

22  
PATTERNS TO MAKE

# Simply Crochet

SUGAR SKULL BAG



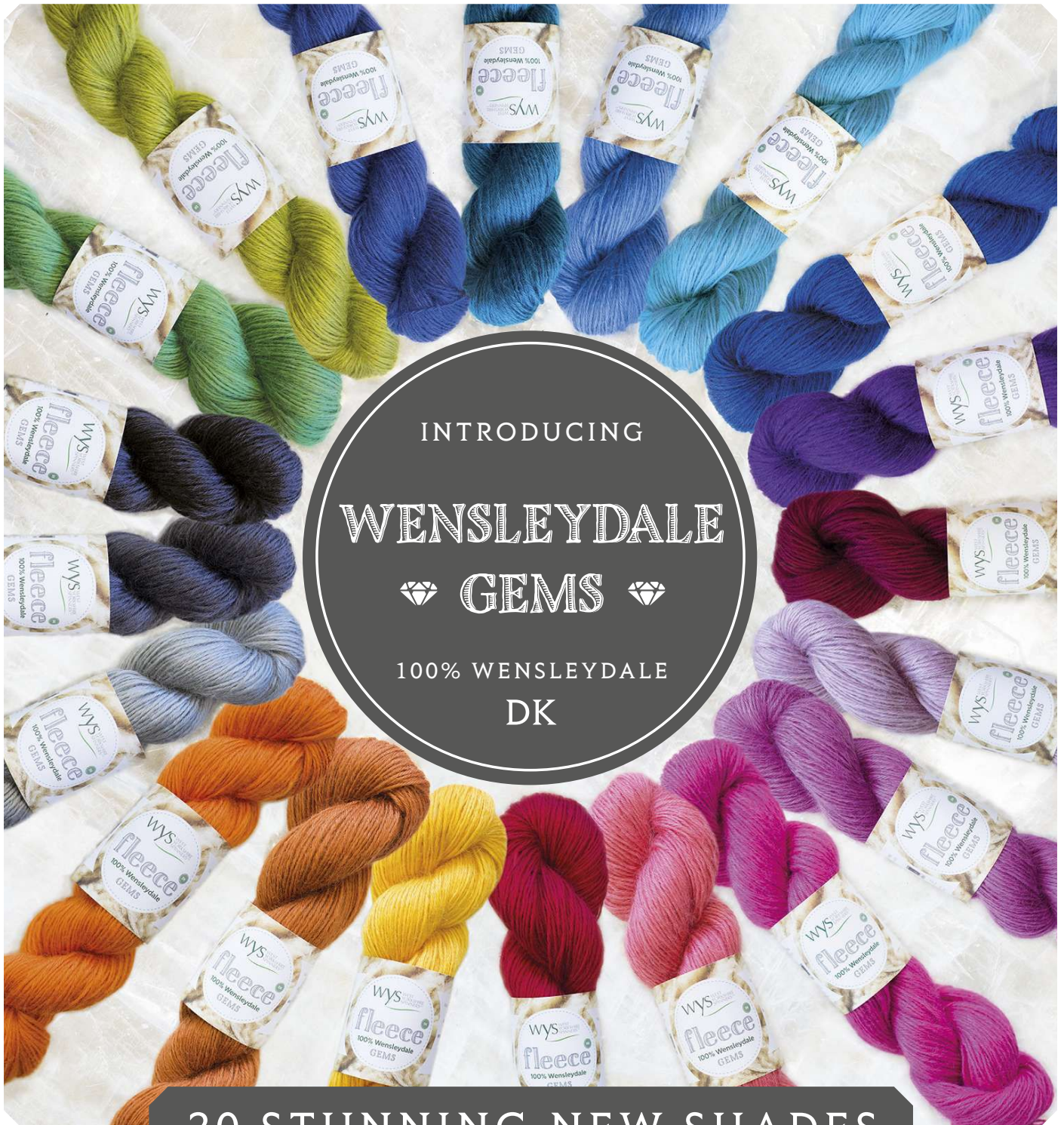
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# *Simply* Crochet

HOOKED ON HANDMADE

You heard it here first – 2017's going to be the year of the mandala. This issue, you'll find the first mandala in our new series and all kinds of exciting hooky treats. How about beautiful blankets, cosy textured stitches, marvellous floaty mohair accessories or a sparkly ombre shawl? We've got your winter sorted.



# Simply Crochet

ISSUE FIFTY-THREE

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Join the Ami Club, p66



Psst... flick to page 34

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FLOATY  
SCARF



PSST

This fuzzy mohair yarn feels lighter than air!



MADE IN MOHAIR  
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HOOK  
to  
HOOK

Turn to page 57 and check out our new designer challenge - you could win Debbie Bliss yarn!



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EASY MAKE!  
CROCHET A CUTE MOTIF FOR YOUR VALENTINE  
P27

# Hooky new year!

Another year, another yarn love affair. I've fallen for mohair in a big way. If you haven't thought about hooking with mohair you really should – it makes a gorgeous light, fluffy and warm fabric which works up incredibly quickly because you use a big hook. Check out our mohair projects on p16. We've got some more exciting new things for you, too. Flip to page 57 to see our first ever Hook to Hook designer challenge. Ooh, and if you're loving the January mandala in your *Simply Crochet* calendar, hook a real life version on p95. Oh, how we spoil you. Happy hooky 2017.

Sara



## CONTRIBUTORS

Who you'll find in this month's pages...



### LOU BARNES

Lou's a designer and the star of our *Simply Crochet* YouTube channel. This issue, she's also our guest columnist. Read all about her imaginative creations on page 40.



### ANJA TOONEN

Dutch author and designer Anja has a way with amigurumi shaping. Seriously, just take one look at her fabulously curvaceous doll on page 34 and try to tell us otherwise. Case closed.



### JENNY KING

If you loved Jenny's floaty granny treble jumper design in issue 50, you'll want to turn to page 52 to learn more about this fascinating Aussie designer and her Get Squared technique.



### SANDRINE DEVEZE

French stitcher and blogger Sandrine is sharing the story behind an unbelievably cute jumbo amigurumi project this issue. Flip across to page 98 and prepare to be bowled over.

### OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Bergere, Esme Crick, Lucy Croft, Hannah Cross, Judy Darley, Helen Dorritt, Anne Egan, Emma Friedlander-Collins, Becky Garratt, John McAllister, Emma Potter, Becky Skuse, Louise Smith, Kath Webber

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# Sewing QUARTER

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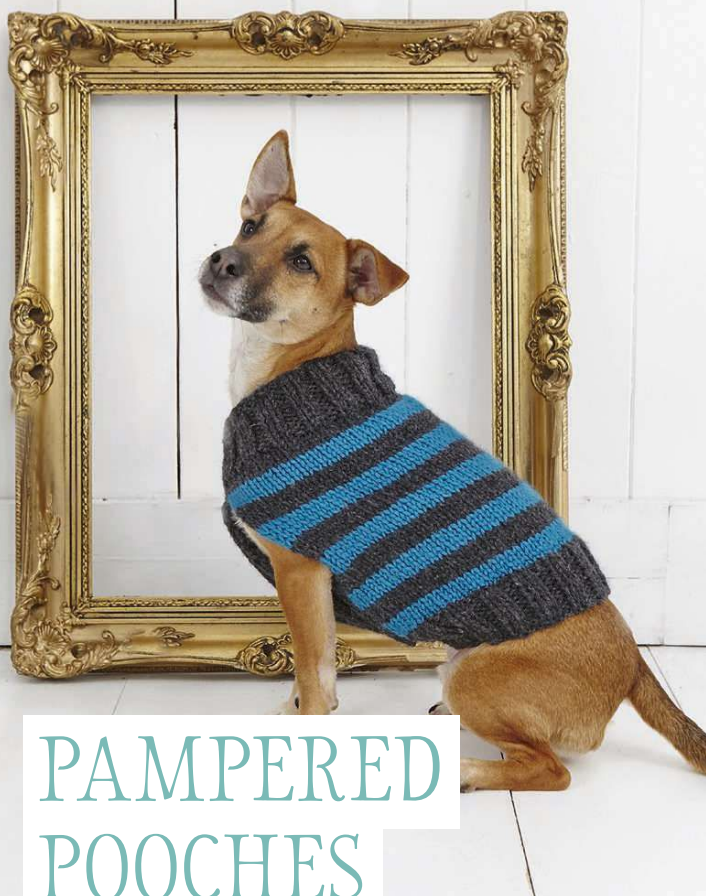
# Hooked

Ideas ♡ INSPIRATION ♡ ACCESSORIES ♡ WEBSITES ♡ EVENTS ♡ STUFF



## Pick 'n' Mix with Paintbox

Have you heard about our crochet-along? *Simply Crochet* subscribers receive an extra pattern each month to make Lucy Croft's fabulous Pick 'n' Mix block blanket – it's a stunner. The project is hooked in gorgeous Cascade 220 yarn, with packs available from LoveCrochet, and we've just launched a new, more budget-friendly alternative. Get your hands on a Paintbox Yarns pack for our CAL for just £40.50 at [www.lovecrochet.com](http://www.lovecrochet.com). Turn to page 32 for details.



## PAMPERED POOCHES

**P**rove your pooch is the cutest with Stylecraft's Pampered Pooches competition. This January, they're looking for the most adorable dogs sporting handmade garb. The closing date is 31 January and winners will receive goodies from Stylecraft. See [www.facebook.com/stylecraftyarn](http://www.facebook.com/stylecraftyarn) for further information.

## JOIN THE AMI CLUB

▼ Toy makers, time to listen up – FreshStitches designer Stacey Trock has launched an exciting new club. Ami Club members receive an exclusive amigurumi pattern each month, plus discount on craft eyes, access to forums, tutorial videos and crochet ebooks. That's a whole lotta crochet goodness. Read more at [www.freshstitches.com](http://www.freshstitches.com), or flip to p66 for more from Stacey.



## SAY HELLO TO AMANO

Like the look of this lot? Us too. Amano is a luxury South American yarn brand that's now available in the UK. They have nine different yet equally glorious Peruvian alpaca yarns and their aim is to bring a taste of the Andes.

If you're looking for a light, chunky yarn, Puyo is a sublime baby alpaca and silk mix in gorgeous shades from Cloud and Almond, to Caramel and Dim Grey. The Mayu line, a blend of alpaca, cashmere and silk, is dip-dyed to imitate dyeing techniques used by the Incas and comes in 14 stunning colours, inspired by the soft landscape of the Peruvian mountains with soft greens, dusky pinks and vibrant blues. To check out all the yummy shades and find stockists, visit [www.designeryarns.uk.com](http://www.designeryarns.uk.com)

### CHARITY CROCHET

## We Love...

It's that time again – the innocent Big Knit campaign is on. For each smoothie sold with a handmade hat on, innocent will donate 25p to British charity Age UK to help keep older people warm and well over winter. It's a really fun and easy way to use your creative talents to help somebody in need. Both crocheted and knitted hats are welcome and you can find free patterns on the website. Look out for the basic little crochet bobble hat, and the sweetest crochet owl and tortoise designs by Val Pierce, plus lots of inspiring knit patterns from a hippie and punk, to a cat and woolly sheep. Find details of where to send your hats over at [www.thebigknit.co.uk](http://www.thebigknit.co.uk). Look out more on this project next month.



# HOOKED



MINI PROFILE



## VICKI BROWN

We talked to Vicki Brown, a crochet and knitting designer based in Cheltenham.

She told us: "I love to make really wearable crochet, mostly women's garments, socks and shawls, because I love to make items that I know will get a lot of use and you can show off to the world!"

I love how quick crochet is, how versatile it is and the huge quantity of stitches and patterns available. My favourite thing is the meditative quality of working the stitches.

I like to see the knitwear on catwalk shows each season, and I also love looking through vintage crochet patterns and noticing what people are wearing around me. I also love the inspiration on Pinterest and Instagram.

I'm a last-minute kind of person. My biggest last-minute attempt came a couple of years ago, when I had a project due for a magazine photo shoot. I finished the garment the day before the shoot. It needed blocking so I ended up putting the heating



on in the middle of July to get it to dry overnight and took a train to London the next day to hand deliver it to the magazine editor. I'm pleased to say I'm much improved on this front these days!

My biggest triumph was the release of my crochet sock collection. It was a long time coming, as I had a baby between starting it and finally getting it published. It's a collection of six crochet sock patterns, I love them all and am so proud of the collection.

I've also just launched a crochet shawl subscription box, which I'm excited about as I get to dye the yarn and design a pattern exclusively for the boxes, which I love." Find Vicki's creations and details of her shawl subscription box at [www.vickibrowndesigns.com](http://www.vickibrowndesigns.com) and on Instagram @vixbrown

# INSPIRING BOOKS



## ONE-SKEIN BABY PROJECTS

**SHARON SILVERMAN**  
(£6.99, Leisure Arts)

Raid your stash for colourful DK and aran yarns to make these adorable baby projects. The nine simple patterns include bibs, toys, booties and hats, in different sizes – perfect as gifts for new parents or to entice a new crocheter. Most patterns use 50-100g of yarn and use US terms, but there are bonus online tutorials.



## INDISPENSABLE STITCH COLLECTION FOR CROCHETERS

**MELISSA LEAPMAN**  
(£16.99, Creative Publishing International)

A great reference guide for every crocheter's bookshelf, with a whopping 200 stitch patterns divided into sections of similar types, making it easy to navigate. Each one includes written instructions and a symbol chart.



## 35 CROCHETED BAGS

**EMMA FRIEDLANDER-COLLINS**  
(£12.99, CICO Books)

Whether you like satchels or shoppers, this book has a practical yet pretty pattern for every kind of bag. There are interesting stitch patterns and colours throughout, with the larger totes using super-chunky yarns for a sturdy and fast finish. There are also extra projects, including purses and cases, to go inside your bag. Handy!



## MY HANDMADE WEDDING

**MARRIANNE MERCER**  
(£12.99, Search Press)

Packed full of projects, this is an indispensable guide to creating handmade items for any celebration. With a friendly and enthusiastic approach, each section includes simple ways to make flowers, stationery, bunting, candles, cakes and more. Perfect for personalising a big day on a budget.

★

## SUBS STARS!

★

★

◀ Every month, three subscribers win a prize as a thank you for their loyalty to *Simply Crochet*. This month, the winners (below) will each receive this cute amigurumi cupcake kit from DMC.

Mrs Joanne Clair, Fleet  
Mr Brian Hilliard, Sandiacre  
Miss Isobel Smith, Hook

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.



## COUTURE CRAFT

**T**here's something so satisfying about a super-chunky crochet project, isn't there? They're often speedy to make and have bags of bold style. You can hook this statement jumbo cowl with a DIY Crochet Infinity Scarf Kit from Wool Couture ([www.noths.com](http://www.noths.com)). For £45, you'll get heaps of scrummy 100% merino roving wool, a 25mm hook, the crochet pattern for the cowl and a Wool Couture project tote bag to keep it all in.



new yarn

## MADE BY VICKIE

Top US craft designer and broadcaster Vickie Howell has teamed up with Deramores to create two tempting new yarns. Woolpaca Chunky is a super-soft chainette yarn in a cheery palette. Mod Wool is a squishy single ply made with 100% superwash merino. There's pattern support, too – Vickie's Hexi Scarf and Off Kilter Cable Throw designs are both hooked in Mod Wool. Just visit [www.deramores.com](http://www.deramores.com). Psst! Look out for an exclusive design by Vickie Howell in an issue of *Simply Crochet* coming your way soon.

## STITCH UP

▼ Broaden your stitch vocabulary and learn a few new techniques with our *Crochet Stitch Collection*. This special edition magazine features top makes from *Simply Crochet* – there are 28 stitches to try in total, plus a mind-blowing 75 projects to hook. It's just the thing if you're looking for a new creative challenge in 2017. Find it for £7.99 at your newsagent, or enter our competition at <http://competition.immediate.co.uk/sc53stitch> – we've got five luscious copies up for grabs.



# Sewing QUARTER



tune in!

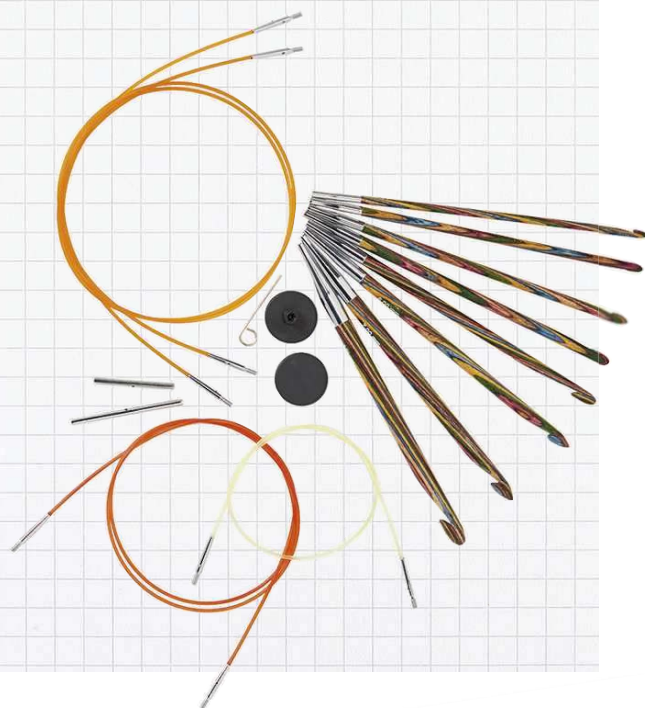
## FEELING SEW FREE

If one of your New Year's resolutions is to have a proper crack at sewing, then tune in to Sewing Quarter. From the makers of *Simply Sewing* and *Mollie Makes*, Sewing Quarter is a new TV channel dedicated to all things quilting and sewing and it's launching this month! To hear the latest and get a free sewing pattern, usual price £7.99, sign up at [www.sewingquarter.com/freepattern](http://www.sewingquarter.com/freepattern). You'll be able to watch online or on Freeview channel 78.

## STASH TOP-UP

# Happy hooking

Whether you're already a dab hand at Tunisian crochet or are eager to learn a fascinating technique, this Knit Pro Afghan/Tunisian Crochet Set is just the ticket. The interchangeable Symfonie Afghan/Tunisian wooden hooks are lightweight, beautifully hand crafted and in fabulous colours that'll cheer up a gloomy winter day, with a lovely polished surface that makes each stitch a breeze. For stockists visit [www.knitpro.eu](http://www.knitpro.eu)



# HOOKED



**THE YARN COLLECTIVE**  
 Meet the new kids on the block – The Yarn Collective. This enterprising fibre company have worked with indie designers to create their first three yarns. Portland Lace, Bloomsbury DK and Pembroke Worsted are all made with squishy merino wool, twisted and plied with care to maximise softness and drape. There are 10 show-stopping shades in each of the three yarns. Shop at [www.lovecrochet.com](http://www.lovecrochet.com)

## IT'S PERSONAL

Wear your crochet allegiances with confidence and bag yourself (pun intended) one of Kelly Connor's sassy slogan project bags. This design is £14.95 at [www.noths.com](http://www.noths.com) and can be personalised with a name of your choice – gift idea alert. You can also have a personal message printed.



OUT & ABOUT

## Skills, shows & events



**FEB 2-4** Stitching, Sewing & Hobbycrafts Show  
 £8, EventCity, Manchester, [www.ichf.co.uk](http://www.ichf.co.uk)

**FEB 4** Crochet Heart Workshop  
 £40, Busy Bees, Tredgar House, Newport  
[www.busybeespatchwork.com](http://www.busybeespatchwork.com)

**FEB 16-18** Craft4Crafters Show  
 £9, Westpoint, Exeter  
[www.craft4crafters.co.uk](http://www.craft4crafters.co.uk)

**FEB 17-19** Unravel Festival  
 £9, Farnham Maltings, Surrey  
[craft.farnhammaltings.com](http://craft.farnhammaltings.com)

**FEB 25** Crochet Texture Workshop  
 £49.95, Black Sheep Wools, Warrington  
[www.blacksheepwools.com](http://www.blacksheepwools.com)

## 5 FAB FINDS

Create your cosy  
 Home comforts to get you  
 through the winter.



**1** **CLIMB EVERY MOUNTAIN**  
 How cute are these mountain cushions? They're made in cosy wool fabric, available from Loaf ([www.loaf.com](http://www.loaf.com)). They'd be a fab addition for a kid's room, but we won't be giving them up without a fight.

**2** **STAR COVER-UP**  
 The Big Chill cardigan from issue 37 is causing a bit of a stir on Pinterest. Download the pattern from Ravelry at <http://bit.ly/sc53chill>

**3** **SWEET SCENTS**  
 Wouldn't you rather be smelling an Orla Kiely lavender candle? Us too. Get yours from good old John Lewis [www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com). Instant hygge points.

**4** **PASTEL PERFECT**  
 Ah, tea – is there a gloomy morning it can't turn around? Serve your brew in a stylish Abstract Teapot from Oliver Bonas ([www.oliverbonas.com](http://www.oliverbonas.com)).

**5** **SOFT & SNUGLY**  
 Try your hand at knitting. Stitch & Story's cute Lola Pom Pom Slippers Knitting Kit is beginner-friendly. Shop at [www.stitchandstory.com](http://www.stitchandstory.com)

WINTER IDEAS



# Fire & Ice

Add drama to your winter wardrobe with our floaty mohair accessories hooked in boldly contrasting shades.



### BEADS AND BLOSSOMS

For the uninitiated, stitching with fine mohair yarn can be a little tricky. Go easy on yourself and start small. This dainty floral necklace is the perfect project to begin with and the matching beads give it a slick finish.

### GO WITH THE FLOW

As shawls and wraps go, this one's a bona fide showstopper. The high impact geometric design is softened by the fuzzy mohair fibres, but the effect is still dazzling. Grab your hooks and yarn – the wafting starts here.







### ALL ABOUT THAT DRAPE

Simple stripes and a relaxed silhouette make this one-size-fits-most tunic top so easy to wear. The neckline is wide, so drape it off one shoulder or have it hanging low at the front or back. The mohair yarn makes it super-cosy but it feels lighter-than-air.

### TOUCH OF TEXTURE

The simplest stitches help the colours and fibres to shine here. This cowl is long enough to be looped twice around the neck and it has a playful loopy trim that's feathery in weight and in look. Just divine.

## WINTER IDEAS



### JUST A SUGGESTION

You'll only need a whisper of each shade to stitch this pretty corsage, so it's a dynamite stashbuster. It's made up of flower shapes and gossamer-like curls. That scrap of super-fancy yarn you've been holding onto? It's destined for this project.

### ALL LACED UP

With corset-style lace-up details and a frivolous lacy trim, these fingerless mitts have more than a hint of boudoir about them. Something fit for Marie-Antoinette, perhaps? Grab your velvet ribbon and stitch them just because.



## FLOWER NECKLACE

A little bit of mohair can do a lot. Beads and blooms make Louise Smith's dainty long necklace an absolute winner.

- Wendy Air (70% kid mohair, 30% nylon, 25g/200m), 1 ball of each: Adele (2625), Celeste (2610), Katie (2623), Lili (2620)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Beads (18 small red from Mr. Bead)

### MEASUREMENTS

Each flower measures 3.5cm (1½in) diameter  
Necklace chain length is 75cm (29in)

### ABBREVIATIONS

**Puff stitch** (Yrh, insert hook in st, yrh and pull up a loop) 3 times, yrh and draw through all

loops on hook

**Spike dc** Insert hook into st indicated and pull up loop to the height of the current round, complete as for dc stitch

### FLOWER

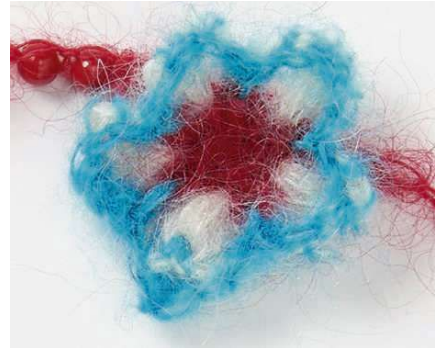
Make 3 Flowers with Round 3 in Lili and 2 flowers with Round 3 in Katie.

