

NEW DESIGNS
TO START TODAY!
& get you hooked!

Simply Crochet

Indulge in some
kitchen stitchery!



TEA TIME
TAPESTRY

PATTERNS ♥ IDEAS ♥ YARN ♥ INSPIRATION ♥ TECHNIQUES

ISSUE ONE HUNDRED & FIFTY EIGHT



Glow up!

Hook a little winter luxe...



YOU'RE MY
LOBSTER

Make an ami'
friend for life

SNUG STITCHES

Cosy crochet creations for you!

In love with
colour

Artful
accents!



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I'm made:



Simply Crochet



We believe crochet should be fun - and we're sure you do too. From harlequin sparkly shawls to fun fur trims and happy lobsters with sequins, this issue brings you exciting makes to fall head over heels for...



Simply Crochet

ISSUE ONE HUNDRED & FIFTY EIGHT
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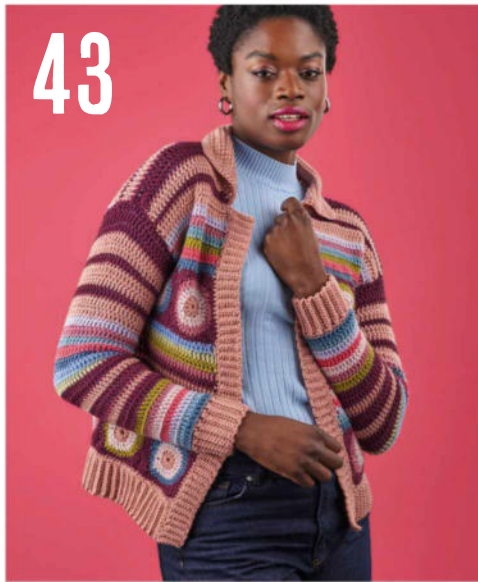
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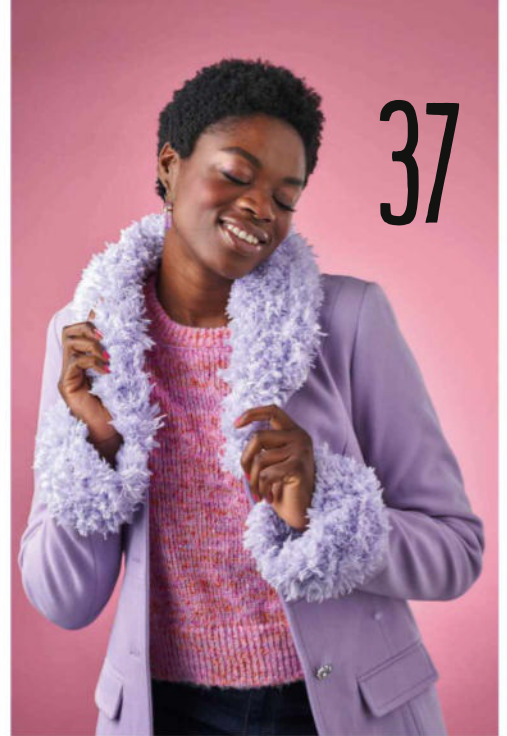




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*Retro pottery
wall hanging*



Love is all around

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, we're feeling the love for all things crochet. Hook up a whole table setting on page 14 – and don't forget the lovely lobster – he could be the 'soulmate' for your soulmate! Still feeling the cold? We know we are... the snuggly fleck rib jumper on page 26 is quick and easy to make, and we love the elegant cuff shape. If you're after more of a challenge, both our gorgeous blankets (pages 53 and 63) will keep you busy! Share your makes with us on Instagram tagged #scotreblemaker, or on our Facebook group, Simply Crochet SCtreblemakers. We love to see your work!



Sara

CONTRIBUTORS

Meet the designers behind this month's patterns



GORDANA ADAMCESKA-HALSON

Gordana has been a designer for the past five years. She loves colour, texture and crochet lace, and circles are her favourite shape when designing. Find her shawl on page 50.



JANE HOWARTH

Jane has been crocheting for over 15 years. She specialises in projects that are fun to make and easy to wear. This month she's designed sweet cutlery holders – hook them up on page 22.



FLORENCIA CAMPOS CORREA

Florencia is a Chilean designer who likes combining her handmaking and software design skills to help everyone develop their creativity. See her wall hanging on page 46.



VICTORIA KAIRIS

Victoria is completely amigurumi-obsessed and loves the challenge of making her characters as cute as they can possibly be. This issue, check out her lush toy lobster on page 20.

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IDEAS ♥ INSPIRATION ♥ ACCESSORIES ♥ WEBSITES ♥ EVENTS ♥ STUFF



All dolled up

Get set for spring with Rico Design's fresh new booklet *Blooming Beauties*. These super-cute amigurumi dolls welcome in the new season with floral hats, petal skirts and winsome expressions. Hook them up, along with fun accessories, and you'll have gorgeous spring flowers at hand all year long. As well as the pattern booklet, the pansy, daffodil and snowdrop patterns are also available as separate kits. Find your nearest stockist at www.rico-design.de/en/home.



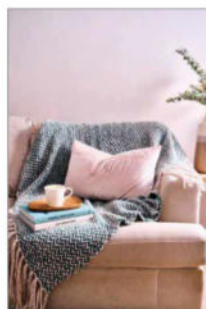
RELAX AND REFRESH

▼ On 8-9 February, join Rowan Connect for an online crochet and knitting Wellness Retreat. Two days of relaxation, creativity and connection will include meditations to help you find your flow, talks on the psychology of crafting and its benefits, a special sleepcast from Georgia Farrell, skills workshops, yoga, Zumba and more! You'll get access to the recordings for three weeks, and a goody bag worth over £100! Book your place at www.rowanconnect.live



MAGNIFICENT MERINO

We're big fans of the Yarnsmiths collection (www.yarnsmiths.co.uk), so to hear that there's a new yarn joining the range is very exciting. This Merino DK Superwash is 100% pure Merino wool, and will hook up into gorgeously lightweight and silky items. It comes in an amazing 120 shades, so you're guaranteed to find just the colour you need. All batches produced from June 2024 onwards have been certified by the Australian Wool Testing Authority as being from non-mulesed sheep, and there's a special launch price of just £2.99 for a 50g/110m ball. Run, don't walk!



UP HIGH

Check out the new range from The Scottish Yarn Festival. The 14 shades are named after Scottish clans, and blend 80% Shetland and 20% Cheviot wool into DK and 4-ply weights. They're £20 a skein at www.thescottishyarnfestival.com. Search The Scottish Yarn Festival on Ravelry to find patterns, including the Stravaig Mosaic Beanie & Cowl from Abi McIntyre (shown above) and the Innes shawl from Anna Nikipiowicz (shown top).

New release

In harmony

King Cole's new Crescendo Aran is an oh-so soft, subtly variegated yarn inspired by music. It's made from two strands twisted together to create harmonious variegated shades. See www.kingcole.com for details; balls are a generous 100g/220m.



WONDERFUL WONDERWOOL

Supporting the next generation of creative artists is so important, which is why Wonderwool Wales gives two bursaries each year to graduates from the Carmarthen School of Arts. This year the bursaries have gone to Rachel Thomas and Nancy Úna Simmons, graduates of the BA Textiles course. Both Rachel and Nancy will have a stand at this year's Wonderwool Wales show, which takes place 26-27 April at Royal Wales Showground in Builth Wells – you can buy tickets at www.wonderwoolwales.co.uk.

Editor's Choice

LOVE IN A KIT

This month Sara has scouted around for things to celebrate Valentine's Day, and she's found the perfect sweater for date nights or Galentine's get-togethers.

What could be more appropriate for Valentine's Day than a sweater called Love? This beginner-friendly garment comes as a kit from Wool and the Gang and is made

with Big Love, a delightfully chunky yarn. While it may be 100% organic cotton, this yarn is described as "the woolliest non-wool you've ever met", and hooks up into super cosy, super squishy makes. When you buy the kit you get the yarn, pattern, sewing needle and sew-in label to show off your handmade prowess, plus an optional 6.5mm hook. With a pattern of entirely double crochet stitches, it won't take long to hook up, either as a gift for a loved one or a way to wrap yourself in cosiness during the chillier months. Go to www.woolandthegang.com to buy, £113



Crochet community

Skills & events

1 FEB Introduction to crochet workshop
£32, Lechlade Craft Barn, Gloucestershire
www.lechladecraftbarn.com

7-10 FEB Crochet retreat
From £610, Devon
www.hiphiphooarystudio.co.uk

8 FEB Learn Tunisian crochet course
£70, Ammonite Yarns, Pontyclun
www.ammoniteyarns.co.uk

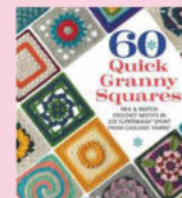
15-16 FEB North West Winter Wool Festival
From £6, Blackpool
www.northwestwinterwoolfestival.co.uk

INSPIRING BOOKS



COUPLES AND ANIMAL FRIENDS
PHAM HIEN HANH
(£15.99, Tuva Publishing)
Amigurumi lovers will definitely want to get their hands on this new book by

Vietnamese crocheter Pham Hien Hanh (@beary_bearnita on Insta). It has 14 patterns for adorable doll couples, all of whom have super-cute animal companions – we can't decide if the red panda or the platypus is our favourite! Beginner-friendly, these makes would be great gifts for fellow amigurumi aficionados.



60 QUICK GRANNY SQUARES
SIXTH&SPRING
(£17.99, Mixed Media Resources)
Every crocheter needs a go-to granny square

pattern book, and this new one from Sixth&Spring has a great combo of designs to stretch your skills. As well as the squares themselves, there are also 10 patterns that you can put your squares to use in, from blankets and scarves to a purse. The perfect companion to prep ahead for August's Granny Square Day!



CROCHET FLOWER CORSAGE
TUVA PUBLISHING
(£15.99, Tuva Publishing)
Can't wait for the spring flowers to emerge?

Crochet some while you wait! You'll find patterns to make a veritable flower meadow of blooms, including roses, camellias, pansies, tulips, daisies, cosmos, poppies and hydrangeas. Once you've made the motifs, there are also instructions for turning them into bouquets and wreaths – just in time for a stunning spring display.



THE BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO CROCHET SWEATERS AND TOPS
EMILIA JOHANSSON
(£21.99, Page Street Publishing Co.)
Want to use your crochet

skills to update your wardrobe? This is the book for you. Emilia has created 24 designs for sweaters, tops and cardigans, with options for sizing and colours. The book simplifies the process of creating crocheted clothes, starting with smaller projects, and showing you how to transfer your new skills to larger garments.



FUZZY FELT

▼ Reminiscent of a tray of tempting macarons, Hobbii's new Jade yarn is the fluffiness you need in your stash this season. This acrylic yarn's halo gives it a wonderfully fuzzy and tactile feel, and there's also a subtle ombre gradient for a beautiful colour finish. Buy from www.hobbii.co.uk for £7.



SO STRIPY

As the name suggests, Stylecraft's new For the Love of Stripes yarn is a self-striping yarn that's perfect for jumpers, cardigans, socks and more. You'll find the eight shades on display at www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk, where each is named after an iconic cocktail: Aperol Spritz has vibrant shades of orange and green, Strawberry Daiquiri pops with pinks, purples and blues, and Espresso Martini has sophisticated brown, cream and navy tones. A 100g/144m ball costs around £5.30 or less.

GO WITH THE GRAIN

Wood is such a wonderfully tactile material, it makes sense to have a wooden crochet hook. Step forward Addi Nature Olivewood crochet hooks, which are made from sustainable olive wood that's been gorgeously shaped into an ergonomic and comfy design. Best of all, olive wood develops a beautiful patina as it ages, so your hook will only get better the more you use it! Available in sizes 0.5mm-8mm, buy one or all from shop.knitmcintosh.com, where prices start from £12.99.



COMMUNITY SPIRIT

West Yorkshire Spinners yarn company has a dedicated crafters group on Facebook that you can join. Set up in 2020, the group has now blossomed to nearly 3,000 active members who celebrate and share projects made from WYS yarn, learn new techniques and methods, and generally enjoy crafty chit chat with fellow crocheters and knitters. To become part of this vibrant yarny community, go to Facebook and search for 'WYS Crafter's Hub'.

Shop of the month

Think Outside the Box

Each issue we explore a UK yarn shop

Who's in charge? Simone, mum Wendy and sis Danielle.
Where can we find you? In Chinns Court, a courtyard of independent shops in Warminster, Wiltshire.

What is your shop like? A friendly, family-run business in an old malt house. We stock yarns, fabric, haberdashery and crafts, and make our own items to sell, too, so you can buy one we made earlier!

What are you known for? We run workshops and we love helping people find their craft passions.

What are your best sellers? Our large selection of DK yarn and superchunky yarn for blankets, as well as cotton fabric for making clothes and quilts.

What support do you offer? Guidance in store, on the phone and by message, to help your project grow.

10 Chinns Court, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 9AN

Telephone: 01423 885565

Email: totbshop@gmail.com

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Yarnsmiths Chenille Chunky

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HEARTS AND FLOWERS

Keep cutlery in order with fancy colour coordinated motif holders. How could anyone resist? Make more motifs for cute table decorations if you get the chance.



FIREWORKS, BABY

Go a little extra with brightly coloured mats to make your evening sparkle and shine like Catherine wheels in the night. Hook up a fringe for the finishing touch.



PUT A RING ON IT

Don't be shy, use this beautiful crisp cotton yarn to make the most of linens. Hook up pretty picot edged-napkins and cute crown napkin rings to make guests feel like royalty.



MINI BOUQUET

This is oh-so clever. This set of coasters not only doubles up as small place mats, but their storage pot triples up as a little decorative vase of bright flowers. We love.



SMILEY SEQUINED LOBSTER

Remember “She’s your lobster?” from *Friends*? No? Go and watch it immediately.

This little chap is designed by Victoria Kairis

■ Scheepjes Catona (100% cotton, 50g/125m),
2 balls of Powder Blue (384), 1 ball of Cyan
(397)

■ A 2.75mm (US C/2) hook

■ A stitch marker

■ Toy stuffing

■ 2 safety eyes, 7mm

■ Sequins, 10mm

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Lobster measures approx 22cm (8¾in) long

ABBREVIATIONS

invdec Insert hook in front loop of next st, insert hook in front loop of next st across, yrh and pull through both sts, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook

For a full list, see page 78

NOTES

This 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. If you are making this for a child under 36 months, do not use safety eyes; instead, embroider eyes with stranded cotton.

LOBSTER

CLAWS (MAKE 2)

INNER CLAW

Using Powder Blue, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc in loop. [6 sts]

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

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

Round 4 Dc in each st around.

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

Rounds 6-9 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

OUTER CLAW

Using Powder Blue, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-8 As Rounds 1-8 of Inner Claw. [18 sts]

Round 9 Dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next 2 sts, dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next 2 sts, dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st. [24 sts]

Round 10 Dc in next 6 sts, (dc in next st, 2dc in next st) twice, dc in next 4 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next st) twice, dc in next 6 sts. [28 sts]



Round 11 Dc in next 6 sts, (dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) twice, dc in next 4 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts) twice, dc in next 6 sts. [32 sts]

Round 12 Dc in next 6 sts, (dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) twice, dc in next 4 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts) twice, dc in next 6 sts. [36 sts]
Inner and Outer Claws are joined over the next round.

Round 13 Dc in next 12 sts, dc in any st on Inner Claw, dc in next 5 sts on Inner Claw, skip 12 sts on Outer Claw, dc in next 12 sts on Outer Claw. [30 sts]

Sew unworked sts of Inner Claw to unworked sts of Outer Claw.

Round 14 Dc in each st around.

Round 15 (Dc in next 2 sts, invdec) 3 times, dc in next 6 sts, (invdec, dc in next 2 sts) 3 times. [24 sts]

Round 16 Dc in each st around.

Round 17 (Dc in next st, invdec, dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]

Change to Cyan.

Round 18 (Dc in next 7 sts, invdec) twice. [16 sts]

Rounds 19-21 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Stuff the Claws.

HEAD AND BODY

Using Powder Blue, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc in loop. [6 sts]

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

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

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

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

Round 8 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts) 6 times. [48 sts]

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

Round 10 *Dc in next 9 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts) twice, 2dc in next st, dc in next 9 sts; rep from * once more. [60 sts]

Rounds 11-12 Dc in each st around.

The Claws will be joined over the next 2 rounds. Make sure Claw is facing in the correct direction as you join, with Outer Claw on the outside and Inner Claw on the inside.

Round 13 Dc in next 8 sts, working in wrong side of Claw and right side of Body together, dc through Claw and Body 6 times, dc in next 32 sts of Body, dc through second Claw and Body 6 times, dc in next 8 sts.

Round 14 Dc in next 8 sts, dc in next 10 unworked sts of Claw, skip 6 joining sts, dc in next 32 sts, dc in next 10 unworked sts of Claw, skip 6 joining sts, dc in next 8 sts. [68 sts]

Round 15 Dc in next 8 sts, (invdec, dc in next st, invdec) twice, dc in next 32 sts, (invdec, dc in next st, invdec) twice, dc in next 8 sts. [60 sts]
Secure safety eyes between Rounds 8-9, approx 12 sts apart.

Rounds 16-24 Dc in each st around.

Round 25 (Dc in next 4 sts, invdec, dc in next 4 sts) 6 times. [54 sts]

Round 26 (Dc in next 7 sts, invdec) 6 times. [48 sts]

Change to Cyan.

Round 27 Ss in each st around.

Round 28 Working in fl only, (dc in next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [54 sts]

Round 29 Dc in each st around.

Change to Powder Blue.

Rounds 30-33 Dc in each st around.

Round 34 (Dc in next 7 sts, invdec) 6 times. [48 sts]

Round 35 (Dc in next 3 sts, invdec, dc in next 3 sts) 6 times. [42 sts]

Change to Cyan.

Round 36 Ss in each st around.

Round 37 Working in fl only, (dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts) 6 times. [48 sts]

Round 38 Dc in each st around.

Change to Powder Blue.

Rounds 39-42 Dc in each st around.

Round 43 (Dc in next 3 sts, invdec, dc in next 3 sts) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 44 (Dc in next 5 sts, invdec) 6 times. [36 sts]

Change to Cyan.

Round 45 Ss in each st around.

Round 46 Working in fl only, (dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 47 Dc in each st around.

Change to Powder Blue.

Rounds 48-50 Dc in each st around.

Round 51 (Dc in next 5 sts, invdec) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 52 (Dc in next 2 sts, invdec, dc in next 2 sts) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 53 (Dc in next 3 sts, invdec) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 54 Dc in next 9 sts, leave rem sts unworked. [9 sts]

Do not fasten off, continue to Tail.

Stuff Head and Body.

TAIL

Tail is worked in rows, perpendicular to Body. Using Powder Blue, continue from Body.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in next st of Body, ch8, dc in second ch from hook, dc in next 6 ch, ss in same st of Body, turn. [8 sts]

Row 2 Ch1, skip ss, dc in next 6 sts, 3dc in next st, turn to opposite side of ch, 3dc in next ch, dc in next 6 ch, ss in first dc of Row 1, turn. [18 sts]

Row 3 Ch1, skip ss, dc in next 8 sts, 2dc in next 2 sts, dc in next 8 sts, ss in next unworked st of Body, turn. [20 sts]

Row 4 Ch1, skip ss, dc in next 9 sts, 2dc in next

2 sts, dc in next 9 sts, ss in next unworked st of Body, turn. [22 sts]

Row 5 Ch1, skip ss, dc in next 22 sts, ss in next unworked st of Body, turn.

Row 6 Ch1, skip ss, dc in next 9 sts, (dc2tog) twice, dc in next 9 sts, ss in next unworked st of Body, turn. [20 sts]

Row 7 Ch1, skip ss, dc in next 8 sts, (dc2tog) twice, dc in next 8 sts, ss in next unworked st of Body, turn. [18 sts]

Row 8 Ch1, skip ss, dc in next 6 sts, (dc3tog) twice, dc in next 6 sts, ss in next unworked st of Body, turn. [14 sts]

Row 9 Ch1, skip ss, dc in next 14 sts, ss in next unworked st of Body, turn. [14 sts]

Row 10 Ch1, skip ss, dc in next 6 sts, 3dc in next 2 sts, dc in next 6 sts, ss in next unworked st of Body, turn. [18 sts]

Rows 11-18 As Rows 3-10.

Rows 19-25 As Rows 3-9.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Stuff the Tail, then sew the hole at the right side closed.

LEGS (MAKE 8)

Using Powder Blue, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 6dc in loop. [6 sts]

Rounds 2-11 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Sew the Legs to the Body.

TO FINISH

Using the images as a guide, sew sequins to the Lobster.





CUTLERY HOLDER MOTIFS

You don't have to choose between hearts and flowers with Jane Howarth's set of innovative silverware storer. Make both!

- Scheepjes Catona (100% cotton, 50g/125m), 1 ball of each: Hot Red (115), Neon Green (602), Deep Violet (521), Neon Yellow (601), Neon Orange (603), Neon Pink (604), Powder Blue (384), Cyan (397)
- A 2.75mm (US C/2) hook

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Floral Holder measures approx 11x11cm (4¼x4¼in)

Interlacing Hearts Holder measures approx 13x10cm (5x4in)

ABBREVIATIONS

picot Ch3, ss in last ch from hook
For a full list, see page 78

NOTES

Patterns are worked in rounds. You can use any

combination of colours, or use the images as a guide.

FLORAL TWO-TONE HOLDER

Ch6 and ss in last ch from hook to form a loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 6dc in loop, ss to beg dc. [6 sts]

Round 2 (Ss, ch3) in each st around, ss in beg ss. [6 ch-3 sps]

Round 3 Ch1, 4dc in each ch-3 sp around, ss to beg dc. [24 sts]

Round 4 *Ss in next st, ch3, (tr, dtr) in next st, (dtr, tr) in next st, ch3, ss to next dc; rep from * 5 times more.

Fasten off.

Join next colour in first ch-3.

Round 5 *Ch4, ss to top of next ch-3, ch6, ss to top of next ch-3; rep from * 5 times more. [6 ch-4 sps, 6 ch-6 sps]

Round 6 Ch1, *4dc in ch-4 sp, 9dc in ch-6 sp; rep from * 5 times more, ss to beg dc. [78 sts]

Round 7 Ch1, *(dc2tog) twice, 4dc, 2dc in next st, 4dc; rep from * 5 times more. [72 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

INTERLACING HEARTS HOLDER

FIRST HEART

Ch40, ss in last ch from hook to form a loop.

Round 1 Ch1, (htr, tr, htr) in first st to form lower point, 7dc, 2dc in next st, (3dc, 2dc in next st) twice, 2dc, dc3tog to form upper dip, 2dc, (2dc in next st, 3dc) twice, 2dc in next st, 7dc, ss to beg dc. [46 sts]

Round 2 (Dc, picot) in first st, (2dc, picot, dc) in next st to form point, (dc in next st, picot, dc in next st) 5 times, (dc, picot, dc) in next st, (dc, picot, dc) in next st, (dc in next st, picot, dc in next st) 4 times more, (dc, picot, dc) in next st, dc in next st, dc3tog, dc in next st, (dc in next 2 sts, picot) 4 times, (2dc, picot) in next st, (2dc, picot) in next st, (dc in next 2 sts, picot) 4 times, dc in final st, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off.

SECOND HEART

Ch40, thread one end through first Heart and ss to beg ch to join and interlock.

Work as First Heart, rotating your work as required.

Fasten off.

Align Hearts with points overlapping, allowing space for cutlery to left, right and centre. Sew Hearts together using matching colour yarn.

OMBRE TABLE MATS

Let designer Kelly Wilson Moore's hot, hot colours warm things up. Keep your tension consistent for the best results

- Scheepjes Catona (100% cotton, 50g, 125m), 1 ball of each: Hot Red (115), Neon Green (602), Deep Violet (521), Neon Yellow (601), Neon Orange (603), Neon Pink (604), Powder Blue (384), Cyan (397)
- 2.5m rope, 6mm per mat
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- A stitch marker

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Each Mat measures approx 22cm (8¾in) in diameter, excluding fringe

NOTES

Each Mat is worked in rounds, using 2 strands of yarn held together as one. Stitches are worked around the rope.
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.

TABLE MATS

Make 4: one in each colourway:

Yarn A Neon Orange and Yarn B Neon Pink
Yarn A Neon Yellow and Yarn B Deep Violet
Yarn A Cyan and Yarn B Pale Blue
Yarn A Hot Red and Yarn B Neon Green

Join 2 strands of Yarn A around rope with a ss.

Round 1 (RS) Working around the rope, ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 8dc. [8 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [16 sts]

Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [24 sts]

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

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

Change to 1 strand of Yarn A and 1 strand of Yarn B.

Round 6 2dc, (2dc in next st, 4dc) 7 times, 2dc in next st, 2dc. [48 sts]

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

Change to 2 strands of Yarn B.

Round 8 3dc, (2dc in next st, 6dc) 7 times, 2dc in next st, 3dc. [64 sts]

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

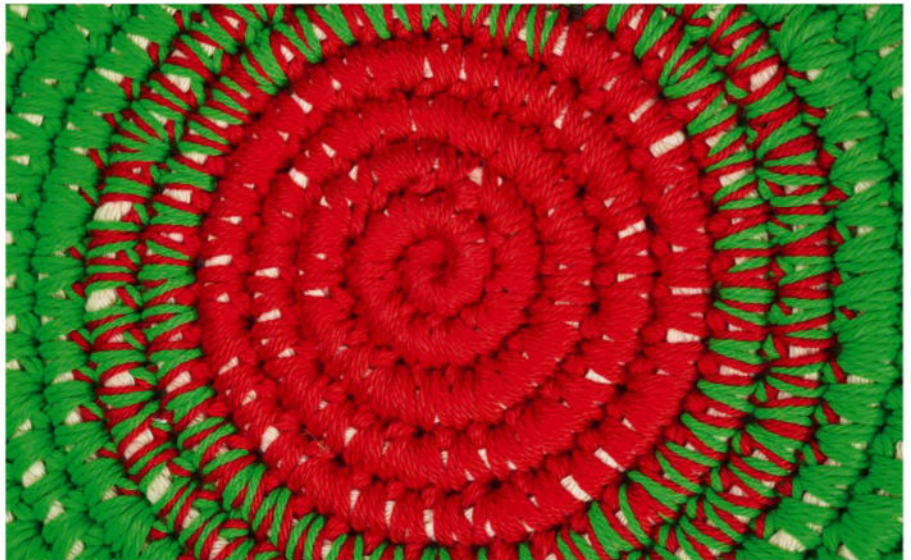
Round 10 4dc, (2dc in next st, 8dc) 7 times, 2dc in next st, 4dc. [80 sts]

Round 11 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off the rope and work the next round into sts only.

