Mile a minute baby blanket

Baby · US terms



Finished size
About 31¼ × 35¾ in (79 × 91 cm), seven strips, each about 4½ in (11 cm) wide

Skill
Intermediate
Puff stitches and rounds along a chain

Yarn
Light (3), 5 colors

Hook
4.5 mm (US 7)

Gauge
16 stitches and 9 rounds to 4 in (10 cm)
In double crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: white, main	**about 500 yd (457 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: blush pink, stripe	**about 210 yd (192 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: pale lilac, stripe	**about 210 yd (192 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: pastel mint, stripe	**about 210 yd (192 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: soft butter, stripe	**about 130 yd (119 m), an estimate**

Hook: 4.5 mm (US 7), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, a tape measure and 2 stitch markers.

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	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Baby (this file)	**31¼ × 35¾ in (79 × 91 cm), 4½ in (11 cm) wide**	**about 1,260 yd (1,152 m)**
Toddler	40¼ × 43¼ in (102 × 110 cm), 4½ in (11 cm) wide	about 1,930 yd (1,765 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: insert hook in the place named, yo, pull through it and the loop on hook (UK ss, slip stitch)
sc	single crochet (UK dc, double crochet)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
tr	treble crochet (UK dtr, double treble)
Rnd	round
sk	skip (UK miss)
sp	space
st	stitch
yo	yarn over (UK yrh, yarn round hook)

Special stitches

puff (Puff stitch): [yo, insert hook in the st, yo, pull up a loop to the height of a dc] 4 times in the same st, yo, pull through all 9 loops on hook. In UK terms: a puff stitch to the height of a treble. It leaves 1 stitch for the next round.

Gauge

16 stitches and 9 rounds to 4 in (10 cm) in double crochet.

Check it on the first strip itself when 3 rounds are done, laid flat: 16 dc of round 3, counted along one side, are about 4 in (10 cm), and the strip is about 2½ in (6.5 cm) wide. If they measure more, start again with a smaller hook; if they measure less, with a larger one.

Before you start

- Every strip is worked in joined rounds around its foundation chain. The right side faces you all the time: do not turn at the end of a round.
- B stands in the words for the color of a strip. Work for Baby seven strips: two in B (blush pink), two in C (pale lilac), two in D (pastel mint), one in E (soft butter); for Toddler nine strips: two in B (blush pink), two in C (pale lilac), two in D (pastel mint), three in E (soft butter). In a strip of another color than B, take that color wherever the words say B. The chain is in E and rounds 1 and 6 are in A in every strip.
- The ch 1 or ch 2 at the start of a round does not count as a stitch. The first st of rounds 3, 4 and 5 goes into the st where the joining sl st was made. The joining sl st itself is never worked into.
- To join A in round 1, make a slip knot of it on the hook, put the hook in the first ch, yo, and pull through the ch and the loop on the hook.
- A daisy is the 3 puffs on one side of a ch and the 3 puffs on its other side, all in the same ch. The first daisy after "working along the other side of the chain" goes into the same ch as the daisy before the ch 1, and the last one into the same ch as the first one of the round. Turn the piece as you go, so that the petals already worked hang below.
- In round 2 "sk next st" is always a puff. At the two ends of the strip the puffs between the groups of 3 dc are passed over too. Work the 2 tr over the ch-2 sp, not into the chain below it. The hdc goes into the top of the middle puff of a daisy.
- Round 6 begins with the 2 skipped sts: the st where the joining sl st was made and the st after it. The first sc goes into the third st. The last shell goes into the last st of the round, beside the joining sl st, and the round is joined to that first sc.

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- To change yarn at the end of a round, make the joining sl st with the new yarn: put the hook in the first st of the round, take the new yarn over the hook and pull it through. Cut the old yarn each time.
- Stitches in parentheses are all worked into the one ch named after them, and "3 dc in next ch-1 sp" puts all 3 stitches in that one space.
- Leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) at the beginning and at the end of every yarn.
- When a ball runs out, work the last yarn over of a stitch with the next ball, and leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) on both.
- Whip stitch: with the yarn on a yarn needle, pass the needle under both loops of a stitch on one edge and under both loops of the stitch that lies against it on the other edge, and pull the yarn through. Do the same in the next stitch of each edge.

