Twelve big squares throw

US terms



Finished size
About 38 in (97 cm) wide and about 50¼ in (128 cm) tall

Skill
Intermediate
Worked in rounds, with 12 pieces, color changes and 2 special stitches.

Yarn
Medium (4), 7 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: butter yellow, round 1	**about 30 yd (27 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: marigold, rounds 2 and 9	**about 225 yd (206 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: coral, rounds 3 and 10	**about 480 yd (439 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: rose, rounds 4 and 11	**about 310 yd (283 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: plum, rounds 5 and 12	**about 365 yd (334 m), an estimate**
Yarn F: cream, rounds 6 to 8	**about 365 yd (334 m), an estimate**
Yarn G: charcoal, round 13	**about 285 yd (261 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. 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)
tr	treble crochet (UK dtr, double treble)
dtr	double treble crochet (UK trtr, triple treble)
sk	skip (UK miss)
sp	space

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st	stitch
rnd	round
RS	right side

Special stitches

cluster: [yarn over, insert the hook in the place named, yarn over and pull up a loop, yarn over and pull through 2 loops] 3 times, all in the same place (4 loops on the hook), yarn over and pull through all 4 loops. It leaves 1 cluster for the next round.

popcorn: Work 5 dc in the place named, take the hook out of the loop, put it through the top of the first of the 5 dc from front to back, pick up the loop again and pull it through. A popcorn is one stitch: where a later round works into it, work into its top, which is the loop pulled through the first dc, and not into the tops of its other dc. It leaves 1 popcorn for the next round.

Gauge

14 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 4 the piece measures about 4¾ in (12 cm) across. If yours is larger, use a smaller hook; if it is smaller, use a larger hook.

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 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.
- A slip stitch at the start of a round only carries the yarn to the place named; the first stitch of the round is worked in that same place. If stitches lie between the joining and that place, slip stitch across them first.
- 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.
- The blanket is 12 squares, 4 rows of 3; add a row or a column to make it larger, and allow yarn in proportion.
- Rnd 5: the first sc goes into the top of the ch-3 of Rnd 4, so every sc stands on the first and every shell of 5 dc on the third of a group of 4 dc. Rnd 6: the tr go into the sc of Rnd 5, in the hollows; the edge of the shells may wave until Rnd 6 is worked.
- Rnd 7 begins in the tr that Rnd 6 was joined in; the four corners of the square stand on every third tr.
- In Rnd 11 a popcorn is a stitch like the others: work into its top.
- The same words in another yarn make another size, measured the longest way: fine yarn (2) and a 3.25 mm hook, about 33½ in (85 cm); light yarn (3) and a 4 mm hook, about 39 in (99 cm); bulky yarn (5) and a 6.5 mm hook, about 64 in (163 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, tr is double treble and dtr is triple treble.

Square: make 12

Yarns in order of use: A, butter yellow; B, marigold; C, coral; D, rose; E, plum; F, cream; G, charcoal.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, make a magic ring.
☐ **Rnd 1 (RS)**	Ch 3 (counts as dc), 11 dc in ring, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(12 dc)**
	Fasten off A.
☐ **Rnd 2**	Join B with sl st in any st, ch 3 (counts as dc), dc in same st, 2 dc in each of next 11 sts, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(24 dc)**
	Fasten off B.
☐ **Rnd 3**	Join C with sl st in any st, ch 2 (does not count as a st), (cluster, ch 2) in same st, sk next st, **[**(cluster, ch 2) in next st, sk next st**] 11 times**, sl st in first cluster to join **(12 clusters, 12 ch-2 sps)**
	Fasten off C.
☐ **Rnd 4**	Join D with sl st in any ch-2 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), 3 dc in same sp, **[**4 dc in next ch-2 sp**] 11 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(48 dc)**
	Fasten off D.
☐ **Rnd 5**	Join E 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, 5 dc in next st, sk next st**] 11 times**, sl st in first sc to join **(12 sc, 60 dc)**
	Fasten off E.
☐ **Rnd 6**	Join F with sl st in any sc, ch 4 (counts as tr), dc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, dc in next st, **[**tr in next st, dc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, dc in next st**] 11 times**, sl st in top of ch-4 to join **(12 tr, 24 dc, 36 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 7**	Ch 5 (counts as dtr), (dtr, ch 2, 2 dtr) in same st, tr in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, sc in next 5 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, tr in next 2 sts, **[**(2 dtr, ch 2, 2 dtr) in next st, tr in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, sc in next 5 sts, hdc in next 2 sts, dc in next 2 sts, tr in next 2 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-5 to join **(16 dtr, 4 ch-2 sps, 16 tr, 16 dc, 16 hdc, 20 sc)**
☐ **Rnd 8**	Sl st in next ch-2 sp, ch 4 (counts as tr), (tr, ch 2, 2 tr) in same sp, dc in next 3 sts, hdc in next 3 sts, sc in next 9 sts, hdc in next 3 sts, dc in next 3 sts, **[**(2 tr, ch 2, 2 tr) in next ch-2 sp, dc in next 3 sts, hdc in next 3 sts, sc in next 9 sts, hdc in next 3 sts, dc in next 3 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-4 to join **(16 tr, 4 ch-2 sps, 24 dc, 24 hdc, 36 sc)**