Round 12 Repeat Round 11.

Fasten off and weave in ends.



FRINGE

Cut 160 strands of Yarn B, approx 8cm long. Attach 4 strands to every other st of Round 12 using a lark's head knot. Trim to 2cm.

LACY NAPKIN EDGINGS

These picot trims by Kelly Wilson Moore will lend a little nostalgic charm to light lunches and dinner parties alike

- Scheepjes Catona (100% cotton, 50g, 125m), 1 ball of each: Neon Green (602), Deep Violet (521), Neon Pink (604), Powder Blue (384)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- 4 white linen napkins, 45x45cm

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Finished napkins measure 49cm across

ABBREVIATIONS

picot Ch3, ss in third ch from hook
For a full list, see page 78

NOTES

Edging is worked around plain napkins.

NAPKINS (MAKE 4)

Make 1 in each colour.

Work a blanket stitch evenly around the edge of the napkin, working the sts approx 2cm apart, up to each corner.

Fasten off.

Join same colour into any st around.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 4dc into each st to corner, (4dc, ch3, 4dc) in corner; rep from * around to end, ss to beg dc.

Round 2 *Ch2 (does not count as st), 2tr in next st, picot, 2tr in next st, ch2, ss in next 2 sts; repeat from * to ch-3 sp, 3dc in ch-sp; rep from * around to end, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

CROWN NAPKIN RINGS

If you're really pushing the boat out, spoil your guests with posh napkin rings from designer Kelly Wilson Moore

- Scheepjes Catona (100% cotton, 50g/125m), 1 ball of each: Hot Red (115), Neon Yellow (601), Neon Orange (603), Cyan (397)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Wooden napkin rings, 6cm

TENSION

Tension is not critical, but may affect yarn req

MEASUREMENTS

Completed Rings measure 6x9cm (2¼x3½in)

NOTES

The first round is worked around the wooden ring.

NAPKIN RINGS (MAKE 4)

Make 1 in each colour.

Join yarn to wooden ring with a ss.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 66dc around ring, ss in fl of first dc. [66 dc]

Round 2 (RS) (Skip 2 sts, 6dc in next st, skip 2 sts, ss in next st) 9 times working last ss in fl, (skip 2 sts, 4dc in fl of next st, skip 2 sts, ss in fl of next st) twice, turn. [62 dc]

Round 3 (WS) Ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in st at base of ch-3, (ch1, skip 4 dc, 3tr in fl of st from Round 1 where ss in fl made in Round 2) twice, turn. [9 sts]

Round 4 *Ch2 (does not count as st), 3tr in next tr, ch2, ss in next tr, ch2, (3tr, ch2, ss) in next tr, ss in ch-1 sp, ss in next st; repeat from * twice more, omitting last 2 ss on final rep. [18 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.



FLOWER VASE COASTER SET

This is a quick way to add colour and pzazz to your table. Makes a sweet gift for a pal, too. By Paula Green and Sara Huntington

■ Scheepjes Catona (100% cotton, 50g/125m), 2 balls of: Powder Blue (384), 1 ball of each: Hot Red (115), Neon Green (602), Deep Violet (521), Neon Yellow (601), Neon Orange (603), Neon Pink (604)

■ A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
■ Cardboard

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Coasters measure approx 13cm (5in) in diameter

NOTES

All parts are worked in rounds with RS facing throughout.

The Pot 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 working the main section of the Coasters, work into the spaces between the stitches rather than into the top of each st.

POT

Using Powder Blue, make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [16 sts]

Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [24 sts]

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

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

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

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

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

Round 9 Dc in bl of each st around.

Rounds 10-19 Dc in each st around.

Round 20 Ss in next st, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3.

Fasten off.

Cut a strip of cardboard to the size of the sides of the Pot and place inside to help maintain shape.

COASTERS (MAKE 5)

Using Powder Blue, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 11 tr in loop, ss in sp between beg ch-3 and next st. [12 sts]



Round 2 Ch3, tr in same sp, 2tr in each sp around, ss in sp between beg ch-3 and next st. [24 sts]

Round 3 Ch3, tr in same sp, (tr in next sp, 2tr in next st) 11 times, tr in final sp, ss in sp between beg ch-3 and next st. [36 sts]

Round 4 Ch3, (tr in next sp, 2tr in next st, tr in next sp) 11 times, tr in next sp, 2tr in next sp, ss in sp between beg ch-3 and next st. [48 sts]

Round 5 Ch3, (2tr in next st, tr in next 3 sps) 11 times, 2tr in next sp, tr in final 2 sps, ss in sp between beg ch-3 and next st. [60 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Neon Green in any st.

Round 6 Ch1, (4dc, 2dc in next st) 12 times, ss to beg dc. [72 sts]

Round 7 Ch2, 2-tr cl in st at base of ch-3, ch4, skip 1 st, 3-tr cl in next st, (skip 3 sts, 3-tr cl in next st, ch4, skip 1 st, 3-tr cl in next st) 11 times,

skip final 3 sts, ss to top of beg cl.

Fasten off.

Use any of the rem colours for next round. Join yarn in sp between any two 3-tr cl with a ss (not in the ch-sp).

Round 8 (3tr, ch3, 3tr) in ch-4 sp, ss in sp between cl; rep from * around, ss in beg st.

Fasten off and weave in all ends.

Fold each Coaster in half and roll up to form a flower shape. Arrange inside the Pot.



YARN STOCKISTS

Scheepjes

www.scheepjes.com/en





On fleck

You'll be as snug as a bug in a rug in a gorgeous cosy jumper from Chloé Elizabeth Birch

CHUNKY RIB JUMPER



YOU WILL NEED

- West Yorkshire Spinners Re:Treat (100% wool, 100g/140m)
- Yarn A Breathe (1156)
- Yarn B Energise (1155)
- Yarn C Pure (010)
- A 6mm (US J/10) hook
- A 6.5mm (US K/10½) hook
- 8 stitch markers

For yarn stockists contact
WY Spinners 01535 664500
www.wyspinners.com

TENSION

12 sts and 7 rows measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern using a 6.5mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

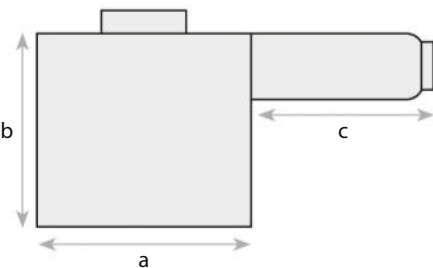
ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78

SAVE OR SPLURGE

For a more budget-friendly make, try Stylecraft Softie: 6 (7: 8: 10: 11: 12) balls of Yarn A Blue Frost (6121), 1 (1: 1: 1: 2: 2) balls of each: Yarn B Raspberry (3110), Yarn C Cream (3982). Check hook size, tension and ball length if you use a different yarn.

For yarn stockists contact
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk



Width a: 55 (60.5: 66.5: 72: 77.5: 83) cm, 21¾ (23¾: 26: 28¾: 30½: 32¾) in
Length b: 50 (50: 58: 58: 58: 65) cm, 19½ (19½: 23: 23: 23: 26) in
Sleeve length c: 45cm, 17¾in

Drop-shoulder construction, a cosy polo neck and a flattering shorter length all add up to a deceptively easy fab winter make.

NOTES

Sweater is made in separate pieces, which are seamed together at the end.
The Front and Back are worked sideways, so the row tension will determine the bust measurement, and the stitch tension will determine the length.
Change colour on the final yrh of st before colour change is indicated. Carry the unused colour across the top of your sts, enclosing the strand as you work.

JUMPER

FRONT/BACK (MAKE 2)

Using a 6.5mm hook and Yarn A, ch60 (60: 69: 69: 69: 78).

Foundation row Htr in third ch from hook, htr in each ch to end, turn. [59 (59: 68: 68: 68: 77) sts]

Row 1 (RS) (Working in bl throughout) Ch2 (counts as htr throughout), 4htr, (change to Yarn B, 4htr, change to Yarn A, 5htr) rep to end, turn.

Row 2 Ch2, htr in fl of each st to end, turn.

Row 3 (Working in bl throughout) Ch2, htr in next st, (change to Yarn C, 4htr, change to Yarn A, 5htr) rep to last 3 sts, change to Yarn C, 3htr, change to Yarn A, turn.

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

Rows 1-4 set the pattern.

Rep Rows 1-4 another 8 (9: 10: 11: 12: 13) times, then rep Rows 1-2 once more.

Fasten off.

SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

Using a 6.5mm hook and Yarn A, ch51.

Foundation row Htr in third ch from hook, htr in each ch to end, turn. [50 sts]

Work Rows 1-4 of pattern until 29 (33: 37: 41: 45:



Work a ribbed polo collar using an alternating pattern of front and back post stitches



For the sleeves, work the main part first, then work the cuff onto the row-ends at the wrist

49) rows have been worked.

Fasten off.

CUFF

Turn to work across the row-end edge on one side of the Sleeve.

Using a 6mm hook and Yarn A, join yarn in first row-end.

Foundation row Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in each row to end across, turn.

[29 (33: 37: 41: 45: 49) sts]

SIZE		XS/S	M/L	XL/2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL
TO FIT BUST	cm	71-81	86-97	102-112	117-127	132-142	148-158
	in	28-32	34-38	40-44	46-50	52-56	58-62
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	110	121	133	144	155	166.5
	in	43¼	47¾	52¼	56½	61	65½
LENGTH	cm	50	50	58.5	58.5	58.5	66
	in	19½	19½	23	23	23	26
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	45	45	45	45	45	45
	in	17¾	17¾	17¾	17¾	17¾	17¾
YARN A	100g	7	8	9	10	12	13
YARN B	100g	1	1	1	2	2	2
YARN C	100g	1	1	1	2	2	2

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

Row 1 (WS) Ch2, BPtr around next st, (FPtr around next st, BPtr around next st) rep to last st, htr in last st, turn.

Row 2 Ch2, FPtr around next st, (BPtr around next st, FPtr around next st) to last st, htr in last st, turn.

Row 3 As Row 1.

Fasten off.

COLLAR

Mark out central 21 (21: 24: 24: 26: 26)cm across row-end edge at top of Front and Back.

Seam shoulders together.

With RS facing and using a 6mm hook, join Yarn A into first row from shoulder seam.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3, tr in same row, 2tr in each row around, ss to top of beg ch-3.

Round 2 (RS) Ch2, FPtr around next st, (BPtr around next st, FPtr around next st) to end, ss to top of beg ch-2.

Rounds 3-7 As Round 2.

Change to a 6.5mm hook

Rounds 8-14 Rep Round 2.

Fasten off.

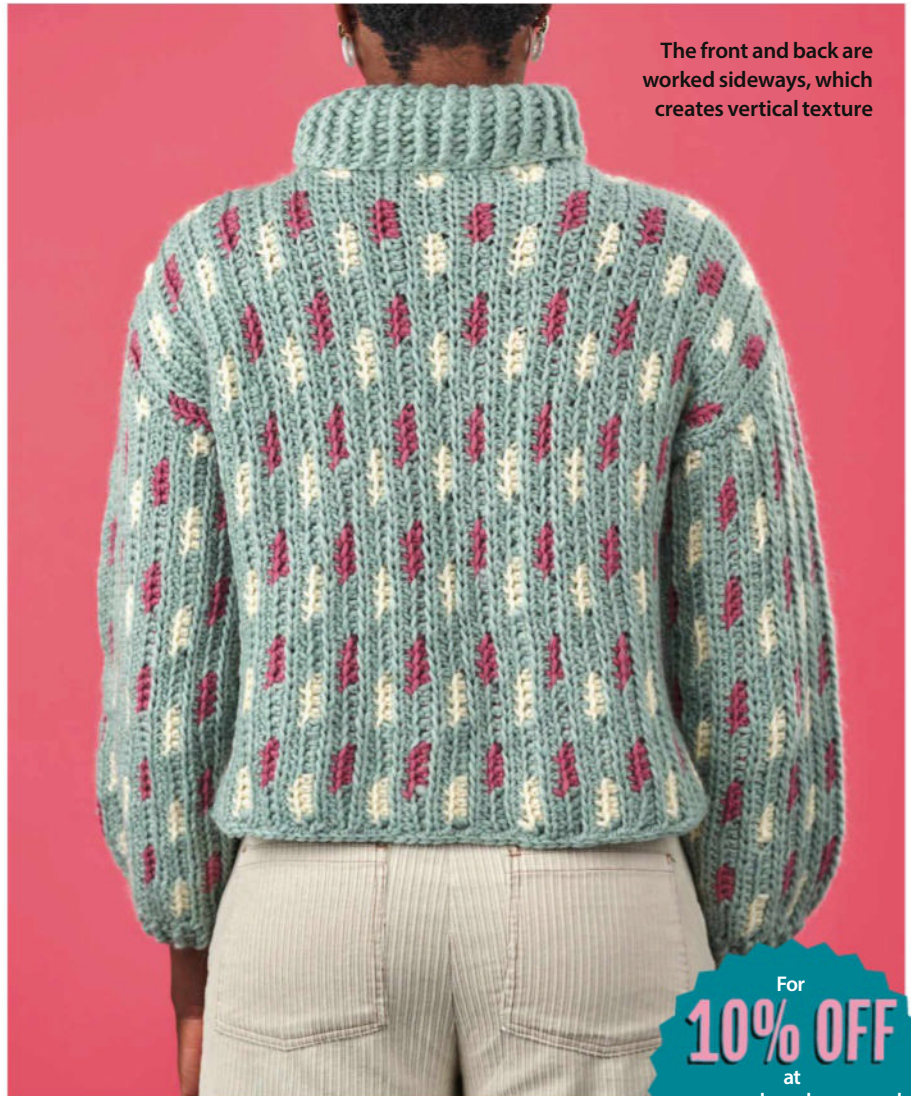
TO MAKE UP

Fold Sleeves in half and match fold to shoulder seam. Sew top of Sleeves into armhole. Sew side seam and sleeve seams closed, leaving 7cm at bottom of Front and Back unjoined.

HEM

With RS facing and using a 6mm hook, join Yarn A at side seam at base. Dc evenly around lower edge and up slits, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off and weave in all ends.



The front and back are worked sideways, which creates vertical texture

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SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK TAPESTRY 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, but hold the working end of the first colour on top of the stitches below and make sure you work the new stitch over the top of it, effectively encasing the first colour.



3 Continue working in this way, encasing the working end of the first colour. When you want to change colour again, use the same method as before: on the last stitch in the second colour, work the final yrh using the first colour.



4 It's important not to pull too tightly on the previous colour of yarn or it will pucker the fabric. Continue to work stitches using the first colour, over the top of the working end of the second colour.



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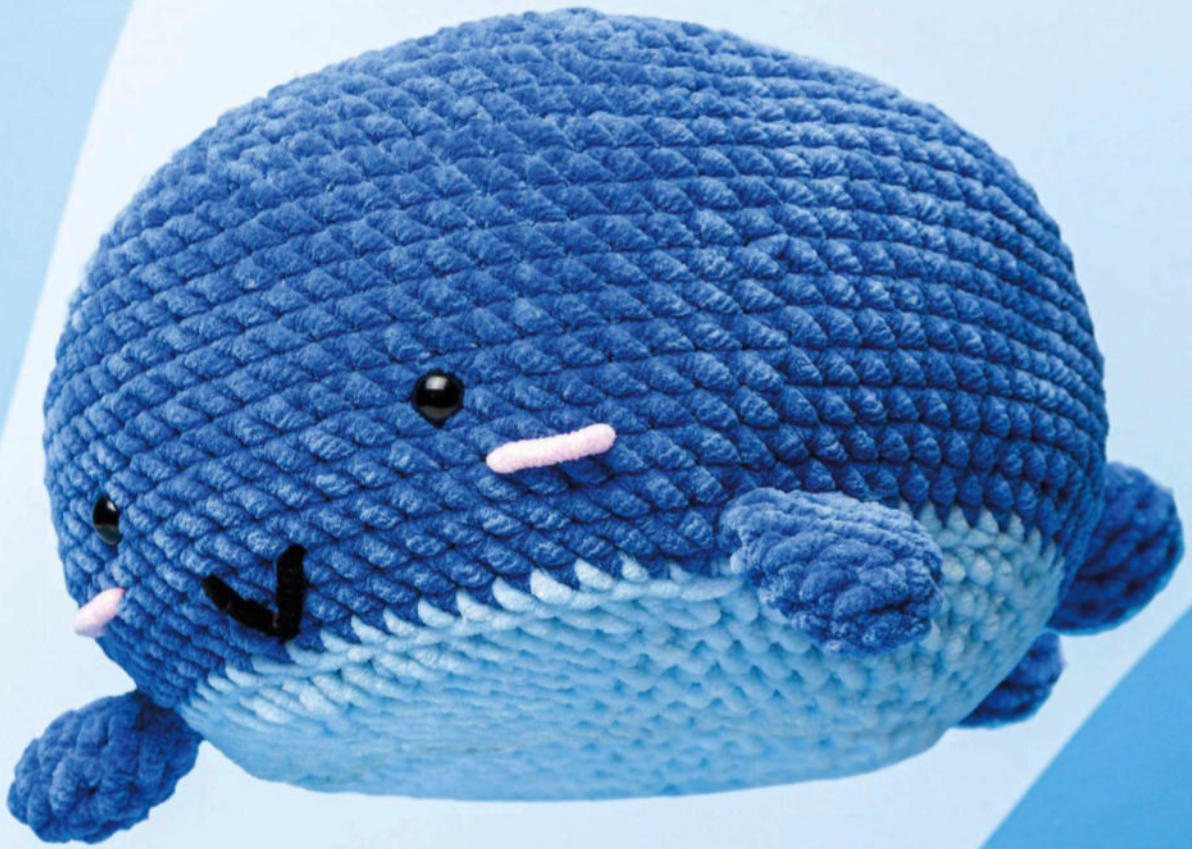
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In the deep

Float through the depths of the briny seas in the company of Laura Strutt's cute whale

GREAT
GIFT FOR
WILDLIFE
FANS



BLUE WHALE AMIGURUMI



YOU WILL NEED

- Any chunky weight chenille yarn, 150m of each: dark blue, light blue
- A small amounts of each: pink, black
- A 6mm (US J/10) hook
- 2 safety eyes, 12mm
- A sheet of stiff plastic, 50x50cm (optional)
- Toy stuffing
- A stitch marker

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Whale measures approx 30.5x14cm (12x5½ in)

ABBREVIATIONS

invdec Insert hook in front loop of next st, insert hook in front loop of next st across, yrh and pull through both sts, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook

For a full list, see page 78

The king of the ocean, this whale is crocheted in two shades of blue to match the waves. He's also rather squishy and super cute!

NOTES

Parts of this pattern are worked using the amigurumi method. Work 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 go.

If you are making this as a toy for a child under 36 months, do not use safety eyes; instead, embroider eyes using black.

WHALE

HEAD AND BODY

Using Dark Blue, make a magic ring.

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

Round 12 (Dc in next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [72 sts]

Round 13 (Dc in next 11 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [78 sts]

Rounds 14–23 Dc in each st around.

Round 24 (Dc in next 11 sts, invdec) 6 times. [72 sts]

Round 25 (Dc in next 10 sts, invdec) 6 times. [66 sts]

Change to Light Blue.

Round 26 Dc in each st around.

Round 27 (Dc in bl of next 9 sts, invdec) 6 times. [60 sts]

Place live loop on marker.

Secure safety eyes at centre front of Head.

Using the image as a guide, embroider facial details.

Pick up live loop.

Stuff as you work.

Round 28 (Dc in next 8 sts, invdec) 6 times. [54 sts]

Optional: cut a circle of plastic to correspond to base and insert before you continue.

Round 29 (Dc in next 7 sts, invdec) 6 times. [48 sts]

Round 30 (Dc in next 6 sts, invdec) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 31 (Dc in next 5 sts, invdec) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 32 (Dc in next 4 sts, invdec) 6 times. [30 sts]

Round 33 (Dc in next 3 sts, invdec) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 34 (Dc in next 2 sts, invdec) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 35 (Dc in next st, invdec) 6 times. [12 sts]

Round 36 (Invdec) 6 times. [6 sts]

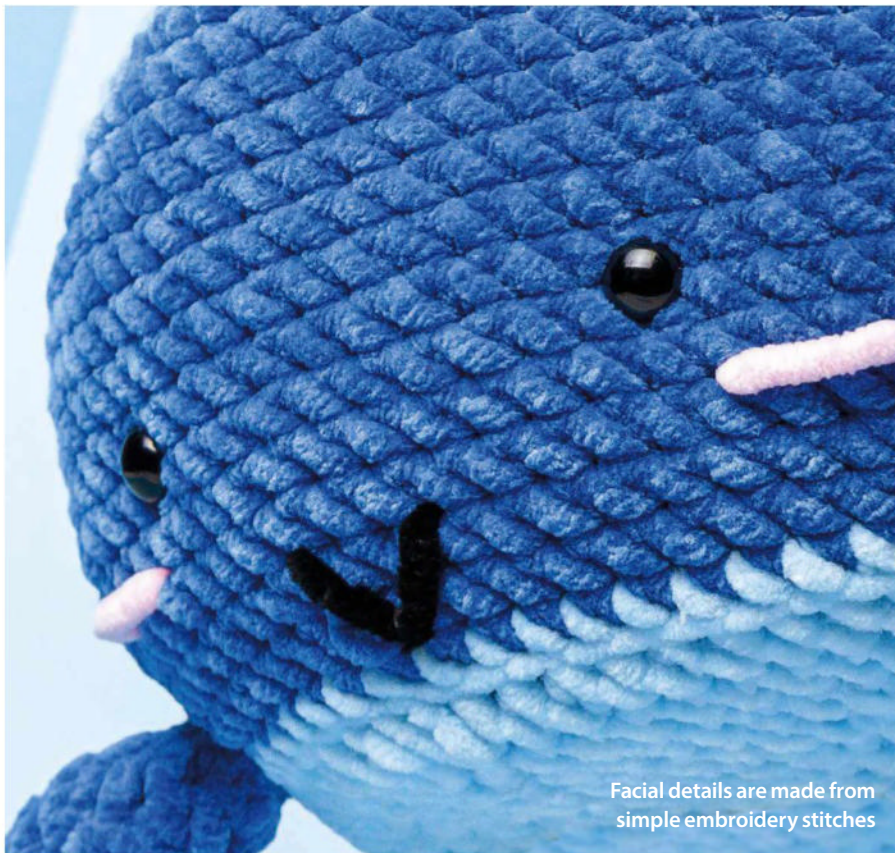
Fasten off.



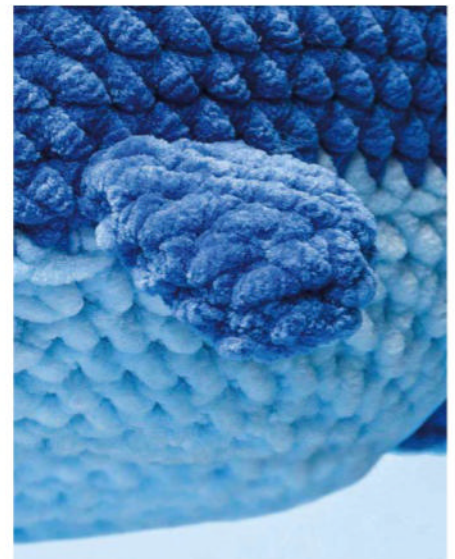
Expert crafter Laura Strutt has designed 35 cute amigurumi patterns to hook up in all shapes and forms for her book, *Amigurumi Crochet* (£14.99, Cico Books), which includes this sweet whale.



Make two tail ends, then crochet them together into one piece



Facial details are made from simple embroidery stitches



Fins are worked in five rounds and stitched to the sides of the body where colours change

Thread tail through fl of final 6 sts and pull tight to close.

FINS (MAKE 2)

Using Dark Blue, make a magic ring.

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

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

Rounds 3–5 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

TAIL

ENDS (MAKE 2)

Using Dark Blue, make a magic ring.

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

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

Rounds 3–4 Dc in each st around.

Round 5 (Dc in next 2 sts, invdec) 3 times. [9 sts]

Fasten off first End only.

TAIL CONT'D

Tail continues from second End and works around sts of both Ends.

Round 6 Dc in each st on first End, dc in each st around second End. [18 sts]

Round 7 (Dc in next st, invdec) 6 times. [12 sts]

Rounds 8–9 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

TO MAKE UP

Use the images as a guide when joining parts.

Stuff the Fins and Tail.

Position Fins on each side of Body and sew in place using yarn tails.

Position Tail onto back of Whale and sew into place with yarn tail.

Weave in any rem ends.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK AN INVISIBLE DECREASE (INVDEC)



1 Work up to where you want the decrease to be placed. The next 2 stitches will be decreased to 1 stitch.



2 Insert the hook through the front loop on the next stitch, then insert hook through the front loop on the second stitch.



