't you think? Other practical little projects are coasters, gift tags and cute critter fridge magnets.

MY CRATE OF SHAME

I have a secret corner of my bedroom, a black hole for WIPs. I call it, tongue-in-cheekily, my Crate of Shame. All kinds of projects end up in it: half-baked design ideas, sweaters

"After four hours of yarn wrangling
I ended up with dozens of
little yarn balls"





“Clearing up projects is good for your sanity – be brave”

awaiting a second sleeve, my never-ending chevron blanket. That unlucky blanket has been hibernating in there for seven years. Seven! Poor thing. I put projects aside for many reasons. Sometimes the yarn has been discontinued. Sometimes the project is so riddled with mistakes that I don't know what to do next. Sometimes they've been WIPs for so long the momentum has just flatlined. In the case of my Never-Ending Blanket, frightfully, it's all of the above.

But clearing up projects is good for your soul and for your sanity. It gives you more room, physically and emotionally, for fresh new fun. So be brave. Be ruthless. Finish the projects that can be finished, rip back the ones that can't. If you have a crafty friend, why not try swapping WIPs? Perhaps there's hope for my blanket yet.

CROCHET RESCUE

In your heady organisational flurry, don't neglect completed crochet items. The change of season is a good time to review how your handmades have fared over recent months. First of

all, determine whether any repairs are necessary. Did the moths appreciate your shawls a little too much? Are the seams coming loose on your favourite cardigan? Are there (gulp) gaping holes in your granny rugs? Fear not: with care and patience, it can all be fixed.

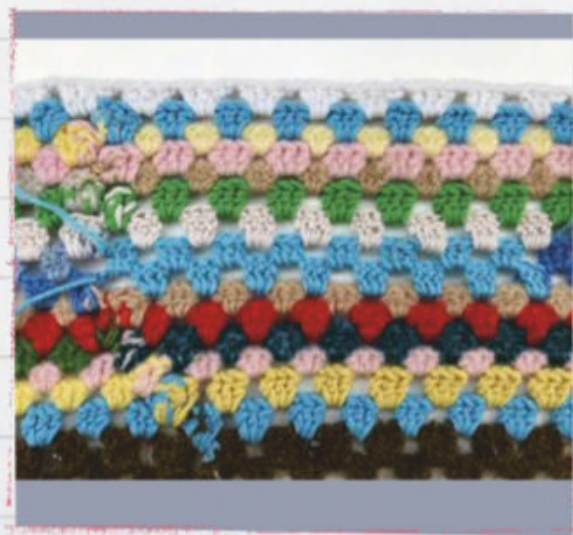
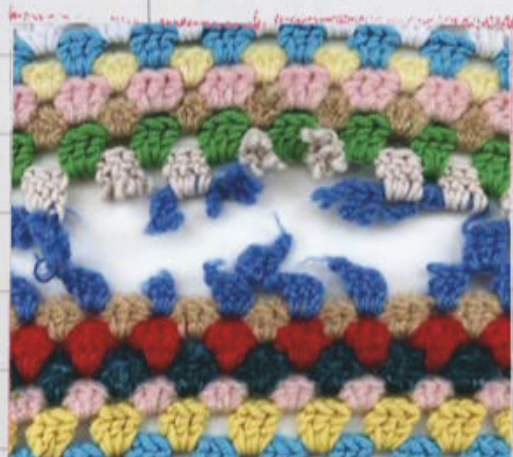
My wardrobe also needs a good hard review. One of the perks (and alas the pitfalls) of being a crochet designer, is that you end up with stacks of your samples. I am running out of room. So I'm going to take a stern look at my crochet jumpers; if they have ceased to spark joy, then out they go. Not that I would dream of throwing them out. Oh no. I will donate them, swap them, sell them or frog them.

After all that sorting out you will be feeling rather noble and, no doubt, worn out. My advice? Pour yourself a nice hot cuppa, select the biscuits of your choice and put your well-deserving feet up. Then get crocheting! Neatly, please.

Find Pony McTate online at www.ponymctate.com.

MAKE DO AND MEND

Making repairs to crochet is not as hard as you might think. I recently fixed a much-loved but well-hammered granny rug from my son's kindergarten (you can find a step-by-step tutorial on my blog). Now it can look forward to many more years of tents and superhero capes!



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FRINGE BENEFITS

Get festival ready with these super-cool fringed socks by Marianne Rawlins



YOU WILL NEED

- Schoppel Wolle Zauberball 3ply (75% wool 25% nylon, 100g/420m), 2 balls of Fuchsienbeet (1536)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- Stitch markers

For yarn stockists contact

Wool Warehouse 01926 882818

www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

23 sts over 16 rounds to measure 10x10cm (4in) over pattern using a 3mm hook

MEASUREMENTS

Socks fit UK shoe sizes 5-8

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 90

Never let the sun go down on a party with these knee-to-toe sunset socks, the perfect accompaniment to a pair of novelty wellies.

NOTES

Parts of the pattern are worked in a continuous spiral, without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to mark the last st of each round, moving the marker up as you work. The Heel is worked in rows from the Leg, then the Foot is worked around the unworked sts from the Leg and the Heel.

SOCKS (MAKE 2)

CUFF

Using a 3mm hook, ch9.

Row 1 (WS) Htr in third ch from hook, htr in each ch to end, turn. [8 sts]

Row 2 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr throughout), htr in bl of each st across, turn.

Rows 3-36 As Row 2.

Fold Cuff so that first and last rows meet, work a ss seam to join the rows together, do not fasten off.

Rotate Cuff to work into row ends.

LEG

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 55dc evenly around. [55 sts]

Round 2 (RS) (Dc in next st, tr in next st) 27 times, dc in last st.

Round 3 (Tr in next st, dc in next st) 27 times, tr in last st.

Repeat Rounds 2-3 until Sock measures 27cm, including Cuff.

ANKLE

Round 1 (RS) Tr2tog, dc2tog, (tr in next st, dc in next st) 25 times, tr in last st. [53 sts]

Round 2 (RS) (Dc in next st, tr in next st) around to last st, dc in last st.

Rounds 3-9 Repeat Rounds 1-2, ending on a Round 1 repeat. [45 sts]

Round 10 As Round 2.

Round 11 (Tr in next st, dc in next st) around to last st, tr in last st.

Repeat Rounds 10-11 until entire Leg measures 36cm, ending on a Round 11 repeat.

HEEL FLAP

Row 1 (RS) Dc in next 22 sts, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [22 sts]

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

Rows 3-10 As Row 2.

Row 11 Ch1, dc in next 13 sts, (dc2tog), dc in next st, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [15 sts]

Row 12 Dc in next 6 sts, (dc2tog), dc in next st, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [8 sts]

Row 13 Dc in each st to last st (dc2tog) last st and next unworked st from Row 10, dc in next st, turn. [9 sts]

Rows 14-18 As Row 13. [14 sts]

Do not fasten off.

FOOT

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in next 14 sts, 10dc evenly down side of heel, dc in next st of Leg, (tr in next st, dc in next st) 11 times, 12dc evenly up side of Heel, do not turn. [59 sts]

Round 2 (RS) Dc in next 20 sts, (dc2tog) twice, tr in next st, (dc in next st, tr in next st) 11 times, dc in next st, (dc2tog) twice, dc in next 7 sts. [55 sts]

Round 3 (Dc in next st, tr in next st) 9 times, (dc2tog), (tr2tog), dc in next st, (tr in next st, dc in next st) 11 times, tr in next st, (tr2tog), (dc2tog), (tr in next st, dc in next st) twice, dc in last st. [51 sts]

Round 4 (Tr in next st, dc in next st) 8 times, (tr2tog), (dc2tog), tr in next st, (dc in next st, tr in next st) 11 times, dc in next st, (dc2tog), (tr2tog), dc in next st, tr in next st, dc in last st. [47 sts]

Round 5 (Dc in next st, tr in next st) around to last st, dc in last st.

Round 6 (Tr in next st, dc in next st) around to last st, tr in last st.

Repeat Rounds 5-6 until Foot measures 16cm from Heel.

TOE

Round 1 (RS) Dc in next 16 sts, (dc2tog), mark last st, dc in next 23 sts, mark last st, dc in last 6 sts. [46 sts]

Round 2 *Dc to 3 sts before marker, dc2tog, dc in next st (mark st), dc in next st, dc2tog; repeat from * once more, dc to end of round. [42 sts]

Rounds 3-5 As Round 2. [30 sts]

Round 6 *Dc to 3 sts before marker, dc2tog, dc in next st (mark st), dc in next st, dc2tog; repeat from * once. [26 sts]

Round 7 As Round 6. [22 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

TO FINISH

Turn the Sock inside out, flatten the opening so it is in line with Heel, ss last round together.

Weave in all ends.

FRINGE

Join yarn into top of Cuff.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 55dc evenly around, ss to beg dc. [55 sts]

Rounds 2-3 Ch1, dc into each st, ss to beg dc.

Round 4 (Ch20, ss to next st) 54 times. [54 ch-20 loops]

Rounds 5-10 Repeat Rounds 2-4 twice.

Rounds 11-12 Repeat Rounds 2-3 once.

Fasten off and weave in ends.



The fringe is made up of a series of looped chains, which naturally curl and volumise

Swedish design with a green soul



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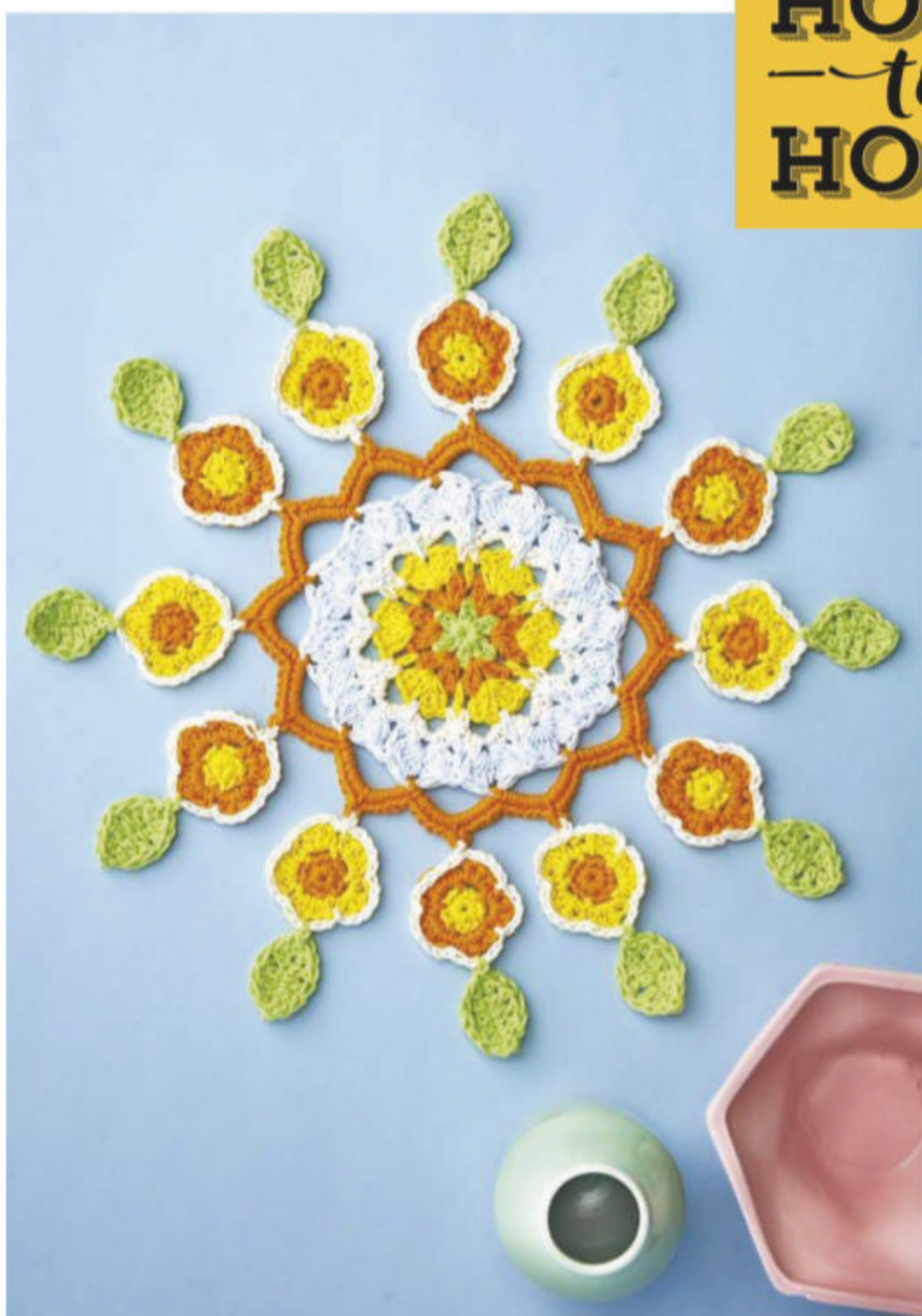


HOOK TO HOOK

Mandala magic

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

HOOK
— to —
HOOK



Martine de Regt

"I love making mandalas and working with bright and beautiful colours! This particular mandala is called 'Here Comes Spring', and I hope I've captured that feeling with my design. Spring always makes me think of fresh flowers and sunny days. Let's hope my design makes the sun come out to play!"

You can find Martine on Instagram @martinederegt or visit her blog over at www.martinederegtcrochetlife.blogspot.co.uk

Michelle White

"I loved this challenge for getting me to approach design in a new way – a bit like *Ready Steady Cook* with yarn! The pinwheel mandala was inspired by memories of childhood family days out – picnics with oranges cut into quarters, sticky fingers, and pinwheels spinning away in buckets outside gift shops... there was also usually a dash into the nearest café to escape the unpredictable British weather!"

Michelle designs and blogs at doradoes.co.uk





From left: Martine has chosen a colour palette that also includes paler blue and white shades to help the brighter tones shine through; the mandala is embellished with 12 pretty flowers and leaves – the colours alternate between contrasting orange and yellow petals and centres

HERE COMES SPRING MANDALA

A bright and beautiful design with pretty floral detail. Designed by Martine de Regt.

■ Sirdar Happy Cotton (100% cotton, 20g/43m)
1 ball of each: Fizz (779), Juicy (792), Quack (788), Bathtime (765), Cream (761)

■ A 4mm (US G/6) hook

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

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Mandala measures 36cm (14¼in)

ABBREVIATIONS

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

4-tr cluster As above repeating bracketed instructions 4 times

For a full list, see page 90

NOTES

On the Mandala all sts are worked into the space between sts. Insert hook between the posts of 2 sts rather than into the top of a st.

MANDALA

Using Fizz, ch5, ss to last ch from hook to form loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout),

11tr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 sts]

Fasten off. Join Juicy in sp between any 2 sts.

Round 2 (RS) Ch3, 3tr into same sp, (skip 2 tr, 4tr into next sp) 5 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [6 4-tr groups]

Fasten off. Join Quack into central sp (between 2nd and 3rd st) on any 4-tr group.

Round 3 Ch3, 5tr in same sp, tr into next sp between 4-tr groups, *6tr in central sp on next 4-tr group, tr into next sp between 4-tr groups; repeat from * 4 times more, ss to top of beg ch-3, (mark 1 central sp on any 6-tr group). [6 6-tr groups, 6 tr]

Fasten off. Join Cream into central sp on any 6-tr group.

Round 4 *Ch5, skip 3 tr, dc in sp before next tr, skip 1 tr, dc in sp after tr, ch5, ss into the centre sp on next 6-tr group; repeat from * 5 times more. [12 ch-5 sps]

Round 5 Ss into next ch-5 sp, ch1, (2dc, ch3, 2dc) into each ch-5 sp, ss to beg dc. [12 ch-3 sps, 48 dc]

Fasten off. Join Bathtime into ch-3 sp to the right of marked sp from Round 3.

Round 6 Ch3, 4-tr cluster (ch3, 4-tr cluster counts as 5-tr cluster), ch1, 5-tr cluster in same sp, dtr into marked sp (remove marker), *(5tr cluster, ch1, 5-tr cluster) into next sp, dtr in sp between 2 dc from Round 5, (5tr cluster, ch1, 5-tr cluster) into next sp, dtr in central sp on 6-tr group from Round 3; repeat from * around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [24 5-tr clusters]

Fasten off. Join Juicy into any ch-1 sp.

Round 7 (Ch8, ss in next ch-1 sp) 12 times.

Round 8 Ss into next ch-8 sp, ch1, (6dc, ch3, 6dc) into each ch-sp around, ss to top of beg dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

FLOWERS (MAKE 12)

Using Quack, ch2.

Round 1 10dc into last ch from hook, ss to top of beg dc. [10 sts]

Fasten off. Join Juicy into any st.

Round 2 (Ch3, skip 1 st, ss into next st) 5 times.

Round 3 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch1, (dc, 2tr, dc) into each ch-3 sp around, ss to top of beg dc. [5 petals]

Fasten off. Join Cream in sp between 2 petals.

Round 4 (Ch5, ss in next sp between 2 petals) 5 times, ss into any ch-3 sp from Round 8 of Mandala.

Make 5 more Flowers as above, then make 6 Flowers using Juicy for Round 1 and Yellow for Rounds 2-3. Alternate the Flowers as you join them around the Mandala.

LEAVES (MAKE 12)

Using Fizz, ch8.

Round 1 Ss into second ch from hook, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, dtr in next ch, tr in next ch, htr in next ch, ss in next ch, working along opposite side of foundation ch, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, dtr in next ch, tr in next ch, htr in next ch, ss in last ch, ss into ch-5 sp on Round 4 of Flower that sits opposite the join to the Mandala.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

PINWHEEL MANDALA

Simple shapes and citrus colours positively zing in this design by Michelle White.



From left: the mandala is made in rounds working outwards, with the colourful spokes given height using front post stitches. The cream outline to the spokes is stitched on using surface crochet after the rest of the mandala has been completed

■ Sirdar Happy Cotton (100% cotton, 20g/43m), 1 ball of each: **Yarn A** Cream (761), **Yarn B** Bathtime (765), **Yarn C** Juicy (792), **Yarn D** Quack (788), **Yarn E** Fizz (779)

■ 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn stockists, see [Here Comes Spring Mandala on p48](#)

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Mandala measures 23cm (9in) in diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

ss surface crochet Keep yarn on WS, *insert hook through fabric from RS to WS, pull up a loop of yarn to RS, rep from * pulling loop up and through loop on hook

NOTES

Pinwheel is worked in the round with RS facing; do not turn at the end of the round. The spokes are created using front post stitches.

PINWHEEL MANDALA

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (does not count as st throughout), 12tr into loop, ss to top of beg tr. [12 tr]

Fasten off. Join Yarn B into any st.

Round 2 Ch2, *(htr, change to Yarn C, FPtr) in next tr, 2FPtr around next tr, change to Yarn B, (htr, change to Yarn D, FPtr) in next tr, 2FPtr around next tr, change to Yarn B, (htr, change to

Yarn E, FPtr) in next tr, 2FPtr around next tr, change to Yarn B; repeat from * once more, ss to top of beg htr. [24 sts]

Round 3 Ch2, *2htr in htr, change to Yarn C, FPtr around next 2 sts, 2FPtr around next st, change to Yarn B, 2htr in next st, change to Yarn D, FPtr around next 2 sts, 2FPtr around next st, change to Yarn B, 2htr in next st, change to Yarn E, FPtr around next 2 sts, 2FPtr around next st, change to Yarn B; repeat from * once more, ss to top of beg htr. [36 sts]

Round 4 Ch2, *htr in next st, 2htr in next st (mark last st), change to Yarn C, FPtr around next 3 sts, 2FPtr around next st (mark last st), change to Yarn B, htr in next st, 2htr in next st (mark last st), change to Yarn D, FPtr around next 3 sts, 2FPtr around next st (mark last st), change to Yarn B, htr in next st, 2htr in next st (mark last st), change to Yarn E, FPtr around next 3 sts, 2FPtr around next st (mark last st), change to Yarn B; repeat from * once more, ss to top of beg htr. [48 sts]

Round 5 Ch2, htr in each st to next marker, 2htr in next st, (mark last st), change to Yarn C, FPtr around each st to next marker, 2FPtr around marked st, (mark last st), change to Yarn B, htr in each st to next marker, 2htr in marked st (mark last st), change to Yarn D, FPtr around each st to next marked st, 2FPtr around marked st (mark last st), change to Yarn B, htr in each st to next marker, 2htr in next st, (mark last st), change to Yarn E, FPtr around each st to next marker, 2FPtr around marked st, (mark last st), change to Yarn B; repeat from * once more, ss to top of beg htr. [60 sts]

Rounds 6-10 As Round 6. [120 sts]

Round 11 Ch2, *htr in next 10 sts, change to Yarn C, FPtr around next 9 sts, 2FPtr around next st, change to Yarn B, htr in next 10 sts, change to Yarn D, FPtr around next 9 sts, 2FPtr around next st, change to Yarn B, htr in next 10 sts, change to Yarn E, FPtr around next 9 sts, 2FPtr around next st, change to Yarn B; repeat from * once more, ss to top of beg htr. [126 sts]

Round 12 Ch2, *htr in next 11 sts, change to Yarn C, FPtr around next 9 sts, 2FPtr around next st, change to Yarn B, htr in next 11 sts, change to Yarn D, FPtr around next 9 sts, 2FPtr around next st, change to Yarn B, htr around next 11 sts, change to Yarn E, FPtr around next 9 sts, 2FPtr around next st, change to Yarn B; repeat from * once more, ss to top of beg htr. [132 sts]

Fasten off Yarn C, Yarn D and Yarn E.

Round 13 Ch2, *htr in next 10 sts, 2htr in next st, htr in bl of next 11 sts; repeat from * 5 more times, ss to top of beg htr. [138 sts]

Round 14 Ch2, htr in each st around, ss to top of beg htr.

Fasten off Yarn B. Join Yarn A into any st.

Round 15 Ss through the fl of each htr around, ss to beg ss to join.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

SURFACE CROCHET

Working on the RS, attach Yarn A to a Round 1 st between one of the 'spokes' in the wheel. Inserting the hook from front to back, ss through the Mandala, working around the edge of the spoke and back down to Round 1. Without fastening off, repeat this for each of the 6 spokes.

Fasten off and weave in ends.



Baby projects are a main interest for Samanta, with animals often forming the basis for her ingenious creations!

A world of colour

Samanta Fornino, a regular *Simply Crochet* designer, explains how her love of pretty pastels, visits to new countries and her family are all major inspirations for her work...

You may know Samanta Fornino best as one of our very own contributors, with irresistible projects such as our Hexie Puff Bear Blanket in issue 80 to her name. She's also now a book author and international crochet designer – with commissions from companies around the world. Yet, as with so many designers, it was her family who initially got her hooked on crochet, at just five years old.

"I learned by playing with my grandma and my aunt," Samanta says. "At that time they taught me the basic stitches and I was attracted by the colour of the yarn and the fact that you can create something using your imagination."

For many years Samanta put her crochet aside as, after her university studies, she was

working hard in Milan for a fashion company in Marketing and Communication and had little time to dedicate herself to it. However, when she met the man who would later become her husband, she decided to follow him around the world and at that point crochet became her main activity.

FAMILY INSPIRATION

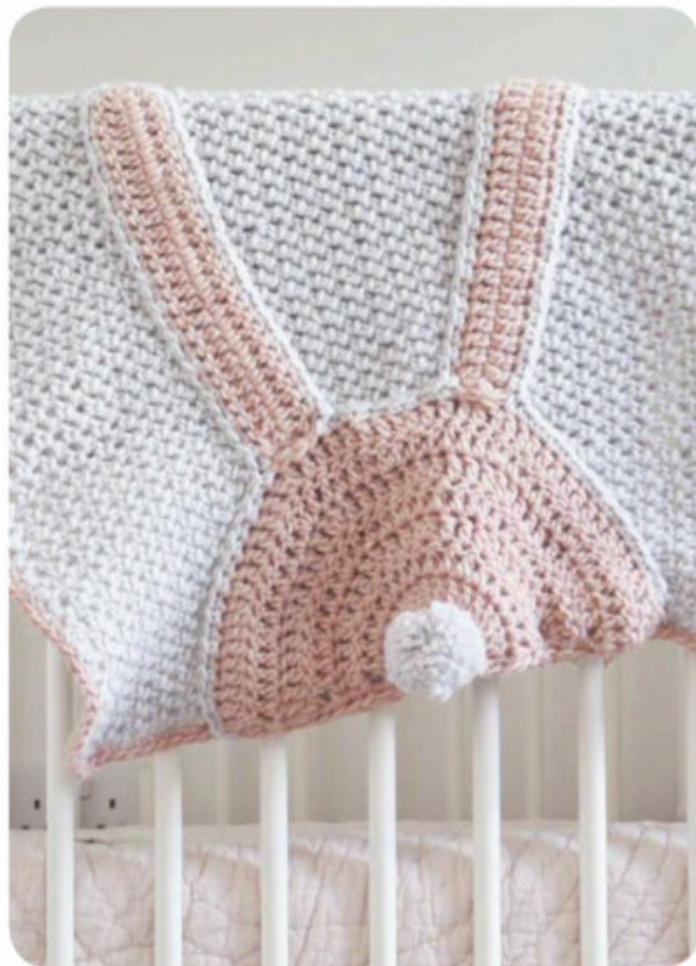
It was family once more that sparked her creativity, as she had just had her first son and was expecting her second when she stitched a newborn's hat in an animal shape. A love of experimenting got her then starting to make her own patterns.

From this a seed was sown that meant that Samanta was soon in business as a designer: "I was spending a lot of time making crochet projects and suddenly I

realised that people, magazines and yarn companies were attracted by my creations, so I thought that crochet may become a real job for me... and actually it is now! I mainly work with magazines as well as yarn companies to advertise their products through my projects."

As with many other designers juggling work and family, Samanta has to try and carve out time to design and crochet when she can. "With three little kids, time is a luxury. Usually I work when they are at school and when they go to sleep during the night."

Her children (she now has three) continue to provide constant inspiration for new projects, combined with her love of travel. "Mainly, I love to create babies' projects," she explains. "I also find



inspiration during all my travels. I love to take pictures and very often I find inspiration from them. For example, during my last trip to Portugal I found a lot of inspiration looking at the wonderful 'Azulejo' tile." She also looks to the crochet community for motivation and fresh ideas, both off and online. "I am very close friends and I have special admiration for Ilaria Caliri (aka: Ailari) – I love her precision – and I found a lot of inspiration from the 'Repeat Crafter Me' and 'Allaboutami' blogs."

AROUND THE WORLD

Travel is something Samanta has done much of since she met her husband as she follows him with his job, which ultimately led her to her current life living in the UK. "I arrived in Scotland only four years ago," she says, "after living in Trinidad and Tobago and in Boston. At the beginning I took some time to settle down, especially due to the weather, but now I love Scotland. It is a beautiful country with wonderful landscapes and the possibility to see the four seasons within a day."

Though settled in Scotland, Italy still provides a huge draw. "Italy is my native country and I love it. Every time I go back, I always try to visit different places, because I want to show to my kids all the beautiful things in Italy and while travelling around I find a lot of inspiration for my work."

