Joined African flower mat

US terms



Finished size

About 13½ in (34 cm) across, from scallop to scallop over the middles of two opposite hexagons

Skill

Intermediate

Worked in rounds, with 7 pieces, color changes and 1 special stitch.

Yarn

Light (3), 9 colors

Hook

4 mm (US G-6)

Gauge

18 stitches and 19 rows to 4 in (10 cm)

In single crochet (UK double crochet).

What you need

Yarn A: marigold, round 1	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: raspberry, rounds 2 and 3	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: tangerine, some of the pieces	**about 8 yd (7 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: leaf green, some of the pieces	**about 8 yd (7 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: turquoise, some of the pieces	**about 8 yd (7 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: violet, some of the pieces	**about 8 yd (7 m), an estimate**
Yarn G: rose pink, some of the pieces	**about 8 yd (7 m), an estimate**
Yarn H: cream, round 4	**about 40 yd (37 m), an estimate**
Yarn I: navy, round 5	**about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 70 g in all, an estimate, where 100 g is 250 yd (229 m).

Hook: 4 mm (US G-6), 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.

Gauge

18 stitches and 19 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 3 the hexagon measures about 3 in (8 cm) across from petal tip to petal tip. If yours is larger, use a smaller hook; if it is smaller, use a larger hook.

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Notes

- 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.
- A slip stitch at the start of a round only carries the yarn to the place named; the first stitch of the round is worked in that same place. If stitches lie between the joining and that place, slip stitch across them first.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches and the chain spaces between them; slip stitches, and chains that are not named there, are not counted.
- The ch-1 spaces of Rnd 2 are the gaps between two petals, and the ch-2 spaces are where the petals grow. The ch-1 spaces are passed over in Rnd 3 and used again in Rnd 4.
- In Rnd 4 every spike sc is worked in front of Rnd 3: put the hook down between two petals into the ch-1 sp of Rnd 2 that lies straight below and draw the loop up to the height of the round. The first one lies after the first petal. The first dc of Rnd 3 is the ch-3 that counts as a dc.
- In Rnd 5 the 4th sc, where I is joined, is the middle one of the 7 sc over the first petal, so that the six corners stand over the middles of the six petals and the 3 dc in the middle of every side are worked in the top of a spike sc. The first 3 sc of Rnd 4, the three that lie right before that 4th sc, are passed over at the very end of Rnd 5, under its last ch 1.
- Corners and sides of Rnd 5 have numbers: corner 1 is the one the round begins with, side 1 comes after it, then corner 2 and side 2, and so on to corner 6 and side 6. A corner is (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc), all in one sc; in corner 1 the ch 3 is its first dc. A side is only what lies between two corners: its first ch 1, the 3 dc in the spike sc and its second ch 1. The last ch 1 of the round is the second ch 1 of side 6.

Instructions

US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **dc** double crochet (UK treble), **sp** space, **st** stitch, **rnd** round.
sk skip, **RS** right side, the one that shows.
3 dc in next st: all in one stitch. **sc in next 6 sts**: one in each. **ch-1 sp**: the gap under the one chain; the hook goes in the gap.
[ ] 5 times: work what is inside 5 times in all. **( )**: all of it goes into the one place.
(12 dc, 6 ch-1 sps): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

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.

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Hexagon: make 7

Yarns in order of use: A, marigold; B, raspberry; H, cream; I, navy.

Hexagon 1, the middle one: read B for A and A for B, so that it has a raspberry center and marigold petals. Hexagons 2 to 7 have a center of A; for the petals, Rnds 2 and 3, use B, C, D, E, F and G in this order. H and I are the same in all seven. Work Rnds 1 to 4 of all seven hexagons and weave in their ends; then work Rnd 5 of hexagon 1 as written. Rnd 5 of hexagons 2 to 7 joins them: see FINISHING.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), dc in ring, ch 1, **[**2 dc in ring, ch 1**] 5 times**, pull the tail to close the ring, sl st in top of ch-3 to join (12 dc, 6 ch-1 sps) Fasten off A.
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join B with sl st in any ch-1 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), (dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in same sp, ch 1, **[**(2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next ch-1 sp, ch 1**] 5 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join (24 dc, 6 ch-2 sps, 6 ch-1 sps)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Sl st in next ch-2 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), 6 dc in same sp, **[**7 dc in next ch-2 sp**] 5 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join (42 dc) Fasten off B.
☐ **Rnd 4**	Join H with sl st in first dc, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 6 sts, spike sc in next ch-1 sp of Rnd 2, **[**sc in next 7 sts, spike sc in next ch-1 sp of Rnd 2**] 5 times**, sl st in first sc to join (42 sc, 6 spike sc) Fasten off H.
☐ **Rnd 5**	Join I with sl st in 4th sc, ch 3 (counts as dc), (dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in same st, ch 1, sk next 3 sts, 3 dc in next st, **[**ch 1, sk next 3 sts, (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next st, ch 1, sk next 3 sts, 3 dc in next st**] 5 times**, ch 1, sl st in top of ch-3 to join (42 dc, 6 ch-2 sps, 12 ch-1 sps)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.

