

Daisy Farm Crafts

Crochet Square Dance Baby Blanket



MATERIALS

Caron Simply Me (62% acrylic, 20% nylon, 18% wool, 200g/7oz, 225 m/246 yds)

5 skeins Malachite

Size J/6.00mm hook, tapestry needle, scissors

SIZE

Finished size 31 in x 35 in

Gauge: 4 in = 14 st and 14 rows of pattern

STITCHES

Half Double Crochet (HDC): Yarn over (YO), insert your hook, YO and pull up a loop, YO and pull through three loops on hook.

Split Half Double Crochet (HDC): YO, insert your hook into the center of the HDC from the previous row, YO and pull up a loop, YO and pull through three loops on hook.

Half Double Slip Stitch (HDSS): YO, insert your hook, YO, pull up a loop and pull directly through two loops on hook.

Slip Stitch (SL ST): Insert your hook, pull up a loop and pull directly through loop on hook.

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

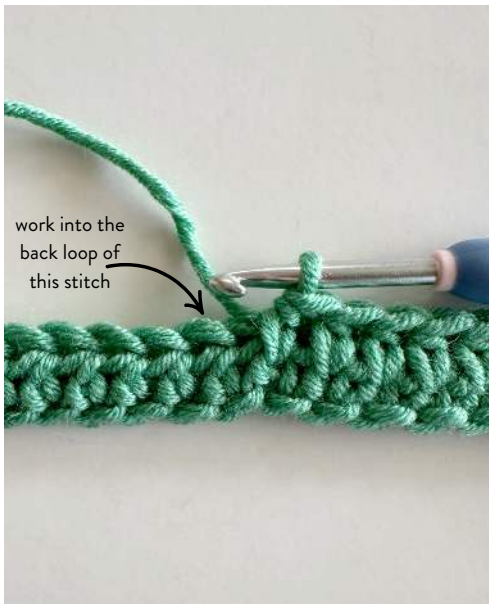
PATTERN

Chain 91. (Pattern repeat is an odd number multiplied by 10, plus 1.)

Row 1: Starting in the 2nd chain from the hook, work 1 HDC in each chain. CH 1 and turn.

Row 2: Work 1 HDSS in the back loop of each of the first 10 stitches. *Work 1 split HDC in each of the next 10 stitches, then work 1 HDSS in the back loop of each of the next 10 stitches. Repeat from * across the row. CH 1 and turn.

Note: On this row it can be tricky to know where to insert your hook for the back loop HDSS after you've worked your 10 split HDC - be sure not to work in the back loop of the stitch that is actually the top of the split HDC stitch. You want to work in the next stitch, as pictured below:



Rows 3 - 10: Repeat row 2.

Row 11: Work 1 HDSS in the first stitch, then work 1 HDC in each of the next 9 stitches, inserting your hook under all three loops of each stitch. *Work 1 HDSS in the back loop of each of the next 10 stitches, then work 1 HDC in each of the next 10 stitches, inserting your hook under all three loops of each stitch. Repeat from * across the row. End the row with 1 back loop HDSS in the last stitch. CH 1 and turn.

Rows 12 - 20: Work 1 HDSS in the back loop of the first stitch, then work 1 split HDC in each of the next 9 stitches. *Work 1 HDSS in the back loop of each of the next 10 stitches, then work 1 split HDC in each of the next 10 stitches. Repeat from * across the row. End the row with 1 back loop HDSS in the last stitch. CH 1 and turn.

Continue alternating back loop HDSS and split HDC every ten stitches and switching the stitches every 10 rows. Start and end each row with a back loop HDSS. I worked until I had 110 rows total (11 alternating blocks).

When you reach the final row of your blanket, work 1 row of HDC all the way across. still working split HDC on the split HDC sections and inserting your hook under all through loops of the HDSS sections.

When finished, you can either tie off and weave in your ends before beginning the border, or CH 1 and start working the border down the side of the blanket.

BORDER

Round 1: Work 1 round of SC around the blanket, working 1 SC per row on the sides and 1 SC per stitch on the ends of the blanket. Work 3 SC per corner.

Side 1: At starting corner, slip stitch into corner, then CH 8. Starting in the 2nd chain from the hook, work HDSS in each of the 7 chains back toward the edge of the blanket. *Slip stitch into the next stitch, and in the next stitch. Turn and work HDSS in the back loops of each of the 7 HDSS you just made. CH 1 and turn. Work back down the HDSS in the back loops only. (From now on, always work in the back loop of each HDSS.) Repeat from across * the side of the blanket.

Side 2: When you reach the first corner, stop when you get to the top of the border after working stitches up from the corner. (If you need to only work 1 slip stitch instead of 2 in order to stay at the corner, that's fine.) At the top of the border CH 8. Begin working across the side of the blanket in the same manner as side 1.

Work the rest of the blanket in the same manner as sides 1 and 2. When you finish the border at the starting corner, tie off at the top of the border and weave in ends.

If you'd like to add finishing touches to your blanket, lay it out flat on a towel or foam blocking boards if you have them. Use a spray bottle with water to dampen. Press the blanket into straight lines, massaging the stitches and adjusting your tension. Pin with straight pins and let it dry.