CUTE CHARACTERS

With a growing body of work now behind her, Samanta's favourite project so far remains her owl hat. The hat is her favourite because it was her first product and was

created for her first son. "I made one for all my kids and the owl hat is also the main character of my first published book."

With project books already to her name, Samanta has recently branched out and published a children's book called *My Friend Charlie*. "I always had the dream to write a book for kids," she explains, "and two years ago, after discussing with my illustrator friend, we decided that this dream was going to become real. Every night, when I read a story to my little kids they asked me to make the main character by crochet, and this is why we thought about a book with a story, a fun character and the pattern to make it. The kids have loved to see their book's characters become real."

Cute characters don't just feature in Samanta's book – she's a real fan of amigurumi, although other ongoing projects mean she doesn't always have the time to make them. She also loves to create, "big stuffed objects using 12-15mm hooks and thick cotton yarn. I love pastel colours

because they make me calm... and my favourite colour is antique pink."

As she doesn't have a dedicated workspace at home, Samanta can usually be found crocheting and designing on the sofa in her living room.

"I like to work in my living room surrounded by all my hooks, coloured yarns, crochet magazines, crochet books and all my

coloured tools. My favourite tool is a pompom maker. I love crochet because it is something that belongs to my life, it calms me down and helps me to forget about everything. I also like knitting and I am currently learning how to 'weave' and 'punch needle'."

Between dreaming up new projects and relaxing with her crochet, Samanta has plenty of other projects in the pipeline: "Currently all my energies are focused on the construction of my website and it will be ready in the next few months. I also have a book due to be published in USA, with some of my projects."

Written by Lucy Evans

"I LOVE PASTEL COLOURS BECAUSE THEY MAKE ME CALM... AND MY FAVOURITE COLOUR IS ANTIQUE PINK"



A few of her favourite things

When she's not crocheting, Samanta loves to...

"Play with my kids and spend time with my family. I love cooking, I go to the gym and I love to travel."

You can find Samanta's latest projects and inspirations on Instagram at @followthecrochet, plus visit Amazon UK to order her book, *My Friend Charlie*.



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It's a cover up!

Transform a low-cut top with this lacy modesty panel. By Paula Green



YOU WILL NEED

- King Cole Giza Cotton 4ply (100% cotton, 50g/158m)
1 ball of Yellow (2206)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- Basic sewing kit

For yarn stockists contact
King Cole 01756 703670
www.kingcole.com

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Panel measures 17cm across widest point, 14cm deep

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 90

We've all been there... you bought a fab new top but now you never wear it as it's just too low-cut. Worry no more crochet upcyclers – whip that offending item out of the closet and hook yourself up a lacy modesty panel.

MODESTY PANEL

Using Yellow, make a magic loop.

Row 1 (WS) Ch4 (counts as dtr throughout), 3dtr into loop, turn. [4 sts]

Row 2 (RS) Ch4, 2dtr in st at base of ch-4, dtr in next 2 sts, 3dtr in last st, turn. [8 sts]

Row 3 Ch4, 2dtr in st at base of ch-4, dtr in each st to last st, 3dtr in last st, turn. [12 sts]

Row 4 *Ch5, dc in second ch from hook, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, dtr in last ch, skip 4 sts from previous row, ss in space between 2 sts; repeat from * 2 times more, working last ss into last st of row. [3 triangles]

Row 5 Ch6 (counts as dtr, ch2 throughout), (ss into top of next triangle, ch3) twice, ss in top of next triangle, ch2, dtr into last st from Row 3, turn.

Row 6 Ch4, 2dtr into st at base of ch-4, 3dtr into ch-2 sp, 4dtr into each ch-3 sp across, 3dtr into ch-2 sp, 3dtr into last st, turn. [20 sts]

Row 7 As Row 3. [24 sts]

Row 8 *Ch5, dc in second ch from hook, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, dtr in last ch, skip 4 sts from previous row, ss in space between next 2 sts; repeat from across, working last ss into last st of row. [6 triangles]

Row 9 Ch6, (ss into top of next triangle, ch3) across each triangle, ch2, dtr into last st from 2 rows previous, turn. [7 ch-sps, 2 dtr]

Repeat Rows 6-9 once more, or to make a larger Panel repeat required number of times. Do not fasten off.

EDGING

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in first st, 4dc into each ch-sp across, dc in last st, turn to work down side of panel, ch2, 4dc into each row end down to point of Panel, ch3, 4dc into each row end up, ch2, ss to beg dc to join.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Block the Panel.

Pin into place on reverse of your top. When you are happy with its position, sew in place using thread to match the top. We have used whipstitch to sew the Panel in, but you can join using your preferred method.



Before sewing, pin the panel to the garment and try it on to make sure you're happy with the position



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Fit for a king

Add a dash of regal glamour to your home with Marianne Rawlins' sparkling swan cushion





YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Muskat (100% cotton, 50g/100m)
3 balls of **Yarn A** Light Grey (19)
2 balls of each:
Yarn B Pink (34)
Yarn C Vanilla Yellow (30)
1 ball of each:
Yarn D Black (17)
Yarn E White (18)
Yarn F Dark Orange (49)
- DROPS Glitter (60% cupro, 40% metal, 10g/700m)
1 spool of each:
Yarn G Gold (01)
Yarn H Silver (02)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- 1 safety eye, 5mm
- Cushion insert, 30x30cm
- 4 buttons, 2cm

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

TENSION

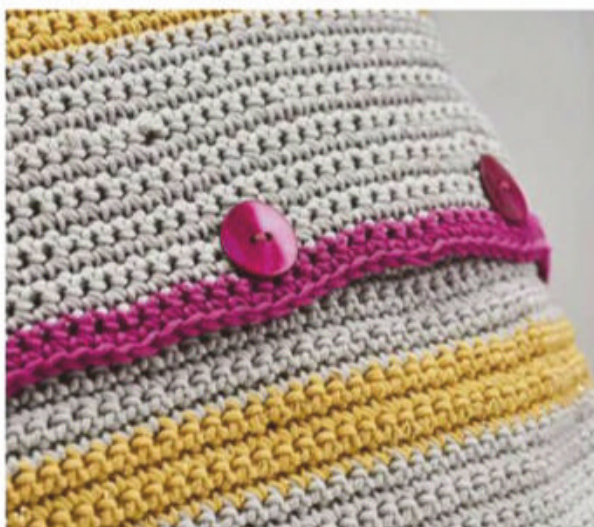
18 sts over 18 rows to measure
10x10cm (4x4in) over dc st

MEASUREMENTS

Cushion measures approx 38x38cm
(15x15cm) including border

ABBREVIATIONS

5-tr cluster *Yrh, insert the hook into st specified, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 2 loops; repeat from * 4 times more, yrh and pull through all loops on hook
For a full list, see page 90



The back of the cushion has matching stripes and is finished with bright buttons

Hook up a statement cushion for your sofa with this stylish design, worked in glittery yarn with pops of contrasting brights.

NOTES

The Front of the Cushion is worked from the top down.

There is a Chart below, which you should refer to for the colourwork. Each square represents a dc st. All RS rows are read from right to left and all WS rows are read from left to right. The first 15 sts and last 15 sts are not shown on the Chart; these sts should all be worked as dc sts in Yarn A. The first row of the Chart has been written out to guide you.

SWAN CUSHION

FRONT

Using Yarn A, ch67.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each st to end, turn [66 sts]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.

Rows 3-16 Repeat Row 2.

Row 17 (RS) Ch1, dc in next 18 sts, change to Yarn C and Yarn G worked together, 5-tr cluster in next st, change to Yarn A, dc in each st to end, turn.

Rows 18-51 Refer to Chart below for all colour changes.

Rows 51-66 Ch1, dc into each st to end, turn.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Surface crochet a wing shape using Yarn A and Yarn H worked as one strand.

Place the safety eye in position using the photo as a guide.

BACK

SECTION 1

Using Yarn A, ch67.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each st to end, turn [66 sts]

Row 2 Ch1, dc into each st to end, turn.

Rows 3-8 As Row 2.

Change to Yarn C and G.

Rows 9-12 As Row 2.

Change to Yarn A.

Rows 13-20 As Row 2.

Rows 21-32 As Rows 9-20.

Rows 33-34 As Row 2.

Row 35 Ch1, dc in next 11 sts, ch2, skip 2 sts (buttonhole made), dc in next 12 sts, ch2, skip 2 sts, dc in next 12 sts, ch2, skip 2 sts, dc in next 11 sts, turn. [58 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]

Row 36 Ch1, (dc in each st to next ch-sp, 2dc in ch-sp) across, turn. [66 sts]

Change to Yarn B.

Rows 37-38 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

SECTION 2

Using Yarn A, ch67.

Rows 1-34 As Row 1-34 of Section 2.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Place Back Sections 1 and 2 against the Front, with RS facing outwards.

Join Yarn B with a ss to top right corner of Front and Back Section 1.

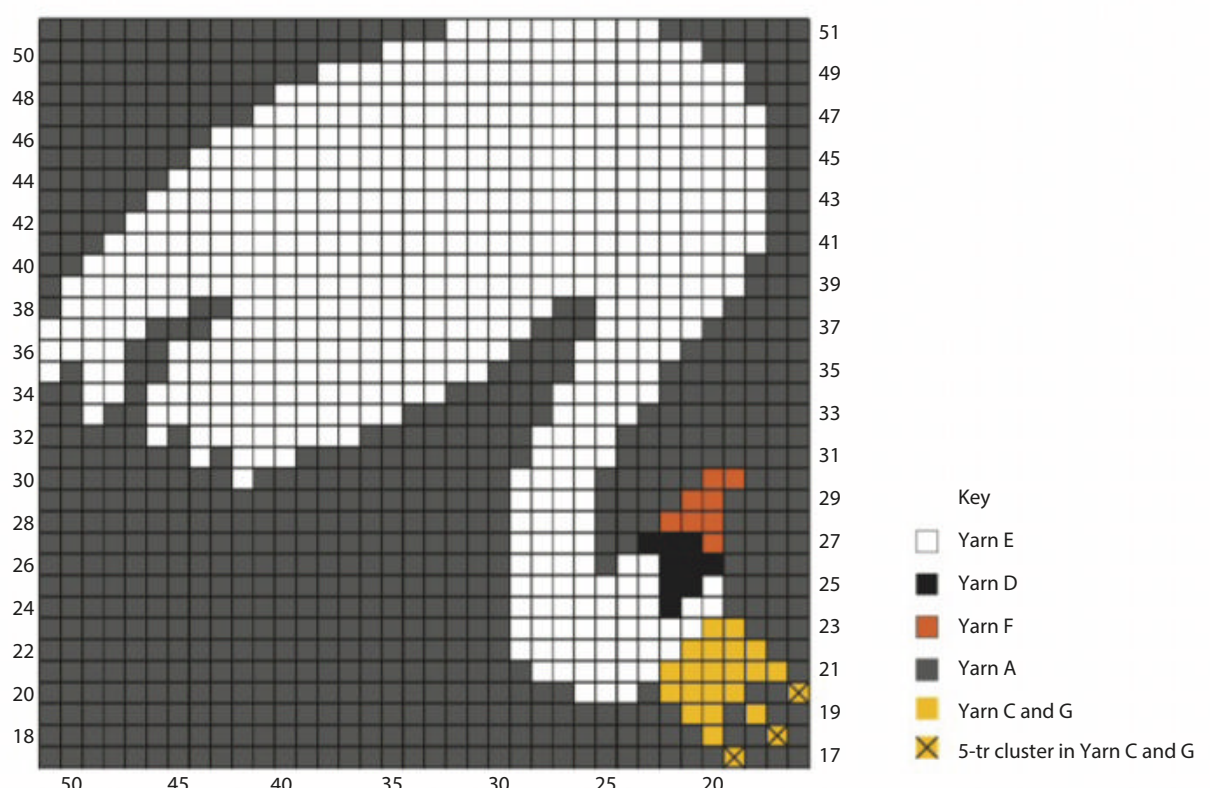
Round 1 (RS) (Working through Front and Back to join) Ch1, 3dc into corner (mark 2nd st), dc into each st or row end to next corner; repeat from * around, working through both Back Sections where they overlap, ss to beg dc.

Round 2 (RS) Ch1, dc in each st to next marker, 3dc in marked st; repeat from around, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Sew the buttons on to Back Section 2, in line with the buttonholes. Insert the cushion pad.



Sugar Rush AND Sweet Treat

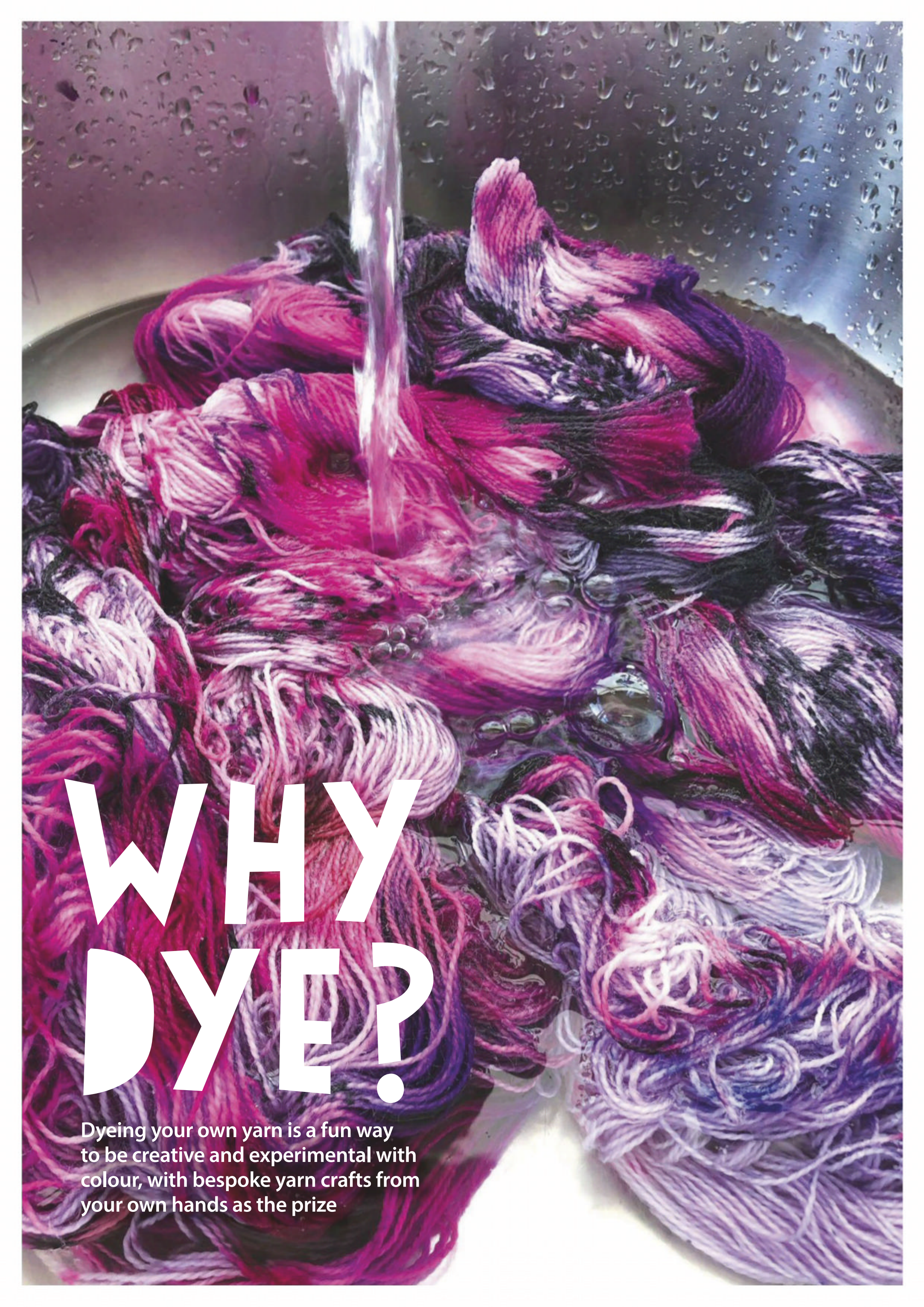


Available from *Scheepjes* stockists



SCHEEPJES MAXI SUGAR RUSH is a beautiful high twist mercerised 100% cotton lace weight yarn. It is available in 87 shades in 50 gram skeins, 280 metres long. This high quality yarn is perfect for larger projects. RRP £1.99

SCHEEPJES MAXI SWEET TREAT is made of the same cotton lace weight yarn as Scheepjes Maxi Sugar Rush. Available in the same 87 shades but in 25 grams skeins, 140 metres long. It is perfect for fine crochet, filet crochet and amigurumi. RRP £1.29



WHY DYE?

Dyeing your own yarn is a fun way
to be creative and experimental with
colour, with bespoke yarn crafts from
your own hands as the prize



Above and inset: for Lisa Harland, hand-painting yarn then using her microwave to fix the colour gives stunning results Far left: Laura Shipley always uses a mask when she dyes with Jacquard dyes, which are acidic

Are you one of those people who spends hours hunting down different shades of yarn, only to go home empty-handed because you can't find *exactly* what you want? Then creating unique colours with your own two hands could be the solution – it's fun and fulfilling! We spoke with four yarn enthusiasts who each know a thing or two when it comes to hand-dyeing. Our exclusive insider's guide will show you everything you need to know to dye your own yarn... beautifully.

GETTING STARTED

DIY dyeing yarn is surprisingly simple, but depending on your preferred approach, your toolkit will vary. "First, you need space – and lots of it," advises Fiona Brennan of Sonic Yarns, who's been a professional hand-dyer and designer since 2014. "You need to be able to cover every single available millimetre of that space to stop it staining. I try not to use too much plastic in this process and save up every last bit of card and newspaper that comes into the house."

Then, along with high wool content yarn, white vinegar or citric acid, professional or food dyes, and clingfilm, you also need a heating device to set the yarn – think microwave or stove.

"There are numerous ways to dye your own yarn," says Lisa Harland, indie dyer at For the Love of Yarn. "But for the hobbyist or home-dyer, hand painting and using the microwave to set the yarn is a good place to start."

For Laura Shipley, owner of the Wool Bath shop, her pans are her must-have dyeing essentials: "I bought some enormous ex-hotel kitchen pans from the back of a rag-and-bone man's lorry, and they are my prized possessions."

For Jess Coppom, founder and creative director at Make & Do Crew, the real draw of this method is its accessibility. "It can be done by any novice, using basic, inexpensive supplies," she says. "Each one plays a critical role in creating a saturated dye colour that won't bleed or wash out. Hot water and vinegar help the yarn to permanently absorb the dye and food colouring, which makes the whole experiment possible."

When it comes to the dye itself, every dyer has their favourite. Laura favours the vibrancy achieved with Jacquard dyes, while Fiona loves to use acid dyes on natural yarns. "You can get some lovely neon colours from natural dyeing, but I like how the acid dyes work," she says. Jess, meanwhile, uses food colouring.

"I can create exactly what I want in a yarn – it's like a canvas"

DYEING THE EXPERT WAY

1 Start by placing the yarn in a bowl and soaking it in an acidic water bath to open up the fibres, to enable it to absorb as much dye as possible. "I use a mixture of a litre of water to half a litre of vinegar," says Jess.

"Make sure the yarn is

fully saturated and let it set for at least 30 minutes. If you have any leftover yarn, it's a good idea to soak some to use as strands to test the colour mixture later."

2 Next, squeeze out any excess water and set it aside. It's now time to get creative with your colours. "I mix the dye pigment into clear

water so I know what strength to use,” says Fiona. “If I’m doing a variegated yarn, I’ll then spread the pre-soaked yarn out and paint on the colour combination. I’ll pop on a glove to check the dye has soaked through the entire skein as there is nothing worse than finding undyed patches.”

Lisa uses a different approach: “Squeeze bottles! Mix up your dye solution and simply use the bottles to apply it. It creates an amazing effect,” she says.

Jess, again, prefers to use her own method of colouring in the form of a dye bath: “You may find that you want to do the first submersion and soak with one colour, and then add additional food colouring to soak another part of your item even more thoroughly. This is how I create an ombré effect – and I could see it working for a rainbow-type effect too. Just be sure to start with the lightest colour first.”

3 You now need to heat the yarn, which sets the dye to make it ‘colourfast’ so it doesn’t run when washed. “Pop it into a roasting tin and steam it in the oven so that the dye sets,” Fiona recommends. Another method of heating is with a microwave. “Wrap your yarn in clingfilm and pop it in the microwave,” says Lisa. “Heat for two minutes on full power, let it cool for one minute, then repeat the same process up to six times to fully set the dye.”

4 Now it’s time to rinse. Wearing gloves, gently remove your yarn and rinse in cold water. “I rinse the dye in a wool wash and a cool bath to remove any loose, residual dye and then I hang it to dry,” says Laura.

DREAMY COLOURS

While it can create the yarn colours of your dreams (if all goes smoothly!), hand-dyeing your own yarn can be a lengthy, sometimes pricey – and particularly messy – process. So, do the pros outweigh the cons? “Absolutely!” says Lisa. “I can create exactly what I want in a yarn – the colour, the way it will pool... it’s like a canvas to me!”

Fiona agrees: “Personally, I find it a really great way to turn off to the world by sitting and painting yarn. Plus, you know that what you have made is entirely yours from start to finish.” Although, she has to admit, there is one particularly poignant con to the process. “The smell! Dye has a real earthy smell to it and no matter which dye method you use, that smell will pervade the dye area.

GO FOR IT!

So, now you know your stuff, it’s time to get going. However, be sure not to be put off if you experience a few bumps in your DIY



Jess’s go-to dyeing method is food colouring, where she varies the concentration of dye and water for managing shade gradations

dyeing journey – you’re bound to have some mishaps along the way.

Even the experts have encountered their fair share of crochet-dyeing calamities: “I recently started dyeing some local yarn, which is 70 per cent white Ryeland and 30 per cent alpaca. It comes from a lovely local farm,” recounts Laura. “I was so excited to get dyeing. I used a recipe from a merino/nylon 4ply that is a good seller in our shop – and it simply didn’t translate at all on to a different base. The lesson is that each animal fibre will take dye very differently, so you need to do lots of mini-skein trials.”

Jess, too, has an amusing story to tell, after she enlisted the help of her daughter in the process: “I involved my then four-year-old in my first dip-dyeing experiments,” she says. “For months afterwards, I found her mixing up concoctions of paint and dipping strands of acrylic yarn in them to make ‘noodles’! It was an endearing (and messy!) byproduct of our exploration, but of course I couldn’t help but encourage it.”

So, now you have all the experts’ secrets, you’re all set to get dyeing your own yarn!

Written by Colette Earley

EXPERT TOP TIPS

Lisa Harland, indie dyer

www.fortheloveofyarn.co.uk

“Ensure when you’re heating the yarn in the microwave your yarn is good and damp – scorched yarn smells awful!”

Laura Shipley, owner of Wool in Bath

www.woolbath.co.uk

“Use a mask. Pro-grade masks are easy to get on the internet or in a hardware shop, so get the best one you can afford.”

Jess Coppom, owner of Make & Do Crew

www.makeanddocrew.com

“With dip-dyeing with food colouring, it doesn’t matter how much water is in the dye bath – the colour saturation depends on how much dye is in the water.”

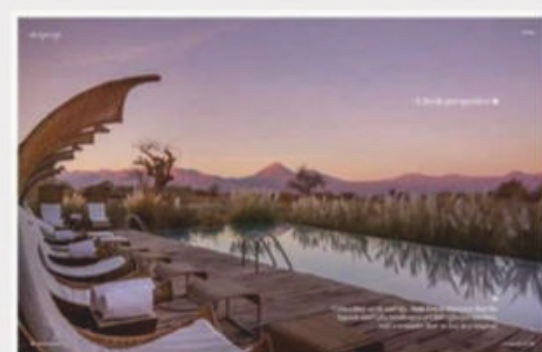
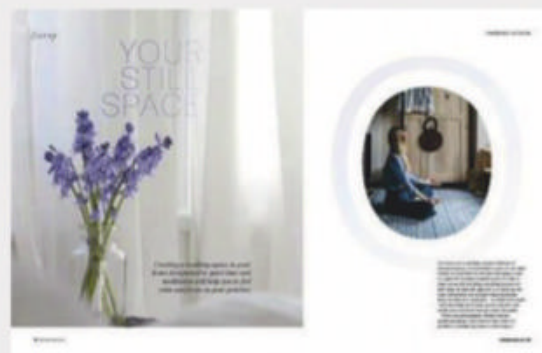
Fiona Brennan, hand dyer and designer

www.sonicyarns.com

“Take lots of photos and notes. You think you’ll remember how you got that colour combination, but you probably won’t.”

in the moment

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Sara

Sara Huntington - Editor, Simply Crochet

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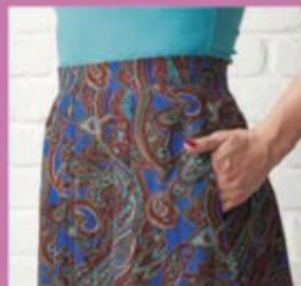


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DESIGN A DELFT BLANKET

The finalists...

We reveal the five finalists from the Design a Blanket Competition

There was a superb response to the recent Delft Design a Blanket Competition, with hundreds of entries received, all of which were of an incredibly high standard. The judging panel comprised Sara Huntington, Commissioning Editor of *Simply Crochet* magazine; crochet designer Jane Crowfoot; graphic designer Luise Roberts from Janie Crow; Brand Manager Annabelle Hill, and Juliet Bernard, both from Stylecraft yarns.

For the first stage, the judges whittled the entries down to their top choices. With seven contenders in the ring, the Delft motifs were crocheted up to match the entrants' charts. From these motifs the judges were then able to select their final five entries to go forward for the next stage of the competition, the public vote.

That's where you come in! Vote for your favourite by visiting the 'Delft Competition' page on the Janie Crow website (<http://www.janiecrow.com/delft-competition.html>) and filling in a quick survey. Pop a tick next to your chosen colourway, submit your form, and you're done!

VOTE FOR YOUR
FAVOURITE HERE!

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VF3HPYP



DELFT COMPETITION

Rose Garden in Bloom

KATIE MULLINER, STAFFORDSHIRE



"My inspiration came from the rose bushes we had in the garden of our childhood home – they were my Dad's pride and joy, but he still let us pick the petals to make 'perfume'."

Sample made in Stylecraft Bellissima DK, using six shades.

Golden Pears and Plums

KATE WOTTON, LINCOLNSHIRE



"I used my favourite china for my shade inspiration – it's a tea set of my Grandmother's, decorated with gold and green squares and finely painted pears and plums."

Sample made in Stylecraft Special DK using eight shades.

Bejewelled

JACKIE WALKER, HAMPSHIRE



"One of my favourite computer games is *Bejewelled* and I wanted my motif to radiate opulence and glamour. Being wrapped in these colours would make me shine like a jewel!"

Sample made in Stylecraft Special DK using seven shades.

Autumn Berries

JEN MITCHELL, SOMERSET



"Autumn is my favourite season, so I chose to use colours of rich hedgerow berries and fruit – blackberries, plums and apples, with complementary greens."

