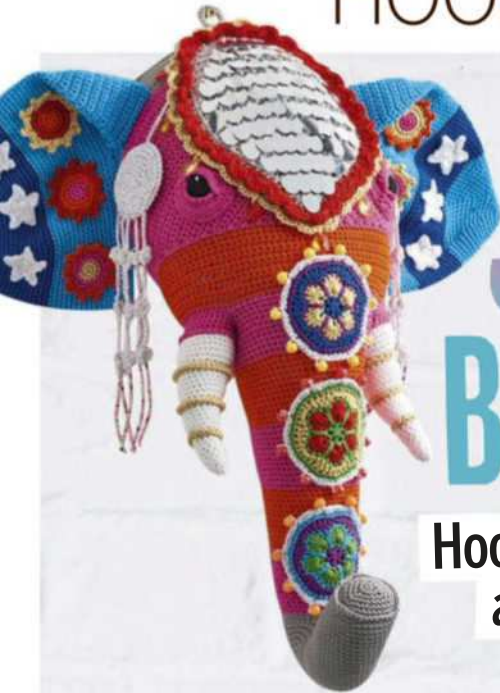


Simply Crochet

HOOKED ON HANDMADE



JEWEL BRIGHTS

Hook up a colourful animal head!

ANNABOO'S HOUSE
Discover the designer behind the blog!

Desk Pop!



Sharpen up your office and hook up a bright geometric set



THE
Florist
COLLECTION



BRAND NEW

A stunning arrangement of
6 prints & 7 solids shades

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Simply Crochet

HOOLED ON HANDMADE

We're all about the beads, gems and sequins. Decorate your home with this stunning elephant head from Vanessa Mooncie (find the pattern in your extra book), or, for quicker results, take a look through for a sequined necklace, a beaded headdress, and a clutch to die for. How could you possibly resist?



Simply Crochet

ISSUE SIXTY-NINE

CONTENTS

Fancy tails
a go-go! p75



36 FLOATY PONCHO

PSST

It's never too early to plan for summer!



TOP OF THE CLASS
P14



EXCITING CROCHET IDEAS TO INSPIRE YOU

- 14 TOP OF THE CLASS
- 27 BEADED HEADDRESS
- 36 FLOATY PONCHO
- 43 SEQUIN NECKLACE
- 46 TASSEL TEE
- 53 FEATHER CUSHION

- 58 OMBRE COWL
- 61 HOOK TO HOOK
- 65 EMBELLISH AN OUTFIT
- 72 BEADED BAG
- 75 AMIGURUMI PEACOCK
- 83 BABY BLANKET
- 95 HOOK 'N' LEARN

65



HOOK
to
HOOK

Turn to page 61 and check out our designer challenge - you could win gorgeous yarn!

WIN



Stunning
headdress,
p27





58

ALL ABOUT COLOUR



NEW!
P51



46



72



83



43

GOOD READS

- 09 HOOKED
- 32 JOURNAL: KATE BRUNING
- 41 YOUR AWARD WINNERS
- 51 COLOUR CLASS: TEAL
- 56 PROFILE: SARAH SHRIMPTON
- 68 BUST YOUR STASH
- 80 SHOW US YOURS!
- 98 MY HOOKY TREASURE

HOW TO...

- 34 SUBSCRIBE
Never miss an issue!
- 78 YARN REVIEWS
Six new season delights
- 87 THE GUIDE
Essential step-by-steps
- 93 CHARTS



NEW
YARNS
P78

HOOK 'N'
LEARN



95

The teal thing

This issue is brought to you by the colour teal. Very much the star of the show, it's the focus of our new series on colour from Kate Bruning on page 51. Every month we'll bring you a different colour theme to enjoy, you'll discover a bit more about it and there will be a project to make, too. Teal's coming through as a huge trend, so different shades also make an appearance in the Desk Pop office collection (it goes *so well* with mustards and greys), as well as the poncho from Bergère and Ilaria Caliri's cute peacock. What's not to love?

Sara



CONTRIBUTORS

A round of applause for this month's brilliant crafters...



KATE BRUNING

Kate is a sucker for colour, making her the perfect crafter to kick off our new series of features on colours. Take a new look at teal in all its glory on page 51.



VANESSA MOONCIE

Vanessa is a designer, illustrator and interior designer, and in her spare time she whipped up the utterly stupendous elephant head for our extra book. She's our hero!



KATIE JONES

Knitwear designer Katie shares her exquisitely embellished wedding outfit on page 98, and we can pick up a few of her embellishing tips with her denim jacket overhaul on page 65.



SARAH SHRIMPTON

Discover the creative brains behind the blog Annaboo's House on page 56. Designer, crafter, yarn dyer and teacher Sarah is certainly keeping herself busy...

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Ilaria Caliri, Amanda Crawford, Lucy Croft, Hannah Cross, Judy Darley, Anne Egan, Emma Friedlander-Collins, Charlotte Hawksworth, Catherine Hood, Jenny May Forsyth, Emma Guess, Esther Newman, Steve O'Brien, Vicki Roberts, Louise Smith

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Essentially Unbeatable

Rico Essentials Cotton dk – top variety in 54 colours



INTRODUCING A NEW YARN FROM *Scheepjes*

River Washed

*A gently two-toned addition to the
Scheepjes Stone Washed range*

The Borealis blanket using Scheepjes River Washed & Stone Washed yarn is available as a FREE PATTERN from <https://haakmaarraak.nl/borealis-blanket>



945 Ganges 943 Mekong 942 Steenbras 944 Nile 946 Mississippi 947 Seine 941 Colorado 952 Rhine 950 Wheaton 949 Yarra 951 Amazon 953 Severn 954 Congo 948 Danube

Scheepjes River Washed: (78% cotton, 22% acrylic, 50g/130m) **Scheepjes River Washed XL:** (70% cotton, 30% acrylic, 50g/75m). RRP £2.99

River Washed is available in 14 colours, in regular Sport and XL Aran weights and is designed to combine perfectly with our Stone Washed range

WWW.SCHEEPJES.COM

Hooked

IDEAS ♡ INSPIRATION ♡ ACCESSORIES ♡ WEBSITES ♡ EVENTS ♡ STUFF



Put your feet up...

We always keep a beady eye on Wool Couture's latest releases. They're always showstoppers, and their new Jupiter Footstool is an epic make any way you look at it. It crochets up quicker than a beanie – honest! As a beginner's project, it's perfect to get to grips with, and you'll end up with a beautiful, stylish addition to your living room with in no time at all. The luxurious merino yarn, Epic Extreme, comes in a rainbow of shades. £78 for the kit, excluding bean bag, from www.woolcouturecompany.com



COSMIC CAL

Get ready to immerse yourself in Stylecraft's new crochet-along with four blanket designs by Helen Shrimpton: Creation, Harmony, Peace and Tranquillity, and Love and Light. The Cosmic CAL launches on 17 April. For more info go to www.crystalsandcrochet.com and www.facebook.com/stylecraftyarn

KEEP TRIM

▼ We are loving all the latest gorgeous trimmings at the VV Rouleaux shop. From a whole spectrum of luxury ribbons to flowers, tassels, braids and feathers, we're a little over-excited. Everyone knows you can never have too many tassels and this beauty (£2.75) is called Flirtatious Spring. They run tassel making courses, too – go to www.vvrouleaux.com



Photographer Yael Falk

TAKE A PEEP

West Yorkshire Spinners are proud to announce a new addition to the family: Bo Peep 4ply. Like their Bo Peep DK, it's a blend of 52% Falkland wool and 48% nylon, making it both beautifully soft and machine washable: cue parents sighing with relief. It comes in a range of sweet pastels, as you can see. £3.99 per 50g at www.wyspinners.com

trend alert

We Love...

Fancy taking your crochet skills to a new dimension? You don't just have to use yarn on your hook, you know... Yael Falk of Yoola Design has been inspiring us to have a go at some wire crochet. Her beautiful DIY kits use copper wire and include patterns for intricate jewellery, such as bracelets, necklaces and earrings, as well as stunning homewares, such as the Pendant Light kit. Our absolute fave is the Pear kit, which is deliciously elegant. Each of the Yoola designs comes with a video tutorial and a PDF to help you get started; prices start at £24. Visit www.yooladesign.com or Yoola on etsy.com for more.



HOOKED



MINI PROFILE



STITCH & HUSTLE

Michele Costa, the US blogger behind Stitch and Hustle, told us: "I learned to love crochet as a child. I have memories of

being in a corner with a ball of yarn and hook and making chains to entertain myself. I taught myself more stitches and by the time I was in my 20s I was fully hooked.

"Fashion inspires me as I am primarily a garment designer. But nature and travel inspire me too. It's why most of my designs are named after places I've visited. For example, the waist and straps of the Mallory Tank take me back to Mallory Square in Key West, Florida, and the way everyone would gather for sunset in the open plaza.

"Having said that, Audrey Hepburn is my muse. As my design arsenal grows I always think of how I can honour her classic style.

"My favourite make is probably my Newport Cardigan – I never take it off! And my biggest triumph so far is my recent collaboration with Manos del Uruguay for the Montevideo Pullover. This is special as I had always admired the company, and the



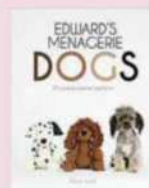
collaboration enabled me to make a garment that I truly believe fits every woman.

"Nothing makes me happier than the messages I receive from crocheters telling me they made their first garment from one of my designs. I save those messages in a folder for those days I may need a little push.

"Here's a confession: I may or may not always swatch first. Shush – don't tell on me. Also – I love knitting. Can that be ok?"

Find Michele at www.michelecosta.com or on her blog at www.stitchandhustle.com

INSPIRING BOOKS



EDWARD'S MENAGERIE: DOGS

KERRY LORD

(£14.63, Lark Books)

Create your faithful friend in crochet with this latest book from TOFT's

Edward's Menagerie series. From Saxon the Cocker Spaniel to Rosie the Dachshund, the book includes 50 classic dog breeds. Plus, Kerry Lord shows you how to adapt the patterns to capture your very own unique pal's good looks!



GRANNY SQUARES WEEKEND

EMMA VARNAM

(£14.99, GMC)

Put your yarn stash to good use with this book

packed with ideas to make using crocheted granny squares. From hats to coasters, toys and decorations, there are 20 projects to inspire you, all of which will take just a couple of days to complete. Well, that's your weekend sorted then!



COMPLETE CROCHET COURSE

SHANNON MULLETT-BOWLSBY

(£24.99, Sterling)

This book is a perfect way into crochet for

beginners, but also makes a great reference bible for those with more experience. It takes you through all the tools you need, the different stitches and techniques, plus how to finish your work. There are also some lovely projects to practise on.



BOHO EMBROIDERY: THE PATTERN COLLECTION

NICHOLE VOGELSINGER

(£20.99, Lucky Spool Media)

Nichole Vogelsinger gives

embroidery a boho makeover, mixing it up with fabric collage and encouraging you to explore your own unique style of textile art. There are 30 modern motifs you can use as your starting points, and then once you are away you'll find there is a whole world of fabric, design, texture and thread you can play with.

Photographers: Chelsea Rousey & Alexandra Lee

SUBS STARS!

◀ Every month, three subscribers win a prize as a thank you for their loyalty. This month, the winners (below) will each receive Lily Sugar 'n Cream cotton yarn, plus the crochet pattern for a trio of pretty and practical baskets to make!

Ben Tagger, St Neotts
Lisa Brown, Nottingham
Sarah Long, Manningtree

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



SHADE SHIFTER

Change is afoot! Unique Yarns Co have created something quite spectacular: yarn that changes colour in direct sunlight. Coloured using a photoactivated dye, indoors the yarn is white and outdoors it's purple. To accompany this magical feat, Unique Yarns have launched a fab kit using the yarn – and what else could they do but an amigurumi colour-changing chameleon? The yarn is £7 per 50g and the chameleon kit costs £14. Go to <https://uniqueyarnsco.com>



COLOUR YOUR WORLD

Fleabubs & Lala have revamped their website so that it looks as pretty as the beautiful things on sale within. Nicola (the eponymous Lala) has added yarns and hooks to her collection, always with a splash of the primary colours she loves so much. Her favourite home-dyed yarn, Local Heroes and Whores, is a blend of cyan, magenta and yellow, and is available in a range of blends and weights. www.fleabubsbylala.co.uk

CROCHET ART

▼ Get inspired by some wonderful freestyle crochet at the Yarning the Land exhibition at the White Horse Bookshop Gallery in Marlborough, which runs from 4 to 28 April. Gemma MacLennan and Barbara Touati-Evans are both crochet teachers and in this show they aim to tell stories (or 'yarns') about the land and how we relate to it in the modern world, using crochet in a contemporary way. Admission is free and artworks are available to buy. www.whitehorsebooks.co.uk



IN THE BAG

Peanut & Bean are on a mission to organise our crafty lives with their cute and quirky, ethically-sourced project bags in natural cotton canvas. Choose between fab slogans or brilliant personalised versions – you can even get your name printed on yours and avoid those awkward mix-ups at your next CAL. Looking for a gift for that tricky crocheter who has everything? Look no further... £12.50 including print, go to the site at www.peanutandbean.co.uk



WORKSHOPS

Wonder of wool!

An unmissable treat for those of us enthralled by all things yarny, Wonderwool Wales yarn fest is nearly upon us. Alongside the chance to pick up some divine artisan products, there are some great 'woolschools', where you can pick up new skills in weaving, dyeing, felting, spinning, arm knitting and freeform crocheting. 28-29 April, tickets from £9, www.wonderwoolwales.co.uk





DIVE IN!

Blue Star Crochet's latest kit is a dreamy underwater vision in yarn. Caught by the Sea Shawl kit costs £21.99 and includes a choice of hand-dyed 100% Falkland Merino British wool, a pattern by Veronika Cromwell, a hook, stitch markers, and a couple of extra goodies to boot. Available from 20 April, *Simply Crochet* readers can bag a 10% discount by using the code SIMPLYCROCHET10. Pre-order from 1 April at www.bluestarcrochet.etsy.com

5 FAB FINDS

Dig for victory!

Unleash your inner green goddess with garden finds.



TEST YOUR PETAL

Before you get to work, you've got to look the part, right? And for inspiration, you need look no further than this cute brooch kit, available in four lush colourways. www.woollychicdesigns.co.uk



UNDER THE WIRE

Take the crochet look outside by potting some blooms in London Garden Trading's fab wire crochet planter, on Not on the High Street.

PRICKLY SUBJECT
If you're not that green fingered, fake it 'til you make it with this cool crocheted cactus pot. You can buy a PDF pattern from PlanetJune on etsy.com



GOING GNOME

No garden is complete without a friendly gnome, and rabbizdesign's pattern on etsy.com has seven little characters to hook up. Heigh ho...

SIT UP!
Yarn? In the garden?! Why, yes you can. Relax and enjoy all your hard work with this weatherproof seat craftily crafted in resin from VidaXL. www.houzz.co.uk



SUMMER LOVIN'

Well, get us a 99 (with a flake) and lather on the sun lotion, 'cos summer is here! Or it is as far as Bergère de France are concerned as they've launched two lovely summery yarns: Ruban (£4.50 per 50g) is a poly/wool mix woven into a ribbon, perfect for lacy tops, while Berlingo (£3.95 per 50g) has a dash of metallic thread running through it, ideal for glitz and glam. New pattern books will help you make the most of both fab yarns. www.bergeredefrance.co.uk



OUT & ABOUT

Skills, shows & events



APR 15 How to Crochet Workshop, £50, Baa Ram Ewe, Chapel Allerton, Leeds, 0113 278 1788, www.baaramewe.co.uk

APR 28-29 Wonderwool Wales Festival, £10, Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells, www.wonderwoolwales.co.uk

MAY 5 Self Patterning Yarn Dyeing Workshop, £65, Black Sheep Wools, Warrington, www.blacksheepwools.com

MAY 11-13 The Handmade Fair, from £12, Ragley Hall, Warwickshire, www.thehandmadefair.com

MAY 12-13 Wool@J13, £10, Lower Drayton Farm, Penkridge, Staffordshire, 01785 713045, www.wool-j13.uk

OFFICE IDEAS



Top of the class

Give your home office a fresh look with these seriously on-trend geometric designs.





FOR BETTER OR PURSE

We rarely go more than a few hours without reaching for our pennies, and with a purse this dear, we definitely won't be able resist getting it out. This compact little geo purse is just big enough to be handy for storing keys, cards and other essentials.

YES WE CAN!

Instead of throwing out tins, why not give your old soup tins a woolly makeover? Pencil holders, plant pots – they've got it all covered. Environmentally friendly *and* souper (geddit?) to look at. Result!





HANGING AROUND

Peg boards, oh how we love thee. And we also love these hanging baskets for pens, pencils, hooks, brushes, and anything else a gal could need for her study. Get creative and see what else you can rustle up to hang from your peg board.

COASTER TO COASTER

Functional so doesn't have to mean boring. These striking star coasters will protect your desk from your steaming morning brew(s), while inspiring your best, most stellar ideas.

OFFICE IDEAS



SINGLE FILE

Few people will claim filing as their favourite job, which is why it's always better to add a flourish. Clever handles will add a fun (and properly useful) touch to your neatly sorted paperwork.

COVER TO COVER

Keep your tablet or e-reader scratch-free and safe inside this quick-to-make cover with a retro feel. It seems diamonds are still a girl's best friend.





GEO PURSE

Keep your coins and other essentials safe in this must-have purse. By Matt Spiers.

- DMC Woolly (100% merino wool, 50g/125m), 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn A Mustard (091)
 - Yarn B Charcoal (076)
 - Yarn C Teal (077)
 - Yarn D Light Blue (073)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- 8mm split ring (or a small keyring ring)
- 10cm (4in) zip
- Sewing thread to match Yarn A colour, and needle

TENSION

28 stitches and 32 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in)

MEASUREMENTS

11x9.5cm (4¼x3¾in)

FRONT AND BACK (BOTH ALIKE)

Using Yarn A and a 2.5mm hook, ch19.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [18 dc]

Rows 2-3 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st across, turn.

Row 4 Ch1, dc in each st across to last st, 2dc in last st, turn. [19 dc]

Rows 5-7 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Row 8 Ch1, dc in each st across to last st, 2dc in last st, turn. [20 dc]

Rows 9-28 Rep Rows 5-8 five times more. [25 dc]

Row 29 Ch1, dc in each st across to last st, turn leaving last st unworked. [24 dc]

Row 30 Ss into first st, (ss, ch1, dc) into next st, dc in each st across, turn. [23 dc]

Row 31 Repeat Row 29. [22 dc]

Row 32 Ss into first st, (ss, ch1, dc) into next st, dc in each st across to last st, 2dc in last st. [22 dc]

Fasten off.

FRONT POCKET

Using Yarn B, ch19.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [18 dc]

Row 2 Ch1, dc in each st across to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [17 sts]

Row 3 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. [17 dc]

Row 4 Ch1, dc in each st across to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [16 sts]

Rows 5-8 Repeat Rows 3 and 4 twice more.

Row 9 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. [14 dc] Change to Yarn C.

Row 10 Ch1, dc in fl only of each st across, turn. [14 dc]

Row 11 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. [14 dc]

Row 12 Ch1, dc in each st across to last st, 2dc in last st, turn. [15 dc]

Rows 13-15 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Row 16 Ch1, dc in each st across to last st, 2dc in last st, turn. [16 dc]

Rows 17-28 Rep Rows 13-16 three times more. [19 dc]

Row 29 Ch1, dc in each st across to last st, turn leaving last st unworked. [18 dc]

Row 30 Ss into first st, (ss, ch1, dc) into next st, dc into each st across, turn. [17 dc]

Row 31 Repeat Row 29. [16dc]

Row 32 Ss into first st, (ss, ch1, dc) into next st, dc in each st across to last st, 2dc in last st, turn. [16dc]

Fasten off.

FRONT POCKET DETAIL

With RS facing, join Yarn D in first unworked loop of Row 9 to work across the row, ss in each st across, **fasten off.**

With RS facing, join Yarn D in last st of Row 1 to work along row ends at the edge of pocket, surface crochet across the RS close to the pocket edge using the image as a guide, **fasten off.**

TOP OPENING EDGING

With RS facing, join Yarn D with ss in first Row end to work along the diagonal edge, ch1, dc in each Row end across, **fasten off.** [32 dc]

TASSEL

Cut four 10cm lengths of each of Yarns B, C and D. Fold all lengths in half and tie together with a single length of Yarn A approx 1cm from fold. Wrap Yarn A around

several times and tie off. Use a needle to thread through and hide ends. Trim tassel lengths to approx 4cm below tied point. Open split ring, thread through fold loop, attach to zip and close split ring.

TO FINISH

With the RS of Back facing, pin zip behind the top edge so that the Edging covers the zip teeth. Using sewing thread sew into place. Ensuring the Front and Back pieces are lined up, sew the other side of the zip to the Front piece (you may find it easier to line them up and then open the zip when sewing). Trim off any zip excess. Line up all pieces (including the Pocket on the Front) and pin together. Join Yarn D at top corner to work around the Purse. Dc in each st or row end around, working sts through all pieces to join together and placing 3dc in the bottom right-hand corner. **Fasten off** and weave in all ends. Attach the tassel to the zip.

PENCIL TINS

Upcycle old food cans and give them a second life. By Emma Friedlander-Collins.

- DMC Woolly (100% merino wool, 50g/125m), 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn A Light Blue (073)
 - Yarn B Mustard (091)
 - Yarn C Charcoal (076)
 - Yarn D Teal (077)
 - Yarn E Grey (124)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

MEASUREMENTS

To fit a food tin 7.5cm (3in) in diameter

CHEVRON COVER

NOTES

The Cover is worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it helpful to place a marker in the first st of each round and move it up as you work.

When changing colour mid-row, twist the ends of the two colours together. Pick up the new colour in the last yrh of the previous stitch. Carry the unused strands of yarn along the top of your stitches. You will find the Chart needed on page 93.

Using Yarn C, ch45, ss to first ch to join in a loop.





Round 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each ch around. [45 dc]

Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.

Rounds 4-21 Follow the Chart, repeating each row 5 times. [45 dc]

Rounds 22-24 Dc in each st around. [45 dc]
Fasten off and weave in all ends.

MINI GRANNY COVER

Make 10 squares in a variety of colour combinations.

Using Yarn A, ch5, ss to 1st ch to make a ring.

Round 1 Ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in ring, ch2, 3tr in ring, ch2, change to Yarn B, (3tr in ring, ch2) twice, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join, **fasten off**.

Round 2 Join Yarn A into last corner ch-2 sp, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in same corner sp, tr in each of next 3 tr, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in next corner sp, tr in each of next 3 tr, (2tr, ch2) in next corner sp, change to Yarn B, 2tr in same corner sp, tr in each of next 3 tr, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in next corner sp, tr in each of next 3 tr, (2tr, ch2) back into last corner sp, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join, **fasten off**.

TO MAKE UP

Place the 10 squares in a 2x5 rectangle and sew the edges together, then sew together the short edges of the rectangle to make a tube.

EDGING

Round 1 Join Yarn A in any tr along one edge, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each tr and 2tr in each ch-2 sp around, ss to first tr to join. [55 sts]

Rounds 2-3 ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first dc to join. [55 sts]

Fasten off and weave in all ends.

Repeat Edging along opposite edge of tube.

RAISED DIAMOND COVER

Using Yarn D, ch43.

Row 1 (RS) Tr in 4th ch and each ch across, turn. [41 sts]

Row 2 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in fl of each st across, turn.

Row 3 Ch3, *dtr in fl of 4th st to the left 2 rows below, *skip 1 st, tr in each of next 6 sts, dtr in fl of st after previous dtr 2 rows below, skip 1 st; repeat from * 4 times more, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Row 4 Repeat Row 2.

Row 5 Ch3, *tr in each of next 3 sts, dtr in dtr to the right and 2 rows below, dtr in tr to the left and 2 rows below, skip 2 sts, tr in each of next 3 sts; repeat from * 4 times more, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Rows 6-8 Repeat Row 2-4.

Fasten off and weave in all ends.

TO MAKE UP

Sew together short edges to make a tube.

EDGING

Round 1 Join Yarn B in first st after seam, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st around, ss to first st to join, **fasten off**.

Round 2 Join Yarn A in first st, ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first st to join, **fasten off**.

Round 3 Join Yarn D in first st, ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first st to join.

Round 3 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first st to join, **fasten off**.

Repeat Edging at opposite end of tube.

PEG BOARD BASKETS

Live up your peg board with these fab hanging baskets. Make as many as you need, for stationery and haberdashery alike. Designed by Sara Huntington.

- DMC Woolly (100% merino wool, 50g/125m), 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn A Light Blue (073)
 - Yarn B Mustard (091)
 - Yarn C Charcoal (076)
 - Yarn D Teal (077)
 - Yarn E Grey (124)
- A 3mm (US C2 or D/3) hook
- 3 plastic curtain rings, 2cm diameter
- 3 circles of stiff felt or card, 7cm diameter

TENSION

23 sts and 28 rows to measure 10 x10cm (4x4in) in dc worked in the round

MEASUREMENTS

Each Basket measures 7cm (2¾in) diameter and 9cm (3½in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

Spike st Dc into the st in the indicated row directly below the next st

NOTES

Each Basket is worked in the round from the bottom up and has a separate lining. At the beginning of each round, ch1 (not counted as a st throughout), then work first dc in the st at base of beginning ch-1.

BASKET EXTERIOR

GREY AND LIGHT BLUE BASKETS

Using Yarn D, make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 Ch1, (does not count as st here and throughout), 2dc in each st around, ss to first dc. [12 sts]

Round 3 Ch1, 2dc in st at base of beg ch-1, dc in next st, (2dc in next st, dc in next st) to end, ss to first dc. [18 sts]

Round 4 Ch1, 2dc in st at base of beg ch-1, dc in each of next 2 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 2 sts) to end, ss to first dc. [24 sts]

Round 5 Ch1, 2dc in st at base of beg ch-1, dc in each of next 3 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 3 sts) to end, ss to first dc. [30 sts]

Round 6 Ch1, 2dc in st at base of beg ch-1, dc in each of next 4 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts) to end, ss to first dc. [36 sts]

OFFICE IDEAS

Round 7 Ch1, 2dc in st at base of beg ch-1, dc in each of next 5 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts) to end, ss to first dc. [42 sts]

Round 8 Ch1, 2dc in st at base of beg ch-1, dc in each of next 6 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in each of next 6 sts) to end, ss to first dc. [48 sts]

Round 9 Ch1, dcbl in st at base of beg ch-1, dcbl in each st around, ss to first dc.

Rounds 10-11 Ch1, dc in st at base of beg ch-1, dc in each st around, ss to first dc, changing to Yarn E or A on yrh of last ss.

Rounds 12-17 Ch1, dc in st at base of beg ch-1, dc in each st around, ss to first dc, changing to Yarn C at end of Round 17, on yrh of ss.