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Fasten off F.

☐ **Rnd 9** Join B with sl st in any ch-2 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), (dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in same sp, dc in next 25 sts, **[**(2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next ch-2 sp, dc in next 25 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(116 dc, 4 ch-2 sps)**

Fasten off B.

☐ **Rnd 10** Join C with sl st in any ch-2 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), (dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in same sp, dc in next 2 sts, popcorn in next st, dc in next 3 sts, popcorn in next st, dc in next 3 sts, popcorn in next st, dc in next 3 sts, popcorn in next st, dc in next 3 sts, popcorn in next st, dc in next 3 sts, popcorn in next st, dc in next 2 sts,

> **[**(2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next ch-2 sp, dc in next 2 sts, popcorn in next st, dc in next 3 sts, popcorn in next st, dc in next 3 sts, popcorn in next st, dc in next 3 sts, popcorn in next st, dc in next 3 sts, popcorn in next st, dc in next 3 sts, popcorn in next st, dc in next 2 sts**] 3 times**,

sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(104 dc, 4 ch-2 sps, 28 popcorns)**

Fasten off C.

☐ **Rnd 11** Join D with sl st in any ch-2 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), (dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in same sp, dc in next 33 sts, **[**(2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next ch-2 sp, dc in next 33 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(148 dc, 4 ch-2 sps)**

Fasten off D.

☐ **Rnd 12** Join E with sl st in any ch-2 sp, ch 3 (counts as dc), (dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in same sp, dc in next 37 sts, **[**(2 dc, ch 2, 2 dc) in next ch-2 sp, dc in next 37 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in top of ch-3 to join **(164 dc, 4 ch-2 sps)**

Fasten off E.

☐ **Rnd 13** Join G with sl st in any ch-2 sp, ch 1, (sc, ch 2, sc) in same sp, sc in next 41 sts, **[**(sc, ch 2, sc) in next ch-2 sp, sc in next 41 sts**] 3 times**, sl st in first sc to join **(172 sc, 4 ch-2 sps)**

☐ **End** Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.

Assembly

1. Block every square to the same size, about 12 1/8 in (31 cm) across: pin it out on a flat surface, spray it with water and let it dry.

2. Weave in the ends of every square with the yarn needle.

3. Lay the 12 squares out in 4 rows of 3, right sides up.

4. Join with a slip stitch seam in G: hold two squares that lie side by side with right sides together. Begin with 1 slip stitch in the corner space of both, work 1 slip stitch through both in every stitch along the side (43 slip stitches), and end with 1 slip stitch in the next corner space of both; work under both top loops of the stitch on both squares. Join the squares of each row first, then join the rows to each other with one long seam each, going straight on from one pair of squares to the next. Fasten off at the end of each seam.

5. Border, round 1: with G and the right side facing, join with a slip stitch in any corner space of the blanket and ch 1, which does not count as a stitch; work 3 sc in each of the four corner spaces of the blanket, 1 sc in every stitch along the

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edges and 1 sc in each of the two corner spaces that meet at a seam; slip stitch in the first sc to join (634 sc). Fasten off.

6. Border, round 2: join C with a slip stitch in the middle sc of any corner, ch 1, 3 sc in the same sc, 1 sc in every sc along the edges and 3 sc in the middle sc of each of the other three corners; slip stitch in the first sc to join (642 sc). Fasten off.

7. Border, round 3: join G with a slip stitch in the middle sc of any corner, ch 1, 3 sc in the same sc, 1 sc in every sc along the edges and 3 sc in the middle sc of each of the other three corners; slip stitch in the first sc to join (650 sc). Fasten off.

Finishing

- Weave in all the ends of the seams and the border with the yarn needle.

In all: 12 pieces; 292 ends to weave in.

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