Celtic knot potholder

US terms



Finished size
About 8½ in (22 cm) square, without the hanging loop

Skill
Intermediate
Worked in rows, with 4 pieces, color changes and 1 special stitch.

Yarn
Medium (4), 2 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: oatmeal, the squares	**about 110 yd (101 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: forest green, the cord and the hanging loop	**about 60 yd (55 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, pins 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
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
rem	remaining
st	stitch

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. It leaves 1 st for the next row.

Gauge

14 stitches and 15 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.

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Before you start

- Where a line says turn, turn the piece over and work back along the stitches just made.
- A chain 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.
- Working along the other side of the chain: turn the piece round, not over, and work into the unused loops of the foundation chain, beginning in the chain next to the one just used.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches; slip stitches are not counted.
- Use cotton yarn. The potholder is two layers of single crochet and the cord.
- In the squares row 1 and every odd-numbered row have the right side facing you. Hold a square with its foundation chain at the bottom and row 28 at the top.
- The cord and the hanging loop are worked in one row with the right side facing all the way; do not turn the work over. The foundation chain runs along the middle of the cord. The stitches along the first side of the chain make the outer edge of the cord, those along the other side the inner edge. The line works 3 sc in the last chain: the first two belong to the outer edge, the third to the inner edge. The last sc of the row goes in the same chain as the first. A sc2tog is worked over 2 chains, one loop drawn up in each.
- 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.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured along one side of the square, without the hanging loop: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 5¾ in (15 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 6½ in (17 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 10¾ in (27 cm).

Instructions

Square brackets [ ] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. 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.

Square: make 2

Yarn A, oatmeal.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 27.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each rem ch across	**(26 sc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 28**	Ch 1, turn, sc in each st across	**(26 sc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 28: 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

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

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Cord

Yarn B, forest green.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 172.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 7 chs, 2 sc in next ch, **[**sc in next 8 chs, 2 sc in next ch**] 17 times**, sc in next 8 chs, 3 sc in next ch, working along the other side of the chain, sc in next 2 chs, sc2tog in next 2 chs, sc in next 4 chs, **[**sc in next 3 chs, sc2tog in next 2 chs, sc in next 4 chs**] 18 times**	**(323 sc, 19 sc2tog)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.	

Hanging loop

Yarn B, forest green.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 19.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each rem ch across	**(18 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 12 in (30 cm) tail for sewing.	

Finishing

- Block: pin the two squares to the same size, 7 3/8 in (18.5 cm) by 7½ in (19 cm), spray them with water and let them dry. Leave the cord and the hanging loop as they are.
- Lay one square right side up, foundation chain at the bottom: it is the front. Set a pin on each line from the middle of the square to a corner, 3¾ in (9.5 cm) from the middle: the middle line of the cord, its foundation chain, will turn at these four pins. Set a second pin on each of the same four lines, 1¾ in (4.4 cm) from the middle: these are the four inner crossings. Set a pin straight above, below, left and right of the middle, 2¾ in (7 cm) from it: these are the four outer crossings (top, bottom, left and right).
- The knot is one cord that goes round and round in the direction against the clock, with its outer edge always on your right as you go, right side up and never twisted. Take out the pin of a crossing when the cord comes over it and pin through the cord instead.
- First part: lay the short end of the cord where the row began at the bottom crossing and lead the cord to the right, to the pin in the lower right corner, where it turns, and up, through the right outer crossing, the upper right inner crossing, the upper left inner crossing and the left outer crossing, and turn at the pin in the lower left corner. So far nothing has been crossed.
- Second part: go on to the bottom crossing, over the short end, so that it is hidden; through the lower right inner crossing; to the upper right inner crossing, over the cord that lies there; through the top crossing, and turn at the pin in the upper left corner.
- Third part: go on to the left outer crossing, over the cord that lies there; through the lower left inner crossing; to the lower right inner crossing, over the cord that lies there; to the right outer crossing, under the cord that lies there; and turn at the pin in the upper right corner.
- Fourth part: go on to the top crossing, over the cord that lies there; to the upper left inner crossing, under the cord that lies there; to the lower left inner crossing, over the cord that lies there; and to the bottom crossing, under the cord that lies there, where the two short ends meet. Move the cord until the four corner loops are alike and its outer edge lies 3/8 in (1 cm) inside every edge of the square, where it comes nearest.

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- Sew the two short ends to each other, edge to edge, with the tail of the cord. The seam lies under the crossing. With a length of B on the yarn needle, sew both edges of the cord to the square all along with small stitches. At a crossing sew down the cord that lies under; the cord that lies over is sewn only to the cord below it.
- Border: lay the two squares together, wrong sides inside, row 28 of both at the top and the knot in front. Work every stitch of round 1 through both layers. Round 1: join B with sl st in the first st of the top edge, at the right, ch 1, 3 sc in same st, sc in next 24 sts, 3 sc in the last st, 28 sc down the left edge, one in the end of each row, 3 sc in the first ch of the bottom edge, sc in next 24 chs, 3 sc in the last ch, 28 sc up the right edge, one in the end of each row, sl st in first sc to join (116 sc). Round 2: ch 1, sc in same st, 3 sc in next st (the middle one of the 3 sc of the corner), [sc in each st to the middle one of the 3 sc of the next corner, 3 sc in that st] 3 times, sc in each st to the end, sl st in first sc to join (124 sc). Fasten off B and weave in the ends between the layers.
- Hanging loop: bring the two short ends of the hanging loop side by side, right side up, so that it makes a drop with its foundation chain inside. Lay the ends behind the border at the upper left corner, one on each side of the corner and each 3/8 in (1 cm) from its point, ¼ in (0.6 cm) of each end hidden, and sew them to the back of the border with the tail.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 4 pieces.

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