3 Yrh and pull through both front loops on the hook.



4 Yrh and pull through both loops on hook.

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ukhandknitting.com



FIND AN EVENT

Click on the calendar to discover local and national events

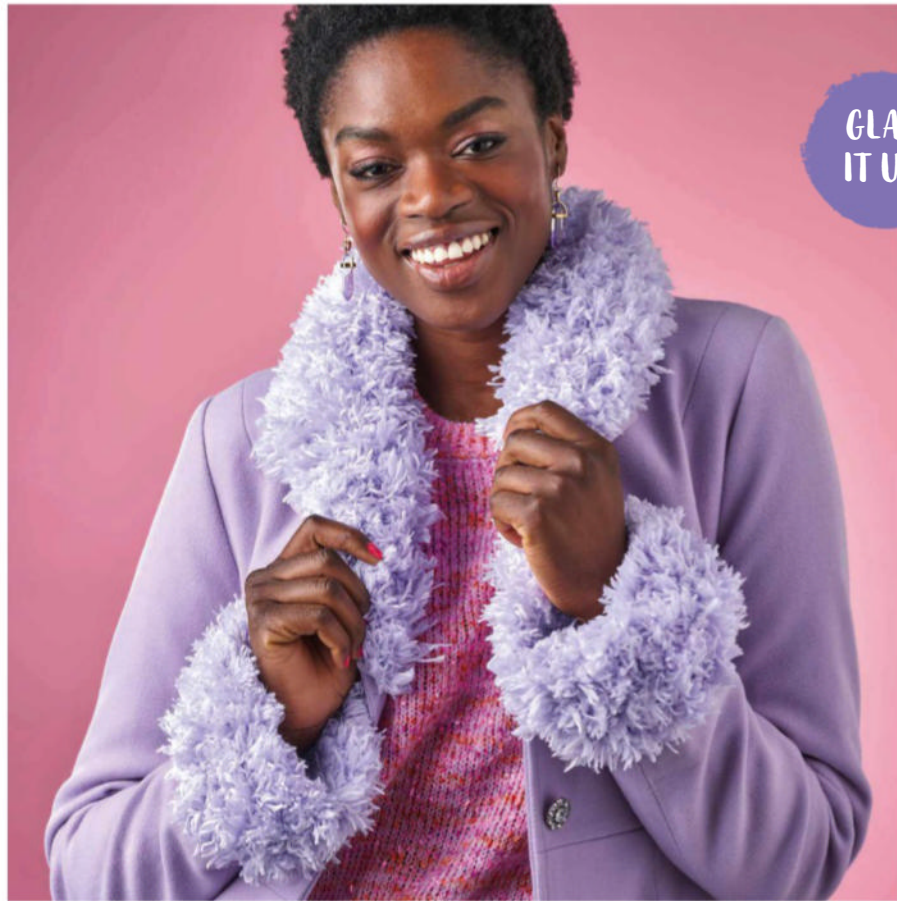
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m	t	w	t	f	s	s	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30						

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Before you start your next knitting or crochet project, or if you need help with an existing one, visit ukhandknitting.com to see what your yarn shops can offer you.

**WE ARE
UK HAND KNITTING**



IN FOR A TRIM

Add a little *je ne sais quoi* to your wardrobe with Jess Bennett's fun fleecy collar and cuffs



YOU WILL NEED

■ King Cole Tufty Super Chunky (100% polyester, 200g/80m)
1 ball of Lilac (2803)

■ A 9mm (US M/13) hook

■ Stitch markers (optional)

For yarn stockists contact

King Cole 01756 703670

www.kingcole.com

TENSION

8 sts and 7 rows to measure 10x10 cm (4x4in) over double crochet using a 9mm hook, or size needed to obtain this tension

MEASUREMENTS

Collar measures approx 30x10cm (11¾x4in)

Lapels measure approx 22x10cm (8¾x4in)

Cuffs measure approx 24x10cm (9½x4in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78

A luxe set of trims will give an old coat a new life in hours. Fluffy super chunky yarn makes the set cosy and a quick-to-hook hack!

NOTES

Each section is worked as a flat piece in rows of dc. They are then sewn to the coat. It can be difficult to make out each stitch using furry yarn, so on longer rows you can place markers every 5 sts to help you keep track. There is no RS or WS as the fur obscures the stitches. Instructions are included to alter the length and depth of each piece. This will affect the yarn quantities needed.

COAT TRIM

COLLAR

To make a longer Collar to wrap around the neck section, work a longer foundation chain. Ch25.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, dc in next 23 ch, turn. [24 sts]

Row 2 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Rep Row 2 until Collar measures 10cm – or to desired depth.

Fasten off.

LAPELS (MAKE 2)

Ch2.

Row 1 2dc in second ch from hook, turn. [2 sts]

Row 2 Ch1, 2dc, turn.

Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in first st, 1dc, turn. [3 sts]

Row 4 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Row 5 Ch1 2dc in first st, dc in each st to end, turn. [4 sts]

Row 6 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Rows 7-14 Rep Rows 5-6. [8 sts]

Fasten off.

To make the Lapels longer and wider continue in pattern set. To increase length without increasing the width, work plain rows of dc to desired length.

CUFFS (MAKE 2)

To increase the circumference of the Cuff, work a longer foundation ch.

Ch21.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, dc in next 19 ch, turn. [20 sts]

Row 2 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Rep Row 2 until Cuffs measures 10cm, or to desired depth.

Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Weave in all ends.

Sew the last rows of the Lapels to the row-ends of the Collar. Sew this piece to your coat.

Sew the Cuffs to the end of each sleeve.



The collar, lapel and cuff patterns are all easily adapted to fit any size of coat, jacket or cardi



All of the pieces are worked in double crochet – stitch markers will help you keep track



YOU WILL NEED

- Yarnsmiths Lagoon DK (100% acrylic, 100g/340m)
1 ball of Marano Grado (2J080)
- Yarnsmiths Create DK (100% acrylic, 100g/290m)
1 ball of Cornflower Blue (3270)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4 hook)
- A pompom maker, 65mm

For yarn stockists contact

Wool Warehouse 01926 882818
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

Bag measures approx 18x12cm
(7x4¾in) when drawn up with ties

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78



The perfect-sized little pouch for phone, keys and purse, added pompoms turn up the style. It's an easy, speedy accessory to hook.

BAG

Using Marano Grado, ch22.

Round 1 (RS) Htr in the third ch from hook, htr in next 18ch, 5htr in last ch, turn to work in opposite side of foundation ch, htr in next 19 ch and 5htr in last ch, ss to top of beg ch-2. [48 sts]

Round 2 Ch2 (counts as htr throughout), htr in next 18 sts, 2htr in next 5 sts, htr in each st to last 5 sts, 2htr in last 5 sts, ss to top of beg ch-2. [58 sts]

Round 3 Ch2, htr in next 18 sts, 2htr in next 10 sts, htr in each st to last 10 sts, 2htr in next 10 sts, ss to top of beg ch-2. [78 sts]

Round 4 Ch2, htr in next 18 sts, 2htr next 20 sts, htr in each st to last 20 sts, 2htr in next 20 sts, ss to top of beg ch-2. [118 sts]

Round 5 Ch2, htr in bl of each st, ss to top of beg ch-2.

Round 6 Ch3, insert hook into second ch from hook, yrh and pull up loop, insert hook into third ch from hook, yrh and pull up loop, skip st at base of beg ch-3, (insert hook into next st, yrh and pull up loop) 3 times, yrh, pull through all 6 loops on hook, ch1 to create centre of star,

*insert hook in centre of star, yrh and pull up loop, insert hook through last loop of previous star, yrh and pull up loop, insert hook in same st as last loop of prev star, yrh and pull up loop, (insert hook in next st, yrh and pull up loop) twice, yrh and pull through all 6 loops on hook, ch1 to create centre of star; rep from * around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [58 stars]

Round 7 Ch2, (htr in first loop of next star, htr in centre of same star st) rep to last star st, htr in first loop of last st, 2htr in centre of last st, ss to top of beg ch-2. [118 sts]

Rep Rounds 6-7 until you have 7 rows of stars.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

DRAWSTRING TIE

Using Cornflower Blue, make a 50cm ch.

Fasten off.

Thread ch evenly through row 3 rows from the

top. Make 2 small pompoms and attach to ends of drawstring.

I-CORD BAG HANDLE

Using 3 strands of Cornflower Blue held together as one, ch3. Insert hook into second ch from hook and pull up a loop (leave loop on hook, insert hook into the third ch from hook, yrh and pull up a loop (3 loops on hook).

*Remove last 2 loops from hook, yrh and pull through rem loop, put next loop on hook, yrh and pull through st, put last loop on hook, yrh and pull through st; rep from * until you Handle measures 1m.

Fasten off.

Sew I-Cord to inside of Bag at either side.

Draw it up

Emma Potter's micro bag works brilliantly for little girls as well as for your next night out. Grab and go!

Lucia achieves a truly remarkable level of detail in her tiny masterpieces. Just look at the scale!



PETITE PERFECTION

From micro musicians to dinky landmarks and wildlife specimens, Lucia Dolgopolova's crocheted miniatures rock our world

Growing up in a family of artists, micro-crocheter Lucia Dolgopolova never doubted she could make a living via her passion for crochet art. "My great-grandfather designed clothes and shoes; my grandfather was a self-taught painter, depicting nature and historical moments of Ukraine; and my father studied art," says the Ukrainian crochet artist. "Art and craft was always respected in our house. Even when I came up with a ridiculously small 3mm bear, it was taken seriously."

EXPERIMENTS ON A TINY SCALE

Lucia taught herself to crochet when she was around ten years old. "My mother taught me knitting but she didn't know how to crochet," Lucia says. "I used magazines to learn the stitches and crochet my first items. It was

back in early 1990s and it wasn't possible to use online platforms for this at that time." Lucia fondly remembers the first item she crocheted. "I crocheted a sweater following the pattern in the magazine and I changed it a little bit to make it more like I would wear."

The courage to adapt patterns paved Lucia's way towards becoming a designer. "I found it hard to follow the patterns, as I always saw a better way," she confesses. "After trying one or two items, I started designing myself." Lucia spent years designing without writing patterns. "A miniature crocheted teddy bear was my first," she says.

She began to envision crochet wonders to accomplish on a tiny scale. "It was like an experiment," she says. "What if I used sewing thread instead of yarn? I bought a 0.35 mm hook, the smallest I could find, and started

using the thinnest sewing thread."

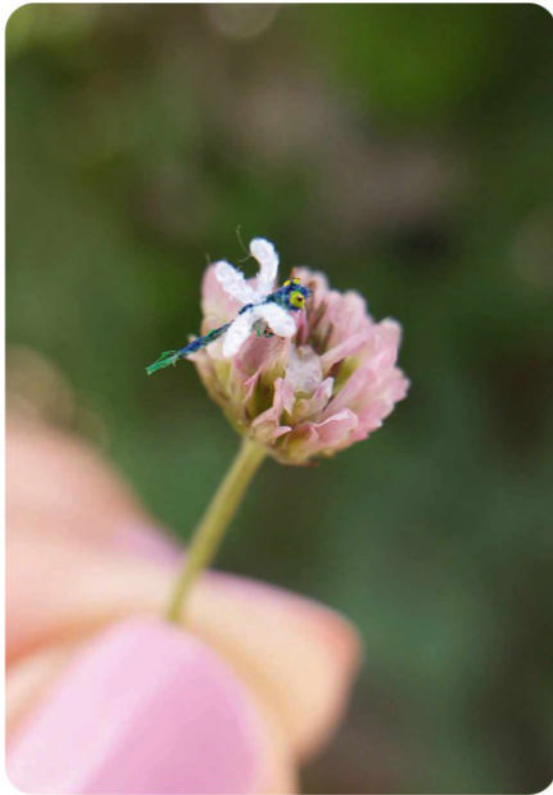
The initial approach was one of trial and error. "I broke at least five hooks in my first days of micro-crocheting, but I kept buying new ones until I learned the tension and the way I should hold it in order to create."

The right tools are crucial. "I use crochet hooks of a very good quality. Micro-crochet hooks are my favourite, of course, but I also choose those that have comfortable handles. I have a huge collection of hooks, and always purchase them as a full set."

Lucia has specific preferences when it comes to her yarn choices too. "It should be pleasant to touch and easy to crochet. I love natural yarns such as silk, mohair, and wool."

EMBRACING LIGHT AND DARK

Lucia tested herself by going even smaller with her crochet. "I decided to split the



thread to see if I could crochet with it on that scale too," she says. "Honestly speaking, if a smaller hook existed I'd gladly challenge myself to crochet even tinier designs. An ability to concentrate is the key, I think."

Lucia's series of teeny reversible dolls developed from her delight in balance. "I love the opposites of dark and light, good and bad, beautiful and ugly," she says. "My favourite reversible dolls include Day and Night, and Sun and Moon. They are magical."

With her home filling with exquisite dinky creations, Lucia started selling completed crochet items and patterns. "Before I opened my social media accounts and my shop on Etsy, I took part in craft markets, had some success and saw the response from the offline audience," she says. "Many years after that I launched my social media accounts and online shops, which led to good reviews and more orders."

Posting videos of her work is a vital part of the job. "It helps my following to grow, and I learn a lot by watching what interests my audience. It goes like this: I crochet and take photos and post, make videos and post. I don't think a lot about whether it's trendy or not, I just crochet the way I like to." Writing patterns is a gradual process. "I write several sentences of it every day. It usually takes a week to complete a pattern. I also crochet daily. Routines help me stay on top of it all."

Lucia feels fortunate that her crochet business is her full-time occupation. "I used to work as a translator and teacher of English, and micro-crocheting was like a hobby."

She beams. "It's not a hobby now – I consider it to be the work of my life."

A THOROUGHLY CREATIVE LIFE

"Though I sincerely love all my creations, my favourite is my Cello Player," she says. "I spent seven years of my life playing the cello. Those years spent with classical music added so much to my life and when creating him, I imagined him playing my favourite songs."

"IT WAS AN EXPERIMENT,
A THOUGHT. I DECIDED TO SEARCH
FOR AND TRY THE SMALLEST
HOOK IN THE WORLD"

This is my most beloved creation, and also one of the most difficult to make."

The cellist honours an important time in her life. "I had an excellent teacher. Every month we used to go to Kharkov Opera House and watch ballet and operas." Despite all her musical prowess, Lucia is happy she chose a different

direction; every crochet design is an expression of her creativity. "Each of my projects starts as an idea that grows in my head as a step-by-step activity," she says. "I see those steps so clearly that it's impossible for anything to go wrong."

She's never short of fresh ideas. "I find inspiration everywhere, including nature and animals. Inspiration is always ready for me to tap into." Crochet design gives Lucia a sense of freedom. "It gives me the feeling that the impossible is possible," she enthuses.

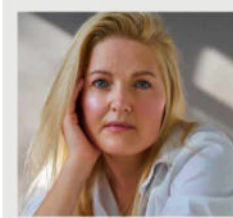
"Anything at all can be crocheted, whether it's a big house or the tiniest owl. I get this feeling when an idea comes and I tell myself, OK, let's see, first you make these stitches and the process starts."

Recent projects have included a micro Christmas tree. "It was 1.5cm tall, and was decorated with tiny crochet ornaments."

A queue of other ideas wait in the wings: "I don't know right now exactly what I'll make in 2025, but I'll be making more reversible dolls and tiny items. Let's see, it will be a happy surprise for me too!"

Written by Judy Darley

Photos: Lucia Dolgoplova



A few of her favourite things

When Lucia's not making her miniatures...

"I love knitting and swimming. I get out into nature for at least two hours a day, along the river close to my home. Creative ideas come to me. If I walk with my daughter we talk and laugh. Walking is good." Find Lucia at [Etsy MicroCrochetArt](https://www.etsy.com/shop/MicroCrochetArt), www.instagram.com/lucia_knit and www.facebook.com/LuciaKnit



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So vintage

Classic looks in modern yarn shades
with subtle tones, by Cassie Ward

OPEN
FRONT
STYLE



OPEN FRONT CARDIGAN



YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Special DK (100% acrylic, 100g/295m)
- Yarn A Milky Tea (2172)
- Yarn B Purple Smoke (2181)
- Yarn C Wild Orchid (2182)
- Yarn D Mallard Blue (2185)
- Yarn E North Sea (2178)
- Yarn F Heather (2184)
- Yarn G Pink Rhubarb (2175)
- Yarn H Cinder Rose (2171)
- Yarn I Mistletoe (2180)
- Yarn J Mushy Peas (2173)
- Yarn K Periwinkle (2183)

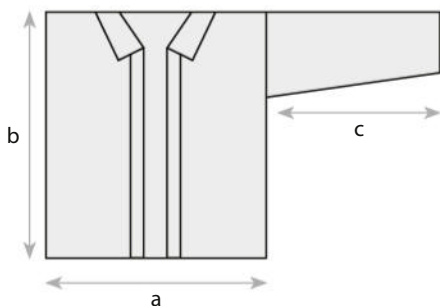
■ A 4mm (US G/6) hook
 For yarn stockists contact
 Stylecraft 01484 848435
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

15.5 sts and 7.5 rows measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet using a 4mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension
 Rounds 1-4 of Square measure 9.5cm (3¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78



Width a: 48 (54.5: 61: 67.5: 74)cm, 19 (21½: 24: 26½: 29)in
Length b: 49 (50: 51: 52: 53)cm, 19¼ (19¾: 20: 20½: 21)in
Sleeve length c: 49cm, 19¼in

Granny square garments are everywhere. We've added a contemporary twist with stripes, for an eye-catching extra layer.

NOTES

Cardigan is made up of separate pieces, which are sewn together. The Fronts and Back are made of Squares, which are joined with rows of crochet.
 Edging and Collar are worked onto the Cardigan at the end.

CARDIGAN

GRANNY SQUARES (MAKE 18)

Using Yarn A, ch4, ss in last ch from hook to form a loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 11tr in loop, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. [12 sts]
 Change to Yarn C.

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

Change to any colours from Yarns D-K.

Round 3 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, 1tr, (2tr in next tr, 1tr) rep around, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. [36 sts]

Change to Yarn B.

Round 4 Ch3, (1tr, ch2, 2tr) in st at base of ch-3, 1tr, 2htr, 2dc, 2htr, 1tr, *(2tr, ch2, 2tr) in next st, 1tr, 2htr, 2dc, 2htr, 1tr; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. [48 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]

Fasten off Size S only.

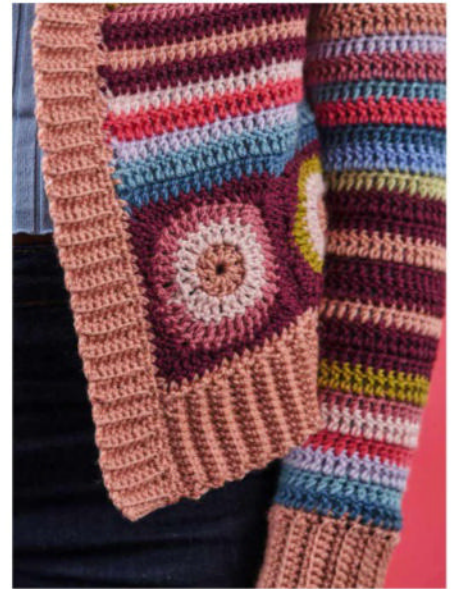
SIZE M ONLY

Round 5 Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), *dc in each st to ch-sp, (dc, ch2, dc) in each ch-2 sp; rep from * around to end, ss to first st. [56 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]

Fasten off.

SIZES L, XL AND 2XL ONLY

Round 5 Ch3, *tr in each st to ch-2 sp, (2tr, ch2,



The fronts and back are constructed with a mix of granny squares and rows of stripes

2tr) in ch-2 sp; rep from * around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [64 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
 Rep Round 5 another - (-: 0: 1) times.
 [- (-: 64: 64: 80) sts]

Fasten off sizes L and 2XL only.

SIZE XL ONLY

Round 6 Ch1, *dc in each st to ch-sp, (dc, ch2, dc) in each ch-2 sp; rep from * around to end, ss to beg dc. [72 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]

Fasten off.

Squares are sewn together using Yarn B. Make 2 strips of 5 Squares for the Back. Make 4 strips of 2 Squares for the Fronts.

BACK

Take the first row of 5 Squares and join Yarn D in corner ch-sp to work across long edge.

SIZE		S	M	L	XL	2XL
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	96	109	122	135	148
	in	37¾	43	48	53	58¼
LENGTH	cm	49	50	51	52	53
	in	19¼	19¾	20	20½	21
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	49	49	49	49	49
	in	19¼	19¼	19¼	19¼	19¼
YARN A	100g	2	2	3	3	3
YARN B	100g	2	2	2	3	3
YARNS C-K	100g	1	1	1	1	2

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

OPEN FRONT CARDIGAN

Row 1 (RS) Ch3, *tr in each st to next ch-sp, tr in ch-sp, tr in join, tr in ch-sp; rep across to final ch sp, tr in final ch-sp, turn. [74 (84: 94: 104: 114) sts]
Change to Yarn E.

Row 2 Ch3, tr in each st across, turn.
Change to Yarn F.

Rows 3-12 As Row 2, changing colour every row in following sequence: G, C, B, A, B, H, I, J, K.

Fasten off.

Using Yarn K, whipstitch the second strip of 5 Squares to the top of Row 12.

Join Yarn D in the corner of stripes to work across long edge.

Row 13 Ch3, *tr in each st to next ch-sp, tr in ch-sp, tr in join, tr in ch-sp; rep across to final ch sp, tr in final ch-sp, turn. [74 (84: 94: 104: 114) sts]
Change to Yarn G.

Row 14 Ch3, tr in each st across, turn.
Change to Yarn I.

Rows 15-25 As Row 2 working 1 row in Yarn E, 1 row in Yarn H, 1 row in Yarn F, 2 rows in Yarn A, 1 row in Yarn B, 2 rows in Yarn A and 2 rows in Yarn B.

Fasten off.

LEFT FRONT

Take a strip of 2 Squares and join Yarn D in corner to work across the straight edge.

Rows 1-21 Work as Back, joining the second strip of 2 Squares at the end of Row 12.

[29 (33: 37: 41: 45) sts]

Pm in ends of Row 21.

Neck shaping is worked over the next 4 rows.
Join Yarn A in second st.

Row 22 Ch3, tr3tog next 3 sts, tr in each st to end, turn. [26 (30: 34: 38: 42) sts]

Row 23 Ch3, tr in each tr to final 4 sts, tr3tog, tr in final st, turn. [24 (28: 32: 36: 40) sts]

Change to Yarn B.

Row 24 Ch3, tr3tog next 3 sts, tr to end, turn. [22 (26: 30: 34: 38) sts]

Row 25 As Row 23. [20 (24: 28: 32: 36) sts]

Fasten off.

RIGHT FRONT

Take a strip of 2 Squares and join Yarn D in corner to work across straight edge.

Rows 1-21 Work as Back, joining the second strip of 2 Squares at the end of Row 12.

[29 (33: 37: 41: 45) sts]

Pm in ends of Row 21.

Neck shaping is worked over the next 4 rows.
Change to Yarn A.

Row 22 Ch3, tr in each st to final 5 sts, tr3tog, tr in next st, turn leaving last st unworked.

[26 (30: 34: 38: 42) sts]

Row 23 Ch3, tr3tog, tr in each st to end, turn.

[24 (28: 32: 36: 40) sts]

Row 24 Ch3, tr in each tr to final 4 sts, tr3tog, tr in final st, turn. [22 (26: 30: 34: 38) sts]

Row 25 As Row 23. [20 (24: 28: 32: 36) sts]

Fasten off.

SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

CUFFS

Using Yarn A, ch14.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [13 sts]

Row 2 Ch1, dc in bl of each st across, turn.

Rep Row 2 another 26 (28: 32: 34: 36) times.

MAIN SLEEVE

Turn to work across row-end edge.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, 28 (30: 34: 36: 38) dc evenly across, turn. [28 (30: 34: 36: 38) sts]

Change to Yarn D and work in following colour sequence to end of Sleeve: 1 row in Yarn E, 1 row in Yarn F, 1 row in Yarn G, 1 row in Yarn C, 1 row in Yarn H, 1 row in Yarn I, 2 rows in Yarn B, 1 row in Yarn A, 2 rows in Yarn B, 1 row in Yarn A, 2 rows in Yarn B, 1 row in Yarn J, 1 row in Yarn K, 1 row in Yarn D, 1 row in Yarn G, 1 row in Yarn E, 1 row in Yarn H, 2 rows in Yarn A, 1 row in Yarn B, 2 rows in Yarn A, 1 row in Yarn B, 2 rows in Yarn A, 3 rows in Yarn B.

Row 2 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in each st to final st, 2tr in final st, turn.

[30 (32: 36: 38: 40) sts]

Rows 3-6 As Row 2. [38 (40: 44: 46: 48) sts]

Row 7 Ch3, tr in each st across, turn.

Row 8 As Row 2. [40 (42: 46: 48: 50) sts]

Rep Rows 7-8 another 5 (6: 7: 9: 11) times.

[50 (54: 60: 66: 72) sts]

Rep Row 2 until 33 rows have been worked.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Join parts together using a whipstitch and with WS facing.

Join Fronts to Back at shoulders.

Fold the top of the Sleeve in half and pin the fold to the shoulder seam, pin the rem of the sleeve cap to the Front and Back. Once happy with position, sew in place.

Sew the sleeve and side seams closed.

HEM

With RS facing, join Yarn A in corner of Left Front to work across lower edge.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, work 132 (150: 168: 186: 204) dc evenly around lower edge, turn.

Hem continues in rows.

Row 2 Ch12, dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch across, ss in next 2 unworked dc from Round 1, turn.

Row 3 Skip ss, dc in bl of each dc across, turn. [12 sts]

Row 4 Ch1, dc in bl of each dc across, ss in next 2 unworked dc from Round 1, turn. [12 sts, 2 ss]

Rep Rows 3-4 until all sts from Round 1 have been worked into.

Fasten off.

FRONT EDGING

With RS facing, join Yarn A in bottom corner of



The design features a stylish turn-down collar, worked mostly in half treble crochet stitches



For the sleeves, start with the ribbed cuffs, then work off the row-ends for the main part

Right Front to work up opening edge.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, 13dc evenly across hem, 2dc in each row-end and dc in each st up to and including marked row-end, turn.

Row 2 Ch8 (8: 10: 10: 12), dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch across, ss in next 2 sts from Row 1, turn. [7 (7: 9: 9: 11) sts]

Row 3 Dc in bl of each st across, turn.

Row 4 Ch1, dc in bl of each st across, ss in next 2 sts from Row 1, turn.

Rep Rows 3-4 until all sts from Row 1 have been worked into.

Fasten off.

Join Yarn A into marked row end of Left Front and rep opening.

COLLAR

Join Yarn A first row-end on Right Front after opening.

Row 1 Ch1, 2dc in each row-end and 1dc in each tr around neck to Left Front Opening, turn.

Rows 2-10 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr in each st to end, turn.

Fasten off.

Join Yarn A in end of Row 1 of Collar and work a dc edging around entire Collar.

Fasten off and weave in all ends.