Sample made in Stylecraft Special DK using eight shades.

Fiore

DEBBY GOULD, LONDON



"Blue is my favourite colour, so since the Delft colour scheme is already done I had to think about what I would like. I chose orchid colours as they are so vibrant and fabulous!"

Sample made in Stylecraft Special DK using eight shades.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Winners and runners-up will be chosen after a public vote. Entrants can only vote once. Closing date for votes is 30 April 2019.

The overall winner will receive a prize of £150 and a yarn colour pack to make their blanket. The two runners-up will each receive a prize of £50 plus a yarn colour pack. All finalists will have their name and wording about their colour inspiration listed on the colour substitution and will be featured in *Simply Crochet* magazine.

The yarn colour packs for the new colourways will be made available via Stylecraft stockists. The colour substitution documents for each new colourway will also be available as free downloads on the Janie Crow website.

By entering the competition the five finalists have agreed that images of crocheted motifs made in their colourways can be shared on social media platforms, the Janie Crow website and within *Simply Crochet* magazine, so that the public can vote to choose their favourites. Once the three winners are named a blanket version of each of the new colourways will be made and images of these shared.

The voting system will be hosted by Survey Monkey. Contact details will only be harvested by Janie Crow if an agreement box is ticked by the entrant within the survey format and no other organisation will have access to these details.

EXPERT
MAKE



In full blue

Heap blues atop floral motifs for a delicate
Delft bag, designed by Jane Crowfoot



YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Life DK (75% acrylic, 25% wool, 100g/298m)
1 ball of each:
Cream (2305)
Oatmeal (2303)
A small amount of each:
Denim (2322)
Navy (2313)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Stitch markers
- 40 Debbie Abrahams seed beads, size 6 in Denim (43) (available at www.debbieabrahamsbeads.co.uk)
- 23cm zipper (available from www.johnlewis.com)
- Lining fabric, approx 75x60cm
- Basic sewing kit
- 2m blue cord

For yarn stockists contact

Stylecraft 01484 848435

www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

22 sts over 26 rounds to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over double crochet using a 3.5mm hook

MEASUREMENTS

Bag measures approx 24x30cm (9½x12in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 90

Inspired by the myriad blues of Delftware pottery, Jane Crowfoot's Delft blanket has caused a style stir! Here's a fresh incarnation of the distinctive design, on a practical bag.

NOTES

All rounds are worked with the RS facing. Parts of the Bag are worked in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to make the first st of the round, moving the marker up as you work. When working a round past a st marker holding a live loop, work a st into the ss before the marker and skip the marked st; this will keep the st count the same. The Flowers are worked separately and sewn to the Bag, then the leaves and stems are embroidered.

BAG

Using a 3.5mm hook and Oatmeal, ch51.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in next 49 ch, ch1, (working into opposite side of foundation ch) dc into next 50 ch, ch1, ss to beg dc. [100 sts, 2 ch-1 sps]

Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), (dc into next 50 sts, 3dc into ch-1 sp) twice, do not join. [106 sts]

Rounds 3-11 Dc into each st around.

Round 12 Dc into each st around, ss into next st, place yarn loop onto stitch holder. Join Cream into st on opposite side of the Bag (53 sts from last st).

Round 13 Ch1, dc into each st to marker, place marker to the WS of the work, skip marked st (this is because you will have used the ss as a st before the marker), dc into each st to end of round, ss to beg dc, place yarn loop onto stitch holder.

Place Oatmeal yarn loop on hook, draw loop up to height of current round.

Round 14 Dc into next st, dc into each st to marker, place marker to the WS of the work, skip marked st, dc into each st to end of round, do not ss to join.

Rounds 15-16 Dc into each st around.

Round 17 As Round 12.

Place Cream yarn loop on hook, ch4.

Round 18 Dc into each st to marker, placing marker to the WS of the work, skip marked st, dc into each st to end of round, ss to join, place yarn loop onto stitch holder.

Place Oatmeal yarn loop on hook, draw loop up to height of current round.

Rounds 19-20 As Round 14-15.

Round 21 As Round 12.

Continue to work as set, working in the round with a ss at the end for single rounds of a shade and working in a spiral for repeated rounds in a shade. You will need to alter the number of chain used to reach the height of the rounds on shade changeover.



Crochet flower blooms and sew them to the bag, then embroider the stems and leaves

Use yarns in the following order:

Round 22 Cream.

Rounds 23-24 Oatmeal.

Round 25 Cream.

Round 26 Oatmeal.

Rounds 27-28 Cream.

Round 29 Oatmeal.

Rounds 30-32 Cream.

Round 33 Oatmeal.

Rounds 34-37 Cream.

Round 38 Oatmeal.

Round 39 Cream.

Rounds 40-69 Using Cream, dc into each st around. **Fasten off.**

Join Oatmeal into a st at the side edge of Bag.

Round 70 Ch1, dc into each st to end, ss to beg dc. **Fasten off.**

Join Denim into a st on opposite side of Bag to last join.

Round 71 As Row 70. **Fasten off.**

Join Navy into a st on opposite side of Bag to last join.

Round 72 As Row 70. **Fasten off.**

Join Oatmeal into a st on opposite side of Bag to last join.

Round 73 Ch1, dc into bl of each st around, ss to beg dc.

Round 74 Ch1, dc into each st around, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off, and weave in ends.

FLOWER (MAKE 1)

Using Cream and a 4mm hook, ch6, ss to first ch to form a loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 15tr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-3. [16 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Navy into any st.

Round 2 Ch1, (dc into next st, 2dc into next st) 8 times, ss to beg dc. [24 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Denim into any st.

Round 3 Ch1, dc into next 2 sts, (ch3, skip next st, dc into next 2 sts) 7 times, ch3, ss to beg dc. [8 ch-3 sps, 16 sts]

Round 4 Ss to next ch-3 sp, ch1 (dc, 4tr, dc, 1ch) into each ch-3 sp around, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Using a 4mm hook and Oatmeal, work a round of surface crochet into st sps at top of Round 1. Sew 8 beads in place on Round 1 of Flower. You can use the image as a guide.

FLOWER BUD (MAKE 2)

Using Cream and a 4mm hook, ch4, ss into last ch from hook to form a loop.

Row 1 (RS) Ch3, 7tr into loop, do not ss to join. [8 sts]

Fasten off.

With RS facing, join Navy into top of beg ch-3.

Row 2 Ch1, dc into first st, ch3, ss into st at base of ch-3 (picot made), (dc into next st, 2dc into next st) 3 times, dc into next st, ch3, ss into st at base of ch-3, 2dc along side of Row 1, 4tr into centre of foundation ring, 2dc along side of row 1, ss to beg dc. [2 ch-3 picot, 19 sts]

Fasten off.

Turn so WS is facing, join Denim into first st after ch-3 picot.

Row 3 (WS) Ch1, 2dc into first st, (ch3, dc into next 2 sts) 4 times, turn. [4 ch-3 sps, 10 sts]

Row 4 (RS) Ch1, (dc, 4tr, dc) into each ch-sp across, skip dc, ss into last st.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Using a 4mm hook and Oatmeal, work a row of surface crochet into st sps at top of each st on Round 1.

TO FINISH

Using the image as a guide to make up the Bag, sew the Flowers into place.

Using Navy and Denim yarns, embroider stems and leaves using a combination of backstitch and oversewing stitch.

Using matching thread, sew beads in place. then sew zip in place using backstitch.

LINING

Using the Bag as a template, cut lining to size (leaving a 1cm allowance each side and placing a fold at the base). Using a sewing machine or hand-sewn backstitch, sew side seams. Using small oversewing stitches sew into place on inside of zip.

Fold the Cord in half and sew each end into the bag, just above the Zip.

Block and press the Bag if desired.



The blue flowers stand out beautifully against the cream and oatmeal colours of the bag

Beautiful baby

Six super-soft yarns, simply perfect for little ones!

BABY FEET MOTIF

Ch7.

ROUND 1 Dc in second ch from hook, dc, htr, tr, 2tr, (3tr, ch1, 3tr, ch1, 3tr) in last ch, working into opposite side of ch, tr in next ch, dc in next 3ch, 2dc in same ch as first dc.

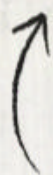
FASTEN OFF and weave in ends.

TOES

Ch2.

ROW 1 Dc in second ch from hook.

FASTEN OFF, tie tails together and weave in ends.



*These tiny tootsies
would make a
great card motif!*



WOOL COUTURE BEAU BABY

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 50% merino/50% acrylic
BALL 50g/90m
HOOK 3.5-5mm
RRP £5.99



This lovely yarn is perfect for those extra-special delicate baby projects. Available in four sweet pastel shades (more to come), this merino/acrylic blend is lightweight and has a soft yet strong feel. The DK yarn has a 2ply construction, and thanks to the strong crimp on each strand

the twist becomes a prominent feature. Even with the merino content it has almost zero halo, and your stitches remain clear and well-defined.

Machine-washable, it's dyed, spun and finished in Yorkshire.
www.woolcouturecompany.com
 01226 414950

NOVITA BABY MERINO

WEIGHT 4ply
CONTENT 100% merino wool
BALL 50g/250m
HOOK 3.25mm
RRP £5.50



Everything about this 100% merino yarn from Finnish yarn brand Novita makes it obvious that it's perfect for babies – right down to the cute picture of little lambs on the yarn band! Available in six colours, this yarn is super-soft while still retaining a very natural, woolly feel. Once

hooked up, the resulting fabric is lightweight and smooth to the touch with stitches that blend together – which is surprising considering the minimal halo. It's machine washable at 30°C and can be ironed on a cool setting.
www.novitaknits.com

RICO DESIGN RICO BABY DREAM DK

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 50% acrylic/50% polyamide
BALL 50g/122m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £3.79



If you close your eyes and rub a piece of crochet made from this Rico Baby yarn against your face, you'd swear it was a cotton wool pad – which is even more amazing when you learn that it's an acrylic/polyamide mix. The softness is only enhanced by the relaxed twist and

featherlight fabric it creates. There are ten shades to choose from, each with variegated blocks of colours that range from pretty pastels to exciting multicolour mixes. Machine washable at 30°C.
www.loveknitting.com
 01409 404010

LION BRAND FEELS LIKE BUTTA

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 100% polyester
BALL 100g/199m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £5.49



This yarn from Lion Brand took us by surprise – it's got a whole host of qualities that you wouldn't expect from a 100% polyester yarn. Firstly, this chainette-style yarn almost looks like it's starting to felt and blend together before you even start working with it. The feel of

it is also unique; it has a slippery, silky texture and glides through your fingers as you work with it, creating an almost velvet-like fabric. Available in 14 shades, it can be machine washed and tumble-dried on cool settings.
www.loveknitting.com
 01409 404010

WEST YORKSHIRE SPINNERS BO PEEP DK

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 52% wool/48% nylon
BALL 50g/112m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £3.95



We were already big fans of the Bo Peep range, and now that they've added 14 new colours into the mix we love it even more! It's described as a luxury baby yarn, and certainly lives up to that description thanks to the Falkland wool and nylon blend. The new additions mean there

are now 32 shades available, ten of which are gorgeous pastel variegated yarns. There's also the fab new 'Storybook 3' collection by Emma Varnam to accompany the range, full of awesome kids' patterns! Machine washable at 40°C.
www.wyspinners.com

DERAMORES STUDIO BABY

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% acrylic
BALL 100g/270m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £1.99



When picking a yarn for baby projects, a 100% acrylic might not be the first thing to come to mind – but remember, babies' clothes need a lot of washing! That's where the strengths of the Deramores Studio Baby range lie. Both machine and hand-washable at 40°C, this

hardwearing yarn will be able to withstand even the messiest of babies. Surprisingly soft for an acrylic yarn, the DK Studio Baby is available in 15 cute and colourful shades. It's a brilliant budget-friendly option for baby garments, toys or blankets.
www.deramores.com

Bullion stitch

DISCOVER A RICH WORLD OF TEXTURED STITCHES



WILDFLOWER
BUNTING P85

Imagine a crochet stitch that's 3D, easy to hook, wonderfully strokable, and can be any length... that's bullion stitch! They're a bit like embroidered bullion stitches, or puff stitches on their side, so they're perfect for adding touchable texture to your crochet fabrics.

ROLL WITH IT

Also called roll stitch, bullion stitch involves making several yrh at the start and later pulling another loop through this coil of yarn loops. You can make the stitches any length you like, just by changing the number of yrh you work at the start.

Each bullion stitch is secured with a ch1, so each one takes up the same space as

two standard stitches. That's fine if your fabric is made up of just bullion stitches, but if you're working rows of plain crochet stitches in between bullion stitch rows, you'll need to bear this in mind and check your stitch count regularly.

STEP BY STEP

We'll take you step-by-step through everything you need to know to work rows of bullion stitches – and it's the same simple process to work them in rounds.

Once you've mastered their strokable texture, you can use your bullion stitch skills to make our colourful wildflower bunting project on page 75. Then you can experiment with your own project ideas.

HOW DO I GET STARTED WITH BULLION STITCHES?

Here's how to begin your bullion adventures

The easiest bullion stitches to work are small ones, so we're going to practise making simple 3-wrap bullion stitches.

You can work bullion stitches into a chain length, but to make things easier, we're going to work them into a foundation row of plain stitches, which will give you a larger piece of fabric to grip.

To get started, work two (or more, if you prefer) foundation rows using an odd number of double or treble crochet stitches. We worked two rows of 9 dc. For Row 3, make bullion stitches, as follows:

Step 1 Start the row with a turning chain. Our 3-wrap bullion stitches

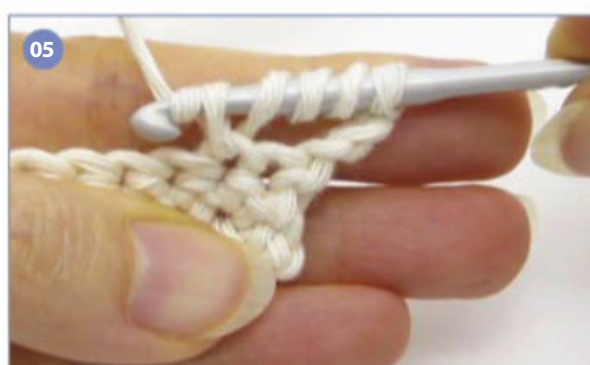
will finish at approx the height of a treble crochet stitch, so ch3 for the turning chain, just as you would with a treble fabric.

Step 2 Now work yrh 3 times – at this stage, it can help to use your hook-holding finger to hold the loops in place on the hook.

Step 3 The turning chain will count as the first stitch so insert the hook into the top of the second stitch on the row below.

Step 4 Yrh and pull up a loop.

Step 5 Yrh and pull through all the loops on the hook – this sounds simple but can be a little tricky, so let's go through it slowly...



TOP TIP

To make working bullion stitches a piece of cake, work loosely. If your tension is tight you'll really struggle to get the hook through the loops, especially on longer bullion stitches that have more loops.

HOW DO I PULL THE YARN THROUGH ALL THOSE WRAPS?

Finish off your bullion stitch with a flourish

You've reached the trickiest part of making a bullion stitch, but with a bit of practice, it will be simple.

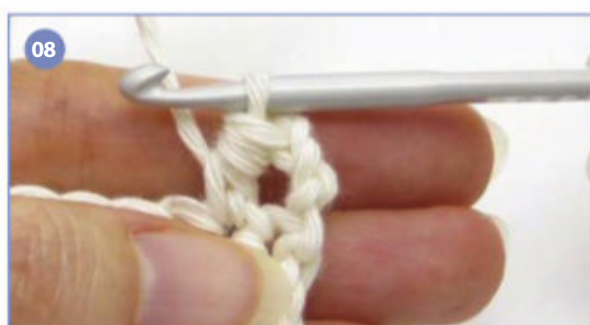
Step 6 So, you have a yrh that needs to be pulled through all those loops. Start by pulling it through the first 2 loops, which should be fairly easy.

Step 7 Now pull through the final 3 loops. You can either do this one at a time or all at once, but it will help to use your thumb and/or finger to help ease the loops over the hook. Try taking hold of the loops together and lift them up slightly and then off the hook in one quick motion – or lift each loop off the hook one by one. See which method works best for you and see our tips overleaf.

Step 8 Once all the loops are off the hook, take a moment to check the look of your bullion stitch – give it a little squeeze to help even out the wraps. The loop on the hook will run through all the wraps and this controls the height of the stitch, so adjust its length if you need to – make it shorter if the stitch is too tall or pull it a bit higher if the stitch isn't quite the right height.

Step 9 Once happy, ch1 to secure the stitch.

Step 10 Repeat Steps 2-9 to work more stitches across the row. Skip a stitch on the



row below each time, working your bullion stitches into every alternate stitch. Work a plain crochet stitch into the last stitch to complete the row. Your finished row should look something like this. Note that it is possible to work bullion stitches into each stitch of the row below, but because of the additional ch1, the row will be much wider than the foundation row, so it's better to work bullion stitches into alternate stitches.



HOW DO I WORK THE NEXT ROWS?

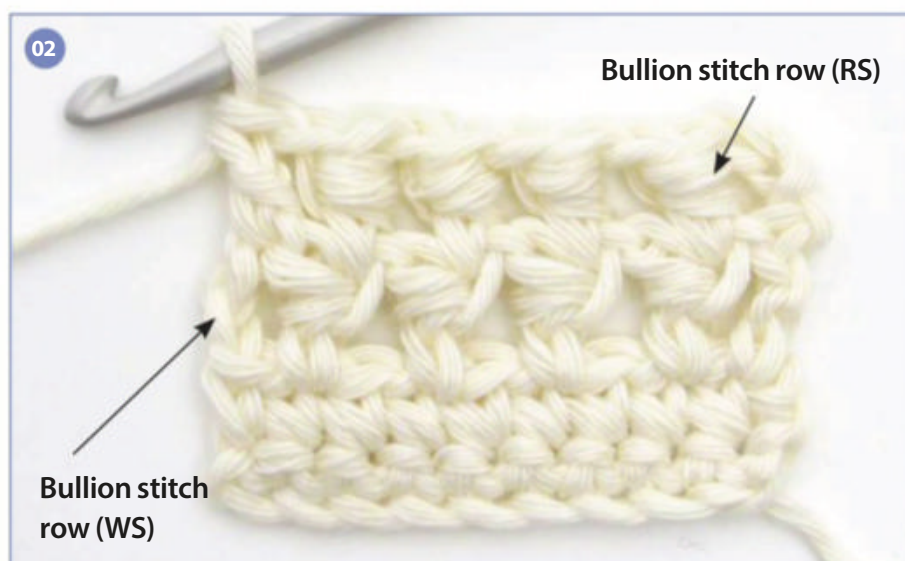
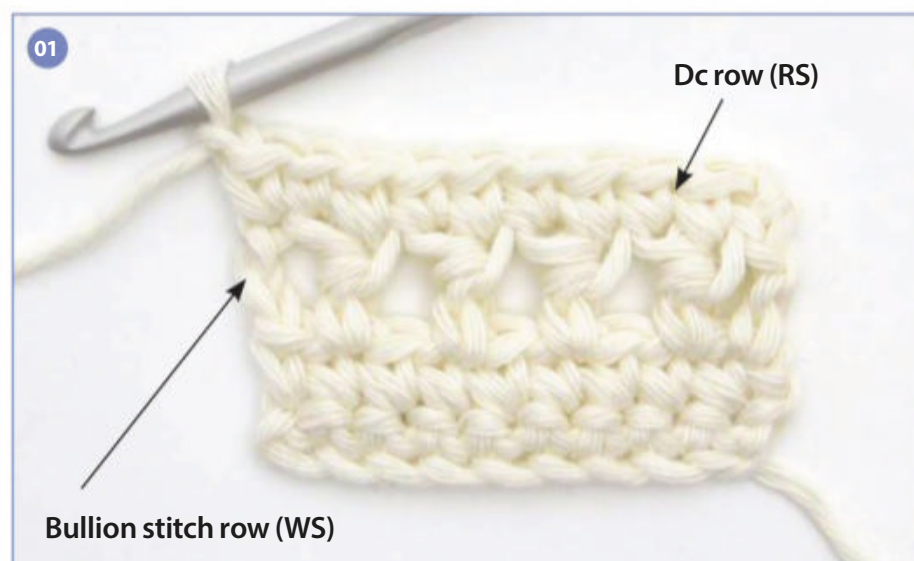
Choose which look you prefer for your fabric

For the next row, you have a choice. The bullion stitch looks different at the back of the fabric, so most patterns instruct you to work a row of plain stitches in between each row of bullion stitches so they're all neatly facing the front of the fabric. To do this, work as follows:

Option 1 Skip the first stitch and work into the top of each bullion st and ch1 – this will maintain the stitch count. We worked 9 dc. Your fabric should now look something like this on the wrong side. You'll be ready to work another bullion row, following the instructions above.

Alternatively, you can work bullion stitches on every row, as follows:

Option 2 Follow the instructions given, but for an even look, work each bullion stitch into the ch1 part of the bullion stitch on the row below. Your fabric should look like this on the wrong side.



HOW DO I WORK LONGER BULLION STITCHES?

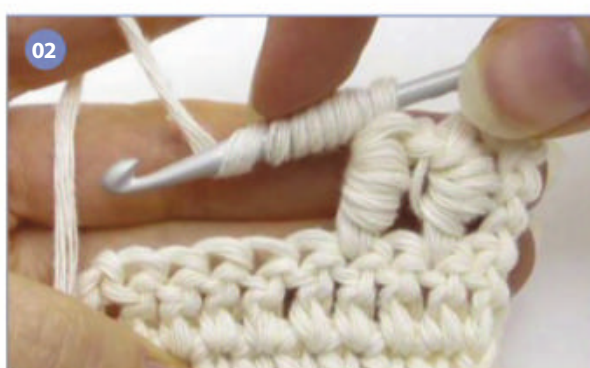
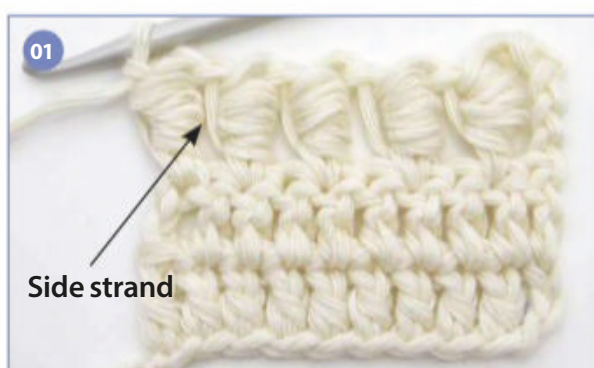
Don't worry, it's really easy to make different sizes

You can make bullion stitches that are any length you like. For longer bullion stitches, all you need to do is work more yrh at the start of the stitch. Bear in mind that the longer your bullion stitch, the longer and more visible the side strand that runs along the side of the stitch (this is created by the ch1 that secures the stitch).

Step 1 For example, try working 7 yrh to make 7-wrap bullion stitches like this. At the start of the row, you'll need to make a turning chain to suit the height of your bullion stitch – as a rough guide, ch3 should be tall enough for a bullion stitch that starts with 3 to 6 yrh, while ch4 is a better length for a bullion that starts with 7 to 10 yrh, and so on. For this row of 7-wrap bullion stitches, we started with a ch4 turning chain. At the end of the row, you'll need to make a stitch the equivalent size to the turning chain – for example, ch4 equates to a double treble, so work a dtr into the final stitch.

Step 2 The longer your bullion stitch, the trickier certain parts of the technique will become. Start the 7-wrap bullion stitch by working yrh 7 times. A larger number of yrh wraps at the start of the stitch can be tricky to control until you've inserted the hook into the fabric, so use your finger to help keep them in place.

Step 3 Skip a stitch and insert the hook in the next stitch, yrh and pull up a loop. Now you need to yrh and pull through all the loops on the hook – with more loops, this becomes more difficult. Try holding the coil with your yarn-holding hand and wiggle the hook through the loops. Or use your fingers to lift each loop off the hook one by one. You'll find that if you keep the loops fairly loose (but even) at the start of the stitch, this will help to get the hook through them. Try various different methods and see which one works best for you – you could also try using a small needle to help you, as shown below.



HOW CAN I MAKE IT EASIER TO PULL THE YARN THROUGH?

Here's an expert tip for creating even yarn coils

Undoubtedly, the main difficulty with bullion stitches is pulling the hook through the coil of yarn loops. There are a few solutions, such as using a latch hook or a small section of drinking straw. Or you could try using a small needle, as follows:

Step 1 Place a knitting or tapestry needle together with your hook, placing the needle tip just below the hook. Yrh 7 times, looping the yarn around both the hook and needle.

Step 2 Skip a stitch and insert the hook in the next stitch, yrh and pull up a loop – make sure this loop goes around the needle as well. Now yrh, with the yarn around only the hook.

Step 3 Now you need to pull this loop with the hook and needle together through the coil of yarn – try to do this gently but swiftly...

Step 4 ...for a bullion stitch that's easier to work and looks more even. Ch1 to finish. Repeat from Step 1.





Floral chorus

Becky Skuse's wildflower bunting is the perfect project for practising your new-found bullion stitch skills



YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/92m)
1 ball of each:
Yarn A Leaf (3097)
Yarn B Sunflower (3662)
Yarn C Hot Pink (3668)
Yarn D Lavender (3673)
 - A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- For yarn stockists contact
Stylecraft 01484 848435
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Bunting measures approx 160cm (63in)

ABBREVIATIONS

3WB (3-wrap bullion st) Yrh 3 times, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through all loops on hook, ch1 to secure
7WB (7-wrap bullion st) Work as 3WB, but start by working yrh 7 times
10WB (10-wrap bullion st) Work as 3WB, but start by working yrh 10 times
For a full list, see page 90



Bullion stitch creates a puffy, bulky texture, making it ideal for working flower petals

Designer Becky Skuse says: “Inspired by UK wildflowers, I made this bunting as the perfect way to enjoy the beauty of the great outdoors all year – without picking precious rarities. Hooking these blooms is a great way to learn about our native wildflowers while also practising bullion stitches, which add touchable texture to your flowers.”

NOTES

Leave long starting tails on Flowers and Leaves, these are used to join them to the Ribbon.

FLOWER BUNTING RIBBON

Using Yarn A, ch an even number measuring approx 160cm.

Row 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as first st throughout), skip 1 ch, 3WB into next ch from hook, skip 1 ch, *3WB into next ch, skip 1 ch; repeat from * across the chain, tr in last ch.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

PRIMROSE (MAKE 3)

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), 5dc into loop, ss to first dc. [5 sts]

Round 2 *Ch4, 7WB in 4th ch from hook, ss to dc at base of ch4, ss to next dc; repeat from * until you have 5 petals in total, ss to first dc of Round 1. [5 petals]

Fasten off. Weave in ends except starting tail.

THRIFT (MAKE 3)

As Primrose, using Yarn B for Round 1 and Yarn C for Round 2.

VIOLET (MAKE 3)

As Primrose, using Yarn B for Round 1 and Yarn D for Round 2.

