hooked on kimbap!

Simply Crochet

PATTERNS ♥ IDEAS ♥ YARN ♥ INSPIRATION

HEDGEHOG
IN BLOOM!

ISSUE ONE HUNDRED
& SIXTY FOUR

WE BACKED
BIPOC in fiber
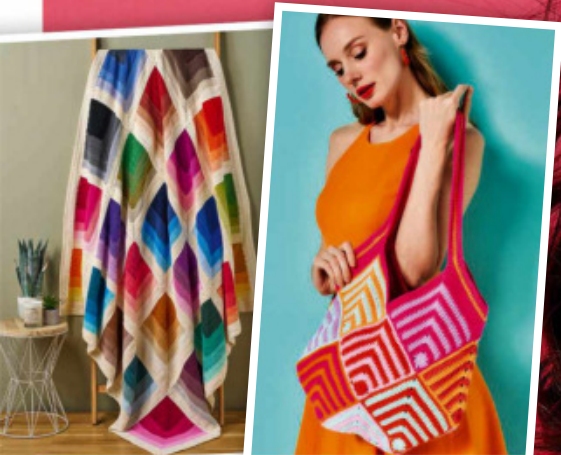
Fair & square
Mitred corner makes!

upcyle your fave pair

BELLE BOTTOM JEANS

Stitching for
SUMMER
Hot crochet trends inside!

Kawaii collection

WE'RE
SUPER CUTE!

■ HALTERNECK TOP ■ SUMMER SHAWL ■ BABY MOBILE ■ CROCHET PIÑATA ■ & MUCH MORE

Simply Crochet

Crochet doesn't have to cost you an arm and a leg – just a little yarn can go a long way. Whether you make a big statement with your stitches or prefer to keep it subtle, we've got lots of new ideas for you in this month's issue.

Make a matcha roll cake on page 22

Simply Crochet

ISSUE ONE HUNDRED & SIXTY FOUR

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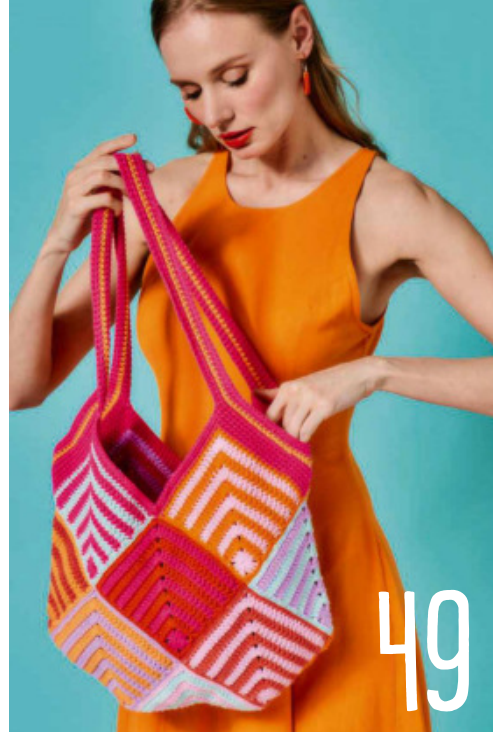
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Hook a pretty petalled hedgehog!

Hot off the hook!

It's easy to step away from crochet in warm weather. Sweaty fingers, bulky yarn – nightmare! But don't put your hooks away just yet, as this issue we've got loads of summer-friendly makes for you. Check our our retro T-shirt (page 26) and halterneck top (page 39), both made in cooling cotton. Our square blanket on page 53 is the perfect project to chip away at in the shade, and if the sun goes in then our shawl will keep you outside a bit longer – find it on page 56. Share your makes with us on Instagram tagged #sctreblemaker, or on our Facebook group, Simply Crochet SCtreblemakers. We love to see them!
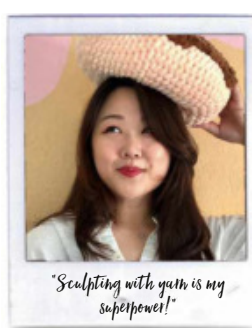
Sara

CONTRIBUTORS

The faces behind this issue's designs...

"Happiness is crochet and cake"

KELLY WILSON MOORE
Blogger and designer Kelly has been crocheting since childhood. Her design ethos is 'happy crochet' – bright, colourful and as cute as possible! Find her jeans trim on page 37.

"Sculpting with yarn is my superpower!"

AMY TING
Amy is a Korean-Taiwanese designer based in California, who hopes her work empowers those viewing it through representation. Explore her crocheted food designs on page 14.

"I love the endless possibilities of a hook and yarn!"

ESTHER GRAAFLAND
Esther is behind Studio Madelaine. Taught by her grandmother to crochet, she now designs colourful bags to prove anyone can crochet with joy and confidence – like the on page 49.

"I'm happiest with my hook and a basket of colours!"

CHLOÉ ELIZABETH BIRCH
Chloé is a lover of all things pattern and colour! Her passion as a designer is making pieces that are just as much fun to crochet as they are to wear. Stitch her halterneck top on page 39.

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS
Gordana Adamceska-Halson, Jo Bunclark, Judy Darley, Lucy Evans, Jenny May Forsyth, Joanne Fowler, Charlotte Gray, Sara Huntington, Victoria Kairis, Marianne Rawlins, Celene Semaan, Becky Skuse, Matt Spiers, Cassie Ward

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Hooked

Lolly-licious!

We've always thought TOFT's luxury yarns are mouthwateringly lush, and their summer 2025 collection is no exception. Choose four 25g balls of DK pure wool to make this fab lollipop trio, with wooden sticks included! This kit is part of TOFT's #gourmetcrochet collection of amigurumi soft toys, designed by Kerry Lord. Treat yourself to some yummy yarn and have a stitching summer! And if you fancy another flavour, there are no less than 37 shades to choose from. Go to www.toftuk.com to order your kit.

MAKING HISTORY

Mother India's Crochet Queens have achieved their sixth world record with the largest display of crochet squares and a staggering 100,581 pieces. Founder Subashri Natarajan is now looking to break two world records at once with the Double Dhamaka 2026, attempting the largest display of crochet ponchos and caps. MICQ is a network of over 1,500 women, offering connection and empowerment worldwide. To offer your crafting skills, contact Subashri via MICQ's website: www.micq.online

TO DYE FOR

▼ Fancy dyeing your own yarn? Gorgeous Yarns stock a number of seasonal dye kits in three different sizes. The small solar kits contain just the dyes, and you can also buy the medium kit with a 100g skein of yarn. And if you catch Caroline at a show, you can get your hands on the large kit, which includes all of the above and a glass jar. The dye colours are inspired by the changing seasons but can be used at any time of year – all you need is daylight. Find out more at www.gorgeousyarns.co.uk

DRESSED TO THE NINES

We were so hyped last month to show you Hobbii's new Pica Pau yarns. The question is... what should you make? You have a choice of five lovely animal friends, all designed by Yan herself. Harmony Pig, Irving Donkey, Mark Duck, Helly Lamb and Dylan Ladybug are each made with two accessories, which you can add or remove as you wish. Worked in DK cotton, the patterns are intermediate level and available for free. Download them at www.hobbii.co.uk and share your finished makes on social media with hashtags #hobbiidesign and #PicaPauxHobbii

New release

Waste not

Waste to Wonder (100g/300m) is an eco-conscious aran weight yarn made from 95% recycled cotton. Soft and durable, it's perfect for crafting through the summer months. There are six shades available from www.woolcouturecompany.com and you can get 20% off with code SIMPLYCROCHETXWOOLCOUTURE.

FEEL THE BUZZ

As we gear up for Granny Square Day next month, we've been scouring the net for interesting granny square kits. Made with Scheepjes Catona, Lucy Locket Land's Crochet Project Bag kit comes in six colours with lining fabric to match your finished squares. We particularly like the bee fabric that comes with the yellow kit. You'll also get a 2.5mm hook, interfacing and a zip. Kits are available for £30 at www.lucylocketland.co.uk, or you can visit Lucy's craft shop on the outskirts of Sunderland.

TEAM SOFTIE

This month Sara's following the Clover hype to find out if their Soft Touch range is as good as people say. (Spoiler alert: it is!)

A hook is just a hook, right? Wrong! I challenge you to go out there and find THE ONE – be it wood, metal, plastic, straight, ergonomic... there are just so many choices!

And one of those choices is the Soft Touch range from Clover. Like their popular Armour range, Soft Touch boasts an ergonomic plastic handle that's designed to minimise hand pain. But what makes Soft Touch different is the rubber thumb grip and a wider, shorter handle. If you prefer a smaller, lighter hook and a pencil grip then Soft Touch could be the one for you.

Renowned for their tapered metal points for smooth insertion, the Soft Touch range runs as small as 0.5mm, so you can stitch with surgical precision. And if that sounds like an optical challenge, don't panic! The hook sizes are large-printed and easy to read against that lush gold handle. Better yet, they're available to buy singularly, so you don't have to commit to a whole set if you're still on the fence.

I know I'm not the first to say that crocheting with Clover hooks is a lovely experience. Not only are they aesthetically pleasing, but they're specifically designed to prevent fatigue and keep you stitching for longer. So here's to one more row... and another... aaaaand another.

Go to www.woolwarehouse.co.uk to buy, £3.49

Skills & events

9-10 AUGUST North East Wool Show
From £6, Newcastle upon Tyne
www.northeastwoolshow.co.uk

15-16 AUGUST It's Crochet, Not Knit
£159.50, Worcester
www.anna-yevtukh.com

16 AUGUST Popup Wool Shop
£4, Bebington, Wirral
www.coastal-colours.co.uk/pop-up

30-31 AUGUST The Southern Wool Show
From £6, Newbury Racecourse
www.southernwoolshow.co.uk

INSPIRING BOOKS

CROCHET GRANNY SQUARE TOPS, BAGS AND MORE
SALENA BACA
(£9.99, Stackpole Books)
Whether you're new to granny squares or seeing them pile up in your project bag, US designer Salena Baca has something for everyone in her new book. From cowls and caps to totes and tops, Salena's here to prove that granny squares aren't just for grandmas with her 10 fabulous, timeless designs.

52 WEEKS OF SCRAP YARN
LAINE PUBLISHING
(€39.99, Laine Publishing)
We know how much you love using leftover yarn, so when Finnish publisher Laine announced this stashbusting bible, we just had to tell you! With knitting and crochet patterns from 47 talented designers across the world, and skill levels varying from easy to challenging, this is an excellent choice for eco-conscious multi-crafters looking to work through their stash.

MINI AMIGURUMI WOODLAND
JULIA CHIANG
(£7.99, Search Press)
Furry friends, leaves, acorns and toadstools – these are just some of the 26 designs waiting to come to life on your hook. Beginner-friendly and easy to follow, you only need small amounts of yarn to create these tiny forest friends. They make lovely gifts, toys and accessories for your home. Buy the book from 11 July.

CROCHET YOUR OWN CAT
MIEKO SHINDO
(£20.99, World Book Media)
If you want to take amigurumi to the next level, this one's for you. Stitch, shape and groom your crochet kitty with scissors and brushes to create soft, lifelike fur. Mieko also shows you how to make stripes and coloured patches for added realism, so you can recreate a particular breed. With 12 designs included, you're sure to find something to inspire a special gift for a feline-loving friend. *Crochet Your Own Cat* is available from 31 July.

Skein & Tell

HEAR HEAR!

Did you know Hobbii has launched a podcast? There's a full season of Skein & Tell to stream now, with season two well under way! Take a deep dive into crime and crochet, fibre arts in folklore, and the psychology of stitching, plus hear from special correspondent "Yarndiana Jones" about the history of your fave fibres. If you have a crafty story to share with host Gea, you can email her with your ideas for future seasons: gea@hobbii.com

PARTY ON DOWN

▼ London craft shop Loop is celebrating its 20th anniversary with a weekend of fabulous festivities. Susan Cropper first opened the doors in July 2005 and will be marking two decades of craft inspiration on the weekend of 19-20 July. Expect to find new kits, curated collections, limited edition project bags and some special contributions from renowned designers, plus much more! Join the celebrations in Islington or follow Loop on Instagram: @looplondonloves

PHOTO: Loop Knitting LTD

SWIPE RIGHT!

Are you a crocheter seeking inspiration? Do you fancy testing other people's patterns? Or perhaps you're looking to sell your own designs? If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions, you should check out Pattern Paradise: a new app that not only hosts patterns, but also allows you to post and respond to tester calls. There's also a Tinder-esque swipe function that lets you say yay or nay to patterns in your feed, which in turn influences rankings in the app. Best of all, swipes are only counted once and no single design is boosted unfairly. Pattern Paradise is available to download from Google Play and the App Store, or you can sign up on the web – just go to www.pattern-paradise.shop

UNDER THE SEA

Yarnsmiths have launched new hand-dyed shades of their popular Kid Mohair Silk, with 12 unique variegated colourways to choose from. The thin, wispy strands make us think of jellyfish and glittering seas, and with names like Tidal Pool and Abalone, you'll really feel the maritime magic in your makes. Opulent and ethereal, this lace weight yarn with its soft halo is ideal for scarves and shawls, or paired with a thicker yarn to create a subtle fuzz. Check out the full range at www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

Shop of the month
The Stitching Lady

Shop local

PROUD TO SUPPORT
UK HAND KNITTING

Each issue we explore a UK yarn shop

Who's in charge? Sam Hunter.
Where can we find you? Scarborough, North Yorkshire.
What is your shop like? A haven for crafters who love knitting, crochet, embroidery and cross stitch! People often tell us how lovely the space is.
Why should we visit? We stock kits, patterns and accessories from over 20 talented independent makers! So not only are you supporting my wonderful shop, you are supporting other small businesses too!
What are your best sellers? The Granny Square Card Deck from Claire Montgomerie and stitch markers from Regular Goose.
What support do you offer? You are always welcome to pop in with your questions, or you can ask us on the Facebook page or email me!
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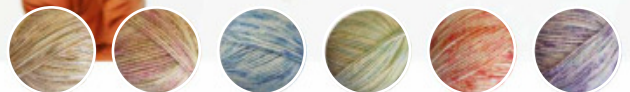
SUMPTUOUS STITCHES

Kimbap is a Korean snack made of seaweed, rice, meat and sautéed vegetables. Stitch all the colours – and the flavours – in this fun bunting.

Kawaii cuisine!

Amy Ting's cute crochet is inspired by the Korean and Taiwanese foods of her youth

SOUNDS TASTY

Store your earbuds in a bolo bun, found in bakeries on the busy streets of Taipei. The fluffy milk bun has a crumbly texture that's both sweet and delectable.

STUCK ON YOU

Keep your notes and lists organised with a matcha cake fridge magnet, complete with cream and a strawberry. A set would make a cute gift for a sweet-toothed friend.

FULL STEAM AHEAD

"I remember growing up and having this classic rice cooker with pink flowers all over it," Amy says. "As soon as you heard the 'pop!', you knew that meant delicious food was on its way."

BOBA BUDDY

Stationery lovers know the value of an aesthetically pleasing workspace. Pop your pretty pens in a boba tea container and keep your supplies sweet and organised.

KIMBAP BUNTING

With fluffy rice, hearty protein and colourful veg, Amy has fond memories of enjoying kimbap as an after-school snack

- Hobbii Friends Cotton 8/8 (100% cotton, 50g/75m), 1 ball of each: Pink Berry Smoothie (54), Sunflower (24), Hunter Green (116), White (01), Black (124)
- A 2.75mm (US C/2) hook
- 1 sheet of stiffened white felt 23x30cm
- Hot glue gun
- 5 red pompoms

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Each Kimbap measures approx 7.5cm (3in) in diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

invisible join Finish last st of round, fasten off leaving a 15cm tail. Thread the tail onto a darning needle and insert into the top of the second st of the round, working from RS to WS. Turn so WS is facing, insert needle down the centre of the final st of the round, pull so the loop sitting around the top of the first st matches the tension on the round, weave in end
For a full list, see page 78

NOTES

Pattern is worked in rounds with RS facing throughout. Change colour on the final yrh of st before colour change is indicated. Leave unused colour on the WS. When picking up the colour on the next round, it can be carried across the WS as this will be backed with felt.

KIMBAP BUNTING
KIMBAP (MAKE 5)

Using Pink Berry Smoothie, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st) 6dc in loop, ss to first st. [6 sts]
Round 2 Ch1 (counts as st from here to end), dc in st at base of ch-1, 2dc in next st, change to Sunflower, 2dc in next 2 sts, change to Hunter Green, 2dc in next 2 sts, change to Pink Berry Smoothie, ss to first st. [12 sts]
Round 3 Ch1, 2dc in next st, 1dc, 2dc in next st, change to Sunflower, (1dc, 2dc in next st) twice, change to Hunter Green, (1dc, 2dc in next st) twice, change to Pink Berry Smoothie, ss to first st. [18 sts]
Round 4 Ch1, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, 2dc, 2dc in next st, change to Sunflower, (2dc, 2dc in next st) twice, change to Hunter Green, 2dc, 2dc in next st, 2dc, (dc, ss) in next st, change to White, ss to first st. [24 sts]
Round 5 (Working in fl throughout) Ch1, 2dc, 2dc in next st, (3dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times, ss to first st. [30 sts]
Round 6 Ch1, dc, 2dc in next st, (4dc, 2dc in next st) 5 times, 2dc, ss to first st. [36 sts]
Change to Black.
Round 7 Ch1, ss in bl of each st around. Invisible join and weave in all ends.

TO FINISH

Trace around Kimbap onto the felt and cut out 5 circles.
Using a hot glue gun, attach a felt circle to the WS of each Kimbap.
Cut a 120cm length of White. Thread the pompoms onto the length of White, and spread them out evenly. Glue a Kimbap between each pompom.
Cut a small square of white felt and glue to the back of the Kimbap to cover where they are glued to the yarn strand.

BAO CUSHION

Bao zi means "little package" and is made with fluffy bread and a filling. Amy ate these when visiting her grandparents in Taiwan

- Hobbii Honey Bunny Big (100% polyester, 300g/120m), 1 ball of **Yarn A** White (01)
- Hobbii Friends Cotton 8/8 (100% cotton, 50g/75m), a small amount of each: **Yarn B** White (01), **Yarn C** Charcoal (123)
- A 7mm (US K/10½ or L/11) hook
- Fabric glue
- 2 safety eyes, 22mm
- Toy stuffing
- Poly pellets and a mesh pouch (optional to make this a weighted cushion)

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Cushion measures approx 27x23cm (10½x9in)

ABBREVIATIONS

invisible join Finish last st of round, fasten off leaving a 15cm tail. Thread the tail onto a darning needle and insert into the top of the second st of the round, working from RS to WS. Turn so WS is facing, insert needle down the centre of the final st of the round, pull so the loop sitting around the top of the first st matches the tension on the round, weave in end
For a full list, see page 78

NOTES

Cushion is worked using the amigurumi method. Work stitches continuously in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work. If you are making this as a toy for a child under 36 months, do not use safety eyes. Instead, embroider eyes using black stranded cotton.
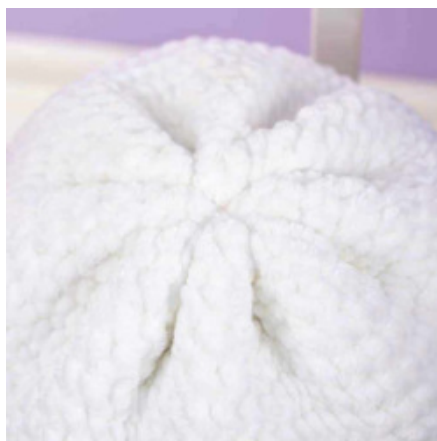
BAO CUSHION

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 Ch1, 8dc in loop. [8 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around 8 times. [16 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [24 sts]
Round 4 (1dc, 2dc in next st, 1dc) 8 times. [32 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [40 sts]
Round 6 (2dc, 2dc in next st, 2dc) 8 times. [48 sts]
Round 7 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [56 sts]
Round 8 (3dc, 2dc in next st, 3dc) 8 times. [64 sts]
Round 9 (7dc, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [72 sts]
Rounds 10-24 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off with invisible join.

TO MAKE UP

For the assembly, the designer has created a video for a similar project she has made. You can view the video here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=SrRYV6xKP2c&t=28s
Cut a length of Yarn B, approx 60cm long. Thread onto a darning needle and tie the end to the Yarn A tail, to secure on the WS. Insert needle through st from Round 21 and weave back to WS one st over, *skip 8 sts, insert back to RS at next st and weave back to WS one st over; rep from * until you have 8 pleats forming. Leave strand attached to close up later.

Secure safety eyes over Rounds 13-14, approx 9 sts apart, with a pleat centred between eyes. Using Yarn C, embroider a single stitch for the mouth and shape down using a small amount of fabric glue.
Stuff with toy filling and pellets if making a weighted cushion.
Pick up the strand of Yarn A to finish closing the top. First make sts between the pleats to close the top fully. Then thread Yarn A through the fl of central st at protruding point of each pleat and pull tight to cinch the top.
Weave in ends.

PINEAPPLE BUN EARBUD POUCH

Use eyeshadow and hairspray to recreate the crumbly golden texture of Amy's pineapple bolo bun

- Hobbii Friends Cotton 8/8 (100% cotton, 50g/75m), 1 ball of each: Lemon (23), Nougat (09)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- Light brown stranded cotton
- Yellow felt, 10x10cm
- Fabric glue
- Stitch markers
- Golden brown eyeshadow, brush applicator, hairspray

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Pouch measures approx 10cm (4in) in diameter

ABBREVIATIONS

invisible join Finish last st of round, fasten off leaving a 15cm tail. Thread the tail onto a darning needle and insert into the top of the second st of the round, working from RS to WS. Turn so WS is facing, insert needle down the centre of the final st of the round, pull so the loop sitting around the top of the first st matches the tension on the round, weave in end
For a full list, see page 78

NOTES

Pattern is worked using the amigurumi method. Work stitches continuously in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work. The Pineapple Bun is made in 2 parts, which are sewn together.

PINEAPPLE BUN EARBUD POUCH
TOP

Using Lemon, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc in loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (1dc, 2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (2dc, 2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 Dc in each st around.
Round 8 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 9 Dc in each st around.
Round 10 (6dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times, ss in next st, ch6, ss in next st, 4dc, 2dc in next st, 6dc, 2dc in next st, 6dc, dc in next st, change to Nougat, ss in same st as last dc. [48 sts, 1 ch-6 loop]
Round 11 Ss in bl of each st around. Invisible join.

DETAILS
Refer to the image as a guide.
Using 2 strands of light brown stranded cotton, embroider 4 long horizontal lines and 4 long vertical lines. Secure each intersection with a small st.
Trace the bun circumference onto the yellow felt and cut the circle out.
Using fabric glue, secure the felt onto the WS of the Top.

BOTTOM
Using Nougat, make a magic loop.
Rounds 1-6 As Rounds 1-6 of Top. [36 sts]
Round 7 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 8 (3dc, 2dc in next st, 3dc) 5 times, 3dc, 2dc in next st, 2dc, ss in last st. [48 sts]
Round 9 Dc in bl of each st around.
Round 10 Dc in each st around.
Round 11 23dc, ss in next st, ch34, ss in next st, 23dc.
Fasten off, leaving a 30cm tail.

TO MAKE UP
Using the Nougat tail, sew the Top to the bottom working through the bl only. Leave the central 12 sts with ch-sp loops at the centre unjoined for the opening.
Using golden brown eyeshadow and a brush, gradually build up pigment on each of the squares. Set the colour in place by spraying with hairspray.

MATCHA ROLL CAKE MAGNET
Tiny stitches imitate this refreshing dessert that's infused with matcha powder, filled with cream and topped with fresh fruit
■ Hobbii Friends Cotton 8/6 (100% cotton,
50g/105m), 1 ball of each: White (01), Pistachio (108), Pomegranate (41)
■ A 2.75mm (US C/2) hook
■ A 1.75mm (US 5 steel) hook
■ Scissors
■ Fabric glue
■ Superglue (the magnet will not adhere with hot glue)
■ Round magnet, 1cm

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

MEASUREMENTS
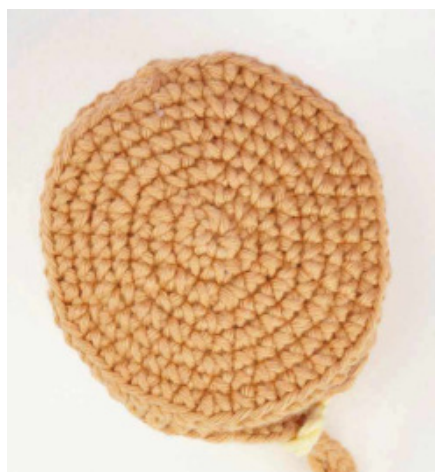Magnet measures approx 3x3cm (1¼x1¼in)

NOTES
Magnet is made in 4 separate parts, which are glued together at the end. Each part is worked in rows.

MATCHA ROLL CAKE MAGNET
CAKE
Using a 2.75mm hook and Pistachio, ch25.
Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch across, turn. [24 sts]
Rows 2-7 Ch1 (counts as the first dc), dc in each st to end, turn.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Whipstitch the 2 long edges together.

CREAM FILLING
Using a 1.75mm hook and White, ch21.
Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch across, turn. [20 sts]
Row 2 Ch1 (counts as the first dc), dc in each st to end.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

CREAM TOPPING
Using a 1.75mm hook and White, ch12.
Row 1 (RS) 3dc in second ch from hook, 3dc in each ch across.
Twist the Topping into a tight curl and ss into st to secure.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

STRAWBERRY
Using a 1.75mm hook and Pomegranate, ch2.
Row 1 (3-tr cl, ch1, ss) in second ch from hook.
Fasten off.
Tie the yarn tails into a knot and cut them short.