Loops & ladles

Give your kitchen walls a touch of kitschy retro style. By Florencia Campos Correa





YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Paris (100% cotton, 50g/75m)
 - 5 balls of **Yarn H** Wasabi (39)
 - 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn A** Cream (75)
 - Yarn B** Orange (13)
 - Yarn C** Opal Green (11)
 - Yarn D** Medium Purple (31)
 - Yarn E** Cerise (06)
 - Yarn F** Dandelion (14)
 - Yarn G** Blush (20)
 - A 5mm (US H/8) hook
 - A wooden rod, 40cm
- For yarn stockists contact**
Wool Warehouse 01926 882818
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Wall Hanging measures approx 38x63cm (15x24¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78

Modern kitchens are all very well but there's no need to be bland. Simple stitches and a love for colourwork are all you need.

NOTES

Wall Hanging is worked in rows throughout. There is a Chart on page 80, which you will need to refer to. Each small square represents 1dc. Read all RS rows from right to left and WS rows from left to right. The first few rows of the Chart have been written out to guide you. Change colour on the final yrh of st before colour change is indicated. Wind off smaller bobbins of each colour rather than carrying the unused strands.

WALL HANGING

Using Yarn A, ch61.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch across, turn. [60 sts]
 Change to Yarn H.

Rows 2-13 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each t across, turn.

Row 14 Ch1, dc in first 10 sts, change to Yarn D, dc in next 2 sts, change to Yarn H, dc in next 17 sts, change to Yarn D, dc in next 2 sts, change to Yarn H, dc in next 18 sts, change to Yarn D, dc in next 2 sts, change to Yarn H, dc in next 9 sts, turn.

Row 15 Ch1, dc in first 9 sts, change to Yarn D, dc in next 2 sts, change to Yarn H, dc in next 18 sts, change to Yarn D, dc in next 2 sts, change to Yarn H, dc in next 17 sts, change to Yarn D, dc in next 2 sts, change to Yarn H, dc in next 10 sts, turn.

Rows 16-120 Cont in patt set, using the Chart for all colour changes.

Fasten off.



Work in double crochet throughout, using the intarsia technique for the colourwork

TABS (MAKE 4)

Join Yarn C in first st.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in first 9 sts, turn. [9 sts]

Rows 2-12 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Fasten off.

*Skip 8 sts from Row 120 and join Yarn C in next st. Rep Rows 1-12 to make next Tab. Rep from * twice more.

TO FINISH

Sew the final row of each Tab to the WS of Row 120.

Weave in all ends.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO FASTEN OFF AND WEAVE IN ENDS



1 After working the last stitch, you'll have 1 loop left on your hook. Cut the yarn leaving a 15cm-long tail. Work yrh and pull the yarn tail all the way 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 WS, 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 2 different directions to prevent it from being pulled out. Also check that the tail end of yarn is not visible from the RS.

Download free patterns to support our appeal!



GOOD READ



Education for everyone

When our colleague Janine Smith told us she was volunteering at a school in Kenya, we wanted to find out more – and tell you how your crochet can help

Our first instinct was to find out why Janine was visiting the school, and our second, to ask if we could get involved, too. Janine explains, “My plans to visit Kenya came about because in 2021, my youngest child Sonny was diagnosed with severe nonverbal autism and learning difficulties.” About 18 months later, Sonny started to attend a specialist school in Bath. “We were blown away by how incredible the staff were,” Janine continues, “so kind, caring and selfless. I instantly formed a great bond with Sonny’s Special Needs Teacher Veryan Cranston, and she mentioned that in the holidays, she volunteered for a charity at the Melon Mission School in Nakuru, Kenya.”

FROM ONE SCHOOL TO ANOTHER

Veryan told Janine that she had travelled with Elizabeth Henderson, a Consultant Speech and Language Therapist who is also based at Threeways School in Bath. Elizabeth has been involved in a partnership project with the Melon Mission School on a volunteer basis since 2019. She says, “My colleagues and I play a very small part in providing training, support, mentoring, equipment, advice, skills and funding – we work with our amazing Kenyan colleagues to develop sustainable change in their school and in their community. Having visited once – leading a group of 30 teenage Explorer Scouts – I couldn’t keep away.”

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Later in 2019, Elizabeth was asked to provide ‘special needs training’ for the teaching staff. This was the beginning of the conversations and planning that would eventually lead to the conception of their Guardians’ Group.

The pandemic dealt a huge blow to the school, cutting off the possibilities, hope and ideas visitors bring, which are so appreciated by headmaster Mr Dalmas, as well as funding. But in 2022 Elizabeth returned, this time with Veryan. With the school, they developed a new initiative – a community outreach for



Top: some of the 400 children aged 9-13 that attend the school, with donated toys
Far left: knitted toys being handed out to keen little ones at the Melon Mission School
Left: Janine Smith with her loving boy, Sonny, the inspiration behind her upcoming trip

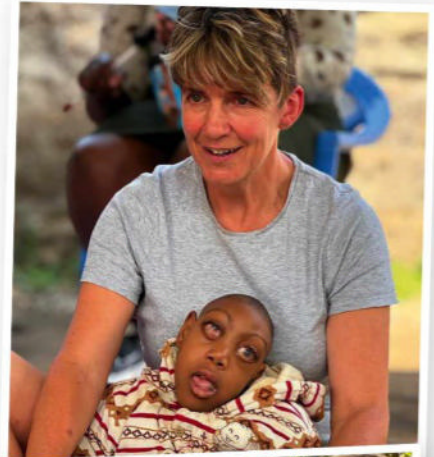
families of children with special needs, as there is very little state-funded educational provision for these children.

Melon Mission's social worker, Damaris, held a gathering for families caring for children with a range of disabilities. Elizabeth and Veryan spoke about their work in the UK with children just like theirs, and the group has grown hugely – over 25 families now benefit. Elizabeth smiles, "The regular pupils (and staff!) at Melon Mission were curious about the new faces when our group met. They are used to it now and this fledgling 'inclusion' is really important." Parents and guardians are keen to learn how to encourage their child's development, and many have noticed significant developmental improvements.

James Kagema, the Director of Melon Mission School, and the son of the founders says, "Since 2004, Melon Mission has provided

for the basic needs of school-age children living in Kwa Rhoda village. Families face a daily struggle for sufficient food, shelter, health care, safety, sanitation, education, and opportunity. All children, regardless of circumstance, deserve to live and learn in a safe, supportive environment. We strive to provide that in hopes of giving children the opportunity to grow to their full potential and have a chance to break the cycle of generational poverty, leading to brighter futures for the children and community.

"With the coming of friends like Elizabeth and Veryan, Melon Mission has not only become a refuge to the children, but is now a beacon of hope to our very dear group of the children with special needs, their guardians and the community at large."



HOOK NOW TO HELP THE SCHOOL

Join us in sending some crocheted joy to the Melon Mission School! We've put together suitable patterns as requested by Elizabeth, with hats, toys, dolls, and brooches for older pupils, guardians and teachers. Download patterns for FREE at www.gathered.how/melonmission, and you can also send lap blankets, and motifs and squares to be used as fidget shapes. To be in time for Elizabeth, Veryan and Janine's next visit in April, please send your items to arrive by 15 March; items sent later will not be wasted but will be taken on following trips.

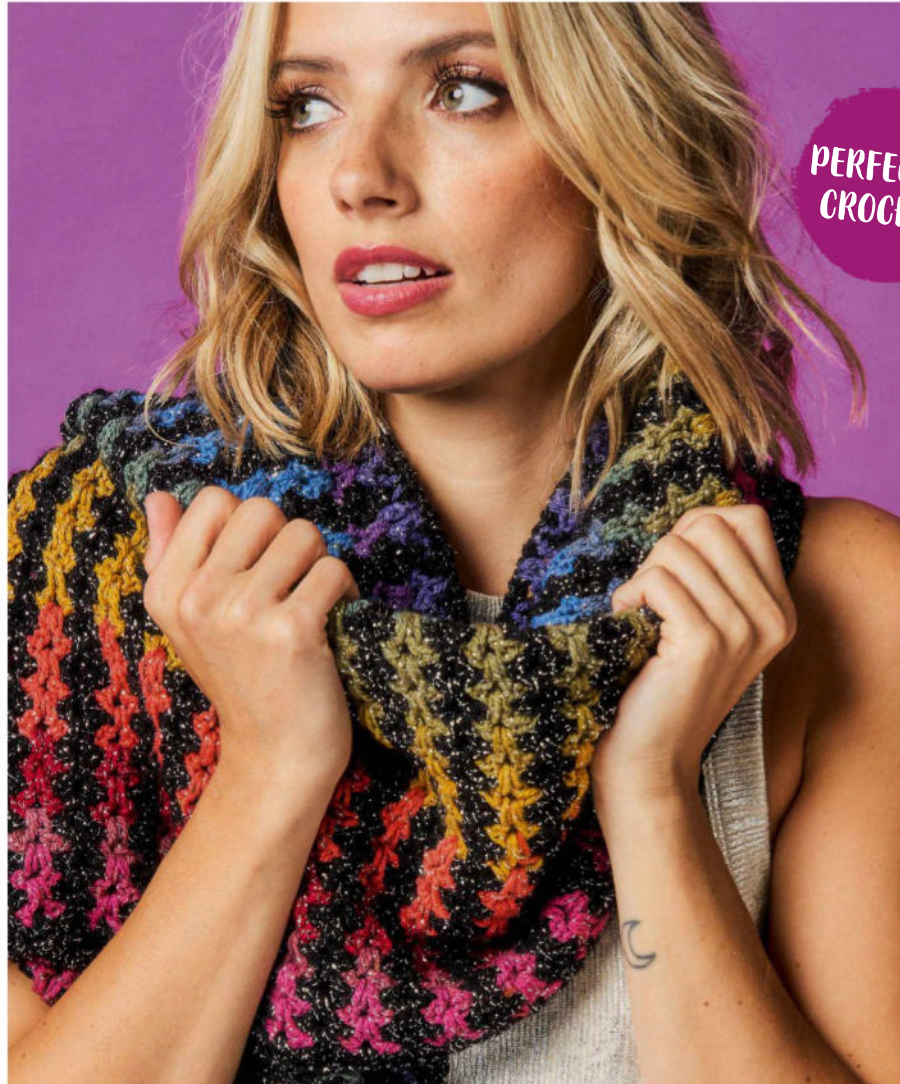
Please send finished items to: Elizabeth Henderson, The Hawthornes, Bruton Road, Evercreech, Somerset BA4 6HY

Above top: the community outreach group gets children with special needs involved in developmental and therapeutic activities
Above: the hilarity of peekaboo games transcends age and language differences!



Above and left: these knitted toys will be very well taken care of by their new owners
Far left: the children at the school come from far and wide, and their families have become a supportive network for each other





Party time

Gordana Adamceska-Halson's shawl will make you the belle of the ball

SPARKLY SHAWL



YOU WILL NEED

■ Papatya Cake Silver
(95% acrylic, 5% polyester,
150g/540m)
1 cake of each:
Rainbow (304)
Lavender (300)

■ King Cole Glitz DK
(97% acrylic, 3% polyester,
100g/290m)
2 balls of Jet (480)

■ A 4mm (US G/6) hook

For yarn stockists contact

The Knitting Network

01795 570303

www.theknittingnetwork.com

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Shawl measures approx 196x45cm
(77½x17¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

v-st (Tr, ch2, tr) in st/sp indicated

For a full list, see page 78

A glittering shawl? Just the thing to take you from limo to première... even if only in our dreams! It's a fab pattern for beginners, too.

NOTES

Shawl is worked in rows throughout. Work over yarn tails where possible to reduce the number of ends you need to weave in.

When working v-sts 2 rows below, enclose the ch-sp of the previous row in your work.

Wind off the yarn cakes into separate balls of each colour. You will use one separated ball for each row worked in the cake yarn. This is referred to as Yarn A throughout. The colour sequence we have used is as follows: purple 1 row, violet 1 row, blue 4 rows, olive 4 rows, yellow 4 rows, coral 3 rows, burgundy 3 rows, pink 3 rows.

SHAWL

Using Jet, ch358.

Row 1 (WS) Htr in second ch from hook, htr in each ch across, turn. [357 sts]

Change to Yarn A.

Row 2 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in the first st, *v-st in the next st, ch2, skip 2 sts, dc in the next st, ch2, skip 2 sts; rep from * 58 times more, v-st in next st, dc in final st, turn.

Change to Jet.

Row 3 Ch5 (counts as tr, ch2 throughout), *v-st in next dc, ch2; rep to final st, tr in final st, turn. Change to Yarn B.

Row 4 Ch3 (counts as tr), *v-st in v-st 2 rows below, ch2; rep from * across to final ch-2 sp, v-st in final v-st 2 rows below, tr in final st, turn. Change to Jet.

Row 5 Ch5, skip v-st on last row, *v-st in next v-st 2 rows below, ch2; rep to final st, tr in final st, turn.



The diamond-like stripes are created with a simple v-stitch pattern in alternating shades

Rows 6-44 Rep Rows 4-5, ending on a Row 4 rep.

Row 45 Ch1, htr in first st, (2htr in next ch-2 sp, 2htr in next v-st) rep across to final st, htr in final st.

Fasten off.

TO FINISH

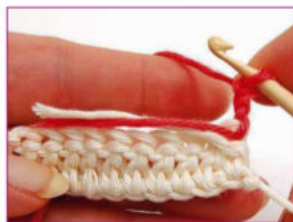
Join Jet in corner to work down row-end edge. Work 66 htr across edge.

Fasten off and rep on opposite edge.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK STRIPES AND WEAVE IN YARN ENDS



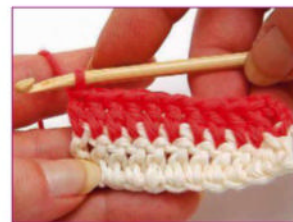
1 Stop working the last stitch of the previous row before the final yrh. Work the final yrh in the new colour. Cut off the old yarn, leaving a 7cm-long tail.



2 Continue with the new colour, working the t-ch as usual, and then lay both tails of yarn along the top of the last complete row of stitches.



3 Work the next stitch over the top of both yarn tails so that they'll be worked into the stitch, and simultaneously be woven in.

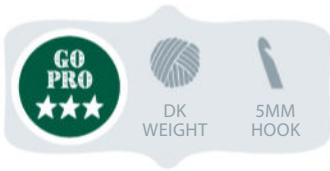


4 Continue across the row until the tails are completely hidden and complete the rest of the row as usual.



Calm comfort

An ombre blanket inspired by cockleshells, nursery rhymes and playing on the shoreline, by Pat Strong



YOU WILL NEED

- James Brett Aurora DK (80% acrylic, 20% wool, 100g/345m)
4 balls of Citrus Crush (06)
 - A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- For yarn stockists contact**
James C. Brett
www.jamescbrett.co.uk

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Blanket measures approx 95x95cm (37½x37½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

9tog Insert hook in back of next dc, yrh and pull loop up to height of current row, (insert hook in back of next dc, yrh and pull loop up to height of current row) twice, (insert hook in next dc between ch-5 shells, yrh and pull loop up to height of current row) 3 times, (insert hook in next dc from next ch-5 shell, yrh and pull loop up to height of current row) 3 times, yrh and pull through all loops on hook, ch1 to close

ch5 shell Ch5, dc in third ch from hook, dc in next 2 ch

For a full list, see page 78

Beautifully toning colours, used together with a pretty stitch combo, make for one amazing gift. Take your time and hook it up.

NOTES

Blanket is worked in rows throughout. Due to the nature of the pattern, the Blanket will bias slightly and should be blocked to shape.

BABY BLANKET

Ch142.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch across, turn. [141 sts]

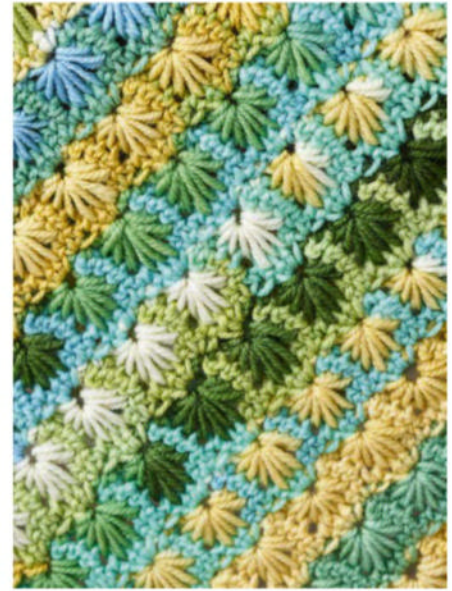
Row 2 (WS) Ch6, dc in third ch from hook, dc in next 2 chs, skip first dc from Row 1, dc in next 3 sts, (ch5 shell, skip next dc from Row 1, dc in next 3 sts) 34 times, ch5 shell, ss in final st, turn. [36 ch5 shells]

Row 3 4ss to top of shell from last row, *ch2, 9tog, ch2, dc in top of next shell; rep from * across to end, turn. [35 9tog, 70 ch-2 sps, 36 dc]

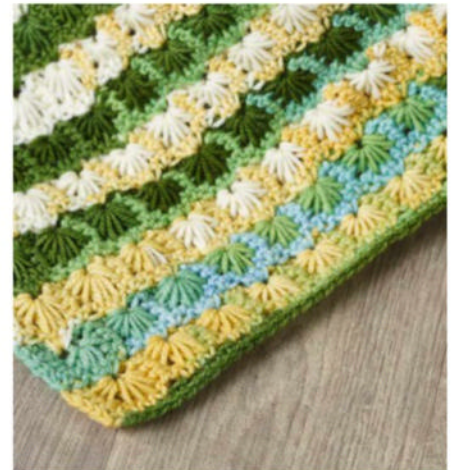
Row 4 Ch6, dc in third ch from hook, dc in next 2 chs, skip first dc from row below, 3dc in next 9tog, *(dc, ch5 shell, dc) in next dc at top of ch5 shell, 3dc in next 9tog; rep to final dc, (dc, ch5 shell, dc) in final dc, turn.

Rep Rows 3-4 until Blanket measures 95cm.

Fasten off and weave in ends.



The 9tog and shell stitch patterns together create a visually stunning and textured fabric



There is no need to work a border around this blanket, as neat edges are formed naturally

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WASH YOUR CROCHET PIECES



1 Keep the yarn's ball band safe and check it for care information. The band will tell you what temperature to wash the yarn at and whether it can go in the machine or if it needs to be handwashed.



2 To handwash, soak for around 30 minutes in a bowl of lukewarm water with a mild detergent. Don't rub or you may felt the piece. Rinse, if not using a non-rinsing detergent, such as Soak or Eucalan.



3 Lay the crochet item on top of a towel and roll up the towel to squeeze out excess moisture, making sure you do not wring.



4 Gently reshape the crochet item. Leave it to dry on a towel somewhere flat, such as on a board or a folded blanket. Pin out if needed. Never hang up an item to dry because its weight may stretch the yarn.

Hand in glove

Make this pretty pair with floral touches in favourite shades. By Becca Parker

WEEKEND
MAKE!





YOU WILL NEED

- Cascade 220
(100% wool, 100g/200m)
1 skein of each:
Yarn A Navy (8393)
Yarn B Antique Lilac (1076)
Yarn C California Poppy (7826)

- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook
- For yarn stockists contact
Wool Warehouse 01926 882818
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

20 sts and 8 rows measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet using a 4.5mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Mitts measure 19cm (7½in) in circumference

ABBREVIATIONS

beg pc Ch3, 3tr in st at base of ch-3, remove live loop from hook, insert hook in top of beg ch-3, place loop on hook and pull through
pc 4tr in same st, remove live loop from hook, insert hook in top of first tr, place loop on hook and pull through

For a full list, see page 78

We love the little popcorn stitch flowers! The gloves show off a few techniques, and soft, pure wool makes a quick gift extra-special.

NOTES

Each Mitt is made of 2 granny squares and a Ribbed Cuff. All parts are made separately and joined together with a slip stitch seam.

MITTS

FRONT

Using Yarn B, ch4, ss in last ch from hook to form a ring.

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

Fasten off.

Join Yarn C in any st.

Round 2 Beg pc, ch1, (pc in next st, ch1) 7 times, ss to top of beg pc. [8 sts, 8 ch-1 sps]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn A in any of the ch-1 sp.

Round 3 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same sp, ch1, 3tr in next ch-1 sp, ch1, *(3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch-1 sp, ch1, 3tr in next ch-1 sp, ch1; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3. [36 sts, 4 ch-2 sps, 8 ch-1 sps]

Change to Yarn B in any ch-2 sp.

Round 4 (Beg pc, ch2, pc) in same sp, *change to Yarn A, (ch1, 3tr in next ch-1 sp) twice, change to Yarn B, ch1**, (pc, ch1, pc) in next ch-2 sp; rep from * 3 times more ending final rep at **, ss to top of beg ch-3. [32 sts, 4 ch-2 sps, 12 ch-1 sps]

Fasten off

Join Yarn A in any ch-2 sp.

Round 5 Ch2, (2htr, ch2, 3htr) in same sp, ch1, (3htr in next ch-1 sp, ch1) 3 times, *(3htr, ch2, 3htr) in ch-2 sp, ch1, (3htr in next ch-1 sp, ch1) 3 times; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3. [60 sts, 4 ch-2 sps, 16 ch-1 sps]

Fasten off.

BACK

Using Yarn A, ch4, ss in last ch from hook to form a ring.

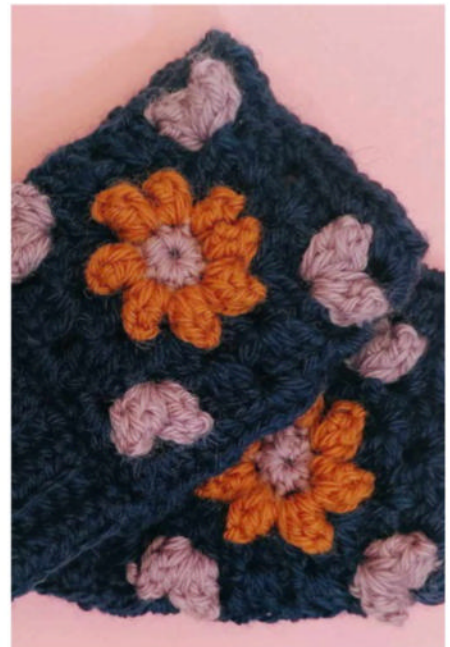
Round 1 (RS) Ch3, 2tr in ring, ch2, (3tr in ring, ch2) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]

Round 2 Ss to next ch-2 sp, ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same sp, ch1, (3tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1) in each ch-2 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-3. [24 sts, 4 ch-2 sps, 4 ch-1 sps]

Round 3 Ss to next ch-2 sp, ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same sp, ch1, 3tr in next ch-1 sp, ch1, *(3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch-2 sp, ch1, 3tr in next ch-1 sp, ch1; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3. [36 sts, 4 ch-2 sps, 8 ch-1 sps]

Round 4 Ss to next ch-2 sp, ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same sp, ch1, (3tr in next ch-1 sp, ch1) twice, *(3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch-2 sp, ch1, (3tr in next ch-1 sp, ch1) twice; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3. [48 sts, 4 ch-2 sps, 12 ch-1 sps]

Round 5 Ss to ch-2 sp, ch1 (counts as dc), (2dc, ch2, 3dc) in same sp, ch1, (3dc in next ch-1 sp,



One granny square is decorated with a floral motif, the other – worn on the palm – is plain

ch1) 3 times, *(3dc, ch2, 3dc) in ch-2 sp, ch1, (3dc in next ch-1 sp, ch1) 3 times; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-1.

[60 sts, 4 ch-2 sps, 16 ch-1 sps]

Fasten off.

CUFFS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, ch17.

Row 1 Htr in second ch from hook, htr in each ch across, turn. [16 sts]

Row 2 Ch2 (does not count as st), htr in bl of each st across, turn.

Rows 3-21 As Row 2.

Ss Row 21 to the base of Row 1.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

With WS facing out, place a Front and Back together. Using Yarn A, ss together across one edge.

Ss the opposite edge up to the second ch-1 sp, on one panel only: ss in next 3 sts, ss in ch-1 sp, ss in next 3 sts, ss rem edges of both panels together. This forms the thumb space.

Pin the Cuff to the base of the joined panels and ss into place using Yarn A.

Weave in all ends.



Loop the loop

Give your living space an update with a geometric floor cushion by Marianne Rawlins



YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Chunky Monkey (100% acrylic, 100g/116m)
4 balls of each:
Neon Green (1259)
Hot Pink (1257)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- 4 green buttons, 18mm
- A cushion pad, 75x75cm

For yarn stockists contact

Scheepjes

www.scheepjes.com/en

TENSION

9 sts and 9.5 rows measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over double crochet using a 5mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Cushion measures 75x75cm (29½x29½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

lp st Wrap yarn around index finger on yarn holding hand, insert hook in st indicated, yrh with both strands at base of finger and pull through, yrh and pull through all loops on hook, remove loop from finger
For a full list, see page 78

Loop stitch is fun to do, and a giant cushion will give décor a fresh look without causing your bank account too much stress!

NOTES

Cushion cover is made up of 3 panels: Front, Lower Back and Upper Back. Each panel is worked in rows.

There is a Chart on page 79, which you will need to refer to when working the Front. Each small square represents 1dc and each square with an L represents 1lp st (see Abbreviations). Read all RS rows from right to left and WS rows from left to right. The first few rows of the Chart have been written out to guide you.

Change colour on the final yrh of st before colour change is indicated. Carry the unused colour across the top of your sts, enclosing the strand as you work.

CUSHION

FRONT

Using Neon Green, ch71.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in next 14 ch, change to Hot Pink, dc in next ch, change to Neon Green, dc in next 38 ch, change to Hot Pink, dc in next ch, change to Neon Green, dc in next 15 ch, turn. [70 sts]

Row 2 (WS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in first 15 sts, change to Hot Pink, lp st in next st, change to Neon Green, dc in next 38 sts, change to Hot Pink, lp st in next st, change to Neon Green, dc in next 15 sts, turn.

Row 3 Ch1, dc in first 15 sts, change to Hot Pink, dc in next st, change to Neon Green, dc in next 38 sts, change to Hot Pink, dc in next st, change to Neon Green, dc in next 15 sts, turn.

Rows 4-5 Rep Row 2-3.

