

TRY OUT
MOSAIC
CROCHET



Simply Crochet



GEOMETRIC
TREND!


*Paws
please*

Cute blanket
your pet will
love!



GRANNY
SQUARE DAY

Summer VINTAGE



INSIDE! Boho basket, pineapple cushion, festival jumper & more

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C O L L E C T I O N

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Simply Crochet

There's something magical about crochet; transforming a ball of yarn into one of a million possibilities, and this issue's fantasy creatures step that wizardry up a notch with their wonderful whimsical characters. Elsewhere in the mag we're conjuring pineapples into cushions, harnessing the power of sun and shade for our homewares collection, and even transfiguring a shaped pompom into a bear. Abracadabra!



Simply Crochet

ISSUE EIGHTY-SIX

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Turn to page 59 and check out our designer challenge – you could win gorgeous yarn!



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The light stuff

Are you a sun soaker or a shade seeker? Whatever your holiday preference, this issue we're uniting the two camps with our sun and shade collection, a set of cool geometric homewares picked out in warm tones – check it out from page 14. If you're staying home and the weather's a little chilly, you'll be pleased to get going on the bright cushions and throws in our summer homewares book, too – they'll cheer your day *and* keep you warm! Other must-makes this issue are our fantasy creatures from Hook2Hook on page 59, and bright mandala doily on page 27. Enjoy!



Sara

CONTRIBUTORS

Give a big hand to these star talents



VERONIKA CROMWELL

Veronika's Mum taught her to crochet and she's been hooked since. She loves designing modern garments and accessories for the whole family. See her wall hanging on page 22.



KATI BROWN

Kati designs to make people smile. She specialises in patterns for lovable amigurumi and funky home décor. Check out her cheery pineapple cushion on page 44.



MELISSA MASTERSON

Melissa, aka Millie, has been hooked on crochet for eight years and loves to play with shape and colour. She is known for her quirky, simple and fun patterns. See her scarf on page 41.



BECKY SKUSE

Cross-crafter and *Simply Crochet* regular Becky is a magpie for new hooky skills. In this issue she's turned her talents to shaped pompoms – check them out on page 80.

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NEW
Scheepjes
COLOUR
PACK!



Supplied in a gift
box with a transparent
window front and back

METROPOLIS

NEW from Scheepjes; the Metropolis Colour Pack!

Each pack contains all 80 colours across the full Metropolis range in our adorable Cutie Pie 10-gram balls

 061 Tokyo	 052 Bangalore	 060 Jaipur	 051 Marrakech	 059 Montreal	 045 Perth	 058 Bordeaux	 044 Darwin	 043 Naples	 064 Krakow	 042 Lagos	 041 Rabat	 024 Cota	 068 Mumbai	 067 Buenos Aires	 048 Sydney	 047 Dubai	 046 Leeds	 074 Tripoli	 077 Quebec
 076 Sevilla	 075 Mexico City	 062 Valencia	 063 Toronto	 078 Lyon	 030 Toulouse	 039 Delhi	 033 Atlanta	 034 Alexandria	 038 Brasov	 037 Istanbul	 040 Dhaka	 036 Tehran	 035 Seoul	 065 Liverpool	 066 Copenhagen	 019 Marseille	 018 Suwon	 022 Pasay	 021 Rangpur
 023 Monterrey	 029 Salvador	 028 Vancouver	 032 Abu Dhabi	 031 Canberra	 027 San Juan	 020 Colombo	 016 Karachi	 015 Ulsan	 005 Medan	 004 Kabul	 009 Madrid	 014 Lahore	 013 Washington	 012 Manila	 011 Boston	 010 Ankara	 017 Multan	 008 Beirut	 070 Cairo
 056 Almaty	 006 Taipei	 055 Lima	 054 Johannesburg	 053 Santiago	 057 Milan	 050 Bogota	 049 Ajman	 003 Dallas	 002 Glasgow	 001 Bucharest	 007 Philadelphia	 025 Nice	 073 Izmir	 071 Jakarta	 072 Warsaw	 079 Munich	 069 Miami	 026 Depok	 080 Hamburg

Metropolis Colour Pack contains all 80 colours across the Metropolis range. 75% Superwash Extra Fine Merino, 25% Nylon; 10g/40m. Recommended Needle/Hook Size; 2.50-3.00mm. Metropolis is a fingering weight yarn with a beautiful heathered look. The Scheepjes Colour Packs make choosing the colour palette for your next project an absolute breeze. The balls are the ideal size for creating a variety of small multicolour projects, or for use in Fair Isle knitting. What's not to love?! **RRP** £89.99 | €105,00 | \$119.95. Available via Scheepjes retailers.

Creative Sport Print dk

Unravel your creativity

Knitting
idea
compact
879

Hooked

IDEAS ♥ INSPIRATION ♥ ACCESSORIES ♥ WEBSITES ♥ EVENTS ♥ STUFF



Burly girly

Crochet subscription service Little Box of Crochet might need a new name to match their new boosted box size! From June the boxes are moving from monthly to bi-monthly sending, allowing for more yarn and bigger projects – plus more time to complete them so the WIPs don't pile up! Find them on Instagram @littleboxofcrochet or www.littleboxofcrochet.co.uk



NEW SHADES

Quince & Co's 100% cotton Whimbrel collection has had five new colours added. Bow, Abalone, Land, Pelagic and Sloop bring the shade count up to 17 for this delicious collection. At a slim 3ply, this delicate choice is ideal for garments such as shawls.

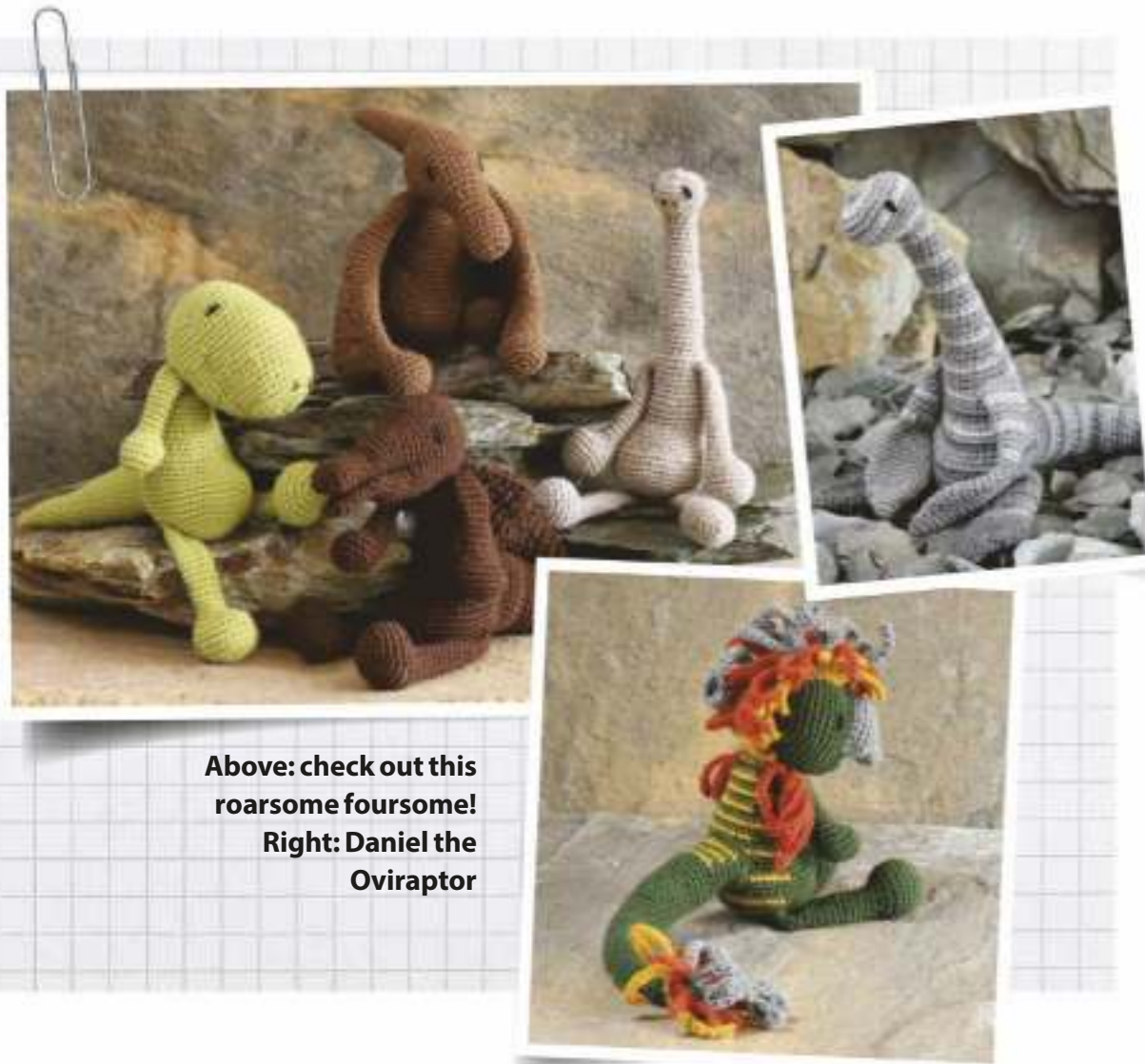
Made in the USA, Whimbrel is sourced from responsibly grown Californian cotton. Cleaner Cotton™ is produced by family owned farms who have pledged not to use the 13 most toxic chemicals used on cotton in the state. See www.quinceandco.com

Dino-mite!

We Love...

Edward's Menagerie has taken a prehistoric turn with the launch of their dinosaur special edition of TOFT Quarterly Magazine, which features 15 Jurassic period-inspired amigurumi designs covering all skill levels.

The ill-fated reptiles go way beyond the classic T-rex and diplodocus species, including ankylosaurus, parasaurolophus, cruxicheiros and more. All the patterns are hooked up in TOFT pure wool DK using a 3mm hook – pick out your own colours online or nab a yarn bundle and follow TOFT's recommended shades. The completed dinosaurs measure up to around 18cm in height. Peruse the collection and pick up bundles, boxes, the magazine or a simple single dino from www.toftuk.com



Above: check out this roarsome foursome!
Right: Daniel the Oviraptor

JACKPOT!

▼ We're thrilled to have had a thank you email from Amber, aka Mega Mystery Box Winner #3 from our recent Facebook competition! "I'm so excited about all the wonderful things I can make with the contents," enthused Amber, "starting with the vintage granny chic cardigan from issue 54." She's also shared the winnings with her 'craft inspiration', her Auntie Helen. Stay in the competition loop by following us on our socials!



RETREAT YOURSELF

A brand new craft weekend has launched, offering a super-friendly social space, skill-enhancing workshops and talks. Made in Hitchin Creative Retreat is running their first weekend on October 19 and 20, at Needham House Hotel in Hitchin. Crochet fans can get stuck into a workshop on mosaic crochet, as well as the pattern-cutting workshop and 'Knititation' talk, which both cover crochet. Outside of craft the weekend will feature competitions, goody bags, and 'frocktail party'. See their Instagram @madeinhitchin



Mini profile



MEGMAD WITH LOVE

'Comfy and cool' crochet designer Meg Shaimes has a long history with the craft. "I've known how to crochet for so many years," she affirms, "I learned from my mom when I was about ten. But I think I learned to actually love crochet when I began to explore designing for the first time. It opened up a new world for me, because I could dream up absolutely anything and bring it to life with a hook and yarn!" While Meg's now a master at garment and home décor design, her hooky skills grew out from humble beginnings: "When I wrote my first crochet pattern, I didn't even know what a decrease meant! I just made it happen my own way by skipping stitches. Yikes!"

However, thanks to enthusiasm, persistence and undoubtedly a bit of frogging, Meg eventually designed and created her first sweater pattern, The Homebody Sweater. "I had no idea what I was doing, it was an absolute experiment – but it worked!" says Meg. "I'm so glad I took the plunge." This sweater is now one of Meg's most popular creations, and she considers the jumper her biggest crochet triumph.



"I learned to love crochet when I began to explore design"

Meg's style has a real organic, natural feel, but she draws inspiration from a lot of different sources. "My favourite way to [design] is by drawing from multiple sources for a unique piece. For example, I may find a stitch pattern from a blanket I see in a beautiful magazine photo, then I'll try to pair it with a cool colour combo I've found on Pinterest to create a sweater highlighting both of those inspirations." By combining the choice attributes of her favourite styles, we're convinced Meg has found a winning formula! Keep up with Meg at www.megmadewithlove.com for free patterns and other crochet-related articles. Or find her on Instagram @megmadewithlove

INSPIRING BOOKS



HOOKED ON AMIGURUMI

MELANIE MORITA (£17.45, Page Street Publishing)

An adorable amigurumi book from the founder of Knot Too Shabby Crochet, comprising 40 designs each with a smile on their face. Divided into six playful sections including a bento box set and ocean critter collection, this is a charming set with something for all skill levels.



STRIPY BLANKETS TO CROCHET

HAAFNER LINSSEN (£10.99, Search Press)

A sensitively created set of straightforward blankets from the author of *Mandalas to Crochet*, these blankets are made with not just the finished design in mind but the joy of creation. The 20 blankets come with colour suggestions and sizing advice, making them easy to personalise to your needs.



SUPERCUTE CROCHET

JANINE HOLMES (£13.49, Thunder Bay Press)

Playful, cute and super-duper quick to make, this set of 10 small and sweet amigurumi animals is simply presented and excellent value. Featuring everything you need to make the koala and penguin, it's an ideal gift set for crochet beginners. Instructions use US terminology.



JAPANESE KNITTING STITCHES

KEIKO OKOMOTO (£15.99, Tuttle Publishing)

A book from one of Japan's most prolific yarn designers translated into English, this collection features 150 knitting and crochet stitches. The book is a masterclass for advanced crocheters looking for fresh inspiration, and includes seven amazing sample projects.



EXCLUSIVELY FOR SUBSCRIBERS!

SUBS STARS!

Every month, three subscribers win a prize as thanks for their loyalty. This month, the winners will each receive this Lily Sugar 'n Cream yarn pack, including a 'Let's Dish' pattern book worth £39.99! Check your issue next month to see if you're a winner! Sarah Wilson, Southport
Helen Roberts, Birkenhead
Ray Fay, Wickford

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.

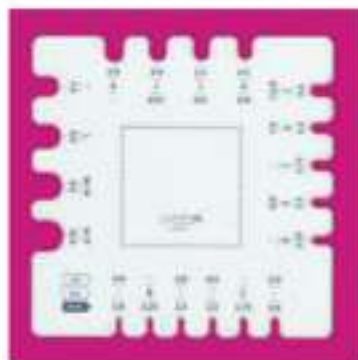


WADDLE WONDER

Check out this adorable Poppy the Penguin Crochet Kit and bring a smile to anyone's face. Perfect for a gift, or for yourself, this intermediate crochet kit includes all the Beau Baby yarns needed, pattern, needles and toy stuffing to bring Poppy to life! Also comes with a baby couture cotton tote bag to keep your project portable. Find it online at www.woolcouturecompany.co.uk

SWATCH OUT!

▼ Check hook sizes and take an accurate stitch gauge measure with the new Swatch Ruler and Needle Gauge tool from Clover. Take the tedium out of doing a tension swatch with this easy, accurate tool. Simply place the crochet hook shaft in the groove that fits best to confirm the size. Then use the swatch ruler to check both the stitches and rows on your tension square before embarking on your project. See clover-mfg.com



Bumper pack!

CUTIE BEAUTIES

Rainbow colour fans, your yarny ship has come in! The Scheepjes Metropolis Colour Pack is a vast set spanning all 80 colours from the Metropolis collection, in tiny 10g Cutie Pie balls. Use them as samplers and swatch the night away, incorporate them all into a single gorgeous technicolour project, or create myriad mini makes in differing-yet-complementary colour schemes.

Other Colour Pack collections include Catona, Cahlista and Stone Washed River Washed, all also viewable on the Scheepjes website, alongside details for finding your local stockists. See www.scheepjes.com



LOVECROCHET NOW LOVECRAFT

The LoveCrochet and LoveKnitting websites have merged, and gained new cross stitching and embroidery channels, to become a one-stop creative behemoth, LoveCrafts.com. The new-look site will keep its 100,000+ patterns, and logins for its three million community members will remain the same. The team hopes the amalgamation will better serve their users, many of whom are cross-crafters. Check it out at www.LoveCrafts.com

Community award

Award for café

The Crochet Café, a community café on the Isle of Wight, has won an NHS England Alliance Excellence in Health Creation award for Community Assemblers, in recognition of its social contribution to the people of the area.

The café was started in October 2017 by Sally Evans, then a Local Area Coordinator, with the aim of reducing isolation, boosting mental health and well-being, and teaching new skills to others. Despite being around for less than two years the café has already bloomed in five locations around the Isle of Wight – huge testimony to the organisation's success.

The award, which came in November 2018, was "a real boost" for the group, says Sally: "it was recognition of the work that every member – past and present – has put into creating and running each café on the island."

The Crochet Café can be found online at www.facebook.com/crochetcafeIOW





TWO WAYS TO PLAY

Have you seen Readicut's new Countryside Companions kit collection? In a clever twist, alongside all the yarn and stuffing you need to make the British woodland critters, the kit contains both crochet hook and knitting needles, plus patterns for making up the animals in both yarn mediums. Multi-crafters will be able to choose which style they like best – although we think you'll know which one we'd recommend! The included yarn is Caron Sprinkle Cakes, a wool and acrylic blend with a tweedy finish to boost those trad good looks. Go to www.readicut.co.uk



AFFORDABLE YARNS

Marriner have expanded their ranges of 'premium acrylic' yarns.

Super Soft Baby is now available in 4ply for a soft, delicate and economical alternative to 4ply wool. The yarn features amazing stitch definition.

Marriner's latest aran yarn collection is available in seven neutral colours. Its 10ply aran weight ensures it works up into durable garments and blankets.

The DK range comes in 29 shades and at just £1 per 100g ball it's low cost enough for experimental designs. Find them at www.marrineryarns.com



out & about

Skills, shows & events

AUG 23-26 Henley Country Craft Show
£5, Stonor Park, Henley-on-Thames
www.thecraftshows.co.uk/henley-on-thames

AUG 24 Learn to Hand Dye
TOFT Studio, Warwickshire
www.toftuk.com

SEPT 7 Intermediate Crochet Course
£37.50, Hermitage, West Berkshire
www.yarnfest.co.uk

SEPT 12 Learn to Crochet Workshop
£54.95, Warrington
www.blacksheepwools.com

SEPT 13-15 The Handmade Festival
£16-£30, Hampton Court
www.thehandmade festival.com



5 FAB FINDS

Must-have plant projects
Your botanicals will have never had it so good



PRICKLY CHARACTER

Don't even pretend you haven't fallen in love with this amazing crochet cactus scarf! HELLOhappy has adapted the desert flower from sunny plains to suit windy nights – find the pattern on Etsy.



SPIKE ON

Put your hands in the air like you just don't care, just like this cactus cushion, a fun and young'un friendly make. Find the pattern on Etsy – search FloAndDotShop

POTTERMORE

Not even the humble flowerpot is safe from our hooky talents! This is a particularly nice version. Pattern available from CraftsComfortStore at www.etsy.com



4



NO-DRAMALLAMA

Look at this blissful boy: he appreciates the sense of peace that comes from a plant-laden home. Or back, in his case. Find the pattern on Etsy – search for HELLOhappy.

TOP PICK

Delight in the year-round cheer you can only find from non-organic hydrangeas with Sewrella's pretty flowerpot. Get the design for free at www.sewrella.com



SUNNY SIDE UP

Come rain or shine, these cool mosaic crochet cushions will make an ace statement piece for your sofa. Plus, they have a *Pac-Man* maze vibe going on that pleases our inner gamer.

DARK SIDE OF THE SPOON

With their reality-challenging, eye-melting geo-hexagons you'll have a hard time covering these coasters with your teacup. They're just perfect for the modern home.



SUN AND SHADE IDEAS



THE REAL SUN SHADY

Temper thundery skies with sunny rays in our sun and shade-inspired homewares collection

SUN AND SHADE IDEAS



CRADLE STASHER

Where better to keep your *Simply Crochet* magazine than in a simply crocheted magazine holder? Put it up by your armchair and impress guests with your self-evident hooky credentials.

DON'T LEAVE ME HANGING

... or rather do, as this mobile-a-like wall art brings bold shapes and contrast colours into your interior. Choose where you'll mount it beforehand so you can add or remove motifs to best fit your space.



GLASS HALF-FULL

Pour yourself a glass of sunshine and drink in the day with these dawn-and-dusk tumbler covers, a quick and simple set made using the amigurumi method.



SUN AND SHADE IDEAS

MOSAIC CROCHET CUSHIONS

Hook a beautiful sun-settee with these contemporary cushions. By Esme Crick.

- Cascade Ultra Pima (100% cotton 100g/200m), 1 skein of each: Silver (3801), Yellow Rose (3743), Sunshine (3764), Gray (3729), Buttercup (3748), Dark Shadow (3831)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- 2 cushion pads, 45x45cm
- 2 squares of backing fabric, 47x47cm

TENSION

18 sts and 23 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern using a 4mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Cushion measures 44x44cm (17¼x17¼in) including Border

NOTES

This pattern uses mosaic crochet techniques which are described below, and the colour changes are shown on a Chart on page 95. The pattern includes instructions for 2 colour schemes, Cushion 1 and Cushion 2, detailed in the Table below.

MOSAIC CROCHET

For mosaic crochet you work in two contrasting colours, referred to as Yarn A and Yarn B in this pattern. Alternating 2-row stripes of double crochet form the base of the pattern. Where the contrasting colour needs to interrupt the base colour in a row, a ch-sp is created in the base colour. When the base colour changes for the next 2-row stripe, the new base colour is used to ‘fill in’ the spaces left in the previous rows, by working treble sts in front of the ch-sps and into the next available skipped sts in previous rows.

CHART NOTES

On the Chart, RS rows are read from right to left, and WS rows from left to right. Each square represents 1 dc stitch. The treble stitches used to ‘fill in’ are represented by rectangles with a bold outline. As these tr sts are worked in front of ch-sps on previous rows, the ch-sps are not shown on the Chart. The first few rows have been written out to help you follow the Chart.

CUSHIONS

CUSHION 1

Made using Dark Shadow on a background of 

		Cushion 1	Cushion 2
YARN A	Rows 1-32	Buttercup	Dark Shadow
YARN A	Rows 33-64	Sunshine	Gray
YARN A	Rows 65-98	Yellow rose	Silver
YARN B		Dark Shadow	Buttercup



SUN AND SHADE IDEAS



shades of yellow. Refer to the Table below for Yarns A and B.

Using Yarn A, ch77.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [76 sts]

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

Change to Yarn B.

The following row is the first 'mosaic' row of the pattern. The base double crochet stripe is worked in Yarn B, with ch-sps created which will be covered with tr sts in Row 7. On the first row of the 2-row stripe, the number of ch in the ch-sp is determined by the number of skipped sts plus 1, so for example if you are skipping 3 sts of the previous row, the ch-sp will contain 4 ch. On the second row of the 2-row stripe, which will be Row 6 in this case, the number of ch in the ch-sps matches those in the previous row.

Row 5 Ch1, dc in first st, ch4, skip 3 sts, dc in next 8 sts, (ch13, skip 12 sts, dc in next 8 sts) 3 times, ch4, skip 3 sts, dc in last st, turn.

Row 6 Ch1, dc in first st, ch4, skip ch-4 sp, (dc in next 8 sts, ch13, skip ch-13 sp) 3 times, dc in next 8 sts, ch4, skip ch-4 sp, dc in last st, turn.

Change to Yarn A.

The Yarn A tr sts in the following row are worked into the skipped sts from Row 4, in front of the ch-sps from the previous 2 rows. At

the same time, new ch-sps are created in this row, which will be filled in with Yarn B trebles in Row 9.

Row 7 Ch1, dc in first st, tr in 3 skipped sts from Row 4, ch3, skip 2 sts, dc in next 4 sts, ch3, skip 2 sts, *tr in 12 skipped sts from Row 4, ch3, skip 2 sts, dc in next 4 sts, ch3, skip 2 sts; rep from * to last 4 sts, tr in 3 skipped sts from Row 4, dc in last st, turn.

In the following row, make sure you work into all the tr sts of the previous row, as they can easily be missed.

Row 8 Ch1, dc in first 4 sts, *ch3, skip ch-3 sp, dc in next 4 sts, ch3, skip ch-3 sp, dc in next 12 sts; rep from * twice more, (ch3, skip ch-3 sp, dc in next 4 sts) twice, turn.

Change to Yarn B.

Rows 9-32 Continue working using the mosaic technique, following the Chart on page 95.

Rows 33-64 Continue to follow the Chart, using Sunshine for Yarn A.

Rows 65-96 Continue to follow the Chart, using Yellow Rose for Yarn A.

Fasten off all colours except Yellow Rose.

Rows 96-98 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. **Fasten off.**

BORDER

With RS facing, join Dark Shadow into top right-hand corner.

Round 1 Ch1, *dc in each st across to last st, (dc, ch2, dc) in last st (corner made), skip first row end, (dc in next 4 row ends, skip next row end) across to last row end, (dc, ch2, dc) in last row end; rep from * once more, ss to beg dc.

Round 2 Ch1, *dc in each st to ch-2 sp, (dc, ch2, dc) in ch-sp; rep from * 3 times more, ss to first dc to join.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Block cover to dimensions. If cover is too small, repeat Round 2 of Border to obtain size required.

CUSHION 2

Work as for Cushion 1 using Yarn A and B as shown in the Colour Scheme table. Work the Border using Buttercup.

TO MAKE UP

With WS facing, fold in and iron a seam of 2cm around all 4 sides of backing fabric (to create same dimensions as cushion pad). Lay the fabric square on flat surface, with WS and folded-in edges facing up, place crochet panel on top with RS facing up and pin together around 3 sides. With needle and thread, carefully sew tiny stitches around 3 edges, passing needle through both crochet and fabric, approx 2mm from outside edge. Insert cushion pad and sew up final side in same way.

SUN AND SHADE IDEAS

COASTERS

Coasters that take style tips from vortexes in low-budget eighties sci-fi? Sign us up. By Gwen Buttke McGannon.

- Cascade Ultra Pima (100% cotton 100g/200m), 1 skein of each: Natural (3718), Silver (3801), Yellow Rose (3743), Sunshine (3764), Gray (3729), Buttercup (3748), Dark Shadow (3831)
- A 2.25 mm (US B/2) hook
- 6 stitch markers

TENSION

Rounds 1-4 to measure 7cm (2¾in) in diameter over stitch pattern using a 2.25mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Coaster measures 13cm (5in) in diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

FPhtr Yrh, insert hook from front to back to front around the post of st indicated, yrh, pull up a loop, yrh, pull through all loops on hook
FPdtr Yrh twice, insert hook from front to back to front around the post of st indicated, yrh, pull up a loop, (yrh, pull through 2 loops on hook) 3 times

For a full list, see page 92

NOTES

Each Coaster is worked in rounds, joining new colours at the beginning of each round when

indicated. A single Coaster uses approx 20g of yarn. These Coasters were designed and made by a left-handed designer; if right-handed, the pattern will twist in the opposite direction. On Rounds 1, 3, 4 and 6 you will be directed to use a shade of yellow; you can use any of the following colours: Natural, Yellow Rose, Sunshine and Buttercup. On all other Rounds use yarn indicated. Ch-sps are not included in st counts.

COASTERS

Using a shade of yellow (see Notes), ch4, ss into last ch to form a ring.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), ch3, dc in third ch from hook (ch-3 sp made), 3tr around post of beg ch-3, *tr in centre ring, ch3, dc in third ch from hook, 3tr around the post of tr; rep from * 4 times more, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [30 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Silver into any ch-3 sp.

Round 2 (RS) *Ch3 (counts as ch-3 sp), tr in same sp, FPtr around next dc, FPtr around next 3 tr, ss in next ch-3 sp; rep from * 5 times more, ss in beg ch-3 sp.

Fasten off.

Join a shade of yellow in any ch-3 sp.

Round 3 *Ch3 (counts as ch-3 sp), tr in same sp, FPtr around next 4 sts, 2FPtr around next st (mark second st), ss in next ch-3 sp; rep from * 5 times more, ss in beg ch-3 sp. [42 sts]

Fasten off.

Join a shade of yellow in any ch-3 sp.

Round 4 *Ch3 (counts as ch-3 sp), tr in same sp, FPtr in each st to marked st, 2FPtr in marked st (mark second st), ss in next ch-3 sp; rep from * 5 times more, ss in beg ch-3 sp. [54 sts]

Fasten off.

Rounds 5-6 As Round 4 using Gray for Round 5 and a shade of yellow for Round 6. [78 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Dark Shadow in any ch-3 sp.

Round 7 *Ch1, dc in same sp, FPhtr around next 5 sts, FPtr around next 5 sts, FPdtr around next 3 sts, ss in next ch-3 sp; rep from * 5 times more, ss to beg dc. [84 sts]

Round 8 *(Ch1, ss in next st) 13 times, ch2, ss in next st; rep from * 5 times, ss to st at base of beg ch-1.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

MAGAZINE HOLDER

Practical storage for keeping books and magazines at hand. By Hannah Cross.

- Cascade Ultra Pima (100% Cotton 100g/200m), 1 skein of each: Natural (3718), Silver (3801), Yellow Rose (3743), Sunshine (3764), Gray (3729), Buttercup (3748), Dark Shadow (3831)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Wall-mounted magazine rack, 30cm minimum width (available at www.etsy.com/uk/shop/Utology)

TENSION

17 sts and 21 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in)



SUN AND SHADE IDEAS



over pattern using a 4mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Crochet holder measures 52x26.5cm (20½x10½in)

NOTES

This pattern uses mosaic crochet techniques, and the colour changes are shown on a Chart on page 97. See the Mosaic Crochet and Chart Notes for the Cushion on page 19.

In this pattern, Yarn A is always Natural, and the Yarn B colours are the other shades of yellow and grey, as shown on the Chart.

MAGAZINE HOLDER

Using Yarn A, ch48.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [47 sts]

Row 2 (WS) Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. Change to Yarn B.

The following row is the first 'mosaic' row of the pattern. The base double crochet stripe is worked in Yarn B, with ch-sps created which will be covered with tr sts in Row 5. All of the ch-sps in this pattern will be ch-2 sps.

Row 3 Ch1, dc in first 3 sts, ch2, skip next st, (dc in next 4 sts, ch2, skip next st) twice, dc in next 3 sts, ch2, skip next st, (dc in next 5 sts, ch2, skip next st) twice, dc in next 3 sts, ch2, skip next st, (dc in next 4 sts, ch2, skip 1 st) twice, dc in last 3 sts, turn.

Row 4 Ch1, *dc in each st to ch-sp, ch2, skip

ch-sp; rep from * across, turn.

Change to Yarn A.

The Yarn A tr sts in the following row are worked into the skipped sts from Row 3, in front of the ch-sps from the previous 2 rows. At the same time, new ch-sps are created in this row, which will be filled in with Yarn B trebles in Row 7.

Row 5 Ch1, dc in first 3 sts, *tr in skipped st 3 rows below, ch2, skip next st, dc in next 2 sts, ch2, skip next st*; rep from * to ** once more, tr in skipped st 3 rows below, dc in next 3 sts, (tr in skipped st 3 rows below, ch2, skip next st, dc in next 3 sts, ch2, skip next st) twice, tr in skipped st 3 rows below, dc in next 3 sts, rep from * to ** twice more, tr in skipped st 3 rows below, dc in last 3 sts, turn.

In the following row, make sure you work into all the tr sts of the previous row, as they can easily be missed.

Row 6 Ch1, *dc in each st to ch-sp, ch2, skip ch-sp; rep from * across, turn.

Rows 7-98 Continue working using the mosaic technique. Refer to the Chart on page 97 for all colour changes.

TO FINISH

Weave in all ends and attach to your Magazine Holder.

WALL HANGING

A gorgeous alternative to a framed picture. Designed by Veronika Cromwell.

■ Cascade Ultra Pima (100% cotton 100g/200m), 1 skein of each: Natural (3718), Silver (3801), Yellow Rose (3743), Sunshine (3764), Gray (3729), Buttercup (3748), Dark Shadow (3831)

■ A 4mm (US G/6) hook

■ Bamboo cane or dowel rod, 30cm

■ Tassel maker or a piece of cardboard

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Circle measures 5cm (2in) diameter

Triangle measures 6cm (2¼in) across

Square measures 5x5cm (2x2in)

Hexagon measures 6cm (2¼in) across widest point

ABBREVIATIONS

puff st (Yrh, insert hook into st specified, yrh and pull up loop) 5 times, yrh and pull through all loops on hook

For a full list, see page 92

WALL HANGING

SQUARE (MAKE 8)

Make 2 Squares in each of Natural, Silver, Gray and Dark Shadow.

Using yarn indicated, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), (3dc into loop, ch3) 4 times, ss to beg dc. [12 dc, 4 ch-3 sps]

Round 2 Ss in next dc, pull up loop to height of

SUN AND SHADE IDEAS

tr, *puff st in dc, ch2, skip next dc, (puff st, ch3, puff st) in next ch-3 sp, ch2, skip next dc; rep from * another 3 times, ss to top of beg puff st. [12 puff sts]

Round 3 Ch1, * 3dc in next ch-2 sp, (2dc, ch2, 2dc) in corner ch-3 sp, 3dc in next ch-2 sp; rep from * another 3 times, ss to beg dc. [40 dc]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

HEXAGON (MAKE 4)

Make 1 in each of Natural, Silver, Gray and Dark Shadow.

Using yarn indicated, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, (dc into loop, ch3) 6 times, ss to beg dc. [6 dc]

Round 2 Ss to next ch-3 sp, pull up loop to height of tr, (puff st, ch3, puff st, ch1) in each ch-3 sp around, ss to top of beg puff st. [12 puff sts]

Round 3 Ss to ch-3 sp, ch1, *(2dc, ch2, 2dc) in ch-3 sp, 2dc in next ch-1 sp; rep from * around, ss to beg dc. [36 dc]

Fasten off.

TRIANGLE (MAKE 3)

Make 1 in each of Yellow Rose, Sunshine and Buttercup.

Using yarn indicated, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, (5dc into loop, ch3) 3 times, ss to beg dc. [15 dc, 3 ch-3 sps]

Round 2 Ss in next dc, pull up loop to height of tr, *(puff st, ch2, skip next dc) twice, (puff st, ch3, puff st) in next ch-3 sp, ch2; rep from * twice

more, ss to top of beg puff st. [12 puff sts]

Round 3 Ss to ch-2 sp, ch1, *(3dc in next ch-2 sp) twice, (2dc, ch2, 2dc) in corner ch-3 sp, 3dc in next ch-2 sp; rep from * twice more, ss to beg dc. [39 dc]

Fasten off.

CIRCLE (MAKE 3)

Make 1 in each of Yellow Rose, Sunshine and Buttercup.

Using yarn indicated, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 12dc into loop, ss to beg dc. [12 dc]

Round 2 Pull up loop to height of tr, (puff st, ch2) in each st around, ss to top of beg puff st. [12 puff sts, 12 ch-2 sps]

Round 3 Ch1, 3dc into each ch-2 sp around, ss to beg dc. [36 dc]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Block all shapes to measurements given.

STRIP OF SQUARES (MAKE 2)

Take 1 Square in each colour (4 Squares).

Using Natural and leaving a tail of 20cm, ch10, ss into any corner of the Natural Square.

Fasten off.

Join Silver with a ss into opposite corner of Natural Square, ch10, ss into any corner on Silver Square.

Fasten off.

Join Gray and Dark Shadow Motifs in the same

way. Add a ch8 to the bottom of the last Motif using Dark Shadow.

Once finished you should have a ch approx 62cm long.

Repeat with the last 4 Squares to make a second strip.

Attach a Strip to each end of the Bamboo; you can use the image as a guide.

STRIP OF HEXAGONS

Join as for Squares.

Attach Strip to the centre of the Bamboo.

STRIP OF TRIANGLES

Using Yellow Rose and leaving a tail of 20cm, ch10, ss into any corner of the Yellow Rose Triangle.

Fasten off.

Join Sunshine in centre of edge opposite corner previously joined, ch10, ss into any corner on Sunshine Triangle.

Repeat last step using Buttercup and last Triangle, add a ch24 to the Triangle using Buttercup.

Attach Strip between the Strip of Hexagons and Strip of Squares.

STRIP OF CIRCLES

Join as for Triangles.

Attach Strip between the Strip of Hexagons and Strip of Squares.

TO FINISH

Make 3 tassels using Dark Shadow and 2 tassels



SUN AND SHADE IDEAS

using Buttercup.

Join the tassels to the end of each ch, matching the colours.

GLASS COVER

Hold cold drinks in comfort with these trendy glass covers. By Sarah-Jane Hicks.

- Cascade Ultra Pima (100% cotton 100g/200m), 1 skein of each: Natural (3718), Silver (3801), Yellow Rose (3743), Sunshine (3764), Gray (3729), Buttercup (3748), Dark Shadow (3831)
- A 4mm (US G/6) crochet hook

TENSION

Rounds 1-8 measure 7.5cm (3in) in diameter using a 4mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

To fit glass measuring 7cm (2¾in) in diameter with a minimum height of 9cm (3½in)

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. Each Cover uses approx 25g of yarn. The colourwork is created with tapestry crochet, carrying unused strands of yarn and

working sts of current round over the strands. When changing colour mid-row, twist the ends of the two colours together. Pick up the new colour in the last yrh of the previous stitch.

There are 3 Charts on page 96, which you should refer to when making the Glass Covers. Each square represents 1dc stitch. Read all rows from right to left and crochet in the round, the first round of the Chart for Cover 1 has been written out to guide you.

GLASS COVERS

COVER 1

Using Silver, ch2.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc in second ch from hook. [6 sts]

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

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

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

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

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

Round 7 (Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]

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

Round 9 Dc in bl of each st around.

Follow Chart for Cover 1 on page 96.

Round 10 *Dc in next 6 sts, change to Buttercup, dc in next 6 sts, change to Silver; rep

from * another 3 times.

