African flower pentagon

US terms



Finished size
About 4½ in (11 cm) across, from a side to the point opposite it

Skill
Intermediate
Worked in rounds, with color changes and 1 special stitch.

Yarn
Medium (4), 5 colors

Hook
5 mm (US H-8)

Gauge
14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In single crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: topaz, round 1	**about 2 yd (2 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: amethyst, round 2	**about 4 yd (4 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: ruby, round 3	**about 6 yd (5 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: ivory, round 4	**about 4 yd (4 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: emerald, round 5	**about 6 yd (5 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, pins for blocking and a spray bottle.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. Buy them from one dye lot. The estimate is from the stitches and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

Abbreviations

Written in US terms. Where the UK name differs it is given beside the US one.

ch	chain stitch
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
sk	skip (UK miss)
sp	space
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

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Special stitches

spike sc (Spike single crochet): Insert the hook in the place named, one or more rounds below, yarn over and pull up a long loop level with the round you are working, yarn over and pull through 2 loops. It leaves 1 spike sc for the next round.

Gauge

14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After round 2 the pentagon measures about 2 in (5 cm) across. If yours is larger, use a smaller hook; if it is smaller, use a larger hook.

Before you start

- Rounds are worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- Magic ring: wrap the yarn round two fingers, work the first round or row into the loop, then pull the tail until the ring is closed. Four chains joined into a ring with a slip stitch may be used instead.
- A chain that counts as a stitch is marked so in its line and is included in the count.
- A chain 1 at the start of a round does not count as a stitch.
- Fasten off the old color, then join the new one with a slip stitch in the place named; the first stitch or chain of the line is worked in that same place.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches and the chain spaces between them; slip stitches are not counted.
- Rnd 4 begins in the first st of any petal of Rnd 3, and Rnd 5 in the first sc of any petal.
- In Rnd 4 every spike sc goes down through the gap between two petals, over Rnds 2 and 3, into the hdc of Rnd 1 that Rnd 2 skipped, straight below that gap. Pull the loop up until it is level with the sc, so that the petals do not pucker.
- In Rnd 5 the st skipped is always the spike sc, and the middle sc of every petal carries a corner.
- A side of the finished pentagon has 8 stitches between two ch-1 sps.
- Whip stitch: hold the two edges together, put the needle through both from back to front, bring the yarn over the edges and go in again from the back, one stitch along.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured straight across: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 3 in (8 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 3½ in (9 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 5¾ in (15 cm).

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Instructions

Square brackets [ ] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. Round brackets ( ) inside a line hold stitches that all go into one place. The count in round brackets at the end of a line is what that line leaves. Tick the box when a round is done. In UK terms sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet, hdc is half treble and dc is treble.

Yarns in order of use: A, topaz; B, amethyst; C, ruby; D, ivory; E, emerald.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 2 (counts as hdc), 9 hdc in ring, sl st in top of ch-2 to join	**(10 hdc)**
	Fasten off A.	
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join B with sl st in any st, ch 3 (counts as dc), (dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in same st, **[**sk next st, (2 dc, ch 1, 2 dc) in next st**] 4 times**, sk next st, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(20 dc, 5 ch-1 sps)**
	Fasten off B.	
☐ **Rnd 3**	Join C with sl st in any ch-1 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), 6 dc in same sp, **[**7 dc in next ch-1 sp**] 4 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(35 dc)**
	Fasten off C.	
☐ **Rnd 4**	Join D with sl st in first st, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 6 sts, spike sc in next unworked st of Rnd 1, **[**sc in next 7 sts, spike sc in next unworked st of Rnd 1**] 4 times**, sl st in first sc to join	**(35 sc, 5 spike sc)**
	Fasten off D.	
☐ **Rnd 5**	Join E with sl st in first sc, ch 2 (counts as hdc), dc in next 2 sts, (dc, ch 1, dc) in next st, dc in next 2 sts, hdc in next st, sk next st, **[**hdc in next sc, dc in next 2 sts, (dc, ch 1, dc) in next st, dc in next 2 sts, hdc in next st, sk next st**] 4 times**, sl st in top of ch-2 to join	**(10 hdc, 30 dc, 5 ch-1 sps)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.	

Finishing

- Block: pin the pentagon to shape on a flat surface, spray it with water and let it dry.
- To join two motifs, lay them side by side, right sides up, with two sides edge to edge. With a length of emerald and the yarn needle, sew the two corner ch-1 sps together, then whip stitch along the side: for each stitch take the needle up through the back loop of a stitch on one motif and down through the back loop of the stitch opposite it on the other. Sew all 8 pairs of stitches and then the two corner ch-1 sps at the far end.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 5 rounds.

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