Open heart

US terms



Finished size
About 6 in (15 cm) wide and about 5½ in (14 cm) tall

Skill
Easy
Worked in rounds, with 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.

You will need

Yarn A: antique rose, rounds 1 to 3 **about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: blush, round 4 **about 25 yd (23 m), an estimate**
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.

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)
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
sk	skip (UK miss)
st	stitch
rnd	round

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 round.

hdc2tog (UK htr2tog): [yarn over, insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop] twice (5 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 5 loops. It leaves 1 hdc2tog for the next round.

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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.

Before you start

- Rounds are worked with the right side facing; do not turn.
- 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.
- The figures in brackets at the end of a line count its stitches; slip stitches are not counted.
- Rnd 1 is worked in a row along the chain and then joined: bring the last sc round to the first, right side up, without a twist, and join. The foundation chain is the inner edge of the heart. The place of the join is the dip of the heart and the 3 stitches worked in one stitch are its point.
- In Rnds 2 and 3 the round begins in the stitch the round before was joined in, with the decrease. A decrease is one stitch when the next round is worked into it; the first st of Rnd 3 is its first sc2tog.
- In Rnd 4 the shell of 5 dc in the middle of the round falls in the middle one of the 3 sc at the point. At the dip the last sc and the first sc stand side by side.
- For use as a frame for a small picture, lay the picture face up behind the heart and sew a piece of felt over its back to the stitches of Rnd 2. The opening, measured from foundation chain to foundation chain, is about 3½ in (9 cm) wide and 2¾ in (7 cm) tall at its widest and tallest; the picots stand a little less than ¼ in (0.6 cm) into it.
- 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 the longest way: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 5 in (13 cm); medium yarn (4) and a 5 mm hook, about 7½ in (19 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 9¾ in (25 cm).

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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 round is done. In UK terms sl st is slip stitch, sc is double crochet, hdc is half treble and dc is treble.

Yarns in order of use: A, antique rose; B, blush.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 48.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in next 3 chs, 2 sc in next ch, sc in next 6 chs, 2 sc in next ch, sc in next 11 chs, 3 sc in next ch, sc in next 11 chs, 2 sc in next ch, sc in next 6 chs, 2 sc in next ch, sc in next 4 chs, sl st in first sc to join	**(53 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, hdc2tog in next 2 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, **[**2 hdc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts**] 4 times**, hdc in next 10 sts, 3 hdc in next st, hdc in next 10 sts, **[**hdc in next 2 sts, 2 hdc in next st**] 4 times**, hdc in next 2 sts, hdc2tog in next 2 sts, sl st in first hdc2tog to join	**(2 hdc2tog, 59 hdc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Ch 1, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sc in next 3 sts, **[**2 sc in next st, sc in next 3 sts**] 4 times**, sc in next 9 sts, 3 sc in next st, sc in next 9 sts, **[**sc in next 3 sts, 2 sc in next st**] 4 times**, sc in next 3 sts, sc2tog in next 2 sts, sl st in first sc2tog to join	**(2 sc2tog, 67 sc)**
	Fasten off A.	
☐ **Rnd 4**	Join B with sl st in first st, ch 1, sc in same st, sk next st, **[**5 dc in next st, sk next st, sc in next st, sk next st**] 16 times**, 5 dc in next st, sk next st, sc in next st, sl st in first sc to join	**(18 sc, 85 dc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.	

Finishing

- With the tail at the beginning of the chain, sew the first and the last of the 47 chains that hold stitches together at the dip, so that the inner edge is whole. Weave in that end.
- Inner edge: hold the heart right side up. Each of the 47 chains that Rnd 1 was worked into has free loops on the inside of the heart. Join B with sl st in the free loops of the chain at the dip that lies next to the seam, under the last st of Rnd 1; that is the first sl st. Work in the free loops of each chain in turn: sl st in next 2 chs, then make a picot (ch 3, sl st in the sl st just made); [sl st in next 3 chs, make a picot] 14 times, sl st in each of the last 2 chs, which brings you to the other side of the seam, and join with a sl st in the first sl st. That is one sl st in each of the 47 chains, counting the joining one, and 15 picots. Fasten off. The middle picot points up from the point of the heart.
- Block: pin the heart, right side up, 5 1/8 in (13 cm) wide and 4 5/8 in (11.5 cm) tall across Rnd 3 with two round lobes, a sharp dip and a sharp point, left and right alike, the shells pulled out round and the picots pointing inward. Spray it with water and let it dry.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 4 rounds.

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