

Crochet Along

by Stylecraft



UK Terms

Lily Pond Blanket

Designed by Jane Crowfoot

Crochet Along*

Welcome to the Stylecraft Lily Pond Blanket Crochet along designed by Jane Crowfoot using one of our most popular yarns, Life DK. The Crochet Along was originally published over 14 weeks but all parts are now combined in this pattern.

The patterns focus on one motif or block at a time and you will need to complete an average of 4 motifs/blocks per set. Most of the blocks are 15cm square, although others are slightly bigger.

Jane has tried to design the pieces so that they get progressively harder and hopefully this means that crocheters can use the CAL as a learning tool.

For general hints and tips please see our Crochet Along Introduction pdf which can be found here: <http://www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk/Crochet.htm>

CHOOSING YOUR YARN

The patterns have been written for Stylecraft Life DK. This is a true DK weight of yarn that knits to a tension of 22sts and 30 rows on 4mm knitting needles. Although we hope that you will be using either our Life DK or Special DK, if you have found a substitute yarn then check the ball band for the knitted tension information. There are some hints and tips from Jane a little further on about how to achieve the correct crochet tension.

Stylecraft Life DK comes in 100g balls and has a length of 326yds/298 metres. If you have chosen an alternative yarn please make sure that the length is as close to Life DK as possible. Yarns that have a different fibre content or a slightly different yarn twist can have varying lengths of yarn, even though they weigh the same. If you are using Special DK instead of Life DK you do not need any extra yarn as there is only a tiny difference in yarn length per 100g ball.

CROCHET HOOKS

Jane has used a 3.5mm, 4mm & 4.5mm hook in the project. The 4mm hook is used for the majority of the project, but it is important that you do have all 3 sizes as using the incorrect hook size will affect the appearance of your piece.

Jane is a big fan of Clover Amour hooks. They have an elastomer handle which is slightly squishy and stops your fingers from slipping. The ergonomic design of the hook also means there is a flat area for your thumb to rest on.

There are lots of new hooks on the market now. Many of them have a plastic type handle and Jane can vouch for the fact that a sturdy handle really does help if you struggle with sore wrists or fingers when you crochet. You could also take

a look at the Knit Pro Waves, Prym or Clover Soft Touch as an alternative to the Clover Amour.

OTHER ACCESSORIES

Along with the crochet hooks, you will need a few extra pieces of equipment when working through this project.

STITCH MARKERS

In order to help you through the making up process of the blanket Jane suggests within the patterns that you use stitch markers to denote certain stitches or help when you are joining your seams later on.

Jane tends to use small locking stitch markers – these look like little nappy pins and are really safe as the stitches cannot escape. Locking markers are especially good for holding crochet pieces together while you sew up seams. Jane suggests that you use a stitch marker to mark every corner stitch on the square motifs, of which there will be a total of 21 pieces. If you mark each piece with 4 markers and plan to leave them in your work the whole time then you will need a total of 84 markers. This is a lot of markers, so you could mark your stitches with spare pieces of yarn or small pins or hair slides if you prefer.

KNITTERS SEWING NEEDLE

You will have a lot of yarn ends to sew in as you work through the project. It can save a lot of time at the end if you sew in all your ends as you go along so that you don't end up with a massive making up job once you have completed all your crochet. The blanket will be crocheted together using double crochet, but you will need a sewing needle to sew in all the loose ends.

We have had so much fun planning this fabulous new project for you and we hope you have just as much fun creating it!

Happy Crocheting!

The Stylecraft Team

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Jane uses a chibi bent tip needle. These are great for sewing up knitting and crochet projects. They come in packs of 2 needles and have a handy little container too!

OTHER BITS AND BOBS

You will also need a sharp pair of scissors and a tape measure. You might also want to sort out a dedicated bag for your project. Jane likes to make sure that she does not muddle up her yarns with other things or misplace any of them. Canvas bags or baskets are great for this. Another top tip is to tape a piece of each colour to the printed colour chart so you can always be sure you are reaching for the correct shade.

STITCHES USED

This project is aimed at an intermediate level of crocheter. It is important that you know your stitches and have a good grasp of techniques. If you are planning to use this project as a learning tool then it is a good idea to make sure you know your basics before you start.

The project is written using UK terminology. The US terminology appears in the table below. We are also publishing Dutch language versions of the patterns and they will be available on our website too.

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

TENSION

If you already have your yarn and the correct hooks then you are ready to work your tension pieces.

Taking the time to work these blocks can seem like a pain, but it is REALLY important that you are sure you are working to the same tension as the tension the patterns are written for. A failure to work to the correct tension will mean that your project will come out a different size and that you will use a different amount of yarn.

If you are using Life DK or Special DK and have full 100g balls you will have enough yarn in almost all of the shades to work your tension pieces and still have enough to complete your CAL project. When Jane completed the project she had at least a 3rd of a ball of all shades except the Fern and Teal left over. She only had approx. 20g of these 2 shades left so we would suggest you don't use these for your tension pieces.

When working a tension piece it is a good idea to work on more stitches and rows than the suggested tension. Jane

used 28 or 29sts and worked at least 4 more rows of the stitches so that she could measure a true tension within her pieces. See Jane's images for a guide.



Double Crochet – dc (US single crochet – sc)

Using 4mm hook

Tension = 20 sts and 22 rows to 10cm



Treble Crochet – tr (US double crochet – dc)

Using 3.5mm hook

Tension 20sts and 10 rows to 10cm



Please note the hook sizes above. A smaller hook is used to achieve the treble crochet (US double crochet) tension.

The tension is taken from unblocked swatches. Jane stuck hers down to the work surface with double sided tape (being careful not to stretch them) so that they were less curly and easy to measure.

If your tension is different to that suggested, then change your hook sizes accordingly and try the tension swatches again.

If you have a loose tension use a smaller hook.

If you have a tight tension use a larger hook.

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CHARTS AND IMAGES

The patterns include step-by-step images to help guide you through the making process. We think that images like this can be really helpful and are a great alternative to charts (which are not included in the CAL patterns this time) and we feel it is important that you see how the pieces look as they are worked on, even if they look a little curly and uneven.

YARN USAGE

All yarns have a varying amount of left overs, with Teal and Fern having the smallest amount remaining once the project is completed.

Jane advises that you keep hold of all your yarn until the end of the project. By this she means all the pieces you might undo and any pieces that look a bit frayed. Don't be tempted to use any of the yarn for any other project until you have completed this one and make sure you keep everything in a safe place.

HELP IS AT HAND

We want you to enjoy this project and we will do our best to make sure that any queries you might have get answered as soon as possible. The easiest way for you to make contact is via the Facebook groups.

There are two official Lily Pond CAL Facebook groups. Please note that neither of these are run by Stylecraft but by trusted Stylecraft fans who are great ambassadors for our Lily Pond Crochet Along.

For general hints and tips please see our Crochet Along Introduction pdf which can be found here:
<http://www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk/Crochet.htm>

Although every effort has been made to ensure that instructions are correct, Stylecraft cannot accept any liabilities.

In the unlikely event that there are errors in the patterns we will work as quickly as possible to issue an addenda.

Stylecraft cannot accept responsibility for the result of using any other yarn.

EQUIPMENT

3.5mm (UK 9 / US E/4) crochet hook Sewing needle
 4mm (UK 8 / US G/6) crochet hook Stitch markers
 4.5mm (UK 7 / US 7) crochet hook

ABBREVIATIONS

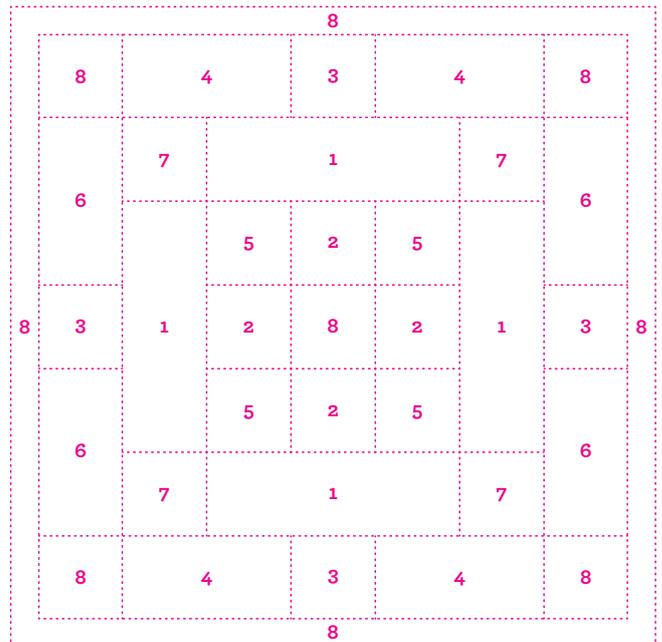
ch chain
cm centimetre(s)
dc double crochet
dtr double treble
htr half treble
MB Make Bobble
mm millimetre(s)
RS right side
sp(s) space(s)
ss slip stitch
st(s) stitch(es)
tr treble
tr2tog work 2 trebles together
tr3tog work 3 trebles together
WS wrong side
yrh yarn round hook

YARNS USED

The project takes 14 balls in total. You will need 2 balls each of Fern, Teal, Olive and 1 ball of each of the rest.