Row 6 Ch1, dc in first 15 sts, change to Hot Pink, lp st in next 9 sts, change to Neon Green, dc in next 22 sts, change to Hot Pink, lp st in next 9 sts, change to Neon Green, dc in next 15 sts, turn.

Rows 7-71 Cont in patt set using the Chart as you work.

Fasten off.

Join Hot Pink in any corner.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, (3dc in corner, 70 dc evenly across to next corner) 4 times, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

UPPER BACK

Using Hot Pink, ch71.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch across, turn. [70 sts]

Rows 2-37 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

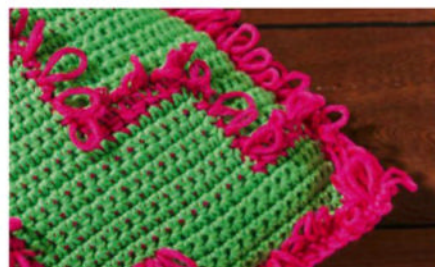
Row 38 Ch1, dc in first 13 sts, (ch2, skip 2 sts, dc in next 12 sts) 4 times, dc in final st, turn. [62 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]

Row 39 Ch1, (dc in each st to ch-2 sp, 2dc in ch-sp) rep across to end, turn.

Rows 40-41 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.



On the back, two panels overlap each other and are fastened with four discreet buttons



The hot pink geometric linework and outer edging are created with tactile loop stitch

Join Hot Pink in top-right corner.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, (3dc in corner, 70dc evenly across to next corner, 3dc in corner, 40 dc evenly across to next corner) twice, ss to beg dc.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

LOWER BACK

Using Hot Pink, ch71.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch across, turn. [70 sts]

Rows 2-40 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Join Hot Pink in top-right corner.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, (3dc in corner, 70dc evenly across to next corner, 3dc in corner, 39 dc evenly across to next corner) twice, ss to beg dc.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Place Front panel down with WS facing up.

Place Lower Back over the bottom half with RS facing up, then place the Upper Back over the top half so they overlap across the centre and the buttonholes are visible. Pin together and turn so the RS of the Front is facing you. Work the next round through all layers to join. Join Hot Pink in any corner.

Round 1 Ch1, (3dc in corner, dc in each st to next corner) 4 times, ss to beg dc, turn.

Round 2 (WS) Ch1, lp st in each st around, ss to beg lp st.

Fasten off and weave in all ends.

Sew the buttons to the Lower Back, in line with the buttonholes.

The Knitter

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Movement breaks and simple exercises ease aches and pains and can help you keep crocheting for longer



Photo: Getty

Get stitch fit

We can't be the only ones who have crocheted away for hours, only to find we're as stiff as a board! These simple tips and exercises will help extend your crochet time

Photos: right and bottom right: Louise Ryrle



Photo: Cherry Deck Unsplash



Clockwise from left:
Louise demonstrating a stretch; warm and move joints with a massage; set a timer to remind yourself to move!

Do you ever find yourself stiff and achy after having spent some time sitting crocheting? You'll already know there are so many benefits that come from having a creative pastime: a sense of peace and relaxation, escapism from the world, even a meditation of sorts. (Did you try any of the meditative ideas in the last issue? Turn to page 81 to order a back issue if you missed it.) When the combination of sitting still, plus repetitive crocheting actions leaves us feeling creaky and sore, it's time to take action!

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE

Whatever our starting point is, we can all improve and with time, even eradicate any physical discomfort we might find ourselves in. There may be positive side effects in doing simple exercises that we hadn't anticipated; for example, improving your posture can reduce headaches and neck and shoulder tension as well as ease stress on your joints.

Working on the basis of prevention is better than cure, even if you're not suffering at the moment, it's worth taking measures now to protect your body from any future tension-related ailments.

Is it fair to say we generally expect our bodies, and in particular our hands and feet, to carry us through our days without giving

them much thought? Run through all the activities you do in a day and they soon add up – cooking and cutting food, turning the pages of a magazine, nipping upstairs, driving a car – you'll be able to think of many more. Throughout all these thousands of movements we make each day, while those feet and hands don't cause us any problems, it's easy to forget about them.

WORK FROM THE CORE OUT

Fingers need flexibility, and strength for different tasks. And fingers – or phalanges as they are anatomically called, need support from the hand – the metatarsals, and the wrist, which in turn needs support from the arm, which is supported (or not!) by the shoulder girdle – the shoulder blades and the muscles of the upper back.

Ultimately, to make improvements in our body, we look from the core outwards, and this is the basis of the Pilates technique. The core is a frequently misunderstood term, usually taken to mean just the stomach muscles. But the core is so much more. It is made up of the lower stomach muscles, the Transverse Abdominis, the pelvic floor muscles (muscles that stretch between your front and back supporting the bladder, bowel and uterus) and the diaphragm (the primary breathing muscle, located under your rib

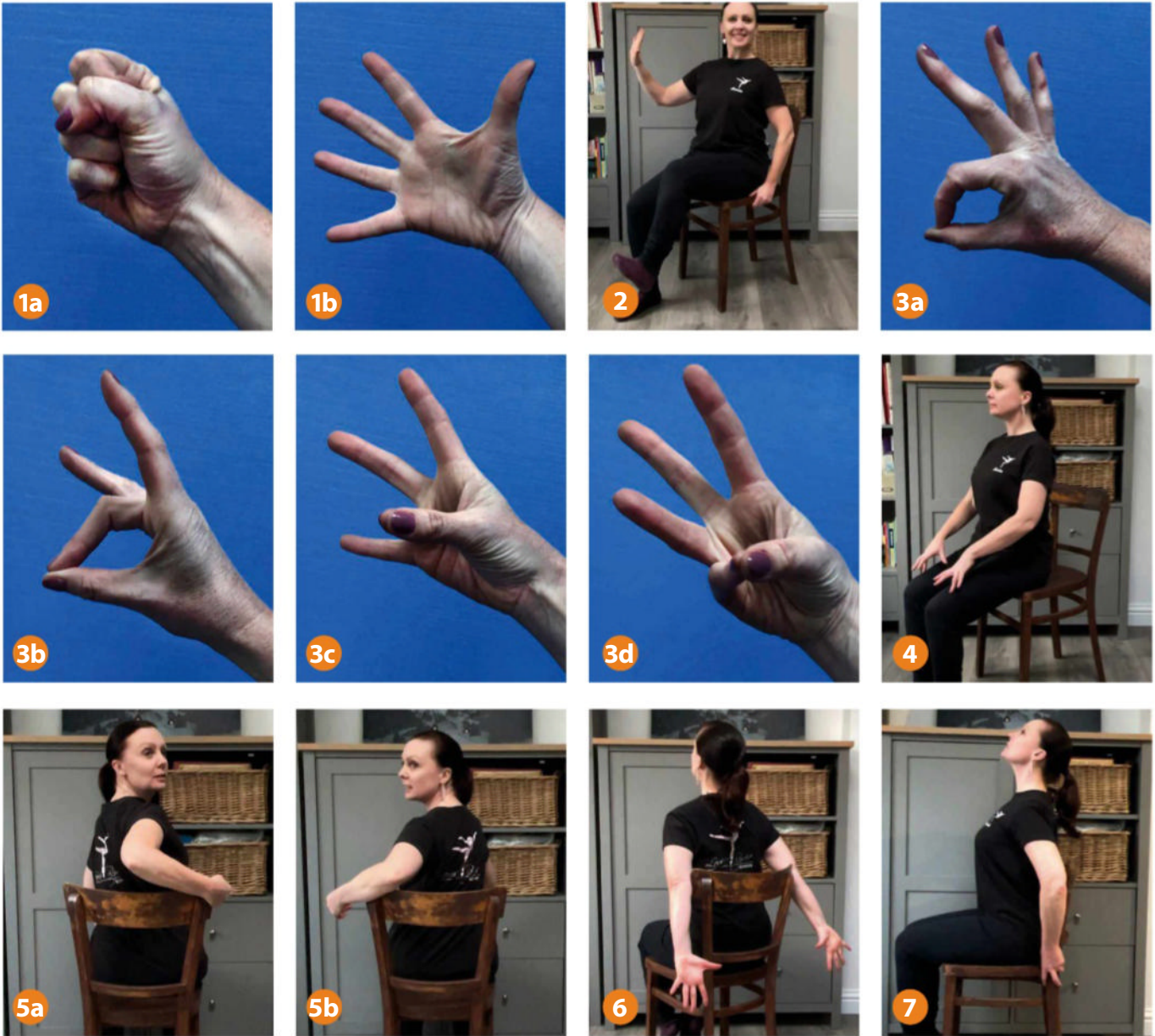
cage). The core muscles should work together to support our body and its movements.

Here are some ideas for 'lifting' or engaging the core: imagine walking into a cold sea and feeling the muscles 'lift' up anticipating the chilly water, or the classic Pilates imagery of floating the head up into the sky. A simple exercise for engaging the core and especially the pelvic floor muscles while crocheting is to sit with a cushion squeezed between the thighs. Squeeze for a count of ten, release and then repeat.

Regular movement breaks from any stationary activity are vital for our circulation. Movement means an increased flow of blood and nutrients around the body. If you find you get engrossed, setting a timer for every twenty minutes or so can help. Place your crocheting temporarily aside and start with a huge stretch and a yawn – arms and legs out like a big star. It feels so good – why don't we do this all the time?

THE HANDS HAVE IT

Onto the crocheter's indispensable fingers and hands! Most of us have worked with some yarns that may feel soft but still dry out your hands. A simple hand massage with some hand cream is a lovely way to warm and move the joints, soften the skin and give yourself some respectful self-care.



Photos: Louise Ryrrie

EXCELLENT EXERCISES

Here's a five-minute hand and upper body exercise routine that you can use regularly to enable your body's ability to keep crocheting for as long as possible. It's especially important to keep mobile when the weather is cold and wet, as that's when aches and pains are more likely to be felt.

- 1. Scrunch up an imaginary empty crisp packet in each hand. Then stretch the fingers out as wide as you can. Repeat 5-8 times.
- 2. With relaxed hands, circle the wrists slowly a few times in each direction. Ankles could join in with this too! To challenge your coordination, you could circle right ankle and left wrist, then left ankle and right wrist!
- 3. Next, squeeze forefinger to thumb on both hands, stretch out as far as the fingers can

reach, and then squeeze middle finger to thumb, stretch out, ring finger to thumb, stretch out and finally squeeze your little or pinky finger to thumb and stretch out. Repeat in reverse, coming from your little finger to forefinger.

- 4. Place hands onto the table in front of you, or onto your knees. Pretend to play the piano on the table, making sure all the fingers and thumbs join in. If you want to take it further, put a piece of music on and 'play' along! Allow the body to join in too, swaying and getting into the music as the hands move up and down the keyboard.
- 5. Twist around to either side as though someone is calling you and you are turning to answer them. Make sure you remember the core support and 'lift up' as you turn. Turn 2-5 times to each side.

6. Reach your arms behind you as though you're trying to touch the wall or something you left behind there. Hold the reach for 10 seconds, relax and repeat 5-8 times.

7. To finish, we can't beat a classic slow motion shoulder roll to relieve tension. Aim for 5-8 slow rolls going backwards. After, lift your chin to look up at the coving, or where the wall joins the ceiling in your room. Lengthen your neck and spine too, and hold this for up to 30 seconds, keeping your breathing nice and steady.

Working this little routine into your crocheting time will hopefully help to bring you many more happy hours doing what you love. If you attend a group, introduce them to it too – you never know how much you could be helping everyone's wellbeing.

Written by Louise Ryrrie

The full deck

Amy Jones-Downes' illusion blanket reveals something new every time you look!

STRETCH
YOUR
SKILLS





YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Special DK (100% acrylic, 100g/295m)
5 balls of Yarn A White (1001)
1 ball of each:
- Yarn B Fuchsia (1827)
- Yarn C Fondant (1241)
- Yarn D Spice (1711)
- Yarn E Clementine (1853)
- Yarn F Sunshine (1114)
- Yarn G Citron (1263)
- Yarn H Teal (1062)
- Yarn I Aspen (1422)
- Yarn J Lapis (1831)
- Yarn K Aster (1003)
- Yarn L Violet (1277)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Tassel maker
- A stitch markers

For yarn stockists contact

Stylecraft 01484 848435

www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

Rounds 1-5 of Square measure
11x11cm (10¼x10¼in)

MEASUREMENTS

Throw measures approx 127x155cm
(50x61in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78



This is not just any old granny square throw. Several variations, a border and lush tassels combine in a make that'll keep you busy.

NOTES

Throw is made up of Granny Squares, Half Granny Squares and 2 Quarter Squares. The basic Granny Square and Half Granny Square are written first and should be referred to when making the Squares for the Throw.

THROW

GRANNY SQUARE PATTERN

Make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 2tr in loop, ch2, (3tr in loop, ch2) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. [4 3-tr groups]

Round 2 (WS) Ss to first ch-2 sp, ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in each ch-sp around, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn.

[8 3-tr groups]

Round 3 Ch3, 2tr in same sp between 3-tr groups, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp, *3tr in sp between 3-tr groups, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch-2 sp; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. [12 3-tr groups]

Round 4 Ch3, 2tr in same sp between 3-tr groups, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp, *3tr in each sp between 3-tr groups across to next corner, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next ch-2 sp; rep from * around to end, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. [16 3-tr groups]
Rep Round 4 until required number of rounds have been worked. The stitch count will increase by 4 3-tr groups each round.

HALF GRANNY SQUARE PATTERN

Make a magic loop.

Row 1 (RS) Ch4 (counts as a tr, ch1 throughout), 3tr in loop, ch2, 3tr in loop, ch1, tr in loop, turn. [2 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Row 2 (WS) Ch4, 3tr into ch-1 sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp, (3tr, ch1, tr) in ch-1 sp, turn. [4 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Row 3 Ch4, 3tr in ch-1 sp, 3tr in sp between 3-tr groups, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp, 3tr in sp between 3-tr groups, (3tr, ch1, tr) into ch-1 sp, turn. [6 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Row 4 Ch4, 3tr into ch-1 sp, 3tr in each sp between 3-tr groups across to ch-2 sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp, 3tr in each sp between 3-tr groups across to ch-1 sp, (3tr, ch1, tr) in ch-1 sp, turn. [8 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Rep Row 4 until required number of rows have been worked. The stitch count will increase by 2 3-tr groups each row.

SQUARE A (MAKE 50)

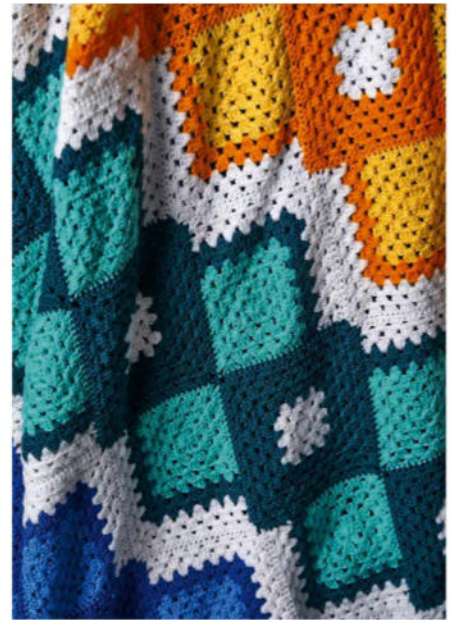
Make 10 in each colourway.

Using Yarn C (E: G: I: K), make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-5 Work 5 rounds in Granny Square pattern. [20 3-tr groups]

Fasten off.

Work continues in rows across 2 sides only.



Each square is worked from one of two basic patterns, with variations on the side edges

With WS facing, join Yarn B (D: F: H: J) in any ch-2 sp.

Row 6 Ch3, 3tr in same sp, 3tr in sp between each 3-tr groups across to next ch-2 sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp, 3tr in sp between each 3-tr groups across to next ch-2 sp, 4tr in ch-2 sp, turn. [12 3-tr groups, 2 tr]

Row 7 Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1 throughout), 3tr in sp between each 3-tr groups across to next ch-2 sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp, 3tr in sp between each 3-tr groups across to final tr, ch1, tr in final st, turn.

Change to Yarn A.

Row 8 Ch3, 3tr in ch-1 sp, 3tr in sp between each 3-tr groups across to next ch-2 sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp, 3tr in sp between each 3-tr groups to ch-1 sp, 3tr in ch-1 sp, tr in final st, turn. [14 3-tr groups, 2 tr]

Row 9 Ch4, 3tr in sp between each 3-tr groups across to next ch-2 sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp, 3tr in sp between each 3-tr groups to final st, ch1, tr in final st, turn.

Row 10 Ch3, 3tr in ch-1 sp, 3tr in sp between each 3-tr groups across to next ch-2 sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in ch-2 sp, 3tr in sp between each 3-tr groups to ch-1 sp, 3tr in ch-1 sp, tr in final st.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

SQUARE B (MAKE 25)

Make 5 in each colourway.

Using Yarn A for all Squares, work Rounds 1-3 of Granny Square pattern. [12 3-tr groups]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn B (D: F: H: J) in any ch-2 sp.

Rounds 4-8 Work in Granny Square pattern. [32 3-tr groups]

Fasten off.



Make four tassels in colours of your choosing and stitch one to each corner of the throw

HALF SQUARE A (MAKE 10)

Make 2 in each colourway.

Using Yarn C (E: G: I: K) make a magic loop.

Rows 1-5 Work Rows 1-5 in Half Granny Square pattern. [10 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Work continues across 1 side only.

Change to Yarn B (D: F: H: J)

Row 6 Ch4, 3tr in ch-1 sp, 3tr in sp between each 3-tr group to ch-2 sp, 3tr in ch-2 sp, turn. [6 3-tr group, 1 tr]

Row 7 Ch3, 3tr in sp between each 3-tr group to ch-1 sp, (3tr, ch1, tr) into ch-1 sp, turn. [6 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Change to Yarn A.

Row 8 Ch4, 3tr in ch-1 sp, 3tr in sp between

each 3-tr group across to end, turn.

[7 3-tr group, 1 tr]

Row 9 Ch3, 3tr in sp between each 3-tr group across to ch-1 sp, (3tr, ch1, tr) in ch-1 sp, turn.

[7 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Row 10 As Row 8. [8 3-tr group, 1 tr]

HALF SQUARE B (MAKE 5)

Make 1 in each colourway.

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Rows 1-3 Work Rows 1-3 in Half Granny Square pattern. [6 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Change to Yarn B (D: F: H: J).

Rows 4-8 Work in Half Granny Square pattern.

[16 3-tr groups, 2 tr]

Fasten off.

HALF SQUARE C (MAKE 10)

Using Yarn L, make a magic loop.

Rows 1-8 Work in Half Granny Square pattern, changing to Yarn A for Rows 6-8.

[16 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Fasten off.

QUARTER SQUARE (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn L, make a magic loop.

Row 1 (RS) Ch4, 3tr in loop, ch1, tr in loop, turn. [1 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Row 2 (WS) Ch4, 3tr into next 2 ch-1 sps, ch1, tr in final st, turn. [2 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Row 3 Ch4, 3tr in ch-1 sp, 3tr in sp between 3-tr groups, 3tr in ch-1 sp, ch1, tr in final st, turn.

[3 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Row 4 Ch4, 3tr into ch-1 sp, 3tr in each sp between 3-tr groups across to ch-1 sp, 3tr in ch-sp, tr in final st, turn. [4 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Row 5 As Row 4. [5 3-tr group, 2 tr]

Change to Yarn A.

Rows 6-8 As Row 4. [8 3-tr groups, 2 tr]

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Weave in all ends.

Refer to the Diagram on page 79 when joining pieces together. Work all joining with WS together using a dc seam, matching the colour used to the colour of one Square being joined.

BORDER

Join Yarn A in any corner.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3, (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same sp, *(3tr in each row-end or sp between 3-tr groups to join, 3tr in join) rep across to next corner, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in corner; rep from * around to end, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn.

Round 2 (WS) Ss to first sp between 3-tr groups, ch3, 2tr in same sp, *3tr in sp between each group across to corner, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in corner; rep from * around to end, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn.

Round 3 Ch3, 2tr in same sp, 3tr in sp between each 3-tr group across to corner, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in corner; rep from * around to end, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn.

Round 4 Ch3, 2tr in same sp, *(2tr in next sp between 3-tr groups, 3tr in next sp) rep across to corner, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in corner, 3tr in next sp between 3-tr groups; rep from * around to end, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn.

Round 5 Ch3, tr in same sp, 2tr in sp between each group across to corner, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in corner; rep from * around to end, ss to top of beg ch-2.

Round 6 Ch1, *dc in each st to ch-2 corner sp, (2dc, ch2, 2dc) in corner; rep from * around to end, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Using Yarn L, make 4 tassels. Sew a tassel to each corner.

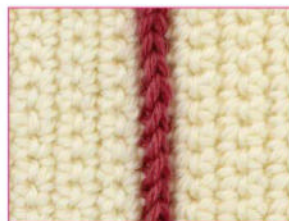
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A DOUBLE CROCHET SEAM



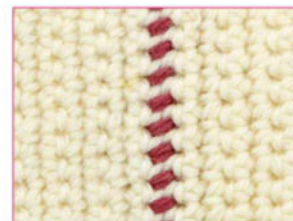
1 First, make sure you fasten off, weave in ends and block pieces. Place pieces WS together. With a slip knot on the hook, insert it into the far right stitch on both pieces, work a slip st.



2 Make 1ch (the t-ch for dc). Insert hook into the second 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 WS. This makes a raised seam for a decorative effect on the RS (see above), using any colour of yarn.



4 In step 1, if you place the pieces with RS together and work the seam, you'll create a more subtle effect on the RS (see above), with the raised seam on the WS.



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YARN Reviews



01



02

W is for...

WOOL

Looking to keep the heat in? You can't go wrong with these splendid natural fibre blends in your stash

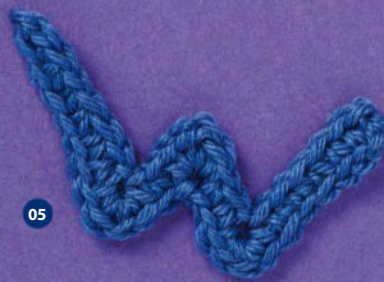


03



04

*Join our
alphabet CAL!*



05



06

'W' PATTERN

Ch23.

ROW 1 Dc in second ch from hook, dc in next 5 ch, 4dc in next ch, dc in next ch, dc5tog across next 5 ch, dc in next 2 ch, 4dc in next ch, dc in next 6 ch. [24 sts]

FASTEN OFF and weave in ends.



The leftover yarns from this yarn review will be donated to Knit for Peace. Learn more at www.knitforpeace.org.uk and go to www.gathered.how for more yarn donation ideas.

**DROPS
FLORA**

WEIGHT 4ply
CONTENT 65% wool, 35% alpaca
BALL 50g/210m
HOOK 3mm
RRP £2.50

Fine but mighty, Flora is perfect for crocheting snuggly fabrics without the bulk. The mixture of wool and alpaca feels super soft, with plenty of long, hollow fibres to keep in warm air. There are 30 colours on offer, from brights to pastels and neutrals, each with a subtle heathered look of natural



01

tonal variations for extra depth. It's a pleasure to hook with and has beautiful stitch definition, so we'd love to use it for winter accessories like gloves and hats. Hand wash only and air dry flat. Check out DROPS Lima for a thicker DK version of this. www.garnstudio.com

**HOBBII
UPCYCLED ALPACA BLEND**

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 34% acrylic, 33% alpaca, 33% wool
BALL 100g/200m
HOOK 5.5mm
RRP £12

Working with this yarn is like a blossoming love affair – the more you get to know it, the more you'll fall head over heels. First there's the eco credentials – all the fibres are recycled but it still feels soft and squishy. The aran thickness is ideal for whipping up cosy cardigans to



03

keep you comfy all year round. Finally, the muted colour palette is inspired by the tranquillity of natural landscapes, with 22 shades including this Icy Blue, a pretty Pomegranate and a delicious Nougat. Hand wash only and air dry flat. www.hobbii.com

**WEST YORKSHIRE SPINNERS
BO PEEP**

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 52% Falklands wool, 48% nylon
BALL 50g/112m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £4.20

Super-soft and squishable, Bo Peep is perfect for kids' clothing and accessories – as well as makes for big kids! You can choose from 28 solid shades, five pastel prints and five multicoloured balls for some fun effects. The wool is blended with nylon for extra longevity –



05

you can pop it in the washing machine on a gentle 40°C cycle but don't tumble dry. Whatever stitch pattern you choose, the fuzzy lengths create beautiful definition in your stitches. Look out for the 4ply version with some of the same shades. www.wyspinners.com

**RICO DESIGN
SUPERBA CASHMERE LUXURY SOCKS**

WEIGHT 4ply
CONTENT 65% wool, 25% polyamide, 10% cashmere
BALL 100g/400m
HOOK 2.5-3mm
RRP £14.99

One touch of this gorgeous yarn and you'll be longing to turn it into a pair of socks. Superba totally lives up to its name, thanks to a blend of virgin wool, silky polyamide and sumptuous cashmere. The lengths feel lovely in your hands while you hook and it's perfect for makes



02

worn against your skin – not just socks but also shawls, hats, gloves and more. This beautiful Blue Dégradé is one of seven colourways that all create a stylish stripe effect. Machine washable on a gentle 30°C cycle, then air dry flat. www.rico-design.de/en

**JAMES C BRETT
SCANDI CROFTLAND ARAN**

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 80% acrylic, 20% wool
BALL 150g/292m
HOOK 5mm
RRP £6.49

Create colourful Fair Isle without the fuss, thanks to this clever new yarn. It comes in eight colourways, each one creating a pretty striped Fair Isle pattern while you sit back and relax. The mixture of wool and acrylic gives you extra cosiness that's also machine washable at 30°C



04

and cool tumble dry. It's gentle to the touch and easy to hook with, so you can easily transform it into clothes for all the family. The 150g balls give you a generous metreage of yarn, so one ball should be enough for a hat and mittens set. www.jamescbrett.co.uk

**SYMFONIE YARNS
VIVA**

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% superwash Merino
BALL 100g/220m
HOOK 3.25-3.75mm
RRP £14.49

Viva is a yarn that oozes quality, from the buttery soft feel to the beautiful hand-dyed colours inspired by nature. The bouncy strands are a joy to hook and the Merino fibres are perfect for making snuggly hats, scarves or sweaters. There are 63 semi-solid shades available, but it's



06

the 21 variegated colourways that you'll fall in love with. We're smitten with Summer Romance, Beach House and the one shown above, Sandy Sea. It's a really special crochet treat. Machine washable at 30°C and air dry flat away from direct sunlight. www.symfonieyarns.com

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BISCUIT BUD

Karen McCourt put her own twist on our skating bunny from issue 156. She'd been making biscuit tin toppers as Christmas gifts, but couldn't resist keeping this guy for herself. Working on small projects can be a challenge, but she is chuffed with the results – as you should be, Karen! @

POLAR PALS

Tania Hart loves making amigurumi toys, and in 2022 she hooked up Sleigh Belle from our *Your Crochet Christmas* bookazine edition. Now she has a new friend – Polar Pal from the 2024 issue. "I love how cute, adorable and Christmassy they are," Tania says. "I really enjoyed making these winter wonderland friends. They're sweet sitting side by side! @



DOUBLE TAP ♥

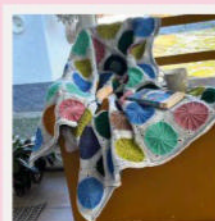
We've been double tapping on Instagram and admiring your makes. Tag us @simplycrochetmag and use the hashtag #SCTreblemaker



FIT LIKE A GLOVE
@bitsandbobscrochet is back with more gloves. Lesley made this fab pair from our issue 133 pattern. The tiny tessellating shapes are just so satisfying to hook!