FIELD SCABIOUS (MAKE 1)

Using Yarn D, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 8dc into loop, ss to first dc. [8 dc]

Round 2 Ch4 (counts as 10WB), 10WB in dc at base of ch4; ch2, ss to ch1 of 10WB (picot formed), *10WB in next dc, ch2, ss to ch1 of 10WB, 10WB in same dc, ch2, ss to ch1 of 10WB; repeat from * 6 times more, ss to top of beg ch-4. [16 10WB]

Fasten off. Weave in ends except starting tail.

COMMON KNAPWEED (MAKE 1)

As Field Scabious, using Yarn C for Rounds 1-2.

WELSH POPPY (MAKE 1)

As Field Scabious, using Yarn A for Round 1 and Yarn B for Round 2.

YELLOW PIMPERNEL (MAKE 1)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) (Ch1, 5dc into loop, ss to first dc.

[5 sts]

Fasten off, join Yarn B into any st.

Round 2 Ch1, 2dc in each dc, ss to first dc. [10 sts]

Round 3 Ch3, 7WB in dc at base of ch3, ch2, ss to ch1 of last 7WB (picot formed), 7WB in next dc, ch2, ss to same dc, *ss to next dc, ch3, 7WB in dc at base of ch3, ch2, ss to ch1 of last 7WB, 7WB in next dc, ch2, ss to same dc; repeat from * until you have 5 petals in total, ss to first dc of Round 2. [5 petals]

Fasten off. Weave in ends except starting tail.

CHEDDAR PINK (MAKE 1)

As Yellow Pimpernel, using Yarn A for Round 1 and Yarn C for Rounds 2-3.

MEADOW/WOOD CRANESBILL (MAKE 1)

As Yellow Pimpernel, using Yarn A for Round 1 and Yarn D for Rounds 2-3.

COWSLIP (MAKE 1)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, 3dc into loop, turn. [3 sts]

Row 2 (WS) Ch1, 2dc in first dc, dc in next dc, 2dc in last dc, turn. [5 sts]

Fasten off, join Yarn B into first dc.

Row 3 (RS) Ch4 (counts as dtr), 7WB in dc at base of ch4, *7WB in next dc; repeat from * twice more, 7WB and dtr in last st, turn. [5 7WBs, 2 dtr]

Row 4 Ch1, dc2tog across dtr and next 7WB, *(dc2tog) over previous 7WB (2nd st in last dc2tog) and next 7WB; repeat from * 3 times more, (dc2tog) over last 7WB and dtr, turn. [6 dc2tog]

Row 5 *Ch2, tr2tog across st at base of ch2 and next st, ch2, ss in st at base of 2nd leg of the tr2tog, ss in next st, repeat from * twice more, omitting final ss. [3 petals]

Fasten off. Weave in ends except starting tail.

HAREBELL/BLUEBELL (MAKE 1)

As Cowslip, using Yarn A for Rows 1-2 and Yarn D for Rows 3-5.

SNAKE'S HEAD FRITILLARY (MAKE 1)

As Cowslip, using Yarn D for Rows 1-2 and Yarn C for Rows 3-5.

LEAF (MAKE 3)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Row 1 (WS) Ch1, 2dc into loop, turn. [2 dc]

Row 2 (RS) Ch4 (counts as dtr), 7WB in st at base of ch4, (7WB, dtr) in last dc, turn. [2 7WB, 2 dtr]

Row 3 Ch1, (dc2tog) across dtr and 7WB, (dc2tog) over previous 7WB (2nd st in last dc2tog) and next 7WB, (dc2tog across last 7WB and last st, turn. [3 dc2tog]

Row 4 Ch2, tr2tog across next 2 dc. **Fasten off.**

TO MAKE UP

Block Flowers and Leaves. Arrange on Ribbon and pin in place. Once happy, sew into position.



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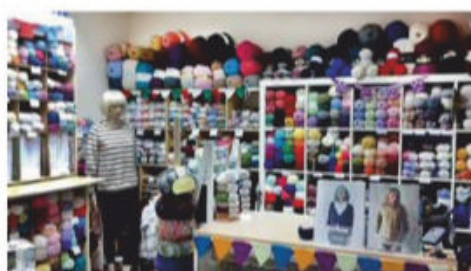
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Tassel Time!

Hook up this fun summery blanket by Samanta Fornino – perfect for picnics!



TASSELLED BLANKET



YOU WILL NEED

- Deramores Studio DK (100% acrylic, 100g/250m)
5 balls of each:
Yarn A Topaz
Yarn B Rose
Yarn C Vanilla
Yarn D Fuchsia
2 balls of:
Yarn E Frost
- A 6mm (US J/10) hook
- Stitch markers
- Clover Tassel maker (optional)

For yarn stockists contact
Deramores www.deramores.com

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Blanket measures approx
130x130cm (51¼x51¼in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 90

Oh we do love a tassel or two... or in the case of this splendid creation, 20. Yes, bring it on! We can see this blanket is going to be our go-to summer number for lazing in the garden, picnicking with friends, and dancing round the living room pretending we're in *Strictly*! (Surely everyone does that... don't they?!!)

NOTES

The entire pattern is worked using two strands of yarn as one.

The Blanket is worked in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to mark the last st of each round, moving the marker up as you work. Change colour on the last yrh on the st before colour change is indicated.

BLANKET

Using Yarn E, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 8dc into loop. [8 sts]

Round 2 (RS) 3dc in next st (mark 2nd st), change to Yarn A, dc in next st, change to Yarn E, 3dc in next st (mark 2nd st), change to Yarn B, dc in next st, change to Yarn E, 3dc in next st (mark 2nd st), change to Yarn C, dc in next st, change to Yarn E, 3dc in next st (mark 2nd st), change to Yarn D, dc in next st. [16 sts]

Round 3 Dc in each st to marked st, change to Yarn E, 3dc in marked st (mark 2nd st), change to Yarn A, dc in each st to marked st, change to Yarn E, 3dc in marked st (mark 2nd st), change to Yarn B, dc in each st to marked st, change to Yarn E, 3dc in marked st (mark 2nd st), change to Yarn C, dc in each st to marked st, change to Yarn E, 3dc in marked st (mark 2nd st), change to Yarn D, dc in each st to end, ss to next st. [24 sts]

Repeat Round 3 until Blanket measures 130x130cm, ending last round with a ss to close. **Fasten off.**



You'll change colour a few times in each round you work to complete the pretty throw

BORDER

Join Yarn E into any st.

Round 1 Ch1, dc into each st around, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Make 20 tassels using your leftover yarn. Sew 1 tassel to each corner and 4 tassels evenly along each edge. You can use the image as a guide.

SAVE 10% ON A BLANKET YARN PACK

Fed up of hunting down the yarn to knit that favourite item? Then you're in luck! Deramores are offering a yarn pack filled with all the yarn you'll need to knit Samanta Fornino's sweet blanket. With a few clicks and for just £39.40 (saving 10% off the RRP) your treasured package could be winging its way to you! For details and to order visit www.deramores.com/collections/simplycrochet



SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A TASSEL



1 Cut a piece of cardboard that's about 5cm wide and as long as you'd like your tassel to be. Make a 1cm cut in one short end of the card. Tie a knot in one end of your yarn and secure it around the slot.



2 Wrap the yarn around the length of the card to the thickness you require. If you want to use more colours, knot the yarns together at the base of the card and carry on wrapping around.



3 Cut a small piece of yarn, thread under the yarn wraps at the top of the card and knot the two ends. Cut through the bottom wraps of the tassel and snip off the starting knot(s).



4 Cut another piece of yarn and wrap it around the tassel, approx 2cm from the top, to form head. Thread end onto a needle and insert down inside the head wraps. Trim tassel ends to neaten.

Show us yours

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SPRING FEVER

Yvonne (@vonny1955) made a stunning job of Kate Eastwood's spring design from our seasonal wreaths calendar that came with issue 78. She even added in a spring bird using the pattern of the robin from the Christmas wreath, choosing her own coordinating yarns. An inspired touch, Yvonne – we absolutely love it!

GALAXY GEAR

▼ Wendy Archer, who has just recently subscribed, created her own colourway of Margaret Hubert's ombré cardigan from issue 81. She says, "I couldn't quite stretch to Scheepjes Woolly Whirl so used Hobbii Twister in Galaxy Glaze and this is the finished article." Ooh yes, we are loving all these purples and blues Wendy!



DOUBLE TAP ♥

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



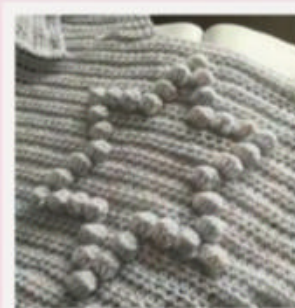
SWEET DREAMS

We're going all the way back to issue 42 for the pattern for this gorgeous baby blanket made by @bootlebellecrochet for a friend. All together now – aww!



OFF THE HOOK

She's not fishing for compliments but @laroombsoflondon whipped up this little fella in no time at all. Have you hooked our splendid koi design from issue 81 yet?



MIND BOBBLING

@sosewsally had a few false starts with issue 81's starry jumper. "My brain decided to go awol so I kept miscounting my stitches!" You got there in the end Sally!



CAKE OFF

Even Paul Hollywood would approve of this showstopping creation! Using our pattern from issue 81 @woolymary has made her own fab signature bake.



JUMPING IN

This stripy number is the first crocheted garment @flumpmakes has made. She hooked up Hannah Cross' jumper from issue 72 for her son Nate. "A quick, simple pattern I will probably make again! I'm so pleased with how it turned out," she says. Nice job, and we love the colours!

THE LOWDOWN

It's simple to be in with a chance of winning a great hooky prize in a future issue! Show us your *Simply Crochet* makes on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or via email or post by 4 May 2019.

For all terms and conditions, and more information, visit www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/competitionrules

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WINNER!



COOL THROW

Wow, it's great to see what an amazing job Michelle Harvery has made of Emma Leith's colourful throw – there's more than a few hours of hooking gone into this extravaganza! The pattern was included in issue 79's blanket booklet, which includes four stunning designs, each with a warm and cool colourway to choose from. 

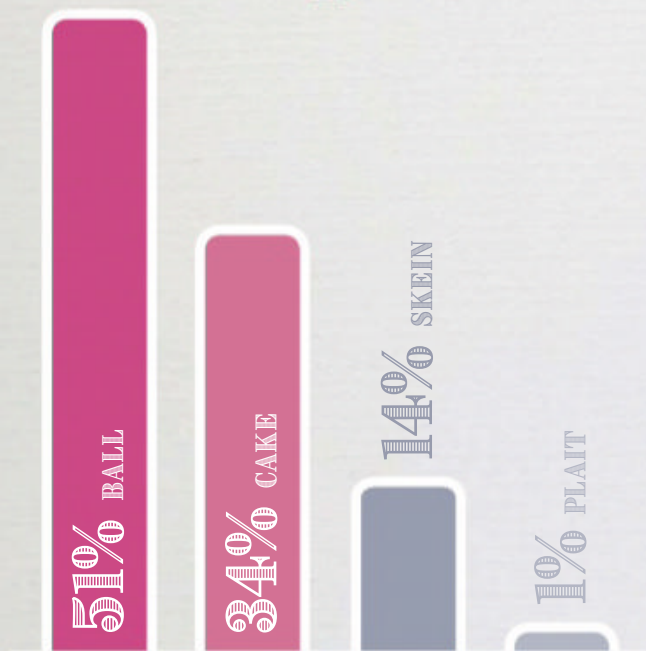
OTTER THIS WORLD!

This little chap is otterly irresistible! From our amigurumi booklet that came with issue 81, he's been hooked up a treat by @barbercaroline 



This month we asked you...

How do you like your yarn to be wound?



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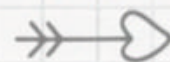
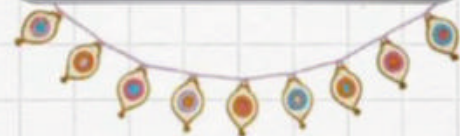
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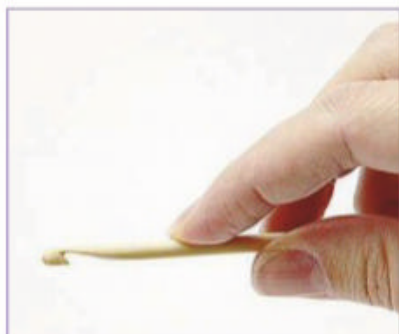
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Crochet essentials

Over the next few pages, you'll find simple step-by-step guides to many useful stitches and techniques that you'll use every time you pick up a hook

HOLDING THE HOOK

Try these methods and see which works best



PENCIL METHOD

Hold the hook like a pencil, in your right hand (if you're right-handed), about 3-5cm from the hooked end. If your hook has a flat area, you'll find it comfortable to hold it here.



KNIFE METHOD

Hold the hook between your thumb and forefinger, about 3-5cm from the hooked end, resting the end of the hook against your palm. This will give you lots of control.

HOLDING THE YARN

Even tension results in even stitches



METHOD ONE

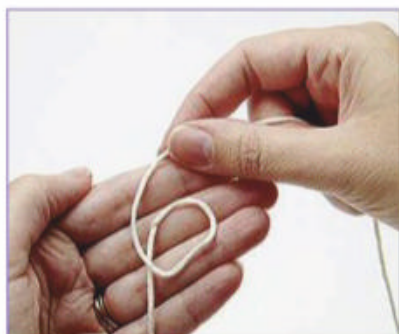
Pass the ball end of the yarn between the little finger and third fingers of your left hand (if you are right-handed), then behind the third and middle fingers, over your index finger.



METHOD TWO

Loop the ball end of the yarn loosely around the little finger of your left hand, then take it over the third finger, behind the middle finger and over your index finger.

MAKING A SLIPKNOT The first loop on the hook



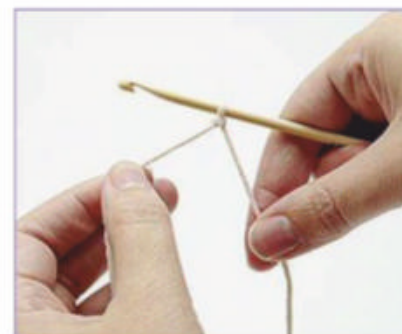
1 Hold the tail of the ball of yarn in your left hand and drape the yarn clockwise over the top of it to form a loose, circular loop.



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

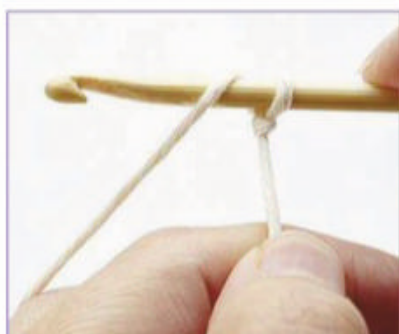


3 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook and pull it back through the centre of the loop, taking the yarn through with it.



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

CHAIN STITCH Use this stitch to make your foundation chain



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



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



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

How to count chains



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

SLIP STITCH (ss)

This stitch has no height – often used to join rounds



1 The slip stitch is used to join a length of chain into the round. Insert the hook from front to back into the first chain you worked. Wrap yarn round the hook (yrh) in an anticlockwise direction.



2 Pull the yarn through the chain stitch (as shown) and then the loop already on the hook to make a slip stitch. You can also work this stitch into each stitch along a row to form a neat edging.

WORKING IN ROWS

Follow these simple rules to construct crochet fabric



1 The first row is made by working across the foundation chain from right to left. At the end of the chain or row, turn the work so that the yarn is behind the hook.



2 For the next row, first make the turning chain for the stitch you're about to work (see opposite). Now work the next stitch into the top of the stitches on your first row, missing the first stitch.

DOUBLE CROCHET (dc) US term: single crochet

One of the key stitches in crochet, doubles are simple, compact stitches that form a dense fabric



1 To make a double crochet stitch, insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch on the previous row.



2 Wind the yarn around the hook (yrh).



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



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

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

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



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



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



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



4 Yarn round hook again, pull the yarn through all 3 loops. You've made a half treble crochet. Continue working htr into next and following sts to the end of the row.

TREBLE CROCHET (tr) US term: double crochet

One of the most popular stitches in crochet, this simple stitch is twice as high as a double crochet stitch



1 To work a treble crochet, start by winding yrh and then insert the hook under the top two loops of the stitch on the previous row.



2 Wrap the yarn around the hook (yrh) and pull the yarn through the stitch only.



3 You will now have 3 loops on the hook. Yrh again, and draw the yarn through just the first 2 loops on the hook.



4 You will now have 2 loops on the hook. Yrh again and draw the yarn through the remaining loops on the hook. Your treble crochet is complete.

DOUBLE TREBLE CROCHET (dtr) US term: treble crochet

This is a stitch regularly used as an elongated version of the treble (described above). It's worked in a very similar way to the treble, as follows:

- 1 Make a foundation chain. Skip 4ch, *yrh twice, and insert the hook under the top loop of the next ch.
- 2 Yrh, pull the yarn through the ch loop only (4 loops on hook).
- 3 Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (3 loops on hook).

- Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (2 loops on hook).
- 4 Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops. Repeat from * to make more dtr sts.
- 5 To make the next row of dtr, turn work and ch4. This turning chain counts as the first dtr in a new row. Skip first st at the base of the t-ch, work 1dtr under the top two loops of the 2nd stitch in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

TRIPLE TREBLE CROCHET (ttr) US term: double treble crochet

This is one of the longest standard crochet stitches and is mainly used in fancy stitch patterns. It's taller than a double treble crochet stitch (described left) and is worked in a very similar way, as follows:

- 1 Make a foundation ch. Skip 5 ch, *yrh 3 times, insert hook under top loop of next ch.
- 2 Yrh, pull yarn through ch loop only (5 loops on hook).
- 3 † Yrh, draw loop through 2

- loops only. Repeat from † 3 times more and your triple treble will be finished. Repeat from * to make more ttr sts.
- 4 To make the next row, turn work and ch5. This turning chain counts as the first triple treble in a new row. Skip first st at base of the t-ch. Work 1 triple treble, inserting hook under the top 2 loops of the 2nd st in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

TURNING CHAIN (t-ch)

For an even finish, start each row with a turning chain

In crochet, you need to add turning chains (t-chs) to the beginning of rows. The reason for this is to bring the hook up to the height of the stitches you're crocheting. Each basic stitch has its own number of chains. The

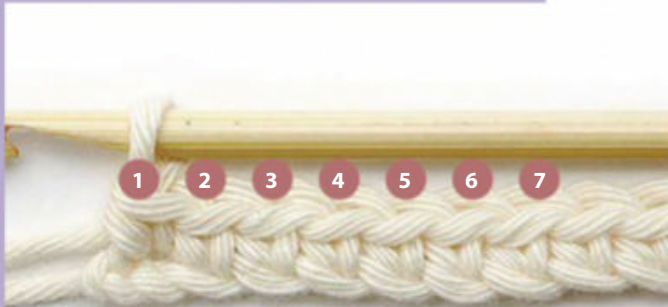
table below tells you how many t-ch sts form the first stitch. *For dc, usually the turning chain does not count as a stitch, and the first stitch of the row is worked into the stitch at the base of the turning chain.

STITCH	Add to foundation chain before starting row	Skip at start of foundation row (counts as first st)	For turning chain (counts as first st)
Double crochet	1 ch	1 ch*	1 ch*
Half treble	1 ch	2 ch	2 ch
Treble	2 ch	3 ch	3 ch
Double treble	3 ch	4 ch	4 ch
Triple treble	4 ch	5 ch	5 ch

How to count stitches

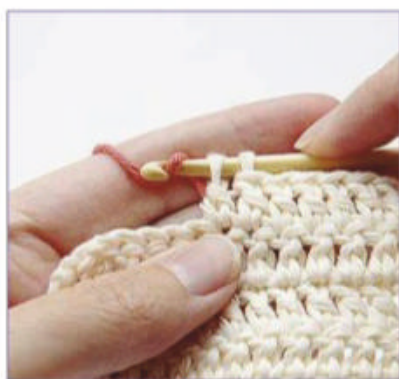
Check your work is correct

Being able to count your stitches is very important and helps you to ensure that you're following a pattern correctly. It's a good idea to count your stitches at the end of every row. To count short stitches such as double crochet, look at the plaited tops (see above right). For taller stitches, count the upright 'stems' – each 'stem' is counted as a stitch (see right).



HOW TO CHANGE COLOUR

Create stripes and other colour effects



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



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

INCREASING AND DECREASING

Shaping stitches are vital for making garments



INCREASE To increase one stitch is very simple – work one stitch into the next stitch on the row below. When you’ve finished, work another stitch into the same stitch.



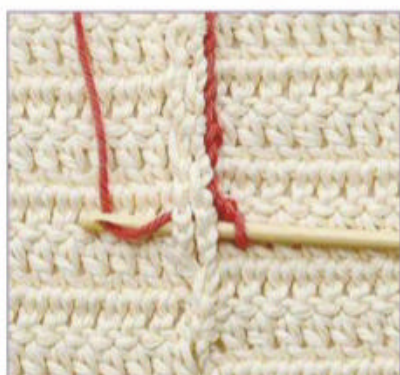
DECREASE For a quick decrease, just skip one stitch. For a neater look, work the first part of one stitch and then begin the next stitch. Finish both together.

SEWING SEAMS

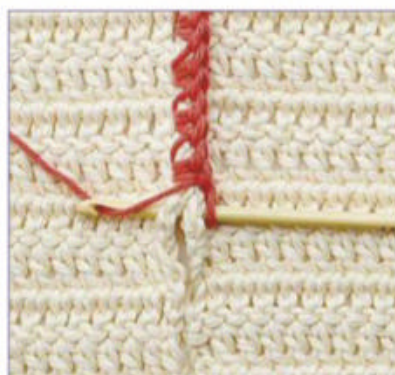
You can join crochet seams by using a tapestry needle or a crochet hook, using one of these four methods



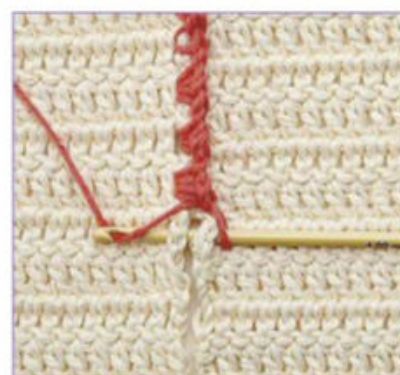
1 Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet right sides together and oversew them as shown above, using a tapestry or yarn needle.



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



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

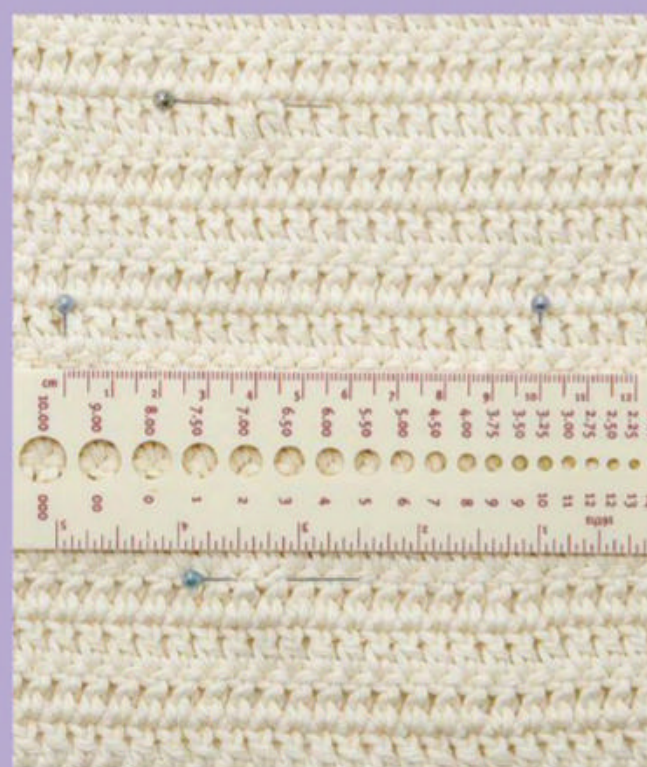
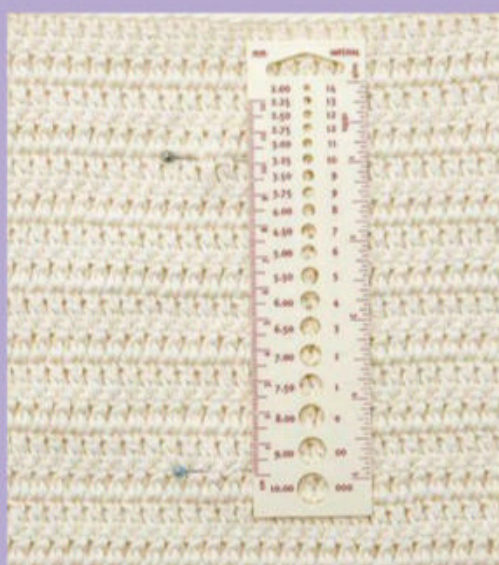


4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

How to check your tension

Make and measure a swatch to check your tension

Most crochet patterns state the tension required, in rows and stitches of a specific type. Make a swatch at least 15cm square and check that your tension matches. Place a ruler across the swatch and insert two pins, 10cm apart. Then place the ruler along a column of stitches and insert two pins 10cm apart. Count the stitches and rows between the pins – if you have less than the pattern, your tension is too loose so you need to use a smaller hook, but if you have too many, use a larger hook. It’s usually better to match the stitches than rows, because you can always work more or fewer rows.



FOUNDATION RING

Create a foundation ring for working in the round



1 Make a chain the length stated in the pattern instructions. Next, insert the crochet hook into the first chain. Close the ring with a slip stitch, working yrh...



2 ...and pull yarn through 2 loops on hook. Now you're ready to start crocheting in the round, following the instructions given right.

WORKING STITCHES INTO A RING

To make circles, tubes and other shapes



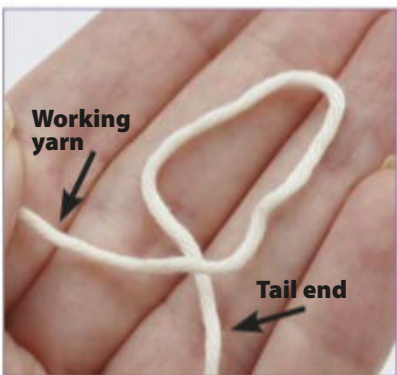
1 Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



2 Finish the treble as usual (yrh, pull yarn through ring, yrh, pull yarn through first 2 loops, yrh, pull yarn through 2 loops). Work more sts into the ring as needed.

MAGIC LOOP

An alternative foundation ring for working in the round



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



2 Now insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn around the hook and pull the yarn through the loop.



3 Make a t-ch for the sts you want to work (above, we made 1 t-ch for dc). Work your sts into the Magic Loop, over both the loop and the tail end (so two yarn strands).



4 Once you've worked the first round of stitches, simply pull the tail end of yarn to draw up the ring. Work a slip stitch to join the last and first sts to finish the first round (as instructed in the guide below).

