Daisy Farm Crafts

Crochet Country Blues Baby Blanket

Pattern by Hannah Brown McKay

MATERIALS

Caron Simply Soft (100% acrylic, 170 g/6 oz, 288 m/315 yds)
2 skeins White, 1 skein each Dark Country Blue, Country Blue, Light Country Blue
Size H/5.00mm hook, tapestry needle, scissors
Optional Link to YouTube Video Tutorial: https://youtu.be/_aads5uU6XE

SIZE

Finished size 29 in x 42 in

STITCHES

Single Crochet (SC): Insert your hook, YO and pull up a loop, YO, pull through both loops on hook.

Double Crochet (DC): YO, insert your hook, YO and pull up a loop, YO and pull through two loops, YO and pull through remaining two loops.

Front and Back Post Double Crochet (FPDC & BPDC): A front post DC means you insert your hook from front to back around the post of the next DC and work your DC. A back post DC means you insert your hook around the post from the back to the front and work a DC.

PATTERN

Chain 120 (or any even number) in Dark Country Blue.

Row 1: SC in the 4th chain from the hook, *CH 1, SK 1 CH, SC in the next CH* repeat to the end of the row. (The last stitch should be a SC in the last chain.) CH 2 and turn.

What I'm telling you to do is chain one after you make that first single crochet, skip the next chain, and single crochet into the next one. Repeat working a single crochet, chain one, skip over one chain until you get to the end of the row.

Row 2: Work the moss stitch across the entire row: SC in the CH 1 space, *CH 1, SK next SC, SC into the CH 1 SP* repeat to the end, working your final SC into the space between the last SC and CHs. CH 2 and turn.

In other words, single crochet in the chain 1 space from the row below, chain once, skip over the single crochet in the row below, work a single crochet into the chain one space. Repeat this all the way across and find the space between the last single crochet and the turning chains. Chain 2 and turn.

On the last SC of row 2, pull through with White (you should have two loops on your hook when you pull through). Chain 2 with White and turn. Don't cut the blue yarn.

Row 3: Pull the blue yarn around to the back and work the moss stitch (repeat row 2) across the row in White, carrying the blue yarn with you as you work. (As you can see in the picture below, I'm just holding the blue yarn across the top of the row and crocheting over it.) When you reach the end of the row, pull through with Dark Country Blue (you should have two loops on your hook when you pull through). Chain 2 and turn. Don't cut the white yarn.

Rows 4 - 5: Work 2 rows of the moss stitch (repeat row 2) in Dark Country Blue. On these rows, you are not crocheting over the white yarn. Instead you are leaving the white yarn where it is, and picking it back up when you finish your second row of blue. On the last stitch, pull through with White. Then chain 2 and turn. Don't cut the blue yarn.

Repeat rows 3 - 5 for the rest of the blanket.

Here are the number of rows that I worked for each blue section in my blanket:

Dark Country Blue Section: 16 rows of Dark Country Blue, with a row of white in between every two rows of blue. After you have 16 rows of Dark Country Blue, repeat row 3 and work one row of White, but don't carry the Dark Country Blue behind. Instead, cut the blue and leave a tail long enough to weave in later.

Country Blue section: At the end of the white row, pull through with Country Blue and work two rows of Country Blue in the moss stitch. Pull through with white at the end of the second row and repeat rows 3 through 5 until you have 14 rows of Country Blue, with a row of white in between every two rows of blue. After you have 14 rows of Country Blue, repeat row 3 and work one row of White, but don't carry the Country Blue behind. Instead, cut the blue and leave a tail long enough to weave in later.

Light Country Blue section: At the end of the white row, pull through with Light Country Blue and work two rows of Light Country Blue in the moss stitch. Pull through with white at the end of the second row and repeat rows 3 through 5 until you have 14 rows of Light Country Blue, with a row of white in between every two rows of blue. After you have 14 rows of Light Country Blue, repeat row 3 and work one row of White, but don't carry the Light Country Blue behind. Don't cut the Light Country Blue.

White section: You are now going to be making the white section with blue stripes instead of a blue section with white stripes, so work one more row of white, and then pick up the Light Country Blue from the side and work one row of Light Country Blue and carry the white yarn behind. Then work 2 rows of White, and leave the Light Country Blue behind. Repeat rows 3 through 5 (with opposite colors) until you have 14 rows of White, with one row of blue in between every two rows of White.

Now you are going to finish the blanket by reversing the order you did the sections at the beginning - so repeat the Light Country Blue section, then the Country Blue section, then the Dark Country Blue section.

BORDER

When I finished the blanket I added a front post/back post double crochet ribbed border.

Round 1: Pull up a loop in any corner and chain 1. Work a SC, Ch 1 in every other space around the blanket, working three SCs into the corners.

Round 2: When you reach the corner you started with, DC around the entire blanket, work 3 DCs into each corner stitch.

Round 3: When you reach the corner you started with, work 3 DCs into that corner, then go around the blanket again, this time alternating front and back post double crochet. When you get to the corners of this row, you will want to continue the pattern of alternating front and back post double crochet, but you will work three stitches around the corner post.

So, for example, if you get to the corner post and you are supposed to work a front post DC, then work a front post DC, a back post DC, and a front post DC all around that corner post. Then in the next stitch you would continue the alternating pattern, working the opposite of whichever stitch you just used (in this example, you would work a back post DC).

Just remember that you are always alternating front and back post double crochet around the whole blanket, you just happen to be working three of those stitches around the same post when you are working the corners.

Rounds 4 - 5: When you finish row 3, work 3 alternating front post/back post DCs into the corner you started with and repeat row 2 two more times around the blanket, making sure your post DCs are popping out in the same direction as the previous round, until you have five rows total. (Or you can go around as many times as you'd like to get your desired border height.)

Round 6: When I finished my fifth row, I worked one round of SC around the entire blanket to even out the tops of the stitches. I worked 3 SCs into the top of each corner stitch and when I reached the corner I started with, I slip stitched into the first stitch and tied off.

After I finished my border I laid out my blanket flat and sprayed it with some water to block it and make the sides even. I have some foam puzzle piece boards that I used to pin down the blanket that helped out even out the corners.

xo, Hannah

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