



UK Terms

Crochet Along

Stylecraft



Centre Motif

Carousel Blanket – Part 1

Crochet Along*

Welcome to the start of the Stylecraft Carousel Blanket Crochet Along designed by Sue Pinner using either Special DK for a bright circus look or Batik DK for a more vintage feel. A full list of the shades needed for the CAL is available on our website: <http://www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk/Crochet.htm>

Over the next couple of months we will be bringing you six patterns. The dates for your diary are: 13 September, 20 September, 4 October, 18 October, 1 November and finally 15 November. Please note that the first two parts are only a week apart while the rest come at two weekly intervals.

We will set out at the beginning of each block which colours and equipment you will need. We will always repeat abbreviations at the beginning of each pattern.

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>

Centre Motif

Inspired by the carousels and circuses of my childhood, I've had a huge amount of fun with this project over the last year.

I designed the project using several shapes; octagon, banding, pentagon, hexagon and one or two slightly more advanced stitches. The colours were changed a few times...it's so hard to pick from the fabulous designer range of 80+ Special DK colours isn't it? Then we decided to add the awesome NEW BATIK DK as a second choice and the colours were changed again, they don't exactly match each other but I wanted to keep one in the brights for the children or the child in us all and one that was going to have a vintage look in the Batik.

My family couldn't pick one over the other, my son saying one was obviously to the brief of carousel/circus, but he thought the other looked like King Arthur's round table. And he was right it really does, only the one in Winchester is in green and beige...so a fabulous new colour way could be used here.

I hope you all love the Carousel and I really am looking forward to seeing all the fabulous variations you will all come up with for YOUR Unique Carousel Blanket

So off we go...

EQUIPMENT

4mm (UK 8/ US G/6) crochet hook

MEASUREMENT

Motif measures 30cm across at widest point

ABBREVIATIONS

ch chain(s)

cm centimetre(s)

dc double crochet

dtr double treble

mm millimetre(s)

rep repeat

RS right side

sp(s) space(s)

sl st slip stitch

st(s) stitch(es)

tr treble

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 always recommend weaving in ends as you go or sewing them in; it's just easier when you get to the end as there's nothing more to do

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Part 1 – Centre Motif (make 1)

Special DK colours used:



1246
Lipstick



1823
Mustard



1003
Aster



1711
Spice



1068
Turquoise



1263
Citron

Batik colours used:



1094
Cherry



1902
Old Gold



1914
Indigo



1903
Coral



1909
Teal



1901
Biscuit



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.

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Change colour each round as instructed; Special DK colours are written first with the Batik DK colour in brackets. It always helps to see what it should look like before you start I think.



METHOD

Using Lipstick (Cherry), make a finger wrap of 10 wraps: simply wrap the yarn around your finger 10 times and slide off holding firmly. This is an old Irish technique to add padding to Irish crochet...and one of my favourite centre starts. Insert 4mm hook through the ring and pull the working yarn through. Make 1ch to secure.



Round 1: 16dc into the ring, then work a second round of 16dc over the top of the first, sl st to join, fasten off. [16dc]

Note: If you are struggling to make this centre neat and to cover the first row of stitches, it might help to do 14dc on the first round and then cover them with 16dc. Don't pull the stitches too tight, a bit like doing a spike or long stitch, a little practise should give you a satisfying result.



Round 2: Using Mustard (Old Gold) join yarn into any dc by working 2ch (counts as first tr), 1tr into same st, 2tr into each st to end, sl st into 2nd of 2ch to join, fasten off. [32tr]



Note: A mention here about THE DREADED ENDS...Please learn to weave them in using your hook or sew them in as you go, it really will make you feel so much better when you complete the blanket and there are NO ENDS TO SEW OFF!

Note for Round 3: 5dtr Popcorn st. This is my method of doing a Popcorn stitch, I have seen it written up as a LAZY METHOD... the cheek! I never could see the point in removing your hook from the stitches and reinserting them to do this stitch in the traditional method, when turning the work was easier.

Round 3: Using Aster (Indigo) join yarn into any sp between two pairs of tr by working 3ch (counts as first dtr), 4dtr into same sp, turn motif over and sl st into the back of first dtr, 3ch, turn motif over to RS facing, *5dtr into next sp between two pairs of tr, turn motif over and sl st under the 3ch, turn motif over to RS facing, ch3, rep from * 14 times more, sl st into top of first popcorn, fasten off. [16 popcorn]



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Round 4: Using Spice (Coral) join yarn into any 3ch sp by working 4ch (counts as 1dc and 3ch), 1dc into same sp, *(3tr, 3ch, 3tr) into next 3ch sp, (1dc, 3ch, 1dc) into next 3ch sp, rep from * 6 times more, (3tr, 3ch, 3tr) into last 3ch sp, sl st into 1st of 4ch to join, fasten off. [8 points, 8 small loops]



Round 5: Using Turquoise (Teal) join yarn into any 3ch point by working 4ch (counts as 1dc and 3ch), 1dc into same sp, *(3dtr, 3ch, 3dtr) into next 3ch loop, (1dc, 3ch, 1dc) into next 3ch point, rep from * 6 times more, (3dtr, 3ch, 3dtr) into last 3ch loop, sl st into 1st of 4ch to join, fasten off. [8 points, 8 small loops]



Round 6: Using Citron (Biscuit) join yarn into any 3ch point by working 6ch (counts as 1dc and 5ch), *1dc into next 3ch loop, 5ch, 1dc into next 3ch point, ch5, rep from * 6 times more, 1dc into last 3ch loop, sl st into first 5ch loop. [16 loops]

Note: At this point it might be a little tight, it will flatten as you add the next couple of rounds, so don't worry. Always a tricky one when designing a motif, chain stitches can be a little tighter than needed, but adding the cover stitches always seems to stretch them out and make the round grow.



Round 7: 2ch (counts as 1tr), 4tr into same 5ch loop, *5tr into next 5ch loop, 2ch, 5tr into next 5ch loop, rep from * 6 times more, 5tr into last 5ch loop, 2ch, sl st into 2nd of 2ch to join, fasten off. [10tr on each side]

Note: Here you are changing the decorative centre into a traditional octagon.



Round 8: Using Mustard (Old Gold) join yarn into any 2ch sp by working 4ch (counts as 1tr and 2ch), 1tr into same sp, 1tr into each of next 10 sts, *(1tr, 2ch, 1tr) into next 2ch sp, 1tr into each of next 10 sts, rep from * 6 times more, sl st into 2nd of 4ch to join, fasten off. [12tr on each side]



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Round 9: Using Spice (Coral) join yarn into any 2ch sp by working 4ch (counts as 1tr and 2ch), 1tr into same sp, 1tr into each of next 12 sts, *(1tr, 2ch, 1tr) into next 2ch sp, 1tr into each of next 12 sts, rep from * 6 times more, sl st into 2nd of 4ch to join, fasten off. [14tr on each side]



Round 10: Using Aster (Indigo) join yarn into any 2ch sp by working 4ch (counts as first tr and 2ch), 1tr into same sp, 1tr into each of next 14 sts, *(1tr, 2ch, 1tr) into next 2ch sp, 1tr into each of next 14 sts, rep from * 6 times more, sl st into 2nd of 4ch to join, fasten off. [16tr on each side]



Round 11: Using Lipstick (Cherry) join yarn into any 2ch sp by working 5ch (counts as first tr and 3ch), 1tr into same sp, 1tr into each of next 16 sts, *(1tr, 3ch, 1tr) into next 2ch sp, 1tr into each of next 16 sts, rep from * 6 times more, sl st into 2nd of 5ch to join, fasten off. [18tr on each side]