BLOCK LAYOUT



NOTES:

Fastening Off and rejoining Yarn

You will achieve a much neater colour change if you complete rounds and fasten off the yarn, rather than joining mid stitch. When fastening off a yarn at the end of a round, the slip stitch that you have made to join can look like a stitch when you are working the following round. Make sure you count correctly and do not count the slip stitch as a stitch when working subsequent rounds.

Dealing with yarn ends

I tend to sew yarn ends in as I go along - doing this makes the finishing process much easier as you will have less to do. Sewing yarn ends in as you go along also means that you are less likely to lose stitches or make errors with your tension.

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Row 2: Using Olive 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, (85sts) turn.

Row 3: 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, changing yarn shade to Teal on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.

Row 4: Using Teal 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, (85sts) turn.

Row 5: 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, changing yarn shade to Lily on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.

Block 1 – Stripes and Waves (make 4)



Our first block is Stripes and Waves which, as the title suggests, represents the ripples of water in the lily pond. You will need to make four of these and if you look closely you will see tiny flecks of colour which represent the fish and plants swimming below the gentle ripples and small waves of the water.

MEASUREMENT

14.5cm deep & 44.5cm wide pre blocking

METHOD

Using Fern & 4mm hook make 86ch – do not measure the chain as an indication of tension as your chain will stretch when you work your foundation row.

Foundation Row: skip 1ch, 1dc into each ch to end (85sts) turn.

Row 1: (WS facing) 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, changing yarn shade to Olive on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.



Row 6: Using Lily & 4.5mm hook, 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch*, 1ch, skip next st, 1dc into next st; repeat from * to end, changing yarn shade to Fern on the final step of the last st (43sts & 42ch sps) turn.



Row 7: Using Fern and 4mm hook, 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch*, 1dc into next ch sp, 1dc into next st; repeat from * to end, changing yarn shade to Olive on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.



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Row 8: Using Olive and 3.5mm hook, 3ch (counts as a 1tr), skip st at base of 3ch, 1tr into each st to end and changing yarn shade to Teal on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.



Row 9: Using Teal and 3.5mm hook, 3ch (counts as a 1tr), skip st at base of 3ch, 1tr into each st to end, making sure you work the last tr into 3rd ch of 3ch made at beginning of last row and changing yarn shade to Aqua on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.



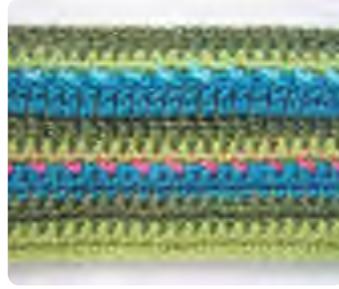
Row 10: Using Aqua & 4.5mm hook, 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch*, 1ch, skip next st, 1dc into next st; repeat from * to end, making sure you work the last dc into 3rd ch of 3ch made at beginning of last row and changing yarn shade to Fern on the final step of the last st (43sts & 42ch sps) turn.



Row 11: Using Fern and 4mm hook, 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch*, 1dc into next ch sp, 1dc into next st; repeat from * to end, changing yarn shade to Olive on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.



Row 12: Using Olive and 3.5mm hook, 3ch (counts as a 1tr), skip st at base of 3ch, 1tr into each st to end and changing yarn shade to Teal on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.



Note: If you are relatively new to crochet it might be a good idea to put the last st of Row 12 onto a stitch holder and make the remaining 3 versions of this block through to the end of Row 12 first. This will ensure that you gain confidence and your pieces match and you are happy with your stitches. Once you have completed all pieces to row 12 continue to work rows 13 to 21 on each piece.

Row 14 through to Row 19 are made using a stitch formation which creates a wave stitch – this stitch requires you to work half treble and double treble stitches in a 14 stitch repeat.

Row 13: Using Teal and 4mm hook, 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, making sure you work the last dc into 3rd ch of 3ch made at beginning of last row, (85 sts) turn.

Row 14: Using 3.5mm hook, 1ch, 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into next st, * 1htr into each next 2sts, 1tr into each next 2sts, 1dtr into each next 3sts, 1tr into each next 2sts, 1htr into each next 2 sts, 1dc into each next 3sts; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc of 3dc on final pattern repeat and changing yarn shade to Mint on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.



Use 3.5mm hook only from Row 15 to end Row 19.

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Row 15: Using Mint, 4ch (counts as 1dtr), skip st at base of 4ch, 1dtr into next st, 1tr into each next 2sts, 1htr into each next 2 sts, 1dc into each next 3sts * 1htr into each next 2sts, 1tr into each next 2sts, 1dtr into each next 3sts, 1tr into each next 2sts, 1htr into each next 2 sts, 1dc into each next 3sts; repeat from * 4 times, 1htr into each next 2sts, 1tr into each next 2sts, 1dtr into each next 2sts, changing yarn shade to Olive on the final step of the last st (85sts).



Row 16: Using Olive, 1ch, 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into next st, * 1htr into each next 2sts, 1tr into each next 2sts, 1dtr into each next 3sts, 1tr into each next 2sts, 1htr into each next 2 sts, 1dc into each next 3sts; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc of 3dc on final pattern repeat, making sure you work the last dc into 4th ch of 4ch made at beginning of last row and changing yarn shade to Fern on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.



Row 17: Using Fern, work as Row 15, changing yarn shade to Aqua on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.



Row 18: Using Aqua, work as Row 16, making sure you work the last dc into 4th ch of 4ch made at beginning of last row and changing yarn shade to Teal on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.



Row 19: Using Teal, work as Row 15, changing yarn shade to Mint on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.



Use 4mm hook only from Row 20 to end Row 21.

Row 20: Using Mint and 4mm hook, 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, making sure you work the last dc into 4th ch of 4ch made at beginning of last row and changing yarn shade to Fern on the final step of the last st (85sts) turn.



Row 21: Using Fern, 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, (85sts) fasten off.



Sew in all ends.
Block and press.

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MAKING UP INSTRUCTIONS (BLOCK 1)

Once you have completed each of these four pieces, check that your measurements are correct and sew in your yarn ends.

Don't worry if the piece looks a little wavy towards the top edge. The wave stitch creates a slightly looser tension than your double and treble crochet stripes so your piece may have got a little wider towards the top. If you think the piece is very wavy then you may need to change down to an even smaller hook, say a 3 or 3.25mm in place of the 3.5mm. Getting things correct to begin with will save you time and effort later on, even if it feels like a big deal to re do a piece at this stage.

The completed blanket will be crocheted together as you go along. At this stage you have no other pieces to join together, but you do need to work a row of slip stitches along both side edges of the pieces - these slip stitches will be used later on to ensure that you get a really neat join between your square motifs and your rectangular pieces.

HOW TO WORK A SLIP STITCH ALONG THE SIDE EDGE:



Make sure that your crochet piece is the right way up with the foundation chain edge at the bottom.



Mark the halfway point of your piece using a stitch marker or equivalent.



Put 2 further markers in so that you can judge how many stitches to pick up between 3 markers.

Using Olive and a 4.5mm hook, insert your hook through the work at the right hand side lower edge (as close to the edges as possible) and draw a yarn loop through from behind so that you have one loop on your hook.



From the front, insert your hook through the work one stitch or row along the side edge and draw the yarn through the work and through the loop already on your hook - this creates a slip stitch.