JOINING ROUNDS

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



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



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



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

Rounds or spirals



Check which technique you need to use

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

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Abbreviations

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

Crochet hook conversions

UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	-
13	2.25mm	B/1
12	2.5mm	-
-	2.75mm	C/2
11	3mm	-
10	3.25mm	D/3
9	3.5mm	E/4
-	3.75mm	F/5
8	4mm	G/6
7	4.5mm	7
6	5mm	H/8
5	5.5mm	I/9
4	6mm	J/10
3	6.5mm	K/10½
2	7mm	-
0	8mm	L/11
00	9mm	M/13
000	10mm	N/15

Which hook do I use?

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

HOW TO GET A PERFECT FINISH

To prevent your hard work unravelling once you’ve finished crocheting, fasten the end off carefully, following our instructions below



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

UK/US conversions

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

Filet Crochet

Use simple trebles and chains to create all sorts of filet crochet patterns. Grab your hook and yarn...

WHAT IS FILET CROCHET?

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

Filet crochet is an open, lacy technique that's often used to show geometric patterns, images and lettering. The techniques involved are very simple – basic filet only uses chains and treble stitches, but with just these basic stitches, you can create an unlimited number of patterns, shapes and images. We'll show you exactly how to work the technique and then you can use your new skills to make the garments from our modern filet collection, starting from page 14.

Empty mesh



Blocks and spaces



HOW DO I WORK BLOCKS AND SPACES?

Master filet crochet with these eight simple steps

A simple filet crochet fabric is made up of treble stitches separated by chain spaces. To make a basic filet net of 10 squares across by 10 rows, ch20 for the foundation chain, then work ch3 (counts as first treble stitch) and ch1 for the first chain space. Work a treble into the 6th chain from the hook **01** – this creates the first filet space. To form the next space, work *ch1, skip 1 ch, treble in the next chain. Repeat from * to the end of the foundation chain. Turn.

To work the next row, ch4 (counts as 1 tr, 1 ch), skip 1 ch, tr into the next tr **02**, *ch1, skip 1 ch, tr into the next tr. Repeat from * to the end of the row, working the last treble into the 3rd chain of the 3-ch t-ch on the previous row **03**. Work more rows in the same way until you're happy with the technique. We worked 10 rows to form a square fabric (see Empty Mesh, left). All squares are open in this fabric, but you'll see how each open square can be filled in by replacing the 'ch1' with a treble stitch. It's by

filling in specific squares that you can create patterns.

Each open square is called a space and is made up of 2 trebles separated by one chain, while a filled-in square is called a block and is made up of 3 trebles together. Adjacent squares share their outside trebles, which form the mesh structure.

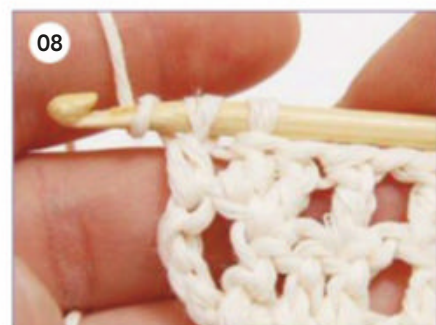
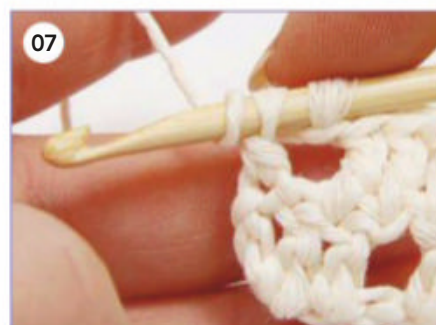
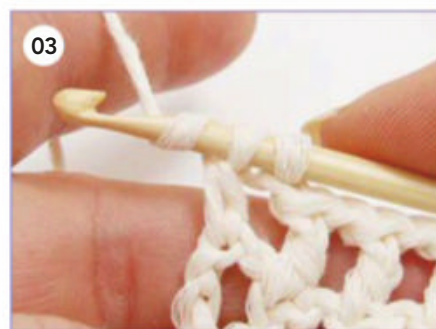
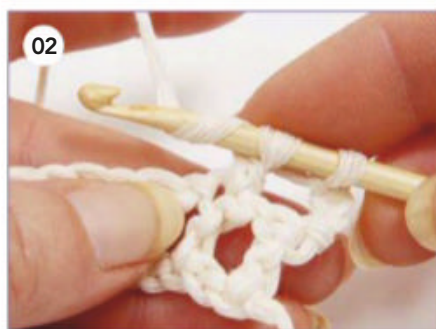
Next, practise working blocks as well as spaces in your filet fabric. Ch20 for the foundation chain, then work ch3 (counts as first treble).

Work a treble into the 4th chain from the hook. Work a treble into the next chain to complete a block at the start of the first row **04**. Now practise switching between blocks and spaces by working: *ch1, skip 1 ch, tr in next ch (space formed), tr in each of next 2 ch (block formed). Repeat from * to the end of the row.

To start the next row with a block, work ch3 (counts as first tr), skip the stitch at the base of the t-ch (as usual with treble fabric) and work a

treble into the next two stitches (whether they're chains or trebles) **05**. If you wanted to start the next row with a space, you'd work: ch4 (counts as 1 ch and 1 tr), skip the stitch at the base of the t-ch, skip the next stitch (whether it's a treble or a chain) and work a treble into the next treble **06**.

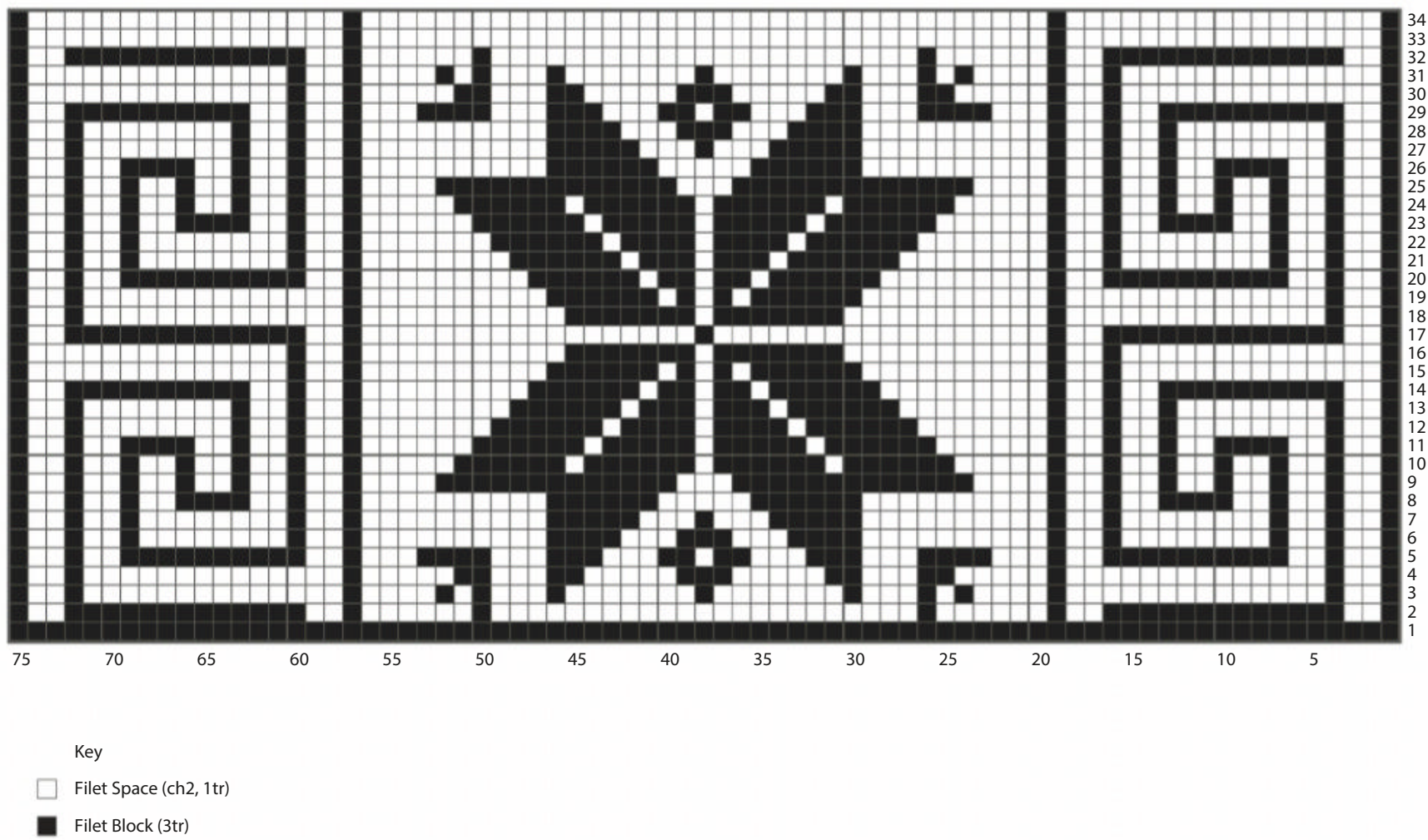
Continue across the row, alternating spaces and blocks to practise working them. At the end of the row, you can either work a space or a block. To work a space at the end of a row, work the last treble of the penultimate block or space, then ch1, skip the next stitch (whether it's a treble or a chain), and work the last treble into the 3rd chain of the turning chain on the previous row **07**. To work a block at the end of a row, work the last treble of the penultimate block or space, then work a treble into the next stitch (whether it's a treble or a chain), and work the last treble into the 3rd chain of the turning chain on the previous row **08**.



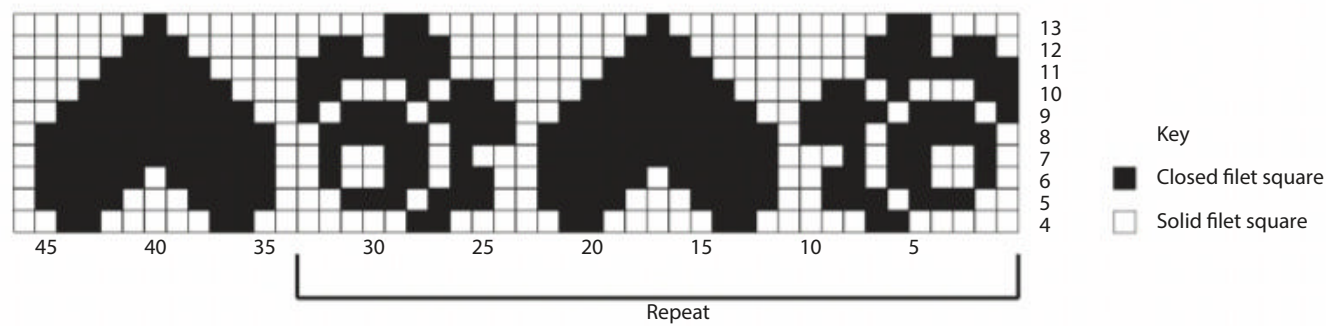
CHARTS & DIAGRAMS

Follow these helpful charts when making the blue wrap, skirt, rose heart shawl, cardigan and filet dress this issue

Blue wrap, page 19

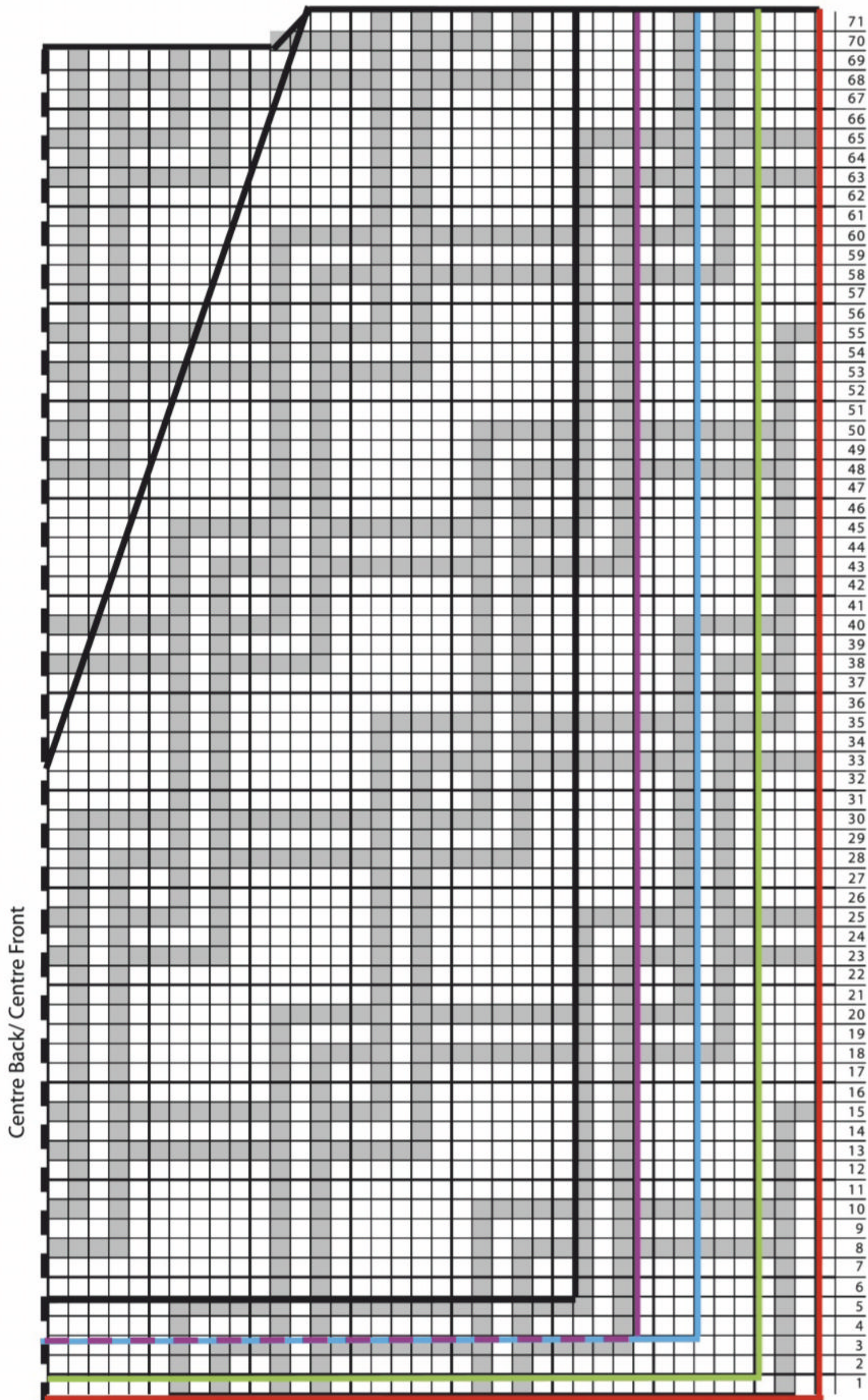


Rose heart shawl, page 22



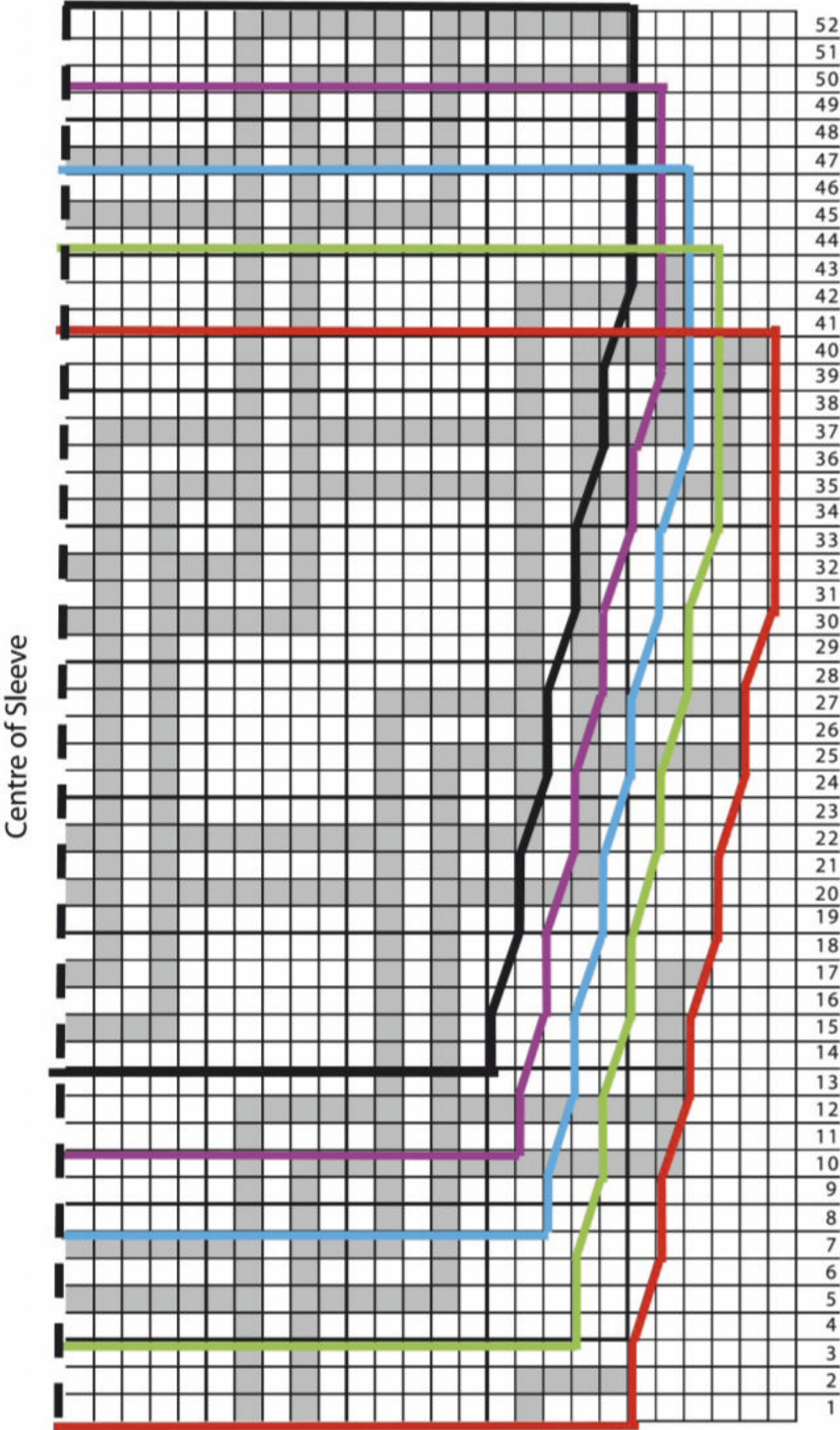
Cardigan, page 24

FRONTS AND BACK



CHARTS

SLEEVE



Key

- Size 8-10
- Size 12-14
- Size 16-18
- Size 20-22
- Size 24-26
- Solid square
- Open square

Skirt, page 20

CHART 1: WAISTBAND

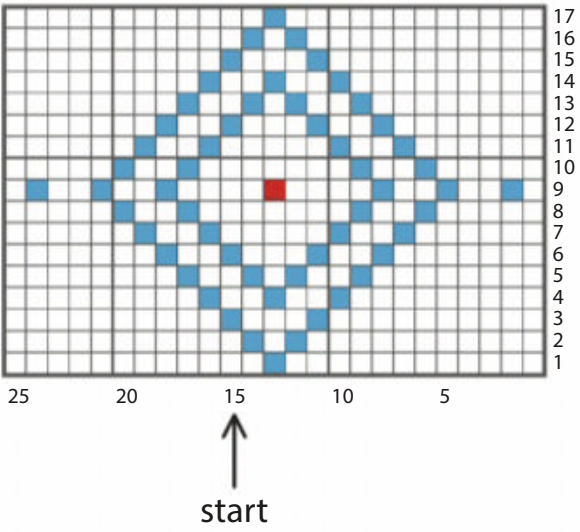
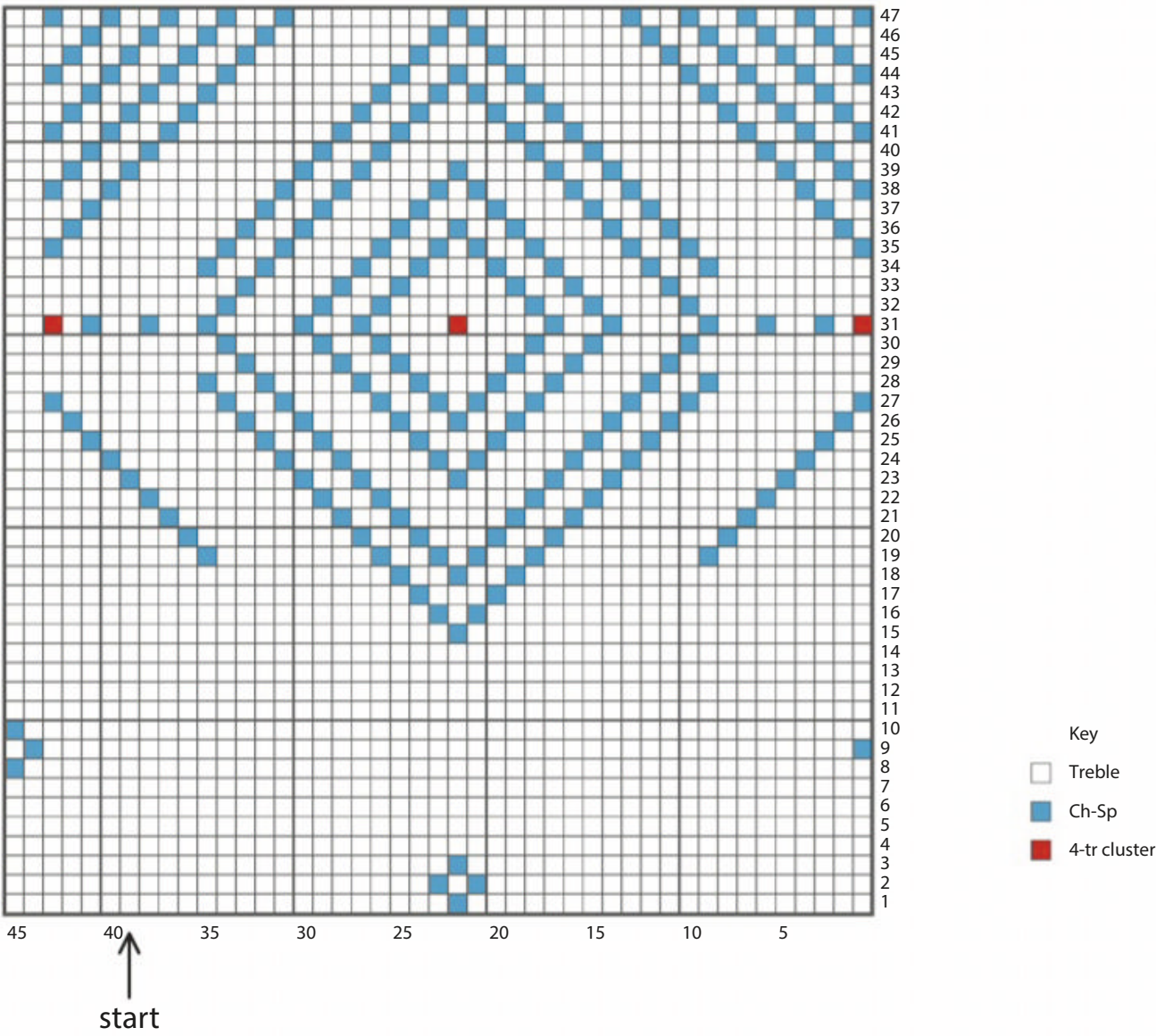