TO MAKE UP
Lay the Cream Filling on top of the Cake so that the corners are aligned on the short edge without the yarn tails. Use fabric glue to secure the 2 parts together and then roll them into a spiral. Use the yarn tail from the Cake to sew through the piece several times to secure the spiral shape in place.
Using fabric glue, secure the Strawberry on top of the Cream Topping. Next, glue the Topping onto the Cake.
Using superglue, secure the Magnet onto the back of the Matcha Roll Cake.

RICE COOKER BAG CHARM
Steamed rice is a staple in East Asian cuisine. Add embroidery floral details to recreate the rice cooker from Amy's childhood

- Hobbii Friends Cotton 8/6 (100% cotton, 50g/105m), 1 ball of each: White (01), Silver (118)
- Stranded cotton in: light pink, coral, light green, light yellow, red, orange, silver
- A 1.75mm (US 5 steel) hook
- A stitch marker
- Metal wire
- Wire cutters
- Fabric glue
- Hot glue gun
- Toy stuffing

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

MEASUREMENTS
Bag charm measures approx 5x4cm (2x1½in)

ABBREVIATIONS
invisible join Finish last st of round, fasten off leaving a 15cm tail. Thread the tail onto a darning needle and insert into the top of the second st of the round, working from RS to WS. Turn so WS is facing, insert needle down the centre of the final st of the round, pull so the loop sitting around the top of the first st matches the tension on the round, weave in end
For a full list, see page 78

NOTES
Pattern is worked using the amigurumi method. Work stitches continuously in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work. Bag Charm is worked from the top down. The Lid Handle and the embroidered details are added before closing up the piece.

RICE COOKER BAG CHARM
BUTTON
Using White, ch4.
Round 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in next ch, 3dc in last ch, turn to work down opposite side of foundation ch, dc in next ch, 2dc in last ch. [8 sts]
Invisible join.
Tie the tails together on the WS and trim.
Refer to the image when embroidering.
Using red and orange stranded cotton, embroider the small lines on the button for lights.

Using silver stranded cotton, embroider a line beneath the orange and red lights.

RICE COOKER
Using White, make a magic loop.
Round 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), 8dc in loop. [8 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [16 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [24 sts]
Round 4 (1dc, 2dc in next st, 1dc) 8 times. [32 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 8 times [40 sts]
Rounds 6-7 Dc in each st around
Round 8 Dc in each st to last st, ss in last st.
Round 9 Dc in bl of each st around.
Place live loop on marker.

HANDLE
Count 10 sts from last st and place marker in line with st between Rounds 6-7. Mark the opposite side with another marker. These show position of handle.
Cut 8cm of wire and insert wire from the outside in, bending 2cm on the inside of the lid. Work into the same st and weave White yarn from the outside in. Leave a 2cm tail. Using a hot glue gun, secure the wire and yarn tail on the WS.
Wrap yarn tightly around the metal handle and leave no visible gaps until you have 2cm of wire remaining. Cut the yarn and leave a 2cm tail. Bend the wire so that it is curved and insert both the wire and the yarn tail into the second marked st. Secure the ends on the WS with the hot glue gun.

RICE COOKER CONT

Place live loop back on hook.

Rounds 10-19 Dc in each st around.

Place live loop on marker so you can sew on the Button and work the embroidery. The marker will be positioned at the back of the rice cooker. Work the embroidery on the front as shown in the image.

Using fabric glue, attach the Button over Rounds 13-17.

Using the stranded cotton, embroider the flowers and buds.

Using a single strand of green stranded cotton, embroider the stems.

Place live loop on hook.

Round 20 (3dc, dc2tog) 8 times [32 sts]

Round 21 (1dc, dc2tog, 1dc) 8 times [24 sts] Stuff as you work.

Round 22 (1dc, dc2tog) 8 times [16 sts]

Round 23 (Dc2tog) 8 times. [8 sts]

Fasten off.

Thread tail through fl of final 8 sts and pull tight to close. Weave in ends.

BOBA STORAGE CUP

Traditional Taiwanese boba tea mixes tapioca pearls with sweet milk. Refreshing fruity boba drinks are also popular today

■ Hobbii Friends Cotton 8/8 (100% cotton, 50g/75m), 1 ball of each: Nougat (09), White (01), Candyfloss (45)

■ A 2.75mm (US C/2) hook
■ A 1.75mm (US 5 steel) hook
■ Medium brown stranded cotton
■ Dark brown stranded cotton
■ Glue
■ Mesh canvas sheet 16x16cm
■ White felt 16x16cm
■ Black felt 3x3cm

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Storage Cup measures approx 6.5x7.5cm (2½x3in)

ABBREVIATIONS

invisible join Finish last st of round, fasten off leaving a 15cm tail. Thread the tail onto a darning needle and insert into the top of the second st of the round, working from RS to WS. Turn so WS is facing, insert needle down the centre of the final st of the round, pull so the loop sitting around the top of the first st matches the tension on the round, weave in end
For a full list, see page 78

NOTES

Parts of this pattern are worked using the amigurumi method. Work stitches continuously in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work.

The Boba Cup is worked from the base up and is made in 3 separate parts.

BOBA STORAGE CUP
CUP

Using a 2.75mm hook and Nougat, make a magic loop.

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

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

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

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

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

Round 6 Dc in bl of each st around.

Rounds 7-8 Dc in each st around.

Round 9 (9dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [33 sts]

Trace the base of the Cup onto both the mesh sheet and white felt. Cut out the 2 circles and glue the mesh circle onto the inside of the Cup base. Next, glue the felt circle over it.

Rounds 10-12 Dc in each st around.

Round 13 (10dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [36 sts]

Rounds 14-18 Dc in each st around.

Round 19 (11dc, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [39 sts]

Rounds 20-22 Dc in each st around.

Invisible join and weave in end.

LID
Using a 2.75mm hook and White, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc in loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 4 (1dc, 2dc in next st, 1dc) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 5 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 6 (2dc, 2dc in next st, 2dc) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 7 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Round 8 (Working in fl only) (3dc, 2dc in next st, 3dc) 5 times, 3dc, 2dc in next st, 2dc, ss into the last st. [48 sts]
Invisible join and weave in end.

STRAW
Using a 2.75mm hook and Candyfloss, make a magic loop.
Round 1 Ch1, 6dc in loop, ss in bl of first st. [6 sts]
Round 2 Ch1 (counts as first st), dc in bl of each st around.
Rounds 3-7 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Lightly stuff the Straw with yarn scraps. Sew the end of the Straw to the centre of the RS of the Lid, working through the bl only.
Trace the Lid onto both the mesh sheet and white felt. Cut out the 2 circles and glue the mesh circle to the inside of the Lid. Next, glue the felt circle over it.

TAPIOCA PEARLS (MAKE 10)
Make 5 in each shade of brown stranded cotton.
Using a 1.75mm hook, make a magic loop.
Round 1 Ch1, 8dc in loop. [8 sts]
Invisible join.
Tie the end to the beg tails to secure and trim tails.
Using the image as a guide, glue to the Cup.

TO FINISH
Using Black felt, cut out 2 small circles for the eyes and a small curved line for the mouth. Glue the facial features onto the Cup.

YARN STOCKISTS
Hobbii
www.hobbii.co.uk

MAKE UP TO SIZE 2XL

SUNNY DELIGHT

Step into the light in a hot pink and orange combo,
designed by Cassie Ward

Begin with granny squares sewn into strips, then add the striped sections above and below

YOU WILL NEED

- Cygnet 100% Cotton
  (100% cotton 100g/200m)
  Yarn A Vanilla Cream (2156)
  Yarn B Orange Soda (5506)
  Yarn C Peach Sorbet (6724)
  Yarn D Pepper (6206)
  See table for measurements and yarn quantities
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
For yarn stockists contact Cygnet Yarns 01274 743374 www.cygnetyarns.com

TENSION

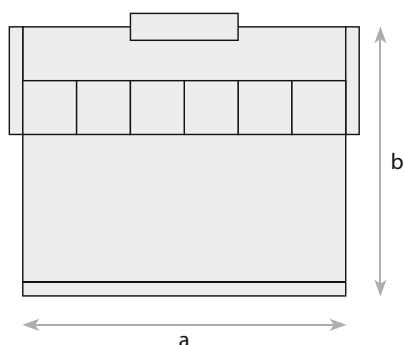Tension is not critical, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

16 sts and 10 rows measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern using a 4mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension
Rounds 1-4 of Square measure 9x9cm (3½x3½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

spiked tr Yrh, insert hook in ch-sp 2 rows down, yrh and pull up loop to height of row, (yrh and pull through 2 loop) twice
For a full list, see page 78

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

DK WEIGHT

3.5MM 4MM

With cool cotton and a loose, airy drape, this casual but pretty T-shirt is a joy to make and wear on scorching summer days.

NOTES

T-shirt is made up of Front and Back. Front and Back begin with a strip of 6 Squares. Rows are worked across the base of the Squares for the Body and top of the Squares for the Shoulders. The Front and Back are sewn together before the Sleeve Cuffs, Neckline and Hem are added. When working in stripes, you can carry the unused yarns up the side of your work. Make sure you hide these on the WS when sewing the pieces together.
Model is wearing a size M.
You can adapt the length of the Top by working additional rows on the Body; this may affect the yarn quantities required.

T-SHIRT
SQUARES (MAKE 12)
Make 6 in each colourway. Colourway 1 is written first with colourway 2 in brackets. Using a 4mm hook and Yarn B (Yarn B), make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in loop, ch1, (2tr in loop, ch1) 5 times ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. [12 sts, 6 ch-1 sps]
Fasten off.
Join Yarn C (Yarn D) in any ch-1 sp.
Round 2 (WS) Ch3, (tr, ch1, 2tr, ch2) in same sp, (2tr, ch1, 2tr, ch1) in each ch-1 sp around, s to top of beg ch-3, turn. [24 sts, 12 ch-1 sps]
Fasten off.
Join Yarn D (Yarn C) in any ch-1 sp.
Round 3 Ch3, 2tr in same sp, ch1, (3tr, ch1) in each ch-1 sp around, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. [36 sts, 12 ch-1 sps]
Fasten off.
Join Yarn A (Yarn A) in any ch-1 sp.
Round 4 Ch3, (2tr, ch3, 3tr) in same ch-sp, 3htr in next 2 ch-sps, *(3tr, ch3, 3tr) in next ch-sp, 3htr in next 2 ch-sps; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. [48 sts, 4 ch-3 sps]
Fasten off Size S only.

SIZE		S	M	L	XL	2XL
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	108	120	132	144	156
	in	42½	47¼	52	56¾	61½
LENGTH	cm	44	45	48	49	51
	in	17¼	17¾	19	19¼	20
YARNS A & D	100g	2	2	2	3	3
YARNS B & C	100g	1	1	2	2	2

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

Width a: 54 (60: 66: 72: 78)cm, 21¼ (23½: 26: 28¼: 30¾)in
Length b: 44 (45: 48: 49: 51)cm, 17¼ (17¾: 19: 19¼: 20)in

SIZES L, XL AND 2XL ONLY

Round 5 Ss in sp between 3-tr groups, ch3, 2tr in same sp, *3tr in sp between each group to ch-3 sp, (3tr, ch3, 3tr) in ch-3 sp; rep from * around to end, ss to top of beg ch-3, turn. [60 sts, 4 ch-3 sps]
Rep Round 5 another - (-: 0: 0: 1) times.
[- (-: 60: 60: 72) sts, 4 ch-3 sps]
Fasten off Sizes L and 2XL only.

SIZES M AND XL ONLY

Next round Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), *dc in each st to ch-3 sp, (dc, ch3, dc) in ch-sp; rep from * around to end, ss to beg dc. [- (56: -: 68: -) sts, 4 ch-3 sps]
Fasten off.

JOIN SQUARES

Make 2 strips by whipstitching 6 Squares together, alternating colourways.

BACK
BODY

Using a 4mm hook, join Yarn D in corner to work across long edge of strip.
Row 1 (RS) Ch1, work 83 (95: 103: 115: 119) dc evenly across edge, turn.
[83 (95: 103: 115: 119) sts]
Row 2 (WS) Ch3, tr in next 2 sts, (ch1, skip 1 sts, tr in next 3 sts) rep to end, turn.
Row 3 Ch3, *tr in each tr to ch-1 sp, ch1, skip ch-sp; rep from * to end, turn.
Change to Yarn B.
Row 4 Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1, throughout), skip next st, (tr in next tr, spiked tr, tr in next tr, ch1, skip 1 tr) rep across to final st, tr in final st, turn.
Row 5 Ch4, skip next ch-sp, *tr in each st to ch-1 sp, ch1, skip ch-sp; rep from * to end, turn.
Change to Yarn C.
Row 6 Ch3, *spiked tr, tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next st; rep from * across to final 2 sts, spiked tr, tr in final st, turn.
Row 7 Ch3, *tr in each tr to ch-1 sp, ch1, skip ch-sp; rep from * to end, turn.
Change to Yarn D. Continue to change colour every 2 rows in sequence set.
Rep Rows 4-7 until Body measures approx 36 (37: 40: 41: 43)cm, ending on either a Row 5 or Row 7 rep. To make the top longer, work to your desired measurements minus 8cm to allow for Shoulders and Hem.
Fasten off.

SHOULDERS

Using a 4mm hook, join Yarn C in corner of Squares to work across opposite long edge.
Work as Rows 1-7 of Body, changing to Yarn B at end of Row 3, and Yarn D at end of Row 5.
Fasten off.

FRONT
BODY

Work as Body for Back.

SHOULDERS

Using a 4mm hook, join Yarn C in corner of Squares to work across top edge.
Row 1 (RS) Ch1, work 83 (95: 103: 115: 119) dc evenly across edge, turn. [83 (95: 103: 115: 119) sts]
Row 2 (WS) Ch3, tr in next 2 sts, (ch1, skip 1 sts, tr in next 3 sts) rep to end, turn.
Row 3 Ch3, *tr in each tr to ch-1 sp, ch1, skip ch-sp; rep from * to end, turn.
Change to Yarn B.
Row 4 Ch4, skip next st, (tr in next tr, spiked tr, tr in next tr, ch1, skip 1 tr)rep across to final st, tr in final st, turn.
Fasten off.

LEFT SIDE SHAPING

Row 5 Ch4, skip next st, (tr in next 3 sts, ch1, skip ch-sp) 7 (7: 8: 9: 9) times, tr in next st, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [31 (31: 35: 39: 39) sts]
Change to Yarn D.
Row 6 Ch3, *spiked tr, tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next st; rep from * across to final 2 sts, spiked tr, tr in final st, turn.
Row 7 Ch3, *tr in each tr to ch-1 sp, ch1, skip ch-sp; rep from * to end, turn.
Fasten off.

RIGHT SIDE SHAPING

Skip 21 (33: 33: 37: 41) sts from Row 3 for neck space and join Yarn B in next st.
Rep Rows 5-7 of Left Side Shaping.
Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Whipstitch the Front to Back at shoulders.
Join sides leaving 17 (18: 20: 22: 24)cm gap for armhole.

HEM

Using a 3.5mm hook, join Yarn A in the side seam at base.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in each st and ch-sp around, ss to beg dc, turn. work 1dc in
Rounds 2-3 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc, turn.
Fasten off.

NECKBAND

Using a 3.5mm hook, join Yarn A in shoulder seam to work around neck opening.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in each st and 2dc in each row-end around, ss to beg dc.
Work continues in rows.
Row 2 (RS) Ch6, dc in second ch from hook, dc in next 4 ch, ss in next 2 sts from Round 1, turn. [5 dc, 2 ss]
Row 3 Skip 2 ss, dc in bl of next 5 dc, turn. [5 dc]
Row 4 Ch1, dc in bl of next 5 dc, ss in next 2 unworked sts from Round 1, turn.
Rep Rows 3-4 until all sts from Round 1 have been worked into.
With WS facing, ss final row to base of Row 2.
Fasten off.

You can adjust the length of the top by working more or fewer rows on the body

The striped section is enhanced with texture by working stitches in spiked treble crochet

SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

Using a 3.5mm hook, join Yarn A in underarm seam to work armhole opening.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, dc evenly around armhole opening, ss to beg dc.
Work continues in rows.
Row 2 (RS) Ch6, dc in second ch from hook, dc in next 4 ch, ss in next 2 sts from Round 1, turn. [5 dc, 2 ss]
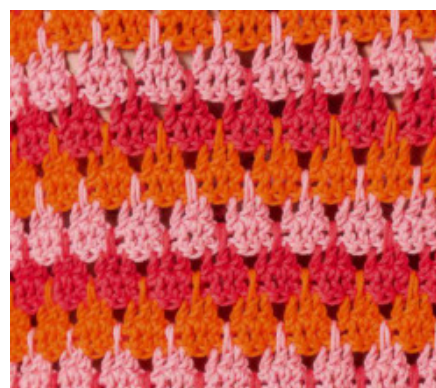**Row 3** Skip 2 ss, dc in bl of next 5 dc, turn. [5 dc]
Row 4 Ch1, dc in bl of next 5 dc, ss in next 2 unworked sts from Round 1, turn.
Rep Rows 3-4 until all sts from Round 1 have been worked into.
With WS facing, ss the final row to the base of Row 2.
Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Weave in all ends and block to the measurements listed.

CUTE GIFT

WOODLAND WANDERER

Bluebell the hedgehog, designed by
Jo Bunclark, traded her spines for soft petals!

YOU WILL NEED
- Paintbox Cotton DK
  (100% cotton, 50g/125m)
  1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Soft Fudge (410)
  Yarn B Summer Sky Blue (463)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- Black stranded cotton
- White stranded cotton
- A stitch marker
- Toy stuffing
**For yarn stockists contact
LoveCrafts 01409 404010
www.lovecrafts.com**

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

MEASUREMENTS
Hedgehog measures approx 10cm (4in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS
For a full list, see page 78

Bluebell took a walk in the woods and now she's covered in petals! Ever the optimist, she's determined to make it a new trend.

NOTES
Parts of the pattern are worked using the amigurumi method. Work stitches continuously in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. Add a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round moving it up as you work.

HEDGEHOG
BODY
Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 8dc into loop. [8 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [16 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [24 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [32 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [40 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [48 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [56 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [64 sts]
Round 9 (Dc in next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [72 sts]
Round 10 (Dc in next 8 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [80 sts]
Round 11 Dc in bl of each st around.
Rounds 12-20 Dc in each st around.
Round 21 (Dc in next 8 sts, dc2tog) 8 times. [72 sts]
Round 22 Dc in each st around.
Round 23 (Dc in next 7 sts, dc2tog) 8 times. [64 sts]
Rounds 24-25 Dc in each st around.
Stuff Body as you work.
Round 26 (Dc in next 6 sts, dc2tog) 8 times. [56 sts]
Round 27 Dc in each st around.
Round 28 (Dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog) 8 times. [48 sts]
Round 29 (Dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog) 8 times. [40 sts]
Round 30 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 8 times. [32 sts]
Round 31 Dc in each st around.
Round 32 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 8 times. [24 sts]
Round 33 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 8 times. [16 sts]
Round 34 (Dc2tog) 8 times. [8 sts]
Fasten off.
Thread tail through fl of final 8 sts and pull tight to close.

Place the flowers haphazardly all over the hedgehog's body

SNOUT

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 5dc into loop. [5 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [10 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [15 sts]
Round 4 Dc in each st around.
Round 5 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 5 times. [20 sts]
Round 6 2dc in next 5 sts, 10dc, 2dc in next 5 sts. [30 sts]
Rounds 7-8 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off.
Stuff the Snout and pin to the Hedgehog so that the increase on Round 6 sits at the top. Once happy with the position, sew in place. Using black stranded cotton, embroider the nose.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 4dc into loop. [4 sts]
Round 2 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) twice. [6 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Sew the Ears 2 rounds above the Snout and approx 18 sts apart.
Using black stranded cotton, embroider the eyes. Using white stranded cotton, embroider a highlight on each eye.

LEGS (MAKE 4)

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into loop. [6 sts]
Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 3 Dc in bl of each st around.
Round 4 Dc in each st around, ss in beg dc.

Before stitching the legs in the final position, make sure the hedgehog can stand up

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Stuff Legs and sew to the base of the Hedgehog, making sure it stands before securing.

FLOWERS (MAKE 32)

Using Yarn B, make a slip knot.
Round 1 (RS) *Ch3, 2dc in last ch from hook, ch3, ss in ch at base of dc; rep from * twice more.
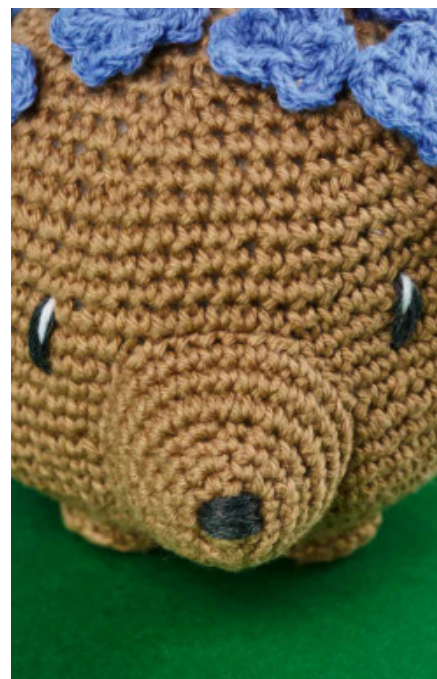
Use straight stitches with stranded cotton to embroider eyes and a nose

Fasten off.
Pin the Flowers over the top and sides of the Hedgehog. Once happy with the position, sew in place using the tails.
Weave in any rem ends.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO DECREASE IN DOUBLE CROCHET (DC2TOG)

1 Start by inserting the hook under the top 2 loops of the next stitch on the previous row. Begin to work a double crochet stitch in the usual way, working yrh and pull loop through (2 loops on hook).

2 Without finishing the first dc, begin the next dc by inserting the hook in the next stitch on the previous row. Again, work yrh and pull loop through (3 loops on hook).

3 Now complete both dc stitches together by working yrh and pull this loop through all 3 loops on the hook.

4 This is how the completed dc2tog should look. You will have neatly decreased by 1 stitch. On subsequent rows, you can simply work a stitch into the top of the dc2tog stitch as usual.

Simply Crochet

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WEEKEND MAKE

CUFF LOVE

Kelly Wilson Moore's chic trim offers a festival-worthy summer glow-up for old denim

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

4PLY WEIGHT

3MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED
■ Scheepjes Skies Light Mini Hanks Assortment (100% cotton, 28g/95m per skein)
   Pack includes 1 skein of each:
   Cirrocumulus (109)
   Cirrus (110)
   Cumulus (111)
   Altocumulus (112)
   Altostratus (113)
   Stratus (114)
   Cirrostratus (115)
   Cumulonimbus (116)
   Circumcumulus (117)
■ A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
■ A pair of cropped-leg jeans
For yarn stockists contact Scheepjes
www.scheepjes.com/en

TENSION
Rounds 1-5 of Square measures 8x8cm (3¼x3¼in)

MEASUREMENTS
Pattern can be adapted to fit different sizes

ABBREVIATIONS
For a full list, see page 78

Bobbles and coloured squares add a fun retro trim to plain jeans. Transform a pair of flares, bootcut or even shorts with this fun hack.

NOTES
Jeans have been embellished with Squares around the hem on each leg. Our jeans had a hem circumference of 48cm, so we've made 6 Squares for each leg. Measure the circumference on your jeans and divide the number by 8 to get an approx number of Squares you will need for each leg. Round this number down, eg: if your leg circumference is 43cm then you would need to make 5 Squares. Instructions are included to increase the measurements slightly if needed.
Squares are worked in 2 colourways.

JEANS
SQUARES
Using Cumulonimbus (Cumulus), make a magic ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 2tr in loop, (ch2, 3tr in loop) 3 times, ch2, ss to top of beg ch-3. [12 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off.
Join Circumcumulus (Cirrus) in any ch-2 sp.
Round 2 (RS) Ch3, (tr, ch2, 2tr) in same sp, 3tr, *(2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-2 sp, 3tr; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3. [28 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off.
Join Altocumulus (Altostratus) to tr before any ch-2 sp.
Round 3 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), *1dc, ss in ch-2 sp, 1dc, skip 2 sts, (3tr, ch2, 3tr) in next st, skip 2 sts; rep from * 3 times, ss to first dc. [32 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off.
Join Stratus (Cirrostratus) to first st.
Round 4 Ch3, *tr in ch-2 sp from Round 3, tr in next dc, tr in next 3 tr, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-2 sp, tr in next 3 tr, tr in dc; rep from * 3 times more omitting final tr on last rep, ss to top of beg ch-3. [52 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off.
Join Cirrus (Cumulonimbus) in any st. To increase the size of your Squares work treble stitches in the next round instead of half trebles.
Round 5 Ch2 (does not count as st throughout), *htr in each st to ch-2 sp, (htr, ch2, htr) in ch-sp; rep from * around to end, ss to top of first htr. [60 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Sew the Squares together to form a two loops to fit around legs of jeans.

UPPER EDGING
Join Cirrocumulus to any st along the top.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, *dc in each st to ch-2 sp, dc in ch-sp, dc2tog same ch-sp and next ch-sp, dc in next ch-sp; rep from * around to end (make sure you've worked a multiple of 4 sts, adding

Create a fun bobbly lower edging with treble clusters worked into chain stitches

The upper edging features scalloped trim made out of treble crochet stitches

increases if needed), ss to beg dc. [108 sts]
Round 2 Ch1, (skip 1 st, 5tr in next st, skip 1 st, ss in next st) repeat to end.
[27 5-tr groups, 135 sts]
Fasten off.

LOWER EDGING
Join Cirrocumulus in any st along lower edge.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, *dc in each st to ch-2 sp, dc in ch-sp, dc2tog same ch-sp and next ch-sp, dc in next ch-sp; rep from * around to end (make sure you've worked a multiple of 4 sts, adding increases if needed), ss to beg dc. [108 sts]
Fasten off.
Join Circumcumulus in any st.
Round 2 (RS) Ch1, 2dc in first st, *ch4, 3-tr cluster in third ch from hook, ch2, ss in ch at base of cl, ch2, skip 3 sts, 2dc in next st; repeat from * to end, ss to beg dc.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH
Pin the Upper Edging to the hem of your jeans. Once happy with the position, sew in place using Cirrocumulus.

