Shell stitch border

Small square, with its border · US terms



Finished size
Stands out about 1 in (2.5 cm)
About 6¾ × 6¾ in (17 × 17 cm) with a finished rectangle of 15 stitches by 17 rows of single crochet, nearly square

Skill
Easy
Shells of five stitches

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: peach, piece and round 1	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: ivory, round 2	**about 10 yd (9 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: coral red, round 3, shells	**about 15 yd (14 m), an estimate**

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

To work on: a finished rectangle of 15 stitches by 17 rows of single crochet, nearly square, already made. It is written out under Instructions.

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
Small square, with its border (this file)	**6¾ × 6¾ in (17 × 17 cm)**	**about 55 yd (50 m)**
Baby blanket, with its border	32¾ × 33 in (83 × 84 cm)	about 1,040 yd (951 m)
Throw, with its border	51 × 51½ in (130 × 131 cm)	about 2,565 yd (2,345 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 every side of the size printed below, measured between its two corner stitches and not counting them, is about 4.6 in (11.7 cm). If yours is smaller, use a larger hook; if it is larger, use a smaller one.

To fit a piece of your own, work round 1 so that every side has n stitches between two corner stitches, the corner stitches left out, where n is a multiple of 6 plus 3 (to gain a stitch work 2 sc in one place, to lose one skip a place; spread them along the side). Work n stitches along a side in round 2; in round 3 the square bracket along a side is worked (n - 3) ? 6 times. What stands in the outer brackets, the corner and the side after it, is worked 3 times in every size; only the bracket inside it, along one side, changes. On an oblong piece the two longer sides have an n of their own: work each side by its own n. BABY BLANKET: the piece is 99 stitches by 115 rows: ch 100 to begin, row 1 ends with 99 sc, and rows 2 to 115 are worked in next 99 sts (99 sc). For the gauge, the 99 stitches between two corner stitches of round 1 are about 30.5 in (77.5 cm). Round 1: 97 sts, not 13, the bracket along the row ends 16 times, not 2, 97 chs, not 13; the round ends with 400 sc. Round 2: 99 sts, not 15; the round ends with 408 sc. Round 3: the bracket along a side 16 times, not 2; the round ends with 348 dc, 68 sc. Yarn: A about 950 yd (869 m), B about 35 yd (32 m), C about 55 yd (50 m). THROW: the piece is 159 stitches by 185 rows: ch 160 to begin, row 1 ends with 159 sc, and rows 2 to 185 are worked in next 159 sts (159 sc). For the gauge, the 159 stitches between two corner stitches of round 1 are about 48.9 in (124.2 cm). Round 1: 157 sts, not 13, the bracket along the row ends 26 times, not 2, 157 chs, not 13; the round ends with 640 sc. Round 2: 159 sts, not 15; the round ends with 648 sc. Round 3: the bracket along a side 26 times, not 2; the round ends with 548 dc, 108 sc. Yarn: A about 2,425 yd (2,217 m), B about 55 yd (50 m), C about 85 yd (78 m).

Before you start

- Every round is worked with the right side facing; do not turn. Round 1 begins in the right hand stitch of the last row (the top edge, RS facing), which is "first st"; it goes along the top, down the left side, along the foundation edge and up the right side.
- Corner stitch: the middle one of the 3 sc in a corner. The first corner of round 1 and of every round that begins with 2 sc in first st is begun with 2 sc and completed by the last sc of the round, which goes into the same place; its corner stitch is the first sc of the round.
- Along the row ends, round 1 skips the row end at each corner and then takes 6 stitches to every 7 rows. The foundation edge is the underside of the starting chain: work into what each chain has left free.
- A round that begins with "Join" is begun with a new yarn: fasten off the old one at the end of the round before. "First st" is then the stitch the round below began with, the corner stitch.
- Slip stitches and the stitch that joins a round are not counted.
- The ch 3 at the start of a round counts as a dc.
- A ch 1 at the start of a round does not count as a stitch.

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- Stitches in round brackets, or several of one stitch, are all worked into the one place named after them. The brackets at the end of a line hold its count.
- The yarn amounts are for this size. Yarn A is for the piece and round 1 of the border; where your own piece is finished already, round 1 takes about 10 yd (9 m) of it.
- The piece is 15 stitches by 17 rows of single crochet, about 4.6 in (11.7 cm) by 4.5 in (11.4 cm); with the border on it is about 6.8 in (17.3 cm) by 6.7 in (17 cm).
- Round 1 leaves 15 stitches between two corner stitches on every side.

Instructions

Chosen: Small square, with its border. 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, peach; B, ivory; C, coral red.

☐ **Foundation**	A finished piece of 15 sts by 17 rows, RS facing.	
☐ **Rnd 1**	Join A with sl st in first st, ch 1, 2 sc in first st, sc in next 13 sts, 3 sc in last st, sk next row end, **[**sc in end of each of next 6 rows, sk next row end**] 2 times**, sc in end of next row, sk next row end, 3 sc in first ch of foundation edge, sc in next 13 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**] 2 times**, sc in end of next row, sk next row end, sc in first st, sl st in first sc to join	**(64 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join B with sl st in first st, ch 1, 2 sc in first st, sc in next 15 sts, **[**3 sc in next st, sc in next 15 sts**] 3 times**, sc in first st, sl st in first sc to join	**(72 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 3**	Join C with sl st in first st, ch 3 (counts as dc), 6 dc in same st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st, **[**sk next 2 sts, 5 dc in next st, sk next 2 sts, sc in next st**] 2 times**, 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, sc in next st**] 2 times**, > sk next 2 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join	**(68 dc, 12 sc)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off.	

Finishing

- Weave in the ends.

In all: 3 rounds; 216 stitches; 8 ends to weave in.

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

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