Instructions

Chosen: Baby. Square brackets [ ] hold a repeat: work what is inside as many times as it says. Round brackets ( ) inside a line hold stitches that all go into one place. 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, hdc is half treble, dc is treble, tr is double treble, sk is miss and yo is yarn round hook.

Strip: make 7

Yarns in order of use: E, soft butter; A, white; B, blush pink.

The foundation chain, of yarn E, is fastened off when it is made. Either of its two ends may be taken as the first ch of round 1.

☐ **Foundation**	With E, ch 126.
☐ **Rnd 1**	Join A with sl st in first ch, ch 2, (puff, ch 1, puff, ch 1, puff) in first ch, **[**ch 2, sk next 4 chs, (puff, ch 1, puff, ch 1, puff) in next ch**] 25 times**, ch 1, working along the other side of the chain, (puff, ch 1, puff, ch 1, puff) in next ch, **[**ch 2, sk next 4 chs, (puff, ch 1, puff, ch 1, puff) in next ch**] 25 times**, ch 1; join with sl st in first puff **(156 puffs, 106 ch-1 sps, 50 ch-2 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	With B, sl st in next ch-1 sp, ch 2, 3 dc in same sp, hdc in next st, dc in next ch-1 sp, sk next st, 2 tr in next ch-2 sp, > **[**sk next st, dc in next ch-1 sp, hdc in next st, dc in next ch-1 sp, sk next st, > 2 tr in next ch-2 sp**] 24 times**, sk next st, dc in next ch-1 sp, hdc in next st, **[**3 dc in next ch-1 sp**] 3 times**, hdc in next st, dc in next ch-1 sp, sk next st, 2 tr in next ch-2 sp, > **[**sk next st, dc in next ch-1 sp, hdc in next st, dc in next ch-1 sp, sk next st, > 2 tr in next ch-2 sp**] 24 times**, sk next st, dc in next ch-1 sp, hdc in next st, **[**3 dc in next ch-1 sp**] 2 times**; join with sl st in first dc **(118 dc, 52 hdc, 100 tr)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 2, 2 dc in next st, dc in next st, 2 dc in next st, dc in next 126 sts, **[**2 dc in next st, dc in next st, 2 dc in next st**] 3 times**, dc in next 126 sts, **[**2 dc in next st, dc in next st, 2 dc in next st**] 2 times**; join with sl st in first dc **(282 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 1, sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st, sc in next 126 sts, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 3 times**, sc in next 126 sts, **[**sc in next 4 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 2 times**; join with sl st in first sc **(288 sc)**

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☐ **Rnd 5**	Ch 2, **[**dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 2 times**, dc in next 126 sts, **[**dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 6 times**, dc in next 126 sts, **[**dc in next 2 sts, 2 dc in next st**] 4 times**; join with sl st in first dc	**(300 dc)**
☐ **Rnd 6**	With A, ch 2, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 7 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, **[**sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 21 times**, **[**sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 7 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 4 times**, **[**sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 21 times**, **[**sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 7 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts**] 2 times**, sc in next st, sk next 2 sts, 7 dc in last st; join with sl st in first sc	**(50 sc, 266 dc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Assembly

1. Weave in all the ends of the seven strips. Lay the strips side by side, right sides up, in this order from left to right: blush pink, pale lilac, pastel mint, soft butter, pastel mint, pale lilac, blush pink. Lay every strip with the joins of its rounds at the bottom.

2. Each long edge of a strip has 21 shells of 5 dc; the shells of 7 dc are at its ends, 4 at each. Where two strips lie side by side, the 21 shells of 5 dc of one right edge lie against the 21 shells of 5 dc of the next left edge, shell against shell. Mark the two lowest of them with stitch markers.

3. Seams: sew each two neighboring strips to each other, 6 seams. For each seam cut two lengths of A, each about 48 in (122 cm) long. Begin with the first at the marked shells and leave a tail. Whip stitch the 3 middle dc of one shell to the 3 middle dc of the shell against it, 3 stitches. Then lead the needle on the wrong side through the backs of the last dc of the shell, the sc and the first dc of the next shell of the same strip, to the 3 middle dc of that shell, and sew these in the same way. Sew 11 pairs of shells with the first length and the other 10 with the second; fasten every length at both ends. Keep the yarn between the shells loose, so that the seam does not draw in.

Finishing

- Weave in the ends of the sewing lengths. Lay the blanket flat, dampen it, pat the petals and the shells open and let it dry.

In all: 7 pieces; 56 ends to weave in.

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