Hot stuff!

A beginner-friendly and delightfully comfy halterneck top by Chloé Elizabeth Birch

QUICK SUMMER MAKE!
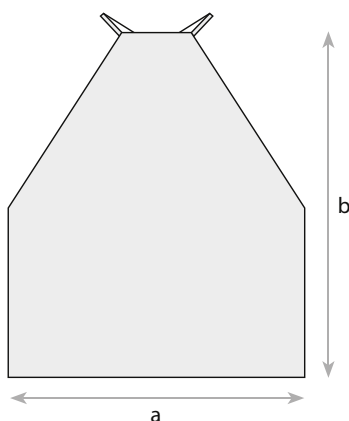
YOU WILL NEED

- Cascade Yarns Ultra Pima (100% cotton, 100g/200m) Coral (3752)
  See table for measurements and yarn quantities
- A 3.25mm (US D/3) hook

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

TENSION

Rounds 1-4 measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern using a 3.25mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78

EASY PEASY ★★☆
DK WEIGHT
3.25MM HOOK

For **10% OFF** at www.woolwarehouse.co.uk use the code SC164 at the checkout
Discount code not valid on certain products such as yarn packs, sale items, Lopi and KC Collection products.

Width a: 48 (53: 57.5: 62.5: 67) cm, 19 (20¾: 22¾: 24½: 26½)in
Length b: 50 (55: 59.5: 64.5: 69) cm, 19¾ (21½: 23½: 25¼: 27¼)in

Beachy coral hues, airy chain spaces and thin, tan-worthy straps – it must be summer time! This is one to stitch for the hottest days.

NOTES

Top is made up of 2 Panels. Each Panel is worked in rows throughout, then seamed together, with the seams sitting down the centre of the front and back. A Neckband is worked to form a tie closure at the back.

SUMMER TOP
PANELS (MAKE 2)

Ch4, ss in last ch from hook to form a loop.
Row 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 2tr in loop, (ch2, 3tr in loop) twice, turn. [9 sts, 2 ch-2 sps]
Row 2 (WS) Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, *tr in each st to ch-2 sp, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-sp; rep from * once more, tr in each st to final st, 3tr in final st, turn. [21 sts, 2 ch-2 sps]
Rows 3-4 As Row 2. [45 sts, 2 ch-2 sps]
Row 5 Ch3, 2tr in st at base of ch-3, *(ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next st) rep across to ch-2 sp, (2tr ch2, 2tr) in ch-sp, tr in next st; rep from * once more, (ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next st) rep across to final st, 3tr in final st, turn. [57 sts, 2 ch-2 sps]
Rep Rows 2-5 another 2 (3: 3: 4: 4) times. [13 (17: 17: 21: 21) rows worked in total] [153 (201: 201: 249: 249) sts]
Rep Row 2 another 3 (1: 3: 1: 3) times. [16 (18: 20: 22: 24) rows worked in total] [189 (213: 237: 261: 285) sts]

SIZES S, L AND 2XL ONLY

Next row Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1), skip next st, *tr in next st, (ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next st) rep across to ch-2 sp, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-sp; rep from * once more, (ch1, skip 1 st, tr in next st) rep to end, turn. [197 (-: 245: -: 293) sts]
Next row Ch3, tr in each st and ch-1 sp to ch-2 sp (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-2 sp; rep from * once more, tr in each st and ch-1 sp to end, turn. [205 (-: 253: -: 301) sts]
Rep last row twice more. [20 (-: 24: -: 28) rows worked in total] [221 (-: 269: -: 317) sts]
Fasten off.

SIZES M AND XL ONLY

Next row Ch3, tr in each st and ch-1 sp to ch-2 sp (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-2 sp; rep from * once more, tr in each st and ch-1 sp to end, turn. [- (221: -: 269: -) sts]
Rep last row once more. [- (229: -: 277: -) sts]
Next row Ch4, skip next st, *(tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st) rep across to ch-2 sp, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-sp; rep from * once more, tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st) rep across to end, turn. [- (237: -: 285: -) sts]
Next row Ch3, tr in each st and ch-1 sp to ch-2 sp (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-2 sp; rep from * once more,

Leave an opening at the back seam and work the tie fastening along with the neckband

As the seams are on the front and back, the centre of each panel sits below the underarm

SIZE		S	M	L	XL	2XL
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	96	106	115	125	134.5
	in	37¾	41½	45¼	49¼	53
LENGTH	cm	50	55	59.5	64.5	69
	in	19¾	21½	23½	25¼	27¼
YARN	100g	3	3	4	4	5

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

tr in each st and ch-1 sp to end, turn.
[- (245: -: 293: -)] sts
Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP
Pin Panels together across side edges. The centre of each panel will sit at the underarm. Work all joining using a ss seam.
On one seam, ss the pieces together across entire edge. This forms the centre front of the Top.
Join the second side edges, leaving top 20 sts unseamed. This seam will be positioned at the centre back.

NECKBAND
With RS of back facing you, ch70.
Row 1 (RS) 8dc across left edge, ch22 (24: 26: 28: 30), 16dc evenly across top edge of front, ch22 (24: 26: 28: 30), 8dc across right edge of back, ch71, turn. [32 sts]
Row 2 Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch and st to end. [216 (220: 224: 228: 232) sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Block to measurements listed.

SAVE OR SPLURGE

For a more budget-friendly make, try King Cole Cottonsoft DK in Coral (1574) with yarn quantities as listed in pattern
Check hook size, tension and ball length if you use a different yarn
**For yarn stockists contact
www.kingcole.com**
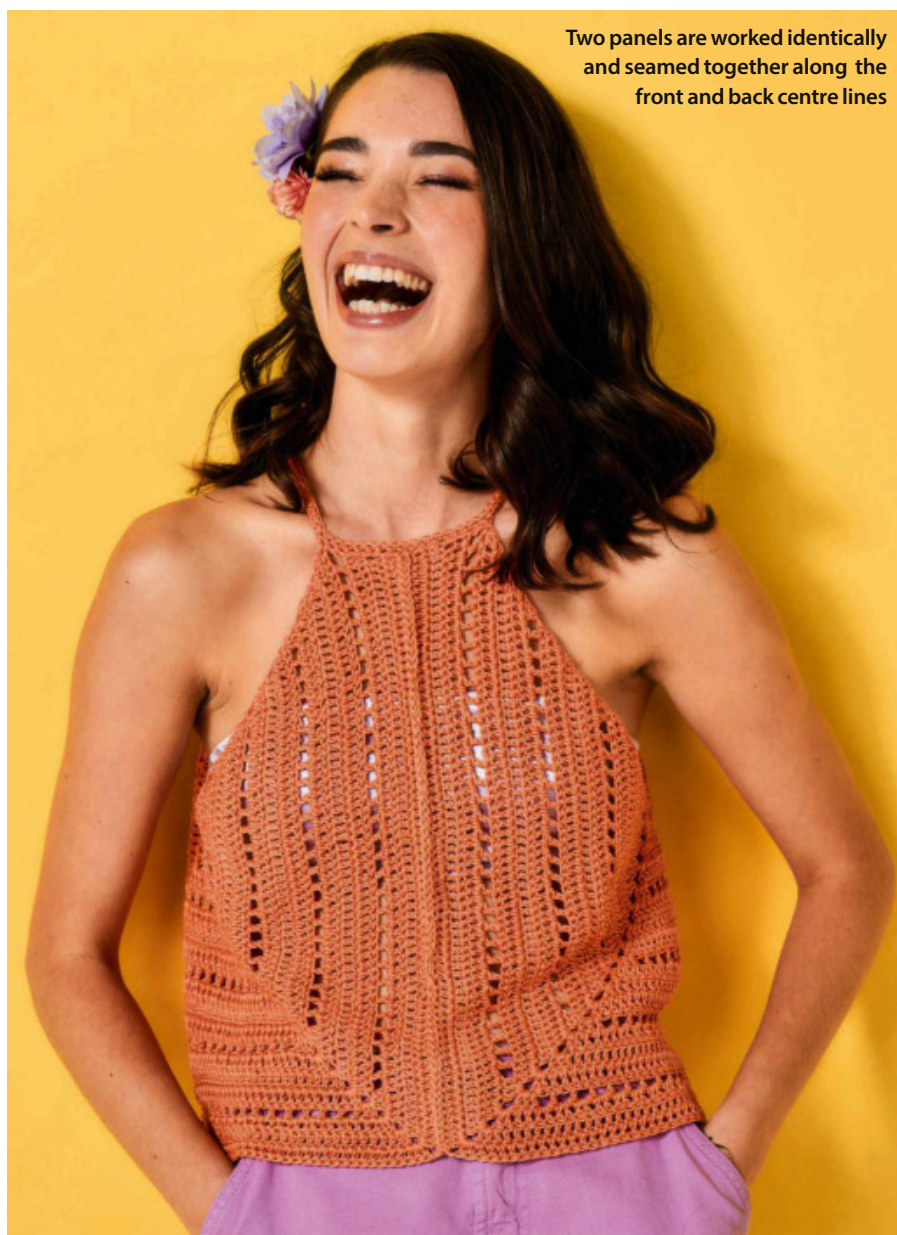
Two panels are worked identically and seamed together along the front and back centre lines

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO SEW SEAMS
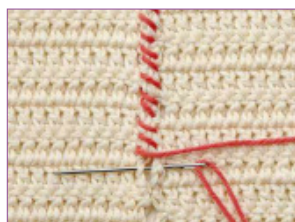
1 Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place pieces of crochet WS together and oversew them as above, using a tapestry needle.
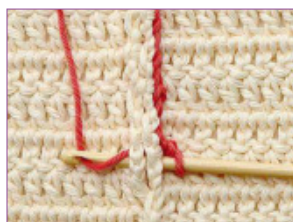
2 To slip stitch a seam, place the crochet pieces RS together. *Insert hook through both edge stitches, yrh, pull through to complete 1 slip stitch; rep from *, keeping the work fairly loose.

3 For a dc seam, place the crochet pieces RS together, or WS together for a visible seam. Work as for slip stitch seam, using double crochet instead of slip stitch.
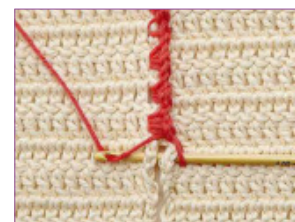
4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when you need less bulk and/or greater flexibility in the seam. Work as for the dc seam, but work 1 dc and 1 chain alternately.

Fruitful slumber

Blissed-out babies are guaranteed sweet dreams under Charlotte Gray's fruit mobile

GREAT NEW BABY GIFT

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

DK WEIGHT

3.5MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- Paintbox Yarns Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/125m) 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Candyfloss Pink (450)
  Yarn B Pistachio Green (425)
  Yarn C Bubblegum Pink (451)
  Yarn D Banana Cream (421)
  Yarn E Paper White (401)
  Yarn F Soft Fudge (410)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- A hoop, approx 20cm
- Black stranded cotton
- Toy stuffing
- A stitch marker

For yarn stockists contact
LoveCrafts 01409 404010
www.lovecrafts.com

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Fruits measures between 8-10cm (3-4in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78

With blushing cheeks and pretty lashes, these happy fruits add a calming dash of pastel to baby's bedroom.

NOTES

Parts of this pattern are worked using the amigurumi method. Work stitches continuously in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work.
Be mindful when stuffing to achieve the perfect shape for each piece of fruit.

FRUIT MOBILE

PEAR

Using Yarn B, make a magic ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into ring. [6 sts]
Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.
Round 4 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 5 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Rounds 6-7 Dc in each st around.
Round 8 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Rounds 9-10 Dc in each st around.
Round 11 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 12-13 Dc in each st around.
Round 14 (4dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 15 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Rounds 16-21 Dc in each st around.
Round 22 (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 23 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 24 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Stuff as you go.
Round 25 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 26 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 27 (Dc2tog) 6 times, ss in beg st. [6 sts]
Fasten off.
Thread tail through fl of final 6 sts and pull tight to close.

STALK

Using Yarn C, ch9.
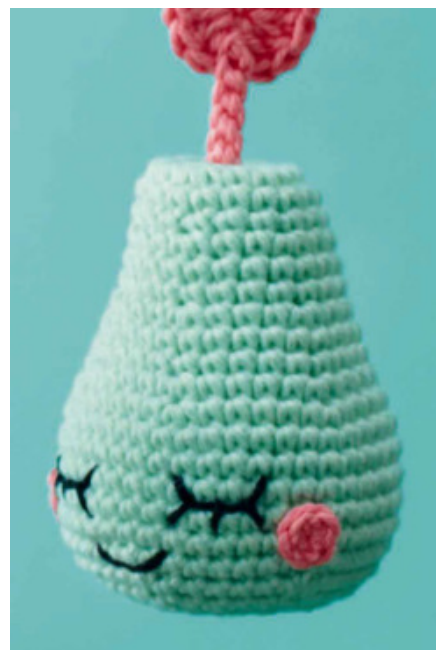
Each fruit is worked in the amigurumi technique, then finished with embroidery

Row 1 Ss in second ch from the hook, then in each st across.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

LEAF

Using Yarn C, ch9.
Row 1 Dc in second ch from the hook, dc in each ch across, turn. [8 sts]
Row 2 Ch1, 1tr, 2tr in next 2 sts, 1tr, 1htr, 1dc, 2ss, ch2, turn to work down the opposite side of foundation ch, 2ss, 1dc, 1htr, 1tr, 2tr in next 2 sts, 1tr, ss into side of Row 1.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

CHEEKS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn C, make a magic ring.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO EMBROIDER FACIAL FEATURES

1 Thread the chosen yarn colour onto a tapestry needle. Insert the needle from the back of the head through to where you want to place the facial feature. In this example we are embroidering a mouth.
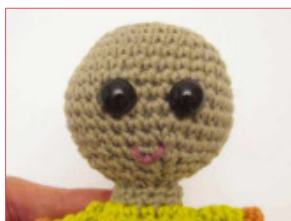
2 Embroider the desired shape. For the mouth, we have worked a straight stitch and anchored it one row down with a small stitch.
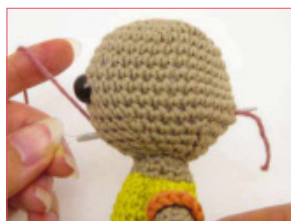
3 Once you are happy, insert the needle back through to the back of the head, through the same space where you began in Step 1.

4 Make sure that the 2 strands of yarn are protruding from the same space. Make a small knot with the strands of yarn and weave them back into the head.

Work cute, sleepy faces with embroidery stitches using black stranded cotton

For the cherries, make one stalk for the pair and sew the leaves halfway along it

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 4dc into ring, ss in the first dc. [4 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

TO MAKE UP
Thread the Stalk through the top of the Pear.
Position the Leaf at the top of the Stalk and sew in place.
Sew the Cheeks onto the Pear.
Using black stranded cotton, embroider the eyes and mouth.

CHERRIES (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn A, make a magic ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 6dc into ring. [6 sts]
Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.
Round 4 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 5 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]

Round 6 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 7 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 8-14 Dc in each st around.
Round 15 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Stuff as you go.
Round 16 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
**Round 17** (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 18 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off.
Thread tail through fl of final 6 sts and pull tight to close.

STALK
Using Yarn B, ch21.
Row 1 Ss in second ch from the hook, ss in each ch across.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Attach a long tail of Yarn B to the opposite end of the Stalk.

LEAVES (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn B, work as Leaf on Pear.

CHEEKS (MAKE 4)
Using Yarn C, work as Cheeks on Pear.

TO MAKE UP
Thread the ends of the Stalk through each Cherry, working from the top. Sew the Leaves to the centre of the Stalk.
Sew the Cheeks in place.
Using black stranded cotton, embroider eyes and mouth.

APPLE
Using Yarn C, make a magic ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into ring. [6 sts]
Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.
Round 4 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Round 5 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 6 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Round 7 (3dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 sts]
Round 8 (4dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 sts]
Round 9 (5dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 sts]
Rounds 10-13 Dc in each st around.
Round 14 (5dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 sts]
Rounds 15-16 Dc in each st around.
Round 17 (4dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [30 sts]
Rounds 18-19 Dc in each st around.
Round 20 (3dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]
Stuff as you go.
Round 21 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Round 22 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Round 23 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Fasten off.
Thread tail through fl of final 6 sts and pull tight to close.

STALK
Using Yarn B, work as Stalk on Pear.

LEAF
Using Yarn B, work as for Leaf on Pear.

CHEEKS (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn A, work as Cheeks on Pear.

TO MAKE UP
Thread the Stalk through the top of the Apple.
Position the Leaf at the top of the Stalk and sew in place.
Sew the Cheeks onto the Apple.
Using black stranded cotton, embroider the eyes and mouth.

BANANA
Using Yarn F, make a magic ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into ring. [6 sts]
Round 2 Dc in bl of each st around.
Round 3 Dc in each st around.
Change to Yarn D.
Round 4 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]
Rounds 5-6 Dc in each st around.
Round 7 (1dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]
Rounds 8-9 Dc in each st around.
Round 10 (2dc, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 sts]
Rounds 11-21 Dc in each st around.
Round 22 (2dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [18 sts]
Rounds 23-24 Dc in each st around.
Round 25 (1dc, dc2tog) 6 times. [12 sts]
Stuff as you go.
Rounds 26-27 Dc in each st around.
Change to Yarn F.
Round 28 (Dc2tog) 6 times. [6 sts]
Round 29 Dc in each st around.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Thread tail through fl of final 6 sts and pull tight to close.

CHEEKS (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn C, work as Cheeks on Pear.

TO MAKE UP
Thread tail from Banana onto a darning needle and pull through the centre of Banana from base to top, pull to create slight curve to the Banana and secure with a few sts.
Sew the Cheeks in place.
Using black stranded cotton, embroider the eyes and mouth.

HANGING CHAINS (MAKE 2)
Using Yarn E, ch100.
Row 1 Ss in second ch from hook, ss in each st across.
Fasten off.
Attach the ends of one chain to the hoop.
Attach the other chain in the same way so the cross over one another at the centre.
Using Yarn E, attach a piece of fruit to the end of each Hanging Chain, where it's attached to the hoop.

'My mum bought me a Pause subscription for Christmas, and I absolutely loved it! It was like a little box of sunshine each month, brightening my day'
Ella, London

Ready? Pause. Create!

Give yourself or a loved one the gift of wellbeing and enjoy a creative surprise every month for a year.

A surprise in a box is one of life's greatest pleasures. A pretty birthday gift tied with a spotted bow, a gilded tin crammed with sweet treats or a Christmas present wrapped in jolly patterned paper. Irresistible! So imagine the joy of receiving a surprise box through the post every month for a year?

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Mind is the UK charity that fights for mental health. It works to change minds, whether that's by opening up conversations, or speaking out against unfair treatment for those of us with mental health problems. Mind supports by giving invaluable advice and information, and it connects by bringing people and communities together.

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Sometimes the waiting is better than the receiving. You can enjoy the anticipation of receiving a surprise gift every month for a whole year with Pause.

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While anticipation is sweet, opening your gift delivers delightful surprise with a fresh creative challenge and the ultimate reason to take some time out.

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Pause is a wonderful way to treat yourself, or as a surprise gift for a friend or loved one. It's easy to sign up too, simply head to **pauseformind.org.uk** or scan the QR code below to find out more.
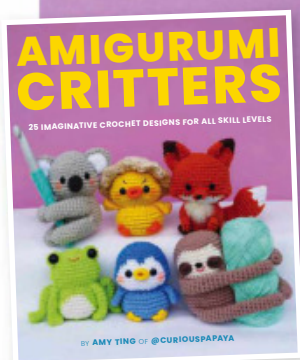
PAUSE
Brought to you by **mind**

SCAN ME
for more information

Amy's amigurumi critters come in all shapes and sizes, with 25 designs available in her new book

AMIGURUMI CRITTERS
25 IMAGINATIVE CROCHET DESIGNS FOR ALL SKILL LEVELS

BY AMY TING OF @CURIOUSPAPAYA

CREATURE COMFORTS

Author of *Amigurumi Critters*, Amy Ting is a master maker of creatures big and small! She shares the secrets of creating crochet you can cuddle or fit in the palm of your hand

Some love crochet for its texture, some for the patterns it can create, but for an ever-growing chunk of avid crocheters it's the sculptural effects 3D that get them hooked. **Amy Ting certainly falls into the latter category, confessing that she was 'mind-boggled' when she was first exposed to amigurumi back in high school.**

Many years later, going through a rough time at work, Amy picked up a hook in an attempt to decompress. "After my first couple of very wonky crochet projects, I got the hang of 'sculpting' yarn into different shapes and sizes," she recalls. "It didn't take long before I jumped into designing my own patterns."

CROCHET GOES LARGE
Giant amigurumi is something Amy has become well-known for, even though it wasn't

her original intention: "They just happened to attract a lot more attention over my micro creations and I continued to build on that." Her first giant patterns were her Giant Bee and Giant Panda. As they took off on Pinterest, it sparked her to create more.

"For jumbo crochet, it's satisfying to see how quickly they work up!" she enthuses. "A cuddle-sized creation only takes a couple of hours. Making things proportional was a learning curve at first. Because of the way chenille yarn is constructed, it's not very forgiving if frogging it a bunch of times, which I often have to do during the design process."

To create her 'critters', whether big or small, Amy has an organic approach. Instead of sketching her ideas, she jumps straight into building the vision she has in her mind's eye. Most creations take about one or two prototypes until she's satisfied with them.

Riding on a wave of the increasing popularity of amigurumi, Amy felt it was time to realise her dream to become a crochet book author. "I had initially begun reaching out to different publishers about three years ago. To my dismay, I received multiple rejections." This setback only spurred Amy to keep on sharpening her design skills. A while later, an email popped up from an acquisition editor and Amy's dreams became a reality. "I couldn't believe my eyes and I truly thought I was being pranked or something."

Amy worked with her editor to create a book about animals for all crochet levels, and so the journey of making *Amigurumi Critters* began. You can tell it was a labour of love for Amy, whose enthusiasm for the project is truly contagious! "One thing I believe really allowed me to run far was all the creative freedom I was granted. It truly felt empowering and exciting

to know that she believed in my designs and my vision. I'm forever grateful!"

The process of coming up with 25 designs for the book was something of a rollercoaster. Patterns can take Amy anywhere from two days to two weeks to develop. "I wouldn't be able to come up with anything for a couple of weeks at a time! Other times, the inspiration would hit me out of nowhere like a violent storm and I could pump out three different patterns within the same week."

CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

Amy is thankful to live in the San Francisco Bay Area of the US, where the artist scene is rich and lively. Inspiration has in the past come from her own heritage, especially her early designing days.

"As immigrants, my parents did the best they could to get us to assimilate so that we didn't have to experience the struggles that they did, especially when it came to language. Because of that, I didn't really grow up proud of my identity and had little interest in learning the languages," Amy explains. "Yet I still felt 'too Asian to be American', but 'too American to be Asian'."

Her design focus was therefore initially based on her Korean-Taiwanese heritage and culture – an influence you'll see in this issue's collection on page 14. "I created popular foods that I enjoyed eating whenever I visited Taipei like boba (sweet milk tea with tapioca pearls) and steaming hot baozi (fluffy buns packed with savoury pork and chives). I wanted my daughter's play kitchen to not only include

adorable crocheted burgers and ketchup, but also bok choy and soy sauce, you know?"

Another example of this came with a character that has been included in her book. Gertrude the Grumpy Chick was originally designed for Amy's first CAL, back when she was still relatively new to designing. "I wanted her to embody a grumpy/cute Korean grandma. You know, the kind who nags at you about everything but who will always make

> "IT'S SATISFYING TO SEE HOW QUICKLY THEY WORK UP! A CUDDLE-SIZED CREATION ONLY TAKES A COUPLE OF HOURS"

sure you leave with a smile and a full belly. Gertrude eventually came to be my logo and the beloved mascot of curiouspapaya."

COMPLETELY HOOKED

Working from home, Amy converted a bedroom into her craft space, which has revolutionised her creativity. "I got rid of

everything 'greige' and filled it with things that made me happy. Life's too short to be boring!" She has favourite yarns to work with, namely Hobbii's cotton yarns "because of the huge array of colours and because of the crisp stitch definition it makes. I favour 'yarning under' with my amigurumi, and this yarn works up very structurally sound." For jumbo creations, Hobbii's chenille yarns are her go-to choice.

Her favourite tools include her Clover Amour hooks and her metal darning needles. "I use a 2.75 mm hook for all 25 patterns in *Amigurumi Critters*," she explains. "I intentionally made each animal in the book small enough to fit into the palm of my hand, and so creating tiny details requires me to use tools that give precise and consistent results. The pointy heads of Clover hooks make a HUGE difference in my work."

