

Easy crochet patterns for beginners

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For each pattern, use the hook you are most comfortable with. Patterns were worked with an H hook unless otherwise specified.

Notes: When joining pieces be sure to place right sides together and **join with yarn NOT sewing thread**. If you make your piece in cotton yarn, use cotton yarn for the joining. This way everything washes up the same.

When making granny squares, your final round should be the same color on all pieces you want to join together. Use this same color yarn to join your squares. In many cases, black or white is used.

Abbreviations:

beg = beginning

blo = back loop only

ch = chain

dc = double crochet

sc = single crochet

st = stitch

sk = skip

Placemat



Materials: H hook and small amount 4-ply worsted weight yarn or cotton yarn

Instructions:

chain 41

Row 1: single crochet into 2nd chain from hook, single crochet across row, ch 1, turn (40 chains)

Row 2: *single crochet in first stitch and in each remaining stitch across row, repeat from * until piece measures about 17". (for me that was about 75 rows of sc).

Border:

Round 1: With same yarn or a contrasting color ch 1, single crochet all around the outside of your piece, working 3 single crochets in each corner, to form a border.

In the placemat pictured, I added another round as follows. You can stop at the sc border if you like.

Round 2: in same stitch (ch 1, sc, ch 2, 2 dc), *sk 2 sc, in next sc (sc, ch 2, 2 dc), rep from * around, join with sl st to beg ch-1

Completed placemat was 12" x 18" (plate, cup and stainless not included Ha!) This really works well with variegated yarn as shown as it is not so boring to make. :-)

Granny Square Placemat: Make 12 - 4" granny squares. Join to make a colorful rectangular placemat 4 rows by 3 rows.

You can use different materials to get a different look when making a placemat. Cut strips out of a plastic bag (about 1/2"), tie these together and use as yarn to make a waterproof placemat. OR use two strands of different colored yarn to get a tweed look OR use any worsted weight or rug yarn.

Dishcloth (or Potholder)



Materials: H hook and small amount cotton yarn

Instructions:

chain 26

Row 1: single crochet into the 2nd chain from hook, single crochet in each remaining chain of row (25 chains), chain 1, turn

Row 2: *single crochet in first stitch and in each remaining stitch across row, rep from * for 32 rows or until your piece is square.

My dishcloth is 7 1/2" square. With the same or a contrasting color chain 1, single crochet all around the outside of the square, working 3 single crochets in each corner, to form a border. If you want a hanging loop, do not fasten off here but chain 10 to make your loop and join with a slip stitch to your last stitch.

If you want a dishcloth that will scrub well, try crocheting into the back loop only throughout. This will give a ridge on your dishcloth and will scrub better. The square shown was worked half in blo and half through both loops. I don't know if you can really tell from the small picture.

Note: In my experience, if you are planning to use this as a potholder (as in taking things out of the oven) it is best to use a tight, closed stitch or to make two pieces and then join them together so you have double thickness. If you are going to use it as a dishcloth only, then this doesn't matter.

Scarf

Materials: H hook, 4 ply worsted weight yarn

Instructions for small scarf:

Row 1: chain 15, single crochet in 2nd chain from hook and in each remaining chain (14chain),

Row 2: *chain 3, turn, double crochet in 2nd stitch and in each remaining stitch across row, rep from * to desired size

Last row (make sure last row is on RIGHT side): chain 1, turn, single crochet in first stitch and in each remaining stitch of row.

Border:

chain 1, single crochet down side, working 1 sc in sc rows and 2 single crochet in or around each double crochet post. Work 3 single crochets in corner.

single crochet in free chain from foundation chain across row, 3 sc in corner sc across side, working 1 sc in sc rows and 2 sc on dc rows, 3 sc in corner sc across last row, 2 sc in corner, join with slip stitch to first single crochet. Add fringe if desired.

Instructions for larger scarf:

chain 33. Proceed as above.

Note: You can also put several granny or sampler squares together to make a nice scarf.

Hat



Make five 3-round granny squares (4 sides and top). Work a sc border on each square, then join the squares and add a final single crochet border around edging. You can adjust your granny size very easily to fit the head you're trying to cover by working more or less rounds.

Materials: H hook, 4 ply worsted weight yarn

Instructions:

chain 5, join with a slip stitch to form a ring.

Round 1: Chain 3, 2 double crochets in ring, chain 3, 3 dc in ring, chain 3, 3 dc, chain 3, 3 dc, chain 3, join with a sl st to top of the beginning chain-3.