Rounds 11-22 Dc in each st around, following the Chart for colour changes

Fasten off and weave in ends.

COVER 2

Work as for Cover 1 using Natural for Rounds 1-9 and referring to Chart for Cover 2.

COVER 3

Work as for Cover 1 using Yellow Rose for Rounds 1-9 and referring to Chart for Cover 3.



YARN STOCKISTS

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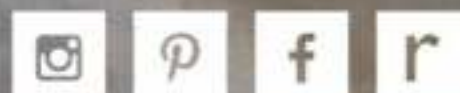


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MINDFUL MANDALA

Lace doilies + 21st-century update = mandala magic!
By Gwen Buttke McGannon



YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Maxi Sweet Treat (100% cotton, 25g/140m)
1 ball of each:

Yarn A Delphinium (113)

Yarn B Garden Rose (251)

Yarn C Green Yellow (245)

Yarn D Willow (395)

- A 2.25mm (US B/1) hook

- Stitch markers

For yarn stockists

contact **Scheepjes**

www.scheepjes.com/en

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Mandala measures 30cm (12in) in diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

beg 3-tr cluster (Ch3, yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh, pull up loop, yrh draw through 2 loops) twice, yrh and draw through all loops on hook

3-tr cluster (Yrh, insert hook in sp/st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 3 times, yrh and draw through all loops on hook

ch-4 picot Ch4, ss in 4th ch from hook

petal Working into ch-sp specified, dc, htr, tr, (dtr, ch1) 10 times, tr, htr, dc

For a full list, see page 92

Mindfulness is having a fashion moment, appearing everywhere from social media to supermarkets. Now you can practise perfect presence as you protect your furnishings, with this beautiful mandala table mat.

MANDALA

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Beg 3-tr cluster into loop, *ch10, dc in seventh ch from hook, dc in next 2 ch, ch1, 3-tr cluster into loop; rep from * 4 times more, ch10, dc in seventh ch from hook, dc in next 2 ch, ch1, ss to top of beg 3-tr cluster.

[6 3-tr cluster, 18 dc, 6 ch-6 sp, 12 ch-1 sps]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn B into any ch-6 sp.

Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), (dc, htr, 9tr, htr, dc) in same ch-6 sp, mark the 5th tr, *ch3, (dc, htr, 9tr, htr, dc) in next ch-6 sp; rep from * 4 times more, ch3, ss to first dc. [78 sts, 6 ch-3 sps]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn C into any marked st.

Round 3 Ch1, dc in same st as ch-1, *ch5, skip 2 tr, tr2tog next tr and second tr of next 9-tr skipping (tr, htr, dc, ch-3 sp, dc, htr, tr), ch5**, skip 2 tr, dc in next tr, rep from * 5 times more, ending last repeat at **, ss in beg dc.

[6 dc, 6 tr2tog, 12 ch-5 sps]

Round 4 Ss to next ch-5 sp, ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 8tr in ch-5 sp, *ch-4 picot, 9 tr in next ch-5 sp, rep from * 10 times more, ch-4 picot, ss to top of beg ch-3. [108 tr, 12 ch-4 picot]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn D into fifth tr from any 9-tr cluster.

Round 5 Beg 3-tr cluster in same tr, *ch5, skip 4 tr, dc in ch-4 picot, ch5**, skip 4 tr, 3-tr cluster in next tr, rep from * 11 times more ending last repeat at **, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

[24 ch-5 sps, 24 sts]

Round 6 Ss into next ch-sp, ch1, dc in ch-sp, (ch7, dc in next ch-sp) 23 times, ch7, ss to first dc to join. [24 dc, 24 ch-sp]

Round 7 As Round 6.

Rounds 8-9 Ss into next ch-sp, dc into same



Two ply yarn is the perfect choice for creating intricate patterns, such as in this mandala

ch-sp, (ch9, dc in next ch-sp) 23 times, ch9, ss to first dc to join.

Rounds 10-11 Ss to next ch-sp, beg 3-tr cluster in same sp, (ch9, 3-tr cluster in next ch-9 sp) 23 times, ch9, ss to top of beg cluster.

[24 sts, 24 ch-sp]

Round 12 Ss to next ch-sp, beg 3-tr cluster in same sp, (ch11, 3-tr cluster in next ch-9 sp) 23 times, ch11, ss to top of beg cluster.

Fasten off.

Join Yarn B into any ch-sp.

Round 13 Ch3, 12tr in ch-sp, *ch14, dc in the 10th ch from hook, dc in next 2 ch, ch2**, 13tr in next ch-sp from Round 12; rep from * 23 times more ending last repeat at **, ss to top of beg ch-3. [24 13-tr groups, 72 dc, 24 ch-9 sps]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn A into the seventh tr from any 13-tr group.

Round 14 Beg 3-tr cluster in same st, *ch4, skip 6 tr, petal (see Abbreviations) in next ch-9 sp, ch4, skip 6 tr**, 3-tr cluster in next tr; rep from * 23 times more ending last repeat at **, ss in top of beg 3-tr cluster. [24 3-tr cluster, 24 petals]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Block to measurements given.

The petals are worked into a chain space created in the previous row





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DAISY SKEIN

With its neckline of blooms, this dainty flower top is the pick of the bunch. Designed by Fran Morgan

SCOOP NECK TOP



YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Creative Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/115m) Light Yellow (003) White (001) Pistachio (016) See table for measurements and yarn quantities
- A 3.25mm (US D/3) hook
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Stitch markers

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

TENSION

18 sts and 7.5 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over 3-tr group on Body and Sleeve patt using a 3.5mm hook or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Motif measures 6.5cm at top and 8.5 (8.5: 9: 9)cm at bottom

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

You might be too old for daisy-chain necklaces now, but you can still capture the idyllic innocence they evoke in this floral scoop-neck top. The daisies are tackled first; measure the motifs to ensure your garment size comes up correctly.

NOTES

The garment is made top down. The Yoke is made first from a series of Motifs sewn together to form a circle. The remainder of the Yoke is worked from the bottom edge of the Motifs, then divided for the Sleeves and Body. The Body is continued towards the hem, then an edging is worked around the top edge of the Motifs to form the neckline. The Daisy Motifs are shaped in the last round to form a trapezium (a four-sided shape with two parallel lines of unequal length) that is narrower at the top than the bottom. There are two variations of the Motif pattern, Motif 1 and Motif 2. Motif 1 is used for all 14 Motifs needed for Sizes 8-10 and 12-14. For Sizes 16-18 and 20-22, you will make 6 of Motif 1 for the Sleeves, and 8 of Motif 2 for the Front and Back.

TOP

DAISY MOTIF 1 (MAKE 14 (14: 6: 6))

With a 3.5mm hook and Light Yellow, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch5 (counts as tr and ch2), (tr in loop, ch2) 7 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [8 tr, 8 ch-2 sps]

Fasten off.

Join White with a ss in any ch-sp.

Round 2 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 2tr in same sp, ch1, (3tr in next space, ch1) 7 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [8 groups of (3tr, ch1)]

Fasten off.

Join Pistachio with a ss in any ch-sp.

Round 3 Ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same sp, 3tr in next sp, (3htr, ch2, 3htr) in next sp, 2htr in next sp, (3htr, ch2, 3htr) in next sp, 3tr in next space, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next sp, 3tr in next sp, ss to top of beg ch-3. [Side with 8htr forms top of Motif, side with 9tr forms bottom of Motif]

Fasten off and weave in ends, leaving a long tail on the last round for sewing together later.

DAISY MOTIF 2 (MAKE 0 (0: 8: 8))

Work Rounds 1 and 2 as for Motif 1. On Round 3, work 4tr instead of 3 in the last ch-sp of the Round. [8 htr along top of Motif, 10 tr along bottom of Motif].

YOKE

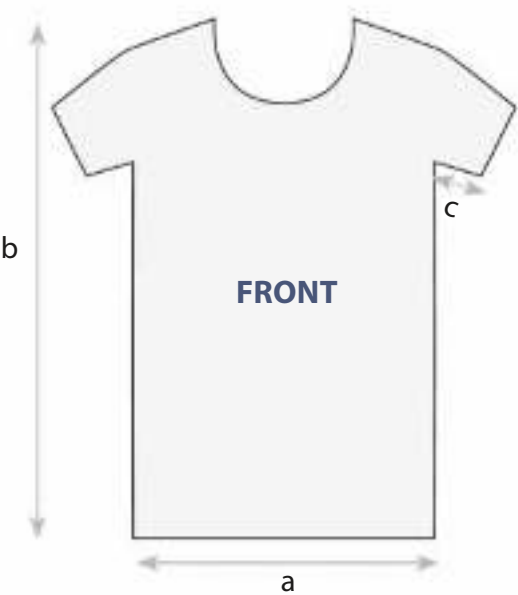
Sew Motifs together along the side edges as follows, making sure to align the top (narrower) and bottom (wider) edges:

SIZES 8-10 AND 12-14

Join all 14 Motifs together into a circle and place markers along the bottom edge at the joins so that there are 3 Motifs between the first two markers, then another 4 Motifs before the next Marker and another 3 before the final marker. There should be 4 markers in total, separating two groups of 3 for the Sleeves, and two groups of 4 for Front and Back. [126 tr along bottom edge of Motifs]

SIZES 16-18 AND 20-22

Join the 6 Motif 1 into two separate groups of 3, and the 8 Motif 2 into 2 separate groups of 4. Join a group of 4 with a group of 3 and repeat for the other group of 4 and 3. Join the 2 remaining groups into a circle so that they alternate groups of 3 and 4 around. The groups of 3 will form the Sleeves, and the groups of 4



Bust width a: 46.5 (53: 58: 65)cm, 18¼ (20¾: 22¾: 25½)in
Length b: 58 (60: 62: 64)cm, 22¾ (23½: 24½: 25)in
Sleeve Length c: 4.5cm, 1¾in

SIZE		8-10	12-14	16-18	20-22
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	93	106	116	130
	in	36½	41¾	45½	51
LENGTH	cm	58	60	62	64
	in	22¾	23½	24½	25
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
	in	1¾	1¾	1¾	1¾
LIGHT YELLOW	50g	1	1	1	1
WHITE	50g	1	1	1	1
PISTACHIO	50g	6	7	8	9

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

the Front and Back. Place markers on the bottom edge at the joins between Sleeves and Front/Back so that there are 4 markers in total. [134 tr along bottom edge of Motifs]

BODY

With a 3.5mm hook and Pistachio, join yarn to bottom of Yoke at the marker between the Back and the right Sleeve.
The next round is worked in four parts to correspond with each marked out section.

PART 1: RIGHT SLEEVE

ALL SIZES

16dc are worked in each of the next 3 Motifs for Sleeve as follows:

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in corner sp, *dc in next tr, 2dc in next tr, dc in next tr, dc in space between last tr and next tr, dc in next tr, 2dc in next tr, dc in next tr, dc in sp between last tr and next tr, dc in next tr, 2dc in next tr, dc in next tr, dc in corner space; rep from * twice more to next marker. [48 sts]

PART 2: FRONT

SIZE 8-10 ONLY

18 dc are worked in each of the Motifs for the Front as follows:

Round 1 (cont) 2dc in each tr to next marker. [72 sts]

SIZE 12-14 ONLY

21 dc are worked in each of the Motifs for the Front as follows:

Round 1 (cont) *Dc in corner sp, 2dc in next 3 tr, dc in sp before next tr, 2dc in next tr, dc in next tr, 2dc in next tr, dc in sp before next tr, 2dc in next 3 tr, dc in corner sp; rep from * 3 more times to next marker. [84 sts]

SIZE 16-18 ONLY

22 dc are worked in each of the Motifs for the Front with 1 extra st at beg and end of section as follows:

Round 1 (cont) Dc in first corner sp, *2dc in next 10 tr, 2dc in last corner sp of Motif**, skip first corner sp of next Motif; rep from * 3 more times, ending final repeat at **, work another dc in corner sp just worked. [90 sts]

SIZE 20-22 ONLY

25 dc are worked in each of the Motifs for the Front with 1 extra st at beg and end of section as follows:

Round 1 (cont) Dc in first corner sp, *dc in first corner sp of Motif (same sp as first st of section for first repeat only), (2dc in next 3 tr, 2dc in sp before next tr) twice, 2dc in next 3 tr, 2dc in last corner sp of Motif; rep from * 3 more times, work another dc in corner sp just worked. [102 sts]

PART 3: LEFT SLEEVE

Work as for Part 1, Right Sleeve, omitting turning ch at beg. [48 sts]

PART 4: BACK

Work as for Part 2, Front, then ss to first dc. [72 (84: 90: 102) sts for this section; total of 240 (264: 276: 300) sts around bottom of Yoke]

BODY AND SLEEVE PATT

Round 1 (RS) Ss into next st, ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 2tr in same st, (skip next 2 sts, 3tr in next st) rep around, ss to top of beg ch-3. Rep Round 1 until work measures 18 (19: 20: 21) cm from neckline edge of Motifs.

DIVIDE FOR BODY AND SLEEVES

First add two sections of chain, which will form the underarm chain as follows:

Using a separate piece of Pistachio, join to last tr of previous round, ch12 (12: 15: 15), skip 16 3-tr groups for Sleeve and ss to first tr of next 3-tr group of Front.

Fasten off.

Repeat for second Sleeve, joining yarn to last tr of Front and ss to first tr at Back.

In the next round you will work across these ch, skipping the Sleeve sts, and across the sts of the previous round on Front and Back.

[168 (192: 210: 234) sts]

Repeat Round 1 of Body and Sleeve Patt until work measures 43 (45: 47: 49)cm when measured from neckline edge straight down at centre Front. (Total length of garment is measured from shoulder, as shown on schematic).
Do not fasten off.

HEM EDGING

Change to a 3.25mm hook.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st around, ss to first dc.

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

Round 3 As Round 1.

Fasten off.

NECKBAND

With a 3.25mm hook and Pistachio, join at top edge of Motifs opposite the start of the Body rounds.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc into each htr around, ss to first dc. [8 sts for each Motif; 112 dc]

Round 2 Ch2 (does not count as st), htr in each st around, ss to first htr.

Round 3 As Round 1.

Round 4 Ss in each st around, ss to first st.

Fasten off.

SLEEVES

Work across the skipped Sleeve sts and opposite side of ch at armhole opening as follows:



The daisy motifs form a curve when joined because the side edges are cleverly sloped



Crochet the neck and sleeve edges with a smaller hook for tighter stitches and a close fit

With a 3.5mm hook and Pistachio, join yarn at the base of the 3-tr group which is nearest the centre of the underarm.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in same st, (skip next 2 sts, 3tr in next st) rep around, ss to top of beg ch-3.

[60 (60: 63: 63) sts; 20 (20: 21: 21) 3-tr groups]
Change to a 3.25mm hook.

Round 2 (decrease round) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), (dc in next st, dc2tog over next 2 sts) around, ss to first dc.

[40 (40: 42: 42) sts]

Round 3 Ch2 (does not count as st), htr in each st around, ss to first htr.

Round 4 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first dc.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Weave in all ends. If you feel the neckband is too loose, insert a small width of ribbon through htr row and tie.

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EMMA'S JOURNAL

...from the studio

Emma Friedlander-Collins stacks the winter WIPs in her cupboard in favour of sustainable summertime makes

Crochet is one of those obsessions, ahem, I mean hobbies that can sometimes seem less appealing in the summertime. The thought of sitting under the weight of that blanket you've been making while the sun is blazing, or working on the winter woolly wonders of jumpers and bobble hats can be an instant turn-off. That's not to say that there's not a place for working on the odd granny square here or there – on the contrary, there's nothing better than letting the hands do what they know while sitting in the garden as the sun sets, with a chilled glass of something. But that is why the term WIP was invented, so that you can put those makes in a pile, come back to them when you're ready and crack on with some new light and lovely summer-friendly creations.

SWEETNESS AND LIGHT

For me, those light and lovely makes tend to be made from cottons. Trying to wrestle with acrylics and wools when it's hot and sticky can be just that: hot and sticky. Cottons are that much more manageable, and if you're making clothes, it's much more wearable in the heat too. Getting to grips with the 'drape' of cotton took me a long time, and if I'm honest, I didn't really know what it meant for years. If you're a

newbie, then the drape is the way that a cotton garment hangs – cotton tends to sit with a lot more weight than a bouncy acrylic or wool. It doesn't stretch very much either so swatching is vital if you're making clothes with it.

CROCHET HACKING

This summer I'm still maintaining my 2019 challenge of not buying any new clothes (it's upcycled or second-hand for me) so I've been digging out the DK cottons to add trims, make new straps and craft the odd bikini top or two. I've dubbed this style of making as 'crochethacking' and it's proving to be brilliant, creative and enjoyable. Instead of having to crochet the body of a T-shirt I can craft a new neckline and sleeve edges of an existing top and my simple summer tee is finished! No sitting under balls of yarn, no being blanketed by acres of crochet, a few snips, some easy to handle material, a hook and some yarn and a new garment is ready. This summer I have already used crochet to upcycle a playsuit from a denim skirt, a cardigan from a long-sleeved tee, a beach dress from a man's T-shirt and a pair of dungarees from some holey old jeans. There's also a pair of summer shoes in the WIP pile, alongside a bikini-top dress and an open back top, but I'm very happy knowing that none

"When I'm designing, I tend to pick colours that go with the season"

"wrestling with acrylics and wools when it's hot and sticky can be just that: hot and sticky"





"It's when summer arrives
that hues get brilliant"

of them will take too long and I'll be wearing them by next week. Creative crochet, sustainability and a beach-ready garment all in one hit – what's not to like?

HIGH COLOUR

Summer is also all about colour. When I'm designing (or even just getting dressed) I tend to pick colours that go with the season. In autumn I lean towards mustards, rusty tones and navy, winter becomes grey, white and dark green with a splash of red, and then as soon as spring starts it's all greens, pastels and pale pinks. But it's when summer arrives that hues get brilliant, as I start wearing rainbow shades of gaudy cerise, lemon yellow and aqua blue. Inspiration strikes everywhere from the abundance of colourful flowers in bloom to the brazened sunsets and the vivid blue sky.

These colours may feel a bit bold to wear sometimes but they are perfect for creating beach bags, bottle holders to keep your water with you and picnic blankets. They are also gorgeous for whipping up floral crowns and boho bracelets to give you a festival vibe. Many of you may know that I have

a bit of a thing for making floral crowns and, while I may not be heading off to any festivals this year, summer is the perfect excuse for whipping one up and trotting off to a garden party – or just for wearing around the house while you do the vacuuming.

SUMMER RULES

Whatever you're making this summer there are two key things to remember: 1. Keep it light, no wants to hear the squeaky sound of sweaty yarn being forced across a hook. This happened to me in a hotel in Berlin in 34 degree heat, it wasn't fun for anyone. 2. Make sure it fits in your bag, because we all know that if you're packing to go away a WIP is more important than everything else. With holidays, festivals and long evenings out in the garden, summer is our most transient season, so choose your makes with portability in mind. Happy hot-weather hooking!

Find Emma on Instagram @steelandstitch

HOLIDAY CROCHET!



This summer we're heading off to Greece so it's beachwear and holiday WIPs all round. I'll be taking the crochet-backed beach dress, denim-skirt-to-playsuit and a bikini top or two. I'm also hoping to make a simple sisal bag for towels, but that may be a bit ambitious!





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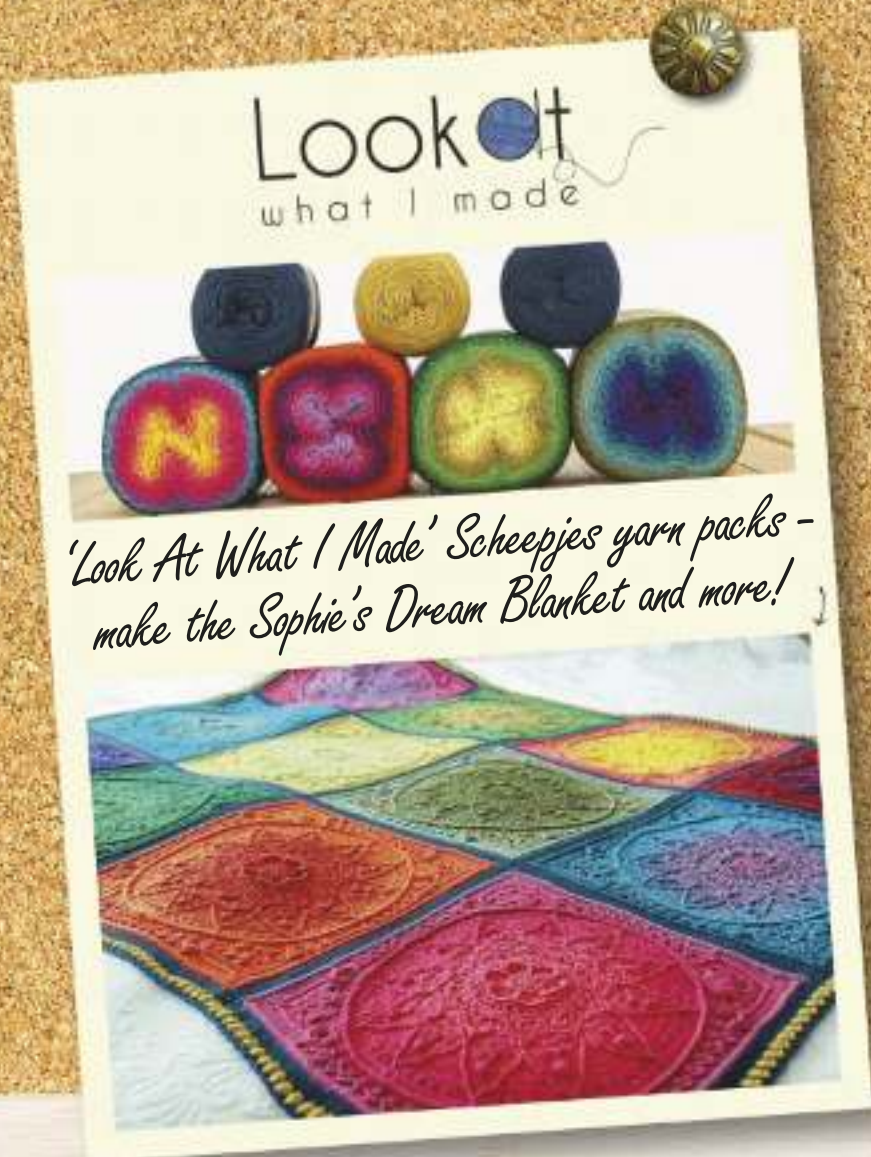
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JESTER MINUTE

Be harle-queen for a day with this trendy scarf,
designed by Melissa Masterson

HARLEQUIN SCARF



YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes River Washed (78% cotton, 22% acrylic, 50g/130m), 1 ball of each:
Mississippi (946)
Congo (954)
Ural (959)
Mekong (943)
Yarra (949)

- Scheepjes Stone Washed (78% cotton, 22% acrylic, 50g/130m), 1 ball of Moon Stone (801)

- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

For yarn stockists contact
Deramores www.deramores.com

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Approx 19x280cm (7½x110¼in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Take a fashion tip from the medieval courts with this pastel-tone harlequin scarf. The undulating edges and shaping of the diamonds give it fabulous drape, making an attention-grabbing accessory.

NOTES

The Scarf is made up of 12 Diamond Motifs and 28 Half Diamond Motifs, which are joined together at the end.

Each Motif is designed so that they do not lie flat, as this allows the Scarf to drape in a twisted style.

Ch-sps are not included in st count.

SCARF

DIAMOND MOTIF (MAKE 12)

Make 2 in each colour.

Make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr into loop, (ch5, 3tr into loop) 3 times, ch5, tr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [12 sts]

Round 2 (RS) Ch3, tr in next st, *(tr, ch5, tr) in ch-5 sp, tr in each st to next ch-5 sp; rep from * 2 times more, (tr, ch5, tr) in last ch-sp, tr in next st, ss to top of beg ch-3. [20 sts]

Round 3 Ch3, tr in each st to next ch-5 sp, (tr, ch5, tr) in ch-sp; rep from * around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [28 sts]

Rounds 4-7 As Round 3. [60 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

HALF DIAMOND MOTIF (MAKE 28)

Using any colour, make a magic loop.

Row 1 (RS) Ch3, (2tr, ch5, 3tr) into loop, turn. [6 sts]

Row 2 (WS) Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next 2 sts, (tr, ch5, tr) in ch-5 sp, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in last st, turn. [10 sts]

Row 3 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in each st to ch5 sp, (tr, ch5, tr) in ch-sp, tr in each st to last st, 2tr in last st, turn. [14 sts]

Rows 4-7 As Row 3. [30 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.



The diamond motifs feature pretty eyelets running horizontally across their centres

TO FINISH

Refer to the Diagram below for guidance when joining the Scarf and work with WS facing throughout.

Using same colour yarn as Diamond Motif, join Half Diamond Motifs around each side with a row of ss worked in the bl only. Work the ss through the chs of the ch-5 sps, before continuing on to join the next Motif.

The 2 Half Diamond Motifs at the ends of the Scarf should be treated as a Diamond Motif when joining.

Weave in all remaining ends.

ALL THE YARN YOU NEED FOR THIS SCARF!

Fed up of hunting down the yarn to hook that favourite item? Then you're in luck! Deramores are offering a yarn pack filled with all the yarn you'll need to hook Melissa Masterson's harlequin scarf. Available for just £17.94, your treasured package could be winging its way to you! For details and to order visit www.deramores.com/collections/simplycrochet

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Key



Half Diamond



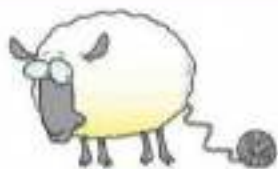
Diamond



Repeat

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Taste the rainbow with this super-saturated pineapple cushion, designed by Kati Brown



PINEAPPLE CUSHION



YOU WILL NEED

- King Cole Pricewise DK (100% acrylic, 100g/282m)
- 2 balls of **Yarn A** Natural (046)
- 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn B** Carnation (3286)
 - Yarn C** Gold (055)
 - Yarn D** Topaz (341)
 - Yarn E** Baby Lilac (3208)
 - Yarn F** Orange (144)
 - Yarn G** Jade (022)
 - Yarn H** Amber (3207)
 - Yarn I** Shamrock (039)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- Cushion pad, 50x50cm
- 4 buttons, 2cm

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

TENSION

13 sts and 13 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over half treble crochet using a 5mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Front measures 55x50cm (21¾x19¾in)
 Back measures 50x50cm (19¾x19¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

v-st (Tr, ch1, tr) in st indicated
crocodile st 5tr around first post of v-st in previous row, 5tr around second post of same v-st
ch-8 loop (Dc, ch8, dc) in st indicated
leaf (8tr, ch3, ss in last ch from hook ch, 8tr) in ch-8 sp indicated
 For a full list, see page 92

Throughout the 1700s pineapples were a symbol of opulence and hospitality, a revered fruit in high demand and short supply. Earn the belated respect of ancient noblemen with this high-colour pineapple, plus get your crocodile stitch down pat.

NOTES

Back and Front are worked in rows, from the bottom up. The Front has 5 extra rows, which are used as the button band. Change colour on the last yrh of st before colour change is indicated. Ch-2 at beginning of row does not count as htr, and ch-sps are not included in stitch counts unless otherwise stated.

PINEAPPLE CUSHION

FRONT

Using Yarn A, ch67.

Row 1 (RS) Htr in third ch from hook, htr in each ch across, turn. [65 sts]

Rows 2-13 Ch2 (does not count as st throughout), htr in each st across, turn.

Row 14 Ch2, htr in next 24 sts, (ch2, skip 2 sts, v-st in next st, ch2, skip 2 sts, dc in next st) twice, ch2, skip 2 sts, v-st in next st, ch2, skip 2 sts, htr in next 24 sts, turn. [48 htr, 2 dc, 3 v-sts]

Row 15 Ch2, htr in next 24 sts, change to Yarn B, (crocodile st around posts of next v-st, dc in next dc) twice, crocodile st around posts of next v-st, change to Yarn A, htr in next 24 sts, turn. [48 htr, 2 dc, 3 crocodile sts]

Row 16 Ch2, htr in next 21 sts, ch2, skip 2 sts, v-st in next st, ch2, dc in centre of crocodile st,

(ch2, v-st in dc between crocodile sts, ch2, dc in centre of crocodile st) twice, ch2, v-st in first st after crocodile st, ch2, skip 2 sts, htr in next 21 sts, turn. [42 htr, 3 dc, 4 v-sts]

Row 17 Ch2, htr in next 21 sts, change to Yarn C, (crocodile st in next v-st, dc in next dc) 3 times, crocodile st in next v-st, change to Yarn A, htr in next 21 sts, turn. [42 htr, 3 dc, 4 crocodile sts]

Row 18 Ch2, htr in next 18 sts, ch2, skip 2 sts, v-st in next htr, ch2, dc in centre of crocodile st, (ch2, v-st in dc between crocodile sts, ch2, dc in centre of crocodile st) 3 times, ch2, v-st in first htr after crocodile st, ch2, skip 2 sts, htr in next 18 sts, turn. [36 htr, 4 dc, 5 v-sts]

Row 19 Ch2, htr in next 18 sts, change to Yarn D, (crocodile st in next v-st, dc in next dc) 4 times, crocodile st in next v-st, change to Yarn A, htr in next 18 sts, turn. [36 htr, 4 dc, 5 crocodile sts]

Row 20 Ch2, htr in next 18 sts, 2htr in ch-2 space behind crocodile st, htr in centre of crocodile st, (ch2, v-st in dc between crocodile sts, ch2, dc in centre of crocodile st) 3 times, ch2, v-st in dc between crocodile sts, ch2, htr in centre of crocodile st, 2htr in ch-2 space behind crocodile st, htr in next 18 sts, turn. [42 htr, 3 dc, 4 v-sts]

Row 21 Ch2, htr in next 21 sts, change to Yarn E, (crocodile st in next v-st, dc in next dc) 3 times, crocodile st in next v-st, change to Yarn A, htr in next 21 sts, turn. [42 htr, 3 dc, 4 crocodile sts]

Rows 22-45 Repeat Rows 18-21 another six times, working in following order: Yarns F, B, C, D and E, ending with Yarn B on Row 41.



Work leaf stitches in green and brown to make the pineapple's crown

Row 46 Ch2, htr in next 21 sts, 2htr in ch-2 sp behind crocodile st, htr in centre of crocodile st, change to Yarn G, ch2, ch-8 loop in dc between crocodile sts, (ch2, tr in centre of crocodile st, ch2, ch-8 loop in dc between crocodile sts) twice, ch2, change to Yarn A, htr in centre of crocodile st, 2htr in ch-2 space behind crocodile st, htr in next 21 htr, turn.

[48 htr, 2 tr, 3 ch-8 loops]

Row 47 Ch2, htr in next 24 htr, change to Yarn G, leaf in next ch-8 loop, (dc in next tr, leaf in next ch-8 loop) twice, change to Yarn A, htr in next 24 htr, turn. [48 htr, 3 dc, 3 leafs]

Row 48 Ch2, htr in next 21 htr, change to Yarn H, ch2, skip 2 sts, ch-8 loop in next htr, ch2, tr in centre of leaf, ch2, (ch-8 loop in dc between leaves, ch2, tr in centre of leaf, ch2) twice, ch-8 loop in first htr after leaf, ch2, skip 2 sts, change to Yarn A, htr in next 21 htr, turn.

[42 htr, 3 tr, 4 ch-8 loops]

Row 49 Ch2, htr in next 21 htr, change to Yarn H, leaf in next ch-8 loop, (dc in next tr, leaf in next ch-8 loop) 3 times, change to Yarn A, htr in next 21 htr, turn. [42 htr, 3 dc, 4 leafs]

Row 50 Ch2, htr in next 21 htr, 2htr in ch-2 sp behind leaf, htr in centre of leaf, change to Yarn I, ch2, ch-8 loop in dc between leaves, (ch2, tr in centre of next leaf, ch2, ch-8 loop in dc between leaves) twice, ch2, change to Yarn A, htr in centre of leaf, 2htr in ch-2 space behind leaf, htr in next 21 htr, turn.

[48 htr, 2 tr, 3 Ch-8 loops]

Row 51 As Row 43, using Yarn I for leaves.

[48 htr, 3 dc, 3 leafs]

Rows 52-59 Repeat Rows 44-47 another 2 times, rotating through Yarns G, H and I, ending with Yarn G on Row 59.

Row 60 Ch2, htr in next 24 htr, 2htr in next ch-2 sp behind leaf, (htr in centre of next leaf, 2htr in next ch-2 sp behind leaf, htr in dc between leaves, 2htr in next ch-2 sp behind leaf) twice, htr in centre of leaf, 2htr in next ch-2 sp behind leaf, htr in next 24 htr, turn. [65 htr]

Row 61 Ch2, htr in each st across, turn.

Rows 62-70 As Row 61.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BACK

With Yarn A, ch67.

Row 1 (RS) Htr in third ch from hook, htr in each st across, turn. [65 sts]

Row 2 Ch2, htr in each st across, turn.

Rows 3-65 As Row 2.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Block Panels to measurements given.

With RS facing each other, place the Front and Back together, sew or dc around top and 2 sides leaving bottom edge open (with 5 rows unjoined on the Front).

Turn so RS is facing out, and attach buttons evenly spaced on Row 3 of Back.

Insert cushion pad, fold Front flap over Back and push buttons through space between stitches.



The button flap is worked on the front side and folded over to the back of the cushion

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 and work a slip st.



2 Make ch1 (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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*Stand out from
the crowd!*





Bohemian queen

From Glastonbury to Coachella, you'll fit right in with this festival jumper. Designed by Margaret Hubert



YOU WILL NEED

- Paintbox Metallic DK (55% cotton, 45% polyamide, 50g/120m)
Daiquiri (12)
Sangria (10)
Tequila Sunrise (09)
See table for measurements and yarn quantities

- Stitch markers
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn contact

Love Crochet 01409 404010
www.lovecrochet.com

TENSION

18 sts and 10 rows to measure
10x10cm (4x4in) over Larksfoot
stitch pattern using a 4mm hook or
size needed to obtain stated tension
19 sts and 9 rows to measure
10x10cm (4x4in) over Sleeve stitch
pattern using a 4mm hook or size
needed to obtain stated tension

ABBREVIATIONS

spiked treble Yrh, insert hook in
ch-1 sp 2 rows below, working over
sts of previous row, yrh and pull up a
loop, draw up yarn to height of
current row, (yrh, draw through 2
loops on hook) twice

For a full list, see page 92

Your friends will never lose you at a festival again wearing this stand-out pullover – it's like an on-trend high-vis. Larksfoot is a very worthwhile stitch to master, and this one's augmented with peppery two-tone yarns.

NOTES

Pullover is worked from the bottom up in separate identical pieces for Front and Back. Sleeves are worked separately and sewn in place. An edging is worked on the neckline and a fringe is added to the hem.

PULLOVER

LARKSFOOT STITCH PATTERN

Carry unused yarns loosely up the side of the work. When changing colour, twist the new colour around the previous one to catch it in place.

With Daiquiri, work the number of ch stated in the pattern below (multiple of 4 plus 1).

Foundation row Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn.

Row 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), *tr in next 3 sts, ch1, skip next st; rep from * to last 4 sts, tr in last 4 sts, turn.

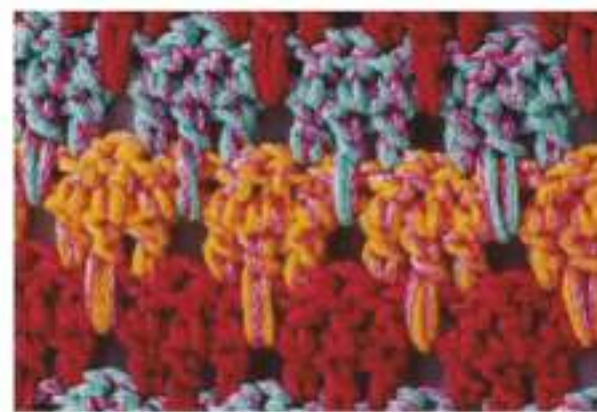
Row 2 As Row 1. At end of row drop Daiquiri and draw Sangria through the last loop.

Row 3 Ch3, tr in next st, *ch1, skip next st, tr in next st, spiked treble in next st, tr in next st; rep from * to last 3 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in last 2 sts, turn.

Row 4 Ch3, tr in next st, *ch1, skip next st, tr in next 3 sts; rep from * to end omitting last tr on final repeat. Drop Sangria and draw Tequila Sunrise through the last loop.

Row 5 Ch3, tr in next st, *spiked treble in next st, tr in next st, ch1, skip next st, tr in next st; rep from * to last 3 sts, spiked treble in next st, tr in last 2 sts, turn.

Row 6 As Row 1 with Tequila Sunrise. At end of



The body of the pullover is worked in spiky Larksfoot pattern in colourful stripes

row drop Tequila Sunrise and draw Daiquiri through the last loop.

Rows 3-6 set pattern. Continue working in 2 rows of each colour, using the sequence as set.

BACK AND FRONT (BOTH ALIKE)

With Daiquiri, ch86 (98: 106).

Work Larksfoot pattern as set on these 85 (97: 105) sts until piece measures 59 (60: 61)cm ending with Row 6 of pattern, do not fasten off.

LEFT SHOULDER

Next row (RS) Work Row 3 of Larksfoot pattern for 22 (28: 32) sts, tr in next st, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [23 (29: 33) sts]

Next row Ch3, tr2tog over next 2 sts, cont as Row 4 to end, working tr in each tr or spiked treble, and a ch above every ch-sp to end, turn. [22 (28: 32) sts]

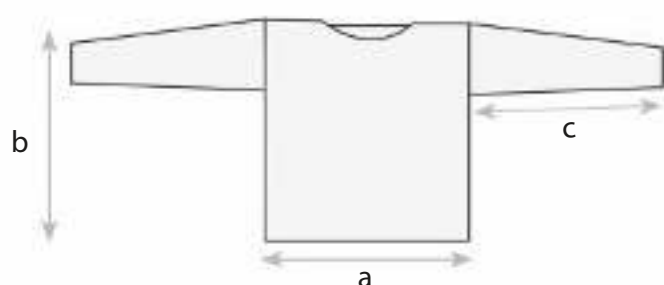
Next row Ch1, dc in each st to end.