With Adele, ch4, ss to form a ring.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 10dc in ring, ss in beg dc. [10 dc] Change to Celeste.

**Round 2** Ch1, puff st in st at base of ch, ch5, skip next dc, \*puff st in next dc, ch5, skip next dc; rep from \* 3 more times, ss in top of beg puff st. [5 puff sts, 5 ch-5 sps] Change to Lili or Katie.

**Round 3** Ch2 (does not count as st), htr in



puff st at base of ch, 2dc in ch-5 sp, spike dc in dc below on Round 1, 2dc in same ch-5 sp, \*htr in top of next puff st, 2dc in ch-5 sp, spike dc in dc below on Round 1, 2dc in same ch-5 sp; rep from \* 3 more times, ss in top of beg htr.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

### TO MAKE UP

Thread 18 beads onto Adele, ready for use. With Adele, make a ch measuring approx 25cm long.

**Step 1** (Bring bead up to hook, ch2) 3 times, ch4, ss in back-centre of Lili flower, ch4.

**Step 2** (Bring bead up to hook, ch2) 3 times, ch4, ss in back-centre of Katie flower, ch4.

Rep Steps 1 and 2 twice more.

Rep Step 1 once more.

Cont ch until it meas approx 75cm long, join to beg of original ch with ss, being careful not to twist.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

## DIAMOND WRAP

Striking geometry and diamonds that appear to float – that's what has got us hooked on Fran Morgan's elegant, airy wrap.

- Wendy Air (70% mohair, 30% nylon, 25g/200m), 2 balls of Yarn A Adele (2625), 1 ball of each: Yarn B Katie (2623), Yarn C Lili (2620), Yarn D Lydia (2622)
- A 5.5mm (US I/9) hook
- Tapestry needle

### TENSION

Each Diamond Motif meas approx 16x11cm (6¼x4¼in) at the end of Round 3 using a 5.5mm (US I/9) hook or size required to obtain gauge

### MEASUREMENTS

Wrap meas approx 48x172cm (19x68in)

### NOTES

See Diagram and Charts on p94. The wrap is



made up of diamond and half diamond motifs. All motifs are made to Round 3 then joined in Rows from Round 4. The Outer Edges are joined first and the centre strip of motifs are joined in last.

## DIAMOND MOTIF 1 (MAKE 12)

Using Yarn A, ch4, ss to form a ring.

**Round 1** Ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in ring, ch2, (3tr in ring, ch2) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 2** Join Yarn B in first ch-2 sp, ch3 (counts as tr), \*(2tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1) in same sp, (tr, 2dtr, ch2, 2dtr, tr, ch1) in next ch-2 sp, tr in next ch-2 sp, rep from \* omitting last tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 3** Join Yarn C in first ch-2 sp, ch3 (counts as tr), \*(2tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1), in same sp, (3tr, ch1) in next ch-1 sp, (tr, 2dtr, ch2, 2dtr, tr, ch1) in next ch-2 sp, (3tr, ch1) in next ch-1 sp, tr in next ch-2 sp; rep from \* omitting last tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. **Fasten off.**

## DIAMOND MOTIF 2 (MAKE 10)

Work the same as Motif 1 but working Round 2 in Yarn C and Round 3 in Yarn B.

## NARROW HALF MOTIF (MAKE 4)

Using Yarn A, ch4, ss to form a ring.

**Row 1 (RS)** Ch3 (counts as tr), (2tr, ch2, 3tr) into ring. **Fasten off.**

**Row 2 (RS)** Join Yarn C in first st, ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in same st, ch1, (tr, 2dtr, ch2, 2dtr, tr, ch1) in next ch-2 sp, 3tr in last tr. **Fasten off.**

**Row 3 (RS)** Join Yarn B in first st, ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in same st, ch1, 3tr in next ch-1 sp, ch1, (tr, 2dtr, ch2, 2dtr, tr, ch1) in next ch-2 sp, 3tr in next ch-1 sp, ch1, 3tr in last tr.

**Fasten off.**

## WIDE HALF MOTIF 1 (MAKE 8)

Using Yarn A, ch4, ss to form a ring.

**Row 1 (RS)** Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), (3tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1, tr) into ring. **Fasten off.**

**Row 2 (RS)** Join Yarn B in first st, ch5 (counts as dtr, ch1), (2dtr, tr, ch1) in first ch-1 sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1) in next ch-2 sp, (tr, 2dtr) in next ch-1 sp, ch1, dtr in last tr. **Fasten off.**

**Row 3 (RS)** Join Yarn C in first st, ch5 (counts as dtr, ch1), (2dtr, tr, ch1) in first ch-1 sp, (3tr, ch1) in next ch-1 sp, (3tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1) in next ch-2 sp, (3tr, ch1) in next ch-1 sp, (1tr, 2dtr in next ch-1 sp, ch1, dtr in last dtr. **Fasten off.**

## WIDE HALF MOTIF 2 (MAKE 8)

Work the same as Half Motif 1, but working Round 2 in Yarn C and Round 3 in Yarn B.

## EDGE STRIPS

Using 4 Wide Half Motifs 1 and 4 Wide Half



Motifs 2, join 8 tog, alternating colour to form one long edge of wrap as follows:

## FIRST MOTIF

**Row 1** With RS facing and using Yarn D, join in first st of a Wide Half Motif, ch5 (counts as tr, ch2), tr in st at base of ch-5, ch3, tr in next dtr, ch3, (tr in next ch-1 sp, ch3) twice, (tr, ch2, tr) in ch-2 corner sp, (ch3, tr in next ch-1 sp) twice, ch3, skip next tr and dtr, tr in next dtr, ch3, (tr, ch2, tr) in last dtr, do not fasten off.

## SUBSEQUENT MOTIFS

**Row 1** With RS facing (tr, ch2, tr) in first st, ch3, tr in next dtr, ch3, (tr in next ch-1 sp, ch3) twice, (tr, ch2, tr) in ch-2 corner sp, (ch3, tr in next ch-1 sp) twice, ch3, skip next tr and dtr, tr in next dtr, ch3, (tr, ch2, tr) in last dtr, do not fasten off.

Once all 8 motifs are joined, fasten off and work as follows:

**Edge Round** With RS facing and using Yarn A, join in first ch-2 sp of first Wide Half Motif, ch3, (2tr, ch1, 3tr, ch1) in same ch-2 sp, \*(3tr, ch1) in next ch-3 sp 4 times, (3tr, ch1, 3tr) in ch-2 corner sp, (ch1, 3tr) in next ch-3 sp 4 times, tr in last tr of same motif, cont to next motif; rep from \* across to end of last motif omitting last tr, ch1, (3tr, ch1, 3tr) in last ch-2 sp, rotate to work into Row ends along straight edge. (Ch1, 3tr) in each row end except the Yarn D row ends, with (ch1, 3tr) in the join of the motifs, ch1, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. **Fasten off.**

Join rem 8 Half Motifs in the same way swapping the order of the motif colours for the other edge of the wrap.

## NEXT STRIP OF MOTIFS (MAKE 2)

Using 2 Narrow Motifs and 7 Full Motifs, join tog, alternating colours to form one long

strip as follows:

## FIRST NARROW MOTIF

**Round 1** With RS facing and using Yarn D, join in first st of a Narrow Motif, ch5 (counts as tr, ch2), tr in st at base of ch-5, ch3, (tr in next ch-1 sp, ch3) twice, skip next tr and dtr, (tr, ch3) in next dtr (tr, ch2, tr) in ch-2 corner sp, ch3, tr in next dtr, (ch3, tr in next ch-1 sp) twice, ch3, (tr, ch2, tr) in last tr. **Fasten off.**

## SUBSEQUENT FULL MOTIFS

**Motif Round** With RS facing and using Yarn D, join in first ch-2 sp of a Full Motif, ch5 (counts as tr, ch2), tr in same ch-2 sp, \*ch3, (tr in next ch-1 sp, ch3) twice, skip next tr and dtr, tr in next dtr, ch3, (tr, ch1, ss to corresponding corner sp of next motif, tr) in corner ch-sp, ch3, tr in next dtr, ch3, (tr in next ch-1 sp, ch3) twice, (tr, ch2, tr) in corner ch-sp, ch3, (tr in next ch-1 sp, ch3) twice, skip next tr and dtr, tr in next dtr, ch3, (tr, ch2, tr) in corner ch-sp, ch3, tr in next dtr, ch3, (tr in next ch-1 sp, ch3) twice, ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-3 to join. **Fasten off.**

Rep for all subsequent Full Motifs before joining the second Narrow Motif.

Work around the second Narrow Motif in the same way as the first, replacing the ch-sp at the join with (ch1, ss to join) as before.

## JOIN EDGE STRIP AND NEXT STRIP

The next Round joins this Strip of Motifs to the Edge Motifs.

**Joining Round** With RS facing and using Yarn A, join in first ch-2 sp of first Narrow Motif, ch3, 2tr in same ch-2 sp, ch1, ss to second ch-1 sp of one Edge Strip, 3tr in same ch-2 sp, \*(ss to next ch-1 sp of Edge Strip, 3tr in next ch-3 sp) 4 times, ss to next ch-1



sp of Edge Strip, tr in joining ss between motifs, (3tr in next ch-3 sp, ss to next ch-1 sp of Edge Strip) 4 times, (3tr, skip next 3tr group on Edge Strip, ss to next single tr on Edge Strip, 3tr) in ch-2 corner sp; rep from \* across to end of last motif omitting last (3tr, ss, 3tr), (3tr, ss to last ch-1 sp before corner, ch1, 3tr) in last ch-2 sp, rotate to work into row ends along straight edge of Narrow Motif, (ch1, 3tr in next Row end) 5 times, ch1, (3tr, ch1, 3tr) in ch-2 sp at opposite corner of Narrow Motif, \*\* (ch1, 3tr in next ch-3 sp) 4 times, tr in joining ss between motifs, (3tr in next ch-3 sp, ch1) 4 times, (3tr, ch1, 3tr) in

ch-2 corner sp; rep from \*\* across, rotate to work into row ends along straight edge of Narrow Motif, (ch1, 3tr in next Row end) 5 times, ch1, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

#### Fasten off.

You will now have 2 sides to the Wrap and 8 unused Full Motifs.

The 8 unused motifs are joined tog in a strip, alternating colours, before being joined to both sides of the Wrap to finish.

#### FIRST MOTIF

Work as Motif Round, with a ch-2 sp at all

four corners.

#### SUBSEQUENT FULL MOTIFS

Work as Motif Round, replacing the ch-2 sp at the joining point with (ch1, ss to next motif).

The next round joins this Central Strip of Motifs to the Edges.

**Round 2** With RS facing and using Yarn A, join in ch-2 sp at end of Central Strip, ch3, (2tr, ch1, 3tr) in same ch-2 sp, ss to corner ch-1 sp of Narrow Motif in Edge Strip, \*(3tr in next ch-3 sp, ss to next ch-1 sp of Edge Strip) 4 times, (3tr, skip next 3tr group on Edge Strip, ss to next single tr on Edge Strip, 3tr) in ch-2 corner sp, (ss to next ch-1 sp of Edge Strip, 3tr in next ch-3 sp) 4 times, ss to next ch-1 sp of Edge Strip, tr in joining ss between motifs; rep from \* across to end of last motif omitting last tr\*\*, (3tr, ch1, 3tr) in ch-2 end sp, ss to corner ch-1 sp of Narrow Motif in other Edge Strip; rep from \* to \*\*, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

**Fasten off** and weave in all ends.

## FLOATY TUNIC TOP

With statement stripes and a drape that's nothing short of divine, this longline tunic by Hannah Cross has stolen our hearts.

■ Wendy Air (70% mohair, 30% nylon, 25g/200m), 1 ball of Yarn A Adele (2625), 2 balls of each Yarn B Katie (2623), Yarn C Lili (2620), 3 balls of Yarn D Lydia (2622)

■ A 5mm (US H/8) hook

■ Tapestry needle

#### TENSION

15 sts and 6½ rows to meas 10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern using a 5mm hook

#### MEASUREMENTS

82x70cm (32½x 27½) – one size fits all

#### NOTES

The top is made up of 2 matching panels which are seamed.

#### PATTERN (MAKE 2)

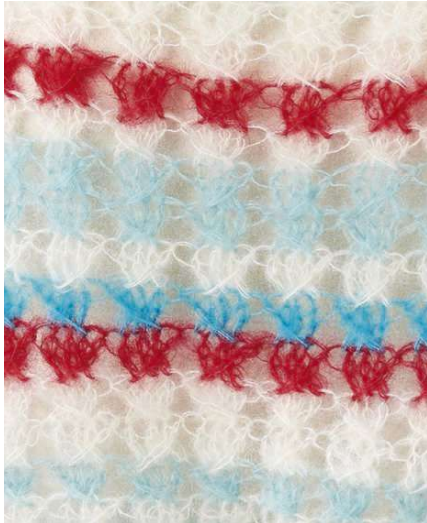
Using Yarn C, ch123.

**Row 1 (RS)** dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch across, turn [122 dc]

**Row 2** Ch3, \*skip next st, tr in next 3 sts, tr in skipped st, (working in front of last 3 sts); rep from \* across to last st, tr in last st. [122 tr] Row 2 sets pattern.

**Rows 3-46** Rep Row 2 using the colour sequence below. **Fasten off.**

Yarn C, Yarn D, Yarn B, Yarn C, Yarn D, Yarn D, Yarn D, Yarn A, Yarn D, Yarn B, Yarn B, Yarn D,



Yarn C, Yarn A, Yarn D, Yarn D, Yarn B, Yarn D, Yarn C, Yarn B, Yarn D, Yarn A, Yarn D, Yarn B, Yarn C, Yarn D, Yarn B, Yarn D, Yarn D, Yarn A, Yarn C, Yarn D, Yarn B, Yarn B, Yarn D, Yarn A, Yarn D, Yarn D, Yarn D, Yarn C, Yarn B, Yarn D, Yarn C, Yarn C.

**TO MAKE UP**

Hold Front and Back tog with WS facing out, sew the last Rows tog over the outer 41 sts on either end of top, leaving central 40 sts for the neck opening. Join side seams from Row 7 to Row 33 on each side to create side slits and armholes. Turn top right side out.

LOOPY TWO-TONE COWL

Simple stitches and playful texture is a recipe that works. By Louise Smith.

- Wendy Air (70% kid mohair, 30% nylon, 25g/200m), 2 balls of each: Katie (2623), Adele (2625)
- An 8mm (US L/11) hook

**MEASUREMENTS**

126x34cm (50x13½in) before seaming

**SPECIAL STITCHES**

**Ch-5 loop** Ch5, ss in st at base of ch

**COWL**

With Katie, ch32.

**Row 1** Ch2 (does not count as st throughout), htr in 3rd ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [32 sts]

**Row 2** Ch4 (does not count as st throughout), dtr in each st to end, turn.

**Rows 3-4** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.

**Row 5** Ch2, htr in each st to end, turn.  
**Row 6** Ch4, dtr in each st to end, turn.  
**Rows 7-8** Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Rep Rows 5-8 until cowl meas approx 126cm. Join both ends using ss seam.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

Following the pattern of 3 ch-5 loops in each htr, 5 ch-5 loops in each dtr, and 2 ch-5 loops in each dc, join Adele to the side of any st on one side of cowl and work the appropriate amount of ch-5 loops around. Ss in base of beg ch-5 loop. **Fasten off.** Rep on other side of cowl. Weave in ends.

FLORAL CORSAJE

Anne Egan's pretty flower brooch has delicate petals and curling tendrils. It's fab for pinning onto a jacket or bag.

- Wendy Air (70% mohair, 30% nylon, 25g/200m), 1 ball of each: Yarn A Lili (2620) and Yarn B Lydia (2622) (5g), Yarn C Katie, (2623), Yarn D Adele (2625)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- An extra large safety pin

**MEASUREMENTS**

Central flower meas approx 10cm (4in) across

**NOTES**

Each layer of central flower is made separately and then sewn in place. Leave long tails when joining in and fastening off which can then be cut to suit as part of final look.

**CENTRAL FLOWER**

**LAYER 1**

**Round 1** With Yarn A, ch2, 10dc in 2nd ch from hook, ss to first dc.

**Fasten off** Yarn A, join Yarn C.

**Round 2** Join Yarn C in first dc, (ch2, 2tr in next dc, ch2, ss in next dc) 5 times.

**Fasten off.** [5 petals (ch2, 2tr, ch2)]

**LAYER 2**

With Yarn A, ch8, ss in first ch to join.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 15dc in ring, ss to first dc.

**Round 2** (Ch4, skip 2 dc, ss in next dc) around. [5 ch-4 sps]

**Round 3** (7dc in each ch-4 sp) around, ss to first dc. **Fasten off.**

**LAYER 3**

With Yarn C, ch16, ss to first ch to join.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 30dc in ring, ss to first dc.

**Round 2** (Ch8, skip 5 dc, ss in next dc) around. [5 ch-8 sps]

**Round 3** (15dc in each ch-8 sp) around, ss to





first dc. **Fasten off.**

#### LAYER 4

With Yarn B, ch16, ss to first ch to join.

**Round 1** Ch3 (counts as tr), 34tr in ring, ss to top of beg ch-3. [35 tr]

**Round 2** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first tr, \*(htr in next tr, 2tr in next tr, 2dtr in next tr, 2tr in next tr, htr in next tr, dc in each of next 2 tr) 5 times omitting last dc, ss to first dc. [5 petals of 10 sts]

**Round 3** Ch1 (does not count as st), (skip dc, dc in next 3 st, 2dc in each of next 2dtr, dc in next 3 sts, skip dc) 5 times, ss to first dc.

**Fasten off.** [50 dc]

#### LAYER 5

With Yarn A, ch25, ss to first ch to join.

**Round 1** Ch1, 50dc in ring, ss to first dc.

**Round 2** (Ch12, skip 9 dc, ss in next dc) around. [5 ch-12 sps]

**Round 3** (24dc in each ch-12 sp) around, ss to first dc. **Fasten off.**

#### MAKE UP CENTRAL FLOWER

Starting with layer 5, place layer 4 on top and sew together around centre, leaving the edges loose, pull tail ends through to WS at the centre.

Attach layer 3, 2 and 1 in the same way.

#### DAISY (MAKE 2)

With Yarn D, ch4, ss to first ch to join.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 10dc into ring, ss to first dc.

**Round 2** (Ch5, ss in next dc) 5 times.

**Fasten off.** [10 ch-5 sps]

#### TINY FLOWER (MAKE 3)

With Yarn D, ch2, 8dc in 2nd ch from hook, ss to first dc. **Fasten off.**

#### SPIRALS

Make one in each in Yarns A, B and C.

Ch20, 3dc in 2nd ch from hook, 3dc in each ch across to end. **Fasten off.**

Make up the corsage by attaching the daisies, tiny flowers and spirals using the image above as a guide, then trim the tail ends to suit.

Attach the large safety pin to the back.

## LACE-UP WRIST WARMERS

Fun, frivolous and oh-so feminine, Anne Egan's wrist warmers are edged with lace.

■ Wendy Air (70% mohair, 30% nylon, 25g/200m), 1 ball of each: **Yarn A** Lili (2620) (15g), **Yarn B** Lydia (2622) (10g)

■ A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook

■ 1.5m (59in) of 4mm (1/8in) red ribbon

#### MEASUREMENTS

21cm (8¼in) long, 21cm (8¼in) circumference

#### ABBREVIATIONS

**Foundation dc (fdc)** As foundation ch: Ch2, dc in second ch from hook, adding ch1 before

last yrh of dc. (Dc in ch-1 of previous st, adding ch1 before last yrh of dc) rep until you have the number of dc stated.

**Foundation tr (Ftr)** As foundation ch: Ch4, yrh, insert hook in fourth ch from hook, yrh and draw yarn through as for a normal tr st. Work an extra 'ch1' by putting yrh and drawing yarn through first loop on hook. Complete as for a normal treble st. The next st will be worked into the ch-1 of prev st, adding the extra ch1 at the same point if you are continuing in foundation treble.

#### NOTES

The main part of the wrist warmer is made in rows and laced up to form a tube.

The lace edging is made separately in the round and then attached.

#### WRIST WARMER (MAKE 2)

**Foundation row** 35 Fdc.

**Row 2 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each fdc across, turn. [35 dc]

**Row 3** Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn.

**Row 4** Ch4 (counts as dtr throughout), dtr in next dc and each dc across, turn. [35 dtr]

**Row 5** Ch1, dc in each dtr across, turn. [35 dc]

**Rows 6-7** Ch1, dc in each dc across, turn.

**Rows 8-27** Rep (Rows 4-7) 5 more times.

Do not fasten off.

#### BORDER

Rotate to work into Row ends, work 32 dc

evenly down to bottom corner, ch1, rotate to work into opposite side of Foundation row, dc in each st across, ch1, rotate to work up the other side of the Row ends, work 32 dc evenly up the other side.

**Fasten off.**

**Round 1** With RS facing, join Yarn B in Row end of Row 27, ch1, dc in same place, dc in next 32 dc, (dc, ch1, dc) in next ch-sp, dc in next 35 dc, (dc, ch1, dc) in next ch-sp, dc in next 32 dc, (dc, ch1, dc) in opposite Row end of Row 27, dc in next 35 dc, dc in same place as first dc of Round, ch1, ss to first dc to join. [142dc, 4 ch-sps]

**Round 2** Ch1, dc in same dc, dc in next dc, \*(ch3, skip next 2 dc, dc in each of next 2 dc) 8 times, dc in ch-sp, dc in next 37 dc, dc in ch-sp, dc in next 2 dc; rep from \* omitting last 2 dc, ss to the first dc to join.

**Fasten off.**

[8 ch-3 sps on each side of wrist warmer]

**LACE EDGING (MAKE 2)**

**Foundation round** With Yarn B, 40 Ftr, ss to first Ftr to join. [40 Ftr]

**Round 2** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), (dc in 2 Ftr, skip next Ftr, 5tr in next Ftr, skip next Ftr, dc in 3 Ftr) 5 times around, ss to first dc.

**Round 3** Ch1, dc in first dc, \*skip next dc, (tr in next tr, ch1) twice, (tr, ch1, tr) in next tr, (ch1, tr in next tr) twice, skip next dc, dc in next 3 dc; rep from \* around omitting last dc, ss to first dc.

**Round 4** Ch1, \*skip dc, dc between skipped dc and next tr, skip tr, ((dc, ch3, dc) in next ch-sp, skip next tr) 5 times, dc between last skipped tr and next dc, skip 2 dc; rep from \*, ss to first dc. **Fasten off.**

**TO MAKE UP**

Place WS tog of Wrist Warmer and Edging, match each dc in top edge of the Wrist



Warmer with a Ftr of Lace Edging aligning the Lace so that one pattern rep is central to the gap. There will be a gap of 3 sts.

Working through both layers with Yarn B, dc around, working a ss in the 3 Ftr to cross the gap, ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off.** Weave in all ends.

Cut the ribbon in half and use to lace up each Wrist Warmer working through the ch-3 sps from the Lace Edging downwards.