Continue in this way along the whole side edge until you have 29 sts.

Note: when working along the side of treble crochet stitches work a couple of slip sts into the post of the stitch rather than into the gap between sts - this is a little tricky, but much neater.

Once you have 29sts fasten off and sew in your yarn ends.

Repeat for the opposite side (Left hand side) - you will need to turn your work so that you are making your slip sts from the top of the piece through to the bottom. Again, don't worry if your piece looks a little wavy.



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Block 2 – Tiny Lily (make 4)



This is the first flower motif of the blanket. It started life as a simple flower but reminded Jane so much of a pond lily from one of Monet's Lily Pond paintings that it inspired her to create the Lily Pond Blanket. It represents the smallest of the lily collection and the delicate nature of the design is truly reflective of a tiny blossoming flower.

MEASUREMENT

14.5/15cm square pre blocking

METHOD

Using Daffodil & 4mm hook make 4ch, join with a ss to form a ring.

Round 1: 1ch (does not count as a st) 8dc into ring, ss to join, fasten off (8sts).



Note: The petals you are going to create by working the next round (Round 2) are of different sizes: 4 of the petals are longer than the remaining 4.

Round 2: Using Cream join yarn into any st by working 1ch, 3ch, (counts as 1dtr), 1dtr into same st, 4ch, ss into same st, ss into next st, * 3ch, 1tr into same st, 3ch, ss into same st, ss into next st, ** 4ch, 1dtr into same st, 4ch, ss into same st, ss into next st; repeat from * to end, finishing last repeat at ** and working last ss into st at base of 4ch at beginning of the round, fasten off (8 petals).



Round 3: Using Fern join yarn into any central st of any petal by working 1ch, (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, 7ch, [1dc into central st of next petal, 7ch] 7 times, ss to join, fasten off (8 x 7ch loops).

It's not easy to sew yarn ends in at this point so leave them loose as in the image.



Round 4: Using Olive join yarn into any dc made at top of a shorter petal on the previous round by working 1ch, 2ch (counts at 1tr), 1tr into same st, * 3ch, 2dtr into dc at top of next petal, 2ch, 2dtr into same st, 3ch, 3tr into dc at top of next petal; repeat from * to end, omitting 2tr on final repeat and finishing with 1tr into same dc as 3ch at beginning of row, ss to join, fasten off.



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Round 5: Using Fern join yarn into any 2ch sp made on previous round by working 1ch, 3dc into same ch sp, * 1dc into each next 2 dtr, 1dc into next ch sp, 1dc into ch sp made on Round 3, 1dc into ch sp made on previous round, 1dc into each next 3tr, 1dc into next ch sp, 1dc into ch sp made on Round 3, 1dc into ch sp made on previous round, 1dc into each next 2dtr, 3dc into next ch sp; repeat from * to end, omitting last 3dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off.



Round 6: Using Mint join yarn into centre st of any 3dc made at any corner on previous round by working 1ch, 3dc into same st, * 1dc into each next 15sts, 3dc into next st (this should be the central st of 3dc group made on previous round), repeat from * to end omitting last 3dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off (72sts).
Measurement approx. 9cm square.



Round 7: Using Olive join yarn into centre st of any 3dc made at any corner on previous round by working 1ch, 1ch (counts as 1tr), 2htr into same st, * 1htr into each next 17sts, 3htr into next st, (this should be the central st of 3dc group made on previous round), repeat from * to end omitting last 3htr on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off (80sts).



Note: change hook size to 3.5mm – 3.5mm hook is used from beginning Round 8 to end.

Round 8: Using Fern join yarn into top of 3rd htr of any 3htr group made on previous round by working 1ch, 2ch (counts as 1tr) 2tr into st at base of 3ch, * 1tr into each next 7sts, 1ch, skip 2sts, 3tr into next st, 1ch, skip 2sts, 1tr into each next 7sts, 5tr into next st (this will be the 3rd htr of 3htr group made on

previous round), repeat from * to end of round, omitting last 3tr of 5tr group on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off (88sts & 8ch sps made).

Place a marker into each of the 4 corner sts, this is the central st of the 5tr group made on the previous round.
Measurement approx. 12cm square.



Round 9: Using Teal join yarn into any marked st by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 3dc into same st, * 1dc into each next 9sts, 1tr into next skipped tr made on Round 7, making sure to work in front of Round 8, skip 1ch, 1dc into each next 3tr, 1tr into 2nd skipped tr made on Round 7, making sure to work in front of Round 8, 1dc into each next 9sts, 3dc into next st (this is the marked st); repeat from * to end, omitting last 3dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, (104sts) do not fasten off.



Round 10: 3ch (counts as 1tr) 3tr into next st, [1tr into each next 25sts, 3tr into next st] 3 times, 1tr into each next 24sts, ss to join, fasten off (112sts).



Mark corner sts, counting 27sts between each corner st.

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Sew in the following detail:

Using a short length of Cranberry and a blunt large eye needle, work back stitch between each of the holes made by the sts on Round 1.



Using a short length of Lily and a blunt large eye needle, work stitches around the back of the petals to create a zig zag sewn feature.



Sew in all ends.
Block and press.

To Make Up

Place stitch markers into each corner st where applicable as these will help in the making up process later on.



Block 3 – Lily Bud (make 4)



Blossoming on the water's surface the lovely soft pink hues of the lily bud are slowly revealed. Now we begin to see the emergence of a lovely contrast of colours on a green and blue background.

MEASUREMENT

14.5/15cm square pre blocking

METHOD

Using Daffodil & 4mm hook make 4ch, join with a ss to form a ring.

Round 1: 1ch (does not count as a st) 8dc into ring, ss to join, fasten off (8sts).



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Round 2: Using Cream join yarn into any st by working 1ch, 2ch, (counts as 1tr), 1tr into same st, [2tr into next st] 7 times, ss to join, fasten off (16sts).



Round 3: Using Fuchsia join yarn into any st sp between the posts of any 2tr made on previous round by working 1ch, (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st sp, 1ch, [1dc into next st sp, 1ch] 15 times, ss to join, fasten off (16sts with 1ch between each st).



Round 4: Using Daffodil join yarn into any ch sp by working 1ch, 1dc into same ch sp, * 3ch, skip 1dc & 1ch & 1dc, 1dc into next ch sp; rep from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off (8ch sps made).



Round 5: Using Rose join yarn into any dc made on previous round by working 1ch, 1dc into same st, [5tr into next ch sp, 1dc into next st] 7 times, 5tr into next ch sp, ss to join, fasten off (8 petals made).



Round 6: Using Cream join yarn into centre of any dc made on previous round by working 1ch, 1dc into st at base of 1ch, * 1dc into next st, [2dc into next st] 3 times, 1dc into next st, 1dc

into centre of next st; repeat from * to end omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off (72sts).



Round 7: (RS Facing) Using Fern join yarn into reverse side of any st between 2 petals on the previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, * 5ch, 1dc into reverse side of next st between next 2 petals on previous round, 5ch, ss into st at base of 5ch to form loop, 5ch, 1dc into reverse side of next st between next 2 petals on previous round; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, (12 ch sps made - check that you have 4 x 5ch loops to form 4 corners on next round). Do not fasten off.



Round 8: 1ch, 1dc into st at base of 1ch, * 3ch, skip next 2ch, 1dc into next ch, 2ch, 7tr into centre of next 5ch sp, 2ch, skip 2ch, 1dc into next ch, 3ch, skip 2ch, 1dc into next st; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off.



Round 9: Using Olive join yarn into dc at beginning of last round by working 1ch, 2ch (counts as 1tr) (you can change yarn shade without fastening off if you prefer, but it isn't as neat) 1tr into st at base of 3ch, * 1ch, 1tr into next dc, 1tr into each next 2ch, 1tr into each

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next 3tr, 3tr into next tr, 1tr into each next 3tr, 1tr into each next 2ch, 1tr into next dc, 1ch, 3tr into next dc; repeat from * to end, omitting last 2tr of 3tr group on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off.

Measurement approx. 10/ 10.5cm square.



Note: change hook size to 3.5mm – 3.5mm hook is used from beginning Round 10 to end.