Round 2: Slip stitch in each of next 2 double crochets, slip stitch in chain-3 space, then in same space work (chain 3, 2 double crochet, chain 3, 3 dc) (first corner),

chain 1, in next chain-3 space work (3 dc, chain 3, 3 dc) (2nd corner),
 chain 1, in next chain-3 space work (3 dc, chain 3, 3 dc) (3rd corner),
 chain 1, in next chain-3 space work (3 dc, chain 3, 3 dc) (4th corner),
 chain 1, join with sl st to top of beginning chain-3.

Round 3: Slip stitch in each of next 2 double crochets, slip stitch in chain-3 space, chain3, 2double crochet, chain3, 3 dc in same space where you just slip stitched (1st corner),

Chain 1, 3 dc in ch-1 space between groups to form side, chain 1, in next corner chain-3 space work (3 dc, chain 3, 3 dc), (2nd corner)

Chain 1, 3 dc in chain-1space between groups to form second side, chain 1, in next corner chain-3 space work (3 dc, chain 3, 3 dc), (3rd corner)

Chain 1, 3 dc in chain-1space between groups to form third side, chain 1, in next corner chain-3 space work (3 dc, chain 3, 3 dc), (4th corner)

Chain 1, 3 dc in chain-1space between groups to form fourth side, chain 1, join with sl st to top of chain-3.

You can easily change the look and feel by working it using scrap yarns, or using cotton threads (though cotton won't stretch as easily). This hat fit my unwilling 10 year old son (you can imagine!), whose head was about 20" round. It was made using a leftover ball of yarn. If I measured it correctly, the hat measured about 18" circumference.

Bean Bag or Pincushion



Materials: H hook, small amount 4 ply, worsted weight yarn

Instructions:

make 2 squares as follows:

chain 15

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

Repeat Row 1 for 15 rows.

Border: Work sc border around square, with 3sc in corners.

Whipstitch pieces together on 3 sides. Fill with foam rubber, old stockings, rags, beans, popcorn, rice or whatever you want, depending on use. Make sure your stitches are tight for a bean bag, especially if you have little ones around, or you might want to sew a cloth border on the inside so the filling won't come out.

Baby Blocks



Materials: H hook, small amount 4 ply worsted weight yarn in 6 colors.

Make 6 squares.

Instructions for small square:
chain 8

Row 1: sc in 2nd chain from hook and in each chain across, ch 1, turn.
Row 2 - 8: repeat row 1

Border: border each square in white or some other color, but border them all with the same color. work sc all around square, working 3 sc in corners

Instructions for large square
chain 15

Row 1: sc in 2nd chain from hook and in each chain across, ch 1, turn.
Row 2 - 15: repeat row 1

These are very soft and much fun to throw around if you fill them with polyfiberfill. Be sure to join securely (with yarn, not sewing thread) and watch children carefully when playing.

Joining:

Using the same color as the border and with right sides together, join 4 pieces using a whipstitch. These are the sides. Then whipstitch another square on top, attached to all four sides. To do this, you will need to turn the whole thing inside out and attach from the wrong side. (Be careful that your right and wrong sides are all on the same side of the block.) Then turn the block back so the right side is showing. Whipstitch the bottom square on 3 sides, fill with stuffing and then sew up. (Don't forget to sew with yarn not sewing thread.) In the sample I used white yarn for border and sewing together. **Note: Granny squares would not be good for this project unless you lined them with materials first.**

Note: These squares are not "stackable" as regular blocks are because I over-stuff mine since I figure in time they will flatten. However, if you want more "stackable" blocks, I think you can buy styrofoam blocks and just cover them with these crocheted squares. You will have to figure out how big to make your squares to fit the blocks.

Bookmark

Materials: H hook, small amount yarn

Instructions:

chain 50

Row 1: dc in 3rd chain from hook, dc in same ch, 3 double crochets in next 15 chains (46 double crochets). Sl st in 3rd chain from last st. Twist until it curls.

You can add eyes for a face and a pompom or large bead on the end if you want to.

Pom poms - get 2 strips of cardboard 1" wide. Wind yarn around cardboard 100 times. Put 8" piece of yarn between pieces of cardboard and tie securely at top. Cut through bottom strands.

Tassel - get 2 strips of cardboard 3" wide. Wind yarn 16 times. Pull an 8" piece of yarn between the 2 pieces of cardboard. Tie at top. Cut through bottom strands. Wind another piece of yarn around tassel at 3/4" from top and knot tightly. Hide ends by pulling inside tassel.