Round 18 Ch1, spike st 1 row below, *spike st 2 rows below, spike st 3 rows below, spike st 4 rows below, spike st 3 rows below, spike st 2 row below, spike st 1 row below; repeat from * to end, omitting last spike st 1 row below, ss to first dc.

Rounds 19-24 Repeat Rounds 12-17, changing to Yarn E or Yarn A on yrh of last ss.

Round 25 Ch1, spike st 4 rows below, *spike st 3 rows below, spike st 2 rows below, spike st 1 row below, spike st 2 rows below, spike st 3 rows below, spike st 4 rows below; repeat from * to end, omitting last spike st 4 rows below, ss to first st.

Rounds 26-31 Repeat Rounds 12-17 changing to Yarn C on yrh of last ss.

Round 32 Repeat Round 18, changing to Yarn D on yrh of ss.

Rounds 33-35 Repeat Rounds 10-11. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

MUSTARD BASKET

Work as given for Grey and Light Blue Basket, using Yarn B in place of Yarns E or A, with the following changes:

Round 18 Ch1, dc in st at base of beg ch-1, *spike st 1 row below, spike st 2 rows below, spike st 3 rows below, spike st 4 rows below, spike st 5 rows below, dc in next st; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc.

Round 25 Repeat Round 18.

Round 32 Repeat Round 18.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BASKET LINING (INTERIOR)

Using a colour of your choice, work as given for basket exterior to the end of Round 9.

Rounds 10-32 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first dc.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Insert the circle of felt or card in the bottom of the exterior pot. Turn the interior inside out and put inside the exterior so that the RS is visible.

Rejoin Yarn D with a ss to the top edge of the exterior pot. Line up stitches on both edges and work through each of the next 32 corresponding sts with a ss.

Now place the plastic ring adjacent to the next 4 sts and dc through both sets of stitches and over the ring, dc around the ring until it is completely covered by crochet, ss into final 12 corresponding sts of the baskets.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

STAR COASTER

Protect table surfaces with gorgeous starry coasters from Louise Smith. The felt backing is a practical touch that will save your desk from hot tea and more.

■ DMC Woolly (100% merino wool, 50g/125m), 1 ball of each:

Coaster 1:

Yarn A Charcoal (076)

Yarn B Grey (124)

Yarn C Mustard (091)

Coaster 2:

Yarn A Mustard (091)

Yarn B Light Blue (073)

Yarn C Teal (077)

■ A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook

■ A small amount of thick felt (enough to back each coaster)

■ Fabric glue (optional – for attaching felt)

TENSION

25 sts and 25 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over dc

MEASUREMENTS

13.5cm (5¼in) across

NOTES

Always change colour on the last yrh of the previous st.

COASTER

Make one in each colourway.

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) 2dc in Yarn A, 2dc in Yarn B, 2dc in Yarn C, ss to first dc to join, turn. [6 dc





Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 2dc in each of next 2 sts in Yarn C, 2dc in each of next 2 sts in Yarn B, 2dc in each of next 2 sts in Yarn A, ss to first dc, turn. [12 dc]

Round 3 Ch1, (dc in next st, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn A, (dc in next st, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn B, (dc in next st, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn C, ss to first dc, turn. [18 dc]

Round 4 Ch1, (dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn C, (dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn B, (dc in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn A, ss to first dc, turn. [24 dc]

Round 5 Ch1, (dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn A, (dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn B, (dc in each of next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn C, ss to first dc, turn. [30 dc]

Round 6 Ch1, (dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn C, (dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn B, (dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn A, ss to first dc, turn. [36 dc]

Round 7 Ch1, (dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn A, (dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn B, (dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn C, ss to first dc, turn. [42 dc]

Round 8 Ch1, (dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn C, (dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn B, (dc in each of next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn A, ss to first dc, turn. [48 dc]

Round 9 Ch1, (dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn A, (dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn B,

(dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) twice in Yarn C, ss to first dc, turn. [54 dc]

STAR POINTS

You will now work back and forth in rows for each star point.

Row 1 Ch1, dc in each of next 9 sts, turn. [9 dc]

Row 2 Ch1, skip next st, dc in each of next 7 sts, ss in last st, turn. [7 dc]

Row 3 Ch1, skip ss, dc in each of next 7 sts, turn.

Row 4 Ch1, skip next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, ss in last st, turn. [5 dc]

Row 5 Ch1, skip ss, dc in each of next 5 sts, turn.

Row 6 Ch1, skip next st, dc in each of next 3 sts, ss in last st, turn. [3 dc]

Row 7 Ch1, skip ss, dc in each of next 3 sts, turn.

Row 8 Ch1, skip next st, dc in each next st, ss in last st, turn. [1 dc]

Row 9 Ch1, skip ss, dc in next st.

Fasten off.

Rejoin Yarn A with a ss in next dc at base of star point and repeat Rows 1-9.

Repeat Rows 1-9 for each star point, working the next 2 points in Yarn B and the last 2 points in Yarn C.

TO FINISH

Block coaster lightly by spraying with water, pinning flat and leaving to dry. Weave in ends. Trace around the coaster on a piece of thick felt and carefully cut out the shape. Either glue or sew coaster to felt backing – leave to dry for 24 hours if using glue.

BOX FILE HANDLES

Personalise your filing system by adding your own easy-grip handles in any combination of colours you like.

Designed by Anne Egan.

■ DMC Woolly (100% merino yarn, 50g/125m), less than 5g of each:

Yarn A Grey (124)

Yarn B Mustard (091)

or

Yarn A Light Blue (073)

Yarn B Charcoal (076)

■ A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook

■ Box files

■ 2 small metal eyelets per box file

■ Eyelet (or hole-making) tool



OFFICE IDEAS

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project

BOX FILE HANDLE

Using Yarn A, ch46.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook, htr in next ch, tr in each of next 16 ch, htr in next ch, dc in next ch, ss in next ch. [21 sts]

Fasten off, leaving remaining 24 ch unworked.

Turn work and rotate, so that WS is facing and the remaining loops of the starting ch are at the top.

Using Yarn B, ch24.

Row 2 Ss in same ch as last ss of Row 1. Now work into the remaining loops of Yarn A starting ch as follows: dc in next ch, htr in next ch, tr in each of next 16 ch, htr in next ch, dc in next dc, ss in next ch, do not fasten off.

TO FINISH

Fold work in half along its length with WS together and with Yarn A row facing at front, ch1 (not counted as a st), ss through both layers to end, matching up the sts (ss to ss, dc to dc, htr to htr and tr to tr).

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Make 2 holes on the side of the file to match the metal eyelets and fix eyelets. Thread chains of handles through holes and tie together on the inside.

TABLET COVER

Save your tablet from grief with a cosy cover from Lucy Croft's. (These cases make great gifts, too.)

- DMC Woolly (100% merino wool, 50g/125m), 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn A Mustard (091)
 - Yarn B Charcoal (076)
 - Yarn C Teal (077)
 - Yarn D Grey (124)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- 1 button, 1.8cm diameter

TENSION

20 sts and 19 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over dc in back loops

MEASUREMENTS

Cover measures 18x24.5cm (7x9¾in)

NOTES

The Tablet Cover is worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a

slip stitch. You may find it helpful to place a marker in the first st of each round and move it up as you work.

From Round 2, all stitches are worked in the back loops only (bl).

When changing colour, twist the ends of the two colours together. Pick up the new colour in the last yrh of the previous stitch.

Always carry the yarns not in use across the WS of the work.

You will find the Chart needed on page 93.

TABLET COVER

Using Yarn D, ch37.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to last ch, 2dc in last ch, rotate to work along opposite side of starting ch, dc in opposite loop of each ch to end. [36 dc]

Rounds 2-6 Dcbl in each st around.

Change to Yarn C and **fasten off** Yarn D.

Rounds 7-12 Using Yarn C, dcbl in each st around.

Change to Yarn A and **fasten off** Yarn C.

Rounds 13-18 Using Yarn A, dcbl in each st around.

Change to Yarn B and **fasten off** Yarn A.

Rounds 19-24 Using Yarn B, dcbl in each st around.

Change to Yarn C and **fasten off** Yarn B.

Rounds 25-26 Using Yarn C, dcbl in each st around.

Rounds 27-35 Repeat chart 6 times around, always holding the yarn not in use on the WS of your work. [36 dc]

Fasten off Yarn A.

Rounds 36-37 Using Yarn C, dcbl in each st

around.

Change to Yarn D and **fasten off** Yarn C.

Rounds 38-43 Using Yarn D, dcbl in each st around.

Change to Yarn B and **fasten off** Yarn D.

Rounds 44-46 Using Yarn B, dcbl in each st around, ss to first dc to join.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

STRAP

Using Yarn D, ch15.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch across, ch5, rotate to work along opposite side of starting ch, dc in opposite loop of each ch to last ch, 2dc in last ch. [29 dc and 1 ch-5 sp]

Round 2 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 13 dc, 6dc in ch-5 sp, dc in each of next 13 dc, 2dc in each of next 2 dc. [38 dc]

Round 3 2dc in first st, dc in each of next 15 dc, 2dc in each of next 4 dc, dc in each of next 15 dc, 2dc in each of next 3 dc. [46 dc]

TO FINISH

Pin Strap to centre back in line with top of the Yarn D stripe so that buttonhole end folds over the top and meets the Yarn D stripe at the front. Sew in place. Sew button to cover on Yarn D stripe in line with buttonhole.



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Boho beads

Get prepared for festival time with a unique beaded piece to wear, by Emma Guess.



YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Petra 3 (100% cotton, 100g/280m), 1 ball of Yarn A Black (5310)
 - Twilley's Goldfingering (80% viscose, 20% metallised polyester, 25g/100m), 1 ball of Yarn B Antique Gold (4)
 - A 2.5 mm (US B/1 OR C/2) hook
 - 26 round beads
 - 9 teardrop beads
 - Sewing needle that will pass through beads while threaded
- For yarn stockists contact
Wool Warehouse 01926 882818
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

NOTES

The Headdress is made in two strips of beaded crochet, Part 1 and Part 2. Part 2 is joined halfway along Part 1. To add the beads, thread the round beads on your Black yarn in the order in which you would like them to appear; the last bead you thread on will be the first bead you use in your piece.

Use the beads from your gift with this issue to make this stunning headdress. Its dazzling combination of juicy brights, elegant black and glamorous gold will make you the centre of attention!

HEADDRESS

PART 1

Round 1 (WS) With Yarn A, ch2, *pull up bead to hook and ch1, picking up the yarn on the other side of the bead to secure, ch2, 5htr in loop behind the bead, ss to 2nd ch from bead, 5htr in loop behind bead (on the other side to previously worked), ss to 2nd ch from bead, ch3; rep from * until you have a total of 14 circles with beads at the centre, turn to RS.

PART 2

Count 7 circles from the start of Part 1, join Yarn A in the next ch-1 sp and repeat Round 1 with the remaining 12 beads. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

EDGING

Thread teardrop beads onto Yarn B in the order you wish them to appear. Every time you are instructed to add teardrop beads, replace the dc in the ch-1 sp between circles with a ss, pull 3 teardrop beads up to the hook, ch1 using the yarn after the beads to secure, ss into the same ch-1.

Join Yarn B to the first ch of Round 1.

Round 2 Dc in same ch, *in stitches of next circle (dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next st), dc in ch-1



Thread the ties through the end of the top piece and make a bow to secure it in place.

between circles; repeat from * along one side of Part 1, adding teardrop beads after 4 circles, after 3 circles and after 3 circles. When you have completed one side, repeat Round 2 instructions along the other side of Part 1 without adding teardrop beads, **fasten off**.

Rejoin Yarn B to Part 2 where it joins Part 1. Repeat Round 2 along one side of Part 2. When you reach the end, ch5, ss in end of Part 2 and continue pattern along the other side of Part 2.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TIES

With Yarn A, join to one end of Part 1, ch61, ss in each st along chain, ss to base of ch.

Fasten off.

Repeat on other end of Part 1.

TO WEAR

Thread each tie through loop at end of Part 1, then tie them together.



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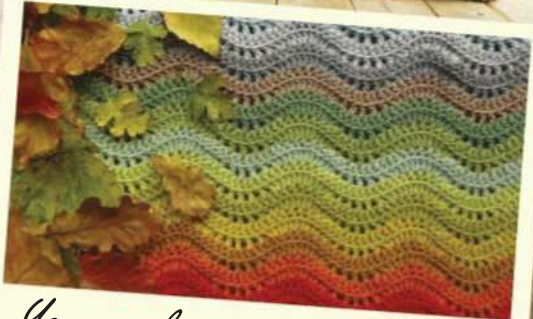
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KATE'S JOURNAL

...from the studio

Kate Bruning has been a crochet professional for three years now, and is passionate about helping her community and the planet...

"We makers have a special understanding of the nature of 'stuff:'"



This month is the three-year anniversary of when I quit the day job to go Cro-Pro (yep, crochet professional). In hindsight it was a completely bonkers decision. I mean, how on earth can you make a living out of crochet?! OK, so maybe it wasn't completely and totally bonkers – my second book of patterns was about to be published, a third had just been commissioned and I knew that if I just had a bit more time I'd be able to find all sorts of other avenues to explore. Now, three years later, I've had to turn down a book deal because I have too much design work on, I get to write for lovely chaps like *Simply Crochet*, and I've been asked to create a clothes collection for a scrummy yarn company. It's incredible!

HELPING MY COMMUNITY

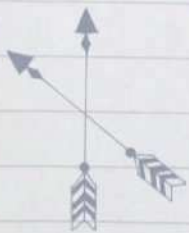
But – and this is not a bad but – I have always wanted to make sure that whatever I do helps my community in some way. It's why I worked in local government for years, and I can tell you, that's a challenge and a half right there! We all know that getting tucked up on the sofa with yarn, a hook and a box set

is just the best feeling, but, now I get to do it every day, I've started to feel like I should find a way to use it to make a difference somehow. So, on a bit of a whim, I applied for, and have now started, an MA in Sustainable Design (another bonkers decision... can you see a pattern here?) to see if there's any way I can use my super power of crochet for good.

MAKING, NOT BUYING

So how can crochet change the world? I don't imagine for a second that I'm going to be able to cure global warming, but I do think that all of us makers have a special understanding of the nature of 'stuff'. When you've spent weeks making a blanket, and you've had hours of weaving in ends and joining squares, or you've whipped up a little ami for your favourite friend, you have a sense of satisfaction and love for the thing you've made. When the day comes and you have a big spring clean and get rid of stuff you don't want any more, those things that you've made yourself, or those that have been made for you, are the things you keep. Making stuff is just way

"Making stuff is way more rewarding, important and personal than buying stuff."





“Crochet is a brilliant tool for remaking things.”

more rewarding, important and personal than buying stuff, and anything that tackles our obsession with the need to buy more ‘stuff’ can only be a good thing.

GIVING CLOTHES A LONGER LIFE

Crochet is also a brilliant tool for remaking, remodelling and revamping things. My favourite make last year was taking a crazy old granny blanket, joining on with a matching yarn and working a couple of tubes to make sleeves. Now I can actually wear it – this is a life goal of mine, I love being wrapped in a blanket! Or, you know those single skeins of yarn that you hoard because they’re super pretty, but a bit too much money to buy more than one of, so you can’t really make anything with? Try using those to make a new yoke for an old top, giving it a longer life and making something that

no one else will have. I know all of this stuff might end up in a landfill somewhere one day, but the more we use our creative, making skills to keep it going for a bit longer, the better.

LOVE, PASSION AND MEANING

So keep making crochet, and be content in the knowledge that even when tucked up on the sofa with your yarn and a box set, by creating something with love, passion and meaning, you’re actually doing your little bit toward helping the planet.

You can keep up with Kate via her website and blog at www.greedyforcolour.blogspot.co.uk

TURN TO PAGE 51 FOR KATE'S NEW SERIES ON COLOUR!

A LOOK AT MY MONTH



It's so much fun thinking about spring colours. I've been trying some new colourways to sum up the season! There's been a spot of 'make do and mend', too. An old T-shirt got a revamp with a simple but bold granny square pocket. Fastest fashion update ever?



elle

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- Rico Essentials Super Kid Mohair Loves Silk (70% mohair, 30% silk, 25g/200m), 6 balls of **Yarn A** Turquoise (022)
- Rico Creative Lamé (62% polyester, 38% polyamide, 25g/135m), 1 ball of **Yarn B** Gold (002)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook
- Stitch markers

For yarn stockists contact **Rico Design**

www.rico-design.de/en/home

TENSION

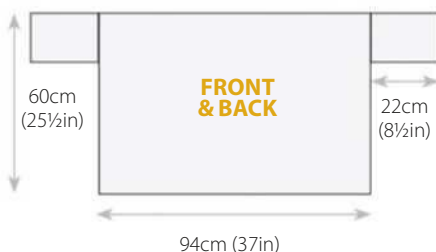
17 sts and 8 rows over main stitch pattern using a 4mm hook
15 sts and 8.5 rows over treble crochet using a 4mm hook

MEASUREMENTS

One size only – see diagram below for measurements

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92



This luxuriously lacy poncho will become your go-to piece this spring when easy layering up (or down) is vital in the changeable weather. Chuck it on over your fave denims for simple weekend chic.

NOTES

The Poncho is made bottom up from an identical Front and Back piece without shaping. Sleeves are made flat separately and sewn on. Side seams are left open. The hem and cuffs are finished with an edging of Gold yarn.

FRONT AND BACK (BOTH ALIKE)

With 4mm hook and Yarn A, ch159.

Foundation row (RS) 2tr in fourth ch from hook (counts as 3-tr group), (ch1, skip 3 ch, 3tr in next ch) repeat to last 3 ch, ch1, tr in last ch, turn. [39 3-tr groups plus 1 tr]

Row 1 Ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in next ch-sp, (ch1, 3tr in next ch-sp) repeat to last 3 sts, ch1, tr in top of beg ch-3, turn.

Row 1 sets pattern.

Repeat Row 1 until piece measures 60cm ending with a WS row.

Fasten off.

SLEEVES (BOTH ALIKE)

With a 4mm hook and Yarn A, ch51.

Foundation row (RS) Tr in fourth ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [49 sts]

Row 1 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each st to end, turn.

Repeat Row 1 until piece measures 22cm.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Join shoulder seams for 34cm from outer



This is perfect for a beginner as the side seams are open, and there isn't any shaping.

edge on each side. Place markers 16cm down from shoulder seams to denote Sleeve placement. Fold Sleeves in half, place fold to shoulder seam and sew in position. Join underarm sleeve seams but leave main side seams open.

EDGING

Using a 4.5mm hook and Yarn B, work 1 round of dc along lower edge of Back and Front, and around cuff of each Sleeve. Block out garment to the measurements given, place under damp cloths and leave until dry. See ball band for washing and care instructions.





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SWEET SUNHAT



FLORAL NECKLACE

DON'T MISS IT!

In the latest jam-packed issue of *Love Crochet*, we have stacks of gorgeous projects to get you in the mood for summer including a gorgeous little girls' sunhat, sizzling beach dress and the cutest pair of baby sandals. Plus, there's expert advice, kit reviews and an easy to follow tutorial. Don't miss out – order your copy today!

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The winner is...

We reveal our crochet champions at The British Craft Awards 2018!

Primed with shiny awards and glasses of fizz, Immediate Media's craft magazine teams announced this year's British Craft Award winners at trade show CHSI Stitches in February. Without any Oscar-esque hitches, presenter John Scott from shopping channel Sewing Quarter honoured 80 lucky winners and runners-up. As winners were voted for by the public, businesses and designers waited to hear who'd captured the admiration of their customers, visitors and fans. Here we reveal who won big in the crochet categories...



Product of the year

STYLECRAFT CANDY SWIRL



Our readers are riding high on gradient yarn cake mania, and they voted in their droves for Stylecraft Candy Swirl. It looks delish and produces

bold stripes of colour as you hook. There's even a stunning triangular shawl pattern to go with it!

2nd – Scheepjes Whirl
3rd – Caron Cakes

Designer of the year

JANE CROWFOOT



We are thrilled to announce that Jane Crowfoot has won this award for the second year running! So many of our readers love her patterns – what

a wonderful testament this is to Jane's designs and her popular CAL projects. www.janiecrow.co.uk

2nd – Lucy Attic 24
3rd – Dedri Uys

Blog of the year

WWW.ATTIC24.TYPEPAD.COM



Lucy's beautiful blog is such a fabulous space in which to while away a few happy minutes (or hours!). Colour-loving crochet designer,

blogger and mum Lucy writes about her makes and shares her patterns at www.attic24.typepad.com.

2nd – Look At What I Made
3rd – Repeat Crafter Me

Retailer of the year

WOOL WAREHOUSE



This independent craft business has grown into a trusted, favourite supplier of all things crochet. Owners Holly and Andy opened in

2012, and the mix of bricks-and-mortar business plus online retailer has continued to offer great service backed by a small, expert team.

2nd – Black Sheep Wools
3rd – LoveCrochet

Brand of the year

STYLECRAFT



Launched 29 years ago, this family-run firm continues to wow our readers in style! Director Annabelle Hill ensures that yarn development is

always innovative, and the range is great value, with its huge colour ranges, essential basics, and stylish fashion yarns. We're spoilt for choice!

2nd – Scheepjes
3rd – DROPS

Craft hero award

WEST YORKSHIRE SPINNERS



This year the British Craft Award judges awarded West Yorkshire Spinners the Craft Hero Award to acknowledge their outstanding contribution to, and

support of, the British yarn industry. Combining state-of-the-art technology with generations of expertise, they are one of the few remaining worsted spinners in the UK.

www.wyspinners.com

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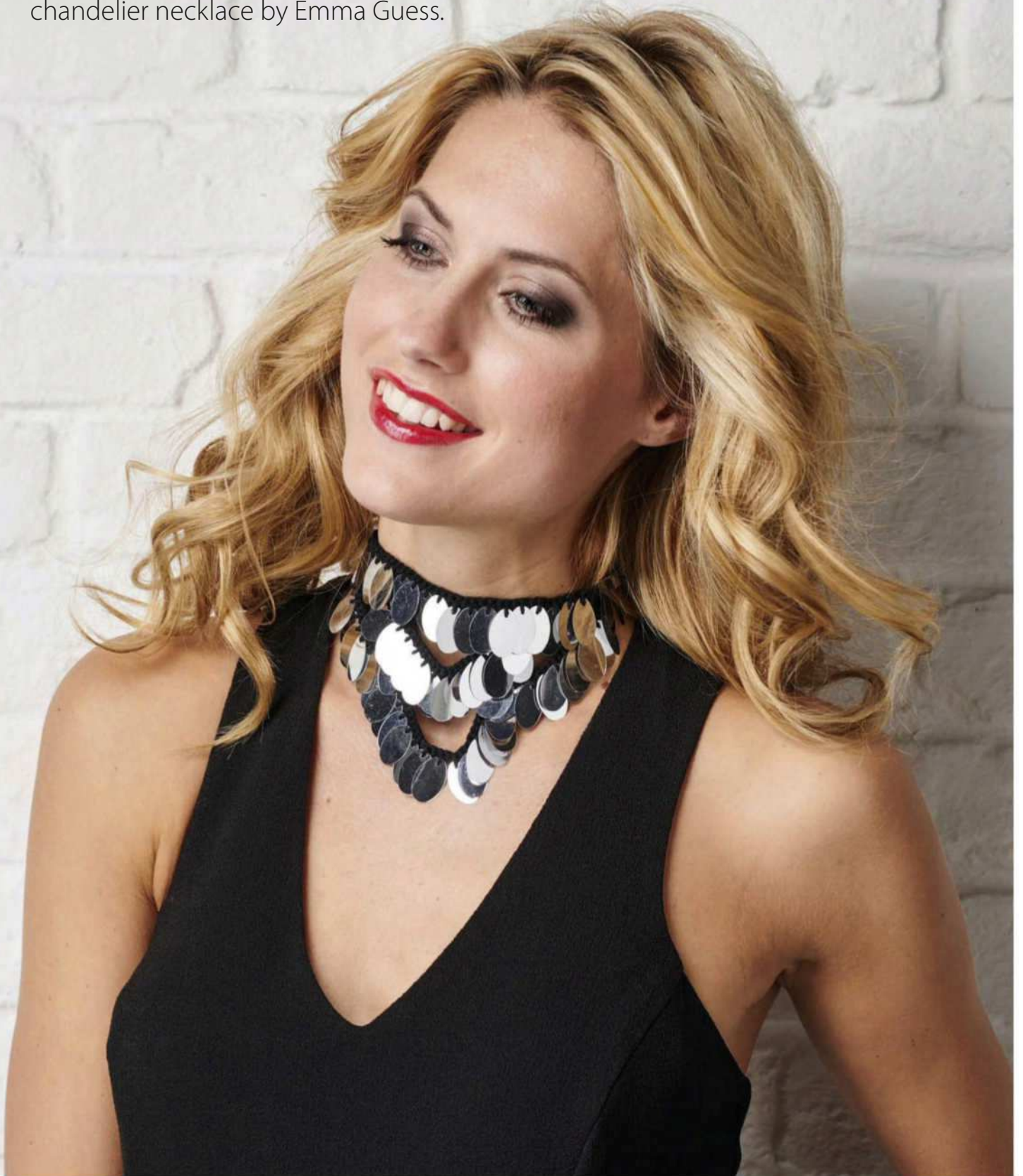
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Razzle dazzle

Dress to impress with this amazing sequined chandelier necklace by Emma Guess.



BEADED NECKLACE



YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Petra 3 (100% cotton, 100g/400m), 1 ball of Black (5310)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- 75 silver teardrop sequins

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

MEASUREMENTS

Sequined part of necklace
 measures 17x12cm (6¾x3¾in)
 Length of necklace including ties
 measures 60cm (23½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

Ftr (Foundation tr) Work as a standard treble stitch, but after (insert hook, yrh and pull through), work an extra ch1 before completing the st; the next st is worked into this extra ch1

For a full list, see page 92

Get hooking with the sequins that come with this issue to complete this stunning necklace. The perfect accessory for a romantic night out, pair it with a simple frock to make sure it's the star of the show.

NOTES

The Necklace is made with the chainless foundation treble technique and is worked with what will be the WS facing you. See Diagram for the construction and stitches to join to.

NECKLACE

Thread 24 sequins onto the yarn.

Row 1 Ch3 (counts as stitch), Ftr in third ch from hook, Ftr in ch-1 from previous Ftr, pulling a sequin up to the hook before the last yrh of the tr, complete the tr enclosing the sequin, (Ftr, Ftr with sequin) 23 times, 2Ftr, **fasten off**. [51 sts, 24 sequins]

Thread 15 sequins onto the yarn.