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Finishing

- The joins, in general: all hexagons lie with the right side up and the hexagon you work on is held beside the finished ones. A joined corner is (2 dc, ch 1, sl st in the corner space of the finished hexagon, ch 1, 2 dc) in the one sc, instead of (2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc). Where the corner meets two finished hexagons it is (2 dc, ch 1, sl st in the corner space of the one hexagon, sl st in the corner space of the other, ch 1, 2 dc). On a joined side each of its two ch 1 is left out, and a sl st in the ch-1 space of the finished hexagon that lies opposite is worked in its place; the 3 sc before and the 3 sc after the spike sc are skipped as before. For every sl st put the hook down into the space of the finished hexagon from its right side. The sides of a finished hexagon are followed clockwise, against the direction of its own round. At a place where three hexagons meet, the corner spaces there are used a second time. A corner space of hexagon 1 is always whole: the new sl st goes into it beside the sl st that is there already. A corner of any other hexagon that was itself joined to hexagon 1 is in two halves, two ch-1 spaces with a sl st between them: put the hook into the half that lies beside the side you are about to join or have just joined, as each line says, never into the sl st. A ch-1 space along a side is used only once.
- Hexagon 2: work Rnd 5 as written up to the second ch 1 of side 3: work that ch 1 and stop before any dc of corner 4. Corner 4: join to any corner space of hexagon 1. Side 4: sl st in the next ch-1 space of hexagon 1, 3 dc in the spike sc, sl st in the next ch-1 space of hexagon 1. Corner 5: join to the next corner space of hexagon 1. Then go on as written from the first ch 1 of side 5.
- Hexagons 3, 4, 5 and 6: each takes the next free side of hexagon 1, going round hexagon 1 counterclockwise, and is joined to the hexagon before it as well. Work as written up to the second ch 1 of side 3: work that ch 1 and stop before any dc of corner 4. Corner 4: join to the corner space of hexagon 1 at the far end of its free side, the end away from the hexagon before. Side 4: sl st in the next ch-1 space of hexagon 1, 3 dc in the spike sc, sl st in the next ch-1 space of hexagon 1. Corner 5: join to two, first the next corner space of hexagon 1, then corner 4 of the hexagon before, which is already joined there: take the half of it that lies beside side 3 of that hexagon, the half before its sl st. Side 5 is joined to side 3 of the hexagon before: sl st in the next ch-1 space of the hexagon before, 3 dc in the spike sc, sl st in its next ch-1 space. Corner 6: join to the next corner space of the hexagon before, its corner 3, which is whole. Then go on as written from the first ch 1 of side 6.
- Hexagon 7 fills the last side of hexagon 1 and meets hexagon 2, hexagon 1 and hexagon 6. Work as written up to the second ch 1 of side 2: work that ch 1 and stop before any dc of corner 3. Corner 3: join to the corner space of hexagon 2 at the outer end, away from hexagon 1, of the free side of hexagon 2 that faces the gap: its corner 6, which is whole. Side 3 is joined to side 5 of hexagon 2: sl st in the next ch-1 space of hexagon 2, 3 dc in the spike sc, sl st in its next ch-1 space. Corner 4: join to two, first corner 5 of hexagon 2, the half of it that lies beside side 5 of hexagon 2, after its sl st, then the corner space of hexagon 1 that is joined to it there. Side 4: sl st in the next ch-1 space of hexagon 1, 3 dc in the spike sc, sl st in the next ch-1 space of hexagon 1. Corner 5: join to two, first the next corner space of hexagon 1, then corner 4 of hexagon 6, the half of it that lies beside side 3 of hexagon 6, before its sl st. Side 5 is joined to side 3 of hexagon 6: sl st in the next ch-1 space of hexagon 6, 3 dc in the spike sc, sl st in its next ch-1 space. Corner 6: join to the next corner space of hexagon 6, its corner 3, which is whole. Then go on as written from the first ch 1 of side 6.
- After each hexagon slip stitch in the top of the ch 3 to join and fasten off.
- Border, round 1: the edge now has 18 free sides, each of 7 dc and 2 ch-1 spaces between its two corner spaces (the 2 dc of the corner at each end and the 3 dc of the side), 12 corner spaces that stand out and 6 dips, where two hexagons are joined at a corner. At a dip the corner space of the later hexagon is in two halves, with the sl st of the join between them; take the half on the outer side. With H and the right side facing, join with a slip stitch in the two corner spaces of any dip, taken together, and ch 1, which does not count as a stitch. To work a dip, insert the hook in the corner space before it and pull up a loop, insert it in the corner space after it and pull up a loop, yarn over and pull through all 3 loops, which counts as 1 sc. Work the first dip, then 1 sc in each dc and in each ch-1 space (9 sc on a side), 4 sc in every corner space that stands out, and 1 sc in every dip. Slip stitch in the first sc to join (216 sc). Fasten off.

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- Border, round 2: join I with a slip stitch in the sc of any dip, ch 1, sc in the same sc; [skip 2 sc, 5 dc in the next sc, skip 2 sc, sc in the next sc] 35 times, skip 2 sc, 5 dc in the next sc, skip the last 2 sc and slip stitch in the first sc to join (36 sc and 180 dc: 36 scallops, 6 on each outer hexagon). An sc falls in every dip. Fasten off.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle. Block: pin the mat to shape on a flat surface, right side up, each hexagon with its sides straight and each scallop pulled out round, spray it with water and let it dry.

In all: 7 pieces.

Found a mistake in this pattern? Tell us at flossfield.com, under Make a request.

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