CHART 2: SKIRT

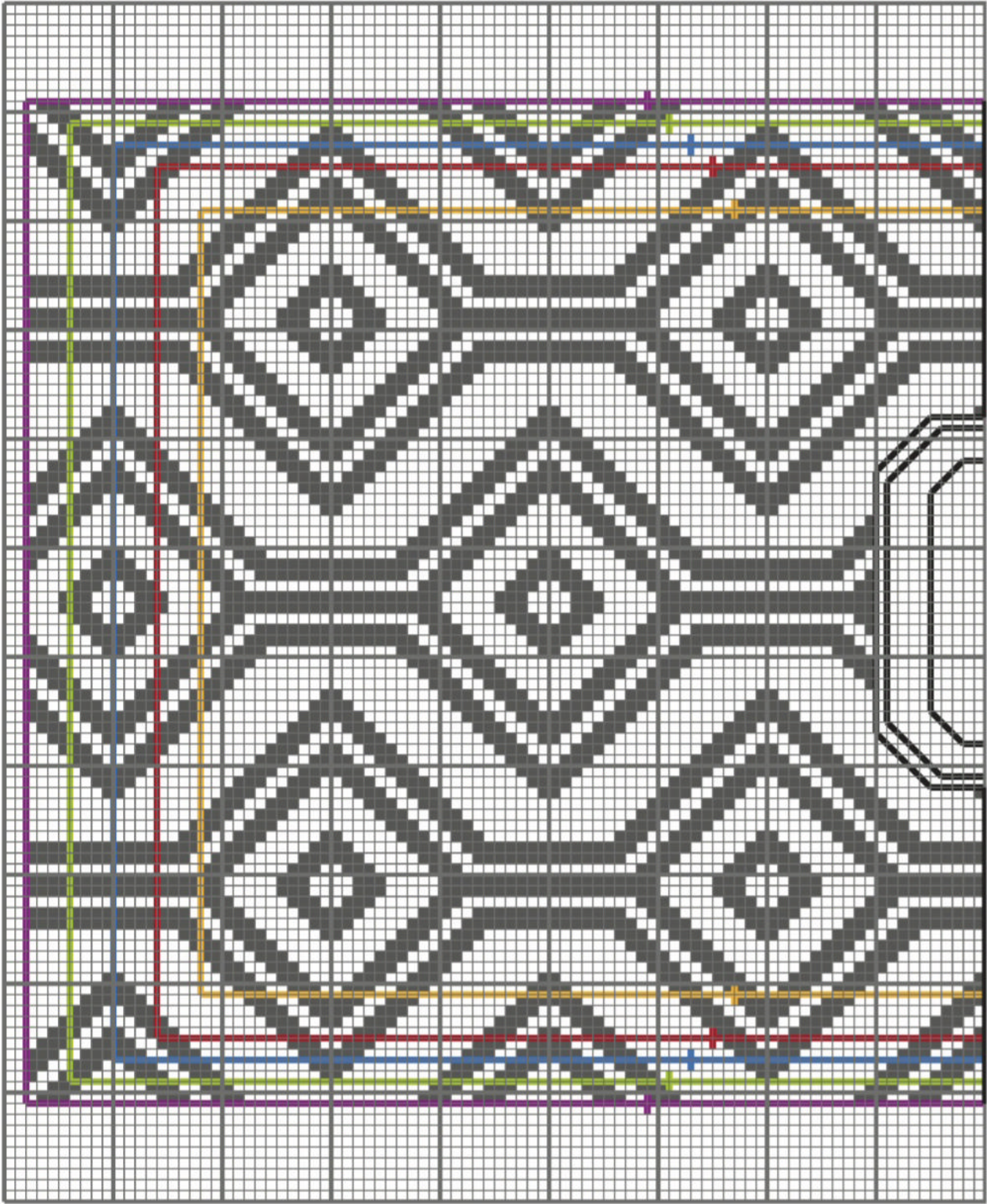


CHARTS

Tunic dress, page 28

Back

72 (80: 84: 88: 92) Filet Units = 55.5 (61.5: 64.5: 67.75: 70.75) cm



Row 1
first Filet
Unit completed
as a block

72 (76: 80: 84: 88) Rows = 72 (76: 80: 84: 88) cm

Direction of work

Filet Grid Chart
Sizes are colour coded: S M L XL XXL

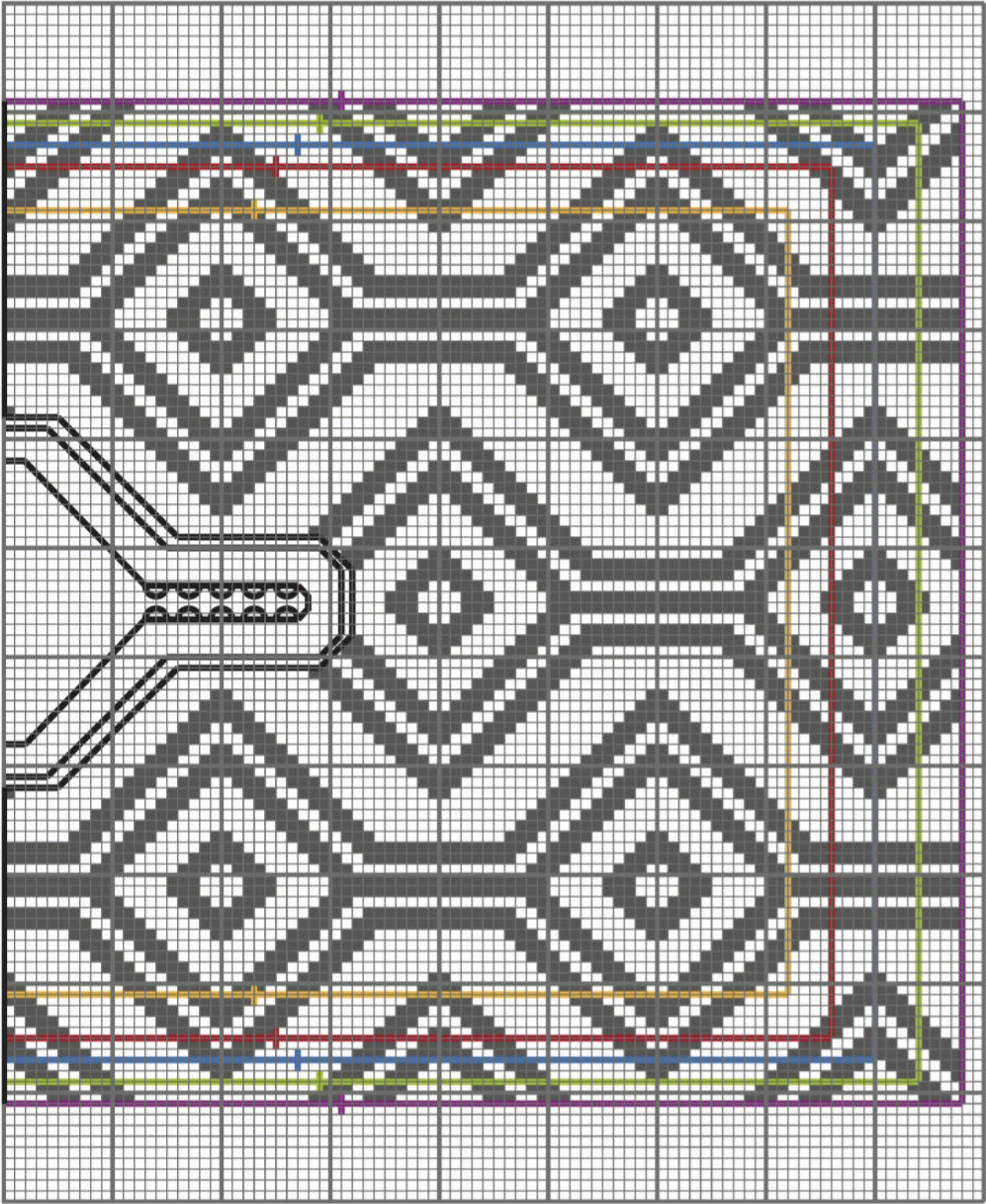
Each small square represents one Filet Unit.

- = Filet Block
- = Filet Space



Short cross bar indicates where to place stitch marker for bottom of armhole for each size.

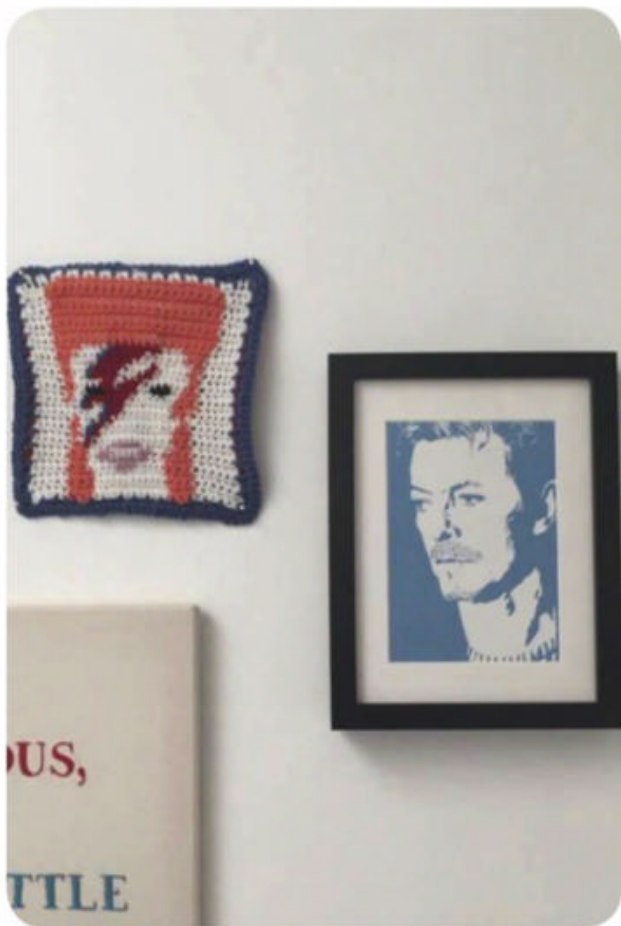
Front



Direction of work
→
p

72 (76: 80: 84: 88 Rows = 72 (76: 80: 84: 88) cm

Background grid shows bold lines to group units into 10x10 to make counting Filet Units easier



Oh you pretty thing

Crochet designer Marianne Rawlins hooked up a fabulous portrait of Bowie's alter ego, the iconic Ziggy Stardust

Should I confess that I'm one of those weird people who thinks that David Bowie's career peak was playing Jareth the Goblin King in *Labyrinth*? *LabyrSacrilege*, as my husband Ric, a bona fide Bowie fan, never tires of telling me. Even so, when Ric asked me to crochet a Ziggy Stardust creation for his colleague Georgia, also a genuine acolyte of The Thin White Duke, I just couldn't wait to get my hooks out.

At the time, I was on maternity leave with my daughter, a lovely experience as anyone who's looked after little ones can attest, but also exhausting and somewhat relentless. So at any given naptime, I would whip out some graph paper and coloured pencils, along with my hooks and yarn. To challenge my brain while not at my day job, I had decided to teach myself how to create intarsia patterns.

Sketching took me back to my childhood, when I was forever drawing. I found that I loved etching cute motifs and then hooking the designs into something tangible and tactile. Coasters were my go-to make, and I crocheted an array of them adorned with whimsical flowers, animals, hearts

and stars – even spiders, skulls and eyeballs for fun on Halloween!

And then came the request for the Bowie coaster. I just had to get in the iconic lightning bolt and I'm thrilled at how the stitches around his mouth resemble the great man's famously wonky teeth back in the 1970s.

I'm happy to say that Georgia was also delighted with the coaster and, rather than being a place to rest drinks, it is now displayed on her wall, next to her other Bowie memorabilia. "As a Bowie fan I was so excited to receive this," says Georgia. "The fact it was so unique and made especially for me made the gift extra special."

Once I'd rendered Bowie in yarn there was no stopping me, and colourwork is now by far my favourite crochet technique (see page 57 for my swan motif cushion pattern). However, as much as I adored crocheting my Ziggy Stardust Bowie, I have to admit that my favourite song of his is still *Dance Magic Dance*. Maybe my next project will be a Goblin King blanket...

You can discover more of Marianne's colourful crochet creations on Instagram at [@mazcrochets](https://www.instagram.com/mazcrochets)



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WELCOME



HAPPY 30TH ANNIVERSARY!

We were really delighted to be asked by *Simply Crochet* to collaborate on a special pattern supplement to celebrate our 30th birthday – our Purl Anniversary! Inside you'll find lots of lovely designs including comfy stripy cushions, cosy blankets for you and the family, a pretty V-neck cardigan and even a Prince Charming Frog amigurumi toy. We hope you will enjoy making these and other Stylecraft projects over the next 30 years.



ANNABELLE HILL
SALES & MARKETING DIRECTOR,
STYLECRAFT



Stylecraft

Simply Crochet

11

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AMIGURUMI FROGGY PAL



*Reach for the stars
with our stripy
cushion set*



*Kiss me quick!
Find me on p32*

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SUBSCRIBE
and save 18% off
the RRP! Details
on p26

Hook a
modern pop
art cushion

Easy motifs and
a rainbow palette



Stylecraft

*Go for a modern
look at home!*





Classic retro

Bring your home bang up to date by going back to the future in hypnotic style. Designed by Lucia's Fig Tree



YOU WILL NEED

For both blanket and cushion:

- Stylecraft Jeanie Aran (60% cotton, 40% acrylic, 100g/210m) 6 balls of each: White (1001) Texas (9352)

- Stylecraft Special Aran (60% cotton, 40% acrylic, 100g/295m) 1 ball of each: Gold (1709), Lipstick (1246), Magenta (1084), Teal (1062)

- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook

- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

- Cushion pad, 40x40cm

For yarn stockists contact

Stylecraft 01484 848435

www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

Each square measures 15x15cm, (6x6in) using 4.5mm hook or size required to achieve the correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Blanket 104x134cm (41x52¾in)

Cushion 40x40cm (16x16in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 90 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

If you're a fan of clean, crisp lines and a look that evokes the radical sixties, you'll love these two. The blanket looks super expensive, and will feel amazing worked up in cotton rich Stylecraft Jeanie Aran. Add a touch of colour with the bright border in Stylecraft Special Aran to match the zingy cushion, and you're done. Home sweet home and not a single flounce in sight.

NOTES

The blanket is made of 48 squares in two colourways.

BLANKET

BLACK SQUARE A (MAKE 24)

Using a 4.5mm hook and Texas, ch4.

Row 1 (RS) Skip first 3ch (counts as tr), 2tr in 4th ch from hook, turn. [3 tr]

Row 2 Ch3 (counts as tr), skip st at base of beg ch-3, (2tr, ch1, 2tr) in next st, tr in top of ch-3 at end, turn. [6 tr and 1 ch]

Row 3 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout – so always skip st at base of beg ch-3), tr in each of next 2 sts, (2tr, ch1, 2tr) in ch-1 sp, tr in each of next 2 sts, tr in top of beg ch-3, changing to White on last yrh of tr, turn. [10 sts]

Fasten off Texas.

Row 4 Using White, ch3, tr in each of next 4 sts, (2tr, ch1, 2tr) in ch-1 sp, tr in each of next 4 sts, tr in top of beg ch-3, turn. [14 sts]

Row 5 Ch3, tr in each of next 6 sts, (2tr, ch1, 2tr) in ch-1 sp, tr in each of next 6 sts, tr in top of beg ch-3, turn. [18 sts]

Row 6 Ch3, tr in each of next 8 sts, (2tr, ch1, 2tr) in ch-1 sp, tr in each of next 8 sts, tr in top of beg ch-3, changing to Texas on last yrh of tr, turn. [22 sts]

Fasten off White.

Row 7 Using Texas, ch3, tr in each of next 10 sts, (2tr, ch1, 2tr) in ch-1 sp, tr in each of next 10 sts, tr in top of beg ch-3, turn. [26 sts]

Row 8 Ch3, tr in each of next 12 sts, (2tr, ch1, 2tr)

in ch-1 sp, tr in each of next 12 sts, tr in top of beg ch-3, turn. [30 sts]

Row 9 Ch3, tr in each of next 14 sts, (2tr, ch1, 2tr) in ch-1 sp, tr in each of next 14 sts, tr in top of beg ch-3, changing to White on last yrh of tr, turn. [34 sts]

Fasten off Texas.

Row 10 Using White, ch3, tr in each of next 16 sts, (2tr, ch1, 2tr) in ch-1 sp, tr in each of next 16 sts, tr in top of beg ch-3, turn. [38 sts]

Row 11 Ch3, tr in each of next 18 sts, (2tr, ch1, 2tr) in ch-1 sp, tr in each of next 18 sts, tr in top of beg ch-3, turn. [42 sts]

Row 12 Ch3, tr in each of next 20 sts, (2tr, ch1, 2tr) in ch-1 sp, tr in each of next 20 sts, tr in top of beg ch-3, turn. [46 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

WHITE SQUARE B (MAKE 24)

Work as given for Black Square A using the following colours:

Using 4.5mm hook and White, ch4.

Rows 1-3 White.

Rows 4-6 Texas.

Rows 7-9 White.

Rows 10-12 Texas.

TO MAKE UP

Arrange the squares into a rectangle of 6 squares wide and 8 squares long (see photograph for a guide). Alternate the Black and White squares, arranging a set of four squares into a block with the small centre squares together.

The squares are crocheted together, first in columns from top to bottom and then in rows from side to side as follows:

With RS together, hold 2 squares from top of first two columns.

Using 4.5mm hook, join White with a ss to top of edge st on Row 12, ch1, then inserting hook through both thicknesses, work 2dc around st or ch at each row end. [24 sts]



The blanket is worked one square at a time, so although it looks like a big project to tackle, you'll soon make swift progress. The squares are joined together then the border is added



The cushion is worked mainly in half trebles, so it will make a great TV crochet project!

Pick up next 2 squares and work 2dc around st or ch in each row end. [24 sts]
Repeat for the next 2 sets of 2 squares.

Fasten off.

Note that a ridge is made on the WS of the blanket.

Join the next 4 columns of squares in the same way.

Join the rows of squares together in the same way, working from side to side.

Weave in ends.

BORDER

With RS of blanket facing and using a 3.5mm hook, join Gold with a ss to corner at beginning of a short side.

Round 1 Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), *(dc, ch1, dc) in corner st, dc in each of next 23 sts along edge of first square, *dc in join between squares, dc in each of next 23 sts along edge of next square, rep from * to next corner, rotate blanket, rep from ** along each of next 3 sides, ss in first dc.

[145 sts on each short side, 193 sts on each long side, 4 ch-1 corner sps]

Round 2 Ss into ch-1 corner sp, *(dc, ch1, dc) in corner sp, dc in each st to next corner sp, rep from * along each of next 3 sides, ss in first dc.

Fasten off.

Round 3 Join Lipstick with a ss to any ch-1 corner sp, work as given for Round 2 from *.

Round 4 With Lipstick, work as given for Round 2.

Fasten off.

Rounds 5-6 Using Magenta, rep Rounds 3-4.

Fasten off.

Rounds 7-8 Using Teal, rep Rounds 3-4.

Fasten off.

Round 9 Join Texas with a ss to any ch-1 corner sp, ch1, working from left to right to make crab st (reverse dc), work 1 crab st in each st and in each ch sp around blanket, ss in first st.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

FINISHING

Pin out Blanket to the measurements given.

Cover with clean, damp tea towels and leave to dry. See ball band for washing and further care instructions.

CUSHION

SQUARE (MAKE 2)

Using a 4.5mm hook and Texas, ch56.

Row 1 Htr in 3rd ch from hook (first 2ch counts as htr), htr in each ch to end, turn. [55 htr]

Row 2 Ch2 (counts as htr throughout), skip st at base of beg ch-2, htr in each of next 54 sts working the last htr in top of ch-2 at end, turn.

Continue in rows of htr as set by Row 2, working in stripe sequence as follows:

Row 3 Gold.

Rows 4-5 Texas.

Row 6 Lipstick.

Rows 7-8 Texas.

Row 9 Magenta.

Rows 10-11 Texas.

Row 12 Teal.

Rows 13-14 Texas.

Row 15 Gold.

Row 16 Texas.

Row 17 Lipstick.

Row 18 Texas.

Row 19 Magenta.

Row 20 Texas.

Row 21 Teal.

Row 22 Texas.

Row 23 Gold.

Row 24 Lipstick.

Row 25 Magenta.

Row 26 White.

Row 27 Teal.

Row 28 White.

Row 29 Magenta.

Row 30 White.

Row 31 Lipstick.

Row 32 White.

Row 33 Gold.

Rows 34-35 White.

Row 36 Teal.

Rows 37-38 White.

Row 39 Magenta.

Rows 40-41 White.

Row 42 Lipstick.

Rows 43-44 White.

Row 45 Gold.

Rows 46-47 White.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

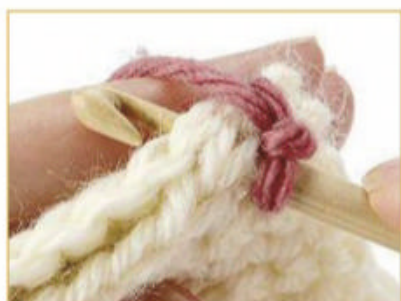
TO MAKE UP

Place the two cushion squares together with WS together, matching corners and stitches.

Using a 4.5mm hook, join Texas with a ss to corner st at beg of top edge, ch1 (does not count as a st), then inserting hook through both thicknesses, work dc in each st along top edge, rotate cushion and work dc in each row end down side to next corner, rotate cushion, work dc in each st along bottom edge to next corner. Insert cushion pad, close rem side by working dc in each row end to corner, join with a ss in first st.

Either fasten off or if desired, work a round of crab stitch (reverse dc) to match the blanket. Weave in ends.

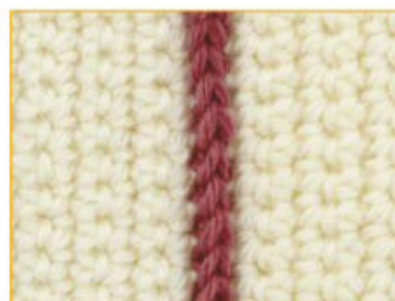
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A DOUBLE CROCHET SEAM



1 First, make sure you fasten off, weave in ends and block pieces. Place pieces wrong sides together. With a slip knot on the hook, insert it into the far right stitch on both pieces, work a slip st.



2 Make 1ch (the t-ch for dc). Insert hook into the 2nd stitch of both layers and work a dc stitch. Work more dc stitches in this way along the edge, as far as you need to.



3 Fasten off, weave in ends, open out the seam and lightly press from the wrong side. You'll create a raised seam for a decorative effect on the right side (see above), using any colour of yarn.



4 In step 1, if you were to place your pieces with right sides together and work the seam, you'll create a more subtle effect on the right side (see above), with the raised seam on the wrong side.

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WE HEART HOOKS

Keep crafty bits safe with this hook case and
needle holder from the Stylecraft Design Team



YOU WILL NEED

For the needle case:

- Stylecraft Bellissima (100% acrylic, 100g/268m)
1 ball in each of Cream (Single Cream 3921) and Red (Rio Red 3932)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Removable stitch markers
- 1 press stud
- Sewing needle and thread

For the hook case:

- Stylecraft Bellissima (100% acrylic, 100g/268m)
1 ball in each of Cream (Single Cream 3921) and Red (Rio Red 3932)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Removable stitch markers
- Cotton fabric for lining, approximately 50x25cm (20x10in)
- Sewing needle and thread

For yarn stockists contact
Stylecraft 01484 848435
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

20 sts and 22 rows measure
10x10cm (4x4in) using 3.5mm hook
or size required to achieve correct
tension

ABBREVIATIONS

cl (cluster stitch) (yrh, insert hook in space/st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 3 times, inserting the hook in the same space/st each time, yrh and draw through all 4 loops on hook

half cl (half cluster stitch) (yrh, insert hook in space/st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice, inserting the hook in the same space/st each time, yrh and draw through all 3 loops on hook

For a full list, see page 90 of
Simply Crochet magazine

Keep hooks and needles safe from inquisitive fingers, and inquisitive fingers safe from hooks and needles, with this pair of matching craft cases. Feel free to go off-pattern and adapt them to suit your own collections of accessories. Choose your favourite colour for the hearts, too, if you prefer – you'll be using these a lot!

Stylecraft Bellissima is easy to care for and drapes well, so lends itself beautifully to hooking up this sweet pair. We do love a useful make and these two are as practical as they come!

NEEDLE CASE

HEART MOTIF

Using 3.5mm hook and Red, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3, (3dtr, 3tr, ch1, dtr, ch1, 3tr, 3dtr, ch2, ss) all into the loop.

Round 2 Ss twice in the side of the beg ch-3 from the first round, 3dc in next dtr, 3dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 tr, dc in next ch-sp, 3dc in bottom dtr of the heart, dc in next ch-sp, dc in each of next 3 tr, 2dc in next st, 3dc in each of next 2 sts, ss twice in side of ch-2 at end, ss in centre of heart. [27 sts and 5 ss]

Round 3 Ss twice in the side of the beg ch-3 from first round, 2dc in each of next 5 sts, dc in each of next 17 sts, 2dc in each of next 5 sts, ss twice in side of ch-2 from end of Round 1, ss in centre of heart. [37 sts and 5 ss]

Fasten off.

NEEDLE CASE INNER

Using 3.5mm hook and Red, ch13.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [12 sts]

Rows 2-21 Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 22 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each st to last st, 2dc in last st, rotate 90 degrees, dc in each row-end along the side, rotate 90 degrees, 2dc in first ch of bottom edge, dc in each ch to last ch, 2dc in last ch, rotate 90 degrees, dc in each row-end along second edge, ss in first dc.

Fasten off.

NEEDLE CASE OUTER

Using 3.5mm hook and Cream, ch23.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [22 sts]

Rows 2-44 Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), dc in each st to end, turn. Place removable st marker at beg and end of Rows 14 & 31. This is where the inner panel will be attached.

Before working Row 45, attach inner panel to the outer panel using removable st markers to hold pieces together.

Row 45 Using Red, ch1 (does not count as a st), 2dc in first st, dc in each st to last st, 2dc in last st, rotate 90 degrees, dc in each row-end along



Stitch a press stud to the underside of the heart motif to create a clasp for the case

the side working through both panels, rotate 90 degrees, 2dc in first ch of bottom edge, dc in each ch to last ch, 2dc in last ch, rotate 90 degrees, dc in each row-end along second edge working through both panels, ss in first dc.

Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Fold Needle case around inner panel. Place heart centrally on opening. Sew in place on left-hand side of heart. Sew one side of press stud to the right-hand side of heart. Sew press stud to case, matching position of press stud on heart.

CROCHET HOOK CASE

HOOK CASE OUTER

Using 3.5mm hook and Cream, ch81.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in 4th ch from hook (skipped 3 ch counts as tr), tr in each ch to end, turn. [79 sts]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as a st), dc in same st at base of ch-1, dc in each st to end, changing to Red on last yrh of last dc, turn.

Row 3 In Yarn Red, ch2 (counts as first tr of first cl), 1 half cl in same st at base of ch-2, *ch2, skip 5 sts, (cl, ch2, cl) in next st; rep from * to last 6 sts, ch2, skip 5 sts, cl in last st, turn.

Row 4 Change to Red and ch1 (does not count as a st), dc in same st, ch1, *htr in 2nd, 3rd and 4th skipped sts from the previous row (working around the ch2 in Red), ch2, skip next cl, dc in next ch2-sp, ch2, skip next cl; rep from * to last ch-2 and cl, htr in 2nd, 3rd and 4th skipped sts from the previous row (working around the ch2 in Red), ch1, dc in next cl, turn.

Row 5 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in next ch1-sp, *tr in each of next 3 sts, tr in next ch-2 sp, tr in next st, tr in next ch-2 sp; rep from * to last 5 sts, tr in each of next 3 sts, tr in next ch-1 sp, tr in next st, turn. [79 sts]

Row 6 Ch1 (does not count as a st), dc in same st at base of ch-1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 7 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each st to end, turn.

Rep Rows 2-7 three more times.

Rep Rows 2-6 once more.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

EDGING

Using 3.5mm hook and Red, and with RS facing, starting at top right corner, dc in each st to corner, 3dc in corner st, dc evenly down the left side of work (approx. 40 sts), 3dc in corner st, dc in each stitch to following corner, 3dc in corner st, dc evenly up the right side of work (approx. 40 sts), ss in first dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

LINING

Step 1 Cut a piece of fabric 44cm (17½in) wide by 76cm (30in) high and sew together to create a double-sided panel with 1cm (½in) seam allowance along 3 sides. Turn right side out and sew the 4th side with a 1cm (½in) seam allowance folded to the inside. Panel should now measure 42cm (16½in) wide by 37cm (14½in) high.

Step 2 Mark a fold line that is 6cm (2.5in) down from top edge. This will create the top flap. Fold fabric over and pin in place.

Step 3 Mark a fold line 11cm (4¼in) up from the bottom edge. This will create the bottom compartment. Pin in place.

Step 4 Divide the bottom flap in sections to fit crochet hooks, creating differently sized compartments and working from left to right, increasing in size, as follows:

Five compartments each at the following widths: 1.5cm (½in), 2cm (¾in), 2.5cm (1in), four compartments at 3cm (1¼in) wide.

Follow the compartment sizings in Step 4, or customise them to suit your own hook collection



Once you have marked the compartments sew up each marker to create individual pockets for your hooks.

Step 5 Place the lining on top of the crochet panel with WS of work facing. Sew the lining onto the crochet panel using the Red border as a guide.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO ADD FRINGING



1 Follow the instructions in your pattern, or try this method. Cut two pieces of yarn, twice as long as you want the fringe to be. Fold in half.



2 Insert hook through the edge of the fabric, where you want the first piece of fringing to be placed. Loop the yarn lengths over the hook and pull back through the fabric.



3 Pull the yarn lengths to make a small loop next to the fabric. Pass the ends of the yarn lengths through this loop and pull tight to secure.



4 Repeat from step 1 along the edge of your fabric, as close together or far apart as you wish. Use a matching or contrasting yarn colour. Trim any uneven lengths of yarn to create a neat finish.