As for what's next for Amy? "I'm excited for the release of my very first crochet book, of course! I definitely hope to start working on my next one as soon as I can. I'm also planning to expand my YouTube channel with a lot more video tutorials. Perhaps this year will be filled with more wearables and accessories!"
Written by Lucy Evans

A few of her favourite things
When Amy's not tied up with hook and yarn in hand…
"You might find me hiking or going on trips to the beach with family and friends. Snorkelling or any water activity are my favourite things to do." *Amigurumi Critters will be published by Cider Mill Press on 31 July. Visit Amy's website www.curiouspapaya.com or find her on Instagram and YouTube: @curiouspapaya*

Chevron chic

Juicy pops of colour in hypnotic stripes, by Esther Graafland

LEARN MITRED CROCHET

YOU WILL NEED

- Yarn & Colors Epic
  (100% cotton, 50g/75m)
  2 balls of Deep Cerise (034)
  1 ball of each:
  Cantaloupe (016)
  Orange (020)
  Fiery Orange (022)
  Coral (041)
  Blossom (045)
  Orchid (052)
  Jade Gravel (073)
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

**For yarn stockists contact
Yarn and Colors
www.yarnandcolors.com**

TENSION

Squares measure 13x13cm
(5¼x5¼in)

MEASUREMENTS

Bag measures approx 37x37cm
(14½x14½in) excluding handles

ABBREVIATIONS

standing dc Place slip knot on
hook, insert hook in st/sp indicated,
yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull
through 2 loops
beg tr Standing dc in st/sp
indicated, ch1 (counts as first tr)
For a full list, see page 78

ARAN WEIGHT

4.5MM HOOK

GO PRO ★★★
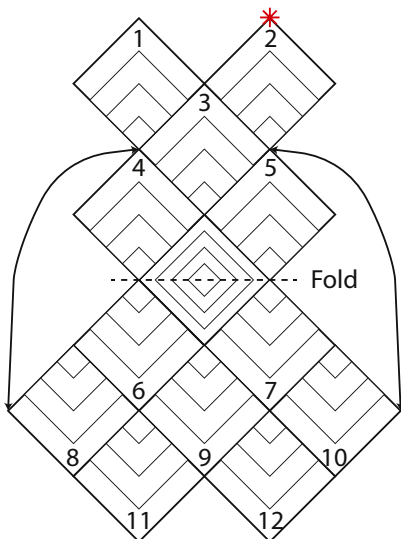
No two squares are the same in this funky
cotton tote. Start with a magic ring and
watch the chevrons take their shape.

NOTES

Bag is made up of Squares, which are worked
with RS facing throughout. Join Squares using
the Construction Diagram below as a guide.
Handles are worked using the amigurumi
method. Work stitches in a continuous spiral
without closing off each round with a ss. It may
help to use a marker in the first stitch of each
round, moving it up as you work.

BAG

SQUARE A (MAKE 12)

Work 1 Square in each colour sequence listed.
1: Yarn A Jade Gravel, Yarn B Cantaloupe.
2: Yarn A Orchid, Yarn B Deep Cerise.
3: Yarn A Fiery Orange, Yarn B Blossom.
4: Yarn A Deep Cerise, Yarn B Orange.
5: Yarn A Jade Gravel, Yarn B Fiery Orange.
6: Yarn A Blossom, Yarn B Coral.
7: Yarn A Cantaloupe, Yarn B Orchid.
8: Yarn A Orchid, Yarn B Jade Gravel.
9: Yarn A Deep Cerise, Yarn B Fiery Orange.
10: Yarn A Coral, Yarn B Cantaloupe.
11: Yarn A Blossom, Yarn B Orange.
12: Yarn A Deep Cerise, Yarn B Jade Gravel.

Using Yarn A, make a magic ring.
Round 1 (RS) Dc in loop, ch3 (counts as tr, ch2),
(3tr in loop, ch2) 3 times, 2tr in loop, ss to first ch
of begin ch-3 to join. [12 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off.
Work cont in rows across 2 sides of Round 1.
Row 2 Using Yarn B, beg tr in any ch-2 sp, tr in
next 3 sts, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-2 sp, tr in next 3
sts, tr in last ch-2 sp. [12 sts]
Fasten off.
Row 3 Using Yarn A, beg tr in first st, tr in each
st to ch-2 sp, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in the ch-2 sp, tr in
each st to end. [16 sts]
Fasten off.
Rows 4-9 As Row 3, changing between Yarns A
and B every row. [40 sts]
Work around entire Square for next round.
Round 10 Using Yarn B, (standing dc, ch2, dc) in
first st, dc in each st to ch-2 sp, (dc, ch2, dc) in
ch-sp, dc in next 19 sts, (dc, ch2, dc) in next st,
19dc down edge to unworked ch-2 sp from
Round 1, (dc, ch2, dc) in ch-sp, 19dc evenly
across next edge, ss to beg dc. [84 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

SQUARE B (MAKE 1)

Square B will sit at the centre of the Bag base.
Using Jade Gravel, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) As Round 1 of Square A.
[12 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off.
Round 2 Using Blossom, beg tr in any ch-2 sp,
(tr, ch2, 2tr) in same ch-sp, *tr in each st to ch-2

The bag is made from two square designs
worked in a total of 12 unique colourways

sp, (2tr, ch2, 2tr) in ch-sp; rep from * around to
end, ss to top of beg tr. [28 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off.
Rounds 3-5 As Round 2, changing between
Jade Gravel and Blossom every round.
[76 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off.
Round 6 Join Blossom with a standing dc in
any ch-2 sp, ch2, dc in that same sp, dc in each
st to next ch-sp, (dc, ch2, dc) in ch-sp; rep from *
around to end, ss to beg dc. [84 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.
Using a mattress stitch seam, join the Squares
together using the Diagram for placement.

HANDLES

Join Deep Cerise with a standing dc in ch-2 sp
as shown with red star on Diagram.
Round 1 Ch2, dc in same sp, *dc in next 21 sts,
dc3tog over 3 ch-sps, pm in last st, dc in next 21
sts**, (dc, ch2, dc) in next ch-sp; rep from * 3
times more ending final rep at **.
[180 sts, 4 ch-2 sp]
Round 2 *Dc in each st to ch-2 sp, (dc, ch2, dc)
in ch-sp, dc to 1 st before marker, dc3tog, move
marker to last st; rep from * around to end.
Round 3 *Dc in each st to ch-sp, dc in ch-sp,
ch80, skip 43 sts, dc in next ch-sp, remove
marker from skipped sts, dc in each st to 1 st
before next marker, dc3tog; rep from * once
more, dc in each st to end. [90 sts, 2 ch-80 sps]
Round 4 *Dc in each st and ch to 1 st before
marker, dc3tog, move marker to last st; rep from
* once more, dc in each st to end. [246 sts]
Round 5 *Dc in each st to 1 st before marker,
dc3tog, move marker to last st; rep from * once
more, dc in each st to end, ss to beg dc. [242 sts]
Fasten off.
Join Cantaloupe with a standing dc in first st.
Round 6 As Round 5. [238 sts]
Fasten off.
Join Deep Cerise with a standing dc in first st.
Rounds 7-8 *Dc in each st to 1 st before marker,
dc3tog, move marker to last st; rep from * once
more, dc in each st to end. [230 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.

GREAT NEW HOME GIFT

TIME FOR TEA

With a rich purple trim like fruit jam, Joanne Fowler's
cotton tray is ideal for bread, cakes and pastries

YOU WILL NEED
- Lily Sugar'n Cream
  (100% cotton, 70.9g/109m)
  2 balls of **Yarn A** Country Yellow
  (01612)
  1 ball of each:
  Yarn B Black Currant (01318)
  Yarn C Orchid (01137)
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook
- 4 stitch markers
- Starch spray

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

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

MEASUREMENTS
Tray measures approx 27x15x6cm
(10½x6x2¼in)

ABBREVIATIONS
spiked htr Yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull loop up to height of current row, yrh and pull through 3 loops on hook
spiked dc Insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull loop up to height of current row, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook
reverse dc Insert hook in next st to right (or left if left-handed), yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook
For a full list, see page 78

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

ARAN WEIGHT

4.5MM HOOK

You can make the tray in any colours you like, but golden yellow and dark purple are the go-to for working up an appetite!

NOTES
Tray is worked in rounds with RS facing. When working the sides, place markers to mark out the start of each side. This is used as a guide of where to join yarn when changing colour.

TRAY
BASE
Using Yarn A, ch20.
Round 1 (RS) 2dc in third ch from hook (skipped ch counts as ch-1 sp), ch1, dc in next 16 ch, ch1, 2dc in last ch, ch1, turn to work down opposite side of foundation ch, dc in next 16 ch, ss in beg ch-sp. [36 sts, 4 ch-1 sps]
Round 2 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), *dc in ch-sp, ch2, dc in next 2 dc, ch2, dc in ch-sp, dc in next 16 sts; rep from * once more, ss to beg dc. [40 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Round 3 Ch1, *dc in each st to ch-2 sp, (dc, ch2, dc) in ch-sp; rep from * around to end, ss to beg dc. [48 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Rounds 4-5 As Round 3. [64 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off Yarn A.
Join Yarn B in ch-2 sp at start of short side.
Round 6 Ch1, *(dc, ch2, dc) in ch-sp, 1dc, spiked htr 2 rows down, spiked htr 3 rows down, (spiked htr 4 rows down) twice, spiked htr 3 rows down, spiked htr 2 rows down, 1dc, (dc, ch2, dc) in ch-2 sp, dc in next 2 sts, spiked htr 2 rows down, spiked htr 3 rows down, (spiked htr 4 rows down) twice, spiked htr 3 rows down, spiked htr 2 rows down, dc in next 8 sts, spiked htr 2 rows down, spiked htr 3 rows down, (spiked htr 4 rows down) twice, spiked htr 3 rows down, spiked htr 2 rows down, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * once more, ss to beg dc. [72 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off Yarn B.
Join Yarn A in any st.
Rounds 7-12 As Round 3. [120 st, 4 ch-2]
Fasten off.
Join Yarn C in ch-2 sp at start of either short side.
Round 13 Ch1, *(dc, ch2, dc) in ch-sp, 1dc, spiked htr 2 rows down, spiked htr 3 rows down, (spiked htr 4 rows down) twice, spiked htr 3 rows down, spiked htr 2 rows down, 8dc, spiked htr 2 rows down, spiked htr 3 rows down, (spiked htr 4 rows down) twice, spiked htr 3 rows down, spiked htr 2 rows down, 1dc, (dc, ch2, dc) in ch-2 sp, dc in next 2 sts, **spiked htr 2 rows down, spiked htr 3 rows down, (spiked htr 4 rows down) twice, spiked htr 3 rows down, spiked htr 2 rows down, dc in next 8 sts; rep from ** once more, spiked htr 2 rows down, spiked htr 3 rows down, (spiked htr 4 rows down) twice, spiked htr 3 rows down, spiked htr 2 rows down, dc in next 2 sts; rep from * once more, ss to beg dc. [128 sts, 4 ch-2 sps]
Fasten off Yarn C.

The contrasting colour design is created with spiked double and half treble stitches

SIDES
Join Yarn A in first ch-2 sp.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1, (2dc in ch-2 sp, dc in each st to next ch-2 sp) 4 times, ss to beg dc. [136 sts]
Pm between 2-dc at corners to mark start of each side. Move markers up as you work.
Round 2 (RS) Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc.
Rounds 3-6 As Round 2.
Fasten off Yarn A.
Join Yarn B in first st across either short side.
Round 7 Ch1, *3dc, spiked htr 2 rows down, spiked htr 3 rows down, (spiked htr 4 rows down) twice, spiked htr 3 rows down, spiked htr 2 rows down, 8dc, spiked htr 2 rows down, spiked htr 3 rows down, (spiked htr 4 rows down) twice, spiked htr 3 rows down, spiked htr 2 rows down, 3dc, (end of short side), **4dc, spiked htr 2 rows down, spiked htr 3 rows down, (spiked htr 4 rows down) twice, spiked htr 3 rows down, spiked htr 2 rows down, 4dc; rep from ** twice more, (end of long side); rep from * once more, ss to beg dc.
Fasten off Yarn B.
Join Yarn A in first st across either short side.
Round 8 Ch1, 9dc, ch8, skip 8 sts, 60dc, ch8, skip 8 sts, 51dc, ss to beg dc. [120 sts, 2 ch-8 sps]
Round 9 Ch1, 9dc, 8dc in ch-sp, 60dc, 8dc in ch-sp, 51dc, ss to beg dc. [136 sts]
Round 10 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc.
Fasten off Yarn A.
Join Yarn C in first st across either short side.
Round 11 Ch1, 9dc, 10 spiked dc in ch-8 sp from Round 8, 60dc, 10 spiked dc in ch-8 sp from Round 8, 51dc, ss to beg dc. [140 sts]
Round 12 Ss in each st around.
Fasten off and weave in all ends.

TO FINISH
With RS facing, ss across the foundation chain at centre of Base to reinforce.
Spray with starch and leave to dry.

Square play

Becky Skuse's big, colourful throw is the perfect gateway to mitred crochet

CREATE AN OMBRE EFFECT!

YOU WILL NEED
- Scheepjes Cahlista
  (100% cotton, 15g/25.5m)
  109 ball colour pack
- Scheepjes Cahlista
  (100% cotton, 50g/85m)
  14 balls of Old Lace (130)
- A 4mm (G/6) hook
- Stitch markers

For yarn stockists contact Scheepjes www.scheepjes.com/en

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

MEASUREMENTS
Blanket measures approx 165x165cm (65x65in)

ABBREVIATIONS
For a full list, see page 78

Each of the squares in this lovely blanket has four different colours, so you'll have something new to focus on every few rows!

NOTES
Blanket is made up of 25 Squares. Squares are worked in rows, beginning in a corner. They are joined together with a slip stitch seam, then a Border is worked around the edges at the end. There is a table showing the colourways used on each Square. Change colour on the final yrh of row. Work over yarn tails to reduce the number of ends you need to weave in. When working the Squares and Border, increases are worked into the corner dtr. If you find it difficult to differentiate between a tr and dtr, place a marker in the dtr, moving the marker up as you go.

BLANKET
MITRED SQUARES (MAKE 25)
Work in colour sequence listed in table, using Old Lace for the final 3-4 rows.
Ch4, ss in last ch from hook to form a loop.
Row 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as tr throughout), (tr, dtr, 2tr) into loop, turn. [5 sts]
Row 2 Ch2, tr in next tr, (2tr, dtr, 2tr) in dtr, tr in next 2 tr, turn. [9 sts]
Row 3 Ch2, tr in each tr to corner dtr, (2tr, dtr, 2tr) in dtr, tr in each tr to end, turn. [13 sts]
Rows 4-25 As Row 3. [101 sts at end of Row 25]
Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP
Arrange the Squares in a 5x5 formation, with Squares 1-5 on the first row, Squares 6-10 on the second, and so on.
Using Old Lace, ss the Squares together.

BORDER
Border is worked across the left-hand side and

If you work the squares in numerical order, you can sew them together as you go

bottom of the Blanket only, working into the row-end edges of the joined Squares.
Join Old Lace in top-left corner.
Row 1 (RS) Ch2, tr in same row-end, (2tr in each row end to join, tr in join) rep across to bottom corner, (2tr, dtr, tr) in corner, (2tr in each row-end to join, tr in join) rep across to end, turn.
Row 2 (WS) Ch2, tr in each tr to dtr, (2tr, dtr, 2tr) in dtr, tr in each st to end, turn.
Rows 3-4 As Row 2.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A SLIP STITCH SEAM

1 First, make sure you fasten off, weave in ends and block pieces. Place pieces RS 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 second stitch of both layers and work a slip stitch. Work a slip stitch in the third 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 WS.
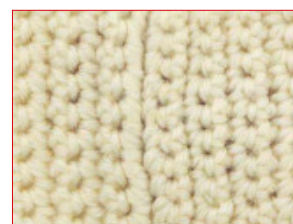
4 From the RS, the slip stitch seam forms an 'invisible' join (see above). It forms a firm, flat seam that doesn't give much stretch. It's best to use a matching yarn.

|			
Square 1	Rows 1-11 in Saffron	Rows 12-15 in Yellow Gold	Rows 16-18 in Primrose	Rows 19-21 in Candle Light
Square 2	Rows 1-10 in Candy Apple	Rows 12-15 in Watermelon	Rows 16-18 in Rich Coral	Rows 19-21 in Apricot
Square 3	Rows 1-10 in Fir	Rows 11-15 in Jade	Rows 16-19 in Tropic	Rows 20-22 in Crystalline
Square 4	Rows 1-11 in Shadow Purple	Rows 12-16 in Ashes	Rows 17-19 in Soft Beige	Rows 20-22 in Light Silver
Square 5	Rows 1-10 in Ruby	Rows 11-15 in Cherry	Rows 16-19 in Freesia	Rows 20-22 in Tulip
Square 6	Rows 1-11 in Forest Green	Rows 12-16 in Kiwi	Rows 17-19 in Lime	Rows 20-22 in Lime Juice
Square 7	Rows 1-10 in Midnight	Rows 11-15 in Electric Blue	Rows 16-18 in Powder Blue	Rows 19-21 in Bluebell
Square 8	Rows 1-11 in Ultra Violet	Rows 12-15 in Amethyst	Rows 16-18 in Colonial Rose	Rows 19-21 in Icy Pink
Square 9	Rows 1-10 in Ginger Gold	Rows 11-15 in Topaz	Rows 16-18 in English Tea	Rows 19-21 in Bridal White
Square 10	Rows 1-10 in Spruce	Rows 11-14 in Deep Ocean Green	Rows 15-18 in Silver Blue	Rows 19-21 in Baby Blue
Square 11	Rows 1-11 in Poppy Rose	Rows 12-15 in Royal Orange	Rows 16-18 in Peach	Rows 19-21 in Vintage Peach
Square 12	Rows 1-10 in Tyrian Purple	Rows 11-15 in Garden Rose	Rows 16-19 in Marshmallow	Rows 20-22 in Petal Peach
Square 13	Rows 1-10 in Ultramarine	Rows 11-15 in Light Navy	Rows 16-18 in Cornflower	Rows 19-21 in Sky Blue
Square 14	Rows 1-10 in Rosewood	Rows 11-15 in Cornelia Rose	Rows 16-18 in Light Coral	Rows 19-21 in Sweet Mandarin
Square 15	Rows 1-11 in Root Beer	Rows 12-15 in Hazelnut	Rows 16-18 in Caramel	Rows 19-21 in Antique Mauve
Square 16	Rows 1-10 in Black Coffee	Rows 11-15 in Chocolate	Rows 16-19 in Moon Rock	Rows 20-22 in Linen
Square 17	Rows 1-10 in Rust	Rows 11-15 in Brick Red	Rows 16-18 in Camel	Rows 19-21 in Shell
Square 18	Rows 1-10 in Emerald	Rows 11-15 in Sage Green	Rows 16-18 in Willow	Rows 19-21 in Champagne
Square 19	Rows 1-11 in Deep Violet	Rows 12-15 in Delphinium	Rows 16-19 in Lavender	Rows 20-22 in Light Orchid
Square 20	Rows 1-11 in Dark Teal	Rows 12-16 in Petrol Blue	Rows 17-19 in Vivid Blue	Rows 20-22 in Cyan
Square 21	Rows 1-10 in Parrot Green	Rows 11-15 in Apple Green	Rows 16-18 in Apple Granny	Rows 19-21 in Silver Green
Square 22	Rows 1-10 in Charcoal	Rows 11-15 in Capri Blue	Rows 16-18 in Bluebird	Rows 19-21 in Lilac Mist
Square 23	Rows 1-10 in Jet Black	Rows 11-15 in Anthracite	Rows 16-19 in Metal Grey	Rows 20-22 in Mercury
Square 24	Rows 1-11 in Scarlet	Rows 12-16 in Shocking Pink	Rows 17-19 in Soft Rose	Rows 20-22 in Powder Pink
Square 25	Rows 1-11 in Tangerine	Rows 12-15 in Sweet Orange	Rows 16-18 in Lemonade	Rows 19-21 in Lemon Chiffon

Squares are worked in rows, starting with the inner corner and building outwards
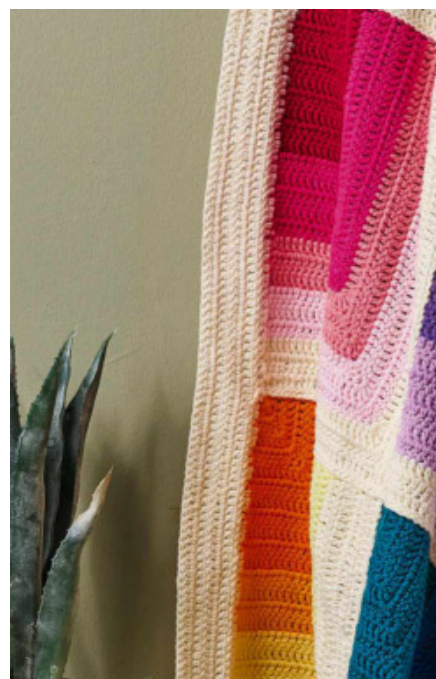
The border is worked on two edges only, into the row-ends of the squares on the outer edge

Cocktail party

Gordana Adamceska-Halson's glam shawl
will get your creative juices flowing

A gentle but striking ombre blend calls to mind summer sunsets and fruity cocktails. Tuck into a yummy yarn cake to get started.

NOTES
Shawl is worked in rows throughout. We worked the yarn from centre out to create colour scheme pictured.
Before you begin, cut 26 lengths of yarn from start of cake, approx 40cm long. This will be used to make the tassels at the end.

SHAWL
Ch314.
Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch across, turn. [313 sts]
Row 2 Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1 throughout), skip next st, (tr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st) repeat to last 2 sts, ch1, tr in last st, turn. [157 tr, 156 ch-1 sps] Count ch-1 sps as a st in next row.
Row 3 Ch3, 3tr in st at base of ch-3, (tr7tog, 7tr in the next st) 38 times, tr7tog, 4tr in last st, turn.
Rows 4-43 Repeat Rows 2-3.
Row 44 Repeat Row 2.
Row 45 Ch1, dc in each st and ch-sp across. [313 sts]
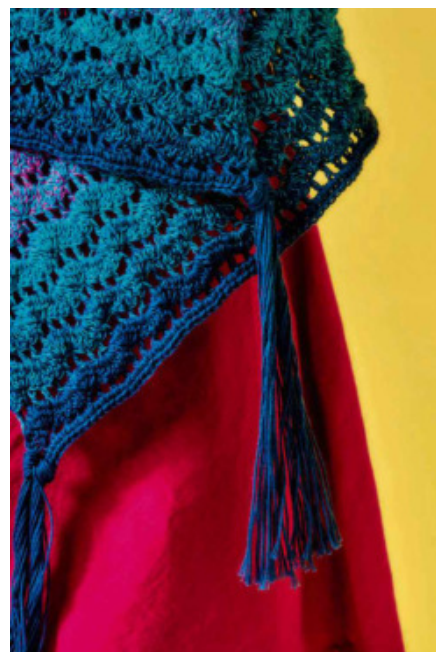**Fasten off**.

TO FINISH
Using the lengths of yarn cut before you began, attach 13 to each corner on Row 1 with a lark's head knot.
Cut 26 lengths of yarn from where you fastened off and attach 13 strands in same way to the corners on the final row. Trim the tassels to desired length.
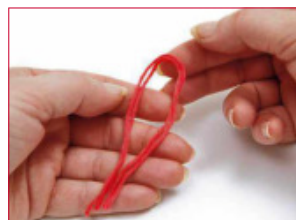Weave in any ends.

Before you begin, cut strands from the start of the yarn cake to create matching tassels

The zigzag stitch pattern is created by working sets of increases and decreases

EASY PEASY
☆★☆

4PLY WEIGHT

3MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED
■ Scheepjes Whirl
(60% cotton, 40% acrylic, 215g/1000m)
1 cake of Rosewater Cocktail (776)
■ A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
For yarn stockists contact Scheepjes
www.scheepjes.com/en

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

MEASUREMENTS
Shawl measures approx 136x37cm (53½x14½in)

ABBREVIATIONS
tr7tog (Yrh, insert hook in next st, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 2 loops) 7 times, yrh and pull through all loops on hook
For a full list, see page 78

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A LARK'S HEAD KNOT

1 Follow the instructions in the pattern, or try this method. Cut 2 pieces of yarn, twice as long as you want the tassel/fringe to be. Fold in half.

2 Insert hook through the edge of the fabric, where you want the first tassel/fringe to be placed. Place centre of folded yarn over the hook and pull through the fabric.
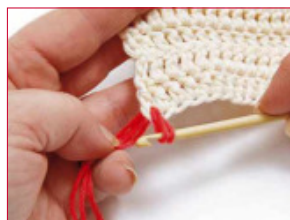
3 Pull the yarn to make a small loop next to the fabric. Pass the ends of the yarn lengths through this loop and pull tight to secure.

4 Repeat from step 1 to make more tassels or fringe sections. Finally, trim to your desired length for a neat finish.

PHOTO: Lindsay Weston

Crochet on the curriculum

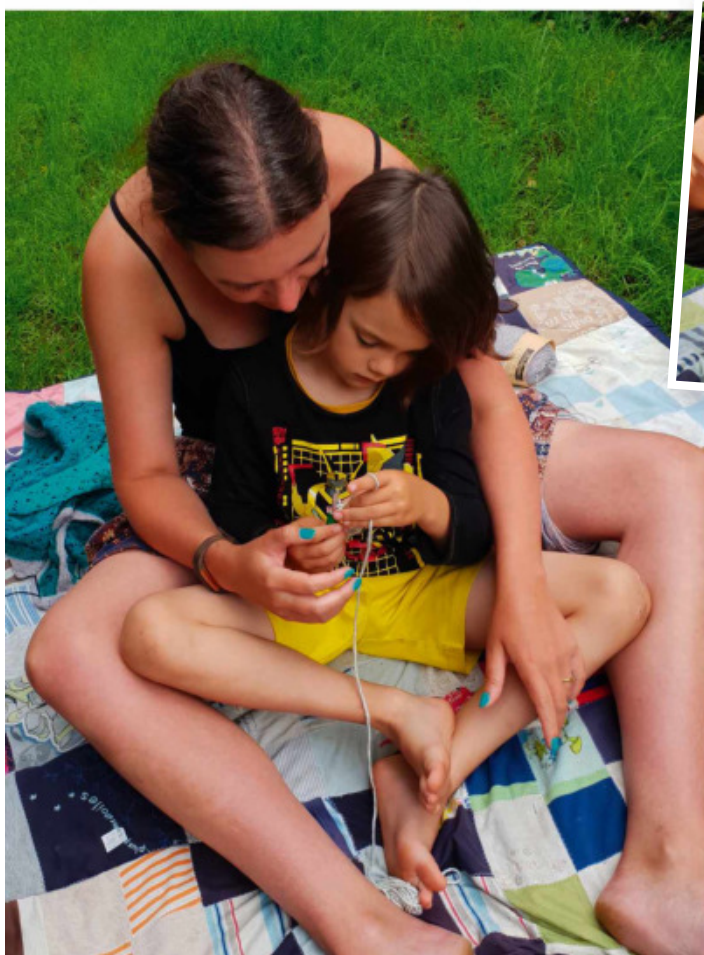**Crochet improves problem-solving skills, determination and self-confidence. So why aren't crafts given more priority at school?**

Left and top right: Dedri's son Xander took an interest in crochet from a young age
Bottom right: DT is a mandatory subject at primary school, like St Peter's School pictured

Back in March, the UK Government published its Curriculum and Assessments Review Interim Report, laying out some of the findings that will guide changes planned to make schooling more effective for a wider range of learning styles, and potentially shifting the emphasis from traditional academic subjects such as English, Maths and Science.