Round 10: Using Fern join yarn into top of central tr of any 3tr group made between corner groups on previous round by working 1ch, 2ch (counts as 1tr) 1tr into st at base of 3ch, * 1ch, skip 1tr & 1ch, 1tr into next st (this is the ch that sits on top of the post of the next tr), 1tr into each next 6sts, 5tr into next st, 1tr into each next 7sts, 1ch, skip 1ch & 1tr, 3tr into central tr of next 3tr group made on previous round; repeat from * to end of round, omitting last 2tr of 3tr group on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off (88sts & 8ch sps made).

Place a marker into each of the 4 corner sts, this is the central st of the 5tr group made on the previous round.

Measurement approx. 12cm square.



Round 11: Using Teal join yarn into any marked st by working 1ch, 3dc into same st, * 1dc into each next 9sts, 1tr into next ch space made by working 1ch on Round 9, making sure to work in front of Round 10, 1dc into each next 3tr, 1tr into next ch space made by working 1ch on Round 9, making sure to work in front of Round 10, 1dc into each next 9sts, 3dc into next st (this is the marked st); repeat from * to end, omitting last 3dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, (92sts) do not fasten off.



Round 12: 3ch (counts as 1tr) 3tr into next st, [1tr into each next 25sts, 3tr into next st] 3 times, 1tr into each next 24sts, ss to join, fasten off (112sts).



Mark corner sts, counting 27sts between each corner st.
Sew in all ends.
Block and press.

To Make Up

Place stitch markers into each corner st where applicable as these will help in the making up process later on.

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Block 4 – Bobbles & Pin Wheels (make 4)



You are now at the half way mark.
Congratulations! Block four adds another dimension to the surrounding water of the lily pond. The exaggerated ripple effects are enhanced by a lovely combination of blues and greens and the addition of lily bobbles on the water's edge creates a subtle pop of colour.
A truly tranquil piece.

MEASUREMENT

14.5cm deep & 29.5cm wide pre blocking

Pattern Note

MB: Make Bobble

Bobbles are made with WS facing – the bobble will pop through to the RS of the work once complete.

Work 5 incomplete treble crochet stitches into next st, leaving one loop on the hook after each stitch. Once you have 6 loops on the hook, yrh, draw through all stitches.

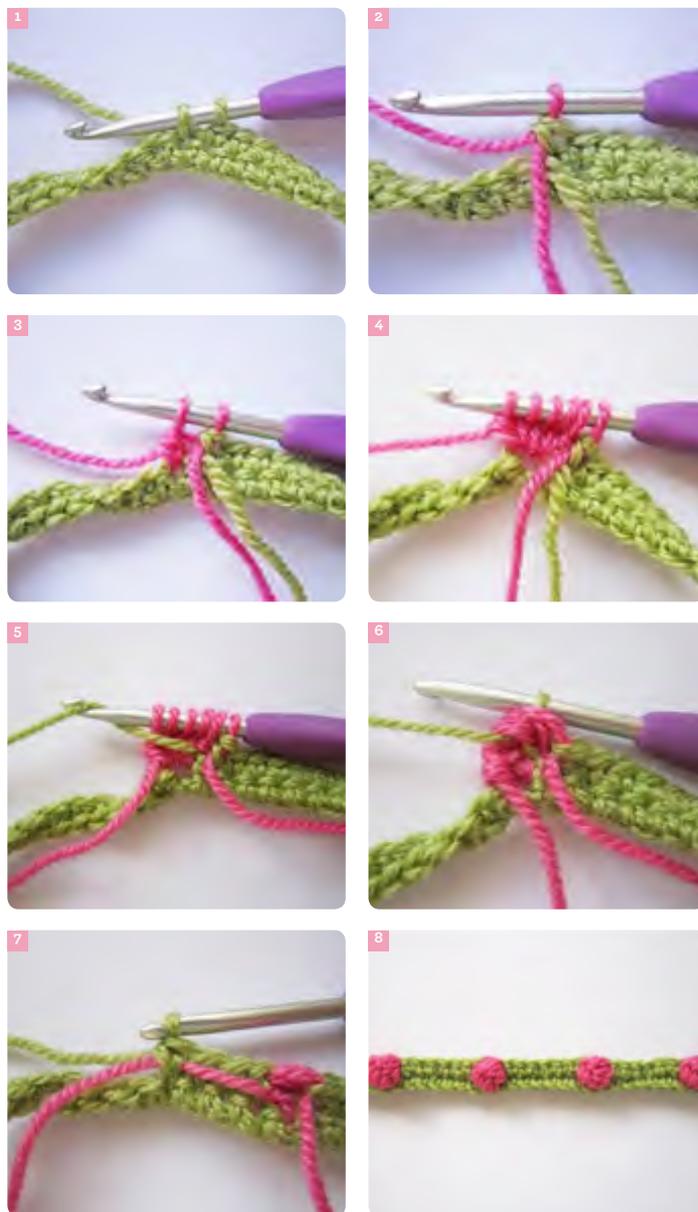
In the following pattern the bobble is made in an alternative shade to the background. Change yarn shade the step before you need it on the last step of the dc before the bobble, bring all yarns forward so that they sit on the WS of the work, complete the bobble to the point where you have 6 loops on your hook, using background shade yrh and draw through all loops. Carry the bobble yarn Lily along the reverse of the work, catching it in once or twice between each bobble.

METHOD

Using Fern & 4mm hook make 58ch – do not measure the chain as an indication of tension as your chain will stretch when you work your foundation row.

Foundation Row: skip 1ch, 1dc into each ch to end (57sts) turn.

Row 1: (WS facing) 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each next 7sts, changing yarn shade to Lily on the final step of the last st, * MB using Lily, changing yarn shade to Fern once there are 6 loops on the hook by wrapping yrh & drawing through the loops, using Fern 1dc into each next 7sts, changing yarn shade to Lily on the final step of the last st; repeat from * to last st, but do not change yarn shade on final repeat, using Fern 1dc into next st, changing yarn shade to Teal on the final step of the st, (57sts) (6 bobbles) turn.



Row 2: Using Teal 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, changing yarn shade to Aqua on the final step of the last st (57sts) turn.

Crochet Along*

Row 3: Using Aqua 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, changing yarn shade to Olive on the final step of the last st (57sts) turn.

Row 4: Using Olive 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, (57sts) turn.



Use 3.5mm hook only from Row 5 to end Row 16.

Row 5: Using 3.5mm hook, 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into next st, * skip 2sts, 7tr into next st, skip 2sts, 1dc into each next 3sts; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc of 3dc on final pattern repeat and changing yarn shade to Mint on the final step of the last st, turn (71 sts).



Row 6: Using Mint 3ch (counts as 1tr) skip st at base of 3ch, tr3tog over next 3sts, 3ch, 1dc into each next 3sts, * 3ch, tr7tog over next 7sts to create a cluster, 3ch, 1dc into each next 3sts; repeat from * 5 more times, 3ch, tr3tog over next 3sts, 1tr into next st, changing yarn shade to Teal on the final step of the last st, turn.



Row 7: Using Teal 3ch (counts as 1tr), skip st at base of 3ch, 3tr into next st, skip 3ch, 1dc into each next 3sts, * skip 3ch, 7tr into centre of cluster made on previous row, skip 3ch, 1dc into each next 3sts; repeat from * 5 more times, 3tr into centre of cluster (tr3tog) made on previous row, 1tr into 3rd ch of 3ch made at beginning of last row, changing yarn shade to Fern on the final step of the last st (71sts) turn.



Row 8: Using Fern 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into next st, * 3ch, tr7tog over next 7sts to create a cluster, 3ch, 1dc into each next 3sts; repeat from * 5 times, 3ch, tr7tog over next 7sts to create a cluster, 3ch, 1dc into next st, 1dc into 3rd ch of 3ch made at beginning of last row, changing yarn shade to Olive on the final step of the last st, turn.



Row 9: Using Olive 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into next st, * skip 3ch, 7tr into centre of cluster made on previous row, skip 3ch, 1dc into each next 3sts; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc of 3dc on final pattern repeat and changing yarn shade to Aqua on the final step of the last st, turn (71sts).



Crochet Along*

Row 10: Using Aqua work as Row 6, changing yarn shade to Teal on the final step of the last st, turn.

Row 11: Using Teal work as Row 7, changing yarn shade to Mint on the final step of the last st, turn.

Row 12: Using Mint work as Row 8, changing yarn shade to Olive on the final step of the last st, turn.