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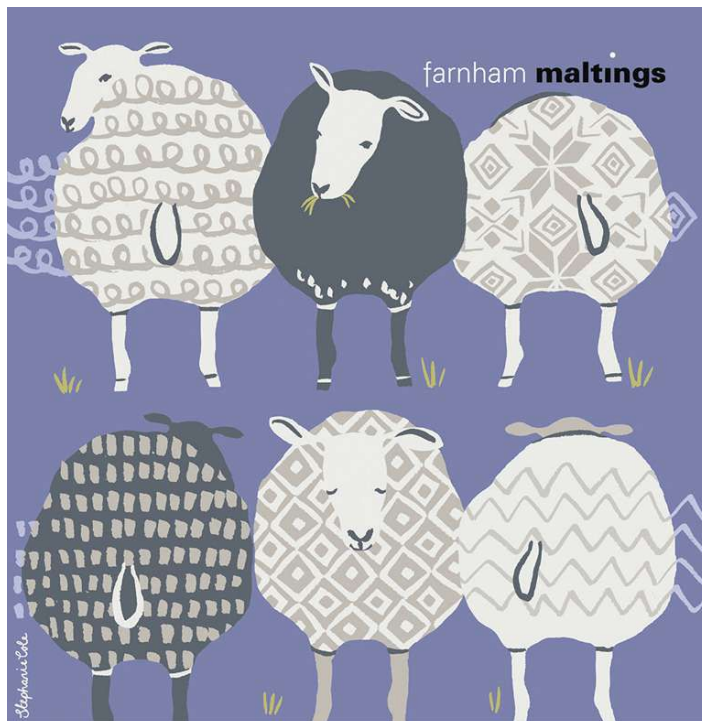
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**YOU WILL NEED**

- Use your free kit, or an oddment of DK yarn
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook

**MEASUREMENTS**

8x8cm (3x3in)

**ABBREVIATIONS**

For a full list, see page 92



# Hook a heart

A beautifully simple motif that stands out from the crowd? We're in love. By Sara Huntington.

We're pretty smitten with the idea of adorning a plain notebook with one of these motifs – hello bespoke journal. A handful of these simple shapes could easily become a garland, coasters or even cake toppers. Valentine's prep starts here.

**HEART MOTIF**

Make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr into loop, ch2 (3tr into loop, ch2) 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [4 3-tr groups, 4 ch-2 sps]

**Round 2** Ss across to first ch-2 sp, ch3 (counts as tr), (2tr, ch2, 3tr) in same ch-2 sp,

ch1, \*(3tr, ch2, 3tr, ch3) in next ch-2 sp; repeat from \* once more, (3tr, ch2, 3tr, ch1) in next ch-2 sp, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. [8 3-tr groups, 8 ch-sps]

**Round 3** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in same st, dc in next 2 tr, (dc, ch3, dc) in ch-2 corner sp, dc in next 7 sts, dc in next ch-2 corner sp, (skip next 3 tr, 12dtr in next ch-3 sp, skip next 3 tr, dc in next ch-2 corner sp) twice, dc in next 4 sts, ss to first dc to join.

**Fasten off.**



This is such an easy shape to make – in just three rounds you have a heart motif.

PSST

*Crochet mesh  
might just be the  
new black!*





# What a mesh

Use an airy, lacy stitch pattern to make this sweet and simple black tee by Bergere.

# MESH TOP



## YOU WILL NEED

- Bergere de France Caline (60% acrylic, 20% wool, 20% polyamide, 50g/180m), Carabosse (22858), 1 ball of Nono for all sizes (22856)  
For yarn quantities of Carabosse and measurements see table
  - A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
  - Stitch markers
- For yarn stockists contact**  
**Bergere de France**  
[www.bergerefrance.co.uk](http://www.bergerefrance.co.uk)

## TENSION

29 sts and 13 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over Mesh Pattern using a 3mm hook or size needed to obtain tension

## ABBREVIATIONS

**1 motif** (ch2, tr)  
For a full list, see page 92

It's no secret that us crocheters are crazy about colour, but sometimes a gal needs a bit of black in her wardrobe. It really does go with everything and the mesh stitch pattern makes this top fab for layering. Make the sleeve ties in a shade you love.

## MESH PATTERN (MESH PATT)

**Row 1 (RS)** Ch5 (counts as tr, ch2), skip the st at the base of the ch and the next st, tr into the next st, \*ch2, skip 2 sts, tr into the next st, ch2, skip next st, tr into the next st; repeat from to end, turn.

**Row 2** Ch5 (counts as tr, ch2), skip the first ch-2 sp, tr into the next tr, (ch2, tr into the next tr) repeat to end, turn.  
Repeat Row 2 to form the pattern.

## BACK

Ch112 (127: 142) sts.

**Row 1 (RS)** Htr in third ch from hook (skipped ch count as htr), htr in each ch to end, turn. [111 (126: 141) sts]

**Row 2** Ch2 (counts as htr), htr in each st to end, turn.  
Repeat Row 2 twice more.

Work Rows 1 and 2 of Mesh Patt. [44 (50: 56) motifs and 1 tr]  
Continue in Mesh Patt until work measures 25.5 (27: 29.5) cm.

## ARMHOLES

Put a st marker into the beginning and end of row to mark the start of the armholes and continue in Mesh Patt until work measures 45.5 (48.5: 52.5) cm, ending on a WS row.

## NECK

### First Side

**Row 1 (RS)** Work in Mesh Patt for 11 (13: 15) motifs, tr in next tr, turn. [11 (13: 15) motifs and 2 tr]

**Row 2** Ss into next tr, ch5 (counts as tr, ch2),



The sleeve ties are made with chains and slip stitches, then woven into the mesh.

skip first ch-2 sp, tr in next tr, cont as for Mesh Patt to end, turn. **Fasten off.**

### Second Side

With RS facing, leave the central 20 (22: 24) motifs unworked and rejoin the yarn to the next tr.

**Row 1 (RS)** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in next tr, cont in Mesh Patt to end, turn. [11 (13: 15) motifs and 2 tr]

**Row 2** Mesh Patt to end, skipping final ch-3, turn.

### Shoulder and Neck Borders

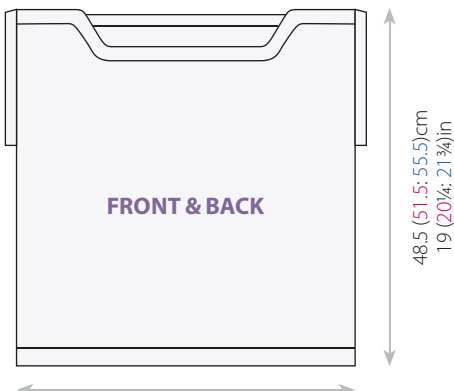
Working across the shoulder, neckline and other shoulder:

**Row 1** Ch2 (counts as htr), \*htr in next ch-2 sp, htr in next tr, 2htr in next ch-2 sp, htr in next tr; repeat from \* to last ch-sp, htr in next ch-sp, htr in last tr, turn.

**Row 2** Ch2 (counts as htr) htr in each st to end. **Fasten off.**

### FRONT

Work as for Back, marking the armhole rows at the same point, and continue working in Mesh Patt until work measures 42.5 (45.5: 49.5) cm (or 4 rows fewer than the Back to the Neck) ending with a WS row.



46 (52: 58.5)cm  
18 (20½: 23)in

SIZE		S	M	L
TO FIT BUST	cm	81	86-91	97-102
	in	32	34-36	38-40
ACTUAL BUST	cm	92	104	117
	in	36	41	46
LENGTH	cm	48.5	51.5	55.5
	in	19	20¼	21¾
YARN CARABOSSE	50g	4	4	5

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

## NECK

**First Side**

**Row 1 (RS)** Work in Mesh Patt for 15 (17: 19) motifs, tr in next tr, turn. [15 (17: 19) motifs and 2 tr]

**Row 2** Ch3 (counts as tr), skip next (tr, ch-2 sp), tr in next tr, cont in Mesh Patt to end, turn. [14 (16: 18) motifs and 2 tr]

**Row 3** Work in Mesh Patt until last (ch-2 and tr), tr in last tr, turn. [13 (15: 17) motifs and 2 tr]

**Rows 4-5** Repeat Rows 2 and 3. [11 (13: 15) motifs and 2 tr]

**Row 6** Ss into next tr, ch5 (counts as tr, ch2), cont as for Mesh Patt to end. **Fasten off.**

**Second side**

With RS facing, leave the central 12 (14: 16) motifs unworked and rejoin the yarn to the next tr.

**Row 1 (RS)** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in next tr, cont in Mesh Patt to end, turn. [15 (17: 19) motifs and 2 tr]

**Row 2** Work in Mesh Patt to last (ch-2 and tr), tr in last tr, turn. [14 (16: 18) motifs and 2 tr]

**Row 3** Ch3 (counts as tr), skip next (tr, ch-2 sp) tr in next tr, cont in Mesh Patt to end, turn. [13 (15: 17) motifs and 2 tr]

**Rows 4-5** Repeat Rows 2 and 3. [11 (13: 15) motifs and 2 tr]

**Row 6** Mesh Patt to end, skipping final ch-3, turn.

**Rows 7-8** Repeat Shoulder and Neck Borders (Rows 1 and 2) as for Back.

**TO MAKE UP**

Join shoulder seams.

Rejoin the yarn to the underarm at the marker and work 2 rows of 130 (138: 146) htr evenly between the markers. **Fasten off.**

Repeat for the other side. Sew side seams.

**TIES (MAKE 2)**

With Nono, ch190 (200: 210) sts, turn, ss into the second ch and every following ch.

**Fasten off.** Weave a tie along each armhole border starting and ending at shoulder using the image as a guide.



The front and back are both worked from the bottom up.



This fabulous Bergere pattern is from *Bergere de France Magazine 169 – Yarn Generation Collection* (RRP £6.95). To find your nearest stockists, head to [www.bergeredefrance.co.uk](http://www.bergeredefrance.co.uk)

# Pick 'n' mix (Part 5)

Your block blanket journey continues here with the next part of our crochet-along project by Lucy Croft.

**EXCLUSIVE  
SUBSCRIBER  
PATTERN**





## YOU WILL NEED

Quantities of yarn given are enough to complete the entire blanket. You will need both colourways and borders as listed below.

- Cascade 220 (100% Peruvian Highland wool, 100g/200m), see below for details
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook

For yarn stockists contact

LoveCrochet 0845 544 2196

[www.lovecrochet.com](http://www.lovecrochet.com)

### Colourway 1

- 1 skein of each:
  - Yarn A Bright Red (8414)
  - Yarn C Deep Lavender (8762)
  - Yarn F Azure (8892)
  - Yarn H California Poppy (7826)

### Colourway 2

- 1 skein of each:
  - Yarn E Lagoon (7812)
  - Yarn G Cerise (7802)
  - Yarn B Cyan Blue (8891)
  - Yarn D Granny Smith Green (8914)

### Border

- 2 skeins of Yarn K Grey (8501)

## MEASUREMENTS

Each square meas 20x20cm (8x8in)  
Finished blanket meas 144x94cm  
(56½x37in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

The Pick 'n' Mix crochet-along blanket is made up of 12 vibrant squares in total, each worked in two different colourways. You'll find a new square pattern in each issue of *Simply Crochet* until the main part of the blanket is complete, followed by all the joining and border details you'll need.

Don't forget to share your progress on Twitter and Instagram with #picknmixCAL. Subscribers will receive any crochet-along patterns they have missed via email.

### SQUARE

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop, ss to first dc to join. [6 dc]

**Fasten off.**

**Round 2** Join Yarn H with a ss to first st, (ch3, ss in next dc) 6 times. [6 ch-3 sps, 6 ss]

**Round 3** (Ch5, skip next ch-3 sp, ss in next ss) 6 times. [6 ch-5 sps, 6 ss]

**Fasten off.**

**Round 4** Join Yarn A with a ss to first ch-5 sp, (ch7, ss in next ch-5 sp) 6 times working last ss in first ss of Round. [6 ch-7 sps, 6 ss]

**Round 5** (Ch5, ss in next ch-7 sp, ch5, ss in next ss) 6 times. [12 ch-5 sps, 12 ss]

**Fasten off.**

**Round 6** Join Yarn C with a ss to first ch-5 sp, (ch5, ss in next ch-5 sp) 12 times, working last ss in first ss of Round.

**Fasten off.**

**Round 7** Join Yarn H to first ch-5 sp with a ss, (ch6, ss in next ch-5 sp) 12 times, working last ss in first ss of Round. [12 ch-6 sps, 12 ss]

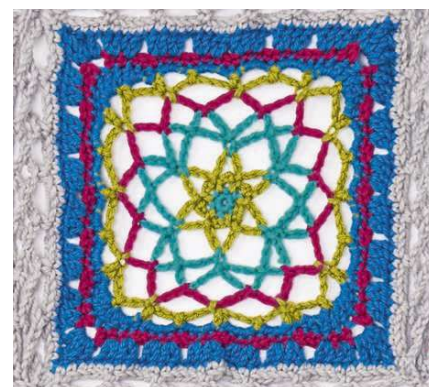
**Round 8** (Ch4, ss in next ch-6 sp, ch4, ss in next ss) 12 times. [24 ch-4 sps, 24 ss]

**Fasten off.**

**Round 9** Join Yarn F with a ss to any ch-4 sp, ch1 (does not count as st), 4dc in same ch-4 sp, \*4dc in each of next 3 ch-4 sps, (2htr, 2tr) in next ch-4 sp, (2tr, 2htr) in next ch-4 sp, 4dc in next ch-4 sp; rep from \* another 3 times omitting last 4 dc, ss to first dc. [64 dc, 16 tr, 16 htr]

**Fasten off.**

**Round 10** Join Yarn C to first dc, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in same dc, \*dc in each of next 15 dc, dc in each of next 2 htr, htr in each of next 2 tr, ch2 (to make a corner sp), htr in each of next 2 tr, dc in each of next 2 htr, dc in next dc; rep from \* another 3 times,



The second colour combination highlights different rounds, giving it a fresh look.

omitting last dc, ss to first dc. [80 dc, 16 htr, 4 ch-2 sps]

**Fasten off.**

**Round 11** Join Yarn F to any ch-2 corner sp, ch3 (counts as tr), (dtr, ch2, dtr, tr) in same ch-2 sp, \*ch1, skip next htr, 2tr in next htr, 2tr in next dc, (ch1, skip next 2 dc, 2tr in each of next 2 dc, ch1) twice, skip next 2 dc, 2tr in next dc, 2tr in next htr, skip next htr, (tr, dtr, ch2, dtr, tr) in next ch-2 sp; rep from \* another 3 times omitting last (tr, dtr, ch2, dtr, tr), ss to top of beg ch-3. [104 tr, 8 dtr, 20 ch-1 sps, 4 ch-2 sps]

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.



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DISTRIBUTOR OF FINE YARN



# *In full sail*

This magnificent matron is enjoying the feel of the wind in her hair. Designed by Anja Toonen.





## YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Catona (100% cotton, 50g/125m), 1 ball each of:
  - Yarn A** Purple (282)
  - Yarn B** Pale Pink (255)
  - Yarn C** Brown (383)
- A scrap of black DK cotton yarn
- A 2.5mm (US B/1) hook
- Toy stuffing
- Stitch markers

For yarn stockists contact  
Scheepjes [www.scheepjes.com](http://www.scheepjes.com)

## MEASUREMENTS

20cm (7¾in) tall

## ABBREVIATIONS

**Invdec Invisible Decrease** (insert hook in front loop of next st) twice, yrh and draw through all loops on hook

**Dc3tog** (insert hook in next st, yrh and draw a loop through) 3 times, yrh and draw through all loops on hook

For a full list, see page 92

**Stately and fabulously curvaceous, this windswept dame will be a lesson in shaping for you. She's worked using the amigurumi method and before long you'll be a dab hand at invisible decreases.**

## NOTES

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

## DRESS AND BODY

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

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

**Round 2** 2dc in first 4 sts, 3tr in next 2 sts. [14 sts]

**Round 3** (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 4 times, 2dc in next st, htr in next st, (htr, tr) in next st, 3tr in next st, (tr, htr) in next st, htr in next st. [23 sts]

**Round 4** (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times, htr in next 2 sts, 2tr in each of next 3 sts, htr in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st. [32 sts]

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

**Round 6** (Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times, dc in next 12 sts, 2dc in each of next 2 sts, dc in next 8 sts. [48 sts]

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

**Round 8** (Dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times, dc in next 17 sts, 2dc in each of next 2 sts, dc in next 9 sts. [62 sts]

**Round 9** Dc in next 4 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next 7 sts) 4 times, dc in next 12 sts, 2dc in next st, 2htr in each of next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 10 sts. [70 sts]

**Round 10** (Dc in next 8 sts, 2dc in next st) 4 times, dc in next 18 sts, htr in next st, 2tr in next st, tr in next st, 2tr in next st, htr in next st, dc in next 11 sts, mark front loop of last st with a marker. [76 sts]

**Round 11** Working into back loops only, (dc in next 4 sts, invdec) 7 times, dc in next 16 sts, invdec 3 times, dc in next 12 sts. [66 sts]

**Round 12** Dc in next 6 sts, (invdec, dc in next 8 sts) 4 times, dc in next 3 sts, (invdec, dc in next st) 3 times, dc in next 8 sts. [59 sts]

**Round 13** (Dc in next 9 sts, invdec) 3 times,



**The beauty of this unique doll design is in the implied movement and clever shaping.**

dc in next 13 sts, invdec twice, dc in next 9 sts. [54 sts]

**Round 14** Dc in next 17 sts, invdec, dc in next 25 sts, invdec, dc in next 8 sts. [52 sts]

**Round 15** Dc in next 40 sts, invdec, dc in next 2 sts, invdec, dc in next 6 sts. [50 sts]

**Round 16** Dc in next 38 sts, invdec, dc in next 5 sts, invdec, dc in next 3 sts. [48 sts]

**Round 17** Dc in next 36 sts, invdec, dc in next 8 sts, invdec. [46 sts]

**Round 18** Dc in next 17 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 22 sts, invdec, dc in next 4 sts. [46 sts]

**Round 19** Dc in next 12 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 11 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 12 sts, invdec, dc in next 5 sts, invdec. [46 sts]

**Round 20** Dc in next 19 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 22 sts, invdec, dc in next 2 sts. [46 sts]

**Round 21** Dc in next 10 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 19 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 15 sts. [48 sts]

**Round 22** Dc in next 2 sts, (dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times, dc in next 10 sts. [54 sts]

**Round 23** Dc in next 5 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts) 6 times, dc in next 7 sts. [60 sts]

**Round 24** Dc in next 5 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next 9 sts) 5 times, dc in next 6 sts. [66 sts]

**Round 25** (2dc in next st, dc in next 15 sts) 4 times, dc in next 2 sts. [70 sts]

**Round 26** (2dc in next st, dc in next 34 sts) twice. [72 sts]

**Rounds 27-30** Dc in each st around.

[72 sts]

**Round 31** (Dc in next 2 sts, invdec) twice, dc in next 57 sts, invdec, dc in next 2 sts, invdec, dc in next st. [68 sts]

**Round 32** Invdec, dc in next 11 sts, (invdec, dc in next 12 sts) 3 times, invdec, dc in next 11 sts. [63 sts]

**Round 33** Dc in next 5 sts, (invdec, dc in next 11 sts) 4 times, invdec, dc in next 4 sts. [58 sts]

**Round 34** (Invdec, dc in next 4 sts) 3 times, dc in next 22 sts, (invdec, dc in next 4 sts) 3 times. [52 sts]

**Round 35** (Dc in next 3 sts, invdec) 3 times, dc in next 22 sts, (dc in next 3 sts, invdec) 3 times. [46 sts]

**Round 36** (Invdec, dc in next 6 sts) 5 times, invdec, dc in next 4 sts. [40 sts]

**Round 37** Dc in next 3 sts, (invdec, dc in next 6 sts) 4 times, invdec, dc in next 3 sts. [35 sts]

**Round 38** (Invdec, dc in next 5 sts) 5 times. [30 sts]

**Round 39** Dc in next 3 sts, (invdec, dc in next 8 sts) twice, invdec, dc in next 5 sts. [27 sts]

**Round 40** Working in front loops only, 2dc in next st, dc in next 26 sts. [28 sts]

**Round 41** Dc in next 27 sts, ss to next st.

**Fasten off.**

**Round 42** Working in back loops only, join Yarn B in first st, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st around, ss to first st to join.

**Round 43** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st around, ss to first st to join.

**Round 44** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first 3 sts, (invdec) 3 times, dc in next 8 sts, (invdec) 3 times, dc in next 5 sts, ss to first st to join. [22 sts]

**Round 45** Ch1 (does not count as st), (invdec) 4 times, dc in next 3 sts, (invdec) 4 times, dc in next 3 sts, ss to first st to join. [14 sts]

Stuff Body firmly.

**Round 46** Ch1 (does not count as st), (invdec) 7 times, ss to first st to join. [7 sts]

**Fasten off.**

## DRESS TRAIN

**Round 1** With Body held upside down, join Yarn A in front loop only of last st of Round 10 (marked st), ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first 12 sts, 2dc in next st, 2htr in next st, 3tr in next st, 2htr in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next 59 sts. [82 sts]

**Round 2** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first 16 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in next 65 sts. [84 sts]

**Round 3** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first 16 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in next 67 sts. [86 sts]

**Round 4** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first 16 sts, 2dc in each of next 2 sts, dc in next 26 sts, (invdec, dc in next 3 sts) 7 times, dc in next 7 sts. [81 sts]

**Round 5** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first 17 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in next 23 sts, invdec, dc in next 30 sts, invdec, dc in next 6 sts. [81 sts] **Fasten off.**

## ARM (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn B make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into loop, ss to first dc to join. [6 sts]

**Round 2** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st around, ss to first dc to join.

**Round 3** Working in front loops only, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first st, 2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, do not join Round. [8 sts] Continue working using the amigurumi method.

**Round 4** Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts. [9 sts]

**Round 5** Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts. [10 sts]

**Round 6** Dc in each st around. [10 sts]

**Round 7** Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts. [11 sts]

**Round 8** Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts. [12 sts]

**Round 9** Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts. [13 sts]

**Round 10** Dc in each st around. [13 sts]

**Round 11** Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in each of next 2 sts, dc in next 4 sts, invdec. [14 sts]

**Round 12** Invdec, dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st. [16 sts]

**Round 13** 2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts, (invdec) twice, dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in next st. [16 sts]

**Round 14** Dc in next 15 sts, 2dc in next st. [17 sts]

**Round 15** Dc in each st around. [17 sts]

**Round 16** Dc in next 7 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 9 sts. [18 sts]

**Rounds 17-20** Dc in each st around. [18 sts]

**Round 21** (Invdec, dc in next 4 sts) 3 times. [15 sts]

Stuff Lower Arm firmly.

**Round 22** (Invdec, dc in next st) 5 times. [10 sts]

**Fasten off**, leaving a long tail.

Stuff Upper Arm lightly and using a tapestry needle, thread the long tail through all sts of Round 22 and tighten to draw sts tog.

## HAT AND HEAD

Using Yarn A make a magic loop.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into loop, ss to first dc to join. [6 sts]

**Round 2** Ch1 (does not count as st), 2dc in each st around, do not join Round. [12 sts] Continue working using the amigurumi method.

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

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

**Round 5** Dc in next 2 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts) 3 times, 2dc in next st, dc in next 3 sts. [28 sts]

**Round 6** (2dc in next st, dc in next 8 sts) 3 times, dc in next st. [31 sts]

**Round 7** (Dc in next 14 sts, 2dc in next st) twice, dc in next st. [33 sts]

**Round 8** Dc in each st around to last st, ss to last st. [33 sts] **Fasten off.**

**Round 9** In back loops only, join Yarn B in first st, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in next 11 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 16 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts. [35 sts]

**Round 10** Dc in next 13 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 14 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts. [37 sts]

**Round 11** Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 12 sts, (invdec) 6 times, dc in next 9 sts. [32 sts]

**Round 12** Dc in next 17 sts, working in front loops only, (2dc in next st) 6 times, working through both loops, dc in next 9 sts. [38 sts]

**Rounds 13-15** Dc in each st around.

**Round 16** Invdec, dc in next 2 sts, invdec, dc in next 2 sts, invdec, dc in next 13 sts, invdec, dc in next 13 sts. [34 sts]

**Round 17** Dc in next 7 sts, invdec, dc in next 4 sts, invdec, dc in next 11 sts, invdec, dc in next 4 sts, invdec. [30 sts]

**Round 18** Dc in next 2 sts, (invdec, dc in next 4 sts) 4 times, dc in next 2 sts. [25 sts]

**Round 19** (Invdec, dc in next 2 sts) 6 times, dc in next st. [19 sts]

**Round 20** (Dc in next st, invdec) 6 times, dc in next st. [13 sts] Stuff firmly.

**Round 21** (Invdec) 6 times, leave last st unworked. [6 sts]

**Fasten off**, leaving a long tail.

Using a tapestry needle, thread the long tail through all 6 sts of Round 21 and last st of Round 20 and tighten to draw sts tog.