Row 2 With the sequins from Row 1 on the underside, ss in base of 17th st from start of Row 1, Ftr, skipping two sts from Row 1 and inserting hook in base of 14th st from start of Row 1, (Ftr, Ftr with sequin) 15 times, Ftr, ss in 17th st from end of Row 1, Ftr replacing the extra ch-1 with a ss into the 14th st from end of Row 1, **fasten off**. [33 sts, 15 sequins]

Thread 11 sequins onto the yarn.

Row 3 Ss in base of 4th st from start of Row 1, Ftr inserting hook in base of 7th st from start of Row 1, (Ftr, Ftr with sequin) 11 times, Ftr, ss in 9th st from start of Row 2, Ftr replacing the extra ch-1 with a ss in 12th st from start of Row 2, **fasten off**.



This necklace will catch the light from any angle, so you'll be sure to always sparkle.

Thread 11 sequins onto the yarn.

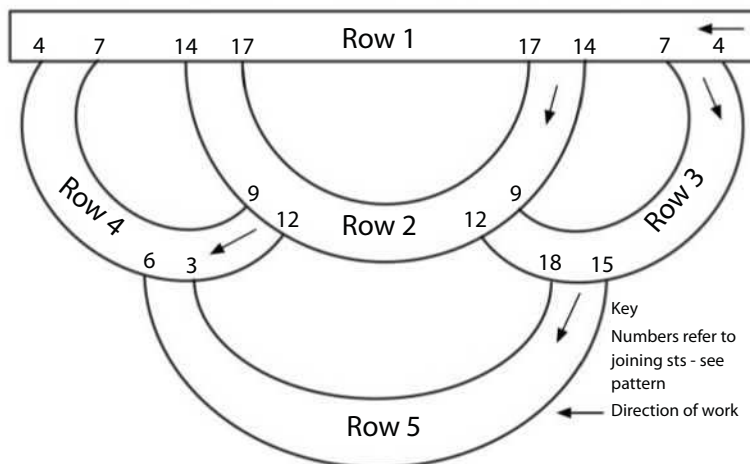
Row 4 Follow the same principle to work a Ftr joining in the 12th and the 9th sts from the end of Row 2, (Ftr, Ftr with sequin) 11 times, Ftr, ss in 7th st from end of Row 1, Ftr joining in 4th st from end of Row 4 as before, **fasten off**.

Thread 13 sequins onto the yarn.

Row 5 Join a Ftr in the 15th and 18th sts from start of Row 3, (Ftr, Ftr with sequin) 13 times, Ftr, ss in 3rd st from start of Row 4, Ftr joining in 6th st from start of Row 4, **fasten off**.

TIES (MAKE 2)

Join yarn in end of Row 1, ch61, turn, ss in each ch, ss to base of ch, **fasten off**. Repeat for opposite side.



"WOULD SHE NOTICE IF I ATE BOTH?"

"I'M GONNA EAT ALL OF THE EGGS AND HIS SOCKS - YUM!"



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PSST

You can add as many tassels as you like!



Spring greens

Enjoy the lighter evenings in a tasselled tee designed by Amanda Crawford – it's perfect for a relaxed night out.



YOU WILL NEED

- Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino (55% wool, 33% acrylic, 12% cashmere, 50g/125m)
Yarn A Citrus (18)
 - Debbie Bliss Botany Lace (100% wool, 100g/410m), 1 ball of **Yarn B** Bilbao (1789) used doubled for all sizes
See table for yarn quantities and measurements
 - A 3.75mm (US F/5) hook
- For yarn stockists contact**
Laughing Hens 01829 740903
www.laughinghens.com

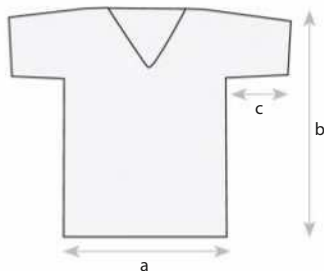
TENSION

22sts and 20 rows to 10x10cm (4x4in) over stitch pattern using a 3.75mm hook or size needed to achieve stated tension

ABBREVIATIONS

Picot Dc, ch3, ss into top of dc just worked

For a full list, see page 92



Width a: 42 (44.5: 47.5: 51: 54: 56.5: 59.5)cm
16½ (17½: 18½: 20: 21¼: 22¼: 23¼)in
Length b: 50.5 (50.5: 54.5: 54.5: 58.5: 58.5: 60.5)cm
20 (20: 21½: 21½: 23: 23: 23¾)in
Sleeve Length c: 11 (11: 12: 12: 12: 13)cm
4 (4: 4½: 4½: 4½: 4½: 5¼)in

Combine the spring trends for cross stitch and tassels in this beautifully lightweight tee, worked in luxurious Debbie Bliss yarns. Worked mainly in double and treble crochet stitches, it's a great first garment.

NOTES

The Tee is worked in one piece, starting at the Back hem and finishing at the Front hem. When you reach the shoulders, the piece is divided to work each side of the neckline separately, then rejoined at the base of the neckline to work the rest of the Front to the hem in one piece.

The Sleeves are integrated into the Body piece by adding extra sts at each side to increase the row length.

Read the neckline increase section carefully, as you will need to decrease for the end of the armholes during this section, unless you are working the largest size.

The surface decoration in Yarn B is added afterwards; you can add it as you work if you prefer, or complete it all in one go once the main Tee is finished. You might want to bear in mind that it will be harder to rip your work back if you work the surface decoration as you go along. Hold Yarn B double for all sizes.

BACK

Using Yarn A, ch93 (99: 105: 113: 119: 125: 131) sts.

Foundation row (RS) Dc into second ch from hook and each ch to end.

[92 (98: 104: 112: 118: 124: 130) sts]

Row 1 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in each st to end, turn.

Rows 2-4 Ch1 (does not count as st

throughout), dc in each st to end, turn. Rows 1-4 set pattern.

Repeat (Rows 1-4) 15 (15: 16: 16: 17: 17: 17) more times. Work should measure approx 32 (32: 34: 34: 36: 36: 36)cm.

ARMHOLE

Continuing in pattern as set:

Next row Ch3, tr in each st to end, ch20 (20: 22: 22: 24: 24: 26) for one sleeve, turn.

Next row Ch1, dc in second ch from hook and in each st to end, ch20 (20: 22: 22: 24: 24: 26) for second sleeve, turn.

[132 (138: 148: 156: 166: 172: 182) sts]

Work Rows 3 and 4 of pattern.

Repeat (Rows 1-4) a further 8 (8: 9: 9: 10: 10: 11) times.

Work 1 extra row of dc placing a marker each end of this row to indicate shoulder fold, do not fasten off.

DIVIDE FOR NECKLINE

FIRST SIDE

With RS facing and starting on a Row 2 of patt, work 46 (49: 53: 57: 61: 64: 68) sts, turn leaving remaining sts unworked.

INCREASES AT NECKLINE EDGE

Work a WS row in patt as set. Place a marker in the end of this row to mark Row 1 of the increase section.

Work a RS row in patt as set, increasing in the last st of the row at the neckline edge by working 2 sts into the last st.

SIZES 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 & 18

Continue in pattern, increasing on every RS row, so that there are a total of 20 (20: 21: 21: 22: 22: -) increase rows. At the same time decrease the stitches at the end of

| SIZE | | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 20 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| TO FIT BUST | cm | 81 | 86 | 91 | 97 | 102 | 107 | 112 |
| | in | 32 | 34 | 36 | 38 | 40 | 42 | 44 |
| ACTUAL BUST (APPROX) | cm | 84 | 89 | 95 | 102 | 108 | 113 | 119 |
| | in | 33 | 35¼ | 37½ | 40¼ | 42½ | 44 | 46¾ |
| LENGTH | cm | 50.5 | 50.5 | 54.5 | 54.5 | 58.5 | 58.5 | 60.5 |
| | in | 20 | 20 | 21½ | 21½ | 23 | 23 | 23¾ |
| SLEEVE LENGTH | cm | 11 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 13 |
| | in | 4 | 4 | 4½ | 4½ | 5 | 5 | 5¼ |
| YARN A | 100g | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 15 |
| YARN B | 100g | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

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

the armhole by leaving the last 20 (20: 22: 22: 24: 24: -) sts of the row unworked, on Row 35 (35: 39: 39: 43: 43: -) of the increase section.

There will be a total of 40 (40: 42: 42: 44: 44: 46) rows from the beginning of the increase section.

Work another WS row on these sts.

SIZE 20 ONLY

Continue in pattern, increasing on every RS row, so that there are a total of 23 increase rows, or 46 total rows from the beginning of the increase section.

Work another WS row, leaving the last 26 sts unworked for the armhole shaping.

SECOND SIDE

Leaving 40 (40: 42: 42: 44: 44: 46) sts unworked for the neckline, rejoin the yarn to the next st with RS facing, ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

[46 (49: 53: 57: 61: 64: 68) sts]

INCREASES AT NECKLINE EDGE

Work a WS row in patt as set, marking the end of the row as Row 1 of the increase section.

SIZES 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 & 18

Work the increases at the neckline edge by working 2 sts in the first st of the next RS row and every following RS row until there are a total of 20 (20: 21: 21: 22: 22: -) increase rows. AT THE SAME TIME decrease the stitches at the end of the armhole by leaving the last 20 (20: 22: 22: 24: 24: -) sts of the row unworked, on Row 36 (36: 40: 40: 44: 44: -) of the increase section.

Work another WS row on these sts.

JOINING AFTER NECKLINE

SIZES 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 & 18

Rejoin the yarn with RS facing on the first st of the first side and work a row in patt across both sides of the Front to join into one piece. [92 (98: 104: 112: 118: 124: -) sts]

SIZE 20 ONLY

Rejoin the yarn with RS facing on the first st of the first side and work a row in patt across both sides of the Front to join, leaving the last 26 sts unworked for the armhole shaping, turn. [130 sts]

ALL SIZES

Cont in patt until work measures same as back ending on a Row 2, **fasten off**.



TO FINISH

Join side seams and underarm seams in one.

NECK EDGING

With two strands of Yarn B held together, slip stitch evenly around the neckline edge, working an even number of sts.

Next round (Dc in next st, picot in next st) around, ss to first st, **fasten off**.

SLEEVE EDGING

Work as for neckline edging.

CROSS STITCH BLOCKS

The embroidery is worked with two strands of Yarn B held together over 3 consecutive treble rows. The first block on the sample image is on the second tr row up from the hem with a gap of 3 patt reps in between. You can alter the position of these blocks to suit and according to the size you are making:

On the first and third rows of treble, ss

surface crochet into the treble stitches around.

On the second row of tr, work cross stitches over every alternate treble stitch around.

TASSELS

Make as many tassels as you like or use the images as a guide.

Make a tassel by cutting a length of Yarn B 180cm long and fold in half 5 times. Take a doubled strand of Yarn B approx 20cm long, and thread through the top loops of all the folds of yarn. Use one of the strands to tie the yarn together tightly and leave the ends for attaching the tassel. Use the other end of yarn to bind around the top of the tassel about 0.5cm from the top, **fasten off** the ends securely and weave them into the top of the tassel. Cut through the folded ends of yarn at the bottom of the tassel.

Attach the tassels by threading the ends through the ss row, tie and weave in ends. Weave in all ends neatly.

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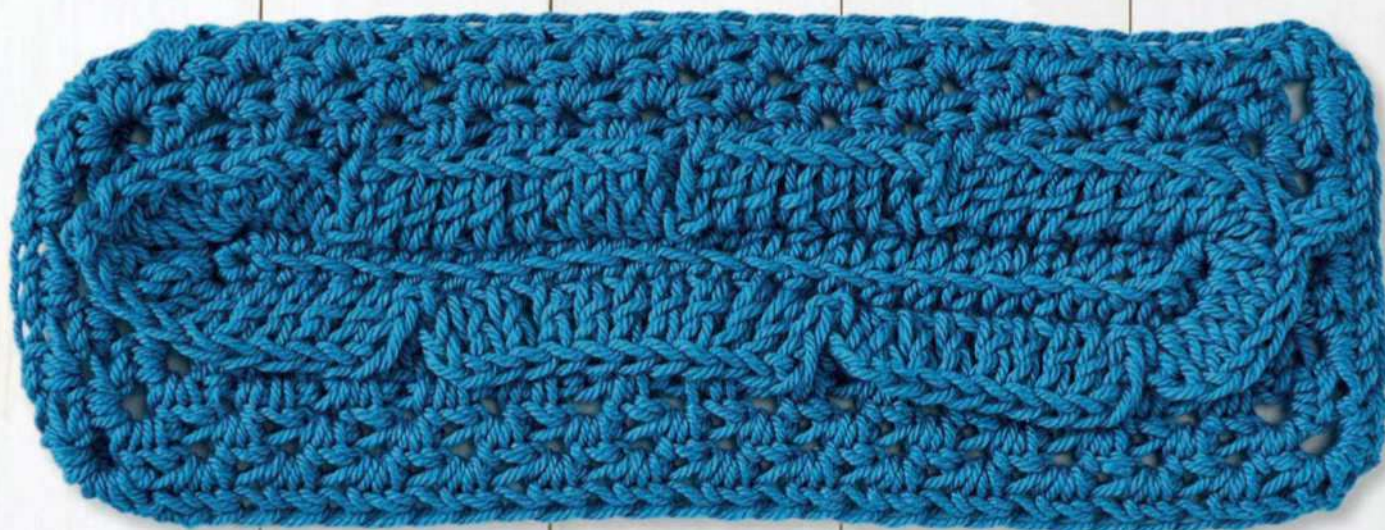


youtube.com/user/MollieMakes

CROCHET COLOUR CLASS

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Shake your teal feather!
Kate Bruning helps you explore a colour every issue.



HUE, SHADE, TONE AND TINT

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

SHADE

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

TONE

Add grey to the colour for subtle, sophisticated results.

TINT

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

YARN
AND
COLORS.

The colour Teal



Designer Kate Bruning
aka @greedyforcolour

You'll find, in nature, a colour that falls somewhere between being an alchemist and trickster. It is found in the shimmer of a bird's wing, the darkening sky holding onto sunset, and the elusive Himalayan poppy. I'm writing about teal, a VIP member of the blue-green family.

Many, many years ago, my best friend Rosie introduced me to the enigma of teal when she described her sister's dress to me. I was fascinated by this colour, hiding itself through the warp and weft of shot silk and only revealing itself through swishing. With time, I came to know other relatives of this wonderful tribe; luminaries such as aqua (also known as cyan), turquoise, azure and cerulean. It made me realise how much we owe to this exotic brood. Where would we be, for instance, without Tiffany ring boxes and peacock feathers, or the ocean, from its tropical shallows to Atlantic depths?

Wonder upon wonder, its complementary colour is coral. Sitting directly opposite on the colour wheel, party planners the world over give thanks for this combination, a much more adventurous mix than pale pink and blue for a baby shower. And so, when thinking about this month's project, I could neither go past a feather motif nor a teal and coral colourway!

COLOUR FACTS: TEAL

- *The word teal, when referring to a colour, has only been in use for around 100 years.
- *The colour name comes from the Teal duck.
- *Teal is the colour point exactly halfway between green and blue.
- *Turquoise is about 70% blue and 30% green.
- *In colour psychology, teal is not only calm and soothing, but also rejuvenating!
- *Teal is a shade: black added to blue-green. Turquoise is a tint: white added to blue-green.

COLOUR THEORY



Analogous colours like blue and green sit side-by-side on the colour wheel; complementary colours sit opposite each other.

There's a reason why teal and coral are a match made in heaven. Being opposite each other on the colour wheel, they are complementary colours, which make for the strongest possible contrast and vibrancy when teamed together. In other words, they make each other pop!

An analogous scheme uses colours that sit either side of teal. In this case it would be blue and green, bringing to mind birds from a tropical rainforest.



Meet some members of the blue-green family! Clockwise from left: Petroleum, Jade Gravel and Turquoise.



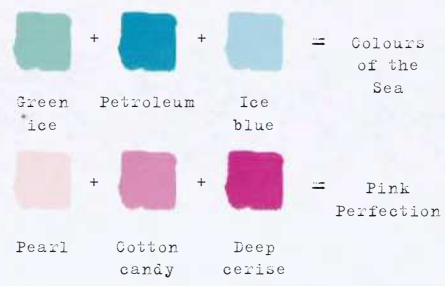
Water, better than paint, captures the deepening tones of teal.



Although this teal has been tinted (white added), it is still halfway between blue and green.

MORE COLOUR SCHEMES TO TRY

Kate's cushion is shown in teal and corals, but you can create an entirely different style by changing the yarn colours. Here are some colour maths to tempt you...



Feather light

Have fun with this glorious teal and coral combo and hook Kate Bruning's gorgeous cushion.





YOU WILL NEED

- Yarn and Colors Must-Have (100% cotton, 50g/125m), 5 balls of Petroleum (70) 1 ball of each: Peach (42) Coral (41)

- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- A cushion pad 36x36cm (14x14in)

For yarn stockists contact

Yarn and Colors

www.yarnandcolors.com

or LoveCrochet

www.lovecrochet.com

TENSION

Each rectangle measures approx 17.5x7cm (7x2¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

Picot Ch2, ss into 2nd ch from hook

For a full list, see page 92

Kate has designed a stunning cushion using the colour teal as a base and accenting it with its complementary colour, coral in the form of two-tone feathers. Together they make a stand-out style statement for your home.

NOTES

Feathers are worked in the round along both sides of the starting chain. The pattern is written for one version of the Feather. To add more interest to your cushion, vary the placement of colour changes and splits in the feathers. When changing colour mid-row, twist the ends of the two colours together. Pick up the new colour in the last yrh of the previous stitch. The Backing Rectangle Motif is also worked in the round.

CUSHION FRONT FEATHER (MAKE 10)

Using Peach, ch25.

Round 1 (RS) 2hr in 3rd ch from hook, htr in next 9 ch, dc in next 12 ch, 3dc in last ch, rotate to work along opposite side of starting chain, dc in next 12 ch, change to Coral, htr in next 9 ch, 2hr in last st, ss to fl only of first htr to join. [49 sts]

Round 2 (RS) Working in fls only, ch3 (counts as first tr), 2tr in same st, tr in next st, (tr, ch3, ss) in next st, (ss, ch3, tr) in next st, tr in next 4 sts, (tr, ch3, ss) in next st, change to Peach, *(ss, ch3, tr) in next st, tr in next 4 sts, (tr, ch3, ss) in next st; repeat from * once more, *(ss, ch3, tr) in next st, tr in next st, (tr, dtr) in next st, (dtr, picot, dtr) in next st, (dtr, tr, htr) in next st, (tr, ch3, ss) in next st, (ss, ch3, tr) in next st, tr in next 4 sts, (tr, ch3, ss) in next st, (ss, ch3, tr) in next st, tr in next 4 sts, change to Coral, (tr, ch3, ss) in next st, (ss, ch3, tr) in next st, tr in next 4 sts, (tr, ch3, ss) in next st, (ss, ch3, tr) in next st, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in next st, ss in top of beg ch-3, ch3, ss into 2nd and 3rd ch from hook, ss in top of beg ch-3 again.

BACKING RECTANGLE MOTIF (MAKE 10)

Using Petroleum, ch24.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch across to last ch, 3dc in last ch, rotate to work along opposite side of starting chain, dc in each ch across to last ch, 2dc in last ch, ss to first dc to join. [48 dc]

Round 2 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in st at base of ch-3, *(skip next st, 2tr in next st) 10

times, skip next st, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in next st, skip next st, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in next st; repeat from * once more, omitting last 2 tr, ss to top og beg ch-3 to join.

[28 2-tr groups and 4 ch-2 sps]

Round 3 (RS) Ss to first sp between 2-tr groups, ch2 (counts as htr), htr in same sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-tr groups 10 times, (2hr, ch2, 2hr) in next ch-2 sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-tr groups, (2hr, ch2, 2hr) in next ch-2 sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-tr groups 11 times, (2hr, ch2, 2hr) in next ch-2 sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-tr groups, (2hr, ch2, 2hr) in next ch-2 sp, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join.

Round 4 (RS) Ss to first sp between 2-htr groups, ch2 (counts as htr), htr in same sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-htr groups 10 times, (2hr, ch2, 2hr) in next ch-2 sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-htr groups twice, (2hr, ch2, 2hr) in next ch-2 sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-htr groups 12 times, (2hr, ch2, 2hr) in next ch-2 sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-htr groups twice, (2hr, ch2, 2hr) in next ch-2 sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-htr groups, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join.

Round 5 (RS) Ss to first sp between 2-htr groups, ch2 (counts as htr), htr in same sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-htr groups 10 times, (2hr, ch2, 2hr) in next ch-2 sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-htr groups 3 times, (2hr, ch2, 2hr) in next ch-2 sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-htr groups 13 times, (2hr, ch2, 2hr) in next ch-2 sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-htr groups 3 times, (2hr, ch2, 2hr) in next ch-2 sp, 2hr in next sp between 2-htr groups twice, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Use the image as a guide. Using Petroleum, sew each Feather along its spine to the centre of a Backing Rectangle Motif, using backstitch. This will both secure it and add definition.

Using whipstitch and Petroleum, sew the rectangles together in a 5x2 formation.

CUSHION BACK

Using Petroleum, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as htr), htr into loop, ch2, (htr into loop, ch2) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join.

Round 2 (RS) Ss to first ch-2 sp, ch2 (counts as htr), (htr, ch2, 2hr) in same ch-2 sp, (2hr, ch2, 2hr) in next ch-2 sp 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join.

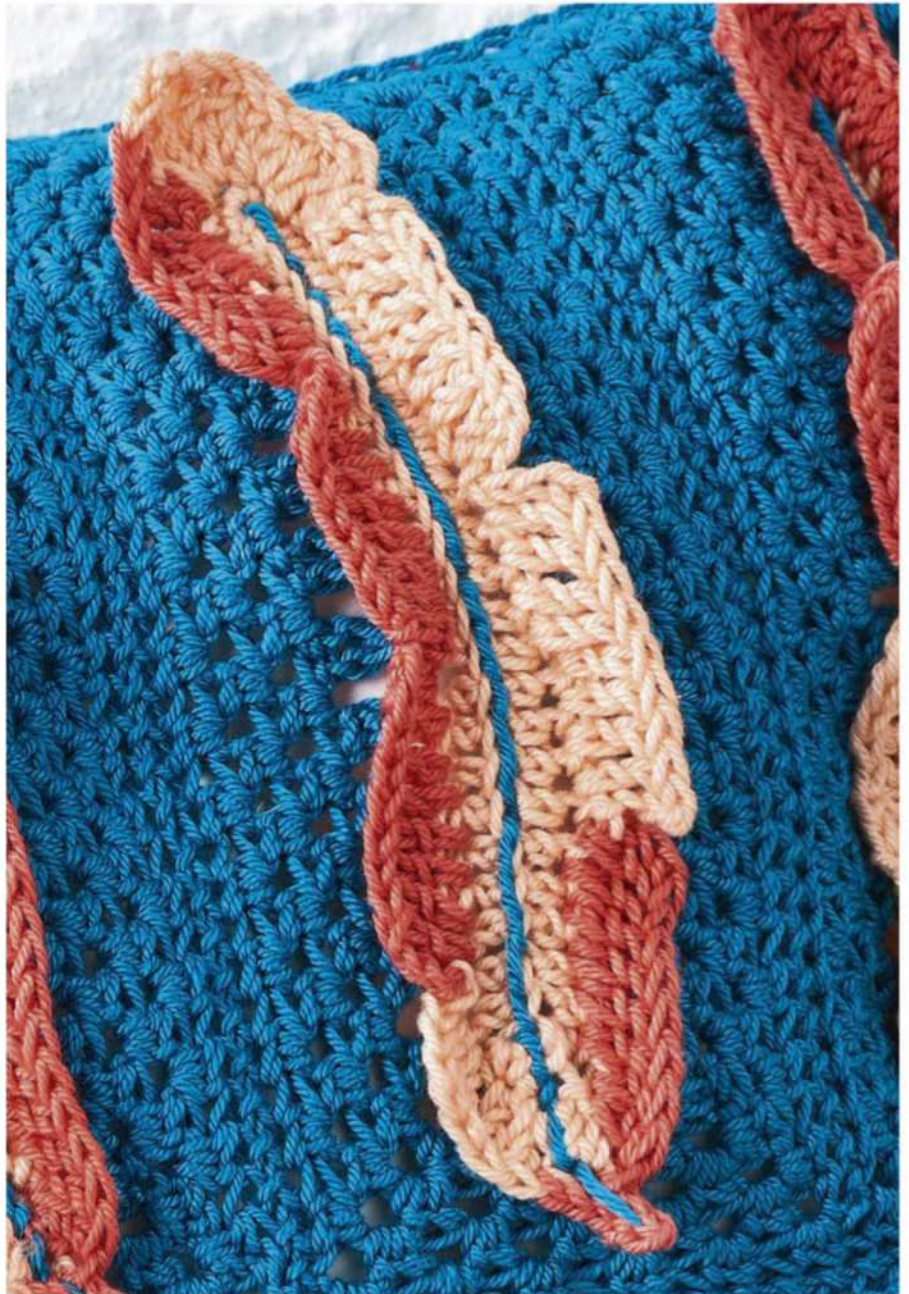
Round 3 Ss to first sp between 2-tr groups, ch2 (counts as htr), htr in same sp, (2htr, ch2, 2htr) in next ch-2 sp, *2htr in next sp between 2-tr groups, (2htr, ch2, 2htr) in next ch-2 sp; repeat from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join.

Round 4 Ss to first sp between 2-tr groups, ch2 (counts as htr), htr in same sp, (2htr, ch2, 2htr) in next ch-2 sp, *2htr in each sp between 2-tr groups across to next ch-2 sp, (2htr, ch2, 2htr) in next ch-2 sp; repeat from * twice more, 2htr in each sp between 2-tr groups around, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join. Round 4 sets pattern.

Repeat Round 4 until Cushion Back measures 36x36cm.

TO FINISH

Place Cushion Covers WS together. Using Petroleum, work a dc seam around all edges, working (dc, ch2, dc) in each corner, enclosing the cushion pad into the cover.



SIMPLY MUST-HAVE YARNS!

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



Sarah's favourite part of crocheting is the design process.

A VISIT TO ANNABOO'S HOUSE

Join us for a trip to Annaboo's House to meet designer and author Sarah Shrimpton as she enters a new, yarn-infused chapter.

For Sarah Shrimpton, growing up in a craft-loving family meant there was no shortage of exposure to the delights of knitting. Crochet, however, was a discovery Sarah needed to make on her own – and she hasn't looked back since!

"It's quite strange really – I only have early memories of knitting!" she says. "My mum is a knitter and I remember she would make jumpers for my brother and I, and clothes for our toys. She tried to teach me to knit, but I just couldn't get the hang of it – my tension was always awful and I remember the sound of the yarn squeaking on the needles."

The next time Sarah picked up some yarn was a few years ago, when her daughter was a baby. "I remembered those disastrous attempts at knitting and decided to learn to

crochet instead," she says. "So I armed myself with some books and some blogs and taught myself."

