Celtic cross

US terms



Finished size
About 5 in (13 cm) wide and about 6¼ in (16 cm) tall

Skill
Intermediate
Worked in rounds, with 2 pieces, color changes and 2 special stitches.

Yarn
Light (3), 2 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: stone, rounds 1 to 3 of the cross	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: forest green, round 4 of the cross and the ring	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**

By weight: about 15 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.

Work a piece a little more than 4 in (10 cm) square, lay it flat and count. If you count more stitches than this, use a larger hook; if fewer, a smaller one.

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 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.

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- At the start of a round, same st is the stitch the round before was joined in; after a new color is joined, it is the stitch the color was joined in.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches and the chain spaces between them; slip stitches are not counted.
- The round begins at the middle of the tip of the first arm. Hold the cross with the long arm at the bottom: the first arm is then the one on the right, and the rounds go up, over the top and down the left side.
- In Rnd 1 the three loops of 18 chains are the right, upper and left arms, in that order; the loop of 30 chains is the lower arm. Pull each loop out straight as you work over it in Rnd 2.
- Rnd 1 is fastened off so that Rnd 2 can begin at the tip of an arm: join A round the chain at the middle of the first loop, the right arm. Rnd 2 is worked over the chains of the loops, right side facing. Its first 10 sc fill the half of the right loop that comes next, from the tip to the middle of the cross; its last 9 sc fill the other half, from the middle of the cross out to the first sc, which makes 19 sc in that loop. From the last st in a loop go straight on to the next loop: the 4 sc of Rnd 1 are left unworked.
- In Rnds 3 and 4 the 3 sc in one st are a corner, and the decrease lies in the corner between two arms. A sc2tog or sc3tog is one stitch when the next round is worked into it.
- Work the 48 sc of the ring over its foundation chain, spread evenly all the way round.
- The distances under FINISHING are for the yarn and gauge above; in another yarn make them larger or smaller in the same proportion as the size.
- Backstitch (sewn): thread the yarn needle and bring it up from the back one stitch length (about ¼ in, 0.6 cm, and half that round a small curve, unless the line names another) along the line. Put it down at the start of the line and bring it up again one stitch length ahead of where it last came up; keep going down at the end of the stitch before and up one length ahead.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured the longest way: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 5¼ in (13 cm); medium yarn (4) and a 5 mm hook, about 8 in (20 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 10¼ in (26 cm).

Instructions

US terms.

ch chain, **sl st** slip stitch, **sc** single crochet (UK double crochet), **sp** space, **st** stitch, **rnd** round.

RS right side, the one that shows.

3 sc in next st: all in one stitch. **sc in next 7 sts**: one in each. **ch-18 sp**: the gap under 18 chains; the hook goes in the gap.

[ ] 3 times: work what is inside 3 times in all.

(4 sc, 3 ch-18 sps, 1 ch-30 sp): the stitches you have when the round is done. **How to read a pattern**.

Special stitches

sc2tog (UK dc2tog): [insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] twice (3 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 3 loops.

sc3tog (UK dc3tog): [insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] 3 times (4 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 4 loops.

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Cross

Yarns in order of use: A, stone; B, forest green.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, **[**sc in ring, ch 18**] 3 times**, sc in ring, ch 30, pull the tail to close the ring, sl st in first sc to join	(4 sc, 3 ch-18 sps, 1 ch-30 sp)
	Fasten off A.	
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join A with sl st in first ch-18 sp, ch 1, 10 sc in same sp, 19 sc in each of next 2 ch-18 sps, 29 sc in next ch-30 sp, 9 sc in first ch-18 sp, sl st in first sc to join	(86 sc)
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, sc in same st, [3 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next 7 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next st] twice, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next 12 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next st, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 12 sts, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next 7 sts, 3 sc in next st, sl st in first sc to join	(94 sc, 4 sc2tog)
	Fasten off A.	
☐ **Rnd 4**	Join B with sl st in first sc, ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next st, [3 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts, sc3tog in next 3 sts, sc in next 7 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts] twice, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 7 sts, sc3tog in next 3 sts, sc in next 12 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 12 sts, sc3tog in next 3 sts, sc in next 7 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next st, sl st in first sc to join	(102 sc, 4 sc3tog)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.	

Ring

Yarn B, forest green.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 48, sl st in first ch to form a ring.	
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, 48 sc in ring, sl st in first sc to join	(48 sc)
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, sc in same st, sc in next 6 sts, 2 sc in next st, **[**sc in next 7 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 5 times**, sl st in first sc to join	(54 sc)
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 30 in (76 cm) tail for sewing.	

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Finishing

- Block: pin the cross to shape on a flat surface, its arms straight and its corners square, and the ring to a circle 4 in (10.2 cm) across. Spray them with water and let them dry.
- Rnd 2 leaves a slit along the middle of each arm, between the two halves of its loop. Close the four slits first: turn the cross wrong side up and sew the two halves of each arm together edge to edge, from the magic ring to the tip, the feet of 9 sc of Rnd 2 to the feet of 9 (14 to 14 on the lower arm), taking small stitches that do not show on the right side. Use a 12 in (30 cm) length of A for each side arm and the upper arm and a 16 in (41 cm) length for the lower arm.
- Lay the cross down, right side up, with the long arm at the bottom. Its middle is the magic ring; the middle line of an arm is the seam just sewn and the straight line on from it to the edge. Where a knot line meets the seam, sew through it. Work the knot lines before the ring is put on. All distances along an arm are measured from the middle of the cross.
- With B, work two lines of backstitch on each side arm. The first begins on the middle line ½ in (1.3 cm) from the middle of the cross, curves out to ¼ in (0.6 cm) above the middle line, crosses it 1¼ in (3.2 cm) from the middle of the cross, curves out to ¼ in (0.6 cm) below it and ends on it 1 7/8 in (4.8 cm) from the middle of the cross. The second begins, crosses and ends in the same places and curves to the other side each time. The two lines make two leaf-shaped loops.
- On the upper arm work two lines of backstitch in the same way with one loop only, from ½ in (1.3 cm) to 1¼ in (3.2 cm), curving out to ¼ in (0.6 cm) to the left and to the right. On the lower arm work the same one loop from ½ in (1.3 cm) to 1¼ in (3.2 cm), and below it two more loops from 2 1/8 in (5.4 cm) to 3 3/8 in (8.6 cm), which cross 2¾ in (7 cm) from the middle of the cross. The gap between them will lie under the ring.
- Lay the ring, right side up, on the cross with its middle over the middle of the cross and its join at the right. Draw the two side arms up through the ring from below: the ring now lies over the upper and the lower arm and under the two side arms, and its join is hidden. Move it until the upper arm and both side arms stand out ½ in (1.3 cm) beyond it.
- With the tail of the ring, sew both edges of the ring down where it lies on the upper and the lower arm, and sew both its edges to the back of the side arms, taking small stitches that do not show on the right side. Pass the yarn from arm to arm along the back of the ring.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 2 pieces.

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