Bible cover with a cross

Medium · US terms



Finished size
About 14¼ × 9¼ in (36 × 23 cm)
About 9¼ in (23.5 cm) tall and 14¼ in (36 cm) from fold to fold laid open. To fit a book about 6 in (15 cm) wide, 9 in (23 cm) tall and 1½ in (4 cm) thick

Skill
Easy
It is flat pieces in rows, folded and sewn.

Yarn
Medium (4), 2 colors

Hook
4 mm (US G-6)

Gauge
16 stitches and 13 rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In half double crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: burgundy, the cover and the handles **about 300 yd (274 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, the cross and the marker **about 25 yd (23 m), an estimate**
Fiber: cotton
Hook: 4 mm (US G-6), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: four stitch markers, pins, a yarn needle, scissors and a piece of card 3 in (7.5 cm) wide, for the tassel.

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 of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added.

Sizes

Size	Fits	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Small	a book about 5 in (12.5 cm) wide, 7½ in (19 cm) tall and 1¼ in (3 cm) thick	11¾ × 7¾ in (30 × 20 cm)	about 245 yd (224 m)
Medium (this file)	**a book about 6 in (15 cm) wide, 9 in (23 cm) tall and 1½ in (4 cm) thick**	**14¼ × 9¼ in (36 × 23 cm)**	**about 325 yd (297 m)**
Large	a book about 7 in (18 cm) wide, 10 in (25.5 cm) tall and 1¾ in (4.5 cm) thick	16¼ × 10¼ in (41 × 26 cm)	about 400 yd (366 m)

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Abbreviations

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

ch	chain stitch
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
st	stitch
RS	right side

Gauge

16 stitches and 13 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in half double crochet.

16 stitches and 18 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

The swatch. A test piece to measure and pull out. It is not the start of the pattern. Lay it flat and count the stitches and rows over 4 in (10 cm) in its middle. There should be 16 stitches and 13 rows. If you count more stitches than that, change to a larger hook; if you count fewer, change to a smaller hook. The swatch can be pulled out and its yarn used again.

Swatch foundation	Ch 26.	
Swatch row 1 (RS)	Hdc in 3rd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(24 hdc)**
Swatch rows 2 to 20	Ch 2, turn; hdc in each st across	**(24 hdc)**

Before you start

- The chain of 2 at the start of a row of half double crochet does not count as a stitch.
- The chain of 1 at the start of a row of single crochet does not count as a stitch.
- Whip stitch: put the needle through both edges or both layers from back to front, one stitch for each stitch or row, and draw the yarn snug.
- Each arm of the cross is worked into the row ends of its upright, so that only the outline of the cross is sewn.
- Measure the book closed: across its front cover, from the lower to the upper edge of the cover, and through its thickness. Take the size whose measures are the same as those of the book; if one of them lies between two sizes take the larger. For a cover lower by about ½ in (1.5 cm) leave out 2 rows of the cover; the foot of the cross then goes 1 row lower, and the handles still end 3 rows below the upper edge.
- The cover is A. The cross, about 4 in (10 cm) wide and 6 in (15 cm) tall, and the page marker are B.

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Instructions

Chosen: Medium. The count in round brackets at the end of a line is what that line leaves. Tick the box when a row is done. In UK terms sc is double crochet and hdc is half treble.

Cover

Yarn A, burgundy.

The right side, the side of row 1, is the outside.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 89.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Hdc in 3rd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(87 hdc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 30**	Ch 2, turn; hdc in each st across	**(87 hdc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 30: tick them off as you go.

☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20 ☐ 21 ☐ 22 ☐ 23 ☐ 24 ☐ 25 ☐ 26 ☐ 27 ☐ 28 ☐ 29 ☐ 30

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).

Cross: upright

Yarn B, cream.

Row 1 is the foot of the cross.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 6.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 27**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(5 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 27: tick them off as you go.

☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20 ☐ 21 ☐ 22 ☐ 23 ☐ 24 ☐ 25 ☐ 26 ☐ 27

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).

Cross: right arm

Yarn B, cream.

Hold the upright with its right side facing you and turn it so that its right edge is uppermost and the foot is at the right. Join B with a slip stitch in the end of row 17 and work toward the left, one stitch in the end of each of rows 17 to 21; the first stitch goes into the end of row 17, where the yarn was joined.

☐ **Foundation**	The right edge of the upright, RS facing, rows 17 to 21: 5 places, one in the end of each row.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, sc in next 5 sts	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 6**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(5 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 6: tick them off as you go.

☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).

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Cross: left arm

Yarn B, cream.

Hold the upright with its right side facing you and turn it so that its left edge is uppermost and the foot is at the left. Join B with a slip stitch in the end of row 21 and work toward the left, one stitch in the end of each of rows 21 to 17; the first stitch goes into the end of row 21, where the yarn was joined.

☐ **Foundation**	The left edge of the upright, RS facing, rows 17 to 21: 5 places, one in the end of each row.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, sc in next 5 sts	**(5 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 6**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(5 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 6: tick them off as you go.

2 3 4 5 6

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a tail of 6 in (15 cm).

Handle: make 2

Yarn A, burgundy.

Each handle has 3 long rows.

☐ **Foundation**	Ch 39.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(38 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 3**	Ch 1, turn; sc in each st across	**(38 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 3: tick them off as you go.

2 3

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a tail of 16 in (41 cm) to sew one end. To sew the other end, cut a new length of the same yarn, also 16 in (41 cm).

Assembly

1. Weave in the tails of the cover and of the cross on the wrong side, and the starting tail of each handle. Leave the long tails of the handles for sewing.

2. Markers: lay the cover flat with its right side up and its first row toward you. The first row is the lower edge and the last row the upper edge. Count 15 stitches in from each short end, at the lower edge and at the upper edge, and put one marker after the 15th stitch in each of the four places. The two lines from marker to marker are the fold lines. Between them lie 57 stitches: the first 25 from the right fold line are the front, the next 7 the spine, the last 25 the back.

3. Cross: lay the cross on the front, right side up, with its foot toward you. The lower edge of its foot lies along the line between rows 5 and 6 of the cover, and its upright stands over 5 stitches of the cover with 10 stitches of the front free to each side of it. Pin it. Cut a length of B about 72 in (183 cm) long. Beginning at the right end of the foot with a tail of 6 in (15 cm), whip stitch the cross down round all its edges, one stitch for each stitch or row. Fasten off and weave in both tails on the wrong side.

4. Handles: each handle is sewn with both its ends to one half of the cover, at the upper edge, on the right side. Lay the two ends of one handle on the front, the last 4 stitches of its rows on the cover and the rest of it beyond the upper edge, with the end of the handle along the line between rows 27 and 28. Each end covers 3 stitches of the cover, with 11 stitches between the two ends and 4 stitches of the front outside each of them. Make sure that the handle is not twisted. With the tail at one end and the cut length at the other whip stitch each end down round its three edges and across along the upper edge of the cover. Fasten off and weave in the tails on the wrong side. Sew the other handle to the back in the same way, with the same numbers of stitches, so that the two handles meet when the book is closed.

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5. Sleeves: turn the cover over, wrong side up, the first row toward you. Fold the 15 stitches outside each fold line in, right side outward at the fold, so that they lie flat on the wrong side. For the four seams cut four lengths of A, each about 24 in (61 cm) long. At the lower edge and at the upper edge of each sleeve whip stitch the two layers together, 15 stitches, beginning at the fold with a tail of 6 in (15 cm). Where the end of a handle lies on the outside, take up only the two layers of the cover, not the handle. Fasten off and weave in the tails inside the sleeve. The inner edge of each sleeve stays open for the cover of the book. Take the markers out.

6. Page marker: with B, ch 56, about 12 in (30.5 cm) long, and fasten off, leaving a tail of 8 in (20 cm) at each end. With one tail sew one end of the chain to the wrong side of the cover at the upper edge, at the middle stitch of the spine, with three stitches, fasten off and weave that tail in.

7. Tassel: wind B 14 times round the card. Cut two more lengths of B, one 6 in (15 cm) and one 12 in (30.5 cm) long. Slip the first under the loops at one edge of the card and tie it tightly, then slip the loops off. Wind the second 4 times round the loops ½ in (1.5 cm) below the tie, knot its two ends together and draw them into the tassel with the needle. Cut the loops at the other end and trim the tassel to about 2 in (5 cm). Sew its top to the free end of the marker with the tail there, fasten off and hide that tail in the tassel.

Finishing

- Open the book, slide its front cover into the sleeve behind the cross and its back cover into the other sleeve, and lay the page marker between the pages.

In all: 4 pieces; 3,033 stitches (2,610 in the cover, 135 in the cross: upright, 30 in the cross: right arm, 30 in the cross: left arm, 114 in each handle).

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

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