Row 13: Using Olive work as Row 9, changing yarn shade to Fern on the final step of the last st, turn.

Row 14: Using Fern work as Row 6, changing yarn shade to Teal on the final step of the last st, turn.

Row 15: Using Teal work as Row 7, changing yarn shade to Aqua on the final step of the last st, turn.

Row 16: Using Aqua work as Row 8, changing yarn shade to Mint on the final step of the last st, turn.



Row 17: Using Mint & 4mm hook, 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into next st, * 2dc into next ch sp, 1dc into centre of cluster made on previous row, 2dc into next ch sp, 1dc into each next 3sts; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc of 3dc on final pattern repeat and changing yarn shade to Lily on the final step of the last st, turn.

Row 18: Using Lily & 4.5mm hook, 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into st at base of 1ch, * 1ch, skip next st, 1dc into next st; repeat from * to end, changing yarn shade to Fern on the final step of the last st, turn.

Row 19: Using Fern & 4mm hook, 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into st at base of 1ch, * 1dc into next ch sp, 1dc into next st; repeat from * to end (57sts) Fasten off.

Sew in all ends.
Block and press.

To Make Up

Once you have completed each of these four pieces, check that your measurements are correct and sew in your yarn ends.

As for Block One, you need to work 29 slip sts down each side of each piece so that you have stitches to use in the joining up process. You will be joining this block to block 3 first, then later on you will join it to block 8.

Using Teal and 4.5mm hook work 29 slip sts along the left side of 2 of the blocks and 29 along the right side of the remaining 2 blocks.

Fasten off and sew in yarn ends. Don't worry about slip-stitching the other edges of these blocks now. This will be covered at a later stage.



Using Teal and 4mm hook join Block Four to Block Three by working double crochet on the reverse side, working through the top of the stitch on Block three and through the far side of the slip sts on Block Four, starting and ending in the marked corners sts on Block Three.

Fasten off and sew in yarn ends.



Don't worry too much if the piece looks a little mismatched – it is really hard to get a really neat join when joining a crochet pieces like this. Once the complete project is put together, the edging is added and the project has been washed and blocked the joins look far more even.

Crochet Along*



Block 5 – Lily Pond Flower (make 4)



We are now at a very exciting stage where we see the lily flower in full bloom – bursting with life and energy. Rich in depth and vibrancy, this lily pond flower has layers of colourful petals. These layers add a lovely three dimensional feel to the piece.

MEASUREMENT

14.5/15cm square pre blocking

METHOD

Using Daffodil & 4mm hook make 4ch, join with a ss to form a ring.

Round 1: 1ch (does not count as a st) 8dc into ring, ss to join, fasten off (8sts).



Round 2: Using Cream join yarn into any st by working 1ch, 2ch, 1tr into same st, (counts as tr2tog), 2ch, * tr2tog into next st, 2ch; repeat from * to end, ss to join, fasten off (8 petals & 8 ch sps made).



Round 3: Using Cranberry join yarn into any ch sp by working 1ch, (does not count as a st), 4dc into same ch sp, [4dc into next ch sp] 7 times, ss to join, fasten off (32sts).



Round 4: Using Fuchsia join yarn into any st in line with the top of a tr2tog made on Round 2 by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, * skip 1 st, 5tr into next st, skip next st, 1dc into next st (in line with top of next tr2tog made on Round 2); repeat from * to end, ss to join, fasten off (8 petals made).



Round 5: Using Lily join yarn into reverse side of st between any 2 petals on the previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, 4ch, * 1dc into next st between

Crochet Along*

2 petals on previous round, 4ch; repeat from * to end, ss to join, (8 ch sps made). Do not fasten off.



Round 6: 1ch (does not count as a st), * [1dc, 1htr, 4tr, 1htr, 1dc] into next ch sp; repeat from * to end, ss to join, fasten off (8 petals made).



Round 7: Using Rose join yarn into reverse side of st between any 2 petals on the previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, 5ch * 1dc into next st between 2 petals on previous round, 5ch; repeat from * to end, ss to join, (8 ch sps made). Do not fasten off.



Round 8: 1ch (does not count as a st), * [1dc, 1htr, 1tr, 4dtr, 1tr, 1htr, 1dc] into next ch sp; repeat from * to end, ss to join, fasten off (8 petals made).



Round 9: Using Cream join yarn into st between any 2 petals made on the previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, skip next st, 1dc into next st, (this is the st beyond the post of the next htr) 2dc into each next 5sts, 1dc into next st, skip next st, * 1dc into next st, (this is the st in the middle of 2 petals) skip next st, 1dc into next st, (this is the st beyond the post of the next htr), 2dc into each next 5sts, 1dc into next st, skip next st; repeat from * to end, ss to join, fasten off (104sts).

Measurements approx. 12cm wide at this point (pre blocking).

Note: Flower gets slightly smaller when subsequent rounds are added from this point.



Round 10: Using Fern join yarn into reverse side of any st between 2 petals on the previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, 9ch * 1dc into reverse side of next st between next 2 petals on previous round, 9ch; repeat from * to end, ss to join, (8 ch sps made). Do not fasten off.



Crochet Along*

Round 11: ss into each next 4ch, * 1dc into next ch, skip 4ch, 9dtr into next dc, skip 4ch; repeat from * 7 times, ss to join, fasten off (8 petals made).



Round 12: Using Mint join yarn into dc between 2 petals made on the previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, skip next st, 1dc into next st, (this is the st beyond the post of the next dtr) 2dc into each next 5sts, 1dc into next st, skip next st, * 1dc into next st, (this is the dc in the middle of 2 petals) skip next st, 1dc into next st, (this is the st beyond the post of the next tr) 2dc into each next 5sts, 1dc into next st, skip next st; repeat from * to end, ss to join, fasten off (104sts). Measurement approx. 14cm wide.



Round 13: Using Teal join yarn into reverse side of any st between 2 petals on the previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, * 9ch, 1dc into reverse side of next st between next 2 petals on previous round, 5ch, ss into st at base of 5ch to form loop, 9ch, 1dc into reverse side of next st between next 2 petals on previous round; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, (12 ch sps made - check that you have 4 x 5ch loops to form 4 corners on next round). Do not fasten off.



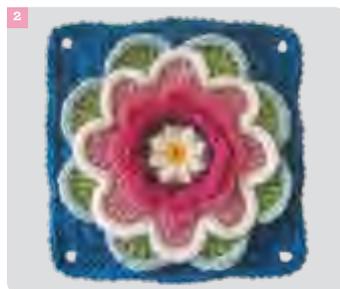
Round 14: 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into st at base of 1ch, * 5ch, skip 4ch, 1dc into next ch, 2ch, skip 4ch, 9tr into 5ch loop made on previous round, 2ch, skip 4ch, 1dc into next ch, 5ch, 1dc into next dc; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join.



Round 15: 2ch (counts as 1htr) * 1htr into each next 5ch, skip next st, 1tr into each next 2ch, 1tr into each next 4tr, [1tr, 3ch, 1tr] into next st, 1tr into each next 4tr, 1tr into each next 2ch, skip next st, 1htr into each next 5ch, 1htr into next st; repeat from * to end, omitting last htr on final pattern repeat, ss to join, (4 x 3ch sps with 25sts between each ch sp) (100sts).



Round 16: 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into each next 12 sts, * 3dc into 3ch sp, 1dc into each next 25sts, (the first of these sts is the ch that sits above the next tr); repeat from * twice, 3dc into 3ch sp, 1dc into each next 13sts (the first of these sts is the ch that sits above the next tr), ss to join, fasten off (112sts).



Mark corner sts, counting 27sts between each corner st.

Sew in all ends.
Block and press.

To Make Up

Once you have completed each of these four pieces, check that your measurements are correct and sew in your yarn ends.

Place stitch markers into each corner st where applicable.

Crochet Along*

Using Teal and a 4mm hook join Block five to Block Two using double crochet stitches on the wrong side of the work and using the layout plan and image as your guide. Make sure you line up your pieces so that the marked corner stitches are joined to their counterparts.



6

Block 6 – Bobbles & Wavy Shells (make 4)



Jane's effective use of the stitch in block six, gives a sense of gentle rippling of the water in the surrounding lily pond.