PASTEL PRINCESS
Anne-Laure (@actu.al.crochet) made this cardigan from issue 101 for her goddaughter. She says, "I found these colours very soft and beautiful on her." Agreed!



PRETTY PINWHEELS
@csodaviki, aka Viktoria, loved hooking our granny square blanket from issue 33 – it reminds her of tiny windmills! She gifted this to her brother in Denmark.



SMURFY CHRISTMAS
@margieelisabeths world had fun making Papa Smurf from our 2024 calendar, reliving memories shared with her children and grandchildren.



FESTIVE FOOTWEAR

How cool are Sarah Potter's Twinkle Toe socks from issue 155? This is the first time she's made crochet socks and she loves how quickly they work up. Sarah used Vintage Tinsel in WYS's Signature Sparkle 4ply to hook these up – if you look closely you might see the silver thread spun into it. Great work, Sarah. We hope they're as cosy as they look! f

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SUBS STARS!

Check your issue next month to see if you're a winner! Every month, three subscribers win a prize as a thank you for their loyalty to *Simply Crochet*. This month, the winners (below) will each receive a Lily Sugar'n Cream yarn bundle to make this colourful, handy tote bag. Enjoy!

Carol Davies, Glamorgan
Nikki Ellis, Hampshire
Valerie Triebel, Devon

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



TOGETHER AGAIN

Did you see Rachel Field and Emma Kerridge's cowls in progress in issue 156? They worked on them as a CAL together, and here they are modelling their finished makes! We love to see how you make your projects unique to you: Rachel's mushroom-themed piece pairs so well with Emma's cool turquoise cowl. Find the original pattern by Joanne Fowler in issue 153.



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AMI' ADVENTURES

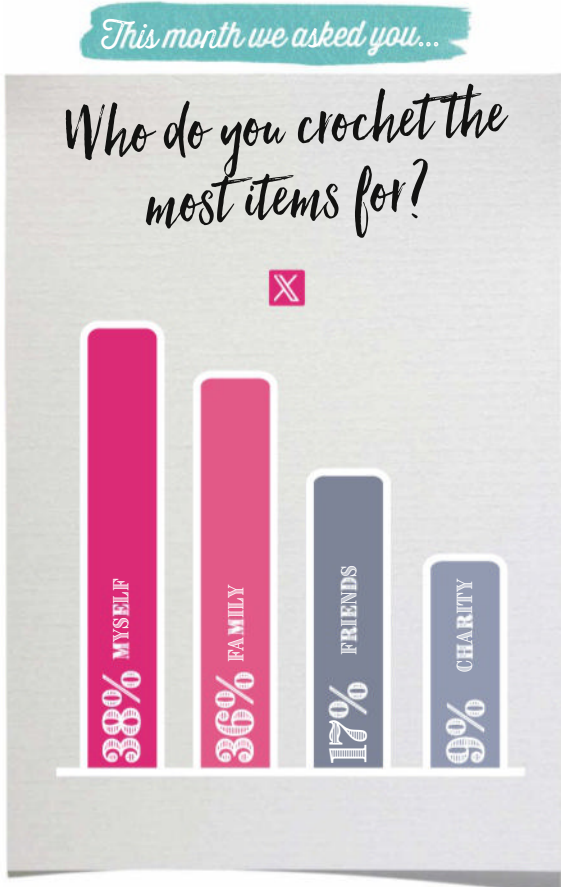
Rachel Luxton hooked up an angel mouse for her niece's Advent calendar. She really made it her own by swapping the colour of the dress, adding little eyelashes, and popping a frill on the skirt in the final round. We hope she went down a treat with your niece, Rachel!



SC TREBLEMAKERS

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If you're looking to socialise with like-minded crocheters, then make sure you join our SC Treblemakers Facebook group – the place to share pictures of your makes, get pattern recommendations and advice, and generally talk about how much you love *Simply Crochet* magazine. With over 6.9k members, it's a bustling crochet forum full of friendly fellow hooksters. We look forward to chatting with you on there!



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FREE TRIAL*

CROCHET
Unravelled
 With
 Becky Skuse

HOW DO I START A GRANNY SQUARE?

Brush up on your technique with our simple guide...

Here at the home of Granny Square Day (15 August if you're asking!), we love crocheting these classic little shapes. When you're new to granny squares, getting started can seem a bit daunting, but there are several different ways to start and you might prefer one to another. Using a yarn you're not used to? If you're having trouble with your usual technique, you might find another method works better. I'm here to offer you a quick, easy

guide to the three most popular methods: the chain stitch loop (or slip knot loop), the chain and slip stitch loop, and the magic loop.

No matter which method you use, the idea is the same: you need to create a small loop that will sit at the centre of the square, and this is the loop into which you work the stitches of Round 1.

Read on and I'll show you just what you need to do to broaden your granny square skill set.



The quickest and easiest technique that leaves only a small hole at the centre



This method creates a larger hole, but that's often better for chunky yarns



For a super-neat look and no hole, we love this one, but it's not for every yarn



WHAT IS THE 'CHAIN STITCH LOOP'?

It's easy to start granny squares in this way...

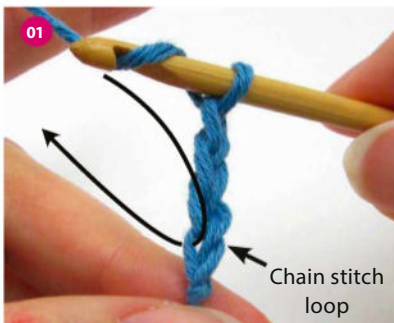
Also called the slip knot loop, the chain stitch loop is a quick and simple method for starting off a granny square and working in the round. Here's how:

Step 1 First, make a slip knot and pop it onto your hook. Then make one chain – this will act as the central loop for your first round – so mark it with a stitch marker if you want to. A classic granny square usually asks for treble stitches on the first round and a turning chain of 3 chains – this gets the hook up to the right height and counts as the first stitch of the round. So make

3 chains. Now we're going to make a treble into the first chain – start by working yrh and insert the hook into the first chain.

Step 2 Next, yrh and pull up a loop.

Step 3 Finish the treble as usual with yrh and pull through 2 loops, yrh and pull through 2 loops. Continue to make the rest of the stitches of Round 1 into the same chain stitch loop. This method is really easy, works with all yarn types and weights (even chenille) and leaves only a very small hole at the centre of the square.



WHAT IS THE 'CHAIN AND SLIP STITCH LOOP'?

Try this super-sturdy method for starting off rounds...

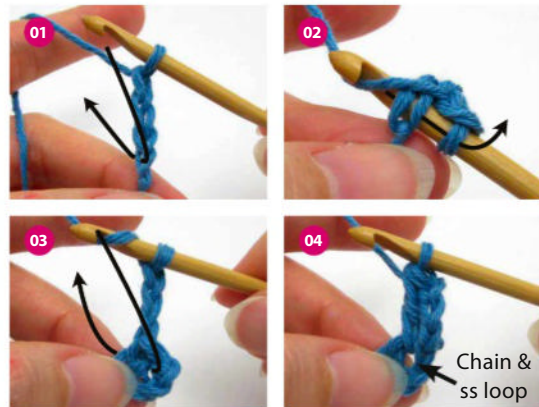
The chain and slip stitch loop is a stronger method for starting off a granny square. Here's how:

Step 1 First, make a slip knot and make 4, 5 or 6 chains, depending on your yarn thickness (fewer for thinner yarns, more for thicker weights). Now insert the hook into the first chain...

Step 2 ... and make a slip stitch (yrh and pull through the chain and the initial loop on the hook). This ring of chains will act as the central loop for your first round so mark it with a stitch marker if you want to.

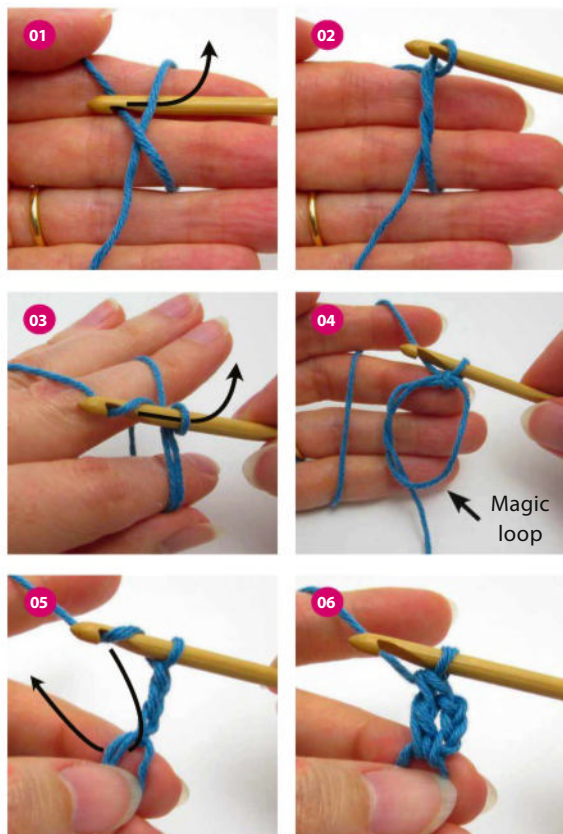
Step 3 As before, make 3 chains. We're going to make a treble – start by working yrh and insert the hook into the centre of the ring of chains.

Step 4 Complete the treble as usual and continue to make the rest of the stitches of Round 1 into the same ring of chains. This method leaves a slightly larger hole in the middle of the square, but this can be useful for chunky yarns that need a bit more space at the centre.



HOW DO I MAKE A 'MAGIC LOOP'?

Here's how to create a super-neat centre...



The magic loop is the neatest technique for starting a granny square, but it requires practise. Here's how:

Step 1 Place the tail end of the yarn in your hand and wrap the ball end around your top two fingers to form a cross shape. At the top of the cross, insert the hook under the first strand and over the second strand.

Step 2 Use the hook to pull the second strand under the first strand. Rotate the hook towards you and then up to form a loop on the hook.

Step 3 Tuck the ball end under your little finger and use the tension to yrh the ball end and pull through to make 1 chain – this helps to stabilise the magic loop.

Step 4 Remove the loop from your fingers and place in your hand to form a 'P' shape with the tail in the bottom-left, the working yarn top-left, and a twist of yarn on the left between the tail and the chain. This circle is the magic loop! It's easier to work into the magic loop if it's a bit smaller, so gently pull on the tail until you can hold onto both sides of the circle.

Step 5 As before, we want 3 chain stitches, but we've already made 1 so just make 2 more chains. Now we need to treble into the magic loop – work yrh and insert the hook into the magic loop, under the twist of yarn.

Step 6 Complete the treble as usual and continue to make the rest of the stitches of Round 1 into the same magic loop, underneath the twist of yarn. At the end of Round 1, pull on the tail end to close the loop (it's magic!). This neat method leaves no hole in the middle of the square, but it's not right for every yarn. Some yarns like chenille, roving and other delicate yarns can break when you pull on the tail end, so try using one of the other methods instead when using these yarns.



Let Becky solve your hooky conundrums!

Crochet Unravelled aims to dive deep into the techniques, tutorials and terminology that will make you a better hookster. Have you got a question you want Becky to unravel? Send it in to us at simplycrochet@ourmedia.co.uk

NEXT ISSUE

Don't miss the next workshop... I'll show you how to make it easier to find where to slip stitch to finish a round

NEXT ISSUE



MADE IN BRITAIN
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TURKISH DELIGHT TOP

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ON SALE 18 FEBRUARY



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

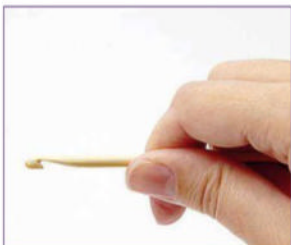
HOLDING THE HOOK

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



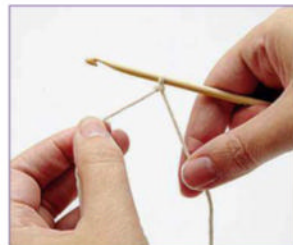
1 Hold the tail of the ball of yarn in your left hand and drape the yarn clockwise over the top of it to form a loose, circular loop.



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



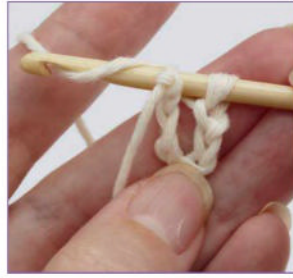
Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Never count your first slipknot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). So that you can be accurate, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.

SLIP STITCH (ss)

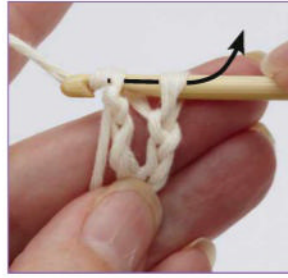
This stitch has no height – often used to join rounds



1 You can make a slip stitch in any chain or stitch, to join it to the working loop on the hook. To make a slip stitch, simply insert the hook into the stitch indicated, from front to back.



2 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook, so the yarn wraps anticlockwise around it (yarn round hook, or yrh).



3 Gently pull the hook, and the yarn wrapped around it, back towards the 2 loops on the hook. Draw the yarn through both the loops on the hook.



4 This will finish the stitch and you'll see how the slip stitch has joined the working loop to the chain or stitch you inserted the hook into. You can also use slip stitch to form a neat edging.

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 2 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 2 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 2 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 2 loops of the stitch on the previous row.



2 Wrap the yarn around the hook (yrh) and pull the yarn through the stitch only.



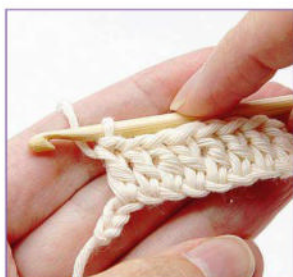
3 You will now have 3 loops on the hook. Yrh again, and draw the yarn through just the first 2 loops on the hook.



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.

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.

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.

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 2 loops of the second 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 second st in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

Abbreviations

across	to end of the row	meas	measures
approx	approximate(ly)	patt(s)	pattern(s)
beg	beginning	pm	place marker
bl	insert hook under back loop only	prev	previous
BP	Back Post: work st indicated, inserting hook around post of st from back to front to back and not in top of st	qtr	quadruple treble
ch(s)	chain/chain stitch(es)	rem	remain(s)/remaining
ch-	refers to ch made previously, eg. ch-3	rep	repeat
ch-sp(s)	chain space(s)	RH	right hand
cl(s)	clusters	rnd(s)	round(s)
cont	continue	RS	right side
dc	double crochet	sk	skip
dc2tog	(insert hook in next st, yrh & draw a loop through) twice, yrh & draw through all 3 loops on hook	sp(s)	space(s)
dec	decrease	ss	slip stitch
dtr	double treble crochet	st(s)	stitch(es)
dtr2tog	work 2dtr together	t-ch(s)	turning chain(s)
fdc	foundation dc	tog	together
fl	insert hook under front loop only	tr	treble crochet
fol/folls	following/follows	tr cl	(yrh, insert hook in sp/ st, yrh & pull up loop, yrh & draw through 2 loops) number of times indicated, yrh & draw through all loops on hook
FP	Front Post: As BP, inserting hook around post from front to back to front	tr2tog	(yrh, insert hook in next st, yrh & pull up loop, yrh a& draw through 2 loops) twice, yrh & draw through all loops on hook
ftr	foundation tr	ttr	triple treble crochet
htr	half treble	WS	wrong side
htr2tog	work 2htr together	yrh	yarn round hook
in next	sts to be worked into the same stitch	*	work instructions immediately foll *, then rep as many more times as directed
inc	increase	()	work all instructions in the brackets as many times as directed
LH	left hand		
lp(s)	loop(s)		

Crochet hook conversions

UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	-
13	2.25mm	B/1
12	2.5mm	-
-	2.75mm	C/2
11	3mm	-
10	3.25mm	D/3
9	3.5mm	E/4
-	3.75mm	F/5
8	4mm	G/6
7	4.5mm	7
6	5mm	H/8
5	5.5mm	I/9
4	6mm	J/10
3	6.5mm	K/10½
2	7mm	-
0	8mm	L/11
00	9mm	M/13
000	10mm	N/15

Which hook do I use?

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

UK/US conversions

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



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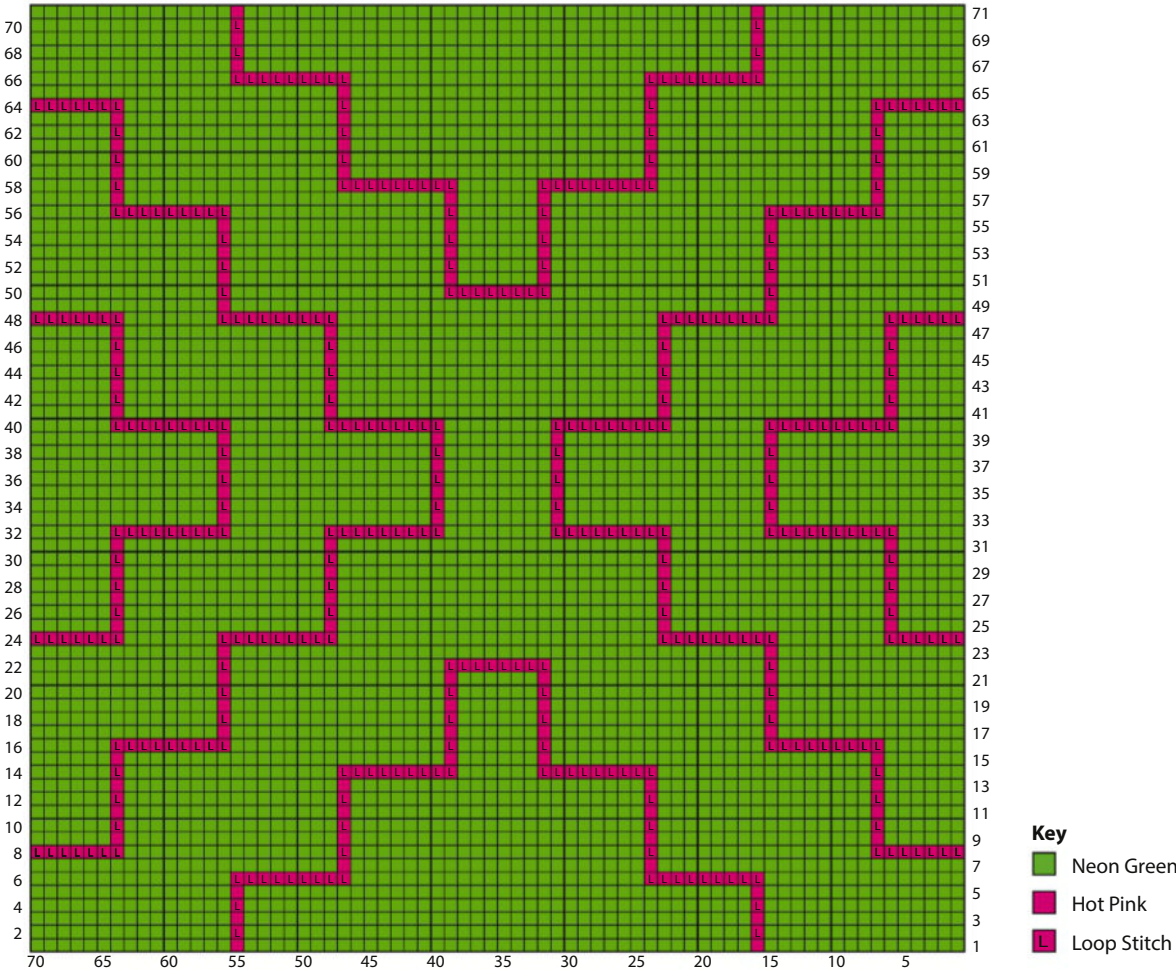


Find out everything you need to know about crochet on Gathered! Our page is filled with step-by-step videos, useful how-tos and information on the tools you'll need. Learn techniques such as how to create a turning chain, change colour, increase and decrease, sew seams, check your tension, make a magic loop, join your rounds and much more. And while you're there, have a look at our free crochet patterns – you may just find your next make!

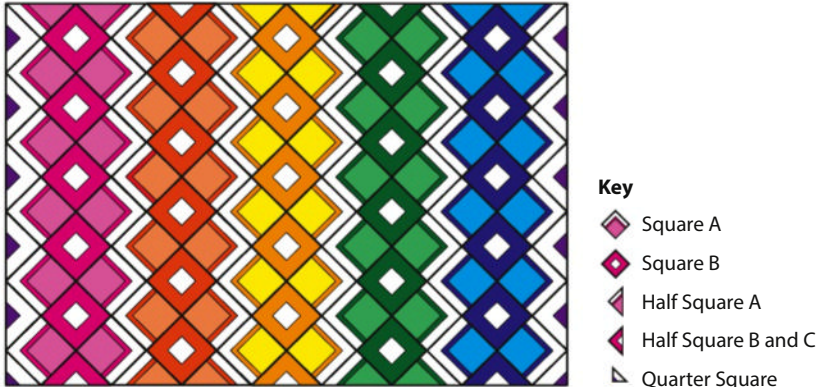
CHARTS & DIAGRAMS

Use these charts and diagrams to make your floor cushion, rainbow illusion throw, and wall hanging

Floor cushion, page 57



Rainbow illusion throw, page 63



CHARTS

Wall hanging, page 46



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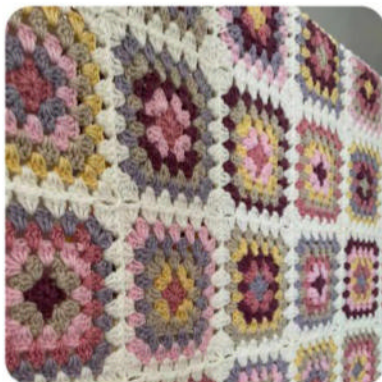
Classic charm

Six reasons to follow Kate of @harrietsduck and her beautiful blankets and throws

Instagram: @harrietsduck
Followers: 53.2k



IF YOU LIKE... classic crochet with a modern twist, Kate's pretty designs with their seasonal colour palettes will be right up your street. #backtobasics



IF YOU WANNA... be an easy-going crocheter, Kate's your inspo. "I enjoy all the creative process – I'm even learning to love weaving in yarn tails!" #trusttheprocess



IF YOU LOVE... blankets and throws, you're in good company. Granny squares, chevrons, hexagons, stripes – Kate adores them all! #blankets #snuggleup



IF YOU NEED... crochet's mental health benefits, Kate agrees. "It's something fun to focus on, and I can't wait to pick up my hook each day." #craftformentalhealth



IF YOU ARE... a *Bridgerton* fan, check out Kate's amazing Diamond of the Season blanket, whose colours are inspired by the beautiful costumes. #queencharlotte



IF YOU HAVE... a desire to keep it simple, you definitely can. "You don't have to use complicated patterns or expensive yarns to create something beautiful!" #wisewords

IT'S ALL OVER...

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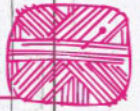


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MISSED AN ISSUE?



ISSUE 157

Our cover star is a cosy tank top, fab for layering. Relax in our lounge collection, with its eye mask, dressing gown, hottie cover, slippers, throw and mug hug. Other must-make projects include Happy New Year bunting, a plaid jacket, a cute toy penguin, super chunky hat and scarf set, a boxy granny square bag, and an abstract shawl. Plus, there's a baby blanket, a vintage-inspired cushion, a mosaic throw, and more!

SEE OUR BACK
ISSUE PROJECTS IN
DETAIL ON RAVELRY
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ISSUE 156

Lounge collection, shawl, check tank, blankets, plaid jacket, penguin toy, bag, hat & scarf, cushion.



ISSUE 155

Christmas collection and jumper, elf toy, hat & shawl, bobble jumper, Santa motif, puppets, blanket CAL.



ISSUE 154

Rainforest collection, cosy shawl, quick hat, micro bag, ami' Gothic gal, textured sweater, stash card, placemat.



ISSUE 153

Gingham collection, ami' bat, fringed jacket, yoke jumper, jewel blanket, granny bag, sunflowers.



ISSUE 152

Tropical collection, summer top, retro dress, Minho doll, bee card, clutch bag, sunflower coasters.



ISSUE 151

Granny Square Day countdown collection, lightweight jumper, ami' spaceman, ombre shawl, neon throw.



ISSUE 150

Lavender & lace collection, spike stitch tank, ami' Welsh lamb, lace dress, football hats, retro cushions.



ISSUE 149

Nursery collection, swan motif top, ami' Princess Di, layered scarf, lacy skirt, kilim rug, floppy dog.



ISSUE 148

Coquette collection, checked tank top, ami' scarecrow, flamingo motifs, filet stitch cowl, kids' storage pockets.



