

Baby Love and Prayers

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Why the name Baby Love and Prayers? Rachel has told me that as she makes these baby afghans, she prays for the recipients. I thought that was such a wonderful idea that I wanted to suggest this to everyone who makes this afghan, hence the name.

Materials:

For baby afghan 30" square: F hook, 5 - 6 oz. skeins, 3-ply, sport weight yarn (Rachel uses Red Heart Soft White Twinkle 6 oz)

For baby afghan 43" square: H hook, 8 oz ea worsted weight yarn, blue, white, orange and red

Size: approx. 8" high x 41" long per stripe without edging

Common pattern abbreviations:

ch = chain	sc = single crochet
dc = double crochet	sk = skip
hk = hook	sp = space
ea = each	sl st = slip stitch
rep = repeat	yo = yarn over
rnd = round	

Special Stitch

Puff Stitch = (YO, insert hk in sc, YO, pull loop through even with hk) 3 times, YO and draw through all 7 loops on hook. (For a larger "puff", repeat 4 times instead of 3 and go through 9 loops)

Pattern is a multiple of 25 + 1.

Very Important: Notice that your puff appears on the "wrong" or "back" side of your work. While working, make sure that all the puffs are on the same side--unless you purposely want an afghan that can be used on either side. Then you'll have to adjust the pattern to reflect that, working one stripe one way and the other the opposite way.

Hint: Just add a row of sc (as is done here) before starting your puff rows and it will force the "puffed out" row to be on the other side.

Instructions:

Chain 126

Row 1: sc in 2nd ch from hk and in ea ch across, ch 1, turn

Row 2: sc in each sc across, ch 1, turn.

Row 3: 12 sc, (puff, 24 sc) 4 times, puff, 12 sc, ch 1, turn. (1st puff row)

Row 4: repeat row 2

Row 5: 11 sc, (puff, sc, puff, 22sc) 4 times, puff, sc, puff, 11sc, ch 1, turn. (2nd puff row)

Row 6: repeat row 2

Row 7: 10 sc, (puff, 3 sc, puff, 20sc) 4 times, puff, 3sc, puff, 10 sc, ch 1, turn. (3rd puff row)

Row 8: repeat row 2

Row 9: 9 sc, (puff, 5 sc, puff, 18 sc) 4 times, puff, 5sc, puff, 9 sc, ch 1, turn. (4th puff row)

Row10: repeat row 2

Row 11: 8 sc, (puff, 7sc, puff, 16sc) 4 times, puff, 7 sc, puff, 8 sc, ch 1, turn. (5th puff row)

Row 12: repeat row 2

Row 13: 7sc, (puff, 9 sc, puff, 14 sc) 4 times, puff, 9 sc, puff, 7 sc, ch 1, turn. (6th puff row)

Row 14: repeat row 2

Row 15: 6 sc, (puff, 11 sc, puff, 12 sc) 4 times, puff, 11 sc, puff, 6 sc, ch 1, turn. (7th puff row)

Row 16: repeat row 2

Row 17: 5 sc, (puff, 13 sc, puff, 10 sc) 4 times, puff, 13 sc, puff, 5 sc, ch 1, turn. (8th puff row)

Row 18: repeat row 2

Row 19-20: repeat rows 17 + 18 (9th puff row)

Row 21: 5 sc, * (puff, 6 sc) twice, puff, 10 sc) repeat from * 4 times, (puff, 6sc) twice, puff, 5sc, ch 1, turn. (10th puff row)

Row 22: repeat row 2

Row 23: 5sc, (puff, 5 sc, puff, 1 sc, puff, 5 sc, puff, 10 sc), 4 times, puff, 5sc, puff, 1 sc, (puff, 5 sc) twice, ch 1, turn. (11th puff row)

Row 24: repeat row 2

Row 25: 6 sc, * (puff, 3 sc) 3 times, puff, 12 sc * repeat from * 4 times, (puff, 3 sc) 3 times, puff, 6 sc, ch 1, turn. (12th puff row)

Row 26: repeat row 2

Row 27: 7 sc, (puff, sc, puff, 5 sc, puff, sc, puff, 14 sc) 4 times, puff, sc, puff, 5 sc, puff, sc, puff, 7 sc, ch 1, turn. (last puff row)

Row 28: sc in each sc across, ch 1, turn.

Row 29: sc in each sc across, ch 4, turn. (*note: chain 3 if using hdc for Row 29*)

The row below may be worked in hdc or dc, depending on preference. My suggestion would be to use hdc if working on baby afghan using size G hook or smaller, and dc if using H or larger)

Row 30: Skip stitch at base of ch-3, skip next st, in next stitch work 1 dc or hdc, (skip next st, chain 1, dc or hdc in next st) across row.

If you are making each "stripe" in a different color, change color with the next row (Row 31). (Note: On your last stripe, do not change color. Work rows 31 and 32 in same color. Then either continue on with edging in same color or change to new color for edging.)

Row 31: sc in first st, * sc in ch-1 sp, sc in next st, repeat from * across to turning chain. Make 1 sc under the fourth chain in your tch. (or third chain if you are working in hdc) Make 1 sc in third chain of tch (or second chain if you are working in hdc), ch 1, turn

Row 32: sc in each sc across, ch 1, turn. (On **last row**, DO NOT TURN before working edging. If using a new color for edging, join new color at end of row 32)

Repeat rows 3-32 four times then go on to Edging.

Edging 1:

Rnd 1: sc all around piece, working 3 sc in each corner, joining with a sl st to first sc, ch 1

Rnd 2: work reverse sc all around. Do not work 3 rsc in corners-- just continue around, join with sl st in whatever manner works for you so that the joining is not obvious

Edging 2:

This is Rachel's edging.

Rnd 1: sc all round piece, working 3 sc in each corner, join with a sl st, ch 1

Rnd 2: sc all round piece, working 3 sc in each corner, join with a sl st, ch 2

Note: Rnd 3 can be worked in hdc or dc

Rnd 3: work (hdc, ch 1, sk 1 st) around piece

Rnd 4: sc in first st, * sc in ch-1 sp, sc in next st, repeat from * across (*note: last sc will be in turning chain*), join with a slip stitch, ch 1

Rnd 5: sc around piece, working 3 sc in each corner, join with a sl st and finish off.