MEASUREMENT

14.5cm deep & 29.5cm wide pre blocking

Pattern Note

MB: Make Bobble

Bobbles are made with WS facing – the bobble will pop through to the RS of the work once complete.

Work 5 incomplete treble crochet stitches into next st, leaving one loop on the hook after each stitch. Once you have 6 loops on the hook, yrh, draw through all stitches.

In the following pattern the bobble is made in an alternative shade to the background. Change yarn shade the step before you need it on the last step of the dc before the bobble, bring all yarns forward so that they sit on the WS of the work, complete the bobble to the point where you have 6 loops on your hook, using background shade yrh and draw through all loops. Carry the bobble yarn Lily along the reverse of the work, catching it in once or twice between each bobble.

METHOD

Using Fern & 4mm hook make 58ch – do not measure the chain as an indication of tension as your chain will stretch when you work your foundation row.

Foundation Row: skip 1ch, 1dc into each ch to end (57sts) turn.

Crochet Along*

Row 1: (WS facing) 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each next 7sts, changing yarn shade to Lily on the final step of the last st, * MB using Lily, changing yarn shade to Fern once there are 6 loops on the hook by wrapping yrh & drawing through the loops, using Fern 1dc into each next 7sts, changing yarn shade to Lily on the final step of the last st; repeat from * to last st, but do not change yarn shade on final repeat, using Fern 1dc into next st, changing yarn shade to Teal on the final step of the st, (57sts) (6 bobbles) turn.



Row 2: Using Teal 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, changing yarn shade to Aqua on the final step of the last st (57sts) turn.

Row 3: Using Aqua 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, changing yarn shade to Olive on the final step of the last st (57sts) turn.

Change to 3.5mm hook.

Row 4: Using Olive 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into next st, * 1htr into each next 2sts, 1tr into each next 2sts, 1dtr into each next 3sts, 1tr into each next 2sts, 1htr into each next 2sts, 1dc into each next 3 sts; repeat from * to end of row, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat and changing yarn shade to Teal on the final step of the last st (57sts) turn.

Use 4mm hook only from Row 5 to end Row 17.

Row 5: Using Teal and 4mm hook, 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, changing yarn shade to Mint on the final step of the last st, (57sts) turn.



Row 6: Using Mint 4ch (counts as 1dtr) 3dtr into st at base of 4ch, * skip 3sts, 1htr into each next 2sts, 1dc into each next 3sts, 1htr into each next 2sts, skip 3sts, 7dtr into next st to create shell; repeat from * twice, skip 3sts, 1htr into each next 2sts, 1dc into each next 3sts, 1htr into each next 2sts, skip 3sts, 4dtr into next st, changing yarn shade to Olive on the final step of the last st, turn.



Row 7: Using Olive 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, making sure to work last dc into 4th ch of 4ch at beginning of last row and changing yarn shade to Fern on the final step of the last st, (57sts) turn.



Crochet Along*

Row 8: Using Fern 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into next st, * 1htr into each next 2sts, skip 3sts, 7dtr into next st to create shell, skip 3sts, 1htr into each next 2sts, 1dc into each next 3sts; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat and changing yarn shade to Teal on the final step of the last st, turn.



Row 9: Using * (Teal) 1ch (does not count as a st) 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, changing yarn shade to * (Aqua) on the final step of the last st, (57sts) turn.



Row 10: Using Aqua work as Row 6, changing yarn shade to Olive on the final step of the last st, turn.



Row 11: Using Olive work as Row 7, changing yarn shade to Mint on the final step of the last st, turn.



Row 12: Using Mint work as Row 8, changing yarn shade to Teal on the final step of the last st, turn.



Row 13: Using Teal work as Row 9, changing yarn shade to Fern on the final step of the last st, turn.



Row 14: Using Fern work as Row 6, changing yarn shade to Olive on the final step of the last st, turn.



Row 15: Using Olive work as Row 7, changing yarn shade to Aqua on the final step of the last st, turn.



Row 16: Using Aqua work as Row 8, changing yarn shade to Teal on the final step of the last st, turn.



Crochet Along*

Row 17: Using Teal work as Row 9, changing yarn shade to Olive on the final step of the last st, turn.



Change to 3.5mm hook.

Row 18: Using Olive & 3.5mm hook, 3ch (counts as 1tr), 1tr into each next 3sts, * 1tr into each next 2sts, 1dc into each next 3sts, 1tr into each next 2sts, 1tr into each next 7sts; repeat from * to end, omitting 3tr on final pattern repeat and changing yarn shade to Mint on the final step of the last st, (57sts) turn.



Row 19: Using Mint 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into st at base of 1ch, 1dc into each st to end, making sure to work last dc into 3rd ch of 3ch at beginning of last row, changing yarn shade to Lily on the final step of the last st, (57sts) turn.



Change to 4.5mm hook.

Row 20: Using Lily & 4.5mm hook 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into st at base of 1ch, * 1ch, skip next st, 1dc into next st; repeat from * to end, changing yarn shade to Fern on the final step of the last st, turn.



Change to 4mm hook.

Row 21: Using Fern & 4mm hook, 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into st at base of 1ch, * 1dc into next ch sp, 1dc into next st; repeat from * to end (57sts). Fasten off.



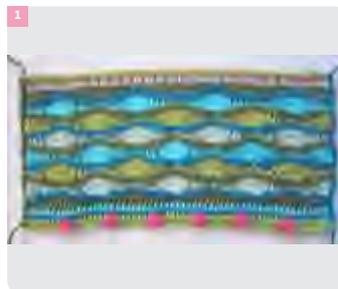
Sew in all ends. Block and press.

To Make Up

Once you have completed each of these four pieces, check that your measurements are correct and sew in your yarn ends. As for Block One and Block Four, you need to work 29 slip sts down each side of each piece so that you have stitches to use in the joining up process. You will be joining this block to block 3 first, then later on you will join it to Block Eight.

To join to Block Three

Using Teal and 4.5mm hook work 29 slip sts along the left side of 2 of the blocks and 29 along the right side of the remaining 2 blocks. Fasten off and sew in yarn ends. Don't worry about slip-stitching the other edges of these blocks now. This will be covered at a later stage.



Using Teal and 4mm hook join Block Six to Block Three by working double crochet on the reverse side, working through the top of the stitch on Block Three and through the far side of the slip sts on Block Six, starting and ending in the marked corners sts on Block Three. Fasten off and sew in yarn ends.

Don't worry too much if the piece looks a little mismatched – it is really hard to get a really neat seam when joining a crochet piece like this. Once the complete project is put together, the edging is added and the project has been washed and blocked the seams look far more even.



Crochet Along*



Block 7 – Medium Lily Flower (make 4)



Our seventh block is the Medium Lily Flower.

Neatly formed and beautifully designed, Jane has created a true sense of growth and development within the lily pond. We have seen the lily flower blossom from a tiny bud to a fully formed centre piece with layers of petals and vibrant colours.

MEASUREMENT

14.5/15cm square pre blocking

Please look at the making up instructions before you start.

METHOD

Using Daffodil & 4mm hook make 8ch, join with a ss to form a ring.

Round 1: 1ch (does not count as a st) 16dc into ring, ss to join, fasten off (16sts).



Round 2: Using Cream join yarn into any st by working 1ch, 2ch, 1tr into same st, leaving last step of stitch incomplete so that 2 loops remain on the hook, 2tr into next st, leaving last step of each stitch incomplete so that 4 loops remain on the hook, draw yarn through all loops to complete (counts as tr4tog over 2 sts), 4ch, * tr4tog over next 2sts, working 2 incomplete tr into first st & 2 incomplete tr into the next st, 4ch; repeat from * to end, ss to top of tr4tog to join, fasten off (8 petals & 8 ch sps made).



Round 3: Using Fern join yarn into any ch sp by working 1ch, (does not count as a st), 2dc into same ch sp, [3ch, ss to st at base of 3ch to make picot, 2dc into same ch sp] twice, * 2dc into next ch sp, [3ch, ss to st at base of 3ch to make picot, 2dc into same ch sp] twice; repeat from * to end, ss to join, fasten off (48sts & 16 picots).



Round 4: Using Cranberry join yarn into top of 1st dc of 2dc group made between any 2 picots made on previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, * 3ch, ss to st at base of 3ch to make picot, 7ch, 1dc into 1st dc of 2dc group made between next 2 picots made on previous round; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, (frame work for 8 petals made with 8 picots) fasten off.