ISSUE 147

Science collection, Fair Isle waistcoat, ami' rabbit, egg cosies, Irish blanket, lacy motif jumper, piano scarf.



ISSUE 146

Fairy tale collection, textured tunic, ami' Gromit, Ossetian shawl, mosaic blanket, kid's ami' tool set.



ISSUE 145

Art house collection, stripes and motifs card, simple baby toys, ami' love bug, one-ball scarf.



ISSUE 144

Swirl collection, stripy jumper, ami' party granny, gym bag, ear muffs, baby toys, cosy socks, winter blankets.



Upcycling Special

OLD TO BOLD!
TRANSFORM YOUR WARDROBE
WITH YARN MAGIC

12
ECO FRIENDLY
CROCHET
HACKS



INSIDE...



T-SHIRT TO TOP



VIBRANT STRIPE

VERY CHERRY TOTE

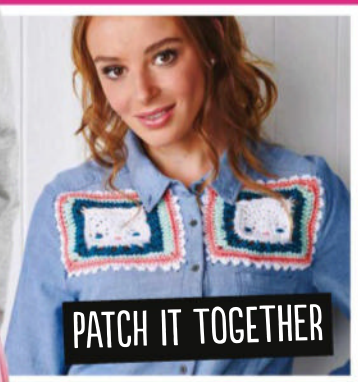


CUTE COLLAR

NEW LACES!



WINGED WARMTH



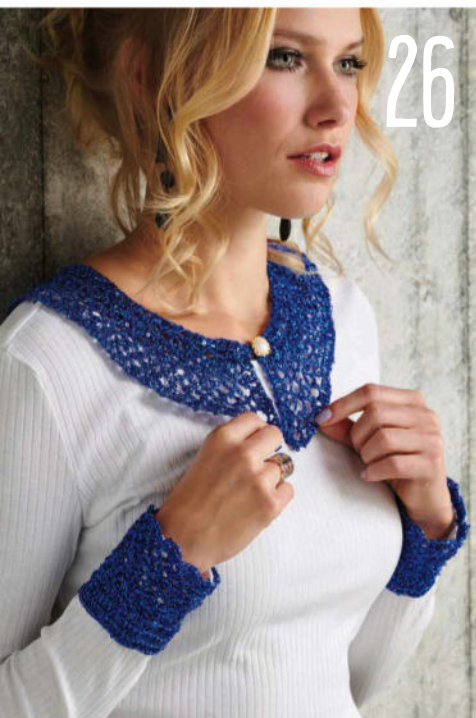
PATCH IT TOGETHER



BRIGHTEN A
BLANKET



CUFF DETAIL



Upcycling Special



In a world where fashion moves ever faster, producing waste and a mindset that's the very opposite of make do and mend, we're taking a different approach. Many of us share the opinion that slow fashion is a good thing (after all, it's the only kind that we crocheters can produce!), so we've put together lots of great patterns to help you extend the lives of clothes, accessories and homewares. Updating and customising is a lot of fun – go ahead and try it!

Sara

Editor, *Simply Crochet*



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A pair of sweet wings for parties or play

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Add a touch of magic to collar and cuffs

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Turn ordinary storage into something special

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From a T-shirt to a cool camisole top

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Sparkle day or night with lacy accessories



All
aflutter

Give a little one wings for dressing up with Samanta Fornino's quick-to-hook angel upgrade



YOU WILL NEED

- Peter Pan Precious Chunky (80% nylon, 20% polyester, 50g/75m)
- 1 ball of Angel (3430)
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook
- Stitch markers

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

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project

MEASUREMENTS

Each Wing measures approx 20cm (7¾in) in length

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Small children love dressing up, and angels and fairies are always a favourite – for parties, play dates, and World Book Day too. Let their imagination fly with this delightful pair of angel wings made in Peter Pan's gloriously fluffy Precious Chunky. They're the stuff of sweet dreams.

NOTES

It can be difficult to see the stitches when working with a fluffy yarn. We suggest using a stitch marker to mark the first and last st of each row. This will help you keep track of your stitch count as you work.

WINGS (MAKE 2)

Ch30.

Row 1 Htr in the second ch from hook, htr in next 14 ch, dc in last 14 ch, turn. [15 htr, 14 dc]

Row 2 Ch1, (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st across, turn. [29 dc]

Row 3 Ch1, dc in first 25 sts, turn leaving rem 4 sts unworked. [25 dc]

Row 4 Ch1, dc in first 10 sts, htr in next 15 sts, turn. [10 dc, 15 htr]

Rows 5-6 Repeat Row 2. [25 dc]

Row 7 Ch2 (counts as htr throughout), htr in next 14 sts, dc in next 6 sts, turn leaving rem 4 sts unworked. [15 htr, 6 dc]

Rows 8-10 Repeat Row 2. [21 dc]

Row 11 Ch2, htr in next 12 sts, dc in next 4 sts, turn leaving rem 4 sts unworked. [13 htr, 4 dc]

Rows 12-13 Repeat Row 2. [17 dc]

Do not fasten off after turning.

BORDER

Round 1 Ch1, dc in next 3 row ends, htr in next 2 unworked sts from Row 11, dc in next 2 sts, dc in next 3 row ends, htr in next 2 unworked sts from Row 7, dc in next 2 sts, dc in next 3 row ends, htr in next 2 unworked sts from Row 3, dc in next 2 sts, dc in next 3 row ends, dc in next 12 sts (working into back of foundation ch), htr in



Wings are worked in rows in a single layer, so they're light enough to stitch to a garment

next 4 sts, tr in next 4 sts, dtr in next st, tr in next 4 sts, htr in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, htr in next row end, tr in next 5 row ends, htr in next 3 row ends, dc in next 4 row ends, dc in next 13 sts of Row 13, ss in last 4 sts. [83 sts]

TO FINISH

Sew the Wings onto the back of a top or dress.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A HALF TREBLE



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



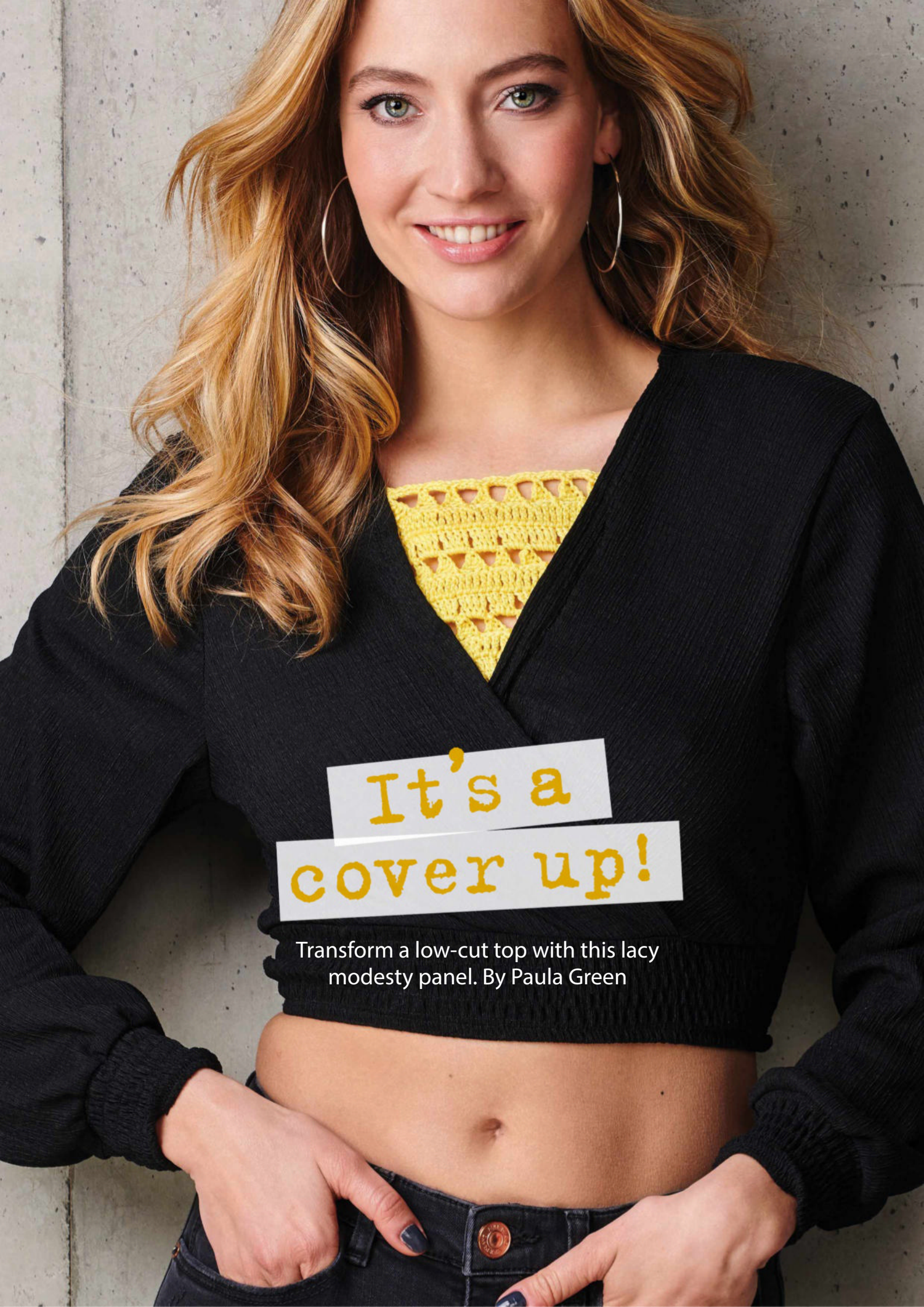
2 Insert the hook under the top 2 loops of the next stitch in the previous row. Wrap yarn around the hook again (yrh).



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.



It's a
cover up!

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

MODESTY PANEL



YOU WILL NEED

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

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

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Panel measures 17cm (6¾in) across widest point and 14cm (5½in) deep

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

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

MODESTY PANEL

Using Yellow, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Row 7 As Row 3. [24 sts]

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

Row 9 Ch6, (ss into top of next triangle, ch3) across each triangle, ch2, dtr into last st from 2 rows previous, turn. [7 ch-sps, 2 dtr]
Repeat Rows 6-9 once more, or to make a larger Panel repeat required number of times. Do not fasten off.

EDGING

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

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Block the Panel.

Pin into place on reverse of your top. When you are happy with its position, sew in place using thread to match the top colour.



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



YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Catona Chroma (100% cotton, 50g/125m)
1 ball of Zinnia (023)
 - A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- For yarn stockists contact
Wool Warehouse 01926 882818
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Each Lace measures 125cm (49¼in) long

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine



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



Using the i-cord technique, you can easily make sturdy, narrow tubes of any length

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

NOTES

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

LACES (MAKE 2)

Ch9, leaving a tail of 20cm.

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

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

Row 2 Remove loops 2 and 3 from the hook (be careful not to lose the sts), yrh and pull through loop 1 on the hook, place loop 2 back on the hook, yrh and pull through loop 2, place loop 3 back on the hook, yrh and pull through loop 3. Repeat Row 2 until your lace is approx 125cm in length.

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

Fasten off leaving a tail of 20cm.

TO FINISH

Weave the tails through the ch-6 at ends of each lace to make a stronger cord end to thread through your shoe's eyelets.



Show your
stripes

Crank up the colour on plain trousers with
Sara Huntington's bright band



YOU WILL NEED

You can use any 4ply cotton yarns from your stash, or the following:

- DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/155m)
1 ball of each:
Crimson (N61)
Safran (N47)
Tournesol (N16)
Chartreuse (N48)
Prussian (N64)
Cerise (N62)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook

For yarn stockists contact
DMC 01924 231669
www.dmc.com

TENSION

24 sts to measure 10cm (4in) using a 2.5mm hook or size required to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Band measures 4cm (1½in) wide

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Are you a colourholic? We don't mind admitting we are! From dreamy pastels to acid brights, we're always up for a colour injection. This easy-to-hook band is the stuff of dreams – treat basic trousers to an electric wardrobe update.

NOTES

For the foundation ch, you will need to work a multiple of 6 sts. To calculate how many multiples of 6 you need, divide the finished length of your strip by 2.5 (which is the length of 1 multiple of 6) and round the answer to the nearest whole number.

For example, our trousers measured 88cm long: $88 \div 2.5 = 35$ to the nearest whole number, so you will need 35 lots of 6 for the foundation ch, or 210 ch.

Each row is worked on RS only, so do not turn at the end of each row. Fasten off the yarn at the end of each row.

RAINBOW BAND

STITCH PATTERN (MULTIPLE OF 6 STS)

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in next 3 ch, ch3, skip 3 ch, *dc in next 3 ch, ch3, skip 3 ch; repeat from * to last 4 sts, dc in last 4 sts, do not turn.

Fasten off.

Row 2 (RS) Ch1 (doesn't count as st throughout), dc in first st, *ch3, skip 3 sts, dc in next 3 ch; repeat from * to last 4 sts, ch3, skip 3 sts, dc in last st, do not turn.

Fasten off.

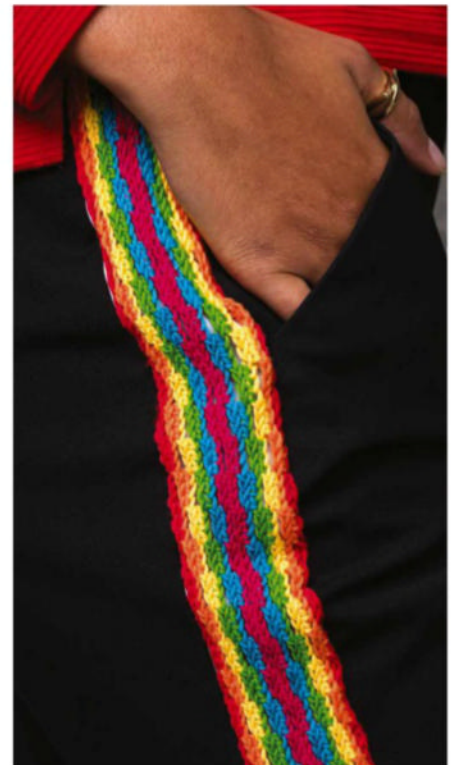
Row 3 (RS) Ch1, dc in first dc, dc in next 3 ch, *ch3, skip 3 sts, dc in next 3 ch; repeat from * to last st, dc in last st, do not turn.

Fasten off.

Rows 2-3 set pattern.

RAINBOW BAND (MAKE 2)

Work a foundation ch of a multiple of 6 sts, as



The band is worked in double crochet and chain stitches to create 'stepped' stripes

explained above.

Work Rows 1-3 of the Stitch Pattern, then repeat Rows 2 and 3, working a total of 12 rows and using the following colour sequence: Crimson, Safran, Tournesol, Chartreuse, Prussian, Cerise; then use the colours in reverse order for the remaining 6 rows.

TO FINISH

Pin each Rainbow Band into position on either side of a pair of Trousers. Sew in place along each edge.

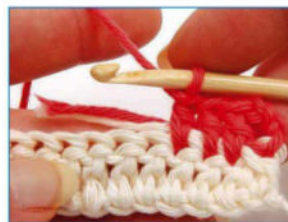
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK STRIPES AND WEAVE IN YARN ENDS



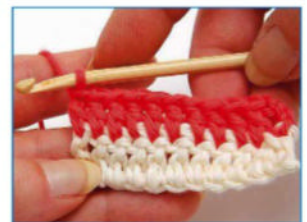
1 Stop working the last stitch of the previous row before the final yrh. Work the final yrh in the new colour. Cut off the old yarn, leaving a 7cm-long tail.



2 Continue with the new colour, working the t-ch as usual, and then lay both tails of yarn along the top of the last complete row of stitches.



3 Work the next stitch over the top of both yarn tails so that they'll be worked into the stitch, and simultaneously be woven in.



4 Continue across the row until the tails are completely hidden and complete the rest of the row as usual.



Cute as
a kitten

Get your shirt on point with this pair of purrretty kitty patches, designed by Emma Friedlander-Collins



YOU WILL NEED

- Caron Simply Soft (100% acrylic, 170.1g/288m)
1 ball of each:
 - Yarn A Pagoda (0014)
 - Yarn B Blue Mint (9608)
 - Yarn C Strawberry (0015)
 - Yarn D White (9701)
 - A 4mm (US G/6) hook
 - A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- For yarn stockists contact
Readicut 0116 271 3759
www.readicut.co.uk

TENSION

Rounds 1-4 measure 7.5x7.5cm (3x3in) using a 5mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Each Patch measures 15x12.5cm (6x5in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Boring old shirt? What a calamity. Dress up dull old button-throughs with these cat patches. For the best finish we've cut the shirt, but you could enjoy a less permanent patch by stitching it on over your garment.

NOTES

Patch is worked in rounds, with RS facing throughout.
Use the 5mm hook to make the Patch, then change to the 4mm hook to work the treble stitches into the garment you are embellishing.

PATCH

Using a 5mm hook and Yarn D, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 9tr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [10 sts]

Round 2 (RS) Ch5 (counts as tr, ch2), tr in same st as beg ch-5, 2tr in next 4 sts, (tr, ch2, tr) in next st, 2tr in next 4 sts, ss to third ch of beg ch-5. [20 sts, 2 ch-2 sps]

Round 3 Ch3, *(tr, ch2, tr) in ch-2 sp, (2tr in next st, tr in next st) 5 times; rep from * once more omitting last tr, ss to to of beg ch-3. [34 sts, 2 ch-2 sps]

Round 4 Ss in first st, ss into ch-sp, ss into next 3 sts, (dc, htr, ch2) in next st (ch-2 sp marks top of right ear), (htr, dc) in next st, ss in next 7 sts, (dc, htr, ch2) in next st, (htr, dc) in next st, ss in next st.

Fasten off.

Join Yarn A into bl only of second ch of ch-2 sp on right ear.

Round 5 (Ch5, skip 1 st, ss in bl of next st) 5 times, ch5, skip 1 st, ss in bl of second ch of next ch-2 sp, (ch5, skip 1 st, ss in bl of next st) twice, (ch5, ss in bl of next tr) twice, (ch5, skip 1 st, ss into bl of next st) 8 times, (ch5, ss in bl of next tr) twice, (ch5, skip 1 st, ss in bl of next st) twice,

working last ss in same st as beg ch-5. [22 ch-5 sps]

Round 6 Ss into next ch-sp, ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), *3dc into next 6 ch-sps, ch3, 2dc in next 5 ch-sps, ch3, rep from * once more, ss to top of beg dc. [56 sts, 4 ch-3 sps]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn B into top right ch-2 sp.

Round 7 Ch1, *(2tr, ch2, 2dc) in ch-sp, dc in each st across to next ch-sp, (2dc, ch2, 2tr) in ch-sp, tr in each st to next ch-sp; rep from * once more, ss to top of beg dc. [72 sts]

Fasten off.

Join Yarn C into any ch-2 sp.

Round 8 Ch1, *(2dc, ch2, 2dc) in ch-sp, dc in each st to next ch-sp; rep from * another 3 times, ss to top of beg dc. [80 sts]

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

TO MAKE UP

Weave in all ends except the long Yarn C tail from the final round of the Patch.

Using Yarn A and Yarn C, embroider small straight sts for the eyes and nose. You can use the image as a guide.

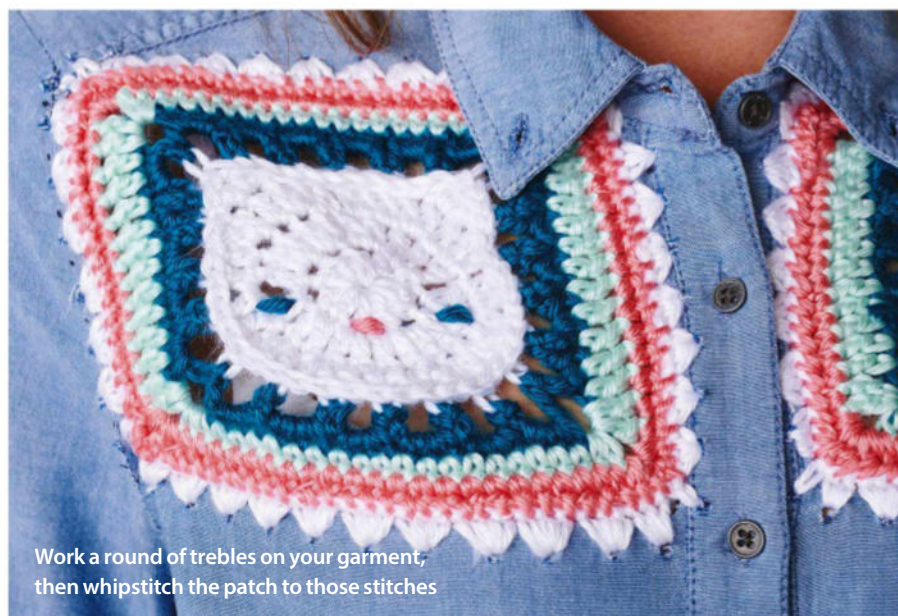
Position the Patch over the area of your garment where you want to place it. Draw around the Patch and cut out the hole; if the fabric is thin fold back the edges and hem using hemming tape.

Every 2.5cm make a mark around the edge of the hole and pierce using a sharp object like an awl or a chunky needle. Widen the hole so it's big enough for a 4mm crochet hook.

Using a 4mm hook, join Yarn D into any hole, ch3, 2tr into hole, 3tr in each hole around, ss to top of beg ch-3.

Fasten off.

Using the Yarn C tail, whipstitch the Patch to the treble sts on your garment.



Work a round of trebles on your garment, then whipstitch the patch to those stitches



YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Muskat (100% cotton, 50g/100m)
1 ball of each:
Red (12)
Mint Green (03)
- A small amount of white stranded cotton
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- A plain tote bag

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

TENSION

Tension is not critical but may affect yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Each Motif measures 6x6cm (2¼x2¼in) across widest points

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine



Add a sweet motif to a simple bag for instant cheery charm. Designed by Sara Huntington



Cherries are made of trebles in a magic loop, with white highlights embroidered on top

These cherries are so delightful, and you can polish off a bowlful in an afternoon – much like their real-world counterparts!

NOTES

Make as many Motifs as you like to decorate your bag. We made 12 Motifs in total.

**CHERRY MOTIF
CHERRIES (MAKE 2)**

Using Red, make a magic loop.
Round 1 Ch3 (counts as tr), 11tr into loop, ss into top of beg ch-3 to close. [12 sts]
Fasten off.

STALK

With RS facing, join Mint Green into bl of any tr on Cherry.

Row 1 Ch7, ss in 2nd ch from hook (picot made), ch6, ss into the bl of any tr on second Cherry.
Fasten off.

LEAF

Using Mint Green, ch7.
Row 1 Ss into second ch from hook and in each ch to end. [6 ss]
Round 2 Rotate to work into back of foundation ch, ch1, dc in first ch, htr in next ch, tr in next 2 ch, htr in next ch, dc in last ch, ch2, ss into 2nd ch from hook (picot made) then working into sts from Row 1, dc in first st, htr in next st, tr in next 2 sts, htr in next st, dc in last st, ss to top of beg dc.
Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Using white stranded cotton, embroider a 'highlight' on each Cherry. Weave in all ends and press. Sew or glue the Motifs into place.

Katie Jones' crochet embellishments can give a new lease of life to old clothing



Crochet to save the planet

Find out why crochet is the ideal upcycling tool

You're probably aware that your fashion choices have an impact on our planet. But did it ever occur to you that instead of buying new clothes, your crochet skills can revitalise your wardrobe and protect our environment? The throwaway fashion culture, where we buy cheap and then move onto the next garment when bored, is a big problem we have the tools to alleviate. Look through your wardrobe and we're betting you'll find at least a handful of garments you're no longer interested in wearing. However, instead of throwing them out, or even sending them to charity shops, why not try using crochet to see how you can upcycle and reinvent them? A simple trim could be all you need to add a shot of colour and revitalise the mood of an item of clothing. You could even unravel an old crochet or knitted top and use the yarn to make something fresh you'll wear with pride!

RETHINKING OUR FASHION FOCUS

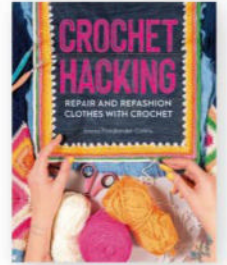
Sustainability consultant Jane Millburn credits growing up on a New Zealand sheep farm for her love of natural fibres and crafting. "Our great-grandma, who was of Ngai Tahu (the principal Māori tribe of the South Island of New Zealand) and Scottish heritage, lived with us and taught us values that are still with me today. Most of my wardrobe is refashioned or upcycled." Jane launched Textile Beat in 2013 "to enable conversations about the way we dress," and is the author of *Slow Clothing: Finding Meaning In What We Wear*. She concedes that there are no easy answers to these complex issues. "The best we can do – as wearers of clothes – is inform ourselves, ensure every purchase counts, and use what we already have before buying more."

Jane describes slow clothing as "a holistic approach to the clothing choices we make every day in what we wear and how those choices may impact our health and the ecosystem in which we live. It's about self-empowerment through resourceful thinking and individual actions."

Katie Jones fell in love with crochet while working towards an MA in Fashion Knitwear, and soon launched her own label with the #wastenot mantra. She's a huge fan of crochet as a tool for energising old clothes. "I always loved customising clothes as a kid and it stayed with me," she comments. "It just makes sense – why not use what we have and make it better and more personal?"

EDUCATING FASHION LOVERS

Katie believes that education is key to encouraging a shift away from fast fashion to a more sustainable method of creating



Clockwise from left: Jane in an upcycled shrug; Emma's crochet edging hack, and her book *Crochet Hacking*

clothing. "Most people don't know that on average only £1 from every £10 you spend on the high street has gone on material and making the piece. It's important to talk about the reality of the cost. Crafting is a great way to understand the time and cost of your materials and the make hours."

Crochet designer Emma Friedlander-Collins is the author of the book *Crochet Hacking: Repair and Refashion Clothes with Crochet*. She graduated with an MA in Sustainable Design in 2018 and now lectures on Fashion Communication at the University of Brighton. "I use my making and sustainability as a way of teaching students the fine art of creating visual stories. All my students are incredibly passionate and they're really driven by the sustainability agenda."