## HAT BRIM

**Round 1** Join Yarn A in front loop only of first st of Round 8 of Hat, ch1 (does not count as st), working first st into st at base of ch-1, (dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 11

times, ss to first dc to join. [44 sts]

**Round 2** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first st, (2dc in next st, dc in next 6 sts) 6 times, dc in next st, ss to first st to join. [50 sts]

**Round 3** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first 4 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next 7 sts) 5 times, 2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts, ss to first st to join. [56 sts]

**Round 4** Ch1 (does not count as st), (2dc in next st, dc in next 8 sts) 6 times, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, ss to first st to join. [63 sts]

**Round 5** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first 5 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next 9 sts) 5 times, 2dc in next st, dc in next 7 sts, ss to first st to join. [69 sts]

**Round 6** Ch1 (does not count as st), (2dc in next st, dc in next 10 sts) 6 times, 2dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, ss to first st to join. [76 sts]

**Round 7** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first 6 sts, (2dc in next st, dc in next 11 sts) 5 times, 2dc in next st, dc in next 9 sts, ss to first st to join. [82 sts]

**Fasten off.**

### BUST

The Bust is worked in Rows.

Using Yarn A, ch13.

**Row 1** Ss to 2nd ch from hook, dc in next st, htr in next st, 3htr in next st, htr in each of next 4 sts, 3htr in next st, htr in next st, dc in next st, ss to next st, turn. [16 sts]

**Row 2** Ch1 (does not count as st), ss in first st, dc in next st, htr in next st, 2htr in each of next 2 sts, htr in next st, dc in each of next 4 sts, htr in next st, 2htr in each of next 2 sts, htr in next st, dc in next st, ss in next st, turn. [20 sts]

**Row 3** Ch1 (does not count as st), ss in first st, dc in next st, htr in each of next 6 sts, dc in each of next 4 sts, htr in each of next 6 sts, htr in next st, dc in next st, ss in next st, turn. [20 sts]

**Rows 4-5** Repeat Row 3.

**Row 6** Ch1 (does not count as st), ss in first st, dc in next 2 sts, (invdec) twice, dc in each of next 6 sts, (invdec) twice, dc in next 2 sts, ss in next st, turn. [16 sts]

**Fasten off.**

**Row 7** Join Yarn B in front loop only of first st, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in front loops only of each st across, turn. [16 sts]

**Row 8** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first 2 sts, invdec, dc3tog, dc in next 2 sts, dc3tog, invdec, dc in next 2 sts, turn. [16 sts]

**Row 9** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first 2 sts, invdec, dc in next 2 sts, invdec, dc in

next 2 sts, turn. [8 sts]

**Row 10** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in first st, invdec, dc in next 2 sts, invdec, dc in next st, turn. [6 sts]

**Row 11** Ch1 (does not count as st), invdec 3 times, turn. [3 sts]

**Row 12** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc3tog. **Fasten off.**

### TO MAKE UP

Sew Arms onto right and left of Body with Left Arm pointing up, using image as a guide. Sew Row 12 of the Bust to Round 46 of Body. Align the Bust so that the top of the bra (Yarn A) meets the top of the dress and sew the edges of the Bust to the Body. Sew Row 1 of Bust to Round 39 of Body, stuffing Bust before closing off.

Using Yarn A and long sts, embroider straps onto dress passing the yarn over shoulder and crossing to the opposite top edge of the dress at the back. Repeat on the other side of dress and weave in ends.

Sew Rounds 20 and 21 of Head to Body level with Rounds 46 and 45 of the Body. Add a little stuffing if necessary to ensure Head is secure and does not droop.

### HAIR

The hair consists of lengths of looped chain worked onto a foundation chain.

**Round 1** Ch74, ss in 4 first ch from hook, (These 40 ch form first loop, the rem 34 ch are the foundation chain for the other loops), (ch40, ss to next ch of foundation ch) 12 times, (ch6, ss to next ch of foundation ch) 10 times, (ch40, ss to next ch of foundation ch) 12 times.

**Fasten off.**

Sew the foundation chain round the Head under the Hat Brim, with shorter loops at the forehead. Gather the Hair at the nape of the neck and sew each loop to the Body, leaving the ends flowing.

### EYES

Using a scrap of black yarn and a tapestry needle, embroider Eyes over 2 sts of Round 14 on the Head using the image as a guide.

### NOSE

Using Yarn B, sew several short stitches on top of one another using the image as a guide.



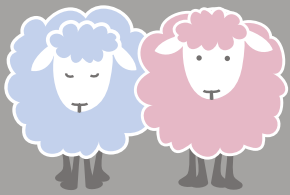
The matching hat has a floppy brim that's full of movement. Use this image as a guide.



No safety eyes to contend with – sew these peepers on using black DK from your stash.



Be generous with your toy stuffing to round out those curves and show off the shaping.



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# LOU'S JOURNAL

...from the PETisserie



"My latest series is a collection of sweet treats with animal features."

In the world of designer and *Simply Crochet* YouTuber Lou Barnes, cute crochet projects have secret lives of their own.

**W**hen I was a child, in the throes of a grump, I had a tendency to throw things on the floor in a huff – teddies, my hairbrush, a pillow – and on every single one of these occasions, I'd feel a pang of guilt. Not because I'd made a bit of a mess or because I'd lost my temper, but because I was absolutely convinced that my actions had somehow made these completely inanimate objects feel abused and unloved.

This bizarre way of looking at things stretched as far as the food that I ate, too. If something had an adorable face on it or was particularly cute or beautifully put together, I would really struggle to eat it without feeling terrible afterwards. If a plant in my care died or started to wilt, I pictured it weeping to itself, crying "Why? Why was I left with this neglectful human?" I had a strange habit of empathising with household items that weren't capable of thought, and my fascination with the secret lives of inanimate objects began.

## A COLOURFUL BACK STORY

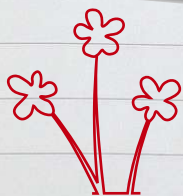
When I first started Yarnistry ([www.yarnistryuk.etsy.com](http://www.yarnistryuk.etsy.com)), I was making standing crocheted dolls in various costumes, usually disguised as an animal of some sort. As an experiment, I attempted to make un-killable, potted amigurumi cacti. When

the first one was almost finished, I felt that something was missing and in went the safety eyes. I fell instantly in love and ended up creating a series of cacti characters, each with different names, back stories and quirks to go along with their little faces. People began to really identify with and love them, not just for the way each one looked, but for the little lives they claimed to lead. The first, Pedro, was a beach enthusiast who had a crush on Anne Hathaway. I found that people were adopting the cacti that shared their hobbies, likes and dislikes, or those that reminded them of somebody that they knew.

With every project or series I've worked on since, I've wanted to continue the idea of everyday objects leading rich, fulfilling lives behind our backs. My latest series, The PETisserie, is a collection of sweet treats with animal features, designed to confuse people into trying to decide whether they want to pet them or eat them. I like to use a mixture of materials to create each character; felt, beads, glitter and tinted powders to add an extra something to their individuality. All of my yarn babies are one-offs, as I feel like this makes them far more personal for the person adopting them, and luckily there is a seemingly unending combination of treats and animals at my fingertips!

The PETisserie series started "life" as the PupCakes, little amigurumi cupcakes designed to look like various breeds of

"I was thrilled to recreate people's pets in cupcake form!"





**"All of my yarn babies are one-offs."**

pooch, and then developed into pastries, doughnuts and colourful macarons. I was thrilled to be asked to recreate people's beloved pets in cupcake form and still, to this day, find it funny that other people appreciate my weird and wonderful crocheted characters just as much as I do.

**PLANTING NEW IDEAS**

My greatest and most complicated creation of 2017, so far, has been my brand new baby boy... but, when his napping schedule allows it, I'd like to expand on this amigurumi collection by adding fruits, veggies and other tasty treats to the series to build up a whole world of delicious creatures for people to collect! Also, over the course of this year, I would

really love to create a crochet pattern set based on the sweet treats from The PETisserie. I'd be thrilled to see fellow treblemakers experimenting with these foodie designs and would love to see how they would be interpreted by other crafty, creative folks, so watch this space!

Find Lou's latest crochet creations at [www.facebook.com/yarntistry](http://www.facebook.com/yarntistry) and see her in action on our YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/user/SimplyCrochetMag](http://www.youtube.com/user/SimplyCrochetMag)



**OFF MY HOOK LATELY**

These cute PupCake critters have been keeping me busy in my little craft corner this month. This colourful workspace is where I stitch my Yarnistry creations and film all my Yarniversity videos for Simply Crochet! It's jam-packed with yarn, cacti and stuff that inspires me.



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# Cherry sundae

Crochet a shawl in hues that  
are as sweet as sugar. By  
Elisabeth Davis de Herraiz.





## YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Alpaca (100% alpaca, 167m/50g), 1 ball of each:  
**Yarn A** Light Pink (3140)  
**Yarn B** Medium Pink (3720)  
**Yarn C** Dark Pink (3770)  
**Yarn D** Medium Brown (0403)
  - DROPS Glitter (60% cupro, 40% metal, 700m/10g), 1 spool of Silver (02)
  - A 4.5mm (US 7) hook
  - A stitch marker
- For yarn stockists contact**  
**Wool Warehouse 01926 882818**  
[www.woolwarehouse.co.uk](http://www.woolwarehouse.co.uk)

## TENSION

15 sts and 9 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet using a 4.5mm hook

## MEASUREMENTS

Approx 160x70 cm (63x27½in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

- Small shell** 5tr in same sp  
**Large shell** Working in same sp: (Dtr, ch1) twice, dtr, picot, (dtr, ch1) twice, dtr  
**Picot** Ch3, ss to first ch  
 For a full list, see page 92

This delicate shawl, worked in a medley of cherry sundae colours, includes some truly delicious detail. The super-soft 100% alpaca yarn is just as scrummy to work with as it is to wear, and the addition of a shimmery silver yarn brings a suggestion of glamour. The alpaca and metallic yarns are held together and worked as one to achieve this glittery look. And let's talk about that stunning colour sequence – the designer Elisabeth Davis de Herraiz has layered the four shades from light to dark for an ombre effect. Admit it – you're very tempted.

## NOTES

Attach yarn with ss unless otherwise stated.  
 Ch3 at beginning of row counts as tr unless otherwise stated.  
 Ch4 at beginning of row counts as (tr, ch1) unless otherwise stated.

Hold the glitter yarn together with the main yarn throughout the shawl.  
 Use a stitch marker to mark the centre stitch and move up the marker on each row.

## SHAWL

With Yarn A make a magic loop.

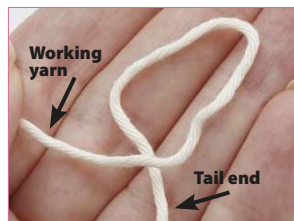
- Row 1 (RS)** Ch4, tr in the loop, (ch1, tr) 3 times in the loop, turn. [5 tr, 4 ch-1 sps]  
**Row 2** Ch4, tr in st at base of ch-4, ch1, tr in next tr, ch1, (tr, ch1, tr, ch1, tr) in next st, marking the second of these tr as the centre st, ch1, tr in next tr, ch1, (tr, ch1, tr) in the last tr, turn. [9 tr, 8 ch-1 sps]  
**Row 3** Ch4, tr in st at base of ch, ch1, (tr in next tr, ch1) 3 times, (tr, ch1, tr, ch1, tr) in the marked st, moving the marker up to the centre st on this and all the following rows,



Who'd have thought a mix of pinks and chocolate brown could be so appetising?

- (ch1, tr in next tr) 3 times, ch1, (tr, ch1, tr) in last tr, turn. [13 tr, 12 ch-1 sps]  
**Row 4** Ch3, tr in st at base of ch, tr in each ch-sp and tr across to the marked centre st, 3tr in the marked st, tr in each ch-sp and tr across to last st, 2tr in the last st, turn. [29 tr]  
**Row 5** Ch4, tr in st at base of ch, ch1, skip next st, (tr in next st, ch1, skip next st) across to the marked st, (tr, ch1, tr, ch1, tr) in the marked st, ch1, skip next st, (tr in next st, ch1, skip next st) across to last st, (tr, ch1, tr) in

## SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A MAGIC LOOP



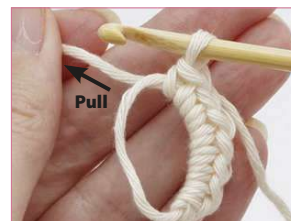
**1** To start a Magic Loop, don't make a slipknot. Instead, make a loop with the yarn, leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is under the working yarn.



**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.

last tr, turn. [19 tr, 18 ch-1 sps]

**Rows 6-7** Repeat Row 5.

**Row 8** Ch3, tr in st at base of ch, tr in each ch-sp and tr across to the centre, 3tr in the marked st, tr in each ch-sp and tr across to last st, 2tr in last st, turn. [57 tr]

Rows 5-8 set pattern.

**Rows 9-24** Repeat (Rows 5-8) 4 times.

**Fasten off** yarn at the end of Row 24.

**Rows 25-32** Join Yarn B in the first st, repeat Rows 5-8 twice.

**Rows 33-35** Repeat Rows 5-7.

**Fasten off** yarn at the end of Row 35.

**Rows 36-41** Join Yarn C in first st, repeat (Row 8) 6 more times.

**Row 42** Repeat Row 5.

**Fasten off** yarn at the end of row.

**Row 43** Join Yarn D in the first st, ch3, tr in st at base of ch, dc in ch-1 sp, \*small shell in next tr, skip next ch-1 sp, dc in next tr, skip next ch-1 sp; repeat from \* across to marked st, small shell in the marked st, dc in next tr, repeat from \* across to the last st, 2tr in the last tr, turn. [69 shells]

**Row 44** Ch3, tr in st at base of ch, tr in next tr, tr in dc, \*large shell in centre st of next small shell, tr in next dc; repeat from \* across to the centre shell omitting the last tr, dc in dc, dc in each of next 2 tr, large shell in next tr, dc in each of next 2 tr, dc in next dc, \*\*large shell in the centre st of next small shell, tr in next dc; repeat from \*\* across to the last dc, tr in next tr, 2tr in the last tr.

**Fasten off.**

Weave in all ends and block to measurements.

Take time to block your shawl so the shells and picots are well-defined.







# *Sleeve it out!*

Pep up a plain three-quarter sleeved jumper with Sara Huntington's colourful stripes.



## YOU WILL NEED

- Vinnis Colours Nikkim (100% cotton, 50g/119m), 1 ball of each:
  - Yarn A Orange (538)
  - Yarn B Navy (589)
  - Yarn C Raspberry (559)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- Tapestry needle

For yarn stockists contact  
**Black Sheep Wools 01925 764231**  
[www.blacksheepwools.com](http://www.blacksheepwools.com)

## TENSION

1 x four row pattern repeat  
 measures 3.5cm (1 3/8in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

**Standing tr** A normal tr st, worked as the first st instead of a ch-3, when you join a new piece of yarn. With the new yarn, yrh and insert hook into the specified st, complete as for a tr st

**3-tr cl** As 2-tr cl (see page 92), working () 3 times

For a full list, see page 92

Got a boring top crying out for a spot of DIY couture? Look no further than these sassy striped sleeves. All you'll need is three shades of cotton DK. Oh, and you'll have to give chain embroidery stitch a go, but we've popped a handy guide for it below.

## NOTE

The pattern can be adjusted to work with any sleeve and made to any length.

## SLEEVES

With a darning needle and Yarn A, work an even, sewn chain st around the edge of the sleeve. The number of chains worked should be a multiple of 2.

**Round 1** Join Yarn A in st closest to underarm seam, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each sewn ch st around, ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 2** Skip first st, standing tr in next st, tr in skipped st, \*skip next st, tr in next st, tr in skipped st; repeat from \* around, ss to first tr to join, changing to Yarn B in last step of st.

**Round 3** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in same tr, \*ch1, skip next tr, dc in next tr; repeat from \* around to last st, ch1, skip last st, ss in first dc to join, ss in first ch-1 sp, changing to Yarn C in last step of st.

**Round 4** (Ch2, 2-tr cl) in first ch-1 sp, \*ch1, skip next dc, 3-tr cl in next ch-1 sp; repeat from \* to last st, ch1, ss into top of 2-tr cl to join, ss in first ch-1 sp, changing to Yarn B on last yrh of st.

**Round 5** Ch1, \*dc in ch-1 sp, ch1, skip 3-tr cl; repeat from \* around, ss in first dc to join.

**Fasten off.**



Yarn B almost matches the original jumper, bringing the whole project together.

**Round 6** Using Yarn A, repeat Round 2.

**Round 7** Ch1, dc2tog over first and third tr of previous round (leaving one tr unworked in between), \*ch1, skip 1tr, dc in next tr; repeat from \* around to last st, ch1, ss into top of dc2tog to join, ss in next ch-1 sp changing to Yarn C in the last step of the st. [2 sts decreased]

**Round 8** Repeat Round 4.

**Round 9** Ch1, dc2tog over next 2 ch-sps (3-tr c; left unworked in between), ch1, \*dc in next ch-1 sp, ch1; repeat from \* around, ss in dc2tog to join.

**Fasten off.** [2 sts decreased]

Rounds 6-9 form pattern.

Repeat Rounds 6-9 once more. Repeat Rounds 2-5 (no further decreases) until the sleeve is the required length, do not fasten off.

Repeat Round 2.

**Last round** With Yarn B, ch1, dc in each dc and ch-1 sp around, ss to first dc to join.

**Fasten off** and weave in all ends.

## SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK CHAIN STITCH



**1** Bring needle to the front of the fabric, after securing the thread at the back. Insert needle back into same hole (or very close to it) and pull gently to leave a small loop.



**2** Bring needle to the front a little way to the right, making sure the needle passes through the loop. Insert the needle back into the same hole (or very close to it). Pull gently to leave a small loop.



**3** Repeat Step 2 to make more loops.



**4** After the final loop, make a small stitch over the last loop to secure it.

# Sugar skull

Embrace Day of the Dead style the whole year through with this tote by Emma Friedlander-Collins.





## YOU WILL NEED

- Cascade 220 (100% Peruvian Highland wool, 110g/200m), 1 skein of each:
  - Yarn A** Cotton Candy (9478)
  - Yarn B** Butter (8687)
  - Yarn C** Chartreuse (7814)
  - Yarn D** Aqua (8951)
  - Yarn E** Bright Nectarine (9615)
  - Yarn F** White (8505)
  - Yarn G** Black (8555)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- Tapestry needle
- Lining fabric, 19x51cm (7½x20in) (optional)
- 1m (1yd) length of 1cm (¾in) diameter gold cord
- Small quantity of gold embroidery thread

For yarn stockists contact  
**LoveCrochet 0845 544 2196**  
[www.lovecrochet.com](http://www.lovecrochet.com)

## TENSION

18 sts and 17 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over double crochet using a 5mm hook. Matching exact tension is not critical.

## MEASUREMENTS

18x25cm (7x9¾in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

Designer Emma says: "I love bright colours and bold designs, and was influenced by the Mexican Day of the Dead festival for this pattern. This super-kitsch, super-cool bag is brought alive with appliqué roses and a gold rope handle finished off with a fabulous matching lining." Forget sweet treats – indulge in a crocheted sugar rush.

## NOTES

Always change colour in the last yrh of the previous stitch.

## TOTE BAG

Back and Front are worked in one piece starting with the Back.

Using Yarn A and 5mm hook, ch33.

**Row 1 (RS)** Dc in second ch from hook (skipped ch does not count as st), dc in each ch to end, turn. [32 sts]

**Row 2** Change to Yarn D, ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.

**Row 3** Change to Yarn C and work as Row 2.

**Row 4** Change to Yarn B and work as Row 2.

**Row 5** Change to Yarn E and work as Row 2.

**Row 6** Change to Yarn A and work as Row 2.

**Rows 7-41** Rep Rows 2-6.

Continuing to work in double crochet as set, use the following shades:

**Rows 42-43** Continue with Yarn A.

**Row 44** Yarn B.

**Row 45** Yarn C.

**Rows 46-50** Yarn D.

Commence Tapestry Crochet pattern and work in dc changing colour as indicated and working stitches over the unused yarn as you go. The number indicates the amount of stitches and the letter denotes the yarn colour. For example; 5A, 4B, 5A means work 5dc in Yarn A, 4dc in Yarn B, 5dc in Yarn A. See Chart on p51 for reference. On the Chart, each square counts as 1 stitch.

**Row 1** 10D, 12B, 10D.

**Row 2** 9D, 2B, 10E, 2B, 9D.

**Row 3** 8D, 2B, 12E, 2B, 8D.

**Row 4** 7D, 2B, 3E, 8F, 3E, 2B, 7D.

**Row 5** 6D, 2B, 3E, 10F, 3E, 2B, 6D.

**Row 6** 5D, 2B, 4E, 10F, 4E, 2B, 5D.

**Row 7** 4D, 2B, 5E, 10F, 5E, 2B, 4D.

**Row 8** 3D, 2B, 6E, 10F, 6E, 2B, 3D.

**Row 9** 3D, 2B, 6E, 10F, 6E, 2B, 3D.

**Row 10** 3D, 2B, 3E, 16F, 3E, 2B, 3D.

**Row 11** 3D, 2B, 3E, 16F, 3E, 2B, 3D.

**Row 12** 3D, 2B, 2E, 18F, 2E, 2B, 3D.

**Row 13** 3D, 2B, 2E, 3F, 5G, 2F, 5G, 3F, 2E, 2B, 3D.



The back of the bag is made up of simple, single-row stripes worked in double crochet.

**Row 14** 3D, 2B, 2E, 3F, 5G, 2F, 5G, 3F, 2E, 2B, 3D.

**Row 15** 3D, 2B, 2E, 4F, 3G, 4F, 3G, 4F, 2E, 2B, 3D.

**Row 16** 3D, 2B, 2E, 18F, 2E, 2B, 3D.

**Row 17** 3D, 2B, 3E, 16F, 3E, 2B, 3D.

**Row 18** 3D, 2B, 3E, 16F, 3E, 2B, 3D.

**Row 19** 4D, 2B, 3E, 14F, 3E, 2B, 4D.

**Row 20** 5D, 2B, 3E, 12F, 3E, 2B, 5D.

**Row 21** 6D, 2B, 3E, 10F, 3E, 2B, 6D.

**Row 22** 7D, 2B, 3E, 8F, 3E, 2B, 7D.

**Row 23** 8D, 2B, 12E, 2B, 8D.

**Row 24** 9D, 2B, 10E, 2B, 9D.

**Row 25** 10D, 12B, 10D.

Now continue working in double crochet rows as follows:

**Next 5 rows** Yarn D.

**Next row** Yarn C.

**Next row** Yarn B.

**Next row** Yarn A.

**Fasten off.**

## ROSES (MAKE 5)

Using Yarn A and a 4mm hook, ch37.

Skip 2 ch, \*5dc in next ch, skip next ch; rep from \* to end.

**Fasten off**, leaving a long tail.

Thread the long tail through a tapestry needle, curl the strip into a rose shape and secure with a few stitches.

## LEAVES (MAKE 5)

Using Yarn C and a 4mm hook, ch4, ss in first ch, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, 3htr in last ch. Working up the other side of the ch, htr

in next ch, dc in next ch, ss in last ch.

**Fasten off**, leaving a long tail.

### TO FINISH

Weave in ends on the tote panel and block to measurements.

Using a length of Yarn G, thread the tapestry needle and backstitch around the edge of the skull and eye sockets. Using backstitch and chain stitch, add nostrils, teeth, a few flowers, vines, and stars to the skull, using the image as a guide.

Using the gold embroidery thread, backstitch around the outer edge of the yarn B circle framing the skull.

Sew the roses and leaves in place around the skull.