It's not easy to sew yarn ends in at this point so leave them loose as in the image.



Crochet Along*

Round 5: Using Fuchsia join yarn into centre of any picot made on previous round by working 1ch, 3ch (counts as 1dtr), 4dtr into same sp, [1dc into next ch sp, 9dtr into top of next picot] 7 times, 1dc into next ch sp, 4dtr into centre of next picot (at base of beg 4ch) ss to join, fasten off (72 dtr sts – 8 petals made).



Round 6: Using Rose join yarn into dc between 2 petals made on the previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, skip next st, 1dc into next st, (this is the st beyond the post of the first dtr), 2dc into each next 5sts, 1dc into next st, skip next st, * 1dc into next st, (this is the dc in the middle of 2 petals) skip next st, 1dc into next st, (this is the st beyond the post of the first tr), 2dc into each next 5sts, 1dc into next st, skip next st; repeat from * to end, ss to join, fasten off (104sts).

Measurement approx. 13cm (at widest point).



Round 7: (RS facing) Using Fern join yarn into reverse side of any st between 2 petals on the previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, * 9ch, 1dc into reverse side of next st between next 2 petals on previous round, 5ch, ss into st at base of 5ch to form loop, 9ch, 1dc into reverse side of next st between next 2 petals on previous round; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, (12 ch sps made – check that you have 4 x 5ch loops to form 4 corners on next round). Do not fasten off.



Round 8: 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into st at base of 1ch, * 5ch, skip 4ch, 1dc into next ch, 2ch, skip 4ch, 9tr into centre of 5ch loop made on previous round, 2ch, skip 4ch, 1dc into next ch, 5ch, 1dc into next dc; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off.



Round 9: Using Olive join yarn into dc made at beginning of last round by working 1ch, 1ch (counts as 1htr) (you can change yarn shade without fastening off if you prefer, but it isn't as neat) * 1htr into each next 5ch, skip next st, 1tr into each next 2ch, 1tr into each next 4tr, [1tr, 3ch, 1tr] into next st, 1tr into each next 4tr, 1tr into each next 2ch, skip next st, 1htr into each next 5ch, 1htr into next st; repeat from * to end, omitting last htr on final pattern repeat, ss to join, (4 x 3ch sps with 25sts between each ch sp) (100sts). Do not fasten off.



Round 10: 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into each next 12 sts, * 3dc into 3ch sp, 1dc into each next 25sts, (the first of these sts is the ch that sits above the next tr); repeat from * twice, 3dc into 3ch sp, 1dc into each next 13sts (the first of these sts is the ch that sits above the next tr), ss to join, fasten off (112sts).



Crochet Along*

Mark corner sts, counting 27sts between each corner st.

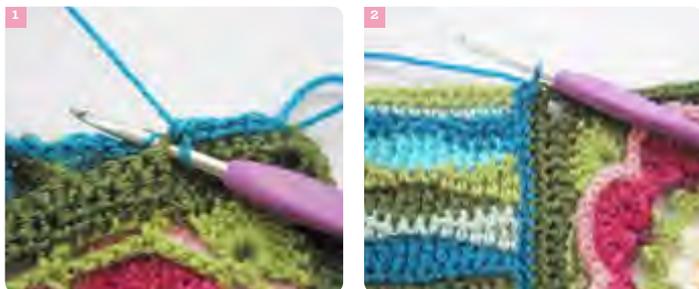
Sew in all ends.
Block and press.

To Make Up

Once you have completed each of these four pieces, check that your measurements are correct and sew in your yarn ends.

Place stitch markers into each corner st where applicable.

Using Olive and 4mm hook, join Block Seven to Block One by working double crochet on the reverse side, working through the top of the stitch on Block Seven and through the far side of the slip sts on Block One, starting and ending in the marked corner sts on Block Seven.
Fasten off and sew in yarn ends.



Block 8 – Large Lily Flower (make 5)



We are now at the final stage of the pattern – congratulations! Our eighth block is the Large Lily Pond flower. The largest of our lily flower collection, this motif consists mainly of shades of pinks and greens. The subtle colour variation of the petal outline gives the flower beautiful shape and definition and the bright yellow centre piece really focusses the eye!

MEASUREMENT

14.5/15cm square pre blocking

METHOD

Using yarn * (Daffodil) & 4mm hook make 8ch, join with a ss to form a ring.

Round 1: 1ch (does not count as a st) 16dc into ring, ss to join, fasten off (16sts).



Crochet Along*

Round 2: Using yarn * (Cream) join yarn into any st by working 1ch, 2ch, 1tr into same st, leaving last step of stitch incomplete so that 2 loops remain on the hook, 1tr into next st, leaving last step of stitch incomplete so that 3 loops remain on the hook, draw yarn through all loops to complete (counts as tr3tog over 2 sts), 3ch, * tr3tog over next 2sts, working 2 incomplete tr into first st & 1 incomplete tr into the next st, 3ch; repeat from * to end, ss to top of tr3tog to join, fasten off (8 petals & 8 ch sps made).



Round 3: Using yarn * (Cranberry) join yarn into any ch sp by working 1ch, (does not count as a st), 4dc into same ch sp, 1dc into top of tr3tog, 3ch, ss into st at base of 3ch to make picot, [4dc into next ch sp, 1dc into top of tr3tog, 3ch, ss into st at base of 3ch to make picot] 7 times, ss to join, fasten off (40sts & 8 picots).



Round 4: Using yarn * (Fuchsia) join yarn into top of 3rd dc of any 4dc group made on previous round by working 1ch (this will look like the central st) (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, 7ch, * 1dc into 3rd dc of next 4dc group made on previous round, 7ch; repeat from * to end, ss to join, (frame work for 8 petals made). Do not fasten off.



Round 5: ss into next ch sp, 3ch (counts as 1tr), 8tr into same ch sp, [9tr into next ch sp] 7 times, ss to join, fasten off (72sts - 8 petals made).



Round 6: Using yarn * (Rose) join yarn into st sp made between any 2 petals on previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st sp, * 1dc into next st (this is the st beyond the post of the first tr) [2dc into next st, 1dc into next st] 3 times, skip next st, 1dc into next st sp between petals; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off (88sts).



Measurements approx. 11.5/12cm wide at this point (pre blocking).

Note: Flower gets slightly smaller when subsequent rounds are added from this point.

Round 7: (RS facing) Using yarn * (Lily), join yarn into reverse side of any st between 2 petals on the previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, 9ch * 1dc into reverse side of st between next 2 petals on previous round, 9ch; repeat from * to end, ss to join, (8 ch sps made). Do not fasten off.



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Round 8: ss into each next 4ch, 1dc into same ch sp, * 9dtr into next dc, 1dc into next ch sp; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off (8 petals made).



Round 9: Using yarn * (Cream) join yarn into dc between 2 petals made on the previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, skip next st, 1dc into next st, (this is the st beyond the post of the first tr), 2dc into each next 5sts, 1dc into next st, skip next st, * 1dc into next st, (this is the dc in the middle of 2 petals) skip next st, 1dc into next st, (this is the st beyond the post of the first tr), 2dc into each next 5sts, 1dc into next st, skip next st; repeat from * to end, ss to join, fasten off (104sts).

Measurement approx. 15cm – note piece gets smaller as petals curl up a little.



Round 10: (RS facing) Using yarn * (Fern) join yarn into reverse side of any st between 2 petals on the previous round by working 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into same st, * 9ch, 1dc into reverse side of next st between next 2 petals on previous round, 5ch, ss into st at base of 5ch to form loop, 9ch, 1dc into reverse side of next st between next 2 petals on previous round; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, (12 ch sps made – check that you have 4 x 5ch loops to form 4 corners on next round). Do not fasten off.



Round 11: 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into st at base of 1ch, * 5ch, skip 4ch, 1dc into next ch, 2ch, skip 4ch, 9tr into 5ch loop made on previous round, 2ch, skip 4ch, 1dc into next ch, 5ch, 1dc into next dc; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off.