As the UK education system undergoes the biggest curriculum review in decades, we look into what is, and isn't, happening in schools.

A VITAL SKILL SET

Paul Truan, a primary school teacher and Design and Technology (DT) lead at St Peter's Primary School in South Gloucestershire, guides implementation of the DT curriculum for a cluster of six schools. This includes textiles and yarn crafts for around 900 pupils.

"Each school organises it differently," he explains. "Some do weekly sessions throughout a term, while others spend a week or two focusing on textiles every afternoon."

DT was known as Craft, Design and Technology (CDT) until the introduction of the National Curriculum in 1989. It must be provided by schools in Key Stages 1 (ages five to seven), 2 (ages seven to 11) and 3 (ages 11 to 14), and among the optional subjects which schools offer at Key Stage 4 (ages 14 to 16).

"In Key Stage 1, lower Key Stage 2 and upper Key Stage 2, pupils complete a textiles 'design and make task' where they follow a design process, developing technical and practical knowledge through deciding what to make, designing, planning and making," Paul says.

Each projects lasts six to eight hours in total. "When designing the DT curriculum, we choose projects based on the knowledge and skills that children need to ensure progression across the school," Paul says. "As a result, they benefit from gaining aptitudes like creativity and fine motor skills."

Crochet designer Lindsay Weston agrees that crochet helps children develop positive characteristics. "I think it fosters patience, concentration and imagination. It's brilliant for mental health as you have to give it your total concentration. Also, in this time of an abundance of screens, it's a great alternative to playing on a tablet or watching TV."

Designer, author and workshop leader Dedri Uys sees crochet as providing a vital respite from our busy modern world. "I think we live in an era when kids find it tricky to concentrate," she says. "When they're learning to crochet they fully engage with whoever is teaching them and are completely focused."

Crochet also naturally helps to focus a scattered mind. "It offers calm and a respite from the noise in their minds," Dedri remarks.

"For my youngest, who is quite energetic, it's like a mindfulness practice."

A TANGLED ISSUE

For its Curriculum and Assessments Review Interim Report, the UK Government polled Key Stage 4 learners and their parents, asking, "Which, if any, of the following areas would you have liked your child to spend more time on between Year 7 and 11?"

More than 30 per cent of the parents polled suggested more time should be spent on Design and Technology, along with 19 per cent of Key Stage 4 learners. It shows how much parents and pupils feel the curriculum needs to shift to incorporate more hands-on skills.

Things are even more complicated in the US, where founder of the American Crochet Association, Salena Baca, is keen for crochet to become an intrinsic part of American schooling. Salena attended high school in Georgia, USA, where Art (which crafts are included under) tends to be an elective, meaning pupils can choose not to learn any Art subjects at all. "The lessons were self-guided and we could choose to learn drawing or crochet," she recalls. "My youngest is currently in high school, and Art electives are pottery and drawing."

While crochet can be learnt at any age, there are distinct advantages to starting

PHOTOS: Miri Duskwick (top left and right), Salena Baca (bottom left)

Top left and right: Lyla used online tutorials and a school club to learn to crochet
Bottom left: Salena believes crochet offers kids a number of lifelong benefits

young. "Kids tend to come more as a blank slate," says Dedri. "They approach it as a game, they have some fun, they get frustrated, have a break, and come back when they're ready to continue. Grown ups don't always know when to hit pause," she adds. "Children have fewer hang-ups, more openness to exploring and learning – if they get it wrong they don't feel they're stupid. Their identity isn't tied up in it. There's less to unlearn and relearn."

Dedri's three sons Pieter, Jaco and Xander each asked to learn crochet when they were around seven years old. "They were intrigued by the craft they always saw me doing," she says. "Then when they were each around ten years old, they had a craft class at their primary school. This was carried out at lunchtimes with a particular teacher. You need someone with the passion to inspire the kids."

ONE STITCH AT A TIME
Dedri was seven when her dad's mum taught her to crochet. "When I finally managed it, I thought, 'Great, I can do this.' I remember running up to show my mum with such pride. It's about self-acceptance and recognising that you can sit down and make a pattern one stitch at a time, and feeling, 'I've achieved something, I'm OK and actually I'm quite kickass.'"

For young people who take to crochet, the advantages are unbeatable. "They gain patience and resilience when they make a mistake and have to undo what they've done," Dedri says. "They learn three-dimensional

problem-solving. The steps are just reachable enough to keep you motivated."

Lyla, aged 12, was using online tutorials to teach herself to crochet when she spotted a lunchtime crochet club at school, led by a crochet-loving science technician and a pair of Year 12s. "We started with quite a few people taking part but some dropped out when they found it hard," Lyla says. She kept going because, as she puts it, "As soon as you learn to do a foundation chain it all just kind of follows."

She's learnt to overcome a lot of challenges through persistence. "I was working on a project but then the stitches didn't add up and everything looked wonky – I had to go back and undo almost everything and redo it, which was really frustrating, but it was worth it."

Crochet has also taught Lyla the value of delayed gratification. "It can be difficult to keep going with one project, because you find yourself wanting to start a new one, but I remind myself how good it will feel when I finish. That's really rewarding."

EVERY CHILD IS DIFFERENT
It's important to remember that not every child will relish crochet the way you do. "I've taught both my kids how to crochet," says Salena. "My oldest picked it up right away at around five years old and still crochets today. My youngest gave it a few tries and has completely lost interest."

Lindsay had a similar experience. "None of my three children have the slightest interest in

crochet. I tried to teach them, but it wasn't really for them, sadly." Even Lindsay herself took a while to get hooked on crochet. "I was probably around 11 years old when I first crocheted, although I didn't stick with it. I picked up a hook again seriously when I was expecting my third child 14 years ago."

Dedri is fortunate to come from a family of keen crocheters and crafters, and is passionate about this international and intergenerational community. "I love that my aunties in South Africa will send a photo of something they've made. There are threads that connect you and make you feel the world isn't as big."

Salena is also a strong believer that crochet provides lifelong rewards. "Crochet offers kids a great way to build community," she says. "No matter where life has taken me around the world, crochet has always helped me connect with new friends. Crochet is a constant source of connection and comfort wherever I go."

For Lyla, it's all about learning something that's both enjoyable and challenging. "My friends and I will sit out in the sunshine and crochet and chat," she says. "I just love crochet and how it works. For me it's really fun."

Written by Judy Darley
Dedri Uys: www.lookatwhatimade.net
Lindsay Weston: www.makingstitches.co.uk
The American Crochet Association:
www.americancrochetassociation.blog
Find the Curriculum and Assessment Review
Interim report on www.gov.uk

LOVELY GIFT FOR KIDS

Party animal

Celene Semaan's loopy piñata cushion brings
celebrations and sunny garden parties indoors

YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Special DK
  (100% acrylic, 100g/295m,
  1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Fondant (1241)
  Yarn B Lipstick (1246)
  Yarn C Clementine (1853)
  Yarn D Sunshine Yellow (1114)
  Yarn E Aspen (1422)
  Yarn F Turquoise (1068)
  Yarn G Proper Purple (1855)
  Yarn H White (1001)
  Yarn I Black (1002)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- A stitch marker
- Toy stuffing
- Cardboard, 10x10cm

**For yarn stockists contact
Stylecraft 01484 848435
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk**

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Piñata measures approx 40x35cm
(15¾x13¾in)

ABBREVIATIONS

loop st Wrap working yarn around
the index finger on your yarn
holding hand, insert hook in next st,
yrh with 2 strands below loop on
finger and draw through st, yrh and
pull through all loops on hook,
remove loop from finger
For a full list, see page 78

This colourful piñata is too cute to break apart!
Instead, keep a tight tension, fill with stuffing
and jazz up a child's bedroom or nursery.

NOTES

Piñata is made up of separate pieces, which are
sewn together.
Loop stitches are worked with the WS facing so
that the loops will sit on the RS when finished.

PIÑATA
LEG ONE (MAKE 2)

Using a 3.5mm hook and Yarn A, ch10.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in
each ch to end, turn. [9 sts]
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout),
loop st in each st across, turn.
Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each st to end,
turn. [10 sts]
Row 4 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Rows 5-6 Rep Rows 3-4. [11 sts]
Change to Yarn B.
Rows 7-12 Rep Rows 3-4. [14 sts]
Change to Yarn C.
Rows 13-16 Rep Rows 3-4. [16 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

LEG TWO (MAKE 2)

Using a 3.5mm hook and Yarn A, ch10.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in
each ch to end, turn. [9 sts]
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout),
loop st in each st across, turn.
Row 3 Ch1, dc in each st to final st, 2dc in final
st, turn. [10 sts]
Row 4 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Rows 5-6 Rep Rows 3-4. [11 sts]
Change to Yarn B.
Rows 7-12 Rep Rows 3-4. [14 sts]
Change to Yarn C.
Rows 13-16 Rep Rows 3-4. [16 sts]
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

BODY BACK

Using a 3.5mm hook and Yarn C, ch52.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in
each ch to end, turn. [51 sts]
Row 2 (WS) Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Change to Yarn D.
Row 3 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.
Row 4 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Rows 5-8 Rep Rows 3-4.
Change to Yarn E.
Rows 9-14 Rep Rows 3-4.
Change to Yarn F.
Rows 15-20 Rep Rows 3-4.
Change to Yarn G.
Rows 21-26 Rep Rows 3-4.
Change to Yarn A.
Row 27 Ch1, dc in first 19 sts, dc2tog, turn,
leaving remaining sts unworked. [20 sts]
Row 28 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Row 29 Ch1, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog,

The eyes are crocheted in two pieces and
sewn to the sides of the piñata's head

turn. [19 sts]
Row 30 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Rows 31-32 Rep Rows 29-30. [18 sts]
Change to Yarn B.
Row 33 Ch1, 2dc in next st, dc in each st to last
2 sts, dc2tog, turn.
Row 34 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Row 35 Ch7, dc in second ch from hook, dc in
each ch and st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [23 sts]
Row 36 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Rows 37-38 Rep Rows 29-30. [22 sts]
Change to Yarn C.
Rows 39-42 Rep Rows 29-30. [20 sts]
Row 43 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to last 2 sts,
dc2tog, turn. [18 sts]
Row 44 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Change to Yarn D.
Rows 45-50 Rep Rows 43-44. [12 sts]
Change to Yarn E.
Rows 51-54 Rep Rows 43-44. [8 sts]
Rows 55-56 Rep Rows 29-30. [7 sts]
Change to Yarn F.
Rows 57-62 Rep Rows 29-30. [4 sts]
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Sew a Leg One to the back and a Leg Two to the
front end of the Body. You can use the image as
a guide.

BODY FRONT

Using a 3.5mm hook and Yarn C, ch52.
Row 1 Dc in second ch from hook and in each
st to end, turn. [51 sts]
Row 2 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Change to Yarn D.
Row 3 Ch1, dc in each st, turn.
Row 4 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Rows 5-8 Rep Rows 3-4.
Change to Yarn E.
Rows 9-14 Rep Rows 3-4.

Change to Yarn F.
Rows 15-20 Rep Rows 3-4.
Change to Yarn G.
Rows 21-26 Rep Rows 3-4.
Fasten off.
Join Yarn A in 31st st across.
Row 27 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to end, turn. [20 sts]
Row 28 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Rows 29-32 Rep Rows 27-28. [18 sts]
Change to Yarn B.
Row 33 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to last st, 2dc in last st, turn.
Row 34 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Row 35 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st across, ch7, dc in second ch from hook, dc in next 5 ch, turn. piece so RS facing once again and ss into 6dc, turn.
Row 36 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn. [23 sts]
Rows 37-38 Rep Rows 27-28. [22 sts]
Change to Yarn C.
Rows 39-42 Rep Rows 27-28. [20 sts]
Row 43 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [18 sts]
Row 44 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Change to Yarn D.
Rows 45-50 Rep Rows 43-44. [12 sts]
Change to Yarn E.
Rows 51-54 Rep Rows 43-44. [8 sts]
Rows 55-56 Rep Rows 27-28. [7 sts]
Change to Yarn F.
Rows 57-62 Rep Rows 27-28. [4 sts]
Fasten off.
Sew a Leg One to the front and a Leg Two to the back end of the Body. You can use the image as a guide.

EYES (MAKE 2)
OUTER EYE
Using a 2.5mm hook and Yarn H, ch2.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc in second ch from hook. [6 sts]
Round 2 (RS) 2dc in each st around, ss to beg dc. [12 sts]
Fasten off.

PUPIL
Using a 2.5mm hook and Yarn I, ch2.
Round 1 (RS) 6dc in second ch from hook, ss to beg dc.
Fasten off.
Sew the Pupil to the Outer Eye.
Referring to the image as a guide, sew an Eye to the Front and Back.

GUSSET
Gusset is used to join the 2 parts together. The Gusset is mase in four Panels.

PANEL A
Using a 3.5mm hook and Yarn A, ch14.
Row 1 (WS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [13 sts]
Row 2 (RS) Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.
Row 3 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Rows 4-15 Rep Rows 2-3.
Rows 16-21 Rep Rows 2-3 using Yarn B.
Rows 22-27 Rep Rows 2-3 using Yarn C.
Rows 28-33 Rep Rows 2-3 using Yarn D.
Rows 34-39 Rep Rows 2-3 using Yarn E.
Rows 40-45 Rep Rows 2-3 using Yarn F.
Rows 46-51 Rep Rows 2-3 using Yarn G.
Rows 52-57 Rep Rows 2-3 using Yarn A.
Rows 58-69 Rep Rows 2-3 6 times in Yarn B.
Rows 70-93 Rep Rows 22-45.
Fasten off.

PANEL B
Using a 3.5mm hook and Yarn A, ch14.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [13 sts]
Row 2 (WS) Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Row 3 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.
Row 4 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Rows 5-6 Rep Rows 3-4.
Rows 7-12 Rep Rows 3-4 using Yarn B.
Rows 13-18 Rep Rows 3-4 using Yarn C.
Rows 19-24 Rep Rows 3-4 using Yarn D.
Rows 25-30 Rep Rows 3-4 using Yarn E.
Rows 31-36 Rep Rows 3-4 using Yarn F.
Rows 37-72 Rep Rows 3-4 using Yarn G.
Rows 73-78 Rep Rows 3-4 using Yarn A.
Rows 79-108 Rep Rows 7-36.
Rows 109-112 Rep Rows 3-4 using Yarn F.
Fasten off.

PANEL C
Using a 3.5mm hook and Yarn A, ch14.
Row 1 (WS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [13 sts]
Row 2 (RS) Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.
Row 3 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Rows 4-15 Rep Rows 2-3.
Rows 16-21 Rep Rows 2-3 using Yarn B.
Rows 22-43 Rep Rows 2-3 using Yarn C.
Cont with Yarn C.
Row 44 Ch1, dc in each st across.
Fasten off.

PANEL D
Using a 3.5mm hook and Yarn A, ch14.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [13 sts]
Row 2 (WS) Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Row 3 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.
Row 4 Ch1, loop st in each st across, turn.
Rows 5-6 Rep Rows 3-4.
Rows 7-12 Rep Rows 3-4 using Yarn B.
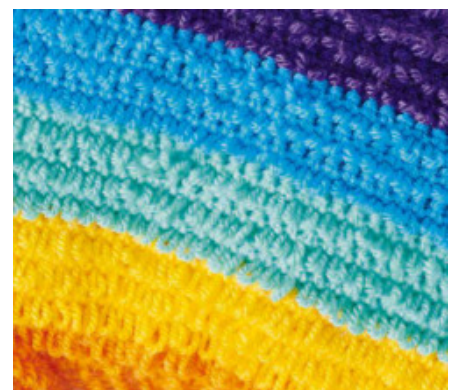**Rows 13-16** Rep Rows 3-4 using Yarn C.
Fasten off.

TAIL
Holding a strand of each colour, wrap around the cardboard 10 times. Cut a long piece of Yarn G and thread it under the yarn at the top of the

Make a multicoloured tail by working a chunky tassel using all nine yarn shades

The body is worked in loop stitch, which involves wrapping yarn around your finger

cardboard. Secure tightly with several knots. Slide scissors underneath the yarn on other end of cardboard and cut. Cut another long piece of Yarn G and tie a quarter of the way down from the top. Wrap yarn around the tassel a few times and secure tightly with several knots. Trim the ends of the tassel to neaten.

TO MAKE UP
Work all joining using a whipstitch.
Sew the end of Panel A to the end of Panel B. Sew the beginning of Panel B to the beginning of Panel C. Sew the end of Panel C to the end of Panel D. Sew the beginning of Panel D to the beginning of Panel A. You will now have a loop to fit around the edges of the Front/Back.
Pin the Gusset to the Back, matching the row colours. Begin with the large section of purple that will sit at the top of the Body to make sure you get the correct position. Once happy with the placement, sew in place.
Sew the opposite side of the Gusset to the Front and sew together, stuffing firmly before completing the join.
Using Yarn I, embroider the nostrils.
To define the neck and ears, embroider 2 small stitches below the neck and ear areas, using matching yarn and gather the fabric.
Sew the Tail to the back of the Piñata.

BLACKBERRY SALAD STITCH

This month we're craving fresh, fruity stitches in these feast-worthy yarns, bursting with colour and texture

01

02

03

04

05

06

BLACKBERRY SALAD
Chain a multiple of 4+3.
ROW 1 Tr in fourth ch from hook, tr in each ch across, turn.
ROW 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in first 2 sts, (5-tr cl in next st, dc in next 3 sts) rep to final 3 sts, 5-tr cl in next st, dc in final 2 sts, turn.
ROW 3 Ch3 (counts as tr), tr in each st across, turn.
ROW 4 Ch1, dc in first 4 sts, (5-tr cl in next st, dc in next 3 sts) rep to final st, dc in final st, turn.
ROW 5 As Row 3.
Rows 2-5 set the pattern.

Key
◠ Chain (ch)   † Treble (tr)   + Double crochet (dc)   ⊕ 5-tr cluster

DROPS
AIR

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 65% alpaca, 28% polyamide, 7% wool
BALL 50g/150m
HOOK 5mm
RRP £3.70

01

This yarn's unique construction means that, instead of being spun, fibres of baby alpaca and Merino wool are blown into a tube together. If you love soft and airy garments, this is the yarn for you, as your projects will be up to 35% lighter than those made from conventionally produced yarns of a similar weight. It works into an itch-free fabric that's perfect for sensitive skin. Choose from a range of 52 gorgeous tonal shades – colours include a mix of muted palettes with some darks thrown in for good measure.
www.garnstudio.com

WEST YORKSHIRE SPINNERS
FABLE

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 50% wool, 35% alpaca, 15% mohair
BALL 100g/166m
HOOK 5mm
RRP £14.95

03

Fable is a natural yarn made with Falkland wool, delicately brushed to enhance its beautiful halo and giving it a wonderfully soft texture. A touch of silky British mohair adds to its luxurious feel, making it a dream to work with. Available in a palette of eight earthy tones, including Moss, Oak and Faun, it's perfect for toasty Fair Isle projects and colourwork that requires gently complementary shades. Handle with care to maintain the shape of your projects – handwash only and lay flat to dry for best results.
www.wyspinners.com

STYLECRAFT
RELOVE

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 80% recycled acrylic, 20% recycled wool
BALL 100g/220m
HOOK 5mm
RRP £3.95

05

If sustainability is at the top of your yarn checklist, choose ReLove. Made entirely from recycled acrylic and wool, it allows you to craft with a clear conscience. It's available in eight vibrant shades, including Pea Shoot and Mulled Wine. With a slight fuzzy halo, this yarn works up into a supple yet sturdy fabric. Soft to the touch and durable, it can be machine washed at 30°C, making it both practical and eco-friendly. Use it to hook favourite garments and accessories you'll wear again and again.
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

CYGNET
PATO MULTI COLOURS

WEIGHT Chunky
CONTENT 100% acrylic
BALL 100g/185m
HOOK 5mm
RRP £2.29

02

Cygnet's variegated chunky yarn is a great value choice, adding a kaleidoscope of colours to self-striping projects. Playful names such Garden Pond, Skate Park and Strawberry Picking evoke the youthful exuberance of the colour palette. You'll love watching the vibrant shades unfurl before your eyes, working up quickly into cheerful garments and accessories. It's also machine washable at 40°C, making it practical for projects for the littles ones in your life. It's a joyful addition to any stash!
www.cygnetyarns.com

DEBBIE BLISS
DONEGAL LUXURY TWEED

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 100% wool
BALL 50g/88m
HOOK 5mm
RRP £8.25

04

A robust yarn with a subtle nep, this is your go-to for outerwear projects, such as cable sweaters and scarves. Its tweedy texture is easy to work with and will add depth and class to any creation. Produced in County Donegal, Ireland, it's a classic yarn that's in touch with its rustic roots. Made from high-quality wool, pick from a selection of traditional, warm colours, including Maroon, Gold, Lavender and Charcoal. Wash by hand, dry flat and don't tumble dry – you can iron your makes on a cool setting if you wish.
www.lovecrafts.com

HOBBII
POM POM GARLAND

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 70% cotton, 30% alpaca
BALL 50g/105m
HOOK 5.5mm
RRP £7

06

A collab between Danish brand Hobbii and fibre arts magazine *Pom Pom*, Garland reflects this stylish and fun combination. It uses a tubular cotton structure, with butter-soft alpaca fibres blown inside to create a delicate halo that contrasts with the twisted white surface. The colour palette, inspired by vintage tiles, textiles and desaturated hues, comes in 25 sophisticated shades, from lively corals to sumptuous greens. Use the 50g balls for smaller accessories and bring a splash of brightness to your outfit.
www.hobbii.co.uk

SIGN UP TODAY!

BONUS DIGITAL GIFT

Download your free Amigurumi Collection

▶ Sign up for our monthly newsletter and receive the link to download our Amigurumi Collection, which includes 48 projects from *Simply Crochet* magazine. With a theme of crochet cuddles, you're sure to find something adorable to stitch, whether that's a dino duo or a pair of ballerina cats. Sign up on our website to receive your free copy, https://www.gathered.how/newsletters

Show us yours

PASTEL PIZZAZZ

@dawnandmabel tagged us on Insta to show us this lovely top she made from one of our 2023 back issues. "I was sitting on a stash of Rowan summerlite 4ply," Dawn tells us, "and as the spring was here, I wanted to make something to wear. Issue 135 had just the inspiration I was looking for with the short sleeved jumper." Fantastic work, Dawn! 📷
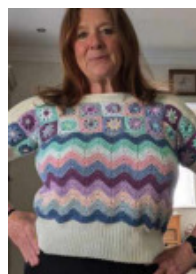

TAKE A SEAT

After starting the floral blanket from issue 160, Mo Parker had a change of plan. "I think it looks great as a stand-alone cushion, and would definitely complement the completed blanket, don't you think?" We do indeed, Mo! That's some creative thinking right there. 📘

FLY THE FLAG

Alexis from @my_yarny_corner did a fab job at making the flag blanket from issue 159. It even inspired her to dye and knit socks in the same colours! "During the making of this blanket I was vlogging on my channel," Alexis tells us, "and was cheered on every step of the way to finish those squares by the lovely subscribers. They were as excited as me when I finished!" 📷

DOUBLE TAP ♥

We've been double tapping on Instagram and admiring your makes. Tag us @simplycrochetmag and use the hashtag #SCtreblemaker 📷
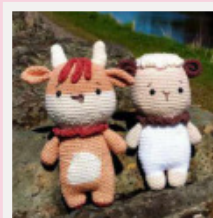
DELIGHTFUL DUO
Last month Kay from @kraftsunique made an Aries ram. This month the ram has made friends with a Taurus bull! It looks like they're both enjoying the fresh air.
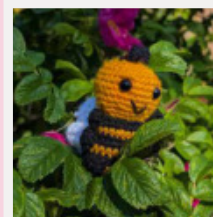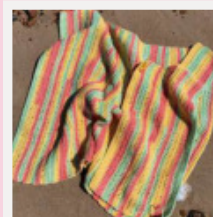

QUITE A BUZZ!
@hedgehogcrochet, aka Emma, stitched our bee from issue 162, saying, "I wanted a cute and quick make after quite a few larger makes. It's now hanging up in my car."

BUILT DIFFERENT
Grace (@graces crochetcomforts) loved Elmer as a child and tells us, "I love what Elmer Day represents – embrace difference!" Find the pattern in issue 138.

WORK IN PROGRESS
@handmadebyluce says, "This cardigan will look fab in these gorgeous ice cream colours." We agree, Luce! You can find the stashbuster cardigan in issue 154.
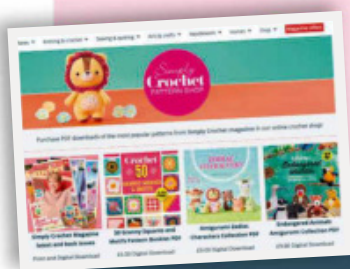

FIND MORE PROJECT INSPIRATION AT
gathered.how/crochet-shop

MUST-HAVE PATTERNS!

