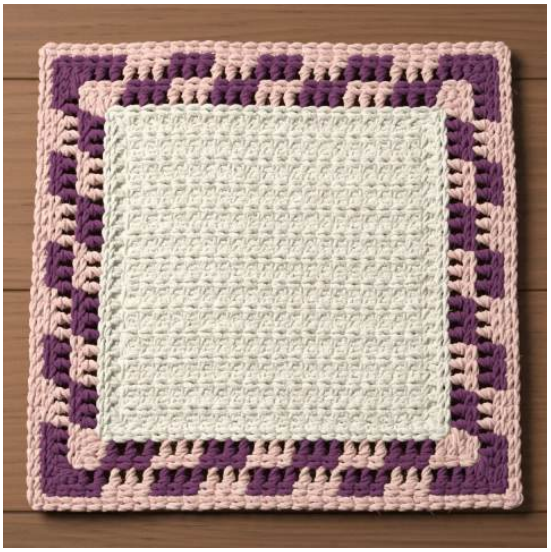
Checkerboard border

Round a small cloth · US terms



Finished size
Stands out about 1¾ in (4 cm)
About 9¾ × 9¾ in (25 × 25 cm) with a finished rectangle of 21 stitches by 24 rows of single crochet

Skill
Intermediate
Double crochet, color changes inside a round

Yarn
Medium (4), 3 colors

Hook
5.5 mm (US I-9)

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

You will need

Yarn A: the color of your piece, first round	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: plum, checks	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: blush pink, checks and last round	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5.5 mm (US I-9). Also: yarn needle, scissors and tape measure.

To work on: a finished rectangle of 21 stitches by 24 rows of single crochet, already made. It is written out under Instructions. Its yarn is not in the amount above.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. The estimate is from the stitches and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added. For another length of edge, the yarn for a side is in proportion to its length.

Sizes

Size	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Round a small cloth (this file)	**9¾ × 9¾ in (25 × 25 cm)**	**about 60 yd (54 m)**
Round a baby blanket	33¾ × 34 in (86 × 86 cm)	about 205 yd (187 m)
Round a throw	52¼ × 52¾ in (133 × 134 cm)	about 315 yd (288 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
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
rnd	round
RS	right side
sk	skip
st	stitch

Gauge

13 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 1 a side, measured between two corner stitches, is about 6.5 in (16.5 cm). If yours is shorter, work with a larger hook; if it is longer, with a smaller one. Do not change the number of stitches: the rounds that follow are counted on it.

To fit your own piece, work round 1 so that the stitches between two corner stitches are a multiple of 6 plus 3 (15, 21, 27 and so on), the same on opposite sides; work 2 single crochet in one stitch to gain a stitch or skip one to lose it, spread along the side. For every 6 stitches more than 21 on a side, that side takes: round 2, 1 more of the repeat that begins "with C, dc in next 3 sts"; round 3, 1 more of the repeat that begins "with B, dc in next 3 sts"; round 4, 6 more sc. For every 6 fewer, as much less. The corners do not change.

Before you start

- Round 1 begins in the right-hand stitch of the top edge (the last row, RS facing), which is its "first st"; it goes along the top edge, down the left side, along the foundation edge and up the right side.
- Corner stitch: the middle stitch of those worked into one corner. Where a round opens with part of a corner, the last stitches of the round go into that same first stitch and complete the corner; its corner stitch is then the first stitch of the round.
- Along the row ends, round 1 takes 6 stitches to every 7 rows, one more at the end, and skips the first and the last row end, next to the corners.
- The foundation edge is the underside of the starting chain: work into what each chain has left free.
- The slip stitch that joins a round is not counted.
- Rounds 2 and 3 use yarns B and C together. Take in the second color at the first place that says "with" its letter, and cut both at the end of the round.
- The ch 3 at the start of a round counts as a dc. The first st of the next round is then the top of that ch 3.
- A ch 1 at the start of a round does not count as a stitch.
- Where several stitches have one place after them, as in "2 dc in same st", they are all worked into that one place.
- What is in square brackets is worked as many times as the number after them says, in all.
- Every round is worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- Two colors in one round: where the words say "with" a letter, finish the last yarn over of the stitch before with that color and go on in it. Lay the color that rests along the tops of the stitches below and work over it, loosely, all the way round.
- To change color between rounds: close the round, cut the yarn, leaving a tail of about 6 in (15.2 cm), and fasten off. The next round says where to join the new color. The yarn amounts and the ends to weave in are counted this way.

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- The piece is 21 stitches by 24 rows of single crochet, about 6.5 in (16.5 cm) by 6.4 in (16.3 cm). The edging stands out about 1.7 in (4.3 cm) on every side, so that with it the whole is about 9.8 in (24.9 cm) by 9.8 in (24.9 cm).
- The totals and the yarn amounts are those of the edging. The piece has 2 ends of its own and, if you make it too, takes about 45 yd (41 m) of yarn A, an estimate worked out in the same way.
- Round 1 leaves 21 stitches between two corner stitches on every side.

Instructions

Chosen: Round a small cloth. 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 round is done. In UK terms sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet and dc is treble.

Yarns in order of use: A, the color of your piece; C, blush pink; B, plum.

☐ **Foundation**	A finished piece of 21 sts by 24 rows, RS facing.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Join A with sl st in first st, ch 1, 2 sc in first st, sc in next 19 sts, 3 sc in last st, sk next row end, **[**sc in end of each of next 6 rows, sk next row end**] 3 times**, sc in end of next row, sk next row end, 3 sc in first ch of foundation edge, sc in next 19 chs, 3 sc in last ch of foundation edge, sk next row end, **[**sc in end of each of next 6 rows, sk next row end**] 3 times**, sc in end of next row, sk next row end, sc in first st, sl st in first sc to join	**(88 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join C with sl st in first st, ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, with B, dc in next 3 sts, **[**with C, dc in next 3 sts, with B, dc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**, **[**with C, 5 dc in next st, with B, dc in next 3 sts, **[**with C, dc in next 3 sts, with B, dc in next 3 sts**] 3 times] 3 times**, with C, 2 dc in first st, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(104 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Join B with sl st in first st, ch 3 (counts as dc), 2 dc in same st, dc in next 2 sts, with C, dc in next 3 sts, **[**with B, dc in next 3 sts, with C, dc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**, with B, dc in next 2 sts, **[**5 dc in next st, dc in next 2 sts, with C, dc in next 3 sts, **[**with B, dc in next 3 sts, with C, dc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**, with B, dc in next 2 sts**] 3 times**, 2 dc in first st, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(120 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Join C with sl st in first st, ch 1, 2 sc in first st, sc in next 29 sts, **[**3 sc in next st, sc in next 29 sts**] 3 times**, sc in first st, sl st in first sc to join	**(128 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Finishing

- Weave in the ends.

In all: 4 rounds; 440 stitches; 12 ends to weave in.

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

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