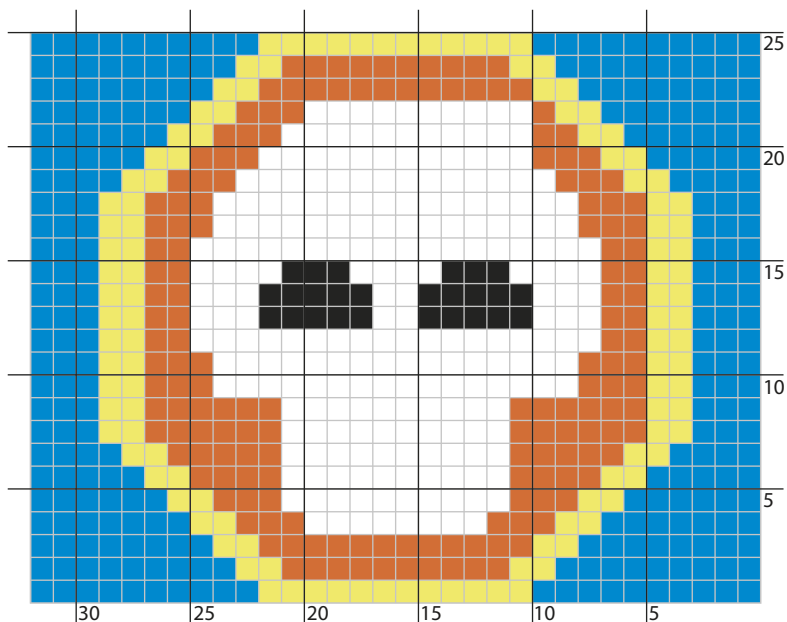
Attach the strap as follows: With a small amount of Yarn A, bind the ends of the gold cord to prevent it from fraying. Hold one bound end at the bottom of one side of the bag, stitch it into the seam space, using a needle and the gold embroidery thread.

Repeat from the bottom of the other side of the bag, leaving a long loop of the gold cord to form the strap. Sew the sides of the lining fabric together and square off the bottom corners. Hem the top edge and hand sew the lining into the bag.



This fun and fabulous tote bag pattern is taken from *35 Crocheted Bags* by Emma Friedlander-Collins. This pattern book is published by Cico Books (RRP £12.99). To find stockists and further details, head to [www.rylandpeters.com](http://www.rylandpeters.com)

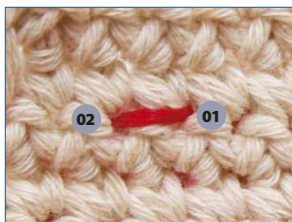
### Tapestry Crochet Chart



#### KEY

- Yarn B Butter
- Yarn D Aqua
- Yarn E Bright Nectarine
- Yarn F White
- Yarn G Black

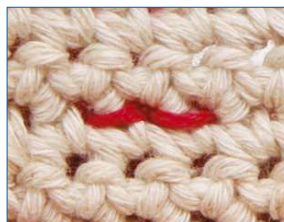
## SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A BACKSTITCH



**1** Secure yarn at back of fabric and bring needle to the front of the fabric **01**. Push the needle into the fabric one hole to the left **02**.



**2** Bring the needle up from the back to the front of the fabric two holes to the right **03**. Then insert the needle back into the fabric one hole to the left of here **04**.



**3** This will join up your stitches and start forming a line.



**4** Repeat from step 2, moving horizontally, vertically or diagonally, to create a line as long as you need it to be.



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# PASSION FOR SQUARES

Jenny King has changed how we view the simple granny square.

Growing up in Australia, learning to crochet was an unlikely pastime for Jenny King. The outdoorsy culture meant there were few opportunities to pick up yarn crafts – it wasn't taught in school and, as far as Jenny knows, other children she encountered had no interest in the art of hooks and yarn. Fortunately for us, however, Jenny "was walking to the beat of my own drum, I think. An aunt showed me one stitch and a cousin taught me another, and then the rest I learnt from books or by asking people. I learnt how to increase and decrease from a lady in the caravan park when we were on holiday when I was 12!"

Happily, as Jenny's thirst for crochet patterns grew, she discovered magazines crammed with "beautiful crochet patterns

every week – bikinis, wedding gowns, jumpers and halter tops."

At around this time, Jenny fell in love with the granny square and all its possibilities. "Instead of turning it into a blanket, I made a poncho, added a funnel neck and wore it everywhere. I was 11 years old!"

## SELF-CONFIDENT CROCHET

The same self-assurance that equipped her to ask that holidaymaker for crochet tips meant that Jenny soon found an outlet for her increasingly accomplished creations. "I had constant inspiration," she observes. "By the age of 12 I was making bikinis and by 15 I was making them to sell at boutiques. They were very fashionable at that time and I was experimenting with patterns I had and

was varying them. We all wore them in the surf, but there wasn't much yarn in them!"

That first sale came about thanks to Jenny's mother. "My mum helped me approach the guy who owned the boutique," Jenny says. "She used to take me to the trendy places to check out new designs in other boutiques." It was a first step onto a design-make-sell ethos that was to fund Jenny's later education. Extraordinarily, she tells us, "This was the era when you could walk into the surf shop, pick the yarn and style you wanted, and then a team of machine knitters would make a bikini to your exact specifications."

Jenny was keen to tap into the market herself. "When we moved to a new town, I bought an old knitting machine and made



knitted bikinis for the surf shop there to earn some pocket money for myself."

Despite this, it was crochet that had really caught Jenny's imagination. "You could get crochet patterns in magazines up until about 1977, but then they stopped," she recalls.

There was only one solution, in Jenny's opinion. "I had to make up my own designs! The only pattern magazine available was *Vogue Knitting*, so I would crochet to match the schematics in there and replicate the knitted designs."

Jenny then started writing patterns to create crocheted versions of the tartans for Aussie football teams, "so the men of the family could get a crochet gift they'd adore!"

#### A CUNNING PLAN

Through teaching workshops and owning her own yarn shop, Jenny was beginning to notice a granny square trend. "I realised that many people only made granny square blankets because they were easy and they didn't have to know how to read a crochet pattern," she says. "They just went round and round while they watched TV. The thought of making a wearable garment was too scary."

At this point, Jenny began to devise a cunning plan. "I'd created many top-down garments – they were great because you could try them on at any time to check the fit, and there were no seams. But these patterns often became wordy, and I'd prefer to just show someone how to do something."

Jenny hit on the idea of merging top-down garments with granny squares, and discovered they were a dream combination. "It worked! No patterns, perfect fit no matter how small or how large you were, and absolutely NO sewing up at the end!"

This was in spring 2013, and before long, Jenny launched her own videos explaining the technique. "Crochet is traditionally a

shown craft," she points out. "We show each other how to do a stitch. I was going to write a book but that still relied on people reading a pattern, so it had to be video, where I effectively came into people's homes to show them how to do it."

This was only the beginning for the burgeoning global enterprise. "I've been travelling to teach in the USA for many years, so that was naturally the first stop," Jenny says. "Crochet uses up a third more yarn than knitting, so if yarn stores embrace Get Squared® they can sell more yarn."

#### INNOVATIVE THINKING

Teaching remains Jenny's first love. The biggest challenge of teaching is getting her students to think "outside the square and trust that the technique will really work. At first it seems too good to be true. You can use any yarn and still get the perfect fit with only two measurements – how can that possibly work? Yet it does. Garments can be created in less than a week without a pattern."

Among her own crochet projects, "wearable things" will always top the list,

from dresses to scarves to necklaces and earrings. But any kind of crochet project offers a chance to unwind. "I enjoy the rhythm, the relaxation and the peace while creating something of beauty," she says, commenting that she has a special crochet corner in her home. "There am surrounded by yarn, crochet samples and books, and I

mean surrounded!"

Jenny's upcoming ventures to look forward to include seeing her first certified group of Get Squared® Crochet

"YOU CAN USE ANY YARN AND STILL GET THE PERFECT FIT WITH ONLY TWO MEASUREMENTS."

teachers let loose on the public. "I've just finished training them in the USA," Jenny says. "I'm about to film Get Squared® The Next Generation with exciting new designs, and complete the formatting for my new range called Baby Squared."

Naturally, running a business presents its own challenges, but Jenny doesn't let these faze her in the slightest. "It's just like crochet – you undo and rework and undo and rework." The crucial qualities, Jenny has learnt, are "persistence, persistence and persistence. You haven't quit until you stop!" It's that attitude that gets creative stuff done.

**Written by Judy Darley.**



#### A few of her favourite things

##### When Jenny puts down her hook...

"What do I like to do when I'm not crocheting? Is there another pastime? I do like to read, but only on holidays. We live very near the beach so I go body surfing, swimming and walking quite a lot. I sew, but that's usually for making the under dresses and so on to be worn beneath my crochet garments. So it all comes back to crochet in the end!"

Visit Jenny's website at [www.jennykingdesigns.com](http://www.jennykingdesigns.com), where you can find video tutorials, books and patterns.



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Cute Advent calendar

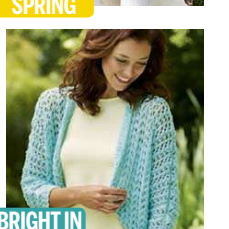
SUNNY CUSHION

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# In living colour

Simple squares and beautiful shades – this project is a match made in crochet heaven. By Esme Crick.





## YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Special DK (100% acrylic, 100g/295m), 4 balls of: Parchment (1218) 2 balls of: Graphite (1063) 1 ball of each: Boysenberry (1828) Duck Egg (1820) Burgundy (1035) Pale Rose (1080) Khaki (1027) Lime (1712) Sage (1725) Grey (1099) Cloud Blue (1019) Turquoise (1068) Teal (1062)

■ A 5mm (US H/8) hook  
**For yarn stockists contact Stylecraft 01535 609798**  
[www.stylecraft-uk.co.uk](http://www.stylecraft-uk.co.uk)

## TENSION

Each square meas approx 25x25cm (10x10in)

## MEASUREMENTS

Finished throw meas approx 100x155cm (39x61in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

**Bobble st** Ch3, (yrh, insert hook in 2nd ch from hook, draw up loop) twice, yrh, draw hook through all 5 loops on hook, ch1 to close

For a full list, see page 92

For this beautiful throw, designer Esme Crick was inspired by the work of artist and colour theorist Josef Albers, a German designer and artist who is renowned for his series of paintings entitled *Homage to the Square*. Create your own cosy version of his work in gorgeously soft yarn, making a masterpiece that's sure to be treasured.

## NOTES

Make 24 squares in total, 2 in each colour-way. Each square is made up of 5 shades, Yarns A-E. Yarn D is always Parchment and Yarn E is always Graphite. See Chart 1 for combinations of the other shades. See Chart 2 on p93 for layout of completed squares.

## BASIC SQUARE PATTERN

With Yarn A, ch4, ss to first ch to join in a ring.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 2tr into ring, (ch3, 3tr into ring) 3 times, ch3, ss in top of beg ch-3 to join, turn.

**Round 2 (WS)** Ch3, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) into ch-3 sp, \*tr in each of next 3 sts, (2tr, ch3, 2tr) in ch-3 sp; repeat from \* twice more, tr in each of last 2 sts, ss in top of beg ch-3 to join, turn. [28tr and 4 ch-3 sps]

**Rounds 3-4 (RS)** Ch3, tr in each st around and (2tr, ch3, 2tr) in each ch-3 sp, ss in top of beg ch-3 to join, turn.

**Fasten off** after Round 4.

Cont working in rounds as Round 3, turning after each round. Work 1 round in Yarn B, 1 in Yarn C and 3 rounds in Yarn D.

**Round 10** Join Yarn E in last st before any ch-3 sp, ch1 (does not count as st), \*(2dc,



This simple, beginner-friendly square is brought to life with rounds of vivid colour.

ch2, 2dc) in each ch-3 sp, dc in each other st around, ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off.**

## TO MAKE UP

Lay squares out using Chart 2 for layout. Using Yarn E, join rows of squares together using a ss seam worked into the back loops only until all squares are joined. Turn work and use a ss seam in back loops only to join remaining edges together.

## EDGING

**Round 1** Join Yarn E into any dc along edge, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st around, working (dc, ch1, dc) into each ch-2 corner sp, ss to first dc to join.

**Round 2** \*Ch2, skip next 2 sts, (ss, Bobble St, ss) in next st; repeat from \* around edge.

**Fasten off** and weave in all ends.

## CHART 1

	Yarn A	Yarn B	Yarn C
Squares 1 & 2	Pale Rose	Boysenberry	Khaki
Squares 3 & 4	Burgundy	Duck Egg	Boysenberry
Squares 5 & 6	Khaki	Boysenberry	Pale Rose
Squares 7 & 8	Boysenberry	Duck Egg	Burgundy
Squares 9 & 10	Duck Egg	Lime	Grey
Squares 11 & 12	Sage	Graphite	Lime
Squares 13 & 14	Grey	Lime	Duck Egg
Squares 15 & 16	Lime	Graphite	Sage
Squares 17 & 18	Teal	Turquoise	Graphite
Squares 19 & 20	Cloud Blue	Khaki	Turquoise
Squares 21 & 22	Graphite	Turquoise	Teal
Squares 23 & 24	Turquoise	Khaki	Cloud Blue

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

WIN

# Bleu me away!

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



## Emma Potter

**Potter and Bloom stitcher**  
Emma Potter is one busy bee. When she's not dreaming up exciting and oh-so vibrant crochet designs, she's teaching people how to hook,

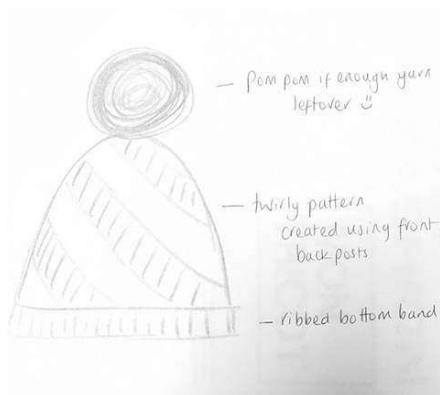
celebrating fellow crafters via the @crochetgirlgang Instagram account or filming and uploading her yarny podcast videos. For our first ever Hook to Hook challenge, Emma has designed a cosy hat using just one skein of Debbie Bliss Falkland Aran yarn. You can find Emma online at [www.potterandbloom.com](http://www.potterandbloom.com)

## Kath Webber

**Vintage-loving crochet designer** Kath has a passion for yarn and polka dots. She's also a lady of many talents. As well as being a regular *Simply Crochet* contributor, she's a features

writer and editor, blogger, crochet tutor and sewist. Oh, and she knits as well. Phew! For our first ever Hook to Hook challenge, Kath has designed a pair of fingerless mitts using just one skein of Debbie Bliss Falkland Aran yarn. Head to [www.kathwebbercrochet.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.kathwebbercrochet.blogspot.co.uk) to find out more about Kath and her makes.





Top left: Emma's initial sketch for her Hook to Hook accessory design. Bottom left: The Stella hat in progress, photograph by Emma Potter. Right: The finished hat – isn't it a beauty? It has a ribbed band with a bit of stretchiness and a textured swirly detail throughout.

## STELLA HAT

A swirly slouch hat by Emma Potter.

- Debbie Bliss Falkland Aran (100% wool, 100g/180m), 1 skein of Teal (10)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook

### TENSION

Not critical for this project

### MEASUREMENTS

One size, to fit an average woman's head measuring from 50cm (19½in) circumference up to 58cm (23in) circumference

### SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

#### Back Post treble 2 together (BPtr2tog)

(Yrh, starting from the back, insert hook from back to front to back around the post of next st in row below, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice, yrh and draw through all loops on hook

### NOTES

The rib is worked in rows to create a long strip then sts are worked along row ends and joined, to create a tube to work in rounds. Each round is joined to top of beg ch3. The beg ch3 does not count as a st on any round. This hat looks good inside out too and be worn either way.

### HAT

#### RIBBED BAND

Ch10.

**Row 1 (RS)** Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each st to end, turn. [9 sts]

**Row 2** Ch1 (not counted as a st here and throughout), dc bl in each st to end, turn. Rep Row 2 until there are a total of 90 rows.

#### MAIN HAT

Rotate to work along top edge of ribbing:

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch3 (not counted as st here and throughout), tr in each row end of ribbing, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

[90 sts]

**Round 2** Ch3, \*FPtr in each of next 6 sts, BPtr in each of next 3 sts; rep from \* 8 more times, ss to top of beg ch-3.

**Round 3** Ch3, BPtr in next st, \*FPtr in each of next 6 sts, BPtr in each of next 3 sts; rep from \* 8 more times, FPtr in each of next 6 sts, BPtr in each of next 2 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3.

**Round 4** Ch3, BPtr in each of next 2 sts, \*FPtr in each of next 6 sts, BPtr in each of next 3 sts; rep from \* 8 more times, FPtr in each of next 6 sts, BPtr in next st, ss to top of beg ch-3.

**Round 5** Ch3, BPtr in each of next 3 sts, \*FPtr in each of next 6 sts, BPtr in each of next 3 sts; rep from \* 8 more times, FPtr in each of next 6 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3.

**Round 6** Ch3, FPtr in next st, BPtr in each of next 3 sts, \*FPtr in each of next 6 sts, BPtr in each of next 3 sts; rep from \* 8 more times, FPtr in each of next 5 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3.



**PSST**  
Pin and block the picots for more defined points

**Top left:** From this angle, you can see the swirly detail on the crown of the hat in its full glory. **Bottom left:** The twirly texture on the hat is created with front and back post treble stitches. **Right:** Kath Webber's pretty mitts feature puff stitches, picots and ribbing.

**Round 7** Ch3, FPtr in each of next 2 sts, BPtr in each of next 3 sts, \*FPtr in each of next 6 sts, BPtr in each of next 3 sts; rep from \* 8 more times, FPtr in each of next 4 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3.

**Round 8** Ch3, FPtr in each of next 3 sts, BPtr in each of next 3 sts, \*FPtr in each of next 6 sts, BPtr in each of next 3 sts; rep from \* 8 more times, FPtr in each of next 3 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3.

**Round 9** Ch3, FPtr in each of next 4 sts, BPtr in each of next 3 sts, \*FPtr in each of next 6 sts, BPtr in each of next 3 sts; rep from \* 8 more times, FPtr in each of next 2 sts, ss to top of beg ch-3.

**Round 10** Ch3, FPtr in each of next 5 sts, BPtr in each of next 3 sts, \*FPtr in each of next 6 sts, BPtr in each of next 3 sts; rep from \* 8 more times, FPtr in next st, ss to top of beg ch-3.

Rounds 2-10 set the staggered patt. Now, begin decrease rounds, continuing in staggered patt as set in Rounds 2-10.

## DECREASE ROUNDS

**Round 1** Ch3, cont in staggered patt, skipping last FPtr on each FPtr section, ss to top of beg ch-3. [80 sts with 5 FPtr in each patt rep]

**Rounds 2-5** As Round 1. [40 sts after Round 5, with 1 FPtr in each patt rep]

**Round 6** Ch3, cont in staggered patt, skipping middle BPtr on each BPtr section, ss to top of beg ch-3. [30 sts with 2 BPtr in each patt rep]

**Round 7** Ch3, cont in staggered patt, working 1FPtr and 2BPtr in each pattern rep, ss to top of beg ch-3.

**Round 8** Ch3, cont in staggered patt working BPtr2tog on each BPtr section, ss to top of beg ch-3.

**Fasten off.**

## TO FINISH

Sew hole closed neatly and sew ribbed band together.

Wear RS out or WS out.

## PUFF STITCH MITTS

**Cosy fingerless mitts by Kath Webber.**

- Debbie Bliss Falkland Aran (100% wool, 100g/180m), 1 ball of Teal (10)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook

## TENSION

Not critical for this project

## MEASUREMENTS

Medium (**Large**) 20cm/8in (**21.5cm/8½in**) around the palm

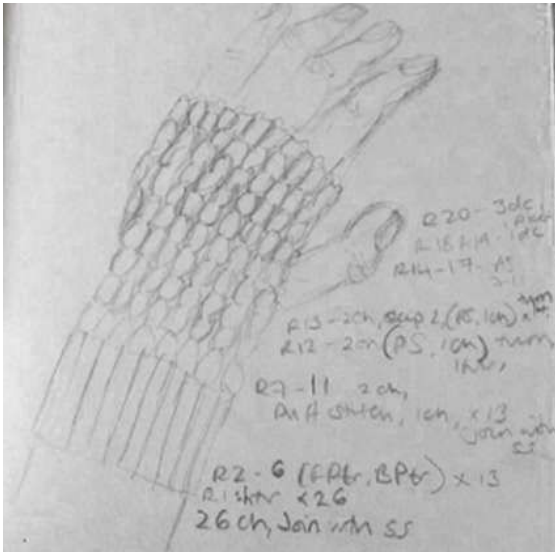
## SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

**Puff Stitch (PS)** (Yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up loop) 3 times, yrh and draw through all loops on hook

**Make Picot (MP)** Ch3, ss in first of those ch

## MITTS (MAKE 2)

Ch26 (**28**), ss to the first ch to join into a



Top left: Kath Webber's initial sketch for her Hook to Hook design. Bottom left: A sample mitt, photograph by Kath Webber; Textured stitches help show off the beautiful yarn. Right: The puff stitches on Kath Webber's mitts provide texture and make them feel extra warm and cosy.

ring.

**Round 1** Ch2 (does not count as st), htr in st at base of ch, htr in each ch around, ss to top of first htr to join. [26 (28) sts]

**Round 2** Ch3 (does not count as st here and throughout), (FPtr in next st, BPtr in next st) 13 (14) times, ss to top of first FPtr.

**Rounds 3-6** As Round 2.

**Round 7** Ch1 (not counted as st here and throughout), PS in st at base of ch-1, ch1, skip next st, (PS in next st, ch1, skip next st) 12 (13) times, ss to top of first PS, turn. [13 (14) PS, 13 (14) ch-1 sps]

**Rounds 8-11** Ss in next ch-1 sp, ch1, PS in same ch-1 sp, ch1, skip next PS, (PS in next ch-1 sp, ch1, skip next PS) around, ss to top of first PS, turn.

**Round 12** Ss in next ch-1 sp, ch1, PS in same ch-1 sp, ch1, skip next PS, (PS in next ch-1 sp, ch1, skip next PS) 11 (12) times leaving remaining sts unworked, ch3 (to create thumb hole), ss to top of first PS, turn. [12 (13) PS, 11 (12) ch-1 sps, 1 ch-3 sp]

**Round 13** Ss in next ch-3 sp, ch1, (PS, ch1, PS) in same ch-3 sp, ch1, skip next PS, (PS in next ch-1 sp, ch1, skip next PS) to end, ss to top of first PS, turn.

[13 (14) PS, 13 (14) ch-1 sps]

**Rounds 14-17** As Rounds 8-11.

Turn the entire piece inside out so the WS is facing.

**Round 18** Ch1 (not counted as st), dc in each PS and in each ch-1 sp around, ss to


first dc. [26 (28) sts]

**Round 19** Ch1 (not counted as st), dc into each st around, ss to first dc.

**Round 20** (MP, dc in each of next 3 sts) around, dc in each of last 2 (1) sts.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

**For stockist details contact Designer Yarns [www.designeryarns.uk.com](http://www.designeryarns.uk.com) or call 01535 664222.**




**FALKLAND ARAN BY DEBBIE BLISS**

If butter-soft, cosy plied wool is your bag (let's face it, we're all under the spell), then Falkland Aran from Debbie Bliss needs to be the next addition to your stash. It's an 100% wool yarn that feels utterly luxurious and is a pure pleasure to stitch with.

What's more, it has impressive green credentials, too. The fibre used is extra fine organic merino wool from Falkland sheep. The yarn is then spun in Yorkshire. Choose from 16 solid shades.

Each of the designs in this month's designer challenge use only one skein of this yarn.