• Download patterns from Simply Crochet • Order back issues
• Amigurumi • Garments • Blankets • Upcycling • And more!
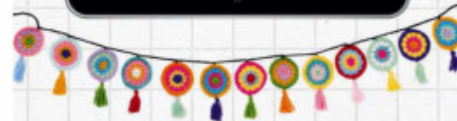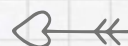
IT'S IN THE BAG!

Gillian Humphrey is making a mini bag (issue 162) for each of her four granddaughters. "Your pattern was my inspiration," she says, "but I can't do the Tunisian method. I've used your zip method but used double crochet to make the bag." One of her granddaughters has been lucky enough to receive a bag already, and Gillian tells us she's thrilled with it! Another granddaughter loves pink and tractors. We'd love to see what else you make! @

JOLLY GIRAFFE

"I loved Khuc Cay's design and her instructions are brilliant," Chantal Eason told us after making Griffin the Giraffe from issue 159. "I made it with King Cole DK for my one-year-old adorable little cousin. Please do give us more patterns by her." We'll pass it on, Chantal! @

SCTREBLEMAKERS

JOIN US ONLINE!

If you're looking to socialise with like-minded crocheters, then make sure you join our SCtreblemakers Facebook group – *the* place to share pictures of your makes, get pattern recommendations and advice, and generally talk about how much you love *Simply Crochet* magazine. With over 7.1k members, it's a bustling crochet forum full of friendly fellow hooksters. We look forward to chatting with you on there!

This month we asked you...

How many crochet projects do you have on the go?

f

- 29% TWO OR THREE
- 27% I'VE LOST COUNT!
- 25% MORE THAN THREE
- 19% JUST ONE

TALK TO US!

f Post a pic on our Facebook page
facebook.com/groups/sctreblemakers

X Tweet us @SimplyCrochet_
x.com/SimplyCrochet_

r Add to our Finished Projects board
ravelry.com/groups/simply-crochet

Use the hashtag #SCtreblemaker
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HOW DO I COMBINE GRANNY SQUARES?

Brush up on your technique with our simple guide…

Arranging your granny squares together can sometimes happen naturally and easily – other times, it can be a bit harder. For example, when you have granny squares in different sizes and colours, it can be trickier to put them together in a layout that looks visually appealing.

This is when a little bit of maths and science can really help with our artistic choices – specifically, the Fibonacci sequence can be really handy. It's a simple series of numbers: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21 and so on infinitely! Basically, you just start with 1, then add 1, then just add together the previous two numbers in the sequence. You can use Fibonacci numbers to help you plan what sizes of squares to make and how to put them together to create eye-catching effects. Let me show you more…

HOW DO I START PUTTING SQUARES TOGETHER?

Here's how to start combining squares…

Step 1 The simplest way to arrange your granny squares is to make them all the same size and then put them together in a grid formation like this. The '1' doesn't represent the square's measurements (they don't have to measure 1x1cm!) – the '1' just represents the fact that all the squares are the same size, which might be 10x10cm or 12x12cm or whatever you like. Even with a simple layout like this, there's still huge scope to create interest with different colours, motifs and shapes.

Step 2 To go one step beyond and create a simple square layout using Fibonacci, just take two numbers from the sequence: 1 and 2. The '1' should still represent whatever size square you've made, such as 10x10cm – but the '2' squares should be twice as big as the '1' squares, such as 20x20cm. You can keep a simple grid layout, but alternate a '2' square with four '1' squares. You'll break up the simplicity of the all-1s layout and add more geometric interest. You can still play with colour and appliquéd motifs in this layout, and even create extra interest with your joining colour. See right for just one example of how to do this.

Find out more about Becky at makemedo.wordpress.com
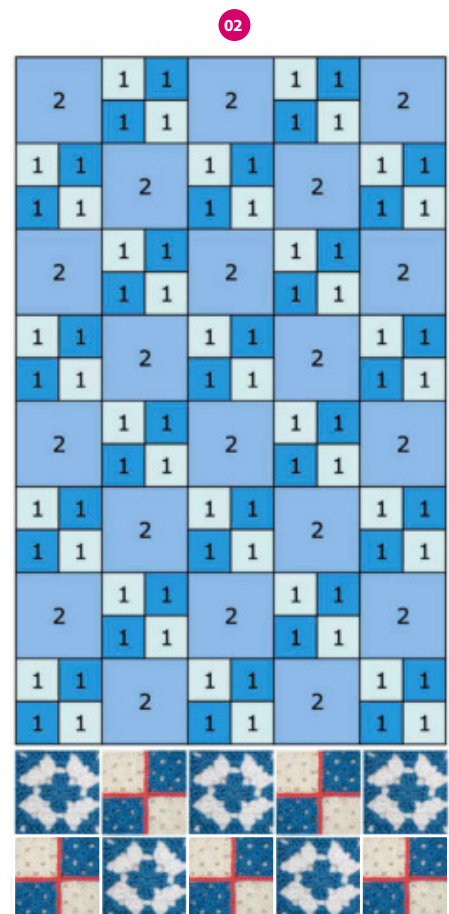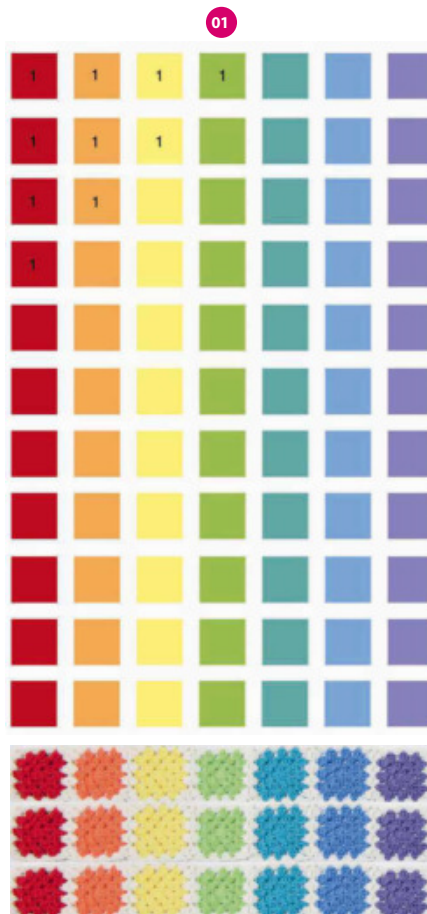
HOW DO I CREATE OTHER LAYOUTS?

It's easy to come up with other arrangements…

01

02

03
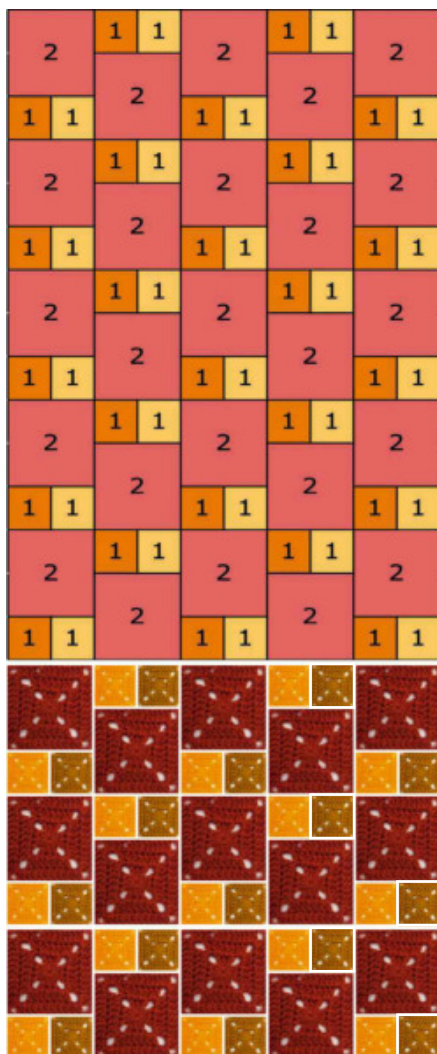
Here's how to use the Fibonacci numbers to create more layouts with your squares:

Step 1 Let's keep the 1s and 2s from the previous layout but change their arrangement to create mini rectangles that tessellate together. This will give the '2' squares more visual weighting and make them look more dominant – try using the '1' squares to complement and enhance the '2' squares, like this layout. Or contrast with them!
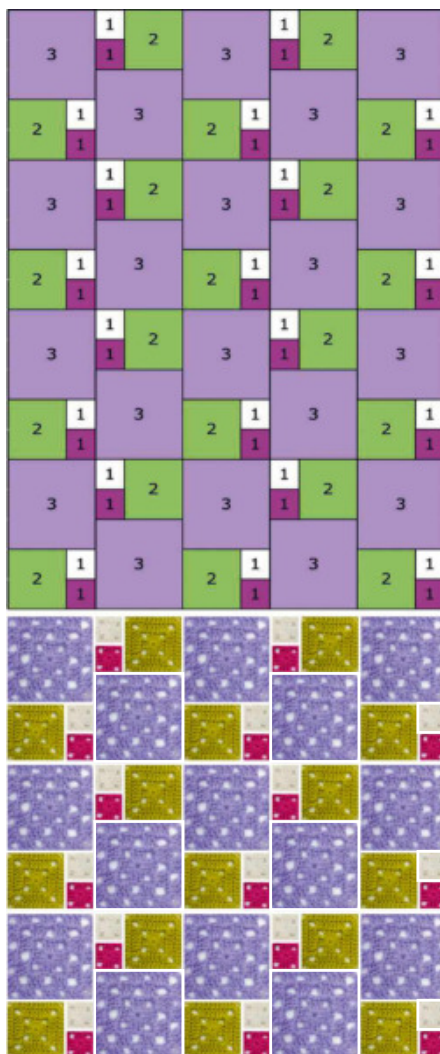
Step 2 Now let's add another square so we have 1, 2 and 3. Your '1' might measure 5x5cm, '2' would measure 10x10cm, and '3' would measure 15x15cm. Combine them into mini rectangles and tessellate them together again. The large '3' squares will probably look the most dominant, but you can counteract this by using a brighter colour for the 1s so they catch the eye more. This arrangement opens up more creative possibilities for your squares.
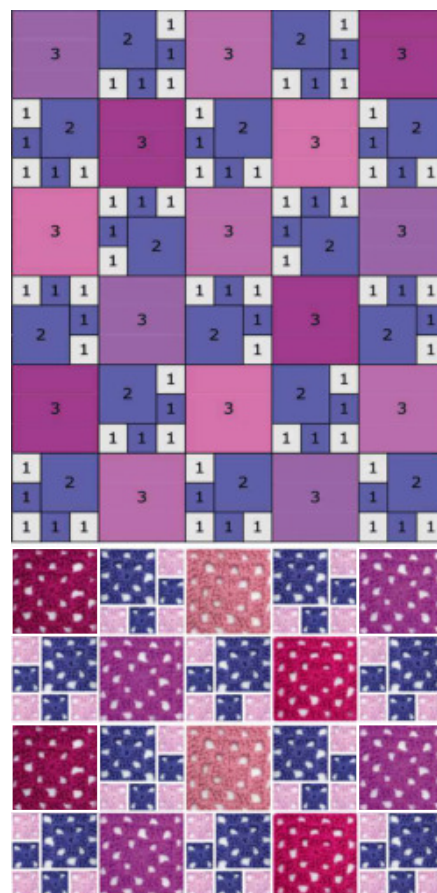
Step 3 Let's keep the 1, 2 and 3 squares from the previous layout but change their arrangement to create a combination of '1' and '2' squares to match the size of the '3' squares. This layout uses more '1' squares to create the potential for a more interesting geometric arrangement. You can also use colour to enhance the layout – we've used shades of pink for the '3' squares, a muted pink for some '1' squares, and purple for the '2' squares and some '1' squares.

Have a play and see what arrangements you can come up with using Fibonacci and some interesting colours – the creative possibilities are endless!

Let us solve your hooky conundrums!

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

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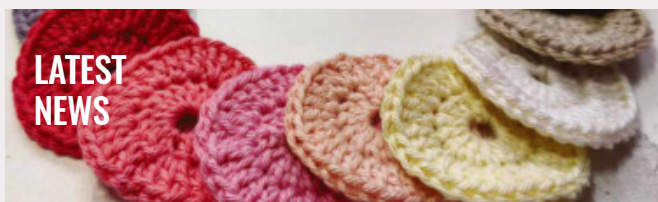
FIND AN EVENT

Click on the calendar to discover local and national events

<	April 2024					>
m	t	w	t	f	s	s
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

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FRILLED TRIM

YOU WILL NEED

EASY PEASY ★☆☆ | 4PLY WEIGHT | 3MM HOOK

- West Yorkshire Spinners Signature 4ply (75% wool, 25% nylon, 400m/100g)
  1 ball of Spruce (1006)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook

For yarn stockists contact WYS www.wyspinners.com

TENSION

19 sts and 13 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over treble crochet using a 3mm hook

MEASUREMENTS

Neckerchief measures approx 90x34cm (35½x13½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 78

The tapered ends of this triangle scarf can be tied together at the back or simply draped

The frill is worked along the bottom edges only, leaving the top edge clean and comfy

Emerald isle

Add a little warmth and a lot of style to your outfit with this sophisticated neckerchief by Sara Huntington

This elegant and wonderfully wearable neckerchief is worked back and forth in rows and finished with a sweetly feminine ruffle.

NOTES
Neckerchief is worked in rows throughout. A ruffled edge is worked at the end.

NECKERCHIEF
Ch12.
Row 1 (WS) Tr in fourth ch from the hook, 2tr in the next ch, tr in the next 2 ch, 3tr in the next ch, tr in the next 2 ch, 2tr in the final 2 ch, turn. [15 tr]
Row 2 (RS) Ch3, tr in st at the base of ch-3, 2tr in the next st, tr in each st to 3-tr group, FPtr around next tr, 3tr in the next tr, FPtr in the next tr, tr in each st across to the last two sts, 2tr in final 2 sts, turn. [21 sts]
Row 3 Ch3, tr in st at the base of ch-3, 2tr in the next st, tr in each st across to 3-tr group, tr in next tr, 3tr in next tr, tr in next tr, tr in each st to

the last 2 sts, 2tr in the next 2 sts, turn. [27 sts]
Repeat Rows 2-3 until the work measures approx 30cm (12in) from Row 1 to the central 3-tr group in the last row worked, ending with a WS row.
Do not fasten off.

FRILL
Row 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 3dc into each st across, turn.
Rows 2-6 Ch1, dc into each st across, turn.
Fasten off.

TO FINISH
Weave in all ends.
Block the Neckerchief gently to size.

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Crochet essentials

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

HOLDING THE HOOK
Try these methods and see which works best

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

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

HOLDING THE YARN
Even tension results in even stitches

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

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

MAKING A SLIPKNOT The first loop on the hook

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

2 Hold the loop between left thumb and forefinger, then insert the crochet hook through the centre of the loop from front to back.
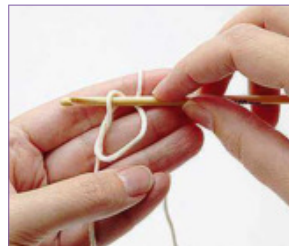
3 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook and pull it back through the centre of the loop, taking the yarn through with it.

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

CHAIN STITCH Use this stitch to make your foundation chain

1 Hold the hook in your right hand, and both the yarn end and the working yarn in your left hand. Move the hook under and over the yarn to wrap it around anticlockwise.
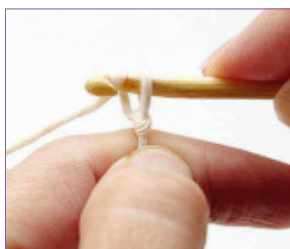
2 Pull the hook towards the slipknot, catching the yarn in the hook, and pulling it through the slipknot loop. This forms your first chain (ch) stitch. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to form a chain length.

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

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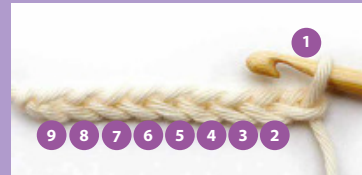
Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Never count your first slipknot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). So that you can be accurate, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.

SLIP STITCH (ss)
This stitch has no height – often used to join rounds

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

2 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook, so the yarn wraps anticlockwise around it (yarn round hook, or yrh).
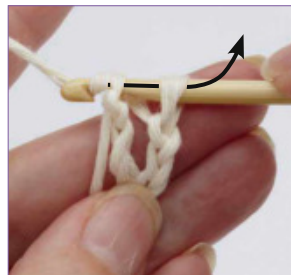
3 Gently pull the hook, and the yarn wrapped around it, back towards the 2 loops on the hook. Draw the yarn through both the loops on the hook.

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

DOUBLE CROCHET (dc) US term: single crochet
One of the key stitches in crochet, doubles are simple, compact stitches that form a dense fabric

1 To make a double crochet stitch, insert the hook under the top 2 loops of the next stitch on the previous row.

2 Wind the yarn around the hook (yrh).

3 Pull the yarn through the stitch, giving you 2 loops on your crochet hook.
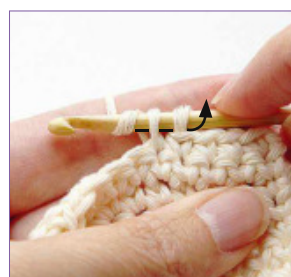
4 Yarn round hook again, then pull the yarn through both loops. There's your double crochet made and you'll have one loop left on the hook, ready to do the next stitch.

HALF TREBLE CROCHET (htr) US term: half double crochet
A handy stitch that's between double and treble crochet in size, and it looks slightly looser than double crochet

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

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

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

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

TREBLE CROCHET (tr) US term: double crochet
One of the most popular stitches in crochet, this simple stitch is twice as high as a double crochet stitch

1 To work a treble crochet, start by winding yrh and then insert the hook under the top 2 loops of the stitch on the previous row.

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

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

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

WORKING IN ROWS
Follow these simple rules to construct crochet fabric

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

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

WORKING STITCHES INTO A RING
To make circles, tubes and other shapes
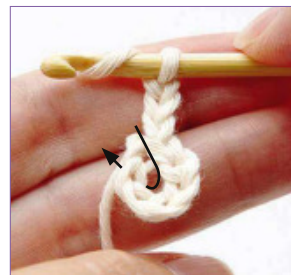
1 Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.

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

DOUBLE TREBLE CROCHET (dtr)
US term: treble crochet

This is a stitch regularly used as an elongated version of the treble (described above). It's worked in a very similar way to the treble, as follows:
1 Make a foundation chain. Skip 4ch, *yrh twice, and insert the hook under the top loop of the next ch.
2 Yrh, pull the yarn through the ch loop only (4 loops on hook).
3 Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (3 loops on hook).

Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (2 loops on hook).
4 Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops. Repeat from * to make more dtr sts.
5 To make the next row of dtr, turn work and ch4. This turning chain counts as the first dtr in a new row. Skip first st at the base of the t-ch, work 1dtr under the top 2 loops of the second stitch in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

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

This is one of the longest standard crochet stitches and is mainly used in fancy stitch patterns. It's taller than a double treble crochet stitch (described left) and is worked in a very similar way, as follows:
1 Make a foundation ch. Skip 5 ch, *yrh 3 times, insert hook under top loop of next ch.
2 Yrh, pull yarn through ch loop only (5 loops on hook).
3 † Yrh, draw loop through

2 loops only. Repeat from † 3 times more and your triple treble will be finished. Repeat from * to make more ttr sts.
4 To make the next row, turn work and ch5. This turning chain counts as the first triple treble in a new row. Skip first st at base of the t-ch. Work 1 triple treble, inserting hook under the top 2 loops of the second st in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

Abbreviations

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

Crochet hook conversions

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

Which hook do I use?

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

UK/US conversions

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

LEARN MORE ON OUR WEBSITE

Scan here to go directly to our page on www.gathered.how

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

NEXT ISSUE

PRETTY KITTY

RAFFIA SUN HAT

LATTICE SCARF

PLUS
* Sandals * Star blanket
* Pencil case * Bunting
* Toy toucan * And MORE!

Summery hexagon collection!

PLUS
52
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ON SALE 5 AUGUST

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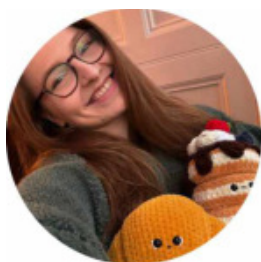Whatever your interest or hobby, there's a cruise experience you'll love.

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HERE'S WHO WE'RE FOLLOWING ON SOCIALS!

Soft & sweet

Six reasons to follow Emily from @blossommooncrafts for overwhelming cuteness and a delicious crochet fix

Instagram: @blossommooncrafts
Followers: 10.7K

IF YOU LIKE… crochet but hate sewing, many of Emily's patterns are low sew and work up in no time. Fast food – quite literally! #QuickAndEasy #FoodIsLove

IF YOU WANNA… push through a setback, Emily knows the frustration of frogging a project – but it's worth it to make her ideas come to life. #KeepGoing

IF YOU HAVE… a sweet tooth, Emily's croissant patterns are a real treat! "I also get inspired by anything I think is adorable," she says. #FlakeItTillYouMakeIt

IF YOU NEED… some gentle joy, Emily's designs are super fun! Follow her to learn adorable amigurumi, with some patterns available for free! #ItsTheLittleThings

IF YOU ARE… on a yarn budget, Emily's got you. "I love that you don't need super expensive materials or tools to create amazing things." #ScrimpAndSave

IF YOU LOVE… to mix and match, Emily's chick outfits are removable, with Easter, summer and fairytale collections now available! #CrochetEveryDay

IT'S ALL OVER...

Trending this month on Instagram
♥ **BOUQUET BLANKETS** ♥

@_snow.forsure

@little.artsy.aloe

@cici.babygift

@crochettie_aa
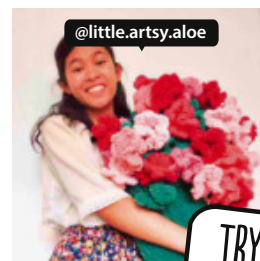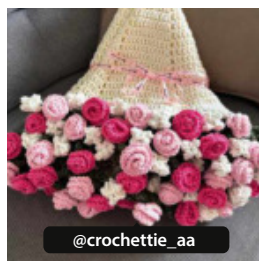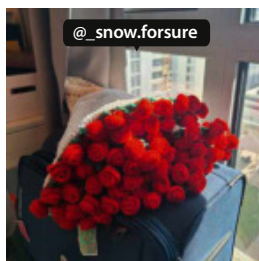
TRY THIS TREND!

Aglaia
Mandala

As seen in Scheepjes Pattern Portfolio 02 Whirl

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Try this pattern with our Cotton Whirl
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MISSED AN ISSUE?

ISSUE 163

Our cover star is a cute jumper with chain space lines, stitched in superwash wool. Our loops and lines collection will inspire you to get eclectic and geometric, celebrating shape, colour and pattern. Other projects include a hexagon blanket, flower bag, storage baskets and toy hippo. Plus, read our exclusive feature on social media stars Dean and Nala, and stitch your own ami' tribute to the pair!

RETURN TO THE APP TO BUY YOUR BACK ISSUES

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EVERY ISSUE IS AVAILABLE DIGITALLY, STARTING FROM ISSUE ONE!

ISSUE 162
Bright cardi, joy of making collection, ladybird throw, ami' bunny, lace shawl, mini bag, bee keyring.

ISSUE 161
Yoga collection, ami' frog, rooster rug, baby play mat, butterfly cushion, mini poncho, diamond blanket.

ISSUE 160
Games collection, slouchy top, floral blanket, hat & scarf, daffodil posy, unicorn ami', pastel pullover.

ISSUE 159
Brit Pack collection, wavy yoke sweater, giraffe ami', rainbow bag, flower cushion, placemats, blanket.

ISSUE 158
Dine in collection, fleck jumper, fur trims, giant cushion, sparkly shawl, wallhanging, ami' whale, blanket.

ISSUE 157
Lounge collection, shawl, check tank, blankets, plaid jacket, penguin toy, bag, hat & scarf, cushion.

ISSUE 156
Festive collection, bunny ami', check cardi, star jumper, tea light house, tree ami', Santa beard.

ISSUE 155
Christmas collection and jumper, elf toy, hat & shawl, bobble jumper, Santa motif, puppets, blanket CAL.

ISSUE 154
Rainforest collection, cosy shawl, quick hat, micro bag, ami' Gothic gal, textured sweater, stash cardi, placemat.

ISSUE 153
Gingham collection, ami' bat, fringed jacket, yoke jumper, jewel blanket, granny bag, sunflowers.

ISSUE 152
Tropical collection, summer top, retro dress, Minho doll, bee cardi, clutch bag, sunflower coasters.

ISSUE 151
Granny Square Day countdown collection, lightweight jumper, ami' spaceman, ombré shawl, neon throw.

ISSUE 150
Lavender & lace collection, spike stitch tank, ami' Welsh lamb, lace dress, football hats, retro cushions.

Beads & Beyond

From tassels to sequins – playful ideas to add flair to your makes

10 PATTERNS
NEW TECHNIQUES TO TRY!

EMBELLISH WITH EMBROIDERY

Use your beads!

CROSS STITCH CUSHION

SEQUIN CHOKER

BOBBLE TRIM BUMBAG

TASSEL TEE

26

7

10

14

4
BEADED
BAG

24

23

Simply Crochet EXTRA

Beads & Beyond

There's so much more to the art of crochet than loops, rows and rounds. Just a couple of easy embellishments can truly transform your stitches. For quick makes we've got necklaces, bags and a festival-worthy headpiece, and if you're craving a larger project, you can stitch a summer tee with a picot trim and tassels. You don't have to go overboard with the details – sometimes less is more. (But if you do go town with the beads and buttons, we certainly won't judge you!)

Sara

Editor, *Simply Crochet*

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CONTENTS

Bead there, done that!