Fasten off.

RIGHT SHOULDER

With RS facing, skip the next 39 unworked sts of the last Row 6 of pattern. Join yarn in next st.

Next row (RS) Ch3, work Row 3 of patt beg with ch1 (spiked treble: spiked treble) to end,



Bust width a: 47 (54: 58.5)cm

18½ (21¼: 23)in

Length b*: 61.5 (62.5: 63.5)cm

24¼ (24½: 25)in

Sleeve length c: 48cm, 19in

*Length does not include the fringe

SIZE		S	M	L
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	94	108	117
	in	37	42½	46
LENGTH	cm	61.5	62.5	63.5
	in	24¼	24½	25
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	48	48	48
	in	19	19	19
DAIQUIRI (12)	50g	5	6	7
SANGRIA (10)	50g	5	6	7
TEQUILA SUNRISE (09)	50g	3	4	4

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

turn. [23 (29: 33) sts]

Next row Work as Row 4 to last 3 sts, tr2tog, tr in last st, turn. [22 (28: 32) sts]

Next row Ch1, dc in each st to end.

Fasten off.

SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

Make 1 in Daiquiri and 1 in Tequila Sunrise.

Ch44 (48: 52)

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [43 (47: 51) sts]

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

Row 5 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in next 4 sts, *ch1, skip next st, tr in next 3 sts; rep from * to last 6 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in each st to end, turn.

SLEEVE INCREASES

Rows 6-8 Work a tr into each tr, and (ch1, skip ch-sp) above each ch-sp to end, turn.

Row 9 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch, *ch1, skip next st, tr in next 3 sts; rep from * to last 2 sts, ch1, skip next st, 2tr in last st, turn. [45 (49: 53) sts]

Rows 10-12 As Row 6.

Row 13 (Increase row) Continue in Larksfoot patt as set, but work 2 tr into first and last sts. [47 (51: 55) sts]

Continue working in increase patt as set by the last 4 rows, with 3 rows without shaping and 1 increase row.

Once the number of tr before/after the ch-sp at the beginning and end of the row have increased to 5, you can work the next increase row as Row 9 to incorporate an extra ch-sp into the beginning and end of the row.

Work until a further 7 increase rows have been completed, incorporating extra ch-sps into the pattern as above. [61 (65: 69) sts]

Cont in patt without increasing until Sleeve measures 48cm.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

With RS together, sew shoulder seams. Mark centre of Sleeves and pin centre to shoulder seam. Pin each outside edge of Sleeve 16 (17: 18)cm below shoulder seam. Sew Sleeve seam at shoulder and underarm.

NECK EDGING

Round 1 (RS) Join Daiquiri at Right Back shoulder seam with a ss, ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 2dc along Right Back neck shaping, dc in each st along top of Back skipping ch-1 sps, 2dc along Left Back neck shaping, 2dc along Left Front shaping, dc in each st along top of Front skipping ch-1 sps, 2dc along Right Front neck shaping, ss to first dc.

Round 2 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

FRINGE

Make Fringe by cutting three 20cm lengths of yarn of the same colour. Working from WS of Body, fold 3 strands, draw folded loop through st at hem using a crochet hook and pass ends of strands through loop. Make tassels in alternating colours and attach to every other st at hem.



Making the sleeves in different colours adds a fun design detail to this vibrant pullover



The stitch pattern on the sleeves is worked in a combination of treble and chain stitches

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 them 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.

Jessica has been
designing patterns
for seven years



Pride AND Joy

Jessica Carey's infectious enthusiasm for crochet is an unstoppable force – she sees the pride and power in making and wants the world to get hooked too!

Crocheting isn't just a hobby, it's a lifestyle! The sense of satisfaction in making your own creations has a multi-layered effect in people's lives. That's one of the messages behind Jessica Carey's 'Hook Nook' brand, which seeks to 'inspire all generations to experience the joys and pride in making with your hands... and to strengthen our self-confidences at the same time.'

As with many other crafters, Jessica's design journey began with an Etsy shop, having taught herself to crochet. These days however, you're more likely to see her sharing her patterns and words of personal empowerment through her blog and spending time growing her website's online community. Oregon, in the USA's Pacific Northwest region where Jessica is based, has

a thriving crafting community, which she loves to delve into, "The area is full of creative people all striving to do big and amazing things for their community and I'm incredibly fortunate to be a part of that. I've been to several different events and meet ups here. Meeting people at these get-togethers is always fun because the fibre community reaches so many different circles of people from all different walks of life and in different seasons of their lives, and all love what they do as much as I love what I do."

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Capturing that 'crafting energy' is a recurring theme for Jessica – it's obvious she adores what she does for a living and is passionate about getting as many people as possible to experience it too. "It's been so rewarding to

see others make my designs and feel proud of themselves for making it! Being able to let others feel the way I feel when I crochet is truly the number one reason I do what I do."

One of the main ways she reaches out is via her website www.thehooknooklife.com. "It is a wonderful resource for makers who want to get involved with the community and expand their skillset," she enthuses. "We have worked with several different makers and designers since February 2018 when we launched the site to create a haven for others to come and fill up their cup. From crochet and knit patterns, to tips for running your business or overcoming problems, THNLife blog is definitely a place to check out!"

All this online activity means her own personal crochet time is as precious as ever, serving the important function of carving



out some space in her day for reflection. "I tend to prefer simple stitch sequences or row repeats because the act of crocheting is very therapeutic for me and complex designs take away the opportunity for mindfulness for me," she explains.

Jessica had battled severe anxiety and depression for over a decade, but it was undiagnosed until about three years ago, and crochet has always helped her, "I didn't even know why creating was so meaningful for me or that it was even helping me, all I knew was that it made me feel good and finally gave my mind moments of clarity without being washed over with anxiety, because my mind races a million miles a minute. It truly has been the catalyst in my life towards managing my anxiety and depression and healing the darkest moments of life. I wouldn't be who or where I am today without this outlet."

STYLE STATEMENT

Her current preference for her own design work is wearable items, "For a while now I've really enjoyed designing garments and accessories such as cardigans, tops, scarves, cowls and beanies. I really love how clothing can make a statement for how you feel on the inside. When I first wanted to make clothes, I didn't find many clothing patterns so I started making my own!" As for inspiration – Jessica is happy to take references from anything and everything as a starting point for her creations. "I'm inspired by many things like florals, colours, textures, art and ideas which I like to incorporate into the things I make." And as far as yarn preferences go, big is definitely best in Jessica's book, "I tend to reach for bulkier yarns, with an aran weight typically the smallest I use. I am a millennial and it

shows with me being impatient and preferring instant gratification. I mean, who doesn't want to make an entire cardigan in one weekend?"

That, however, is as far as major decisions go when Jessica's designing – she prefers to see what happens as the process unfolds. "Creating is a personal thing for me so, if I have the choice, I just make whatever kind of thing I want to make, choose a yarn that I feel would work best for that project and just start chaining," she says. "Committing myself to a specific idea actually stresses me out because if it doesn't work out, crochet is no longer fun in that moment. I prefer to make it up as I go and imagine textures, shapes and an overall idea of what sounds good, and hope for the best."

And it still is just crochet which relaxes Jessica the most. Although she does know the basics of knitting, she explains that, "the way it works doesn't compute in my head in the same way crochet does." Having tried embroidery, macramé and many other crafts, crochet has always been her main focus. "For me, it's such a comfort to be able to mindlessly work the stitches without having to focus on what I'm doing. The

rhythmic motions are my favourite part and being able to create full pieces out of just yarn always makes me feel so proud!"

CREATIVE SPACE

In spring this year, after moving house, Jessica's finally managed to get a space at home that's dedicated to her yarns and her business. "Previously, I'd have some of my stuff at the office outside the home and the rest riddled throughout the house and

garage. It was always frustrating never having everything in one place, and being able to have the opportunity now is just incredible." That space will come in

handy in the years to come as Jessica shows no signs of slowing down, with plenty of projects and collaborations coming up, including writing her first crochet book! "It will contain beautiful and approachable crochet patterns," she says. "The book launches in autumn 2020 and I'm super excited! I am still blogging for JOANN Stores each month and love creating new projects with their help. I'm also working on another project that's top secret, so you'll have to follow along with me to find out what!"

Written by Lucy Evans

"I PREFER TO MAKE DESIGNS UP AS I GO AND IMAGINE TEXTURES, SHAPES AND AN OVERALL IDEA"



A few of her favourite things

When Jessica's not crocheting...

"I love books, wine, spending time with my husband and children, meeting up with friends, and really enjoy spending time alone. I'm an introvert through and through and need that quiet space to keep myself in check. I also love to read my Bible!"

Find Jessica online at www.thehooknooklife.com

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OH SO
ON-TREND



How bazaar

Enrich a plain basket with the flair and flavour of exotic Morocco. Designed by Sara Huntington



YOU WILL NEED

- Paintbox Yarns Metallic DK (55% cotton, 45% polyamide, 50g/120m)
2 balls of each:
Blue Hawaii (08)
Tequila Sunrise (09)
Sazerac (11)
Sangria (10)
1 ball of Sea Breeze (07)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- A basket (ours is 120cm in circumference)
- Felted or wooden beads, 2cm

For yarn stockists contact
Love Crochet 01409 404010
www.lovecrochet.com

TENSION

Each Motif measures 10x12cm (4x4¾in) across widest points to obtain tension

MEASUREMENTS

Motif measures 10cm (4in) across; divide circumference of basket by 10 to calculate number of motifs you need to make

ABBREVIATIONS

French knot Using a tapestry needle, secure yarn on WS, bring needle through fabric up to RS, keeping yarn taut wrap around needle 3 times, insert needle back through to WS (close to where it came through, but not same place), pull gently to secure
tr3tog (tr4tog) *Yrh, insert hook into next st, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 2 loops; rep from * another 2 (3) times, yrh and pull through all loops on hook

For a full list, see page 92

This vibrant design bursts over the basket lip, pours down the diamond motifs and then drips to the floor through the beaded fringing. Now *that's* awash with colour. Thanks to www.atty-s.blogspot.com for inspiring the diamond motif in this make.

NOTES

Diamond Motifs are made first and then joined together across the top. A band of crochet is worked up from the joined Motifs before joining the Motifs where the corners meet across the centre. See Measurements to calculate the number of Motifs you'll need to make, we made 12. Change colours on the last yrh of last st of round when colour change is indicated. You will need 2 felted or wooden beads for each Motif you make.

BASKET EMBELLISHMENT

DIAMOND MOTIF 1

Using Sazerac, ch4 and ss into first ch to form a loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 2tr into loop, ch1, (3tr, ch1) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [12 tr, 4 ch-1 sps]

Change to Blue Hawaii.

Round 2 Ch3, tr in next 2 sts, *(tr, ch1, tr) in next ch-1 sp, tr in next 3 sts, (tr, dtr, ch1, dtr, tr) in next ch-1 sp**, tr in next 3 sts; rep from * to **, ss to top of beg ch-3. [24 sts]

Change to Tequila Sunrise.

Round 3 Ch3, tr each st to ch-sp, (tr, ch1, tr) in ch-1 sp, tr in each st to next ch-sp, (tr, dtr, ch1, dtr, tr) in ch-1 sp; rep from * once more, tr in each st to end, ss to top of beg ch-3. [36 sts]

Change to Sangria.

Round 4 As Round 3. [48 sts]



Place the gorgeous crocheted band at the top of the basket and sew it in place securely

DIAMOND MOTIF 2

Make as for Diamond Motif 1, using Sangria on Round 3 and Tequila Sunrise on Round 4.

Using Sea Breeze, work 20 French knots evenly around the stitches of Round 4.

Block all Motifs to measurements given.

JOIN MOTIFS AND MAKE TOP BAND

Join Sazerac into ch-1 sp at top point of any Motif.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc into ch-1 sp, *ch12, dc into ch-1 sp at the top of next Motif; rep from * until all Motifs have been joined, ch12, ss to top of beg dc.

Round 2 (RS) Ch1, dc in each st around increasing approx 4 stitches evenly around. You will need to end round with a multiple of 4 sts.

Round 3 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to top of beg dc.

Change to Blue Hawaii.

Round 4 Ch3, tr3tog next 3 sts, ch3, (tr4tog next 4 sts, ch3) around, ss to top of beg ch-3.

Change to Sangria.

Round 5 Ss into first st, ss into first ch of ch-3 sp,

Felted beads or small pompoms fill the triangular gap between motifs beautifully





Decorate the motifs with French knots embroidered around the outer border

ch3, 3tr in same ch, skip next 2 ch and tr4tog, (4tr in next ch, skip next 2 ch and tr4tog) around, ss in top of beg ch-3.

Change to Sea Breeze.

Rounds 6-8 As Round 3.

Change to Sangria.

Round 9 As Round 4.

Change to Blue Hawaii.

Round 10 As Round 5.

Change to Sazerac.

Rounds 11-13 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to top of beg dc.

Fasten off.

Using Tequila Sunrise, work French knots evenly around the Top Band over Round 7. You can use the image as a guide.

JOIN MOTIFS AT CENTRE POINT

Join Sazerac into top ch-1 sp on any Motif.

Working in opposite side of ch-12 from Round 1 of Join Motifs and Make Top Band section, 2dc in first ch, dc in each ch to last ch before next Motif, 2dc in last ch, working down upper edge of Motif, dc in each st along edge to central ch-1 sp, dc2tog in ch-1 sp on current Motif and adjacent Motif, dc along upper edge of adjacent Motif, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Repeat for all Motifs.

TO FINISH

Position Top Band along top edge of your basket and sew in place.

Using Sazerac and a tapestry needle, add a bead in the centre of each of the triangle spaces created by the Centre Point join, then add a bead at the lower point of each Diamond Motif. Make a tassel for each Diamond Motif and attach below beads at the bottom of Motifs.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A FRENCH KNOT



1 Secure yarn at back of fabric and bring needle to the front. Using your thumb and forefinger, hold the yarn as it comes out of the fabric – keeping it taut, twist the needle around the yarn three times, as shown above.



2 Insert the needle back into the crochet fabric, very close to where it came out – you'll need to pierce the fabric so use a sharp needle.



3 Hold the yarn taut and push the twists of yarn so that they sit right up next to the fabric.



4 Pull the needle through gently to form a knot on the surface of the fabric.

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Win the yarn to make the winning project! Enter by voting for your favourite on Instagram #hooktohook @simplycrochetmag



HOOK TO HOOK

Fantasy that

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

HOOK
— to —
HOOK



Kate McCully

"When I found out the theme was fantasy I knew I could really have fun with it. My kids had recently watched the film *Coco* and the animal spirit guides sparked an idea.

I discovered they were based on Mexican folk art, called *alebrijes*. These imaginary creatures have elements from different animals. I based my design on a Fennec fox, but he looks a bit like a bunny too!" You can find Kate M online at www.makemeroar.co.uk

Kate Duszynski

"When I'm not making amigurumi, I'm reading a fantasy book, and so I jumped at the chance to combine the two. My mind immediately went to dragons and unicorns,

and as I was unable to decide between them, the Dragicorn was born! Cotton has always been my favourite yarn to work with and the bright shades worked perfectly to create the vibrant unicorn mane I had in mind." You can find Kate D on Instagram @kateduscrochet





Clockwise from above: bright eyes made up of rounds of double crochet are one of the alebrije's defining features; the tail is made up of alternating stripes of blue, finished with a sunburst tip; make sure you position the legs carefully to ensure your creation stands steadily

ALEBRJE

A nod to Mexican folk art, by Kate McCully.

■ DMC Natura 4ply (100% cotton, 50g/155m)

1 ball of each: Yarn A Prussian (N64),

Yarn B Cerise (N62), Yarn C Tournesol (N16),

Yarn D Aqua (N100), Yarn E Glicine (N30)

■ A small amount of any black and white yarn from your stash

■ A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook

■ Stitch markers

■ Polyester toy stuffing

For yarn stockists contact

DMC 01924 231669

www.dmc.com

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Alebrije measures approx 21cm (8¼in) tall including ears

NOTES

Parts of the pattern are 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. Small running stitches have been embroidered over parts of the Alebrije using Yarn D. Keep the stitches even and not too tight as this will show when stuffing.

When making up the Alebrije, refer to the images for guidance.

ALEBRJE

HEAD

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

Round 4 Dc in each st around.

Round 5 (2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts) 3 times. [21 sts]

Round 6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 (2dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts) 3 times. [24 sts]

Round 8 (2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts) 3 times, dc in next 12 sts. [27 sts]

Round 9 (2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts) 3 times, dc in next 12 sts. [30 sts]

Round 10 (2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts) 3 times, dc in next 12 sts. [33 sts]

Rounds 11-20 Dc in each st around.

Round 21 (Dc2tog, dc in next 9 sts) 3 times. [30 sts]

Rounds 22-23 Dc in each st around.

Stuff the Head, continue stuffing as you work.

Round 24 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 25 (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 26 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 27 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off.

Using a needle, thread the tail through the last 6 sts, pull to close the hole and weave in end.

EYES (MAKE 2)

Using black, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into the loop, ss to beg dc to join, change to Yarn B. [6 sts]

Round 2 Ch1, 2dc in each st around, ss to beg dc, change to Yarn C. [12 sts]

Round 3 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 6 times, ss to beg dc. [18 sts]

Fasten off.

Using a scrap of white yarn sew a small stitch over Round 1.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 Dc in each st around.

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

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

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

Round 6 (2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts) twice. [14 sts]

Rounds 7-23 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Using Yarn C, embroider a leaf vein design on one side of the Ear, working from Round 21 of the Ear and ending over Round 5. Using Yarn D, and using the image as a guide, embroider small running stitches on the back of the Ear.



From left to right: the alebrije features running stitches throughout its full body, in the highly decorated style of the Mexican creations; to make the snouted head shape, the head increases slowly at the muzzle, and then quickly draws together at the back over four rounds

Sew the Ears over Rounds 20-21 of the Head, approx 3 sts apart.

Take a long length of Yarn C and split it so you have around 3-4 strands. Use this to sew the Eyes onto the side of the Head between Rounds 10-16.

Use Yarn E to embroider a nose and Yarn D to sew small straight sts around the Eyes.

NECK AND BODY

Using Yarn A, ch18, ss to the first ch to form a loop.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in each ch around. [18 sts]

Round 2 Dc in next 9 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 8 sts. [19 sts]

Round 3 Dc in each st around.

Round 4 Dc in next 9 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 9 sts. [20 sts]

Round 5 Dc in each st around, ch16 (the next st will be the new start of the round).

Round 6 2dc in second ch from the hook, dc in next 14 ch, dc in st at base of foundation ch, (dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) twice, dc in next 6 sts, working down opposite side of ch-14, dc in next 14 ch, 2dc in next st. [55 sts]

Round 7 Dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next 22 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 22 sts, 2dc in next st. [59 sts]

Round 8 Dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next 23 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 8 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 23 sts, 2dc in next st. [63 sts].

Round 9 2dc in next st, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next 58 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st. [66 sts]

Rounds 10-21 Dc in each st around.

The work is now divided into 4 sections to create the Legs. Dc in next 5 sts (or however many sts you need to bring you to the centre back of the work). The next st will be the new start of the round for the first Leg.

REAR RIGHT LEG

Round 1 (RS) Dc in the next 8 sts, ch7, join with ss to first dc. [15 sts]

Rounds 2-7 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn D.

Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn C.

Rounds 10-12 Dc in each st around.

Round 13 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts) 3 times. [12 sts]

Round 14 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off.

Using a needle, thread the Tail through the last 6 sts, pull to close the hole and weave in end.

FRONT RIGHT LEG

Using Yarn A, count 13 sts from the Rear Right Leg and join into the 14th st.

Repeat Rounds 1-14 of Rear Right Leg.

FRONT LEFT LEG

Using Yarn A, count 4 sts from the Front Right Leg and join yarn into the fifth st.

Repeat Rounds 1-14 of Rear Right Leg.

REAR LEFT LEG

Using Yarn A, count 13 sts from the Front Left Leg and join yarn in the 14th st.

Repeat Rounds 1-14 of Rear Right Leg.

Using Yarn D, embroider running stitches all over the Body and Legs. Using Yarn E, make small stitches over Rounds 11-13 of each Leg. Stuff each Leg.

BELLY

Between the Legs there are 13 unworked sts along the sides and 4 unworked sts along the back and front. Work the Belly over these sts. Join Yarn A to the next st after the first Leg created on the 13 st space.

Rows 1-4 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st across, turn. [13 sts]

Row 5 Ch5, dc in second ch from the hook, dc in next 3 ch and each st across, turn. [17 sts]

Row 6 As Round 3. [21 sts]

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

Row 10 Ch1, dc in the next 17 sts, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [17 sts]

Row 11 Ch1, dc in next 13 sts, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [13 sts]

Rows 12-14 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Sew the Belly to the underside of the Body and around the Legs, stuffing as you go.

TAIL

Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 Dc in each st around.

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

Round 4 Dc in each st around.

Round 5 (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 6 Dc in each st around.



From left to right: attaching smaller pieces like the claws and these tail spikes can be tricky – add locking stitch markers in place along the tail first to ensure even spacing, before whipstitching on; the horn is easier than it first looks – the spiral effect is added on with surface slip stitch

Round 7 (2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 8 Dc in each st around.

Round 9 (2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 10 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn D.

Rounds 11-12 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn A.

Rounds 13-14 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn D.

Round 15 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 16 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn A.

Rounds 17-18 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn D.

Round 19 (Dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 20-22 As Rounds 16-18.

Change to Yarn D.

Round 23 (Dc2tog, dc in next 4 sts) 3 times. [15 sts]

Round 24-26 As Rounds 16-18.

Change to Yarn D.

Round 27 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts) 3 times. [12 sts]

Round 28-30 As Rounds 16-18.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Using Yarn B, sew large straight stitches around the tip of the Tail.

TO FINISH

Sew the Tail onto the Body. Sew the Head onto the Neck between Rounds 15-20, adding more

stuffing just before you close up the hole. Sew twice around if the Head is a little floppy. Sew some extra small sts in Yarn D on the back of the Head.

DRAGICORN

A flossy, fluttery friend by Kate Duszynski.

■ DMC Natura 4ply (100% cotton, 50g/155m)
1 ball of each: **Yarn A** Aqua (N100),
Yarn B Glicine (N30), **Yarn C** Cerise (N62),
Yarn D Prussian (N64), **Yarn E** Tournesol (N16)

■ A 2mm (US B/1) hook

■ Stitch markers

■ 2 safety eyes, 6mm

■ Polyester toy stuffing

For yarn stockists see [Alebrije](#) on page 60

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Dragicorn measures 25cm (10in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

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

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. When fastening off, ss into next st first to give an even finish. Use the images for guidance when making up the Dragicorn.

DRAGICORN

BODY

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Round 7 (Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]

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

Round 9 (Dc in next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [54 sts]

Round 10 (Dc in next 8 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [60 sts]

Round 11 (Dc in next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [66 sts]

Rounds 12-19 Dc in each st around.

Rounds 20 (Dc in next 9 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [60 sts]

Round 21 Dc in each st around.



From left to right: we'd kill for hair volume like this – the dragicorn achieves its flouncy curls with 26 strands of yarn worked in treble stitches; neat edges are key to the dragicorn's beautiful lilac belly patch, so consider adding a dc border if the edges of yours end up rather uneven

Round 22 (Dc in next 8 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [54 sts]

Rounds 23-24 Dc in each st around.

Round 25 (Dc in next 7 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [48 sts]

Rounds 26-27 Dc in each st around.

Round 28 (Dc in next 6 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]

Rounds 29-31 Dc in each st around.

Round 32 (Dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]

Rounds 33-35 Dc in each st around.

Round 36 (Dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]

Rounds 37-39 Dc in each st around.

Round 40 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Rounds 41-43 Dc in each st around.

Round 44 (Dc, htr) in next st, htr in next st, tr in next st, 2tr in next st, tr in next 3 sts, 2tr in next st, tr in next st, htr in next st, (htr, dc) in next st, ss in next st, leave rem 12 sts unworked.

Fasten off.

HEAD

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1-6 (RS) As Rounds 1-6 of Body. [36 sts]

Rounds 7-8 Dc in each st around.

Round 9 Dc in next 11 sts, (5-tr cluster in next st, dc in next 10 sts) twice, dc in last 3 sts.

Rounds 10-13 Dc in each st around.

Round 14 (Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 15 (Dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [48 sts]

Round 16 Dc in each st around.

Round 17 (Dc in next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [54 sts]

Rounds 18-23 Dc in each st around.

Place eyes between Rounds 18-19, approx 14 sts apart.

Round 24 (Dc in next 7 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [48 sts]

Round 25 Dc in each st around.

Round 26 (Dc in next 6 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 27 Dc in each st around.

Round 28 (Dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 29 (Dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 30 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Start stuffing the Head, continuing to stuff as you work.

Round 31 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 32 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 33 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off.

Thread Tail through last 6 sts, pull tight to close. Sew the Head to the Body, using the image as a guide.

CLAWS (MAKE 12)

Using Yarn E, make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-4 (RS) As Rounds 1-4 of Body. [24 sts]

Rounds 5-7 Dc in each st around.

Round 8 (Dc in next 6 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [21 sts]

Round 9 Dc in each st around.

Round 10 (Dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [18 sts]

Round 11 Dc in each st around.

Round 12 (Dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [15 sts]

Round 13 Dc in each st around.

Stuff up to Round 12, leaving top of Arm unstuffed.

Round 14 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [12 sts]

Round 15 Dc in each st around.

Round 16 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [9 sts]

Rounds 17-26 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Sew 3 Claws to the bottom of each Arm, then join the Arms to the Body over Round 40, approx 11 sts apart at the front.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-7 (RS) As Rounds 1-7 of Arms. [24 sts]

Round 8 Dc in each st around.

Round 9 Dc in next 4 sts, (dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 3 times, dc in last 8 sts. [21 sts]

Round 10 Dc in next 5 sts, (dc in next st, dc2tog) 3 times, dc in last 7 sts. [18 sts]

Round 11 Dc in each st around.

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

Stuff to Round 9, leaving top of Leg unstuffed.

Rounds 13-18 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Sew 3 Claws between Rounds 4-6 on each Leg, then sew the Legs next to each other at the bottom of the Body.

TAIL

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

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

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

Round 6 (Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 2 times. [14 sts]

Rounds 7-8 Dc in each st around.

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

Round 10 Dc in each st around.

Round 11 (Dc in next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 2 times. [18 sts]

Round 12 Dc in each st around.

Round 13 (Dc in next 8 sts, 2dc in next st) 2 times. [20 sts]

Round 14 (Dc in next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 2 times. [22 sts]

Round 15 Dc in each st around.

Round 16 (Dc in next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 2 times. [24 sts]

Round 17 Dc in each st around.

Round 18 (Dc in next 11 sts, 2dc in next st) 2 times. [26 sts]

Round 19 Dc in each st around.

Round 20 (Dc in next 12 sts, 2dc in next st) 2 times. [28 sts]

Round 21 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Stuff the Tail and sew between Rounds 9-17 at the back of the Body.

TAIL SPIKES

LARGE SPIKES (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn E, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-3 (RS) As Rounds 1-3 of Tail. [8 sts]

Round 4 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

SMALL SPIKES (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn E, work Rounds 1-3 of Large Spike.

Fasten off.

Sew the Tail Spikes along the top of the Tail, placing the Large Spikes closest to the Body.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-2 (RS) As Round 1-2 of Tail. [6 sts]

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

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

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

Rounds 6-7 Dc in each st around.

Round 8 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 3 times. [12 sts]

Round 9 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

INNER EAR (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn B, ch5.

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

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

Row 3 Ch1, dc in first st, skip next st, dc in next 2 sts, turn. [3 sts]

Row 4 Ch1, dc in first st, skip next st, dc in last st, turn. [2 sts]

Row 5 Ch1, skip first st, dc in last st. [1 st]

Fasten off.

Sew the Inner Ear to the middle of the Outer Ear, then attach Ears between Rounds 24-27 of the Head, approx 4 sts apart.

HORN

Using Yarn E, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-4 As Rounds 1-4 of Tail. [10 sts]

Rounds 5-6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 (Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 2 times. [12 sts]

Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Using Yarn C, surface slip stitch a spiral around the outside of the Horn.

Sew the Horn between Rounds 21-25 of the Head, placing it centrally between the Ears.

BELLY

Using Yarn B, ch16.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in fourth ch from hook (skipped ch count as tr), tr in each ch to end, turn. [14 sts] Work all remaining stitches in bl only.

Row 2 (WS) Ch3, (counts as tr throughout), tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in next st, tr in next 7 sts, 2tr in next st, tr in next 2 sts, turn. [16 sts]

Row 3 Ch3, tr in next st, 2tr in next st, tr in next 11 sts, 2tr in next st, tr in last st, turn. [18 sts]

Row 4 Ch3, tr in next 8 sts, 2tr in next st, tr in next 8 sts, turn. [19 sts]

Row 5 Ch3, tr in each st across, turn.

Row 6 Ch3, tr in next st, (tr2tog), tr in next 12 sts, (tr2tog), tr in last st, turn. [17 sts]

Row 7 Ch3, tr in next st, (tr2tog), tr in next 10 sts, (tr2tog), tr in last st, turn. [15 sts]

Row 8 Ch3, tr in next st, (tr2tog), (tr in next 3 sts, tr2tog) 2 times, tr in last st, turn. [12 sts]

Row 9 Ch3, tr in next st, (tr2tog), tr in next 5 sts, (tr2tog), tr in last st, turn. [10 sts]

Row 10 Ch3, tr in next st, (tr2tog), tr in next 3 sts, (tr2tog), tr in last st, turn. [8 sts]

Row 11 Ch3, tr in each st across.

Fasten off.

Sew the Belly to the front of the Body.

MANE (MAKE 26)

Using Yarns B, C, D and E, make 26 strands. Ch24.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in fourth ch from hook (skipped ch count as tr), tr in each ch to end. [22 sts]

Fasten off.

Sew two strands either side of the Horn. Sew the rest in rows of 3 down the back of the Head, finishing approx 3 rows above the Body.

WINGS (MAKE 2)

WING BASE

Using Yarn C, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-4 (RS) As Rounds 1-4 of Body. [24 sts]

Rounds 5-7 Dc in each st around.

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

Round 9 (Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 10 Dc in each st around.

Do not fasten off.

For the Feathers, you will divide the Wing Base into 3 sections, using 12 sts for each Feather.

FEATHER 1

Round 1 Dc in next 6 sts, skip 24 sts, dc in last 6 sts. [12 sts]

Round 2 Dc in each st around.

Round 3 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]

Fasten off.

Weave Tail through last 6 sts, pull tight to close.

FEATHER 2

Join Yarn C to the first unworked st after Feather 1.

Round 1 Dc in next 6 sts, skip 12 sts, dc in last 6 sts. [12 sts]

Rounds 2-3 As Rounds 2-3 of Feather 1. [6 sts]

Fasten off.

Weave Tail through last 6 sts, pull tight to close.

FEATHER 3

Join Yarn C to the first unworked st after Feather 2.

Round 1 Dc in next 12 sts. [12 sts]

Rounds 2-3 As Rounds 2-3 of Feather 1. [6 sts]

Fasten off.

Weave Tail through last 6 sts, pull tight to close. Sew the Wings to the back of the Body.

TO FINISH

Weave in any remaining ends.



That's so fetch!

Let sleeping dogs lie, on this specially made pet blanket by Sara Huntington



YOU WILL NEED

- Bernat Blanket Pet (100% polyester, 225g/246m)
- 4 balls of Red (34018)
- 2 balls of Dark Grey (34020)

- A 6mm (US J/10) hook

For yarn stockists contact

Wool Warehouse 01926 882818

www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

11 sts and 8 rows to measure
10x10cm (4x4in) over half treble
using a 6mm hook or size needed to
obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Blanket measures approx
170x110cm (67x43¼in)

ABBREVIATIONS

reverse dc As standard dc st but
working around from left to right
(if right-handed) or right to left
(if left-handed)

For a full list, see page 92

Walkies will take second place to snoozies
once you've worked up this two-tone
blanket. The Bernat Blanket Pet yarn it's
made with features 'Everfresh Probiotic
Technology', to help reduce doggy odours.

NOTES

Blanket is worked in rows from the bottom up,
before a Border is added.

The dog paws are worked in a combination of
tapestry crochet and intarsia methods: carry
Red and work sts in Dark Grey over the strand
to enclose it. Use separate small balls of Dark
Grey to work each dog paw motif to avoid
carrying this yarn to the next motif (intarsia).
There is a Chart below, which you
should refer to when working the Blanket.
Each small square represents 1 htr st. Read all
RS rows from right to left and WS rows from
left to right.

Change colour on the last yrh of st before
colour change is indicated.

BLANKET

Using Red, ch162.

Row 1 (RS) Htr in third ch from hook, htr in
each ch across, turn. [161 sts]

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

Follow the Chart below, working the first 29 sts,
then repeat sts 12-29 another 7 times before
ending with the final 6 sts. The first 2 rows have
been written out to guide you.

Row 3 Ch2, htr in next 5 sts, change to Dark
Grey, htr in next 2 sts, change to Red, htr in next
st, change to Dark Grey, htr in next 2 sts,
*change to Red, htr in next 13 sts, change to
Dark Grey, htr in next 2 sts, change to Red, htr in



Border the blanket with a simple edging of
reverse double crochet for a neat finish

next st, change to Dark Grey, htr in next 2 sts;
rep from * another 7 times, change to Red, htr
in last 6 sts, turn.

Row 4 Ch2, htr in next 4 sts, *change to Dark
Grey, htr in next 7 sts, change to Red**, htr in
next 11 sts; rep from * another 8 times ending
last repeat at **, htr in last 5 sts, turn.

Rows 5-38 Work from Chart.

Rows 39-86 Repeat Rows 15-38 of Chart
another 2 times.

Row 87 Using Red, ch2, htr in each st to end.

Fasten off.

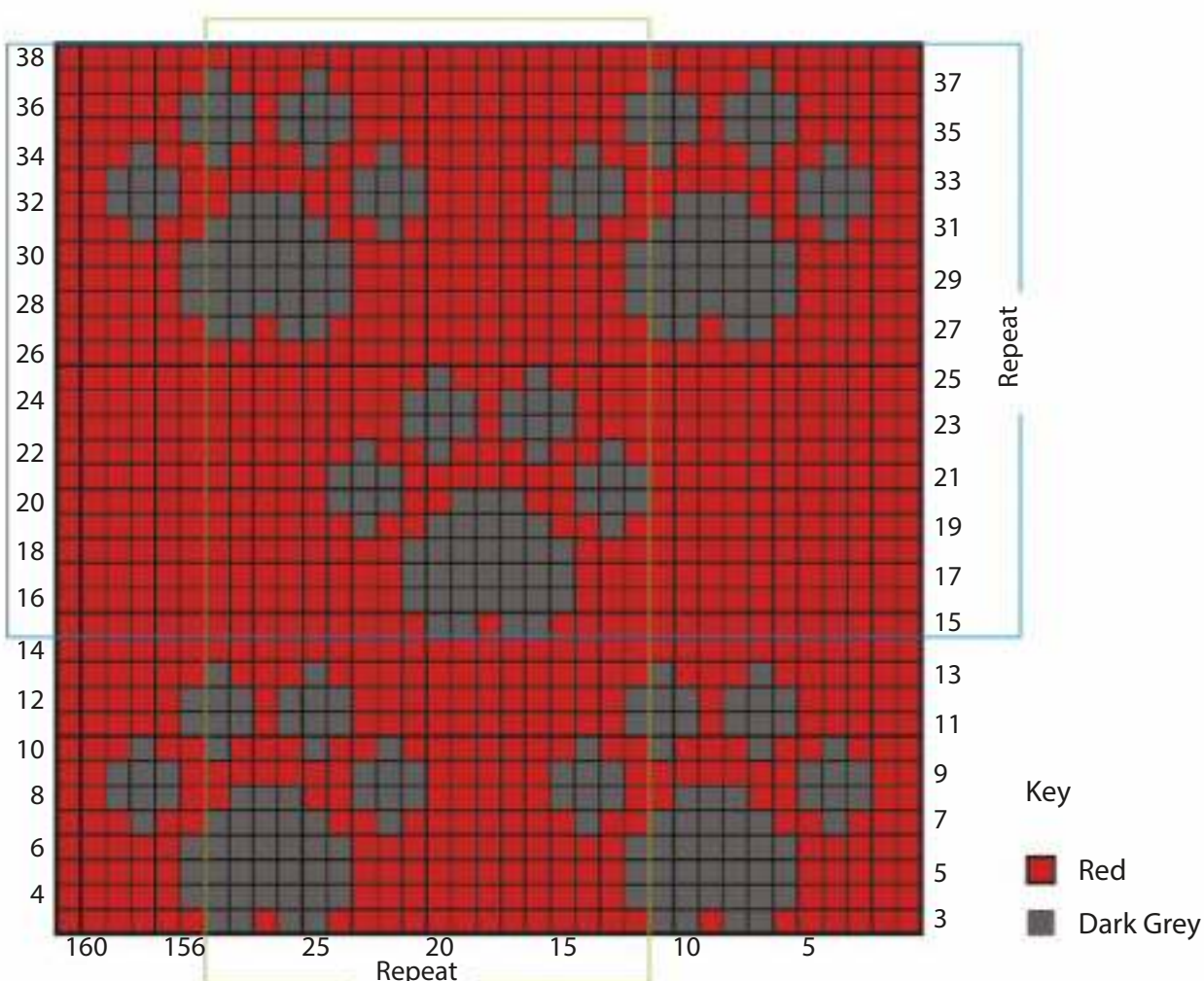
BORDER

With RS facing, join Dark Grey into any st across
top of Blanket.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2,*htr in each st to corner, 4htr
in corner, htr in each row end to next corner,
4htr in corner; rep from * around, ss to top of
beg ch-2, do not turn.

Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), reverse dc
in each st around, ss to top of beg dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.