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Contents and pricing subject to change



EASY
MOTIF

Fresh as a daisy

Colour a rainbow in this bright and beautiful modern throw, by designer Sue Pinner



YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Special DK (100% acrylic, 100g/295m)
- 3 balls of White (1001)
- 1 ball of each: Lavender (1188), Parchment (1218), Silver (1203), Bluebell (1082), Wisteria (1432), Emperor (1425), Violet (1277), Grape (1067), Meadow (1065), Spring Green (1316), Khaki (1027), Lime (1712), Aspen (1422), Petrol (1708), Turquoise (1068), Sherbet (1034), Aster (1003), Royal (1117), Denim (1302), Cloud Blue (1019), Clematis (1390), Plum (1061), Magenta (1084), Raspberry (1023), Citron (1263), Lemon (1020), Saffron (1081), Camel (1420), Spice (1711), Shrimp (1132), Pomegranate (1083), Bright Pink (1435), Fondant (1241), Fiesta (1257), Pale Rose (1080), Candyfloss (1130)
- (Note that only a small amount of each colour is used)

- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn stockists contact

Stylecraft 01484 848435

www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

Square motif measures approximately 12x12cm (5x5in) using 4mm hook or the size required to give the correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

92x92cm (36x36in)

ABBREVIATIONS

dtr3tog (double treble 3 sts together) *yrh twice, insert hook in st, yrh, pull a loop through, (yrh, pull through 2 loops on hook) twice; rep from * twice more, yrh, pull through all 4 loops on hook

dtr4tog (double treble 4 sts together) *yrh twice, insert hook in st, yrh, pull a loop through, (yrh, pull through 2 loops on hook) twice; rep from * 3 times more, yrh, pull through all 5 loops on hook

For a full list, see page 90 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Pepper colourful floral motifs across a bright white background in this pretty blanket. It would be perfect in a nursery, but it could sit anywhere in your home. Motifs make a large project manageable, and portable too, so the squares are the perfect make to take on your daily commute. Stylecraft Special DK is amazing value, with 295m on each 100g ball, and it comes in a jaw-dropping 92 shades – just think of all the blanket variations you could crochet!

NOTES

The blanket is made from 36 daisy squares, arranged in 9 blocks of 4 squares each. The blanket is 3 blocks wide and 3 blocks long. Each block is worked in White plus four flower colours; one colour for Round 2 of each Daisy Square of the block. Work Round 2 of Daisy Square in each colour, according to the list below, then join the squares as instructed, to form a block of 2x2 squares. The first colour listed for each block is also used as the stripe around the block border.

BLANKET

COLOUR LIST

Block 1 Lavender, Parchment, Silver, Bluebell.

Block 2 Wisteria, Emperor, Violet, Grape.

Block 3 Meadow, Spring Green, Khaki, Lime.

Block 4 Aspen, Petrol, Turquoise, Sherbet.

Block 5 Aster, Royal, Denim, Cloud Blue.

Block 6 Clematis, Plum, Magenta, Raspberry.

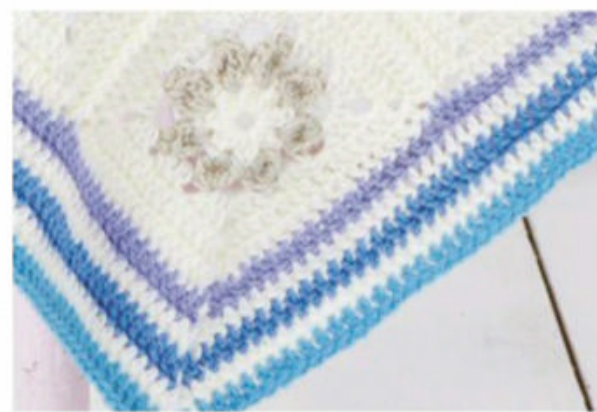
Block 7 Citron, Lemon, Saffron, Camel.

Block 8 Spice, Shrimp, Pomegranate, Bright Pink.

Block 9 Fondant, Fiesta, Pale Rose, Candyfloss.



Start simple with an easy floral motif



The blanket is trimmed with blue and white stripes but could be adapted to any shades

BLOCK 1

DAISY SQUARE 1

Using 4mm hook and White, make ch5, ss in first ch to form a loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), tr into ring, ch1, (2tr in ring, ch1) 7 times, ss in top of beg ch-3. [8 spokes]

Fasten off.

Round 2 Join flower colour with a ss into any ch-sp, ch4 (counts as dtr), dtr3tog in same ch-sp, *ch4, dtr4tog in next ch-sp; rep from * to end, ch4, ss in top of first dtr3tog. [8 petals]

Fasten off.

Round 3 Join White with a ss in next ch-sp, ch6 (counts as tr and ch3), 3tr in same ch-sp, ch1, 3tr in next ch-sp, ch1, *(3tr, ch3, 3tr) all in next ch-sp to make a corner, ch1, 3tr in next ch-sp, ch1; rep from * twice more, 2tr in same ch-sp as beg 6-ch, ss in 3rd of beg ch-6. [9tr on each side]

Round 4 Using White, ss in next ch-sp, ch6 (counts as tr and ch3), 2tr in same ch-sp, (tr in each of next 3 tr, tr in next ch-sp) twice, tr in each of next 3 tr, *(2tr, ch3, 2tr) all in corner ch-sp, (tr in each of next 3 tr, tr in next ch-sp) twice, tr in each of next 3 tr; rep from * twice more, tr in same ch-sp as beg 6-ch, ss in 3rd of beg ch-6. [15tr on each side] **

Round 5 Using White, ss in next corner ch-sp, ch6 (counts as tr and ch3), tr in same ch-sp, tr in each of next 15 tr, *(tr, ch3, tr) all in next corner ch-sp, tr in each of next 15 tr; rep from * twice more, ss in 3rd of beg ch-6. [17tr on each side]

Fasten off.

DAISY SQUARE 2

Work as given for Square 1 to **.

Lay Square 1 next to Square 2 and join together on next round as follows:

Round 5 Using White, ch6 (counts as tr and ch3), tr in same ch-sp, tr in each of next 15 tr, tr in corner ch-sp, ch1, insert hook from RS in corner ch-sp of Square 1 and ss, ch1, tr in corner ch-sp of square 2, (insert hook from RS in next tr on square 1 and ss, tr in next tr on square 2) 15 times to next corner ch-sp (thus joining trs together), ss in next corner ch-sp of Square 1, tr in corner sp of Square 2, ch1, tr in same corner ch-sp of Square 2, stay with Square 2 only and

complete remaining corner and 2 sides as given for Round 5 of Square 1.

Fasten off.

Make a block of 4 squares (in a 2x2 grid) by working the remaining 2 squares as given for Square 1 to **, and then working Round 5 as given for Square 2, joining along one or two edges as appropriate.

BORDER

BLOCK 1

Round 1 With RS of work facing, join stripe colour in any corner ch-sp, ch6 (counts as tr and ch3), tr in same ch-sp, *tr in each of next 17 tr, tr in next ch-sp, tr in joining st, tr in next ch-sp, tr in each of next 17 sts, (tr, ch3, tr) all in next corner ch-sp; rep from * 3 times more, omitting last group in corner ch-sp, ss in 3rd of beg ch-6. [39 tr on each side] ***

Fasten off.

Round 2 Join White with a ss in a corner ch-sp, ch6 (counts as tr and ch3), tr in same ch-sp, *tr in each tr to next corner ch-sp, (tr, ch3, tr) all in corner ch-sp; rep from * 3 times more, omitting last group in corner ch-sp, ss in 3rd of beg ch-6. [41 tr on each side]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BLOCK 2

Work as given for Block 1 to ***.

Lay Block 2 next to Block 1. Join together as follows:

Round 2 (of border) Join White with a ss in corner sp, ch6 (counts as tr and ch3), tr in same sp, tr in each tr to next corner sp, tr in corner ch-sp, ch1, insert hook from RS in corner sp of Block 1 and ss, ch1, tr in same corner ch-sp of Block 2, (insert hook from RS in next tr on Block 1 and ss, tr in next tr on Block 2) 39 times to next corner sp (thus joining trs together), insert hook from RS in next corner ch-sp of Block 1, ch1, tr in corner ch-sp of Block 2, stay with Block 2 only and complete remaining corner and 2 sides as given for Round 2 of block border. Cut yarn, pull through last loop and **fasten off**.

BLOCKS 3 TO 9

Make another 7 blocks in the same way, joining them together to make a blanket 3 blocks wide and 3 blocks long.

STRIPED BORDER

Use 2 shades of Blue and White.

Round 1 With RS of work facing, join first shade of Blue with a ss in any corner ch-sp, ch6 (counts as tr and ch3), tr in same ch-sp, tr in each tr, in each ch-sp and in each joining st along first side to next corner ch-sp, *(tr, ch3, tr) all in corner ch-sp, tr in each tr, in each ch-sp and in each joining st along next side to next corner ch-sp; rep from * twice more, ss in 3rd of beg ch-6.



Hook a rainbow or dial back on the colours to match baby's nursery

Fasten off.

Round 2 Join White in any corner ch-sp, ch6 (counts as tr and ch3), tr in same sp, tr in each tr, in each ch-sp and in each joining st along first side to next corner ch-sp, *(tr, ch3, tr) all in corner ch-sp, tr in each tr, in each ch-sp and in each joining st along next side to next corner ch-sp; rep from * twice more, ss in 3rd of beg ch-6.

Fasten off.

Round 3 As Round 2, using a second shade of Blue.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Pin blanket to the measurements given. Cover with damp tea towels and leave to dry. See ball band for washing and further care instructions.

Seasonal colour palettes
are inspired by Florence's
Pitti Filati yarn show



A celebration of success

Join us to celebrate 30 years of Stylecraft on their Purl Anniversary

In 1989 Kylie and Jason were in the charts, Sky TV had just launched, Byker Grove showed its first episode, the internet was invented, and Daniel Radcliffe was born. Do you remember what you were doing that year? For three men in Yorkshire with years of experience in the textile industry, it was the time they spotted a gap in the market – and launched one of the most popular yarns in the UK.

Stylecraft's ethos from the very beginning was to bring fantastic and affordable yarns to knitters and crocheters around the world, and that still remains at the core of their business today.

Within five years of launch, the brand had grown so significantly that the founders had turned to Spectrum Yarns, a spinning mill in Slaithwaite owned by Richard Brown, to spin yarns for Stylecraft. Seeing its burgeoning potential, within ten years Richard decided to buy the whole Stylecraft brand and brought

it into his family business, where it still remains today.

Over the last 30 years, as you would expect, some things have changed. Although the yarn is no longer spun in the UK, the Stylecraft team works tirelessly with their suppliers in countries such as Turkey to ensure that the yarns that carry their brand name are the best on the market. When they first began to source from abroad, Stylecraft even sent their mill manager out to the new suppliers to ensure they would work to Stylecraft's exacting standards, and maintain the highest standards of production.

Alongside the changes in sourcing, the way the business is run has also evolved to put consumers at the heart of everything the brand does. As Richard Brown explains: "We make sure that we are constantly talking to knitters and crocheters, both from the UK and abroad, so we can develop yarns for them that they will love to work with."

Stylecraft's aim is to never stand still, and always to look for new opportunities. This could be developing a new yarn – they were the first company to launch an eyelash yarn, called Eskimo, which is still popular today – or it could be as different to that as making sure the brand really got to grips with social media across the most popular platforms, bringing really interesting posts to their fans around the world. Stylecraft are justifiably proud to have more than 70,000 followers on Instagram.

This embracing of social media extends to the way Stylecraft works with bloggers, with the launching of the Stylecraft Blogstars in 2016. "We wanted to get closer to the blogging community and work in a unique way with them," explains the brand's Sales and Marketing Director Annabelle Hill. "We spent time researching the best bloggers in the UK and abroad, and asked them to join us so we could collaborate on exciting projects



A small selection of Stylecraft's patterns, showcasing the diversity of the brand. Top-centre: the Slaithwaite spinning mill that used to spin Stylecraft's yarns

that would really inspire the knitters and crocheters who are our customers."

The same care and attention has been given to putting the team together that work behind the scenes at Stylecraft to ensure that, whether you are a yarn shop or a consumer, you will always get the best service. "Our team of people is essential to our brand," explains Richard Brown. "Not only do they have a deep understanding of crafting, but they are passionate about everything we do."

So, how does Stylecraft put together the collections of yarns and patterns we all love? At any one moment in time, the design team

"WE MAKE SURE THAT WE ARE CONSTANTLY TALKING TO KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS"

can be working on up to four seasons in tandem: launching one season to the public, finalising the following season and getting ready for photoshoots, designing for the third season, and beginning to sample yarns for the fourth. That's quite a lot of balls to juggle.

It all begins with supplier meetings, which take place up to 18 months ahead of a launch, in which the team look at trend predictions and samples of new dyeing and spinning techniques. Then the Stylecraft team visit an amazing trade show in Florence, called Pitti Filati, where they can view fashion trends and colour palettes for the season.

Then the designing can begin in earnest as the colour palettes are finalised and sample quantities of yarn arrive from the suppliers. Next, the Stylecraft knitters and crocheters have their needles and hooks ready to make the garments for the photoshoots, which are put together around eight months before the season launches.

Finally, the press releases are written and the Stylecraft sales team hit the road, bringing the entire collection to a local yarn store just for you. Phew!

So the next time you hold a ball of Stylecraft yarn or browse through their pattern leaflets, you will have an idea of how much care, attention and plain hard work goes into bringing you your next project.

Written by Juliet Bernard



From Stylecraft to shop: meet Phyllis Yapp, Doncaster's First Lady of yarn

If you are a resident of Carcroft in Doncaster, chances are you have bought yarn from 80-year-old Phyllis Yapp at The Wool Shop in Owston Road. Phyllis opened her doors in 1986 and has been a Stylecraft stockist since the brand launched. "I have stocked Special DK for as long as I can remember and Stylecraft's baby yarns have always been popular with my customers," she says. Over the last 30 years her customers have changed quite a lot. "It used to be mums popping in to get yarn for school jumpers, but now I get a lot of people buying yarn for charity projects." Preemie traffic light hats are especially popular at The Wool Shop and the knitting and crochet group Phyllis runs. They help hospital staff see at a glance the level of care premature babies need and Phyllis uses Special DK for hers. The Wool Shop is not large but it is very popular. So, if you're ever in Carcroft, do stop by, and tell Phyllis we sent you!



She's electric

Supersize your pop of colour with this thigh-skimming true blue warmer from the Stylecraft Design Team

LONGLINE CARDIGAN



YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton 4ply (100% cotton, 50g/182m) Lapis (3689)
For measurements and yarn quantities see table
 - 4 buttons
 - A 3.25mm (US D/3) hook
- For yarn stockists contact**
Stylecraft 01484 848435
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

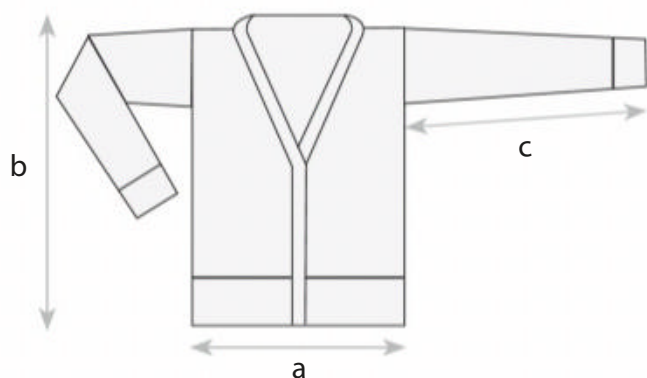
TENSION

22 sts and 11 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern using 3.25mm hook or the size needed to achieve correct tension

ABBREVIATIONS

tr2tog (treble crochet 2 stitches together) *yrh and insert hook as indicated, yrh and draw loop through, yrh and draw through 2 loops; rep from * once more yrh and draw through all 3 loops on hook
work3tog (work 3 stitches together) *yrh and insert hook as indicated, yrh and draw loop through, yrh and draw through 2 loops; rep from * once more, (yrh) twice and insert hook as indicated, yrh and draw loop through, (yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice, yrh and draw through all 4 loops on hook

For a full list, see page 90 of *Simply Crochet* magazine



Bust width a: 45 (50.5: 56: 60.5: 66)cm
17½ (20: 22: 24: 26)in
Length b: 68 (70: 74: 77: 79)cm
27 (27½: 29: 30½: 31)in
Sleeve Length c: 45 (45: 46: 47: 47)cm
17½ (17½: 18: 18½: 18½)in

Elevate a casual cardi with an eye-catching electric blue colourway. Using Stylecraft's Classique Cotton 4ply yarn gives great stitch definition – perfect for the sleeve and hem detailing. Although the yarn is a 4ply, its cotton composition means it's easy to keep your tension even, so if you're not in a tearing hurry and you fancy trying your hand at your first crochet garment, you couldn't pick a better place to start.

CARDIGAN

BACK

Using 3.25mm hook, ch101 (113: 125: 135: 147).

Row 1 (RS) Tr in 4th ch from hook (skipped 3 ch and tr count as 2tr), tr in each of next 6 (1:7:1:7) ch, *skip 2 ch, 5tr in next ch, ch2, skip 3 ch**, tr in each of next 5 ch; rep from * to last 8 (3: 9: 3: 9) ch, ending last rep at **, tr in each of last 8 (3: 9: 3: 9) ch, turn.

[107 (121: 133: 145: 157) sts]

Row 2 Ch3 (counts as tr), skip tr at base of beg ch-3, tr in each of next 7 (2: 8: 2: 8) tr, *skip 2 ch, 5tr in next tr, ch2, skip 4tr**, tr in each of next 5 tr; rep from * to last 8 (3: 9: 3: 9) tr, ending last rep at **, tr in each of last 8 (3: 9: 3: 9) tr, turn.

Rows 3-14 As Row 2.

Row 15 Ch3 (counts as tr), skip tr at base of beg ch-3, tr in each tr and ch-2 sp to end, working last tr in top of ch-3 at end, turn.

[99 (111: 123: 133: 145) sts]

Now work in pattern as follows:

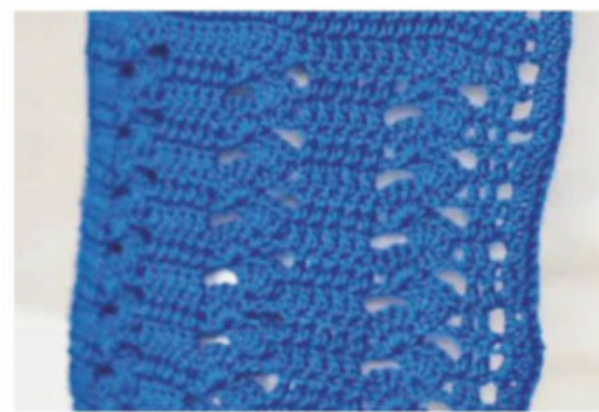
Row 1 Ch3 (counts as tr), skip tr at base of beg ch-3, tr in each tr to end, working last tr in top of ch-3 at end, turn.

Last row forms patt.

Continue straight in pattern until Back measures approximately 49 (49: 51: 53: 54)cm.

SHAPE ARMHOLES

Next row Ss in each of next 4 (5: 6: 7: 8) tr, ch4 and tr2tog over next 2 sts (counts as work3tog), tr in each tr to last 6 (7: 8: 9: 10) tr, work3tog over next 3 sts and turn, leaving last 3 (4: 5: 6: 7) tr



The sleeves and hem start with an elegant lace-ladder stitch that's easier than it looks!

unworked, turn. [89 (99: 109: 117: 127) sts]

Next row Ch4, skip st at base of beg ch-4 and tr2tog over next 2 sts (counts as work3tog), tr in each tr to last 3 sts, work3tog over last 3 sts and turn.

Last row sets the double decreases.

[2 sts decreased at each end of row]

Rep last row 0 (1: 2: 3) time(s) more.

[85 (91: 101: 105: 111) sts]

Next row Ch3, skip st at base of beg ch-3 and tr in next tr (counts as tr2tog), tr in each tr to last 2 sts, tr2tog over last 2 sts and turn.

Last row sets the single decrease.

[1 st decreased at each end of row]

Rep last row 2 (3: 4: 4: 5) times more.

[79 (83: 91: 95: 99) sts]**

Continue straight in pattern until armhole measures approx 19 (21: 23: 24: 25)cm.

SHAPE SHOULDERS AND BACK NECK

Next row Ss in each of next 5 (6: 6: 7: 7) tr, ch1 (does not count as a st), dc in each of next 5 (5: 6: 6: 7) tr, htr in each of next 5 (5:6:6:6) tr, tr in each of next 5 (5: 6: 6: 6) tr.

Fasten off.

With same side of work facing, skip next 39 (41: 43: 45: 47) tr for Back Neck and rejoin yarn in next tr, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each of next 4 (4: 5: 5: 5) tr, htr in each of next 5 (5: 6: 6: 6) tr, dc in each of next 5 (5: 6: 6: 7) tr, ch1, ss in each of last

SIZE		8-10	12-14	16-18	20-22	24-26
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	90	101	112	121	124
	in	35	40	44	48	26
LENGTH	cm	68	70	74	77	79
	in	27	27½	29	30 ½	31
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	45	45	46	47	47
	in	17½	17½	18	18 ½	18½
LAPIS (3689)	50g	10	11	12	13	14

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

5 (6: 6: 7: 7) tr.

Fasten off.

LEFT FRONT

Using 3.25mm hook, ch52 (58: 64: 69: 75).

Row 1 (RS) Tr in 4th ch from hook (skipped 3 ch and tr count as 2tr), tr in each of next 6 (1: 7: 1: 7) ch, *skip 2 ch, 5tr in next ch, ch2, skip 3 ch**, tr in each of next 5 ch; rep from * to last 3 ch, ending last rep at **, tr in each of last 3 ch, turn. [54 (61: 67: 73: 79) sts]

Row 2 Ch3 (counts as tr), skip tr at base of beg ch-3, tr in each of next 2 tr, *skip 2 ch, 5tr in next tr, ch2, skip 4 tr**, tr in each of next 5 tr; rep from * to last 8 (3: 9: 3: 9) tr, ending last rep at **, tr in each of last 8 (3: 9: 3: 9) tr, turn.

Row 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), skip tr at base of beg ch-3, tr in each of next 7 (2: 8: 2: 8) tr, *skip 2 ch, 5tr in next ch, ch2, skip 4 tr**, tr in each of next 5 tr; rep from * to last 3 tr, ending last rep at **, tr in each of last 3 tr, turn.

Row 4 to 13 As Rows 2 and 3, 5 times.

Row 14 As Row 2.

Row 15 Ch3 (counts as tr), skip tr at base of beg ch-3, tr in each tr and ch-2 sp to end, working last tr in top of ch-3 at end, turn.

[50 (56: 62: 67: 73) sts]

Now work in pattern as given for back

(throughout) as follows:

Continue straight in pattern until Left Front matches Back to beg of armhole shaping, ending with same row.

SHAPE ARMHOLE

Next row Ss in each of next 4 (5: 6: 7: 8) tr, ch4 and tr2tog over next 2 sts (counts as work3tog), tr in each tr to last 3 tr, work3tog over last 3 sts (for front slope shaping) and turn.

[43 (48: 53: 57: 62) sts]

**Working all decreases as set by Back armhole shaping, dec 2 sts at armhole edge of next 1 (2: 2: 3: 4) rows, then 1 st on following 3 (4: 5: 5: 6)

rows and AT SAME TIME decrease 1 st at front slope edge of every row.

[34 (34: 37: 38: 38) sts]

Dec 1 st at front slope edge only of next 14

(12: 11: 11: 9) rows, then on foll 0 (1: 2: 2: 3) alt

row(s). [20 (21: 24: 25: 26) sts]

Continue straight in pattern until Left Front matches Back to beginning of shoulder shaping, ending with same row.

SHAPE SHOULDER (IF LAST ROW ENDED AT NECK EDGE)

Next row Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each of next 4 (4: 5: 5: 5) tr, htr in each of next 5 (5: 6: 6: 6) tr, dc in each of next 5 (5: 6: 6: 7) tr, ch1, ss in each of last 5 (6: 6: 7: 7) tr.

Fasten off.

SHAPE SHOULDER (IF LAST ROW ENDED AT ARMHOLE EDGE)

Next row Ss in each of next 5 (6: 6: 7: 7) tr, ch1, dc in each of next 5 (5: 6: 6: 7) tr, htr in each of next 5 (5: 6: 6: 6) tr, tr in each of next 5 (5: 6: 6: 6) tr.

Fasten off.

RIGHT FRONT

Using 3.25mm hook, ch52 (58: 64: 69: 75).

Row 1 (RS) Tr in 4th ch from hook (skipped 3 ch and tr count as 2tr), tr in each of next 2 ch, *skip 2 ch, 5tr in next ch, ch2, skip 3 ch**, tr in each of next 5 ch; rep from * to last 8 (3: 9: 3: 9) ch, ending last rep at **, tr in each of last 8 (3: 9: 3: 9) ch, turn. [54 (61: 67: 73: 79) sts]

Row 2 Ch3 (counts as tr), skip tr at base of beg ch-3, tr in each of next 7 (2: 8: 2: 8) tr, *skip 2 ch, 5tr in next tr, ch2, skip 4 tr**, tr in each of next 5 tr; rep from * to last 3 tr, ending last rep at **, tr in each of last 3 tr, turn.

Row 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), skip tr at base of beg ch-3, tr in each of next 3 tr, *skip 2 ch, 5tr in next ch, ch2, skip 4 tr**, tr in each of next 5 tr; rep

from * to last 7 (2: 8: 2: 8) tr, ending last rep at **, tr in each of last 7 (2: 8: 2: 8) tr, turn.

Row 4-13 As Rows 2 and 3, 5 times.

Row 14 As Row 2.

Row 15 Ch3 (counts as tr), skip tr at base of beg ch-3, tr in each tr and ch-2 sp to end, working last tr in top of ch-3 at end, turn.

[50 (56: 62: 67: 73) sts]

Now work in pattern as given for back (throughout) as follows:

Continue straight in pattern until Right Front matches Back to beginning of armhole shaping, ending with same row.

SHAPE ARMHOLE

Next row Ch4 and tr2tog over next 2 sts, (counts as work3tog - for front slope shaping), tr in each tr to last 6 (7: 8: 9: 10) tr, work3tog over next 3 sts and turn, leaving last 3 (4: 5: 6: 7) tr unworked. [43 (48: 53: 57: 62) sts]

Complete as given for Left Front from ** to end.

SLEEVES (MAKE 2 ALIKE)

Using 3.25mm hook, ch51 (53: 55: 57: 59).

Row 1 (RS) Tr in 4th ch from hook (skipped 3 ch and tr count as 2tr), tr in each of next 3 (4: 5: 6: 7) ch, *skip 2 ch, 5tr in next ch, ch2, skip 3 ch**, tr in each of next 5 ch; rep from * to last 5 (6: 7: 8: 9) ch, ending last rep at **, tr in each of last 5 (6: 7: 8: 9) ch, turn. [53 (55: 57: 59: 61) sts]

Row 2 Ch3 (counts as tr), skip tr at base of beg ch-3, tr in each of next 4 (5: 6: 7: 8) tr, *skip 2 ch, 5tr in next tr, ch2, skip 4 tr**, tr in each of next 5 tr; rep from * to last 5 (6: 7: 8: 9) tr, ending last rep at **, tr in each of last 5 (6: 7: 8: 9) tr, turn.

Rows 3-11 As Row 2.

Row 12 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at base of beg ch-3, tr in each tr and ch-2 sp to ch-3 at end, 2tr in top of ch-3 at end, turn. 51 (53: 55: 57: 59) sts. Last row sets the increases.