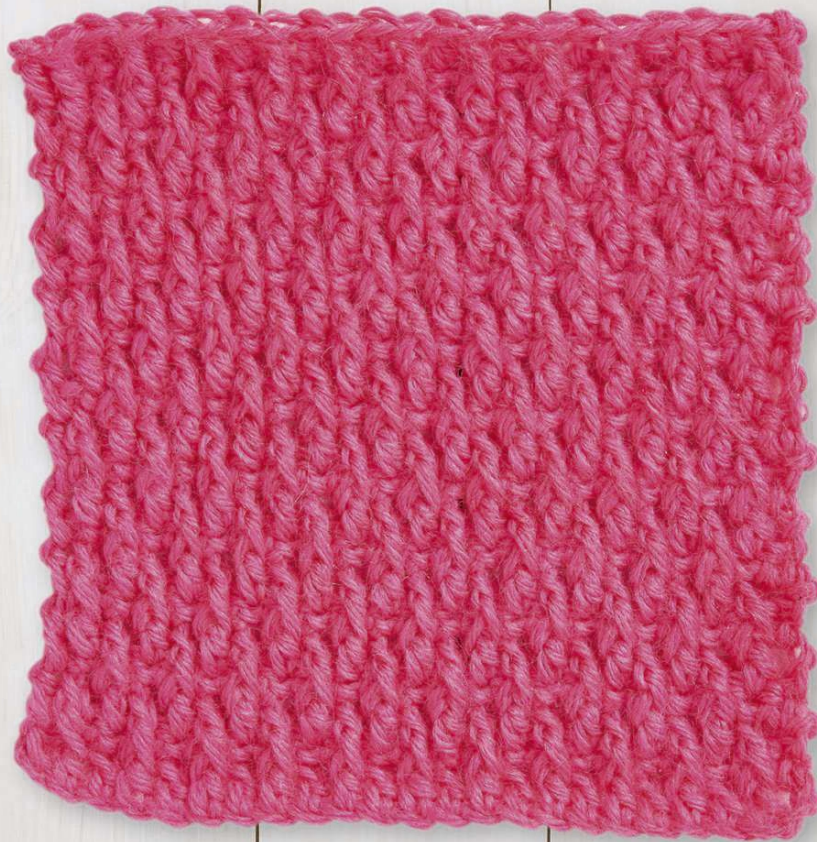


*Debbie Bliss*

NEW STITCH

# Raised ripple stitch

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



## **BASIC RAISED RIPPLE STITCH PATTERN**

Ch an odd number of sts, plus 2 for the foundation ch.

**Row 1** Tr in 4th ch from hook, tr in each ch to end, turn.

**Row 2** Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each tr to end, working last dc in top of beg ch-3, turn.

**Row 3** Ch3 (counts as tr), \*skip next dc, FPtr around tr in row below skipped dc, tr in next

dc; repeat from \* to end of row, turn.

**Row 4** Repeat Row 2.

**Row 5** Ch3, \*tr in next dc, skip next dc, FPtr around tr in row below skipped dc; repeat from \* across to last tr, tr in last tr.

Repeat Rows 2-5 until pattern is desired length.

**Patterns by Louise Smith.**

Turn the page for more creative ideas to use this pattern

Raised ripple stitch has gorgeous squashy texture, making these projects extra cosy.



## HOT WATER BOTTLE COVER

In winter, a hottie is one of life's little luxuries. Stitch a cosy cover for yours.

■ Adriafile Mirage (55% wool, 45% acrylic, 50g/125m), 2 balls of **Yarn A** Fuchsia (53), 1 ball of **Yarn B** Dark Melange Grey (52)  
For yarn stockists, contact LoveCrochet 0845 544 2196  
www.lovecrochet.com

■ A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook

### TENSION

20 sts and 22 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) using 3.5mm hook over raised ripple stitch patt

### MEASUREMENTS

15x26cm (6x10¼in)  
To fit a small hot water bottle

### FRONT

With Yarn A, ch31.

**Row 1** Work Row 1 of stitch pattern.

**Rows 2-33** Work Rows 2-5 of stitch pattern 8 times. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

### BACK (MAKE 2)

With Yarn A, ch31.

**Row 1** Work Row 1 of stitch pattern.

**Rows 2-21** Work Rows 2-5 of stitch pattern 5 times. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

### TO MAKE UP

With RS together, align one Back piece with top edge of Front. Starting at bottom corner of Back piece, join to top half of Front along side and across 8 sts at top using a ss seam.

**Fasten off** yarn, skip 11 sts and rejoin yarn in next st, join piece across next 8 sts and down side with a ss seam, leaving bottom edge of Back piece open.

Align second Back piece with bottom edge of Front, join to bottom half of Front using a ss seam, leaving top of Back piece open to create an envelope opening.

Turn cover the right way out.

### NECK

Join Yarn B in first skipped st at top of cosy, ch15.

**Row 1** Working in the back loops only, dc in second ch from hook and each ch across to last, dc in last ch, inserting hook in st at base of ch before last yrh of st to join, ss in next st along top edge of cosy, turn. [14 dc, 1ss]

**Row 2** Working in the back loops only, dc in each dc across to end, turn. [14 dc]

**Row 3** Working in the back loops only, ch1

(does not count as st), dc in each dc across to last st, dc in last st, joining to same st at top of cosy on last step of st, ss in next st along top edge of cosy, turn. Rep Rows 2-3 around top of cosy, working into all 11 skipped sts on each side of neck opening.

**Joining row** Working in front loops only, ch1 (does not count as st), \*ss in next st and corresponding st in Row 1 to join; rep from \* across. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

## COSY POMPOM SLIPPERS

Keep toes toasty with a pair of wrapover slippers and the obligatory pompoms.

■ Adriafile Mirage (55% wool, 45% acrylic, 50g/125m), 1 ball of **Yarn A** Fuchsia (53), 2 balls of **Yarn B** Dark Melange Grey (52)

■ A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook

■ A medium pompom maker – approx 5cm (2in)

### TENSION

20 sts and 22 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) using 3.5mm hook over raised ripple stitch patt

### MEASUREMENTS

To fit a 24cm (9½in) foot

### SLIPPER (MAKE 2)

With Yarn B, ch81.

**Row 1** Work Row 1 of stitch pattern.

**Rows 2-13** Work Rows 2-5 of st patt 3 times.

**Rows 14-15** Work Rows 2-3 of st patt once more. **Fasten off.**

**Row 16** Join Yarn A in first st, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st across to end.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

### SOLE (MAKE 2)

Rotate slipper and rejoin Yarn B in 33rd st.

**Row 1** Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in each of next 15 sts, turn. [15 dc]

**Rows 2-48** Repeat Row 1.

**Row 49** Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [13 sts]

Rep Row 49 until 3 sts remain.

**Next row** Ch1, dc3tog. **Fasten off.**

### TO MAKE UP

With WS facing, join Sole to sides using Yarn A and a ss seam. Begin at corner where side and Sole meet and work along to end of one side – front of slipper will overlap and you will have to join one side over the top of another. Join sides of other slipper in opposite way using the image as a guide. Turn slipper right way, make a pompom in Fuchsia and join to front of slipper where sides overlap.

Repeat for the other slipper.



Sew your slippers with Yarn A so you'll have extra flashes of pink.

# Rainbow bright

Viva vibrancy! This fun textured cushion is ready to bedazzle your world. By Becky Garratt.





## YOU WILL NEED

- Lily Sugar 'n Cream (100% cotton, 71g/109m),  
Yarn A Ecru (0004)
- Yarn B Hot Pink (1740)
- Yarn C Soft Violet (0093)
- Yarn D Hot Blue (1742)
- Yarn E Hot Green (1712)
- Yarn F Yellow (0010)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- A 40cm (16in) square cushion pad

For yarn stockists contact

Wool Warehouse 01926 882818  
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

For devoted stitchers, there are few things more exciting than adding a rainbow of yarny wonder to your hook, especially when your chosen pattern is wonderfully cosy and packed to the brim with playful frilly texture. Diagonal stripes are go.

## BASE GRID

Using Yarn A, ch68.

**Row 1** Tr in 8th chain from hook (this makes the first space in the grid), (ch2, skip 2 ch, tr in next ch) 20 times, turn.

[21 grid squares]

**Rows 2–21** Ch5 (counts as tr, ch2), skip ch-2 sp, tr in next tr, (ch2, skip ch-2 sp, tr in next tr) 20 times, turn.

**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

## CUSHION

All stitches are worked around the stitches of the grid and not into them.

Lay out the grid in front of you with the bottom left corner closest to you.

Each row resembles a staircase and will be longer than the next to the centre and then will decrease in length to the opposite corner. See chart on p93.

**Row 1** Using your choice of yarns B-F join yarn around the ch-2 sp at the bottom corner, ch3 (counts as tr), 3tr around same ch-2 sp, turn to work along the side of the mesh, 4tr around ch-3 up the side of the space. **Fasten off.**

**Row 2** Using your choice of Yarns B-F join yarn around the next ch-2 sp, ch3 (counts as tr), 3tr around same ch-2 sp, turn work, 4tr around tr, \*turn work, 4tr in next ch-2 sp, turn work, 4tr around next tr; repeat from \* across.

**Fasten off.**

Repeat Row 2 to the opposite corner of the cushion, each time joining the yarn in the next ch-2 sp along the bottom edge.

## BACK OF CUSHION COVER

### FIRST PIECE

**Row 1** With WS of Front piece facing, join Yarn A in top right tr of mesh, ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in next ch-2 sp working between the wiggly stitches, tr in next tr; repeat from \* across, turn. [64 tr]

**Rows 2–22** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each tr across, turn.

**Fasten off.**

### SECOND PIECE

**Row 1** With WS of Front piece facing, rotate work so you are working along the opposite



The back of the cushion is plain, stitched in Yarn A using only easy-peasy trebles.



The frills are built up by working the pattern across a simple grid crocheted in Ecru yarn.

edge of the mesh, join Yarn A in first corner of mesh, ch3 (counts as tr), 2tr in next ch-2 sp working between the wiggly stitches, tr in next ch; repeat from \* across, turn. [64 tr]

**Rows 2–12** Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each tr across, turn.

**Fasten off.**

## TO MAKE UP

Lay the cushion cover face down on a flat surface and fold the 2 back pieces over so they overlap in the centre.

Pin to the edge of the cushion front and using the same yarn and a tapestry needle, sew the back pieces to the front to create an envelope leaving the centre open to add the cushion pad.



# AMI CLUB IS GO!

FreshStitches designer Stacey Trock gets a community together.



I learned to crochet from my mum when I was little. She'd been crocheting for years, but always made the same afghan over and over again because she couldn't read patterns. She wanted to learn more, but (especially before the internet!) almost all crochet instructions are written. And even though I could read the patterns, their terminology and abbreviations could be really confusing.

My goal has always been to create animals that anyone who can do a basic stitch can do! I stand by that. If you've learned the basics, then you can do any of my patterns. I'm always thinking, "What can I teach someone in this pattern?" When I release a new pattern, it's full of basic techniques, then I add a new technique and provide step-by-step photos – people are making adorable things and learning.

Clubs are a great way for me to share my designs. I had the FreshStitches Kit Club which ran for three years. Members received a pattern, yarn, craft eyes and a goodie. It was successful, but many members told me they loved the pattern, but either didn't need the yarn or lived overseas and the shipping was costing too much. So I had the idea for a digital club! I was just going to email out a monthly pattern, but I realised since it was digital I could do so much more. One of the comments I've had from crocheters is how much they love the community aspect of crafting. I've built up lovely communities online, but until now they've been separate. It occurred to me that I could bring them together on

my site! I took time off 'clubbing' to redevelop my website for Ami Club and I'm just so excited!

## WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

Ami Club is an amigurumi forum community with an emphasis on crocheting with (virtual) friends and learning new skills. FreshStitches patterns are known for their step-by-step tutorials and the blog is cheered for video content, so I'm bringing those aspects together. Members will receive an exclusive pattern each month, accompanied by step-by-step tutorials and videos of any tricky bits. Members also get a supply of e-books on topics from selecting a hook to teaching new skills.

The club will feature extra goodies, too – swaps, crochet-alongs and charity projects. There'll also be an area of the forum with tips for selling finished items, plus members get 10% off craft eye purchases and access to other exclusives. Phew!

I'm often asked if I could design a leopard or some other crazy animal, but I don't want someone to pick up my patterns and feel discouraged because the instructions are complicated. My goal is to always inspire confidence and teach. And add cuteness! That's my driving inspiration. How can I make this animal cute and break it down into shapes that are accessible to a beginner? And what do I need to teach to help a beginner become more advanced? That's what it's all about for me.

Get a free month of Ami Club membership! Use the code [SIMPLYCROCHET](http://www.freshstitches.com/club) at [www.freshstitches.com/club](http://www.freshstitches.com/club). Limit one per user. Offer expires 28 Feb 2017.

# Crochet Stitch Collection

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\* EUR price £9.99, ROW price £10.99. All prices include P&P. Please allow up to 28 days for delivery.

# Not a peep

Super-soft yarn makes this a perfect naptime blanket. By Hannah Cross.





## YOU WILL NEED

- Knit Picks Mighty Stitch (20% superwash wool, 80% acrylic, 100g/190m), 3 balls of Yarn A White (26807)  
1 ball of each:  
Yarn B Blush (26818)  
Yarn C Sky (26830)  
Yarn D Wisteria (26824)  
Yarn E Silver (26820)
  - A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
  - A 6mm (US J/10) hook
- For yarn stockists contact  
Knit Picks [www.knitpicks.com](http://www.knitpicks.com)

## TENSION

Each square measures 9x9cm (3½x3½in)

## MEASUREMENTS

The finished blanket measures approx 78x68cm (30¾x26¾in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 92

A calming palette of pastels and a yarn that's easy to care for? That sounds like the recipe for a knockout baby blanket to us. Plus, the mini squares that make it up are totally gorgeous and simple to hook.

## NOTES

Block each square before joining them together and then block again before adding the border.

## BLANKET

Make 42 squares: 14 each using Yarn B, Yarn C and Yarn D for Round 2

## BASIC SQUARE

Using Yarn A and a 6mm hook, ch4, ss to first ch make a ring.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr into ring, ch1, \*2tr into ring, ch1; repeat from \* 6 more times, ss in top of beg ch-3 to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 2** Join Yarn B, C or D in any ch-1 sp, ch3, tr in same ch-1 sp, ch1, (2tr, ch1, 2tr, ch1) in next ch-1 sp, \*(2tr, ch1) in next ch-1 sp, (2tr, ch1, 2tr, ch1) in next ch-1 sp; repeat from \* twice more, ss in top of beg ch-3 to join.

**Fasten off.**

**Round 3** Join Yarn A in any corner ch-1 sp, ch1 (does not count as st throughout), \*(dc, ch1, dc) in corner ch-1 sp, ch1, skip 1 tr, dc in next tr, ch1, (skip ch and next tr, dc in next tr, ch1) twice; repeat from \* 3 more times, ss in first dc to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 4** Join Yarn E in any corner ch-1 sp, ch1, \*(dc, ch1, dc) in corner ch-1 sp, ch1, \*(dc in next ch-1 sp, ch1) 4 times; repeat from \* 3 more times, ss in first dc to join.

**Fasten off.**



The squares are joined with a ss seam on the right side, resulting in raised borders.

**Round 5** Join Yarn A to any corner ch-1 sp, ch1, \*(dc, ch1, dc) in corner ch-1 sp, ch1, (dc in next ch-1 sp, ch1) 5 times; repeat from \* 3 more times, ss in first dc to join.

**Fasten off.**

## JOINING SQUARES

Lay the squares out as shown and using a 3.5mm hook and Yarn A, join with a ss seam to the RS.

## BORDER

**Round 1** Join Yarn A in any corner ch-1 sp at corner of blanket, ch1, \*(dc, ch1, dc) in corner ch-1 sp, ch1, (dc in next ch-1 sp, ch1) across to next corner; repeat from \* 3 more times, ss in first dc to join.

**Fasten off.**

**Rounds 2-11** Repeat Round 1 in the following colour sequence: Yarn B, Yarn A, Yarn C, Yarn A, Yarn D, Yarn A, Yarn A, Yarn E, Yarn A, Yarn A.

## SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A SLIP STITCH SEAM



**1** First, make sure you fasten off, weave in ends and block pieces. Place pieces right sides together. Insert hook into the first stitch on both pieces. Make a slip knot and place it onto the hook.



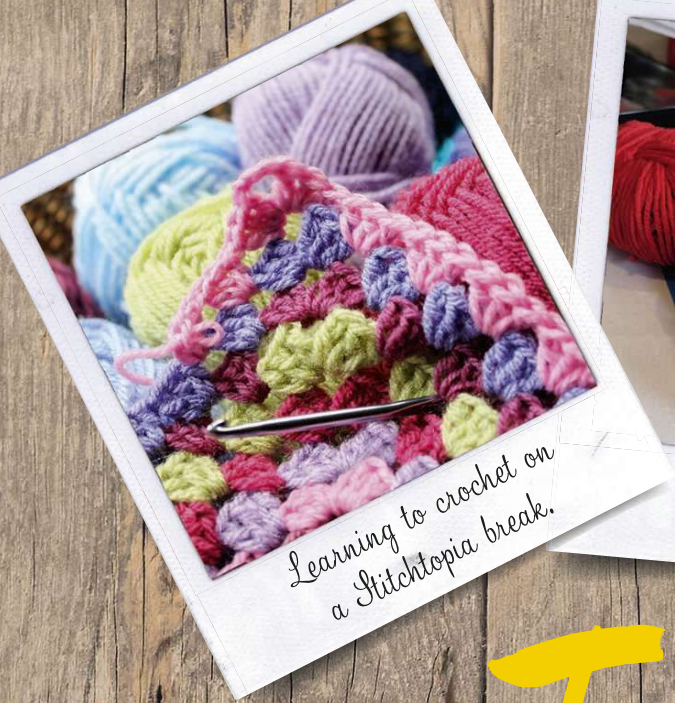
**2** Pull the slip knot through both stitches to bring it to the front. Now insert hook into the 2nd stitch of both layers and work a slip stitch. Work a slip stitch in the 3rd stitches of both layers.



**3** Continue working slip sts along the edge, as far as you need to. Fasten off, weave in ends, open out the seam and lightly press from the wrong side.



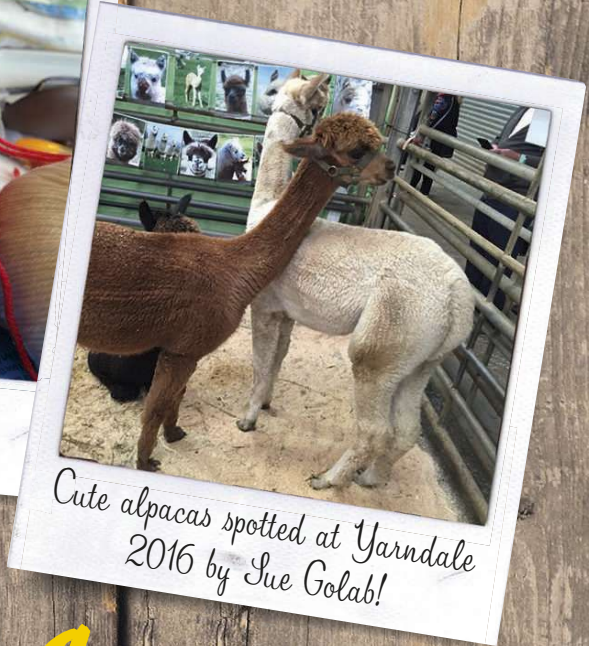
**4** From the right side, the slip stitch seam forms an 'invisible' join (see above). It forms a firm, flat seam that won't give much stretch. It's best to use a matching yarn.



*Learning to crochet on a Stitchtopia break.*



*Inspired Minds in Bournemouth.*



*Cute alpacas spotted at Yarndale 2016 by Sue Golab!*

# Take a crochet trip

Life has a pesky tendency of getting in the way of our crochet time, but special creative escapes offer the chance to think of nothing else for days.



*Making mandalas in rural Northumberland*



*A creative workshop with Debbie Abrahams.*



*Granny squares galore at Middle Stobswold Farm.*



New techniques with Inspired Minds.

Just imagine – a few golden days filled with nothing more than yarn, hooks and chatter – sounds heavenly, doesn't it? Whether you want guidance on techniques, or simply the opportunity to crochet in peace, we're certain there's a perfect escape to suit your needs. And with more crochet retreats and holidays on offer than ever, your biggest challenge might be choosing just one! Check out our guide.

#### SOAK UP INSPIRATION

Inspired Minds is a new venture set up by Debbie Abrahams, Jane Crowfoot and their husbands Steve and Andy "to offer knitters and crocheters the chance to come and spend relaxing weekends in nice locations!" They currently have two workshop weekends planned for next year – one at Wadenhoe House near Peterborough and one at the Marsham Court Hotel in Bournemouth.

With prices starting from £270, you get two nights of accommodation, evening meals, buffet breakfasts, light lunches and full workshop kits including yarn. In Bournemouth a spa pass is also included.

With the emphasis on fun and relaxation, in both cases there's plenty of free time for visiting nearby attractions, such as Northampton market towns and Bournemouth's beaches and art galleries (the Russell Cotes Museum and art gallery is opposite the hotel in Bournemouth).

The workshops themselves will be laid-back, with a chance to learn about colourwork, beading and other techniques, or to get troubleshooting tips on existing projects. See [www.inspiredminds-uk.com](http://www.inspiredminds-uk.com)

#### EMERGE ENTHUSED

Belinda Harris-Reid and Rachel Vowles run Women With Wool retreats in the Dartmoor countryside. Taking place at the beautiful home of their friend Fru Goudge, the weekends offer the chance to meet other crafters, crochet or knit in peace or take part in workshops led by Belinda and Rachel, all fuelled by masses of food cooked by Fru.

"People arrive at Fru's house from 5pm onwards on Friday evening," says Belinda.



A cosy sitting room at the Women with Wool retreat.

"Rachel and I arrive on Saturday morning after breakfast. The people who are staying off-site arrive at 10am for coffee and tea and welcome, and we all get comfy in the drawing room."

The flexibility of the weekends is part of the appeal. "Some people ask very specifically to learn a technique and some come just to crochet or knit and chat," Belinda says. "We either learn all together, or if people want some concentrated focused learning, we go into the dining room. Then lunch, followed by more making together, then a Devon cream tea with Fru's homemade heart-shaped scones, and more making. At 5.30ish we say our goodbyes to the off-site and come-for-a-day folk. Rachel and I say our goodbyes at 6pm – although I've decided to stay and have supper at every retreat so far!"

Rachel and Belinda return on Sunday morning. "Sunday follows the same format as Saturday but after lunch we pack up, tie up loose ends, say our goodbyes and most people are on the road back home by 4pm."

Rachel and Belinda's enthusiasm is definitely contagious. "We've just had a fabulous weekend with 10 extraordinary, delicious and very interesting crafters," says Belinda. "It was such fun!"

*If this sounds like your cup of (cream) tea, you can find full details and dates at [www.womenwithwool.co.uk](http://www.womenwithwool.co.uk)*

[womenwithwool.co.uk](http://womenwithwool.co.uk) or email [info@womenwithwool.co.uk](mailto:info@womenwithwool.co.uk)

#### BE AWED BY THE VIEWS

Set in Scotland's Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park, Gartmore House hosts knitting and crochet retreats all year round. Holidays are managed by the Gartmore House team, including Algiva Daniele, with Samira Hill as the tutor.

*"We aim at giving people a break from their busy modern lives."*

The options include a five-day retreat, which for a special price of £299 includes five days of full board home cooked food, single en suite accommodation in the grand 18th century house, professional knitting and crochet tutoring, a trip to Loch Katrine

with cruise included and transport from the nearest railway station in Stirling.

There's also a weekend taster where you can come along and get to know the location and craft tutor. This includes all the same fabulous features as the five day retreat, minus the cruise, and costs £199.

"We decided to include knitting and crochet retreats in our offerings because we aim at giving people a break from their modern busy lives, while developing craft skills and enjoying each other's company," says Algiva. "I love seeing our guests all happy and relaxed sitting by the open fire. We also love to see the beautiful creations at the end of the course!" For more information,



Gartmore House in Trossachs National Park, Scotland.



telephone 01877 382 991 or head their website at [www.gartmorehouse.com](http://www.gartmorehouse.com)

### RELAX AND REJUVENATE

To restore or indulge your crochet mojo, look to Middle Stobswood Farm in rural Northumberland. Gillian and David Booth host 'Escape to the Crochet' days and weekends at their comfy B&B, aimed at making you "feel pampered and cared for in a very easygoing and friendly setting."