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GOOD READ

GRANNY SQUARE DAY

2019

It's (nearly) time to cover the world in a virtual blanket at this annual online event



Susan Regalia, top, created the Granny Square Day concept



One of the biggest, most anticipated days of the year is fast approaching! No, we don't mean Christmas – we're talking about **Granny Square Day!** On August 15, crafters around the world will be posting their individual granny square designs on Instagram, along with the hashtag '#grannysquareday2019' – meaning when this hashtag is searched, a beautiful, virtual granny square blanket is created. Want to learn more about the biggest day in crochet? We've got the skinny on how Granny Square Day first began, and interviews with its official ambassadors. Plus, find out how you can get involved and become part of this beautiful project.

HOW IT ALL BEGAN...

Granny Square Day was born in Northern California, and was the brainchild of avid crocheter Susan Regalia. After exploring knitting, Susan went on to discover crochet and instantly became hooked on the craft. As a keen Instagrammer, Susan turned to the social platform for inspiration for her work. "Instagram had become a good place for showing photos of our creations, and there was a sizeable crochet community that I discovered that year," Susan explains. "Many of us became friends and shared patterns and words of encouragement."

Susan happened upon the initial idea for Granny Square Day in the summer of 2014. "I had started changing the theme of the decorations in my guest room each month, to match the colours of whatever holiday we were celebrating," says Susan. When summer approached, Susan struggled to find a holiday to inspire her décor – so she took matters into her own hands and created her

very own celebratory holiday! "I had just learned to crochet and was in love with the cheerful little granny square, so it became my decorative theme for August – and, just like that, Granny Square Day was born!"

Technology became a big tool in building awareness of the day, as Susan took to Instagram to share her invention.

"There is a wonderfully supportive community of yarn crafters on Instagram," says Susan, "and word quickly spread about Granny Square Day. Many people participated, and others enjoyed seeing the constant stream of pretty squares coming up in their feeds."

That first year saw lots of contributors, but the second year was even crazier: "we joked that we broke the internet," laughs Susan. But, the best thing to come out of Susan's invention is how unifying the holiday is. "People from all over the world can share a joyful experience together," Susan explains. "A blanket is a gift of comfort and love. When any of us view or contribute some of these granny squares, it's as though we join into a giant world hug with each other!"

PASSING THE BATON

Granny Square Day soon became too big for one person alone to manage, so Susan started her search to hand over the reins –

which is where *Simply Crochet* came in! "I really wanted to cheerlead the participants by leaving an appreciative message or at least 'like' each post," explains Susan. "But soon there were too many posts for me to

keep up with. *Simply Crochet* has the biggest presence on Instagram when it comes to crochet magazines and online followers, and this is a day that crafters all over the world love to celebrate. I knew Granny Square Day deserved the legitimacy that they could give it.

"Even though I will no longer be in

charge of Granny Square Day, I will always be on Instagram each August 15, checking out the granny squares as they get posted!"

GRANNY SQUARE DAY 2019

The popularity of Granny Square Day is growing by the minute. Here at *Simply Crochet*, we see so many talented designers enter into the mix, making the project the great success that it is. There were some designers whose dedication and involvement in previous years caught our attention – so much so, that we asked them to be ambassadors for the day. Sharna Moore from Worthing, Sarah Shrimpton from West Sussex and Katie Jones from London are three amazing crocheters who are thrilled to represent Granny Square Day. As well as promoting the day, these dedicated

"It's as though we join into a giant world hug with each other!"



Above, bottom-right & bottom left: Sarah Shrimpton, Sharna Moore and Katie Jones' respective granny squares; far left: Katie Jones loves a bright granny blanket



ambassadors will also be posting a free granny square design on their website to share with you all.

"I'm a huge fan of the humble granny square and I noticed a lot of them popping up on my Instagram feed a few years back – once I saw those, I jumped right on the bandwagon," says crochet designer and part-time fashion lecturer Katie (katiejonesknit.co.uk). "The granny square is an oldie but a goodie. It's so versatile – its tessellation and small tweaks are endless so you can keep making something new! When that digital blanket starts appearing, it's magic and such a beautiful connection to the whole crafting community. The *Simply Crochet* team and I are currently working on a top secret granny square-related make. I can't wait to share it!"

This year, Katie has picked two squares to post up on her website; the first is an introduction and a 'how to' on the classic granny for beginner crocheters. The second is one of Katie's favourites – a striped-spot square, full of graphic pattern. "I love this square and have a few other patterns that use

it, if the maker catches the love bug for it. The pair are also great to mix and match together, too!" says Katie.

Crocheter Sharna (sweetsharna.simplesite.com) explains why she's also such a huge supporter of Granny Square Day: "It's unreal how this day has exploded into the crochet community – and anyone from a complete beginner to a pro can join in and experience the love that day. I'm hoping everyone is going to enjoy my little floral Granny Square pattern that I've designed (see above for the finished article) – it's inspired by my walks around Notting Hill; the stunning pink blossom trees against beautiful colourful houses and the cute little coffee shops on every corner, framed with the pretty, bright and happy flowers," Sharna says.

Part-time teacher, crochet designer, blogger and author Sarah (annabooshouse.blogspot.com) is not only excited about celebrating the day, but is also passionate about spreading the love for crochet. "I love to see everyone's creations; from the traditional granny motif to the wild and wacky, from monotone to multicoloured,"

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

On (or before) August 15, take a photo of your granny square and crop the photo into a square shape, so that the granny square neatly fills up the entire space ("A four-round traditional granny works well, but go ahead and get creative," advises Susan). On the day, upload the picture onto your Instagram account, and – most importantly of all – make sure to post it with the hashtag **#grannysquareday2019**. Your square will then be added to the virtual blanket! To see the blanket, search **#grannysquareday2019** – you will need to be viewing in Instagram's standard three-wide format to get the full effect.

Resources

On www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk

- Free Granny Square Day downloadable booklet
- Video tutorial on creating collages using the Granny Square Day posts
- Video tutorial on making and blocking your squares

On Instagram @[simplycrochetmag](https://www.instagram.com/simplycrochetmag)

- Granny square charts
- Granny square designs created by the *Simply Crochet* team
- Granny Square Day stickers and gifs

she explains. "I'm so thrilled to be an ambassador. Granny Squares are such a popular and enduring motif and Granny Square Day is the perfect opportunity to share the love with a global community of crocheters, from newbies to seasoned pros alike." Sarah hopes to entice non-crocheters to pick up some needles and try out the craft too. "The benefits of crafting for mental health, well-being and mindfulness are well-known," says Sarah. "If I can help bring people together to share and connect with one another, then I'm in!"

With a love for combining squares to create large, geometric designs, Sarah has been focusing a lot of her recent work on simple, two-toned solid granny squares. Sarah's design for this year's celebration draws inspiration from her recent work, and uses a simple post stitch to create a textured pattern. "It can be created in any colour combinations you like. I hope that people will be inspired to play with it to make their own granny projects," she tells us. So come on – hook a square and get involved on August 15!

Written by Colette Earley



CHASING RAINBOWS

Soothe little ones with this gently turning baby mobile, designed by Samanta Fornino



YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Ricorumi (100% cotton, 25g/57.5m), 1 ball of each:
Cream (002)
Yellow (006)
Rose (008)
Sky Blue (031)
Pastel Green (045)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Toy stuffing
- Craft wire
- Aluminum foil (optional)

For yarn stockists contact

Rico Design

www.rico-design.co.uk

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Mobile measures 35cm (13¾in) across widest point with a drop of 32cm (12½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

If you like the side-on sight of this rainbow mobile, take a moment to imagine baby's view from underneath – a shape-entwining, colour-crossing sensory overload. Be sure to space the arcs so they don't collide in motion.

NOTES

Mobile is worked in the amigurumi method, working in a continuous spiral without closing each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to mark the first st of each round, moving the marker up as you work.

To give shape to the Rainbow Bands you can wrap the toy stuffing with aluminum foil and thread a small length of wire inside. Be aware this should be kept out of reach of children and used for decoration only.

MOBILE

RAINBOW BANDS (MAKE 4)

Using yarn indicated below, ch14, ss in first ch to make a loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in each ch around. [14 sts]

Round 2 Dc in each st around.

Repeat Round 2 as indicated below.

Make 1 using Rose, repeating Round 2 another 83 times.

Make 1 using Yellow, repeating Round 2 another 63 times.

Make 1 using Pastel Green, repeating Round 2 another 43 times.

Make 1 using Sky Blue, repeating Round 2 another 30 times.

Fasten off.

Stuff firmly, thread short length of wire through centre of stuffing and sew the two open sides closed.

CLOUD

Using Cream, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

Rounds 4-6 (Dc2tog) first 2 sts, dc in each st to end. [15 sts]

Round 7 3dc in next st, dc in each st to end. [17 sts]

Round 8 (3dc in next st, dc in next st) twice, dc in each st to end. [21 sts]

Rounds 9-10 As Rounds 7-8. [27 sts]

Round 11 Dc in each st around.

Round 12 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) twice, dc in each st to end. [25 sts]

Round 13 (Dc2tog) first 2 sts, dc in each st to end. [24 sts]

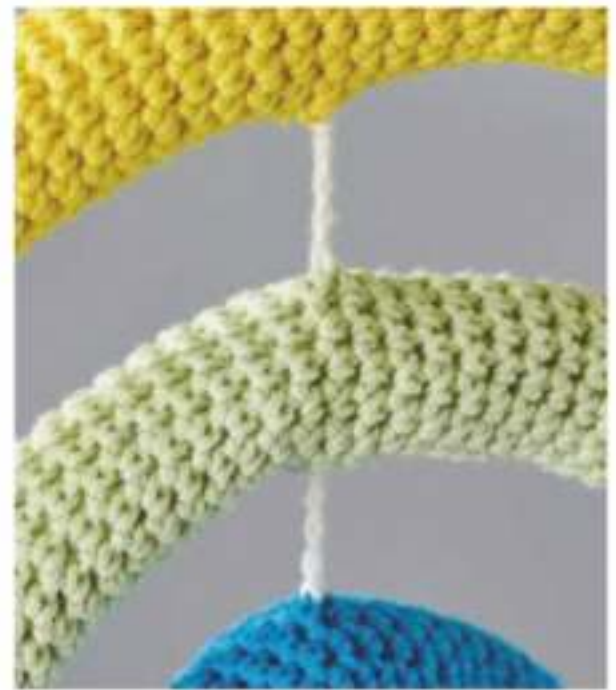
Round 14 Dc in each st around.

Round 15 Dc in next 6 sts, (dc2tog), dc in each st to end. [23 sts]

Round 16 Dc in each st around.

Stuff the Cloud, continue to stuff as you work.

Round 17 Dc in next 4 sts, (3dc in next st, dc in next st) twice, dc in each st to end. [27 sts]



Join each rainbow band and the cloud with chain stitches, then make a hanging chain

Round 18 Dc in next 7 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in each st to end. [29 sts]

Round 19 Dc in next 8 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each st to end. [30 sts]

Round 20 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) twice, dc in each st to end. [28 sts]

Round 21 Dc in next 7 sts, (dc2tog), dc in each st to end. [27 sts]

Round 22 Dc in next 7 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next st) twice, dc in each st to end. [25 sts]

Round 23 Dc in next 5 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next st) twice, dc in each st to end. [23 sts]

Round 24 Dc in each st around.

Round 25 Dc in next 6 sts, (dc2tog), dc in each st to end. [22 sts]

Round 26 Dc in each st around.

Rounds 27-28 Dc in next 6 sts, (dc2tog), dc in each st around. [20 sts]

Round 29 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [16 sts]

Round 30 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [12 sts]

Round 31 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 4 times. [8 sts]

Round 32 (Dc2tog), dc in next 4 sts, (dc2tog). [6 sts]

Round 33 (Dc2tog), dc in next 2 sts, (dc2tog). [4 sts]

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Using the photo as a guide, sew all the parts together with Cream. Connect the Cloud to the Sky Blue Rainbow Band with a ch10. Connect the remaining Rainbow Bands with a ch5, being careful to sew the row of chains in the middle of each Rainbow Band. At the top of the Rainbow ch20, ss in last ch from hook to form a hanging loop. Weave in all ends.

Simply Crochet

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Lovely linen

Six linen blend yarns to lighten up your life!

ASTERISK MOTIF

Ch2.

ROUND 1 6dc in second ch from hook, ss to beg dc to join. [6dc]

ROUND 2 *Ch5, dc in third ch from hook, dc in next 2 ch, ss in dc at base of ch-6, ss in next st from Round 1; rep from * another 5 times.

FASTEN OFF and weave in ends.



These quick little motifs would make great appliques!



HEYJAY YARN PLANTY YARN

WEIGHT 4ply
CONTENT 70% bamboo, 30% linen
SKEIN 100g/400m
HOOK 3.5mm
RRP £18



If you're looking for a linen yarn that is ethical as well as awesome, then you'll love this Planty Yarn. As a blend of linen and bamboo it's purely plant based, making it vegan-friendly and suitable for those with animal allergies. The bamboo fibre complements the linen

content beautifully, while maintaining a linen feel. HeyJay yarns are also hand-dyed so you get some fabulous colour variations, and new batches and dye lots are being added all the time. Hand wash only to preserve the stunning colour. www.heyjayyarn.com

SCHEEPJES LINEN SOFT

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 27% linen, 47% cotton, 26% acrylic
BALL 50g/135m
HOOK 3.5mm
RRP £3.19



If you're looking for a linen yarn that's available in a wide range of different colours, then you can't go wrong here! Colour is a major strength of the Linen Soft range, which comes in a whopping 33 rich, deep and sumptuous shades. The 47% cotton content comes to the

fore with this yarn which helps to give it strength and hardness, while the linen content adds character and gives it a feel unlike a standard cotton. It's machine washable at 40° and can also be ironed on a cool setting. www.scheepjes.com

DMC NATURA JUST COTTON LINEN

WEIGHT 4ply
CONTENT 58% linen, 26% viscose, 16% cotton
BALL 50g/150m
HOOK 3mm



The DMC Natura range has so far showcased its strengths in a variety of 100% cotton yarns. With this new addition to the range they're adding linen into the mix (along with a bit of viscose and cotton), creating a fabulous 4ply yarn that feels and looks incredibly luxurious.

It's super-light and has a relaxed twist throughout, ideal for delicate summer projects. It's available in 11 lovely stone-washed style colours that all have a delicious lustre. This one is hand wash only. www.dmc.com 01924 231669

DROPS BELLE UNI COLOUR

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 14% linen, 33% viscose, 53% cotton
BALL 50g/120m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £1.80



Even though it's a linen/viscose/cotton blend, Belle yarn still maintains a traditional linen feel. Belle has a very loose twist, resulting in the texture of your crochet fabric standing out prominently and great stitch definition. There are 19 shades to choose from, many of which

are beautiful naturals which work well with its rustic style, but there are also some brighter pinks and blues too. It's great value at a bargain price for 50g, and also machine washable at 40°! www.woolwarehouse.com 01926 882818

RICO FASHION LINEN SWELL

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 80% cotton, 20% linen
SPOOL 50g/110m
HOOK 4.5mm
RRP £4.49



This linen offering from Rico is certainly an interesting one – it's a chainette-style yarn that really uses the structural strengths of both cotton and linen to create a really solid feeling.

It's a durable yarn which would be great for making home accessories such as

shopping bags and other projects that need to be hardwearing. It hooks up nice and easily and the aran weight means crocheting with it is a quick process. Available in five stylish, solid colours, it's machine washable at 30°. www.rico-design.co.uk

STYLECRAFT LINEN DRAPE

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 30% linen, 70% viscose
BALL 100g/185m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £4.80



The perfect yarn for lots of your summer projects, this blend has a strong yet soft feel, and it's lightweight. Just made for airy cardis and throwover shawls, the 70% viscose component means that it's a great choice for those with sensitive skin, as the yarn feels smooth, soft and cool

against the skin. It's available in 12 gorgeous shades with colours that have a subtle shine, while still displaying that lovely linen washed-out look. A practical choice, the yarn is machine washable at 30°. www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk 01484 848435

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SHADES ON

Proving three is indeed the magic number, Beth Jade Simpson has whipped up issue 82's tri-coral jumper. But, in a twist worthy of an Agatha Christie novel, she's swapped out the three coral shades for a colour scheme of her very own. The icing on the cake is this fantastic train station photoshoot – very film noir...



RUN FOREST RUN

Now here's a wood we wouldn't mind getting lost in! Nimble-fingered @foxy_crochet has hooked up our geometric treetop treat from issue 82, and it's looking just fantastic in its tweaked colour scheme. We can just see it perfectly finishing off a Scandi-style interior.

BEEP BLEEP BLOOP

▼ The robots are taking over! Or at least in Deborah Ward's house, after she put hook to yarn and created this fetching and slightly more purple take on our Robbie the Robot amigurumi friend, from issue 81's supplement. This wide-eyed charmer is a team fave, so it's great to see him out and about in the world.



DOUBLE TAP

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



IN A FLAP

Bee-ing such a quick make, we knew it wouldn't be long until we'd be seeing 84's jar cover. Thanks @crochet.in.the.woods for rising to the challenge!



MOOM' RAIDER

It hardly took @jennyfibrecraft a moominute to hook up this pair from issue 83 – and she's added hair to make a Snork Maiden, too. Amazing job, Jenny!



SHOOTING STAR

With some clever calculations, @thewoollenbird scaled down 81's star jumper to child-size proportions. The neon bobbles are a great touch as well!



EYE OF THE TIGER

The excellently named @punk.haiku now has a tiger rug to call her very own, courtesy of issue 79's animal print collection and her own hard work. Grrr!

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 24 July 2019.

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

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BEAR-FACED TALENT

Remember the show *Blockbusters*? Angela Cook has hooked up our hexie-puff bear-themed blanket from issue 80 and it's more than faintly reminiscent of the game show. With such a sweet design and all those smiling faces, if we had hooked this handsome make up we'd already feel like we'd scooped the jackpot! 

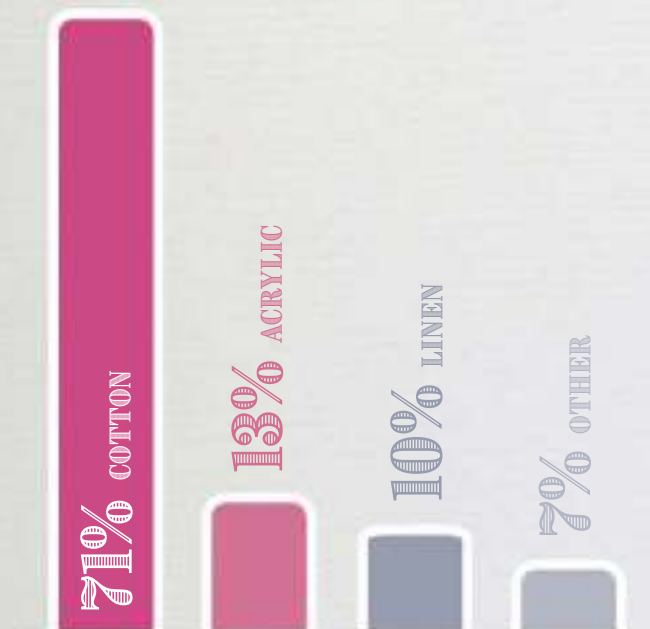
TOY MEETS WORLD

We're in awe of Lyne Gavaghan's pretty pastel chap, a make from issue 82. Best of all, she's matched the colours to her elephant cushion to make a perfectly coordinating set. We love it! 



This month we asked you...

What's your fave fibre for summer crochet projects?



Crochet SC TREBLEMAKERS

JOIN US ONLINE!

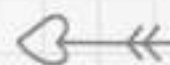
If you're looking to socialise with like-minded crocheters, then make sure you join our SCtreblemakers Facebook group – the place to share pictures of your makes, get pattern advice and recommendations, and generally talk about how much you love *Simply Crochet* magazine. With over 2.5k members, it's a bustling crochet forum full of friendly members. We look forward to chatting with you on there!

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Shaped pompoms

TRIM YOUR WAY TO POMPOMS IN LOTS OF INTERESTING SHAPES



We all love a fluffy pompom, but did you know that pompoms don't have to be spherical? With just a bit of know-how and a dollop of practice, you can create pompoms in all sorts of shapes – from simple ovals, cubes and hearts, all the way up to surprisingly realistic-looking fruit, flowers and animals. Think of it as sculpting with yarn and scissors. In this guide, we'll show you how to take a spherical pompom and transform it into a different shape with some precision trimming.

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

The number-one tool you need for shaping pompoms is a pair of scissors, so make sure you have a good pair that are sharp with small blades, so you can do detailed trimming. A pair of embroidery or nail scissors can work well.

Sculpting pompoms is easier than you might think, so start off with the simple shapes in this guide and you'll soon work your way up to adorable animal heads, such as the bears project on page 83.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

Begin the fun with some fuzzy yarn and a standard pompom

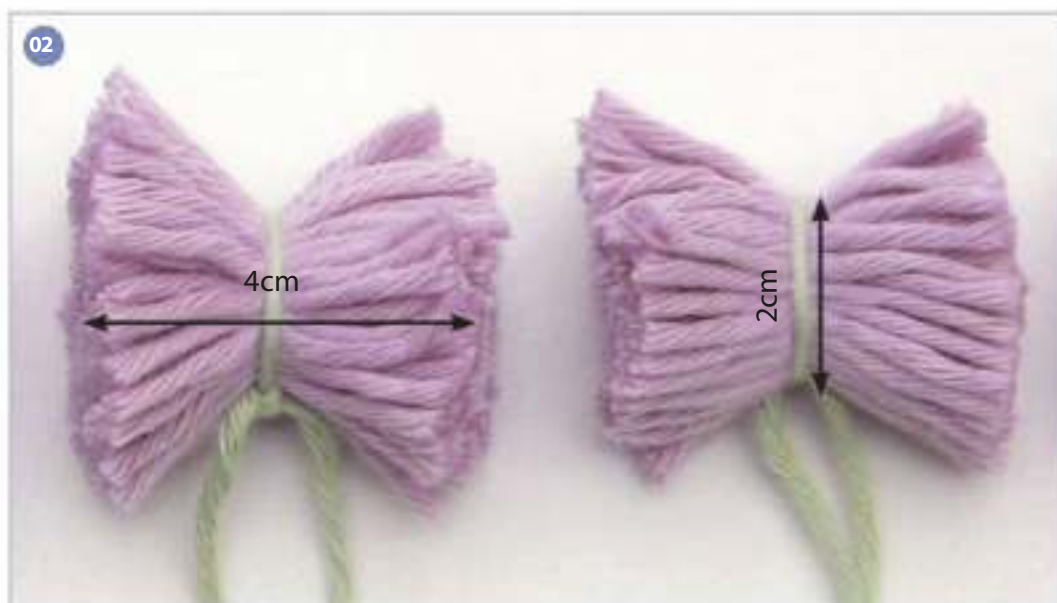
First, you need some yarn. You can make shaped pompoms with almost any yarn, but the best yarns have a good amount of 'fuzz' when you cut them. This includes wool, acrylic and cotton yarns, but try to avoid multi-ply mercerised cotton yarns, which are treated to eliminate the fuzz.

Step 1 To check whether a yarn will make a good pompom, layer up five tiny lengths and cut across them. Here, we've done this to compare the cut look of a very fuzzy acrylic yarn, a nicely fluffy cotton yarn and a multi-ply mercerised cotton that still looks well defined.

Some crafters prefer wool yarns and finish their shaped pompoms with some needle felting to help bind the fibres together and fix the shape a bit more securely. This is not essential, though – you can achieve perfectly good results with some precision trimming, which is what we'll focus on in this guide.

We're also going to focus on transforming spherical pompoms into shaped pompoms. So, start by making a spherical pompom, which we'll sculpt later into a heart shape. You'll need a pink or red yarn (or any colour you like for your heart) in any weight. You can use any method you prefer, but we made ours with a Clover pompom maker to make the process quick and easy (see our quick step-by-step guide opposite).

Step 2 You can make the pompom for your heart in any size, but we made ours 4cm in diameter. If you're using the fork or skein method, to make a 4cm-diameter pompom you need 4cm yarn lengths and a 2cm diameter yarn bundle.



HOW DO I USE A POMPOM GADGET?

They're great for speeding up your pompom-making

Pompom-making gadgets, such as the Clover pompom makers we're using, are really simple. Here's how, step by step:

Step 1 Place the two halves of the gadget together, aligning and unfolding the arms.

Step 2 Evenly wrap your yarn around each curved arm – we used cream yarn for this demo. Try not to wrap too tightly and don't overfill the curves.

Step 3 Fold the curved arms inward so the gadget is a round shape. Cut the yarn in the gap between each half.

Step 4 Cut a 30cm length of matching yarn and tie it around the centre of the pompom, in between the two halves of the gadget. Knot it as tightly as you can.

Step 5 Carefully unfold the curved arms and remove the two halves of the gadget to release the pompom.

Step 6 Trim the pompom to a sphere, then give it a quick wash to encourage the yarn to untwist and fluff up – immerse it in warm water, gently squeeze the water into it, swish it around a bit and leave it to dry. Your finished pink or red pompom will be ready for trimming. If you prefer, you can skip the 'trim to a sphere' and washing steps and go straight to creating your shape.

TIP If you don't have a pompom-making maker in the size you need, try using pieces of card. You'll need two, cut into a circle with a circle cut out of the middle (so it looks like a doughnut). Have a look online for a tutorial – you'll find there are loads of them.



WHAT ABOUT THE POMPOM'S CENTRAL TIE?

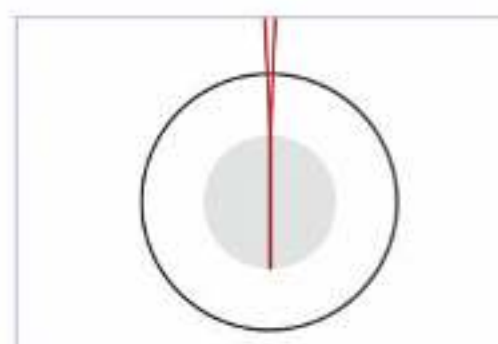
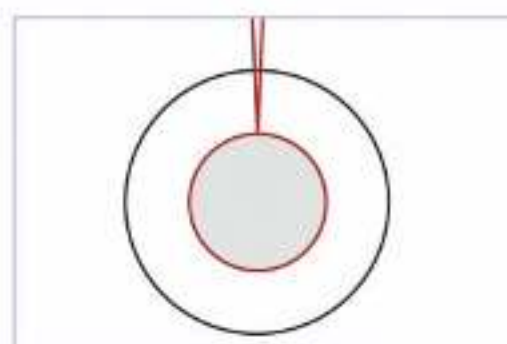
Learn this vital rule before shaping



Front/Back



Side



When trimming pompoms, you need to consider the location of the pompom's central tie – the piece of yarn you used to tie up the yarn bundle. To show you how this works, we've trimmed one of the pompoms on the left really short:

Step 1 From the front or back of the pompom, the central tie will run around in a circle laterally. From the front or back of the short pompom, the central tie is not visible. You've got more leeway when it comes to trimming the front and back as you won't expose the tie.

Step 2 From the right or left side of the pompom, the central tie will run vertically. From the side view of this same short pompom, you can see the central tie. So if there's an area on your pompom that you want to trim really short to create your shape, try to position this at the front or back of the pompom and not at the side, otherwise your sculpting might expose the central tie.

HOW DO I MAKE SHAPED POMPOMS?

Have fun trimming our simple heart shape

To make shaped pompoms, it's a good idea to plan out the shape you want first to ensure it looks how you want it to.

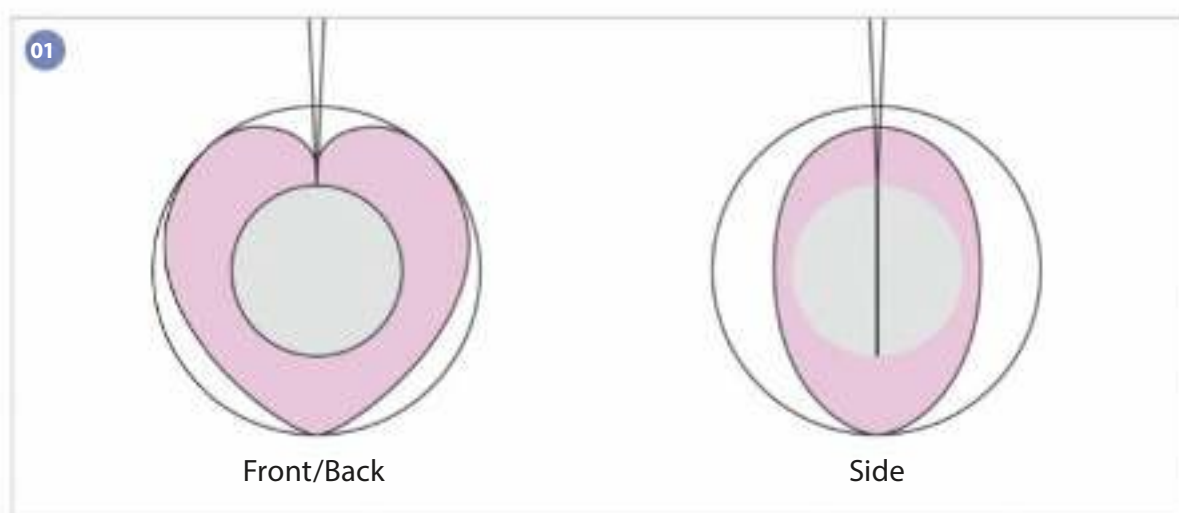
Step 1 Here's our plan of the heart shape, drawn over the diagrams. We've positioned the heart with the central tie down the side, where the yarn will be longer – at the front and back, we're going to flatten the pompom a bit so it's just the front and back that are heart shaped. Our heart is 4cm wide (narrowing to a point at the base) and 4cm high (but with a dip at the centre top), but you can scale the shape up or down.

Step 2 Take your pink or red pompom and start by flattening the shape, then trim the front and back, snipping off small amounts at a time.

Step 3 Next, trim the point at the base. To do this, locate the centre-base of the pompom and trim a line from here up to the centre-right point. Repeat from the centre-base to the centre-left. Then soften the lines and graduate the curves up towards the top-left and top-right.

Step 4 Now create the centre-top of the heart. It can help to dangle the pompom from the tie while you trim. Carefully snip into the centre-top as short as you can safely go, then curve this dip up and out towards the top-left and top-right. Then curve the centre-top dip down towards the flattened centre-front and centre-back.

Step 5 Keep trimming to soften the curves until you're happy with the shape. Take your time, pause regularly, scrutinise your work and only snip off little bits of fibre at a time. Move the pompom around to see it from different angles and make sure it looks good from both front and back. You can either do all this by eye or use a ruler to measure the width and height to make sure you're still on track compared to your drawing. Once it's finished, you can use it as a decoration or attach it to a project.



WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

How to draw your own shapes and mark the centre-front

To make your own pompom shapes, you can use our diagrams above as a guide to plan your shape (either trace or photocopy to your desired enlargement). Just make sure your shape doesn't go too close to the grey circle (this is the pompom's central yarn bundle), don't go beyond the outer circle (this is the outer edge of the pompom), and don't trim too close to the central tie down the side.

To help you keep track of the front, back and sides of your pompom during trimming, try adding a length of contrasting yarn to your

pompom to mark the centre front/back. To do this, thread a tapestry needle with a piece of yarn in a contrasting colour and insert into the centre front through to the centre back – make sure your pompom is positioned with the central tie running around in a circle. Pull the needle through carefully to position the marker yarn. Wash, then work your pompom into your desired shape, using the marker yarn to show you the location of the centre front/back. When you're happy with your shape, use tweezers to carefully remove this one yarn length.



Bear hugs

Use your new pom-pom-sculpting skills to make this adorable daddy and baby bear duo. By Becky Skuse



YOU WILL NEED

- Any DK yarn in brown
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Clover pompom makers, 6.5cm and 4.5cm
- 4 safety eyes, 10mm
- Black felt, 10x10cm
- Fabric glue
- Nail brush
- Key ring (optional)

For pompom-maker stockists contact Clover
www.clover-mfg.com

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Daddy Bear measures 6.5cm (2½in) in diameter

Baby Bear measures 4.5cm (1¾in) in diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Designer Becky Skuse says: “An adorable little bear (or two) is the perfect first pompom animal project, and this one couldn’t be easier. Whether you make just one or the pair, they’re wonderful gifts (I made these as a present for a new dad). Start with a pompom, add some crochet ears, and it’ll soon come to life. Shaping the muzzle is the key part of the project so take your time and, after that, everything will come together quickly. You can add the chain and keyring to create a practical gift, or leave that off and use them as ornaments. Either way, be warned: making pompom animals quickly becomes addictive!”

NOTES

Daddy Bear uses approx 15g of yarn.

Baby Bear uses approx 7g of yarn.

There are Diagrams on page 96, which you need to use to make the Bears.

When you are ready to make up the Bears make sure the central tie is running as shown in the Diagrams, around the sides/base/top of head, rather than front to back.

Don’t worry about making your trimming or placement perfect – a little bit of asymmetry helps to create a more natural look.

POMPOM BEARS

DADDY BEAR

Make a spherical pompom measuring 6.5cm in diameter, leaving long tails on the tie (approx 25cm). Trim lightly to form a sphere.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using a 4mm hook and brown yarn, ch6, leaving a long starting tail.

Row 1 Tr in fourth ch from hook (skipped 3ch counts as tr), (3dtr, tr, ch3, ss) in same ch, ch3, leaving rem 2 ch unworked.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

BABY BEAR

Make a spherical pompom measuring 4.5cm in diameter, leaving long tails on the tie (approx 25cm). Trim lightly to form a sphere.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using 4mm hook and brown yarn, ch6, leaving a long starting tail.

Row 1 Tr in fourth ch from hook (skipped 3ch counts as tr), (2dtr, tr, ch3, ss) in same ch, ch3, leaving rem 2 ch unworked.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

TO MAKE UP

EARS AND CROWN

Use the nail brush to brush the Ears lightly and fluff them up. Use the long tails on the Ears to attach them to the central tie of the pompom. Now you can start trimming, making sure you don’t snip into the ears or the tie. Start by



The bears’ ears are crocheted and attached to the pompom’s central tie with long yarn tails

slightly flattening out the top of the Bear’s head and trimming in front of the ears to create a slightly flatter shape here.

MUZZLE AND EYES

Shape the muzzle at the front of the Bear, starting at the top and trimming downwards.

Then curve out to the edge of the pompom.

Repeat from the left front and right front, trimming inwards, then out. Take your time – it’s the key part of the Bear. Once the shape is vaguely right, insert the safety eyes – this can help with perfecting the muzzle shape.

Once you’re happy with the muzzle and the position of the eyes, glue the eyes in place: to do this, take one eye out, cover the end with glue and carefully insert it back in place. Repeat with the other eye.

NOSE AND CHIN

Cut the nose out of black felt – it should be a rounded upside-down triangle shape (approx 1.5cm across for the Daddy Bear and 1cm across for the Baby Bear). Apply glue to the piece and position on the muzzle.

Trim the base of the Bear slightly to flatten out his chin.

MOUTH

To create the mouth shape, carefully trim a small triangle shape into the muzzle, underneath the nose.

Cut a mouth shape out of black felt – it should be a rounded triangle shape, similar to the nose, slightly larger than the shape cut into the muzzle. Lift some of the yarn out of the way, apply glue to the felt piece and press into the mouth area. Place the yarn back down over the top of the upper part of the mouth piece, for a natural look.

TO FINISH

Take the long tails of the pompom’s central tie and use both tails to work a chain to your desired length.

Fasten off, leaving long tails.

Loop each tail around the key ring 3 times, then knot together. Weave the tails back down the chain length.



Use glue to attach safety eyes and facial features, cut from felt, to the bears’ heads

NEXT ISSUE



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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.