Sarah was keen from the outset to find her own route into the possibilities presented by crochet. "I don't think I ever followed a pattern exactly, even when I first started," she says. "I could always see how I could adjust something, or change the shaping to fit what I wanted. As my children were very little, I started with toys."

GOING HER OWN WAY

At first, Sarah tried adapting patterns to suit, but soon realised she could create her own patterns from scratch. "From there, I began trying new techniques and expanded into creating other crochet patterns."

It all fed beautifully into Sarah's thriving blog, *Annaboo's House*. "I set up *Annaboo's House* initially to document my crochet journey," she explains. "But now it's become a place where I share free patterns and tutorials, and it gives me the opportunity to review books and products, too."

Sarah launched her Etsy shop around the same time, selling completed items she'd designed and crocheted. "This developed into a pattern-only shop," she says. "I realised that making multiple versions of an item was not something I really enjoyed – it was the designing stage that I loved."

Social media is becoming increasingly important when it comes to spreading the word. "My blog is where I go when I have something to write about, but in terms of



every day, I use Instagram," she says. "I find it's the best place to share pictures of the projects I'm working on. I've found Instagram to be a brilliant place to connect with other designers and makers."

But what prompted the name? "'Annaboo' is the nickname we called our daughter when she was little, and it just kind of stuck!"

NEW HORIZONS

Recent developments with Sarah's business have included a new yarn-based venture. "I've started dyeing my own yarn," Sarah says. "I'd been to a few yarn festivals and had fallen in love with the beautiful hand-dyed skeins I was seeing and was keen to try it for myself."

She was determined to teach herself, so she invested in a few kilograms of undyed yarn and some basic equipment, started dyeing in her kitchen at home, and tested her results out on her friends.

Sarah was keen to use natural plant extracts and dyes, and launched into her own investigations. "One of my most interesting dye experiments has been avocados – the skins and stones create the most beautiful blush pinks and so I'm dyeing gradient sets of mini skeins to really show these off."

Alongside yarn development, Sarah continues to love designing new patterns for *Annaboo's House* and shop, and, luckily for us, working with *Simply Crochet*. "I was also asked recently to join the Stylecraft Yarns team of bloggers, called the Stylecraft Blogstars," she says enthusiastically. "This has been a wonderful experience and I have the privilege of travelling up to the mill in Yorkshire twice a year with my fellow Blogstars to see the new collections, try lots of new yarn and take part in some amazing workshops – it's brilliant fun!"

Sarah has also published rather a lot of crochet books – a chapter of her work life that she finds particularly fulfilling. "Everything took off rather suddenly," she tells us. "A commissioning editor from a publishing house approached me and asked if I'd like to write *Beginner's Guide to Crochet*. I was absolutely surprised and, of course, agreed!"

She found the whole process fascinating. "I had the opportunity to design 20 projects to guide a beginner through those early phases of learning to crochet," she says. "I had to provide the text for the book, too, which took a lot of work, but I really enjoyed the writing."

In contrast, Sarah finds the design process one of her more relaxing tasks. "If I'm just starting out, I sit on my comfy sofa at home, surrounded by my yarn and with a cup of tea nearby and the radio on in the background," she says. "My essentials are kept in a basket within easy reach and contain the necessities: hooks, scissors, tape measure and my phone – particularly useful if I want to check a stitch or refer to a technique."

This is a vital part of the process when Sarah is trying out new effects. "I'm really into mixing up stitches in designs at the moment,

and using bands of different stitches to create texture and show off what the yarn can do," she says. "When I'm working with some of the giant yarns, I've found that using simple stitches gives the best effect."

HER OWN CREATIONS

Currently, Sarah's enjoying designing patterns to use with her own hand-dyed yarns. "I want to create a series of patterns that my buyers can make from the yarn they buy from me," she says.

For the immediate future, Sarah aims to continue doing everything she's currently engaged in, with a few possible additions.

"I'll be designing, of course, and I would love to write another book. I'm really enjoying dyeing and selling my own yarn and have plans to

develop this further with some chunkier lines. I'll also make sure that there are plenty of free patterns offered on my blog, as it's the place where everything began."

Written by Judy Darley

Find out more at www.annabooshouse.blogspot.co.uk and www.etsy.com/uk/shop/AnnaboosHouse

Turn over to page 58 to find Sarah's springtime ombre cowl made using her own avocado-dyed mini skeins of yarn.

"ONE OF MY MOST INTERESTING DYE EXPERIMENTS HAS BEEN WITH AVOCADOS – THEY CREATE PINKS!"



A few of her favourite things

When Sarah puts down her hook...

"I'm a primary school teacher, so two days a week I teach intervention groups at my local school, which is wonderful. I used to be a class teacher (which I miss, terribly) but I know how much time is needed to do the job well and I just can't do it at the moment. Plus, I need my weekends and evenings to crochet!"

Easy ombre

Get in the swing of spring with this stylish cowl by Sarah Shrimpton.





YOU WILL NEED

■ 5 skein Mini Sock set (75% superwash merino wool, 25% nylon, 20g/85m each) or sock yarn 100g/425m total

■ A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook

For yarn stockists contact
Annaboo's House
www.etsy.com/uk/shop/AnnaboosHouse

TENSION

Tension is not crucial to this project, but is given as an approx guide: 22 stitches and 12 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet using 3mm hook

MEASUREMENTS

27x38cm (10½x15in) when laid flat

ABBREVIATIONS

Xtr (Crossed treble) Skip next st, tr in next st, working behind stitch just made, tr in skipped st

For a full list, see page 92

This lightweight cowl is crocheted in beautiful, naturally avocado-dyed mini skeins, though you could substitute in 100g/425m of sock yarn for a similar effect. Sarah has arranged her colours from darkest to lightest, but go your own way and reverse this order if you prefer.

COWL

Using darkest yarn, ch120, ss to first ch to join in a loop.

Round 1 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in same ch and each ch around, ss to first dc to join. [120 sts]

Round 2 Ch1, dc in first st, *skip 2 sts, 5tr in next st, skip 2 sts, dc in next st; rep from * around, omitting last dc, ss to first dc to join. [20 5-tr groups]

Rounds 3-9 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), *skip 2 tr, 5tr in next tr, skip 2 tr, tr in next st; rep from * around, omitting last tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Fasten off.

Round 10 Join next yarn in first st, ch3, *working in back loops only, 1tr, 1htr, 1dc, 1htr, 2tr; repeat from * around, omitting last tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 11 Ch3 (counts as tr), *(ch1, skip next st, tr in next st) twice, ch1, skip next st, *FPtr around next st; repeat from * around, omitting last FPtr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 12 Ch3, *tr in next ch-1 sp, (tr in next tr, tr in next ch-1 sp) twice, FPtr around next st; repeat from * around, omitting last FPtr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Rounds 13-18 Repeat Rounds 11 and 12 three more times.

Round 19 Repeat Round 11.

Fasten off.

Round 20 Join next yarn in first st, ch3, Xtr around to last ch-1 sp, working into all sts and ch-1 sps, tr in last ch-1 sp, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 21 Ch3, tr in next st, Xtr around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 22 Ch3, Xtr around to last st, tr in last st, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Rounds 23-28 Repeat Rounds 21 and 22 three times more.

Fasten off.

Round 29 Join next yarn in first st, ch3, 2tr in same st, skip next 2 sts, *3tr in next st, skip 2 sts; repeat from * around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

Round 30 Ss to next st, ch3, 2tr in same st, skip next 2 sts, *3tr in next st, skip 2 sts; repeat from * around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.



This gently graduated ombre effect is easy to achieve with a specially dyed mini skein set.



Combining front post and crossed treble stitches gives the lighter part pretty texture.

Rounds 31-36 Repeat Round 30 six times more.

Fasten off.

Round 37 Join next yarn in second st, ch4 (counts as tr, ch-1), tr in same st, skip next 2 sts, *(tr, ch1, tr) in next st, skip 2 sts; repeat from * around, ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-4 to join.

Round 38 Ss to first ch-1 sp, ch4 (counts as tr, ch-1), tr in same st, skip next 2 sts, *(tr, ch1, tr) in next st, skip 2 sts; repeat from * around, ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-4 to join.

Rounds 39-45 Repeat Round 38 seven more times.

Round 46 Ch1, dc in same st, *dc in ch-1 sp, dc in each of next 2 tr; repeat from * around omitting last dc, ss to first dc to join.

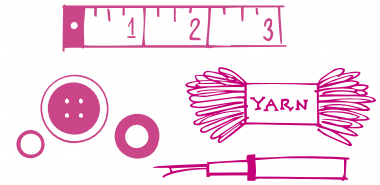
Fasten off and weave in all ends.

TO FINISH

Block gently to size.



Simply WORKSHOPS



We've highlighted six new workshops from a variety of crafts across the UK. Give your crafty hands something new to explore or extend your knowledge with some of the best tutors in the industry.



1



2

1 CRAFTY KILNER

Beginner crochet lessons – you will learn to chain, double, treble and half-treble crochet; hold a hook and yarn; vary tension, change colour and follow a pattern.

craftykilner.co.uk

2 WHICHCRAFT WOOLS

We have a fortnightly Knit and Knatter sessions where like-minded ones can meet, complete projects and help each other when needed. 02086433211.

Facebook: @whichcraftwool



3



4

3 THE YORK MAKERY

Regular crochet, knitting and other craft workshops, beginner and more, in our colourful shop workspace in the centre of beautiful York.

theyorkmakery.co.uk

4 MADE IN WINCHESTER

Make something beautiful from a simple ball of wool. Small, friendly project-based knitting & crochet workshops. Kits are provided for every class.

madeinwinchester.co.uk



5



6

5 BEE CRAFTY

A fabric shop and haberdashery offering a fantastic range of workshops and classes for people in Huntingdon, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and the surrounding areas.

beecrafty.co.uk

6 THE CROCHET SANCTUARY

All-inclusive day or entire weekend of relaxing, informative crochet workshops including industry leading guest designers, from beginners to advanced

thecrochetsanctuary.co.uk

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



Perfect patchwork

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

HOOK
— to —
HOOK



Vicki Roberts

"We can never have enough bags, right? I wanted to design something that will be quick and easy to make for crocheters of any skill level: an intermediate crocheter could hook this bag up in an afternoon. And because the design is constructed from squares, it can be completed one-by-one, so it's great for beginners to hone their skills. Plus, I wanted to use pre-bought handles for ease of carrying." See more of Vicki's designs at www.offthehookforyou.co.uk and www.ravelry.com/designers/vicki-roberts

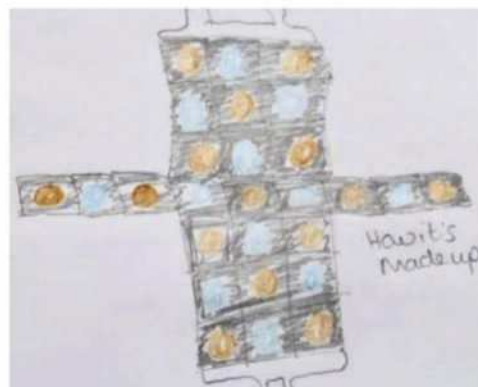
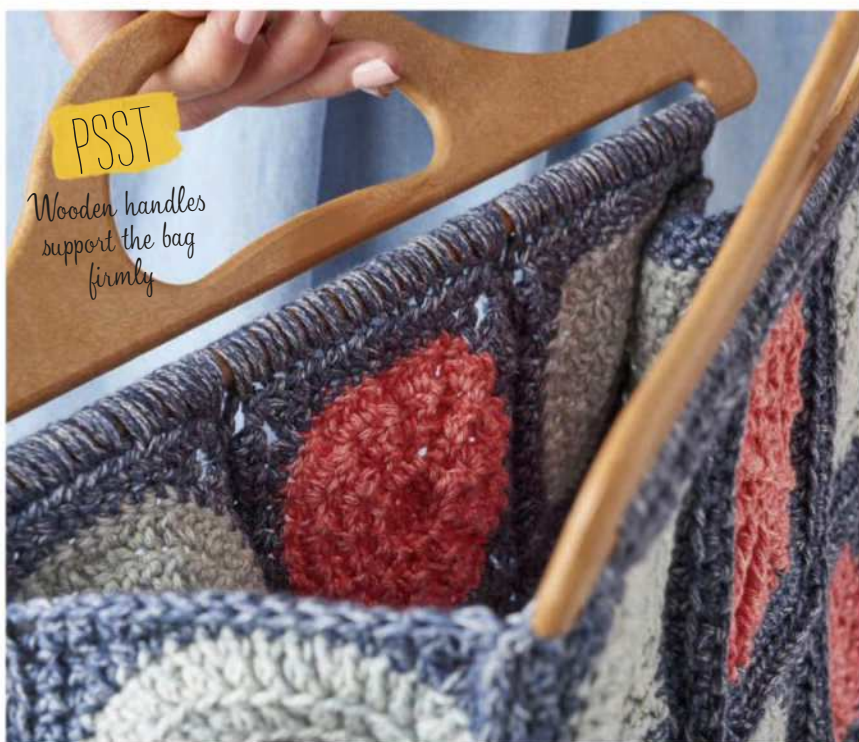
See more of Vicki's designs at www.offthehookforyou.co.uk and www.ravelry.com/designers/vicki-roberts

Charlotte Hawksworth

"My boho-style bag pattern was inspired by African tribal prints and geometric fashion. I wanted to adapt these bold prints to create a crochet pattern that almost looks like a print. I think this bag will be the perfect accessory to a simple outfit. I absolutely love this yarn! The denim cotton gives a strong, structural tessellation a softer, stonewashed and organic look." See more on Instagram @lovecharlie.co or at www.lovecharlie.co

See more on Instagram @lovecharlie.co or at www.lovecharlie.co





From left: Vicki's bag is made up of 27 squares, which are joined together and then added to pre-bought handles; her colourful sketch shows her thinking at the start of the project; if you'd like to line the bag, sew in your fabric after you have joined your squares, but before making it up.

SEEING CIRCLES BAG

The perfect size to tote around your projects, this super circle bag can easily double up as a weekend shopper. It's a wonderful first bigger project for beginners, too. By Vicki Roberts.

- Debbie Bliss Cotton Denim DK (100% cotton, 100g/200m) 2 balls of Yarn A New Denim (02), 1 ball of Yarn B Pale Blue (05), 1 ball of Yarn C Peach (07)
- 2 bag handles (28cm (11in) opening slot)
- A 3.75mm (US F/5) hook
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

TENSION

Each square measures 10cm (4in)

MEASUREMENTS

Finished Bag measures 30x30x10cm (12x12x4in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

PALE BLUE SQUARE (MAKE 15)

With a 3.75mm hook and Yarn B, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 10tr in the loop, ss to top of beg ch-3. [11 tr] Working in back loop only for next three rounds:

Round 2 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, 2tr in each st around. [22 tr]

Round 3 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next st, (2tr in next st, tr in next st) 10 times. [33 tr]

Round 4 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch-3, tr in next 2 sts, (2tr in next st, tr in next 2 sts) 10 times. [44 tr]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Change to a 4mm hook, and join Yarn A to work the first of the following sts in the first tr:

Round 5 *Dc in each of next 8 sts, htr in next st, (tr, ch2, tr) in next st, htr in next st; repeat from * 3 more times, ss to first st to join. [12 sts on each side, ch-2 sp in each corner]

Round 6 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr in each st around, working (htr, ch2, htr) in each ch-2 corner sp.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

PEACH SQUARE (MAKE 12)

Using a 4mm hook and Yarn C, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 10tr in the loop, ss to top of beg ch-3. [11 tr]

Round 2 Ch3, FPtr around ch-3 just worked, (tr in next st, FPtr around same st) 10 times. [11 tr, 11 FPtr]

Round 3 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch, FPtr around next FPtr from Round 2, (2tr in next st, FPtr around next FPtr from Round 2) 10 times [22tr, 11 FPtr]

Round 4 Ch3, tr in st at base of ch, tr in next st, FPtr around next FPtr from Round 3, (2tr in next st, tr in next st, FPtr around next FPtr from Round 3) 10 times. [33tr, 11 FPtr]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Join Yarn A to work the first of the following sts in a FPtr st:

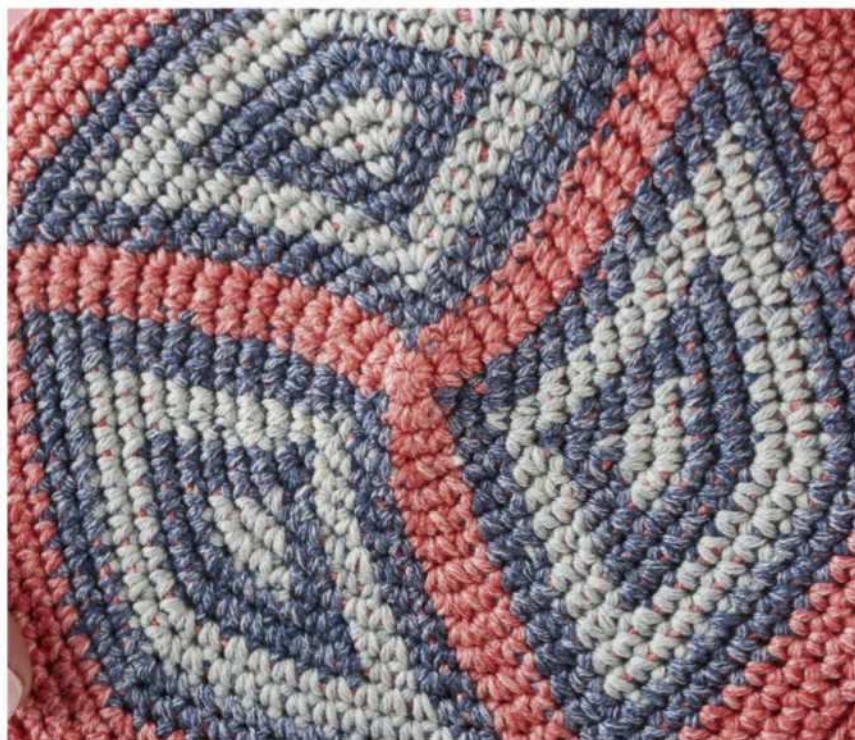
Round 5 *Dc in each of the next 8 sts, htr in next st, (tr, ch2, tr) in next st, htr in next st; repeat from * 3 times, ss to first st to join.

Round 6 Ch2 (counts as htr), htr in each st around, working (htr, ch2, htr) in each ch-2 corner sp.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Block the squares to measurements. Arrange the squares according to the



From left: Charlotte's boho-style bag is inspired by her love of bold print – her initial sketch demonstrates the relaxed vibe she wanted for her bag. The panels are made using the amigurumi method, in a continuous spiral, with changes in colour to achieve the graphic pattern.

Diagram (see page 94). Join all squares with Yarn A and a dc seam, working in the back loop only. Join each handle by working a row of htr along the top edge of the bag, inserting the hook into the stitch of the square and the slot on the bag handle at the same time before completing the stitch.

BOHO TRIBAL BAG

Go for the tribal trend with this geo shoulder bag – the strap is long enough to work worn crossbody, too. Throw on over a clashing print for extra style points. By Charlotte Hawkworth.

- Debbie Bliss, Cotton Denim DK (100% cotton, 100g/200m), 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn A Peach (07), Yarn B New Denim (02), Yarn C Pale Blue (05)

- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook
- Stitch markers

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project

MEASUREMENTS

Bag measures 25cm (10in) diameter (point to point) with a 95cm (37½in) shoulder strap

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

MEASUREMENTS

The Bag Panels are made using tapestry crochet and the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it helpful to place a marker in the first st of each round and move it up as you work. When changing colour mid-row, twist the ends of the two colours together. Pick up the new colour in the last yrh of the previous stitch. Carry the unused strands of yarn along the top of the sts.

The Bag Panels should be made using both the written pattern and the Chart (see page 94) for colourwork.

The first few rounds of the Panels are the most difficult as you are introducing new colours and increasing stitches. This gets easier as the pattern develops.

BAG PANEL (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

Follow Chart for colour changes in Rounds 2-16. Repeat Chart 3 times in each round.

Round 2 2dc in each of next 6 sts. [12 sts]

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

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

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

Round 6 (Dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]

Round 7 (Dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [42 sts]

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

Round 9 (Dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [54 sts]

Round 10 (Dc in each of next 8 sts, 2dc in



From left: the line of surface crochet across the rows of the strap gives a cohesive look to the completed bag; if you prefer a longer strap, add rows to extend it (or work fewer to shorten it), and if you plan to carry heavy items in the bag, reinforce the strap with a canvas binding strip.

next st, dc in each of next 8 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [60 sts]

Round 11 (Dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [66 sts]

Round 12 (Dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 10 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [72 sts]

Round 13 (Dc in each of next 11 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 11 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [78 sts]

Round 14 (Dc in each of next 12 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 12 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [84 sts]

Round 15 (Dc in each of next 13 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 13 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [90 sts]

Round 16 (Dc in each of next 14 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 14 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [96 sts]

Round 17 (Dc in each of next 15 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 15 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [102 sts]

Round 18 (Dc in each of next 16 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 16 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [108 sts]

Round 19 (Dc in each of next 17 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 17 sts, 2dc in

next st) 3 times. [114 sts]

Round 20 (Dc in each of next 18 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each of next 18 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [120 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

SHOULDER STRAP

Using Yarn A, loosely chain 210 sts.

Row 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st across, turn. [210 sts]

Rows 2-6 Repeat Row 1 five more times. [210 sts]

Do not fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Block each Panel to size before making up. Fold the Shoulder Strap in half and ss the two ends together to make a large loop. Make sure there are no twists in the loop. Place the join of the Shoulder Strap at one top corner of one of the Bag Panels, making sure the RS is facing you. Work a dc seam around 5 sides of the bag to join the panel and the strap. Do not fasten off. Surface crochet across the rows of the strap to the opposite edge to create a ridge similar to the seam on the opposite side of the Bag.

Pin the second Bag Panel around the Shoulder Strap to mirror the first, making sure the RS is facing you. Work a dc seam around the same 5 sides of the Bag to connect the Panel to the rest of the bag. Do not fasten off.

Dc in each st around the Strap to where the Strap joins the Panel on the other side, ss across the surface crochet to opposite Strap edge and dc in each st around the opposite edge of the strap to where the strap joins the panel on the other side.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

SAVE OR SPLURGE

For a different look try using Vinni's Colours Nikkims instead – there are lots of shades to choose from!

Check hook size, tension and metreage if you use a different yarn from that quoted.

Available from **Black Sheep Wools**
www.blacksheepwools.com



Heart to heart

Give an old denim jacket a cute new twist with Katie Jones's dramatic heart-shaped motifs.



YOU WILL NEED

- Knitcraft Cotton Blend DK (50% cotton, 50% acrylic, 100g/215m), 1 ball of each:

Yarn A Light Pink

Yarn B Lilac

- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Denim jacket
- Piece of leather or faux leather, approx 30x15cm
- Belt punch
- Large-eyed sharp needle

For yarn stockists contact

Hobbycraft 0330 0261400

www.hobbycraft.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

Finished heart patch measures

15x13cm (6x5in)

Collar and Pockets edging measures

2cm (¾in) deep

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Embrace your inner cowgirl with this pretty pink jacket update that's giving us strong Dolly Parton vibes. Once you've mastered the edging technique you'll want to add it to everything. Yee ha!

COLLAR AND POCKETS

Foundation row Using Yarn A, loosely whip stitch around the outside edge of the lower fabric layer of the collar from inside to outside. Space your stitches about 4mm apart and do not sew through the upper fabric layer, **fasten off**.

You will crochet into these stitches on Row 1.

COLLAR

With a 3mm hook and using Yarn A and a sharp needle, join at the end of the collar with the underside facing.

Row 1 (WS) Ss in each st to end, turn. Change to 4mm hook.

Row 2 Ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in st at base of ch, 3tr in each st to end, **fasten off** and weave in ends.

POCKETS

Repeat the Collar instructions for the Pocket Edgings.

HEART PATCHES (MAKE 2)

PATCH

Make a template from a piece of paper measuring 12x11cm, fold in half along the 12cm side and draw half of the heart to fill the paper. Cut out, unfold and trace around this piece on leather.

Mark punch holes on the WS of the Heart approx 1.5cm from the edge, starting with marks at the bottom point and top heart crescent. Mark 8 more points evenly on each side approx 1.5cm apart. This will give you 18 points in total. Use 3-4mm setting on a belt punch to punch each of these.

EDGING

Round 1 Hold the Heart with RS facing and the bottom point of the Heart away from you. With Yarn B and a 3mm hook, start at the hole to the left of the bottom point, 3dc into this hole and next 3 holes, 4dc in next 2 holes, 3dc in next 2 holes, 1dc in top centre hole, 3dc in next 2 holes, 4dc in next 2 holes, 3dc in the next 4 holes, (3dc, ch1, 3dc) in hole at bottom point, ss to first dc, change to Yarn A. [59 dc, ch-1 sp]

Round 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 11dc, 2dc in next st, (3dc, 2dc in next st) twice, 5dc, dc2tog over heart crescent centre, 5dc, 2dc in next st, (3dc, 2dc in next st)



Whip stitch around the collar and pocket to make a foundation row for the edgings.

twice, 15dc, (dc, ch1, dc) in corner ch-1 sp, 3dc, ss to first dc, change to Yarn B.

[66dc, ch-1 sp]

Round 3 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in next st, *(dc, ch3, dc) in next st, dc in next st; repeat from * 12 more times, dc in next st, skip centre st, 2dc, *(dc, ch3, dc) in next st, dc in next st; rep from * 14 more times, skip next dc, (dc, ch3, dc) in corner ch-sp, *dc in next st, (dc, ch3, dc) in next st; rep from *, ss to first st, **fasten off** and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Using Yarn B, sew Hearts onto jacket through ch-3 sps of Round 3.



NEXT ISSUE

ROMANTIC LINEN |
WEDDING MAKES

FUN PARTY
BUNTING



FABULOUS CUSHION |

HIPSTER BAKER |
BOY CAP

PRETTY TOP |

AND MORE...



*Get your
colour on!*



ON SALE THURS 19 APRIL

* Contents subject to change

PREPARE FOR *Yarnageddon!*

Yarn stash growing out of control? Don't worry, you're not alone. Some of our favourite designers share their stash stories, and how they turn the mountains into makes.



Sharna Moore thinks her stash is out of hand, but we think it looks like an art installation!



Emma Leith (left) uses yarn in her stash to make baskets and bags (bottom left and below).



There comes a moment in every crocheter's life when you realise your yarn stash is gaining a life of its own.

We speak to some crochet designers to discover their solutions for wrangling and making the most of their stash.