An embellished pouch fastened with a functional drawstring and button, designed by Victoria Kairis

FLUFFY BEADED TASSELS

When adding beads into the fabric, change to a smaller hook to work the bead stitch

Begin the bag at the bottom with a magic loop and work in rounds up to the top edge

YOU WILL NEED
■ Rico Creative Cotton Aran
(100% cotton, 50g/85m)
3 balls of Natural (60)
■ A 4mm (US G/6) hook
■ A 2mm (US B/1) hook
■ A stitch marker
■ 64 red beads, 6mm
■ 64 orange beads, 6mm
■ A wooden button, 30mm
**For yarn stockists contact
Rico Design
www.rico-design.com/en/home**

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

MEASUREMENTS
Bag measures approximately 23cm (9in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS
bead st (o/r) Change to a 2mm hook, place either an orange (o) or a red (r) bead on hook, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull through st, yrh and pull through bead and all loops on hook, change back to a 4mm hook
For a full list, see page 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

Hot pink and orange beads zigzag across this miniature cotton pouch. Keep your tension tight so the bag maintains its shape.

NOTES
In this pattern stitches are worked continuously in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first stitch of each round, moving it up as you work.
There is a Chart on page 6, which you can refer to when working the beaded section. Each white square represents a dc st, red square represents a bead st (r) and orange square represents a bead st (o). The Chart is repeated 3 times on each round. The first 2 rounds of the Chart have been written out to guide you.

BEADED BAG
Using Natural, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 8dc in loop. [8 sts]
Round 2 (RS) 2dc in each st around. [16 sts]
Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [24 sts]
Round 4 (Dc in next st, 2dc, dc in next st) 8 times. [32 sts]
Round 5 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [40 sts]
Round 6 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc, dc in next 2 sts) 8 times. [48 sts]
Round 7 (Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [56 sts]
Round 8 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc, dc in next 3 sts) 8 times. [64 sts]
Round 9 (Dc in next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [72 sts]
Round 10 (Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc, dc in next 4 sts) 8 times. [80 sts]
Round 11 (Dc in next 9 sts, 2dc in next st) 8 times. [88 sts]
Round 12 (Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc, dc in next 5 sts) 8 times. [96 sts]
Round 13 Dc in each st around.

BEADED SECTION
Round 14 *Bead st (o), dc in next 15 sts, bead st (r), dc in next 15 sts; rep from * twice more.
Round 15 *Dc in next 2 sts, bead st (o), dc in next 11 sts, bead st (r), dc in next 3 sts, bead st (r), dc in next 11 sts, bead st (o), dc in next st; rep from * twice more.
Round 16 *Dc in next 4 sts, bead st (o), dc in next 7 sts, bead st (r), dc in next 7 sts, bead st (r), dc in next 7 sts, bead st (o), dc in next 3 sts; rep from * twice more.
Rounds 17-22 Cont in patt set using the Chart for bead placement.
Rounds 23-40 Dc in each st around.
Round 41 Dc in bl of next 14 sts, dc in next 67 sts, dc in bl of next 15 sts.
Round 42 Dc in each st around.
Round 43 Ch1 (does not count as st

---

throughout), (tr in next 3 sts, ch1, skip next st, tr in next 2 sts) 16 times. [80 sts, 16 ch-1 sps]
Round 44 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc in ch-sp, dc in next 2 sts) 16 times. [96 sts]
Round 45 Dc in each st around, ss in next st. **Fasten off** and weave in ends.

FLAP
Join Natural to first unworked fl of Round 40.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in next 29 fl, turn. [29 sts]
Rows 2-14 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.
Row 15 Ch1, dc in next 14 sts, bead st (o), dc in next 14 sts, turn.
Row 16 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.
Row 17 Ch1, dc in next 12 sts, bead st (r), dc in next 3 sts, bead st (r), dc in next 12 sts, turn.
Row 18 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.
Row 19 Ch1, dc in next 10 sts, bead st (o), dc in next 7 sts, bead st (o), dc in next 10 sts.
Row 20 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.
Row 21 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 10 sts, bead st

(r), dc in next 3 sts, bead st (r), dc in next 10 sts, dc2tog, turn. [27 sts]

Row 22 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 23 sts, dc2tog, turn. [25 sts]

Row 23 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 10 sts, bead st (o), dc in next 10 sts, dc2tog, turn. [23 sts]

Row 24 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 19 sts, dc2tog, turn. [21 sts]

Row 25 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 17 sts, dc2tog, turn. [19 sts]

Button loop is made over next round. You can adapt the length of the ch to fit the button you are using.

Row 26 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in next 7 sts, (dc, ch8, dc) in next st, dc in next 7 sts, dc2tog. [18 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

DRAWSTRING

Holding 2 strands of Natural together and leaving a long beg tail, ch92.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Starting at the front of the Bag, thread the drawstring through the holes created over Round 43.

Thread 3 beads onto the yarn tails at each end and secure with a knot. Fray the strands of the yarn and cut to required length.

Pull the Bag closed and knot the strings. Sew a button to the centre front of the bag, in line with the button loop.
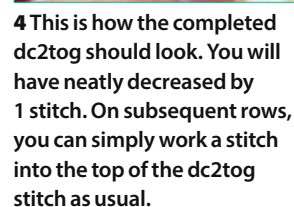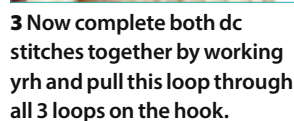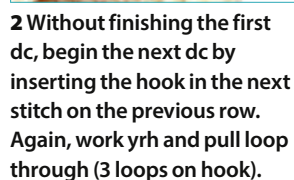
STRAP

Using Natural, ch201.

Row 1 (RS) Working in the bl of the ch, dc in second ch from hook and each of next 199 ch, turn. [200 sts]

Rows 2-3 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Sew ends of Strap to sides of the Bag.

Finish the bag with a drawstring, beaded tassels and a button

Chart

Key

☐	Dc
🟧	Bead st (o)
🟥	Bead st (r)

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO DECREASE IN DOUBLE CROCHET (DC2TOG)

1 Start by inserting the hook under the top 2 loops of the next stitch on the previous row. Begin to work a double crochet stitch in the usual way, working yrh and pull loop through (2 loops on hook).

2 Without finishing the first dc, begin the next dc by inserting the hook in the next stitch on the previous row. Again, work yrh and pull loop through (3 loops on hook).

3 Now complete both dc stitches together by working yrh and pull this loop through all 3 loops on the hook.

4 This is how the completed dc2tog should look. You will have neatly decreased by 1 stitch. On subsequent rows, you can simply work a stitch into the top of the dc2tog stitch as usual.

Pride of place

Combine crochet and embroidery to create a stunning tiled wall hanging, designed by Hannah Cross

TEXTURED SEAMS AND STITCHES

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

DK WEIGHT

3MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED
- King Cole Cottonsoft DK
  (100% cotton, 100g/210m)
  2 balls of Black (746)
  1 ball of each:
  Candy Floss (3462)
  Coral (1574)
  Cherry (719)
  Sage (1576)
  Ecru (711)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- A dowel, 50cm

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

TENSION
Each square measures 15x15cm
(6x6in)

MEASUREMENTS
Finished sampler measures appprox
50x44cm (20x17¼in) including
hanging tabs

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

Double crochet makes an excellent fabric for working embroidery stitches – even a slip stitch seam can be embellished to perfection.

NOTES
Wall Hanging consists of 9 plain Squares. Squares are embellished with embroidery patterns.
There are Charts on page 9 for you to refer to when working the embroidery.

WALL HANGING
SQUARES (MAKE 9)
Using Black, ch29.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [28 dc]
Rows 2-32 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in each st to end.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

EMBROIDER AND JOIN
Using the Charts, embroider the patterns shown using matching yarn colour.
Using Black, ss the Squares together in a 3x3 formation.

TABS (MAKE 5)
Using Black, ch9.
Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch to end, turn. [8 dc]
Row 2 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.
Rep Row 2 until Tab measures 12cm.
Fasten off.
Fold Tab in half and sew evenly along the top.

TO FINISH
Using Ecru, sew a running stitch detail over each of the ss seams at the front, as shown in the images.
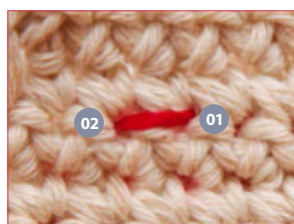

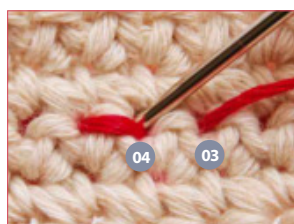Hanging tabs are worked separately and sewn, evenly spaced, along the top

Each square features a different embroidery pattern using back stitch or running stitch

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO MAKE A BACK STITCH

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

2 Bring needle up from back to front of fabric, 2 holes to the right 03. Then insert the needle back into fabric 1 hole to the left of there 04.
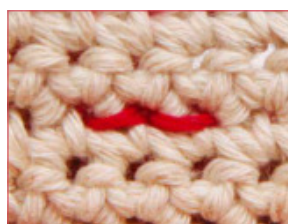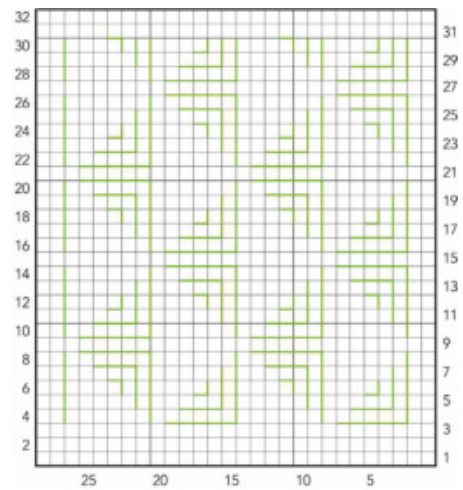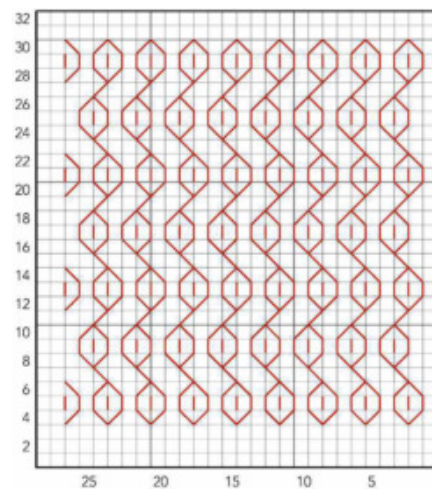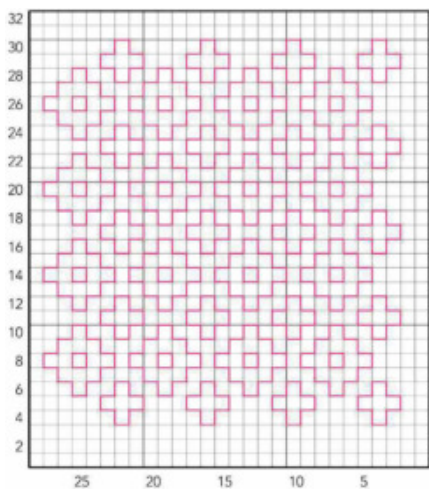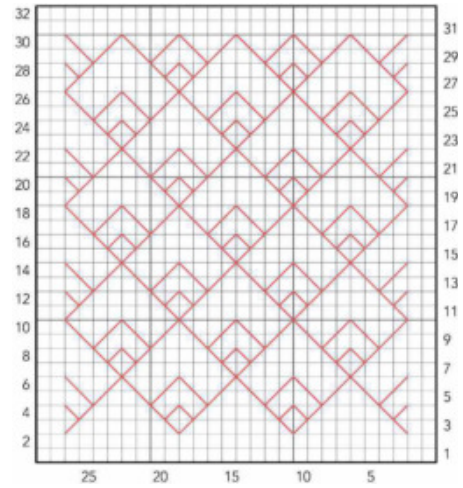
3 This will join up stitches and start forming a line.
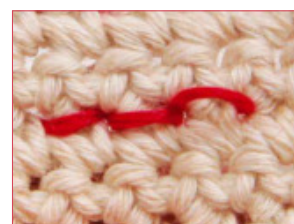
4 Repeat from step 2, moving horizontally, vertically or diagonally, to create a line as long as you need it to be.

EASY PEASY ★☆☆

DK WEIGHT

3MM HOOK
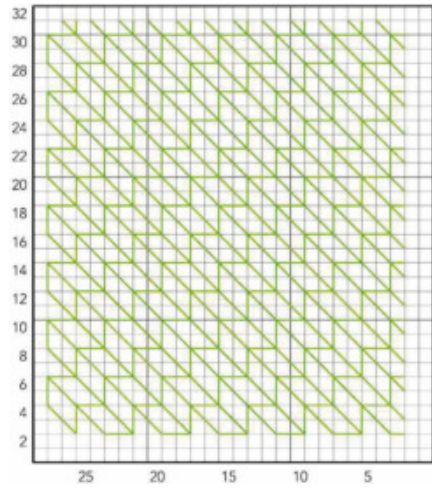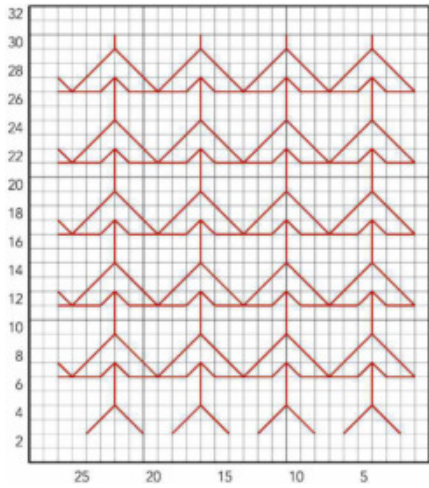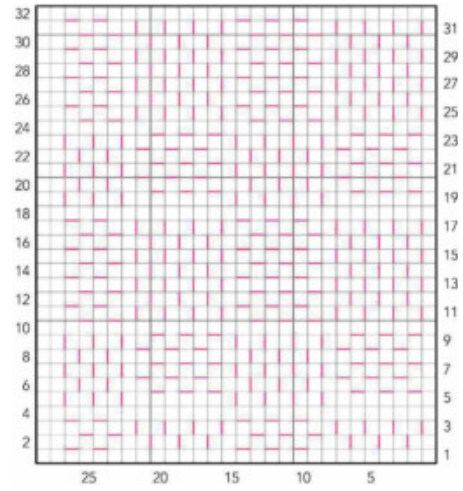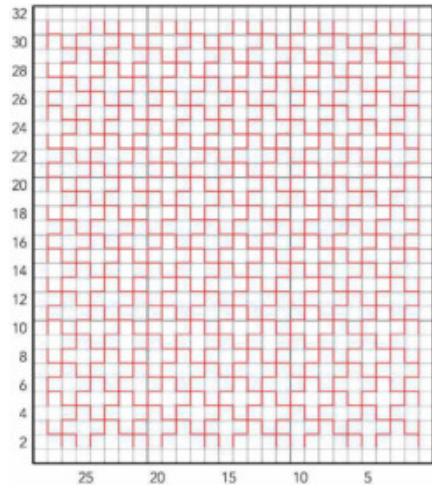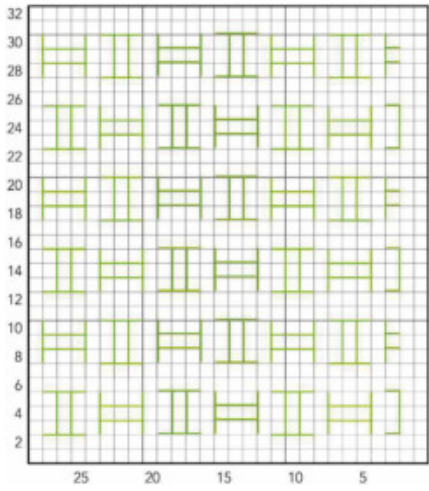
YOU WILL NEED
- Rico Essentials Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/120m) 1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Banana (063)
  Yarn B White (080)
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- Buttons: 10 small white, 10 small yellow (do not need to match)
- 5 wooden beads, 10mm
- Leather jewellery cord, 1m
- Strong craft glue

For yarn stockists contact Rico Design www.rico-design.com/en/home

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

MEASUREMENTS
Each Flower measures 3.5cm (1¼in) diameter
Finished Necklace measures approx 94cm (37in)

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

QUICK EASY GIFT!

Daisy chain

Raid your button stash to make this summery necklace by Esme Crick

The necklace is easy to construct – tie knots, thread beads and buttons, and glue flowers!

Cheerful daisies, beads and buttons make a super sweet statement. Pair with a solid colour outfit to make those petals pop!

NOTES
One of the original colours used in this project has been discontinued, so we have listed an alternative. The colours are a close match but may vary slightly to those pictured.

NECKLACE
### FLOWERS (MAKE 8)
Using Yarn A, ch5, ss in first ch to make a ring.
Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 10dc into the ring, ss to the first dc to join. [10 sts]
Round 2 *Ch3, skip next dc, ss into the next dc; repeat from * 4 times more. [5 ch-3 sps]
Fasten off.
Change to Yarn B.

Round 3 (Ss, ch1, htr, tr, htr, ch1, ss) in each ch-sp around.
Fasten off and weave in all ends.

TO MAKE UP
Tie a knot in leather thread 20cm from one end.
*From other end thread on (1 white button, 1 yellow button, 1 bead, 1 yellow button, 1 white button). Tie a firm knot just after the last button. Leave a gap of 8cm, then tie next knot; rep from * along until you have 5 'button and bead' sections.
Glue 2 Flowers WS together in the centre of each 8cm gap, with the thread sandwiched between them. Press firmly or weigh down until glue dries.
Finish the Necklace by tying the two loose ends of the leather cord into a knot to make a loop.

All in the detail

Eleonora Tully's Tunisian crochet cushion makes a pretty accent for your living space or bedroom

CUTE CROSS STITCH

YOU WILL NEED
- Scheepjes Cahlista
  (100% cotton, 50g/85m)
  6 balls of **Yarn A** Ultramarine (124)
  1 ball of **Yarn B** Lime Juice (392)
- Scheepjes Twinkle
  (75% cotton, 25% polyester,
  50g/130m)
  1 ball of each:
  Yarn C Pink (926)
  Yarn D Blue (919)
  Yarn E Orange (937)
  Yarn F Lilac (927)
- A 4.5mm (US 7) hook
- A 5.5mm (US I/9) Tunisian hook
- A cushion pad 40x40cm

**For yarn stockists contact
Scheepjes
www.scheepjes.com/en**

TENSION
16 sts and 16 rows to measure
10x10cm (4x4in) over Tunisian
simple stitch using a 5.5mm Tunisian
hook

MEASUREMENTS
Cushion measures 42x42cm
(16½x16½in)

ABBREVIATIONS
Tfs (Tunisian foundation stitch)
Loop on hook counts as first st,
*insert hook in next ch, yrh and pull
up a loop, leave loop on hook
Tss (Tunisian simple stitch) Loop
on hook counts as first st, *insert
hook through bar on next st from
right to left, yrh and pull up a loop,
leave loop on hook
RetP (Return Pass) Yrh and draw
through first loop on hook, *yrh and
draw through 2 loops on hook; rep
from * until 1 loop remains on hook
For a full list, see page 78 of
Simply Crochet magazine

A dark background makes the floral details
pop on this stunning cushion, with a delicate
frilly border for added prettiness.

NOTES
Cushion is worked in Tunisian simple stitch.
Each row of Tunisian crochet is made up of a
Forward Pass (FwdP) and Return Pass (RetP);
you do not turn the work at all, so you will be
working from the RS throughout.
When working the final Tss on the FwdP, work
through both loops at edge of fabric.
The cross stitch design is added to one Panel
using the Chart on page 13 as a guide.
Once both pieces have been blocked they are
crocheted together over the cushion pad using
double crochet and picot edging.

CUSHION
PANEL (MAKE 2)
Using a 5.5mm Tunisian hook and Yarn A, ch64.
Foundation row Tfs in second ch from hook,
Tfs in each ch across to end (64 loops on the
hook), RetP across. [64 sts]
Rows 1–62 Tss in each st across, RetP.
Row 63 Ss in each st to end.
Fasten off and weave in ends.
Using Yarn B, C, D, E and F, add cross stich
design to one panel to make the Front.

TO MAKE UP
Block both Panels to measurements listed.
Place Panels together with RS facing out and
work next round through both Panels to join.
Using a 4.5mm hook, join Yarn B in any corner.
Row 1 Ch1, (3dc in corner, 63dc across to next
corner) 4 times inserting cushion pad before
working final side, ss to first dc. [264 sts]

Panels are joined with a seam around the
outside and finished with a decorative border

Row 2 Ch1, *(1dc, ch5, 1dc, ch5, 1dc, ch5, 1dc) in
next st, 1dc in next 5 sts; repeat from * around,
ss to first st.
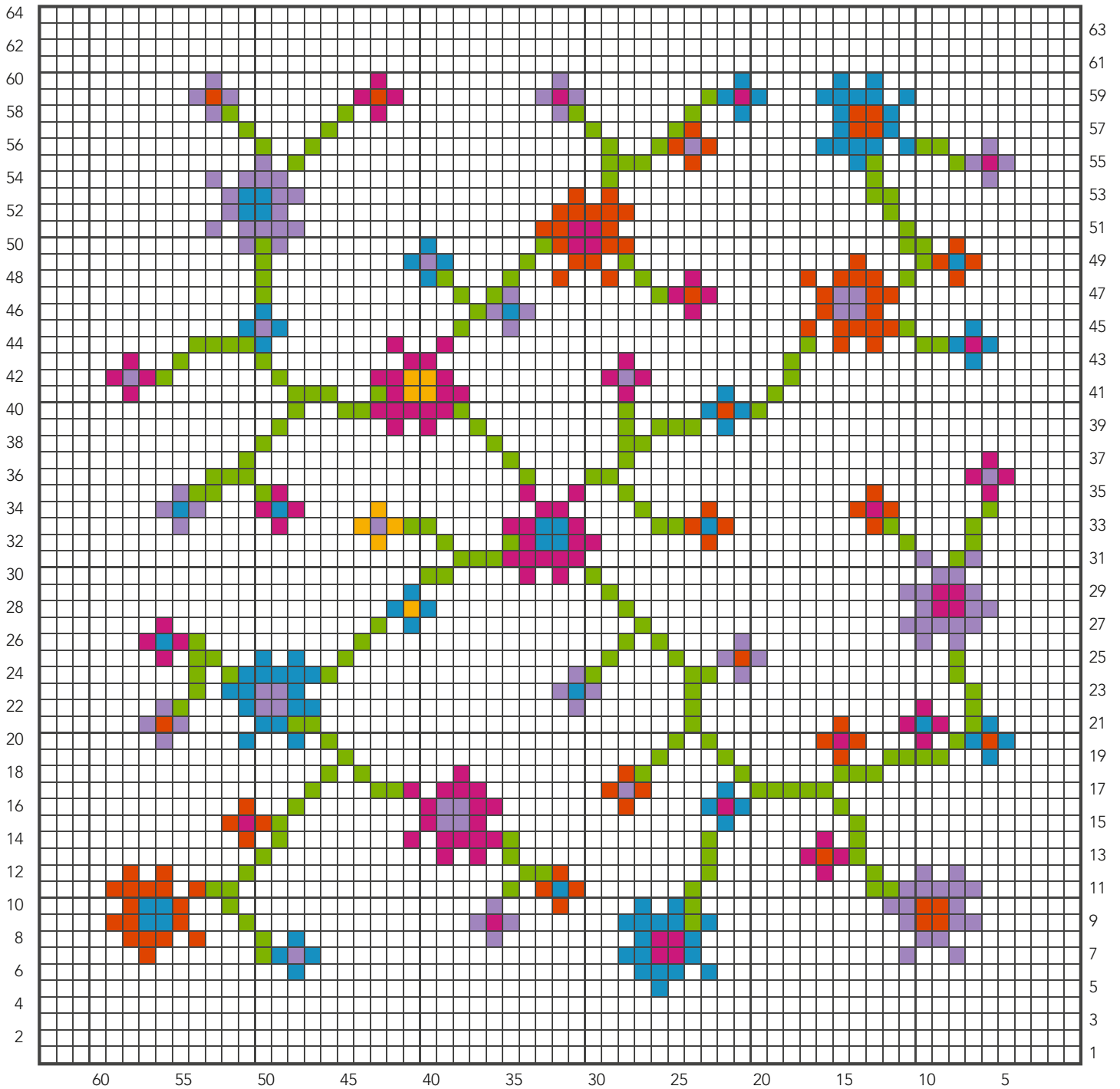**Fasten off**.

Use cross stitch to embroider the
floral pattern on the cushion front

Cross stitch chart

Key

- ■ Orange (937)
- ■ Blue (919)
- ■ Lime Juice (392)
- ■ Lilac (927)
- ■ Pink (926)

Easy being green

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

YOU WILL NEED

- Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino (55% wool, 33% acrylic, 12% cashmere, 50g/125m)
  Yarn A Citrus (18)
- Any lace weight yarn
  Yarn B used doubled for all sizes
  See table for yarn quantities and measurements
- A 3.75mm (US F/5) hook

For yarn stockists contact LoveCrafts 01409 404010 www.lovecrafts.com

TENSION

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

ABBREVIATIONS

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

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

Combine crochet, cross stitch and tassels in this beautifully lightweight tee, worked in luxurious natural fibres.

NOTES

Tee is worked in one piece, starting at the Back hem and finishing at the Front hem. When you reach the shoulders, the piece is divided to work each side of the neckline separately, then rejoined at the base of the neckline to work the rest of the Front to the hem in one piece. Sleeves are integrated into the Body by adding extra sts at each side to increase the row length. Read the neckline increase section carefully, as you will need to decrease for the end of the armholes during this section, unless you are working the largest size.

