Crochet Along*

by **❋Stylecraft**

Under the Sea

Getting Ready by Catherine Bligh

Crochet Along ✿

'Under the Sea' is a blanket inspired by the incredible marine life to be found beneath, and above, the waves. Each square draws directly from a different marine creature or feature, each one surrounded by water. Using a range of stitches, the squares incorporate different shapes and textures to create a blanket that you'll love to feel as well as look at.

There are seven different motifs that, when joined together, create a 51.5"/131 cm square blanket.

Catherine has written detailed pattern instructions with photos for the Under the Sea CAL and there will be lots of help available in the Stylecraft Crochet Along group:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/2814982615184370

Please note there will not be any videos.

This CAL will be published in UK & US Terms.

Colourways

This blanket comes in 3 beautiful colourways

Colourway 1 – Fathoms Below
Uses Special DK with vivid blues, oranges and yellows, designed to inspire thoughts of tropical waters. It uses 15 balls in total.

Colourway 2 – Beautiful Briny Sea
Uses Bambino and Bellissima in more muted blues and greens, designed to be much more like our native British seas. It uses 18 balls in total.

Colourway 3 – The Edge of the Water
Uses Batik in greens with warm pink, red and purple, designed to inspire thoughts of warm waters and coral reefs. It uses 35 balls in total and is available as a limited edition pack.

You'll see that a couple of colours use quite a lot of the 100g ball of yarn – shrimp (94g), in 'Fathoms Below', and toasted almond, (93g) in 'Beautiful Briny Sea'. We've considered very carefully whether to include an extra ball of those colours in the recommended quantities and decided not to, but please be aware that it's possible you may have to buy an extra ball of yarn, if your tension varies.

COLOURWAY 1 – Fathoms Below

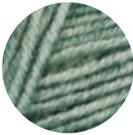**COLOURWAY 2** – Beautiful Briny Sea

COLOURWAY 3 – The Edge of the Water

Crochet Along✽

The yarns and quantities you will need

Special DK, Bambino DK, Bellissima DK and Batik DK are available at all good yarn shops. For your nearest stockist visit the Stylecraft website.

	COLOURWAY 1	COLOURWAY 2	COLOURWAY 3
	Fathoms Below Special DK – 100g balls	**Beautiful Briny Sea** Bambino DK – 100g balls Bellissima DK – 100g balls	**The Edge of the Water** Batik DK – 50g balls
A	Lapis 2 balls	All at Sea (Bambino) 2 balls	Storm 4 balls
B	Cloud Blue 2 balls	Double Denim (Bellissima) 2 balls	Sage 4 balls
C	Turquoise 2 balls	Blue Mist (Bambino) 3 balls	Pistachio 6 balls
D	Royal 3 balls	Sugar Snap (Bellissima) 3 balls	Mint 6 balls
E	Sherbet 2 balls	Vintage Blue (Bambino) 3 balls	Teal 5 balls
F	Saffron 1 ball	Mellow Yellow (Bellissima) 1 ball	Rose 2 balls
G	Clementine 1 ball	Toasted Almond (Bellissima) 1 ball	Heather 2 balls
H	Shrimp 1 ball	Purple Passion (Bellissima) 2 balls	Cherry 4 balls
I	White 1 ball	Single Cream (Bellissima) 1 ball	Biscuit 2 balls

EQUIPMENT

4.5mm (UK 7 / US 7) crochet hook (or hook size to meet gauge)

Tapestry needle for sewing in ends

Stitch markers

Safety pins for joining (optional)

ABBREVIATIONS AND TERMINOLOGY

This project is not aimed at complete beginners or those relatively new to crochet and there is an assumption that you know your basic stitches and terminology.

UK		US	
beginning	beg	beginning	beg
chain	ch	chain	ch
repeat	rep	repeat	rep
round	rnd	round	rnd
Right Side	RS	Right Side	RS
slip stitch	sl st	slip stitch	sl st
stitch(es)	st(s)	stitch(es)	st(s)
Wrong Side	WS	Wrong Side	WS
yarn over (yarn round hook)	yo	yarn over (yarn round hook)	yo
double crochet	dc	single crochet	sc
double crochet 2 sts together	dc2tog	single crochet 2 sts together	sc2tog
half treble crochet	htr	half double crochet	hdc
treble crochet	tr	double crochet	dc
half double treble crochet	hdtr	half treble crochet	htc
double treble crochet	dtr	treble crochet	tc
half triple treble crochet	htrtr	half double treble crochet	hdtc
triple treble crochet	trtr	double treble crochet	dtr
back post double crochet	bpdc	back post single crochet	bpsc
back post half treble crochet	bphtr	back post half double crochet	bphdc
back post treble crochet	bptr	back post double crochet	bpdc
front post treble crochet	fptr	front post double crochet	fpdc
front post triple treble crochet	fptrtr	front post double treble crochet	fpdtr
front post double treble crochet	fpdtr	front post treble crochet	fptc
back post double treble crochet	bpdtr	back post treble crochet	bptc

STITCHES USED (UK & US TERMINOLOGY)
UK terms followed by US terms in (brackets)

Hdtr (Htc) = half double treble crochet (half treble crochet) = yarn over twice (three loops on hook), insert hook into stitch, yarn over and draw up a loop through stitch (four loops on hook) then yarn over and draw yarn through two loops (three loops on hook), yarn over, and draw yarn through all three remaining loops.

Htrtr (Hdtc) = half triple treble crochet (half double treble crochet) = yarn over three times (four loops on hook), insert hook into stitch, yarn over and draw up a loop through stitch (five loops on hook) then (yarn over and draw yarn through two loops) twice (three loops on hook), yarn over, and draw yarn through all three remaining loops.