Our first port of call was Emma Leith (www.emmaleith.co.uk). "I know my stash has reached crisis point when I run out of room on the shelves, under the beds, in the loft and under the stairs and I have no idea where anything actually is anymore," she confesses. "There are times when I'll be stepping over several baskets each containing the latest WIPs just to reach the sofa! At that stage, it's organised chaos – baskets and plastic boxes bulging at the seams with 'nearly completed' projects in every corner of my home and studio!"

And Emma certainly isn't alone. Sharna Moore (www.instagram.com/sweet_sharna) is also prone to the disaster zones caused by tsu-yarnis. "Out of control yarn? That happens to me a lot," she admits. "I have many muddled baskets full of tangled yarn, cupboards you can't close and shelves that are jam-packed. I know when it's out of

control as my husband has a good moan at me because there's a yarn basket in nearly every room of the house, or unfinished projects piled on a chair somewhere. I do have a studio to keep it all in, but I never seem to use it, for some mysterious reason."

Esme Crick's (<http://redsparrowcrochet.blogspot.co.uk/>) yarn mountain is an ongoing landslide-in-waiting. "My stash is definitely at crisis point most of the time due to my inability to say no to yarn, or to get rid of anything," she says. "Even if I haven't used it for ages... well, I might need it in the future! When it's a toppling avalanche, that's how I know there's too much crammed in. I get one ball out and end up tidying up the fallout for ages. The image of my stash-shelving only shows half the story as the other half is just too embarrassing and messy to show you!"

Because Esme tends to work mostly on large projects such as blankets, she needs a

lot of yarn per project, which naturally results in leftovers. "Lots of other smaller projects get dreamt up at that point – I had lots of little random balls of cotton yarn from various projects so came up with a star motif and made bunting to decorate a few children's bedrooms. It worked because there was no

colour theme as such, just a 'use what you've got' attitude!"

On a positive note, having lots of yarn allows for lots of colour choices. "When the stash gets completely out of control, I start another throw to try and get back on top of the chaos. I'll crochet

something with lots of colour changes in it," Esme says. "Luckily, there are always many projects going on to use it up in!"

"If I see some gorgeous yarn it always seems to come home with me."

YARN STASH SOLUTIONS

Happily, there are plenty of ways to tackle the 'problem' of having too much yarn, but the most obvious is also probably the hardest.

Riannon Selcuk (below right) is delighted when she ends up with spare scraps of super chunky yarn to work with (below and right).



As Sharna points out, when she sees the yarn pile teetering she knows a bit of self-restraint is required. "I need to control my yarn buying habit," she says. "If I see some gorgeous yarn it always seems to come home with me, but then it usually sits around for ages until it ends up in one of many yarn baskets."

There's no escaping the fact that the more crocheting you're expected to do, the more yarn you inevitably end up hoarding. "Some would say I'm living the dream because I'm frequently sent yarn to play with or to work a specific commissioned piece (often by the team at *Simply Crochet!*), and this is a major contributing factor to my ever-growing pile," Emma says. "The thing is, I love yarn and the glorious colours and textures available to us, and in my heart of hearts I don't really think you can ever have too much, which is why I always return from

my annual pilgrimage to shows and festivals, like The Knitting and Stitching Show in London and Wonderwool in Wales, with armfuls of new yarn discoveries!"

The best thing about stash overload is the excuse to get experimental with your crochet. For Emma, favourite stashbusting projects include blankets, bags, baskets and bunting. "A while ago I managed to use up an incredible amount of yarn when I crocheted a chunky basket weave blanket combining three to four strands at a time

using a 10mm hook," she says, "I use the same technique for my baskets and bags, combining several strands at once. This adds texture to the pieces as well as making them nice and sturdy and the colour combinations make each one unique."

"When I can no longer put anything else into my stash, I know it's hit S&S stage."

Riannon Selcuk (www.imakeknots.com) runs crochet workshops, which are ideal for using up scraps of yarn in need of a purpose. "My stash and the workshop stash is all in the same place," she says. "I tend to buy stock in bulk, so usually five bales of super-chunky merino/acrylic and then at least 80 spools of fabric yarn at the start of summer festival season. I usually add an extra 100-150g to each workshop make because everyone's tension is different, especially if you're a beginner. So I tend to have scraps over."

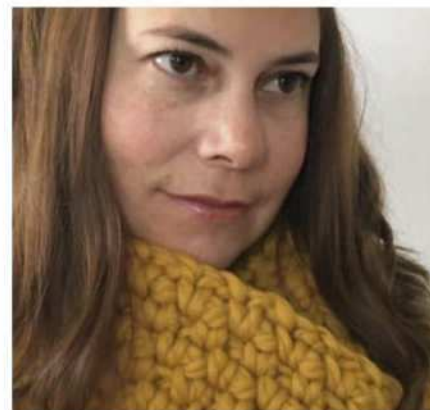
REUSING LEFTOVERS

It's after these workshops that Riannon finds her yarn heap is at its biggest. However, she's always happy to have these leftover scraps. "I try to put back what hasn't been used, but I find it very hard to chuck away any bit of yarn. I love saving them for other projects, such as adding pompom embellishments or tassels to the giant crocheted clutch bags."

Smaller items, from children's toys to classy accessories (we're thinking Riannon Selcuk's crocheted collar necklaces and Sharna Moore's gorgeous giant bows), make the ideal stashbusting projects.



Esme Crick (below) raids her stash for projects like her Frosty Day throw, patchwork tree and bunting (above, right and below).



Sharna Moore (above), makes accessories with her leftover yarn.



Larger projects featuring a rainbow riot of colours are also great stashbusters. “My big, mad blankets are ideal for using up the yarn mountain,” says Esme. “I’m working on this huge sedge-stitch piece at the moment to clear some of the terrifying yarn pile...”

WASTE NOT, WANT NOT

For many of us, hoarding yarn is a way to ensure it doesn’t end up in landfill, and you never know what you might be able to use it for. “I hate yarn going to waste,” says Sharna. “You always think: ‘what can I do with 50g?’, especially super chunky. I check out my stash wondering what I can make with my leftover yarns. It really helps to get your creativity flowing, because it’s such a small amount of yarn to create something with. It’s good for practising different textured stitches and also making accessories such as big bows or flowers to dress crochet slippers, headbands and items like that.”

“I often turn leftovers into granny square wrist warmers – I can never have enough,” Sharna continues. “I find it very satisfying to make something speedy – using odd bits of yarn in my stash gives me that quick crochet

fix of finishing something fast that’s fun and looks great, which gives me a small break from big, ongoing projects that take time.”

Of course, you don’t need to keep your yarn scraps to yourself for it to have a positive impact. “When I can no longer physically put anything else into my stash, I know it’s hit SOS stage, so I contact local schools and charity shops and donate whatever’s usable,” says Riannon. “I’d rather it goes towards fuelling someone else’s creativity than being lost at the bottom of a monstrous stash.”

CROCHET FOR CHARITY

Esme had a grand idea not so long ago that not only used up yarn from her own and other people’s yarn stashes, but had hugely far-reaching results as well. “I came up with the Patchwork Tree project, which raised £1,500 for the fantastic charity Breast Cancer Now,” she says. “It also helped to raise awareness of the importance of recognising signs of breast cancer. Many lovely people sent me squares from all over the world, which we stitched together to make a piece of community art. I would definitely recommend organising a fundraising yarn

project in your local community as a way of stashbusting, as it’s the most fabulous way to turn those bits of yarn into something beautiful, memorable and ultimately worthwhile for charity.”

Esme coordinates a lot of yarn-storming projects that are also fab for using up remnants, and she has a back-up plan for any leftovers. “At the end of every large-scale yarn bomb event I give away much of the remaining yarn to my friend Janine, who suffers with fibromyalgia and who finds great comfort in crochet,” says Esme. “She in turn uses it to create little blankets for cats and dogs home as well as baby hats for the hospital, so the love keeps on spreading.”

Esme has a plan for her crochet club that we’re keen to try too. “When I run my monthly club, all my ladies talk about the yarn stashed away in their houses,” she says. “It’s like we’ve all got dodgy yarn secrets... so I’ve started a yarn-swap evening so that we can swap colours and actually use what we’ve chosen!” What a fabulous idea.

Written by Judy Darley

Spring fling

Be sure to sparkle on a night out with this glamorous clutch bag, designed by Emma Guess.





YOU WILL NEED

- Twilley's Goldfingering (80% viscose, 20% metallised polyester, 25g/100m), 1 ball of
Yarn A Antique Gold (004)
- DMC Petra 3 (100% cotton, 100g/280m), 1 ball of each:
Yarn B Pink (54458)
Yarn C Forest Green (5500)
- DMC Petra 8 (100% cotton, 100g/800m), 1 ball of
Yarn D Fuchsia (53805)
- A 2mm (US B/1) hook
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- 162 small multi-coloured beads
- Stitch markers
- A needle that will pass through the beads when threaded with Yarn D
- Magnetic clip fastening

For yarn stockists contact

Wool Warehouse 01926 882818
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS

19.5x13 cm (7½x5in)

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

For a full list, see page 92

Forget a handbag – what you need is a *glam* bag! Use your free beads with this issue to hook an embellished clutch that will take you from day to night without missing a beat. We can't get enough of this green, pink and gold combo.

NOTES

The Flap is made from individual square and triangle motifs and sewn to the main part of the Bag.

When working with two colours in a round, carry the unused yarn across the top of the stitches and work over it to enclose it. Change colour in the last yrh of the previous st.

FLAP

SQUARES (MAKE 3)

With a 2.5mm hook and Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), 7tr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-3, fasten off. [8 sts]

Round 2 Join Yarn B to any stitch, ch3 (counts as tr), (tr, dtr, ch1, dtr, 2tr) in st at base of ch, 2tr in next st, *(2tr, dtr, ch1, dtr, 2tr) in next st, 2tr in next st; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3, fasten off. [36 sts]

Round 3 Join Yarn C in any corner ch-1 sp, *(dc, htr, dc) in corner ch-sp, dc in next 8 sts; rep from * 3 more times, ss to first dc, fasten off. [44 sts]

BEADED FLOWERS

Thread all beads onto Yarn D.

With a 2mm hook and Yarn D, work in surface crochet around the posts of the tr sts in Round 1 as follows:
Ss around first tr, (ch1, pull 9 beads to hook, ch1, ss around next tr, ch1, ss around next tr) 4 times, ss to first st, **fasten off** securely. Each time you join the yarn to a square to make a Flower, join in the same position on each square.

TRIANGLES (MAKE 3)

Row 1 With a 2.5mm hook and Yarn A, ch4 (counts as ch1 and tr), 4tr in 4th ch from hook, **fasten off**. [5 sts]

Row 2 Join Yarn B in top of beg ch-3 of Row 1, ch4 (counts as dtr), (dtr, 2tr) in st at base of ch, 2tr in next st, (2tr, dtr, ch1, dtr, 2tr) in next st, 2tr in next st, (2tr, 2dtr) in next st, **fasten off**. [19 sts]

Round 3 Join Yarn C in top of beg ch-4, ch2 (counts as htr) dc in st at base of ch, dc in next 8 sts, (dc, htr, dc) in ch-sp, dc in next 8 sts, (dc, htr) in last dtr, ch4, dc around post of tr in Row 1, ch2, dc in starting ch,



Create a row of beautiful gold bobbles with 4-tr clusters worked in Antique Gold yarn.

ch2, dc around post of tr in Row 1, ch4, ss to top of beg ch-2, **fasten off**. [38 sts]

BEADED FLOWERS

With a 2mm hook and Yarn D, using the remaining beads, work in surface crochet around the posts of the tr sts in Round 1 as follows:
Ss around the 2nd stitch from Row 1, (ch1, pull 9 beads to hook, ch1, ss over next gold tr, ch1, ss over next gold tr) twice, **fasten off** securely.

JOIN TO MAKE A FLAP

Join the squares and triangles with a 2.5mm hook and a ss seam in Yarn A, working in back loops only with RS facing. Join into a triangle shape as shown in the image.

EDGING

With Yarn A and a 2.5mm hook, htr around the 3 edges of the flap, working 1 htr in each st and each ss seam, (htr, tr, htr) in the central point, 3htr in each of the 2 top corners, ss to first st, **fasten off**.

MAIN BAG

With a 2.5mm hook and Yarn C, ch50.

Round 1 Tr in 4th ch from hook (skipped ch count as tr), tr in each ch to last st, 6tr in last st, working in the opposite side of the foundation ch, tr in each st to last st, 5tr in last st, ss to top of beg ch-3. [102 sts]

Rounds 2-4 Ch2 (counts as htr throughout), htr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2.

Fasten off at end of Round 4.

Rounds 5-6 Join in Yarn B, ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in same stitch and in each st around. Mark the first st of the round with a marker.

Turn work inside out to work with WS

facing for next round.

Round 7 Ch1, dc in first st, move stitch marker to this st, dc in next 4 sts, change to Yarn A 4-tr cl in next st, (5dc in Yarn B, 4-tr cl in next st in Yarn A) repeat around, ss to first dc with Yarn B, turn back to RS.

Fasten off Yarn A.

Rounds 8-9 With Yarn B, ch1, dc in each st around, **fasten off**.

Round 10 Join Yarn C, ch2, htr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2.

Round 11 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first dc.

Round 12 Join Yarn A, ch2, htr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2.

Round 13 With Yarn C, ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first dc.

Round 14 Join Yarn B, ch1, dc in every stitch, ss to first dc, **fasten off**.

Rounds 15-28 With Yarn C, ch2, htr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2.

Fasten off.

JOIN THE FLAP TO THE BAG

Fold the Bag flat and mark the two stitches at the fold, making sure that there are 50 sts between the markers on each side.

Align the Flap with the top back of the Bag, RS together. With the front of the Bag facing, using a 2.5mm hook and Yarn C, join the two pieces with a dc seam.

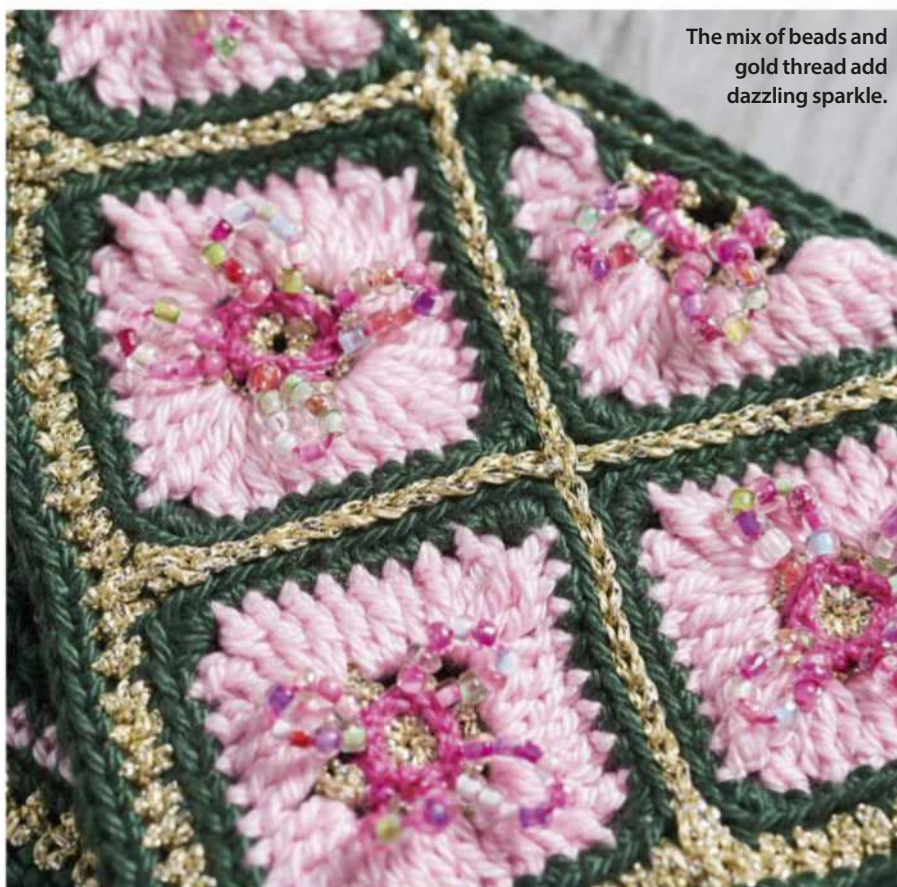
Continue working dc around the Flap with 3dc in the point of the flap, ss to first dc.

Fasten off.

STRAP

With 2.5mm hook and Yarn C, ch84.

Row 1 Tr in fourth ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [82 sts]



The mix of beads and gold thread add dazzling sparkle.

Bring each end of the row together to form a loop.

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 3dc through both layers of the row ends to join, turn.

Row 3 Ch1, dc through each st of last row and 3 sts from top end of main bag to join.

Fasten off.

EDGING

With Yarn A, dc around one edge of the strap and repeat for the other side, **fasten off** and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

Stitch magnetic clasp in place underneath the centre point of the flap. Weave in all ends.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO THREAD BEADS ONTO YARN



1 Cut a small length of sewing cotton, thread through a sewing needle and knot the ends.



2 Take the end of your yarn and pass it through the centre of the circle of sewing cotton.



3 Pass the sewing needle through your first bead, gently moving it down over the sewing cotton and then onto your yarn.



4 Repeat with more beads to string the number you need onto your yarn.

True blue

Spread your wings and show off your skills with this super-cute peacock by Ilaria Caliri.





YOU WILL NEED

- Yarn and Colors Must-Have (100% cotton, 50g/125m), 1 ball of **Yarn A** Petroleum (70)
- Yarn and Colors Must-Have Minis (100% cotton, 10g/25m), 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn B** Glass (72)
 - Yarn C** Mustard (15)
- A 2.5mm (US C/1 or B/2) crochet hook
- 2 safety eyes or black beads approx 5mm diameter
- Stitch markers
- Toy stuffing

For yarn stockists contact www.yarnandcolors.com

MEASUREMENTS

11 cm (4¼in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

We can't get enough of Ilaria's designs, and her latest has us all aflutter. This perfect peacock with his proud plumage takes full advantage of the jewel-bright shades from Yarn and Colors, too. He's bound to turn plenty of heads...

NOTES

The Peacock is worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it helpful to place a marker in the first st of each round and move it up as you work.

The Head and Body are worked as one piece starting from the top of the Head. All the other pieces are sewn to the body.

HEAD AND BODY

Using Yarn A, make a magic ring.

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

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

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

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

Rounds 5-8 Dc in each st around. [24 dc]

Round 9 7dc, (dc in next st, dc2tog) 3 times, 8dc. [21 dc]

Rounds 10-11 Dc in each st around. [21 dc]

Round 12 8dc, (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 3 times, 7dc. [24 dc]

Round 13 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 3 times, 12dc, (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 3 times. [30 dc]

Round 14 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times, 12dc, (2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts) 3 times. [36 dc]

Insert the safety eyes between Rounds 6 and 7 approx 7 sts apart. If you're using black beads, sew the eyes when you have stuffed and finished the Body. Stuff the Head and continue stuffing as you go.

Round 15 Dc in each st around. [36 dc]

Round 16 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 3 times, 24dc, (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 3 times. [42 dc]

Rounds 17-21 Dc in each st around. [42 dc]

Round 22 (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 dc]

Round 23 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 dc]

Round 24 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 dc]

Round 25 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 dc]

Round 26 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 dc]

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

Fasten off and weave in ends.

BEAK

Using Yarn C, make a magic ring.



Simple but effective chains are looped over to make up the crest on the peacock's head.

Round 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), 5dc into the loop. [5 dc]

Round 2 2dc in next st, 4dc. [6 dc]

Round 3 2dc in next st, 5dc. [7 dc]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Do not stuff. Pinch the Beak and sew it between Rounds 7 and 9 of the Head.

TAIL

LARGE FEATHER (MAKE 3)

Using Yarn A, make a magic ring.

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

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

Round 3 (2dc in next st, 5dc) twice. [14 dc]

Round 4 (2dc in next st, 6dc) twice. [16 dc]

Rounds 5-6 Dc in each st around. [16 dc]

Round 7 (Dc2tog, 6dc) twice. [14 dc]

Round 8 Dc in each st around. [14 dc]

Round 9 (Dc2tog, 5dc) twice. [12 dc]

Round 10 Dc in each st around. [12 dc]

Round 11 (Dc2tog, 4dc) twice. [10 dc]

Round 12 Dc in each st around. [10 dc]

Round 13 (Dc2tog, 3dc) twice. [8 dc]

Round 14 Dc in each st around. [8 dc]

Round 15 (Dc2tog, 2dc) twice. [8 dc]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

Do not stuff.

LARGE FEATHER DETAIL (MAKE 3)

Using Yarn C, make a magic ring.

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

Change to Yarn B.

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

Round 3 Ch4, ss in second ch from hook, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, skip first 2 sts in Round 2, ss in next st.

Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing this piece on to the big feather.

MEDIUM FEATHER (MAKE 3)

Using Yarn C, make a magic ring.

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

Change to Yarn B.

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

Round 3 Ch6, dc in second ch from hook and next ch, htr in next 2 ch, tr in next ch, skip first 3 sts in Round 2, ss in next st.

Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing.

SMALL FEATHER (MAKE 3)

Using Yarn A, ch7.

Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, htr in next 3 ch, dc in next ch, ss in last ch.

Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing.

TO MAKE UP

Sew the Large Feather Detail onto the centre of the Large Feathers. Pin the Feathers to the base of the Body at the back, starting with the Large Feathers and layering the Medium and Small ones on top, using the image as a guide. Sew securely into place.

CREST

Using Yarn A, ch5.

Ss in to the 5th ch from hook, ch8 and ss into the 8th ch from hook, ch5 and ss into the 5th ch from the hook.

The tail feathers are sewn on in layers to create that famous peacock fan.



Fasten off, leaving a tail. Sew to the centre back of the Head using the image as a guide.

FOOT (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn C, ch3.

Ss in second ch from hook and next ch.

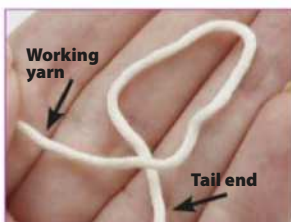
Ch4, ss in second ch from hook and next 2

ch, ch3, ss in second ch from hook and next ch, ch6, ss in second ch from hook and next 4 ch, ss in the first ch to join.

Fasten off leaving a tail.

Sew the Feet to the Body.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A MAGIC LOOP



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



2 Insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn around the hook anticlockwise and pull the yarn through the loop.



3 Make a t-ch for the sts you want to work (here, we made 1 t-ch for dc). Now work your sts into the Magic Loop, making sure you work over both the loop and the tail end (so two yarn strands).



4 Once you've worked the number of stitches you need, simply pull the tail end of the yarn to draw up the ring. Work a slip stitch to join the first and last stitches and finish the first round.

New season yarns

Six brand new yarns that are perfect for rainy days in!

DROPLET MOTIF

Make a magic loop.

ROUND 1 Ch2, (3dc, htr, ch1, tr, ch1, htr) in second ch from hook, ss to first dc to join.

ROUND 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), 2dc in next 4sts, (dc, htr) in ch-sp, ch1, tr in next st, ch1, (htr, dc) in ch-sp, 2dc in next st, ss to first dc to join.

FASTEN OFF and weave in ends.



Even April showers can't put a dampener on these!



RICO DESIGN CREATIVE MELANGE LACE

WEIGHT 2ply
CONTENT 95% cotton,
 5% polyester
SKEIN 50g/ 260m
HOOK 2.5mm
RRP £5.39



Six new shades have been added to the fabulous Melange Lace range. This 2ply lace yarn features such a uniform twist that you'll barely notice it, plus it's surprisingly soft and breathable for a cotton blend. The colours are the real feature that grab your attention. The

printed, speckled effect and incredibly subtle colour changes will have you looking closer to admire every stitch.

It's the perfect yarn for light and breezy projects. Machine wash at 30°.

Contact your local Rico Design retailer or online stockist.

SCHEEPJES OUR TRIBE

WEIGHT 4ply
CONTENT 70% Merino
 superwash, 30% polyamide
SKEIN 100g/420m
HOOK 3mm
RRP £7.99



Imagine a kitten on a cloud made of marshmallows and you've got an idea of just how soft Our Tribe is! The yarn collection has been curated by the Scheepjes bloggers group, and they've just added a further nine uni colours to the existing 15 shades – each designed to

complement the existing variegated balls. Our Tribe is a yarn that's full of character, from its relaxed twist and weight to its squidgy and bouncy texture. Machine wash at 40°, and it can even be tumble dried on low. www.scheepjes.com

PAINTBOX WOOL MIX CHUNKY

WEIGHT Chunky
CONTENT 50% wool,
 50% acrylic
SKEIN 100g/100m
HOOK 7mm
RRP £4.75



If you thought Paintbox just made acrylics – think again! The new Wool Mix range is available in aran, chunky and super chunky. And Paintbox hasn't skimped on the colours either, with a whopping 60 shades to choose from. The 50/50 blend means you get the best of both

worlds: the acrylic gives it the even and consistent weight with a relaxed twist, while the wool gives it the softness and natural halo that will help it to appeal to real wool aficionados. Machine wash at 30° www.lovecrochet.com 0845 544 2196

CASCADE NIFTY COTTON

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% cotton
SKEIN 100g/169m
HOOK 4.5mm
RRP £5.49



If you're looking for durable and hardwearing yarn then you can't go wrong with Nifty Cotton. As you make your first solid stitches with it, you can really feel the strength. It's available in 14 colours that all pack a punch and complement each other nicely. It's a worsted

weight yarn so has that little extra chunkiness to it, which gives your fabric a nice level of firmness – great for projects that you want to have a bit of sturdiness and to retain their shape. Machine wash at 30° www.woolwarehouse.co.uk 01926 882818

ROWAN MAKO COTTON

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 63% cotton,
 37% lyocell
SKEIN 50g/100m
HOOK 5mm
RRP £9.50



This chainette-style yarn from Rowan is a real pleasure to crochet with, thanks to the structure of the yarn and the cotton/lyocell mix (lyocell is an eco-friendly cellulose fibre similar to rayon). The yarn is incredibly bouncy and has a lovely elasticity while it's being

worked, and ends up producing deliciously defined stitches with just the right level of chunkiness to suit various types of projects. It's available in seven shades, including a gorgeous lime and deep magenta. Hand wash only. www.knitrowan.com 01484 950 630

HAYFIELD BONUS BREEZE

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% acrylic
SKEIN 100g/280m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £3.99



Bonus Breeze may be described as an extra value yarn, but that doesn't mean you're not getting top quality. It has the consistent twist and weight that you'd expect from a DK acrylic yarn, but the colours in this range are spectacular. The colours produce a beautiful

marbled effect, as well as having subtle variegations that add an extra level of interest to your final fabric. It's a good all-rounder yarn that's great for those everyday projects. Machine wash at 40° www.sirdar.co.uk 01924 231682

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FANCY FEET

▼ Well hello, Twinkle Toes! Sarah Cocker's masterful socks from issue 62 are a total joy – just look at that fab ribbing. We hope it's still chilly enough in April to cosy up in them in bed with a good book, and a cup of something toasty warm... 📷



OTTERLY ADORABLE

These dudes from issue 40 stand a chance of winning the Cutest Creatures in Crochet Award (we challenge you to find something cuter). They've been hooked by Michelle Markwell, who has paid particular attention to those heart-shaped tails and those prettily clasped paws. Squee! 📷

BAG IT UP

We are thoroughly impressed with Brenda Cockburn's Bargello bag from issue 65 – just look at the wavy rainbow detailing, and those colour combinations are stunning. We just know it would look fab with a swishy midi dress... You'd be right in thinking that the Bargello stitching method is a challenge, but it's much easier than it looks – and it looks seriously impressive when it's complete! 📷



DOUBLE TAP ♡

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



DIVE IN!

