



US 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

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

MEASUREMENT

Motif measures 12 inches across at widest point

ABBREVIATIONS

ch chain(s)	sl st slip stitch
dc double crochet	st(s) stitch(es)
mm millimetre(s)	tr treble
rep repeat	
RS right side	
sc single crochet	
sp(s) space(s)	

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.

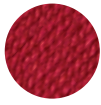
Dealing with yarn ends

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.

Crochet Along*

Part 1 – Centre Motif (make 1)

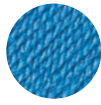
Special DK colours used:



1246
Lipstick



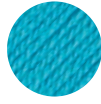
1823
Mustard



1003
Aster



1711
Spice



1068
Turquoise



1263
Citron

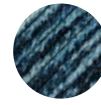
Batik colours used:



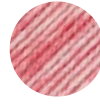
1094
Cherry



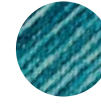
1902
Old Gold



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 color each round as instructed; Special DK colors are written first with the Batik DK color 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 favorite center starts. Insert G/6 hook through the ring and pull the working yarn through. Ch1 to secure.



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

Note: If you are struggling to make this center neat and to cover the first row of stitches, it might help to do 14sc on the first round and then cover them with 16sc. 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 sc by ch2 (counts as first dc), 1dc into same st, 2dc into each st to end, sl st into 2nd of ch-2 to join, fasten off. [32dc]



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: 5tr 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 dc by ch3 (counts as first tr), 4tr into same sp, turn motif over and sl st into the back of first tr, ch3, turn motif over to RS facing, *5tr into next sp between two pairs of dc, turn motif over and sl st under the ch-3, 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 ch-3 sp by ch4 (counts as 1sc and ch-3), 1sc into same sp, *(3dc, ch3, 3dc) into next ch-3 sp, (1sc, ch3, 1sc) into next ch-3 sp, rep from * 6 times more, (3dc, ch3, 3dc) into last ch-3 sp, sl st into 1st of ch-4 to join, fasten off. [8 points, 8 small loops]



Round 5: Using Turquoise (Teal) join yarn into any ch-3 point by ch4 (counts as 1sc and ch-3), 1sc into same sp, *(3tr, ch3, 3tr) into next ch-3 loop, (1sc, ch3, 1sc) into next ch-3 point, rep from * 6 times more, (3tr, ch3, 3tr) into last ch-3 loop, sl st into 1st of ch-4 to join, fasten off. [8 points, 8 small loops]



Round 6: Using Citron (Biscuit) join yarn into any ch-3 point by ch6 (counts as 1sc and ch-5), *1sc into next ch-3 loop, ch5, 1sc into next ch-3 point, ch5, rep from * 6 times more, 1sc into last ch-3 loop, sl st into first ch-5 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: Ch2 (counts as 1dc), 4dc into same ch-5 loop, *5dc into next ch-5 loop, ch2, 5dc into next ch-5 loop, rep from * 6 times more, 5dc into last ch-5 loop, ch2, sl st into 2nd of ch-2 to join, fasten off. [10dc on each side]

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



Round 8: Using Mustard (Old Gold) join yarn into any ch-2 sp by ch4 (counts as 1dc and ch-2), 1dc into same sp, 1dc into each of next 10 sts, *(1dc, ch2, 1dc) into next ch-2 sp, 1dc into each of next 10 sts, rep from * 6 times more, sl st into 2nd of ch-4 to join, fasten off. [12dc on each side]



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Round 9: Using Spice (Coral) join yarn into any ch-2 sp by ch4 (counts as 1dc and ch-2), 1dc into same sp, 1dc into each of next 12 sts, *(1dc, ch2, 1dc) into next ch-2 sp, 1dc into each of next 12 sts, rep from * 6 times more, sl st into 2nd of ch-4 to join, fasten off. [14dc on each side]



Round 10: Using Aster (Indigo) join yarn into any ch-2 sp by ch4 (counts as first dc and ch-2), 1dc into same sp, 1dc into each of next 14 sts, *(1dc, ch2, 1dc) into next ch-2 sp, 1dc into each of next 14 sts, rep from * 6 times more, sl st into 2nd of ch-4 to join, fasten off. [16dc on each side]



Round 11: Using Lipstick (Cherry) join yarn into any ch-2 sp by ch5 (counts as first dc and ch-3), 1dc into same sp, 1dc into each of next 16 sts, *(1dc, ch3, 1dc) into next ch2 sp, 1dc into each of next 16 sts, rep from * 6 times more, sl st into 2nd of ch-5 to join, fasten off. [18dc on each side]

