

The Granny Square

Instructions by Alexa Ludeman

An essential crochet building block. The Granny Square can be used as one block in a larger picture or you can continue endlessly creating a beautiful square blanket.

Ingredients

Any yarn will do but I used 4 skeins of Spud and Chloe Sweater (18 stitches per 4 inches) to make a baby sized blanket.

Hook: use a hook to match your yarn, or one size larger. I used a 5.5mm hook but a larger hook would give it a more open look.

Recipe

Chain 4 and join into a ring with a slip stitch.

Round 1: Chain 4 (make 3 double crochet's (DC's) into the center of the ring and chain 1) 3 times. Work 2 DC into center ring and join to the 3rd chain of your starting chain with a slip stitch.

Note: You have just completed your first round and things will look a little funny. What you have are 4 groups of 3 double crochet's. The first three are made using 3 DC's and the 4th is made up of the 2 DC's and the starting chain.

Round 2: Chain 3 (*you will now be working in the corner of your work*) Corner: (DC 3 times, chain 1, DC 3 times) into the same gap. (*you have made 2 bundles of 3 DC's in one stitch*) Because you are on the second round, there are only corners. (Chain 1 and work corner instructions) twice more. Now you have completed 3 corners. Chain 1 and work last corner as follows: DC 3 times, chain 1, DC 2 times and join to starting chain by working a slip stitch into the third chain stitch of starting chain.

Round 3: Chain 3, *work corner, (chain 1, DC 3 times into next gap) repeat () until you reach the next corner* repeat * around until you reach the starting chain. Work DC twice into the last gap and join to starting chain by working a slipped stitch into 3rd chain of starting chain.

The hard part is over! Repeat round 3 until you are satisfied with the size of your granny square.

Changing colours. To create the most seamless colour change work the last slip stitch of the round in the new colour and continue from there. Easy peasy.

For more information I recommend:

1. 'The Happy Hooker' by Debbie Stoller- a comprehensive look at the basics of crochet, complete with excellent pictures.
2. Granny Square Tutorial at the Purlbee
<http://www.purlbee.com/granny-square-project/>