Amy Roberts' little dude of a penguin from issue 58 has melted our stony hearts. Just look at his wee little goggles! And his froggy rubber ring! It's only gone and bust our cuteometer.



TAKE YOUR PLACE

Cherie Brailsford's spectacular centrepiece from issue 67 just goes to show what you can achieve when you've mastered a simple mandala – and she's got a total of 12 in here: count 'em!



STAR GAZING

Claire Dickinson's sparkling shooting star from issue 66 is surely the best cushion in the galaxy – or at least in our solar system. There's something fabulously 70s about it too – bring on the glam rock!

THE LOWDOWN

It's simple to be in with a chance of winning one of three great hooky prizes next issue! Show us your *Simply Crochet* makes on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or via email or post by 19 April 2018. For all terms and conditions, and more information, visit www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/competitionrules

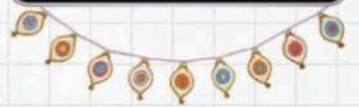


WINNER!



BEES ARE GOOD

How sweet is this? Jo McAuliffe has hooked up Becca Parker's baby blanket from issue 65, and she's even gone to the trouble of fixing those little bumblebees in place. A baby blanket is a fab way for a beginner to find their hooky feet, as each little hexi only takes two ticks to make – and once you've mastered one, you'll be well on the way to creating your very first blanket. Once you feel confident, you could make a start with our Hook 'n' Learn blanket, where you learn a new stitch every issue! Turn to page 95 to find out more.



TAKE 1,000s OF PATTERNS WHEREVER YOU GO!



* Search for Simply Crochet on your chosen app store
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EGG-STRAORDINARY!

Joanna Wolf got to grips with our egg decorations in time for Easter, and don't they look fab? Just goes to show that not all eggs need to be chocolate, although we'd prefer it if some of them were...



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Making waves

Make a splash in the nursery with a beautifully tactile blanket with a hint of the sea. By Hannah Cross.

PERFECT FOR
BABIES - ROYAL
OR NOT!



BABY BLANKET



YOU WILL NEED

- West Yorkshire Spinners Bo Peep DK (52% Falkland wool, 48% nylon, 50g/112m), 3 balls of Under the Sea (686) 2 balls of each:
 - Tooth Fairy (011)
 - Tin Man (305)

- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

For yarn stockists contact

West Yorkshire Spinners

01535 664500

www.wyspinners.com

TENSION

18htr and 2 pattern repeats measures 10x10cm (4x4in)

MEASUREMENTS

70x82cm (27½x31½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

WP (Wedged picot) Ch6, dc into 2nd ch from hook, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, dtr in next ch, ttr in next ch

For a full list, see page 92

Master the wedged picot stitch to create a breezy centrepiece for any nursery. The beautiful stitchwork combined with these dreamy shades is so foamily pretty, you may well want to cuddle up with it yourself.

NOTES

The pattern is worked over a multiple of 6 plus 2 stitches.

BLANKET

Using Under the Sea, ch122.

Row 1 (WS) Htr in 2nd ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [121 htr]

Row 2 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), htr in BL only of each st across, turn, **fasten off**.

Row 3 (WS) Join Tooth Fairy in first st, ch1, dc in first st, *WP, skip 5 sts, htr in next st 2 rows below; repeat from * to last 6 sts, WP, skip 5 sts, dc in last st, turn, **fasten off**.

Row 4 (RS) Join Tin Man in first st, ch5 (counts as ttr), *dc in ch-1 sp at top of WP, working into opposite side of ch-6 of WP, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, dtr in next ch, ttr in next ch, skip next htr; repeat from * across to last WP, dc in ch-1 sp at top of WP, working into opposite side of ch-6 of WP, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, dtr in next ch, ttr2tog over



The pattern is repeated eight times in the blanket – use the picture below as a guide.

next ch and last dc, turn, **fasten off**.

Row 5 (WS) Join Under the Sea in first st, ch1, htr in each st across, turn [121 htr]

Row 6 (RS) Ch1, htr in BL only of each st across, turn, **fasten off**.

Row 7 Join Tin Man in first st, repeat Row 3.

Row 8 Join Tooth Fairy in first st, repeat Row 4.

Row 9 Join Under the Sea in first st, repeat Row 5.

Row 10 Repeat Row 6.

Rows 3-10 set the pattern.

Rows 11-66 Repeat Rows 3-10 seven more times.

Fasten off and weave in ends.





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WEST MIDLANDS • ONLINE



This stunning baby blanket has been created for The Yarn Cafe by Sarah Hazell and uses 5 colours of Bo Peep yarn from West Yorkshire Spinners, to produce a wonderfully soft feel. Contact The Yarn Café for more beautiful yarns and inspiration!

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Crochet essentials

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

HOLDING THE HOOK

Try these methods and see which works best.



PENCIL METHOD

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



KNIFE METHOD

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

HOLDING THE YARN

Even tension results in even stitches.



METHOD ONE

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



METHOD TWO

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

MAKING A SLIPKNOT

The first loop on the hook.



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



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



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



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

CHAIN STITCH

Use this stitch to make your foundation chain.



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



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



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

How to count chains



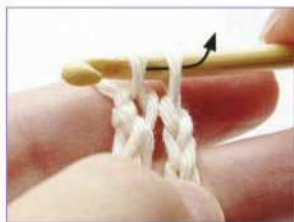
Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Never count your first slipknot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). So that you can be accurate, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.

SLIP STITCH (ss)

This stitch has no height – often used to join rounds.



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



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

WORKING IN ROWS

Follow these simple rules to construct crochet fabric.



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



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

DOUBLE CROCHET (dc) US term: single crochet

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



1 To make a double crochet stitch, insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch on the previous row.



2 Wind the yarn around the hook (yrh).



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



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

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

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



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



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



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



4 Yarn round hook again, pull the yarn through all 3 loops. You've made a half treble crochet. Continue working htr into next and following sts to the end of the row.

TREBLE CROCHET (tr) US term: double crochet

One of the most popular stitches in crochet, this simple stitch is twice as high as a double crochet stitch.



1 To work a treble crochet, start by winding yrh and then insert the hook under the top two loops of the stitch on the previous row.



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



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



4 You will now have 2 loops on the hook. Yrh again and draw the yarn through the remaining loops on the hook. Your treble crochet is complete.

DOUBLE TREBLE CROCHET (dtr) US term: treble crochet

This is a stitch regularly used as an elongated version of the treble (described above). It's worked in a very similar way to the treble, as follows:

1 Make a foundation chain. Skip 4ch, *yrh twice, and insert the hook under the top loop of the next ch.

2 Yrh, pull the yarn through the ch loop only (4 loops on hook).

3 Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (3 loops on hook).

Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (2 loops on hook).

4 Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops. Repeat from * to make more dtr sts.

5 To make the next row of dtr, turn work and ch4. This turning chain counts as the first dtr in a new row. Skip first st at the base of the t-ch, work 1dtr under the top two loops of the 2nd stitch in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

TRIPLE TREBLE CROCHET (ttr) US term: double treble crochet

This is one of the longest standard crochet stitches and is mainly used in fancy stitch patterns. It's taller than a double treble crochet stitch (described above) and is worked in a very similar way, as follows:

1 Make a foundation ch. Skip 5 ch, *yrh 3 times, insert hook under top loop of next ch.

2 Yrh, pull yarn through ch loop only (5 loops on hook).

3 † Yrh, draw loop through 2

loops only. Repeat from † 3 times more and your triple treble will be finished. Repeat from * to make more ttr sts.

4 To make the next row, turn work and ch5. This turning chain counts as the first triple treble in a new row. Skip first st at base of the t-ch. Work 1 triple treble, inserting hook under the top 2 loops of the 2nd st in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

TURNING CHAIN (t-ch)

For an even finish, start each row with a turning chain.

In crochet, you need to add turning chains (t-chs) to the beginning of rows. The reason for this is to bring the hook up to the height of the stitches you're crocheting. Each basic stitch has its own number of chains. The

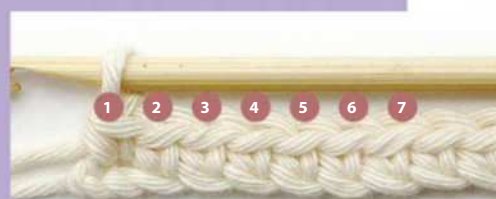
table below tells you how many t-ch sts form the first stitch. *For dc, usually the turning chain does not count as a stitch, and the first stitch of the row is worked into the stitch at the base of the turning chain.

| STITCH | Add to foundation chain before starting row | Skip at start of foundation row (counts as first st) | For turning chain (counts as first st) |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Double crochet | 1 ch | 1 ch* | 1 ch* |
| Half treble | 1 ch | 2 ch | 2 ch |
| Treble | 2 ch | 3 ch | 3 ch |
| Double treble | 3 ch | 4 ch | 4 ch |
| Triple treble | 4 ch | 5 ch | 5 ch |

How to count stitches

Check your work is correct.

Being able to count your stitches is very important and helps you to ensure that you're following a pattern correctly. It's a good idea to count your stitches at the end of every row. To count short stitches such as double crochet, look at the plaited tops (see above right). For taller stitches, count the upright 'stems' – each 'stem' is counted as a stitch (see right).



HOW TO CHANGE COLOUR

Create stripes and other colour effects.



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



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

INCREASING AND DECREASING

Shaping stitches are vital for making garments.



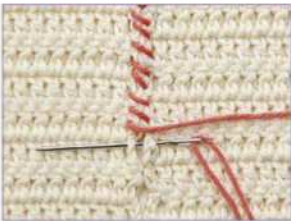
INCREASE To increase one stitch is very simple – work one stitch into the next stitch on the row below. When you've finished, work another stitch into the same stitch.



DECREASE For a quick decrease, just skip one stitch. For a neater look, work the first part of one stitch and then begin the next stitch. Finish both together.

SEWING SEAMS

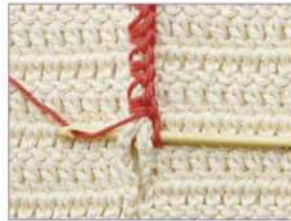
You can join crochet seams by using a tapestry needle or a crochet hook, using one of these four methods.



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



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



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

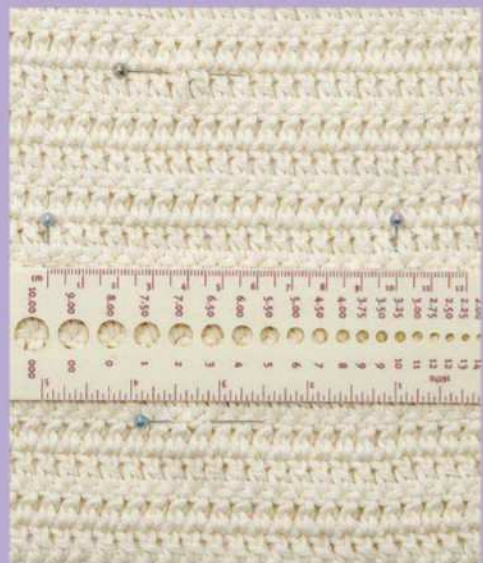
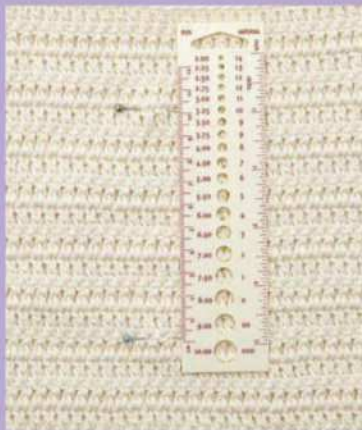


4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

How to check your tension

Make and measure a swatch to check your tension.

Most crochet patterns state the tension required, in rows and stitches of a specific type. Make a swatch at least 15cm square and check that your tension matches. Place a ruler across the swatch and insert two pins, 10cm apart. Then place the ruler along a column of stitches and insert two pins 10cm apart. Count the stitches and rows between the pins – if you have less than the pattern, your tension is too loose so you need to use a smaller hook, but if you have too many, use a larger hook. It's usually better to match the stitches than rows, because you can always work more or fewer rows.



FOUNDATION RING

Create a foundation ring for working in the round.



1 Make a chain the length stated in the pattern instructions. Next, insert the crochet hook into the first chain. Close the ring with a slip stitch, working yrh...



2 ...and pull yarn through 2 loops on hook. Now you're ready to start crocheting in the round, following the instructions given right.

WORKING STITCHES INTO A RING

To make circles, tubes and other shapes.



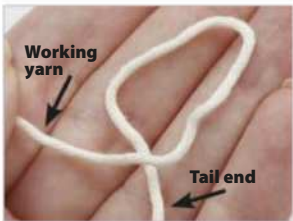
1 Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



2 Finish the treble as usual (yrh, pull yarn through ring, yrh, pull yarn through first 2 loops, yrh, pull yarn through 2 loops). Work more sts into the ring as needed.

MAGIC LOOP

An alternative foundation ring for working in the round.



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



2 Now insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn around the hook and pull the yarn through the loop.



3 Make a t-ch for the sts you want to work (above, we made 1 t-ch for dc). Work your sts into the Magic Loop, over both the loop and the tail end (so two yarn strands).



4 Once you've worked the first round of stitches, simply pull the tail end of yarn to draw up the ring. Work a slip stitch to join the last and first sts to finish the first round (as instructed in the guide below).

JOINING ROUNDS

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



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



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



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

Rounds or spirals



Check which technique you need to use.

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

©Stephanie Lau, www.allaboutami.com

Abbreviations

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

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 |

HOW TO GET A PERFECT FINISH

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

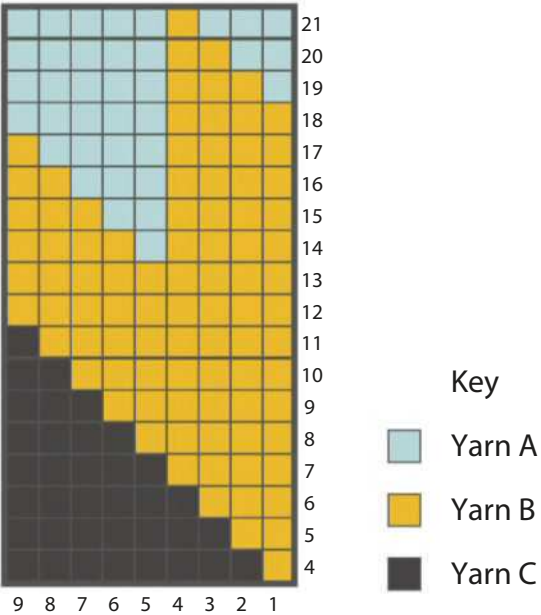


Complete the final stitch, then cut the yarn about 15cm from the work. Pull it through the last loop on the hook and pull to close the loop. Thread the yarn tail onto a tapestry needle and weave into the back of the work. Most crochet items don't need a lot of blocking, but cotton lace work usually does.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

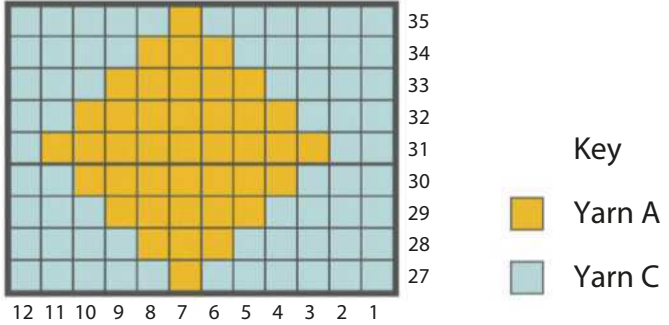
CHARTS & DIAGRAMS

Here are the extra bits and pieces you'll need to make the chevron pencil tin, tablet cover and patchwork bags in this issue.

Chevron pencil tin, page 20

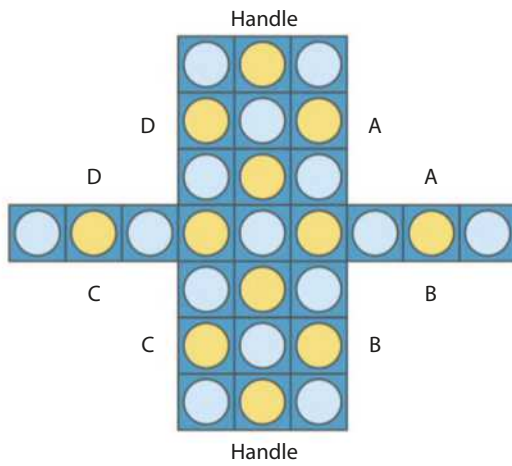


Tablet cover, page 24

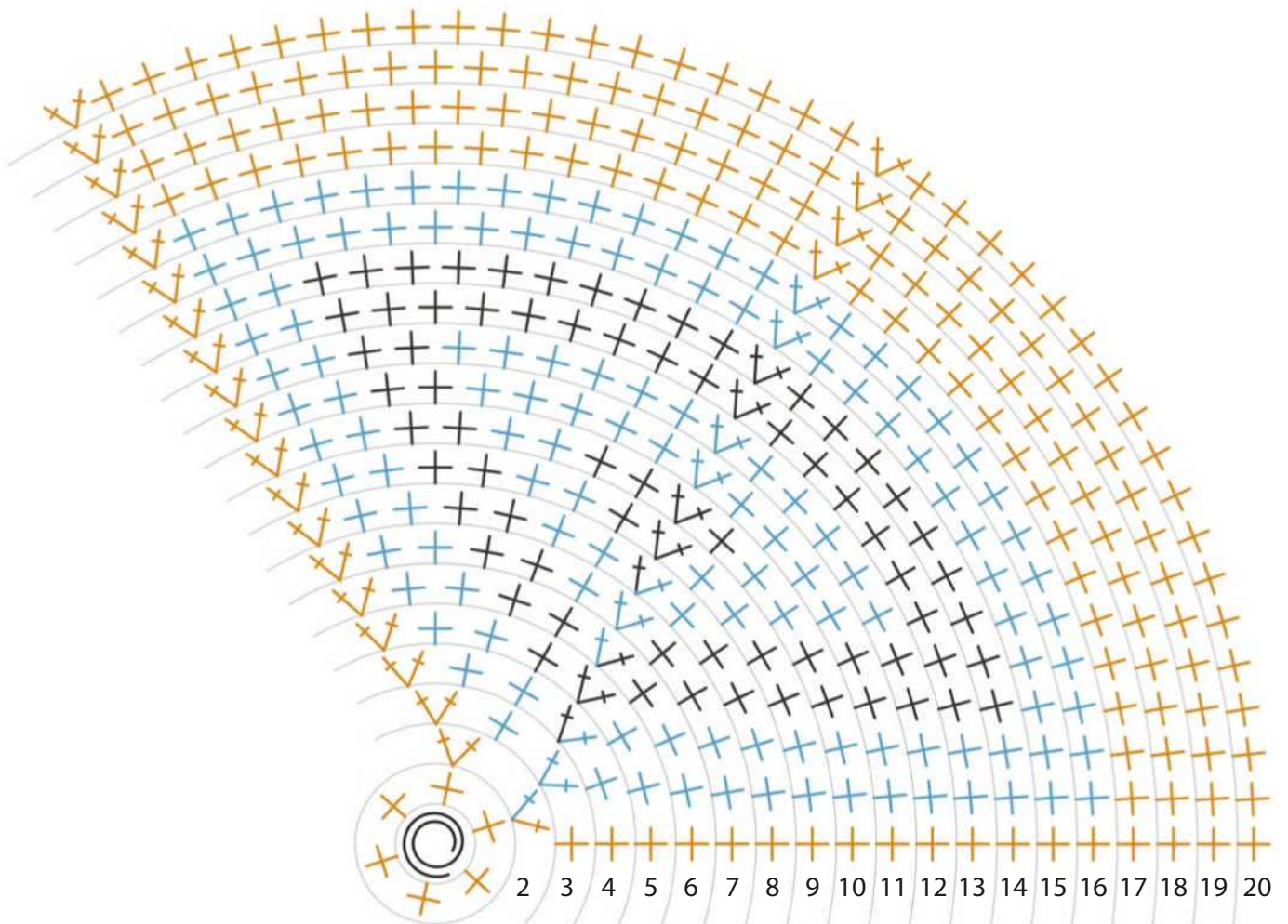


CHARTS

Seeing circles bag, page 62



Boho tribal bag, page 63



HOOK 'N' LEARN

NEW!
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BEGINNERS

Waffle stitch

Get hooking Lucy Croft's second square for our beautiful blanket.

HOOK 'N'
LEARN



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STONE WASHED XL

HOW-TO VIDEOS
Learn this stitch at [youtube.com/user/simplycrochetmag](https://www.youtube.com/user/simplycrochetmag)

This version of the blanket is made in Scheepjes Stone Washed XL. The waffle stitch square is the second stitch you'll learn in our *Simply Crochet* Hook 'n' Learn. There are 10 more stitches to learn, which we'll take you through step-by-step, making this a perfect project for a beginner.

This is the second pattern in our gorgeous Hook 'n' Learn blanket crochet-along, which we'll be running over the next year. Perfect for beginners and fun for more experienced stitchers, you'll learn how to do 12 attractive stitches, then we'll show you how to put it all together in the last issue. Choose between the beautiful soft shades of Stone Washed XL, or the bright tones of Colour Crafter (or go mad and make both!). Waffle stitch is a great one to add to your repertoire – it feels so bouncy! You'll need to make two waffle blocks if you are making the Colour Crafter version.

STONE WASHED XL

Make one Waffle Block

- Scheepjes Stone Washed XL (70% cotton, 30% acrylic, 50g/75m), 1 ball of Peridot (867)
- A 5.5mm (US I/9) hook

For yarn stockists for both versions visit Scheepjes at www.scheepjes.com/en

MEASUREMENTS

Waffle Block measures 20x20cm (8x8in)

TENSION

13 sts and 9 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over waffle stitch using a 5.5mm hook

MEASUREMENTS

Waffle Blocks measure 16x16cm (6¼x6¼in)

TENSION

17 sts and 10 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over waffle stitch using a 4mm hook

ABBREVIATIONS

FPtr (Front Post treble) Yrh, starting from the front, insert hook from front to back to front around the post of st indicated, complete as for treble st

For a full list, see page 92

NOTES

All even rows are worked on the RS.

The instructions for the Colour Crafter blanket are shown in brackets.

WAFFLE BLOCK

Use a 5.5mm (4mm) hook and Peridot (Block 1 Tilburg: Block 2 Gouda), ch29.

Row 1 (WS) Tr in fourth ch from hook and each ch across, turn. [27 tr]

Row 2 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr), FPtr around next tr, *tr in each of next 2 tr, FPtr around

COLOUR CRAFTER

Make two Waffle Blocks

- Scheepjes Colour Crafter (100% acrylic, 100g/300m), 1 ball of each: Block 1 Tilburg (1083), Block 2 Gouda (1081)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook



SHOW US YOUR HOOK 'N' LEARN!

We want to see how you're getting on! Join our group at www.facebook.com/groups/hooknlearn and post your pics on Facebook and Instagram #SHooknlearn



COLOUR CRAFTER

Top: the waffle stitch square, worked in Stone Washed XL in glorious Peridot; Middle: worked in bright Colour Crafter Tilburg; Bottom: worked in warm, rich Colour Crafter Gouda; Right: Colour Crafter creates a distinctively bright blanket once you've completed our Hook 'n' Learn.

next tr; repeat from * to last st, tr in top of beg ch-3, turn.

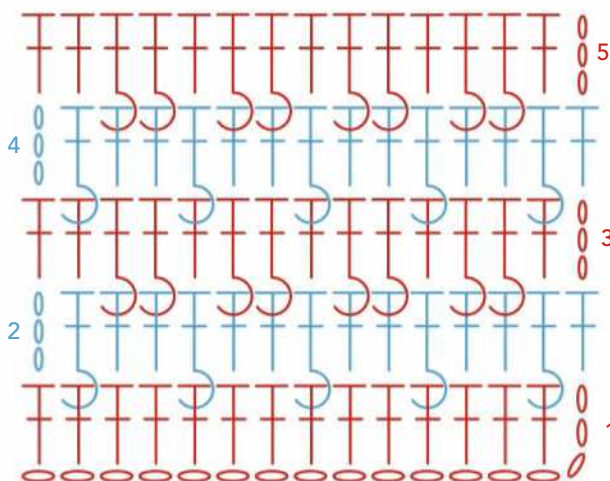
Row 3 (WS) Ch3 (counts as tr), *tr in next st, FPtr around each of next 2 tr; repeat from * to last 2 sts, tr in next st, tr in top of beg ch-3, turn.

Rows 2-3 set pattern.

Rows 4-17 Repeat Rows 2-3 another 7 (6) times or until Block measures 19 (15)cm ending on a Row 3.

Next row Repeat Row 2.

Fasten off and weave in ends.



Key

○ Chain (ch)

⌋ Treble (tr)

⌋ Front Post Treble (FPtr)

BUY YOUR YARN HERE!

You can buy special Hook 'n' Learn kits for both Scheepjes Stone Washed XL and Colour Crafter yarns from www.black-sheepwools.com, www.deramores.com and www.woolwarehouse.co.uk.

Alternatively, you can subscribe to *Simply Crochet* and receive a whopping great 9-ball bundle of Colour Crafter yarn *free!* Also, if you subscribe today, you'll pay just £29.99 every six issues, saving you more than £1 every issue! See page 34.



*Yarn offer only available with print subscriptions.



Here comes the bride

Knitwear designer Katie Jones tells us what her customised wedding outfit means to her.

My 'hooky treasure' has to be all the clothes worn for my wedding, and especially my veil. I knew I didn't want a wedding that was only white, so I got a rainbow bright selection! All of the pieces were made in a huge range of stitches, using small hooks. It took weeks and weeks to do, but I loved every minute of it, and it's not often you find a project you can dedicate so much time to.

The veil was given to me by my mum. It was originally hers, and I added a pompom trim onto the lace edging. It took a million hours as the thing was massive and I was crocheting with a 1.5mm hook!