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

TEE

FIRST SIDE (BACK)

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

Foundation row (RS) Dc into second ch from hook and each ch to end.
[92 (98: 104: 112: 118: 124: 130) sts]

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

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

Rows 1-4 set pattern.

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

ARMHOLE

Continuing in pattern as set:

Next row Ch3, tr in each st to end, ch20 (20: 22:

22: 24: 24: 26) for one sleeve, turn.

Next row Ch1, dc in second ch from hook and in each st to end, ch20 (20: 22: 22: 24: 24: 26) for second sleeve, turn.
[132 (138: 148: 156: 166: 172: 182) sts]

Work Rows 3 and 4 of pattern.

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

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

DIVIDE FOR NECKLINE

FIRST SIDE

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

INCREASES AT NECKLINE EDGE

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

Work a RS row in patt as set, increasing in the last st of the row at the neckline edge by working 2 sts into the last st.
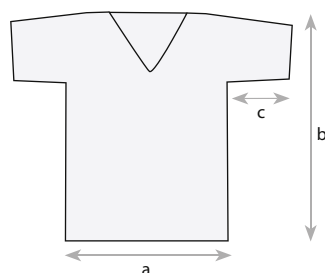
SIZES 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 & 18

Continue in pattern, increasing on every RS row, so that there are a total of 20 (20: 21: 21: 22: 22: -) increase rows. At the same time decrease the stitches at the end of the armhole by leaving the last 20 (20: 22: 22: 24: 24: -) sts of the row unworked, on Row 35 (35: 39: 39: 43: 43: -) of the increase section.

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

Work another WS row on these sts.

SIZE 20 ONLY

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

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

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

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

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

SECOND SIDE (FRONT)
Leaving 40 (40: 42: 42: 44: 44: 46) sts unworked for the neckline, rejoin the yarn to the next st with RS facing, ch1, dc in each st to end, turn. [46 (49: 53: 57: 61: 64: 68) sts]

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

SIZES 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 & 18
Work the increases at the neckline edge by working 2 sts in the first st of the next RS row and every following RS row until there are a total of 20 (20: 21: 21: 22: 22: -) increase rows. AT THE SAME TIME decrease the stitches at the end of the armhole by leaving the last 20 (20: 22: 22: 24: 24: -) sts of the row unworked, on Row 36 (36: 40: 40: 44: 44: -) of the increase section.
Work another WS row on these sts.

JOINING AFTER NECKLINE
SIZES 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 & 18
Rejoin the yarn with RS facing on the first st of the first side and work a row in patt across both sides of the Front to join into one piece. [92 (98: 104: 112: 118: 124: -) sts]

SIZE 20 ONLY
Rejoin the yarn with RS facing on the first st of the first side and work a row in patt across both sides of the Front to join, leaving the last 26 sts unworked for the armhole shaping, turn. [130 sts]

ALL SIZES
Cont in patt until work measures same as back ending on a Row 2.
Fasten off.

TO FINISH
Join side seams and underarm seams in one.

NECK EDGING
With 2 strands of Yarn B held together, slip stitch evenly around the neckline edge, working an even number of sts.
Next round (Dc in next st, picot in next st) around, ss to first st.
Fasten off.

SLEEVE EDGING
Work as for neckline edging.

CROSS STITCH BLOCKS
The embroidery is worked with 2 strands of Yarn B held together over 3 consecutive treble rows. The first block on the sample image is

The tee is worked in one piece starting at the back hem and finishing at the front hem

on the second tr row up from the hem with a gap of 3 patt reps in between. You can alter the position of these blocks to suit and according to the size you are making:
On the first and third rows of treble, ss surface crochet into the treble stitches around.
On the second row of tr, work cross stitches over every alternate treble stitch around.

TASSELS
Make as many Tassels as you like or use the images as a guide.
Make a Tassel by cutting a length of Yarn B 180cm long and fold in half 5 times. Take a doubled strand of Yarn B approx 20cm long, and thread through the top loops of all the

folds of yarn. Use one of the strands to tie the yarn together tightly and leave the ends for attaching the Tassel. Use the other end of yarn to bind around the top of the Tassel about 0.5cm from the top. Fasten off the ends securely and weave them into the top of the tassel. Cut through the folded ends of yarn at the bottom of the Tassel.
Attach the Tassels by threading the ends through the ss row, tie and weave in ends.
Weave in all ends neatly.

All that glitters

You're sure to sparkle on night outs with this glamorous clutch bag, designed by Emma Guess

SURFACE CROCHET BEADS

YOU WILL NEED

- Any 4ply yarn in:
  Yarn A gold lamé
  Yarn B pink
  Yarn C dark green
- Any thread weight yarn in
  Yarn D fuchsia
- A 2mm (US B/1) hook
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- 162 small multicoloured beads
- Stitch markers
- A needle that will pass through the beads when threaded with Yarn D
- Magnetic clip fastening

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

Bag measures approx 19.5x13 cm (7½x5in)

ABBREVIATIONS

4- tr cluster (Yrh, insert hook in st indicated, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw though 2 loops) 4 times, inserting the hook in the same st each time, yrh and draw through all loops on hook
For a full list, see page 78 of
Simply Crochet magazine

Forget a handbag – what you need is a *glam* bag! Hook an embellished clutch that will take you from day to night effortlessly.

NOTES

The Flap is made from individual Square and Triangle motifs and is sewn to the main part of the Bag.
When working with 2 colours in a round, change colour in the last yrh of the previous st. Carry the unused yarn across the top of the stitches, enclosing it as you work.

BEADED BAG
FLAP
SQUARES (MAKE 3)

Using a 2.5mm hook and Yarn A, make a magic loop.
Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), 7tr into loop, ss to top of beg ch-3. [8 sts]
Fasten off.
Round 2 Join Yarn B to any stitch, ch3, (tr, dtr, ch1, dtr, 2tr) in st at base of ch-3, 2tr in next st, *(2tr, dtr, ch1, dtr, 2tr) in next st, 2tr in next st; rep from * twice more, ss to top of beg ch-3. [36 sts]
Fasten off.
Round 3 Join Yarn C in any ch-1 sp, *(dc, htr, dc) in corner ch-sp, dc in next 8 sts; rep from * 3 times more, ss to first dc. [44 sts]
Fasten off.

BEADED FLOWERS

Thread all beads onto Yarn D.
Using a 2mm hook and Yarn D, work in surface crochet around the posts of the tr sts in Round 1 as follows:
Ss around first tr, (ch1, pull 9 beads to hook, ch1, ss around next tr, ch1, ss around next tr) 4 times,

ss to first st.
Fasten off securely.
Each time you join the yarn to a Square to make a Flower, join in the same position on each Square.

TRIANGLES (MAKE 3)

Using a 2.5mm hook and Yarn A, ch4.
Row 1 4tr in fourth ch from hook. [5 sts]
Fasten off.
Row 2 Join Yarn B in top of beg ch-3 of Row 1, ch4 (counts as dtr), (dtr, 2tr) in st at base of ch-4, 2tr in next st, (2tr, dtr, ch1, dtr, 2tr) in next st, 2tr in next st, (2tr, 2dtr) in next st. [19 sts]
Fasten off.
Round 3 Join Yarn C in top of beg ch-4, ch2 (counts as htr) dc in st at base of ch, dc in next 8 sts, (dc, htr, dc) in ch-sp, dc in next 8 sts, (dc, htr) in last dtr, ch4, dc around post of tr in Row 1, ch2, dc in starting ch, ch2, dc around post of tr in Row 1, ch4, ss to top of beg ch-2. [38 sts]
Fasten off.

BEADED FLOWERS

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

JOIN TO MAKE FLAP

Join the Squares and Triangles with a 2.5mm hook and a ss seam in Yarn A, working in back loops only with RS facing. Join into a Triangle shape as shown in the image.
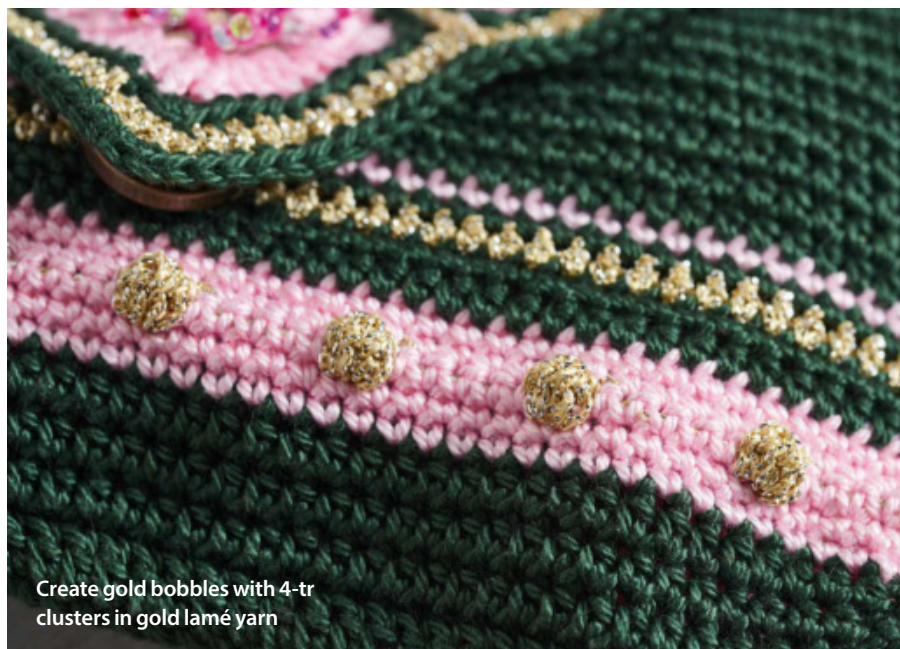
Create gold bobbles with 4-tr clusters in gold lamé yarn

The mix of beads and gold thread add dazzling sparkle

EDGING

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

MAIN BAG

Using a 2.5mm hook and Yarn C, ch50.
Round 1 Tr in fourth ch from hook (skipped ch count as tr), tr in each ch to last st, 6tr in last st, working in the opposite side of the foundation ch, tr in each st to last st, 5tr in last st, ss to top of beg ch-3. [102 sts]
Rounds 2-4 Ch2 (counts as htr throughout), htr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2.
Fasten off.
Rounds 5-6 Join in Yarn B, ch1 (does not count as st throughout), dc in in each st around, mark the first st of the round with a marker.
Turn work inside out to work with WS facing for next round.

Round 7 Ch1, dc in first st, move stitch marker to this st, dc in next 4 sts, change to Yarn A 4-tr cl in next st, (5dc in Yarn B, 4-tr cl in next st in Yarn A) repeat around, ss to first dc with Yarn B, turn back to RS.
Fasten off Yarn A.
Rounds 8-9 With Yarn B, ch1, dc in each st around.
Fasten off.
Round 10 Join Yarn C, ch2, htr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2.
Round 11 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first dc.
Round 12 Join Yarn A, ch2, htr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2.
Round 13 With Yarn C, ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first dc.
Round 14 Join Yarn B, ch1, dc in every stitch, ss to first dc.
Fasten off.
Rounds 15–28 With Yarn C, ch2, htr in each st around, ss to top of beg ch-2.
Fasten off.

JOIN THE FLAP TO THE BAG

Fold the Bag flat and mark the 2 stitches at the fold, making sure that there are 50 sts between the markers on each side.
Align the Flap with the top back of the Bag, RS together. With the front of the Bag facing, using a 2.5mm hook and Yarn C, join the 2 pieces with a dc seam. Continue working dc around the Flap with 3dc in the point of the flap, ss to first dc.
Fasten off.

STRAP

With 2.5mm hook and Yarn C, ch84.
Row 1 Tr in fourth ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [82 sts]
Bring each end of the row together to form a loop.
Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 3dc through both layers of the row ends to join, turn.
Row 3 Ch1, dc through each st of last row and 3 sts from top end of main bag to join.
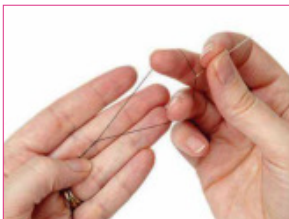**Fasten off**.

EDGING

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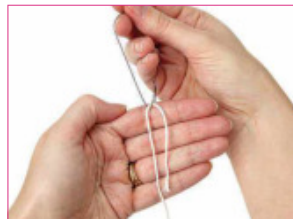**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

TO FINISH

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

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO STRING BEADS ONTO YOUR YARN

1 Cut a small length of sewing cotton, thread one end through the eye of a sewing needle, pull through and knot the ends together.

2 Now take the end of the yarn and pass it through the centre of the circle you made out of sewing cotton.
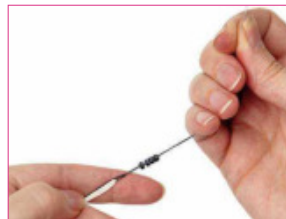
3 Carefully pass the sewing needle through a group of around 4 beads, gently moving them over the sewing cotton and then…

4 …move the beads gently down onto the yarn. Repeat from step 3 with more beads to string the number you need onto the yarn.

Razzle dazzle

Dress to impress with this amazing sequinned
chandelier necklace by Emma Guess

A BIT TRICKY ★★☆

THREAD WEIGHT

2.5MM HOOK

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

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

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

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

ABBREVIATIONS
ftr (foundation tr) *Yrh, insert hook in loop at base of last st, yrh and pull up a loop, pull through one loop on hook (loop will sit at base of Ftr), (yrh and pull through 2 loops) twice
For a full list, see page 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

This stunning necklace makes the perfect accessory for a romantic night out. Pair it with a simple frock and it'll be the star of the show.

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

NECKLACE
Thread 24 sequins onto the yarn.
Row 1 Ch3 (counts as stitch), ftr in third ch from hook, ftr pulling a sequin up to the hook before the last yrh of the tr, complete the tr enclosing the sequin, (ftr, ftr with sequin) 23 times, 2ftr. [51 sts, 24 sequins]
Fasten off.
Thread 15 sequins onto the yarn.
Row 2 With the sequins from Row 1 on the underside, ss in base of 17th st from start of Row 1, ftr, skipping two sts from Row 1 and inserting hook in base of 14th st from start of Row 1, (ftr, ftr with sequin) 15 times, ftr, ss in 17th st from end of Row 1, ftr replacing the extra ch-1 with a ss into the 14th st from end of Row 1. [33 sts, 15 sequins]
Fasten off.
Thread 11 sequins onto the yarn.
Row 3 Ss in base of fourth st from start of Row 1, ftr inserting hook in base of seventh st from start of Row 1, (ftr, ftr with sequin) 11 times, ftr, ss in ninth st from start of Row 2, ftr replacing the extra ch-1 with a ss in 12th st from start of Row 2.
Fasten off.
Thread 11 sequins onto the yarn.

Row 4 Follow the same principle to work a ftr joining in the 12th and the ninth sts from the end of Row 2, (ftr, ftr with sequin) 11 times, ftr, ss in seventh st from end of Row 1, ftr joining in fourth st from end of Row 4 as before.
Fasten off.
Thread 13 sequins onto the yarn.
Row 5 Join a ftr in the 15th and 18th sts from start of Row 3, (ftr, ftr with sequin) 13 times, ftr, ss in third st from start of Row 4, ftr joining in sixth st from start of Row 4.
Fasten off.

TIES (MAKE 2)
Join yarn in end of Row 1, ch61, turn, ss in each ch, ss to base of ch.
Fasten off.
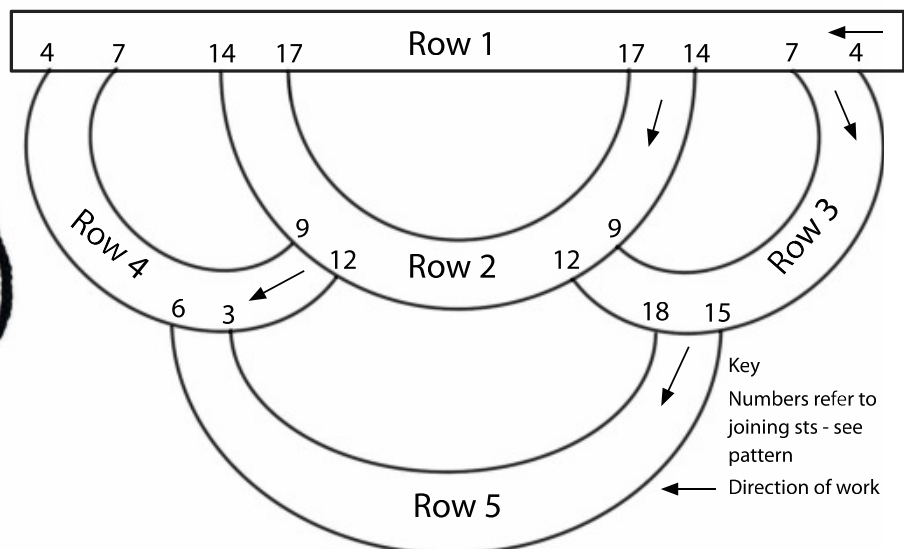Repeat for opposite side.

Before beginning each row, thread the required number of sequins onto the yarn

To make the ties, join yarn to Row 1, work chains, then slip stitch along the chains

Row 1

4 7 14 17   17 14 7 4

Row 4   9   9   Row 3
          12 Row 2 12
       6 3   18 15

Key
Numbers refer to joining sts - see pattern
Direction of work

Row 5

YOU WILL NEED
- DMC Mouliné Special Stranded Embroidery Thread (100% cotton, 8m)
  1 skein of each:
  Yarn A Iron (413)
  Yarn B Foxglove (3608)
  Yarn C Dark Magenta (917)
- A 1.25mm (US 10 or 11 steel) hook
- Button with 4 holes, 3cm diameter

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

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

MEASUREMENTS
Brooch measures approx 7cm (2¾in) in diameter

ABBREVIATIONS
picot Ch3, ss in third ch from hook
For a full list, see page 78 of *Simply Crochet* magazine

LEARN PICOT STITCH

Button up

Sara Huntington's statement brooch proves you can crochet with the finest thread!

Enclose the button in a circle of 'spokes' and work the petals around the circumference

You'll need good light to make this miniature beauty. You can use the finished button as a fastening, or as a brooch attached to a jacket.

NOTES
Brooch is worked in rounds with RS facing throughout.

FLORAL BROOCH
Round 1 Using Yarn A, insert the hook through one of the holes in the button, yrh and pull through a loop, take the hook to the top of the button, ss (so ss wraps around button), ch2, ss in same hole, ch3, *ss in next hole, ch2, ss in same hole, ch3; repeat from * twice more, ss into first ss to join. [8 ss, 4 ch-2 sps, 4 ch-3 sps]
Fasten off.
Round 2 Join Yarn B in any ch-sp, (ch3, 2tr, dtr, ch2, dtr, 3tr, ss) in same ch-sp, *(3tr, dtr, ch2, dtr, 3tr, ss) in next ch-sp; repeat from * 6 more times, ss in top of beg ch-3. [8 petals]
Fasten off.
Round 3 Join Yarn C in first tr of any petal group, ch1, dc in same st, *dc into next 3 sts, ss in ch-2 sp, picot, dc in next 5 sts (not including ss); repeat from * 7 more times omitting last dc, ss to first dc to join.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO FINISH
Sew button to garment using Yarn C.

Boho beads

Festival season is still here, so get ready to party with a unique beaded wearable by Emma Guess

YOU WILL NEED

- DMC Petra 3
  (100% cotton, 100g/280m)
  1 ball of **Yarn A** Black (5310)
- Anchor Artiste Metallic
  (80% viscose, 20% metallised
  polyester, 25g/100m)
  1 ball of **Yarn B** Gold (0300)
- A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
- 26 round beads
- 9 teardrop beads
- Sewing needle that will pass
  through beads

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

TENSION

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

ABBREVIATIONS

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

Channel your inner hippy with this eye-catching headpiece, complete with juicy bright beads and a whole lot of sparkle.

NOTES

Headdress is made in 2 strips of beaded crochet: Part 1 and Part 2. Part 2 is joined halfway along Part 1.
Thread the round beads onto Yarn A in order you would like them to appear; the last bead you thread will be the first bead you use.

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

PART 2
Count 7 circles from the start of Part 1, join Yarn A in the next ch-1 sp and repeat Row 1 with the remaining 12 beads.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

EDGING
Thread teardrop beads onto Yarn B in the order you wish them to appear. Every time you are instructed to add teardrop beads, replace the dc in the ch-1 sp between circles with a ss, pull 3 teardrop beads up to the hook, ch1, ss into the same ch-1 sp.
Join Yarn B to the first ch of Row 1.
Row 2 Dc in same ch, *(dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, 2dc in next st, dc in next st), dc in ch-1 sp between circles; rep from * along one side of Part 1, adding teardrop beads after 4th, 7th and 10th circles.
When you have completed one side, repeat Row 2 instructions along the other side of Part 1 without adding teardrop beads.
Fasten off.
Rejoin Yarn B to Part 2 where it joins Part 1. Repeat Row 2 along one side of Part 2. When you reach the end, ch5, ss in end of Part 2 and continue pattern along the other side of Part 2.
Fasten off and weave in ends.

TIES
Join Yarn A to one end of Part 1, ch61, ss in second ch from hook, ss in each ch along, ss to st at base of ch.
Fasten off.
Repeat on other end of Part 1.

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

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

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Before beginning to crochet, thread the beads onto the yarn

Packing light

Keep your travel essentials close with a funky bumbag, designed by Emma Friedlander-Collins

EASY PEASY ★★☆

DK WEIGHT

4MM HOOK

YOU WILL NEED
- Paintbox Simply DK
  (100% acrylic, 100g/276m)
  1 ball of each:
  Yarn A Racing Green (127)
  Yarn B Vanilla Cream (107)
  Yarn C Grass Green (129)
  Yarn D Rose Red (113)
  Yarn E Blood Orange (119)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- 21cm pompom fringe, available
  from www.vvrouleaux.com
- A 20cm zip
- 2 D-rings (3cm)

For yarn stockists contact
LoveCrafts 01409 404010
www.lovecrafts.com

TENSION
20 sts over 19 rows to measure
10x10cm (4x4in) using a 4mm hook
over dc st

MEASUREMENTS
Bag section measures approx
21x9cm (8¼x3½in)

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

This handy bag is slim enough to pass as a belt, but still big enough for your phone, keys, cards and maybe even a hook or two!

NOTES
Bag section is worked in the round, in the back loops only, to create a striped effect. The Straps are attached to the Bag by working along the side, into the front loops.
One of the original colours used in this project has been discontinued, so we have listed an alternative. The colours are a close match but may vary slightly to those pictured.

BUMBAG
BAG
Using Yarn A, ch40.
Round 1 Ch2 (counts as a st throughout), 2dc in third ch from hook, dc in next 38 ch, 3dc in end ch, working other side of ch, dc in next 38 ch, ss [82 sts]
Round 2 (Working in bl only) Using Yarn B, ch2, 3dc in next dc, dc in next 40 sts, 3dc in next st, dc in next 39 sts, ss to first st to join. [86 sts] Change to Yarn C.
Round 3 (Working in bl only) Ch2, dc in each st around, ss to first st to join.
Repeat Round 3, 17 times more using the following colour sequence: Yarn B, D, E, B, A, E, B, C, B, D, E, B, A, B, D, B.
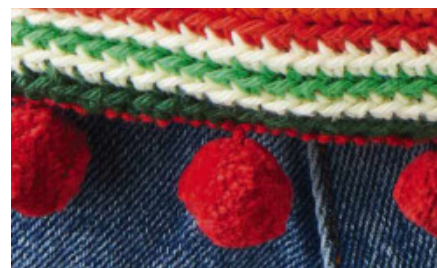**Fasten off** and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP
Sew the pompom fringe to the back side of the Bag across the bottom so the pompoms hang at the base. Sew the zip into place at Round 20.

STRAP 1
Join Yarn B to the fl on the top right corner of the bag (Round 19).
Row 1 Ch4 (counts as tr, ch1 throughout), *skip next row-end, tr in next row-end, ch1; rep from * another 7 times, tr in last row-end, turn. [10 tr]

Buy a readymade pompom trim and sew a length along the base of the bag

Fasten the straps with a pair of D-rings for easy adjustment – wear it loose or snug

Row 2 Ch4, *skip ch-1 sp, tr in tr, ch1; rep from * across, tr in last tr, turn.
Row 3 Ch4, *skip ch-1 sp, tr in tr, ch1; rep from * 6 times more, tr in next tr, turn leaving last st unworked. [9 tr]
Row 4 As Row 2.
Rows 5-12 Repeat Rows 3-4. [5 tr]
Rows 12-29 Repeat Row 2.
Rows 30-31 Ch3, tr in each st and ch-sp across.
Fasten off.
Position both the D-rings at the end of the strap, fold over and sew in place to secure.

STRAP 2
Join Yarn B in the top-left corner of the Bag and work as Strap 1.
Fasten off.

SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO ADD A ZIP AND LINING

1 Select a zip that closely matches the measurement of the opening.
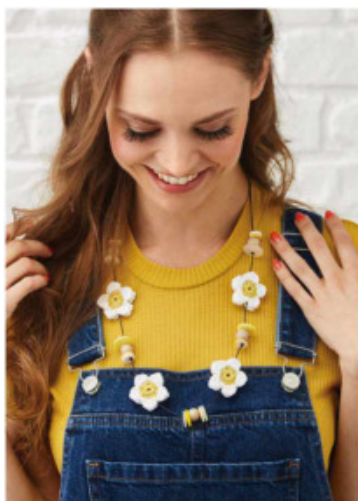

2 Pin the zip to the WS of the work. Make sure the zip fastening is easily accessible from the RS.

3 Cut the lining to the measurements of the bag with a 1cm seam allowance around each edge. Sew up the side seams on the lining and place inside the bag, pinning it in place.

4 Sew through the zip and lining fabric to secure them in place. We've used a mattress stitch seam to create an invisible join.