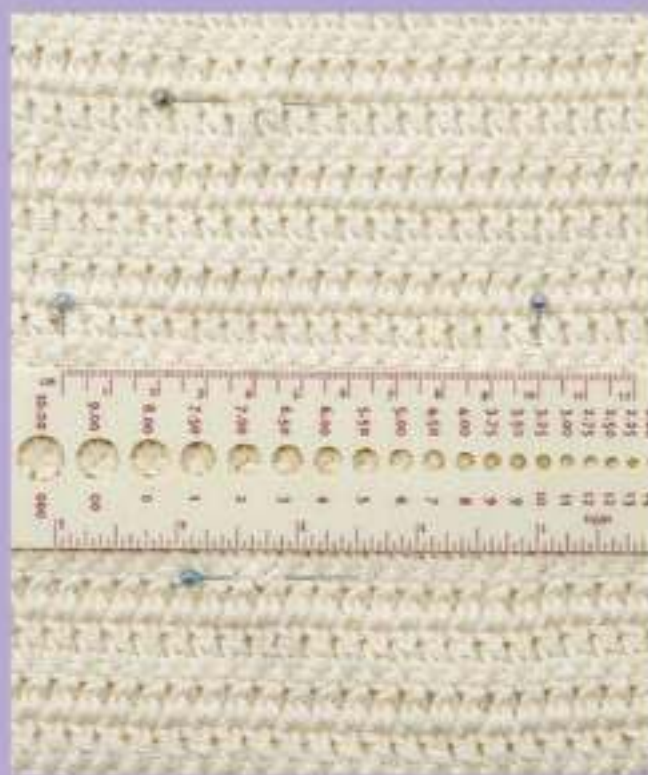


4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

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



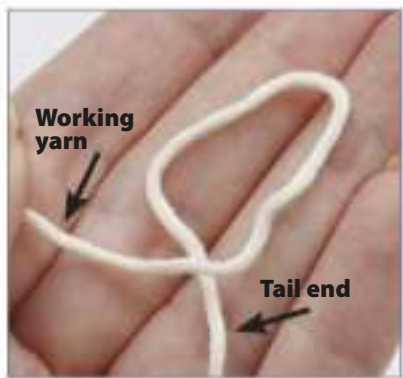
1 Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



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
ftr	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



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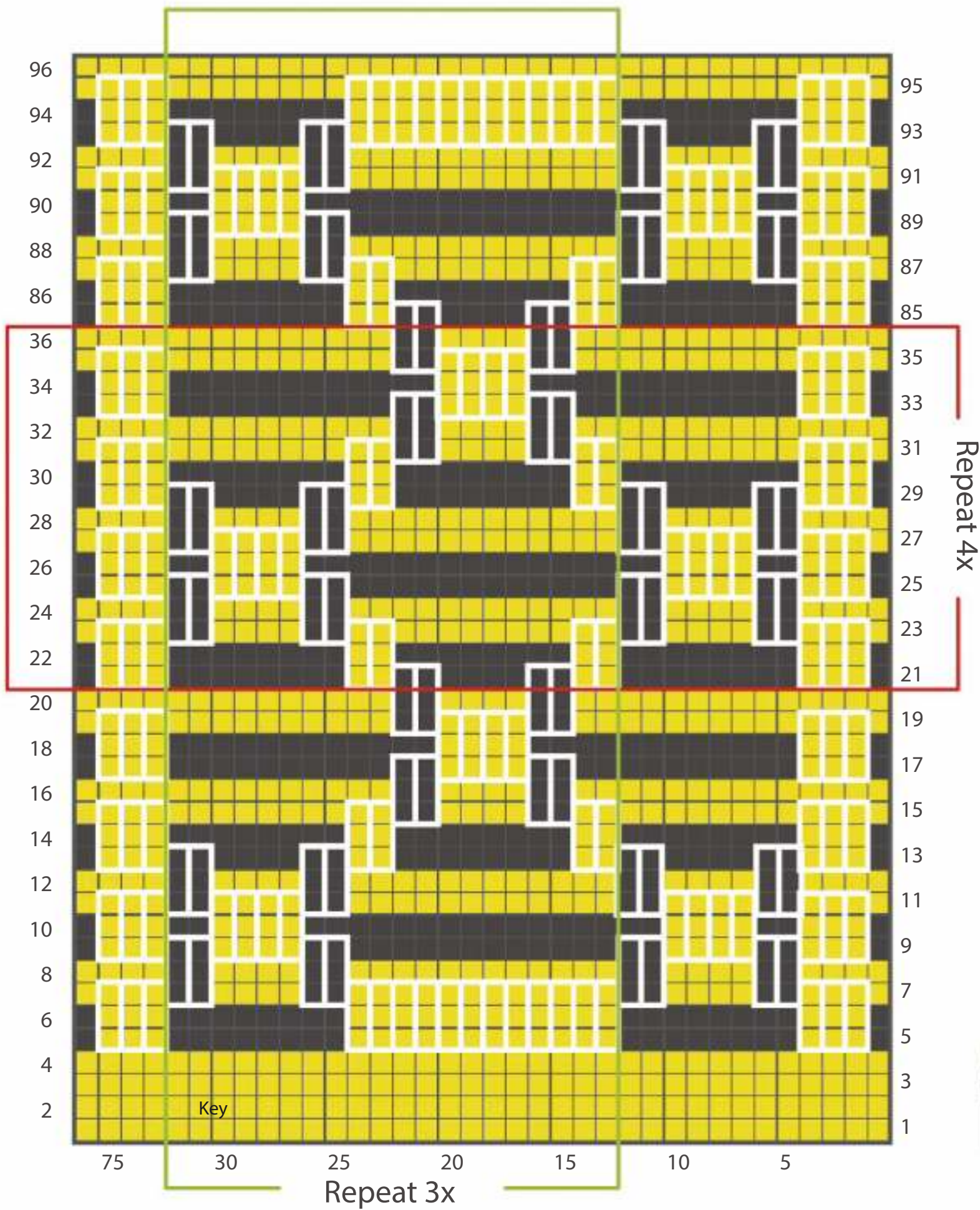
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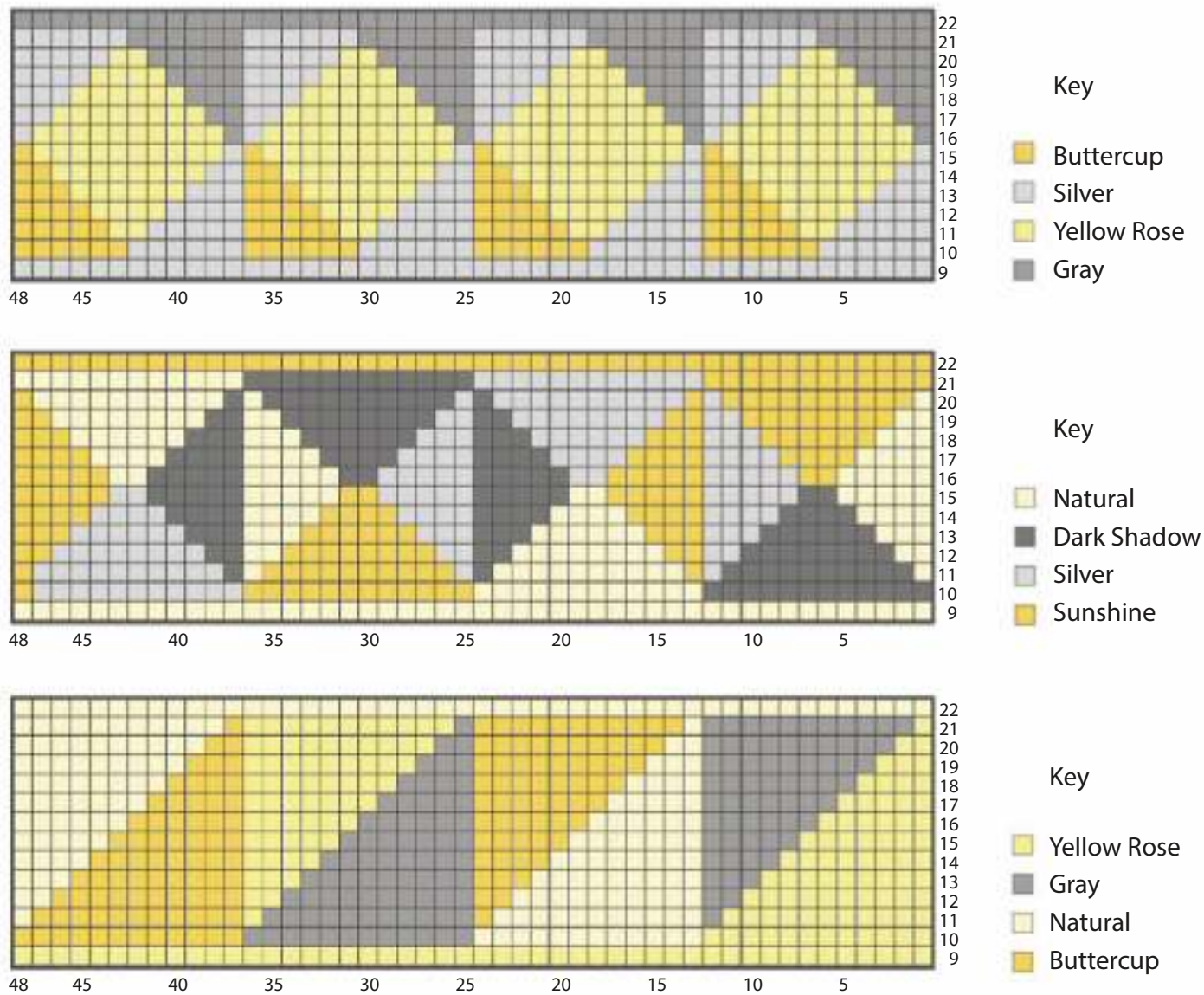
Follow these helpful charts when making the sun and shade cushions, magazine holder, glass covers and pompom bears this issue

Sun and Shade Cushion, page 19

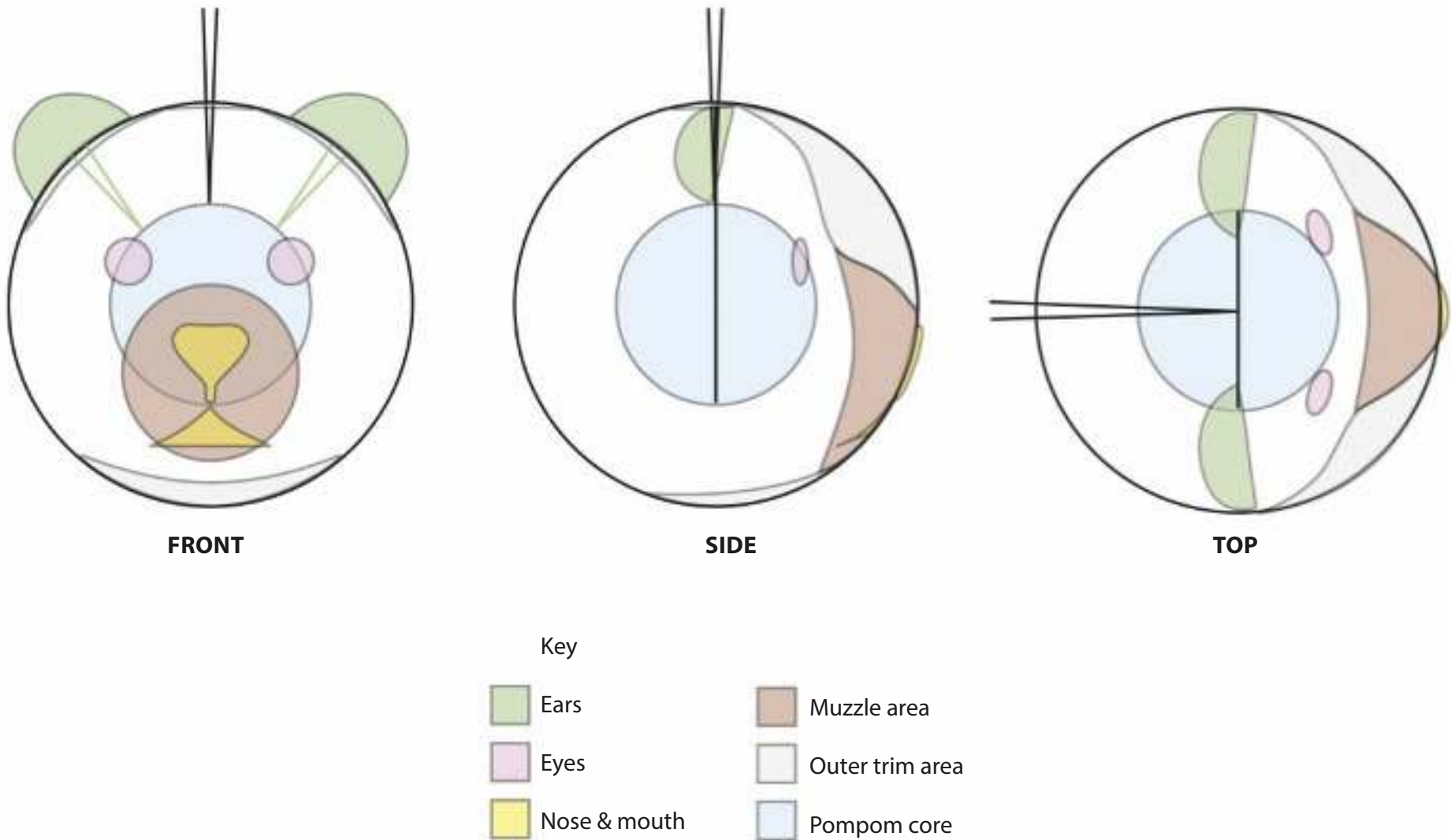


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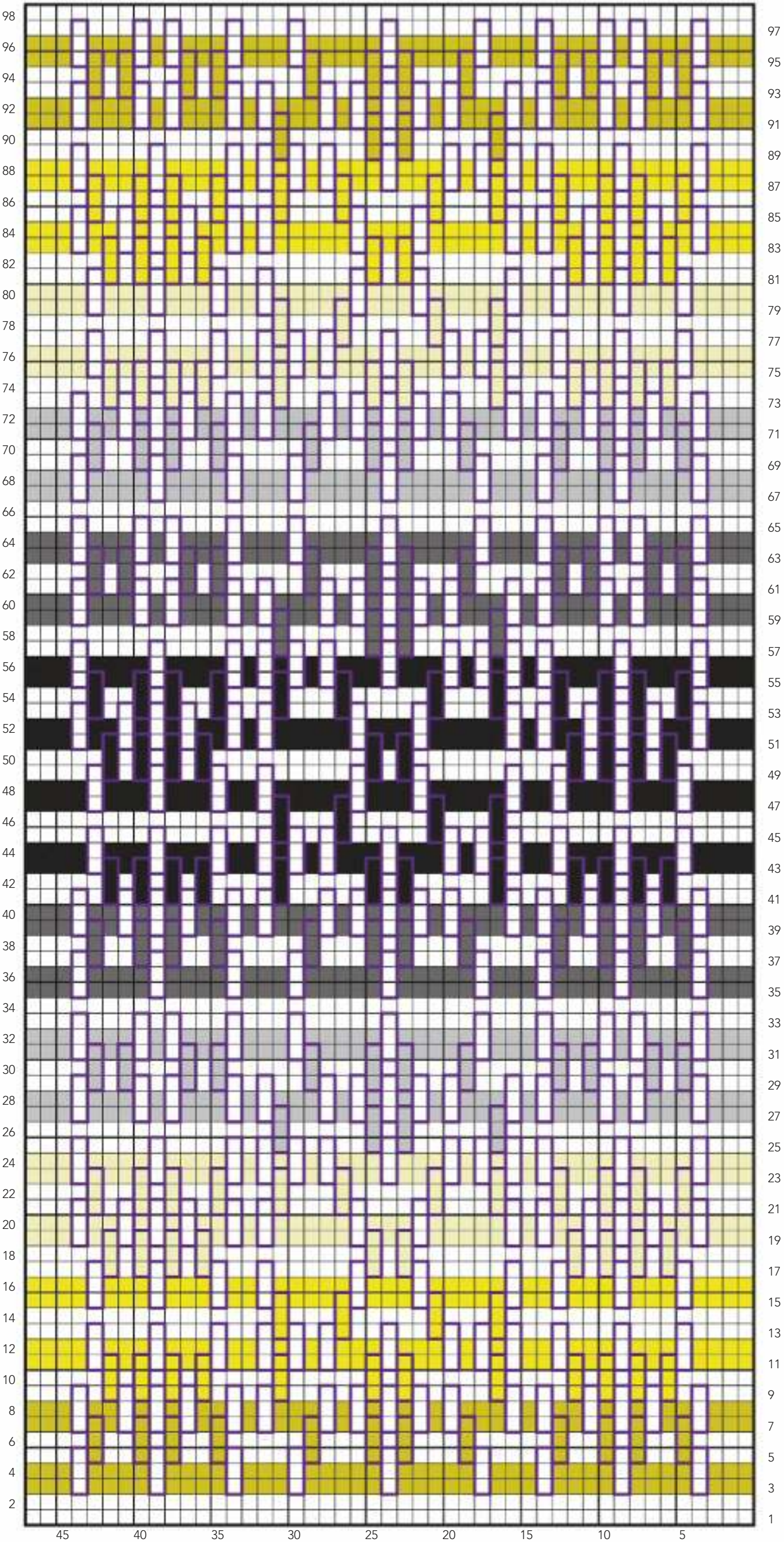
Pompom Bears, page 83



CHARTS

Magazine Holder, page 21

- Key
- Natural
 - Buttercup
 - Sunshine
 - Yellow Rose
 - Silver
 - Gray
 - Dark Shadow
 - Tr st





Wild cardi

How an oversized cardigan broke Michelle White out of her crochet comfort zone

My most important make to date has to be the Everyday Hugs Cardigan. It was the first cardigan I ever designed, and the research I did to get the shaping and structure right started an unexpected obsession with understanding crochet garment design, and a passion for demystifying the process for others.

I started the design for this piece with the intention of creating a really comfy, really wearable, really cosy cardigan. We all have those old faithful items in our wardrobe that we pull out time after time, the ones that go with anything and we feel comfortable and confident in. That's what I wanted the Everyday Hugs Cardi to be.

Designing this pattern was the first time I really started digging deep into garment construction and began to learn about shaping and sleeve styles. I probably remade it about three times before I was happy. While frogging hours and hours of work is enough to make you weep (and I did!), I learned so much from all my missteps that the tears soon faded – it was an invaluable learning curve.

The cardigan itself ended up as a very simple construction, suitable for adventurous beginners

and is still one of my most popular designs. It lives on the back of the chair in my office, always there to give me a hug when I need it!

Everything I learned from designing this pattern, and the reason it's so special to me, planted the seeds of my current mission; to make crocheting garments more accessible and give crocheters the confidence to have a go at creating clothes.

So many people are intimidated by crocheting wearables. There is so much terminology which can feel completely overwhelming. Just the word 'tension' used to make me tense! But I have learned that it really doesn't have to be scary.

My goal is to help others push past those fears and find the joy and satisfaction that comes from crocheting your own clothes. This was the original inspiration behind 'My Crochet Wardrobe', a Facebook group for anyone who is interested in crochet garments but doesn't quite know where to start – for me, it started with this cardi!

Find the Everyday Hugs Cardigan pattern on Ravelry @doraexplored, read more about garment design on doradoes.co.uk, or join the My Crochet Wardrobe Facebook group: search MyCrochetWardrobe



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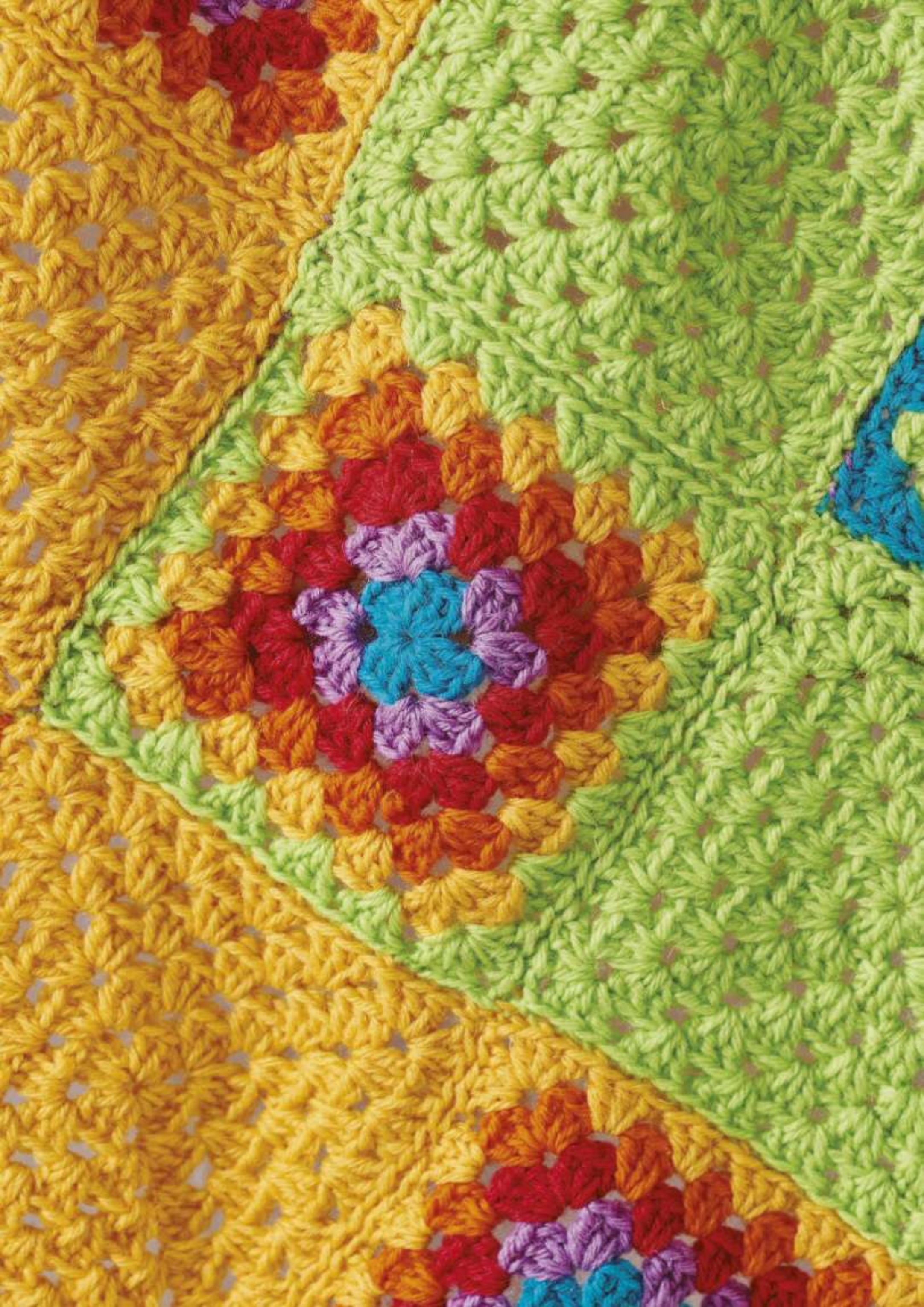
SWEET
CHIC



MARINE
DREAMS



BEGINNER-FRIENDLY TECHNIQUES! Granny trebles ■ Fringing ■ Popcorn stitch ■ Flower motifs



edits CONTENTS



08

There's something about summer that makes us yearn for bright yarns and eye-catching patterns. With that in mind we've created this exclusive collection of blankets and cushions using a selection of the gorgeous ColourLab yarns from West Yorkshire Spinners. Designed to power up your interior with a vibrant colour injection, you can choose from every colour combination but plain. We're certain you'll find a pattern you love in amongst these fun makes – and discover a few new techniques along the way!

Sara



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PATT' DOWN

Chevrons meet granny squares in this magical pattern mix. Designed by Sarah-Jane Hicks

SUMMER
CHEER!





YOU WILL NEED

- West Yorkshire Spinners ColourLab DK (100% wool, 100g/225m), 1 ball of each: Deep Teal (716) Aqua Green (705) Natural Cream (010) Phantom Black (099) Zesty Orange (476) Cerise Pink (539)

- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

- Cushion pad, 40x40cm

For yarn stockists contact
WY Spinners 01535 664500
www.wyspinners.com

TENSION

Granny Square Motif measures 8.5x8.5cm (3¼x3¼in) using a 4mm hook or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Cushion measures 40x40cm (15¾x15¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

joining tr Work standard tr, remove loop from hook, insert hook into st/sp being joined, replace loop on hook and pull through st

joining ch Ch1, remove loop from hook, insert hook into st/sp being joined, replace loop on hook and pull through st, ch1

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Dreamy reef aquatics with a touch of the tropics – this cushion takes us to far flung fantasy lands every time we behold its contrast brights. While there are lots of patterns, the stitches are all simple, making this a great progressing-beginner project.

NOTES

Cushion is made up of 2 panels. Granny Square motifs are then made and joined on the last round to the Panels and/or previous Square Motifs. There is a diagram on page 6 which you should use when joining the Squares to the Panel.

CUSHION

ZIGZAG PANEL (MAKE 2)

Using Deep Teal, ch73.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in fourth ch from hook, *tr in next 10 sts, skip 2 sts, tr in next 10 sts, (tr, ch1, tr) in next st; repeat from * across to last st, 2tr in last st, turn. [68 tr]

Change to Aqua Green.

Row 2 (WS) Ch 3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in st at base of ch-3, *tr in next 10 sts, skip 2 sts, tr in next 10 sts, (tr, ch1, tr) in ch sp; repeat from * across to last st, 2tr in last st, turn.

Change to Deep Teal.

Row 3 As Row 2.

Change to Phantom Black.

Row 4 Ch3, 2tr in same st, *(skip 2 sts, 3tr in next st) 3 times, skip 4 sts, (3tr in next st, skip 2 sts) 3 times, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch sp, rep from * across to last st, 3tr in last st, turn.

[24 3tr groups]

Row 5 Using Natural Cream, repeat Row 4,

working 3tr groups in space between groups on previous row.

Row 6 Using Phantom Black, repeat Row 5. Change to Deep Teal.

Row 7 Ch3, 2tr in same st, tr in next 9 sts, skip 4 sts, tr in next 10 sts, (tr, ch1, tr) in next ch sp, tr in next 10 sts, skip 4 sts, tr in next 10 sts, (tr, ch1, tr) in next ch sp, tr in next 10 sts, skip 4 sts, tr in next 9 sts, 3tr in last st, turn. [68 tr]

Row 8 Using Aqua Green, repeat Row 2.

Rows 9-10 Using Deep Teal, repeat Row 2.

Rows 11-12 As Rows 8-9.

Row 13 Using Phantom Black, repeat Row 4.

Row 14 Using Natural Cream, repeat Row 4.

Row 15 Using Phantom Black, repeat Row 4.

Row 16 Using Deep Teal, repeat Row 7.

Row 17 Using Aqua Green, repeat Row 2.

Rows 18-19 Using Deep Teal, repeat Row 2.

Row 20 Using Aqua Green, repeat Row 2.

Row 21 Using Deep Teal, repeat Row 2.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

GRANNY SQUARE (MAKE 10)

Make 6 with Zesty Orange as Round 1 and Cerise Pink as Rounds 2-3.

Make 4 with Cerise Pink as Round 1 and Zesty Orange as Rounds 2-3.

Ch4.

Round 1 (RS) 2tr in fourth ch from hook (skipped chs count as tr), ch2, (3tr, ch2) three times into same ch, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [4 3-tr groups]

Change yarn.

Round 2 Ss to first ch-sp, ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-sp, *(3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch-sp; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3. [8 3-tr groups]



Black and white makes a stunning contrast to the aqua and teal

Round 3 Ss to first ch-sp, ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-sp, *3tr in sp between 3-tr groups, (3tr, ch3, 3tr) in next ch-sp; rep from * around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 3-tr groups]

JOIN AS YOU GO

The next round of the Granny Square joins the Squares to the Panel and to the other Squares as you work.

Refer to the diagram below right for guidance. Join Squares to Panel as depicted: the 1st Square is joined along one side to the Panel, the 2nd Square is joined along one side to the Panel as well as the corner of the 1st Square, and so on.

When working the second row of Squares you need to join to the second Panel, then when working the last row of Squares you should join to the bottom of the first Panel to create a tube. When joining a side, work joining tr and joining ch instead of the standard sts (see Abbreviations on page 5).

When joining Granny Squares to another Square, join in sp between 3-tr groups on the other Square. When joining to the Panel join to every 3rd st along.

Change to Aqua Green.

Round 4 Ss to first ch sp, ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch sp, (3tr in next sp) twice, *(3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch sp, (3tr in next sp) twice; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3. [16 3-tr groups]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

HALF GRANNY SQUARE (MAKE 4)

Join on the last Row as for Granny Square Motifs.

Using Cerise Pink, ch4.

Row 1 In fourth ch from hook, work 2tr, ch2, 3tr, turn. [2 3-tr groups]

Change to Zesty Orange.

Row 2 Ch3, 2tr in same st, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch sp, 3tr in last st, turn. [4 3-tr groups]

Row 3 Ch3, 2tr in same st, 3tr in next ch sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch sp, 3tr in next ch sp, 3tr in last st. [6 3-tr groups]

Change to Aqua Green and join as you go as for Granny Square.

Row 4 Ch3, 2tr in same st, (3tr in next ch sp) twice, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch sp, (3tr in next ch sp) twice, 3-tr in last st. [8 3-tr groups]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

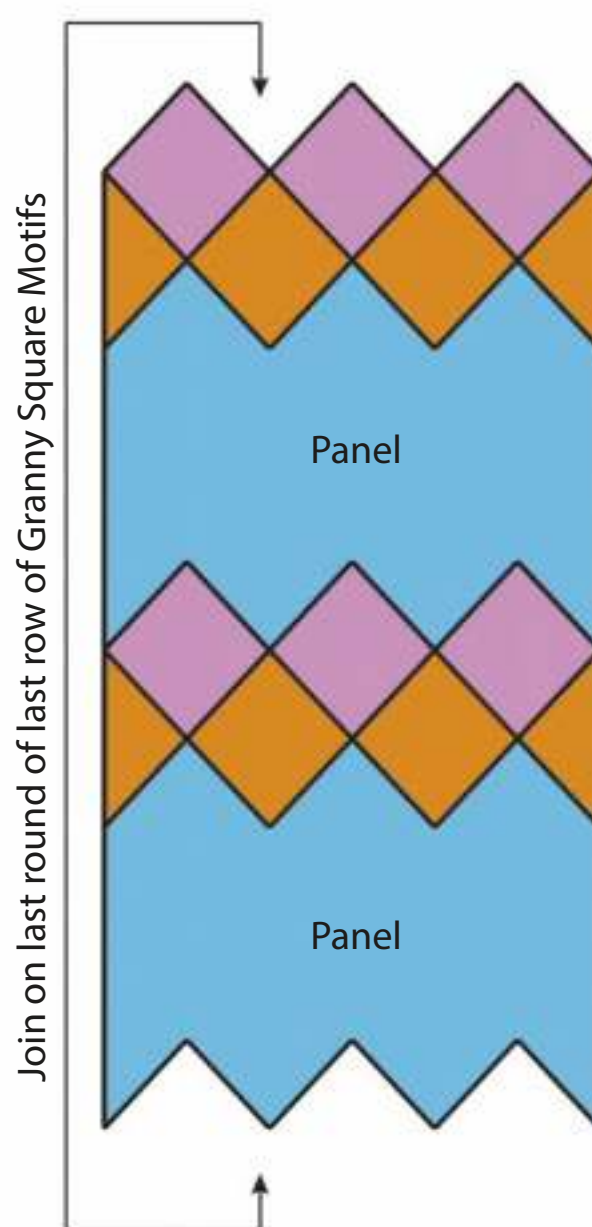
TO MAKE UP

Fold the tube flat, with RS facing out and the fold between points of Rows 18 and 19. Using Deep Teal, dc along one open edge to join. Insert cushion pad and dc along the other open edge to close.

Fasten off and weave in ends.



The squares are made in two colourways, but they all have the same turquoise border



Key

- ◆ Granny Square (Rounds 2-3 Zesty Orange)
- ◆ Granny Square (Rounds 2-3 Cerise Pink)
- ▶ Half Granny Square



Colourama!

Crochet chat and a cuppa with Sarah-Jane Hicks



How did you get started as a crochet designer?

It started as a bit of fun – I've always loved making things, and although not many of my friends are very interested in crafts, through

Instagram and Etsy I discovered there were people out there like me who loved crochet and crafts and actually liked what I made. I'm a bit of a maths geek at heart and love following a pattern, which is what I think attracted me to writing patterns of my own and why I enjoy it so much.

How would you describe your design style?

Fun and quirky. I like my designs to be colourful and simple to make.

What was your inspiration behind this cushion?

My inspiration comes from everywhere and anything. It's a bit of an eclectic mix really, nature, everyday things, childhood memories. The inspiration for this design came from my love for geometry, currently zigzags or chevrons and the idea of combining them with granny stitches and squares. The colours were inspired by the flora and fauna of the rainforest.

How did this design develop – can you talk us through your process?

Most of the time I sketch my ideas first. Sometimes, as with this design, I need to know if I'm actually

going to be able to make it, so then the sketch comes part way through the process. As I work, I annotate my sketch with the stitches used and stitch count.

What do you like about the yarn used in your zigzag cushion?

I loved the bright clean colours, they really pop! I also like the natural fibre of the yarn.

What are your favourite colour combinations to work with when designing crochet pieces?

I love brights and pastels, rainbow shades and I also have a bit of thing for turquoise and teal.

What's your go-to method for finding fresh colour mixes?

I can spend hours looking at colours and playing with combinations. It's much easier when you can see the yarn in real life than online. I spend far too long adding yarn to my online basket just so I can work out what goes well together.

What other cushions have you designed?

I've designed a number of them – mostly novelty patterns – which range from cacti to cassette tapes to a double decker bus. I love using colourwork and intarsia crochet.

Find Sarah-Jane on Etsy at www.etsy.com/uk/shop/FloAndDotShop, via her blog at www.floanddot.blogspot.com, or on Instagram @flo_and_dot



TRUE COLOURS

Go hue-d or go home with this ultra-bright blanket,
designed by Martine de Regt

FLOWER BLANKET



YOU WILL NEED

- West Yorkshire Spinners ColourLab DK (100% British wool, 100g/225m), 2 balls of each:
 - Crimson Red (556)
 - Zesty Orange (476)
 - Citrus Yellow (229)
 - Lime Green (198)
 - Deep Teal (716)
 - Thistle Purple (717)
 - A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- For yarn stockists contact
WY Spinners 01535 664500
www.wyspinners.com

TENSION

Each Square measures 12.5x12.5cm (5x5in)
 Each Flower measures 8cm in diameter

MEASUREMENTS

Blanket measures approx 150x95cm (59x37½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Take home décor from drab to fab with this vivid granny square blanket. Worked up in primary brights and finished with tri-colour flowers, this is a straightforward make and simple enough to extend or reduce by adding or removing squares.

NOTES

The Blanket is made of 68 Squares and 26 Flowers, which are arranged according to the Layout Diagram. The Border is added after the Squares are joined, and Flowers are sewn on to each protruding corner of the Border.

BLANKET

GRANNY SQUARE (MAKE 68)

Make 44 single colour Squares and 24 multicoloured Squares using the same pattern. Single Squares:

Square 1 Make 8 using Crimson Red.

Square 2 Make 7 using Zesty Orange.

Square 3 Make 7 using Citrus Yellow.

Square 4 Make 7 using Lime Green.

Square 5 Make 7 using Deep Teal.

Square 6 Make 8 using Thistle Purple

Multicoloured Squares:

Make 4 in each colour sequences:

Square A Crimson Red, Zesty Orange, Citrus Yellow, Lime Green, Deep Teal, Thistle Purple.

Square B Thistle Purple, Crimson Red, Zesty Orange, Citrus Yellow, Lime Green, Deep Teal.

Square C Lime Green, Deep Teal, Thistle Purple, Crimson Red, Zesty Orange, Citrus Yellow.

Square D Deep Teal, Thistle Purple, Crimson Red, Zesty Orange, Citrus Yellow, Lime Green.

Square E Zesty Orange, Citrus Yellow, Lime Green, Deep Teal, Thistle Purple, Crimson Red.

Square F Citrus Yellow, Lime Green, Deep Teal, Thistle Purple, Crimson Red, Zesty Orange.

For multicoloured Squares, fasten off yarn after every round and join new colour in any ch-2 corner sp of previous round, omitting ss part of the instructions at the beg of every round.



The granny squares in the blanket are made up of rounds of simple treble stitches

Using first colour, ch5, ss into first ch to form a loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 2tr into loop, ch2, (3tr, ch2) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [4 3tr cluster, 4 ch-2 sp]

Round 2 (RS) Ss to first ch-2 sp, (ch3, 2tr, ch2, 3tr) into ch-2 sp, ch1, *(3tr, ch2, 3tr) into next ch-2 sp, ch1; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3. [8 3tr cluster, 4 ch-2 sp, 4 ch-1 sp]

Round 3 Ss to first ch-2 sp, (ch3, 2tr, ch2, 3tr) into ch-2 sp, ch1, 3tr into ch-1 sp, ch1, *(3tr, ch2, 3tr) into next ch-2 sp, ch1, 3tr into ch-1 sp, ch1; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 3tr cluster, 4 ch-2 sp, 8 ch-1 sp]

Round 4 Ss to first ch-2 sp, (ch3, 2tr, ch2, 3tr) into ch-2 sp, ch1, (3tr into next ch-1 sp, ch1) twice, *(3tr, ch2, 3tr) into ch-2 sp, ch1, (3tr into next ch-1 sp, ch1) twice; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3. [16 3tr cluster, 4 ch-2 sp, 12 ch-1 sp]

Round 5 Ss to first ch-2 sp, (ch3, 2tr, ch2, 3tr) into ch-2 sp, ch1, (3tr into next ch-1 sp, ch1) 3 times, *(3tr, ch2, 3tr) into ch-2 sp, ch1, (3tr into next ch-1 sp, ch1) 3 times; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3. [20 3tr cluster, 4 ch-2 sp, 16 ch-1 sp]

Round 6 Ss to first ch-2 sp, (ch3, 2tr, ch2, 3tr) into ch-2 sp, ch1, (3tr into next ch-1 sp, ch1) 4

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO FASTEN OFF & WEAVE IN ENDS



1 After working the last stitch, you'll have one loop left on your hook. Cut the yarn leaving a 15cm-long tail. Work yrh and pull the yarn right through the stitch.



2 Now remove the hook and pull the yarn tail through the last stitch to tighten it up and make sure your hard work doesn't unravel.



3 Thread the tail end onto a tapestry needle. On the wrong side, weave the needle up and down, in and out of the back of the stitches to secure the tail end.



4 Make sure you weave the yarn tail in two different directions to prevent it from being pulled out. Also check that the tail end of yarn is not visible from the right side.

FLOWER BLANKET

times, *(3tr, ch2, 3tr) into ch-2 sp, ch1, (3tr into next ch-1 sp, ch1) 4 times; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3.

[24 3tr cluster, 4 ch-2 sp, 20 ch-1 sp]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

FLOWER (MAKE 26)

Make 13 each in the following colour sequences:

Flower 1 Citrus Yellow, Zesty Orange, Crimson Red.

Flower 2 Lime Green, Deep Teal, Thistle Purple.

Using first colour, ch5, ss into first ch to form a loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (doesn't count as st throughout), 10dc into ring, ss to first ch to join. [10 dc]

Round 2 (RS) (Ch3, skip 1 st, ss into next st) 5 times. [5 ch-3 sps]

Round 3 (Dc, 4tr, dc) into each ch-3 sp, ss to first dc. [5 petals]

Fasten off first colour, join second colour between two petals of previous round.

Round 4 Working behind the petals, (ch5, ss between next 2 petals of previous round) 5 times, ss to first ch-5 sp. [5 ch-5 sps]

Round 5 (Dc, 8tr, dc) into each ch-5 sp, ss to first dc. [5 petals]

Fasten off second colour, join the third colour between two petals from Round 5.

Round 6 Working behind petals, (ch6, ss between next 2 petals of previous round) 5 times, ss to first ch-6 sp. [5 ch-6 sp]

Round 7 (Dc, 10tr, dc) in each ch-6 sp, ss to first dc. [5 petals]

Fasten off third colour and weave in ends.