Round 12: Using yarn * (Olive) join yarn into dc made at beginning of last round by working 1ch, 1ch (counts as 1htr) (you can change yarn shade without fastening off if you prefer, but it isn't as neat) * 1htr into each next 5ch, skip next st, 1tr into each next 2ch, 1tr into each next 4tr, [1tr, 3ch, 1tr] into next st, 1tr into each next 4tr, 1tr into each next 2ch, skip next st, 1htr into each next 5ch, 1htr into next st; repeat from * to end, omitting last htr on final pattern repeat, ss to join, (4 x 3ch sps with 25sts between each ch sp) (100sts).



Round 13: 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc into each next 12 sts, * 3dc into 3ch sp, 1dc into each next 25sts, (the first of these sts is the ch that sits above the next tr); repeat from * twice, 3dc into 3ch sp, 1dc into each next 13sts (the first of these sts is the ch that sits above the next tr), ss to join, fasten off (112sts).



Crochet Along*

Mark corner sts, counting 27sts between each corner st.

Sew in all ends.
Block and press.

To Make Up

You can join each of the 5 flower motifs into your project as you complete them, but do make sure to check that your measurements are correct and sew in your yarn ends first.

Place stitch markers into each corner st where applicable.

Join the centre flower motif first by positioning it in the space left at the middle and lining up the stitch markers so that all 4 corners meet

Using Teal and 4mm hook join Block Eight by working double crochet on the reverse side, working through the top of corresponding sts on each block (2 & 5), using the layout chart and image as a guide.

Fasten off and sew in yarn ends.



Using Fern and 4mm hook, join this central square piece (made up of 9 squares) to the framework previously made by joining Blocks One and Blocks Seven.

It is a good idea to place locking stitch markers in along the edges to make sure things are well matched. You will need to work into the remaining side of the foundation ch on Block One and the stitches along the top of Blocks Five and Two and will need to skip a couple of stitches along this join to make the seam fit, so it is worth counting sts on both edges before you begin. Don't forget that you can use a stitch more than once if need be and that the corner stitches may well be used up to 3 times in the joining process.



As you complete the four remaining flower motifs add them onto the corner spaces, along the remaining sides of Block Four and Block Six using Olive and a 4mm hook and working as for previous blocks, working through the top of the stitches on the square blocks and through the far side of the slip sts on the rectangular blocks. Refer to the layout grid on page 2 for placement of the blocks as you make up the frame. Ensure you keep the bobbles to the longer outside edge of the frame.

Once this framework is complete, join the whole piece together using Fern and 4mm hook as before, once again placing locking stitch markers to help you and counting your stitches to ensure a neat join.

Crochet Along*



Edging

Using Cranberry and 3.5mm hook, join yarn into any marked corner st on Block Eight by working 1ch, 3dc into same st, *2dc into next st, 1dc into each next 27sts, 1dc into seam join, 1dc onto each next 57sts, working along the remaining side of the foundation ch, 1dc into seam join, 1dc into each next 29sts, 1dc into seam join, 1dc into each next 57sts, working along the remaining side of the foundation ch, 1dc into seam join, 1dc into each next 27sts, 2dc into next st, 3dc into next st; repeat from * to end, omitting 3dc on final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off (832sts).

Place a marker into each corner st, counting 207 sts between each marker to ensure your stitch count is correct.



Using Rose and 4mm hook, join yarn into any marked corner st by working 1ch, 2ch (counts as 1tr), 4tr into same st, skip 2sts, 1dc into each next 3sts, skip 2sts, * 7tr into next st, skip 2sts, 1dc into each next 3sts, skip 2sts **; repeat from * to marked corner st, 9tr into marked st, skip 2sts, 1dc into each next 3sts, skip 2sts; repeat from * until you have made it round to the very first st and ending at **, 4tr into st at base of beg 3ch, ss to join. Fasten off.



Using Cream and 4mm hook, join yarn into top of centre dc in any 3dc group made on previous round between 9tr corner fan and next 7tr fan, by working 1ch, 1dc into same st, * skip next st (this is the top of the next dc), 1dc into each next 2sts, 2dc into each next 3sts, 1dc into each next 2sts, skip next st (this is the top of the next dc), 1dc into next st; repeat from * until you reach the 9tr corner fan, skip next st, (this is the top of the next dc), 1dc into each next 2sts, 2dc into each next 5sts, 1dc into each next 2sts, skip next st (this is the top of the next dc), 1dc into next st; repeat from * to end, omitting last dc on the final pattern repeat, ss to join, fasten off.



Sew in yarn ends, block and press - refer to my notes below.

BLOCKING AND PRESSING

Blocking and pressing is the term used to describe the process of laying out your crochet pieces and then either steaming or moistening them with water in order to make sure they look neater and more even before you begin the process of joining your pieces together.

I think the term 'pressing' is extremely misleading as it implies that you should put something heavy onto your crochet and smooth out your stitches, in the same way that you would iron a crease out of a cotton shirt. In my time as a consultant and tutor I have seen many examples of knitted and crochet pieces that have quite literally been pressed beyond recognition. If you are not careful, pressing a crochet piece with a hot iron will destroy the fibres within your yarn and make your stitches flat and your yarn shiny - in some cases (when dealing with man made fibres) you could even melt or burn your yarn. Once the fibres within your yarn are flattened they will not recover, much in the same way as you can't un-shrink something that you have washed too hot.

Working through my Crochet Along project you will put a lot of time and effort into creating your crochet pieces in order to produce what I hope you will think is a beautiful lap blanket, which you can take pride in and others can admire. With this in mind I suggest that you take plenty of time to make sure that all your pieces are finished in the nicest way possible and so, once you have sewn in all your yarn ends, I suggest you use the following blocking steps.

PREPARE A BLOCKING BOARD

A blocking board can be as simple or as elaborate as you want it to be. You can buy special foam jigsaw blocking mats, or pick virtually the same things up in a toy store at a fraction of the cost. You can use the top of your ironing board or a bath towel. I use a folded towel on my work surface in the kitchen. I have a chequered tea towel, which I then lay over the top.

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PIN OUT YOUR PIECES

When blocking out a flat piece, such as a granny square for example, I would lay my piece face down on the tea towel, however, because of the 3D nature of this project I suggest that you lay your pieces the right way up so that you can see all the flower petals and leaves.

If you have a clean chequered or striped piece of fabric or tea towel like mine, you can pin your crochet pieces out in line so that you ensure they are straight. Use a tape measure to ensure that you are blocking to the right size. If you have a plain background you can mark out the size with pins, or even sew in a tacked framework.

Use long, large headed pins to pin the crochet piece out. You should stretch the piece very slightly and put the pins in as flat as you can – I work from the centre out, marking the central point of each side first, then working towards each corner.

USING STEAM OR A WATER SPRAY

If you have a steam iron that you know you can trust and that can produce steam without spurting boiling water, you can steam your crochet pieces, but be sure to hold your iron a few inches above your crochet to ensure it doesn't get too hot.

I use a cold-water spray. I have an old pump action hairspray bottle, which is filled with clean cold water and I spray my crochet pieces until they are nicely damp, but not soaking.

Once the yarn has taken in the water I leave the pieces to dry completely before I remove the pins.

NOTE

Crochet pieces love to curl up so there is no point blocking

each crochet motif as you complete it because by the time you come to put your pieces together they will have curled up again and will need re blocking.

A NOTE ON WASHING

Stylecraft Life DK is a fabulous yarn – it is hard wearing and easy to wash, however I would suggest that you avoid machine washing this project if at all possible. The tumble and spin actions on many modern day washing machines can be quite destructive to hand made products and, if you put your completed crochet project in with other wash items, you could find that you get snags and catches caused by things like Velcro fastenings or clasps.

Once your project has been put together you may want to wash it. I find that washing a completed piece can make a really big difference to the finished appearance of it. Seams become flatter and stitches become more even. I always hand wash my knit and crochet items in a liquid specially formulated for that purpose, such as woolite or soak. It is wise to avoid biological liquids or powders as they can contain brighteners, which can destroy the yarn fibres, cause bobbles and shade changes.

Once the piece is washed I place it in a tied pillow case and give it a short spin in the washing machine to remove as much water as I can – don't use a really fast spin as this can cause the piece to stretch and throw in a couple of bath towels at the same time to minimize the amount of movement the project will have, the towels will also help absorb water. Remove the project from the pillow case and lay your crochet project out on bath towel or large soft flat surface to dry. Don't place in direct sunlight or over a radiator and do not tumble dry. If you have a trampoline in the garden this is an excellent drying place, so long as you keep your pets well away!