"I love to crochet, having learned with my grandma as a child," says Gillian. "Not only is it creative and colourful, but it can also be therapeutic and healing for the times when we need this."

The retreats offer a real refuge from everyday concerns. "Let's face it, we all need a bit of 'me time' now and then, and what better way than relaxing with our crochet projects and meeting new, like-minded friends?" says Gillian. "Our cosy sitting room welcomes guests who can browse and buy from the teeny tiny but well-stocked yarn shop. Crochet help and tuition is available for those who need it or you can simply spend time on your current project or settle down to a brand new one."

While Gillian hosts the crocheting, David is busy in the kitchen producing delicious food. "His homemade crusty bread and sumptuous soups are legendary, while rocky road, pear and almond tart and raspberry and lemon sponge cakes all feature on the menu," enthuses Gillian. "Crochet and homemade cake are a match made in heaven!" *The cost of a single day place (10am to 4.30pm) is £20 inclusive. You can add an overnight stay or two for £55 per night or £75 sharing a room. For full information, email [Info@middlestobswood.co.uk](mailto:Info@middlestobswood.co.uk), call 07947 552802 or 01670 791320, or visit [www.middlestobswood.co.uk](http://www.middlestobswood.co.uk)*

### TEST YOUR BOUNDARIES

Although primarily aimed at knitters, the Knit for Peace knitting holidays at the Green Hotel in Mysore, India, are very much for crocheters too. Their next holiday takes place from 21 January to 2 February 2017, and will be led by crochet and knitting designer Sarah Hazell.

Deborah Mason from the organisation says: "Knit for Peace is an initiative of the Charities Advisory Trust, who also set up the



Try knitting with Women with Wool.



Gillian Booth at Middle Stobswood.

### A TRIP TO YARNDALE WITH STITCHTOPIA AND SIMPLY CROCHET

Sue Golab went on the *Stitchtopia* holiday to Yarndale in Sept 2016.

"I've knitted since I was a teenager but nobody in my family could crochet so I never learned," says Sue. "I had tried to teach myself before from

'how-to' instructions but anything beyond a simple chain just confused me."

Sue had never considered going on a specialised craft holiday before spotting *Stitchtopia's* trips in an issue of *Simply Knitting*. "I decided to go for it," she says. "In the meantime, I went on a crochet workshop at the Wool Zone in Oakham, Rutland, and learned the basic stitches there. Crochet is a new challenge for me."

Sue was hoping that the *Stitchtopia* holiday would help her to further develop

her skills. "Sara Huntington, along with a couple of very experienced crocheters on the holiday, was very helpful with this," Sue says. "Making the mandala crochet project taught me new techniques – I didn't even know you could treble two together, let alone how to do it!"

The real highlight for Sue was visiting Yarndale festival ([www.yarndale.co.uk](http://www.yarndale.co.uk)) in Skipton, North Yorkshire "and seeing everything that was there – I came away with six new projects! The whole group said how lovely it was to be in the company of people who understood why we wanted more yarn and patterns even when most of us already had a roomful at home!"

Gaining confidence and making new friends was all part of the fun. "I met a great group of people – I'm keeping in touch with some of the people on the holiday, and am keen to do another one in 2017."





The Green Hotel in Mysore, India with Knitting for Peace.



Knitting for Peace visits Mysore, India.



Belinda Harris-Reid and Rachel Vowles.



Sheep at Yarnsdale by Sue Golab.



The Majestic Hotel, Harrogate with Arena Travel.

Green Hotel in Mysore, India. All profits from the hotel are distributed to charitable and environmental projects in India."

Designer Sarah Hazell has a particular passion for colour, well-suited to the setting. As well as Sarah's workshops, there will be opportunities to go shopping and visit local places of interest, such as Mysore's palaces, famous market, temples, bird sanctuary and nearby wildlife reserves. "As part of the holiday there are also chances to visit the projects supported by the Green Hotel and Charities Advisory Trust," explains Deborah.

It's a great chance to experience a beautiful area of India and immerse yourself in your craft, while doing some good in the world. Prices start from £1,695 per person, which covers 12 nights' full board, en suite accommodation, bottled water, daily workshops and local taxes. If you miss the 2017 trip, don't worry – it's an annual fixture with excellent tutors every year. Debbie Bliss and Jane Crowfoot have led past holidays. For full details about future holidays, call Knit for Peace on 020 7794 9835 or visit [www.knitforpeace.org.uk](http://www.knitforpeace.org.uk)

### STITCH HEAVEN

Arena Travel run Stichtopia holidays to destinations around the world as well as closer to home, all combining workshops and sightseeing and, of course, some convivial company, and all accompanied by a tour manager. Excitingly, 2016's trips to

Florence, Yarnsdale and The Faroes were operated in collaboration with *Simply Crochet* and our sister titles, *Simply Knitting* and *The Knitter* magazines.

The holiday programme for 2017 includes crochet and knitting holidays to Iceland, Shetland, The Faroe Islands, the West of Ireland and a Debbie Bliss Yorkshire weekend in Harrogate. Still in the planning is a knitting and crochet cruise to the Highlands and Islands with KnitPro's Juliet Bernard.

A particular appeal of Stichtopia holidays is that there are always a high number of single rooms available to cater for solo travellers, making it a viable option even if you don't have a crafty companion to join you.

The Yarnsdale trip in 2016 included three nights' accommodation in the beautiful 4\* Majestic Hotel in Harrogate, a visit to Yarnsdale and a private tour of the textile collection at the National Trust's Gawthorpe Hall. There was also time to build on existing skills or gain new ones from *Simply Crochet's* editor Sara Huntington and her counterpart on *Simply Knitting*, Kirstie McLeod.

Deborah Bradley, the magazines' Editor-in-Chief, had the pleasure of attending too. "We

were lucky enough to have a really friendly group of people," she reports. "The age range spanned from 20s to 80s, and everyone got along brilliantly."

Aside from the days out and workshops, Debora believes the best thing about the holiday was the warm, inclusive atmosphere that was created. "We brought along kits and projects for people to try, so that everyone could choose what they wanted to do," she says. "Quite a few were swapping between knitting and crochet throughout the weekend. I even gained a few new crochet skills myself, from one of our more experienced participants, a lovely woman named Margaret."

A game of yarn-themed bingo organised one evening by Sara and Kirstie also proved to be an unexpected highlight. "This was on the Sunday night when we'd already got to know each other," Debora says. "It was lovely to see how up for it people were, even those who'd never played bingo before, and there was lots of laughter."

Prices start at £499 per person. For details of 2017's offerings, call 01473 660800 or visit [www.arenatravel.com](http://www.arenatravel.com)

**Written by Judy Darley.**

"Crochet can be therapeutic and healing for the times we need this."

# Mohair yarns

Those warm and fuzzy fibres from angora goats.

## HEART MOTIF

**ROUND 1** (RS) Ch2, 5dc in 2nd ch from hook.  
[5sts]

**ROUND 2** Ch1, 2dc in each st to end of round, ss  
to ch at beg of round to join. [10 sts]

**ROUND 3** Ch2 (counts as tr), tr into st at base of  
ch, (2tr, htr) in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next  
st, (htr, tr, htr) in next st, dc in next st, 2dc in  
next st, (htr, 2tr) in next st, (tr, htr) in next st, ss  
to last st of round (centre st of heart). [20 sts]

**FASTEN OFF** and weave in ends.

Pop one in a  
Valentine's card!



## WOOL AND THE GANG TAKE CARE MOHAIR

**WEIGHT** Aran  
**CONTENT** 78% mohair,  
 13% wool, 9% polyamide  
**BALL** 50g/100m  
**HOOK** 8-12mm  
**RRP** £10.95



The ultimate in comfort yarn, Take Care Mohair will make you smile on a dreary day. It's luxurious, breathable and biodegradable. Available in eight fabulous contemporary colours, it's also sustainably produced in South Africa – guilt-free treat alert! Wool and

the Gang's new mohair yarn is a bold and bulky aran weight, so it works up quickly and easily. As with most mohair yarns, the drape of the finished fabric is beautiful so it's ideal for airy accessories and garments. [www.woolandthegang.co.uk](http://www.woolandthegang.co.uk)  
**020 7241 6420**

## WENDY AIR

**WEIGHT** Lace  
**CONTENT** 70% mohair,  
 30% nylon  
**BALL** 25g/200m  
**HOOK** 3.25-5mm  
**RRP** £5.75



Amazingly light and soft, this yarn from Wendy could not have a more suitable name. Air has a smooth, fine, nylon thread at its core with a fluffy mohair outer, which means it flows easily over your hook. The resulting fabric feels cosy and strokeable, and the core thread

almost disappears, blending beautifully with the fuzz. We'd love to use Air for accessories (we're thinking hats, wraps and mittens), using any of the 16 modern colours (which include gorgeous pinks and purples). [www.tbramsden.co.uk](http://www.tbramsden.co.uk)  
**01943 872264**

## ISAGER SILK MOHAIR

**WEIGHT** Lace  
**CONTENT** 75% super kid  
 mohair, 5% silk  
**BALL** 25g/212m  
**HOOK** 3.5-4mm  
**RRP** £9.95



Marianne Isager is a talented Danish fibre artist whose yarn range we can now enjoy in the UK. Silk Mohair is the latest release and it boasts the same high quality and stunning Scandi colour palette as the 12 other Isager yarns. It's one of the softest in our selection, with

a barely-there halo that makes it ideal for sumptuous edgings and shawls. A little goes a long way so it's great for combining with other yarns. It comes in 12 colours, including pretty pastels and neutrals. Handwash only. [www.loopknittingshop.com](http://www.loopknittingshop.com)  
**020 7288 1160**

## ROWAN KIDSILK HAZE

**WEIGHT** Lace  
**CONTENT** 70% mohair,  
 30% silk  
**BALL** 50g/140m  
**HOOK** 5mm  
**RRP** £8.95



A classic yarn that's been around for years, Rowan's Kidsilk Haze is as popular as ever and for good reason. Made with superkid mohair, it's ultra-soft – although like any mohair yarn, it does shed. You'll need to use a larger hook than usual for this weight of yarn

because the halo makes it thicker – it feels odd but you'll enjoy the speedy results. There are 43 colours, as well as various spin-off yarns with different properties, including vintage effects and Swarovski crystals. [www.knitrowan.com](http://www.knitrowan.com)  
**01484 950630**

## THE KNITTING SWEDE ANGELIC

**WEIGHT** Lace  
**CONTENT** 72% kid mohair,  
 28% mulberry silk  
**SKEIN** 50g/420m  
**HOOK** 3-5.5mm  
**RRP** £20



Perfect for a luxurious shawl, Angelic feels soft to the touch, made of two twisted mulberry silk lengths surrounded by a mohair halo. It's surprisingly easy to work with, although there's no stretch to it so you need to be careful with your tension. We love independent

yarn companies and The Knitting Swede's Tanja hand-dyes or hand-paints all her yarns in her kitchen. That means the shades of Angelic vary, but if you have a special request reach out to Tanja via her Etsy shop. Handwash only. [www.theknitingswede.co.uk](http://www.theknitingswede.co.uk)

## RICO ESSENTIALS MOHAIR

**WEIGHT** Aran  
**CONTENT** 73% mohair,  
 22% wool, 5% polyamide  
**BALL** 150g/90m  
**HOOK** 7mm  
**RRP** £6.25



Soft and stylish, Essentials Mohair comes in 10 modern shades, including two playful, multicoloured choices for creating interesting effects. Bulkier than most of the other mohair yarns here, the core thread on Rico's yarn is thicker, which makes it easier to hook

up cardigans and other garments. This means it's a great all-rounder for all sorts of cosy projects. The fibres on Essentials Mohair are also longer than most, which makes the halo feel much fluffier. **Contact your local Rico Design retailer or online stockist.**

# Show us yours

JOIN OUR GANG OF TREBLE MAKERS AND SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND MAKES WITH US.  
♡ FOR A CHANCE TO BE FEATURED HERE, USE OUR HASHTAG #SCTREBLEMAKER ♡



## DRUM ROLL PLEASE

▼ The detail on this adorable drummer bear stitched by reader Psychick is nothing short of magnificent. Ilaira Caliri's original design was in *Simply Crochet* issue 38. Yes, he is very festive but cute amigurumi is for life, not just for Christmas, right?



## PEACHY KEEN

Meet our newest colour crush – a perfect pastel combo brought to life in @bamcrafts' sweet baby cardigan from issue 32. That soft velvet ribbon is a gorgeous finishing touch. Missed out on that issue? Search for 'Sugar & Spice' on Ravelry where you can download the pattern for £3.50.



## LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE

It's fantastic to see the next generation rocking handmade threads, particularly when they're of the *Simply Crochet* variety. OK, we're biased, but you can't deny that this version of Fran Morgan's Ray of Sunshine jumper from issue 48 is delightful. Keen stitcher Joanne Cogman made it for her daughter and it looks like she's loving it, too! One of our favourite things about this design, apart from the stripes, is the fun flecks of neon colour in the yarn. It's a DK chainette yarn by Conway & Bliss called Lolly.

## DOUBLE TAP ♡

We've been double tapping on Instagram and admiring your makes.

Tag us @simplycrochetmag and use the hashtag #Sctreblemaker.



### TOP THAT

@maggiemay crochet says: "I made this stunning tunic top from issue 45 for my daughter using Vinnis Colours natural." It looks so stylish and wearable in this pale tone.



### SUPER STRIPES

This super-cosy pom-topped hat is by stitcher @trendyturquoise. She made it in chunky yarn to keep warm on bonfire night. The pattern is from issue 37 – it was on the cover!



### PERFECT PAIR

Reader @audabod has hooked these beautiful blue and grey versions of the stripy mittens that were in issue 51. She used DROPS Merino Extra Fine yarn from her stash and they look oh-so toasty.

**THE LOWDOWN** It's simple to be in with a chance of winning one of three great prizes next issue! Show us your *Simply Crochet* makes on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or via email or post by 5 January. For all terms and conditions, and more information, visit [www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/competitionrules](http://www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/competitionrules)





**POLAR PAL**  
 This clever corner-to-corner blanket was one of our faves from our 2016 Christmas issues. @janescrochet has hooked a beautifully neat version of it using Stylecraft yarn. She made it as a birthday present for her granddaughter Sophie. We'd be more than happy to receive one of these as a gift! 📌

**SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL**  
 A bear in a jumper – what's not to love? We're smitten. Made by Clare Joanne Andrews. 📌



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# Bavarian crochet

HAVE A GO AT THIS PRETTY TEXTURED TECHNIQUE.



Bavarian crochet was rumoured to have been started by a crafty Bavarian mother and daughter, but its true origins remain a bit of a mystery.

The distinctive technique creates neat diamond shapes with textured ridges and lends itself to vibrant colour changes. It's a very yarn-hungry method, but the colour changes make it great for busting through your stash and the resulting fabric is dense enough for all kinds of projects – anything that ought to be sturdy or cosy.

Worked in rows or rounds, the method uses clusters and post

stitches, and we'll show you just what to do below. You don't need any fancy equipment to work Bavarian crochet, just a hook and yarn. Although you'll find it's best to use a hook that has a fairly long, narrow shank – you will need to hold up to nine loops on the crochet hook at any one time. So, gather some DK weight yarn in two different colours and a 4mm crochet hook, then make a foundation ring by working ch5, ss to the first ch to join into a ring. Now you're all ready to begin working the first foundation round of your Bavarian crochet.

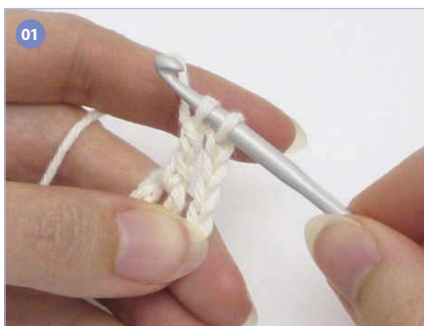
## HOW DO I WORK THE FIRST ROUND?

Getting started with your foundation round.

In the round, Bavarian crochet starts with two foundation rounds. The first foundation round is usually written as this: Foundation Round 1: Ch1 (does not count as a stitch throughout), dc into ring, \*ch5, 4dtr cluster into ring, ch5, dc into ring; repeat from \* 3 more times omitting final dc, ss to first dc to join.

Work this round as follows:

**Step 1** Ch1 (does not count as a stitch throughout), dc into ring. Start the first repeat by working ch5. Now work a 4dtr cluster into the ring – to do this, you need to work 4 partial dtr omitting the final yrh on each one. Start by working the first partial dtr as follows: \*yrh twice, insert hook into



ring, yrh, pull up loop, (yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice (2 loops on hook), stop without finishing the dtr and leave the loop on the hook.

**Step 2** Make three more partial dtr in the same way, working from \* in Step 1 (5 loops on hook).

**Step 3** Yrh and pull through all loops.

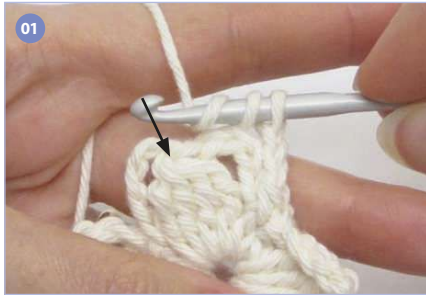


**Step 4** Ch5, then dc into the ring to secure the first corner and mark the start of the next corner.

**Step 5** Make three more corners in the same way, but omit the final dc and instead, ss to first dc to join. You should have 4 dc and 4 corners (each made up of ch5, 4dtr cluster, ch5).

# HOW DO I WORK THE SECOND ROUND?

Now make the second foundation round for your piece.



Next you need to work the second foundation round, which is usually written as this: **Foundation Round 2:** Ch1, dc in same dc, \*ch2, (4dtr, (ch1, 4dtr) twice) in 'eye' of next 4dtr cluster, ch2, dc in next dc; repeat from \* 3 more times omitting final dc, ss to first dc to join. Fasten off.

Work this round as follows:

**Step 1** Ch1, dc in same dc. Start the first repeat by working ch2. Now work the first of 4dtr into the 'eye' of the 4dtr cluster on the previous round. To do this, yrh twice and insert the hook into the 'eye' – this is not the top of the 4dtr cluster, this is the ch1 that follows it, where all the strands of yarn are

emerging. Yrh, draw through the 'eye' and finish the dtr as usual, working (yrh and pull through 2 loops) 3 times.

**Step 2** Work another 3dtr in the same space, then (ch1, 4dtr) twice in the same space. Ch2, dc in next dc to complete the first corner. You'll see that working into the 'eye' is what makes the stitches look as if they're emerging from the same point.

**Step 3** Make three more corners in the same way, but omit the final dc and instead, ss to first dc to join. The piece will seem quite ruffled, but this is normal. You should have 4 dc and 4 corners, each made up of ch2, 4dtr, ch1, 4dtr, ch1, 4dtr, ch2. Fasten off this yarn.

## WORKING INTO THE 'EYE'

On Round 2, if you work into the top of the 4dtr cluster and not into the 'eye' of the stitch on the previous round then your stitches won't meet up with the stitches on the previous round, as shown here.

# HOW DO I WORK THE FIRST PATTERN ROUND?

It's time to change your yarn colour.

Now you can use a new yarn colour to work the first pattern round, which is usually written as this: **Pattern Round 1:** Join new colour in next ch-1 sp from Round 2. Ch1, dc in same ch-1 sp, \*ch5, BPdtr4tog over next 4 dtr, ch5, dc in next ch-1 sp [corner made], ch5, BPdtr8tog over next 8 dtr, ch5, dc in next ch-1 sp [side made]; repeat from \* working more sides as needed, omitting final dc on final side, ss to first dc to join.

Work this round as follows:

**Step 1** Using your preferred method, join

the new colour in the next ch-1 sp after the fasten off point. Ch1, dc in same ch-1 sp. Start the first repeat by working ch5. Now you need to BPdtr4tog over the next 4 dtr. This sounds complex but it's really simple – start by working yrh twice, then insert the hook from back to front to back around the post of the next dtr on the round below.

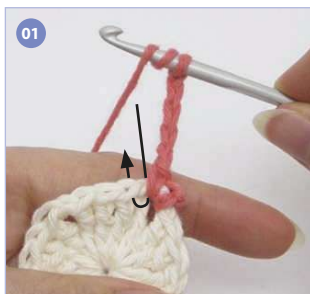
**Step 2** Continue by working yrh, pull up loop, (yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice (2 loops on hook), stop without finishing the dtr. This forms a partial dtr by omitting the

final yrh, in the same way as with the 4dtr cluster previously.

**Step 3** Make three more partial back post dtr in the same way (5 loops on hook).

**Step 4** Yrh and pull through all loops. You'll see how working around the back post lifts the tops of the previous stitches to create a ridge. Ch5 and dc into next ch-1 sp to complete one corner.

Repeat this process at each of the corners. Turn over for how to finish this round.



## HOW DO I FINISH THE FIRST ROUND?

You've nearly completed the first part of your project.

Once you've formed the corner, you'll need to work into the side 'dip'.

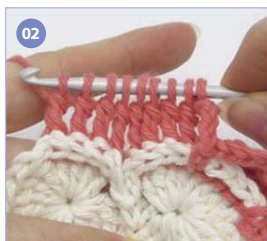
**Step 1** Start by working ch5.

**Step 2** Then work BPdtr8tog over the next 8 dtr. Work this in the same way as with the BPdtr4tog previously, making a partial dtr around the back post of each of the next 8 dtr (skip the dc and ch-2 between the two 4 dtr groups) (9 loops on hook).

**Step 3** Yrh and pull through all loops.

**Step 4** Ch5, dc in next ch-1 sp to complete one side 'dip'. Repeat this process at each side 'dip' – as your piece gets bigger, you'll work more side dips.

**Step 5** Work more corners and side dips around – on the final side dip, omit the final dc and instead ss to first dc to join. You should have 4 corners (each made up of ch5, BPdtr4tog, ch5, dc) and 4 sides (each made up of ch5, BPdtr8tog, ch5, dc).



## HOW DO I WORK THE SECOND ROUND?

The second round is worked in the same way as the first.

Now you'll be ready to work the second pattern round, which is similar to the second foundation round and is usually written as this: Pattern Round 2 Ch1, dc in same dc, \*(4dtr, (ch1, 4dtr) twice) into 'eye' of next BPdtr4tog, dc in next dc [corner made], (4dtr, ch1, 4dtr) into 'eye' of next BPdtr8tog, dc in next dc [side made]; repeat from \* working more sides as needed, omitting final dc on final side, ss to first dc to join. Fasten off this colour.

Work this round as follows:

**Step 1** Ch1, dc in same dc. To start the first repeat, work the following into the 'eye' of the corner BPdtr4tog: 4dtr, ch1, 4dtr, ch1, 4dtr. Then dc in next dc to complete one corner. Repeat this process at each corner.



**Step 2** To start the side repeat, work the following into the 'eye' of each side BPdtr8tog: 4dtr, ch1, 4dtr. Then dc in next dc. Repeat this process at each side – as your piece gets bigger, you'll work more side repeats.

**Step 3** Work more corners and side repeats

around – on the final side repeat, omit the final dc and instead ss to first dc to join. You should have 4 corners (each made up of 4dtr, ch1, 4dtr, ch1, 4dtr, dc) and 4 sides (each made up of 4dtr, ch1, 4dtr, dc). Fasten off this colour.



## HOW DO I WORK MORE ROUNDS?

Using the pattern repeat to keep on going.

Pattern Rounds 1 and 2 form the pattern so repeat these two rounds to continue your piece. You'll always have four corners, but with each pair of rounds you'll increase the number of 'sides' that you need to work. Keep going until your piece is as large as you want,

then finish at the end of a Pattern Round 1 (for a straight edge) or Round 2 (for a scalloped edge). You can add an edging round of dc stitches if desired, or combine Bavarian crochet with standard stitches – get creative and have fun with the technique!