All the tops for the bridesmaids, flower girl dresses and my top were crocheted from scratch. The maid of honour top took two weeks of long 15-hour days – it was very much a labour of love.

For the skirt of my dress, I upcycled the skirt of a wedding dress from a charity shop. I added an edge

trim and covered it in intricate crochet flowers and hearts. It was mainly crocheted with a 2mm hook but some of the small flowers were made with a 0.75mm hook, so the hours I spent on it are up in the hundreds! One row of the skirt trim took four hours, and we spent five days just sewing on all the flowers.

I knew the wedding was going to be craft-tastic, and it ended up sparking quite a big change in my crochet career. I'd run my own fashion label for the past four years, which had become very successful, but growing larger meant I was spending more time on admin and not as much on making. So, I decided to downsize and got making again. I've started running more workshops, I've launched a retreat called The Great Make Escape, and I'll be releasing a new pattern collection later this year, too!

You can check out Katie's patterns on her blog at www.katiejonesknit.co.uk, and follow her on Twitter and Instagram @katiejonesknit.



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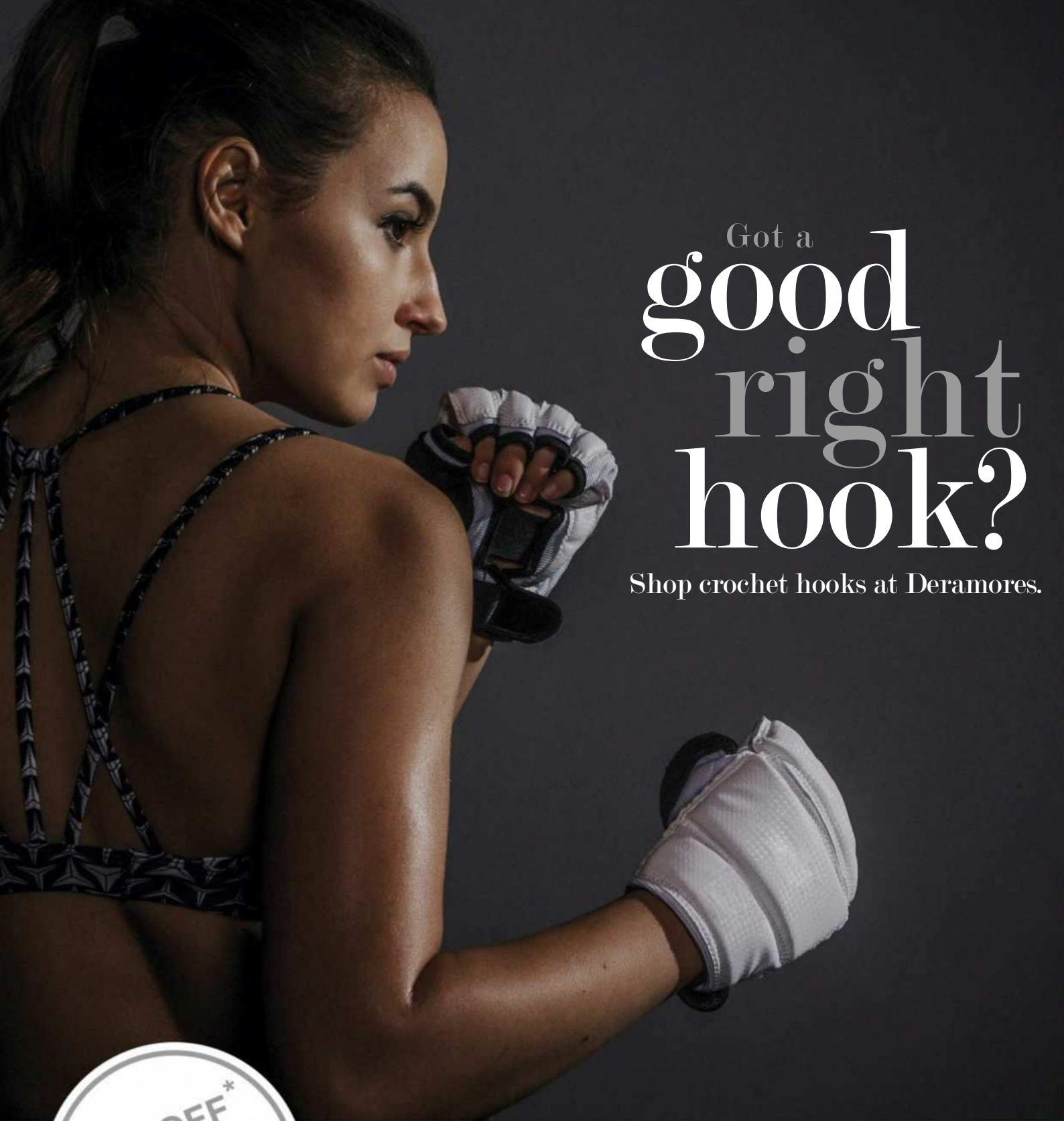


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Simply Crochet home

BEADED ELEPHANT HEAD BY VANESSA MOONCIE



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What a gem!



We've loved working with designer Vanessa Mooncie to put together this beautiful pattern book for you. As you can see, Vanessa has created a real showstopper of a design with this elegant, jewelled elephant head.

Inspired by the beautiful colours of India, it'll be a real talking point adorning your home. We can't wait to see your pics – and to hear about the reactions you get from your visitors!

Sara



MEET VANESSA MOONCIE

Discover the talented designer behind our amazing elephant head project.



As well as being a talented crochet artist, Vanessa is a renowned commercial interior designer, illustrator and author.

Working from her studio in the rural village of Firle, East Sussex, Vanessa got into crocheting jewellery after building up a business making and selling fabric corsages. "About 12 years ago I was browsing through my old collection of old crochet patterns, and I was tempted to pick up a crochet hook again after having left it for such a long time," she says.

This was just the beginning for Vanessa. Bringing crochet to the foreground of her existing creative work made sense because it had been in the background for much of her life. "My mother and grandmother did a lot of crocheting, knitting and sewing," she says. "They taught me to crochet granny squares and I made little cushions and blankets for my dolls. I was keen to learn to make things myself, and wanted to be a fashion designer when I was little."

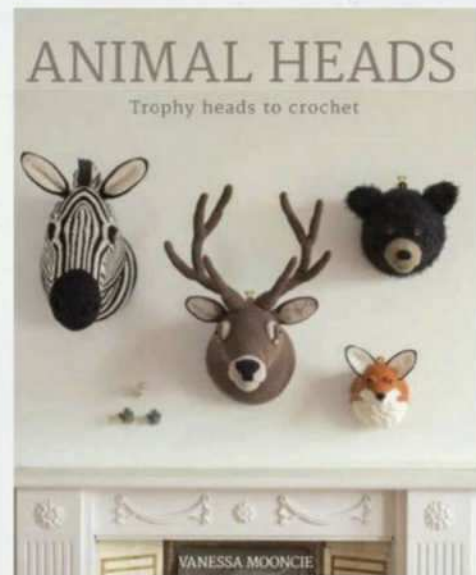
Vanessa went on to study fashion and textiles. She says she still has her sewing notes and sketchbooks from college

and often refers to them. Then, when she had a young family, she ran a small business designing and making children's clothes. "The business was very tiny and I mainly sold to friends and at a couple of festive markets, while also working on commissions," she says.

After a time of designing and creating, Vanessa began to put her growing collection of crochet and sewing patterns into book form, including *Crocheted Accessories*, *And Sew To Bed*, and *Sew Adorable*. In recent years she has made a name for herself crocheting creatures and animal heads, which has led to further books: *Crocheted Sea Creatures*, *Crocheted Wild Animals*, and, most recently, *Animal Heads: Trophy heads to crochet*. "I love to crochet animal heads," she says. "I'm very proud of my trophy heads book. These animals are on a much larger scale than the jewellery I also make, and were a lot of fun to create."

When she's not crocheting, Vanessa likes to knit and sew items for her home and wardrobe. She also enjoys going to art exhibitions, long walks in the countryside and, she says, "spending precious time with my lovely family".

You can find Vanessa online at www.kissysuzuki.com and also at www.vanessamoonicie.com



Top left: Vanessa's screen prints combine crochet with graphics to create a 3D effect. Below left: Vanessa's accessories book is inspired by a love of catwalk fashion. Above: Want more to make? Find 10 fun projects in Vanessa's book, *Animal Heads*.

ELEPHANT HEAD



YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Design Essentials Cotton DK, (100% cotton, 50g/130m), 2 balls of each:
 - Yarn A** Grey (25)
 - Yarn B** Fuchsia (14)
 - Yarn C** Pumpkin (87)
 - Yarn F** Turquoise (33)1 ball of each:
 - Yarn D** White (80)
 - Yarn E** Saffron (60)
 - Yarn G** Cobalt Blue (32)
 - Yarn H** Red (02)
 - Yarn J** Plum (21)
 - Yarn K** Grass Green (66)Small amounts of:
 - Yarn N** Black (90)
- Rico Essentials Cotton Glitz DK (78% cotton, 19% viscose, 3% polyester, 50g/130m), 1 ball of **Yarn L** White (001)
- Rico Fashion Cotton Metallise (53% cotton, 35% acrylic, 12% metallic yarn, 50g/130m), 1 ball of **Yarn M** Silver (004)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1) hook
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- 85 silver oval sequins, 2cm
- 9 teardrop beads in yellow, orange and red, 1.5cm
- 30 multi-faceted round beads (10 yellow, 10 orange and 10 red), 0.8mm
- 300 glass seed beads in various colours
- Stitch markers
- Blunt-ended tapestry needle
- Small needle to fit through beads
- Sewing thread
- 0.3mm nylon beading thread
- Toy stuffing
- Circle of mount board measuring 19cm (7½in) in diameter for base
- 2 circles of mount board measuring 5cm (2in) in diameter for white headdress decorations
- 2cm (¾in) brass curtain or roman blind ring

For yarn stockists contact
www.rico-design.de/en/home

TENSION

24 sts and 28 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over dc using 2.5mm hook and Yarn A. Matching the tension isn't critical but will affect overall size and yarn quantities.

MEASUREMENTS

Approx 58x46cm (23x18in)

ABBREVIATIONS

Sequin dc Dc in next st, pulling a sequin up to the hook before the last yrh of the st

5-tr cluster (Yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 5 times, inserting the hook in the same st each time, yrh and draw through all 6 loops on hook

Add bead Pull bead up to hook, yrh and draw through loop on hook

For a full list, see page 92 of *Simply Crochet*

NOTES

The Elephant is mainly crocheted in rounds with short rows being worked to shape the Head. These are done by crocheting a small number of sts on the first row and then working into extra sts at the end of subsequent rows.

The full rounds are worked using the amigurumi method. Work in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. You may find it helpful to place a marker in the first st of each round and move it up as you work.

The Head and Trunk are worked in one piece, in dc throughout.

The Base is made from two circular crocheted pieces that are joined together to form a pocket into which two pieces of board are inserted to keep it firm. The Base is attached to the last round of the Neck by crocheting into each stitch of both pieces at the same time to join.

The Ears are worked in rounds of dc and the shaping at the top is crocheted in rows. The Ears are flattened and joined at the edges. The top is folded down to form the finished shape, before being stitched to the head.

The Eyes are crocheted in one piece, worked in rounds and rows. Embroidered stitches form the reflection of light in each eye.

The Headdress is crocheted in rows with the sequins worked into the stitches. The Headdress is finished with a double frill.

The Stars and Flowers are crocheted in rounds. The Large Flowers are finished with beads. The Hanging Decorations are crocheted in rounds and reinforced with small circles of mount board. Strings of seed beads are stitched to the ends.

A brass ring is crocheted around to cover it and then stitched to the top of the base to hang the head up.

Ch1 at beg of the row/round does not count as a st throughout.

ADDING SEQUINS AND BEADS TO YOUR CROCHET

Embellishments like beads and sequins are a great, easy way to add real wow factor to your crochet, as you can see from Vanessa's elephant. These small, sparkly shapes of creativity have been used as a method of decoration for hundreds (if not thousands) of years, and we're not stopping any time soon.

You can, of course, sew on beads and sequins of all descriptions to your crochet, but here we'll explore how to add them as part and parcel of your crochet stitches. On page 17 we show you how to get started by threading your sequins onto your yarn, and the same principles will apply to adding beads, too. Turn to page 11 for some help on working a beaded double crochet; again, the same methods are interchangeable for beads and sequins, and so will also apply to adding sequins on the headdress of your elephant.

Vanessa's elephant head is worked in separate pieces, which are then stitched together. Beads and sequins add exotic appeal to the brightly-coloured jungle beast. Stuff firmly, but with care, so you end up with a smooth, lump-free shape.

ELEPHANT HEAD

TRUNK

Starting at the bend in the trunk, with a 2.5mm hook and Yarn A, make a magic loop (see page 7 for a guide).

Round 1 6dc into loop. [6 sts]

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

Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times.
[18 sts]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rounds 13-16 Dc in each st around.

DIVIDE FOR LOWER END OF TRUNK

Round 17 Dc in the first 18 sts, skip the next 36 sts, dc in the next 18 sts. [36 sts]

This will give a figure of 8 shape, joined in the centre. Continue working on these 36 sts for the Lower Trunk.

Rounds 18-30 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Place a marker in Round 30 in line with the centre join of Round 17.

TIP OF TRUNK

With a 2.5mm hook and Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 6 dc into loop. [6 sts]

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

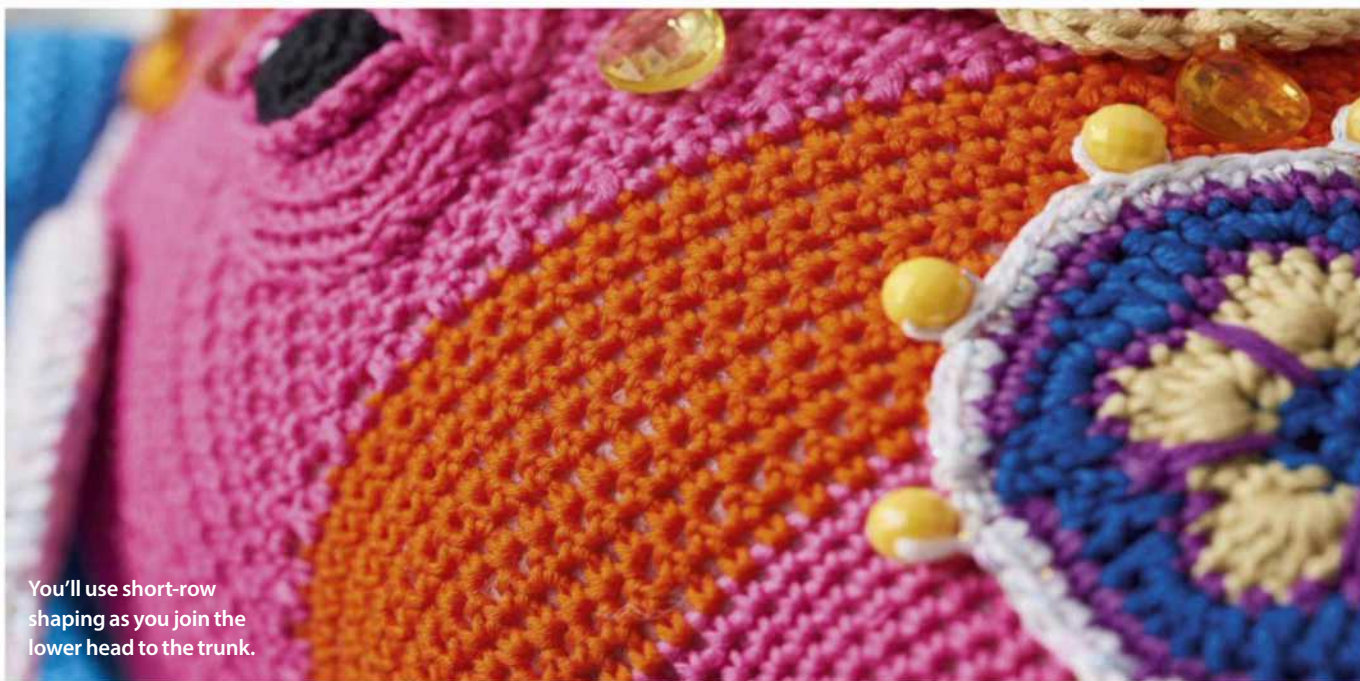
Round 3 (3dc in next st, 3dc) 3 times.
[18 sts]

Round 4 Dc in the next st, (3dc in next st, 5dc) twice, 3dc in the next st, 4dc. [24 sts]

Round 5 Dc in the next 2 sts, (3dc in next st, 7dc) twice, 3dc in the next st, 5dc.
[30 sts]



Start with the trunk and add the pretty flowers when the head is complete.



You'll use short-row shaping as you join the lower head to the trunk.

Round 6 Dc in the next 3 sts, 3dc in next st, place a marker in the 2nd of these 3 sts, (9dc, 3dc in next st) twice, 6dc. [36 sts]
Do not fasten off.

JOIN TIP OF TRUNK

Position the Tip against the end of the Trunk, matching the stitch markers.

Round 7 Inserting the hook under both loops of each stitch of the Tip and Round 30 of the Trunk, dc in the next 4 sts, 3dc in next st, (11dc, 3dc in next st) twice, dc in the next 7 sts, ss to first st to join. [42 sts]
Fasten off.

TOP OF TRUNK

Round 1 With RS facing, skip the first 18 sts of the remaining 36 sts on Round 16, join yarn B with a ss to the next st, dc in same st, dc in the next 17 sts, dc in next 18 skipped sts. [36 sts]

Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.

Round 4 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]

Rounds 5-12 Dc in each st around. Change to Yarn C.

Rounds 13-14 Dc in each st around.

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

Rounds 16-24 Dc in each st around. Change to Yarn B.

Round 25 Dc in each st around.

Round 26 (2dc in next st, 7dc) 6 times. [54 sts]

Rounds 27-36 Dc in each st around. Change to Yarn C.

Round 37 (2dc in next st, 8dc) 6 times. [60 sts]

Rounds 38-47 Dc in each st around.

Round 48 (2dc in next st, 9dc) 6 times. [66 sts]

Change to Yarn B.

Rounds 49-53 Dc in each st around.

Round 54 (2dc in next st, 10dc) 6 times. [72 sts]

Rounds 55-57 Dc in each st around. Place a marker between the centre back two stitches in line with the magic loop at the bend in the Trunk. This will be the new start of the Round.

Round 58 Dc in each st around to the marker leaving remaining sts unworked.

OPENINGS FOR TUSKS

The following is worked in rounds.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in first 10 sts after marker, ch20, skip 10 sts, dc in the next 32 sts, place a stitch marker at each end of the 32 sts just worked, ch20, skip 10 sts, dc in last 10 sts. [52 sts and 2 ch-20 loops]

Round 2 Dc in next 10 dc, dc in each of next 20 ch, dc in the next 32 dc, dc in each of next 20 ch, dc in last 10 sts. [92 sts]

LOWER HEAD

The following is worked in rows picking up the next unworked sts of Round 2 where stated until all sts have been worked.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in next 10 dc, change to Yarn C and dc in the next 72 dc, ss to the next st, turn leaving remaining sts unworked.

Row 2 (WS) Dc in same st as ss, dc in the next 72 dc, dc in the next unworked st, ss in the next unworked st, turn.

Row 3 Dc in same st as ss, dc in the next 74 dc, dc in the next unworked st, ss in the next unworked st, turn.

Row 4 Dc in same st as ss, dc in the next 76 dc, dc in the next unworked st, ss in the next unworked st, turn.

Row 5 Dc in same st as ss, dc in the next 78 dc, dc in the next unworked st, ss in the next unworked st, turn.

Row 6 Dc in same st as ss, dc in the next 80 dc, dc in the next unworked st, ss in the next unworked st, turn.

Row 7 Dc in same st as ss, dc in the next 82 dc, dc in the next unworked st, ss in the next unworked st, turn.

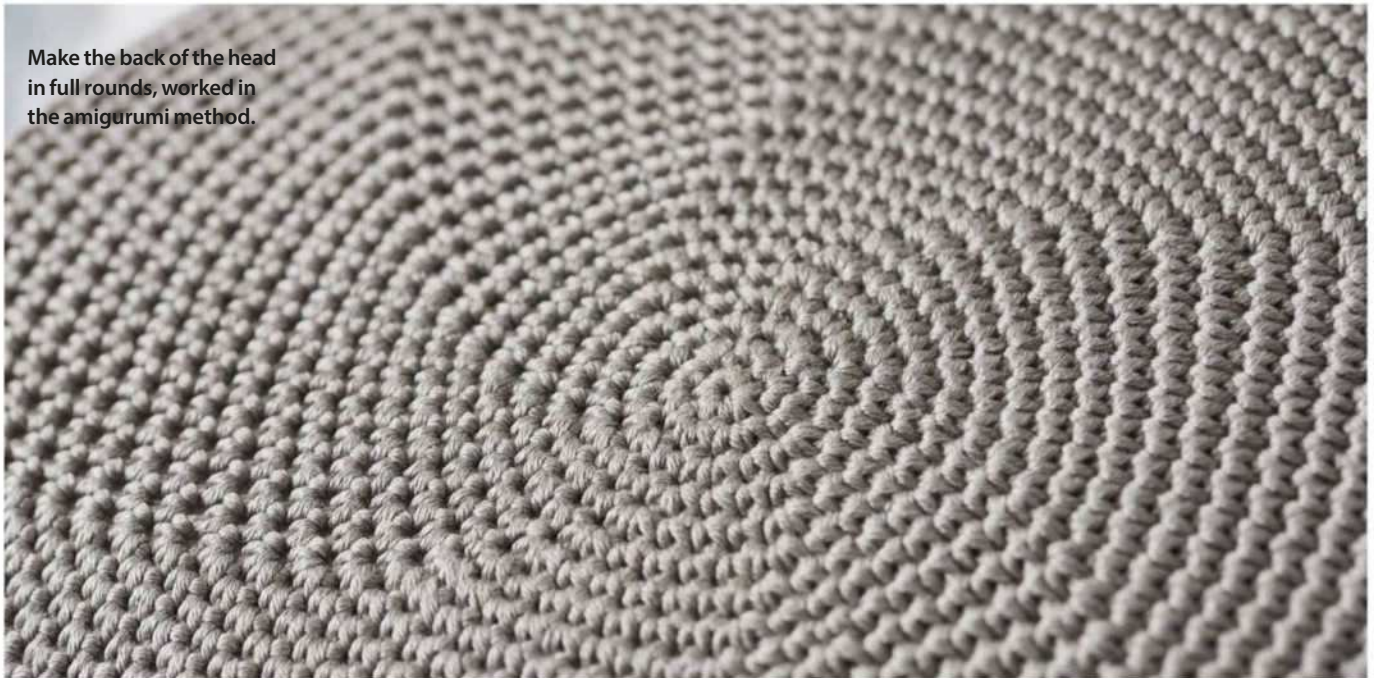
Row 8 Dc in same st as ss, dc in the next 84 dc, dc in the next unworked st, ss in the next unworked st, turn.

Row 9 Dc in same st as ss, dc in the next 86 dc, dc in the next unworked st, ss in the next unworked st, turn.

Row 10 Dc in same st as ss, dc in the next 88 dc, dc in the next unworked st, ss in the next unworked st, turn.

Row 11 Dc in same st as ss, dc in the next 90 dc, dc in the next unworked st, do not turn. [92 dc]

Make the back of the head in full rounds, worked in the amigurumi method.



SHAPE HEAD

The following is worked in rows picking up the next unworked sts of Row 11 as for the Lower Head.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in the next 42 dc, change to Yarn B and dc in the next 8 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 2 (WS) Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 9 dc, ss in the next st, turn.

Row 3 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 4 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 5 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 4 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 15 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 5 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 7 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 8 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [20 dc and 1 ss]

Row 6 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 21 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 7 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 10 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 11 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [26 dc and 1 ss]

Row 8 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 27 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 9 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 13 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 14 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [32 dc and 1 ss]

Row 10 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 33

dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 11 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 16 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 17 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [38 dc and 1 ss]

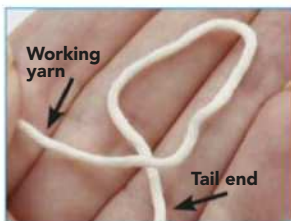
Row 12 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 39 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 13 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 19 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 20 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [44 dc and 1 ss]

Row 14 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 45 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 15 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 22 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 23 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [50 dc and 1 ss]

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A MAGIC LOOP



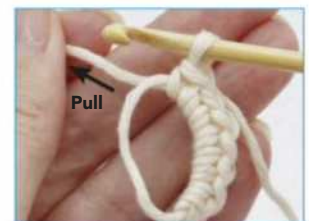
1 To start a Magic Loop, don't make a slipknot. Instead, make a loop with the yarn, leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is under the working yarn.



2 Insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn around the hook anticlockwise and pull the yarn through the loop.



3 Make a t-ch for the sts you want to work (above, we made 1 t-ch for dc). Now work your sts into the Magic Loop, making sure you work over both the loop and the tail end (so two yarn strands).



4 Once you've worked the number of stitches you need, simply pull the tail end of the yarn to draw up the ring. Work a slip stitch to join the first and last stitches and finish the first round.

ELEPHANT HEAD

Row 16 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 51 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 17 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 25 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 26 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [56 dc and 1 ss]

Row 18 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 57 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 19 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 28 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 29 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [62 dc and 1 ss]

Row 20 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 63 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 21 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 31 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 32 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [68 dc and 1 ss]

Row 22 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 69 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 23 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 34 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 35 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [74 dc and 1 ss]

Row 24 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 75 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 25 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 37 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 38 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [80 dc and 1 ss]

Row 26 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 81 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 27 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 40

dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 41 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [86 dc and 1 ss]

Row 28 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 87 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 29 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 43 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 44 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [92 dc and 1 ss]

Row 30 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 93 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 31 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 46 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 47 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [98 dc and 1 ss]

Row 32 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 99 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 33 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 49 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 50 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [104 dc and 1 ss]

Row 34 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 105 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 35 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 52 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 53 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [110 dc and 1 ss]

Row 36 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 111 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 37 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 55 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 56 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [116 dc and 1 ss]

Row 38 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 117

dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 39 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 58 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 59 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [122 dc and 1 ss]

Row 40 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 123 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 41 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 61 dc, 2dc in next st twice, dc in next 62 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [128 dc and 1 ss]

Row 42 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 129 dc, ss into the next st, turn.

Row 43 Dc in same st as ss, dc in next 131 dc, do not turn. [132 dc]

BACK OF HEAD

The following is worked in rounds.

Change to Yarn A.

Rows 1-10 (RS) Dc in each st around. [132 dc]

Fasten off.

TUSKS (MAKE 2)

With 2.5mm hook and Yarn D, make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 Dc in each st around.

Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 3 times. [9 sts]
Close the loop by pulling tight on the short



Shape the ear by folding it over and securing with slip stitches.

end of the yarn.

Rounds 4-6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 (2dc in next st, 2dc) 3 times.

[12 sts]

Rounds 8-10 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn E.

Round 11 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn D.

Round 12 Dc in the back loop only of each st around.

Round 13 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times.

[18 sts]

Rounds 14-17 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn E.

Round 18 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn D.

Round 19 Dc in the back loop only of each st around.

Round 20 Dc in the next 6 sts, (2dc in next st) 6 times, dc in the next 6 sts. [24 sts]

Rounds 21-25 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn E.

Round 26 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn D.

Round 27 Dc in the back loop only of each st around.

Round 28 Dc in the next 9 sts, (2dc in next st) 6 times, dc in the next 9 sts. [30 sts]

Rounds 29-32 Dc in each st around, placing a marker after the first 15 sts of the last round to mark the centre front of the tusk, **fasten off**.

RINGS AROUND TUSK

With RS facing, join Yarn E to the first of the remaining 12 front loops of Round 11.

Next round (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times, ss to the first st, **fasten off**.

With RS facing, join Yarn E to the first of the remaining 18 front loops of Round 18.

Next round (2dc in next st, 1dc) 9 times, ss to the first st, **fasten off**.

With RS facing, join Yarn E to the first of the remaining 24 front loops of Round 26.

Next round (2dc in next st, 1dc) 12 times, ss to the first st, **fasten off**.

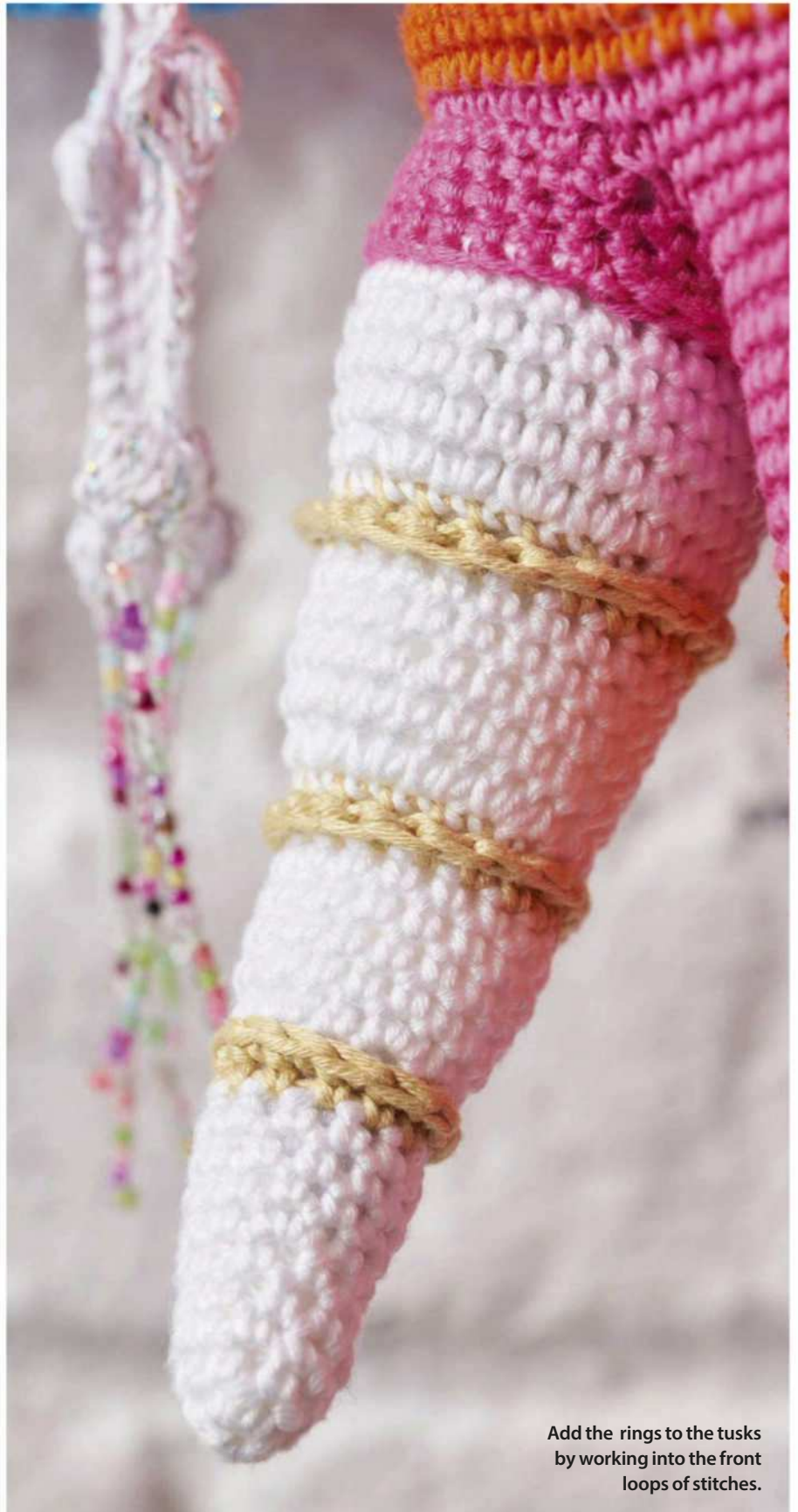
JOIN TUSKS TO HEAD

With WS facing, 2.5mm hook and Yarn B, join yarn with a ss to the opposite side of the first of the 20 ch sts at the opening for the tusk.

Round 1 (WS) Dc in the same st as the ss, dc in the opposite side of the next 19 ch, dc in the next 10 skipped sts at the opening for the tusk. [30 sts]

Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.

Position the tusk with the marker at the front.



Add the rings to the tusks by working into the front loops of stitches.

The ears look glorious with their mix of stripes, stars and flowers.



Round 4 Inserting the hook under both loops of each stitch of the tusk first, then the opening to join, work 1dc in each of the next 30 dc. Ss to the next st, **fasten off**.

Stuff the Head firmly, pushing it right to the end of the trunk and into the tips of the tusks, filling it to just below the last round. More stuffing will be added when the base is attached.

BASE

With 2.5mm hook and Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-12 Work as Rounds 1-12 of Trunk. [72 sts]

Rounds 13-22 Continue increasing by 6 sts on each round as set. [132 sts]

Rounds 23-25 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Make another piece to match the first, but do not fasten off at the end.

JOIN BASE PIECES

Place the two Base pieces with WS together.

Dc in each of the next 90 dc of both pieces at the same time to join. Slip the circular mount board in between the crocheted pieces and continue to join the two, stretching the work over the board and crocheting into the remaining 42 dc of both pieces at the same time to close. Do not fasten off.

JOIN BASE TO BACK OF ELEPHANT

With the Base facing up, work a dc in the first dc of the base and at the same time into a dc of the last round at the back of the elephant to join. Continue to work 1 dc into each of the next 99 dc, inserting the hook first into the base and then into the last round of the elephant. Add more stuffing before continuing, filling the Head firmly. Dc into the remaining 32 sts of each piece as before, adding extra stuffing if necessary, before closing. Ss to the next st, **fasten off**.

EARS (MAKE 2)

With 2.5mm hook and Yarn F, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-3 As Rounds 1-3 of Trunk. [18 sts]

Round 4 Dc in each st around.

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

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

Round 7 Dc in each st around.

Round 8 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 6 times. [36 sts]

Round 9 (2dc in next st, 5dc) 6 times. [42 sts]

Round 10 Dc in each st around.

Round 11 (2dc in next st, 6dc) 6 times. [48 sts]

Round 12 (2dc in next st, 7dc) 6 times. [54 sts]

Round 13 Dc in each st around.

Round 14 (2dc in next st, 8dc) 6 times. [60 sts]

Round 15 (2dc in next st, 9dc) 6 times. [66 sts]

Change to Yarn G.

Round 16 Dc in each st around.

Round 17 (2dc in next st, 10dc) 6 times. [72 sts]

Round 18 (2dc in next st, 11dc) 6 times. [78 sts]

Round 19 Dc in each st around.

Round 20 (2dc in next st, 12dc) 6 times. [84 sts]

Round 21 Dc in each st around.

Round 22 (2dc in next st, 13dc) 6 times. [90 sts]

Round 23 Dc in each st around.

Round 24 (2dc in next st, 14dc) 6 times. [96 sts]

Round 25 Dc in each st around.

Round 26 (2dc in next st, 15dc) 6 times. [102 sts]

Round 27 Dc in each st around.

Change to Yarn F.

Rounds 28-43 Dc in each st around, do not fasten off.

SHAPE TOP OF EAR

The following is worked in rows, picking up the next unworked sts of Round 43 as for the Lower Head.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in the next 8 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [9 sts]

Row 2 (WS) Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 9 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [11 sts]

Row 3 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 4 dc, (2dc in next st) twice, dc in the next 5 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [15 sts]

Row 4 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 15 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [17 sts]

Row 5 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 7 dc, (2dc in next st) twice, dc in the next 8 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [21 sts]

Row 6 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in

the next 21 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [23 sts]

Row 7 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 10 dc, (2dc in next st) twice, dc in the next 11 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [27 sts]

Row 8 Dc into the same st as the ss, 1dc in the next 27 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [29 sts]

Row 9 Dc into the same st as the ss, 1dc in the next 13 dc, (2dc in next st) twice, 1dc in the next 14 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [33 sts]

Row 10 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 33 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [35 sts]

Row 11 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 35 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [37 sts]

Row 12 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 37 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [39 sts]

Row 13 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 18 dc, (2dc in next st) twice, dc in the next 19 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [112 sts]

Row 14 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 43 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [45 sts]

Row 15 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 45 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [47 sts]

Row 16 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 47 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [49 sts]

Row 17 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 23 dc, (2dc in next st) twice, dc in the next 24 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [53 sts]

Row 18 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 53 dc, ss into the next st, turn. [55 sts]

Row 19 Dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 55 dc, do not turn. [57 sts]

JOIN EDGES OF EAR

With RS facing, skip the unworked sts of Round 43 of the Ear. Flatten the Ear, matching the stitches and shaping on both sides. Insert the hook under the back loops only of the next stitch and the stitch on the other side of Row 19 of the top shaping, work 1 dc to join the two stitches. Continue working 1 dc into the back loop only of each dc on both sides at the same time to join, finishing at the top corner of the shaping, turn. Ss to the first st to form a fold in the top of the Ear, folding the corner of the top shaping to the back of the work for the right Ear, and to the front of the work for the left Ear.

With the rest of the flattened Ear, dc through both layers of the unworked sts of Round 43 to join, working into back loop only of each st, **fasten off**.

EYES (MAKE 2)

With 2.5mm hook and Yarn N, make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 (2dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts]

Close the loop by pulling tight on the short end of the yarn.

Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]

Change to Yarn B.

Round 4 Dc in the back loop only of each st around.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A BEADED DOUBLE CROCHET



1 With beads strung onto yarn, work to where you want to place a bead. Slide the bead into position, next to the crocheted fabric.



2 Work your dc stitch: insert hook into top of the stitch below, yrh (hook the yarn beyond the bead) and pull through.



3 Finish the stitch as usual (if you need to, hold the bead in place while you do this): yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook.



4 Repeat from Step 1 to make more beaded double crochet stitches. This is how the right side of the fabric will look when a row of beads is added.



The glint in the eye brings the elephant's expression to life!

Round 5 (2dc in next st, 2dc) into the back loops only 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 6 Ch1, dc in the remaining front loop of the next 9 dc of Round 4 (these 9 sts form the lower lid), ch1, ss into the next st of Round 5, ch1, dc in the front loop of the next 9 dc of Round 4 (these 9 sts form the upper lid), ch1, ss into the next st of Round 5, turn.

FINISH UPPER EYELID

(WS) Ch1, dc into each of the 9 dc of the eyelid, turn.

Round 7 Ch1, working into the stitches of Round 5, behind the upper lid, *2dc into the same st as the ss, 1dc in the next 3 sts, (2dc in next st, 3dc) twice,* working into the stitches of Round 5, behind the lower eyelid, rep from * to *. [30 sts]

Round 8 (2dc in next st, 4dc) 3 times, (2dc in next st, 4dc) into the back loops only 3 times. [36 sts]

Round 9 Dc in the next 18 sts, dc into the back loops only of the next 18 sts. Ss into the next st and **fasten off**, leaving a long tail of Yarn B at the end.

SEQUINNED HEADDRESS

Turn to page 17 for how to thread sequins. Before commencing, thread 85 sequins onto Yarn M: to get the sequins onto the thicker yarn, make a loop of sewing thread and pass the end of the thicker yarn through the loop.

Now you can thread the sequins onto the doubled sewing thread pulling them over the end of the thicker yarn.

With a 3.5mm hook and Yarn M, ch2.

Row 1 (RS) 3dc in second ch from hook, turn. [3 dc]

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

Row 3 Ch1, 2dc into the first st, dc, 2dc into the next st, turn. [5 sts]

Row 4 Ch1, dc in first 2 sts, sequin dc in next st, dc in last 2 sts, turn.

Row 5 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each st across to last st, 2dc in last st, turn. [7 sts]

Rows 6-7 Repeat Row 5 twice. [11 sts]

Row 8 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in next st, (sequin dc in next st, dc in next st) 4 times, 2dc in last st, turn. [13 sts]

Rows 9-11 Repeat Row 5 three times. [19 sts]

Row 12 Ch1, dc in first 3 sts, (sequin dc in next st, dc in next st) 7 times, dc in next 2 sts, turn.

Row 13 Repeat Row 5. [21 sts]

Row 14 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn.

Row 15 Repeat Row 5. [23 sts]

Row 16 Ch1, dc in first 3 sts, (sequin dc in next st, dc in next st) 9 times, dc in next 2 sts, turn.

Row 17 Repeat Row 5. [25 sts]

Rows 18-19 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn.

Row 20 Ch1, dc in first 2 sts, (sequin dc in next st, dc in next st) 11 times, dc in last st, turn.

Rows 21-23 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn.

Row 24 Repeat Row 20.

Rows 25-32 Rep Rows 21-24 twice. [25 sts]

Row 33 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st across to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [23 sts]

Row 34 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn.

Row 35 Repeat Row 33. [21 sts]

Row 36 Ch1, dc in first 2 sts, (sequin dc in next st, dc in next st) 9 times, dc in last st, turn.

Row 37 Repeat Row 33. [19 sts]

Row 38 Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn.

Row 39 Repeat Row 33. [17 sts]

Row 40 Ch1, dc in first 2 sts, (sequin dc in next st, dc in next st) 7 times, dc in last st, turn.

Rows 41-43 Repeat Row 33 three times. [11 sts]

Row 44 Ch1, dc in first 2 sts, (sequin dc in next st, dc in next st) 4 times, dc in last st, turn, do not fasten off.

FRILLED BORDER

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in the next 11 sts, working evenly down the side of the Head-plate, 43dc into the row ends, 3dc in the ch at the tip of the Head-plate, 43dc evenly up the other side of the Head-plate, ss to the first st to join. [100 sts]

Fasten off.

LOWER FRILL

Thread 9 teardrop beads onto Yarn E.

Round 2 Join Yarn E in first st, working in the back loops only, 2dc in first st, dc in the next 9 sts, 2dc in next st, (2dc in next st, 3dc) 11 times, 3dc in next st, (3dc, 2dc in next st) 11 times. [126 sts]

Round 3 Working in both loops, dc in the next 69 sts, 3dc in the next st, 1dc in the next 56 sts. [128 sts]

Round 4 5tr in the next st, skip 1 st, 1dc, (skip 1 dc, 5tr in the next st, skip 1, 1dc) 5 times, add bead by sliding bead against the work, yrh and pull up loop, ss in last dc made, *(skip 1 dc, 5tr in the next st, skip 1 dc, 1dc) 3 times, add bead, ss in last dc made; repeat from * 7 times more, (skip 1 dc, 5tr in the next st, skip 1 dc, 1dc) twice, skip 1 dc, ss to the first tr to join. [32 Fans]
Fasten off.



Add two layers of frilled border to the sequined headdress.

UPPER FRILL

With RS facing and a 3.5mm hook, join in Yarn H with a ss to the front loop of the first stitch of Round 1 of the Frilled Border.

Round 1 Working in the front loops only of Round 1, dc into the same st as the ss, dc in the next 10 sts, (2dc in next st, 3dc) 11 times, 3dc in next st, (3dc, 2dc in the next st) 11 times. [124 sts]

Round 2 Ss in first st, dc in the next st, (skip 1 dc, 5tr in the next st, skip 1 dc, 1dc) 30 times, skip 1 dc, 5tr in the next st, ss to the first dc to join. [31 Fans]

Fasten off.



Each disc is made up of two circles and a piece of mount board.

WHITE HANGING DECORATIONS (MAKE 2)**DISC (MAKE 2 FOR EACH SIDE)**

All rounds are worked through the back loops only.

With a 2.5mm hook and Yarn L, make a magic loop.

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

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

Round 3 (2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [18 sts]

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

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

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

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

Fasten off at end of first disc, do not fasten off at end of second disc.

ELEPHANT HEAD

JOIN DISCS

Place the two Discs with WS together.

Round 8 Work 1dc in the back loop only of each of the next 30 dc working through both discs at the same time to join. Slip the circular mount board in between the crocheted pieces and continue to join the two, stretching the work over the board and crocheting into the back loops of the remaining 12 dc of both pieces to close, do not fasten off.

BEADED CHAINS

Ss to first dc, *(ch12, 5-tr cluster in 4th ch from hook) 3 times, ch1, **fasten off**.

Skip 1 dc of Round 8, rejoin Yarn L with a ss to both loops of the next st and repeat from * until 5 lengths of chain have been completed. Weave in all ends.

Thread a single seed bead onto a 30cm length of nylon thread and bring the ends together to double the thread. Thread 29 more seed beads onto the doubled nylon and sew to the bottom of the last cluster of stitches at the end of a chain using the image

as a guide. Repeat to finish the remaining chains on both sides.

HANGING CHAIN

With 2.5mm hook, join Yarn L with a ss to the top centre of the disc, ch15, **fasten off** leaving a long tail.

STARS (MAKE 6)

With 2.5mm hook and Yarn D, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch1, 5dc into loop. [5 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]

Round 3 (Ch4, dc in 2nd ch from hook, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, skip next dc, ss in next dc) 5 times.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

LARGE FLOWER MOTIF (MAKE 3)

Before commencing, thread 10 beads on to Yarn L.

With 2.5mm hook and Yarn J, make a magic loop.

Round 1 Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), (tr, ch1) 5 times into loop, ss to third ch of beg ch-4. [6 tr, 6 ch-1 sps]

Change to Yarn K.

Round 2 (Dc, ch3, dc) in same ch as ss, skip next ch, (dc, ch3, dc) in each tr around, skipping ch-sps. [6 loops]

Round 3 (dc, htr, 3tr, htr, dc) in each loop. [42 sts]

Change to Yarn F.

Round 4 *Skip next dc, dc in next htr, dc in next 3 tr, dc in next htr, skip next dc, spiked dc in ch-1 sp of Round 1, pulling the stitch up level with the current row; rep from * 5 more times. [36 sts]

Change to Yarn J.

Round 5 Ch3 (counts as first st), (tr in next st, htr in next st, 3dc in next st, htr in next st, tr in next 2 sts) 6 times omitting last tr on final repeat, ss in top of beg ch-3. [48 sts]

Change to Yarn F.

Round 6 2dc in same st as ss, dc in next 7 sts, (2dc in next st, 7dc) 5 times. [54 sts]

Change to Yarn L.

Round 7 *2dc in next st, add bead, dc in next 6 sts, add bead, dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, add bead, dc in next 6 sts, add bead, 2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts, add bead, dc in next 4 sts; rep from * ss to next st, **fasten off** leaving a long tail of Yarn L at the end.

Make 2 more Flower Motifs to match the first using Yarns G, E, J and K, H, E, both finished with Yarn L for Round 7.

PICOT FLOWER MOTIF (MAKE 6)

With 2.5mm hook and Yarn B, make a magic loop.

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

Round 2 (2dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts] Close the loop by pulling tight on the short end of the yarn.

Change to Yarn E.

Round 3 (2dc in next st) 12 times. [24 sts]

Round 4 (2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts) 6 times. [30 sts]

Change to Yarn C.

Round 5 (2dc in next st, dc in next st, ch3, ss into first ch, skip st at base of ch) 6 times. [18 sts and 6 picots]

Ss to next st, **fasten off** leaving a long tail of yarn at the end.

Make 5 more picot flowers to match the first using different colour combinations of Yarns B, C, E and H.

TO MAKE UP

EARS

Sew 3 stars on to the stripe on the inside of each Ear using the tail of yarn left after fastening off. Use the tails of yarn to sew 3



Use seed beads to make these pretty beaded chains.

picot flowers on to each ear using the image as a guide. Placing the folded edge at the top, sew an Ear to each side of the head where Yarn A meets Yarn B. Stitch around 10cm (4in) from the top, leaving the lower edge of the ear unattached.

EYES

Embroider a chain stitch in each Eye using Yarn L. Sew an eye to each side of the face with the length of yarn left after fastening off, stitching all around the outer edges of the Eyes and inserting a small amount of stuffing into the eyeball before closing the opening.

HEADDRESS AND HANGING DECORATIONS

Sew the headdress to the top of the Head using the image as a guide. To attach the white hanging decorations, use the long tail to sew the end of the hanging chain in place under the fringe of the Headdress, positioning each one a few rows in front of the Ears.

LARGE FLOWER MOTIFS

Use the tail of yarn left after fastening off to sew the flower motifs down the front of the trunk.

HANGING LOOP

With a 2.5mm hook and Yarn A, 18dc around the brass ring, ss to the first dc to join, **fasten off** leaving a long tail.

Thread the tail onto a tapestry needle and sew the lower edge of the ring securely to the top of the Base above the Headdress. Weave in all ends.



To take the weight of the head, crochet around a brass ring to make the hanging loop.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO FASTEN OFF & WEAVE IN ENDS



1 After working the last stitch, you'll have one loop left on your hook. Cut the yarn leaving a 15cm-long tail. Work yrh and pull the yarn right through the stitch.



2 Now remove the hook and pull the yarn tail through the last stitch to tighten it up and make sure your hard work doesn't unravel.



3 Thread the tail end onto a tapestry needle. On the wrong side, weave the needle up and down, in and out of the back of the stitches to secure the tail end.



4 Make sure you weave the yarn tail in two different directions to prevent it from being pulled out. Also check that the tail end of yarn is not visible from the right side.



HOW TO THREAD SEQUINS (AND BEADS!)

Get started with a hook, some yarn and a few sequins.

PSST

Work over a plain coloured drop cloth, as sequins have a habit of falling everywhere!



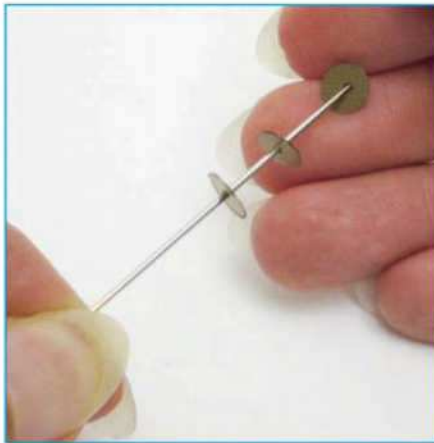
1 To start your sequin adventures, you'll need to thread the sequins onto your yarn. You'll also need some cotton thread and a needle that's narrow enough to pass through the hole of your sequins.



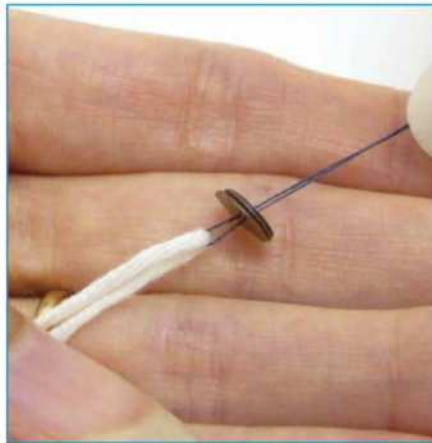
2 Cut a piece of cotton thread approx 30cm long. Fold it in half and thread the two ends through the needle. Pull the ends through by approx 5cm, to create a loop in the thread away from the needle.



3 Take your yarn and pass the end through the loop in the thread.



4 Thread a few sequins onto the needle. (If your sequin has a front and back, make sure you insert the needle into the front of the sequin.)



5 Pass the sequins down over the thread then gently slide them onto the yarn. You can do this one at a time or do a few sequins at once, whichever you find easier.



6 Repeat Steps 4 and 5 to thread all your sequins onto the yarn. For the elephant headdress you'll need a total of 85.



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MISSED AN ISSUE?



ISSUE SIXTY-EIGHT

Ruffles are back in fashion and we've got a host of crochet patterns based on this year's hottest trend. We start our Hook 'n' Learn crochet along - each month you'll learn a new stitch and end up with a show-stopping blanket. And don't miss our rainbow table set, fisherman's sweater and bunny blanket!

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ISSUE SIXTY-SEVEN

Midnight Garden home accessories, an adorable party shark, stripy blankets and super socks.



ISSUE SIXTY-SIX

Apres-ski makes, stylish bobble hat, loopy trim coat, shooting star cushion and baby flat cap.



ISSUE SIXTY-FIVE

Home makes, cross stitch crochet, lacy cardi, bee blanket, evening bag and amigurumi lion.



ISSUE SIXTY-FOUR

Luxury accessories, gorgeous designer gifts in alpaca yarn, Santa amigurumi, and sparkly sequins.



ISSUE SIXTY-THREE

Lacy decorations, sweet amigurumi angel, fab bauble bunting and cheery Christmas jumpers.



ISSUE SIXTY-TWO

Tartan and plaid collection, hooky Halloween treats, spooky accessories and crochet socks.



ISSUE SIXTY-ONE

Pop art colourwork, waffle stitch makes, amigurumi sloth, cosy blanket, and a fringed ombre poncho.



ISSUE SIXTY

Yarnbombing makes, easy-peasy jumper, pretty summer tops, amigurumi ladybird and a crochet teepee.



ISSUE FIFTY-NINE

Beach ideas, cute amigurumi donkey, vintage dungaree shorts and a filet crochet skull jumper.



ISSUE FIFTY-EIGHT

Festival makes, a doughnut dress for kids, gradient yarn, summer amigurumi and filet crochet.



ISSUE FIFTY-SEVEN

Bobble stitch makes, pineapple lace top, vintage jumper, rainbows and Tunisian crochet.



ISSUE FIFTY-SIX

Catwalk-inspired accessories, granny square cardigan, Tunisian crochet and a cute kangaroo toy.



ISSUE FIFTY-FIVE

Easter amigurumi, colourwork, retro tunic top, tribal home makes and planned colour pooling.