JOIN SQUARES

Arrange the Squares as shown in the Layout Guide. Join them together through back loops only by either sewing or slip stitching them together.

Join the Squares in diagonal strips first. Once you have 12 strips, two of which are a single Square, join strips together.

BORDER

Join Lime Green in corner ch-2 sp on Blanket.

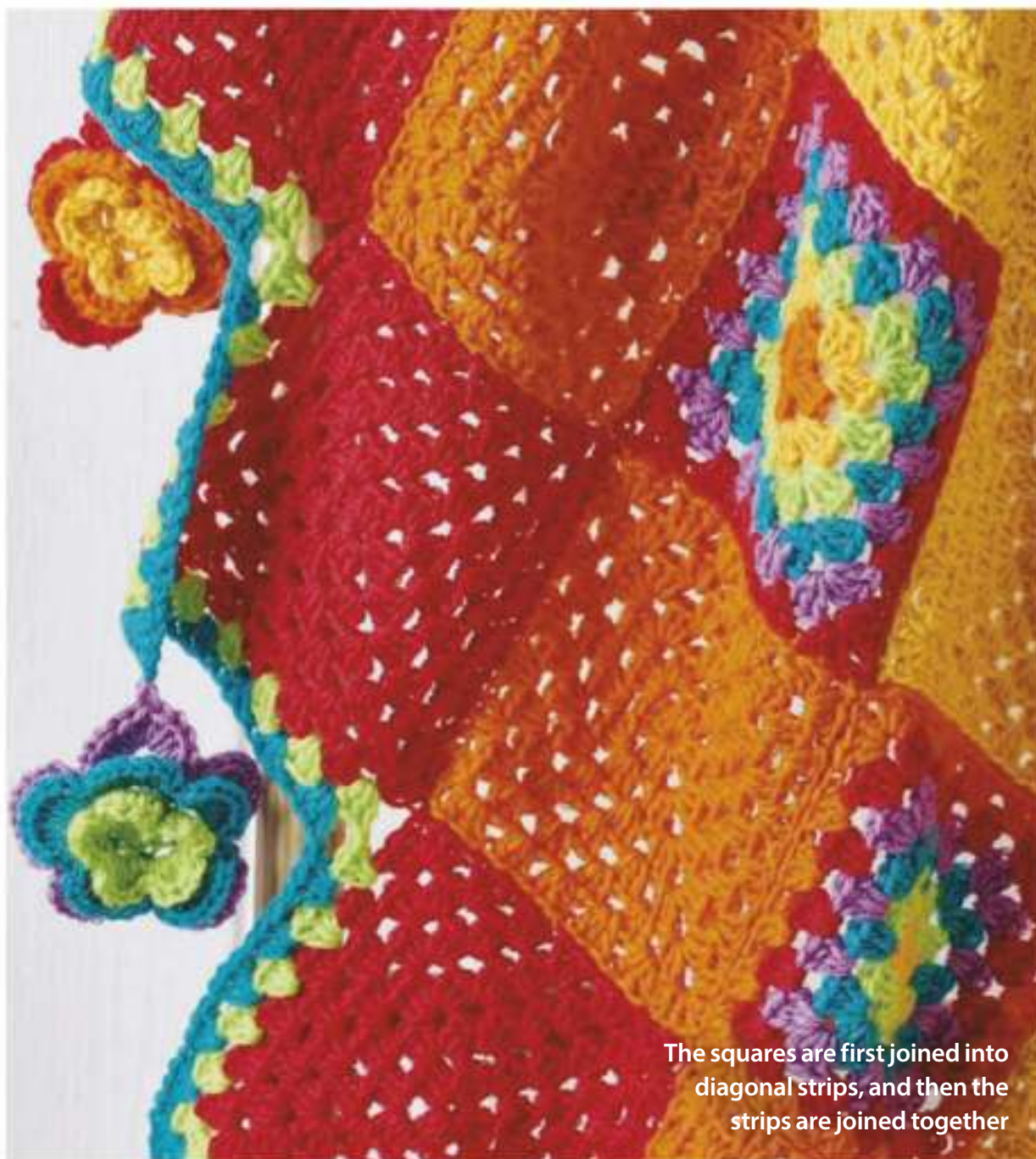
Round 1 (RS) (Ch3, 2tr, ch2, 3tr) into ch-2 sp, 3tr into each ch-1 sp around, working (3tr, ch2, 3tr) into each ch-2 corner sp, and skipping all corners where 3 Squares are joined together. Join Deep Teal in corner ch-2 sp of Round 1.

Round 2 (RS) As Round 1.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

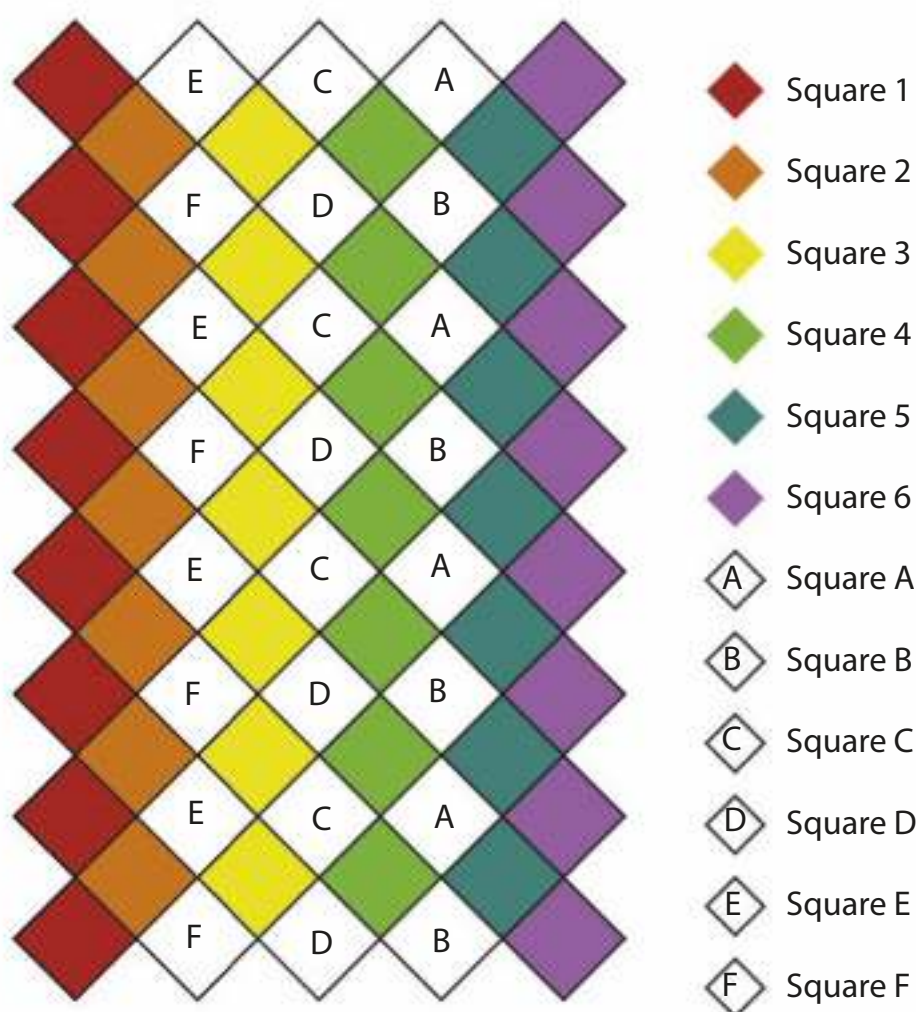
TO FINISH

Attach a Flower to each ch-2 sp on Round 2 of Border, alternating between Flower 1 and Flower 2.



The squares are first joined into diagonal strips, and then the strips are joined together

Layout Guide Flower Blanket





Sweet stitches

Martine de Regt's journey from baby booties to hooky cuties



How did you get started as a crochet designer?

I began to crochet after my first son was born, as I really wanted to learn how to make him some crochet booties. I learned it step-by-step from YouTube right from the basics – before that I had never touched a crochet hook before! Soon after I knew the basic stitches I started to design myself.

How would you describe your design style?

Fun and colourful. Though I love the simple Scandi style, I always come back to colour!

What are your favourite colour combinations?

I love to work with lots of different colours. It also depends a bit on my mood. As I am a quite positive person I love working with bright colours.

My favourite colours at the moment are mustard and pink. I do use a lot of pink – a lot!

Do you have a tried and tested method for uncovering new colour combinations?

When I make a design, whether it's in my head or on paper I will have the combination of colours already planned out.

If I should happen to need some more colour inspiration, then I love to make Pinterest boards!

What was your inspiration behind this blanket?

I wanted this blanket to be a reflection of a rainbow in a

summer garden, as I love rainbows. The colours are bright and happy and the flowers give it a flirty accent.

How would you describe it?

This blanket gives me a happy and uplifting feeling, and I hope others will get that same feeling from it!

Do you think your background as an amigurumi designer has influenced your design?

Yes, I think it definitely influenced the style of the blanket. With amigurumi you can make little details, and I tried to give the blanket some extras as well by adding the flowers. Though the flowers are not made with the amigurumi method, I think they do give the blanket a more playful character.

Do you often work with granny squares?

When I first started to crochet I used to make lots and lots of granny squares. I think they are such a lovely way to learn to crochet as they are easy and quick, and the result is always very impressive. My favourite projects to begin with were cushions and scarves.

What do you like about the yarn in this blanket?

The yarn for this blanket is very bright and clear; the colours are amazing! It was so lovely to work with as it is soft, but has still got some weight to it.

You can find Martine on Instagram @martinederegt, or at www.martinederegtcrochetafife.blogspot.co.uk, where she regularly shares little crochet patterns.

Processed wool in
West Yorkshire Spinners'
factory in Keighley



A FRESH SPIN

Quality yarn sourced within the UK – how West Yorkshire Spinners' homespun philosophy is key to their success

Mind your food miles. Think local. Watch your carbon footprint. It was no sooner than the internet cracked the world open like a coconut that environmental scientists realised we need to hem in our habit of bussing commodities around the world – or face apocalyptic consequences.

Most of us now recognise the virtue in supporting local business when buying food, furniture and other accoutrements, but how much thought have you given your yarn miles? While Europe has a comfortable foothold in the yarn business, China, the USA, India and Pakistan are among some of the biggest exporters of cotton, and the countries of origin you're most likely to see while perusing the shelves at your average craft store in the UK.

In part, this is due to the textile crash of the early nineties, which led to a large

number of yarn manufacturing units being closed in the UK. Additionally, large countries with expanded acreage are able to benefit from economies of scale in a way that diminutive players such as the UK cannot hope to square up to.

CLOSE TO HOME

Despite this, there are still independent spinning factories in the UK – and with the public's increased interest and awareness in environmental issues, their star is on the rise.

West Yorkshire Spinners launched in 1997 in Oxenhope, as a savvy response to the textile downturn. "We identified that there would now be a gap in the market, as very few companies were now actually producing their knitting or crochet yarn in the UK," recounts Peter Longbottom, Managing Director of West Yorkshire Spinners. But while their decision had a

sound logistical underpinning, the team had a mission closer to their heart as well – to continue the legacy of the British spinning industry. "Without the few spinning mills that are left here, the entire skill set would die out in the UK, which would be such a great shame," comments Peter. "We used to be world leaders in this field, and we have some fantastic knowledge and talent in this area." West Yorkshire Spinners are now one of very few remaining hand-knitting brands in the UK still designing and manufacturing yarn in house. "It's of paramount importance to keep manufacturing in the UK and to keep the worsted spinning industry going," affirms Peter. And while spinning itself is the 'poster child' of the industry, it's easy to forget the myriad roles that complement this skill – the rearing of sheep and clipping of fleeces, processing the raw materials, and



fibre dyeing. Without the spinning industry, all these roles would be consigned to the annals of history.

In addition to nurturing our cultural bloodlines, when buying British wool you can rest assured the product scores low on air miles. The bulk of West Yorkshire Spinners' fleeces come from suppliers in Bradford, while the rest of the process takes place at the company's factory in Keighley in (unsurprisingly) West Yorkshire. "Our whole operation is carried out within a 40-mile radius, which reduces the yarn's carbon footprint substantially, allowing you to crochet away with a clean conscience," says Peter. Compounding this is the company's philosophy around raw materials, which are sourced locally wherever possible. This homespun approach has other benefits too: "We're not beholden to any developments in Turkey and China to make up our product range for us, so we can be really dynamic and react to our customers' demands, developing a wonderfully unique selection of yarns which stand out from the pack, and which are designed and produced right here in Great Britain."

QUALITY AND QUANTITY

One of West Yorkshire Spinner's top-selling

yarns is Signature 4ply, a soft and springy wool blend that comes in a magnificent 55-colour range. Other popular ranges include the Exquisite luxurious lace-weight yarn and the Bo Peep baby range, which was recently extended due to popular demand. New for 2019 is ColourLab, a 100% wool DK that's notable for its unashamed all-out saturation. In addition to its domestic roots, West Yorkshire Spinners' operation is notable for the fact the company has its own on-site dyehouse, and ColourLab really showcases this advantage in its vibrant, power-bright hues. Hardwearing enough to withstand a 40°C machine wash without fading, the set of rainbow brights come in 18

solid colours and five self-striping shades. A superb choice for soft furnishings, toys or clothing, this breathable yarn is gentle

enough to be suitable even for baby items. (For blankets and cushions inspiration, just flick back through this beautifully bright booklet!)

In an information-overloaded, fake-news peddling world, you can tie yourself up in knots trying to trace the threads of all the conflicting messages around the ethics of environmentalism and the economy. But with its indisputable emphasis on quality, provenance and a reduced carbon footprint, buying more UK-spun yarn is surely one green swap that's entirely straightforward.

Written by Tallulah Speed

"IT'S OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE
TO KEEP THE UK WORSTED
SPINNING INDUSTRY GOING"

WYS WEST
YORKSHIRE
SPINNERS

West Yorkshire Spinners

Keeping the heritage of their home town alive

Nestled in the heart of the original British spinning industry, West Yorkshire Spinners pairs cutting-edge technology with generations of expertise. Founded in 1997, they spun on a commission basis for a variety of companies before launching their own award-winning yarn label WYS in early 2013.

HIGH BEAM

Catch the sun and sit it on your sofa with this cheer-inducing cushion. Designed by Michelle White

COLOUR
POP!



SUNBURST CUSHION



YOU WILL NEED

- West Yorkshire Spinners ColourLab DK (100% British wool, 100g/225m)
1 ball of each:
Yarn A Crimson Red (556)
Yarn B Zesty Orange (476)
2 balls of each:
Yarn C Citrus Yellow (229)
Yarn D True Blue (111)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Cushion pad, 45x45cm
- For yarn stockists contact
WY Spinners 01535 664500
www.wyspinners.com

TENSION

18 sts and 11 rows measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet

MEASUREMENTS

The finished Cushion measures 45x45cm (17¾x17¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

trcl (treble cluster) (Yrh, insert hook in st, yrh, pull up a loop, yrh, pull through 2 loops) 4 times into the same st, yrh, pull through all 5 loops on hook

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

This super bold, sunny cushion will add a ton of personality to your favourite place to soak up the rays (or even just your sofa)! The use of intarsia colourwork on the rays speeds up this make and, even better, saves you having to weave in umpteen rounds of ends.

NOTES

The Cushion is worked in rounds without turning. For the colourwork section change colour on the last yrh of st before colour change is indicated. You can carry the yarn on the WS and pick it up when needed again, or fasten off and sew in ends.

CUSHION

CUSHION PANEL (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (doesn't count as st throughout), 12tr into the loop, ss to beg tr to join. [12 tr]

Round 2 (RS) Ch2, 2tr in each st around, ss to beg tr. [24 tr]

Fasten off Yarn A and join Yarn B into any st.

Round 3 Ch2, (tr in next st, 2tr in next st) 12 times, ss to beg tr. [36 tr]

Round 4 Ch2, (tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in next st) 12 times, ss to beg tr. [48 tr]

Fasten off Yarn B and join Yarn C.

Round 5 Ch2, (tr in next 3 sts, 2tr in next st) 12 times, ss to beg tr. [60 tr]

Round 6 Ch2, (tr in next 4 sts, 2tr in next st) 12 times, ss to beg tr. [72 tr]

Round 7 Ch6 (counts as tr, ch3 throughout), *(tr in next 5 sts, 2tr in next st) 3 times, ch3; rep from * 3 times more, tr in base of same st as beg ch-6, ss to third ch of beg ch-6. [84 tr, 4 ch-3 sp]

Round 8 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch6, *2tr in same ch-3 sp, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 6 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 5 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 6 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in



The sun rays feature pretty eyelet-style holes, radiating out to the corners

next 2 sts, 2tr in ch-3 sp, ch3; rep from * 3 times more until the last ch-3 sp, tr in the last ch-3 sp, ss to third ch of beg ch-6. [100 tr, 4 ch-3 sp]

Round 9 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch6, *2tr in same ch-3 sp, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 8 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 5 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 8 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in ch-3 sp, ch3; rep from * 3 times more until the last ch-3 sp, tr in the last ch-3 sp, ss to third ch of beg ch-6. [116 tr, 4 ch-3 sp]

Round 10 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch6, *2tr in same ch-3 sp, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK FAIR ISLE COLOURWORK



1 Work to the point where you want to change colour and on the last stitch in the first colour, work the final yrh using the second colour.



2 Work a stitch using the second colour, leaving the first colour yarn floating free at the back of the fabric.



3 Change colour again in the same way as before: on the last stitch in the second colour, work the final yrh using the first colour. Let the yarn form a long strand behind the stitches worked in the other colour.



4 This is the WS of the fabric. Don't pull the 'floating' yarn too tightly when you use it again, otherwise the fabric may pucker. On wrong side rows, you'll need to strand the yarn floats across the fronts of the stitches.

10 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 5 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 10 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in ch-3 sp, ch3; rep from * 3 times more until the last ch-3 sp, tr in the last ch-3 sp, ss to third ch of beg ch-6.

[132 tr, 4 ch-3 sp]

Round 11 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch6, *2tr in same ch-3 sp, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 12 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 5 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 12 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in ch-3 sp, ch3; rep from * 3 times more until the last ch-3 sp, tr in the last ch-3 sp, ss to third ch of beg ch-6.

[148 tr, 4 ch-3 sp]

Round 12 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch6, *2tr in same ch-3 sp, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 14 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 5 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 14 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in ch-3 sp, ch3; rep from * 3 times more until the last ch-3 sp, tr in the last ch-3 sp, ss to third ch of beg ch-6.

[164 tr, 4 ch-3 sp]

Round 13 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch6, *2tr in same ch-3 sp, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 16 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 5 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 16 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in ch-3 sp, ch3; rep from * 3 times more until the last ch-3 sp, tr in the last ch-3 sp, ss to third ch of beg ch-6.

[180 tr, 4 ch-3 sp]

Round 14 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch6, *2tr in same ch-3 sp, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 18 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 5 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 18 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in ch-3 sp, ch3; rep from * 3 times more until the last ch-3 sp, tr in the last ch-3 sp, ss to third ch of beg ch-6.

[196 tr, 4 ch-3 sp]

Round 15 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch6, *2tr in same ch-3 sp, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 20 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 5 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 20 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in ch-3 sp, ch3; rep from * 3 times more until the last ch-3 sp, tr in the last ch-3 sp, ss to third ch of beg ch-6.

[212 tr, 4 ch-3 sp]

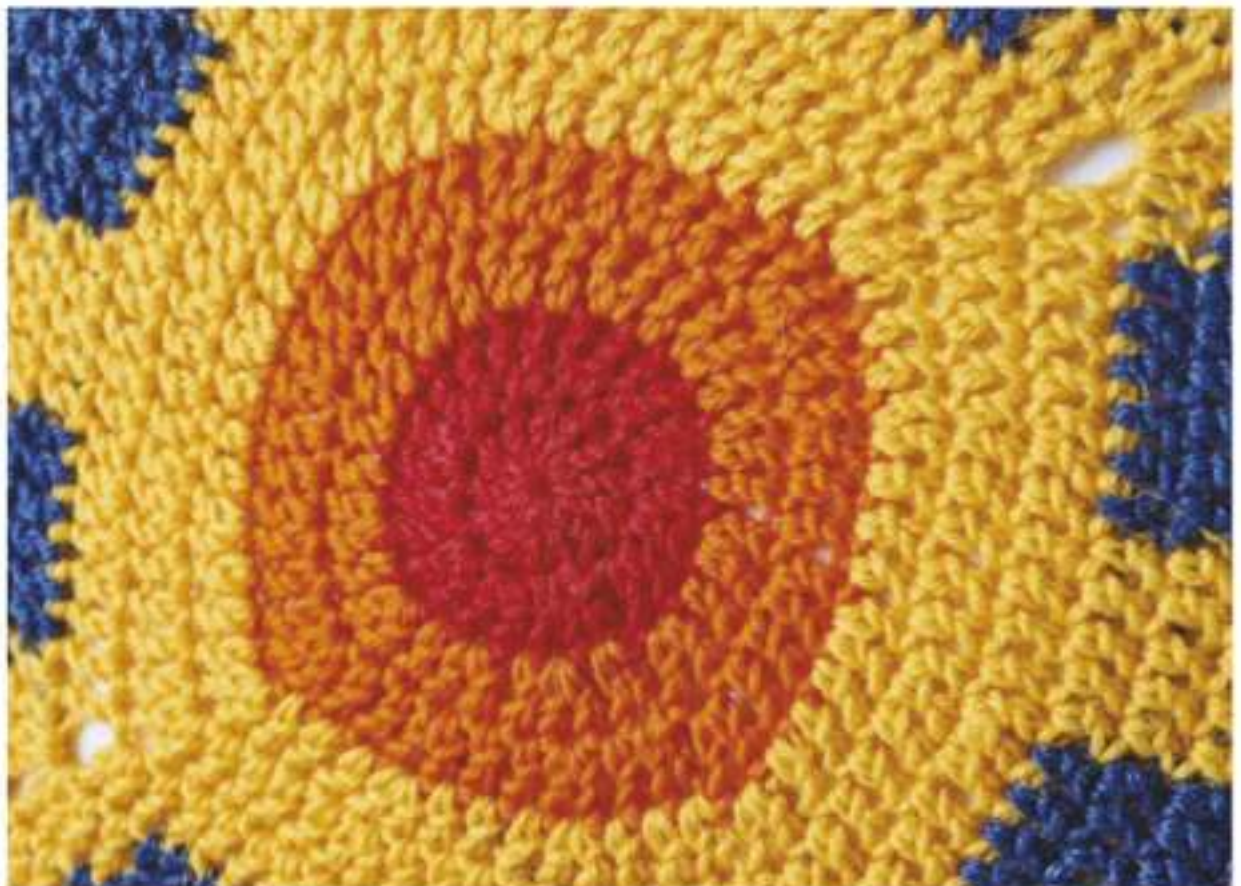
Round 16 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch6, *2tr in same ch-3 sp, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 22 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 5 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 22 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in ch-3 sp, ch3; rep from * 3 times more until the last ch-3 sp, tr in the last ch-3 sp, ss to third ch of beg ch-6.

[228 tr, 4 ch-3 sp]

Round 17 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch6, *2tr in same ch-3 sp, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 24 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 5 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 24 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in ch-3 sp, ch3; rep from * 3 times more until the last ch-3 sp, tr in the last ch-3 sp, ss to third ch of beg ch-6.

[244 tr, 4 ch-3 sp]

Round 18 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch6, *2tr in same ch-3



The cushion is a giant square motif with intarsia inserts that create the stretching rays. Be mindful of the eyelet gaps running down each diagonal when choosing your cushion pad

sp, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 26 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 5 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 26 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in ch-3 sp, ch3; rep from * 3 times more until the last ch-3 sp, tr in the last ch-3 sp, ss to third ch of beg ch-6.

[260 tr, 4 ch-3 sp]

Round 19 Ss into ch-3 sp, ch5 (counts as tr and ch2), *2tr in same ch-3 sp, tr in next 2 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 28 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 5 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 28 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in ch-3 sp, ch2; rep from * 3 times more until the last ch-3 sp, tr in the last ch-3 sp, ss to third ch of beg ch-5. [276 tr, 4 ch-2 sp]

Round 20 Ss into ch-2 sp, ch2, *3tr in ch-2 sp, tr in next 4 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 28 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 5 sts, change to Yarn D, tr in next 28 sts, change to Yarn C, tr in next 4 sts; rep from * 3 times more, ss to beg tr.

[288 tr]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Block Panel to measurements given.

EDGING

Place the WS of the Cushion Panels together. With RS facing, join Yarn C in the centre st of any corners.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), dc through bon both Cushion Panels, working around 3 sides, insert cushion pad, dc through sts on fnal side to close, ss to beg dc to join.

[288 dc]

Round 2 Ch2, *htr in next st, trcl in next st, htr in next 2 sts; rep from * around, ss to top of beg ch-2.

Fasten off and weave in ends.



Each row is worked in trebles for deep stitches and strong, bold stripes



When changing yarn colours, twist the strands together at the back to avoid holes



Hot spots

How “winging it” worked for Michelle White!



How did you get started as a crochet designer?

Ever since I taught myself to crochet, I have been too impatient to follow patterns, and would just wing it. It was often very unsuccessful, but it was a great way to learn about how designs work (or don't!). I started making up my own patterns in 2013 but it was only when I started my blog in 2017 that I actually started writing them down. It's been a steep learning curve, but I have fallen in love with the process of design, and it gives me huge pleasure to create my own clothes and soft furnishings.

How would you describe your design style?

With every design, I think about the William Morris quote, “Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful”. My idea of beautiful is simple, functional, colourful and joyful! I hope I achieve this in my projects.

What was your inspiration behind this cushion?

I love the simplicity of solid granny squares and the scope they give for play. The sunburst cushion is all about using colour and geometry to bring a little extra sunshine into your home. It's easy enough to make, and also a great project for beginners looking to get their head round intarsia colourwork.

How did this design develop – can you talk us through your initial creative process, and how it

evolved into the finished cushion design?

This design was inspired by a simplistic, abstract print of a sunset I saw a while back that really stayed with me for its striking look. Once I have an image in my mind of what I want a finished item to look like, I sketch it out, then work out how it would translate into crochet. This one screamed granny square immediately, and after doing a bit of maths and some swatching, it flew off the hook!

What do you like about the yarn used for your sunburst cushion?

I really value working with natural fibres. Wool is extremely durable so it's practical for homewares such as cushions which get sat on, squashed and thrown around! If I'm putting time into making something, I want to use materials which last.

What are your favourite colour combinations to work with when designing crochet pieces?

Blue and pink seem to be my go-to colours when I'm working to create a design in a single colour. But I also love working with contrast and a splash of colour here and there.

Find Michelle's patterns, tutorial and blog posts on www.doradoes.co.uk, or check her out on Instagram @doraexplored. She also has a Facebook group called My Crochet Wardrobe which aims to help give crocheters the confidence to tackle crochet wearables; search for MyCrochetWardrobe

POP STAR

Just watch as popcorn stitch brings this colourful blanket to life. Designed by Kate Alinari

EASY
MAKE!



POPCORN BLANKET



YOU WILL NEED

- West Yorkshire Spinners ColourLab DK (100% British wool, 100g/225m), 2 balls of each:
Yarn A Pear Green (186)
Yarn B Citrus Yellow (229)
Yarn C Thistle Purple (717)
Yarn D Deep Teal (716)
Yarn E Aqua Green (705)
Yarn F Very Berry (647)
 - A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- For yarn stockists contact
WY Spinners 01535 664500
www.wyspinners.com

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Blanket measures 95x150cm (37½x59in)

ABBREVIATIONS

pop (popcorn stitch) Work 5tr in indicated st, remove loop from hook, insert hook into top of first tr from front to back, place loop back on hook, pull through

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Evoking the bustle and spice of an Indian bazaar, this striped blanket has a rustic charm that's hard to resist. Popcorn stitch is more commonly seen hooked into a dense texture, but this blanket proves it looks equally good sparingly spaced.

NOTES

The Blanket is worked in rows. Popcorn stitches are worked using colour of previous row which is carried through first row of new colour using tapestry crochet method, working sts around the carried yarn. Change colour of the last yrh of st before colour change is indicated. The ends create the fringe on the border, leave tails of 15cm when fastening off. If you would like to change the size of the Blanket, start with a chain multiple of 7 + 9 sts.

BLANKET

Using Yarn A, ch212.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in fourth ch from hook, tr in each ch across, turn. [209 tr]

Row 2 (WS) Ch3 (doesn't count as st throughout), tr in each st across, change to Yarn B, carry Yarn A, turn. [209 tr]

Row 3 Ch3, tr in next 6 sts, *change to Yarn A, pop in next st, change to Yarn B, tr in next 6 sts; rep from * across. [29 pop, 180 tr]

Fasten off Yarn A leaving a long tail, turn.

Rows 4-5 Ch3, tr in each st across, turn. [209 tr]

Row 6 Ch3, tr in each st across, change to Yarn C, carry Yarn B, turn.

Rows 7-10 Using Yarn B and Yarn C, repeat Rows 3-6, **fastening off** Yarn B after Row 7 and changing to Yarn D at the end of Row 10.

Rows 11-14 Using Yarn C and Yarn D, repeat Rows 3-6, **fastening off** Yarn C after Row 11 and changing to Yarn E at the end of Row 14.

Rows 15-18 Using Yarn D and Yarn E, repeat Rows 3-6, changing to Yarn F at end of Row 18.



The popcorn stitch is worked into every sixth treble on the third row of each colour

Rows 19-22 Using Yarn E and Yarn F, repeat Rows 3-6, changing to Yarn A at end of Row 22.

Rows 23-26 Using Yarn F and Yarn A, repeat Rows 3-6, changing to Yarn B at end of Row 26.

Rows 27-74 As Rows 3-26.

Rows 75-85 As Rows 3-13.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

TO FINISH

Cut 8 lengths of yarn for each colour section, each measuring approx 30cm. Holding 2 strands together, fold in half, insert hook into a row end of matching colour, pull middle of folded strand through to create a loop, pull ends through and tighten to create fringe. Before tightening the loop check to see if there are any leftover tails of the same colour and secure them in the fringe. Trim the fringe to approx. 13cm to even it out.

Attach 2 fringes of matching colour to each side of every colour section.

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.



Happy hooks

Kate Alinari is spreading fun and cheer one stitch at a time!



How did you get started as a crochet designer?

I believe that crocheting and hand-making is funny, creative and rewarding, and it helps people become happier. I learnt crochet from

my grandmother when I was six years old, and now I design happy patterns for crocheters.

Since 2012 I've been working as a freelance designer, collaborating with both yarn companies and magazines to create patterns. I've been featured by both Italian and UK publications, including *Simply Crochet* and *Love Crochet*. In 2017, my first Italian book went out, *I Balocchi del Tipo Strano*, which translates as 'crochet games for little ones'.

Tell us a little about your popcorn blanket make?

This popcorn power blanket could be a picnic blanket, a throw or a bed blanket. Wrap yourself in my colourful blanket on the sofa or enjoy it on a Sunday picnic with friends. I love colours as they make me feel happy and I enjoy crocheting with bright shades.

How did the design develop for the popcorn blanket? Can you talk us through the process?

When I designed the popcorn blanket, in my mind I had rainbows, funny days outdoors and happiness. I started crocheting a swatch and naturally popcorn 'popped' up on my hook! I've always loved this stitch because it has such a fantastic texture and is so easy to make. Carrying yarn with the tapestry crochet method

reinforces the blanket and makes it more durable. No one loves to weave in the ends, so I decided to leave them and use them as fringing. In my design process I always prioritise creating a beautiful piece that people will be inspired by, but also I want people have fun making my pattern so I keep this in mind, too.

What do you like most about the ColourLab yarn used in this blanket?

Rainbow colours are happy, give joy and help me remember how the world is beautiful because everyone is different – religion, gender and country don't matter. I love the colourful shades of West Yorkshire Spinners' ColourLab as it's very bright and there's no fading after washing – which is important for items like blankets. It's 100% wool bred in the UK and hooks up beautifully. I enjoyed working with it.

Is there anything else you'd like to add?

If you're planning to come to Italy, let's get in touch! I'll be more than happy to offer you a coffee or a gelato in my studio in Prato, which is in the textile district close to Florence. Additionally, if you'd like to visit Florence I've just started Walking Wool, which is a Florence guided tour for yarn lovers – check us out on Airbnb or search Walking Wool.

You can find Kate online on Ravelry and Facebook (search Kate Alinari), on Instagram @katealinari, or Italian readers can keep up with her adventures on her blog at www.madebykate.me

Simply Crochet



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SWEET DREAM

This candy wrapper-inspired cushion is a real treat for the sweet-toothed. Designed by Veronika Cromwell



YOU WILL NEED

- West Yorkshire Spinners ColourLab DK (100% wool, 100g/225m), 1 ball of each:
Yarn A Lime Green (198)
Yarn B Deep Teal (716)
Yarn C Crimson Red (556)
 - A 4mm (US G/6) hook
 - Bolster cushion insert, 40x15cm
- For yarn stockists contact**
WY Spinners 01535 664500
www.wyspinners.com

TENSION

2 pattern repeats to measure 9cm (3½in) and 11 rows to measure 10cm (4in) using a 4mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Cushion measures 40cm (15¾in) in length and 15cm (6in) diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

With its retro foil-wrapped sweetie shape, this bolster is a real blast from the past. There's something so fun about an oversized candy lounging round your living room. A repetitive pattern makes it an easy hook, while tall trebles will hook up in no time.

NOTES

This Cushion is worked in the round. Starting with the two Side Circles, fasten one off and continue working on the second one to make the Body. Carry unused yarn along the WS of the work. The Ruffles are added at the end.

CUSHION

SIDE CIRCLE (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 (Working in bl only) Ch3, tr in same st, 2tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [24 tr]

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

Round 4 Ch3, tr in next st, 2tr in next st, (tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in next st) 11 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [48 tr]

Round 5 Ch3, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in next st, (tr in next 3 sts, 2tr in next st) 11 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [60 tr]

Round 6 Ch3, tr in next 3 sts, 2tr in next st, (tr in next 4 sts, 2tr in next st) 11 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [72 tr]

Round 7 Ch3, tr in next 4 sts, 2tr in next st, (tr in next 5 sts, 2tr in next st) 11 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [84 tr]

Round 8 Ch1 (does not count as st), (dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 12 times, ss to beg dc. [96 dc]

Fasten off.

CUSHION BODY

Join Yarn B into any st on one Side Circle.

Round 9 (RS) Ch3, tr in next 4 sts, ch3, skip 3 sts, *tr in next 5 sts, ch3, skip 3 sts; rep from * around, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. [60 tr, 12 ch-3 sp]

Join Yarn C into any st.

Round 10 (WS) Ch3, *3tr in 2nd skipped st 2 rows below, tr in next 5 sts; rep from * to last 4 sts, tr in next 4 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. [96 tr]

Change to Yarn A.

Round 11 Ch6 (counts as tr, ch-3 sp), skip next 3 sts, *tr in next 5 sts, ch3, skip next 3 sts; rep from * around to last 4 sts, tr in next 4 sts, ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-6, turn. [60 tr, 12 ch-3 sp]

Change to Yarn B.

Round 12 Ch3, tr in next 4 sts, *3tr in 2nd skipped st 2 rows below, tr in next 5 sts; rep from * around, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. [96 tr]

Rounds 13-54 As Rounds 9-12, continuing in established colour sequence.

Fasten off all colours and weave in ends.

RUFFLES (MAKE 2)

Join Yarn A in any unworked fl from Round 1 of Side Circle.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3, tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [12 tr]

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

Round 3 As Round 1.

Rounds 4-7 As Rounds 2-3. [96 tr]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Place the cushion insert into the Cushion Body, place the first Side Circle onto the open end of the Cushion Body and sew them together. Weave in all remaining ends.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A TREBLE



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 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 2 loops on the hook. Your treble crochet will be complete.



Playful crochet

Veronika Cromwell talks Tunisian crochet and random snaps



How did you get started as a crochet designer?

I designed my first ever crochet pattern when I was expecting our first son, Jacob. The lack of cool clothes for boys led me to create my own designs. I discovered the Tunisian crochet technique and instantly fell in love. That's how Jacob's Cardigan – my first design – was born.

How would you describe your design style?

I love designing practical and wearable crochet garments and accessories for the whole family.

What was the inspiration behind this cushion?

My mum used to buy these sweets as a treat when I was a child, that were wrapped in colourful stripy wrappers, in all different shades. This design has taken me back to my childhood and reminded me of their fruity taste!

What was the design process for this cushion?

I started off with a quick sketch of the cushion and some basics as to how the finished piece was going to be constructed, but I prefer to let the hook and yarn do the talking. Sometimes what works as a sketch doesn't always work in practice.

What did you like about working with ColourLab?

The yarn was great to work with, it doesn't split at all and gives a lovely stitch definition.

What are your favourite colour combinations to design with?

I enjoy working with current colour trends, but I always find myself going back to my favourite colours like mustard, grey, pink, coral and blue as firm favourites.

Do you have a go-to method for discovering new colour combinations?

I get inspired by everything around me – wrapping paper, fabrics, posters in shops etc. My phone is full of snaps of random things for future reference.

How would you describe this cushion?

It's a playful design that will bring a bit of fun and a splash of colour into any room.

Have you designed other cushions?

I have created three different cushions for our new sofa using texture rather than colour, but they are all yet to be written into patterns.

What else do you love about crochet?

I love discovering different stitches and techniques – one of the best things about crochet is that there is always something new to learn.