Sustainability has always been a driving force for Emma and her work. "I previously worked with a local council focusing on sustainable transport, trying to convince people to walk and cycle," she comments. "As a crochet designer, I had an audience on Instagram and began wondering if I could bring them with me in seeking alternative solutions to fast fashion. When I posted about my first crochet hack, one of my followers coined #crochet hacks as a shorthand way of communicating it."

EMBRACING EXPERIMENTATION

Mastering just a few crochet stitches can equip you to revive your wardrobe. "When

FAST FASHION FACTS

Did you know?

- 1 Thanks to fast fashion, there is currently more clothing on our planet than ever before.
- 2 Nearly 70 per cent of new clothing is made from acrylic, nylon and other synthetic fibres. This means that every time those clothes are washed, they will shed microplastics into our environment and water systems.
- 3 The Rana Plaza factory collapse in Bangladesh in 2013 exposed the exploitative nature rife in the fashion industry. Over 10 years on, many garments sold on the high street are still made by people toiling in poor conditions and earning very little.
- 4 'A New Textiles Economy', a report from the Ellen MacArthur Foundation and Circular Fibres Initiative (www.bit.ly/30qLG92) states "total greenhouse gas emissions from textiles production, at 1.2 billion tonnes annually, are more than those of all international flights and maritime shipping combined".



Photo: Rachel Manns



Far left: knitwear embellishments by Katie
Left: Poppy's lockdown shorts



Photo: Charmaine Lyons



Photo: Patria Jannides

Above left and right: Jane has transformed a jumper and blanket into a vest and jacket. Unpick the arm seams then attach the sleeves to the blanket. Before cutting the sleeve holes, secure with two rows of machine sewing and reinforce again after adding the sleeves

we put our own energy into making clothes, we have a connection to them, we want to look after them and keep them in our wardrobe for longer," Jane says. "As our style, shape and stage in life evolve, we're then able to adapt our clothes so they can come on this journey with us."

Emma agrees that upcycling means we invest on an emotional level. "When you buy a new garment, the excitement about wearing it fades. I use crochet to change clothes I've already got into something I want to wear. If I get bored again, I just rip it back and make something fresh."

Jane uses crochet for trims and sleeve extensions, but also transforms some unlikely items into clothing. She says that part of the upcycling process is gaining the confidence to play.

"I do a lot of play-based upcycling where I'm reusing existing materials I've got to hand," says Jane. "I'm attracted to texture, and turn crochet blankets and rugs into unique garments by sewing two rows of straight stitches then cutting between those rows and stitching again afterwards to further secure the fabric."

Unusual items Jane has repurposed include coat hangers crocheted by her mother-in-law for her children. "When they no longer wanted the hangers, I transformed

them into memory cuffs on my trousers." A little imagination goes a long way.

Emma urges us to have the courage to experiment. "I make lots of mistakes. I spend as much time as ripping back as I do crocheting, but if the alternative is landfill you might as well give it a try."

THE LOCKDOWN LEGACY

Happily, you don't need to be a professional crochet designer or sustainability expert to embrace crochet as an upcycling solution. A few years ago during lockdown, Poppy Fraser decided to crochet a pair of shorts when she couldn't get to the shops. "At the beginning of lockdown, I made some tops, including one using a granny square sunflower motif I thought would also look groovy as a pair of shorts. I decided to make up a pattern and just kept adding sunflower squares until the shorts were the desired length!"

Making and wearing the shorts that she made herself provided Poppy with a huge emotional boost. "Knowing that nobody else had a pair of shorts like the ones I had made gave me more self-confidence in my abilities. Now I'm crocheting crop tops and even a rainbow jumper."

It's a fantastic alternative to online shopping, which Jane warns us against. "There's a lot of wastefulness built in when

you can't try before you buy, because return items are often just dumped."

Emma has run an online crochet hack workshop with Domestika, an online space that provides creative courses in various fields. "The uptake was phenomenal. We had hundreds of people signing up to take part. I hope this is a sign that people are thinking differently about what they wear and people will use the skills generated and built on to really engage with the type of thinking about how we can reuse our stuff."

Jane points out that the interest in transitioning to slow fashion has been building for quite some time. "People are becoming conscious of how their choices impact other people, places and the planet. There's a growing awareness of regenerative actions to reduce our negative impact on the ecosystem we live in."

We've already begun to make a move in the right direction. Now is the time to forge new, positive ways to fall back in love with the clothes we already own.

Written by Judy Darley

Jane Milburn: www.textilebeat.com

Katie Jones: www.katiejonesknit.co.uk

Emma Friedlander-Collins: www.steelandstitch.blogspot.com and Instagram at [steelandstitch](https://www.instagram.com/steelandstitch)

Domestika: www.domestika.org

HOW TO...

Emma Friedlander-Collins' top upcycling crochet tips

- 1 When getting started, it's a good idea to use tougher fabrics like denim as they don't stretch.
- 2 Always make a row of crochet stitches from the yarn you want to use first – this will let you work out the distance between any holes that you need to make.
- 3 Most importantly just have a go, there are no such thing as mistakes, it's all just learning how not to do things if it doesn't work.

All the projects in this booklet can be used to upcycle items you already own



Living on
the edge

What a difference a trim makes! Lucy Croft's bobble detail takes tired tops from dull to delicious



YOU WILL NEED

- Paintbox Yarns Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/125m)
1 ball of each:
Glorious Gold (466)
Lipstick Pink (452)
Kingfisher Blue (435)
Vintage Pink (456)
- Any 4ply cotton yarn in colour to match your sweater
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- A sweatshirt
- A sharp large-eyed needle

For yarn stockists contact
LoveCrafts 01409 404010
www.lovecrafts.com

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

The Edging has a drop of 3.5cm (1¼in) high

ABBREVIATIONS

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

Backstitch (embroidery stitch)
Using a large-eyed needle, insert the needle from back to front through one of the marks on the sweater. Bring the needle to the back through the second mark and pull it back up through the third mark; *to make the next stitch, insert the needle in the end of the previous stitch (second mark) and pull through, bring the needle back up through the next free mark, repeat from * around the edge

For a full list, see page 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Do you believe in magic? This swift upcycle takes casual basics from plain to showy in the hook of a bobble. Have a rummage about in your stash to find the best colours to match for your sweater, and pay attention to the order you work them in, too.

NOTES

The Edging is added to the sweatshirt and worked in the round. The cuffs and the hem are removed first, the raw edge is then backstitched and the crochet Edging is worked on to the backstitches.

SWEATSHIRT EDGING

PREPARE SWEATSHIRT

Using sharp fabric scissors, remove the hem and cuffs of your sweatshirt to leave a neat straight edge. Approx 1.5cm above the raw edge, mark dots at 1cm intervals all around the waistband and cuffs.

Using a sharp, large-eyed needle and matching 4ply yarn, evenly backstitch around the raw edges of your sweatshirt with the right side facing you.

EDGING

At the end of Round 1, your stitch count needs to be a multiple of 5. To check how many stitches you will have, count your backstitches and multiply the number by 2.

If the resulting number is not a multiple of 5, you'll need to work 3dc instead of 2dc into some of the backstitches, spread out evenly

around the edge.

Using a 3.5 mm hook, join Glorious Gold into the stitch on the side seam or underarm seam.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), work 2dc into each backstitch around the edge, adding 3dc increases if needed to get the total number of sts to be a multiple of 5, ss to first dc. [Multiple of 5 dc sts]

Fasten off.

Round 2 (RS) Join Lipstick Pink to first dc, ch2 (counts as htr), htr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2.

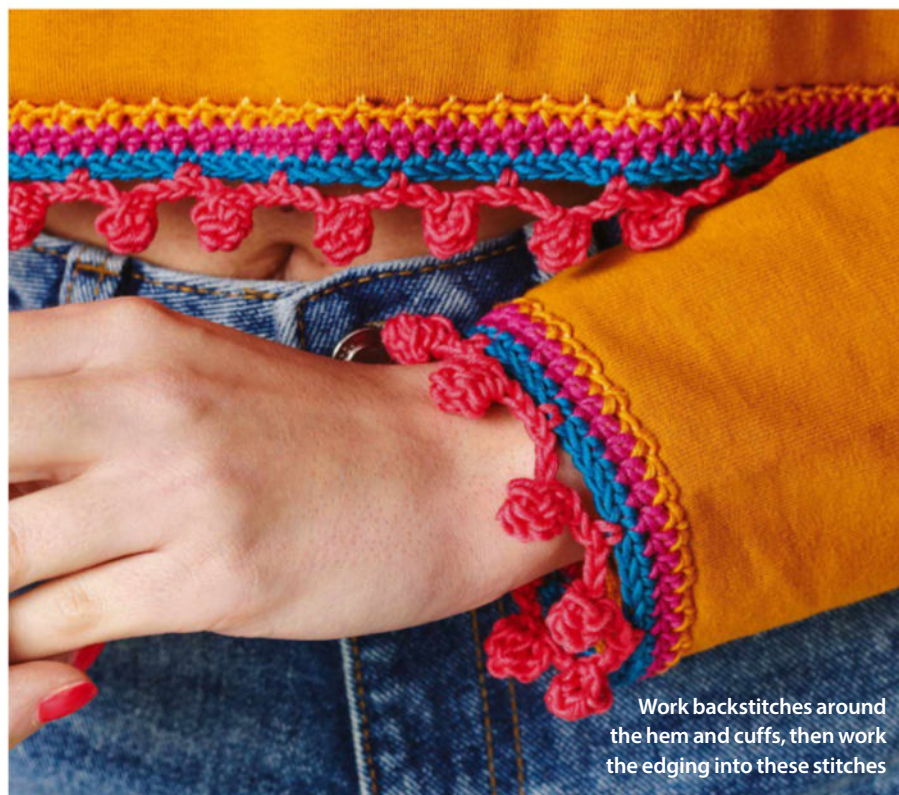
Fasten off.

Round 3 (RS) Join Kingfisher Blue to first st, ch1, dc in first st and each st around, ss to first dc.

Fasten off.

Round 4 (RS) Join Vintage Pink to first st, ch1, dc in first st, *ch5, (4-tr cluster, ch2, ss) in 3rd ch from hook, ch2, skip 4 sts, dc in next st; repeat from * around, omitting last dc on final rep, ss to first dc to join.

Fasten off and weave in all ends.



Work backstitches around the hem and cuffs, then work the edging into these stitches

How bazaar!

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





YOU WILL NEED

- Anchor Baby Pure Cotton (100% cotton, 50g/165m)
2 balls of each:
Yarn A Lavender (0422)
Yarn B Lime (0253)
Yarn C Strawberry Red (0115)
1 ball of each:
Yarn D Pink (0409)
Yarn E Turquoise (1090)
 - Anchor Artiste Metallic (80% viscose, 20% polyester, 25g/100m)
2 balls of each:
Yarn A Purple (0310)
Yarn B Turquoise (0312)
Yarn C Red (0318)
Yarn D Silver (0301)
1 ball of **Yarn E** Blue (0320)
 - A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
 - A basket (ours is 120cm in circumference)
 - Felted or wooden beads, 2cm
- For yarn stockists contact**
www.anchorcrafts.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 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

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, then joined 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. Work with 2 strands of yarn held together as one throughout: one strand of Baby Pure Cotton and one strand of Artiste Metallic. You will need 2 felted or wooden beads for each Motif you make.

BASKET EMBELLISHMENT

DIAMOND MOTIF 1

Using Yarn A, 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 Yarn B.

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 Yarn D.

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 Yarn C.

Round 4 As Round 3. [48 sts]



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

DIAMOND MOTIF 2

Make as for Diamond Motif 1, using Yarn C on Round 3 and Yarn D on Round 4.

Using Yarn E, work 20 French knots evenly around the stitches of Round 4.

Block all Motifs to measurements given.

JOIN MOTIFS AND MAKE TOP BAND

Join Yarn A 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 Yarn B.

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

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 Yarn E.

Rounds 6-8 As Round 3.

Change to Yarn C.

Round 9 As Round 4.

Change to Yarn B.

Round 10 As Round 5.

Change to Yarn A.

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

Fasten off.

Using Yarn D, 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 Yarn A 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

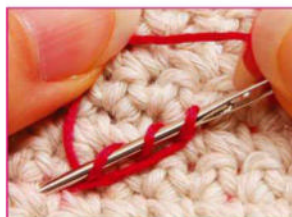
Position Top Band along top edge of your basket and sew in place.

Using Yarn A 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.

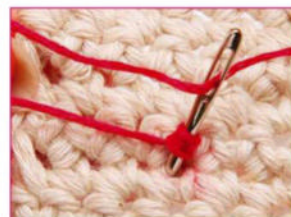
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A FRENCH KNOT



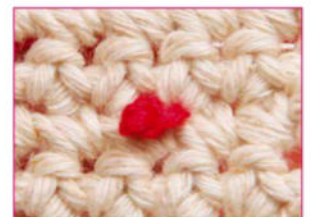
1 Secure yarn at back of fabric and bring needle to the front. Using your thumb and forefinger, hold the yarn as it comes out of the fabric – keeping it taut, twist the needle around the yarn three times, as shown above.



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.

A woman with dark hair and a smile is wearing a purple sleeveless top with a decorative neckline. The neckline features a row of five circular, embroidered floral patterns in shades of red, orange, and purple. She is also wearing light blue denim shorts. The background is a rustic wall with peeling white paint and exposed wood.

A star is reborn

Upcycle a well-loved T-shirt into a feminine,
pretty camisole top. By Esme Crick



YOU WILL NEED

- King Cole Giza Cotton 4ply (100% cotton, 50g/158m)
1 ball of each:
Yarn A Coral (2196)
Yarn B Rosehip (2197)
Yarn C Plum (2199)
Yarn D Orange (2204)
 - A 3mm (US C2/D3) hook
 - A T-shirt
 - Basic sewing kit
 - Vanishing fabric pen
- For yarn stockists contact
King Cole 01756 703670
www.kingcole.com

TENSION

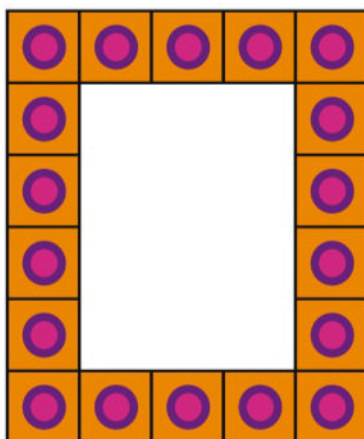
Each Motif measures 6x6cm (2¼x2¼in)

ABBREVIATIONS

spiked cl (Yrh, insert hook in sp indicated, yrh, pull up loop to 1cm in height) 7 times working into same sp each time, yrh, draw yarn through all loops on hook

For a full list, see page 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Construction Chart



Key



If your closet's become a sea of casual basics it's time to seize control. Snip and hook your way to superior style with this snazzmatazz upcycling project. A loose-fit T-shirt gives the top a flattering gathered drape.

NOTES

Yoke is made up of 18 Motifs. Refer to the Construction Chart below when joining the Motifs into the Yoke.

YOKE

SQUARE MOTIF (MAKE 18)

- Using Yarn A, ch5, ss to first ch to make a ring.
- Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 12dc into ring, ss to first dc to join. [12 dc]
- Fasten off.**
- Round 2** Join Yarn B with ss in any st, ch2 (counts as 1st tr in cl), 2-tr cl in same st, ch2, *3-tr cl in next st, ch2; rep from * to end, ss to top of beg 3-tr cl. [12 3-tr cls, 12 ch-sp]
- Fasten off.**
- Round 3** Join Yarn C with ss in any ch-2 sp, pull up loop to 1cm in height, *(yrh, insert hook into same sp, yrh, pull up 1cm loop) 6 times, yrh, draw yarn through all loops on hook, ch3, (spiked cl, ch3) into each ch-2 sp around, ss to top of beg spiked cl. [12 spiked cls]
- Round 4** Join Yarn D with ss in any ch-3 sp, ch2 (counts as htr), (2tr, ch2, 2tr, htr) in same ch-3 sp, 3dc in next 2 ch-3 sps, *(htr, 2tr, ch2, 2tr, htr) in next ch-3 sp, 3dc in next 2 ch-3 sps; rep from * to end, ss to top of beg ch-2. [48 sts]
- Round 5** Ch1, dc in each st to next ch-2 sp, (dc, ch2, dc) in ch-2 sp; repeat from * around, ss to top of beg dc. [56 sts]
- Fasten off** and weave in all ends.
Block the Motifs to the measurements given.

JOIN MOTIFS

Using Yarn D and with RS together, whip stitch or ss motifs together in back loops only. Use the Construction Chart as a guide.

EDGING

- Join Yarn C with a dc in any st on outside edge of Yoke.
- Round 1** Ch1, *dc in next 3 sts, ch3, ss into 3rd ch from hook; rep from * around to end, ss to first dc to join.
- Repeat for inside edge of Yoke, but work dc2tog in each of the 4 corners.
- Fasten off** and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Lay T-shirt out flat with front facing up. Fold Yoke in half along centre seam, lay on top of T-shirt with top edges and centre aligned. Pin through both layers of the T-shirt just below the Yoke.
Take Yoke away, and draw a line with a vanishing fabric pen 1.5cm above pin line.



The motifs are constructed in a rectangular frame, which is then folded to make a neckline



Block the motifs to the listed measurements to ensure they align properly when joined

Cut through both layers, across the marked line from armhole to armhole.
Turn T-shirt over, mark out a line 3cm below cut edge and cut to this height ON THE BACK ONLY, as the back needs to be shorter than the front to allow for the bust.
As the T-shirt is wider than the Yoke, gather the front section (excluding the armholes) by making a running st and pulling in until the slightly gathered front section is the same width as the Yoke. Pin the Yoke approx 1.5cm below the cut edge at the front and back, adjusting as necessary. Once you are happy, sew the Yoke in place.
Shape armholes as necessary, and hem to finish.



Winter blooms

Simple floral accents and hand-stitched lines give a basic blanket a new lease of life. By Sara Huntington



YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Merry Go Round (100% acrylic, 100g/294m), 2 balls of Rainbow (3142)
- Stylecraft Special DK (100% acrylic, 100g/295m), 1 ball of Midnight (1011)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- A square blanket
- A pompom maker, 25mm
- Air erasable fabric pen

For yarn stockists contact
Stylecraft 01484 848435
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

Each Flower measures 6cm (2¼in) in diameter

MEASUREMENTS

Dependent on measurements of blanket used

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

If you're after a throw or blanket but can't find the right shade to suit your space, this quick-fix idea is just the thing. Freshen up a plain base with Stylecraft Merry Go Round multicoloured yarn – it does all the colour coordinating for you!

NOTES

The Blanket was designed and made by a left-handed designer. If you are right-handed, the Flowers will twist in the opposite direction.

TO PREPARE

Using a fabric pen, measure out and mark a double-lined grid on your blanket. You can choose the size of the squares on your grid. The squares shown on the sample blanket were 20x20cm.

Using Midnight, work a running stitch down each marked line. Flowers and pompoms will be placed at the intersection of each of the double lines.

FLOWERS

Make as many as there are intersections on your Blanket grid. Our sample required 42. Using Rainbow, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr), 11htr in loop, ss into top of beg ch-2 to join. [12 htr]

Round 2 Ch5 (counts as htr, ch3), *skip 1 htr, htr in next st, ch3; repeat from * 4 times more, ss into second ch of beg ch-5 to join. [6 htr, 6 ch-3 sps]

Round 3 *Ch5, turn the work so the WS is facing, ss into the top from the next htr to the left, turn so the RS is facing, ch2, 7htr into the ch-5 sp, 4htr around the post of the htr at the base of the last ch5, ss into the top of the next htr from Round 2; repeat from * 5 times more. [6 interlocking petals]

Fasten off and weave in ends.



Flowers are worked in rounds in half treble and finished with a pompom in the centre

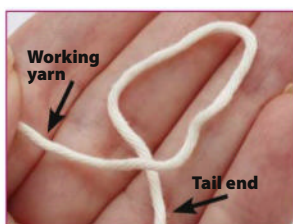
TO MAKE UP

Using Midnight, make a pompom for the centre of each Flower.

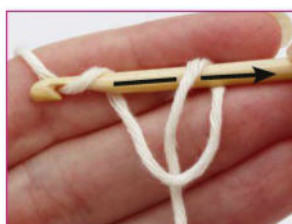
Place pompom at the centre of a Flower and sew into place.

Sew a Flower at every running stitch intersection on the Blanket. You can use the image as a guide.

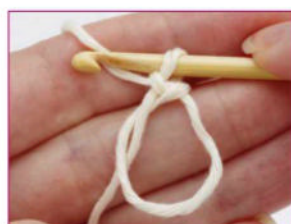
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A MAGIC LOOP



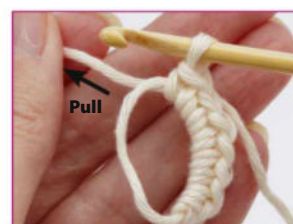
1 To start a magic loop, don't make a slipknot. Instead, make a loop with the yarn, leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is under the working yarn.



2 Insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn round the hook anticlockwise and pull the yarn through the loop.



3 Make a t-ch for the sts you want to work (above, we made 1 t-ch for dc). Now work the sts into the magic loop, making sure you work over both the loop and the tail end (so, 2 yarn strands).



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



Midnight
sparkle

Adorn a top with a lacy collar and cuffs made from glittery yarn – you'll shine night and day. By Vicky Gorry



YOU WILL NEED

- Go Handmade Party Deluxe (100% polyester, 50g/250m)
2 balls of Maritime Blue (18161) held doubled
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Stitch markers

For yarn stockists contact

www.hobbii.co.uk

TENSION

18 tr and 10 rows to measure approx 10x10cm (4x4in) with yarn held doubled

MEASUREMENTS

Collar measures approx 48cm (19in) in diameter at neck edge

Cuffs measure approx 7.5x18cm (3x7in)

ABBREVIATIONS

shell (2tr, ch1, 2tr) into same st or ch-sp

For a full list, see page 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Upgrade a simple top for nights out, or to add glamour to daytime outfits. These are great projects for practising lace stitches, and they're small enough to take on as a step up in your crochet skill journey.

NOTES

Hold yarn double throughout.

Collar and Cuffs are each worked in 3 sections, beginning with a narrow length of stitches and chain spaces, which are then worked into on either side of the length.

Collar is worked in rows in one piece.

Cuffs are worked in one piece, in rows initially and then in rounds.

COLLAR

Ch6.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in fifth ch from hook (creates ch-4 sp), tr in last ch, turn. [2 tr, ch-4 sp]

Row 2 (WS) Ch3 (counts as ch-3 sp), skip first tr, tr in next st, tr in ch-4 sp, turn.

[2 tr, 1 ch-3 sp]

Row 3 Ch4 (counts as ch-4 sp), skip first tr, tr in next st, tr in ch-3 sp, turn.

Rows 4-59 Repeat Rows 2-3. [30 ch-4 sps, 29 ch-3 sps along each side after Row 59]

Fasten off.

Rotate the Collar to work along the ch-4 row ends, join yarn into the first ch-4 sp.

Row 60 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), (tr, ch1, 2tr) in same ch-4 sp, *dc in next row end, shell in next ch-4 sp; repeat from * across, turn. [30 shells, 29 dc]

Row 61 Ch5 (counts as tr, ch2), *dc in ch-1 sp of next shell, ch2**, tr in next dc, ch2; repeat from * across, ending last rep at**, tr in last st, turn. [30 dc, 31 tr]

Row 62 Ch6 (counts as tr, ch3), *dc in next dc, ch3, dc in next tr, ch3; repeat from * to last dc, dc in last dc, ch3, tr in third ch of beg ch-5. [59 dc, 2 tr, 60 ch-3 sps]

Row 63 Ch7 (counts as tr, ch4), dc in next ch-sp, *ch4, dc in next ch-sp; repeat from * to last ch-sp, ch4, dc in last ch-sp, ch4, tr in third ch of beg ch-6, turn. [60 dc, 2 tr, 61 ch-4 sps]

Rows 64-65 Repeat Row 63.

[2 tr, 62 dc, 63 ch-4 sps]

Round 66 (RS) Working around the Collar, ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in first ch-sp, 3tr in each ch-4 sp to corner, 6tr in corner ch-sp, 2tr in next 5 row ends, tr in next 2 sts from Row 59, 5tr in corner (mark first tr), (tr in next row end, 2tr in next row end) across to last row end, (3tr, ch10, ss to top of last tr, 2tr) in last row end, 2tr in next 5 row ends after corner, 3tr in same ch-sp as beg 2tr of Round, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [581 tr]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Sew a Button to the marked stitch from Round 66.



A pearl button is a classic complement, but a bolder choice will work brilliantly, too

CUFFS (MAKE 2)

Ch5.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in fourth ch from hook, tr in next ch, turn. [2 tr, 1 ch-3 sp]

Row 2 (WS) Ch3, tr in next stitch, tr in ch-3 sp, turn. [2 tr, 1 ch-3 sp]

Rows 3-18 Repeat Row 2.

Ss to the base of the ch-3 sp from Row 1 to form Cuff, being careful not to twist.

Work on in rounds.

Round 19 Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), 2tr in same ch-3 sp, dc in next row end, *shell in next row end, dc in next row end; repeat from * to end of round, tr in first ch-sp, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [9 dc, 9 shells]

Round 20 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), *dc in next ch-1 sp, ch2, tr in next dc, ch2; repeat from * around, ss to first dc to join. [9 dc, 9 tr, 18 ch-2 sps]

Round 21 Ch1, dc in first st, ch3, (dc, ch3) in each st across, ss to first dc to join. [18 dc, 18 ch-3 sps]

Round 22 Ch1, dc in first ch-sp, ch3, (dc, ch-3) in each ch-3 sp around, ss to first dc to join. [18 dc, 18 ch-3 sps]

Rounds 23-26 Repeat Round 22.

Round 27 Ch3 (counts as tr), 4tr in first ch-sp, dc in next ch sp, (5tr in next ch-sp, dc in next ch-sp) around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [45 tr, 9 dc]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BOTTOM EDGE

Turn Cuffs around to work around bottom.

Round 1 (RS) Join yarn into any ch-3 row end, ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in same ch-3 sp, (2tr in next row end, 3tr in next row end) around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [45 tr]

Rounds 2-3 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Spray lightly with water, press on the WS with a cool iron. Sew on to your chosen garment.



Simply
Crochet

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