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# Diamonds are forever

Put your newfound Bavarian crochet skills to the test with Becky Skuse's sweet and totally tactile handbag.



## YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS Muskat (100% cotton, 50g/100m), 2 balls of:  
Yarn C Dark Purple (38)  
1 ball of each:  
Yarn A Light Brown (09)  
Yarn B Wine (79)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- Fabric for lining, 35x17cm (optional)
- Small metal poppers (optional)

## For yarn stockists contact

Wool Warehouse 01926 882818  
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## MEASUREMENTS

Bag body meas 18cm (7in) square  
Strap height meas 45cm (17¾in)

## ABBREVIATIONS

**4dtr cluster (4dtr cl)** [Yrh twice, insert hook into stitch indicated, yrh, pull up loop, (yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice] 4 times (5 loops on hook), yrh and pull through all loops

**Back Post Double Treble 4 sts together (BPdtr4tog)** [Yrh twice, insert hook from back to front to back around the post of the next dtr on the round below, yrh, pull up loop, (yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice] 4 times over the next 4 dtr (5 loops on hook), yrh and pull through all loops

**Back Post Double Treble 8 sts together (BPdtr8tog)** Work as for BPdtr4tog but work [ ] section 8 times over the next 8 dtr (skipping the dc and ch-2 between the two 4 dtr groups)

**Eye** The 'eye' of the stitch is the ch1 that follows the top of the 4dtr cluster, where all the strands of yarn emerge

For a full list, see page 92

Designer Becky Skuse says: "Start your creative adventures with Bavarian crochet by making this handy little bag – perfect for a shopping trip or for stashing a small crochet project. The graduated yarn shades create an elegant look while the diamond shapes grow outwards in mesmerising style, offering a glimpse of some of the potential effects you can achieve with Bavarian crochet." We're smitten.

## NOTES

You will only need approx 15g of Yarn A and approx 25g of Yarn B.

## BAG FRONT/BACK (MAKE TWO)

Using Yarn A and a 4mm hook, ch5, ss to first ch to join into a ring.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as a stitch throughout), dc into ring, \*ch5, 4dtr cluster into ring, ch5, dc into ring; repeat from \* 3 more times omitting final dc, ss to first dc to join. [4 dc and 4 corners, each ch5, 4dtr cl, ch5]

**Round 2** Ch1, dc in same dc, \*ch2, (4dtr, (ch1, 4dtr) twice) in 'eye' of next 4dtr cluster, ch2, dc in next dc; repeat from \* 3 more times omitting final dc, ss to first dc to join.

**Fasten off** Yarn A.

**Round 3** Join Yarn B in next ch-1 sp from Round 2. Ch1, dc in same ch-1 sp, \*ch5, BPdtr4tog over next 4 dtr, ch5, dc in next ch-1 sp [corner made], ch5, BPdtr8tog over next 8 dtr, ch5, dc in next ch-1 sp [side made]; repeat from \* 3 more times, omitting final dc on final side, ss to first dc to join.

**Round 4** Ch1, dc in same dc, \*(4dtr, (ch1, 4dtr) twice) into 'eye' of next BPdtr4tog, dc in next dc [corner made], (4dtr, ch1, 4dtr) into 'eye' of next BPdtr8tog, dc in next dc [side made]; repeat from \* working more sides as needed, omitting final dc on final side, ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off** Yarn B.

**Round 5** Join Yarn C in next ch-1 sp from Round 4. Ch1, dc in same ch-1 sp, \*ch5, BPdtr4tog over next 4 dtr, ch5, dc in next ch-1 sp, [ch5, BPdtr8tog over next 8 dtr, ch5, dc in next ch-1 sp] twice; repeat from \* 3 more times, omitting final dc on final side, ss to first dc to join.

**Round 6** Ch1, dc in same dc, \*(4dtr, (ch1, 4dtr) twice) into 'eye' of next BPdtr4tog, dc in next dc, [(4dtr, ch1, 4dtr) into 'eye' of next BPdtr8tog, dc in next dc] twice; repeat from \* 3 more times, omitting final dc on final side, ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off** Yarn C.

## EDGING

Take one bag piece (front) and count 6 dtr to



The textured ridges really highlight the ombre colour changes in this project.

the left of the fasten off point – join Yarn C in this dtr (this will be the 2nd dtr of the 2nd 4-dtr group of the corner).

Place the two bag pieces wrong sides together, lining up the stitches carefully.

**Round 1** Ch1 (does not count as stitch), working into both layers: dc in each dtr, ch and dc stitch, working down one side, across the bottom and up the other side. Work the final dc in the opposite dtr to where you started (this will be the 3rd dtr of the 2nd 4-dtr group of the corner). Make sure you leave the top open.

**Fasten off.**

## STRAP

Rejoin Yarn C in the dtr to the left of the edging fasten off point, ready to work a wrong side row.

**Row 1 (WS)** Ch1 (does not count as stitch), dc in each of next 2 dc, then dc in each of next 2 dc on the back piece, turn. [4 dc]

**Row 2 (RS)** Ch1 (does not count as stitch), dc in each of next 4 dc, turn. [4 dc]

Repeat Row 2 until strap measures 90cm or length desired.

**Fasten off**, leaving a long tail.

Sew the end of the strap to the opposite side of the bag, sewing 2 sts to the front piece and 2 sts to the back piece.

## TO MAKE UP

Weave in all ends.

Line the bag with fabric, if desired.

Sew the small poppers in place at the top of the bag to close.

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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.



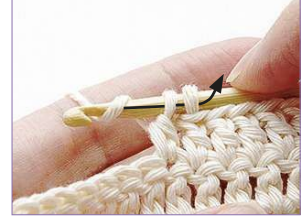
**1** To work a treble crochet, start by winding yrh and then insert the hook under the top two loops of the stitch on the previous row.



**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.

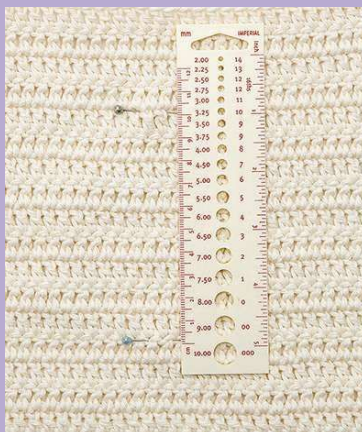


**4** A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

## 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.



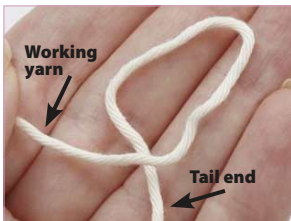
**1** Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



**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.

# 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/	sk	skip
	st, yrh & pull up loop,	sp(s)	space(s)
	yrh & draw through 2	ss	slip stitch
	loops) twice, inserting	st(s)	stitch(es)
	hook in same sp/st,	tbl	through back loop
	yrh & draw through all	t-ch(s)	turning chain(s)
	loops on hook	tog	together
cont	continue	tr	treble crochet
dc	double crochet	tr2tog	(yrh, insert hook in
dc2tog	(insert hook in next st,		next st, yrh and pull
	yrh and draw a loop		up loop, yrh and draw
	through) twice, yrh		through 2 loops)
	and draw through all 3		twice, yrh and draw
	loops on hook		through all loops on
dec	decrease		hook
dtr	double treble crochet	ttr	triple treble crochet
dtr2tog	work 2dtr together	WS	wrong side
fdc	foundation dc	yrh	yarn round hook
ftr	foundation tr	*	work instructions
fl	insert hook under		immediately foll *,
	front loop only		then rep as many
			more times as directed
foll/folls	following/follows	( )	work all instructions in
FPtr	Front Post treble: work		the brackets as many
	in opposite way to		times as directed
	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.

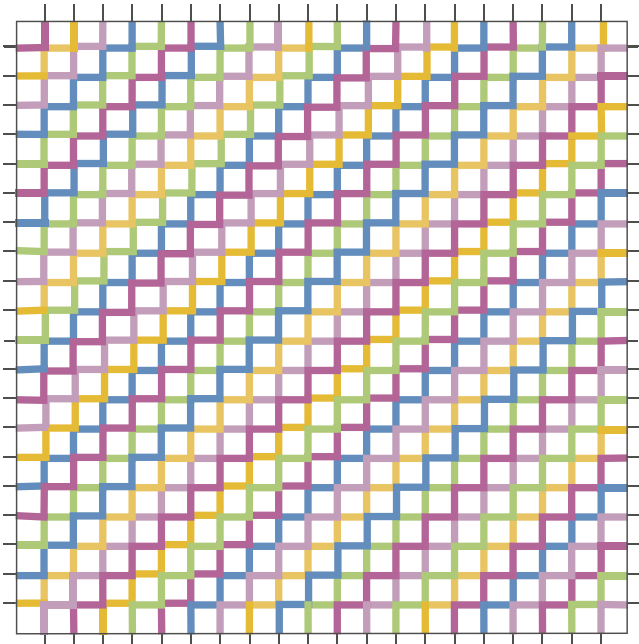
# CHARTS & DIAGRAMS

Here are the extra bits and pieces you'll need to make the squares throw, frilly cushion and diamond mohair wrap this issue.

Layout of completed squares throw, page 55

1	3	5	7
4	2	8	6
9	11	13	15
12	10	16	14
17	19	21	23
20	18	24	22

Frilly cushion, page 64



- KEY
- Yarn B Hot Pink
  - Yarn C Soft Violet
  - Yarn D Hot Blue
  - Yarn E Hot Green
  - Yarn F Yellow

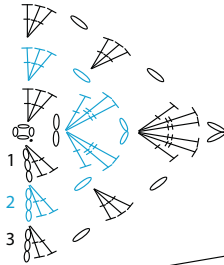
# CHARTS

## Diamond wrap, page 20

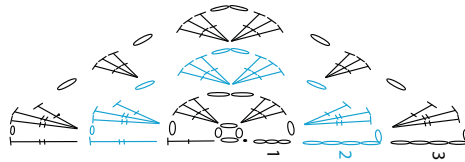
**Key**

- Slip Stitch (ss)
- Joining Slip Stitch
- Chain (ch)
- ┆ Treble Crochet (tr)
- ┆ Double Treble Crochet (dtr)
- Direction of Work

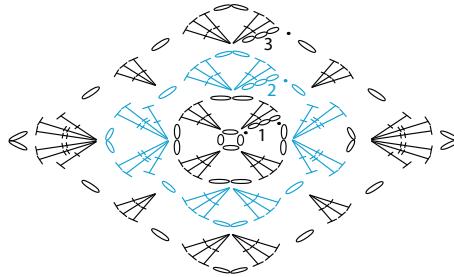
Narrow Motif



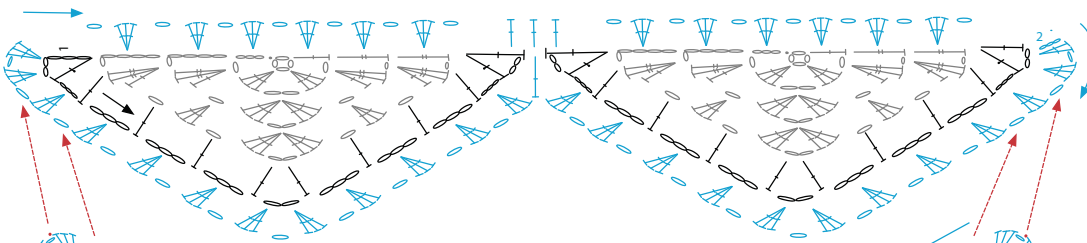
Wide Motif



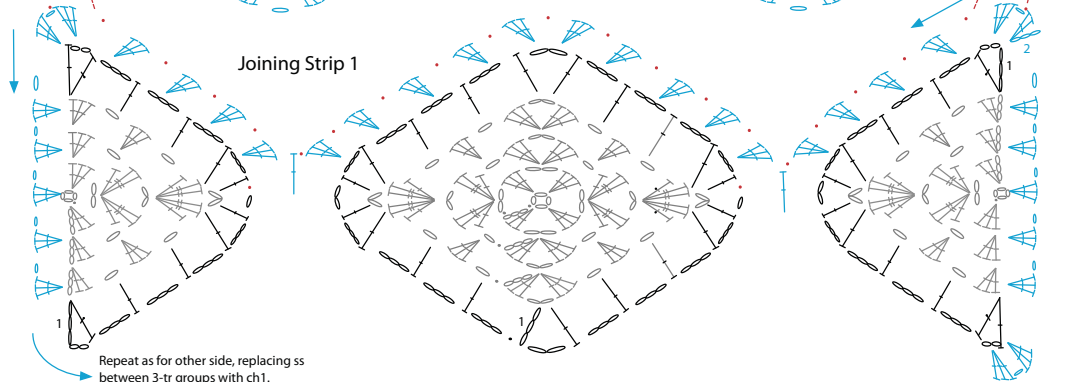
Full Motif



Edge Strip



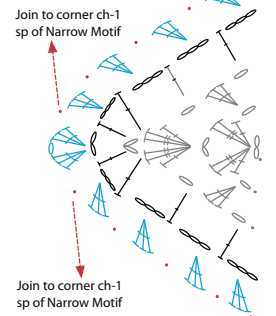
Joining Strip 1



Repeat as for other side, replacing ss between 3-tr groups with ch1.

Joining Strip 2

Work Round 2 as for sides of Joining Strip 1, but join on both sides. For each end of Round 2 of this strip see below:



MANDALA

# January blues

Stitch Lucy Croft's dazzling winter rounds.



PSST

Win the yarn  
to make this!





## YOU WILL NEED

- King Cole Giza Cotton 4ply (100% cotton, 50g/158m), 1 ball of each:
    - Glacier (2194)
    - Pebble (2195)
    - Bluebell (2198)
    - Plum (2198)
    - Black (2201)
    - Turquoise (2208)
  - A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- For yarn stockists, contact King Cole 01756 703670 [www.kingcole.com](http://www.kingcole.com)

## ABBREVIATIONS

- Picot** ch2, ss to 2nd ch from hook.  
**Sixtr** Yrh 6 times, insert hook into st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, (yrh and draw through 2 sts) 7 times  
 For a full list, see page 92



Missed our 2017 colour-in mandala calendar with issue 51? See page 82 for back issues.

This gorgeous design is the first in our series of 12 colourful mandalas for 2017, hooked with King Cole's Giza cotton 4ply yarn. The pattern matches the January illustration in your *Simply Crochet* 2017 calendar – you can make the real deal.

## NOTE

In Round 8, you will be instructed to 'incorporate the ch-6 sp from Round 7 into the stitches'. This means that you will work the tr over the ch, so that it is hidden within the st. The same technique is used in Round 10, when you will be working over the ch-10 of Round 9.

## MANDALA

Using Pebble, make a magic loop.

**Round 1 (RS)** Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), (tr, ch1) 7 times into loop, ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-4 to join. **Fasten off.** [8 tr, 8 ch-1 sps]

**Round 2** Join Bluebell in 1st ch-1 sp, \*ch5, dc in 3rd ch from hook, htr in next ch, tr in next ch, skip next tr, ss to next ch-1 sp; rep from \* 7 more times. **Fasten off.** [8 spikes]

**Round 3** Join Turquoise in 3rd ch of first spike, \*ch3, skip ch-2 sp, ss in dc on opposite side of spike, ch3, skip (htr and tr of same spike and first 2 ch of next spike), ss to next ch; rep from \* 7 more times, ss in base of 1st ch-3. [16 ch-3 sps]

**Round 4** Ch3, \*(tr, ch1, tr, ch2, tr, ch1, tr, ch1) in next ch-3 sp, tr2tog over next 2 ss, ch1; rep from \* 7 more times omitting last (tr2tog, ch1), tr in next ss, ss to 2nd ch of beg ch-3 to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 5** Join Plum in any ch-2 sp, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in same ch-2 sp, \*ch3, tr in next tr2tog, ch3, dc in next ch-2 sp; rep from \* 7 more times omitting last dc, ss to first dc to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 6** Join Black in 1st ch-3 sp, ch3 (counts as tr), 4tr in same ch-3 sp, \*5tr in next ch-3 sp; rep from \* around, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 7** Working in front of Round 6, join Plum in any tr of Round 5, ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), (tr, ch1, tr) in same tr, \*ch6, skip next dc

of Round 5, (tr, ch1, tr, ch1) in next tr of Round 5; rep from \* 6 more times, ch6, ss to 3rd ch of beg ch-4 to join.

**Fasten off.**

**Round 8** Join Black in first tr, ch3 (counts as tr), \*tr in next ch-1 sp, ch1, skip next tr, tr in next ch-1 sp, tr in next tr, skip first tr of 5-tr group in Round 6 below, tr in next 8 tr of Round 6 incorporating ch-6 sp of Round 7 into the sts (see Note), tr in next tr in Round 7; rep from \* 7 more times omitting last tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join. **Fasten off.** [96 tr and 8 ch-1 sps]

**Round 9** Working in front of Round 8, join Plum in any unworked tr of Round 7, ch3 (counts as tr), \*ch10, tr in next unworked tr of Round 7; rep from \* 7 more times, omitting last tr, ss to top of beg ch-3 to join.

**Fasten off.**

**Round 10** Join Black in 1st tr, ch1 (does not count as st), dc in same tr, \*working into 12-tr group of Round 8 and incorporating ch-10 sp of Round 9; htr in next tr, (tr, ch1, tr) in next tr, htr in next tr, dc in next tr, htr in next tr, (tr, dtr, ch1) in next tr, (dtr, tr) in next tr, htr in next tr, dc in next tr, htr in next tr, (tr, ch1, tr) in next tr, htr in next tr, dc in next tr of Round 9; rep from \* 7 more times omitting last dc, ss to 1st dc to join.

**Fasten off.**

**Round 11** Join Pebble in tr before 1st dtr with a ss, \*sixtr around stem of dc in Round 5 below, 7tr into next ch-1 sp, sixtr around stem of same dc in Round 5 below, skip next dtr of Round 10, ss to next tr, ch8, ss to next tr before next dtr; rep from \* 7 more times working last ss into 1st ss to join. **Fasten off.**

**Round 12** Join Bluebell in 1st sixtr with a ss, \*dc in next tr, 2htr in next tr, 2tr in next tr, tr in next tr, 2tr in next tr, 2htr in next tr, dc in next tr, ss to next sixtr, ch9, skip ch-8 sp, ss to next sixtr; rep from \* 7 more times working last ss into 1st ss. **Fasten off.** [8 petals]

**Round 13** Join Plum in centre tr of any petal with a ss, \*ch5, (tr, ch2, tr, ch2, tr) in 5th ch of ch-9 sp, ch5, ss to centre tr of next petal; rep from \* 7 more times working last ss into 1st to join round. **Fasten off.**

**Round 14** Join Turquoise in 1st ss, ch3 (counts as tr), \*7tr in next ch-5 sp, (ch1, skip next tr, 2tr in ch-2 sp) twice, ch1, skip next tr, 7tr in next ch-5 sp, tr in next ss; rep from \* 7 more times omitting last tr on final rep, ss to top of beg ch-3. **Fasten off.** [152 tr and 24 ch-1 sps]

**Round 15** Join Glacier in 1st tr, ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each tr and each ch-1 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-3. **Fasten off.** [176 tr]



## IT'S THE YEAR OF THE GIZA MANDALA

All 12 mandalas in our 2017 calendar series are hooked in Giza, King Cole's 100% cotton 4ply. The mercerised Egyptian cotton is fine, has a brilliant sheen and a luxurious feel. The cotton is grown in its namesake city, Giza. The purity of the soil there results in fantastic clarity and depth in each of the 20 colourways. For the chance to win six balls of Giza yarn to hook this design, head to [www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/win-king-cole-giza-yarn](http://www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/win-king-cole-giza-yarn)

# NEXT ISSUE

Gorgeous  
rainbow  
blanket!



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ACCESSORIES

AMIGURUMI BUNNY

HONEYCOMB  
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AND MORE...

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Cute amigurumi  
unicorn kit



ON SALE THURS 2 FEB



\* Contents subject to change



## What a hoot!

Blogger and designer Sandrine Deveze shares how she brought this special feathered friend to life.

**M**y favourite crochet project is an amigurumi toy that I designed for my little daughter Louise. It's a very big owl with huge eyes! It's special as it was a bit of a collaborative effort, with Louise choosing the colours that she wanted for her feathered friend. It's also special because it took so long to bring to life – it took me over two months to make it.

This giant bird toy was made with Hoooked's Ribbon XL yarn – an incredibly thick tape yarn. You need a 10mm crochet hook to work with it. In fact, this yarn is so chunky, my arm even hurt a little bit while I was working on this project.

The owl was pretty simple to construct, as he's made entirely from double crochet stitches. While it

did take a while to bring to life, it was very easy in terms of the actual stitches that I used.

When I finally finished the owl, I gave him to Louise just in time for her birthday. She was thrilled to see him sitting in her bedroom, ready to join in the fun!

All my family and friends were very surprised when they saw him, particularly because they couldn't believe he had been crocheted!

I'm hoping that the English pattern will soon be available on my blog, or on my future e-shop. It's a perfect project for beginners, as the stitches and shaping are simple – all you need to complete your own version is patience and motivation.

Find more of Sandrine's hooky creations on her blog, [www.lisenncabane.canalblog.com](http://www.lisenncabane.canalblog.com)

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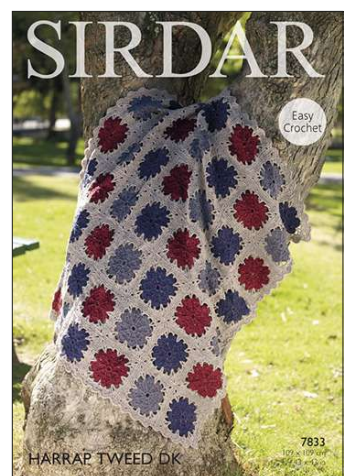
4ply  
Cushion  
& Throw



Hayfield

Crochet

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SIRDAR

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# MISSED AN ISSUE?



## ISSUE FIFTY-TWO

2017's going to be the year of the mandala. This issue, you'll find the first mandala in our new series and all kinds of hooky treats. How about cosy textured stitches, beautiful blankets, floaty mohair accessories and a sparkling shawl? We've got your winter sorted.

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Hook stocking fillers by top designers, amazing Rudolph wall art, filet crochet and an ombre shawl.



**ISSUE FIFTY**  
Christmas makes, corner-to-corner blanket, ripple coat and amigurumi reindeer to hook.



**ISSUE FORTY-NINE**  
Crocodile stitch, neon colourwork, Tunisian crochet jacket and four cute amigurumi toys to crochet.



**ISSUE FORTY-EIGHT**  
Try crochet cables, cosy rainbow pet accessories, our cute amigurumi fox and a stripy baby jumper.



**ISSUE FORTY-SEVEN**  
Tropical accessories, beach essentials, vintage crochet tips and a super-cute jellyfish to hook.



**ISSUE FORTY-SIX**  
Nautical makes, picnic projects, a lace top, freeform crochet and an awesome amigurumi octopus.



**ISSUE FORTY-FIVE**  
Fun glamping ideas, stylish summer tunics to make, and an iPad cosy for you. Plus, learn Irish crochet.



**ISSUE FORTY-FOUR**  
Rainbow hoodie, crochet skirt, embroidery and beaded wedding makes to hook.



**ISSUE FORTY-THREE**  
Geometric dress, Sixties-inspired accessories, shawls to bust your stash and puff stitch.



**ISSUE FORTY-TWO**  
Easter makes, a fab geometric poncho, broomstick crochet and a cute mini-caravan to stitch.



**ISSUE FORTY-ONE**  
Beautiful blanket wrap, a woolly mammoth, all about craftivism and spike stitch.



**ISSUE FORTY**  
Retro rainbow makes, a bright bobble jumper, amigurumi otters and clever crochet cables.



**ISSUE THIRTY-NINE**  
Marvellous mesh stitch, modern lace projects for your bedroom and a sweet crafty doll.



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