You can find out more about Veronika and her designs on her blog www.bluestarcrochet.blogspot.com, her website www.bluestarcrochet.wixsite.com/company, or on Instagram [@bluestarcrochet](https://www.instagram.com/bluestarcrochet)

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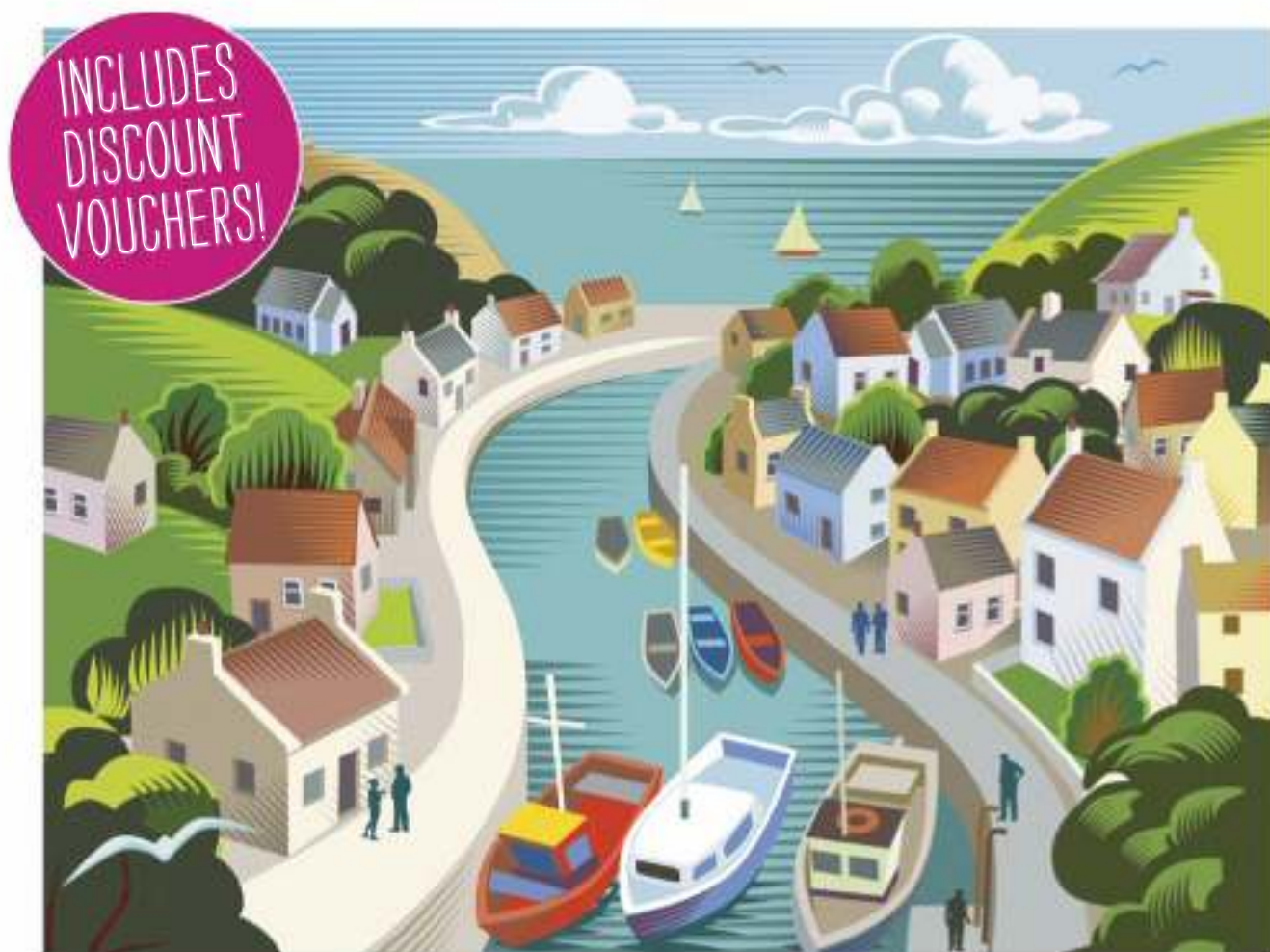


2019

THE KNIITING HOTEL

UK YARN SHOP GUIDE

Discover the best local yarn shops, wherever you may visit!



🌀 ENGLAND 🌀 SCOTLAND 🌀 WALES 🌀 NORTHERN IRELAND 🌀 IRELAND 🌀 ONLINE





THE KNI//ING HOTEL

TKH hosts retreats for a 'making me-time sea-time' experience in the quintessential coastal town of Dawlish in Devon. Kick-off your shoes, watch the waves, knit and crochet. Our retreats are for anyone who would like to immerse themselves in all things fibre related or brush-up on existing techniques.

www.theknittinghotel.co.uk

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HOLIDAY HOTSPOTS!

Wherever you're headed for your holidays this summer, we think the local yarn shop should be in your top ten of must-visit tourist attractions! It's always such a tonic to pop in off the busy streets to a woolly haven, browse the local yarns and chat knitting and crochet with the fellow yarnaholics! It's a great way to meet the local community too. To help you find your way, we've gathered together this comprehensive guide to the best yarn shops in the UK and Ireland – and we've even included an online listing for those of you who aren't leaving your armchair! And if you fancy a whole weekend of yarny fun, turn to page 26 to find out about the knitting and crochet retreats at The Knitting Hotel in Devon. Happy holidays!

Sara Kirstie



CHRISSIE ASBRIDGE



In Barcelona, Chrissie found a gorgeous yarn shop, All You Knit

Is Love, tucked down a side street in the city's Gothic Quarter. A placard outside read 'Rethink your souvenir!' – which Chrissie took to heart, leaving the shop with a smile on her face and a bag full of locally produced linen and wool yarns! Back home in the UK, Chrissie got to thinking about all the lovely local yarn shops dotted across the country, and all the wonderful yarny souvenirs they could offer travelling knitters and crocheters. And voilà, the *UK Yarn Shop Guide* was born!

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Want to be included in future guides?

Contact Kerri McKenna on 0117 300 8550

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NOTE This little guide is not intended to be a comprehensive list of yarn shops around the United Kingdom – wherever your travels take you, seek out and support the local yarn shop! *If you're planning a special visit to shops or attractions, please contact them before you go, to check opening times and avoid disappointment.*

ENGLAND

From seaside jaunts to city breaks, wherever
you end up holidaying in England you're
never too far from a yarn shop



SOUTH EAST

Banbury Sewing Centre Limited

57 Parsons Street, Banbury, Oxon OX16 5NB

01295 262344

www.banburysewingcentre.co.uk

Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

'When it's gone, it's gone' at Banbury Sewing Centre – the shop takes on a full range, such as Cygnet, and when it has sold out, they choose another yarn. Sirdar, Stylecraft and Patons feature alongside knitting needles, and they offer a lay-by service as well.

Damaris Crafts

112 Bartholomew St, Newbury RG14 5DT

01635 359924

www.facebook.com/damariscrafts

Tues-Sat 10am-5pm

Damaris Crafts features yarns from Sirdar, James C. Brett, WYS, Rico and Woolcraft. Visitors can also pick up accessories such as KnitPro needles.

Dotti Di's

10 High Street, Hythe, Kent CT21 5AT

01303 772870, dianerichardson80@yahoo.com

Travelling to the south coast? Find your way to Hythe in Kent and you can browse the wide range of yarns and felt available or pick up a crafty souvenir at Dotti Di's.

The Eternal Maker

41 Terminus Road, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 8TX

01243 788174, www.eternalmaker.com

Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

Knit & Sew night Thurs 5.30-8.30pm

A short walk from the centre of scenic Chichester, The Eternal Maker is a welcome haven for knitters and crocheters – and if you're peckish, the yarn department even has its own on-site café, The Eternal Baker!

Owner Anna Hodgson says the shop aims for a welcoming and social environment, where yarn lovers can sit on a comfy couch, eat some scrummy cake and meet other like-minded folk. A small selection of independently dyed yarns feature alongside brands like Rowan and Adriafl.

Handmade Studios

4 The Green, Rowlands Castle, Hampshire PO9 6BN

023 9241 2901, info@handmadestudios.org

www.handmadestudios.org

Tues-Sat 10am-5pm

Independent, hand-dyed yarn from the likes of Riverknits, Easy Knits, Unbelieva-wool and Baa Ram Ewe line the shelves of Handmade Studios, along with Erika Knight, Patons, Rowan and others.

The Fibreworks **SEE OFFER ON P31!**

10a Middle Row, Chipping Norton, Oxon OX7 5NH

01608 645970

www.thefibreworks.co.uk

Tues-Sat 10am-5pm

Knit Night Weds 6-8pm

The Fibreworks is a small shop packed with colour and a wide range of yarns, with a focus on natural fibres and yarns from small-scale producers such as The Fibre Co. and local spinners and dyers. Yarn lovers will also find West Yorkshire Spinners, Lang, Rowan, Rico and Erika Knight. UK stockist of the Lykke needles and a full range of interchangeable circulars, long and short straight, DPNs and crochet hooks. Located between Oxford and Stratford in the midst of the glorious Cotswold countryside, it is a must-see for those visiting the Rollright Stones, Blenheim Palace, the Cotswold Wildlife Park and picturesque Cotswold villages.

Hoop Haberdashery

92 High Street, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6JB

01580 388011, www.hoophaberdashery.co.uk

Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

Hoop Haberdashery boasts a curated collection of design-led yarns, patterns and notions (or, as owner Vanessa Lingwood cleverly puts it, "I only stock what I like!"). Hoop is a Rowan flagship store as well as carrying a wide range of commercial and independent brands, including Lang, Scheepjes, Erika Knight, Fyberspates and Malabrigo.

Tenterden is a small market town eight miles inland from Rye and the Kent coast. Attractions include a museum, steam railway, the Old Dairy Brewery and the Chapeldown Vineyard.

Ida's House **SEE OFFER ON P28!**

27 High Street, Caterham on the Hill, Surrey CR3 5UE

01883 345220, www.idashouse.co.uk

Mon-Tues, Thurs-Sat 10am-5pm

Social Club Tues & Thurs 7-9pm

Ida's House welcomes all levels of knitters and crocheters, with plenty of support on hand in the shop and at their twice-weekly social evenings. Located near Croydon, the shop supports up-and-coming designers, with patterns and books from the likes of

Renee Callaghan and Anna Maltz. Yarns include the ever-popular Stylecraft, Sirdar and Baa Ram Ewe, and speciality brands such as Isager, Fine Fish Yarns and Rooster. Jayne Coleman from Ida's House also shares her addiction to tools, by offering customers a wide range of scissors and quirky accessories.

Liss Wools

38-40 Station Road, Liss, Hampshire GU33 7DP

01730 893941

www.lisswools.co.uk

Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

Liss Wools features a spacious, double-fronted shop with a workshop area and two comfy sofas that invite visitors to sit and knit or crochet, or browse through their extensive range of patterns and books. Yarn brands feature mainstream King Cole, Sirdar and Stylecraft as well as Adriafile, Erika Knight, Rowan, Katia, Rico and Schoppel. Buttons and ribbons galore add finishing touches to projects. With easy parking and a tasty café nearby, those travelling along the A272/A3 should plan a short (or long!) detour to Liss Wools.

Oxford Yarn Store

3 North Parade Ave, Oxford, Oxfordshire OX2 6LX

01865 604112

info@oxfordyarnstore.co.uk

www.oxfordyarnstore.co.uk

Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Thurs late opening 10am-8pm

Oxford Yarn Store stocks natural fibre yarns from Britain and beyond, including Rowan, Jamiesons, Isager and The Fibre Co.

Pins & Needles

Headley Road, Grayshott, Surrey GU26 6LG

01428 608817

www.pinsandneedlesgrayshott.co.uk

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 9am-4pm

Just off the A3 at Hindhead Tunnel, Pins & Needles is a modern take on the old village haberdashery. Owner Fiona Bayly stocks yarns to cater for all budgets and, as a former seamstress and accomplished knitter and crocheter, she offers friendly advice and support for just about any craft project. The walls are stocked floor to ceiling with all the latest yarns from King Cole, Rico, noted British brands West Yorkshire Spinners and Baa Ram Ewe, and indie dyer Irish Artisan Yarns.

The shop is nestled in the heart of Grayshott village high street, close to the scenic Devil's Punch Bowl and magical Waggoners Wells.

Stitch n' B...h in Time

16 High St, New Romney, Kent TN28 8BY

07958 427853

www.knit1drop1.co.uk

Mon-Tues 10am-5pm, Weds 10am-1pm,
Thurs-Sat 10am-5pm

Shop owner Sabine Winter prefers to recycle, remake and use natural fibres, including alpaca, yak, cotton and cashmere. Yarn brands in stock include King Cole, Rowan, DMC, Schoppel Wolle, Scheepjes, Adriafile, and Wool & The Gang. Yarn materials range from recycled plastic bottles, recycled denim and recycled silk from saris. The shop is located at the end of a busy high street, one mile from the beach! With a seafood shack, a mini railway and a variety of boutiques, Stitch n' B...h in Time is an ideal yarn holiday destination!

Whichcraft Wools

7 Station Way, Sutton, Surrey SM3 8SD

020 8643 3211

angela.macadam@btopenworld.com

www.whichcraftwools.co.uk

Mon-Tues, Weds 10am-1pm

Thurs-Sat 10am-4.30pm

Whichcraft offers King Cole, Patons, Peter Pan, Rico, Robin and Wendy yarns, as well as workshops and a popular 'Knit & Knatter' group.

The Yarn Dispensary

6 Market Place, Faversham, Kent ME13 7AG

01795 597 700, shop@theyarndispensary.co.uk

www.theyarndispensary.co.uk

Tues-Weds 10am-5pm

Thurs 12-4pm, Knit & Stitch Night 7-9pm

Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 9am-5pm

The Yarn Dispensary is situated in a beautiful historic building in the heart of medieval Faversham. A selection of patterns and needles can be found alongside yarn with a focus on natural fibres – from merino to BFL, alpaca to yak – and a selection of hand-dyed yarns.

YAK

16 Gloucester Road, Brighton BN1 4AD

01273 679726

www.yarnandknitting.com

Tues-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 12-5pm

YAK in Brighton stocks independent and small brands, mainly focusing on British and European companies. Visitors can find mill-dyed and hand-dyed yarns from

SHOPPING GUIDE



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6



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companies including Dye For Yarn, Hedgehog Fibres, Brooklyn Tweed, Baa Ram Ewe, Moya, Yarn Stories, Blacker Yarns and Eden Cottage Yarns, among other swoon-worthy brands!

So once the family is finished visiting the Brighton Pavilion and the Brighton Palace Pier, or when your friends are relaxing on the beach after the Brighton Festival or Fringe Festival, make sure you pop round to YAK for some quality yarn squishing!

YarnFest

The Old Telephone Exchange, Long Lane, Hermitage, Thatcham, Berkshire RG18 9QS

01635 201660

www.yarnfest.co.uk

Tues, Thurs, Fri 10am-5.30pm, Weds 10am-8.15pm,

Sat 9.30am-5.30pm, Sun 10.30am-4pm

Knit & Natter Thurs 2-4pm

Drop-in Craft Club Weds 6.30-8.30pm

With personal service, several craft groups to visit each week, and a coffee area and garden, YarnFest is a haven for knitters and crocheters! In addition to Katia, AdriaFil, Stylecraft, Lane Mondial, Sirdar, and King Cole, YarnFest also offers independent yarn brands. Support for local crafts means you can find unique souvenirs in the form of hand-turned yarn bowls and handmade wooden buttons. The shop is just round the corner from Newbury Showground.

LONDON

Knit with Attitude

127 Stoke Newington High Street, London N16 0PH

020 7998 3282

www.knitwithattitude.com

Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 12-6pm

Knit With Attitude focuses on ethically, environmentally and sustainably produced yarns from around the world. The shop ensures that all the yarns in stock can be traced back to good practices at all levels, from animal welfare to fair wages and good working conditions for employees. This care and attention means that most of the yarns in store come from small producers and companies who are equally passionate, such as John Arbon (an independently-owned mill in Devon), Manos del Uruguay (certified Fair Trade), Växbo Lingarn (from a traditional watermill in Sweden), Hedgehog Fibres (independently hand-dyed yarns from Ireland), Hey Mama Wolf (naturally dyed yarn from Germany), Purl

Alpaca (undyed British alpaca), and Fiberspates (a British company ethically sourcing yarns from Peru).

The London neighbourhood of Stoke Newington has a fierce independent spirit and small village vibe.

Loop **SEE OFFER ON P31!**

15 Camden Passage, Islington, London N1 8EA

020 7288 1160

www.loopknitting.com

Tues-Sat 11am-6pm, Late opening Thurs 7.30pm, Sun 12-5pm

Any seriously dedicated yarn enthusiast will eventually make the pilgrimage to Loop in the capital! The north London shop showcases the most beautiful and unique yarns and haberdashery that owner Susan Cropper can find – she sources one-of-a-kind and quirky tools, and attends vintage fairs looking for unusual things for the shop. It's always a treat to visit.

Loop works closely with independent yarn producers and dyers, as well as designers who make patterns from some of the yarns the shop stocks. In store you'll find UK hand-dyed brands Eden Cottage Yarns, Old Maiden Aunt, and The Uncommon Thread, as well as Quince + Co., Brooklyn Tweed and mYak. Located in the heart of Islington, an incredible range of restaurants and cafés, the Almeida Theatre and the Union Chapel guarantee a great visit.

Tribe Yarns

20B Richmond Hill, Richmond-upon-Thames, London TW10 6QX

020 8940 0999

www.tribeyarns.com

Tues-Sat 10.30am-6pm

Tribe Yarns believes that 'Life is too short for bad yarn!' so the shop is filled with high-quality, non-commercial, ethically produced and very colourful yarns.

London-goers will find the perfect souvenir from the wide range of indie-dyed yarns and luxury yarns from around the world. Just down the road is Richmond Park, Petersham Meadows View, Richmond Theatre and all the attractions of the Richmond area.

Wild and Woolly

116 Lower Clapton Road, London E5 0QR

020 8985 5231

www.wildandwoollyshop.co.uk

Tues-Sat 10.30am-6pm, Sun 12-4.30pm

A haven in the big city, Wild and Woolly contains an impressive range of natural fibres from small-scale,

independent producers in the UK and Europe. Owner Anna Feldman says that her goal is to get people knitting and finishing what they knit, with the idea that she is selling them a sweater-to-be rather than just expanding their stash!

Yarn brands include the beautiful, the unique and the quirky, including: De Rerum Natura, Kalinka Linen, Onion, West Yorkshire Spinners, Baa Ram Ewe, Rosy Green, Fyberspates, Malabrigo, and Town End Alpaca, plus a handful of indie dyers such as The Wool Kitchen, Travelknitter, Annabel Williams and Kettle Yarn Co. Wild and Woolly is a must-visit for some amazing fibre finds! Nearby is National Trust hotspot Sutton House, and an interesting collection of independent shops.

SOUTH WEST

Alterknit Universe

39 Main Road, Cleeve, North Somerset BS49 4NS

www.alterknituniverse.co.uk

Thurs-Sun 11am-5pm

Knitting Group Sun 1-5pm

Alterknit Universe is a mecca for natural, recycled, local and ethical fibres. From a wide range of West Yorkshire Spinners' yarns to coveted skeins of indie-dyed Stranded Dyeworks yarns, as well as gorgeous spinning fibre, anyone travelling near Bristol can stop by to pick up a special souvenir. Knowledgeable staff offer help with patterns and projects, and the shop hosts a weekly knitting group, as well as classes and workshops.

Ashley's Wool Shop

62 Dyer Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 2PF

01285 653245

www.facebook.com/Ashleyswool/

Mon-Weds 9.30am-4.30pm, Fri-Sat 9.30am-4.30pm

Ashley's Wool Shop is a family-run business established in 1952. The shop stocks yarn, accessories and patterns.

The Crafty Knitter **SEE OFFER ON P31!**

103 Bargates, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 1QQ

01202 474449

sales@thecraftyknitter.co.uk

www.thecraftyknitter.co.uk

Mon-Sat 9.30am-4pm

The Crafty Knitter is at the centre of the local knitting and crocheting community, offering Knit & Knatter, Crochet & Chatter and courses at the shop, as well as a Wednesday evening Stitch 'n' Bitch at the local pub,

the Arcado Lounge. In addition to a thriving social calendar, the shop supplies Stylecraft, Sirdar, King Cole, Rico and Rowan yarns. Situated in the historical town of Christchurch, the family can visit castle ruins and a quay while you spend time with fellow yarn addicts.

Cricklade Needlecrafts

89a High St, Cricklade, Swindon, Wiltshire SN6 6DF

01793 750604

info@crickladecrafts.co.uk

www.crickladecrafts.co.uk

Mon 10am-12.45pm, 2-4pm, Tues 9am-12.45pm, 2-4.45pm, Weds Closed, Thurs 9am-12.45pm, 2-4.45pm, Fri 9.15am-12.45pm, 2-4.30pm, Sat 9.30am-4pm

Visitors to Cricklade Needlecrafts will discover King Cole, Opal, Regia, Rowan, Sirdar, Sublime and WYS yarns, plus hundreds of patterns and a fantastic range of accessories including KnitPro.

John Arbon Textiles

19 Queen St, Lynton, North Devon EX35 6AA

01598 752490, john@jarbon.com

www.jarbon.com

Mon-Fri 10am-4.30pm

John Arbon Textiles shop is the retail outlet for the yarns produced at the company's mill – a small-scale specialist worsted processing and spinning mill.

John Arbon Textiles has made its name by using local, organically farmed, environmentally friendly natural fibre whenever possible. The ranges include the popular Knit By Numbers, which is organically farmed Falklands Merino spun into 4ply and DK yarn, with a staggering 100+ tonal shades from which to choose. The Devonian line is a beautiful blend of three locally reared sheep fibres spun into 4ply and DK yarn weights in 14 gorgeous shades.

Located in the middle of Exmoor, the Lynton coast is close by, with cliff railways and the Valley of Rocks being just a couple of its many attractions.

Knit & Stitch

56 Fore Street, St Marychurch, Torquay,

Devon TQ1 4LX

01803 411415

www.knitstitchcraft.co.uk

Tues-Sat 9am-4.30pm

Near to the Bygoness, a family attraction featuring a recreated Victorian street, the Babbacombe Model Village, and the Babbacombe Cliff Railway, Knit & Stitch

is perfectly situated to tempt any knitter or crocheter on a visit to Devon. Pick up some West Yorkshire Spinners, Rico, King Cole, Stylecraft or James C. Brett yarn, and chat to friendly staff who are ready to help with your pattern challenges.

Mother Goose

10a Market St, Nailsworth, Stroud,
Gloucestershire GL6 0BX

01453 298725

emma@mothergooseonline.co.uk

www.mothergooseonline.co.uk

Mon-Sat 9.30am-5pm

Visitors to the Cotswolds can pop by Mother Goose to pick up a wide range of craft supplies and kits, mainly sourced from the UK.

Purl A Row

9 Fore Street, Lostwithiel, Cornwall PL22 0BP

07788 240158

purlarow@gmail.com

www.purlarow.co.uk

Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30am-2.45pm

Tues 9.30am-2.45pm, 7-9pm

Thurs 9.30am-3.45pm, Sat 10am-1pm

Purl A Row features 15 hand-dyed yarn suppliers and champions local yarns, including three brands of local Cornish wool. West Yorkshire Spinners, King Cole, Rico and Rowan round out their yarn supply. Nearby attractions include the Eden Project and the Lost Gardens of Heligan.

The Slipped Stitch

1 Cheap Street, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3PT

01935 508249

www.theslippedstitch.co.uk

Tues-Sat 9.30am-4.30pm

If two castles and Sherborne Abbey weren't enough to please a visitor to Sherborne, surely The Slipped Stitch will delight a yarn lover! Fibres from pure wools to acrylics, and yarns to suit any budget, the shop is the exclusive stockist of hand-dyed yarns by Roosters Folly, as well as Sirdar, King Cole, West Yorkshire Spinners and Zauberballs.

Spin A Yarn

26 Fore Street, Bovey Tracey, Devon TQ13 9AD

01626 836203

hello@spinayarndevon.co.uk

www.spinayarndevon.co.uk

Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-4pm

Located on the edge of Dartmoor National Park, Spin A Yarn offers yarns from local Devon brands such as John Arbon to unusual yarns like Touch Yarns of New Zealand. These yarns sit alongside Rowan, Sirdar, Noro and other brands, as well as an extensive range of patterns, books and accessories. Workshops taught by designers and authors including Anniken Allis and Alison Crowther-Smith include Estonian Lace, Tunisian Crochet and Fair-Isle Steeking. Visitors are welcome to sit in the shop, work on a current project and chat with the knowledgeable staff.

wool

19 Old Orchard Street, Bath BA1 1JU

01225 469144

www.woolbath.co.uk

Mon-Sat 9.30am-5.30pm

A visit to the scenic Roman Baths is even more appealing when you know there is a lovely little yarn shop just around the corner! wool carefully sources beautiful yarns from all over the UK and the world, and encourages visitors to take their time, squish the yarn and enjoy the friendly service they'll find inside.

Yarns in their ranges include old favourites such as King Cole, Rowan, Adriafl and Rico, with exquisite Fyberspates, Coop Knits, Erika Knight and West Yorkshire Spinners ensuring a special souvenir of a visit to this UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

A Yarn Story

128 Walcot Street, Bath BA1 5BG

01225 429239

hello@ayarnstory.co.uk

www.ayarnstory.co.uk

Mon-Sat 9.30am-5pm, Sun 11am-4pm

A Yarn Story focuses on high-quality, hand-dyed fibres of wool, alpaca, silk and cashmere – including their own in-house brand, Walcot Yarns, which is available in a wide range of colours. The shelves are filled with brands from around the world such as Brooklyn Tweed, House of A La Mode, Sweet Georgia Yarns, The Fibre Co., Julie Asselin and Shibui Knits. British brands include Townhouse Yarns, John Arbon, Rosy Green and Hedgehog Fibres.

A Yarn Story is situated in Bath's Walcot Street Artisan Quarter, which is full of wonderfully creative, independent shops to explore – they recommend popping into Didi Cakes after you stock up on yarn!

CENTRAL & MIDLANDS

Ewenited Yarns

79 Main street, Long Eaton, Nottingham, NG10 1GW

0115 972 4965

www.ewenitedyarns.com

Mon-Fri 11.30am-3.30pm, Sat 10am-4pm

The shelves of Ewenited Yarns are chock full of yarns from King Cole, Sirdar DMC, Stylecraft, James C. Brett, Katia, Rowan and more.

Friary Stitch

2-4 Bethlehem St, Grimsby, Lincolnshire DN31 1JU

01472 357800

www.friarystitch.co.uk

Mon-Sat 9am-4pm

Yarns to patterns, hooks to needles, and all the embellishments in between can be found in the Friary Stitch store in Grimsby.

Horncastle Hobby House

25 North Street, Horncastle, Lincolnshire LN9 5DX

01507 522659

horncastlehobbyhouse@tiscali.co.uk

www.horncastlehobbyhouse.co.uk

Mon-Tues, Thurs-Sat 9am-4.30pm

This traditional wool shop stocks Katia, King Cole, Woolcraft and Wendy yarns. Other goodies include patterns, haberdashery, buttons and a large selection of ribbons.

Jools Wools

1A High St, Finedon, Wellingborough,

Northamptonshire NN9 5JN

01933 680119

joolswools@outlook.com

www.facebook.com/JoolsWoolsFinedon

Tues-Sat 10am-5pm

Jools Wools aims to fulfil all knitting and crochet needs!

Knit One **SEE OFFER ON P31!**

11 Pocklington Walk, Leicester LE1 6BT

0116 254 0650

knitone247@gmail.com

www.knitone.uk.com

Mon-Wed 10am-4pm, Thurs-Fri 9.30am-3.30pm,
Sat 10am-4.30pm

At their new premises, Alison and the team offer a fantastic variety of yarns, cherry-picked from the best yarn suppliers such as Rico, Sirdar, Sublime, Rowan,

Stylecraft, WYS, Fyberspates, Katia, Lang and plenty more. They also run knitting and crochet classes all year.

The Knitting Market

Stalls D16/D17, Birmingham Rag Market,

Edgbaston Street, Birmingham B5 4RB

07834 898627

andrea@theknittingmarket.co.uk

www.theknittingmarket.co.uk

Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 9am-5.30pm

Cygnat, Ella Rae, Stylecraft, King Cole and Sirdar are on offer at The Knitting Market, as well as crochet kits and CAL patterns and supplies.

The Wool Shop

13 Broad Street, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1NG

01584 872988

www.ludlow-woolshop.co.uk

Mon-Sat 9.30am-4.30pm

A trip to Ludlow Castle will be made all the better when you can pop into The Wool Shop. Claire Brindley hopes to pass on her passion for knitting, crochet and quilting to customers to keep these fantastic crafts alive. The carefully selected range of yarns features Rowan, Sirdar, DMC, King Cole, Wendy, Peter Pan, Navia and Sublime, providing quality materials to make a garment or heirloom that knitters and crocheters can cherish for many years. Tourist attractions in Ludlow include the Ludlow Food Festival, the Medieval Festival and the Spring Festival at the castle, a local market in the town square held most days of the week, and many historical buildings with blue plaques (The Wool Shop included!).

Wool Zone

10 Northgate, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6QS

01572 868480

www.woolzone.co.uk

Mon 10am-4pm, Wed-Sat 10am-4pm

Wool Zone strives to stock quality yarns at everyday prices. Drops, Scheepjes, Rico, Adriafl, Grundl and Opal line the shelves alongside British brands West Yorkshire Spinners and Stylecraft. A recent addition is US brand Erth Yarns, a company that plants a tree in Africa for every skein of yarn sold. Wool Zone hosts regular knitting, crochet and craft workshops to enable people to learn new skills in a relaxed and friendly environment. Nearby attractions include Rutland Water Nature Reserve, the Rutland Falconry and Owl Centre, Barnsdale Gardens and Burghley House, with market towns Oakham, Uppingham and Stamford close by.



1&2 Wild and Woolly, London, has just had a full refurbishment **3** Loop, London, is worth a detour in the capital for its pure cool cachet **4** The Fibre Lounge, Hertfordshire, is all about colour and cheer **5** A Yarn Story in Bath has a focus on high quality fibres. **6** Purl A Row, Cornwall, champions local yarn and is not too far from the Eden Project... quick detour?



NORTH WEST

Black Sheep Wools' Craft Barn **SEE OFFER ON P29!**

Warehouse Studios, Glaziers Lane, Culcheth,
Warrington, Cheshire WA3 4AQ

01925 764231

www.blacksheepwools.com

Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun & Bank Holidays 10am-4pm

Although Black Sheep Wools' Craft Barn is one of the largest yarn shops in the UK, the dedicated owners and staff still view it as a village wool shop run by yarn enthusiasts. With a tea shop and workshop area, visitors can easily make a day trip of it!

Black Sheep Wools hosts workshops by big names including Kaffe Fassett, Jane Crowfoot, and Arne and Carlos. Brands stocked include Scheepjes, Sirdar, Coop Knits, Baa Ram Ewe and Rowan.

Located five minutes from the M6 and M62, it's a great place to stop en route to the Lake District or North Wales.

Handmade by You **SEE OFFER ON P28!**

38 Curzon St, Maryport, Cumbria CA15 6DA

07795 512689

handmadebymaryport@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/Handmadebymaryport

Mon-Sat 9am-4pm

Handmade by You is situated in a seaside town on the edge of the Lake District. Visitors can stock up on yarns including Stylecraft, King Cole, Rico, James C Brett, Sirdar, DMC and WYS.

Mrs Johnson's Emporium **SEE OFFER ON P29!**

29-31 Bond Street, South Shore, Blackpool FY4 1BQ

01253 404550

www.MrsJohnsonsEmporium.co.uk

Mon-Sat 9am-4pm, Tues 9am-6pm

Bank Holidays 12-4pm

Sundays July-October 12-4pm

Situated in a former Victorian bank, Mrs Johnson's Emporium gives visitors the feeling of stepping back in time. The vast space is crammed with luscious colours and crafting delights. A large range of Stylecraft yarns are always in stock with selections from King Cole, James C Brett, Rico, Sirdar, Grundle, Adriafl, Yarn Stories, Coastal Colours, Lancashire Farm Wool and WYS filling the shelves. A selection of more than 8,000 buttons means even the pickiest cardigan maker can find the perfect fastening! With all the family delights of Blackpool, including The Pleasure Beach, The Sand

Castle and Blackpool Tower on offer, Mrs Johnson's Emporium should be an easy destination to fit into the holiday schedule.

Sew-In **SEE OFFER ON P29!**

www.myknittingyarnandwool.co.uk

Marple shop: 46 Market Street, Marple,
Cheshire SK6 7AD

0161 427 2529

Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm, Sat 9am-5pm

Buxton shop: 1 Spring Gardens, Buxton,
Derbyshire SK17 6BJ

01298 26636

Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 11.30am-4pm

The two Sew-In shops stock West Yorkshire Spinners, Sirdar, Sublime, Rowan, Rico and King Cole yarns.

Sew-In Marple is situated in the heart of Marple town centre, close to the junction of the Peak Forest and Macclesfield canals, and a 20-min drive to the Peak District National Park.

Sew-In Buxton is located in the centre of the Peak District spa town of Buxton. Visitors to the Peak District National Park can find the beautiful hand-dyed Peak District Yarns in the shop – yarn inspired by the colours of the local landscape – a perfect souvenir!

NORTH EAST

Cold Spring Mill

Haworth Road, Cullingworth, Bradford,
Yorkshire BD13 5EE

01535 275646, sales@coldspringmill.co.uk

www.coldspringmill.co.uk

Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 10am-4pm

Coldspring Mill is home to Knitter's Paradise, a huge 2,000sq ft shop filled with leading brands including Sirdar, Hayfield, Snuggly and West Yorkshire Spinners.

Fine Fettle Fibres **SEE OFFER ON P29!**

Studio 6, Gallery 45, 45 Main Street, Felton,
Morpeth, Northumberland NE65 9PP

01670 600001, www.finefettlefibres.uk

Wed, Fri, Sat 10am-5pm

For a truly British yarn souvenir, plan a visit to Fine Fettle Fibres during your holidays! A champion of artisan yarns and local designers, the shop specialises in British and fair trade yarns in natural fibres, including a selection of local hand-dyed and hand-spun yarns. The shop stocks patterns from local professional designers, and

yarn brands include Baa Ram Ewe, Blacker, Cambrian Mountains Wool, Erika Knight, Garthenor, Jamieson & Smith, Walcot Yarns, Whistlebare, BareFaced, Natural Born Dyers, and Manos del Uruguay. Owner Judith Goodfellow offers support for customers as well with knitting groups and workshops. Just a mile off the A1, nearby is Alnwick Castle, Northumbrian beaches and Howick Hall. Fine Fettle Fibres is part of Gallery 45, a shopping area dedicated to craft-related businesses.

A Good Yarn

50 Oole Road, Cleethorpes, NE Lincolnshire DN35 8LR
01472 508707, www.agoodyarn.co.uk

Tues-Wed, Fri-Sat 10am-4pm, Thurs 11am-4pm

A Good Yarn is a boutique-style shop designed with décor that entices visitors to stay awhile – including a chandelier, knitted wallpaper and Milly, the Shoodle shop dog. In addition to their own hand-dyed yarns, A Good Yarn is a Bergère de France premium stockist, and Sirdar, Sublime, Rowan, Fyberspates, West Yorkshire Spinners, Scheepjes, Rico, Regia and Opal are also in store. Cleethorpes boasts a beach, coastline and pier for the family – after a ride on the Light Railway, or renting a boat on the lake, enjoy fish and chips on the pier and pop into the shop for some yarn!

Lucy Locket Land

53 Dovedale Road, Seaburn, Sunderland SR6 8LP
lucylocketland@outlook.com
www.lucylocketland.co.uk

Mon 10am-3pm, Tues, Thurs, Fri 10am-4pm,
Sat 10am-4.30pm

Lucy Locket Land is more than just a shop: it is a meeting place and creative hub where ideas and enthusiasm are shared. The overriding ethos of the shop is a sense of community and that crafting helps – mentally, emotionally, physically. The kettle is always on, visitors are encouraged to sit and chat about their influences, interests, projects and plans and leave as friends. Owner Lucy McKelvey stocks all natural fibres and mostly small UK producers: her own Lucy Locket Land Yarns, Jamieson & Smith, Jamieson's of Shetland, alpaca from The Border Mill, alpaca from individual animals, AdriaFil and Opal sock yarn. Also in shop is a range of locally produced art and craft items.

Wensleydale Longwool Sheep Shop

2 Kelberdale Court, Market Place, Leyburn,
North Yorkshire DL8 5AW
01969 623558, sales@wensleydalelongwool.co.uk

www.wensleydalelongwool.co.uk

Tues-Thurs 10am-4pm, Fri-Sat 9am-4pm

Truly British wool awaits you at Wensleydale Longwool. Their yarn is worsted, spun, dyed and balled locally in Yorkshire, and available in aran, DK and 4ply weights.

Wool Couture

The Old Robin Hood, Southmoor Rd, Brierley,
Barnsley S72 9HA
01226 414950

www.woolcouturecompany.com

Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-4pm

Wool Couture sells their own-brand extreme yarns for giant knitting and crochet projects: Cheeky Chunky, Baby Beau, Gentle Giant, Epic Extreme. Wool Couture is located between the M1 and A1, for those travelling on either road. Nearby is Newmillerdam Country Park.

Woolaballoo

The Dartmoor Suite, The Courtyard, Langley Park,
Durham DH7 9XE
0191 580 0103

www.woolaballoo.com

Tues-Fri 9am-3pm, Sat 10am-4.30pm

Woolaballoo offers predominantly British yarns and kits, as well as unique gifts and craft accessories. West Yorkshire Spinners, Stylecraft, Bergère de France, Zauberball and Rico line the shelves alongside guest indie dyers. Located about four miles from the heart of Durham, travellers will find free parking and a range of independent shops as well, including a handmade chocolate shop and a gorgeous café.

EAST

ColorCraft

1 Emson Close, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 1HL
01799 522607, colorcraftsw@hotmail.co.uk
www.colorcraftsw.com

Mon-Sat 9.30am-5pm (Thurs times may vary)

Colorcraft aims to help people create their own arts and crafts and learn new skills.

Crates of Wool

8A East St, Ware, Hertfordshire SG12 9HJ
01920 463436

www.cratesofwool.co.uk

Mon-Tues 9.30am-4.30pm, Weds 9.30am-8pm,

Thurs-Sat 9.30am-4.30pm

Crates of Wool supplies yarn lovers with mainstream brands as well as locally dyed natural fibres. The shop hosts a range of drop-in sessions each week, including knitting and crochet clubs, which has built a cheerful and connected crafting community. Ware boasts a range of cafés and canal walks.