Trtr (Dtr) = triple treble crochet (double treble crochet) = yarn over three times, insert hook into stitch; yarn over and draw through stitch; yarn over and draw through two loops four times.

Fptrtr (Fpdtr) = front post triple treble crochet (front post double treble crochet).

Spike dc (Spike sc) = an elongated dc (sc) worked into an indicated stitch or space in a row below current row.

Special stitch = see 'Big Shells' part round 16.

GAUGE
There are two ways to check your tension for this blanket; I suggest doing both, because they use different stitches, and you'll get the best results that way. It will also give you a chance to familiarise yourself with how I write patterns.

Bear in mind that if you don't achieve gauge, you'll use either less yarn (if your tension is tighter) or more yarn (if your tension is looser). You can always go up or down a hook size if you need to.

Use colour D for your test samples. You will have plenty of this left for the blanket.

Test one (UK terms):
1) With colour D, in a magic circle, ch1, then 6dc. Join with sl st to beginning dc. Pull the beginning yarn end tight to close the circle. (6 dc)
2) Ch3 *(counts as tr here and throughout)*, then tr in same stitch, and 2tr in next five stitches. Join with sl st to beginning dc. (12 tr)
3) Ch3, then 6tr in same stitch. Work (skip next two stitches, then 7tr in next stitch) three times. Skip next two stitches. Join with sl st to beginning tr. (28 tr)
4) Ch1, then bptr around the same stitch *(which should be the first of 7tr)*. Bptr around the next six stitches. *Work a spike stitch between two tr below current position in round two. Bptr around next seven stitches**. Repeat

from * to ** three times, omitting final seven bptr. Join with sl st to beginning bptr. (28 bptr, 4 spike stitc h. 32 stitches in total)

5) Sl st across to fourth of seven bptr. Ch1, then dc in same stitch. *Skip next three stitches, then 9dtr in next stitch *(which should be a spike stitch)*. Skip next three stitches, then dc in next stitch**. Repeat from * to ** three times, omitting final dc. Join with invisible join to beginning dtr. Break off yarn. (36 dtr, 4 dc, 40 stitches in total)

Your test piece should now measure 2.5"/6 cm square.

Test two (UK terms):
1) With colour D, in a magic circle, ch3, then 11 tr. Join with sl st to beginning tr. Pull the beginning yarn end tight to close the circle. (12 tr)
2) Ch3, then tr in same stitch, and 2tr in next eleven stitches. Join with invisible join to beginning dc. Break off yarn. (24 tr)

Your test piece should now measure 1.5"/4 cm in diameter.

Test one (US terms):
1) With colour D, in a magic circle, ch1, then 6sc. Join with sl st to beginning sc. Pull the beginning yarn end tight to close the circle. (6 sc)
2) Ch3 *(counts as dc here and throughout)*, then dc in same stitch, and 2dc in next five stitches. Join with sl st to beginning dc. (12 dc)
3) Ch3, then 6dc in same stitch. Work (skip next two stitches, then 7dc in next stitch) three times. Skip next two stitches. Join with sl st to beginning dc. (28 dc)
4) Ch1, then bpdc around the same stitch *(which should be the first of 7dc)*. Bpdc around the next six stitches. *Work a spike stitch between two dc below current position in round two. Bpdc around next seven stitches**. Repeat from * to ** three times, omitting final seven bpdc. Join with sl st to beginning bpdc. (28 bpdc, 4 spike stitch. 32 stitches in total)
5) Sl st across to fourth of seven bpdc. Ch1, then sc in same stitch. *Skip next three stitches, then 9tc in next stitch *(which should be a spike stitch)*. Skip next three stitches, then sc in next stitch**. Repeat from * to ** three times, omitting final sc. Join with invisible join to beginning tc. Break off yarn. (36 tc, 4 sc. 40 stitches in total)

Your test piece should now measure 2.5"/6 cm square.

Test two (US terms):
1) With colour D, in a magic circle, ch3, then 11 dc. Join with sl st to beginning dc. Pull the beginning yarn end tight to close the circle. (12 dc)
2) Ch3, then dc in same stitch, and 2dc in next eleven

stitches. Join with invisible join to beginning dc. Break off yarn. (24 dc)

Your test piece should now measure 1.5"/4 cm in diameter.

PATTERN INSTRUCTION NOTES
Individual round notes will be marked in **bold**.
Example: **Note: put stitch markers in 4th, 13th, 22nd and 31st stitches.**

Helpful hints (eg, about stitch placements) will be bracketed, *italicised*, and coloured red. Example: Skip first hdc (*the 'hidden' first hdc*)

A ch3 (or ch2) at the beginning of a round always counts as a beginning tr (dc in US terms) or beginning htr (hdc in US terms), unless otherwise stated.

Where you are not working directly into the round below, the relevant round will be **bolded**.

The numbers in brackets at the end of each round's instructions are the numbers of stitches that should be in that round.

A 'hard' repeat (eg, one side of a square) is started with * and ends with **.

A 'soft' repeat (eg, a repeated pattern within each side of a square) is started with << and ends with >>.

Note: when breaking off yarn, remember to leave a nice long tail to make it easier to sew it in securely at the end.

PATTERN RELEASE DATES
There are nine parts to this pattern. Each pattern will be released at 2 weekly intervals from 5th April. They will be available to download for free from the Stylecraft website www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

Part One	5th Apr
Part Two	19th Apr
Part Three	3rd May
Part Four	17th May
Part Five	31st May
Part Six	14th June
Part Seven	28th June
Part Eight	12th July
Part Nine	26th July

Happy Crocheting!
Catherine & The Stylecraft Team