Four-leaf shamrock granny square

US terms



Finished size
About 7¼ in (18 cm) across

Skill
Intermediate
Worked in rows and rounds, with 2 pieces, color changes and 1 special stitch.

Yarn
Medium (4), 4 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: kelly green, rounds 1, 2, 5 and 7 of the square	**about 25 yd (23 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: cream, rounds 3 and 4 of the square	**about 20 yd (18 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: forest green, round 6 of the square and the stem	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: lime, the sewn details	**about 2 yd (2 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5 mm (US H-8), 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. Yarns A, B and C: the estimate is from the stitches and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added. Yarn D: the estimate is from the stitches 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)
tr	treble crochet (UK dtr, double treble)
sk	skip (UK miss)
rem	remaining
sp	space
st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

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Special stitches

tr2tog (UK dtr2tog): [yarn over twice, insert the hook in the next stitch, yarn over and pull up a loop, (yarn over and pull through 2 loops) twice] twice (3 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 3 loops. It leaves 1 tr2tog for the next row or round.

Gauge

14 stitches and 15 rows to 4 in (10 cm) in single crochet.

Use any hook that gives you this. If you count more stitches than this in 4 in (10 cm), change to a larger hook; if you count fewer, to a smaller one.

Check your gauge on the piece. Begin the pattern and measure the piece itself as you go. After round 4 the square measures about 4½ in (11 cm) across.

Before you start

- 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 that counts as a stitch is marked so in its line and is included in the count.
- A chain 1 at the start of a round or a row 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.
- 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.
- In Rnd 2 each group worked in a ch-7 sp is a leaf: the single sc in its middle is the notch of the heart. The round begins in the ch-7 sp just after the sc that Rnd 1 was joined in. Its last slip stitch is worked in that same sc and closes the round. Nothing is worked into the slip stitches later.
- In Rnd 3 a tr stands in every notch, and each tr2tog takes together the last hdc of one leaf and the first hdc of the next, passing over the slip stitch between them.
- The four corners of Rnd 4 stand in the four tr of Rnd 3 that stand in the notches, and the middle one of the three tr on each side stands in a tr2tog.
- 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 straight across: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 4¾ in (12 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 5¾ in (15 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 9¼ in (23 cm).

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Instructions

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 and tr is double treble.

Square

Yarns in order of use: A, kelly green; B, cream; C, forest green.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 1, **[**sc in ring, ch 7**] 4 times**, sl st in first sc to join **(4 sc, 4 ch-7 sps)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Ch 1, (hdc, dc, 3 tr, dc, sc, dc, 3 tr, dc, hdc) in next ch-7 sp, **[**sl st in next sc, (hdc, dc, 3 tr, dc, sc, dc, 3 tr, dc, hdc) in next ch-7 sp**] 3 times**, sl st in next sc **(8 hdc, 16 dc, 24 tr, 4 sc)**
	Fasten off A.
☐ **Rnd 3**	Join B with sl st in any sc, ch 4 (counts as tr), dc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, tr2tog in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next st, **[**tr in next st, dc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, tr2tog in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next st**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-4 to join **(4 tr, 24 dc, 16 hdc, 4 tr2tog)**
☐ **Rnd 4**	Ch 4 (counts as tr), (tr, ch 2, 2 tr) in same st, dc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next st, tr in next 3 sts, dc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next st, **[**(2 tr, ch 2, 2 tr) in next st, dc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next st, tr in next 3 sts, dc in next st, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next st**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-4 to join **(28 tr, 4 ch-2 sps, 16 dc, 16 hdc)**
	Fasten off B.
☐ **Rnd 5**	Join A with sl st in any ch-2 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), (2 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in same sp, ch 1, **[**sk next 3 sts, 3 dc in next st, ch 1**] 3 times**, sk next 3 sts, **[**(3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in next ch-2 sp, ch 1, **[**sk next 3 sts, 3 dc in next st, ch 1**] 3 times**, sk next 3 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(60 dc, 4 ch-2 sps, 16 ch-1 sps)**
	Fasten off A.
☐ **Rnd 6**	Join C with sl st in any ch-2 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), (2 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in same sp, ch 1, **[**3 dc in next ch-1 sp, ch 1**] 4 times**, **[**(3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in next ch-2 sp, ch 1, **[**3 dc in next ch-1 sp, ch 1**] 4 times] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(72 dc, 4 ch-2 sps, 20 ch-1 sps)**
	Fasten off C.
☐ **Rnd 7**	Join A with sl st in any ch-2 sp, ch 1, 3 sc in same sp, **[**sc in next 3 sts, sc in next ch-1 sp**] 5 times**, sc in next 3 sts, **[**3 sc in next ch-2 sp, **[**sc in next 3 sts, sc in next ch-1 sp**] 5 times**, sc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in first sc to join **(104 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.

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Stem

Yarn C, forest green.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 8.	
☐ **Row 1**	Sc in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each rem ch across	**(7 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 14 in (36 cm) tail for sewing.	

Finishing

- Block: pin the square out on a flat surface, right side up, with its sides straight and its corners square, spray it with water and let it dry.
- Lay the square right side up with one side at the top: two leaves are above the magic ring and two below it. The middle line of a leaf runs from the magic ring to its notch.
- Outlines: with C, work a line of backstitch round each leaf. It begins ¼ in (0.6 cm) from the middle of the magic ring, on the middle line of the leaf, and goes straight over the green, for about 3/8 in (1 cm), to the top of the first hdc of the leaf: there the cream begins. From there it follows the line where green meets cream, up the side of the leaf, round its top and down to the top of the sc in the notch, then up again, round the other half and down the other side to the top of the last hdc. From that top it goes straight over the green, for about 3/8 in (1 cm), back to where it began.
- Veins: with D, work a line of backstitch up the middle line of each leaf. It begins ½ in (1.3 cm) from the middle of the magic ring and ends 1 1/8 in (2.9 cm) from it.
- Stem: the side that faced you as you worked Row 1 is its right side, and either short end may be the upper one. Lay the stem on the square, right side up, over the cream between the two lower leaves, its upper end ¼ in (0.6 cm) straight below the middle of the magic ring. The first 1 1/8 in (2.9 cm) of it run straight down; the rest curves to the right, so that its lower end lies 2 1/8 in (5.4 cm) below the level of the middle of the magic ring and 3/8 in (1 cm) to the right of it. Sew the stem down along both its edges and at its ends with its tail.
- Weave in all the ends that are left with the yarn needle.

In all: 2 pieces.

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