The Fibre Lounge **SEE OFFER ON P28!**

15 High Street, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire WD4 8AB
07917 862448

www.thefibrelounge.com

Tues-Wed, Fri-Sat 10am-4pm, Thurs 12-6.30pm,
Sun 11am-3pm

The Fibre Lounge, formerly known as Komodo Krafts, stocks a variety of luxury, quirky and affordable yarns, including Mondial, Katia, Bobbiny T-shirt and cord yarns, West Yorkshire Spinners, Mrs Moon, Rosy Green Wool, plus a whole host of independent dyers. Owner Louisa Sheward says the aim is to inject fun into fibre crafts, keeping things modern and interesting. Visitors are encouraged to stay and explore the shop, and be inspired by the host of workshops on offer, from crochet and knitting to spinning, weaving, and macramé.

Knitting Needle Lane

01223 561865

camilla@knittingneedlelane.co.uk

www.knittingneedlelane.co.uk

Knitting Needle Lane can be found at the Cambridge Market every Sunday as well as online. They test knit everything they sell, including yarns from indie dyers Under the Olive Tree, Third Vault Yarns, Truly Hooked, Hook & Light and Claire Nettleship, as well as James C. Brett, Sirdar, Peter Pan and Manos Del Uruguay.

The Lost Sheep Wool Shop

1, Main Road, Rollesby, Norfolk NR29 5EG

01493 748811

Mon, Wed-Sat 10am-5pm

Located ten miles outside the seaside town of Great Yarmouth, The Lost Sheep Wool Shop is situated on the ground floor of a quirky cottage village property. Four rooms of the quaint cottage are stocked full of wool, knitting needles, knitting and crochet sundries, haberdashery and patterns and books. Visitors are welcome to sit at the table or at the outdoor seating area and peruse patterns. Yarns in store include local indie dyer Noodle Soup Yarns as well as King Cole, Sirdar, Stylecraft, Mondial, DMC, Katia, Rico Design,

Malabrigo, James.C. Brett, Peter Pan, Robin, Adriafl, Knoll, Baa Ram Ewe, West Yorkshire Spinners, Ella Rae, Knitting Fever and Jody Long.

Purlwise

21a High Street, Kimbolton PE28 0HB

01480 861727

www.purlwise.co.uk

Mon-Tues 10am-5pm

Thurs 10am-7pm, Fri 10am-4pm

Sat 10am-5pm

Purlwise is a hub for knitting, crocheting, spinning and weaving. Staff are on hand to help with any issues with woolly crafting. Yarns in store include Rowan, Manos Del Uruguay, Katia, Adriafl, King Cole, T B Ramsden and a selection of hand-dyed yarns. Purlwise is located in Kimbolton, home to Kimbolton Castle (where Catherine of Aragon was held after King Henry tired of her!) and a church boasting a unique Tiffany stained-glass window.

Sconch

Unit 15abc, Blake House Craft Centre, Blake End,
Nr Braintree, Essex CM77 6RA

01376 743123

www.sconch.com

Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 10am-4pm

Sconch is a family-run business – travellers visiting may be served by owner Sam Conway's daughter (who is also proving to be a nimble yarn spinner!). Sconch offers Craft n' Cake sessions on most days, with a clean, uncluttered aesthetic. Yarns in stock include Rowan, King Cole, Stylecraft, Cygnet, Rico Design, Town End Yarns and Easyknits. Notions include needles, hooks and accessories. The shop is situated in a craft centre with a restaurant and tea room; a mini golf course is nearby.

The Wool Cabin (Essex)

sandra_woolcabin@hotmail.com

www.woolcabin.co.uk

Mon-Sun 9am-5pm

Clacton shop: 28 High Street, Clacton-on-Sea,
Essex CO15 1UQ

01255 428352

Frinton shop: 71 Connaught Ave, Frinton-on-Sea,
Essex CO13 9PP

01255 674456

The Wool Cabin boasts that it's the largest yarn retailer in the area, with more than 250 yarns in stock. Visitors will find a wide range of crochet and knitting supplies.

SCOTLAND

The gorgeous scenery of Scotland was made to be explored... as is the country's litany of inspiring yarn shops!



Craic'n'Yarn

15A Main Street, Drymen, Stirlingshire G63 0BQ

01360 661476

www.craicnyarn.com

Weds-Sat 10am-5pm

Craic'n'Yarn loves British/Scottish fibres and natural yarns – yarns with a story are a favourite! This is the place to get an extra-special memento of natural yarn, such as local, hand-dyed yarn from Strathearn Fleece and Fibre, Kate Davies Buachaille, The Knitting Goddess, Baa Ram Ewe, West Yorkshire Spinners, Jamieson & Smith, Erika Knight and Opal sock. Craic'n'Yarn sits at the south-east end of Loch Lomond.

The village of Drymen, 45 minutes from Glasgow and Stirling, is on the West Highland Way, with great pubs and shops dotting the magnificent hills and Scottish countryside.

Ginger Twist Studio

11 London Road, Edinburgh EH7 5AP

07599 479445

www.gingertwiststudio.com

Mon, Wed, Fri-Sat 11am-5pm, Thurs 11am-6pm

Sun 11am-4pm

Tourists to Edinburgh won't want to miss Ginger Twist Studio – the adorable aqua exterior beckons knitters and crocheters to pop inside the petite shop. Owner Jessica James-Thomson carefully curates a range of yarns squeezed into the tiny space, including her own range of luxury hand-dyed yarns (Ginger's Hand Dyed), West Yorkshire Spinners, Brigantia, Brooklyn Tweed and more.

A ten-minute walk from Holyrood Palace and the Parliament, visitors can pick up a holiday yarny keepsake, from exquisite lace weight to fun chunky wool, while they're exploring the city.

Jinty and Baa Needlecrafts

27 Marine Parade, Kirn, Dunoon, Argyll PA23 8HF

01369 707756

www.jintyandbaa.co.uk

Mon-Tues, Weds 9.30am-1.30pm

Thurs-Sat 9.30am-4pm,

Visitors to the bright and colourful Jinty and Baa Needlecrafts are invited to come in, have a seat and knit or crochet to their heart's content. The friendly staff are on hand with pattern advice and help. In addition to Rico, Stylecraft, West Yorkshire Spinners, King Cole, Wendy, Zauberbball, Malabrigo, Manos Del Uruguay and DMC, the shop also has trendy Scheepjes Whirls,

Crystal Palace Mini Mochi, and some hand-dyed skeins. Knitting and crochet notions from Prym, Knit Pro and Hiya Hiya join kits, books and bags on the shelves. The picturesque location, Dunoon, is on the west coast by the sea, and is classed as the gateway to the Scottish Highlands – perfect for a picturesque holiday with fabulous walks and outdoor activities.

New Lanark Mill Shop

New Lanark Mills, New Lanark, South Lanarkshire

ML11 9DB (M11 9BY for sat navs)

01555 661345

www.newlanarkshop.co.uk

Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-5pm

All profits from sales in the New Lanark Mill Shop are returned to New Lanark Trust, a Registered Scottish Charity, to continue the conservation and development of the historic mill village for future generations to enjoy. The only yarn the Mill Shop stocks is its own 'New Lanark Yarn', with textile ranges including Eribe, Tweedmill and Bronte. New Lanark also launched the world's first Organic Tartan in 2015, fully certified by the Soil Association. The historic village of New Lanark is one of Scotland's six UNESCO World Heritage Sites, located one hour from Glasgow and Edinburgh, on the banks of the beautiful Falls of Clyde. While the village was originally a cotton spinning mill village, visitors can now see New Lanark woollen yarn being spun on the historic textile machinery.

Wool for Ewe

83-85 Rosemount Place, Aberdeen AB25 2YE

01224 643738

www.woolforewe.com

Tues-Sat 9.30am-5.30pm

With the promise of "yarn for every budget, patterns for every style", visitors are unlikely to walk away from Wool for Ewe empty-handed! A wide range of brands includes Lopi, Jamieson's of Shetland, Rowan, Sublime, Sirdar, Woolcraft, Stylecraft, DMC, Baa Ram Ewe, Erika Knight, Wool & The Gang, Regia, Viridian Yarns and Zauberbball.

In addition, the shop supports local indie dyers such as Cookston Crafts, a local dyer based within 20 miles of Wool for Ewe, and Accidental Shepherd, which produces yarn from sheep surrounding Aberdeen. Travel souvenirs abound, with yarn bowls from South Lissens Pottery, willow baskets from Deeside, and Harris tweed bags and notions pouches from The Fabulous Mr G.

The Wool Haven

21 Langside Place, Glasgow G41 3DL

07401 594385

thewoolhaven@gmail.com

www.thewoolhaven.com

Tues, Thurs, Fri-Sat 10am-5.30pm,

Wed 1-8pm (including classes)

The Wool Haven hosts a vibrant knitting and crochet community, with a monthly Knit2gether group and regular classes in crochet, knitting, finishing, colourwork and intarsia. Popular yarns include King Cole, West Yorkshire Spinners, Woolcraft, Peter Pan, Wendy, Patons and Regia. The Wool Haven also showcases yarn hand-spun and hand-dyed specifically for the shop, and beautiful wooden yarn bowls made by owner Frances' husband. Haberdashery features KnitPro Symfonie, Zing, Nova and Pony brands.

The Wool Haven is located in Glasgow Southside's Langside area, next door to the Queen's Park.

The Wool Shop

6 High Street, Galashiels TD1 1BU

01896 754 189

www.thewoolshop.net

Mon-Sat 10am-4pm

The main motivation behind The Wool Shop is to offer a platform for small British suppliers to sell their products. The shop stocks several yarns and knitting/crochet accessories from local businesses and showcases an Indie Dyer/Spinner of the Month. Owner Naomi Harrod's own hand-dyed yarn, Knitted Borders, can be found alongside My Mama Knits, Tangled, Tartan Ark and mainstream brands Sirdar, Stylecraft, King Cole and Rowan. Nearby attractions include beautiful walks, including the Eildons, and construction is underway for a visitor centre that will be home to the impressive Tapestry of Scotland.



Edinburgh's Ginger Twist Studio is an Aladdin's Cave of luxury yarns

WALES

With sheep outnumbering people by three to one in Wales, it's no wonder yarn shops abound in this verdant country



Tenby Harbour, Pembrokeshire

Clare Wools

13 Great Darkgate St, Aberystwyth SY23 1DE

01970 617786, www.clarewools.co.uk

Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

Dolphin watchers at Cardigan Bay can pop into Clare Wools to find a selection of local Welsh undyed yarn from Cwmchrefu, near Builth Wells. Sirdar, Hayfield, Sublime, Rowan, King Cole, James C. Brett and Araucania yarns are also available.

Knit one...

Maes Gwyn, Cader Road, Dolgellau,

Gwynedd LL40 1RB

01341 422194, www.knitonedolgellau.com

Tues-Sat 10am-5pm

Local yarns from Llanfachreth and Abersoch will give visitors to Knit one... a proper Welsh yarn keepsake! In addition to local producers, the shop offers Rowan, Erika Knight, Sirdar, Hayfield, Sublime, Katia, James C. Brett, Stylecraft, Wendy, Adriafl, Baa Ram Ewe and West Yorkshire Spinners. The shop is situated in the historic wool town of Dolgellau, nestled in the foothills of Cader Idris.

La Mercerie

1 Penny Lane, Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan

CF71 7EG

01446 772055, www.lamerceriecowbridge.co.uk

Tues-Sat 10am-5pm

La Mercerie stocks yarn from local indie dyer The Old Piggery, as well as popular brands Bergère de France, Sirdar, Rico, Adriafl and Scheepjes. Cowbridge is a quaint market town, about 12 miles from Cardiff city centre, and La Mercerie serves customers from all around the area.

Neath Valley Wools

75 High Street, Glynneath, Neath SA11 5TB

01639 720774 / 07981206258

www.smallscrafts.co.uk (online store)

www.nvwools.com (shop information)

Tues-Sat 10am-4pm

Located at the edge of the Brecon Beacons National Park is Neath Valley Wools, which stocks West Yorkshire Spinners, Manos del Uruguay, Opal, Sirdar, DMC, King Cole, Rowan, Baa Ram Ewe, Adriafl, Wool & The Gang, and much more. The Neath Valley in South Wales, is just off the A465 (Heads of the Valleys road). The shop is just down the road from the Waterfall Country – Pontneddfechan (in English: Pontneathvaughan).

Rosemary's Wool Shop

Birmingham House, 22 Alban Square, Aberaeron

SA46 0AH

01545 905051, www.rosemaryswoolshop.co.uk

Mon-Sat 9:30am-5pm

Walking along the west coast of Wales this summer? Then you won't want to miss Rosemary's Wool Shop in Aberaeron – the shop is just 200 metres off the path. With Stylecraft, Rico, Wendy, King Cole, Adriafl, Baa Ram Ewe, West Yorkshire Spinners, DMC and Erika Knight in store, as well as a small amount of indie-dyed yarn, Rosemary's Wool Shop will give you your yarn fix until you get back home!

Swansea Bay Yarns **SEE OFFER ON P29!**

88 St Helens Avenue, Swansea SA1 4NN

01792 469171, www.swanseabayyarns.co.uk

Tues-Sat 10am-4pm

Swansea Bay Yarns is a sweetie shop for yarn lovers with a variety of luxury and affordable yarns, including a local Welsh yarn, Rowan, Scheepjes, Rico, Adriafl, Sublime, Sirdar, Katia, Bergère de France, Regia and others. With a wide range of haberdashery and buttons, visitors are invited to sit and browse through patterns to find the perfect project.

The Wool Croft & The Make House

14 Nevill Street, Abergavenny

Monmouthshire NP7 5AD

01873 851551, www.thewoolcroft.co.uk

Tues-Sat 9am-6pm

The Wool Croft stocks 'the good stuff': irresistible wools, alpaca, silk and Egyptian cottons in a range of beautiful colours. Notable brands include Ystrad Organics Welsh wool, Cambrian Mountains, Noro, Sublime, Rowan, West Yorkshire Spinners, Regia and Katia. Knit Pro, Pony and Clover cover the needles and haberdashery. The Wool Croft is located in the centre of Abergavenny, opposite the bustling Market Hall.

Yarn O'Clock

2 Earl Road, Mold, Flintshire CH7 1AJ

01352 218082, yarnoclock@gmail.com

www.yarnoclock.co.uk

Tues-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-4pm

Yarn O'Clock strives to keep their stock as natural and local as possible, with indie dyers and local companies such as Fyberspates. Other British brands include John Arbon, WYS, Triskelion, Erika Knight, Town End Yarns, Cambrian Wool and more.

IRELAND & NORTHERN IRELAND

No trip to Ireland or Northern Ireland
would be complete without a visit to
one of their friendly yarn shops



County Atrim, Northern Ireland

PHOTO CREDIT: GETTY IMAGES

Jolly Yarn Co SEE OFFER ON P29!

33 South Street, Newtownards, Co Down BT23 4JT

028 91229434

Mon-Wed, Fri 10am-5pm

Thurs 10am-5pm & 7-9pm

Sat 9.30am-4.30pm

Jolly Yarn Co offers a rainbow selection of yarns from Drops, Stylecraft, Cygnet, Studio Donegal and others, as well as a comprehensive selection of needles and accessories. With easy access for wheelchairs and prams, and with the beautiful Ards Peninsula nearby, the Jolly Yarn Co ensures visitors to Newtownards will feel...jolly!

The Knitting Room

99 Malahide Road, Donnycarney, Dublin D03 DY27

01 831 4464

www.theknittingroom.ie

Tues-Sat 10am-5pm

Visitors taking in the sights of Dublin should not miss The Knitting Room to add some craft-related memories to the holiday! The Knitting Room prides itself on being "not just a wool shop, but a community of crafters", with knitting and crochet classes for all levels, and a kids' club as well. Yarns include Rico, Stylecraft, Noro, King Cole, Rosarios4 and Mondial. Located on the road from Dublin city to the beautiful coastal village of Malahide,

the shop is also near the historic William Chambers house and Casino Marino.

Row by Roe SEE OFFER ON P28!

28 Main Street, Limavady, Co Londonderry BT49 0FJ

028 7727 7396

www.rowbyroe.co.uk

Tues-Fri 9.30am-5pm, Sat 10am-5pm

Row by Roe is a quirky and modern yarn shop in Limavady in the Roe Valley. Stop by to pick up some gorgeous, local, hand-dyed yarn from Woolly Adventures, DyeCandy and Fine Fish Yarns. Also on offer are Rico Creative, Viridian sock yarn, West Yorkshire Spinners, Studio Donegal, Stylecraft Yarns, Cygnet Yarns, AdriaFil, Lion Brand and Baa Ram Ewe, as well as knitting and crochet accessories and gifts. Of special tourist interest is the location of Row by Roe – the shop is situated on the same street where the famous song 'Oh Danny Boy', The Londonderry Air, was composed. Limavady is a small market town steeped in history and is only a few miles from the Giant's Causeway on the Antrim Coast. Much of the surrounding scenery along the north coast even features in the highly popular fantasy series, *Game of Thrones*!

Row by Roe sits on the street that inspired the song 'Oh Danny Boy'!



ONLINE

Don't be beaten by a rainy day on holiday
– jump onto the web and explore these
online yarn store options



PHOTO CREDIT: GETTY IMAGES

Artisan Alley UK

www.artisanalleyuk.com

Find all your favourite yarn brands, including Scheepjes, Stylecraft, Three Bears and West Yorkshire Spinners.

Cambrian Mountains Wool

www.cambrianmountainswool.org

www.cambrianwool.co.uk

Cambrian Mountains Wool has rekindled the historic links between local sheep farmers, wool processors, designers, makers and retailers, and sells a range of original wool products from fleece farmed in Wales.

Cotton Pod

07951440196

www.cottonpod.co.uk

Cotton Pod was created because founder Sharon Oldfield loves crocheting with cotton-based yarns, with their soft textures and amazing stitch definition. Drops and Bobbiny feature in the online shop, with yarns and haberdashery chosen based on their natural materials. Sharon also offers her own crochet kits, teaches crochet courses and hosts the crochet group Crochelize at the Stitch Studio in Ramsbottom, Bury, Greater Manchester (visit www.makeitstitch.com for more information).

Frangipani

White Cross, Cury, Helston, Cornwall TR12 7BG

01326 240367

jan@guernseywool.co.uk

www.guernseywool.co.uk

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Frangipani is home to 100% British Worsted 5-ply

Guernsey Wool. Jan and Russ have been supplying knitters for over 20 years, and have built their range up to a huge 28 colours, including some unusual shades like pinks and green. The yarn is spun and dyed in Yorkshire mills, and supplied on 500g cones as this is both great value and ensures fewer joins.

Gorgeous Yarns

www.gorgeouсыarns.co.uk

Specialists in natural fibres, hand-dyed, luxury yarns that are gorgeous to knit or crochet with, and to wear.

Hawkshaw Sheep

Fingland, Tweedsmuir, Biggar, Lanarkshire, ML12 6QS

01899 636983

www.hawkshaw-sheep-yarn.co.uk

Hawkshaw Sheep produces yarns and tweed cloth using the fleeces from owner Sue Horn's sheep and friends' flocks to produce the Tweed Valley Yarn brand, ensuring everything is produced with the highest level of animal husbandry. In addition, Hawkshaw Sheep offers a range of natural undyed colours as well as a selection of Sue's own hand-dyed yarn.

Hilda Haarhoff Knitwear Design

0782 888 0195

www.hildaknitwear.co.uk

Hilda offers a wide range of services, including knitting and crochet classes and workshops for all levels, as well as contemporary handmade knitwear designed by Hilda and made with the finest quality yarns.

Jackie's Knitwear and Wool Shopwww.jackiesknitwearandwoolshop.com

Find a selection of quality hand-knitted and crocheted items, yarn, buttons, patterns and lots more.

Jacko's Crafty Cornerwww.jackoscraftercorner.com

This one-woman yarn business creates beautiful, high-quality yarns, hand-dyed in small batches.

Knit Knacks[01892 785035](tel:01892785035)www.theknitknacks.co.uk

Monica Russel designs and supplies knitting kits and patterns. She regularly designs for magazines and has written seven knitting pattern books, as well as creating several designs for yarn companies such as Rooster, UK Alpaca and Jamieson's.

Seaside Yarnswww.seasideyarns.co.uk

Knitter Gill Hemingway runs her own website from her seaside home to sell yarns and patterns from designers such as Stylecraft, WYS, Louise Harding and Noro.

Sheepfold Cumbria[Cliburn Mill, Cliburn, Penrith, Cumbria CA10 3AW](http://www.sheepfold.co.uk)[0794 090 7738](tel:07940907738)sales@sheepfold.co.ukwww.sheepfold.co.uk

Alice Underwood specialises in British grown and processed wool, often from specific native breeds living in or around the beautiful Cumbrian fells. She sells this as scoured and carded fleece, spun yarn and includes the yarn in her own design knitting kits.

Susie Button[07305975338](tel:07305975338)www.susiebutton.com

Susie Button supplies online yarn shoppers with Stylecraft, Sirdar, Hayfield, Cygnet, Wendy, James C. Brett, Peter Pan, Robin and Viridian yarns. She welcomes visitors to her Balderton location, just outside the market town of Newark, on appointment.

Unbelieva-Woolwww.unbelievawool.com

This one-woman, home-based business stocks a range of specialist yarn boxes, hand-dyed yarns and is a HiyaHiya stockist. Check out the monthly yarn clubs!

Watercolours & Lacewww.watercoloursandlace.co.uk

Watercolours & Lace hand-paint yarn in a variety of natural fibres, from cobweb lace to 4-ply, many of which come from British flocks and/or are spun in the UK. They also design and produce kits and high-quality hand-crafted accessories, such as project bags, needle rolls and stitch markers – all from their studio in Norfolk.

Willow Knits[020 8363 2884](tel:02083632884)annescahill@aol.comwww.willowknits.com

The folk at Willow Knits dye their own ranges of silk yarns for knitters and crocheters, as well as offer finished products, from cushions to scarves. Visit them at St Albans Farmers Markets and festivals, and see their website for upcoming events.

Wool Warehouse **SEE OFFER ON P31!**www.woolwarehouse.co.uk[0800 505 3300 / 01926 882 818](tel:08005053300)[12 Longfield Road, Sydenham Industrial Estate, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV31 1XB](http://www.woolwarehouse.co.uk)[Showroom open Mon-Fri 10am-5pm,](http://www.woolwarehouse.co.uk)[Sat 10am-1pm and 2-5pm](http://www.woolwarehouse.co.uk)

Wool Warehouse is a family-owned and family-run company with an impressive product range. The company operates under one roof, with no external call centres or warehousing, just one dedicated group working together. The huge range of yarn includes Stylecraft, King Cole, Sirdar and Rowan, as well as Malabrigo, Cascade and Scheepjes. Wool Warehouse is a DROPS Super Store, meaning every type of DROPS yarn is in stock. The showroom is located just outside the centre of Leamington Spa, with attractions such as Jephson Gardens and the Royal Pump Rooms, and Warwick Castle a short drive away.

Woolly Wormheadwww.woollywormhead.com

For ingenious patterns, books and tutorials for every kind of hat you could desire, head to Woolly's website.

The Yarn Caféwww.theyarncafe.com

They offer yarn, needles, bags, patterns and notions such as stitch markers, DPN holders, row counters and pattern markers. They stock hard-to-find luxury yarns and fine patterns from British suppliers and designers.



Belinda (second from left) and the hotel gang when they took part in Channel 4's *Four in a Bed*

A KNITTING RETREAT

Oh, we do like to be beside the seaside... especially when it's a relaxing weekend devoted to all things woolly at The Knitting Hotel in Devon

How do you fancy a weekend by the sea learning new skills at knitting and crochet workshops, chatting with fellow yarn enthusiasts and enjoying delicious homemade treats? The Knitting Hotel, situated right by the sea in Dawlish, Devon, offers exactly that. It's run by knitwear designer and yarn supplier Belinda Harris-Reid, who has been welcoming guests to her "little fibre paradise" since spring 2018.

Belinda offers three-day retreats around twice a month. Guests can choose between a Getaway break, where they

focus on relaxing and working their own yarny projects, or a Learnaway weekend, which includes a special one-day workshop on the Saturday. You can also attend as a day guest.

EXPERT TUTORS

A whole host of talented fibre specialists are lined up to teach workshops for 2019 and 2020, including hand-dyer Jude Reed and knitwear and crochet designers Alison Crowther-Smith and Claire Crompton. Belinda adds, "And there is brioche and sock making, chillin', drinking

Pimms... you will be transported into an utterly delicious cornucopia of fibre-ness!" Brenda Watson, a knitting and crochet wizard who has designed for brands such as Rowan, Stylecraft and Wendy, is also on hand at all events for any technical help and advice required.

All guests receive a goody bag, which includes a knitting/crochet project, some of Belinda's luxury yarn, a shawl pin, and other little trinkets. Some guests get stuck in straight away and others put it aside to start at home.

The Knitting Hotel has six



"I DIDN'T REALISE THERE WOULD BE SO MUCH JOY AND FRIENDSHIP GROWN AND NURTURED WITHIN THESE WALLS... GUESTS ARRIVE STRANGERS AND LEAVE CHUMS"

knitting-themed bedrooms – each room is named after a knitting technique: TBL, KFB, PSSO, SSK, M1 and YO. The guests enjoy home-cooked breakfasts and lunches, plus plenty of treats, including Devon cream teas, delicious cakes and bedtime cocoa and marshmallows.

MAKING FRIENDS

It's the company of like-minded crafters that really makes the weekends memorable for the guests, though. "I didn't realise there would be so much delight, tangible joy and friendship grown and nurtured within these walls," Belinda says. "There is much laughter. As we create and chat the enticing, poignant, oh-so funny, macabre, weird and wonderful life stories unfold. I feel honoured and privileged that

guests feel comfortable to share such intimate moments with us. The stories are not all jolly; but our fibre fingers keep us busy and joyous."

The guests love it so much, they keep coming back – over 70 per cent who have booked for 2019 came in 2018. "The Knitting Hotel has become a living entity of its own," Belinda says. "I didn't realise that guests would enjoy being here so much that they'd return again and again. Guests arrive strangers and leave chums."

The retreats sell out fast so get in quick! See a list of 2020 dates, right – 2019 is fully booked!

Visit www.theknittinghotel.co.uk or call 01626 866966 for more details and bookings.

For the latest news go to www.facebook.com/theknittinghotel

The Knitting Hotel 2020

LEARNAWAY WEEKENDS

30 April-3 May 2020

Nuno Felting Bag/Large Tote Bag

Host for workshop:
Lydia Tapley

25-28 June 2020

Beanie Style Hat – Twisted Rib and Latvian Braid

Host for Saturday workshop:
Alison Crowther-Smith

2-5 July 2020

Natural Dye Workshop and knit a 'one of a kind' shawl with your own yarn or a pair of unique socks

Host for Friday workshop:
Caroline Bawn; hosts for Saturday and Sunday shawl workshop: Belinda Harris-Reid and Brenda M. Watson

16-19 July 2020

Wet Felting Fantasy Animals; cats and dogs

Host for two-day workshop:
Lydia Tapley

22-25 October 2020

Mitred Squares (felted bag project)

Host for weekend:
Claire Crompton

19-23 November 2020

Professional Finishing Techniques

Host for workshop:
Claire Crompton

26-29 November 2020

How To Knit Garments

Host for two-day workshop:
Anniken Allis

THE KNITTING HOTEL

YARN SHOP OFFERS

As if the allure of a fresh skein of yarn wasn't enough, we've got three full pages of yarn shop discounts galore! Cut out your vouchers or take this shopping guide with you to one of the listed retailers to redeem them

£5 OFF!

HANDMADE BY YOU

38 Curzon St, Maryport, Cumbria CA15 6DA

07899 902419

handmadebymarport@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/handmadebymarport

Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 9am-4pm

Weds & Sat 9am-2pm

OFFER DETAILS: £5 off when you spend a minimum of £30 on yarn and patterns in store. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Voucher expires on 31 August 2019.

NORTH
WEST

£5 OFF!

THE FIBRE LOUNGE

15 High Street, Kings Langley,

Hertfordshire WD4 8AB

07917 862448

www.thefibrelounge.com

Tues-Wed 10am-4pm, Thurs 12-6.30pm,

Fri-Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 11am-3pm

OFFER DETAILS: £5 off when spending over £40 in store. Valid for one use in store only. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Voucher expires on 31 August 2019.

EAST

£5 OFF!

IDA'S HOUSE

27 High Street, Caterham on the Hill,
Surrey CR3 5UE

01883 345220

www.idashouse.co.uk

Mon-Tues, Thurs-Sat 10am-5pm

Social Club Tues & Thurs 7-9pm

OFFER DETAILS: £5 off when you spend a minimum of £50 in store. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Voucher expires on 31 August 2019.

SOUTH
EAST

FREE BAG!

ROW BY ROE

28 Main Street, Limavady,

Co Londonderry BT49 0FJ

02877 277396

www.rowbyroe.co.uk

Tues-Fri 9.30am-5pm, Sat 10am-5pm

OFFER DETAILS: Free Row by Roe cotton shopper/knitting bag with purchases over £15 in store.

Voucher expires on 31 August 2019.

NORTHERN
IRELAND

15% OFF!

JOLLY YARN CO

NORTHERN
IRELAND

33 South Street, Newtownards,
Co Down BT23 4JT
02891 229434

Mon-Wed, Fri 10am-5pm
Thurs 10am-5pm & 7-9pm,
Sat 9.30am-4.30pm

OFFER DETAILS: 15% off items with purchases
over £30 in store. Not to be used in conjunction
with any other offer.

Voucher expires on 31 August 2019.

15% OFF!

SWANSEA BAY YARNS

WALES

88 St Helens Avenue, Swansea SA1 4NN
01792 469171
www.swanseabayyarns.co.uk

OFFER DETAILS: 15% off when you spend a
minimum of £30 in store. Not to be used in
conjunction with any other offer.

Voucher expires on 31 August 2019.

10% OFF!

BLACK SHEEP WOOLS

NORTH
WEST

Warehouse Studios, Glaziers Lane,
Culcheth, Warrington,
Cheshire WA3 4AQ

01925 764231

www.blacksheepwools.com

Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-4pm



OFFER DETAILS: 10% off items purchased in store,
excluding gift cards and workshops. CODE: LYS19.
Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Voucher expires on 30 August 2019.

10% OFF!

MRS JOHNSON'S EMPORIUM

NORTH
WEST

29-31 Bond Street, South Shore,
Blackpool FY4 1BQ

01253 404550

www.mrsjohnsonsemporium.co.uk

Mon-Sat 9am-4pm, Tues 9am-6pm

Sundays and Bank Holidays by appointment only



OFFER DETAILS: 10% off items purchased in
store with a £30 purchase. Not to be used in
conjunction with any other offer.

Voucher expires on 29 August 2019.

10% OFF!

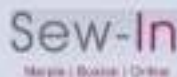
SEW-IN

NORTH
WEST

Marple: 46 Market Street, Stockport, Cheshire SK6 7AD
Buxton: 1 Spring Gardens, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 6BJ
www.myknittingyarnandwool.co.uk

Mon-Sat 9am-5.30pm

Sun 11.30am-4pm (Buxton only)



OFFER DETAILS: 10% off when you spend a
minimum of £20 in one of Sew-In's stores. Not to
be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Voucher expires on 31 August 2019.

10% OFF!

FINE FETTL FIBRES

NORTH
EAST

Studio 6, Gallery 45, 45 Main Street, Felton,
Morpeth, Northumberland NE65 9PP

01670 600001

www.finefettlefibres.uk

Wed, Fri, Sat 10am-5pm



OFFER DETAILS: 10% off when you spend a
minimum of £20 in store. Not to be used in
conjunction with any other offer.

Voucher expires on 31 August 2019.

EXCLUSIVE OFFERS



Who could pass Row by Roe's yarn-bombed bike without popping inside for a peek?

PHOTO CREDIT: ROW BY ROE



The Crafty Knitter is stacked with yarns from floor to ceiling

PHOTO CREDIT: THE CRAFTY KNITTER

10% OFF!

KNIT ONE

CENTRAL & MIDLANDS

11 Pocklington's Walk, Leicester LE1 6BT
knitone247@gmail.com
 Mon-Weds 10am-4pm
 Thurs-Fri 9.30am-3.30pm
 Sat 10am-4pm

OFFER DETAILS: 10% off items purchased in store. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Voucher expires on 28 September 2019.

10% OFF!

THE FIBREWORKS

SOUTH EAST

10a Middle Row, Chipping Norton,
 Oxon OX7 5NH
01608 645970
www.thefibreworks.co.uk
 Tues-Sat 10am-5pm



OFFER DETAILS: 10% off when you spend a minimum of £25 in store. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Voucher expires on 31 August 2019.

10% OFF!

WOOL WAREHOUSE

CENTRAL & MIDLANDS



Wool Warehouse, 12 Longfield Road,
 Sydenham Industrial Estate,
 Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV31 1XB
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk
 Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-1pm, 2pm-5pm

OFFER DETAILS: Discount not valid on yarn packs, sale items, Scheepjes products and Lopi products. Discount cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount code.

Voucher expires on 31 August 2019.

10% OFF!

LOOP

LONDON

15 Camden Passage, Islington, London N1 8EA
020 7288 1160
www.loopknitting.com
 Tues-Sat 11am-6pm,
 Late Opening Thurs 7.30pm
 Sun 12-5pm



OFFER DETAILS: 10% off items purchased in London shop. One use only. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer or loyalty scheme.

Voucher expires on 31 August 2019.

10% OFF!

THE CRAFTY KNITTER

SOUTH WEST

103 Bargates, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 1QQ
01202 474449
www.thecraftyknitter.co.uk
 Mon-Sat 9.30am-4pm



OFFER DETAILS: 10% off when you spend a minimum of £30, valid in store. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offers.

Also see online code to the right.

Voucher expires on 31 August 2019.

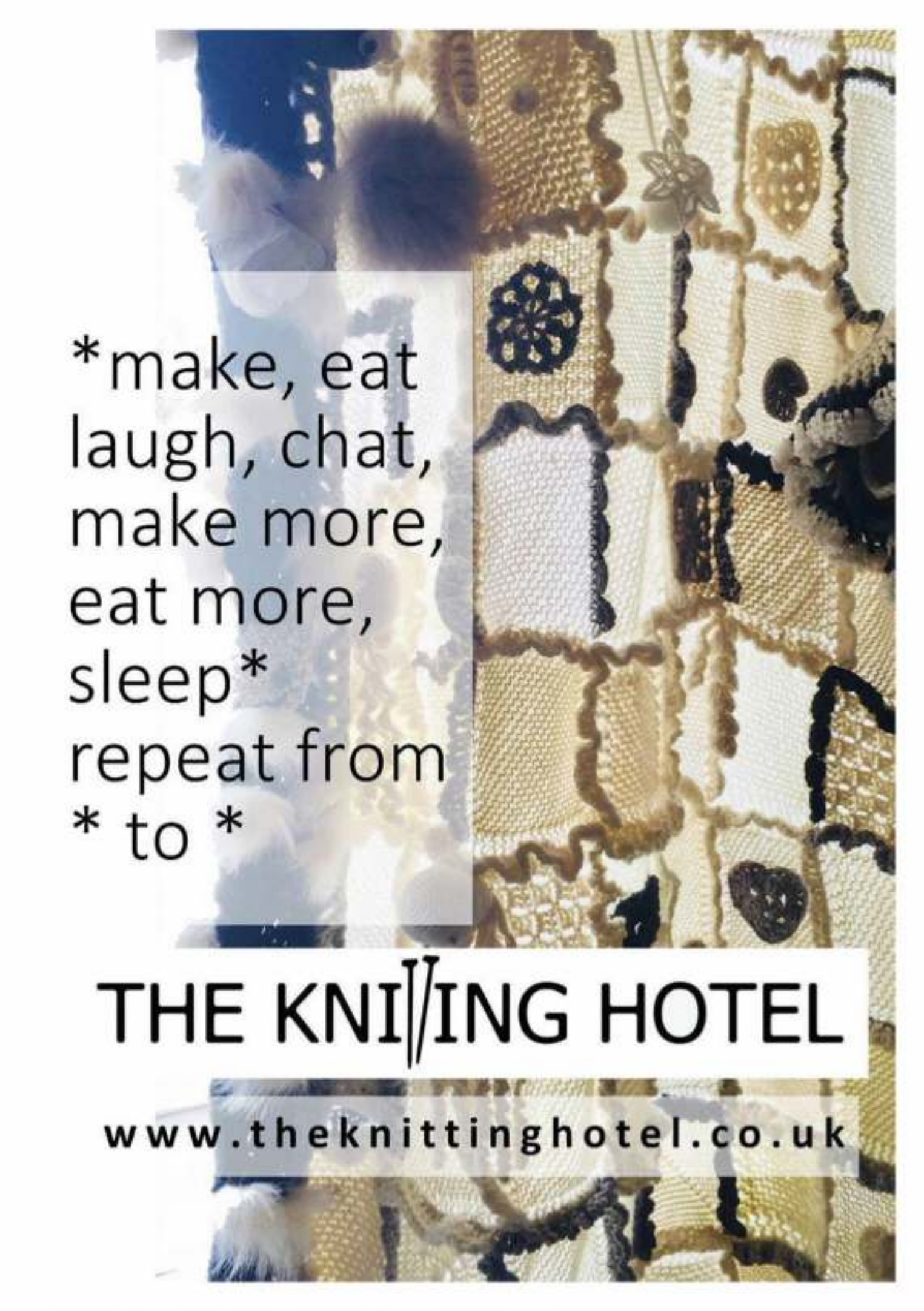
10% OFF!

THE CRAFTY KNITTER

ONLINE

103 Bargates, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 1QQ
www.thecraftyknitter.co.uk

OFFER DETAILS: 10% off when you spend a minimum of £30. Use online code **Crafty20**.
Code expires on 30 September 2019.



*make, eat
laugh, chat,
make more,
eat more,
sleep*
repeat from
* to *

THE KNI//ING HOTEL

www.theknittinghotel.co.uk