[1 st increased at each end of row]

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO DOUBLE DECREASE IN TREBLE CROCHET (TR3TOG)



1 Start a treble as usual: yrh, insert hook in next stitch, yrh, pull up loop, yrh, pull through first 2 loops (2 loops on hk). Now start a 2nd tr and work it until you're halfway through, as before (3 loops hook).



2 Without completing the first or 2nd tr, start a 3rd treble and work it until you're halfway through, as before (4 loops on hook). (If you're instructed to tr4tog, just repeat the process again.)



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



4 This is how your completed tr3tog should look. You will have neatly decreased 2 tr stitches. On subsequent rows, just work into the top of the tr3tog stitch as usual.

Working increases as set and in pattern as given for back (throughout) continue as follows: Increase 1 st at each end of next 1 (1: 1: 1: 3) rows, then on every following alternate row to 65 (71: 85: 93: 97) sts, then on every following 4th (4th: 4th: -: -) row until there are 75 (79: 87: 93: 97) sts
Continue straight until sleeve measures 45 (45: 46: 47: 47)cm.

SHAPE TOP

Next row Ss in each of next 4 (5: 6: 7: 8) tr, ch4 and tr2tog over next 2 sts (counts as work3tog), tr in each tr to last 6 (7: 8: 9: 10) tr, work3tog over next 3 sts and turn, leaving last 3 (4: 5: 6: 7) tr unworked. [65 (67: 73: 77: 79) sts]

Working all decreases as set by Back armhole shaping, decrease 1 st at each end of next 1 (2: 2: 2: 3) row(s), then decrease 2 sts at each end of every following row until 19 (19: 21: 21: 21) sts remain.

Next row Ss across and in 4th tr, ch4 and tr2tog over next 2 sts (counts as work3tog), tr in each tr to last 6 tr, work3tog over next 3 sts and turn, leaving last 3 tr unworked. [9 (9: 11: 11: 11) sts]

Fasten off.

FRONT BAND

Join both shoulder seams.

Mark positions for 4 buttons on right front opening edge as follows:

First button to come level with Row 15 of front, last button to come just below beginning of front slope shaping, and remaining 2 buttons evenly spaced between.

With RS facing, using 3.25mm crochet hook, attach yarn at base of right front opening edge and continue as follows:

Row 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as a st here and throughout), dc in same st, work 1 row of dc evenly up right front opening edge, around entire neck edge, and down left front opening edge to base of left front opening, working 3dc in each row-end, turn.

Row 2 Ch1, dc in each dc to first marker, ch2, skip 2 dc, (dc in each dc to next marker, ch2, skip 2 dc) 3 times, dc in each dc to end, turn.

Row 3 Ch1, dc in each dc to first ch-sp, 2dc in ch-sp, (dc in each dc to next ch-sp, 2dc in ch-sp) 3 times, dc in each dc to end, turn.

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

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Join both shoulder seams. Fold sleeves in half lengthways and placing folds to shoulder seams set in sleeves. Join side and sleeve seams. Sew on buttons. Pin out garment to the measurements given. Cover with a clean, damp tea towel and leave to dry. See ball band for washing and care instructions.

The ultra-blue Lapis yarn looks great set against neutral shades



Flower power

Delicate floral motifs make up this blanket and cushion, created by the Stylecraft Design Team





YOU WILL NEED

For the blanket:

- Stylecraft Wondersoft DK (100% acrylic, 100g/294m)
2 balls of Double Cream (1348)
- Stylecraft Wondersoft Merry Go Round DK (100% acrylic, 100g/294m)
2 balls of Strawberry (3141)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For the cushion:

- Stylecraft Wondersoft DK (100% acrylic, 100g/294m)
1 ball of Double Cream (1348)
- Stylecraft Wondersoft Merry Go Round DK (100% acrylic, 100g/294m)
2 balls of Blue Denim (3122)
- Cushion pad, 40x40cm
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn stockists contact
Stylecraft 01484 848435
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

Square motif measures 7.5x7.5cm, (3x3in) using a 4mm hook or the size required to achieve correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Blanket 61x76cm (24x30in)
Cushion 40x40cm (16x16in) (with cushion pad inserted)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 90 of
Simply Crochet magazine

Evoking barefoot childhoods and thatched country cottages, there's something deeply wholesome about this super soft cushion and blanket set. Multiple colours rubbing elbows means the floral motifs are particularly forgiving when stitched together, making these two great beginner projects, or for training up the next generation of crocheters.

BLANKET

The blanket is made up of 80 motifs, arranged in 10 rows of 8 squares. Join the motifs together as you work.

FIRST MOTIF

Using a 4mm hook and Double Cream, ch6, ss in first ch to form a ring.

Round 1 (RS) Ch4 (counts as tr and ch1), (tr, ch1) 11 times into ring, change to Strawberry and ss in 3rd of beg ch-4, drop Double Cream. [12 ch-sps]

Round 2 Using Strawberry, (dc in next ch-sp, ch2) 12 times, change to Double Cream and ss in first dc, drop Strawberry.

Round 3 Using Cream, *(dc in next ch-sp, ch2) twice, (2tr, ch2) twice in next ch-sp for corner; rep from * 3 times more, change to Strawberry and ss in first dc, drop Double Cream. [4 ch-2 sps along each side]

Round 4 Using Strawberry, *(dc, ch3) in each ch-sp to corner, (dc, ch3) twice in corner sp; rep from * 3 times more, ss in first dc. [5 ch-3 sps along each side]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

SECOND MOTIF

Work as given for First Motif to end of Round 3. Lay Second Motif next to First Motif, matching one straight side.

Round 4 becomes the joining round; the motifs are joined in the ch3-sps.

Round 4 Work as given for First Motif, but join along one side by replacing each ch3 with (ch1, ss in matching sp on First Motif, ch1).

Make another 6 motifs in the same way, joining each to the previous motif to make a long strip of 8 motifs.

Make another 9 rows of motifs in the same way, joining each motif to the previous motif AND to the motif in the row below (so you will join along two sides for some motifs). See photographs for guidance.

CUSHION

FRONT

The front of the cushion is made up of 25 motifs, arranged in 5 rows of 5 squares. Join the motifs together as you work.



The motifs are crocheted together as you go, so there's no stitching to be done at the end

FIRST MOTIF

Work as given for First Motif of Blanket, using Blue Denim instead of Strawberry.

SECOND MOTIF

Work as given for Second Motif of Blanket, using Blue Denim instead of Strawberry. Work until the end of Round 4.

Make another 3 motifs in the same way, joining each to the previous motif to make a long strip of 5 motifs.

Make another 4 rows of motifs in the same way, joining each motif to the previous motif AND to the motif in the row below (so you will join along two sides for some motifs). See photographs for guidance.

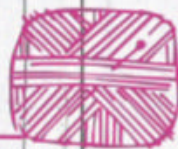
BACK

The back is made in two pieces to make an envelope opening to insert the cushion pad. Work as given for Front, making two pieces 5 squares wide and 3 rows long.

TO MAKE UP

Lay front flat with WS uppermost. Place the two back pieces on top of the front with RS uppermost, matching corners and chain spaces on each edge, and overlapping one row of squares. Join front and backs as follows: Using a 4mm hook and Blue Denim, join yarn with a ss to any corner space, ch1 (does not count as a st), 3dc in corner sp working through both layers, then work 3dc in each ch-sp (including corners), working through both layers (and three layers on overlap), around all edges to first corner, ss in first dc. Fasten off and weave in ends. Insert cushion pad.

MISSED AN ISSUE?



ISSUE EIGHTY-TWO

Accessorise your home with pretty pastel makes, hook up a granny square scarf, make a coral ombre casual jumper, learn the secrets behind making perfect pompoms, create your own geometric treetops throw, and make a hard-wearing weekend tote bag for away days!

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ISSUE EIGHTY-ONE

Colourful kitsch makes, star-motif bobble jumper, avocado cushion and pug amigurumi



ISSUE EIGHTY

Jumbo crochet home furnishings, Tunisian crochet cushion, hexie-puff blanket and simple tote bag



ISSUE SEVENTY-NINE

Animal print makes for the home, rose clutch purse, cute baby booties and amigurumi mouse



ISSUE SEVENTY-EIGHT

Rainbow makes, cute slippers, amigurumi reindeer doll, on-trend cushions and cosy poncho



ISSUE SEVENTY-SEVEN

Party makes, cute elf, festive jumpers, Christmas bunting, The Snowman™ toy and angel wings.



ISSUE SEVENTY-SIX

Nordic style projects, Halloween cushions, super-simple poncho, rose tote bag and quick festive makes.



ISSUE SEVENTY-FIVE

Mini-motif projects, amigurumi badger, diamond blanket, comfy sweaters and a cute sloth brooch.



ISSUE SEVENTY-FOUR

Cosmic crochet homewares, banana earrings, easy tops, and an adorable dachshund keyring.



ISSUE SEVENTY-THREE

Sunny cardigans, picnic projects, fab bags, cactus cushion, beach bear and unicorn baby blanket.



ISSUE SEVENTY-TWO

Lacy top, colourful homewares, teacup pincushion, plus an exclusive TOFT Irish terrier pattern.



ISSUE SEVENTY-ONE

Stylish raglan tee, sporty accessories, diamond blanket and a Jammy Dodger tape measure cover.



ISSUE SEVENTY

Cool blue wedding ideas, stripy chevron card, sleeveless top, crochet bunting and a colourful cap.



ISSUE SIXTY-NINE

New colour series, office collection, a show-stopping elephant head and amigurumi peacock.

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Stars and stripes

Hook a celestial cushion or two with this stripetacular pair of colourful makes by Sue Pinner





YOU WILL NEED

For the star cushion:

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/100m)
1 ball of each: Poppy (3672), Shrimp (3674), Plum (3567), Hot Pink (3668), Wisteria (3664), Soft Lime (3663), Leaf (3097), Sunflower (3662), Sky Blue (3667), Fondant (3094), Ivory (3665), Black (3093)
- 1m wide polyester wadding, 1m length
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For the circle cushion:

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/100m)
2 balls of Ivory (3665)
1 ball of each: Fuchsia (3692), Soft Lime (3663), Azure (3671), Fondant (3094), Hot Pink (3668), Shrimp 3674), Sunflower (3662), Smoked Grape (3966), Lavender (3673), Plum (3567), Black (3093)
- Circular cushion pad, 44cm diameter and 4cm deep
- Hook and loop fastening tape, 30cm
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn stockists contact

Stylecraft 01484 848435

www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

Star cushion 8½ rows and 15 sts to 10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern on 4mm hook or the size required to give the correct tension

Circle cushion 12 rows and 15 sts to 10x10cm (4x4in) over patt on 4mm hook or the size required to give the correct tension

ABBREVIATIONS

dtr2tog (double treble 2 sts together)

*yrh twice, insert hook in st, yrh, pull a loop through, (yrh, pull through 2 loops on hook) twice; rep from * once more, yrh, pull through all 3 loops on hook

dtr3tog (double treble 3 sts together)

*yrh twice, insert hook in st, yrh, pull a loop through, (yrh, pull through 2 loops on hook) twice; rep from * twice more, yrh, pull through all 4 loops on hook

spike st (spike stitch) work a dc over the st that sits one round below, thus creating a long dc. Do not pull the st tight as the long dc should lie on top of work without gathering it

For a full list, see page 90 of *Simply Crochet*

Look to the heavens for inspiration when hooking your next home makes. These star and circle cushions can be worked using the stripe sequences as given, or you can experiment with your own colourway to fit with your personal favourite palette, or your décor. The Stylecraft Classique Cotton DK range has a huge 31 shades to choose from.

STAR CUSHION

FRONT

For Rounds 1-18, work 1 round of each colour, following the stripe pattern below. Work over yarn ends to neaten them.

STRIPE SEQUENCE

Poppy, Shrimp, Plum, Hot Pink, Wisteria, Soft Lime, Leaf, Sunflower, Sky Blue, Poppy, Shrimp, Fondant, Hot Pink, Plum, Soft Lime, Sky Blue, Poppy, Plum

Using 4mm hook and Shrimp, ch5, ss in first ch to form a ring.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), 11tr in ring, change to next colour and ss in top of beg ch-3. [12 tr]

Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as a st), 2dc in each tr to end, change to next colour and ss in first dc. [24 dc]

Round 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each of next 3 dc, ch3, *tr in each of next 4 dc, ch3; rep from * to end, ss in top of beg ch-3. [6 ch-3 loops]

Fasten off.

Round 4 Join next colour with a ss in middle of any 4-tr block between 2nd and 3rd trs, skip 2 tr, (3tr, ch3, 3tr) all in next ch-sp, *skip 2 tr, ss in next sp between 2nd and 3rd trs, skip 2 tr, (3tr, ch3, 3tr) all in next ch-sp; rep from * to end, ss in first ss. [6 points]

Fasten off.

Round 5 Join next colour with a ss in ch-3 sp at any point, ch1 (does not count as a st), *(2dc, ch3, 2dc) all in sp at point, dc in each of next 2 sts, skip 1 tr, work a spike st over ss in Round 3, skip 1 tr, dc in each of next 2 tr; rep from * to end, ss in first dc.

Fasten off.

Round 6 Join next colour with a ss in ch-3 sp at any point, ch3 (counts as tr), (tr, ch3, 2tr) all in same ch-sp, *tr in each of next 4 dc, skip spike st, tr in each of next 4 dc, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) all in ch-3 sp at point; rep from * to end omitting last group, ss in top of beg ch-3. [12 tr for each point]

Fasten off.

Round 7 Join next colour with a ss in ch-3 sp at any point, ch3 (counts as tr), (tr, ch3, 2tr) all in same ch-sp, *tr in each of next 5 tr, skip 2 tr, tr in each of next 5 tr, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) all in ch-sp at point; rep from * to end omitting last group, ss in top of beg ch-3. [14 tr for each point]

Fasten off.

Round 8 Join next colour with a ss in ch-3 sp at

any point, ch3 (counts as tr), (tr, ch3, 2tr) all in same ch-sp, *tr in each of next 6 tr, skip 2 tr, tr in each of next 6 tr, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) all in ch-sp at point; rep from * to end omitting last group, ss in top of beg ch-3. [16 tr for each point]

Fasten off.

Round 9 Join next colour with a ss in ch-3 sp at any point, ch3 (counts as tr), (tr, ch3, 2tr) all in same ch-sp, *tr in each of next 7 tr, skip 2 tr, tr in each of next 7 tr, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) all in ch-sp at point; rep from * to end omitting last group, ss in top of beg ch-3. [18 tr for each point]

Fasten off.

Round 10 Join next new colour with a ss in ch-3 sp at any point, ch3 (counts as tr), (tr, ch3, 2tr) all in same ch-sp, *tr in each of next 8 tr, skip 2 tr, tr in each of next 8 tr, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) all in ch-sp at point; rep from * to end omitting last group, ss in top of beg ch-3. [20 tr for each point]

Fasten off.

Round 10 sets the pattern.

Rounds 11 to 18 Continue in stripe pattern and work another 8 rounds in pattern as set, working 1 extra tr on each side of the points on each round. [36 tr for each point] **

Fasten off.

SIDES

Round 1 (RS) Join Ivory with a ss in any tr on last round, ch1 (does not count as a st here and throughout), work a round of dcs working dc in each tr and 3dc in each point, ss in first dc. [39 dc for each point; 234 dc in total]

Round 2 Join Black with a ss in any st, ch1, dc in each dc to end, ss in first dc.

Rep Round 2 six times more.

Fasten off.

BACK

Work as given for Front to **.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Sew in all yarn ends neatly.

Pin out Back and Front to the measurements given, omitting sides on front to prevent stretching. Cover with clean, damp tea towels and leave until dry. See ball band for washing and further care instructions.

Make a cushion pad as follows: using the Back as a template, cut several layers of wadding in a star shape. Cut enough layers to fill the cushion firmly.

Sew or crochet cushion Front to Back around edge of sides, matching points and leaving an opening for adding the cushion pad.

To crochet together, hold edges with WS together, matching the tops of sts. Insert hook in first st through both thicknesses and work a dc, rep for each set of sts, leaving an opening. Insert cushion pad. Sew or crochet opening closed.

CIRCLE CUSHION

For Rounds 1-23, work 1 round of each colour, following the stripe pattern below and working over yarn ends to neaten them.

Ivory yarn can be carried up the WS of the work when not in use.

STRIPE SEQUENCE

Fuchsia, Ivory, Soft Lime, Azure, Ivory, Fondant, Ivory, Hot Pink, Ivory, Shrimp, Ivory, Sunflower, Ivory, Fuchsia, Ivory, Poppy, Ivory, Smoked Grape, Ivory, Lavender, Ivory, Plum, Ivory

FRONT

Using 4mm hook and Ivory, ch6 and ss in first ch to form a ring.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as a st), 12dc into ring, change to next colour and ss in first dc. [12 dc]

Round 2 Ch4 and dtr2tog in same dc (counts as dtr3tog), ch4, (dtr3tog in next dc, ch4) 11 times, ss in 4th of beg ch-4, change to next colour and ss in next ch-sp. [12 petals]

Round 3 Ch3, (counts as tr), 3tr in same ch-sp, 4tr in every ch-sp to end, change to next colour and ss in top of beg ch-3. [48 sts]

Round 4 Ch1 (does not count as a st here and throughout), dc in st to end, ss in first dc.

Fasten off.

Round 5 Join next colour in any dc in line with any petal point, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in same st, tr in each of next 3 dc, *2tr in next dc, tr in each of next 3 dc; rep from * to end, change to next colour and ss in top of beg ch-3. [60 sts]

Round 6 Ch1, dc in every st to end, ss in first dc.

Fasten off.

Round 7 Join next colour in dc above any 2-tr group, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in same st, tr in each of next 4 dc, *2tr in next dc, tr in each of next 4 dc; rep from * to end, change to next colour and ss in top of beg ch-3. [72 sts]

Rounds 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 and 22 Ch1, dc in every st to end, ss in first dc. Fasten off.

Round 9 Join next colour in dc above any 2-tr

group, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in same st, 1tr in each of next 5 dc, *2tr in next dc, tr in each of next 5 dc; rep from * to end, ss in top of beg ch-3. [84 sts]

Round 11 Join next colour in dc above any 2-tr group, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in same st, tr in each of next 6 dc, *2tr in next dc, tr in each of next 6 dc; rep from * to end, ss in top of beg ch-3. [96 sts]

Round 11 sets the pattern.

Rounds 13, 15, 17, 19, 21 and 23 Work in pattern as set, working 1 extra dc between the 2-tr increases. [168 sts] **

Fasten off and weave in ends.

SIDES

Worked in a stripe pattern of 1 round Ivory, 1 round Black.

Round 1 Join Ivory with a ss in any tr on last round, ch1 (does not count as a st), dc in each tr to end, change to Black and ss in first dc.

Round 2 Using Black, ch1, dc in each st to end, change to Ivory and ss in first dc.

Rep Round 2 four times more, alternating between colours.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BACK

Work as given for Front to **.

BUTTON BAND

With RS of work facing, join Ivory with a ss in any tr of last round, ch1 (does not count as a st), dc in each of next 40 sts, turn.

Next Row Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. [40 sts]

Rep last row 4 times more.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Pin out Back and Front to the measurements given, omitting sides on Front to prevent stretching. Cover with clean, damp tea towels and leave until dry.

Sew or crochet Front to Back around edge of



The cushion's mesmerising pattern features simple treble and tall double treble stitches

sides, starting and ending at either side of Button band.

To crochet together, hold edges together with WS together, matching the tops of sts. Join in Ivory, insert hook in first st through both thicknesses and work a dc. Rep for each set of sts, leaving the opening.

Sew one side of the Velcro strip to RS of Button band and the second side to the WS of the opening. Insert cushion pad and close.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK TREBLES INTO A RING



1 Make a foundation ring, as instructed in the pattern (see page 91 for more). Work the turning chain for the stitches you're going to work (3ch for tr). Yrh and insert hook into the centre of the ring.



2 Yrh and pull yarn through the centre of the ring (3 loops on hook).



3 Finish the treble in the usual way (yrh, pull through first 2 loops, yrh, pull through rem 2 loops). Work all the trebles of the first round in this way, inserting hook into centre of ring.



4 Complete all the treble stitches of the first round as instructed in your pattern, pushing the stitches closer if you need to. Use a slip stitch to join the last stitch to the top of turning chain.



Stylecraft

CROCHET COLLECTION



9528



9527



9513



The Frog Prince

Well, here's a fairytale royal if ever we saw one. Hook up this little cutie by designer DenDennis



YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton DK (100% cotton 50g/92m), 2 balls in Soft Lime (3663)
1 ball of each:
White (3660)
Poppy (3672),
Sunflower (3662)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Stitch marker
- A pair of 15mm safety eyes (optional)
- Strong wires (optional)
- Polyester toy stuffing

For yarn stockists contact
Stylecraft 01484 848435
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project

MEASUREMENTS

Approximately 23cm (9in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

blo back loops only

flo front loops only

For a full list, see page 90 of
Simply Crochet magazine

OK, we admit it, we would definitely kiss this froggy pronto. Just look at those amazing toes! If there was any doubt about his royal lineage, he even comes with his own fur-trimmed robe and crown. Can we guarantee he'll turn into a handsome prince? Maybe not, but we think he's cute enough already.

NOTES

The pattern is worked using the amigurumi method. Work stitches continuously in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work.

Safety eyes can be a choking hazard so they are not recommended for very small children. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions and secure firmly. If in doubt, embroider the eyes with Black yarn instead.

Wires can be inserted in the arms and legs so the frog can stand upright and have poseable arms. Do NOT use wires if the frog is to be given to a child or baby as a toy.

HEAD

Using Soft Lime, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

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

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

Rounds 6-7 Dc in each st around.

Round 8 (Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [33 sts]

Round 9 (Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]

Round 10 (Dc in each of next 11 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times [39 sts]

Round 11 (Dc in each of next 12 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [42 sts]

Round 12 (Dc in each of next 13 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [45 sts]

Round 13 (Dc in each of next 14 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [48 sts]

Round 14 (Dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [54 sts]

Round 15 Dc in each st around.

Stuff the head and keep stuffing as you work until the final round.

Change to White.

Round 16 (in blo) (Dcblo in each of next 7 sts, dc2togblo) 6 times. [48 sts]

Round 17 (Dc in each of next 6 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 18 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 19 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]



Eye eye. If you're making the Frog Prince for under three-year-olds, embroider on the eyes

Round 20 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 21 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 22 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]

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

Fasten off. Weave yarn tail through sts of last round. Pull tight to close hole and secure yarn.

INNER EYES (MAKE 2)

Using White, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

Rounds 4-6 Dc in each st around.

Place the 15mm eyes in the middle of the magic ring. Stuff the eyes firmly and keep stuffing until the final round.

Round 7 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]

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

Fasten off. Weave yarn tail through sts of last round. Pull tight to close hole and secure yarn.

OUTER EYES (MAKE 2)

Using Soft Lime, make a magic loop.

Work as given for Inner Eyes to end of Round 6. [18 sts]

Round 7 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off. Pull the Outer Eye over the Inner Eye and sew it around the eye.

Sew the eyes to each side of the head (see photograph for guidance).

BODY

Using Soft Lime, make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 Fasten off. Weave yarn tail through sts of last round. [12 sts]

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

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

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

Rounds 6-9 Dc in each st around.

Round 10 (Dc in each of next 8 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [27 sts]

Round 11 Dc in each st around.

Round 12 (Dc in each of next 7 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [24 sts]

Round 13 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 14 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off. Stuff the body firmly. Sew the head onto the body (see photograph for guidance).

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using Soft Lime, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

Round 4 Dc in each st around.

Round 5 (Dc in each of next 3 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [12 sts]

Stuff the hand, not the rest of the arm.

Round 6 [Dc2tog] 6 times. [6 sts]

Round 7 (in flo) Dcflo in each st around.

Rounds 8-18 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off. Measure a length of wire for each arm. Bend the ends over to prevent a sharp point. Insert into each arm. Sew the arms to each side of the body (see photograph for guidance).

TOES (MAKE 3 FOR EACH FOOT)

To make the Feet and Legs, first you start with the 3 toes. On the last Round of Toe, attach the 2nd Toe with 1dc to the first toe, and the 3rd toe with 1dc to the 2nd toe.

Using Soft Lime, make a magic loop.

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

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

Round 3 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) four times. [16 sts]

Round 4 Dc in each st around.

Round 5 (Dc in each of next 2 sts, dc2tog) four times. [12 sts]

Stuff the toe firmly, not the remaining rounds.

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

Rounds 7-9 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

When you've crocheted the three toes together, there are 14 sts in total around all three toes.

Rejoin Soft Lime into any dc and work foot as follows.

FOOT (MAKE 2)

Round 1 (RS) Using Soft Lime, dc around all three toes. [14 sts]

Rounds 2-4 Dc in each st around.

Round 5 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 5 sts) twice. [12 sts]

Round 6 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 4 sts) twice. [10 sts]

Round 7 (Dc2tog, dc in each of next 3 sts) twice. [8 sts]

Fasten off. Weave yarn tail through sts of last round. Pull tight to close hole and secure yarn.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Round 1 (RS) Working in a circle at end opposite to Toes, pick up 12 dc on top of the foot (see to photograph for guidance). [12 sts]

Round 2 Dc in each st around.

Round 3 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Rounds 4-16 Dc in each st around.

Measure a length of wire for each leg. Bend the ends over to prevent a sharp point. Insert into each leg. Bend it and pull it through the foot and middle toe. Sew the legs to the body (see photograph for guidance), at the same time sew the other end of the wire to the body.

CROWN

Using Sunflower, ch19, ss in first ch to make a loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as a st), 1dc into the loop. [18 sts]

Round 2 Dc in each st around.

Round 3 (Dc in next st, tr in next st, ch4, dc in 4th ch from hook, tr in next st along main loop) 6 times, ss in first dc.

Fasten off. Sew crown to top of head.

ROBE

Using Poppy, ch31.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in each st to end. [30 sts]

Rounds 2-10 Ch1 (does not count as a st), dc in each st to end.

Round 11 Dc2tog, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [28 sts]

Rounds 12-14 Dc in each st to end.

Rounds 15-30 Rep Rounds 11-14 a further 4 times. [20 sts]

Round 31 As Round 11. [18 sts]

Rounds 32-36 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

EDGING

With RS facing, join White with a ss in top left-hand corner and work a row of dc evenly down side of robe, across bottom edge and up other side to corner, turn. Don't crochet along the top edge.

Next row Ch1 (does not count as a st) dc in each dc to end.

Fasten off.

To make ties, using White, ch18 then work 18 dc along top edge of robe, ch19, turn.

Next row Dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in each ch and dc to end. [54 dc]

Cut yarn, pull through last loop and **fasten off.**

Tie around Frog's neck.



Toe-tally awesome. Who wouldn't be an incredible swimmer with feet like this?



Hook a tiny crown, fit for a prince or princess, and then make sure you stitch it on securely



Those distinctive toes are made separately and then worked onto the feet with dc



Simply
Crochet

Printed in the UK. Presented with issue 83 of *Simply Crochet* magazine